



# Hinckley Road, Sapcote, Leicestershire

## Archaeological Excavation Report

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## Hinckley Road, Sapcote, Leicestershire

### *Archaeological Excavation Report*

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## Summary

Between January and June of 2019 Oxford Archaeology carried out archaeological excavations to the south of Hinckley Road in Sapcote, Leicestershire (SP 4830 9343). Three separate excavation areas were investigated, covering a total of 1.7ha.

Evidence for prehistoric activity was restricted to a small quantity of residual flintwork and a single pit associated with Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery. Most of the features revealed by the excavations related to Romano-British activity, with a set of conjoined rectangular enclosures representing a long-lived, relatively low-status Romano-British farmstead. Although no structural remains were found, a small ditched enclosure may have represented a building compound, and the enclosures were associated with a number of discrete pits, including a large well. The finds assemblages from the enclosure ditches and associated features were relatively modest but included over 300 sherds of Roman pottery dating from the mid-1st century to 4th century AD. The fills of several pits within and around the enclosures produced evidence for crop processing and metalworking (smithing), as well as assemblages of fired clay and reused ceramic building material probably representing the remains of ovens. The most notable individual find was a large fragment of quern stone bearing unusual grooved decoration, recovered from one of the enclosure ditches. Activity at the site seems to have ended in the 4th century, and later activity is represented by a single pit associated with a small quantity of Anglo-Saxon pottery and the remains of extensive medieval to post-medieval ridge and furrow.

The Roman activity recorded at Hinckley Road represents an important addition to the corpus of excavated Roman rural settlements in this part of Leicestershire and is also significant in terms of its proximity to a major, but poorly understood, villa complex located a little over 1km to the east at Calver Hill.

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) was commissioned by RPS on behalf of Miller Homes to undertake an excavation on land off Hinckley Road, Sapcote, Leicestershire (Fig. 1; NGR SP 4830 9343).
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken as a condition of Planning Permission (planning ref. 17/0247/OUT). The Local Authority's requirements for work were established during discussion between Alexandra Thornton, RPS, and Richard Clark, Principal Planning Archaeologist for Leicestershire County Council. A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was produced by RPS (CgMs 2018) detailing the agreed scope of works, supplemented by a separate Method Statement produced by OA (Boothroyd 2019), setting out the methods by which OA proposed to meet the requirements of the Local Authority.
- 1.1.3 The excavation was preceded by a geophysical survey (MOLA 2016). The results of the survey were obscured by widespread magnetic debris from green waste imported onto the site and although the survey indicated that the remains of ridge and furrow occurred across the development area no other features were identified. Following this, a programme of trial trenching was carried out by OA in May-June 2017 (Chard and Boothroyd 2017), which identified a single Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age feature and a series of ditches dated to the Late Iron Age to Roman periods. The work reported here was carried out between January and June of 2019, and entailed the excavation of three areas (A, B & C) covering a total area of 1.7ha.
- 1.1.4 The site archive is currently held by OA and will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums under the accession code X.A7.2019 in due course.

### 1.2 Location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The site lies on the western edge of the village of Sapcote, Leicestershire.
- 1.2.2 The area of proposed development was within a single arable field which measures approximately 7.2ha of which 4ha was proposed for development. The site lies to the south of Hinckley Road and is bounded to the east and west by residential properties and agricultural land to the south.
- 1.2.3 The site lies at approximately 90m OD, on a gentle north facing slope which runs down to a minor west to east running watercourse some 200m beyond the northern limits of excavation. The geology of the area is mapped as the Mercia Mudstone Group, a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 200 to 251 million years ago in the Triassic Period. Superficial deposits of Wolston Sand and Gravel are recorded as overlying the mudstone geology across the majority of the site. Along the northern edge of the site, however, deposits of diamicton (glacial till) belonging to the Thussington Member overlie the mudstone (British Geological Survey Online Viewer).

### 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site has been described in detail in an archaeological desk-based assessment (CgMs 2016), and is summarised below, with the location of selected Leicestershire Historic Environment Records plotted on Figure 2.

#### *Prehistoric*

1.3.2 No evidence of prehistoric activity had been recorded within the development area itself prior to the 2017 evaluation (see below). A single Palaeolithic flint tool was recovered from Sapcote gravel pit approximately 460m to the north of the site (MLE6043). A large assemblage of Bronze Age flintwork has been recovered some 200m to the west of the site (MLE287), whilst a side looped Middle Bronze Age spearhead was found some 500m north of the site in 2003 (MLE 9899). A single sherd of Iron Age or Roman pottery was recovered from 39 Church Street, Sapcote, 300m east of the site (MLE10197).

#### *Roman*

1.3.3 No evidence of Roman activity had previously been recorded within the development area itself.

1.3.4 A possible Roman inhumation cemetery consisting of between six and ten inhumations is recorded at Sapcote gravel pit, c. 400m to the north of the site (MLE284). Several Roman coins have been recovered within 900m to the south of the site (MLE9897; MLE9898). Finds of this date have also been made within the historic core of Sapcote, to the east of the site, with a small amount of residual Roman pottery and tile recovered during archaeological recording off Leicester Road (MLE16205) and sherds of pottery from Park House Farm (MLE8512).

1.3.5 More significantly, on the eastern side of Sapcote, just over 1km east of the site and 700m to the west of the course of the Fosse Way Roman Road, is the site of Sapcote (or Calver Hill) Roman Villa (MLE283). The presence of an important Roman site here has been known since the early 19th century, and although much has been destroyed by extensive stone quarrying in the area, observations and small-scale fieldwork undertaken in the 1930s and 1970s suggest this was the site of a high-status building complex.

#### *Anglo-Saxon*

1.3.6 Sapcote is recorded in Domesday Book (1086) as *Scepecote*, or *Sapecote*, an Old English name meaning 'the sheep shelters' (Ekwall 1951, 404), in the Hundred of Guthlaxton. The settlement is recorded as having a population of 15.5 households.

1.3.7 Saxo-Norman linear ditches were excavated during an evaluation in 2011 c. 670m to the northeast of the site (MLE20120). A single sherd of Stamford ware pottery was recovered during the works. A gold and garnet pendant, and a copper-alloy object of 7th-century date have been recovered within the vicinity of the site. The precise

locations of the find spots are unknown, but the nature of the objects may indicate high-status Saxon activity in the area.

### ***Medieval***

- 1.3.8 Approximately 60m northeast of the site is Sapcote Castle (MLE279), a motte and bailey fortification, one of three castles in southwest Leicestershire constructed immediately following the Norman Conquest.
- 1.3.9 A late medieval enclosure is located immediately to the east of the site (MLE282), and a second, moated, enclosure is located c. 40m to the northeast (MLE280). The earthwork ditch which forms the eastern boundary of the site marks the western edge of the late medieval enclosure. The parish church, dating from the 14th century, is located c 240m to east of site within the historic core of the village.
- 1.3.10 Find spots of medieval or post-medieval coins, an ampulla and a harness fitting have been recovered within the vicinity of the site (not mapped on Fig. 2).

### ***Post-medieval and modern***

- 1.3.11 The enclosure map, dating from 1778, shows the development area within two fields, a smaller field adjacent to Hinckley Road and a larger field to the south. The boundary between the two fields is shown to consist of trees on the 1887 Ordnance Survey map. Three footpaths and a pond are also shown on the map (see CgMs 2016).
- 1.3.12 The boundary between the two fields was removed between 1993 and 1998, creating the current arrangement of fields.

### ***Previous work***

- 1.3.13 A trial trench evaluation was carried out in 2013 in the adjacent field to the west of the site (Fig. 2). No archaeological features, except medieval furrows, were identified during the works (Upson-Smith and Muldowney 2013).
- 1.3.14 A geophysical survey of the development area was carried out in 2016. The results of the survey were compromised by the presence of widespread magnetic debris resulting from recent manuring of the site, and although the survey was able to demonstrate the extensive remains of ridge and furrow across the site no other features were identified (MOLA 2016).
- 1.3.15 The trial trenching which preceded the excavations reported here entailed the excavation of 28 trenches across the development site (see Fig. 1; Chard and Boothroyd 2017). This identified a single Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age feature (interpreted as a ditch) in the southeastern part of the site, and a series of ditches dated to the Late Iron Age to Roman periods in the central part of the site.

## 2 EXCAVATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Aims and objectives

2.1.1 The project's original aims and objectives, as set out in the WSI (CgMs 2018, 6-7) were as follows:

- i. to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any archaeological remains within the excavation areas;
- ii. to determine the extent, character, function, and significance of the Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age ditch identified in the previous phase of work;
- iii. to determine the extent, character, function, and significance of the Late Iron Age / Roman field system identified in the previous phase of work;
- iv. to assess the Bronze Age / Early Iron Age and Late Iron Age / Roman activity in line with the relevant regional research agendas/objectives (Knight *et al.* 2012)
- v. to record in detail all archaeological remains encountered;
- vi. to consider the site within its local, regional, and national context as appropriate;
- vii. to deposit the site archive with an appropriate museum;
- viii. to provide information for the local HER to ensure the long-term survival of the excavated data.

### 2.2 Fieldwork methodology

2.2.1 The methodology used followed that detailed in the written scheme of investigation (Boothroyd 2019).

2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out by a 360° type excavator using a 2m wide flat-bladed ditching bucket under constant supervision by a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist.

2.2.3 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.

2.2.4 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA's pro-forma sheets. All plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

2.2.5 Bulk environmental samples were taken from contexts deemed likely to preserve ecofactual remains in order to gain data that could aid with the interpretation of past land use.

2.2.6 All archaeological features were planned (pre-excavation) using a Leica GS08 GPS.

## 3 RESULTS

### 3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

- 3.1.1 The results of the excavation are presented below, organised by Period and Area, and include a stratigraphic description of the archaeological remains. Details of all contexts are included in Appendix A, with finds and environmental reports presented in Appendices B and C respectively. Overall base plans of all features and deposits in each of the three excavation areas (A, B and C) are provided in Figs 3, 4 and 5. An overall phased plan of all three areas showing features belonging to Period 1, 2 and 3 is provided by Fig. 6, with fully detailed phased plans for each area are provided by Figs 7-15. Selected section drawings are presented in Figs 15 and 16, whilst selected photographs are reproduced in Plates 1-13.
- 3.1.2 Throughout the text cut numbers appear in **bold**. Where multiple interventions have been excavated through a single feature, the feature is referred to by the lowest cut number, which has been emphasised on the relevant plans. Where appropriate features have been grouped together (*e.g.* Enclosures 1-3). Context numbers allocated to features and deposits during the evaluation phase have been prefixed with 'E' throughout the text and graphics of this report to distinguish them from those of the excavation phase.

#### *Site phasing*

- 3.1.3 Phasing of the site was based on a combination of the analysis of dateable material recovered from features (mostly pottery) and of stratigraphic and spatial relationships. Although a small proportion of features remain unphased, the preference has been to include features into defined phases - with uncertainties highlighted in the text where appropriate. Many of the excavated features produced few finds and in the case of the main, Roman, phase of activity pottery recovered from features could only be broadly dated and/or included material with a wide date range. In light of this, a simple phasing structure has been adopted, with the Romano-British period activity tentatively divided into two broad sub-periods, as discussed in more detail below.
- 3.1.4 This period-based phasing for the site is as follows:
- Period 1: Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (c. 1200-350 BC)
  - Period 2: Romano British (AD 43-410)
    - Period 2.1 Early Romano-British (c. AD 43-150)
    - Period 2.1 Early to Late Romano-British (c. AD 100-410)
  - Period 3: Anglo-Saxon
  - Period 4: Medieval to early modern
  - Undated

### *General soils and ground conditions*

- 3.1.5 The natural geology, typically a light yellowish brown silty sand with frequent gravel clasts, was overlain by a mid yellowish brown subsoil up to 0.3m thick, which in turn was overlain by topsoil with an average thickness of 0.35m.
- 3.1.6 Ground conditions throughout the excavation were generally good, and the site remained largely dry. Archaeological features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying natural geology.

## **3.2 Natural features**

- 3.2.1 Features of natural origin were very widespread across all three excavation areas (Figs 3-5) and a large proportion were test excavated – although only one feature, tree throw **1026**, in Area A was formally recorded (Fig. 3). These features generally took the form of discrete sub-circular/oval-shaped hollows, most of which were under 2m across and 0.2m deep, but which included some large features. Some of the smaller features represented tree throws, but many, including the larger examples, seem likely to have been formed as a result of periglacial processes and essentially represent shallow hollows filled by sterile silty deposits. No finds of any kind were found during the investigation of any of these natural features.

## **3.3 Period 1: Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (c. 1200-350 BC)**

### *Area B (Figs 6 and 7)*

- 3.3.1 The only feature belonging to this period was located in the southern part of Area B and was first exposed during the evaluation in Trench 27 where it was recorded as a possible east to west aligned ditch (**E2704**), 1.5m wide and up to 0.4m deep. Excavation during the evaluation produced three base sherds (36g) from a Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age pottery vessel and a small quantity of animal bone (not identifiable to species), with sampling yielding two cereal grains and a knotgrass seed (Chard and Boothroyd 2017).
- 3.3.2 The feature was subsequently fully exposed during the excavation, which revealed that, rather than a ditch, this feature was actually a relatively large oval-shaped pit (**3040**), measuring 2.9m x 1.3m and up to 0.42m deep, with moderately steeply sloping sides and a concave base (S. 3016, Fig. 16; Plate 1). It contained a lower fill of mid-greyish blue silty clay (3041) and an upper fill of mid greyish orange silty clay (3042). Despite total excavation of its fills, no further pottery or bone was recovered, with finds limited to two unretouched flint flakes.
- 3.3.3 The only other traces of prehistoric activity revealed during the excavation took the form of a very small quantity of residual worked flint (15 pieces) recovered from later features and deposits and whilst some of this may be contemporary with the LBA/EIA activity represented by pit **3040**, much of this appears to attest to earlier, Mesolithic/Early Neolithic to Early Bronze Age, activity (see Donnelly, App. B.2).

## 3.4 Period 2.1: Early Romano-British (c. AD 43-150)

### *Introduction*

- 3.4.1 The vast majority of archaeological features encountered during the excavations can be attributed very broadly to the Romano-British period (Period 2). As noted above (Section 1.3), sub-dividing this period into coherent, well-dated, phases proved challenging, with many features producing relatively undiagnostic coarse ware Romano-British pottery. The majority of the Romano-British features, consisting of a major group of rectilinear enclosures and associated discrete features in Area C have been attributed to Period 2.2 (see below), with a smaller number of features attributed to Period 2.1 on the basis of their spatial and stratigraphic relationship to these later features.
- 3.4.2 These Period 2.1 features consisted largely of a series of north-northeast to south-southwest/west-northwest to east-southeast aligned ditches, laid out on a slightly different alignment to those of Period 2.2, and exposed across all three excavation areas (Fig. 6). Very few dateable finds were recovered from these features, but in Area C they were consistently stratigraphically earlier than the rectilinear enclosure system of Period 2.2, and appear to relate to an earlier, more extensive system of ditched boundaries. In Areas A and B these ditches cut a number of other east to west aligned ditches which, whilst essentially undated, have also been attributed to this sub-period.

### *Area A (Fig. 8)*

- 3.4.3 Area A was dominated by a large L-shaped ditch (**1003**) laid out on the north-northeast to south-southwest/west-northwest to east-southeast alignment shared by the Period 2.1 features in Area B and C. Two earlier, differently aligned ditches (**1004** and **1015**) were, however, cut by this ditch and are also discussed here. It should be emphasised that no pottery at all was recovered from any of these features, and their dating rests solely on the shared alignment of ditch **1003** with those exposed in the more southerly excavation areas.
- 3.4.4 Ditch **1004** (**1004**, **1024**) was a northeast to southwest aligned linear feature which extended from the northeastern corner of the area. A 10m length of the ditch was exposed, and although it was cut by ditch **1003** at its southeastern end, it appeared to be terminating at this point. This feature was up to 1m wide, 0.4m deep and was filled by a light to mid brownish grey silty sand from which no finds were recovered.
- 3.4.5 To the south of ditch **1004**, an east to west aligned ditch, **1015** (**1015**, **1028**, **1045**), was also cut by ditch **1003**. This feature extended across the full width of Area A (>32m) and was up to 0.9m wide and 0.4m deep. Where investigated, it contained up to two fills, none of which produced any finds.
- 3.4.6 L-shaped ditch **1003** (**1003**, **1018**, **1021**) was a more substantial feature than these two earlier ditches. Measuring up to 2.5m wide and 1m deep, it had steeply sloping sides and a concave base and along its north-northeast to south-southwest aligned section contained two fills of grey to brown silty sands (S. 1002, Fig. 16; Plate 2). A more complex fill sequence was recorded at the corner of the ditch to the north (**1003**), with

a series of eight naturally accumulated deposits infilling the ditch, from which a small quantity of residual worked flint was recovered.

### *Area B (Fig. 9)*

- 3.4.7 In Area B, the most southerly of the excavation areas, a similar sequence of ditches to those in Area A was encountered. Two lengths of north-northeast to south-southwest ditch on a comparable alignment to the Period 2.1 features in Area C were exposed (**3060** and **3081**), one of which cut one of four less substantial east to west aligned ditches (**3085**, **3025**, **3029** and **3031**).
- 3.4.8 The stratigraphically earliest feature in Area B was ditch **3085** (**3072**, **3085**, **3087**), an east to west aligned feature cut by ditch **3060**. This feature measured 1.2m wide but was very shallow, up to 0.1m deep and containing a dark brown grey clay silt from which no finds were recovered.
- 3.4.9 To the south, two short and heavily truncated parallel east to west aligned linear features were exposed (**3029** and **3031**). These were also very shallow, neither deeper than 0.1m and were filled by similar deposits of reddish brown silty clay. The fill of **3029** (**3030**) contained a single small sherd of pottery (3g) dating to AD 70-200.
- 3.4.10 Some four metres to the south a further east to west aligned ditch was exposed, extending from the eastern edge of excavation (**3025**); its northern extent was masked by Period 4 furrow **3023**. This feature measured 0.6m wide and 0.16m deep and produced no finds.
- 3.4.11 North-northeast to south-southwest aligned ditch **3060** (**3060**, **3076**, **3094**) extended from beyond the northern limit of the area for a distance of 34m before ending in a regular rounded terminus, cutting across ditch **3085**, and cut in turn by Period 2.2 pit **3049**. Measuring up to 1.6m wide and 0.75m deep, in one of the excavated sections (**3060**) there was evidence for two episodes of partial recutting (recuts **3063** and **3066**; S.3022, Fig. 16). Filled by mid blue to brownish grey sandy silts and clays this feature produced no finds.
- 3.4.12 To the south, the alignment of ditch **3060** was continued by ditch **3081**. Although its northern end was obscured by furrow **3023** (Period 4) it seems to have terminated close to the southern end of **3060**, and extended southwards for some 14m before terminating close to Period 1 pit **3040**. Measuring up to 1.5m wide and 0.7m deep and containing two clayey sand fills, no finds were recovered from this feature and a sample taken from its basal fill yielded sparse charcoal and a single fragment of charred legume seed (Sample 3016).

### *Area C (Fig. 10)*

- 3.4.13 Features attributed to Period 2.1 in Area C were dominated by a series of ditches delineating a major north-northeast to south-southwest aligned boundary which was exposed (discontinuously) across most of the length of the excavation area, a distance of some 130m (**1041**, **1037**, **2307**, **2130**). Several ditches arranged parallel or perpendicular to this ditch line seem to represent part of the same system (**2303**, **2299**, **2234**) and may have defined a series of rectilinear enclosures/paddocks.



- 3.4.14 In the northern part of the area, the major north-northeast to south-southwest aligned boundary appears to have been defined by two short linear 'ditch segments' **1041** and **1037/1054** (the latter recorded during the evaluation in Trench 5 as **E506**). Ditch **1041** was a substantial feature, extending some 10m from the northern edge of excavation and measuring up to 2.4m wide and 0.6m deep, and had a basal fill of light reddish grey sandy silt overlain by an upper fill of mid brownish red sandy clay. Despite extensive excavation of this feature, no finds were recovered. Ditch **1037/1054** also failed to produce any finds aside from a single fragment (51g) of non-diagnostic ceramic building material. This short linear feature measured 5.5m long and up to 1.3m wide and 0.54m deep and appeared to have infilled naturally with a sequence of grey to brown silty sands and clays.
- 3.4.15 Immediately to the south of ditch **1037** was a substantial pit (**1031**), which, due to its comparable dimensions to ditch 'segments' **1041** and **1037**, is thought likely to have been related to the discontinuous boundary represented by these features and ditch **2307** to the south. Sub-circular in plan, with a U-shaped profile, this feature was filled by a sequence of five deposits of clayey sands and sandy silts, all of which seem to represent natural silting, and none of which produced finds.
- 3.4.16 Some six metres south of pit **1031**, was the northern terminus of north-northeast to south-southwest aligned ditch **2307** (**2307**, **2329**, **2332**), which was traced for a distance of 48m to the south, where it was cut, and continued, by L-shaped ditch **2130**. This was a relatively substantial feature, measuring between 1.9 and 2.5m wide and up to 0.8m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a slightly concave or flat base (Section 2073, Fig. 16; Plate 3). Where excavated, this feature was filled by two or three deposits of silty or sandy clay, representing natural infilling. The only find recovered was a single sherd of pottery (11g) dating to between AD 70-200 from the basal fill (2330) of intervention **2329**.
- 3.4.17 As noted above, ditch **2307** was continued and cut by the north-northeast to south-southwest aligned section of an L-shaped ditch, **2130** (**2130**, **2160**, **2181**, **2193**, **2291**, **2301**, **2305**; Section 2073, Fig. 16; Plate 3) which continued this major boundary alignment to the south and, at its northern end, extended to the east on a south-southwest to north-northeast alignment. This feature varied somewhat in size and was more substantial along its southern part, measuring between 0.54m wide and 0.22m deep (intervention **2301**) and 2.34m wide and 0.64m deep (intervention **2193**). Some of the narrower and shallower parts of the ditch contained a single fill but in the more substantial sections up to three fills were recorded; invariably orangey or greyish brown sandy silts. Very few finds were recovered: a fragment of ceramic tile from the lower fill (2182) of intervention **2181** and two small sherds (3g) of grog-tempered 1st century AD pottery from a secondary fill (2195) of intervention **2193**, whilst a single sherd (19g) of pottery dated to c. AD 150-200 was collected from the surface of this feature close to intervention **2160**.
- 3.4.18 The south-southwest to north-northeast aligned length of ditch **2130** appeared to be continued, following a break of 10m, by a 15m long length of ditch (**2303**) on the same alignment which extended to close to the eastern edge of the excavation. This feature had similar dimensions to that of the northern part of ditch **2130**: up to 0.56m wide

and 0.26m deep with moderately steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a mid greyish brown silty sand which produced no finds.

- 3.4.19 To the west of the northern end of ditch **2130** two further ditches (**2234** and **2299**) were likely to be associated with this major boundary; they shared the same alignment as **2130** and were stratigraphically earlier than features making up the Period 2.2 rectilinear enclosures. Ditch **2234** (**2234**, **2297**) was aligned parallel to ditch **2307** and the southern part of ditch **2130** and was up to 0.7m wide and 0.5m deep with a U-shaped profile. Filled by a single greyish orange to greyish brown sandy clay, this feature produced no finds.
- 3.4.20 Ditch **2299** was laid out perpendicular to ditch **2234**. Given its modest depth, it may once have continued westwards to meet ditch **2130**, having been truncated. This feature measured up to 0.5m wide and 0.16m deep and was filled by a dark greyish brown clay sand from which no finds were recovered.

### 3.5 Period 2.2 Early to Late Romano-British (c. AD 100-410)

#### *Introduction*

- 3.5.1 The vast majority of the archaeological features exposed in the largest excavation area (Area C) have been attributed to Period 2.2, whilst several pits in Area B (one of which clearly postdates the linear features in this Area described above) have also been assigned to the broad phase of the site's use (see Fig. 6). In Area C these remains took the form of a system of rectilinear enclosures laid out across the central and southern part of the area (Enclosures 1-3), associated with a series of discrete features.
- 3.5.2 The pottery recovered from features attributed to this period is dominated by material dating broadly to the later 1st and 2nd centuries, and although several features did produce later, 3rd and 4th century material, it seems that much of the activity can be attributed to the earlier part of the Roman period.

#### *Area B (Fig. 11)*

- 3.5.3 Three features, pits **3049**, **3058** and **3082**, in Area B have been attributed to this period. In the case of pits of **3058** and **3082** this is very tentative as neither demonstrably postdated the Period 2.1 ditches exposed in this area, but large pit/watering hole **3049** was clearly superimposed on the junction of two of these earlier ditches (**3085** and **3060**).
- 3.5.4 Pit **3049** (**3049**, **3074**, **3078**, **3089**) was a somewhat irregular oval shape in plan, measuring 6.7m by 4.3m. Its sequence was most fully investigated via a 1m wide intervention excavated across the full width of the feature (**3049**; S. 3020, Fig. 17). Here, the pit was up to 1.22m deep, the upper part of its profile was moderately sloping with a marked step on its northern side, and a narrow bowl-shaped base. Its basal fill was a light yellowish orange sandy silt (3050), representing material eroded from the sides of the feature as it weathered – this produced a single small sherd of pottery (1g) dating to c. AD 70-200. This was overlain by a series of mid brown/grey silty sands which appeared to represent more gradual episodes of silting (3051-3054). Small quantities of animal bone (nine fragments of large mammal bone, including a single cattle tooth) and ceramic building material (78g) were recovered from these

deposits, and the uppermost fill (3054) contained a large sherd of pottery (45g) dated to the 3rd or 4th century AD.

- 3.5.5 In the southern part of the area were a pair of substantial pits, **3058** and **3082**. Pit **3058** was oval in plan, 2.3m long and 0.9m wide, and was up to 0.9m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It was filled by three deposits of greyish to yellowish brown clay sands, the uppermost of which (3059) produced degraded fragments of shale (20g) and two indeterminate cereal grains from a bulk sample (Sample 3012).
- 3.5.6 Just to the north, pit **3082** was similar in morphology: oval in plan measuring 3m long, 1.8m wide and up to 0.9m deep with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. Its fills of greyish or yellowish clay sands were also comparable to those of pit **3058** and its upper fill (3099) produced three fragments of fired clay belonging to a triangular brick (see App. B.3) and a single small sherd of pottery (2g) - dated to the late 1st or 2nd century AD – whilst sampling produced a single charred wheat grain (Sample 3013).

### *Area C (Fig. 12)*

#### *Summary*

- 3.5.7 As noted above, the majority of the features in Area C have been attributed to Period 2.2, and are dominated by a series of rectilinear enclosures laid out on a slightly different alignment to those of Period 2.1, closer to north-south/east-west than the earlier features. This enclosure system was only partly exposed within the excavation area, and three major enclosures (Enclosures 1-3; see Figs 6 and 12) have been identified here, each associated with various internal features and ditched subdivisions. Further ditches to the west of these may represent parts of further enclosures but their precise layout is unclear. The separation of the various ditched boundaries in this way is essentially a heuristic device, facilitating description and presentation of the various features; further consideration of the layout and sequence of the enclosure system can be found in the Discussion (Section 4).
- 3.5.8 In the following sections each of the three main enclosures is described separately, beginning with the northernmost enclosure (Enclosure 1). These descriptions include features exposed within each separate enclosure's interior. Following this, the various features exposed to the west of the enclosures are described, and the small number of Period 2.2 features exposed elsewhere in the area.

#### *Enclosure 1 and associated features*

- 3.5.9 Enclosure 1 was defined on its northern and western sides by a major L-shaped ditch, **2091** (**2091**, **2128**, **2134**, **2152**, **2156**, **2167**, **2231**). The western side of this ditch was 35m long, with its southern terminus appearing to cut the fills of ditch **2062**, which defined the western and southern sides of Enclosure 2 (see below). The northern side of **2091** was almost 80m long, extending to close to the eastern edge of excavation. This L-shaped feature thus defined an area of some 2800m<sup>2</sup> (0.28 ha). However, the southern side of the enclosure, as defined here, was bounded by a ditch, **2126** (**2126**, **2198**, **2229**, **2319**, **E1903**; also forming the northern side of Enclosure 2), which was only 60m long, with a separate north to south aligned ditch **2165** (**2165**, **2317**), (interrupted by a 1.2m wide entranceway) running from its eastern terminus to meet

- the northern side of ditch **2091**, and forming either a subdivision or the eastern side of the enclosure. This smaller area defined on all four sides by ditches **2091**, **2126** and **2165** covered c. 2100m<sup>2</sup> (0.21 ha). At some point in its history, the interior of the enclosure appears to have been subdivided by a single north to south aligned ditch, **2149** (**2149**, **2161**, **2173**, **2179**), which cut across the top of Period 2.1 ditch **2130**.
- 3.5.10 Investigation of the junctions between these various ditches appeared to show that the features represented multiple phases, with, for instance, north to south aligned ditches **2149** and **2165** being cut by L-shaped ditch **2091**. However, in most cases these relationships, as observed in plan and section, were ambiguous and it has not been possible to construct a coherent sequence of the enclosure's development.
- 3.5.11 The various ditches defining this enclosure varied in size and morphology. Ditch **2091** was the most substantial, typically over 1.5m wide and up to 0.66m deep (S. 2043, Fig. 17; Plate 4), whilst ditches **2126** and **2149** were generally 1.2 to 1.3m wide and between 0.3 and 0.6m deep. Ditch **2165** was a less substantial feature, measuring up to 0.4m wide and 0.3m deep. The fills of these features were undistinguished – dominated by mid to light grey, orange and brown silty sands and silty clays, with no clear evidence for any deliberate backfill deposits. This said, some of these fills did produce finds, dominated by pottery (78 sherds, 1463g in total) and ceramic building material (19 fragments, 3521g, in total). The pottery includes a large proportion of undiagnostic coarse wares, dateable only very generally to the Romano-British period, but some contexts produced material dateable to the 3rd to 4th centuries AD, including two sherds (73g) from an upper fill of ditch **2091** (intervention **2167**, fill 2169) and two sherds (115g) from the surface of ditch **2126**. One exceptional find from ditch **2126** (intervention **2198**, basal fill 2199) was a large fragment of the upper part of a rotary quern stone bearing decoration on its upper surface (SF 2002; Fig. 19; App. B.4).
- 3.5.12 In the interior of Enclosure 1, a range of features were recorded including an L-shaped ditch defining a sub-enclosure/compound, a large pit/well and a series of discrete pits and short lengths of gullies.
- 3.5.13 L-shaped ditch **2108** (**2108**, **2170**, **2186**) defined a small sub-rectangular 'sub-enclosure' or compound in the southwestern corner of Enclosure 1, enclosing an area of approximately 416m<sup>2</sup> (33m by 13m; Fig. 12, inset plan 1). This feature appeared to cut ditch **2149** (see above), but the relationship was not entirely clear. The ditch itself was up to 1.2m wide and 0.5m deep with moderately steep sloping sides and a flat or slightly concave base (S. 2041, Fig. 17). In the excavated interventions it contained between one and three fills, of clayey or silty sand. Finds were sparse but included three fragments of ceramic tile (163g) of and nine sherds (132g) of Romano-British pottery, including a sherd from a Samian ware dish (intervention **2186**, fill 2187).
- 3.5.14 A further short length of east to west aligned ditch (**2184**) joined the eastern side of ditch **2108**. At 7.5m long, 0.36m wide and just 0.1m deep, this was an insubstantial feature and produced no finds from its light brown sandy silt fill.
- 3.5.15 Within the area enclosed by ditch **2108** were several short lengths of gully, their function is unclear but it is possible that some may have been associated with structures of some kind (see Section 4 for discussion). Gully **2083** (**2083**, **2085**, **2087**) was slightly curvilinear in plan, aligned broadly east to west and measured some 5.5m

long, up to 0.7m wide and 0.2m deep, with moderately steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It was filled by a single mid greyish/orange brown sandy silt from which no finds were recovered. Just to the north of the eastern end of gully **2083**, a short length of linear gully or elongated pit, **2089**, aligned northeast to southwest, was exposed. This measured just 2.3m long, 0.6m wide and 0.26m deep, and was filled with a mid orange brown sandy silt.

