

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
EXCAVATION
AT
ABBAY ROAD, EVESHAM,
WORCESTERSHIRE

Andrew Mann

With contributions by Alan Clapham, Angus Crawford, Jane Evans, Robin Jackson,
Fiona Roe and Sylvia Warman

Illustrations by Carolyn Hunt, Sarah Phear and Laura Templeton

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Historic Environment and Archaeology Service,
Worcestershire County Council,
Woodbury,
University of Worcester,
Henwick Grove,
Worcester WR2 6AJ

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Archaeological excavation at Abbey Road, Evesham, Worcestershire.

Andrew Mann

With contributions by Alan Clapham, Angus Crawford, C Jane Evans, Robin Jackson, Fiona Roe and Sylvia Warman.

Part 1 Project summary

An archaeological excavation was undertaken at land off Abbey Road, Evesham, Worcestershire (NGR: 403241, 243362). It was undertaken on behalf of CgMs Consulting, under the instruction of Wychavon District Council, who intend to construct a leisure centre on the site. A desk-based assessment was carried out (CgMs 2007b) which highlighted the potential for the survival of archaeological deposits on the site and, following submission of a planning application (reference W/07/0611), topsoil strip and record programme of works was produced by CgMs Ltd and approved by Mike Glyde, planning archaeologist for Worcestershire County Council. Initial works were carried out in accordance with the Specification, however when significant and frequent archaeological remains were uncovered, further consultation between agent and curator resulted in the adoption of an excavation strategy.

The excavation uncovered the partial remains of a Late Bronze Age settlement consisting of a small roundhouse and numerous grain storage pits that had been reused as rubbish pits for domestic refuse. Although not fully exposed, it is thought that the settlement was unenclosed with no surrounding enclosure ditch. The central roundhouse consisted of ten postholes forming the central support to a building approximately 8.00m in diameter. The roundhouse was aligned to the west overlooking the River Avon that surrounds the site on the east, west and south. As with other examples excavated across Britain, this structure was dismantled, probably after the inhabitant's death, rather than being allowed to disintegrate. An earlier rectangular structure, consisting of five small postholes interpreted as a temporary grain storage structure.

The environmental remains from the site indicate that the settlement was producing cereal crops that would have been stored within the numerous barrel-shaped storage pits excavated and was processing cereal crops on a relatively large scale. The animal bone assemblage also implies that livestock, including sheep, pigs and cattle was not reared at this site but imported. It is likely that the inhabitants traded surplus cereal remains for adult animals from other local settlements. The frequent numbers of quern fragments recovered also support the suggestion that the inhabitants were heavily engaged in the production and consumption of cereals.

The local trade routes implied through the environmental remains, have also been shown to exist within a wider, more extensive trade network. The pottery and the quern stone fragments have shown that this settlement was located within a trade network that extended to Martley (Worcestershire), the Woolhope and May Hill areas of Herefordshire and the Forest of Dean (Gloucestershire). Trade networks would have certainly exploited the River Avon.

It is thought that the excavation area only exposed a proportion of a larger settlement. As with other local and national Late Bronze Age examples, the settlement is thought to have been short lived and remained unenclosed until its abandonment.

Part 2 Detailed report

1. Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological excavation was undertaken on land at Abbey Road (NGR 403241, 243362), Evesham, Worcestershire (Figure 1) on behalf of CgMs Consulting, under the instruction of Wychavon District Council (The Client). The latter intends to construct a new leisure centre and a planning application for the development (reference W/07/0611) was submitted. Following a desk based assessment (CgMs 2007) in which a potential for the preservation of archaeological remains was identified, a specification for an archaeological topsoil strip and record programme of works was produced by CgMs Consulting as mitigation against the impact of development and approved by Mike Glyde, planning archaeologist for Worcestershire County Council. Initial works were carried out in accordance with the Specification, however when significant and frequent archaeological remains were uncovered, further consultation between CgMs and curator resulted in the excavation strategy outlined in Section 2.2 below.

1.2 Project parameters

The project conforms to the *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* (IFA 1999a) and *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (IFA 1999b). The project also conforms to a specification prepared by CgMs (CgMs 2007a) for which a project proposal was produced (HEAS 2007).

1.3 Aims

The aims of the excavation were to locate archaeological deposits and determine, if present, their extent, state of preservation, date, type, vulnerability and documentation. The purpose of this was to establish their significance, since this would make it possible to recommend an appropriate mitigation, which may then be integrated with the proposed development programme.

2. Methods

2.1 Documentary search

Prior to fieldwork commencing a search was made of the Historic Environment Record (HER). A desk-based assessment of the development area, which included an archaeological appraisal (CgMs 2007b), was also consulted.

2.2 Fieldwork methodology

2.2.1 Fieldwork strategy

A detailed specification has been prepared by the Service (HEAS 2007). Fieldwork was undertaken between 13/8/07 and date 4/10/07. The site reference number and site code is WSM 37561.

An area amounting to just over 3020m² in size was stripped using a mechanical 360° excavator, over the site area of 2.6ha, representing a sample of 11.6%. The location of the excavation area is indicated in Figure 1.

Deposits considered not to be significant were removed using a 360° tracked excavator, employing a toothless bucket and under archaeological supervision. Subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand. Clean surfaces were inspected and selected deposits were excavated to retrieve artefactual material and environmental samples, as well as to determine their nature. Deposits were recorded according to standard Service practice (CAS 1995). On completion of the excavation, deep archaeological features were partially backfilled by replacing the excavated material. The majority of the site remained exposed prior to development.

2.2.2 **Structural analysis**

All fieldwork records were checked and cross-referenced. Analysis was effected through a combination of structural, artefactual and ecofactual evidence, allied to the information derived from other sources.

2.3 **Artefact methodology, by C Jane Evans and Angus Crawford**

2.3.1 **Artefact recovery policy**

The artefact recovery policy conformed to standard Service practice (CAS 1995; appendix 2). This in principal determines that all finds, of whatever date, must be collected. A small quantity of material was also recovered from environmental samples.

2.3.2 **Method of analysis**

All hand retrieved finds and those from environmental samples were examined. They were identified, quantified and dated to period. A *terminus post quem* was produced for each stratified context. This was used for determining the broad date of site phases. All finds data were recorded on a standard WHEAS post excavation database, in Microsoft Access. The pottery and ceramic building material were examined under x20 magnification. Detailed methodologies for specific classes of material are included in Section 4.2 below.

2.4 **Flint artefact methodology, by Robin Jackson**

2.4.1 **Methodology**

All flint was examined and recorded following standard Service practice (CAS 1995 as amended) and using a Microsoft Access database. Terminology used broadly follows that provided in Inizan *et al* (1992). Both hand-collected material and that recovered from environmental residues was examined. Unworked material was discarded.

The quantity of flint present was too small to warrant metrical analysis, and consequently only broad observations about the composition and character of the assemblage are presented.

2.5 **Environmental archaeology methodology, by Alan Clapham**

2.5.1 **Sampling policy**

The environmental sampling strategy conformed to standard Service practice (CAS 1995, appendix 4). Large animal bone was hand-collected during excavation. Samples of between 2 and 70 litres were taken from 88 contexts, from pits and linear features that were of either Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age, or Medieval date.

2.5.2 **Method of analysis**

The samples were processed by flotation using a Siraf tank. The flot was collected on a 300µm sieve and the residue retained on a 1mm mesh. This allows for the recovery of items such as small animal bones, molluscs and seeds.

The residues were fully sorted by eye and the abundance of each category of environmental remains estimated. The flots were scanned using a low power EMT stereo light microscope and plant remains identified using modern reference collections maintained by the Service, and seed identification manual (Cappers *et al* 2006). Nomenclature for the plant remains follows the *New Flora of the British Isles*, 2nd edition (Stace 1997).

A magnet was also used to test for the presence of hammerscale.

2.6 **Animal bone analysis methodology, by Sylvia Warman**

2.6.1 **Introduction**

All of the material examined was hand-collected during the excavation or retrieved from environmental samples. The deposits which produced animal bones were largely pits and postholes of Late Bronze Age possibly Early Iron Age date, with some Roman deposits and a single medieval ditch deposit.

2.6.2 **Methodology**

The assemblage had not been previously assessed and given that prehistoric evidence from Evesham is still limited the entire assemblage was included in the analysis not just those bones identifiable to species and element. For each specimen the following details were recorded wherever possible; element, species, side, age, sex, weight and parts present. The parts present were recorded using Dobney and Rielly's zonation system (Dobney and Reilly 1988). The age of specimens was estimated in two ways, the state of fusion of the ends of the long bones (epiphyseal fusion) and the state of eruption and wear of the mandibular teeth. Fusion follows Silver (1969), whilst mandibular tooth wear follows Grant (1982). Bone specimens were also examined for pathology, burning, butchery, bone working and weathering. The latter was recorded following Behrensmeyer's scoring system (1978).

2.6.3 **Condition of the assemblage**

It was apparent that much of the damage to the bones was recent rather than ancient with almost every specimen having a lighter coloured area reflecting modern breakage. During the handling of the larger bones such as limbs from cattle and horse, it was noticeable that the bones felt light for their size. This coupled with a sandy sub-soil, is likely to be the reason for the elevated levels of modern breakage.

The level of fragmentation within the assemblage meant that it was very difficult to find repeated examples of the same part of the same element from any particular species, which undermines the application of minimum number of individuals (MNI) calculations. Instead a different measure of the number of identified specimens (NISP) has been used.

2.7 **The methods in retrospect**

The methods adopted allow a high degree of confidence that the aims of the project have been achieved

3. **Topographical and archaeological context**

The site lies approximately 300m from the southern extent of Evesham town centre (NGR 403241, 243362) within a meander of the River Avon that bounds the historic town. The River Avon is located approximately 250m to east, south and west of the site that lies on the second Avon gravel terrace at approximately 27.0m AOD. The terrace slopes southwards to Corporation Meadow at approximately 24.7m AOD that flanks the River Avon. The site lies within agricultural land that bounds the site on the north and west and is adjacent to a former abattoir and vehicle depot on the south and east respectively. The land at the adjacent industrial properties had previously been landscaped and levelled, reducing the chances that archaeological remains survive in other areas of the development site.

The soils surrounding the historic area belong to the Bishampton Series of stagnogleyic argillic brown earths (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983 and Beard *et al* 1984). These soils are easily worked, and allow a wide range of crops to be grown (Beard *et al.* 1984). The underlying drift geology consists of gravels of the Second and Third Terraces of the River Avon (Geological Survey of Great Britain 1:50,000 map, sheet 200).

The historic core of Evesham is of medieval origin and evidence of earlier settlement is rare within and surrounding the urban area. Occasional prehistoric flint artefacts have been discovered within Evesham, including Mesolithic material from an evaluation in Bengeworth (WSM 23986). Two other isolated prehistoric finds include a flint knife of Neolithic/ Late Bronze Age date (WSM 21047) and a Neolithic leaf-shaped arrowhead (WSM 21048). Three Late Iron Age coins are listed by Allen (1961) as having also been found in Evesham in 1898 and 1938, but no precise locations are recorded (Edwards and Hurst 2000). Evidence for Iron Age settlement, including enclosure ditches and the remains of a roundhouse structure, was first identified at 95-7 High Street (WSM 26358, WSM 27191 and WSM 28764) (Edwards and Hurst 2000). Recent excavations at Durcot Lodge have also identified Iron Age activity, again including enclosure ditches and the drip gully of a roundhouse (Wainwright pers comm, WSM 30785).

Roman activity is also under-represented within Evesham and the small quantities of Roman artefacts previously discovered have made it impossible to identify the limits or nature of the Roman activity. Recently an evaluation and subsequent excavation at 13 Vine Street has produced Roman deposits dating to the 2nd and 3rd Centuries (WSM 30354) and excavations at Durcot Lodge have also produced evidence of settlement during the Roman period (Wainwright pers comm, WSM 30785).

No archaeological sites have been identified within or surrounding the site from the early medieval period. This is, however, when the Minster was built (c700AD), and it is therefore likely that settlement surrounding the Minster was focused towards the river crossing towards the north.

The medieval period in Evesham was one of expansion, population growth and economic prosperity and there is considerably more archaeological evidence for this period. Initially this growth was a result of the influence and economic power of the abbey although it subsequently flourished after the dissolution of the abbey in 1540 and continued to be a successful market town through the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries (Cox 1977). The site formed part of the abbey's holdings during the medieval period although no sites of this date have been identified within and surrounding the land and it appears to have remained undeveloped throughout.

4. Results

4.1 Structural analysis

The outline of the excavation area and features excavated are shown in Figure 2. The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1.

4.1.1 Phase 1 Natural deposits

Natural deposits were exposed across the entire site as mid-dark orangey brown fine sands and gravels (context 102). These were located at a depth of approximately 0.45-0.70m below the ground surface.

4.1.2 Phase 2 Late Bronze Age deposits

Bronze age activity was dominant at this site and was represented by part of an unbounded settlement containing a roundhouse, storage pits and rubbish pits. This activity was not enclosed using ditches or posts, rather an alignment of pits appeared to be defining the site and acting as the limit to the settlement along its southern edge. This arrangement is similar to a local crop mark of probable Iron Age date to the north at Fladbury, WSM 02754 (SM 288).

This boundary contained 16 pits running from the southeast to the northwest curving to the north. Three of these pits, 120, 191 and 206, were truncated by a later ditch, context group 399, that may have destroyed other pits in this alignment. No other contemporary archaeological remains were identified to the south of this pit alignment, suggesting that this may have formed the southern limits of the occupation area. This group of features appeared to contain a mixture of storage pits and much shallower rubbish pits. Of the 16 pits in this alignment, six (205, 200, 137, 133, 191 and 206) had the classic prehistoric storage pit, or barrel-shaped profile, being circular in plan with vertical sides and flat bases between 0.50m-0.73m deep (Plate 1). A further three (193, 135 and 197) have very similar profiles but were much shallower, between 0.19-0.35m deep. The final seven pits within this alignment were much shallower, averaging 31.8m deep and generally had shallower concave sides and bases. All the pits in this alignment contained varying amounts of domestic debris including fire cracked stone, animal bone, pottery and charcoal. This suggests that after the storage pits were no longer being used, they were filled with domestic rubbish.

Within the centre of the site the truncated postholes of a roundhouse were identified; context group 400 (Figure 3, Plate 2). On the western edge of the central post circle, two postholes, contexts 215 and 219, were set out from the central ring by 1.75 and 2.0m respectively. These formed a porch 1.50m wide, aligned to the west. The central circle was constructed of 12 posts with an internal diameter of between 5.45-5.75m. The postholes ranged in size from between 0.22-0.62m in diameter and between 0.10-0.34m deep. Only a single post pipe was seen within the section of posthole 240. A further 16 posts were found within main ring of posts, these are thought to have acted as central supports for the roof, internal partitioning or as repairs to the structure. It is likely that the building would have been repaired often, and some unstable posts replaced, because of the soft nature of the sands and gravels.

Within most of the postholes excavated there was a greenish/grey, firm silty clay deposit, which is thought to have been the remains of packing material. This may have originally been a laminated silty mudstone that had degraded, as larger fragments of this stone were found in two other features. The packing material appears to have been disturbed and does not form around a post pipe, suggesting that most posts had been removed prior to decomposition, implying that that the roundhouse had been purposefully dismantled.

No drip gully or outer ring of postholes were identified surrounding the posthole circle. However it is thought that the roundhouse perimeter extended to the outer edge of the porch,

by postholes 215 and 219. This would make the internal diameter of the roundhouse 7.75m. The outer wall of the roundhouse would then have crossed pits 170 and 178, although it is not possible to establish whether these features pre- or post-date the roundhouse. A further seven pits, 223, 184, 225, 151 158, 162, 164, appear to be within the internal area of the roundhouse and may be contemporary with the structure. This implies that the space between the central post circle and the outer wall of the building was used for storage or specialised activities, as with other excavated examples.

A further five small postholes, 149, 160, 166, 169 and 322 (Context Group 401), averaging 0.26m deep, were located on the immediate east of the roundhouse (Figure 3). This posthole group formed a rectangular structure measuring 2.80m long and 2.50m wide, aligned NE-SW. Four of these postholes (149, 160, 166 and 322) were truncated by small, shallow pits containing domestic material including pottery, fire cracked stone (pot boilers) and charcoal. The final posthole within this group was sealed by a compact occupation layer (167). As some of these shallow pits are thought to have been within the roundhouse, it suggests the latter post-dates this rectangular structure. It also implies there was a change of use for this area of the site, possibly from storage to habitation.

Immediately around the southern edge of the roundhouse were three pits (170, 145 and 322), of which the latter two were thought to have been specifically dug as rubbish pits. The largest of these, circular pit 170 to the north east of post circle, was the largest pit on site, measuring 2.44m in diameter and 0.58m deep (Figure 4, Plate 3). This is also thought to be a large rubbish pit, although it may have originally been a gravel quarry pit. It again contained domestic debris including a dump of fire cracked stone, tipped in from the north-eastern edge. Numerous quern stone fragments and pottery sherds were also found in its upper fill.

Between the southern edge of the roundhouse and the southern pit alignment there was a group of 14 pits. Six of these, pits 178 180, 188, 201, 312 and 373, had the classic barrel-shaped profile of prehistoric grain storage pits, with a sub-circular shape in plan and near vertical sides and flat bases. The depth of these features, between 0.39m-0.88m, also implies they were grain storage features (Plate 4). The primary fill of pit 373, a dark-brown compact silty clay up to 0.10m thick, may have been the remains of a clay lining to this feature. The remaining pits are likely to have been dug as rubbish pits or were shallow/truncated storage features. Four of the pits in this group (312, 188, 201 and 373) contained fills that had green hues, similar to cesspit deposits, suggesting that highly organic waste had been dumped into these features after their initial use.

Towards the east and northeast of the roundhouse there were a number of small shallow sub-circular and oval pits. These are of an unknown function although the majority were not typical of storage features, unlike the bulk of the others pits to the south of the roundhouse. Most contained little domestic material except for occasional fire cracked stone and small charcoal flecks, although pit 293 contained a large dump of animal bone, fire cracked stone and charcoal. Only one of these features (pit 304) was of any significant depth (0.56m) and is the only feature in this area that is thought to be a storage pit. The majority were shallow features with uneven, concave sides that only averaged 0.22m deep (excluding 304), suggesting none of these features had originally acted as a storage pits.

Only one linear is thought to be of Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age origin (355 /Context Group 398). Both sections of this ditch run for 13.70m into the northern baulk of the excavation area, on a SW to NE alignment, separated by a 3.30m wide entrance. The profiles of the two segments are very similar with gently sloping concave sides sharply breaking to a flat base between 0.48m-0.80m wide and 0.07m-0.19m deep. The southern length of ditch 398 also terminates after 14.10m by the entrance to the roundhouse (400), although it is not possible to establish whether it was contemporary with this building.

4.1.3 **Phase 3 Roman deposits**

Only one feature is thought to have been open during the Roman period, the wide boundary ditch 399 (Figure 4, Plate 5). This was the largest feature on site and ran on a N-S alignment for 54.80m truncating the southern Late Bronze Age pit alignment. The linear had a sharp break from the surface to moderately angled concave sides, gradually breaking to a slightly concave base, and was between 2.60m-3.80m wide and 0.68m-1.00m deep. The fills of this feature were, orangey brown silty sands and gravels that were very similar to the surrounding natural deposits. This similarity and the lack of domestic material within the fills, suggest it was not open for a great length of time and appears to have in-filled or been backfilled rapidly. There was no evidence for the periodic cleaning and re-cutting of this ditch. The upper fill of this feature contained small amounts of Roman pottery, although it is possible this reflects its continued use from the Iron Age.

4.1.4 **Phase 4 medieval deposits**

Only a single feature, ditch 397 is securely dated to the medieval period (Figure 5). This ditch runs in a north-south direction for 35.0m across the middle of the site. The profile was uniform and consisted of a slightly concave V-shaped profile, between 0.56-0.83m wide and 0.35-0.46m deep. As no other medieval features or artefactual remains were discovered in the topsoil it is probable this feature was not associated with settlement and is probably a field boundary.

4.1.5 **Phase 5 Undated deposits**

Only a single feature cannot be confidently assigned to a phase; linear 392 and re-cut 389 (Figure 5, Plate 6). Running for 32.3m in a north-south direction parallel to the eastern baulk of the excavation area, ditch 392 had a V-shaped profile with steep slightly stepped sides breaking to a narrow concave base and was 2.60m wide and 1.35m deep. The second fill of this ditch was recut by linear 389, with steep concave sides gradually breaking to a concave base, and was 0.74m wide and 0.40m deep.

4.2 **Artefact analysis, by Angus Crawford, C Jane Evans, Robin Jackson and Fiona Roe**

The artefactual assemblage recovered is summarised in Tables 1-9 (Appendix 2).

4.2.1 **Prehistoric and Roman Pottery by C Jane Evans**

4.2.2 **Introduction**

A total of 157 sherds of prehistoric pottery (889g) and 7 sherds of Romano-British pottery (31g) was recovered, all from stratified deposits (Table 1). The majority of the pottery came from 27 pits, though none of these produced significant quantities. The largest groups came from pit cuts 153 (27 sherds, 112g), 170 (17 sherds, 228g) and 191 (17 sherds, 34g). A total of 17 pits produced five sherds or less of prehistoric pottery. This can be contrasted with the findings at Huntsman's Quarry, Kemerton, where a series of pits and waterholes produced 100 sherds or more (Woodward and Jackson 2005). The remaining groups of prehistoric pottery came from postholes 215, 259 and 277 and ditch 372, although the pottery from the latter is thought to have originated from truncated pits 191 and 206. Roman pottery was recovered from pit 132, fill 131 (1 sherd, 3g) and ditch 386, fill 381 (2 sherds, 10g). The only datable piece was a body sherd in Oxfordshire red colour coated ware from the post-medieval pit 132, broadly datable to c 240-400 AD, although this is likely to be residual from the linear below (Context Group 399). A Roman pottery sherd was also recovered from pit 126, fill 125 (1 sherd, 4g), although this is also likely to be intrusive from linear 399 (Context Group 399).

4.2.3 Methodology

The pottery was recorded according to the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group guidelines (PCRG 1995). Fabrics were identified with reference to the Worcestershire county fabric reference series, maintained by the service and accessible on line (Hurst 1994; <http://www.worcestershireceramics.org>). Particular reference was made to the major assemblages from Huntsman's Quarry, Kemerton (Woodward and Jackson 2005) and Beckford (Evans *et al* forthcoming). Forms were recorded using the coding system devised for analysis of the Huntsman's Quarry assemblage. Surface treatment (finger wiping, smoothing) and evidence for use (sooting, burnt residues) were recorded, where evident. The pottery was quantified by sherd count and weight. Given the significance of the assemblage, all diagnostic sherds are illustrated. Data was analysed using Microsoft Access 2000; tables and graphs were produced using Microsoft Excel 2000.

