Lady Dane Farm, Faversham, Kent

Phase 2 Strip, Map and Sample and Trial Trench Evaluation
Post-excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design

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Summary
Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by RPS Consulting to undertake and archaeological strip, map and sample (SMS) excavation and additional trial trench evaluation of a 1.5 hectare parcel of land located south of Graveney Road at Lady Dane Farm, Faversham, Kent. The investigation area is centred on NGR 602596 160873. The investigation was the final stage in a programme of archaeological works, which had included a Built Heritage Statement (CgMs 2018) and archaeological evaluation (WA 2018). The previous evaluation identified three areas of archaeological potential in the south-west (Area 1), north-west (Area 2) and north-east (Area 3) quadrants of the site which were the subject of the archaeological excavation. Six trial trenches were additionally excavated across the site during the SMS phase. Archaeological remains were encountered within some of the trenches located approximately to the south of the central part of the site. As a result of the evaluation a new area was proposed and excavated around those trenches that contained archaeological remains.

The work was carried out as a condition of planning permission, granted by Swale Borough Council (SW/14/0045) on the 17th February 2016, for the construction of a mixed use development comprising a business park, innovation centre, hotel health centre, pub/restaurant and 196 residential dwellings, along with associated open space including sports pitches, amenity open space and parkland, roads, allotments and a traveller site.

The site was centred approximately at National Grid Reference (NGR) 602596 160873 (TR 02596 60873). The site was located within three agricultural fields and a caravan park bounded to the north by Graveney Road and Graveney Road Insustrial Estate, to the south and east by agricultural fields and to the west by Love Lane and Love Lane cemetery. The site was previously occupied by orchards, now removed.

Existing ground levels vary across the evaluation area, with a distinct downward slope between the southwest (approximately 18.4 m OD) and northeast corners of the area (approximately 11.1 m OD).

This report details the findings of the archaeological excavation and evaluation, with the results presented in chronological order. A degree of truncation caused by a continued agricultural activity from antiquity to the present day and unexpected groundworks, specially within Area 1, carried out before the archaeological investigation commenced.

As a result of this truncation, several features found within Area 1 of excavation were disturbed or partially lost. Furthermore, Area 1 could not be excavated in its entirety, as set out in the WSI, as some of the groundworks related to the new development had irreversibly altered parts of the excavation area. This situation was notified to the County Archaeologist for the Kent County Council who monitored the project on behalf of Swale Borough Council (LPA). An agreement was reached between the client and the County Archaeologist to make all possible effort to complete as much as possible the original size of the area subject to investigation without interfering with the recently commenced development works. The southern half of Area 2 could not be completed due to presence of contaminated ground. A small triangular area included within Area 3, located in the north-east corner of the site, could not be excavated as overhead cable were present too close to safely operate any machinery.

As mentioned above Area 1, located in the south-western corner of the site, was subject to significant truncation, which was evident during the excavation. Despite this, archaeological remains, primarily dating to from the Prehistoric and Romano-British periods, were recorded. The archaeological features, comprising 46 ditches, 69 pits/postholes and two material spreads, were focussed primarily in the western half of the area and contained at least one distinct Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British enclosure. The ditches recorded within the area showed multiple differing alignments, indicating that land management changed throughout the Prehistoric and Romano-British periods

Area 2 was located in the north-western corner of the site and contained archaeological remains dating from the Prehistoric to medieval periods. Two distinct field systems were present within the area, one dating to the Late Iron Age/Romano-British and one dating to the medieval period. Both field systems appear to correlate to some extent with the field systems found in Area 1. A total of 15 ditches and 34 pit/postholes were recorded within the area, along with numerous tree throws/areas of bioturbation. The majority of the dating pits and postholes related to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age.

Area 3 was located in the north-eastern corner of the site and contained far less archaeological evidence than the other three areas. A total of 3 ditches, 11 pits and 1 large medieval quarry pit were recorded in the area. Three features that were recorded in the evaluation as linear ditches were not found in the excavation. One of the undated linear ditches within the area appeared to be on the same alignment and the Late Iron Age/Romano-British field system recorded in Area 2.

Area 4 was located in the centre of the site and contained archaeological remains dating to the Prehistoric and medieval periods. A total of 7 ditches, comprising at least two field systems, and 13 pits/postholes were recorded in the area. The medieval ditches and two of the large undated ditches appear to share an alignment with the medieval field system recorded in Area 2. A substantial cluster of Prehistoric pits were present in the western half of the area, indicating sustained reuse of the area over time.

Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank RPS Consulting for commissioning the archaeological mitigation works, in particular Duncan Hawkins. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful for the advice of Simon Mason, KCC County Archaeologist, who monitored the project for Swale Borough Council, and to Crest Nicholson for their cooperation and help on site.

The fieldwork was directed by William Santamaria, with the assistance of Sarah Baker, Jon Sanigar, Alin Fuior, Lance Lewis, Albert Smith, Rose Malik, Charlotte Porter, Aleksandra Bialobrzewska, Sacha O'Connor, Malinda Henderson, Mark Denyer, Emilia Seredynska and Lisa McCaig. The samples were processed by Liz Foulston, Jenny Giddins, Jenna Jackson and Samantha Rogerson. The flots were sorted by Nicki Mulhall and assessed by Ines Lopez-Doriga with contributions from Samantha Rogerson and Nicki Mulhall. The finds were assessed by Amy Thorp and Lorraine Mepham (medieval pottery), Erica Gittins (worked flint), Jacqueline McKinley (human bone) and Lorraine Higbee (animal bone). This report was written by William Santamaria and edited by Andrew Souter. The project was managed by Rob De'Athe on behalf of Wessex Archaeology.

Lady Dane Farm, Faversham
Phase 2 SMS & Evaluation

Post-excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project and planning background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by RPS Consulting, to undertake archaeological mitigation works comprising a strip, map and sample (SMS) excavation, and trial trench evaluation covering a 1.5 ha parcel of land located south of Graveney Road at Lady Dane Farm, Faversham, Kent. The investigation area is centred on NGR 602596 160873 (**Fig. 1**).

1.1.2 The work was carried out as a condition of planning permission, granted by Swale Borough Council (SW/14/0045) on the 17th February 2016, for the construction of a mixed use development comprising a business park, innovation centre, hotel health centre, pub/restaurant and 196 residential dwellings, along with associated open space including sports pitches, amenity open space and parkland, roads, allotments and a traveller site.

1.1.3 The excavation and evaluation were the final stage in a programme of archaeological works, which had included a Built Heritage Statement assessing the built landscape (CgMs 2018) and an archaeological evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2018) comprising the excavation, investigation and recording of 52 trial trenches which identified three areas of archaeological potential:

- Area 1 was located on the south-west quadrant of the site
- Area 2 was located on the north-west quadrant of the site
- Area 3 was located on the north-east quadrant of the site

1.1.4 The excavation of a new area (Area 4), located approximately to the north-east of Area 1, was implemented during this phase of works as a result of encountering archaeological features within three of the six trial trenches carried out as part of the Phase 2 archaeological investigation.

1.1.5 The excavation was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI), which detailed the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed, for both the fieldwork and the post-excavation work (Wessex Archaeology 2018). In form and content, it conformed to current best practice, as well as to the guidance in Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE, Historic England 2015), the Chartered Institute for Archaeologist (CIfA) Standars and guidance for archaeological field evaluation (CIfA 2014a), Standards and guidance for archaeological excavation (CIfA 2014a) and Kent County Council (KCC) Manual for specifications Part B: Strip, map and sample requirements. Simon Mason, KCC County Archaeologist, approved the WSI on behalf of the Swale Borough Council (LPA) prior to fieldwork commencing. The excavation was undertaken from the 26th September 2018 to the 4th January 2019.

1.2 Scope of the report

1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the provisional results of the excavation and evaluation, to assess the potential of the results to address the research aims outlined in the WSI. Where appropriate, to recommend a programme of further analysis work, and outline the resources needed, to achieve the aims (including the revised research aims arising from this assessment), leading to dissemination of the archaeological results via publication and the curation of the archive.

1.3 Location, topography and geology

1.3.1 The proposed evaluation area is located on the eastern boundary of Faversham, 2.17 km west southwest of Goodnestone and 1.06 km east of Faversham Station. The evaluation area is bounded to the north by Graveney Road and Graveney Road Industrial Estate, to the south and east by agricultural fields and to the west by Love Lane and a cemetery.

1.3.2 Existing ground levels vary across the evaluation area, with a distinct downward slope between the south-west (approximately 18.4 m OD) and north-east corners of the area (approximately 11.1 m OD).

1.3.3 The underlying geology is mapped as Thanet Formation; sand, silt and clay, with superficial deposits of Head; clay and silt, in all but the western edge of the evaluation area (British Geological Survey online viewer).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site was assessed through a brief search of the Kent Historic Environment Record (KHER) and other sources as part of the production of the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2018), looking at the historic record within approximately 500 m of the evaluation area.

2.2 Archaeological and historical context

2.2.1 The earliest evidence of human activity in the area is a Lower Palaeolithic handaxe recovered found just under 300 m north of the evaluation area, which also showed signs of reworking later in antiquity.

2.2.2 Evidence of human occupation in the area throughout the prehistoric and Romano-British periods is recorded north of Graveney Road, with a Late Neolithic-Early Bronze Age field system recorded approximately 275 m northeast of the evaluation area and evidence of Bronze Age/Early Iron Age activity approximately 280 m east of the evaluation area. Three HER records about 400-450 m north of the evaluation area record a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age farmstead and Late Iron Age/Romano British settlement, indicating a continuity of occupation throughout the late prehistoric and Romano-British period.

2.2.3 A possible Romano-British Villa was recorded at Chambers Cross, north of the evaluation area, in the 19th century. A second Romano-British building is recorded approximately 130 m northeast of the evaluation area, although it is possible that this is the same as the Chambers Crossing Villa due to the non-specific nature of the records. Romano-British pottery and building materials were recorded approximately

350 m north of the evaluation area, possibly related to the neighbouring buildings, or evidence of additional occupation in the vicinity.

2.2.4 While there is no evidence of Anglo-Saxon activity recorded within 500m of the evaluation area, Faversham to the west was a royal estate centre from at least the 6th century. Faversham is recorded in the Domesday book of having a 'very large' population of 75 households and belonging to King William I.

2.2.5 Farming appears to continue into the medieval period, with a farmstead recorded 280 m east of the evaluation area and a medieval field system approximately 200 m north northeast.

2.2.6 Lady Dane Farm at the western end of the evaluation area is a Grade II listed 19th century farmhouse. A brickworks was present between 1870 and 1918 approximately 400 m west of the site, with evidence of brickearth removal visible on Ordnance Survey maps.

2.2.7 The cemetery to the west of the evaluation area includes a Grade II* memorial to the Faversham Munitions Explosion in 1916, killing 108 people. The memorial marks the mass grave of the unidentified bodies. Directly north of the site in the area that is now Graveney Road Industrial Estate was the 20th century 'British Fruit Canning Factory, which closed in 1977. Historic aerial photographs of the site indicate that it was previously used as orchards, possibly growing fruit that was then canned at the neighbouring factory.

2.3 Previous works related to the development

Trial trench evaluation (2018)

2.3.1 The evaluation comprised the excavation, investigation and recording of 52 trial trenches (each measuring 30 m by 1.8 m), a total of 4 trenches had to be cancelled due to the presence of overhead power cables, with some others minimally adjusted.

2.3.2 29 of the 52 excavated trenches contained archaeological features. The features ranged from pits and postholes to quarry pits and ditches. They ranged in date from the Late Bronze Age to modern, although most of the activity identified dated to the late prehistoric, Romano-British and medieval periods. There is a concentration of Bronze Age and Iron Age activity within the western third of the site with dispersed prehistoric activity across the rest of the overall site, this appears to have been subsequently superseded by a probable Romano-British field system which in turn was superseded by medieval agricultural and localised quarrying activity.

2.3.3 The features investigate present a range of activities undertaken at the site throughout these periods, including agricultural, domestic and small scale industrial activity.

2.3.4 The evaluation was undertaken from the 16th to the 31st of July 2018.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Aims

3.1.1 The general aims of the excavation, as stated in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2018) and in compliance with the Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE, Historic England 2015), the Chartered Institute for Archaeologist (CIfA) Standars and guidance for archaeological field evaluation (CIfA 2014a), Standards and guidance for archaeological excavation (CIfA 2014a) and Kent County Council (KCC) Manual for specifications Part B: Strip, map and sample requirements CIfA's *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* (CIfA 2014a), were:

- To examine the archaeological resource within a given area or site within a framework of defined research objectives;
- To seek a better understanding of the resource;
- To compile a lasting record of the resource; and
- To analyse and interpret the results of the excavation and evaluation and disseminate them.

3.2 Research objectives

3.2.1 Following consideration of the archaeological potential of the site, the research objectives of the excavation defined in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2018) were:

- Determine the date, nature and extent of Bronze Age activity and to examine evidence for any mortuary activity;
- Determine the date, extent and character of landscape organisation, and its development from the Bronze Age to the Iron Age period;
- Determine the date, extent and character of landscape organisation, and its development from Iron Age to the Romano-British period;
- Examine the extent of medieval activity and whether it is confined to the eastern part of the site;
- Examine whether deeply buried features beneath colluvium in the centre of the site extend and establish a date for these if present.

4 METHODS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methods set out within the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2018) and in general compliance with the guidance in Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE, Historic England 2015), the Chartered Institute for Archaeologist (CIfA) Standars and guidance for archaeological field evaluation (CIfA 2014a), Standards and guidance for archaeological excavation (CIfA 2014a) and Kent County Council (KCC) Manual for specifications Part B: Strip, map and sample requirements The methods employed are summarised below.

4.1.2 The strip, map and sample excavation and evaluation comprised 4 areas totalling 1.5ha. Due to site conditions the extension of some of the areas subject to study were altered. This situation was caused by unexpected groundworks related with the new development, the presence of contaminated ground and other site constraints as in situ trees and shrubs.

4.1.3 Area 1 could not be excavated fully as some parts had been subject to reduction from groundworks related to the new development. These areas were later backfilled with compacted hardcore, in order to create a hardstanding surface. The excavation commenced to the west of the area where the level of truncation was presumably less as only the topsoil had been removed. During the stripping process several archaeological features were revealed, apparently undisturbed, which suggested good preservation despite the groundworks to the north and east. The excavation continued towards the south and south-east, between those sections where the hardstanding surface was not present, and the level of truncation was considered to be minor. The archaeology revealed in these parts comprised only a few discrete features. On the 10th October 2018 a meeting was held on site by Duncan Hawkins (RPS) and Simon Mason (KCC County Archaeologist) to assess the level of impact caused by groundworks and to consider a new strategy to better approach the archaeological investigation. Further investigation of the area was required by the County Archaeologist which included the extension towards north of the current excavation in the western part of the area as a concentration of archaeology was observed extending beyond the limit of the excavation here. Furthermore, any remaining gaps between hardstanding surfaces should be excavated as archaeological features might have been present. The original size of the excavation area of c.1ha was reduced to c.0.5ha.

4.1.4 Area 2 that originally was 0.9ha had to be reduced to 0.5ha due to site constraints as trees and shrubs located along the western edge of the site, existing services running along the northern boundary of the site and the presence of contaminated ground to the south.

4.1.5 The original size of Area 3 was 0.5ha which included a 894m^2 triangle located in the north-east corner of the site. The excavation of this small triangle was unfeasible due to the proximity of overhead cables. The final area of excavation was 0.35ha excluding a small stretch along the northern boundary of the site where existing services were located.

4.1.6 Within the framework of archaeological investigation six trial trenches were excavated, investigated and recorded. The excavation of Trench 58 (measuring 13m by 2m), located to the west of Area 3, did not revealed any archaeological features beneath the colluvial deposit spotted during the previous evaluation phase. Five more trenches (each measuring 20m by 2m) were excavated to the north-east of Area 1. Trenches 59 & 60 did not reveal archaeological features, although Trenches 61, 62 & 63 contained sizable remains. As requested by the client and agreed with the County Archaeologist for KCC an area of 0.13ha was opened around those trenches that contained archaeological features to better understand their purpose and relation.

4.2 Fieldwork methods

General

4.2.1 The excavation area was set out using GPS, in the same position as that proposed in the WSI (**Fig.1**). The topsoil/overburden was removed in level spits using a 360º

excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under the constant supervision and instruction of the monitoring archaeologist. Machine excavation proceeded in level spits until the archaeological horizon or the natural geology was exposed.

4.2.2 Where necessary, the surface of archaeological deposits was cleaned by hand to aid visual definition. A sample of archaeological features and deposits identified was hand-excavated, sufficient to address the aims of the excavation. A sample of natural features such as tree-throw holes and geological variations were also investigated.

4.2.3 Spoil derived from both machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological features was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. A metal detector was also used. Where found, artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained, although those from features of modern date (19th century or later) were recorded on site and not retained.

Recording

4.2.4 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete drawn record of excavated features and deposits was made including both plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections) and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD: Newlyn) heights of all principal features were calculated, and levels added to plans and section drawings.

4.2.5 A Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service surveyed the location of archaeological features. All survey data is recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and heights above OD (Newlyn), as defined by OSGM15 and OSTN15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of at least 50 mm.

4.2.6 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. Digital images have been subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

4.3 Artefactual and environmental strategies

General

4.3.1 Appropriate strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of artefacts and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2018). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b) and *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011).

Human remains

4.3.2 The human remains were removed under the terms of a Licence for the Removal of Human Remains held by Wessex Archaeology. The excavation and post-excavation assessment of human remains was in accordance with Wessex Archaeology protocols and undertaken in-line with current guidance documents (e.g., McKinley 2013) and the standards set out in CIfA Technical Paper 13 (McKinley and Roberts 1993).

4.4 Monitoring

4.4.1 The County Archaeologist for KCC, on behalf of the LPA, monitored the archaeological excavation. Any variations to the WSI, if required to better address the project aims, were agreed in advance with both the client and the County Archaeologist.

5 STRATIGRAPHIC RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

Summary of archaeological features and deposits

5.1.1 A moderate quantity of archaeological features were recorded, distributed across the four excavation areas, with the majority of the features in Areas 1, 2 and 4. These included several features which appeared to relate to former land management, in the form of boundary and drainage ditches, two possible trackways, two quarry pits, six storage pits, fifty-four rubbish pits, four fire pits, one possible cooking pit, twenty-two pits of uncertain purpose, six placed vessels, two features identified as possible dumps of pyre debris and ten isolated postholes dating from Late Bronze Age to modern period.

5.1.2 There is a moderate concentration of Prehistoric, Late Prehistoric and Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age features within Areas 1 and 4 that were subsequently superseded by a Late Iron Age/Romano-British field system and domestic occupation. The Romano-British activity was superseded by a medieval agricultural system more intensively developed in Area 2 and localised quarrying activity within Area 3 and possible Area 2. The western part of the site presented a significantly higher density of archaeology than the eastern part, where only discrete features were found (Area 3).

5.1.3 Several archaeological features remain undated due to a lack of suitable dating evidence. A total of eighteen ditches were recorded with sterile fills, although some of these could have formed part of a former field/drainage system within Areas 1 to 3 and a possible trackway within Area 4. A single posthole (Area 1), nine rubbish pits (Areas 1 to 4), one cooking pit and storage pit (Area 1), and twelve uncertain pits (Areas 1 to 4) were also investigated and failed to produce finds suitable for dating.

5.1.4 The results of the excavation are presented below in chronological order from the earliest features to the latest, with undated features summarised at the end. The archaeological features are described in relation with those found within the same excavation area.

5.1.5 Detailed descriptions of each individual contexts are not reproduced within this report, due to the significant number of recorded contexts. However, a full digital and physical record was created on site from each context and will be maintained by Wessex Archaeology until a suitable archaeological repository is unidentified and the archive deposited.

5.1.6 The location of all the investigation areas is shown on **Figures 1** and **2**, while **Figures 3**-**7** show all archaeological features recorded within each individual area. **Figure 8** comprises a selection of the recorded sections of excavated features. **Plates 1-22** show examples of a selection of the investigated archaeological features.

Methods of stratigraphic assessment and quantity of data

5.1.7 All handwritten and drawn records from the excavation have been collated, checked for consistency and stratigraphic relationships. Key data has been transcribed into an Access Database for assessment, which can be updated during any further analysis. The excavation has been preliminary phased using stratigraphic relationships and the spot dating from artefacts, particularly pottery.

5.1.8 **Table 1** (below) provides a quantification of the records from the excavation.

Table 1 Quantification of excavation records

Type	Quantity
Context records	938
Context registers	1
Graphics (A4 and A3)	252
Graphics (A1)	1
Graphics registers	1
Environmental sample registers	1
Object registers	1
Digital photographs	2537

5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

5.2.1 A variable stratigraphic sequence was encountered between the excavation areas. Area 1 presented a general stratigraphy consisting of topsoil with an average depth of 0.35m which covered a subsoil deposit with an average depth of 0.15m. This subsoil was located towards the western part of the area and was not observed to the east during excavation. The stratigraphic sequence within Area 2 consisted of topsoil with an average depth of 0.35m directly overlaying the natural deposits. Excavation in Area 3 revealed 0.30m of topsoil which sealed a 0.20m thick layer of subsoil. The stratigraphic sequence within Area 4 consisted of 0.30m thick topsoil directly overlaying the natural deposits to the west. As the ground sloped down towards east a subsoil layer with an average depth of 0.25m was also identified.

5.2.2 A large number of tree throws were observed, likely remnant of the site previous use as orchard. Truncation associated with recent agricultural and farming activities within the site were also identified.

5.2.3 The majority of the archaeological features were cut into the natural geology. However, there were a group of ditches that cut through two possible alluvial deposits **10926** & **10934** recorded towards the western edge of Area 1.

5.3 Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age

5.3.1 This section provides description of features that, based on the finds and environmental analysis, can be ascribed to this period. The finds were mainly characterised by flint tempered fabrics of local manufacture with variations that allow differentiation between coarseware and fineware types. Most of the diagnostic sherds were limited to rim fragments, however a fineware globular vessel with short-everted rim was retrieved from pit **10549**, together with fired clay with withy impressions. Fired clay was also recovered from pit **10439**.

Area 1

5.3.2 Bronze Age activity within this area were mainly represented by seven rubbish pits, two isolated postholes and two field boundaries.

Rubbish pits

5.3.3 The majority of the rubbish pits were discrete features located within Late Iron Age/Romano-British rectangular enclosure, **10928**, **10933** and **10935**, with the exception of pits **10439**, **10522** & **10520** that were found to the east of the enclosure.

5.3.4 The pits found within the enclosure were oval or sub-oval shape in plan, with moderately sloped concave sides and a concave base. The size ranged from smalls pits like **10444** that measured 0.60m long, 0.50m wide and 0.19m, to large pits such as **10561** which was sub-circular and measured 1.50m in diameter and 0.27m deep.

5.3.5 Two sizable intercutting pits **10522** & **10520** were found in a small cluster together with Late Prehistoric pit **10421** and Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pit **10439** outside the enclosure. Pit **10522** was irregular in plan with moderately sloped stepped sides and a concave base, measuring 2.27m long, 2.20m wide and 0.62m deep. Pit **10520** was truncated by **10522** showing moderately sloped concave sides and a concave base, and measuring 1.14m long, 0.85m wide and 0.62m deep.

Postholes

5.3.6 Two discrete postholes **10568** & **10499** related to this period were recorded within the area. The postholes showed similar circular shapes in plan with variable sides and base and similar dimensions.

