

Land South West of Bicester, Oxfordshire

Report on Archaeological Evaluation

Prepared on behalf of
Terence O'Rourke Ltd
Everdene House
Deansleigh Road
Bournemouth
BH7 7DU

By
Wessex Archaeology
Portway House
Old Sarum Park
Salisbury
SP4 6EB

Report reference: 63560.01

October 2006

Land South West of Bicester, Oxfordshire

Report on Archaeological Evaluation

Contents

1	INTRODUCTION	1
	1.1 Project Background	1
	1.2 The Site.....	1
	1.3 Archaeological Background	2
2	AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	4
	2.1 Aim	4
	2.2 Archive deposition.....	4
3	METHODS.....	5
	3.1 Trench location.....	5
	3.2 Excavation and Recording	5
	3.3 Finds and environmental sampling	6
4	RESULTS.....	8
	4.1 Introduction.....	8
	4.2 Geology and soil sequences.....	8
	4.3 Area A	9
	4.4 Area B.....	12
	4.5 Area C	15
	4.6 Area D	16
	4.7 Area E and Road Alignment	17
	4.8 Area F.....	18
5	FINDS	20
	5.1 Introduction.....	20
	5.2 Pottery	20
	5.3 Ceramic Building Material (CBM) and Fired Clay.....	21
	5.4 Worked Flint	21
	5.5 Metalwork.....	21
	5.6 Animal Bone	21
	5.7 Other Finds	22
6	ENVIRONMENTAL.....	23
	6.1 Geoarchaeology	23
	6.2 Palaeo-environmental Evidence.....	24
	6.3 Evaluation Results; methods and data.....	25
	6.4 Recommendations for sampling and further work.....	28
	6.5 Overview	29
7	DISCUSSION.....	30
	7.1 General Discussion of the Evaluation Trenches.....	30
	7.2 Conclusions	32
	7.3 Recommendations	34
	REFERENCES.....	35

APPENDIX I	37
Area summary tables	37
APPENDIX II.....	40
Finds Tables	40
APPENDIX III	41
Environmental tables	41
APPENDIX IV	44
Geoarchaeologist Site Visit Notes.....	44
APPENDIX V.....	49
Trench Tables	49

List of Tables

Table 1: Trenches with colluvium by area.....	37
Table 2: Summary of Features, Dates and Levels of Trenches: Area A.....	37
Table 3: Summary of Features, Dates and Levels of Trenches: Area B.....	38
Table 4: Summary of Features, Dates and Levels of Trenches: Area C.....	38
Table 5: Summary of Features, Dates and Levels of Trenches: Area E.....	39
Table 6: Summary of Features, Dates and Levels of Trenches: Area F.....	39
Table 7: Finds totals by area (number / weight in grammes).....	40
Table 8: Animal Bone: Faunal list (NISP).....	40
Table 9: Bulk Sample summary.....	41
Table 10: Mollusc column and spot sample summary.....	41
Table 11: Monolith Sample Summary.....	41
Table 12: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal.....	42
Table 13: Land snail assessment.....	43

List of Figures

Figure 1: Bicester South West archaeological evaluation: Site location
Figure 2: Area A trench location plan (Trenches 1-8, 10-17, 19-67) with Plates 1 to 3
Figure 3: Area A. Plans and sections of selected features from Trenches 6, 19, 23 & 25
Figure 4: Areas B & F trench location (Trenches 68-92, 100-102, 104 & 138-143)
Figure 5: Plans and sections of selected features from Areas B & F with Plates 7 & 8
Figure 6: Area C trench location (Trenches 93-99, 103, 105-112, 117-8 & 137 with Plate 9 and selected sections from Trenches 96, 98 & 118
Figure 7: Area E (Trenches 129-133) with plates 10-12 and selected sections through features 12904, 13003 & 13106
Figure 8: Plans and sections of selected features in Trench 133

List of Plates

Front Cover: Ridge and furrow beginning to show in weed growth in Area A West; Middle Bronze Age palstave from Area B
Back Cover: Dramatic skies over Bicester: Area A east from the south
Plate 1: Area A north

Plate 2: Area A west

Plate 3: Area A east

Plate 4: Middle Bronze Age palstave

Plate 5: Pre-excavation view of ring-ditch in Trench 79

Plate 6: General view of Area B

Plate 7: Posthole 10410 in Trench 104

Plate 8: Possible hearth 10408 in Trench 104

Plate 9: Pit 9608 in Trench 96

Plate 10: General view of a Trench in Area E

Plate 11: Section through ditch 13003 in Trench 130

Plate 12: Pit 13108 in Trench 131

Land South West of Bicester, Oxfordshire

Interim Evaluation Report

Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Terence O'Rourke Ltd, on behalf of Countryside Properties (Bicester) Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land south-west of Bicester, Oxfordshire (NGR 457100 222000). The evaluation formed part of a programme of archaeological work in connection with proposals for development. The land evaluated was agricultural; mainly arable with two small areas of pasture.

The evaluation took place between 21st July and 1st September 2006, and 18th – 20th September 2006. It comprised 134 trenches, divided into six areas: A, B, C, D, E/road alignment and F. These trenches were targeted on cropmarks, geophysical anomalies; blank areas and areas of unknown potential. The location of the trenches was also determined by the proposed development. The initial programme of 137 trenches was reduced to 128.5 trenches due to obstacles, reassessment of the proposals and the results of trenches already investigated. A further six trenches (Area F) were required due to the repositioning of development proposals.

Previous evaluation on land immediately to the east by Oxford Archaeology (2002) uncovered evidence for Romano-British settlement. The Iron Age/Romano-British settlement site of Alchester and a Saxon cemetery have been excavated a short distance to the south east of the Site.

The soil sequence on the Site usually comprised topsoil overlying a subsoil (generally of colluvial nature), which in turn overlay the natural geology. The natural geology varied from solid limestone (slab formation) to fine limestone cornbrash. Overlying the limestone/cornbrash across the centre of the site (north east to south west) was an irregular band of Oxford/Kellaway clay. Either side of the clay band, the geology comprised a patchy mixture of brown clay, blue clay and various grades of cornbrash. In some trenches there was a substantial depth of colluvium of predominantly more than one phase, which coincided with boundaries and slopes. Alluvial deposits were also noted in trenches in Area A north & east and Area C.

Ridge and furrow was extant in one pasture field subjected to the evaluation. Most of the remaining areas no longer had earthworks, but crop growth and some trenches provided clear evidence that ridge and furrow had formerly existed (areas A, B, E & F).

Of the 134 trenches opened, 41 contained archaeological features and deposits. Of note and in summary:

- Two ring-ditches, probably representing round barrows. The largest was dated to the Early Bronze Age and had an internal ring-gully. The smallest was not dated (Area B)
- A Middle Bronze Age bronze palstave in good condition was found in Area B, but was within a medieval or later deposit
- Late Iron Age settlement represented by a ring-gully, posthole/pits, ditch and possible hearth (Area B & F)
- Romano-British settlement associated with known cropmarks (Area E/road alignment)
- Romano-British pits, postholes and linear features (Area C)
- Romano-British quarries (Area B)
- Possible Saxon ditch and bank earthworks (Area A north)
- Saxon pits, postholes and ditches (Area A east)
- Medieval or later quarries and track (Area A west and north)
- Post-medieval field boundary (Area A east).

The evaluation located ten ‘zones’ of archaeological activity. It is recommended the ring-ditches in Area B may warrant preservation in situ, whilst the other areas of archaeological remains could, in respect of the current development proposals, be preserved by record. Preservation by record may be achieved through further fieldwork, the method, scale and purpose of which should be the subject of further consultation with the Oxfordshire County Archaeological Officer.

Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology is grateful to Terence O'Rourke Ltd, on behalf of Countryside Properties (Bicester) Ltd, for commissioning the evaluation. The advice and assistance provided by John Trehy of Terence O'Rourke Ltd and Paul Smith (Oxford County Council), who monitored the evaluation, is duly acknowledged.

Wessex Archaeology is also grateful to the landowners Mr & Mrs Woodley of Whitelands Farm for their assistance, interest and provision of facilities.

The evaluation was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Paul McCulloch and directed by Kirsten Egging, assisted by Barry Hennessy, Gemma White, Andrew Baines, Elaine Simpson, Julia Sulikowska, Iain Rockley and Piotr Orczewski. Henriette Olsen was responsible for the site survey. Gemma White directed the additional trenching in Area F.

Kirsten Egging compiled this report. Angi Britten processed the finds; Jessica Grimm assessed the animal bone; Lorraine Mepham assessed the finds and compiled the finds section in this report.

The samples were processed by Elaine Simpson and Daniel Tarrant. The bulk samples were assessed by Dr Chris J. Stevens. Geoarchaeology and pollen were assessed by Dr Catherine Chisham. The molluscs were assessed by Dr Michael J. Allen with Sarah F. Wyles. The environmental chapter was edited by Dr Michael J Allen.

The illustrations were prepared by Elizabeth James.

Land South West of Bicester, Oxfordshire

Interim Evaluation Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Terence O'Rourke Ltd, on behalf of Countryside Properties (Bicester) Ltd to archaeologically evaluate land south-west of Bicester, Oxfordshire (NGR 457100 222000) hereafter referred to as 'the Site' (**Figure 1**). The evaluation forms part of a programme of archaeological work in connection with proposals for development of the Site, which covers an area of 116.45 hectares.
- 1.1.2 The evaluation proceeded in accordance with the Project Design compiled by Wessex Archaeology. The Project Design was prepared following consultation with the County Archaeological Officer (CAO) for Oxfordshire, advisor to the local planning authority, Cherwell District Council and in accordance with a Design Brief issued by the CAO (OCC 2006). The Design Brief was informed by an aerial photographic survey (Cox 2005), a geophysical survey (Stratascan 2006), and by an Environmental Statement (O'Rourke 2006) submitted in May 2006 as part of an outline planning application for the development of the Site submitted to Cherwell District Council (Planning Reference 06/00967/OUT).
- 1.1.3 The Design Brief set out the location, planning, and archaeological background to the Site, the requirement for the evaluation, and specific requirements intended to address the known or perceived archaeological potential of the Site. It also contained Annexes prescribing requirements for methodology, data collection, monitoring arrangements, post-excavation and reporting, archive deposition, and publication and dissemination.
- 1.1.4 The Project Design was prepared in accordance with standards and guidance issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists, with which Wessex Archaeology is a Registered Archaeological Organisation.

1.2 The Site

- 1.2.1 The Site (**Figure 1**) lies south-west of the historic town of Bicester, south of Middleton Stoney Road, west of the A41 Oxford Road, and north of Chesterton.
- 1.2.2 The existing land use is agricultural with a mix of arable and pasture. The Site gently undulates, falling away more noticeably to the south east. It lies

between about 81m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the north and about 67m aOD to the south.

- 1.2.3 The geology map for the area (Geological Survey of Great Britain (England & Wales) solid and drift 1:50 000 sheet 219) is no longer available (but see sheets 218 to the west, 236 to south west and 237 to south). See also **Appendix IV** and **Section 6.1**.
- 1.2.4 The region is dominated by Oxford/Kellaway Clay, while the landscape across the ridge is underlain by Corallian beds of sands and sandy limestones. Mid-late Jurassic cornbrash outcrops in places, comprising a limestone which characteristically breaks into loose rubble or brash. It is a thin (0-5m) bed but laterally extensive, is very shelly, fossiliferous and is oolitic. Upper Corallian Coral Rag also occurs in the area, with sinkholes and springs common. The site lies c. 1/2km north east of the Gagle Brook, only one small stream (the Pingle Brook) traverses the site, to the north of Area A (C. Chisham pers. comm.)

1.3 Archaeological Background

- 1.3.1 The archaeological background to the Site has been described in the Environmental Statement (O'Rourke 2006), and Design Brief (OCC 2006) as follows:

“The existence of archaeological remains both within the application area, and in the immediate surrounding environs, has been known for some time. Various archaeological evaluation techniques that have been used within the current application area and on land immediately adjacent have confirmed the presence of archaeological remains and also produced new evidence of further survival.

Two previous field evaluations comprising geophysical survey and trial trenching have been carried out in the northeast corner of Whitelands Farm land within the current application area. These were carried out for planning application 01/02446/OUT Land adjoining Middleton Stoney Road and Oxford Road, Bicester (OA 2002a), and 01/01125/OUT Proposed Community Hospital, Bicester (OA 2002b). Both of these evaluations were carried out in 2002 by Oxford Archaeology. The former site produced evidence of ditches, gullies, postholes, a walled structure, and cobbled surfaces/yard areas all of 1st-2nd century Roman date. There was also evidence of a sequence of peat overlying alluvial deposits related to the history and changing character of the Pingle Brook. Slight traces of Middle and Late Iron Age activity was also recorded. The latter evaluation produced evidence of enclosure and boundary ditches, a track way, several probable substantial timber structures and pits. The site, which is undoubtedly the same as the site to the north, is interpreted as a Romano-British farmstead dating to the late 1st-2nd century. Once again, slight evidence of Middle Iron Age, and in addition, Anglo-Saxon activity, was also recorded.

The rest of the current application area has, in part, been the subject of two primary stage evaluation methodologies. An Interpretation of Aerial Photographs carried out by Air Photo Services Ltd. in 2005 (Cox 2005), and a Detailed Magnetic (Gradiometry) Survey carried out by Stratascan Ltd. in 2006 (Stratascan 2006). The combined evidence from these two surveys confirmed the presence of a number of archaeological sites located within the application area. These included further extensions of the 1st-2nd century farmstead, a number of linear ditches and embanked features, quarries, several pit groups, a set of ditched enclosures west of Whitelands Farm, and a probable Bronze Age barrow cemetery east of Foxey Leys Copse. In addition areas of medieval ridge and furrow furlongs were identified, and, on the east side of the A42, what might be an alignment associated with the Alchester to Towcester Roman road.”

- 1.3.2 The area of the Site has been subject to previous archaeological work and has produced a range of archaeological finds and sites. In 1989, during the construction of the southern bypass, a Bronze Age sword, possibly part of a ‘smith’s hoard’ was found, close to the Tesco’s superstore east of the Site (OA 1990).
- 1.3.3 Archaeological work on the A421 Wendlebury-Bicester road (Highways Agency 1999) produced evidence of Neolithic/Bronze Age activity, a Middle Iron Age settlement and extensive activity throughout the Romano-British period, and Saxon burials
- 1.3.4 The site lies north west of the Late Iron Age/Romano-British town of Alchester (‘old Roman fort’) first described by Stukeley in the 18th century and the subject of considerable archaeological interest (Booth et al, 2001).

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 Aim

2.1.1 The aim of the trial trench evaluation was to:

- Provide physical evidence for the presence or absence of archaeological remains, that are indicated by non-invasive aerial and geophysical survey, by targeted trial trenching
- Provide physical evidence for the presence or absence of archaeological remains in areas of the site, where non-invasive survey appears to show blank areas or has not been undertaken
- Establish the probable extent, character, date, condition, and quality of archaeological remains within the Site, where present
- The archaeological evaluation aimed to provide information on which an informed decision, regarding subsequent requirements for mitigation of the impact of the proposed development on archaeological remains, can be made. The information is provided in this report.

2.2 Archive deposition

2.2.1 A unique-number site code **63560** was allocated to the Site, and was used on all records and finds. Arrangements will also be made with Oxfordshire County Museum and Archive Store for the deposition of the archive, subject to agreement with the landowner.

3 METHODS

3.1 Trench location

- 3.1.1 In accordance with the Design Brief the evaluation was to comprise 137, 30m by 2m trenches positioned so as to target aerial photographic evidence and possible archaeological anomalies identified by geophysical survey as well as in five areas (A-E) within the Site (Figure 1).
- 3.1.2 Of the 137 proposed trenches, 128.5 were excavated. A further six were opened to investigate the location of new proposals in Area F (Trenches 138-143). In all 134.5 trenches were opened (**Figure 1**).
- 3.1.3 Due to overhead power lines or woodland, the excavation of Trenches 9 and 18 was not possible. Following the reconsideration of the evaluation strategy and development proposals, a number of trenches were relocated (see below) and seven trenches were removed from the evaluation altogether (113, 119, 120, 121, 123, 124 & 125 (Area D and the road line)).
- 3.1.4 With direction from the CAU, Trenches 100-102 and 104 were moved from Area C (road line) to Area B, to investigate the extent of Iron Age activity identified in Trench 92. Trenches 117 and 118 were moved from Area D to the south east of Area C to investigate the site of a proposed balancing pond (**Figure 1**).
- 3.1.5 The positions of Trenches 6, 11, 51, 134 & 137 were slightly altered to avoid obstacles such as hedgerows and heavily waterlogged ground.

3.2 Excavation and Recording

- 3.2.1 Each trench was located using a Leica GPS RX 1250 SmartRover and a Leica GPS 500 SmartNet. The same equipment was used to survey and capture 3D co-ordinates for the trenches and features.
- 3.2.2 Before excavation began, information regarding the presence of any below ground services was sought from Terrence O'Rourke Ltd. None were expected but each trench area was 'swept' with a Cable Avoidance Tool to verify the absence of any underground services.
- 3.2.3 The trenches were topsoil stripped using 13 and 16 ton mechanical excavators with toothless buckets under the direct supervision of Wessex Archaeology staff. Topsoil and subsoil were stored separately, either side of each trench.
- 3.2.4 Machining continued in spits down to the top of the undisturbed natural deposits or archaeological deposits, whichever was encountered first. Once archaeological deposits were exposed, further excavation proceeded by hand.
- 3.2.5 A sufficient sample of each layer/feature type was excavated in order to ascertain the date, nature, extent and condition of the archaeological remains. Archaeological features and deposits were investigated and stratigraphically

excavated. The percentage of any feature or group of features excavated depended on a number of factors. These included the achievement of the objectives, the significance or potential of the archaeological deposit, the percentage of the feature exposed, its stratigraphic relationships, health and safety considerations, and the requirements of the Client and the CAO.

- 3.2.6 Archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system. Deposits and features were surveyed (capturing X, Y, Z co-ordinates) and planned at an appropriate scale of 1:20 on drawing film. Single context planning was carried out where necessary, e.g. where complex archaeological features and deposits needed to be fully recorded. Sections were drawn at 1:10 on drawing film and included existing ground surface and overburden where appropriate in order to provide a full record and deposit column information. An overall surveyed Site plan has been prepared.
- 3.2.7 A photographic record was kept. Both black & white and colour images, including digital images, were prepared. The record includes detailed images of archaeological deposits and features and other images to illustrate their location and context, and the location and context of the separate working areas. The record includes images of the Site overall.
- 3.2.8 The spoil from the trenches was scanned for artefacts, utilising a metal detector.

3.3 Finds and environmental sampling

General

- 3.3.1 In accordance with the Design Brief, and subject to establishing the actual archaeological potential of the Site in the course of the proposed evaluation, appropriate strategies for the recovery of artefacts and environmental samples, and for archaeological science, were devised and implemented by Wessex Archaeology staff in consultation with the CAO and English Heritage's Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science.
- 3.3.2 Detailed sampling followed published guidance (e.g. English Heritage guidance on environmental archaeology, geoarchaeology, and archaeometallurgy) and Wessex Archaeology's own sampling procedures. Wessex Archaeology's own specialists (below 2.4.6, and Appendix) were consulted and visited Site to advise on sampling procedures.

Finds

- 3.3.3 All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained, except those from features or deposits of obviously modern date. In such circumstances, sufficient artefacts were retained in order to elucidate the date and/or function of the feature or deposit. Material of undoubtedly modern date observed in up-cast was noted but not retained.
- 3.3.4 All artefacts were, as a minimum, washed, weighed, counted and identified. Any artefacts requiring conservation or specific storage conditions were dealt with immediately in line with First Aid for Finds (Watkinson and Neal

1988). Ironwork from stratified contexts was X-rayed and stored in a stable environment along with other fragile and delicate material. The X-raying of objects and other conservation needs will be undertaken by the staff of the Wiltshire Museums and Library Service Conservation Consortium, Salisbury. Suitable material, primarily the pottery, worked flint and non-ferrous metalwork, was scanned to assess the date range of the relevant assemblages.

Environmental samples

- 3.3.5 The sampling of geoarchaeological and environmental remains was directed at achieving a representative range of information and assist in determining the survival of material and the potential of key archaeological contexts within the Site.
- 3.3.6 Bulk environmental soil samples (minimum 30 litres) for plant macro-fossils, small animal bones and other small artefacts and environmental remains were taken from appropriate well-sealed and dated/datable archaeological deposits.
- 3.3.7 Bulk environmental soil samples were processed by flotation and scanned to assess the environmental potential of deposits, but were not fully analysed. The residues and sieved fractions have been recorded and retained with the project archive.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 This section presents the summarised results from the archive produced on Site during the evaluation. Detailed descriptions of each trench including all features and deposits are included in the appendices (Appendix V).

4.2 Geology and soil sequences

4.2.1 The underlying solid geology observed across the site was typically Corallian sandy limestone. Mid-late Jurassic cornbrash and Upper Corallian Coral Rag featured in most of the trenches. Where other deposits underlay the colluvium and/or subsoil, deeper investigations showed that the cornbrash was present underneath; generally below a thin deposit of reddish (iron rich) silty sand (formation of which is likely to be post-depositional (Chisham pers. comm.)). The depths at which the cornbrash was encountered varied between trenches and areas, sometimes substantially (between 0.20m to >1.4m).

4.2.2 A band of sterile; fossiliferous and stiff bluish grey clay runs across the south east of Area A; the north west of Area B and most of Area C, overlying the cornbrash as described above. The deposit is likely to be that described as Oxford/Kellaway clays.

4.2.3 In the northern part of Area A and south of Area C, the cornbrash layer was fairly thin and allowed a glimpse of the deeper sequence. It appears that below the cornbrash is a deposit of pale bluish grey clay. This could be part of the same sequence as the cornbrash or undefined clay. Its position in the sequence (Jurassic or earlier) makes it too early to influence the archaeological investigations.

4.2.4 The topsoil across the site was generally a dark greyish brown silty clay or silty clay loam and between 0.15m and 0.40m thick. Present agricultural practices use a cultivator rather than a plough. The cultivator only cuts to a depth of 0.20 – 0.25m, to avoid bringing the cornbrash and clay to the surface. In the fields put to pasture (Trenches 1-12 and 135-136; Area A north and the road alignment), the topsoil was richer with lush turf. In the majority of trenches, the topsoil had a very clear lower horizon.

4.2.5 Between the topsoil and natural, an intermediate deposit was frequently encountered. In a few cases the deposit appeared to be inactive ploughsoil i.e. ploughed previously and now not disturbed by current agricultural practices (e.g. in Trench 92). Frequently a ‘subsoil’ of generally colluvial nature was observed (see **Appendix I**):

- **Area A:** 45 trenches had some degree of ‘subsoil’, of which deposits in three were over 0.5m thick.

- **Area B:** 26 trenches had some degree of ‘subsoil’, of which three had deposits over 0.65m thick and up to 1.4m below ground level.
- **Area C:** 17 trenches had some degree of ‘subsoil’, of which five had deposits of notable thickness. Evidence for previously marshy land was observed in Trench 103.
- **Area D:** The trenches were generally quite shallow, with only two trenches containing colluvial deposits, of which one trench revealed any significant depth of colluvium, although this was localised.
- **Area E/ road alignment:** Ten trenches had ‘subsoil’, nine of which were shallow (although Ridge and furrow was observable in some). One trench was up against a field boundary and a possible raised earthwork (not observable on the ground) and had a notable depth of colluvium.
- **Area F:** All trenches had between 0.3m and 0.4m of subsoil/colluvium.

4.2.6 Noteworthy were the substantial deposits of colluvium (and in some cases alluvium) observed in the north east of Area A, and the south east of Areas B and C as described above. Several of these had observable lenses of small stones, suggesting at least two distinct episodes of colluviation and gravel fan formation (C. Chisham pers. comm. & site notes) (**Figure 4**). These trenches coincided with the base of a noticeable, moderate slope and/or a possible coombe (Area B & C) and also the potential original route of the Pingle brook (Area A) (**Figure 1**).

4.2.7 In some trenches, the deposit below the colluvium was very mixed i.e. varying degrees of mid yellowish brown fine cornbrash with random patterns of brown and blue/ grey clays. It is suggested that these gleyed clays are likely to be Holocene in date. The clays seem to fill geological or natural features cut into the top of the cornbrash, particularly the finer grades. Several examples were seen in the central region of Area A (e.g. Trenches 56-58) (**Figure 2**) and Area C (e.g. 107-8) (**Figure 6**).

4.3 Area A

(Trenches 1-8; 10-17 & 19 to 67)

4.3.1 Area A (**Figure 2**) covered an area extending into three fields and for the purposes of this report they are referred to as the North, West and Eastern Sections. It was located immediately west and upslope of previous evaluations that revealed evidence for Romano-British settlement (**Figure 1**) (Oxford Archaeology 2002).

Northern section (Trenches 1-8; 10-12)

Ground level 73.22m aOD (Tr. 1) -70.68m aOD (Tr. 5)

4.3.2 The northern section (**Plate 1**) was a field of rough, lush pasture with areas of nettles and brambles, suggesting disturbed ground. It undulated acutely,

typically comprising various sized depressions and mounds, with an overall gentle slope. A large sub-circular feature nearly 100m in diameter was clearly visible from the ground and was investigated as part of the evaluation. A shallow, formalised stream cut across the field in a north west - south east direction, turning towards the north east at the southern field boundary. The stream is known as the Pingle Brook. This part of Area A was visited by Wessex Archaeology's geoarchaeologist Dr. Cathie Chisham (see **Appendix IV**)

- 4.3.3 Most of the trenches in the northern section of Area A were devoid of archaeological features. The undulations were generally unconvincing as quarries and were more geological in character. The variations in the geology from solid tabular limestone to soliflucted limestone (degraded into rubble (cornbrash) and further into finer silt) had a significant influence on the surface levels. It is possible that quarrying on a small scale was taking place, perhaps indicated by the bramble and nettle patches.
- 4.3.4 A single, small possible gully was identified in Trench 2; no finds were recovered. The edges of this approximately east-west feature were particularly diffuse.
- 4.3.5 The large sub-circular feature was investigated with Trenches 4 to 8. Trenches 6 (**Figure 3**) and 7 produced evidence indicating that the feature was geologically formed, the deposits inside were fine clays and 'mudstone', too old and not consistent with quarry backfill. The sub-circular ring is formed of a solid limestone ridge, sloping away steeply on the inside and moderately outwards. As mentioned previously, natural sinkholes and springs occur in this type of geology and there are known springs and wells in the immediate vicinity. This large feature is not one of these, but clear water was encountered in Trench 6 and groundwater rose to the surface in the deeper parts of Trench 7.
- 4.3.6 There was a curvilinear ditch cut into the inside of the natural ridge of limestone, seen in Trenches 6 & 7. Also one or more gravelly layers had been deposited to enlarge the natural ridge and extend it outwards. Under this deposit in Trench 6 was a small assemblage of Early-Mid Saxon pottery, and within the deposit was a piece of ceramic building material. In Trench 7 the banked material post-dates an episode of overbank flooding in the form of mid bluish-grey silty sandy clay. Trenches 4, 5 and 8 provided evidence for the variable and undulating natural geology. Anomalies seen in these trenches were interpreted as either tree throws or geological.
- 4.3.7 Deposits and extant earthworks (**Figure 2**) in Trenches 11 and 12 suggest possible processing of the limestone with water and its transport. Ruts were identified in a thin cornbrash track between a Post-medieval bridge over the formalised stream in Trench 12. A Post-medieval iron pony shoe was recovered from the subsoil. The darker, charcoal rich deposits in the southern half of Trench 12 proved to be very shallow and amorphous. They appeared to be the remains of undergrowth or tree clearance. These features were below a bank of material similar to the colluvium in the area, however it was covered with brambles and nettles suggesting fairly recent disturbance.

- 4.3.8 The geoarchaeologist did not see any evidence from the investigations to suggest large scale quarrying in the trenches, but believes that there has been activity associated with water management and possibly some form of processing, along with agricultural land use (See **Appendix IV**).

