

- 5.13 Ditch 613 measured 1.8m long and 3m wide. No finds were recovered from its friable mid brownish yellow sandy silt fill (614).
- 5.14 Located towards the north-western end of Trench 6 was pit 615 (Fig. 6; section CC). It measured 0.84m long, 0.97m wide and 0.41m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a rounded base. Its basal fill (622) consisted of friable dark greyish brown clayey silt resulting from natural infilling processes. This was partially overlain by fill 621, which comprised of friable dark brownish-yellow sandy silt with frequent medium to large sub-angular mudstone fragments. It is interpreted as representing edge collapse/slump entering the feature from the south and may further indicate that the feature was left open to naturally infill following its initial excavation. Upper fill 616 consisted of friable dark brownish yellow clayey silt and is interpreted as a final phase of natural infilling. No artefacts were recovered from the respective fills of pit 615.
- 5.15 Archaeological features 607 and 613 corresponded to anomalies identified of geophysical survey. The presence of the remaining archaeological features was not predicted by the geophysical survey.

Trench 7 (Figs 2, 4, and 7)

- 5.16 Located centrally within Trench 7 was north-east/south-west orientated ditch 703. It measured 2.38m wide and 0.73m deep, with moderately sloping irregular sides and a concave base (Fig. 7; section DD). The ditch contained two fills, the lower fill (704) consisted of a moderately compact mid greyish brown silty clay resulting from an initial phase of natural infilling entering the ditch from the south, internal to the enclosure. Its upper fill (705) represents the final phase of natural infilling and is comprised of moderately compact mid greyish brown silty clay and contained a single sherd of pottery broadly dateable to the Roman period. Ditch 703 corresponds with an anomaly depicted on the geophysical survey.

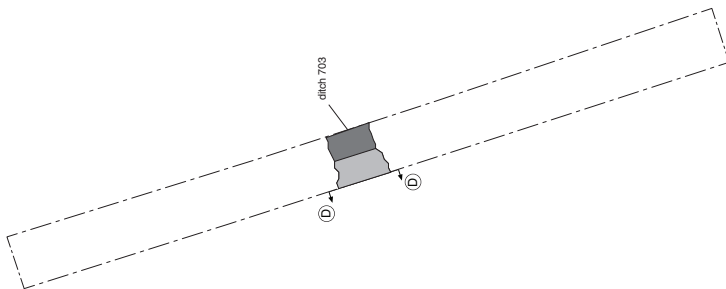
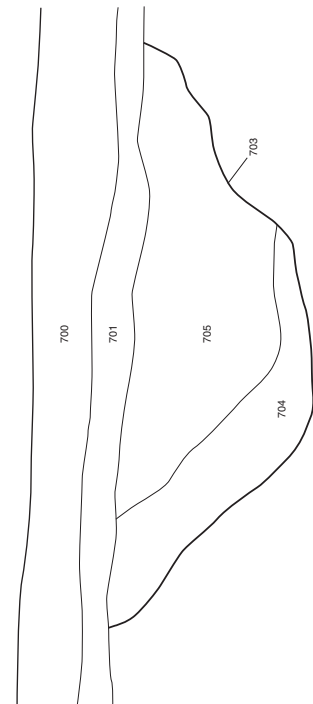
Trench 8 (Figs 2, 4, and 8)

- 5.17 Partially revealed east/west orientated ditch 803 was recorded in plan extending from the southern baulk of Trench 8. It measured in excess of 1m wide and extended beyond the eastern and western edges of the trench. Ditch 803 remained unexcavated and no finds were recovered from the surface of its uppermost fill (804), which comprised mid reddish-brown sandy silt. Feature 803 appears to correspond with a crescent-shaped anomaly depicted on the geophysical survey.

Section DD

SE
175.4m
AOD

NW



Plan of Trench 7
0 1:200 10m

- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Section location



Section of enclosure ditch 703, looking south-west (1m scale)

Andover 01284 347630
Clienteler 01285 771022
Easter 01392 573970
Milton Keynes 01908 564880
Suffolk 01449 900120
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk



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FIGURE TITLE

Trench 7: Plan, section, and photograph

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	24.04.19		
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- 5.18 Ditch 805 was located immediately north of ditch 803, with a broadly similar east/west orientation. Ditch 805 measured 1.23m wide and 0.25m deep, with a moderately sloping concave northern side, a steeply sloping southern side and an irregular base. No finds were recovered from its single mid reddish-brown sandy silt fill (806), which derived from natural infilling processes. Ditch 805 appeared to broadly correspond with a crescent-shaped anomaly depicted on the geophysical survey.



Plate 5 Ditch 815, looking west (1m scale)

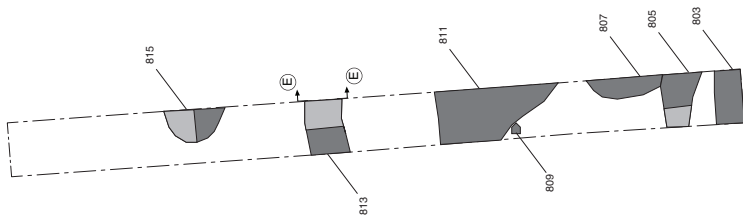
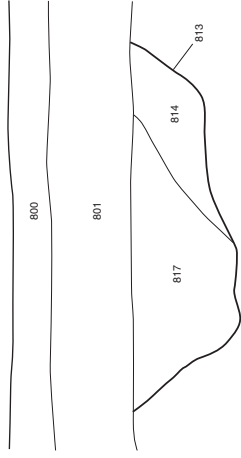
- 5.19 Unexcavated pit 807 was partially revealed, extending 0.87m from the eastern baulk of the trench. It measured 3m in length, with a mid-reddish-brown sandy silt fill (808), but was not further investigated. The relationship between ditch 805 and pit 807 was not investigated.
- 5.20 Posthole 809 was located in the centre of Trench 8. It was circular in plan and measured 0.4m wide and 0.43m long. No finds were recovered from the surface of its mid reddish grey sandy silt fill (810).
- 5.21 The presence of features 803, 805, 807 and 809 were not predicted by the geophysical survey.