Field boundaries

5.3.7 Possible field boundary **10932** (**Plate 1**) was located running along the northern edge of the area on a west-northwest to east-southeast orientation and showed moderate concave sides and concave base. The ditch was truncated by later Late Iron Age/Romano-British rectangular enclosure ditches **10935** and **10928**, and re-cut by Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch **10933** which ran parallel to it, suggesting continual re-use of established boundaries. The ditch was exposed 29.70m and on its widest point measured 2.00m wide and 0.45m deep.

5.3.8 Ditch **10907** was found running from the northern edge of the excavation towards south-southeast where disappeared beyond the limit of excavation (LOE). The ditch, which likely formed part of a drainage system, measured 11.43m long, 1.02m wide and 0.63m deep and presented steep straight sides and a concave base. After the ditch went out of use it appears to have been used to dump domestic waste

Area 2

5.3.9 Within this area eleven rubbish pits dating to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age, eight pits of uncertain purpose and a single storage pit were found and investigated. The majority of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age finds that were recorded within the four excavation areas comprised flint-tempered pottery, fired clay and burnt bones were recovered from these features.

Rubbish pits

5.3.10 The rubbish pits recorded in area appeared either in isolation (**10803**, **10743**, **10816, 10836**) or as pairs (**10853** & **10855**, **10762** & **10765**, **10820** & **10822**, **10824** & **10826**).

5.3.11 Pit **10743** (**Plate 18**), located broadly in the centre of the area, contained abundant burnt flint, fired clay and parts of two possible loom weights. The pit was approximately circular in plan with steep concave sides and a flat base, measuring 2.96m long, 2.85m wide and 0.52m deep. It was truncated by ditch **10889** on its northern edge.

5.3.12 Double pit **10762**/**10765,** located near the southern edge of the area in proximity to another double pit **10853**/**10855**, produced the largest quantity of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery in the area including a long-necked shouldered jar from pit **10762**. Pit **10762** was circular in plan, with straight undercut sides and a flat base, measuring 3.18m long, 1.46m wide and 0.41m deep. It was truncated by later pit **10765** that was sub-circular in plan with moderately sloped concave sides and a concave base, measuring 3.18m long, 2.68m wide and 0.33m deep.

Uncertain pits

5.3.13 A group of eight pits (**10736**, **10734**, **1503**, **1708**, **10739**, **10848**, **10822** & **10867**) were investigated within the area but no clear purpose was established. Most of them appeared isolated with the exception of **10848** & **10822** that were located in proximity to rubbish pits of the same period.

5.3.14 **10737** was a sizable pit that stand out in comparison with other pits in the area. The pit was located at the northern edge of the area and was irregular in plan with moderately sloped concave sides and undulating base. The feature measured 7.85m long, at least 5.45m wide (continuing beyond the LOE) and 0.32m deep.

Storage pit

5.3.15 An isolated storage pit **10699** was found towards the southwest corner of the area. The pit was sub-circular in plan with undercut convex sides and a flat base, showing a bell-shaped profile, similar to pits **10191** & **6305** found in Areas 1 & 3. The pit measured 0.84m long, 0.62m wide and 0.69m deep and contained two deposits of domestic refuse.

Area 4

5.3.16 A total of 10 pits were recorded within Area 4, with 7 comprising a single cluster of intercutting unphased or prehistoric features in the western half of the area.

Rubbish pit

5.3.17 Pit **10302** was recorded within a cluster of eight intercutting pits. Pit **10292** was dated to the Prehistoric period, whereas **10289** & **10337** were Late Prehistoric. Pits **10296**, **10342**, **10340**, & **10345** did not produce any dating evidence, but it is plausible that they all belong to the same Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age period. This group of pits were discussed previously. Pit **10302** produced flint tempered pottery, together with fired clay that had internal withy impressions, probably derived from ovens, kilns or hearths.

5.3.18 Rubbish pits **6206** & **6204** were located on the northern edge of the area and continued beyond the LOE. Pit **6206** (**Plate 12**) appeared sub-oval in plan with steep concave sides and concave base. The pit measured +1.83m long, 1.66m wide and 0.75m deep. The feature showed several episodes of backfilling that contained abundant domestic refuse such as fragmented pottery, mostly flint-tempered. The pit cut through shallower pit **6204**, located to the south. No finds were recovered, though it likely dates to the same period.

5.4 Prehistoric and Late Prehistoric

5.4.1 This section includes the description of features that did not produced artefacts able to be more accurately dated. Given the predominance of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age) material, it is possible that a significant proportion of these prehistoric sherds could be contemporary.

Area 1

5.4.2 Prehistoric and Late Prehistoric activity within Area 1 (**Figs. 3** & **4**) is mainly represented by a group of ditches that may form part of a Prehistoric field system. An isolated posthole and rubbish pit and two undetermined pits were also identified dating to this period.

Prehistoric field system

5.4.3 Ditch **10929** was located towards the northern edge of the excavation area, truncated by a Late Iron Age/Early Roman rectangular enclosure. The ditch was linear shape in plan, with shallow concave sides and concave base, and measured 22m long, 0.78m wide and 0.14m deep.

5.4.4 Ditch **10910** was a short linear ditch that ran along the southern edge of the excavation on a west-northwest to east-southeast alignment. The ditch measured 13.20m long, 1.50m wide and 0.37m wide with stepped/concave sides and a concave base. The ditch was probably associated with undated ditch **10911**, which recut **10910**, running parallel along its northern edge. 10910 was investigated during the evaluation phase and continued towards east beyond the LOE and was truncated by Late Prehistoric ditch **10912** towards west.

5.4.5 Ditch **10912** was located next to the southern edge of the excavation area and ran from the LOE on an east-northeast to west-southwest alignment until it was truncated by later Romano-British ditch **10913**. The ditch showed steep to moderately sloped concaves sides and concave base and measured 22.80m long, 0.89m wide and 0.29m deep.

5.4.6 The intersection of two short ditches belonging to the Prehistoric period were also investigated. Ditches **10922** & **10923** were located towards the southwest corner of the area. Ditch **10923** was truncated by Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch **10921** and Romano-British storage pit **10093**.

Pits/posthole

5.4.7 Posthole **10497** was recorded between Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch **10928** and Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age posthole **10499** and was probably associated with it.

5.4.8 Shallow pit **10421** was located 6m south of posthole **10497** in proximity to three Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age rubbish pits **10439**, **10522** & **10520** and could represent a further rubbish pit.

5.4.9 Rubbish pit **10427** was found within the Late Iron Age/Romano-British rectangular enclosure in proximity to posthole **10431** of same period.

5.4.10 Pit **10908** was located to the south of the excavation area near undated possible field boundary **10162**, which was only partially exposed. The pit measured 3.70m long, at least 0.73m wide and 0.78m deep. The pit showed a stepped profile that initial started

with a shallow concave sides before becoming almost vertical side ending on flat base. This profile suggest that the feature may be a watering hole. In addition, the feature seemed to be silted by deposits with very fine inclusions as a result of water deposition.

5.4.11 Pit **10221** was believed to be circular in plan, as it continued beyond LEO, with steep concave sides and a concave base. It measured +2.75m long, +1.40m wide and 0.80m deep. This pit truncated pit **10908** located immediately to the east which was elongated in plan with a concave base and steep concave sides. The pit measured 3.70m long, 0.73m wide, 0.78m deep at its deepest point and 0.23m deep at its shallowest. It is possible that pit **10908** was used as a ramp to access the water retained within pit **10221**.

Area 3

5.4.12 Prehistoric activity in this area is represented only by two fire pits **10103** & **10100** located towards the northeast corner of the area an in proximity with undated pit **5404,** previously investigated during the evaluation phase. The pits were similar in dimension (between 0.80/0.70m long, 0.66m wide and maximum depth of 0.12m) and shape, showing a sub-circular shape in plan, with shallow concave sides and a concave base. Signs of in-situ burning were observed at the base.

Area 4

5.4.13 Prehistoric and Late prehistoric activity in this area is represented by a spread layer, three rubbish pits, a single storage pit, a possible drainage ditch and a field boundary.

Ditches

5.4.14 A small segment of a possible drainage ditch **10285** was found on a northwest to southeast alignment from the southern edge of the excavation towards medieval field boundary **10900** but was truncated by a modern disturbance before joining the boundary.

Prehistoric field-system

5.4.15 Ditch **10901** (**Plate 5**) was located running through the centre of the area on north-northeast to south-southwest alignment. The ditch showed a meandering shape in plan with moderately sloped concave sides and a concave base, and measured 21m long, 0.80m wide and 0.29m deep at its widest point. The ditch was truncated by ditch **10900** just after appearing from the southern edge of the excavation. The ditch was truncated by ditches **10902** & **10903** to the north-northeast and did not continue beyond ditch **10903**.

5.4.16 Ditch **10899** (**Plate 6**) ran on a north/south alignment along the eastern edge of the excavation area. The ditch was linear in plan and showed heavy disturbance in its northern section, caused by rooting and animal burrows. It was cut on a straight angle by ditch **10900** on its southern end. The ditch had shallow concave sides and a flat base on its northern half, steeper sides and a concave base in its southern half. The exposed section measured 16.50m long, 1.40m wide and 0.48m deep.

Possible trackway

5.4.17 Ditches **10902** & **10903** were located running on a west north west to east-southeast alignment along the northern edge of the area. Neither of these features produced any dating evidence but have been interpreted as Prehistoric due to ditch **10902** being truncated by Late Prehistoric pit **10337** and Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pit **10302**.

These ditches were interpreted as drainage ditches related to a Prehistoric trackway that measured 3.70m wide and appeared to be associated with the field boundary formed by ditches **10899** & **10900**. Ditch **10903** was slightly curvilinear in plan and demarcated the northern edge of the trackway. The ditch started beyond the western edge of the excavation and was truncated by ditches **10335** & **10901** in the approximate centre of the area. The ditch continued towards east-southeast until disappearing beyond the northern edge of the excavation. The ditch had shallow concave sides and a variable base, and measured 48.20m long, 0.72m wide and 0.24m deep. Ditch **10902** represented the southern edge of the trackway running from the western edge of the excavation towards east-southeast where was truncated by a cluster of Romano-British rubbish pits. The ditch crossed in turn and earlier ditch **10901**. The ditch was heavily disturbed in its east-southeast end due to rooting and animal burrowing, but presumably continued beyond the northern edge of the excavation, parallel to ditch **10903**.

Rubbish pits

5.4.18 Rubbish pits **10289** & **10337** dated to the Late Prehistoric and **10292**, dated as Prehistoric, formed part of a cluster of eight intercutting pits located in the approximate centre of the area. Some of the pits remain undated (**10296**, **10340**, **10342** & **10345**) whereas pit **10302** corresponded to Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age period. It is plausible that they all belong to different phases of activity within the same period. Pit **10345** located to the north of the cluster was the only feature which did not appear to have a direct relationship with other pits found within the cluster. The pit was sub-oval in plan with moderately sloped concave sides and a concave base and measured 2.62m long, 1.55m wide and 0.23m deep.

5.4.19 The pits that formed the cluster were mainly sub-oval and sub-circular in plan. Pits **10337**, **10342**, **10340**, **10296**, **10292** & **10289** showed moderately sloped concave sides and concave bases, while **10302** presented steep concave sides and concave base. Pit **10302** was the biggest feature within the cluster measuring 2.10m long, 2.02m wide and 0.86m deep. The rest of the pits presented variable dimensions. **10296**, **10342** & **10337** were all sizable pits with a maximum depth of 0.42m, 0.41m and 0.45m respectively. Pits **10292**, **10289** & **10340** were shallower, with depths of 0.36m, 0.32m and 0.19m. The stratigraphic sequence between these pits from the earliest to the latest was as following: pits **10289** and **10337** were dug first, with no clear relationship between them to determine which was created first. Pit **10337** was truncated by pit **10340,** which in turn was cut by **10342**. Pits **10342** & **10289** were cut by large pit **10292,** which in turn was clipped by pit **10296**. Large pit **10302** was the last feature within the cluster cut through **10296**. A large quantity of domestic refuse was retrieved from the fills, intentionally discarded into the pits.

Storage pit

5.4.20 Pit **6305** (**Plate 22**) was located towards the southeast corner of the excavation area within a possible field boundary marked by ditches **10899** & **10900**. The pit was circular in plan, with steep undercut sides, forming a bell shape, and a flat base. The pit measured 0.65m diameter and 0.75m deep. The pit was similar to storage pits **10191** & **10699**, found within Areas 1 & 2. The feature seemed to be abandoned and gradually silted with eroded surrounding landscape and no finds were retrieved during it investigation. However, certain amount of mature wood charcoal collected and assessed during environmental analysis suggested a possible prehistoric origin.

5.5 Late Iron Age/ Romano-British (Late Iron Age/Romano-British)

5.5.1 This section provides a description of features that can be ascribed to the Late Iron Age/Romano-British.

Area 1

5.5.2 Late Iron Age/Romano-British activity within Area 1 (**Figs. 1** & **2**) is mainly represented by a group of perpendicular and parallel ditches that formed a field system comprising drainage and boundary ditches. A large rectangular enclosure was also recorded on the northern half of the excavation area. There were sixteen rubbish pits, mainly within the enclosure, two storage pits and an isolated posthole.

Field system

5.5.3 Possible field boundary **10933** (**Plate 1**) was located running along the northern edge of the excavation on a west-northwest to east-southeast alignment. The exposed section measured 30.5m long with a maximum width of 1.06m and 0.31m in depth on its widest point. The ditch was linear in shape, with moderate to steep concave sides and a concave base. The ditch began to the north of the area, crossed by another Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch **10935,** part of a rectangular enclosure, continuing towards east-southeast where it ran in parallel to Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age ditch **10932** and re-cut it. It is likely that this represents a continuation of use over a significant period of time. Before disappearing beyond the eastern edge of the excavation the ditch was intersected perpendicularly by later Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch **10928** that formed the eastern boundary of the rectangular enclosure.

5.5.4 To the west of the Late Iron Age/Romano-British rectangular enclosure was drainage ditch **10931** (**Plate 2**). The exposed section was 34m long. The ditch started to the north of the excavation running approximately south-west on a curvilinear alignment and truncating ditch **10358**. It then turned to the southeast on a linear alignment parallel to the enclosure, until being truncated by Late Iron Age/Romano-British rubbish pit **10936**. The ditch ran from north to south. Its northern section had shallow concave sides and a concave base and measured an average 0.55m wide and 0.13m deep. Its southern section, where it converged with pit **10936**, had steep concave sides and a concave base and measured 1.60m wide and 0.79m deep. The ditch contained several fragments of Late Iron Age/Romano-British pottery where a sherd of South Gaulish samian stands out.

5.5.5 Ditch **10921** (**Plate 2**) was located in the western part of the excavation area running 23.50m on a north-northwest to south-southeast alignment, parallel to ditch **10931**. The ditch commenced in the north-west corner of the area measuring 0.67m wide and 0.17m deep, with shallow concave sides and a concave base. As it continued towards the south-southeast, the ditch increased in size, reaching 1.76m in width and 0.56m in depth. At the approximate centre, ditch **10921** was overlaid by an alluvial deposit **10926**, re-emerging immediately after being truncated by Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch **10925**. The ditch continued towards the south-southeast, growing shallower to a depth of 0.17m and narrowing to a width of 0.80m. The ditch truncated Late Prehistoric ditch **10923,** Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch **10917** and undated ditch **10915,** before being intersected by Romano-British ditch **10919**.

5.5.6 Two parallel ditches **10914** & **10925** aligned west to east were found to the south of the enclosure. These ditches may have formed part of the same Late Iron Age/Romano-British field system and were probably used as field boundaries.

Although, ditch **10914** did not produce finds suitable for dating it showed similarities with ditch **10925**.

5.5.7 The terminus of ditch **10914** ran for 15.06m, from east to west, before abruptly stopping, with and average width of 0.40m and 0.20m in depth. The ditch was linear in plan with steep concave sides and a 'U' shaped base. The ditches sudden termination was due to heavy truncation caused by groundworks related to the new development. Ditch **10925** was as well truncated on its east end and ran 28m towards west measuring 0.62m wide and 0.33m deep on its best preserved section. The ditch intersected earlier perpendicular Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditches **10918** and **10921** before ending on a terminus to the west where cut through undated ditch **10924**.

5.5.8 Three possible drainage ditches **10911** (**Plate 13**), **10915** & **10917** potentially dating to the same period were located to the south of the excavation area. Only ditch **10917** produced artefacts suitable for dating, but ditches 10915 & 10917 were on the same alignment and may have been contemporaneous. The ditches ran parallelly on a north-west to south-east alignment and were predominantly linear in plan. **10911** presented a slight curvature towards its south-east end and **10917** appeared to bend eastward at its western extent.

5.5.9 Ditch **10911** was previously investigated during the evaluation phase and was recorded as a single ditch **408** that split into a second ditch **10910** towards west. The ditch had steep concave sides and a concave base, and measured 16.92m long, 1.10m wide and 0.42m deep. The ditch began beyond the eastern edge of the excavation and ran mostly along the alignment of ditch **10910** which it re-cut. To the north-west, before ending on a terminus, it was crossed by Late Prehistoric ditch **10912** and Romano-British ditch **10913**.

5.5.10 Ditch **10915** was the continuation of **10911** towards the north-west. Beginning as a terminus at its south-eastern end it ran towards the north-west where it intersected earlier undated ditch **10079** and Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch **10918** and was truncated by undated pits **10013** & **10010** and Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch **10921**. The ditch was linear in plan with shallow concave sides and a concave base and measured 18.47m long, 0.65m wide and 0.33m deep.

5.5.11 Ditch **10917** was slightly curvilinear in plan with steep concave sides and a concave to flat base, measuring 23m long, 0.60m wide and 0.24m deep. The ditch was spotted extending from the southeast where it was truncated by medieval ditch **10909**, continuing towards northwest where it was crossed by Late Prehistoric ditch **10912** and Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditches **10918** & **10921**. The ditch appeared to be heavily disturbed by ploughing within evaluation Trench 1 where it was previously investigated as **104**.

5.5.12 To the south of the rectangular enclosure was a broadly north/south aligned drainage ditch **10918** (**Plate 10**). The total length of the exposed section was 29.50m. The ditch had shallow concave sides and concave base and measured an average 0.60m wide and 0.27m in its southern half. At this point the ditch was truncated by Late Prehistoric ditch **10912**, Romano-British ditch **10919**, and possible Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch **10915** and pit **10022**. The ditch in turn truncated Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch **10917**. As the ditch continued further to the north, it sloped down, becoming wider and deeper and showing steep concave sides and a concave base. When it was truncated by Romano-British pit **10937** it measured 1.28m wide and 0.48m deep.

Rectangular enclosure

5.5.13 A possible Late Iron Age/Romano-British rectangular enclosure, broadly orientated north-northeast to south-southwest, was recorded in the north-western section of Area 1. The enclosure was formed by ditches **10928**, **10930** & **10935** which may have replaced earlier field boundaries, as several shallow ditches **10501**, **10927** & **10938** were observed stratigraphically beneath it. Ditch **10501**, aligned north to south, was interrupted by **10928**, as was ditch **10927**, aligned east to west, which was probably abandoned and later re-cut as **10928**. Ditch **10938** had a north-northeast to south-southwest orientation and was re-cut along its western edge by ditch **10935**.

5.5.14 Ditch **10928** (**Plate 8**) formed the eastern and southern boundaries of the enclosure. A 43.50m long section of the ditch was exposed, with a maximum width of 1.40m and 0.45m in depth. It had moderately sloped concave sides and a concave base. The ditch was comprised of two segments forming an 'L' shape, beginning with a north-northwest to south-southeast aligned ditch segment that began beyond the northern edge of the excavation area and ran for 29m before turning 90° to the west. The second segment was orientated east to west and ran 14.50m before been abruptly truncated by groundworks related to the new development.

5.5.15 Ditches **10935** & **10930** formed the western boundary of the enclosure. Ditch **10935** was roughly linear in plan, aligned north-northeast to south-southwest, with moderate to steep concave sides and a concave base. The ditch began beyond the northern edge of the excavation area, cutting ditches **10933** & **10932** and ran for 17.6m. The ditch reached 1.16m in width and 0.59m in depth on its widest part. A terminus was recorded at its south-southwest end, which was truncated by later Late Iron Age/Romano-British pit **10629** that removed the relationship with ditch **10930** (**Plate 9**).

5.5.16 Ditch **10930** was a 14.15m long probable drainage ditch, slightly curvilinear in plan with moderate to steep concave sides and a concave base. The ditch commenced on a terminus to the north, where was truncated by later pit **10629**, before continuing to the south where it was re-cut by shallow ditch **10384**. Afterwards the ditch curved to the south-southeast, cutting through alluvial spread **10934**, and truncating Late Iron Age/Romano-British rubbish pit **10611** where it terminated. The ditch sloped down north to south, while growing wider and deeper. The ditch was 1.29m wide and 0.35m deep in the north, and 1.60m wide and 0.82m deep to the south where it truncated pit **10611**.

Rubbish pits

5.5.17 Four rubbish pits **10419**, **10434**, **10533, 10483** & **10411** were recorded within the rectangular enclosure, together with an isolated posthole **10503**. Three pits **10629**, **10589** & **10648**, with similar chronology were recorded cutting through the enclosure. A cluster of six rubbish pits **10936**, **10937**, **10652**, **10614**, **10616** & **10603** were located on the southwest corner of the enclosure in proximity to large spread layer **10926**.

5.5.18 The Pits found within the enclosure shared a similar size and shape, with the exception of **10483**, which was considerably larger. The pit was oval in plan, with stepped irregular sides and a flat base, measuring 2.89m long, 1.34m wide and 0.35m deep.

5.5.19 **10629** was a large pit located at the possible junction of ditches **10935** & **10930**. The pit was subcircular in plan, with steep concave sides and a concave base and measured 1.60m in diameter and 0.51m deep.

5.5.20 Pits **10936**, **10937**, **10652**, **10614**, **10616** & **10603** (**Plate 10**) were located on the southwestern corner of the enclosure where several ditches **10930**, **10931** & **10918** converged. The cluster was formed by large, deep pits, mostly oval or sub-oval in plan, with steep concave side and bases. Their dimensions varied from 4.60m long, 2.75m wide and 0.54m deep at the largest to 2.23m long, 1.10m wide and 0.76m deep at the smallest. The pits contained large quantities of domestic refuse.

Storage pits

5.5.21 Two storage pits were recorded in the southwest corner of the area. Pit **10263** was truncated by Late Prehistoric ditch **10923** and another possible Romano-British storage pit **10093**. Pit **10022** truncated Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch **10918**. The pit was sub-circular in plan with steep concave sides and a concave base and measured 1.34m long, 1.22m wide and 0.42m deep.

Area 2

5.5.22 Late Iron Age/Romano-British activity within Area 2 (**Figs. 1** & **3**) was represented by three field boundaries, one rubbish pit and a pit containing several placed pots.

Field boundaries

5.5.23 Ditch **10889** was a long linear ditch that ran for over 100m across the entire width of the excavation area on an east/west alignment. The ditch had steep concave sides and a concave base and measured 1.10m wide and 0.35m deep. It was truncated by Romano-British ditch **10888**, medieval ditches **10894** & **10892** and pits **10750** & **10830**. The ditch in turn truncated Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pit **10743** (**Plate 16**) and undated ditch **10890**.

5.5.24 Ditches **10884** & **10885** ran north from Trench 15 . The ditches were intersected by later medieval ditch **10887**, before continuing towards the north where they disappeared beyond the LOE. Ditch **10884** was linear in plan, with steep concave sides and a concave base and measured 17.70m long, 0.95m wide and 0.30m deep. Ditch **10885** was linear in plan with steep concave sides and a 'U' shaped base and measured 18.70m long, 0.90m wide and 0.28m deep.

