



Land at Church Farm Paddock Wood, Kent

Archaeological Excavation Report



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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by RPS Consulting Services, to undertake archaeological mitigation works comprising a strip, map and sample excavation centred on NGR 567796 144902, at Church Farm, Paddock Wood, Kent TN12 6NJ.

The excavation identified archaeological remains within the three main areas, comprising a total of 39 ditches and gullies, 25 pits and postholes and a spread of waste material ranging from the Iron Age to medieval periods based on relatively limited dating evidence. The majority of these features are dated either solidly or tentatively to the medieval period and are associated with land management and organisation, with the notable exception of a series of possible roundhouse gullies in Area 1 and sporadic ironworking evidence throughout the site.

Area 1 was dominated by a substantial large medieval enclosure ditch with the beginnings of a northwest to southeast aligned trackway which continued to the southeast, along with all of the Iron Age features within the site and two Romano-British pits.

Area 2 contained the continuation of the trackway from Area 1 and parts of at least two contrasting field systems. A large amorphous waste pit containing evidence of ironworking and two possible satellite pits were recorded in the northern half of the area.

Area 3 contained continuations of the land management features recorded in Areas 1 and 2 to the north, along with a large waste pit and spread of waste material relating to iron working activity.

While no features comprising ironworking industry were recorded within the site the spread of ironworking remains, particularly the two large collections of waste in Area 3, indicate that ironworking was taking place in the vicinity of the site.

The excavation was undertaken 28/09/2020 to 29/10/2020.

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Land at Church Farm Paddock Wood, Kent

Archaeological Excavation Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project and planning background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by RPS Consulting Services, to undertake archaeological mitigation works comprising a strip, map and sample excavation centred on NGR 567796 144902, at Church Farm, Paddock Wood, Kent TN12 6NJ (**Figure 1**).

1.1.2 The work was carried out as a condition of planning permission, granted by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council (14/504140/HYBRID) for residential development of up to 300 dwellings including 105 affordable dwellings (comprising 36 x 1-bed flats, 26 x 2-bed flats, 68 x 2-bed houses, 75 x 3-bed houses, 80 x 4-bed houses and 15 x 5-bed houses) and associated highways, landscaping, allotments, flood mitigation works including attenuation basins and open space.

1.1.3 The site was granted outline consent in February 2018 (14/504140/HYBRID) and the following condition was attached to consent relating to archaeological matters:

Condition (47): No development shall take place until the following details have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local planning Authority:

- i. A specification and timetable for archaeological field evaluation works; and*
- ii. Following on from the evaluation, a specification and timetable for any safeguarding measures to ensure preservation in situ of important archaeological remains and/or further archaeological investigation and recording.*

Reason: To ensure appropriate assessment of the archaeological implications of any development proposals and the subsequent mitigation of adverse impacts through preservation in situ or by record. Such details are fundamental to the application and are therefore required prior to its commencement.

1.1.4 The excavation was the final stage in a programme of archaeological works, which had included an Archaeological Desk Based Assessment, prepared in 2014 to support an outline planning application (Wessex Archaeology 2014). This report concluded that the site had a modest archaeological potential for evidence of Medieval and Post Medieval agricultural activity. In addition, the presence of River Terrace Deposits in the west of the site suggested a potential for early prehistoric residual artefactual evidence.

1.1.5 A geophysical survey was undertaken across the site in 2017 (Tigergeo 2017). No evidence of anomalies of obvious archaeological interest were identified beyond evidence of the remains of Medieval/Post Medieval ridge and furrow cultivation.

1.1.6 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken (Archaeology South-East 2020) which identified gullies and pits or post-holes, mostly recorded in the south-western part of the site in 6 trenches.



1.1.7 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 (RPS 2020). The Senior Archaeological Officer for Kent County Council (KCC) approved the WSI, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to fieldwork commencing.

1.1.8 The excavation was undertaken 28/09/2020 to 29/10/2020.

1.2 Scope of the report

1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the provisional results of the excavation, and to assess the potential of the results to address the research aims outlined in the WSI. Where appropriate, it includes recommendations for a programme of further analysis, outlining 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 underlying geology is Weald Clay Formation mudstone; sedimentary bedrock formed 125-134 million years ago in the cretaceous period. The north western part of the site has a superficial deposit of River Terrace Gravels formed 3 million years ago (British Geological Survey).

1.3.2 The site comprises an irregular parcel of land, situated over four fields used as arable farmland, paddocks and a former orchard now an area of overgrown woodland. The site is bound to the north by a railway line and a wooded area in the north eastern corner, by a small stream and agricultural land and orchards beyond to the east and south, and by Church Road and residential development to the west. The western perimeter also bounds the Paddock Wood cemetery. The site is situated within the Low Weald which is characterised by a mix of areas of ancient woodland and agricultural land. Within the site the topography is predominantly flat with a slight slope towards the railway line towards the north of the site (from 20m AOD in the south to 15m AOD in the north eastern corner), and a slight incline from rising to the east in the southern part of the site. The paddocks to the west are separated from the agricultural land by a drainage ditch that is aligned north south and leads to a small pond.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The Archaeological Desk Based Assessment (Wessex Archaeology 2014) has provided the detailed archaeological background to the site. The following is therefore an extract from the conclusions made in the DBA and the WSI (RPS 2020).

2.2 Archaeological and historical context

2.2.1 The Site lies adjacent to the medieval or post-medieval moated site of Moat Platts. It is likely that the structural remains associated with this site were contained within the platform, however earthworks are shown outside this area on Ordnance Survey maps although they are not seen to extend within the Site. It is likely that the structural remains of the settlement were contained within the moated area, but it is possible that the Site may have formed part of the land associated with the house.



- 2.2.2 The Site is known to have been under agricultural use since the late 19th century for the grazing of animals and the growing of hops and other crops. The historic map regression has indicated that previously additional field boundaries were present within the Site. It is possible that remains of these boundaries may exist as buried features within the Site, however due to their relatively recent date they are considered to be of low archaeological importance.
- 2.2.3 There is no recorded evidence within the Study Area relating to the Prehistoric to Anglo Saxon periods. This is likely to be due to an absence of modern development and therefore archaeological investigation rather than an absence of activity. As the Site lies within the Low Weald it is possible that this area was occupied by woodland during these periods. The north western part of the Site has a superficial deposit of River Terrace Gravels which may increase the potential for prehistoric stone tools to be found in this layer.
- 2.2.4 The geophysical survey undertaken in 2017 (Tigergeo 2017) recorded no anomalies of archaeological interest.
- 2.2.5 The recent trial trenching (Archaeology South-East 2020) comprised fifty-three archaeological trenches and ten geoarchaeological test pits. The geoarchaeological test pits revealed a thin, weathered remnant of a Pleistocene river terrace in the western part of the site comprising up to 0.5m of sands and gravels overlain by up to 0.5m of weathered alluvial subsoil. The lithology of the gravels comprised only sandstone and iron stone derived from Cretaceous bedrocks of the Wealden series. No flint or Greensand chert was identified. No artefacts or deposits suitable for palaeoenvironmental analysis or dating were observed.
- 2.2.6 The majority of the archaeological trenches were archaeologically sterile, however, eleven stretches of gully, three pits and a post-hole were recorded in the central-western part of the site focusing on trenches 22, 7, 3 and 4. None of the features could be closely dated. A moderate assemblage of slag was recovered from features in Trenches 3 and 4 which could be evidence of iron production close to the site rather than on the site itself. Production of iron by the bloomery process has a long history in the Weald (c.2000 years from 1st Millennium BC into the later medieval period), and iron slag has a propensity to be moved away from the original place of iron-working and used for purposes such as road building as late as the 19th century.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Aims

- 3.1.1 The general aims of the excavation, as stated in the WSI (RPS 2020) and in compliance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* (ClfA 2014a), were to:
- examine the archaeological resource within a given area or site within a framework of defined research objectives;
 - seek a better understanding of the resource;
 - compile a lasting record of the resource; and
 - analyse and interpret the results of the excavation and disseminate them.



4 METHODS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methods set out within the WSI (RPS 2020) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in ClfA guidance (ClfA 2014a). The post-excavation assessment and reporting followed advice issued by the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers (ALGAO 2015). The methods employed are summarised below.

4.1.2 The archaeological excavation was separated into three individual areas (Areas 1, 2 and 3), which were situated around previous archaeological trenches within the southwest corner of the site (**Figure 1**).

- Area 1 – 1071m²
- Area 2 – 1665m²
- Area 3 – 2548m²

4.2 Fieldwork methods

General

4.2.1 The excavation area was set out using a Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), in the same position as that proposed in the WSI (**Figure 1**). Areas 2 and 3 had to include a buffer zone due to identified buried services running through them. The topsoil/overburden was removed in level spits using a 360° 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 surfaces of archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand. A sample of archaeological features and deposits was hand-excavated, sufficient to address the aims of the excavation. A sample of natural features, such as tree-throw holes, was also investigated.

4.2.3 Spoil derived from machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological features was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. A metal detector was also used. Artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained.

Recording

4.2.4 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete record of excavated features and deposits was made, including 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.

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 OSTN15 and OSGM15, 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 16 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 Finds and environmental strategies

General

- 4.3.1 Strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of finds and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (RPS 2020). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b) and *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011).

4.4 Monitoring

- 4.4.1 The Senior Archaeological Officer for KCC monitored the works on behalf of the LPA. Any variations to the WSI, if required to better address the project aims, were agreed in advance with the client and the Senior Archaeological Officer.

5 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

5.1 Introduction

Summary of archaeological features and deposits

- 5.1.1 A total of 62 archaeological features were identified during the course of the excavation, which covered three areas:

- Area 1 identified a total of 14 features which comprised of 8 ditches and 6 pits.
- Area 2 identified a total of 18 features which comprised of 12 ditches and 6 pits.
- Area 3 identified a total of 32 features which comprised of 19 ditches and 13 pits.

Methods of stratigraphic assessment and quantity of data

- 5.1.2 All handwritten and drawn records from the excavation have been collated, checked for consistency and stratigraphic relationships. Key data has been transcribed into a database, which can be updated during any further analysis. Preliminary phasing of archaeological features and deposits was principally undertaken using stratigraphic relationships and the spot dating from artefacts, particularly pottery.

5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

- 5.2.1 The natural soil sequence of the site comprised of a dark greyish brown silty clay topsoil and/or a yellowish-brown subsoil overlying the natural geology, which comprised a yellowish clay.

5.3 Area 1

Iron Age

- 5.3.1 Curvilinear ditch **6304** was located within the northeast corner of the area. The ditch had moderate concave sides and a concave base, measuring 14.58m+ in length, 0.46m in width and 0.11m in depth. The feature contained two fills, the first being a primary fill of light bluish grey silty clay measuring 0.07m in thickness. The second fill was secondary fill of mid greyish brown silty clay with a rare amount of pottery sherds and charcoal flecks, measuring 0.05m in thickness.

- 5.3.2 Pit **6167** was circular in shape with shallow concave sides and a concave base, measuring 0.72m in length, 0.4m+ in width and 0.07m in depth. The feature continued beyond the limit of excavation to the south. The pit contained a single secondary fill of light greyish brown silty clay with a rare amount of pottery sherds located in the middle of the fill.

Possible Iron Age

- 5.3.3 Curvilinear ditch **6305** ran roughly north to south with moderately sloped concave sides and a concave base, measuring 8m+ in length, 0.6m in width and 0.17m deep. The feature contained a single secondary fill of light grey brown clay with rare manganese, charcoal flecks and pottery sherds. The northern end of the ditch was truncated by a modern disturbance and was not recorded continue beyond it.

- 5.3.4 Ditch **6308** was orientated north to south with steep straight sides and a V-shaped base, measuring 4.24m+ in length, 0.58m in width and 0.23m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of light greyish brown silty clay with a rare amount of pottery sherds and ceramic building material throughout. The northern end of the ditch continued beyond the limit of excavation, and the southern end was later cut by enclosure ditch **6309**.

Romano-British

- 5.3.5 Pit **6219** was sub-circular in shape with straight shallow sides and a concave base, measuring 0.78m in length, 0.74m in width and 0.12m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of light yellowish grey silty clay with a rare amount of pottery sherds throughout.

- 5.3.6 Pit **6299** was sub-oval in shape with moderate concave sides and a concave base, measuring 1.24m in length, 0.72m in width and 0.28m in depth. The feature contained two fills, the first being a deliberate backfill of dark greyish brown silty clay with a common amount of pottery sherds, a moderate amount of slag and a sparse amount of fired clay fragments throughout, measuring 0.28m in thickness. The charcoal formed a band at the top of the fill with slag and ceramic material located further down near the bottom of the pit. The second fill was a secondary fill of dark greyish brown silty clay measuring 0.15m in thickness, with a very clear horizon with the below fill.

Medieval

- 5.3.7 Enclosure ditch **6309** was located within the centre of the area. The ditch formed two sides of an enclosure, one side was orientated east to west before it turned a right angle and headed to the south. The ditch had straight to concave moderate sides and a concave base, measuring 46.29m+ in length, 1.4m in width and 0.31m in depth. The feature for the majority contained a single secondary fill only, but in one section it contained two fills. The first fill was a secondary fill of light greyish brown silty clay measuring 0.2m in thickness. The second fill was a secondary fill of mid greyish brown silty clay with a rare amount of pottery sherds and charcoal flecks throughout, measuring 0.19m in thickness. The enclosure cuts the ends of ditches **6306**, **6307** and **6308**, as well as pit **6262** at the northeast corner.