Western Section (Trenches 13-17; 37-52)

Ground level 72.48m (Tr. 17) -73.79m aOD (Tr. 45)

- 4.3.9 The geology in this area consisted entirely of cornbrash in varying grades from solid limestone to fairly fine soliflucted cornbrash.
- 4.3.10 Only four trenches contained archaeological features (**Figure 2**). These comprised a large quarry with later consolidation fills in Trench 16; a similar feature was observed in Trench 37, but this did not have the later consolidation. A posthole (0.28m in diameter; 0.25m deep) and a pit (0.61m in diameter; 0.13m deep) were recorded in Trenches 49 & 50 respectively. Both features were isolated and are undated.
- 4.3.11 The quarry in Trench 16 correlates with a large geophysical anomaly. Further anomalies appear to coincide with changes in the geology (solution hollows for example).

Eastern Section (Trenches 19-36; 53-67)

Ground level 71.14m (Tr. 22) -73.30m aOD (Tr. 59)

- 4.3.12 On the western side of this field, the geology was very similar to that in the western field i.e. cornbrash from solid limestone to fine degraded cornbrash. Towards the east the geology became mottled and patchy with red silty clay and patches of brown and blue clay (as described in 3.2.7). On the eastern edge the cornbrash was capped by Oxford/Kellaway clay.
- 4.3.13 Trenches 19 to 23 had evidence of probable alluvial or overbank flooding deposits. Trench 22, particularly, had very mixed geology with clear iron panning ripples and fine small rounded stones. Similar bluish material to that observed in Trenches 7 & 98 was noted in these trenches, which lie close to the formalised stream seen in the north of Area A. It is possible that the original route of the stream was in or close to these trenches.
- 4.3.14 Trench 19 (**Figures 2 & 3**) had three pits, at least two postholes and a ditch/gully under a reasonable depth of colluvium. The trench is at the edge of a field and may have deeper overlying deposits as a result. One of the pits contained a large quantity of burnt stones, whilst another was filled with charcoal rich silt. These appear to be industrial in nature. The ditch was quite insubstantial and aligned north north-east/ south south-west. The postholes may be associated with each other and the ditch. All of the features in this trench were not dated, although a bulk sample of the charcoal rich deposit was retained.
- 4.3.15 Trench 21 contained a ditch/gully and a small gully terminus (all undated). It is possible that the ditch/gully is associated with (a return of a field boundary?) that in Trench 19.

- 4.3.16 Trench 23 (**Figures 2 & 3**) contained a wide but shallow ditch orientated north east/south west and dated to the Saxon period. A small pit of unknown date and function was also recorded in this trench.
- 4.3.17 Trench 25 (**Figures 2 & 3**) contained a small pit filled with burnt material. This contained a sherd of Oxford Colour Coated mortarium, but also some Saxon pottery, suggesting the later date.
- 4.3.18 A small gully in Trench 30 contained charcoal flecks, but no datable material was found. In Trench 31 there were two clear postholes, both of which contained material dating to the Saxon period. The anomaly in Trench 35 was geological in nature.
- 4.3.19 In the colluvial deposit in Trench 56 was a piece of Late Iron Age pottery, the only evidence of activity of that date in the area. There was a small feature in this trench and Trench 57. Both were probably shrub throws and are undated.
- 4.3.20 Correlations with crop marks/geophysics (**Figures 2 & 3**):
- A linear feature was identified in Trench 23 but slightly nearer the northern end than plotted
 - Trench 29 revealed an old field boundary; the disturbance in trench 24 correlates with the late field boundary
 - Feature in Trench 33 was geological in nature
 - Headland in Trenches 55 and 59, slight, almost completely plough out.
 - Ridge and furrow was observed in Trench 60
 - Several of the other anomalies picked up in the geophysical survey or aerial photography correlate with field drains of various dates.

4.4 Area B

(Trenches 68 to 92 and 100 to 102 & 104)

- 4.4.1 In the south western section of Area B (**Figures 4 & 5**), at the base of the slope downslope from Area C, the line of a former possible watercourse was noted. Trenches revealed deep colluvium (**Figure 4**) (>1.4m in places) with clear lenses of small angular-rounded stones, with at least two distinct episodes of colluviation and gravel fan formation. The colluvium is orange-red and less calcareous than elsewhere on site. Extensive areas of stiff but malleable waterlogged gleyed (blue) clays (Oxford /Kellaway) were also noted (across the north western edge of the area), but in the two trenches deepened to 1.4m it was found that the only inclusions in these massive bodies of clay were small fragments of weathered limestone, as also observed in Trench 12 Area A (Chisham site notes /pers. comm.).

- 4.4.2 In the north eastern section, in the trenches closest to Area A, the geology was solid limestone and cornbrash. Towards the A41, the trenches were similar to those with deep colluvium described above.

South western section (Trenches 82-92; 100-102 & 104)

Ground level 67.20m (Tr. 83) – 71.72m aOD (Tr. 100)

- 4.4.3 Of the 15 trenches excavated in this section, four contained features of archaeological interest. Of particular significance were the features indicative of Late Iron Age settlement (ring-gully, pits and possible hearth) in Trench 104 (**Figures 4 & 5**), and a ditch of the same date in Trench 92, although the upper fill contained Saxon material. In Trench 91 the ditch was also of a Late Iron Age date. This trench also had tree throws of Post-medieval date.
- 4.4.4 In Trench 92, in a deposit of probable Medieval or later date (inactive ploughsoil) and therefore *ex situ*, was a Middle Bronze Age Palstave (**Plate 4 & cover**). Earlier Bronze Age activity in the vicinity is evidenced by two round barrows (see below).
- 4.4.5 In Trench 100, a Post-medieval foundation or construction cut was located at the southern end. This was filled with slate and bricks. Further investigation was unnecessary. The landowner was aware of there being a structure in this area, but it was not standing in 1945.

North eastern section (Trenches 68-81)

Ground level 67.03m aOD (Tr. 75) – 70.12m aOD (Tr. 80)

- 4.4.6 Aerial photographs and geophysical evidence strongly suggested the presence of two Bronze Age round barrows. These were targeted by Trenches 77 to 79 (Figures 4 & 5; Plate 5). The barrows, as suggested by the ring-ditches, were cut into the solid limestone and as result the ring ditches have been very well preserved. One barrow was much larger than the other. Which ring-ditch was constructed first remains unknown at present as they do not intercut and dating evidence was found in only one. The dating evidence was found in a fill deposited soon after construction and suggests an Early Bronze Age date for the larger, western ring-ditch.
- 4.4.7 The largest possible barrow was seen in Trenches 79 and 78. It comprised a large ditch, the top of which was 0.50m below ground level (69.13m aOD) and the base was 1.50m below ground level (68.13m aOD). The external diameter was approximately 32m. The ditch was 3.89m wide and 1.5m deep, with steep, slightly convex sides and a fairly flat base.
- 4.4.8 The ditch was open for some time after construction, allowing a charcoal rich deposit possibly from mortuary activity to form. The lowest deposits were likely to have been waterlogged, as water was encountered during excavation (more substantially so in the smaller, eastern ring-ditch). Immediately above the charcoal rich deposit was a silty and damp deposit of natural origin i.e. eroded material from surrounding surfaces. This deposit also contained pottery likely to be Early Bronze Age (on grounds of fabric) of Collared Urn tradition. Following that was a deposit of ragstone rocks and compact clay. This deposit was probably the result of material being dislodged from the

sides or, perhaps from a bank or mound. Subsequently the depression has filled naturally with colluvial or similar deposits (tertiary). The mound has been almost obliterated by modern ploughing. The top of what remains of the mound is 0.40m below ground level – if any exists at all. Certainly the cornbrash was looser. But as it exists to only a maximum of 0.10m above the top of the ditch, it can reasonably be inferred that the mound has been ploughed out.

- 4.4.9 Approximately half-way between the central point and the outside of the outer ditch was evidence for a second, much smaller and shallower ditch or gully, approximately 17m in diameter. Projecting the ditches outside of the trench (78) strongly indicates that the ditches are concentric.
- 4.4.10 The smaller, eastern ring-ditch was only 0.58m deep and 1.45m wide with a flat base and steep, fairly straight sides and was approximately 21.3m in diameter. The ditch was partially backfilled, probably by collapsed material and then appears to have been backfilled deliberately in one single event. The top of the ditch was 0.30m – 0.40m below ground level (68.50m aOD to 69.01m aOD). The base was approximately 0.80m below ground level (max 67.95m aOD).
- 4.4.11 There was no evidence of any burials in the small sections of the ditches investigated. The barrow platforms have been almost entirely ploughed out and any later burials within the mound would also have been destroyed. No evidence was observed for disturbed cremation or inhumation burials in the locale.
- 4.4.12 After projecting the ditches outside the trenches, it became evident that any centrally located primary burials would have been just outside the trenches. The features initially thought to be central were investigated and found to be remnants of subsoil.
- 4.4.13 In Trenches 68 to 70, there were three large quarry type features (**Figures 4 & 5**), some of which have been dated to the Romano-British period. The feature in Trench 70 was at least 27m long and extended beyond the limits of the trench. Several smaller pits (approx 3m across) may be part of the same quarrying process. The fill of the quarries were very similar to the colluvium, but with more flecks of calcareous material. The edges were definite and curved, distinct from the cornbrash and solid limestone. They were not very deep, only 0.60-0.80m, coinciding with the depth of the adjacent cornbrash. It is possible that they were deeper in some places, but due to health and safety limits, excavation was only permitted to a certain depth. A small depth (0.10m – 0.30m) of colluvium existed above the quarries. The level at which the quarries were identified was between 67.98m – 67.50m aOD. It is possible that these quarry pits were associated with the Roman road between Dorchester-on-Thames and Towcester and perhaps also the settlement evidence identified by Oxford Archaeology (2002) nearby.
- 4.4.14 Within Trench 71 was a slightly curving ditch/gully, and three probable postholes. These appear to date to the Late Iron Age, but one piece of

pottery was much abraded. These features may indicate settlement, or may be associated with the quarrying only 25 metres to the east.

4.4.15 Correlations with crop marks/geophysics (**Figures 4 & 5**):

- The barrows were clear on both geophysics and aerial photography. The ditches were well preserved and correlated exactly with the predicted location. The inner ring-gully was not identified by the non-invasive techniques
- The quarry in Trench 70 was identified, but there were similar features in Trenches 68 & 69 which were not picked up by the geophysics or aerial photographs
- Ridge and furrow was identified in some of the trenches to the south west of Area B
- There were no other significant correlations. The geology was probably responsible for anomalies identified by the geophysics.

4.5 Area C

(Trenches 93 to 99; 103; 105-112; 117 & 118 and 137)

- 4.5.1 In Area C (**Figure 6**), 19 trenches were opened. These included several located along the proposed road alignment and the proposed location of a balancing pond. Current ground surface levels varied from 65.90m aOD in Trench 118, up to 73.13m aOD in Trench 137.
- 4.5.2 The Oxford/Kellaway clays described in Area A featured in most of the trenches in Area C. The trenches show patchy underlying natural/ geology including the weathered cornbrash top and, in places including the crest of the slope, outcrops of clean, sterile orange silt to fine sand (?Kellaway sands). Just down the gentle slope and at the break of slope (Trenches 93, 94, 97 & 99) there is progressively thickening orange colluvial deposits with numerous bands of blue clays traversing it. These are soft, gleyed and water lain and may represent ephemeral gullies, their relationship to storms and the formation of colluvium is also indicated by the sorting and occurrence of fine gravels on the edges of bends in these features (Chisham site notes/ pers. comm.)
- 4.5.3 In Trenches 93, 94, 97 & 99, the break of slope and substantial increase in colluvial depth coincide with the end of the north east/south west ridge and furrow and a north west/south east linear feature, probably a headland (**Figure 6**). No other geophysical or cropmark evidence other than those associated with geological variation was recorded in Area C.
- 4.5.4 Archaeological features were seen under the colluvium in Trench 96. These comprised a ditch, gully and a pit (**Plate 9**) filled with burnt stones/clay (possibly associated with industrial activity). The gully has been dated to the Romano-British period. In Trench 98, a pit and postholes were recorded under a bluish alluvial indicative of overbank flooding deposit, below the

colluvium (**Figure 6**). These were at a similar depth as the features in Trench 96 and may also be Romano-British in date. Immediately to the north east is a field boundary and drain, which is likely to be a formalised stream.

- 4.5.5 To the south east, quite ephemeral features were identified in Trenches 103 and 105. These comprised two ditches and a possible pit. These were all devoid of datable material. Trench 105 also revealed evidence for a filled watercourse or marshland cutting into the oxford clay. The landowner suggests that the area was 'fen' and lakes before the First World War, when it was drained during the building of a rail track, of which no evidence was encountered during the evaluation. No dating material was recovered.
- 4.5.6 Further to the east, Trenches 117 and 118 were opened to evaluate the area of a proposed balancing pond. Trench 117 contained no archaeological material, but did have fairly deep colluvial deposits (up to 0.5m). Water began entering the trench at a depth of 65.50m aOD. Trench 118 was more interesting archaeologically. This trench was the closest of all those in the evaluation to the Romano-British town of Alchester. There were two ditches and at least five tree/shrub throws, of which two appeared to be burnt out. No datable material was recovered, but the north-south ditch (**Figure 6**) was very similar in form to the ditch of possible Late Iron Age date seen in Trench 92. There were also several fills suggesting a gradual and naturally occurring backfilling.
- 4.5.7 Correlations with cropmarks/geophysics (**Figure 6**):
- Where the ridge and furrow ceases to the north east, the linear anomalies correlate with the break of slope and substantial colluvial deposits – particularly in Trenches 94 and 97
 - Although there were no direct correlations with anomalies, the field was covered with numerous field drains and the geology was markedly variable

4.6 Area D

(Trenches 114 to 116 and 122)

- 4.6.1 Area D (**Figure 1**) was still under crop at the time of evaluation. The area was generally flat with a very slight slope to the south (76.86m aOD (Tr. 122) – 76.70m aOD (Tr. 115)).
- 4.6.2 For reasons described above, only four trenches were opened in this area, although Trench 116 was extended by 15m.
- 4.6.3 The geology in this area was solid limestone and cornbrash.
- 4.6.4 No archaeological features were observed in Area D, however there was a colluvium filled depression crossing the centre of Trench 116, and a deep field drain cut into the solid rock in Trenches 122 and 116. These features

correlate with the geophysical survey findings. Other geophysical anomalies can be related to changes in the geology as in some of the other areas.

4.7 Area E and Road Alignment

(Trenches 126 to 136)

- 4.7.1 Area E and the road alignment up to Trench 136 (**Figures 7 & 8**) typically had limestone and cornbrash geology (**Plate 10**). All the trenches were fairly shallow and had little colluvial build up. Trenches 134 to 136 were slightly different with 134 featuring deeper colluvium and Trenches 135 and 136 more similar to the trenches in Area C. The levels in the area varied between 81.61m aOD (Trench 126) and 72.82m aOD (Trench 134).
- 4.7.2 Of the eleven trenches opened along the road alignment north of Area C, four contained archaeological features, i.e. Trenches 129, 130, 131 and 133. These trenches lie directly within the road alignment as proposed in June 2006.
- 4.7.3 The archaeological evidence observed in Trenches 129, 130 and 131 (postholes, pits & gullies (**Figure 7**) indicate a settlement site covering an area at least 150m², directly associated spatially with cropmark evidence for a field system of probable Late Iron Age date.
- 4.7.4 Part of a field boundary filled with burnt stones and charcoal rich deposits was recorded in the north eastern end of Trench 130 (**Figure 7; Plate 11**) and also a gully. Generally the features included a small number of gullies, postholes and pits, with most appearing in Trench 129, which contained three pits and a gully.
- 4.7.5 Trench 133 also had evidence suggesting settlement or at least some form of structure. There were 29 small sub-circular and sub-square features identified, of which nine were investigated. Of those investigated, at least five were convincing postholes, clearly cut into the solid limestone. A fair proportion of the rest of the anomalies can be considered potential postholes (**Figure 8**) No datable material was recovered from this trench, and due to the relatively narrow area exposed, it was impossible to identify individual structures or patterns.
- 4.7.6 Following the road alignment north west, no further features or material of archaeological interest were observed (i.e. in Trenches 126-128). According to the geotechnical report, the trenches at the far north western end of the road alignment were positioned over a large feature backfilled with 20th century bottles and rubbish. For this reason, Trenches 123-125 were removed from the evaluation. To the south east, again nothing of archaeological interest was recovered from Trenches 134-136. Interestingly, Trench 132 was also devoid of features and suggests that the two zones with archaeological features are quite separate.
- 4.7.7 Faint Ridge and furrow was evident from the ground in the field containing Area E, although it was not seen in the aerial photographs. It was also seen

in the section of Trench 133. Well preserved ridge and furrow was present in the small pasture field containing Trenches 135 & 136.

4.7.8 Correlations with crop marks/geophysics (**Figure 7**):

- The only correlation was a ditch in the end of Trench 130, which directly relates to a plotted component of a field system ditch
- Ridge and furrow seen in some of the trenches and on the ground were not picked up by the non-intrusive techniques
- The large pits suggested by crop marks/geophysics could well be pits associated with the settlement activity. However, similar anomalies across the Site have turned out to be geological in nature.
- The large, linear embanked feature indicated by cropmarks as running across the Site was not evident in any trenches.

4.8 Area F

(Trenches 138 to 143)

- 4.8.1 The additional Area F (**Figure 4**) investigated the area to the south and downslope of Trenches 92 and 104 (Area B). Proposals for development had been altered following the fieldwork and further investigations were required. Ground surface levels in this area were between 67.50m aOD and 66.70m aOD, with a gentle slope down to the south east then levelling out.
- 4.8.2 All the Trenches were of moderate depth with most having between 0.3m-0.4m of colluvial build-up. Archaeological features were observed in three of the six trenches (140-142), notably the trenches nearest to Trenches 92 and 104. The features were evident approximately 0.45m below present ground level.
- 4.8.3 Trench 140 contained a single north west/south east aligned ditch, probably part of a field system. No datable material was recovered from this feature. Trench 141 had a moderate sized, shallow pit with two undatable fills. Also in this trench was a spread of a similar nature to that seen in Trench 92. A single piece of Late Iron Age pottery was recovered from it. A north west/south east aligned ditch was also recorded in this trench. Pottery of a Late Iron Age date was recovered from the single fill. In Trench 142 there was a large tree throw and two slightly intercut ditches (**Figure 5**), both aligned north-north east/ south-south west. Animal bone was found in reasonable quantities from features in Trenches 141 & 142. A Post-medieval/modern ditch was observed in the southern end of Trench 139. Two Post-medieval/modern pits filled with coke were observed in Trench 140.
- 4.8.4 The evaluation in Area F has revealed further evidence of possible Late Iron Age settlement south of Area B. It also indicates that there was at least one phase of field system, but with the lack of artefacts from these possible field

boundaries (as appears typical of such features) and the lack of obvious pattern(s), further interpretation is impossible at this stage.

4.8.5 Correlations with cropmarks/geophysical anomalies (**Figure 4**):

- There may be tenuous correlations between anomalies indicative of Ridge and furrow and some of the ditch features.

5 FINDS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The following section constitutes an interim statement on the finds recovered during the evaluation. Finds were recovered from 36 trenches within four of the five areas excavated. No finds were recovered from Area D, and Areas C, E and F produced minimal quantities of material. All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and the results are summarised by area in **Appendix II**.

5.1.2 The assemblage ranges in date from early prehistoric to post-medieval, but is relatively restricted in terms of material types; pottery was the most commonly occurring material type, and apart from this only animal bone was recovered in any significant quantity. Condition is fair to poor, and much of the pottery assemblage, for example, has suffered a high level of abrasion.

5.2 Pottery

5.2.1 Pottery has provided practically the only dating evidence for the site, although its potential in this respect is limited by the relatively poor condition of the assemblage, the high degree of residuality, and the scarcity of diagnostic pieces.

Early prehistoric

5.2.2 The earliest material identified came from Trench 79 (7904, 7909), comprising sherds in coarse, grog-tempered fabrics. These are undiagnostic and cannot be definitively attributed to ceramic tradition, but are likely on fabric grounds to be Early Bronze Age in date, belonging to the Collared Urn tradition.

Later prehistoric

5.2.3 One tiny, abraded sherd in a coarse, shelly fabric, also from trench 79 (7909) and associated with the Early Bronze Age sherds, is tentatively dated as later prehistoric on fabric grounds but again is undiagnostic.

5.2.4 The largest part of the assemblage is dated as Late Iron Age, and comprises sherds in calcareous (shelly) and grog-tempered fabrics. Most sherds came from Area B. Diagnostic sherds are scarce, but vessel forms identified include bead rim jars (5604, 9206) and everted rim jars (9206, 9208, 14111). These wares are of indigenous Late Iron Age origin, but continued in use into the early post-conquest period (late 1st century/early 2nd century AD). In this instance there are a few contexts where they occur associated with wheel thrown, 'Romanised' wares, including the largest context groups, from Trenches 91 and 92, and others where they occur unassociated.

Romano-British

- 5.2.5 'Romanised' wares are not common, and are restricted to a few sherds of coarse sandy wares (reduced and oxidised) and Oxfordshire colour coated finewares (including one mortarium).

Saxon

- 5.2.6 Early/Mid-Saxon wares are also sparsely represented, mostly occurring in Area A. Fabrics are either sandy or organic-tempered, and are comparable to wares found previously in Bicester (Mephram 2002)

Medieval

- 5.2.7 Medieval wares consist largely of Brill/Boarstall type glazed wares (OXAM) of 13th/14th century date. There are also some sandy and flint-tempered/calcareous coarsewares (OXAG and OXAQ respectively), probably 12th/13th century.

Post-Medieval

- 5.2.8 Only one post-medieval sherd was recovered, a modern refined whiteware from Trench 29.

5.3 Ceramic Building Material (CBM) and Fired Clay

- 5.3.1 The two pieces of CBM recovered, both from Area A, were both unstratified finds; one is a fragment of post-medieval roof tile and the second a Romano-British brick fragment.

- 5.3.2 The few fragments of fired clay recovered are also likely to be of structural origin, although undiagnostic, and of uncertain date.

5.4 Worked Flint

- 5.4.1 The worked flint includes one possible hammerstone (Trench 74) but otherwise comprises waste flakes and core fragments. None of these pieces are chronologically distinctive.

5.5 Metalwork

- 5.5.1 Metalwork comprised one copper alloy and seven iron objects. The copper alloy object is a palstave of Middle Bronze Age date (unstratified in trench 92 (**Plate 4**)). The iron objects comprise one post-medieval horseshoe (Trench 12) and six nails/nail shanks.

5.6 Animal Bone

Methods

- 5.6.1 Conjoining fragments that were demonstrably from the same bone were counted as one bone in order to minimise distortion, and therefore specimen counts (NISP) given here may differ from the absolute raw fragment counts in **Appendix II**. There may also be some discrepancies when bone is fragile may fragment further after initial quantification. No fragments were recorded as 'medium mammal' or 'large mammal'; these were instead consigned to the unidentified category.

- 5.6.2 The extent of mechanical or chemical attrition to the bone surface was recorded. The numbers of gnawed bone were also noted. Marks from chopping, sawing, knife cuts and fractures made when the bone was fresh were recorded as butchery marks.

Condition and preservation

- 5.6.3 Pottery dating shows that the bone derives from contexts ranging in date from early prehistoric to the post-medieval period. However, only 37% of the bones could be identified to species, making the assemblage too small to examine within chronological periods.

- 5.6.4 Most animal bone was in very poor or poor condition, with only 18% in fair condition. Combined with 11% loose teeth, it indicates the poor preservative state of the assemblage. Its poor preservation likely negatively affected the number of bones with gnawing marks (2) and butchery signs (1). Only one piece of a medium mammal was charred.

Material characteristics

- 5.6.5 Only four bones can inform about the phenotype of the animals on the Site and 11 bones can provide an age at death. A cattle metacarpus from context 9804 with a GL of 171 mm provided a height at the withers of 103-108 cm - a rather small animal (von den Driesch & Boessneck 1974).

5.7 Other Finds

- 5.7.1 Other finds comprise a small quantity of burnt, unworked stone, one piece of burnt, unworked flint, and one piece of post-medieval bottle glass.

6 ENVIRONMENTAL

6.1 Geoarchaeology

The Drift geology and Holocene deposits

- 6.1.1 The area is generally dominated by Oxford/ Kellaway Clay, while the landscape across the ridge is underlain by Corallian beds of sands and sandy limestones. Mid-late Jurassic calcareous cornbrash outcrops locally, comprising a limestone that characteristically breaks into loose rubble or brash. It is a thin (0-5m) bed but laterally extensive, is very shelly, fossiliferous and is oolitic. Upper Corallian Coral Rag also occurs in the area, with sinkholes and springs common. The site lies c. 1-2km north-east of the Gagle Brook, and one small stream (the Pingle Brook) traverses the site, to the north of Area A.
- 6.1.2 A complex geology is present locally and in Area A and the area was heavily pitted and undulating, with the possibility of past quarrying raised. In this Area a thick layer of variably weathered cornbrash, in places associated with clays (?Upper Jurassic Oxford/ Kellaway Clay), with widespread deposits of colluvium and more localised water lain alluvial deposits. As the drift geology was locally complex and might be confused with Holocene and archaeologically relevant deposits, the evaluation trenches were visited and recorded by a geoarchaeologist. The details of this are given in **Appendix IV**.
- 6.1.3 Trenches within Area A generally exposed cornbrash in a calcareous silt matrix of varying thickness, over the drift geology of Jurassic Oxford/ Kellaway Clay and sealed in places with a possible colluvial deposit under the thin modern calcareous brown earth/ rendzina profile. Within area A two sequences were examined in more detail to address specific questions of deposition and formation. Trenches 6 and 12 were of particular interest; the geoarchaeological observations made on Site are therefore given in **Appendix IV**, and those related to the monoliths are detailed below. In Trench 6 a buried soil with Saxon pottery on its surface was examined, and in Trench 12 the rutted surface of the cornbrash with a possible buried soil beneath it were examined.
- 6.1.4 Trench 6: About 0.2m of cornbrash with modern soil (and, in places, in discontinuous layers of reddish buff slightly calcareous colluvium) lies over a band of the white/ pale grey rock hard layer of redeposited calcareous silts with fossil marine shells, probably a part of the cornbrash formation. This overlay stiff pale clay with orange (Fe) mottles; water wells up when these stiff clays are cut. This aquifer/ high water table has clearly been exploited at this location with the natural shallow basin enlarged and material excavated dumped to form a small bank at one end. It sealed and preserves a former land surface with Saxon pottery on its surface. A monolith was taken through this buried soil sequence.

- 6.1.5 Trench 12: A deeper sondage in the centre of the trench revealed a profile with the modern calcareous colluvial brown earth soil profile (formed partly of colluvium); the B horizon formed in reddish buff colluvium which was thicker to the southern end of the trench, over a very thin layer (c. 0.05-0.10m) of cornbrash at c. 0.40m depth in sondage but at varying between 0.3 and 0.1m depth across trench. It displayed slight organic staining at its surface (at the base of the B horizon). The cornbrash comprised limestone rubble in cream to buff calcareous silt matrix, patchy and striped at one end of the trench with 0.15m wide buff coloured diagonal stripes. Underneath is water-sorted gleyed clay silt, blue at depth (affected by high water table) and oxidised and orange towards its top. Inclusions are rare, most are small weathered fragments of limestone/ chalk. This may be partly reworked water lain colluvium as there is high silt content. The possibility that the deposits here might represent a quarry and backfill was considered, but the deposits are considered to be unlikely to be reworked dumped backfill material given the sterility and large volume of very well-sorted sediment.
- 6.1.6 The date of this massive sediment is unclear and the lack of inclusions is problematic, no peat or stasis horizons were exposed so it is currently strictly undateable. It is, however, relatively soft water lain material and most likely of Holocene age, possibly related to seasonal/ ephemeral channels/ former course of the shallow Pingle Brook. If so, this clearly shows the cornbrash (originally of Jurassic age) is indeed dumped which is in keeping with such a thin compacted layer. The diagonal stripes were reminiscent of tip lines created by past quarrying, but there is no clear evidence of this. More likely is a wide track of levelled layer, perhaps to facilitate access across what would have been, at least seasonally, a locally wet area. It is notable that tufa does not occur here; the sediments are relatively calcareous but a highly calcareous spring head is not present, rather aquifers and a high water table, with possible seasonal surface flow of water in the past.
- 6.1.7 Since the nature of deposition of the stripes of buff coloured silts in the layer of weathered cornbrash is unclear, a deeper slot was cut back along the trench and a monolith to be taken (adjacent to a series of mollusc samples) through the cornbrash layer, organic staining and the water lain sediment beneath for detailed description.