- 3.5.16 Some 4m to the east of this pair of features was a more regular, L-shaped, gully (**2201**; **2201**, **2203**), aligned parallel to ditch **2108**. The southern (east to west aligned) side of this feature measured 2.5m long, whilst the western (north to south aligned) side extended for 6m. Some 0.3m wide and up to 0.2m deep, this feature had steeply sloping sides and a flat or slightly concave base (S. 2053, Fig. 17; Plate 5) and contained a single deposit of greyish brown sandy silt from which a single fragment (27g) of ceramic tile was recovered. Further to the east, a length of east to west aligned gully (**2261**) appeared to have been cut by ditch **2149** (which bisected Enclosure 1, see above); this feature was at least 3m long, up to 0.2m wide and 0.15m deep, with a relatively dark grey brown sandy clay fill.
- 3.5.17 Also within the area enclosed by ditch **2108** were five pits and postholes (**2257**, **2259**, **2263**, **2266** and **2268**). Typically circular or sub-circular in plan, these feature ranged from 1.3 to 0.5m in diameter and up to a maximum of 0.24m deep, filled by single deposits of greyish brown sandy silts. The only finds were small quantities of grey ware pottery from the fills of pits **2266** (2 sherds, 7g) and **2268** (1 sherd, 16g).
- 3.5.18 Elsewhere in Enclosure 1, the most significant feature was a large pit or well/watering hole located in the northwestern corner of the enclosure (**2110**). This feature was circular in plan, measuring up to 5m in diameter at the surface. The full depth of this feature was not excavated; it was initially excavated to depth of 1.2m (Plates 6 and 7), following which the upper profile of the feature and the surrounding area was lowered by machine to allow further excavation (Plates 8 and 9), to a total depth of 2.2 m. As excavated, the sides of the feature were regular and steeply sloping and a complex sequence of fills were recorded (S. 2033, Fig. 16).
- 3.5.19 The earliest deposits recorded were a series of light/mid yellowish orange sandy clays (2326, 2327, 2328) representing material eroded from the upper part of the feature's profile, restricted to the sides of the feature and from which eight sherds of grey ware pottery were recovered. Overlying these deposits, in the central part of the feature, were two deposits of soft, dark greyish blue sandy clay (2321, 2332). These waterlogged deposits contained several large angular pieces of limestone (up to c. 0.25m in maximum dimension) and flint cobbles, as well as frequent pieces of (unworked) roundwood fragments. Sampling of these lower fills produced waterlogged seeds belonging to plants indicative of disturbed ground such as chickweed, goosefoot, bramble and nettle, whilst seeds of sedge and the presence of eggs belonging to planktonic crustaceans (*Daphnia*) confirm that the feature had held standing water (see App. C.1).
- 3.5.20 These deposits were overlain by two successive layers of mid reddish grey clayey sand (2323 and 2324) with poorly sorted gravel inclusions, interpreted as deliberate backfill deposits, which produced 42 fragments of animal bone, including two specimens of

cattle, and eight sherds (154g) of grey ware pottery. The uppermost of these fills were overlain by further deposits deriving from weathering of the sides of the feature and more gradual silting (2119 and 2121), again restricted to the sides of the feature. These greyish orange or reddish grey clay sands produced 139g of fired clay and 16 sherds of pottery, dominated by grey wares but including a small amount of residual flint-tempered Iron Age material. Overlying these was a further probable backfill deposit of mid bluish grey sandy clay containing a fragment of ceramic tile and 13 sherds (274g) of pottery (2118), overlain by a deposit of mid orange grey silty sand containing two sherds of pottery, representing a further episode of natural silting/weathering (2116).

- 3.5.21 The upper part of the feature was filled by a series of mid dark brown/grey silty sands which appear to largely represent gradual natural infilling (2117, 2115, 2114 and 2113). These deposits produced a substantial quantity of pottery (60 sherds, 717g) and three fragments (558g) of ceramic building material (including flue tile), alongside an iron object knife or tool tang fragment. The pottery from these upper fills, particularly the two uppermost fills, 2113 and 2114, was notable for including a large proportion of material dating to the 4th century AD (see Perrin, App. B.1).
- 3.5.22 No other features were recorded in the immediate vicinity of pit **2110**, although a localised buried soil deposit, up to 0.35m thick (2042=2270), was found to seal part of ditch **2091**, immediately to the west (investigated in intervention **2156**). This produced a small quantity of Roman pottery (six sherds) and a single small (13g) fragment of CBM.
- 3.5.23 Three further features within Enclosure 1 have been attributed to Period 2.2, a cluster of three pits (**2103**, **2111** and **2138**) located some 10m to the southeast of pit **2110**. These features were sub-circular in plan, measuring between 1.7m and 0.6m in diameter and up to 0.32m deep with similar greyish brown sandy silt fills; none produced finds.

#### *Enclosure 2 and associated features*

- 3.5.24 As noted above, the northern side of Enclosure 2 was defined by ditch **2126** (described above), whilst its southern and western sides were formed by an L-shaped ditch, **2062** (**2062**, **2097**, **2105**, **2122**, **E2403**), which effectively mirrored, but was cut by, the L-shaped ditch forming the western and northern side of Enclosure 1 (**2091**). No boundary was, however, found on the eastern side of Enclosure 2, and the southern side of ditch **2062** extended beyond the eastern limit of excavation. There was no evidence for a major subdivision of Enclosure 2 similar to that represented by ditch **2149** in Enclosure 1, but a short length of ditch (**2227**) was identified running perpendicular to ditch **2126** in the northern part of Enclosure 2.
- 3.5.25 As exposed in the excavation area Enclosure 2 (as defined by ditches **2062** and **2126**) covered area approximately 25m wide (north to south) and potentially over 70m long (east to west), an area of over 1750m<sup>2</sup>. L-shaped ditch **2062** was a fairly substantial feature, typically over 1.5m wide (up to a maximum of 1.8m) and, where, excavated was up to 0.44m deep, with moderately steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It contained two or three silty sand fills, typically mid brownish grey in colour, which appeared to represent natural infilling deposits. A secondary fill of intervention **2097** produced a single sherd of pottery (24g) dated to the 1st century AD (fill 2099), whilst

a less diagnostic sherd of Romano-British pottery was recovered from the lower fill of intervention **2062** (fill 2069), together with two sherds from the upper fill (2252). A total of three fragments (276g) of ceramic tile (*tegulae*) were also recovered from intervention **2097** and **2122**.

- 3.5.26 In the northern part of the enclosure a short length of ditch (**2227**) was exposed on a north to south alignment, its northern end meeting, and perhaps being cut by ditch **2126** (see Fig. 12, inset 1 for detail). This was up to 0.45m wide and 0.18m deep and although only 5.2m long, may have been plough truncated at its southern end, and have originally continued to form a subdivision of Enclosure 2. It produced nine sherds of pottery (203g) – including a large sherd from a grey ware jar of 3rd century date - and two fragments of ceramic tile.
- 3.5.27 Within the interior of Enclosure 2, just south of the southern terminus of Period 2.1 ditch **2130**, was a relatively dense cluster of intercutting features (Fig. 12, inset plan 2), with two ditches/gullies, **2205** (**2205**, **2216**) and **2207** (**2207**, **2209**, **2293**, **2295**) and six pits/postholes (**2211**, **2214**, **2218**, **2220**, **2222** and **2225**). Collectively these features, especially a cluster of four intercutting pits, produced a relatively substantial finds assemblage including 34 sherds (374g) of pottery, 844g of fired clay and almost 3kg of ceramic building material.
- 3.5.28 One of the earliest features in this sequence was pit **2225**; this sub-circular feature was cut along its northern side by gully **2207** and measured 1m across and 0.14m deep. Its single fill of mid orange brown sandy silt produced six sherds of pottery (156g), and a single fragment of CBM (19g) was also recovered. Gully **2207** also truncated a short length of gully (**2205**) to the north of pit **2225**. This feature was up to 0.7m wide and 0.14m deep and produced four grey ware sherds from its mid orangey brown sandy silt fill (2206 = 2217).
- 3.5.29 Gully **2207** itself was somewhat irregular, some 21m long and curvilinear/sinuuous in plan, aligned broadly east to west. It measured between 0.55 and 1.1m wide and was shallow, typically less than 0.15m deep. It contained a single fill of mid orangey brown or greyish brown sandy silt which produced ten sherds (95g) of Roman pottery.
- 3.5.30 To the north of, and cutting, gully **2205**, was a cluster of four intercutting pits and a single posthole (S. 2050, Fig. 17; Plate 10). The finds and environmental remains associated with each of these features are summarised in Table 1. The earliest feature in the sequence was pit **2222**, a sub-circular feature, 1m in diameter and 0.19m deep filled by a mid greyish brown sandy silt which produced three sherds of Roman pottery. This was cut by pit **2211**, a regular, steep-sided circular feature measuring 0.9m in diameter and 0.25m deep. This pit was filled by two distinctive deposits, a lower dark greyish brown clayey silt, which contained six small sherds of grey ware pottery and small quantities of fired clay, and an upper very dark grey silt, rich in charcoal and which also contained a little fired clay, alongside a small piece of slag, hammerscale and 22 (572g) fragments of CBM including tegulae fragments. This latter deposit appears to represent a deliberate dump of waste associated with metalworking/smithing.
- 3.5.31 Pit **2211** was in turn cut by pit **2220**, an oval-shaped feature, 1.55m long, 1.2 m wide and 0.23m deep with a single mid brownish grey, charcoal-rich, sandy silt fill which

produced a substantial finds assemblage including over 2kg of CBM, including brick and tile fragments, burnt stone, 621g of fired clay, hammerscale, and three small sherds of pottery. Twenty-five iron hobnails recovered from this fill presumably represent part a single shoe or boot deposited in this feature. A sample of this fill produced a rich assemblage of charred grain and chaff, dominated by the remains of spelt wheat, representing the residue of crop processing. The northern edge of pit **2220** was cut by a smaller pit, **2218**, which measured 0.7m in diameter and 0.34m deep. Again, this feature had been backfilled with a dark, charcoal-rich, sandy silt which produced two sherds of pottery, 159g of fired clay, slag, seven fragments of *tegula* and almost 700g of burnt stone. Pit **2211** was also cut by posthole **2214**, this oval-shaped feature measured up to 0.22m across and 0.14m deep and was filled by a mid brownish grey sandy silt which produced no finds.

Pit (cut)	Fills	Finds	Environmental remains (charred plant remains)
2211	2212	22 pieces (572g) of CBM (including heat-affected tegulae) Slag (x1) Hammerscale	Assessment level only: Charcoal, rare grain and chaff (Sample 2001)
	2213	Six sherds (31g) of pottery (grey ware, c. AD 70-400) 39g (13 frags) of fired clay (amorphous) Hammerscale	Full Analysis: low quantities of charred barley and wheat grains and chaff. Rare weed seeds (Sample 2004)
2222	2223	Three sherds (24g) of pottery (grey ware, c. AD 70-400)	n/a
2220	2221	Three sherds (13g) of pottery (grey ware, c. AD 70-400) 30 pieces (2179g) of CBM (including large fragments of heat affected brick and tegula) 621g (6 frags) off fired clay (amorphous) 504g (3 pieces) burnt stone Hammerscale Iron (25 hobnails=shoe/boot)	Full analysis: Large assemblage of charred grain dominated by wheat with an extremely rich assemblage of glume wheat chaff alongside wild plant (weed) seeds (Sample 2003)
2218	2219	Two sherds (6g) of pottery (1x grey ware; 1 x residual ?Iron Age) Seven pieces (225g) of CBM (heat affected tegula) 159g (119 frags) of fired clay (including probable oven lining) 699g (six pieces) of burnt stone Slag (x10 frags)	Assessment level only: Charcoal, frequent grain and chaff (wheat and barley) and weed seeds (Sample 2002)

Table 1. Finds and environmental remains recovered from four intercutting pits within Enclosure 2

3.5.32 Some 5m to the north of this cluster of features, close to the northern side of the enclosure, were a pair of intercutting pits (Fig. 12, inset plan 1). The earliest of these (**2282**) was sub-circular in plan, 1.25m in diameter and 0.34m deep and produced nine sherds of pottery (178g), including material dated to the 3rd/4th century AD, from its single fill of light brownish grey sandy silt. This was cut on its southern edge by a larger, oval-shaped pit (**2278**) measuring up to 2.2m across and 0.6m deep with steeply



sloping sides and a flat base. Its two lower fills produced no finds but its uppermost fill, a brownish grey sandy silt produced six sherds of pottery (99g), again including sherds of 3rd/4th century date.

- 3.5.33 In the southeastern part of Enclosure 2 a large oval-shaped pit (**2271**) was exposed, measuring 3.3m long and 1.3m wide. It was up to 0.3m deep and was filled by a dark orangey brown sandy silt containing numerous large (up to 0.5m long) sub-angular fragments of limestone laid on its base (Plate 11). None of the stones showed traces of working/dressing or burning/heating and it is unclear whether they were simply dumped in the pit or whether this feature provided a foundation/surface for a structure of some kind. Two possible small postholes (**2287** and **2289**) were found cut into the base of this feature, both filled by dark brown silty clays (Plate 12). No finds were recovered from these features and a bulk sample taken from the fill of posthole **2287** yielded only a very small amount of wood charcoal (Sample 2010).
- 3.5.34 The final feature identified in Enclosure 2 was a sub-circular pit (**2308**) in the northwestern corner of the enclosure, which measured 1.4m in diameter and 0.25m deep. This feature contained a very dark greyish brown, charcoal-rich lower fill, which produced 2g of fired clay and 53g of burnt stone. Sampling of this deposit yielded only wood charcoal, in poor condition (Sample 2005). This was sealed by two paler sandy silts which contained no finds.

#### *Enclosure 3 and associated features*

- 3.5.35 The features attributed here to Enclosure 3 were only partially exposed in the southern part of Area C, and the layout and character of this putative enclosure is poorly understood in comparison with Enclosures 1 and 2. The northern side of Enclosure 3 was formed by the southern side of L-shaped ditch **2062** (see above; Enclosure 2), whilst its western side was defined by a series of intercutting ditches: **2011** (**2011**, **2029**), **2054** (**2054=2059**) and **2003** (**2003**, **2015**, **2050=2057**, **2095**). Three north to south aligned ditches possibly representing internal subdivisions of the enclosure were also exposed (ditches **E2406**, **2061** and **2074**), and an east to west aligned ditch also bisected the enclosure (ditch **2077**; **2077**, **2079**), and may have continued beyond its limits to the west.
- 3.5.36 Close to the southern edge of the excavation, the western side of Enclosure 3 was defined by ditch **2011**. This was a relatively large feature, measuring 1.75m wide and up to 0.5m deep with moderately steeply sloping sides and a concave base (S. 2003, Fig. 16; Plate 13). Where fully excavated (intervention **2011**) it contained a basal fill of mid greyish brown silty sand (**2012**) which produced a single sherd of pottery dating to c. AD 70-200, sealed by upper deposits of mid greyish/orangey brown silty sands which contained no finds.
- 3.5.37 To the north, excavation along the same ditch line revealed two intercutting ditches, **2054** and **2003** – it is not clear which of these was equivalent to ditch **2011**. Ditch **2003** was the earliest of these two ditches and could be traced for a length of some 18m, meeting the corner of L-shaped ditch **2062**, with which it formed the northwestern corner of Enclosure 3. Ditch **2003** was rarely more than 1m wide (ranging from 1.2m-0.5m in the excavated interventions) and was up to 0.44m deep, with steep or moderately steeply sloping sides and a concave or flat base. It was filled by a single

deposit of mid to light grey brown silty sand, with finds restricted to a single sherd of pottery dated to c. AD 70-150 from intervention **2003**.

- 3.5.38 At its southern end (intervention **2050=2057**), ditch **2003** was cut by a somewhat larger ditch (**2054**) which extended for 7m to the north before ending in a regular rounded terminus. This feature measured up to 1.7m wide and 0.57m deep and was filled by mid to light grey brown silty sands which produced no finds.
- 3.5.39 The easternmost of the north-south aligned ditches within the interior of Enclosure 3 was only sampled in the evaluation phase (Trench 24; **E2406**) – when it was recorded as measuring 0.4m wide and 0.15m deep, with a single fill which produced no finds (Chard and Boothroyd 2017, 9). To the west, ditches **2061** and **2974** may have formed a single discontinuous north to south aligned boundary within the enclosure. Ditch **2061** was up to 1.2m wide and at least 0.35m deep, whilst ditch **2074** was up to 1m wide and at least 0.25m deep. Both features were filled by mid brownish grey silty sands which produced no finds. East to west aligned ditch **2077** measured up to 0.9m wide and 0.26m deep and was filled by a similar mid brown silty sand - again producing no finds.
- 3.5.40 Few other features were recorded with Enclosure 3. An oval shaped pit (**2081**) was found on the northern edge of ditch **2077**, but the relationship between the two features was uncertain. This feature measured 1.3m long by 0.7m wide and up to 0.25m deep and was filled by a mid greyish brown silty sand from which no finds were recovered. Another pit was exposed within the northwest corner of Enclosure 3 during the evaluation (**E2207**; Trench 22). This feature showed signs of *in situ* burning/heating and although it contained no finds, a sample from its basal charcoal-rich fill produced a relatively rich assemblage of charred plant remains including cereal grain and chaff, representing crop processing residues (Boothroyd and Chard 2017; see also App. C.1).
- 3.5.41 Close to the southern edge of excavation, two short lengths of gully (one unexcavated) and a pit were exposed. The gully was aligned north to south and its northern end was obscured by furrow **2005** (Period 4). It measured at least 2.6m long and was up to 0.55m wide and 0.13m deep. This feature appeared to cut an adjacent pit (**2009**) – sub-circular in plan and measuring 0.8m in diameter and 0.22m deep. Neither feature produced any finds.

#### *Features to the west of Enclosure 1-3*

- 3.5.42 Features to the west of Enclosures 1-3 included several lengths of east to west aligned ditches which may have represented boundaries for further enclosures in this part of the site, but given their partial exposure, their layout is uncertain. These features include ditch **2070** (**2070**, **2072**), which continued the east to west alignment of the northern side of Enclosure 1, and an unexcavated ditch in the southwestern corner of the site which may represent a continuation of the east to west aligned ditch that bisects Enclosure 3 (**2077**). Ditch **2070** extended from the western edge of excavation for 27m before terminating, leaving a 2.5m wide gap between its terminus and the northwestern corner of Enclosure 1 (ditch **2091**). Up to 0.54m wide and 0.2m deep, this feature contained a single greyish brown sandy silt, which produced no finds.

- 3.5.43 A total of nine discrete pits were found dispersed across the area to the west of Enclosures 1-3. Although only four of these produced dateable finds, they have all been tentatively attributed to Period 2.2. The majority of these features (**E1203, 2013, 2024, 2036, 2043, 2065**) were circular/sub-circular features, ranging between 0.4 and 1m in diameter and up to 0.3m deep with single fills of sterile mid brown/grey sandy silts. Of these features, only one produced any finds, a single small sherd of grog tempered Late Iron Age/Roman pottery recovered from pit **E1203** during the evaluation phase of fieldwork (see Chard and Boothroyd 2017).
- 3.5.44 The remaining three pits (**2026, 2038** and **2041**) contained what appeared to be deliberate backfill deposits and were associated with more significant assemblages of finds. Pit **2026**, located just west of the western side of Enclosure 3, was a regular circular feature, measuring 1m in diameter and up to 0.25m deep with steeply sloping sides and a slightly concave base (S. 2007, Fig. 16). Its basal fill (2027) was a thin layer of very dark grey charcoal-rich silt which produced burnt flint, stone and a single sherd of grey ware pottery. This was sealed by a thicker upper deposit of mid brownish grey sandy silt. A sample of the basal fill of this feature produced a large quantity of charred grain, dominated by barley but including some wheat, with an absence of chaff indicating that this represents a fully processed crop (App. C.1).
- 3.5.45 Pit **2038** was located in the northwestern part of Area C, 1m south of ditch **2070**. This oval shaped pit was 2m long, and up to 0.4m wide and 0.21m deep and was filled by a dark greyish brown sandy silt which, exceptionally, contained an almost complete small grey ware jar dated to AD 70-200. Finally, pit **2041** was found in the southwestern corner of Area C. It was oval in plan, 1.3m long and 0.9m wide with a depth of 0.3m. Its basal fill was a very dark grey, charcoal-rich silty sand (2046), overlain by a mid brownish grey silty sand. This lower fill produced a small quantity (22g) of burnt stone, quantities of hammerscale and a small crumb of fired clay (2g), whilst a sample from this deposit yield a rich assemblage of charred grain (App. C.1).

## 3.6 Period 3: Anglo-Saxon

### *Area C (Fig. 15)*

- 3.6.1 A single Anglo-Saxon pit was identified during the excavation, in Area C. This feature (**2162**) was located just to the north of Period 2.2 Enclosure 1, and it cut the upper fill of ditch **2091**, which defined the northern side of the Enclosure (S. 2046, Fig. 17). This pit was sub-circular in plan, measuring 1.5m in diameter and up to 0.37m deep, with a bowl-shaped profile. Its lower fill of mid brownish grey silty sand (2163) produced a large sherd of pottery with a coarse micaceous fabric, probably of Anglo-Saxon date (28g) and two small residual Roman sherds. This was sealed by a sterile mid orangish brown silty sand.

## 3.7 Period 4: medieval-early modern

- 3.7.1 Period 4 was largely represented by the heavily truncated remains of a system of east to west aligned furrows exposed in parts of Areas B and C, representing the remains of medieval/early post-medieval ridge and furrow cultivation typical of the open fields

of the East Midlands. A small number of discrete features of modern date were also recorded, alongside a network of field drains.

### ***Area A (Fig. 13)***

- 3.7.2 A modern field drain and square (?machine cut) pit (both unexcavated) were exposed in Area A.

### ***Area B (Fig. 14)***

- 3.7.3 The truncated remains of five east to west aligned furrows were exposed in Area B (**3043, 3035/3037, 3033/3023/3027, 3019** and **3005**). They were up to 2.3m wide and were typically less than 0.2m deep, filled by orangey brown/grey silty sands. Quantities of Roman CBM (271g), post-medieval pottery and a single iron nail were recovered from these features. In some cases, the furrows were closely spaced (c. 3m apart) and may represent two or more phases of ridge and furrow cultivation.
- 3.7.4 A series of broadly north to south and east to west aligned field drains were also exposed, as well as a rectangular (?machine excavated) pit (**3083**) which cut Period 2.2 pit **3082** (see Fig. 4) and a posthole (**3013**) with a distinctive topsoil derived fill.

### ***Area C (Fig. 15)***

- 3.7.5 The truncated remnants of at least 10 furrows were recorded in Area C, concentrated in the southeastern part of the area where truncation appears to have been less severe. Most of these features were sample excavated (**2005, 2017, 2031, 2033, 2040, 2048, 2063, 2101,**), but, unlike those in Area B, they rarely produced finds, with a single sherd of post-medieval pottery coming from the fill of furrow **2276**.
- 3.7.6 A single short length of 'gully' or elongated pit was exposed to the east of Period 2.1 ditch **2307**. This feature had a topsoil derived fill and contained a single sherd of post-medieval pottery.

## **3.8 Unphased features**

- 3.8.1 A total of 20 features, almost exclusively small pits and postholes, remain unphased; most of these were recorded in Area B, with a smaller number in Areas A and C.

### ***Area A (Fig. 13)***

- 3.8.2 Two pits (**1047** and **1052**) in Area A are unphased. One of these, pit **1047**, measuring 1.56m across and 0.18m deep, was located in the eastern part of the area and intercut with Period 2.1 ditch **1015**. The relationship between these two features was ambiguous but it was thought probable that the pit was cut by the ditch – in which case this feature should probably be regarded as prehistoric in date. Some 16m to the southwest was a further sub-circular pit (**1052**), measuring 1.2m across and 0.2m deep.

### ***Area B (Fig. 14)***

- 3.8.3 A total of eleven small undated pits/postholes, ranging between 1.2 and 0.3m in diameter and between 0.1 and 0.35m deep, were found in Area B. Six of these features

were found in the southeastern part of the site, with a cluster of three intercutting pits (**3003**, **3050** and **3070**) located just the west of a cluster of three further pits (**3007**, **3009** and **3011**); all filled with grey/brown silty sands. Approximately 17m to the northwest of these features another similar, undated, pit (**3017**) was exposed, and some 20m to the north of this a pair of similar features (**3045** and **3047**) were uncovered. One undated pit was also revealed in the eastern part of the site (**3015**), to the west of Period 2.1 ditch **3081**. Bulk samples were taken from the fills of eight of these undated features (**3003**, **3007**, **3009**, **3011**, **3015**, **3017**, **3055**, **3070**) but produced very small amounts of charred plant remains, with rare cereal grains, legume fragments and weed seeds.

### ***Area C (Fig. 15)***

- 3.8.4 Three pits and a single ditch remain unphased in Area C. The pits comprise two small features (**2272** and **2274**) found to the east of Period 2.1 ditch **2307**, and a poorly defined feature found between Period 2.1 ditch **2130** and Period 2.2 ditch **2149** in the area of Period 2.1 Enclosure 1(**2159**).
- 3.8.5 In the northwestern part of Area C, a short length of L-shaped/curvilinear ditch (**2315**) was exposed. This feature was unexcavated and despite its broadly similar alignment to the Period 2.1 features to the west it had a distinctive orange upper fill quite different to other features exposed in the area and its date and status remains uncertain.

## **3.9 Finds and environmental summary**

### ***Pottery (App. B.1)***

- 3.9.1 A total of 310 sherds (4793g) of Roman pottery and a single sherd (15g) of probable Anglo-Saxon pottery were recovered, alongside a very small quantity of post-medieval ceramics. The condition of the pottery is mixed with a mean sherd weight of 15g and a mean rim percentage of 11 suggesting a fragmented assemblage; some sherds are abraded. The Roman pottery appears to date mainly from the mid-1st to later 2nd century with some later 3rd and possibly 4th century material. Reduced grey wares account for around two-thirds of the assemblage by sherd count and weight. The vessels are mainly jars together with flanged bowls, plain-rimmed dishes, beakers and mortaria and largely represent a utilitarian assemblage with a small quantity (around 10%) of fine wares.

### ***Flint (App. B.2)***

- 3.9.2 A small assemblage of just 17 struck flints and eight fragments of burnt unworked material weighing 337g were recovered. The flints were scattered across many contexts with no more than three flints in any feature. The only material which may have been broadly contemporary with the feature from which it derived were two undiagnostic flakes from Period 1 pit **3040**, with the vast majority of the flint deriving from Period 2 (Roman) features. The bulk of the assemblage was undiagnostic and only a few pieces could be broadly assigned to either early or later prehistory. The

early forms have a broad date range that could span the upper Palaeolithic through to the early Neolithic, but the former date is very unlikely due to the overall rarity of such material. Later prehistoric flint use appears to have been on a very occasional basis and included the use of flints as pot boilers in heating/cooking activities.

### ***Ceramic building material (App. B.3)***

- 3.9.3 A modest assemblage of ceramic building material (CBM) amounting to 107 fragments weighing 7240g was recovered, predominantly from pits and ditches of Roman date in Area C and a small quantity from two Roman pits and several post-medieval furrows in Area B. All the CBM is of Roman date and comprises standard forms of tegula, imbrex, brick and flue tile. The condition of the material is relatively poor and fragmentary: the CBM assemblage has a low mean fragment weight (MFW) of 68g and abrasion is predominantly moderate to heavy. It is probable that the material was acquired second-hand from a more affluent settlement, perhaps one with which the site had some link and used largely for the construction of hearths or used within ovens, as evidenced by traces of burning on many pieces.

### ***Fired clay (App. B.3)***

- 3.9.4 Fired clay totalling 155 fragments weighing 1054g was recovered, predominantly from Roman (Period 2.2) pits in Area C. Much of this material consists of small amorphous fragments, but some pieces could be identified as deriving from oven walls/lining and fragments of two probable portable objects were identified.

### ***Stone (App. B.4)***

- 3.9.5 Twenty-three fragments of burnt (unworked) stone (1.7kg) were recovered alongside two worked stone objects; fragments of an unidentified shale artefact from pit **3058** (Period 2.2) and a large segment of rotary quern with unusual incised decoration on its upper surface from Period 2.2 ditch **2198** (Fig. 19).

### ***Metals (App. B.5)***

- 3.9.6 The metals from the site are limited in range. Only a small number of iron objects were recovered. No copper alloy or lead was recovered. In addition to objects, a few pieces of slag were recovered and some hammerscale was identified from soil samples. Excluding hammerscale, the assemblage comprises 27 iron objects and 12 pieces of slag. The iron objects comprise one nail tip (context 3024, furrow **3033**, Phase 4) and one possible knife or tool tang fragment (context 2113, pit **2110**, Phase 2.2). The latter comprises a rod or tang of circular cross section pointed at one end and with the remains a possible narrow blade at the other end (extant L: 112mm.). The remaining finds are 25 hobnails from Phase 2.2 pit **2220**, context 2221.

### ***Environmental samples (App. C.1)***

- 3.9.7 Twenty-eight bulk samples were processed and assessed, primarily for the retrieval of charred plant remains, with four samples subsequently selected for detailed analysis. All of the latter came from the fills of pits attributed to Period 2.2 and produced assemblages of charred grain (dominated by barley and wheat), accompanied in each

case by large quantities of chaff indicative of processing residues. Four subsamples were also processed for the recovery of waterlogged plant remains from Period 2.2 well **2110**; this produced waterlogged seeds belonging to plants indicative of disturbed ground such as chickweed, goosefoot, bramble and nettle, whilst seeds of sedge and the presence of eggs belonging to planktonic crustaceans (*Daphnia*) confirm that the feature held water.

### ***Animal bone (App. C.2)***

- 3.9.8 A total of 53 specimens were recovered from the site, all of them from Romano-British pits – specifically, cuts **2110** and **3049** (Period 2.2). Both of these contained large mammal specimens and domestic cattle (*Bos taurus taurus*) specimens with all material in a very poor state of preservation.

## 4 DISCUSSION

### 4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The original research aims of the excavation, as outlined in Section 2.1, were focused on understanding the extent and significance of the remains encountered during the evaluation trenching, especially in terms of the evidence for two main phases of activity, during the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age and the Late Iron Age/Early Roman periods. In the event, the excavation demonstrated that Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age activity (Period 1) was represented only by a single feature, whilst the ditches originally assigned to the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period were shown to belong to a fairly extensive series of boundaries and enclosures which appear to have been in use for much of the Romano-British period (Period 2). The excavation also provided some evidence for activity in the Anglo-Saxon period (Period 3) in the form of a single pit, and confirmed the presence of the remains of extensive ridge and furrow, reflecting the location of the site within the open fields of Sapcote in medieval and post-medieval times (Period 4).
- 4.1.2 The discussion that follows is organised chronologically, by period, with an emphasis on the main period of Romano-British activity (Period 2). Although the finds and environmental evidence associated with the Romano-British enclosures were relatively meagre, they provide some insights into the chronology and character of the site, which appears to have been a small, relatively low-status but potentially long-lived farmstead with its origins in the late 1st century AD, with continued activity into the 4th century.

