Appendix 10 Archaeological Evaluation: Areas 15 and 16, Land north east of Milton Keynes (July 2021)

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Areas 15 & 16, land north-east of Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire

Site Code: EMK1449

25141
July 2021

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CONTENTS

ABSTRACT

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was commissioned by RPS Group Ltd to undertake a program of archaeological evaluation in Areas 15 and 16 on Land North-East of Milton Keynes (centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (NGR) SP 89092 41858) from the 4th of May 2021 to 14th of May 2021. The area has been allocated for comprehensive development in the emerging Milton Keynes Local Plan.

The evaluation confirmed the presence of the features shown on the geophysical survey which had revealed a settlement with what appears to be a regular layout. The clarity of the geophysical survey results allowed for targeted trenching to be undertaken.

The settlement was represented by a series of enclosure and boundary ditches, trackways, pits and postholes including waterholes, a cremation and a special 'placed' deposit with an inverted vessel. The settlement dated to the Late Iron Age which, based on the evaluation results, went out of use shortly after the Roman Conquest.

No features dated to earlier or later phases or periods were encountered during the evaluation.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) was commissioned by RPS Group Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation at Areas 15 and 16 on Land North-East of Milton Keynes (centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (NGR) SP 89092 41858) from the 4th of May 2021 to 14th of May 2021 (Figure 1).

1.2 The area including the site has been allocated for comprehensive development in the emerging Milton Keynes Local Plan.

1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by PCA (Meckseper 2021). The work was monitored by Nick Crank, Senior Archaeological Officer, Conservation and Archaeology Team, Milton Keynes Council.

1.4 The aim of the evaluation was to determine the location, date, extent, character, condition and quality of any archaeological remains on the site, to assess the significance of any such remains in a local, regional, or national context with reference to the Solent-Thames Research Framework for the Historic Environment (2014), and to assess the potential impact of the development proposals on the site's archaeology.

1.5 A total of eleven 30m x 2m evaluation trenches totalling 330 linear meters of trenches were excavated and recorded (Figure 3).

1.6 This report describes the results of the evaluation and aims to inform the design of an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy. Following Transfer of Title, the site archive will be deposited at Milton Keynes Museum.

2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

2.1 Geology

2.2 The British Geological Survey (BGS Online 2020) indicates that the solid geology of the site generally comprises Mudstone formations, with a mix of Sandstone, Siltstone and Mudstone on the far west of the study site.

2.3 Alluvial deposits are located within the immediate vicinity of the River Ouzel in the western half of the site, whilst gravel terraces and head deposits associated with the river valley are recorded either side of the river. Previous site investigation boreholes recorded by the British Geological Survey are concentrated across the western half of the study site, and generally confirm the underlying geology of the alluvial floodplain.

2.4 Further deposits of Oadby Member (Diamicton) and small pockets of glaciofluvial deposits are recorded across much of the eastern half of the study site.

2.5 Topography

2.6 The wider development area is located over multiple fields between Milton Keynes, to the west and the village of Moulsoe, to the east. The principal thoroughfares in the vicinity of the site are the A509 and the M1. The area currently comprises various arable fields, as well as some areas of grassland, adjacent to the River Ouzel which flows along the western boundary of the site area (Figure 1).

2.7 The River Ouzel meanders north-south through the site, creating a river valley within the western half of the site.

2.8 The river and its floodplain lie at approximately 57m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD). Land to the west of the floodplain rises gently to c.65m AOD at the far western corner, whilst the topography of the eastern half of the site generally comprises land sloping down towards the river valley, and away from an area of high ground at Moulsoe immediately to the east, and a further area of high ground at the north east corner of the study site. These areas of high ground

are generally situated at a height of c.80-90m AOD.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 The following archaeological background is taken from the Archaeological Desk Based Assessment (Archer 2018) and the Written Scheme of Investigation (Meckseper 2021) for the site. Numbers in brackets refer to CHER asset numbers.

3.2 No designated World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Historic Battlefield sites or Historic Wreck sites lie within the vicinity of the study site.

3.3 In general, the HER records within the study area comprise evidence for a diverse archaeological landscape, comprising artefactual evidence for the prehistoric periods, and occupation activity from the later prehistoric periods through to the present day.

3.4 Previous archaeological work undertaken within the study site comprises programmes of Fieldwalking and Metal Detecting, geophysical survey (see below), evaluation trial trenching and some areas of excavation as part of schemes to widen the M1 motorway in the 1990s. These works have identified Neolithic/Bronze Age artefactual evidence, and possible Iron Age/Roman occupation and Medieval ridge and furrow activity in the far western area of the study site.

3.5 The map regression exercise has demonstrated that the study site has generally comprised open agricultural or pastoral land from the Post Medieval period until the present day, with only minor instances of agricultural development and brickearth extraction activity.

3.6 Recent Geophysical Survey

3.6.1 Sumo Geophysics Ltd were commissioned by RPS group to undertake a geophysical survey of an area outline for comprehensive development (RPS 2020). The geophysical survey has produced some remarkably clear results.

3.6.2 The geophysical survey identified several archaeological sites, some of which were previously unknown including two prehistoric occupation sites, an extensive Romano-British/Medieval settlement and an earthwork enclosure

(RPS 2020).

3.6.3 The proposed fieldwalking and metal detecting cover Areas 7, 8, 11, 13, 14B, 15, 16, 22 and 25 (see Fig 2 & RPS 2020 Fig 24). The results from these areas are summarised below.

3.6.4 **Area 7**. Overlooking the river Ouzel this area displays clear anomalies interpreted as a series of ditches associated with banks which form a multivallate, fortified enclosure, with the river providing the southern defences. The enclosure has maximum dimensions of 210m by 120m and there appears to be a single entrance in the south. Rectilinear anomalies inside the enclosure appear to indicate building foundation trenches. The results correspond with the location of a curvilinear cropmark enclosure recorded in the HER (MMK3823).

3.6.5 **Area 8**. A complex of archaeological features comprising ring ditches, enclosures and a probable trackway are visible. The ring ditches are presumed to be gullies associated with roundhouses. The complex extends over 400m east to west and appears to represent prehistoric settlement. The area 8 settlement activity extends into areas 9 and 11.

3.6.6 **Area 11**. A small rectangular area of slightly increase magnetic response visible on aerial imagery might could be associated with the brickworks further south. A possible windmill in existence in the 19th century may be represented by Anomaly 17. In the central and eastern half of Area 11 there are several poorly defined rings, arcs and short linear responses. These features are thought to be prehistoric, representing roundhouses or possible round barrows. Several pit-like responses would tend to favour settlement rather than burial activity.

3.6.7 **Area 14B**. In the north of Area 14B there are ring-shaped anomalies, arcs and trends which form a small focus of features like those in Area 8 and 11. In the south east extremity of Area 14B and extending in Area 14D is a curving band of negative magnetic responses which may be indicative of a former bank, now ploughed out.

3.6.8 **Area 15, 16, 16A & Area 7 South**. In this area a plethora of archaeological type anomalies extends over an area exceeding 12 hectares. Anomalies from Area

15, 16 and 17 (south) appear to represent enclosure and trackways. Some of these are on a rectilinear and others are more curvilinear.

3.6.9 **Area 22**. A rectilinear enclosure was revealed to the east of which some 50m by 40m in size.

3.6.10 **Area 25**. The geophysics provides a very clear picture of a series of rectilinear enclosures, trackways, ring ditches, pits and ditches. These features are assumed to represent a multi-phase settlement which extends over some 5 hectares.

3.7 Palaeolithic

3.7.1 Evidence for Palaeolithic human activity within the study area comprises a finished axe head and a single flint flake found at Newport Pagnell to the north west of the study site (HER Refs: MMK3636-7, SP 88800 43200 & NMR Ref: 344978). A complete ox horn and a fragment of a further horn were found at the base of a gravel pit within the area of the Cotton Valley Sewage Works at the south west extent of the study area (HER Ref: MMK1598, SP 88400 40900).

3.7.2 The presence of Palaeolithic material can be notoriously difficult to predict and is typically dependent upon the presence of an appropriate underlying geology sequence (such as terrace gravels or brickearth), as well as suitable topography and access to nearby resources and water. Whilst the alluvial deposits likely present within the western area of the study site are considered too late in date to contain Palaeolithic material, the potential presence of residual flintwork artefacts cannot be discounted at depth within any underlying river terrace gravel deposits which may be present. Therefore, a generally low to moderate archaeological potential is identified for the Palaeolithic period within proximity to the River Ouzel, and a generally low potential is identified for the remainder of the study site.

3.8 Mesolithic

3.8.1 A largely residual Mesolithic flint scatter was recorded during excavation at a site c.250m south of the study site boundary (HER Ref: EMK990, SP 89400 40500).

3.8.2 Based on the paucity of evidence within the study area, the archaeological potential of the study site for the Mesolithic period is considered low.

3.9 Later Prehistoric - Neolithic & Bronze Age

3.9.1 The Milton Keynes HER records only limited evidence for Neolithic occupation activity within the study area, in the form of an early Neolithic pit which included a plain bowl pottery assemblage, identified c.250m south of the study site during archaeological excavation (HER Ref: EKM990, SP 89400 40500).

3.9.2 Further evidence for Neolithic activity comprises Neolithic/Bronze Age flintwork which is recorded throughout much of the study area and has generally been identified during systematic fieldwalking programmes both within the study site and the immediate area. Generally, any finds are recorded along the southern area of the study site (HER Refs: MMK503, MMK3965, MMK3977-8, MMK3980-2). Further findspots of Neolithic and Bronze Age flintwork are concentrated to the north west and south west of the study site (HER Refs: MMK475, MMK982-9, MMK1235, MMK3851).

3.9.3 Cropmark evidence for possible Bronze Age ring ditches and barrow cemeteries are recorded within the western part of the study site (HER Refs: MMK502, MMK504, MMK929-30 & NMR Ref: 345028), as well as to the west of the site (HER Ref: MMK993/NMR Ref: 345034), to the south of the M1 (HER Refs: EMK898 & MMK1120/NMR Ref: 641446, & NMR Ref: 344979), and to the east of the site (NMR Ref: 16222028).

3.9.4 The HER records further Bronze Age occupation activity to the south of the study site, including cremation burials at Cotton Valley Sewage Works to the south of the M1 (HER Refs: MMK1120-2, SP 88600 40910), and at Broughton Barn Quarry to the southeast of the study site (NMR Ref: 1330218/1393304/1354482, SP 9076 4056). A bronze socketed axe is recorded at a likely inaccurate location southwest of the study site, as the event record notes the find at Bradwell, 5km to the west (HER Ref: EKM408, SP 88248 41321).

3.9.5 Neolithic and Bronze Age evidence is generally located to the south and

western areas within the study area, whilst most of the evidence recorded within the study site comprises artefactual evidence which is not indicative of settlement or occupation activity. Therefore, whilst a generally low to moderate archaeological potential can be identified across the study site for Neolithic/Bronze Age artefactual evidence, a specific potential is identified at the western end of the study site for possible Bronze Age ring ditches.

3.9.6 A moderate potential for organic paleoenvironmental evidence dating to the later prehistoric periods within the Ouzel River Valley is appropriate.

3.10 Iron Age & Roman

3.10.1 A middle Iron Age occupation site is recorded at Tickfordfield Farm to the north of the study site, which comprised an occupation layer containing pottery fragments, bone and charcoal (HER Ref: MMK3411, SP 89480 43450 & NMR Ref: 657222). In addition, possible traces of an Iron Age building were recorded to the southeast of this, near to the study site's north east corner (HER Refs: MMK546-7, SP 90000 43100).

3.10.2 Geophysical survey along the route of the M1 widening scheme in the 1990s identified enclosure ditches and pits, possibly representing late Iron Age or Roman agricultural activity (HER Ref: MMK7915, SP 89085 41700). This record is given an inexact grid reference in the centre of the study site as the detailed location is unknown. The National Monuments Record also notes that archaeological evaluation work was undertaken along the route of the M1 motorway which identified evidence for Iron Age and Roman ditches, pits and possible occupation (NMR Ref: 1324853, SP 8815 4165 to SP 8030 4924). It seems that occupation may have been located around a site at West Caldecote to the west of the study site where a substantial number of Iron Age and Roman features have been identified (HER Ref: MMK934, SP 87448 42218). A further settlement site is recorded at Brooklands, c.400m south of the study site, which suggested a confined settlement surrounded by associated field systems (HER Ref: EMK989-90, SP 89800 40100).

3.10.3 The HER notes Iron Age/Roman features generally comprising enclosures, ditches and pits at Broughton c.500m south of the study site (HER Refs:

MMK1593-6 & EMK967, SP 89310 40270 & NMR Ref: 1343554), at the Cotton Valley Sewage Works site to the south of the M1 (HER Refs: MMK1244-7, SP 88500 40800 & NMR Ref: 344979), within the area south of M1 junction 14 (HER Ref: EMK982, SP 89283 40458), and also at Broughton Farm to the south east of the study site (NMR Ref: 1324848 & 1330218, SP 9076 4056). In addition, evidence for an Iron Age/Roman field system is recorded at London Road to the north of the study site (HER Refs: MMK7918, SP 88798 43046 & NMR Ref: 1454307). It is likely that these comprise evidence for activity associated with the settlements at Brooklands and at West Caldecote.

3.10.4 The nearest major Roman routeway to the study site as recorded by Margary (1955) is Watling Street, which passes through Milton Keynes c.6km south west of the study site. However, the smaller road known as 'Viatores 175' is projected to pass through the western end of the study site, possibly fording the River Ouzel adjacent to the study site's north west corner (NMR Ref: 868140 & HER Ref: MMK457, SP 88400 42600). Several finds comprising pottery fragments and a quern stone have been made within the immediate area of this likely fording spot, which may indicate the presence of an occupation site near to the ford, or activity associated with the settlement at West Caldecote to the west (HER Refs: MMK545-6, SP 88400 42600 & NMR Ref: 344993). Typical archaeological features associated with Roman roads can include evidence for settlement and occupation, roadside ditches and associated land division, together with quarry pits, burials and chance losses.

3.10.5 Further evidence for the Iron Age and Roman periods within the study area comprises artefactual evidence, which is not detailed here as it is generally located within areas of occupation activity or adjacent to routeways which are noted above. Fieldwalking within the study site has identified a single sherd of Roman pottery, which is recorded in the centre of the study site (HER Ref: MMK3979, SP 89300 40950 & MMK3980, SP 89400 41250), whilst further pottery sherds and a metal artefact have been found to the east at Moulsoe (HER Refs: MMK552-4, SP 90670 41760 & MMK7174, SP 90315 41953).

3.10.6 The study site would have comprised a settled agricultural landscape during the Iron Age and Roman periods, characterised by scattered farmstead settlements

surrounded by an agricultural hinterland. Known activity is concentrated generally within the vicinity of the projected road which passes through the western part of the study site and it is more likely that any Iron Age/Roman evidence will be located within the western area of the site. Therefore, a high archaeological potential can be identified within the western area of the study site associated with the Roman road and any roadside activity which may be present. A generally low to moderate potential is suggested across the remainder of the study site for evidence associated with isolated farmsteads and agricultural activity.

3.10.7 It is possible that further alluvial deposits may date to the Iron Age or Roman periods within the River Ouzel Valley, and therefore a moderate potential is suggested for organic palaeoenvironmental evidence dating to these periods within the Ouzel River Valley.