Possible Medieval

- 5.3.8 Linear ditch **6307** was located within the northwest corner of the site, orientated north-north-west to south-south-east, with shallow concave sides and a concave base, measuring 8.68m+ in length, 0.8m in width and 0.16m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of light greyish yellow silty clay. The ditch continued beyond the limit of excavation to the south-south-east and was observed continuing into Area 2, from which the tentative medieval date is attained. The north-north-west end of the ditch was later cut



by enclosure ditch **6309**. The ditch lay parallel with ditch **6306** to the west with a 1.97m gap between them.

Undated

- 5.3.9 Linear ditch **6163** was located towards the northern edge of the site, orientated northwest to southeast, with irregularly sloped straight sides and a v-shaped base, measuring 5m+ in length, 0.46m in width and 0.1m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of light brownish grey silty clay with manganese inclusions. The ditch was adjacent to curvilinear ditch **6308** and linear ditch **6309**.
- 5.3.10 Curvilinear ditch **6165** was located towards the northern edge of the site, and similar in shape and size to Iron Age curvilinear ditches **6304** to the east, and **6305** to the southeast. The ditch had moderate concave sides and a concave base, measuring 10m in length, 0.31m in width and 0.08m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of light grey silty clay. No artefacts were retrieved to date the feature.
- 5.3.11 Pit **6171** was circular in shape with shallow concave sides and a concave base, measuring 0.44m in length, 0.42m in width and 0.09m in depth. The feature contained a single deliberate backfill of dark greyish brown silty clay with a moderate amount of pottery sherds, and a sparse amount of charcoal flecks throughout.
- 5.3.12 Posthole **6223** was sub-circular in shape with shallow concave sides and a concave base, measuring 0.39m in length, 0.38m in width and 0.1m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of light bluish grey silty clay. No artefacts were retrieved to date the feature.
- 5.3.13 Pit **6233** was oval in shape with moderate concave sides and a flat base, measuring 1.24m in length, 0.74m in width and 0.22m in depth. The southern side of the pit had been cut by a modern disturbance. The feature contained three fills, the first being a primary fill of light reddish yellow silty clay measuring 0.05m in thickness. The second fill was a deliberate backfill of reddish-brown silty clay containing large pieces of burnt sandstone, a common amount of fired clay fragments and a sparse amount of charcoal flecks, measuring 0.17m in thickness. The third fill was a deliberate backfill of dark greyish brown silty clay with a rare amount of charcoal flecks throughout measuring 0.09m in thickness. No artefacts were retrieved to date the feature.
- 5.3.14 Pit **6262** was sub-oval in shape with irregular concave sides and an undulating base, measuring 1.9m in length, 0.9m in width and 0.29m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of light greyish brown silty clay with a rare amount of pottery sherds on the surface. The pit had been cut by curvilinear enclosure ditch **6309**.
- 5.3.15 Linear ditch **6306** was located within the west corner of the area orientated north-north-west to south-south-east with shallow concave sides and a concave base, measuring 8.92m+ in length, 0.6m in width and 0.13m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill with a rare amount of pottery sherds and charcoal flecks within the top fill. The ditch continued beyond the limit of excavation to the south-south-east, and is observed continuing into Area 2, and the north-north-west end of the ditch was later cut by enclosure ditch **6309**. The ditch also laid parallel with ditch **6307** to the east with a 1.97m gap between them.

5.4 Area 2

Possible Romano-British

- 5.4.1 Ditch **6314** was located in the northern part of the area, orientated north-north-west to south-south-east, with steep straight sides and a V-shaped base, measuring 12.11m+ in length, 0.74m in width and 0.28m in width. The feature contained two fills, the first being a primary fill of light yellowish grey silty clay measuring 0.15m in thickness. The second fill was a secondary fill of light greyish brown silty clay, measuring 0.17m in thickness. The ditch continued beyond the limit of excavation to the north and east and was later cut by ditch **6315**. A single sherd of mortarium was recovered from the fill.

Medieval

- 5.4.2 Pit **6142** was cut into the end of linear ditch **6313**. The pit was sub-oval in shape with steep irregular sides and a concave base, measuring 1.6m in length, 0.84m in width and 0.56m in depth. The feature contained four fills, the first fill was a primary fill of light bluish grey silty clay with a rare amount of charcoal flecks throughout, measuring 0.08m in thickness. The second fill was a deliberate backfill of light greyish brown silty clay with an abundant amount of slag and charcoal, and a rare amount of pottery and fired clay mixed throughout. The third fill was deliberate backfill of mid greyish yellow silty clay with a rare amount of charcoal flecks, measuring 0.31m in thickness. The fourth fill was deliberate backfill of dark bluish grey silty clay with a common amount of charcoal fragments and a sparse amount of slag mix throughout, measuring 0.06m in thickness.
- 5.4.3 Ditch **6319** was curvilinear in shape orientated north to south with moderate concave sides and a concave base, measuring 47m+ in length, 0.92m in width and 0.23m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of light greyish brown silty clay, with a rare amount of pottery sherds, slag and charcoal flecks throughout. The ditch continued beyond the limit of excavation to the south, and the northern end turned a corner and faced to the southeast. The ditch was not recorded during the previous evaluation and cuts ditches **6317**, **6318** and **6320**.
- 5.4.4 Ditch **6320** was linear in shape orientated east to west with moderate concave sides and a concave base, measuring 10.89m+ in length, 1.1m in width and 0.24m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of light greyish brown silty clay with a rare amount of slag, charcoal flecks and pottery sherds throughout. The ditch continued beyond the limit of excavation to the east, and its western end was later cut by ditch **6319**.

Possible Medieval

- 5.4.5 Posthole **6006** was located towards the end of two enclosure ditch termini. The feature was sub-circular in shape with moderate concave sides and a concave base, measuring 0.34m in length, 0.12m in width and 0.11m in depth. The feature contained a single deliberate backfill of mid yellowish grey silty clay with a common amount of charcoal flecks throughout. No artefacts were retrieved to date the feature.
- 5.4.6 Ditch **6313** was located in the northern part of the area, orientated north-north-west to south-south-east, with moderate convex sides and a flat base, measuring 15.74m in length, 0.7m in width and 0.15m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of light yellowish grey silty clay. The ditch continues beyond the limit of excavation to the north-north-west and continues as ditch **6307** within Area 1 and laid parallel with ditch **6312** and was cut by pit **6142**. Rare pottery sherds and flint was recovered from the secondary fill.
- 5.4.7 Ditch **6315** was located in the northern part of the area, orientated northeast to southwest with steep straight sides and a concave base, measuring 32.62m+ in length, 0.94m in width

and 0.2m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of dark greyish brown silty clay with a rare amount of worked flint and charcoal flecks. The ditch cuts linear ditch **6314**.

- 5.4.8 Ditch **6321** was linear in shape orientated north to south, with irregular concave sides and a concave base, measuring 12.89m+ in length, 0.92m in width and 0.19m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of light greyish brown silty clay with a rare amount of pottery sherds throughout. The southern end of the ditch continued beyond the limit of excavation to the south, and its northern end terminated with a rounded terminus. While the ditch has been tentatively dated to the medieval period, it did also contain a small fragment of Romano-British pottery.

Undated

- 5.4.9 Pit **6004** was located next to the corner of an enclosure ditch. The feature was sub-rectangular in shape with shallow concave sides and a concave base, measuring 1.1m in length, 0.38m in width and 0.06m in depth. The pit contained a single deliberate backfill of mid greyish black silty clay, with a sparse amount of charcoal and rare fired clay flecks throughout. No artefacts were retrieved to date the feature.
- 5.4.10 Posthole **6015** was located cutting the south-south-east terminus of curvilinear ditch **6318**. The feature was sub-circular in shape with moderate straight sides and a V-shaped base, measuring 0.5m in diameter and 0.25m in depth. The posthole contained two fills, the first being a deliberate backfill of mid greyish brown silty clay with a rare amount of charcoal flecks, measuring 0.25m in thickness. The second fill was a deliberate backfill of dark greyish brown silty clay with a rare amount of charcoal flecks, measuring 0.12m in thickness.
- 5.4.11 Ditch **6153** was located in the middle of the area, orientated northeast to southwest, with steep concave sides and a concave base measuring at least 2m in length, 0.66m in width and 0.37m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of light grey brown silty clay. The ditch was cut by later curvilinear ditch **6319** at its western end and by a previous evaluation trench to the east, which did not record the ditch.
- 5.4.12 Ditch **6312** was located in the northern part of the area, orientated north-north-west to south-south-east, with moderate concave sides and a concave base measuring 20.9m+ in length, 0.75m in width and 0.23m in depth. The feature contained two fills, the first being primary fill of light greyish yellow silty clay measuring 0.14m in thickness. The second fill was a deliberate backfill of light greyish brown silty clay with a common amount of slag, and a sparse amount of fired clay fragments, measuring 0.23m in thickness. The ditch continues beyond the limit of excavation to the north-north-west and continues as ditch **6306** within Area 1 and laid parallel with ditch **6313** to the east with a 1.33m gap between them.
- 5.4.13 Ditch **6316** was located in the northern half of the area, orientated north-northwest to south-south-east, with moderate concave sides and a concave base, measuring 8.85m in length, 0.77m in width and 0.23m in depth. The feature contained two fills, the first being a secondary fill of light bluish greyish silty clay with a rare amount of charcoal flecks, measuring 0.14m in thickness. The second fill was a deliberate backfill of mid greyish brown silt loam with a rare amount of slag, charcoal flecks and CBM fragments, measuring 0.13m in thickness. The south-south-east end of the ditch was later cut by ditch **6317**.
- 5.4.14 Ditch **6317** was located in the northern half of the area, orientated east to west with irregular shaped sides and a flat base, measuring 7.65m+ in length, 0.46m in width and 0.13m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of light greyish brown silty clay with a rare amount of charcoal and fired clay flecks. The ditch cuts ditch **6316**, and its western end was later cut by ditch **6319**.



- 5.4.15 Ditch **6318** was located in the northern half of the area, orientated north-northwest to south-south-east with shallow straight sides and V-shaped base, measuring 12.95m in length, 0.66m in width and 0.37m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of light greyish yellow silty clay with a rare amount of charcoal flecks. The ditch is linear in shape and ends with a rounded terminus to the south-south-east. The north-north-west end of the ditch turns a sharp rounded corner to face the west where it was later cut by ditch **6319**.
- 5.4.16 A cluster of features comprising a large amorphous waste pit, two smaller pits and a ditch was located in the northern half of the area. Large waste pit **6338** was amorphous in shape with steep concave sides and a concave base, measuring 5.63m in length, 2m in width and 0.57m deep. The pit contained multiple layers of deliberate backfill containing waste slag and fired clay.
- 5.4.17 Ditch **6270** was orientated approximately east to west with moderately sloped concave sides and a concave base, measuring 3m+ in length, 0.6m in width and 0.32m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of light-yellow grey silty clay with sparse manganese flecks and rare iron slag fragments. The ditch was cut to the west by waste pit **6338**, and it is likely that the iron slag fragments are intrusive from the pit itself.
- 5.4.18 Small pits **6272** and **6274** were located directly north of large waste pit **6338**. The pits were sub-oval in shape measuring between 1.2m and 1.36m in length, 1m in width and 0.17m in depth. The pits each contained a single secondary fill of light brown grey silty clay with sparse manganese inclusions, with pit **6272** containing a single pottery sherd. The pits may be related to the use of large waste pit **6338** although this could not be determined during the excavation.

5.5 Area 3

Medieval

- 5.5.1 Ditch **6324** was linear in shape orientated northwest to southeast with steep concave sides and a concave base, measuring 33.7m in length, 0.82m wide and up to 0.41m deep. The ditch contained a single secondary fill of mid brownish grey clay with moderate rooting and manganese inclusions. The ditch cut earlier ditch **6326**. The ditch contained flint, pottery, slag, fired clay and a fragment of an iron bar.
- 5.5.2 Material spread **6336** was amorphous in shape, measuring over 10m in length and 9.5m in width at its largest extent, and up to 0.22m in depth where excavated. The spread comprised of a single deliberate dump of material including pottery and slag, similar to the waste material recovered from undated pit **6337** on the western boundary of the area. The spread sealed the terminus of ditch **6325** in its western boundary.

Possible Medieval

- 5.5.3 Posthole **6058** was circular in shape with steep concave sides and a concave base, measuring 0.32m in length, 0.3m in width and 0.1m in depth. The feature contained a single deliberate backfill of dark greyish brown silty clay with a sparse amount of pottery sherds located close to the northwest edge of the posthole.
- 5.5.4 Pit **6173** was located at the southern end of pit **6337**. The pit was sub-circular in shape with steep straight sides and a flat base, measuring 1.71m in length, 1.06m in width and 0.57m in depth. The feature contained four fills, the first being a deliberate deposit of light greyish yellow silty clay with a moderate amount of slag mixed throughout the fill measuring 0.22m in thickness. The second fill was secondary fill of light greyish brown silty clay measuring 0.2m in thickness. The third fill was a secondary fill of light grey silty clay measuring 0.09m

in thickness. The fourth fill was secondary fill of mid greyish brown silty clay measuring 0.23m in thickness. The pit was later cut by pit **6337** and ditch **6322**.