6.2 Palaeo-environmental Evidence

Aims

- 6.2.1 Bulk samples were taken from features of various dates within the evaluation trenches to evaluate the presence and preservation of palaeo-environmental remains. This information can contribute to the archaeological significance of sampled features, thus providing an indication of the significance of the archaeological Site as a whole.

Palaeo-environmental summary

- 6.2.2 The presence, range and nature of the charred remains present indicate evidence for the processing of cereals during the Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British period in Area B. Evidence of similar activities to be associated with settlement in Area A were absent. Evidence from Areas C

and E was limited, although finds of hulled wheats grains in both suggest late prehistoric and/or Romano-British settlement activity. Limited evidence for the burning of scrub from the Bronze Age barrow ditch in Area B, may be associated with pyre, settlement or clearance activities.

- 6.2.3 The varied geology and sediment sequences provide the potential for the preservation of buried soils, and some have been examined cursorily. Further Holocene deposits of re-worked cornbrash and both local thin colluvial and alluvial deposits indicate the potential to examine the local microenvironments within the Site, to examine the exploitation of spring lines and the local fluvial and vegetation (pollen) environment with them. The presence of shallow colluvial deposits themselves indicate destabilisation of ground surfaces (cultivation, occupation or deforestation). Both of these deposits have the potential to provide sequences of land-use via the sedimentary record, and more significantly potential pollen and molluscan evidence.
- 6.2.4 A buried land surface associated with artefacts (buried by upcast from exploitation of water resources), and a waterlogged alluvial sedimentary sequence has been identified in Area A. This indicated the potential for a collectively sedimentary and pollen sampling strategy.
- 6.2.5 The molluscan evidence is only preserved patchily, and essentially in calcareous and tufaceous deposits. There is the potential to build up a picture of the local groundwater conditions and nature of streams and the surrounding environment for specific locations and times in prehistory.

Introduction and environmental samples taken

- 6.2.6 Twelve bulk samples were taken from eight of the evaluation trenches within four areas, Areas A, B, C, and E. The samples were processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoals. The samples are summarised in **Appendix III**.
- 6.2.7 A column of 6 mollusc samples and two spot samples were taken through or from the sediment sequences within Area A and are listed in Appendix III
- 6.2.8 Three monoliths were taken through two sediment sequences to enable detailed description and sub-sampling of horizons of archaeological interest within Area A, these are listed in **Appendix III**.

6.3 Evaluation Results; methods and data

Charred Plant Remains and Charcoals

- 6.3.1 The bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 5.6 mm, 2mm and 1mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. Flots were scanned under a x10 – x40 stereobinocular microscope and the presence of charred remains quantified (**Appendix III**) in order to present data to record the preservation and nature of the charred plant and charcoal remains and assess their potential to address

the project and subsidiary aims. Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997).

- 6.3.2 With the exception of one flot from ditch 13007, the flots were generally small. Many of the samples had high numbers of roots and modern seeds that may be indicative of stratigraphic movement, reworking or the degree of contamination by later intrusive elements.

Charred plant remains

- 6.3.3 The buried soil (604) in Area A produced no identifiable plant remains. Undated pit 2505 produced some cereal grains and three unidentified Brassicaceae seeds. The assemblage as such could be of any date.
- 6.3.4 The unphased spread from which the unstratified Middle Bronze Age palstave in Area B (9208) was recovered contained no remains.
- 6.3.5 The Bronze Age barrow ditch in Area B produced no cereal remains, but did produce some thorns of either hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) or sloe (*Prunus spinosa*). This may derive from the burning of scrub to clear the area around the barrow or possibly even relate to pyre material.
- 6.3.6 Remains from these undated and possible Bronze Age deposits are low and typical of general background material. They are not indicative of burning activities associated with settlement.
- 6.3.7 Probable Late Iron Age and Romano-British deposits in Area B produced grain (hulled wheats, including grains and chaff of emmer (*Triticum dicoccum*) and spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*), as well as grains of barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), and several weed seeds of vetches/wild pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.), docks (*Rumex* sp.), annual meadow grass (*Poa annua*) or cat's-tail (*Phleum* sp.), and clover (*Trifolium* sp.) from ditch 9205. The quantity and diversity of these remains is typical of settlement and associated activities in the vicinity.
- 6.3.8 Within Area C cereal remains were recovered from several of the unphased features albeit in low quantities. Pit 9608 (9606) contained a grain free-threshing wheat (*Triticum aestivum* sl), more typical of Bronze Age or Saxon and later periods and of occupation debris. Given, however, the amount of roots in the sample such finds could easily be reworked or intrusive, as may the possible grain of free-threshing wheat from gully 9604. Ditch 13705 contained cereal remains of barley and at least one grain of hulled wheat, suggesting a later prehistoric or Romano-British date.
- 6.3.9 Charred plant remains were also present in ditch 13007 in Area E, and contained a similar array of cereal remains to those in Area C as well as several seeds of weed species, including single seeds of perennial rye-grass (*Lolium perenne*), docks (*Rumex* sp.), narrow-fruited cornsalad (*Valerianella dentata*), spikerush (*Eleocharis palustris*), chickweed (*Stellaria media*) and cat's-tail (*Phleum* sp.). The single grain of hulled wheat again suggests a probable later Prehistoric to Romano-British date.

- 6.3.10 The Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British samples indicate a reasonable potential for the recovery of settlement data within Area B. A single glume was identified as emmer wheat which is generally rare within Iron Age and Romano-British sites in the region (Robinson and Wilson 1987).

Charcoal

- 6.3.11 Charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples and is recorded in **Appendix III**. Charcoal was generally sparse in the samples, the richest amount coming from ditch 13705 and gully 9604 in Area C. The barrow ditch (7912) as noted had some wood charcoal that resembled twig and roundwood, and given the presence of thorns most probably comes from the burning of scrub.

- 6.3.12 Levels of charcoal are moderate and some (especially gully 9604, Area C) suggest local activity.

Waterlogged plant remains

- 6.3.13 A single sample was thought to be waterlogged in the field, pit 9804 (9807), however, no such preservation was seen and the entire sample was processed for charred remains.

Pollen

- 6.3.14 There is the potential for pollen survival and samples can be taken from the undisturbed monolith samples from Area A during detailed description (analysis stage). Of particular significance are the buried landsurface in Trench 6 and the water lain deposits in Trench 12. The sediments are relatively calcareous but well sealed and moist, moderate pollen preservation is therefore likely.

Land and fresh/brackish water molluscs

- 6.3.15 Eight samples from deposits within Area A of mainly 1000g were processed by standard methods (Evans 1972) for land snails. The flots (0.5mm) were rapidly assessed by scanning under a x 10 – x 30 stereo-binocular microscope to provide some information about shell preservation and species representation. The numbers of shells and the presence of taxonomic groups were quasi quantified (**Appendix III**). Nomenclature is according to Kerney (1999). In addition to these both terrestrial and aquatic snails were present in the flots of a number of bulk samples (**Appendix III**).

- 6.3.16 The sequence from Trench 12 produced little to no molluscs, with those shells present being mainly of open-country and catholic species. The basal sequence (context 1201 and 1203) contained no shells. A single sample from context 1202 (calcareous brash) did however produce some shells of fresh-water species including Planorbids and a single shell of orb/pea shell (*Pisidium* sp.).

- 6.3.17 The two spot samples contained more mollusc shells. That from ditch 712, Trench 7), contained mainly evidence for open country species, especially *Vallonia* sp., but also *Pupilla* sp. The sample from layer 1103, in addition to shells of open country species, contained more shells of catholic species,

including *Trichia*, and *Cochlicopa* sp., and those of shade, including *Carychium* sp. and *Aegopinella* sp.

- 6.3.18 Molluscs shells were also noted in several of the bulk samples (**Appendix III**) A mixed assemblage of open country and shaded species came from ditch 13007 (which may be later prehistoric to Romano-British in date), while the buried soil 604 in Area A contained mainly open country and catholic species. Finally, the barrow ditch (7912) produced only shells of species associated with shaded conditions, *Carychium* sp., *Discus rotundatus* and *Aegopinella/Oxychilus* sp.
- 6.3.19 Water snails were recovered from a few of the contexts including gully 9604 and ditch 13705 both in Area C, which both had a few Planorbis shells.

Sediments

- 6.3.20 The natures of the sediments are outlined in the Geoarchaeology, above and in **Appendix IV**.

6.4 Recommendations for sampling and further work

Charred plant remains and charcoal

- 6.4.1 In the event of future archaeological works undertaken within the Site, samples should be taken where permitting from phased features, especially any arising and related to settlement activities and/or structures. Features that are specifically related to burning activities, such as cremations, should also be sampled. Generally samples should be taken covering a wider range of feature types, and phases as possible. Where available deposits permit, sample size should be of 20 to 30 litres and from individual, secure contexts. However, as already noted a number of contexts have been encountered that consist predominately of carbonised wood charcoal and in these cases smaller samples of 10 litres would appear suitable. Where charred deposits are encountered with a wide spatial spread then multiple smaller samples of 1-10 litres should be taken to provide information on vertical and horizontal variation within the deposit. This should especially be conducted with deposits that consist of material other than wood charcoal.
- 6.4.2 It is not anticipated that any waterlogged deposits would be encountered, however, if preservation by waterlogging is thought possible, bulk samples of 10 to 20 litres should be taken from which appropriate sub-samples would be taken for the recovery of waterlogged remains if necessary.
- 6.4.3 Given the limited evidence from the existing samples no further work on these is recommended.

Geoarchaeology (Sediments and Pollen)

- 6.4.4 A series of potentially dateable short sequences of sediments survive locally across the site. A coherent strategy for their appropriate and targeted sampling from a geoarchaeological (and pollen/molluscan) point of view is needed to examine the changing nature of the landscape, and the development and exploitation of the local land and water resources.

6.4.5 Further work should include examination of monolith (and potentially kubiena) samples of key sequences and features and buried land surfaces. The deep colluvial and alluvial sequences in Area B in particular may preserve long environmental sequences and/ or bury former land surfaces and should be a target for further palaeoenvironmental sampling.

6.4.6 Detailed description (following Hodgson 1976) of the monolith samples, and accompanied by pollen sampling, could also be undertaken from monoliths already retrieved from Area A if duplicate samples are not obtained during a larger phase of archaeological intervention. The samples obtained will enable pollen sampling and assessment leading to analysis to be conducted if appropriate.

Molluscs

6.4.7 Mollusc survival is patchy, but a coherent and targeted strategy should collect samples from dated calcareous deposits especially where time depth or sequence is inherent, and in conjunction with the geoarchaeological strategy. The suite should be devised to encompass both time and space and target especially riverine and spring-point flushes and colluvial sequences.

6.5 Overview

6.5.1 A coherent and integrated sampling strategy should be devised should further field intervention be undertaken. This should be accompanied by site visits from a project geoarchaeologist/environmental archaeologist.

7 DISCUSSION

7.1 General Discussion of the Evaluation Trenches

- 7.1.1 Of the trenches excavated, 41 (30.5%) contained archaeological features. The archaeological discoveries suggest activity in several periods i.e. Early and Middle Bronze Age; Late Iron Age; Romano-British; Saxon; Medieval and Post-medieval. The archaeology was concentrated in ten 'zones' across the Site, with a scattering of features (**Figure 1**). Where encountered, features were generally distinct and of a reasonable depth.
- 7.1.2 Of the ten zones of archaeological activity, nine are focused on one to three trenches each, the largest zone extending for approximately 150m x 50m, in the Area E/road alignment. The tenth zone in Area A covers an area approximately 350m x 350m.
- 7.1.3 Area A has the largest area of archaeology, although the density of the features was generally one to three features per trench. Trench 19 had the highest frequency of features (six). Datable material was generally fairly sparse. The features comprised a Saxon ditch and bank, Saxon pits, postholes and ditches and quarries of medieval and/or later date.
- 7.1.4 Undated features in Area A comprised possible industrial activity of unknown nature – charcoal and burnt stones, (Area A east) and various pits, gullies, postholes, tree/shrub throws and a headland.
- 7.1.5 Area B had three discrete zones of archaeological features, with a generally greater density and depth than Area A. These comprised two ring-ditches, one of which is identified as an Early Bronze Age Barrow. The preservation of these features was very good, although there was no evidence of bank or mound material. The differences between the ring-ditches are of particular interest, as is the presence of a possible inner ring-gully within the Early Bronze Age ring-ditch. Several fills were noted in one feature, whilst the rest contained one to two. This 'zone' comprised Trenches 77-79. Datable material was fairly sparse except in the Early Bronze Age ring-ditch.
- 7.1.6 The second 'zone' within Area B was on the easternmost part of the Site. The main characteristics and dating of the features in this zone suggest Romano-British quarrying, possibly associated with the Roman road between Dorchester-on-Thames and Towcester. The trenches with these deep and distinct features were Trenches 68 to 70. Immediately to the west, Trench 71 had more ephemeral features including a linear feature and possible postholes dating to the Late Iron Age.
- 7.1.7 The third zone of archaeology was in the south of Area B and north of Area F. These were mainly indicative of Late Iron Age settlement and possible field system(s) of less secure date, with sparse evidence for Saxon activity. The majority of features in this area were fairly deep and distinct. The ridge and furrow in this area has caused moderate damage to the archaeology,

particularly to the shallower features. Datable material was found in a number of the features (Trenches 91, 92, 104, 141).

- 7.1.8 Area C also had four localised concentrations of archaeological activity. Notable were the features in Trenches 96 & 98, below a substantial depth of colluvium (and in one case alluvium) next to a (now formalised) waterway or drain. These were fairly discrete and deep, possibly associated with occupation or industrial activity. Only one feature contained datable, Romano-British, material.
- 7.1.9 Trench 118 had features comparable to the linear features in the third archaeological zone in Area B. Some of these were discreet and of moderate depth and had more than one fill, but none contained any datable material.
- 7.1.10 To the west, Trenches 103 & 105 contained a number of more ephemeral features, all of which were fairly shallow and devoid of datable material.
- 7.1.11 Trench 137 had several features dating to the Romano-British period, which were quite different from other features observed on the Site. These were generally filled with much darker deposits and appear to have been disturbed by later bioturbation, probably associated with their proximity to the present field boundary.
- 7.1.12 Area E/road alignment had two zones of archaeology. The largest comprised several features indicative of settlement in Trenches 129 to 131. These were discrete, fairly deep and some contained more than one fill. The settlement activity coincides with a field system identified by aerial photography. The datable material has indicated a Late Iron Age date.
- 7.1.13 A single trench (133) contained a number of postholes and other similar features. Unfortunately no finds were recovered and the isolated location prohibits further interpretation.
- 7.1.14 Apart from the zones mentioned, two isolated features in Trenches 49 & 50 and stray finds, the rest of the Site was largely clear of archaeology (except for the remnants of ridge and furrow).
- 7.1.15 The trenches targeted on crop marks of geophysical anomalies picked up a number of features of archaeological interest, including the ring-ditches in Area B. There was a definite correlation with changes in underlying geology and some types of geophysical anomaly. In some cases there was no archaeological evidence to explain a geophysical anomaly, and frequently a footpath or field drain otherwise explained anomalies.
- 7.1.16 The bulk of the pottery finds date to the Late Iron Age, followed by Romano-British and Saxon. Smaller quantities of Early Bronze Age, Medieval and Post-medieval pottery were recovered. Most of the Late Iron Age pottery came from Area B, as did the Early Bronze Age pottery. Romano-British pottery was found mainly in Area A and B. The Saxon pottery came mainly from Area A.

- 7.1.17 The flint assemblage includes one possible hammerstone, waste flakes and core fragments. None of these pieces are chronologically distinctive.
- 7.1.18 Other finds included ceramic building material (CBM), animal bone, burnt stone, and a few iron nails; none were recovered in any great quantity. The CBM was unstratified, the animal bone was poorly preserved and the nails and stones were of little intrinsic value. In contrast notable artefacts include an *ex situ* Middle Bronze Age bronze palstave from Trench 92 and similarly unstratified flint hammerstone from Trench 74 and flint scraper from Trench 95.
- 7.1.19 Artefacts (as opposed to features) from most periods were recovered from Areas A & B with a much more limited range from the other areas. No finds were recovered from, or features observed in, Area D.
- 7.1.20 In Area A, **Saxon** features were recovered from four trenches (6, 23, 25 and 31). A possible **Medieval** feature was found in Trench 16, whilst **Post-medieval** features were recorded in three trenches (12, 29). Nine trenches had features that were **undated**: Trenches 2, 7, 11, 19, 21, 23, 30, 49 and 50. It is of particular interest that there was only residual Romano-British pottery found in later features, implying that the settlement found to the east of the Site *did not* extend into this area of evaluation, unless it is represented by some of the undated features.
- 7.1.21 In Area B, two Trenches contained features dated to the **Early Bronze Age**: Trenches 78 & 79 (and possibly Trench 77). **Late Iron Age** features were found in four trenches (71, 91, 92 and 104). The **Romano-British** features in this area were located in three trenches (69, 70 and 91). The top fill of the Late Iron Age ditch in Trench 92 contained **Saxon** pottery. A **Post-medieval** construction cut was found in Trench 100. **Undated** features were located in Trenches 71, 77 and 78.
- 7.1.22 In Area C: The only datable features were **Romano-British**, and were found in two trenches (96 and 137); **Undated** features were observed in five trenches (Trenches 96, 98, 103, 105 and 118).
- 7.1.23 In Area E/road alignment, features of a **Late Iron Age** date were found in Trenches 129 & 130. The rest of the features were **undated**, and observed in four trenches (129, 130, 131 and 133).
- 7.1.24 In view of the low number of datable archaeological features across the Site limited environmental sampling was undertaken. Snail columns, monoliths and bulk and spot samples were taken where suggested by the geoarchaeologist, and where deemed appropriate in other features.

7.2 Conclusions

- 7.2.1 It can be concluded that the evaluation strategy has demonstrated archaeological remains of varying degrees of density exist on the Site. Ten zones of archaeological activity have been identified. The largest zone is in Area A and covers part of the northern pasture which had a possible Saxon

ditch and bank, and possibly quarrying. It also includes small quarries and scattered Saxon and undated activity of settlement or perhaps industrial activity. Later field boundaries and agricultural features are also present within the zone. The density of the features was generally moderate to low in this zone. In Area B, the zones are localised and the features in moderate to high in density within the zones. In Area C the features again were localised, but the density was moderate. The features in the zones in Area E/road alignment were moderate to high in density.

- 7.2.2 In most cases the depth and preservation of the archaeology were moderate to good, with a few individual features of poorer quality, and several of very good quality. In general the trenches in areas between the zones identified were almost entirely devoid of features.
- 7.2.3 The Early Bronze Age evidence (i.e. barrow(s)) implies ritual activity of a mortuary nature. On the Site there is a distinct lack of material and features associated with obvious settlement, and indeed no evidence for field systems of this date. It is possible that shallower and more ephemeral Bronze Age features may have been lost due to the site formation processes and truncation through ploughing. The nature of the geology may also have inhibited the survival and identification of features in certain areas.
- 7.2.4 The concentration of Late Iron Age features in zones in Areas E and B suggest dispersed small scale settlement such as farmsteads, associated with intervening rectilinear small scale field systems during this period. The ditches associated with these settlements are relatively insubstantial, even when truncation is taken into account, suggesting a non-defensive function. The spatial distribution of possibly contemporaneous or slightly later settlements to the north east and south east follows a similar pattern.
- 7.2.5 Romano-British settlement or activity areas were suggested in Area C, although the functions of the features are unclear. What is more interesting, perhaps, is the general lack of Romano-British features and artefacts anywhere on the Site, considering archaeology of that date has been found in abundance adjacent to the Site and short distances to the south east and south. The evaluation results suggest that the Late Iron Age/Romano-British settlements found in previous work close by do not continue into the areas evaluated, although there is likely to be small, isolated zones of activity.
- 7.2.6 There is evidence of inundation or flooding events, perhaps localised, both in the evaluation trenches and previous excavations in the immediate vicinity. It would appear that water management (although probably seasonal) was a problem during the Romano-British period. From the evidence provided by the evaluation, later activity moved to higher ground, as suggested by the distribution of Saxon material in Area A.
- 7.2.7 In general, the evaluation Site would seem to represent an early Prehistoric landscape with ritual monuments, with no clear indication of settlement within the Site. By the Late Iron Age the Site comprised a few scattered farmsteads and associated field systems, although activity in the intervening periods was not evidenced. It would seem that some of the settlements in the

region continued into the Romano-British period, as at Alchester and to the north east of Area A. Further Small scale activity was suggested in localised zones in Area C only. During the Saxon period, the activity formed a thin scatter of evidence across Area A, on the higher ground, although possibly utilising small waterways such as the Pingle Brook. Saxon evidence in Area B is limited to a small amount of pottery in the top of a potentially Iron Age ditch, or even old ploughsoil above it.

- 7.2.8 Later periods saw the Site quarried in places, particularly in the west and potentially the north of Area A. Ridge and furrow occurred across most of the Site. The control of the watery landscape seems to have been a necessary activity, and continues to be so today. Between the Late Iron Age and the present day, ditches, drains and banks have been constructed, watercourses re-routed and formalised and a series of extensive field drain networks have been installed.

7.3 Recommendations

- 7.3.1 It is recommended that consultation with the Oxfordshire County Archaeological Officer is undertaken to determine what further archaeological works may be required to secure either the preservation of archaeological remains on the Site *in situ* or *by record*
- 7.3.2 The two Bronze Age round barrows indicated in Area B are locally significant and may warrant preservation *in-situ*, where this is achievable.
- 7.3.3 The other identified zones of archaeological remains are of moderate significance and might reasonably be the subject of further investigation in mitigation of the impact of the proposed development and thereby preserved *by record*. Such investigation could include targeted excavation of pre-determined areas of archaeological significance, or wider strip, map, and excavation.

REFERENCES

- Bennett, K.D., Whittington, G. and Edwards, K.J. 1994. 'Recent plant nomenclatural changes and pollen morphology in the British Isles'. *Quaternary Newsletter* 73, 1-6
- Booth, PM, Evans J, and Hiller, J, 2001, Excavations in the Extramural Settlement of Roman Alchester, Oxfordshire, Oxford Archaeology Monograph 1
- Burnham, B & Wachter J. 1990. The Small Towns of Roman Britain. Batsford, London p 97-103
- Campbell, G. 1992 Bronze Age Plant Remains, 103-110, in Moore, J. and Jennings, D. (ed.) *Reading Business Park: a Bronze Age Landscape*. OUCA for the Oxford Archaeological Unit; Thames Valley landscapes: Kennet Valley 1,
- Campbell, G and Straker, V. 2003 Prehistoric Crop Husbandry and Plant Use in Southern England: Development and Regionality, In Robson Brown, K A (ed) *Archaeological Sciences 1999. Oxford: British Archaeological Reports, International Series 111*. 14-30
- Cox, C, 2005, Land Southwest of Bicester, Oxfordshire, Interpretation of Aerial Photographs for Archaeology Air Photo Services Ltd Project No. 0418
- Driesch, A. von den, and Boessneck, J., 1974, 'Kritische Anmerkungen zur Widerristhöhenberechnung aus Längenmaßen vor- und frühgeschichtlicher Tierknochen', *Säugetierkundliche Mitteilungen* 22, 325-48, München.
- Evans, J.G., 1972. *Land Snails in Archaeology*. London, Seminar Press.
- Greig J., 1991 The British Isles, in W. van Zeist, K. Wasylkova, K-E. Behre (eds) *Progress in Old World Palaeoethnobotany*, Rotterdam, 229-334
- Highways Agency, 1999. Roads to the Past: trunk roads and Archaeology <http://www.highways.gov.uk/aboutus/1654.aspx>
- Hodgson, J.M., 1976. *Soil Survey Field Handbook*. Harpenden, Soil Survey Technical Monograph No. 5
- Kerney, M.P., 1999. *Atlas of the Land and Freshwater Molluscs of Britain and Ireland*. Colchester: Harley Books
- Mephram, L., 2002, 'Pottery' in Andrews, P., 'Anglo-Saxon and medieval settlement at Chapel Street, Bicester: excavations 1999-2000', *Oxoniensia* 67, 151-5
- Moore, P.D. and Webb, J.A., 1978. *An illustrated guide to pollen analysis*. London: Hodder and Stoughton.

- Moore, P.D., Webb, J.A. and Collinson, M.E., 1991. *Pollen analysis* Second edition. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific.
- Oxford Archaeology (a), 2002, Land adjoining Middleton Stoney Road and Oxford Road, Bicester, Oxfordshire, Archaeological Evaluation, Job No. 1250
- Oxford Archaeology (b), 2002, Proposed Community Hospital, Bicester, Oxfordshire, Archaeological Evaluation, Job No. 1286
- Oxford Archaeology 1990. Newsletter, Vol xviii (March). 15.
- Robinson, M.A. and Wilson, R. 1987 A survey of environmental archaeology in the South Midlands, In H.C.M. Keeley (ed.) *Environmental Archaeology: a Regional Review* 2, London, HBMCO Occasional Paper 1, 16-100
- Stace, C., 1997. *New flora of the British Isles*. 2nd Edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
- Stratascan, 2006, Geophysical Survey Report: Land Southwest of Bicester, Oxon, Ref J2104
- Terence O'Rourke Ltd, 2006, South West Bicester Environmental Statement, Client Document
- Van der Veen, M. and O'Connor, T. P. 1998 The expansion of agricultural production in late Iron Age and Roman Britain" in *Science in Archaeology, an agenda for the future*, J. Bayley (ed.). London: English Heritage, 127-144

APPENDIX I

Area summary tables

Table 1: Trenches with colluvium by area

	Some subsoil/colluvium	Deep colluvium
Area A	2; 6; 7; 11- 13; 15; 17; 20-22; 24-29; 31; 33; 37 - 43; 46-51; 53; 55; 56; 59-61; 63- 66	19 (up to 0.55m); 23 (0.70m & includes possible water lain deposits); 30 (up to 0.55m);
Area B:	68- 71; 73; 74; 77-80; 84-86; 88- 92- 102; 104	75 (up to 0.65m, at least 2 phases); 82 (up to 1m); 83 (up to 0.70m); 81
Area C:	97; 99; 103; 105; 107-112; 118; 137	93 (up to 0.50m); 94 (0.70m at N end); 96 (up to 0.50m deep 98 (0.35m deep with 0.25m alluvial deposit below before archaeology is reached); 117 (similar to those at E side of Area B; up to 0.50m);
Area D:	115	116 (deep central area; two phases; up to 0.45m)
Area E/ road alignment:	126; 128; 129-133; 135; 136	134 (up to 0.35m);
Area F		138-143 between 0.30m & 0.40m

Table 2: Summary of Features, Dates and Levels of Trenches: Area A

Trench	Features	Dates	Top of archaeology	Approximate depth bgl
Northern section Area A				
2	Small gully	?	72.65m aOD	0.27m
6	Ditch and bank	Saxon (pot)	71.27m aOD	0.20m
7	Ditch and bank (same as Tr 6)	Roman or later (CBM)	71.10m aOD	0.32m
11	Surface	Probably Post-medieval (horseshoe)	72.29m a OD	0.0m (extant earthworks)
12	Curvilinear ditch and bank; extant earthworks	?	72.04m aOD	0.45m
Western section Area A				
16	Quarry	Medieval (pot) (also Saxon & Roman pot)	72.60m aOD	0.47m
37	Quarry	?	72.38m aOD	0.36m
49	Posthole (isolated)	?	72.99m aOD	0.44m
50	Pit (isolated)	?	72.93m aOD	0.29m
Eastern section Area A				
19	Pits and ditch/gully; postholes. Pits look industrial in nature	? burnt stones & charcoal	71.21m aOD	0.40m
21	ditch/gully and also a small gully terminus	?	71.40m aOD	0.40m
23	shallow ditch & small pit	Saxon (pot) (also some LIA & Roman pot)	70.53m aOD	0.75m
24	Field boundary	Post-medieval/modern		
25	small pit (burnt material)	Saxon (pot) (also sherds of Roman Oxford Colour Coated	72.09m aOD	0.30m

		mortarium – Roman)		
29	Field boundary	Post-medieval/modern (also Saxon pot)	72.02m aOD	0.50m
30	Gully	?	72.45m aOD	0.30m
31	Postholes (2)	Saxon (pot)	72.22m aOD	0.40m
56	undated shrub throw	Late Iron Age (pot) (unstratified);	72.75m aOD	0.33m
57	Shrub throw	?	72.73m aOD	0.35m
Total number of trenches with archaeology				19
Comments: Stray finds: Tr 13 – Medieval pot;				

Table 3: Summary of Features, Dates and Levels of Trenches: Area B

Trench	Features	Dates	Top of archaeology	Approximate depth below current ground level
68	Quarry	?	67.67m aOD	0.49m
69	Quarry/borrow pits	LIA & R-B pot (6903)	67.98m aOD	0.48m
70	Quarry/borrow pits	R-B (pot)	67.50m aOD	0.54m
71	Postholes & ditch	LIA (pot)	68.19m aOD	0.49m
77	Barrow ring ditch	?	69.01m aOD NW; 68.50m aOD SE	0.37m; 0.24m
78	Ring ditches of barrows	? & EBA (see below)	68.92m aOD	0.38m
79	Barrow ring-ditch	Early Bronze Age (pot) (Also intrusive possible late prehistoric tiny pot sherd)	69.10m aOD	0.50m
91	Tree-throws and ditch	Modern TTs and LIA ditch	68.47m aOD	0.34m
92	Spread (ass. With R & F?) Ditch	LIA-medieval pot – so medieval or later. Did contain MBA PALSTAVE SF 1 Ditch had predominantly LIA pot, with R-B & Saxon pot in top, possibly from ss or R & F??	67.75m aOD	0.45m
100	Construction cut	Post-medieval (Slate & brick); Medieval stray find (pot)	71.32m aOD	0.40m
104	Ring-gully; Postholes/pits; hearth	LIA (pot) in gully and pit.	67.83m aOD	0.34m
Total number of trenches with archaeology				11
Comments: unstratified finds Tr 86 – medieval pot Tr 87:– Medieval & Roman pot; Tr 140 – small features with coke – steam ploughing?				