- 5.22 Unexcavated Ditch 811 was recorded in plan on a broadly east/west orientated alignment. The ditch measured approximately 2m wide and was hand augured to a depth of 0.54m. Its uppermost fill (812) consisted of mid brownish grey sandy silt from which no finds were recovered. Ditch 811 corresponds with a linear anomaly depicted on the geophysical survey, which is interpreted as a boundary ditch.
- 5.23 Parallel, broadly east/west orientated ditch 813, was identified towards the northern end of the trench (Fig. 8; section EE). It measured 1.44m wide and 0.42m deep, with steeply sloping, rounded sides and an irregular, slightly concave base. Ditch 813 contained two fills, the lower of which consisted of mid yellowish-brown silty sand (814) resulting from natural slumping from its southern edge. This was in turn overlain by mid reddish-grey sandy silt (817), representing a final phase of natural infilling following the disuse of the feature. A total of 20 fragments of fired clay and a single iron object were recovered from fill 817, as well as 21 fragments of animal bone. A sample (Sample 5) recovered from fill 817 contained moderate quantities of indeterminate cereal grains, barley and hulled wheat alongside a single rachis fragment, low quantities of charred plant remains and charcoal fragments. Ditch 813 corresponds with a rectilinear anomaly depicted on the geophysical survey, which is interpreted as an enclosure.
- 5.24 Sub circular pit 815, was partially revealed, emanating from the the northern bank of Trench 8. It measured 2.67m long, in excess of 1.3m wide and 0.41m deep, with steep to moderately sloping sides and a flat base. Its single friable mid brownish grey clayey silt fill (816), interpreted as natural infilling following disuse, contained 13 fragments of fired clay. An environmental sample (Sample 1) recovered from fill 816 contained a high number of indeterminate cereal grains, as well as hulled wheat (emmer or spelt) and free-threshing wheat, a moderate number of charred plant remains and moderately low quantities of charcoal fragments. Pit 815 corresponds with an anomaly depicted on the geophysical survey.



Section EE

N 178.2m |—
AOD



Plan of Trench 8

- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Section location



Section of enclosure ditch 813, looking east (1m scale)

Andover 01284 347630
 Clienteler 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 573970
 Milton Keynes 01908 564880
 Suffolk 01449 900120
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
 e enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk



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FIGURE TITLE
 Trench 8: Plan, section, and photograph

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	24.04.19		
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Plate 6 Pit 815, looking east (1m scales)

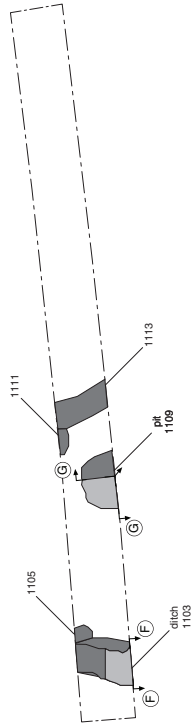
Trench 11 (Figs 2, 4, and 9)

- 5.25 North/south orientated ditch 1103 was located at the western end of Trench 11 (Fig. 9; section FF). It measured 1.57m wide and 0.48m deep, with a moderately sloping, concave, eastern edge and a moderately sloping, irregular, western edge and a concave base. No artefacts were recovered from its single moderately compact mid orangey brown silty clay fill (1104), which was deposited as the result of natural infilling processes. Ditch 1103 was not predicted by the geophysical survey.
- 5.26 Cutting the fill 1104 of ditch 1103, along its eastern edge was unexcavated pit 1105. Pit 1105 was partially revealed emanating from the northern baulk of the trench, measuring 0.46m wide and in excess of 0.94m long. No finds were recovered from the surface of its moderately compact mid orangey brown silty clay fill (1106).



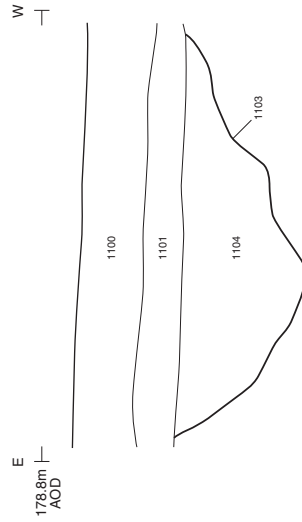
- 5.27 Located centrally within the trench, pit 1109 was partially revealed emanating from the southern baulk of the trench (Fig. 9; section GG). It measured 2.18m long, in excess of 1.47m wide and 0.42m deep, with a steeply sloping, uneven western edge and an undulating base. It contained two fills, the lowest of which consisted of friable mid orangey brown silty sand (1115), which represents initial natural infill entering into the pit from the north. A total of three sherd of Iron Age pottery and 18 fragments of animal bone were recovered from fill 1115, which was overlain by fill 1110, which comprised friable mid greyish brown silty clay. Fill 1110 appears to have been deposited as an intentional backfill and contained large quantities of heat affected stone, 17 fragments of industrial waste, one fragment of hammerscale and one sherd of Middle Iron Age pottery, as well as nine fragments of animal bone. An environmental sample (Sample 3) collected from this deposit contained moderately low quantities of indeterminate cereal grains, charred plant remains and charcoal.
- 5.28 Located to the immediate east were intercutting features 1111 and 1113. Unexcavated pit 1111 was partially revealed extending beyond the northern baulk of the trench. It measured in excess of 0.4m wide and 1.07m long. No finds were recovered from the surface of its moderately compact mid orangey brown silty clay fill 1112.
- 5.29 North-west/south-east orientated ditch 1113 remained unexcavated. It measured 1.3m wide and was recorded for a length of c. 1.8m extending beyond the northern and southern limits of the trench. No finds were recovered from the surface of its compact mid orangey brown silty clay fill (1114). The relationship between pit 1111 and ditch 1113 could not be determined in plan. Ditch 1113 corresponds with a rectilinear anomaly depicted on the geophysical survey.



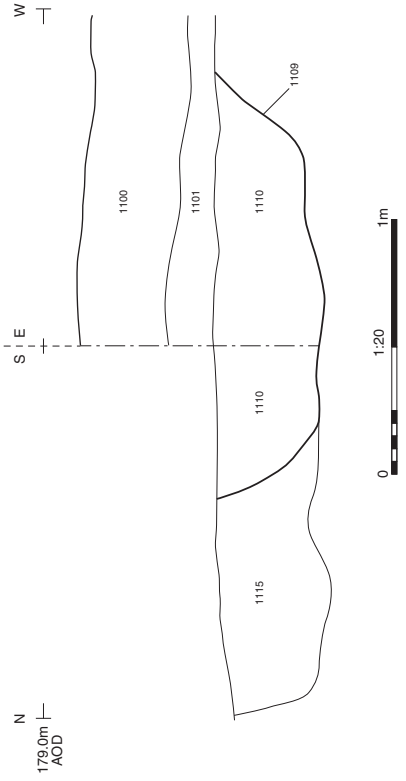


Plan of Trench 11

Section FF



Section GG



Section of ditch 1103, looking south (1m scale)



Section of pit 1109, looking east (1m scale)

- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Section location

Andover 01264 547630
 Clevecester 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 573970
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
 Suffolk 01449 900120
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk



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FIGURE TITLE
Trench 11: Plan, sections, and photographs

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DATE 24.04.19
 SCALE@A3 1:200;1:20

FIGURE NO. 9

Trench 12 (Figs 2 and 3)

- 5.30 Located towards the eastern end of the trench was north-east/south-west orientated ditch 1205. It measured 0.38m wide, in excess of 2m long and 0.21m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. No finds were recovered from its single mid greyish brown silty sand fill (1206), which contained patches of mottled red silty sand, indicative of deliberate rapid backfilling.