- 5.5.5 Short ditch **6327** was linear in shape orientated east to west with moderately sloped straight sides and a concave base, measuring 8m in length 1.15m wide and up to 0.33m deep. The ditch contained two fills, a light blue grey silty clay primary fill and a dark grey brown clay secondary fill with orange mottling. The ditch cut earlier linear ditch **6326**. A single sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from the feature.
- 5.5.6 Ditch **6332** was slightly curvilinear in shape orientated largely north to south with steep concave sides and a concave base, measuring 12.5m+ in length, 0.5m in width and 0.37m in depth. The ditch contained a single secondary fill of light grey clay with an orange hue. Sparse small medieval pottery sherds were recovered from the feature. It is possible that this ditch continues into Area 2 to the north as curvilinear ditch **6319**.
- 5.5.7 Ditch **6333** was linear in shape orientated northwest to southeast with moderately sloped concave sides and a concave base, measuring 13.5m+ in length, between 0.36m and 0.5m in width and up to 0.37m in depth. The ditch contained a single secondary fill of light brown grey silty clay with sparse manganese inclusions. The ditch continues to the northwest of the area, and cuts curvilinear ditch **6332**. The ditch contained rare pottery sherds.
- 5.5.8 Ditch **6335** was linear in shape orientated west-southwest to east-northeast with moderately sloped concave sides and a concave base, measuring 9m+ in length, 0.67m in width and up to 0.42m in depth. The ditch contained a single secondary fill of light yellow grey silty clay and contained sparse pottery and slag. The ditch was truncated by previous evaluation Trench 3 at its western extent, although the ditch was not recorded within the trench, and may have continued beyond the area. Its eastern extent was truncated by later ditch **6322**.

Undated

- 5.5.9 Pit **6034** was sub-circular in shape with moderate concave sides and a concave base, measuring 0.59m in length, 0.58 m in width and 0.17m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of light greyish brown silty clay. No artefacts were retrieved to date the feature. The pit was located close to posthole **6114**.
- 5.5.10 Pit **6038** was sub-oval in shape with moderate concave sides and a concave base, measuring 0.52m in length, 0.36m in width and 0.12m in depth. The feature contained a deliberate backfill of mid greyish brown silty clay with a light yellowish hue, with a rare amount of fired clay, charcoal flecks and slag.
- 5.5.11 Ditch terminus **6045** was linear in shape orientated northeast to southwest with irregular sides and base, measuring 1.2m+ in length, 0.6m in width and 0.09m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of mid grey clay with black patches, with charcoal flecking and rooting throughout. The terminus was partially exposed to the north of an exclusion zone around an identified service.
- 5.5.12 Pit **6062** was circular in shape with moderate concave sides and a concave base, measuring 0.24m in length, 0.28m width and 0.07m in depth. The feature contained a deliberate backfill of dark greyish brown silty clay with an abundant amount of charcoal fragments throughout. No artefacts were retrieved to date the feature.
- 5.5.13 Ditch **6066** was linear in shape orientated northeast to southwest with irregular steep sides and a concave base, measuring 5.54m+ in length, 0.71m in width and 0.27m in depth. The ditch continued to the southwest beyond the limit of excavation and terminated to the



northeast with a rounded terminus. The feature contained a single secondary fill of dark greyish brown silty clay. No artefacts were retrieved to date the feature.

- 5.5.14 Posthole **6078** was sub-oval in shape with steep concave sides and a concave base, measuring 0.61m in length, 0.51m in width and 0.16m in depth. The feature contained a single deliberate backfill of dark greyish brown silty clay with a rare amount of CBM fragments near the top of the fill.
- 5.5.15 Pit **6086** was circular in shape with moderate concave sides and a flat base, measuring 0.48m in length, 0.24m in width and 0.10m in depth. The feature contained a single deliberate backfill of dark greyish brown silty clay with a sparse amount of slag throughout. The pit was cut into the upper fill of ditch **6332**.
- 5.5.16 Posthole **6114** was sub-oval in shape with moderate concave sides and a concave base, measuring 0.4m in length, 0.24m in width and 0.15m in depth. The feature contained a single deliberate backfill of dark greyish brown silty clay with an abundant amount of charcoal fragments throughout. No artefacts were retrieved to date the feature.
- 5.5.17 Ditch **6121** was linear in shape orientated northeast to southwest with moderate concave sides and a concave base, measuring 4.19m+ in length, 0.52m in width and 0.21m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of light grey silty clay with dark grey and orange mottling. No artefacts were retrieved to date the feature. The ditch was cut at its northeast end by enclosure ditch **6322**.
- 5.5.18 Pit **6127** was located near the southwest boundary of the area. The pit was sub-oval in shape with moderately sloped convex sides and an undulating base, measuring 1.399m in length, 1.06m in width and 0.2m in depth. The feature contained a single deliberate backfill of mid greyish brown silty clay with common charcoal and rare sub-angular stones.
- 5.5.19 Pit **6207** was located cutting the upper fill of ditch **6328**. The pit was sub-circular in shape with shallow concave sides and a concave base, measuring 0.26m in length, 0.2m in width and 0.05m in depth. The feature contained a single deliberate backfill of mid greyish black silty clay with a common amount of fragments throughout.
- 5.5.20 Pit **6215** was sub-circular in shape with moderate concave sides and a concave base, measuring 0.36m in length, 0.28m in width and 0.1m in depth. The feature contained a single deliberate backfill of dark greyish brown silty clay, with a very common amount of charcoal fragments throughout. No artefacts were retrieved to date the feature.
- 5.5.21 Ditch **6242** was linear in shape orientated northeast to southwest with shallow concave sides and a concave base, measuring 8.3m+ in length, 1.09m in width and 0.31m in depth. The ditch contained a single deliberate backfill of mid brown grey silty clay with abundant manganese and common slag. The ditch was covered by large spread of waste material **6336**, with the deliberate backfill in the ditch likely the same as the waste material.
- 5.5.22 Ditch **6322** was linear in shape orientated north to south with steep concave sides and a concave base, measuring 12m+ in length, between 0.48 and 1.26m in width and up to 0.49m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of light grey clay with an orange hue, with manganese and rare manganese and occasional rooting. A small quantity of slag was recovered from the feature which may relate to possible metal working in the vicinity. The ditch was identified in the previous evaluation and cut earlier ditches **6121** and **6335** and pits **6173** and **6337**.

- 5.5.23 Curvilinear ditch **6325** was slightly curvilinear in shape orientated largely northwest to southeast at its western extent and east to west at its eastern extent with moderate to steep concave sides and a concave base, measuring approximately 50m in length, between 0.87m and 1.35m in width and up to 0.44m deep. The ditch primarily contained two distinct fills, comprising a light blue grey clay primary fill beneath a mid brown grey silty clay secondary fill. The ditch was present in the previous evaluation and cut later ditches **6326** and **6329**, before terminating at the edge of waste deposit **6336**. Slag was recovered from along the length of the ditch.
- 5.5.24 Ditch **6326** was linear in shape orientated northwest to southeast with moderately sloped concave sides and a largely flat base, measuring 43m+ in length, 0.6m-1.16m in width and up to 0.38m in depth. The ditch contained a single secondary fill of dark grey brow/light blue grey clay with sparse rooting and occasional manganese inclusions. The ditch continued beyond the southeast boundary of the area and was truncated at its northern extent by an identified service where it apparently terminated as it did not continue beyond. The ditch was cut by later ditches **6324**, **6325** and **6327** and cut earlier ditches **6343** and **6328**. Despite the number of excavated slots within the ditch only a single flint flake was recovered from the fill.
- 5.5.25 Short ditch **6328** was linear in shape orientated northwest to southeast with moderately sloped concave sides and a concave base, measuring 8.3m in length, 0.67m in width and 0.17m deep. The ditch contained a single secondary fill of mid grey brown silty clay with manganese inclusions. The ditch was cut by later ditch **6326** and posthole **6207** and was directly adjacent to ditches **6325** and **6329**. No artefacts were retrieved to date the feature.
- 5.5.26 Ditch **6329** was linear in shape orientated north-northwest to south-southeast with moderately sloped irregular sides and an irregular base, measuring 28m+ in length, between 0.95m and 1.42m in width and up to 0.42m deep. The ditch contained two fills comprising a light blue grey clay primary fill and a light brownish grey clay secondary fill. The ditch continued beyond the limit of excavation to the north, was cut at its southern extent by ditch **6325** and was truncated in the middle of the area by an identified service. No artefacts were retrieved to date the feature.
- 5.5.27 Ditch **6330** was linear in shape orientated east to west with moderately sloped concave sides and a concave base, measuring 12m+ in length, 1.3m in width and 0.31m deep. The ditch contained a single secondary fill of mid grey brown clay with manganese inclusions. The ditch continued beyond the limit of excavation to the east, was identified by previous evaluation trench and cut earlier ditch **6331**. Small quantities of slag were recovered from the ditch.
- 5.5.28 Ditch **6331** was linear in shape orientated northwest to southeast with moderately sloped concave sides and a concave base, measuring 12m+ in length, 0.94m in width and up to 0.32m deep. The ditch contained a single secondary fill of blue grey silty clay. The ditch was recorded in the previous evaluation and was cut by ditch **6330**. The ditch continued beyond the northern extent of the area.
- 5.5.29 Ditch **6334** was linear in shape orientated northeast to southwest with moderate to steep concave sides and a concave base, measuring 20m+ in length, 0.73m in width and up to 0.4m in depth. The ditch contained a single secondary fill of light yellow grey silty clay with sparse manganese flecks. The ditch continued beyond the area to the northeast and southwest and was covered in the centre of the exposed section by large spread of waste material **6336**. A parallel ditch **6242** was present to the southwest of the waste pit, which may represent a later recut of the feature.



- 5.5.30 Large pit **6337** was amorphous in shape with moderately sloped concave sides and a concave base, measuring 5.8m+ in length, 5.7m in width and up to 0.56m in depth. The pit contained multiple fills including a light blue grey silty clay primary fill, mid-dark brown deliberate backfill and two light-mid grey silty clay secondary fills. The pit cut earlier pit **6173** and was truncated by the terminus of ditch **6322** at its southeast extent. The pit contained a large quantity of slag and is likely to represent a waste pit associated with metalworking in the vicinity.
- 5.5.31 Ditch **6343** was linear in shape orientated northwest to southeast measuring 2.47m in length, 1.1m in width and 0.49m in depth. The feature contained a single secondary fill of light grey silty clay with orange mottling with a moderate amount of charcoal flecks located near to the top of the fill. The northwest end of the ditch had been later cut by linear ditch **6326**. No artefacts were retrieved to date the feature.

6 FINDS EVIDENCE

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 The finds assemblage recovered is of relatively small size. The high proportion of metalworking slag reflects the site's use for industrial purposes; of the other finds, only pottery was recovered in any appreciable quantity. The assemblage ranges in date from prehistoric to post-medieval/modern, although datable finds (pottery) indicate that the chronological focus is in the medieval period.
- 6.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context. Totals by material type are given in Table 1, and a full list of finds by context is presented in Appendix 1 (Table 4).

Table 1 Finds totals by material type

Material Type	No.	Wt. (g)
Fired Clay	46	500
Worked Flint	7	88
Iron	1	12
Pottery	358	3289
Slag	1118	47,146
Stone	8	549

6.2 Pottery

- 6.2.1 The pottery assemblage amounts to 358 sherds, weighing 3289 g. It ranges in date from late prehistoric to modern, with a major focus in the medieval period. Pottery derived almost entirely from the fills of cut features (ditches, pits and postholes).
- 6.2.2 Condition is fair to poor. The assemblage is fragmented, and although the harder-fired medieval wares have suffered less surface and edge abrasion than prehistoric and Romano-British material, sherd size is relatively small throughout. Almost all prehistoric and Romano-British sherds have abraded surfaces. Mean sherd weight overall is 9.2 g; this drops to 8.3 g for prehistoric sherds and further still to 4.6 g for Romano-British and rises to 10.2 for medieval.

Methods of assessment

- 6.2.3 The assemblage has been quantified (sherd count and weight) by ware type within each context; Table 2 gives a quantified chronological breakdown of the assemblage by ware



type. Broad types have been used for prehistoric and Roman wares (eg. flint-tempered wares, grog-tempered wares); no detailed fabric analysis has been undertaken at this stage. Correlation to the Canterbury Archaeological Trust (CAT) type series has been made for medieval wares. Post-medieval/modern wares follow established regional nomenclature (eg. pearlware). Note has been made of identifiable forms. The presence of decoration, surface treatment and other salient features have also been noted.

- 6.2.4 Estimated Vessel Equivalents (EVEs) have not been used as the number of measurable rims is low; as an alternative means of quantification, the maximum Number of Vessels (MNV) has been used, counting each non-joining sherd as a separate vessel except where there is a high probability of a context containing same-vessel sherds (the fragmentation of the assemblage is reflected in the total MNV, which is 248).
- 6.2.5 The level of recording accords with the 'basic record' advocated for the purpose of characterising an assemblage rapidly (Barclay et al 2016, section 2.4.5). A full breakdown of pottery by context is given in Appendix 1 (Table 5).