Rubbish pit

5.5.25 A single rubbish pit belonging to the Late Iron Age/Romano-British period was recorded within the area. Pit **10692** was located in close proximity to the termini of medieval ditches **10711** & **10877** on the western boundary of the area. The pit was sub-circular in plan with shallow concave sides and an irregular base and measured 1.10m long, 0.88m wide and 0.13m deep. The pit contained a very fragmented grog-tempered vessel that may have been intentionally deposited.

Area 4

A single possible storage pit **10373** dating to the Late Iron Age/Romano-British period was found within Area 4 (**Figs. 1** & **5**). The pit was revealed while investigating ditch **10903**, which truncated the top of the feature. The pit was not visible in plan due to the truncation but was clearly visible in the section of the ditch.

The pit appeared to be sub-oval in shape, with a steep concave side on its north edge and an undercut side to the south edge. The pit had a flat base and measured 0.80m long, 0.40m wide and 0.50m deep. The pit seemed to have been used to disposed of refuse after it had been abandoned.

5.6 Romano-British

5.6.1 In this section features belonging to this period will be discussed. These features were found mostly in Areas 1 & 2 and probably would had been contemporaneous with some of the Late Iron Age/Romano-British features.

Area 1

5.6.2 Within this area a possible trackway, two rubbish pits, a fire pit, a storage pit and a field system were investigated.

Trackway

5.6.3 A possible trackway was identified towards the southwest corner of the excavation area. It was formed by two parallel ditches **10913** (**Plate 17**) & **10939** aligned north-east to south-west. The ditches were linear in plan with moderately sloped concave sides and a concave base, except for the northeast terminus of ditch **10913** which had a 'V' shaped base. Ditch **10913** measured 18.80m long, 0.63m wide and 0.31m deep. It began to the south-west truncating undated ditch **10911** & Late Prehistoric ditch **10912** and ran northeast, where it was truncated by undated pit **10462** and in turn truncated another undated pit **10456**. The ditch ended in another terminus on its north-eastern end.

5.6.4 Ditch **10939** was previously investigated during the evaluation phase. The ditch was linear in plan with moderate concave sides and concave base and measured 21.50m long, 0.49m wide and 0.25m deep. A terminus was recorded on its southwest end heading towards northeast before disappearing beyond the LOE.

Field system

5.6.5 Ditch **10919** dated to the Romano-British period and may have formed part of a field system that spanned from the Late Prehistoric to the Romano-British period, was located on the southwest corner of the area Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditches **10921** (already discussed) & **10251** and undated ditch **10920** were aligned north-northeast to south-southwest and had similar dimensions with and average width of 0.70m and 0.16m in depth. There were also similarities in their profiles, presenting concave to shallow sides (depending on the level of truncation) and flat bases, with the exception of ditch **10921** which was characterised by a concave base. Ditch **10920** began at the intersection with Late Prehistoric ditch **10922** running towards the south-southwest and truncated by Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch **10917**. The ditch was in turn partially truncated perpendicularly by Romano-British ditch **10919** before disappearing beyond the southern edge of the excavation. Ditches **10919** and **10912** were aligned west-southwest to east-northeast, had slight variations in profile that range from steep to moderate concave sides and flat to concave bases. Both ditches measured an average of 0.90m wide and 0.22m deep. Ditch **10919** began in a perpendicular junction with later ditch **10920**, running towards the east-northeast where it intersected earlier ditch **10251** and was truncated by **10921.** The ditch ended on a terminus to the east-northeast after truncating Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch **10918**. Ditch **10912** began beyond the southern limit of the excavation, perpendicularly crossing earlier ditch **10918** and ran towards east-northeast until being interrupted by ditch terminus **10913**.

Rubbish pits

5.6.6 Rubbish pit **10937** was found within a cluster of several intercutting rubbish pits located on the southwest corner of the Late Iron Age/Romano-British rectangular enclosure. The pit was sub-oval in plan, with steep concave sides and a concave base

and measured 2.23m long, 1.10m wide and 0.76m deep. Rubbish pit **10416** was a discrete feature located to the east of possible trackway **10939**.

Fire pit

5.6.7 An isolated fire pit was recorded within the area. Pit **10662** was sub-oval in plan with moderately sloped concave sides and a concave base, measuring 1.26 wide and 0.29m deep. It was located to the south of ditch **10501** and was truncated by ditch **10928.**

5.6.8 A second possible firepit was located towards the southeast corner of rectangular enclosure **10928**. Fired pit **10564** was sub-circular in plan with shallow concave sides and an irregular base, measuring 0.80m long, 0.38m wide and 0.11m deep.

Storage pit

5.6.9 Pit **10093** was located towards the southwest corner of the area, truncating an earlier Late Iron Age/Romano-British storage pit and Late Prehistoric ditch **10923**. The pit was sub-circular in plan, with steep concave sides and a flat base and measured 1.43m long, 1.45m wide and 0.51m deep. The feature could only be tentatively dated due to the limited and contradictory nature of the artefactual evidence it produced.

Area 2

5.6.10 Within this area was a single field boundary of Romano-British date that may represented a variation in the previous Late Iron Age/Romano-British. Ditch **10888** was located towards the western edge of the excavation area running on a north to south alignment. The ditch appeared through the southern edge of the excavation running 20.80m towards north and truncating Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch **10889**. The ditch was truncated by medieval ditch **10887** at its northern end. The ditch was linear in plan, with moderate stepped sides and a concave base and measured 2.00 wide and 0.82m deep. Area 4

Rubbish pits clusters

5.6.11 Romano-British activity within Area 4 (**Figs. 1** & **5**) is mainly represented by a large cluster of rubbish pits that were found and investigated in the northern half of the excavation area.

5.7 Medieval

5.7.1 This section provides description of features that be ascribed to this period based on the recovered artefactual and environmental records.

Area 1

5.7.2 Medieval activity within this area (**Figs. 3** & **4**) was represented by three possible field boundaries, one drainage ditch, two rubbish pits, two isolated postholes and an uncertain pit.

Field boundaries

5.7.3 Ditch **10909** (**Plate 13**) was located running along the southern edge of Area 1 on an east-southeast /west-northwest alignment, with moderate to steep concave sides and a concave base. A 25m long section of the ditch was exposed, commencing from the eastern edge of the excavation, near Evaluation Trench 4, and disappearing beyond the southern edge of the excavation after truncating Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch **10917**. The ditch was 0.9m wide and 0.22m in deep.

5.7.4 Ditches **10904** & **10905** were located near the eastern edge of the area and ran on a north-northeast/south-southwest alignment, with similar profiles and dimensions. Ditch **10904** showed moderately sloped concave sides and a concave base and measured 17.60m long, 0.62m wide and 0.20m deep. It began with a terminus situated ran intermittently towards the north-northeast and was later re-cut by ditch **10905**. Ditch **10905** had steep concave sides and a concave base, and measured 26.90m long, 0.60m wide and 0.25m deep. The ditch, emerging from the northern edge of the excavation area, ran towards south-southwest clipping **10904** along its western edge before finally bifurcated.

Pits/postholes

5.7.5 Two shallow rubbish pits **10147** & **10151** and a posthole **10149** were recorded to the east of field boundary **10904**-**10905**. The pits were circular in plan with shallow concave sides and a concave base and similar dimensions. Another isolated posthole **10138** was found towards the southeast corner of the area near ditch **10136**.

5.7.6 Pit **10471** was located to the north of field boundary **10909**. The pit was a sizable feature, sub-circular in plan with moderately sloped stepped sides and a concave base and measuring 2m long, 1.84m wide and 0.39m deep.

Area 2

5.7.7 Medieval activity within this area (**Figs. 1** & **3**) was represented by a field system, four rubbish pits, two fire pits and two uncertain pits.

Field system

5.7.8 A large field boundary was formed by ditches **10711**, **10887** (**Plate 15**) & **10893** that ran along the northern half of the excavation area on an east/west alignment. Ditch **10711** was a small segment that protruded from the western edge of the excavation area and terminated after less than 3m. It was linear in plan with shallow concave sides and concave base and measured 0.70m wide and 0.13m deep. Ditch **10887** was the continuation of **10711**, commencing to the east-northeast and running 27.80m, truncating earlier Romano-British ditch **10888** and Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditches **10884** & **10885** before terminating. The ditch had moderately sloped concave sides and a concave base and measured 0.90m wide and 0.55m deep. After a short gap the ditch continued towards the east-southeast as ditch **10893**. The ditch continued towards the east-southeast and was truncated by quarry pit **10750**, and medieval ditches **10894** & **10892** before truncating medieval ditch 10895 and turning towards the north-northeast and disappearing beyond the LOE.

5.7.9 Ditch **10892** formed a field division with ditch **10893**. The ditch ran from the southern edge of the excavation, where was heavily disturbed by agricultural activity, towards north where intersected Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch **10893** and joined with **10893**. This feature was linear in plan with moderate stepped sides and a concave base, measuring39.50m long, 1.10m wide and 0.36m deep.

5.7.10 A small rectangular enclosure orientated north-northeast to south-southwest was located on the north-east corner of the excavation area. This enclosure was formed by 'L' shaped field boundary **10893** and linear ditch **10895.** The enclosure measured 11.80m wide and more than 15.50m long as continued beyond the LOE. A 14.67m section of ditch **10895** was exposed, measuring 0.75m wide and 0.27m deep. The ditch had moderately sloped concave sides and a concave to flat base. The ditch was

cut by ditch **10893** to the south-southwest and disappeared beyond the LOE to the north-northeast.

5.7.11 Ditch **10896** was situated within the enclosure, possibly forming an internal division. A terminus was located on its east-southeast end leaving a 2.60m wide gap to access a 11.70m by 6.60m small plot within the enclosure.

Rubbish pits

5.7.12 Four scattered rubbish pits **10683**, **10709**, **10794** & **10830** were recorded within the area. Rubbish pit **10830** truncated Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch **10889** in proximity to two medieval fire pits **10814** & **10811**. The pit had an oval shape in plan, with shallow concave sides and a concave base and measured 2.48m long, 1.50m wide and 0.14m deep.

Fire pits

5.7.13 Fire pits **10814** & **10811** were located in close proximity to rubbish pit **10830.** Pit **10814** was sub-circular in plan with shallow concave sides and a concave base and measured 0.68m long, 0.60m wide and 0.07m deep. Pit **10811** was sub-oval in plan with shallow concave sides and a flat base and measured 0.98m long, 0.82m wide and 0.08m deep. Both features showed remains of in-situ burning at the base and contained deposits associated with deliberate backfill.

Uncertain pits

5.7.14 Pair of intercutting pits comprising pits **10872** & **10870** was recorded near the junction between ditches **10895** & **10893**.

Area 3

5.7.15 Medieval activity within this area (**Figs. 1** & **4**) comprised a single large quarry pit and an isolated rubbish pit, making up the majority of the dated features within this area.

5.7.16 Quarry pit **4004** was investigated during the evaluation phase and it was agreed with the KCC County Archaeologist and the client that no further investigation was required. The pit was irregular in plan with steep stepped sides and sloping base and measured approximately 30m long, 15m wide and 1.60m deep.

5.7.17 Rubbish pit **10018** was located near the northern edge of the excavation and was sub-oval in plan, with shallow concave sides and an irregular base and measured 1.70m long, 0.98m wide and 0.12m deep. The pit was used to discard food as contained large quantity of oyster shells along with sherds of medieval pottery.

Area 4

5.7.18 Within this area (**Fig. 7**) a single field boundary belonging to the medieval period was investigated.

5.7.19 Ditch **10900** was probably related with undated ditch **10899** forming a field boundary. Linear ditch **10900** was located running along the southern edge of the area on a west-northwest to east-southeast alignment. The ditch emerged from the western edge of the excavation area, cutting through Late Prehistoric spread layer **10280**. It continued towards the east-southeast where truncated it Late Prehistoric ditch **10901** and disappeared beyond the eastern edge of the excavation after intersecting earlier ditch **10899**. The ditch was linear in plan with differing profiles along its length, varying

from steep to moderately sloped concave sides and a flat to concave base. The exposed section measured 58.50m long, 1.10m wide and 0.48m deep.

5.8 Post-medieval/modern

5.8.1 Ditch **10780 (Plate 14)** was located running on north-northeast to south-southwest alignment along the centre of Area 2. The ditch was previously investigated during the evaluation phase. The ditch had steep concave sides and a concave base and measured 24.40m long, 2.50m wide and 0.40m deep. The ditch ended on a square terminus to the north-northeast and was probably used to mark a former field boundary that was establish during medieval period with ditch **10894**.

5.9 Uncertain date

5.9.1 This section summarises features of uncertain date. Only features with significant elements are discussed in detail, with other features merely noted at this stage.

Area 1

5.9.2 The eastern half of Area 1 contained a total of seven undated features, comprising three linear ditches and four pits/postholes.

5.9.3 Ditch **10906** ran along a similar alignment to Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age ditch **10932** to the west but showed a considerable difference in its dimensions. However, it is possible that this was due to the truncation present within the area. The exposed section of **10906** was 23.10m long and on its widest point measured 0.37m wide and 0.24m deep. The ditch was Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age in date at the latest as it was truncated by Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age ditch **10907**. Large pit **10157** was also truncated by ditch 10907, giving it a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date at the latest.

5.9.4 The two other linear features **10181** and **10178** both suffered significant truncation and were unable to be assessed in any detail. The remaining features consisted of an isolated pit to the north of ditch **10178** and two small pits on the eastern boundary of the site.

5.9.5 The western half of Area 1 was significantly busier in terms of archaeological features. The majority of undated linear features are located in near the southern boundary of the main excavated area and most are Romano-British in date at the latest based on their stratigraphic relationship to phased archaeological features. This part of the site was also subject to significant truncation prior to the excavation, leading to a number of these features abruptly ending.

5.9.6 A large number of undated pits were recorded in the north-western quarter of the area, within and adjacent to the Late Iron Age/Romano-British enclosure. The phased features within this area are predominantly Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age or Late Iron Age/Romano-British in date and it is likely that these undated features are similar in date, although the lack of stratigraphic relationships or patterns means this cannot be determined.

Area 2

5.9.7 Two linear ditches **10891** & **10890** located on the eastern half of the excavation area showed a completely different alignment in comparison with the Late Iron Age/Romano-British and medieval field systems investigated within the area. Both ditches ran in parallel from the eastern edge of the excavation on a northwest to

southeast alignment. Ditch **10891** was 18m long, 2.30m wide and 0.30m deep and had moderately sloped concave sides and a concave base. The ditch was interpreted as a possible hedgerow used to demarcate a field boundary, associated with ditch **10890**. Ditch **10890** is Late Iron Age/Romano-British at the latest, as it was truncated by Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch **10889**.

5.9.8 A total of seven undated pits and a large undated quarry pit are also located within the area. Quarry Pit **10750** is at least medieval in date as it truncates medieval ditch **10893**. Though the pit is far smaller than medieval quarry pit **4004** it may represent associated quarrying.

Area 3

5.9.9 Area three contained a total of six new undated features, two linear ditches and four isolated pits/postholes. Linear ditches **10898** and **10127** are medieval in date at the latest, as ditch **10898** is truncated by large medieval quarry pit **4004**. However, it is possible that ditch **10898** is a continuation of ditch **10889** as they run along a similar alignment.

Area 4

5.9.10 As mentioned above undated linear ditches **10902** and **10903** are believed to be Late Prehistoric in date due to the stratigraphic relationship of ditch **10902** with neighbouring pit cluster. Linear ditch **10335** and large pit **10345** are also located in close proximity to the cluster of prehistoric pits and are likely to also be prehistoric in date. A single isolated pit of unknown purpose was recorded in the eastern half of the area.

6 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Approximately 79 kg of finds were recovered during the excavation. The assemblage ranges in date from Mesolithic or Early Neolithic to modern. All finds have been cleaned, quantified by material type (Table 2) and scanned to assess their nature, condition and potential date range.

Table 2 Summary of finds by material type (by number of pieces and weight in grammes)

Material type	No.	Wt. (g)
Pottery	3721	39881
Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age	1755	19249
Late prehistoric	146	619
Late Iron Age/Romano-British	1539	15809
Medieval	277	4191
Post-medieval/modern	4	13
Fired clay	189	3870
Building materials		
Ceramic	26	863
Stone	1	200
Metalwork		
Iron	43	467
Copper Alloy	1	6
Metalworking debris	9	112
Worked flint	783	284

Burnt flint	7115	27510
Human bone	1	6
Animal bone	310	1062
Shell	165	1804
Clay pipe	4	12
Glass	3	18
Clay figurine	1	23
Overall total	**12635**	**79462**

6.1.2 This material complements the smaller assemblage (approx. 13 kg) recovered during the initial evaluation of the site and which is reported on separately (Wessex Archaeology 2018). The material from both stages of fieldwork will be considered in the recommendations for further analysis.

6.2 Pottery

Introduction

6.2.1 The pottery assemblage (3721 sherds, 39,881 g) provided the primary dating evidence for the site. It ranges in date from the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age to the post-medieval/modern, with its focus split between the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age (approximately 8th to 7th centuries BC) and the Late Iron Age or Early Romano-British periods (Table 2).

6.2.2 The assemblage has been quantified (sherd count and weight) by ware type within each context, using known types (e.g. samian, Upchurch ware) where possible, but also grouping other less distinctive wares in more generic groups, particularly for the prehistoric period (e.g. flint-tempered ware). The Canterbury Archaeological Trust type series has been used for medieval wares. The presence of identifiable vessel forms has been noted on the basis of 'featured' sherds (diagnostic sherds, generally rims), and other variables (e.g. surface treatment, decoration, firing and evidence of use) were also recorded. The level of recording accords with the 'basic record', aimed at producing a rapid characterisation of the assemblage and a comparative dataset (Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group *et al* 2016, section 2.4.5). A breakdown of the assemblage by both chronological period and ware is shown in Table 3.

6.2.3 The condition of the assemblage is highly variable between deposits; there is a high level (approximately 40% by count) of body sherds with no related rims and a low mean sherd weight of 10.7 g. Post-depositional leaching and/or abrasion of fabrics is only present on a small quantity of sherds, mostly of the softer-fired types such as the locally-produced Upchurch wares.

Table 3 Breakdown of pottery by chronology and ware type

Period	Ware	No.	Wt. (g)	MSW (g)
Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age	Flint-tempered ware	1729	18984	
	Flint and grog-tempered ware	26	265	
	Sub-total	*1755*	*19249*	*11*
Late prehistoric	Flint-tempered ware	145	610	
	Shell and sand-tempered ware	1	9	
	Sub-total	*146*	*619*	*4.3*
Late Iron Age/Romano-British	Grog-tempered ware	1144	13721	
	Oxidised ware	164	483	
	Fine whiteware	63	474	
	Upchurch Ware (reduced)	55	115	
	Greyware	56	613	
	Flint-tempered ware	46	315	
	Unsourced colour-coated ware	9	59	
	Samian	2	29	
	Sub-total	*1539*	*15809*	*10.3*
Medieval	EM3 Misc. shelly wares	2	15	
	EM3A Misc. shelly-sandy wares	77	691	
	EM.M1 Canterbury Shell-dusted ware	19	588	
	EM.M5 Ashford Potters Corner	5	22	
	M1 Tyler Hill ware	148	2414	
	M5 Fine London-type ware	2	11	
	M10 Wealden Type Pink-buff Sandy ware	1	9	
	M40B Ashford/Wealden Sandy ware with very rare shell	23	441	
	Sub-total	*277*	*4191*	*15.2*
Post-medieval/modern	Redware	2	2	
	Refined whiteware	1	8	
	Porcelain	1	3	
	Sub-total	*4*	*13*	*3.2*
Overall total		**3721**	**39881**	**10.7**

Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age

6.2.4 The largest, and earliest, component of the assemblage (47% by count) is dated to the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age. This chronological emphasis is mirrored, albeit in much smaller quantities, in the assemblage from the evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2018, 15). Flint-tempered fabrics, probably of local manufacture, dominate (Table 3) with the flint and grog-tempered being mostly from a single vessel (pit 10762). This pronounced reliance on flint temper conforms to the pattern seen in contemporary assemblages from the region (e.g. Leivers 2014, Couldrey 2007, Macpherson-Grant 1994). Variations in the coarseness and density of the flint and differences in vessel wall-thickness also permit the identification of coarseware and fineware types. The gritting of vessel bases was observed, although, as with the

assemblage from Cliffs End (Leivers 2014, 150), these only appear to form a small proportion of the assemblage.

6.2.5 Outside the larger key feature groups, diagnostic sherds are frequently limited to rim fragments broken above the shoulder. The limited survival of partial or full profiles increases the difficulty in assigning more refined dating to these sherds. Rim forms are typically flat-topped or flaring/everted, with occasional in-turned or bevelled examples. High-shouldered vessel types predominate, often with long and/or slightly concave necks. The fineware element of the assemblage appears to concentrate on bowl forms but some enclosed forms are apparent, including a globular vessel with a short-everted rim (pit 10549). Decoration is mainly limited to fingertip impressions, along with some examples of diagonal incised or stabbed lines, mainly on the top of rims but with some on neck/shoulder sherds or applied cordons.

6.2.6 The Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age sherds were primarily recovered from pits, 14 of which contain 25 or more pieces (Table 4) amounting to 87% of the assemblage. Most of these pits are in Area 2 and a concentration in activity is apparent with six of the eight examples located in the middle of this area. The largest of these assemblages (pit 10762) includes 257 sherds from a long-necked shouldered jar (approximately half the vessel) of a similar form to examples from Cliffs End (e.g. Leivers 2014, 149, Figure 5.2, 3) but with a less angular shoulder. A short-necked bowl is another distinctive component of this group, reminiscent of a Late Bronze Age type found in the CTRL excavations (Barclay et al 2006, Figure 3.5b, STL/35). Despite the smaller size of the remaining feature groups, they all appear contemporary with these pits and very few of the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age sherds are residual finds.

Table 4 Pits with 25 or more sherds of Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age

Feature	Area	No.	Wt. (g)
10481	1	25	260
10522	1	77	840
10549	1	55	161
10561	1	28	154
10743	2	43	395
10762	2	642	7382
10765	2	46	302
10803	2	157	2187
10820	2	34	431
10824	2	26	197
10836	2	25	370
10855	2	67	1052
6206	4	268	2807
10302	4	29	363

Late prehistoric

6.2.7 The 'late prehistoric' sherds (4% of the assemblage by count) comprise entirely flint-tempered (with exception of one sherd) body pieces; the wide dating stems from the longevity in the use of this temper in the region (Barclay et al 2006, 77). The dominance of Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age material among the diagnostic material, however, suggests a significant proportion of these 'prehistoric' sherds could be contemporary.

Late Iron Age and Romano-British

6.2.8 The Late Iron Age/Romano-British sherds account for 41% of the assemblage by count. These sherds were derived from 97 contexts in 59 features. However, only 16 of these groups (9 ditches and 7 pits) contain 25 or more sherds, representing 86% of the whole Late Iron Age/Romano-British assemblage. Two of the pit groups (10692 and 10718) consist of semi-complete vessels which may have been deliberately deposited. Well-preserved diagnostic sherds are limited to key groups (e.g. ditches 10888 and 10928, and pit 10709), as with the prehistoric material, and a high proportion of the rim fragments are broken at or above the shoulder.

6.2.9 A chronological emphasis on the Late Iron Age to Early Romano-British period is apparent throughout the assemblage, its date spanning the entirety of the 1st century BC and 1st century AD. The continuation of Late Iron Age traditions and a lack of 'Romanised' fabrics and forms makes the identification of pre- and post-conquest groups difficult. This 'cultural continuum' is well recognised in the study of Romano-British pottery in Kent and indeed elsewhere in Britain (Pollard 1988, 29-33, 41).