Table 4: Summary of Features, Dates and Levels of Trenches: Area C

Trench	Features	Dates	Top of archaeology	Approximate depth below current ground level
96	Pit, gully & ditch	R-B pot from gully	68.97m aOD	0.53m
98	Postholes & pit	? poss. R-B	67.90m aOD	0.52m
118	5 treethrows/ shrubthrows 1 gully, 1 ditch	?	65.69m aOD NW; 65.47m aOD SE	0.33m
137	Gullies/linear features	R-B (pot)	72.93m aOD	0.41m
Total number of trenches with archaeology				4
Comments: Unstratified finds: Tr 99 – R-B pot				

Table 5: Summary of Features, Dates and Levels of Trenches: Area E/Road Alignment

Trench	Features	Dates	Top of archaeology	Approximate depth below current ground level
129	3 Pits & 1 gully	LIA (pot)	78.32m aOD	0.25m
130	1 gully & 1 ditch	LIA (pot)	77.48m aOD	0.36m
131	1 gully, 1 pit, 1 gully	?	76.78m aOD	0.46m
133	Several postholes	?	73.59m aOD	0.49m
Total number of trenches with archaeology			4	

Table 6: Summary of Features, Dates and Levels of Trenches: Area F

Trench	Features	Dates	Top of archaeology	Approximate depth below current ground level
140	Ditch		66.52m aOD	0.45m
141	Pit; Spread; Ditch	Pot in ditch & spread	66.79m aOD	0.48m
142	2 Ditches; treethrow		66.43m aOD	0.47m
Total number of trenches with archaeology			3	

APPENDIX II

Finds Tables

Table 7: Finds totals by area (number / weight in grammes)

Material	Area A	Area B	Area C	Area E	Area F	TOTAL
Pottery	33/354	218/1911	5/19	13/77	5/65	274/2426
<i>Early Prehistoric</i>	-	27/131	-	-	-	27/131
<i>Later Prehistoric</i>	4/9	154/1608	-	13/77	5/65	176/1759
<i>Romano-British</i>	5/194	16/104	4/11	-	-	22/309
<i>Saxon</i>	21/130	2/10	-	-	-	23/140
<i>Medieval</i>	2/20	19/58	1/8	-	-	22/86
<i>Post-medieval</i>	1/1	-	-	-	-	1/1
Ceramic Building Material	2/952	-	-	-	-	2/952
Fired Clay	-	5/43	-	-	-	5/43
Stone	-	48/4050	-	-	-	48/4050
Flint	-	6/137	1/8	-	-	7/145
Burnt Flint	-	1/22	-	-	-	1/22
Glass	-	1/5	-	-	-	1/5
Metalwork (no. objects)	2	6	-	-	-	8
<i>Copper Alloy</i>	-	1	-	-	-	1
<i>Iron</i>	2	5	-	-	-	7
Animal Bone	35/255	81/445	13/185	16/35	22/208	167/1128

Table 8: Animal Bone: Faunal list (NISP)

Species	NISP
Cattle (<i>Bos Taurus</i>)	25
Sheep/Goat (<i>Ovis/Capra</i>)	15
Pig (<i>Sus dom.</i>)	5
Dog (<i>Canis familiaris</i>)	1
Bird	1
Indet	80
Total	127

APPENDIX III

Environmental tables

Table 9: Bulk Sample summary

Phase	Trench	Feature Types	Number of Samples	Total volume
Area A				
Unphased	6	buried soil	1	19
Saxon	25	pit	1	24
Area B				
Bronze Age	79	barrow ditch	1	5
Late IA/ERB	92	spread, ditch	3	31.5
Area C				
Possibly R-B	96	pit, gully	3	26
Unphased	98	pit	1	5
Unphased	137	ditch	1	8
Area E				
Unphased	130	ditch	1	18
Totals			12	137.5

Table 10: Mollusc column and spot sample summary

Context	Sample
Spot sample Trench 11	
1103	10
Column of samples in Trench 12 = monolith <11>	
1204	12
1203	13
1203	14
1202	15
1201	21
1201	22
Spot sample ditch 715, Trench 7	
712	18

Table 11: Monolith Sample Summary

Feature	Feature type/no	Context	Sample	Contexts
0.5m	Trench 12	-	16	1200, 1201, 1202
0.5m	Trench 12	-	17	1202, 1203, 1204
buried soil	Trench 6	604	20	603, 604 and 605

Table 12: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal

Feature type/no	Context	Sample size litres	flot size ml	roots %	Grain	Chaff	Notes on Cereals	Charred other	Notes	Charcoal >4/2mm	Other	Charcoal >5.6mm	Analysis
Area A Poss. Saxon													
buried soil	604	19	36	60 ⁹⁵	-	-	-	-	-	-	moll-t (A) moll-f (C)	-	
pit 2505	2503	24	8	20 ³⁰	-	-	2x cereal indet.	-	3x Lepidium/Coronopus?	3/4ml	-	-	
Area B Unphased													
spread 9208	9200	1	0.5	5 ⁶⁰	-	-	-	-	-	-	moll-f ©	-	
Area B Early Bronze Age													
barrow ditch 7910	7910	23	5	20 ⁶⁰	-	-	-	C	hawthorn/sloe thorns x2-3	2/2ml	moll-t (B)	-	
Area B Late Iron Age/Early Romano-British													
ditch 9205	9206	5	24	40 ⁸⁰	B	C	Cereal x3 barley x1 wheat x2 1x spelt gb culm node x1, gb x3	C	2x Vicia, 1x Poa/Phleum, 1x Rumex	1/1ml	-	-	
	9207	6	7	38 ⁸⁰	A	B	5x hulled wheat grains 5-6 gb. 1x emmer glume-b. 10x barley	C	Rumex sp. x1, Trifolium x1	1/1ml	-	-	
Area C Unphased													
pit 9608	9606	7	8	40 ⁶⁰	C	-	1x f-t wheat?	C	1x grass type	5/5ml	-	-	
	9607	25	10	40 ⁸⁰	-	-	-	-	-	1/2ml	-	-	
pit 9804	9807	3	5	5 ⁴⁰	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
gully (R-B)	9604/9605	4	8	65 ⁸⁰	C	-	1x wheat grain	-	-	20/10ml	moll-f (B)	-	
ditch 13705	13707	8	8	40 ¹⁰	C	-	2x barley grains 1x hulled wheat	-	-	9/8ml	moll-f (C) moll-t (C)	-	
Area E Unphased													
ditch 13007	13005	2	18	200 ⁴⁰	-	-	2 wild/tail barley, 1x T. d/s grain, 1x cereal.	-	Lolium x1 Valerianella x1, Eleocharis media x1, Phleum x1 Rumex x1, Rumex x1, S.	2/10ml	moll-t (A)	-	

KEY: A** = exceptional, A* = 30+ items, A = ≥10 items, B = 9 - 5 items, C = < 5 items, (h) = hazelnuts, smb = small mammal bones; Moll-t = terrestrial molluscs Moll-f = freshwater molluscs; Analysis: C = charcoal, P = plant, M = molluscs, C14 = radiocarbon suggestions; NOTE: ¹flot is total, but flot in superscript = % of rooty material. ²Charcoal is quantified for >4mm and >2mm (in ml).

Table 13: Land snail assessment

SITE PHASE	Unphased							
FEATURE TYPE	Layer	Ditch	Layer					
COLUMN	11							
CONTEXT	1103	712	1204	1203	1203	1202	1201	1201
SAMPLE	10	18	12	13	14	15	21	22
DEPTH (m)	spot	spot	1.1-1.5	0.9-1.1	0.75-0.9	0.6-0.75	0.4-0.6	0.2-0.4
VOLUME (l)	1	0.5	1	1	1	1	1	1
Open country species								
<i>Pupilla muscorum</i>	C	B	-	-	-	C	C	-
<i>Vertigo</i> spp.	C	C	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Helicella itala</i>	C	C	-	-	-	C	-	-
<i>Vallonia</i> spp.	A	A	-	-	-	C	B	C
Catholic species								
<i>Trichia hispida</i>	A	C	-	-	-	-	C	-
<i>Cochlicopa</i> spp.	A	-	-	-	-	C	C	-
<i>Punctum pygmaeum</i>	B	-	-	-	-	-	-	C
<i>Nesovitrea</i>	C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Euconulus</i>	C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shade-loving species								
<i>Carychium</i>	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Aegopinella</i>	B	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aquatic species								
<i>Succinea/Oxyloma</i>	C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Planorbids</i>	-	-	-	-	-	B	-	-
<i>Pisidium</i>	-	-	-	-	-	C	-	-
Burrowing species								
<i>Cecilioides acicula</i>	-	A	-	-	-	-	-	-
Approx totals	75	20	0	0	0	15	10	4

APPENDIX IV

Geoarchaeologist Site Visit Notes

(Dr. Cathie Chisham's notes from site visit 8/8/06)

Large proposed housing development and access road at NGR 457100 222000. Evaluation of 5 areas (A-E) underway, with 137 30x1.5m trenches over the 116.45ha Site.

CC was requested to visit due to question of possible quarrying and complex geology especially in Area A. Note the geology map for the area (sheet 219) is no longer available (but see 218 to W, 236 to SW and 237 to S). The area is said to be dominated by Oxford/ Kellaway Clay, while the landscape across the ridge is underlain by Corallian beds of sands and sandy limestones. Mid-late Jurassic cornbrash outcrops in places, comprising a limestone which characteristically breaks into loose rubble or brash. It is a thin (0-5m) bed but laterally extensive, is very shelly, fossiliferous and is oolitic. Upper Corallian Coral Rag also occurs in the area, with sinkholes and springs common. The site lies c. 1/2km NE of the Gagle Brook, only one small stream (the Pingle Brook) traverses the site, to the north of Area A. The following observations were made:

Area A north section:

Field of rough pasture, pitted and undulating but overall a gentle slope. One shallow stream (possibly formalised by the landowners) to the north of the area (the Pingle Brook).

- Tr 1: Weathered cornbrash rubble and calcareous silt matrix at c.0.40m throughout, with dark buff patches of thin colluvium (possibly early/ glacial) in its surface then the thin modern calcareous soil profile
- Tr 2: As Tr1, with some large harder limestone fragments in the cornbrash
- Tr 3: Cornbrash more undulating here, with patches of dissolved and redeposited highly calcareous silt, not sorted or graded. Uneven random patches of darker buff silts, again minor colluvial input indicated (possibly early) Undulation apparently due to solution and deflation rather than any human interference here
- Tr 4: Cornbrash with patches of redeposited calcareous silts from its matrix and brown patches in its top, again a partially dissolved top with some (early) colluviation is indicated
- Tr 5: Under c.1m of cornbrash (and the modern soil formed directly into its top, with no colluvium between), is a relatively stiff white/ pale grey fossiliferous clay. Note, this might be Upper Jurassic Oxford/ Kellaway Clay but this should stratigraphically overlie Cornbrash, either the Cornbrash here is reworked (very possible given its weathered nature and the thin bed in this location) or the clays are of an earlier formation, however this has no direct

bearing on the archaeological investigations and needs no further evaluation. Occasional brown patches and poorly sorted finer cornbrash rubble was observed in the trench, perhaps indicating minor early (glacial) colluviation or solifluction. The trench was cut deeper at one end, where a finer very hard layer of redeposited calcareous silts with fossil marine shells was observed, seemingly still part of the cornbrash formation, this again overlay the stiff pale clays (in trench 7).

- Tr 6: See Tr 7, similar sequence. Water wells up when the stiff clays are cut. This aquifer/ high water table has clearly been exploited at this location with a natural shallow basin exaggerated by digging out and dumping of a small bank of material at one end. Suggested that hand digging into and under this bank just in case it buries a former land surface would be useful (though no stasis horizons were seen in the section adjacent to the bank)
- Tr 7: c.0.2m of cornbrash with modern soil formed in its top, (or, in places, in discontinuous layers of colluvium) lies over a band of the white/ pale grey (rock hard) fossiliferous silts seen in Tr5, in turn this overlay the stiff pale clay with orange (Fe) mottles. On top of the thin weathered cornbrash in the centre of the trench was a shallow basin, with slightly more organic fill at the base of the topsoil. This is a possible deliberate scoop or represents recent shallow ponding: a spot mollusc sample was requested to clarify if required. At the end of the trench, fine redeposited water lain sediment was noted with small fragments of cornbrash rubble dumped on top. Low energy water flow (NB planorbid shells were noted) and puddling is indicated. Seemingly cornbrash had been dug out elsewhere from the site and deposited on top in order to stabilise/ level this wet area. One fragment of CBM occurred under the redeposited cornbrash. This lends support also to the interpretation of the sequence in Tr12, below.
- Tr 8: Cornbrash was exposed along half the trench, the other half being of calcareous crumbly silt as previous, seemingly dissolved and out of the cornbrash matrix and redeposited. The latter formed a flat area, it lies within a wide circular basin, and it is just feasible there has been some human activity forming a platform/ fill, suggest a hand-dug slot from the edge of the cornbrash inwards to clarify.
- Tr 10: Highly undulating surface to the cornbrash, has been queried as quarried but there is no apparent cutting, no clear edges and no finds. Suggest therefore it is natural, caused by solution and deflation of the calcareous matrix of the weathered cornbrash top.
- Tr 11: Weathered cornbrash shallow to S end, cut by possible ditch (slightly organic fill) then a 10m wide very flat area of well-sorted calcareous silt to fine grit. This is graded in places and clearly has been water sorted. Need to discern if this has been done by surface water movement over bare cornbrash (but there is no evidence of e.g. stream cutting) or humans were up to something, possibly washing the finer particles off the cornbrash for use elsewhere. Note are bivalves on/ in this layer so could be a highly calcareous ephemeral stream or stream water was used for washing. Suggest at this

evaluation stage, one mollusc sample be taken from the single context for rapid assessment. Establishment of the width and depth of this layer would be useful, CC to see digipics when cut back.

- Tr12: In centre of trench the deeper slot shows the modern calcareous soil profile formed partly of colluvium (the B horizon formed in reddish buff colluvium being thicker to the southern end of the trench), over a very thin layer of cornbrash (c0.05-0.10m at c.0.40m depth in the deep slot but at variable depth across trench, 0.3-1.0m) with slight organic staining at its top (the base of the modern B horizon), possibly former surface reflecting use. The cornbrash is of limestone rubble in cream to buff calcareous silt matrix, patchy and striped at one end of the trench with 0.15m wide buff coloured diagonal stripes, therefore dumping queried.

Underneath is water-sorted gleyed clay silt, blue at depth (affected by high water table) and orange oxidised to its top. Inclusions are rare, most of small weathered fragments of limestone/ chalk. Material may be partly reworked water lain colluvium as there is a high silt content. With regard to the query raised on quarry and backfill, it is unlikely to be reworked dumped backfill material given the sterility and large volume of very well-sorted sediment. The date of this massive sediment is unclear and the lack of inclusions is problematic and no peat or stasis horizons were exposed so it is currently undateable, however it is relatively soft water lain material and most likely of Holocene age, possibly related to seasonal/ ephemeral channels/ former course of the shallow Pingle Brook. If so, this clearly shows the cornbrash (originally of Jurassic age) is indeed dumped. That it is such a thin compacted layer is also suggestive. The CAO had queried quarrying due to possible tip lines (the diagonal stripes) but there is no clear evidence in this particular location, rather a wide track of levelled layer is indicated, perhaps done to stabilise and allow access across what would have been, at least seasonally, a wet area of the site. Note no tufa occurs here, the sediments are calcareous but a highly calcareous spring head is not present, rather aquifers and a high water table, with possible seasonal surface flow of water in the past.

Since the stripes of buff coloured silts in the layer of weathered cornbrash might be periglacial or reflect dumping, suggest Kirsten cuts existing deeper slot back along trench so this can be seen in section to clarify. Monolith to be taken through the cornbrash layer and organic staining though water lain sediment beneath for detailed description. Four mollusc samples to be taken (each 5-10cm deep) in a continuous column from the organic staining at base of B horizon, the ?dumped cornbrash layer and two from the water lain sediments beneath.

NB: There has certainly been some deliberate movement of material in this area, probably in historic-modern times, but evidence of widespread/ industrial scale quarrying is not apparent in the trenches observed. Instead, there is some evidence for remedial work to stabilise damper ground and to formalise water sources. Away from the trenches are several deeper, very disturbed, possible quarried patches. At least 1 trench should be positioned across one of these deflations in excavation. A

topographic survey is apparently planned which will help to clarify the nature of disturbance in this area and position excavation trenching.

South west section of Area A:

Weathered fossiliferous cornbrash with the same (periglacial?) striping was observed. One small area of red scorched earth was noted (rather than burning, no charred remains occur). One possible very diffuse patch of quarrying (which might equally be ascribed to natural process) backfilled with cornbrash rubble and redeposited calcareous silts was noted in the corner of one trench, may be worth opening a wider area here in excavation.

In addition it is suggested a snail column be taken through a representative colluvial sequence within Area A and certainly in Area E during excavation.

Area E/ Road line:

Cornbrash flatter, more even and constant depth c. 0.3m. Several postholes cut into top. Ring Gully and LIA/ RB pits found nearby previously

Area C:

Trenches show patchy underlying natural/ geology including the weathered cornbrash top and, in places including the crest of the slope, outcrops of clean, sterile orange silt to fine sand (?Kellaway sands), Kirsten to get single bag sample for CC to describe. Just down the gentle slope and at the break of slope, there is progressively thickening orange colluvial deposits with numerous bands of blue clays traversing it. These are soft, gleyed and water lain and may represent ephemeral gullies, their relationship to storms and the formation of colluvium is also indicated by the sorting and occurrence of fine gravels on the edges of bends in these features.

Area B:

At the base of the slope downslope from Area C, the line of a former possible watercourse was noted (as suggested by the farmer) Trenches revealed deep colluvium occurs (>1.4m in places) with clear lenses of small angular-rounded stones, with at least 2 distinct episodes of colluviation and gravel fan formation. It is suggested that deep trenches be attempted for this area in excavation, perhaps positioned following an augering exercise to investigate the full depth of this colluvium and investigate the underlying deposits which it seals, if the depth of disturbance of the proposed development will impact on these layers. the two trenches were then cut deeper to 1.4m to expose these clays further and investigate whether then sealed or cut the underlying deposits. The colluvium here is orange-red and less calcareous than elsewhere on site. Extensive areas of stiff but malleable waterlogged gleyed (blue) clays were also noted but in the two trenches deepened to 1.4m it was found that the only inclusions in these massive bodies of clay were small fragments of weathered limestone, as also observed in Trench 12 Area A. These fine-grained deposits do seem to dissect the colluvium in places, indicating a Holocene age, but they contain no peat or stasis horizons, no visible macrofossil remains and are seemingly archaeologically sterile, so their date and nature are currently unclear. It is suggested they most likely relate to flooding of the former watercourse and to downslope surface water movement related to the small gullies observed upslope. Deeper trenching in excavation is suggested. A number of archaeological features and finds occur in Area B, all have been found at shallow depth on drier areas where the

cornbrash occurs high in the sequence and this may represent deliberate choice of this more stable, drier ground. The possibility of archaeological remains occurring within or under the thick colluvium nearby should not, however be dismissed.

APPENDIX V

Trench Tables

Trench 1	Dimensions: 30m x 1.95m x 0.72m		
	Land use: Pasture; acutely undulating; rich turf thistles and nettles		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
100	Topsoil	Thick/dense turf; matted roots; sandy loam; dark brownish grey; diffuse lower interface. Few inclusions.	0.0m – 0.14m
101	Interface	Horizon between topsoil and colluvium/subsoil; dark brownish grey sandy loam; frequent peagrit; frequent small stones (subangular <20mm) in places.	0.12m- 0.27mm
102	Colluvium/ subsoil	Mid reddish/yellow brown; sandy silty clay; moderate and patchy limestone rubble; poorly sorted <6mm – 80mm. Occasional fine roots.	0.22m – 0.53m
103	Natural geology	Varied; Cornbrash; solid limestone (slab form); degraded limestone with rubble <150mm and all sizes below; pale whitish yellow with patches of reddish/yellow brown.	0.46m+

Trench 2	Dimensions: 30m x 1.95m x 0.40m		
	Land use: Pasture; acutely undulating; rich turf thistles and nettles		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
200	Topsoil	Thick/dense turf; matted roots; sandy loam; dark brownish grey; diffuse lower interface. Few inclusions.	0.0m – 0.13m
201	Interface	Horizon between topsoil and colluvium/subsoil; dark brownish grey sandy loam; frequent peagrit; frequent small stones (subangular <20mm) in places.	0.12m – 0.23m
202	Colluvium/ subsoil	Firm silty clay; mid-light yellowish brown; diffuse horizons; moderate small limestone (subangular, < 30mm)	0.20m – 0.35m
203	Natural geology	Varied; Solid limestone (slab form); yellowish brown cornbrash; red/brown & reddish/yellowish brown cornbrash; Much smaller lumps and looser cornbrash at eastern end (where possible gully was located)	0.35m+
204	Possible gully	Possible NE-SW gully; edges diffuse. Could even be natural, diving underneath the cornbrash to the east.	0.31m – 0.53m
205	Fill of possible gully	Reddish yellow/brown; silty clay. No inclusions, no finds. Possibly a natural/geological feature, diving under cornbrash.	0.31m – 0.53m

Trench 3	Dimensions: 28.5m x 1.9m x 0.7m		
	Land use: Pasture; acutely undulating; rich turf thistles and nettles		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
300	Topsoil	Dark brownish grey loam with frequent roots. Turf/pasture	0.0m x 0.15m
301	Natural geology	Light yellowish white, calcareous and decayed/dissolved limestone	0.10m +
302	Natural geology	Light yellowish brown; silty sand with 60% 10-50mm ragstone	0.15m

Trench 4	Dimensions: 28.7m x 2.06m x 0.69m		
	Land use: Pasture; acutely undulating; rich turf thistles and nettles		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
400	Topsoil	Dark brown loam with rare subangular ragstone 10-20mm. frequent bioturbation	0.0m – 0.2m

401	Colluvium	Reddish brown silty clay with common subangular ragstone 10-60mm. bioturbation	0.2m – 0.42m
402	Colluvium	Yellowish-white sandy silt. Very crumbly. No inclusions	0.42m – 0.55m
403	Natural geology	Yellowish brown silty clay; common subangular & subrounded ragstone. 10mm – 30mm. compact.	0.46 m – 0.53m

Trench 5	Dimensions: 30.8m x 1.9m x 0.65m		
	Land use: Pasture; acutely undulating; rich turf thistles and nettles		
Context	Category	Description	Depth*
500	Topsoil	Mid brown loam. Bioturbation; frequent grass roots. Turf topped	0.0m–0.20m
501	Subsoil	Light whitish yellow sandy loam; 90% ragstone 10-30mm.	0.20m - 0.40m
502	Natural	Light whitish brown sandy loam with 80% 10mm ragstone.	0.40m-0.55m
503	Natural	Light yellowish brown silty sand with 20% small ragstone frags	0.55m+
504	Natural	Solid white rock (see Cathie's notes). Seals clay layers. Like a mudstone	0.45m+
505	Natural	Light whitish grey silty clay with 10% small ragstone frags	0.50m-0.70m
506	Natural	Light greyish brown silty clay with iron panning(?) and 2% very small stones	0.60m+

**acutely undulating ground surface; measurements taken from ground surface immediately above context*

Trench 6	Dimensions: 30.4m x 1.9m x 0.8m		
	Land use: Pasture; acutely undulating; rich turf thistles and nettles		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
600	Cut of possible linear	Curvilinear ditch with concave base and moderate, straight sides. 0.9m wide and 0.7m deep. Seen in both sections.	0.8m -
601	fill of [600]	Mid-brown silty clay; common medium/small ragstone <75%; <100mm Single fill.	0.8m
602	Topsoil	Loose mid brown silty clay; sparse small stones <5%; <50mm dia. Bioturbated from surface	0m-0.3m
603	Bank material	Mid-brown silty clay and 60% coarse gravelly inclusions. Possibly formed with cutting of ditch 600.	0.35m
604	Buried ground surface	Red-brown silty clay; sparse small stone inclusions; Saxon pot; Beneath bank; bioturbation clear.	0.4m
605	Original 'subsoil'	Reddish-brown silty clay with very common medium/large ragstone (<90%; <150mm dia). Forms an interface between 606 and 604. Now under a bank.	0.6m
606	Natural geology	Natural layer of large undisturbed ragstone seen in plan and section in centre of trench	0.1m+
607	Original subsoil (?)	Equivalent of 605 but found in the western end of the trench. Other side of linear [600]. Light brown silty clay with very common small ragstone inclusions (<75%; <50mm dia.)	0.1m-0.6m
608	Natural geology	Natural layer of horizontally aligned white ragstone (limestone). Very compact and found in western end of trench. Undisturbed where seen in trench 6 (visible in section and plan)	0.6m-0.7m
609	Natural geology	Natural layer of 'dirty' olive green/brown clay found in section and plan at western end of the trench and believed to be the same layer seen at the far eastern end of trench (visible in plan)	0.7m+