Table 2 Pottery totals by material type

Ware type	Fabric code	No. sherds	Wt. (g)	MNV
LATE PREHISTORIC				
Flint-tempered ware		7	233	1
Grog-tempered ware		53	267	6
Sandy ware		7	36	1
<i>Sub-total late prehistoric</i>		67	536	8
ROMANO-BRITISH				
Greyware		3	4	1
Sandy ware		13	63	1
RB oxidised ware		1	1	1
Whiteware		14	75	2
<i>Sub-total Romano-British</i>		31	143	5
MEDIEVAL				
NW Kent Sandy + Shell-Tempered ware	EM36	216	2169	199
NW Kent sandy ware (mainly reduced)	M38A	40	432	34
		256	2601	233
MODERN				
Pearlware		1	1	1
Refined whiteware		3	8	1
<i>Sub-total modern</i>		4	9	2
Overall Total		358	3289	248

Late Prehistoric

- 6.2.6 Sixty-seven sherds have been dated as late prehistoric, deriving from a probable maximum of eight vessels. These have been sub-divided into three broad ware types: flint-tempered, grog-tempered and sandy wares. The flint-tempered fabrics contain sparse random, poorly sorted inclusions. All three types have a lengthy currency in Kent from the Late Bronze Age through to the Late Iron Age, and undiagnostic body sherds can rarely be dated more closely within this period. Two diagnostic groups were recorded. The first came from pit 6167: seven flint-tempered sherds conjoin to form the profile of a small bowl with flared convex body, everted rim and slight pedestal base. A Middle/Late Bronze Age date is likely.

The second group comprises seven sherds from ditch 6309 (fill 6054) in a glauconitic sandy fabric, forming the externally expanded rim of a vessel with an open or neutral profile, again of probable Middle/Late Iron Age date. None of the grog-tempered sherds are diagnostic; 46 of the 53 sherds came from a single context (fill 6170 of ditch 6304) and probably belong to a single vessel, although only body and base sherds are present, all heavily abraded.

- 6.2.7 Late prehistoric sherds provided the sole dating evidence for the features mentioned above, as well as ditches 6305 and 6308.

Romano-British

- 6.2.8 Romano-British material is only sparsely represented (31 sherds from a maximum of five vessels). These include a mortarium flange in a sandy whiteware (ditch 6314) and 13 body sherds from a fine whiteware vessel (pit 6219). A further 13 sherds in a reduced sandy fabric from pit 6299 may also represent a single vessel, an everted rim jar. Three white-slipped greyware sherds were residual in spread 6336, and one oxidised sherd was residual in medieval ditch 6321.

Medieval

- 6.2.9 The majority of the pottery assemblage (256 sherds) is of medieval date and consists almost entirely of two ware types: sandy/shelly ware and sandy ware, mainly reduced. The sandy/shelly ware, which is predominant, falls within a regional tradition of wares containing combinations of shell and sand in varying proportions; in this instance it can probably be equated to North-West Kent Sandy and Shell-Tempered ware (fabric code EM36) although other sandy/shelly wares are known across much of Kent with date ranges spanning the 12th and 13th centuries. The shelly/sandy ware was used mainly for jars (at least 16 examples), with a few bowls (at least three examples); several rims are indeterminate between the two forms. All rims are of 'developed' profile, ie everted, flat-topped and with a flattened outer edge, a form that emerged c 1200.
- 6.2.10 Sandy wares may equate to North-West Kent Sandy ware (M38A) although again these form part of a regional tradition of reduced sandy wares with various known sources including Limsfield in north-west Surrey. Vessel forms seen here consist almost entirely of strap-handled jugs (three examples), with one bowl. North-West Kent Sandy ware has a date range of c 1175–1400; the relatively consistent association here with the sandy/shelly wares, and the use of developed rims amongst the latter, suggests that the date range can probably be confined to the first half of the 13th century. There are comparable assemblages from Leigh (Parfitt 1962) and the later phase of Eynsford Castle (Rigold 1971).
- 6.2.11 This is an assemblage with a marked utilitarian character; the complete absence of glazed wares can be noted, and decoration is limited to a very few vessels with applied thumbled strips.
- 6.2.12 The largest group of medieval sherds came from ditch 6320 (180 sherds, including 161 from fill 6126). Quantities from other features were much lower: 28 sherds were recovered from pit 6142, but no other feature yielded more than nine sherds.

Post-medieval/modern

- 6.2.13 There was very little pottery of later date: four sherds were recovered, all of 19th- or 20th-century date, comprising three pearlware (conjoining, from a saucer) and one refined whiteware.



6.3 Fired Clay

6.3.1 The fired clay consists of small, abraded and undiagnostic fragments, all in a moderately coarse, poorly wedged fabric with a low sand content. One fragment from ditch terminal 6325 has a possibly wattle impression. The date is uncertain. Eight fragments came from features dated on pottery grounds as late prehistoric (ditches 6305 and 6308); the remainder was found in various medieval or undated features, but in all cases in very small quantities.

6.4 Worked Flint

6.4.1 Seven pieces of worked flint were recovered. One piece from undated ditch 6326 is in fresh condition, but all other pieces show at least some edge damage consistent with being redeposited, and indeed all these appear to be residual finds in medieval features. Two pieces are from small, bladeliike flakes (one broken) which could suggest an early prehistoric component (Mesolithic/early Neolithic), but otherwise the flint is not chronologically distinctive.

6.5 Slag

6.5.1 Approximately 47.15 kg of ironworking slag was recovered during the excavation, with a further 3.06 kg from the evaluation, making an overall total of just over 50 kg.

6.5.2 The material is generally amorphous and fragmented, relatively dense but moderately vesicular, and fairly weathered / abraded. Though much is undiagnostic, there are a number of fragments which indicate that the slag derived from iron smelting. Some pieces, for example, have evidence of a flow structure on the upper surface, indicative of tapped slag, while several dense, hemispherical pieces are likely to be fragments of furnace bottoms, the slag which collected in the base of the furnace. No hearth or furnace lining is present, nor any iron ore, and there is only a single, small fragment (37 g) of fuel ash slag (FAS), this from a Romano-British feature (pit 6299) and not certainly debris from ironworking.

6.5.3 Other than the single piece of FAS noted above, all the ironworking debris came from medieval or undated contexts, the medieval features all possibly falling within a relatively short time period (based on the pottery) covering the later 12th and first half of the 13th century. On this basis, though residuality cannot be entirely ruled out, it would appear that all of the material has a likely medieval origin.

6.5.4 The largest quantity of slag (18.54 kg) came from medieval spread 6336, and a slightly smaller amount (16.39kg) from undated pit 6337. Only three other features produced more than 1 kg of debris: medieval ditch 6320 (3.68 kg), undated pit 6337 (2.14 kg) and medieval pit 6142 (1.13 kg).

6.5.5 The source of the material is uncertain, but it may have been redeposited from nearby given the quantity and concentrations. However, no furnace or hearth structures were found and, furthermore, the earlier geophysical survey (Tiger Geo 2017) provided no indication for any being present (or at least surviving) on the site.

6.5.6 The presence of medieval iron smelting slag at Paddock Wood is not unexpected, the site is situated on the northern periphery of the Weald just east of Tonbridge, with the medieval ironworking industry apparently more concentrated in the northern and central areas of the Weald than it was in the Roman and post-medieval periods (Cleere and Crossley 1995, 95). Paddock Wood lies only 10 km east of Tudeley, where the iron smelting furnaces or bloomeries were already in production when the first surviving documentary account

records them in 1329 (Cleere and Crossley 1995, 92), and it is likely that here as elsewhere the medieval industry goes back to at least the 13th century.

6.6 Other Finds

- 6.6.1 Other finds comprise a single iron object (bar fragment of unknown date and function, from medieval ditch 6324) and eight fragments of stone, possibly quern fragments, from pit 6233 (probably medieval).

7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 Ten bulk sediment samples were taken from a range of features such as pits, a layer, a ditch and posthole; a feature was of Romano-British chronology with the remainder medieval (C12-C13) or undated; all samples were processed for the recovery and assessment of the environmental evidence. The bulk samples break down into the following feature groups:

Table 3 Sample Provenance Summary

Feature	No. of samples	Volume (litres)
Posthole	2	7
Pit	6	168
Ditch	1	29
Layer	1	26
Totals	10	230

7.1 Aims and Methods

- 7.1.1 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).
- 7.1.2 The size of the bulk sediment samples varied between 1 and 35 litres, and on average was around 23 litres. Some of the samples were pre-soaked in a solution of water and hydrogen peroxide to help break up the clayey sediment. The larger samples were processed by standard flotation methods on a Siraf-type flotation tank, the smaller samples were processed by bucket flotation; the flot retained on a 0.25 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 4 mm and 1/0.5 mm fractions. The coarse fractions (>4 mm) were sorted by eye and discarded. The environmental material extracted from the residues was added to the flots. The grid method was used to split large residues into smaller subsamples when appropriate. The fine residue fractions and 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.
- 7.1.3 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, 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. Charred plant remains.

7.2 Results

- 7.2.1 The flots from the bulk sediment samples were small to moderate in size (Table 6). 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 contamination by later intrusive elements. Environmental evidence comprised plant remains poorly preserved (and iron coated) by carbonisation and varying amounts of iron coated, mature and roundwood charcoal. Slag/industrial waste was noted in some samples.
- 7.2.2 Charred material was only present in three medieval samples; ditch 6325 (deposit 6089), possible spread 6336 (deposit 6091) and pit 6142 (deposit 6144), and included seeds of Poaceae (grasses, including Lolium/Festuca (rye grass/fescue) and Avena/Bromus (oats/brome)) and Asteraceae (daisy family). Large amounts of iron coated, mature and roundwood charcoal were present in Romano-British pit 6299 (deposit 6300) and medieval pit 6142 (deposit 6144).

7.3 Discussion

- 7.3.1 The charred plant material, particularly the wood charcoal, preserved from the site is often mineral coated, suggesting intermittent waterlogging conditions which are detrimental for the survival of environmental (either plant remains in a carbonised or waterlogged condition, and bone) remains.
- 7.3.2 The environmental assemblage from the Roman sample exclusively made of charcoal (together with pottery, slag and fired clay) and is likely associated to metalworking activities.
- 7.3.3 Medieval (C12-C13) samples have provided little charred plant remain evidence, all of wild taxa, suggesting no domestic settlement activities were carried out in the area. The large volume of charcoal on one of the samples (together with pottery, slag and fired clay) could also be associated to industrial activities.
- 7.3.4 Undated features have provided little environmental evidence of limited significance.

8 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

8.1 Finds potential

- 8.1.1 This is a relatively small assemblage, but not without interest. Of some note is the presence of a moderate quantity of (redeposited) medieval ironworking slag, specifically deriving from iron smelting, although no in situ evidence for metalworking (eg furnaces, hearths) was recovered, thereby reducing the overall significance of the material.
- 8.1.2 The small medieval pottery assemblage is of lower significance but is nevertheless a useful addition to the local dataset in an area which is otherwise sparsely represented in the ceramic record. It is unlikely that further detailed analysis will enable the refinement of the site chronology, or to indicate possible sources with any more accuracy, but the existing records should be enhanced to a minimum archive standard and the discussion augmented in order to set the assemblage more clearly within its local and regional context, and to further explore the possible functional implications.



- 8.1.3 Other finds have a much more limited significance, and a correspondingly low research potential. Prehistoric and Romano-British finds are sparsely represented and are indicative of no more than sporadic activity here. Some finds (the fired clay and stone) are insecurely dated and can contribute little or nothing to the site narrative.
- 8.1.4 No further work is proposed on the slag, but up to 0.5d would be useful to undertake further, related research on local discoveries of ironworking evidence (including the Archaeology South-East excavations at Anchor Cottages, Blindley Heath) and to enhance and edit the assessment report presented here for publication online via the Kent Archaeological Society.

8.2 Environmental potential

- 8.2.1 The charred plant remains have little potential and require no further analysis.
- 8.2.2 The analysis of the wood charcoal could provide information on the taxonomic composition and exploitation of the local woodland resource on the site for industrial activities and its evolution between the Romano-British to medieval (C12-C13) periods.

Recommendations

- 8.2.3 A summary of the results on the charred plant remain assessment is recommended for publication online via the Kent Archaeological Society. The two charcoal-rich samples are proposed for charcoal analysis. 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 epilluminated 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.

9 CONCLUSIONS

9.1 Introduction

- 9.1.1 The excavation has revealed archaeological remains within the three main areas, comprising 39 ditches and gullies, 25 pits and postholes and a spread of waste material. Datable material was relatively limited, with only 10 of the features reliably dated, and a further 14 tentatively dated. The phased features dated from the Iron Age to the medieval period, with the majority dating to the medieval period.
- 9.1.2 The predominance of the features appear to be land management and organisation in origin, with the notable exception of a series of curvilinear gullies in Area 1 which may represent prehistoric roundhouses. Sporadic evidence of iron working was recorded throughout the site, with a predominance of physical evidence in Area 3 where almost 30kg of slag was recovered from two large waste deposits.