3.11 Anglo-Saxon/Early Medieval & Medieval

3.11.1 A middle 5th century sunken featured building was identified during works at Brooklands, to the south of the M1, which may be indicative of a Saxon settlement within that area (HER Ref: EMK990, SP 89400 40500). Two early Saxon pits were also recorded to the south of this at Broughton (HER Ref: EKM967, SP 89330 40250).

3.11.2 A programme of fieldwalking during the widening of the M1 identified a single sherd of Saxon pottery, at a findspot which is recorded at the southern boundary of the study site (HER Ref: MMK3979, SP 89300 40950). A further programme of fieldwalking to the north west of Caldecote in the north western extent of the study area identified c.70 sherds of Saxon pottery (HER Ref: MMK991, SP 88310 42740).

3.11.3 Gravel extraction in 1900 at the northern extent of the study area revealed a Saxon cemetery, and several associated grave goods (HER Refs: MMK474/476& MMK7720-2, SP 88770 43310 & NMR Ref: 344952)

3.11.4 Several late Saxon estates are recorded within the area of the study site by the Domesday Survey of 1086 (Domesday Online 2018). These include:

3.11.5 Tickford - located to the north of the study site, medium sized estate of 15 households, assessed for a large total tax of 5 geld units;

3.11.6 Moulsoe - located to the east of the study site, medium sized estate of 17 households, assessed for a very large total tax of 10 geld units. The HER notes the location of the manor house and the historic core of settlement at Moulsoe to the east of the study site (HER Refs: MMK159, SP 90748 41742; MMK548-51, SP 90600 41600; MMK3629, SP 90656 41746; MMK5412, SP 90582 41637 & NMR Ref: 1576671);

3.11.7 Broughton - located to the south of the study site, medium sized estate of 17 households, assessed for a large total tax of 5 geld units. The HER notes the associated shrunken Medieval village of Broughton (HER Ref: MMK3482, SP 89675 40062 & NMR Ref: 344989).

3.11.8 Milton (Keynes) - located to the south of the study site, very large estate of 37 households, assessed for a very large total tax of 10 geld units;

3.11.9 Newport (Pagnell) - located to the north of the study site, medium sized estate of 14 households, assessed for a large total tax of 5 geld units;

3.11.10 Caldecote - located to the north west of the study site, listed by the HER as comprising a moated manorial site, with possible associated deserted village or manorial buildings, and a mill (HER Refs: MMK87, SP 88170 42290; MMK90, SP 88332 42322; MMK91, SP 88029 42288; MMK92, SP 88335 42340; MMK93, SP 88010 42380; MMK1078, SP 88430 42650; MMK3423, SP 88220 42075 & NMR Refs: 344953 & 1592528).

3.11.11 The nearest of these estates to the study site are Caldecote to the north west and Moulsoe to the east. The lands associated with the estate at Moulsoe comprise plough land, meadows and woodland (Domesday Online 2018). It is therefore likely that the study site was located within an area of mixed arable land, pasture, and woodland at the time of the Domesday Survey. The HER also notes a mill that was recorded within Moulsoe Hundred by the Domesday Survey, although it is acknowledged that the mill may not be located within Moulsoe Parish (HER Ref: MMK3763, SP 91000 41500).

3.11.12 In addition to the above Saxon estates, the HER also records the estate and village at Willen to the south west of the study site, which was first documented in AD1189 (HER Ref: MMK5481, SP 87903 41209).

3.11.13 Evidence for Medieval ridge and furrow agricultural activity is noted by the HER in the far western extent of the study area (HER Ref: MMK7915, SP 89085 41700 & NMR Ref: 915523), which is also evident on the LiDAR plot.

3.11.14 It is likely that the study area remained characterised by scattered estate centres and farmsteads, interspersed with agricultural and pastoral land, during the Saxon and Medieval periods. Known centres of settlement and occupation are located outside the study site boundary, whilst evidence for ridge and furrow activity survives within the western area of the site. Therefore, whilst a low archaeological potential can be identified for evidence of Saxon or Medieval settlement within the study site, a generally moderate archaeological potential is identified for evidence of associated agricultural activity and land division.

3.12 Post Medieval & Modern (including map regression exercise)

3.12.1 Several HER records within the study area refer to Post Medieval and Modern archaeological remains which are not discussed in detail here unless relevant to the study site.

3.12.2 During the Post Medieval and Modern periods, our understanding of settlement, land-use and the utilisation of the landscape is enhanced by cartographic and documentary sources, which can give additional detail to data contained within the HER.

3.12.3 Jeffrey's 1768 Map of Buckinghamshire characterises the study site within areas of probably open land, between the various settlements and hamlets at Newport Pagnel to the north west, Mulshoe to the east, Broughton to the south, Willen to the south west and Caldecot to the west. The north-south London Road bisects the study site, whilst the River Ouzel bisects the area of the study site to the west of the London Road. The London Road is recorded as the Woburn to Newport Pagnell turnpike road, which was set up in 1728 (HER Ref: MMK5881, SP 90754 39016). A few trackways are shown branching off from

the London Road towards Moulsoe and Tickford Park to the east.

3.12.4 Early 19th century enclosure maps for Moulsoe and Tickford, as well as a Willen parish map show the study site divided into agricultural and pastoral plots of land. The Tickford map notes a 'Mill Field' in the northern area of the study site, which may indicate a possible windmill within this area (HER Ref: MMK3385, SP 89100 42600). The agricultural nature of the site is further shown on an 1814-15 Ordnance Survey Drawing, which also shows a small cluster of buildings adjacent to the London Road in the centre of the study site, and a further building labelled as Moulshoe Barn adjacent to the London Road at the southern study site boundary.

3.12.5 By 1886, the study site generally remains characterised as areas of open agricultural and pastoral fields. The cluster of buildings in the centre of the study site was labelled as Moulsoe Buildings, whilst the former Moulshoe Barn at the southern site boundary was labelled as Cottage Farm. A further farm labelled as Caldecotehill Farm is shown adjacent and to the north of the study site boundary, adjacent to the London Road. Brickworks (HER Ref: MMK3400, SP 89000 42450) with associated brick kilns and extraction pit are shown adjacent to the London Road, with an area of allotments immediately south of this (see geometric patterned fields). A further area of allotment is shown at the eastern study site boundary, and an area of scrubland labelled Drake's Gorse is shown to the north of this.

3.12.6 Only minor changes are shown with the study site on 20th century mapping and aerial photography through to the present day, as the aforementioned areas of development were expanded minimally, and much of the study site was opened up through the removal of field boundaries to create larger agricultural and pastoral fields. The first stretch of the M1 motorway between Watford and Rugby was opened in 1959 and is first shown adjacent to the southern boundary of the study site in the 1960s. Minor additional development is shown adjacent to the Newport Road and the London Road by 2002. The urban expansion of Milton Keynes is first shown to the south west in 2002, which also depicts the A509 which forms the northern study site boundary. The area of the former Moulsoe Buildings is now shown as a hotel.

3.13 Historic mapping has demonstrated that the study site has generally comprised open agricultural or pastoral land from the Post Medieval period into the Modern period, with only minor instances of Modern agricultural development and brickearth extraction activity. Therefore, a low archaeological potential can be identified for the Post Medieval period, and a generally low archaeological potential can be identified for the Modern period. Specific areas of high potential for the Modern period are identified, which are associated with 19th and 20th century development.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 General

4.1.1 The archaeological evaluation comprised eleven 2m x 30m trial trenches, totalling 330 linear metres. These were distributed evenly across the site in order to provide a representative sample of the development area.

4.2 Excavation methodology

4.2.1 Ground reduction during the evaluation was carried out using a wheeled JCB mechanical excavator was used to strip the excavation area. Topsoil and other overburden of low archaeological value was removed in spits down to the level of the undisturbed natural geological deposits where potential archaeological features could be observed and recorded.

4.2.2 Exposed surfaces were cleaned by trowel and hoe as appropriate and all further excavation was undertaken manually using hand tools.

4.3 Recording and Finds Recovery

4.3.1 The limits of excavations, heights above Ordnance Datum (m OD) and the locations of archaeological features and interventions were recorded using a Geomax Zenith 15/25 Pro Series GPS rover unit with RTK differential correction, giving three-dimensional accuracy of 20mm or better.

4.3.2 Deposits or the removal of deposits judged by the excavating archaeologist to constitute individual events were each assigned a unique record number (often referred to within British archaeology as ‘context numbers’) and recorded on individual pre-printed forms (Taylor and Brown 2009). Archaeological processes recognised by the deposition of material are signified in this report by round brackets (thus), while events constituting the removal of deposits are referred to here as ‘cuts’ and signified by square brackets [thus]. Where more than one slot was excavated through an individual feature, each intervention was assigned additional numbers for the cutting event and for the deposits it contained (these deposits within cut features being referred to here as ‘fills’). The record numbers assigned to cuts, deposits and groups are entirely arbitrary and in no way reflect the chronological order in which events took place. All

features and deposits excavated during the evaluation and excavation are listed in Appendix 1. Artefacts recovered during excavation were assigned to the record number of the deposit from which they were retrieved.

4.3.3 Metal-detecting was carried out during the topsoil and subsoil stripping and throughout the excavation process. Archaeological features and spoil heaps were scanned by metal-detector periodically. Only objects of modern date were found and were not retained for accession.

4.3.4 High-resolution digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits, and were used to keep a record of the excavation process. In addition, monochrome photographs were taken of significant features.

4.4 Sampling Strategy

4.4.1 Discrete features were half-sectioned, photographed and recorded by a cross-section scaled drawing at an appropriate scale (either 1:10 or 1:20). Where large or significant finds assemblages were present, features were subsequently 100% excavated for finds recovery.

4.4.2 Linear features were investigated by means of regularly-spaced slots amounting to 25% of their lengths. Where stratigraphic relationships between features could not be discerned in plan, relationship slots were also excavated and these were recorded as part of the GPS survey and noted on the relevant context sheets.

4.5 Environmental Sampling

4.5.1 A total of 17 bulk samples (generally 20-40 litres in volume) were taken to extract and identify micro- and macro-botanical remains. The aim of this sampling was to investigate the past environment and economy of the site, the diet of the ancient inhabitants and the agricultural basis of the settlement. An additional aim of the sampling was to recover small objects that are not readily recovered by hand-collection, such as metalworking debris and bones of fish and small animals. These samples were taken from sealed deposits.

5 QUANTIFICATION OF ARCHIVE

5.1 Paper Archive

Context register sheets	5
Context sheets	68
Plan registers	1
Plans at 1:20	2
Section register sheets	2
Sections at 1:10 & 1:20	
Trench record sheets	11
Photo register sheets	
Small finds register sheets	1
Environmental register sheets	1

5.2 Digital Archive

Digital photos	318
GPS survey files	5
Digital plans	1
Access database	1

5.3 Physical Archive

Burnt flint	95g.
Pottery	1058 sherds/ 10892g
Ceramic building material (CBM)	102 examples 56g
Glass	
Small Finds	
Animal bone	
Shell	
Environmental bulk samples	17
Environmental bulk samples (10 litre buckets)	20 buckets, 11 bags

6 EVALUATION RESULTS

6.1 Overview

6.1.1 The evaluation consisted of 11 no. 2m x 30m trenches. The trenches were located to target the archaeology identified in the geophysical survey.

6.1.2 The results of the evaluation in most cases matched the results of the geophysical survey. All of the excavated trenches contained archaeological features which were in majority dated to the 1st century AD. The features were associated with a large, planned Late Iron Age 1st century AD settlement. The settlement was represented by a series of enclosure and boundary ditches, trackways, pits and postholes including waterholes, a cremation and a special deposit with an inverted vessel. At current stage of work it is presumed that the settlement was short lived and went out of use during or shortly after the Roman Conquest.

6.2 General Stratigraphy

6.2.1 Individual, detailed information regarding the natural soil horizons in each trench can be found in Appendix 2.

6.2.2 In most trenches the 'natural ground' (202) consisted of hard, light brownish-yellow sandy clayey silt. In Trench 17 which was located in close proximity to the River Ousel this consisted of a friable, mid yellowish-brown sandy silt and gravel. In the majority of trenches the 'natural ground' was overlain by the subsoil (201), measuring c. 0.15-0.3m thick, which usually consisted of firm, mid reddish-brown silty sandy clay. The subsoil was not identified in Trench 17, where the natural substrate was directly overlain by the topsoil. The topsoil (200) measured between 0.2-0.3m thick and was usually described as firm, dark brownish-grey silty sandy clay.

6.2.3 A possible buried soil, c. 0.2m thick was identified in Trench 22 underneath the subsoil and extending throughout the whole trench. It consisted of dark greyish-brown sandy silt which sealed the features identified in the trench.

6.3 Archaeological results

6.3.1 Details of all features investigated during the evaluation can be found in

Appendix 3.

6.3.2 The features were sealed by the subsoil unless otherwise stated. The deposits within the features were a result of gradual infilling caused by natural processes (such as silting, weathering etc.) unless otherwise stated.

Trench 17 (Figure 4)

6.3.3 Enclosure ditches [266] and [268] and a feature shown on the geophysical survey as a large pit were identified in Trench 17. Both ditches were pale and diffuse, very similar in colour to the surrounding 'natural' ground. Only Ditch [266] contained dating evidence, comprising 11 sherds of Late Iron Age, early-mid 1st century AD pottery, mainly sandy ware and shell tempered ware. Based on their location on the outskirts of the settlement and the scarcity of material culture it is presumed that the ditches could form animal enclosures, with perhaps the large pit representing a waterhole for livestock.

Trench 18 (Figure 4)

6.3.4 Two ditches and two pits or ditch termini were identified in Trench 17. The features roughly matched the anomalies in the geophysical survey, although some features were found slightly off their projected set out. Based on the geophysical interpretation Ditch [264] formed the eastern boundary of the most northernly enclosures. Its fill was pale and diffuse, similar to the ditches identified in Trench 17. It contained 7 sherds of Late Iron Age, early/mid 1st century AD coarse ware. The middle ditch and possible ditch terminus at the south-western end of the trench probably represent part of a trackway running roughly north-south from a funnel shaped, enclosed space in the northern part of the settlement. One sherd of coarse sandy reduced ware Late Iron Age/Early Roman 1st century AD pottery was collected from the surface of the middle ditch.

Trench 19 (Figure 4)

6.3.5 Four ditches and possible pit were identified in Trench 19, with only the pit not being shown on the geophysical survey. All of the features contained very dark fills indicative of organic remains, which together with the abundance of cultural material suggests dumping of domestic waste, most likely from a nearby

dwelling.

6.3.6 The geophysics had indicated the presence of a small, roughly C-shaped enclosure, possibly a roundhouse. However, only one of its possible ditches had been picked up by the evaluation. Eight sherds of fine sandy ware with grog inclusions dated to the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period were collected from the surface of the 'C-shaped enclosure' ditch.

6.3.7 The function of the most northern ditch identified in this trench is not clear as it was shown as only a short ditch section in the geophysical survey. It may be that the ditch is either associated with the 'C-shaped enclosure' ditch or its simply acting as an internal subdivision within the larger enclosures shown on the geophysics. Four sherds of Late Iron Age early-mid 1st century AD coarseware were collected from the surface of this feature.