Plate 6 Ditch 1205, looking south-east (0.3m scale)

Trench 13 (Figs 2, 3, and 10)

- 5.31 North-east/south-west orientated ditch 1303 was identified towards the northern end of the trench (Fig. 10; section HH). It measured 1.91m wide and 0.62m deep, with an asymmetrical profile, moderately steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It contained three fills; the earliest fill (1304) consisted of friable light yellowish-brown silty sand, interpreted as a lens of redeposited natural slumping into the feature from the north. This was overlain by friable mid brownish grey silty sand fill 1305, which contained 99 sherds of Iron Age pottery, potentially representing a complete vessel, as well as 15 fragments of animal bone. A bulk environmental sample (Sample 2) recovered from this deposit contained moderate quantities of indeterminate cereal and barley grains, as well as moderate quantities of charred plant remains and charcoal. This was in turn sealed by friable mid reddish-brown silty sand fill 1306,

deposited by natural silting processes, from which no artefacts were recovered. Ditch 1303 corresponds with a linear anomaly identified from the geophysical survey, interpreted as forming part of an enclosure.

Trench 14 (Figs 2, 3, and 11)

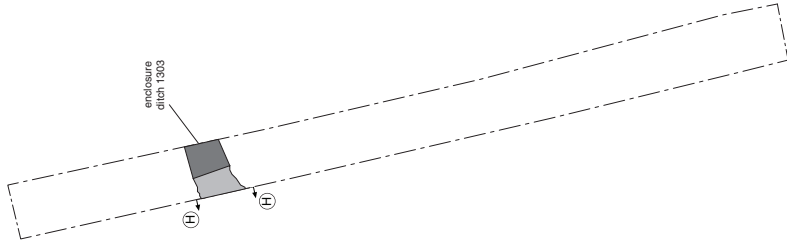
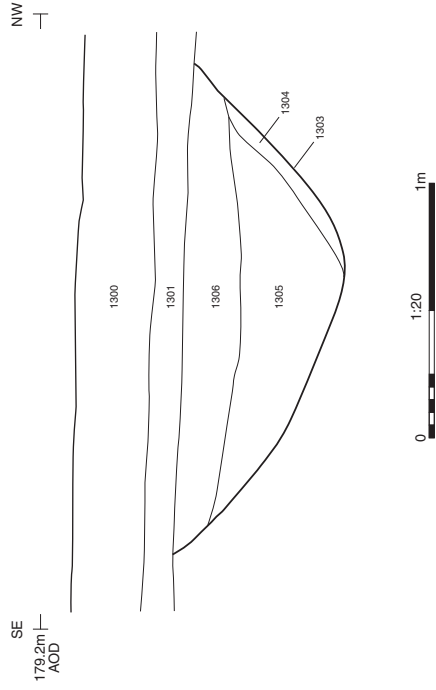
- 5.32 Located at the east end of the trench was north-east/south-west orientated ditch 1403. It measured 0.7m wide and was identified for a length of 1.6m, emanating from the northern baulk of the trench and terminating c. 0.2m before the southern baulk of the trench. No finds were recovered from the surface of its upper mid reddish-brown silty sand fill (1404). Ditch 1403 was truncated by a north-west/south-east orientated stone field drain.
- 5.33 Located towards the centre of the trench was broadly north/south orientated ditch 1405 (Fig. 11; section II). It measured 2.48m wide and 0.64m deep, with a moderately sloping uneven eastern edge, a steeply sloping uneven western edge, and a concave base. It contained a single fill (1406) of mid orangey brown silty clay, indicative of a naturally formed disuse fill. Ditch 1405 corresponds with a curvilinear anomaly identified from the geophysical survey, interpreted as forming part of an enclosure.

DRAFT



-  Evaluation trench
-  Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
-  Section location

Section HH



Plan of Trench 13



Section of enclosure ditch 1303, looking west (1m scale)

Andover 01284 347630
 Clienteler 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 573970
 Milton Keynes 01908 564880
 Suffolk 01449 900120
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
 e: enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk



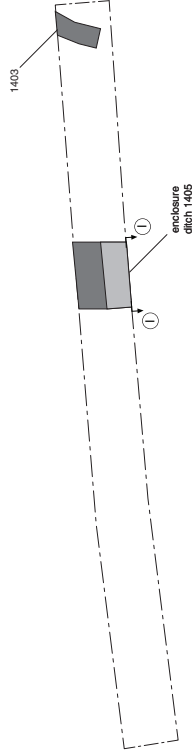
PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Trench 13: Plan, section, and photograph

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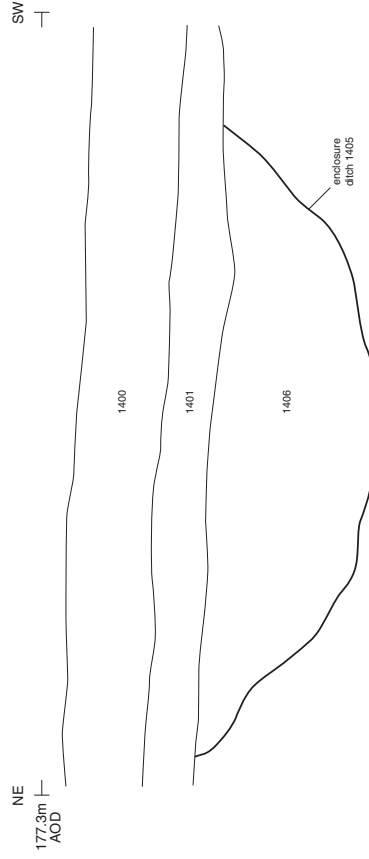
0 1:200 10m

Plan of Trench 14



Section of enclosure ditch 1405, looking south-east (1m scale)

Section II



0 1:20 1m

- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Section location

Andover 01264 547630
 Clevecotter 01285 771022
 Exeter 01392 573970
 Milton Keynes 01908 564660
 Swittek 01419 900120
 www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
 enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Trench 14: Plan, sections, and photographs

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 CHECKED BY DJB DATE 24.04.19
 APPROVED BY DL SCALE@A3 1:200, 1:20 11

6. THE FINDS

6.1 The artefactual material is recorded from 10 deposits; the fill of pits and ditches (Appendix B). The material was recovered by hand and from samples.

Pottery

6.2 The pottery recovered from the evaluation is recorded in Appendix B and discussed below. Recording of the finds' assemblage was direct to an Excel spreadsheet; this now forms the basis of Appendix B (Table 1). The pottery was examined by context, using a x40 hand lens and quantified according to sherd count and weight per fabric type. The fabrics are described in Appendix B (Table 2) in accordance with the Historic England guidelines (Barclay *et al.* 2016) and where appropriate the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group Guidelines (PCRG 2010).

6.3 The assemblage comprises 106 sherds (1042g) of pottery recorded from five deposits; the fill of pits and ditches. The condition of the assemblage is poor; the majority of sherds exhibit signs of heavy abrasion to surfaces and fractures. The mean sherd weight is average for a largely late prehistoric assemblage (9.8g).