6.2.10 Locally sourced grog-tempered wares overwhelmingly predominate (Table 3; 74% of LIA/RB sherds), with an emphasis on utilitarian, kitchen-type vessels. The range of remaining coarseware fabrics is noticeably limited (Table 3) and Late Iron Age traits remain prominent among the small quantities of flint-tempered wares and sandy greywares. The unoxidized products of local industries, such as those established at Canterbury and Upchurch in the later 1st century AD, are scarce. Canterbury products are limited to just two vessels, an everted rim jar (ditch 10888) and a flagon (fire pit 10662). A single everted rim jar (ditch 10205) accounts for most of the Upchurch sherds, but a base sherd adapted into a spindlewhorl (pit 10937) is among the remaining pieces. Aside from this base, there are no other examples of re-use/adaptation of pottery in the assemblage.

6.2.11 There is a preponderance of jar forms among these coarsewares, particularly those in the Belgic tradition (e.g. Thompson 1982, 87, type B1-1; *Ibid*, 145, type B3-2) as well as bead rim and facetted types (Monaghan 1987, 91). The latter are distinctive to the region and include a single example of the rarer flattened rim type (*Ibid*, 94, 3G7; ditch 10065). Additional forms include sherds from several Gallo Belgic style platters and jugs, along with a bowl with a girth groove (Thompson 1982, 309, type D1-3) and a butt beaker.

6.2.12 The oxidised fabrics (Table 3) predominately consist of sherds from two semi-complete vessels: a highly fragmented butt beaker (ON 34, pit 10718; 114 sherds) and a collared (Hofheim-type) flagon (pit 10709, 60 sherds; Monaghan 1987, 50, type 1E5). The remainder mainly comprise small body pieces, some perhaps products from the Upchurch and Canterbury industries. Fine tableware vessels comprise nine sherds from an unsourced roughcast colour-coated ware beaker (ditch 10580) and

two pieces of samian (ditches 10270 and 10501). The samian sherds, both products of the South Gaulish industry, are the only evidence of imported pottery within the assemblage.

6.2.13 The range of wares, and dominance of pre-Flavian forms, has distinct parallels with the early feature groups at Highstead (Green 2007) and Hockers Lane, Thurnham (Barclay *et al* 2006). There is also a strong resemblance to the assemblage of 'Belgic' pottery recovered from the nearby site of a Belgic enclosure and Romano-British villa in Faversham in the mid-1960s (Clewley 1968).

Medieval

6.2.14 The medieval assemblage amounts to 277 sherds (7.4% of the total by sherd count). This minor component of the assemblage is in noticeably better condition than the earlier material, with a mean sherd weight of 15.2 g. There is a higher incidence of conjoining sherds, and lower levels of surface and edge abrasion, although this could be at least partly a reflection of the harder-fired nature of the medieval wares.

6.2.15 Eight ware types were identified (Table 3), following the regional type series, and this includes local Kentish wares, largely from two main source areas, Canterbury and Ashford/Wealden, as well as regional wares. Amongst the local wares, those from the Canterbury area predominate, although the source(s) of the early medieval wares are uncertain.

6.2.16 Early medieval wares comprise shelly or shelly-sandy wares (EM3, EM3A). Although these have a date range which potentially extends back as far as the Late Saxon period (in the case of EM3A), diagnostic rim forms, combined with the high ratio of the shelly-sandy ware EM3A to the sand-free shelly ware EM3, suggest that their date here is significantly later (Cotter 2006, 153). Of the three jar rims present (all in EM3A), all are of 'developed' (flat-topped or squared) profile, indicative of a date range *c.* 1200 or later; both wares have end dates in the early to mid-13th-century.

6.2.17 Of the two transitional early medieval–medieval wares, shell-dusted ware (EM.M1) is one of the more common late 12th-/early 13th-century wares from Canterbury; the shell-dusting is thought to be in imitation of true shelly wares. The source is considered to be the Tyler Hill production centre. Its date range is *c*. 1175–1250 (Cotter 2006, 145). Diagnostic sherds are limited to one developed jar rim and two body sherds with pre-firing perforations, possibly for the insertion of handles. The other transitional ware is Ashford-Potters Corner ware (EM.M5), represented here by only five sherds, including a bowl rim. This ware dates *c*. 1175–1300

6.2.18 Canterbury-type wares predominate amongst the medieval wares, with Tyler Hill ware (M1) well represented. The fabric is very similar to that of the shell-dusted ware (EM.M1) but is harder-fired and denser. The distinction from Early Medieval Canterbury sandy ware (EM1) can be difficult to sustain, but no examples of the latter ware have been identified here. Tyler Hill ware is dated *c*. 1225–1350. Diagnostic forms seen here include jars (all with developed rims), flared bowls and jugs. Jar and bowl rims are frequently pin-pricked along the top, and jug handles are stabbed. A group of ten sherds from pit 10830, including two rim sherds but none conjoining, are from a thick-walled vessel(s) with multiple small pre-firing perforations, with a profile flaring out to the rim; this is possibly a small chimney pot (see Cotter 1991, fig. 5, 13).

6.2.19 Other medieval wares are present in much smaller quantities. Ashford/Wealden sandy ware (M40B), dated *c*. 1175–1400, makes up most of this small group; the only

diagnostic sherd is a jug strap handle, while the jug body sherds from the same context carry curvilinear tooled decoration and a patchy glaze. There are also two sherds of London-type ware (M5), both from slip-decorated jugs of 13th-century type; and one of Wealden-type pink-buff sandy ware (M10), dated *c*. 1350–1550. There seems to be a definite decline in pottery use here after the 13th century.

6.2.20 In terms of distribution, apart from one sherd from subsoil and another from a tree throw, all sherds came from cut features: pits, postholes and ditches. Medieval sherds occurred across Areas 1, 2 and 3, but the majority were concentrated in features in Area 2. In general, the distribution was low-level, with only three features producing more than 25 sherds: pit 10872 (38 sherds), and trackway ditch sections 10887 (39 sherds) and 10893 (40 sherds). This low-level distribution is more indicative of secondary deposition, with pottery redeposited from its original point of discard, for example through manuring practices.

6.2.21 While the stratigraphic analysis (see above) has suggested at least two phases of field system ditches, and there are clear stratigraphic relationships between these and the enclosure and trackway ditches, no real distinction can be discerned in the pottery; most features are dated on the presence of Tyler Hill ware to the early 13th to mid-14th century. Tyler Hill ware was found alongside potentially earlier wares (shelly, shelly-sandy and shell-dusted) but, as discussed above, these sherds may date towards the end of their chronological range. Overall, a relatively compressed date range can be suggested, focusing in the first half of the 13th century, with the possibility that there may be some earlier material (maybe later 12th-century) and some later (later 13th-/early 14th-century).

Post-medieval and modern

6.2.22 Four post-medieval/modern sherds were recovered (Table 2), comprising two glazed redwares (glazed body sherds), one refined whiteware (transfer-printed plate rim) and one porcelain (small lid from dolls' teaset). All four sherds came from ditch 10780.

6.3 Fired clay

6.3.1 Fired clay (Table 2) was retrieved from 45 contexts in 38 features, but only nine features contained more than 100g. Seven of these larger concentrations originate from pits of Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age date (6206, 10302, 10439, 10762, 10803, 10853 and 10867). The fabrics are slightly sandy, with ferruginous pellets (probably naturally occurring in the clay source) occurring in most fragments. Occasional pieces have voids from either leached calcareous material and/or burnt out organic matter. The firing colour is predominantly oxidised (beige, pink and orange) surfaces and sometimes an unoxidised (dark grey to almost black) core.

6.3.2 A high proportion (approximately three quarters) of the assemblage is small abraded featureless fragments. Some larger fragments, which may have derived from the linings of ovens, kilns or hearths, have flattish surfaces. A few of these pieces (e.g. pits 10302 and 10549) have internal withy impressions (up to 20mm in diameter) indicating the use of a light, wooden framework to support the structure(s) during construction and initial drying/firing.

6.3.3 Evidence for portable objects is relatively limited. One large fragment may form around one quarter of a cylindrical loomweight (pit 10289). Parts of two further possible loomweights were recovered from pit 10743, but the pieces are too damaged for a firm identification. Two conjoining fragments (pit 10867), possibly of square or

rectangular section, could be from a firebar. Four other fragments from probable objects came from pits 10439 and 10853 and fire pit 10662, but these are too small and/or abraded to identify the object type.

6.4 Building materials

Ceramic

6.4.1 A small assemblage of ceramic building material was recovered (Table 2). Only one piece was Romano-British, a small abraded piece of brick (ditch 10368) probably derived from one of the smaller types such as *bessalis*, *pedalis* or *lydion*.

6.4.2 Pieces of medieval or post-medieval peg hole roof tiles were found in ditches 10687, 10757, 19780, 10788 and 10839, pits 10093 and 10794 and in the subsoil 10002. Three of these features also contained medieval pottery and one post-medieval/modern pottery. Allowing for conjoining fragments a maximum of 17 tiles are represented, including one with a small patch of dark red glaze (pit 10794). Two pieces of post-medieval brick were also found in ditch 10780; one appears to have been deliberately cut as a small 'slice' of the original brick.

Stone

6.4.3 Generally, building stones were left in situ. A single piece of sandstone, recovered from ditch 10605, has been noticeably smoothed on one surface and is likely to have been utilised as a building stone.

6.5 Metalwork

6.5.1 All the metalwork (which was hand-collected) has been examined in its raw state, with X-radiographs to aid identification. Many of the objects, particularly the iron, are heavily corroded.

Iron

6.5.2 Twenty-seven of the iron objects (Table 2) were recovered from nine features dating to either the Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British or medieval periods. The remaining 16 fragments were retrieved from unstratified or topsoil/subsoil layers. The majority (17) were nails, primarily of a flat, round-headed type with square-sectioned tapering shank (Manning 1985, 134, 1B), with a further 12 rod/shank fragments probably broken pieces of nails. Identifiable objects from stratified features are limited to a u-shaped staple and an angle binding (with a broken perforation at one end) from two medieval pits (10018 and 10872).

6.5.3 Topsoil/subsoil finds included part of a key, a T-shaped clamp and a probable structural fitting. This fitting has a flat rectangular sectioned shaft which is looped at one end with a semi-circular perforation at the other. Three strip fragments, one with a probable perforation in the centre, were unstratified. A fourth strip fragment was retrieved from a Late Iron Age or Early Romano-British ditch (10888). Further unstratified material comprised five fragments too corroded to be identified.

Copper alloy

6.5.4 A tapering strip fragment (trackway 10893) has been broken at its wider end and bent into almost a right angle.

Metalworking debris

6.5.5 Small quantities (Table 3) of undiagnostic iron smithing slag were recovered from ditches 10348 and 10760. A small lump of copper alloy (subsoil 10002) may represent further metalworking waste.

6.6 Worked flint

6.6.1 783 pieces of worked flint were recovered from 250 contexts as in Table 5. Most of the material is relatively good quality dark grey flint and some black pieces, both with a thin weathered cortex. In addition, there was a smaller quantity of glauconitic (Bullhead) pieces, and some mottled brown pieces with cherty inclusions typical of the area. The condition of the assemblage is mixed, with most pieces in good condition, but a number of rolled, worn and glossed pieces are also present; these are likely redeposited in later features. Patina is present on a limited number of pieces. The source of this flint is likely the local drift geology as it is readily available in alluvial and head deposits.

Table 5 The composition of the worked flint assemblage

Flint Types	No.	% of assemblage
Retouched tools:		
Scraper	16	2.04
Microlith	1	0.13
Denticulate	1	0.13
Axe	1	0.13
Miscellaneous Retouch	12	1.53
Sub-total retouched	*33*	*3.95*
Debitage:		
Broken Core	16	2.04
Flake Cores	8	1.02
Bladelets (incl. broken)	8	1.02
Blades (incl. broken)	12	1.53
Flakes (incl. broken)	417	53.26
Debitage	39	4.98
Burin spall	1	0.13
Chips/micro debitage	249	31.8
Sub-total debitage	*749*	*95.79*
Others:		
Grinder	1	0.13
Hammerstone	1	0.13
Sub-total others	*2*	*0.26*
Total	**783**	**100**

6.6.2 The bulk of the assemblage consists of core reduction flakes with the aim of producing useable blanks. This part of the assemblage is also the portion that appears in better condition and therefore may either be more closely associated in date with the features from which it Is derived or more likely that the material has not moved far prior to redeposition.

6.6.3 Definite or likely chronological indicators for the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic are present in a few instances as follows: a well-made small tranchet axe from fill 10376 of pit 10373 and a microlith and burin spall from fill 10308 of pit 10302 are definitely Mesolithic; an end scraper on a flake with blade scars from layer 10347; a flake core

with cortical back and some blade removals and platform preparation from fill 10286 of ditch 10285; and a blade on dark grey flint with thin grey cortex, blade scars and abraded platform from fill 10817 from pit 10817 could be Mesolithic or Early Neolithic.

6.6.4 There are no obvious indicators for later Neolithic activity, however the remnants of a single knapping event from fill 10494 of ditch 10492 shows possible indications of faceted platforms and might be Late Neolithic – this dating is not secure.

6.6.5 There are some contexts containing groups of what are likely to be Bronze Age flakes, notably from fill 10684 of pit 10683, fill 10374 of pit 10373, layer 10015, fill 10530 of ditch terminus 10529, fill 10597 of drainage ditch 10585 and fill 10596 of drainage ditch 10585. Tabular flint was also used as a raw material in fill 10055 of pit 10054; it is known from Cliffs End Farm (Leivers and Harding 2014) and the East Kent Access Road (Harding 2015) that tabular flint was used selectively in the later Bronze Age. The bulk of the assemblage would not look out of place in known Bronze Age assemblages, but it is not obvious whether these are Middle or Late Bronze Age industries with the possible exception of 10015 which could be Late Bronze Age. There are no clear examples of Iron Age flint work.

6.6.6 A variety of technological styles are present; however, the bulk of the assemblage appears focused around blank flake production with some indication of 'industrial' processes as indicated by a relatively large number of scrapers. Cores, debitage and microdebitage are also relatively well represented suggesting consistent levels of knapping and flint tool-based activities in the immediate area.

Burnt flint

6.6.7 Just over 27kg (Table 2) unworked burnt flint was recovered from 105 features, with a wide distribution across the site. The three largest concentrations (approx. 1.8−3.7 kg respectively) were from Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age ditch (10285) and pit (10302) and an undated pit (10456). This material type is intrinsically undatable but is frequently associated with prehistoric activity. In this assemblage, 42% (by weight) of the burnt flint came from deposits containing Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age and/or prehistoric pottery.

6.7 Human bone

6.7.1 Cremated bone was recovered from two contexts (10131 and 10135) in Area 3. The undated deposits were recovered from features situated some 8 m apart (10130 and 10134) towards the eastern margins of the area. The fuel ash-rich deposits, throughout which the very small quantities of cremated bone recovered were evenly distributed, did not have the characteristics of burial remains and both are most likely to represent deposits of pyre debris (McKinley 2013).

6.7.2 The material extracted from the larger sieve fractions (5 mm and above; occurring only in feature 10134) was subject to a rapid scan to assess the condition of the bone, demographic data, presence of pathological lesions and pyre goods. Assessments of age and sex were based on standard methodologies (Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994; Scheuer and Black 2000). The unsorted small fraction residues (<1 mm) were also subject to a rapid scan which included an assessment of the approximate bone weight. The deposit type was assessed from the combined osteological and site context data.

6.7.3 Both features had survived to 0.07–0.08 m in depth (10131 had been overcut due to leaching of the matrix into the underlying natural; probably nearer to 0.04 m) and, although probably subject to horizontal truncation, given the very sparse quantities of bone within the fills and the presence of only a few flecks at surface level, little bone is likely to have been lost due to disturbance. The bone is slightly worn/eroded in appearance, and no trabecular bone survived (the latter is generally subject to preferential destruction in an acidic burial environment).

6.7.4 The only bone recovered from cut 10130 derived from the unsorted small fraction residues and probably amounted to no more than 2–3 g. In addition to the 5.2 g of bone recovered from the larger fractions, the smaller fraction residues from cut 10134 were also observed to contain a small amount of additional bone which would be unlikely to increase the overall weight by more 3–4 g. All the bone is heavily fragmented, with only one fragment (tibia shaft) >10 mm in length. Much of the fragmentation will undoubtably have been the result of physical breakdown of the material within the aggressive burial environment (along the line of dehydration fissures formed during cremation). However, the heavily comminuted condition of the bone suggests there might have been additional fragmentation to that normally observed, possibly due to over manipulation of the remains at the pyre site prior to deposition (e.g. trampling during recovery/clearance of the site).

6.7.5 The remains comprise those of a minimum of one individual (the bone from both features potentially having derived from the same pyre), a subadult/adult >15 years of age of unknown sex. Most of the material comprises fragments of long bone shaft with rare fragments of cranium. No pathological lesions were observed. The bone is universally white in colour indicative of full oxidation. Although the deposits are not believed to represent the remains of burials, the presence of pyre debris does indicate that cremation was being undertaken in the immediate vicinity.

6.8 Animal bone

6.8.1 A total of 310 fragments (1.062 kg) of animal bone came from features located in Areas 1, 2 and 4. The assemblage includes large numbers of unidentifiable burnt fragments from sample residues. The hand-collected material is also quite fragmented and once refits are considered the total count falls to just 166 fragments. An additional small quantity (109 fragments or 363 g) came from a few Romano-British and medieval features during the evaluation and has been reported on separately (Wessex Archaeology 2018)

6.8.2 The assemblage was rapidly scanned following current guidelines for best practise (Baker and Worley 2019). The basic information quantified during the scan included species, skeletal element, preservation condition, fusion and tooth ageing data, butchery marks, metrical data, gnawing, burning, surface condition, pathology and non-metric traits. This information was directly recorded into a relational database (in MS Access) and cross-referenced with relevant contextual information.

Table 6 Animal bone: number of identified fragments (or NISP) by Area

Species	Area 1	Area 2	Area 4	Total
cattle	1	15	1	17
sheep/goat	1	3	1	5
pig	-	-	-	1
horse	-	-	1	1
fish	5	-	-	5
Total identified	**7**	**19**	**3**	**29**
Total unidentifiable	**71**	**62**	**4**	**137**
Overall total	**78**	**81**	**7**	**166**

Area 1

6.8.3 A small amount (78 fragments) of animal bone came from pits and ditches of Late Iron Age/early Romano-British and medieval date. The identified fragments include a cattle tooth from ditch 10930, a sheep/goat metapodial from pit 10629 and a few fish vertebrae from pit 10151.

Area 2

6.8.4 A total of 81 fragments came from pits, ditches and a trackway. Most are unidentifiable fragments of burnt bone. The identified bones are largely from cattle, but also include a few sheep/goat and pig bones. Identified bones came from four Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pits, they include several cattle teeth and a sheep/goat radius. A few post-cranial cattle bones and a mandible came from Late Iron Age/early Romano-British pits and ditches. The identified bones recovered from medieval features are mostly from cattle and include a few post-cranial elements and two mandibles. A sheep/goat axis vertebra and tooth, and a pig mandible came from pit 10872.

Area 4

6.8.5 Animal bones came from Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pit 10302 and Late Iron Age/early Romano-British pit 10373 and two broadly dated late prehistoric ditches (10901 and 10900). The only identified elements came from 10900, they include a near complete horse radius, cattle skull fragment and sheep/goat tooth.

6.9 Shell

6.9.1 The shell fragments (Table 7) were retrieved from 30 contexts in 20 features. With the exceptions of one cockle (ditch 10711) and one whelk (trackway 10893), all are oysters. Both left and right valves were identified, indicating that they are likely to represent food remains. The largest concentration (80 fragments) was recovered from medieval pit 10018, but over 100 shells are required for statistical and metrical analysis to be viable.

6.10 Other finds

6.10.1 Four clay pipe fragments were found in subsoil (10002) and ditch 10780. All are stem pieces with the edge of the bowl surviving in one case. Ditch 10780 also contained further post-medieval and modern finds, including pottery and roof tile fragments, as well as three conjoining pieces from a small colourless glass bottle. A small porcelain doll, probably dating to the 19th century AD, was also recovered from the topsoil (10001). The nude female figure has had the head and end of legs/feet broken away, while there is evidence that its arms would originally have been attached with pins.

6.11 Conservation

6.11.1 No immediate conservation requirements were noted in the field. Finds which have been identified as of unstable condition comprise the metal objects; these have been x-radiographed as part of the assessment as a basic record and to aid identification. No further conservation treatment is considered necessary; metal objects are packaged in as stable a condition as possible (in airtight plastic tubs with drying agent) but are likely to be subject to selective retention in the long term (see below, Section 10).

7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 Seventy-four bulk sediment samples were taken from a range of features such as cremation burials, vessel fills, ditches, pits and postholes; seventy-three of the samples were processed for the recovery and assessment of the environmental evidence and one sample from a natural feature was discarded. The bulk samples break down into the following Evaluation and Excavation phases and area groups:

Table 7 Sample Summary

Area	No. of bulk samples	Volume (litres)	Feature types
Evaluation	8	93.5	Ditch, pits
Area 1	34	892	Ditches, postholes, pits
Area 2	10	150.8	Pits, vessel fills
Area 3	14	140.5	Cremation burials, pits
Area 4	4	141	Pits
Trench 62	1	38	Pit
Trench 63	2	77	Pits
Total	**73**	**1532.8**	

7.1.2 The bulk samples break down into the following feature types:

Feature	No. of bulk samples	Volume (litres)
Cremation burial	8	27.5
Ditch	3	80
Pit	58	1379.5
Posthole	2	45
Vessel fill	2	0.8
Total	**73**	**1532.8**

7.1.3 Some of the deposits samples had no dateable artefactual evidence but they have been phased in this report due to the characteristics of the archaeobotanical assemblage.

7.2 Aims and Methods

7.2.1 The purpose of this assessment is to determine the potential of the environmental remains preserved at the site to address project aims and to provide data valuable for wider research frameworks. The nature of this assessment follows recommendations set up by Historic England (Campbell et al. 2011).

7.2.2 The size of the bulk sediment samples varied between 0.4 and 73 litres, and on average was around 21 litres. The majority of the samples were processed by

standard flotation methods on a Siraf-type flotation tank, with the smaller samples being processed via bucket floatation; the flot retained on a 0.25 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 5.6/4 mm and 1 mm fractions. The heavy coarse residue fractions (>5.6/4 mm) were sorted by eye and discarded. The environmental material extracted from the residues was added to the flots. The heavy fine residue fractions (<4 mm) from the samples of the Evaluation phase were examined under the microscope but did not provide any macrofossil evidence not retrieved in the flots, so this step was not carried out for most of the samples of the Excavation phase. All the flots were scanned using a stereo incident light microscopy (Leica MS5 microscope) at magnifications of up to x40 for the identification of environmental remains. Different bioturbation indicators were considered, including the percentage of roots, the abundance of modern seeds and the presence of mycorrhizal fungi sclerotia (e.g. *Cenococcum geophilum*) and animal remains, such as burrowing snails (*Cecilioides acicula*), or earthworm eggs and insects, which would not be preserved unless anoxic conditions prevailed on site. The preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains, as well as the presence of other environmental remains such as terrestrial and aquatic molluscs and animal bone was recorded. Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary and Hopf (2000), for cereals. Abundance of remains is qualitatively quantified (A*** = exceptional, A** = 100+, A* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5) as an estimation of the minimum number of individuals and not the number of remains per taxa. Mollusc nomenclature follows Anderson (2005).