6.3.8 Ditches [259] and [262] (Figure 4, Sections 45, 46) identified in the southern part of the trench were shown on the geophysical survey to form part one of the main settlement enclosure boundaries. Ditch [259] contained 116 sherds of Late Iron Age/Early Roman 1st century pottery, mainly sandy ware with grog inclusions and shell tempered ware - one of the largest assemblages collected during the evaluation. A small amount of animal bone was also collected from this feature. Ditch [262] contained 20 sherds of Late Iron Age/Early Roman 1st century pottery, mainly sandy ware with grog inclusions and shell tempered ware, as well as a small amount of animal bone. Both ditches contained a rich environmental assemblage consistent of charcoal, charred seeds and cereals and vitrified material indicative of burning in high temperatures. The assemblage is hence representative of domestic activities such as cooking and food consumption taking place nearby.

Trench 20 (Figure 5)

6.3.9 The northern part of the trench was clearly covered with archaeological deposits, however their homogenous nature made it impossible to distinguish between individual features, some of which were shown on the geophysical survey. No artefactual material was found on the surface of this feature cluster.

6.3.10 Five more ditches and two pits were identified in the trench. A ditch immediately south of the 'feature cluster' in the northern part of the trench was not shown on the geophysical survey, however its alignment matches some linear anomalies directly to the east. Two enclosure ditches which matched the location of one of the main enclosure boundaries were identified in the southern part of the trench.

6.3.11 Ditch [256] (Figure 5, Section 44) was not shown on the geophysical survey, however it can be assumed that the ditch forms a continuation of a linear anomaly, most likely enclosure boundary, directly to the north-east. The ditch did not contain any dating evidence. It was cut by another ditch, [253] (Figure 5, Section 42), which seemed to have been identified by the geophysics, although it was much smaller than shown on the interpretation. The ditch contained a relatively dark fill which yielded 6 sherds of Late Iron Age/Early Roman sandy ware with grog inclusions, which may indicate dumping of some waste, however not immediately close to domestic dwellings.

6.3.12 Pit [251] was one of the two pits identified in the trench. It was very shallow but relatively dark. No cultural material was found in this feature and hence its exact function remains unclear.

Trench 21 (Figure 5)

6.3.13 Five ditches, including three large boundaries forming part of long plots on the western outskirts of the settlement, and a small pit were identified in Trench 21. Most of these features were identified on the geophysical survey although some appeared slightly off their projected location. All of the features were relatively dark, but no artefacts were found on the surface of the trench, with the exception of a near-complete vessel found in the northern boundary.

6.3.14 The vessel, which was initially thought to contain a cremation burial, was found in what was interpreted as a pit (cut [245]) cut into a large, roughly east-west aligned boundary. The wheelmade shell-tempered channel-rim jar of early-mid 1st century AD date was found inverted and it appeared that its base had been cut off by either plough or damaged in antiquity. The vessel contained a small amount of unidentifiable burnt animal bone, very small amount of sheep bone

and considerable amount of fired clay. The environmental assemblage from within the vessel consisted of charcoal and charred seeds and cereal grains. It is likely that the vessel likely containing foodstuffs had been deposited deliberately and perhaps inverted as a symbolic act.

Trench 22 (Figure 6)

6.3.15 The results of the investigations in Trench 22 matched the geophysical survey exactly. The trench contained two ditches belonging to a possible path or trackway running through the settlement, as shown by the geophysics, and an enclosure ditch running roughly perpendicular to the trackway ditches across the southern part of the trench. One sherd of Early Roman sandy ware with grog inclusions pottery was collected from the surface of this feature (Figure 9).

6.3.16 The trackway ditches ran approximately 5m apart, on a roughly WNW-ESE alignment through the whole known extent of the settlement. The northern ditch [247] (Figure 6, Section 40) was also the boundary of a funnel shaped enclosed space in the northern part of the settlement. The geophysical survey had also shown that the trackway was either cut into or cut by what appears to be a ring ditch, perhaps a roundhouse or barrow. The ceramic assemblage from Ditch [246] consisted of 6 sherds of Late Iron Age/Early Roman sandy ware. In addition, one sherd of Late Iron Age/Early Roman sandy ware was collected from the surface of the southern trackway ditch, along with an iron hobnail (SFN14) (Figure 9).

6.3.17 A possible buried soil was identified underneath the subsoil, sealing the archaeological features in this trench (see Section 6.2.3). It was not found to contain any artefactual evidence and its origin is not clear at present stage.

Trench 23 (Figure 6)

6.3.18 A plethora of archaeological features were identified in Trench 23, the locations of which were mostly identified on the geophysical survey. This included two intercutting ditches, forming part of an enclosure, and also the southern trackway ditch (the same trackway as described in Trench 22) at the northern end of the trench. Also present were a series of intercutting features covering most of the southern part of the trench. The presence of one smaller ditch,

approximately located in the centre of the trench, was not indicated by the geophysical survey and a feature as a large pit seemed more likely to represent a ditch. Four sherds of pottery were collected from the surface of most features, these dates to the Late Iron Age/ Early Roman period (Figure 9).

Trench 24 (Figure 6)

6.3.19 In Trench 24 the evaluation identified two enclosure ditches (Ditches [224] and [239]), four smaller ditches, Pit [214] and at least three more discrete features. Not all of the features were shown on the geophysical survey.

6.3.20 Enclosure Ditch [224] was shown on the geophysical survey as part of a large enclosure ditch. A slightly smaller ditch immediately to the south may be a re-iteration of this feature. Ditch [224] contained a dark fill which yielded 140 sherds of Late Iron pottery, mainly sandy ware with grog inclusions, one of the biggest assemblages recovered during the evaluation. This quantity of pottery is likely indicative of dumping waste from a nearby domestic dwelling. The ditch was truncated by a modern land drain.

6.3.21 Possible enclosure Ditch [239] was shown on the geophysical survey in the location of a large sub-circular feature. Its shape and profile upon investigation indicated that it was more likely a ditch - possibly part of an enclosure formed with Ditch [224]. The ditch contained two fills, the lower of which (238) was a result of natural infilling. The feature contained 254 sherds of Late Iron Age/ Early Roman sandy ware with grog inclusions, over half of the assemblage from the top fill, tertiary deposit (237). This was the largest ceramic assemblage recovered during the evaluation, indicative gain, of the proximity of domestic dwellings in this part of the site.

6.3.22 Pit [214] was small and shallow and pale and diffuse in colour. It contained no artefactual evidence and hence little can be said about the function of this feature.

Trench 25 (Figure 7)

6.3.23 The features identified in Trench 25 included two enclosure ditches at both ends of the trench (Ditches [231] and [222]), a roughly north-south ditch, most likely

acting as an internal subdivision within the enclosure, at least three smaller ditches not identified on the geophysical survey, Cremation [216] and a range of internal discrete features.

6.3.24 Ditch [231] which formed the northern enclosure boundary contained five fills, four of which seemed to be a combination natural infilling and occasional dumping of waste from a nearby domestic dwelling. Top fill (225) was interpreted as a tertiary deposit. The ditch contained 56 sherds of Late Iron Age/ early Roman pottery, mainly sandy ware with grog inclusions, the majority of which came from fill (229). The ditch was truncated by a modern land drain.

6.3.25 Ditches [222] and [236] formed the southern enclosure boundary, paralleling ditch [231]. As such, it is interpreted that these ditches are similarly of a Late Iron Age/Early Roman date, with [236] perhaps representing an earlier iteration of the enclosure boundary, later cut by [222].

6.3.26 Cremation [216] was identified immediately north of enclosure Ditch [222]. It was cut into another feature, possibly another enclosure ditch (re-iteration of [222]) or large pit. The cremation was severely truncated by agricultural activity and approximately half of the vessel, a wheelmade jar, was missing. The vessel contained the burnt remains of an adolescent/adult and child. A small number of charred cereal grains and seeds was also identified in the cremation. The cremation also contained two iron nails. A second vessel, perhaps representing a grave good, also severely truncated, was also identified within the cremation pit.

Trench 26 (Figure 7)

6.3.27 The western part of Trench 26 was clearly covered with archaeological deposits, however their homogenous nature made it impossible to distinguish between individual features in this part of the trench. The geophysical survey shows a roughly north-south ditch and two large sub-circular features, however at current stage this is not possible to verify.

6.3.28 Pit [205] was cut to an otherwise homogenous deposit belonging to another feature. The environmental assemblage associated with this feature may be

indicative of domestic and/or industrial waste. The pit contained a large quantity of charred cereals along with a substantial amount of burnt flint and some fired clay.

6.3.29 Ditch [207] was running on a roughly northeast-southwest alignment. This has been interpreted as perhaps being part of an enclosure boundary ditch. However, no dating material was recovered from this feature, so its date and exact function remains unclear.

6.3.30 A small rubbish pit [212] was investigated in the eastern part of the trench. This pit contained a significant quantity of burnt waste, though was not burnt in situ. This indicates this pit was used for refuse, likely relating to cooking or oven materials.

Trench 27 (Figure 8)

6.3.31 Trench 27 targeted the most southernly enclosure visible on the geophysical survey. The evaluation identified the main enclosure ditch (Ditch [242]) as well as two other enclosure ditches, perhaps representing the presence of internal subdivisions within a larger enclosure. Discreet features present were a small pit or posthole [249] and a large pit perhaps representing a waterhole. Ditch [242] contained a dark fill which yielded 67 sherds of mainly sandy ware with grog inclusions dated to the Late Iron Age/ Early Roman period, perhaps indicative of dumping waste from a dwelling in the vicinity. The ditch also contained a cast object made of copper alloy. Feature [249] may be a posthole and hence part of a larger structure, although it is not possible to determine at the current stage. The presence of a presumed waterhole and the location on the southern outskirts of the settlement suggests that perhaps livestock was kept in this area.

Trench 28 (Figure 8)

6.3.32 The trench was covered in archaeological deposits which were shown on the geophysical survey as large pits and ditches. Their homogenous nature made it impossible in most cases to distinguish between individual features. It is also possible that an occupation layer was sealing the features identified by the geophysics. Two intercutting ditches and a pit could be noticed among the

feature cluster or occupation layer in the southern part of the trench and a small pit was found to be cut into a larger feature, or perhaps multiple features, at the northern end of the trench. Eight sherds of Late Iron Age/ Early Roman sandy ware were collected from the surface of some of the features.

7 THE FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Lithics

By Sarah Bates

7.1.1 Burnt flint weighing a total of 95g was recovered from the site.

7.1.2 A total of 218 pieces (95g) of burnt flint were recovered from soil samples. None of the flint was struck. A very small number of fragments were 10-30mm in size but by far the majority of pieces were much smaller and many were tiny 'crumbs'. The flint is mostly pinkish tinged greyish white and its surface are crazed or 'crackled' to varying degrees.

7.1.3 The flint was recovered from fills of ditches and pits some of which are of Iron Age or Roman date and others of which are undated (Table 1).

7.1.4 The flint may represent the use of 'potboilers' for heating water but the small quantities, and small size, of the recovered pieces make this uncertain. The flint came from several different trenches, dispersed across the site and some was found in charcoal rich fills or with other dumped waste and may have resulted from other burning processes. The flint is not datable.

Ctxt	Sample	Type	No.	Wt(g)	Comment
203	32	burnt fragment	15	13	sm and tiny pieces, pinkish grey/white
204	33	burnt fragment	107	43	a few sma, rst tiny/crumbs
221	35	burnt fragment	32	9	v sm/tiny
244	42	burnt fragment	3	1	tiny
244	41	burnt fragment	1	1	v sm
244	36	burnt fragment	25	17	v sm/tiny
257	40	burnt fragment	21	10	v sm/tiny
260	39	burnt fragment	14	2	v sm/tiny

Table 1: Flint by context

7.2 The Later Iron Age and Roman Pottery

By Katie Anderson

Introduction

7.2.1 A large assemblage of predominately later Iron Age pottery was recovered from the evaluation, totalling 1058 sherds weighing 10892g and representing 7.22 EVEs (estimated vessel equivalent) and a minimum of forty-six vessels (MNV). All of the pottery was examined and recorded in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (2009) and the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Perrin 2011).

Assemblage Chronology and Character

7.2.2 The pottery reflects relatively short-lived activity, occurring during the 1st century AD. Based on fabrics and diagnostic sherds identified, the assemblage appears to be dominated by later Iron Age material (89% of the assemblage by sherd count). However, it is important to consider that pottery made in the late Iron Age tradition (fabrics, forms and manufacturing techniques) was still produced in the decades immediately following the Roman conquest, alongside early Roman material with the peak in activity around the mid-1st century AD (c.AD30-60), seemingly spanning the Late Iron Age-Roman transition. The remaining 11% of the assemblage comprises early Roman Pottery. Of the material which could be assigned to a manufacturing technique, 55.4% of the pottery is handmade, whilst the remaining 44.6% comprises wheel-finished and wheel-made vessels.

7.2.3 The assemblage comprises primarily small to medium-sized sherds, with a mean weight of 10.3g and several sherds noted as being abraded. That said, there are a number of refitting sherds within the assemblage, occurring within the same contexts, suggesting that the material was likely to have been relatively freshly broken when deposited. There are also two cremation urns, which though fragmented due to post-depositional damage, can be refitted to form partially complete vessel profiles. These vessels are discussed in more detail below.

7.2.4 A limited range of vessel fabrics were identified (Table 2), which can be broadly grouped into three categories: sandy wares, grog-tempered wares and shell-tempered. Grog-tempered wares dominate the assemblage, representing 81.4% by sherd count and occurring in four fabrics. Including three with additional quartz sand (fabrics GQ1, GQ2 and QG1). Shell-tempered wares account for 16.8% of the assemblage (by sherd count), with the remaining 1.8% comprising sandy wares. There are no imported wares within the assemblage.

Fabric Code	Fabric	No.	Wt(g)	MNV	EVE
BLKSL	Black-slipped ware (unsourced)	1	2	0	0
CSMRDU	Coarse sandy micaceous reduced ware	1	9	0	0
CSOX	Coarse sandy oxidised ware	3	64	1	0.12
CSRDU	Coarse sandy reduced ware	6	36	0	0
FSGW	Fine sandy greyware	2	11	0	0
FSMGW	Fine sandy micaceous oxidised ware	2	5	0	0
FSOX	Fine sandy oxidised ware	1	1	0	0
G1	Common to frequent small grog	127	901	1	0
GQ1	Fine sandy fabric with moderate to common very small grog	407	3878	16	2.87
GQ2	Moderately sandy ware, moderate to common small grog	233	3615	13	2.14
QG1	Moderately sandy ware, rare to moderate small grog	94	872	7	0.89
SHELL	Shell-tempered ware	178	1457	8	1.2
WW	Whiteware (unsourced)	3	41	0	0
TOTAL	x	1058	10892	46	7.22

Table 2: Quantification of pottery by Trench

7.2.5 The range of vessel forms is limited (MNV 46) but based on diagnostic sherds is dominated by jars (MNV 25). Within this category wide mouth jars with everted and beaded rims are well represented (MNV 12), with rim diameters ranging between 24cm-40cm. Five channel rim jars were also recovered, all but one of which are shell-tempered. The only other vessel forms which could be assigned a form comprise two beakers, a long necked vessel with a small

beaded rim from ditch (225)/[231], Trench 24, and a rippled shouldered beaker from ditch (257)/[259], Trench 19. An additional two beaker/jars were identified as well as one jar/bowl, however, there is not enough of these vessels remaining to assign to a definite form.