Sixteen fabric types were identified (Table 2). The majority, 88% by weight, were local fabrics characteristic of this area (Figure 6, fabrics 4.4 to 16/16.2). Most common was the fossil shell fabric (4.9). Based on the evidence from Huntsman's Quarry (Woodward and Jackson 2005, 49) and Beckford (Evans *et al.* forthcoming), this local fabric dominates assemblages in this area of Worcestershire from the Middle Bronze Age through to the beginning of the Middle Iron Age. The other more common fabrics were variants of this, with fossil shell and additional inclusions of sand (fabric 4.4), oolitic limestone (fabric 4.5) and grog (fabric 4.7). The other locally produced fabrics contained varying combinations of oolitic limestone, sand, and ironstone. All of these fabrics are paralleled in the Bronze Age assemblage from Aston Mill, Kemerton (Dinn and Evans 1990).

The assemblage also provides evidence for wider trade contacts (Figure 6, shaded fabrics). Mudstone tempered ware (fabric 9), produced in the Martley area of Worcestershire, is traditionally dated from the 5th century BC to the mid 1st century AD (Morris 1982). This was found in a number of pits, associated with local fabrics, (pit cuts 153, 158, 180, 304) and one posthole (215). Two of these features are associated with the roundhouse (pit 158 and posthole 215) and two are more likely late Bronze Age features (pit 180 and 304), providing evidence for the earlier use and distribution of this fabric. Small quantities of Palaeozoic limestone tempered fabric 4.1 (Peacock 1968, fabric B1) were also present, along with small quantities of another angular fossilised shelly limestone fabric (4.8). Fabric 4.1 is thought to be from the Woolhope area of Herefordshire. This has traditionally been dated from the 5th century BC to the Early Roman period (Morris 1983). Although a sherd from the primary fill of pit 170 that was associated with a diagnostically Late Bronze Age form (Fig.7.7 and 7.8), again hints at the earlier use of this fabric. Fabric 4.8, found within pit 170 is also thought to come from Herefordshire, in the May Hill area and has again been identified in the Bronze Age assemblage at Huntsman's Quarry. No diagnostic forms were present in any of these fabrics.

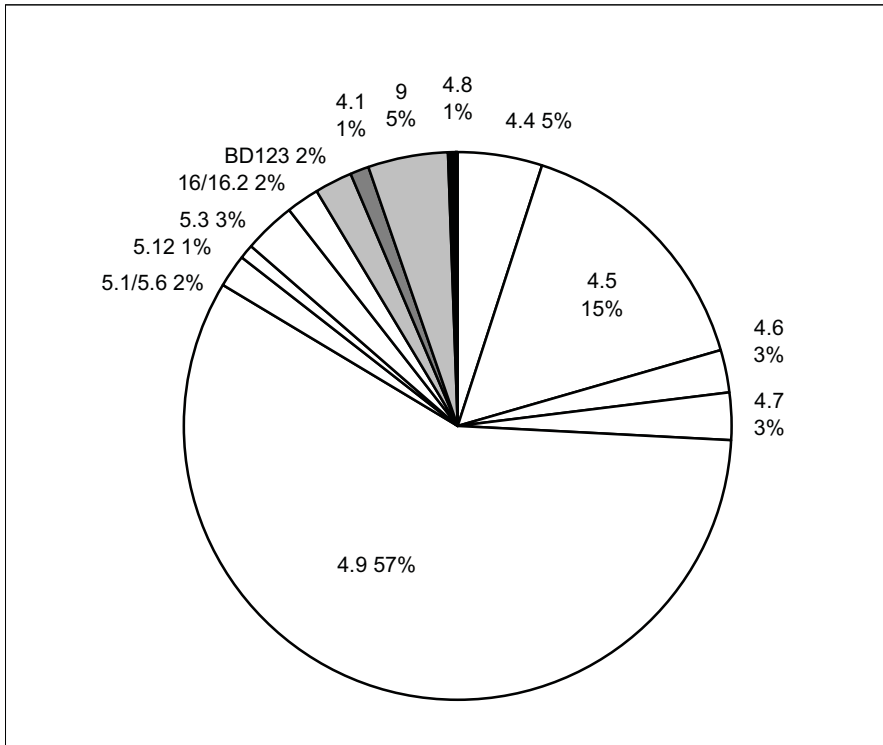


Figure 6: Prehistoric fabrics by source (% weight)

A sherd of briquetage was recovered from pit 293 (fill 295), in a Droitwich fabric. At Beckford, the earliest assemblage of briquetage came from a later Bronze Age enclosure, though the associated pottery was dated to Beckford ceramic phase A, Early-Middle Iron Age. This clay pellet tempered ware (BD123) is thought to be the earliest briquetage fabric of the earliest Iron Age (Derek Hurst pers comm). This fabric has yet to be added to the county fabric series.

Of particular interest was a single, decorated sherd in a distinctive grog tempered ware (Fig 7.1). This very coarse fabric, classified for the purposes of this report as fabric 16.2 (is not currently included in the county series). This sherd, from posthole 259, is probably from a food vessel and is the earliest pottery from the site dating to the Early Bronze Age. Another grog tempered sherd (fabric 16) from pit 253 could be contemporary.

Surface smoothing was noted on 10 sherds; 7 in fabric 4.9, 2 in fabric 5.1 and 1 in fabric 4.4. Wipe marks were noted on 12 sherds, again mainly on fabric 4.9 (9 sherds), with 2 sherds in fabric 4.5 and 1 sherd in fabric 9.

4.2.4 **Form and decoration**

A number of rims was included in the assemblage, but no complete profiles. The forms, illustrated below (Fig.7), all had parallels in the Late Bronze Age assemblage from Huntsman’s Quarry.

Figure JE2: Catalogue of illustrated pottery

- 1 Body sherd, decorated with a row of grain impressions, most likely wheat. From an early Bronze Age food vessel. Fabric 16.2. Post hole 259, fill 260
- 2 Simple vertical rim, Huntsman’s Quarry form R1 (Woodward and Jackson 2005, 50). Fabric 4.9. Pit 188, fill 189

- 3 Flat topped rim with a slight neck, Huntsman's Quarry form R4 (op. cit.). Stabbed decoration on top of rim. Fabric 4.9. Pit 206, fill 207
- 4 Flat topped rim with a very slight neck, Huntsman's Quarry form R4 (op. cit.). Fabric 4.9. Pit 206, fill 207
- 5 Flat topped rim with a slight neck, Huntsman's Quarry form R4 (op. cit.). Fabric 4.9, decorated with thumb and finger nail impressions on the neck. Pit 201, fill 202
- 6 Rim with internal bevel, Huntsman's Quarry form R6 (op. cit.). Fabric 4.9. Pit 133, fill 134
- 7 Hook rim, Huntsman's Quarry form R7 (op. cit.). Fabric 4.5. Pit 170, fill 173
- 8 Everted, simple rim, Huntsman's Quarry form R8 (op. cit.). Fabric 4.9. Pit 170, fill 173
- 9 Simple Base. Fabric 4.9. Pit 191, fill 192
- 10 Body sherd decorated with geometric incised decoration. Fabric 4.9. Pit 104, fill 103

4.2.5 Dating

Evidence for the earliest activity on the site came from a single sherd of Early Bronze Age 'food vessel', that was residual in posthole 259 associated with the roundhouse. The diagnostic forms can be paralleled in the Late Bronze Age assemblage from Huntsman's Quarry, which belonged to the plain ware phase of the Late Bronze Age between the 12th-10th centuries BC. The assemblage from Abbey Road is probably slightly later than this, dating to the decorated phase of the Late Bronze Age, dated to 9th-8th century BC based on parallels at Potterne (Morris 2000). Decorated form R4 (Fig 7.3), is particularly characteristic of this phase (Elaine Morris pers. comm.).

There is a possibility that activity continued into the Early Iron Age. The Early Iron Age is very poorly defined in ceramic assemblages of this region and there may have been a continuity of forms. Some of the fabrics recovered, 4.1 and 9, are traditionally dated to the Iron Age, although some sherds came from earlier features, providing evidence for the earlier use and distribution of this fabric. There were no diagnostic forms in these fabrics, so it is impossible to draw firm conclusions about their date. There is little if any evidence for prehistoric activity later than the Early Middle Iron Age. The ceramic phasing and C14 dates from Beckford showed clearly that the local shelly wares rapidly go out of use after this period, Beckford ceramic phase A (Morris and Marshall forthcoming). Forms and decorative motifs characteristic of classic Middle Iron Age assemblages in this region, Beckford ceramic phases B to D, are also entirely absent.

The potential for absolute dating was assessed. The assemblage included a single sherd with sufficient burnt food residue for C14 analysis. This was of particular interest given the major programmes of C14 analysis undertaken on burnt residues from both Huntsman's Quarry and Beckford, assemblages that in terms of dating sit either side of the Abbey Road assemblage. This potential was discussed with Peter Marshall. Unfortunately, the fact that the residue was on an undiagnostic body sherd rather than a more distinct ceramic type meant that C14 dating could not be recommended.

4.2.6 **Deposition and use**

The overall average sherd weight for the prehistoric assemblage was 6g. This is biased by the presence of a few more substantial sherds in a couple of features (linear cut 372, pits 170, 201 and 293). Most groups, from 22 of the 30 features producing prehistoric pottery, had average sherd weights between 1 and 7g. This is comparable with the data for Huntsman's Quarry (Woodward and Jackson 2005). Some sherds in calcareous fabrics were more vesicular than others, suggesting there was some variation in the localised soil chemistry. This is reflected in the higher level of abrasion also evident in some sherds.

Burnt food residues were noted internally on six body sherds, all in fabric 4.9. External sooting was noted on 5 sherds; 2 in fabric 4.9 and 3 in fabric 4.5. One of the former was a rim in form R4 from pit 201, fill 202 (Fig.7.5). Both are indicative of use in cooking.

4.2.7 **Significance**

The Late Bronze Age date makes this an important regional assemblage, despite its small size. Overviews of the evidence for Late Bronze Age ceramics are presented in the Huntsman's Quarry report (Woodward and Jackson 2005, 61-4) and the Beckford earlier prehistoric discussion (Morris and Woodward forthcoming). This decorated Late Bronze Age phase is not represented in the substantial Huntsman's Quarry assemblage and the major excavations at Beckford produced only three vessels that are assigned to this period of activity.

4.2.8 **Fired clay, by C Jane Evans**

A total of 91 fragments of fired clay was recorded (Table 3). Most were tiny fragments retrieved from environmental samples and none preserved diagnostic features. The majority came from pits with associated Late Bronze Age pottery and are presumably contemporary. No wattle impressions were visible within fired clay remains, although it is assumed these fragments originated from structures such as ovens, kilns or fired damaged buildings.

4.2.9 **Worked flint by Robin Jackson**

A total of 123 worked flints was recorded of which 84 were tiny spalls or chips recovered from environmental residues. A summary of the flint assemblage is provided in Table 4. The spalls were not weighed but the remaining assemblage (39 items) weighed 100g (Table 4).

Raw material was not formally recorded but a number of observations about colour and cortex can be made. A small quantity of higher quality, mid grey flint, which may have been imported, was present and was associated with several fine bladelets. However, overall the assemblage was dominated by gravel derived pebble flint of variable and generally rather low quality. This ranged in colour from very dark grey through grey brown to mottled creamy grey flint. Where present, cortical material was either buff coloured, brownish hued or occasionally iron stained. In some instances the cortical material was highly abraded as is typically the case where such secondary sources have been exploited.

The assemblage was dominated by waste products and only a single tool was recorded, a notched flake executed on a rather squat irregular flake (context 129). A single platform, fine bladelet core (unstratified) was present and had been worked to exhaustion. The latter along with three fine bladelets (contexts 115, 195 and 326) and two blades (both unstratified) provide the only chronologically and typologically diagnostic material being indicative of Late Mesolithic or Early Neolithic activity. These were residual in later contexts. Much of the remaining flint is also liable to be residual, although some material may be associated with the Late Bronze Age activity represented. The waste products provide little further information beyond being indicative of occasional working of flint on site.

The use of local pebble flint as a raw material at Abbey Road, Evesham is unsurprising and has been commonly observed at sites in Worcestershire and the surrounding counties as at Lightmarsh Farm (Jackson *et al* 1996) and Clifton (Llamdin Whymark 2008) from the Mesolithic through the Bronze Age. However, its suitability for the blade-based technologies of the Mesolithic and Early Neolithic may have been limited, and it has been suggested that imported flint might have been preferred where available (Dalwood 1992). The association of apparently imported and higher quality material with the typologically diagnostic bladelets and bladelet cores at Evesham appears consistent with this suggestion.

4.2.10 **Prehistoric worked stone, by Fiona Roe**

The excavations produced 18 items of worked stone (Table 5), 15 of which are saddle quern fragments. A small limestone slab may have been utilised as informal paving, while one or possibly two small beads (SF 15 and 16) were recovered during the sorting of environmental samples.

The 15 pieces of quern material are fragmentary but would all, most probably, have formed parts of saddle querns or their rubbers. Fourteen of these fragments consist of May Hill sandstone, a Silurian gritstone likely to have been obtained from quarried areas capping May Hill some 43 km (27 miles) south west of Evesham. A single piece of Upper Old Red Sandstone (SF 9) would have been collected from the nearby Forest of Dean.

Thirteen of the quern fragments came from the upper fill of pit 170 (fill 173), overlying a dumped layer of burnt stone. This pit is appreciably larger than the others but there is no indication that it might contain a special deposit and the pieces of quern may simply represent accumulated rubbish from across the site. The other two pieces of quern came respectively from a couple of smaller pits, 116 and 158. With one exception (SF 11) none of the quern fragments is particularly worn down. This suggests that they are unlikely to have broken through general wear, so that the question arises as to whether they may have been deliberately broken. Such breakage could have arisen during an act of aggression, since loss of food processing equipment, along with pollution of the water supply, could cause maximum inconvenience to one's opponents.

Of the 13 quern fragments from pit 170, one piece of May Hill sandstone survives as a partly complete rubber (SF 1, Fig 8), but the others are less readily identifiable. There is one other probable rubber fragment (SF 3) and parts of three saddle querns (SF's 5, 6 & 10), including three non-fitting pieces from the same quern (SF 10). Three other fragments (SF's 2, 4 & 11) have worked surfaces, indicating that they originate either from saddle querns or rubbers. Another three fragments, two of May Hill sandstone (SF's 7 & 8) and one of Old Red Sandstone (SF 9) no longer retain working surfaces but the fact that both varieties of stone are non local suggests that they were imported specifically for corn grinding. No refits were found between any of these fragments, which apart from the three fine-grained pieces comprising SF 10 consist of stone of varying textures. The quern fragments from the two smaller pits (SF's 12 & 13) equally lack salient features. However, of greater relevance is the fact that the two varieties of quernstone found at Abbey Road tell the story of journeys made to May Hill, a prominent feature in the landscape, and also to the Forest of Dean, to procure the all essential corn grinding equipment. Pit 170, which produced 13 fragments of May Hill sandstone saddle quern, also contained sherds of fabric 4.8, tempered with angular, fossilized, shelly limestone thought to originate in the May Hill area.

The piece of possible paving (SF 14) came from the upper fill of pit 153 (155), which also produced fragments of Late Bronze Age pottery, including form R7. Limestone slabs from Middle Iron Age contexts at Beckford were interpreted as possible paving stones (Roe, forthcoming), and these would have been a practical solution to the muddy floors and doorways of roundhouses. The one or possibly two beads found in environmental residues both came from pit fills (Figure 9). One (SF 16), from pit 316, which was undated, is a small flint pebble which, although naturally perforated, could quite possibly have been worn as a

bead. The other (SF 15), a very small bead, was made from vein quartz and was found in pit 188 which also produced a rim from a Late Bronze Age jar, form R1.

4.2.11 **Discussion**

The longterm use of May Hill sandstone for saddle querns started without doubt during the Neolithic (Roe 1999, 415) but until now the evidence for Bronze Age usage of this quern material has been limited to a few single finds, such as the worked fragment from Huntsman's Quarry (Jackson 2005). Two unworked fragments have occurred in Gloucestershire, on Late Bronze/Early Iron Age sites at Hucclecote (Roe 2003, 50) and Bank Farm, Dumbleton (Roe 2006). The assemblage from Abbey Road thus greatly augments the available evidence for the movement of quernstone during the Late Bronze Age. May Hill sandstone continued to be used increasingly on Early and Middle Iron Age sites in the area, with good evidence again from Evesham (Roe 2000, 102) and a large assemblage from Beckford (Roe, forthcoming). A large proportion of the local Iron Age sites are notable for the presence, alongside the imported querns, of both Malvernian pottery and Droitwich briquetage. Both B1 pottery, which occurs most frequently in association with May Hill sandstone, and a sherd of briquetage were also found at Abbey Road along with the querns, and it can now clearly be seen that the distribution of this group of commodities was in operation earlier than the Iron Age.

A long lasting tradition of procurement also seems to be true of the Upper Old Red Sandstone, though the chronological pattern is different. This variety of quernstone was to come into its own with the advent of rotary querns and until then it was apparently used only sparingly for saddle querns. Nevertheless it has been found at some early sites, including pieces from a Neolithic pit at Duntisbourne Grove, Gloucestershire (Roe 1999, 416) and from a Neolithic/Bronze Age scatter at Norcote Farm, Preston, Gloucestershire (ibid, 416). Any Bronze Age examples have mostly occurred further afield, but include a fragment of quartz conglomerate from Gassons Road, Lechlade, Gloucestershire (Roe 1998). There is just a scatter of saddle querns made from Old Red Sandstone at Iron Age sites in the area (Roe, forthcoming). The single find of Old Red Sandstone from Abbey Road, amongst 14 of May Hill sandstone, fits within this framework of a grinding material as yet not fully appreciated. Altogether, the querns from Abbey Road, together with the imported pottery and the briquetage, fit well into the general picture of the Bronze Age in the area and are of value in confirming details which until now were only beginning to be recorded.

4.2.12 **Other stone by C Jane Evans**

A degraded fragment of shale was recovered from linear cut 336 (fill 335), probably from a bowl. Unfortunately there is no associated pottery from this feature, and the fragment itself is undatable. It is badly laminated and distorted, so the original thickness is uncertain.

In addition, burnt, fire-cracked pebbles were recorded from 39 pits, a posthole, one of the ditch fills and a couple of layers (Table 6). Although unworked, these would have been used as 'pot-boilers,' for heating water, and are therefore indicative of domestic activity across the site. These were not quantified on site, and only a sample was retrieved, so it is not possible to analyse their distribution across the site in any detail. One notable concentration came from pit 170, which contained a layer composed of pot boilers (fill 172), and the quern fragments discussed above.

4.2.13 **Roman building material by Angus Crawford**

A Roman tegula fragment was identified from linear cut 317 (fill 318), associated with medieval finds. Another very small fragment of potential Roman tile came from the upper fill of pit 373 (fill 387; Table 7), although because of its size this sherd could easily be intrusive. These may indicate the presence of buildings of Romanised type in the locality.

4.2.14 **Medieval and Post Medieval finds by Angus Crawford**

The pottery assemblage retrieved from the excavated area consisted of 11 sherds of pottery weighing 215g. In addition, fragments of tile, brick, clay pipe stems and iron artefacts were recovered. The group came from 10 stratified contexts (Table 8). The level of preservation was generally fair with the majority of sherds displaying only moderate levels of abrasion.

4.2.15 **Discussion of the pottery**

All sherds have been grouped and quantified according to fabric type (Table 9). All sherds were datable by fabric type to their general period or production span. Where mentioned, all specific forms are referenced to the type series within the report for Deansway, Worcester (Bryant 2004).

The discussion below is a summary of the finds and associated location or contexts by period. Where possible, terminus post quem dates have been allocated and the importance of individual finds commented upon as necessary.

4.2.16 **Medieval pottery**

Only three medieval sherds were present within the assemblage. Of these, two were joining sherds of Oxidised glazed Malvernian ware (fabric 69, context 318) forming a partial rim and handle of a probable large dripping dish with stab decoration to the upper handle service (Figure 10). While a matching parallel form could not be identified, similar forms in oxidised Malvernian ware were identified at Deansway, Worcester and were dated to the 15th century (Bryant 2004).

The remaining sherd was of Glazed sandy white ware (64.2, context 341), with a distinctive external green glaze and partial incised linear decoration. While a specific form could not be identified from the sherd, it could be dated to its specific production span of 13th to early 14th century.

4.2.17 **Post medieval**

The remaining pottery assemblage consisted of eight sherds of post-medieval fabric types commonly encountered on sites from Worcestershire during the period. Of these seven were from a single context group (context 129; Table 9) with a contextual *tpq* date of late 18th or early 19th century. The remaining sherd was of minute size (context 295) and is probably intrusive, this could only be classified as a miscellaneous post-medieval fabric.

4.2.18 **Other finds**

Roof tile fragments within the assemblage could only be generally dated to a production span between the 13th to 18th centuries. Specific medieval roof tile fragments were also identified from contexts 318 and 341.

Further ceramic building material included brick fragments (unstratified and context 341) with those from context 341 being of probable 17th century date, although an earlier medieval date could not be discounted. Clay tobacco pipe stem fragments were present from contexts 129 and 131 and could be broadly dated from the 18th to 19th century.

The remaining identifiable artefact consisted of a corroded fragment from a handmade, square shanked nail that could not be securely dated. However, its general appearance and condition would be consistent with a medieval or post-medieval production date.

4.2.19 **Significance**

The overall medieval and post-medieval assemblage was of limited significance and is indicative of general building and pottery discard during those periods. The presence of Roman roof tile is difficult to discern from the extremely limited material present, but possibly infers the presence of buildings of Romanised type within the locality.

4.3 **Environmental analysis, by Alan Clapham**

The environmental evidence recovered is summarised in Tables 10 and 11.

Of the original 88 samples taken from Abbey Road, Evesham, 49 contexts were selected for processing and assessment. Following assessment six contexts from primary, secondary or tertiary fills of pits were selected for further analysis (contexts 115, 125, 155, 173, 329). Samples were selected for full analysis on the basis that they contained relatively more abundant charred plant remains or were of archaeological significance because they were key pit contexts and contained a range of artefactual remains. In addition, it was considered that quantification of charred plant remains from a small representative sample of pits was important in order for cross-comparison to be made between sites locally and nationally, in terms of the density and diversity of the charred cereal crop material.