7.3 Results

Prehistoric

Area 1

7.3.1 The flots from the bulk sediment samples from this area were generally small (Table 9). There were high numbers of roots, low numbers of modern seeds and varying numbers of the burrowing snail *Cecilioides acicula* that may be indicative of some stratigraphic movement and the high possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements. Charred material was poorly-preserved with some iron coating present. Wood charcoal was noted in generally small quantities and was from mature wood with, iron coating noted in one sample. The remains of terrestrial molluscs were also present. No other environmental evidence was preserved in the bulk sediment samples. Vitrified material was present in one sample.

7.3.2 The bulk sediment samples were dominated by small numbers of charred cereal remains. Taxa included *Hordeum vulgare* (barley), *Triticum* sp. (wheat, further identification not possible due to poor preservation) and unidentified Triticeae (cereal) grain fragments. Pit 10549, deposit 10551 also contained charred Poaceae (grass) seeds and a tentatively identified Vicieae (vetch) seed.

Area 3

7.3.3 The flots from the samples taken from Area 3 were of variable sizes. Modern roots, seeds and the burrowing snail *Cecilioides acicula* were also present in varying quantities. Terrestrial molluscs were also noted in some samples. No charred plant remains were recovered from the samples in this area. Wood charcoal was present in generally low quantities, with the exception of pit 10100, deposit 10102, and pit 10103, deposit 10104, which both contained moderate amounts. All charcoal was from mature wood.

Trench 63

7.3.4 The two samples from this trench were small with high numbers of modern roots, modern seeds and the burrowing snail *Cecilioides acicula.* No charred plant remains were present in these samples. Terrestrial molluscs and small amounts of mature wood charcoal were also noted.

Romano-British

Area 1

7.3.5 The flots from the bulk sediment samples in Area 1 were of varying sizes, ranging from 30ml to 400ml. Numbers of modern roots and seeds were either low or high, with moderate numbers of the burrowing snail *Cecilioides acicula* present, that may be indicative of some stratigraphic movement and the possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements. Charred material comprised varying degrees of preservation, with iron coating in some samples. Wood charcoal was noted in generally low quantities, was mainly from mature wood, with roundwood present in one sample, and with some iron coating in two samples. Terrestrial and marine molluscs, small animal and fish bones were also noted.

7.3.6 Pit 10419, deposit 10240, produced exceptional amounts of well-preserved charred remains of cultivated and wild species. Cereals present were wheat grains (including *T. spelta* (spelt) and *T. dicoccum* (emmer) some sprouted grains were noted)) and chaff (glume bases and spikelet forks), barley grains and rachis segments and an unidentified cereal culm node. Other species present were vetches (including large seeded and *Vicia faba* (broad bean), possibly cultivated), *Avena* sp. (oats, including a husked *A. fatua* (wild oat)), *Crataegus monogyna* (hawthorn), *Galium* sp. (bedstraw), Chenopodiaceae (goosefoot), *Sherardia arvensis* (field madder), *Rumex* sp. (dock), clover family, Cyperaceae (sedges), *Linum usitatissimum* (flax) and *Rosa* sp. (rose). Terrestrial molluscs, fish bones and small animal bones were also noted. Charcoal was from mature and roundwood with some iron coating.

7.3.7 The charred remains from the bulk sediment sample from pit 10483, deposit 10488 were fairly similar to that of pit 10419, although the assemblage was slightly smaller. Cereals included wheat grains and glume bases (including spelt), barley grains and rachis segments and unidentified cereal grain fragments. Other species additionally included a tentatively identified *Pisum sativum* (garden pea) and *Bromus* sp. (brome). Terrestrial molluscs, small animal bones and a small amount of mature wood charcoal were also noted.

7.3.8 Two samples from pit 10056 produced fairly rich assemblages of charred cereals and other species in varying degrees of preservation. Deposit 10057 contained exceptional numbers of barley grains, with wheat also present in smaller quantities. A detached cereal embryo was also noted. Other species from this deposit included Asteraceae (daisy family), vetches, hawthorn, grasses (including *Poa/Phleum* (meadow grass/cat's tail), *Avena/Bromus* (oats/brome) and an oat awn), sedges, clovers and flax. The assemblage in deposit 10060 contained fewer cereal grains (wheat (including spelt) and barley) but more chaff, mainly wheat glume bases and spikelet forks and barley rachis segments. Other species present were similar to that in deposit 10057, but also included a large seeded vetch and an unidentified endocarp fragment. Both deposits contained terrestrial molluscs and a small amount of mature wood charcoal. Small animal bones, fish bones and mussel shell fragments were present in deposit 10060.

7.3.9 Ditch 10492, deposit 10494 produced a charred assemblage that was dominated by both cereals and other species comprising varying degrees of preservation with some iron coating present. Cereal remains present were wheat (including emmer) grains, glume bases and spikelet forks, barley and unidentified cereal grains (some wrinkled), spikelet forks and a detached embryo. Other species included *Prunus spinosa* (blackthorn) endocarp, vetches (including large seeded), bedstraw, grasses (*Lolium/Festuca* (rye grass/fescue), meadow grass/cat's tail and oats/brome), sedges, dock and flax. Terrestrial molluscs and a small amount of mature wood charcoal were also present.

7.3.10 The bulk sediment sample from pit 10629, deposit 10630, was dominated by charred cereals and other remains in varying degrees of preservation. Cereals present were wheat (including spelt) grains and glume bases and barley grains. Wild species included hawthorn, grasses (oats/brome, meadow grass/cat's tail and rye grass/fescue), vetches, clovers, *Plantago lanceolata* (ribwort plantain), field madder, sedges and a *Raphanus raphanistrum* (wild radish) seed capsule fragment. A small amount of mature wood charcoal and terrestrial molluscs were also noted.

7.3.11 Pit 10564, deposit 10565, and pit 10666, deposit 10667, both produced fairly small assemblages of poorly-preserved iron coated charred plant remains. Both contained wheat grains (some sprouted in pit 10666) and glume bases, including spelt. Pit 10564 also contained barley grains. Other species present were oats/brome and *Persicaria* sp. (knotweed) in pit 10564 and vetches, bedstraw, grasses, clovers and dock in pit 10666. A small amount of mature wood charcoal was present in both samples with iron coating noted in pit 10564.

7.3.12 Pit 10416, deposit 10418, and pit 10481, deposit 10482, produced very small, poorly-preserved amounts of charred material, small amounts of mature wood charcoal and terrestrial molluscs. Wheat grains and unidentified cereal grain fragments were present in pit 10481. Pit 10416 contained only a charred seed from the clover family.

Area 2

7.3.13 The bulk sediment sample from this area was fairly small with high numbers of modern roots, moderate amounts of modern seeds and the burrowing snail *Cecilioides acicula* that may be indicative of some stratigraphic movement. Wood charcoal was present in small quantities and was from mature wood. A poorly-preserved small charred assemblage from pit 10824, deposit 10825, was dominated by wheat, barley and unidentified cereal grain fragments. Also present were vetches, including a large seeded variety. Terrestrial molluscs were also noted.

Area 4

7.3.14 A small flot was produced from the only bulk sediment sample from this area. Pit 10302, deposit 10306 contained low numbers of modern roots, moderate numbers of modern seeds and high numbers of the suggesting the possibility of some stratigraphic movement and contamination by later intrusive elements. A small, poorly-preserved charred assemblage included wheat grains and glume bases, barley grains, unidentified cereal grain fragments and meadow grass/cat's tail. Terrestrial molluscs were noted, and mature wood charcoal was present in small quantities.

Trench 62

7.3.15 The bulk sediment sample from this trench was small, with low amounts of modern roots, moderate amounts of modern seeds and high numbers of the burrowing snail

Cecilioides acicula indicating the possibility of some stratigraphic movement. Pit 6206, deposit 6208, produced a small, poorly-preserved charred assemblage comprising barley grains, unidentified cereal grain fragments, a wheat glume base and spikelet fork and an oat awn. A moderate amount of mature wood charcoal and the remains of terrestrial molluscs were also present.

Evaluation phase 209860

7.3.16 The bulk sediment sample from ditch 614, deposit 616, was fairly small with high numbers of roots and small numbers of modern seeds which may contribute to some stratigraphic movement and the possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements. The charred plant remains were well-preserved and dominated by cereal grains and chaff, including wheat (spelt and emmer) grains (some sprouted) and glume bases, and barley grains. Other species present were grasses (rye grass/fescue and oats/brome), vetches, dock and sedges. Wood charcoal was present in small quantities and was from mature wood. The remains of terrestrial molluscs were also noted.

Medieval

Area 1

7.3.17 The flots from the bulk sediment samples from this area were generally small with high numbers of roots and low numbers of modern seeds and the burrowing snail *Cecilioides acicula* (where present) that may be indicative of some stratigraphic movement and the possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements. Charred material comprised varying degrees of preservation, wood charcoal was present in small quantities and was mainly from mature wood, with one sample containing roundwood. The remains of terrestrial and marine molluscs were present in some samples.

7.3.18 Two samples were taken from posthole 10138 and both produced quite different charred assemblages. Deposit 10139 contained only poorly-preserved *Triticum aestivum/turgidum* (naked wheat) and large seeded (therefore possibly cultivated) oat grains. Deposit 10140 was dominated by naked wheat, barley and unidentified cereal grain fragments, but also contained grasses (including oats/brome), vetches (including large seeded and broad beans) and bedstraw. Preservation was poor in deposit 10139 but deposit 10140 produced some better-preserved seeds and grains. Mature wood charcoal was present in fairly small quantities, roundwood was noted in deposit 10140. Terrestrial molluscs and oyster shell fragments were present in both samples.

7.3.19 The charred material from the bulk sediment samples from pits 10149, deposit 10150, and 10151, deposit 10152, were dominated by well-preserved cereal grains. Pit 10151 contained the larger number of cereal grains but of only one species; naked wheat. In pit 10149, barley and unidentified cereal grain fragments were also noted. Oats and seeds of the daisy family were present in both, whilst pit 10151 also contained vetch seeds. Both contained small quantities of mature wood charcoal.

7.3.20 Pit 10147, deposit 10148, produced a small flot that contained low numbers of charred naked wheat and large seeded oat. Preservation was variable, mature wood charcoal was present in very small quantities and the remains of terrestrial molluscs were also noted.

Evaluation phase 209860

7.3.21 One bulk sediment sample was taken from pit 1108, deposit 1109. The flot was of moderate size and there were low numbers of roots and modern seeds and terrestrial molluscs were noted. The charred assemblage was poorly-preserved and comprised only a tentatively identified charred *Secale cereale* grain. A fairly large quantity of mature wood charcoal was present.

Uncertain

Area 1

7.3.22 The flots from the bulk sediment samples for this area were of varying sizes. There were generally high numbers of roots, low numbers of modern seeds and moderate numbers of the burrowing snail *Cecilioides acicula* that may be indicative of some stratigraphic movement and the possibility of some contamination by later intrusive elements. Charred material was poorly preserved and present in only small quantities with iron coating present in some samples. Wood charcoal was present in varying amounts but was mainly low, was from mature and roundwood and was also iron coated in some instances. Small animal bones and the remains of terrestrial and marine molluscs were also present.

7.3.23 The largest charred assemblage from this area was produced by the bulk sediment sample from pit 10561, deposit 10563. It was dominated by the charred remains of cereals including wheat (spelt and emmer), barley and unidentified cereal grain fragments. Other species present were vetches, clovers, ribwort plantain, field madder and docks. Preservation was variable and mature wood charcoal was present in only trace amounts. Terrestrial and marine molluscs were also noted.

7.3.24 Of the three samples taken from pit 10026, only two contained poorly-preserved iron coated charred plant remains. Deposit 10029 produced a naked wheat grain, whilst deposit 10030 contained unidentified cereal grain fragments and vetch seeds. No charred plant remains were present in deposit 10028. All three deposits contained moderate amounts of iron coated mature wood charcoal and terrestrial molluscs.

7.3.25 Two samples were taken from pit 10191, both deposits 10199 and 10198 produced poorly preserved iron coated charred hazel nutshell fragments. Deposit 10199 also contained a tentatively identified naked wheat grain that was noted as possibly intrusive. Moderate amounts of iron coated mature wood charcoal and terrestrial molluscs were present in both deposits.

7.3.26 The bulk sediment sample from pit 10462, deposit 10463, contained only a poorly-preserved naked wheat grain. Charcoal was present in small quantities and was from mature and roundwood. Terrestrial molluscs were also noted.

7.3.27 Pit 10662, deposit 10663, produced a small flot that was dominated by poorly-preserved, iron coated charred vetch and dock seeds. Small numbers of charred wheat and barley grains were also present. Mature wood charcoal and terrestrial molluscs were present in small quantities.

7.3.28 The flot from pit 10648, deposit 10649, was small but contained poorly-preserved charred wheat grains, including tentatively identified spelt. Charred clover seeds, small amounts of mature wood charcoal and terrestrial molluscs were also noted.

7.3.29 The bulk sediment sample from ditch 10136, deposit 10137, was small and contained only unidentified charred cereal grain fragments and vetch seeds. Mature wood charcoal and terrestrial molluscs were present in small quantities.

7.3.30 Pit 10093, deposit 10095 produced a small flot dominated by poorly-preserved charred wheat grains and unidentified cereal grain fragments. A small quantity of iron coated mature wood charcoal and small animal bones were also present.

7.3.31 Pits 10456, deposits 10457 and 10458, and pit 10469, deposit 10470, contained no charred plant remains, only small amounts of mature wood charcoal and terrestrial molluscs.

Area 2

7.3.32 The bulk sediment samples from this area were generally small with mainly high numbers of roots and varying numbers of modern seeds and the burrowing snail *Cecilioides acicula* (where present) that may contribute to some stratigraphic movement. Charred material was poorly-preserved, and iron coated in some cases. Wood charcoal was present in small quantities, with the exception of one sample, and was from mature wood. Terrestrial molluscs were present in all samples.

7.3.33 Three samples were taken from pit 10718 (deposits 10725, 10727 and 10724). All produced small quantities of poorly-preserved charred wheat grains and unidentified cereal grain fragment. All three only contained trace amounts of mature wood charcoal.

7.3.34 Of the two bulk sediment samples taken from pit 10811 only deposit 10813 contained small numbers of unidentified cereal grain fragments. Deposit 10812 produced no charred remains. Trace amounts of mature wood charcoal were present in both.

7.3.35 Pit 10814, deposit 10815, and pit 10836, deposit 10838, produced no charred plant remains. Pit 10836 contained a large amount of mature wood charcoal whilst only trace amounts were present in pit 10814.

7.3.36 Two samples from pit fill 10718, deposits 10719 and 10721 contained only trace amounts of mature wood charcoal.

Area 3

7.3.37 The bulk sediment samples from this area were taken from two possible cremation burials. The flots were of variable sizes with varying amounts of roots and modern seeds. Four samples from cremation burial 10130, deposit 10131 contained only small amounts of mature wood charcoal. The four flots from cremation burial 10134, deposit 10135 were of moderate sizes and produced small assemblages of charred wild seeds. Species included vetches, docks, knotweeds and an unidentified root. Mature wood charcoal was present in moderate quantities.

Area 4

7.3.38 The three bulk sediment samples from two feature in this area were fairly small, with low amounts of roots and varying numbers of modern seeds. Charred material was poorly preserved, wood charcoal was present in small quantities, was from mature wood and was iron coated in one sample. Terrestrial molluscs were present in all samples, a small animal coprolite was noted in one sample.

7.3.39 Pit 10292, deposit 10295, and pit 10373, deposits 10374 and 10375, produced small assemblages of poorly-preserved charred cereal grains. Pit 10292 contained wheat, barley and unidentified cereal grains whilst pit 10373, deposit 10374, contained wheat and unidentified cereal grains. Only a small amount of mature wood charcoal was recovered from deposit 10375. A charred small animal coprolite was noted in pit 10373, deposit 10374.

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7.3.40 The flots from the bulk sediment samples from this phase of work were generally small with low quantities of mature wood charcoal, with the exception of pit 4304, deposit 4305. There were generally high numbers of roots and low numbers of modern seeds that may be indicative of some stratigraphic movement and the possibility of some contamination by later intrusive elements. Charred material comprised varying degrees of preservation and terrestrial molluscs were present in all samples. Slag was also noted in one sample.

7.3.41 Pits 604, deposit 606, 508, deposit 510 and 1708, deposit 1709, all produced small, mainly poorly-preserved charred assemblages dominated by cereals. Unidentified cereal grains were present in all three, pit 604, deposit 606 also contained barley grains. A large seeded variety of vetch was also noted in pit 508, deposit 510. Mature wood charcoal was present in small quantities and slag was recorded in pit 508, deposit 510.

7.3.42 The bulk sediment sample from pit 4304, deposit 4305, was fairly large and contained a high amount of mature wood charcoal. Small numbers of charred bedstraw seeds were also present.

7.3.43 Pits 1103, deposit 1105, and 1106, deposit 1107, contained only small amounts of mature wood charcoal and no charred plant remains.

7.4 Discussion

7.4.1 Some rich and well-preserved assemblages of environmental evidence have been retrieved from the site. The bulk of the evidence originates from charred plant remains, although the charcoal and small animal and fish bone may also provide substantial information on the local general site economy. The molluscan evidence in the samples, comprising terrestrial and marine molluscs, are of little significance. Whilst many of the features remained undated due to the absence of artefactual evidence, the archaeobotanical one shows at least two phases of activity, based on the presence of dominant crops, typically representative of agricultural practices of particular periods: hulled wheats (spelt and emmer) of Iron Age and Romano-British periods, and free-threshing or naked wheat of Saxon or later times.

7.4.2 The presence of grains, chaff and possible weed seeds in the Romano-British assemblage point to the existence of crop-processing activities focused on the preparation of wheat products. The presence of detached embryos and wrinkled and sprouted grains indicates some of these products were carbonised while germinating, which may have occurred as a result of some preparation process (malting, drying), or may be merely accidental (poor storage). In addition to cereals, other crops were cultivated and processed on the site, as the presence of flax seeds and large seeded pulses, such as broad bean and garden pea, testifies. Hazelnuts, hawthorn berries, rose hips and other stony fruits may have been intentionally exploited. A wide range

of wild plant seeds, many of which might have acted as crop weeds, were present in the samples.

7.4.3 Whilst some similarities are perceived in the latter assemblage (continued cultivation of barley and large seeded pulses), innovations are also seen, with the cultivation of naked wheat varieties, as well as potentially oats and rye. Whilst the taxonomic weed diversity in the latter samples is evident, this may be explained due to taphonomical factors (different activities producing different assemblages) which need further exploration.

8 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

8.1 Stratigraphic potential

8.1.1 As the phasing presented in this report is based on a preliminary assessment of the stratigraphical relationships and the presence of datable finds (principally pottery) in different features, some further stratigraphic and spatial analysis may be required to better understand the development of settlement and landscape organisation across the site. Sufficient material has been collected during the investigation to help a tighter stratigraphic chronology.

Recommendations and proposed methodologies for analysis

8.1.2 There could be further analysis by tying in the results of the excavation within its regional context should further publication be considered.

8.2 Finds potential

8.2.1 The potential of the assemblage will take both the material from the excavation (79kg) and that from the evaluation stage of fieldwork (13kg; Wessex Archaeology 2018) into consideration. It is clear there are strong links between the two assemblages, particularly among the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age material.

Pottery

8.2.2 The pottery assemblage is of local interest and provides evidence for the trading and ceramic influences of the region. A chronological structure for the site has been established through the spot dating of contexts, with a focus on the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age and Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British periods apparent. The pottery from these earlier periods has good potential to be set within its local context and further our knowledge of domestic settlement in the locality.

8.2.3 The Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age assemblage has strong potential for further analysis, with a concentration of activity apparent in Area 2 of the excavation. The Late Iron Age and Early Romano-British component of the assemblage indicates a peak in activity through the 1st century AD, tailing off just into the 2nd century AD at the latest.

8.2.4 The potential of the medieval and post-medieval/modern pottery is lower, given the relatively small quantities recovered, the low level of diagnostic forms, and the probable reworking of deposits, which limits the confidence with which the pottery of this period can be used as a firm chronological indicator. Nevertheless, this is a useful addition to the regional dataset, particularly in its illustration of the relative importance of the two main source areas supplying the site.

Other finds

8.2.5 The small quantities of other material types (fired clay, building materials, metalwork, worked flint, burnt flint, human bone, animal bone, shell, clay pipes, glass and ceramic figurine) have limited potential to provide further information beyond that already recorded. This restricted range of material culture, however, continues to add to the overall picture of domestic activity on the site.

8.3 Environmental potential

8.3.1 Whilst some of the samples taken have resulted in little or no significative evidence, some others have a wealth of diverse plant macroremains which have a high informative potential about plant exploitation activities, the local environment and economy and local agricultural practices. Detailed analysis of a selection of samples will allow to obtain data about potential local activities, such as malting, and other stages of food preparation, as well as on the evolution of agricultural practices and in the introduction of possible new crops, such as oats, whose domestic/wild status is not straightforward based on the assessment data.

8.3.2 The samples proposed for analysis are indicated with a “P” in the analysis column in Table 9. All identifiable charred plant macrofossils will be extracted from the <5.6/4 residues and the flot, which may be subsampled with the aid of a riffle box in the case of very rich assemblages. The analysis will involve the full quantification (Antolín *et al*. 2016) and taphonomic assessment of the charred plant assemblages.

8.3.3 The analysis of the wood charcoal could provide information on the functional selection of fuel for specific activities. However, with the exception of the cremation burials, none of the other deposits identified seem to correspond to single processing or industrial activities and rather result from the mixture of by-products from different settlement actions. A selection of samples with abundant charcoal from each of the phases has been selected for analysis to provide a broad image on local woodland composition and the general fuel used at the site. Other samples with abundant charcoal may be suitable for analysis provided they are phased/dated.

8.3.4 The samples proposed for charcoal analysis are indicated with a “C” in the analysis column in Table 9. Identifiable charcoal will be extracted from the 2mm residue together and the flot (>2mm). Larger richer samples will be sub-sampled: up to a maximum of 100 charcoal fragments per sample will be analysed, as recommended by Keepax (1988). Only fragments greater than 2mm, and primarily those greater than 4mm, will be examined, as fragments <2mm generally lack sufficient anatomical detail and thus cannot be conclusively identified. Fragments will be prepared for identification according to the standard methodology of Leney and Casteel (1975). Charcoal pieces will be fractured with a razor blade to reveal three planes: transverse section (TS), radial longitudinal section (RL) and tangential longitudinal section (TL). They will then be examined under bi-focal epi-illuminated microscopy at magnifications of x50, x100 and x40. Identification will be undertaken according to the anatomical characteristics described by Schweingruber (1990) and Butterfield and Meylan (1980). Identification will be to the lowest taxonomic level possible, usually that of genus and nomenclature according to Stace (1997), individual taxon (mature and twig) will be separated, quantified, and the results tabulated.

8.3.5 Four samples with osteological remains of small animals and fish are proposed for analysis to provide complementary information on the exploitation of the faunal resources.

8.4 Scientific dating

8.4.1 Two pairs of radiocarbon dating samples, or a total of four samples, are recommended for submission for scientific dating. Two samples would be of human remains from the cremation graves, for a proper understanding of the chronology of the funerary activity on the site. Following best practice, each of these samples should have an accompanying pair of wood charcoal used as fuel in the cremation process, to rule out any potential old-wood effect on the cremated bone (Olsen et al. 2013). The human bone sample will be submitted to the radiocarbon laboratory of SUERC (Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre) at Glasgow, and the wood charcoal samples to the 14CHRONO Centre, Queen's University, Belfast. The calibrated age ranges will be calculated with OxCal 4.2.3 (Bronk-Ramsey and Lee 2013) using the IntCal13 curve (Reimer et al. 2013) and reporting of the radiocarbon dating (see Table x) results will follow international conventions (Bayliss and Marshall 2015; Millard 2014).