Distribution of the Pottery

7.2.6 Pottery was recovered from twelve trenches (Table 3). representing forty-one contexts from sixteen interventions, including forty-nine sherds recovered from the surface of features (Table 4). The majority of the material comes from features within Trenches 19, 21, 24 and 25 which together represent 83.4% of the total assemblage by sherd count.

Trench	No.	Wt(g)	MNV	EVE
17	11	370	2	0.11
18	8	167	0	0.55
19	148	2525	9	1.38
20	6	69	2	0.11
21	106	966	3	0.91
22	14	216	3	0.11
23	4	70	0	0
24	448	3634	12	1.38
25	180	1384	2	1.65
26	59	984	4	0.48
27	67	480	9	0.54
28	7	27	0	0
TOTAL	1058	10892	46	7.22

Table 3: Quantification of pottery by Trench

7.2.7 Thirty-two of the contexts contain small assemblages of pottery (1-30 sherds), five contexts contain medium-sized assemblages (31-99 sherds), and the remaining four contexts contain large assemblages of 100+ sherds. The largest single assemblages derive from contexts (237) and (238) from ditch [239], trench 24, totalling 254 sherds weighing 2270g. There was no apparent difference in date between the material from the different contexts, with both dating AD30-60, thus suggestion deposition occurred within a relatively short

period of time.

7.2.8 Of particular interest within the assemblage are the assemblages from two cremation pits. Cremation (215)/[216], Trench 25 contained eighty-two sherds weighing 615g, the majority of which appear to have derived from two vessels. The first comprising a jar (rim missing due to post-depositional damage), in fabric GQ2 (twenty-three sherds, 411g), with cordons on the neck and above the base, and incised horizontal lines on the neck. This vessel is wheelmade and the fabric and form are Late Iron Age in tradition, with a suggested date of AD30-60. This vessel appears to have functioned as the cremation urn. A second vessel was also identified (fifty-nine sherds, 204g), although again the exact form could not be ascertained due to plough damage. This vessel was also grog and sand-tempered (fabric GQ1) and included part of the base as well as body sherds. It was not certain whether this vessel is handmade of wheelmade.

7.2.9 A second possible cremation pit was identified within Trench 21 (244)/[245], within which a shell-tempered channel-rim jar had been inverted and placed in the centre. This vessel (seventy-seven sherds, 720g) is wheelmade and has a rim diameter of 20cm, with horizontal combing on the shoulder. The vessel form suggests a date range of AD40-70. An additional twenty-nine sherds (246g) were also recovered from this feature, including a sherd from a wide mouth jar in fabric GQ2. Although this feature had been damaged by ploughing, it is unlikely that these remaining sherds represent further damaged grave goods.

Context	Cut	Tr.	Feature type	No.	Wt(g)	MNV	EVE	Date
C2	0	23	Surface	2	5	0	0	AD40-100
C3	0	23	Surface	1	53	0	0	AD0-100
C4	0	23	Surface	1	12	0	0	AD0-60
C5	0	25	Surface	4	57	1	0	AD30-60
C6	0	25	Surface	8	296	0	0	AD30-60
C7	0	25	Surface	5	66	0	0	AD0-60
C8	0	25	Surface	2	18	0	0	AD0-60
C9	0	25	Surface	1	10	0	0	AD0-60

C10	0	22	Surface	3	36	1	0	AD40-100
C11	0	22	Surface	2	90	1	0	AD40-100
C12	0	19	Surface	8	28	0	0	AD30-60
C13	0	19	Surface	4	7	0	0	AD0-60
C15	0	28	Surface	3	13	0	0	AD0-60
C16	0	28	Surface	1	2	0	0	AD0-60
C17	0	28	Surface	1	8	0	0	AD0-60
C18	0	28	Surface	2	4	0	0	AD0-60
C19	0	18	Surface	1	5	0	0	AD30-100
203	205	26	Pit	3	10	0	0	AD0-100
204	205	26	Pit	36	738	3	0.12	AD0-60
206	207	26	Ditch	10	204	1	0.36	AD0-60
210	209	26	Ditch	10	32	0	0	AD30-100
215	216	25	Pit	82	615	0	1.5	AD30-60
221	222	25	Ditch	76	293	1	0.15	AD50-100
223	224	24	Ditch	140	962	4	0.45	AD0-60
225	231	24	Ditch	20	185	1	0	AD40-60
226	231	24	Ditch	1	42	0	0	AD0-60
227	231	24	Ditch	6	46	0	0	AD30-60
229	231	24	Ditch	27	129	0	0	AD0-60
230	231	25	Ditch	2	29	0	0	AD0-60
237	239	24	Ditch	153	1677	6	0.78	AD30-60
238	239	24	Ditch	101	593	1	0.15	AD30-60
241	242	27	Ditch	67	480	9	0.54	AD30-60
244	245	21	Pit	98	908	3	0.91	AD30-60
245	245	21	Pit	8	58	0	0	AD0-60
246	247	22	Ditch	9	90	1	0.11	AD30-100
252	253	20	Ditch	6	69	2	0.11	AD30-60
257	259	19	Ditch	116	1887	7	0.97	AD30-60
260	262	19	Ditch	5	28	0	0	AD0-60
261	262	19	Ditch	15	575	2	0.41	AD30-60
263	264	18	Ditch	7	162	0	0.55	AD30-60
265	266	17	Ditch	11	370	2	0.11	AD30-60

Table 4: Quantification of Pottery by Context

Discussion

7.2.10 The pottery suggests a focus of activity in the later Iron Age and early Roman

periods, with an apparent peak around the mid-1st century AD. Whilst there is evidence for a continuation from the Iron Age into the early Roman period, this appears to have been limited. The pottery is largely indicative of domestic activity, with coarseware jars dominating the assemblage. However, the presence of two cremation burials with associated pottery is of particular interest, highlighting the presence of funerary activity. The lack of any material which dates beyond the mid-later 1st century AD is of note, and indicates a break in activity, due to a shift in settlement or else an abandonment of the site, in the decades following the Roman conquest.

7.3 Fired clay

By Dr Kevin Hayward

Introduction and Aims

7.3.1 Eight bags of fired clay were retained from the evaluation.

7.3.2 This very small assemblage (102 examples 56g) was assessed to:

Identify the different fired clay fabrics recovered during the evaluation and relate them to the features to which they came from

Provide a list of spot dates

Made recommendations for further study.

Methodology

7.3.3 The application of a 1kg masons hammer and sharp chisel to each example was undertaken ensured that a small fresh fabric surface was exposed. The fabric was examined at x20 magnification using a long arm stereomicroscope or hand lens (Gowlland x10). All samples were obtained from environmental sampling.

7.3.4 As the entire assemblage consists of composite organic earth construction materials (in this case fired clay) the generic 3102 code has been applied followed by a, b, c thus 3102a; 3102b; 3102c etc to distinguish different fabrics.

Composite Earthy Organic building materials (Fired clay) 102 examples 56g

3102a - overfired fired clay - abraded calf brown margins with or without black organic core - grass tempered in places

7.3.5 The only material recovered from site is the fired clay, that is composite earthy organic binding materials produced as the result of cremation burning, kilns or keyhole ovens). It has been identified from all the features including cremation debris from the fill (244) of pit [245] spit 2 and spit 4, where the greatest concentration occurs. They are all of one fabric 3102a a generic calf brown colour with a black organic core, the black colour indicative of Upper Jurassic Clays which dominate the area around Milton Keynes. It is likely that the entire assemblage relates to cremation linings or even cremation burning of the underlying natural Upper Jurassic clays.

7.3.6 It has not been possible to date these any tighter than prehistoric to medieval (1500BC-AD1600) as fired clay is widely used over considerable periods of time.

Distribution (Table 5)

Context	Fabric	Material	Size	Date range of material		Latest dated material		Spot date	Spot date Mortar
203	3102a	Fired clay fragments some as large as 25mm calf brown rim black organic core	3	1500bc	1600	1500bc	1600	1500bc-1600	No mortar
204	3102a	Fired clay fragments some as large as 25mm calf brown rim black organic core	40	1500bc	1600	1500bc	1600	1500bc-1600	No mortar
244	3120a	Large group of very small, fired clay fragments calf brown rm less with	45	1500bc	1600	1500bc	1600	1500bc-1600	No mortar

Context	Fabric	Material	Size	Date range of material		Latest dated material		Spot date	Spot date Mortar
		black organic core							
257	3102a	Small, fired clay fragments calf brown rim black organic core	6	1500bc	1600	1500bc	1600	1500bc-1600	No mortar
260	3102a	Small, fired clay fragments calf brown rim black organic core	8	1500bc	1600	1500bc	1600	1500bc-1600	No mortar

Table 5: Distribution of the fired clay

Review and Potential

7.3.7 Only brief comment should be made on this rather unremarkable group of fired clays. There is no form, and fragments at best do not exceed 25mm from fills (203) (204) of waste pits [205]. They are also of one fabric, with a black organic core probably the result of burning from the underlying Upper Jurassic clays. They may well relate to cremation fire of the underlying Upper Jurassic clays given their identification of examples from a possible cremation from the fill (244) of pit [245]. It has not been possible to date these any tighter than prehistoric to medieval (1500BC-AD1600) as fired clay is widely used over considerable periods of time.

7.3.8 I would recommend that no further work is carried out and this very small assemblage and it should be discarded in its entirety.

7.4 Metalwork

By Thomas Lucking

Introduction and Methodology

7.4.1 A total of five metal objects of copper alloy and iron were recovered from five different contexts during trial-trench evaluation of the site (Table 5). Three of the objects were recovered through systematic metal detecting of spoil heaps and features, while the two remaining objects were recovered through the processing of cremation deposits. The objects range in date from the Late Iron Age to Early Roman period and these are discussed in more detail below.

7.4.2 Two objects (SFN 13 and 14) were recovered from the top fills of features that were not excavated during the evaluation. As such, these objects do not currently have context numbers assigned, but their positions are recorded on the site plans (Figure 9.).

The Assemblage by Material

Copper Alloy

7.4.3 SFN 13 is a fragment of a plain cast copper alloy bracelet of Roman date. It consists of part of the body of the bracelet with old breaks at either end. It has a gently curving profile and is sub-circular in section. It has a smooth green patina with minor surface encrustation. It measures 38.91mm in length, 5.58mm in width, 4.24mm in thickness and 4.61g in weight. Bracelets with undecorated, or partly undecorated, bands are illustrated in Crummy (1983, pp. 38-45) where they have been recovered from contexts across the Roman date range. It is therefore not possible to date this fragment on stylistic grounds, but within the context of this site, it is probably of Early Roman date.

7.4.4 SFN 15 is an incomplete cast object of Late Iron Age to Early Roman (c.100 BC-100 AD) date. For ease of description, this object is described in a certain orientation, but it is entirely possible that this object should be orientated in a different way. It consists of a single cast piece of plate copper alloy in the form of two back-to-back crescents. It has a smooth grey patina with moderate surface pitting. The lower halves of the crescents are thicker, with square terminals which appear to be complete, while the upper halves are both thinner and taper to respective points, the tip of which is missing on the right-hand crescent due to an old break. The object has a slightly curving profile with the outward facing side presumably being the front of the object. It measures 42.39mm in length (left to right) 28.41mm in width (top to bottom), 2.24mm in thickness and 10.62g in weight. The specific purpose of this object is uncertain, and no exact parallel has been traced, but its elaborate design and slightly curving profile suggests it may have served as a decorative mount or binding on a bucket, vessel or other large, rounded object.

Iron

7.4.5 SFN 14 is a heavily encrusted iron hobnail of Roman date. It consists of a sub-circular head with a sub-circular body. It measures 18.94mm in length, 9.12mm in diamater (head), 4.05mm in diameter (body) and weighs 1.48g.

7.4.6 An uncertain iron object was recovered from Cremation Spit 5 of (215) in [216]. The object is in a fragmentary and highly corroded condition and is fused with fragments of cremated human bone. The whole object weighs 18.08g. It is unclear what the form and function of this object is but as a single find from within a cremation it is possible that it may have been a nail attached to a piece of timber used on the funeral pyre. Due to the fragmentary condition of the object, it is uncertain whether X-ray would allow for a more precise identification.

7.4.7 A small fragment of an iron nail or pin was recovered from Cremation Spit 5 of [216]. It has a small sub-rectangular head and incomplete sub-rectangular body. It measures 8.06mm in length, 3.37mm in width (head), 2.94mm in thickness (head), 2.77mm in width (body), 1.69mm in thickness (body) and 0.09g in weight.

Discussion

7.4.8 The metalwork recovered from this site is consistent with activity dating to the Late Iron Age and Early Roman periods. The most significant object recovered is the unusual but elaborate Late Iron Age object (SFN 15), which, when considered alongside the two Iron Age coins recovered during topsoil metal detecting of the site (Pullen 2021), is suggestive of Iron Age occupation that may hold a degree of wealth and status.

Recommendations

7.4.9 Due to the presence of Iron Age metalwork that may suggest a degree of status in the vicinity, if any further excavations are carried out, archaeological features should be intensively metal detected as a priority to prevent any loss of material through looting.

7.4.10 SFN 15 should be photographed for inclusion in this report, and if further work

is carried out this object should be drawn for inclusion in the final excavation report.

7.4.11 Should further work be undertaken on site, the retained assemblage should be reinterpreted alongside any further metalwork found, and spatially in relation to any archaeology discovered.

SMALL FIND NO.	CONTEXT	CUT	TRENCH	MATERIAL	CONDITION	DESCRIPTION	SPOT DATE
13			26	Cu Alloy	Incomplete	Bracelet	Roman
14			23	Fe	Complete	Hobnail	Roman
15	241	242	27	Cu Alloy	Incomplete	Mount?	Late IA/Early Roman
94	215	216		Fe	Fragment	Nail?	Late IA/Early Roman
		217		Fe	Fragment	Nail?	Late IA/Early Roman

Table 6: The Metalwork

7.5 Bead

By John Shepherd (pers. Comm.)

7.5.1 A small annular bone bead measuring 8mm in diamater, 2mm thick, with a 4mm hole, was recovered from sample <36> Ditch [222] fill (221). Such small items are rarely recorded, being so fragile as to escape survival in the ground and also to escape recovery unless identified in environmental processing. They are assumed to exist, however, due to discovery elsewhere of bone manufacturing waste, especially of medieval date, that indicates where small blanks have been cut out to make such beads – scapulae were the preferred bone to use.

7.6 Animal Bone

By Karen Deighton

Introduction

7.6.1 A small quantity of animal bone was hand recovered from a range of features during evaluation.

7.6.2 Material from the residues (10mm,2mm mesh) of environmental sample was

also examined.

Method

7.6.3 The material was analysed using standard zooarchaeological methods.

Condition of bone

7.6.4 Fragmentation was extremely heavy with 93% of bone less than 25% complete. All bone surfaces were severely eroded, possibly due to soil conditions. Consequently, the recognition of evidence for butchery and canid gnawing was impaired: no evidence of butchery was noted and only one instance of canid gnawing. Small indeterminate calcined bone fragments were noted in eight contexts.