Trench 7	Dimensions: 30.6m x 1.85m x 0.8m		
	Land use: Pasture; acutely undulating; rich turf thistles and nettles		
Context	Category	Description	Depth*
701	Topsoil	Loose; mid brown; silty clay; sparse small stone inclusions (> 5%; <50mm diameter); bioturbation from surface.	0.0m – 0.25m
702	Subsoil/ colluvium	Mid brown; silty clay; common small stone inclusions (<95%; <50mm diameter). Clear interface with 701.	0.20m – 0.35m
703	Bank material	See also 603. mid – light brown; silty clay; moderate small stone inclusions (<40%; < 10mm diameter)	0.30m – 0.60m
704	Alluvium	Light brownish grey; silty clay; sparse small stone inclusions (< 10%; < 50mm diameter)	0.47m – 0.62m
705	Colluvium	Mid brown; fine silty clay.	0.65m – 0.90m
706	Natural geology	Cornbrash; undisturbed large rag(lime)stone blocks forming one type of natural in this trench; light brown silty clay with large stone inclusions (<80%; <150mm diameter)	0.55m – 0.80m
707	Possible early bank material	Reddish brown; silty clay; moderate small stone inclusions (<50%; <10mm diameter). Under bank material – initial phase of bank construction?	0.57m – 0.67m
708	Buried soil/ground surface	Mid reddish brown; silty clay. Same as 604.	0.56m – 0.82m
709	Natural geology	Natural layer of pale cornbrash with solid limestone	0.25m – 0.70m
710	Subsoil	Mid-light brown; silty clay; moderate – common small stone inclusions (<75%; < 50mm).	0.60m – 0.91m
711	Deposit	Deeper ‘scoop’ of topsoil derived material; not thought to be a cut feature; mid reddish brown; silty clay; sparse small stone inclusions (<5%; < 50mm)	0.20m – 0.40m
712	Fill of linear feature	Fill of possible linear feature 715; mid reddish brown clay; common small stone inclusions (<85%; < 20mm) see also 601.	0.34m – 0.46m
713	Natural geology	Pale silty clay; off white; no inclusions.	0.35m – 0.62m
714	Natural geology	White silty clay below 713	0.61m – 0.66m
715	Cut of linear feature	See 600.	0.30m – 0.45m

*acutely undulating ground surface; measurements taken from ground surface immediately above context

Trench 8	Dimensions: 30.60m x 2.60m max x 0.50m		
	Land use: Pasture; acutely undulating; rich turf thistles and nettles		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
800	Topsoil	Active mid brownish grey loam with frequent roots (turf top)	0m – 0.20m
801	Natural geology	Cornbrash; undisturbed large rag(lime)stone blocks forming one type of natural in this trench; light brown silty clay with large stone inclusions (<95%; <200mm diameter)	0.10m – 0.40m
802	Subsoil	Mid-yellow/ brown silty sand with limestone inclusions (<10%; <50mm diameter)	0.20m – 0.50m
803	Natural geology	Mid-yellow/ light brown silty sand with limestone inclusions (<5%; <10mm diameter); forms one type of natural in this trench.	0.20m – 0.30m
804	Natural geology	Solid limestone	0.50m +
805	layer	Red/brown sandy silty clay; rare coarse components (10%; 10-50mm)	0.10m – 0.39m

Trench 9	VOID
----------	-------------

Trench 10	Dimensions: 30.7m x 1.98m x 0.74m		
	Land use: Pasture; acutely undulating; rich turf thistles and nettles		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
1000	Topsoil	Dark brown loam with frequent roots. Rare stone inclusions (<3%, <30mm).	0.0m – 0.12m
1001	Subsoil	Reddish brown silty clay with common ragstone inclusions (<30%, <25mm).	0.12m – 0.53m
1002	Natural geology	Yellowish white sandy loam with rare ragstone inclusions (<3%, <100mm).	0.33m +

Trench 11	Dimensions: 33.3m x 2.06m x 0.8m		
	Land use: Pasture; acutely undulating; rich turf thistles and nettles		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
1100	Topsoil	Active dark brown loam with rare stone inclusions (<3%, <10mm).	0.0m – 0.15m
1101	Subsoil/colluvium	Light yellowish brown silty sand with rare stone inclusions (<3%, <30mm).	0.15m – 0.36m
1102	Natural geology	Reddish brown silty clay with sparse stone inclusions (<10%, <50mm).	0.36m +
1103	Natural layer	Light grey silty sandy clay with ragstone inclusions.	0.48m +
1104	Natural layer	Mid grey silty clay with iron staining. Part of natural deposit.	As 1103
1105	Natural Layer	Greyish red silty clay with rare stone inclusions (<2%, <5mm).	0.5m +
1106	Layer below topsoil	Mid yellow sand with common ragstone inclusions (<30%, <10mm). wasn't clear on site, but section suggests this could be the fill of a cut associated with the earthworks. Not convinced.	0.26m – 0.38m

Trench 12	Dimensions: 29.4m x 1.85m x 1.15m		
	Land use: Pasture; acutely undulating; rich turf thistles and nettles		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
1200	Topsoil	Mid brown silty clay, bioturbation from surface.	0.0m – 0.15m
1201	Subsoil	Reddish brown silty clay with moderate stone inclusions (<20%, <5mm).	0.15m – 0.60m
1202	Layer	Mid greyish brown silty clay with abundant stone inclusions (<80%, <5mm). This layer is believed to represent a trackway between the gate and bridge.	0.60m – 0.80m
1203	Layer	Reddish brown silty sand with moderate stone inclusions (<10%, <10mm).	0.80m – 1.10m
1204	Natural geology	Bluish green clay with compact limestone inclusions.	1.10m +
1205	Layer	Active dark brown silty clay with rare stone inclusions (<3%, <80mm).	0.61m – 0.79m
1206	Natural geology	Cornbrash.	0.30m +

Trench 13	Dimensions: 32.4m x 2.0m x 0.55m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
1301	Topsoil	Dark brown sandy silty loam; rare subrounded limestone inclusions; bioturbation	0.0m – 0.27m

1302	Natural geology	Light brown silty clay; v. frequent limestone cornbrash; slightly reddish Yellowish brown silty clay with sparse limestone (cornbrash)	0.26m + (N) 0.49m + (S)
1303	Subsoil	Light brown sandy silty loam; sparse cornbrash limestone inclusions (S end)	0.27m – 0.49m

Trench 14	Dimensions: 29.5m x 2.2m x 0.54m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
1401	Topsoil	Mid brown/yellow silty clay	0.0m – 0.21m
1402	Subsoil/colluvium	Yellowish brown clayey silt with moderate limestone rubble	0.21m – 0.35m
1403	Natural geology	Yellowish brown clayey silt and limestone cornbrash c. 6m from the NE end the cornbrash stops and solid rock (tabular limestone) continues to the end of the trench	0.35m +

Trench 15	Dimensions: 30.5m x 1.9m x 0.45m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
1501	Topsoil	Mid greyish brown sandy silt loam	0.0m – 0.20m
1502	Subsoil/colluvium	Mid orangey brown sandy clay; 20% small limestone up to 50mm dia.	0.20m – 0.28m
1503	Natural geology	Various: large flat limestone slabs (horizontal); yellowish red sandy clay with 50% smaller limestone rubble; light yellow There were a few irregular patches of reddish silty clay (similar to the colluvium). These were investigated and were interpreted as natural or geological in nature	0.28m +

Trench 16	Dimensions: 29.6m x 2m x 1.15m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
1601	Topsoil	Dark yellowish brown clay silt with moderate to frequent rounded ragstone. Stubble and fine roots; active plough soil, clear horizon.	0.0m – 0.30m
1602	Plough soil/ tertiary fill	Mid yellowish brown clay silts with frequent ragstone <100mm. probably inactive plough soil filling depression caused by settled backfilled quarry	0.25m – 0.52m
1603	Consolidation deposit	Mid yellowish brown clay silts and abundant ragstone <150mm. Randomly deposited with frequent gaps. Deliberate backfill/consolidation of a hollow in the landscape caused by the settling of an earlier backfilled quarry	0.38m – 0.88m
1604	Secondary deposit	Pale yellowish brown degraded ragstone silt; frequent ragstone <80mm. Water or wind deposited upcast material covering depression from slumped quarry backfill	0.55m +
1605	Tertiary deposit	Mid yellowish brown clayey silt with rare to moderate ragstone < 50mm. Ploughing derived deposit collected in depression from backfilled quarry	0.4m – 0.7m

1606	Tertiary deposit	Mid yellowish brown clay silts with frequent ragstone <100mm. Probably a mixture of wind/waterborne surface material and ploughing filling depression caused by settling of underlying quarry backfill.	0.35m – 0.85m
1607	Quarry backfill	Mid yellowish brown clay silt with abundant ragstone < 150mm; also contained bone; pot; Fe staple. Deliberate backfill of quarry pit with soils washed in from surface.	0.40m – 1.15m+
1608	Quarry cut	Not fully excavated. Unknown shape, although suggest is rectangular (identified in geophysical survey); vertical sides.	0.4m – 1.15m+
1609	Natural geology	Pale yellowish brown degraded ragstone silts with abundant ragstone < 200mm	0.35m +

Trench 17	Dimensions: 29.6m x 2.0m x 0.9m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble. Tree root disturbance from copse		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
1701	Topsoil	Dark yellowish brown silty clay; frequent ragstone < 40mm	0.0m – 0.30m
1702	Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown clay silt with rare ragstone inclusions.	0.30m – 0.60m
1703	Natural geology	Yellowish brown silty clay matrix with v. frequent limestone; Yellowish brown degraded limestone.	0.60m – 80m; 0.80m +

Trench 19	Dimensions: 30m x 2.2m x 0.69m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
1900	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Dark brownish grey silty loam with moderate stone inclusions (<20%, <30mm).	0.0m – 0.26m
1901	Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown clayish silt with moderate cornbrash inclusions (<20%), manganese flecks and root disturbance.	0.26m – 0.69m
1902	Natural geology	Light yellowish brown clayey silt with abundant cornbrash inclusions (<75%).	0.69m +
1903	Fill of pit	Light greyish brown clayey silt with abundant ragstone inclusions (<70%, <200mm).	0.69m – 0.90m
1904	Fill of pit	Mid blackish brown clayey silt with abundant ragstone (<50%, <100m) and common charcoal inclusions. Dump of burnt material.	0.90m – 0.97m
1905	Cut of pit	Possibly modern soakaway? Continues beyond edge of trench.	0.69m – 0.94m
1906	Fill of tree throw	Mid-grey/brown clayey silt with occasional ragstone gravels and mild bioturbation.	0.69m – 0.84m
1907	Cut of tree throw	Shallow, irregular sub-circular tree throw with one depositional event. 0.6m diameter	0.69m – 0.84m
1908	Fill of tree throw	Dark grey/black clayey silt with rare ragstone inclusions. Contains a large amount of charcoal (<80%)	0.69m – 0.89m
1909	Cut of tree throw	Small, shallow tree throw with one depositional event.	0.69m – 0.89m
1910	Fill of posthole	Mid grey-brown silty clay with moderate ragstone inclusions (<20%; <50mm). Contains evidence of disturbed packing material.	0.69m – 1.08m
1911	Cut of posthole	Cut of large posthole (load bearing?) with one deposit. Steep sided with a rounded base. 0.57m diameter	0.69m – 1.08m
1912	Fill of gully	Dark yellowish-brown clayey silt with ragstone inclusions (<10%; <20mm diameter). Low energy natural backfill	0.69m – 0.93m
1913	Cut of gully	Cut of shallow gully orientated N-S. Undated with one	0.69m –

		depositional episode. 1m long x 0.53m x 0.24m.	0.93m
--	--	--	-------

Trench 20	Dimensions: 29.4m x 2.1m x 0.95m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
2000	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Mid-brown silty clay with sparse small stone inclusions (<5%; <50mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.3m
2001	Subsoil	Red-brown silty clay. Clear interface with (2000); more diffuse interface with (2002).	0.3m – 0.4m
2002	Natural geology	Patchy grey and orange sandy gravel, with silty areas and haematite flecking. Mottled throughout length of trench.	0.4m +
2003	Cut of pit	Shallow circular pit extending from baulk of trench. Undated. Contained burnt stone.	0.3m – 0.45m
2004	Fill of pit	Secondary deposit of mid-brown silty clay with burnt stone inclusions (<70%; <100mm diameter).	0.3m – 0.45m

Trench 21	Dimensions: 29.7m x 2.1m x 0.5m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
2100	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Mid-brown silty clay with sparse small stone inclusions (<15%; <50mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.3m
2101	Subsoil	Red-brown silty clay with sparse small ragstone inclusions (<25%; <50mm diameter). Clear interface with (2100) and (2102).	0.3m – 0.5m
2102	Natural geology	Red and pale brown patchy combrash. Silty clay with ragstones (<95%; <200mm diameter).	0.5m +
2103	Cut of gully	E-W orientated linear gully. Undated with one depositional event.	0.5m – 0.58m
2104	Fill of gully	Mid-brown silty clay with ragstone inclusions (<30%; <50mm diameter). Secondary deposit.	0.5m – 0.58m
2105	Cut of linear	E-W orientated linear ditch. Undated with one depositional event.	0.5m – 0.59m
2106	Fill of linear	Mid-brown silty clay with ragstone inclusions (<35%; <50mm diameter). Secondary deposit.	0.5m – 0.59m

Trench 22	Dimensions: 29.1m x 2.1m x 0.95m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
2200	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Mid-brown silty clay with sparse small stone inclusions (<25%; <50mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.3m
2201	Subsoil	Light red/brown silty clay. Fine silt particles with sparse small stone inclusions (<5%; <0.05m diameter). Mild bioturbation visible.	0.3m – 0.55m
2202	Layer	Dark grey/brown interface layer between (2201) and (2203). Consists of silty sand with rare small ragstone inclusions.	0.55m – 0.65m
2203	Natural geology	Patchy blue and orange sandy gravel with common small ragstone gravel inclusions (<95%; <100mm diameter). Mottled throughout length of trench.	0.65m+

Trench 23	Dimensions: 29.5m x 2.1m x 1m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
2300	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Mid-brown silty clay with sparse small stone inclusions (<5%; <50mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.3m
2301	Subsoil	Red/brown silty clay with common small ragstone inclusions (50%; <50mm diameter).	0.3m – 0.5m
2302	Natural	Layer at base of southern end of trench. Degraded ragstone brash	0.4m +

	geology	– pale brown with common ragstones (<85%; <100mm diameter).	
2303	Colluvial layer	Layer at base of Northern end of trench. Colluvial layer of red/brown clayey silts with sparse stone inclusions (<3%; <50mm diameter). Over lies (2302).	0.5m +
2304	Cut of pit	Cut of small, shallow, sub-circular feature with one fill. Undated.	0.35m – 0.45m
2305	Fill of pit	Mid-brown silty clay with moderate small ragstone inclusions (<25%; <50mm diameter). Secondary deposit with charcoal flecking.	0.35m – 0.45m
2306	Cut of ditch	E-W orientated linear ditch with two depositional events. Wide and shallow; possibly therefore a drainage or boundary ditch. 2m x 1.44m x 0.4m	0.5m – 0.90m
2307	Fill of ditch	Mid- brown/grey silty clay with ragstone inclusions (<10%; <30mm diameter). Upper fill of ditch. Secondary deposit containing pot and animal bone.	0.5m – 0.73m
2308	Fill of ditch	Mid grey/brown silty clay with ragstone inclusions (<10%; <30mm diameter). Lower fill of ditch. Secondary deposit.	0.73m – 0.9m

Trench 24	Dimensions: 29.5m x 2.3m x 0.56m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
2400	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Dark-brown/grey silty clay loam with sparse small stone inclusions (<15%; <50mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.24m
2401	Subsoil	Mid red/brown sandy clay.	0.24m – 0.30m
2402	Natural geology	Weathered cornbrash gravel. Varies from yellow clayish sand, to green/grey clay, to red/brown silty clay with ragstone inclusions (<40%).	0.3m +
2403	Fill of possible ?boundary ditch	Red/brown silty clay with ragstone rubble (<20%). Deliberate backfill of redeposited natural material. Contained post-med pottery, charcoal and burnt stone.	0.3m +
2404	Cut of ?boundary ditch	Cut of large feature – probably a quarry pit. Excavation terminated due to discovery of post-med pot in fill. Believed to be modern.	0.3m+

Trench 25	Dimensions: 29.6m x 2.4m x 0.7m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
2500	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Dark-brown/grey silty clay loam with sparse small stone inclusions (<10%; <100mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.28m
2501	Subsoil	Dark yellow/brown sandy clay	0.28m – 0.4m
2502	Natural geology	Degraded cornbrash. Dark orange clay with common large ragstone blocks. Found in SE of trench.	0.4m +
2503	Fill of pit	Mid-yellow/grey silty clay with occasional ragstone inclusions. Contained a lot of in situ burnt material (burnt stones and fired earth) and several pieces of pottery.	0.35m – 0.56m
2504	Fill of pit	Mid-yellow/brown silty clay with rare gravel inclusions (<60mm diameter).Secondary deposit. Lower fill of pit.	0.35m – 0.61m
2505	Cut of pit	Cub-circular, bowl-shaped pit used for burning. Contains two fills.	0.35m – 63m
2506	Natural geology	Dark yellow/orange clay with natural iron ore inclusions. Found in NW of trench.	0.35m +

Trench 26	Dimensions: 29.7m x 2.1m x 0.9m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
2600	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Mid-brown silty clay with sparse small stone inclusions (<10%; <50mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface. Diffuse interface with (2601).	0.0m – 0.25m
2601	Subsoil	Orange/brown silty clay. Thin layer between (2600) and (2602).	0.25m – 0.3m
2602	Natural geology	Blue clay with occasional patches of subsoil left on surface.	0.3m

Trench 27	Dimensions: 29.8m x 2.1m x 1.25m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
2700	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Mid-brown silty clay with sparse small stone inclusions (<25%; <50mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.25m
2701	Subsoil	Olive green/brown silty clay. Moderate small stone inclusions (<15%; <50mm diameter). Diffuse interfaces with (2700) and (2702).	0.25m – 0.7m
2702	Natural geology	Blue clay requiring copious land drains. Trench level kept high in places to protect these.	0.7m

Trench 28	Dimensions: 30.1m x 2.1m x 0.55m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
2800	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Mid-brown silty clay with sparse small stone inclusions (<10%; <50mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.2m
2801	Subsoil	Red/brown silty clay. Very fine with no visible inclusions.	0.2m – 0.4m
2802	Natural geology	Very degraded cornbrash. Pale brown with ragstone inclusions (95%; 50mm diameter). Contains red silty patches increasing in regularity to NW end of trench.	0.4m

Trench 29	Dimensions: 30m x 2.1m x 0.4m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
2900	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Mid-brown silty clay with sparse small stone inclusions (<5%; <50mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.3m
2901	Subsoil	Very fine red/brown silty clay with no visible inclusions.	0.3m – 0.4m
2902	Natural geology	Degraded cornbrash. Pale brown with ragstone inclusions (95%; 50mm diameter). Contains red silty patches.	0.4m +
2903	Cut of linear	E-W orientated linear ditch. Contains one depositional event. Dated by two flint flakes only as prehistoric. Purpose undetermined.	0.4m – 0.9m
2904	Fill of linear	Mid-brown silty clay with sparse stone inclusions (<5%; <50mm diameter). Secondary deposit of fine silty material containing two flint flakes.	0.4m – 0.9m

Trench 30	Dimensions: 30m x 2.2m x 1.09m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
3000	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Dark brown/grey silty loam with sparse small ragstone inclusions (<30%; <30mm diameter). Bioturbated from	0.0m – 0.3m

		surface.	
3001	Subsoil	Mid-red/brown clayey silt. Rare ragstone inclusions (<80mm diameter).	0.3m – 0.8m
3002	Natural geology	Mid-yellow/brown clayey silt. 80% ragstone.	0.8m +
3003	Fill of gully	Mid-grey brown silty clay with occasional ragstone gravels (<15%). Secondary deposit with rare charcoal flecks.	0.8m – 1.09m
3004	Cut of gully	NW-SE orientated. Contains one episode of secondary deposition.	0.8m – 1.09m

Trench 31	Dimensions: 30.7m x 2.1m x 5.5m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
3100	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Mid-brown loose silty clay with sparse small stone inclusions (<10%; <50mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.25m
3101	Subsoil	Red brown silty clay with patches of very fine red silts.	0.25m – 0.4m
3102	Natural geology	Highly degraded cornbrash. Pale brown in colour with ragstones (<90%; <50mm diameter). At SE end of trench this layer has large patches of subsoil material mixed with it, decreasing to the NW.	0.3m + to 0.5m +
3103	Cut of posthole	Cut of posthole with one fill. R-B (?) based on pot retrieved from fill. One of two postholes in this trench. Possibly structural rather than a lone marker post (fence line?).	0.5m – 0.67m
3104	Fill of posthole	Mid-dark brown silty clay with sparse small stone inclusions (<5%; <30mm diameter). Secondary deposit containing charcoal, pot and animal bone.	0.5m – 0.67m
3105	Cut of posthole	Cut of posthole with one fill. R-B (?) based on pot retrieved from fill. One of two postholes in this trench. Possibly structural rather than a lone marker post (fence line?).	0.5m – 0.75m
3106	Fill of posthole	Mid-dark brown silty clay with sparse small stone inclusions (<5%; <30mm diameter). Secondary deposit containing charcoal, pot and animal bone.	0.5m – 0.75m

Trench 32	Dimensions: 30m x 2.2m x 0.24m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
3200	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Dark brown/grey silty loam with regular ragstone inclusions (<50mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.24m
3201	Natural geology	Light brown silty clay with fragmented ragstone inclusions (<70%) and patches of red/brown clay (periglacial scarring?).	0.24m +

Trench 33	Dimensions: 30.1m x 2.1m x 0.3m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
3300	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Mid-brown loose silty clay with sparse small stone inclusions (<10%; <50mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.28m
3301	Subsoil	Thin layer of red/brown silty clay.	0.28m – 0.33m
3302	Natural geology	Orange/pale brown and red/brown patchy degraded cornbrash (<95%; <30mm diameter).	0.33m +
3303	Cut of natural feature	Looks regular in plan but on excavation proved to be highly irregular. Possibly an old hedge line or geological. Excavation terminated at 0.5m	0.33m – 0.83m
3304	Fill of natural feature	Red/brown very fine silty clay with no visible inclusions. Likely to be naturally occurring.	0.33m – 0.83m

Trench 34	Dimensions: 30.6m x 2.3m x 0.34m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
3400	Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Mid-grey/brown silty clay loam with 20% cornbrash gravel.	0.0m – 0.21m
3401	Natural geology	Cornbrash with yellow and orange patchy sandy clay.	0.21m +

Trench 35	Dimensions: 29.1m x 2.3m x 0.36m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
3500	Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Mid-grey/brown silty clay loam with 20% cornbrash gravel.	0.0m – 0.24m
3501	Natural geology	Cornbrash with yellow and orange patchy sandy clay.	0.24m +
3502	Fill of pit	Mid-red/brown clayey silt with cornbrash rubble (5%). Only fill of pit. Contains charcoal flecks.	0.24m – 0.57m
3503	Cut of pit	Cut of undated pit. Unknown function. Possibly modern? Or geological.	0.24m – 0.57m
3504	Fill of linear	Mid-red/brown clayey silt with rare gravel inclusions and charcoal flecking. Secondary deposit affected by animal burrowing.	0.24m – 0.58m
3505	Cut of linear	E-W orientated with possible terminus to the west. Irregular base and edges. Possibly geological.	0.24m – 0.58m

Trench 36	Dimensions: 29.10m x 2.3m x 0.36m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
3600	Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Mid-grey/brown silty clay loam with 10% cornbrash gravel.	0.0m – 0.25m
3601	Natural geology	Weathered ragstone with red/brown and yellow/brown sandy clay.	0.25m +

Trench 37	Dimensions: 31.0m x 2.40m x 0.70m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
3701	Topsoil	Dark brown sandy silty loam; common subrounded ragstone and cornbrash	0.0m – 0.23m
3702	Redeposited natural	Reddish brown silty clay; common, subangular ragstone and cornbrash. Overlies fill of possible quarry	0.23m – 0.43m
3703	Natural geology	Yellowish brown silty clay with common, subangular ragstone. Cornbrash.	0.15m – 0.32m
3704	Possible quarry cut	Straight edge on SW side, recorded as curved edge on E side by I think this represents the edge of a fill rather than the cut. More than 0.4m deep; 2.5m wide; Initially thought to be one of the geological anomalies but straight edge became more evident with weathering. Not fully excavated as potentially very deep and extensive. Not picked up on aerial photos or geophysics.	0.33m - 0.70m +
3705	Possible quarry fill	Mid-dark reddish brown clay/sandy clay. 40% ragstone/cornbrash.	0.33m – 0.70m +
3706	Possible quarry fill	Mid yellowish brown silty clay; frequent small lumps limestone, subangular and <100mm. Matrix contains degraded limestone	0.33m +

		silts. Quite loose. Was mistaken for the natural geology (as in trench 16).	
--	--	---	--

Trench 38	Dimensions: 30m x 2.22m x 0.58m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
3801	Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Dark grey/brown sandy clay loam with cornbrash gravel (<10%).	0.0m – 0.26m
3802	Subsoil	Dark red/brown sandy clay with occasional ragstone inclusions.	0.26m – 0.34m
3803	Natural geology	Varies throughout trench. Ragstone with yellow/brown sandy clay/ brownish yellow clay with approximately 30% rubble/ large ragstone cobbles in dark red/brown clay (remains of subsoil?).	0.30m +

Trench 39	Dimensions: 30.2m x 2.5m x 0.61m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
3901	Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Mid-brown/grey sandy clay loam with corn brash gravel (<20%).	0.0m – 0.28m
3902	Subsoil	Dark red/brown sandy clay with occasional ragstone cobbles (<40%). Subsoil only visible in some parts of the trench.	0.28m – 0.5m
3903	Natural geology	Degraded cornbrash. Ragstones vary in colour along trench from yellow/brown to orange/brown.	0.3m +

Trench 40	Dimensions: 30.3m x 2.5m x 0.46m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
4001	Topsoil	Mid-brown/grey sandy clay loam with ragstones (<20%)	0.0m – 0.26m
4002	Subsoil	Thin layer of dark red/brown sandy clay with ragstones (<30%).	0.26m – 0.36m
4003	Natural geology	Mid-orange/brown varying to dark red/brown sandy clay with ragstone cobbles.	0.36m +

Trench 41	Dimensions: 29.4m x 2.2m x 0.5m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
4101	Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Mid-grey/brown silty clay loam with cornbrash gravel (<20%).	0.0m – 0.23m & 0.31m
4102	Subsoil	Dark red/brown sandy clay.	0.23m – 0.37m
4103	Natural geology	Variable. Mainly orange/brown sandy clay with large, common cornbrash inclusions.	0.31m +

Trench 42	Dimensions: 30.4m x 2.0m x 0.48m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
4201	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown silty clay loam with small ragstone inclusions (<20%). Ploughsoil.	0.0m – 0.3m
4202	Subsoil	Light red/brown clay. Thin layer found mainly in northern end of trench.	0.25m – 0.33m
4203	Natural geology	Variable. Mainly orange/brown sandy clay with large, common cornbrash inclusions.	0.33m +

Trench 43	Dimensions: 29.8m x 2.2m x 0.5m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
4301	Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Mid-brown silty clay with small ragstone inclusions.	0.0m – 0.19m
4302	Subsoil	Mid-red/brown silty clay with sparse cornbrash inclusions.	0.19m – 0.3m
4303	Natural geology	Light yellow/brown silty clay with common cornbrash inclusions.	0.3m
4304	Topsoil	Same as (4301).	0.0m – 0.24m
4305	Subsoil	Mid-red brown silty clay.	0.24m – 0.5m
4306	Natural	Same as (4303).	0.2m +

Trench 44	Dimensions: 30m x 2m x 0.4m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
4401	Topsoil	Mid-yellow/brown clay silts with frequent ragstones. Active ploughsoil.	0.0m – 0.28m
4402	Natural geology	Yellow-brown degraded ragstone.	0.28m +

Trench 45	Dimensions: 30.6m x 2m x 0.45m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
4501	Topsoil	Mid-yellow/brown clay silts with frequent ragstones. Active ploughsoil.	0.0m – 0.3m
4502	Natural geology	Yellow-brown degraded ragstone.	0.3m +