The majority of the plant remains recovered were preserved by charring, although in some cases uncharred material survived. It is most likely that these are intrusive. These include, for example fat hen (*Chenopodium album*), fumitory (*Fumaria* sp), bramble (*Rubus* sect *Glandulosus*) and black nightshade (*Solanum nigrum*) amongst others (Table 11). Of note is the presence of fig (*Ficus carica*) in context 115 which is only known in this country from the Roman period onwards, and is therefore not contemporary with the pit deposit. Overall, preservation of the charred plant remains was moderate to poor.

4.3.1 **Categories represented and abundance**

Pit 116 (context 115)

The charred plant remains within this feature were sparse and consisted of occasional grains of hulled barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and wheat (*Triticum* sp), fragments of indeterminate cereal grain, a glume base of wheat and a single cereal culm node. Weed seeds were limited to a dock nutlet (*Rumex* sp) and a mericarp of hemlock (*Conium maculatum*).

Small quantities of fragmented animal bone, heat-cracked stone, flint and possible hammerscale fragments were also recorded along with intrusive glass fragments.

Pit 126 (context 125)

The charred plant remains recovered from pit 126 were more numerous. These consisted of small quantities of chaff which included emmer wheat (*Triticum dicocum*), spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*) and indeterminate wheat glume bases, and a cereal culm node. Other cereal remains included occasional hulled barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) grains and more numerous cereal grain fragments. Non-cultivated charred remains (or the weed component) included grains/caryopses of possible fescue (cf *Festuca* sp), oat/brome grass (*Avena/Bromus* sp), and seeds or nutlets of fat hen (*Chenopodium album*), chickweed (*Stellaria media*), dock (*Rumex* sp), vetch/pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp), cleavers (*Galium aparine*), and stinking chamomile (*Anthemis cotula*). A tuber of false oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius* var *bulbosus*) was also recorded.

Small fragments of animal bone, oyster shell, heat-cracked stone and pottery were also present in small quantities.

Pit 153 (context 155)

The upper fill of this pit contained a rich charred cereal assemblage which was dominated by fragmented cereal grain, indeterminate wheat grains and chaff (glume bases) of spelt (*Triticum spelta*) and indeterminate wheat. Smaller quantities of chaff included emmer wheat (*Triticum dicoccum*) glume bases, indeterminate wheat spikelet forks, spelt wheat rachis and a single cereal culm node.

Associated charred weed seeds or grains were dominated by fragmented brome grass (*Bromus* sp) but also included fescue (*Festuca* sp), grass (Poaceae), common nettle (*Urtica dioica*), chickweed (*Stellaria media*), dock (*Rumex* sp), carrot family (Apiaceae), henbane (*Hyoscyamus niger*), ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), and cleavers (*Galium aparine*).

Occasional mammal bone fragments and small mammal bones were noted in the residue along with pottery and flint fragments.

Pit 170, (context 173)

The charred plant remains from this deposit were not especially rich but was of interest as they were associated with a key pit assemblage. These consisted of mostly spelt wheat chaff (glume bases) in association with fragmented cereal and oat/brome grass (*Avena/Bromus* sp) grains. A smaller quantity of chaff included emmer wheat and indeterminate wheat glume bases, wheat spikelet forks, and cereal culm nodes. Wheat (including tail grain) and hulled barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) were also identified.

Associated charred weed seeds, nutlets or grains included fescue (*Festuca* sp), fat hen (*Chenopodium album*), pale persicaria (*Persicaria lapathifolia*), sheep's sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*), and clover (*Trifolium* sp).

Associated material included small quantities of fragmented mammal bone, pottery iron slag, heat-cracked stone and copper alloy.

Pit 330 (context 329)

The charred plant remains in this context were again sparse and consisted of predominantly cereal grain fragments with small quantities of spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*) and indeterminate wheat glume bases, and grains of wheat (including tail grains) and hulled barley (*Hordeum vulgare*).

Charred weed seeds or grains included fescue (*Festuca* sp), brome grass (*Bromus* sp), vetch/pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp), and spike-rush (*Eleocharis* sp.).

Occasional fragments of animal bone, heat-cracked stone and intrusive glass were recovered from the residue.

Pit 373 (context 375)

This contained the richest assemblage of charred plant remains. This was dominated by fragmented cereal grains, and chaff (glume bases) of spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*) and indeterminate wheat (*Triticum* sp). Also moderately abundant were chaff remains including emmer wheat (*Triticum dicoccum*) glume bases, spelt wheat and indeterminate wheat spikelet forks, wheat rachis fragments and a cereal culm node. The cereal grain component included a free-threshing wheat and indeterminate wheat, hulled barley (*Hordeum vulgare*). A single barley rachis fragment was recovered but was poorly preserved preventing further identification, as was a single cereal embryo.

Charred weed seeds or grain identified included fescue (*Festuca* sp), brome grass (*Bromus* sp), fat hen (*Chenopodium album*), dock (*Rumex* sp), vetch/pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp), a single

cotyledon of pea (*Pisum sativum*), clover (*Trifolium* sp), field gromwell (*Lithospermum arvense*), cleavers (*Galium aparine*), scentless mayweed (*Tripleurospermum inodorum*), spike-rush (*Eleocharis* sp), and small-grained grass (Poaceae).

4.3.2 Overview of environmental evidence

There is little or no evidence for the local environment, in the form of waterlogged plant remains, surviving in any of the features analysed as it is assumed that any uncharred remains are intrusive. Charring preserved the majority of the assemblage recovered from the site, which was dominated by cereal remains and weeds associated with the crops. The dominant crop was spelt wheat identified by the presence of chaff, especially glume bases, although some emmer wheat was also present. Occasional grains, which had the appearance of free-threshing wheat were also found, but these were present in small numbers and probably represent a contaminant of the main cereal crop. Barley was also recovered but in smaller quantities than the wheat. The presence of the spelt glume bases and the unidentified wheat glume bases suggests that the crop was possibly grown locally, stored in spikelets and processed on site. Other crops identified included a single cotyledon of pea, which may suggest that this crop was also grown locally.

The weed seeds found with the cereal remains are all weeds of crops and the presence of stinking chamomile indicates that the heavier soils in the area were used, whilst the presence of spike-rush and hemlock suggests that some of the fields were prone to flooding or that there was a high water table. The last two conditions are likely as the site was bounded on the south and west sides by the river Avon. The presence of henbane in some of the samples is of interest as this species is usually found on well-manured ground, which may suggest that manuring of the fields was practised at this time.

The presence of a few seeds of fig, which were preserved by waterlogging indicates that there is contamination from later material that had been deposited on top of the main contexts considered here. Fig seeds are very small and it is possible that these could be incorporated into earlier deposits quite easily. Small glass fragments are also evidence of intrusive material.

The dominance of spelt wheat at this site contrasts with the pattern for one site in Worcestershire. At Huntsman's Quarry, Kemerton the main wheat found was emmer (Pearson 2005) which reflects the pattern for this period on many sites in Britain. However, as there are no other significant comparable assemblages in Worcestershire, it is not possible to establish a pattern for the county, and moreover the timing of the transition from a largely emmer based cultivation to a largely spelt based economy is unclear at the moment in the West Midlands (Pearson 2001). The limited chaff remains at Huntsman's Quarry (with the exception of one pit rich in charred cereal crop remains) indicates that only small quantities of cereal crops were being processed on the settlement. This is not the case here, where there are greater numbers of chaff remains, especially glume bases, and the interpretation may be that the spelt wheat was grown locally at this site, or at least, if crops were imported, that processing of cereal crops was being carried out on a larger scale. Traditional societies that use glume wheats (emmer and spelt) store and sometimes import the grain in the husk, or in spikelet form. Chaff fragments are therefore likely to be found at both arable producer and consumer sites, but greater quantities appear to be associated with sites where there is evidence for larger scale or communal organisation of labour (Stevens 2003). Emmer wheat in the form of chaff remains (glume bases) was also identified and it is possible that some of the wheat grains recovered from the samples were of this type. Distinguishing different species of wheat on grain morphology alone is not usually possible unless the grains are well preserved as variation in grain shape and size can occur in a single ear. The presence of chaff (glume bases and rachis fragments) makes the task of species identification easier as these are more species specific. As with Huntsman's Quarry, barley was found in smaller quantities at Abbey Road than that of the wheat.

Overall, it is possible to say that although there are similarities to Huntsman's Quarry, Kemerton, especially with the dominance of wheat over barley but there are some fundamental differences. The majority of the wheat found at Abbey Road is spelt wheat with some emmer whilst at Huntsman's Quarry emmer was dominant, with some spelt wheat. The trend at Abbey Road is of some significance as it contributes towards limited local data on the dominance of emmer or spelt wheat. The timing of the transition from emmer and spelt wheat as dominant crops appears to be variable over the country. As a comparison, in the East Midlands emmer wheat is more commonly the dominant wheat on sites in this region (Monckton 2006) and in the southwest there was a gradual shift from use of emmer to spelt wheat during the Iron Age (Fitzpatrick (ed) undated).

At Abbey Road, there is little evidence for the local environment, the majority of the remains were preserved by charring, and the assemblage reflects the crops and weed species associated with them. At Huntsman's Quarry, the pollen analysis showed an open and grassy environment whilst the plant macrofossils from the waterholes indicated a scrubby environment. (Greig 2005, Pearson 2005). It is possible that a similar habitat existed at Abbey Road.

4.4 **Animal Bone analysis by Sylvia Warman**

The animal bone assemblage weighed 5.6kg and was very fragmented; totalling 1690 fragments from 1241 bones, with 103 of those identified fully to element and species. Table 12 displays the animal bone by taxon (species) and element (body part).

The species present were horse, cattle, sheep/goat, pig, cat, leporid (rabbit/hare), frog and frog/toad. Cattle were the most numerous of the identified species. Cow-sized bones (likely to be either cattle or horse) comprised the bulk of the unidentified portion of the assemblage although cat-sized and blackbird-sized bones were also present.

A large quantity of the animal bone was recovered from pit 293, a rubbish pit, which produced over 700 bones. The species present were cattle and horse. Pits around the roundhouse also provided an animal bone assemblage. Fill 173 from pit 170 (the largest pit on the site) produced 152 bones. The species identified were horse, cattle, sheep/goat, pig, cat, frog and small bird bones. The pits to the north of the roundhouse and the southern pit alignment contained smaller quantities of cattle, sheep/goat and pig bones. A small number of animal bone fragments, mostly cow and sheep-sized, were recorded from the reused storage pits between the roundhouse and the southern pit alignment. The structural elements of the roundhouse produced smaller quantities of cattle, cow-sized and sheep-sized animal bone. The possible Iron Age or Roman ditch, context group 399, to the west of the roundhouse cutting through the southern pit alignment contained a cattle tooth and phalange as well as cow and sheep-sized fragmented limb bones.

4.4.1 **Body Parts Present**

Cattle show a wide range of body parts; mandible fragments are common. There is a distinct lack of foot bones, given the number of individuals represented by skull and long bone fragments. Horse is less common and a more restricted range of body parts is seen; mandibles, teeth and phalanges. Sheep/goat bones include teeth but within the meat-bearing bones there seems to be a bias towards the forelimb as compared to the hindlimb. Cattle, horse, sheep/goat and pig mandibles are present. Cat and rabbit/hare are each represented by single specimens. Frog/toad and small bird bones show a range of body parts suggesting a small number of individuals concentrated in pit 361 (near the roundhouse).

4.4.2 **Age at Death**

Usually mandibles and long bones are used to estimate age at death. Only three mandibles (two from cattle and one sheep/goat) were complete enough to enable ageing by dental

eruption and wear. Thus mandible wear scores (Grant 1982) have not been calculated. Ageing by observation of the fusion of the epiphyses of long bones was also problematic due to the very high degree of fragmentation of the animal bones. Most of the long bones were either adult (all epiphyses fused) or sub-adult (most epiphyses fused). The majority of mandibles contained adult dentitions. During the examination of the material an approximate age is assigned to each specimen using this data. It is evident that most of the identifiable specimens were from adult individuals with some sub-adult specimens and a small number of juveniles.

4.4.3 **Bone Modifications and Pathology**

A sheep-sized rib from posthole 285 (roundhouse) had signs of active bone growth on the surface possibly as the result of periostitis (the infection of the membrane which surrounds the bone).

Weathering (erosion of the bone surface) was noted in 10% of the assemblage but never more than 1 or 2 on Behrenymseyer's (1978) scale, so although noticeably fragmented the assemblage is not significantly eroded. Some evidence of root etching was noted (where acids from plant roots dissolve characteristic patterns into the exposed bone surfaces) in deposits 103, 203, 173, 295 and 374. This suggests that the material was close enough to the surface for plant roots to come into contact with the bone surfaces. One specimen had very unusual damage. A cattle metatarsal from fill 173 of pit 170 had no damage to the shaft, but the proximal articular surface showed signs of chemical attack with rounded irregular patches of damage. The fact that only the proximal surface was affected suggests that the bone may have been positioned vertically within the deposit. Gnawing by dogs was noted in just 3% of the animal bone examined. Only two examples of burnt bone were observed.

4.4.4 **Discussion**

Although the assemblage is large in terms of number of fragments and number of bones, only a very restricted number of specimens were fully identifiable to element and species. The bone is fragmented due to a mixture of ancient and modern breakage. Each individual fragment is in relatively good condition in terms of weathering, indicating the material was buried relatively rapidly. This is supported by the low level of gnawing in the assemblage.

Much of the material was not identified to species so looking at spatial trends was difficult. It appears that pits were used for refuse disposal; probably a mixture of butchery and household waste. The two features producing the largest quantities of animal bone (pits 170 and 293) were both interpreted as rubbish pits.

The range of livestock species is not remarkable for Bronze Age assemblages in Britain (Davis 1987). However the smaller mammals present some problems; cat which is indicated by a single specimen, a femur from pit 170 and a leporid (rabbit/hare) juvenile tibia within pit 118. The earliest evidence for the domestic cat in Britain is in the Iron Age (O'Connor 2007), whilst the brown hare (*Lepus europaeus*) was a Roman introduction. Rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) was previously assumed to be a later introduction (Davis, 1987) but recent finds in undisturbed Roman deposits suggest the rabbit may have also been a Roman introduction (Curl pers. comm.). The fact that these species are represented by single bones does present the possibility that they may have been subject to bioturbation. The small vertebrates, frog, frog/toad and small perching bird (blackbird-sized) were all recovered from pit 361 within the group of pits around the roundhouse; these are likely to be wild specimens which became trapped in the feature or died nearby and fell, or were thrown in. The absence of dog remains is interesting as these would be expected, albeit in low numbers, from Bronze Age sites (Davis 1987).

Mandibles and teeth are the most common body parts within the assemblage and are present even for poorly represented species such as pig. This may be a bias of preservation as the bone within mandibles is very dense and teeth also tend to survive well. However other

elements are present for cattle and sheep/goat and a number of meat-bearing bones are present. The sheep/goat assemblage is biased towards the forelimb, which may reflect disposal of certain products, but with such a small number of specimens caution should be exercised in offering interpretations. The fact that meat-bearing bones are present suggests at least some input of household and table waste into the rubbish pits rather than purely butchery waste. The age at death evidence suggests a mostly adult and sub-adult population. The lack of infant specimens means it is unlikely that animal breeding/stock rearing was occurring on site.

4.4.5 **Conclusion**

The animal bone assemblage is fragmented but not particularly weathered. The small number of fully identified specimens limits the potential of the assemblage. The domestic species present are consistent with Bronze Age assemblages. The range of main domesticate bones present are not indicative of any specific activities, although the relative lack of foot bones is interesting. The age groups and body parts present are consistent with a consumer site rather than a producer, as there was no archaeological evidence for livestock enclosures and no bones of young domestic species were recovered.

The animal bone would appear to be a mixture of butchery and household waste, although the fragmentary nature of this assemblage limits further interpretation. Larger, better preserved assemblages from both unbounded settlements and enclosures are required to further understand the rural economy of Bronze Age Evesham.

5. **Synthesis**

5.1 **Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic**

Early prehistoric activity is only inferred through the presence of occasional unstratified and residual flint tools and flakes in later features and from unstratified contexts. The flint blades, bladelets and bladelet cores provide evidence for occasional working of flint on the site, although no features of this period were identified. It is therefore likely that these remains originate from temporary camps of mobile communities. A small number of tools was constructed with higher quality raw material than was available locally and implies that wider trade routes were utilised, although the assemblage was dominated by gravel derived pebble flint of variable and generally rather low quality.

5.2 **Late Bronze Age**

The majority of the archaeological remains on the site were dated, either by direct evidence or by association to the late Bronze Age. This activity comprised two posthole structures surrounded by numerous pits and a single gully. The larger of the posthole structures, a roundhouse, replaced an earlier smaller rectangular structure interpreted as a storage building possibly for grain. The remains appear to represent part of an unenclosed settlement similar to the site at Huntman's Quarry, which forms the most extensive Late Bronze Age settlement in this region (Jackson 2005).

Pottery fabrics were identified which may have been used into the Early Iron Age although this period is very poorly defined in ceramic assemblages of this region and there may have been a continuity of use of earlier forms. A single sherd of Early Bronze Age 'food vessel' in association with the roundhouse also implies that there may be earlier phases of activity in the surrounding area. Despite this, dating evidence from the pottery in general suggest a short lived settlement, perhaps over two hundred years between the 8th-9th centuries BC. The absence of any Middle Iron Age material and the presence of only a handful of Roman dated finds from the site provides further evidence to support the conclusion that activity here was curtailed.

This could mean that the entire settlement, that is presumed to be larger than the excavated area, was temporary and was abandoned after a couple of centuries. This is comparable to the length of occupation at other Late Bronze Age settlements that appear to have been occupied continuously for several centuries and were often multiphased. In contrast, earlier Middle Bronze Age settlements are often single phased and are thought to have only been occupied for a single generation, perhaps 50 years (Brück 1999). The length of occupation at Abbey Road is comparable with Huntman's Quarry that was only occupied for around 250 years, centred on the eleventh century cal BC (Jackson 2005).

An alternative explanation is that the excavated area represents a fraction of a larger settlement and was a temporary area of activity and subsequent occupation shifted to another location within the settlement. On other similarly dated sites that have been extensively excavated it has been noted that areas of domestic activity/occupation are transient and move location within the settlement throughout the length of occupation. This was apparent at Huntman's Quarry (Jackson 2005), where it is thought that not all the areas would have been occupied simultaneously. Shifting patterns of occupation within Bronze Age settlements have also been recorded at Reading Business Park (Moore and Jennings 1992) and Shorncote (Hearne and Adam 1999).

It appears that there were at least two clear foci of Late Bronze Age activity in this area suggesting that occupation and activities were transient and shifted locations within the settlement. The first of these focussed upon storage and are represented by the numerous storage pits and the rectangular posthole structure (Context Group 401). The latter is thought to have been an above ground storage feature and comparable features have been identified at numerous other Bronze Age settlements including Huntman's Quarry (Jackson 2005) and Reading Business Park (Moore and Jennings 1992). These structures are usually interpreted as representing raised structures used as granaries or for storage of straw, hay and other crops (Bradley *et al* 1980; Gent 1983). Gent (1983) suggested that such structures in the region of 3.00-12.00m² would have been the appropriate size for a storage feature; the one identified at Abbey Road was 7.00m². However, as only one of these structures was identified at Abbey Road, it is thought it may have acted as a temporary store, possibly for grain immediately after harvesting. The more numerous grain storage pits, specifically on the southern half of the site, would have provided longterm storage for crops. It is thought that most would have had clay linings that excluded water, although only one such lining was identified.

As the roundhouse truncated the square 'granary', it is thought that the area subsequently became a focus of domestic activity/occupation. At this point it is apparent that the redundant storage pits were reused as rubbish pits for domestic refuse. The animal bone assemblage that was in good condition, in terms of weathering and gnawing marks, suggests that these were filled relatively rapidly after abandonment. This is also supported by the fact that the vertical sides of the pits, which had been cut through loose sands and gravels, had not collapsed. The Late Bronze Age material assemblages from the site and within these features can be interpreted as the waste of domestic occupation and agricultural production including pottery, animal bone, charred plant remains, charcoal, quern fragments and heat-fractured stone. The deposition of this material into the redundant storage pits appears to have been a deliberate backfilling process. Whether the material was purposefully selected for deposition is unclear, although it has been suggested that such deposits are often symbolic and reflect the closure/termination of the features (Hill 1995).

The focus of occupation is a single roundhouse structure that falls within a tradition of Bronze Age and later prehistoric post-ring structures that display axial symmetry (Guilbert 1982). It is suggested that the post-rings represent supports for a larger diameter structure with a surrounding wall, probably of wattle and daub, in line with the porch posts. Although no wall was visible, daub fragments were found in a number of fills that may have originated from this structure. This method was first proposed by Avery and Close-Brooks (1969) and since then numerous other sites have been shown to contain similar structures, such as Reading Business Park (Moore and Jennings 1992), Shorncote Quarry near Cirencester (Hearne and Adam 1999) and at Black Patch in Sussex (Drewett 1982). The roundhouse at

Abbey Road is, however, lacking a foundation trench for the porch that is common within roundhouses dated to the Mid-Late Bronze age, although it is possible these were truncated. The post-ring structure at Abbey Road was 5.75m in diameter and the roundhouse had an external diameter of 8.00m, a relatively small size in comparison to those at Huntman's Quarry where the central post-rings measured between 7.00-13.5m, giving an average external dimension of approximately 16.00m.

The porch of the Abbey Road roundhouse was aligned to the west in contrast to the majority of other examples that are usually orientated to the southeast, so as to maximise the morning light and to provide shelter from the prevailing winds. In this instance, however, the entrance may be aligned to the west to provide the best opportunity to see any traffic moving along the river below. The internal pits and postholes that are thought to provide partitions to the roundhouse, suggest a formality in the arrangement of space within the structure, a feature that has been recorded in numerous others around the country (Brück 1999). However, the lack of cultural remains within the structure makes it impossible to suggest how the organisation of space was utilised for specialised activities.

As there were no further structures present within the stripped area it may be that the roundhouse reflects a short-lived phase of activity by a small group, perhaps a single generation. It has been suggested that after the death of the inhabitants the previously occupied roundhouses would also be symbolically destroyed and at larger settlement sites houses appear to have been dismantled in a structured and orderly manner rather than being allowed to disintegrate (Bruck 1999). It has also been suggested that closing rituals were enacted at this time, such as communal feasting (Bruck 1999, 2001). The apparent demolition/dismantlement of the roundhouse at Abbey Road may imply a similar event occurred here.