The taxa

Taxa	Cattle	Cattle size	Sheep/goat	Sheep size	pig	indet mammal	Total
Fragment count	4	6	1	2	1	1	15

Table 7: taxa from hand collected animal bones

Sample	Context/cut	Sheep/goat	Indet mammal	Indet fish	Total
32	203/205		2		2
33	204/205	2	2		4
35	221/222		2	1	3
36	244/245	1	1		2
39	260/262		2		2
40	257/259		3		3
Total		3	12	1	16

Table 8: Taxa from samples

Conclusion

7.6.5 No further work is recommended on the current assemblage, due the paucity of material and its poor condition.

7.7 The Human Bone

Petra Ivanova

Introduction

7.7.1 During the evaluation one truncated, urned cremation burial [216],

encompassing cremated skeletal remains of one adolescent/adult individual and an immature individual who was at least 9 months old (±3 months), was discovered in Trench 25. A pit [245], discovered in Trench 21, contained an inverted vessel with 1.9 grams of potential animal burnt remains.

Methodology

7.7.2 The cremated human remains were excavated and recorded in accordance with the IFA guidelines (McKinley and Roberts, 2004). Both vessels from features [216] and [245] were block lifted in the field and their contents were subsequently micro-excavated in spits (McKinley and Roberts, 1993) at the PCA office.

7.7.3 The deposits from each spit were then wet sieved through a 0.5mm sieve, and the residue was passed through a stack of 10mm, 5mm and 2mm sieves. All the bone >2mm was then sorted from the residue and analysed. The ≤2mm residue was scanned (and has been retained) and identifiable bone and any artefacts extracted.

7.7.4 Identifiable bone fragments (axial skeleton, upper limb, lower limb, and unidentified long bone) were recorded along with the level of fragmentation and oxidisation illustrated by variations in colour from the unburnt buff colour to fully oxidised, white colour. General methods used in the osteological evaluation of the skeletal material (sex, age, pathology) are those of Buikistra and Ubelaker (1994). The minimum age of the immature individual was based on the tooth eruption chart taken from Juvenile Osteology: A Laboratory and Field Manual (Schaefer et al., 2009).

Cremation burial [216]

Adolescent/Adult and Immature Individual

7.7.5 This truncated cremation burial was unearthed in the southern part of Trench 25 and contained the remains of one adolescent/adult and one immature individual, both with an unknown sex. The bone was recovered from five spits (2cm each) and a small amount of burnt bone (0.1g) was also found in the backfill of the cremation pit (Table 9).

Context no.	Cut no.	Spit no	Sample no.	>10mm fraction (g/%)	≥5mm fraction (g/%)	≥2mm fraction (g/%)	Total weight without ≥2mm	Total weight of cremation
(215)	[216]	1		7g (1.3%)	1.5g (0.3%)	2.5g (0.5%)	11g (2.1%)	536.2g (100%)
(215)	[216]	1	<45>	0g (0%)	0.1g (0.02%)	0.5g (0.01%)	0.6g (0.03%)	
(215)	[216]	2		26.5g (4.9%)	17.5g (3.3%)	12.5g (2.3%)	56.5g (10.5%)	
(215)	[216]	2	<46>	0g (0%)	1.5g (0.3%)	3g (0.6%)	4.5g (0.9%)	
(215)	[216]	3		84.5g (15.8%)	51.5g (9.6%)	21.5g (4%)	157.5g (29.4%)	
(215)	[216]	3	<47>	4.5g (0.8%)	6g (1.1%)	12g (2.2%)	22.5g (4.1%)	
(215)	[216]	4	<48>	0g (0%)	3g (0.6%)	9g (1.7%)	12g (2.3%)	
(215)	[216]	5		103g (19.2%)	66g (12.3%)	41g (7.6%)	210g (39.1%)	
(215)	[216]	5	<49>	6g (1.1%)	25g (4.7%)	30.5g (5.7%)	61.5g (11.5%)	
(215)	[216]		<34>	0g (0%)	0g (0%)	0.1g (0.02%)	0.1g (0.02%)	

Table 9: Weight of bone fragments.

Condition of the bone

7.7.6 Most of the bone in this sample was fully oxidised, white colour, with some grey-white and grey-blue fragments. This indicates that the temperature of the pyre was usually kept above 600°C but occasionally fell below that temperature. The fragmentation of the bone was not very extensive, and it was possible to identify several elements during the assessment (Table 10). The biggest fragment was a limb bone measuring 4.9cm, found in Spit 5. Bone fragments showed signs of longitudinal fissures, curved transverse fractures and heat induced warping.

Context no.	Cut no.	Spit no.	Sample no.	Fraction	Identifiable bone fragments
(215)	[216]	1		≥10mm	1x skull (immature individual size); 1x femoral shaft
(215)	[216]	1		≥5mm	1x humeral or femoral head; 1x tooth root (premolar)
(215)	[216]	2		≥10mm	1x skull (immature individual size); 1x femoral shaft

(215)	[216]	2		≥5mm	3x skull (immature individual size)
(215)	[216]	3		≥10mm	2x humeral or femoral head; 1x femoral shaft fragment; 3x skull adult size (1x temporal internal auditory meatus); 1x skull (immature individual size); 1x glenoid fossa
(215)	[216]	3		≥5mm	1x tooth root (deciduous molar); 1x skull adult size; 7x skull immature individual size (1x parietal fragment with foramen); 4x humeral or femoral head
(215)	[216]	4	<48>	≥2mm	3x tooth root fragment
(215)	[216]	5		≥5mm	1x femoral or humeral head; 5x skull (adult size)
(215)	[216]	5		≥10mm	1x part of mandibular body; 3x skull (adult size); 1x temporal internal auditory meatus; 1x skull (immature individual size); 1x humeral or femoral head; 1x femoral shaft; 1x tibial shaft; 1x humeral shaft; 1x proximal or intermediate phalanx
(215)	[216]	5		≥2mm	1x skull (adult size); 1x skull (immature individual size)
(215)	[216]	5	<49>	≥2mm	1x skull (immature individual size)
(215)	[216]	5	<49>	≥5mm	4x skull (adult size)
(215)	[216]	5	<49>	≥10mm	1x humeral or femoral head

Table 10: Identifiable bone fragments.

Demography and pathology

7.7.7 This cremation burial contained skeletal remains of one adolescent/adult individual and one immature individual. The age of the adolescent/adult person was estimated from the cortical thickness of long bones, thickness of the skull diploe, and permanent dentition. The age of the immature individual was based on the small cortical thickness of the skull and one deciduous molar. The molar was extremely burnt, and it was not possible to determine its type, although part of the crown and small part of the roots survived. As roots of first deciduous molars start forming around 9 months (±3 months) of age (Schaefer et al., 2009), based on the roots length of the deciduous molar in this sample, this individual was at least 9 months old (±3 months). No pathological lesions were observed on the recovered human bone remains.

Pit [245]

7.7.8 This feature contained an inverted vessel which was comprised of a very low amount of burnt bone (1.9g), recovered from four spits. The bone fragments were very small, and the morphology of the bone resembled broken animal remains. A butchery cut mark was discovered on one bone fragment from Spit 1. The lack of transverse cracks, longitudinal splits and warping on the bone

(Whyte, 2001) also indicates that these were animal bone fragments and the vessel possibly contained remnants from refuse deposits.

7.8 Plant Remains

By Tegan Abel

Introduction

7.8.1 This report aims to summarise the findings from the assessment of 16 bulk environmental samples taken during the evaluation. The sample volumes ranged from 2 to 40 litres, with the samples being extracted from a single pit, three ditches and two cremations (Table 11).

Context number	Feature number	Environmental sample number	Spit Number	Context category	Feature type
203	205	32		Fill	Pit
204	205	33		Fill	Pit
215	216	34		Fill	Cremation
221	222	35		Fill	Ditch
244	245	36		Fill	Cremation
260	262	39		Fill	Ditch
257	259	40		Fill	Ditch
244	245	41	1	Fill	Cremation
244	245	42	2	Fill	Cremation
244	245	43	3	Fill	Cremation
244	245	44	4	Fill	Cremation
215	216	45	1	Fill	Cremation
215	216	46	2	Fill	Cremation
215	216	47	3	Fill	Cremation
215	216	48	4	Fill	Cremation
215	216	49	5	Fill	Cremation

Table 11: Context information for environmental samples

Aims

7.8.2 The aims of the report are as follows: 1- To give an overview of the ecofacts and artefacts extracted from the bulk samples; 2- To evaluate the potential of the environmental remains and, 3- To make recommendations for additional analysis.

Methodology

7.8.3 16 samples were retrieved during this evaluation; prior to being processed, the sediment volume was measured and recorded, the data for which is presented in table 2. Samples were processed using a modified SIRAF floatation system; the flot residue was collected using a 300 µm mesh and the heavy residue, a 3mm mesh. After being left to dry naturally, the residue was sieved through 2mm, 5mm and 10mm sieves, and sorted to remove ecofacts and artefacts; material was recorded using a non-linear scale, as follows: 1- occasional (1-10), 2- fairly frequent (11-30), 3- frequent (31-100) and abundant (31-100).

7.8.4 The light residue was examined under a low-power binocular microscope and the contents recorded (Appendix XX), with abundances being quantified as above.

Results

Pit- [205] (203) <32> and (204) <33>

7.8.5 A single pit had samples taken from 2 fills- (203) sample 32 and (204) sample 33. Both samples contained moderate quantities of highly fragmented charcoal, with both containing a few specimens of a suitable size for species identification (>4mm in all diameters). Charred seeds were noted in moderate abundance in both samples, along with a small number of charred cereals in sample 32 and an abundance in sample 33. There was as many indeterminate charred cereal specimens as there were determinate, which may indicate moderate preservation of the assemblage. The abundance of a small amount of vitrified material could indicate burning at extremely high temperatures, which may have led to the indeterminate nature of several seed and grain specimens in both samples. Both samples contained burnt clay, pottery, burnt flint and animal bone in low to moderate amounts. Bioturbation of both contexts could be indicated by an abundance of rooting and moderate quantities of modern plant remains. This could also be suggested by small amounts of uncharred seeds, insect egg/worm cases and insect remains in sample 32.

Ditches- [222] <35>, [262] <39> and [259] <40>

7.8.6 All three ditch samples contained a small quantity of charcoal, which may be suitable for species identification (>4mm), as well as moderate amounts of

fragmented specimens. Small amounts of charred seeds were noted in samples 39 [262] and 40 [259], alongside small to moderate amounts of charred cereals in all three ditch samples. Once again, pot, burnt flint and animal bone were noted in all of the samples, and burnt clay in all the ditch samples but sample 35 (222). Vitrified material was present in sample 39 in small amounts and moderate quantities in sample 40, coal was found only in sample 39. Moderate to abundant quantities of modern plant and root material in all three samples, as well as small amounts of insect eggs/ worm cases in samples 35 and 39 and uncharred seeds in sample 35, may indicate post-depositional disturbance of these contexts.

Cremation- [216] <34, 45, 46, 47, 48 and 49>

7.8.7 Charcoal inclusions were infrequent in this cremation, with most of the specimens being smaller than 2mm in size. Less than 10 charred cereal grains were recovered from sample 34, which was taken from the backfill around the urn, with a small number of charred seeds present in samples 47 spit 3 and 48 spit 4. Human bone was present in all the urn samples, with the highest abundances in samples 47 spit 3 and 49 spit 5. Pot was present in samples 34, 45 and 49, as well as CBM in sample 45 and a single piece of iron in sample 49. Samples 45 and 49 also included a low amount of coal. The samples may have suffered from bioturbation, as suggested by the presence of moderate to abundant rooting in all the samples, with small amounts of modern plant material also noted and less than 10 insect eggs/worm cases in sample 46.

Cremation- [245] <36, 41, 42, 43 and 44>

7.8.8 The charcoal noted in all five of the samples from the urned cremation [245] was highly fragmented in nature. The only sample to contain any charcoal which may be suitable for species analysis was sample 36. Slightly lower quantities of the material were seen in sample 44 spit 4. All the samples but that from spit 4 contained low amounts of charred cereal grains and/or charred seeds, with a few of the specimens from samples 36 and 43, spit 3, being unidentifiable in nature. Less than 30 pieces of fragmented animal bone were present in sample 36 and human bone in samples 41, 42 and 43. Burnt clay, pot and/or burnt flint were noted in the spits from the urn and a bead was found in sample 36. Post-

depositional disturbance of the contexts sampled from cremation [245] was moderate, as indicated by fairly frequent to moderate root inclusions, as well as low to fairly frequent quantities of modern plant material in the samples, alongside small amounts of insect remains/eggs in samples 36 and 44.

Conclusions

7.8.9 An assessment of the environmental samples has provided evidence for the preservation of carbonised plant material at this site.

7.8.10 A single sample from the contained a high density of archaeobotanical remains. Sample <33> produced over one-hundred identifiable charred cereal grains.

7.8.11 No other samples contained an abundance of plant remains, though carbonised ecofacts, such as grains and seeds, may provide the potential for radiocarbon dating of individual features.

7.8.12 The degree of preservation of the uncharred seeds noted from the site indicates intrusive specimens; the presence of these seeds along with un-burnt plant material, roots and insect remains, could indicate post depositional disturbance to the contexts.

8 DISCUSSION

8.1.1 The evaluation confirmed the presence of the features shown on the geophysical survey as forming part of a settlement dating to the 1st century AD set out on a regular, possibly planned layout. The accuracy of the geophysics was excellent, with only a handful of features not picked up by the magnetometer. The settlement seems to mainly date to the Late Iron Age and goes out of use by the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period, during or shortly after the Roman Conquest. No features dated to earlier or later phases or periods were encountered during the evaluation.

8.1.2 The occupation of the site seemed to be relatively short lived but very intense, with a few trenches covered in what seemed to be feature clusters or occupation layers sealing features (e.g. Trenches 20, 23, 26, 28). Some large pottery assemblages found mainly in organic deposits within enclosure ditches suggest dumping of domestic waste from nearby houses.

8.1.3 The ceramic assemblage was made of locally made pottery with no imported vessels. This could either mean that the settlement was of relatively low status or that its inhabitants preferred to adhere to local traditions. A small amount of fired clay and burnt flint are indicative of some industrial or domestic activities taking place in the settlement and the presence of ovens and/or hearths in the vicinity.

8.1.4 A very small assemblage of faunal remains may be an indication that either the bones do not survive well in this geology or that they may have been disposed elsewhere. The preservation of archaeobotanical assemblage was good and the site has a good potential to contribute to the current knowledge about cultivation and consumption of cereals and grains in the Late Iron Age, as well as past local environment.

8.1.5 Trenches 17 and 18 targeted enclosures located at the northern outskirts of the settlement. The features investigated in these trenches were typically pale and diffuse and contained little artefactual material in comparison to the rest of the site. It may indicate that this area within the settlement had more of an agricultural purpose, such as perhaps keeping livestock. The three large pits

captured on the geophysical survey near Trench 17, one of which was identified within this trench, may represent waterholes for animals. This was similar in Trench 27, at the southern peripheries of the settlement where a possible waterhole was identified within an enclosure, although the enclosure ditch seemed to contain a dump of domestic waste.

8.1.6 One of the most striking features of the settlement was its apparently planned, nucleated layout, with carefully arranged rectangular enclosures, paths and trackways. A trackway bounding to the north a funnel shaped enclosed area was captured in Trench 18. Based on the results of the geophysical survey the trackway seemed to have divided the settlement into two parts, laid out on slightly different alignments. The trackway also seemed to be cutting or cut by a curvilinear feature, although this was not tested during the current evaluation of the site.

8.1.7 The discovery of an urned cremation burial in Trench 25 and a possible special deposit of an inverted vessel containing foodstuffs in Trench 21 suggests that the site has the potential for further finds associated with funerary and ritual practices.