Trench 46	Dimensions: 30m x 2m x 1.4m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
4601	Topsoil	Mid-yellow/brown clay silts with frequent ragstones. Active ploughsoil.	0.0m – 0.3m
4602	Subsoil	Mid-light yellow-brown clay silts with frequent ragstones. Inactive ploughsoil.	0.3m – 0.5m
4603	Natural geology	Yellow/brown clay silts with abundant ragstones.	0.5m – 0.75m
4604	Fill of land drain	Yellow/brown clay silts with abundant ragstones.	0.75m – 1.20m
4605	Fill of land drain	Yellow/brown clay silts with common ragstones.	1.05m – 1.4m
4606	Land drain	Red/brown ceramic undisturbed land drain.	
4607	Cut for land drain	Cut for land drain (4606).	0.8m – 1.4m

Trench 47	Dimensions: 29.2m x 2.4m x 0.42m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
4701	Topsoil	Dark brown/grey sandy clay loam with cornbrash (20%).	0.0m – 0.23m
4702	Subsoil	Dark red/brown sandy clay with ragstone gravel (<10%).	0.23m – 0.32m
4703	Natural	Mid-orange/brown to mid-yellow sandy clay with common	0.32m

	geology	ragstones.	
--	---------	------------	--

Trench 48	Dimensions: 30.2m x 2.4m x 0.6m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
4801	Topsoil	Dark brown/grey sandy clay loam with 10% cornbrash gravel.	0.0m – 0.22m
4802	Subsoil	Mid-red/brown silty clay with cornbrash inclusions (<20%).	0.22m – 0.58m
4803	Natural geology	Patchy red and yellow silty clay with abundant ragstones.	0.58m +
4804	Cut of linear	Modern land drain ditch.	0.22m +
4805	Fill of linear	Fill of modern land drain ditch.	0.22m +

Trench 49	Dimensions: 30m x 2.1m x 0.47m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
4900	Topsoil	Mid/dark brown clayey silt with limestone inclusions (<15%; <50mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface. Diffuse horizon with subsoil.	0.0m x 0.23m
4901	Subsoil	Mid/light red/brown clayey silt with rare limestone gravel inclusions.	0.23m – 0.47m
4902	Natural geology	Mid brown/yellow clayey silt with abundant limestone inclusions (<60%; <150mm).	0.47m +
4903	Fill of posthole	Mid-red/brown silty clay with sparse limestone inclusions (<5%). Secondary deposit.	0.47m - 0.67m
4904	Cut of posthole	Cut of posthole or burrow. Sides slightly irregular and undercut to the east. 0.28m diameter x 0.25m deep	0.47m – 0.67m

Trench 50	Dimensions: 30.3m x 2.2m x 0.48m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
5000	Topsoil	Mid-grey/brown silty loam with regular cornbrash inclusions (<50mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface. Loose.	0.0m – 0.28m
5001	Subsoil	Mid-red/brown clayey silt. Rare sub-angular cornbrash inclusions (<30mm). Only present in certain parts of trench and no pattern to where it does and doesn't occur (not ridge and furrow).	0.26m – 0.36m
5002	Natural geology	Light yellow brown clayey silt with cornbrash inclusions (<70%). Poorly sorted angular to rounded (<150mm diameter).	0.26m +
5003	Fill of pit	Mid-red/brown silty clay with rare cornbrash inclusions (<40mm; subangular-angular). No dating evidence or charcoal. Probably a secondary deposit.	0.26m – 0.39m
5004	Cut of pit	Shallow regularly shaped pit with one fill. No related archaeological evidence.	0.26m – 0.39m

Trench 51	Dimensions: 30m x 2m x 0.36m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
5100	Topsoil	Mid-grey/brown silty loam with regular ragstone inclusions (<40mm diameter; rounded to sub-angular). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.25m
5101	Subsoil	Mid-red/brown clayey silt with frequent ragstone inclusions and rare flint pebbles.	0.25m – 0.36m
5102	Natural geology	Light brown/yellow clayey silt with ragstone inclusions (<70%).	0.35m +

Trench 52	Dimensions: 30.5m x 2.35m x 0.5m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
5201	Topsoil	Mid-grey/brown sandy clay loam with cornbrash gravel inclusions (<30%).	0.0m – 0.27m
5202	Subsoil	Dark red/brown clay. Appears in patches along the trench as a result of animal/root activity.	0.23m +
5203	Natural geology	Cornbrash. Orange/yellow sandy clay with common ragstone inclusions.	0.27m +

Trench 53	Dimensions: 30m x 2.2m x 0.37m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
5300	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown silty loam with occasional ragstone inclusions (<30%; rounded to sub-angular). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m - 0.24m
5301	Subsoil	Mid-red/brown silty clay with regular ragstone inclusions (<30%; <30mm diameter; angular to sub-angular). Varies in depth throughout trench.	0.24m – 0.36m
5302	Natural geology	Mid yellow/brown silty clay with common ragstones (<80%). Includes some fissures (periglacial?) which have filled with subsoil.	0.36m +

Trench 54	Dimensions: 29.5m x 2.3m x 0.45m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
5400	Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Dark brown/grey silty clay loam with cornbrash gravel (<20%).	0.0m – 0.28m
5401	Natural geology	Weathered cornbrash in a matrix of yellow/brown silty clay with red silty material filling geological hollows.	0.28m +

Trench 55	Dimensions: 28.8m x 2.4m x 0.6m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
5500	Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Dark brown/grey silty clay loam with cornbrash gravel (<10%).	0.0m – 0.28m
5501	Subsoil	Mid-red/brown silty clay with occasional gravels inclusions.	0.28m – 0.49m
5502	Natural geology	Weathered cornbrash in a matrix of yellow/brown silty clay with red silty material filling geological hollows.	0.45m +

Trench 56	Dimensions: 29.7m x 2.15m x 0.52m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
5600	Topsoil	Dark brown silty clay loam with cornbrash inclusions (<3%; <60mm diameter; subangular). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m - 0.25m
5601	Subsoil	Mid-yellow/brown silty clay with subangular cornbrash inclusions (<2%; <60mm diameter). Mildly bioturbated.	0.25m – 0.51m
5602	Natural geology	Grey/orange mottled clay natural.	0.45m – 0.54m
5603	Natural geology	Light brown/orange silty clay natural.	0.43m – 0.57m
5604	Layer	Light brown/orange silty loam with no visible inclusions. Piece of pottery found on the surface of this layer.	0.43m – 0.60m
5605	Cut of shrub throw	Cut of sub-circular, shallow feature with irregular sides. Interpreted as a shrub throw.	0.43m – 0.54m
5606	Fill of shrub	Mid brown silty clay with no visible inclusions. Only fill of	0.43m –

	throw	this feature. Secondary deposit.	0.54m
--	-------	----------------------------------	-------

Trench 57	Dimensions: 29.2m x 2.08m x 0.4m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
5700	Topsoil	Dark brown sandy clay loam with subangular cornbrash inclusions (<1%; <40mm diameter. Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.31m
5701	Subsoil	Dark brown silty clay with subangular cornbrash inclusions (<1%; <10mm diameter. Evidence of bioturbation.	0.23m – 0.36m
5702	Natural geology	Light yellow/brown silty clay with cornbrash inclusions (<40mm diameter) with patches of blue/grey clay natural.	0.29m +
5703	Cut of shrub throw	Cut of sub-circular, shallow feature with irregular sides. Interpreted as a shrub throw.	0.29m – 0.40m
5704	Fill of shrub throw	Mid brown silty clay with no visible inclusions. Only fill of this feature. Secondary deposit.	0.29m – 0.4m

Trench 58	Dimensions: 28.4m x 2.29m x 0.48m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
5800	Topsoil	Dark brown/grey sandy clay loam with subangular cornbrash inclusions (<5%; <40mm diameter. Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m x 0.33m
5801	Subsoil	Mid- brown silty clay with subangular cornbrash inclusions (<5%; <80mm diameter. Evidence of bioturbation.	0.33m x 0.47m
5802	Natural geology	Blue/orange mottled clay natural with patches of mid/light brown silty clay with cornbrash inclusions.	0.48m +

Trench 59	Dimensions: 29.4m x 2m x 0.75m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
5900	Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Dark brown/grey silty clay loam with 10% cornbrash gravel.	0.0m – 0.24m
5901	Subsoil	Mid yellow/brown silty clay with rare small gravel inclusions.	0.24m – 0.65m
5902	Natural geology	Cornbrash rubble in yellow/brown clay. Disturbed by animal burrowing.	0.65m

Trench 60	Dimensions: 30m x 2.2m x 0.58m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
6000	Topsoil	Dark brown/grey clayey silts with rare, rounded to subangular ragstone inclusions (<20%). Clear interface with (6001).	0.0m – 0.33m
6001	Subsoil	Mid-grey/brown clayey silts. Well mixed with few ragstone fleck inclusions (<5%). Fine root bioturbation.	0.33m – 0.58
6002	Natural geology	Mid-red/brown silty clay. Likely to be colluvial. Similar to subsoil in higher parts of the site.	0.58m+

Trench 61	Dimensions: 30.3m x 2m x 1.02m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
6100	Topsoil	Dark brown silty sand with 20% small inclusions.	0.0m – 0.26m
6101	Subsoil	Dark orange brown silty clay.	0.24m – 0.47m
6102	Natural geology	Mid-yellow/brown clay mixed with grey clay.	0.47m +

Trench 62	Dimensions: 29.08 m x 2.4m x 0.35m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth

6200	Topsoil	Dark brown silty clay loam with subangular/subrounded cornbrash inclusions (<15%; <40mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m x 0.31m
6201	Natural geology	Yellow/brown (orange) cornbrash with patches of blue/orange mottled clay.	0.31m +
6202	Layer	Red/brown silty clay with subangular cornbrash inclusions (<1%; <20mm diameter).	0.32m – 0.41m

Trench 63	Dimensions: 28.9m x 2.3m x 0.62m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
6300	Topsoil	Dark brown/grey silty clay loam with subangular cornbrash inclusions (<1%; <30mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.23m
6301	Layer	Mid-brown silty clay with subangular/subrounded cornbrash inclusions (<40mm diameter; <1%). Evidence of bioturbation.	0.23m – 0.35m
6302	Layer	Red/brown silty clay with subangular cornbrash inclusions (<1%; <30mm diameter). Evidence of bioturbation.	0.35m – 0.46m
6303	Natural geology	Mottled blue clay with orange patches.	0.46m – 0.61

Trench 64	Dimensions: 28.4m x 2.1m x 1m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
6400	Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Loose mid-brown silty clay with small ragstone inclusions (<10%; <50mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.2m
6401	Subsoil	Mid/light brown silty clay with sparse subangular ragstone inclusions (<2%; <50mm diameter). Clear interface with (6402).	0.2m – 0.6m
6402	Natural geology	Patchy olive green/blue clay with red silty patches along the length of the trench.	0.6m +

Trench 65	Dimensions: 28.8m x 2.3m x 1.2m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
6500	Topsoil	Dark brown silty clay with stone inclusions (<5%; <30mm diameter). Active ploughsoil with evidence of bioturbation.	0.0m – 0.2m
6501	Subsoil	Mid red-brown/yellow silty clay with few inclusions (<5mm diameter).	0.2m – 0.35m
6502	Natural geology	Mid-brown/green clay with no inclusions.	0.35m – 1.1m
6503	Layer	Red/yellow sandy silt with iron panning found in test pit. Lies below (6502) and has patches of yellow silty sand with cornbrash.	1.1m – 1.15m
6504	Layer	Sandy orange layer with no inclusions.	0.83m – 0.88m

Trench 66	Dimensions: 30m x 2.3m x 0.55m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
6600	Topsoil	Dark brown silty clay with stone inclusions (<10%; <20mm diameter). Active ploughsoil with evidence of bioturbation.	0.0m x 0.2m
6601	Subsoil	Dark brown/grey clay with stone inclusions (<5%; 5-10mm diameter).	0.2m – 0.3m
6602	Natural geology	Mid-yellow brown silty sand with stone inclusions (<70%; 5-10mm diameter).	0.3m – 0.55m
6603	Natural geology	Mid-brown/green clay with no inclusions.	0.3m – 0.5m+

Trench 67	Dimensions: 29.5m x 2.4m x 0.5m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
6700	Topsoil	Dark brown silty clay with stone inclusions (<20%; 10-20mm diameter). Active ploughsoil with evidence of bioturbation.	0.0m – 0.25m
6701	Natural geology	Mid-yellow brown silty sand with stone inclusions (<80%; 10-30mm diameter).	0.25m – 0.45
6702	Natural geology	Mid-brown/green clay with no inclusions.	0.25m – 0.45m
6703	Natural geology	Dark yellow/brown silty clay with no inclusions.	0.25m – 0.6m

Trench 68	Dimensions: 30.21m x 2.4m x 1.1m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
6800	Topsoil	Dark brown sandy silt loam with subangular inclusions (<15%; <80mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.23m
6801	Subsoil	Mid-brown silty clay with subangular cornbrash inclusions (<5%; 10-60mm diameter). Evidence of bioturbation.	0.23m – 0.45m
6802	Cut of ditch	N-S orientated linear feature filled in two depositional events. Boundary or drainage ditch.	0.45m – 1.02m
6803	Fill of ditch	Dark yellow/brown clayey silt with rounded/subangular flint gravels (<10%; <20mm diameter) and angular/subangular ragstone inclusions (<5%; <35mm diameter). Upper fill of feature. Evidence of mild bioturbation. Secondary deposit formed due to a natural accumulation of ditch silts.	0.45m – 0.85m
6804	Fill of ditch	Dark yellow/brown clayey silt with angular/subangular ragstone inclusions (<50mm diameter). Lower fill of ditch. Secondary deposit thought to be a moderate energy deposit.	0.85m – 1.02m
6805	Natural	Light yellow/brown sandy clay with densely packed cornbrash inclusions.	0.45m +

Trench 69	Dimensions: 30m x 2.2m x 0.46m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
6900	Topsoil	Dark brown/grey silty loam with rare inclusions, fine root activity and a clear horizon.	0.0 m – 0.3m
6901	Subsoil	Mid-red/brown silty clay with moderate to frequent ragstone inclusions. Layer is uneven due to fluctuations in the natural.	0.3m – 0.45m
6902	Natural geology	Mid-red/brown clayey silt matrix with ragstone inclusions (<70%). Fragmented due to periglacial activity.	0.45m +
6903	Fill of large pit/quarry	Mid-red/brown silty clay with angular/subangular ragstone inclusions (<35%; <250mm diameter). Only fill of this feature. Appears to be a backfill of redeposited subsoil and contained pot.	0.45m – 1.01m
6904	Cut of large pit/quarry	Cut of large pit likely to be limestone quarry rather than a refuse pit. Filled in one depositional event which contained pot.	0.45m – 1.01m

Trench 70	Dimensions: 30.4m x 2.1m x 1.04m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
7000	Topsoil	Loose mid-brown silty clay with sparse subangular ragstone inclusions (<10%; <10mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.26m
7001	Subsoil	Red-brown silty clay with ragstone inclusions (<5%; <150mm diameter).	0.24m – 0.5m

7002	Natural geology	Pale brown degraded cornbrash. Ranges in size from 150mm-10mm.	0.5m +
7003	Cut of pit	Large circular pit with one fill. Appears to cut adjacent pit but relationship is ephemeral. Both features are likely to be broadly contemporary and are currently interpreted as being Romano-British limestone quarry pits. Note – water table hit during excavation.	0.5m – 1.17m
7004	Fill of pit	Mid red-brown silty clay with ragstone inclusions (<30%; <10mm diameter). Only fill of R-B pit. Contained 2x pot sherds (lightly abraded). Secondary deposit.	0.5m – 1.17m
7005	Cut of pit	Circular pit with one fill. Appears to be cut by adjacent pit but relationship is ephemeral. Both features are likely to be broadly contemporary and are currently interpreted as being Romano-British limestone quarry pits. This feature is dated only by its relationship with adjacent pit. Described here as shallow but possibly deepens towards centre.	0.5m – 0.68m
7006	Fill of pit	Mid red-brown silty clay with ragstone inclusions (<15%; <10mm diameter). Only fill of R-B pit. Secondary deposit.	0.5m – 0.68m
7007	Fill of unexcavated pit	Number assigned to locate surface finds (pottery – base sherd – Romano-British?). Mid red-brown silty clay with ragstone inclusions (10-20%; <10mm diameter). Upper fill of probable pit.	0.5m +
7008	Cut of unexcavated pit	Cut number assigned to locate surface finds found in (7007). Feature not excavated due to time constraints.	0.5m +

Trench 71	Dimensions: 29.6m x 2.3m x 0.56m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
7100	Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Dark grey/brown clay loam with cornbrash gravel (5%).	0.0m x 0.25m
7101	Subsoil	Mid-orange brown silty clay with ragstone inclusions (1-2%; <100mm diameter)	0.22m – 0.47m
7102	Natural geology	Ragstone in a matrix of orange sandy clay.	0.47m +
7103	Fill of linear	Only fill of a shallow linear feature. Secondary deposit of subsoil derived material. Mid-orange/brown silty clay with ragstone inclusions (<10%; 20-150mm diameter).	0.47m-0.62m
7104	Cut of linear	NW-SE orientated shallow linear feature. Slightly curving and surrounds several dated postholes. Possibly a ring gully. Filled in a single depositional event.	0.47m – 0.62m
7105	Fill of posthole/pit	Dark yellow/brown silty clay with ragstone inclusions (<10%; 10-70mm diameter). Subsoil derived material containing burnt stone, pottery and charcoal. Possibly a dump of refuse material deposited after post removal.	0.47m – 0.64m
7106	Cut of posthole	Cut of posthole with one fill. Possibly re-used after post removal for rubbish dumping. Close to another posthole and enclosed by a ring gully.	0.47m – 0.64m
7107	Fill of posthole	Only fill of posthole. Mid-orange/brown silty clay with ragstone inclusions (<10%; <150mm diameter). Secondary deposit with no archaeological components.	0.47m – 0.64m
7108	Cut of posthole	One of two postholes in this trench surrounded by a possible ring gully. Filled in one depositional event. Dated only in association with other posthole. Possibly structural.	0.47m – 0.64m
7109	Spread layer	Mid-grey/brown clayey silts with small stone inclusions (<50mm diameter). Contained a piece of pot and burnt stone (<10%). Shallow circular spread of material of similar size to postholes in this trench. No definable cut. Also enclosed by ring gully.	0.47m – 0.5m

Trench 72	Dimensions: 29.4m x 2.3m x 0.34m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
7200	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay loam with ragstone rubble inclusions (<20%).	0.0m – 0.26m
7201	Natural geology	Ragstone in a matrix of light orange brown sandy clay.	0.26m+

Trench 73	Dimensions: 29.4m x 2.3m x 0.9m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
7300	Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Dark grey/brown silty clay loam with cornbrash inclusions. (5-10%; <150mm diameter).	0.0m – 0.27m
7301	Subsoil	Mid-orange/brown silty clay with cornbrash gravel inclusions (<5%).	0.27m – 0.73m
7302	Natural geology	Ragstone in a matrix of yellow/orange silty clay varying to brown sand. Stones decrease in size in the NW part of trench from large blocks to the size of gravel.	0.36m +
7303	Natural geology	Orange/brown clay with cornbrash inclusions (5-10%).	0.73m +
7304	Natural geology	Cornbrash gravel (<40%) in a matrix of green/grey clay with orange patches.	0.73m+

Trench 74	Dimensions: 31.2m x 2.1m x 1.4m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
7400	Topsoil	Loose mid-brown silty clay. Bioturbated from surface. Sparse small stone inclusions (<5%; <50mm diameter).	0.0m - 0.2m
7401	Subsoil	Red/brown silty clay. Fine particles of material with no inclusions and mild bioturbation.	0.2m – 0.5m
7402	Layer	Pale brown silty clay with common small stone inclusions (<90%; <10mm diameter.)	0.5m – 0.7m
7403	Colluvial layer	Pale brown silts found only at southern end of the trench.	0.7m – 1.4m
7404	Natural geology	At southern end of trench. Green and orange clay patches similar to the material found in sondages into trenches 82 and 83.	1.4m +
7405	Natural geology	At northern end of trench. Orange patchy degraded cornbrash.	0.7m +

Trench 75	Dimensions: 29.6m x 2.3m x 1.21m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
7500	Topsoil	Dark brown sandy silt loam with subangular ragstone inclusions (<1%; <40mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.29m
7501	Subsoil	Mid-red/brown silty clay with mild bioturbation. Rare subrounded coarse components (<1%; <30mm diameter).	0.29m – 0.68m
7502	Layer	Mid-brown sandy clay loam with subrounded coarse components (<1%; <50mm diameter).	0.68m – 0.81m
7503	Layer	Mixture of grey/orange mottled clay and light brown silty clay. Subangular inclusions (<1%; <60mm diameter).	0.81m – 0.98m
7504	Natural geology	Grey/orange mottled silty clay.	0.98m+

Trench 76	Dimensions: 29.4m x 2.1m x 05m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
7600	Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Loose mid-brown silty clay with sparse small stone inclusions (<10%; <50mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.3m
7601	Subsoil	Mid-red/brown silty clay with ragstone inclusions (<70%; <120mm diameter).	0.3m – 0.5m
7602	Natural geology	Degraded cornbrash natural. Red/brown and very pale brown in patches. Heavily degraded in SW end of trench where stones are smaller (<100mm diameter).	0.5m+

Trench 77	Dimensions: 31.7m x 2.1m x 0.85m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
7700	Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Loose mid/dark brown silty clay with sparse, subangular stone inclusions (<30%; <100mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.2m
7701	Subsoil	Red/brown silty clay with moderate/common small ragstone inclusions (<50%; <100mm diameter).	0.2m – 0.35m
7702	Cut of ditch	Interpreted as being a barrow ring ditch of bronze age date. Almost square in profile and filled in two depositional events. Visible also in adjoining trench 78 (see [7805]) and in the northern end of this trench. This ditch forms one of two barrows believed to be visible in this evaluation. Note – feature filled with water to depth of 0.1m hindering excavation.	0.35m – 0.85m
7703	Fill of ditch	Lower fill consisting of mid/red-brown silty clay with angular ragstone inclusions (<80%; <150mm diameter). Secondary deposit of wind/waterborne components, with ragstones eroded in from edge of cut.	0.68m – 0.85m
7704	Fill of ditch	Upper fill consisting of mid/red-brown silty clay with angular ragstone inclusions (<20%; <100mm diameter). Secondary deposit of silty material containing animal bone and fired clay.	0.35m – 0.68m
7705	Natural geology	Degraded ragstone brash. Pale brown with common ragstones (<95%; 150-50mm diameter).	0.4m +
7706	Cut of tree throw	Irregular shallow feature containing one fill. Interpreted as a tree throw. Fill contained one sherd of pot. Within barrow ditch though not obviously associated with it.	0.35m – 0.5m
7707	Fill of tree throw	Mid/red-brown clayey silt with cornbrash inclusions (<150mm diameter). Secondary deposit containing one sherd of pot. Only fill of this feature.	0.35m – 0.5m

Trench 78	Dimensions: 29.1m x 2.1m x 1m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
7800	Topsoil	Dark brown/grey sandy clay loam with poorly sorted cornbrash gravel (<10%).	0.0m – 0.23m
7801	Subsoil	Mid-red/brown sandy clay with 30% cornbrash gravel.	0.23m – 0.30m
7802	Natural geology	Cornbrash with yellow/brown clayey sand.	0.3m +
7803	Fill of ditch	Mid-brown/orange with clayey silts and cornbrash inclusions (<5%). Only fill of small slightly curving linear feature. Secondary deposit.	0.3m – 0.5m
7804	Cut of ditch	Small slightly curving linear of unknown date and function. Contains one fill. Close to Bronze Age barrow ditch but not obviously connected.	0.3m – 0.5m
7805	Cut of ditch	Cut of Bronze Age barrow ditch containing one fill. See also [7702].	0.4m – 1m

7806	Fill of ditch	Orange/brown sandy clay with ragstones <60%; 40-200mm diameter). Contained burnt stone.	0.4m – 1m
------	---------------	---	-----------

Trench 79	Dimensions: 30m x 2.1m x 0.54m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
7901	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown silty loam with well mixed ragstone inclusions (<40mm diameter; angular to subangular). Evidence of bioturbation. Clear/gradual interface with (7902).	0.0m – 0.23m
7902	Subsoil	Mid-red/brown silty clay. Uneven depth along trench due to undulations in underlying ragstone.	0.2m – 0.48m
7903	Natural geology	Mid-red/brown clayey silt with ragstone (<60%) and evidence of glacial activity.	0.35m +
7904	Fill of ditch	Dark red/brown clayey silt. Layer slopes from W-E becoming gradually thinner. Secondary deposit – possibly formed due to erosion of ditch bank. Contained flint. Diffuse interface with (7905).	0.4m – 0.6m
7905	Fill of ditch	Dark red/brown clayey silt with angular/subangular ragstone inclusions (<50mm diameter). Contains occasional charcoal flecks. Secondary deposit with clear interfaces with (7906), (7907) and (7908), and a diffuse interface with (7904). Compact and dry with fine root disturbance.	0.6m – 0.8m
7906	Fill of ditch	Mid-red/brown silty clay. Secondary deposit of fine material with no visible inclusions or archaeological components.	0.4m – 0.6m
7907	Fill of ditch	Dark red/brown silty clay. Secondary deposit of fine material with no visible inclusions or archaeological components.	0.45m – 0.65m
7908	Fill of ditch	Dark red/brown compact silty clay with ragstone inclusions (<70%; <50mm diameter; angular/subangular). Contained burnt stone. Layer of redeposited compact ragstone with a clay matrix. Higher on the SE side suggesting a slump from the interior of the ditch, possibly from the mound itself. Clear interface with (7909).	0.65m – 1.1m
7909	Fill of ditch	Dark yellow/brown clayey silt. Contained pot. Low energy deposit in northern half of section (displaced by (7908)) with manganese inclusions.	1.05m – 1.2m
7910	Fill of ditch	Dark black/brown clayey silts with charcoal, burnt stone and degraded pot stains. Layer of burnt material washed in, not dumped or burnt in situ. Event thought to have occurred soon after ditch was cut and possibly directly connected with funerary rites associated with this barrow. Layer sampled.	1.05m – 1.25m
7911	Fill of ditch	Mid-green/brown silts with rare cornbrash inclusions (20-90mm diameter). Primary fill of round barrow ditch. No archaeological components.	1.05m – 1.50m
7912	Cut of ditch	Cut of bronze age round barrow ditch recognised in aerial photographs. One of two barrows found in this part of the site. Sides shallow at top of cut then deepening to the base of the ditch.	0.45m – 1.5m

Trench 80	Dimensions: 29.3m x 2.1m x 0.71m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
8001	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay loam with cornbrash inclusions (1-3%).	0.0m – 0.3m
8002	Subsoil	Dark/mid yellow/brown silty clay.	0.3m – 0.48m
8003	Natural geology	Blue/grey clay	0.48m +
8004	Natural geology	Cornbrash gravel in matrix of orange sandy clay. Lies under (8003) percentage of rocks increases to the south.	0.48m +

Trench 81	Dimensions: 28.4m x 2.1m x 1.4m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
8100	Topsoil	Mid-brown loose silty clay. Bioturbated from surface. Clear interface with (8101). Active ploughsoil.	0.0m – 0.3m
8101	Subsoil	Red-brown silty clay with sparse small ragstone inclusions (<5%; <50mm diameter).	0.3m – 0.8m
8102	Natural geology	At western end of trench. Large ragstones (<200mm diameter) with smaller degraded stones around them. Pale brown with red silty patches.	0.5m +
8103	Colluvial layer	At eastern end of trench only. Light brown silty clay with moderate limestone flecking at top of deposit.	0.8m – 1.2m
8104	Natural	Highly degraded brash. Small ragstones (<30mm diameter) in a matrix of very pale brown silty clay with red silty clay and small stone patches.	1.2m +

Trench 82	Dimensions: 30m x 1.85m x 1.3m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
8200	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Mid-brown loose silty clay. Bioturbated from surface. Small stone inclusions (<2%; <20mm diameter). Clear interface with (8201).	0.0m – 0.4m
8201	Subsoil	At northern end of trench. Red-brown silty clay with sparse small ragstone inclusions (<5%; <10mm diameter).	0.35m – 0.55m
8202	Natural geology	At northern end of trench. Small brash/ragstones (100-10mm diameter) interspersed with patches of red silty material.	0.55m +
8203	Subsoil	At southern end of trench. Light brown silty clay with evidence of mild bioturbation.	0.3m – 0.7m
8204	Colluvial layer	At southern end of trench. Pale brown with common small ragstone inclusions (<10mm diameter; <40%).	0.7m – 0.9m
8205	Colluvial layer	At southern end of trench. Orange/mid-brown silty clay.	0.9m – 1.3m
8206	Natural geology	At southern end of trench. Sandy clay (orange and olive green) with patches of ragstones (<25%; <50mm diameter).	1.3m +

Trench 83	Dimensions: 29.5m x 2m x 1.2m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
8301	Topsoil	Mid-brown clay silts. Active ploughsoil.	0.0m – 0.3m
8302	Subsoil	Mid-yellow/brown clay silts. Rare small rounded ragstones. Inactive ploughsoil/colluvium.	0.3m – 0.6m
8303	Natural geology	Yellow brown degraded ragstone. Small broken ragstones.	0.6m – 0.75m
8304	Layer	Dark yellow brown clay silts with large ragstones (250mm diameter).	0.75m – 1m
8305	Field drain	Cut for modern field drain.	1m +
8306	Natural geology	Mixed degraded ragstones in a matrix of light brown/yellow silty clay. Found in sondage put in southern end of trench.	1m +

Trench 84	Dimensions: 30m x 2m x 0.6m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
8401	Topsoil	Dark yellow brown clay silts with occasional ragstones (<50mm diameter). Active ploughsoil.	0.0m – 0.3m
8402	Subsoil	Mid-yellow brown clay silts with rare ragstone inclusions. Varies	0.3m + &

		in depth throughout trench. Not present at northern end but 0.15m deep at southern end.	0.6m +
8403	Natural geology	Light yellow brown broken ragstone natural.	0.3m – 0.6m

Trench 85	Dimensions: 29.3m x 1.85m x 0.65m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
8500	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Mid-brown loose silty clay. Bioturbated from surface. Small stone inclusions (<5%; <50mm diameter). Clear interface with (8501).	0.0m – 0.25m
8501	Subsoil	Olive green silty clay with sparse small stone inclusions (<5%; <100mm diameter).	0.2m – 0.4m
8502	Natural geology	Mix of ragstone brash with silty red patches and green clay patches.	0.4m +

Trench 86	Dimensions: 28.7m x 1.85m x 0.6m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
8600	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Mid-brown loose silty clay. Bioturbated from surface. Small stone inclusions (<5%; <50mm diameter). Clear interface with (8601).	0.0m – 0.25m
8601	Subsoil	Olive green/brown silty clay with sparse small stone inclusions (<5%; <50mm diameter).	0.25m – 0.45m
8602	Natural geology	Mix of green clay with red silty clay patches. Affected by root disturbance (moderate to heavy).	0.45m +
8603	“Cut” of root disturbance	Context number assigned in order to describe root disturbance (dug because it looked linear in plan) even though calling this a cut seems inappropriate.	0.25m – 0.60m
8604	“Fill” of root disturbance	Mixed material derived from top/subsoil and brought down by root action. Light green/brown silty clay.	0.25m – 0.50m
8605	“Fill” of root disturbance	Mixed material derived from top/subsoil and brought down by root action. Olive green silty clay.	0.5m – 0.6m

Trench 87	Dimensions: 30m x 2m x 0.65m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
8701	Topsoil	Dark yellow brown clay silts with rare small ragstones. Active ploughsoil.	0.0m – 0.35m
8702	Subsoil	Mid-yellow brown clay silts. Inactive ploughsoil.	0.30m – 0.65m
8703	Natural geology	Mid-yellow brown clay silts with patches of grey brown silts. Pottery collected from surface which, whilst abraded, has not travelled far.	0.65m +

Trench 88	Dimensions: 30.5m x 2m x 0.65m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
8801	Topsoil	Dark yellow brown clay silts with rare small ragstones. Active ploughsoil. N end only	0.0m – 0.3m
8802	Subsoil	Mid-yellow brown clay silts. Inactive ploughsoil. Only found in southern end of trench. Actually likely to be colluvium, begins middle of trench	0.3m – 0.65m
8803	Natural geology	Mid-light brown clay silts with frequent grey clay patches.	0.65m+
8804	Layer	Dark yellow brown with common small gravels. Fill of mole drain?	0.35m +

8805	Cut of mole drain	Cut of mole drain.	0.35m +
------	-------------------	--------------------	---------

Trench 89	Dimensions: 29.6m x 2m x 0.7m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
8901	Topsoil	Dark yellow brown clay silts with rare small ragstones. Active ploughsoil.	0.0m – 0.32m
8902	Subsoil	Mid-yellow brown clay silts with rare ragstones (<50mm diameter). Inactive ploughsoil/colluvial layer.	0.32m – 0.7m
8903	Natural geology	Pale yellow brown degraded ragstone with patches of (8902) and abundant ragstones (<200mm diameter).	0.7m +

Trench 90	Dimensions: 30m x 2m x 0.38m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
9001	Topsoil	Dark yellow brown clay silts with rare small ragstones (<50mm diameter). Active ploughsoil.	0.0m – 0.3m
9002	Subsoil	Mid-yellow brown clay silts. Inactive ploughsoil.	0.3m – 0.38m
9003	Natural geology	Pale yellow brown degraded ragstone with patches of (9002) and abundant ragstones.	0.38m +

Trench 91	Dimensions: 30m x 1.84m x 0.57m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
9100	Cut of tree throw	Cut of tree throw containing modern glass and a modern nail.	0.38m – 0.57m
9101	Fill of tree throw	Mid-yellow/brown silty clay with modern components. Only fill of tree throw.	0.38m – 0.57m
9102	Cut of tree throw	Undated, large and irregular. Filled in 3 depositional events.	0.24m – 0.68m
9103	Fill of tree throw	Olive green silty clay with moderate ragstone inclusions (<25%; <100mm diameter). Secondary deposit.	0.45m – 0.68m
9104	Fill of tree throw	Mid/dark brown silty clay. Secondary deposit of topsoil derived material.	0.38m – 0.45m
9105	Natural geology	Patchy olive green silty clay with red/brown silty areas.	0.3m +
9106	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Mid-brown loose silty clay. Bioturbated from surface. Small stone inclusions (<10%; <100mm diameter).	0.0m – 0.3m
9107	Fill of tree throw	Red/brown silty clay with sparse small stone inclusions (<5%; <50mm diameter). Secondary deposit of subsoil derived material.	0.24m – 0.38m
9108	Cut of linear	N-S orientated linear ditch with shallow sides and a flat base. Contained pottery and charcoal and filled in 2 depositional events.	0.42m – 0.78m
9109	Fill of linear	Mid-grey/brown clay with small pebbles (<50mm diameter; <1%). Secondary deposit of waterborne material.	0.42m – 0.56m
9110	Fill of linear	Light orange/brown clay with rare small bits of pot. Lower fill of feature. Secondary deposit.	0.56m – 0.78m
9111	Spread layer	Mid-brown/green silty clay with occasional gravels. Possibly remains of topsoil.	0.38m – 0.42m

Trench 92	Dimensions: 30m x 1.85m x 0.5m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
9200	Context around	Arbitrary number given to material removed around small	0.4m –

	small find 1 (palisaded axe)	find 1 (Bronze axe). Material here slightly darker – stain of organic material (i.e. Bag or handle possibly).	0.5m
9201	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Mid-brown loose silty clay. Bioturbated from surface. Small stone inclusions (<5%; <50mm diameter).	0.0m – 0.25m
9202	Number void	Number void	--
9203	Subsoil	Mid/light brown silty clay. Diffuse interface with (9204).	0.25m – 0.5m
9204	Natural geology	Red/brown silty clay with green clay patches at northern end of trench and changing to underlying ragstone at southern end of trench.	0.5m +
9205	Cut of ditch	NE-SW aligned linear feature with 3 fills.	0.5m – 0.80m
9206	Fill of ditch	Dark brown silty clay with subrounded/subangular stone inclusions (<20mm diameter). Contained burnt stones, charcoal, animal bone, charred bone and pottery. Diffuse interface with (9203). Secondary deposit.	0.5m – 0.8m
9207	Fill of ditch	Dark black/brown material. Dump of burnt material seen in only one section of recorded feature. Sampled.	0.6m – 0.7m
9208	spread	Mid-brown/yellow silty clay with ragstone inclusions (<3%). Contained brick and pottery.	0.4m – 0.5m
9209	spread	Mid-brown/yellow silty clay with ragstone inclusions (<3%).	0.4m – 0.5m
9210	Fill of linear	Mottled orange/grey clay redeposited natural layer in linear [9205].	0.7m – 0.8m
9211	Residue subsoil	As 9203	

Trench 93	Dimensions: 30m x 2m x 0.8m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
9301	Topsoil	Dark grey/brown clay silts with rare small ragstone inclusions (<30mm diameter). Active ploughsoil.	0.0m – 0.3m
9302	Colluvial layer	Mid yellow brown clay silts with rare ragstone inclusions (<10mm diameter). Colluvial deposit.	0.3m – 0.8m
9303	Natural geology	Mid yellow/ brown silt with iron pan flecks.	

Trench 94	Dimensions: 30m x 2m x 0.65m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
9400	Topsoil	Dark grey brown silty loam with occasional small manganese inclusions. Clear interface with (9401). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.34m
9401	Subsoil	Orange/ mid-light brown compact sandy silt. colluvium	0.29m – 0.65m
9402	Natural geology	Clay with gravel patches.	0.65m +

Trench 95	Dimensions: 29.2m x 2.2m x 0.45m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
9500	U/S	Unstratified deposit used to locate scraper (small find 2)	0.0m
9501	Topsoil	Sandy clay loam. Dark brown with up to 15% cornbrash gravel.	0.0m - 0.26m
9502	Subsoil	Mid-grey/brown sandy silts with occasional gravels. Varying thickness throughout trench due to undulating natural.	0.26m – 0.45m
9503	Natural geology	Patches of cornbrash in a matrix of orange sandy clay/ green-grey clay. Some animal/root activity visible.	0.45m +

Trench 96	Dimensions: 29.2m x 2.4m x 0.64m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
9601	Topsoil	Sandy silt loam. Dark/mid grey/brown with up to 3% cornbrash gravel.	0.0m – 0.3m
9602	Subsoil	Mid-yellow brown sandy silts.	0.3m – 0.58m
9603	Natural geology	Orange clay/sandy silts.	0.58m +
9604	Cut of gully	Cut of shallow curvilinear gully with one fill.	0.58m – 0.81m
9605	Fill of gully	Mid-grey/brown sandy silt with occasional gravels (<3%). Contained one piece of pot and a large amount of charcoal. Only fill of shallow curvilinear gully. Sampled.	0.58m – 0.81m
9606	Fill of pit	Dark grey/brown clay sand silts with moderate amounts of burnt ragstone and fired earth. Disturbed to west by an animal burrow. Sampled. Secondary deposit which may include dumped hearth materials.	0.58m – 0.73m
9607	Fill of pit	Dark grey/brown clay sandy silts with abundant burnt/fired earth inclusions. Entered pit from SE side and slumps to north. In situ firing appears to have taken place. Far too much burnt material in pit to have come just from firing of edge of cut so possibly this fill represents remains of superstructure e.g. A kiln or oven built over the pit.	0.58m – 0.88m
9608	Cut of pit	Sub-rectangular feature with vertical/undercut sides and a flat base. Appears undercut but actually more likely to be where fired earth has fallen away from the cut. Evidence of there having been a superstructure over the pit (oven/kiln?), though possibly cleaned out leaving only charcoal. Thought to be prehistoric (iron age?). Not in total agreement with this.	0.58m – 0.98m
9609	Cut of gully/ditch	SW-NE orientated feature with irregular sides. Likely to be formed either due to the flow of water, or man made but with the edge altered by bioturbation. Contains one fill.	0.58m – 0.88m
9610	Fill of gully/ditch	Mid grey/brown sandy silt with rare charcoal inclusions. Possibly subsoil derived and likely to have been formed/altered due to bioturbation. Secondary fill.	0.58m – 0.88m
9611	Fill of pit	Yellow brown sandy silts forming primary fill of pit [9608]. Contains fired earth and likely to be formed by collapse of sides of pit.	0.88m – 0.98m

Trench 97	Dimensions: 30.2m x 2.4m x 0.65m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
9701	Topsoil	Ploughsoil. Mid-grey/brown sandy silt loam with occasional gravels.	0.0m – 0.3m
9702	Subsoil	Dark orange/brown sandy silt. Increases in depth down the natural slope of the field.	0.3m – 0.48m
9703	Natural geology	Orange sandy clay with patches of light green/grey clay. Some gravel in the SW end of the trench.	0.45m +

Trench 98	Dimensions: 30 x 1.85 x 0.75m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
9800	Topsoil	Dark blue/brown silty clay with rare angular/subangular cornbrash inclusions (<20mm diameter). Frequent fine root action. Clear interface.	0.0m - 0.35m

9801	Subsoil	Mid blue-brown silty clay with regular blue mottles. Rare cornbrash inclusions (<2%; < 30mm diameter; angular to subangular). Formed from colluvium and natural clay.	0.35m – 0.78m
9802	Alluvium	Mid blue-grey silty clay with regular manganese flecks and some brown mottling. Rare ragstone inclusions (<1%; Angular-subangular; <50mm diameter) Becomes increasingly gravelly towards base of layer.	0.78m – 1.14m
9803	Natural geology	Light yellow brown sandy silt with (80%) ragstone inclusions.	1.14m +
9804	Cut of pit	Cut of refuse pit with three fills. Undated. Water a few centimetres above base.	1.14m - 1.55m
9805	Fill of pit	Mid-blue/grey clay with few stone inclusions. Secondary deposit.	1.14m - 1.55m
9806	Fill of pit	Light blue/grey to yellowish grey sandy clay with few stone inclusions. Contained animal bone. Secondary deposit with clear interfaces.	1.14m - 1.55m
9807	Fill of pit	Mid-blue/grey sandy clay with few stone inclusions. Initial fill of pit.	1.14m – 1.55m
9808	Fill of posthole	Mid-blue/grey silty sand with rare/moderate ragstone inclusions (<70mm diameter; angular-subangular). Only fill of posthole [9809]. No dating evidence, packing or post pipe visible. Very similar to alluvial deposit above so likely to have washed in during a flood episode.	1.14m – 1.39m
9809	Cut of posthole	Well defined posthole with one fill. Big enough to be a load bearing post. Possibly associated with similar features nearby. Very similar post depositional disturbance.	1.14m – 1.39m
9810	Fill of shrub throw	Mid brown/blue silty clay with moderate ragstone inclusions (<100mm diameter; angular-subangular). Contained pot, bone and shell. Only fill of shallow pit/ shrub throw. Secondary deposit of water borne material.	1.14m – 1.38m
9811	Cut of shrub throw	Shallow, irregular feature containing one episode of washed in clay and silts. Cut poorly defined.	1.14m – 1.38m

Trench 99	Dimensions: 30m x 1.8m x 0.47m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
9900	Topsoil	Mid/dark brown clayey silt with some bioturbation and no inclusions.	0.0m – 0.20m
9901	Subsoil	Mid-red/brown clayey silts with manganese inclusions.	0.2m – 0.35m
9902	Natural geology	Brown silty clay with occasional blue clay stripes at sw end; colluvium build up at ne end – see crop marks	0.35m – 0.47m+

Trench 100	Dimensions: 33.2m x 2m x 0.8m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
10000	Topsoil	Mid-brown silty clay loam with infrequent small limestone inclusions (<30mm diameter; subangular). Bioturbated.	0.0m – 0.32m
10001	Subsoil	Orange mid-light brown silty clay with infrequent small limestone inclusions (<20mm diameter; subangular).	0.18m – 0.99m
10002	Natural geology	Green/mid-brown clay	0.38m – 0.46m
10003	Fill of linear	Mid-dark grey/brown silty clay fill of modern/post-medieval linear. Contains large angular limestone inclusions, slate and fragments of ceramic and brickwork.	0.32m +
10004	Cut of	Post-medieval linear orientated NW-SE. Unexcavated.	0.32m +

	linear		
10005	Natural geology	Trench deepened at northern end. This revealed a grey clay layer with patches of orange material.	0.32m – 0.8m+

Trench 101	Dimensions: 31.1m x 1.85m x 0.5m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
10100	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Mid-brown loose silty clay. Bioturbated from surface. Small stone inclusions (<5%; <50mm diameter).	0.0m – 0.4m
10101	Subsoil	Mid-khaki/brown silty clay with haematite flecking and small stone inclusions (<3%).	0.4 – 0.55m
10102	Natural geology	Natural clay layers – orange at top changing to blue and in base of trench to blue with orange sandy gravel patches.	0.55m+

Trench 102	Dimensions: 30.9m x 1.85m x 0.5m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
10200	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Mid-brown loose silty clay. Bioturbated from surface. Small stone inclusions (<5%; <50mm diameter). Clear interface with (10201).	0.0m – 0.3m
10201	Natural geology	Patchy bands of orange and blue clay.	0.3m +

Trench 103	Dimensions: 29.3m x 2.2m x 0.8m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
10300	Topsoil	Dark brown silt loam with evidence of bioturbation.	0.0m – 0.25m
10301	Natural geology	Varies between A) mottled orange/grey silty clay B) blue/grey clay C) Iron red silty clay with manganese D) Ragstone (80%) in a matrix of iron red silty clay.	0.25m + 0.2m – 0.62m 0.5m + 0.55m +
10302	Fill of linear	Mid-yellow brown silty clay with manganese flecking.	0.27m – 0.49m
10303	Cut of linear	With one fill. Not thought to be archaeological. Orientated N-S.	0.27m–0.49m
10304	Fill of hollow	Mid-yellow brown silty clay with manganese flecking.	0.27m – 0.54m
10305	Cut of hollow	Cut of hollow. Circular and concave.	0.27m – 0.54m
10306	Cut of linear	Orientated NW-SE with one fill and no dating evidence. Shallow cut.	0.27m – 0.47m
10307	Fill of linear	Dark brown silty clay with charcoal flecking. Secondary deposit.	0.27m – 0.47m

Trench 104	Dimensions: 30.2m x 1.85m x 0.45m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
10400	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Mid-brown loose silty clay. Bioturbated from surface. Small stone inclusions (<5%; <30mm diameter).	0.0m – 0.25m
10401	Infill of furrow	Red/brown silty clay with sparse small ragstone inclusions. More brown than surrounding natural; series of wide bands evenly spaced across the trench. Clearly coincide with crop marks	0.25m – 0.3m
10402	Ridge of ridge and furrow disturbance	Visible in section as a “hump” of common small ragstone inclusions (<80%; <30mm diameter).	0.25m – 0.3m

10403	Infill of furrow	See (10401).	0.25m – 0.3m
10404	Cut of pit	Cut of pit with two fills. Regular and round in shape with steep sides. Fills contained pot, animal bone, burnt bone (not enough to be a cremation) and fired clay. Likely to be associated with other fills in this trench.	0.25m – 0.55m
10405	Fill of pit	Deliberate dump of refuse material into pit [10404]. Mid/dark brown silty clay with sparse small stone inclusions (<5%; <50mm diameter). Contained pot, animal bone, burnt bone (not enough to be a cremation) and fired clay.	0.25m – 0.5m
10406	Fill of pit	Mottled mid-brown/orange silty clay primary fill of pit [10404]. Consists of redeposited natural material.	0.5m – 0.55m
10407	Natural geology	Red silty clay.	0.25m +
10408	Cut of posthole/hearth	Cut of small shallow circular feature containing fired clay and burnt stone. Originally thought to be a hearth but absolutely no charcoal here. Either this is the very base of a hearth with the upper part and charcoal truncated away (thought unlikely) or a posthole or pit backfilled with burnt material.	0.25m – 0.45m
10409	Subsoil	Mid-red/brown silty clay	0.15m – 0.3m
10410	Cut of posthole	Cut of large posthole or pit. Enclosed by a ring gully and thought to be MBA. Probably had a structural role though ridge and furrow may have truncated away other features forming the rest of the structure. Contains one fill.	0.25m – 0.75m
10411	Fill of posthole	Mid grey/brown silty clay with sparse small stone inclusions (<5%; <10mm diameter). Contained pot, burnt stone and animal bone. Deliberate backfill after post removal?	0.25m – 0.75m
10412	Cut of ring gully	Cut of small shallow slightly curving feature thought to be a ring gully enclosing other features in this trench. One fill. Returning half of feature may have been truncated by ridge and furrow which is evident in this trench.	0.25m – 0.33m
10413	Fill of ring gully	Secondary deposit of mid-brown silty clay. Only fill of ring gully. Contained pot fragments.	0.25m – 0.33m
10414	Fill of posthole/hearth	Lower of two fills. Consists of orange green clay. Very thin and unusual deposit. Possibly formed due to water percolating through stones above and stagnating? Or is this a deliberate lining of this feature?	0.43m – 0.45m
10415	Fill of posthole/hearth	Upper of two fills. Consists of a large quantity of burnt stone (<30%; <100mm diameter) and fired clay (<50%; <100mm diameter) in a matrix of mid-brown silty clay. No charcoal present in this fill. Thought to be a deliberate backfill of material, possibly into a recently vacated posthole.	0.25m – 0.43m
10416	Cut of linear	Cut of very ephemeral linear orientated broadly N-S. Possibly a continuation of [9205].	0.25m – 0.45m
10417	Fill of linear	Olive green silty clay with charcoal flecks (<1%). Only fill of ephemeral linear. Secondary deposit.	0.25m – 0.45m

Trench 105	Dimensions: 30m x 1.85m x 1.14m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
10500	Cut of natural feature	Contains two fills, one of which appears to be a burnt deposit. Irregular, shallow cut indicates that this is likely	0.31m – 0.61m

		to be a natural feature (shrub throw) which has been partially burnt out.	
10501	Fill of shrub throw	Olive green silty clay with small amounts of fired clay. Lower of two fills consisting of disturbed natural material – moved/alterd by root action or root removal. Contained two small pieces of burnt clay thought to be naturally occurring. Secondary deposit.	0.41m – 0.61m
10502	Fill of shrub throw	Upper fill of shrub throw. Olive green silty clay with red fired clay flecks and charcoal flecks. Secondary deposit containing some burnt material.	0.31m – 0.41m
10503	Subsoil	Olive green silty clay with mild bioturbation. – may include poss palaeochannel	0.31m – 0.85m (probably 0.40m)
10504	Topsoil	Loose mid-brown silty clay with sparse small stone inclusions (<1%; <50mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.31m
10505	Natural geology	Patchy blue clay. Trench interspersed with brown silty clay patches; actually stripes of brown and later blue clay – see 10511	0.40m 1.14m
10506	Layer	Dark brown/grey clay with fine rooting. Moderate to occasional particles of baked clay (<2mm diameter) and charcoal flecks. Small lumps of brown clay and possible sandy lumps (<6mm). Moderate firm dried solid. Formed of columns/blocks 30-50mm across. Fairly clear interface at deepest part.	0.4m – 0.65m (and deeper)
10507	Layer	Similar to natural clay but structure less developed (smaller blocks). Mid-green grey clay with yellow mottling. Occasional small rounded pebbles (<6mm). Occasional to moderate firm dried solid blocks (30-50mm across). Clear interfaces.	0.70m – 1.02m
10508	Layer	Very slight yellow/green/grey clay with occasional fine roots and manganese flecks (<6mm). Dried solid. Formed in large columns 100mm across.	0.35m – 1.10m
10509	Layer	As 10508 but with mottles/lenses of brown/yellow clay.	0.85m – 1.14m
10510	Layer	Mid/yellow/red clay with lenses of crisp iron panning (dark red). Firm. Overlies cornbrash like in tr.103.	1.14m +
10511	Palaeochannel?	Filled with 10506 & 10507. one of the clay stripes was investigated with the machine.	0.31m – 1m

Trench 106	Dimensions: 30m x 2m x 0.6m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
10601	Topsoil	Mid-grey/brown clay silts with occasional ragstone <80mm diameter. Active ploughsoil.	0.0m – 0.3m
10602	Natural geology	Mix of grey/brown/ mid-yellow/brown clay.	0.3m – 0.6m+

Trench 107	Dimensions: 30.5m x 2.4m x 0.38m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
10701	Topsoil	Mid-grey brown clay loam with <2% gravel.	0.0m – 0.28m
10702	Natural geology	Light brown/yellow sandy clay with patches of cornbrash gravel and mid blue/grey clay.	0.28m +

Trench 108	Dimensions: 30.20m x 2.3m x		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
10801	Topsoil	Active ploughsoil. Mid grey/brown clay loam with occasional gravel (<2%).	0.0m – 0.26m
10802	Subsoil	Dark yellow/brown clay.	0.24m – 0.45m
10803	Natural geology	Clay with mottles of different colours – brown/blue/grey and yellow/brown.	0.45m +

Trench 109	Dimensions: 29.5m x 2m x 0.47m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
10900	Topsoil	Mid-grey/brown silty loam topsoil. Bioturbated. Clear interface with (10901).	0.0m – 0.27m
10901	Subsoil	Mid-orange brown compact silts.	0.24m – 0.47m
10902	Natural geology	Predominantly reddish brown silty clay with fine cornbrash inclusions (<20%). Crossed by meandering blue clay stripes	0.47m +

Trench 110	Dimensions: 30m x 2m x 0.66m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
11000	Topsoil	Dark brown/grey silty loam. Few ragstone inclusions (<0.5%; subangular/angular). Clear interface. Fine root action throughout.	0.0m – 0.24m
11001	Subsoil	Dark yellow/brown silty clay colluvial layer. Few ragstone inclusions (<0.1%; angular to subangular). Clear horizon.	0.24m – 0.66m
11002	Natural geology	Mid-orange/grey silty clay with frequent fine orange mottles. No inclusions. Firm with elements of alluvial deposits – possibly marshy or seasonal flooding.	0.66m +

Trench 111	Dimensions: 30.3m x 2m x 0.85m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
11101	Topsoil	Mid-dark brown/grey silty loam. Bioturbated.	0.0m – 0.28m
11102	Subsoil	Mid-brown silty clay.	0.28m – 0.31m
11103	Natural geology	Grey clay.	0.31m – 0.76m+

Trench 112	Dimensions: 29.2m x 2m x 0.65m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
11201	Topsoil	Mid-grey/brown clay silt with occasional pebbles and small ragstone inclusions. Active ploughsoil.	0.0m – 0.28m
11202	Natural geology	Mix of mid-yellow brown/grey brown silty clay and clay with pea grit gravel.	0.28m – 0.40m
11203	Natural geology	Grey brown clay/ yellow brown gravel/sand.	0.40m – 0.60m+

Trench 113	VOID		
------------	-------------	--	--

Trench 114	Dimensions: 30.9m x 2.0m x 0.28m		
	Land use: standing crop		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
11400	Topsoil	Mid brownish yellow silty sandy loam with 30% limestone inclusions (5-50mm)	0.0m – 0.28m
11401	Natural geology	90% solid limestone (slab) and cornbrash with reddish yellow silty sand matrix	0.28m +

Trench 115	Dimensions: 30.0m x 2.0m x 0.30m		
	Land use: arable; standing crop		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
11500	Topsoil	Mid yellowish brown silty sandy clay; bioturbation; 30% limestone inclusions (5-40mm)	0.0m – 0.18m
11501	Subsoil	Light reddish brown silty sandy clay with 20% (10-60mm) limestone inclusions	0.18m – 0.22m
11502	Natural geology	90% solid limestone (slab) and cornbrash with reddish yellow silty sand matrix	0.22m +

Trench 116	Dimensions: 40.40m x 2.0m x 0.60m		
	Land use: standing crop		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
11600	Topsoil	Mid yellowish brown sandy silty clay; bioturbation; 20% limestone inclusions (5-20mm)	0.0m – 0.20m
11601	Colluvium	Mid orange-brown silty sandy clay with 15% (5-50mm) limestone inclusions	0.20 – 0.35m
11602	Geology	Mid yellowish brown silty sandy clay and cornbrash – 90% limestone blocks c. 250mm. also solid limestone towards the nw. notably more sandy than in other areas	0.4m +
11603	Field drain cut	Post-medieval field drain cut through the solid limestone, steep, straight sides. Base not reached Quite a nice example!	0.25m +
11604	Rubble fill of field drain	Randomly and loosely packed limestone rocks – allowing drainage.	0.55m +
11605	Fill of field drain	between rubble and upper backfill; mid greyish green silty clay with soft preserved wood – looks like planks – normal procedure to place wood above the rubble to stop the backfill blocking the drain.	0.40m – 0.55m
11606	Fill of field drain	Mid brown silty clay with occasional limestone rocks – less than 30mm and approx 100mm	0.25m – 0.4m
11607	colluvium	Lower fill of natural (?) depression, gradual buildup. Mid to dark reddish brown silty clay with moderate limestone inclusions (angular, 20-100mm)	0.3m – 0.6m

Trench 117	Dimensions: 30m x 1.85m x 1.02m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
11700	Topsoil	Dark greyish brown silty clay; frequent roots and some peagrit.	0.0m – 0.36m
11701	Colluvium	Mid brownish/yellow; silty sandy clay; frequent manganese flecks; occasional roots; clear horizons	0.27m – 0.40m
11702	Gravel & colluvium	50:50 mid brownish yellow sandy clay and pea gravel – well sorted; occasional manganese – some larger than 6mm; occasional fine roots;	0.40m – 0.65m
11703	Sand geological deposit	Pinkish grey silty sand; fairly fine/moderate grade; wet; reasonable interfaces except at the centre of the section.	0.56m – 0.68m
11704	Sandy gravel geological deposit	Pale yellowish/whit pea gravel - probably fine cornbrash; gravel/ sand 70%/30%	0.6m – 0.85m

11705	Natural geology	Cornbrash – loose limestaone rubble – 60-150mm; fairly well sorted. Water encountered at this level	0.85m – 1m
11706	Natural geology	Brief glimpse of a pale bluish grey smooth clay, before it was submerged	1m +

Trench 118	Dimensions: 30m x 1.85m x 0.86m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
11800	Topsoil	Dark greyish brown; crop & weed topped. Very soft underfoot; occasional peagrit (from underlying natural). Silty clay; bioturbated; very distinct horizon	0.0m – 0.4m
11801	Subsoil	Mid greyish brown pea gravel and silty clay (30/70).	0.4m – 0.6m
11802	Natural geology	Light brownish yellow pea gravel (degraded cornbrash) and silty clay	0.5m +
11803	Cut of ditch	Linear ditch 1.75m wide x 0.45m deep; clear edges; moderate concave sides and base; 5 fills; gradual and natural filling. Very compact surface of cut	0.40m - 0.85m
11804	Tertiary fill of ditch 11803	Fine silty clay; occasional rounded pebbles, <30mm. homogenous; occasional calcareous flecks; dark yellowish brown; occasional charcoal fleck.	0.40m – 0.56m
11805	Secondary fill of 11803	Yellowish grey brown silty clay and peagrit; poor interfaces; rolled in from west	0.35m – 0.62m
11806	Secondary fill of 11803	Very similar to the subsoil. 30/70 peagrit to silty clay; occasional fine roots; peagrit forms slight lenses suggesting gradual infilling	0.35m – 0.70m
11807	Secondary fill of 11803	Bluish/greenish brown silty clay with no inclusions. Appears water lain	0.68m- 0.75m
11808	VOID	VOID	VOID
11809	Secondary fill of 11803	Initial fill of ditch; 50/50 peagrit and silty clay, also occasional larger stones. Interface with cut was very clear due to the compaction of the cut edges.	0.55m – 0.85m
11810	Cut of shrub throw	Small irregular oval cut; very shallow with gradual concave sides; 0.6m x 0.4m x 0.12m	0.4m – 0.52m
11811	Fill of shrub throw	Central concentration of dark grey silty clay; edges diffuse	0.4m – 0.52m
11812	Cut of shrub throw	Small irregular oval cut; very shallow with gradual concave sides; 0.6m x 0.4m x 0.20m	0.4m – 0.60m
11813	Fill of shrub throw	Central concentration of dark grey silty clay; edges diffuse	0.4m – 0.60m
11814	Cut of gully	Narrow linear feature with straight to concave sides; moderate slope; flat to concave base. 0.55m x 0.12m deep	0.32m – 0.57m
11815	Fill of gully	Light brownish/yellowish grey; slightly sandy silty clay; occasional medium ragstone <50mm – subrounded.	0.32m – 0.57m
11816	Cut of treethrow	Unexcavated; irregular/globular feature, with classic bean shape darker patch	0.4m +
11817	Fill of treethrow	Mid to dark brownish yellow silty clay and pea gravel. Unexcavated. Occasional fleck of baked clay or stone	0.4m +

Trench 119	VOID
------------	-------------

Trench 120	VOID
------------	-------------

Trench 121	VOID
------------	-------------

Trench 122	Dimensions: 28.80m x 2.0m x 0.30m		
	Land use: standing crop		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
12200	Topsoil	Mid yellowish brown silty sandy clay; bioturbation; 10% limestone inclusions (50-60mm)	0.0m – 0.15m
12201	Natural geology	Varied: Orange-brown silty sandy clay and yellow silty sandy clay with 90% combrash; Solid limestone (slab)	0.15m +

Trench 123	VOID
---------------	------

Trench 124	VOID
---------------	------

Trench 125	VOID
---------------	------

Trench 126	Dimensions: 30.3m x 2.17m x 0.66m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
12600	Topsoil	Dark greyish brown; silty loam; frequent fine root disturbance; subangular limestone inclusions <50mm; clear horizon.	0-0.28m
12601	Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown; clayey silt; regular limestone inclusions <100mm, angular-subangular; undulating horizon onto natural	0.28m – 0.5m
12602	Natural geology	Light whitish yellow; clayey silt; poorly mixed; frequent limestone inclusions, angular – subangular < 100mm; onto natural bedrock in places. Also irregular banding/patches of light and dark yellowish brown (darker has v. frequent fractured stone) Coral ragstone/limestone combrash	0.5m +

Trench 127	Dimensions: 31m x 2.15m x 0.55m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
12700	Topsoil	Mid-brown silty clay. Bioturbated from surface. Moderate brash inclusions (<15%; <100mm diameter). Clear interface with (12701).	0.0m – 0.25m
12701	Subsoil	Orange-brown silty clay. Moderate brash inclusions (<30%; <150mm diameter).	0.25m – 0.55m
12702	Natural geology	Stone (brash/ragstone).	0.55m +

Trench 128	Dimensions: 29.6m x 2.10m x 0.5m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
12800	Topsoil	Dark greyish brown; silty loam; frequent fine root disturbance; sub angular limestone inclusions < 50mm; clear horizon.	0 – 0.23m
12801	Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown; clayey silt; lens of silty sand; frequent manganese flecks; few limestone inclusions; clear upper horizon, undulating lower horizon..	0.23m – 0.5m
12802	Natural geology	Light whitish yellow; clayey silt; undulating horizon. Also bands and patches: light bluish grey silty clay; mid reddish	0.5m +

		brown silty clay with v. frequent limestone.	
--	--	--	--

Trench 129	Dimensions: 30m x 2.5m x 0.45m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
12900	Topsoil	Mid-brown silty clay with sparse small stone inclusions (<5%; <50mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface. Diffuse interface with subsoil.	0.0m – 0.2m
12901	Subsoil	Red-brown silty clay with sparse small stone inclusions (<5%; <100mm diameter). Highly diffuse interface with natural.	0.2m – 0.45m
12902	Natural geology	Light beige clay with sandy mottled red-brown patches. Also has patches of brash along the length of the trench.	0.45m +
12903	Fill of pit	Mid-dark brown silty clay with sparse ragstone inclusions (<5%; <50mm diameter). Contained 1x I.A./R.B. basal pot sherd.	0.35m – 0.70m
12904	Cut of pit	Secondary deposit of subsoil derived material.	
12904	Cut of pit	Cut of pit with one fill believed to be I.A./R.B. Extends beyond edge of trench, possibly therefore a ditch terminus. Likely to be associated with other features in the trench. Sub-circular; steep straight side; flat base	0.35m – 0.70m
12905	Fill of pit	Dark yellow/brown clayey silt with angular limestone inclusions (<100mm diameter; <15%) and manganese flecking. Secondary deposit with archaeological components.	0.45m – 0.68m
12906	Cut of pit	Cut of shallow pit with one fill. Irregular base. Close to other similar features. Circular; moderate to vertical; 0.94m wide; 0.23m deep	0.45m – 0.68m
12907	Fill of pit	Dark yellow-brown clayey silts with angular limestone inclusions (<150mm; <10%) and manganese flecks. Formed due to natural build up of silts and contained two pot sherds. Low energy deposit with limestone concentrated on the west of the cut.	0.45m – 0.63m
12908	Cut of pit	12908	
12908	Cut of pit	Cut of shallow irregular pit with one episode of deposition. Possibly a tree throw as has an irregular base. Function unclear. 1.42m wide; 0/18m deep	0.45m – 0.63m
12909	Fill of tree throw	Dark-yellow/brown clayey silts with limestone inclusions (angular; <10%). Contains flecks of charcoal and pot. Formed due to a natural build up of silts. Mildly bioturbated, uniform in colour and texture and contains manganese flecks.	0.45m – 0.77m
12910	Fill of tree throw	Dark, yellow brown with a grey tinge. Clayey silt (compact) with limestone inclusions (<80%; angular) and charcoal flecks. Also contains manganese flecks. Mildly bioturbated. Redeposited ragstone caused by tree root action.	0.45m – 0.87m
12911	Cut of tree throw	Shallow tree throw filled in two depositional events. Irregular and affected by bioturbation.	0.45m – 0.87m
12912	Cut of ring-gully terminus	Contains one fill. Regular cut. Opposing terminus not found within the trench. Fill contained pottery. Curvilinear; flat based, vertical on one side; 0.23m wide.	0.45m – 0.57m
12913	Fill of ring-gully terminus	Red-brown clayey silts with irregular limestone inclusions (<100mm diameter). Contained 2 sherds of pot. Very little post depositional disturbance. Secondary deposit.	0.45m – 0.57m
12914	Fill of ring-gully	Mid-yellow/brown clayey silts with angular limestone inclusions (Average 30mm diameter). Fill of curvilinear gully. Generally well mixed with well sorted inclusions. Low energy deposit with occasional large pieces of ragstone. No dating evidence recovered. Secondary deposit.	0.45m – 0.55m
12915	Cut of ring-	Cut of shallow curvilinear gully with one episode of secondary aggradation. Cut is even and has suffered very little disturbance.	0.45m – 0.55m

	gully	Terminates to SE. Function unknown (as opposing terminus unlocated). 0.45m wide, 0.1m deep	
12916	Group	Group number for gully sections	0.45m – 0.57m

Trench 130	Dimensions: 30m x 2m x 0.65m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
13000	Topsoil	Dark brown-grey silty loam with moderate limestone inclusions (<20%; angular; poorly sorted).	0.0m – 0.26m
13001	Subsoil	Mid-brown with a hint of red. Silty loam with moderate limestone inclusions (<30%; angular and poorly sorted).	0.26m – 0.34m
13002	Natural geology	Dark yellow compact clay silt. Moderate heavy limestone inclusions (<40%; angular and poorly sorted).	0.24m +
13003	Cut of ditch	Cut of gully terminus with one fill. Opposing terminus unlocated.	0.34m – 0.50m
13004	Fill of ditch	Mid red/brown clayey silts with irregular limestone inclusions (<100mm diameter; <5%). Colour is uniform throughout and very little post-depositional disturbance has occurred.	0.34m – 0.50
13005	Fill of ditch	Dark black/brown clayey silts with abundant limestone inclusions (<60%; angular and poorly sorted). Contains pot, animal bone, charcoal and burnt stone. Appears to be waste material backfilled into an enclosure ditch, rather than evidence of burning in situ.	0.34m – 0.54m
13006	Fill of ditch	Dark red-brown clayey silts with abundant limestone inclusions (<50%; angular and poorly sorted). Contains small amounts of charcoal and bone. Secondary deposit with diffuse interfaces.	0.41m – 0.68m
13007	Cut of ditch	E-W orientated linear feature filled in two depositional events. Thought to be a Romano-British field system ditch used as a boundary or for drainage. Linear; straight moderately sloping sides, flat base; 0.82m wide x 0.34m deep. Only partially seen at very end of trench. Coincides with cropmark	0.34m – 0.68m

Trench 131	Dimensions: 30.5m x 2.2m x 0.56m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
13100	Topsoil	Dark brown/grey silty loam with poorly sorted ragstone inclusions (angular-subangular; <40mm diameter). Evidence of fine root action. Clear interface with (13101).	0.0m – 0.27m
13101	Subsoil	Dark yellow/brown clayey silts with a large amount of angular/subangular ragstone (>60%; <70mm diameter). Uneven in depth and varies between 30 to 290 mm.	0.27m – 0.56m
13102	Natural geology	Light brown/yellow clayey silts with some ragstone inclusions (<20%; angular to subangular). Varies along length of trench possibly due to glacial erosion.	0.27m +
13103	Fill of ditch	Mid-red/brown clayey silts with occasional limestone inclusions (<100mm diameter; angular to sub-angular). Only fill of N-S orientated linear. Undated. Low energy well mixed deposit. Secondary deposit.	0.27m - 0.48m
13104	Cut of ditch	N-S orientated linear ditch with one fill. Cut uneven due to fractured limestone natural. Very little post-depositional disturbance. One fill with no dating evidence.	0.27m – 0.48m
13105	Fill of posthole	Mid-red/brown clayey silt with limestone inclusions (<130m diameter; angular and poorly sorted). Loose poorly mixed deposit with mild bioturbation. Limestone inclusions appear to be the remains of a disturbed packing fill.	0.27m – 0.59m
13106	Cut of	Cut of substantial posthole with one fill. Likely to have been	0.27m –

	posthole	structural or load bearing give size. No other postholes in this trench but there is a pit to the south.	0.59m
13107	Fill of pit	Mid red/brown clayey silts with brash inclusions (<40%; <150mm diameter; angular-subangular). No archaeological components. Likely to represent a low energy silting event. Secondary deposit.	0.27m – 1.13m
13108	Cut of pit	Date and function unknown. Irregular due to cornbrash natural into which it is cut. Contains one depositional event.	0.27m – 1.13m

Trench 132	Dimensions: 30m x 2m x 0.4m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
13200	Topsoil	Dark brown/green silty clay. Very compact with sparse stone inclusions (rounded flint <35mm diameter). Bioturbated from surface.	0.0m – 0.27m
13201	Subsoil	Mid-red/brown silty clay. Compact with rare flint gravel inclusions (<20mm diameter). Well mixed and even in texture. Diffuse interface with natural.	0.25m – 0.4m
13202	Natural geology	Mid-red/brown compact clayey silts. Mottled with blue/grey clay (alluvial deposits). Firm texture with patches of limestone.	0.4m +

Trench 133	Dimensions: 30m x 2.1m x 0.6m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
13300	Topsoil	Dark green/brown silty clay. Compact with rare limestone inclusions (<30mm diameter). Fine root disturbance and diffuse interface.	0.0m – 0.23m
13301	Subsoil	Mid red-brown silty clay. Compact with sharp horizon to natural.	0.23m – 0.47m
13302	Natural geology	Mid-red brown silty clay with heavy limestone inclusions (<90%).	0.47m +
13303	Fill of posthole	Mid red/brown silty clay with no visible inclusions. Consists of subsoil derived material. No post-depositional disturbance. Secondary deposit.	0.47m – 0.8m
13304	Cut of posthole	Cut of posthole with one fill. Shallow and irregular (due to limestone natural?). Possibility that this is a naturally occurring feature as no archaeological components found in any features in this trench.	0.47m - 0.8m
13305	Fill of posthole	Mid red/brown silty clay with no visible inclusions. Consists of subsoil derived material. No post-depositional disturbance. Secondary deposit.	0.47m – 0.57m
13306	Cut of posthole	Cut of posthole with one fill. Shallow and irregular (due to limestone natural?). Possibility that this is a naturally occurring feature as no archaeological components found in any features in this trench.	0.47m - 0.57m-
13307	Fill of posthole	Mid red/brown silty clay with no visible inclusions. Consists of subsoil derived material. No post-depositional disturbance. Secondary deposit.	0.47m - 0.58m
13308	Cut of posthole	Cut of posthole with one fill. Shallow and irregular (due to limestone natural?). Possibility that this is a naturally occurring feature as no archaeological components found in any features in this trench.	0.47m - 0.57m
13309	Fill of posthole	Mid red/brown silty clay with no visible inclusions. Consists of subsoil derived material. No post-depositional disturbance. Secondary deposit.	0.47m – 0.54m
13310	Cut of posthole	Cut of posthole with one fill. Shallow and irregular (due to limestone natural?). Possibility that this is a naturally occurring feature as no archaeological components found in any features in this trench.	0.47m – 0.54m

13311	Fill of posthole	Mid red/brown silty clay with no visible inclusions. Consists of subsoil derived material. No post-depositional disturbance. Secondary deposit.	0.47m – 0.52m
13312	Cut of posthole	Cut of posthole with one fill. Shallow and irregular (due to limestone natural?). Possibility that this is a naturally occurring feature as no archaeological components found in any features in this trench.	0.47m – 0.52m
13313	Fill of posthole	Mid red/brown silty clay with no visible inclusions. Consists of subsoil derived material. No post-depositional disturbance. Secondary deposit.	0.47m – 0.65m
13314	Cut of posthole	Cut of posthole with one fill. Shallow and irregular (due to limestone natural?). Possibility that this is a naturally occurring feature as no archaeological components found in any features in this trench.	0.47m – 0.65m
13315	Fill of posthole	Mid red/brown silty clay with no visible inclusions. Consists of subsoil derived material. No post-depositional disturbance. Secondary deposit.	0.47m – 0.59m
13316	Cut of posthole	Cut of posthole with one fill. Shallow and irregular (due to limestone natural?). Possibility that this is a naturally occurring feature as no archaeological components found in any features in this trench.	0.47m – 0.59m
13317	Fill of posthole	Mid red/brown silty clay with no visible inclusions. Consists of subsoil derived material. No post-depositional disturbance. Secondary deposit.	0.47m – 0.67m
13318	Cut of posthole	Cut of posthole with one fill. Shallow and irregular (due to limestone natural?). Possibility that this is a naturally occurring feature as no archaeological components found in any features in this trench.	0.47m – 0.67m
13319	Fill of posthole	Mid red/brown silty clay with no visible inclusions. Consists of subsoil derived material. No post-depositional disturbance. Secondary deposit.	0.47m – 0.58m
13320	Cut of posthole	Cut of posthole with one fill. Shallow and irregular (due to limestone natural?). Possibility that this is a naturally occurring feature as no archaeological components found in any features in this trench.	0.47m – 0.58m

Trench 134	Dimensions: 31m x 2.1m x 0.87m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
13400	Topsoil	Mid-grey/brown silty loam. Moderate bioturbation and sparse limestone inclusions.	0.0m – 0.38m
13401	Subsoil	Mid-light orange/brown compact clayey silt. Sparse limestone inclusions and frequent manganese. Moderate bioturbation.	0.38m – 0.67m
13402	Subsoil	Mid-light grey/brown compact clayey silts with sparse limestone inclusions and common manganese inclusions. Infrequent bioturbation.	0.67m – 0.88m
13403	Natural geology	Light yellow/brown compact clayey silts with moderate/common limestone inclusions (15-20%). Infrequent bioturbation.	0.88m +

Trench 135	Dimensions: 30m x 2m x 0.0.39m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
13501	Topsoil	Mid grey-brown clay silts with rare pebbles and small ragstones. Inactive ploughsoil/turfline. Not ploughed since discontinuation of ridge and furrow which is still extant.	0.0m - 0.22m
13502	Natural geology	Mid-yellow/brown silty clay with rare ragstones. Disturbed by ridge and furrow.	0.22m +

Trench 136	Dimensions: 30m x 2.3m x 0.5m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
13601	Topsoil	Dark brown/grey silty loam with gravel pebbles (2-3%).	0.0m – 0.22m
13602	Subsoil	Mid-yellow brown silty clay.	0.26m – 0.33m
13603	Natural geology	Clayey sand with cornbrash gravel (<20%) and blue/grey clay. Disturbed by ridge and furrow.	0.33m +

Trench 137	Dimensions: 29.8m x 2.27m x 0.39m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
13700	Topsoil	Dark brownish grey silty loam; compact; rare ragstone; 1% sub-angular/angular; fine root action; clear horizon	0.0m – 0.23m
13701	Subsoil	Dark yellowish brown silty clay; well mixed and firm; moderate – rare ragstone inclusions; 5-10%; rounded to subangular. Rare manganese flecks	0.23m – 0.44m
13702	Natural geology	Varies throughout length of trench; very heavy bioturbation in 70% of trench; mainly mid yellowish brown sandy clay	0.44m +
13703	Fill of treethrow	Light gree/brown silty clay; sparse small stone inclusions <5% < 50mm	0.23m – 0.43m
13704	Cut of treethrow	Sub-circular; shallow, concave, 1m x 0.25m; single fill	0.23m – 0.43m
13705	Cut of ditch	Linear; steep, concave sides, shallow concave base; 0.95m x 0.23m; two fills. Undated	0.23m – 0.46m
13706	Fill of ditch 13705	Primary fill; light brown/orange silty clay; rare (<1%, subangular c.20mm) stones, c.20mm. very similar to natural.	0.36m - 0.46m
13707	Fill of ditch 13705	Secondary fill; dark brown sandy clay; rare (1%) small subangular stone inclusions; charcoal; bioturbation	0.23m – 0.43m
13708	Cut of ditch terminus	Linear with rounded end; steep, straight sides & flat base; 0.6m wide; 0.3m deep.	0.23m – 0.53m
13709	Fill of ditch terminus 13709	Olive green/grey; silty clay; 1 pot sherd; single fill.	0.23m – 0.53m

Trench 138	Dimensions: 29.8m x 1.85m x 0.7m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
13800	Topsoil	Loose mid-brown silty clay; bioturbated from surface; sparse small stones (<55; < 50mm) active ploughsoil	0.0m – 0.35m
13801	Subsoil	Interface layer; between 13800 & 13802; mix of those two. Diffuse boundaries	0.35m – 0.65m
13802	Natural geology	Blue clay	0.65m +

Trench 139	Dimensions: 30.12m x 1.85m x 0.65m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
13900	Topsoil	Loose mid brown silty clay; bioturbated from surface; sparse small stones <5%; <50mm; active ploughsoil	0.0m – 0.25m
13901	Subsoil	Light brown silty clay; clear interface with 13900 & 13902. v sparse small stones; <3%; < 50mm	0.25m – 0.55m
13902	Natural geology	Orange and blue clay; clean with root disturbance to the NW end of the trench.	0.55m +
13903	Modern ditch	Modern linear ditch; unexcavated and not surveyed.	0.25m +
13904	Fill of ditch	Upper fill of 13903; mid brown silty clay with pottery	0.25m +

Trench 140	Dimensions: 30.3m x 1.85m x 0.7m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
14000	Topsoil	Loose mid brown silty clay; active ploughsoil; bioturbated from surface; sparse small stone inclusions (<10%; < 50mm)	0.0m – 0.30m
14001	Subsoil/colluvium	Mid-light brown silty clay; clear interface with 1400 & 14002/3	0.30m – 0.70m
14002	Natural geology	In se part of trench; clean orange silty clay (v silty) with occasional blue clay patches and increasing cornbrash inclusions to nw (<70%; <10mm)	0.70m +
14003	Natural	In nw end of trench; degraded cornbrash; orange silty clay with blue clay patches. <85-90% small brash inclusions	0.70m +
14004	Cut of ditch	Linear; moderate straight sides and flat base. 0.6m wide & 0.3m deep. Single fill, no dating.	0.40m – 0.70m
14005	Fill of ditch	Mid grey-brown silty clay; secondary fill; sparse small stone inclusions <5% 7 <50mm.	0.40m – 0.70m

Trench 141	Dimensions: 30.1m x 1.85m x 1.15m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
14100	Topsoil	Mid brown silty loam. Active ploughsoil; bioturbated from surface	0.0m – 0.4m
14101	Subsoil	Mid/light brown silty clay; very diffuse interface with 14102 & 14101; gradually lightens to 14102.	0.4m – 0.75m
14102	Natural geology	Natural in northern end of trench; clean orange silty clay with moderate small inclusions. very diffuse interface with 14101, so removed in southern end of trench – revealing 14112	0.75m – 1.15m
14103	Cut of pit	Circular; concave sides and base; moderate sloping sides; clear edges; animal bone; charcoal and burnt stone. 0.70m diameter x 0.17m deep.	0.40m – 0.57m
14104	Fill of pit 14103	Mottled orange/grey silty clay; sparse stone inclusions (<= 2%; rounded). Burnt stone & charcoal; manganese flecks; lower fill	0.49m – 0.57m
14105	Fill of pit 14103	Grey silty clay; animal bone & charcoal; secondary fill;	0.40m – 0.49m
14106	Spread	Mid greyish-brown silty clay; sparse small stone inclusions (<5%; <20mm); animal bone and pottery; charcoal flecks. Possibly similar to spread in Trench 92	0.40m – 0.50m
14107	Cut of posthole	Circular; straight, steep sides with concave base; 0.3m diameter; 0.15m deep	0.40m – 0.55m
14108	Fill of posthole	Mid grey silty clay; sparse stone inclusions <10%; <70mm); single fill; charcoal.	0.40m – 0.55m
14109	Cut of ditch	Linear; moderate to steep straight sides; concave base; 1.6m wide x 0.5m deep; two fills; pot & animal bone	0.40m – 0.90m
14110	Fill of ditch 14109	Mottled grey and orange; silty clay; sparse small stone inclusions; no finds; lower fill;	0.75m - 0.90m
14111	Fill of ditch 14109	Upper fill; mid grey silty clay; sparse stone inclusions (<5%; < 10mm). Clear interfaces; pottery & animal bone; charcoal	0.40m – 0.75m
14112	? natural	In s end of trench; ‘clean’ orange silty clay with moderate small inclusions (<40%; < 50mm)	1.15m +

Trench 142	Dimensions: 30.2m x 1.85m x 1.15m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
14200	Topsoil	Loose mid-brown silty clay. Active ploughsoil, bioturbated from surface; sparse small stone inclusions	0.0m – 0.30m

		(<5%; < 50mm)	
14201	Colluvium/interface	Light orange/brown silty clay; interface layer between 14200 & 14202	0.30m – 0.40m
14202	Natural geology/colluvium	Orange silty clay. Clean with small ragstone inclusions (<10%; <10mm)	0.40m +
14203	Cut of ditch	Linear; straight sides, moderate slope and concave base. 1.5m wide; 0.6m deep.	0.45m – 1.05m
14204	Fill of ditch 14203	Mid greyish brown silty clay; sparse small stone inclusions (<5%; <50mm). lower fill	0.45m – 0.55m
14205	Fill of ditch 14203	Mid olive green/brown clay with 75% small stone inclusions. animal bone. Upper fill	0.45m – 0.95m
14206	Cut of ditch	Linear; concave, moderately sloping sides; concave base; 1m wide x 0.7m deep.	0.45m – 1.15m
14207	Fill of ditch	Mid grey silty clay; diffuse interface with 14208	0.45m – 0.75m
14208	Fill of ditch	Olive green silty clay with diffuse interface with 14207; animal bone	0.45m – 0.85m

Trench 143	Dimensions: 30.1m x 1.85m x 0.75m		
	Land use: arable; recently harvested; stubble		
Context	Category	Description	Depth
14300	Topsoil	Loose, mid brown silty clay. Bioturbated from surface; sparse small stone inclusions (<10%; < 50mm) Active ploughsoil	0.0m – 0.30m
14301	Subsoil/colluvium	Mid-orange brown silty clay; sparse stone inclusions (<5%; < 20mm); clear interfaces with 14300 & 14302.	0.30m – 0.70m
14302	Natural geology/ possibly still colluvium	Clean orange silty clay with moderate small stone inclusions (<20%; <10mm). occasional root disturbance	0.70m +