### 4.2 Period 1: Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age activity

- 4.2.1 Further investigation of a feature in Area B which had yielded a small assemblage of prehistoric pottery in the evaluation (broadly dateable to the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age) demonstrated that this was an isolated pit (**3040**). Despite extensive excavation of this relatively substantial feature, finds were meagre, comprising three sherds of pottery, a small quantity of unidentified animal bone and sparse charred plant remains (including four fragmentary cereal grains).
- 4.2.2 As in many other parts of southern Britain, settlement remains of this broad date have proved elusive in Leicestershire (Clay 2002, 38-41, 114-15). This at least partly reflects the open, unenclosed character of most settlement remains of this period (invariably characterised by dispersed groups of pits, sometimes accompanied by posthole structures), which can be difficult to identify using standard prospection methods such as aerial survey, geophysics and trial trenching (*ibid.*; Willis 2006, 92). In the case of the evidence from Hinckley Road, although the presence of pottery, flintwork, animal remains and charred cereals (if the latter are not intrusive) may be taken as evidence for domestic-type activity, there is no indication of sustained settlement and it may represent a very short-lived episode of occupation.
- 4.2.3 The very small quantity of worked flint from the site (15 pieces in total, accompanied by a small amount of burnt flint) suggest very limited prehistoric activity in the area,



but attests to occasional visits to the site from the Mesolithic/Early Neolithic through to the Early Bronze Age (see Donnelly App. B.2)

### 4.3 Period 2: Roman agriculture and settlement

#### *Sequence and chronology*

- 4.3.1 As noted above (Section 3.1), the relative paucity of closely dateable finds and the generally small quantities of finds recovered from individual features has presented difficulties in terms of dating and phasing the Romano-British remains. On the basis of stratigraphic relationships and major changes in ditch alignment a basic distinction between two phases (Periods 2.1 and 2.2) has been made here, effectively grouping features into those which appear to belong to a major set of conjoined rectangular enclosures in Area C (Period 2.2), and those which predate it (Period 2.1).
- 4.3.2 The date and character of the Period 2.1 features are particularly poorly understood. A very small quantity of finds were recovered from the ditches attributed to this phase, and although most of the features assigned to the phase in Area C very clearly predate the Period 2.2 enclosures, the assignation of similarly aligned ditches (and a series of earlier east to west aligned ditches) in Area A and B to Period 2.1 must be seen as highly tentative. Just ten sherds of pottery were recovered from Period 2.1 contexts, but of the closely dateable material all was of 1st or early 2nd century date, except for a single sherd dated to AD 150-200 collected from the surface of ditch **2130** (Area C). On the basis of the recovery of small quantities of pottery dating to the mid-1st century AD from some contexts on the site it seems likely that some elements of the earlier ditch alignments relate to activity during the conquest/pre-Flavian period, or perhaps even earlier, and it is notable that among the material from Period 2.1 ditch **2130** were two small grog-tempered sherds probably dating to the mid-1st century AD (see App. B.1)
- 4.3.3 The Period 2.2 enclosure ditches in Area C (Enclosures 1, 2 and 3) produced a somewhat larger assemblage of pottery, but the quantities of material from individual contexts were invariably small and were often of mixed date, probably reflecting high levels of residuality and extended sequences of ditch infilling and maintenance. This is well illustrated by Fig. 18, which shows the distribution of closely dated Roman pottery across Area C. Although over 100 sherds were recovered from the ditches making the various enclosure ditches, almost two thirds of these were made up of poorly dated coarsewares (mostly grey wares), whilst the more diagnostic material included material of 1st to 4th century date – but was dominated by later 1st to 3rd century pottery, with small amounts of 4th century material derived from the upper fills of some of the ditches.
- 4.3.4 Although far from certain, on this basis it seems likely that the enclosures were used and infilled over an extended period of time, perhaps from the late 1st or early 2nd century AD through to the 4th century. Support for this lengthy sequence of use also comes from pottery from other features associated with the enclosures. Thus, whilst L-shaped ditch **2108** within Enclosure 1 and several features within Enclosure 2 such as gully **2207** and pit **2225** produced small assemblages of pottery with diagnostic

material dating exclusively to the late 1st or 2nd centuries, other features, notably intercutting pits **2278** and **2282** in Enclosure 2, produced 3rd and 4th century material indicating later activity taking place within the enclosures. Most revealing in this context is the relatively large assemblage of pottery recovered from well **2110**, located in the northwest corner of Enclosure 1, which Perrin suggests indicates a 4th century date for the final infilling of this feature (App B.1).

### *Site layout and function*

- 4.3.5 Given that the geophysical survey of the development area was hindered by the presence of widespread magnetic debris, preventing the identification of any of the elements of the Roman enclosure system and outlying boundary/field system ditches, our understanding of the overall extent and layout of the remains of this period are dependant solely on the results of the trial trenching and area excavations.
- 4.3.6 The ditches assigned to Period 2.1 appear to have belonged to a potentially extensive system of boundaries, having been identified in Area A, B and C. Ditches on two, very different, alignments have been subsumed into this phase, an earlier set of east to west aligned ditches exposed in Areas A and B and a later series of northeast to southwest/northwest to southeast aligned ditches exposed in all three excavation areas. Although, as discussed above, the boundaries of this phase could be shown to predate the Period 2.2 conjoined enclosures in Area C, their dating/phasing in Areas A and B is much more tentative and it seems possible that some elements of the later northeast to southwest/northwest to southeast boundaries in these areas remained in use during the later occupation of Area C. The layout and function of the Period 2.1 boundaries remains unclear; they produced very few finds and it seems possible they represent the remains of extensive systems of field boundaries, as opposed to being associated with any settlement or other more intensive activities.
- 4.3.7 The layout and character of the conjoined enclosure system assigned to Period 2.2 is better understood. Although the southern extent of the enclosures is uncertain, as the ditches of Enclosure 3 extended south beyond the limits of the development area, the area excavations and trenching suggest that the main area of activity was exposed within Area C; and it is notable here that no archaeological features were encountered during trial trenching to the west of the site (Upson-Smith and Muldowney 2013; see Fig. 2). The enclosures themselves were clearly subject to a degree of remodelling and sub-division over time, but they all appear to have enclosed relatively small areas of well under half a hectare, and Enclosures 1 and 2 were associated with a range of internal features including pits, gullies and, in the case of Enclosure 1, a large well (**2110**).
- 4.3.8 Although modest, the finds and environmental material from the enclosure ditches and other associated features make it clear that they were associated, at least at certain points of their history, with domestic-type activity (see below), and the complex as a whole is best described as an enclosed farmstead. On morphological grounds, the enclosures could be described as forming a farmstead of 'linear complex' type, characterised by multiple bounded areas, sometimes with evidence for distinct areas given over to particular uses such as for domestic buildings, processing or storage of agricultural goods, livestock management and industrial/craft activities and

often set within a wider system of trackways and fields/paddocks (Smith *et al.* 2016, 28-33). Such enclosed farmsteads are one of the most common forms of Roman rural settlement in Southern Britain and excavated examples are well-represented in parts of the East Midlands and parts of Eastern England, especially in Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire (*ibid.*). Locally, a pair of enclosures partially revealed during excavations at Coventry Road, Hinckley, seem likely to belong to a similar farmstead complex (Chapman 2004).

- 4.3.9 There was no unequivocal evidence for buildings/structures associated with Enclosures 1-3, but this is not unusual in the context of other contemporary sites lacking masonry buildings and is probably largely a product of the low archaeological visibility of the remains of timber-built buildings based on shallow beam slots or other insubstantial footings (see Liddle 2004, 77; Evans *et al.* 2013, 24). The most convincing evidence for the possible presence of structures comes from Enclosure 1, where the small sub-enclosure/compound formed by L-shaped ditch **2108** (measuring 33m x 13m) enclosed a series of shallow, and presumably heavily truncated, gullies, some of which could represent the remains of one or more rectangular beam slot structures. Similar features have been revealed by excavations at Cadeby, in the west of the county, where a series of ephemeral gullies within a small rectangular enclosure were suggested to relate to two rectangular buildings of 1st century AD date (Speed 2011).
- 4.3.10 The only other notable feature from Enclosure 1 was the large well situated in the enclosure's north-west corner (**2110**). The waterlogged remains recovered from the lower fills of this feature confirmed that the well held standing water, and they also included the seeds of ruderal plants indicative of disturbed ground, including bramble, nettle, chickweed and goosefoot (App. C.1). These remains are likely to relate to plants growing immediately adjacent to the well, but it is possible that they reflect the presence of more extensive areas of disturbed ground in parts of Enclosure 1 resulting from intensive activity and footfall in the area – perhaps associated with the putative building compound represented by ditch **2108**.
- 4.3.11 The character of the remains exposed within Enclosure 2 contrasted with those of Enclosure 1, and were dominated by a series of relatively finds-rich pits, including features associated with what appears to be the residue of 'industrial-type' activity in the form of metalworking waste and crop processing residues (see below). Notwithstanding the long history of activity at the site and the probability that the use of the enclosures varied substantially over the period as a whole, the differences between the features associated with Enclosures 1 and 2 may provide evidence for functionally distinct areas within the wider complex – representing a level of intra-site organisation which, as noted above, has been documented at analogous sites elsewhere.

### *Economy and craft/industry*

- 4.3.12 Although the faunal assemblage from the site was very small (a result of the local soil conditions), and consequently of little interpretive value (App. C.2), several relatively rich assemblages of charred plant remains from Period 2.2 features provide some insights into the agricultural economy/organisation of the farmstead, supplemented

to some extent by other finds including a decorated quern stone and reused tile and brick perhaps deriving from ovens/corndryers.

- 4.3.13 The most informative charred plant remains – those selected for full analysis (see App. C.1) – were derived from four pits; two features forming part of the complex of intercutting features in Enclosure 2 (**2211** and **2220**) and two pits to the west of the enclosure system (**2026** and **2041**), whilst a further relatively rich assemblage was derived from a pit within Enclosure 3, excavated during the evaluation (**E2207**; Trench 22; Boothroyd and Chard 2017; see App. C.1). Although all attributed to Period 2.2, dating of these features is poor; they produced either no dateable pottery or small quantities of undiagnostic grey wares. With this caveat in mind, and as discussed in detail in App. C.1, the samples provide clear evidence for the production/consumption of barley, wheat (spelt) and, to a lesser extent, oats. Most of the samples appear to represent the remains of processed crops, with little chaff and occasional weed seeds representing probable contaminants. The sample from pit **2220** (one of the two intercutting pits in Enclosure 2), however, produced very large quantities of spelt wheat chaff and a richer and more diverse weed seed assemblage alongside wheat and barley grains, and seems to at least partly represent the residue of an earlier stage of crop processing (de-husking). Although potentially attesting to a specific episode of crop-processing, this assemblage was recovered from a relatively finds-rich deposit which also included ceramic building material, hobnails, hammerscale, fired clay and burnt stone – and hence within what could crudely be described as a midden-like/refuse deposit.
- 4.3.14 This same feature (**2220**), and several other of the pits in this intercutting cluster (see above, Table 1), produced other, indirect evidence for possible crop processing in the form of heat-affected, reused, brick and tile which may have derived from ovens/corndryers. Thus, although none of the features investigated during the excavation could be demonstrated to represent the remains of such processing facilities, their presence on the site seems certain. Possible evidence for the final processing of crops on-site is also provided by the decorated quern stone fragment from the basal fill of ditch **2126** (intervention **2198**), on the boundary between Enclosures 1 and 2, associated with a mortarium sherd dated to the 3rd or 4th century AD. Described as deriving from either a small millstone or large hand-powered quern (App. B.4), this find, with its very unusual decoration, is discussed in detail in App B.4 (and see Fig. 19).
- 4.3.15 Alongside this evidence for agricultural activity, there are also indications of other craft/industrial type activities. Again, the best evidence comes from the relatively finds-rich cluster of pits in Enclosure 2, where several features were associated with quantities of smithing waste including hammerscale and small quantities of slag (see Table 1 and App. B.5), suggesting that at least some small-scale metalworking was taking place on the site.

### ***Regional setting and settlement status***

- 4.3.16 The Roman remains at Sapcote lay some 15km south-southwest of the major Roman urban centre at Leicester (*Ratae Corieltauvorum*; *civitas* capital of the *Corieltauvi*) and was well-placed in terms of the contemporary road network, located less than 2km

west of the Fosse Way, which here ran broadly north to south between Leicester and a small town at the crossroads between the Fosse Way and Watling Street, at High Cross/Wigston Parva (*Venonae*; see Liddle 1995), some 5km to the south of the site. Rural settlements in this part of southern Leicestershire are generally known only through surface finds scatters, but these suggest a widely settled landscape (Liddle 2004, fig. 1), and other areas of the county which have seen more sustained and systematic fieldwalking and survey have revealed evidence for an even and relatively dense pattern of settlement suggestive of a “developed agricultural landscape” (*ibid*, 77).

- 4.3.17 As discussed above, the morphology of the Period 2.2 enclosures at Sapcote suggest it is best seen as a fairly typical rural farmstead. Perrin’s analysis suggests that the pottery assemblage is of a ‘fairly basic utilitarian nature’ (App. B.1), and although fine wares make up around 10% of the assemblage, its overall character suggests it derives from a modest, relatively low-status, domestic context. The other finds provide a similar impression, with a paucity of metalwork and no coins, whilst the small assemblage of ceramic building material clearly represents reused material from elsewhere, brought to the site to be used on a small scale for the construction of ovens/hearths. Relatively low-status farmsteads such as this probably formed the vast majority of rural settlements in the area, but their place in wider systems of land tenure and organisation and their relationship to other sites, such as small towns or villas, often remains unclear (see Millett 2016).
- 4.3.18 In this context, it is important to consider the relationship between the Roman activity at Hinckley Road and the villa recorded on the other side of the modern village, close to the Fosse Way, at Calver Hill (MLE283; see Section 1.3; Fig. 2). The site has been known since the early 19th century when stone quarrying revealed and destroyed what appears to have been a substantial masonry building, with reports of a tessellated surface and building foundations associated with Roman pottery, coins and building material. These early observations were reported by Arthur Pickering, who, in the early 1920s, examined the site and partially excavated what appears to have been a demolition layer or dump exposed by the quarrying, which contained large quantities of building material, alongside painted wall plaster, pottery, shell, animal bone and metalwork (Pickering 1935). The character and quantity of the building material and plaster implied the presence of an elaborate, multi-roomed masonry building and the pottery suggested activity during the 2nd and 3rd centuries AD. Subsequent work in the area has showed that remains of the villa complex were extensive, extending well beyond the area of 19th century quarrying, with programmes of fieldwalking and small-scale excavation during the 1960s and 1970s partially revealing the remains of a bath house and what is described as a tesserae workshop, both lying within a rectangular stone-walled enclosure measuring at least 40mx40m. Unfortunately, this work has only been reported in summary form (Smith 1970; 1971; 1974; 1975; 1976; Liddle 2004, fig. 14), but it was suggested that “primary levels on the site date from the mid-first century AD” whilst the ‘workshop’ was in use during the late 3rd to early 4th century.
- 4.3.19 Whilst the exact layout and character of the villa remain uncertain, this was clearly a major, high-status site. It has been noted that Sapcote is one of many villas in the

English Midlands located in close proximity to small towns (*Venonae*, High Cross, in the case of Sapcote, located some 4km to the south). Rivet described such sites, including Sapcote, as ‘satellite’ villas, and suggested they might have been official residences linked to the towns, performing administrative duties such as tax collection (Rivet 1955, 32), but this interpretation has since been questioned, and should now be regarded as highly speculative (Todd 1980, 126). Perhaps more relevant here is the extent to which the Sapcote villa may have been at the centre of a larger landed estate, and what the relationship between the activity at Hinckley Road and the villa may have been. In general terms it seems probable that some farmsteads in the immediate vicinity of villas may have been subsidiary or dependant settlements belonging or providing services and labour to larger ‘estates’, whilst others were essentially self-sufficient settlements with surplus agricultural goods allowing them access to local markets, but there is very little evidence from the Hinckley Road site capable of directly addressing this issue. Some of the finds from the site, including the decorated quern stone and the recycled building material, do hint at direct links with the villa (see Shaffrey, App. B.4, and Poole, App. B.3), but at present the extent of the economic and social dependency between the sites remains a matter for speculation, especially in the absence of detailed analysis and presentation of the results of the villa complex itself.

#### 4.4 Periods 3 and 4: Anglo-Saxon and later land-use

- 4.4.1 The single small pit containing a sherd of probable Anglo-Saxon pottery provides the only evidence for activity on the site in the post-Roman period. The significance of this feature is difficult to gauge, and it cannot be taken as evidence for a continuation of the earlier Romano-British settlement into this period, although it is possible that the ditched boundaries of the enclosures remained visible as earthworks. Any such vestigial traces of the enclosures would, however, have been levelled by later cultivation, with the extensive traces of ridge and furrow revealed by the geophysics and the excavations clearly demonstrating that the site later lay within the open fields of Sapcote during medieval and post-medieval times.

#### 4.5 Conclusions

- 4.5.1 The excavations of the remains of what is interpreted as a long-lived Romano British farmstead at Hinckley Road is of some significance in the immediate context of southern Leicestershire, where excavated rural settlements remain relatively rare. Although some aspects of the site’s interpretation remain obscure, and the finds assemblages can only be described as modest, it provides an example of a relatively low-status site which is probably fairly typical of the large number of rural farmsteads in the wider area known from surface finds. The site arguably assumes a greater significance in light of its proximity to, and possible relationship with, the major villa complex to the east, and although the nature of the relationship between the two sites remains unclear, the results of the excavation will be of some importance if and when the results of fieldwork at the villa itself are examined in detail.

## **5 PUBLICATION AND ARCHIVING**

### **5.1 Publication**

- 5.1.1 It is proposed that a synthetic, illustrated report on the results of the fieldwork will be submitted for publication in the *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society*.
- 5.1.2 This report both supplements the published article and is superseded by any new data and interpretations presented within it.

### **5.2 Archiving, retention and dispersal**

- 5.2.1 The site archive is presently held by Oxford Archaeology and will be deposited with Leicestershire Museums in due course (under accession code X.A7.2019).

## APPENDIX A CONTEXT INVENTORY

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientat-ion	
1000	n/a	layer	topsoil	1	n/a														
1001	n/a	layer	subsoil	1	n/a														
1002		layer	natural	0	n/a														
1003	A	cut	ditch	1003	2.1	1003	1005 - 1012				1.03			curvilinear	mod steep	sharp	concave		
1004	A	cut	ditch	1004	2.1	1004	1013, 1014			1	0.38			linear	stepped	gradual	concave	NW-SE	
1005	A	fill	ditch	1003	2.1	1003					0.1	mid yellow brown	sandy clay						
1006	A	fill	ditch	1003	2.1	1003					0.12	light yellow grey	silty sand						
1007	A	fill	ditch	1003	2.1	1003					0.18	mid yellow brown	silty clay						
1008	A	fill	ditch	1003	2.1	1003					0.26	mid yellow brown	clay sand						
1009	A	fill	ditch	1003	2.1	1003					0.2	mid grey brown	sandy silt						
1010	A	fill	ditch	1003	2.1	1003					0.11	light yellow grey	silty sand						
1011	A	fill	ditch	1003	2.1	1003					0.14	mid brown yellow	clay sand						
1012	A	fill	ditch	1003	2.1	1003					0.32	mid brown grey	clay sand						



Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation
1013	A	fill	ditch	1004	2.1	1004					0.12	light brown grey	silty sand					
1014	A	fill	ditch	1004	2.1	1004					0.16	mid brown grey	clayey sand					
1015	A	cut	ditch	1015	2.1	1015	1016, 1017				0.38	mid brown grey		indeterminate	moderate	n/a	n/a	E-W
1016	A	fill	ditch	1015	2.1	1015					0.22	mid greyish brown	silty sand					
1017	A	fill	ditch	1015	2.1	1015					0.16	mid yellowish brown	silty sand					
1018	A	cut	ditch	1018	2.1	1003	1019, 1020	1021		0.64	0.6							
1019	A	fill	ditch	1018	2.1	1003					0.42	mid greyish brown	silty clay					
1020	A	fill	ditch	1018	2.1	1003					0.18	mid yellowish brown	silty sand					
1021	A	cut	ditch	1021	2.1	1003	1022, 1023	1018			0.92			indeterminate	steep	moderate	concave	
1022	A	fill	ditch	1021	2.1	1003					0.5	mid brownish grey	silty sand					
1023	A	fill	ditch	1021	2.1	1003					0.4	mid yellowish brown	silty sand					
1024	A	cut	ditch	1024	2.1	1004	1025			0.8	0.33			linear	steep	gentle	flat	NE-SW
1025	A	fill	ditch	1024	2.1	1004					0.33	brownish grey	sandy silt					
1026	A	cut	natural	1026	Natural		1027		1.78	0.73	0.3			amorphous	shallow	gentle	flat	
1027	A	fill	natural	1026	Natural						0.3	mixed light brown	clay sand					

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation
1028	A	cut	ditch	1028	2.1	1015	1029, 1030	1015				grey and light white grey		linear	steep	moderate	concave	E-W
1029	A	fill	ditch	1028	2.1	1015		1017			0.15	light brown grey with patches of mid orange	clay sand					
1030	A	fill	ditch	1028	2.1	1015		1016			0.2	light brown grey	clay sand					
1031	C	cut	natural	1031	2.1		1032, 1033, 1034, 1035, 1036	1016		2.38	0.56			sub-circular	shallow	gentle	concave	
1032	C	fill	pit	1031	2.1						0.12	reddish brown	silty clay					
1033	C	fill	pit	1031	2.1						0.08	light brownish grey	clayey sand					
1034	C	fill	pit	1031	2.1						0.28	mid greyish brown	clayey sandy silt					
1035	C	fill	pit	1031	2.1						0.2	mid reddish brown	clayey silt					
1036	C	fill	pit	1031	2.1						0.3	mid brownish grey	sandy silt					
1037	C	cut	ditch	1037	2.1		1038-1044			0.66	0.54			linear	moderate	concave	N-S	

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientat- ion
1038	C	fill	ditch	1037	2.1						0.2	light reddish grey	sandy silt					
1039	C	fill	ditch	1037	2.1						0.2	mid brownish red	sandy clay					
1040	C	fill	pit	1054	2.1				1	0.6	0.6	mid greyish brown with mottling	clayey sand					
1041	C	cut	ditch	1041	2.1		1042, 1043, 1044		10	2.38	0.05			linear	moderate		concave	NE-SW
1042	C	fill	ditch	1041	2.1						0.4	light reddish grey	sandy silt					
1043	C	fill	ditch	1041	2.1						0.16	mid brownish red	sandy clay					
1044	C	fill	ditch	1037	2.1						0.23	mid brownish grey	clayey sand					
1045	A	cut	ditch	1045	2.1	1015	1046			0.88	0.36			linear	moderate		concave	E-W
1046	A	fill	ditch	1045	2.1	1015					0.36	brownish grey	sandy silt					
1047	A	cut	pit	1047	Undated		1048			1.56	0.18			sub-rectangular	moderate		flat	
1048	A	fill	pit	1047	Undated						0.18	brownish grey	sandy silt					
1049		group	group	0	n/a													
1050	A	group	ditch	1024	2.1													
1051		group	group	0	n/a													

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation
1052	A	cut	pit	1052	Undated		1053							sub-circular	steep	sharp	concave	
1053	A	fill	pit	1052	Undated						0.41	mid-dark brownish grey	sandy clay					
1054	C	cut	pit	1054	2.1		1040		1	0.6	0.6			square	moderate	moderate	concave	
2003	C	cut	ditch	2003	2.2	2003	2004			0.78	0.29			linear	steep	moderate	concave	N-S
2004	C	fill	ditch	<b>2003</b>	2.2	2003					0.29	light grey brown with yellow patches	silty sand					
2005	C	cut	furrow	2005	4		2006			1.27	0.26			indeterminate	shallow	gentle	concave	E-W
2006	C	fill	furrow	2005	4					1.27	0.26	mid reddish brown	silty sand					
2007	C	cut	gully	2007	2.2		2008			0.55	0.13			curvilinear	shallow	gentle	concave	NW-se
2008	C	fill	gully	2007	2.2						0.13	light orangish brown	silty sand					
2009	C	cut	pit	2009	2.2		2010		0.8	0.77	0.22			sub-circular	moderate	moderate	concave	
2010	C	fill	pit	2009	2.2						0.22	dark greyish brown	silty sand					
2011	C	cut	ditch	2011	2.2	2011	2012, 2020, 2021	2054, 2029		1.74	0.5			linear	moderate	moderate	concave	N-S
2012	C	fill	ditch	<b>2011</b>	2.2	2011					0.16	mid greyish brown, orange mottling	silty sand					

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientat- ion
2013	C	cut	pit	2013	2.2		2014		0.64	0.44	0.7			circular	shallow	gentle	concave	
2014	C	fill	pit	2013	2.2						0.7	mid orangish brown	silty sand					
2015	C	cut	ditch	2015	2.2	2003	2016			0.5	0.18			linear	gentle	shallow	concave	N-S
2016	C	fill	ditch	2015	2.2	2003					0.18	mid greyish brown	sandy silt					
2017	C	cut	furrow	2017	4		2018, 2019			0.74	0.25			linear	moderate	flat		E-W
2018	C	fill	furrow	2017	4						0.32	mid reddish brown with orange	silty sand					
2019	C	fill	furrow	2017	4						0.28	mid greyish brown with light yellowish grey mottles	sandy silt					
2020	C	fill	Ditch	2011	2.2	2011					0.26	mid orangish brown	silty sand					
2021	C	fill	ditch	2011	2.2	2011					0.38	mid greyish brown	silty sand					
2022	C	cut	furrow	2022	4		2023			1.24	0.18			linear	moderate	flat		NW-SE
2023	C	fill	furrow	2022	4						0.18	light brownish grey	sandy silt					
2024	C	cut	pit	2024	2.2		2025			0.65	0.14			sub-circular	moderate	concave		

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation
2025	C	fill	pit	2024	2.2						0.14	greyish brown	clayey silt					
2026	C	cut	Pit	2026	2.2		2027, 2028		1.02	0.92	0.26			square	steep	mod	concave	
2027	C	fill	Pit	<b>2026</b>	2.2						0.06	black	sandy silt					
2028	C	fill	pit	2026	2.2						0.8	mid brownish grey	sandy silt					
2029	C	cut	ditch	2029	2.2	2011	2030, 2035	2011, 2054		0.8	0.57			indeterminate	moderate	moderate	concave	N-S
2030	C	fill	ditch	2029	2.2	2011					0.29	light brownish grey	silty sand					
2031	C	cut	furrow	2031	4		2032			0.4	0.12			linear	shallow	gentle	flattish	E-W
2032	C	fill	furrow	2031	4						0.12	mid orange brown	silt clay					
2033	C	cut	furrow	2033	4		2034			1.08	0.12			linear	moderate	moderate	flat	NW-SE
2034	C	fill	furrow	2033	4						0.12	greyish brown	sandy silt					
2035	C	fill	ditch	2029	2.2	2011					0.3	mid greyish brown	silty and					
2036	C	cut	pit	2036	2.2		2037		0.98	0.74	0.17			square	shallow	gentle	concave	
2037	C	fill	pit	2036	2.2						0.17	mid orangish brown	sandy silt					
2038	C	cut	pit	2038	2.2		2039			1.98	0.21			circular	moderate	moderate	flat	
2039	C	fill	pit	<b>2038</b>	2.2						0.21	greyish brown	sandy silt					
2040	C	cut	Furrow	2040	4		2045			0.66	0.29			linear	steep	moderate	concave	E-W
2041	C	cut	pit	2041	2.2		2046, 2047		1.3	0.9	0.3			sub-circular	moderate	moderate	concave	

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation
2042	C	layer	buried soil	0	2.2						0.36	greyish brown	silty sand					
2043	C	cut	pit	2043	2.2		2044		0.8	0.4	0.11			sub-circular	shallow	gentle	concave	
2044	C	fill	pit	2043	2.2						0.11	mid orangish brown	silty sand					
2045	C	fill	Furrow	2040	4						0.29	mid orangish brown	silty sand					
2046	C	fill	pit	2041	2.2						0.13	dark greyish black	silty sand					
2047	C	fill	pit	2041	2.2						0.16	mid brownish grey	silty sand					
2048	C	cut	Furrow	2048	4		2049			0.69	0.16			linear	shallow	gentle	concave	WNW-ESE
2049	C	fill	Furrow	2048	4						0.14	light orangish brown with greyish patches	silty sand					
2050	C	cut	ditch	2050	2.2	2003	2051			1.24	0.22			linear	shallow	gentle	irregular	
2051	C	fill	ditch	2050	2.2	2003					0.22	light grey brown	silty sand					
2052		cut	furrow	2052	4		2053			0.82	0.3			indeterminate	moderate	gentle	concave	WNW-ESE
2053		fill	furrow	2052	4						0.3	light orange brown with grey patches	silty sand					
2054	C	cut	ditch	2054	2.2		2055, 2056	2011		1.74	0.52			linear	moderate	moderate	concave	NE-SW

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation	
2055	C	fill	ditch	2054	2.2						0.13	light grey brown with whiteish patches	silty sand						
2056	C	fill	ditch	2054	2.2						0.4	mid grey brown	silty sand						
2057	C	cut	ditch	2057	2.2	2003	2058	2003		1.2	0.44			indeterminate	moderate	moderate	concave	NW-SE	
2058	C	fill	ditch	2057	2.2	2003		2004			0.44	light grey brown with yellow patches	silty sand						
2059	C	cut	ditch	2059	2.2		2060			0.78	0.57			linear	steep	moderate	concave	NNE-SSW	
2060	C	fill	ditch	2059	2.2						0.37	mid yellow brown	silt sand						
2061	C	cut	ditch	2061	2.2		2067			0.6	0.33			indeterminate	steep	moderate	concave	N-S	
2062	C	cut	ditch	2062	2.2	2062	2068, 2069	2097		0.82	0.37			linear	moderate	moderate	concave	E-W	
2063	C	cut	furrow	2063	4		2063			1.08	0.22			linear	shallow	gentle	concave	E-W	
2064	C	fill	furrow	2063	4						0.22	mottled orange brownish grey	silty sand						
2065	C	cut	posthole	2065	2.2		2066		0.46	0.38	0.26			square	steep	sharp	flat		
2066	C	fill	posthole	2065	2.2						0.26	dark brownish grey	silty sand						
2067	C	fill	ditch	2061	2.2						0.33	mid orange brown	silty sand						



Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation	
2068	C	fill	ditch	2062	2.2	2062					0.13	with grey mottling mid green grey	silty sand						
2069	C	fill	ditch	<b>2062</b>	2.2	2062					0.29	dark brownish grey	silty sand						
2070	C	cut	ditch	2070	2.2		2071			0.54	0.04			linear	moderate	flat		E-W	
2071	C	fill	ditch	2070	2.2						0.04	greyish brown	sandy silt						
2072	C	cut	ditch	2072	2.2		2073			0.54	0.18			linear	moderate	flat		E-W	
2073	C	fill	ditch	2072	2.2						0.18	greyish brown	sandy silt						
2074	C	cut	ditch	2074	2.2		2075, 2076			0.52	0.25			linear	moderate	concave		N-S	
2075	C	fill	ditch	2074	2.2						0.28	mid brownish grey with orange mottling	silty sand						
2076	C	fill	ditch	2077	2.2						0.13	mid orangish brown	silty sand						
2077	C	cut	ditch	2077	2.2		2078	2040, 2048		0.4	0.18			linear	moderately concave	concave		E-W	
2078	C	fill	ditch	2077	2.2						0.18	dark greyish brown	silty sand						
2079	C	cut	ditch	2079	2.2		2080			0.9	0.26			linear	moderate	concave		E-W	
2080	C	fill	ditch	2079	2.2						0.26	mid brownish grey	silty sand						

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation
2081	C	cut	Pit	2081	2.2		2082		1.3	0.7	0.23			sub-circular	moderate	moderate	concave	
2082	C	fill	pit	2081	2.2						0.23	mid greyish brown	silty sand					
2083	C	cut	gully	2083	2.2	2083	2084			0.68	0.22			complex	moderate	moderate	flat	NW-SE
2084	C	fill	gully	2083	2.2	2083					0.22	mid greyish brown	sandy silt					
2085	C	cut	gully	2085	2.2	2083	2086			0.7	0.09			curvilinear	moderate	moderate	flat	
2086	C	fill	gully	2085	2.2	2083					0.09	mid orangish brown	silty sand					
2087	C	cut	gully	2087	2.2	2083	2088			0.54	0.06			indeterminate	moderate	shallow	flat	
2088	C	fill	gully	2087	2.2	2083					0.06	mid greyish brown	sandy silt					
2089	C	cut	pit	2089	2.2		2090		2.3	0.63	0.26			sub-circular	steep	sharp	flat	
2090	C	fill	pit	2089	2.2						0.26	mid orangish brown	sandy silt					
2091	C	cut	ditch	2091	2.2	2091	2092, 2093, 2094			2.04	0.64			curvilinear	moderate	moderate	flat	E-W
2092	C	fill	ditch	<b>2091</b>	2.2	2091				2.04	0.14	brownish grey with orange flecks	sandy silt					
2093	C	fill	ditch	2091	2.2	2091					0.22	grey	sandy silt					
2094	C	fill	ditch	2091	2.2	2091					0.28	light grey	sandy silt					
2095	C	cut	ditch	2095	2.2	2093	2096	2013, 2093		0.5	0.18			indeterminate	moderate	moderate	flat	N-S