8.1.8 The eastern part of the site was subjected to heavy post-medieval/modern truncation, visible particularly in Trenches 19, 24 and 25. This was the result of agricultural activity such as ploughing and establishing land drains - nearly every ditch in these trenches was truncated. In the other trenches truncation was not so much visible although it was noted that the inverted vessel found in Trench 21 was truncated by ploughing (perhaps in antiquity).

8.1.9 Should further work occur, the site has the potential to contribute to current knowledge regarding the Late Iron Age settlement, including the character of transition into the Early Roman period. The site could shed light and expand the current knowledge on topics such as settlement layout, agriculture, beliefs, funerary and ritual practices in the Late Iron Age.

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9.3 Thomas Lucking kindly performed metal detecting of the site. PCA's UAV pilot Ryan Desrosiers took aerial photos and films of the site.

9.4 Figures accompanying this report were prepared by Rosie Scales PCA's CAD Department.

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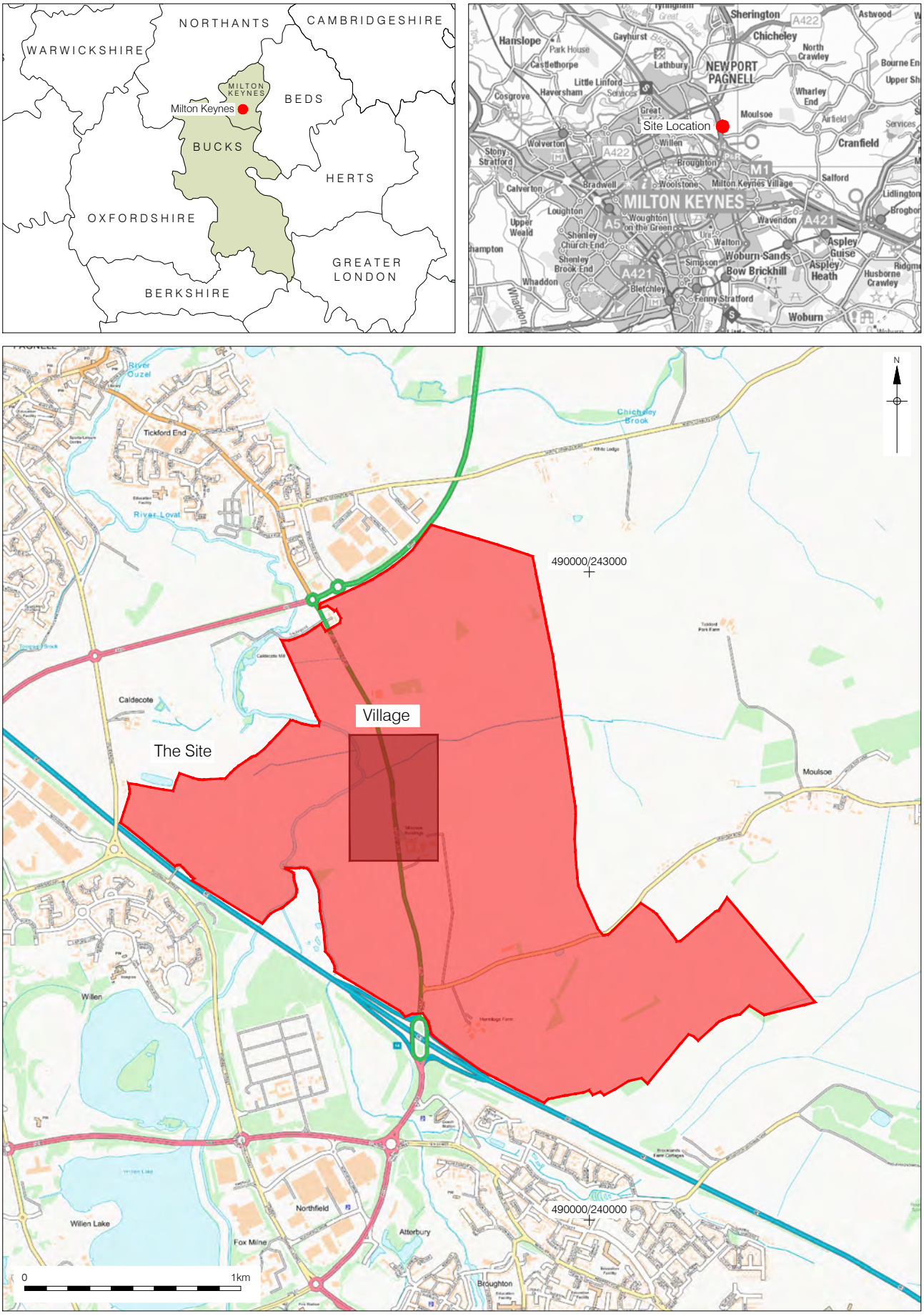
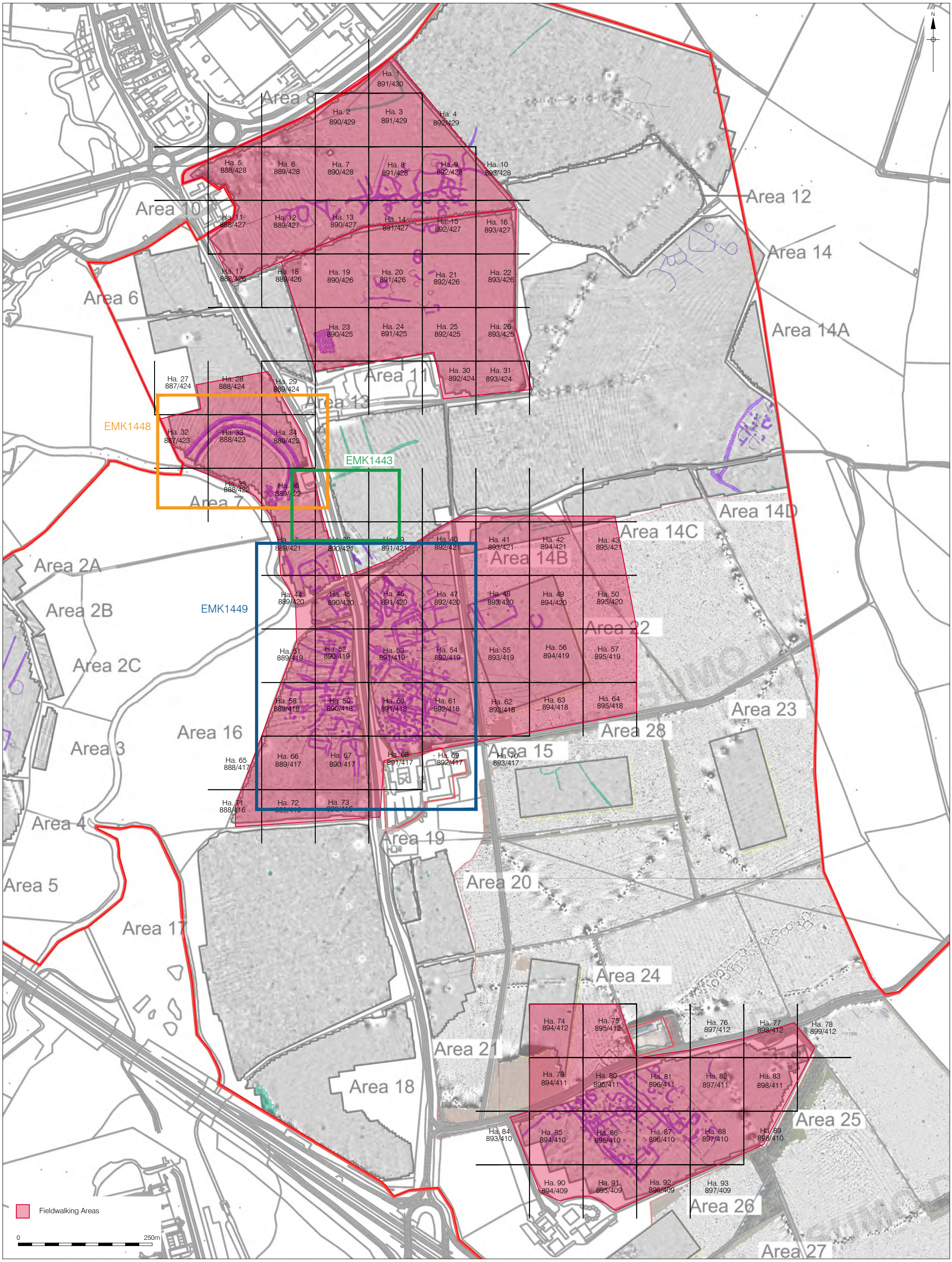


06/07/2021 RS

Figure 1
Site Location
1:2,000,000, 1:250,000, 1:25,000 at A4



24/06/2021 RS

Figure 2
Fieldwalking Areas
1:6250 at A3

24/06/2021 RS

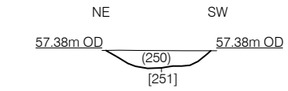
Figure 3
Site Location
Inset 1:50,000, Plan 1:1,600 at A3

Section 45
Ditch [259]
Trench 19
Southwest Facing

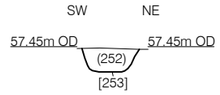
Section 46
Ditch [262]
Trench 19
Southwest Facing

24/06/2021 RS

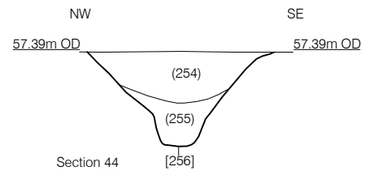
Figure 4
Trench 17, 18 and 19 Plan and Sections
Inset 1:12,500, Plan 1:625, Sections 1:40 at A3



Section 42
Pit [251]
Trench 20
Northwest Facing



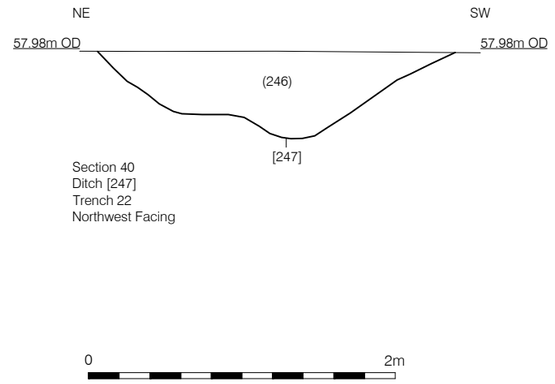
Section 43
Ditch [253]
Trench 20
Southeast Facing



Section 44
Ditch [256]
Trench 20
Southwest Facing

24/06/2021 RS

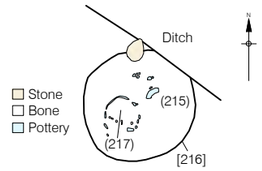
Figure 5
Trench 20 and 21 Plan and Sections
Inset 1:12,500, Plan 1:625, Sections 1:40 at A3



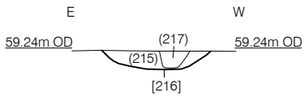
Section 40
Ditch [247]
Trench 22
Northwest Facing

24/06/2021 RS

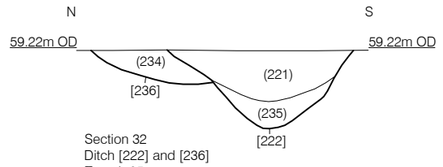
Figure 6
Trench 22, 23 and 24 Plan and Sections
Inset 1:12,500, Plan 1:625, Sections 1:40 at A3



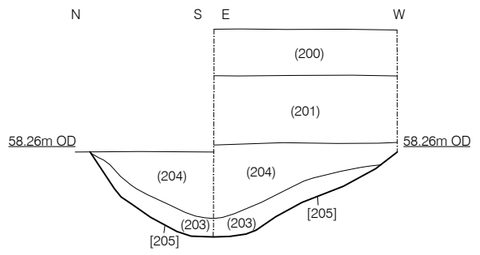
Plan 3
Cremation [216]
Trench 25



Section 30
Cremation [216]
Trench 25
North Facing



Section 32
Ditch [222] and [236]
Trench 25
West Facing



Section 25
Pit [205]
Trench 26
West and North Facing

0 2m

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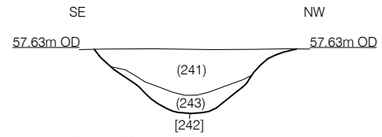
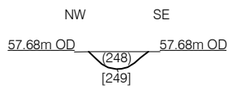
Figure 7
Trench 25 and 26 Plan and Sections
Inset 1:12,500, Plan 1:625, Sections 1:40 at A3



Section 38
Ditch [242]
Trench 27
Northeast Facing



Section 41
Posthole [249]
Trench 27
Southwest Facing

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Figure 8
Trench 27 and 28 Plan and Sections
Inset 1:12,500, Plan 1:625, Sections 1:40 at A3

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Figure 9
Small Find and Surface Find Locations
Inset 1:50,000, Plan 1:1,600 at A3

APPENDIX 1: PLATES

Plate 1: Pit [205], Trench 26, view south.

Plate 2: Ditch [231], Trench 25, view east.

Plate 3: Ditch [256] and [253] (background), Trench 20, view northeast.

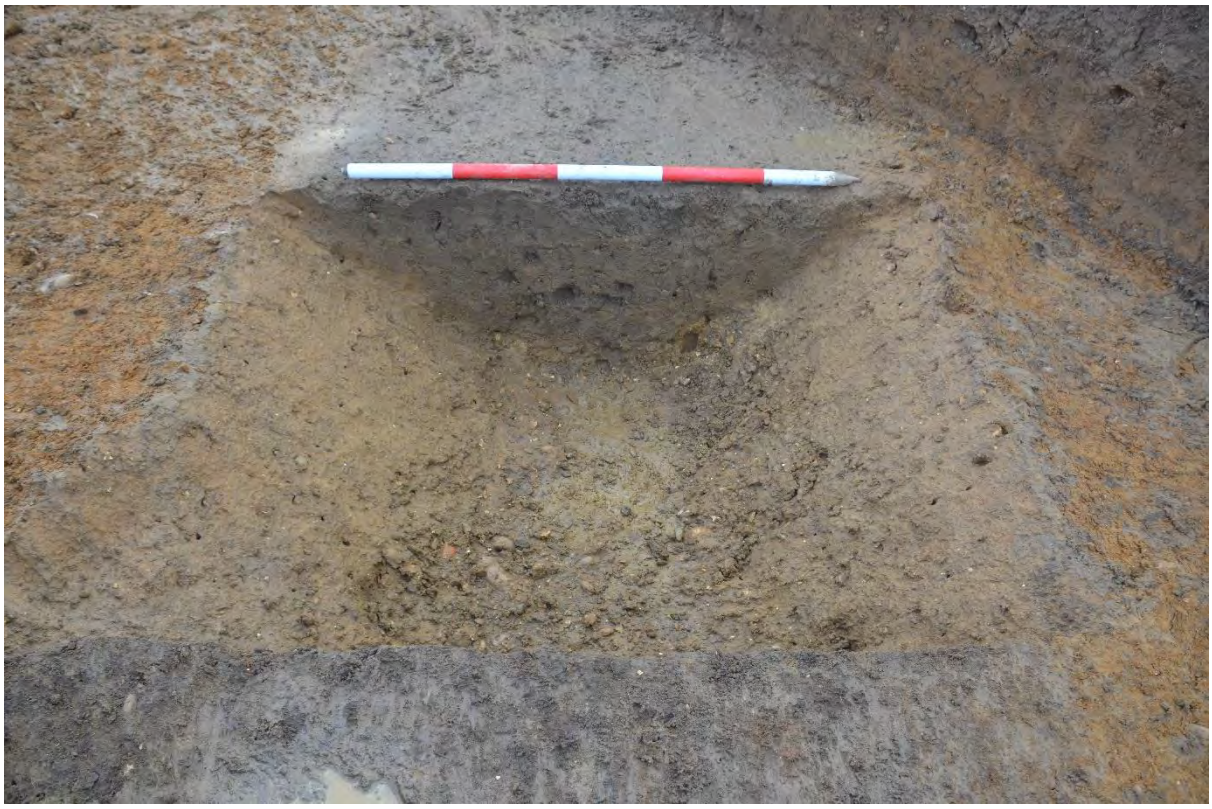

Plate 4: Ditch [242], Trench 27, view north.