- 9.1.3 The section below discusses the archaeological results in the context of the three site specific aims as set out in the WSI (RPS 2020) and a separate brief discussion of the remaining features.

9.2 Discussion

- 9.2.1 Slag is present in varying quantities in features across the site although an unknown amount of this is likely to be the result of residual deposition, indicating that there is metalworking activity within the wider area. The most significant features related to iron working within the site are a pit cluster in Area 2 and a pit and material spread in Area 3.
- 9.2.2 The pit cluster in Area 2 comprises a large amorphous pit, which cut an undated short ditch, and two small intercutting pits to the north. The larger pit was fully excavated during the excavation and produced a moderate quantity of slag and fired clay and a single small fragment of iron. One of the two smaller intercutting pits contained a single highly abraded fragment of Iron Age pottery, although this is believed to be residual in origin. It is likely that the large pit is a waste pit for neighbouring metalworking activities, although it is unclear if the pit had a previous use.
- 9.2.3 In Area 3 a large waste pit and spread of material were recorded at the eastern and western boundaries of the area. The spread of material on the eastern boundary produced over 16kg of slag, along with a small collection of medieval pottery, while amorphous pit **6337** on the western boundary produced over 12.5kg of slag. The quantity of slag recovered from these features indicated that they were likely located in the immediate vicinity of an area of ironworking activity, although the industrial remains themselves were not identified during the excavation.

Evidence of prehistoric occupation

- 9.2.4 Evidence of prehistoric activity within the area was limited to a series of curvilinear ditches/gullies in Area 1, all dated either reliably or tentatively to the Iron Age. Two curvilinear gullies, one reliably dated, and one tentatively dated, along the eastern edge of the area may represent partially surviving prehistoric roundhouses. A further undated gully in the northern half of the area may represent a further partial roundhouse.
- 9.2.5 An additional larger curvilinear ditch was recorded in the western half of the area, truncated by a large medieval enclosure ditch. This ditch was only partially exposed within the area and its purpose and full extent is unclear.

Evidence for medieval and post-medieval activity

- 9.2.6 Medieval features are the predominant phased features within the site, with several undated features sharing similar alignments with phased medieval features and their date can therefore be inferred by the relationship.
- 9.2.7 The most substantial feature is a large enclosure ditch present in Area 1. The ditch enters the area from the western boundary and continues for 30m to the east-northeast before turning 90 degrees to the south-southeast and continuing for a further 18m on a slightly curvilinear path before exiting the area in the southern boundary. The enclosure is not present within Area 2, which is only 16m south of Area 1, indicating that it turns back towards the west-southwest.
- 9.2.8 A pair of parallel ditches run southeast from the top of the enclosure to the southern end of Area 1 and continuing into Area 2, before terminating 1.2m from a further northeast to southwest aligned possible medieval ditch, and likely form part of an additional medieval

enclosure system, which was supplemented or replaced by the large enclosure. Several other linear ditches within Areas 2 and 3 share a similar alignment with this enclosure system and likely form partially surviving elements of a larger medieval field system.

- 9.2.9 In the southern half of Area 2, a substantial curvilinear ditch was recorded on a different alignment to the features to the north (**6319**). The ditch is reliably dated to the medieval period and may form a small enclosure within in the middle of Area 2, although the feature is truncated by an identified service which limited its identification. It appeared to continue into Area 3 to the south (**6332**) before being disturbed by spread of waste material (**6336**).
- 9.2.10 As mentioned above the evidence of metalworking within the site is predominantly medieval in date.

Other

- 9.2.11 Limited evidence of Romano-British occupation was recorded during the excavation, comprising of two reliably dated pits near the southern boundary of Area 1 and a possible ditch in the northeast corner of Area 2. The two pits are located less than 8m apart but are otherwise isolated from neighbouring features, with one containing charcoal and slag suggestive of being a waste pit for ironworking. The ditch in Area 2 contained a single sherd of mortarium and is more likely to be associated with the possibly medieval field system that cuts across it.
- 9.2.12 A possible trackway was recorded running through the centre of Area 3 on a northwest to southeast alignment. The trackway did not contain any dating evidence, and had no clear purpose. However the alignment was similar to three other ditches within Area 3 and a smaller possible trackway and boundary ditch in Area 2. Of the similarly aligned features three are tentatively dated to the medieval period, and it feasible that all of these features are part of a medieval land management system.
- 9.2.13 A number of other undated discrete features and ditches were recorded within the excavation areas. The discrete features did not demonstrate any clear pattern while the linear features likely represent field boundaries and drainage features.

10 STORAGE AND CURATION

10.1 Museum

- 10.1.1 The archive resulting from the evaluation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Meopham and Salisbury. In the absence of any museum in the area actively collecting archaeological archives, no final repository for the project archive has yet been identified. The archive will continue to be stored at the offices of Wessex Archaeology until such time as the situation is resolved.
- 10.1.2 Deposition of any finds with a museum will only be carried out with the full written agreement of the landowner to transfer title of all finds to the museum.

10.2 Preparation of the archive

Physical

- 10.2.1 The physical archive, which includes paper records, graphics and artefacts, will be prepared following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014c; Brown 2011).
- 10.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the site code (237340), and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:

- 8 boxes of artefacts, ordered by material type
- 1 file paper records

10.2.3 It is likely that the quantity of artefacts will reduce significantly following implementation of the proposed selection strategy (see below).

Digital archive

10.2.4 The digital archive generated by the project, which comprises born-digital data (eg site records, survey data, databases and spreadsheets, photographs and reports), will be deposited with a Trusted Digital Repository, in this instance 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.

10.3 Selection policy

10.3.1 It is widely accepted that not all the records and materials (artefacts and ecofacts) collected or created during the course of an archaeological project require preservation in perpetuity. These records and materials will be subject to selection in order to establish what will be retained for long-term curation, with the aim of ensuring that all elements selected to be retained are appropriate to establish the significance of the project and support future research, outreach, engagement, display and learning activities, ie the retained archive should fulfil the requirements of both future researchers and the receiving Museum.

10.3.2 The selection strategy, which details the project-specific selection process, is underpinned by national guidelines on selection and retention (Brown 2011, section 4) and generic selection policies (SMA 1993; WA's internal selection policy) and follows ClfA's 'Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives'. It should be agreed by all stakeholders (Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists, external specialists, local authority, museum) and fully documented in the project archive.

10.3.3 In this instance, given the relatively low level of finds recovery, the selection process has been deferred until after the fieldwork stage was completed. Project-specific proposals for selection are presented below. These proposals are based on recommendations by Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists and will be updated in line with any further comment by other stakeholders (museum, local authority). The selection strategy will be fully documented in the project archive.

10.3.4 Any material not selected for retention may be used for teaching or reference collections by Wessex Archaeology.

Finds

- *Pottery (358 sherds)*: a small assemblage, mostly medieval. Some limited archaeological significance, and future research potential beyond the immediate remit of the current project. Recommend retaining all, with the exception of the post-medieval/modern material.
- *Fired Clay (46 fragments)*: small assemblage, undiagnostic and probably of structural origin. Little or no archaeological significance and no further research potential; retain none.



- *Worked Flint (7 pieces)*: small assemblage, probably all redeposited, no diagnostic tools. Little or no archaeological significance, and no further research potential. Retain none.
- *Stone (8 fragments)*: of uncertain identification and insecurely dated. Little or no archaeological significance, and no further research potential. Retain none.
- *Slag (47.146 kg)*: moderate assemblage of medieval date. Limited archaeological significance and limited further research potential. Recommend keeping a small, representative sample of material for future researchers.
- *Metalwork (1 object)*: one object of uncertain date and function. No archaeological significance, and no further research potential. Retain none.

Documentary records

- 10.3.5 Paper records comprise site registers (other pro-forma site records are digital), drawings and reports (Written Scheme of Investigation, client report). All will be retained and deposited with the project archive.

Digital data

- 10.3.6 The digital data comprise site records (tablet-recorded on site) in spreadsheet format; finds records in spreadsheet format; survey data; photographs; reports. All will be deposited, although site photographs will be subject to selection to eliminate poor quality and duplicated images, and any others not considered directly relevant to the archaeology of the site.

10.4 Security copy

- 10.4.1 In line with current best practice (eg, 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.

10.5 OASIS

- 10.5.1 An OASIS (online access to the index of archaeological investigations) record (<http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main>) has been initiated, with key fields completed (Appendix 4). A .pdf version of the final report will be submitted following approval by the County Archaeologist on behalf of the LPA. 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 (ADS) ArchSearch catalogue.

11 COPYRIGHT

11.1 Archive and report copyright

- 11.1.1 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.

- 11.1.2 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.

11.2 Third party data copyright

- 11.2.1 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 Finds Tables

Table 4 All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)

Description	Context	Fired Clay	Pottery	Slag	Other Finds
Subsoil 6002	6002		3/8		
Posthole 6006	6007		3/3		
Pit 6038	6039			1/65	
Posthole 6058	6059		1/7		
Ditch 6088	6089	3/21	1/1	29/523	1 flint
Pit 6127	6128	1/18			
Pit 6142	6144	3/152	28/246	30/1126	
Pit 6167	6168		7/233		
Pit 6173	6174		1/1	2/176	
Ditch 6183	6188			1/374	
Ditch 6211	6212	1/6		1/26	1 iron
Pit 6219	6220		13/39		
Pit 6233	6235			20/27	8 stone
Pit 6272	6273		1/2		
Pit 6276	6279	21/77		14/167	
Ditch 6280	6281		1/36		
Ditch 6293	6294		2/20		
Pit 6299	6300	1/56	13/63	1/35	
Ditch 6304	6170		46/202		
Ditch 6305	6222	7/14	1/11		
Ditch 6308	6303	1/35	1/10		
Ditch 6309	6054		7/36		
	6050		2/22		
Ditch 6312	6012	1/8		6/465	
Ditch 6313	6029		2/7		
	6255				3 flint
Ditch 6315	6283		1/4		
	6285		1/28		
Ditch 6317	6014	1/7			
Ditch 6319	6023		11/98		
	6113			2/522	
Ditch 6320	6093		16/102		
	6109		3/5		
	6126	4/98	161/1853	26/3667	
Ditch 6321	6105		3/23		
Ditch 6322	6072			3/172	
	6135			1/93	
Ditch 6324	6159		1/11	7/102	1 flint
	6200	1/2	5/28		
	6202			4/333	



Description	Context	Fired Clay	Pottery	Slag	Other Finds
Ditch 6325	6077			2/10	
	6193			12/667	
	6194			17/2144	
Ditch 6326	6048				1 flint
Ditch 6327	6139			15/201	
	6191		1/12	1/47	
Ditch 6328	6210			2/359	
Ditch 6330	6083			2/250	
Ditch 6332	6085		4/2		
Ditch 6333	6214		1/4	1/19	
	6230		1/38	2/30	
Ditch 6335	6069		3/13	11/612	
Spread 6336	6091	1/6	8/106	143/16402	
	6247		5/15	19/2140	
Pit 6337	6131			743/16392	1 flint
Total		46/500	358/3289	1118/47146	

Table 5 Pottery by context (MNV = maximum number of vessels)

Context	Period	Ware	Fabric Code	Sherd Count	Wt (g)	MNV	Comment
6002	MOD	Refined whiteware		3	8	1	saucer rim
6007	EMED	NW Kent Sandy + Shell-Tempered ware	EM36	3	3	1	tiny body sherds
6023	MED	NW Kent sandy ware (mainly reduced)	M38A	2	13	1	jug rim
6023	EMED	NW Kent Sandy + Shell-Tempered ware	EM36	3	68	2	jar rims (developed)
6023	EMED	NW Kent Sandy + Shell-Tempered ware	EM36	6	17	3	body & base sherds
6029	MED	NW Kent sandy ware (mainly reduced)	M38A	2	7	1	body sherds
6050	IA	Grog-tempered ware		2	22	1	body sherds
6054	MED	NW Kent sandy ware (mainly reduced)	M38A	7	36	1	externally expanded rim (undeveloped), jar/bowl
6059	EMED	NW Kent Sandy + Shell-Tempered ware	EM36	1	7	1	jar rim (developed)
6069	MED	NW Kent sandy ware (mainly reduced)	M38A	3	13	3	body sherds
6085	MED	NW Kent sandy ware (mainly reduced)	M38A	4	2	1	tiny body sherds, oxidised surfaces; not all conjoining
6089	EMED	NW Kent Sandy + Shell-Tempered ware	EM36	1	1	1	small body sherd
6091	MED	NW Kent sandy ware (mainly reduced)	M38A	1	43	1	chunky handle (or poss foot) with 'mortise' projection at one end; longitudinal applied thumbed strip
6091	MOD	Pearlware		1	1	1	small body sherd