9 UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN

9.1 Summary of recommendations for analysis

Pottery

9.1.1 Full fabric and form analysis are recommended for the prehistoric component of the assemblage in accordance with national guidelines (Barclay et al 2016). The Late Iron Age and Romano-British pottery has already been recorded to a sufficiently detailed level. However, the results of this scan should be subjected to consideration in their stratigraphic groups. There are 16 feature groups (ditches and pits with more than 25 sherds) from this period which may be suitable for re-examination; they should be further examined to look for inter- and intra- context conjoining sherds and additional form parallels. Provision should be made for the illustration of up to 40 vessels.

9.1.2 No further work is proposed for the medieval and post-medieval/modern pottery. This component of the assemblage has already been recorded to an appropriate archive level, to provide a comparable dataset. However, details of the assemblage do warrant publication, and the information presented in this report should be adapted for incorporation in the publication report. The possible chimney pot, as an unusual vessel, warrants illustration.

Other finds

9.1.3 Although no further analysis of the human bone is warranted, a radiocarbon date for at least one of the deposits (10135) will enable the mortuary activity undertaken on the site to be set in its correct temporal context. To this end it is recommended that a sample of charcoal, derived from the fuel ash, be submitted for radiocarbon dating.

9.1.4 The remaining material types have been fully recorded so no further analytical work is required. However, these materials should be considered in their feature groups and a summary of the results incorporated into any future publication. As part of this work the tranchet axe and microlith should be illustrated as the site is close to an important area of Mesolithic activity. It would be worth considering photographing some of the flints from 10015 and 10494 as representative of the Later Prehistoric activity on the site.

9.5.3 The Post-excavation Manager will be assisted by the Senior Research Manager, who will help to ensure that the report meets internal quality standards as defined in Wessex Archaeology's guidelines.

10 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

10.1.1 The excavation revealed a significant amount of archaeological activity within the site, dating to the Prehistoric, Romano-British and medieval periods, and focussed in the western half of the site.

10.1.2 The excavation has been successful in fulfilling the aims and objectives set out in the previous WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2018). The revealed archaeological features provide evidence that can be used to examine the research questions in detail (discussed below), although only limited undated remains related to mortuary practices were recorded and no archaeological features were recorded beneath colluvium.

10.1.3 The discussion section below will present a brief summary account of the archaeological evidence for each area by phase and then discuss each of the research objectives listed in section 3.2 above. Where features may relate to features in other areas, the relationship will be discussed in the last section the related features are present in. For example, if a ditch appears to run from Area 1 into Area 2, the relationship between the two sections will be discussed as part of Area 2.

10.2 Discussion

Area 1

10.2.1 Area 1 contained a significant number of archaeological features, primarily focussed in the western half of the area. Due to the previous disturbance of the area before the excavation there was significant truncation of some features, and the excavation was undertaken in a piecemeal fashion. This is likely the reason for several features, such as ditch **10178**, being only partially visible within the area.

10.2.2 A total of 46 ditches, 69 pits/postholes and two material spreads were present within the area, dating from the prehistoric to medieval periods.

10.2.3 The earliest phased evidence comprises nine pits/postholes dating to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age and two Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age ditches. The majority of these features are focussed in the north-western quarter of the area. East/west aligned linear ditch **10932** may form an early phase of the field system that produced the Late Iron Age/Romano British enclosure that dominates the north-western part of the area, and it is possible that the large number of undated pits within the enclosure and to the east of it also date to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age.

10.2.4 Isolated Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age ditch 10907 does not appear to be part of any clear field system revealed during the excavation, although it was only present in a small area and it is possible that an associated field system used to be present but has since been removed. A single small posthole was located in the far north-eastern corner of the area, with two undated pits/postholes.

10.2.5 A total of 5 linear ditches and 3 pits, two of which were intercutting, were recorded in the western half of the area. They demonstrated little evidence of being part of any surviving larger system, with the exception of ditch **10929**, which may have formed an

early part of the Late Iron Age/Romano British enclosure although the slightly different alignment of the ditch makes this unlikely.

10.2.6 The predominant features within the western half of the area are of Late Iron Age/Romano British date. In the north-western quarter of the area is a single large enclosure. Measuring at least 30m long and 25m wide, the enclosure appeared to have multiple recuts, indicating it had been in continued use and was maintained over a significant period of time.

10.2.7 The western side of the enclosure was made up of two linear ditch segments, truncated by a Late Iron Age/Romano British pit, which appeared to continue to the south after a small cluster of pits in the approximate centre of the western half of the area. These ditches are far less straight than the remaining sections of the enclosure, suggesting that they may form part of a previous field system that was then adapted to form an enclosure.

10.2.8 A number of apparently unrelated linear ditches and pits dating to the Late Iron Age/Romano-British period were recorded elsewhere in the western half of the area, however with they do not appear to be related to the enclosure. Two of the Romano-British ditches on the western boundary of the site may form part of a field system as they area perpendicular to each other and one appears to cease at the junction between them, but no further evidence of a field system is present.

10.2.9 Medieval evidence within the area is limited to a single east-southeast/west-northwest aligned liner ditch in the western half of the area, on the very edge of the excavation and with no corresponding bar a pit located just over 4m to the north, and a pair of intercutting/recut ditches in the eastern half of the area.

Area 2

10.2.10 Area 2 contained a high concentration of archaeological features throughout, with 15 ditches, 34 pits/postholes and numerous pits and bioturbation, dating from the Late Bronze Age to the modern day.

10.2.11 The earliest evidence within the area dates to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age and comprise 15 pits and postholes of various sizes and a single large pit protruding from the northern boundary of the area. Several of these pits are intercutting, and there appear to be two small clusters, one in the south east corner of the area and another in the central southern part of the area.

10.2.12 Three Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditches are present within the area, appearing to form a system of land management, however the limited amount of the field system that is present within the area restricts further analysis. The ditches do appear to correlate somewhat to some of the Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditches recorded in Area 1 indicating they might be part of a larger field system. However, they are on a distinctly different alignment to the two substantial Romano-British ditches suggesting the field system may have changed at some point after they fell out of use. A small Late Iron Age/Romano-British pit and two undated pits were recorded within the north west corner of the area, within what may have been an enclosure formed by the ditches.

10.2.13 The medieval field system for the area is present within Area 2, comprising up to eight separate ditches, with at least one enclosure visible clearly present in the north-eastern corner of the area. The alignment of the field system appears to correspond

with the medieval ditches present in Area 1. Several small to moderately sized medieval pits were also recorded within the area.

Area 3

10.2.14 Area 3 contained by far the lowest concentration of archaeological features, with only 3 ditches, 11 pits and a large medieval quarry pit. The majority of the features within the area lacked dating evidence, and their isolated nature prevents any significant analysis of their purpose. The only possibly exception to this is ditch **10898** which is on approximately the same alignment as Late Iron Age/Romano-British ditch **10889** in Area 2 and may represent a continuation of this field system.

10.2.15 Ditches **4204**, **4306** and **4308** recorded during the eval were not seen in the excavation phase and may represent additional pits rather than linear features.

10.2.16 The only dated features within the area were two Prehistoric pits in the north-eastern corner of the area, adjacent to pit **5404** from Trench 54, a medieval pit cut by disturbance in the north-western corner of the area, and large medieval quarry pit **4004** within which covered a just over 10% of the excavated area.

10.2.17 Area 3 was originally planned to be significantly larger, however due to exclusion zones around active services it was decided to only excavate the western half of the area.

Area 4

10.2.18 Area 4 contained a moderate number of archaeological features, comprised of 7 ditches and 13 pits/postholes, dating from the Prehistoric and Medieval periods. The earliest evidence from the prehistoric period that can be definitively dated comes from the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age, and comprises two intercutting pits on the northern boundary of the area that were recorded in Trench 62, and a large pit **10302** that forms the final phase of the pit cluster in the western half of the area.

10.2.19 Four earlier pits are recorded as being stratigraphically below pit **10302** indicating that they are Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age at the latest, despite having no detailed dating themselves. The pit also cuts undated linear ditch **10902**, which in turn cuts Late Prehistoric ditch **10901**, dating both of these features to Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age at the latest.

10.2.20 A further Prehistoric pit was recorded in Trench 63, and a Late prehistoric ditch and large pit were recorded in the southwestern corner of the area.

10.2.21 Two large medieval ditches were recorded running east/west and north/south along the southern and eastern edges of the area and appear to share the same alignment as the medieval field system in Area 2.

10.2.22 Undated ditches **10902** & **10903** both share the same alignment, but the former is cut by Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pit **10302** and cannot be medieval in origin. This could indicate that there was a degree of consistency with land management between the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age and Medieval periods, however the conflicting orientation of field systems seem in Areas 1 and 2 seem to discount this.

Research Objectives

10.2.23 No features solidly dated to the Bronze Age were recorded during the excavations, however a large number of features dated to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age were recorded in Areas 1, 2 and 4.

10.2.24 The vast majority of these features consist of pits, with only two linear ditches present in Area 1. This suggests relatively consistent activity within the area of the site but limited to no permanent settlement on the site itself. It is possibly that the features recorded within the site represent activity associated with the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age farmstead approximately 400-450m to the north of the site.

10.2.25 The majority of evidence relating to land management dates to the Late Iron Age/Romano British period, with substantial linear features in both Areas 1 and 2in the western half of the site. A number of features, including those dated specifically to the Romano-British period, appeared to diverge from the previous field structure, however the large Late Iron Age/Romano British period showed some evidence of having been based on a previous field system, suggesting there was a continuity of use, with some evolution throughout the period.

10.2.26 Evidence for the medieval period was fairly limited, almost exclusively comprising linear ditches that appear to form part of a larger field system but was present throughout the site.

10.2.27 The only evidence of mortuary activity within the site consisted of two small pits containing pyre debris and very limited amounts of cremated human bone. Both pits were undated but provide compelling evidence that cremation activity was taking place in the vicinity.

11 STORAGE AND CURATION

11.1 Museum

11.1.1 The archive resulting from the excavation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Maidstone. In the absence of any museum in the area actively collecting archaeological archives, no final repository for the project archive has been yet identified. The archive will continue to be stored at the offices of Wessex Archaeology until such time as the situation is resolved. However, ongoing storage charges may be levied after a set time after project completion.

11.2 Preparation of the archive

Physical archive

11.2.1 The complete physical site archive, which will include paper records, graphics, artefacts and ecofacts, will be prepared following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; Brown 2011; CIfA 2014b).

11.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the site code, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:

- 20 cardboard boxes or airtight plastic boxes of artefacts and ecofacts, ordered by material type
- 2 files/document cases of paper records and A3/A4 graphics

11.2.3 Archive quantities (particularly the finds boxes) are likely to reduce during final archive rationalisation, and implementation of the proposed finds selection policy (see below, Section 10). It is estimated that the box count could reduce to 15 boxes.

Digital archive

11.2.4 Onsite digital recording was employed for this project, using tablets, with the exception of registers (context, graphic, photographic, Object) which were maintained in hard copy.

11.2.5 The born-digital data from the project (context data, survey data, databases and spreadsheets, some graphics, photographs and reports) will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) to ensure its long-term curation. Digital data will be prepared following ADS guidelines (ADS 2013 and online guidance) and accompanied by full metadata.

11.3 Selection policy

11.3.1 Wessex Archaeology follows national guidelines on selection and retention (SMA 1993; Brown 2011, section 4), with the aim of retaining only those finds which are considered to offer further research potential, or which fulfil other criteria within the receiving museum's collecting policy. Other parts of the archive (hard copy and digital records) will also be subject to a selection procedure, similarly, based on their significance and further potential, while retaining those records essential for a full understanding of the site and its interpretation.

11.3.2 In this instance, the assemblage as a whole is considered to have a relatively high potential for further research. The proposed selection policy for individual material types is set out below:

- Pottery: the whole pottery assemblage has a high research potential, not just for site-specific purposes, but on a wider regional level, as a significant addition to the regional dataset. Retain all, with the exception of the four post-medieval/modern sherds.
- Ceramic Building Material: very small quantities, only one piece Romano-British; no further potential. Retain none.
- Fired Clay: majority comprises abraded and undiagnostic fragments with no further potential. Retain only fragments of portable objects, plus sample of pieces with withy impressions.
- Clay tobacco pipe: plain stems only; no further potential. Retain none.
- Worked Flint: relatively large assemblage, although chronologically mixed; recommend total retention as includes some early prehistoric pieces.
- Burnt (unworked) flint: intrinsically undatable, no further potential; already discarded
- Stone: one piece possible building material; not recommended for retention.
- Glass: modern bottle, no further potential. Retain none.

- Metalworking slag: very small quantities, undiagnostic; no further potential. Retain none.

- Metalwork: small assemblage, consisting largely of nails and other structural material. Identifiable objects all from topsoil, and either post-medieval or undated. Iron is vulnerable to further corrosion and deterioration but does not warrant conservation treatment. Retain none.

- Human Bone: retain all (the retention of human remains is governed by the burial licence).

- Animal Bone: Very small assemblage, fragmentary, much of it comprising unidentifiable bones. No further potential. Retain none.

- Marine shell: small assemblage, no context producing more than 100 shells; no further potential. Retain none.

11.3.3 All finds either have been, or will be, recorded to an appropriate archive level before any selection process is initiated. The selection policy will be agreed with the planning authority (in the absence of a designated receiving museum) and will be fully documented in the project archive.

11.4 Security copy

11.4.1 In line with current best practice (e.g., Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

11.5 OASIS

11.5.1 An OASIS online record (http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main) has been initiated, with key fields and a .pdf version of the final report submitted. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the OASIS record will be integrated into the relevant local and national records and published through the Archaeology Data Service ArchSearch catalogue.

12 COPYRIGHT

12.1 Archive and report copyright

12.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations* 2003. In some instances, certain regional museums may require absolute transfer of copyright, rather than a licence; this should be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

12.1.2 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record (HER) where it can be freely copied without reference to Wessex Archaeology

for the purposes of archaeological research or development control within the planning process.

12.2 Third party data copyright

12.2.1 This document and the project archive may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g., Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which Wessex Archaeology are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of *the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of such material

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Kent County Council HER Summary Form

Site Name: Lady Dane Farm, Faversham, Kent

Site Address:
Lady Dane Farm, Faversham, Kent, ME13 8BJ

Summary of discoveries:
Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by RPS Heritage to undertake and archaeological strip, map and sample excavation and evaluation on land at Lady Dane Farm, Faversham, Kent (hereafter referred to as the site) in advance of housing development along with associated landscaping. The overall development area comprises 85 hectares. The work was carried out as a condition of planning permission, granted by Swale Borough Council and was the final stage in a programme of archaeological works, which had included a previously undertaken Built Heritage Statement and archaeological evaluation which identified three areas of archaeological potential located approximately in the south-west, north-west and north-east quadrants of the site subject to investigation.

The site was centred approximately at National Grid Reference (NGR) 602596 160873 (TR 02596 60873) measuring c. 85 hectares. The site was located within three agricultural fields and a caravan park bounded to the north by Graveney Road and Graveney Road Insustrial Estate, to the south and east by agricultural fields and to the west by Love Lane and cementery. The site was previously occupied by orchards, now removed.

Existing ground levels vary across the evaluation area, with a distinct downward slope between the southwest (approximately 18.4 m OD) and northeast corners of the area (approximately 11.1 m OD).

The underlying geology is mapped as Thanet Formation; sand, silt and clay, with superficial deposits of Head; clay and silt, in all but the western edge of the evaluation area (British Geological Survey online viewer).

The report details the findings of the archaeological excavation in different phases following and stratigraphic order. A certain degree of truncation caused by a continued agricultural activity from antiquity up to the present and unexpected groundworks related to the new development has hampered the phasing of the site occupation. Also, the origin of the finds is probably residual, which means that any dating should be treat as tentative.

The recorded archaeological has provided a sequence from the Bronze Age to medieval period. Prehistoric evidence was represented by a field system comprising a possible trackway, drainage and boundary ditches and isolated pits found scattered across the site. Among these pits were fire pits, storage pits and several of uncertain purpose.

A large Romano-British rectangular enclosure was found in the northern half of the area 1 of excavation accompanied by several drainage ditches, and large and small clusters of rubbish and fire pits located mainly within and around the enclosure. Large cluster of rubbish pit were also found within area 4 and possible as well within area 2,

although in smaller clusters. This Romano-British remains pointed to a possible rural settlement related to agricultural activities that continued activities commenced during prehistoric time. Romano-British ditches seemed to follow and reinstate those field boundaries used during prehistoric time.

Remains of medieval use of land were also visible in form of a field system that comprised a possible trackway, boundary and drainage ditches and pits. The majority of features related to this period were found in the northwest quadrant of the site (area 2). There was certain quarry activity represented by a large pit found in the north-east quadrant of the site (area 3) and an isolated pit in area 2.

Remains of Post-medieval and modern use of land were also visible in form of land drains and tree throws clearly related with the former use of the site as an orchard.

Across the site several features were investigated but did not produce archaeological finds suitable for dating. Those undated ditches, pits and postholes that were discretely located were difficult to phase by their spatial positioning and interrelationships with dated features.

Despite the level of truncation the remains investigated within the site suggest a predominantly use for agricultural activity. The artefact assemblage, when considered together with the environmental evidence point to this direction.

District/Unitary: Swale Borough Council	**Parish:** Faversham
Period(s): Bronze Age to Post-medieval	
NGR (centre of site to nearest 1m): (NGR) 602596 160873 **(NB if large or linear site give multiple NGRs)**	
Type of archaeological work (delete) Archaeological strip, map and sample and evaluation	
Date of fieldwork (dd/mm/yy) From: 26/09/2018 **To:** 4/01/2019	
Unit/contractor undertaking recording: Wessex Archaeology	
Geology: Thanet Formation	
Title and author of accompanying report: Wessex Archaeology (2019) Lady Dane Farm, Faversham, Kent Post-excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design. Unpublished Report Ref.: 209861.01	
Summary of fieldwork results (begin with earliest period first, add NGRs where appropriate) Bronze Age field system, including boundary and drainage ditches and possible trackway Bronze Age rubbish pits, storage pits and fire pits Bronze Age placed pots and possible cremations Romano-British field system including drainage and boundary ditches Romano-British enclosure related with agricultural activities Romano-British fire pits, rubbish pits isolated postholes Medieval field system formed by several drainage and boundary ditches and a possible trackway Medieval rubbish pits and large quarry activity	

Post-medieval land drains and tree throws associated with the past use of land as an orchard Multiple undated ditches, pits and postholes probably related to farming and agricultural activities	
Location of archive/finds: Wessex Archaeology Maidstone	
Contact at Unit: Rob De'Athe	**Date:**08/02/2019

Appendix 2: OASIS Form

OASIS ID: wessexar1-342150

Project details

Project name	Lady Dane Farm, Phase 2, Strip Map and Sample and Trial Trench Evaluation
Short description of the project	Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by RPS Heritage to undertake and archaeological strip, map and sample excavation and evaluation on land at Lady Dane Farm, Faversham. Existing ground levels vary across the evaluation area, with a distinct downward slope between the southwest (approximately 18.4 m OD) and northeast corners of the area (approximately 11.1 m OD). The underlying geology is mapped as Thanet Formation. The recorded archaeological sequence has provided evidence of Bronze Age activity in the south-west, centre and north-east quadrants of the site in form of field system, possible trackway, isolated fired pits and storage pits and two possible cremations. A Romano-British occupation of the site constituted a former field system comprising several linear ditches, a rectangular enclosure with associated intercutting rubbish pits, isolates postholes and fire pits. Medieval activity within the site was mainly located in the north-west corner of the site and was characterised by a field system, a possible trackway and several small clusters of rubbish pits. Quarry activity was represented by a large pit found in the north-east corner of the site. Post-medieval and modern use of land were visible in form of land drains and tree throws related with the former use of the site as an orchard. Most of undated pits and postholes were discretely located which made difficult to phase them by their spatial positioning and interrelationships with dated features. The artefact assemblage, considered together with the environmental evidence point to a predominantly use of land for agricultural activity.
Project dates	Start: 26-09-2018 End: 04-01-2019
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	209860 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	SW/14/0045 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)
Current Land use	Other 10 - Orchard
Monument type	CREMATIONS Bronze Age
Monument type	FIELD SYSTEM Bronze Age
Monument type	TRACKWAY Bronze Age
Monument type	FIRE PIT Bronze Age
Monument type	STORAGE PITS Bronze Age

Monument type	FIELD SYSTEM Roman
Monument type	RECTANGULAR ENCLOSURE Roman
Monument type	RUBBISH PITS Roman
Monument type	FIRE PITS Roman
Monument type	POSTHOLES Roman
Monument type	FIELD SYSTEM Medieval
Monument type	RUBBISH PITS Medieval
Monument type	QUARRY PITS Medieval
Monument type	WELL? Medieval
Monument type	TRACKWAY Medieval
Monument type	TREE THROWS Post Medieval
Monument type	LAND DRAINS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Bronze Age
Significant Finds	WORKED FLINT Bronze Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Investigation type	"Part Excavation"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	KENT SWALE FAVERSHAM Lady Dane Farm
Postcode	ME13 8BJ
Study area	1.45 Hectares
Lat/Long Datum	WGS 84 Datum
Height OD / Depth	Min: 11.1m Max: 18.4m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	Wessex Archaeology

Project design originator	Wessex Archaeology
Project director/manager	Rob De'Athe
Project supervisor	William Santamaria
Type of sponsor/funding body	Archaeological Consultant
Name of sponsor/funding body	RPS Heritage

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	TBC
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Metal","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	TBC
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	TBC

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Lady Dane Farm, Faversham, Kent. Strip, Phase 2. Map and Sample and Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Santamaria, W.De'Athe R.
Date	2019
Issuer or publisher	Wessex Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Maidstone
Description	XX page grey literature with report of findings and environmental sampling during archaeological excavation and evaluation

Entered by	William Santamaria (g.santamaria@wessexarch.co.uk)
Entered on	8 February 2019

Appendix 3: Environmental Data.

Table 9 Assessment of the environmental evidence

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Analysis	Comments (Preservation)
604	606	1	8	30	80%, B, E	C	-	*Hordeum vulgare*, Triticeae	-	-	1	Mature	Moll-t	-	Poor
1103	1105	2	1.5	10	60%, C	-	-	-	-	-	1	Mature	Moll-t	-	-
1106	1107	3	6	40	40%, B	-	-	-	-	-	15	Mature	Moll-t	-	-
1108	1109	4	7	150	10%, C, I	C	-	cf. *Secale cereale*	-		80	Mature	Moll-t	C	Poor
508	510	5	8	25	80%, A, E, I	C	-	Triticeae	C	Vicieae (large seeded)	1	Mature	Slag, Moll-t	-	Fair
614	616	6	28	60	70%, A, I	A	A*	*Triticum* sp. (inc. *spelta* and *dicoccum)* grains (some sprouted) and glume bases, *Hordeum vulgare* grains	A	Poaceae (*Lolium/Festuca, Poa/Phleum, Avena/Bromus*), Vicieae, *Rumex* sp., Cyperaceae	8	Mature	Moll-t	P	Good
4304	4305	7	20	400	1%, C, E, I	-	-	-	C	*Galium* sp.	230	Mature	Moll-t	C (if dated)	Fair
1708	1709	8	15	30	80%, A, E, I	C	-	Triticeae	-	-	1	Mature	Moll-t	-	Poor
10010	10012	1	40	15	80%, A, E	-	-	-	-	-	<1	Mature, iron coated	-	-	-
10013	10015	2	15	10	80%, A, *Cecilioides acicula* (C)	C	-	*Hordeum vulgare*	-	-	Trace	Mature	Moll-t	-	Poor, iron coated
10026	10029	4	3	25	<1%, C, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (C)	C	-	*Triticum aestivum/turgidum*	-	-	10	Mature, some iron coating	Moll-t	-	Poor, iron coated
10026	10030	5	61	60	50%, A, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	C	-	Triticeae	C	Vicieae	25	Mature, iron coated	Moll-t	-	Poor, iron coated
10056	10057	6	38	60	1%, C, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A)	A***		*Triticum* sp. (C) and *Hordeum vulgare* grains, Triticeae detached embryo	A*	Asteraceae, Vicieae, *Crataegus monogyna*, Poaceae (*Poa/Phleum, Avena/Bromus, Avena* sp. awn), Cyperaceae,	15	Mature	Moll-t	P	Heterogeneous

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Analysis	Comments (Preservation)
10056	10060	7	39	40	20%, A*, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A)	A**	A*	*Triticum* sp. (inc. *spelta*) grains and chaff (glume bases and spikelet forks), *Hordeum vulgare* grains and rachis segments	A*	Trifolieae, *Linum usitatissimum* Asteraceae, Vicieae (inc. large seeded), Poaceae (culm, *Avena/Bromus* grains, *Avena* sp. awn), Cyperaceae, Trifolieae, *Linum usitatissimum, Rumex* sp., indet. endocarp	10	Mature	Moll-t, Sab, fish bone, Moll-m (mussel)	P, Sab/f	Heterogeneous
10093	10095	8	17	15	70%, C, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (B)	C	-	*Triticum* sp., Triticeae	-	-	1	Mature, some iron coating	Sab	Sab/f	Poor
10103	10105	9	35	1175	1%, C, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A)	-	-	-	-	-	650	Mature	-	C (if dated)	-
10100	10102	10	13	60	30%, C, *Cecilioides acicula* (A)	-	-	-	-	-	30	Mature	-	-	-
10106	10107	11	8	35	15%, C, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	8	Mature	-	-	-
10103	10104	12	9	175	1%, C, *Cecilioides acicula* (C)	-	-	-	-	-	80	Mature	Moll-t	-	-
10100	10101	13	8	15	60%, C, *Cecilioides acicula* (A)	-	-	-	-	-	3	Mature	-	-	-
6206	6208	14	38	35	1%, A, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A**)	C	C	*Hordeum vulgare* and Triticeae grains, *Triticum* sp. glume base and spikelet fork	C	*Avena* sp. awn	18	Mature	Moll-t	-	Poor
10130	10131	15	2	12	20%, C	-	-	-	-	-	<1	Mature	-	C	-
10130	10131	16	3	20	30%, C	-	-	-	-	-	3	Mature	-	C	-
10130	10131	17	4	23	60%, C, I	-	-	-	-	-	<1	Mature	-	C	-
10130	10131	18	4.5	15	70%, C	-	-	-	-	-	<1	Mature	-	C	-
6305	6306	20	37	10	80%, A, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	-	-	-	-	-	<1	Mature	Moll-t	-	-

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Analysis	Comments (Preservation)
6305	6308	21	40	10	80%, A, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	Moll-t	-	-
10132	10133	22	40	40	70%, A, E, *Cecilioides acicula* (A***)	-	-	-	-	-	<1	Mature	Moll-t	-	-
10134	10135	23	3	60	<1%, C	-	-	-	C	Vicieae, indet. root	18	Mature	-	C	Heterogeneous
10134	10135	24	3	50	<1%, C	-	-	-	C	Vicieae, *Rumex* sp., *Persicaria* sp., *Polygonum* sp.	10	Mature	-	C	Heterogeneous
10134	10135	25	4	120	<1%, C	-	-	-	C	Vicieae	15	Mature	-	C	Poor
10134	10135	26	4	120	<1%, C, E	-	-	-	-	-	25	Mature	-	C	-
10136	10137	28	12	35	80%, A, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (C)	C	-	Triticeae	C	Vicieae	1	Mature	Moll-t	-	Poor
10138	10139	29	35	60	80%, C, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula (*A)	A	-	*Triticum aestivum/turgidum*, *Avena* sp. (large seeded, C)	-	-	4	Mature	Moll-t, Moll-m (oyster)	P, C	Poor
10138	10140	30	10	50	60%, C, E, I *Cecilioides acicula* (A)	A	-	*Triticum aestivum/turgidum, Hordeum vulgare* (C), Triticeae	B	Poaceae (*Avena/Bromus*), Vicieae (inc. large seeded and *Vicia faba*), *Galium* sp.	10	Mature + roundwood	Moll-t, Moll-m (oyster)	P, C	Heterogeneous
10151	10152	31	15	50	60%, C, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A)	A*	-	*Triticum aestivum/turgidum*	A	Poaceae (*Avena* sp.), Vicieae, Asteraceae	4	Mature	-	P, C	Fair
10147	10148	32	11	20	90%, C, E	C	-	*Triticum aestivum/turgidum*, *Avena* sp. (large seeded)	-	-	<1		Moll-t	-	Heterogeneous
10149	10150	34	4	20	80%, C	A	-	*Triticum aestivum/turgidum, Hordeum vulgare*, Triticeae	C	Poaceae (*Avena* sp.), Asteraceae	3	Mature	-		Fair
10026	10028	35	22	50	10%, A, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A)	-	-	-	-	-	20	Mature, iron coated	Moll-t	-	-

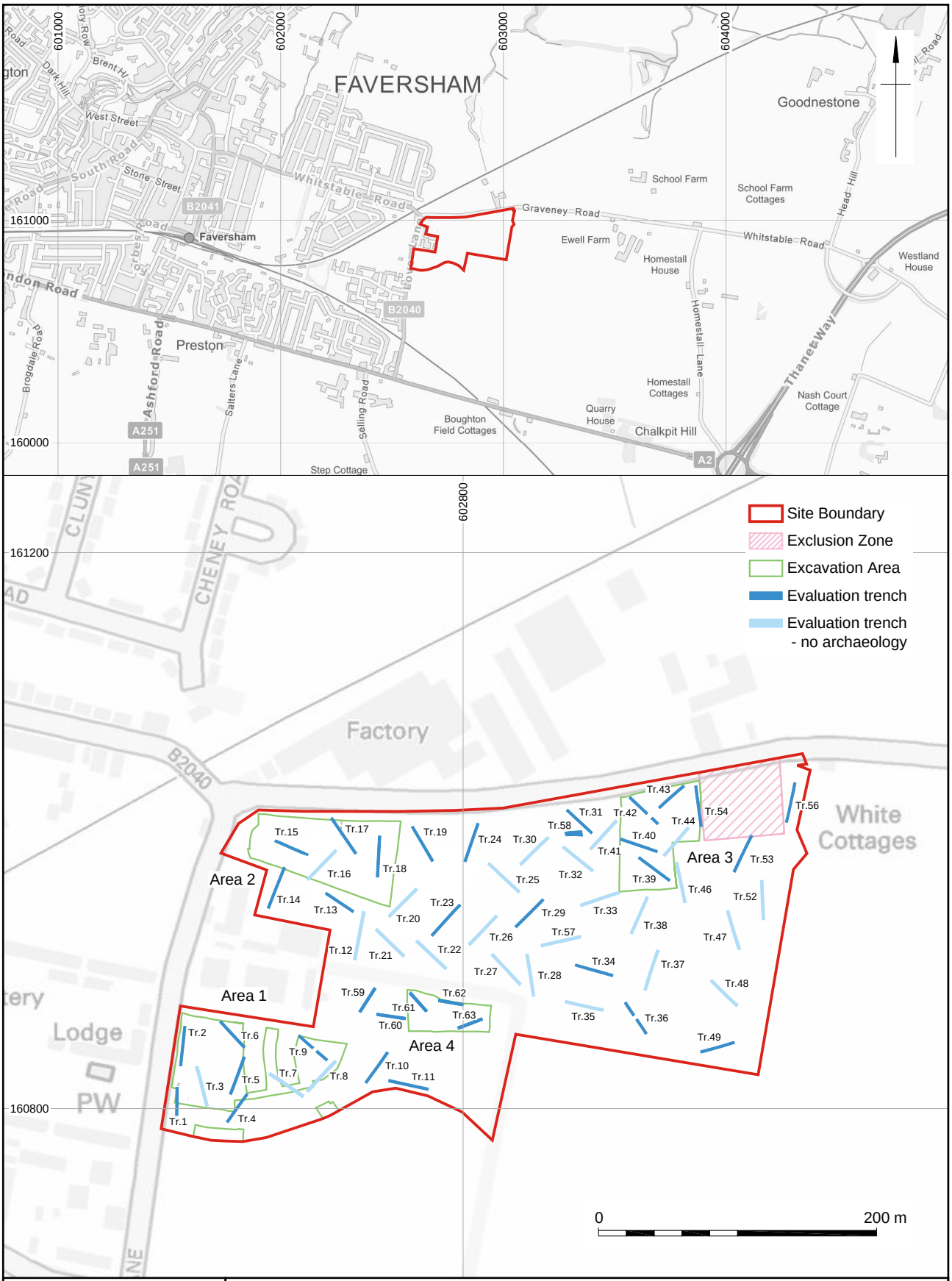
Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Analysis	Comments (Preservation)
10191	10199	36	40		70%, C, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	C	-	cf. *Triticum aestivum/turgidum*	C	*Corylus avellana*	20	Mature, some iron coating	Moll-t	C (if dated)	Poor, some iron coating
10191	10198	37	30	175	15%, C, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A)	-	-	-	C	*Corylus avellana*	60	Mature, some iron coating	Moll-t	C (if dated)	Poor
10292	10295	38	37	60	5%, A**, *Cecilioides acicula* (A***)	B	-	*Triticum* sp., *Hordeum vulgare*, Triticeae	-	-	15	Mature, some iron coating	Moll-t	-	Poor
10302	10308	39	38	17	10%, A, E, I *Cecilioides acicula* (A**)	C	C	*Triticum* sp. grains and glume bases, *Hordeum vulgare*, Triticeae	C	Poaceae (*Poa/Phleum*)	4	Mature	Moll-t	-	Poor
10373	10374	40	40	35	2%, A*, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A)	C	-	*Triticum* sp., Triticeae	-	-	5	Mature	Moll-t, Sac	-	Poor
10375	10375	41	26	15	5%, C, *Cecilioides acicula* (A)	-	-	-	-	-	3	Mature	Moll-t	-	-
10416	10418	42	40	30	90%, A, E, I *Cecilioides acicula* (A)	-	-	-	C	Trifolieae	<1	Mature	Moll-t	-	Poor
10419	10240	43	73	400	20%, A*, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	A***	A***	*Triticum* sp. (inc. T. *spelta* and *dicoccum*)grains (some sprouted) and chaff (glume bases and spikelet forks), *Hordeum vulgare* grains and rachis segments, Triticeae culm node	A***	Vicieae (inc. large seeded and *Vicia faba*), *Crataegus monogyna*, *Galium* sp., Chenopodiaceae, *Sherardia arvensis, Rumex* sp., Trifolieae, Cyperaceae, Poaceae (*Avena* sp. (inc. husked *A. fatua*), *Linum usitatissimum, Rosa* sp.	50	Mature + roundwood, some iron coating	Moll-t, fish bone, sab	P, C, Sab	Good
10456	10457	44	13	30	30%, C, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A)	-	-	-	-	-	5	Mature	Moll-t	-	-

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Analysis	Comments (Preservation)
10456	10458	45	15	30	65%, C, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	-	-	-	-	-	5	Mature	Moll-t	-	-
10462	10463	46	20	60	70%, B, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	C	-	*Triticum aestivum/turgidum*	-	-	10	Mature + roundwood	Moll-t	-	Poor
10469	10470	47	21	80	60%, A, E, *Cecilioides acicula* (A**)	-	-	-	-	-	10	Mature	Moll-t	-	-
10481	10482	48	10	30	90%, C, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A)	C	-	*Triticum* sp., Triticeae	-	-	Trace	Mature	Moll-t	-	Poor, some iron coating
10483	10488	49	36	160	75%, A, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	A**	A*	*Triticum* sp. (inc. *spelta*) grains and glume bases, *Hordeum vulgare,* grains and rachis segments, Triticeae	A*	*Crataegus monogyna, Galium* sp., *Rumex* sp., Trifolieae, Vicieae (inc large seeded and cf. *Pisum sativum*), Poaceae (*Bromus* sp.), *Sherardia arvensis Prunus spinosa* endocarp, indet. fruits/tubers, Vicieae (inc. large seeded), *Galium* sp., Poaceae (*Lolium/Festuca, Poa/Phleum, Avena/Bromus*), Cyperaceae, *Rumex* sp., *Linum usitatissimum*	15	Mature	Moll-t, Sab	P, C, Sab	Mainly fair
10492	10494	50	40	100	80%, A*, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	A*	A	*Triticum* sp. (inc. *dicoccum*) grains and chaff (glume bases and spikelet forks), *Hordeum vulgare,* Triticeae, (some wrinkled grains, spikelet forks, detached embryo	A*		4	Mature	Moll-t	P	Heterogeneous, some iron coating
10533	10534	51	37	35	80%, C, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	C	-	Triticeae	-	-	<1	Mature	Moll-t	-	Poor
10533	10536	52	10	15	80%, C, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (B)	B	-	*Triticum* sp., *Hordeum vulgare*, Triticeae	-	-	<1	Mature	Moll-t	-	Poor, some iron coating
10549	10551	53	39	50	80%, A, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	C	-	Triticeae	C	Poaceae, cf. Vicieae	1	Mature	Moll-t, vitrified material	-	Poor

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Analysis	Comments (Preservation)
10561	10563	54	12	20	70%, A, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A)	A	-	*Triticum* sp. (inc. *dicoccum/spelta*), *Hordeum vulgare* (C), Triticeae	B	Vicieae, Trifolieae, *Plantago lanceolata/ Sherardia arvensis*, *Rumex* sp.	Trace	Mature	Moll-t, Moll-m	-	Heterogeneous
10564	10565	55	16	50	60%, A, E, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	A	C	*Triticum* sp. (inc. *spelta*) grains and glume bases, *Hordeum vulgare* grains	C	*Avena/Bromus*, *Persicaria* sp.	5	Mature, some iron coating	Moll-t	P	Poor, iron coated
10629	10630	56	63	50	70%, C, I	A*	A	*Triticum* sp. (inc. *spelta*) grains and glume bases, *Hordeum vulgare* grains	A*	*Crataegus monogyna*, Poaceae (*Avena/Bromus, Poa/Phleum, Lolium/Festuca*), Vicieae, Trifolieae, *Plantago lanceolata, Sherardia arvensis,* Cyperaceae, *Raphanus raphanstrum* seed capsule frag	5	Mature	-	P	Heterogenous
10648	10649	57	35	35	90%, A, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A)	C	-	*Triticum* sp. (inc. cf. *spelta*)	C	Trifolieae	Trace	Mature	Moll-t	-	Poor
10662	10663	58	4	20	80%, C, E, *Cecilioides acicula* (A)	C	-	*Triticum* sp., *Hordeum vulgare*	A*	Vicieae, *Rumex* sp.	1	Mature	Moll-t	-	Poor, iron coated
10666	10667	59	16	60	60%, C, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	C	C	*Triticum* sp. (inc. *spelta*) grains (inc. sprouted) and glume bases, Triticeae	A*	Vicieae, *Galium* sp., Poaceae, Trifolieae, *Rumex* sp.	5	Mature	Moll-t	P	Poor, iron coated
10718	10725	60	17	20	80%, C, *Cecilioides acicula* (A)	C	-	*Triticum* sp.	-	-	Trace	Mature	Moll-t	-	Poor
10718	10727	61	26	30	80%, C, E, I *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	C	-	*Triticum* sp., Triticeae	-	-	Trace	Mature	Moll-t	-	Poor

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Analysis	Comments (Preservation)
10718	10724	62	20	35	70%, A*, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	C	-	Triticeae	-	-	Trace	Mature	Moll-t	-	Poor, iron coated
10811	10812	63	6	10	90%, C, *Cecilioides acicula* (A)	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	Moll-t	-	-
10811	10813	64	14	20	90%, C, E, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	C	-	Triticeae	-	-	Trace	Mature	Moll-t	-	Poor
10814	10815	65	5	10	90%, C, E, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	Moll-t	-	-
10824	10825	66	32	50	80%, A, I, E, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	B	-	*Triticum* sp., *Hordeum vulgare*, Triticeae	C	Vicieae (inc. large seeded)	<1	Mature	Moll-t	-	Poor
10836	10838	67	30	250	40%, A, E, I, *Cecilioides acicula* (A*)	-	-	-	-	-	100	Mature	Moll-t	C (if dated)	-
10718	10719	68	0.4	1	5%, C	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	Moll-t	-	-
10718	10721	69	0.4	1.5	15%, C, I	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	Moll-t	-	-

Key: Scale of abundance: A*** = exceptional, A** = 100+, A* = 30-99, A = 30-10, B = 9-5, C = <5; Bioturbation proxies: Roots (%), Uncharred seeds (scale of abundance), F = mycorrhizal fungi sclerotia, E = earthworm eggs, I = insects; Sab/f/c = small animal/fish bones/charred faecal pellets, Moll-t = terrestrial molluscs, Moll-m = marine molluscs; Analysis: C = charcoal, P = plant.



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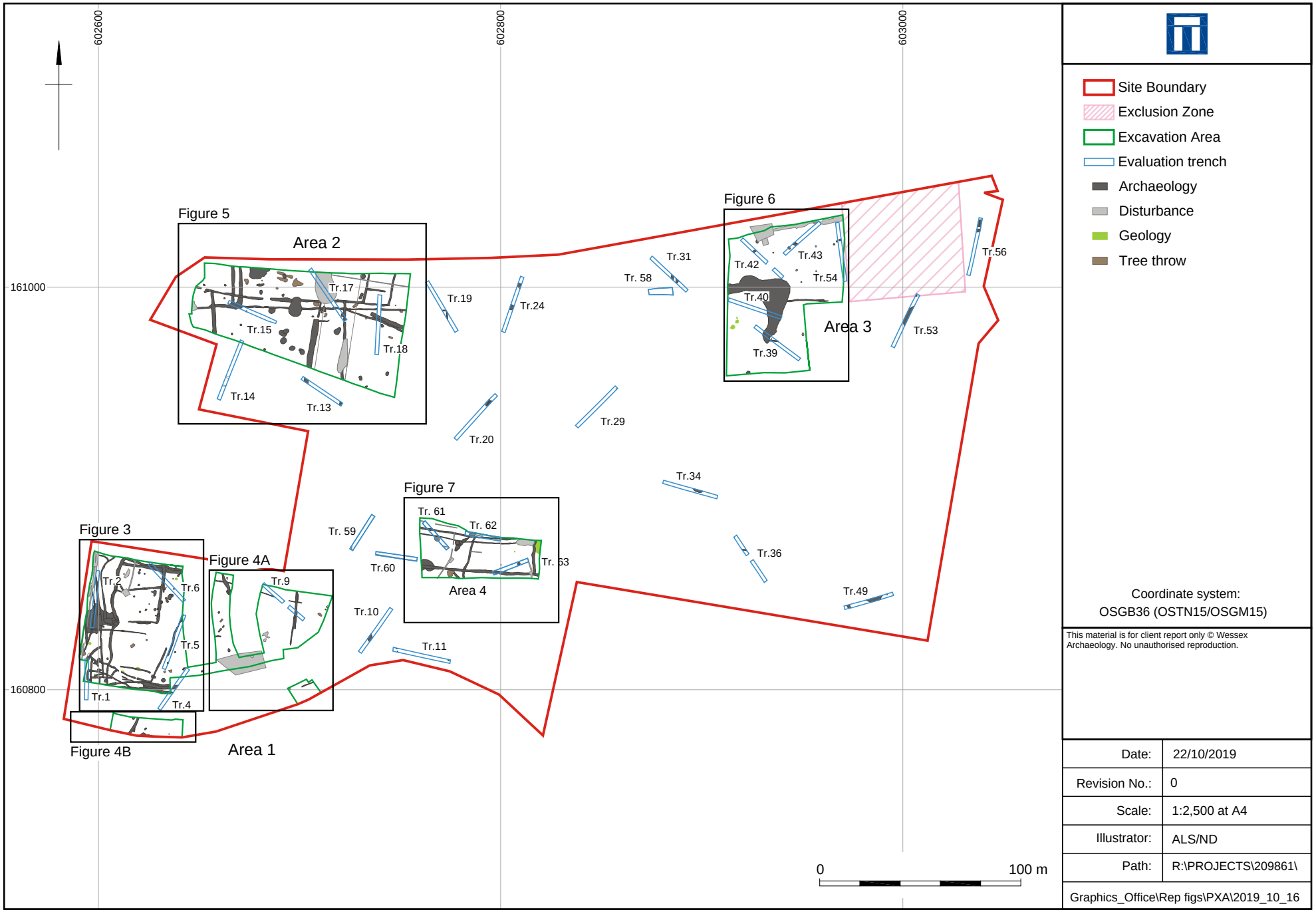
Coordinate system: OSGB36 (OSTN15/OSGM15)

Site location, previous evaluation and excavation areas

Figure 1



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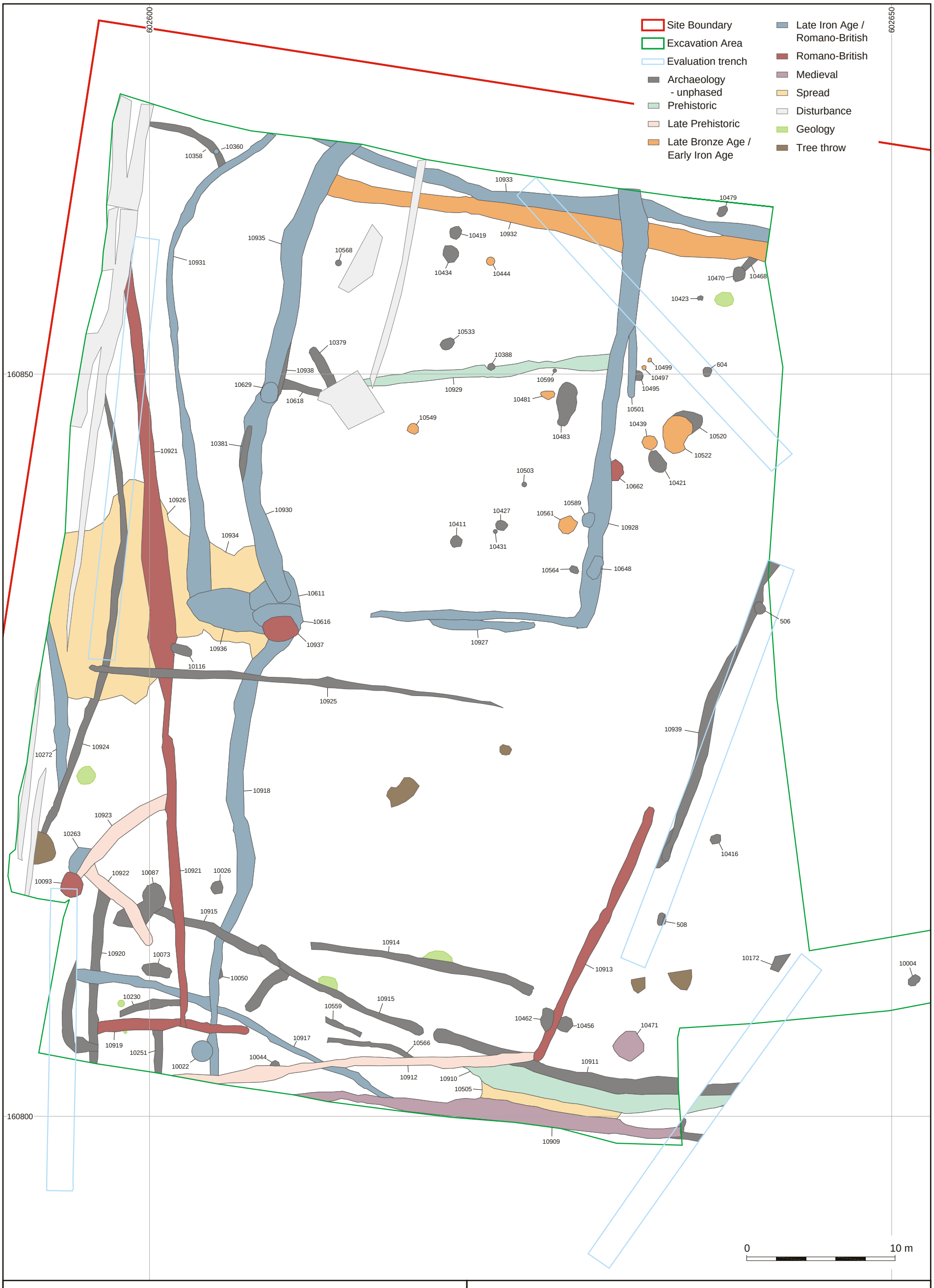