The abundance of charred cereal and chaff remains suggest that the inhabitants of the settlement were processing cereal crops on a relatively large scale and were heavily engaged in the consumption and possibly distribution of cereal crops. The large numbers of grain storage pits identified also suggest that large quantities of grain were stored on site. The evidence for processing on a large scale (rather than at the household level) implies that the cereal crops were grown locally and it is possible that the inhabitants of the site may have chosen this area for its light cultivable soils. This contrasts with sites lying to the north around Throckmorton, Upper Moor and Bishampton where excavation of Iron Age settlements has shown the soils to be too clay rich to be suitable for cereal production (Griffin *et al* 2005, Griffin *et al* forthcoming). The weed seeds found with the cereal remains, however, do indicate that the heavier soils in the area were also utilised, possibly down on the rivers edge as the presence of spike-rush and hemlock seeds suggest that some of the fields were prone to flooding. The density of grain storage pits and the numerous quern stone fragments at Abbey Road also suggests this site was heavily invested in the production and consumption of cereals. Wheat and barley appear to have been common crops throughout the Bronze Age and have been widely recorded although in low numbers elsewhere, including Reading Business Park (Moore and Jennings 1992).

The animal bone remains that did not contain evidence for a local breeding/rearing stock, indicating that livestock such as cattle, sheep and pigs were purchased fully-grown and were not reared at this site. It is likely that the inhabitants of this settlement traded surplus cereal remains for these animals from other local settlements. Interestingly no fish bones were recovered from the site, although one would have expected the inhabitants to have utilised such a rich local resource.

Locally, at Huntsman's Quarry (Jackson 2005) the evidence points to any cereal crop cultivation being on a small scale, with the possibility that some, or all, of the crops were imported onto the site. Here it is thought the settlement was practicing a predominantly pastoral economy and similar patterns have been observed at sites in the middle and upper Thames Valley where it has been suggested that the majority of cereals may have been imported in exchange for meat, wool or dairy surplus (Yates 1999).

Yates (2007) suggests that the important communication route ways of the Rivers Severn and Avon had attracted burgeoning populations and that a landscape demarcation during the early-Middle Bronze Age had become less important during the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age. This is why it may be that the settlement at Abbey Road and that at Huntsman's Quarry appear to be short lived.

5.3 **Iron Age/Roman**

No features have been confirmed to date to the Iron Age although some of the prehistoric pottery may date to the Early Iron Age and it is possible that linear 399 represents a progression from an unenclosed settlement to an enclosed one. In the Trent Valley many of the settlements yielding Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age pottery preserve stratigraphic evidence for a progression from an early open settlement to an enclosed phase. This trend is also observed elsewhere in the Midlands and in southern Britain generally (Thomas 1997). Although this feature contained occasional sherds of Roman pottery in the upper fills it may be an Iron Age phase to the settlement that is enclosed.

5.4 **Medieval**

Only one feature, a ditch (context group 397), dates to the medieval period. At this time the land was in the control of the abbey as part of its demesne and the paucity of finds discovered within this feature would also suggest no significant occupation areas area located nearby. Those that were found were likely to have been introduced during manuring and cultivation of the area.

5.5 **Modern**

Two features, pits 130 and 132, are modern in date and are thought to be rubbish pits. These reflect the more recent industrial activities of the surrounding plots as they were filled with frequent charcoal remains and fuel ash.

5.6 **Undated**

It has not been possible to date convincingly ditch 392 and its recut (389), as only two small sherds of possible roof tile were recovered from the upper fill of ditch 392 that are either of Roman, medieval or post-medieval origin. Although undated, this ditch aligns with a crop mark linear identified to the north of this site (WSM 26957) that appears to run in a north-south alignment before sharply turning towards the southeast. This implies that this feature may be a substantial boundary feature that was significant enough to have been recut or cleaned out at least on one occasion. If this is the linear visible in the crop marks to the north, then the straight alignment of this feature over such a long distance also suggests that it is not prehistoric.

6. **Publication summary**

The Service has a professional obligation to publish the results of archaeological projects within a reasonable period of time. To this end, the Service intends to use this summary as the basis for publication through local or regional journals. The client is requested to consider the content of this section as being acceptable for such publication.

An archaeological excavation was undertaken at land off Abbey Road, Evesham, Worcestershire (NGR: 403241, 243362). The excavation uncovered the partial remains of a Late Bronze Age settlement, including a small roundhouse and numerous reused grain storage features. No contemporary boundary ditches were identified and it is thought that the remains form part of an unenclosed settlement. Key finds include a small but significant assemblage of Late Bronze Age decorated phase pottery, and an assemblage of Late Bronze Age querns. Both add to the limited data for finds of this date from the region.

The central roundhouse consisted of ten postholes forming the central supports to a building approximately 8.00m in diameter, the porch of which was aligned to the west overlooking the River Avon. It is thought that this structure was dismantled rather than being abandoned, either after it was no longer inhabited or during a period of reorganisation to the settlement. An earlier square posthole structure is thought to represent the remains of an above ground storage structure, possibly for grain, which implies a change in use for this area of the settlement, from storage to habitation.

The environmental remains suggest that the inhabitants of the settlement were processing cereal crops on a relatively large scale and were heavily engaged in the consumption and distribution of cereal and the large numbers of grain storage pits identified also suggest that large quantities of grain were stored on site. Moreover, the significant number of quern fragments recovered implies the inhabitants were heavily engaged in the production and consumption of cereals. Livestock such as cattle, sheep and pigs were purchased fully-grown and were not reared at this site and it is likely that the inhabitants of this settlement traded surplus cereal remains for these animals from other local settlements. The pottery and the quern stone fragments have shown that these trade routes may have extended to Martley (Worcestershire), the Woolhope and May Hill areas of Herefordshire and the Forest of Dean (Gloucestershire).

The entire settlement was not exposed and it is thought that the excavation area was only a small proportion of a larger settlement. Cropmarks identified within the next northerly field appear to confirm this, as the extensive pit groups and ditches visible appear prehistoric in nature. As with other local and national Late Bronze Age examples, the settlement is thought to have been short lived and remained unenclosed until its abandonment.

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8. **Personnel**

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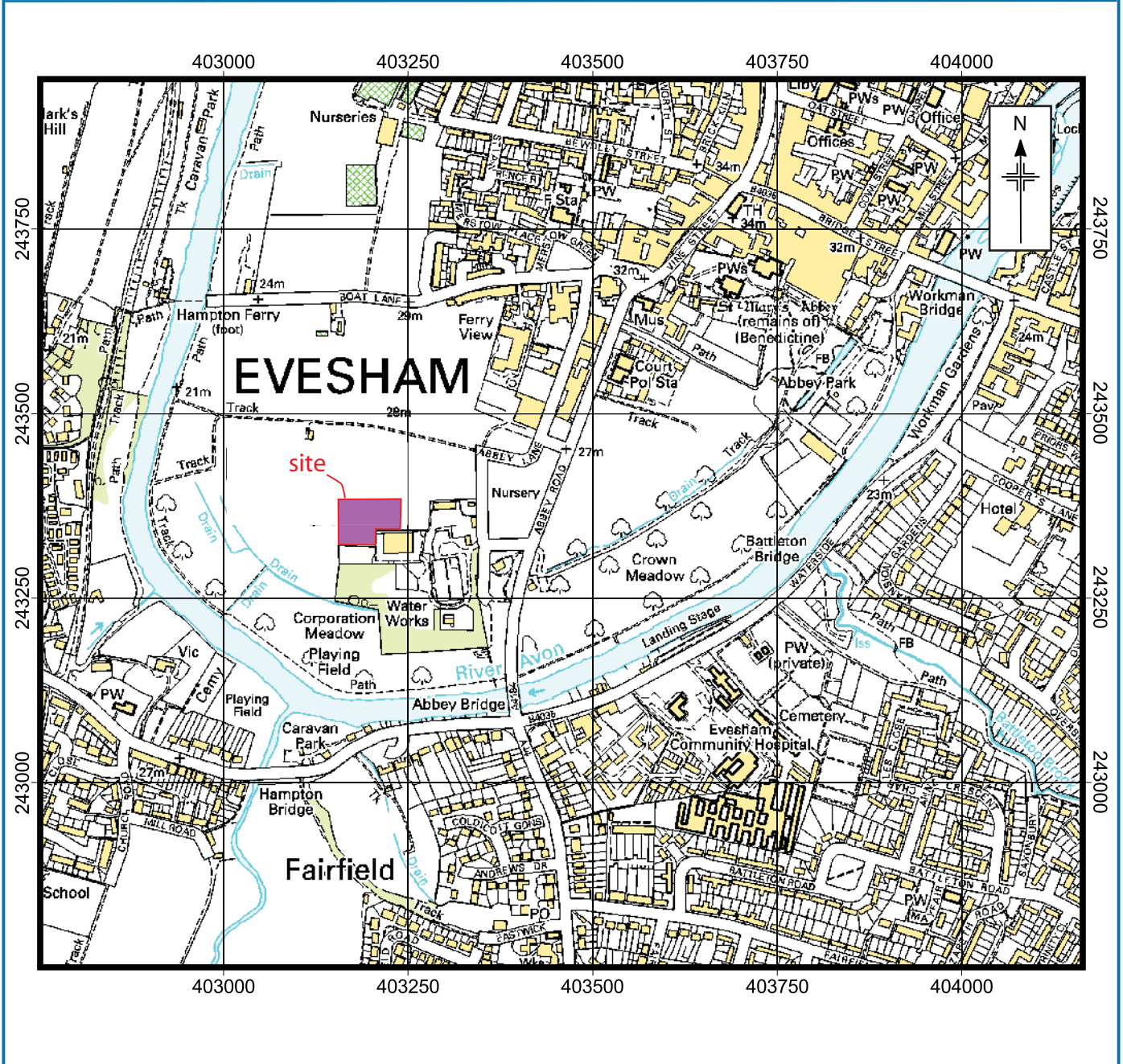
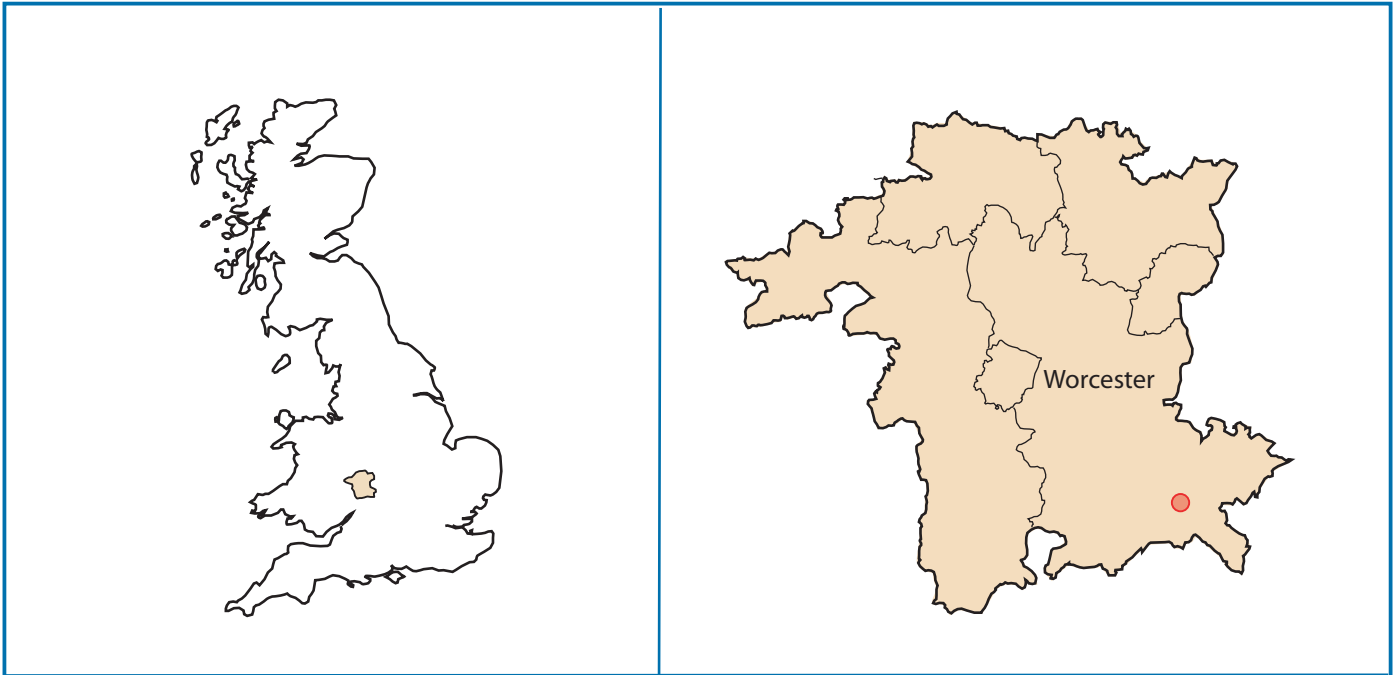
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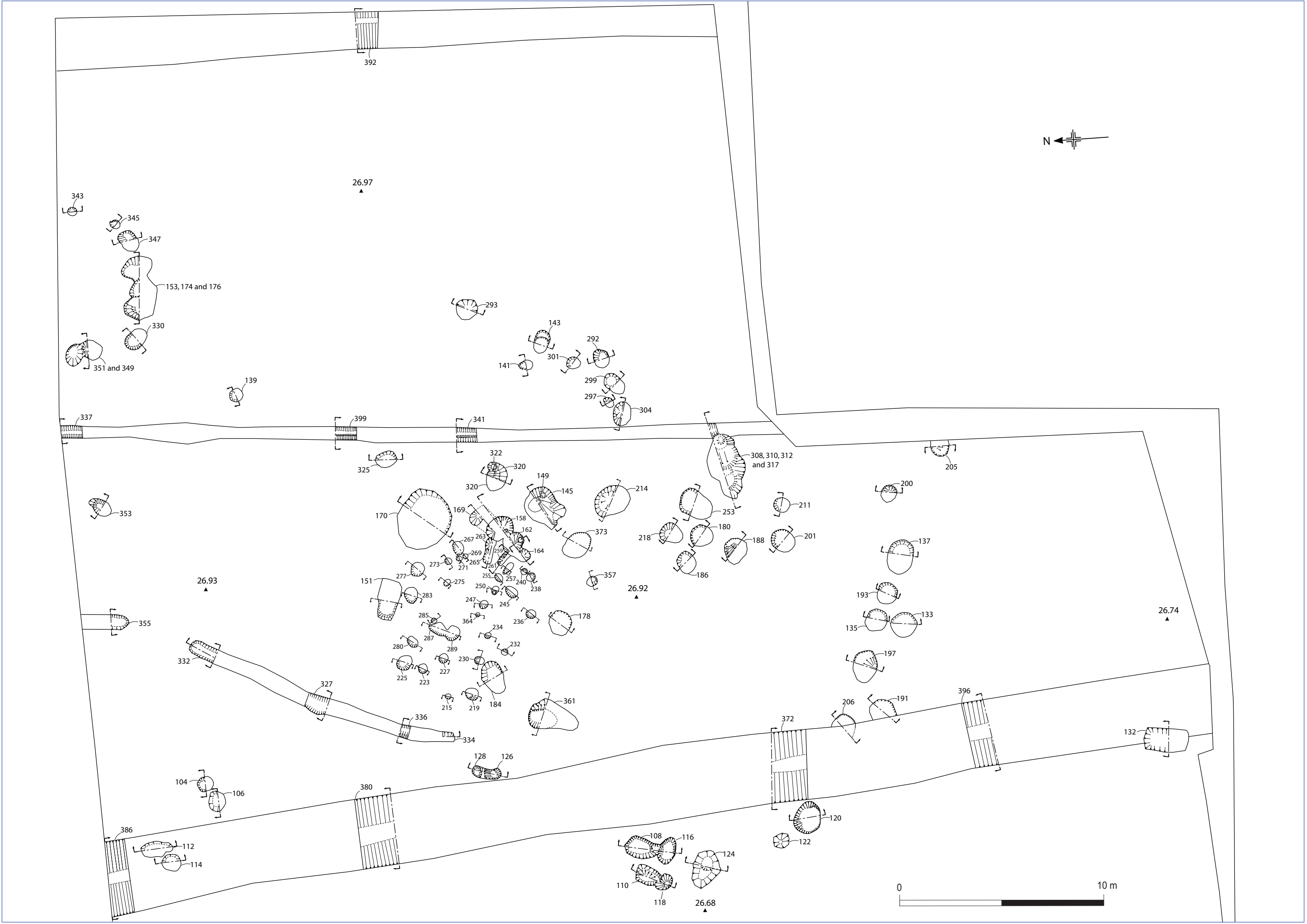
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Figures



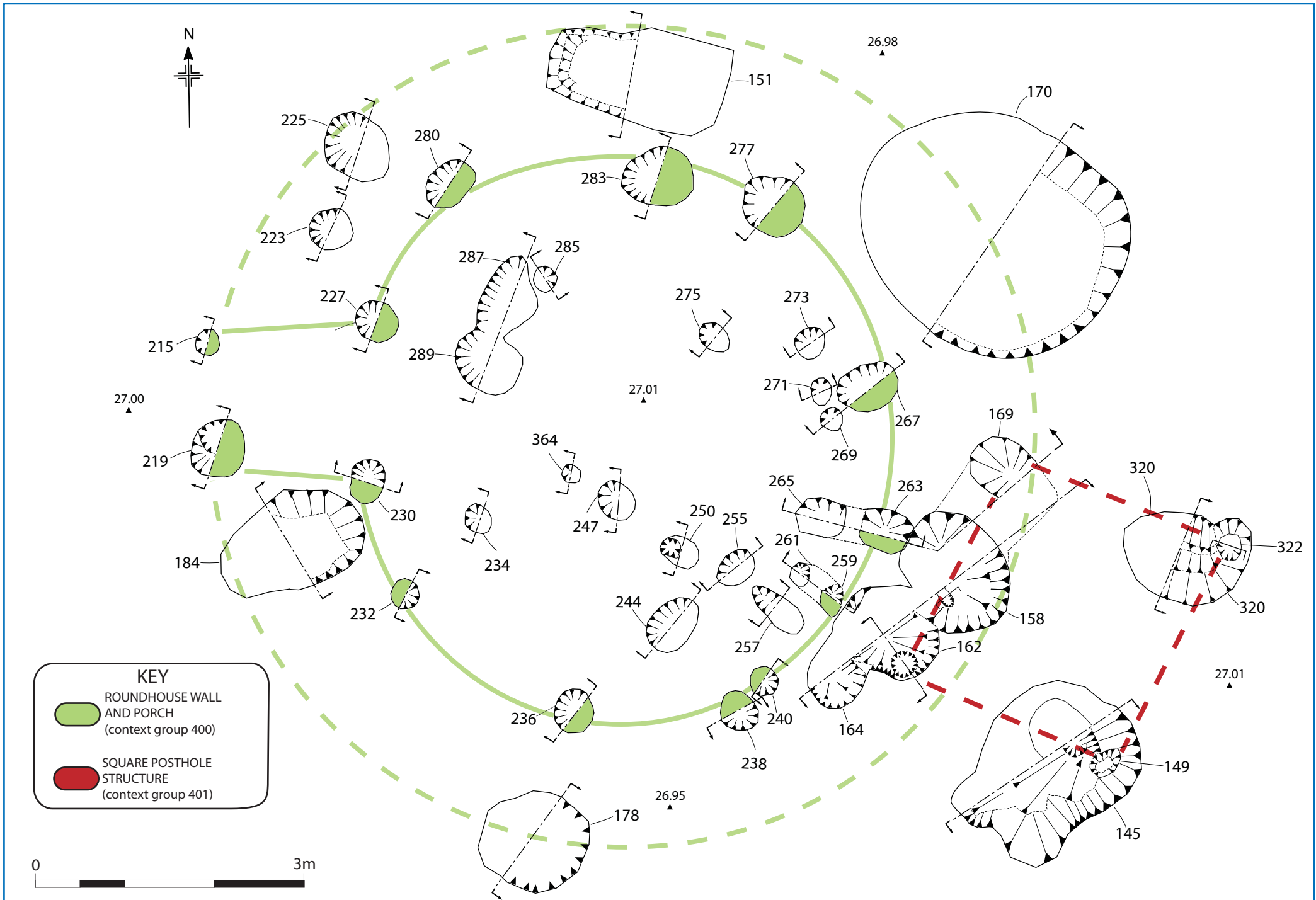
Location of the site

Figure 1



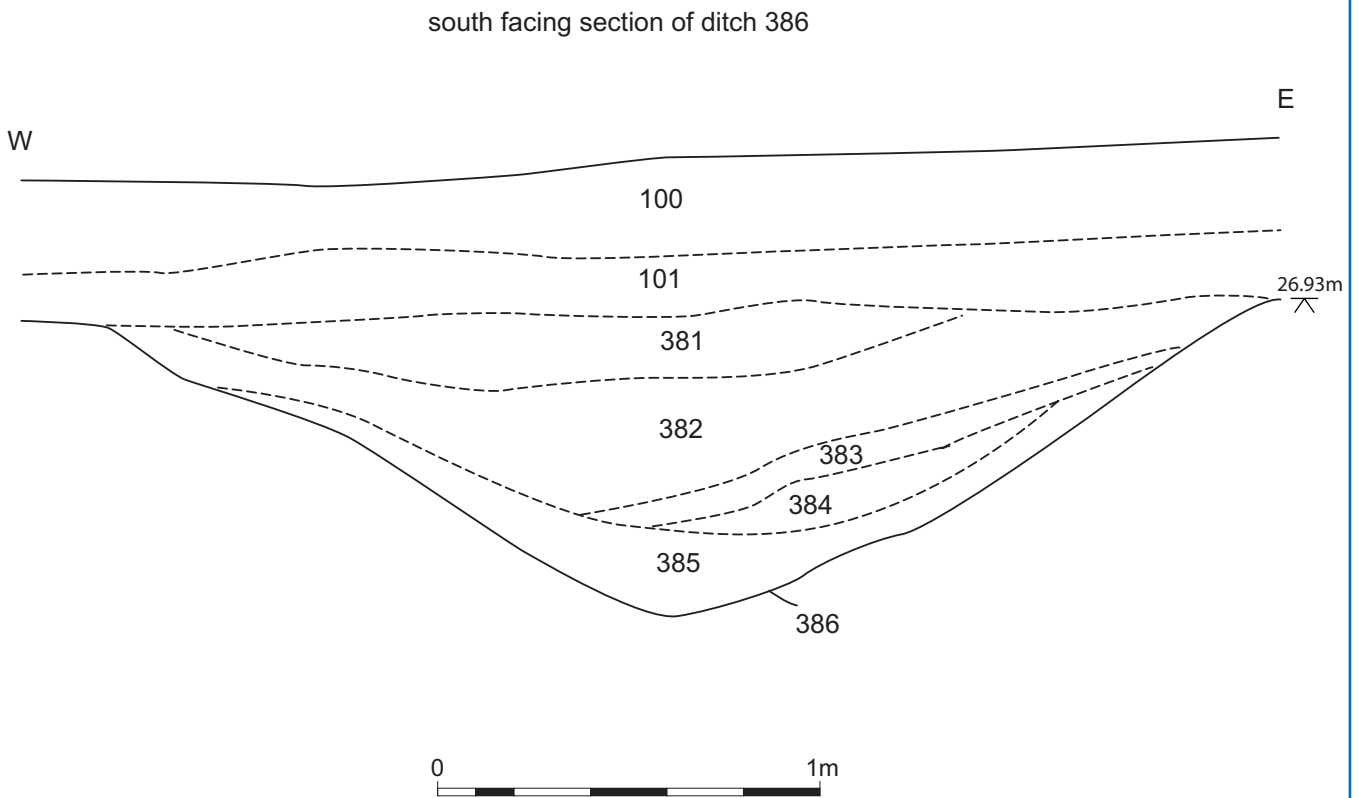
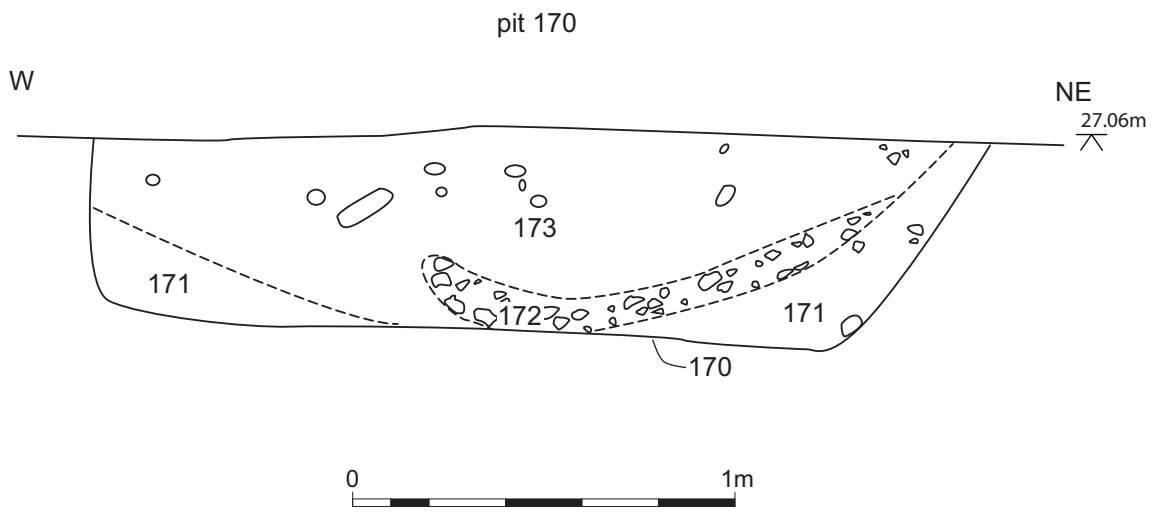
Plan of the site