Plate 5: Cremation [216] before excavation, Trench 25

Plate 6: Half-sectioning Cremation [216], Trench 25

Plate 7: Urn visible after 100% excavation of Cremation pit [216]

Plate 8: Vessel from possible Cremation [245] visible before excavation, Trench 21

Plate 9: Half-sectioning possible Cremation [245], Trench 21

Plate 10: Inverted vessel from [245], Trench 21.

Plate 11: SFN15 from [242]

APPENDIX 2: TRENCH DETAILS

Trench Number	Trench Length	Trench Width	Trench Orientation	Topsoil description	Subsoil description	'Natural' description	End 1 Location	Topsoil thickness End 1 (m)	Subsoil Thickness End 1 (m)	End 2 Location	Topsoil thickness End 2 (m)	Subsoil Thickness End 2 (m)	Layers	Maximum trench depth (m)
17	30	1.8	N-S	Friable, mid brownish-grey silty sand.	N/A	Friable, mid yellowish-brown sandy silt and gravel.	N	0.3	0	S	0.3	0		0.4
18	30	2	E-W	Firm, dark brownish-grey silty sandy clay.	Firm, mid reddish-brown silty sandy clay.	Hard, light brownish-yellow sandy clayey silt.	E	0.25	0.25	W	0.25	0.1		0.5
19	30	2	N-S	Firm, dark brownish-grey silty sandy clay.	Firm, mid reddish-brown silty sandy clay.	Hard, light brownish-yellow sandy clayey silt.	S	0.3	0.2	N	0.3	0.2		0.5
20	30	1.8	N-S	Firm, dark brownish-	Firm, mid reddish-	Hard, light brownish-	S	0.3	0.15	N	0.3	0.3		0.6

				grey silty sandy clay.	brown silty sandy clay.	yellow sandy clayey silt.								
21	30	1.8	NE-SW	Firm, dark brownish-grey silty sandy clay.	Firm, mid reddish-brown silty sandy clay.	Hard, light brownish-yellow sandy clayey silt.	NE	0.25	0.3	SW	0.25	0.3		0.7
22	30	1.8	NE-SW	Firm, dark brownish-grey silty sandy clay.	Firm, mid reddish-brown silty sandy clay.	Hard, light brownish-yellow sandy clayey silt.	NE	0.25	0.25	SW	0.25	0.25	Buried soil, whole extent of trench, c. 0.2m thick	0.7
23	30	1.8	N-S	Firm, dark brownish-grey silty sandy clay.	Firm, mid reddish-brown silty sandy clay.	Hard, light brownish-yellow sandy clayey silt.	S	0.3	0.2	N	0.3	0.1		0.7
24	30	2	N-S	Firm, dark brownish-grey silty	Firm, mid reddish-brown silty	Hard, light brownish-yellow	S	0.3	0.2	N	0.3	0.5		0.55

				sandy clay.	sandy clay.	sandy clayey silt.								
25	30	2	N-S	Firm, dark brownish-grey silty sandy clay.	Firm, mid reddish-brown silty sandy clay.	Hard, light yellow silty clay.	S	0.2	0.2	N	0.2	0.2		0.4
26	30	2	E-W	Friable, dark brownish-grey silty sand.	Firm, mid reddish-brown silty clayey sand.	Firm, light brownish-yellow sandy silt.	W	0.3	0.3	E	0.3	0.3		1
27	30	1.8	SE-NW	Firm, dark brownish-grey silty sandy clay.	Firm, mid reddish-brown silty sandy clay.	Hard, light brownish-yellow sandy clayey silt.	SE	0.25	0.25	NW	0.25	0.1		0.5
28	30	1.8	N-S	Firm, dark brownish-grey silty sandy clay.	Firm, mid reddish-brown silty sandy clay.	Hard, light brownish-yellow sandy clayey silt.	N	0.3	0.2	S	0.3	0.2	Occup. layer or feature cluster	0.7

APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Context number	Cut Number	Trench	Context type	Feature type	Cut Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Shape in plan	Sides	Base	Orientation (linear features only)	Compaction	Colour (tone)	Colour (hue)	Colour (main)	Interpretation
203	205	26	Fill	Pit		2.5	0.8	0.15					Friable	Dark	Greyish	Black	Natural infilling
204	205	26	Fill	Pit		2.5	0.8	0.48					Friable	Dark	Greyish	Black	Dump of waste/ rubbish
205	205	26	Cut	Pit	Waste pit	2.5	0.8	0.55	Circular	Moderate	Concave						
206	207	26	Fill	Ditch		1	0.8	0.3					Firm	Mid	Brownish	Brown	Deliberate backfill
207	207	26	Cut	Ditch	Enclosure ditch	1	0.8	0.3	Linear	Moderate	Concave	NE-SW					
208	209	10	Fill	Ditch		1	1.05	0.15					Firm	-	-	Black	Deliberate backfill
209	209	10	Cut	Ditch	Enclosure ditch	1	1.05	0.5	Linear	Moderate	Convex	E-W					
210	209	26	Fill	Ditch		1	1.05	0.35					Hard	Mid	Greyish	Yellow	Natural infilling
211	212	26	Fill	Pit		0.95	0.5	0.1					Soft	-	-	Black	Dump of waste/ rubbish
212	212	26	Cut	Pit	Waste pit	0.95	0.5	0.1	Irregular	Gentle	Flat						
213	214	24	Fill	Pit		0.58	0.5	0.18					Firm	Mid	Brownish	Grey	Natural infilling
214	214	24	Cut	Pit	Storage pit	0.56	0.55	0.18	Circular	Moderate	Flat						
215	216	25	Fill	Pit		0.7	0.75	0.12					Friable	Mid	Brownish	Brown	Deliberate backfill
216	216	25	Cut	Pit	Other	0.7	0.75	0.12	Circular	Gentle	Flat						
217	217	25	Cut	Cremation	Cremation	0.26	0.24	0.11	Circular	Undercutting	Flat						
218	209	26	Fill	Ditch		1	1.05	0.15					Hard	Mid	Yellowish	Brown	Redeposited natural
219	219	26	Cut	Ditch	Boundary ditch	1.12	1	0.32	Linear	Steep	Flat	E-W					
219	220	26	Fill	Ditch		1.12	1	0.32					Hard	Mid	Reddish	Brown	Natural infilling
221	222	25	Fill	Ditch		1	1.2	0.33					Friable	Dark	Blueish	Brown	Dump of

																	waste/ rubbish
222	222	25	Cut	Ditch	Enclosure ditch	1	1.2	0.5	Linear	Steep	Tapered rounded	E-W					
225	231	24	Fill	Ditch		1	3	0.65					Soft	-	-	Black	Dump of waste/ rubbish
226	231	24	Fill	Ditch		0	0.9	0.15					Soft	Mid	Yellowish	Brown	Ploughing (redeposited natural)
227	231	24	Fill	Ditch		0	0.7	0.2					Soft	Dark	Brownish	Grey	Dump of waste/ rubbish
228	231	24	Fill	Ditch		0	0.4	0.3					Friable	Mid	Yellowish	Brown	Redeposited natural
229	231	24	Fill	Ditch		0	1	0.23					Soft	Mid	Brownish	Grey	Natural infilling
234	236	25	Fill	Ditch		1	0.8	0.21					Friable	Mid	Brownish	Grey	Natural infilling
235	222	25	Fill	Ditch		1	0.9	0.17					Friable	Mid	Yellowish	Brown	Natural infilling
236	236	25	Cut	Ditch	Enclosure ditch	1	0.8	0.21	Linear	Gentle	Flat	NW-SE					
237	239	24	Fill	Ditch		1.73	1	0.4					Firm	-	-	Black	Deliberate backfill
238	239	24	Fill	Ditch		2.7	1	0.5					Firm	Light	Blueish	Yellow	Dump of waste/ rubbish
239	239	24	Cut	Ditch	Enclosure ditch	2.7	1	0.78	Linear	Moderate	Concave	E-W					
241	242	27	Fill	Ditch		1	1.32	0.41					Soft	Dark	Greyish	Brown	Dump of waste/ rubbish
242	242	27	Cut	Ditch	Boundary ditch	1	1.32	0.41	Linear	Steep	Concave	NW-SE					
243	242	27	Fill	Ditch		1	1.32	0.41					Soft	Mid	Yellowish	Brown	Alluvium
244	245	21	Fill	Pit		0.67	0.64	0.17					Soft	Mid	Greyish	Brown	Deliberate backfill
245	245	21	Cut	Pit	Other	0.67	0.64	0.17	Circular	Gentle	Not reached						
248	249	27	Fill	Posthole		0.32	0.37	0.11					Friable	Light	Greyish	Brown	Natural infilling
249	249	27	Cut	Posthole	Fence line	0.32	0.37	0.11	Circular	Gentle	Concave						
250	251	20	Fill	Pit		0.7	0.45	0.12					Firm	Mid	Brownish	Grey	Furrow

251	251	20	Cut	Pit	Natural Hollow	0.7	0.45	0.12	Circular	Gentle	Concave						
252	253	20	Fill	Ditch		1	0.4	0.15					Soft	-	-	Black	Dump of waste/ rubbish
253	253	20	Cut	Ditch	Drainage ditch	1	0.4	0.15	Linear	Steep	Flat	E-W					
254	256	20	Fill	Ditch		1	1.3	0.34					Firm	Dark	Brownish	Grey	Dump of waste/ rubbish
255	256	20	Fill	Ditch		1	0.67	0.3					Soft	Dark	Greyish	Brown	Natural infilling
256	256	20	Cut	Ditch	Boundary ditch	1	1.3	0.62	Linear	Moderate	Irregular/ Uneven	N-S					
259	259	19	Cut	Ditch	Enclosure ditch	1	0.7	0.53	Linear	Steep	Flat	E-W					
260	262	19	Fill	Ditch		1	1.45	0.42					Friable	Mid	Yellowish	Brown	Dump of waste/ rubbish
261	262	19	Fill	Ditch		1	1.45	0.42					Friable	Dark	Greyish	Brown	Dump of waste/ rubbish
262	262	19	Cut	Ditch	Enclosure ditch	1	1.45	0.43	Linear	Moderate	Concave	E-W					
257	259	19	Fill	Ditch		1	0.75	0.36					Friable	Mid	Brownish	Brown	Dump of waste/ rubbish

APPENDIX 3: POTTERY CATALOGUE

Context	Context spotdate	Sample	Fabric	Number	Weight (g)	Form	Type	Decoration	Dec. position	Notes	Pot date
2	AD40-100	0	FSMGW	2	5	Unknown	Body			C2	ER
3	AD0-100	0	SHELL	1	53	Unknown	Body			C3	IA/ER
4	AD0-60	0	QG1	1	12	Unknown	Body			C4	LIA
5	AD30-60	0	GQ1	4	57	Jar	Short neck, everted,slight ebad			C5	IA/ER
6		0	GQ2	5	231	Jar	Body	Cordon	sh	C6	IA/ER
6		0	GQ2	2	50	Unknown	Body			C6	IA/ER
6	AD30-60	0	CSRDU	1	15	Closed	Body			C6	IA/ER
7		0	GQ1	4	62	Unknown	Body	Incised waves, circles and lines	ect	C7 -same dec poss same ves as (257)	LIA
7	AD0-60	0	GQ2	1	4	Unknown	Body			C7	LIA
8	AD0-60	0	GQ2	1	8	Unknown	Body			C8	LIA
8		0	QG1	1	10	Unknown	Body			C8	LIA
9	AD0-60	0	GQ2	1	10	Unknown	Body			C9	LIA
10		0	SHELL	1	17	Unknown	Body			C10	IA/ER
10	AD40-100	0	SHELL	1	10	Jar	Necked, angular bead			C10	ER
10		0	CSRDU	1	9	Unknown	Body			C10	IA/ER
11	AD40-100	0	GQ2	1	7	Unknown	Lid seated channel			C11	ER

Context	Context spotdate	Sample	Fabric	Number	Weight (g)	Form	Type	Decoration	Dec. position	Notes	Pot date
11		0	SHELL	1	83	Unknown	Body			C11	ER
12	AD30-60	0	GQ1	8	28	Unknown	Body			C12	IA/ER
13	AD0-60	0	QG1	4	7	Unknown	Body			C13	LIA
15	AD0-60	0	CSRDU	2	5	Unknown	Body			C15	LIA
15		0	GQ2	1	8	Unknown	Body	Cordon	?	C15	LIA
16	AD0-60		GQ1	1	2	Unknown	Body			C16	LIA
17	AD0-60	0	GQ1	1	8	Unknown	Body	BU	ext	C17	LIA
18	AD0-60	0	GQ2	2	4	Unknown	Body			C18	LIA
19	AD30-100	0	CSRDU	1	5	Unknown	Body			C19	IA/ER
203	AD0-100	32	GQ1	2	9	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
203		32	FSOX	1	1	Beaker	Body	Rouletted			IA/ER
204		0	GQ2	5	193	Unknown	Body				LIA
204		0	GQ2	7	108	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
204		0	GQ1	6	234	Unknown	Body				LIA
204		0	GROG	1	5	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
204		33	GQ1	4	19	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
204		33	GROG	3	18	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
204		0	CSOX	1	59	Jar	Wide mouth, necked, everted, rounded				LIA
204		0	GQ2	2	20	Unknown	Body				IA/ER

Context	Context spotdate	Sample	Fabric	Number	Weight (g)	Form	Type	Decoration	Dec. position	Notes	Pot date
204		0	BLKSL	1	2	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
204	AD0-60	0	GQ2	1	10	Unknown	Plain upright rim-could be base				LIA
204		0	GQ1	1	8	Jar	Necked, beaded rim				LIA
204		0	GROG	4	62	Unknown	Body				LIA
206	AD0-60	0	GQ1	10	204	Jar	Wide mouth, necked, everted flat bead			maybe draw	LIA
210	AD30-100	0	GQ2	6	23	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
210		0	SHELL	3	7	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
210		0	CSRDU	1	2	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
215		0	GQ1	2	14	Jar	Body				LIA
215	AD30-60	34	GQ1	4	6	Unknown	Body				LIA
215		45	GQ1	1	1	Unknown	Body				LIA
215		0	GQ1	51	182	Closed	FB				LIA
215		0	GQ2	2	9	Jar	Body			Spit 2	LIA
215		0	GQ2	3	44	Jar	Body	Cordon/incised lines	neck	Spit 3	IA/ER
215		49	GQ1	1	1	Unknown	Body				LIA
215		0	GQ2	4	44	Jar	Body			Spit 1	IA/ER
215		0	GQ2	6	22	Jar	Body	Cordon/incised lines		Spit 3	IA/ER
215		0	GQ2	8	292	Jar	FB	Cordon/incised lines	above base	Spit 5	IA/ER