Late Prehistoric

6.4 A total of 105 sherds (1011g) of handmade pottery can be dated to the late prehistoric period. Pottery made in shell-tempered fabric SH1 dominates the late prehistoric assemblage. The fabric is soft, in poor condition and much of the shell has leached out. The majority of the shell-tempered material (99 sherds, 987g) is derived from ditch fill 1305. Fabric SH1 can be attributed an Iron Age date. A jar with a plain upright rim (SH2) is recorded, from pit fill 1110; on the basis of the form and fabric this can be more closely dated to the Middle Iron Age. Ditch fill 105 produced two plain body sherds made in a sandy fabric (Q), which are also of Iron Age date.

Roman

6.5 One sherd (31g) of sandy reduced ware (UNS RE) can be dated to the Roman period. The fabric is of unknown provenance, but has most likely been produced locally. The sherd does not have any diagnostic features and it is not possible to provide any further analysis of this material.



Fired Clay

- 6.6 A total of 40 fragments (321g) of fired clay are recorded from three deposits. The fired clay is made in fine sandy (fs) fabrics with micaceous inclusions (m) or organic voids (v) or in fabrics with shell that has leached out, leaving distinct voids (sh). One fragment from pit fill 816 contains a plant impression. Two fragments of daub from ditch fill 817 have wattle impressions. Three fragments, also from ditch fill 817, display signs of flat or smoothed surfaces. The remaining fired clay fragments do not exhibit any other distinguishing features.

Industrial Waste

- 6.7 A total of 17 fragments (317g) of fuel ash slag are recorded from pit fill 1110. It is not possible to provide a more detailed analysis of this material.

Burnt Stone

- 6.8 One fragment (6g) of burnt sandstone is recorded from ditch fill 1305. It is not possible to provide a more detailed analysis of this material.

Metalwork

- 6.9 One fragment (1g) of iron is recorded from Sample 5, taken from ditch fill 817. The fragment is a heavily corroded and encrusted thin strip. Due to its poor condition its function cannot be determined.

Hammer scale

- 6.10 One hammer scale spheroid (1g) is recorded from Sample 3, taken from pit fill 1110.



7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Animal Bone

- 7.1 Animal bone amounting to 63 fragments (462g) was recovered via hand excavation and bulk soil sampling from the fills of pit 1109 and ditches 813 and 1303. Artefactual material dating to the Iron Age was also recovered from these features (See Table 1, Appendix C). The material was fragmentary but well preserved enough to make possible the identification of cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*) and pig (*Sus scrofa*).

Iron Age

- 7.2 A total of 27 fragments (288g) were recovered from deposits 1110 and 1115, the successive fills of pit 1109. Cattle and sheep/goat were identified mainly from meat-poor elements such as teeth or bones of the feet. Only three bones high in meat-yield were recovered; two scapula fragments and a partial cow size pelvis. Significantly these fragments displayed cut marks normally seen in butchery waste. A further 15 fragments (62g) were recovered from ditch fill 1305 but they were too fragmentary to identify to species level.

Undated

- 7.3 Twenty-one fragments (112g) were recovered from the fill of ditch 813, which remains undated. Most of the bone recovered came from soil Sample 5 but was too fragmented and burnt to identify to species or element. However, the bones of cattle, sheep/goat and pig were identified in the hand recovered material, but in numbers too small to infer any information other than species identification.
- 7.4 Four environmental samples (80 litres of soil) were processed from a number of ditches and pits in Trenches 8, 11 and 13 with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of domestic or industrial activity taking place on the site. The samples were processed by standard flotation procedures (CA Technical Manual No.2).
- 7.5 Preliminary identifications of plant macrofossils are noted in Table 1, following nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary *et al* (2012) for cereals. The presence of mollusc shells from within Trench 8 (Sample 1) has also been recorded, following nomenclature is according to



Anderson (2005) and habitat preferences according to Kerney (1999) and Davies (2008).

Middle Iron Age

Trench 11

- 7.6 Fill 1110 (Sample 3) of ditch 1109 contained moderately low quantities of indeterminate cereal grains and a single rachis fragment. Charred plant remains were also recorded in low numbers and included seeds of oat/brome grass (*Avena/Bromus* sp.) and bedstraw (*Galium* sp.). Charcoal fragments greater than 2mm were recorded in moderate quantities. This assemblage is likely to be representative of wind blown/dispersed domestic material.

Iron Age

Trench 13

- 7.7 Fill 1305 (Sample 2) of ditch 1303 contained a moderate quantity of indeterminate cereal and barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) grains. Moderate quantities of charred plant remains were also recovered and include seeds of bedstraw, meadow grass/cats-tails (*Poa/Phleum* sp.), goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.), knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*) and docks (*Rumex* sp.). Moderate quantities of charcoal fragments greater than 2mm were recorded from within Sample 2 with round wood and twig wood charcoal fragments present. This assemblage is likely to be representative of a dump of domestic settlement waste material.

Undated

Trench 8

- 7.8 Fill 816 (Sample 1) of pit 815 contained a high number of indeterminate cereal, hulled wheat (emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicocum/spelta*)) and free-threshing wheat (*Triticum turgidum/aestivum* type) grains, with both types of wheat grains showing signs of germination. The hulled wheat appeared to be in poorer condition than the free-threshing wheat which could be indicative that it is residual material from an earlier phase of activity. Free-threshing wheat becomes the predominant wheat species during the post-Roman time period (Greig 1991). A moderate number of charred plant remains were recovered from within Sample 1 and included those of oat/brome grass (which showed signs of vitrification), docks, goosefoot, knotgrass, meadow grass/cats tails, small nettle (*Urtica urens*), blinks (*Montia fontana* ssp. *Chondrosperma*) and stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*). The weed seeds are generally those typical of grassland, field margins and arable environments. There is an indication of the exploitation and use of a number of different environments such as heavier clay soils

favoured by species such as stinking chamomile and wetter areas indicated by species such as blinks. The preservation levels on the charred plant assemblage are relatively poor. Moderately low quantities of charcoal fragments greater than 2mm in size was also recorded during assessment. A single mollusc shell belonging to the shade-loving terrestrial species *Carychium tridentatum* was also noted alongside the charcoal assemblage.

- 7.9 Fill 817 (Sample 5) of pit 813 contained moderate quantities of indeterminate cereal grains, barley and hulled wheat alongside a single rachis fragment. Low quantities of charred plant remains, including those of oat/brome grass and bedstraw, were also recovered from within Sample 5. A moderately low number of charcoal fragments greater than 2mm was recorded during assessment. Due to the presence of hulled wheat, the plant assemblage is most likely to be indicative of a Late Prehistoric/Roman date for this feature.
- 7.10 The environmental assemblages from Trench 8 (Samples 1 and 5) are likely to be representative of dumped domestic settlement waste from the nearby vicinity.

DRAFT



8. DISCUSSION

8.1 The evaluation identified archaeological remains across the site, with the exception of the north-western corner. Although a number of these features remain undated, the majority can be attributed to the Middle to Late Iron Age or Roman period. The Iron Age evidence comprised enclosure ditches and ditches possibly forming boundary divisions, while only a single sherd of Roman pottery was recovered, tentatively dating a further enclosure.