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation
2096	C	fill	ditch	2095	2.2	2003					0.18	mid greyish brown	silty sand					
2097	C	cut	ditch	2097	2.2	2062	2098, 2099, 2100	2122, 2105, 2091						curvilinear	moderate	moderate	concave	E-W
2098	C	fill	ditch	2097	2.2	2062					0.08	mid pinkish grey	silty sand					
2099	C	fill	ditch	<b>2097</b>	2.2	2062					0.018	pale olive grey	silty sand					
2100	C	fill	ditch	2097	2.2	2062					0.25	mid greyish brown	silty sand					
2101	C	cut	furrow	2101	4		2102			1.01	0.12			indeterminate	moderate	moderate	flat	E-W
2102	C	fill	furrow	2101	4						0.12	greyish brown	sandy silt					
2103	C	cut	pit	2103	2.2		2104			1.7	0.32			circular	moderate	moderate	flat	
2104	C	fill	pit	2103	2.2						0.32	greyish brown	sandy silt					
2105	C	cut	ditch	2105	2.2	2062	2106, 2107							linear	moderate	sharp	concave	NE-SW
2106	C	fill	ditch	2105	2.2	2062					0.19	dark brownish grey	clayey sand					
2107	C	fill	ditch	2105	2.2	2062					0.28	light brownish grey	silty sand					
2108	C	cut	ditch	2108	2.2	2108	2109			1.2	0.5			indeterminate	moderate	moderate	concave	WNW-ESE
2109	C	fill	ditch	2108	2.2	2108					0.5	dark brownish grey	clayey sand					
2110	C	cut	pit	2110	2.2		2113, 2114,			2.5	2.2			square	steep	sharp	base not	

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation
2111	C	cut	pit	2111	2.2		2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2121, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324 2326, 2327, 2328				0.24			circular	moderate	moderate	recorded	
2112	C	fill	pit	2111	2.2						0.24	greyish brown	sandy silt					
2113	C	fill	pit	2110	2.2						0.32	dark greyish brown	silty sand					
2114	C	fill	pit	2110	2.2						0.22	mid brownish grey	silty sand					
2115	C	fill	pit	2110	2.2						0.2	dark blackish grey	silty sand					
2116	C	fill	pit	2110	2.2						0.39	mid orange grey	silty sand					
2117	C	fill	pit	2110	2.2						0.35	mid bluish grey	sandy clay					
2118	C	fill	pit	2110	2.2						0.6	mid bluish grey	sandy clay					
2119	C	fill	pit	2110	2.2						0.53	greyish orange	clayey sand					

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation
2121	C	fill	pit	2110	2.2						0.46	mid reddish grey	silty sand					
2122	C	cut	ditch	2122	2.2	2062	2123			0.86	0.44			linear	moderate	flat		NE-SW
2123	C	fill	ditch	2122	2.2	2062					0.1	moderately compact grey	light brownish grey					
2124	C	fill	ditch	2122	2.2	2062					0.14	mid reddish brown	sandy silt					
2125	C	fill	ditch	2122	2.2	2062					0.22	mid brownish grey	sandy silt					
2126	C	cut	ditch	2126	2.2	<b>2126</b>	2127			0.42	0.16			linear	moderate	flat		E-W
2127	C	fill	ditch	2126	2.2	<b>2126</b>					0.16	mid greyish brown	sandy silt					
2128	C	cut	ditch	2128	2.2	2091	2129			0.9	0.34			linear	moderate	concave		N-S
2129	C	fill	ditch	2128	2.2	2091					0.34	mid brownish grey	sandy silt					
2130	C	cut	ditch	2130	2.1	2130	2131, 2132, 2133	2160		1.15	0.54			indeterminate	moderate	concave		NE-SW
2131	C	fill	ditch	2130	2.1	2130					0.12	orangish grey	clayey sand					
2132	C	fill	ditch	2130	2.1	2130					0.34	light olive grey	sandy clay					
2133	C	fill	ditch	2130	2.1	2130					0.13	mid greyish brown	clayey sand					
2134	C	cut	ditch	2134	2.2	2091	2135, 2136, 2137	2091, 2152, 2167		0.62	0.52			indeterminate	steep	concave		E-W

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientat- ion
2135	C	fill	ditch	2134	2.2	2091					0.12	mid bluish grey with orange mottling	sandy clay					
2136	C	fill	ditch	2134	2.2	2091					0.28	dark brownish grey	clayey sand					
2137	C	fill	ditch	<b>2134</b>	2.2	2091					0.16	dark brownish grey	clayey sand					
2138	C	cut	ditch	2138	2.2		2139			0.6	0.1			curvilinear	moderate	moderate	flat	E-W
2139	C	fill	ditch	2138	2.2						0.1	greyish brown	sandy silt					
2140	C	group	ditch group	0	n/a			2029, 2011, 2054										
2141	C	group	ditch group	0	n/a			2079, 2077, 2080, 2078										
2142	C	group	ditch group	0	n/a			2040, 2048										
2143	C	group	ditch group	0	n/a			2057, 2003, 2015, 2095										
2144	C	group	ditch group		n/a			2062, 2097,										
2145	C	group	ditch group	0	n/a			2125										
2146	C	group	ditch group	0	n/a			2108										
2147	C	group	group	0	n/a			2130,										
2148	C	group	ditch group	0	n/a			2070										

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation
2149	C	cut	ditch	2149	2.2	2149	2150, 2151			0.5	0.38			linear	steep	sharp	concave	N-S
2150	C	fill	ditch	2149	2.2	2149					0.25	light brownish grey	silty sand					
2151	C	fill	ditch	<b>2149</b>	2.2	2149					0.11	mid brownish grey with orange mottling	silty sand					
2152	C	cut	ditch	2152	2.2	2091	2153, 2154, 2155	2167, 2134, 2091, 2122		0.7	0.66			indeterminate	moderate	moderate	concave	
2153	C	fill	ditch	2152	2.2	2091					0.08	mid greyish orange	sandy clay					
2154	C	fill	ditch	2152	2.2	2091					0.4	mid brownish grey	silty sand					
2155	C	fill	ditch	<b>2152</b>	2.2	2091					0.2	mid greyish brown	silty sand					
2156	C	cut	ditch	2156	2.2	2091	2157, 2158			1.76	0.48			linear	moderate	moderate	concave	N-S
2157	C	fill	ditch	2156	2.2	2091					0.1	mid greyish brown	silty sand					
2158	C	fill	ditch	<b>2156</b>	2.2	2091					0.38	light orangish brown	sandy silt					
2159	C	cut	pit	2159	Undated		2188, 2189			1.05	0.48			sub-circular	steep	sharp	concave	
2160	C	cut	ditch	2160	2.1	2130	2190, 2191	2130		0.6	0.45			linear	moderate	moderate	concave	NNE-SSW
2161	C	cut	ditch	2161	2.2	2149	2192	2149		0.4	0.37			indeterminate	moderate	moderate	concave	N-S

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation
2162	C	cut	pit	2162	3		2163, 2164		1.5	1.3	0.37			sub-circular	moderate	moderate	concave	
2163	C	fill	pit	2162	3						0.11	mid orangish brown	silty sand					
2164	C	fill	pit	2162	3						0.32	mid brownish grey	silty sand					
2165	C	cut	ditch	2165	2.2	2165	2166			0.4	0.3			linear	moderate	moderate	concave	NE-SW
2166	C	fill	ditch	2165	2.2	2165					0.3	mid reddish grey	silty sand					
2167	C	cut	ditch	2167	2.2	2091	2168, 2169			1.43	0.45			indeterminate	moderate	moderate	concave	
2168	C	fill	ditch	2167	2.2	2091					0.16	mid olive grey	silty sand					
2169	C	fill	ditch	2167	2.2	2091					0.26	mid greyish brown	silty sand					
2170	C	cut	ditch	2170	2.2	2108	2171, 2172			0.6	0.38			indeterminate	moderate	moderate	flattish	E-W
2171	C	fill	ditch	<b>2170</b>	2.2	2108					0.26	dark greyish brown	clayey sand					
2172	C	fill	ditch	2170	2.2	2108					0.16	light brownish grey	silty sandy clay					
2173	C	cut	ditch	2173	2.2	2149	2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178			1.3	0.62			linear	moderate	moderate	concave	NE-SW
2174	C	fill	ditch	<b>2173</b>	2.2	2149					0.18	dark greyish brown	clayey sand					
2175	C	fill	ditch	2173	2.2	2149					0.18	light brownish grey	silty sandy clay					



Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientat- ion
2176	C	fill	ditch	2173	2.2	2149					0.09	mid greyish orange	sandy silty clay					
2177	C	fill	ditch	2173	2.2	2149					0.22	light brownish grey	silty sandy clay					
2178	C	fill	ditch	2173	2.2	2149					0.16	mottled mid greyish orange	sandy silty clay					
2179	C	cut	ditch	2179	2.2	2149	2180			0.46	0.34			linear	moderat e	moderate	flat	B-S
2180	C	fill	ditch	<b>2179</b>	2.2	2149					0.34	greyish black	sandy silt					
2181	C	cut	ditch	2181	2.1	2130	2182, 2183			0.78	0.34			linear	moderat e	moderate	flat	N-S
2182	C	fill	ditch	2181	2.1	2130					0.21	greyish brown	sandy silt					
2183	C	fill	ditch	2181	2.1	2130					0.13	light grey with orange flecks	sandy silt					
2184	C	cut	ditch	2184	2.2		2185			0.36	0.1			linear	moderat e	moderate	flat	NW-SE
2185	C	fill	ditch	2184	2.2						0.1	light brown with orange flecks	sandy silt					
2186	C	cut	ditch	2186	2.2	2108	2187			0.6	0.22			linear	moderat e	moderate	flat	NE-SW
2187	C	fill	ditch	<b>2186</b>	2.2	2108					0.22	greyish brown	sandy silt					
2188	C	fill	pit	2159	Undat ed						0.16	dark orangish grey	clayey sand					

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientat-ion	
2189	C	fill	pit	2159	Undated						0.31	mid brownish grey	clayey sand						
2190	C	fill	ditch	2160	2.1	2130					0.25	light brownish grey	clayey sand						
2191	C	fill	pit	2160	2.1	2130					0.18	mid greyish brown	clayey sand						
2192	C	fill	ditch	2161	2.2	2149					0.37	mid brown with yellow mottling	silty sand						
2193	C	cut	ditch	2193	2.1	2130	2194, 2195, 2196, 2197	2181		2.34	0.64			linear	moderate sloping sides	moderate	concave	N-S	
2194	C	fill	Ditch	2193	2.1	2130					0.21	light orangey brown with grey patches	sandy clay						
2195	C	fill	ditch	<b>2193</b>	2.1	2130					0.22	light brownish grey	silty sand						
2196	C	fill	ditch	2193	2.1	2130					0.1	very light brownish grey	silty sand						
2197	C	fill	ditch	2193	2.1	2130					0.15	mid greyish brown	silty sand						
2198	C	cut	ditch	2198	2.2	<b>2126</b>	2199, 2200			1.24	0.31			indeterminate	moderate	moderate	concave	E-W	
2199	C	fill	ditch	<b>2198</b>	2.2	<b>2126</b>					0.14	mid greyish brown with	silty sand						

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation	
2200	C	fill	ditch	<b>2198</b>	2.2	<b>2126</b>					0.19	dark greyish brown	silty sand						
2201	C	cut	gully	2201	2.2	2201	2202			0.33	0.18			linear	steep	sharp	flat	N-S	
2202	C	fill	gully	2201	2.2	2201					0.18	greyish brown	sandy silt						
2203	C	cut	gully	2203	2.2	2201	2204				0.06			indeterminate	moderate	moderate	flat	E-W	
2204	C	fill	gully	2203	2.2	2201					0.06	greyish brown	sandy silt						
2205	C	cut	gully	2205	2.2		2206			0.72	0.14			linear	shallow	gentle	concave	NNE-SSW	
2206	C	fill	gully	<b>2205</b>	2.2						0.14	mid orangish brown	silty sand						
2207	C	cut	ditch	2207	2.2	2207	2208			1.14	0.16			indeterminate	moderate	moderate	concave	E-W	
2208	C	fill	ditch	<b>2207</b>	2.2	2207					0.16	mid orangish brown	sandy silt						
2209	C	cut	ditch	2209	2.2	2207	2210			0.56	0.08			linear	shallow	gentle	concave	E-W	
2210	C	fill	ditch	2209	2.2	2207					0.08	mid brownish grey	sandy silt						
2211	C	cut	pit	2211	2.2		2212, 2213		0.9	0.9	0.25			circular	moderate	moderate	concave		
2212	C	fill	pit	2211	2.2						0.1	black	silty						
2213	C	fill	pit	<b>2211</b>	2.2						0.16	dark greyish brown	clayey silt						
2214	C	cut	post hole	2214	2.2		2215		0.1	0.22	0.14			L-shaped	steep	sharp	concave		

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation	
2215	C	fill	post hole	2214	2.2						0.22	mid brownish grey	sandy silt						
2216	C	cut	ditch	2216	2.2		2217	2205		0.48	0.14			indeterminate	moderate	moderate	concave	NNE-SSW	
2217	C	fill	ditch	2216	2.2						0.14	mid orangish brown	sandy silt						
2218	C	cut	pit	2218	2.2		2219		0.72	0.76	0.34			sub-circular	moderate	shallow			
2219	C	fill	pit	2218	2.2						0.34	mid brownish grey	sandy silt						
2220	C	cut	pit	2220	2.2		2221		1.53	1.22	0.23			sub-circular	moderate	moderate	concave		
2221	C	fill	pit	<b>2220</b>	2.2						0.24	mid brownish grey	sandy silt						
2222	C	cut	pit	2222	2.2		2223		1.04	0.4	0.19			sub-circular	moderate	shallow	concave		
2223	C	fill	pit	<b>2222</b>	2.2						0.14	mid greyish brown	sandy silt						
2224	C	fill	ditch	2170	2.2	2108					0.02	mid greyish brown	sandy clay						
2225	C	cut	pit	2225	2.2		2226			1.02	0.14			sub-circular	moderate	moderate	concave		
2226	C	fill	pit	<b>2225</b>	2.2						0.14	mid orangish brown	sandy silt						
2227	C	cut	ditch	2227	2.2		2228			0.44	0.18			linear	moderate	moderate	concave	NE-SW	
2228	C	fill	ditch	<b>2227</b>	2.2						0.18	light greyish brown	sandy silt						
2229	C	cut	ditch	2229	2.2	<b>2126</b>	2230			0.58	0.32			linear	moderate	moderate	concave	NW-SE	

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation	
2230	C	fill	ditch	<b>2229</b>	2.2	<b>2126</b>				0.58	0.32	greyish brown	sand silt						
2231	C	cut	ditch	2231	2.2	2091	2232, 2233, 2235			0.95	0.5			curvilinear	steep	sharp	concave	N-S	
2232	C	fill	ditch	2231	2.2	2091					0.29	mid brownish grey with orange mottling	silty sand						
2233	C	fill	ditch	2234	2.1	2234					0.15	mid greyish orange	clayey sand						
2234	C	cut	ditch	2234	2.1	2234	2233			0.7	0.5			indeterminate	moderate	moderate	concave	SSW-NNE	
2235	C	fill	ditch	2231	2.2	2091					0.24	mid greyish brown, orange mottling	silty sand						
2236	C	cut	pit	2236	4		2237			0.48				sub-circular					
2237	C	fill	pit	<b>2236</b>	4							greyish brown	sandy silt						
2238	C	cut	Ditch	2238	2.2					0.96				linear					NW-SE
2239	C	fill	ditch	<b>2238</b>	2.2		2239			0.96		light grey	sandy silt						
2240	C	cut	pit	2240	2.2		2241			0.34				sub-circular					
2241	C	fill	pit	<b>2240</b>	2.2							greyish brown	sandy silt						
2242	C	fill	ditch	<b>2229</b>	2.2	<b>2126</b>													
2243	C	fill	ditch	<b>2227</b>	2.2			2228											
2244	C	cut	pit	2244	2.2		2245			1.22				sub-circular					

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation	
2245	C	fill	pit	<b>2244</b>	2.2					1.22		greyish brown	sandy silt						
2246	C	fill	ditch	2160	2.1	2130													
2247	C	fill	2161	2161	2.2	2149													
2248	C	cut	pit	2248	2.2		2249			0.62				sub-circular					
2249	C	fill	pit	<b>2248</b>	2.2					0.62		greyish brown	sandy silt						
2250	C	fill	ditch	2198	2.2	<b>2126</b>				0.62									
2251	C	fill	ditch	<b>2207</b>	2.2	2207													
2252	C	cut	ditch	<b>2062</b>	2.2	2062		2069											
2253	C	fill	ditch	2128	2.2	2091		2129											
2254	C	cut	pit	2254	2.2		2255			1.04				sub-circular					
2255	C	fill	pit	2254	2.2					1.04		greyish brown	sandy silt						
2257	C	cut	pit	2257	2.2		2258		1.04	0.94	0.12			sub-circular	moderate	concave			
2258	C	fill	pit	2257	2.2						0.12	dark grey brown	sandy silt						
2259	C	cut	post hole	2259	2.2		2260				0.17			circular	steep	concave			
2260	C	fill	natural	2259	2.2						0.17	light whiteish grey	sandy clay						
2261	C	cut	gully	2261	2.2		2262			0.22	0.16			linear	steep	concave	E-W		
2262	C	fill	gully	2261	2.2						0.16	mottled dark grey brown	sandy clay						
2263	C	cut	pit	2263	2.2		2264, 2265		1.36	1.1	0.24			sub-circular	moderate	concave			

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientat-ion
2264	C	fill	pit	2263	2.2						0.06	dark grey brown	sandy silt					
2265	C	fill	pit	2263	2.2						0.18	mottled greyish orange	sandy clay					
2266	C	cut	pit	2266	2.2		2267			0.64	0.14			sub-circular	moderate	moderate	concave	
2267	C	fill	pit	<b>2266</b>	2.2						0.14	greyish brown	sandy silt					
2268	C	cut	pit	2268	2.2		2269			1.78	0.1			circular	moderate	moderate	flat	
2269	C	fill	pit	<b>2268</b>	2.2						0.1	greyish brown	sandy silt					
2270	C	layer	buried soil	<b>0</b>	2.2			2042										
2271	C	cut	pit	2271	2.2		2286			1.3	0.3			sub-rectangular	regular	sharp	flat	
2272	C	cut	pit	2272	Undated		2273		1.2	1.16	0.24			circular	moderate	moderate	concave	
2273	C	fill	pit	2272	Undated						0.24	light greyish brown	silty clay					
2274	C	cut	pit	2274	Undated		2275		0.86	0.8	0.08			circular	moderate	moderate	concave	
2275	C	fill	pit	2274	Undated						0.08	light greyish brown	silty clay					
2276	C	cut	pit	2276	4		2277		0.8	0.42	0.08			square	moderate	moderate	concave	
2277	C	fill	pit	<b>2276</b>	4						0.08	light greyish brown	silty clay					
2278	C	cut	pit	2278	2.2		2279, 2280, 2281			1.08	0.58			sub-circular	moderate	moderate	flat	

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation
2279	C	fill	pit	<b>2278</b>	2.2						0.26	brownish grey	sandy silt					
2280	C	fill	pit	2278	2.2						0.26	light greyish orange	silty clay					
2281	C	fill	pit	2278	2.2					0.76	0.3	grey	sandy silt					
2282	C	cut	pit	2282	2.2		2283			1.26	0.34			sub-circular	moderate	flat		
2283	C	fill	pit	<b>2282</b>	2.2						0.34	light brownish grey	sandy silt					
2284	C	cut	pit	2284	2.2		2285							circular	moderate	flat		
2285	C	fill	pit	<b>2284</b>	2.2							brownish grey	sandy silt					
2286	C	fill	pit	2271	2.2						0.3	dark orange brown	sandy silt					
2287	C	cut	post hole	2287	2.2		2288		0.6	0.6	0.3			sub-circular	regular	flat		
2288	C	fill	post hole	2287	2.2						0.3	dark greyish brown	sandy clay					
2289	C	cut	pit	2289	2.2		2290			0.35	0.15			rectangular	regular	concave		
2290	C	fill	pit	2289	2.2						0.15	dark orange brown	sandy clay					
2291	C	cut	ditch	2291	2.1	2130	2292			0.78	0.36			linear	moderate	concave	SW-NE	
2292	C	fill	ditch	2291	2.1	2130					0.36	mid brownish grey	sandy silt					
2293	C	cut	post hole	2293	2.2	2207	2294		0.4	0.34	0.12			circular	shallow	concave		
2294	C	fill	post hole	2293	2.2	2207					0.12	dark orangish brown	silty sand					



Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation
2295	C	cut	ditch	2295	2.2	2207	2296			1	0.2			indeterminate	shallow	moderate	concave	SW-NE
2296	C	fill	ditch	2295	2.2	2207					0.2	mid greyish brown	silty sand					
2297	C	cut	ditch	2297	2.1	2234	2298			0.56	0.3			linear	steep	sharp	flat	NNW-SSW
2298	C	fill	ditch	2297	2.1	2234					0.3	dark greyish brown	sandy clay					
2299	C	cut	ditch	2299	2.1		2300			0.42	0.16			linear	moderate	sharp	concave	WNW-ESE
2300	C	fill	ditch	2299	2.1						0.16	dark greyish brown	clayey sand					
2301	C	cut	ditch	2301	2.1	2130	2302			0.54	0.22			linear	steep	moderate	concave	SE-NW
2302	C	fill	ditch	2301	2.1	2130					0.22	mid greyish brown	silty clay					
2303	C	cut	ditch	2303	2.1		2304			0.56	0.26			linear	moderately steep	gradual	concave	NW-SE
2304	C	fill	ditch	2303	2.1						0.26	mid greyish brown	silty sand					
2305	C	cut	ditch	2305	2.1	2130	2306			0.7	0.14			linear	moderate	regular	concave	E-W
2306	C	fill	ditch	2305	2.1	2130					0.15	greyish brown	sandy clay					
2307	C	cut	ditch	2307	2.1	2307	2313, 2312, 2314			2.5	0.6			linear	stepped	regular	concave	NE-SW
2308	C	cut	pit	2308	2.2		2309, 2310, 2311		1.38	1.45	0.25			sub-circular	moderate	moderate	concave	
2309	C	fill	pit	2308	2.2						0.2	dark greyish brown with	sandy silt					

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation	
2310	C	fill	pit	2308	2.2						0.2	black mottling mid brownish grey	sandy silt						
2311	C	fill	pit	2308	2.2						0.12	light brownish grey	sandy silt						
2312	C	fill	ditch	2307	2.1	2307					0.2	greyish orange	sandy clay						
2313	C	fill	ditch	2307	2.1	2307					0.2	brownish grey	sandy clay						
2314	C	fill	ditch	2307	2.1	2307					0.3	dark orange brown	sandy clay						
2315	C	cut	ditch	2315	Undated		2316			1.5				curvilinear					
2316	C	fill	ditch	2315	Undated							dark orangey brown	sandy silt						
2317	C	cut	ditch	2317	2.2	2165	2318			0.4	0.1			linear	moderate	flat		N-S	
2318	C	fill	ditch	2317	2.2	2165					0.1	light greyish brown	silty clay						
2319	C	cut	ditch	2319	2.2	<b>2126</b>	2320			1.08	0.26			linear	moderate	concave		E-W	
2320	C	fill	ditch	2319	2.2	<b>2126</b>					0.26	mid greyish brown	silty clay						
2321	C	fill	pit	2110	2.2						0.15	dark greyish blue	clayey						
2322	C	fill	pit	2110	2.2						0.4	dark greyish blue	sandy clay						

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientat- ion
2323	C	fill	pit	<b>2110</b>	2.2						0.36	mid reddish grey	clayey sand					
2324	C	fill	pit	<b>2110</b>	2.2						0.24	mid reddish brown	sandy clay					
2326	C	fill	pit	2110	2.2						0.32	yellowish orange with grey	sandy clay					
2327	C	fill	pit	<b>2110</b>	2.2						0.14	mid reddish brown with red mottling	clayey sand					
2328	C	fill	pit	<b>2110</b>	2.2						0.42	mid yellowish orange	clayey sand					
2329	C	cut	ditch	2329	2.1	2307	2330, 2331			1.93	0.8			linear	steep	moderate	flat	NE-SW
2330	C	fill	ditch	2329	2.1	2307					0.32	yellowish grey	silty clay					
2331	C	fill	ditch	2329	2.1	2307					0.48	brownish grey	silty clay					
2332	C	cut	ditch	2332	2.1	2307	2333, 2334, 2335				0.58			linear	regular	moderate	concave	NE-SW
2333	C	fill	ditch	2332	2.1	2307					0.3	dark greyish brown	sandy clay					
2334	C	fill	ditch	2332	2.1	2307					0.1	lightish grey	sandy clay					
2335	C	fill	ditch	2332	2.1	2307					0.1	brownish yellow	sandy clay					
3000	n/a	layer	topsoil	0	n/a							dark brown grey	clayey silt					

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientat- ion
3001	n/a	layer	subsoil	0	n/a							mid orange brown	clayey sand					
3002	n/a	layer	natural	0	n/a							mid orange yellow	clay					
3003	B	cut	post hole	3003	Undated				0.74	0.58	0.24			square	steep	moderate	concave	
3004	B	fill	post hole	3003	Undated						0.24	dark grey brown	sandy clay					
3005	B	cut	ditch	3005	4		3006			1.8	0.12			linear	gentle	gentle	concave	NE-SW
3006	B	fill	ditch	<b>3005</b>	4						0.12	mid orange brown	sandy clay					
3007	B	cut	post hole	3007	Undated				0.49	0.46	0.36			circular	steep	sharp	concave	
3008	B	fill	post hole	3007	Undated						0.36	dark brown grey	sandy clay					
3009	B	cut	post hole	3009	Undated				0.46	0.58	0.36			circular	steep	sharp	concave	
3010	B	fill	post hole	3009	Undated						0.32	dark brown grey	sandy clay					
3011	B	cut	post hole	3011	Undated				0.42	0.46	0.23			circular	steep	sharp	concave	
3012	B	fill	post hole	3011	Undated						0.23	dark brown grey	sandy clay					
3013	B	cut	post hole	3013	4				0.5	0.49	0.25			circular	steep	sharp	concave	
3014	B	fill	post hole	<b>3013</b>	4						0.25	dark brown grey	sandy clay					
3015	B	cut	post hole	3015	Undated				0.44	0.38	0.14			circular	steep	sharp	concave	

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation
3016	B	fill	post hole	3015	Undated						0.19	dark brown grey	sandy clay					
3017	B	cut	pit	3017	Undated		3018		0.7	0.65	0.12			square	mod	sharp	flat	
3018	B	fill	pit	3017	Undated						0.12	dark brown grey	sandy clay					
3019	B	cut	furrow	3019	4		3020			1.1	0.04			linear	gentle	gentle	concave	E-W
3020	B	fill	furrow	3019	4						0.04	mid orange brown	clay sand					
3021	B	cut	furrow	3021	4		3022			2.16	0.14			indeterminate	gentle	gentle	flat	
3022	B	fill	furrow	<b>3021</b>	4						0.14	mid orange brown	clayey sand					
3023	B	cut	ditch	3023	4		3024	3027, 3035		1.86	0.14			linear	mod	sharp	concave	E-W
3024	B	fill	ditch	3023	4						0.14	dark mid grey brown	clayey sand					
3025	B	cut	ditch	3025	4		3026			0.6	0.06			linear	gentle	gentle	concave	E-W
3026	B	fill	ditch	3025	4						0.06	mid dark brown grey	clayey sand					
3027	B	cut	ditch	3027	4		3028	3023, 3033		1.86	0.11			indeterminate	gentle	gentle	concave	E-W
3028	B	fill	ditch	3027	4						0.11	dark mid orange brown	clayey sand					
3029	B	cut	ditch	3029	2.1		3030			0.7	0.08			indeterminate	shallow	gentle	concave	NE-SW
3030	B	fill	ditch	3029	2.1						0.08	mid reddish brown	silty clay					

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation
3031	B	cut	ditch	3031	2.1		3032			0.46	0.05			linear	shallow	shallow	concave	NE-SW
3032	B	fill	ditch	3031	2.1						0.05	mid reddish brown	silty clay					
3033	B	cut	furrow	3033	4		3034			2.34	0.08			linear	gentle	gentle	concave	E-W
3034	B	fill	furrow	<b>3033</b>	4						0.08	dark mid orange brown	clayey sand					
3035	B	cut	ditch	3035	4		3036			0.44	0.09			linear	gentle	moderate	flat	E-W
3036	B	fill	ditch	3035	4						0.04	dark mid orange brown	clayey sand					
3037	B	cut	furrow	3037	4		3038			1.2	0.23			linear	stepped	irregular	concave	E-W
3038	B	fill	furrow	<b>3037</b>	4						0.23	mottled orange grey	clayey sand					
3040	B	cut	pit	3040	1		3041, 3042			1.3	0.42			sub-circular	moderate	moderate	concave	
3041	B	fill	pit	3040	1						0.12	mid greyish blue	silty clay					
3042	B	fill	pit	3040	1						0.3	mid greyish orange	sandy silty clay					
3043	B	cut	furrow	3043	4		3044			1.46	0.25			linear	moderate	moderate	concave	E-W
3044	B	fill	furrow	3043	4						0.25	light-mid orangey grey	small stones					
3045	B	cut	pit	3045	Undated		3046		0.9	0.45	0.18			sub-circular	moderate	moderate	concave	
3046	B	fill	pit	3045	Undated						0.18	mid yellowish brown	silty sand					

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation
3047	B	cut	pit	3047	Undated		3048		0.43	0.42	0.11			sub-circular	moderate	moderate	concave	
3048	B	fill	pit	3047	Undated						0.11	mid yellowish grey brown	silty sand					
3049	B	cut	pit	3049	2.2	3049	3050, 3051, 3052, 3053, 3054			4.5	1.22			sub-circular	moderate steep	moderate	concave	
3050	B	fill	pit	<b>3049</b>	2.2	3049					0.17	light yellowish orange	sandy silt					
3051	B	fill	pit	3049	2.2	3049					0.24	mid brownish grey	silty sand					
3052	B	fill	pit	3049	2.2	3049					0.3	mid orange grey	silty sand					
3053	B	fill	pit	3049	2.2	3049					0.3	mid brownish grey	silty sand					
3054	B	fill	pit	<b>3049</b>	2.2	3049					0.29	mid brownish grey orange	silty sand					
3055	B	cut	post hole	3055	Undated		3056		0.22	0.44	0.3			sub-circular	moderate	flat		
3056	B	fill	post hole	3055	Undated						0.3	dark brownish grey	clayey sand					
3058	B	cut	pit	3058	2.2		3059, 3102, 3103		2.26	0.9	0.98			sub-circular	steep	sharp	flat	
3059	B	fill	pit	3058	2.2						0.49	light greyish brown	clayey sand					

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation
3060	B	cut	ditch	3060	2.1	3060	3061, 3062			1.42	0.72			linear	stepped	steep	concave	N-S
3061	B	fill	ditch	3060	2.1	3060					0.18	light blue grey	silty clay					
3062	B	fill	ditch	3060	2.1	3060					0.58	mid brownish grey	sandy silt					
3063	B	cut	ditch	3063	2.1	3060	3064, 3065			0.7	0.41			linear	steep	sharp	concave	NNE-SSW
3064	B	fill	ditch	3063	2.1	3060					0.14	light greyish brown	silty sand					
3065	B	fill	ditch	3063	2.1	3060					0.3	mid-light grey brown	sandy silt w. clay					
3066	B	cut	ditch	3066	2.1	3060	3067, 3068			2.2	0.24			linear	shallow	moderate	concave	NNE-SSW
3067	B	fill	ditch	3066	2.1	3060					0.07	mid brownish grey	silty sand					
3068	B	fill	ditch	3066	2.1	3060					0.18	mid-light brownish grey	sandy silt					
3070	B	cut	post hole	3070	Undated		3071		0.2	0.32	0.21			sub-circular	moderate	flat		
3071	B	fill	post hole	3070	Undated							dark brownish grey	clayey sand					
3072	B	cut	ditch	3072	2.1	3072	3073			0.94	0.08			indeterminate	shallow	gentle	concave	E-W
3073	B	fill	ditch	3072	2.1	3072					0.08	mid-dark brown grey	clay silt					
3074	B	cut	pit	3074	2.2	3049	3075		1.1	0.56	0.22			sub-circular	shallow	sharp	concave	



Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation	
3075	B	fill	pit	3074	2.2	3049					0.22	mid brown grey	clayey silt						
3076	B	cut	ditch	3076	2.1	3060	3077			0.84	0.34			linear	moderate	moderate	concave	NNE-SSW	
3077	B	fill	ditch	3076	2.1	3060					0.21	mid brown grey	clayey silt						
3078	B	cut	pit	3078	2.2	3049	3079			0.74	0.19			sub-circular	moderate	moderate	concave		
3079	B	fill	pit	3078	2.2	3049					0.19	mid brown grey	silty sand						
3080	B	fill	ditch	3076	2.1	3060					0.12	mid brown grey	clayey silt						
3081	B	cut	ditch	3081	2.1		3101, 3105			0.76	0.7			linear	stepped	moderate	flat		
3082	B	cut	pit	3082	2.2		3099, 3104			1.3	0.9			sub-circular	moderate	moderate	flat		
3083	B	cut	pit	3083	4		3100												
3085	B	cut	ditch	3085	2.1	3072	3086			0.92	0.06			linear	shallow	gentle	concave	E-W	
3086	B	fill	ditch	3085	2.1	3072					0.06	dark grey brown	clay silt						
3087	B	cut	ditch	3087	2.1	3072	3088			1.2	0.06			linear	moderate	shallow	concave		
3088	B	fill	ditch	3087	2.1	3072					0.06	dark brown grey	clay silt						
3089	B	cut	pit	3089	2.2	3049	3090, 3091			5	0.58			sub-circular	moderate	moderate	concave		
3090	B	fill	pit	3089	2.2	3049					0.34	mid grey brown	sandy clay silt						
3091	B	fill	pit	3089	2.2	3049					0.28	dark brown grey	sandy silt						

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation
3092	B	cut	natural	3092	Undated		3093		1.1	1.2	0.32			sub-circular	shallow	sharp	concave	
3093	B	fill	pit	3092	Undated						0.32	mid brown grey	sandy silt					
3094	B	cut	ditch	3094	2.1	3060	3095, 3096, 3097, 3098			1.62	0.76			linear	moderate	sharp	concave	N-S
3095	B	fill	Ditch	3094	2.1	3060					0.18	mid yellowish grey	sandy clay					
3096	B	fill	ditch	3094	2.1	3060					0.18	mid grey brown	sandy silt					
3097	B	fill	ditch	3094	2.1	3060					0.26	mid yellowish brown with grey blotches	sandy silt					
3098	B	fill	ditch	3094	2.1	3060					0.14	dark brown grey	sandy clay silt					
3099	B	fill	pit	<b>3082</b>	2.2						0.62	light greyish brown	clayey sand					
3100	B	fill	pit	3083	4													
3101	B	fill	ditch	3081	2.1						0.42	light greyish brown	clayey sand					
3102	B	fill	pit	3058	2.2						0.38	light yellowish brown	clayey sand					
3103	B	fill	pit	3058	2.2						0.1	dark yellowish brown	clayey sand					

Context	Area	Category	Feature Type	Cut	Period	Feature no.	Filled By	Same as	L. (m)	B./W. (m)	D. (m)	Colour	Fine component	Shape in Plan	Side	Break of Slope	Base	Orientation	
3104	B	fill	pit	3082	2.2						0.28	dark yellowish brown	clayey sand						
3105	B	fill	ditch	3081	2.1		0				0.28	dark yellowish brown	clayey sand						

## APPENDIX B FINDS REPORTS

### B.1 Pottery

*By Rob Perrin*

#### *Introduction*

- B.1.1 In terms of methodology, the assemblage was sorted into fabrics within context groups with sherds quantified by sherd count, weight (in grams) and estimated vessel equivalence (EVE), based on rims. Vessel types were identified primarily from rims. An attempt is made to relate the fabrics and vessel codes to Oxford Archaeology's recording guidelines for Late Iron Age and Roman pottery (Booth n.d.). Imported continental pottery and regionally-traded wares are coded according to the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber and Dore 1998). Some 311 sherds, weighing 4808g with a rim EVE of 5.25 were recovered from 65 contexts in 47 features; around 50 separate vessels were noted. The condition of the pottery is mixed with a mean sherd weight of 15g and a mean rim percentage of 11 suggesting a fragmented assemblage; some sherds are abraded.
- B.1.2 The pottery appears to date mainly from the mid-1st to later 2nd century with some later 3rd and possibly 4th century material. Additionally, a single body sherd (28g) of ?handmade pottery in a coarse dark greyish brown micaceous fabric from pit **2162** (Area C) is tentatively suggested to be of Anglo-Saxon date.