Figure 2



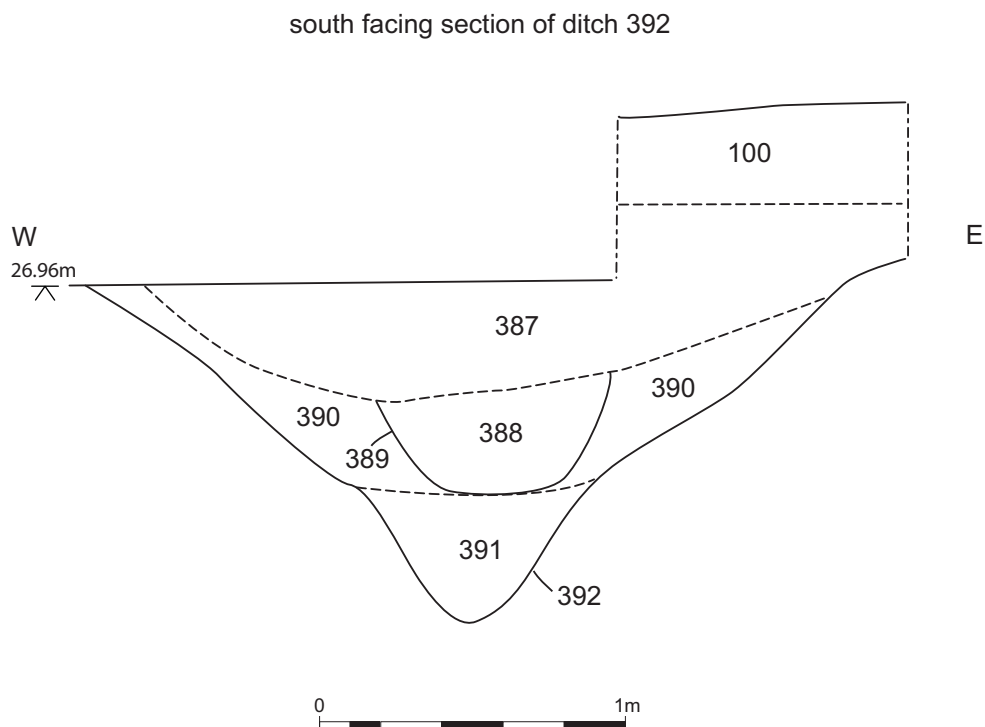
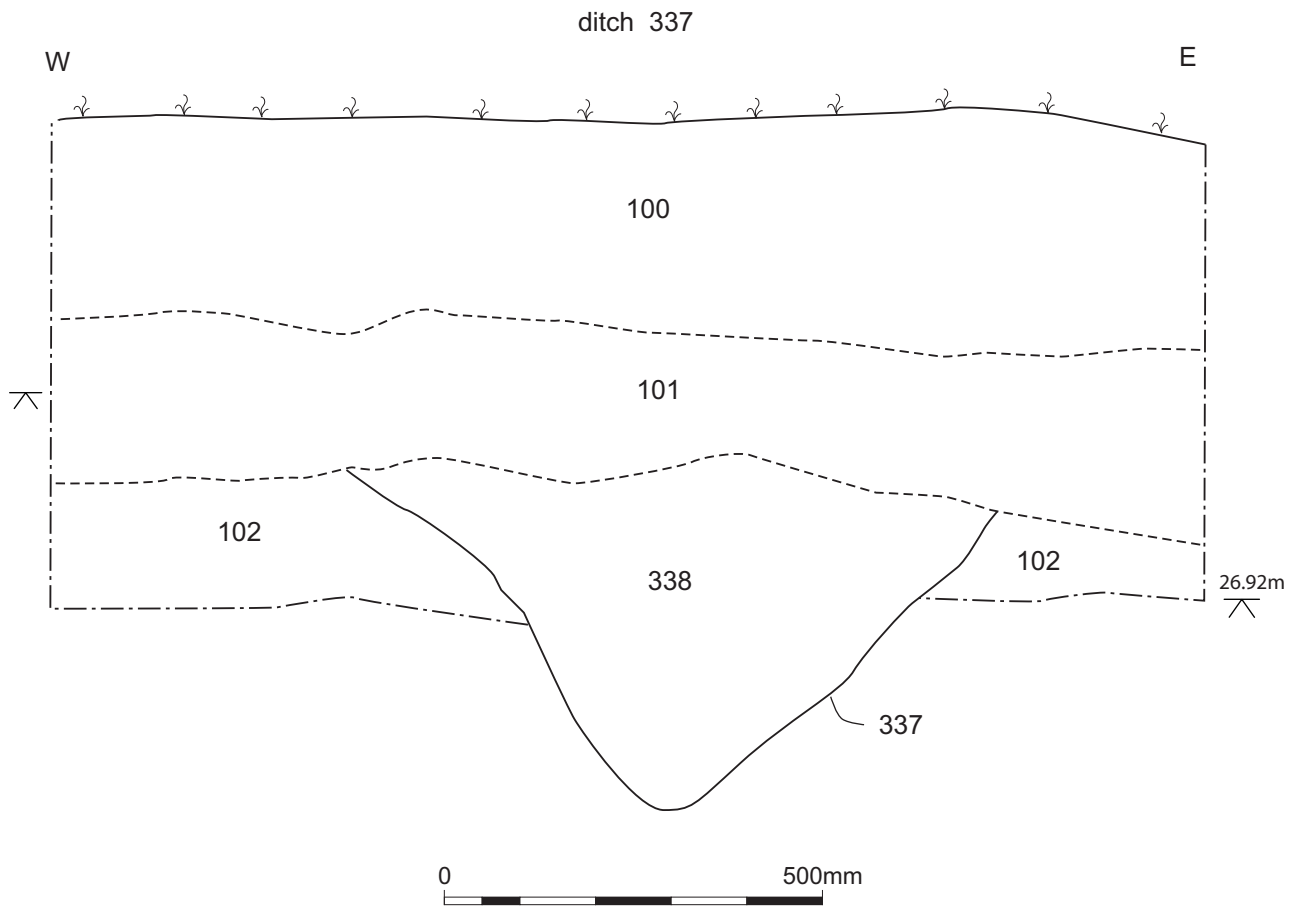
Plan of roundhouse and associated features

Figure 3



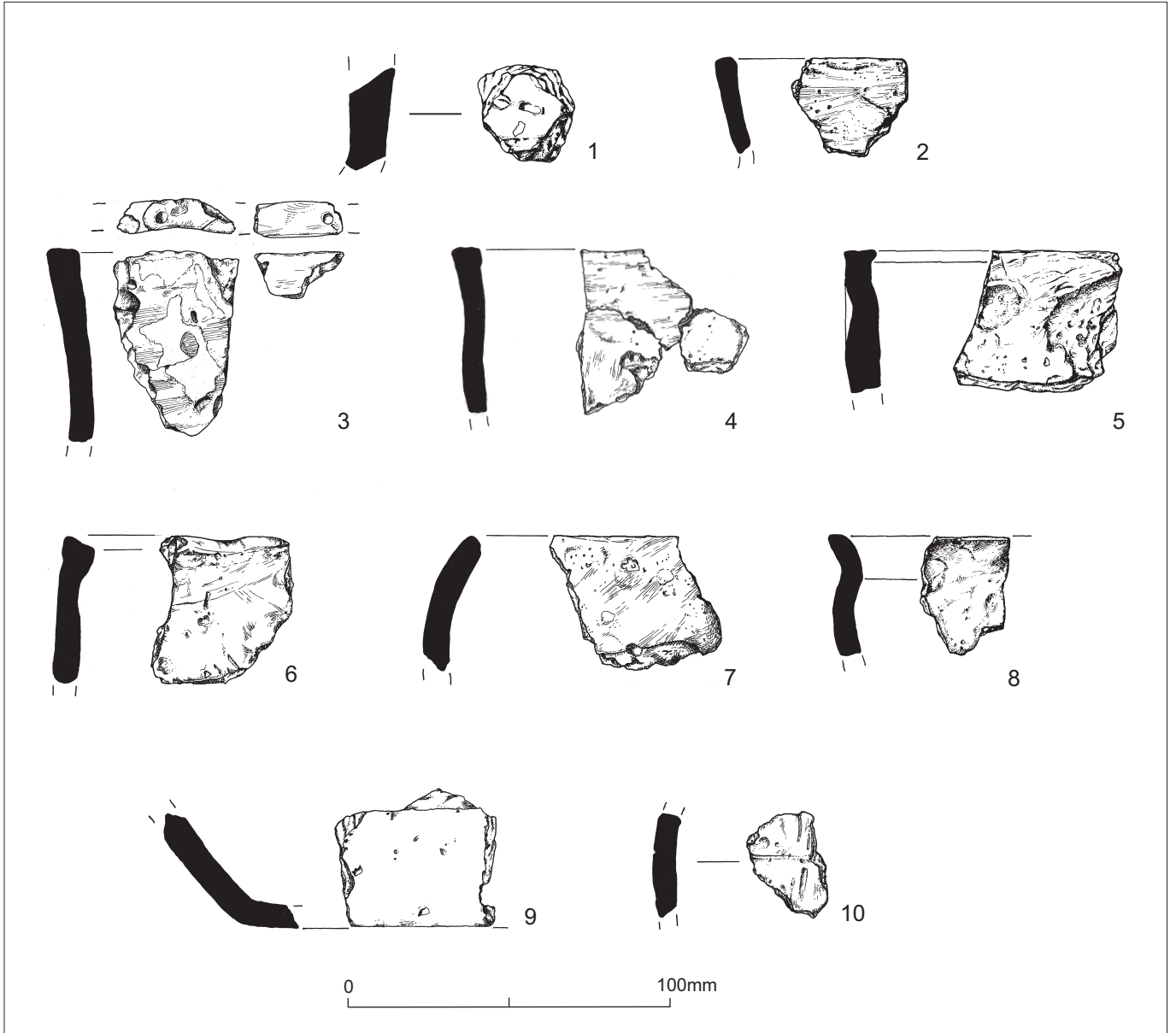
Pit 170 and ditch 386: sections

Figure 4



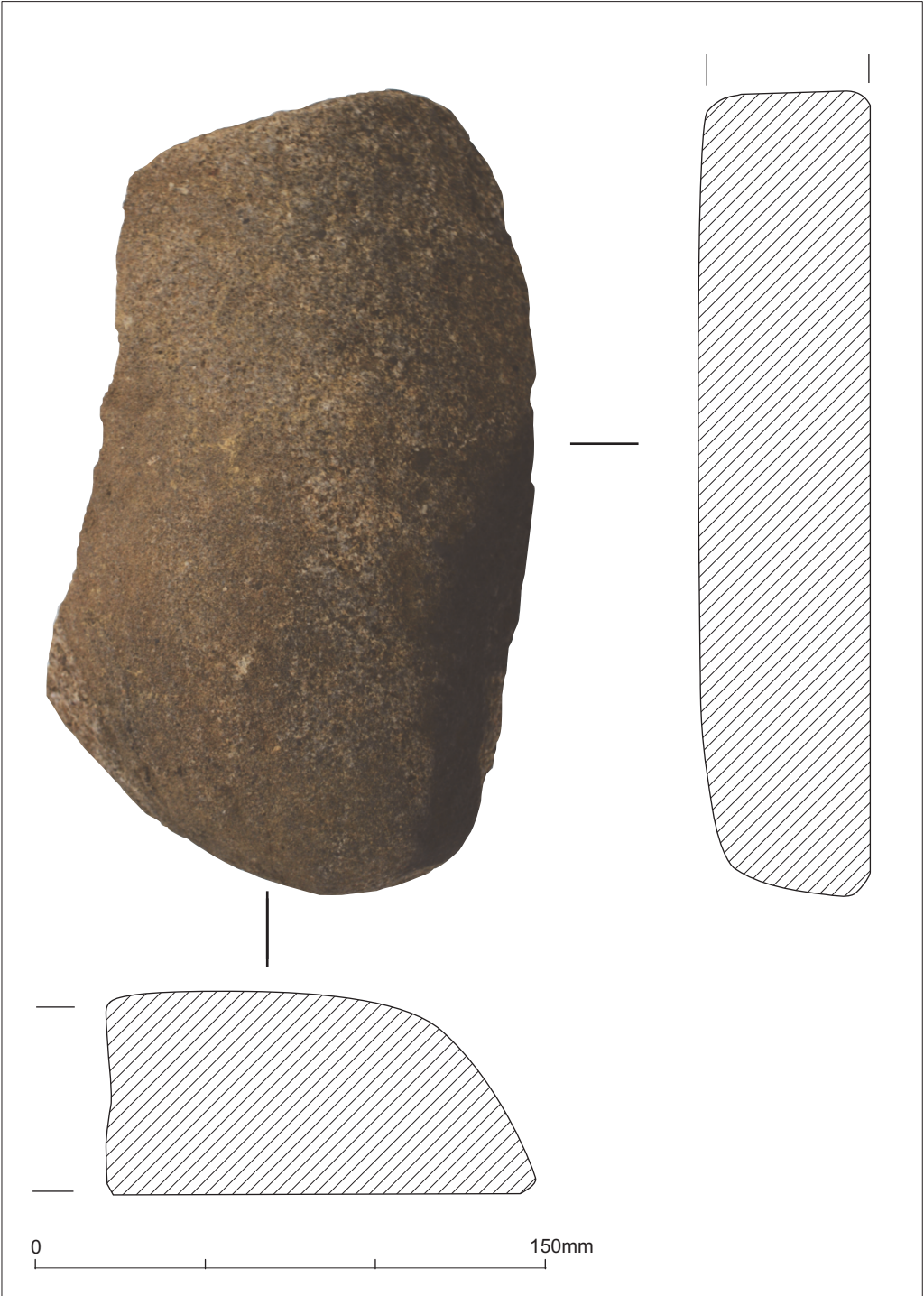
Ditches 337 and 392: sections

Figure 5



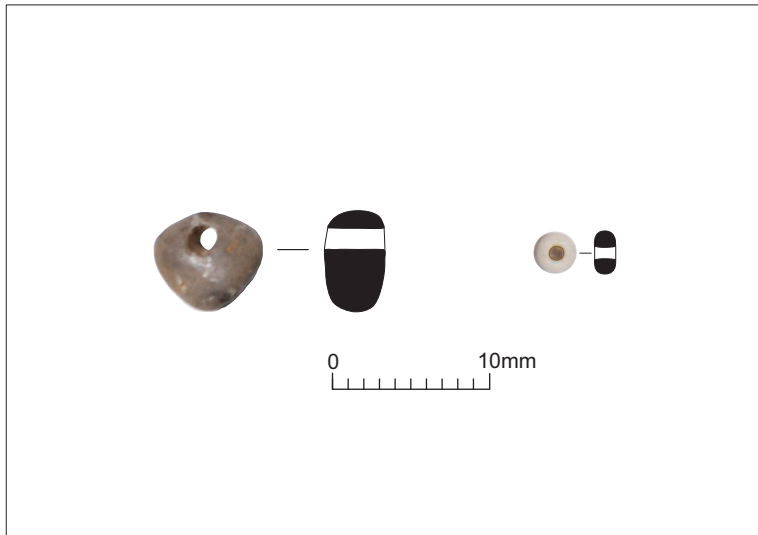
Prehistoric pottery

Figure 7

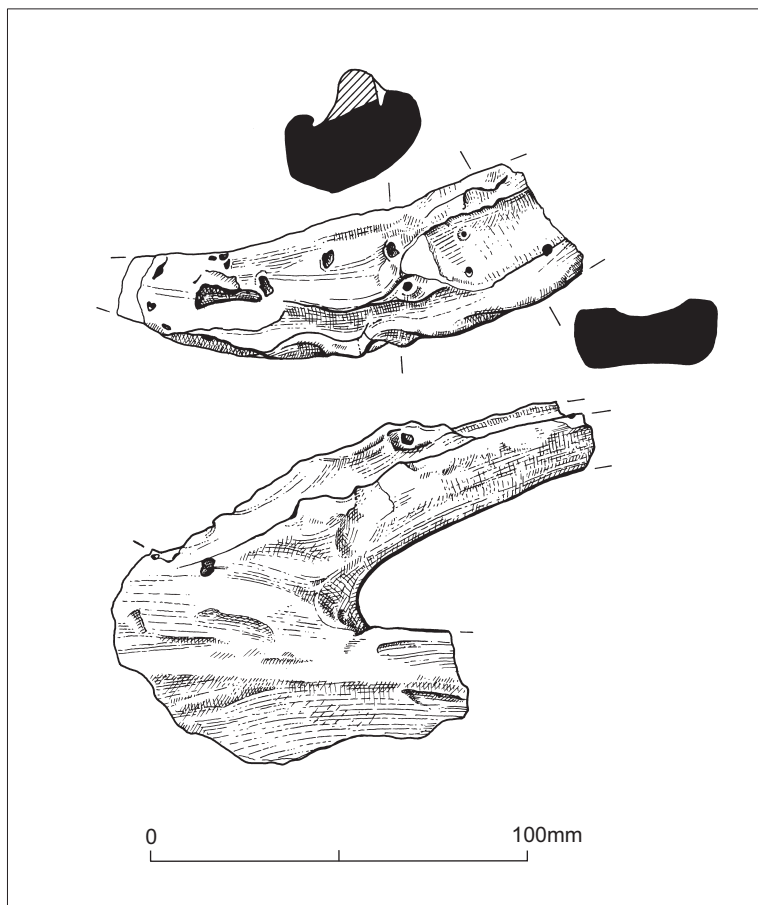


Rubbing stone (SF 1)

Figure 8



Stone beads (SF 15 and 16) Figure 9



15th Century dripping dish handle Figure 10

Plates



Plate 1: Typical pit in southern pit alignment (pit cut 137), facing west



Plate 2: Roundhouse (context group 400), facing east



Plate 3: Pit 170 facing southeast



Plate 4: Typical pit south of roundhouse, pit 373 facing southwest



Plate 5: Ditch 386 facing north

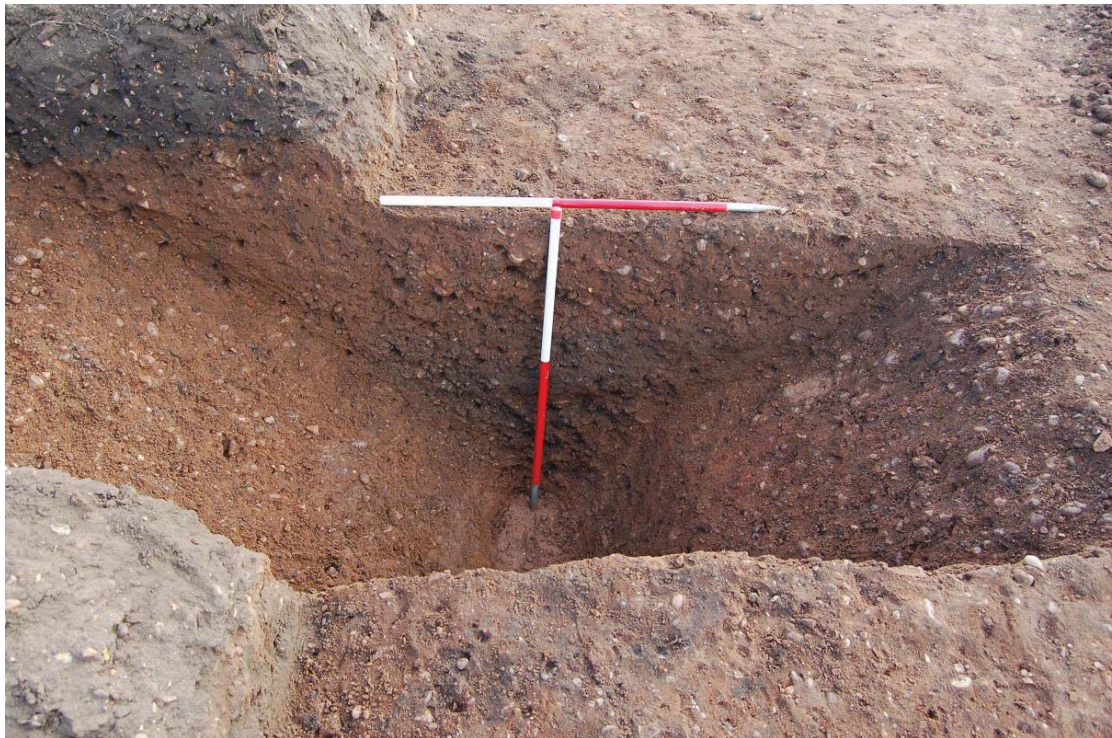


Plate 6: Ditch 392 facing south

Appendix 1 Context descriptions

Site area: 3020.22m²

Maximum dimensions: Length:66.3m Width: 52.4-32.3m Depth: 0.70m

Orientation: E-W

Main deposit description

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
100	Topsoil	Dark greyish black loose sandy silt with frequent root action and worm sorting. Contains frequent small to medium sub-rounded and rounded pebbles. 0.0-0.41m below ground surface.	
101	Subsoil	Mid-dark orange brown cohesive sandy silt. Contains frequent medium rounded pebbles. 0.41-0.70m below ground surface.	
102	Natural	Mid-dark orange brown fine sandy silt. Contains frequent small round gravel and medium to large sub-rounded and rounded pebbles. 0.70m+ below ground surface.	
103	Fill	Fill of pit 104. Mid-greyish brown loose silty sand. Contains frequent rounded gravel and angular burnt stone. Occasional bone and occasional pottery sherds.	
104	Pit cut	Round in plan with indistinct edges. Sharp break form surface with steep sloping sides and a shallow break to a concave base. Filled by 103. Diameter 0.75m, depth 0.39m.	
105	Fill	Fill of pit 106. Mid greyish brown silty sand with patches of light orange sand and gravel. Contains frequent small medium rounded stone, occasional burnt angular stones and rare pieces of bone.	
106	Pit cut	Round pit with moderately angled undulating sides, gradually breaking to a flat base. Filled by 105. Diameter 0.90m, depth 0.21m.	
107	Fill	Fill of pit 108. Mid-dark orangey brown friable sandy silt. Contains frequent small to large sub-rounded and rounded pebbles and angular burnt stone.	
108	Pit cut	Oval pit aligned N-S. With a sharp break form the surface and steep sides breaking sharply to a flat base. Orientated E-W. Filled by 107. Length 1.20m, width 0.90m, depth 0.30m.	
109	Fill	Fill of pit 110. Mid-orange brown sandy silt containing patches of orange sand. Contains frequent small to large rounded and angular stones, rounded pebbles and flint.	