8.2 The results of the evaluation correlated well with the results of the geophysical survey, revealing a concentration of archaeological remains in the eastern and southern parts of the site, representing potential archaeological features; which comprised curvilinear, linear, rectilinear and discrete anomalies, indicative of prehistoric enclosures, trackways, pits and boundary features.

8.3 No archaeological features or deposits were identified within Trenches 2, 4, 5, 9, 10 and 15.

Iron Age (700 BC–AD 43) and Roman (AD43-410)

8.4 The evaluation has identified clear evidence for activity during the Iron Age. The evidence for settlement at this time was concentrated within the eastern part of the site, with Iron Age activity continuing to a lesser degree in the south-western part of the site.

8.5 The pattern of ditches, as revealed by the geophysical survey, reveals the presence of three enclosures with a large boundary ditch and associated discrete features.

8.6 The artefactual evidence recovered from the site indicates that permanent settlement within the current evaluation area occurred broadly during the Iron Age and where pottery dating can be further refined, suggests a date during the Middle Iron Age for initial settlement within the site. The quantity and range of material culture across the site was small and no items of personal use and dress, or domestic/agricultural technology as are commonly found on rural sites in lowland England were recovered.

8.7 The recovered evidence indicates enclosed settlement within the site, which fits with the established pattern for the Middle to Late Iron Age in the region, which tends to indicate increasing numbers of enclosed settlements during the Iron Age. The

geophysical survey identified a small D-shaped enclosure (Enclosure 1), a trapezoidal enclosure (Enclosure 2) and a large rectilinear enclosure (Enclosure 3).

Enclosure 1

8.8 Enclosure 1 was located towards the north-western corner of the site and was identified within Trenches 13 to 14, with ditches 1303 and 1405 representing the southern and eastern sides of the enclosure respectively. It measured 28m in length and 25m in width. Artefactual evidence recovered from ditch 1303 indicates an Iron Age date for the enclosure. The geophysical survey indicated an internal sub-division within the enclosure, however, this was not identified during the evaluation.

8.9 Further contiguous possible enclosures were identified to the north and north-west of Enclosure 1.

Enclosure 2

8.10 Enclosure 2 was targeted by Trenches 7, 8 and 11. Evaluation confirmed the presence of ditches 703, 1109 and 813 representing the northern, eastern and southern ditches of the enclosure. The enclosure measured 59m long by 42m wide, with a c. 5m gap located towards the south-eastern corner of the enclosure appearing to represent an entranceway. The only dateable material recovered from Enclosure 2 was a single sherd of Roman pottery.

Pit alignments

8.11 Located within the south-eastern corner of the enclosure, close to the putative entranceway were a row of five pits or postholes, identified through geophysical survey. Trench 11 targeted one of this group of features. Pit 1109 contained Iron Age pottery as well as material suggestive of industrial activity occurring within the site. Although this group of features is located within an area bounded by both Enclosure 2 and Enclosure 3, their axis, following the orientation of the eastern boundary ditch of Enclosure 2 suggests the two are associated.

8.12 A further set of three east/west aligned pits was located within the area defined by Enclosure 2, close to its southern arm. Trench 8 targeted the central one of these features. Although it was rich in environmental finds, no dateable evidence was recovered.

Boundary ditch

- 8.13 Located to the south of Enclosure 2, was an east/west orientated boundary ditch targeted by Trenches 1, 3, 6 and 8. It measured in excess of 260m long, up to 3.35m wide and, were excavated, was approximately 0.56m deep. It was separated from Enclosure 2 by a 3.45m gap, with the space between possibly forming a deliberate trackway.

Enclosure 3

- 8.14 Enclosure 3 measured 160m long by 100m wide and was targeted by Trenches 6, 9 and 12, although it was only tentatively revealed within Trench 6. A large number of discrete features were located within the area bounded by Enclosure 3, as defined by the geophysical survey, however no direct relationship can be made between them and the enclosure at present. A series of trackways and possible entranceways are depicted on the geophysical survey which appear to respect Enclosure 3.

Summary

- 8.15 The artefactual evidence suggests that the main focus of activity at the site was during the late prehistoric period, most likely commencing during the Middle Iron Age and continuing into the Late Iron Age. The presence of one Roman sherd may point to some later activity although due to the small size of the Roman group it is not possible to state this with any certainty.
- 8.16 The environmental assemblages provide further indication of domestic settlement activities taking place during the Iron Age in the vicinity of Enclosure 1, with possible late prehistoric/Roman period and possibly post-Roman period settlement indicated by the environmental assemblages recovered from within the vicinity of Enclosure 2. No meaningful interpretation of the palaeoeconomy can be ascertained from the remains sampled at this stage; however, the material evidence recovered indicates an agrarian subsistence with charred cereal grains found in the majority of the samples.
- 8.17 A small collection of bones of domestic animals was recovered. Where the species could be determined, cattle, sheep/goat and pig were all identified from bones both rich and poor in meat yield, as well as isolated teeth, some of which showed chop or cut marks relating to butchery practice. The recovery of identifiable remains was too low to make any inference beyond some species identification. Where species identification was possible they represented commonly exploited domestic animals in

this period, so their presence in a Late Prehistoric/Roman assemblage is to be expected. The overall assemblage is not untypical of occupation of a small-scale domestic rural settlement.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

- 9.1 Fieldwork was undertaken by Dale Langford, assisted by Fanny Dubuc, Enrico Ravanetti, Breana McCulloch and Callum Ruse. The report was written by Molly Day and Dale Langford. Specialist reports were written by Peter Banks (Finds), Andy Clark (Animal Bone) and Emma Aitken (Palaeoenvironmental Evidence). The illustrations were prepared Amy Wright. The archive has been compiled Emily Evans and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The project was managed for CA by Stuart Joyce.

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Trench No.	Context No.	Type	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	D (m)	Spot-date
1	100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid reddish brown; sandy silt; friable; rare small rounded stones			0.3	
1	101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brownish red; sandy silt; friable; rare mud/iron stone			0.35	
1	102	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish brown; sandy silt; friable; rare small stones			0.65+	
1	103	Cut		Ditch	Linear; moderate slope; concave, slightly irregular; NW-SE	1.8+	3	0.56	
1	104	Fill	103	Lower fill of ditch	Light yellowish brown; silty sand, high silt content; friable; occasional sub-rounded pebbles; good horizon clarity; low contamination risk	1.8+	2.48	0.19	
1	105	Fill	103	Upper fill of ditch	Mid greyish brown; silty sand; friable; occasional sub-rounded and sub-angular pebbles; moderate horizon clarity; low contamination risk	1.8+	3	0.36	
2	200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid reddish brown; sandy silt; friable; rare small rounded stone			0.24	
2	201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brownish red; sandy silt; friable; rare mud/ironstone			0.32	
2	202	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish brown; sandy silt; friable; rare small stones			0.56+	
3	300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown; sandy silt; friable; rare small sub-rounded stones			0.29	
3	301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown; sandy silt; friable; very rare small rounded stones and iron/mudstone			0.52	
3	302	Layer		Natural	Mixed mid yellowish brown; clayey silt and sandy silt; moderately compact; patches of iron/mudstone			0.81+	
3	303	Cut		Ditch	Linear; E-W; unexcavated	2+	3.35		
3	304	Fill	303	Fill of Ditch	Mid yellowish brown; sandy silt (mostly silt), friable	2+	3.35		
4	400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid reddish brown; sandy silt; friable; rare small rounded stones			0.29	
4	401	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brownish red; sandy silt; friable; rare mud/ironstone			0.25	
4	402	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish brown, clayey silt and sandy silt; moderately compact; patches of iron/mudstone; patches of clay and red sandy silt			0.54+	
5	500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown; sandy silt; friable; rare small sub-rounded stone			0.27	
5	501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brownish red; sandy silt; friable; rare mud/ironstone			0.27	
5	502	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish brown, clayey silt and sandy silt; moderately compact; patches of iron/mudstone (greater amount in east of trench)			0.54+	
6	600	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown; silty sand; friable; occasional sub-rounded and sub-angular pebbles			0.3	
6	601	Layer		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown; friable; silty sand; occasional sub-rounded pebbles			0.2	
6	602	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish brown and light reddish brown; friable to			0.5+	