#### *Features, Phases and Groups*

- B.1.3 Table 2 summarises the amount of pottery from the various features.

Feature	Type	No.	Wt. (g)	Rim EVE	Vessels
2003	Ditch	1	8		
2011	Ditch	1	10	0.06	1
2026	Pit	1	4		
2038	Pit	1	214	0.49	1
2062	Ditch	3	45		
2091	Ditch	1	36		1
2097	Ditch	1	24		
2108	Ditch	5	10		
2110	Pit	107	1445	1.72	13
2134	Ditch	7	90		
2149	Ditch	10	211	0.19	1
2152	Ditch	16	194	0.14	2
2156	Ditch	1	15		
2160	Ditch	1	19		
2161	Ditch	1	15	0.05	1
2162	Pit	3	38	0.07	1
2167	Ditch	3	113	0.1	3

Feature	Type	No.	Wt. (g)	Rim EVE	Vessels
2170	Ditch	3	114	0.17	1
2173	Ditch	1	17	0.08	1
2179	Ditch	3	21		
2186	Ditch	1	8	0.06	1
2193	Ditch	2	3		
2198	Ditch	12	247	0.3	2
2205	Gully	4	49		
2207	Ditch	10	95	0.11	1
2211	Pit	6	31		
2218	Pit	2	6		
2220	Pit	3	13		
2222	Pit	3	24		
2225	Pit	6	156	0.19	2
2227	Ditch	9	203	0.3	2
2229	Ditch	23	504	0.25	2
2238	Ditch	7	166	0.15	3
2240	Pit	1	15		
2244	Pit	14	197	0.15	1
2248	Pit	1	26		
2254	Pit	1	4	0.03	1
2266	Pit	2	7		
2268	Pit	1	16		
2278	Pit	7	99	0.17	2
2282	Pit	9	178	0.27	3
2284	Pit	3	9	0.03	1
2329	Ditch	1	11	0.06	1
3029	Ditch	1	3		
3049	Pit	2	46		
3082	Pit	1	2		
NA	Buried soil	9	47	0.11	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>311</b>	<b>4806</b>	<b>5.25</b>	<b>50</b>

Table 2. Quantification of pottery by feature

B.1.4 There are two main feature categories together with a gully and buried soil. Table 3 shows the feature category quantification.

Feature type	No.	Wt. (g)	Rim EVE	Vessels
Ditch	124	2182	2.02	24
Gully	4	49		
Pit	174	2530	3.12	24
Buried soil	9	47	0.11	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>4808</b>	<b>5.25</b>	<b>50</b>

Table 3. Feature category quantification

B.1.5 The features occur in three areas, A, B and C, and are divided into four phases of which only one, Phase 2, is Roman. Area A has no pottery and Phase 2 has two subdivisions. Almost all of the pottery is from Phase 2.2 (Table 4).

Phase	No.	Wt. (g)	Rim EVE	Vessels
2.1	10	46	0.06	1
2.2	298	4724	5.12	48
3	3	38	0.07	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>4808</b>	<b>5.25</b>	<b>50</b>

Table 4. Roman Phase quantification

### Fabrics

B.1.6 Oxford Archaeology's Roman pottery codes are detailed and largely region-specific, so general categories are used for pottery from this site. The equivalent Leicestershire fabric codes are also given. Regionally-traded and imported continental wares are coded according to the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber and Dore 1998). Table 5 shows the fabric range and quantities.

OAU Fabric	Leics. Fabric	Description	No.	Wt. (g)	Rim EVE	Vessels
F	FL	Flint?	5	40		
G	GT	Grog	5	93		
G	GT?	Grog?	4	35		
C10	CG	Shell	27	248	0.62	4
R30	GW	Grey	163	2796	3.16	21
R30	GW	Dark grey	25	438	0.21	4
O10	OW	Reddish-yellow	24	162	0.23	3
O10	OW	Buff	9	37		
LGF SA	LGF SA	La Graufesenque samian	1	13		
LEZ SA 2	LEZ SA 2	Lezoux samian	4	27	0.09	2
EG SA?	EG SA?	East Gaulish samian ?	2	90		1
LNV CC	LNV CC	Lower Nene Valley colour-coat	13	242	0.29	4
LNV CC?	LNV CC?	Lower Nene Valley colour-coat?	9	42	0.05	2
LNV WH/MAH WH	LNV WH/MAH WH	LNV WH/MAH WH	1	63		1
MAH WH	MAH WH	Mancetter-Hartshill white	4	128	0.18	3
MAH WH?	MAH WH?	Mancetter-Hartshill white?	2	58		1
OXF RS	OXF RS	Oxfordshire red-slipped	2	52		
OXF RS?	OXF RS?	Oxfordshire red-slipped?	3	26		
DOR BB 1	DOR BB 1	Dorset black-burnished 1	8	218	0.42	4
<b>Total</b>			<b>311</b>	<b>4808</b>	<b>5.25</b>	<b>50</b>

Table 5. Fabric/vessel quantification

### *Composition of the assemblage*

- B.1.7 Reduced grey wares account for around two-thirds of the assemblage by sherd count and weight. The vessels are mainly jars together with flanged bowls, plain-rimmed dishes, beakers and mortaria.

#### *Flint-gritted ware*

- B.1.8 The few possible flint-gritted sherds are residual in Phase 2.2 contexts.

#### *Shell-tempered ware*

- B.1.9 The four shell-gritted vessels are all jars, two of which have triangular rims. Most of this ware is from Phase 2.2 pit **2110**.

#### *Grog-tempered wares*

- B.1.10 The few grog-tempered sherds are mainly in Phase 2.2 contexts apart from three possible grog-tempered sherds in Phase 2.1 ditch **2193**. The ware is mainly mid-1st century in date and is therefore residual in the Phase 2.2 contexts.

#### *Fine wares*

- B.1.11 The fine wares comprise regionally-traded LNV CC and OXF RS, together with sherds which might be LNV CC and OXF RS. The LNV CC vessels are a beaker, a flanged bowl, a plain-rimmed dish and a plain rim which might be from an imitation samian ware Dr. 38 bowl. Those in possible LNV CC are another beaker with over slip white-painted decoration and a vessel which might be an imitation samian ware Dr. 31 bowl. All of the LNV CC and LNV CC? is from Phase 2.2 features, including Phase 2.2 pit **2110**. The few sherds of OXF RS and OXF RS? are also from Phase 2.2 pit **2110**. A mid-3rd to 4th century date is probable for these fine wares.

#### *Samian wares*

- B.1.12 The LEZ SA 2 vessels are Dr. 18/31 dishes and that in EG SA? Is a Dr. 31 bowl.

#### *White and other oxidised wares*

- B.1.13 The buff sherds are all in a gritty fabric and, apart from one sherd in a Phase 2.1 context, are all Phase 2.2. The reddish-yellow sherds occur in 18 different contexts, all Phase 2.2, other than two in Phase 2.1 and one in Phase 3. The vessels are a jar a jar or beaker and a flanged bowl, possibly an imitation samian ware Dr. 38 bowl. The buff and reddish-yellow ware sherds are probably of late 1st to 2nd century date. Regionally-traded white wares comprise MAH WH and possible MAH WH and sherds which might be MAH WH or LNV WH. The vessels in these fabrics are all mortaria, including one grooved, hammer-head type in MAH WH, and the sherds are all from Phase 2.2 contexts and are probably mid-3rd to 4th century in date.

#### *Reduced wares*

B.1.14 The reduced wares are various grey and dark grey wares, together with some DOR BB 1. The DOR BB 1 vessels are three flanged bowls, two with burnished acute intersecting arc decoration and a plain-rimmed dish, all likely to be mid-3rd to 4th century in date. The grey and dark grey fabrics vary in coarseness and cores also vary with some sherds having reddish-brown or pale grey cores. Jars account for 20 of the 21 grey ware vessels and one of those in dark grey ware. The others are a grey ware jar or bowl and there dark grey flanged bowls, similar to DOR BB 1 types. Grey wares were produced and used throughout the Roman period. Of those in this assemblage, the plain-rimmed dishes and flanged bowls are later 2nd to 4th century types.

### *Phase 2.1*

B.1.15 The pottery attributed to this phase comprises a single reddish-yellow ware sherd (3g) from Area B ditch **3029** (context 3030), two possible grog-tempered sherds (3g) from Area C ditch **2193** (context 2195), the reddish-yellow ware rim sherd from a possible imitation samian ware Dr. 38 bowl (11g, 0.06 EVE) from Area C ditch **2329** (context 2330) and a possible East Gaulish samian ware sherd (19g) from the surface near Area C ditch **2260** (context 2246).

### *Phase 2.2*

B.1.16 The only pottery of this phase in Area B is a single reddish-yellow ware sherd (2g) from pit 3082 (context 3099). Area C has numerous features with pottery relating to and associated with three enclosures.

### *Enclosure 1*

B.1.17 Ditches **2091** and **2149** (contexts 2092, 2151) together contain 11 sherds (247g) of grog-tempered, grey and buff wares including a grey ware jar (rim EVE 0.19). Context 2169 (ditch **2167**) has three sherds (113g) from two mortaria in LNV WH/MAH WH and MAH WH and a grey ware jar (rim EVE 0.1). Ditches **2170**, **2186** (contexts 2171, 2187) contain three sherds (114g, 0.17 EVE) from a grey ware jar and a LEZ SA 2 rim sherd (8g, 0.06 EVE) from a Dr. 18/31 dish while pit **2266** (context 2267) has two grey and reddish-yellow sherds (7g) and pit **2268** (context 2269) one grey ware sherd (16g).

B.1.18 Eleven contexts relating to the large pit or well/watering hole located in the northwestern corner of the enclosure (**2110**) contain pottery. Fourteen sherds of grey ware (248g, 0.54 EVE) including two jars occur in three layers towards the base, 2323, 2324 and 2328. The probable backfill layers (2113-9, 2121) contain 91 sherds in various fabrics (Table 6). The vessels in shell-gritted and grey ware are all jars and there are flanged bowls and plain-rimmed dishes in LNV CC and DOR BB1 and a possible EG SA Dr. 31 bowl. The LNV CC and DOR BB1 forms are suggestive of a late date, probably 4th century, for the infilling of the feature.

OAU Fabric	Leics. Fabric	Description	NoSh	Wgt (g)	Rim EVE	Vessels
F	FL	Flint?	4	35		
G	GT	Grog	2	37		
C10	CG	Shell	24	218	0.47	3
R30	GW	Grey	33	400	0.37	3



OAU Fabric	Leics. Fabric	Description	NoSh	Wgt (g)	Rim EVE	Vessels
R30	GW	Dark grey	3	19		
O10	OW	Reddish-yellow	7	73		
LGF SA	LGF SA	La Graufesenque samian	1	13		
LEZ SA 2	LEZ SA 2	Lezoux samian	1	12		
EG SA?	EG SA?	East Gaulish samian ?	1	71		1
LNV CC	LNV CC	Lower Nene Valley colour-coat	6	165	0.23	2
OXF RS	OXF RS	Oxfordshire red-slipped	2	52		
OXF RS?	OXF RS?	Oxfordshire red-slipped?	3	26		
DOR BB 1	DOR BB 1	Dorset black-burnished 1	4	67	0.11	2
<b>Total</b>			<b>91</b>	<b>1188</b>	<b>1.18</b>	<b>11</b>

Table 6. Pit/Well 2110 Fabric/vessel quantification

B.1.19 Buried soils 2042 and 2270 contain nine sherds (47g) of grey, dark grey, buff, reddish-yellow and LNVCC wares, including a grey ware jar (rim EVE 0.05) and a LNV CC plain-rimmed dish (rim EVE 0.06).

### Enclosure 2

B.1.20 Pottery from the Enclosure 2 ditches **2097**, context 2099 and **2062**, context 2069, comprises single sherds of grog-tempered ware (24g) and grey ware (18g). Within the enclosure, fills of some of the two ditches/gullies, **2205** (context 2206) and **2207** (context 2208) and six pits/postholes **2211**, **2218**, **2220**, **2222** and **2225** (contexts 2213, 2219, 2221, 2223, 2226) contain one possible flint-gritted sherd (5g), 22 grey ware sherds (258g) including two jars (rim EVE 0.19), five dark grey ware sherds (95g) and four reddish-yellow ware sherds (13g) from a jar or beaker (rim EVE 0.11). Pit **2278** (context 2279) has a grey ware sherd (6g) and a DOR BB 1 flanged bowl rim (68g, 0.17 EVE) and Pit 2282 (context 2283) four grey ware jar sherds (22g, 0.09 EVE), four dark grey ware sherds (86g) from two flanged bowls (.18 EVE) and five LNV CC beaker sherds (25g).

### Enclosure 3

B.1.21 Ditch **2011**, context 2012, contains a single reddish-yellow ware jar rim (10g, 0.06 EVE) and ditch **2003**, context 2004, a single buff ware sherd (8g).

### Features to the west of Enclosures 1-3

B.1.22 Pit **2026**, context 2027, contains one grey ware sherd (4g) and pit **2038**, context 2039, contains an almost complete small grey ware everted rim jar (214g, 0.49 EVE); only half its rim is missing.

### Site type

B.1.23 The relatively low mean sherd weight and rim percentage, and the abraded nature of some of the pottery suggests a somewhat fragmented assemblage where the material has been disturbed before deposition. The fact that two-thirds of the vessels are jars of various types suggests that much of the activity on the site from which the pottery derived was of a fairly basic utilitarian nature, although fine wares, represented mainly

by later LNV CC and OXF RS, account for around 10% of the total assemblage and, together with, the occurrence of some bowls or dishes, beakers and mortaria hint at more domestic aspects, particularly in the later period.

### *Pottery use and manufacture*

B.1.24 There are a number of known and possible Roman pottery kilns in the area to the west and southwest of Leicester (Pollard 2005, 151-3; Swan 1984, 141; <https://romankilns.net>), a little way to the north and northeast of the site. These appear to have been producing mainly grey wares in the late 1st to 3rd centuries and it is therefore possible that some of the Sapcote grey wares could be from these sources, although their main focus was probably Roman Leicester. Otherwise, it is likely that much of the other pottery was obtained from the Mancetter-Hartshill potteries some 15 kilometres to the west.

## **B.2 Flint**

*By Michael Donnelley*

- B.2.1 The excavations brought to light a small assemblage of just 17 struck flints and eight fragments of burnt unworked material weighing 337g (Table 7). The flints were scattered across many contexts with no more than three flints in any feature. They included a number of blade forms, a combination end scraper-awl on a blade, a retouched blade and a bladelet core indicating an early prehistoric assemblage but this cannot be dated any more accurately than that. A very small number of typically later prehistoric flake debitage were also present alongside a quite basic side and end scraper that may also be late in date. Several large chunks of burnt unworked material were also recovered and very likely represent later prehistoric use of flint pebbles and nodules as material in heating water/cooking or other domestic activities. Overall, the site had very low levels of flint use.
- B.2.2 The only material which can be considered to be broadly contemporary with the feature from which it derived were two undiagnostic flakes from Period 1 pit **3040**, with the vast majority of the flint deriving from Period 2 (Roman) features. The bulk of the assemblage was undiagnostic and only a few pieces could be broadly assigned to either early or later prehistory. Early prehistoric material was recovered from several contexts. This included a very fine end scraper with parallel retouch combined with an awl at the proximal end of the blade on which it was formed. This piece was found in the subsoil, had very parallel negative scars and was clearly part of a blade production industry. A retouched blade with a modified distal end and side serrations was recovered from the fill of Period 2.2 pit **3049** (context 3052) while a single platform core that had produced a few bladelet scars alongside several flake scars was found in Period 2.2 ditch **2229** (context 2230). Blades were also present in buried soil deposit 2042, Period 2.2 ditch **2091** (context 2093) and Period 2.2 pit **2110** (context 2118).

CATEGORY TYPE	Number
Flake	7
Blade	3
Blade index	30% (3/10)
Janus flake	1
Core single platform bladelets	1
Core on a flake	1
Scraper side and end	1
Retouched blade	1
Retouched flake	1
Retouch other	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>
Burnt unworked (representative total)	18/337g
No. burnt (%)	0/17
No. broken (%)	4/17 (23.53%)
No cores and core dressing (%)	2/17 (11.76%)
No. retouched (%)	4/17 (23.53%)

Table 7. Quantification of the flint assemblage

- B.2.3 Probable later activity included a squat hard-hammer flake of probable Bronze Age or later date from Period 2.2 pit **2110** (context 2117), and retouched flake from Period 2.2 ditch **2108** (context 2109), found alongside a quite small and crude D-shaped side-and-end scraper of Neolithic or Bronze Age date. Many of the undiagnostic flakes recovered may also belong in the later prehistoric assemblage but it is impossible to be certain.
- B.2.4 Overall, the assemblage was highly dispersed and in mixed condition indicating a largely disturbed collection. The early forms have a broad date range that could span the upper Palaeolithic through to the early Neolithic, but the former date is very unlikely due to the overall rarity of such material. Moreover, it is possible that the early forms relate to a range of periods, but all would be at home in an early Neolithic context and this is perhaps the most likely option. Later prehistoric flint use appears to have been on a very occasional basis and included the use of flints as pot boilers in heating/cooking activities.

### Method

- B.2.5 The artefacts were catalogued according to OA South's standard system of broad artefact/debitage type (Anderson-Whymark 2013; Bradley 1999), general condition noted and dating was attempted where possible. The assemblage was catalogued directly onto an Open Office spreadsheet. During the assessment additional information on condition (rolled, abraded, fresh and degree of cortication), and state of the artefact (burnt, broken, or visibly utilised) was also recorded. Retouched pieces were classified according to standard morphological descriptions (*e.g.* Bamford 1985, 72-77; Healy 1988, 48-9; Bradley 1999). Technological attribute analysis was initially undertaken and included the recording of butt and termination type (Inizan *et al.* 1999), flake type (Harding 1990), hammer mode (Onhuma and Bergman 1982), and the presence of platform edge abrasion.

## B.3 Ceramic building material and fired clay

*By Cynthia Poole*

### **Introduction**

B.3.1 A modest assemblage of ceramic building material (CBM) amounting to 107 fragments weighing 7240g, and fired clay totalling 155 fragments weighing 1054g was recovered predominantly from pits and ditches of Roman date in Area C and a small quantity from two Roman pits and several post-medieval furrows in Area B. All the CBM is of Roman date and comprises standard forms of tegula, imbrex, brick and flue tile. The condition of the material is relatively poor and fragmentary: the CBM assemblage has a low mean fragment weight (MFW) of 68g, abrasion is predominantly moderate to heavy, no complete tiles survived and a large number of fragments do not have even one complete dimension. The fired clay comprised structural material and portable furniture, but included a large number of indeterminate fragments recovered from sieved samples. As a result, the fired clay also had a fairly low mean fragment weight of 7g.

### **Methodology**

B.3.2 The assemblages have been fully recorded on separate Excel spreadsheets in accordance with guidelines set out by the Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group (ACBMG 2007). The record includes quantification, and details of fabric, form, surface finish, dimensions and other significant features. The terminology for Roman tile follows Brodrigg (1987); coding for markings, tegula flanges, etc. follows that established by OA for the recording of CBM and tegula cutaway types are linked to those classified by Warry (2006). Fabrics were characterised on the basis of macroscopic features supplemented by the use of x20 hand lens for finer constituents.

B.3.3 Summary catalogues of the CBM and fired clay are provided in Tables 8 and 9 respectively.

Area	Context	Cut	Ctx type	Phase	No.	Wt (g)	Spot Date	Class	Form
C	1038	1037	ditch	2.1	1	51	RB	Indeterminate	Indeterminate
C	2100	2097	ditch	2.2	2	55	RB: AD160-260	Tegula	Tegula
C	2114	2110	pit	2.2	1	263	RB	Brick RB	Pedalis?
C	2117	2110	pit	2.2	2	295	RB	Flue	Tubulus
C	2118	2110	pit	2.2	1	109	RB	Flat tile	Flat
C	2125	2122	ditch	2.2	1	221	RB	Tegula	Tegula
C	2154	2152	ditch	2.2	1	814	RB	Brick RB	Brick RB
C	2169	2167	ditch	2.2	2	55	RB	Flat tile	Flat
C	2171	2170	ditch	2.2	2	19	RB	Flat tile	Flat
C	2174	2173	ditch	2.2	1	38	RB	Flat tile	Flat
C	2180	2179	ditch	2.2	4	99	RB	Flat tile	Flat/Brick
C	2182	2181	ditch	2.1	1	82	RB	Flat tile	Flat
C	2187	2186	ditch	2.2	1	144	RB	Tegula	Tegula
C	2199	2198	ditch	2.2	4	150	RB	Flat tile	Flat
C	2202	2201	gully	2.2	1	27	RB	Flat tile	Flat
C	2213	2211	pit	2.2	2	512	RB	Tegula	Tegula

Area	Context	Cut	Ctx type	Phase	No.	Wt (g)	Spot Date	Class	Form
C	2213	2211	pit	2.2	20	60	RB	Indeterminate	Indeterminate
C	2219	2218	pit	2.2	7	225	RB	Tegula	Tegula
C	2221	2220	pit	2.2	5	497	RB: AD160-380	Tegula	Tegula
C	2221	2220	pit	2.2	1	1434	RB	Brick RB	Brick RB
C	2221	2220	pit	2.2	7	107	RB	Flat tile	Flat
C	2221	2220	pit	2.2	1	85	RB	Flat tile	Flat
C	2221	2220	pit	2.2	1	31	RB	Flat tile	Flat
C	2221	2220	pit	2.2	15	25	RB	Indeterminate	Indeterminate
C	2226	2225	pit	2.2	1	19	RB	Flat tile	Flat
C	2230	2229	ditch	2.2	1	176	RB	Flat tile	Flat
C	2230	2229	ditch	2.2	1	69	RB	Flat tile	Flat/Imbx?
C	2242	2229	ditch	2.2	1	171	RB	Tegula	Tegula
C	2243	2227	ditch	2.2	1	75	RB	Flat tile	Flat/tegula
C	2243	2227	ditch	2.2	1	53	RB	Flat tile	Flat/tegula
C	2245	2244	pit	2.2	1	35	RB	Brick RB	Brick RB
C	2247	2161	ditch	2.2	1	11	RB	Flat tile	Flat/Imbx?
C	2250	2198	ditch	2.2	2	483	RB	Tegula	Tegula
C	2253	2128	ditch	2.2	1	293	RB	Flat tile	Flat
C	2158	2156	ditch	2.2	1	13	RB	Indeterminate	Indeterminate
C	2270	0	layer	2.2	2	36	RB	Flat tile	Flat
C	2285	2284	pit	2.2	1	59	RB	Flat tile	Flat
B	3020	3019	furrow	4	1	56	RB	Flat tile	Flat/Brick
B	3022	3021	furrow	4	1	24	RB	Flat tile	Flat
B	3038	3037	furrow	4	2	57	RB	Flat tile	Flat
B	3038	3037	furrow	4	1	124	RB	Brick RB	Brick RB
B	3038	3037	furrow	4	1	3	RB	Indeterminate	Indeterminate
B	3044	3043	furrow	4	1	7	RB	Flat tile	Flat
B	3053	3049	pit	2.2	1	78	RB	Brick RB	Brick RB

Table 8. Catalogue of ceramic building material

Area	Context	Phase	Cut	Ctxt type	Sample No	Nos	Wt (g)	Class
C	2046	2.2	2041	pit	<2011>	1	2	Indeterminate
C	2121	2.2	2110	pit	~	2	139	Portable furniture?
C	2212	2.2	2211	pit/oven	<2001>	9	25	Indeterminate
C	2213	2.2	2211	pit/oven	<2004>	13	39	Indeterminate
C	2219	2.2	2218	pit/oven	<2002>	43	123	Structural
C	2219	2.2	2218	pit/oven	<2002>	76	36	Indeterminate
C	2221	2.2	2220	pit/oven	~	6	621	Indeterminate
C	2309	2.2	2308	pit	<2005>	2	2	Indeterminate
B	3099	2.2	3082	pit	~	3	67	Portable furniture

Table 9. Catalogue of fired clay

## ***Roman tile***

### ***Fabrics and tile production***

- B.3.4 The tile was all made in sandy fabrics, which are all broadly similar in character. These range from a very fine smooth micaceous fine sandy clay containing sparse coarser quartz sand inclusions to varieties containing increasing concentrations of medium and coarse sand, predominantly quartz, to very high densities. In general, the sand content is subangular – sub-rounded and poorly sorted. Coarser inclusions are rare and when present include small sandstone grits, red ferruginous grits and cream calcareous pellets, the latter often partly leached out. The variations observed are recorded in the archive record, but it is possible all reflect the broad spectrum of a single fabric group. The relative uniformity and sandy character of the tile fabrics suggests the Quaternary Diamicton may have been the main clay source utilised during the Roman period. It is probable that the tile originated from one of these regional production centres.
- B.3.5 A variety of clay sources are available in the region within Leicestershire and neighbouring Warwickshire. Superficial deposits of Quaternary Diamicton and glacial clays form extensive deposits in the region. However, a variety of older mudstones underly these superficial deposits and may also have been a source of raw material. A Roman tile kiln is recorded from Ravenstone, Leics (Lucas 1980-1, 104-7) 21km to the northwest of Sapcote and just a couple of kilometres beyond the present day Ibstock brickworks, which utilise the Triassic Radcliffe member mudstone. Kilns also occur 13-15km to the west in Warwickshire at Arbury, Chilvers Coton and Mancetter-Hartshill (Scott 1971; 1975), where there are both superficial Quaternary clay deposits and earlier Carboniferous and Triassic mudstones, that could have been exploited.
- B.3.6 In relation to production it is interesting to note that no markings relating to manufacture, such as signatures, impressions or tally marks were encountered. The absence of tally marks is not unexpected in a civilian settlement, as these usually occur under military production, but the lack of signature marks is more surprising as most assemblages of any size produce some evidence for them. It is uncertain whether this is a feature of tile production in the local region or merely a result of the relatively small size of the assemblage.

### ***Forms***

#### *Brick (6 fragments, 2748g)*

- B.3.7 Brick formed 38% of assemblage by weight but only 6% by count. The clay fabric frequently contained marl/clay pellets up to 10mm, sandstone grits and small ferruginous grits. In general, the surfaces were evenly finished with knife trimming of rough base and edge surfaces. Most pieces measured 42-44mm thick with one thicker at c. 49mm. One very thin corner fragment measuring 31mm is most likely to be a fragment of pedalis type. All fragments had evidence of burning or heat discolouration. Most commonly this occurred on one surface sometimes extending to adjacent edges and varying from fairly superficial to pieces with heat discolouration extending partly or wholly through the whole thickness of the tile.

*Tegulae (21 fragments, 2308g)*

- B.3.8 Tegulae formed 20% (by count) or 32% (by weight) of the assemblage. The clay fabric was sandy, only rarely containing any inclusions coarser than sand in the form of small cream marl pellets or red ferruginous clay grits <5mm size. They have smooth evenly moulded surface with extensive knife trimming of base and edge surfaces. Thickness ranged from 22-30mm and the largest surviving fragment was 170mm long. All had flanges surviving with four different profiles present. The most common profile was type B, which was quite squat and angular in form with a sloping inner edge so that the flange base is noticeably wider than the top. These ranged from 12-23mm wide at the top increasing to 18-37mm at the base and had heights of 41-52mm. Other flange profiles were rounded (types A4, D and F2) and measured 24-33mm wide and 46-58mm high. All had a curved inner base angle sometimes accompanied by a shallow finger groove running alongside the flange. Two pieces had upper corners surviving with standard upper cutaways of rectangular form. These measured 26 and 52mm long and were cut to a depth of 23mm. Two had lower corners surviving, though one was poorly preserved. The latter was probably of Warry's type C4, though it could possibly be his later type D15 as its width is borderline between the two types and it is insufficiently preserved to assess other features. As a result, this can only be broadly dated as mid-2nd – 4th century. The second cutaway was also incomplete but can be more confidently identified as type C5, which Warry dates to AD 160-260. This measured 40mm long and the cut lower section had a series of cut facets along its surface.
- B.3.9 All but two of the tegulae had evidence of burning or heat discolouration to varying degrees ranging from small black patches, the whole of one surface to all surfaces and heat discolouration throughout the thickness of the tile.