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
110	Pit cut	Sub-circular in plan, with a gradual break to a flat base. Filled by 109. Length 1.10m, width 0.90m, depth 0.12m.	
111	Fill	Fill of pit 112. Light greyish brown silty sand. Contains frequent small rounded stone.	
112	Pit cut	Shallow oval pit with concave sides and base. Filled by 111. Length 1.50m, width 0.80m, depth 0.16m.	
113	Fill	Fill of pit 114. Light greyish brown loose silty sand. Containing moderate rounded gravels and one burnt angular stone.	
114	Pit cut	Round shallow cut pit with indistinct edges. Filled by 113. Diameter 0.95m, depth 0.10m.	
115	Fill	Fill of pit 116. Dark orangey brown loose sandy silt with patches of orange sand. Contains frequent small to large rounded and angular stones, river pebbles and angular flint.	
116	Pit cut	Oval pit aligned E-W with irregular sides that are concave and undercut in south and east and gradually slope in the west. Sharpe break to base in the south and east and gradual break to base in the west and north. Filled by 115. Length 1.36m, width 0.89m, depth 0.37m.	
117	Fill	Fill of pit 118. Dark orange brown loose sandy silt. Contains frequent small to large rounded and angular stones.	
118	Pit cut	Sub-circular pit orientated NW-SE, with concave sides with a slight undercut on the southwest. Filled by 117. Cuts pit 110. Length 0.92m, width 0.67m, depth 0.35m.	
119	Fill	Fill of pit 120. Mid-orange brown loose sandy silt with frequent root action and worm sorting. Contains frequent small to large rounded and angular stones. Occasional charcoal flecks.	
120	Pit cut	Sub-circular in plan with concave sides and a flat base. Orientated NW-SE. Filled by 119. Length 1.53m, width 1.22m, depth 0.51m. Cut by linear 372.	
121	Fill	Fill of pit 122. Loose grey brown sandy silt. Contains frequent rounded stones and gravels.	
122	Pit cut	Only base seen. Sub circular in plan with a U shaped profile. Filled by 121. Diameter 0.75m, depth 0.23m.	
123	Fill	Fill of pit 124. Mid-orange brown firm sandy silt. Contains moderate small to large rounded and angular stones with occasional charcoal flecks.	

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
124	Pit cut	Sub-oval pit with regular concave sides and base. Filled by 123. Length 1.90m, width 1.38m, depth 0.35m.	
125	Fill	Fill of pit 126. Dark orange brown firm sandy silt. Contains frequent rounded stones and pebbles.	
126	Pit cut	Sub-circular in plan with concave sides and irregular base. Filled by 125. Diameter 0.83m, depth 0.30m. Truncated by linear 399.	
127	Fill	Fill of pit 128. Dark orange brown firm sandy silt. Contains frequent sub-rounded stones and pebbles.	
128	Pit cut	Shallow sub-circular pit with concave sides and base. Filled by 127. Diameter 0.45m, depth 0.08m.	
129	Fill	Fill of Pit 130. Dark brown firm sandy silt. Contains frequent small to large angular and rounded stones. Moderate charcoal flecks and small flecks of ash.	
130	Pit cut	Sub-rectangular in plan. With concave sides and base with a 'U' shaped profile. Filled by 129. Diameter 1.22m, depth 0.16m.	
131	Fill	Fill of pit 132. Dark brown firm sandy silt. Contains frequent small to large angular and sub rounded stones. Moderate charcoal flecks and fleck of fuel ash.	
132	Pit cut	Rectangular in plan with concave sides and base. Filled by 131. Width 1.13m, depth 0.09m.	
133	Pit cut	Circular in plan with vertical sides and a gradual break to base. Filled by 134. Diameter 1.35m, depth 0.73m.	
134	Fill	Fill of pit 133. Dark brown grey friable silty sand. Contains frequent small to large rounded stones and charcoal flecks. Occasional large cobbles.	
135	Pit cut	Sub-oval in plan with vertical sides and flat base. Orientated E-W. Filled by 136. Length 1.17m, width 1.09m, depth 0.32m.	
136	Fill	Mid-greyish brown and friable silty sand. Contains frequent small to medium rounded pebbles. Occasional charcoal flecks	
137	Pit cut	Oval in plan with vertical sides and flat base. Orientated NE-SW. Filled by 138. Length 1.73m, width 1.20m, depth 0.55m.	
138	Fill	Fill of pit 137. Mid-greyish brown friable silty sand. Contains frequent medium rounded pebbles. Occasional charcoal flecks.	

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
139	Pit cut	Irregular circle in plan with vertical sides and flat base. Orientated SE-NW. Length 0.61m, width 0.51m, depth 0.14m.	
140	Fill	Fill of pit 139. Mid-brownish grey friable silty sand containing frequent rounded pebbles.	
141	Pit cut	Small oval pit in plan. Sharp break from surface to flat vertical sides sharply breaking to flat base. Filled by 142. Length 0.68m, width 0.42m, 0.19m.	
142	Fill	Fill of pit 141. Mid-dark brown compact but friable sand. Contains occasional charcoal flecks and small sub rounded stone.	
143	Pit cut	Small oval pit with a sharp break from surface to flat vertical sides. The eastern edge is stepped. Sharpe break to a flat and undulating base. Filled by 144. Length 1.10m, width 0.68m, depth 0.24m.	
144	Fill	Fill of pit 143. Mid-light brown compact and friable sand. Contains occasional charcoal flecks and small sub-oval stone. Frequent root action.	
145	Pit cut	Large sub-oval pit with concave sides and an imperceptible break to an undulating base. Filled by 146. Length 2.14m, width 1.66m, depth 0.20m. Cut by pit 147.	
146	Fill	Fill of pit 145. Mid-light brown compact silty sand. Occasional root action. Contains occasional charcoal flecks, animal bone, fire cracked stones and small to large rounded and sub rounded stone.	
147	Pit cut	Small oval pit with a sharp break form surface to near vertical flat sides and a sharp break to a flat base. Filled by 148. Length 1.20m, width 0.70m, depth 0.33m. Cuts pit 147 and pothole 149.	
148	Fill	Fill of pit 147. Dark black brown compact friable sandy silt with occasional root action. Contains occasional charcoal flecks, animal bones, fire cracked stones and small to large rounded and sub rounded stones.	
149	Posthole	Small oval posthole. Vertical sided with a flat base. Filled by 150. Length 0.41m, width 0.25m, depth 0.22m. Cut by pit 147.	
150	Fill	Fill of posthole 149. Orange brown compact sand with occasional root action. Contains occasional charcoal flecks and small to large rounded and sub rounded stones.	
151	Pit cut	Sub-rectangular pit with flat vertical sides breaking	

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
		sharply to a flat base. Orientated SE-NW. Filled by 152. Length 1.96m, width 1.0m, depth 0.30m.	
152	Fill	Fill of pit 151. Mid-brownish grey black friable silty sand. Contains frequent charcoal flecks and medium to large rounded and sub rounded stones. Occasional animal bone and fire cracked stones.	
153	Pit cut	Oval pit with steep vertical sides, sharply breaking to a flat base. Filled by 154 and 155. Length 1.35m, width 1.74m, depth 0.17m. Cuts pit 176.	
154	Fill	Primary fill of pit 153. Mid-red orange friable silty sand. Contains frequent large rounded stones. Occasional charcoal flecks.	
155	Fill	Upper fill of pit 153. Mid-dark friable greyish black brown silty sand. Contains frequent medium to large sub-rounded and rounded pebbles.	
156	Fill	Upper fill of pit 158. Dark brown firm sandy silt with moderate root action. Contains frequent charcoal flecks and moderate small to large rounded and angular stones. Also moderate small to large burnt fire cracked stones.	
157	Fill	Primary fill of pit 158. Mid-orange brown firm silty sand with moderate root action. Contains occasional small to medium rounded and angular stones.	
158	Pit cut	Sub circular pit with a U shape profile. Irregular concave sides and concave base. Filled by 156 and 157. Diameter 1.14m, depth 0.39m. Cuts postholes 169 and 263.	
159	Fill	Fill of posthole 160. Mid-grey brown firm sandy silt. Contains occasional charcoal flecks, small to medium rounded stones and rare fragments of mollusc shells.	
160	Posthole	Small circular posthole with vertical sides and an irregular concave base. Filled by 160. Diameter 0.12m, depth 0.29m.	
161	Fill	Fill of pit 162. Dark brown firm sandy silt with occasional root action. Contains occasional charcoal flecks, small to large rounded and angular stones. Also occasional small to large fire cracked stones.	
162	Pit cut	Circular pit with U shaped profile with a concave base. Filled by 161. Diameter 0.86m, depth 0.24m. Cuts posthole 166.	
163	Fill	Fill of pit 164. Dark brown firm sandy silt with occasional root action. Contains occasional charcoal flecks, small to large rounded and angular stones. Also occasional small to large angular fire cracked stones.	

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
164	Pit cut	Circular pit with a U shaped profile and convex sides with sharp break to a convex base. Filled by 163. Diameter 0.68m, depth 0.18m.	
165	Fill	Fill of posthole 166. Mid-orange brown firm silty sand. Contains frequent small to large rounded and angular stones. Occasional charcoal flecks and medium to large fire cracked stones.	
166	Posthole	'U' shape posthole with vertical sides and a concave base. Filled by 165. Diameter 0.25m, depth 0.23m.	
167	Layer	Mid-orange brown firm sandy silt with moderate root action. Contains frequent small to large rounded and angular stones and occasional burnt stones. Possible occupation layer/floor.	
168	Fill	Fill of posthole 169. Mid-orange brown firm sandy silt with moderate root action. Frequent small to large rounded and angular stones. With occasional charcoal flecks.	
169	Posthole	Circular posthole with a U shaped profile with vertical sides and a concave base. Filled by 168. Diameter 0.59m, width 0.37m. Cut by pit 158.	
170	Pit cut	Large sub-circular pit. Sharp break from surface with near vertical flat sides and a sharp break to a flat base. Filled by 171, 172 and 173. Diameter 2.44m, depth 0.58m.	
171	Fill	Primary fill of pit 170. Mid-brown compact friable silty sand. Contains occasional charcoal flecks and small rounded stones.	
172	Fill	Secondary fill of pit 170. Dump of angular fire cracked stones and charcoal flecks.	
173	Fill	Upper fill of pit 170. Dark brown black compact and cohesive sandy silt. Contains occasional fire cracked stone and rare charcoal flecks.	
174	Pit cut	Oval pit with steep sides, orientated SW-NE. Sloping flat base. Filled by 175. Length 1.25m, width 1.05m, depth 0.32m. Cut by 153.	
175	Fill	Fill of pit 174. Mid-orange yellowish brown friable silty sand. Abundant small to medium sub-rounded and rounded pebbles. Contains rare fragments of flat blue mud stone.	
176	Pit cut	Oval pit with gently sloping sides. Gradually breaking to a flat base. Orientated NE-SW. Filled by 177. Length 1.26m, width 0.97m, depth 0.14m. Cut by 174.	

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
177	Fill	Fill of pit 176. Light yellow orange friable silty sand. Contains frequent small to medium rounded and sub rounded pebbles.	
178	Pit cut	Deep sub-circular pit. With a sharp break from surface to vertical sides that break sharply to a flat base. Filled by 179.Length 1.15m, width 1.0m, depth 0.70m.	
179	Fill	Fill of pit 178. Dark brown compact but friable silty sand. Occasional charcoal flecks, fire cracked stones and small to medium sub-rounded and rounded stones.	
180	Pit cut	Oval pit with vertical sides sharply breaking to a flat base. Orientated SW-NE. Filled by 181, 182 and 183.Length 1.14m, width 1.10m, depth 0.64m.	
181	Fill	Upper fill of pit 180. Mid-greyish brown friable silty sand. Occasional flecks of charcoal and frequent small to medium sub-rounded pebbles.	
182	Fill	Secondary fill of pit 181. Light orange yellow friable silty sand. Contains rare small rounded pebbles.	
183	Fill	Primary fill of pit 181. Dark black cohesive silty clay. Contains frequent charcoal flecks and rare small rounded pebbles.	
184	Pit cut	Oval pit with a sharp break from surface and near vertical sides sharply breaking to a flat base. Filled by 185.Length 1.56m, width 0.90m, depth 0.47.	
185	Fill	Fill of pit 184. Light brown grey compact and cohesive silty sand. Contains frequent round stones, occasional angular fire cracked stones and rare charcoal flecks.	
186	Pit cut	Circular pit with a sharp break from the surface with slightly concave sides gradually breaking to a flat base. Filled by 187. Diameter 0.86m,depth 0.18m.	
187	Fill	Fill of pit 186. Mid-brown compact friable brown grey sand. Contains occasional charcoal flecks and rare angular fire cracked stones.	
188	Pit cut	Circular pit with a sharp break from the surface with vertical sides and flat base. Diameter 1.30m, depth 0.70m. Filled by 189 and 190.	
189	Fill	Primary fill of pit 188. Mid-brown green soft and malleable silty sand. Contains occasional small rounded stone.	
190	Fill	Upper fill of pit 188. Light brown grey compact and friable silty sand. Contains occasional charcoal flecks and small angular fire cracked stones.	

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
191	Pit cut	Sub-circular pit with a sharp break from the surface with vertical sides and flat base. Filled by 192. Length 1.05m, width 1.10m, depth 0.53m.	
192	Fill	Fill of pit 191. Dark brown black silty sand. Contains occasional charcoal flecks and fire cracked stones.	
193	Pit cut	Oval pit with steep vertical sides and a flat base. Filled by 194. Length 1.08m, width 1.01m, depth 0.19m.	
194	Fill	Fill of pit 193. Mid-orange reddish brown friable silty sand. Contains frequent small to medium rounded pebbles and occasional rare charcoal flecks.	
195	Fill	Upper fill of pit 197. Greyish brown moderately compact silty sand with frequent worm action and lenses of sand. Contains frequent rounded pebbles and angular stones, with moderate charcoal flecks.	
196	Fill	Primary fill of pit 197. Orange sand and grit. Contains occasional rounded pebbles and angular stones.	
197	Pit cut	Oval pit with vertical sides and a sharp break to a flat base sloping to the south. Filled by 195 and 196. Length 1.46m, width 1.12m, depth 0.35m.	
198	Fill	Upper fill of pit 200. Greyish brown moderately compact silty sand. Contains occasional charcoal and rounded pebbles, fire cracked stones and sub-angular pebbles..	
199	Fill	Primary fill of pit 200. Orangey brown silty sand with frequent pebbles. Contains occasional fire cracked stones and sub angular stone.	
200	Pit cut	Sub-circular pit with vertical sides and a sharp break to a concave base. Filled by 198 and 199. Diameter 0.80m, depth 0.64m.	
201	Pit cut	Irregular oval pit with vertical sides and flat base. Orientated SW-NE. Filled by 202 and 203. Length 1.23m, width 1.10m, depth 0.39m.	
202	Fill	Upper fill of pit 201. Mid-greyish brown friable silty sand. Contains frequent small to medium sub-rounded and rounded pebbles and occasional degraded sandstone.	
203	Fill	Primary fill of pit 201. Mid-greyish brown friable silty sand. Contains occasional to rare sub-rounded pebbles and rare charcoal flecks.	
204	Fill	Fill of pit 205. Greyish brown compact silty sand. Contains frequent pebbles, and occasional sub-angular stones and charcoal flecks.	

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
205	Pit cut	Suboval pit with a sharp break from the surface with steep concave sides. Sharp to gradual break to a flat base, sloping to north. Filled by 204. Runs into eastern baulk, length 0.91m, width 0.89m, depth 0.30m.	
206	Pit cut	Circular pit with vertical sides and flat base. Filled by 207. Depth 0.54m. Cut by ditch 208.	
207	Fill	Fill of pit 206. Dark brown black friable silty sand with occasional root action. Contains occasional charcoal flecks, fire cracked stones.	
208	Linear cut	Wide linear running N-S across site, not fully excavated Moderate break from the surface with 30-45° concave eastern side. The break to base was imperceptible. Filled by 210 and 209. Depth 0.44m. Cuts pit 206.	399
209	Fill	Primary fill of ditch 208. Mid-orange brown silty sand. Contains occasional sub rounded pebbles and fire cracked stones.	
210	Fill	Upper fill of ditch 208. Light orangey brown silty sand. Contains occasional sub-rounded pebbles and fire cracked stones.	
211	Pit cut	Oval pit with near vertical sides and flat base Orientated SW-NE. Filled by 212. Length 0.68m, width 0.81m, depth 0.31m.	
212	Fill	Fill of pit 211. Mid-brownish grey friable silty sand. Contains frequent medium rounded pebbles.	
213	Fill	Fill of pit 214. Brownish grey silty sand with sand lenses. Contains occasional sub-angular stones.	
214	Pit cut	Sub-oval truncated pit with concave base and gradual break to base. Concave sides with an irregular base. Filled by 213. Length 1.70m, width 1.30m, depth 0.30m.	
215	Posthole	Cut of circular pothole with vertical sides breaking gradually to a concave base. Filled by 216. Diameter 0.27m, depth 0.08m.	400
216	Fill	Fill of posthole 215. Loose mid-orangey brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (possible packing material). Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
217	Fill	Fill of pit 218. Mid-brown moderately firm silty sand. Contains occasional charcoal flecks and rounded cobbles.	
218	Pit cut	Circular pit with near vertical sides breaking sharply to a	

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
		irregular flat base. Filled by 217. Diameter 0.93m, depth 0.28m.	
219	Posthole	Cut of sub-circular posthole with near vertical slightly concave sides slightly stepped on the SW. Gradual break to a concave base. Filled by 220, 221 and 222. Diameter 0.64m, depth 0.25m.	400
220	Fill	Upper fill of posthole 219. Loose mid-orangey brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (possible packing material) and patches of orange sand Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
221	Fill	Secondary fill of posthole 219. Concentration of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (packing material). Cohesive and malleable.	
222	Fill	Loose mid-brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm red silty clay. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
223	Pit cut	Cut of sub-circular pit with gently sloping concave sides gradually breaking to a flat base. Filled by 224 Diameter 0.47m, depth 0.17m.	
224	Fill	Fill of pit 223. Firm mid-brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (possible packing material). Patches of orange sand. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
225	Pit cut	Cut of sub-circular pit with gently sloping concave sides gradually breaking to a flat base. Filled by 226. Diameter 0.68m, depth 0.22m.	
226	Fill	Fill of pit 225. Firm mid-brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (possible packing material). Patches of orange sand. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
227	Posthole	Cut of circular pothole with vertical sides breaking sharply to a flat base. Filled by 228 and 229.	400
228	Fill	Primary fill of posthole 227. Loose mid-orangey brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (possible packing material) and patches of orange sand Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
229	Fill	Secondary fill of posthole 227. Concentration of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (packing material). Cohesive and malleable.	