Context	Context spotdate	Sample	Fabric	Number	Weight (g)	Form	Type	Decoration	Dec. position	Notes	Pot date
									and neck		
221	AD50-100	0	SHELL	38	185	Jar	Channel rim no neck				ER
221		35	GQ1	16	37	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
221		35	SHELL	19	41	Jar	Channel rim			same as 221	ER
221		0	GROG	1	19	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
221		0	GQ1	2	11	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
223		0	SHELL	1	13	Unknown	FB				LIA
223		0	GQ2	1	25	Unknown	Body	BLKSL			LIA
223		0	GQ1	3	17	Unknown	Body	BLKSL			LIA
223		0	GQ2	2	123	Jar	Wide mouth, necked beaded rim				LIA
223	AD0-60	0	GQ1	2	13	Beaker/jar	Necked, everted	BU			LIA
223		0	GQ2	12	67	Unknown	Body				LIA
223		0	GQ1	11	96	Unknown	Body				LIA
223		0	SHELL	7	23	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
223		0	GQ2	3	168	Unknown	Body				LIA
223		0	GQ1	33	70	Unknown	Body				LIA
223		0	GQ1	1	6	Beaker/jar	Necked, everted	BU			LIA
223		0	GQ1	64	341	Jar	Wide mouth, necked, beaded				IA/ER

Context	Context spotdate	Sample	Fabric	Number	Weight (g)	Form	Type	Decoration	Dec. position	Notes	Pot date
225	AD40-60	0	QG1	1	7	Beaker	Long neck, small everted bead				IA/ER
225		0	WW	3	41	Flagon	Handle	4 tooled lines	Handle		ER
225		0	G1	9	95	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
225		0	GQ2	5	32	Unknown	Body				LIA
225		0	CSMRDU	1	9	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
225		0	GQ1	1	1	Unknown	Body	BU	ext		IA/ER
226	AD0-60	0	GQ2	1	42	Unknown	Body				LIA
227	AD30-60	0	CSOX	1	3	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
227		0	CSOX	1	2	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
227		0	GQ1	3	27	Unknown	Body				LIA
227		0	QG1	1	14	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
229	AD0-60	0	GQ1	8	38	Unknown	Body				LIA
229		0	G1	13	51	Unknown	Body				LIA
229		0	GQ1	6	40	Unknown	Body				LIA
230		0	GQ2	1	15	Unknown	Body				LIA
230	AD0-60	0	GQ1	1	14	Unknown	Angular shoulder				LIA
237		0	GQ2	1	5	Unknown	Body	Cordons			LIA
237		0	GQ2	2	180	Jar	Wide mouth, necked, everted				LIA

Context	Context spotdate	Sample	Fabric	Number	Weight (g)	Form	Type	Decoration	Dec. position	Notes	Pot date
237		0	GQ2	2	58	Unknown	FB				LIA
237		0	GQ2	7	139	Jar	Wide mouth, necked beaded				LIA
237		0	GQ2	1	7	Unknown	Body	Incised lines			LIA
237	AD30-60		QG1	1	75	Jar/bowl	Short neck, everted, slight bead				IA/ER
237		0	QG1	1	6	Unknown	Thin, upright slight everted rim				IA/ER
237			GQ2	1	5	Unknown	Upright, everted rounded				IA/ER
237		0	GQ2	1	82	Jar	Wide mouth, necked, everted, beaded slight bifid				IA/ER
237		0	GQ1	1	10	Unknown	Body	wiped	ext		IA/ER
237		0	QG1	1	18	Unknown	rounded sh				IA/ER
237		0	GQ2	4	60	Unknown	Body				LIA
237		0	G1	12	69	Unknown	Body				LIA
237		0	GQ1	9	397	Closed	Body				LIA
237		0	GQ2	39	121	Unknown	Body				LIA
237		0	G1	70	445	Unknown	Body	Incised/combed wavy lines			LIA
238		0	GQ2	26	170	Unknown	Body				LIA

Context	Context spotdate	Sample	Fabric	Number	Weight (g)	Form	Type	Decoration	Dec. position	Notes	Pot date
238		0	QG1	70	383	Unknown	Body				LIA
238		0	QG1	2	13	Jar	Necked, everted slight lipped				IA/ER
238	AD30-60	0	QG1	3	27	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
241		0	GQ2	11	93	Unknown	Body				LIA
241		0	GQ1	1	10	Unknown	Necked, everted, rounded				LIA
241		0	SHELL	1	33	Jar	Wide mouth, everted, rounded				IA/ER
241		0	SHELL	2	3	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
241		0	GQ1	1	9	Unknown	Body	BU	ext		IA/ER
241		0	GQ1	1	5	Unknown	Necked, beaded	BU			IA/ER
241	AD30-60	0	GQ1	1	3	Unknown	Necked, everted rounded				IA/ER
241		0	GQ1	2	7	Unknown	Everted, rounded, slight channel				LIA
241		0	GQ1	3	6	Unknown	Necked, everted, rounded				LIA
241		0	GQ2	1	4	Unknown	Necked, everted rounded				LIA
241		0	GQ1	10	98	Unknown	Body				LIA
241		0	GQ1	5	7	Unknown	Body	BLKSL			LIA
241		0	GQ1	5	25	Unknown	Body				LIA
241		0	GQ1	2	5	Unknown	Body				IA/ER

Context	Context spotdate	Sample	Fabric	Number	Weight (g)	Form	Type	Decoration	Dec. position	Notes	Pot date
241		0	SHELL	3	17	Jar	Channel rim				IA/ER
241		0	GQ1	3	23	Unknown	Stepped base				LIA
241		0	GQ1	1	2	Unknown	Upright rounded rim				LIA
241		0	GQ1	14	130	Unknown	Body				LIA
244		36	GQ2	2	6	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
244		36	GQ1	1	2	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
244		41	GQ2	1	5	Unknown	Body				LIA
244	AD40-70	0	SHELL	55	600	Jar	Channel rim	Lightly comebd	Sh	Spit 4	ER
244			SHELL	7	19	Unknown	Body			SF16	IA/ER
244		36	GQ2	3	9	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
244		0	SHELL	2	16	Unknown	Body			Spit 2	LIA
244		41	GQ1	1	6	Unknown	Body				LIA
244		0	SHELL	1	2	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
244	AD30-60	0	GQ2	1	30	Unknown	Necked, everted, rounded				IA/ER
244		0	SHELL	6	72	Jar	Channel rim				LIA
244		0	GQ2	1	20	Jar	Wide mouth everted rounded				LIA
244		44	SHELL	6	11	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
244		0	GQ2	1	3	Unknown	Body	Incised lines			LIA
244		0	GQ1	1	2	Unknown	Body				LIA

Context	Context spotdate	Sample	Fabric	Number	Weight (g)	Form	Type	Decoration	Dec. position	Notes	Pot date
244		0	GQ2	7	90	Unknown	Body				LIA
244		0	G1	2	15	Unknown	Body				LIA
245	AD0-60	0	G1	8	58	Unknown	Body				LIA
246		0	QG1	1	29	Unknown	Rounded rim				IA/ER
246		0	GQ1	5	18	Unknown	Body				LIA
246	AD30-100	0	FSGW	2	11	Unknown	Body				ER
246		0	GQ2	1	32	Unknown	SH				LIA
252		0	GQ2	3	29	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
252	AD30-60	0	GQ2	1	9	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
252		0	GQ1	1	18	Jar	Necked, everted, rounded				IA/ER
252		0	GQ2	1	13	Unknown	Necked, everted, slight bead	BU	ext		IA/ER
257		40	GQ2	3	16	Unknown	Body				LIA
257		0	SHELL	1	3	Jar	Channel/lipped rim				IA/ER
257		40	GQ1	2	14	Unknown	Body				LIA
257		40	QG1	1	25	Jar	Necked, everted				IA/ER
257		0	SHELL	13	37	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
257		0	GQ1	1	17	Jar	Necked, everted, rounded	Wiped			IA/ER
257		0	GQ2	1	234	Unknown	Body				LIA
257		0	GQ2	12	127	Unknown	Body				LIA

Context	Context spotdate	Sample	Fabric	Number	Weight (g)	Form	Type	Decoration	Dec. position	Notes	Pot date
257		0	SHELL	2	17	Unknown	Body				LIA
257		0	GQ1	1	114	Jar	Wide mouth, everted, slight bead				LIA
257		0	GQ1	10	120	Unknown	Body				LIA
257	AD30-60	0	GQ1	2	17	Beaker	Rippled sh, everted, rounded rim				IA/ER
257		0	G1	1	16	Unknown	Rim				LIA
257		0	GQ2	1	5	Jar	Channel rim				IA/ER
257		0	GQ1	65	1125	Jar	RB, body	Incised waves, circles and lines	sh		LIA
260	AD0-60	39	GQ2	5	28	Unknown	Body				LIA
261		0	GQ1	1	12	Unknown	Body				LIA
261		0	G1	1	8	Unknown	Body	Fingernail cheveron	unknown		LIA
261		0	SHELL	2	43	Unknown	Body				LIA
261		0	SHELL	1	54	Jar	Wide mouth everted, rounded				LIA
261		0	GQ2	1	218	Jar	Wide mouth, flanged bead				LIA
261		0	GQ2	4	42	Unknown	Body				LIA
261		0	GQ2	1	10	Unknown	Body	BU	ext		LIA
261		0	QG1	2	62	Unknown	Pinched base				IA/ER

Context	Context spotdate	Sample	Fabric	Number	Weight (g)	Form	Type	Decoration	Dec. position	Notes	Pot date
261		0	QG1	1	78	Closed	Body	Incised line and small cordon	waist, neck		IA/ER
261	AD30-60	0	QG1	1	48	Unknown	Body	Incsided lines	Neck and sh		IA/ER
263		0	QG1	1	46	Unknown	Body				LIA
263	AD30-60	0	GQ1	5	108	Closed	RB				IA/ER
263		0	GQ2	1	8	Jar	Body	Combed			LIA
265		0	GQ2	2	190	Jar	Body	Combed			LIA
265		0	SHELL	2	63	Unknown	Body				LIA
265		0	SHELL	1	16	Jar	No neck, pincehd r				LIA
265		0	G1	2	40	Unknown	Body				LIA
265		0	SHELL	1	19	Jar	Body	Incised lines			LIA
265	AD30-60	0	GQ2	1	8	Unknown	Body				IA/ER
265		0	GQ1	1	22	Unknown	PB				LIA
265		0	QG1	1	12	Unknown	Slight everted rim				LIA
				1058	10892						

APPENDIX 4: CONTENTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES

Sample Number	32	33	34	35	36	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49
Context Number	203	204	215	221	244	260	257	244	244	244	244	215	215	215	215	215
Feature Number	205	205	216	222	245	262	259	245	245	245	245	216	216	216	216	216
Spit number								1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	5
Feature type	Pit	Pit	Cremation	Ditch	Cremation	Ditch	Ditch	Cremation	Cremation	Cremation	Cremation	Cremation	Cremation	Cremation	Cremation	Cremation
Period	Roman	Roman	Roman	Roman	Roman	Roman	Roman	Roman	Roman	Roman	Roman	Roman	Roman	Roman	Roman	Roman
Volume of flot (mililitres)	8	12	24	32	38	20	18	6	8	7	4	3	5	8	6	5
Volume of residue (litres)	14	34	18	18	40	18	17	5	3	4	4	2	2	2	2	3
FLOT RESIDUE:																
Charcoal																
Charcoal >4mm				1												
Charcoal 2-4mm	2	2	1	3	2	3	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	2
Charcoal <2mm	3	4	3	4	3	4	4	2	2	3	1	1	1	1	3	3
Seeds																
Charred seed	2	3			1	1	1	1	1	1				1	1	
Indeterminate charred seed	1															
Un-charred seeds	1			1	2											
Cereals																
Charred cereal	1	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	1							
Indeterminate charred cereal	1	3			1	1				1						
Other plant macrofossils																
Modern plant material	2	3	2	2	3	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Roots/ tubers	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	2	1	3	3	3	3	3	2
Other remains																
Insect eggs/ worm cases	1			2	2	1					1		1			
Insect remains	1															
Coal						1						1				1
Vitrified material	1	1				1	3	2								
Human bone												1			1	1
HEAVY RESIDUE:																
Charcoal																
Charcoal >4mm	1	2			1	1	2									

Charcoal 2-4mm	2	4	1	2	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
Cereal																
Charred cereal	1	3		2	3	1	3	1	2	1						
Shell																
Nutshell																
Building material																
Burnt clay	1	3			1	1	1		3	2	1					
CBM												1				
Finds																
Pot	1	2	2	3	2	1	1	1		2	2	1				1
Bead					1											
Metal- Fe																1
Burnt Flint	2	3		2	2	1	1	1	1							
Bone																
Human			1					2	3	2		3	3	4	3	4
Animal	2	3		2	3	3	3									

Key: 1- Occasional, 2- fairly frequent, 3- frequent, 4- abundant.

APPENDIX 5: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-425440

Project details	
Project name	Areas 15 and 16 at Land North-East of Milton Keynes: An Archaeological Evaluation
Short description of the project	The evaluation confirmed the presence of the features shown on the geophysical survey as forming part of a planned settlement. The settlement dated to the Late Iron Age and went out of use by the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period, during or shortly after the Roman Conquest. The settlement was represented by a series of enclosure and boundary ditches, trackways, pits and postholes including waterholes, a cremation and a special deposit with an inverted vessel. No features dated to earlier or later phases or periods were encountered during the evaluation.
Project dates	Start: 04-05-2021 End: 14-05-2021
Previous/future work	Yes / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	EMK1449 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 2 - Operations to a depth less than 0.25m
Monument type	PIT Late Iron Age
Monument type	DITCH Late Iron Age
Monument type	ENCLOSURE Late Iron Age
Monument type	TRACKWAY Late Iron Age
Monument type	CREMATION Late Iron Age
Significant Finds	POT Late Iron Age
Project location	

Country	England
Site location	BUCKINGHAMSHIRE MILTON KEYNES NEWPORT PAGNELL Areas 15 and 16 at Land North-East of Milton Keynes: An Archaeological Evaluation
Study area	17 Hectares
Site coordinates	SP 89092 41858 52.067498074293 -0.700130967129 52 04 02 N 000 42 00 W Point

Project creators	
Name of Organisation	PCA Central
Project brief originator	no brief
Project design originator	Christiane Meckseper
Project director/manager	Mark Hinman
Project supervisor	Judyta Mlynarska
Type of sponsor/funding body	Consultancy
Name of sponsor/funding body	RPS Group

Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Milton Keynes Museum
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Human Bones","Metal"
Digital Archive recipient	Milton Keynes Museum
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Survey"

Paper Archive recipient	Buckinghamshire County Museum
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Miscellaneous Material"
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Areas 15 and 16 at Land North-East of Milton Keynes: An Archaeological Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Mlynarska, J.
Date	2021
Issuer or publisher	PCA
Place of issue or publication	Pampisford, Cambridge
Description	A4 book
Entered by	Judy Mlynarska (Jmlynarska@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	6 July 2021

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