Context	Period	Ware	Fabric Code	Sherd Count	Wt (g)	MNV	Comment
6091	EMED	NW Kent Sandy + Shell-Tempered ware	EM36	1	29	1	jar rim (developed)
6091	EMED	NW Kent Sandy + Shell-Tempered ware	EM36	2	18	2	body sherds
6091	MED	NW Kent Sandy + Shell-Tempered ware	M38A	3	15	2	body sherds
6093	MED	NW Kent sandy ware (mainly reduced)	M38A	1	32	1	jug rim
6093	MED	NW Kent sandy ware (mainly reduced)	M38A	2	5	2	body sherds
6093	EMED	NW Kent Sandy + Shell-Tempered ware	EM36	1	14	1	jar rim (developed)
6093	EMED	NW Kent Sandy + Shell-Tempered ware	EM36	12	51	9	body & base sherds
6105	EMED	NW Kent Sandy + Shell-Tempered ware	EM36	1	21	1	base sherd
6105	MED	NW Kent sandy ware (mainly reduced)	M38	1	1	1	small body sherd
6105	RB	Oxidised ware		1	1	1	small body sherd; fine sandy fabric, oxidised surfaces
6109	EMED	NW Kent Sandy + Shell-Tempered ware	EM36	3	5	2	body sherds
6126	EMED	NW Kent Sandy + Shell-Tempered ware	EM36	141	1598	138	body, base & rim sherds (prob more conjoining); 17 rims, all developed (8 jars, 3 bowls, 6 indeterminate)
6126	MED	NW Kent sandy ware (mainly reduced)	M38A	20	255	19	body & base sherds; 1 with applied thumbled strip
6144	EMED	NW Kent Sandy + Shell-Tempered ware	EM36	3	61	2	jar rims (developed)
6144	EMED	NW Kent Sandy + Shell-Tempered ware	EM36	25	185	24	body & base sherds; 1 applied thumbled strip
6159	MED	NW Kent sandy ware (mainly reduced)	M38A	1	11	1	base sherd
6168	IA	Flint-tempered ware		7	233	1	small rounded bowl with everted rim & slight pedestal base (profile)
6170	IA	Grog-tempered ware		46	202	1	abraded body & base sherds; prob all from single vessel
6174	MED	NW Kent sandy ware (mainly reduced)	M38A	1	1	1	body sherd (just might be RB)
6191	EMED	NW Kent Sandy + Shell-Tempered ware	EM36	1	12	1	body sherd
6200	EMED	NW Kent Sandy + Shell-Tempered ware	EM36	4	17	4	body sherds
6200	MED	NW Kent sandy ware (mainly reduced)	M38A	1	11	1	bowl rim (developed)
6214	EMED	NW Kent Sandy + Shell-Tempered ware	EM36	1	4	1	body sherd



Context	Period	Ware	Fabric Code	Sherd Count	Wt (g)	MNV	Comment
6220	RB	Whiteware		13	39	1	body sherds, not all conjoining but almost certainly from 1 vessel; slight greenish tinge to fabric (import?)
6222	IA	Grog-tempered ware		1	11	1	body sherd
6230	MED	NW Kent sandy ware (mainly reduced)	M38A	1	38	1	jug rim + strap handle stump (handle slashed)
6247	RB	Greyware		3	4	1	white-slipped body sherds
6247	EMED	NW Kent Sandy + Shell-Tempered ware	EM36	2	11	1	jar/bowl rim (developed)
6273	IA	Grog-tempered ware		1	2	1	v abraded body sherd
6281	RB	Whiteware		1	36	1	mortarium flange; sandy fabric; abraded
6283	EMED	NW Kent Sandy + Shell-Tempered ware	EM36	1	4	1	body sherd
6285	EMED	NW Kent Sandy + Shell-Tempered ware	EM36	1	28	1	jar rim (developed)
6294	IA	Grog-tempered ware		2	20	1	base sherds
6300	RB	Sandy ware		13	63	1	body & rim sherds (everted rim); not all conjoining but almost certainly from 1 vessel
6303	IA	Grog-tempered ware		1	10	1	base sherd



Appendix 2 Environmental Data

Table 6 Assessment of the environmental evidence

Phase	Feature Type	Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Sub-sample	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Analyses	Comments (Preservation: fragmentation and erosion)
Roman	Pit	6299	6300	10	34	350	25% <4mm residue	20%, A, E, F	-	-	-	-	-	140	Mature, some iron coating	Slag/in d waste (C)	C	-
Medieval C12/EC13	Ditch	6088	6089	3	29	60	25% <4mm residue	80%, A, E, F	-	-	-	C	Poaceae (Lolium/Festuca), Asteraceae	20	Mature, some iron coating	-		Poor, some iron coating
Medieval C12/EC13	Pit	6142	6144	7	35	500	25% <4mm residue	20%, C, E	-	-	-	B	Poaceae (Lolium/Festuca, Avena/Bromus)	240	Mature + roundwood, some iron coating	-	C	Poor, some iron coating
Medieval C12/EC13	Posthole	6058	6059	1	2	20	-	90%, C, E	-	-	-	-	-	1	Mature, some iron coating	-		-
Medieval LC12/EC13	Spread ?	6090	6091	4	26	60	25% <4mm residue	90%, A, E, F	-	-	-	C	Poaceae (cf. Lolium/Festuca)	10	Mature, some iron coating	-		Poor, some iron coating
-	Pit	6062	6063	2	1	25	-	10%, C, E	-	-	-	-	-	16	Mature, some iron coating	-		-
-	Pit	6129	6131	6	30	100	25% <4mm residue	80%, A, E, F	-	-	-	-	-	5	Mature, some iron coating	-		-
-	Pit	6233	6235	8	34	100	25% <4mm residue	80%, A, E, F	-	-	-	-	-	3	Mature, some iron coating	Slag/in d waste (A*)		-
-	Pit	6276	6279	9	34	175	50% <4mm residue	80%, C, E, I, F	-	-	-	-	-	25	Mature, some iron coating	-		-



Phase	Feature Type	Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (l)	Flo t (ml)	Sub-sample	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Analyses	Comments (Preservation: fragmentation and erosion)
-	Post hole	6114	6115	5	5	30	-	40%, C, F	-	-	-	-	-	13	Mature, some iron coating	-		-



Appendix 3 KHER Form

Site Name: Land at Church Farm, Paddock Wood, Kent	
Site Address: Church Farm, Paddock Wood, Kent TN12 6NJ	
Summary of discoveries: Waste pits & material spreads, field systems, isolated pits, roundhouses	
District/Unitary: Tunbridge Wells	Parish: Paddock Wood
Period(s): Iron Age, Romano-British, Medieval	
NGR (centre of site to nearest 1m): 567796 144902 (NB if large or linear site give multiple NGRs)	
Type of archaeological work (delete) Strip, Map and Sample Excavation	
Date of fieldwork (dd/mm/yy) From: 28/09/2020 To: 29/10/2020	
Unit/contractor undertaking recording: Wessex Archaeology	
Geology: Weald Clay Formation mudstone; sedimentary bedrock formed 125-134 million years ago in the cretaceous period. The north western part of the site has a superficial deposit of River Terrace Gravels formed 3 million years ago (BGS online viewer)	
Title and author of accompanying report: Title: Land at Church Farm, Paddock Wood, Kent. Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample Excavation Report Authors: Jon Sanigar, Andrew Souter	
Summary of fieldwork results (begin with earliest period first, add NGRs where appropriate) The excavation has revealed extensive archaeological remains within the three main areas, comprising 39 ditches and gullies, 21 pits and postholes and a spread of waste material. Datable material was relatively limited, with only 10 of the features reliably dated, and a further 14 tentatively dated. The phased features dated from the Iron Age to the medieval period, with the majority dating to the medieval period. The predominance of the features appear to be land management and organisation in origin, with the notable exception of a series of curvilinear gullies in Area 1 which may represent prehistoric roundhouses. Sporadic evidence of iron working was recorded throughout the site, with a predominance of physical evidence in Area 3 where almost 30kg of slag was recovered from two large waste deposits.	
Location of archive/finds: Wessex Archaeology, Meopham Office	
Contact at Unit: Nina Olofsson	Date: 01/12/2020



Appendix 4 OASIS record

OASIS ID: wessexar1-420962

Project details

Project name	Land at Church Farm, Paddock Wood
Short description of the project	Archaeological excavation undertaken by Wessex Archaeology on land at Church Farm, Paddock Wood in advance of residential development. Extensive archaeological remains recorded within the three main areas, comprising a total of 39 ditches and gullies, 21 pits and postholes and a spread of waste material ranging from the Iron Age to medieval periods based on relatively limited dating evidence. The majority of these features are dated either solidly or tentatively to the medieval period and are associated with land management and organisation, with the notable exception of a series of possible roundhouse gullies in Area 1 and sporadic ironworking evidence throughout the site.
Project dates	Start: 28-09-2020 End: 29-10-2020
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	239410 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	14/504140/HYBRID - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Monument type	WASTE PIT Uncertain
Monument type	WASTE PIT Medieval
Monument type	PIT Roman
Monument type	PIT Iron Age
Monument type	PIT Uncertain
Monument type	PIT Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Monument type	DITCH Iron Age
Monument type	GULLY Iron Age
Monument type	SPREAD Medieval
Significant Finds	FIRED CLAY Uncertain
Significant Finds	WORKED FLINT Uncertain
Significant Finds	IRON Uncertain
Significant Finds	SLAG Uncertain
Significant Finds	STONE Uncertain



Significant Finds	POTTERY Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Uncertain
Investigation type	"Open-area excavation"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	KENT TUNBRIDGE WELLS PADDOCK WOOD Land at Church Farm, Paddock Wood
Postcode	TN12 6NJ
Study area	22.5 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 67788 44958 51.178640343701 0.400790560172 51 10 43 N 000 24 02 E Point
Site coordinates	TQ 67792 44904 51.178153972597 0.40082252491 51 10 41 N 000 24 02 E Point
Site coordinates	TQ 67756 44849 51.177670392627 0.400282233184 51 10 39 N 000 24 01 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	RPS Consultancy Services
Project design originator	RPS Consulting Services
Project director/manager	Nina Olofsson
Project supervisor	Emilia Seredynska
Type of sponsor/funding body	Consultancy
Name of sponsor/funding body	RPS Consulting Services

Project archives

Physical Archive ID	239410
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Industrial","Metal","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive ID	239410
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive ID	239410



Paper Media available "Context sheet","Diary","Drawing","Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Land at Church Farm, Paddock Wood, Kent: Archaeological Excavation Report