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
230	Posthole	Cut of sub-circular posthole with U shaped profile. SE side is angled at 45° and is slightly concave. Sides break sharply to concave base. Filled by 231. Diameter 0.35m, depth 0.19m.	400
231	Fill	Fill of pit 230. Firm mid-brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (possible packing material) and patches of orange sand. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks	
232	Posthole	Cut of sub-circular posthole with a U shaped profile, with near vertical concave sides. Concave base. Filled by 233. Diameter 0.32m, depth 0.10m.	400
233	Fill	Fill of posthole 232. Firm mid-brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (possible packing material) and patches of orange sand. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks	
234	Posthole	Cut of sub-circular posthole with a U shaped profile, with near vertical concave sides. Concave base. Filled by 235. Diameter 0.29m, depth 0.18m.	400
235	Fill	Fill of posthole 234. Firm mid-brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (possible packing material) and patches of orange sand. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks	
236	Posthole	Cut of sub-circular posthole with a U shaped profile, with near vertical concave (NE) and convex (SW) sides. Concave base. Filled by 235. Diameter 0.48m, depth 0.25m.	400
237	Fill	Fill of posthole 236. Firm mid-brown silty sand with patches of orange sand. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks	
238	Posthole	Cut of sub-circular posthole with a U shaped profile, with near vertical concave sides. Concave base. Filled by 239. Diameter 0.38m, depth 0.18m.	400
239	Fill	Fill of posthole 238. Firm dark brown silty sand, with patches of orange sand. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks	
240	Posthole	Cut of circular posthole with a U shaped profile, with near vertical concave sides. Concave base. Filled by 241, 242 and 243. Diameter 0.29m, depth 0.30m.	400
241	Fill	Edge of post pipe within fill 241. Vertical sided with a flat base. Filled by 243. Width 0.24m, depth 0.23m.	

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
242	Fill	Fill of posthole 240. Loose mid-orangey brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (possible packing material) and patches of orange sand. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
243	Fill	Fill of post pipe 241. Firm dark brown silty sand, frequent charcoal flecks and occasional small rounded stones.	
244	Posthole	Cut of oval pothole with a U shaped profile, with near vertical concave sides. Concave base. Filled by 245 and 246. Length 0.65m, width 0.45m, depth 0.23m.	400
245	Fill	Primary fill of posthole 244. Loose mid-orangey brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (possible packing material) and patches of orange sand Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
246	Fill	Upper fill of posthole 244. Concentration of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (packing material). Cohesive and malleable.	
247	Posthole	Cut of sub-circular posthole with a U shaped profile, with near vertical concave sides. Concave base. Filled by 248 and 249. Diameter 0.39m, depth 0.18m.	400
248	Fill	Primary fill of posthole 247. Loose mid-orangey brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (possible packing material) and patches of orange sand Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
249	Fill	Upper fill of posthole 247. Concentration of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (packing material). Cohesive and malleable.	
250	Posthole	Cut of sub-oval pothole with a U shaped profile, with near vertical concave sides. Concave base. Filled by 251 and 252. Diameter 0.32m, depth 0.25m.	400
251	Fill	Primary fill of posthole 250. Loose mid-orangey brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (possible packing material) and patches of orange sand Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
252	Fill	Concentration of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (packing material). Cohesive and malleable.	
253	Pit cut	Oval pit with vertical sides and flat base. Orientated SW-NE. Filled by 254. Length 1.51, width 1.30m, depth 0.38m.	

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
254	Fill	Upper fill of pit 253. Mid-dark greyish brown black friable silty sand. Contains frequent rounded pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks.	
255	Pothole	Cut of oval pothole with an irregular U shaped profile, with near vertical concave (N and E) and convex (S and W) sides. Concave base. Filled by 256. Length 0.45m, width 0.32m, depth 0.32m.	400
256	Fill	Fill of posthole 255. Firm dark orangey brown silty sand. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
257	Posthole	Cut of oval pothole with an irregular U shaped profile, with near vertical concave (S and W) and convex (N and E) sides. Concave base. Filled by 258. Length 0.70m, width 0.27m, depth 0.13m.	400
258	Fill	Fill of posthole 257. Loose mid-orangey brown silty sand with patches of orange sand Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
259	Posthole	Cut of sub-oval posthole. Irregular U shaped profile with near vertical slightly concave sides and a flat base. Filled by 260. Diameter 0.22m, depth 0.20m. Cut by pit 162.	400
260	Fill	Fill of posthole 259. Firm dark orangey brown silty sand. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
261	Posthole	Cut of sub-circular posthole with a U shaped profile, with near vertical concave sides. Concave base. Filled by 262. Diameter 0.26m, depth 0.24m.	400
262	Fill	Fill of pit 261. Firm dark orangey brown silty sand. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
263	Posthole	Sub-circular posthole cut. U shaped profile, with slightly concave sides. Diameter 0.53m, depth 0.22m. Cut by pit 158.	400
264	Fill	Fill of posthole 263. Firm orangey brown silty sand. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and patches of orange sand.	
265	Pit cut	Cut of shallow sub-oval pit cut. U shaped profile with convex sides and a flat base. Length 0.71m, width 0.39m, depth 0.09m.	400
266	Fill	Fill of pit 265. Firm dark orangey brown silty sand. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
267	Posthole	Irregular oval posthole cut. U shaped profile, with slightly concave sides. Filled by 268. Length 0.64m, width 0.51m, depth 0.22m.	400
268	Fill	Fill of pit 267. Firm mid-brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (possible packing material) and patches of orange sand. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
269	Posthole	Cut of circular posthole with a U shaped profile, convex sides and a flat base. Filled by 270. Diameter 0.26m, depth 0.08m.	400
270	Fill	Fill of pit 269. Firm mid-brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (possible packing material) and patches of orange sand. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
271	Posthole	Sub-circular posthole cut. U shaped profile, with slightly concave sides. Filled by 272. Width 0.22m, depth 0.09m.	400
272	Fill	Fill of pit 271. Firm mid-brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (possible packing material) and patches of orange sand. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
273	Posthole	Cut of circular posthole with a U shaped profile, concave sides and a concave base. Filled by 274. Diameter 0.26m, depth 0.08m.	400
274	Fill	Fill of pit 273. Firm mid-brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (possible packing material) and patches of orange sand. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
275	Posthole	Cut of sub-circular posthole with an irregular U shaped profile with near vertical slightly concave sides. Filled by 276. Diameter 0.28m, depth 0.24m.	400
276	Fill	Fill of posthole 275. Firm mid-brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (possible packing material). Patches of orange sand. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
277	Pothole	Cut of sub-circular posthole with a U shaped profile and concave sides and base. Filled by 278 and 279. Diameter 0.62m, depth 0.34m.	400
278	Fill	Primary fill of posthole 277. Loose mid-orangey brown	

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
		silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (possible packing material) and patches of orange sand Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
279	279	Secondary fill of posthole 277. Concentration of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (packing material). Cohesive and malleable.	
280	Posthole	Cut of sub-circular posthole with slightly concave sides and base. Filled by 281 and 282. Diameter 0.57m, depth 0.22m.	400
281	Fill	Primary fill of posthole 281. Loose mid-orangey brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (possible packing material) and patches of orange sand Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
283	Posthole	Cut of oval posthole with a U shaped profile with concave sides and base. Filled by 283. Diameter 0.62m, depth 0.25m.	400
284	Fill	Fill of posthole 283. Firm mid-brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (possible packing material). Patches of orange sand. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
285	Posthole	Cut of circular posthole with a U shaped profile and 45°-90° slightly concave sides and a concave base. Filled by 286. Diameter 0.26m, depth 0.13m.	400
286	Fill	Fill of posthole 285. Firm mid-brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (possible packing material). Patches of orange sand. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
287	Pit cut	Cut of shallow oval pit with gently angled concave sides and an imperceptible break to slightly concave base. Filled by 288. Length 0.86m, width 0.61m, depth 0.12m.	
288	Fill	Fill of pit 287. Firm orangey-brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey and red silty clay. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
289	Pit cut	Cut of sub-circular pit with an elongated U shaped profile and convex sides and concave base. Filled by 289. Diameter 0.62m, depth 0.14m.	
290	Fill	Fill of pit 289. Firm orangey-brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey and red silty clay. Moderate small to medium rounded stones	

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
		and occasional charcoal flecks.	
291	Fill	Fill of pit 292. Mid-brown moderately compact silty sand. Contains occasional rounded cobbles and charcoal flecks.	
292	Pit cut	Oval pit with a sharp break from the surface, concave sides and a sharp break to a flat base. Filled by 291. Length 0.83m, width 0.69m, depth 0.31m.	
293	Pit cut	Circular pit with and irregular 'U' shape profile. NE sides convex. SW side concave breaking to an irregular convex base. Contains 294 and 295. Diameter 1.19m, depth 0.23m.	
294	Fill	Primary fill of pit 293. Mid-orange brown firm sandy silt. Contains frequent small to large angular and rounded stones, occasional medium to large burnt stones and charcoal flecks. Also occasional manganese flecks.	
295	Fill	Upper fill of pit 293. Dark orange brown firm sandy silt. Contains frequent charcoal flecks and lumps and animal bone. Occasional small to large angular and rounded stones and small to large burnt stones.	
296	Fill	Fill of pit 297. Greyish brown soft silty sand. Contains occasional small rounded pebbles and charcoal.	
297	Pit cut	Sub-circular pit with shallow concave sides and base. Orientated NE-SW. Filled by 296. Length 0.51m, width 0.37m, depth 0.16m.	
298	Fill	Upper fill of pit 299. Light mid brown soft silty sand. Contains occasional rounded pebbles and charcoal.	
299	Pit cut	Oval pit with concave sides and base. Orientated NE-SW. Filled by 298,305 and 306. Length 1.17m, width 0.71m, depth 0.28m.	
300	Fill	Fill of pit 301. Mid-greyish brown soft silty clay. Contains occasional rounded pebbles and charcoal.	
301	Pit cut	Oval pit orientated NW-SE. Sides concave and steep. With a gradual break to a flat base. Filled by 300. Length 0.55m, width 0.42m, depth 0.28m.	
302	Fill	Upper fill of pit 304. Soft to moderately compact silty sand with lenses of loose orange sand. Contains occasional angular stones..	
303	Fill	Primary fill of pit 304. Dark grey black soft sandy silt. Contains occasional pebbles and charcoal flecks.	
304	Pit cut	Oval pit with steep concave sides With a sharp break to base (N and E). Gradual concave sides with a gradual	

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
		break to base (W and S). Base concave. Orientated E-W. Filled by 302 and 303. Length 1.18m, width 0.88m, depth 0.56m.	
305	Fill	Fill of pit 299. Dark grey black soft silty clay. Occasional rounded pebbles and charcoal flecks.	
306	Fill	Primary fill of pit 299. Mid-grey brown silty sand. Contains frequent rounded pebbles and angular stones.	
307	Layer	Firm and compact dark orangey brown silty sand. Frequent small to medium rounded and angular stones. Possible occupation layer.	
308	Pit cut	Sub-oval pit with a sharp break from base and vertical sides. Sharp break to flat base. Filled by 309. Length 0.95m, width 0.8m, depth 1.10m. Cut by pit 312.	
309	Fill	Fill of pit 308. Dark brown black compact but friable silty sand. Contains frequent fire cracked stones, occasional charcoal flecks, rounded and sub rounded pebbles.	
310	Pit cut	Shallow oval pit with a gradual break from the surface becoming gradual concave sides with an imperceptible break to a concave base. Filled by 311. Length 1.10m, width 1.0m, depth 0.46m. Cut by pit 312.	
311	Fill	Fill of pit 310. Dark brown silty sand. Contains occasional charcoal flecks, fire cracked stones and sub rounded and rounded pebbles.	
312	Pit cut	Large irregularly shaped pit with 45° sides breaking sharply to a flat base. Filled by 313, 314, 315 and 316. Length 2.05m, width 1.7m, depth 0.80m. Cut by linear 317.	
313	Fill	Primary fill of pit 312. Orange brown friable but compact sand. Contains rare rounded and sub rounded pebbles.	
314	Fill	Secondary fill of pit 312. Green brown compact and friable silty sand. Contains small fire cracked stones, charcoal flecks and animal bones.	
315	Fill	Tertiary fill of pit 312. Orangey brown compact but friable silty sand. Contains occasional fire cracked stones and small to medium rounded and sub rounded pebbles.	
316	Fill	Upper fill of pit 312. Dark brown black compact silty sand. Contains frequent fire cracked stones and occasional animal bone and charcoal flecks. Also rare rounded and sub rounded pebbles.	
317	Linear cut	Linear running N-S across site. Sharpe break from surface to with near vertical concave sides gradually	397

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
		breaking to a concave base. Filled by 318. Width 0.70m, depth 0.38m.	
318	Fill	Fill of linear 317. Dark brown black compact silty sand. Contains occasional limestone pebbles, charcoal flecks, fire cracked stones and rare small rounded and sub rounded pebbles.	
319	Fill	Fill of pit 320. Greyish brown silty sand. Contains occasional medium to large stones and charcoal.	
320	Pit cut	Oval pit with V shaped profile, with concave (E, S, W) and convex (N) sides. Filled by 319. Length 1.33m, width 0.95m, depth 0.45m. Cuts posthole 322.	
321	Fill	Fill of posthole 322. Light to mid-brown silty clay. Contains occasional medium to small pebbles. Occasional charcoal flecks..	
322	Posthole	Oval posthole with vertical sides sharply breaking to a flat base. Filled by 321. Diameter 0.35m, depth 0.40m. Cut by 320.	
323	Layer	Orange brown silty sand. Frequent gravel, rounded and sub rounded pebbles. Compact and cohesive, possible occupation layer. Length 0.50m, width 0.25m, depth 0.02m.	
324	Fill	Fill of pit 325. Mid-greyish brown silty sand. Occasional medium to small pebbles and occasional charcoal.	
325	Pit cut	Heavily truncated sub-circular pit. Gradual concave sides gently breaking to a flat base. Filled by 324. Length 1.08m, width 0.95m, depth 0.11m.	
326	Fill	Fill of linear 327. Mid brown firm silty sand with frequent rounded cobbles.	
327	Linear cut	Linear running N-S across site with V shaped profile and flat base. Filled by 326. Width 0.80m, depth 0.18m.	398
328	Fill	Upper fill of pit 330. Dark brown orange compact but friable silty sand. Contains occasional charcoal flecks, fire cracked stones. Frequent small to medium rounded and sub rounded pebbles.	
329	Fill	Primary fill of pit 330. Dark brown friable but compact silty sand. Occasional charcoal flecks and small to medium sub rounded and rounded pebbles.	
330	Pit cut	Oval pit with a sharp break from surface and 70° concave sides and an imperceptible break to a concave base. Filled by 328 and 329. Width 0.78m, depth 0.38m.	

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
331	Fill	Fill of linear 332. Orangey Brown soft and friable silty sand. Frequent small to medium rounded and sub rounded pebbles. Occasional flint.	
332	Linear cut	Northern terminus of linear running NE-SW across site. Gently sloping concave sides to a flat base. Filled by 331. Width 0.71, depth 0.18m.	398
333	Fill	Fill of linear 334. Mid-grey brown silty sand. Frequent small to medium rounded and sub angular pebbles.	
334	Linear cut	Southern terminus of linear running NE-SW across site. Truncated on eastern edge. Gently sloping concave sides to a flat base. Filled by 333. Width 0.48, depth 0.07m. .	398
335	Fill	Fill of linear 336. Greyish brown soft silty sand. Frequent small to medium rounded and sub-rounded pebbles, occasional charcoal and rare pottery fragments.	
336	Linear cut	Linear running NE-SW across site. Concave sides gently sloping to flat base. Filled by 335. Width 0.65m, depth 0.19m.	398
337	Linear cut	Linear running N-S across site with V shaped profile braking to a flattish base. Filled by 338. Width 0.83m, depth 0.46m.	397
338	Fill	Fill of linear 337. Dark brown compact and friable silty sand. Occasional charcoal flecks and animal bone. Frequent small to medium rounded and sub-rounded pebbles.	
339	Linear cut	Linear running N-S across site. With steep concave sides and an imperceptible break to a flattish base. Filled by 340. Width 0.70m, depth 0.35m.	397
340	Fill	Fill of linear 339. Dark brown silty sand. Occasional charcoal flecks and frequent small to medium rounded and sub rounded pebbles. Also occasional large rounded pebbles.	
341	Linear cut	Linear running N-S across site with V shaped profile breaking to a concave base. Filled by 342. Width 0.56m, depth 0.42m.	397
342	Fill	Dark brown compact silty sand. Frequent small to medium rounded and sub-rounded pebbles, occasional charcoal flecks and medium large pebbles.	
343	Pit cut	Small circular pit cut with a moderate break from the surface becoming 40° concave sides. Gradual break to a flat base. Filled by 344Diamter 0.40m, depth 0.08m.	
344	Fill	Fill of pit 343. Mid-brown soft malleable silty sand.	

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
		Occasional small rounded stone and small charcoal flecks	
345	Pit cut	Sub-oval pit cut with a moderate break from the surface becoming 30-50° undulating sides. Imperceptible break to a flat base. Filled by 346. Length 0.52m, width 0.42m, depth 0.10m.	
346	Fill	Fill of pit 345. Mid-brown soft and malleable silty sand. Occasional small and medium rounded stones and charcoal flecks.	
347	Pit cut	Sub-circular pit cut. Sharp break from surface to near vertical concave sides breaking sharply to a concave base. Filled by 348. Diameter 0.79m, depth 0.18m.	
348	Fill	Fill of pit 347. Mid-dark soft and malleable silty sand. Occasional small rounded stones and charcoal flecks	
349	Pit cut	Sub-circular pit cut. Steep concave on the W and S and vertical on the N and E. Gradual break to a flat base sloping N-E. Filled by 350. Diameter 1.10m, depth 0.22m.	
350	Fill	Fill of pit 349. Mid-brown soft malleable silty sand. Occasional small rounded stones and charcoal flecks.	
351	Pit cut	Sub-oval pit cut. Sharp break from surface to gently sloping concave sides gradually breaking to a flat base. Filled by 352. Length 0.95m, width 0.85m, depth 0.25m.	
352	Fill	Fill of pit 351. Mid-brown soft and malleable silty sand. Occasional small rounded stones and charcoal flecks.	
353	Pit cut	Sub-oval pit cut. Sharp break from the surface with vertical sides and concave base. Filled by 354. Length 1.10m, width 0.56m, depth 0.37m.	
354	Fill	Fill of pit 353. Mid-brown loose and friable silty sand. Frequent small to medium rounded stones and charcoal flecks.	
355	Linear cut	Terminus of truncated linear running NE-SW into northern baulk. Moderate break from surface to 45° concave sides and flat base. Filled by 356. Width 0.75m, depth 0.13m.	
356	Fill	Fill of linear 355. Orangey brown soft and friable silty sand. Frequent small to medium rounded and sub-rounded pebbles.	
357	Pit cut	Small circular pit with a sharp break from the surface, vertical sides and flat base. Filled by 358. Diameter 0.46m, depth 0.20m.	

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
358	Fill	Fill of pit 357. Mid-dark brown soft silty sand. Contains occasional medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
359	Plough scare	Irregular shape cut/scare. Shallow cut with a gradual break from the surface with a gradual break to a concave base. Filled by 360. Length 1.42m, width 0.41m, depth 0.07m.	
360	Fill	Fill of cut 359. Loose and friable silty sand with frequent small rounded stones and rare charcoal flecks.	
361	Pit cut	Large oval pit cut aligned NE-SW. Sharp break from surface to vertical sides, stepped towards base. Break to base sharp, base flat. Filled by 362 and 363.Length 2.64m, width 1.30m, depth 0.67m.	
362	Fill	Primary fill of pit 361. Mid-light compact and cohesive silty sand. Occasional small to large round and angular fire cracked stone and occasional charcoal flecks.	
363	Fill	Upper fill of pit 361. Light brown grey silty sand. Occasional small to large round and angular fire cracked stone and occasional charcoal flecks.	
364	Posthole	Cut of circular posthole with a U shaped profile with vertical sides and a concave base. Filled by 365. Diameter 0.20m, depth 0.19m.	400
365	Fill	Fill of pit 364. Firm mid-brown silty sand with patches and lumps of firm light to mid-greenish grey silty clay (possible packing material) and patches of orange sand. Moderate small to medium rounded stones and occasional charcoal flecks.	
366	Fill	Upper fill of linear 368. Mid-reddish brown loose silty sand. Frequent pieces of rounded gravel and rare bone fragments.	
367	Fill	Primary fill of linear 368. Light brownish red silty sand. Frequent pieces of rounded gravel and rare bone fragments.	
368	Linear cut	Wide linear cut running N-S across site. Break from surface sharp becoming moderate concave sides gradually breaking to concave base. Filled by 366 and 367. Width 3.50m, depth 0.68m.	399
369	Fill	Tertiary fill of linear 372. Loose brown silty sand with frequent small to medium rounded gravel.	
370	Fill	Secondary fill of linear 372. Brownish red compact sand. Rare stones.	