					moderately compact; silty sand; sub-angular and sub-rounded stones; patches of clay				
6	603	Cut		Ditch; Recut of 620	Linear; moderate concave slope; flat; SW-NE	1.8+	1.73	0.4	
6	604	Fill	603	Fill of Ditch	Light brownish grey; clayey silt; friable; manganese, stones; good horizon clarity; low contamination risk; TMS	1.8+	1.73	0.4	
6	605	Cut		Possible ditch	Linear; ESE-WNW, unexcavated	1.8+	1		
6	606	Fill	605	Fill of possible ditch	Mid brownish yellow; sandy silt; friable	1.8+	1		
6	607	Cut		Ditch	Linear; moderate concave slope; concave; SW-NE	1.8+	1.35	0.46	
6	608	Fill	607	Fill of ditch	Mid brownish yellow; sandy silt; friable; sandstone slabs, manganese, rooting; good horizon clarity; low contamination risk; TMS	1.8+	1.35	0.46	
6	609	Cut		Ditch	Linear; ESE-WNW; unexcavated	1.8+	0.5		
6	610	Fill	609	Fill of ditch	Mid brownish yellow; sandy silt; friable	1.8+	0.5		
6	611	Cut		Pit	Discrete; unexcavated		0.4		
6	612	Fill	611	Fill of pit	Mid brownish yellow; sandy silt; friable		0.4		
6	613	Cut		Ditch	Linear; ESE-WNW; unexcavated	1.8+	3		
6	614	Fill	613	Fill of ditch	Mid brownish yellow; sandy silt; friable	1.8+	3		
6	615	Cut		Pit	Circular; steep slope; rounded; base slightly south of top	0.84	0.94	0.49	
6	616	Fill	615	Fill of pit	Dark brownish yellow; clayey silt; friable; stones and rooting; good horizon clarity; low contamination risk	0.84	0.94	0.41	
6	617	Cut		Ditch	Linear; SE-NW; unexcavated	1.8+	1		
6	618	Fill	617	Fill of ditch	Mid brownish yellow; sandy silt; friable	1.8+	1		
6	619	Fill	607	Fill of ditch	Mid reddish yellow; clayey silt; compact; rooting and manganese; good horizon clarity; low contamination risk; TMS	1.7	0.4	0.24	
6	620	Fill	620	Fill of ditch	Mid brownish yellow; clayey silt; compact; pebbles and manganese; good horizon clarity; low contamination risk; TMS	1.8+	1	0.29	
6	621	Fill	615	Fill of pit	Dark brownish yellow, sandy silt; friable; sandstone slabs; good horizon clarity; low contamination risk; TMS		0.4	0.42	
6	622	Fill	615	Fill of pit	Dark greyish brown; clayey silt; friable; pebbles; good horizon clarity; low contamination risk; TMS		0.4	0.19	
7	700	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown; silty sand; friable; occasional sub-rounded and sub-angular pebbles			0.31	
7	701	Layer		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown; friable; silty sand; occasional sub-rounded pebbles			0.22	
7	702	Layer		Natural	Light orangish brown with yellowish patches; silty clay; slightly compact; frequent medium mudstone			0.53+	
7	703	Cut		Ditch	Linear; moderate irregular slope; concave; W-E	1.8+	2.38	0.73	
7	704	Fill	703	Lower fill of ditch	Mid greyish brown; silty clay; moderately compact; rare medium mudstone; moderate	1.8+	1.58	0.37	

					horizon clarity; low contamination risk; TMS				
7	705	Fill	703	Upper fill of ditch	Mid greyish brown; silty clay; slightly compact; frequent small and medium mudstone; moderate horizon clarity; low contamination risk; TMS	1.8+	1.84	0.58	
8	800	Layer		Topsoil	Mid reddish brown; clayey silt; friable; rare small rounded stones			0.26	
8	801	Layer		Subsoil	Light reddish brown; clayey silt; friable			0.27	
8	802	Layer		Natural	Light yellowish red; silty sand; large angled sandstone			0.53+	
8	803	Cut		Ditch	Curvilinear; E-W; unexcavated	1.8+	1+		
8	804	Fill	803	Fill of ditch	Mid reddish brown; sandy silt; friable; rare small sub-rounded sandstone	1.8+	1+		
8	805	Cut		Ditch	Unclear shape in plan; moderate concave slope to north and steep slope to the south; irregular; ESE-WNW	2+	1.23	0.25	
8	806	Fill	805	Fill of ditch	Mid reddish brown; sandy silt; friable; medium sub-angular sandstone; moderate horizon clarity; low contamination risk; TMS	2+	1.23	0.25	
8	807	Cut		Pit	Circular; unexcavated			0.87	
8	808	Fill	807	Fill of pit	Mid reddish brown; sandy silt; friable; small sub-angular stones			0.87	
8	809	Cut		Posthole	Discrete; unexcavated	0.43	0.4		
8	810	Fill	809	Fill of posthole	Mid reddish grey; sandy silt; friable	0.43	0.4		
8	811	Cut		Ditch	Linear; SE-WNW; unexcavated; depth reached by auger	1.8+	2+	0.54	
8	812	Fill	811	Fill of ditch	Mid brownish grey; sandy silt; friable	1.8+	2+	0.54	
8	813	Cut		Ditch	Linear; steep, rounded slope; irregular concave; SW-NE	1.8+	1.44	0.42	
8	814	Fill	813	Primary fill of ditch	Mid yellowish brown; silty sand; firm; rare small sub-angular sandstone; good horizon clarity; low contamination risk; TMS	1.8+	0.28	0.38	
8	815	Cut		Pit	Sub-circular; moderate to steep slope; concave	2.67	1.3	0.41	
8	816	Fill	815	Fill of pit	Mid brownish grey; clayey silt; friable; rare small sub-rounded burnt stone; good horizon clarity; low contamination risk; TMS	2.67	1.3	0.41	
8	817	Fill	813	Fill of ditch	Mid reddish grey; sandy silt; friable; rare medium sub-rounded sandstone; good horizon clarity; low contamination risk; TMS	1.8+	1.16	0.42	
9	900	Layer		Topsoil	Mid /dark reddish brown; sandy silt; friable; rare small sub-rounded stones			0.28	
9	901	Layer		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown; sandy silt (mostly silt); friable; rare small sub-rounded stone/mud and ironstone			0.26	
9	902	Layer		Natural	Mixed; mid yellowish brown; clayey silt; patches of mud-ironstone; patches of mid brownish red clayey silt (more so in west of trench)			0.54+	
10	1000	Layer		Topsoil	Mid /dark reddish brown; sandy silt; friable; rare small sub-rounded stones			0.27	
10	1001	Layer		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown; sandy silt (mostly silt); friable; rare small			0.22	