Author(s)/Editor(s) Sanigar, J

Author(s)/Editor(s) Souter, A

Other bibliographic details 239410.3

Date 2021

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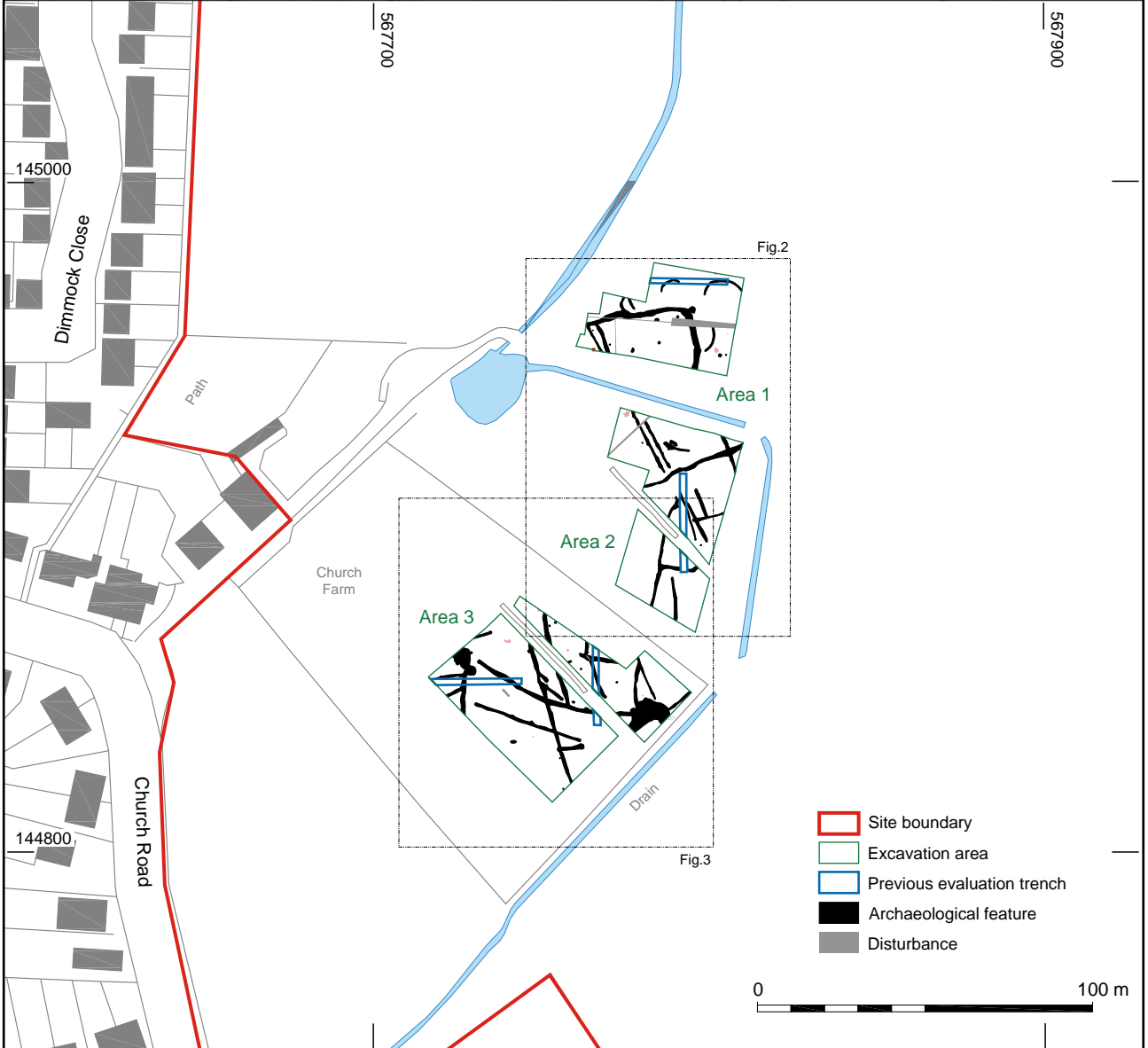
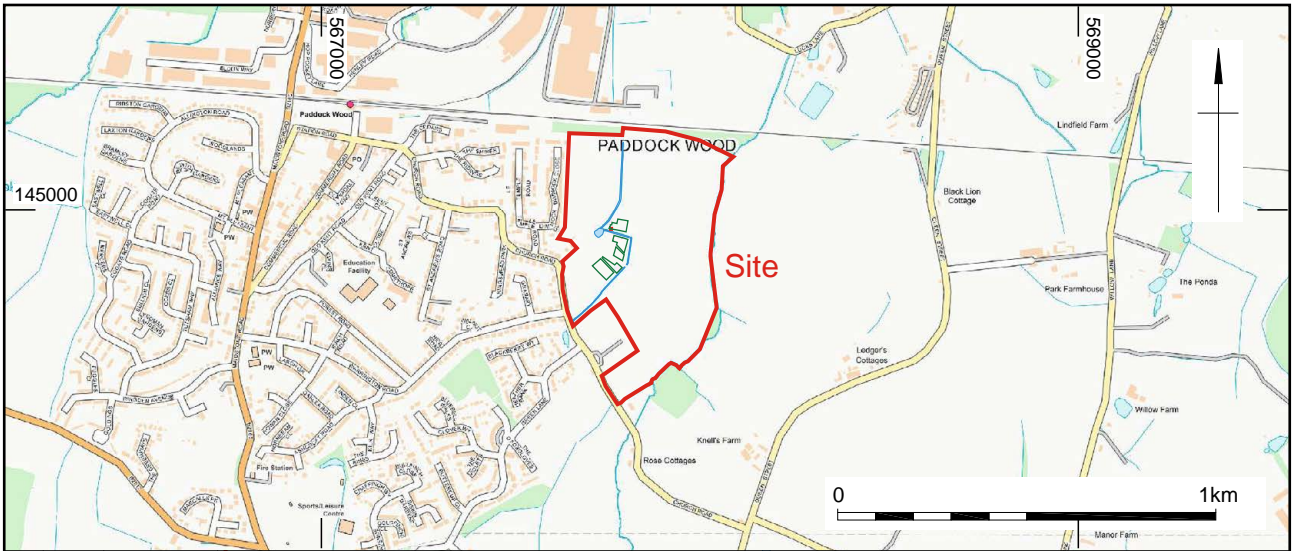


Land at Church Farm Paddock Wood, Kent


Archaeological Excavation Report



Planning Ref:
TW/14/504140/HYBRID
Report Ref: 239410.3
June 2021

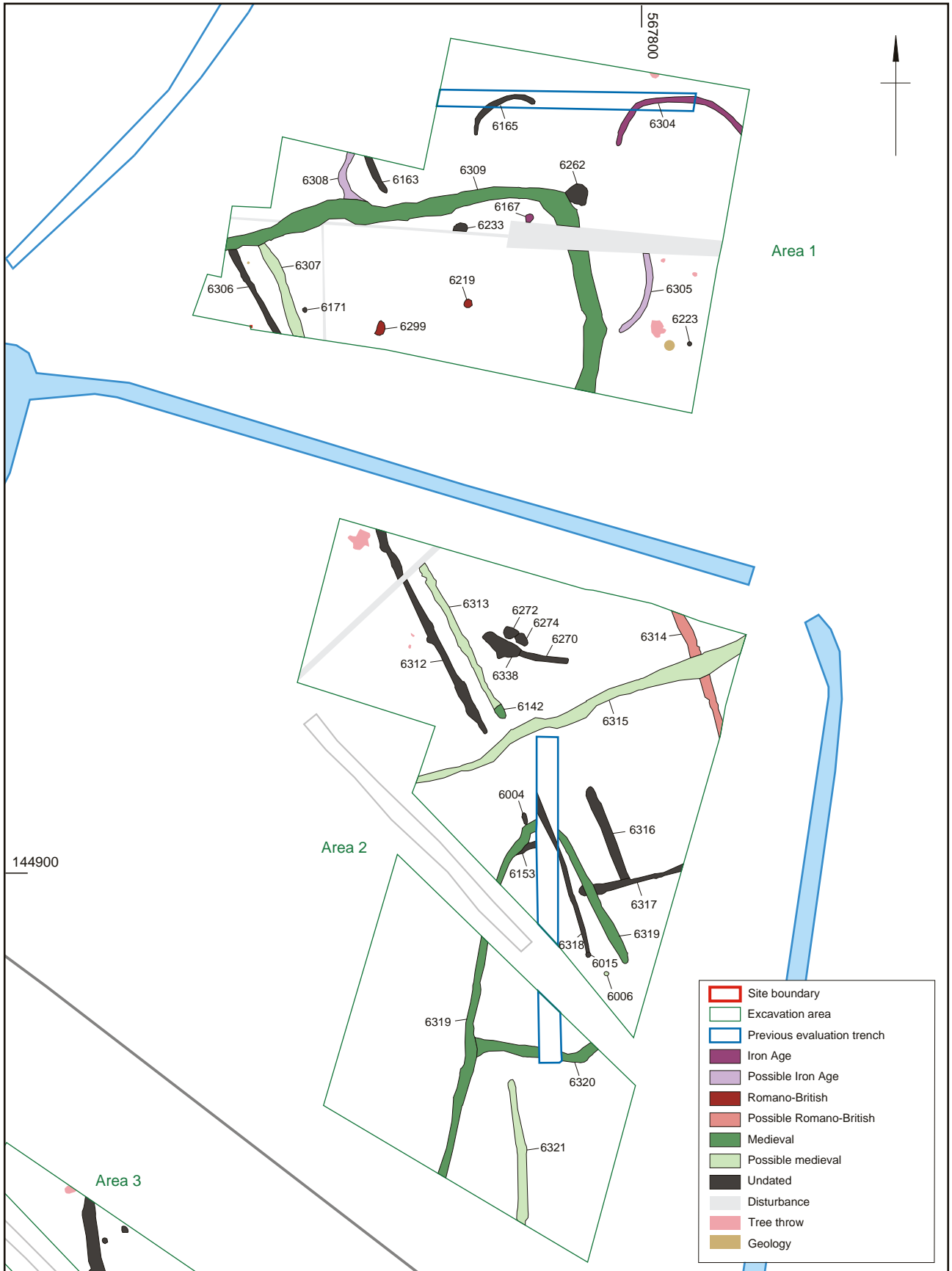




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Site location plan

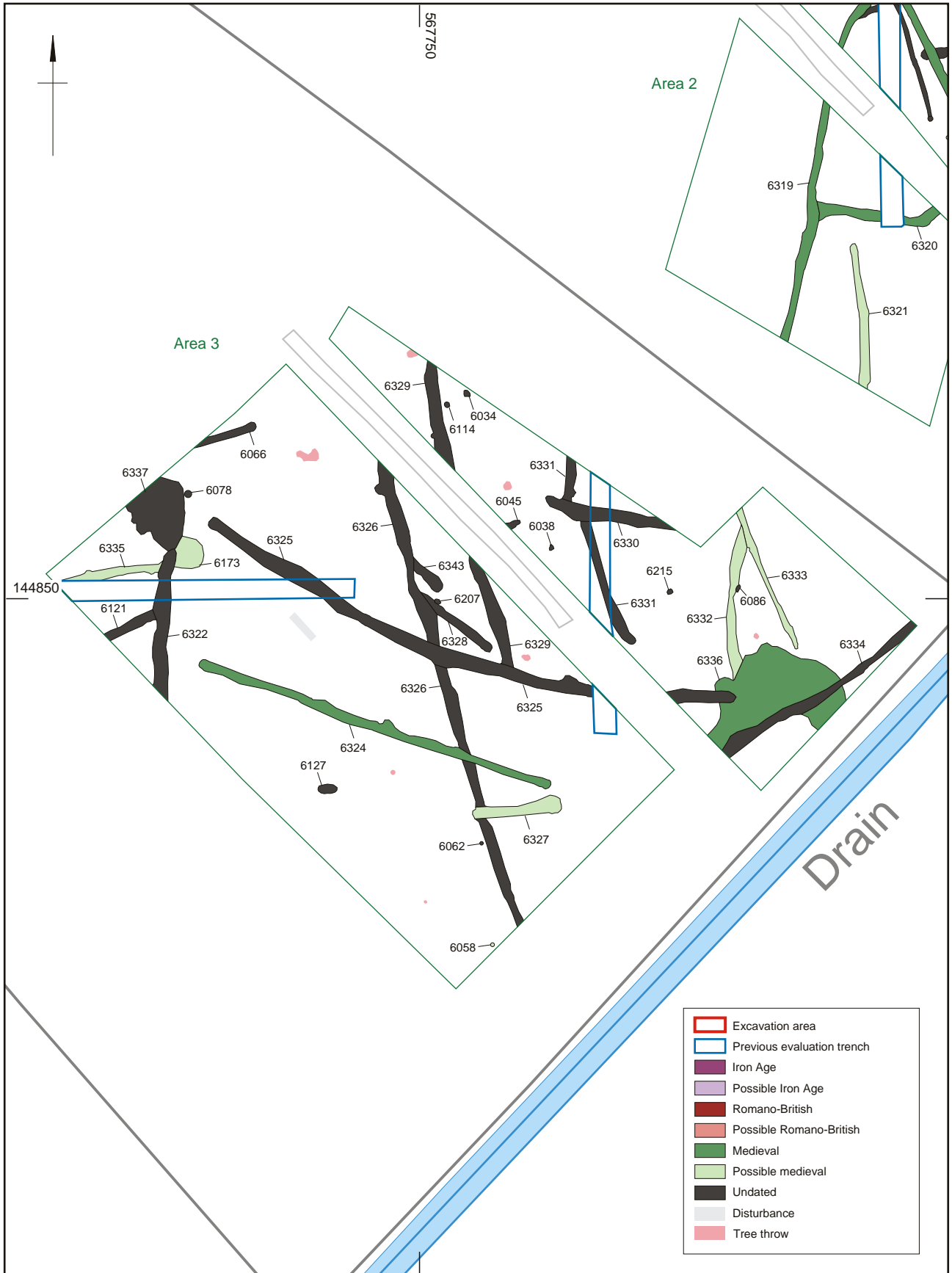
Figure 1



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Archaeological Results: Areas 1 and 2

Figure 2



- Excavation area
- Previous evaluation trench
- Iron Age
- Possible Iron Age
- Romano-British
- Possible Romano-British
- Medieval
- Possible medieval
- Undated
- Disturbance
- Tree throw



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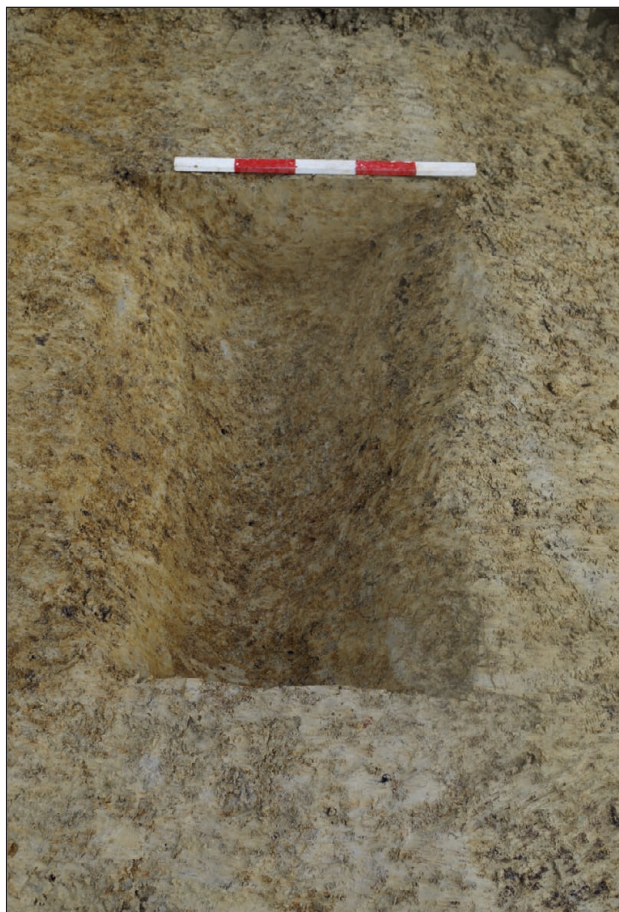