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
371	Fill	Primary fill of linear 372. Light brown loose silty sand. Frequent small to medium rounded gravel.	
372	Linear cut	Linear cut running N-S across site. Break from surface sharp becoming moderate concave sides gradually breaking to concave base Filled with 369, 370 and 371 and 379.Width 3.70m, depth 0.80m. Cuts pit 120.	399
373	Pit cut	Sub-oval pit cut, with vertical sides sharply breaking to a flat base. Filled by 374, 375, 376, 377 378. Length 1.30m, width 1.10m, depth 0.88m.	
374	Fill	Primary fill of pit 373. Dark brown compact silty clay. Occasional charcoal flecks and animal bone fragments.	
375	Fill	Secondary fill of pit 373. Dark brown and black compact friable silty sand. Frequent charcoal flecks and fire cracked stones.	
376	Fill	Tertiary fill of pit373. Orangey brown compact but friable silty sand. Occasional rounded and sub-rounded pebbles.	
377	Fill	Quaternary fill of pit 373. Greenish brown compact but friable silty sand. Occasional rounded and sub-rounded pebbles and charcoal flecks.	
378	Fill	Upper fill of pit 373. Dark brown compact silty sand. Occasional rounded and sub-rounded pebbles and charcoal flecks and fire cracked stones.	
379	Fill	Upper fill of linear 372. Reddish brown loose silty sand. Occasional small rounded gravel.	
381	Fill	Upper fill of linear 386. Mid-brown loose silty sand. Frequent small to medium rounded gravel.	
382	Fill	Quaternary fill of linear 386. Reddish Brown loose silty sand. Frequent small to medium rounded gravel	
383	Fill	Tertiary fill of linear 386. Reddish brown loose silty sand. Frequent small to medium round gravel.	
384	Fill	Secondary fill of linear 386. Reddish brown loose silty sand. Frequent small to medium round gravel	
385	Fill	Primary fill of linear 386. Reddish brown loose silty sand. Occasional small to medium round gravel. Below 384	
386	Linear cut	Wide linear cut running N-S across site. Sharp break from surface to moderately concave sides gradually breaking to concave base. Filled by 381, 382, 383 384. Width 3.80m, depth 1.00m.	399

Context	Classification	Description	Context group
387	Fill	Upper fill of linear 392. Mid-brown loose silty sand. Frequent round gravels.	
388	Fill	Fill of linear 389. Grey firm sandy clay. Occasional round gravels.	
389	Linear cut	Re-cut of linear 392. Steep concave sides gradually breaking to a concave base. Filled by 388. Width 0.74m, depth 0.40m.	
390	Fill	Secondary fill of linear 392. Greyish brown loose silty sand. Occasional round gravels. Cut by 389.	
391	Fill	Primary fill of linear 392. Grey firm sandy clay. Frequent small to medium round gravels.	
392	Linear cut	Linear cut running N-S across the site on the eastern baulk. V shaped profile with steep slightly stepped sides breaking to a narrow concave base. Filled by 391, 390, 387. Length 32.3m, width 2.60m, depth 1.35m. Cut by linear 389.	
393	Fill	Upper fill of linear 396. Loose brown silty sand. Round gravel pieces. Occasional pottery sherds.	
394	Fill	Secondary fill of linear 396. Loose brown silty sand. Occasional round gravels.	
395	Fill	Primary fill of linear 396. Loose brown silty sand. Lenses of reddish sand. Occasional round gravel.	
396	Linear cut	Linear cut running N-S across site Sharp break from surface to moderate concave sides gradually breaking to slightly concave base. Filled by 395, 394 and 393. Width 2.60m, depth 1.24m.	399

Context Group	Classification	Description
397	Linear	Medieval linear running N-S across the middle of the site 35.0m With a sharp break from the surface and slightly concave steep sided V shaped profile. Between 0.56-0.83m wide and 0.35-0.46m deep. Includes contexts 317, 337, 339 and 341.
398	Linear	Linear running NE-SW across the middle of the site 13.70m and terminating in the north and south. Gently sloping concave sides breaking sharply to a flat base. Between 0.48-0.80m wide and 0.07-0.19m deep. Includes contexts 327, 332, 334 and 336.
399	Linear	Wide linear cut running N-S across site for 54.80m, towards the western limits of the archaeology. Sharp break from surface to moderately angled concave sides gradually

Context Group	Classification	Description
		breaking to slightly concave base. Includes contexts 208, 368, 372, 386 and 396. Between 2.60-3.80m wide and 0.68-1.45m deep.
400	Roundhouse	Iron age round house in the centre of the excavation area facing west. Constructed from a ring of 10 posts and a further 2 demarking the porch/entrance on the western edge. Giving the structure a circumference of 5.45-5.75m. A further 16 posts were found within the internal space that perhaps acted as central supports, partitioning or repair.
401	Square structure	A rectangular structure measuring 2.80m long and 2.50m wide, aligned NE-SW on the eastern edge of the roundhouse (context group 400). The structure was formed from five small postholes 149, 160, 166, 169 and 322 averaging 0.26m deep.

Appendix 2 Specialist tables

Cut type	Total Qty.	Total Wt. (g)	Average Wt. (g)
Ditches	4	52	13
Pits	152	820	5
Postholes	4	31	8
Unstratified	4	17	4
Total	164	920	6

Table 1: Summary of the prehistoric and Roman pottery assemblage by cut type and cut number

Common name (BD = Beckford fabric)	Fabric	Qty.	Wt. (g)	Average Wt. (g)
Clay Pellet briquetage (BD 123)	BD123	1	19	19
Palaeozoic limestone (Peacock B1)	4.1	2	9	5
Shell and sand (BD18)	4.4	7	42	6
Oolitic limestone and shell (BD 20)	4.5	11	135	12
Oolitic limestone and sand (BD 21)	4.6	3	22	7
Fossil shell and grog (Huntsman's Quarry)	4.7	5	25	5
Limestone (Huntsman's Quarry)	4.8	1	5	5
Fossil shell (Huntsman's Quarry)	4.9	93	501	5
Sand (BD 17)	5.1	3	16	5
Quartz and limestone (Huntsman's Quarry)	5.12	1	7	7
Coarse quartz and grog (Huntsman's Quarry)	5.3	12	49	4
Ironstone and sand (BD 22, 23, 24)	5.6	1	1	1
Mudstone tempered ware; Group D (BD 27)	9	15	41	3
Grog tempered ware (BD 30/31?)	16	1	7	7
Handmade grog tempered ware (BD 30/31?)	16.2	1	10	10
Roman Fabrics				
Severn Valley ware	12	5	24	5
Sandy oxidised ware	13	1	4	4
Oxfordshire red/brown colour coated ware	29	1	3	3

Table 2: Summary of the prehistoric and Roman pottery by fabric

Feature Type	Feature	Fill	Qty.	Wt.
Pit	120	119	1	4
Pit	124	123	5	2
Pit	133	134	1	12
Pit	153	155	25	12
Pit	153	154	1	0.5
Pit	158	156	4	20
Pit	178	179	2	3
Pit	180	181	4	0.5
Pit	188	190	4	5
Pit	191	192	2	2
Pit	205	204	5	1
Pit	206	207	2	4
Pit	208	209	1	1
Pit	218	217	6	7
Pit	277	278	2	3
Pit	287	288	1	0.5
Pit	293	295	3	1
Pit	304	302	9	2
Pit	373	377	2	12
<i>Pits with associated LBA pottery</i>			<i>80</i>	<i>92.5</i>
Pit	327	326	4	18
Pit	330	328	6	3
<i>Pits with no associated Prehistoric pottery</i>			<i>10</i>	<i>21</i>
Pit	132	131	1	9
<i>Pits with associated Roman pottery</i>			<i>1</i>	<i>9</i>
Total			91	122.5

Table 3: Summary of the fired clay by feature/fill

Type	Quantity	Weight (g)
Blade	2	4
Bladelet	3	4
Core	1	14
Flake	20	42
Misc Debitage	2	31
Tool	1	5
Spall	84	N/R

Table 4: Summary of flint assemblage

Context	SF	Identity	Description	Stone	Context details
173	1	quern	Substantial portion of a <i>rubber</i> , made from a cobble partly modified by pecking. Flat grinding surface which has been pecked and then worn smooth, especially around surviving edge; now 225 x 119 x 46 mm, 2290 g	May Hill sandstone (Figure 8)	upper fill of pit 170
173	2	quern	Corner fragment from <i>saddle quern or rubber</i> , slightly concave grinding surface which has been pecked and then worn smooth; now 91.8 x 87 x 54 mm, 510 g	May Hill sandstone	upper fill of pit 170
173	3	quern	Rounded end fragment from a probable <i>rubber</i> , convex grinding surface pecked and then worn smooth, otherwise roughly pecked to shape and subsequently damaged; now 92.8 x 164 x 102 mm, 1800 g	May Hill sandstone	upper fill of pit 170
173	4	quern	Part of <i>saddle quern or rubber</i> , near flat grinding surface, pecked and then worn, rest of fragment now damaged; now 150 x 125.5 x 61.5 mm, 1920 g	May Hill sandstone	upper fill of pit 170
173	5	quern	Thick fragment from probable <i>saddle quern</i> , slightly concave grinding surface which has been pecked and then partly worn smooth, underside rough, sides damaged; now 134 x 129 x 93 mm, 2680 g	May Hill sandstone	upper fill of pit 170
173	6	quern	Fragment from probable <i>saddle quern</i> , concave grinding surface, worn, underside rough, other surfaces damaged; now 153 x 115 x 52.5 mm, 1560 g	May Hill sandstone	upper fill of pit 170
173	7	quern	Weathered fragment, without working traces but a <i>saddle quern</i> material; now 103 x 91 x 53 mm, 720 g	May Hill sandstone	upper fill of pit 170
173	8	quern	Fragment without remaining traces of worked surfaces but a <i>saddle quern</i> material; now 156 x 105 x 52 mm, 1020 g	May Hill sandstone, finer-grained	upper fill of pit 170
173	9	quern	Burnt fragment without remaining traces of worked surfaces but a <i>quern</i> material; now 146 x 112 x 59 mm, 1040 g	Upper Old Red Sandstone, pebbly sandstone	upper fill of pit 170
173	10	quern	3 quern fragments, not joining but probably from the same <i>saddle quern</i> , concave grinding surface, pecked and then worn smooth, underside fairly flat and roughly worked to shape; now 147 x 117 x 73 mm; 136 x 49 x 61 mm; 125 x 115 x 73 mm, total weight 4160 g	May Hill sandstone, finer-grained	upper fill of pit 170
173	11	quern	Fragment from <i>saddle quern or rubber</i> , worn on both main surfaces and reduced in thickness, may be fragment from well worn saddle quern re-used as rubber; now 142 x 64 mm, thickness between 16 - 34.5 mm, 465 g	May Hill sandstone	upper fill of pit 170
115	12	quern	Fragment with a flat surface that has been pecked and then partly worn smooth by grinding, either from saddle quern or, more probably, a <i>rubber</i> ; now measures 132 x 81 x 53 mm, 250 g	May Hill sandstone	fill of pit 116
156	13	quern	Small, triangular fragment with a flat, worn surface, likely to be from a <i>saddle quern or rubber</i> ; 77 x 73 x 47 mm, 100 g	May Hill sandstone, finer-grained	upper fill of pit 158
155	14	slab	Slab with traces of wear on one flat surface, possible <i>paving stone</i> ; 171 x 136 x 26 mm, 730 g	Limestone, Jurassic, shell fragmental, fine-grained on worn surface but coarse-grained on underside	upper fill of pit 153
189	15	bead	tiny circular <i>bead</i> , diam 2.5 mm, thickness 1.5 mm	vein quartz (Figure 9)	from pit 188, not dated
312	16	bead?	small sub-rounded pebble with a natural hole, unworked but could have been worn as a <i>bead</i> ; 7.0 x 6.4 x 4.2 mm	Flint (Figure 9)	from upper fill of pit 312, not dated

Table 5: Catalogue of the prehistoric stone assemblage

Cut Type	Context number
Pit	104, 106, 108, 110, 114, 116, 118, 120, 124, 130, 132, 145, 147, 151, 158, 162, 164, 169, 170, 178, 184, 186, 188, 191, 197, 200, 205, 206, 293, 299, 304, 308, 310, 312, 317, 330, 334, 361, 373
Posthole	166
Ditch	208
Layer	176, 307

Table 6: Summary of features containing burnt and fire-cracked stone

Context	Material	Type	Total	Weight (g)
318	Tile	Roman	1	26
387	Tile	Roman?	1	95

Table 7: Quantification of the Roman building material assemblage

Context	Material	Type	Total	Weight (g)
Unstratified	Brick	Post-medieval	1	27
Unstratified	Tile	Roof	1	42
129	Clay pipe	Stems	7	18
129	Glass	Post-medieval	1	1
129	Pottery	Post-medieval	7	11
129	Tile	Roof	1	47
131	Claypipe	Stems	2	3
154	Iron	Unidentified	1	12
213	Clay	Fired	2	1
295	Pottery	Late post-medieval or early modern	1	0.5
318	Pottery	Medieval	2	196
318	Tile	Floor	1	160
318	Tile	Roman	1	26
318	Tile	Roof	1	105
341	Brick	Medieval- post medieval	1	355
341	Pottery	Medieval	1	7

Context	Material	Type	Total	Weight (g)
341	Tile	Roof	2	184
371	Iron	Nail	1	6
381	Ceramic building material	Undiagnostic	1	26
387	Ceramic buiding material	?Roof tile	1	3
387	Tile	Roman?	1	95

Table 8: Quantification of the medieval and post medieval finds assemblage

Context	Fabric	Fabric common name	Total	Weight (g)
129	78	Post-medieval red wares	1	4
129	81.4	Miscellaneous late stoneware	1	2
129	84	Creamware	3	4
129	85	Stone china	2	1
295	100	Miscellaneous post-medieval wares	1	0.5
318	69	Oxidized glazed Malvernian ware	2	196
341	64.2	Glazed sandy white ware	1	7

Table 9: Quantification of the medieval and post medieval pottery by fabric

Context	Sample	large mammal	small mammal	fish	bird	mollusc	charred plant	hammerscale	pot/fired clay	other evidence
103	1	Occ	occ				occ			
105	2	Occ	occ				occ			
109	12	Occ	occ		?occ					
111	3	Occ				occ*	occ	occ		occ* - oyster, ?glass bead
113	4	Occ	occ			occ*	occ			occ* = oyster
115	8	Occ					occ	occ		occ heat-cracked stone, flint, fig seed
119	5	Occ	occ						occ	glass frags
123	6	Occ		occ			occ		occ	stone bead?
125	10	Occ				occ*	mod		occ	occ*-oyster, large frag pottery, occ heat-cracked stone
143	15	Occ	occ				occ	occ	occ	
155	23	Mod	occ	occ			mod			occ pottery & heat-cracked stones
156	19	Occ	occ				occ		occ	
171	18	Occ					occ			
173	17	Occ					occ		occ	Occ pottery, slag, heat-cracked stone, Cu alloy
179	24	Occ	occ				occ	occ	occ	
181	25	Occ					occ			
183	26	Occ	occ				occ		occ	glass frags
187	29	Occ	occ				occ			
189	27	Occ	occ	occ			occ		occ	quartz bead
190	28	Occ		occ			occ	occ?	occ	
192	30	Occ					occ		occ	c 10 frags pot
194	31	Occ				occ	occ		occ	glass frags
198	36	Occ					occ		occ	
203	34	Occ								
204	37	Occ					occ	occ	occ	glass
207	38	Occ	occ				occ		occ	glass
213	39	Occ		occ			occ			
217	44	Occ	occ				occ		occ	
220/221/222	40	Occ							occ	
284	58	Occ	occ							
288	59	Occ				occ		occ	occ	
291	61	Occ		occ			occ		occ	
294	62	Occ					occ	occ?	occ	
295	63	mod-abt					occ		occ	
302	64	Occ					occ	occ?	occ	glass
309	69	Occ					occ			
316	70	Occ	occ				occ			drilled stone?
319	72	Occ		occ		occ	occ		occ?	glass
324	74						occ		occ?	

Context	Sample	large mammal	small mammal	fish	bird	mollusc	charred plant	hammerscale	pot/fired clay	other evidence
326	75	Occ	occ				occ		occ	
328	76						occ			no residue?
329	77	occ					occ-mod			occ heat-cracked stone
342	80	occ	occ				occ		occ	cu frag
350	85	occ	occ				occ	occ		
362	86	occ		occ				occ		
369	83	occ	occ				occ			
375	81						abt			no residue?
387	87	occ								
388	88	occ							occ	

Table 10: Summary of the environmental evidence

	Common name	Habitat	115	125	155	173	329	375
Sample volume processed (L)			10	10	40	70	20	70
Latin name								
Charred								
<i>Triticum dicoccum</i> glume base	emmer wheat	F		1	12	4		25
<i>Triticum spelta</i> glume base	spelt wheat	F		6	56	15	2	77
<i>Triticum spelta</i> rachis	spelt wheat	F			1			
<i>Triticum spelta</i> spikelet fork	spelt wheat	F						2
<i>Triticum</i> sp (free-threshing) grain	free-threshing wheat	F						7
<i>Triticum</i> sp (free-threshing) grain fragment	free-threshing wheat	F						1
<i>Triticum</i> sp grain	wheat	F	1	4	56	5	12	26
<i>Triticum</i> sp grain fragment	wheat							16
<i>Triticum</i> sp tail grain	wheat	F			2	1	5	7
<i>Triticum</i> sp rachis	wheat	F						5
<i>Triticum</i> sp glume base	wheat	F	1	2	101	11	1	128
<i>Triticum</i> sp spikelet fork	wheat	F		1	9	4		16
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> grain (hulled)	barley	F	6	2		5	4	9
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> grain fragments (hulled)	barley	F				8	1	
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> tail grain (hulled)	barley	F	1					5
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> rachis	barley	F						1
Cereal sp indet grain (fragment)	cereal	F	28	20	152	65	55	208
Cereal sp indet culm node	cereal	F	1	1	1	2		1
Cereal sp indet embryo shoot	cereal	F						1
cf <i>Festuca</i> sp	fescue	ABD		3	1	1	2	6
<i>Bromus</i> sp grain	brome grass	AF	2f		30		2	5
<i>Bromus</i> sp grain fragment	brome grass	AF			87		3	29
<i>Avena/Bromus</i> sp grain	oat/grass	AF		1		10f		
Poaceae sp indet grain (2mm size)	grass	ABD			3			
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	common nettle	ABCD			1			
<i>Chenopodium album</i>	fat hen	AB		2		2		1
<i>Stellaria media</i>	common chickweed	AB		1	2			
<i>Persicaria lapathifolia</i>	pale persicaria	AB				2		
<i>Fallopia convolvulus</i>	black bindweed	AB						1
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	sheep's sorrel	ABD				2		
<i>Rumex</i> sp	dock	ABCD	1	3	15	1		16
cf <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> sp	vetch/pea	ABCD		1	5		1	4
<i>Pisum sativum</i>	garden pea	AF						1c
<i>Trifolium</i> sp	clover	ABD				1		1
<i>Conium maculatum</i>	hemlock	AB	1					
Apiaceae sp indet	carrot family	ABCDEF			2			
<i>Hyoscyamus niger</i>	henbane	AB			7			
<i>Lithospermum arvense</i>	field gromwell	AD						6
<i>Lithospermum arvense</i> fragment	field gromwell	AD						2
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	ribwort plantain	ABD			2			
<i>Galium aparine</i>	cleavers/goosefoot	ABC		1	3			1
<i>Anthemis cotula</i>	stinking chamomile	AB		1				
<i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i>	scentless mayweed	AB						1
<i>Eleocharis</i> sp	spike-rush	E					2	1
Small Poaceae	grasses	E			12			6
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i> var <i>bulbosum</i> tuber	onion couch	A		1				
Waterlogged								
<i>Ficus carica</i>	fig	F	2					1
Waterlogged/modern								
<i>Fumaria officinalis</i>	fumitory	AB		5		1f		
<i>Betula pendula</i>	silver birch	C			31	2	3	
<i>Chenopodium hybridum</i>	maple-leaved goosefoot	AB		3	3		2	2
<i>Chenopodium album</i>	fat hen	AB	6	2	11	10	4	1
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	knotgrass	AB				2		
<i>Fallopia convolvulus</i>	black bindweed	AB			2			
<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	raspberry	CD					1	
<i>Rubus</i> sect <i>Glandulosus</i>	bramble	CD	4					2
<i>Rubus</i> sect <i>Glandulosus</i> (fragment)	bramble	CD	5					2
<i>Aethusa cynapium</i>	fool's parsley	AB		2				
<i>Solanum nigrum</i>	black nightshade	AB	1		8	6		
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	elderberry	BC		1				
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	smooth sow-thistle	ABD		1				
<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	prickly lettuce	AB		2				

Table 11: Charred and waterlogged plant remains

Key to table 11	
Habitat	
A= cultivated ground	D = grasslands, meadows and heathland
B= disturbed ground	E = aquatic/wet habitats
C= woodlands, hedgerows, scrub etc	F = cultivar

Species/ Body Part	Horse	Cattle	Sheep goat	Pig	Cat	Rabbit hare	Frog	Frog toad	Cow sized	Sheep sized	Cat sized	Small bird	Unidentified
Skull		6	1	1					2	1			
Mandible	1	34	5	3					12	3			
Lower Teeth	1	9	10										
Upper Teeth		2	1										
Vertebrae		1	1						48	3		1	
Sacrum									3				
Rib									49	10	3		
Sternum												1	
Corcaoid												2	
Scapula			1	2					2	1		1	
Humerus		2	1							1		1	
Radius		8	3										
Ulna	1	2	2	1									
Innominate	2	2	1				1		9				
Femur		4			1		1	1	1	1		1	
Tibia		2		1		1	1	1	1	2			
Calcaneus		1											
Metacarpal												1	
Metatarsal		6		1								2	
Distal phalange	1	1											
Long bone									118	17		11	
Flat bone									89				
Unidentified									5				711
Total nisp	5	79	24	9	1	1	3	2	341	39	3	23	711
Total weight	192	3365	112.4	165	4	0.4	0.25	0.1	1448.8	135.4	1.6	0.9	222.4
% by nisp	0.4	6.4	1.9	0.7	0.08	0.08	0.2	0.2	27.5	3	0.2	1.9	57.3
% by weight	3.4	59.6	2	0.3	0.1	0.01	0.004	0.002	25.7	2.4	0.03	0.02	3.9

TOTAL NISP = 1241 TOTAL WEIGHT 5648.25g

Table 12: Summary of the animal bone assemblage

Appendix 3 Technical information

The archive

The archive consists of:

9	Fieldwork progress records AS2
8	Photographic records AS3
5	Context number catalogue AS5
2	Drawing number catalogue AS4
4	Sample records AS18
136	Abbreviated context records AS40
30	Scale drawings
4	Box of finds/Environmental remains

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Worcestershire County Museum
Hartlebury Castle
Hartlebury
Near Kidderminster
Worcestershire DY11 7XZ
Tel Hartlebury (01299) 250416

Summary of data for Worcestershire HER

Artefacts

Type	Count	Weight (g)	Date (note 1)	Specialist report? (note 2)	Key assemblage? (note 3)
Pottery	157	889	(E)/Late Bronze Age	Y	Y
Pottery	7	31	Roman	Y	N
Pottery	3	203	Medieval	Y	N
Pottery	8	11.5	Post Medieval/modern	Y	N
Clay tile – roof	2	121	Roman	Y	N
Clay – fired	91	1225	?Late Bronze Age	N	N
Brick/Tile	6	736	Medieval/Post Medieval	Y	N
Clay object	9	21	Post Medieval	Y	N
Glass – vessel	1	1	Post Medieval	Y	N
Iron – object	1	12	Medieval/Post Medieval	Y	N
Stone – object	18	19245	Late Bronze Age	Y	Y
Stone – fire cracked	NA	NA	?Late Bronze Age	N	N
Flaked stone – object	1	5	Late Mesolithic to ?Late Bronze Age	Y	N
Flaked stone – flake	122	95	Late Mesolithic-?LBA	Y	N

Environmental

Methods of retrieval	Yes/No
Hand retrieval	Yes
Bulk sample	Yes
Spot sample	No
Auger	No
Monolith	No
Observed	No

Type	Preservation	Date	Specialist report? Y/N	Key assemblage? Y/N
Bone – amphibian	Not decayed	Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age	Y	N
Bone – bird	Not decayed	Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age	Y	N
Bone – large mammal	Not decayed	Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age	Y	Y
Bone – small mammal	Not decayed	Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age	Y	N
Plant remains – macrofossils	Charred	Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age	Y	Y
Plant remains – macrofossils	Anaerobic/anoxic waterlogged	Modern	Y	N
Teeth – large mammal		Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age	Y	N