*Flue tile (2 fragments, 295g)*

- B.3.10 A single example of box flue tile (tubulus) was recovered from pit **2110**. It had a smooth outer surface, an even sanded inner surface and a knife cut edge with a cut bevel along the inner arris. The two pieces measured 24 and 29mm thick and could be part of the same tile, but only one had evidence of keying. This consisted of two bands of combed keying running at diagonal and crossing probably forming a series of crosses running down centre of tile face. A coarse comb was used measuring 36mm wide with five teeth each 3-5mm wide and set 2-4mm apart. Both fragments were heavily burnt, both on the outer surface and the keyed piece on all surfaces and heat discoloured throughout its thickness.

*Flat tile (40 fragments, 1737g)*

- B.3.11 Flat tile, which could not be assigned to a specific form, formed 37% (by count, 24% by weight) of the assemblage. Just over half of the fragments had a complete thickness, which measured from 13 to 37mm thick. Fabrics varied from finer sandy fabrics to those containing coarser sandstone and grog grits. Two fragments measuring 13 and 23mm thick may have been imbrex, but insufficient survived to be certain. Three thicker pieces over 35mm thick are likely to be brick. The majority of those measuring 20-30mm thick are likely to be parts of the plain central sections of tegulae. Roughly three quarters had evidence of burning or heat discolouration, most

commonly burning across one surface only, either top or base, but in several cases with heat discolouration penetrating partly or wholly through the thickness of the tile.

### *Fired clay*

- B.3.12 The fired clay was nearly all made in the same fabric Q, which was a pinkish red, orange red or red fired micaceous clay containing moderate to abundant poorly sorted medium and coarse quartz sand. There was only one exception to this of pieces of portable furniture made in fabric QV, which had a similar matrix of orange-red fine sandy silty micaceous clay containing a low density of medium quartz sand, occasional iron oxide grits up to 4mm and with the deliberate addition of organic inclusions up to 12mm long. These left fine thin longitudinal organic impressions, probably some form of chaff, though seemingly much finer than the standard impressions from wheat or barley, normally found. The fired clay fabric is consistent with the locally available clay readily available as the natural substrate underlying the site.
- B.3.13 The majority of fragments from the sieved samples were largely of indeterminate amorphous form consisting of fragments 8-50mm in size though amongst these were a small number of fragments with generally roughly moulded, flat, slightly convex or undulating surface. Most of these are probably structural deriving from collapsed oven walls or lining. All of the sieved material derived from charcoal rich fills in small shallow pits (**2041, 2211, 2218, 2220, 2308**).
- B.3.14 In addition to the structural material were two examples of portable furniture. One (fill 2121, pit **2110**) was of uncertain form having only a single rough moulded undulating surface, but identified as a portable item on the basis of the chaff tempering, which is more commonly used for items of furniture and the pattern of firing resulting in a black core and oxidised exterior. The second example (fill 3099, pit **3082**) consisting of three fragments could be more positively identified as a triangular perforated brick. The fragments had a smooth flat moulded surface, which on one piece was pierced at an angle by a perforation 17mm in diameter.

### *Discussion*

- B.3.15 The tile no doubt had originally been used in masonry buildings for roofing and other structural elements with the flue tile indicative of a heated room. It is clear that such a building was not in evidence on the site and the quantity of tile does not indicate any such building in the immediate vicinity. Moreover, tile was an expensive commodity and a rural agricultural settlement of the type exposed in the excavation is unlikely to have been able to afford such material brand new. It is probable that such material was acquired second-hand from a more affluent settlement, perhaps one with which the site had some link. The closest source from which the tile may have originated is Sapcote villa, situated a little over a kilometre from the site on the east side of Sapcote village. Surplus tile from construction work or more likely discarded materials during periods of alteration or rebuilding of the villa may have become available for reuse and taken to the Hinckley Road site for re-use, though to demonstrate such a link a detailed comparison with tile from the villa would be necessary.



- B.3.16 The majority of the tile cannot be dated more closely than Roman. Only the two tegulae fragments point to a Middle or Late Roman date. The flue tile is also likely to be of 2nd century or later date. This is consistent with the phasing as nearly all the tile was found in features of Period 2.2, apart from a small quantity of residual material in post-medieval furrows accounting for almost all the tile from Area B. Most of the fired clay is not intrinsically dateable except for certain diagnostic forms, and is reliant on other dateable artefacts for its phasing. Of the fired clay the only diagnostic item is the triangular brick, which is a form that originated in the Iron Age, but continued in use into the Early Roman period on native settlements. This was the only fired clay found in Area B, in pit **3082**, some distance to the southeast of the main area of enclosures and possibly earlier in date as the fired clay is the only material recovered from the pit. All the fired clay from Area C was found in deposits assigned to Period 2.2.
- B.3.17 The tile assemblage is characterised by the high proportion of burnt and heat discoloured tile accounting for half of the fragments (84% by weight) and an emphasis on flat forms of tile, in particular brick and tegulae. This indicates a high degree of deliberate selection presumably for reuse. The frequent incidence of burning and heating suggests most of the tile was used for the construction of hearths or used within ovens especially when burning occurred on both sides or was heat affected throughout the thickness of the tile. There is little evidence for the tile being used in the construction of oven walls as this usually results in burning only of the tile edge, usually the only part of the tile exposed in the wall face. However, if a lining of clay coated any tile used in the superstructure it is possible no evidence of burning or heating would occur and could account for the proportion without signs of burning.
- B.3.18 The majority of the tile and fired clay was found in Area C, virtually all associated with Enclosure 2, occurring either within the enclosure ditch itself (**2062**) or in features in the interior of the enclosure. The largest group of CBM occurred within a conglomeration of intercutting pits (**2211, 2218, 2220**), in association with the majority of the fired clay recovered from the site. The character of the fired clay suggests the ovens had nothing more complex than a simple domed superstructure. The association of a significant quantity of tile with evidence of burning with these features confirms that the tile was being brought onto the site for use in ovens and hearths.

## B.4 Stone

*By Ruth Shaffrey*

- B.4.1 The stone assemblage was scanned for signs of use or modification and details were entered into an Excel spreadsheet, available in the archive. Burnt stone was weighed and counted and type of burning was recorded, whilst worked stone was fully recorded.
- B.4.2 A total of 23 fragments of burnt stone (1.7kg) were recovered from seven contexts (Table 10). This stone is mostly heat cracked from heating and then rapid cooling.
- B.4.3 Two probable objects were recovered from Period 2.2 features. Some tiny fragments of degraded flat shale were retrieved from pit **3058** (3059). These are too degraded to

determine original function, but they were certainly imported to the site and almost certainly represent an object of some sort.

- B.4.4 A single large segment of upper rotary quern was found in Period 2.2 ditch boundary ditch **2198** (2199, SF 2002) in Area C. At 51cm diameter, this is either a large hand powered quern or a small millstone. It is decorated with two circular grooves – one around the eye and one around the circumference, and on this surviving fragment, three parallel straight grooves running between the two circular grooves (Fig. 19). The quern is made from a medium to coarse-grained poorly-sorted, heavily feldspathic and micaceous sandstone from the Millstone Grit, which was the most commonly quern lithology during the Roman period in this area.
- B.4.5 Decoration is extremely unusual on Roman rotary querns in central and southern England and there is very little uniformity to it. Occasionally it can be classified as pictorial, for example there are leaves on a quern from Verulamium and a phallus on a quern from Winchester (Corder 1943, 158; Williams 2012). A small number of disc type querns or millstones are decorated with a circular groove around the eye and sometimes also around the circumference, for example at Chedworth villa, Glos; Linton, Cambs and Vindolanda, Northumberland (Goodburn 1976, 32; Shaffrey pers obs). Only very rarely are there additional decorative grooves. No exact parallels for this example could be found, but there are comparable examples from Southampton (Shaffrey and Allum 2011) and Bryn Howel, Carmarthenshire (Griffiths 1951, fig. 7.8). The decoration implies a higher status object or perhaps, a gift or dowry item.

### *Catalogue of worked stone*

- B.4.6 **Unworked.** Tiny degraded and dried out fragments of flat shale. Could have been an object but impossible to now tell. Weighs 20g. Ctx 3059. Fill of pit **3058**. Period 2.2
- B.4.7 **Upper rotary quern.** Millstone Grit. Large segment of thick flat-topped quern with profile that tapers in thickness towards the centre. The top is flat and the grinding surface is concave and curved. The quern is finished all over with very neat pecking. The upper surface is decorated with a simple groove around the eye, a groove close to the circumference and the surviving fragment has three parallel lines that run between the two lines. Some rotational wear to grinding surface. Measures 510mm diameter x 90mm thick at centre to 110mm thick on edge and 125mm high at centre. SF 2002. Ctx 2199. Fill of boundary ditch **2198**. Period 2.2

### *Catalogue of stone*

Context	Cut	Type	Period	Area	No	Weight	Type
2046	2041	Pit	2.2	C	2	22	Burnt, reddened
2219	2218	Pit	2.2	C	4	69	Burnt, heat cracked
2219	2218	Pit	2.2	C	2	630	Burnt, slightly blackened sandstone
2220	2220	Pit	2.2	C	1	239	Burnt, reddened and heat cracked
2221	2220	Pit	2.2	C	6	133	Burnt, reddened
2221	2220	Pit	2.2	C	3	504	Burnt, reddened sandstone
2230	2229	Ditch	2.2	C	1	28	Burnt, reddened sandstone
2279	2278	Pit	2.2	C	1	21	Burnt, heat cracked quartzite

Context	Cut	Type	Period	Area	No	Weight	Type
2309	2308	Pit	2.2	C	3	53	Burnt, heat cracked

Table 10. Catalogue of burnt stone

## B.5 Metals

By Ian R Scott

- B.5.1 The metals from the site are limited in range. Excluding hammerscale the assemblage comprises 27 iron objects and 12 pieces of slag. No copper alloy or lead was recovered. In addition to objects, a few pieces of slag were recovered and some hammerscale was identified from soil samples (Table 11). The metals assemblage has been identified and quantified, and the data has been recorded using an MS Excel spreadsheet.
- B.5.2 The iron objects comprise one nail tip (context 3024, furrow **3033**, Phase 4) and one possible knife or tool tang fragment (context 2113, pit **2110**, Phase 2.2). The latter comprises a rod or tang of circular cross section pointed at one end and with the remains a possible narrow blade at the other end (extant L: 112mm.). The remaining finds are 25 hobnails from Phase 2.2 pit **2220**, context 2221.
- B.5.3 Most of the slag consists of small pieces that are not readily identifiable to type. However, the presence of hammerscale, which is a by-product of blacksmithing, suggest that smithing was possibly the source of the slag, although only in pit **2211** were hammerscale and slag directly associated. Both flake and spherical hammerscale was recovered from soil samples from Phase 2.2 pits **2041**, **2211** and **2220** (see Table 11). The hammerscale may have been dumped in the pits with other debris.

Area	Phase	Feature	Context	Tool?	Footwear	Nails	Waste	Hammer-scale	Totals	
C	2.2	2041	2046					*		
		2110	2113	1					1	
			2328				1		1	
		2211	2212					1	*	1
			2213						*	
		2218	2219					10		10
		2220	2221				25		*	25
Totals				1	25	1	12		38	
B	4	3033	3034			1			1	
Totals				1	25	1	12		39	

Table 11: Summary of metals by phase, feature and object type (object count)

\* Numerous pieces of hammerscale both spherical and plate.

## APPENDIX C ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

### C.1 Environmental samples

*By Sharon Cook*

#### *Introduction*

- C.1.1 Twenty-eight bulk samples ranging in size from 8-40 litres and representing the range of feature types and phases across the excavated area were processed primarily for the retrieval of charred plant remains (CPR), small bones and artefacts. Typically, samples were 30-40 litres, with smaller samples usually coming from small features such as postholes.
- C.1.2 Four subsamples were also processed for the recovery of waterlogged plant remains (WPR) and to assess the potential for insects and other ecofacts.
- C.1.3 After assessment (the tabulated results of which are available in the site archive), four CPR flots were selected for analysis, all from features dating to the Roman period.

#### *Method*

- C.1.4 The bulk samples were processed in their entirety using a modified Siraf-type water flotation machine to 250µm (flot) and 500µm mesh (residue). The residue fractions were sorted by eye and all bone and artefacts removed while the flot material was sorted using a low power (x10) binocular microscope to extract cereal grains and chaff, smaller seeds and other quantifiable remains.
- C.1.5 In addition, four samples were taken for the purpose of examining the waterlogged plant material (WPR) from a well/waterhole (**2110**) on the site. For these samples a 1 litre subsample was processed by hand using the wash over method with the flot and residue being kept wet to facilitate preservation. These were also scanned during assessment using a low power (x10) binocular microscope to identify potential for further analysis but although waterlogged plant material was present it was not abundant, and no further work has been undertaken.
- C.1.6 Identifications were carried out using standard morphological criteria for the cereals (Jacomet 2006) and with reference to the Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands (Cappers *et al.* 2006) for identification of wild plant remains, as well as comparison with modern reference material. Classification and nomenclature of plant material follows Stace (2010).
- C.1.7 Quantification of remains is as follows; cereal grains and the seeds of wild plants were only quantified for items of which more than half was observed, this means that all cereal and seed counts may be used to reach an MNI (Minimum Number of Individuals). Seeds of vetches (*Vicia/Lathyrus*) are the exception in that their easily recognisable structures have enabled fragments to be quantified although these are always recorded as such. For chaff, awns and nutshell fragments the count is for all observed fragments, this means these figures are not suitable for use in calculating MNI.

C.1.8 Several flots were riffled prior to analysis due to their size and relative richness, following van der Veen and Fieller (1982) to produce a more manageable assemblage. Where riffling has occurred, this is stated in the relevant table, all values given are for the analysed portion of the flot only.

### *The assemblages*

C.1.9 The condition of the charred material on the site proved to be variable; most samples produced only small quantities of charred material. Many of the samples included charcoal and other charred remains with a vitrified, glassy appearance and in some cases, this made it difficult to separate the vitrified charcoal from anthracite, which was also present within many of the samples in small quantities.

C.1.10 Most of the phased samples have been dated to the Roman period, mostly from Period 2.2, and these proved to be the most productive in terms of charred remains. Both barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) as well as small quantities of oat (*Avena* sp.) occurred in features from across the site but much of the grain is highly fragmentary and has a very clinkered appearance. Consequently, a large proportion of the cereal is indeterminate although the general size and shape of the grains is suggestive of wheat or barley.

C.1.11 Chaff and wild plant seeds are uncommon and are generally represented by only a small number of individual fragments.

### *Phase 1 – Late Bronze Age – Early Iron Age*

C.1.12 Two samples from the upper and basal fills of pit **3040** produced only a small quantity of charred material and a small quantity of small-sized charcoal: two cereal grains in the upper fill include one possible barley, whilst a single poppy seed (*Papaver* sp.) was identified from the lower fill (sample 3002).

### *Phase 2.1 and 2.2 – Romano-British*

C.1.13 The features sampled came from Area C as well as Area B. The frequency of charred plant material is generally low, except for a small number of samples which produced a good quantity of remains.

C.1.14 Sample 3016, from the terminus of boundary ditch **3081** in Area B, has been attributed to Period 2.1 and contained only small quantities of vitrified charcoal and a single fragment of legume. The remaining samples from Area B all came from pit fills (Samples 3012, 3013, 3014 and 3015 from pits **3058**, **3082** and **3089**) but produced very small flots with rare charred plant remains.

C.1.15 All four samples that were considered suitable for analysis came from Area C. Samples 2000 (pit **2026**), 2003 (pit **2220**), 2004 (pit **2211**) and 2011 (**2041**) all contained quantities of cereal grain, chaff and wild taxa and are discussed in more detail below.

C.1.16 Of the remaining samples from Area 1, the flots from samples 2001 (pit **2211**) and 2005 (pit **2308**) contained a good quantity of vitrified and mineral-encrusted charcoal but very little other material. Charcoal was also relatively frequent in sample 2002 from pit **2218** which also included a small amount of glume wheat chaff and a mixture

of wheat and barley grains as well as a few wild plant seeds of similar in types to those recorded in the analysed samples. Sample 2010 from posthole **2287** contained almost no charred material at all, as was the case for samples from several undated postholes elsewhere on the site.

- C.1.17 The samples from waterhole **2110** produced very little charred material of any kind. The waterlogged component comprised seeds of plants that are common in areas of disturbed ground which are generally associated with human activity including chickweed (*Stellaria media*), bulbous chervil (*Chaerophyllum bulbosum*), bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*), nettle (*Urtica dioica*), goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.), buttercup (*Ranunculus acris/repens/bulbosus*), knapweed (*Centaurea* sp.) and dead nettle family (Lamiaceae). Insects, including mites, were also present. Plants of damp ground include sedge (*Carex* sp.) and the presence of *Daphnia* ehippera indicates that the feature held water at some point.

#### **Phase 4 – Post-Medieval – Modern**

- C.1.18 Sample 3010, from posthole **3013**, produced only small flecks of unidentifiable charred material.

#### **Undated**

- C.1.19 Eight samples are unphased, from fills of postholes (**3015, 3009, 3007, 3011, 3055, 3070, 3003**) and a single pit (**3017**). None of the samples produced more than occasional wheat grains (*Triticum* sp.) and rare charred weed seeds, the majority of which are generally identified as crop contaminants. These include vetches (*Vicia/Lathyrus*), corncockle (*Agrostemma githago*) and chickweed (*Stellaria media*).

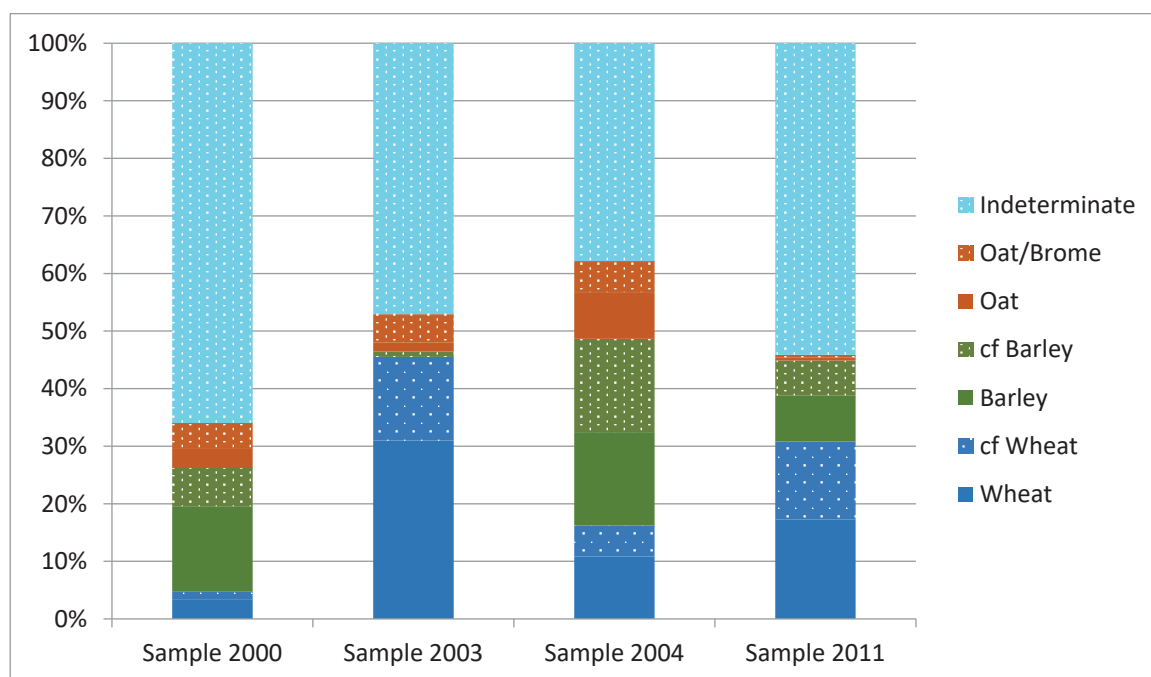
#### **Samples 2000 (pit 2026), 2003 (pit 2220), 2004 (pit 2211) and 2011 (2041)**

- C.1.20 The four samples fully analysed were all from pit fills (Table 12 and Graphs 1 and 2). Samples 2003 (pit **2220**) and 2004 (pit **2211**) were taken from a small cluster of intercutting pits south of the main enclosure group in Area C.
- C.1.21 All the samples include wheat (*Triticum* sp.) and barley (*Hordeum* sp.) grain. While many of the barley grains have been damaged and distorted by charring, those grains in good condition include a small number with the twisted appearance associated with the lateral grains of six row barley (*Hordeum vulgare*). Glume bases in samples 2003, 2004 and 2011 indicate that spelt (*Triticum spelta*) is the main, or perhaps the only, wheat type present. While the wheat grains show some variation in size and shape, they do not appear to include the compact form typical of free threshing varieties. Small grains are present within the samples, but these appear to be tail grains rather than mature examples.
- C.1.22 Oats (*Avena* sp.) and oat/brome (*Avena/Bromus*) are present in all four samples in generally small quantities. No floret bases were observed so it is not possible to tell if these are from wild or domesticated varieties, but the small quantities make the latter option more likely.

- C.1.23 While the pits intercut, the contents of the two flots vary considerably: sample 2003 includes an extremely rich assemblage of glume wheat chaff, where identified of spelt and including complete spikelets, which was not the case in sample 2004 from the intercutting feature. Sample 2003 also includes barley rachis fragments and a significantly larger component of wild plant seeds.
- C.1.24 The proportions of the two grain types also varies between samples 2003 and 2004, with sample 2003 containing a larger proportion of wheat than barley, perhaps unsurprisingly in a deposit so rich in glume wheat chaff. Spelt wheat is generally the most common cereal in deposits from this period, with barley usually present as a secondary crop (Lodwick 2017), however sample 2004 contains a larger quantity of barley albeit within an assemblage that is much smaller in size. Barley is generally present in charred assemblages from the Roman period; however as the grains are free threshing, they are less likely to encounter heat and are less likely as a result to become charred (*ibid.*).
- C.1.25 It would seem likely, therefore, that despite their proximity the contents of these two pits represent different episodes of deposition. The large quantity of chaff within sample 2003 is undoubtedly crop processing waste, with the chaff either used as fuel in a structure such as a corndryer or oven or burnt as waste. No evidence of a corndryer was found during the excavation, but one may have been located close by. The presence of large numbers of mayweed (*Tripleurospermum* sp.) and smaller quantities of stinking chamomile (*Anthemis cotula*) and corncockle (*Agrostemma githago*) point to most of the seeds within this sample being crop contaminants separated from the crop along with the chaff.
- C.1.26 The low quantity of charred grain in sample 2004 is accompanied by a small seed and chaff assemblage and so the assemblage may just represent the general background level of charred remains in an area utilised for crop processing or other food preparation. The condition of the charred material in this sample has, unfortunately, resulted in a large proportion of the grain being unidentified to genus although there is no doubt that the majority of these cereal grains are either wheat or barley,
- C.1.27 Samples 2000 (pit **2026**) and 2011 (pit **2041**) were taken from pits in the southwestern part of Area C. Sample 2000 at the southwestern periphery of the excavation contains a larger quantity of identifiable barley than wheat although most of the grain is too damaged to securely identify. The almost total lack of chaff indicates that this is likely to be a cleaned crop and may indicate waste from cooking although a single barley grain is present within this sample still held in the spikelet fork. The small numbers of wild seeds present are generally those species which are associated with disturbed ground.
- C.1.28 Sample 2011 slightly to the southwest and at the edge of the excavation area is richer in wheat but still contains a good quantity of barley. As with the other analysed samples (other than 2003) there is only a small quantity of cereal chaff and wild taxa are dominated by plants associated with disturbed ground and agricultural activity, this particular sample being rich in knotweed (*Persicaria* sp.).
- C.1.29 Generally, the quantity of wild plant seeds is small and is likely to reflect seeds of plants that were accidentally harvested with the cereals. The small quantity could be a result

of crop cleaning taking place elsewhere, either on or off site, with only occasional seeds being carried through to a point where they would become charred. It is interesting that while sample 2003 is dominated by members of the Asteraceae family, sample 2011 which is also possibly richer in wheat than barley, contains fewer from this family but is rich in knotweeds (*Persicaria* sp.), which may indicate that different fields, perhaps on different soil types, were cultivated.

C.1.30 Two undated samples from the evaluation (OA 2017) also contained barley grains, with one of them, Sample 1 from pit **E2207** (Trench 22), situated close to the current samples 2000 and 2011, also containing a good quantity of wheat grain and glume wheat chaff although as with the current samples much of the grain was not identifiable. Superficially this sample seems similar in composition to 2003, which may indicate a second potential grain processing area.



Graph 1. Proportions of cereal grains across analysed samples.

### Discussion

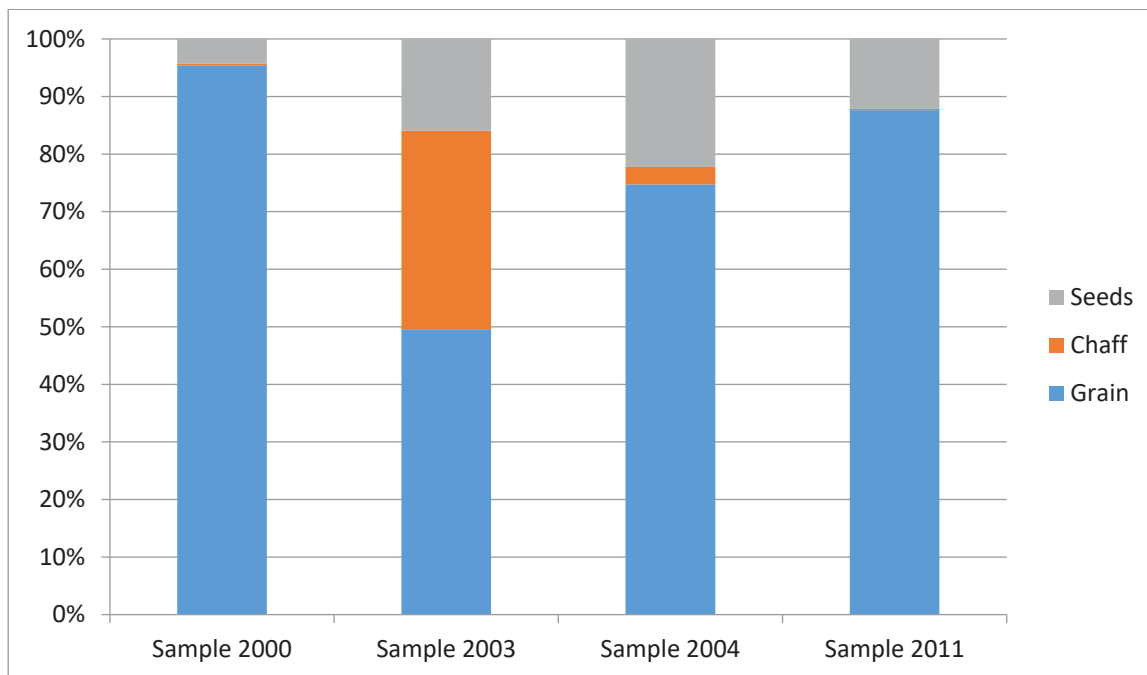
C.1.31 Archaeobotanical assemblages on British rural sites are typically charred and are often dominated by the by-products of grain de-husking and cleaning, which are deliberately burnt as either fuel or waste (van der Veen 2014). This generally results in assemblages of chaff and weed seeds, with only little grain. The analysed assemblages from this site by contrast contain only small quantities of chaff with the notable exception of sample 2003. Spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*) is considered generally to be the main crop during this period with the archaeobotanical evidence for most sites being rich in the waste products of its use (van der Veen 2014; Lodwick 2017) while hulled barley has long been assumed to be a secondary crop.

C.1.32 Graph 2 shows the approximate proportions of chaff to grain and wild seeds. Unfortunately, the degree of fragmentation makes exact quantities impossible to



calculate but even when unquantifiable fragments of grain and chaff are excluded the difference in content of the four samples is obvious.

C.1.33 Although low levels of glume wheat chaff are present across the site, it is only common in sample 2003, suggesting that this feature held a dump of material from a specific crop processing activity relating to the dehusking of wheat. The relative scarcity of chaff across the rest of the sites perhaps indicates that the area of intercutting pits which includes pits **2211** and **2220** is located near to an area of wheat processing and crop drying, but that this is fairly localised and potentially small-scale.



Graph 2. Proportions of grain, quantifiable chaff (glume bases and spikelet forks) and weed seeds

C.1.34 Other samples include grain with very little accompanying cereal waste. The fragmented condition of the grain has hampered identification but if all of the grain was grown nearby, bearing in mind the fact that barley has been identified on the site in good quantities, it is perhaps possible that barley was grown as a main crop with wheat as a secondary crop.

C.1.35 Barley, as a free-threshing grain, requires a very different process to become usable than that required for the glume wheats. The grain is separated more easily, and the ear does not require parching in order to separate the grain from the glume. Apart from occasional rachis fragments, processing of barley rarely leaves much evidence archaeologically, so it is possible that the significance of barley as a crop has been underestimated.

C.1.36 High proportions of barley have been found in other sites in the county with samples from sites in Desford and Ashby de la Zouch including barley as well as possible free threshing wheat, with barley apparently forming a significant proportion of the crop (Lodwick 2017; Carruthers and Hunter Dowse 2019).

- C.1.37 As discussed by Riehl (2019), domesticated barley has a shorter growing cycle than wheat and is more stress tolerant. The crop is heat-tolerant in a dry climate and moisture-tolerant in a cool one. Statistical data on traditional farming in Greece between 1931 and 1960 showed that wheat failure was more than five times more frequent than barley failures, and, barley has also been found to compete more efficiently with weeds than wheat species, due to a greater tillering ability and its below-ground root system. This all makes barley a very efficient crop which grows well in the cool, moist British climate.
- C.1.38 It is of course possible that the grain does not derive from crops grown at or close to the site. Grain may have been imported in a mostly cleaned condition and, in the case of spelt, in spikelets. However, importation of grain is commonly found at urban and military sites, or at sites where a specialised pastoral strategy was practised, which seems unlikely in this case. There also does not appear to be any evidence for grain storage structures.
- C.1.39 Barley is referred to by a number of Roman writers as being used as a fodder crop for animals and slaves (Cato, Varro, Columella etc) although the frequency of finds within the British Isles has largely been assumed to indicate that it was also used as a food crop in Britain and barley bran fragments have been recorded in human faecal waste (Lodwick 2017).
- C.1.40 Fodder crops are less likely to need de-husking and their chances of becoming charred are smaller (Carruthers and Hunter Dowse 2019). If barley was largely grown for fodder it could explain the lack of a general spread of processed material across the site. There is little evidence of sprouting within the assemblages and while embryos are present coleoptiles overall are absent so it would seem unlikely that either the barley or the wheat was used for brewing.
- C.1.41 The presence of two deposits on site containing large quantities of chaff (from the excavation and the evaluation) may indicate a centralised approach to the disposal of crop processing waste, this can only be conjecture. Settlement activity continues beyond the excavation area, so it is possible that further areas related to crop processing and disposal are located beyond the edge of this excavation.

Sample No		2000	2003	2004	2011
Context No		2027	2221	2213	2046
Feature		2026	2220	2211	2041
Description		Fill of Pit	Fill of Pit	Fill of Pit	Fill of Pit
Date/Phase		2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
Volume (L)		20	40	20	10
Flot Volume (ml)		450	100	170	30
Proportion of flot sorted		25%	50%	50%	100%
<b>Cereal grain</b>					
<i>Triticum</i> sp.	wheat	11	100	4	69
cf <i>Triticum</i> sp.		5#	47#	2#	54#
<i>Hordeum</i> sp.	barley	49		6	32
<i>Hordeum</i> sp.	barley in glume	1			
cf <i>Hordeum</i> sp.		22#	3#	6#	22#
<i>Avena</i> sp.	oat	11	5	3	2
<i>Avena/Bromus</i>	oat/brome	15#	16#	2#	2#
Cerealia	indet cereal	219#	152#	14#	216#
<b>Chaff</b>					
<i>Triticum spelta</i> L.	spelt glume base		411	3	1
<i>Triticum dicoccum/spelta</i>	emmer/spelt glume base fragments		2814#	4#	3#
<i>Triticum spelta</i> L.	spikelet fork		11#		
<i>Triticum dicoccum/spelta</i>	emmer/spelt spikelet fork		6#		
<i>Hordeum</i> sp.	spikelet fork	1#			
<i>Hordeum</i> sp.	rachis internode	1#			
<i>Triticum/Hordeum</i>	rachis internode	2#			
<i>Triticum/Hordeum</i>	rachis node	1#	49#	1#	3#
Cerealia	coleoptile		1f		
<i>Avena</i> sp.	oat awns	***	**	*	*
Cerealia	detached embryos	2	85		2
<b>Nuts/Fruit etc.</b>					
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	hazelnut shell		2f		
<b>Wild Species</b>					
cf <i>Ranunculus acris/repens/bulbosis</i>	buttercup				1#
cf Fabaceae	pea family, small, <i>Lotus</i> type		4#	2#	3#
<i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> sp. <2 mm	vetch/vetchling/tare, etc.				1 + 2(1/2)
<i>Persicaria maculosa/lapathifolia</i>	redshank/pale persicaria		1	3	17

Sample No		2000	2003	2004	2011
<i>Fallopia convolvulus</i> (L.) A. Love	black bindweed			1	
cf <i>Fallopia convolvulus</i>	black bindweed		1#		
<i>Rumex</i> sp.	docks (3 sided)	6	3		1
<i>Rumex acetosella</i> L.	sheep's sorrel		1		1
<i>Agrostemma githago</i> L.	corncockle		2		
<i>Montia fontana</i> L.	blinks			1	
<i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	goosefoots	4?	5?	1	2
<i>Veronica hederifolia</i> L.	ivy-leaved speedwell				1?
Asteraceae	daisy family, 2-3mm		2#		
Asteraceae	daisy family, 1-2mm	1#	12#		
cf <i>Cirsium/Carduus</i>	thistle			1#	
<i>Anthemis cotula</i> L.	stinking chamomile		6		
cf <i>Anthemis cotula</i> L.	stinking chamomile	1#			
<i>Tripleurospermum cf inodorum</i> (L.) Sch. Bip	scentless mayweed		44		
cf <i>Tripleurospermum</i> sp	mayweed		6#		
<i>Carex</i> sp.	sedges (3 sided)	1	1		1
Poaceae	grass seeds (various)		10	1	1
<b>Other</b>					
Indet.	seed/fruit	2#	6#	1#	9#
<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>	wild radish seed capsule	3 + 5f			
Key: # item is very damaged    f = fragment only    * fragments rare    ** fragments occasional    *** fragments common    (1/2) half only present    s = silicified    ? = unclear if charred					

Table 12. The charred plant remains

## C.2 Animal bone

By Lee G. Broderick

- C.2.1 A total of 53 specimens were recovered from the site, all of them from Romano-British pits – specifically cuts **2110** and **3049** (Period 2.2). Both of these contained large mammal specimens and domestic cattle (*Bos taurus taurus*) specimens (**Error! Reference source not found.**3) with all material in a very poor state of preservation. In particular, each specimen showed extensive weathering (Behrensmeier 1978, weathering stage 5) as well as water erosion.
- C.2.2 The specimens recovered included a fused proximal left metacarpal and right humerus shaft from pit **2110**, as well as a loose mandibular molar from pit **3051**. These specimens appear to be roughly of the size expected of the Romano-British period, but it was not possible to take any measurements from them and the poor state of preservation precludes observing any other taphonomic modifications (such as butchery marks or damage by gnawing).

C.2.3 In summary, it is not possible to conclude anything more insightful from the assemblage than that there were domestic cattle present on the site during the Romano-British period.

<b>Taxa</b>	<b>NISP</b>
domestic cattle	<b>3</b>
large mammal	50
<b>Total NISP</b>	53
<b>Total NSP</b>	53

*Table 13. Summary quantification of the animal bone assemblage*

## APPENDIX D      BIBLIOGRAPHY

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## APPENDIX E SITE SUMMARY DETAILS / OASIS REPORT FORM

**Site name:** Hinckley Road, Sapcote, Leicestershire  
**Site code:** X.A7.2019  
**Grid Reference** SP 4830 9343  
**Type:** Excavation  
**Date:** Jan-Jun 2019  
**Area of Site** 1.7ha  
**Location of archive:** The site archive is currently held by OA and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores under the Site Code X.A7.2019 in due course.  
**Summary of Results:** Between January and June of 2019 Oxford Archaeology carried out archaeological excavations to the south of Hinckley Road in Sapcote, Leicestershire (SP 4830 9343), with three separate areas covering a total of 1.7ha. Evidence for prehistoric activity was restricted to a single pit associated with Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery, and most of the features revealed by the excavations related to Romano-British activity, with a set of conjoined rectangular enclosures representing a long-lived, relatively low-status Romano-British farmstead. Although no structural remains were found, a small ditched enclosure may have represented a building compound, and the enclosures were associated with a relatively large number of discrete pits, including a large well. The finds assemblages from the enclosure ditches and associated features were relatively modest but included over 300 sherds of Roman pottery dating from the mid 1st century to 4th century AD. The fills of several pits within and around the enclosures produced evidence for crop processing and metalworking (smithing) as well as assemblages of fired clay and reused ceramic building material probably representing the remains of ovens. The most notable individual find was a large fragment of quern stone bearing unusual grooved decoration, recovered from on the enclosure ditches. Activity at the site seems to have ended in the 4th century, and later activity is represented by a single pit associated with a small quantity of Anglo-Saxon pottery and by the remains of extensive medieval to post-medieval ridge and furrow.  
 The Roman activity recorded at Hinckley Road represents an important addition to the corpus of excavated Roman rural settlements in this part of Leicestershire and is also significant in terms of its proximity to a major, but poorly understood, villa complex located little over 1km to the east at Calver Hill.

### Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3-388449		
Project Name	Hinckley Road, Sapcote, Leicestershire		
Start of Fieldwork	2nd January 2019	End of Fieldwork	28th June 2019
Previous Work	Yes	Future Work	No

### Project Reference Codes

Site Code	X.A7.2019	Planning App. No.	17/0247/OUT
HER Number		Related Numbers	X.A50.2017

Prompt	NPPF
Development Type	Residential
Place in Planning Process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

### Techniques used (tick all that apply)

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography – interpretation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open-area excavation | <input type="checkbox"/> Salvage Record                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photography - new            | <input type="checkbox"/> Part Excavation                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Systematic Field Walking         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Field Observation                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Part Survey                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Systematic Metal Detector Survey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full Excavation                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Recorded Observation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Test-pit Survey                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full Survey                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Remote Operated Vehicle Survey  | <input type="checkbox"/> Watching Brief                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geophysical Survey                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Salvage Excavation              |   |

Monument	Period	Object	Period
Pit	Late Bronze Age ( - 1000 to - 700)	Pottery	Late Bronze Age ( - 1000 to - 700)
Ditch	Roman (43 to 410)	Pottery	Roman (43 to 410)
Pit	Roman (43 to 410)	Worked flint	Early Medieval (410 to 1066)
Pit	Early Medieval (410 to 1066)	Quern stone	Roman (43 to 410)
		CBM	Roman (43 to 410)
		Animal bone	Roman (43 to 410)
		Metalworking residues	Roman (43 to 410)
		Nails	Roman (43 to 410)

Insert more lines as appropriate.

### Project Location

County	Leicestershire	Address (including Postcode) Hinckley Road, Sapcote, Leicestershire LE9 4LG
District	Blaby	
Parish	Sapcote	
HER office	Leicestershire	
Size of Study Area	1.7ha	
National Grid Ref	SP 4830 9343	

### Project Originators

Organisation	Oxford Archaeology
Project Brief Originator	Richard Clark (Leicestershire CC)
Project Design Originator	John Boothroyd (OA)
Project Manager	John Boothroyd/Tom Phillips (OA)
Project Supervisor	Tom Black, Diana Chard, Berna Rzadek and Lawrence Billington (OA)

## Project Archives

	Location	ID
Physical Archive (Finds)	Leics County Council Museums	X.A7.2019
Digital Archive	OAE	X.A7.2019
Paper Archive	Leics County Council Museums	X.A7.2019

Physical Contents	Present?	Digital files associated with Finds	Paperwork associated with Finds
Animal Bones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Remains	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leather	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stratigraphic		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Survey		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Textiles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Bone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Stone/Lithic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

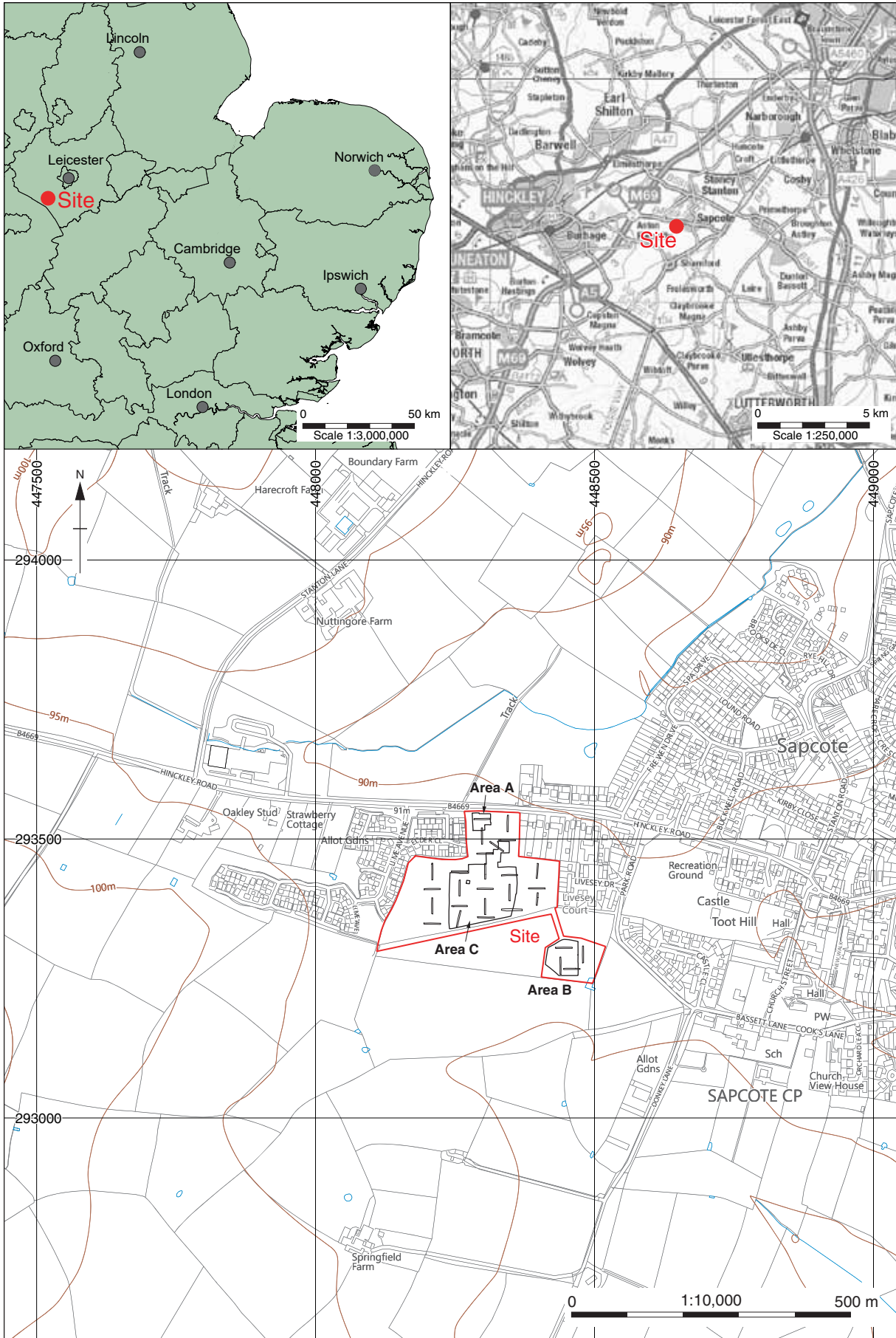
### Digital Media

Database	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GIS	<input type="checkbox"/>
Geophysics	<input type="checkbox"/>
Images (Digital photos)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Illustrations (Figures/Plates)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Moving Image	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spreadsheets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Survey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Text	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Virtual Reality	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Paper Media

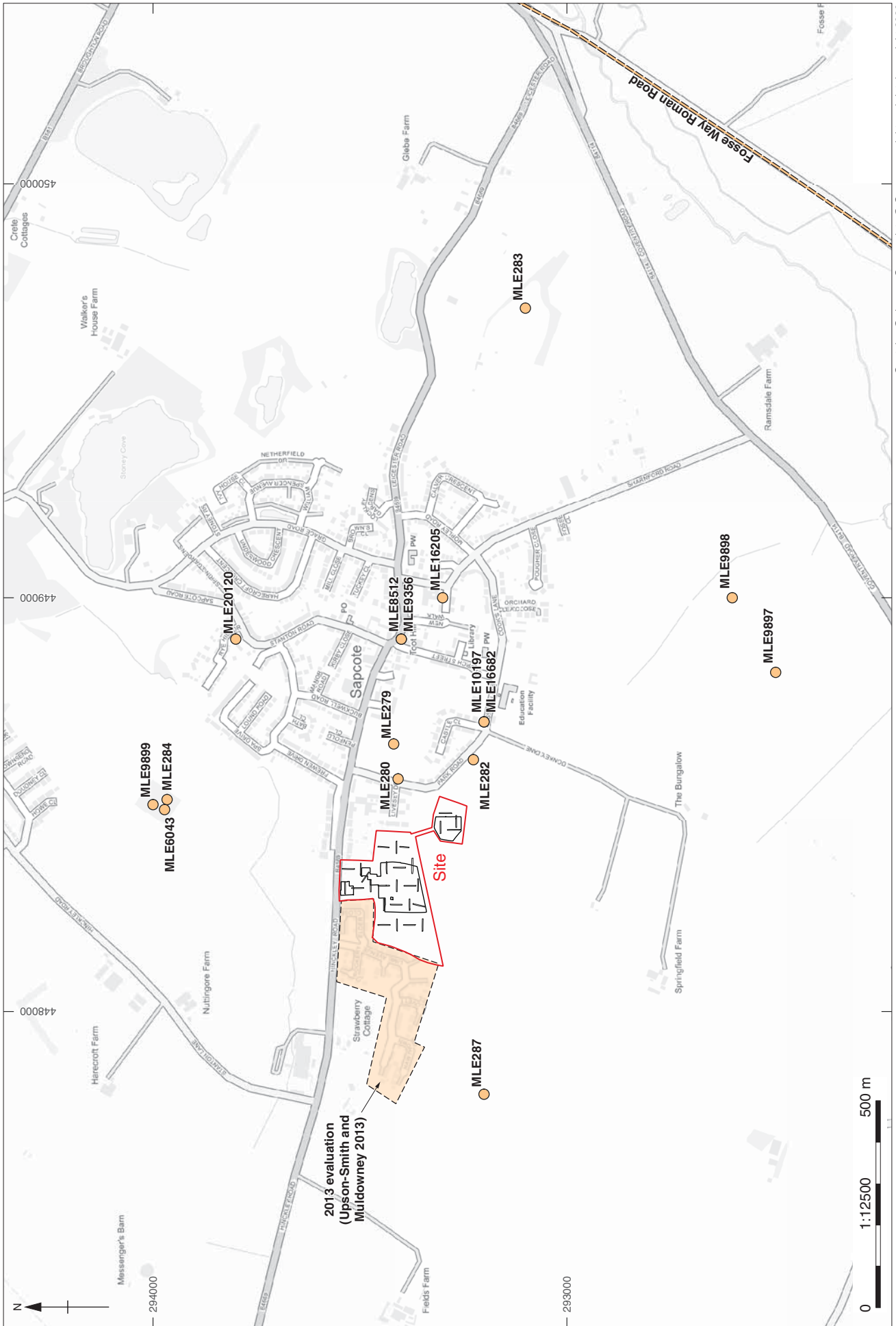
Aerial Photos	<input type="checkbox"/>
Context Sheets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Correspondence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Diary	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drawing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/>
Map	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matrices	<input type="checkbox"/>
Microfiche	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miscellaneous	<input type="checkbox"/>
Research/Notes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Photos (negatives/prints/slides)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Plans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sections	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Survey	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Further Comments



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Figure 1: Site location showing archaeological excavation areas and evaluation trenches (black) in development area (red)



Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2020

Figure 2: HIER map



Figure 3: Area A all features

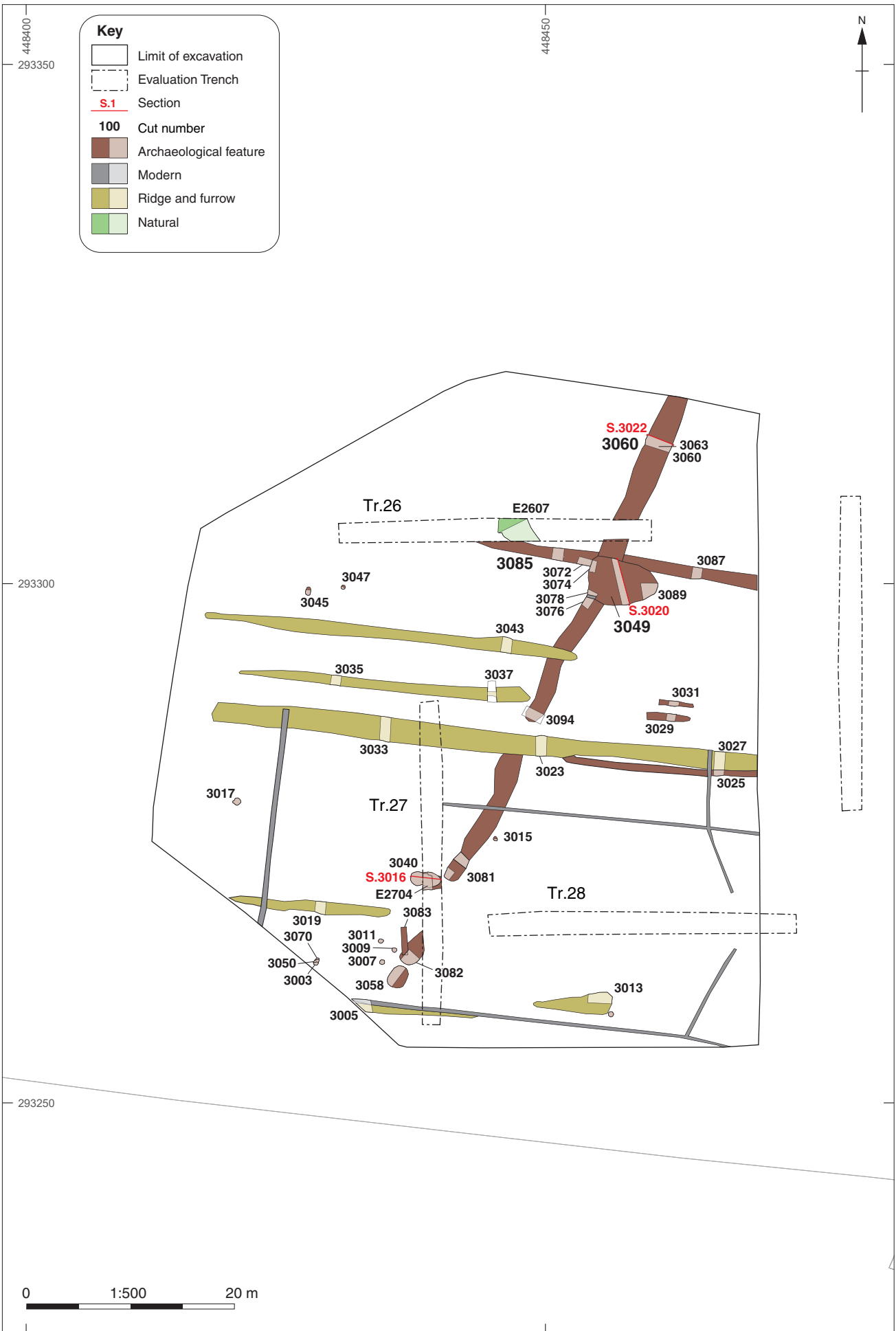


Figure 4: Area B all features





Figure 5: Area C all features



Figure 6: All Areas phase plan

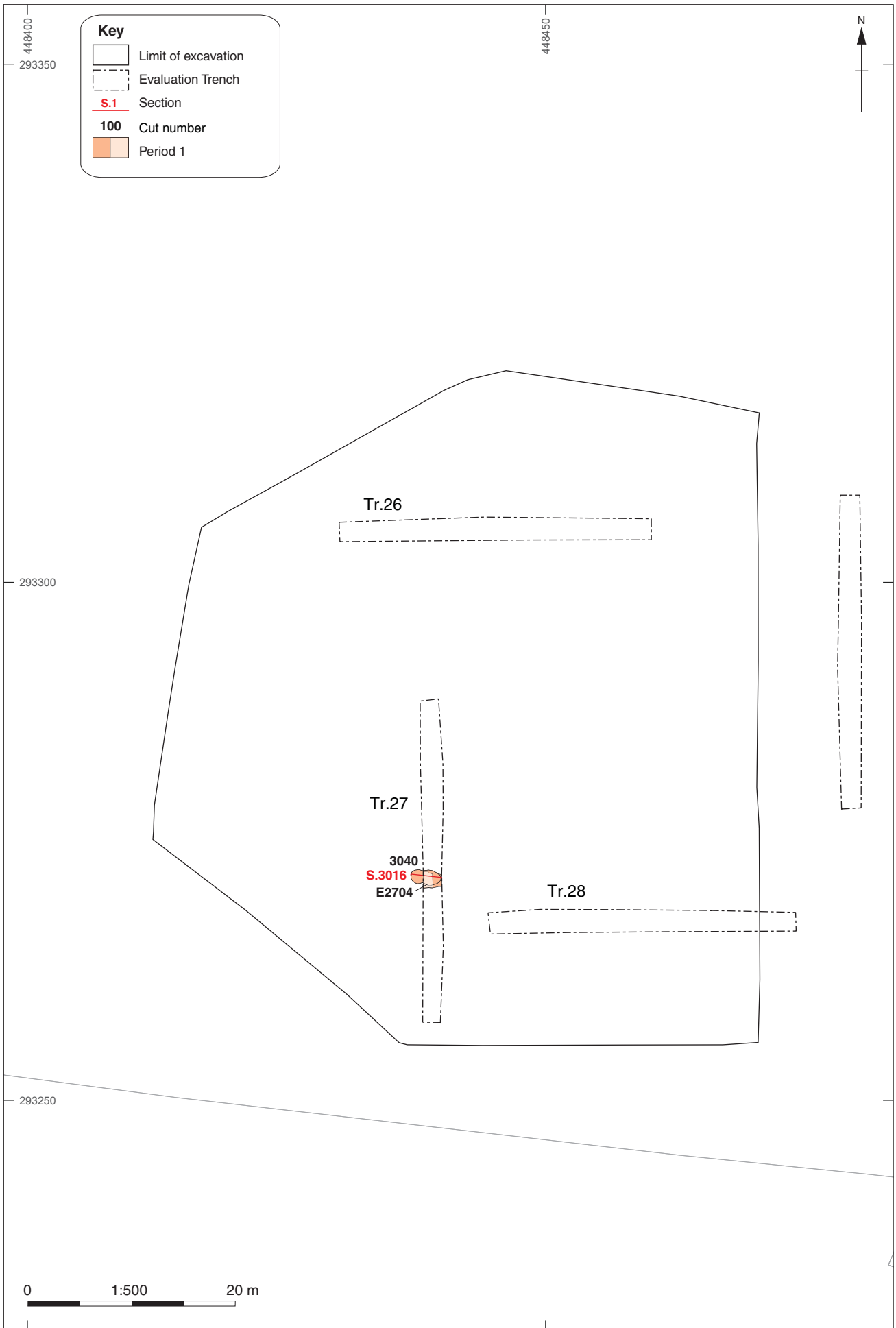


Figure 7: Period 1 phase plan, Area B

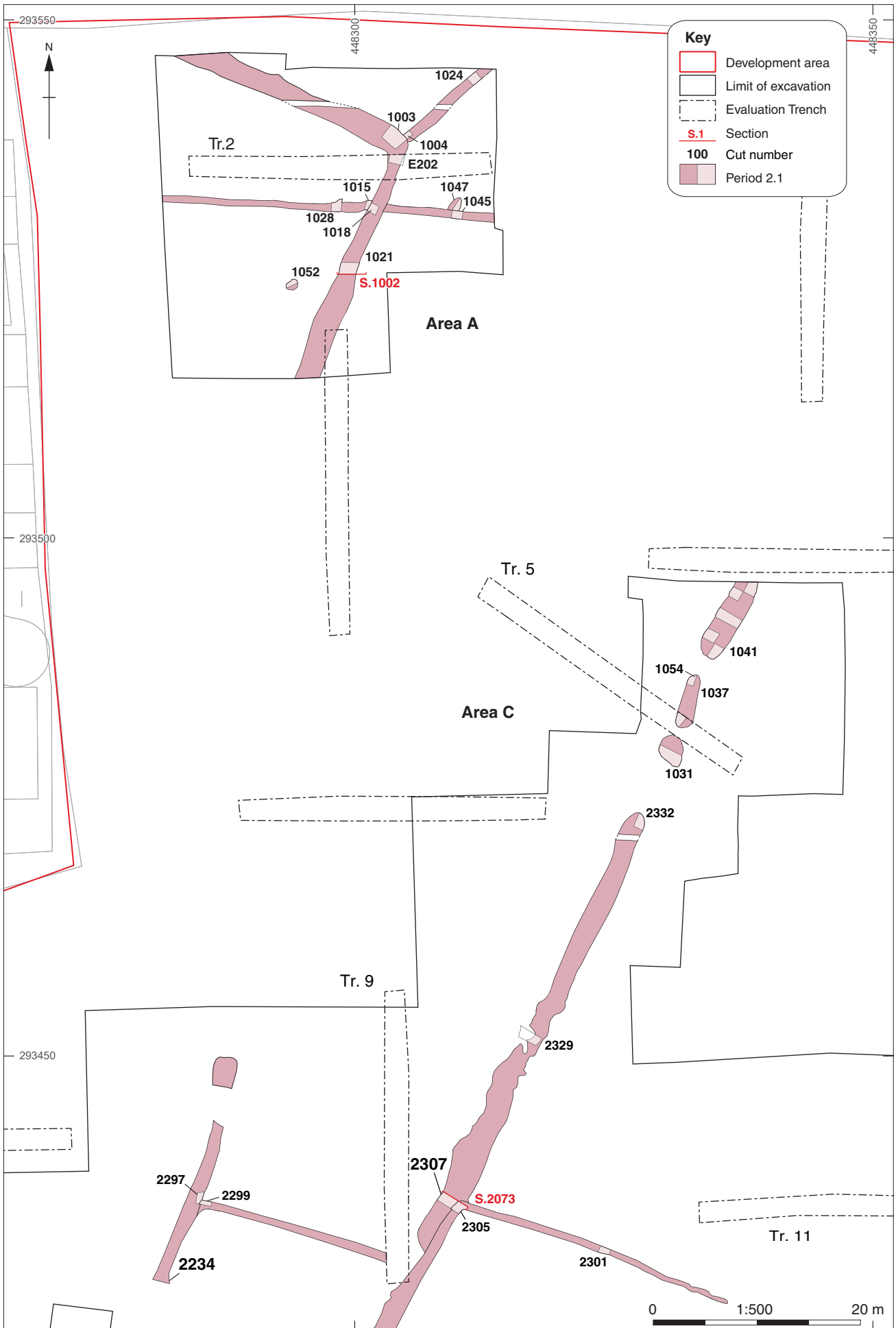


Figure 8: Period 2.1 phase plan, Area A

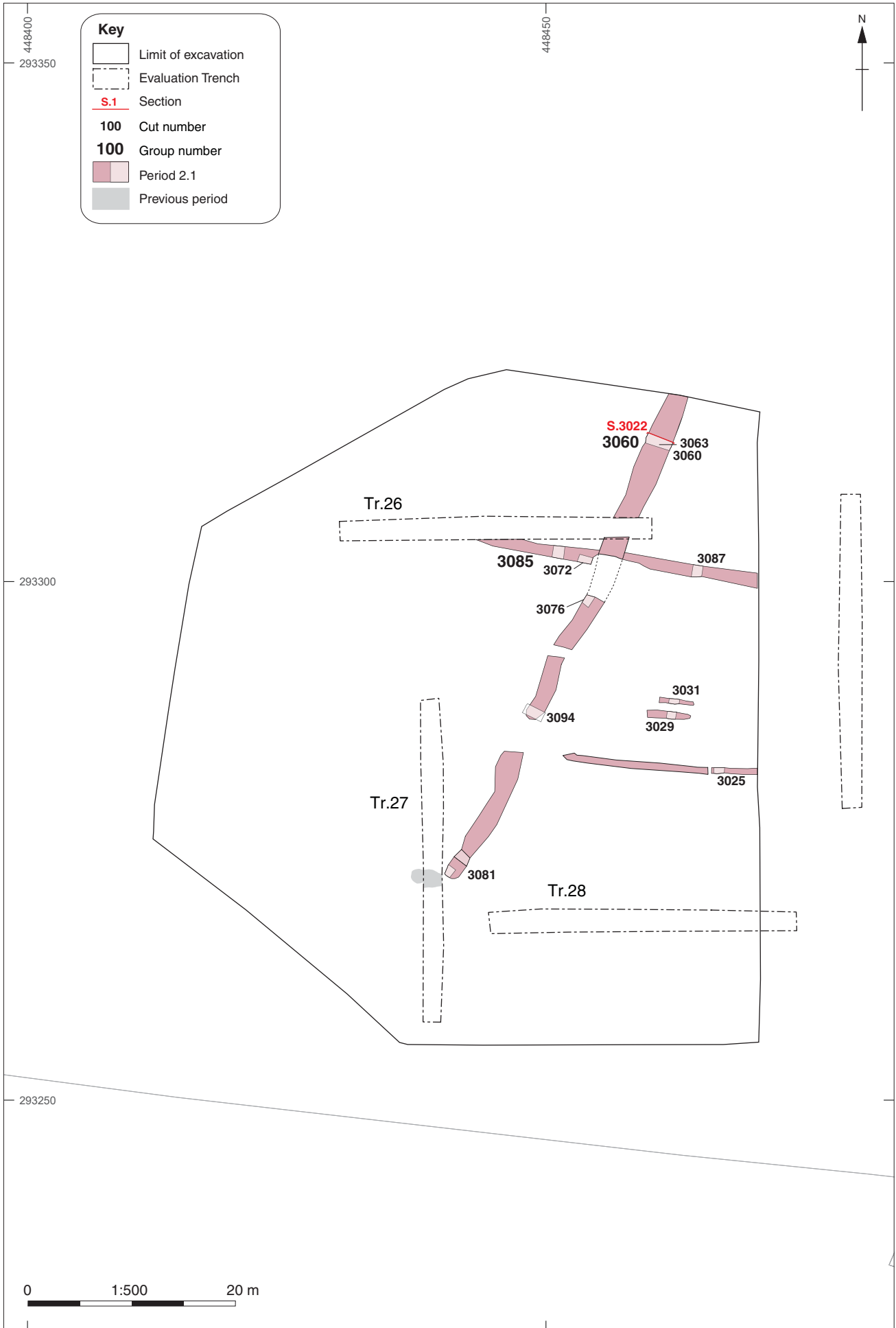


Figure 9: Period 2.1 phase plan, Area B

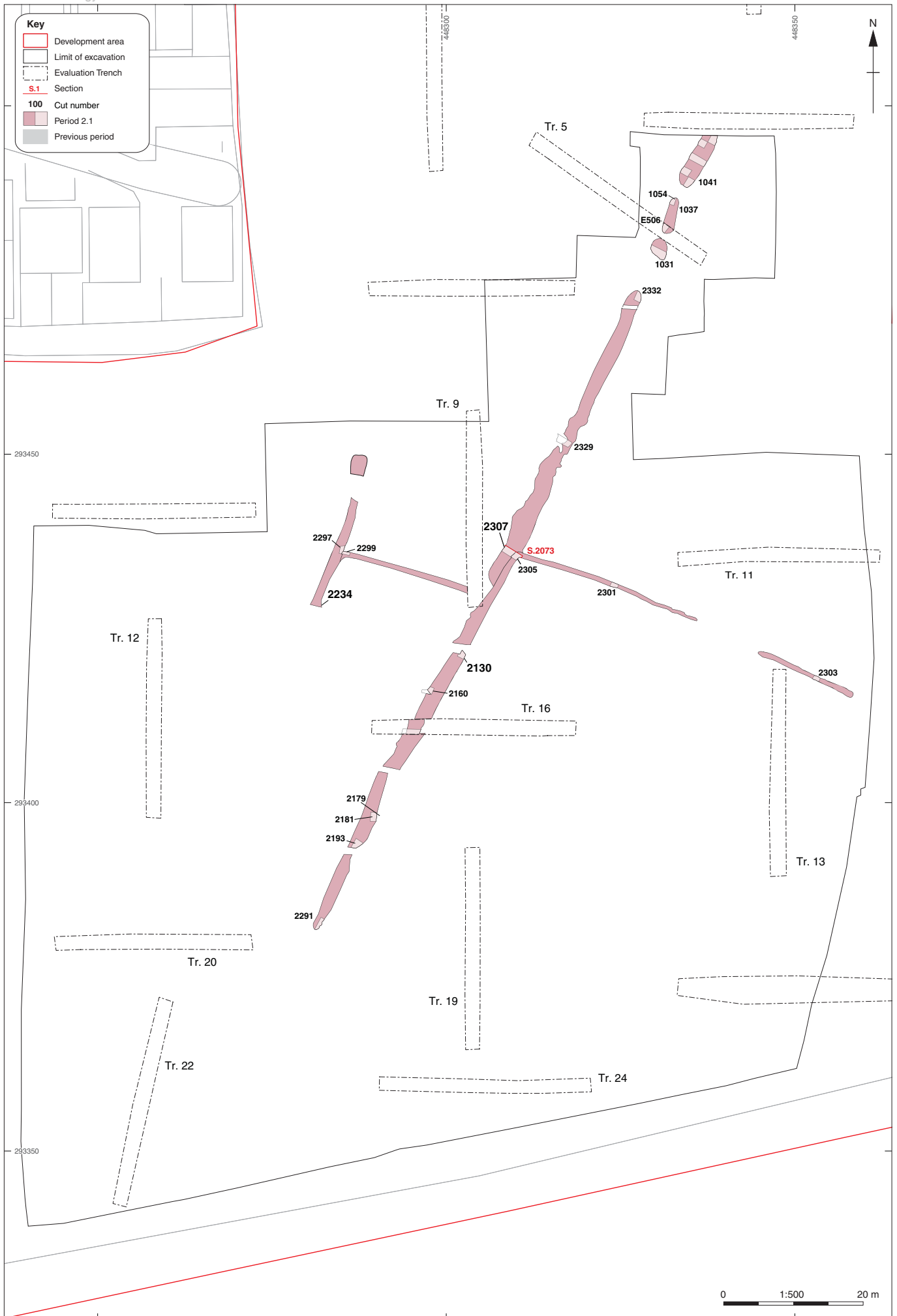


Figure 10: Period 2.1 phase plan, Area C

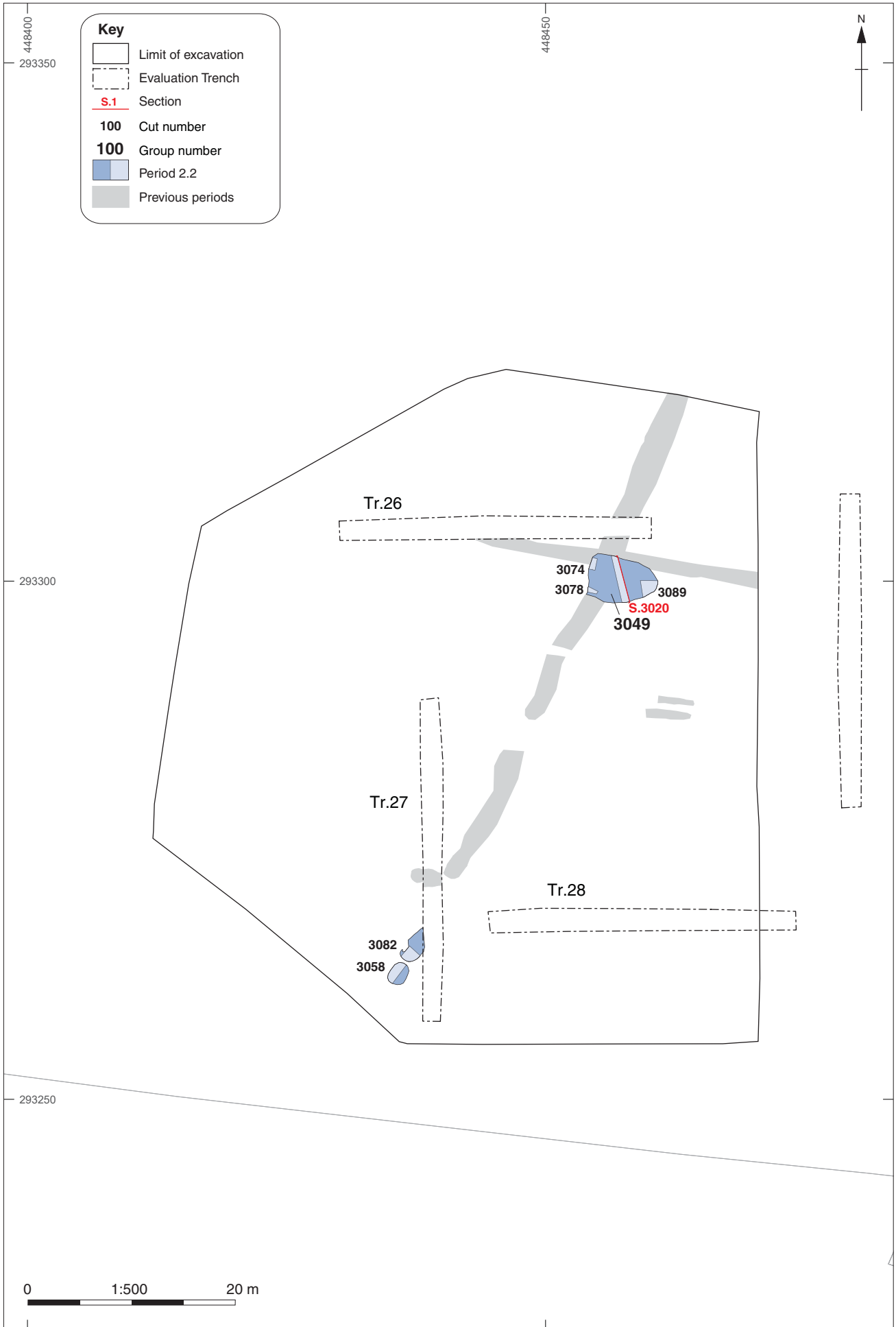


Figure 11: Period 2.2 phase plan, Area B

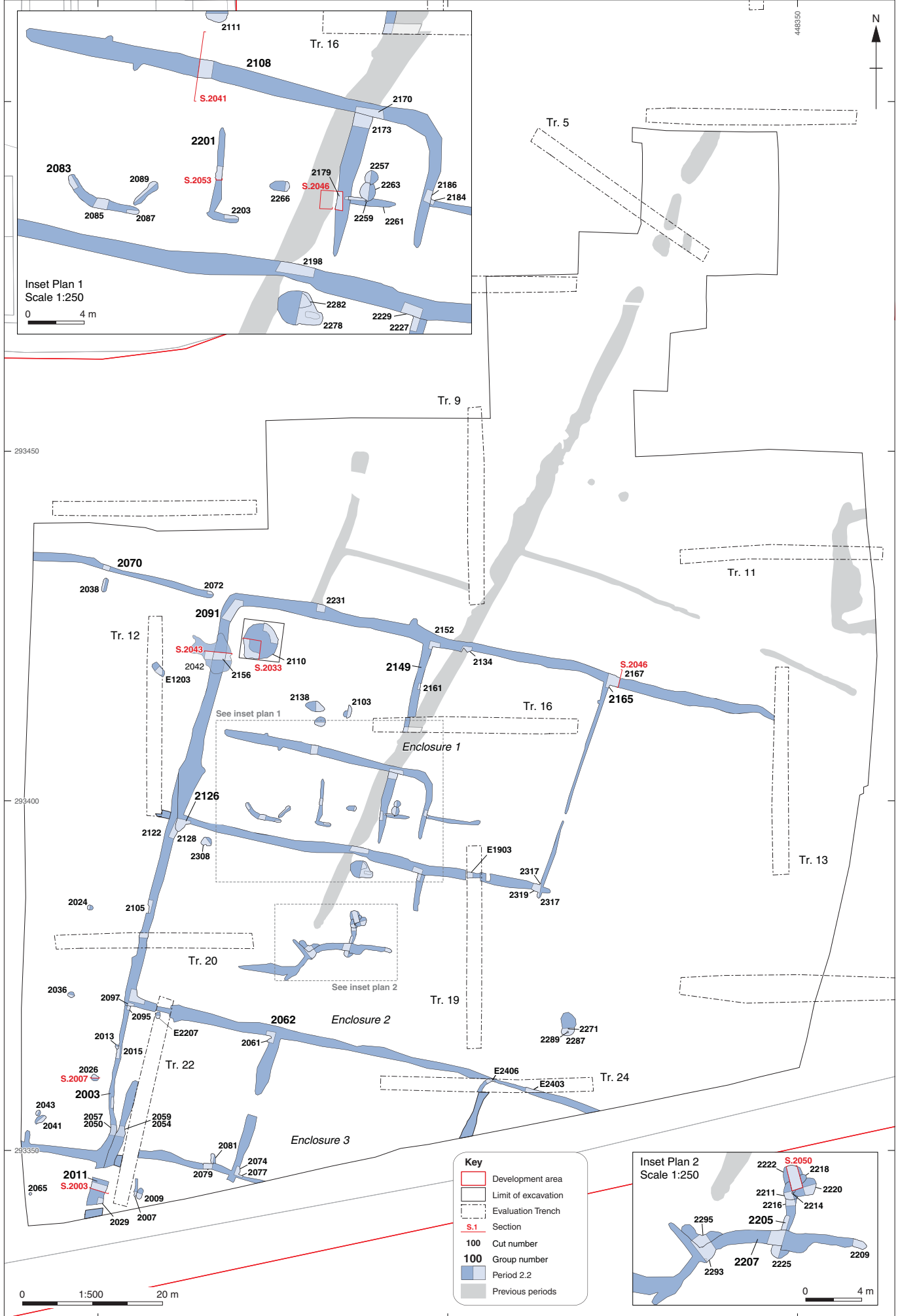


Figure 12: Period 2.2 phase plan, Area C



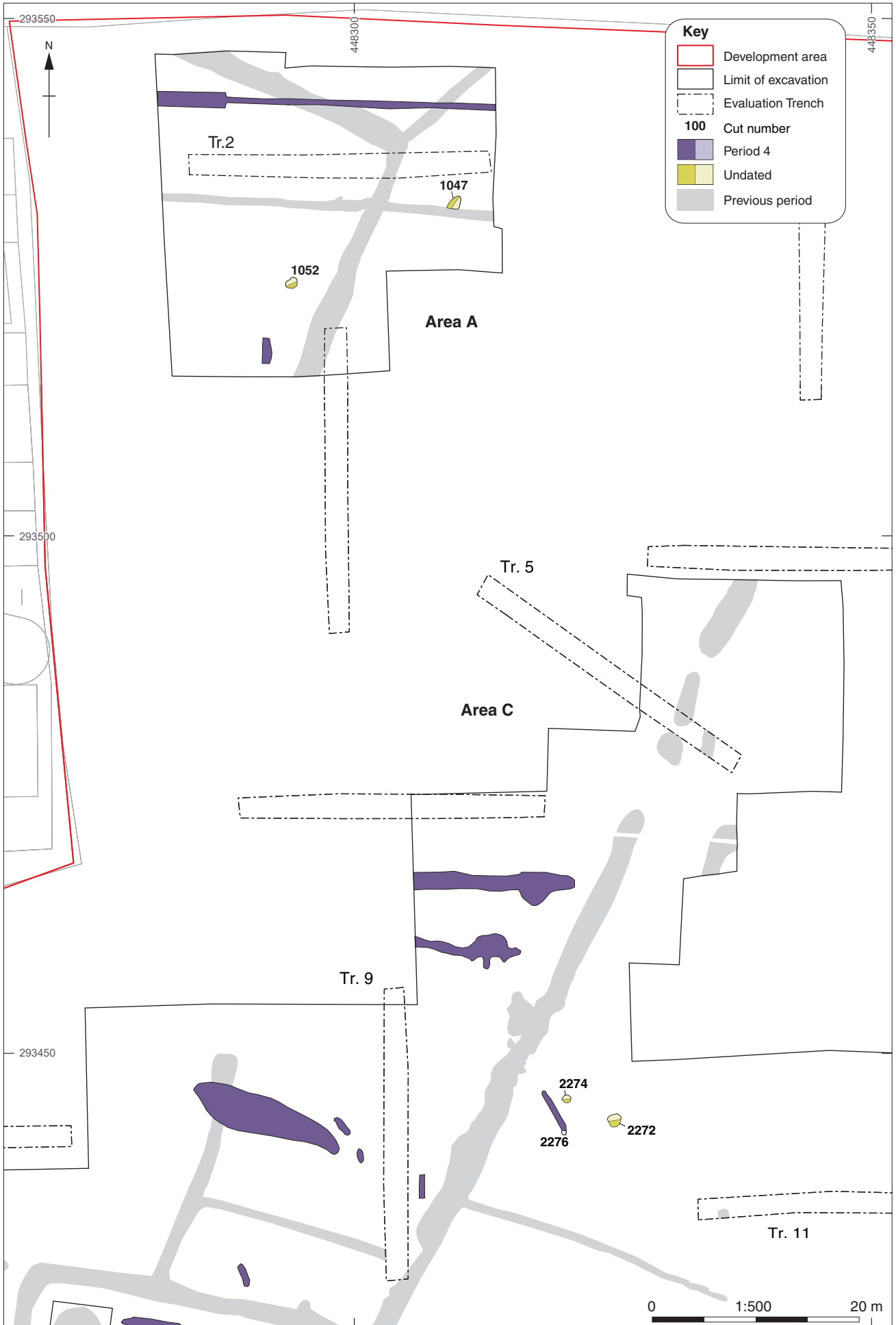


Figure 13: Period 4 phase plan, Area A (also showing undated features)

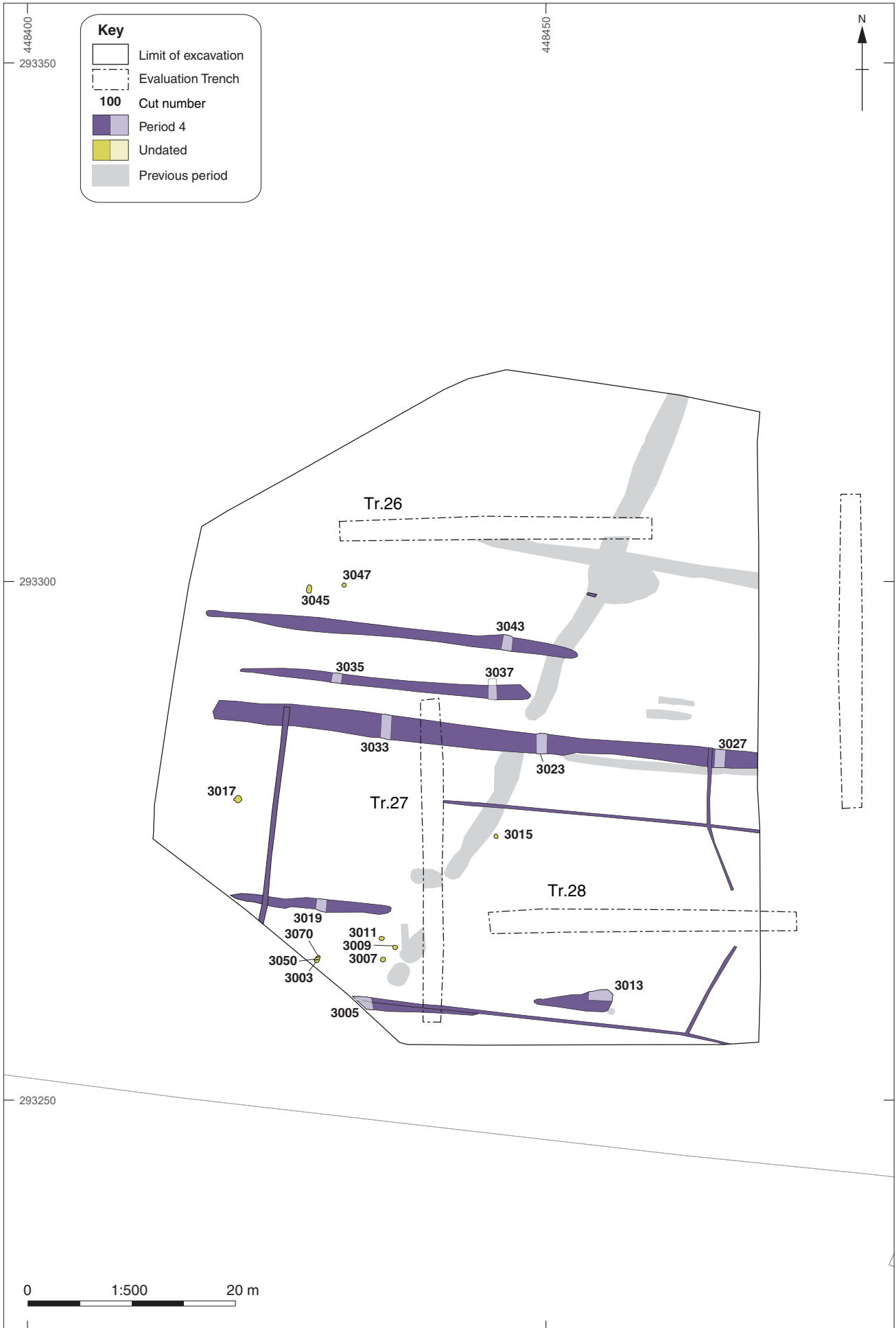


Figure 14: Period 4 phase plan, Area B (also showing undated features)



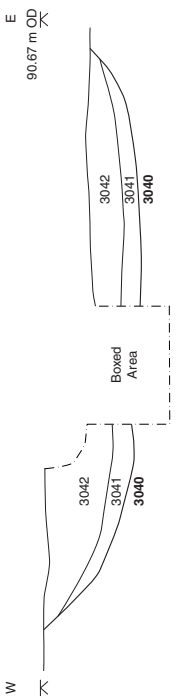
Figure 15: Periods 3 and 4 phase plan, Area C (also showing undated features)

**Key**

- Limit of Excavation
- Top surface
- - - - - Cut / conjectured
- Deposit Horizon
- Cut Number
- 117 Deposit Number
- 116 Deposit Number
- Pottery
- Bone
- Wood
- 32.26 m OD Level

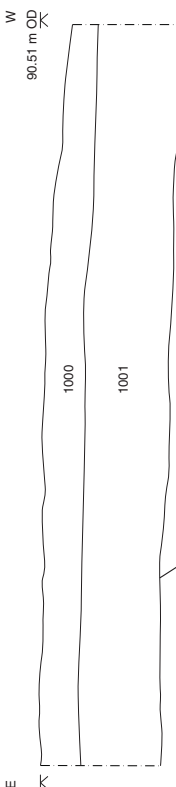
**Phase 1**

**Section 3016 Area B**



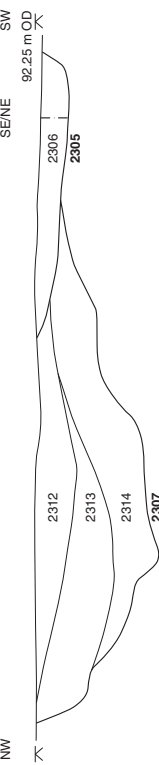
**Phase 2.1**

**Section 1002 Area A**



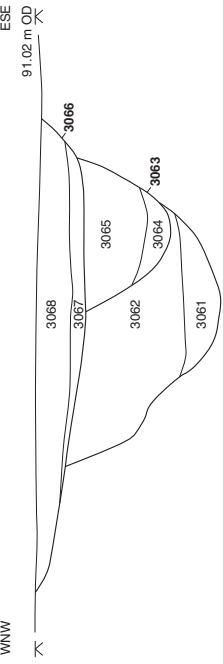
**Phase 2.1**

**Section 2073 Area C**



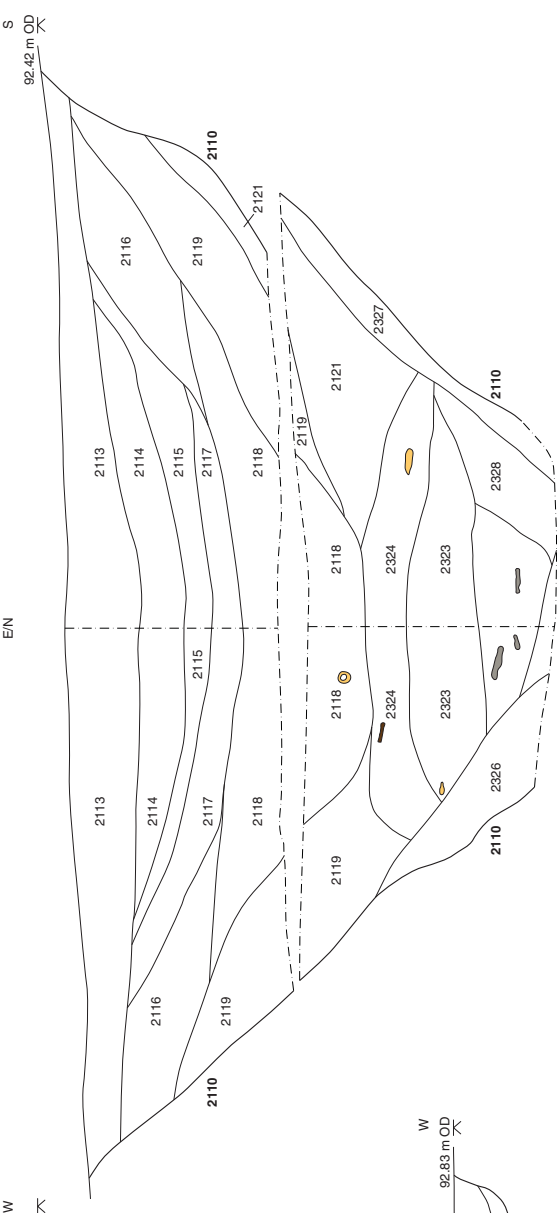
**Phase 2.1**

**Section 3022 Area B**



**Phase 2.2**

**Section 2033 Area C**



**Phase 2.2**

**Section 2007 Area C**

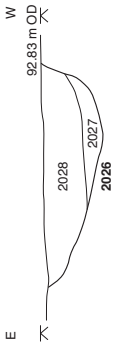
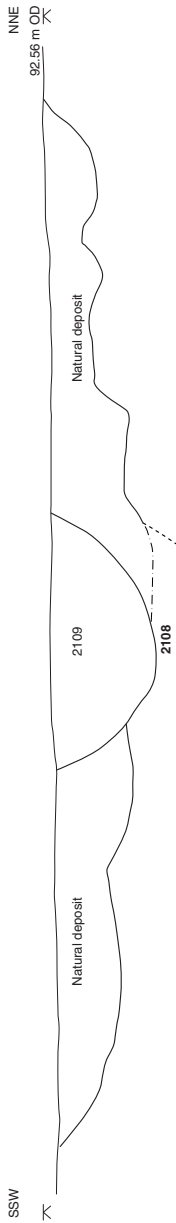


Figure 16: Selected section (sheet 1 of 2)

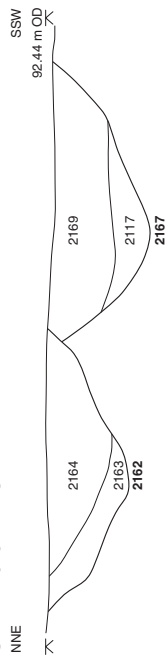
**Phase 2.2**

**Section 2041 Area C**



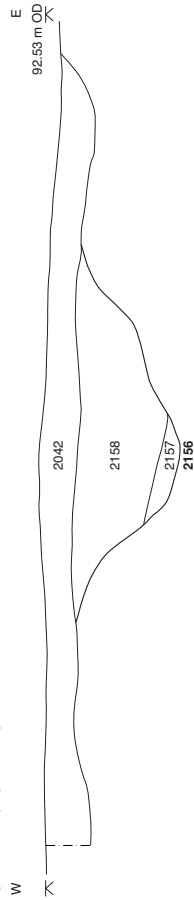
**Phase 2.2**

**Section 2046 Area C**



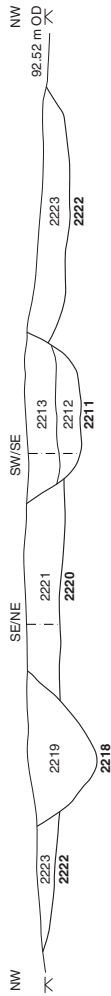
**Phase 2.2**

**Section 2043 Area C**



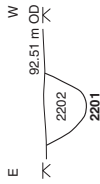
**Phase 2.2**

**Section 2050 Area C**



**Phase 2.2**

**Section 2053 Area C**



**Section 3020 Area B**

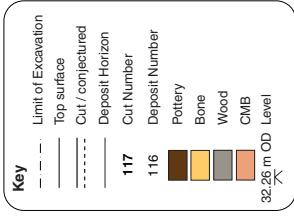
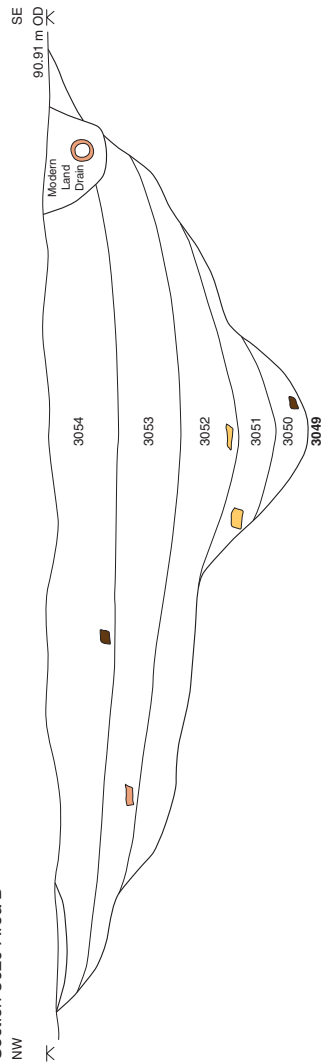


Figure 17: Selected sections (sheet 2 of 2)



Figure 18: Distribution of closely dated Roman pottery, Area C

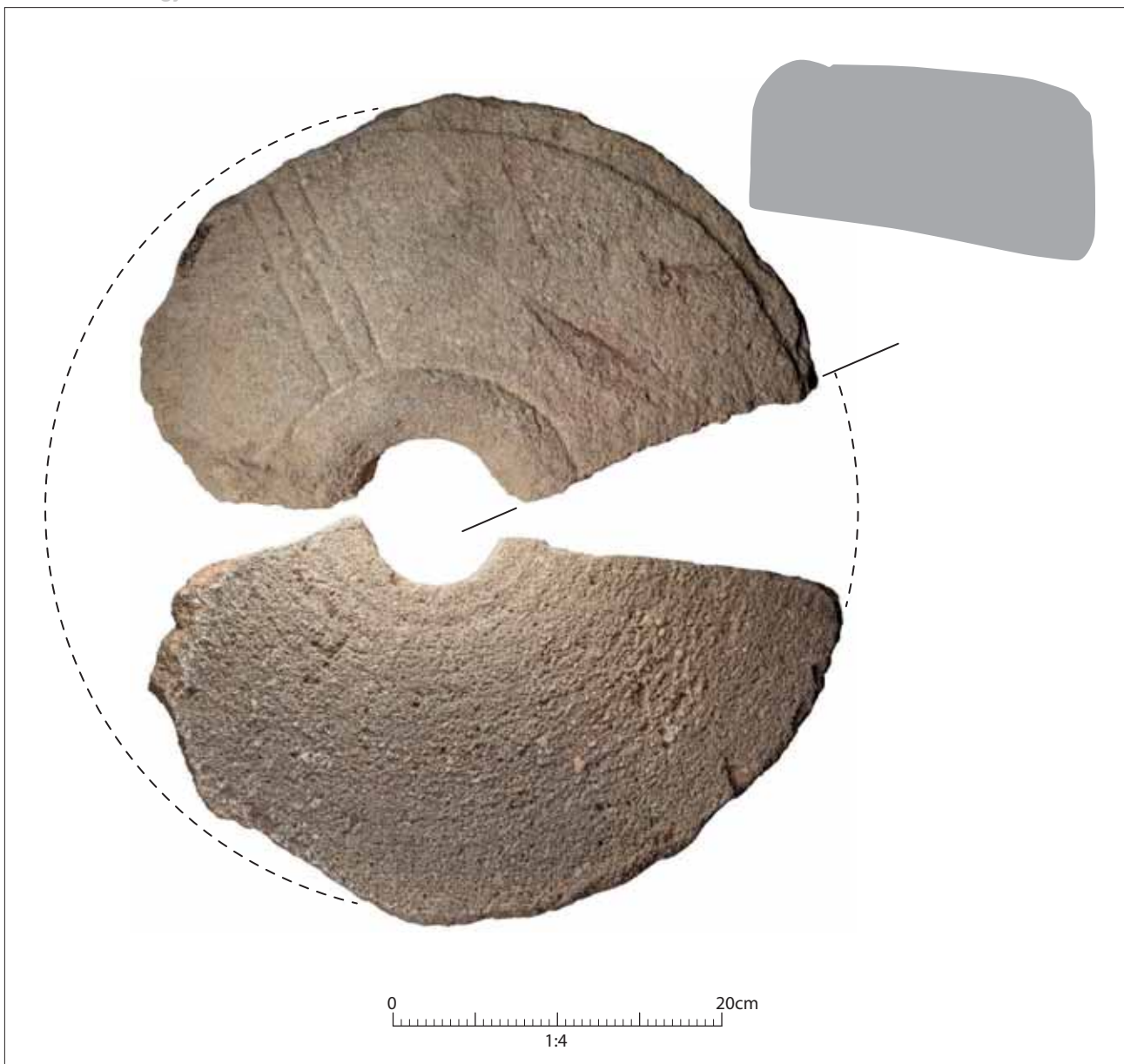


Figure 19: Quern stone



Plate 1: South facing section (S. 3016) of Period 1 pit **3040**, Area B. 1m scale



Plate 2: North facing section (S. 1002) of Period 2.1 ditch **1021**. 2m scale





Plate 3: Southwest facing section (S. 2073) of Period 2.1 ditches **2305** and **2307**, Area C. 2m scale



Plate 4: South facing section (S. 2043) of Period 2.2 ditch **2091**, Area C. 2m scale



Plate 5: Period 2.2 gully **2201**, looking north, Area C. 0.5m scale



Plate 6: Period 2.2 pit **2110** under excavation, looking northeast, Area C



Plate 7: South facing section (S. 2033) of upper part of Period 2.2 pit 2110, Area C. 2m scale



Plate 8: Period 2.2 pit 2110, Area C, looking north following mechanical excavation of the upper part of the feature. 1m scale



Plate 9: South facing section (S. 2033) of lower part of Period 2.2 pit **2110**, Area C. 2m scale



Plate 10: Period 2.2 pit cluster (**2222**, **2211**, **2220**, **2214**; S. 2050), Area C, looking west



Plate 11: Period 2.2 pit 2271, Area C, under excavation, looking north



Plate 12: Period 2.2 pit 2271, Area C, with posthole 2287 exposed in base of feature, looking north



Plate 13: Northeast facing section (S. 2003) of ditch 2011, Area C. 1m scale



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