					sub-rounded stone/mud and ironstone				
10	1002	Layer		Natural	Mixed; mid yellowish brown; clayey silt; patches of mud-ironstone; patches of mid brownish red clayey silt			0.49+	
11	1100	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown; silty clay; friable; rare small sub-angular stones			0.34	
11	1101	Layer		Subsoil	Mid orangish brown; silty clay; friable; rare small sub-angular stones			0.2	
11	1102	Layer		Natural	Light orangish brown; silty clay; slightly compact; frequent medium and large mudstone; yellowish patches			0.54+	
11	1103	Cut		Ditch	Linear; moderate concave eastern edge and moderate irregular western edge; concave; N-S	1.8+	1.57	0.48	
11	1104	Fill	1103	Fill of ditch	Mid orangish brown; silty clay; moderately compact; frequent mudstone; good horizon clarity; moderate contamination risk; TMS	1.8+	1.57	0.48	
11	1105	Cut		Possible pit	Discrete; unexcavated	0.94	0.46		
11	1106	Fill	1105	Fill of possible pit	Mid orangish brown; silty clay; moderately compact; frequent medium stones				
11	1107	Cut		Natural/ Geological	Cut of natural geological feature				
11	1108	Fill	1107	Natural/ Geological	Fill of natural geological feature				
11	1109	Cut		Pit	Sub-circular; steep uneven slope on western edge and steep oblique on northern side; undulating	2.18	1.47	0.42	
11	1110	Fill	1109	Upper fill of pit	Mid greyish brown; silty clay; friable; occasional charcoal flecks, frequent medium mudstone; good horizon clarity; moderate contamination risk; TMS	2.18	0.5	0.4	
11	1111	Cut		Possible pit	Discrete; unexcavated	1.07	0.4		
11	1112	Fill	1111	Fill of possible pit	Mid orangish brown; silty clay; moderately compact; frequent medium stones	1.07	0.4		
11	1113	Cut		Ditch	Linear; N-S; unexcavated	1.8+	1.3		
11	1114	Fill	1113	Fill of ditch	Mid orangish brown; silty clay; moderately compact; frequent medium stones	1.8+	1.3		
11	1115	Fill	1109	Lower fill of pit	Mid orangish brown; silty sand; friable; rare charcoal and occasional mudstones; good horizon clarity; moderate contamination risk; TMS	2.12	1.14	0.42	
12	1200	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown; friable; silty sand; occasional sub-rounded and sub-angular stones			0.27	
12	1201	Layer		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown; friable; silty sand; occasional sub-rounded stones			0.15	
12	1202	Layer		Natural	Mixed; mid yellowish brown; moderately compact; silty sand; frequent sub-rounded and sub-angular stones; patches of light reddish brown			0.42+	
12	1203	Cut		Possible ditch	Linear; unexcavated	1.8+	2+		
12	1204	Fill	1203	Fill of possible ditch	Mid greyish brown; friable; silty sand; occasional sub-rounded stones	1.8+	2+		

12	1205	Cut		Gully	Linear; steep slope; concave; NW-SE	2+	0.38	0.21	
12	1206	Fill	1205	Fill of gully	Mid greyish brown; silty sand; friable; occasional sub-rounded stones, good horizon clarity; low contamination risk; TMS; mottled with reddish brown silty sand	2+	0.38	0.21	
13	1300	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown; friable; silty sand; occasional sub-rounded and sub-angular stones			0.28	
13	1301	Layer		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown; friable; silty sand; occasional sub-rounded stones			0.15	
13	1302	Layer		Natural	Mixed; mid yellowish brown; moderately compact; silty sand; frequent sub-rounded and sub-angular stones; patches of light reddish brown			0.43+	
13	1303	Cut		Ditch	Linear; moderate steep slope; concave; SE-NW	1.8+	1.91	0.62	
13	1304	Fill	1303	Fill of ditch	Light yellowish brown; silty sand; friable; frequent sub-rounded stones and sandstone; good horizon clarity, low contamination risk; TMS	1.8+	0.09	0.08	
13	1305	Fill	1303	Fill of ditch	Mid brownish grey; silty sand; friable; occasional sub-rounded stones, occasional charcoal flecks, sandstone; good horizon clarity; low contamination risk; TMS	1.8+	1.6	0.4	
13	1306	Fill	1303	Fill of ditch	Mid reddish brown; silty sand (more fine grained); friable; occasional small sub-rounded stones; good horizon clarity; low contamination risk; TMS	1.8+	1.91	0.22	
14	1400	Layer		Topsoil	Mid greyish brown; friable; silty sand; occasional sub-rounded and sub-angular stones			0.27	
14	1401	Layer		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown; friable; silty sand; occasional sub-rounded stones			0.15	
14	1402	Layer		Natural	Mixed; mid yellowish brown; moderately compact; silty sand; frequent sub-rounded and sub-angular stones; patches of light reddish brown			0.42+	
14	1403	Cut		Ditch	Linear; N-S; unexcavated	1.8+	0.7		
14	1404	Fill	1403	Fill of ditch	Mid reddish brown; silty sand; friable; occasional sub-rounded pebbles	1.8+	0.7		
14	1405	Cut		Ditch	Linear; moderate uneven slope on eastern edge and steep uneven on western edge; concave; N-S	1.8+	2.48	0.64	
14	1406	Fill	1405	Fill of ditch	Mid orangish brown; silty clay; moderately compact; occasional medium sub-angular stones; good horizon clarity; low contamination risk; TMS	1.8+	2.48	0.64	
15	1500	Layer		Topsoil	Mid reddish brown; sandy silt; friable; rare small rounded stones			0.27	
15	1501	Layer		Subsoil	Mid brownish red; sandy silt; friable; rare iron/mudstone			0.36	
15	1502	Layer		Natural	Mid yellowish brown; clayey silt and sandy silt; moderately compact; patches of iron/mudstone; patches of clay and red sandy silt			0.63+	