Plate 1: Area 1: Ditch 6308, viewed from the south-southwest (0.5m scale)

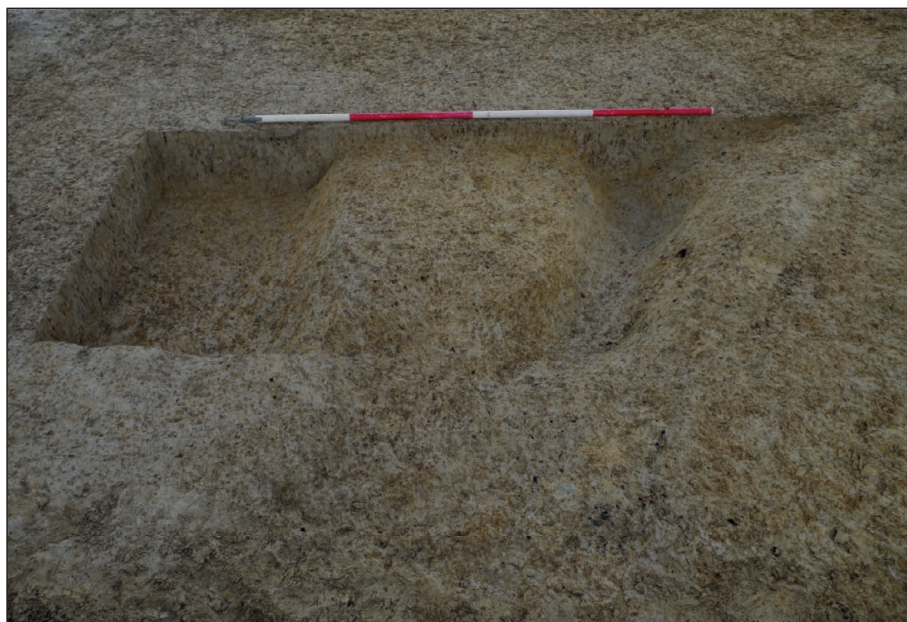


Plate 2: Area 1: Pit 6262 and Ditch 6309, viewed from the south-southeast (2m scale)


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Plate 3: Area 1: Pit 6233, viewed from the north-northeast (1m scale)



Plate 4: Area 2: Pit 6142, viewed from the northeast (1m scale)


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Plate 5: Area 2: Ditches 6128 and 6319, viewed from the northeast (1m scale)

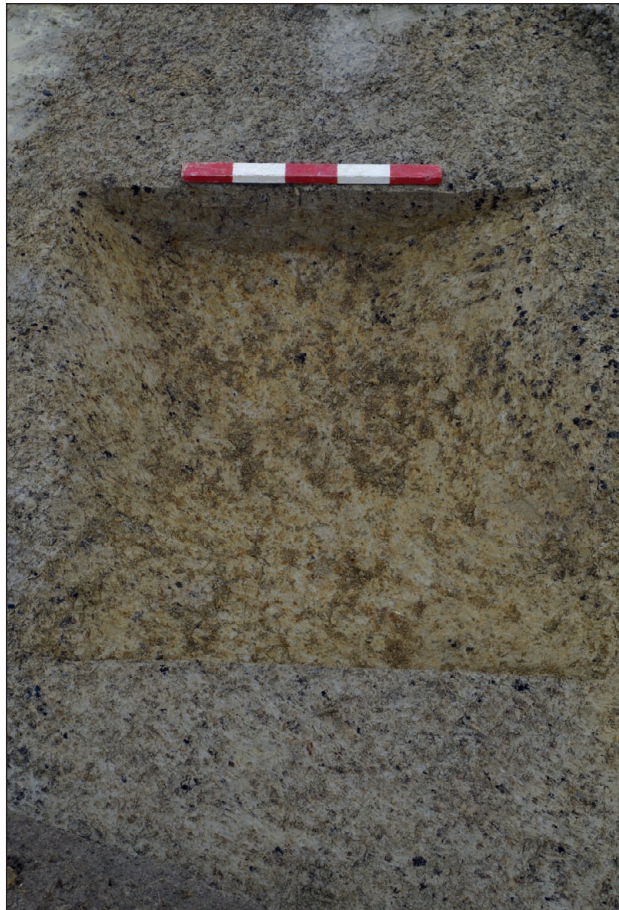



Plate 6: Area 2: Ditch 6321, viewed from the south (0.5m scale)

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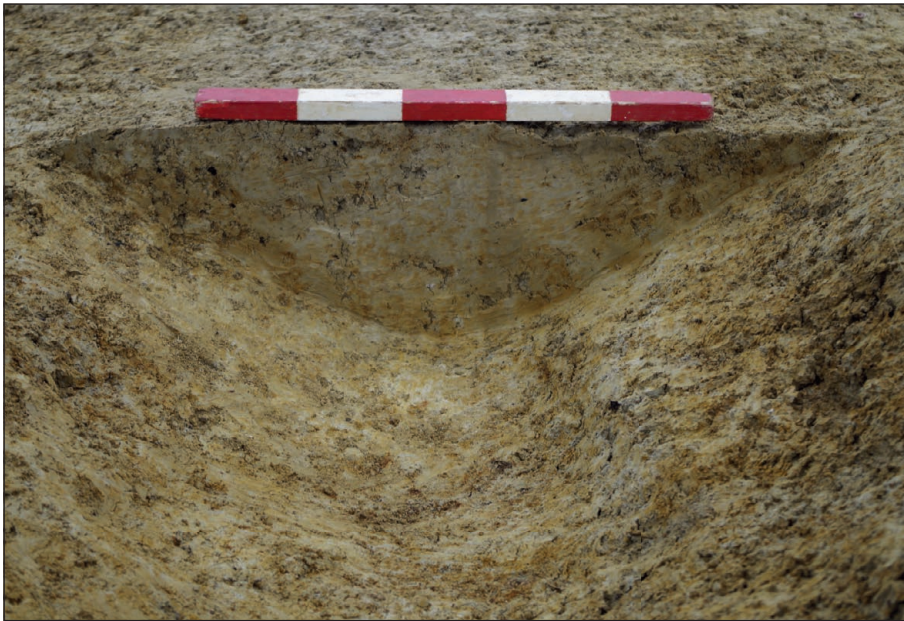



Plate 7: Area 2: Ditch 6312, viewed from the northwest (0.5m scale)



Plate 8: Area 2: Ditch terminus 6316, viewed from the northwest (1m scale)

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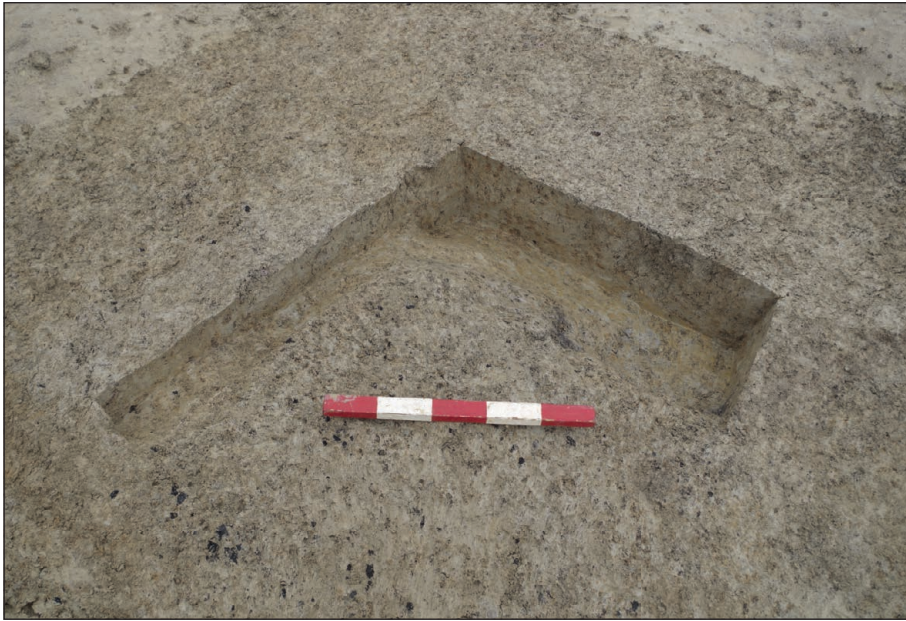


Plate 9: Area 2: Ditches 6316 and 6317, viewed from the northeast (0.5m scale)



Plate 10: Area 2: Ditch 6270, pits 6272 and 6272 and waste pit 6338, viewed from the northeast (2m scale)



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Plate 11: Area 2: Ditch 6270, pits 6272 and 6272 and waste pit 6338, viewed from the southeast (2m scale)



Plate 12: Area 1: Pit 6262 and Ditch 6309, viewed from the south-southeast (2m scale)

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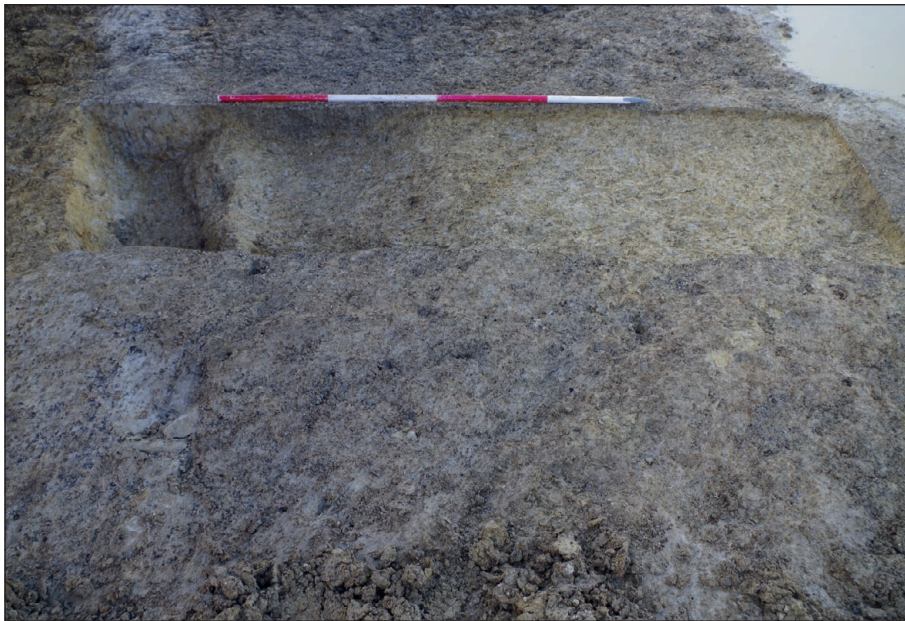


Plate 13: Area 3: Ditches 6242 and 6334 and spread 6336, viewed from the east-northeast (2m scale)



Plate 14: Area 3: Ditch 6335, viewed from the east-northeast (0.5m scale)


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Plate 15: Area 3: Ditch 6034, viewed from the northeast (0.5m scale)



Plate 16: Area 3: Ditch terminus 6066, viewed from the northeast (0.5m scale)


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Plate 17: Area 3: Ditches 6326 and 6328 and posthole 6207, viewed from the north (0.5m scale)

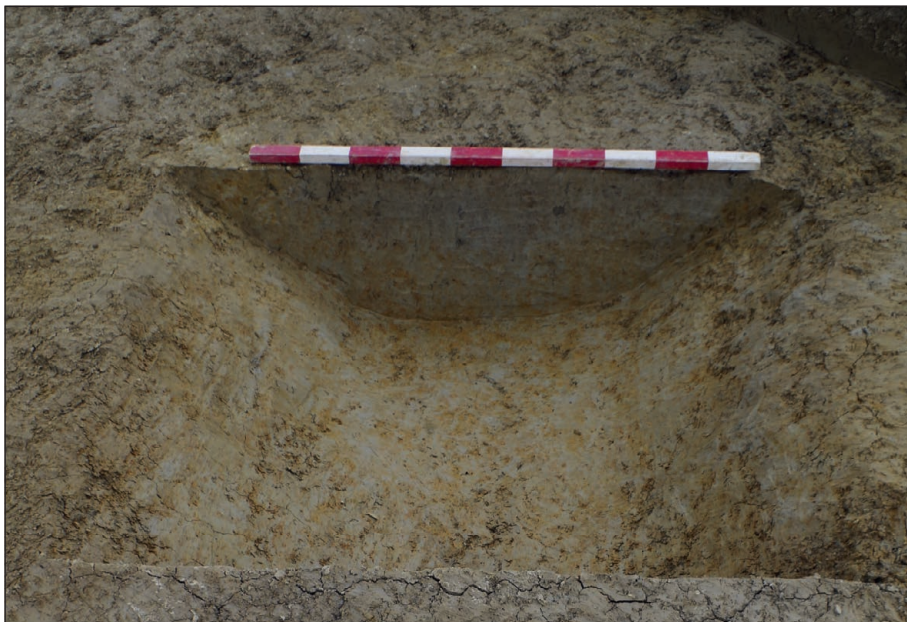


Plate 18: Area 3: Ditch 6322, viewed from the north (1m scale)



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Plate 19: Area 3: Ditches 6325 and 6329, viewed from the northwest (1m scale)



Plate 20: Area 3: Pit 6337, viewed from the east (1m scale)

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