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Archaeological Results: Area 1 (West)

Figure 3

A

602700

160850

10907

10906

10157

10183

10178

10181

10214

10906

10904

10906

10905

10149

10151

10147

10143

10904

160800

10138

10136

B

10191

10162

10164

10141

10908

10221

Site Boundary

Excavation Area

Evaluation trench

Archaeology - unphased

Prehistoric

Late Prehistoric

Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age

Medieval

Disturbance

Tree throw

Coordinate system:
OSGB36 (OSTN15/OSGM15)

0 10 m

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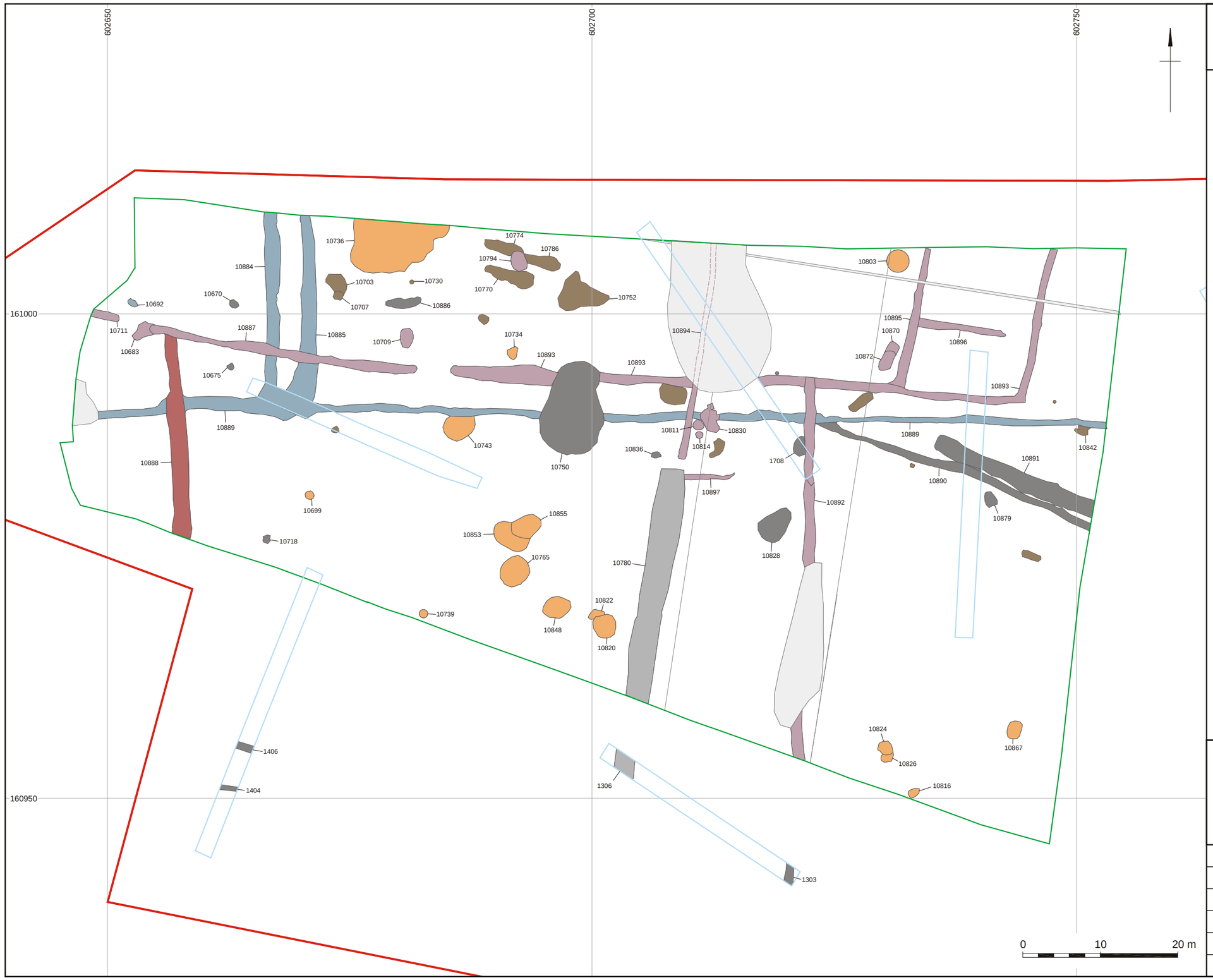
Archaeological Results: Area 1 (East)

Figure 4



Site Boundary
Excavation Area
Evaluation trench
Archaeology - unphased
Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age
Late Iron Age / Romano-British
Romano-British
Medieval
Post-Medieval / Modern
Disturbance
Tree throw

Coordinate system:
OSGB36 (OSTN15/OSGM15)

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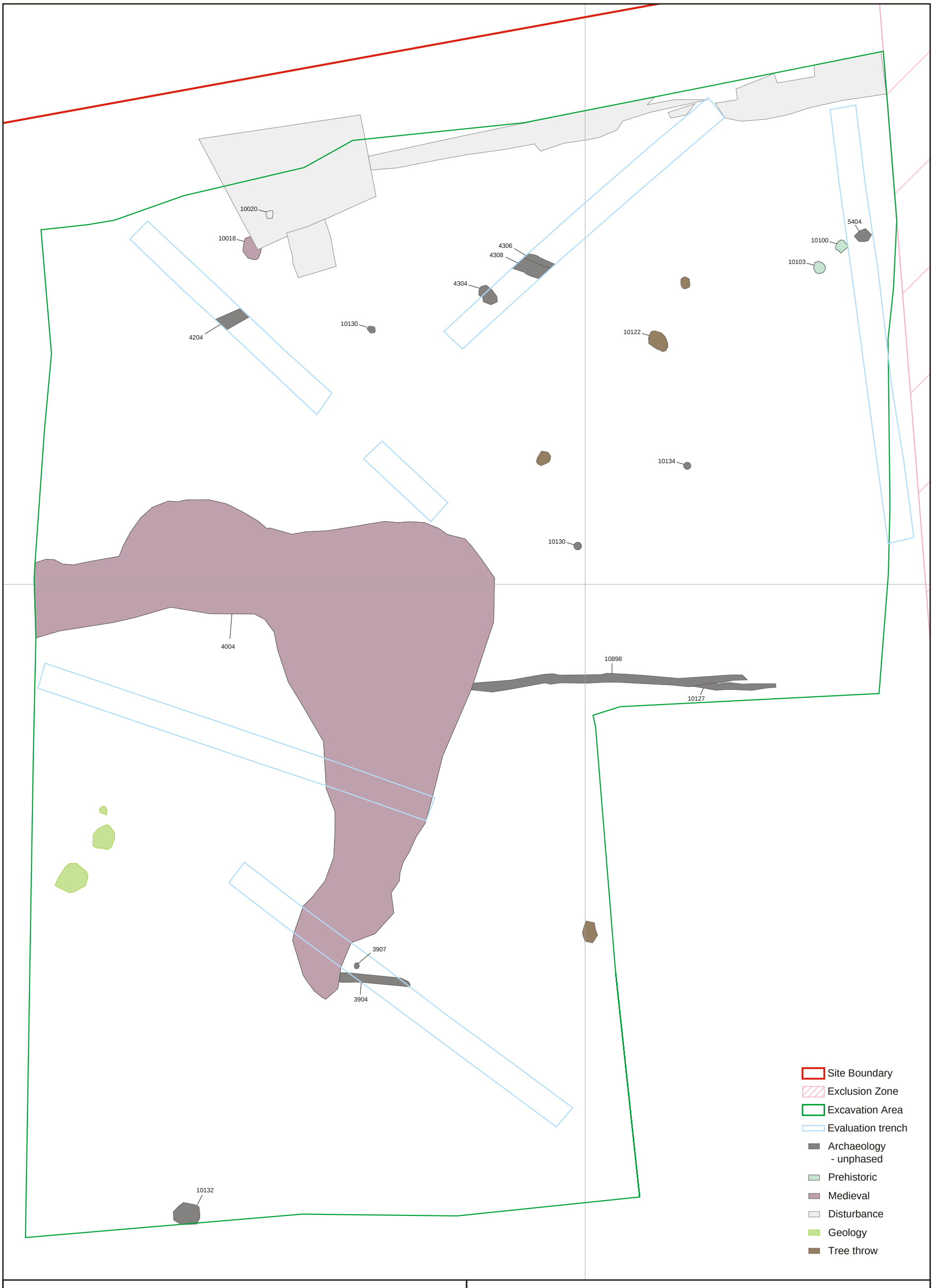
Archaeological Results: Area 2

Figure 5



Coordinate system:
OSGB36 (OSTN15/OSGM15)

0 10 m

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Archaeological Results: Area 3

Figure 6

602800

160850

10903
6204
6206
10902
10335
10345
10337
10302
10342
10296
10340
10292
10289
10901
10899
10280
10329
6305
10900
10285

0 10 m

Excavation Area
Evaluation trench
Archaeology - unphased
Prehistoric
Late Prehistoric
Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age
Medieval
Disturbance
Geology
Tree throw

Coordinate system:
OSGB36 (OSTN15/OSGM15)

Date:	11/02/2020
Revision Number:	0
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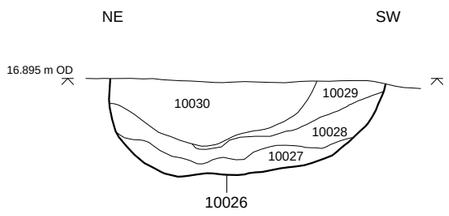
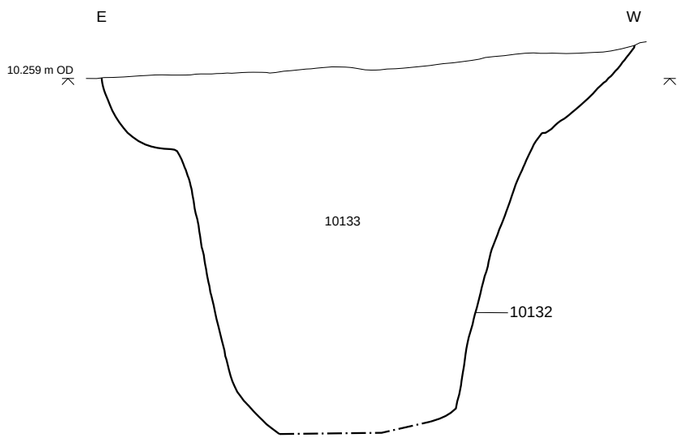
Archaeological Results: Area 4

Figure 7

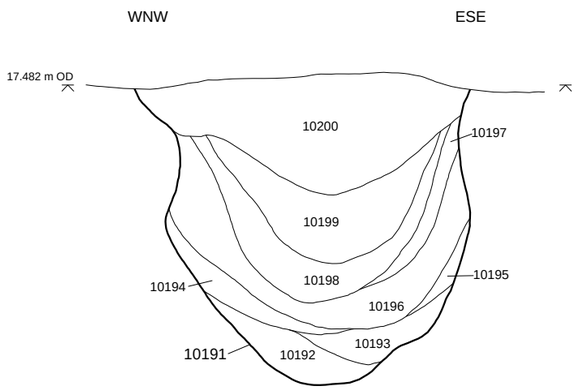
A. North-west facing section of pit 10026



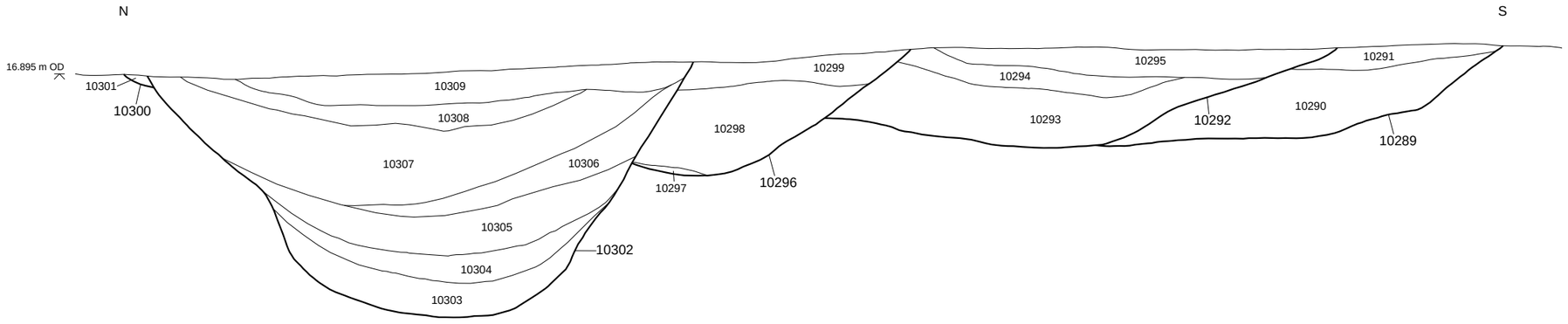
B. North facing section of pit 10132



C. South-south-west facing section of pit 10192



D. West facing section of pits 10289, 10292, 10296 and 10302



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Section drawings

Figure 8

Plate 1: Ditches 10932 & 10933, viewed from the west

Plate 2: Ditches 10931 & 10921, viewed from the southeast

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Plate 3: Storage pit 10191, viewed from the south

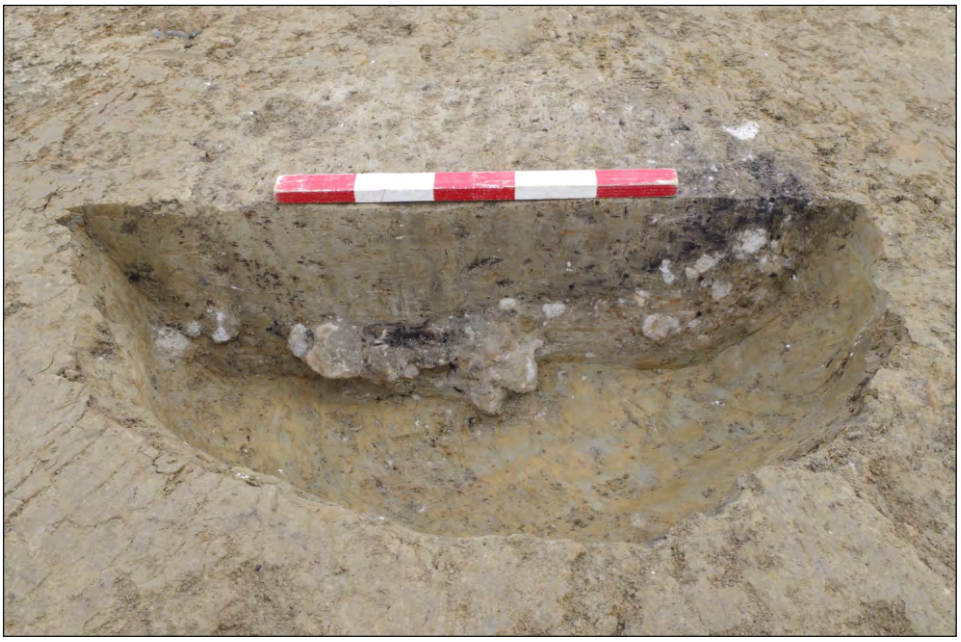

Plate 4: Fire pit 10026, viewed from the northwest

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Plate 5: Ditch 10901, viewed from south-southwest

Plate 6: Ditch 10899, viewed from the north

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Plate 7: Pit 10373 and ditch 10903, viewed from the west

Plate 8: Ditch 10928, viewed from the north

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Plate 9: Ditch 10930, pit 10629 and ditch 10935, viewed from southeast

Plate 10: Ditch 10918, pit 10937 and pit 10936, viewed from the south

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Plate 11: Rubbish pits 10522 and 10520, viewed from the southeast

Plate 12: Pit 6206, viewed from the southwest

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Plate 13: Ditches 10911, 10910 and 10909, viewed from the northeast

Plate 14: Ditch 10780, viewed from the northeast

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Plate 15: Ditch 10887, viewed from west-northwest

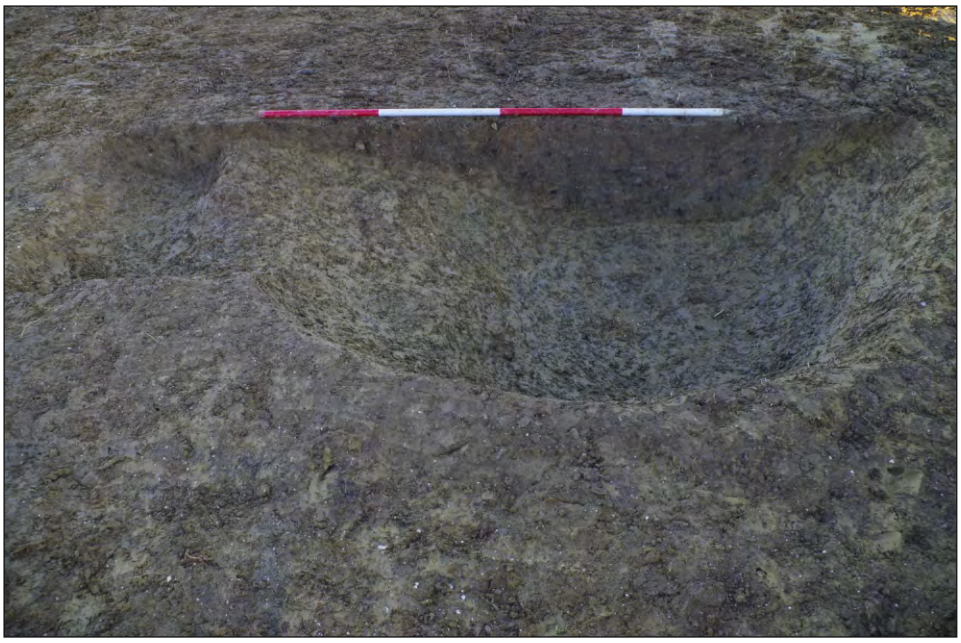

Plate 16: Ditch 10899 and pit 10743, viewed from the west

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Plate 17: Ditch 10913, viewed from the northeast

Plate 18: Placed vessels within pit 10718

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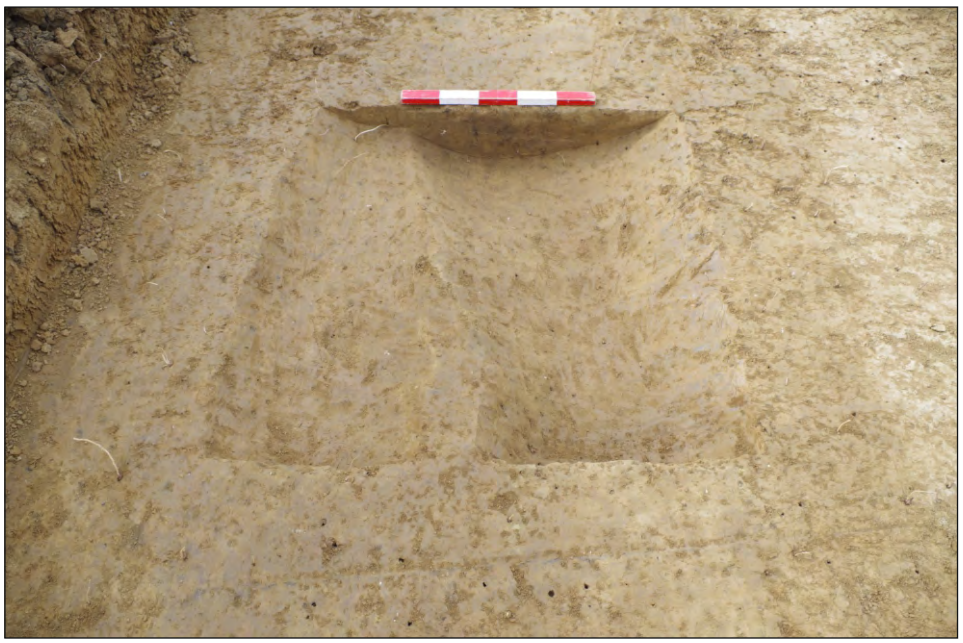

Plate 19: Ditches 10898 & 10127, viewed from the east

Plate 20: Pit 10018, viewed from the east

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Plate 21: Pyre debris 10134, viewed from the south

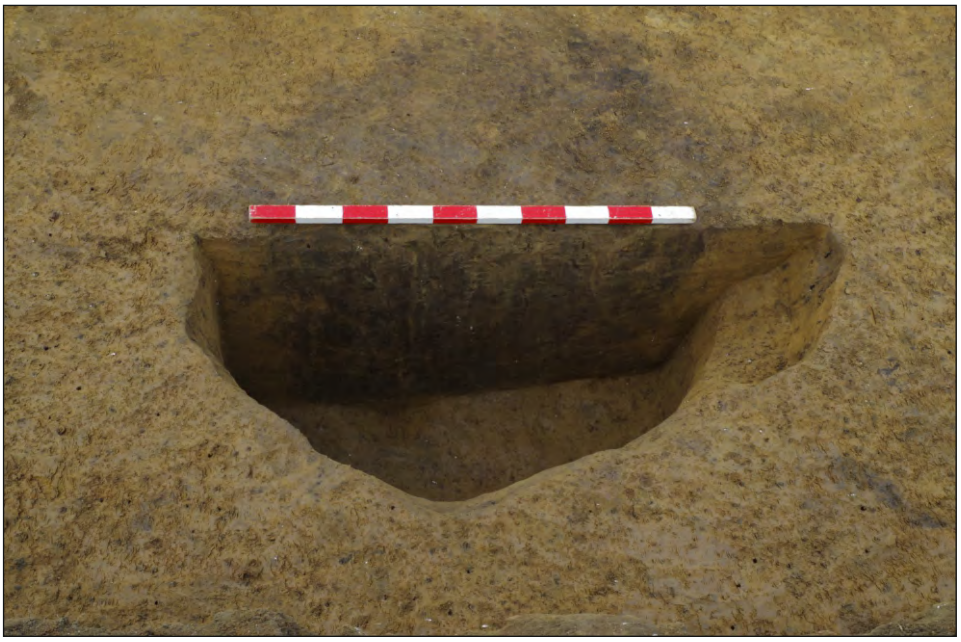

Plate 22: Pit 6305, viewed from the southeast

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