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Table 1: Finds concordance

Context	Class	Sample no.	Description	Fabric Code	Count	Weight (g)	Spot-date
105	Late Prehistoric Pottery		Sandy fabric	Q	2	13	IA
705	Roman Pottery		Sandy reduced ware	UNS RE	1	31	RB
816	Fired/burnt clay			fsm	13	91	
817	Fired/burnt clay Iron	5	Object	fsv	20 1	204 1	
1110	Late Prehistoric Pottery Industrial Waste Hammerscale	3	Shell-tempered fabric Fuel ash slag	SH2	1 17 1	9 317 1	MIA
1115	Late Prehistoric Pottery		Shell-tempered fabric	SH1	3	2	IA
1305	Late Prehistoric Pottery Fired/burnt clay Burnt stone		Shell-tempered fabric Sandstone	SH1 sh	99 7 1	987 26 6	IA

Table 2: Fabric Description

Period	Fabric Description	Fabric Code	Count	Weight (g)
Late Prehistoric Pottery	Sparse moderately sorted sub-rounded medium quartz $\leq 1\text{mm}$	Q	2	13
	Sparse moderately sorted medium-coarse shell or shelly voids $\leq 4\text{mm}$ Rare poorly sorted rounded coarse-very coarse limestone $\leq 10\text{mm}$	SH1	103	998
	Sparse moderately sorted medium shell or shelly voids $\leq 2\text{mm}$	SH2	1	9
Roman Pottery	Sandy reduced ware	UNS RE	1	31
Total			107	1051

APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Table 3: Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.

Cut	Fill	BOS	O/C	SUS	LM	Ind	BB SS	Total	Weight (g)
Iron Age									
1109	1110	3				1	5	9	56
1109	1115	11	2			5		18	232
1303	1305					5	10	15	62
Subtotal		14	2			10	15	42	350
Undated									
813	817	1	4	1			15	21	112
Total		15	6	1	10	1	30	63	
Weight		297	61	1	98	2	3	462	

BOS = Cattle; O/C = sheep/goat; SUS = pig; Ind = indeterminate; BB SS = unidentifiable burnt bone from bulk soil samples

Table 4: Assessment of Environmental Evidence

Feature	Context	Sample	Processed vol (L)	Unprocessed vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm	Other
Middle Iron Age													
Ditch 1109	1110	3	20	20	20	90	**	*	indet grain, rachis	*	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> sp., <i>Galium</i> sp.	**/**	-
Iron Age													
Ditch 1303	1305	2	20	20	20	90	***	-	indet grain, barley	***	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Polygonum aviculare</i> , <i>Galium</i> sp., <i>Poa/Phleum</i> sp., <i>Rumex</i> sp.	**/**	-
Undated													
Pit? 815	816	1	20	20	15	90	****	-	indet grain, hulled wheat (some germination), f-t wheat (some germination)	***	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> sp. (some vitrified), <i>Rumex</i> sp., <i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Urtica urens</i> , c.f. <i>Polygonum aviculare</i> , <i>Poa/Phleum</i> sp., <i>Anthemis cotula</i> , <i>Montia</i> sp.	**/**	moll-t*, brnt bn*
Pit 813	817	5	20	20	15	90	***	*	indet grain, barley, hulled wheat, rachis.	*	<i>Avena/Bromus</i> sp., <i>Galium</i> sp.	**/**	sab*

Key: * = 1–4 items; ** = 4–20 items; *** = 21–49 items; **** = 50–99 items; ***** = >100 items
moll-t = terrestrial mollusc, sab = small animal bone, brnt bn = burnt bone

APPENDIX D: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS	
Project Name	Land West of Hook Norton Road, Sibford Ferris, Cherwell, Oxfordshire: Archaeological Evaluation
Short description	<p>In April 2019, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation of land west of Hook Norton Road, Sibford Ferris, Cherwell, Oxfordshire. The fieldwork comprised the excavation of fifteen trenches.</p> <p>The evaluation identified a concentration of archaeological remains within the eastern part of the site, with a lower density of archaeological remains within the southern part of the site.</p> <p>The earliest identified features comprised ditches forming elements of an enclosure and a large boundary ditch, along with further isolated pits and a ditch, which contained pottery of broadly Middle to Late Iron Age date. The evidence indicates domestic settlement within the Iron Age, concentrated in the eastern part of the site. Further limited evidence for Roman occupation associated with a second enclosure was also identified.</p> <p>A further large, undated, possible enclosure was identified in the eastern part of site, along with pits and ditches further indicating settlement activity. The relationship between the two intercutting enclosures could not be established during the evaluation, however, their positioning suggests they were not contemporary. Excluding the large enclosure, the varying alignments of the prehistoric features depicted on the geophysical survey, appear to respect one another spatially and hint at an organic development to the site over a period of time, although no complexity or apparent longevity was identified within the fills of the features themselves.</p> <p>Plough furrows, the remains of the open field system that once surrounded the village of Sibford Ferris, although indicated on the geophysical survey, were not identified during the evaluation.</p>
Project dates	9 to 12 April 2019
Project type	Evaluation
Previous work	<p>CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2019 Land West of Hook Norton Road, Sibford Ferris, Oxfordshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation</p> <p>Magnitude Surveys 2019 Geophysical Survey Report of Land west of Hook Norton Road, Sibford Ferris. Ref: MSSP440</p> <p>Orion Heritage 2018 Land West of Hook Norton Road, Sibford Ferris, Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment. Ref: PN1803/1</p> <p>Orion Heritage 2019 Land West of Hook Norton Road, Sibford Ferris, Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation</p>
Future work	Unknown
PROJECT LOCATION	
Site Location	Land West of Hook Norton Road, Sibford Ferris, Cherwell, Oxfordshire
Study area (M ² /ha)	3.7
Site co-ordinates	SP 3546 3706
PROJECT CREATORS	
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology
Project Brief originator	Orion Heritage
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology, Orion Heritage
Project Manager	Stuart Joyce
Project Supervisor	Dale Langford
MONUMENT TYPE	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)
	Content

Physical	The County Museum Resource Centre	Pottery, bone, fired clay, Fe object
Paper	The County Museum Resource Centre	Context sheets, permatrace, day sheets
Digital	The County Museum Resource Centre	Database, digital photos
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2019 <i>Land West of Hook Norton Road, Sibford Ferris, Cherwell, Oxfordshire: Archaeological Evaluation.</i>		

DRAFT

Andover Office

Stanley House
Walworth Road
Andover
Hampshire
SP10 5LH

t: 01264 347630

Cirencester Office

Building 11
Kemble Enterprise Park
Cirencester
Gloucestershire
GL7 6BQ

t: 01285 771022

Exeter Office

Unit 1, Clyst Units
Cofton Road
Marsh Barton
Exeter
EX2 8QW

t: 01392 573970

Milton Keynes Office

Unit 8 - The IO Centre
Fingle Drive, Stonebridge
Milton Keynes
Buckinghamshire
MK13 0AT

t: 01908 564660

Suffolk Office

Unit 5, Plot 11, Maitland Road
Lion Barn Industrial Estate
Needham Market
Suffolk
IP6 8NZ

t: 01449 900120

e: enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk