Cotswold Archaeology

A medieval tile kiln and enclosures at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

Excavation Archive Report



for:
The Hill Group

CA Project: SU0410
CA Report: SU0410_02
OASIS ID: 511895
HER Ref: FFBR21

March 2024

Andover Cirencester Milton Keynes Suffolk

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SUMMARY

Project name:	Land at Bardfield Road
Location:	Finchingfield, Braintree, Essex
NGR:	568306 232305
Type:	Excavation
Date:	28 March to 31 May 2022
Planning reference:	19/00069/OUT
OASIS ID:	511895
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Braintree Museum and the Archaeology Data Service (ADS)
Accession Number:	To be confirmed when Braintree Museum are accepting depositions
Site Code:	FFBR21

From March to May 2022, a programme of archaeological investigation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex, at the request of The Hill Group. Two areas totalling *c.* 0.5ha were excavated within a larger development site.

Evidence of medieval domestic, rural and industrial activity peripheral to the village was revealed. This was focussed on a trackway which appears to have been the original line of the road to neighbouring Bardfield, where it curved to skirt low lying ground

Towards Finchingfield, part of a late 12th/early 13th century subdivided enclosure may have been the rear edge of a set of roadside settlement plots; within these intercutting pits were recorded. Further along the road, part of a second enclosure was associated with a post-built structure, an undated hearth, and a concentration of domestic waste including pottery, fired clay, a hook, a bobbin, and a small, varied collection of animal bones. Across the site more widely, there was a possible charcoal pit kiln and a series of shallow, regularly arranged sub-rectangular pits which may have been related to the small-scale exploitation of the natural clay and gravel. A handful of 'fiddle key' nails for fixing shoes suggests the presence of horses or oxen, whilst a piglet burial may indicate pig husbandry.

In the 13th/14th century, new enclosures were created on the same alignment as the earlier ones. A tile kiln was built within one of these, dug into the slope at the side of the road. It was constructed from peg tiles, with a ramped stoke/rake-out pit and twin flues beneath a firing

floor. An undated, modest post-built structure nearby may have been a shelter for the manufacture or drying of tiles, whilst a waste pit and more broadly dated medieval hearth and oven within the enclosure could, along with a nearby well, have been for subsistence or industry associated with the tile works. Other possibly related features include an extraction pit broadly dated to the 12th–14th centuries, another hearth/oven, and a series of pits in the lower lying, wetter area towards Finchingfield Brook that could have been for the extraction and puddling of clay.

The early land ownership of the site has not been certainly established, and the patrons of the kiln and the identity of the tilers is not known. However, the kiln lay within 1km of a moated manor, Great Winsey ('Wenelishey' in the 14th century), and documentary evidence suggests that it may have lain on the edge of its associated estates: the kiln could have been commissioned to provide tiles for a house and its outbuildings.

The track continued as a route into the late medieval and early post-medieval periods, when a ditch was dug across it. The line of Bardfield Road now runs further to the east, across a more recent causeway.

A small number of prehistoric features and residual worked flints indicate earlier activity in this valley side location, over Finchingfield Brook to the east, one of its tributaries to the south and a large palaeochannel to the west.

The kiln, with the recorded evidence for subsistence and for activity in the landscape, contributes to the corpus of medieval tile production sites in Essex and beyond. To accompany this archive report, a text has been prepared for submission to the journal *Essex Archaeology and History*.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. In March to May 2021, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological excavation at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex (centred at NGR 568306 232305; Figs. 1 and 2). The excavation was undertaken for The Hill Group.

1.2. Outline planning permission was granted for residential development of the site (Braintree District Council planning reference 19/00069, approved on appeal APP/Z1510/W/20/3251952). Condition 15 of this planning permission required the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with an approved WSI.

1.3. The requirement for archaeological excavation was identified by Essex Place Services (EPS; Teresa O'Connor, Historic Environment Consultant), the archaeological advisors to the Local Planning Authority, and this requirement was formalised and agreed following production of an evaluation report and in discussion with CA (Richard Mortimer, Project Manager). The excavation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), which was approved by Teresa O'Connor (CA 2022a).

1.4. The excavation was undertaken in line with *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003), *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation* (CIfA 2020a), *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation* (HE 2015a) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (HE 2015b).

1.5. The excavation fieldwork was monitored by Teresa O'Connor.

1.6. The potential of the stratigraphic, finds and palaeoenvironmental archives were reviewed and an Updated Project Design presented in the Post-Excavation Assessment (CA 2023), approved by Teresa O'Connor.

The site

1.7. The development site, now the Eden Green development, measured 4.3ha in extent and was located approximately 500m south of the centre of the village of Finchingfield, along the western side of Bardfield Road (Fig. 1). It was located on a river gravel plateau at about 70m AOD above the valley of the Finchingfield Brook to the east. The ground dropped towards the brook, and also southwards towards a

small watercourse and the road leading to the nearby Little Wincey Farm. The linear depression of a large palaeochannel ran north to south down the western side of the development area (Fig. 2).

1.8. The underlying bedrock geology is mapped as Thanet Formation and Lambeth Group (undifferentiated) clay, silt and sand; sedimentary bedrock which formed in the Palaeogene period. This is overlain by glaciofluvial deposits, comprising Mid Pleistocene sand and gravel which formed in the Quaternary period (BGS 2022). The observed geology on site was clay, sand and gravel with occasional chalk deposits, and the medieval road broadly marked the division between higher, drier gravel to the north and lower, wetter clay to the south. Aerial images also show patterns of alluvial deposits around the southern and south-eastern parts of the site (Fig. 2).

1.9. Prior to the excavation, the site was in arable use. It was bordered on all sides by pasture and arable fields, except at the eastern end of the northern edge, where residential development along Bardfield Road ended. Most of the site lay within a larger field shown on the Tithe Map of 1840 (Essex Records Office, ERO, D/CT 139a and b), which included the recreation ground to the north of the development area and the area of housing to the east of them. However, the southernmost part of the development which lay in a separate, smaller parcel (Fig. 3).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1. During archaeological evaluation of the development site in 2021, two sherds of Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age pottery were recovered, along with small numbers of worked flints, including a few freshly struck pieces from a curvilinear ditch in the southern part of the site above the edge of the tributary of Finchingfield Brook, suggesting the possibility of prehistoric activity. Periods represented in the flint assemblage are the Neolithic to Early Bronze Age and Bronze Age to Iron Age (CA 2022b). The Essex Historic Environment Record (HER) provides some context for this, although not from the immediate vicinity. Roman buildings and Iron Age settlement remains are recorded approximately 500m to the south-east of the village, with Iron Age/Romano-British ring gullies (possibly indicating roundhouses) and a trackway a further 1300m to the south (Essex HER 1492 and 1493, and 1579, EPS 2022a, b and c). Both of these sites occupy locations that are close to the presumed north-south route of a Roman road from Waltham Cross, which passes to the east of Finchingfield (not illustrated).

2.2. Aerial photographs of various dates show cropmarks in and around the site, including the large palaeochannel which runs to the west of the excavation area (CA 2022b, and Fig. 2). In particular, they show the buried remains of the former line of a road curving across the south-eastern corner of the site, skirting the edge of the downward slope of the hill, with ditches arranged on a perpendicular alignment to it (CA 2022b).

2.3. Trial-trenched evaluation produced evidence for 12th to 14th century AD medieval occupation in the south-eastern corner of the field, near the sunken road and coinciding with the cropmarks (CA 2022b). The track was flint-surfaced and cut into the natural gravels, with flanking ditches. Wheel ruts from carts were discernible. There were potential structural features (beam slots) on the higher, dryer land on north side of the trackway, and possible agri-industrial pits to the south in the low-lying, wetter ground. The remainder of the development area contained no significant remains, aside from occasional tree throws, a quarry pit and field ditches. No archaeological remains were found in direct association with the large palaeochannel that occupied the western side of the site, which was shown to be filled with a depth of colluvial silts that appeared to have accumulated over a long period of time (CA 2022b).

2.4. The site lies to the south-west of the historic core of Finchingfield. The parish is in the Hundred of Hinckford and was within the medieval Honors of Clare and Castle Hedingham. Today, the settlement is a relatively small, nucleated village with historic buildings clustered around The Green, the River Blackwater/Finchingfield Brook, and the medieval church of St John the Baptist (Scott Wilson 2009, 6–7). However, with 124 documented households in 1086, the village was in the top 20 percent of settlements by number of households at Doomsday, and it had two water mills and a windmill, with ten recorded landowners (Open Doomsday 2022; Scott Wilson 2022, 10). The development site fronts the road in and out of the village, leading to Great Bardfield to the south-west, and remains relating to settlement growth and industrial or agricultural activity might generally be anticipated in such a settlement-edge location.

2.5. Within the wider medieval landscape, the moated manorial site of Great Winsey lies *c*. 1km to the west, at the southern end of Winsey Chase. Great Winsey is earliest documented as ‘Wenelishey’ in 1367 and is a scheduled monument. It is now partly overgrown by woodland but occupies a hilltop location and had an associated fishpond (HER 1494, EPS 2022d; National Heritage List 1008977, HE 2022). There are no early buildings remaining within the moated enclosure, and a house of early

17th century origins was pulled down in 1946 (Essex HER 1495, EPS 2022e). Great Winsey is referred to as a manor in 1438 in the earliest surviving tithe survey for the parish, and its holdings included lands around the moated site (ERO D/DU 812/2). In 1633, Walter Wilsher of Wethersfield, a member of a strong puritan movement in Essex, granted the income from Great Winsey and lands totalling 100 acres to the support of lectures in Wethersfield and other local churches (ERO D/DQ 41/133). In the 1840s, Great Winsey farm and lands around it were owned by the Trustees of the Wethersfield Lectureship (see Fig. 3) and as shown in Appendix E, some of the holdings at that date were explicitly stated as belonging to Winsey in the earlier tithe surveys.

2.6. Little Wincey Farm lies closer to the development site, at 0.5km west-south-west (Essex HER 40697). This is thought to have been established around about 1780, when a farmhouse and timber-framed barn were built (Letch 2007, EPS 2022f). Documentary research has shown that the land on which Little Wincey is located was part of the Great Winsey estates at the time of tithe surveys in 1526 and 1438, when the land was called *Dyssecroft* (ERO D/DU 812/2, see Appendix E); it appears to have been a separate holding in 1633, as the lands are not mentioned in the grant which allocated lands towards the funding of the lectureship.

2.7. It is possible that the development site was part of the Great Winsey estate, although no solid documentary evidence has been found in confirmation and no manorial records have been traced. The Tithe Map and Apportionment (1840 and 1843) name the fields within which the development lay as *Cobhams,* and, to the south, *Cobham's Mead.* These were bordered by lands held by the owners of Great and Little Winsey. There is a reference to a *Cobonds(?) Meadow* in Walter Wilsher's 17th century grant of land from the Winsey estate to the Trustees of the Wethersfield Lectureship. If this equates to *Cobhams Meadow*, the southern part of the site at least may have been part of Great Winsey at that date, although it was not in the Trustees' portfolio by 1840. That there may have been connections between all of the lands is suggested by the names of the owners: in 1633, an Ezekial Smith was a tenant of Great Winsey and in 1840, the owners of Little Winsey and the development site were Hezekiah Smith and Robert Smith respectively. However, the medieval ownership of the site has not been confirmed for certain, and the land (and by implication the kiln found on it) may have belonged to a different owner.

2.8. The field was called *Colbaynes* in the 15th and 16th century tithe records. The 1562 survey commences with *Colbaynes' Purdon Field*; in 1840, *Cobhams* abutted *Potten*

Field, suggesting that they are the same fields. Further, a reference for *Discroft* (Little Wynsey) described it as abutting *Purdon Field* and *Fevore's Land* to the south. In 1840, *Potten Field* abutted *Lower Favours* and *Fever's Field* (ERO D/DU 812/2 part 2,1). The 1438 survey has an entry for a field called *Colbaynes Dogden* (ERO D/DU 812/2, f3r and 3v). *Dogden* was described in 1526 as being 'next to the Lane leading from Finchingfield to Sampford' (the modern Brent Hall Road), placing it to the north of the development site (Fig. 3 and Appendix E). However, *Colbaynes* was not explicitly linked to Winsey, as some parcels of land were (see Appendix E).

2.9. There is a possible link between the field name *Colbaynes* and individuals recorded in Finchingfield in the 14th century, broadly contemporary with the suggested date of the kiln. William Colbayne, a smith, was listed in the poll tax of 1381 (Fenwick 1998, 211) and an Agnes/Agnete, widow of Walter Colbayn (deceased) is listed under Finchingfield in the lay subsidy of 1327 (Ward 1983, 62); a Walter Colbayn witnessed deeds relating to Finchingfield in 1307 and 1315 (D/DU 333/1, D/DCw T46/2).

2.10. The 1438 tithe survey shows that the immediate landscape of the site at that date comprised larger fields divided into smaller closes and parcels (see Appendix E).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1. The general aims of the archaeological excavation were to:

- identify, investigate and record any significant buried archaeological deposits/features at the site prior to their destruction by the proposed development, and ascertain their character, purpose, extent and chronological sequence;
- recover and analyse any artefactual and ecofactual evidence to corroborate and expand on the above;
- sample and analyse environmental remains to create a better understanding of past land use and economy;
- report on and publish the archaeological results at a level appropriate to their significance; and
- compile a stable, ordered, accessible project archive.

3.2. The specific objectives of the excavation were to:

- use the artefactual and ecofactual evidence to gain a better understanding of the medieval land use and economy of the area;

- ascertain whether the curvilinear ditch identified in the previous evaluation did represent a prehistoric ring ditch (CA 2022b, 4).

It was noted that the excavation had potential to contribute to objectives outlined in *Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011), which would be reviewed as the project progressed so that remains could be placed within their local and regional contexts, and a project-specific research agenda implemented if applicable.

3.3. Further objectives were identified in the Post-Excavation Assessment and UPD (CA 2023) and have been met in this report and the accompanying article submitted for publication in the journal *Essex Archaeology and History*:

- establish the historical context for the site;
- further research the kiln structure and establish the contribution that it makes to the body of knowledge from known kilns sites in Essex and nationally;
- assess consumption and status at the site;
- compare the site to other 'tile factories'.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1. Two excavation areas were opened within the site (see Fig. 2):

- Area 1 (*c.* 4960sqm): located to investigate the medieval sunken trackway and associated occupation;
- Area 2 (*c.* 150sqm): located to investigate the possible prehistoric ring ditch, to the west of the palaeochannel running through the site.

4.2. The excavation areas were set out on OS National Grid co-ordinates using Leica GPS. Overburden was stripped from the excavation areas by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket. All machining was conducted under archaeological supervision. Generally, this was undertaken to the top of the natural substrate, where archaeological features were first encountered, although though machining ceased at a slightly higher level in the area around the kiln because of the complex nature of the remains.

4.3. Archaeological features/deposits were investigated, planned and recorded in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*.

4.4. Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential and samples were taken in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*.

4.5. Artefacts were processed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.

4.6. CA will make arrangements with the Braintree Museum (accession number TBC) for the deposition of the project archive and, subject to agreement with the legal landowner(s), the artefact collection. A digital archive will also be prepared and deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). The archives (museum and digital) will be prepared and deposited in accordance with *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (CIfA 2014; updated October 2020).

4.7. A summary of information from this project, as set out in Appendix F, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS

5.1. This section provides an overview of the excavation results. Details of the recorded contexts are given in Appendix A. Details of the artefactual material recovered from the site are given in Section 6 and Appendix B. Details of the environmental samples (palaeoenvironmental evidence) are given in Section 7 and Appendix C.

5.2. Archaeological features are shown in Figure 4. The remains date to several phases of activity (Figs 5 and 6):

- Phase 1: Prehistoric
- Phase 2.1: Medieval, Late 12th/early 13th century AD
- Phase 2.2: Medieval, 13th–14th century AD
- Phase 2.0: Medieval, 12th–14th century AD
- Phase 3: Late medieval to post-medieval
- Phase 4: Post-medieval
- Phase 5: Modern
- Undated

5.3. Within the medieval period, Phases 2.1 and 2.2 have been differentiated on the basis of the stratigraphic relationships between features, in combination with four radiocarbon dates and dates from artefacts, particularly ceramic forms and fabrics.

Generally, Phase 2.1 comprises features for which a higher proportion of 11th–13th century fabrics are present without later wares, and Phase 2.2 those features where 13th–15th century fabrics are present (but usually within an assemblage containing earlier wares).

5.4. There are some caveats with the phasing. Contexts which are associated with later suggested dates within the medieval period still contain proportions of earlier material, likely reflecting a combination of ceramic use and residuality in the finds assemblage, as well as a potential close date between the end of Phase 2.1 and start of Phase 2.2. It is therefore possible that some features which belong in Phase 2.2 may not have been attributed to it if they only contained residual material. Further, the general character of the animal bone assemblage across the medieval period is potentially indicative of strewn waste, and mixing of rubbish likely occurred (Clarke, this report, Appendix C).

5.5. Features that can be broadly dated as medieval but which cannot be more closely phased (Phase 2.0) are presented after Phases 2.1 and 2.2, as the detail in these sets out the spatial and chronological framework for the site.

5.6. The ditches have been given group numbers (see Fig. 4), with individual cut and fill numbers indicated where necessary.

Phase 1: Prehistoric

5.7. Evidence of prehistoric activity was sparse, comprising residual finds of pottery and worked flint in later features, along with a small number of pits in both the north-eastern corner of Area 1 and in Area 2 (Figs 5 and 6). A potential ring ditch encountered in the evaluation, 0505, was found to be a short length of curvilinear ditch that did not extend far beyond the extent of the evaluation trench (Fig. 6).

5.8. The two Phase 1 features in the north-eastern part of Area 1 of the site were relatively close together (Fig. 4 and 5). Three sherds of pottery tentatively dated to the Bronze Age were recovered from the single fill of pit/posthole 3114, and two small sherds of pottery (<1g) were recovered from the single fill of pit/posthole 3182. Although this pottery could have been residual and 3183 may have related spatially to ditch 3333 (Phase 2.1), that they were prehistoric features is suggested by the lack of later material even though there were medieval features in the vicinity. Further, pit/posthole 3114 was cut by a medieval pit, 3111. An undated pit close by, 3228,

could have been another prehistoric feature, although it had similar fills to the Phase 2.1 ditch which cut it, 3332.

5.9. The western group of Phase 1 features in Area 2 (Fig. 6) comprised three pits of varied size and character which were located in an area of generally mixed natural deposits and truncated archaeological features; they may represent tree-throw holes. Pit 7916 (0.8m by 0.7m, and 0.42m deep with a flat base) was filled by a relatively dark black clay silt and was cut by ditch 7933 of Phase 4. A smaller pit 7903 (Fig. 4), which was 0.3m by 0.26m and 0.08m deep, was filled with a medium brown-grey clay silt (7904), from which two worked flints were recovered. Pit 7910 (Fig. 4), with a rounded base, measured 1.5m by 1.4m, was 0.3m deep and contained three fills, a light grey-brown clay silt to the east and west (7913, 7911), and an upper, central fill of dark clay silt (7912) from which four prehistoric pottery sherds and one piece of cattle bone (41g) were recovered. Several north-south aligned features in the vicinity were recorded as natural channels (7907, 7918, 7920, 7922 and 7905).

5.10. Also in Area 2, the possible ring ditch section recorded during evaluation (0505) was shown to be a short stretch of ditch. Another, parallel, curvilinear ditch (7933, cuts 7914 and 7927) was excavated to the south. Both were 8m–9m long (Fig. 6). During excavation, a fragment of a crotal bell was recovered from the southern ditch. Artefactual dating evidence was relatively scarce, and the crotal bell fragment may have been intrusive, given the presence of later field drains in the area, but on balance the ditches have been attributed to Phase 4, on the basis of their alignments and spatial position either side of the late medieval to post-medieval field boundary ditch 3343 (see Phase 4, below). The possible butt end of a further ditch, 0506, was planned in the evaluation but was not identified running through the excavation area (not illustrated).

5.11. A residual artefact, a palaeolithic handaxe, was recovered from later, Phase 3 deposits in hollow 3091, in the southern part of the Area 1 (Fig. 4).

Phase 2.1: Late 12th/Early 13th century AD

5.12. The earliest period where activity left significant traces was the late 12th/early 13th centuries. Parts of two separate enclosures alongside trackway 3353 were present within the main excavation area, Enclosure 1 in the north-east, towards Finchingfield, and Enclosure 2 to the west. These were perpendicular to the trackway, indicating that the route was in existence by this date, although finds from deposits over the trackway and the flanking ditches appear to be slightly later, suggesting that it was

upgraded later in the medieval period (see below, Phase 2.2). Between the enclosures, a series of shallow pits were excavated across the site, either side of north-south ditch 3335, a more substantial and long-standing field boundary that likely also existed in this period (see below, Phase 2.0). Although they were spatially close to the Phase 2.2 kiln, these pits are attributed to Phase 2.1 on the basis of the ceramic assemblages recovered from them. Finally, a sizeable pit, 3042/3046, which contained burnt deposits, also dates to this phase and may have been a charcoal pit kiln.

Enclosure 1

5.13. Enclosure 1 measured at least 20m north-west/south-east and at least 11m west/east.

5.14. The corner of the enclosure was formed from the meeting of ditches 3334, 3332 and 3210 (Fig. 4), with 3210 continuing northwards beyond the limit of excavation. The ditches were 0.4 to 0.5m wide, and up to 0.19m deep. At the intersection the fill of all three, 3212, was an indistinguishable dark grey silty clay, which suggests that they were open at the same time. This fill contained a residual sherd of prehistoric pottery, three sherds of 11th–13th century date and one of 12th–14th century date. Otherwise, 3334 yielded an assemblage of 13 sherds of medieval pottery, with an overall suggested context date for the context of the mid-12th to 13th(?) century. The pottery date is consistent with the seven sherds from a sub-oval pit 3149, which cut an undated posthole, 3153, that cut ditch 3334. The pit measured 0.92m by 0.41m and was 0.32m deep, with two fills of mid-grey-brown silty clay (3150 and 3155),

5.15. The northern boundary of the enclosure, ditch 3332, cut undated pit 3228 and was cut by Phase 2.0 pit 3174.

5.16. Ditch 3333 (0.4m wide, 0.03–0.08m deep) was a shallow, undated ditch running east/west within Enclosure 1, early in the stratigraphic sequence. This was most likely the vestiges of a subdivision of the enclosure, although could perhaps have been the remains of a beam or wall slot for a structure.

5.17. Otherwise, there was a lack of structural remains, although only part of the enclosure lay within the excavation area and structures may have been closer to the road. Pits were recorded, however. Pit 3168 (1.04m by 0.44m, 0.15m deep) was isolated and filled by 3169, a grey-orange silty clay from which one sherd of 11th–13th century pottery was recovered. Feature 3180 was a shallow pit from which a fiddle-key nail

(N8) was recovered. Other pits within the enclosure are discussed below under Phase 2.0: the upper fills of these date to Phase 2.2 but the assemblages from the lower fills suggest that they could have been open in Phase 2.1. Further, the location of two of these pits, 3177 and 3111, appears to have respected ditch 3333, the possible subdivision of the enclosure, but pit 3186 (12th–14th century) cuts through it (Fig. 4). It is probable that there was a sequence of pits within separate parts of the enclosure and that the division was eroded over time, but a finer chronological sequence is perhaps beyond the scope of the resolution of dating from the archaeological materials.

5.18. The possibility that Enclosure 1 represents part of the rear of a series of plots along Bardfield Road is discussed in Section 8.

Enclosure 2

5.19. Enclosure 2, formed from ditch 3336 towards the western edge of the site, measured at least 16m east/west and 21.5m (70½ ft) north/south to the terminus of ditch 3336, or 26m (85ft) fully to the trackway to the south. A series of postholes was excavated within it, along with a number of features which were most likely associated, and an undated hearth lay nearby. The finds and environmental assemblages appear to indicate that there was a concentration of domestic waste.

5.20. Enclosure ditch 3336 was 0.51–0.7m wide and 0.11–0.19m deep, with varied silt and clay fills in the four slots dug through it (e.g. Fig. 13, Section HH). Finds included: two sherds of pottery with a date of 12th–mid 13th century; a fiddle key nail, Ra. 11, from cut 3194; a sheep(?) tooth (not retained); and a single sherd of mid-late 12th–14th century pottery from cut 3206 at the corner. Stratigraphically, ditch 3336 was cut by Phase 2.2 ditches 3337 and 3338, which ran east-west across it (Fig. 4). At the intersection with 3337, six sherds of pottery of 11th to 14th century date were recovered from fill 3263 of 3336 (cut 3262) (Figs 5 and 13).

5.21. Towards the southern corner of the site, and running parallel to the trackway, 3353, an 11m length of curvilinear ditch, 3354, was the stratigraphically earliest feature in the three slots in which it appeared (Figs 4 and 5). It was *c.* 1.1m wide by 0.38 to 0.5m deep, filled by a brown, light grey silty clay from which two sherds of 11th–13th century and four sherds of 12th–14th century pottery were recovered. To the north-west, what appeared to be the terminus of the feature (3007) was 0.62m wide by 0.27m deep, filled by an orange-brown silty clay, 3008, from which two sherds of pottery giving a context date of mid-12th to 13th century were recovered, with a piece

of animal bone (Fig. 4 and Fig. 27, Section QQ). The ditch was cut by Phase 2.2 ditch 3342, which ran on the same alignment, and it could therefore represent the earliest iteration of the southern boundary of enclosures in this part of the site.

5.22. Within Enclosure 2, a series of postholes was recorded (Structure 1), along with parallel short ditches. The fabrics represented in the ceramic assemblages indicate that these features could have been some of the earlier ones in the medieval site sequence (see Anderson, Appendix B), suggesting that they were contemporary with Enclosure 2 rather than with the overlying Enclosure 3, and residual Roman and probably residual Prehistoric/Anglo-Saxon wares were also recovered from two of them, lending support to the suggested earlier date. From south to north and then turning west, the group comprises features as set out in Table 1 and illustrated in Figs 4 and 8.

Cut	Dimensions	Fill	Finds (no of sherds)
3160, oval, gently sloping concave sides (Fig. 8, Section AA)	0.8 by 0.45, 0.12m deep	3161, mid-brown, grey mottled clay	Roman (2), 11th–13th century (1) mid-late 12th–14th century pottery (7)
3136, steep sides (Fig 8, Section BB)	0.3 by 0.26, 0.28m deep	3137, mid-grey-brown mottled silty clay	Prehistoric/Early Saxon (2), two pieces of fired clay
3142, oval, moderate sides (Fig. 8, Section BB)	0.52m by 0.48m, 0.24m deep	3143, mid-yellow brown silty clay.	11th–13th (1), mid-late 12th –14th+ (1)
3086	0.3m in diameter, 0.18m deep	3087, dark grey-brown silty clay	Late 12th–14th (1), iron hook of uncertain function (Ra. 19), nails N17
3084, corner of the group, steep-sided apart from to the east, where it sloped (Fig. 8, Section CC)	0.45m by 0.7m, 0.38m deep	3085, dark grey-brown silty clay with charcoal flecks	11th–13th (1)
3076, to the west, steep sides	0.21m by 0.15m, 0.12m deep	3077, mid to dark grey-brown sandy clay.	11th–12th+ (1)
3073 (most westerly), steep sides.	0.16m in diameter, 0.13m deep	3110 dark grey-brown sandy clay	None
3079 (aligned with and south of 3073), steep sided	0.36m in diameter, 0.14m deep	3080, a dark grey-brown silty clay with charcoal and fired clay inclusions	11th–13th (1), one 12th–mid 13th, one piece of fired clay

Table 1. Detail of postholes associated with Structure 1

5.23. The postholes could represent the remains of a small structure or shelter measuring at least *c.* 2.5m east to west and *c.* 5.5m north to south. A nail (N 17) and a metal hook (Ra. 19) which were recovered from posthole 3086 may support this interpretation. The shape of posthole 3084, elongated to the east, could be evidence of additional support at the corner.

5.24. Spatially, the postholes ran along the eastern side of short ditch 3341, continuing northwards beyond where this ditch was cut by Phase 2.2 ditch 3339.

5.25. Ditch 3341 was *c.* 7m long with silty clay fills. The base of the feature appeared to be sloping towards a terminus at its northern end, although it was cut by ditch 3339 (Phase 2.2) before it ended. At the intersection, cut 3138 (Fig. 8, Section BB) was 0.12m wide by 0.2m deep. Three sherds of 11th–13th and 12th–14th century pottery were recovered, along with four pieces of fired clay and a bone object interpreted as a bobbin (Ra. 33). Towards the centre of the ditch, cut 3158 was 0.77m wide by 0.4m deep, and five pieces of animal bone, one small piece of slag (1g) and 25 sherds of pottery (237g) with an overall suggested date for the context of 13th(?) century were recovered from the fill, 3159 (Fig. 8, Section AA). At the southern terminus, an undated posthole, 3071, may have been related to the ditch and Structure 1. This measured 0.31m by 0.23m and 0.17m deep, had steep sides, and was filled by 3072, a light grey-brown sandy clay from which a worked flint and piece of fired clay were recovered. Another undated posthole was recorded to the east, 3069. This measured 0.48m by 0.36m by 0.12m deep, with gentle sides but a steep northern edge, and it was filled by a mid-brown sandy silt.

5.26. Ditch 3340, to the west and parallel to ditch 3341 (Fig. 8, Section AA), also measured approximately 7m north-south. It cut undated pit 2973. The northern terminus, 2929, was steep sided with an irregular base and it was 0.97m wide by 0.36m deep. The fill, 2930, a grey-brown mottled clay silty sand, contained 18 sherds of pottery (133g) with an overall suggested date of 13th(?) century, two small pieces of slag (4g) and 14 pieces of fired clay. A medieval iron nail (N7) and an 11th–13th century(?) iron 'fiddle key' nail used in the shoeing of horses and oxen were also found. There were charcoal inclusions, and 24 pieces of animal bone including cattle, sheep/goat, horse and dog. The southern terminus, 2971, was 1.4m wide by 0.66m deep and filled by a grey-black clay sandy silt (2972), which yielded three pieces of medieval Ceramic Building Material (CBM), two pieces of animal bone, 13 pieces of fired clay and 11 sherds of pottery (169g), with an overall suggested date for the context of the mid to late 13th century.

5.27. The postholes of Structure 1 may have been contemporary with ditches 3340 and 3341. If 3341 represents a boundary, subdivision of Enclosure 1, or an agricultural feature, Structure 1 could have formed an alternative or enhancement to it, perhaps a fence line, support or windbreak for a boundary or agricultural feature. However, the concentration of apparently domestic waste may suggest something more. The

possibility that ditches 3341 and 3340 could represent beam slots of a larger structure in this area approximately 8m by 4m, with post-built lean-to, is further explored in Section 8, below, although they are of considerable width. An undated hearth in the vicinity, 2931 (see below, Undated), may also have been associated with this phase and with Structure 1.

5.28. Also in the vicinity, ditch 3229 ran parallel to 3340. It was 1.5m long, 0.62m wide and 0.1m deep (Fig. 8). During excavation, it was suggested that it could represent a tree-throw hole, although it may have been related to 3340 and 3341. It was filled by 3230, a mid-brown-grey mottled silty clay, which yielded one sherd of prehistoric pottery, three sherds of mid-late 12th–14th century pottery and a piece of fired clay. Ditch 3269, immediately to the east of 3229, was a similarly short stretch of ditch, approximately 2.5m north to south, but it did not yield dateable objects and had a different fill (see below, Undated).

Pits between the enclosures

5.29. Between the Phase 2.1 enclosures, a number of pits were excavated across the site, including two clusters either side of boundary ditch 3335. Their alignment, broadly north-west/south-east, respects that of the trackway and the enclosures.

5.30. Oval-shaped pit 2925 lay approximately 3m west of Enclosure 1 (Figs. 4 and 5). It measured 4.2m by 3.3m, by 0.92m deep, and had concave, slightly stepped sides. Eight sherds of pottery and one piece of fired clay were recovered from its single fill, 2926, with a suggested date of the late 13th century. The pit cut a layer of firm light grey blue sandy clay of geological origin (2903).

5.31. Eastwards of ditch 3335, pits 2990, 2992 and 3020 were tightly clustered and intercutting (Figs. 4 and 5). All three were sub-rectangular, relatively shallow, and aligned north-west/south-east. The easternmost, 2990, was 1.96m+ by 1.6m wide and 0.24m deep with steep concave sides and a flat base. An assemblage of *c*. 30 sherds (246g) of pottery dated to the early to mid-13th century were recovered from the single fill, 2991. Pit 2990 was cut by 2992, a shallow oval pit 1.6m+ by 1.6m by 0.24m deep, with steep sides and a flat base, filled by a light grey-brown silty clay, 2993 (Fig. 9, Section DD). One sherd of prehistoric or Anglo-Saxon pottery was recovered, together with an assemblage of 69 sherds of pottery (299g) that supports a suggested date for the context of mid to late 13th century, along with six pieces of fired clay and two nails (including a ‘fiddle key’ nail; likely 11th–13th century in date). The latest pit in the sequence, 3020, was 1.22m by 0.92m and 0.15m deep, filled by

a mid-grey-brown silty clay (3021) with a date for the context of the mid to late 13th century from six sherds of pottery and a nail (Ra. 14). These three pits together were investigated in the evaluation (cut and fill numbers 1208 and 1209, respectively), with a further two sherds of 11th-14th century pottery and a piece of CBM recovered.

5.32. Pit 3018 (recorded as 1210 and 1212 in the evaluation), which was adjacent to the above group, was oval, 2.51m by 0.73m and 0.14m deep (Figs 4 and 5). It had gentle concave sides and a flat base, and was filled with grey-brown silty clays, 3019 and 1211, from which were recovered nine sherds of 11th–13th century pottery and 15 sherds of 12th–14th century pottery (81g), a nail (N9), two pieces of CBM, two pieces of fired clay and a fragment of iron. Undated postholes 3258 (0.43m in diameter) and 3260 (0.35m in diameter) to the south-east of the pit group may have been related. Both were only 0.1m deep.

5.33. Westwards of boundary 3335 was a further cluster of pits (Fig. 10, Section EE, and Figs 4 and 5). Spatially, these lay within Enclosure 4, associated with the kiln (see below, Phase 2.2), but the proportions of pottery fabrics represented indicates that they, along with the eastern group, belonged in this earlier phase (see Anderson, Appendix B, Table B5). Pit 2998 was the earliest, 1.3m by 1.3m and 0.8m deep, with vertical edges. It had two fills, 2999, a dark grey silty gravel 0.34m deep, and 3000, a grey-brown silty clay with an overall date of late 12th to early 13th century, from 14 sherds of pottery (278g). Rectilinear pit 3001 cut pit 2998 and was cut into gravelly geological deposits. It was 2.4m by 2.2m and 0.24m deep with steep sides, filled by 3002, a mid-dark grey-brown silty clay, which yielded 29 sherds of 11th–14th century pottery with more refined dates of 12th–mid-13th century for sherds within the assemblage. One piece of bone and a few iron nails were also recovered (Ra. 22; N15). Pit 3003 measured 3.70m by 2.30m and 0.26m deep, and was filled by 3004, with an overall date of late 12th–13th century for 20 sherds of pottery (142g). One piece of CBM, two pieces of animal bone and iron nails were also recovered, including one of medieval type (N6) and a ‘fiddle key’ nail (likely 11th–13th century).

5.34. Two other pits were identified in the evaluation to the west of the group, 1217 (at least 1.3m wide, 2m long and 0.2m deep, with steep sides), filled by 1218, a mid-grey-brown silty clay yielding two sherds of 11th–13th century pottery and two pieces of CBM), and 1216, which was unexcavated (Fig. 4).

5.35. Towards the northern part of the site and north of Enclosure 4, pits 3081 and 3098 were in the vicinity of Phase 2.2 oven, 2984, although there is no significant indication

that they were related to it (Figs 4 and 5). Pit 3081, possibly a tree throw, was oval, aligned east/west, 1.35m by 0.9m and 0.3m deep, with an uneven base. Four sherds of pottery (11g) with an overall date of the late 12th–13th century were recovered from its fills, 3082 and 3083. Pit 3098, to the immediate south, measured 0.83m by 0.73m, and was 0.3m deep, with an overall 13th century date for the context from ten sherds of pottery (86g) from fill 3099. A piece of fired clay and the remains of a young piglet (3100) were found in the pit.

5.36. Further comment on these pits is made in Section 8.

Pits 3042, 3046 and 3050

5.37. A trio of pits (3042, 3046 and 3050) lay to the north-east of Enclosure 2 (Fig. 11, Section FF). The earliest, 3050, was sub-oval, 1.28m long and 0.3m deep with sloping sides. It had three fills; a piece of fired clay and four sherds of 11th–13th century pottery were recovered from the upper fill, 3053. The feature was cut by pit 3046, which was oval and aligned north-west to south-east, measuring 2.86m by 2.17m, by 0.32m deep. A layer of dark reddish black silty clay with charcoal inclusions 0.72m wide lay across the base of the feature, representative of intense burning (3054). The fills of the pit gave one of the largest ceramic assemblages from the site, and both environmental samples yielded remains which may be reflective of a dump of domestic crop/food processing waste. The lowest fill, 3047, a mid-brown, grey silty clay, yielded a pottery assemblage of 28 sherds (629g) with an overall suggested date for the context of 13th(?) century. Fill 3048 was a lighter sandy clay from which a piece of fired clay was recovered. Fill 3049, also likely dated to the 13th century from 36 sherds (497g), was a mid-grey silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks, from which five prehistoric/Saxon sherds, four Roman sherds and two ‘fiddle key’ nail fragments were also recovered, along with 18 fragments of animal bone. In addition, a residual worked flint core was recovered from pit 3046.

5.38. Feature 3042, measuring 0.4m in diameter and 0.5m deep, was partially excavated as a possible posthole situated in the centre of this large pit. Two small pieces of burnt flint (10g) and four sherds of pottery (88g) with an overall context date of 12th to mid-13th century were recovered from the lowest fill, 3043, a brownish sandy, gravelly clay. Environmental sample 109 from this fill yielded a moderate number of cereal grains, mainly bread wheat with smaller amounts of barley and rye, and charred seeds of arable weeds. One of the cereal grains gave a radiocarbon date of 1045–1218 cal. AD at 95% probability (SUERC-107042), consistent with the ceramic date. The middle fill, 3044, was a charcoal rich silty clay, and environmental sample

111 from it also yielded cereal grains, weed seeds and a sloe/damson/hawthorn spine. The upper fill, 3045, was a light sandy clay, which may represent natural soils that had been deliberately placed over the burnt layer. As for pit 3046, the charred plant remains are likely to be reflective of a dump of domestic crop/food processing waste.

5.39. The suggestion that these features were originally elements of a charcoal pit kiln is presented in the Discussion, below.

Phase 2.2: 13th–14th century AD

5.40. As noted above, the stratigraphic evidence indicates that the site was reorganised, with Enclosure 2 overlain by Enclosure 3. Enclosure 3 appears to form a scheme with Enclosure 4 to the east, which surrounds the kiln. The overall alignments follow those of earlier features, arranged perpendicular to the line of the trackway, which may well have been upgraded. Alongside the physical relationship between the ditches of Enclosures 2 and 3, the artefact dates and scientific dates confirm a second phase of activity at the site dated broadly to the later 13th to the later 14th centuries.

5.41. Caveats with the phasing were noted above, paragraph 5.4. It is also likely that Phase 2.2 represents a longer period, spanning the establishment, use and post-use of the kiln. This is indicated by the stratigraphic sequence of ditches and pits along the northern edge of the road, where the intercutting of features suggests that some are later than others within the phase. The kiln itself cuts one of the enclosure ditches, 3347.

Flanking trackway ditches

5.42. The trackway (3353, Fig. 12) was likely a determining factor in the location of the kiln. Artefactual evidence suggests that it continued in use into the late and post-medieval periods, and the trackway itself is discussed below, in Phase 3. However, it may well have been consolidated in Phase 2.2, as indicated by the finds assemblages from the flanking ditches.

5.43. The ditches on the northern side of the track are discussed below, under Enclosures 3 and 4. The southern side of the trackway was flanked by ditch 3345, which had sloping sides and was *c*. 1.5m–2.23m wide and 0.3m–1.10m deep, widening and deepening to the south-west. The lower fills (1107, 2938, 3037) were varied silty clays, wet and organic, from which one sherd of CBM and 24 sherds of 12th–14th century pottery were recovered (with one further sherd dated to the 14th century in

the evaluation, fill 1107). The upper fills (1108, 2939, 3025) were also silty clays, and two sherds of 12th–14th century pottery and two pieces of late medieval/post-medieval CBM were recovered, with ten fragments of animal bone. To the east, free from interaction with other features, cut 3203 was filled by silt 3204, from which two sherds of 12th–14th century pottery were recovered and a fragment each of bone and oyster shell. In the other slots (cut 1106, 2937) the ditch appeared to cut the lowest metalled trackway deposits (1104 and 1105, 2941) but towards the centre, the ditch fills were overlain by layers associated with the trackway from which later medieval and post-medieval material was recovered (2942, 2943, 3026 in cut 3024), indicating that the track was longer lived and repaired beyond the filling of the ditch. A possible butt end within 3345 (2937), recorded in plan towards the west, may indicate that part of the ditch in the south-western part of the site had been recut, as it relates spatially to ditch 3344 to the north in that area (see below, Phase 3).

5.44. The ditches may have been earlier and filled in phase 2.2, or may have been later and filled in with in-washed residual material from the activity upslope. Nonetheless, a kiln, generating heavy traffic in both senses of the word, with frequent and laden carts, may well have required a route with an improved surface and drainage, and an upgrade in this phase appears consistent with the finds from the ditches.

Enclosure 3

5.45. Ditch 3337 ran into the excavation area for at least 33m from the western site edge, on an approximate north-east/south-west alignment, and it cut across Enclosure 2 (Figs 4, 5 and 13, Section HH). The area south of it formed Enclosure 3, which measured *c.*16.5m (54ft) from ditch 3337 down to 3342 to the south, and it was at least 25m in length between the site edge to the west and Enclosure 4, to the east. The ditch was 0.88–0.98m wide and 0.32–0.42m deep (cuts 3266 and 3295), filled by silt and clay fills (3267 and 3295) from which ten sherds of 12th–14th century pottery were recovered, with a piece of fired clay. A short length of ditch, 3338 (Fig. 13, Section HH), ran parallel to 3337, 0.5m (1.5ft) to the south of it, with similar fills (cuts 3264 and 3313, and fills 3256 and 3314 respectively). This also cut Phase 2.1 ditch 3336. It was 0.61m wide and 0.18m deep, narrowing at the terminus, and pottery from it was dated to the late 12th–13th century. Ditch 3337 continued eastwards to the north of and parallel to Enclosure 4, forming what may possibly have been a corridor-type entrance to the enclosures; undated posthole 3238 (0.32m in diameter and 0.11m deep) could have been for a post for a gate (Fig. 5); there would have

been a gap of c 0.4m to the south of it and one of 0.9m to the north, wide enough for people or animals.

5.46. A further north-east/south-west ditch, 3339, ran for 13m from the western limit of excavation and may represent a subdivision of Enclosure 3. It also cut a Phase 2.1 feature, 3138. It was 0.56m–0.76m wide and 0.14m–0.22m deep. Two slots were investigated (3309, 3140), recording a single silty clay fill (Fig. 8, Section BB), dated to the 13th(?) century from 23 sherds of pottery and one piece of bone. Towards its western end, ditch 3339 joined ditch 3192 (Fig. 4). It was 0.5m wide and 0.1m deep, with four sherds of 11th to 13th century pottery and seven sherds of mid-late 12th to 14th century pottery recovered from its fill, together with a piece of fired clay.

5.47. Although generally the ceramic context dates for Enclosure 3 are not very different to those from the Phase 2.1 features, these ditches do appear to form a coherent scheme with Enclosure 4 that framed the kiln. They also cut through Phase 2.1 features and may be expected to contain residual material.

Enclosure 4

5.48. Ditch 3352, with a right angle in it, formed an enclosure of approximately 25m east-west from north/south boundary ditch 3335 (Phase 2.0). It measured 13m (*c.* 42½ ft) north-south from the road. Spatially, the kiln lay within it. Slots excavated in the northern arm (3329, Fig. 4 and 1206 excavated in the evaluation, not illustrated) showed the ditch to be 0.3m wide and 0.06–0.22m deep, filled by a mottled silty clay. A section in the western side, 3277, was 0.39m wide and 0.17m deep, filled by 3278, a clay silt from which 16 sherds of pottery gave an overall suggested date for the context of the late 13th to 14th–15th centuries. At this point, the ditch cut pit 3273, also Phase 2.2 (Fig. 14, Section II), and the fills may have been mixed. Towards the road, the ditch was cut by pit 3222, Phase 2.2 (see below, Fig. 16 Section KK, and Fig. 17).

5.49. Amorphous feature 3273 was 3.1m by 3.92m and 0.34m deep (Fig. 4). It had an irregular base and was filled by a silty gravel with some organic or carbonised material (3274, 0.29m deep) overlain by paler grey clay silts, 0.08m–0.16m deep (3275 and 3276). The pottery assemblage of 48 sherds (665g) came mainly from the eastern and western extremes, including 12 sherds of 13th–15th century pottery, with an overall suggested date for the context of the 13th? century. This was cut by enclosure 3353 but could also have perhaps been a depression into which waste gathered; the

top fills, from which the pottery was recovered, were relatively shallow. Equally, it may have been earlier and related to activity in Enclosure 1.

5.50. The south side of Enclosures 3 and 4 was formed by a sequence of intercutting ditches which cut ditch 3354 (Phase 2.1, see above). Curvilinear ditch 3342 was the earliest, cut at its eastern end by ditch 3347 (Fig. 16 Section KK and Fig. 17, cuts 3213 and 3217 respectively), which was in turn cut by ditch 3346 to the south of it (cuts 1113 and 1117, respectively).

5.51. Ditch 3342 curved from the line of the trackway towards the north-west, along a line that is echoed in ditch 3343 (Phase 3). As shown in Figure 27 (Section QQ), it cut ditch 3354 (cut 3007; Phase 2.1) and was cut by feature 3005 (Phase 2.2). It was 1.3m–2.6m wide and 0.56m–0.88m deep (cuts 2975, 3055, 3012/3009, 3213), with a rounded base, and was filled by between one and three sandy clay silt fills (2976, 3056, 3013, 3010, 3011 and 3214). The corner slot (fill 3056) produced one of the largest ceramic assemblages recovered from the site, with 142 pottery sherds that gave an overall suggested context date of the 14th–15th century (from one sherd), 41 sherds of late medieval to post-medieval CBM, oyster and mussel shells, an iron hook (Ra. 21) of 12th–15th century date —possibly for hanging foodstuffs— and one of the larger assemblages of animal bone (26 fragments, including bones from cattle, horse and dog). An arrowhead of 14th–15th century date was also recovered. The corner was in the vicinity of an undated hearth 2931, and the curve of the ditch is also close to a lower lying area, which may explain the volume of material. Finds from the other fills included charcoal, oyster shell, three pieces of medieval/late medieval CBM and 80 sherds of pottery (226g), with an overall suggest date for the context of the early-mid 13th to mid-14th(?) centuries.

5.52. A possible fill lens or feature that lay between ditches 3342 and 3347, 3215, was 1.4m long by 0.76m wide and 0.86m deep, with moderately steep, stepped sides and a rounded base (Fig. 16, Section KK, and Fig. 17). Two sherds of 11th–13th century pottery, a nail and three pieces of animal bone were recovered from its fill, 3216.

5.53. Ditches 3347 and 3346 formed a pair of ditches running on a general east-west alignment, flanking the north side of the track (see Fig. 15, Section JJ). The western butt ends of 3346 and 3347 may indicate the position of an entrance into the enclosures, although a clear entrance from the road is not particularly discernible. The area may have been remodelled over time, and, on the edge of a low-lying area, could have been muddy and mixed. The ditches probably represent longer and

multiple stages of activity within Phase 2.2, with pits 3222 and 2994 also cut into them, and in plan the kiln was also recorded as cutting into ditch 3347.

5.54. Ditch 3347 was 1.5m–2m wide and 1.14m–1.21m deep (cuts 1113, 3217, Fig. 16, Section KK, and Fig.17) with three to four fills. These were of silty clay, apart from the lowest gravelly fill, which was up to 0.48m deep (1114, 3218). The other fills were dated to the 13th–14th centuries from 80 sherds of pottery, and a few pieces of animal bone were also found (1115, 1116, 3219, 3220 and 3221). A section excavated close to the western terminus, 2947, was 0.52m wide and 0.4m deep, with a dark grey fill, 2948, from which three sherds of pottery gave a suggested context date of the mid to late 13th century. Three pieces of animal bone were recovered, along with charcoal and cereal grains.

5.55. The latest ditch, 3346, had sloped sides and was 0.6m–2.10m wide and 0.24m–1.26m deep, increasing in size from the butt end to the west (cuts 3231, 1117 and 2944). Between two and four silty clay fills were recorded, with eight sherds of pottery of date 12th–13th centuries from the lowest fill, 1118 and a date of the 12th–14th century from 17 sherds from the upper fill of cut 2944, 2946, which also produced charcoal, cereals and a few traces of broad pean and garden pea from environmental sample 102. A few pieces of animal bone and fired clay were also found. Where the ditch did not intersect with any other features, cut 3231, 149 sherds of pottery with an overall date for the context of late 13th–14th century were recovered, with five pieces of animal bone including cattle and chicken, shell, a nail (N11), CBM, charcoal, and a large rotary quern stone fragment that may have been reused. Overall, this finds assemblage may reflect domestic activity taking place within Enclosure 4.

Kiln 2953, stoke pit and associated features

5.56. Kiln 2953 lay within Enclosure 4. The kiln was constructed from peg tiles partly below ground level, and is of a recognised medieval form; such structures tended to be semi-subterranean and sunk into the sides of hills or sloping ground (Eames 1961, 143; Ryan 1999, 20). The kiln would have comprised a superstructure (no longer extant) over a firing floor at ground level, upon which tiles in the order of thousands —see below, Discussion— would have been stacked for firing. The kiln was heated by twin flues beneath the firing floor, fuelled from a stoke pit (see Figs 18 to 24, and Fig. 37). Whilst there was some debris in this pit, generally across the site there was a notable absence of waste products from the kiln —although, as noted in the Discussion, this is not atypical.

5.57. Tony Minter from Bulmer Brick and Tile was kind enough to review photographs of the kiln and talk through elements of the structure, and the description of the kiln which follows benefits from some of his insights. Bulmer Brick and Tile is located on the Suffolk/Essex border, and makes hand-made brick and tile using traditional methods (see BBT 2024).

Construction/stoke/rake-out pit

5.58. The pit for the kiln, 2952, was broadly rectangular, with vertical sides and square corners. It measured 8.46m/15¾ ft north to south and 3.25m/9¼ ft east to west at its widest part. The pit became more oval where it contained the stoking/rake-out area and the access ramp to the north (*c.* 5.2m long). The kiln was dug into the slope of the site, with the rear of it recorded in plan as cut into ditch 3347 to the south. The orientation may have been designed to take into account the prevailing wind.

Clay floor

5.59. The first element of the structure within the pit was the clay floor of the kiln, 3146 (Fig 20, Section NN and Fig. 20), which showed reddening from heat. This was relatively smooth, 4.4m long, 1.7m wide, and extended beyond the kiln into the construction cut where it was 0.12m thick in comparison to the 0.3m thickness beneath the kiln. The floor has been noted as the earliest element of other excavated kilns, including a chalk/mortar floor at Puckeridge (Regan *et al.* forthcoming), a floor at Farnham which appeared to have had the location of the kiln walls marked out (Riall 2003, 300), and a floor at North Grange Meaux, Beverley, where evidence of a fire suggested that it had been fired before construction of the kiln (Eames 1961, 147). The latter features were not observed in the Finchingfield kiln, however.

Clay walls

5.60. The construction pit was lined with clay, 3074, approximately 0.42m thick, which formed the fire chamber walls and which likely served for heat insulation; it would have been a more suitable refractory material than the surrounding gravel (Fig 21 Section MM and Fig. 22). The clay has a noticeable chalk content, which may have been geological or may have been added; this may have provided an element of stabilisation from the effects of heat expansion (Tony Minter, pers. comm.).

5.61. The excavators on site suggested that the clay was placed against the arches, although they may have been bedded into it or constructed together. The tile flues and clay together formed an approximately square structure 2.7m long, 2.75m wide and 0.7m deep, with the clay 0.42m thick. The clay shows the effect of heat

transference into it, which may be anticipated with firing temperatures in the region of 1000°C (see below, 'Daub').

5.62. Traces of the wall extended into the stoke pit.

Spine wall

5.63. The central spine wall for the flues/furnace chamber, 3078 (Fig. 21 Section MM and Fig. 22), was constructed onto the floor, from tiles and broken pieces that were mainly header coursed. The wall was pyramid shaped in profile, 2.45m long, 0.62m wide and 0.54m high. It was bonded with a clay 'mortar' that was also used in the construction of the arches. This was noted to be of a medium sandy fabric with chalk and ferrous oxide inclusions, similar to the fabric of the roof tiles but redder rather than buff (Anderson, this report); the red effect, from the heat in the kiln, may perhaps have been caused by the inclusion of sand (Tony Minter pers. comm, March 2024). The use of clay to bond kiln structures has been noted elsewhere in the county (Ryan 1999, 20).

Arches

5.64. The two sets of six arches, 3075, appear to have been built next in the construction sequence, using tiles bonded with a clay mix and built directly off the kiln floor (Fig. 21, Section MM, Fig. 22, Section NN, and Fig. 24). They were 0.85m wide to the spine wall, 0.9m deep and 0.65m high. The arches were constructed from increasingly angled stacked peg tiles laid longwise to the length of the kiln, apart from the sixth arch at the rear, which was narrower, with tiles laid perpendicularly to the spine walls. There were two or three rows of tiles above the arches, which is usual (Cherry 2001, 191). The five gaps between the arches would have allowed heat to rise, and there were additional gaps at the front and rear of the kiln, with that at the rear likely forming a flue (Cherry 2001, 191). The arches are not quite square to the structure. The structure showed general reddening and the effects of heat.

Daub?

5.65. The excavators recorded a layer of daub, 3145, which was added to the gaps between the clay wall and tile arches and which showed the effects of heating. It comprised clay with straw and possibly lime inclusions. This would have separated and insulated the outer clay wall from direct heat. It was noted to span an area 2.45m by 2.05m, and it was 0.64m deep (Fig. 22).

5.66. The overall pattern of heat-affected material raises some questions about the construction of the kiln. Overall, there is a band of reddening and blackening,

observed behind the tiles of the arches and within the overall fabric of the kiln wall rather than at the surface (Fig. 22). This may have been the result of heat transference into the clay wall, particularly from the tile-built arches, with —perhaps— different levels of oxygen giving different colours, but it is most likely that the reddening and blackening were due to direct contact with heat and soot (Tony Minter pers. comm.). The daub may therefore have been added as a repair, perhaps where elements had been burnt away. In discussing Sussex kilns, Riall highlights a reference in accounts from Highclere dating to 1364-5 for '2s for daubing the kiln with clay' although it is not clear whether this meant the oven structure itself (2003, 328).

5.67. It is possible also that the kiln pit was baked prior to use, possibly to manage shrinkage and cracking. However, it might have been easier to bed the tiles into softer clay material and Tony Minter has commented that such a step may not have been necessary to achieve efficient firing, but that if it was done, given the overall quality of the kiln build, it would have been for a reason.

5.68. It is notable that the daub layer does not show the reddening and blackening of the material beneath. This may be because the composition, with chalk, made it whiter/yellower/pinker firing. In exploring this in a conversation, Tony Minter has highlighted that there may be cooler spots within a kiln, particularly where there were pockets of damp air, and that, in an efficient firing, the heat would be directed upwards into the tiles (March 2024, pers. comm.).

Firing floor

5.69. The remains of the firing floor of the oven were still in place above the arches (Figs 9–21), approximately 2.34m long north-south by 2m wide. Unfired, dried tiles would have been placed on edge on the floor with spaces in between, likely placed on edge across the gaps between the arches, and they would have been built up into stacked layers (Edmondson and Thorn 1989, 80; Cherry 2001, 191).

5.70. No other superstructure survived, which is not uncommon. The superstructure would have comprised a temporary covering over the stacked tiles, probably of brick, tile or turf, with a vent or openings to allow gases to escape (Ryan 1999, 20; Cherry 2001, 191; Pearson 2018). At Radwinter (also in Essex), the kiln was found to be filled with debris from a clay dome, which may have come from the structure (Drury 1979, 25).

Flue entrance

5.71. The sloping front of the kiln, 2969 (Figs. 19–21, Fig. 20 Section LL), comprised double flue entrances (stoke holes) facing north, shaped from a solid clay material that appeared to be fired or baked, either through the effects of heat during the use of the kiln or potentially prior to use. This structure measured 1.25m long, 0.90m wide and 0.65m deep at the base. Such front structures, with gaps behind them, are documented elsewhere. They may have provided additional insulation on the side of the kiln that was open to the air (Drury *et al.* 1975, 144; Regan *et al*. forthcoming), or potentially acted as reinforcement where the heat would have been most intense, to counteract expansion of the walls and lift (Dale and Caiger 1974, 31). Some kilns show repair and extension of flue entrances, although there does not appear to have been evidence that that was the case here (see Discussion, Section 8).

Backfill

5.72. The kiln was filled with rubble and debris, 3144 (Fig. 20, Section LL, and Fig. 21), packed tight throughout the kiln chamber, comprising fired clay, mortar and occasional roof ‘corner tile pieces’ as noted by the excavator. The fill may have consisted of rubble from the roof of the kiln structure, used to patch or pack the kiln to stop it from collapsing after use, or may have comprised other material; some fragments of hip and ridge tile from the kiln were noted to be of late- or post-medieval date (Anderson, this report).

Stoke pit

The stoke pit sloped towards the kiln entrance (Figs 20 and 23), and it is likely that it was periodically raked out. The downward slope might also have assisted with the fuelling of the kiln. In some other excavated kilns, steps were recorded (e.g. Danbury, Drury *et al.* 1975, 92). These were not observed at Finchingfield, although the western portion of the stoke pit was not excavated. Deposits in the pit relate to the use, disuse and backfilling of the kiln (Fig. 23, Section OO), and are detailed in Table 2, along with a summary of artefactual evidence:

Context	Description	Purpose	Finds (No. sherds)
2962	Charcoal rich, over the sloping base of the cut on the north side, 3.56m long and up to 0.9m deep (Fig. 22).	Primary deposit – rake-out from the kiln	C11th–13th pottery (1), C12th–14th (4), C13th–15th (3), late medieval/post medieval CBM (3), piece of copper alloy strap end 1250–1400 (Ra. 1), nail (N5), a piece of quern.
2963	Light grey-brown silty clay, tipped over deposit 2962 from the east, 1.44m long and 0.54m deep. It contained charcoal lenses, chalk inclusions and fired clay.	Deliberate dump?	CBM and pottery.
2964, 2965	Red/brown dark friable brown silty clay with chalk and clay inclusions c. 0.4m deep between the baked clay material of the flue entrance and possible dump 2963, with large pieces of fired clay, pottery sherds and CBM	Dumped deposit?	
2966	whitish brown silty clay with chalk, burnt clay, pottery, CBM inclusions, 4m long and 0.48m deep	Dump?	
2967	Compact yellow brown silty clay, across the pit, with CBM, bone, fired clay and chalk,	Dump?	A ceramic peg (Ra. 2), a probable door strap hinge C12th to 16th (Ra. 24), a medieval nail (N4), ceramic date of late C14–16th (33).
2968	Reddish-brown silty clay, a concreted layer of fired clay 1.70m long in the top of the pit.	Silting up/demolition?	

Table 2. Elements of kiln 2953

5.73. Environmental sample 104 was taken from the lower fill of the stoke pit, 2962. This contained charcoal, free threshing wheat grains and large legume seed fragments (broad bean or garden pea). One of the cereal grains from this deposit gave a radiocarbon date of 1163–1261 cal. AD at 95% probability (SUERC-107040), although given its relatively early date in relation to the site sequence, this material may have been residual. Other fills within the pit contained fragments of fired clay and CBM that may represent demolition material derived from the kiln or other structures. The ceramic assemblage of 33 pottery sherds from fill 2967 gave an overall suggested date for the context of late 14th–16th century for this final fill in the post-use stage of the pit, which appears consistent date with the ridge and hip tile fragments found associated with the kiln.

Mixing pit

5.74. Undated pit 3147 lay *c.* 2m west of the kiln. It measured 1.4m by 1.1m and 0.14m deep and was filled by 3148, a chalky, light silty clay deposit (Fig. 25). It may have been used to mix the clay/mortar for the kiln.

Pit 3061 – cess pit?

5.75. A large irregular pit, 3061, was located close to the kiln (Fig. 26, Section PP). It had sides that undercut the natural gravels and measured 2.9m long (north-west to south-east), 0.96m wide and 1.28m deep, with four fills: a dark silty clay at the base (3062), a mid-coloured silty clay (3063), and pale silty clay/gravels (3068 and 3064). A small, medieval lead alloy textile mount (Ra. 4) and a nail (Ra. 13) were recovered from the lower fill, with a few oyster shell fragments. Overall, an assemblage of 187 sherds of pottery across all the fills dates them to the late 13th/14th or 14th(?) century. A fragment of quern was recovered from 3063, with three pieces of CBM and four pieces of animal bone from 3064. Environmental sample 110 from the primary fill, 3062, yielded charcoal and cereal grains. A radiocarbon date of 1305–1411 cal. AD at 95% probability (SUERC-107043) was obtained from one cereal grain, consistent with the ceramic dates. The pit appears to have contained domestic waste. As suggested in the Discussion, it may perhaps have served as a cess/rubbish pit associated with the kiln.

5.76. To the north of this pit and perpendicular to it, an undated feature 1120 was recorded in the evaluation as a possible beam slot. It was 0.62m wide, 3.51m long and 0.16m deep, with rounded termini, filled by a silty gravel (1121).

Pit 2994 – well?

5.77. Pit 2994, which was cut into chalk, may have been a well (Fig. 27, Section QQ). It was located southwards of the terminal ends of ditches 3346 and 3347, cutting curvilinear ditch 3342 (also Phase 2.2). It measured *c.* 2.2m in diameter and was 1.34m deep, with fills rich in pottery, with some oyster and mussel shell and a few pieces of animal bone. The lowest fill, 2995, was a wet dark, sandy, silt clay which was 0.18m deep, from which a copper alloy buckle (Ra. 6) and an iron buckle plate (Ra. 18) were recovered, both dated to 1250–1400. The pottery, 31 sherds (530g), gave a date for the context of the 14th–15th centuries. Environmental sample 108 yielded charcoal, chaff fragments, weed seeds, a few fragments of pea and broad bean and a relatively large quantity of free threshing wheat, overall indicative of dumped domestic/crop processing waste material, perhaps from a drying oven (Hunter Dowse, Appendix C). One cereal grain gave a radiocarbon date of 1283–1394 cal. AD at 95% probability (SUERC-107041). The second fill, 2996, was a dark silty clay that was 0.6m deep with charcoal and shell inclusions, with 35 sherds of pottery, including a number of sherds of a Mill Green ware jug, indicating an overall date of the 14th? century. Other finds included a nail (N2), and one sherd of possibly

Roman CBM. Environmental sample 107 from this fill produced cereal grains (Aitken 2023). The upper fill, 2997, 0.6m deep, was a mid grey-brown sandy silt clay with a date of the mid to late 13th+ centuries indicated from 56 sherds of pottery.

Other features associated with Enclosures 3 and 4

5.78. Other pits in the area may have related to activity at the kiln.

5.79. Pit 3033 cut ditch 3346. It was 1.9m by 1.45m, and 0.23m deep, and 85 sherds of pottery with an overall date for the context of the late 13th–14th century were recovered, one of the largest quantities (373g) from the site, with oyster shell fragments, 11 fragments of animal bone, a medieval nail, and a small piece of burnt flint (3g).

5.80. Pit 3222 also cut the ditches (Fig. 16, Section KK, and Fig. 17). It was sub-square in plan with vertical, almost undercut sites, 2.8m by 1.90m, and 1.16m deep. It had three fills which yielded a few pieces of animal bone. The lower fill, 3223, contained an assemblage of nine sherds of late medieval to post-medieval CBM and 17 sherds of pottery, some of late 13th–14th century date, with one piece of bone. Cereal grains were recovered from environmental sample 116 (Aitken 2023). Fills 3224 and 3225 also included finds of 21 sherds of pottery (overall dated to the late 12th/13th and 13th–14th century), four fragments of medieval CBM, nails (N1 and Ra.15), and an unidentified iron object.

5.81. Two hearths (2954 and 2958) were located within Enclosure 4, northwards of the kiln Figs 4 and 5), and posthole Structure 4 was located to the west of it (Figs 4 and 31). Both may have been related to activities at the kiln, although due to a lack of dating evidence, and the earlier Phase 2.1 activity in the area, they are presented below as features of Phase 2.0.

Oven north of Enclosure 4

5.82. Westwards of boundary 3335 and north of the kiln and its enclosure, the base of an oven or kiln, 2984, was oriented north-east to south-west (Figs 4 and 28). It measured 2.48m by 1.3m. At the north-eastern end, 1.3m of the base was covered with a layer of small and medium stones, in a silty clay matrix 0.1m deep, 2985. At the south-west, remains of the fired clay oven structure were recorded (2988). Finds from the fills, 2984, 2985, 2987 and 2989, included charcoal, a piece of animal bone, 19 sherds of 12th–14th century with individual sherds dated to the 13th–14th century, and three pieces of fired clay. Environmental sample 106 from fill 2989 produced an

assemblage of cereal grains, chaff fragments and weed seeds at assessment (Aitken 2023), although a smaller volume was recorded in further analysis of the rest of the sample and spent fuel had probably been cleared out (Hunter Dowse, Appendix C below). Oven 2984 was different in form to the ovens within the enclosure associated with the kiln (2955 and 2959; see below, paragraph 5.96). The stonier north-east end may have been an oven chamber, heated from a fire in the flue, in the manner of a drying kiln.

5.83. A series of undated postholes (3240–52, Structure 3) likely represent the remains of a screen or enclosure related to the oven (see below, Undated), perhaps a wind break to protect it from south-westerly winds.

West of Ditch 3335

5.84. Westwards of Enclosure 4 and boundary ditch 3335, a cluster of three shallow, oval pits, 2910, 2911 and 2912, lay towards the trackway to the south. These had concave sloping sides and flat or uneven bases and were 1.2m–3m long, 1.2m–1.5m wide and 0.05–0.22m deep, all filled by 2913, a mid-grey-brown silty clay. The cluster could represent an area of trampled ground, possibly near to the corner of a field, with posthole 3235 *c.* 4m to the south-west possibly representing a gate post: 12 pottery sherds have been dated to the late 13th–14th centuries.

Southern side of the road

5.85. The south-eastern corner of the excavation captured a small sample of the former boundaries and features on the south side of the former road (discussed further below, Phase 2.0).

5.86. Ditch 3200, 1.6m wide and 0.42m deep, reflected the prevailing orientation of features to the north. It had two silty fills, the upper of which, 3202, gave an assemblage of 11 sherds dated to the 13th–14th centuries, and eight fragments of animal bone, including pig. Six oyster shells were also recovered. The ditch terminated where it met ditch 3345 that was associated with the trackway. The fills of both features were similar, and it is likely that they were open at the same time, suggesting a wider field system of this date.

Phase 2.0: 12th–14th century AD

5.87. This broader 12th–14th century phase includes medieval features which cannot be associated with certainty to either Phase 2.1 or Phase 2.2; although the range and proportions of ceramic fabrics in this general period group are noted to be closer to those of Phase 2.2 than 2.1 (Anderson, Appendix B below).

Pits within Enclosure 1

5.88. Within Enclosure 1, multiple pits were excavated which seem to respect the layout of the enclosure and subdivisions (Fig. 4). As noted above (Phase 2.1), the lower fills of the pits contain generally earlier dated material (12th–13th century) and the upper fills later material (12th–15th century). Whilst the lower fills of the pits could contain residual material, it is more probable that material accumulated in the upper fills of earlier pits which remained as depressions. However, given the varied relationships between them and the enclosure ditches, the pits have not been assigned to either more specific phase. They were cut into gravelly clay.

5.89. Rectangular pit 3111/3190 was within Enclosure 1, although perhaps more aligned to the road than the ditches. It measured 2.12m north–south by 1.87m, and was 0.66m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base (Fig. 29), possibly reminiscent of a later medieval cess pit. The lower fill, 3112, was a 0.26m depth of sandy silty clay noted to include lenses of redeposited natural material. The ceramic assemblage of four sherds gave an overall date of 11th–13th+ century for the context. Environmental sample 115 contained a moderate number of cereal grains and seeds mainly of foodstuff species, including vetch/wild pea, bean/pea, oat/brome grass and hazelnut shell, interpreted as a dump of domestic food processing material (Aitken 2023). The upper fill, 3113, was a silty clay from which object Ra. 27 (a piece of hinge/strip fitting fragment) and nails (N24) were recovered, along with one sherd of Roman pottery, 21 sherds of 12th–14th pottery, and one sherd of 15th–16th century pottery. Although the relationship was unclear, pit 3188 seemed to cut this pit (see below, paragraph 5.91).

5.90. To the north of a subdivision in the enclosure, pit 3177 was sub-circular, measuring 2.5m by 1.24m, and 0.66m deep (Fig. 29). It had two fills, similar to 3174 which cut it, and four sherds of mid-late 12th–14th century date were recovered from the lower fill, 3178. Environmental sample 113 from fill 3178 was found to contain minimal amounts of charred plant remains including weed seeds and cabbage, suggested to have derived from wind-blown/dispersed domestic settlement waste (Aitken 2023).

5.91. Rectilinear pit 3174 (Fig. 29), 2.5m by 2.1m and 1.10m deep, with near vertical sides, was perpendicular to 3111 and cut pit 3177, as well as one of the enclosure ditches, 3332. From the dark silty clay primary fill, 3175, an assemblage of nine sherds of 11th–14th century pottery was recovered, with a suggested date of mid-12th to 13th? century for the context. Also recovered were 11 pieces of animal bone. Environmental sample 114 from this fill contained minimal amounts of charred plant remains

including weed seeds and cabbage, suggested to have derived from wind-blown/dispersed domestic settlement waste (Aitken 2023). A secondary fill, 3176, with redeposited lenses, was dated overall to the late 13th to mid-14th centuries from 62 sherds of pottery, including a sherd of Rouen whiteware, noted to be unusual for a medieval site, along with 15 pieces of animal bone and two unidentified metal objects (Ra.s 29 and 30).

5.92. Pits 3186 and 3188 were intercutting against the eastern edge of the excavation. Pit 3188 was at least 1.26m wide. Pit 3186, which cut it, was at least 1.68m long and filled by 3187, a medium black, grey silty clay from which six sherds of mid-late 12th–14th century pottery sherds were recovered, and a copper alloy object (Ra. 5). This pit also to cut ditch 3333.

5.93. The character of these pits is further considered in Section 8.

Features within Enclosures 2 and 3

5.94. Phase 2.0 features within Enclosures 2 and 3 likely relate to activity in the area, and, spatially, may relate best to Phase 2.1 activity, although they are not tightly dated. Eastwards of Structure 1, two pieces of mid-12th to 14th century pottery were recovered from fill 3294 of pit 3293, which was 1.8m by 1.4m, and 0.16m deep. Two further postholes lay to the south of ditch 3342; 3014, which was 0.6m by 0.52m and 0.26m deep, from which one sherd of pottery with a date of mid-12th to 13th+ was recovered, and 3016, a possible posthole, 0.4m in diameter and 0.24m deep (Fig. 27, Section QQ).

Features within Enclosure 4

Structure 2

5.95. Postholes which indicate a six-post structure (Structure 2) were excavated to the west of the kiln, within Enclosure 4 and on the same alignment as the enclosure and features within it. No finds were recovered from the postholes, but they have been assigned to Phase 2.0 and are assumed to be medieval on the basis of their spatial position within the enclosure. The structure would have been at least 1.6m north-west to south-east and at least 2.5m east to west, although any superstructure supported by the opposing pairs of posts could have been much larger. The corner postholes were marginally deeper. Features identified as workshops, drying sheds and worktables have been identified at other tileries, and are discussed further in Section 8. Details of the postholes are presented in Table 3 and Figure 31:

Cut	Dimensions	Fill	Position
3108, steep sides and uneven base (Fig. 31, Section RR)	0.5m diameter, 018m deep	3019 dark brown silty clay	NW corner
3016 steep sides and uneven base	0.38m diameter, 018m deep	3107, grey light brown gravelly clay	SW corner
3196 concave sides and flat base	0.49m east-west, 0.35m north-south, 0.11m deep	3197, a mid-grey-brown silty clay,	Centre, north
3207, concave sides and flat base (Fig. 31, Section SS)	0.58m long, 0.5m wide, 0.11m deep	3208, light grey-brown clay	Centre, south
3198, deep with vertical sides and irregular base	0.35m by 0.25m, 0.26m deep	3199, mid grey-brown silty clay	NE corner
3297 (Fig. 31, Section TT)	0.49m by 0.26m, 0.34m deep	3298, a mid-dark silty clay	SE corner

Table 3. Details of postholes associated with Structure 2

5.96. Postholes 3242 to the south-east and 3315 to the north-west (Fig. 31) may have been associated with Structure 2, however, and artefacts were recovered from their single fills. Posthole 3242 was 0.6m by 0.4m and 0.3m deep, with near vertical sides, and two pieces of medieval to late medieval CBM were recovered. Posthole 3315 was 0.9m by 0.73m and 0.3m deep with a steep cut, and nine fragments of 12th–14th century pottery and five pieces of burnt clay were recovered from it.

Hearths and pits

5.97. Two smaller hearths or ovens were excavated within Enclosure 4 (Fig. 32). Spatially, they relate well to the kiln and enclosure, although they may also have been contemporary with Phase 2.1 activity in the wider area. The northernmost of the two features, 2954, was oriented south-west/north-east and comprised a subcircular pit, 2m by 1.2m, with a lining or structure of clayey, chalky material, 2955, that was 0.12m deep and which had been altered by heat. The primary fill, 2956, a similarly heat-altered chalky, clay material that was 0.08m deep, included one piece of bone and four pieces of pottery that gave a suggested date for the context of the 12th to mid-13th century. A siltier fill lay over this, 2957, from which one piece of bone was recovered along with 36 sherds of 12th–14th century pottery with a date of the mid to late 13th century suggested for the context. The smaller oven, to the southwest, 2958, was 0.9m in diameter and 0.12m deep with a moderately rounded base. It was lined by heat-altered stone, gravel, flint and baked clay 0.12m thick 2959, overlain by a mid-red brown mottled compact fill with flecks of chalk and burnt clay 0.12m thick, 2960. A posthole located to the north-east of 2954 may be related, 2982. This was sub-circular, *c.* 0.26m in diameter and 0.12m deep, and a sherd of 12th–14th century pottery was recovered from its fill.

5.98. Also located within Enclosure 4 were pits 3156 and 3031. Pit 3156 was located 2m to the west of the Phase 2.2 kiln. It was 0.8m by 0.7m and 0.18m deep, filled by 3157, from which a single 12th–13th century potsherd was recovered. Pit 3031 lay slightly to the north-west of the kiln (Fig. 33, Section UU), 1.7m by 1.1m and 0.8m deep, filled by 3032, a mid to dark grey-brown silty clay from which three sherds of 11th–13th century pottery and one sherd of 12th–14th century pottery were recovered (17g in total). Pit 3022, further west, was 0.6m long, 0.5m wide by 0.07m deep, and was filled by 3023, a dark grey-brown silty clay which yielded a small fragment of 12th–14th century pottery and a fiddle-key nail (Ra. 26).

Boundary Ditch 3335

5.99. Ditch 3335, which seems to have spanned Phases 2.1 and 2.2, formed part of the regularly laid out enclosure and ditch system running perpendicular to the road, and it likely formed a more substantial field or property boundary. It was approximately 1m wide and 0.4m deep down its length (cuts 3317, 3038, and 3233), deepening to 0.68m at the southern terminus (3233). The separate clusters of Phase 2.1 pits appear to respect it, as do the later enclosures, suggesting that it was a longstanding boundary. The ditch terminated immediately before reaching ditch 3346 that was associated with the trackway. The main fills (3318, 3039, and 1204 excavated in the evaluation) gave overall suggested dates of 13th century or later from med/late medieval CBM and ceramics, with the largest assemblage of pottery from fill 3039, in a section cut in the vicinity of other features. The fill of the terminus, 3234, included ceramics with an overall date for the context of the 14th–15th century. The ditch ran northwards into quarry pit 3319 (see below, paragraph 5.100), but the relationship between them was not discernible due to the similarity of their fills (3318 and 3320).

5.100. Pit or posthole 3235 was close to the southern terminus of ditch 3335. It was 1m by 0.6m and 0.66m deep, with steep sides; given the proximity to the ditch, it may have been for a gatepost at a corner. A sherd of pottery dated to the early to mid-13th century or later was recovered, with a piece of sheep jaw.

Quarry pit

5.101. The northern end of ditch 3335 terminated in large feature 3319, which was probably a quarry pit (Fig. 30). It measured 10m by 9m by 1m deep, and was cut into an area of orange clay. The fill, 3320, was a brown silty clay with moderate charcoal inclusions, not distinguishable on site from ditch 3317. Only six sherds of pottery were recovered from sondages in the pit: one Roman, one 11th–13th century; and four of

mid-late 12th–14th century date. Eleven pieces of animal bone were recovered, including pieces of cattle, sheep/goat and horse.

Pits between enclosures

5.102. Two pits were excavated to the east of ditch 3355. Pit 3040 was sub-rectangular, 2.14m north–south and 1.86m wide, and 0.1m deep, with rounded edges, concave sides and an undulating base, and may have been for a similar purpose as the Phase 2.1 pits to the south. An assemblage of 25 sherds of 12th–14th century pottery were recovered from the fill, with one piece of animal bone. A possible tree throw hole, 3065, westwards of it, 1.28 by 1.09m and 0.26m deep, had two fills, 3066 and 3067, from which seven sherds of mid-12th to 14th century pottery were recovered.

Southern side of the road

5.103. As noted above for Phase 2.2, the south-eastern corner of the excavation captured a small sample of the former boundaries and features on the south side of the former road, including a series of pits dug into wetter deposits.

5.104. Ditch 3348 ran broadly west to east from the track, parallel to later ditch 3343 (Phase 4, see below). It increased in size from 0.9m to 2m wide and from 0.26m to 0.4m deep (cuts 2922, 3299). The two fills became wetter and more organic with more blue-grey clay content to the south-east (2923, 2924, 3300 and 3301). Three sherds of pottery were recovered from upper fill 3301 with a date of 13th? century for the context, along with a piece of cattle bone and 15 horse bone (with molars and fragments that may have come from a skull or jawbone). Other features in the southern part of the site, comprise two pit groups (3351 and 2919), a number of undated postholes (3122 to 3134), a ditch (3302) and a possible undated quarry (3350). All appear to respect ditch 3348, suggesting that it may have formed a property boundary.

Waterlogged pits

5.105. The pits to the south of ditch 3348 were low lying and varied in shape (Fig 34). Pits 2914 and 3351 (cut 2916) were intercutting. Pit 2914 was sub-circular, 0.99m by 0.77m by 0.16m deep. Four sherds of pottery, one dated to the 13th century, were recovered from its single fill. It was cut by 3351, an oval shaped pit which measured 6.2m north–south and was 1.2m wide, by 0.52 to 0.66m deep, with a shelved base into waterlogged deposits. The basal fill was a mid-brown silty clay (0104, 2917 and 2920) with charcoal and snail inclusions, four pieces of animal bone, oyster shell and 44 sherds of medieval pottery, with two sherds more specifically dated to the 13th

century. Environmental samples from fill 0104 taken in the evaluation included charred wheat grains, cabbage(?) seeds in low numbers, and fragments of oyster shell. The upper fills (0105, 2918 and 2921) included a similar range of finds, and of the 38 sherds of pottery, one has been more specifically dated to the late 13th–14th century.

5.106. Pits 2904 and 2907 lay immediately to the west of these pits. Pit 2907 was sub-circular, 1m in diameter by 0.4m deep, filled by wet clay silts. Pit 2904/0106, which cut it, was oval with moderately steep, concave sides (Fig. 34). It measured 3.5m wide, 2.3m long and 0.4m deep. The lower fill (0107 and 2905), which was 0.28m deep, was a wet black-brown silty clay from which 11 sherds of 11th–14th century pottery were recovered. The upper fill (0108 and 2906) was an orange-brown sandy silty clay from which four pottery sherds dating to the 12th–14th centuries were recovered. The lower fill may have related to the primary use of the pits.

5.107. A complex of features was excavated at the southern site edge (Fig. 35). A shallow ditch, 3349, was filled by dark or reddish silty clay. Four sherds of 12th–14th century pottery and five pieces of cattle/sheep or goat bone were recovered from its single fill (3284 and 3303). This ditch ran along the edge of an area of alluvium/mixed organic material which lay over blue clay in a shallow depression in the corner of the site, and which measured 8.7m by 3.37m in area and was up to 0.5m deep (3350). It may be that material had been extracted from the hollow (discussed further in Section 8). A series of stakeholes were excavated in the base of these features (3285-90, 3307 and 3308), which may have related to a means of accessing the lower lying wet area, or which could have been natural features in the clay.

5.108. A series of shallow undated, similar postholes were in the vicinity of this depression, Structure 6 (see below, Undated). They also may perhaps have related to a platform or means of accessing the lower lying area.

Phase 3: Late medieval to post-medieval

5.109. The majority of activity on the site has been dated to the 12th to 14th centuries, although there was ongoing use of the trackway through the later medieval and early post-medieval periods, with apparent maintenance and consolidation of the lower lying area at its western end, perhaps to alleviate flooding. This phase likely also saw the infilling of the kiln, as noted above (Phase 2.2). Pit 3005 also dates to the late medieval period.

Trackway 3353

5.110. As noted above, the Phase 2 features and enclosures were laid out from the trackway, and a Phase 2.2 date has been tentatively suggested for some of the length of its flanking ditches. However, deposits directly associated with and overlying the trackway surface include later material, reflecting its continued use.

5.111. The trackway was 4.5m to 5.5m wide, and between 0.57 and 0.72m deep (Fig. 12, Section GG). Evidence of wheel ruts which were approximately 1.5m to 1.6m (4ft 8½ – 5¼ ft) apart were noted in the base, and these could date to any phase of use of the route. Towards the eastern site edge and in the evaluation, sections were excavated through the trackway where there were no interactions with other features (cut 2927, and 1103 excavated in the evaluation, not illustrated). The surface was overlain by silty, sandy clay deposits 2928/1104 and 1105, from which an assemblage of ten sherds included three of late 13th–14th century date, a 'fiddle key' type nail, seven fragments of late medieval to post-medieval CBM, shell, two pieces of animal bone, and a piece of clay pipe (7g).

5.112. In the next section to the west, there were three deposits overlying cut 2940 of the track (Fig. 4), 2941, 2942 and 2943 (section not illustrated), and a possible recut of flanking ditch 3345 (cut 2937) was recorded to cut the lower fill, 2941. This was a very compact deposit with rounded stones and flint, which included medieval finds as well as a horseshoe fragment of probable 15th century or later date (Ra. 28) and a possible knife fragment (Ra. 20). Finds from deposits (2928, 2942 and 2943, 3027 and 3028) overlying the trackway included small mixed assemblages of medieval pottery, late medieval pottery, post-medieval pottery, a quern fragment, animal bone, unidentified objects, nails (N16), Roman/medieval CBM and oyster shell, a medieval (or possibly post-medieval) knife fragment (Ra. 32) and other medieval and later medieval horseshoes (Ra. 25, Ra. 7, Ra. 8 and Ra. 31). The south-western section of the trackway, with more stratified deposits, lay towards wetter land. A feature that appeared to be a raised pathway 1.9m wide, 3036, lay adjacent to it, slightly higher than the trackway (Fig. 4). Both this and the track at the western end were metalled with stones in a matrix of grey-brown silty sandy clay (2970), 0.3m deep. This may have reflected a need to overcome problems associated with crossing a wetter area.

5.113. On the northern side, ditch 3344 (cuts 3029 and 3089) widened towards the south-west. It was 1m–3m wide and 0.55m–0.65m deep, and was observed to cut the raised pathway associated with the trackway (3036) and layers (3028) over the track. Fills 3094, 3095 and 3030 yielded 12 pieces of medieval to late medieval CBM, five pieces

of 11th–13th century pottery, 13 pieces of 12th–14th century pottery, and two pieces of animal bone.

Pit

5.114. Feature 3005 was not easily discernible in the complex of stratified features in the area. It was 1.8m wide and 0.4m deep and appeared to cut or sit within the corner of curvilinear feature 3342 (Fig. 27, Section QQ). The feature had a rounded base and was filled by a dark grey black clay sand (3006) with charcoal flecks, with an overall date of 14th–15th century from 43 sherds of pottery, mainly of 13th century date, and two pieces of animal bone.

Hollow

5.115. Towards the south-western corner of the site, the routeway ran towards lower lying ground. In this area, it overlay part of a hollow, 3091, which was possibly natural in origin or which arose from extraction. It was filled by 3101, a mottled silty clay into which ditch 3354 (Phase 2.1) was cut, over a blue grey silty clay, 3102. A further fill of the hollow, 3097, was a light mottled silty clay from which came animal bone, medieval pottery, a Palaeolithic hand axe, and CBM (including medieval and late medieval/post-medieval bricks with mortar adhering). This layer overlaid ditch 3090 (Phase 2.1), and pit 3104 (post-medieval) was cut into it.

Phase 4: Post-medieval

5.116. This phase represents a change in organisation of the site, with a ditch (3343) cutting the trackway 3353 and flanking ditch 3345, suggesting that they had gone out of use. The ditch ran across both excavation areas and equates to a boundary shown on the 19th century Tithe Map (Fig. 3). Ditches 0505 and 7933 in Area 2 may relate to it (Fig. 6). Pits 2980 and 3104 also date to this phase.

5.117. Ditch 3343 ran east/west across the southern part of the site and correlates with the boundary shown on the Tithe Map that separates ‘Cobham’s Meadow’ from ‘Cobham’s’. The ditch was up to 2m wide (2977, 3057, 0305 and 7929), with between one and four silty fills along its length. The lower fill (2961, 2978, 3058 and 7930) yielded objects of medieval date, with unidentified object Ra. 12 from 7930 (cut 7929). Fill 3058 (cut 3057), from the vicinity of features 3005 and 3055, gave an assemblage of 75 sherds of 13th+ century pottery, as well as five pieces of a near complete smithing cake, albeit likely removed from the original smithing location. The middle fills (2934, 2935 and 7931) yielded a piece of Roman/medieval CBM and two pieces

of animal bone. Two pieces of medieval pottery, post-medieval CBM and a post-medieval horseshoe (RA9) were recorded from the upper fills.

5.118. Two parallel curvilinear ditches were excavated in Area 2. In the evaluation, the northern of the two, 0505, was noted to be 0.7m wide and 0.23m deep and filled with a light blue silty clay, 0504, which contained an assemblage of freshly struck flint recovered from an environmental sample (Fig. 6). The site strip for excavation showed that the ditch segment did not extend much beyond the evaluation trench. Slots in the more southern ditch 7933 (cuts 7914 and 7927, Fig. 6) showed it to be of similar dimensions, 0.55–0.62m wide and 0.25m deep, filled with an orange silty clay (contexts 7915 and 7928). A 17th century crotal bell (Ra. 3) was recorded from 7928. This ditch ran beyond the western limit of excavation, and to the east was cut by a field drain, and ran into a natural feature, 7924, from which four pieces of dog bone were recovered. These ditches follow the same alignment as ditch group 3343, which ran between them (represented by cut 7929 in this area, with a much darker fill), and so they may be the remains of shallow flanking ditches to the later 3343 boundary, rather than of prehistoric date (see above, Phase 1); although there was some contamination risk due to the field drains in the area.

5.119. To the south of ditch 3343 in Area 1, Phase 4 pit 2980 was *c.* 0.9m in diameter and 0.4m deep; residual medieval pottery was recovered, along with four pieces of post-medieval CBM and a horseshoe fragment (Ra. 16). Feature 3104, in the vicinity, was oval in shape and lay against the western edge of the excavation; it was at least 1m wide, 1.70m long and 0.4m deep. The pit contained the remains of an 18th/19th century brick feature, comprising tile and three unfrogged bricks in a row (Anderson, this report).

Phase 5: Modern

5.120. Three field drains ran in a north-west/south-east alignment across Area 2.

Undated

5.121. A number of undated features have been mentioned above, due to their spatial relationship to other features. These have either been fully described where appropriate, or they do not merit further detail, and are as follows: pit 3228 (see above, Phase 1), pits and postholes 3153, 3180, 3071, 3069, 2973, 3258 and 3260 (see above, Phase 2.1), posthole 3238, chalk rich pit 3147 and beam slot 1120 (see above, Phase 2.2), Structure 2, pit 2907, hollow or quarry 3350 (see above, Phase 2.0). Other undated features are presented here.

Within Enclosure 2/Enclosure 3

5.122. Within Enclosure 1, ditch 3269 was 2.5m long, 0.23m wide and 0.25m deep. It had three similar sandy fills, 3270–72. It was parallel to Phase 2.1 features, but different in character. Some features in this area contained some residual Roman, early medieval and prehistoric sherds (3161 in 3060, 3137 in 3136, 3141 in 3339, close to 3137), and this feature and undated pits 3153 and 3180 features may represent earlier activity.

Hearth

5.123. An undated hearth, oven or kiln base, 2931, lay to the south-east of Phase 2.1 ditches and Structure 1, in the southern corner of Enclosure 2. It may therefore be associated with other features in this phase, although cannot be dated by association with artefactual evidence. The feature comprised a small pit 0.8m long and 0.12m deep, possibly a keyhole shaped oven. A layer of clay in the base appeared to have been burnt *in situ* (Fig. 36). The fill, 2932, was a mid-reddish yellow silty clay with inclusions of burnt clay and charcoal.

Structure 3: windbreak?

5.124. To the north of Enclosure 4, and possibly associated with oven 2984 (Phase 2.2), a number of postholes were arranged in a curvilinear pattern aligned approximately north-west to south-east (Structure 3: postholes 3240, 3244, 3246, 3248 and 3250). The postholes were between 0.25m and 0.4m in diameter and 0.10 to 0.16m deep, and, if they do represent a post-built fence, it would have been at least 9.3m long. They may represent a screen or enclosure, perhaps a wind break to protect the oven from south-westerly winds: this suggestion is put forward on the basis that a curvilinear form would have leant a structure a further degree of strength. Two postholes to the north-east of the oven were also similar (3256 and 3255).

Structures 4 and 5

5.125. Structure 4 is represented by a group of four undated postholes in an area of medieval activity. They were between 0.3m and 0.5m in diameter and up to 0.10m deep (cut and fill numbers 3321–28). The postholes could be the remains of a rectilinear arrangement *c.* 3m by 6m and may represent a small building or other structure associated with agricultural, domestic or industrial activities.

5.126. Structure 5 is represented by a trio of undated postholes (3162, 3164 and 3166) excavated adjacent to the road, within an area of natural deposits that lay south of the kiln enclosure. Posthole 3162 was 0.55m in diameter and 0.2m deep; 3164 was

0.75m by 0.4m and 0.15m deep; and 3166 was 0.57m by 0.33m wide and 0.11m deep (fills 3163, 3165, 3167). The triangle they form measures 1.5m by 1m by 1.6m along its 'sides', with the shortest edge against the road. The posts may have been hitching posts or some other roadside installation. It is also a possibility that the triangular of Structure 5 could have supported an A-frame for lifting items.

Structure 6

5.127. Towards the lowest lying, southern part of the site, near to feature 3350, a hollow or area of extraction, Structure 6 was represented by shallow postholes 3134, 3132, 3130, 3128, 3122, 3124, 3126 and 3120. They were approximately 0.2m wide and 0.07m to 0.08m deep and all were filled by a dark grey-brown silty clay with charcoal flecks. They appear to form a rectilinear arrangement, with a north–south dimension of *c*. 2.3m and an east–west dimension of *c*. 6.5m. They may perhaps have related to a platform or means of accessing the lower lying area.

Field boundaries south of the track

5.128. Two smaller, curvilinear ditches, 3291 and 3279, lay within the southern part of the site. These were 0.4m to 0.5m wide and *c.* 0.14m deep, filled by a light sandy silt (3292 and 3280). They are undated but were similarly aligned to medieval and post-medieval features and may represent further property boundary divisions. They could be earlier, although sample 119 from 3279 produced a small number of cereal grains and vetch/wild pea seeds, and was generally comparable to samples from medieval features (Aitken 2023).

6. THE FINDS

Summary

6.1. Table 5 presents a quantification of finds from the site. All finds collected during the excavation have been cleaned, marked, quantified and catalogued by context. Metalwork has been X-rayed and stabilised where appropriate.

Type	Category	Count	Weight (g)
Pottery	Prehistoric	13	15
	Prehistoric/Esax?	8	15
	Roman	10	92
	Medieval	2190	19,748
	Post-medieval/modern	1	2
	Total	2222	19,872
Flint	Worked	36	394
	Burnt	4	37
Fired Clay	'Mortar' from kiln	122	881
	Other fired clay from kiln	129	764
	Fired clay – non kiln	169	799
Brick/tile (CBM)	All	212	19,265
Metals	Iron	74	1,541
	Copper alloy	4	35
	Lead alloy	1	<1
	Composite	1	15
Worked bone	All	1	tbc
Stone	Lava	10	1,499
	Chalk	1	1
Clay pipe	All	1	7
Industrial waste	Slag	5	203

Table 5. Quantification of artefacts from the excavation

6.2. The artefactual assemblages are described in summaries below, which highlight their contributions to the dating and interpretation of the site along with anything unusual or notable. More detailed assessments are set out according to material class in Appendix B. The single piece of clay pipe and the few burnt flints mentioned in the stratigraphic report are not reported on further.

Worked flint

6.3. A small assemblage of 36 prehistoric worked flints was recovered, almost all of which was redeposited in later features. The exceptions were two pieces from prehistoric posthole 7903, and three from unphased features. The condition of the assemblage is poor, consistent with a considerable degree of post-depositional disturbance.

6.4. The assemblage provides general evidence of pre-Iron Age activity in the area, although none of the flints were *in situ.* The most significant find is a Lower Palaeolithic handaxe, recovered with medieval pottery from hollow 3091, which adds to the corpus of known examples from the area (Fig. 38.1, CA 2023). Other periods

represented include the Mesolithic/Early Neolithic (a side scraper) and the Late Neolithic/Bronze Age (indications from the debitage).

Pottery

6.5. Over 2,200 pottery sherds were recovered from the excavation, and over 2,300 including also those from the evaluation. Of these, the majority are medieval in date. Selected sherds are illustrated in Figure 39 and catalogued in Appendix B, below. The assemblage has been fully catalogued and a database of the results is included in the archive. The entire assemblage is retained in the archive.

Pre-medieval pottery

6.6. Several sherds of handmade pottery were recovered, all heavily abraded and likely residual, even in those contexts where they occurred alone. Five sherds in soft, oxidised grog-tempered fabrics are likely to be of Bronze Age date and were found in posthole 3115 (Phase 1) and residual in pit 3230 (Phase 2.1). Other sherds are tempered with flint or quartz but are otherwise undiagnostic, and eight sherds in black, fine, silty fabrics are heavily abraded and could be fired clay. Ten Roman sherds were also recovered, which are abraded and were residual in later contexts.

Medieval pottery

6.7. The presence of only small quantities of early medieval Fabric 12 may suggest that there was little activity at the site prior to the mid/late 12th century. The majority of sherds are in Fabric 13, including the rims of eight jars, three bowls and a dish, with parallel for some of the jars in the Rivenhall and Colchester assemblages. There is also one sherd of a northern East Anglian early medieval ware. Transitional early/high medieval wares include four jars and three bowls.

6.8. The large group of medieval coarsewares (Fabric 20) were in a range of typical local sandy fabrics, including some usual for south-west Suffolk and north-west Essex, and others similar to products of the Mile End and Great Horkesley kilns to the north-west of Colchester. A small group of Hedingham coarsewares was also identified. Most of the rim types can be dated to the later 12th or 13th centuries, although a few later types are present.

6.9. The glazed wares are dominated by Hedingham wares, some of which appear to be late medieval. The Fabric 21 group include some late medieval wares, some of which are Suffolk types. The few rims present include six jugs and a bowl. A large quantity of Mill Green sherds was recovered, mainly from a single jug. Two sherds of late medieval Grimston-type ware are likely from a drinking jug. Other glazed wares

include two unprovenanced English(?) wares and an abraded sherd of Rouen whiteware from France; an unusual find from an inland rural site.

6.10. The assemblage is largely typical of north-west Essex in terms of fabric, form and decoration and comprises mostly regional earthenwares of known and unknown provenance, mostly 12th–14th century in date, with little to suggest continuation of activity much beyond the later 14th or early 15th century. Pottery of high medieval date was more common than early medieval (based on MNV), but both types were found in many contexts; this is not surprising, given that there is likely to have been some contemporaneity of use of the two types spanning the ?mid 12th and 13th centuries.

6.11. The largest quantities were from pit 3046 (Phase 2.1), and from pit 3033 (Phase 2.2) and slots cut into ditches (Phase 2.2), 3055 (3342) and 3231 (3346). A large proportion of the assemblage was recovered from the south of Structure 1 (Phase 2.1), which may perhaps represent midden material which had become incorporated into later ditches; the quantity of pottery was relatively large and may have come from more than one household in the vicinity. Pottery from the upper fill of the stoke pit of the kiln were of Suffolk-type late medieval and transitional ware, suggesting a mid/late 14th century date at the earliest for the infilling of the pit.

6.12. The assemblage appears to be domestic in nature, with the range of wares comprising typical Essex-type cooking vessels, with some table wares including glazed wares of mainly local origin. Most vessels were sooted, some heavily, and a few showed signs of wear.

6.13. The assemblage is important locally as it provides evidence for the range of pottery in use at a rural site located close to a market town. The variety of fabrics which are encompassed by the Essex groups is very broad, and there are also other fabrics which appear to have come from further afield in both Essex and Suffolk, and likely also some Cambridgeshire products. Although the nearest known kilns were located at Great Bardfield (Walker 2012, 21), these produced Hedingham wares which are generally finer than most of the pottery in this assemblage.

Post-medieval pottery

6.14. One post-medieval sherd (16th to 18th century) was recovered, a fragment of a possible bottle, from trackway fill 2940.

Ceramic building material (CBM)

6.15. Fragmentary and complete tiles and bricks totalling 212 pieces were recovered from 32 contexts.

6.16. A few fragments of the assemblage are of Roman or possible Roman date; this material is abraded and was residual in later contexts. Five fragments from pit 3104 (Phase 4) represent post-medieval bricks, likely of 18th to 19th century date.

6.17. For the medieval tile, a wide range of fabric groups is represented, although most have broadly similar inclusions. The main fabrics are fine or medium sandy with flint and ferrous inclusions, with a chalk-tempered variant also relatively frequent. Other natural inclusions in fabrics include clay pellets or chalk. A small proportion of the assemblage is white-fired, but this may be due to partial vitrification associated with the kiln. Roof tiles form the largest part of the assemblage; some complete (broken) tile formed a sample from the kiln structure, with the rest from the fills of ditches, pits and the trackway.

6.18. The sample of tiles used in the construction of the kiln included two complete examples, one in a white fabric and the other in a buff fabric with chalk and ferrous-oxide inclusions. Single and double peg holes are present, all with circular holes. Most of the kiln appears to have been constructed with these pale-firing tiles; however, kiln context 2953 (for the cut of the kiln) included several fragments of hip and ridge tile in darker red and finer fabrics, potentially late medieval (15th–16th century), including one with a square peg hole; these were noted to have come from the backfill. The pottery and small finds associated with the kiln could indicate a mid 13th–14th century date for the earliest fill of the stoke pit (2962). The tile size is comparable with those made at the late 13th to 14th century tile kiln at Danbury (Drury *et al.* 1975, 111), and similar sized tiles were also made at Little Brickhill, dated to the 15th century.

6.19. Elsewhere on the site, CBM was recovered from pit and ditch fills. Some of these contained roof tile fragments in similar fabrics to those recovered from the kiln but a broader range of fabrics was recorded across the site and some of these certainly post-dated the use of the kiln. No wasters were identified save for a few overfired fragments from pit 3342 (Phase 2.2), suggesting that kiln waste may have been transported elsewhere for use as hardcore. There is no evidence for the firing of glazed tiles at Finchingfield.

6.20. A sample of CBM which includes whole tiles from the kiln will be retained with the archive.

Fired clay

6.21. A total of 122 fragments (881g) of fired clay 'mortar' from the kiln and 129 fragments (764g) of other fired clay from the rake-out/stoke pit and the cut for the kiln were recovered. Most are flattish on both surfaces and a few have raised circular areas where the clay had been pressed against the tile peg holes. The 'mortar' is in a medium sandy fabric with chalk and ferrous oxide, similar to the fabric of the medieval roof tiles, but typically red rather than buff. Other fired clay recovered from the kiln comprises some soft, friable pieces in a silty fabric with chalk and grass/straw impressions, likely to represent pieces of the kiln superstructure.

6.22. Fired clay (169 pieces, 799g) not relating to the tile kiln was also recovered. Most of the assemblage comprises relatively small and abraded undiagnostic fragments, likely to represent debris from hearths, oven domes and other fire-related features but none was found *in situ*.

6.23. A sample of fired clay associated with kiln will be retained with the archive.

Metalwork

6.24. Seventy-eight metal objects were recovered. These were predominantly of iron (74 objects), with four of copper alloy, a single one of lead alloy and a composite object of iron and copper alloys. Selected objects are illustrated (Fig. 40).

Dress accessories

6.25. Four objects are related to dress, all suggested to broadly date to AD *c.* 1250–1400 and all from Phase 2.2 contexts. A copper alloy strap end with decorative knops and traces of tinning (Ra. 1), was recovered from the lower fill of the kiln stoke pit (2962). A broken piece, which was difficult to identify securely, could represent part of another strap end (Ra. 6). It was found in possible well 2994, along with a copper alloy buckle (Ra. 18). A lead alloy annular eyelet mount with a projecting tab (Ra. 4) may represent a mount used to reinforce the edge of leather or textile.

Household objects

6.26. The remains of an iron knife was recovered from a deposit over the trackway, 3028, possibly of 13th–14th century date, or post-medieval.

Equestrian objects

6.27. At least eight horseshoes are represented in the assemblage, mostly originating from contexts associated with the trackway. Fragments originating from two horseshoes from fills 2943 and 3028 probably represent pieces of 11th to 13th century date. Further pieces (from trackway fills 2941, 3035 and 3028, ditch 3343, pit 2981) are of a form which became widespread during the 15th century but which does also occur in some earlier contexts. One further fragment was of indeterminate date, and one from fill layer 3028 of the trackway was of post-medieval date (AD *c.* 1600–1800).

6.28. Further, 'fiddle-key' nails utilised in the shoeing of horses and oxen, typically assigned a general 11th–13th century date (although some are known from 14th century contexts) were found in Phase 2.1 features: from ditch 3340, within Enclosure 1 (2929), and from four Phase 2.1 pits 2992, 3001, 3003, 3022 (2.0), 3180 (undated) and 3194 and 3046 outside of enclosures. Two others were recovered from fills over the trackway, where they were likely residual.

Agriculture and subsistence

6.29. A post-medieval crotal bell was recovered from fill 7928 of ditch 7933, likely of a type worn by sheep or goats.

Fixtures and fittings

6.30. The majority of fixtures and fittings comprise iron carpentry nails, generally in poor condition and largely undiagnostic, with a broad date of Roman to post-medieval. Five nails within the assemblage are of medieval type, from Phase 2.1 pits 3003 and 2992, Phase 2.2 pit 3033, from the kiln backfill, 2967, and from boundary ditch 3355.

6.31. A fragment of strap hinge, most likely originating from a door and broadly dated from the 12th to 16th century, was found in the upper fill of the kiln stoke pit, 2967, with a probable second example from pit 3113/3190.

6.32. Two iron hooks, likely medieval, were recovered from Phase 4 ditch 3342 (fill 3055), with a larger assemblage of other finds, and Phase 2.1 posthole 3087, associated with structure 1 in Enclosure 2.

Weaponry

6.33. A socketed and barbed arrowhead of probable 14th to 15th century date, of probable military attribution, was recovered from ditch 3342 (fill 2976).

Unidentified objects

6.34. A copper alloy artefact (Ra. 5) was recovered from pit 3186 within Enclosure 1. Other undiagnostic objects include corroded lumps that may be nail heads or pieces of natural iron oxide, or larger items, including some probable fragments of a curved iron object of rectangular cross section (pit 3222).

Summary

6.35. All of the metal artefacts originate from secure, stratified archaeological contexts. Just over half of the objects from the assemblage are generic carpentry nails, which, with strap hinge fragments, aligns with the evidence for the presence of structures. Dress accessories are of ordinary nature, and tools such as iron knives may have been employed in the tile-making process or personal tasks. Hooks may indicate the presence of foodstuffs or cooking activities. The relatively high proportion of equestrian related objects relates to the trackway (with no evidence dating to after 1800), and probably the presence of animals on site.

Lava

6.36. Ten fragments of lava were recovered from five contexts. Most pieces are heavily degraded, apart from a larger piece from ditch 3346 (fill 3252). This displayed pock-marks typical of the lower surface of a lower stone, although it is not possible to determine whether it is a piece of a rotary quern or a millstone. The stone, which measures 135mm by 122mm by 50mm, has been roughly squared, possibly for re-use. Lava quern fragments are common on early to middle medieval sites in the region, and fragments were often re-used as a building material, for example, following the end of their lives for grinding; the fragments on the site may represent the re-use of stone rather than presenting direct evidence for cereal processing.

6.37. The quern pieces were recovered from deposits associated with the trackway (3027, Phase 3, and 3028), and from Phase 2.2 (13th–14th century) features. These included the lower fill of the kiln stoke pit (2962), a fill of large possible cess pit 3063 near the kiln, and a fill (3252) of enclosure ditch 3346, to the south of the kiln.

6.38. The lava quern from context 3532 has been retained in the archive, as it may be suitable for geochemical analysis in the future. Otherwise, the stone has been discarded.

Chalk

6.39. A natural chalk fossil or nodule was recovered from the primary backfill of the stoke pit of the kiln, context 2967 (Fig. 38.2). It could perhaps have been used for marking,

although may have just been an inclusion in the natural gravel that became incorporated into the stoke pit by chance.

Worked bone

6.40. An object of worked bone (Ra. 33) was recovered from Phase 2.1 ditch 3341 (cut 3158, fill 3159), within Enclosure 2 (Fig. 38.3). It is likely that the object was related to textile working and was used as a bobbin or reel. The item is cruder than many published well-made examples of decorated bone and ivory and may well represent an item of lesser status utilised for everyday work.

Slag

6.41. A small amount of metalworking slag was recovered from Phase 4 ditch 3343 (fill 3058, cut 3057 (Phase 4 ditch 3343). The five conjoining fragments together formed a small, near complete smithing hearth cake, albeit likely removed from the original smithing location. The material was probably redeposited in the ditch and may have been medieval in origin.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Summary

7.1. All ecofacts recovered from the excavation have been cleaned, marked, quantified and catalogued by context. A total of 21 bulk samples were taken for the recovery of environmental remains. Table 6 presents a quantification of the biological evidence.

Type	Category	Count
Animal bone	Fragments	273
Samples	Environmental	21
Marine molluscs	Fragments	36

Table 6: Quantification of biological evidence

7.2. The animal bone, plant remains and marine shell are described in summaries below, which highlight their contributions to the dating and interpretation of the site and anything notable. More detailed assessments are set out according to material type in Appendix C.

Animal bone

7.3. A small assemblage of 273 fragments of animal bones was recovered from various pit, ditch and trackway fills across the medieval and post-medieval features. The material displays a mixed level of preservation and was highly fragmented, although cattle, sheep/goat, pig, horse and dog bones were identified.

7.4. A single fragment of cattle bone was recovered from Phase 1 (prehistoric), from pit 7910 (fill 7912). Fragments were also recovered from post-medieval and undated features (13 and 9 fragments respectively). Otherwise, 91% of the animal bone assemblage derived from medieval features, with cattle and sheep/goat the most common and pig also identified. The mixture of mainly meat poor with the occasional meat rich bone elements, such as has been recorded at Finchingfield, is commonly seen in waste from primary and secondary butchery, where a carcass has been separated into manageable portions of meat. The remains of a very young piglet (context 3099, from pit 3098 (Phase 2.1)) could possibly suggest pig husbandry on or near to the site. Frequent gnaw marks on the assemblage strongly suggests that refuse was left exposed, at least for a time.

7.5. The animal bone assemblage would appear to represent waste from the domestic activity represented by the features revealed on site.

Plant macrofossil, charcoal and aquatic/terrestrial molluscs

7.6. For Post-Excavation Assessment (Aitken 2023), fifteen bulk samples were processed from a range of feature types. The samples produced varying amounts of charred plant remains, charcoal, and some molluscan remains. Six samples were selected for full analysis based on the richness and variety of the plant remains present (Hunter Dowse, below).

7.7. The remains recovered are most likely representative of dumps of domestic food/crop processing waste material, particularly from drying (from Phase 2.1 pit 3042, Phase 2.0 pit 3112, and Phase 2.2 ditches 2944 and 2947, and pits 2984, 2994 and 3061). The majority of the assemblage comprised cereal grains, with bread wheat the most common. Many of the charred plant remains relate to ‘food stuff’ species, such as Celtic bean/pea, oats, hazelnuts, and cabbage/mustard. The weed seeds are generally those typical of grassland, field margins and arable habitats. Some of the species, such as corncockle and stinking chamomile, are typical of medieval assemblages, with corncockle, for example, closely associated with the rye crop. There is an indication of the exploitation of a number of different environments, with species such as corncockle and stinking chamomile favouring heavier clay soils, species such as curled docks favouring damper soils and species such as clover and medick for lighter dry soils, alongside hedgerow/scrub species such as hazel (Aitken 2023, Hunter Dowse below).

7.8. The molluscan remains, including from the sample from kiln 2952 and pit 3222 (Phase 2.2), indicate that the area was made up of a well-established open landscape that had some areas of longer grass, scrub and seasonal flooding (Aitken 2023).

7.9. From Phase 2.2, the environmental samples from the kiln (104, 108 and 110), and from a few of the ditches (3346, 3347), the probable well (2994) and cess pit (3061) to the south-west, included large quantities of charcoal fragments, with several samples including non-oak wood, roundwood and twig fragments.

Marine shell

7.10. Marine mollusc remains from edible species were found in several fills throughout the site, with at least one example showing evidence of human efforts to open the shells. Marine molluscs may therefore have augmented the local diet, and the examples of naturally growing oysters present are indicative of gathered as opposed to farmed specimens with a managed harvesting pattern.

7.11. One shell fragment came from ditch 2943 (Phase 3), and two from Phase 2.0 pits, but the majority of specimens were from Phase 2.2 features, potentially confirming a difference of activity at the site in this phase.

8. DISCUSSION

8.1. As anticipated from the evaluation, the excavation revealed activity on the south side of Finchingfield relating to two main periods, prehistoric and medieval. The occasional Roman and Anglo-Saxon finds in later contexts suggests that there may have been a presence in the landscape in these periods, although the land-uses did not leave a significant archaeological signature.

Phase 1: Prehistoric Activity

8.2. Prehistoric activity in the area was evidenced to the west in Area 2 by ditch 0505 and a small number of pits (7932, 7910), and by pits in the north-east of the main site, Area 1 (3114, 3183). In addition, residual flint artefacts and the distribution of the very small assemblage of residual pottery in later features indicates some pre-Iron Age activity in the south-west of the main area, perhaps along the edge of the floodplain of the Finchingfield Brook and its tributary. The small western group of features was likely focussed on the resources offered by the floodplain of the east/west running tributary of Finchingfield Brook to the south, and possibly also the palaeochannel running through the development site to the west of the excavation areas. The assemblage includes a Palaeolithic handaxe and a Mesolithic/Early Neolithic side

scraper, along with pieces of Late Neolithic/Bronze Age debitage. Some of the assemblage may also have accumulated through the action of from hill-wash from the slope to the north.

Phase 2: 12th–14th century AD overview

8.3. The results of the project are informative of the character and use of this part of the landscape hinterland around medieval Finchingfield; the relationship of towns to their hinterlands is flagged in the Regional Research Framework (Wade 2000, 23). The most significant feature identified was the medieval tile kiln, 2953, and the excavation of the area around it allowed an investigation of other features at the site which might have contributed to its operation.

Phase 2.1: Late 12th/Early 13th century AD landscape use

Landscape organisation

8.4. During Phase 2.1, Enclosures 1 and 2 were laid out on an alignment perpendicular to the road, 3353 (Fig. 5), aligned with what appears to have been a substantial field or land boundary, 3335 (Phase 2.0). The terminus of this ditch produced pottery that gave a context date of 14th–15th century; perhaps it was the boundary between *Colbayne's* and *Dogden* fields named in 1438, or other parcels of land at that date (see Appendix E); pottery in the Phase 2.1 pit groups was noted to perhaps represent pottery from different households, with cross matches noted from the eastern group (Anderson, Appendix B below). Overall, the scheme of boundaries shows an element of planning and order, although there were an insufficient number within the excavation areas to establish whether there were any common measurements for parcels of land. The enclosures are not continuous with each other, and it may be that they represented separate incursions into land newly claimed for settlement.

8.5. The date at which this land organisation occurred, 12th–13th centuries, was a time of general population pressure. It was likely a time of growth for Finchingfield, which was one of the more significant Domesday settlements. Elsewhere in Essex and East Anglia, it has been shown that from after the Norman Conquest, into the late 13th century, waste land was ploughed and areas of rough pasture and woodland were colonised (Hunter 2003, 9). Furthermore, Essex was largely a county, along with Norfolk and Suffolk, where there was early enclosure of otherwise more open land (Hunter 2003). The Tithe Surveys of Finchingfield give an insight into the landscape in 1483 as one of larger fields divided into smaller parcels and closes (Appendix E), and the archaeological evidence suggests a similar pattern in the earlier period. A rapid review of the Feet of Fines records relating to medieval property transactions

for the late 12th to early 13th centuries for Finchingfield shows reference to holdings of all sizes, including meadows and pasture of 1 to 3 acres, with one reference to hedges and ditches between crofts which may be similar to the arrangement on the excavated site (Kirk 1910 various and 235). The excavated enclosures are much smaller, however, and it may be that more minor enclosures on pieces of land were not documented. Generally, the site offers insights into the smaller subdivisions and activities within larger parcels of land that may be beyond the resolution of historical documentation.

Activity within Enclosures 1 and 2

8.6. Enclosure 1 may represent the rear of a roadside settlement plot along Bardfield Road; in suburbs or other rural areas, these are often present as characteristically uniform plots with a common rear boundary. It may perhaps even have been the southern extent of 'suburban' occupation. Ditch 3334 may represent the long boundary of a plot perpendicular to the road alignment. Only a small portion of the enclosure lies within the excavation area, and no readily identifiable structural remains were recorded, with the features dominated instead by a series of intercutting pits. The rectangular pits within the group, 3111 and 3177, may represent cellared structures — pit 3111 appears to align with the road — such as are found in towns in the region in the late Saxon and early medieval periods, although they were relatively small and, with the slumping of what might be primary fills from the sides, there are no real indication of any linings; they may also have been cess pits. The earliest fills of the pits contain material of Phase 2.1 date, although overall the ceramic assemblage may suggest most intense activity towards the later Phase 2.2 (see Anderson Appendix B), perhaps in continuous activity. Pit digging was a fairly common phenomenon in the rear of plots, but Enclosure 1 may also represent a farmstead or enclosure for other activities or agricultural purposes, and the environmental samples yielded cereal grains and seeds from foodstuff plants likely representing both dumps of domestic food processing waste, and windblown/dispersed waste (Aitken 2023, Hunter Dowse Appendix C).

8.7. Within Enclosure 2, Structure 1 built with earth fast posts. Whilst it may have formed a fence line or repair to a boundary, the postholes appear to form a possible rectangular shape, approximately 2.5m by 5.2m. Further, although they may have been for agricultural or horticultural purposes, it is possible that the short ditches in the immediate proximity of Structure 1 represented further structural remains, perhaps beam slots for a building or a wall trench for upright timbers, particularly

given the finds of fired clay from the vicinity, from postholes (3080, 3137) and ditches (3340, 3341 and 3229). Ditches 3341 and 3340 were (up to 1m wide), and may have formed part of a larger structure approximately 8m by 4m, with post-built lean-to (Fig. 8). The dimensions and structural technology, using gullies or beam slots, are comparable to that used for buildings excavated at other Essex sites of a similar date (see Medlycott 1996, 175). However, the ditches are quite wide and do not form a particularly discernible coherent layout. It may also be that there was more than one phase of building, with the posthole structure an earlier iteration.

8.8. The suggestion that there may have been a structure within the enclosure is supported by an apparent concentration of finds and animal bone in features nearby which may have arisen from domestic waste, including a hook (Ra. 19), bobbin (Ra. 2), and varied animal bones, including cow, sheep/goat and pig (Clarke, this report). Whilst this may have been collected for agricultural purposes, the presence of the undated hearth or oven, 2931, lends support to the interpretation that the waste was generated nearby. The focus of activity here may account for the waste spread more widely across the site area, and as for the later period, the animal bone assemblage, with elements suggesting primary and secondary butchery waste and evidence of heavy gnawing, appears indicative of strewn waste. The plant remains seem to suggest the presence of cleaned crops on the site. The most common of the charred plant remains from pit 3042 of this phase were grains of bread wheat, with smaller quantities of barley and rye. The weed seeds may indicate the cultivation of lighter, sandy soils (Hunter Dowse, this report). The middle fill of the pit 3044, was a charcoal rich silty clay, and environmental sample 111 from it also yielded cereal grains and corn spurry seeds, potentially indicative of the cultivation of lighter, acidic, sandy soils, and a sloe/damson/hawthorn spine. Amorphous fragments of possible burnt food residue with small grain and other possible seed fragments from pit 3045 and 3001 may have been from a porridge like substance.

8.9. Pottery was recovered from features across the site, and the wares were noted to have been mainly local coarsewares that were domestic in nature, and fairly well used by the time of deposition in terms of wear and sooting (Anderson, Appendix B). A concentration of slightly earlier, probably 11th/12th century wares in the vicinity, in the assemblage with also 12th/13th century wares, and the suggestion from rim forms that less rubbish was being deposited in the area by the end of the 13th century (Anderson Appendix B), supports the stratigraphic evidence that activity here was some of the earliest on the site. Earlier pottery from this structure may also have been

incorporated (possibly from middening) into ditch 3342 (Anderson, this volume). Sue Anderson comments that the pottery from this area south of structure one appears a large amount to have come from one structure – perhaps there were others outside of the excavation area. In the light of the context of new incursion into land, the lack of refined wares in the pottery assemblage for this phase may show something about the status of people operating in these enclosures.

Activity across the site

8.10. Perhaps in this earlier period, the wider area of the site may have formed pasture, waste or common land, a suggestion put forward based on hints about the nature of activity across it that can be gleaned from the archaeological remains.

8.11. The clusters of regularly arranged rectilinear pits (Fig. 4 and 5) on the site (2990 and 2992 and features nearby them) cannot be tied neatly to the same phase as the kiln, and the assemblages within them appear more consistent with an earlier date, suggesting that they related to earlier activity. In shape, they are somewhat reminiscent of early medieval sunken-featured buildings (SFBs), where structures were erected over pits in the ground, but no internal postholes for a superstructure were present and they contained simple rather than complex fill sequences. Although shallow, the pits may represent repeat episodes of targeted, low-level extraction, as they appear to have been dug into varied geological deposits of sand, gravel, clay and chalk resources (2925 was cut into a light blue sandy clay, 2903; 2992 was cut into clay; 3001 was cut into a gravelly deposit).

8.12. The small-scale extraction of clay, for example, could have been undertaken to provide material for maintaining walls and buildings. Documentary sources show that digging was usually subject to licence from manorial lords, and permission may have been sought for supplies from waste or common land, particularly once the best clay on peasant crofts had been dug out (Cherry 2001, 189; Le Patourel 1968, 114; Ryan 1999, 36). Peasants may also have dug clay from their strips in fields (Le Patourel 1968, 114). For the pottery industry, it has been suggested that extraction pits on common fields that were left fallow on rotation may have been filled in to allow grazing (Le Patourel 196, 115), which could explain a succession of pits in the same place. Shallow pits could also have been created by turf digging, or indeed some other activity. The fact that they appeared in clusters either side of a boundary ditch, with cross-fitting in the eastern group but not between groups, suggests perhaps that they were dug by different parties in the same broad period. This, and the slightly earlier date of the pottery assemblage as shown by its composition, supports the view that

although they were spatially near the kiln, the pits probably related to earlier activity (Anderson Appendix B and Table B5).

8.13. Pit 3042 showed evidence of burning, particularly within the smaller, deeper pit 3046 that appeared to have been cut inside it and could have been a pit kiln for charcoal production (Fig. 11). Evidence for medieval and later historic charcoal burning often takes the form of the shallow remains of clamp kilns, which were built up from stacks of wood generally placed onto the ground surface. However, in exploring clusters of charcoal rich pits at Great Horkesley, Essex, Oxford Archaeology have highlighted that on the Continent, there appears to have been a general shift to mound kilns after the end of the 13th century, perhaps to cater for a burgeoning iron smelting industry, and that pit kilns were not uncommon at earlier dates (Clarke 2021, 18). Whilst the pits at Great Horkesley that were radiocarbon dated to the 12th–13th centuries were generally more shallow, U-shaped cuts, different in character to the deep, finds rich pit 3042/3046 at Finchingfield, charcoal production pits in Iceland dating to the 11th–13th century AD do appear to have had a similar graduated profile, comprising a shallower pit with a deeper section in the centre (Lawson *et al.* 2009, 7–8). Such an interpretation would suggest a source of wood or scrub nearby, and it is documented that charcoal burning was an activity that took place on woodlands and heath or scrub land, where a supply of wood or brush may have been a shared resource provided by common land (Ryan 1999, 36). However, whilst one sloe/damson/hawthorn spine and one piece of hazelnut shell was recovered, indicating hedgerow resources, both of the environmental samples from these pits yielded remains which may be from a dump of domestic crop/food processing waste, and they also yielded large quantities of pottery, suggesting the dumping of waste material within them.

8.14. The very few pig bones, including a piglet burial, may hint at husbandry (3100, Clarke, Appendix C), and the handful of ‘fiddle key’ nails, used in shoeing horses and oxen (Bliss, Appendix B), could further support this. The environmental evidence supports, too, to some extent, this impression of an open ‘waste’ landscape with areas of longer grass and shade or scrub, and with low lying areas prone to seasonal flooding (although it is possible the snails species that partly inform this characterisation could have been imported to the site with fuel for the kiln). A marginal area of scrub land would not have been an unusual choice for the establishment of a medieval kiln (Drury 1981, 135; Ryan 1999, 5, 8).

Phase 2.2: 13th–14th century AD kiln and its context

8.15. Phase 2.2 reflects the rearrangement of enclosures on the site, and the construction of the kiln. This phase of activity at the site contributes to the study of medieval industrial archaeology, as it adds a new excavated kiln site to the published corpus. Although apparently well built, it is also a tile producing site which may have been at the more modest end of the spectrum than some others (see below, and Table 7). Further, the site is one which has been investigated in the context of its immediate landscape, with the opportunity to explore potentially associated features.

8.16. It has been noted that finds of ancillary buildings that relate to kilns are relatively rare, as investigation has tended to focus on the kilns themselves, perhaps due to the limited resources available to rescue or community projects, or due to the more ephemeral archaeological signatures of slight structures or buildings built on beams on the ground surface (Smallwood 1978, Drury 1981, 132–5, Zeepvat 2009). A large complex was excavated at Danbury (Drury 1981), and an impression of how a tileworks may have looked can be gained from two online resources; a 16th century image of a tile works (BL 2022), and a reconstruction of the tile kiln at Quarr Abbey, which shows stocks of wood and clay (Hyde 900 2022, see also Riall 2003, 313). That the Finchingfield site includes a kiln, enclosure, and potentially buildings and associated features makes it an interesting case study. The chronological resolution based on artefacts means that it is not possible to be absolutely certain which features were contemporary with the kiln. However, taken together the phased and undated archaeology does seem to provide the hallmarks that might be expected of a site of tile production. Sue Anderson also notes (Appendix B, below) that whilst the features assigned to Phase 2.0 could belong to either phase, as a whole the range and proportions of fabrics in this general period group are closer to those of Phase 2.2 than Phase 2.1, supporting perhaps the interpretation that these features were largely related to activity at the kiln. Overall, the 13th–14th century pottery assemblage was the largest.

Tile kiln

Dating the kiln

8.17. The kiln (described above, Phase 2.2) was previously unknown from archaeological or historical information, but it fits into a wider corpus of twin flued updraft kilns constructed from the 13th century onwards in the south and east of England (Drury 1981, 131), adding to the national dataset and to a group from Essex. The increased prevalence of kilns was linked with fashion and building traditions that moved towards

more widespread tile use in the 14th and 15th centuries (Cherry 1977; 2001, 194), with London a major consumer, and the geology of Essex, much of which is underlain by London clay, offered the essential materials of clay, brickearth, loam and sand that supported the establishment of medieval ceramic and clay working industries across the county (Ryan 1999, 3-8). The peg tiles used in the construction of the kiln (Fig. 21) were between 10–11 inches long by 6¼–6½ inches wide/ 270–277mm by 165–175mm, and they are largely plain with both single and double round holes; the tiles were probably purchased or obtained in bulk from another kiln site. The sizes of the peg tiles used (Anderson, Appendix B) appear consistent with those produced more commonly from about 1275, which became the legal standard in the 15th century; earlier tiles were generally larger with projecting nibs (Drury 1981, 131; Ryan 1999, 10). The size is also comparable with tiles made at the late 13th to 14th century kiln at Danbury and possibly the 15th century kilns at Little Brickhill and earlier kilns at Tyler's Green (Anderson, Appendix B).

8.18. The pottery and small-finds evidence from the lowest fill of the stoke pit of the kiln indicate a mid 13th–14th century date for the context. The kiln appears to have gone out of use in the late 14th century at the earliest, as indicated by ceramics from the upper fills of the stoke pit. Further, fragments of hip and ridge tile in a darker fabric, with one with a square hole, suggested to be late medieval or post-medieval (perhaps 15th–16th century), came from the backfill of the kiln, 3144 (see above 'Backfill').

8.19. The stratigraphic relationship between the kiln and ditch 3347, into which it cuts, and between pits 3222 and 3994 and ditches 3346 and 3347, may suggest some subphases within the general date range of activity in Phase 2.2, although the suggested date for the lowest fill of the kiln pit is consistent with the date of other features in the vicinity. Pottery from cess pit 3061 —possibly a latrine/rubbish pit used by the tilers— included some 14th/15th century wares, and a cereal grain gave a broadly 14th century radiocarbon date. Assemblages from well 2994 (with small finds and a radiocarbon date) were also of late 13th–14th century date, as was that from pit 3033 and 3022.

Form and function

8.20. Table 7 presents a summary of the literature for other excavated kiln sites, to which the kiln can be usefully compared.

Excavated kilns			
Place	**County**	**Reference**	**Notes**
Danbury	Essex	Drury *et al.* 1975	Late 13th–14th century roof and floor tile kiln Kiln 1: 2.0x2.2m internally Kiln 2: 2.4m long
Havering-atte-Bower	Essex	Ryan 1999, 28	Late 14th century kiln
Radwinter	Essex	Drury, 1981	14th –15th century. Evidence of roof structure Kiln: 1.85x2.4m internally
Stebbing	Essex	Ryan 1999, 30	Waste land context. 2.13m wide
Puckeridge	Hertfordshire	Regan *et al.* forthcoming	Late 15th –16th century 3.10m by 2.20–2.30m
Shouldham Abbey Farm	Norfolk	Smallwood 1978	Possibly associated with Gilbertine Priory 3.6x2.5m internally
Borelli's Yard, Farnham	Surrey	Riall 2003	13th –14th century (1200–1220) brick and tile kiln, possibly associated with castle c. 2m by c.3m (measured from drawing)
North Grange Meaux, Beverley	Yorkshire	Eames 1961	13th century tile kiln, likely ecclesiastical connection 1.8x2.6m (6ft by 8ft 10)
Excavated or documented kilns			
Tyttenhanger	Hertfordshire	Eames 1961; Drury 1981, 132; Medlycott 2011, 65; Pearson 2018, 7; Regan *et al.* forthcoming	Outer court of manor house
Tyler Hill, Canterbury; Hartley, Keston and Noak Hill	Kent		
Addington Hill, Boston, North Hykeham	Lincolnshire		
Lyveden	Northants		
Chertsey Abbey, Guildford Castle, Kingston upon Thames	Surrey		
Binstead and others	Sussex		
Clarendon Palace	Wiltshire		Royal palace

Table 7. Literature review of other medieval kiln sites

8.21. The kiln, with a firing floor of 2.3 by 2m, is of comparable size to other examples excavated (see Table 7), perhaps slightly smaller than the later kiln at Puckeridge. It was probably for making roof tiles. Whilst a kiln may have produced both floor and roof tiles, it has been noted that those for the production of roof tiles generally tended to be larger and less carefully constructed than those for the production of decorated floor tiles, probably because they were meeting a wider demand and because the

firing temperature did not need to be so high (Cherry 2001, 192). No kiln furniture was identified; whilst this absence of evidence is not 'evidence of absence', kilns producing plainer tiles may have operated without kiln furniture, with products simply stacked within them (Kent and Dawson 1998, 47). By way of contrast, there would have been a need to keep glazed tiles separate during firing, and both the means of stacking and the kiln superstructures may have been more complex for the production of glazed tiles; kiln furniture was recovered from the kilns at Borelli Yard, Farnham and Danbury (Eames 1961, 154; Drury *et al.* 1975, 123), whilst from the 13th century floor tile kiln at North Grange Meaux 'structural tiles' included voussoirs, cog shaped pieces and firebars (Eames 1961, 154). A caveat is that where there are wasters, kiln furniture is often present in low concentrations compared to other material, and it may have been preferentially removed as a hard material for other uses (Drury *et al.* Pratt 1975, 145).

8.22. In contrast to some excavated kilns, whilst the Finchingfield structure may have been daubed or relined (see above, 'Daub'), it appears not to have been extensively repaired (see above, 'Flue entrance') and the use and disuse sequences within the stoke pit appear relatively simple compared to others (see above, Table 2 and Fig. 23). At Puckeridge, Hertfordshire, deposits in the stoke pit were considered to represent sequences of rake-out, demolition and rebuilding, and re-flooring of the pit. Also, there was evidence of modification and repair to the brick and tile fabric of the kiln, including tile repairs to the arches, and repairs to the mouths of the stoke-holes in tile and brick (Regan *et al.* forthcoming). At Danbury, North Grange Meaux, Puckeridge and Shenley Wood, Bucks, layers interpreted as successive floors or areas of paved consolidation were recorded within the stoke pits, likely relating to multiple periods of use (Drury *et al.* 1975, 108; Eames 1961, 149; Regan *et al.* forthcoming; Edmondson and Thorn 1989). Repairs were also evident at North Grange Meaux, Shouldham, Radwinter and Borelli's Yard, where floors were repaired, arches renewed, clay plugs applied to some areas and firing tunnels extended and repaired (Eames 1961, 143; Smallwood 1978, 46–7; Drury 1979, 25; Riall 2003, 390–10). The lifespan of kilns appears to have varied, but it has been suggested that the working lives at Borelli Yard and Danbury were 10–25 years and 40–60 years, respectively (Riall 2003, 328; Stopford 1993, 100).

8.23. A lack of repair may mean that the Finchingfield kiln had a shorter lifespan, and more finely built and repaired kilns seem to be more closely linked to tile factories, or institutions such as castles or religious establishments; at some sites, multiple or

successive kilns are present (Regan *et al*. forthcoming; Riall 2003, 328). Overall, the lack of repair and rebuilding of the kiln and smaller size and complexity of supporting structures associated with its operation (see below) suggests a smaller-scale and more short-lived operation than at tile factories such as Danbury, for example. There is also no evidence of the production of glazed tiles, as were produced at other kiln sites.

8.24. However, this does not mean that the kiln was a poor-quality installation. Any kiln represents an investment of resources to build it, with documentary sources highlighting payment to masons, carters, labourers and servers (Dale and Caiger 1974, 29; Stopford 1993, 100; Cherry 2001, 192; Riall 2003, 329, Hinton 2018, 486).Tony Minter of Bulmer Brick and Tile comments, from photographs, that the Finchingfield kiln appears to have been robust and well built, with an understanding of what was needed to make a good kiln (pers. comm, March 2024). The tiles do not appear to have been glazed or vitrified, which may suggest an efficiency in directing heat upwards, where it was needed. An observation is that the rear arch of the kiln at Finchingfield was noticeably narrower than the other arches in the structure; this may have been due to a miscalculation, but may also have been by design, possibly to allow gases to circulate (e.g. see Cherry 2001, 191); it does not seem to have been a particular feature at Danbury or Radwinter (see Drury *et al.* Pratt 1975, Drury 1981).

Patronage of the kiln

8.25. There are various models for the operation of the tile industry prior to the 15th century (Drury 1981; Le Patourel 1968; Stopford 1993). Tilers may have been itinerant and/or settled in a factory or production centre, often operating at a village industry level (Drury 1981, 132; Cherry 2001, 193). Kiln sites may have been permanent for institutions or at tile works, and/or intermittently or seasonally used, or they may have been ’one-offs’ for particular projects and commissions, built by itinerant tilers perhaps using local labour (Stopford 1993, 99; Riall 2003, 329). A reasonable suggestion is that the Finchingfield kiln may have been one of the latter. A ‘one-off’ kiln may still mean multiple firings, however, and is not quite the same as ‘single use’. For context, experimental work and historical documents suggest that kilns may have produced thousands of tiles per firing, and for a kiln at Shenley Wood —bigger than the Finchingfield kiln at 3.78m by 2.4m— it is estimated that there could have been up to 5000 tiles in a full load (Edmondson and Thorn 1989, 80; see also Riall 2003; Cherry 2001). However, the refurbishment of a manor at Thorney in Suffolk in the 13th century required 13,000 tiles for the first phase, including an extension, so more

than one kiln load may have been required for a project. Tony Minter comments that with the depth of heating at Finchingfield, it may be that the kiln was burnt several times (pers. comm March 2024).

8.26. In the absence of firm documentary evidence regarding the owner or patron of the Finchingfield kiln, the main understanding we have is that the kiln was set up to exploit the resources of the area. Kilns may have been established as demesne kilns for manors, sometimes for a particular job, or set up to serve a lord, town corporation, or institution, such as a monastery (Hare 1991, 97–8; Stopford 1993, 103; Cherry 2001, 194). Others may have been commercial ventures, established with or without permission on common land, perhaps 'on the fringes of the traditional manorial world and account' (Hare 1991, 99; Ryan 1999, 36).

8.27. The location of the kiln does not necessarily give any clues to the market for its products. It was ideally situated in terms of necessary resources, and it appears that generally this was as important a consideration in the choice of location for a kiln as was the final destination of tiles and bricks. Essential requirements were clay/brickearth of suitable colour and texture, sand for dusting benches and moulds, water, a source of fuel (often managed woodland, which offered underwood, loppings, scrub and brushwood), a well-drained working area, access to markets through road or water transport, and a need to minimise smoke and fire risk to nearby occupation (Drury 1981, 135; Ryan 1999, 2–4, 8; Cherry 2001, 189; Pearson 2018). Study of the Essex brick and tile industry has highlighted that kilns, such as those at Danbury or Stebbing, were often located on common or marginal land and heaths, where there was furze and broom growing, with mixed gravel and clay subsoils, often in wider areas of woodland and near streams or rivers (Drury 1981, 135; Ryan 1999, 5, 8). The Finchingfield kiln appears ideally located, therefore, with the trackway marking the division between higher, drier gravel to the north, well drained for the kiln, and lower, wetter land to the south offering, potentially, clay and water. Finally, well 2994 may have provided a ready supply of water for industry and animals. It was located outside of the ends of ditches 3346 and 3347 and may have been intended for public access.

8.28. The above means that geographical proximity to a project is not necessarily a clue as to the destination of the tiles: it was not uncommon for fuel, clay and sand to be transported to kiln sites, or for loads of perhaps thousands of tiles to be carted some distance to their destination. A study of medieval accounts from Wessex concluded that whilst most building projects were within five miles of a kiln, many were five to

ten miles away (Hare 1991, 97–8; Cherry 2001, 193). A late 13th century building account from Thorney Green in Suffolk also shows the effort that may have gone in to acquiring tiles; for the refurbishment of the manorial hall, teams of horses made a total of six 24-mile overnight round trips to kilns at Stoke in Ipswich to collect 13,000 tiles, with one buying trip involving 6 carts carrying 1,000 tiles each, 26 horses and 14 supporting men (Dudley 2021).

The site may have served the moated site at Great Winsey, and could well have been on the edge of an area of consolidated holdings around the moated site (see Appendix E). However, it may also have been a commercial enterprise set up for a different owner or patron, perhaps some miles distant. As shown in Appendix E, other institutional landowners held property in Finchingfield such as the Priory at Thetford. An absence of examples of the product of the kiln, save for a few overfired fragments from Phase 2.2 ditch 3342, hinders comparison with standing buildings, but the church or other early structures in Finchingfield may also incorporate CBM contemporary to the kiln. The church was modified through the 13th, 14th and 15th centuries, and the mid 13th century north and south chapels have tiled roofs (RCHME 1916, 87–96). Petches farmhouse is a house of *c.* 1300 (HE 2022b). The marked lack of wasters is not unusual; whilst some sites yield piles of waste products (Danbury, Puckeridge), others —including Shouldham, North Grange Meaux, Borelli Yard, Farnham Park and Guildford Castle— were relatively clear of wasters and/or kiln fabric, which would have had value as hardcore (see also Anderson Appendix B).

Busy traffic

8.29. The cart ruts in the road help to give a sense of activity at the kiln, and also open up consideration of the operation of the site as a whole. It is easy to imagine heavy loads compacting and sinking in the road. The ruts are approximately 1.5m to 1.6m apart (4ft 8 ½ to 5 ¼ ft) which may be an indication of cart of wagon size. Perhaps also, Structure 5 could have been the base of an A-frame lifting mechanism, with obvious application for the bulk movement of tiles. A general busyness in the area along the road edge may have added to the complexity of the archaeological deposits; it was likely wetter in winter, and general comings and goings, as well as the effects of hill wash, could have added complexity to the stratigraphic sequence.

8.30. Perhaps Enclosure 3 at Finchingfield provided grazing land or paddocks to accommodate horses and animals used in transport and labour. The possible ‘corridor’ running from it above Enclosure 4 may have controlled and funnelled access

away from the kiln. However, sites may also have been multipurpose and at Puckeridge in the 1420s, a William Colt leased a 'tylhouse' with land and pasture for horse, cows and hogs (Regan *et al*. forthcoming). Although there are likely to have been sub-phases within Phase 2.2, with the kiln being cut into ditch 3346, it is compelling that Enclosure 4 surrounded the kiln and other features; an enclosure around the kiln would have protected it and tiles that were drying from wandering animals, as has been suggested at Danbury (Drury 1981, 137). An enclosure may also have been laid out to lay a claim on land, since documentary records show that common and access rights were often a source of dispute between clay workers and other members of the community, with some cases where fines relating to exploitation of the land were ongoing, and others where enclosures containing kilns were knocked down (Ryan 1999, 36).

Extraction and preparation of clay

8.31. Other features in the vicinity can be considered in relation to the tile making process (see also Fig. 5). An ordinance of 1477 stated that clay should be dug at the beginning of November, turned before the beginning of February and made into tiles after March; tiles were then left to dry, with firing usually carried out in the summer (Cherry 2001, 190–91). Clay for tile making was often dug from close to a medieval kiln site, from individual crofts or from common or open fields, and extraction pits could be leased from manorial lords (Cherry 2001, 189; Reagon *et al*. forthcoming). There were pits over much of the site, although some have been allocated to an earlier phase (with caveats, see Phase 2.1, above). However, pit 3319 to the north of the site (Phase 2.0), hollow 3091, and a possible hollow related to extraction in the south-west of the site, 3350, were cut into orange and blue clays and may have provided clay for tile making. A gravel pit, 2307, was also encountered in the evaluation towards the northern site edge, near the palaeochannel to the west of the excavation area (Fig. 2). There may also have been extraction more widely in the landscape, and the field to the south is called 'Potten Field' on the 19th century tithe map, which *may* have had an association with clay working or pit digging; the Tithe Map and historic OS maps show a few ponds within it (Fig. 3, ponds not illustrated). There were also sandy and chalky deposits observed on the site.

8.32. Space would also have been needed for the storage and preparation of clay. It was common practice for clay to be dug in autumn and stored and left to weather over winter, which allowed frost to break it up, with occasional turning. At Danbury, it was suggested that clay was stored within the enclosure, and that it needed minimum

preparation, given that the wasters showed that pebbles were left in it and puddling pits were not observed (Drury 1981, 136; Cherry 2001, 190). However, elsewhere clay may have been watered and trodden to remove stones (Regan *et al.* forthcoming). Puddling pits for storing and soaking clay may have been fed by leats and channels (Pearson 2018, 7), and the lower lying, wetter pits in the southern part of the site at Finchingfield south of ditch 3349, near to hollow 3350, may have served this purpose. The postholes of Structure 6, which was undated, *may* have represented the remains of a platform for handling clay in the lower lying, wetter area in the southern part of the site, and other possible stakeholes were recorded in the hollow (3285–90, 3307 and 3308).

Making tiles: associated sheds and equipment

8.33. Structure 2, adjacent to the kiln, is of interest as a possible workshop or other structure. Workshops and buildings associated with kilns, 'tile houses' have been documented (e.g. Riall 2003, 327–8), where they were used for the production or drying of tiles (with the latter called 'hack steads' into the modern era). At other sites, archaeological features have been interpreted as supports for tables or blocks where tiles were shaped, including at Danbury, Boston and Lyveden (Pearson 2018, 7; Drury 1981, 136; 1979, 135). Although not closely phased, and potentially rather small, with supports spanning an area of 1.6m by 2.5m, Structure 2 could have been for a table, workshop or drying shed. At Tyler's Green, Buckinghamshire, a structure 5.3m by 3.2m was thought to be a workshop, based on the same assessment of proximity and shared alignment as supports the interpretation of the Finchingfield structure (Zeepvat 2009, 199, 215). At Danbury, an open-sided timber building close to one of the kilns, 7.4m by 4.5m, carried on timber sills, had no other internal features or wear on the floor (Drury *et al.* 1975, 136). It might have been a drying shed that would have been warmed by the kiln (Stopford 1993, 102). A timber-framed building *c.* 5m wide and 8m long at the same site has been interpreted as a shed in which tiles were made (Drury 1981, 136). A superstructure on the six earth fast posts at Finchingfield may, of course, have been larger.

8.34. Documentary evidence for a workshop at Moulsham, Essex, showed that it had a tiled roof, iron fastenings for corner tiles and wattle and daub infilling (Drury 1981, 136). A hook and door hinge recovered from Finchingfield may be examples of structural fittings, and there were also numerous nails (Alex Bliss, below, Appendix B). Other buildings were documented on ground sills (Riall 2003, 328), and these may have left no surviving below ground traces. A possible beam slot identified in the

evaluation (1120), which was 3.5m long, up to 0.62m wide and 0.16m deep with a single fill (1121) may be of relevance, although it was undated by finds (Foster 2021, 18) — perhaps there were larger structures within Enclosure 4 that have left only fragmentary and piecemeal traces.

8.35. Tiles were shaped in wooden moulds or forms on a sanded board or table. Clay was thrown into them, pushed to the corners and then levelled off with a knife or wire (Cherry 2001, 190). Knives in the assemblage at Finchingfield could not be identified as for a particular purpose. Generally, finds of tools at tile making sites are noted to be rare, and no tools were identified at the slightly later kiln site at Puckeridge (Regan *et al.* forthcoming). A 15th century account from Hull gives some flavour of tools and equipment, and it mentions wheelbarrows, shovels, water tubs, sand tubs, stocks, spars and a trough (Cherry 2001, 190). Whilst querns may have been used in grain processing, the quern stone assemblage at Finchingfield, though small, was fairly localised around the kiln (from 3027 and 3028, the track, 2962, the kiln itself, 3232, enclosure ditch 3346, and 3063, the possible cess pit near the kiln). It may be that they represent part of a process of drying and crushing something related to tile production.

Firing and fuel

8.36. It is likely that stoke pits were roofed, to keep the stoker and fuel dry (Dale and Caiger 1974, 31). Two cut features within the pit at Puckeridge and stub walls at a 15th century kiln at Shenley Wood were interpreted as supports for a roof (Regan *et. al* forthcoming; Edmondson and Thorn 1989, 80). Documentary evidence from Moulsham suggested that the kiln was covered with tile, and a possible structure of four posts outside of the corners of the kiln at Radwinter were also suggested to be from a possible roof (Drury 1979, 25; 1981, 136). The stoke pit (2944) at Finchingfield was only partially excavated but the layout of pits around it may be of interest. Superficially, the layout of pits 3056 and 3031, and possibly 3022 (Phase 2.1) at Finchingfield could suggest a structure at the front of the kiln, although their overall arrangement and dimensions are not especially convincing evidence that they were part of the same structure.

8.37. The environmental samples from the kiln itself, and from a few of the ditches (3346, 3347) and pits (2994, 3061) to the south-west, included large quantities of charcoal fragments, with several samples including non-oak wood, roundwood and twig fragments. Elsewhere, the fuel wood has included oak and hornbeam, with documentary evidence recording the use of underwood, faggots, furze/broom-

loppings, brushwood, turf and peat (Le Patourel 1968; Drury *et al.* Pratt 1975, 133; Regan *et al.* forthcoming): the transport of cartloads of wood, fuel and sand to kiln sites is well documented (Ryan 1999, 2–7), meaning that the plant and wood types and species might not relate directly to any particular immediate environment. At Finchingfield, charred examples of damson/bullace, sloe and hawthorn stones, rose achene, hazelnut shell fragments, and apple/pear fragments may represent snacks for the tilers gathered from hedgerows, or hedgerow resources may have been gathered for fuel for the ovens and kiln (mainly fill 2984 of the stoke pit, ditch 2944 and well 2994). Blackthorn stones (two) were also present in fill 2989 of the stoke pit. The environmental remains from the primary deposit in the stoke pit contained free threshing wheat and large legume seed fragments (broad bean or pea); possibly, waste from crop drying was added to the fuel.

Other industrial features

8.38. The mortar filled feature, 3147, close to the kiln at Finchingfield, may have been for mixing the clay binder for its construction. At Tyler's Green, the remains of a likely beehive oven were found near the kiln, which had a layer of white chalk over a tile base, although this was very close to fifteenth century kiln and was suggested perhaps to have been for making glaze (Zeepvat 2009, 154).

8.39. There are hearths and ovens at the Finchingfield site. Hearths associated with kilns may have been for the drying of sand (Dale and Caiger 1974, 29, citing later tileries), or they could be associated with the manufacture of glaze, although (in the absence of wasters) there is no evidence that the Finchingfield kiln was producing glazed tiles. The Phase 2.2 hearths, however (2954, 2958, 2984 and 2804 from the evaluation), may have been related to subsistence activities.

Consumption and subsistence

8.40. In some cases, documents provide hints into the lifestyle of tile makers. The status of tile making ranged from artistry to peasant craft, and was overall a fairly low status industry but not bottom of the scale; some 14th century documents showed tile workers taxed on grain, horses, cows and pigs in addition to stocks of tiles (Drury 1981, 132–4; Pearson 2018, 6; Hare 1991, 99; Hinton 2018, 486). Many tilers may have combined agriculture and tile making, as it was a seasonal enterprise, with the digging of clay and the manufacture and firing of tiles fitting in to the labour of the agricultural year (Hare 1991, 90). At Finchingfield, the kiln structure itself is testament to the expertise and knowledge of the builder, but can the archaeological evidence take us any closer to the people on the site? The pottery is typical of an Essex site

(Anderson this volume) and metal small finds are of ordinary nature and not particularly high status (save for the single find of an armour piercing arrowhead) (Bliss, this volume).

8.41. Evidence for subsistence is not common at kiln sites, although at Danbury, where roof and floor tiles were made between 1275–85 and 1325–35, it was suggested that a building with two rooms and a partition, with finer pottery nearby, may have been a lodge or accommodation for the works, although it was not associated with a kitchen or refuse pits (Drury 1981, 134–5). Whilst features surrounding the kiln may well have been created from unrelated domestic activity, it is possible that the evidence for habitation relates to tile workers. Firing would have taken about a week, with temperatures being raised from slow-drying up to high firing (Cherry 2001, 191–2). People tending the kiln, watching and stoking it, would have had needs, and a well, 2994, and possible cess pit, 3061, may have contributed to meeting them.

8.42. The environmental remains and animal bone from Finchingfield are indicative, broadly, of scattered domestic waste and give the broadest indication of diet and provisioning. The plant remains from this phase of the site were similar to those from the earlier phase, with free threshing wheats —mainly bread wheat— dominating the assemblage and lower quantities of barley and rye; oats, broad bean and garden pea were also present, including from well 2994, with the latter representing dietary staples, particularly lower down the social scale. The richest assemblage came from well 2994, dominated by free-threshing wheat and paralleled in assemblages from crop drying ovens in the midlands at least (Hunter Dowse, this volume). It was noted that, with a low number of other larger plant seeds and little cereal chaff, the assemblage could represent a crop that had been thoroughly cleaned before coming into contact with the fire (although an absence of chaff may alternatively be because this had been burnt as fuel elsewhere). Aside from cooking, the contact of crops with heat may suggest that they were dried in ovens prior to storage or milling, suggesting a food rather than seed crop; that at least one batch might have required drying is suggested by presence of possible accidentally sprouted grains from pit 2994 (Hunter Dowse, this volume). The low volume of pea and bean remains may suggest that large quantities of them were not being dried in the vicinity of the site (Hunter Dowse, this volume) – they may have been processed elsewhere —perhaps brought in—- or grown in garden plots. The rise in numbers of marine molluscs in Phase 2.2 might suggest their increased importation to the site. Animal bones were mainly of butchery waste. The evidence might be compatible with short-lived occupation of the site and

provisions that were bought in, although equally may be related to more permanent habitation.

Phases 3 and 4: Late medieval and post-medieval

8.43. The post-medieval period contributes to the story of the landscape and subsequent history of the kiln site. The road was maintained into the post-medieval period, with a metalled surface and consolidation, with a possible raised pathway to one side, and it has been suggested that the area may have been muddy. The track went out of use and a boundary ditch was excavated across it, probably in the 19th century, perhaps linked to a change in the alignment of Bardfield Road along the modern causeway.

8.44. The kiln also appears to have been backfilled in the Late medieval/post-medieval period.

Conclusion

8.45. It was noted for the first ever regional Research Framework that there had been limited work on rural industry (Wade 1997, 52). The site contributes an example towards any future synthesis that respond to question Med(Rural)04 identified in the current framework (RF 2022) *How can we improve our understanding of medieval rural industries?*

https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/researchframework/v1/question/question-5e2afcb05b95e/

8.46. That the site includes a kiln, enclosure, buildings and associated features makes it an interesting case study, as finds of ancillary buildings have been noted as relatively rare. The observation was made in 1981 that 'archaeology has a crucial role… if we can excavate factories rather than kilns…' (Drury 1981, 132, 138). Further, in a recent national review of the state of play, in relation to the archaeology of workshops, David Hinton concluded that 'recent excavations have not yielded much new direct evidence of workshops' (Hinton 2018, 486). The site offers an important contribution, therefore, as a potential example of a relatively simple and short-lived kiln site with ancillary structures, and hints into activity in the wider landscape.

8.47. The project also highlights some of the difficulties that may be encountered in exploring such sites, in terms of untangling multiperiod phasing, the resolution of artefact assemblages, and interpretation of the purpose of features such as ovens

and hearths where finds and *in situ* levels and other remains are sparse, perhaps because they were cleaned out after use.

8.48. The potential benefit of inviting practitioners with working knowledge of kilns to future excavations is also worth highlighting, as they may recognise adaptions and practical aspects of a kiln relating to its operation. Specific research questions prompted by the Finchingfield kiln might be: how deep is the burning below the kiln and what might that tell us about the efficiency of firing? Are there other examples with a similar pattern of heat and 'daub' on the walls? What order were tiles and the walls constructed in the pit and was, perhaps, the potential for dismantling and repair built into the structure? Were broken pieces used in the structure part of the design, or repair? There may be scope to test fire samples of materials surrounding a kiln (e.g. clay such as that in the wall of the Finchingfield kiln) to explore the effect of heat on them and therefore, perhaps, consider aspects of the construction and operation of the kiln such as firing temperatures and conditions in different areas of the structure (Tony Minter, pers. comm).

9. STORAGE AND CURATION

9.1. CA will make arrangements with Braintree Museum (accession number TBC) for the deposition of the site archive and, subject to agreement with the legal landowner(s), the artefact collection.

9.2. A digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). This archive will be compiled in accordance with the ADS Guidelines for Depositors.

9.3. The archives (museum and digital) will be prepared and deposited in accordance with *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (CIfA 2020b) and with the requirements of the relevant repositories.

10. PUBLICATION

10.1. The results from the investigations on land at Bardfield Road are of regional significance and merit publication. The site contributes to knowledge of the medieval landscape of Finchingfield, with changing road and landscape use, and in particular the kiln complex offers an important contribute to medieval industrial archaeology, potentially with wider national interest. A summary article is in preparation, to be published in the journal *Essex Archaeology and History*. This will be edited and

refereed internally by CA senior project management and externally refereed by Paul Drury FSA, who has expertise on the tile industry in Essex.

10.2. The handaxe has been included in CA's 'Virtual Museum' (see CA 2023b).

11. PROJECT TEAM

11.1. Fieldwork was undertaken by Stephen Foster, assisted by Cara Barsby, Karri Hynds, Kerree Kendall, Powell Le Feuvre and Jandre Wolmarens. This report was written by Abby Antrobus. The finds and biological evidence reports were written by Sue Anderson, Alex Bliss, Tom Brown, Andy Clarke, Kathryn Hunter, Ed McSloy, Ruth Shaffrey and Jackie Sommerville. The report illustrations were prepared by Ryan Wilson. The project archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Zoe Emery. The project was managed for CA by Richard Mortimer.

12. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

A total of 672 contexts were recorded during the archaeological works, as detailed below in Table A1.

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
0100			Topsoil	Layer	Dark greyish brown, silty clay, soft	Topsoil			0.18	0101					
0101			Subsoil	Layer	Medium orangish brown, silty clay, soft	Subsoil			0.34	0103, 0106, 0109, 0105, 0108, 0110	0100				
0102			Natural	Layer	Mixed orange brown gravel, with greyish blue clay, compact	Natural					0109, 0106, 0103				
0103	0103		Pit	Cut	Circular, steep sloping sides with a sharp break, concave base with sharp break	Cut of Pit	1.20	0.70	0.44	0102	0101, 0104			2.1	Late 12th/13th
0104	0103		Other Fill	Fill	Dark brownish black, silty clay, soft - very organic, contained snail and oyster shell	Bottom Fill of Pit	1.20	0.70	0.14	0103	0105			2.02	13th-14th?
0105	0103		Other Fill	Fill	Medium yellowish brown, silty clay, soft	Upper Fill of Pit				0104	0101			2.02	13th-14th?
0106	0106		Pit	Cut	Circular with steep sloping sides with a sharp break, concave base with a sharp break.	Cut of Pit	1.54	0.80	0.28	0102	0101, 0107			2.0	12th-14th
0107	0106		Other Fill	Fill	Dark blackish brown, silty clay, soft	Fill of Pit	1.54	0.80	0.28	0106	0108			2.0	12th-14th
0108	0106		Other Fill	Fill	Medium orangish brown, silty clay, soft	Fill of Pit	1.54	0.80	0.18	0107	0101			2.0	12th-14th
0109	0109		Ditch	Cut	Linear, sloping sides and sharp break, concave base and sharp break and E-W orientation.	Cut of Ditch	2	0.68	0.18	0102	0101, 0110			2.1	Late 12th/13th
0110	0109		Other Fill	Fill	Dark greyish black, silty clay, soft	Fill of Ditch	2	0.68	0.18	0109	0101			2.1	Late 12th/13th
0200			Topsoil	Layer	Soft Dark greyish brown silty clay	Topsoil			0.30	0201					
0201			Subsoil	Layer	Soft mid greyish brown silty clay	Subsoil			0.20	0202, 0206, 0204, 0205	0200				
0202	0202	0804	Ditch	Cut	Linear, N-S orientation	Cut of Ditch (Unexcavated) same as [0804] & [2002]	2	1.75		0206	0201				
0203	0203		Pit	Cut	Circular, gentle sloping with a sharp break, concave base with sharp break.	Cut of Pit	0.75	0.90	0.15	0206	0204				
0204	0203		Other Fill	Fill	Loose Mid greyish brown silty sand	Fill of Pit	0.75	0.90	0.15	0203	0201				
0205	0205	1103	Trackway	Cut	Linear, sloping sides and a flat base, N/E-S/W orientation.	Cut of Trackway - unexcavated. same as Trackway [1103]	10	2	0.20	0206	0201				
0206			Natural	Layer	Light yellowish brown, gravelly clay	Natural			0.75		0201, 0202, 0203, 0205				

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
0300			Topsoil	Layer	Soft Dark greyish brown, silty clay	Topsoil			0.33	0301					
0301			Subsoil	Layer	Soft mid greyish brown sandy silt, potentially mixed with colluvium.	Subsoil			0.33	0302, 0304, 0305, 0306	0300				
0302			Natural	Layer	Firm mid brownish yellow gravelly sand and clay.	Natural			1		0301, 0305, 0303				
0303	0303	7933	Ditch	Cut	Linear, gentle sloping sides with a sharp break, concave base with a sharp break, SW-NE orientation.	Cut of Ditch	1.80	1.12	0.25	0302	0304				
0304	0303	7933	Other Fill	Fill	Firm, Light Blueish grey silty clay	Fill of Ditch	1.80	1.12	0.25	0303	0301				
0305	0305	3343	Ditch	Cut	Linear, steep sloping side with a sharp break, and a concave base with a sharp break, NW-SE orientation.	Cut of Ditch	1.80	1.53	0.89	0302	0301, 0306			4	Pmed
0306	0305	3343	Other Fill	Fill	Firm dark greyish brown, silty clay	Fill of Ditch	1.80	1.53	0.89	0305	0301			4	Pmed
0400			Topsoil	Layer	Soft dark greyish brown, silty clay	Topsoil			0.28	0401					
0401			Subsoil	Layer	Soft mid greyish brown silty clay	Subsoil			0.20	0402, 0404	0400				
0402			Natural	Layer	Firm mid brownish yellow gravelly sand and clay with concentrations of manganese.	Natural					0401, 0403				
0403	0403	7933	Ditch	Cut	Linear, moderate sloping sides with a sharp break, concave base with sharp break, N-S orientation.	Cut of Ditch	2	0.87	0.29	0402	0404				
0404	0403	7933	Other Fill	Fill	Soft mid brownish grey sandy silt	Fill of Ditch	2	0.87	0.29	0403	0401				
0500			Topsoil	Layer	Dark greyish brown, silty clay	Topsoil			0.30	0501					
0501			Subsoil	Layer	Mid greyish brown, silty clay	Subsoil			0.35	0502	0500				
0502			Colluvium	Layer	Mid reddish brown sandy clay	Colluvium			0.38	0503, 0505, 0506	0501				
0503			Natural	Layer	Light yellowish brown, sandy clay	Natural					0502, 0504, 0506				
0504	0504		Ditch	Cut	Linear, steep sloping sides with a sharp break, concave base with a sharp break. E-W orientation.	Cut of Ditch	2	0.70	0.23	0503	0505			1	Prehistoric
0505	0504		Other Fill	Fill	Light blueish grey, silty sandy clay	Fill of Ditch	2	0.70	0.23	0504	0502	0506		1	Prehistoric
0506	0506	0403	Ditch	Cut	Linear, N-S orientation.	Cut of Ditch. Unexcavated. Same as [0403]	1.35	0.95		0503	0502		0505	0	Undated
0600			Topsoil	Layer	Soft, Dark brownish grey, sandy silt	Topsoil			0.25	0601					
0601			Subsoil	Layer	Soft mid greyish brown, silty clay	Subsoil			0.25	0602	0600				

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
0602			Natural	Layer	Firm Light Yellowish brown, clay	Natural					0601				
0700			Topsoil	Layer	Greyish brown silty clay with flint inclusions, friable.	Topsoil			0.10	0701					
0701			Subsoil	Layer	Greyish medium brown, silty clay, flint inclusions.	Subsoil			0.12	0702	0700				
0702			Colluvium	Layer	Orangey brown silty clay with occasional flints, friable.	Colluvium			0.26	0703	0701				
0703			Natural	Layer	Firm light yellowish brown clay with gravel	Natural					0702				
0800			Topsoil	Layer	Mod compact, dark brownish grey, sandy silty clay with frequent sub angular stones	Topsoil			0.25	0801					
0801			Subsoil	Layer	loose mid greyish brown, sandy silty clay with occasional small sub angular stones	Subsoil			0.30	0802	0800				
0802			Colluvium	Layer	Loose, mid reddish brown, sandy silt with rare sub angular stones	Colluvium			0.40	0803, 0805	0801				
0803			Natural	Layer	Mod compact, light yellowish brown, sandy clay with frequent manganese and sub angular stones	Natural				0804	0802, 0804				
0804	0804		Ditch	Cut	Linear, moderate sloping with a sharp break, concave base with a sharp base, N-S orientation. Small piece of Iron found I fill.	Cut of Ditch	2	1.75	0.32	0803, 0803	0805, 0803, 0805				
0805	0804		Other Fill	Fill	Mid reddish brown, silty clay	Fill of Ditch	2	1.75	0.32	0804	0802				
0900			Topsoil	Layer	Mod compact, dark brownish grey, sandy silt with frequent small sub angular stones	Topsoil			0.42	0901					
0901			Subsoil	Layer	Loose mid greyish brown, sandy silt with frequent small sub angular stones.	Subsoil			0.25	0902	0900				
0902			Natural	Layer	Loose mid reddish brown, gravelly sand, with very frequent sub angular stones.	Natural					0901				
1000			Topsoil	Layer	Soft, Dark Greyish Brown, silty clay	Topsoil			0.32	1001					
1001			Subsoil	Layer	Soft Mid, Greyish Brown, silty clay	Subsoil			0.12	1002, 1004	1000				
1002			Natural	Layer	Firm, Light Yellowish Brown, clay with gravel	Natural					1001, 1003				
1003	1003	3336	Ditch	Cut	Linear, moderate sloping side with a sharp break, concave base with a sharp break, N-S orientation.	Cut of Ditch	2	1.32	0.32	1002	1004			2.1	Late 12th/13th
1004	1003	3336	Other Fill	Fill	Firm, Dark Greyish Brown, silty clay	Fill of Ditch	2	1.32	0.32	1003	1001			2.1	Late 12th/13th
1100			Topsoil	Layer	Soft, Dark Greyish Brown, silty clay	Topsoil			0.30	1101, 1112					

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
1101			Subsoil	Layer	Soft, Mid Greyish Brown, silty clay	Subsoil			0.20	1102, 1105, 1108, 1109, 1110, 1112, 1116, 1119, 1121	1100, 1111, 1117				
1102			Natural	Layer	Firm, Mid yellowish Brown, clay with gravels	Natural					1101, 1103, 1106, 1109, 1111, 1113, 1117, 1120				
1103	1103	3353	Trackway	Cut	Linear, gradual sloping sides with a sharp break, flat base with a sharp break and two cart ruts in base 4'8 and a half (1.5m) apart standard width for cart wheels, NE-SW orientation.	Trackway	2	5.50	0.70	1102	1104			2.2	13th-14th
1104	1103	3353	Other Fill	Fill	Firm, Mid Orangey Brown, silty clay	Fill of Trackway	2	2.24	0.24	1103	1105			2.2	13th-14th
1105	1103	3353	Other Fill	Fill	Soft, Mid Brownish Grey, silty clay	Fill of Trackway	2	5.50	0.46	1104	1101, 1106	1106		2.2	13th-14th
1106	1106	3345	Ditch	Cut	Linear, steep sloping sides with a sharp break, V-shaped base with a sharp break, NE-SW orientation.	Cut of Road Side Ditch	2	2.23	0.92	1102, 1105	1107		1105	2.2	13th-14th
1107	1106	3345	Other Fill	Fill	Hard, Mid Orangey Brown, silty clay	Fill of Road side Ditch	2	0.60	0.54	1106	1108			2.2	13th-14th
1108	1106	3345	Other Fill	Fill	Soft, Mid Brownish grey, silty clay	Fill of Road Side Ditch	2	2.32	0.92	1107	1101			2.2	13th-14th
1109	1109		Ditch	Cut	Linear, gradual sloping side with a sharp break, concave base with a sharp break, NE-SW orientation.	Cut of Ditch Terminus	1.32	0.52	0.23	1102	1101, 1110				
1110	1109		Other Fill	Fill	Soft, Light Greyish White, silty clay	Fill of Ditch	1.32	0.52	0.23	1109	1101				
1111	1111		Pit	Cut	Sub-oval, steep sloping then vertical sides with a sharp break, not bottomed base, NE-SW orientation.	Cut of Pit (Not Bottomed)	2	1.52	0.90	1101, 1102	1112				
1112	1111		Other Fill	Fill	Soft, Dark Greyish Black, clay silt with moderate amounts of charcoal flecks and pottery.	Fill of Pit	2	1.52	0.90	1111	1100, 1101				
1113	1113	3347	Ditch	Cut	Linear, steep sloping sides with a sharp break, concave base with a sharp break, NE-SW orientation.	Cut of Ditch	2	1.10	1.21	1102	1114			2.2	13th-14th
1114	1113	3347	Other Fill	Fill	Firm, Mid Orangey Brown, clay sandy gravel	Lowest Fill of Ditch	2	1	0.48	1113	1115			2.2	13th-14th
1115	1113	3347	Other Fill	Fill	Firm, Mid Orangey Brown, silty clay	Middle Fill of Ditch	2	1	0.48	1114	1116			2.2	13th-14th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
1116	1113	3347	Other Fill	Fill	Soft, Mid Brownish Grey, silty clay	Upper Fill of Ditch	2	1.88	0.81	1115	1101, 1117	1117		2.2	13th-14th
1117	1117	3346	Ditch	Cut	Linear, steep sloping sides with a sharp break, concave base with the sharp break, NE-SW orientation.	Cut of Ditch	2	1.98	1.26	1102, 1101, 1116	1118		1116	2.2	13th-14th
1118	1117	3346	Other Fill	Fill	Hard, Mid Orangey Brown, gravely clay	Fill of Ditch	2	1.42	1.26	1117	1119			2.2	13th-14th
1119	1117	3346	Other Fill	Fill	Soft, Mid Brownish Grey, silty clay	Fill of Ditch	2	1.98	0.54	1118	1101			2.2	13th-14th
1120	1120		Beamslot	Cut	Linear/rectangular with rounded ends, gradual sloping sides with a sharp break and a concave base with sharp base, NW-SE orientation.	Cut of Beam slot	3.51	0.62	0.16	1102	1121				
1121	1120		Other Fill	Fill	Compact, Mid Greyish Brown, silty gravel	Fill of beam slot	3.15	0.62	0.16	1120	1101				
1200			Topsoil	Layer	Soft, Dark greyish brown, silty clay	Topsoil			0.28	1201					
1201			Subsoil	Layer	Soft, Mid yellowish brown, silty clay	Subsoil			0.30	1202, 1205, 1207, 1209, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1215, 1216, 1218, 1219, 1220, 1221, 1222	1200, 1217				
1202			Natural	Layer	Firm, light yellowish greyish brown, clay and gravels	Natural					1201, 1203, 1206, 1208, 1210, 1212, 1213, 1214, 1216, 1219, 1220, 1221, 1222				
1203	1203	3335	Ditch	Cut	Linear, steep sloping sides with a sharp break, concave base with a sharp break, NW-SE orientated.	Cut of Ditch	1.09	1.30	0.48	1202	1204			2.02	13th-14th?
1204	1203	3335	Other Fill	Fill	Firm, Dark yellowish brown, silty clay	Bottom Fill of Ditch	1.09	1.30	0.26	1203	1205			2.02	13th-14th?

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
1205	1203	3335	Other Fill	Fill	Soft, Mid yellowish brown, silty clay	Top Fill of Ditch	1.09	1.30	0.22	1204	1201			2.02	13th-14th?
1206	1206	3352	Linear	Cut	Linear, subrounded corners, moderate sloping with a sharp break, concave base with a sharp break, NE-SW orientated.	Cut of possible Beam Slot	2.10	0.40	0.18	1202	1207			2.2	13th-14th
1207	1206	3352	Other Fill	Fill	Firm, mid-light greyish brown, silty clay	Fill of Linear	2.10	0.40	0.18	1206	1201			2.2	13th-14th
1208	1208		Pit	Cut	Sub-circular, rounded corners, gentle sloping sides with a very gentle break of slope, shallow concave base sharp break, N/E-S/W orientation.	Cut of Pit	3.50	1.40	0.28	1202	1209			2.1	Late 12th/13th
1209	1208		Other Fill	Fill	Firm, Mid greyish brown, silty clay	Fill of Pit	3.50	1.40	0.28	1208	1201			2.1	Late 12th/13th
1210	1210		Pit	Cut	Sub-circular, rounded corners, steep sloping sides, not bottomed	Cut of Pit, Not bottomed	1.68	1.70	0.10	1202	1211			2.1	Late 12th/13th
1211	1210		Other Fill	Fill	Mid greyish brown, silty clay, firm	Fill of Pit	1.70	1.68	0.10	1210	1201			2.1	Late 12th/13th
1212	1212		Pit	Cut	Cut of Circular Pit (Unexcavated)	Cut of Pit (Unexcavated)	0.89	1		1202	1213, 1201			2.1	Late 12th/13th
1213	1213		Pit	Cut	Cut of Circular Pit (Unexcavated)	Cut of Pit (Unexcavated)	1.05	0.85		1212, 1202	1201			2.1	Late 12th/13th
1214	1214		Pit	Cut	Sub-circular, moderate rounded corners, steep sloping sides with sharp break, concave base with sharp break. N/W-S/E orientation.	Cut of Pit	1.60	0.90	0.22	1202	1215			2.1	Late 12th/13th
1215	1214		Other Fill	Fill	Firm, mid greyish brown, silty clay	Fill of Pit	1.60	0.90	0.22	1214	1201				
1216	1216		Pit	Cut	Cut of Circular Pit (Unexcavated)	Cut of Pit (Unexcavated)	1.10	0.95		1202	1201				
1217	1217		Pit	Cut	Sub-oval, moderate rounded corners, steep sloping sides and a sharp break, concave base and a gentle break, N-S Orientation.	Cut of Pit	2	1.30	0.20	1201	1218			2.1	Late 12th/13th
1218	1217		Other Fill	Fill	Firm, mid greyish brown, silty clay	Fill of Pit	2	1.30	0.20	1217	1201			2.1	Late 12th/13th
1219	1219		Pit	Cut	Cut of Circular Pit (Unexcavated)	Cut of Pit (Unexcavated)				1202	1201				
1220	1220		Pit	Cut	Cut of Circular Pit (Unexcavated)	Cut of Pit (Unexcavated)				1202	1201				
1221	1221		Pit	Cut	Cut of Circular Pit (Unexcavated)	Cut of Pit (Unexcavated)				1202	1201				
1222	1222		Pit	Cut	Cut of Circular Pit (Unexcavated)	Cut of Pit (Unexcavated)				1202	1201				
1300			Topsoil	Layer	Soft Dark greyish brown silty clay	Topsoil			0.28	1301					
1301			Subsoil	Layer	Soft mid greyish brown silty clay	Subsoil			0.49	1302	1300				
1302			Natural	Layer	Light yellowish brown clay and gravel	Natural					1301				
1400			Topsoil	Layer	Dark greyish brown silty clay	Topsoil			0.29	1401					

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
1401			Subsoil	Layer	Mid greyish brown silty clay	Subsoil			0.41	1402, 1403	1400				
1402			Natural	Layer	Light yellowish brown clay	Natural					1401, 1403				
1403	1403	3335	Ditch	Cut	Cut of Ditch (Unexcavated)	Cut of Ditch (Unexcavated) Same as [1203] to the south	2	0.95		1402	1401				
1500			Topsoil	Layer	Soft Dark greyish brown silty clay	Topsoil			0.28	1501					
1501			Natural	Layer	Firm light yellowish brown clay with gravel	Natural					1500				
1600			Topsoil	Layer	Soft Dark greyish brown silty clay	Topsoil			0.30	1601					
1601			Subsoil	Layer	Soft Mid greyish brown silty clay	Subsoil			0.25	1602	1600				
1602			Natural	Layer	Firm light yellowish brown sandy clay with gravel	Natural					1601				
1700			Topsoil	Layer	Soft Dark greyish brown silty clay	Topsoil			0.30	1701					
1701			Subsoil	Layer	Soft Mid greyish brown silty clay	Subsoil			0.20	1702	1700				
1702			Natural	Layer	Firm light yellowish brown clay with gravels	Natural					1701				
1800			Topsoil	Layer	Soft Dark greyish brown silty clay	Topsoil			0.50	1801					
1801			Subsoil	Layer	Soft Mid greyish brown silty clay	Subsoil			0.12	1802	1800				
1802			Colluvium	Layer	Soft Mid reddish brown clay	Colluvium			0.16	1803	1801				
1803			Natural	Layer	Firm light Yellowish Brown clay and gravel	Natural					1802				
1900			Topsoil	Layer	Dark brownish grey sandy silt, frequent sub angular stones, mod compaction.	Topsoil			0.30	1901`, 1901					
1901			Subsoil	Layer	Light greyish brown sandy silt with frequent sub angular stones, mod compaction.	Subsoil			0.26	1902	1900				
1901`			Subsoil	Layer	Light greyish brown sandy silt with frequent sub angular stones, mod compaction.	Subsoil			0.26	1902	1900				
1902			Colluvium	Layer	Mid reddish brown clay with many sub angular stones,	Colluvium			0.35	1903	1901, 1901`				
1903			Natural	Layer	Firm Light yellowish brown clay and grave;	Natural					1902				
1930															
2000			Topsoil	Layer	Soft dark greyish brown silty clay.	Topsoil			0.27	2001					
2001			Subsoil	Layer	Soft mid greyish brown silty clay.	Subsoil			0.35	2005, 2004	2000				
2002	2002		Ditch	Cut	Linear, Steep sloping sides with a sharp break, concave base with a sharp break, N-S orientation	Cut of Ditch	2	1.30	0.20	2005	2003				

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
2003	2002		Other Fill	Fill	Soft dark greyish brown silty clay.	Fill of Ditch	2	1.30	0.20	2002	2004				
2004			Colluvium	Layer	Firm mid reddish brown clay	Colluvium			0.40	2003	2001				
2005			Natural	Layer	Firm Light yellowish brown clay and gravel	Natural					2001, 2002				
2017										2915					
2057															
2100			Topsoil	Layer	mod compact dark brownish grey sandy silt with frequent small sub angular stones	Topsoil			0.30	2101					
2101			Colluvium	Layer	Loose mid reddish brown gravelly sand with very frequent med sub angular stones.	Colluvium			0.40	2102	2100				
2102			Natural	Layer	Light yellowish brown clay with gravels	Natural					2101				
2200			Topsoil	Layer	Mod compact dark brownish grey sandy silt with frequent sub angular stones	Topsoil			0.33	2201					
2201			Subsoil	Layer	mod compact mid reddish brown sandy silt with frequent sub angular stones. Possible collegial layer	Subsoil			0.48	2202	2200				
2202			Colluvium	Layer	loose mid reddish brown sandy silt with occasional small sub angular stones. Fill of colluvial filled valley spans approx. 25m wide and around 0.60m deep. Same colluvium can be seen filling the valley in trenches 3,5,7,8 and 20.	Colluvium		25	0.56	2203	2201				
2203			Natural	Layer	dark & light mixed yellowish brown compact silty sand	Natural					2202				
2216										3315					
2300			Topsoil	Layer	Soft dark greyish brown silty clay.	Topsoil			0.25	2301					
2301			Subsoil	Layer	Soft Mid greyish brown silty clay.	Subsoil			0.37	2302, 2304, 2308	2300				
2302			Natural	Layer	Firm Light Yellowish brown clay and gravel	Natural					2301, 2305, 2307				
2303	2303		Ditch	Cut	Linear, Moderate sloping sides, concave base. N/E-S/W orientation	Cut of Ditch	1.8	0.74	0.25	2306	2304, 2402				
2304	2303		Other Fill	Fill	loose mid greyish brown sandy silt, occasional small sub-angular stone	Fill of Ditch	1.8	0.74	0.25	2303	2301				
2305	2305		Ditch	Cut	Linear, moderate sloping sides, concave base	Cut of Ditch	0.30	0.30	0.12	2302	2306				
2306	2305		Other Fill	Fill	Firm dark greyish brown silty clay, frequent small sub-angular stone	Fill of Ditch	0.30	0.30	0.12	2305	2303				
2307	2307		Pit	Cut	Sub-oval, Gentle to steep sloping sides, not bottomed	Cut of Pit	2.12	1.08	0.66	2302	2308				

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
2308	2307		Other Fill	Fill	Soft dark greyish brown silty clay, frequent small to medium sub-angular stone	Fill of Pit	2.12	1.08	0.66	2307	2301				
2400			Topsoil	Layer	Dark brownish grey sandy silt, mod compaction, frequent sub angular stones.	Topsoil			0.25	2401					
2401			Subsoil	Layer	Mid greyish brown sandy silt with frequent sub angular stones, mod compaction.	Subsoil			0.18	2402	2400				
2402			Colluvium	Layer	mid reddish brown, sandy silt, frequent sub angular stones, mod compaction	Colluvium			0.23	2303, 2403	2401				
2403			Natural	Layer	Firm light yellowish brown clay with gravels	Natural					2402				
2500			Topsoil	Layer	Soft dark greyish brown silty clay.	Topsoil			0.33	2501					
2501			Subsoil	Layer	Soft mid greyish brown silty clay.	Subsoil			0.14	2502	2500				
2502			Colluvium	Layer	Soft mid reddish brown clay.	Colluvium			0.19	2503	2501				
2503			Natural	Layer	Firm light yellowish brown clay and gravel	Natural					2502				
2600			Topsoil	Layer	Soft dark greyish brown silty clay.	Topsoil			0.38	2601					
2601			Subsoil	Layer	Soft mid greyish brown silty clay.	Subsoil			0.17	2602	2600				
2602			Natural	Layer	Firm light yellowish brown clay and gravel	Natural					2601				
2700			Topsoil	Layer	Soft dark greyish brown silty clay	Topsoil			0.40	2701					
2701			Subsoil	Layer	Soft mid greyish brown silty clay	Subsoil			0.20	2702, 2704, 2706, 2708	2700				
2702			Natural	Layer	Firm Light yellowish brown sandy clay with frequent gravel	Natural					2701, 2703, 2705, 2707				
2703	2703		Ditch	Cut	Linear, steep sloping side with as sharp break, concave base but slightly irregular towards the terminus. E-W orientation.	Cut of Ditch Terminus	1.14	0.86	0.40	2702	2704				
2704	2703		Other Fill	Fill	Soft mid greyish brown silty clay.	Fill of Ditch Terminus	1.14	0.86	0.40	2703	2701				
2705	2705		Pit	Cut	Sub-oval with rounded corners, shallow gradual slope with a sharp break, irregular concave base with a gradual break. N/W-S/E orientation.	Cut of Pit	1.10	0.70	0.11	2702	2706				
2706	2705		Other Fill	Fill	Soft mid greyish brown silty clay.	Fill of Pit	1.10	0.70	0.11	2705	2701				
2707	2707		Ditch	Cut	Linear, steep sloping sides with a sharp break, V-shaped base with a sharp break, E-W orientation.	Cut of Ditch	2	1.20	0.60	2702	2708				

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
2708	2707		Other Fill	Fill	Firm dark greyish brown silty clay.	Fill of Ditch	2	1.20	0.60	2707	2701				
2800			Topsoil	Layer	Soft Dark greyish brown silty clay	Topsoil			0.31	2801					
2801			Subsoil	Layer	Soft Mid greyish brown silty clay	Subsoil			0.37	2802	2800				
2802			Colluvium	Layer	Soft Mid reddish brown silty clay	Colluvium			0.32	2803, 2805	2801				
2803			Natural	Layer	Firm Light yellowish brown sandy clay with frequent gravel	Natural					2802, 2804				
2804	2804		Pit	Cut	Sub-circular with rounded corners, steep sloping sides and sharp break, concave base and sharp break.	Cut of Pit	0.42	0.70	0.40	2803	2805				
2805	2804		Other Fill	Fill	Soft mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional CBM	Fill of Pit	0.42	0.70	0/40	2804	2802				
2900	2900		Topsoil	layer	Soft dark greyish brown silty clay	Top soil			0.30	2901					
2901	2901		Subsoil	layer	Soft mid greyish brown rich clay.	Sub-soil			0.20	2902	2900				
2902	2902		Colluvial Layer	layer	Mid reddish grey brown silt clay	Colluvial Layer					2901				
2903	2903		Natural	layer	Firm light greyish - blue sandy clay to south Mid orangey brown gravel and mid yellowish brown clay to the north	Natural				2906	2914, 2916, 2925				
2904	2904		Pit	cut	Circular with concave sides and a flat base.	Cut of possible retting pit. Although not many finds uncovered.	3.50	2.30	0.40	2909	2905			2.0	12th-14th
2905	2904		Other Fill	fill	Dark brownish black silty clay - slight sand. Soft (waterlogged) compaction. Frequent large flint (fist size) inclusions Good/clear horizon clarity Contamination risk: cuts pit [2907]. Excavated using mattock and shovel in wet, overcast conditions.	Fill of pit, only fill to contain pottery. Soil appear to very organic. Medieval?	3.50	2.30	0.40	2904	2906			2.0	12th-14th
2906	2904		Other Fill	fill	Medium brownish yellow sandy, gravely clay. Compact compaction. Very occasional animal bone fragments, frequent fist size flint inclusions. Good/clear horizon clarity Contamination risk: cuts pit Excavated using mattock, shovel in wet overcast conditions.	Second fill of pit looks to be a mix of redeposited natural. Very few fragments of animal bone found but unable to retain.	1.60	2.30	0.36	2905	2903			2.0	12th-14th
2907	2907		Pit	cut	Circular in shape Stepped sides Flat base	Possible retting pit Cut of pit with two fills Cut by pit [2904] Medieval?	<0.5	1	0.40		2908			0	Undated

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
2908	2907		Other Fill	fill	Dark greyish black clay silt Soft (waterlogged) compaction Occasional small angled stone inclusions Good/clear horizon clarity Contamination risk: cut by pit [2904] Excavated using shovel and mattock in wet overcast conditions.	First fill of pit, very similar to (2905) but not quite as organic. Medieval?	<0.50	1	0.40	2907	2909			0	Undated
2909	2907		Other Fill	fill	Dark redish black clay silt. Soft (waterlogged) compaction Very occasional small rounded stone inclusions Contamination risk: cut by [2904] Excavated using mattock and shovel in wet overcast conditions.	Second fill of pit, very similar to fill (2908), no finds.	<0.50	0.80	0.18	2908	2904			0	Undated
2910	2910		Pit	cut	Oval in shape with concave with gentle sloping sides. Flat base W-E orientation	Part of a series of pits, very shallow Seems to have been infilled with same fill as two other adjacent pits. Sherds found in pit - Medieval.	+2	+1	0.05		2913			2.2	13th-14th
2911	2911		Pit	cut	Oval Concave sloping sides Flat base E-W orientation	One of the adjacent pits staring the same fills (2913). Sherds found in pit, likely medieval.	1.50	0.80	0.12		2913			2.2	13th-14th
2912	2912		Pit	cut	Oval gentle sloping sides Flat/uneven base E-W Orientation	One of the three adjacent pits, sharing same fill (2913). Sherds found in pit are likely medieval.	2.40	1.50	0.22		2913			2.2	13th-14th
2913			Primary Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay./ Loose compaction Rare sub-angular stone inclusions Clear horizon clarity No contamination Excavated by hand	This fill seems to have been deposited the same time in the three pits [2910]-[2912].	2.5	2-3	0.282	2910, 2911, 2912				2.2	13th-14th
2914	2914		Pit	cut	Sub-circular in shape with gentle concaved sides. Flat base	Cut of small pit with one fill (2915). This pit being cut by a larger pit [2916] located on the north side which suggests this pit [2914] is earlier. Cut clear in plan - medieval	0.99	0.77	0.16	2903	2915			2.0	12th-14th
2915	2914		Secondary Fill	fill	Dark brownish grey silty clay. Friable compaction Regular angularf lint and charcoal flecks Clear horizon clarity Contamination risk: cut by pits [2916]	Fill of small pit [2419] Possible intentiional backfill due to regular charcoal flecks medieval pottery found. Possbilly be a retting pet. Cut moderately clear in pain. Medival.	0.52	-	0.61	2914	2017			2.0	12th-14th
2916	2916		Pit	cut	Sub-circular in shape with steep and concaved sides Flat base	Cut of large pit with two fills (2917) (2918) This pit is cutting a smaller pit [2914] located on the south side which suggests this pit [2916] is later. Could possibly be a retting pit. Same as [2919]. Medieval Cut moderately clear in plan	1.20	1.12	0.52	2903	2917			2.02	13th-14th?

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
2917	2916		Secondary Fill	fill	Dark brownish grey silty clay Friable compaction Regular charcoal flecks and angular flint (small) inclusions Clear horizon clarity Contamination risk: ground water present Shovel and mattock used and in damp conditions.	Bottom fill of [2916] possible intentional backfill due to material found - charcoal and medieval pot. Ground water present. Medieval	1.24	-	0.33	2916	2918			2.02	13th-14th?
2918	2916		Other Fill	fill	Mid orangey brown silty clay. Loose compaction Regular large angular flint inclusions.	Upper fill of pit [2916] possibly caused by natural silting process over time when pit had gone out of use. Pot and shell found.	1.10	-	0.40	2917				2.02	13th-14th?
2919	2919		Pit	cut	Oval in shape Moderately sloping sides Slightly undulating base Roughly N-S Orientation	Cut of possible retting pit. Medieval	6.2	1.2	0.66		2920			2.02	13th-14th?
2920	2919		Other Fill	fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay Firm compaction Occasional small-medium sized sub angular stone inclusions Clear horizon clarity Excavated by hand in a dry condition Fill diffuse to south of cut	Lower fill of possible retting pit [2919]. Dark colour and finds suggest backfill of waste material.	6	1.2	0.2	2919	2921			2.02	13th-14th?
2921	2919		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay Firm compaction Frequent flecks of orange manganese, Occasional small/medium sub-angular stone inclusions Clear horizon clarity Excavated by hand in dry environment	Upper fill of possible retting pit [2919], finds suggest possible backfill. Oyster shell and pottery present. Medieval.	2.72	1.2	0.46	2920				2.02	13th-14th?
2922	2922	3348	Ditch	cut	Linear Moderately sloping sides concaved base Roughly E-W orientation	Cut of ditch Medieval?	1	0.9	0.26		2923			2.01	Late 12th/13th?
2923	2922	3348	Other Fill	fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay with a firm compaction. Occasional small sub-angular stone inclusions Clear horizon clarity Excavated by hand in dry conditions	Lower fill of ditch [2921]. Medieval?	1	0.22	0.04	2922	2924			2.01	Late 12th/13th?
2924	2922	3348	Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction Frequent flecks of orange manganese, Occasional small/medium sub-angular stone inclusions.	Upper fill of ditch [2921], finds suggest possible backfill of waste material. Medieval?	1	0.9	0.24	2923				2.01	Late 12th/13th?
2925	2925		Pit	cut	Circular shape with a concaved very slight stepped sides. Rounded base	Pit (large) with a single fill. Possibly left to naturally in fill.	4.220	3.30	0.92	2903	2926			2.1	Late 12th/13th
2926	2925		Other Fill	fill	Light greyish brown sandy clay silt. Compact compaction Frequent sub-angled stone and flint inclusions, occasional pot, rare Fe (iron) objects. Good/clear horizon clarity.	Pit (large) with a single fill. Possibly left to naturally in fill.	4.20	3.30	0.92	2925				2.1	Late 12th/13th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
2927	2927	3353	Ditch	cut	Linear SSE side steel B.O.S top, steep almost verticle slightly concaved side. NNW side very gentle B.O.S top gently sloping to a steep B.O.S top alomost verticle slighlty concaved side. Very irregular uneven base showing cart ruts NW-SE orientation	Ditch[2927] has a single fill (2928). The base of [2927] clearly shows evidence of cart ruts same as [1103] exemplifying this to be a track way. Green pottery was found in (2928) allowing to a likely dating of medieval.	-	4.50	0.57		2928			2.2	13th-14th
2928	2927	3353	Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty sand Friable compaction Frequent (75%) s-m flint (<8cm) moderate chalk(50%) s-m (<5cm) inclusions. Excavated by hand in a dry, warm environment.	Ditch[2927] has a single fill (2928). The base of [2927] clearly shows evidence of cart ruts same as [1103] exemplifying this to be a track way. Green pottery was found in (2928) allowing to a likely dating of medieval.	-	4.50	0.57	2927				3	Late Med to Pmed
2929	2929	3340	Ditch	cut	Linear Steep b.o.s top to very steep concave side with another steep b.o.s to almost vehicle sloping side (N side of section). Gradually becoming gentler towards S side of section. Irregular concave base NNE-SSW orientation	Cut [2929] is a ditch with a single fill (2930). Fill (2930) had many finds; burnt clay, pottery, charcoal and animal bone. (13thC). To the east of the cut [2929] there is a very similar feature in plan, width and length. This may be related.	5.70	0.97	0.36		2930			2.1	Late 12th/13th
2930	2929	3340	Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown mottled with pale orangey grey silty sand,. Friable compaction. Moderately frequent (50%) s-m (<5m) gravel.	Cut [2929] is a ditch with a single fill (2930). Fill (2930) had many finds; burnt clay, pottery, charcoal and animal bone. (13thC). To the east of the cut [2929] there is a very similar feature in plan, width and length. This may be related.	5.70	0.97	0.36	2929				2.1	Late 12th/13th
2931	2931		Posthole	cut	Circular with rounded corners Steep supine sides and concave base	Possible kiln base Cut and fill of small pit with sions of in-site burnt clay but no finds Could be associated possibly to some some post-holes in area? Medieval 100 x 2BKTS of Environmental samples	0.80	-	0.12		2932			0	Undated
2932	2931		Other Fill	fill	Mid reddish yellow brown silty clay with firm compaction. Burnt clay and charcoal inclusions. Clear horizon clarity Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Possible kiln base Cut and fill of small pit with sions of in-site burnt clay but no finds Could be associated possibly to some some post-holes in area? Medieval 100 x 2BKTS of Environmental samples	0.80	-	0.12	2931				0	Undated
2933	2933	3343	Ditch	cut	Linear Gradual concave sides concaved base NE - SW orientation	Cut of ditch running This ditch [2933] cuts the trackway [2940] which suggest this ditch is later. Cut clear in plan Medieval	10	2.88	0.72	2943, 2961	2934			4	Pmed
2934	2933	3343	Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a compact compaction Moderately clear horizon clarity Excavated using a shovel in a dry climate.	Bottom fill of ditch [2933] probably caused by natural silting process overtime when ditch was open. Medieval	10+	2.88	0.26	2933	2935			4	Pmed

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
2935	2933	3343	Other Fill	fill	Light greyish brown silty clay. Friable compaction with occasional small sub-angular stone inclusions. Moderately clear horizon clarity Excavated using shovel and mattock in dry conditions.	Middle fill of ditch [2933] probably caused by slumping from sides of the ditch when open or possilby from hillwash. Sub- angular stones present.	10+	1.40	0.26	2934	2936			4	Pmed
2936	2933	3343	Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a compact compaction. Occasional sub-angular stone inclusions. Moderately clear horizon clarity. Excavated using shovel and mattock in dry conditions.	Top fill of ditch [2933] probably caused by natural silting process over time when ditch was open.	10+	1.40	0.34	2935				4	Pmed
2937	2937	3345	Ditch	cut	Linear in shape Steep, concave sides and a flat base NE-SW orientation.	Cut of possible ditch running alongside trackway two fills (2938) and (2939). Possible drainage ditch, ground water present. Cut moderately clear.	-	1.50	1.10		2938			2.2	13th-14th
2938	2937	3345	Other Fill	fill	Dark orangey grey silty clay with a friable compaction. Clear horizon clarity Ground water present which poses as a contamination risk. Excavated using shovel and mattock in waterlogged condition.	Bottom fill of [2937] organic material. Ground water present. Probably formed by natural silting process when ditch is open. Environmental sample taken - 101 Medieval? Bone and Shell present.	-	1.20	0.72	2937	2939			2.2	13th-14th
2939	2937	3345	Backfill	fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay with a compact compaction. Very frequent small sub-rounded stone inclusions. Clear horizon clarity	Top fill of [2937] possible deliberate backfill due to stone content. Could have been deliberately backfilled to control water rising from below. Unknown provisional date.	-	1.06	0.66	2938	2961, 2942			2.2	13th-14th
2940	2940	3353	Other Cut	cut	Linear in shape with the SE side displaying a gentle concave edge whilst the NW side has a steep concave edge - Possible cart rut. Flat base NE-SW orientation.	Cut of trackway/cobbled surface with three fills (2941) (2942) and (2943). Excavated small part of trackway at approx 0.14m deep, cut unclear due to not being fully excavated. Possible cart rut to NW end of trackway. SE end of trackway is being cut by ditch [2937] suggesting trackway is earlier. Provisional date: Medieval. - CBM and metal finds present.	10+	5.20	0.72		2941			2.01	Late 12th/13th ?
2941	2940	3353	Trackway	structure	Mid orangey brown silty clay with a very compact compaction. Very frequent medium rounded stone inclusions. Clear horizon clarity. Excavated using trowels.	Bottom fill of trackway [2940] extremely compact fill with medium sized, rounded stones and flint. This is a deliberately placed fill to create the trackway. Possible cart rut located at NW end of trackway. Provisional date: medieval. - Pot, bone and metal finds present.	10+	5.20	0.20	2940	2942			2.01	Late 12th/13th ?
2942	2940	3353	Other Fill	fill	Dark orangey brown sandy clay with a friable compaction. Occasional small sub-angular stone inclusions. Moderately clear horizon clarity.	Middle fill of [2040] probably caused by natural silting process overtime when trackway. Provisional date: medieval	10+	5	0.20	2939, 2941	2943			3	Late Med to Pmed

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
2943	2940	3353	Other Fill	fill	Mid orangey brown sandy clay with a compact compaction. Occasional small sub-angular stone inclusions. Moderately clear horizon clarity. Excavated using shovel and mattock in very dry conditions.	Top fill of [2040] probably caused by natural silting process overtime when trackway was open. Medieval? - Bone, CBM, shell and metal finds present.	10+	6	0.42	2942	2933			3	Late Med to Pmed
2944	2944	3346	Ditch	cut	Linear in shape Moderately sloping and concave sides. NE-SW orientation. Flat Base Terminus at SW end, rounded.	Cut of possible ditch terminus. Provisional date: Medieval	3.06	0.6	0.24		2949, 2945			2.2	13th-14th
2945	2944	3346	Other Fill	fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay with a firm compaction. Occasional small sub-angular stone and occasional chsarcoal fleck inclusions Clear horizon clarity No contamination risk Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Fill of ditch terminus [2944]. Provisional date: medieval	2.40	0.40	0.18	2944	2946			2.2	13th-14th
2946	2944	3346	Other Fill	fill	Dark brownish black silty clay with a firm compaction Frequent charcoal flecks and occasional small sub-angular stone inclusions. Clear horizon clarity No contamination risk Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Fill of ditch terminus [2944], charcoal indicates possible backfill. Medieval period Environmental sample taken - 102.	1.9	0.40	0.12	2945				2.2	13th-14th
2947	2947	3347	Ditch	cut	Oval in shape with moderately sloping concave sides. Mostly flat in base. E-W orientation	[2947] Cut of possible pit Medieval provisional date. Environmental sample taken - 103	0.9	0.52	0.4		2948			2.2	13th-14th
2948	2947	3347	Other Fill	fill	Dark grey black silty clay with a firm compaction. Frequent charcoal fleck inclusions. Clear horizon clarity No contamination risk.	Fill of possible pit [2947], charcoal indicates possible backfill. Medieval provisional date. Environmental sample taken - 103	0.9	0.52	0.40	2947				2.2	13th-14th
2949	2944	3346	Other Fill	fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay with a firm compaction. Occasional small sub-angular stone and occasional charcoal fleck inclusions. Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Fill of ditch [2944]. Medieval	0.3	0.36	0.1	2944	2950			2.2	13th-14th
2950	2944	3346	Other Fill	fill	Dark greyish black silty clay with a firm compaction Frequent charcoal fleck inclusions Excavated by hand in dry conditions	Fill of ditch [2944], charcoal indicates possible backfill. Medieval	0.7	0.45	0.06	2949	2951			2.2	13th-14th
2951	2944	3346	Other Fill	fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay with a firm compaction. Occasional small sub-angular stone and occasional charcoal fleck inclusions. Clear horizon clarity No contamination risk Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Fill of ditch terminus. Medieval	0.8	0.6	0.2	2950				2.2	13th-14th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
2952	2952	2953	Cut	cut	Kiln structure - rectangular Kiln waste area - Oval Square corners Vertical sides and some sloping on the front of kiln. Flat base. N-S orientation	Construction cut for kiln - RA 5953. Medieval	4.80	2.85	-		2953, 2962, 2964, 2969, 3074, 3078, 3146			2.2	13th-14th
2953		2953	Structure	group		Group number of kiln 2959 2969 - front, 3074 - kiln fire chamber walls. Includes (3075 - arches, 3078 - central partition). **NB post exc comment that it isn't kiln 2959, which is separate. Number 2953 used in its own right. AA 08/11/2022.				2952	3144			2.2	13th-14th
2954	2954		Structure	cut	Sub-circular in shape with vertical sides and an irregular base. WSW-ENE orientation.	Cut [2954] includes kiln [2955] which is filled by (2956) and (2957). Fill (2956) seemed much firmed with frequent chalk, baked clay and CBM. Fill (2957) was alternatively very soft and included many finds of bone, pot and CBM. Kiln (2953) is quite structurally damaged. Medieval	2.02	1.20	0.12		2955			2.02	13th-14th?
2955	2954		Kiln	structure	Clay, chalk material with rough stone finishing Kiln Circular face Baked clay - bonding material.	Structure [2955] is quite damaged with some missing. See context [2954] for more detail. Medieval Environmental sample taken - 120	2.02	-	0.12	2954	2956			2.02	13th-14th?
2956	2954		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown, mottled with red and white silty baked clay with a firm compaction. Frequent (75%) chalk fleck inclusions. Clear horizon clarity.	See context [2954]. Fills of kiln [2955]. Medieval	2.02	1.64	0.08	2955	2057, 2957			2.02	13th-14th?
2957	2954		Other Fill	fill	Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay with a soft compaction. Frequent stone (?) (75%) (<5cm,) gravel inclusions Clear horizon clarity.	See context [2954]. Fills of kiln [2955]. Medieval	2.02	1.64	0.08	2956				2.02	13th-14th?
2958	2958		Structure	cut	Circular in shape with moderately concaved sides. Moderately rounded base. N-S orientation.	Cut [2958] includes structure [2959] with a single fill (2960). Fill (2960) had large amounts of burnt flint and burnt CBM. Kiln [2959] may be an older kiln pre-dating kiln [2955].	0.90	0.90	0.12		2959			2.02	13th-14th?
2959	2958		Kiln	structure	Stones, gravel, flint and clay material. Kiln Bonding material: Heat-altered flint and baked clay.	Kiln [2959] is predominately shaped by heat altered flint and baked clay. In relationship to kiln [2955]to the north, kiln [2959] most likely pre-dates it. See context [2958] for more detail.	0.90	0.90	0.12	2958	2960			2.02	13th-14th?
2960	2958		Backfill	fill	Mid redish brown, mottled with orange silty clay. Firm compaction Frequent (75%) small chalk flecks and frequent (75%) burnt clay and S-M flint inclusions.	See context [2958] Fill of kiln [2959].	-	0.90	0.12	2959				2.02	13th-14th?
2961	2933		Other Fill	fill	Dark orangey grey silty clay. Friable compaction. Clear horizon clarity	Possible natural slumping when (2939) was placed. Caused by natural silting process.	-	0.32	0.24	2939	2933			4	Pmed

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
2962	2952	2953	Primary Fill	fill	Brownish black compact silty clay Compact compaction Mostly charcoal inclusions Clear horizon clarity Low contamination risk Excavated by hand	Charcoal rich fill, waste from kiln, thrown onto a sloping pit towards kiln over entrance/door. This fill was likely regularly cleaned from the pit to allow for space for future charcoal rubbish. Likely that most of fills occurred within a very short time frame, the destruction of kiln.	-	3.56	0.90	2952	2963			2.2	13th-14th
2963	2952	2953	Secondary Fill	fill	Greyish light brown silty clay with a compact compaction. Chalk inclusions and occasional fired clay. Clear horizon clarity No contamination risk Excavated by hand	This fill, mostly clay and chalk showed signs of being tipped into the pit from the eastern side. The fill could be remains of the outer kiln clay and chalk wall, not fired though. Lenses of charcoal in eastern part of fill.	-	1.44	0.54	2962	2966, 2965			2.2	13th-14th
2964	2952	2953	Tertiary Fill	fill	Reddish dark brown silty clay with a compact compaction. Chalk, fired clay inclusions - Very Friable. Clear horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Fill consists of fired clay, dark grey potsherds - perhaps might be rejects? It may be remnants of the kiln after demolition.	-	0.80	0.46	2952	2965			2.2	13th-14th
2965	2952	2953	Other Fill	fill	Reddish dark brown silty clay with a firm compaction. Fired (solid) clay, chalk, burnt pottery (Dark grey) Clear horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Likely demolition debris, large pieces of solid fired clay, chalk, dark grey pieces.	-	0.92	0.38	2964, 2963	2966				
2966	2952	2953	Other Fill	fill	Whitish brown silty clay with a compact compaction. Chalk, burnt clay, pot, CBM inclusions. Clear horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Debris from demolition of kiln. Patches of orangey reddish clay (fired)	-	4	0.48	2963, 2965				2.2	13th-14th
2967	2952	2953	Other Fill	fill	Yellowish mid brown silty clay with a compact compaction. Inclusions of potsherds (rejects), CBM, fired clay, chalk Clear horizon clarity Excavated by hand.	Fill with much less debris from the kiln, seems to consist more uniformly of soil. Potsherd and bone found.	-	4.44	0.40		2968			2.2	13th-14th
2968	2952	2953	Other Fill	fill	Reddish mid brown silty clay Concreted inclusions Clear horizon clarity Excavated by hand.	Concreted layer of fired clay, strong force with mattock needed to chip away at it. Likely debris from kiln demolition.	-	1.70	-	2967				2.2	13th-14th
2969	2952	2953	Kiln	structure	Fired clay material Flue entrance and the direction of face is north (the entrance of flue). Baked bonding material.	Part of structure 2953 (kiln). Flow of kiln - Solid, fired clay. Medieval	1.25	0.90	0.65	2952				2.2	13th-14th
2970		3353	Other Structure	group		Group structure Metalled for gravel walkway and trackway. Neolithic?								2.2	13th-14th
2971	2971	3340	Ditch	cut	Linear in shape and no corners Concaved sides and rounded base NNE-SSW orientation	Cut of ditch use is unkown, it does appeaar to be purposely backfilled. Medieval?	-	1.40	0.66	2974	2972			2.1	Late 12th/13th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
2972	2971	3340	Other Fill	fill	Medium greyish black clay, sandy silt with a compact compaction. Moderate charcoal flecks, animal bone and pottery inclusions. Unclear horizon clarity Contamination risk: possibly cuts pit [2973].	Cut of ditch use is unkown, it does appeaar to be purposely backfilled. Medieval?	-	1.40	0.66	2971				2.1	Late 12th/13th
2973	2973		Pit	cut	Circular (difficult to see in plan) Concaved sides Flat base	Pit cut by ditch [2971], use of pit unknown possible medieval dating. Pit looks to have been naturally infilled. Medieval?	0.94	0.88	0.36		2974			0	Undated
2974	2973		Other Fill	fill	Light greyish brown clay silt with a compact compaction. Occasional charcoal flecks, moderate sub-angled stones. Occasional pot and animal bone. Good horizon clarity Contamination risk: Cut by ditch [2971]. Excavated using trowels, mattocks and shovels in varying conditions.	Pit cut by ditch [2971], use of pit unknown possible medieval dating. Pit looks to have been naturally infilled. Medieval?	0.94	0.88	0.36	2973	2971			0	Undated
2975	2975	3342	Ditch	cut	Linear in shape with concaved sides. Rounded base E-W orientation.	Cut of ditch containing one fill, possibly runs to length of side, further investigation needed. Medieval?	+8	2.60	0.88		2976			2.2	13th-14th
2976	2975	3342	Other Fill	fill	Medium brownish grey sandy, clay silt. Compact compaction Moderate sub-angled stones varying in size, animal bone and pot inclusions. The contamination risk is unclear due to ground conditions.	Cut of ditch containing one fill, possibly runs to length of side, further investigation needed. Medieval?	+8	2.60	0.88	2975	2977			2.2	13th-14th
2977	2977	3343	Ditch	cut	Linear in shape Sheer, near vertical sides pointed base E-W orientation.	Cut of ditch containing two fills Medieval?	+8	1.18	0.84	2976, 2981	2978			4	Pmed
2978	2977	3343	Other Fill	fill	Dark greyish black clay silt Compact compaction Occasional sub-angled stones of varying sizes Good horizon clarity Excavated using trowel, mattock and shovel in varying conditions.	First fill of ditch possibly showing signs of possible backfill. Due to being sealed with gravel lense (?)	+8	1.18	0.48	2977	2979			4	Pmed
2979	2977	3343	Other Fill	fill	Dark, greyish and black clay silt. Compact compaction moderate small sub-angled stones, pot, animal bone and charcoal fleck inclusions. Good and clear horizon clarity Excavated using trowel, mattock and shovel in varying conditions.	Secondary fill of feature possible, backfill due to lense or gravel. Only fill or feature to contain finds.	+8	0.98	0.36	2978				4	Pmed

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
2980	2980		Pit	cut	Circular shape in plan and concaved sides. Flat base.	Pit containing possible medieval pottery. Use unknown. Pit looks similar to pit [2973] also seen in 2917 section. Naturally infilled, fill very similar to natural. Metal, pot and bone finds - Medieval?	0.94	0.89	0.40		2981			4	Pmed
2981	2980		Other Fill	fill	Light brownish grey clay silt with a compact compaction. Occasional sub-angled stones, moderate animal bones, pot and one fragment of FE inclusions. Unclear horizon clarity. Contamination risk: cut by [2977]. Excavated using trowels, mattocks and shovels in varying conditions.	Pit containing possible medieval pottery. Use unknown. Pit looks similar to pit [2973] also seen in 2917 section. Naturally infilled, fill very similar to natural. Metal, pot and bone finds - Medieval?	0.94	0.89	0.40	2980	2977			4	Pmed
2982	2982		Posthole	cut	Sub-circular shape in plan with a (almost) vertical sides and an irregular rounded base. N-S orientation.	Cut (2982) is a posthole located next to and west of kiln [2954], [2955] and north of kiln [2958], [2959]. These could possibly be related. Posthole [2982] had a single fill (2983) which was very diffuse with natural. A small pot sherd was found. Medieval provisional date.	0.29	0.26	0.12		2983			2.02	13th-14th?
2983	2982		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty sand with a friable compaction. Rare small flint inclusions.	Cut (2982) is a posthole located next to and west of kiln [2954], [2955] and north of kiln [2958], [2959]. These could possibly be related. Posthole [2982] had a single fill (2983) which was very diffuse with natural. A small pot sherd was found. Medieval provisional date.	0.29	0.26	0.12	2982				2.02	13th-14th?
2984	2984		Pit	cut	Roughly oval shape in plan. Moderately sloping, concave sides. Mostly flat base. NEE-SWW orientation.	Cut of oven, with possible rahing pit at NEE end and oven structure on SWW side. Medieval?	2.48	1.30	0.19		2985, 2989			2.2	13th-14th
2985	2984		Placed Deposit	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a very compact compaction. Very frequent small and medium sized sub-rounded stone inclusions. Clear horizon clarity No contamination risk. Excavated by hand in dry conditions. Placed deposit.	Fill of pit oven [2984], fill located on NNE side of feature, and at bottom of feature. Frequency of stones and location suggest placed deposit, possibly for a rahing pit. Medieval?	1.3	1.6	0.01	2984	2988, 2986			2.2	13th-14th
2986	2984		Other Fill	fill	Dark blue grey mized with patches of mid yellow brown silty clay. Firm compaction. Occasional small-medium sized sub-rounded stone and moderate charcoal fleck inclusions. Clear horizon clarity. No contamination risk. Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Fill of oven [2984], finds and charcoal suggest possible backfill. Medieval?	1.3	1.3	0.1	2985	2987			2.2	13th-14th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
2987	2984		Other Fill	fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay with a firm compaction. Occasional small-medium sized sub-rounded stone inclusions. Clear horizon clarity No contamination risk. Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Fill of oven [2984], finds of pot and bone indicate possible backfill. Medieval?	1.57	1.3	0.1	2986				2.2	13th-14th
2988	2984		Oven	structure	Material: Fired Clay Bonding Material: Fired	Structure of Oven [2984] Medieval?	1.1	0.77	0.09	2985				2.2	13th-14th
2989	2984		Other Fill	fill	Dark blue grey mixed with patches of mid yellowish brown silty clay with a firm compaction. Occasional small medium sized sub-rounded stone, CBM and charcoal inclusions. No contamination risk Excavated by hand in dry conditions. Environmental sample: 106.	Fill of oven [2984], dark fill and pot indicates possible backfill.	0.83	0.6	0.07	2984				2.2	13th-14th
2990	2990		Pit	cut	Sub-circular shape in plan with steep concaved sides. Flat base. NW-SE orientation.	Cut of larage shallow pit with one fill (2991). Pit located NE to kiln. Possibly related to kiln. This pit is being cut by a smaller pit [2992] which suggests this pit is earlier. Medieval provisional date. Pot, flint and metal finds recovered.	1.96	1.60	0.24		2991			2.1	Late 12th/13th
2991	2990		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a compact compaction. Regular small rounded and angular stone and occasional fleck of charcoal inclusions. Excavated using mattock and shovel in very dry conditions.	Fill of pit [2990] probably caused by natural silting process over time when pit went out of use. Medieval provisional date. Pot, flint and metal finds recovered.	1.96	1.60	0.24	2990				2.1	Late 12th/13th
2992	2992		Pit	cut	Oval shape in plan with steep concave sides and a flat base. NW-SE orientation.	Cut of medium shallow pit with one fill (2993). Pit located NE to kiln, possibly related to kiln. This pit is being cut by a smaller pit [3020] suggesting this pit is earlier. This pit is cutting a larger pit [2990] which suggests this pit is later. Medieval provisional date. Pot, flint and metal finds recovered.	1.60	1.60	0.24		2993			2.1	Late 12th/13th
2993	2992		Other Fill	fill	Light greyish brown silty clay with a compact compaction. Regular small rounded and angular stone and occasional fleck of charcoal inclusions. Clear horizon clarity. Mattocks and shovel used to excavate in very dry conditions.	Fill of pit [2992] probably caused by natural silting process over time. Pot, flint and metal finds recovered.	1.60	1.60	0.24	2992				2.1	Late 12th/13th
2994	2994		Pit	cut	Circular shape in plan with sheer, near vertical sides. Flat base. Environmental sample: 107	Cut of large pit containing three fills, one of which contained frequent mussels and oyster shell. Medieval provisional date. Pot, bone and shell fragments recovered.	2.16	2.24	1.34	3011, 3013	2995			2.2	13th-14th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
2995	2994		Other Fill	fill	Dark greyish brown sandy silt clay with a soft/waterlogged compaction. Occasional oyster shell and sub-angled stone inclusions. Good/Clear horizon clarity. No excavation risk Excavated uisng towels and hand shovel in overcast dry condition.	First fill of pit very waterlogged. Base appear to be leveled with chalk. No finds found in this fill.No finch rounded in this fil/ Medieval provisional date.	0.38	0.54	0.18	2994	2996			2.2	13th-14th
2996	2994		Other Fill	fill	Dark greyish black silty clay with a compact/friable compaction. Frequent pot sherds, oyster and mussel shells amd charcoal flecks present. Moderate sub-angled stone inclusions. Good/clear horizon clarity. No contamination risks seen. Excavated using trowels, mattocks and shovels in overcast, dry conditions. Environmental sample taken: 107	Second fill of pit. This contained the most amount of finds of medieval pot sherds, and oyster and mussel shells. Fills looks to be deliberate backfill, possible rubbish pit. Medieval provisional date.	2.16	2.24	0.60	2995	2997			2.2	13th-14th
2997	2994		Other Fill	fill	Med greyish brown sandy silt clay with a compact compaction. Occasional charcoal flecks and sub angled stone inclusions. Good/clear horizon clarity. No contamination risk seen Excavated using mattocks and shovels in dry, overcast conditions.	Third and final fill of pit contained no finds, however, again looks to have been purposefully backfilled. Medieval provisional date.	2.16	2.24	0.60	2996				2.2	13th-14th
2998	2998		Pit	cut	Circular shape in plan with vertical sides Gently rounded base	Pit [2998] bas two fills (2999), (3000). Fill (2999) appears to be redeposit/backfill that cause directly after its use or creation of fill [3001]. Fill (3000) had predominately pit; clear rim that appears medieval. Fill [2998] is very deep with clear vertical edges. It may be related to kiln [2953] but is the oldest of the 3 pits shown in section. Potentially a well of sorts. Medieval provisional date.	1.30	1.30	0.80		2999			2.1	Late 12th/13th
2999	2998		Other Fill	fill	Dark brownish grey silty gravel with a firm compaction. Frequent (75%) large flint inclusions. Clear horizon clarity.	See context [2998]. Medieval provisional date.	-	0.30	0.34	2998	3000			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3000	2998		Other Fill	fill	Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction. Rare (25%) small flint inclusions. Clear horizon clarity.	See context [2998]. Medieval provisional date.	-	1.00	0.72	2999	3001			2.1	Late 12th/13th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3001	3001		Pit	cut	Sub-circular shape in plan. Gentle convex sides with irregular flat base. WSW-ENE orientation.	Pit [3001] has a single fill (3002). Pit [3001] is very shallow. Fill (3002) revealed some pot and nails similar to those found in (3004). Pit [3001] is truncated by pit [3003] but also cuts pit [2998]. It is the middle of the sequence. In section pit [2998] appears almost contemporary with pit [3001] fill (2999) is cut by [3001] but fill (3000) is not completely convincingly cut. Potentially related to kiln (2953). Medieval provisional date. Pot, bone and metal finds recovered.	2.20	2.40	0.24	3000	3002			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3002	3001		Other Fill	fill	Mid- dark greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction. Frequent (75%) M-L (5-10cm) gravel and flint inclusions. Clear horizon clarity.	Pit [3001] has a single fill (3002). Pit [3001] is very shallow. Fill (3002) revealed some pot and nails similar to those found in (3004). Pit [3001] is truncated by pit [3003] but also cuts pit [2998]. It is the middle of the sequence. In section pit [2998] appears almost contemporary with pit [3001] fill (2999) is cut by [3001] but fill (3000) is not completely convincingly cut. Potentially related to kiln (2953). Medieval provisional date. Pot, bone and metal finds recovered.	2.20	2.40	0.24	3001	3003			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3003	3003		Pit	cut	Sub-circular shape in plan Moderately concaved sides and an irregular, flat base. WSW-ENE base	Pit [3003] has a single fill (3004). Pit [3003] is noticably shallowcompared to its size. Fill (3004) contained a decent amount of finds including pot, CBM, animal teeth and a considerable amount of nails. Pit [3003] cuts pit [3001] and its fill (3002). Pit [3003] appears to be the lastest between [3001], [2998] and [3003]. It may have some relationship to kiln [2953] as it is nearby. Potentially storage. Provisional date: Medieval. Pottery, bone CBM and metal finds recovered.	3.70	2.30	0.26	3002	3004			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3004	3003		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction Frequent (75%) small gravel inclusions. Diffuse horizon clarity.	Pit [3003] has a single fill (3004). Pit [3003] is noticably shallowcompared to its size. Fill (3004) contained a decent amount of finds including pot, CBM, animal teeth and a considerable amount of nails. Pit [3003] cuts pit [3001] and its fill (3002). Pit [3003] appears to be the lastest between [3001], [2998] and [3003]. It may have some relationship to kiln [2953] as it is nearby. Potentially storage. Provisional date: Medieval. Pottery, bone CBM and metal finds recovered.				3003				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3005	3005		Pit	cut	Linear shape in plan No corners seen Concaved sides and a rounded base E-W orientation.	Cut of possible ditch. Contained frequent pottery sherds. Medieval - Provisional date	+10?	1.80	0.40	3011	3006			3	Late Med to Pmed
3006	3005		Other Fill	fill	Dark greyish black clay (sand,silt) Compact compaction Occasional sub-angled stone, moderate charcoal flecks and frequent pot inclusions. Cuts [3007] and [3009]. Excavated using mattocks and shovels.	Cut of possible ditch. Contained frequent pottery sherds. Medieval - Provisional date	+10?	1.80	0.40	3005				3	Late med to Pmed

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3007	3007	3354	Ditch	cut	Curving linear shape in plan No corners seen Concaved sides and a rounded base.	Curving linear containing medieval pottery - use unknown. Provisional date: medieval.	1	0.62	0.27		3008			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3008	3007	3354	Other Fill	fill	Medium orange borwn silty clay with a compact composition Moderate sub-angled stones, Occasional oyster shell, pot, charcoal flecks inclusions. Clear horizon clarity Contamination risk: cut by [3005] + [3009]. Excavated using mattocks and shovels.	Cut of possible ditch. Contained frequent pottery sherds. Medieval - Provisional date	1	0.62	0.27	3007	3009			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3009	3009		Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan No corners seen Concaved sides and pointed base. E-N orientation.	Cut of possible curving Linear - probably similar to [3012] as it looks in plan. Provisonal date: medieval	+10	1.40	0.80	3008	3010			2.2	13th-14th
3010	3009		Other Fill	fill	Medium orange brownish silty clay with a compact compaction Moderate small sub-angled stone, moderate oyster shells and occasional charcoal fleck inclusions. Good horizon clarity Contamination risk: cut by [3005] and [2994] Excavated using mattocks, shovels and trowels in an overcast, dry environment.	First fill of ditch looks very similar to the fill seen in [3007], (3008).	+10	1.40	0.48	3009	3011			2.2	13th-14th
3011	3009		Other Fill	fill	Medium greyish black silty clay with a friable compaction. Inclusions: Moderate sub-angled stones, charcoal flecks and pottery	Second fill of ditch Contained possible medieval pottery	+10?	0.72	0.32	3010	2994, 3005			2.2	13th-14th
3012	3012	3342	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan No corners seen Concaved side and a rounded base W-N orientation.	Cut of ditch mostly likely same ditch as [3009] but only one fill seen in section. Provisional date: medieval	+10	1.60	0.60		3013			2.2	13th-14th
3013	3012	3342	Other Fill	fill	Medium orange brown silty clay with a compact compaction. Moderate sub-angled stones, occasional pot inclusions. Diffuse horizon clarity. Contamination risk: [2994], [3014] and [3005]. Excavated using mattocks and shovels.	Cut of ditch mostly likely same ditch as [3009] but only one fill seen in section. Provisional date: medieval.	+10	1.60	0.60	3012	2994			2.2	13th-14th
3014	3014		Posthole	cut	Heavily truncated posthole between 3016 and 3012 and 3109.	Cut and fill of a possible posthole, containing fragments of pottery. Provisional date: Medieval.	0.60	0.52	0.26		3015			2.01	Late 12th/13th ?
3015	3014		Other Fill	fill	Medium greyish brown silty clay with a compact compaction Occasional charcoal flecks, sub-angled stones and pot sherds inclusions Diffuse horizon clarity Contamination risk: cut by [3012] Excavated using mattocks, trowels and shovels in dry, overcast conditions.	Cut and fill of a possible posthole, containing fragments of pottery. Provisional date: Medieval.				3014	3016			2.01	Late 12th/13th ?

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3016	3016		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan Concave sides Rounded base	Possible cut of posthole Small section of feature excavated. Fill looks to be natural in fill.	0.40	0.38	0.24	3015	3017			0	Undated
3017	3016		Other Fill	fill	Medium yellowish brown clay, silt sand. Friable compaction. Occasional sub-angled stones and charcoal flecks. Unclear horizon clarity. Contamination risk: cuts [3014]. Excavated using mattocks and shovels in overcast dry conditions.	Possible cut of posthole Small section of feature excavated. Fill looks to be natural in fill.	0.40	0.38	0.24	3016				0	Undated
3018	3018		Pit	cut	Oval shape in plan Gentle concave sides and a flat base. NW-SE orientation.	Cut of shallow pit with one fill (3019) Pit located NE to kiln. Possibly related to Kiln. Medieval?	2.51	0.73	0.14		3019			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3019	3018		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay. Compact compaction. Regular small angular stone, occasional flecks of charcoal. Clear horizon clarity. Excavated using mattocks and shovels in very dry conditions.	Fill of shallow pit [3018]. Probably caused by natural silting process when pit went out of use. Medieval?	2.51	0.73	0.14	3018				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3020	3020		Pit	cut	Oval shape in plan Gentle concave sides and a flat base SE-NW orientation.	Cut of small oval shaped pit with one fill (3021). This pit is cutting a larger pit [2992] which suggests this pit [3020] is later. Pit located Ne to kiln. Possibly related to kiln.	1.22	0.92	0.15		3021			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3021	3020		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a compact compaction. Occasional angular stone and occasional flecks of charcoal inclusions. Moderately clear horizon clarity. Excavated using shovels and mattocks in damp conditions.	Fill of pit [3020], probably caused by natural silting process over time when pit went out of use. Medieval? Pottery and metal finds recovered.	1.22	0.92	0.15	3020				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3022	3022		Posthole	cut	Sub-circular shape in plan. Very gentle b.o.s top straight sides. Very gentle rounded base. ENE-WSW orientation.	Posthole [3022] has a single fill (3023) which contained pot and nails. Posthole [3022] may have a relationship with pit [2998]. Pottery and Metal finds recovered. Medieval?	0.61	0.53	0.07		3023			2.0	12th-14th
3023	3022		Other Fill	fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction. 75% S-M (5cm) gravel inclusions.	Posthole [3022] has a single fill (3023) which contained pot and nails. Posthole [3022] may have a relationship with pit [2998]. Pottery and Metal finds recovered. Medieval?	0.61	0.53	0.07	3022				2.0	12th-14th
3024	3024	3345	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Gradual sloping sides and a concave base. NE/SW orientation.	Cut and fill of [3024] Fill seems alluvial - could be an indication that the area was wet retting pits nearby to the east. Medieval?	-	1.30	0.70		3037			2.2	13th-14th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3025	3024	3345	Other Fill	fill	Mid reddish brown silty clay with a firm compaction. Rare flecks of charcoal, occasional animal bone, rare pot and CBM. Clear horizon clarity. Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Cut and fill of [3024] Fill seems alluvial - could be an indication that the area was wet retting pits nearby to the east. Medieval?	-	1.30	0.70	3037	3026			2.2	13th-14th
3026	3026	3353	Cut	cut	Linear shape in plan. Near vertical sides. Flat base. NE-SW orientation.	Construction cut for trackway (3035) and raised pam (?) (3036). Not fully exposed in section due to road still in place. Medieval?	-	4.15	0.46	3025, 3237	3035, 3036			3	Late Med to Pmed
3027	3026	3353	Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction. Rare flecks of charcoal, occasional pot, animal bone and rare metal and rare pumice stone (lava) and house shoes specifically from (3028). Clear horizon clarity. Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Fills naturally infilled probably same as just cover different parts of trackway (3035) and raised pathway (3036). Medieval? Pottery, bone, CBM and metal finds recovered.	-	4.15	0.25	3035, 3036	3028			3	Late Med to Pmed
3028	3026	3353	Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction. Rare flecks of charcoal, occasional pot, animal bone and rare metal and rare pumice stone (lava) and house shoes specifically from (3028). Clear horizon clarity. Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Fills naturally infilled probably same as just cover different parts of trackway (3035) and raised pathway (3036). Medieval? Pottery, bone, CBM and metal finds recovered.	-	4.15	0.25	3027	3029				
3029	3029	3344	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Steep sloping sides and a concaved base. NE-SW orientation.	Cut and fill of ditch seems to truncate - raised pathway (3036). Although does runs along pathway and trackway (3035) could be contemporary. Used for drainage?	-	0.95	0.55	3028	3030			3	Late Med to Pmed
3030	3029	3344	Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction. Frequent CBM and rare pit. Clear horizon clarity. Excavated by hand.	Cut and fill of ditch seems to truncate - raised pathway (3036). Although does runs along pathway and trackway (3035) could be contemporary. Used for drainage?	-	0.95	0.55	3029				3	Late Med to Pmed
3031	3031		Pit	cut	Sub-circular shape in plan Steep, concave sides. Moderately rounded base. E-W orientation.	Pit [3031] has a single fill (3032). Pot sherds were found in (3032) but not a large amount. Pit [3031] may have a relationship with [2998]. They are very similar in shape not only in plan. But size and fill as well. Pit [3031] is one of the closest features in relation to kiln [2953]. Medieval?	1.70	1.10	0.80		3032			2.0	12th-14th
3032	3031		Other Fill	fill	Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction. Frequent (75%) S-M flint and gravel (>10cm) inclusions.	Pit [3031] has a single fill (3032). Pot sherds were found in (3032) but not a large amount. Pit [3031] may have a relationship with [2998]. They are very similar in shape not only in plan. But size and fill as well. Pit [3031] is one of the closest features in relation to kiln [2953]. Medieval?	1.70	1.10	0.80	3031				2.0	12th-14th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3033	3033		Pit	cut	Oval shape in plan. No corners Gently sloping sides Concave base W-E orientation.	Oval pit with potsherds, oyster shells, animal bone, metal finds Likely a refuse pit. Medieval?	1.9	1.45	0.23		3034			2.2	13th-14th
3034	3033		Primary Fill	fill	Greyish mid brown silty clay with a friable compaction. Rare flint inclusions. Clear horizon clarity. Low contamination risk Excavated by hand.	Oval pit with potsherds, oyster shells, animal bone, metal finds Likely a refuse pit. Medieval?	1.9	1.45	0.23	3033				2.2	13th-14th
3035	3035	2970	Trackway	structure	Mid greyish brown silty sandy clay with a compact compaction. Med-small sub-rounded stone. Clear Horizon clarity. Excavated by hand Trackway - 3.90m, path - 1.90, Depth: 0.30m	Main trackway (3035) and raised pathway (3036). Same construction as each other. Same as other slot to NE. Metalised surface part of trackway possibly due to wetter and at bottom of hill. CBM and metal finds - finds not bagged. Medieval?				3026	3027				
3036	3036	2970	Trackway	structure	Mid greyish brown silty sandy clay with a compact compaction. Med-small sub-rounded stone. Clear Horizon clarity. Excavated by hand Trackway - 3.90m, path - 1.90, Depth: 0.30m	Main trackway (3035) and raised pathway (3036). Same construction as each other. Same as other slot to NE. Metalised surface part of trackway possibly due to wetter and at bottom of hill. CBM and metal finds - finds not bagged. Medieval?				3026	3027				
3037	3024	3345	Other Fill	fill	Light browned grey silty clay with a firm compaction. Rare charcoal flecks Clear horizon clarity. Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Fill of ditch [3024]: Not fully revealed. Possibly alluvial in nature-stows. Area was WFT (?) Medieval?			0.50	3024	3025			2.2	13th-14th
3038	3038	3335	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Steeply sloping sides - slightly convex too. Flat base. N-S orientation. Close to feature [3040] but no relationship visible.	(3039) - fill of ditch [3038] colour and abraded pottery suggests build up of sediment over time. Finds indicate human activity in area. [3038] - cut of ditch, close to other medieval features. Medieval? Pottery, CBM and metal finds recovered.	1	1.06	0.44		3039			2.0	12th-14th
3039	3038	3335	Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction. Moderate small-medium sized sub-angular stone, occasional charcoal flecks. No contamination risk Excavated by hand.	(3039) - fill of ditch [3038] colour and abraded pottery suggests build up of sediment over time. Finds indicate human activity in area. [3038] - cut of ditch, close to other medieval features. Medieval? Pottery, CBM and metal finds recovered.	1	1.06	0.44	3038				2.0	12th-14th
3040	3040		Pit	cut	Roughly rectangular with rounded edges. Moderately sloping concave sides. Uneven/undulating base. N-S orientation. Close to feature [3038] but no relationship visible.	[3040] - Cut of pit, close to other medieval features. Medieval?	2.14	1.86	0.1		3041			2.02	13th-14th?

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3041	3040		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay. Firm compaction Moderate small-medium sub-angular stone inclusions No contamination risk Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Fill of pit [3040], finds indicate human activity in area, possible build up of sediment over time. Medieval?	2.14	1.86	0.1	3040				2.02	13th-14th?
3042	3042		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan Steep, almost vertical concave sides Flat base	Cut of large posthole with three fills (3043) (3044) + (3045) posthole is located in centre of a large pit [3046] which is a possible charcoal production pit. A central post would have been erected in this posthole. Evidence of intense burning around posthole. Medieval?		0.40	0.50		3043			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3043	3042		Backfill	fill	Mid brownish grey sandy clay with a compact compaction. Inclusions: very regular small sub-angular stone and regular charcoal flecks. Clear horizon clarity. Excavated using mattocks and trowels in dry conditions. Environmental sample taken: 109.	Bottom fills of posthole [3042]. Possible deliberate backfill, very mixed, gravel present. Possibly placed at the bottom of posthole [3042] to fill it in. Provisional date: medieval.		0.40	0.22	3042	3044			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3044	3042		Other Fill	fill	Dark, orangey black silty clay with a friable compaction. Very regular charcoal fleck inclusions. Clear horizon clarity. Intense burning - contamination risk Excavated using mattocks in dry conditions.	Middle fill of posthole [3042]. This is a fill of intense burning. Charcoal rich. Environmental sample taken: 111 Provisional date: medieval.	-	0.48	0.08	3043	3047, 3045			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3045	3042		Placed Deposit	fill	Light brownish yellow sandy clay with a compact compaction. Occasional charcoal flecks - inclusions. Clear horizon clarity. Excavated using mattocks in dry conditions.	Fill of posthole [3042]. Possible redeposited natural. Very mixed and close in colour to natural. Possibly placed over layer of intense burning to cover it up. Provisional date: medieval.	-	0.64	0.20	3044	3047			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3046	3046		Pit	cut	Sub-oval shape in plan. Sloping concave sides with a flat base. N-S orientation.	Cut of large pit with three fills (3047) (3048) and (3049). This is a possible charcoal production pit. Large posthole cocated in centre [3042] with evidence pf burning around posthole. This pit is cutting a smaller pit [3050] which suggests this pit [3046] is later. Provisional date: medieval.	2.86	2.17	0.32	3053	3047, 3048			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3047	3046		Other Fill	fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay with a friable compaction. Occasional sub-angular stone inclusions. Moderately clear horizon clarity. Excavated using mattocks in dry conditions.	Fill of large pit [3046] possibly caused by natural silting process over time when pit went out of use. Could be a possible slump of material. Provisional date: medieval.	1.40	-	0.16	3044, 3045, 3046, 3054	3048, 3049			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3048	3046		Other Fill	fill	Light brownish yellow sandy clay with a compact compaction. Inclusions: occasional small sub-angular stones. Moderately clear horizon clarity. Excavated using mattocks in dry conditions.	Fill of large pit [3046]. Possible dump of redeposited natural, very mixed and close to colour of natural. Provisional date: medieval.	-	0.66	0.38	3046, 3047	3049			2.1	Late 12th/13th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3049	3046		Other Fill	fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay with a compact compaction. Regular sub-angular stone and occasional charcoal flecks. Moderately clear horizon clarity. Excavated using mattocks in dry conditions.	Top fill of large pit [3046]. Fill caused by natural silting process overtime when the pit was open. Provisional date: medieval. Pot, bone, flint and metal finds recovered.	-	-	0.64	3047, 3048				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3050	3050		Pit	cut	Sub-oval shape in plan. Sloping, concave sides wih a slightly sloping base. N-S orientation.	Cut of small pit with three fills (3051) (3052) and (3053). This pit is being cut by a larger pit [3046] which suggest this pit is earlier. This pit [3050] is located north of a possible charcoal production pit, could be related to this. Provisional date: medieval.	1.28		0.30		3051			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3051	3050		Other Fill	fill	Mid orangey grey silty clay with a friable compaction. Occasional sub-angular stone inclusions. Clear horizon clarity. Excavated using mattocks.	Fill of small pit [3050]. Fill caused by natural silting process overtime when pit was open. Provisional date: medieval.	1.20	-	0.19	3050	3052, 3053			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3052	3050		Backfill	fill	Light brownish yellow sandy clay with a compact compaction. Occasional small sub-angular stone inclusions. Clear horizon clarity. Excavated using mattocks in dry conditions.	Middle fill of small pit [3050] fill caused by redeposited natural, colour very close to natural, mixed. Provisional date: medieval.	0.48	-	0.14	3051	3053			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3053	3050		Other Fill	fill	Mid orangey grey silty clay with a friable compaction. Occasional sub-angular stone inclusions. Clear horizon clarity Excavated using mattocks.	Upper fill of small pit [3050] fill caused by natural silting process overtime when pit was open/ out of use. Provisional date: medieval.	1.42	-	0.22	3052, 3051	3046			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3054	3046		Kiln	structure	Dark reddish black silty clay with a compact compaction. Inclusions: Charcoal rich Clear horizon clarity Contamination risk: Intense burning.	Layer of intense burning at bottom of possible charcoal production pit [3046]. Probably related to the process in which the charcoal was produced. Environmental sample taken: 112. Provisional date: medieval	-	0.72	-		3047			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3055	3055	3342	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan. Corners: Possibly one seen in slot [3009]. Rounded sharp sides with a gradual concave base. W-N orientation.	Cut of ditch containing a single natural infilled backfill. Ditch appears to curve from W-N, Provisional date: Medieval. Pot and metal finds recovered.	+10	1.88	0.74	3060	3056			2.2	13th-14th
3056	3055	3342	Other Fill	fill	Medium yellowish brown silty clay with compact compaction. Moderate sub-angled stone and flint, frequent pottery fragments and oyster shells, occasional mussels, Fe objects and animal bone. Moderate horizon clarity. Contamination risk: Cut by [3057]. Excavated using mattocks, shovels in dry conditions.	Cut of ditch containing a single natural infilled backfill. Ditch appears to curve from W-N, Provisional date: Medieval. Pot and metal finds recovered.	+10	1.88	0.74	3055	3057			2.2	13th-14th
3057	3057	3343	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan. No corners seen. Sharp, near vertical sides. Rounded base. E-W orientation.	Cut of ditch containing a single fill. Ditch appears to be naturally infilled. Ditch runs the E-W. Provisional date: medieval.	+10	1.84	0.88	3056	3058			4	Pmed

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3058	3057	3343	Other Fill	fill	Medium greyish brown silty clay with a compact compaction. Moderate small sub-angled stones and flints, gravel lense, frequent pottery inclusions. Clear horizon clarity. Contamination risk: cuts ditch [3055] and [3059]. Excavated using shovels and mattocks in dry conditions.	Cut of ditch containing a single fill. Ditch appears to be naturally infilled. Ditch runs the E-W. Provisional date: medieval.	+10	1.84	0.88	3057				4	Pmed
3059	3059	3354	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan No corners seen Rounded sharp, near vertical sides Concave base. NE-SW orientation.	Lastest of the ditches in slot, also containing medieval material.	+5	1.04	0.38		3060			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3060	3059	3354	Other Fill	fill	Medium brownish grey silty clay with a compact compaction. Frequent chalk fragments, moderate	Lastest of the ditches in slot, also containing medieval material.	+5	1.04	0.38	3059	3055			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3061	3061		Pit	cut	Sub-circular shape in plan. Mostly vertical concaved in section - sides Gently rounded base WSW-ENE orientation. Environmental sample taken: 110.	Pit [3061] has 4 fills (3062), (3063), (3068), (3064). Pit [3061] has a very irregular shape with undercutting sides. All fills apart from (3068); which seems to be slumping at some point, fills produced large amount of pot, oyster shells and animal bones. Pot appears to be medieval , from fills (3062), (3063) and (3064), perhaps there is a relationship with kiln [2953] - potential cess pit. Provisional date: medieval.	2.90	0.96	1.28		3062			2.2	13th-14th
3062	3061		Other Fill	fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction. Moderate m-l (<10cm) 50% flint inclusions. Diffuse horizon clarity.	Pit [3061] has 4 fills (3062), (3063), (3068), (3064). Pit [3061] has a very irregular shape with undercutting sides. All fills apart from (3068); which seems to be slumping at some point, fills produced large amount of pot, oyster shells and animal bones. Pot appears to be medieval , from fills (3062), (3063) and (3064), perhaps there is a relationship with kiln [2953] - potential cess pit. Provisional date: medieval.	2.90	0.96	0.26	3061	3063			2.2	13th-14th
3063	3061		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction. Rare (10%) small flint inclusions. Diffuse horizon clarity.	Pit [3061] has 4 fills (3062), (3063), (3068), (3064). Pit [3061] has a very irregular shape with undercutting sides. All fills apart from (3068); which seems to be slumping at some point, fills produced large amount of pot, oyster shells and animal bones. Pot appears to be medieval , from fills (3062), (3063) and (3064), perhaps there is a relationship with kiln [2953] - potential cess pit. Provisional date: medieval.	-	0.96	0.50	3062	3068			2.2	13th-14th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3064	3061		Other Fill	fill	Pale brownish grey silty clay with a firm compaction Frequent (60%) charcoal inclusions and frequent small (<5cm) flint inclusions. Clear horizon clarity.	Pit [3061] has 4 fills (3062), (3063), (3068), (3064). Pit [3061] has a very irregular shape with undercutting sides. All fills apart from (3068); which seems to be slumping at some point, fills produced large amount of pot, oyster shells and animal bones. Pot appears to be medieval , from fills (3062), (3063) and (3064), perhaps there is a relationship with kiln [2953] - potential cess pit. Provisional date: medieval.	-	0.96	0.52	3068				2.2	13th-14th
3065	3065		Pit	cut	Circular/oval shape in plan Moderately scoping slightly concave sides Slightly concave base N-S orientation Close to other features	Cut of pit, possibly a tree throw due to shape. Clear to medieval features [3038] and [3040]. Medieval?	1.28	1.09	0.26		3066			2.01	Late 12th/13th ?
3066	3065		Other Fill	fill	Mid reddish brown silty clay with a firm compaction. Occasional s-m sized sub-angular stone and charcoal fleck inclusions. Clear horizon clarity Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Fill of pit [3065] (possible tree throw). Light colour suggests build up on sediment over time. Medieval?	1.28	1.09	0.1	3065	3067			2.01	Late 12th/13th ?
3067	3065		Other Fill	fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay with a firm compaction. Occasional s-m sized sub-angular stone and charcoal fleck inclusions. Clear horizon clarity. Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Fill of pit [3065] (possible tree throw). Finds suggest human activity in the area. Medieval?	1.28	0.99	0.12	3066				2.01	Late 12th/13th ?
3068	3061		Other Fill	fill	Pale brownish grey silty gravel with a firm compaction. Frequent (80%) m-l (<10cm) gravel, flint inclusions. No finds from this fill.	Pit [3061] has 4 fills (3062), (3063), (3068), (3064). Pit [3061] has a very irregular shape with undercutting sides. All fills apart from (3068); which seems to be slumping at some point, fills produced large amount of pot, oyster shells and animal bones. Pot appears to be medieval , from fills (3062), (3063) and (3064), perhaps there is a relationship with kiln [2953] - potential cess pit. Provisional date: medieval.	-	0.80	0.12	3063	3064			2.2	13th-14th
3069	3069		Posthole	cut	Sub-circular shape in plan. Gentle sides. Break of slope at 0.38m which drops down steeply (N side). Irregular base. N-S orientation.	[3069] is a posthole with single fill (3070). (3070) is the single fill of post hole [3069] and likely accumulated naturally.	0.48	0.35	0.12		3070			0	Undated
3070	3069		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown sandy silt with a friable compaction. Sparse charcoal inclusions. Excavated by hand in dry and sunny conditions.	[3069] is a posthole with single fill (3070). (3070) is the single fill of post hole [3069] and likely accumulated naturally.	0.48	0.35	0.12	3069				0	Undated
3071	3071		Posthole	cut	Sub-oval shape in plan with very steep almost vertical sides leading to a narrow base slightly pointed. Present a SW-NE orientation.	Cut of possible posthole with single fill. Presented small flecks of charcoal and CBM and flint. In close priority to [3069].	0.31	0.23	0.17		3072			0	Undated

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3072	3071		Primary Fill	fill	Light greyish brown sandy clay with compact compaction. Presents some inclusions in the form of sub-angular s-m sized stone inclusions. Good horizon clarity compared to the natural. Low contamination risk. Excavated by hand.	Single nfill of posthole with some presence of CBM and flint.	0.31	0.23	0.17	3071				0	Undated
3073	3073		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan. Vertically sloping sides. Rounded base.	Posthole [3073] may be related to posthole [3076] to the east.	0.16	0.13	0.13		3110			0	Undated
3074	2952	2953	Kiln	structure	Clay - with occasional chalk inclusions. Square structure.	Kiln - clay outer wall. Medieval?	2.80	2.75	0.70	2952	3145			2.2	13th-14th
3075	2952	2953	Kiln	structure	Materials: Tiles and Mortar. Size of materials: 10.5in, 61/4in, 1/2 inch Brick bond: Mortar Form: Arched Direction of face: N Bonding material: Mortar.	Kiln arches appear to have been built first, followed by clay outer wall . Proposed build order: floor, arches, clay outer wall, daub plastering. Medieval? For digital photos see: Kiln 2953 context sheet.	0.85	0.90	0.65					2.2	13th-14th
3076	3076		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan Vertically sloping sides Flat base	Post hole [3076] may be related to post hole [3073] to the west	0.21	0.15	0.12		3077			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3077	3076		Other Fill	fill	Mid dark greyish brown sandy clay with a firm compaction. Scarce small sub-angular stone inclusions. Clear horizon clarity. No contamination risk	Single fill of posthole Posthole [3076] may be related to post hole [3073] to the west.	0.21	0.15	0.12	3076				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3078	2952	2953	Kiln	structure	Materials: Tiles Sizes of materials vary due to broken pieces up to 10-11in, 61/2in, 1/2 in. Form: pyramid shape Direction of face: N Bonding material: mortar	Kiln central partition Arches built into the partition appears to have no mortar applied to it, unlike the outer sides of inside kiln. Medieval? For digital photos: see kiln [2953].	2.45	0.62	0.54	2952, 3146				2.2	13th-14th
3079	3079		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan Steep supine corners and a flat base.	Cut and fill of posthole Possibly related to other postholes in area (3069, 3071, 3086, 3084 + 3073 + 3076). Medieval?	-	0.36	0.14		3080			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3080	3079		Other Fill	fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction. Rare flecks of charcoal and pottery and CBM, Occasionally sub-rounded stone inclusions. Clear horizon clarity Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Cut and fill of posthole Possibly related to other postholes in area (3069, 3071, 3086, 3084 + 3073 + 3076). Medieval?	-	0.36	0.14	3079				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3081	3081		Pit	cut	Oval shape in plan Moderately sloping, concave sides with an uneven/irregular base. E-W orientation. Cut is more shallow on E side.	Cut of pit (possible tree throw due to oval shape) Close to medieval features.	1.35	0.90	0.3		3082			2.1	Late 12th/13th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3082	3081		Other Fill	fill	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with a firm compaction. Containing occasional small sub-angular stone and charcoal fleck inclusions. Clear horizon clarity. No contamination risk Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Fill of pit (possible tree throw) [3081], possible sediment build up over time or erosion from edges. Finds suggest human activity in area. Medieval?	1.23	0.9	0.7	3081	3083			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3083	3081		Other Fill	fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay with a firm compaction. Containing occasional s-m sized sub-angular stone and charcoal fleck inclusions. Clear horizon clarity. No contamination risk Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Fill of pit (possible tree throw) [3081]. Colour of fill suggest possible build up to sediment over time, finds indicate human activity in area. Medieval?	1.35	0.9	0.2	3082				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3084	3084		Posthole	cut	Sub-circular shape in plan Steep supine (apart from to the east where its gradual) Tapered base E-W orientation	Cut and fill of post hole possible evidence of a post being wiggled to be removed? - due to shape.towards to east. Associated to post-holes [3086+3076+3073].. Medieval?	0.70	0.45	0.38		3085			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3085	3084		Other Fill	fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction. Rare charcoal flecks and pot. Moderate s-m sub-rounded stone inclusions. Clear horizon clarity. Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Cut and fill of post hole possible evidence of a post being wiggled to be removed? - due to shape.towards to east. Associated to post-holes [3086+3076+3073].. Medieval?	0.70	0.45	0.38	3084				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3086	3086		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan Steep sloping sides and concave base.	Cut and fill of posthole associated with (3084, 3876, 3073), Metal (Iron hook) found in fill. Could be evidence from tnimbta post? Medieval?	-	0.30	0.18		3087			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3087	3086		Other Fill	fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction. Rare charcoal flecks and pot and metal finds. Occasional sub-angular stone inclusions.	Cut and fill of posthole associated with (3084, 3876, 3073), Metal (Iron hook) found in fill. Could be evidence from tnimbta post? Medieval?	-	0.30	0.16	3086				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3088	3088	3353	Cut	cut	Linear shape in plan Moderate sloped sides. Unknown base. NNE-SSW orientation.	Construction cut for trackway and footpath, which runs across site +40m Medieval provisional date: 1200-1400 est.	+30	+1.40	+0.40		3092, 3093			3	Late Med to Pmed
3089	3089	3344	Ditch	cut	Linear-shaped shape in plan Moderate sloped sides Concave base. NNE-SSW	Drainage ditch running alongside footpath that's alongside the trackway. Seen in other slots. Medieval?	1+	3	0.65		3094			3	Late Med to Pmed
3090	3090	3354	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan No corners Gently sloping sides Flat/concave base NNE-SSW orientation	Small drainage ditch, possibly a continuation of ditch in S.2936, towards the NE. Medieval?	1+	1.10	0.50		3096			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3091	3091		Natural Feature	cut	No clearly identifiable shape Moderately sloping sides Uneven base	Natural hollow, with natural pits which infiled overtime naturally,	+1	+4	0.50		3101, 3102				

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3092	3088	3353	Placed Deposit	fill	Orangish light brown silty gravel with a friable compaction Large flint stone inclusions.	Trackway made of flint stones,cut by a field drain Medieval?	+30	+0.22	0.20	3088				3	Late Med to Pmed
3093	3088	3353	Placed Deposit	fill	Yellowish mid brown silty clay with a friable compaction. Large flint stone inclusions clear horizon clarity. Low contamination risk Excavated by hand in dry conditions	Footpath made of flint stones, cut by field drain. Footpath can be seen across the site, following trackway.	+20	0.80	0.40	3088				3	Late Med to Pmed
3094	3089	3344	Primary Fill	fill	Reddish dark brown silty clay with a friable compaction. Occasional flint inclusions Clear horizon clarity Low contamination risk Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Primary fill	+1	2.06	0.60	3089	3095			3	Late Med to Pmed
3095	3089	3344	Secondary Fill	fill	Reddish dark brown silty clay with a friable compaction. Occasional flint inclusions. Clear horizon clarity Low contamination risk Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Secondary fill of ditch	+1	1.50	0.36	3094				3	Late Med to Pmed
3096	3090	3354	Primary Fill	fill	Brownish, light, grey silty clay with a friable compaction. Occasional flint inclusions. Clear horizon clarity. Low contamination risk Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Primary fill of small ditch. Naturallty infilled over time.	+1.10	1.10	12	3090				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3097	3091		Other Fill	fill	Greyish, light brown - (with red mottling) silty clay with a friable/loose compaction. Inclusions of flint and CBM Clear horizon clarity Low contamination risk Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Naturally infilled over time. Contains high density of finds, including tiles, 3x finder bricks with mortar on them, a deposit of mortar adjacent to the bricks too.	+1	2.70	0.44	3102				2.2	13th-14th
3098	3098		Pit	cut	Oval shape in plan Moderately sloping, slightly convex sides with a flat base E-W orientation Close to other features (similar)	[3098]- cut of pit Medieval?	0.84	0.73	0.3		3100			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3099	3098		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction. Occasional s-m sized sub-angular stone and charcoal fleck inclusions. No contamination risk Excavated by hand in a dry conditions.	(3099) - fill of pit [3098] - also containing ABG 3100. Medieval?	0.84	0.73	0.3	3100				2.1	Late 12th/13th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3100	3098		ABG	fill	ABG	Animal Bone Group Potential sub-adult canine? No burrowing in pit. Cut did not seem to be dug as a grave [3098] but maybe was deposited later. Medieval?				3098	3099			2.01	late 12th/13th ?
3101	3091		Primary Fill	fill	Reddish dark grey (mottling) silty clay. Firm compaction Inclusions: Chalk flecks (occasional) Clear horizon clarity Low contamination risk Excavated by hand in dry conditions	Naturally infilled over time. Cut by later ditch (3089).	+1	1.20	0.34	3091					
3102	3091		Other Fill	fill	Blue mid grey silty clay with a firm compaction. Rare chalk fleck inclusions. Clear hoirizon clarity Low contamination risk Excavated by hand in dry conditions	Naturally infilled clay deposit over time.	0.15	0.56	0.6	3091	3097				
3103	3104		Other Fill	fill	Greyish, darrk brown silty clay with a friable compaction. Sub-angular stone, chalk - varying sizes [(80%) stone]- tightly packed. Low contamination risk Excavated by hand in dry conditions. Clear horizon clarity.	Stony - almost entirely consisting of stone. From plan view, possibly resembled the corner of a building's foundations With hard core (stones) on top of clay. Above that, bricks and many tiles recovered. Bricks were 10cm above this fill. Medieval?	0.35	0.50	0.11	3104	3105			3	Late Med to Pmed
3104	3104		Pit	cut	Oval shape in plan Moderately sloping sides with a uneven base.	Waste pit, containing CBM (tiles, bricks x3) mortar pile. Medieval?	+1	1.70	0.40		3103			3	Late Med to Pmed
3105	3104		Secondary Fill	fill	Greyish, light brown - red mottling (light) silty clay with friable compaction. Sub-angular stone inclusions and CBM recovered. Clear horizon clarity Low contamination risk. Excavated by hand in dry conditions.	Waste pit potentially, mortar found in pile around 9pm area of drawing. 3 x tudor bricks (unfrogged) with mortar, found 10cm above (3103) laid out in a line. High amount of roof tile found too. Medieval?	+1	1.70	0.30	3103				3	Late Med to Pmed
3106	3106		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan Vertical sides and an uneven base.	Posthole - part of a group, near the cesspit and small kiln. Medieval?	0.38	0.385	0.18		3107			2.02	13th-14th?
3107	3106		Primary Fill	fill	Greyish light brown gravelly clay with a compact compaction. Small sub-angular stone inclusions Clear horizon clarity Low contamination risk Excavated by hand	Posthole - part of a group, near the cesspit and small kiln. Medieval?	0.38	0.385	0.18	3106				2.02	13th-14th?
3108	3108		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan steep sides and an uneven base	Posthole - part of a group, near cesspit and small kiln. Post may have been rocked to remove it.	0.50	0.48	0.18		3109			2.02	13th-14th?

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3109	3108		Primary Fill	fill	Blackish dark brown silty clay with a firm compaction. Small sub-angular stone inclusions Clear horizon clarity Low contamination risk Excavated by hand	Posthole - part of a group, near cesspit and small kiln. Post may have been rocked to remove it.	0.50	0.48	0.18	3108				2.02	13th-14th?
3110	3073		Other Fill	fill	Mid dark greyish brown sandy clay with a firm compaction. Small sub-angular stone inclusions. Clear horizon clarity. No contamination risk Excavated by hand (trowel)	Single fill in posthole [3073] may be related to posthole [3076] to the east. No finds in fill.				3073				0	Undated
3111	3111		Pit	cut	Square shape in plan Corners: Possibly four, two excavated Vertical sides Flat base	Cut of possible storage pit. Contains two fills with vertical sides. 1.6.22: Possible relation to pits [3174] and [3177] - possible edge of pit seen in [3191] Medieval? Pot and Metal finds recovered.	1.87	2.12	0.66	3115	3112			2.01	Late 12th/13th ?
3112	3111		Other Fill	fill	Dark greyish brown with med brownish yellow lenses sandy, silty clay. Compact compaction. Frequent redeposited natural, occasional sub-rounded stone and flint inclusions. Good/clear horizon clarity. Contamination risk: cuts posthole [3114]. Excavated using trowels, mattocks and shovels.	Fill containing no finds. Frequent lenses of redeposited natural medieval?	1.87	2.12	0.26	3111	3113			2.01	Late 12th/13th ?
3113	3111		Other Fill	fill	Medium greyisj brown silty clay with a compact compaction Frequent gravel, moderate pot and occasional Fe objects. Okay horizon clarity Contamination risk: cuts posthole [3114]. Excavated using mattocks, shovels and trowels.	Second fill of pit containing medieval pottery and Fe objects. Medieval?	1.87	2.12	0.40	3112				2.01	Late 12th/13th ?
3114	3114		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan Concave sides and a rounded base	Possible posthole contained one small fragment of pot. Feature in clearer to see in section than in plan. Medieval?	0.54	0.32	0.12		3115			1	Prehistoric
3115	3114		Other Fill	fill	Med brownish grey silty clay with a compact compaction Occasional small sub-angled stone and flint inclusions. Poor horizon clarity Contamination risk: cut by pit [3111].	Possible posthole contained one small fragment of pot. Feature in clearer to see in section than in plan. Medieval?	0.54	0.32	0.12	3114	3111			1	Prehistoric
3116	3116		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan Steep supine sides Concave base	Cut and fill of postholes Possibly associated tp [3118], 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 + [31134]. Medieval?	0.40	0.26	0.13		3117			2.0	12th-14th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3117	3116		Other Fill	fill	Light gray brown sandy silty clay with a firm compaction. Rare sub-angular stone and angular flint and pot Clear horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Cut and fill of postholes Possibly associated tp [3118], 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 + [31134]. Medieval?	0.40	0.26	0.13	3116				2.0	12th-14th
3118	3118		Posthole	cut	All circular shape in plan All steep sloping sides All concave base	Medieval Possibly associated to posthole [3116] that shows more convincing.	0.26		0.66					0	Undated
3119	3118		Other Fill	fill	All dark grey brown silty sandy clay with a firm compaction Rare charcoal fleck inclusions Sligthly diffuse horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Medieval Possibly associated to posthole [3116] that shows more convincing.	0.26		0.66					0	Undated
3120	3120		Posthole	cut	All circular shape in plan All steep sloping sides All concave base	Medieval Possibly associated to posthole [3116] that shows more convincing.	0.28	0.14	0.04					0	Undated
3121	3120		Other Fill	fill	All dark grey brown silty sandy clay with a firm compaction Rare charcoal fleck inclusions Sligthly diffuse horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Medieval Possibly associated to posthole [3116] that shows more convincing.	0.28	0.14	0.04					0	Undated
3122	3122		Posthole	cut	All circular shape in plan All steep sloping sides All concave base	Medieval Possibly associated to posthole [3116] that shows more convincing.	0.16		0.05					0	Undated
3123	3122		Other Fill	fill	All dark grey brown silty sandy clay with a firm compaction Rare charcoal fleck inclusions Sligthly diffuse horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Medieval Possibly associated to posthole [3116] that shows more convincing.	0.16		0.05					0	Undated
3124	3124		Posthole	cut	All circular shape in plan All steep sloping sides All concave base	Medieval Possibly associated to posthole [3116] that shows more convincing.	0.17		0.05					0	Undated
3125	3124		Other Fill	fill	All dark grey brown silty sandy clay with a firm compaction Rare charcoal fleck inclusions Sligthly diffuse horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Medieval Possibly associated to posthole [3116] that shows more convincing.	0.17		0.05					0	undated
3126	3126		Posthole	cut	All circular shape in plan All steep sloping sides All concave base	Medieval Possibly associated to posthole [3116] that shows more convincing.	0.24		0.06					0	Undated
3127	3126		Other Fill	fill	All dark grey brown silty sandy clay with a firm compaction Rare charcoal fleck inclusions Sligthly diffuse horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Medieval Possibly associated to posthole [3116] that shows more convincing.	0.24		0.06					0	Undated

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3128	3128		Posthole	cut	All circular shape in plan All steep sloping sides All concave base	Medieval Possibly associated to posthole [3116] that shows more convincing.	0.27		0.07					0	Undated
3129	3128		Other Fill	fill	All dark grey brown silty sandy clay with a firm compaction Rare charcoal fleck inclusions Sligthly diffuse horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Medieval Possibly associated to posthole [3116] that shows more convincing.	0.27		0.07					0	Undated
3130	3130		Posthole	cut	All circular shape in plan All steep sloping sides All concave base	Medieval Possibly associated to posthole [3116] that shows more convincing.	0.21		0.07					0	Undated
3131	3130		Other Fill	fill	All dark grey brown silty sandy clay with a firm compaction Rare charcoal fleck inclusions Sligthly diffuse horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Medieval Possibly associated to posthole [3116] that shows more convincing.	0.21		0.07					0	Undated
3132	3132		Posthole	cut	All circular shape in plan All steep sloping sides All concave base	Medieval Possibly associated to posthole [3116] that shows more convincing.	0.22	0.22	0.08					0	Undated
3133	3132		Other Fill	fill	All dark grey brown silty sandy clay with a firm compaction Rare charcoal fleck inclusions Sligthly diffuse horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Medieval Possibly associated to posthole [3116] that shows more convincing.	0.22		0.8					0	Undated
3134	3134		Posthole	cut	All circular shape in plan All steep sloping sides All concave base	Medieval Possibly associated to posthole [3116] that shows more convincing.	0.28	0.25	0.08					0	Undated
3135	3134		Other Fill	fill	All dark grey brown silty sandy clay with a firm compaction Rare charcoal fleck inclusions Sligthly diffuse horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Medieval Possibly associated to posthole [3116] that shows more convincing.	0.28	0.25	0.08					0	Undated
3136	3136		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan Steeply sloping sides Concave base E-W orientation.	Cut of possible posthole.	0.03	0.26	0.28		3137			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3137	3136		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown mottled with mid yellowish brown patches Silty clay Firm compaction S-m sized sub-angular stone inclusions No contamination risk Excavated by hand	Fill of possible posthole [3136], possible backfill of material.	0.3	0.26	0.28	3136				2.1	Late 12th/13th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3138	3138	3341	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Moderately sloping sides Concave/flat base N-S orientation Truncated by feature [3140]. Base rises towards N end.	Cut of ditch, truncated by ditch [3140] on N side. Base more shallow on N side, indicating possible termination. Medieval?	0.62	0.12	0.2		3139			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3139	3138	3341	Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown mottled with mid yellowish brown silty clay. Firm compaction Occasional s-m sized sub-angular stone inclusions No contamination risk Excavated by hand	Fill of ditch [3138], finds indicate human activity in area and close to other features. Possible build up of sediment over time. Medieval	0.62	0.12	0.2	3138				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3140	3140	3339	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Moderately sloping and mostly concave sides Mostly flat base E-W orientation Cuts feature [3138]	Cut of ditch, close to other medieval features, cuts ditch [3138].	1	0.76	0.22		3141			2.2	13th-14th
3141	3140	3339	Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction. Occasional s-m sized sub-angular stone inclusions No contamination risk Excavated by hand in dry conditions	Fill of ditch [3140] finds indicate human activity in area. Possible build up of sediment over time.	1	0.76	0.22	3140				2.2	13th-14th
3142	3142		Posthole	cut	Oval shape in plan Moderately, sloping, concave sides as well as a concave base N-S orientation No visible relationship with close by ditch	Cut of possible posthole, close to other similar feature. No visible relationship with ditch [3140]. Medieval	0.52	0.48	0.24		3143			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3143	3142		Other Fill	fill	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with a firm compaction Inclusions: Moderate charcoal flecks in middle of fill. Occasional small sub-angular stones. Excavated by hand in dry conditions	Fill of posthole [3142], darker parts of fill and potsherds indicate human activity in the area. Possible backfill. Medieval	0.52	0.48	0.24	3142				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3144	2952	2953	Other Fill	fill	Orangish mid brown gravel silt with a friable compaction. Inclusions: CBM, mortar and occasional flints Clear horizon clarity Excavated by hand.	Rubble infill of kiln, packed tight throughout the kiln chamber. Consisted of rubble fired clay, tiles, mortar and roof corner tile pieces. (Which have only been recovered in few instances from the kiln). This fill is thought to consist of rubble from the roof of the kiln structure, used to patch (or pack?) the kiln to stop it from collapsing after use. : 12th-14th century For digital photos: see kiln [2953]	2.40	0.58	0.42	2953				2.2	13th-14th
3145	2952	2953	Kiln	structure	Heated daub (clay with straw, possibly lime) Form: gaps around tile arches, separating clay outer wall from direct flames. Heated daub/ mortar.	Daub or mortar appeared to be applied on last to the gap between the arches and the clay outer wall [3074]. For heatproofing/insulation? Medieval? For digital photos: see kiln [2953].	2.45	2.05	0.64	3074				2.2	13th-14th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3146	2953	2953	Kiln	structure	Materials: Clay (fired) Floor: Flat, relatively smooth	Floor of kiln [2953]. Clay floor throughout kiln and outside of it. O.12m thickness at N end but 0.50 to the S thickness of floor increases to 0.30 thick. For digital photos see kiln [2953].	4.40	1.70	0.12, 0.30	2952	3078			2.2	13th-14th
3147	3147		Pit	cut	Oval shape in plan Gently sloping sides Concave base NE-SW orientation	Possibly a pit which was used to mix mortar for the kiln [2953] or the fill was entirely consistent with what would be expected, chalky limestone crushed. Very close proximity to the kiln [2m away). No finds. Medieval.	1.40	1.10	0.14		3148			0	Undated
3148	3147		Primary Fill	fill	Whitish light brown silty clay with a compact compaction. Chalk (Occasional) inclusions. Clear horizon clarity. Low contamination risk Excavated by hand.	Possibly a pit which was used to mix mortar for the kiln [2953] or the fill was entirely consistent with what would be expected, chalky limestone crushed. Very close proximity to the kiln [2m away). No finds. Medieval.	1.40	1.10	0.14	3147				0	Undated
3149	3149		Pit	cut	Sub-oval shape in plan West side sloping concave, east side steep concave sides Flat base E-W orientation.	Cut of small pit with two fills (3150) and (3155) pit located west of ditch [3515] could possibly be related. This pit cuts a small posthole [3153] which suggests this pit later. Cut clean in plan Medieval?	0.92	0.41	0.32		3150			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3150	3149		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a compact compaction Inclusions: Occasional small sub-angular stones Contamination risk: routing present	Fill of small pit [3149] Probably caused by natural silting process overtime. Abraded pot found, possibly washed into ditch Medieval?	0.74	0.41	0.32	3149	3155			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3151	3151	3334	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Steep concave sides Flat base N-S orientation	Cut of ditch. Running N-S. This ditch is being cut by a small posthole [3153] which suggests this ditch is earlier. Could cut clear in plan. Medieval?	10	0.44	0.34		3152			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3152	3151	3334	Other Fill	fill	Dark brownish grey silty clay with a friable compaction. Inclusions: Occasional small sub-angular stones. Clear horizon clarity Contamination risk: routing present Excavated using mattocks and shovels in dry conditions.	Fill of ditch [3151] possibly caused by natural silting process overtime when ditch was open. Abraded pot found. Medieval?	1	0.44	0.34	3151				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3153	3153		Posthole	cut	Sub-circular shape in plan Steep concave sides Concave base E-W orientation	Cut of small posthole with one fills (3154). Posthole cuts ditch [3151] suggesting posthole is later. Posthole also is being cut by a small pit [3149] suggesting posthole is later. All could possibly be related. Medieval?		0.32	0.38		3154			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3154	3153		Other Fill	fill	Mid blackish grey silty clay with a friable compaction Inclusions: occasional small sub-angular stones. Moderately clear horizon clarity Contamination risk: cut by [3149]. Excavated using mattocks in dry conditions	Fill of small posthole [3153] probably caused by natural silting process overtime when posthole was open/out of use. No finds Medieval?				3153				2.1	Late 12th/13th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3155	3149		Other Fill	fill	Light greyish brown silty clay with a friable compaction Clear horizon clarity Excavated by shovels and mattocks in dry conditions	Upper fill of small [3149] probably cause by natural silting process overtime when pit went out of use. No finds in this fill Medieval?	0.54	0.41	0.10	3150				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3156	3156		Pit	cut	Circular shape in plan Moderately sloping sides Concave base	Shallow pit, close to kiln [2953], 2m away. Relation to kiln unknown, only 1x potsherd (small) recovered. Medieval?	0.80	0.70	0.18		3157			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3157	3156		Primary Fill	fill	Greyish mid brown silty clay with a friable compaction. Inclusions: flint stones - moderate frequency Clear horizon clarity	Shallow pit, close to kiln [2953], 2m away. Relation to kiln unknown, only 1x potsherd (small) recovered. Medieval?	0.80	0.70	0.18	3156				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3158	3158	3341	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Steeply sloping, slightly convex sides. Concave, slightly pointed sides. N-S orientation Close to feature [3160], no visible relationship. Base of feature widens at S end.	Cut of ditch, close to other medieval features. Possibly contemporary with pit [3160], but no visible relationship. Medieval? Pottery, bone, CBM, Flint and metal finds found.	1	0.77	0.4		3159			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3159	3158	3341	Other Fill	fill	Mid brownish grey mottled with patches of mid brownish yellow silty clay with a firm compaction. Inclusions: Occasional s-m sized sub-angular, charcoal & CBM flecks No contamination risks Excavated by hand.	Fill of ditch [3158], finds suggest human activity in area , possibly build up of sediment over time. Medieval? Pottery, bone, CBM, Flint and metal finds found.	1	0.77	0.4	3158				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3160	3160		Pit	cut	Oval shape in plan Gently sloping concave sides Flat base N-S orientation No visible relationship between feature [3158].	Cut of possible pit, no visible relationship with ditch [3158] but possibly contemporary Medieval?	0.8	0.45	0.12		3161			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3161	3160		Other Fill	fill	Mid brownish grey mottled with patches of mid brownish yellow silty clay with a firm compaction. Inclusions: Occasional s-m sized sub-angular stones, occasional CBM and charcoal flecks. No contamination risk Excavated by hand.	Fill of possible pit [3160]. Finds indicate human activity in area. Possible build up of sediment overtime.	0.8	0.45	0.12	3160				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3162	3162		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan Steep sides Uneven base	Possible posthole, naturally infilled over time. Medieval?	0.52	0.52	0.22		3163			0	Undated
3163	3162		Primary Fill	fill	Greyish light brown silty clay with a friable compaction. Occasional flint inclusions Clear horizon clarity Low contamination risk Excavated by hand in dry conditions	Possible posthole, naturally infilled over time. Medieval?	0.52	0.52	0.22	3162				0	Undated
3164	3164		Pit	cut	Oval shape in plan Moderately sloping sides Uneven base N-S orientation	Possible pit or posthole, in close proximity to other postholes. Medieval?	0.75	0.40	0.15		3165			0	Undated

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3165	3164		Primary Fill	fill	Greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction. Occasional inclusions Clear horizon clarity Low contamination risk Excavated by hand with dry conditions	Possible pit or posthole, in close proximity to other postholes. Medieval?	0.75	0.40	0.15	3164				0	Undated
3166	3166		Pit	cut	Oval shape in plan Gently sloping sides and a uneven base SE-NW orientation	Possible posthole, near to other possible postholes. Medieval?	0.57	0.33	0.11		3167			0	Undated
3167	3166		Primary Fill	fill	Orangish mid brown gravel Firm compaction Occasional stone inclusions Clear horizon clarity Low contamination risk Excavated by hand in dry conditions	Possible posthole, near to other possible postholes. Medieval?	0.57	0.33	0.11	3166				0	Undated
3168	3168		Pit	cut	Oval shape in plan Sloping concave sides Uneven base N-S orientation	Cut of small pit with one fill (3169) Located south of very large pit, possibly related. Cut moderately clear Medieval?	1.04	0.44	0.15		3169			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3169	3168		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish orange silty clay with a friable compaction Occasional small sub-angular stone inclusions Moderately clear horizon clarity Excavated using mattocks and trowels in dry conditions	Fill of small pit [3168] Probably caused by natural silting process over time when pit out of use Abraded pot found	1.04	0.44	0.15	3168				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3170	3170	3332	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Possible one, corner (Kari's slot) Grounded slope sides Flat base E-W orientation	Linear cut by medieval pit Possibly related to something structural. Medieval?	8.60	0.50	0.19		3171			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3171	3170	3332	Other Fill	fill	Medium brownish grey silty clay Hard compaction Occasional sub-angled flint inclusions Okay/moderate horizon clarity Contamination risk: cut by pit [3174] Excavated using trowels, shovels and mattocks	Linear cut by medieval pit Possibly related to something structural. Medieval?	8.60	0.50	0.19	3170, 3228	3174			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3172	3172		Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Gradual sloping sides Flat base E-W orientation	Very similar to linear [3170] Possible same group Medieval?	9.70	0.41	0.08		3173			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3173	3172		Other Fill	fill	Medium brownish grey silty clay with a hard compaction Occasional sub-angled stone inclusions Okay horizon clarity Contamination risk: cut by pit [3177] Excavated using mattocks, trowels and shovels	Very similar to linear [3170] Possible same group Medieval?	9.70	0.41	0.08	3172	3177			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3174	3174		Pit	cut	Somewhat square shape in plan One corner seen Near vertical sides Slightly rounded base	Somewhat square pit Possible storage pit Medieval? Pot, bone and metal finds recovered	2.50	2.10	1.10	3171, 3177, 3179	3175			2.02	13th-14th?

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3175	3174		Other Fill	fill	Medium blackish grey silty clay with a compact compaction Frequent sub-angled stones, frequent pot, occasional animal; bone and metal objects (Fe) Good/clear horizon clarity Contamination risk: cuts [3170] and [3177] Excavated using mattocks and shovels	First fill of pit, possible silting Medieval?	2.50	2.10	0.39	3174	3176			2.02	13th-14th?
3176	3174		Other Fill	fill	Med brownish grey with frequent redeposited lenses (at base of fill) silty clay Compact compaction Frequent sub-angled stone, flint inclusions and redeposited natural. Good/clear horizon clarity Contamination risk: cuts (?) Excavated using mattocks and shovels in dry conditions.	Second fill of possible storage pit. Contained no finds	2.50	2.10	0.69	3175				2.02	13th-14th?
3177	3177		Pit	cut	Circular shape in plan No corners seen Near vertical sides Slightly rounded almost flat base	Cut of possible storage pit related to [3174] (recut?)	2.50	1.24	0.66	3173	3174, 3178			2.02	13th-14th?
3178	3177		Other Fill	fill	Medium blackish grey silty clay with compact compaction Occasional redeposited natural, animal bone, pot and sub rounded stone inclusions. Good horizon clarity Contamination risk: cuts [3172] and cut by (recut?) [3174] Excavated using mattock and shovels in dry conditions	First fill of pit, possible silting same as seen in pit [3174] (Opened at the same time?)	2.50	1.24	0.32	3177	3179			2.02	13th-14th?
3179	3177		Other Fill	fill	Medium brownish grey silty clay with a compact compaction Moderate redeposited natural and sub-angled flint inclusions Good horizon clarity Contamination risk: cuts [3172] and cut by [3174]. Excavated using mattocks and shovels.	Second fill of possible storage pit similar to (3176) fill.	2.50	1.24	0.34	3178	3174			2.02	13th-14th?
3180	3180		Posthole	cut	Oval shape in plan Gentle concave sides Flat base SW-NE orientation	Cut of possible small posthole with one fill (3181) could possibly be two posthole feature may be have over-machined. Very shallow, cut diffuse. Fill of possible small posthole [3180] probably caused by natural silting overtime. Medieval? Flint and metal finds recovered.	0.72	0.31	0.05		3181			0	Undated
3181	3180		Other Fill	fill	Mid orangey grey silty clay with a friable compaction Diffuse horizon clarity Excavated by trowels in a dry conditions	Cut of possible small posthole with one fill (3181) could possibly be two posthole feature may be have over-machined. Very shallow, cut diffuse. Fill of possible small posthole [3180] probably caused by natural silting overtime. Medieval? Flint and metal finds recovered.	0.72	0.31	0.05	3180				0	Undated

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3182	3182		Posthole	cut	Sub-circular shape in plan N side: steep,concave, S side: gradual concave Rounded base N-S orientation	Cut of possible small posthole with one fill (3183) located at the side of ditch [3184] Probably both open at the same time Cut unclear in plan Medieval?	0.55		0.15		3183			1	Prehistoric
3183	3182		Other Fill	fill	Mid brownish greyish silty clay with a compact compaction. Occasional sub-angular stone inclusions Moderately clear horizon clarity Excavated using mattocks in dry conditions.	Fill of possible posthole [3182] Possibly comtemporary with ditch [3184] Fill very similar to (3185) Probably caused by natural silting process overtime Medieval?	0.55		0.15	3182				1	Prehistoric
3184	3184	3333	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Very gentle concave sides Flat base E-W orientation	Cut of ditch with one fill (3185) Both probably open at the same time Cut moderately clear in plan	1.09	0.42+ 0.37	0.03		3185			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3185	3184	3333	Other Fill	fill	Light grey brown silty clay Compact compaction Moderately clear horizon clarity Excavated using mattocks in dry conditions.	Fill of ditch [3184] Possibly contemporary with posthole [3182] Probably caused by natural silting process overtime Fill very similar to (3183) No finds Medieval?	1.09		0.03	3184				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3186	3186		Pit	cut	Circular shape in plan Sharp, concave sides however, base is unknown (not reached)	Possible pit, storage pit? [3177] - related? Medieval	1.68	0.50		3189	3187			2.02	13th-14th?
3187	3186		Other Fill	fill	Med blackish grey silty clay Compact compaction Occasional sub-angled stone and flint inclusions with pot. Horizon clarity - okay Contamination risk: cuts [3188] Excavated using mattocks and shovels in dry/hot conditions.	Possible pit, storage pit? [3177] - related? Medieval	1.68	0.50		3186				2.02	13th-14th?
3188	3188		Pit	cut	Pit Sharp, concave sides Unknown base - unable to bottom feature	Pit with a single fill possibly same fill as (3187) maybe [3186] and [3188] contemporary Medieval	0.50	1.26	0.46		3189			2.02	13th-14th?
3189	3188		Other Fill	fill	Med blackish grey silty clay with a compact compaction. Occasional pot and sub-angled stone inclusions.	Pit with a single fill possibly same fill as (3187) maybe [3186] and [3188] contemporary Medieval	0.50	1.26	0.46	3188	3186			2.02	13th-14th?
3190	3190		Pit	cut	Circular shape in plan One possible corner Sharp near vertical sides Unknown base (not reached)	Possible: this feature is very edge of the storage pit [3111]. No clear relationship seen Medieval	0.31	0.30	0.12		3191			2.01	Late 12th/13th?
3191	3190		Other Fill	fill	Dark, brownish black silty clay with a compact compaction Moderate redeposited natural inclusions. Horizon clarity - okay? Contamination risk: Possibly cut by [3188]. Excavated using mattocks and shovels in dry conditions.	Possible: this feature is very edge of the storage pit [3111]. No clear relationship seen Medieval	0.31	0.30	0.12	3190				2.01	Late 12th/13th?

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3192	3192	3339	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Moderatley sloping, concave side with a flat base N-S + E-W orientation Two ditches crossing appear to contemporary with one another.	Cut of two ditches crossing, one ditch oriented N-S, other oriented E-W. Ditches appear to be contemporary, close other medieval features.	1	0.5	0.1		3193			2.2	13th-14th
3193	3192	3339	Placed Deposit	fill	Mid greyish brown mottled with mid yellowish brown silty clay with a firm compaction Occasional s-m sized sub-angular stone and charcoal fleck inclusions. No contamination risk Excavated by hand in dry conditions	Fill of ditches, no visible distinction between fills of different orientation indicating contemporary ditches. Finds indicate human activity in area. Medieval	1	0.5	0.1	3192				2.2	13th-14th
3194	3194	3336	Ditch	cut	Linear ditch cut Steep, concaved, south - moderate, north- concaved Concaved base E-W orientation	E/W aligned ditch, likely forming part of a field system/ domestic enclosure. Medieval in date - 2 finds of pot suggest as such Fill may be due to natural sedementation.	>1	0.7	0.16		3195			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3195	3194	3336	Other Fill	fill	Mid dark orangey sandy clay with moderate compactions Somewhat diffuse w/ natural horizon clarity Low contamination risk Excavated by hand in dry conditions	E/W aligned ditch, likely forming part of a field system/ domestic enclosure. Medieval in date - 2 finds of pot suggest as such Fill may be due to natural sedementation.	>1	0.7	0.16	3194				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3196	3196		Posthole	cut	Sub-circular shape in plan Gentle concave sides Irregular flattish base NW-SE orientation	Cut of posthole with single fill (3197). No finds or dating evidence retrieved. In close proximity to a few postholes including (3198).	0.49	0.35	0.11		3197			2.02	13th-14th?
3197	3196		Primary Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a compact compaction Frequent inclusions in the form of sub-angular stones of medium size and gravel inclusions. Slightly diffused horizon to the natural - horizon clarity Low contamination risk - rooting Excavated by hand	Single fill of posthole [3196] No finds or dating evidence retrieved	0.49	0.38	0.11	3196				2.02	13th-14th?
3198	3198		Posthole	cut	Sub-circular shape in plan Vertical sides Irregular flattish base	Cut of possible posthole with single fill (3199). No finds or dating evidence retrieved. In close proximity to other pit [3196].	0.35	0.25	0.26		3199			2.02	13th-14th?
3199	3198		Primary Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm/ compact compaction Frequent inclusions in the form of sub-angular stones of medium size and gravel - inclusions Slightly diffused horizon clarity Low contamination risk - rooting Excavated by hand	Single fill of posthole [3198]. No finds or dating evidence retrieved.	0.35	0.25	0.26	3198				2.02	13th-14th?
3200	3200		Ditch	cut	Linear terminus Concave, moderate ~45 degrees: sides Flatish, blends gradually to side: base ~N-S orientation Terminus is gently rounded, at northern end.	Terminus of enclousre ditch. Appears to be truncated by perpendicular ditch [3203] + ditch [3203]'s single fill suggests their use was fairly contemporary. Pot in fills suggest MEDIEVAL date.	>4	1.60	0.42		3201			2.2	13th-14th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3201	3200		Other Fill	fill	Mid grey brown mottled with orange sandy silt with a friable compaction Frequent angular and rounded and sub-rounded stones ~ 5-40mm, Rare charcoal fragments ~ 10mm Occasional chalk ~10-20mm Clear w/natural + (3203), less so w/(3204) Contamination risk: cut by [3203] Excavated by hand	Basal fill ditch terminus, likely formed through natural processes of sedimentation prior to being cut at the northern end by ditch [3203].	>0.98	>0.6	0.20	3200	3203			2.2	13th-14th
3202	3200		Other Fill	fill	Mid grey brown clay silt with a friable compaction Frequent angular sub-rounded + rounded stones ~ 5-70mm Rare charcoal flecks Rare chalk ~ 10-20mm Clear w/(3201), unclear w/(3204) - horizon clarity Low contamination risk (?) Indistinguishable from (3204) Excavated by hand	Upper fill of ditch terminus (3200), containing pot of possible c.12-15th origin. Possibly formed gradually through a combination of waste and natural sedimentation. Appear contemporary to (3204) Medieval	>4	1.60	0.23	3203				2.2	13th-14th
3203	3203	3345	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Concave, moderate ~45degrees Flat base E-W orientation	Enclosure ditch truncating perpendicular ditch [3200], though the two appear to be contemporary in use. Date appears medieval	>10	~1.65	0.33	3201	3202, 3204			2.2	13th-14th
3204	3203	3345	Other Fill	fill	Mid grey brown clayey silt with a friable compaction Frequent angular, sub-rounded and rounded stones ~5-70mm, Rare charcoal flecks Rare chalk ~10-20mm Clear w/natural, unclear w/(3202) - horizon clarity Contamination risk: plow Excavated by hand Indistinguishable from (3202)	Single fill of ditch [3203], appearing to be contemporary to fill (3202) of ditch [3200]. Likely gradually formed through a combination of waste and natural sedimentation.	>10	~1.65	0.33	3203				2.2	13th-14th
3205	3205	3336	Ditch	cut	Linear ditch cut curving through 90 degrees; rounded sharp corner. West:steep, East gradual sides Sharp b.o.s from west, gradual from east into sloped even base N/S in section, becoming E/W to the north Same as ditch [3294], very similar profile.	Probable enclosure/ boundary ditch, medieval Naturally silted Finds of medieval pot in fill Sheep tooth recovered and then discarded by mortimer.	>1	0.6	0.12		3206			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3206	3205	3336	Other Fill	fill	Mid orange grey sandy clay (gritty) Moderate to firm compaction Occasional sub-angular stone inclusions faint horizon clarity Low contamination risk Excavated by hand	Probable enclosure/ boundary ditch, medieval Naturally silted Finds of medieval pot in fill Sheep tooth recovered and then discarded by mortimer.	>1	0.6	0.12	3205				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3207	3207		Posthole	cut	Sub-circular shape in plan Gentle concave sides Irregular flattish base	Cut of posthole with single fill (3208). No finds or dating evidence retrieved. In close proximity to few post-hole including [3106] and [3108].	0.58	0.5	0.1		3208			2.02	13th-14th?

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3208	3207		Primary Fill	fill	Light greyish brown clay with a firm compaction Frequent sub-angular stones of medium size and gravel Good horizon clarity Low contamination risk - rooting Excavated by hand	Single fill of posthole [3207]. No finds or dating evidence retrieved.	0.58	0.5	0.1	3207				2.02	13th-14th?
3209	3209	3334	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Vertical sides Slightly uneven base N-S orientation	Cut of ditch with some fill as [3210] + [3211] which suggests these three ditches were all open at the same time. This ditch [3209] could possibly terminate, evidence in plan Medieval?	1	0.26	0.24		3212			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3210	3210		Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Gentle concave sides Flat base Approx. N-S orientation	Cut of ditch with some fill as [3209] + [3211] which suggests these 3 ditches were all open at the same time. This ditch [3210] looks as though it terminates in section Cut unclear on surface Medieval?		0.32	0.18		3212			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3211	3211	3332	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Sloping concave sides Flat base E-W orientation	Cut of ditch with same fill as [3209] + [3210] which suggests these three ditches were all open at the same time. This ditch [3211] could have been cut by ditch [3210] but there is no evidence of a cut in section Cut clear Medieval?	1	0.23	0.14		3212			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3212	3209	3334	Other Fill	fill	Dark, greyish brown silty clay with a friable compaction Regular sub-angular stone and occasional charcoal fleck inclusions Clear horizon clarity Excavated using mattocks and trowels in dry conditions.	Fill of ditch [3209], [3210] + [3211] which suggests these were all silted up at the same time when open at the same time. Probably caused by natural silting process. Flint, heat-altered flint and pottery recovered. - medieval?			0.24	3209, 3210, 3211				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3213	3213	3342	Ditch	cut	Curving shape in plan Moderately steep concave sides, steep b.o.s top sides Moderately rounded base WSW-SE orientation.	Ditch [3213] has a single fill (3214). This fill is quite light in colour and very similar to the natural ditch [3213] seems to be curving inwards (as seen in plan) but is then truncated by terminus [3215] and ditch [3217]. This makes ditch [3213] potentially the earliest feature present in the slot. There were no finds in two fills.	2.50+	1.30	0.56		3214			2.2	13th-14th
3214	3213	3342	Other Fill	fill	Pale-mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction Rare flint inclusions (25% freq)	Ditch [3213] has a single fill (3214). This fill is quite light in colour and very similar to the natural ditch [3213] seems to be curving inwards (as seen in plan) but is then truncated by terminus [3215] and ditch [3217]. This makes ditch [3213] potentially the earliest feature present in the slot. There were no finds in two fills.	2.50	1.30	0.56	3213	3215			2.2	13th-14th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3215	3215	3342	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Moderately steep, stepped sides Rounded base NE-SW	Ditch terminus [3215] was a single fill (3216) Ditch terminus [3215] is cutting ditch [3213] and truncated by ditch [3211].Finds found in (3216) was sparse but included pot and bone. Looking at the orientation of the ditch terminus [3215], this aligns with ditch [3009]. Provisional date: medieval	1.40	0.76	0.86	3214	3216			2.2	13th-14th
3216	3215	3342	Other Fill	fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay with a firm compaction Rare s-m (<5cm) flint including (25% freq)	Ditch terminus [3215] was a single fill (3216) Ditch terminus [3215] is cutting ditch [3213] and truncated by ditch [3211].Finds found in (3216) was sparse but included pot and bone. Looking at the orientation of the ditch terminus [3215], this aligns with ditch [3009]. Provisional date: medieval	1.40+	0.76	0.86	3215	3217			2.2	13th-14th
3217	3217	3347	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Moderately steep, straight sides Gently rounded base WSW-ENE orientation	Ditch [3217] has 4 fills (3218), (3219), (3220) and (3221). Ditch [3217] was present in our excavation and section 2992/3. Ditch [3217] does have slumping present as shown in plan. Fill (3218) was very sandy in texture and presented finds. Fill (3219) was most frequent in ditch [3217] and shared the most finds, including a cow bone (?) and pot sherds. Fill (3220] has the most pottery - some differing in appearance? Continued in context (3220) Medieval?	3+	1.50	1.14	3216	3218			2.2	13th-14th
3218	3217	3347	Other Fill	fill	Pale greyish brown with mottled orange silty sand mixed with silty clay. Firm compaction No inclusions Clear horizon clarity	Ditch [3217] has 4 fills (3218), (3219), (3220) and (3221). Ditch [3217] was present in our excavation and section 2992/3. Ditch [3217] does have slumping present as shown in plan. Fill (3218) was very sandy in texture and presented finds. Fill (3219) was most frequent in ditch [3217] and shared the most finds, including a cow bone (?) and pot sherds. Fill (3220] has the most pottery - some differing in appearance? Continued in context (3220) Medieval?	3+	1.20	0.14	3217	3219			2.2	13th-14th
3219	3217	3347	Other Fill	fill	Mid dark brown silty clay with a firm compaction. Moderate (50%) (<10cm) flint inclusions Clear horizon clarity	Ditch [3217] has 4 fills (3218), (3219), (3220) and (3221). Ditch [3217] was present in our excavation and section 2992/3. Ditch [3217] does have slumping present as shown in plan. Fill (3218) was very sandy in texture and presented finds. Fill (3219) was most frequent in ditch [3217] and shared the most finds, including a cow bone (?) and pot sherds. Fill (3220] has the most pottery - some differing in appearance? Continued in context (3220) Medieval?	3+	1.20	0.74	3218	3220			2.2	13th-14th
3220	3217	3347	Other Fill	fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay with a firm compaction Frequent (60%) s-m (<8cm) flint inclusions Diffuse horizon clarity	Following on from context sheet [3219]. Fill (3220) also had some animal bone; most likely cow from fill (3219). Lastly fill (3221) also had some pot including a nice pottery rim. Medieval?	3+	3.30	0.20	3219	3221			2.2	13th-14th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3221	3217	3347	Other Fill	fill	Mid brown silty clay with a firm compaction Very frequent (80%) mixed sized gravel inclusions Diffuse horizon clarity	Following on from context sheet [3219]. Fill (3220) also had some animal bone; most likely cow from fill (3219). Lastly fill (3221) also had some pot including a nice pottery rim. Medieval?	3+	1.50	0.32	3220				2.2	13th-14th
3222	3222		Pit	cut	Square shape in plan Irregular almost vertical sides (undercutting in some places) Flat base NW-SE orientation. Environmental sample taken: 116	Pit [3222] has 3 fills (3223), (3224) and (3225). Finds were present across all fills. Fill (3223) contained a large amount of CBM and some pot. This CBM appeared to be tile as found in kiln [2953]. Fill (3224) similarly had pot, but also contained a few iron nails. Fill (3225) also had pot which was the same in appearance to the other fills. Pit [3222] cuts ditch [3217] and is the latest in dating stratigraphy in correlation with finds, pit [3222] seems contemporary with the tile kiln [2953]. Provisional date: medieval. Pot, CBM and metal finds recovered.	2.80+	1.90	1.16	3227	3223			2.2	13th-14th
3223	3222		Other Fill	fill	Pale grey silty clay with a firm compaction Moderate (50%) CBM Clear horizon clarity Environmental sample taken: 116	Pit [3222] has 3 fills (3223), (3224) and (3225). Finds were present across all fills. Fill (3223) contained a large amount of CBM and some pot. This CBM appeared to be tile as found in kiln [2953]. Fill (3224) similarly had pot, but also contained a few iron nails. Fill (3225) also had pot which was the same in appearance to the other fills. Pit [3222] cuts ditch [3217] and is the latest in dating stratigraphy in correlation with finds, pit [3222] seems contemporary with the tile kiln [2953]. Provisional date: medieval. Pot, CBM and metal finds recovered.	2.80+	1.20	0.16	3222	3224			2.2	13th-14th
3224	3222		Other Fill	fill	Pale greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction Rare (25%) frequent flint inclusions Clear horizon clarity	Pit [3222] has 3 fills (3223), (3224) and (3225). Finds were present across all fills. Fill (3223) contained a large amount of CBM and some pot. This CBM appeared to be tile as found in kiln [2953]. Fill (3224) similarly had pot, but also contained a few iron nails. Fill (3225) also had pot which was the same in appearance to the other fills. Pit [3222] cuts ditch [3217] and is the latest in dating stratigraphy in correlation with finds, pit [3222] seems contemporary with the tile kiln [2953]. Provisional date: medieval. Pot, CBM and metal finds recovered.		1.60	0.80	3223	3225			2.2	13th-14th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3225	3222		Other Fill	fill	Mid brownish grey silty clay with a firm compaction Rare flint inclusions (10%) frequency Clear horizon clarity	Pit [3222] has 3 fills (3223), (3224) and (3225). Finds were present across all fills. Fill (3223) contained a large amount of CBM and some pot. This CBM appeared to be tile as found in kiln [2953]. Fill (3224) similarly had pot, but also contained a few iron nails. Fill (3225) also had pot which was the same in appearance to the other fills. Pit [3222] cuts ditch [3217] and is the latest in dating stratigraphy in correlation with finds, pit [3222] seems contemporary with the tile kiln [2953]. Provisional date: medieval. Pot, CBM and metal finds recovered.		1.20	0.34	3224				2.2	13th-14th
3226	3226	3352	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Gently sloping sides Uneven base NW-SE orientation	Ditch [3226] appears to be very shallow extending into section. It only had a single fill no finds.	1+	0.40	0.12		3227			2.2	13th-14th
3227	3226	3352	Other Fill	fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction Very frequent flint (80%) (<10cm)	Ditch [3226] appears to be very shallow extending into section. It only had a single fill no finds.	1+	0.40	0.12	3226	3222			2.2	13th-14th
3228	3228		Pit	cut	Circular shape in plan Gradual slop sides Flat base	Cut of pit containing same fill as [3170]. Provisional date: medieval	0.40	0.38	0.11		3171			0	undated
3229	3229		Pit	cut	Oval shape in plan Gently sloping, concave sides Flat base N-S orientation	Cut of possible pit or tree throw, close to similar features.	1.46	0.62	0.1		3230			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3230	3229		Other Fill	fill	Mid brownish grey mottled with mid reddish grey silty clay Firm compaction Occasional s-m sub-angular stone and charcoal fleck inclusions No contamination risk Excavated by hand in dry conditions	Fill of possible pit/tree throw [3229] Finds indicate human activity in area. Possible build up of sediment over time.	1.46	0.62	0.1	3229				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3231	3231	3346	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Moderate/ steep sloped sides Concave base W-E orientation	Ditch following the stone path, alongside cart track Two ditches further west seem to have merged in this section, with no sign of another ditch.	-	2.10	0.89		3268, 3232			2.2	13th-14th
3232	3231	3346	Secondary Fill	fill	Orangish mid brown silty gravel with a firm compaction High frequency of sub-angular stone inclusions Low contamination risk Excavated by hand	Very high amount of potsherd, rims, CBM, charcoal, bone {animal). Vareity of pot typology Pumice stone 4in x 4in, quern stone fragment Medieval	-	2.10	0.70	3231, 3268				2.2	13th-14th
3233	3233	3335	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Steep sides Uneven base N-S orientation	Ditch terminus,ends just as it reaches ditch [3231], but does not cut into the ditch Pit [3235] is adjacent to ditch terminus, could be possible large posthole Provisional date: Medieval	+2.5	1.10	0.68		3234			2.0	12th-14th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3234	3233	3335	Primary Fill	fill	Greyish mid brown silty gravel with a firm compaction High frequency sub-angular stone (flint) inclusions	Dtich terminus, ends just as it reaches ditch [3231], but does not cut into the ditch. Pit [3235] is adjacent to ditch terminus, could be possible large posthole.	+2.5	1.10	0.68	3233				2.0	12th-14th
3235	3235		Pit	cut	Circular shape in plan Steep sides Concave base	Possible posthole- very large beam would be required Seems to possibly have been dug with knowledge of adjacent ditches, maybe as part of an enclosure, gate post? Fill had jaw of a sheep? Very few potsherds.	1	+0.60	0.66		3236			2.0	12th-14th
3236	3235		Primary Fill	fill	Greyish mid brown silty gravel with a firm compaction High frequent sub-angular stone inclusions Clear horizon clarity Low contamination risk Excavated by hand	Possible posthole- very large beam would be required Seems to possibly have been dug with knowledge of adjacent ditches, maybe as part of an enclosure, gate post? Fill had jaw of a sheep? Very few potsherds.	1	+0.60	0.66	3235				2.0	12th-14th
3237	3237		Natural	layer	Deposit	Possible natural chalky deposit First thought to be a chalky molted dump					3026				
3238	3238		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan Steep supine sides Concave base	Medieval		0.32	0.11					0	Undated
3239	3238		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction No finds - occasional sub-angular stone and rare charcoal fleck inclusions	Medieval		0.32	0.11					0	Undated
3240	3240		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan Steep supine sides Concave base	Medieval		0.25	0.16					0	Undated
3241	3240		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction No finds - occasional sub-angular stone and rare charcoal fleck inclusions	Medieval		0.25	0.16					0	Undated
3242	3242		Posthole	cut	Sub-oval shape in plan Very steep, almost vertical, concave sides Narrow base NNW-SSE orientation	Cut of possible with single fill (3243) small pieces of CBM retrieved. Possible intentional backfilling Medieval?	0.61	0.39	0.3		3243			2.02	13th-14th?
3243	3242		Primary Fill	fill	Mid-greyish brown sandy clay with a firm compaction Frequent in the form of medium sized sub-angular stone inclusions Good horizon clarity Contamination risk: low (rooting) Excavated by hand	Single fill of possible posthole [3242]. Some pieces of CBM. In close proximity to a group of posthole including [3196], [3198], [3207]. Medieval?	0.61	0.39	0.3	3242				2.02	13th-14th?
3244	3244		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan Steep sloping slots Concave base	All very similar post-holes - possibly associated to [2989] kiln cut.		0.26	0.10					0	Undated
3245	3244		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction No finds, occasional sub-angular stone and rare charcoal fleck inclusions.	All very similar post-holes - possibly associated to [2989] kiln cut.		0.26	0.10					0	Undated

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3246	3246		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan Steep sloping slots Concave base	All very similar post-holes - possibly associated to [2989] kiln cut.								0	Undated
3247	3246		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction No finds, occasional sub-angular stone and rare charcoal fleck inclusions.	All very similar post-holes - possibly associated to [2989] kiln cut.		0.23	0.10					0	Undated
3248	3248		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan Steep sloping slots Concave base	All very similar post-holes - possibly associated to [2989] kiln cut.		0.30	0.11					0	Undated
3249	3248		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction No finds, occasional sub-angular stone and rare charcoal fleck inclusions.	All very similar post-holes - possibly associated to [2989] kiln cut.		0.30	0.11					0	Undated
3250	3250		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan Steep sloping slots Concave base	All very similar post-holes - possibly associated to [2989] kiln cut.		0.25	0.07					0	Undated
3251	3250		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction No finds, occasional sub-angular stone and rare charcoal fleck inclusions.	All very similar post-holes - possibly associated to [2989] kiln cut.		0.25	0.07					0	Undated
3252	3252		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan Steep sloping slots Concave base	All very similar post-holes - possibly associated to [2989] kiln cut.		0.39	0.15					0	Undated
3253	3252		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction No finds, occasional sub-angular stone and rare charcoal fleck inclusions.	All very similar post-holes - possibly associated to [2989] kiln cut.		0.39	0.15					0	Undated
3254	3254		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan Steep sloping slots Concave base	All very similar post-holes - possibly associated to [2989] kiln cut.		0.40	0.10					0	Undated
3255	3254		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction No finds, occasional sub-angular stone and rare charcoal fleck inclusions.	All very similar post-holes - possibly associated to [2989] kiln cut.		0.40	0.10					0	Undated
3256	3256		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan Steep sloping slots Concave base	All very similar post-holes - possibly associated to [2989] kiln cut.		0.30	0.13					0	Undated
3257	3256		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction No finds, occasional sub-angular stone and rare charcoal fleck inclusions.	All very similar post-holes - possibly associated to [2989] kiln cut.		0.30	0.13					0	Undated
3258	3258		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan Steep sloping sides Concave base	All very similar post-holes - possible related to pits [2992] and [2990] etc.		0.43	0.10					0	Undated
3259	3258		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction No finds, occasional sub-angular stone and rare charcoal fleck inclusions.	All very similar post-holes - possible related to pits [2992] and [2990] etc.		0.43	0.10					0	Undated
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Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3260	3260		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan Steep sloping sides Concave base	All very similar post-holes - possible related to pits [2992] and [2990] etc.		0.35	0.10					0	Undated
3261	3260		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction No finds, occasional sub-angular stone and rare charcoal fleck inclusions.	All very similar post-holes - possible related to pits [2992] and [2990] etc.		0.35	0.10					0	Undated
3262	3262	3336	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Gently breaking slope at base of straight, moderate edge of ~ 50 degrees Flat to tapered over course of slot N-S orientation Truncated by [3264] and [3266]	Medieval enclosure gully, truncated by ditch [3266] and gully [3264], both of which run perpendicular to it.	>15	0.68	~0.19		3263			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3263	3262	3336	Other Fill	fill	Mid yellowish brown clayey silt with a friable compaction Occasional flint pebbles + occasional sub-angular stone ~50-80mm, rare charcoal <10mm Clear horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Single fill of enclosure gully, likely formed through natural processes of sedimentation	>15	0.68	~0.19	3262	3266, 3264			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3264	3264	3338	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Straight, moderate ~45 degrees Flat base E-W orientation Cuts [3262]	Medieval enclosure gully truncating gully [3262] which is perpendicular. Shape in plan and profile are very similar for the tow but fill (3265)is visibly more grey and cutting in plan Parallel to ditch [3266], about 0.5m to the north. Medieval?	>5	0.61	0.18	3263	3265			2.2	13th-14th
3265	3264	3338	Other Fill	fill	Mid grey brown clayey silt with friable compaction Occasional stone pebbles and sub-angular stones ~40-70mm - concentrated near base. Clear horizon clarity Contamination risk: cutting (3263) Excavated by hand.	Single fill of med enclosure gully. Very similar to fill (3267) of ditch which runs parallell, may be close in date. Probably formed through natural processes of sedimentation.	>5	0.61	0.18	3264				2.2	13th-14th
3266	3266	3337	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Steep and concave, ~60 degrees Rounded base E-W orientation Truncated [3262]	Medieval enclosure, parallel to med gully [3264] and perpendicular to gully [3262] which both truncate.	>10	0.98	0.42	3263	3267			2.2	13th-14th
3267	3266	3337	Other Fill	fill	Mid grey brown clayey silt with friable compaction Frequent rounded stones <10mm Occasional sub-angular stones 30-80mm Rare charcoal <10mm Clear horizon clarity Contamination risk: Cuts (3262) Excavated by hand	Single fill of enclosure ditch [3266], very similar to (3265). Probably naturally formed.	>10	0.98	0.42	3266				2.2	13th-14th
3268	3231		Primary Fill	fill	Orangish mid brown silty gravel with firm compaction Moderate sub-angular stone inclusions Contamination risk:low Excavated by hand	Naturally infilled over time, separated by stone horizon. Contained potsherd Medieval?	-	1	0.50	3231	3232			2.2	13th-14th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3269	3269		Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Gently sloping sides Convex base W/E orientation	Single cut of ditch [3269] probably related to ditch [3229] to the Wand another (unnumbered) to the E. Shallow ditches uses unknown.	23	0.23	0.25		3270			0	Undated
3270	3269		Other Fill	fill	Light orange brown sand with a friable compaction Regular sub-angular stone inclusions Clear horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Cut with 3 fills (3270) (3271) and (3272). Similar in colour and consistency. Fills contain pot, CBM, and bone. Shallow cut next to ditch [3229] to the W + (unnumbered) to the E.	2.3	0.23	0.25	3269	3271			0	Undated
3271	3269		Other Fill	fill	Light orange brown sand with a friable compaction Regular sub-angular stone inclusions Clear horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Cut with 3 fills (3270) (3271) and (3272). Similar in colour and consistency. Fills contain pot, CBM, and bone. Shallow cut next to ditch [3229] to the W + (unnumbered) to the E.	2.3	0.23	0.25	3272, 3270				0	Undated
3272	3269		Other Fill	fill	Light orange brown sand with a friable compaction Regular sub-angular stone inclusions Clear horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Cut with 3 fills (3270) (3271) and (3272). Similar in colour and consistency. Fills contain pot, CBM, and bone. Shallow cut next to ditch [3229] to the W + (unnumbered) to the E.	2.3	0.23	0.25		3271			0	Undated
3273	3273		Pit	cut	Amorphous shape in plan Eastern and western sides -moderately-sloping northern side = gradually sloping sides Irregular base	Feature [3273] may be a collection of waste pit, due to the lobe like depressions with the natural, however, this might alternatively be the result of bioturbation. Two distinct clusters of ceramic sherds were recovered from both the western and eastern extremes of a homogenous silty top fill; however, it is unclear if these represent separate stratigraphic events.	3.1	3.92	0.34		3274			2.2	13th-14th
3274	3273		Backfill	fill	mid orangish-brown silty gravel with a moderate compaction Frequent s-l sub-angular and sub-rounded stone and occasional charcoal fleck inclusions Diffuse horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Backfilled mixed gravel, accompanied or small quantities of carbonised organic material overlain or fills containing medieval pottery.	3.1	3.63	0.29	3273	3275, 3276			2.2	13th-14th
3275	3273		Secondary Fill	fill	Pale brownish grey clayey silt with a loose compaction Common small sub-angular stone and moderate charcoal flecks. Diffuse horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Likely and intentionally deposited cluster of discarded pottery and organic waste Likely contemporaneous to (3276).	?	1.13	0.08	3274	3277			2.2	13th-14th
3276	3273		Secondary Fill	fill	Pale brownish-grey clayey silt with a loose compaction Common small sub-angular stone and moderate charcoal fleck inclusions Diffuse horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Likely an intentionally deposited cluster of discarded pottery and organic waste likely contemporaneous. Medieval?	-	2.44	0.16	3274	3277			2.2	13th-14th
3277	3277	3352	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Steep, concave sides N-S orientation	Ditch appears in section to truncate pit [3273] along a roughly N-S alignment. Accompaning fill (3278) contains multiple sherds of medieval pottery and carbonised organic materials suggesting it was deliberating- - deposited.	?	0.39	0.17	3275, 3276	3278			2.2	13th-14th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3278	3277	3352	Primary Fill	fill	Mid brownish grey clayey silt with a loose compaction Regular charcoal flecks, occasional small sub-angular stone inclusions Diffuse horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Ditch appears in section to truncate pit [3273] along a roughly N-S alignment. Accompaning fill (3278) contains multiple sherds of medieval pottery and carbonised organic materials suggesting it was deliberating- - deposited.	?	0.39	0.17	3277				2.2	13th-14th
3279	3279		Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan No corners seen Gradual rounding sides Mostly flat base E-W orientation	Shallow linear, possibly same as linear on the same alignment [3291]. Environmental sample taken: 118	<5	0.43	0.14		3280			0	Undated
3280	3279		Other Fill	fill	Med whitish grey sandy, clay silt with a soft compaction Good horizon clarity	Shallow linear, possibly same as linear on the same alignment [3291]. Environmental sample taken: 118	<5	0.43	0.14	3279				0	Undated
3281	3281	3350	Quarry	cut	Irregular/ polygond shape in plan Gently sloping sides Uneven base	Appears to be a quarry area to possibly extract clay for manufacturing materials in the kilns. Stakeposts/ holes are in the pit, possibly as a means to reach clay pit and avoid water or for a platform to stand on.	-	-	0.28		3282, 3307			0	Undated
3282	3281	3350	Primary Fill	fill	Blackish mid grey clay with a firm compaction, no inclusions Clear horizon clarity	Appears to be a quarry area to possibly extract clay for manufacturing materials in the kilns. Stakeposts/ holes are in the pit, possibly as a means to reach clay pit and avoid water or for a platform to stand on.	-	-	0.28	3281, 3285, 3286, 3287, 3288, 3289, 3290				0	Undated
3283	3283	3349	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Gently sloped sides Concaved base E-W orientation	Ditch across quarry cut, naturally infilled.	-	1.10-0.34	0.16		3284			2.0	12th-14th
3284	3283	3349	Primary Fill	fill	Reddish dark brown silty clay with a firm compaction Pot sherds and bone inclusions Clear horizon clarity	Ditch across quarry cut, naturally infilled.	-	1.10-0.34	0.16	3283				2.0	12th-14th
3285	3285		Stakehole	cut	Circular shape in plan Vertical sides and a tapered base	Stakeholes, possibly for access to clay quarry pit. Naturally infilled No finds	0.07	0.07x5, 0.14x1	0.4-0.9		3282			0	Undated
3286	3286		Stakehole	cut	Circular shape in plan Vertical sides and a tapered base	Stakeholes, possibly for access to clay quarry pit. Naturally infilled No finds	0.07	0.07x5 0.14x1			3282			0	Undated
3287	3287		Stakehole	cut	Circular shape in plan Vertical sides and a tapered base	Stakeholes, possibly for access to clay quarry pit. Naturally infilled No finds	0.07	0.07x5 0.14x1	0.4-0.9		3282			0	Undated
3288	3288		Stakehole	cut	Circular shape in plan Vertical sides and a tapered base	Stakeholes, possibly for access to clay quarry pit. Naturally infilled No finds	0.07	0.07x50.14x1	0.4-0.9		3282			0	Undated

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3289	3289		Stakehole	cut	Circular shape in plan Vertical sides and a tapered base	Stakeholes, possibly for access to clay quarry pit. Naturally infilled No finds	0.07	0.07x0.14x1	0.4-0.9		3282			0	Undated
3290	3290		Stakehole	cut	Circular shape in plan Vertical sides and a tapered base	Stakeholes, possibly for access to clay quarry pit. Naturally infilled No finds	0.07	0.07x5 0.14x1	0.4-0.9		3282			0	Undated
3291	3291		Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Gradual rounding sides Irregular mostly flat base E-W orientation	Shallow linear, possibly same as linear on the same alignment [3279]. Environmental sample: 119	<5	0.46	0.13		3292			0	Undated
3292	3291		Other Fill	fill	Med whitish grey sandy, clay silt with a soft compaction Occasional rounded stone inclusions Good horizon clarity	Shallow linear, possibly same as linear on the same alignment [3279]. Environmental sample: 119	<5	0.46	0.13	3291				0	undated
3293	3293		Pit	cut	Sub-circular shape in plan Very gentle concave sides, gentle b.o.s top NE s.3012.2	Pit [3293] has a single fill (3296). Pot sherds were found in this fill. The use of the pit is unknown, it is very shallow and seems naturally silted up during its use.	1.80	1.40	0.16		3294			2.01	Late 12th/13th ?
3294	3293		Other Fill	fill	Pale mid greyish brown silty clay/sand with firm compaction Moderate (<50%) flint and sub-angular stone inclusions	Pit [3293] has a single fill (3296). Pot sherds were found in this fill. The use of the pit is unknown, it is very shallow and seems naturally silted up during its use.	1.80	1.40	0.16	3293				2.01	Late 12th/13th ?
3295	3295	3337	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan No corners see Sharp rounded sides Concave base E-W orientation	Ditch looked to be naturally infilled containing medieval pottery.	>10	0.88	0.32		3296			2.2	13th-14th
3296	3295	3337	Other Fill	fill	Mottled blackish grey with redeposited natural silty clay with a very compact compaction. Frequent sub-angled flint and stone and redeposited natural inclusions No contamination risks seen	Ditch looked to be naturally infilled containing medieval pottery.	>10	0.88	0.32	3295				2.2	13th-14th
3297	3297		Posthole	cut	Sub-circular shape in plan Near vertical sides Rounded base - slightly sloping tawrds S.3014.2 NW-SE orientation	Posthole [3297] has a single fill (3298) where there were no finds. Posthole [3297] is similar in shape and planto [3242], [3198] - potentially connected. These posthole may have a relationship with cess pit [3061] creating some sort of structure.	0.49	0.26	0.34		3298			2.02	13th-14th?
3298	3297		Other Fill	fill	Mid-dark silty clay mixed with gravel with a firm compaction Frequent (85%) s-m flint and sub-angular stones.	Posthole [3297] has a single fill (3298) where there were no finds. Posthole [3297] is similar in shape and planto [3242], [3198] - potentially connected. These posthole may have a relationship with cess pit [3061] creating some sort of structure.	0.49	0.26	0.34	3297				2.02	13th-14th?

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3299	3299	3348	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Steep sloping both sides with a gradual slope further to the north Concave base NNW-SEE orientation	Cut and fill of ditch possibly used for drainage of wet area Seems contemporary with ditch [3302] to south and infilled with very similar mixed alluvial fill. Possibly to do with (possible) quarry to south.	25.4	2	0.4		3300			2.01	Late 12th/13th ?
3300	3299	3348	Primary Fill	fill	0.4 thick Light blueish grey with orangic black alluvial deposits Sandy clay Firm compaction No finds, charcoal flecks Clear horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Cut and fill of ditch possibly used for drainage of wet area Seems contemporary with ditch [3302] to south and infilled with very similar mixed alluvial fill. Possibly to do with (possible) quarry to south.	25.4	2	0.40	3299	3301, 3303, 3306			2.01	Late 12th/13th ?
3301	3299	3348	Secondary Fill	fill	0.35m thick Dark Blackish grey silty clay Moderate charcoal flecks, pot and animal bone Clear horizon clarity	Cut and fill of ditch possibly used for drainage of wet area Seems contemporary with ditch [3302] to south and infilled with very similar mixed alluvial fill. Possibly to do with (possible) quarry to south.	25.4	2	0.40	3300, 3302				2.01	Late 12th/13th ?
3302	3302	3349	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Steep sloping sides V-shaped base NE-SW orientation	Cut and fill of ditch possibly used for drainage in wet area Seems contemporary with ditch [3299] to north and [3304] to south. Infilled with quarry organic similar fills Alluvial	11.17	0.75	0.30		3303, 3301, 3306			2.0	12th-14th
3303	3302	3349	Primary Fill	fill	Dark blackish grey silty clay with a soft compaction moderate charcoal flecks, pot, animal bone Clear horizon clarity Excavated by hand	Cut and fill of ditch possibly used for drainage in wet area Seems contemporary with ditch [3299] to north and [3304] to south. Infilled with quarry organic similar fills Alluvial	11.71	0.75	0.30	3300, 3302				2.0	12th-14th
3304	3304	3350	Quarry	cut	Sub-circular shape in plan Gradual sloping then a steep slope further to the south Flat base E-W orientation	Cut and fills of possible clay quarry used for extracted possibly for the tile kiln up the hill Infilled with alluvium - mixed organic	8.70	3.37	0.50		3305			0	Undated
3305	3304	3350	Primary Fill	fill	0.3 thick Light blueish grey sandy clay Charcoal flecks Firm compaction Clear horizon clarity	Cut and fills of possible clay quarry used for extracted possibly for the tile kiln up the hill Infilled with alluvium - mixed organic	8.70	3.37	0.50	3304	3306			0	Undated
3306	3304	3350	Other Fill	fill	0.40m thick Dark blackish grey silty organic alluvium with a soft compaction Flecks of charcoal Excavated by hand	Cut and fills of possible clay quarry used for extracted possibly for the tile kiln up the hill Infilled with alluvium - mixed organic	8.7	3.37	0.50	3300, 3302, 3305				0	Undated
3307	3307		Stakehole	cut	Circular shape in plan Very steep sloping sides Tapered base Coulld be evidence for walkway or fence	Stakehole cuts both infilled with alluvial fill (3282) both similar profiles and could associated to similar stakeholes in slot.		0.10	0.10	3281	3382			0	Undated

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3308	3308		Stakehole	cut	Circular shape in plan Very steep sloping sides Tapered base Coulld be evidence for walkway or fence	Stakehole cuts both infilled with alluvial fill (3282) both similar profiles and could associated to similar stakeholes in slot.	0.10	0.20	0.10					0	Undated
3309	3309	3339	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Gradual rounded sides Gradual concave base E-W orientation	Ditch terminus containing medieval pottery	>5	0.56	0.14		3310			2.2	13th-14th
3310	3309	3339	Other Fill	fill	Med brownish grey silty clay with a compact compaction Moderate pot and sub-angled stone inclusions	Ditch terminus containing medieval pottery	>5	0.56	0.14	3309				2.2	13th-14th
3311	3311	3336	Ditch	cut	Med blackish brown silt clay with a compact compaction Moderate sub-angled stone Excavated using mattocks, trowels and shovels	Ditch terminus containing a single fill with no finds	>5	0.51	0.11		3312			2.1	Late 12th/13th
3312	3311	3336	Other Fill	fill	Linear shape in plan Gradual rounding sides Flat base SSE-NNW orientation	Ditch terminus containing a single fill with no finds	>5	0.51	0.11	3311				2.1	Late 12th/13th
3313	3313	3338	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Gradual rounding sides Flat base SW-NE orientation	Ditch terminus containing a single fill	>5	0.48	0.10		3314			2.2	13th-14th
3314	3313	3338	Other Fill	fill	Med yellowish brown silty clay with a compact compaction Moderate sub-angled stone inclusions Okay horizon clarity	Ditch terminus containing a single fill	>5	0.48	0.10	3313				2.2	13th-14th
3315	3315		Posthole	cut	Sub-circular shape in plan Both sides of section begin gentle b.o.s, gently towards harsh b.o.s (potential post pipe) with vertical sides Gently rounded base sloping SW NW-SE orientation	Poshole [3315] has a single fill (3316) contained some pot sherds as well as burnt clay from kiln [2955] Posthole [3315] is very similar to postholes [3198], [3242] and [3297]. As mentioned before, these may have some relationship with cesspit [3061]. Alternatively kiln [2955] seems to be in use while posthole [3315] was open so perphaps there is also a relationship	0.90	0.73	0.31		2216, 3316			2.02	13th-14th?
3316	3315		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay Firm compaction Frequent s-m flint and sub-angular stone (gravel) (80%) frequency. Rare burnt clay (5%)	Poshole [3315] has a single fill (3316) contained some pot sherds as well as burnt clay from kiln [2955] Posthole [3315] is very similar to postholes [3198], [3242] and [3297]. As mentioned before, these may have some relationship with cesspit [3061]. Alternatively kiln [2955] seems to be in use while posthole [3315] was open so perphaps there is also a relationship	0.90	0.73	0.31	3315				2.02	13th-14th?
3317	3317	3335	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Steep, supine sides V shaped base NW-SE orientation	Cut and fill of ditch possibly for boundary use, seems contemporary with quarry to north but no relationship seen in section so possibly filled up at the same time.	37	1.05	0.40		3318			2.0	12th-14th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3318	3317	3355	Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction Moderate charcoal, rare pot, animal bone and metal. Clear horizon clarity	Cut and fill of ditch possibly for boundary use, seems contemporary with quarry to north but no relationship seen in section so possibly filled up at the same time.	37	1.05	0.40	3317				2.0	12th-14th
3319	3319		Quarry	cut	Sub-circular shape in plan Rounded corners Gradual sloping sides flat base N-S orientation	Cut and fill of possible quarry to north end of site possibly of clay extraction from tile. Seems contemporary with ditch [3317] to south.	10	9.08	1		3320			2.0	12th-14th
3320	3319		Other Fill	fill	mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction Moderate charcoal, pot and animal bone Clear horizon clarity	Cut and fill of possible quarry to north end of site possibly of clay extraction from tile. Seems contemporary with ditch [3317] to south.	10	9.08	1	3319				2.0	12th-14th
3321	3321		Posthole	cut	Group of postholes All fills are med greyish brown, silty clay Occasional small sub-angled stone and flint inclusions Friable compaction.	No finds	0.48	0.43	0.08					0	Undated
3322	3321		Other Fill	fill	Group of postholes All fills are med greyish brown, silty clay Occasional small sub-angled stone and flint inclusions Friable compaction.	No finds								0	Undated
3323	3323		Posthole	cut	Group of postholes All fills are med greyish brown, silty clay Occasional small sub-angled stone and flint inclusions Friable compaction.	No finds	0.45	0.40	0.06					0	Undated
3324	3323		Other Fill	fill	Group of postholes All fills are med greyish brown, silty clay Occasional small sub-angled stone and flint inclusions Friable compaction.	No finds								0	Undated
3325	3325		Posthole	cut	Group of postholes All fills are med greyish brown, silty clay Occasional small sub-angled stone and flint inclusions Friable compaction.	No finds	0.37	0.43	0.11					0	Undated
3326	3325		Other Fill	fill	Group of postholes All fills are med greyish brown, silty clay Occasional small sub-angled stone and flint inclusions Friable compaction.	No finds								0	Undated
3327	3327		Posthole	cut	Group of postholes All fills are med greyish brown, silty clay Occasional small sub-angled stone and flint inclusions Friable compaction.	No finds	0.28	0.43	0.11					0	Undated
3328	3327		Other Fill	fill	Group of postholes All fills are med greyish brown, silty clay Occasional small sub-angled stone and flint inclusions Friable compaction.	No finds								0	Undated
3329	3329	3352	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Very gentle concave sides and very gentle b.o.s Gently rounded base WSW-ENE orientation	Ditch [3329] has a single fill (3330) where same pot was found. Ditch [3329] extend along site WSW-ENE and may be a boundary ditch. Fill seems naturally accumulated.	1+	0.30	0.06		3330			2.2	13th-14th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3330	3329	3352	Other Fill	fill	Pale-mid greyish brown with mottled orange silty clay with a firm compaction Rare (5%) s-m sub-angular stone inclusions	Ditch [3329] has a single fill (3330) where same pot was found. Ditch [3329] extend along site WSW-ENE and may be a boundary ditch. Fill seems naturally accumulated.	1+	0.30	0.06	3329				2.2	13th-14th
3331	3331		Other Layer	layer	Light orangy brown sandy gravel with a compact compaction Gravel inclusions Clear horizon clarity	Natural gravels being used Apart of raised pathway	38	3.60	-						
3332		3332	Ditch	group		Ditch group [3170] [3211].								2.1	Late 12th/13th
3333		3333	Ditch	group		Group [3174] [3184]								2.1	Late 12th/13th
3334		3334	Ditch	group		Ditch group [3151] [3209]								2.1	Late 12th/13th
3335		3335	Ditch	group		Ditch group [3233] [33317] [3038] [1203] [1403								2.0	12th-14th
3336		3336	Ditch	group		Ditch group [3194] [3205] [3262] [3311] Eval: [1003]								2.1	Late 12th/13th
3337		3337	Ditch	group		Ditch group [3295] [3266]								2.2	13th-14th
3338		3338	Ditch	group		Ditch group [3264] [3313]								2.2	13th-14th
3339		3339	Ditch	group		Ditch group [3192] [3140] [3309]								2.2	13th-14th
3340		3340	Ditch	group		Ditch group [2929] [2971]								2.1	Late 12th/13th
3341		3341	Ditch	group		Ditch [3158] [3138]								2.1	Late 12th/13th
3342		3342	Ditch	group		Ditch [2975] [3012] [3055] Possibly [3213 or 3215]								2.2	13th-14th
3343		3343	Ditch	group		Ditch [2977] [3057] [2933] [305] [7929]								4	Pmed
3344		3344	Ditch	group		Ditch [3089] [3029]								3	Late Med to Pmed
3345		3345	Ditch	group		Ditch [3203] [3024] [1106]								2.2	13th-14th
3346		3346	Ditch	group		Ditch [3231] [2944] [1117]								2.2	13th-14th
3347		3347	Ditch	group		Ditch [3217] [2947] [1113]								2.2	13th-14th

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
3348		3348	Ditch	group		Ditch [2922] [3299]								2.01	Late 12th/13th ?
3349		3349	Ditch	group		Ditch [3283] [3302]								2.0	12th-14th
3350		3350	Quarry	group		Quarry [3281] [3304]								0	Undated
3351		3351	Pit	group		Retting pit group									
3352		3352	Ditch	group		Ditch [3226] [3277] [3329] [1206]								2.2	13th-14th
3353		3353	Trackway	group		Trackway [2927] [2940] [3026] [3088] [1103]									
3354		3354	Ditch	group		Ditch [3059] [3090] [3007]									
3382										3307					
7010											7911				
7900	7900		Topsoil	layer		Topsoil Soft dark greyish brown silty clay				7901					
7901	7901		Subsoil	layer		Sub-soil Soft mid greyish brown silty clay				7902	7900				
7902	7902		Natural	layer		Natural Firm light-mid yellowish/grey gravely sandy clay					7901, 7903, 7910				
7903	7903		Posthole	cut	Circular shape in plan Concave sides Rounded base	Possible prehistoric posthole Worked flint found	0.30	0.26	0.08	7902	7904			1	Prehistoric
7904	7903		Other Fill	fill	Medium brown grey clay silt Compact compaction Occasional sub-angled stone and worked flint inclusions Good horizon clarity	Possible prehistoric posthole Worked flint found	0.30	0.26	0.08	7903				1	Prehistoric
7905	7905		Natural Feature	cut		Ammended (13/04/2022) Nutural channel									
7906	7905		Other Fill	fill		Ammended (13/04/2022) Nutural channel									
7907	7907		Natural Feature	cut		Ammended (13/04/2022) Nutural channel									
7908	7907		Other Fill	fill		Ammended (13/04/2022) Natural channel									
7909	7907		Other Fill	fill		Ammended (13/04/2022) Nutural channel									

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
7910	7910		Pit	cut	Circular shape in plan Concave sides Rounded base	Cut of pit contaiining three fills.	1.5	1.4	0.3	7902	7912, 7913			1	Prehistoric
7911	7910		Other Fill	fill	Light greyish brown clayey silt with a compact compaction Frequent sub-angled stone and flint inclusions Good horizon clarity Contamination risk: cuts [7907].	First fill of pit contained No finds Prehistoric	0.14	0.14	0.30	7010	7912			1	Prehistoric
7912	7910		Other Fill	fill	Dark greyish black clay silt with a compact compaction Occasional pot fragment and moderate sub-angled stone inclusions Very clear horizon clarity	Second fill pit, possible prehistoric pottery found. Unfortunately most of the pot fragments were unable to be bagged.	0.52	0.52	0.30	7910, 7911				1	Prehistoric
7913	7910		Other Fill	fill	Light greyish brown clay silt with a compact compaction Frequent sub-angled stone and flint inclusions Good horizon clarity Contamination risk: cuts [7907]	first fill of pit				7910				1	Prehistoric
7914	7914	7933	Ditch	cut	Linear slight curve shape in plan Concave sides Rounded base W-S orientation	cut of possible prehistoric ditch No finds uncovered. Prehistoric?	<10	0.62	0.24	7917, 7916	7915			4	Pmed
7915	7914	7933	Other Fill	fill	Medium orangish silty clay with a soft compaction Occasional sub-angled stone inclusions Clear horizon clarity Contamination risk: cuts pit [7915].	cut of possible prehistoric ditch No finds uncovered. Prehistoric?	<10	0.62	0.24	7914				4	Pmed
7916	7916		Pit	cut	Circular shape in plan Concave sides Flat, slightly rounded base	Cut of possible prehistoric pit.	0.83	0.70	0.42	7917	7914			1a	Prehistoric?
7917	7916		Other Fill	fill	Dark greyish black clay silt with a compact compaction Moderate small angled stone inclusions Contamination risk: cut by ditch 7914	Cut of possible prehistoric pit.	0.83	0.70	0.42		7914, 7916			1a	Prehistoric?
7918	7918		Natural Feature	cut	[7918], (7919), [7920], (7921), [7922], (7923).	Amended (13/04/2022) Natural channel									
7919	7918		Other Fill	fill	[7918], (7919), [7920], (7921), [7922], (7923).	Amended (13/04/2022) Natural channel									
7920	7920		Natural Feature	cut	[7918], (7919), [7920], (7921), [7922], (7923).	Amended (13/04/2022) Natural channel									
7921	7920		Other Fill	fill	[7918], (7919), [7920], (7921), [7922], (7923).	Amended (13/04/2022) Natural channel									
7922	7922		Natural Feature	cut	[7918], (7919), [7920], (7921), [7922], (7923).	Amended (13/04/2022) Natural channel									
7923	7922		Other Fill	fill	[7918], (7919), [7920], (7921), [7922], (7923).	Amended (13/04/2022) Natural channels									

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
7924	7924		Natural Feature	cut	Irregular, mostly oval Gently sloping sides Flat base E-W orientation Truncated by two modern land drains near centre of feature, both running N-S.	Cut of natural feature, truncated by modern land drains.	C.4.5 m	C.1.9 m	0.24m		7925				
7925	7924		Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction Occasional s-m sized sub-angular stone inclusions Clear horizon clarity No contamination risks Excavated by hand	Fill of natural feature [7924], animal bone finds indicate human activity in the area. Lower fill. Prehistoric?	C.2.5	C.0.7	0.1	7924	7926				
7926	7924		Other Fill	fill	Light brownish grey silty clay with a firm compaction Occasional s-m sized sub-angular stone inclusions Clear horizon clarity No contamination risks Excavated by hand	Fill of natural feature [7924], upper fill.	C4.5	C1.9	C0.1	7925					
7927	7927	7933	Ditch	cut	Linear curve shape in plan Steep and sloping sides Concave base (U shaped)	Curvy linear feature ditch which was in area 2. Close to E-W linear ditch. Fill contained cortle bell (metal) and no other finds. Environmental sample taken:30	1	0.55	0.25		7928			4	Pmed
7928	7927	7933	Other Fill	fill	Mid brown silty sand with a moderate compaction Gravely stone throughout Moderately diffuse horizon clarity High contamination risk: land drains and other features	Curvy linear feature ditch which was in area 2. Close to E-W linear ditch. Fill contained cortle bell (metal) and no other finds. Environmental sample taken:30	1	0.55	0.25	7927				4	Pmed
7929	7929	3343	Ditch	cut	Linear shape in plan Steep b.o.s top to moderately steep concave sides. To vertical b.o.s near base Flat base E-W orientation	Ditch [7929] has 3 fills (7930), (7931), (7932). Fills (7930) contained a few pieces of potential worked flint. Both fills (7930) and (7931) may be the result of simply while the ditch was in use. Fill (2932) contained a metal horsehoe, metal bell and potentially worked flint. This horseshoe and flint may correlate with the trackway. Medieval?	1	1.70	1.02		7930			4	Pmed
7930	7929	3343	Other Fill	fill	Dark greyish brown silty clay with a firm compaction Moderate (50%) small flint inclusions Clear horizon clarity	Ditch [7929] has 3 fills (7930), (7931), (7932). Fills (7930) contained a few pieces of potential worked flint. Both fills (7930) and (7931) may be the result of simply while the ditch was in use. Fill (2932) contained a metal horsehoe, metal bell and potentially worked flint. This horseshoe and flint may correlate with the trackway. Medieval?	1	1.20	0.32	7929	7931			4	Pmed
7931	7929	3343	Other Fill	fill	Pale yellowish brown silty gravel with a firm compaction Frequent (90%) silty gravel Clear horizon clarity	Ditch [7929] has 3 fills (7930), (7931), (7932). Fills (7930) contained a few pieces of potential worked flint. Both fills (7930) and (7931) may be the result of simply while the ditch was in use. Fill (2932) contained a metal horsehoe, metal bell and potentially worked flint. This horseshoe and flint may correlate with the trackway. Medieval?	-	1.7	0.56	7930	7932			4	Pmed

Context No	Feature No	Group No	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Phase	Period
7932	7929	3343	Other Fill	fill	Mid greyish brown with mottled orange silty clay with a firm compaction Rare (15%) m flint (<5cm) Clear horizon clarity	Ditch [7929] has 3 fills (7930), (7931), (7932). Fills (7930) contained a few pieces of potential worked flint. Both fills (7930) and (7931) may be the result of simply while the ditch was in use. Fill (2932) contained a metal horsehoe, metal bell and potentially worked flint. This horseshoe and flint may correlate with the trackway. Medieval?	-	1.70	0.56	7931, 7932	7932			4	Pmed
7933		7933	Ditch	group		Ditch [7927] + [7914] Possibly [303] from eval? Or [403].								4	Pmed
PLF															

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Worked flint

Jacky Sommerville

Introduction and methodology

A small assemblage of 36 worked lithics (394.3g) was recovered via the hand-excavation of 21 separate deposits. The artefacts were recorded according to broad debitage/artefact type, as defined by Butler (2005), and catalogued directly onto a Microsoft Access database (Table B1). Attributes recorded include: raw material; weight; dimensions (for unbroken items); degree of edge damage (microflaking) and cortication (a white or blueish surface discoloration resulting from soil conditions: Shepherd 1972, 109); cortex description; and the presence of breakage and burning.

Raw material

All the lithics are flint, all of which is fine- or very fine-grained. Cortex is present on 21 items, and is chalky on 12 (57%) and abraded on 9 (43%). This demonstrates the exploitation of both primary and secondary resources. Chalk of the Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation and Seaford Chalk Formation is located 2–3 km to the north-west (BGS 2022) and is likely to have been the source for the chalk flint. The palaeochannel indicated at the west end of the site may have provided gravel flints (Section 2.3).

Provenance and condition

Almost all the flints have been redeposited. Three were retrieved from unphased features (a posthole and a natural feature) and two from Phase 1 (Prehistoric) posthole 7903. The remaining 32 items (89%) were from features assigned to Phases 2 (Medieval) and 4 (Post-medieval). Condition is poor, with heavy or moderate edge damage recorded on 33 flints (92%) – consistent with a considerable degree of post-depositional disturbance. Twelve items (33%) are broken and two display cortication – one slight and one heavy (the heavily corticated item is the handaxe).

Range and variety

Primary technology

Debitage comprises one blade and 29 flakes (Table B1). Where hammer mode could be determined for flakes, it was hard-hammer percussion – with visible points/cones of percussion, pronounced bulbs of percussion and noticeable ripple marks (Whittaker 1994, 14). Average flake dimensions are 31 x 29 x 7mm. Such proportions – with flakes almost as wide as they are long – would be most typical during the Late Neolithic or Bronze Age periods. Sixteen flakes terminated in a hinge or step fracture. This equates to 67%, which is an

extremely high proportion. 'Failed' terminations such as these can be a product of unskilled knapping (Whittaker. 1994, 109) and a high proportion may be expected in a Bronze Age assemblage (Ford *et al.* 1984, 163). Incipient cones of percussion are present on three flakes (10%). These evidence mis-hits which may also suggest unsystematic or unskilled knapping (Whittaker 1994, 117). However, the sample sizes (18 for dimensions, 24 for terminations and 29 for incipient cones) are too small for any of these observations to be statistically significant. The only core (from Phase 2.1 [Late 12th to 13th century]) pit 3046) is a multi-platform type which was used to produce flakes.

Secondary technology

Five retouched tools (14% of the assemblage) were recorded. Most notable amongst these is the handaxe recovered from fill 3097 of natural feature 3091 (Fig. 38.1, CA 2023b). It is a pointed type – more or less teardrop-shaped in plan – although the tip is missing and it is slightly asymmetrical at the base. It has been fully worked bifacially and no cortex is present, however the flaking is not particularly fine. Edge damage is extensive and the handaxe displays differences in condition on the two faces: one face is fully corticated white and is slightly rolled, while the other has undergone partial recortication and is considerably more rolled, with worn arrises (the ridges between flake scars). The handaxe is slightly iron-stained all over and measures 93+ x 60 x 28mm. None of the other lithics recovered from the site display similar cortication/staining/rolling and this is probably the only Palaeolithic item retrieved. Handaxes of this type were in use during the Lower Palaeolithic period (500,000–150,000 BC in Britain) and are considered to have been used as butchery tools (Butler 2005, 64).

The other tools comprise two notches and two scrapers – an end-scraper and a side-scraper. The notches and side scraper were made on flake blanks and are not chronologically diagnostic. The side scraper was made using a blade blank and is likely to be Mesolithic or Early Neolithic in date, as blade technology was in use during these periods.

Discussion

The small lithic assemblage provides evidence of prehistoric activity on the site which pre-dates the Iron Age, although none is *in situ*. Periods represented are the Lower Palaeolithic (the handaxe), the Mesolithic/Early Neolithic (the side scraper) and the Late Neolithic/Bronze Age (indications from the debitage). The handaxe is of note as a Palaeolithic find. Other findspots of handaxes in the locality include Church Street, Bocking, approximately 11km to the south-east (HG 2023a), at Stansted Airport Social Club Site approximately 20km to the south-west (HG 2023b), at Marks Tey, approximately 25km to the south-east (Wymer 1999,

162) and at Kelvedon Hall Lane, Kelvedon, approximately 27km to the south-east (Martingell 1984, 82).

Primary technology	
Blade	1 (3)
Core	1 (18)
Flake	29 (160.3)
Secondary technology	
Handaxe	1 (179)
Notch	2 (20)
Scraper (end)	1 (12)
Scraper (side)	1 (2)
Total	**36 (394.3)**

Table B1. Breakdown of lithics assemblage (weight in grammes in brackets)

References

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Pottery

Sue Anderson

The assemblage comprises 2309 sherds (20,730g) of pottery, recovered from 197 contexts in the excavation and thirteen contexts in the evaluation.

Methodology

Quantification was carried out using sherd count, weight and estimated vessel equivalent (eve). The minimum number of vessels (MNV) within each context was also recorded, but cross-fitting was not attempted unless particularly distinctive vessels were observed in more than one context. Form terminology follows MPRG (1998) and rim forms and fabrics follow the Essex type series (e.g. Drury 1993; Cunningham 1985; Cotter 2000) with some additions described below. The results were input directly onto an Access database, which forms the archive catalogue.

The assemblage

Table B2 provides a quantification of the pottery by fabric group.

Fabric	Code	Date range	No	Wt/g	eve	MN
Prehistoric	PREH	Preh	15	24		9
Unidentified handmade wares	UNHM	preh/ESax?	8	15		8
Roman coarse grog storage vessels	RBCG	1st–4th c.	3	73	0.08	3
Roman greyware	RBGW	1st–4th c.	6	17		5
Roman shelly wares	RBSH	1st–4th c.	1	2		1
Shelly wares without sand	12A	11th–M.12th c.?	5	13		2
Slightly sandy shelly wares	12B	11th–M.13th c.?	4	29		3
Sandy shelly wares (sand predominant)	12C	11th–M.13th c.?	11	69		8
Early medieval sandy wares (general)	13	11th–13th c.	359	2981	0.72	280
Transitional sandy ware	13T	12th–M.13th c.?	76	697	0.45	50
Hedingham coarseware	20D	M.12th–14th c.	51	409	0.47	38
Hedingham ware	22	M.12th–14th c.	63	666	0.11	36
Medieval sandy greywares (general)	20	M./L.12th–14th c.	159	14213	13.0	118
Medieval white wares	23	12th–14th c.	1	3		1
Unident medieval ?English wares	98M	12th–15th c.	2	4		2
Rouen-type ware	28	L.12th–M.14th c.	1	3		1
Medieval sandy orange wares	21	13th–15th c.	64	725	0.73	30
Colchester-type ware	21A	13th–15th c.	7	56		7
Mill Green ware	35	L.13th–M.14th c.	38	690	0.50	3
Late Grimston-type ware	38L	14th–15th c.	2	40		1
Black glazed ware	40B	16th–18th c.	1	2	0.15	1
Totals			*230*	*20730*	*16.2*	*167*

Table B2. Pottery quantification by fabric

Pre-medieval

Several sherds of handmade earthenware were recovered, all heavily abraded and likely residual, even in those contexts where they occurred alone. Five sherds in soft oxidised fabrics with grog tempering were likely to be of Bronze Age date and were found in post-hole fill 3115 and pit fill 3230. Other sherds were tempered with flint or angular white quartz, but were otherwise undiagnostic. Eight sherds in black very fine silty fabrics were very heavily abraded and few had surviving surfaces – these may also be prehistoric, although some could be fired clay.

Ten sherds were Roman, again all heavily abraded and residual in later contexts. These included a large fragment of rim from a coarse grog-tempered vessel in pit fill 2994, and a flat base fragment of Roman greyware from pit fill 3111. Other sherds were small body fragments.

Medieval

Medieval pottery formed the bulk of this assemblage. Early medieval wares comprised a few sherds with shell tempering, but the majority were in the sandy fabric 13. The fabric 12 shelly group comprised only body and base sherds, most of which were abraded. Although there is some overlap in the use of the shelly and sandy wares, the relative lack of the former at this site may suggest that there was little activity prior to the mid/late 12th century. Fabric 13 included rims of nine jars, three bowls and a dish. Rims included types B2, B4, C1 and one example of H1, and parallels for some of the fabric 13 jars were noted in the Rivenhall and Colchester assemblages (*e.g.* Drury 1993, no. 51; Cotter 2000, fig. 30.59 and fig. 33.9). There was also one simple everted rim more typical of northern East Anglian early medieval ware, and several body sherds were noted in this much finer early medieval fabric. Several vessels were decorated with combed wavy lines and/or applied thumbed strips.

Some sherds recorded as Fabric 13t were in a highly micaceous buff fabric with coarse sand inclusions which is likely to be a local product. Other types were also recorded under this general fabric group if they were oxidised externally but otherwise fully reduced. These transitional early/high medieval wares included four jars and three bowls with rims of types A3?, A4b, B2, B4, C1 and H2. One rim sherd had a combed wavy line on the rim top.

The large group of medieval coarsewares (fabric 20) were in a range of typical local sandy fabrics, including some with fairly coarse rounded and angular sand inclusions and varying degrees of mica which are typical of south-west Suffolk and north-west Essex, others that were similar to the products of the Mile End and Great Horkesley kilns to the north-west of

Colchester (Drury and Petchey 1975), and some finer hard grey types. A small group of Hedingham coarseware was also identified. Table B3 shows the range of forms and rim types in this assemblage. Jars were the most common form, with a small group of jugs and very small component of bowls.

Rim	Date range*	jar	jar/ju	jug	jug?	bowl	bowl
A3	E12?	1					
A1A	M12–E13	1					
A2	M12–E13	1		1			
Flared	12–13	1					
B1b	M12–E13	1					
B1b?	M12–E13	1					
B2	L12–13	6					
B4	L12–E13	22		2		2	
B4/H2?	L12–M13	1					
B4?	L12–E13?	3					
A4	13			1			
C1	13?	10		1		3	
C1?	13?	1					
D1	13?	1					
H2	E–M13	27		1			
H2?	E–M13?	2				1	
H1	M–L13?	11		3	1	1	
H3	L13–M14?	22	1				
E5	L13–M14?	1					1
H3/E5	L13–M14?	1					
K2	L13–14			4			

Table B3. Identified forms and rim types in fabrics 20 and 20D (MNV)
* date range based on Drury (1993) and Cotter (2000)

Most of the rim types can be dated to the later 12th or 13th centuries, although later types are also present. One unusual flaring rim in a hard sandy greyware with red margins was not typical of the Essex medieval typology, having a sharply squared-off rim, but no parallels have been identified in the surrounding counties and it may simply be an unusual ‘cauldron’ rim similar to some Colchester types (*e.g*. Cotter 2000, fig. 89.110).

Decoration included combed or incised wavy lines, applied thumbed strips and fingertip impressions, but generally these occurred in a lower proportion than was seen in the early medieval ware group.

The glazed wares were dominated by Hedingham wares, some of which appeared to be late medieval but in the typical Hedingham fabric. The Fabric 21 group also included some late medieval wares, some of which were Suffolk types – one of the latter was recovered from the tile kiln. Few rims were present, representing only six jugs with beaded, plain upright and collared rims, and a bowl with internal orange glaze. Fabric 21 sherds included several with white slip line decoration and/or green/clear glaze. The Hedingham wares included examples

with narrow applied strips, and slipped panels with applied pellets, a sagging base fragment with traces of green glaze on the worn surface, and a wide strap handle. Although a large quantity of Mill Green sherds was recovered, many of these belonged to a single vessel, a jug with a collar at the base angle, a plain upright rim and a strap handle. Two sherds of late medieval Grimston-type ware were part of the base from a small vessel, most likely a drinking jug. Other glazed wares included a sandy whiteware which is similar to examples from north Suffolk (Waveney Valley glazed ware), two unprovenanced ?English wares and an abraded body sherd of Rouen whiteware from France. This latter is an unusual find from an inland rural site.

Post-medieval

Only one post-medieval sherd was recovered, a rim fragment of a possible bottle in iron-glazed blackware from trackway fill 2940 (Phase 3).

Catalogue of illustrated vessels (Fig. 39)

1. Fabric 20 jar, tapered everted B2 rim. Ditch 3346 (fill 3268, cut 3231) Phase 2.2.
2. Fabric 20 jar, flat-topped everted (H2) rim. Decorated with fingertip impressions below the neck. Ditch 3342 (fill 3056, cut 3055), Phase 2.2.
3. Fabric 20 jar, flat-topped everted (H2) rim. Ditch 3342 (fill 3010, cut 3009), Phase 2.2.
4. Fabric 20 jug, strap handle. Decorated with two lines of diagonal stab marks. Ditch 3342 (fill 3056, cut 3055), Phase 2.2.
5. Fabric 21 jug, beaded (C1) rim and strap handle. Traces of white slip externally, possibly horizontal lines. Deep groove in handle. Pit fill 3176 (cut 3174), Phase 2.0.
6. Fabric 35 jug, upright (A2) rim, strap handle, base with collar. Clear/green glaze. Possibly late medieval Hedingham-type. Pit fills 2995, 2996 (cut 2994), Phase 2.2.

Pottery distribution

Table B4 shows the distribution of pottery by fabric and site phase, based on MNV. The majority of pottery was recovered from contexts assigned to Phase 2.2., with other large groups from Phases 2.0 and 2.1. Much of the material recovered from Phases 3 and 4 was residual. Unphased sherds were from topsoil or from evaluation trench 27, which was outside the main excavation area – these will not be considered further.

Fabric	Phase 1	Phase 2.0	Phase 2.1	Phase 2.2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Un
PREH	4		2	1			2
UNHM							
RBCG			1	2			
RBGW		2	3				
RBSH			1				
12A			1	1			
12B		1	1	1			
12C		1	1	6			
13		34	121	110	11	3	1

Fabric	Phase 1	Phase 2.0	Phase 2.1	Phase 2.2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Un
13T		8	17	25			
20D		11	12	11	1	1	2
22		11	5	19	1		
20		198	186	716	48	40	1
23				1			
98M				2			
28		1					
21		5	2	21	2		
21A		1	1	5			
35				2	1		
38L		1					
40B					1		
Totals	*4*	*274*	*362*	*923*	*65*	*44*	*6*

Table B4. Pottery by fabric and site phase (MNV).

Phase 1 – prehistoric

Nine sherds (8g) of four vessels were recovered from three features in this phase. Three small fragments of a grog-tempered base of possible Bronze Age date were found in post-hole 3114. Two small sherds tempered with coarse white angular quartz were found in post-hole 3182. Four fragments of two flint-tempered vessels were found in pit 7910 in Area 2.

Phase 2.1 – late 12th to 13th c.

Contexts assigned to this phase produced 489 sherds (3771g) of 362 vessels. Approximately a third of the group (34.3% based on MNV) is of early medieval date, but the majority of vessels are in Fabric 20 (51.4%). Very few glazed vessels are present. The majority of sherds in this period were recovered from pits, particularly the large sub-rectangular pits either side of boundary ditch 3335, and the possible charcoal kiln 3046.

Enclosure 1

Eighteen sherds were recovered from two fills of enclosure ditch 3334. These comprised a residual prehistoric fragment, and undecorated body sherds of fabrics 13 and 20. Similarly, pit 3149 produced seven body and base fragments in these two fabrics, while one tiny sherd of Fabric 13 was recovered from pit 3168. This group is not suggestive of particularly intensive occupation of the enclosure during this phase.

A large isolated pit 2925 lay close to Enclosure 1. Like the features within the enclosure, it contained only a small quantity of sherds (eight fragments) of fabrics 13, 13T and 20. Two jar rims in fabric 20 (types B4? and H1) suggest a 13th-century date for the fill.

Enclosure 2

Enclosure ditch 3336 produced only nine sherds from three sections, comprising body and base fragments of fabrics 13, 13T, 20 and 20D. Southern curvilinear ditch 3354 produced

twelve sherds from three interventions, again body and base fragments in fabrics 13, 13T and 20.

Structure 1 post-holes 3076, 3079, 3084, 3086, 3136, 3142 and 3160 produced twenty sherds between them, all relatively small. Residual fragments of handmade and Roman pottery were found in two, but the majority of fragments were in Fabric 13 with some 13T and 20 also present. It seems likely that the structure was in use in the 12th/13th century.

Two short lengths of ditch associated with Structure 1 contained a larger quantity of pottery which may relate to the use of the structure. There were 32 sherds from ditch 3341 and 29 from ditch 3340. Although the group contained a range of early to high medieval fabrics (13, 13T, 20, 20D, 21) and some jar rims of 13th century date, it is interesting to note that several of the early medieval ware sherds recovered from these features and from Structure 1 were in the thin-walled fine sandy fabric more typical of Norfolk and north Suffolk in the 11th/12th centuries, and that these were rare elsewhere on the site, perhaps suggesting that this area was the earliest to be used. The small parallel ditch 3229 to the west produced a residual fragment of prehistoric date, and three sherds of a Fabric 20 vessel which was possibly shell-dusted and therefore of 12th/13th-century date.

Pits between the enclosures

A group of pits (or perhaps two groups), arranged in a linear formation either side of boundary ditch 3335 contained a large group of sherds between them. Table B5 shows the sherd quantities by fabric in each.

Fabric	1217	3001	2998	1208/3003	1210/3018	2990	2992	3020
12A			3					
12B		1						
12C				1				
13	2	7	2	5	8	9	18	3
13T		1				3	2	
20		17	9	12	13	19	41	3
20D				4	1		1	
21A							1	
22					1	3	6	
UNHM							1	
Totals	*2*	*26*	*14*	*22*	*23*	*34*	*70*	*6*

Table B5. Pottery from pits either side of ditch 3335, from west to east.

These pits could perhaps represent waste disposal from different households living either side of the boundary ditch. Cross-links were noted between sherds in the three large pits to the east (3018, 2990, 2992), but there were none in the group to the west. The group to the west included rims of four jars (types B2, B4 and H2?) and a dish (type C1). The pits to the east

included rims of eight jars (types A3?, B4, C1, H1 and H2), two ?bowls (type E5) and a possible jug (type H1). The rim types suggest that the pits were in use in the same broad period, although intercutting indicates that they were not all open at once.

Further to the west, one sherd of Fabric 13 was recovered from pit 3156.

Two adjacent pits in the northern central part of the site, 3081 and 3098, each contained a small group of pottery of early and high medieval date. Pit 3081 was probably slightly earlier, as it contained fabrics 13, 13T and 20, the latter being a jar rim of type B4. The majority of sherds from 3098 were Fabric 20, including an H2 jar rim, and only a small proportion of Fabric 13 was present.

Pits 3042, 3046 and 3050

This group of features has been interpreted as a possible charcoal kiln. Between them, they contributed 133 sherds to the overall assemblage, although the majority of these were from pit 3046; the two other features contained four sherds each. The earliest fills contained largely early medieval fabrics, while the upper fills contained a higher proportion of Fabric 20. There was a small component of residual ?prehistoric and Roman pottery in fill 3049. Seven jars, two bowls and a jug were represented by rimsherds (types B4, H1 and H2). Several vessels were decorated with combed wavy lines.

Phase 2.2 – 13th–14th c.

This is the largest period group, with 1280 sherds (11,958g) of 923 vessels present. In this group, the early medieval component reduced to 12.8% and the proportions of Fabric 21 and other glazed wares were significantly higher than in the previous period. More than three-quarters of the total MNV comprised medieval greywares. A very high proportion of the pottery in this period was recovered from the large ditches forming the southern boundary of the Phase 2.2 enclosures, and from ?cess pit 3061 and ?well 2994.

Trackway ditches and lower level

Ditch 3345 to the south of the trackway produced a small assemblage of 26 sherds, recovered from three sections, in fabrics 13T, 20 and 21, including three jar rims (B2, H3) which suggest a 13th/14th-century date.

Cut 1103 is assigned to this phase and produced two sherds in fabrics 13 and 20.

Enclosure 3

Enclosure ditch 3337 produced a small group of sherds from two sections, ten body and base fragments of mostly Fabric 20 with one piece of glazed Hedingham ware. Two of the Fabric 20 sherds were similar to late medieval reduced (LMR) wares from the east Midlands and may

be of later 13th/14th-century date. Parallel to this ditch, a shorter ditch 3338 produced a group of four sherds, including a Fabric 20 jar rim (type B4) and a slip-decorated sherd of 21A. This latter suggests a 13th-century date at the earliest.

Enclosure ditch 3339 produced 35 sherds from three sections. A residual Roman fragment was the earliest, and there was a small group of Fabric 13 including a possible bowl rim (C1). The Fabric 20 group included two jar rims (both H2) and there was a tiny fragment of Fabric 21. This group is also likely to date to the 13th century.

Enclosure 4

The northern ditch of this enclosure, 3352, produced sixteen sherds from one section, of which fourteen were Fabric 20, including a jug rim, and two were Fabric 21, including a bowl rim. There was a cross-link to pit 3273, which was cut by the ditch.

Ditch 3342, to the south of Enclosures 3 and 4, produced 234 sherds, the largest assemblage from any individual feature. Most were recovered from section 3055 in the south-west, close to the southern end of the ditches associated with Phase 2.1 Structure 1. A cross-link was noted between the adjacent section 2975 and the southern terminal of ditch 3340. Sherds in 3055 were linked to some in Phase 4 ditch 3343, adjacent to the south. The ditch 3342 assemblage was again dominated by Fabric 20, with a few sherds of fabrics 13, 21 and 22 also present. Rims of 17 jars and two bowls were identified, and there were also body sherds and a handle of two jugs. Most rims were B4 or H2 types, which are broadly of late 12th to mid 13th-century date. It seems likely that this large assemblage was, at least in part, redeposited from a midden associated with the Phase 2.1 structure. One Fabric 21 vessel suggests that the feature was infilled in the 14th/15th century. An arrowhead of 14th to 15th century date was recovered from fill 2975.

The assemblage from ditch 3346 was also substantial, and again the majority of the 179 sherds came from one section. In this case, section 3231 was located to the east of the site, close to the terminal of boundary ditch 3335. The range of fabrics included small amounts of prehistoric and early medieval wares (12A, 12C, 13, 13T), but Fabric 20 dominated, with some 20D, 21A and 22 also present. Rims of twelve jars and a jug were identified, with B4, H1 and H3 the most common types. Several Fabric 20 vessels were in a fine, hard, blue-grey fabric which is likely to be of later 13th to 14th-century date.

Two sections of ditch 3347 produced 84 sherds, the majority from 3217. Again, there were small quantities of early medieval ware (12C, 13, 13T), a large proportion of Fabric 20, and one piece of 21A. Six jar rims, two bowl rims and several fragments of a jug were found, with most of the jar rims suggesting a mid- to late 13th-century date.

Tile kiln 2953

Two fills of the tile kiln stoke pit 2952 produced 41 sherds. Those from the lowest fill 2962 were all small (8 sherds, 15g), having been recovered from a sample, and most were abraded, but they included fabrics 13, 20, 21, 22 and 98M. Sherds from the upper fill 2967 were mostly fabrics 20, 20D and 21, with two sherds of 13T. Rims of a jar (H3) and two jugs (C1, H2) were present. Two sherds of Fabric 21 were Suffolk-type late medieval and transitional ware, suggesting a mid/late 14th-century date at the earliest.

?Cess pit 3061

There were 212 sherds from four fills of this feature. A few fragments of fabrics 13 and 13T were probably residual, and the majority of pottery was in Fabric 20, with a few sherds of 21 and 22 also present. A few sherds of Fabric 21 were certainly of late medieval (14th/15th c.) date, and there were also several late-type jar rims (H3 and E5), as well as ?residual earlier types. Rims of eighteen jars and two jugs were present in total, and there were body/handle sherds from another jug. A radiocarbon date for this feature also suggested a 14th-century date. It is not clear exactly how this pit relates to the kiln, but it appears to be broadly contemporary and could perhaps represent a latrine/rubbish pit used by the tilers.

?Well 2994

A total of 169 sherds was recovered from three fills of this feature. Cross-links were noted between vessels in all three fills. Some early medieval ware was present, and there was a residual Roman sherd, but the majority was Fabric 20 with some glazed wares also present (fabrics 21, 22 and 35). Rims of five jars, a large storage vessel, a bowl and two jugs were present. thirty-six sherds of a single Mill Green ware jug were present, including the rim, handle and base. A radiocarbon date, small finds, and the pottery, all suggest a period of use broadly from the late 13th to the 14th centuries.

Other features associated with Enclosures 3 and 4

There were 84 sherds from pit 3033, of which only two were early medieval. The remainder comprised fabrics 20 and 22. One vessel in the latter, represented by five base sherds, was linked to a sherd in pit 3005 (Phase 3), approximately 18m to the south-west. The Fabric 20 group included rims of a jar, a jar/jug and two jugs. A late 13th/mid 14th-century date is suggested.

Pit 3222 contained 39 sherds in three fills. Some small, residual fragments of early medieval ware were present, but the majority of sherds were Fabric 20, supplemented by single sherds of 20D, 21A and 98M. The Fabric 20 group included rims of four jars (B1b, B4/H2?, H1, H3) and a jug (B4), again suggesting a late 13th/14th-century date.

Pit 3273 was cut by the ditch of Enclosure 4. It contained 48 sherds of fabrics 13, 13T, 20 and 21, including a beaded jug rim in the latter. A 13th-century date seems likely.

Oven 2984

Nineteen sherds were collected from three fills of this feature, all body and base fragments of fabrics 13, 20 and 21.

West of ditch 3335

The lowest fill, 2913, of three pits contained thirteen sherds, of which two were early medieval (12C, 13) and the rest high medieval (20, 20D, 21). Two jar rims (types B2, E5) were recovered, the later suggesting a late 13th or early 14th-century date for the fill.

South of the trackway

Twelve sherds were collected from ditch 3200, all but one in Fabric 20, the exception being a tiny fragment of Mill Green ware. Two jar rims indicated a later 13th/14th-century date, with one other slightly earlier.

Hollow 3091

Fifty-three sherds came from this feature, more than half of which were early medieval. Two jar rims were present, both in Fabric 20, and there were sherds of 21A and 23, suggesting a 13th/14th-century date.

Phase 2.0 – medieval

There were 365 sherds (3243g) of 274 vessels in contexts assigned to the general medieval phase. The majority were found in pits, with some from post-holes or ditches. The range and proportions of fabrics in this general period group are closer to those of Phase 2.2 than 2.1, but the features could belong to either period.

Pits within Enclosure 1

Sub-rectangular pit 3111 contained 27 sherds, including a residual Roman base fragment. Several sherds of Fabric 13 and 20 were recovered, including jar rims of types C1 and H3, the latter dated to the late 13th to mid 14th centuries. A body sherd of Fabric 22 was also present. A large piece of a jug rim/handle was recorded as Fabric 21, but probably dates towards the end of the range for this fabric, being similar to late medieval wares from north Essex and south Suffolk.

Sixty-eight sherds were recovered from pit 3174. A small proportion was early medieval, but the majority comprised Fabric 20 with a few glazed wares. Five coarseware jar rims of types B4 and H3 were present, and there was a wide strap handle from a coarseware jug. Several sherds of a slip-decorated Fabric 21 jug were present, and large pieces of a Hedingham ware

jug, plus a body sherd of another were also found. This feature contained the small sherd of Rouen-type ware, an unusual find on an inland rural site of the period. Overall the finds suggest a late 13th/14th-century date for the fill. It cut pit 3177, which produced only four sherds (fabrics 13T, 20, 22), perhaps of 13th/14th-century date.

Pit 3186 contained six body sherds from two Fabric 20 vessels.

Features within Enclosures 2 and 3

Pit 3293 contained two sherds of Fabric 20, and one was recovered from post-hole 3014.

Features within Enclosure 4

Forty sherds of eleven vessels were recovered from oven 2954. Apart from four fragments of a 13T vessel, all were high medieval and included some small pieces of Hedingham fineware, and a Fabric 20 jar with an H1 rim, suggesting a mid to late 13th-century date. Adjacent to the oven, post-hole 2982 contained a single small fragment of Fabric 20. Post-hole 3022, further to the east, also contained one small sherd of Fabric 20.

Pit 3031 contained two fragments of a Fabric 12B base and a small piece of Fabric 20, suggesting a possible late 12th to mid 13th-century date.

Post-hole 3315 in Structure 2 contained nine body and base fragments of three Fabric 20 vessels.

Boundary ditch 3335

Four sections of the boundary ditch 3335 produced a total of 54 sherds, of which the largest group was recovered from the southern terminal (21 sherds). A few fragments of fabrics 12C and 13 were probably residual, with the majority being Fabric 20 and including three jar rims of types B4 and H2. A Fabric 20 jug rim/handle was also recovered. One sherd of Fabric 21 was recovered, and there were two pieces of a late Grimston ware drinking jug, the latter suggesting that the fill dated to the 14th/15th century, at least in the southern part.

Pit 3235 may be related to the boundary ditch. It contained a single rim fragment of a Fabric 20 jar (type H2), which may suggest an early to mid 13th-century date.

Quarry pit

Only six sherds were recovered from pit 3319, one of which was a residual small piece of Roman greyware. The other sherds were small pieces of fabrics 13 and 20. This small quantity suggests that the pit was not close enough to any occupation to be used for domestic rubbish disposal.

Pits between enclosures

There were 25 sherds from pit 3040, all body and base fragments. Most were fabrics 20 and 20D, including one with combed wavy line decoration, but there was also a small fragment of Hedingham glazed ware.

Pit 3065 produced seven sherds, two of which were early medieval and the rest fabrics 20 and 22.

Trackway 3353

Lower fill 2941 contained one small sherd of Fabric 13.

Features south of trackway

Pit 2904/0106 contained fifteen sherds, of which one was early medieval and the rest medieval. Fabrics 20, 21, 22 and 20D were represented, but all sherds were body and base fragments. One Fabric 20 sherd had an applied thumbed strip. The sherds suggest a 13th-century or later date for the upper fill.

Four sherds were recovered from pit 2914, three of Fabric 20 and a bowl rim of Fabric 20D. The latter suggests a 13th-century date.

Isolated post-hole 3116 contained a single body sherd of Fabric 20.

Two sherds of Fabric 13, including a large piece of a thick-walled vessel with an applied thumbed strip, and a piece of Fabric 20 were collected from ditch 3348, while ditch 3349 produced four sherds of Fabric 20.

Pit group 3351 produced a total of 82 sherds. A few sherds of fabrics 13, 13T and 22 were present, but the majority were Fabric 20. Identifiable forms included three jars, three bowls and a jug with rims B2, B2A, C1 and H1–3, and there was also a wide strap handle. The group probably dates to the later 13th or early 14th century.

Phase 3 – late to post-medieval

Three features in this phase produced a total of 84 sherds (995g) representing 65 vessels. Almost all related to earlier activity on the site, and were recovered from the trackway and related ditch, and a pit which cut Phase 2.2 ditches.

Trackway 3353

Thirteen sherds were recovered from sections of the trackway, of which twelve were medieval (Fabrics 20, 21 and 34), including a jug rim. The Fabric 21 sherd was probably late medieval,

but was small and undiagnostic. The remaining sherd was a fragment of a post-medieval blackware vessel, possibly a bottle.

Ditch 3344

Fabrics 13 and 20 were the only types in the small group of eighteen sherds from this ditch on the north side of the trackway, in the south-west corner of the site. All sherds were body and base fragments.

Pit 3005

There were 53 sherds from this pit, including small amounts of fabrics 13, 20D, 21 and 22, and a larger group of Fabric 20. Three jar rims, all type H2 (mid–late 13th c.), were present, but there was also a 14th/15th-century Fabric 21 vessel. A cross-link was noted with Phase 2.2 pit 3033, but the group as a whole probably relates more closely to the large group from the underlying ditch 3342 and perhaps to the Phase 2.1 Structure 1.

Phase 4 – post-medieval

All 75 sherds (671g, MNV 44) in this phase were residual. A few finds were from pit 2980, but the majority were collected from ditch 3343.

Ditch 3343

There were 69 sherds from two sections across this ditch, comprising almost entirely Fabric 20 with a few fragments of fabrics 13 and 22. Most of the sherds were recovered from the west end of the feature, where it was close to the large group of finds from Phase 2.2 ditch 3342 and Phase 3 pit 3005. Again, this material may reflect the position of a Phase 2.1 midden. The group includes three jar rims (B4, C1, H3), the latest of which is of late 13th/14th-century date.

Pit 2980

Five sherds of a Fabric 13 vessel, and a fragment of Fabric 20 were the only pottery finds from this feature, but they were found in association with post-medieval bricks and other artefacts.

Discussion

A few sherds of prehistoric and Roman date suggest limited activity on the site in these periods, but most of the assemblage reflects continuous occupation from the early to high medieval periods, with some late medieval material also present. Pottery of high medieval date was more common than early medieval (based on MNV), but both types were found in many contexts. This is not surprising, given that there is likely to have been some contemporaneity of use of the two types spanning the ?mid 12th and 13th centuries.

The variety of fabrics which are encompassed by the Essex groups 13 and 20 is very broad, and while many vessels are in the fine micaceous clay comparable with the clays used to make Hedingham ware (with varying degrees of fine to coarse sand additions), there are other fabrics which appear to have come from further afield in both Essex and Suffolk, and likely also some Cambridgeshire products. The early medieval group consists almost exclusively of sandy wares and only a minimal quantity of shelly wares is present, as seen at more southerly sites around Stansted, Little Dunmow and Elsenham (Walker 2004; Mepham 2007; Anderson 2023). The high medieval group comprises a variety of coarsewares which are conveniently grouped under 'Fabric 20', but which were probably made at a number of small and undiscovered potteries working within a *c*.30-mile radius of the site. Although the nearest known kilns were located at Great Bardfield and Westerfield (Walker 2012, 21), these produced Hedingham coarsewares which are generally finer than most of the pottery in this assemblage. One or two sherds of coarseware types found in abundance in south Suffolk (SSCWM, MSSCW and MSSBW; Anderson 2020) were also noted, though not recorded separately. Glazed wares mostly came from local or regional production sites, the overwhelming majority from nearby Hedingham, but also Mill Green (Ingatestone) and unknown sources. Jars were notably more common than bowls in this assemblage, which tends to be more typical in urban assemblages than rural ones of the period, although sites vary in their composition even in rural areas.

A large proportion of the assemblage was recovered from the area south of Phase 2.1 Structure 1, which may perhaps represent midden material which was incorporated into the ditches during backfilling. However, this is a relatively large quantity of pottery to have come from a single structure, perhaps suggesting that the putative midden was used by several households in the vicinity. Features in this part of the site produced 644 medieval sherds, or 28% of the early to high medieval period assemblage. The overall make-up of the medieval fabrics is broadly similar to that of the rest of the site (main fabrics only), as shown in Chart B1, but the main rim types show a slight difference, with fewer H3 (the latest type) in the area of Structure 1 than in the rest of the assemblage, suggesting that less rubbish was being deposited in this area by the end of the 13th century.

In the assemblage as a whole, the range of wares comprises the typical Essex-type cooking vessels, with some table wares including glazed wares of mainly local origin. Most vessels were sooted, some heavily, and a few showed signs of wear, but there was nothing to suggest that the vessels had been employed in anything other than normal domestic use. The presence of a single sherd of Rouen ware in a pit located in Enclosure 1 may perhaps suggest that someone living in this part of the site was a merchant or had some connection to foreign

trade during the first half of the medieval phase, but otherwise there was no particular evidence for status. Overall this is a typical assemblage for north-west Essex in the 12th to 14th centuries, with little to suggest continuation of activity on the site much beyond the later 14th or early 15th century.

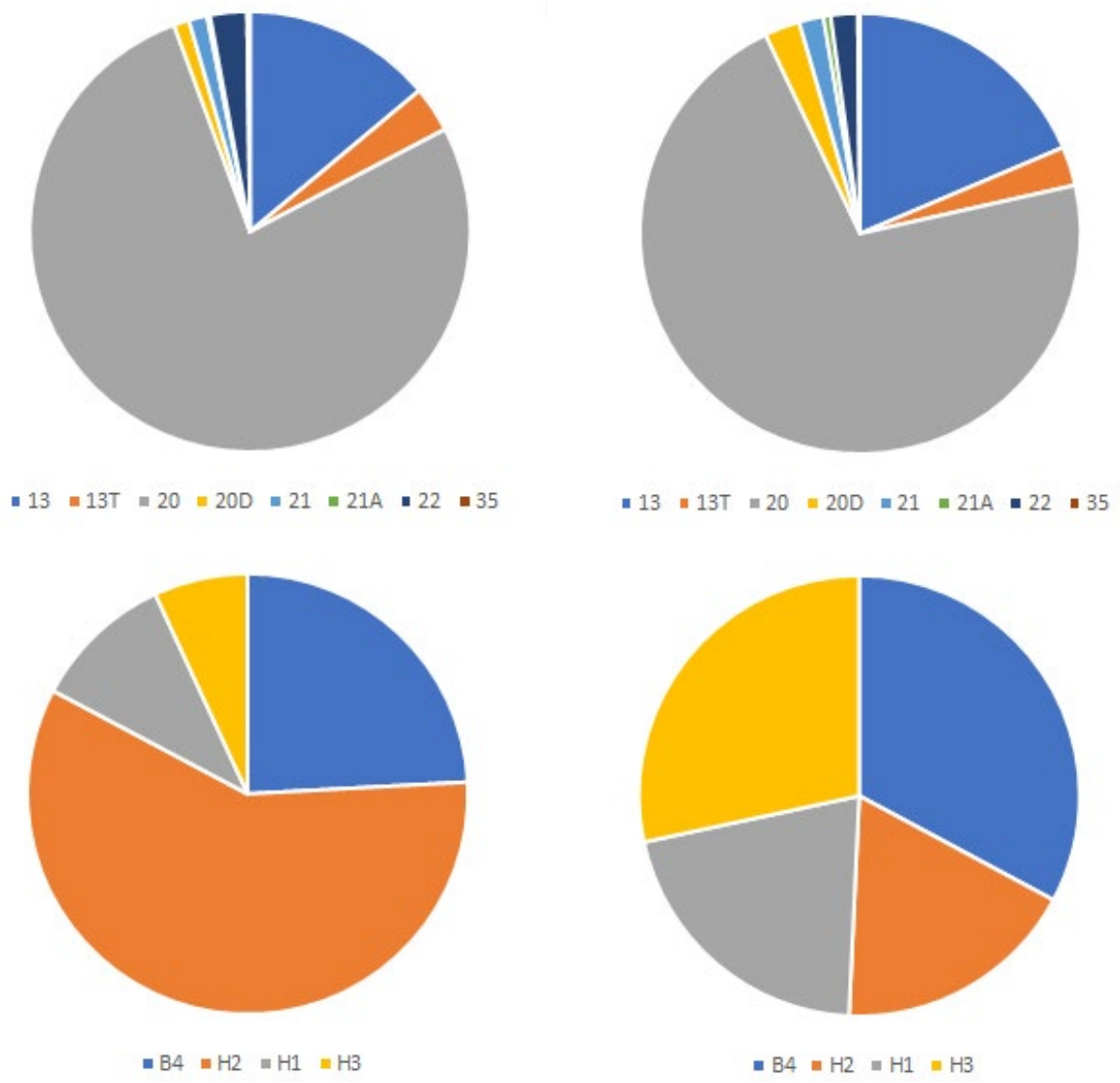


Chart B1. The main medieval fabrics and rim types in the area of Structure 1 (left) and the rest of the site (right), based on MNV.

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Ceramic building material (CBM) and fired clay

Sue Anderson

Introduction

Fragmentary and complete tiles and bricks totalling 212 pieces (19265g) were recovered from 32 contexts during the excavation. Finds of fired clay totalled 420 fragments (2444g). A full catalogue by context is included in the archive.

Methodology

The assemblage was quantified (count, weight) by fabric and form. Fabrics were identified on the basis of macroscopic appearance and main inclusions; these inclusions were only differentiated as separate fabrics where the quantity was greater than one or two pieces. The width, length and thickness of bricks were measured, but roof tile thicknesses were only measured when another dimension was available. Form terminology follows Drury (1993). The results were input directly into an MS Access database, which forms the archive catalogue.

Forms and fabrics

Table B6 presents the count and weight quantification of the CBM by form.

Type	Form	Code	No	Wt (g)
Roman	Roman tile	RBT	2	119
		RBT?	4	178
	Flanged *tegula*?	FLT?	1	51
	Imbrex?	IMB?	1	146
Walling	Post-medieval brick	LB	5	3555
		LB?	13	10
	Modern brick	B	1	3
Roofing	Plain roof tile: medieval/late medieval	RTM	37	2960
		RTM?	18	2050
	Plain roof tile: late/post-medieval	RTP	67	2654
		RTP?	5	1816
	Plain roof tile: uncertain date	RT	34	1055
		RT?	1	6
	Ridge tile	RID	5	2891
		RID?	1	28
	Hip tile	HIP	5	1602
		RID/HIP	4	66
Unknown	Unidentified	UN	8	75
Totals			*212*	*19265*

Table B6. CBM by type and form.

Roman tiles

A few fragments were certainly or possibly of Roman date. Table B7 shows the fabrics present for each form.

Fabric group	Main attributes	Code	RBT	RBT?	FLT?	IMB?
Silty	clay pellets	scp	1			
	micaceous, clay pellets	smcp				1
Fine sandy	flint, clay pellets	fsfcp		1		
	flint, ferrous oxide	fsffe	1	1	1	
	streaky, clay pellets	fsxcp		2		

Table B7. Roman tile by fabric (fragment count)

Like the Roman pottery from the site, this material was abraded and residual in later contexts. One fragment of possible *imbrex* was recovered from Phase 2.2 pit fill 2996 and was in a soft silty micaceous fabric with clay pellets. A more definite Roman tile with a grey core in a similar silty clay pellet fabric was found in Phase 2.0 post-hole 3220. Most fragments were incomplete and full thickness could only be measured in an example from Phase 2.2 ditch fill 3025 (29mm), which appeared to be a fragment of flanged *tegula* with an upper cutaway which had removed all but the base of the flange.

Walling

Table B8 shows the quantities of brick by fabric group.

Fabric group	Main attributes	Code	LB	LB?	B
Fine sandy	-	fs		13	
	mica, clay pellets	fsmcp	5		
Modern	compressed shale	comp			1

Table B8. Bricks by fabric (fragment count).

Five fragments represent two complete post-medieval bricks recovered from Phase 4 pit fill 3105 (pit 3104). The bricks are in a fine sandy micaceous fabric with clay pellets. The dimensions are 214–215 x 100 x 61–63mm. Although fairly roughly formed and handmade, the size of these bricks suggests an 18th or early 19th-century date (*cf*. Ryan 1996, 95). They have thick white lime mortar on the bases, and both have damage to the surface and one stretcher; they may have been used in a surface or floor.

Thirteen small fragments (10g) of possible post-medieval brick were recovered from a sample of post-hole fill 3044 (Phase 2.2), and a small piece of modern compressed shale brick was presumably intrusive in Phase 2.1 pit fill 2993.

Roof tiles

The roof tile group comprised 177 fragments. A further thirteen fragments (337g) were recovered from trenches 11 and 12 in the evaluation (Benfield 2022). Some complete (broken) tiles were recovered as samples from the structure of the kiln, but the majority came from fills of ditches, pits and a trackway.

Table B9 shows the quantities of roofing material by fabric. A wide range of fabric groups was recorded, although most had broadly similar inclusions. The main fabrics were fine or medium sandy with flint and ferrous inclusions (fsffe/msffe), with a chalk-tempered variant also relatively frequent (mscfe). Other fabrics were similar with other natural inclusions such as clay pellets or chalk in some. A small proportion of the assemblage was white-firing, but this may have been due to partial vitrification associated with use in the kiln.

Fabric group	Main attributes	Code	RTM	RTP?	RTP	RT	RID	HIP	RID/HIP
Silty	Flint	sf			1				
	flint, ferrous oxide	sffe	1						
Fine sandy	-	fs			3				
	chalk, ferrous oxide	fscfe	13						
	clay pellets	fscp	2		1	6	1		
	coarse rounded quartz	fscq			2				
	Flint	fsf			2				
	ferrous oxide	fsfe			4				
	flint, ferrous oxide	fsffe			23				
	Mica	fsm			1				
	mica, chalk, clay pellets	fsmccp					2		
	mica, clay pellets	fsmcp		5	6		2	5	4
Medium sandy	-	ms			1				
	chalk, clay pellets	msccp	4						
	chalk, ferrous oxide	mscfe	21						
	clay pellets	mscp				1			
	coarse rounded quartz	mscq	1		1				
	Flint	msf			4				
	flint, ferrous oxide	msffe	4	1	18	28			
White-firing	medium sand, chalk	wmsc	9						

Table B9. Roofing tile by fabric (fragment count)
NB Quantities for each form include less certain identifications

Plain roof tiles were identified as medieval (RTM) based on firing and fabric, and in comparison with samples from the kiln structure (pinkish or pale buff mscfe and cream-coloured wmsc fabrics). Only a few had reduced cores and none was glazed, both being common features of medieval roof tiles elsewhere in the region. For example, the tiles from the medieval tile kiln at Danbury, although oxidised externally, had a reduced core (Drury *et al.* 1975, 111). Six tiles

in this group had peg holes, all circular, and in three cases the tiles had two holes, with only one example of a single hole. Two complete examples were recovered from the kiln structure 2953, one in a white fabric (wmsc; 277 x 165 x 13mm), and the other in a buff chalk and ferrous oxide fabric (mscfe; 270 x 175 x 13mm). Other examples were complete in two dimensions and were between 165–170mm wide and 13–14mm thick.

A group of tiles in orange–red fsmcp and fsmccp fabrics was also recovered from the kiln. This group includes five fragments of two hip tiles, four fragments of ridge tiles and five fragments recorded as 'RTP?'. Tiles in this type of fully oxidised fabric would typically be considered to be of late medieval or post-medieval date. As they were recovered under the general kiln context number 2953, it is not clear exactly where these pieces were found, and they are not visible in the site photographs. The small peg tile group has examples with both double and single peg holes, and is in a similar width range to the other tiles from the kiln (167–170mm), but the tiles are slightly thicker (14–15mm). An overfired and partially vitrified fragment of msffe fabric, 15mm thick, also came from the kiln structure, and four small fragments in the same fabric were recovered from stoke hole fill 2962. Ridge and hip tiles were also thicker (17–21mm). One hip tile apex had a square peg hole. It is possible that the fine sandy red-firing tiles were products of the kiln, but unfortunately there are no overfired examples or wasters in this fabric from anywhere on the site.

The remainder of the plain roof tile group was largely of post-medieval date and comprised small fragments, many abraded, in a range of orange to dark red fabrics containing typical local inclusions. Four fragments had peg holes, all circular. None of the tiles in this group was measurable. A few overfired fragments of msffe fabric from Phase 2.2 ditch fill 3056 and Phase 2.0 ditch fill 3318 may relate to the kiln, and these may perhaps be of medieval rather than post-medieval date (recorded as 'RT').

Some additional fragments of ridge and hip tile were found in non-kiln contexts and may be of post-medieval date. These were between 16–19mm thick.

Although there was fired clay 'mortar' adhering to some kiln tiles (see below), the presence of lime mortar was noted on only a few of the roof tile fragments. One of these was a fragment of ridge tile recovered from the kiln structure, perhaps indicating that it had been incorporated into another structure previously. Two other fragments had patchy mortar, an mscq medieval roof tile from Phase 2.2 ditch fill 2976, and a small piece of later ?intrusive tile from Phase 2.2 pit fill 3225.

Unidentified

Eight fragments were unidentified. Seven of these were small, abraded fragments. One was a larger piece in msffe fabric, 20mm thick, which may be a piece of Roman, ridge or floor tile.

Fired clay

Finds of fired clay totalled 420 fragments (2444g). The assemblage was quantified (count, weight) by fabric and, where possible, type. Fabrics were identified on the basis of macroscopic appearance and main inclusions.

There were 122 fragments (881g) of fired clay 'mortar' from the kiln, and 129 fragments (764g) of other fired clay from the rake-out/stoke pit and the cut for the kiln. Two other small fragments (2g) were found in pit fill 3047. Some of this material was still adhering to the more complete tile samples. There were 105 pieces which were flattish on both surfaces and measured between 6–12mm thick. A further 17 pieces were mainly thicker fragments which represented corners and intersections between tiles. A few pieces had raised circular areas where the clay had been pressed against the tile peg holes. The 'mortar' was in a medium sandy fabric with chalk and ferrous oxide, similar to the fabric of the medieval roof tiles, but typically red rather than buff.

Other fired clay recovered from the kiln comprised some soft, friable pieces in a silty fabric with chalk and grass/straw impressions from the kiln cut (fill 2969) and some harder, fine sandy pieces with the same inclusions, recovered from the stoke/rake-out pit (fill 2962). These were fragments of 'daub' which filled gaps between the wall and tile arches and acted as insulation (CA 2023, 32).

Most of the remainder of the assemblage comprises relatively small and abraded undiagnostic fragments, some with flattish or convex smoothed surfaces and occasional straw/grass impressions. Fragments were generally associated with pottery dating between the 11th–14th centuries and were recovered from the fills of pits, ditches and post-holes. This group is typical of domestic or craft-related waste discarded into open features in the medieval period is likely to represent debris from hearths, oven domes and other fire-related features; none was found *in situ*.

Provenance

All CBM and fired clay was recovered from Area 1. Table B10 shows the distribution of forms by site period. The majority of CBM relates to features assigned to the medieval Phase 2 and its sub-phases.

Form	Phase 1	2.0	2.1	2.2	3	4	Un
RBT				1	1		
RBT?		2			2		
FLT?				1			
IMB?				1			
RTM		8	3	24	2		
RTM?		8		6	4		
RTP		2		50	34	6	
RTP?				6			
RT		2		6			
RT?						1	
RID				5			
RID?					1		
RID/HIP				4			
HIP				5			
LB					5		
LB?			13				
B			1				
UN	1			7			
Totals	*1*	*22*	*17*	*116*	*49*	*7*	
Fired clay		10	67	342	1		2

Table B10. CBM and fired clay by site phase (fragment count)

Phase 1

A single small fragment (1g) of unidentified CBM was found in a Phase 1 post-hole fill 3183, where it was presumably intrusive (or possibly a particularly hard and dense piece of fired clay).

Phase 2 – medieval

Twenty-two fragments of CBM (211g) were recovered from Phase 2.0 features. Ditch 3335 contained four pieces of a single RTM?, a fragment of RTP and two overfired fragments of RT. There were two pieces of residual Roman tile in trackway 3353, which also contained eleven small pieces of RTM/RTM?, including several pale fragments which were similar to the kiln fragments. A tiny fragment of RTM and a small piece of RTP were found in post-hole 3242.

Ten fragments (28g) of fired clay were recovered, of which three were from ditch 3335 (fs, fsv). The remainder were all fsc fabric and came from pit 2919, post-hole 3315 and structure 2954.

Phase 2.1 – late 12th–13th c.

Only seventeen fragments (45g) of CBM came from features of this date, of which thirteen were the small fragments of LB? from post-hole 3042. Like the small fragment of modern brick from pit 2992, these were probably intrusive in this phase. Three fragments of overfired/vitrified

and kiln-type tiles from ditch 3340 probably relate to its backfill, rather than to the period it was in use.

Sixty-seven fragments (467g) of fired clay from this period were generally small and abraded. Pieces were recovered from several pits and post-holes, with the largest groups from ditches 3340 and 3341 (34 and 12 pieces respectively). This group included two small pieces in the kiln-type fired clay fabric mscfe, found in pit 3046.

Phase 2.2 – 13th–14th c.

This was the largest period group of CBM, totalling 116 fragments (13691g). Of this, 41 pieces of 24 tiles were associated with the kiln – as described above, these included plain roof tiles in fabrics mscfe, wmsc, fsmcp and msffe fabrics, as well as pieces of hip and ridge tiles.

Seven other features in this period produced CBM. One unidentified fragment a piece of possible Roman *imbrex* were collected from the fills of well 2994. Two unidentified fragments and a small piece of RTM were found in pit 3061. Natural feature 3091 contained six fragments of RT in a brown fscp fabric, and three pieces of kiln-type RTM. Large pit 3222 produced thirteen pieces of roof tiles, some of which may be kiln-type. There were 44 fragments of roof tiles from ditch 3342, including both kiln-type and probable later material, as well as some overfired msffe fragments which may represent firing waste. A small fragment of possible flanged *tegula* and two heavily abraded fragments of a plain roof tile were found in ditch 3345. Ditch 3347 contained a small and heavily abraded fragment of Roman tile.

This was also the largest period group of fired clay (342 fragments, 1947g). The majority of this group related to the kiln, as described above. Other fragments were distributed across several pits and ditches, with the greatest concentrations in well 2994 (32 fragments) and ditch 3346 (45 fragments).

Phase 3 – late medieval to post-medieval

Forty-nine fragments (5046g) of CBM were recovered from three features in this period. The two near-complete bricks were collected from pit 3104. Twelve mainly small pieces of plain roof tile in oxidised fabrics were found in ditch 3344, and the remainder of fragments were from adjacent trackway 3353, comprising mainly plain roof tile of medieval and later date, but also three fragments of Roman tile.

One fragment (3g) of fired clay (or possibly ?Roman CBM) was recovered from ditch 3344.

Phase 4 – post-medieval

Seven fragments (271g) were recovered from pit 2980 (4 fragments of RTP) and ditch 3343 (1 RT, 2 RTP).

Discussion

The earliest CBM from the site is of Roman date, but is widely dispersed and mostly heavily abraded. There is no indication of intensive Roman activity on the site so, like the few sherds of Roman pottery also recovered, this material is probably evidence for agricultural activity in the form of manuring. It was then redeposited in the fills of later ditches and pits.

Of most importance in this relatively small assemblage is the material recovered from the medieval tile kiln. Only a limited sample of the original structure was collected, and it is not clear exactly where the samples came from. Based on the site photos, much of the kiln appears to have been constructed of pale buff and cream-coloured tiles (fabrics wmsc and mscfe), although some reddish tiles are visible in the core of the structure. However, the kiln context 2953 also included several fragments of hip and ridge tile in darker red and finer fabrics (fsmcp, fsmccp) which appear more typical of post-medieval fabrics but which could be very late medieval (perhaps 15th c.). A radiocarbon date obtained from a single seed found in a bulk sample of the stoke pit fill 2962 suggests a late 12th to mid 13th-century date, although this may be too early as pottery and small finds appear to indicate a mid 13th–14th-century date for the same context. The peg tile sizes used in the construction are comparable with those made at the late 13th to 14th-century tile kiln at Danbury (Drury *et al*. 1975, 111), and ridge and hip tiles were also made there. Similar-sized roof tiles were also made at Little Brickhill, where the kilns have been dated to the 15th century (Mynard 1975). Both sites are dated based on the decorated floor tiles which were also made there. At Tylers Green, the earliest kiln was built of tiles measuring 275 x 175 x 15mm, while the later phases there used slightly longer and thicker tiles; this kiln was dated through archaeomagnetic dating to the 15th century (Zeepvat 2009). Although the kilns at those sites were built using peg tiles and are closely similar to the Finchingfield example, there is no evidence for the firing of glazed tiles of any sort in this kiln.

Based on the small sample from the kiln, there is no particular evidence to suggest that the tiles from which it was constructed had been used elsewhere prior to their incorporation into the kiln (for example they show no clear signs of weathering, sooting or lime mortar traces), but it seems unlikely that peg tiles with holes would have been made specifically to build a kiln. The tiles could have been recovered from a demolished structure, or were perhaps products of another kiln operating in the vicinity. Other than a few small pieces of overfired roof tile in the msffe fabric, no wasters were identified on the site, suggesting that these may

have been transported elsewhere for use as hardcore. However, those few overfired pieces probably indicate that this was the fabric of the tiles produced in the kiln.

Apart from the CBM recovered from the kilns, and the few scattered fragments which appear to be similar to the structural tile or may be overfired products of the kilns, the remainder of this assemblage is typical of the region in the later medieval and post-medieval periods. The small fragments of roof tile and brick represent a background scatter which was included accidentally, or occasionally intentionally, in the fills of open features. Their presence aided the stabilisation of the backfilled ground. They are likely to represent construction or demolition waste from nearby structures such as farm buildings.

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Metalwork

Alex Bliss

The metalwork assemblage comprises 78 metal objects, weighing a total of 1600.12g. Of these, 38 are encompassed within a total of 32 Registered Artefact (Ra.) numbers, the rest consisting of bulk metal finds (mostly nails). Predominantly manufactured of iron (74) comparatively few copper alloy objects (4) were recovered, with only a single lead object and a further single composite item (iron and copper alloy) also present. All the metalwork discovered during excavation of the site originates from stratified archaeological contexts, with no topsoil or subsoil material represented.

The metalwork has been recorded in summary format onto an MS Access database to a level commensurate with CIfA guidelines (CIfA 2021, Level 2). All objects are discussed in functional categories below, being summarised briefly in the form of a listed catalogue in Table B11. They have been analysed both visually and following x-radiography of the entire assemblage, the latter leading to the re-identification of several items that remained unidentifiable in the initial Post-Excavation Assessment (PXA). In addition, this process also revealed that several objects previously thought to represent disparate fragments (mostly heavily corroded nail fragments) were in fact broken parts of the same object. This process has meant in an overall decrease from the 88 metal finds originally identified in the initial PXA.

The overall condition of the metalwork is highly varied, ranging from very poor to fair. Many objects are incomplete or fragmentary, with most of the iron objects preserved in heavily corroded condition. As such, the artefacts have been packed in perforated bags and stored in airtight boxes with silica gel where appropriate. As per recommendations in the Post-Excavation Assessment, the following objects underwent cleaning and conservation: Ra. 1 (copper alloy strap end, Ra. 4 (lead alloy mount NB checking number as duplicated in bone object), Ra. 6 (copper alloy buckle plate), Ra. 18 (copper alloy buckle), Ra. 25 (iron horseshoe fragment), Ra. 32 (composite knife). An unidentified object only recognised as an iron arrowhead following X-ray analysis, Ra. 23, was subsequently also cleaned and conserved.

For the purposes of this archive report, objects have been broken down into categories of use based on those used by Crummy (1983).

The Assemblage

Dress accessories

Four metal artefacts of copper alloy (3) and lead alloy (1) can be assigned a function as dress accessories, these being Ra's. 1, 4, 6 and 18.

Registered artefact 1 (kiln waste layer 2962) consists of a plain, copper alloy composite strap end of broadly rectangular form (Fig. 40.4). This is formed from two outer plates and a central spacer riveted together, though the plates have begun to come apart at their upper edge. It is decorated with a projecting knop at its base, while the outer surface of each plate demonstrates traces of tinning. Several similar examples are published by Egan and Pritchard (1991, 147, nos. 696, 698, 699), this being a common form of strap end from the medieval period found across Britain. They can be dated broadly c. 1250–1400, though examples from London appear to occur mostly in 14th century deposits (*ibid*., 148).

Registered artefact 6 (fill 2995 of pit 2994) is likely of similar date, this consisting a broken and somewhat distorted rectangular piece of sheet copper alloy with two small, circular apertures present in one edge. This is difficult to identify securely, it could represent part of a crude, one-piece strap end manufactured from folded sheet metal (Egan and Pritchard 1991, 127 - no. 583, 134 - nos. 616–617), a section of buckle plate (Egan and Pritchard 1991, 113 – no. 552, 114 – nos. 532–535) or alternatively part of a strap plate (Egan and Pritchard 1991, 225 – nos. 1205–1207, 1212–1213).

A copper alloy buckle frame (Ra. 18, Fig. 40.5) was also recovered from fill 2995, dating broadly c. 1250–1400. This find was initially thought to be iron as it was heavily encrusted pre-conservation. It corresponds to Meols type C (Egan 2007, 99) and Cassels (2013, 32) type 1.7C, the single looped frame being broadly rectangular with slightly rounded sides, an expanded front edge with transverse mouldings and small projections on its sides. The accompanying pin and plate are missing. Identical examples in copper alloy are published in the Meols corpus (Egan 2007, 99, no. 710) as well as on the PAS (see record LIN-72059D, Brundle 2022). This form was mass produced in large numbers and occurs frequently across Britain, well represented in the small finds assemblages from urban centres including London, Winchester, York and Southampton amongst others (Cassels 2013, 59).

Finally, Ra. 4 (recovered from sample 110, taken from fill 3062 of pit 3061) is best identified as a simple, cast lead alloy mount or eyelet of very small size – consisting of a circular-sectioned annular eyelet with a projecting ‘tab’ extending from one side (Fig. 40.6). This object is very similar to an artefact published by Egan and Pritchard (1991, 206, no. 1111) which consists of a leather sheet to which have been riveted a series of identical annular mounts in lead/tin-alloy, mostly concentrated along its edge. These are probably best identified as mounts to reinforce the edge of textiles (i.e., items of clothing), the use of the textile itself being less obvious. As with Ras 1 and 6, a general medieval date of c. 1250–1400 is suggested.

Household objects

The extremely corroded and damaged remains of an iron whittle-tang knife (Ra. 32) was recovered from fill 3028 of trackway 3353 (Fig. 40.9). This objects retains a copper alloy sheet metal collar at the junction between tang and blade, a feature more commonly encountered on knives of post-medieval date but nevertheless still attested in the medieval period as evidenced by a 13th or 14th century example from Fishergate, York (Ottaway and Rogers 2002, 2751, no. 8169). A similar date is suggested here. Highly mineralised organic material adhering to the tang probably represents the remains of the handle. Two further iron objects with triangular and elongated oval cross-sections (Ra's. 20, 29) may be fragments of knife blades, but this attribution is tentative due to their incomplete state. While knives often have a domestic application, their utilitarian forms are highly flexible and use in the fields of craft activity as well as everyday ad hoc tasks is equally possible.

Equestrian objects

At least eight iron horseshoes in various states of preservation are represented within the assemblage. One (Ra. 7, Fig. 40.7) is virtually complete, another (one of the two artefacts encompassed by Ra. 8) c. 70% complete and the rest (the second artefact from Ra. 8, Ra. 9, Ra. 16 Ra. 25, Ra. 28, Ra. 31) survive only as fragments consisting less than 50% of their original forms. Registered artefact 28 encompasses three separate pieces of horseshoe, which cannot now be refitted but probably belong to the same example given their contextual association. From the perspective of spatial distribution, most of these objects (5) originate from contexts associated with the trackway which crosses the site.

Fragments originating from two horseshoes (Ra. 25 from trackway fill 2943 and Ra. 31 from trackway fill 3028) probably represent pieces of Clark type 2 shoes dating from the late 11th to late 13th centuries (Clark 2004, 86, 115–116, figs. 80–81), characterised by their distinctive, lobed edges. These are unusually thin examples, possibly worn down through heavy use. A further three shoes (Ra. 7, trackway fill 3035; Ra. 8 fragment one, trackway fill 3028; Ra. 9, ditch 3343; Ra. 16, pit 2981 and Ra. 28, trackway fill 2941) are of Clark type 4 (2004, 88) – a form which became widespread during the 15th century but does also occur in some earlier contexts. The two remaining shoes comprise an incomplete probable 'keyhole' type (Ra. 8 fragment two, trackway fill layer 3028 of post-medieval (i.e. 1600–1800) date and a small heel fragment of indeterminate date (Ra. 16, pit 2981).

Additionally, the metalwork assemblage contains thirteen specialised 'fiddle-key' type nails utilised in the shoeing of both horses and oxen. These originate mostly from contexts datable to Phases 2.1, though others are residual in later medieval to post medieval (Phase 3) deposits. These include: fill 805 of ditch 804 in evaluation trench 8 (1), fill 2928 of trackway

3353 (1), fill 2930 of ditch 3340 (1), fill 2941 of trackway 2940 (1), fill 2993 of pit 2992 (2), fill 3002 of pit 3001 (1), fill 3004 of pit 3003 (1), fill 3023 of posthole 3022 (1), upper fill 3049 of pit 3046 (2), fill 3181 of posthole 3180 (1), fill 3195 of ditch 3194 (1). All those present have rectangular-sectioned shanks and flattened heads of hemispherical or rectangular form comparable with Goodall's (2011) type A. These are typically assigned a general late 11th–13th century date but are also known from some later, 14th century contexts (Goodall 2011, 364). While some of these finds were assigned Ra. numbers, others were initially processed on site as bulk metalwork alongside ordinary carpentry nails.

Objects connected with agriculture and subsistence

Only one metal object (Ra. 3) could be securely assigned to this category, comprising approximately 60% of a post-medieval crotal bell probably dating to the 17th or 18th century. It was recovered in Area 2 from fill 7928 of ditch 7933. Missing part of one side in an irregular truncation, its lower hemisphere is decorated with overlapping 'fishscale' decoration. Bells of this type were generally worn by smaller sized animals such as sheep or goats, inferring the occurrence of some pastoral agriculture within the site's locality during this period.

Fixtures and fittings

The majority of fixtures and fittings from Finchingfield consist generic iron carpentry nails (40), most of these being processed as bulk finds and occurring from various number of contexts across the site. However, a few (e.g. Ra's. 13–14, 17) were assigned registered small find numbers. The majority of these are preserved in extremely poor condition and are largely undiagnostic. Most cannot be identified any more specifically than their consisting complete or fragmentary examples of mostly generic forms utilised widely between the Roman and post-medieval periods, though most are probably medieval given the concentrated activity on site during this period. Five are most likely structural examples corresponding to Goodall's type 3 (2011, 164), all with flattened, narrow rectangular heads that overhang the shank on one side. They originate from the following contexts: fill 3004 of pit 3003 (1), fill 2993 of pit 2992 (1), fill 3034 of pit 3033 (1), kiln waste layer 2967 (1) and fill 3318 of possible boundary ditch 3355 (1). A significant proportion of the nails have clenched or distorted shanks suggesting use, the most complete example within the assemblage measuring approximately 71mm in length.

In addition to the above, other diagnostic fixtures and fittings are present within the assemblage. Though fragmentary, a thin piece of iron with tapering sides retaining a nail or rivet through its midpoint (Ra. 24, kiln stoke pit backfill 2967) probably represents a fragment of strap hinge – most likely originating from a door (Fig. 40.1). Although the form of its terminals cannot be accurately ascertained due to incompleteness, it can be roughly paralleled with a number of those published by Goodall (2011, 199, 201, 203, 205, 207 etc.). These are

commonly encountered artefacts utilised between the 12th and 16th centuries, with a form that changed relatively little over time. Widely known from across Britain, they occur on sites of virtually all characters and affiliations, both of low and high status (Goodall 2011, 166). An iron bar-shaped object with tapering sides (Ra. 27) recovered from fill 3113 of pit 3111/3190 probably represents a second example of this object type from the site, but retains no fixing nails.

Two iron hooks were also recovered. One (Ra. 21) from fill 3056 of ditch 3342, is roughly 'S-shaped' and slightly twisted, one end missing and the other of flat form (Fig. 40.2). This example is broadly paralleled by examples published by Goodall (2011, 327- J163, J164, J165, 335 – J274) which are probably best identified as utilised for the purposes of hanging various foodstuffs in kitchens. Though it is impossible to state whether this example is a true 'S-shaped' hook or an example with a looped terminal due to one end missing. These objects are generally dated to the medieval period – known widely in Goodall's corpus from sites dated from the later 12th–15th centuries (*ibid*). The second hook (Ra. 19) from fill 3087 of posthole 3086, has an elongated, straight shank of slightly flattened rectangular section (truncated at one end) which expands and curves back on itself to form a pointed terminal (Fig. 40.3). Though iron hooks are utilised for a diversity of functions in the broader context of medieval ironwork, the flattened form of Ra. 19 is unusual. However, it can be paralleled with find published by Goodall (2011, 329, J175) from Weoley Castle, Birmingham. However, the exact function of this piece is uncertain.

Weaponry

X-radiography of the metalwork assemblage revealed a previously unidentified, highly corroded iron object (Ra. 23, fill 2976 of ditch cut 2975 of 3342) to be a medieval socketed and barbed arrowhead of military attribution (Fig. 40.8). This example has an elongated conical socket and compact, triangular head with short close-fitting barbs, its form corresponding with Jessop's 'warhead' type M4 (Jessop 1996, 194, 197–8) and type 16 in the schema of the London Museum Medieval Catalogue type 16 (Ward-Perkins 1940, 66, 70). A virtually identical arrowhead is in the collections of the Royal Armouries (acc. no. XI.516), with excavated examples of the type from Huish (Wiltshire), Okehampton Caste (Devon) and Winchester (Hampshire) suggesting a 14th to 15th century date (Thompson 1972, 120–121; Goodall in Higham 1982, 105–106; Goodall in Biddle 1990, 1070). This object was recognised during the analysis phase and subsequently sent for cleaning/conservation.

Unidentified objects

Four objects remain unidentifiable within the assemblage from Finchingfield, either due to their lack of diagnostic features or incomplete state. One is copper alloy (Ra. 5), this consisting a

tubular copper alloy artefact manufactured by the tight rolling of copper alloy sheet into a cylinder, excavated from fill 3187 of pit 3186 (Fig. 40.10). Now broken into two pieces, its function is uncertain despite bearing a passing resemblance to lace aiglets of later medieval to post-medieval date (*cf.* Margeson 1993, 23, no. 123). The remaining unattributable finds are all of iron. Two small, amorphous lumps (Ra's. 12 and one of the two objects encompassed by Ra. 26) possibly represent heavily corroded nail heads or pieces of natural iron oxide, while a curved iron object of rectangular cross-section (Ra. 15, 3224) likely represents a fragment of a larger item.

Summary

The metal finds from Finchingfield, while mostly comprising of highly generic carpentry nails, are nevertheless informative about the activities taking place on site as well as the people involved with them. Dress accessories of an ordinary nature suggest low status use and occupation of the site during the medieval period, with tools such as iron knives equally employable in the tile-making process as for personal tasks or eating. The relatively large number of nails and accompanying fragments of strap hinge may be associated with the presence of timber-built drying sheds, while the two iron hooks may indicate the presence of foodstuffs and/or cooking taking place on site. The relatively high proportion of equestrian-related artefacts indicates fairly substantial draught animal activity in the area, some of which clearly relates to later medieval and post-medieval use of the trackway adjacent to the tile kiln after it had fallen out of use. Those originating variously from the fills of ditches, pits and postholes probably reflect stray losses relating to general site activity that subsequently became incorporated into features. The medieval armour-piercing arrowhead of military attribution is more difficult to interpret as these are more usually associated with higher-status manor and castle sites, though the possibility of nearby archery practice butts may be worth considering, as is casual loss.

The overall low quantity of post-medieval metal objects may suggest relatively infrequent use of the landscape, though the rumbler bell from Area 2 may suggest some of this relates to pastoral agriculture. The virtual absence of post-medieval finds from the trackway suggests the south road into Finchingfield may have shifted from its original course by c. 1800 if not before, based on the single post-medieval horseshoe found.

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Table B11. Catalogue of metal finds

Registered Artefact (Ra.) No	Context	Material	Sample no.	Count	Weight (g)	Broad identification	Description
1	2962	Copper alloy		1	4.94	Strap end	Strap end, medieval. Composite copper alloy strap end consisting of two sheet metal plates enclosing a spacer. Rectangular in plan, projecting knop at base. Traces of tinning on outer surface of both plates.
3	2928	Copper alloy		1	24.91	Crotal bell	Crotal bell, post medieval. Approximately 60% of a cast copper alloy crotal bell, part of one side broken away in an old, irregular truncation. Integrally cast rectangular loop at its apex, lower hemisphere decorated with overlapping moulded 'fishscale' decoration. Probably 17th–18th century.
4	3062	Lead alloy	110	1	0.41	Mount/eyelet	Mount or eyelet, medieval. Lead alloy annular mount with a large central aperture and projection extending from one side, casting seam visible on edge. Probably a mount intended to protect/reinforce the edges of textiles - see Egan and Pritchard 1991, 206, no. 1111.
5	3187	Copper alloy		1	4.47	Unidentified object	Unidentified object, copper alloy. Tubular artefact now broken into two pieces, formed from a rolled-up piece of sheet metal. Possibly a lace chape/aiglet of larger than average size. Cf similar copper alloy cylinders from York (Ottaway and Rogers 2002, 2853–2854) variously identified as aiglets or chapes.
6	2995	Copper alloy		1	0.9	Buckle plate	Possible buckle plate or strap end fragment, copper alloy. Piece of sub-rectangular sheet metal with two circular rivet holes punched in one end, likely represents part of a sheet metal strap end or buckle plate. Damaged and distorted.
7	3035	Iron		1	375.51	Horseshoe	Horseshoe, iron. Complete, large size. Rectangular nail holes with tapered profile in arrangement 4/4, further holes at heels - which appear to be folded. Clark type 4.
8	3028	Iron		2	299.33	Horseshoe	Horseshoes (2), iron. Two pieces encompassed by this finds number, more complete example probably Clark type 4 with punched rectangular nail holes (3 in more complete web. Second piece with angled straight inner edge close to heel, suggesting post-medieval keyhole form. Highly corroded, encrusted.
9	7932	Iron		1	92.47	Horseshoe	Horseshoe, iron. Incomplete, one branch survives. Plano-convex cross section with rounded underside. Punched rectangular nail holes (2) with tapered inner profile visible towards truncated end on x-ray. At least one nail stub retained.
10	2941	Iron		1	4.18	Fiddle key nail	Fiddle key nail head. Shank missing, Goodall type A. Head flat and hemispherical.

Registered Artefact (Ra.) No	Context	Material	Sample no.	Count	Weight (g)	Broad identification	Description
11	3195	Iron		1	4.87	Fiddle key nail	Fiddle key nail, iron. Head of nail, shank missing. Flattened, semi-circular in plan.
12	7930	Iron		1	2.53	Unidentified object	Iron object, date unknown. Small, amorphous lump of iron. Very light - possibly iron oxide?
13	3062	Iron	110	1	1.07	Nail	Nail fragment, iron. Head missing, shank rectangular sectioned and very thin.
14	3021	Iron		1	5.99	Nail	Nail, iron. Square sectioned shank, now broken into two fragments.
15	3224	Iron		1	16.36	Unidentified object	Iron object, date uncertain. Curving, rectangular sectioned piece of iron. Fragment of larger item, identification uncertain.
16	2981	Iron		1	30.01	Horseshoe	
17	2981	Iron		1	28.25	Nail	Nail, iron. Large size, curves strongly in profile towards point. Heavily corroded and encrusted.
18	2995	Copper alloy		1	2.83	Buckle	Buckle, copper alloy. Frame survives, pin and plate missing. Meols type C/Cassels 1.7C. Slightly trapezoidal in plan, small projections on frame sides with thickened front edge demonstrating mouldings which forming pin rest.
19	3087	Iron		1	26.27	Hook	Hook, iron. One end and small section of tip truncated. 'J' shaped in plan, body thickens towards curve before tapering and turning. Cf Goodall 2011, 329, J175 for a reasonably similar, complete hook of 'J' shaped form from Weoley Castle.
20	2941	Iron		1	17.72	Knife blade (?)	Iron object, date unknown. Triangular fragment, slightly curving in profile. Possible knife blade.
21	3056	Iron		1	29.9	Hook	Hook, iron. Incomplete, one end broken away. Twisted 'S' shaped form, middle thickened with rectangular cross section tapering to flattened surviving arm. Cf Goodall 2011, 326, J163-J167.
22	3002	Iron		1	6.58	Fiddle key nail	Fiddle key nail, iron. Flattened head, shank with rectangular cross-section. Corroded.
23	2976	Iron		1	23.39	Arrowhead	Arrowhead, iron. Heavily corroded, identified from x-ray. Jessop type M4/LMMC type 16. Stubby, triangular head with close-fitting barbs (one missing), socket circular in cross section and expands towards base.
24	2967	Iron		1	30.45	Strap hinge	Hinge/strip fitting fragment, iron. Incomplete, truncated at both ends. Sub-rectangular in plan with tapering sides, single nail stub projecting through wider end. Heavily corroded, mineralised wood adhering to both faces.

Registered Artefact (Ra.) No	Context	Material	Sample no.	Count	Weight (g)	Broad identification	Description
25	2943	Iron		1	16.41	Horseshoe	Horseshoe, iron. Fragmentary, part of one branch preserved with thinned toe section. Edges lobed/wavy with one circular nail hole visible on x-ray. Clark type 2.
26	3023	Iron		2	5.97	Unidentified object (1) Fiddle key nail (1)	2 x iron objects. One small, amorphous lump of iron, one fiddle key type nail with flattened head.
27	3113	Iron		1	26.47	Strap hinge/strip fitting	Hinge/strip fitting fragment, iron. Bar-shaped in plan view with thickened rectangular section, sides slightly tapering. Corroded. Cf Goodall 2011, 201, 203, 205 etc.
28	2941	Iron		1 (3 frags of same obj)	156.96	Horseshoe	Horseshoe, iron. Broken into three fragments, none of which conjoin. Most of both branches survive, x-ray shows each with punched rectangular nail holes (2) close to shoe edges.
29	3176	Iron		1	11.63	Knife blade (?)	Iron object, date unknown. Flat, broadly triangular in plan, one section broken away. Possible knife blade. Attribution uncertain.
30	3176	Iron		3	33.29	Nails	3 x nails, iron. Three in total, all incomplete and extremely corroded.
31	3028	Iron		1	20.63	Horseshoe	Horseshoe, iron. Wavy-edged, probable 11th–13th century date. Only one branch partially preserved. Worn down and thin. Clark type 2.
32	3028	Composite		1	14.52	Knife	Whittle tang knife, composite iron/copper alloy. Tang and uppermost part of blade preserved, heavily corroded. Copper alloy ferrule/collar wrapped around highly mineralised organic handle remnants. Date: probably medieval, compare a knife from Fishergate, York, with similar collar.
	805	Iron		1	9.31	Fiddle key nail	Fiddle key nail, iron. Identified via x-ray in post excavation analysis, head hemispherical and flattened with projecting shank clenched over at tip. Highly encrusted.
	3224	Iron		4	15.12	Nails	4 x iron nails and nail fragments
	3039	Iron		1	7.53	Nail	Nail, iron. Shank rectangular in cross section, flat overhanging head. Corroded.
	3232	Iron		1	2.3	Nail	Nail fragment, iron. Head missing. Rectangular sectioned shank, heavily corroded and encrusted.
	3216	Iron		1	9.56	Nail	Nail, iron. Overhanging head, wide shank with rectangular cross section.

Registered Artefact (Ra.) No	Context	Material	Sample no.	Count	Weight (g)	Broad identification	Description
	3034	Iron		1	11.44	Nail	Nail, iron. Complete, offset, flattened and overhanging head. Rectangular-sectioned shank. Quite corroded and encrusted.
	2991	Iron		3	9.88	Nails	3 x nails, iron. All incomplete. One with head missing, the other two with globular (?) and flattened circular heads respectively. Heavily corroded and encrusted.
	3002	Iron		2	8.29	Nails	2 x nail fragments, iron. One small and very encrusted, the other a shank fragment.
	3027	Iron		2	5.91	Nails	2 x nails, iron. One missing its head and the other strongly curving in profile. Both very corroded and encrusted, most details obscured.
	3087	Iron		3	19.46	Nails	Three nails/nail fragments, all heavily encrusted and corroded. Virtually all details obscured.
	3159	Iron		3	12.81	Nails	3 x nails/nail fragments, iron. all heavily corroded and encrusted. Most details obscured totally.
	2941	Iron		1	1.46	Nail	Nail fragment, iron. Head missing, only shank survives - which is rectangular in cross section and thin.
	2996	Iron	107	1	10.14	Nail	Nail, iron. Heavily corroded and now largely preserved as a void. Broken into four fragments.
	2928	Iron		1	3.37	Fiddle key nail	Nail, probable 'fiddle key' type with flattened rectangular/hemispherical head. Broken into two fragments, part of head missing.
	3318	Iron		2	25.4	Nails	2 x nails/nail fragments, iron. One more or less complete nail and one shank fragment, the more complete of the two having a flattened, overhanging sub-rectangular head. Both heavily encrusted and corroded.
	3049	Iron		2	9.73	Fiddle key nails	2 x fiddle key nails, iron. Both more or less complete but heavily corroded. Heads flattened and hemispherical.
	2993	Iron		4	25.5	Nails (3) Fiddle key nail (1)	4 x nails/nail fragments, iron. Largely undiagnostic - heavily corroded and encrusted. Four structural, one a fiddle key type
	3113	Iron		3	41.9	Nails	3 x nails, iron. All extremely corroded and encrusted. Virtually all identifying features obscured.
	3187	Iron		1	7.11	Nail	Nail, iron. Heavily corroded and encrusted, most details obscured.
	2967	Iron		1	12.17	Nail	Nail, iron. Broken into two fragments, elongated oval head which overhangs rectangular sectioned shank.

Registered Artefact (Ra.) No	Context	Material	Sample no.	Count	Weight (g)	Broad identification	Description
	2962	Iron		1	1.83	Nail	Nail, iron. Shank fragment, head missing.
	3004	Iron		4	17.85	Nails (2) Fiddle key nails (2)	4 x nails, iron. Two preserved as shank fragments and. two ‘fiddle key’ nails of Goodall type A with hemispherical flattened heads.
	2930	Iron		1	5.19	Fiddle key nail	Nail, iron. Flat-headed nail of 'fiddle key' type, intact but corroded. Shank rectangular in cross section and stubby.
	3181	Iron		1	5.04	Fiddle key nail	Fiddle key nail, iron. Goodall type A. Head flat and hemispherical, lower part of shank missing.
	3019	Iron		1	2.6	Nail	Nail, iron. Upper part survives, lower shank broken away. Head of small size, corroded and encrusted.

Lava Quern

Ruth Shaffrey

A total of 17 items of stone was retained and submitted for assessment. These were scanned for signs of burning or use. Worked stone was fully recorded with the aid of a x10 magnification hand lens and is itemised below.

Description

Five fragments of unworked stones showing no evidence of use were recovered from three contexts. These are not reported on further. Worked stone consists of 10 fragments of lava from five contexts. The only fragment that is not heavily degraded is a large portion from context 3532. The crude pock marks on one face are typical of the lower surface of a lower stone, but as no edges or centre survives it is not possible to determine if this is a fragment of rotary quern or millstone. Lava quern fragments are common finds on early to middle medieval sites in the region. The fragments were a useful resource, however, and often moved elsewhere for use as a building material following the end of their lives for grinding (Ashley *et al.* 2011). Given the squaring off of at least one of the fragments, it is possible that the fragments here represent reuse rather than cereal processing.

Context	Function	Notes	Number	Weight (g)
3027	Rotary quern	Degraded fragment	1	71
2962	Rotary quern	Degraded fragments	4	23
3532	Lower rotary quern	Large portion measures 135 x 122 x 50mm with one pecked surface and one surface with rough large pock marks suggesting it is a lower stone. Roughly squared possibly for reuse and with rounded edges	1	1367
3028	Rotary quern	Degraded fragment	1	33
3063	Rotary quern	Degraded fragments	3	5

Table B12. Summary of lava quern fragments

Lava quern 3532 has been retained in the archive as it may be suitable for geochemical analysis in the future.

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Worked bone

Ed McSloy

The single worked bone item (Ra. 33, Fig. 38.3) was recovered by hand from medieval dated ditch 3158 (fill 3159). The object consists of a medial fragment, measuring 50mm in length, probably from a sheep's femur (pers. comm. A. Clarke). It has been hollowed and further adapted by a transverse perforation 3mm in diameter which passes through the cortical bone on both sides. The surfaces of the bone are in addition faintly marked by closely set grooves/striations, possibly as the result of the tight winding of thread or cord. The object's use as a bobbin or reel is therefore considered likely. Objects identified as bobbins are relatively well-known finds from the medieval period (MacGregor 1985, 183–184). The well-made, decorated examples in bone or ivory which account for most of the published examples may have been used by wealthier medieval women engaged in embroidery or sewing (MacGregor 1985, 184). It seems likely that cruder versions such as Ra. 33 were more the norm for everyday work.

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Slag

Ciar Boyle Gifford

The excavation at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield recovered a small amount of metalworking slag from context 3058, the single fill of ditch 3057. All of the material submitted for assessment was examined visually and recorded following standard guidance (HE 2015), and details entered directly into a MS Access database. A summary of the data is provided in Table B13.

The assemblage comprises five conjoining fragments (203g) which together form a small, near complete smithing hearth cake. Testing with a magnet revealed little or no magnetic iron content. The material is fayalitic, moderately vesicular, and formed into a sub-oval, concave-convex mass, indicating that it accumulated inside a hearth as the result of blacksmithing activity.

By definition, this demonstrates that smithing took place; however, the very small size of the assemblage would seem to indicate significant removal from the original smithing location. Smithing hearth cakes would be frequently produced during the smithing process, requiring regular removal to restore airflow for continued use of the hearth; therefore a greater quantity of slag would be expected if this ditch fill represented the site of initial disposal by the smith (HE 2015, 36–7). Given the small quantity, it is more likely that this material had been

transported for some intended re-use, for example in construction (HE 2015, 37), before its eventual discard in ditch fill 3058. Though it is not possible to date slag directly (HE 2015, 12), a significant quantity of pottery dated to the 12–14th century was found in the same context, suggesting a medieval date for the deposition of this material.

Feature	Context	Material	Description	Weight (g)
Ditch 3057	3058	Ironworking slag	A single concave-convex smithing hearth cake (95mm long, 70mm wide and 45mm thick)	203

Table B13. Summary of slag assemblage

References

HE (Historic England) 2015 *Archaeometallurgy. Guidelines for best practice* London, Historic England

Chalk/fossil fragment

Ciar Boyle Gifford

A small fragment of a chalk fossil or nodule (Ra. 2, Fig. 38.2), weighing 0.6g, was found in fill 2967 of kiln structure 2952. The object has been inspected with a microscope, weighed and recorded in accordance with guidelines set out in the CIfA Toolkit for Specialist Recording (CIfA 2021), a summary catalogue listing being provided in Table B14.

The piece comprises a slightly tapered cylinder with smooth, compacted surfaces. It is evidently broken on the narrow end, now measuring 16mm long and tapering from 5mm to 4mm thick. The wider end facet is roughly rounded and convex and the uncompacted surface leaves distinct marks when applied to a surface. Given the practicality of the shape and material for this purpose, along with the kiln context of its deposition, the object may have been used as a chalk point for marking —conceivably utilized for marking batches of ceramic products, for instance— although may have just been an inclusion in the natural gravel that became incorporated into the stoke pit by chance.

Feature	Context	Ra. No.	Material	Form/ description	Ct.	Wt (g)	Dimensions
2952	2967	2	chalk	Small fragment of tapered chalk point?	1	0.6g	16mm in length; 5mm thick at widest point, tapering to 4mm.

Table B14. Chalk object

References

CIfA 2021 'Toolkit for Specialist Reporting' https://www.archaeologists.net/reporting-toolkit (accessed 17 February 2023)

APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Animal bone

Andy Clarke

Introduction

A small assemblage of animal bone amounting to 273 fragments (5814g) was recovered from 62 deposits consisting mainly of the fills of various pit and ditch feature revealed in Areas 1 and 2. Artefactual material dating broadly to the Prehistoric, medieval and late medieval/post-medieval transition was also recovered from these features (Appendix C, Table 1). The material displayed a mixed level of preservation and was highly fragmented, a combination of factors that as rendered 56% of the assemblage unidentifiable. However, it was possible to confirm the presence of cattle (*Bos taurus*), sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*), pig (*Sus scrofa sp*), horse (*Equus caballus*) and dog (*Canis familiaris*). Where damage was present and re-fitting was possible, those fragments were counted as a single bone.

Results

Prehistoric

A single fragment of cattle bone, identified as a partial metapodial (41g) was recovered from deposit 7912, a fill of pit 7910 in Area 2. It did not display any damage indicative of butchery practice.

Medieval

The medieval activity of site accounted for 91% of the assemblage with a total of 250 fragments (5150g) were recovered from 50 pit and ditch fill deposits revealed in Area 1. Of the three major domestic species, the remains of cattle and sheep/goat were most common with 28 (1529g) and 20 (136g) fragments respectively, Pig was identified from 13 fragments (136g). Each of these species was represented mostly by fragments of the skull and mandible, and portions of the lower limbs and feet, the tibia, metapodials and the phalanges. Elements such as the scapula, femur and the vertebrae were also identified, but were recovered in far fewer numbers. No cut or chop marks were present on any of this material however, the mixture of mainly meat-poor together with the occasional meat-rich bone, is commonly seen in the waste from primary and secondary butchery where a carcass is separated into manageable portions of meat.

In addition to this material, associated bone group (ABG) 3100, was recovered from pit fill 3099. It was identified as a partial pig skeleton. It was too incomplete for a confident age at death estimate, but the remains were clearly from a very young, possibly neonate piglet suggesting possibility of pig husbandry on or near to site.

This pattern continues in the 18 fragments of horse bone (1701g) that were recovered. Once again identification was primarily from meat-poor bones, mostly commonly loose molars, the mandible and the metapodials with only the occasional meat rich bone such as the femur present. Of note among this material are the 15 molars recovered from ditch fill 2924 which may indicate the remains of a skull and/or mandibles in this feature. There was no indication of a deliberate deposition of this or any of the horse bone and no damage suggestive of butchery practice was observed. However, as it was recovered with the cattle, sheep/goat and pig bone described above, it is more than likely that the horse bone has a similar origin.

The remains of dog were also identified but with only seven fragments (42g) recovered, the presence on site of this species is inferred more reliably from the frequent gnaw marks seen in the assemblage. This latter point strongly suggests that refuse was left exposed, at least for a time, rather than rapidly buried.

Two fragments of bird bone (5g) were also recovered, a partial coracoid and tibio-tarsus. Each was of the appropriate size for domestic fowl (Gallus sp.) but due to poor preservation, it was not possible to confidently identify the species.

Post-medieval

A total of 13 fragments (438g) were recovered from eight deposits in Area 1. Cattle, sheep/goat and dog were identified, but with two, three and one fragments respectively the recovery was too low to infer any information other than species identification. In addition, a single fragment of bird bone was recovered which, as with the preceding phase, was too poorly preserved for a species identification.

Undated

The remaining nine fragments (185g) were recovered from three deposit that remains undated. The remains of cattle and dog were identified which, in terms of preservation and fragmentation, are very similar to the medieval assemblage described above and as such, are likely to originate from the same activity.

Discussion

The amount of useful interpretive information that can be obtained from such a small assemblage is extremely limited. Only 273 fragments were recovered of which, due to poor preservation and high fragmentation, less than 50% was identifiable to element and species. In addition, any metrical or age at death data that was available, was not present in sufficient amounts to provide any meaningful information in terms of animal husbandry or site economy. However, it was possible to confirm the presence of cattle, sheep/goat, pig, horse and dog, species that are all to be expected in assemblages of this period. There were no clear signs

of butchery present, but the three major domestic species are all represented by bones that are common to the waste from secondary butchery. In addition, the presence of a neonate pig skeleton does suggest pig husbandry on or near the site.

The animal bone assemblage would appear to represent the waste from the domestic activity represented by the features revealed on site.

Cut	Fill	BOS	O/C	SUS	EQ	Canis	Bird	LM	MM	Ind	BB SS	Total	Weight (g)
Prehistoric													
7910	7912	1										1	41
Medeival													
2916	2917		1						1			2	5
2916	2918	1		1						1		3	15
2919	2920	1			1							2	27
2919	2921									2		2	4
2922	2924				15							15	563
2929	2930	2	1		1	1				19		24	81
2940	2941				1					10		11	36
2944	2946									1		1	1
2944	2950			4					1		1	6	7
2947	2948		1							2		3	6
2952	2967								1			1	25
2952	3144	1										1	26
2954	2956	1										1	20
2954	2957	1										1	105
2971	2972	1	1									2	103
2975	2976	4			6	6		9	1			26	901
2988	2989									1		1	1
2994	2996		1						1			2	13
2994	2995	1	2					1				4	67
3001	3002			1								1	47
3003	3004			2								2	4
3005	3006							1	1			2	7
3007	3008									1		1	3
3009	3010		1	1								2	33
3024	3025	5								5		10	273
3033	3034			1	1					9		11	124
3040	3041								1			1	19
3046	3049									18		18	23
3055	3056	1			4		1					6	635
3061	3064		2		2							4	156
3091	3097	1	1		1			4				7	180
3098	3100			1								1	27
3158	3159									5		5	4
3174	3175								11			11	14
3174	3176							10	5			15	176
3200	3202			3						5		8	22
3203	3204									1		1	1

Cut	Fill	BOS	O/C	SUS	EQ	Canis	Bird	LM	MM	Ind	BB SS	Total	Weight (g)
3215	3216							3				3	52
3217	3219	1										1	191
3217	3221	1								2		3	28
3222	3223		1									1	17
3222	3224									1		1	7
3222	3225							1				1	9
3231	3232	2					1		2			5	76
3231	3268		1									1	6
3235	3236		1									1	16
3299	3301	1	1									2	148
3302	3303	2	3									5	104
3309	3310		1									1	14
3319	3320	1	1		2			1	6			11	728
Subtotal		**28**	**20**	**14**	**34**	**7**	**2**	**30**	**31**	**83**	**1**	**250**	**5150**
Late medieval–Early Post Medeival													
2927	2928						1		1			2	3
2933	2934									2		2	1
2940	2943		1									1	6
2980	2981					1						1	6
3026	3027								2			2	17
3057	3058	1	1									2	168
3089	3095	1	1									2	217
3091	3092								1			1	20
Subtotal		**2**	**3**			**1**	**1**		**4**	**2**		**13**	**438**
Undated													
3026	3028	1				1						2	130
3035	3036								3			3	7
7924	7925					4						4	48
Subtotal		**1**				**5**			**3**			**9**	**185**
Total		**32**	**23**	**14**	**34**	**13**	**3**	**30**	**38**	**85**	**1**	**273**	
Weight		**2070**	**193**	**163**	**2384**	**97**	**6**	**533**	**183**	**184**	**1**	**5814**	

Table C1: Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP), weight and context

BOS = Cattle; O/C = sheep/goat; SUS = pig; EQ = horse; Canis = dog; Bird = bird species; LM = large sized mammal; MM = medium size mammal; Ind = indeterminate; BB SS = burnt, unidentifiable fragments from bulk soil samples

Plant remains

Kath Hunter Dowse

Introduction

Following a programme of excavation carried out by Cotswold Archaeology 15 samples were assessed for their environmental potential. Based on the results of the assessment six samples were selected for full analysis based on the richness and variety of the plant remains present (Aitken 2023). All the samples selected for analysis were from Area 1 and the details and results are recorded in Table C2.

Sample Processing

All of the samples were processed at Cotswold Archaeology (CA) for the recovery of environmental remains. The samples were processed using a modified Siraf-style flotation machine. The flots were collected in a 250µm mesh and the residues were retained in a 500µm flexible nylon mesh. The resulting flots and residues were air dried prior to bagging. The residues were sorted by CA.

Analysis methodology

The plant remains extracted from the flots and residues were analysed using low powered microscopy at a magnification of between x10 and x 40 (Microtec stereo microscope). The nomenclature for the plant remains follows Stace 2010 and Zohary *et al.* 2012 for cereal remains. The identification of the plant remains was carried out using modern reference material and standard reference texts (Berggren 1981, Anderburg 1994, Cappers *et al.* 2006 Jacomet 2006 *et al.* 2006).

Due to the relatively large quantity of some remains, in particular the cereal grains, from pit 2994 it has been necessary to estimate their quantity. This was done by undertaking a full count for a known volume of the seeds and then multiplying this figure by the total volume of the flot. This is indicated by a lowercase letter e next to the count in Table C2 (eg.1000e).

The waterlogged plant remains have been recorded at relative frequency as a full count would add little value to analysis in this case. The frequency in Table C2 is as follows.

* 1–5 items, ** 6–10 items, *** 11–50 items, ****50–100+ items

Results

Notes on preservation

The majority of plant remains preserved from this site have been charred. Silicified cereal chaff was also present in two samples from pit 2994 (sample 108) and pit 3061 (sample110). There was no evidence of mineralised or waterlogged plant remains from this assemblage.

Phase 2.1 Late 12/ Early 13th centuries AD

A single sample from pit 3042 (sample 111) from the northeast end of Enclosure 2 was analysed from this phase. A moderate number of cereal grains were present with bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum*) being the most commonly identified species. There were three possible rivet/pasta wheat grains (*T.* cf. t*urgidum/durum*) both bread wheat and rivet/pasta wheat rachis fragments (*T. turgidum/durum*) were also present in relatively small amounts. With the barley and rye present in much smaller quantities. The presence of a small number of scentless mayweed (*Tripleurospermum inodorum*) and field scabious (*Knautia arvensis*) and a lack of

stinking chamomile seeds (*Anthemis cotula*) may suggest that lighter soils were being cultivated. A second sample assessed from the same feature context 3034 (sample 109) contained a similar but smaller assemblage of cereal and corn spurry (*Spergula arvense*), another arable weed which also prefers acidic sandy soils.

Phase 2.2 13–14th Century AD

The samples analysed from this phase were from a fill of an oven/kiln 2984, as well as pits and ditches. The assemblages from the features analysed from this phase were very similar in make up to that of the earlier phase. With free threshing wheats (*T. aestivum/turgidum/durum*) dominating the assemblages with barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and rye (*Secale cereale*) in significantly lower quantities. A small amount of cultivated oat grain and chaff (*Avena sativa*) indicated the presence of another cereal crop. Broad bean (*Vicia faba*) and garden pea (*Pisum sativum*) seeds were present in very low quantities from pit 2994 and ditch 2944.

Kiln 2952 (sample 104) was not selected for analysis but the *in-situ* deposit contained free threshing wheat grain and large legume seed fragments (*Vicia faba/Pisum sativum*) based on the assessment results. This possibly suggests it was used for crop drying or the waste from that process was added to the kiln's fuel.

The lowest fill of a possible well pit 2994 (sample 108) produced the richest cereal assemblage from the site, again dominated by free threshing wheats with evidence of both hexaploid (*T. aestivum*) and tetraploid (*T. turgidum/durum*) types. The preservation of some of the remains was sufficient to suggest the presence of a cereal disease earcockle (*Anguina tritici*) which could have severely affected crop yields. The assemblage from this feature has similarities with deposits from Late Saxon and early medieval drying ovens from the same periods from elsewhere. The sample assessed from ditch 2944 sample 102 contained lower quantities of free threshing wheat grain and chaff with oat grains, detached coleoptiles and wild radish seed capsules (*Raphanus raphanistrum*).

A sample identified as a possible oven/kiln 2984 (sample 106) from the area to the north of the later tile kiln 2952 and its enclosure and its enclosure produced relatively few identifiable charred plant remains. This may suggest, if it was an oven /kiln, that the spent fuel was probably cleared out and deposited elsewhere after its last use.

Two samples were taken from two ditches which ran parallel to each other in Enclosure 4. Ditch 3346 (sample 102) and ditch 3347 (sample 103). These samples again contained only a moderate amount of identifiable plant remains. However, those identified were similar to the other samples from the site.

The primary fil from pit 3061 (Sample 110) contained similarly low numbers of cereal remains.

Discussion

Wheat

The majority of the identifiable cereal grains from the assemblage were of free threshing wheat types. Where the identification of the grains and rachis fragments was possible, bread wheat remains were more numerous than those of a tetraploid wheat. Moffett (2007) suggests that rivet wheat is the most likely type of tetraploid wheat to have been grown in southern Britain, as it is the best adapted to the temperate growing conditions of the region. The proportion of tetraploid wheat compared to bread wheat in assemblages from across the midland region, for example, increases from the Saxon into the medieval period (Carruthers and Hunter Dowse 2019). Murphy (2004) recorded 13th century tetraploid free threshing wheat from the excavations at Stansted Airport, 23km to the southwest of Finchingfield. Though there has been some evidence of glume wheats continuing to be found into the Saxon and medieval periods in the Midlands (Carruthers and Hunter Dowse 2019), there was no evidence of glume wheats either grain or chaff in any of the samples analysed or assessed from this site.

Earcockle (Anguina tritici)

Some of the wheat grains from pit 2994 (sample 108) exhibit a distinctive grain deformation which suggests the presence of an earcockle infection of the wheat crop. A significant crop pest in Britain until the 1950's, the juvenile form of the nematode penetrates the developing cereal flower and a gall forms instead of a grain. These galls are inedible so would directly affect crop yield, particularly in damp growing seasons as the nematode requires a film of water to move up the host plant to complete its life cycle. The other life stages of this pest also affect the growth of the plant and can significantly reduce the crop yield by up to 70% in any given year. However, damage caused to the rest of the plant by other stages of the nematode's life cycle, would not be easily recognised in the archaeological record, so the actual effect of this disease can only be surmised. This pest might be controlled by crop rotation, but the nematode can remain dormant in the ground for several years in dry conditions (Carruthers and Hunter Dowse 2019). So, the presence in the assemblage of galls may suggest a poor growing season. The galls would be retained with the grain from infected plants, during all the processing stages and would need to be picked out by hand prior to the milling or cooking of the grain. This crop disease has been identified from other Saxon and medieval oven deposits in England including West Cotton, Northamptonshire (Campbell and Robinson 2009); Wharram Percy, Yorkshire (Carruthers 2010); Pudding Lane, Barley, Hertfordshire (Hunter Dowse 2019); Saxon Drive, Biggleswade, Suffolk (Hunter Dowse 2023a), and Shingay cum Wendy, Cambridgeshire (Hunter Dowse 2023b).

Other cereals and crops

Barley

Where identification was possible, all the barley grains appeared to be of a hulled type, though much of it was distorted and vacuolated. This may suggest that it had had a high moisture content when charred or that it had been subjected to more than one burning event, for example, in the base of an oven that was not completely cleared out between firings. None of the grains appeared to be of the narrow-twisted type which might have suggested the presence of a multi row type (*H. vulgare*). However, the poor preservation and the relatively small number of barley grains identified, mean that the presence of either/or two row (*H. distichum*) or a multi row type cannot be discounted. A few barley rachis fragments were present from pit 3042 (sample 111), ditch 2944 (sample 102) and pit 3061 (sample 110). Unfortunately, none were well enough preserved to indicate the presence of multi or two row types. The lack of chaff may suggest that either the grains were not being processed nearby or that the waste from the processing was being used, for example, as animal fodder.

Oat

A single sprouted oat grain within its floret from pit 2994 (sample 108) and a few loose floret bases from ditch 2944 (sample103) and pit 2994 (sample108) were the only evidence for a cultivated form of oats. Without further diagnostic floret bases, it is not possible to suggest the proportion of cultivated to wild oat grains (*A. fatua*) in the assemblage. The lack of chaff, as with the barley may be an indication of an alternative location for the processing of the oats, or the potential use of oat grains and chaff for animal fodder. The chaff of oats is particularly nutritious and palatable for livestock, so would have provided a valuable resource in its own right.

Rye

A few rye grains were present in pit 3042 (sample111), ditch 2944 (sample103), pit 2984 (sample 106) and pit 2994 (sample 108). Rye chaff was also present in pits 2994 (sample 108) and small quantities from pit 3042 (sample111), ditch 2944 (sample 102), and pit 2984 (sample 106). This suggest the presence of another potential crop that was being grown in the area. It is a cereal crop which increased in popularity from the Late Roman period through the Saxon period and into the medieval period in the south-eastern area of midland Britain. It is a crop that tolerates poorer soils and weather conditions than wheat, so may have been grown as an insurance crop or for lower status food, either on its own or as a mixed (maslin) crop. The chaff may also have been used as fodder.

Evidence of germination

There was a very little evidence of cereal grain germination, with a few grains of hexaploid and tetraploid free threshing wheat and the cultivated oat, that either retained the characteristic ventral groove and or attached coleoptiles. All of the obviously sprouted grain was from pit 2994 (sample 108). A few detached coleoptiles were also noted from the same sample as well as from pit 3042 (sample 111). It is most likely that these all represent accidental germination due to poor storage conditions, rather than deliberate malting.

Cereal chaff

There was relatively little cereal chaff in relation to the amount of grain in any of the samples analysed. This may be due to the crops having been processed thoroughly before they came in contact with the fire and that chaff wasn't used as fuel. However, the presence of silicified cereal chaff from samples pit 2994 and to a lesser extent from pit 3061 suggests that some cereal chaff has been lost on combustion. The presence of an estimated eight silicified wheat glume beaks from pit 2994 may suggest the presence of an awn less wheat variety.

Large legumes

There were relatively few large legumes, with broad bean recovered from ditch 2944 and pit 2994 and garden pea from Pit 2994. These represent other crops which could have been consumed by the local population. As with the cereals, it may have been necessary to dry the legume seeds prior to storage or milling if they had been harvested in cool damp weather. This would be necessary to prevent accidental germination during storage and to deter boring pests which could be attracted to stored seed in damp conditions. As with the cereals, the heat involved in the drying process would likely render both unsuitable to be used as seeds for subsequent crops. Therefore, the cereals and legumes present were probably destined for consumption. The low quantities, compared with the cereals, suggest that large quantities of these crops were not being dried in the vicinity of the site. This again may suggest selectivity of the crops being processed. The large legumes grown would have been an important element of the local populations diet, particularly those of a lower social status. They may have been grown in small garden plots. It is likely that the proportion of these crops are underrepresented in the charred assemblage, because they were being processed in smaller numbers and or elsewhere. The legume straw and pods could also have provided a nutritious animal fodder. The relatively small number of large legume seeds, with both broad bean and garden pea being present, is consistent with other assemblages from this period.

Other legumes

The moderate amount of smaller seeded vetch/pea (*Vicia/Pisum* sp.) may be from plants growing up around the standing cereals, either as incidental weeds or a maslin crop designed

to produce a more nutrient rich straw for fodder. Carruthers (2010) suggests the presence of a smaller seeded legume crop from Wharam Percy. Unfortunately, most of the seeds from this analysis had lost their seed coat and abscission scars, so identification to either genus or species was generally not possible. Even where some diagnostic features were retained the identifications have only been tentative.

Possible food fragments

Several amorphous charred fragments which appeared to be burnt food residue, from pits 3001 and 3046. The presence of a relatively dense structure with small cereal grain and other possible seed fragments suggest that they may have been from a porridge like substance rather than bread. Four fragments from pit 2994 did have the more open structure, with grain inclusions that might suggest that they were fragments of charred bread.

Evidence of the use of maslins vs. single species crops

The practice of growing mixed crops either different types of cereals or cereals with legumes is documented as being carried out in the later medieval period and on into the post medieval period and is likely to have begun before this period. (Hammond 2005). The use of this practice could have helped to mitigate against crop failures, caused by to poor growing conditions. The combination of plants could provide better growing conditions for the individual crops by reducing moisture loss from bare soil and providing support for twining plants, such as vetches and peas. It is, however, difficult to identify crops which may have been grown as maslins, as the charred waste may become mixed at a later date (Van der Veen 1995). The relatively small number of other cereals in the assemblage may be an indication of the actual proportion of the different crops being grown but may also be a result of other crops being processed elsewhere and/or not needing to be dried prior to storage. The other cereals and legumes may also have been growing as weeds amongst the free threshing wheat crop or in field margins, as relics of previous crops.

Crop weeds

The relatively small numbers of cornflower (*Centaurea cyanus*), corn cockle **(***Agrostemma githago***)** and rye grass (*Lolium* sp.) are common arable weeds from the medieval period.

A single corn cockle seed from pit 2994 is from a common cereal weed in the Saxon period onwards. A seed that is extremely toxic to humans and animals, it would have been had to have been picked out by hand prior to milling in the same way as the earcockle.

The relatively large number of stinking chamomile seeds also represent a common arable weed from this period. A plant preferring heavy base rich soils its increasing presence from

the Saxon period onwards is sometimes interpreted as indicating the increased cultivation of heavier clay soils using mouldboard plough (Hamerow 2022).

The presence of scentless mayweed and field scabious may also suggest the cultivation of lighter soils. Field scabious is a grassland species which persists in field margins and arable fields that have recently been created by ploughing up established grassland to use for arable crops.

The other weed species represented in relatively low numbers were mainly from disturbed arable and grassland habitats. The relatively low number of other larger plant seeds in the samples may also be an indication of the thorough cleaning of the wheat crops prior to drying.

Hedgerow/wood margin

The evidence of fruits and nuts from several hedgerow/wood margin plants, including damson/bullace (*Prunus domestica* ssp. cf. *insititia*) stones, possible sloe (*Prunus* cf. *spinosa*), hawthorn stone (*Crataegus monogyna*) and their spines (*Prunus/Crataegus* sp.), a rose achene (*Rosa* sp.), hazelnut shell fragments (*Corylus avellana*) and possibly apple/pear fruit fragments (cf. *Pyrus/Malus* sp.), suggests the potential for gathered foods that may have supplemented the diet of the local population. It is, however, likely that the charred examples had been gathered with wood from the local area to be used as fuel in the drying oven or other purposes.

Knapweed gall (cf. Urophora jaceana)

A fragment of a plant gall, possibly caused by a fruit fly (cf. *Urophora jaceana*) which infests the seedheads of knapweeds (*Centaurea* sp.), was noted in pit 2994. This type of plant remain have been noted on a number of Saxon and medieval sites from the southeast of Britain associated with oven deposits (Hunter Dowse 2019, 2021, 2023a, Rachel Fosbury and Julia Meen pers. comm). The enlarged seedheads may have been accidentally retained with the processed cereals, as with the ear cockle and corn cockle. Alternatively, the plants bearing galls may have been deliberately collected to be used as tinder. Its presence may suggest heavier clay soils were being taken into cultivation.

Summary

There are similarities of the types and proportions of the crops recovered from both periods analysed. The single rich sample 108 appears to be a clear out deposit from a drying oven that was dumped into the open well nearby. Another less rich deposit directly above suggests that this happened more than once and the presence of silicified chaff in the lower deposit suggests that it then remained relatively undisturbed. All the samples analysed suggests that free threshing wheat was being processed across Area 1 or that waste from the process was

being used in the fuel for other industrial or domestic activities. The presence of only one corn cockle seed and a few earcockle grains may suggest that the grain from pit 2994 had been cleaned prior to it becoming burnt. The dominance of free threshing wheats over other crops in all of the samples may suggest that they had been growing as a single crop or a maslin of the two wheat types. This could indicate the growing and processing a relatively high-status crop. Similar wheat rich oven deposits were seen at Chelmarsh, Bridgnorth, Shropshire (Hunter Dowse 2022), Pudding Lane Barley, Hertfordshire (Hunter Dowse 2019) and West Cotton (Campbell and Robinson 2009, 2010) in Northamptonshire. The practice of growing the shorter bread wheat plants, amongst the taller rivet wheat, may have acted to provide support for the taller plants. The longer rivet straw was favoured for thatching but was more prone to lodging (collapsing in high winds and heavy rain) than the generally shorter bread wheat. Crops which collapsed before they were ripe are more prone to sprouting prematurely or rotting if they came into prolonged contact with wet or damp soil (Letts 1999). The relatively small amounts of other crops present in the samples may suggest the growing and processing of a relatively high-status crop.

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			Phase	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
			Feature	pit 3042	ditch 2944	ditch 2944	pit 2984	pit 2994	pit 3061	pit 3001	pit 3046
			Context	3044	2946	2948	2989	2995	3062	3002	3049
			Sample	111	102	103	106	108	110		
			sample size/litres	20	25	20	32	40	40		
Taxa	**Common Name**	**Part**	**Habitat**								
Triticum sp.	free threshing wheat type (sprouted)	Grain	cultivated	29	3		153	212 (4)	37		
Triticum sp.	possible free threshing wheat	Grain	cultivated			1					
Triticum sp.	wheat nfi	Grain	cultivated				109				
Triticum aestivum L.	bread wheat(sprouted)	Grain	cultivated	40	12	4	71	128(1)	37		
Triticum aestivum L.	bread wheat(sprouted)	grain with boring insect damage	cultivated				1				
Triticum cf. *aestivum* L.	bread wheat type	Grain	cultivated	2	2						
Triticum turgidum/durum	rivet/pasta wheat	Grain	cultivated				7	18	7		
Triticum cf. *turgidum/durum*	possible rivet/pasta wheat (sprouted)	Grain	cultivated	3		1	9	18(1)			
Triticum sp.	wheat	grain	cultivated	17	9			72	29		
cf. *Triticum* sp.	possible wheat (sprouted)	grain	cultivated	7				136(1)			
Triticum sp.	wheat infected with *Anguina tritici* nematode	grain/ear-cockle						3			
cf. *Triticum* sp.	possible wheat infected with *Anguina tritici* nematode	grain/ear-cockle						2			
Hordeum sp.	barley	Grain	cultivated	6	1		2	4	4		
cf. *Hordeum* sp.	possible barley	Grain	cultivated	27		1	4	8			
Hordeum/Triticum sp.	possible barley or wheat	Grain	cultivated					5			
Avena sativa L.	oat	sprouted grain in floret	cultivated					-1			
Avena sp.	oat	grain(sprouted)	cultivated	15	17	5	10	15(3)	2		
cf. *Avena* sp..	possible oat	Grain	cultivated, grassland	12			16	20	14		
Avena /Bromus sp.	oat/brome	Grain	cultivated, grassland		35	2		6			
Secale cereale L.	rye	grain	cultivated	3		2	4	7			
cf. *Secale cereale*	rye type	Grain	cultivated	12	3	2	12	20	5		
Cereal NFI	unidentified cereal	grain fragments	cultivated	****	****	***	*****	***	***		
Triticum aestivum L.	bread wheat	rachis fragment	cultivated	8			7	40e			
Triticum turgidum/durum	rivet/pasta	rachis fragment	cultivated	3			11	4			
Triticum sp.	free threshing wheat	rachis fragment	cultivated	13		1	45	153e	3		
Triticum sp.	wheat	awn fragments	cultivated					8e			
Triticum sp.	wheat	silicified awn fragments	cultivated					100+e			
Triticum sp.	wheat	silicified glume beak	cultivated					8e			
Hordeum sp.	barley	rachis fragment	cultivated	6	1				1		
Avena sativa L.	oat	floret base	cultivated			1					
Avena cf. *sativa* L.	oat	floret base				1		1			
Secale cereale L.	rye	rachis fragment	cultivated	3	2		5	26e			

			Phase	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
			Feature	pit 3042	ditch 2944	ditch 2944	pit 2984	pit 2994	pit 3061	pit 3001	pit 3046
			Context	3044	2946	2948	2989	2995	3062	3002	3049
			Sample	111	102	103	106	108	110		
			sample size/litres	20	25	20	32	40	40		
Taxa	**Common Name**	**Part**	**Habitat**								
Cereal NFI	unidentified cereal	detached embryo	cultivated	2				17e	1		
Cereal NFI	unidentified cereal	detached coleoptile	cultivated	10				8e			
Cereal NFI	unidentified cereal	straw culm node	cultivated	4	4	6	6	13	2		
Cereal NFI	unidentified cereal	straw basal culm node	cultivated			1	2	6	3		
Cereal NFI	unidentified cereal	rachilla					1	1			
Cereal NFI	unidentified cereal	silicified lemma /palea fragments						*****	***		
Ranunculus sp.	buttercup type	achene					2				
Fabaceae		seed fragments				4	4		6		
Vicia cf. *tetrasperma*	possible smooth tare	seed			1						
cf. *Vicia sativa*	possible common vetch	seed				1					
cf. *Vicia* sp.	vetch type	seed						2			
Vicia/Lathyrus sp. (4mm)	vetch/pea	seed	disturbed arable, cultivated		1	1		2	4		
Vicia/Lathyrus sp. (3mm)	vetch/pea	seed	disturbed arable, cultivated	1	6	1	7	28	9		
Vicia/Lathyrus sp. (2mm)	vetch/pea	seed	disturbed arable, cultivated	2	10	15	3	26e	6		
Vicia/Lathyrus sp. (1mm)	vetch/pea	seed	disturbed arable, cultivated	7			4	8e			
Vicia faba L.	broad bean	seed	cultivated		1			2			
Pisum sativum L.	garden pea	seed	cultivated					3			
Vicia faba/Pisum sativum	broad bean/ garden pea	seed fragments	cultivated					3			
Trifolium/melilotus sp. L	clover/medick	seed		1				9e			
cf. *Prunus* sp.		mesocarp and stone fragments				2					
Prunus cf. *spinosa* L.	possible blackthorn	stone fragments	waste, scrub				2				
Prunus domestica cf. ssp. *insititia*	possible damson/bullace	stone					1				
cf. *Pyrus/Malus* sp.	possible pear/apple	exocarp and endocarp fragments	hedges, wood margins				9				
Crataegus monogyna Jacq.	hawthorn	nutlet	wood-borders, scrub and hedges				1				
Prunus/Crataegus sp.	sloe/damson/hawthorn	spine		1		1	3	1			
Rosa sp.	rose type	achene			3						
Corylus avellana L.	hazelnut	shell frags (partially charred)	waste, scrub, hedgerow	1	1						
Euphorbiaceae								1			
cf. Brassicaceae		siliqua pedicel						2			

			Phase	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
			Feature	pit 3042	ditch 2944	ditch 2944	pit 2984	pit 2994	pit 3061	pit 3001	pit 3046
			Context	3044	2946	2948	2989	2995	3062	3002	3049
			Sample	111	102	103	106	108	110		
			sample size/litres	20	25	20	32	40	40		
Taxa	**Common Name**	**Part**	**Habitat**								
Polygonaceae				3	4	1					
Persicaria sp.	knotweeds	achene		2							
Polygonum aviculare L	knotgrass	achene	all sorts of open ground	1		1					
Fallopia convolvulus (L.) Love.	black bindweed.	achene	disturbed arable				1				
Rumex sp.	dock type	achene		14	1	2	4	9e	4		
Amaranthaceae				40			1		4		
Chenopodium cf. *murale / hybridum* L.	maple-leaved goosefoot	seed	waste, arable ground	5							
Chenopodium album L.	fat hen	seed	disturbed arable, nitrogen rich	11	2			8e	1		
Atriplex sp.	orache	seed	nitrogen rich	5							
Chenopodium sp.	goosefoots	seed	nitrogen rich	11				32e			
cf. *Stellaria* sp.	stitchworts	seed		1							
Agrostemma githago L.	corn cockle	seed	disturbed arable					1			
Silene sp.	campion type	seed				4					
cf. *Silene latifolia* Poir.	possible white campion	seed capsule fragments	banks, roadsides, waste and cultivated ground mostly on light soils in the open.					1			
Silene dioica (L.) Clairv.	red campion	seed	woods and hedgerow, waste, scrub	5		1					
Silene cf. *dioica*	possible red campion	seed						1			
Primulaceae						1					
Ericaeae	heather family			1							
Galium aperine L.	cleavers	nutlet	disturbed arable, disturbed cultivated, hedgerow				1	3	1		
Laminaceae				1							
Prunella vulgaris L.	selfheal	nutlet	grassland, woodland clearings	1							
Euphrasia / Odontites L.	eyebright/ bartsia	seed	disturbed arable, grassland	1				16e			
Asteraceae						1	1	16e			
Centaurea cyanus L.	cornflower	achene	cornfields, waste places	1		1		10e			
Centaurea sp.	knapweed type	seedhead (gall) infected with *Urophora jaceana*						1			
Centaurea sp.	knapweed type	achene	knapweeds			1		9e			
Lapsana communis L.	nipplewort	achene	open woods, hedgerows, waste and rough ground	1							
Anthemis cotula	stinking chamomile	achene	arable, heavy soils	64	23	19	17	56e	2		
cf. *Anthemis cotula*	stinking chamomile	achene	arable, heavy soils	7		15e		8e			

			Phase	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
			Feature	pit 3042	ditch 2944	ditch 2944	pit 2984	pit 2994	pit 3061	pit 3001	pit 3046
			Context	3044	2946	2948	2989	2995	3062	3002	3049
			Sample	111	102	103	106	108	110		
			sample size/litres	20	25	20	32	40	40		
Taxa	**Common Name**	**Part**	**Habitat**								
Anthemis cotula	stinking chamomile	seed head fragments with attached achenes	arable, heavy soils			102e	1				
Tripleurospermum inodorum (L.) *Scultivatedz-Bip*	scentless mayweed	achene	disturbed arable	1				16e			
cf. *Valeriana officinalis*	possible common valarian	fruit					1				
Knautia arvensis (L.) Coult.	field scabious	fruit		2					1		
cf. *Succisa pratensis*	possible devil's-bit scabious	fruit		4		1	1				
Apiaceae								1			
cf. *Scandix pecten-veneris* L.	shepherd's needle	fruit	arable land, waste places					1			
Eleocharis sp.	spike rush type	nut				1					
Poaceae	grass	caryopsis> 4mm		29			6		4		
Poaceae	grass	caryopsis< 4mm		9	7	16	6	74e	5		
Poaceae	grass	caryopsis< 2mm		6							
cf. *Bromus* sp.	possible brome			1			2				
Lolium sp.	rye grass							2			
cf. *Lolium* sp.	possible rye grass type	caryopsis			3			1			
cf. *Cynosurus cristatus* L.	possible crested dog tail	caryopsis			1						
Arrhenatherum elatius var. *bulbosum* (L.) P.Beaux.ex J.&C.Presl.	false oat-grass	basal internodes					1	1			
		fern type frond fragment			3		1				
unident		seed			7		3	1	4		
unident		bread-like fragments						4			
		porridge-like fragments								1	1
unident		amorphous charred fragments				5		11			

Table C2: Plant remains

Key: * = 1–4 items; ** = 5–19 items; *** = 20–49 items; **** = 50–99 items; ***** = >100 items

Charcoal

Emma Aitken

Quantification

Fragments have been scanned and recorded quantitatively in Table C3: * = 1–4 items; ** = 4–20 items; *** = 21–49 items; **** = 50–99 items; ***** = >100 items.

Results

Of the eight environmental samples from Phase 2.2, contained large quantities of charcoal fragments, some of which included include non-oak wood, roundwood and twig fragments. The samples were those from ditches 2944 (sample 102) and 2947 (sample 103), one from kiln 2952 (sample 104) and the remaining five from pits 2984 (sample 106), 2994 (samples 107 and 108), 3061 (sample 110), and 3222 (sample 116).

Feature	Context	Sample	Processed vol (L)	Unprocessed vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Charcoal > 4/2mm
Pit 3042 Phase 2.1: Late 12th/Early 13th centuries AD	3043	109	40	0	12	<1	**/***
	3044	111	20	0	25	<1	**/***
Ditch 2944 Phase 2.2: 13th– 14th centuries AD	2946	102	25	0	50	<1	***/*****
Ditch 2947	2948	103	20	0	25	<1	***/*****
Kiln 2952	2962	104	40	0	78	<1	*****/*****
Pit 2984	2989	106	32	0	43	5	**/***
Pit 2994	2996	107	40	0	22	<1	***/**
Pit 2994	2995	108	40	0	800	1	*****/*****
Pit 3061	3062	110	40	0	55	<1	****/*****
Pit 3222	3223	116	40	0	9	<1	**/***
Pit 3111 Phase 2.0: 12th– 14th centuries AD	3112	115	40	0	15	2	***/***
Pit 3177	3178	113	30	10	5	<1	**/**
Pit 3174	3175	114	40	0	6	5	**/**
Ditch 3291	3292	119	20	0	20	95	**/**

Table C3. Charcoal
Key: * = 1–4 items; ** = 4–20 items; *** = 21–49 items; **** = 50–99 items; ***** = >100 items

Aquatic/terrestrial molluscs

Emma Aitken

Introduction

Preliminary identifications of mollusc shells have also been recorded, following nomenclature according to Anderson (2005) and habitat preferences according to Kerney (1999) and Davies (2008).

Quantification

Items such as complete or near complete shells have been scanned and recorded quantitatively in Table C4: * = 1–4 items; ** = 4–20 items; *** = 21–49 items; **** = 50–99 items; ***** = >100 items.

Results

Phase 2.2

Sample 104 from kiln 2952 contained a moderately large number of terrestrial snail shell fragments. These included shells of the open country species *Helicella itala, Pupilla muscorum,* and *Vallonia costata*, the intermediate species *Cepaea* sp., *Trochulus hispidus,* and *Cochlicopa* sp., and the shade-loving species *Discus rotundatus,* and *Clausilla/Cochlodina* sp. The molluscan assemblage indicates a well-established open landscape with areas of longer grass and shade. Sample 116 of pit 3222 also contained a small number of mollusc shells, including those of the open country species *Helicella itala* and the shade-loving species *Discus rotundatus, Aegopinella* sp., and *Carychium tridentatum*. A single aquatic species was identified and noted as belonging to *Galba truncatula*, which is a species that favours areas of seasonal flooding and desiccation.

Undated

Two samples were recovered from undated ditch 3279 (sample 118) and undated ditch 3291 (sample 119). Both samples contained low levels of terrestrial snail shells, including the open country species *Helicella itala*, the intermediate species *Cochlicopa sp*., and the shade-loving species *Discus rotundatus* and *Aegopinella sp*.

Summary

The molluscan remains indicate that the area was made up of a well-established open landscape that had some areas of longer grass, scrub and seasonal flooding.

Feature	Context	Sample	Processed vol (L)	Unprocessed vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Other
Kiln 2952	2962	104	40	0	78	<1	moll-t (****)
Pit 2984	2989	106	32	0	43	5	moll-t (*)
Pit 3222	3223	116	40	0	9	<1	moll-t (**); moll-a (*)
Ditch 3279 Undated	3280	118	20	0	3	98	moll-t (*)
Ditch 3291	3292	119	20	0	20	95	moll-t (**)

Table C4. Aquatic/terrestrial molluscs

Key: * = 1–4 items; ** = 4–20 items; *** = 21–49 items; **** = 50–99 items; ***** = >100 items, moll-t = terrestrial mollusc, moll-a = aquatic/freshwater mollusc

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Marine shell

Tom Brown

Marine Mollusc remains were found in several fills throughout the site (see Table C5). Preservation was mixed with most shells being preserved almost completely intact, while others were more fragmentary.

Phase 2.0: Late 12th – 14th centuries AD

Fill 2917 of pit 2916/2918 contained one right valve (27g) of native oyster (*Ostrea edulis*). The shell showed evidence of W-shaped notches on the ventral margin, clearly indicative of human efforts to open the shell. Fill 2918 of medieval pit 2916 contained two right valves (14g) and two left valves (29g) of native oyster. Fill 2920 of pit 2916/2919 contained five right valves (27g) and one small left valve dorsal margin fragment (2g) of native oyster. Fill 2921 of pit 2919 contained one right valve (4g) and one left valve (10g) of native oyster. These two fragments were clearly once part of the same individual, matching in size and shape and with wear marks on the ventral margin of each valve matching those of the other valve.

Fill 2995 of pit 2994 contained four left valves (39g) of native oyster. One of the shells from this context showed clear evidence of a borehole created be a predatory gastropod mollusc, Winder (2011, 33). Fill 2995 also contained 11g of what was probably common mussel (*Mytilus edulis*). The preservation was not good enough to allow a more specific identification. Fill 2996 of medieval pit 2994 contained two left valves (24g) of native oyster.

Fill 3097 of natural feature 3091 contained one right valve (9g) of native oyster.

Phase 2.2: 13th–14th centuries AD

Fill 3232 of ditch 3231 contained one left valve (18g) and one right valve (7g) of native oyster.

Fill 3034 of pit 3033 contained five left valves (48g) of native oyster. Two of the shells for this context showed evidence of irregular concave heels. This could have been caused by the original settlement of a young oyster upon the surface of the shell, causing it to grow up and around the substrate. This hypothesis is re-enforced by another valve from this context, which has clear evidence of a young oyster fused across the body of the shell (Winder 2011, 40). These irregularities could point to a relatively small substrate available for growing oysters,

forcing close quarters amongst individuals, frequently found in naturally occurring un-managed native oyster beds.

Fill 3062 of ditch 3061 contained 6g of unidentifiable oyster shell fragments. These fragments were retrieved from soil sample <110>.

Fill 3202 of ditch 3200 contained five right valves (59g) and one left valve (23g) of native oyster. The left valve from this context shows signs of an oyster spat attachment on the outer dorsal margin of the shell, causing an irregular growth pattern in this valve.

Fill 2938 of ditch 2937 contained one left valve (7g) of native oyster. The preservation for this context was poor, with the shell being only partially preserved.

Fill 3204 of 3203 contained one left valve (9g) of native oyster. This valve shows evidence of an irregularly shaped concave dorsal margin indicative of crowded growing beds of native oyster.

Phase 3: Late medieval to post-medieval

Fill 2943 of feature 2940 contained one left shell fragment (13g) of native oyster.

Discussion/Summary

All the marine shells recovered from the site were those of edible species. There is an indication from this assemblage that marine molluscs may have augmented the local diet during the medieval period. The multiple examples of naturally growing oysters from unmanaged growing substrates on this site suggests a gathering as opposed to farming technique of marine mollusc acquisition for the people living here during the 12th–14th centuries.

Little variation in the size and thickness of most of the native oyster specimens from this site also indicates a regular harvesting pattern. It is probable that these marine molluscs all grew at a consistent rate with each other before being gathered at the same time for consumption, rather than being picked off in smaller numbers throughout the growing season. A managed, rotating harvesting pattern is possible as it will take up to three years for a juvenile spat of native oyster to reach adulthood, and they can live for up to 20 years. The size and thickness of these oyster specimens suggests an age of 5–7 years. (Helmer *et al*. 2019).

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Phase	Feature	Cut	Context	Oyster left valve	Oyster right valve	Oyster MNI
2.0	Pit	2916	2917	0	1	1
2.0	Pit	2916	2918	2	2	2
2.0	Pit	2919	2920	1	5	5
2.0	Pit	2919	2921	1	1	1
2.2	Pit	2994	2995	4	0	4
2.2	Pit	2994	2996	2	0	2
2.2	Natural feature	3091	3097	0	1	1
2.2	Ditch	3231	3232	1	1	1
2.2	Pit	3033	3034	5	0	5
2.2	Ditch	3203	3202	1	0	1
2.2	Ditch	3061	3062	/	/	1
2.2	Ditch	2937	2938	1	0	1
2.2	Ditch	3200	3204	1	5	5
3	Feature	2940	2943	1	0	1
					Total	**31**

Table C5: Marine shell by context

APPENDIX D: RADIOCARBON DATING

SUERC, summarised by Sarah Cobain and Abby Antrobus

Radiocarbon dating was undertaken in order to confirm the date of deposits 2962 (lowest fill of the stoke pit of kiln 2953), 2995 (lowest fill of probable well 2994), 3043 (lowest fill of pit 3042) and 3062 (lowest fill of probable cess pit 3061). The samples were analysed during November 2022 at Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC), Rankine Avenue, Scottish Enterprise Technology Park, East Kilbride, Glasgow, G75 0QF, Scotland. The methodology employed by SUERC Radiocarbon Laboratory is outlined in Dunbar *et al.* (2016).

The uncalibrated dates are conventional radiocarbon ages. The radiocarbon ages were calibrated using the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration programme OxCal v4.4.2 (Bronk Ramsey 2009, Bronk Ramsey 2020) using the IntCal20 curve (Reimer *et al.* 2020) (Table D1). Carbon isotope ($\delta^{13}C$) data was recorded, and where collagen samples (animal and human bone) were submitted, nitrogen ($\delta^{15}N$) and sulphur ($\delta^{34}S$) isotope data was obtained (Table D2).

References

Bronk Ramsey, C. 2009 'Bayesian analysis of radiocarbon dates', *Radiocarbon* **51 (1)**, 337–360

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Dunbar, E., Cook, G.T., Naysmith, P., Tripney, B.G., Xu, S. 2016 'AMS 14C dating at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC)', *Radiocarbon* **58 (1)**, 9–23

Reimer, P., Austin, W., Bard, E., Bayliss, A., Blackwell, P., Bronk Ramsey, C., Butzin, M. Cheng, H., Edwards, R., Freidrich, M., Grootes, P., Guilderson, T., Hajdas, I., Heaton, T., Hogg, A., Hughen, K., Kromer, B., Manning, S., Muschleler, R., Palmer, J., Pearson, C., van der Plicht, J. Reimer, R., Richards, D., Scott, E., Southon, J., Turney, C., Wacker, L., Adolphi, f., Büntgen, U., Capano, M., Fahrni, S., Fogtmann-Schulz, A., Friedrich, R., Köhler, P., Kudsk, S., Miyake, F., Olsen, J., Reinig, F., Sakamoto, M., Sookdeo, A. and Talamo, S. 2020 'The IntCal20 Northern Hemisphere radiocarbon ago calibration curve (0–55 cal, kBP)', *Radiocarbon* **62 (4)**, 725–57

Feature	SUERC code	Laboratory code	Material	Radiocarbon age	Calibrated radiocarbon age 95.4% probability	Calibrated radiocarbon age 68.2% probability
Context 2962 Kiln 2953	SUERC-107040	GU62669	Charred cereal grain: *Triticum aestivium/compactum*	847 ± 25 yr BP	1163–1261 cal. AD (95.4%)	1172–1225 cal. AD (68.2%)
Context 2995 Well 2994	SUERC-107041	GU62670	Charred cereal grain: *Triticum aestivium/compactum*	651 ± 25 yr BP	1283–1325 cal. AD (44.0%) 1353–1394 cal. AD (51.4%)	1295–1315 cal. AD (27.5%) 1361–1387 cal. AD (40.8%)
Context 3043 Pit 3042	SUERC-107042	GU62671	Charred cereal grain: *Triticum aestivium/compactum*	901 ± 25 yr BP	1045–1086 cal. AD (30.9.0%) 1092–1105 cal. AD (3.5%) 1120-1218 cal. AD (61.0%)	1051–1080 cal. AD (25.9%) 1153–1181 cal. AD (25.9%) 1188-1210 cal. AD (16.5%)
Context 3062 Cess-pit 3061	SUERC-107043	GU62672	Charred cereal grain: *Triticum aestivium/compactum*	585 ± 25 yr BP	1305–1365 cal. AD (69.1%) 1383–1411 cal. AD (26.3%)	1323–1356 cal. AD (53.2%) 1392–1402 cal. AD (15.0%)

Table D1 Radiocarbon dating results

Feature	Lab No.	Material	$\delta^{13}C$ (relative to VPDB, ‰)	$\delta^{15}N$ (relative to air, ‰)	$\delta^{34}S$ (relative to VCDT, ‰)	C/N ratio (Molar)	C/S ratio (Molar)	N/S ratio (Molar)
Context 2962 Kiln 2953	SUERC-107040	Charred cereal grain: *Triticum aestivium/compactum*	-23.0	-	-	-	-	-
Context 2995 Well 2994	SUERC-107041	Charred cereal grain: *Triticum aestivium/compactum*	-22.5	-	-	-	-	-
Context 3043 Pit 3042	SUERC-107042	Charred cereal grain: *Triticum aestivium/compactum*	-22.9	-	-	-	-	-
Context 3062 Cess-pit 3061	SUERC-107043	Charred cereal grain: *Triticum aestivium/compactum*	-23.3					

Table D2 Isotope results

Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre
Rankine Avenue, Scottish Enterprise Technology Park, East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 0QF, Scotland, UK
Director: Professor F M Stuart Tel: +44 (0)1355 223332 Fax: +44 (0)1355 229898 www.glasgow.ac.uk/suerc

RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

02 November 2022

Laboratory Code	SUERC-107040 (GU62669)
Submitter	Anna West Cotswold Archaeology Ltd Unit 5, Plot 11, Maitland Road Lion Barn Industrial Estate Needham Market Suffolk IP6 8NZ
Site Reference	FFBR21
Context Reference	2962
Sample Reference	<104>
Material	cereal grain : Triticum aestivum/compactum
$\delta^{13}C$ relative to VPDB	-23.0 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	847 ± 25

N.B. The above ^{14}C age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD) and requires calibration to the calendar timescale. The error, expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standard and blank and the random machine error.

Samples with a SUERC coding are measured at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre AMS Laboratory and should be quoted as such in any reports within the scientific literature. The laboratory GU coding should also be given in parentheses after the SUERC code.

Detailed descriptions of the methods employed by the SUERC Radiocarbon Laboratory can be found in Dunbar et al. (2016) *Radiocarbon 58(1) pp.9-23.*

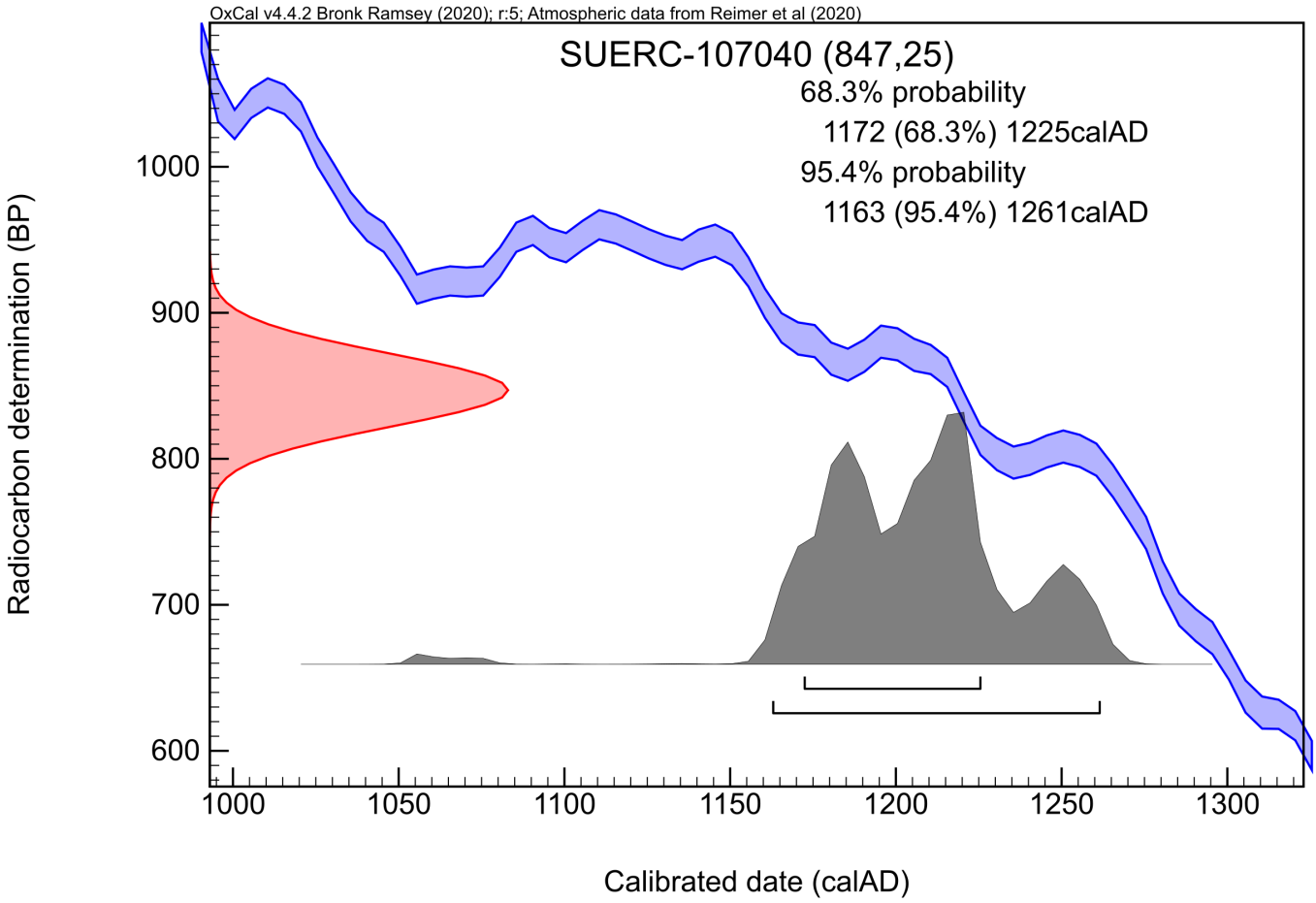
For any queries relating to this certificate, the laboratory can be contacted at suerc-c14lab@glasgow.ac.uk.

Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by : E. Dunbar

Checked and signed off by : P. Nayont

The University of Glasgow, charity number SC004401

The University of Edinburgh is a charitable body, registered in Scotland, with registration number SC005336



The radiocarbon age given overleaf is calibrated to the calendar timescale using the Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program OxCal 4.*

The above date ranges have been calibrated using the IntCal20 atmospheric calibration curve†

Please contact the laboratory if you wish to discuss this further.

* Bronk Ramsey (2009) *Radiocarbon 51(1) pp.337-60*

† Reimer et al. (2020) *Radiocarbon 62(4) pp.725-57*

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RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

02 November 2022

Laboratory Code	SUERC-107041 (GU62670)
Submitter	Anna West Cotswold Archaeology Ltd Unit 5, Plot 11, Maitland Road Lion Barn Industrial Estate Needham Market Suffolk IP6 8NZ
Site Reference	FFBR21
Context Reference	2995
Sample Reference	<108>
Material	cereal grain : Triticum aestivum/compactum
$\delta^{13}C$ relative to VPDB	-22.5 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	651 ± 25

N.B. The above ^{14}C age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD) and requires calibration to the calendar timescale. The error, expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standard and blank and the random machine error.

Samples with a SUERC coding are measured at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre AMS Laboratory and should be quoted as such in any reports within the scientific literature. The laboratory GU coding should also be given in parentheses after the SUERC code.

Detailed descriptions of the methods employed by the SUERC Radiocarbon Laboratory can be found in Dunbar et al. (2016) *Radiocarbon 58(1) pp.9-23.*

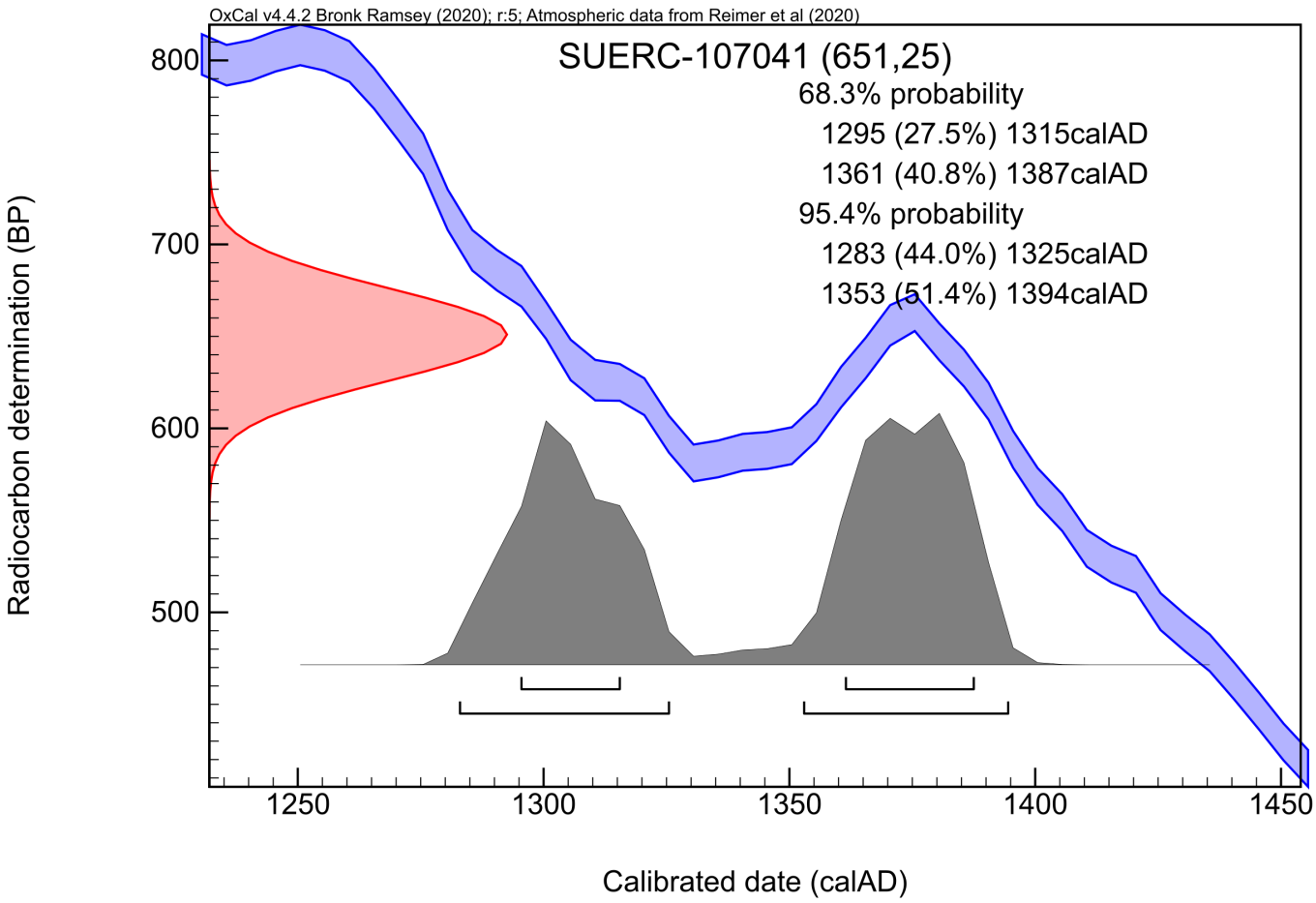
For any queries relating to this certificate, the laboratory can be contacted at suerc-c14lab@glasgow.ac.uk.

Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by : E. Dunbar

Checked and signed off by : P. Nayont

The University of Glasgow, charity number SC004401

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The radiocarbon age given overleaf is calibrated to the calendar timescale using the Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program OxCal 4.*

The above date ranges have been calibrated using the IntCal20 atmospheric calibration curve†

Please contact the laboratory if you wish to discuss this further.

* Bronk Ramsey (2009) *Radiocarbon 51(1) pp.337-60*

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RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

02 November 2022

Laboratory Code	SUERC-107042 (GU62671)
Submitter	Anna West Cotswold Archaeology Ltd Unit 5, Plot 11, Maitland Road Lion Barn Industrial Estate Needham Market Suffolk IP6 8NZ
Site Reference	FFBR21
Context Reference	3043
Sample Reference	<109>
Material	cereal grain : Triticum aestivum/compactum
$\delta^{13}C$ relative to VPDB	-22.9 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	901 ± 25

N.B. The above ^{14}C age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD) and requires calibration to the calendar timescale. The error, expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standard and blank and the random machine error.

Samples with a SUERC coding are measured at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre AMS Laboratory and should be quoted as such in any reports within the scientific literature. The laboratory GU coding should also be given in parentheses after the SUERC code.

Detailed descriptions of the methods employed by the SUERC Radiocarbon Laboratory can be found in Dunbar et al. (2016) *Radiocarbon 58(1) pp.9-23.*

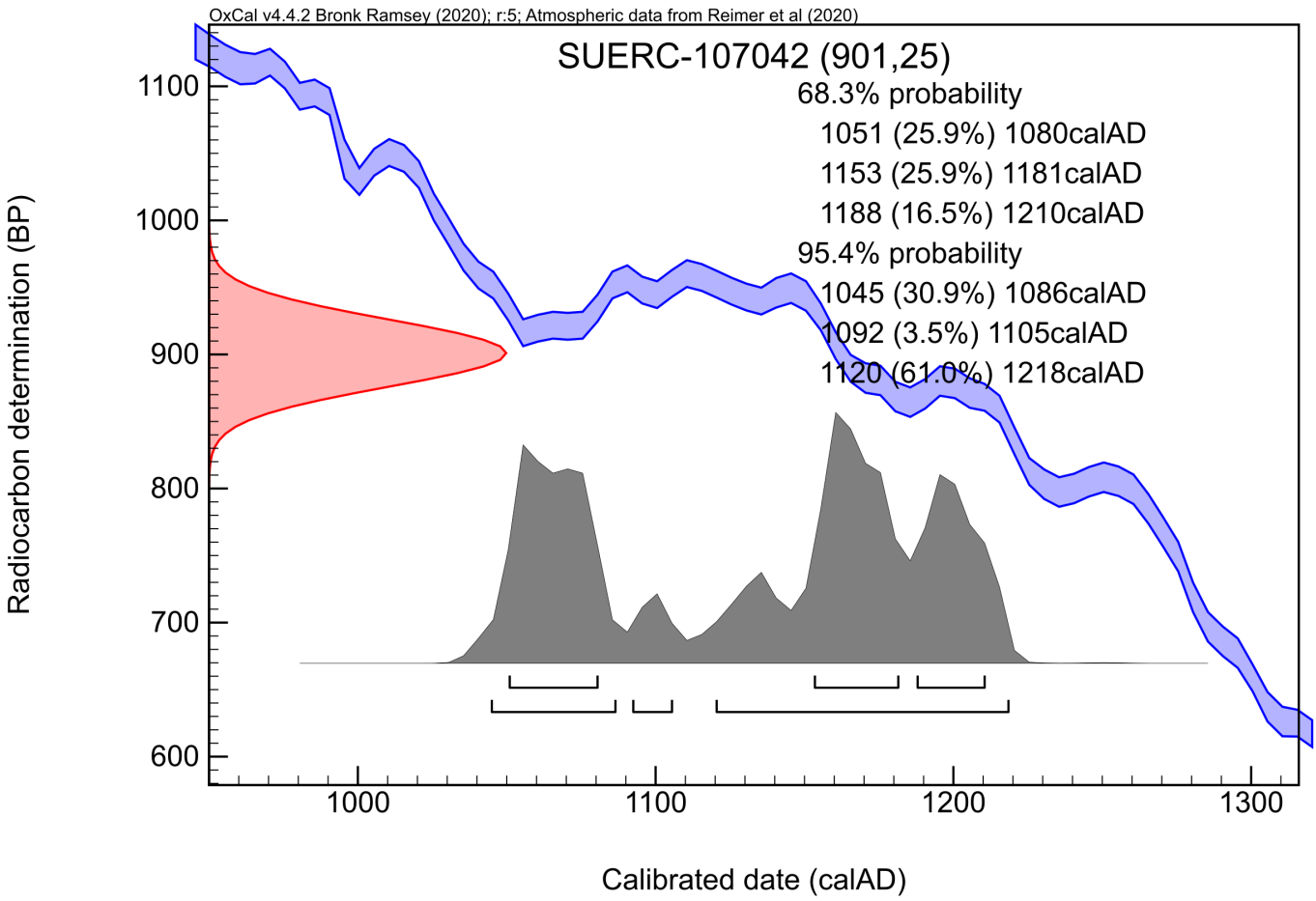
For any queries relating to this certificate, the laboratory can be contacted at suerc-c14lab@glasgow.ac.uk.

Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by : E. Dunbar

Checked and signed off by : P. Nayont

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The radiocarbon age given overleaf is calibrated to the calendar timescale using the Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program OxCal 4.*

The above date ranges have been calibrated using the IntCal20 atmospheric calibration curve†

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* Bronk Ramsey (2009) *Radiocarbon 51(1) pp.337-60*

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RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

02 November 2022

Laboratory Code	SUERC-107043 (GU62672)
Submitter	Anna West Cotswold Archaeology Ltd Unit 5, Plot 11, Maitland Road Lion Barn Industrial Estate Needham Market Suffolk IP6 8NZ
Site Reference	FFBR21
Context Reference	3062
Sample Reference	<110>
Material	cereal grain : Triticum aestivum/compactum
$\delta^{13}C$ relative to VPDB	-23.3 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	585 ± 25

N.B. The above ^{14}C age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD) and requires calibration to the calendar timescale. The error, expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standard and blank and the random machine error.

Samples with a SUERC coding are measured at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre AMS Laboratory and should be quoted as such in any reports within the scientific literature. The laboratory GU coding should also be given in parentheses after the SUERC code.

Detailed descriptions of the methods employed by the SUERC Radiocarbon Laboratory can be found in Dunbar et al. (2016) *Radiocarbon 58(1) pp.9-23.*

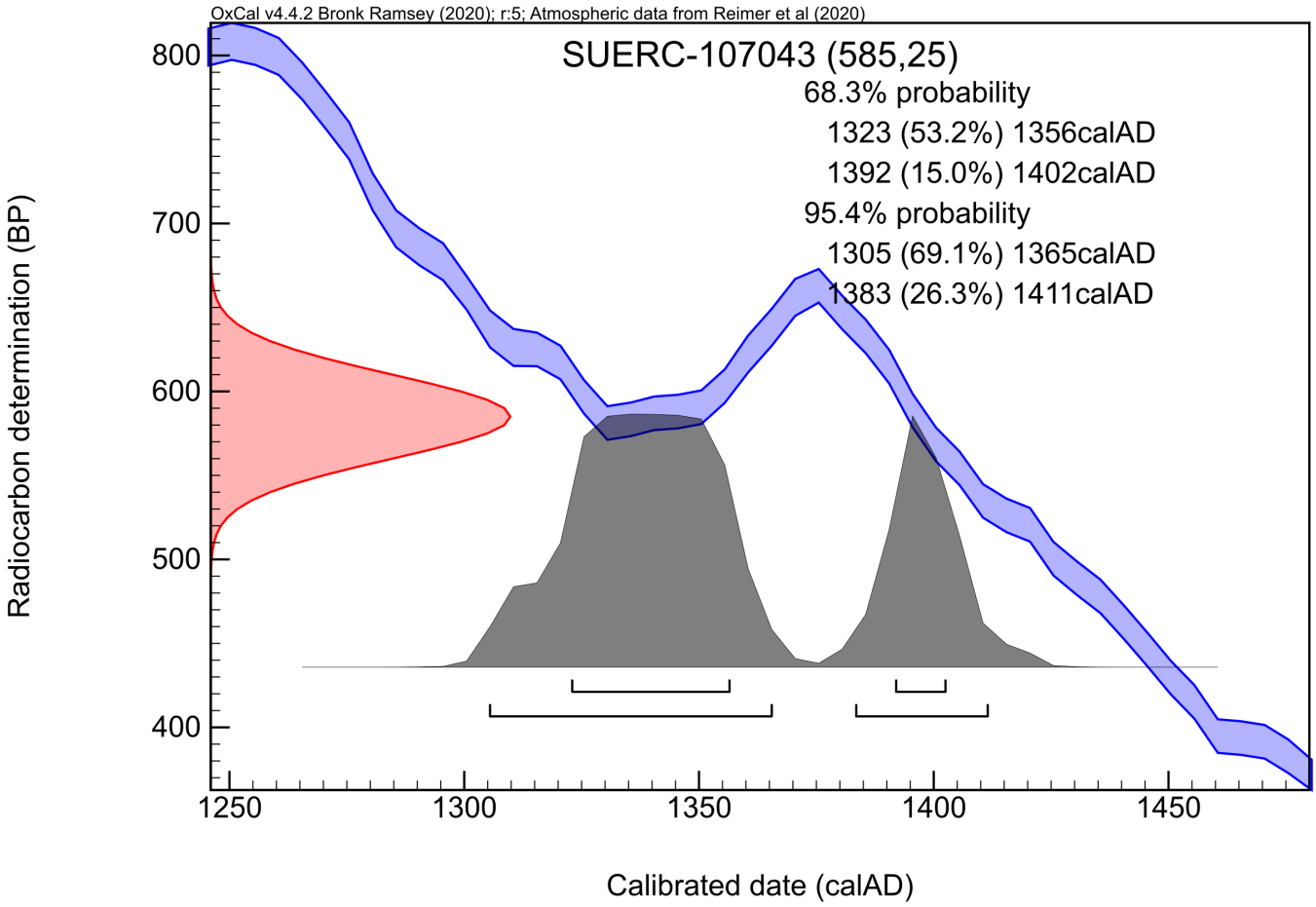
For any queries relating to this certificate, the laboratory can be contacted at suerc-c14lab@glasgow.ac.uk.

Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by : E. Dunbar

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† Reimer et al. (2020) *Radiocarbon 62(4) pp.725-57*

APPENDIX E: DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

Abby Antrobus

Introduction

The main interest for the site lies in the medieval period. Manorial records can be a useful source of contemporary information for rural sites, and, in the case of a kiln, can sometimes help to identify the patron, owner and tiler —although often, detailed study of a large volume of material may yield only a few references (Hare 1991, 86). However, it has not been possible to identify with certainty which medieval manor the site on Bardfield Road belonged to.

The name of the field in which the development area lies can be traced to the mid-15th century in Finchingfield's early tithe records, and this report presents evidence for the history of the land back to then and possibly earlier, starting with topographic information from 19th century maps. It presents contextual information for the site as offered by the earliest tithe survey. It then explores possible links with Great Winsey, a nearby moated site (Fig. 3), although there is little early documentation that can be tied to that site. The development site was in the same ownership as Little Winsey farm when it was sold for development (Richard Mortimer, pers. comm.), although was not listed with Little Winsey in the Tithe Survey of 1840, although the owners —Robert and Hezekiah Smith, respectively— may have been related. Little Winsey was not depicted on Chapman and Andre's map of 1777 (Fransen 2022), and documentary and building survey work has suggested that it was probably established on a new site in the 18th century (Letch 2007). That it was carved out of Winsey lands is indicated by the location of Little Winsey on what was *Dyssecroft*, part of Wynsey in 1438 and 1526 (ERO D/DU 812/2, f4r and part 2,1, see below). The possibility of a link with Winsey was a consideration in the research, which accounts for some of the detail in the report.

Research Methodology

Two visits were made to the Essex Records Office. Cartographic sources and historic tithe surveys were identified to trace the later history of the site, and readily available online sources and catalogues have been used to look for key search terms in primary documents relating to places, people and also the kiln. Essex Records Office has an online catalogue which includes almost all of their holdings (essexarchivesonline.co.uk). A search for 'kiln' and 'Finchingfield' did not yield immediate hits, neither did variations on the spelling of Winsey (beyond sources referenced below). It is not possible to search the catalogue using 'wildcards', although several search terms were tried. Terms for tilers can include 'tiler', 'paviour', 'tegulator', Theghelere (Le Patourel 1968, 115; Cherry 2001, 192) and terms for kilns may include 'Kill/Kell', 'Tile Kill', 'Tylekyl', 'Tyleoste' and variations, and 'furnum', 'turrellum', 'hokum' and 'domus ignea' (Le

Patourel 1968, 115). Historian Paul Drury has advised that several years ago, during the course of research for a forthcoming volume, *Medieval Tiles*, searches of the Essex Records office for references to medieval tile making yielded thin results, with nothing for Finchingfield (Paul Drury pers. comm. October 2022).

For elimination, there is a 'Tilekiln' in Finchingfield mentioned in 1777 on Andre and Chapman's map, with a homestead of that name at 1008 on the Tithe Map (Reaney 1969, 428), but this lies elsewhere in the parish. Also, there was a likely medieval kiln at Ostend (Aust End Farm in 1777), with 'Gilbert de Ost ende' listed in the 13th century (Reaney 1969, 428). Ostend is shown on historic OS maps in the north-eastern part of the parish, to the east of Ostend Wood, and is no longer extant (799 on the tithe map is Austen Field). However, a kiln on Bardfield Road has not previously been identified in historical record.

Cartographic and historical information

Historic OS maps and aerial photographs

The development site formed the eastern part of a field to the west of Bardfield Road. At the time of the 1st edition OS map (1881), this was a larger field that included the playing fields to the north of the development area, and the area of land occupied by houses to the east of them, against Bardfield Road (Figs 1 and 3). There was a separate parcel of land in the north-eastern corner, broadly where Stephen Marshall Avenue is now, and the rectangular parcel of land to the west of the playing fields in the northwestern corner, south of *Winsey Chase*, was also separate. At the southern site boundary, a ditch or stream and a track led towards Little Winsey Farm.

Tithe map and Apportionment

The larger field within which the development area lay was named *Cobham's Field* in the Apportionment (1843) for the Tithe Map for Finchingfield (1840), parcel 1118 (Fig. 3). The southern part of the field was separate, *Cobhams Mead* (National Archives ref IR 29/12/132, Essex Record Office D/CT 139a and b). A post-medieval ditch identified in the excavation, 3343, correlated with the boundary between the two. The parcel in the north-east corner of the field, now Stephen Marshall Avenue, was called *Sayers Field*, and that in the north-western corner was called *Little Field* (1151), with a narrow strip on its western edge called *Chase* (1152). Winsey Chase is shown as a route leading towards the moated site of Great Wincey. North of this route were *The Common* and *Eight Acres,* with Hill House in the corner towards the historic settlement core. These parcels were bordered to the north by the road out of Finchingfield to the west, now called Brent Hall Road.

Southwards of the development area, the field was called *Potten Field* (parcel 1161), and *Shortland* lay to the southeast of Little Winsey. West of this, southwest of Little Winsey, *Lower Favours* lay to the north of *Fever's Field,* parcel 475 on the Great Bardfield Tithe Map and Apportionment of 1842 (National Archives ref IR 29/12/17).

Both of the pieces of land spanned by the development, *Cobham's Field* and *Cobham's Mead*, were owned and occupied by Robert Smith (see Fig. 3). He also owned other properties in Finchingfield, including Colemans, The Mill Farm, Robin Hood End Farm, Nortofts and Petches Bridge. The group of fields, *Cobhams Field* (parcel 1118)*, Cobhams Mead* (parcel 1168), and *Potten Field* (parcel 1161) were grouped together for tithe assessment under the sub-total for Petches Bridge, with an outlying piece of land, *Hovells Piece,* (582a) which lay 2km away in the northeast of the parish, near to Howe Street. Petches Bridge is not named as a manor in Morant's *History of Essex* (1762); the Tithe information therefore does not provide a quick link to a historic manor.

The parcels were bordered by lands of Great and Little Winsey (Fig. 3). Great Winsey was owned by the Trustees of the Wethersfield Lectureship (see below), and tenanted by Mary Choat. The estate comprised *Little Hatch Field, Great Hatch Field, Home Field Ley, Church Field, Great Field, Little Field, Further* and *Hither Winsey Pastures, Hopground Meadow, Sayers Field, New Piece, Mary Croft, Wood Field, Barn Field, Homestead Field, Winsey Wood* and *Cartlodge Field* (selected fields names on Fig. 3).

Little Winsey was owned by Hezekiah Smith and occupied by Robert Smith. It was for sale in 1885 as part of an estate called *Beslyns* (ERO D/F 35/7/584, D/F 35/7/574). The estate comprised *Pond Field, Lower Favours, Rye Cross Field, Shortland, Front Field* and *The Chase* (selected fields named on Fig. 3). Hezekiah Smith also owned *Fevers Field* in Great Bardfield (parcel 475).

These place names or variants of them appear in earlier documents, enabling references relevant to the development site to be identified.

17th century

The 19th century name *Cobham's* probably relates to *Cobonds* that appears in connection with Winsey in the 17th century, based on the similarity in name and the grouping with other properties. The Wethersfield Lectureship was created in the 17th century, with various subsequent deeds and indentures confirming the charity at times when there was a need for new trustees (1693 D/DWv/T29; 1785, ERO D/P 119/25/195; 1880, ERO D/DGd/E180). The original deed, from 1633 (ERO D/DQ 41/133), relates to the sale of Winsey Farm and other lands for the use of Walter Wilsher of Wethersfield during his life, subsequently to be used for

relief to support the poor and to support lectures in the church of Wethersfield (and the churches of Finchingfield and Shalford). Walter Wilsher was part of a strong puritan movement in this part of Essex, and Stephen Marshall, a noted preacher, was incumbent at the time. The tenants were Isaac Paynell, and then an Ezekiel Smith, and the lands included:

> *Farm called Winsey in Finchingfield and Little Sampford and part of Homefield and ground called Round Croft, parcels of ground called Goodall field, Churchfield, Greene, Mary Croft, Little Netherhatch, Great Netherhutch, Cobonds [?] meadow, Homefield Meadow, close called the Spryng and wood and Hoppground, containing in total c. 100 acres.*

The 1785 deed (ERO D/P 119/25/195) uses the spellings *Windsey* and *Cobon*. Some of the parcels of land can be equated to parcels held by the Trustees in 1840, with continuity of names: *Homefield/Home Field Ley, Churchfield/ Church Field, Mary Croft; Little Netherhatch* and *Great Netherhutch/Great* and *Little Hatch Fields*, *Hoppground/Hop Ground Meadow*.

If *Cobons* does relate to the development site, the question arises as to how the land was not part of the charitable lands by the time of the Tithe Map, as the lectureship appears to have been set up in perpetuity. There may have been some confusion: the deeds of the charity appear to have been mainly reiterated when there was a pressing need for new trustees.

The tenant of lands in the later 1630s, Ezekiel Smith, may have been connected to the Smith family in the 1840s, if there was a tradition of biblical Christian names down to Hezekiah. Searches for Paynell/Purnell, Ezekial Smith and Walter Wilsher (and variations such as Willsher/Wiltshire/Wissher) have so far not yielded any further historical information to help trace the ownership and tenancy of the land further back than the early 17th century.

Tithe surveys of 1438 and 1562

The tithes from Finchingfield were shared between the Rector, Vicar and the Prior of the Monastery of Thetford, which held the advowson of the church; the lands and tithes owed to each were therefore documented in narrative descriptions. The *Tithe Book of the Manor and Rectory of Finchingfield,* compiled *c.* 1580–1590, begins with a copy of a survey of 1438, and includes a list of tithes dating to 1562, annotated with 17th century additions (ERO D/DU 812/2). The are copies of the book made in c. 1677, summarising the occupants and details of holdings and tithes 1438–1612 (ERO D/DU 812/10), and in c. 1742 (ERO D/DU 812/15), although the original document is referenced here.

Lands in the south-west of the parish, including those associated with Winsey, are described near the beginning of both surveys, which then move on to lands elsewhere in the parish.

1562

The survey of 1562 forms the latter section of the book. It commences with an entry for *Colbaynes' Purdon Feild.* These names are similar to *Cobhams* and *Potten* Fields as recorded in the Tithe Map, and that they are the same fields is confirmed by the description of the abuttals of the various parcels of land (Fig. 3).

In *Colbaynes Purdon Feild*, the vicar had the tithe of a piece of land of three rods 'lyinge att the west end… of the North parte', sometime belonging to Walter Greene and in 1562 belonging to Thomas Syledsden Esquire; one side of this abutted on the field called *dysse croft* (ERO D/DU 812/2 part 2, 1). The next entry is for *Discroft part' Wynsey*, which abutted on *Purdon Field* and *Fevore's Land* against the south and upon pasture called *Wynsey valley* on the north (ERO D/DU 812/2 part 2, 1). This suggests that *Discroft* was in the general area of what is now Little Winsey, with *Purdon Field* equating to *Potten Field* as named in 1840, and *Fevore's Land* equating to *Lower Favours* and *Fevers Field* (see Fig. 3). This identification also confirms the correlation between *Colbaynes* and *Cobhams*.

The series of entries on the next three pages of the document appear to relate to land in the immediate vicinity of the development area on its northern side, and they are worthy of note, as the earlier Tithe survey of 1438 pairs *Colbaynes* with one of these, *Dogden (*see below). These pieces of land cannot be confidently tied to particular parcels on the tithe map (as checked against the Essex field names database available on ESAH 2023), but they show a landscape of larger fields subdivided into smaller parcels at this date.

Albeys' croft, eight acres that 'lyeth in length against the north and south' is listed after *Discroft part Wynsey* (ERO D/DU 812/2 part 2, 1 and 2); it was —helpfully at the time, perhaps— described in relation to an ash tree by the gate into the field to the east, and an elder tree beneath a broad oak growing on the other side of the hedge to the west. *Pultere's croft* lay at the north end of *Albeye's croft* and included three acres 'sometyme John Pulter and now John Heryington'. A later hand notes that this related to Town Farm. *Pultere's Pery* (meaning pear tree or pear orchard) contained three acres sometime of John Pulter and in 1562 was held by Robert Kemp, Esquire (of Spain's Hall), and extended to 'a ditch on the further side' (ERO D/DU 812/2 part 2, 2). *Dovehouse croft* contained two acres, and the vicar had the tithe 'from the yard of Mother Hart. Alonge by the orchard pale and from the Corner of the said pale directly over the redge against a croft called Dogden', where redge probably means ridge. *Dogden* lay at the 'upper side' of *Dovehouse croft* and contained six acres. The vicar had the 'right fourth upp in the redges thereof agaynst the corner of the said pale upp to corner Dogden on the north side next the Lane called leading from Fynchingfeild to Sampford' (presumably the modern Brent Hall Road). This places *Dogden* generally to the north of the development

area (ERO D/DU 812/2 part 2, 2), and it is possible that the redge or ridge referred to related to the route or boundary now called Winsey Chase. There are five fields with a 'dove' name element in the 19th century Tithe records, but all elsewhere in the parish (ESAH 2023).

The survey then moves to *Shorte Land* in the south side of *Dyssecroft* 'next the foresaid Lane sometyme John Lyghtfote and now Thomas Sylesden Esquire' (ERO D/DU 812/2 part 2, 3). This may be *Shortland* on the Tithe map, adjacent to Little Winsey, which fits with *Dyssecroft* as the site of Little Winsey.

1438

The copy of the survey of 1438 forms the first section of the *Tithe Book of the Rectory and Manor of Finchingfield* (ERO D/DU 812/2). As for the 1562 survey, it gives a general impression of fields divided into smaller parcels.

The survey commences with *Dyscroft,* part of John Lyghtfoote, with a piece of land from the south, extending on the east to the corner of the close of Henry Swallow, to the messuage of John Kentworth on the west, and a piece of land of John Lyghtfoote (ERO D/DU 812/2, f 3r). Later in the survey, *Dyscroft*, part of the manor of Wynsey, was noted as abutting *Purdonfeld* and *Feverslond* to the south, and the pasture of Walter Grene to the north (ERO D/DU 812/2 f4r).

The field called *Dogden* included two pieces of land on the north; next to them one piece of land of one acre and one of three acres 'of the said Thome'; and next to them one piece of land of about one and a half acres of Walter Grene; one piece of land of the fee (f*eodo*) de Brendhall of one and a half acres. Lying at the western boundary of the said land was one piece of land of the fee of Brendhall (confirming the location of *Dogden* to the north of the site, near the modern Brent Hall Road). Next to the land was a piece of land of two acres of Thome Fitch, headed *Dovehousecroft*, although this is crossed out (ERO D/DU 812/2, f 3r).

The next heading is for '*Campno voc' Colbaynes Dogden'* and it included one piece of land of 1 acre of John Lightfote; next to that a piece of land of two acres, also of John; next to that a piece of land of Walter Grene containing eight acres, which extended to the fee of Bryndhall, and in the same field to the west of the eight acres, next to the fee of Bryndhall, was one acre of John Lyghtfote; next to that ('iuxta eanes') three acres of John Pultere called *Pulter's pirre*, which extended as far as the ditch on the exterior ('usque fossat ex parte exterior') (ERO D/DU 812/2, f 3r and 3v). This is annotated 'Root' in a later hand. *Colbaynes Medowe* is mentioned later in the survey book (ERO D/DU 812/2, f 14v). The field name *Colbaynes Dogden* is

rendered as *Cobboyesdokefen* in the 1677 copy of the survey, D/DU 812/10 f3v, seemingly incorrectly.

The medieval boundary 3335 identified in the excavations was undoubtedly a boundary between parcels of land, or a field boundary; the ceramic assemblage from the terminus had a broad context date of 14th–15th century; perhaps it was the boundary between *Dogden* and *Colbaynes*.

In *Purdonfeld* ('parte Walter' Greene inclus') tithe for the prior was noted from one piece of land that contained three rods and lying against the west side of the field to the north, with the rest of the field pertaining to the vicar. (ERO D/DU 812/2, f 3v), again confirming a pattern of smaller holdings in larger fields.

Tracing Great Winsey

The site is geographically close to Great Winsey, and was abutted by lands associated with Great Winsey and Little Wincey. Wynsey is explicitly referred to as a manor in the Tithe Survey of 1438, where one field is described as 'next the manor called Wynsey'; this extended, on its west part, as far as the corner of a 'certain ditch' ('ad quandem corner' cuiusdem fossat') which might perhaps have referred to the moat (ERO D/DU 812/2 f3v).

Little Wincey was on the site of *Dis- or Dyssecroft* (1438 and 1526) described as part of Wincey in both of the earlier tithe surveys; *Shortland*, part of Little Winsey in the 1840s, was also directly linked to *Dyssecroft* in 1526 (ERO D/DU 812/2 part 2, 3); this confirms that the land for Little Wincey was carved out of part of Wynsey lands after the 16th century. Given that the properties listed in the 1633 grant do not appear to have included the land upon which Little Winsey was later built, it may have been divided before this date, although the buildings are of a later 18th century date (Letch 2007). The Smith family potentially offer a connecting thread between the land and across time, with Ezekiel Smith a tenant of Great Winsey in 1633, Hezekiah Smith owning Little Wincey in 1840, and Robert Smith owning nearby land, including the development site. Hezekiah Smith also owned land in Great Bardfield, including land to the west of Great Winsey and the parish boundary, plots 476–6 and 493–5, lands associated with *Besleyans, Burroughs and Letches* (National Archives ref IR 29/12/17).

Figure 3 shows the Winsey lands as recorded in 1840; as noted above, there are correlations with the 1633 grant establishing the Lectureship. Further, although the early tithe records do not systematically note ownership, there are some references to land belonging to Great Winsey. *Church Field* was confirmed in 1438 as belonging to Wynsey (ERO D/DU 812/2, f4r) and *Goodale Field* (noted as lying to the south of *Church Field* and therefore meaning it was

Great Field), and *Marycroft* (not illustrated on Fig. 3) were annotated with 'Gt Winsey' in a later hand on the 1562 survey (ERO D/DU 812/2 part 2, 3 and 4). (This also gives information that the Wynsey land, *Roundecroft* lay to the west of *Goodale Fyld* with *Holmefield* (*Home Field*) to the west, with *Wynsey Grene* to the north and at the corner of *Wynsey's o*r the yard on the north side (ERO D/DU 812/2 part 2, 3 and 4). *Hatchfield* was called *Natherych* in the 1438 survey (ERO D/DU 812/2, f4r)).

The Great and Little Wincey lands correlate to a consolidated block of land which is central perhaps to a wider field pattern, towards the roads and water courses (Fig. 3): a future question may be to explore whether it could have been associated with a hunting lodge or park? The kiln site would then have been on the edge of a wider holding, if the development site formed part of this estate.

Beyond references in the Tithe Survey, no early documentation relating to Wynsey has been found (none on the National Manorial Documents Register, NA 2023). That there were some manorial documents is indicated in Reaney's *Place names of Essex* (1969), which cites Morant's 1768 *History of Essex* as a source for the name *Windsey* in 1634, and cites rentals at the British Museum/Public Records Office and 'other documents held elsewhere' as a source for the spellings *Wenelishey* in 1367, derived from a personal name, and *Wynsey* in 1596 (p. 428). These may have been in private hands and have not been traced (even by searching online catalogues for rentals of those years).

Morant's 1768 *History of Essex* describes Wynsey as a nominal manor of Wethersfield (p. 372, which is repeated in Wright's later history (1831 Volume 1, 674); it is therefore not included in the list of historic manors in Finchingfield. However, this link dates to the 17th century rather than earlier. Historian Vaughan, writing on the preacher Stephen Marshall, notes that:

> 'The salary of the Weathersfield Lecturer had been provided for by Stephen's former benefactor, Willsher, who, in 1634, had handed over for that purpose unto his "adopted son," as trustee, the Finchingfield farm of " Great Wincey," stipulating that the Lecturer be chosen by twenty of the chief inhabitants or the greater part of them. This trust Marshall held up to the time of his departure for Ipswich, when he resigned his office and placed this "nominal Manor" in the hands of the Weathersfield authorities, the donor himself being no longer there to consult.' (1907, 114).

There is perhaps a chance that Great Winsey was part of the estates of an ecclesiastical institution, perhaps a lodge, grange or manor, and that the dissolution could have disrupted

the chain of documented manorial history. Vaughan suggests that the Wethersfield lectureship was an older institution, with the first incumbent having been in post for 46 years (Vaughan 1907, 114). This would lead back into the 1580s or earlier – although whether the lectureship was funded from Great Wincey at its inception is not known. The National Archives does include a reference to an inquisition into concealed chantry lands (concealed meaning income was effectively hidden from the crown after the reformation) in Finchingfield, amongst other places (E 178/2886, not consulted for this project). The site, however, is not mentioned in the *Survey of the Manor and Parsonage of Finchingfield dating to 1611* (ERO D/DU 812/3), nor in Israel Amyce's 1592 survey of the estates of the De Vere family, which included lands that they had previously granted to Castle Hedingham and the priory at Earl's Colne that were returned at the dissolution (ERO D/DMh M1). Thetford Priory (St Mary) held some lands in Finchingfield, although later accounts seem to suggest that these related to the Rectory Manor (Dymond 1996); the Essex archive contains three deeds which reference priory lands as abuttals to other properties, from 1408 and 1513 (D/DU 333/2, 333/5) and 1443 (D/DU 333/3), the latter of which appears to be on the east side of the road to Gt Bardfield, bordering the bank of the stream. St Thomas Hospital also held estates in Finchingfield in 1431, within the Manor of Helions Bumpstead (D/DTh M49, not consulted for this project).

Some of the personal names above may support future research. Walter Grene held *Maryott's Croft* in 1438 (ERO D/DU 812/2 f4r), *Marycroft* by 1526 (ERO D/DU 812/2 part 2, 4) notably part of the Winsey estate in the 17th century; he was also noted as a holder of pasture north of *Discroft* in 1438, which was recorded as *Winsey Valley* to the north of *Discroft* in 1562, then held by John Dygby (ERO D/DU 812/2 f4r; ERO D/DU 812/2 part 2, 1). In 1562, the three rods previously of Walter Grene in *Cobaynes Purdon Field* were held by Thomas Sylesden, Esq, who also held *Shorte Land*, sometime held by John Lyghtfote (ERO D/DU 812/2 part 2, 1 and 3), who held *Dyscroft* in 1438 (ERO D/DU 812/2 3r*). Two Church Feilds* mentioned in the survey, which probably relates to *Church Field* on the Tithe Map, was noted as laying west of land sometime of John Fitch and now Robert Cotton, with *Church Field* in 1438 laying west of land of John Fitch (ERO D/DU 812/2 f4r). In 1438 *Natherych* included lands of Thome Fitch (ERO D/DU 812/2 f4r and 4v). There is a Walter Greene listed in the feet of fines for 1413, where land in Finchingfield was quitclaimed to Walter Greene and Alesia his wife, and the manor of Hurscale in Middlesex (Fowler 1938, 261).

The outlying piece of land described with *Cobham's Field, Potton Field* and *Cobham's Meadow* in the 1840 Tithe Survey, *Hovells Piece,* (582a), which lay 2km away in the northeast of the parish near to Howe Street, is worthy of mention. In 1438, another tenement called *Colbayne's or part of Colbayne's* in Finchingfield was described under the heading 'Longhethe'

as ‘una clausur’ voc’ Longhethe pt tenement de Colbanes’ abutting on the wood (‘boscum’) *voc’ Hovellgrove alias Longhethe*’ (‘a close called Longhethe part of the tenement of Colbanes abutting on the wood called Hovellgrove’) (ERO D/DU 812/2 9v). This may suggest an early connection between these pieces of land, and prompts the question as to whether the site at *Hovellgrove* may perhaps have been an early source of wood? Equally, it could have been a writing error for Colmans, which was next to Hovells meadow (ERO D/DU 812/2, f14v). The *Survey of the Mannor and Parsonage of Finchingfield* (1611) suggests longstanding confusion over this matter; a messuage and three acres of land were held by Robert Kempe, son of Robert Kemp, which was noted to have been held by Matthew Wynsey, after Thomas Ratcliff, after Andrew Young, Jeffery Barneby and lastly Robert Kemp, with a noted ‘*Querie whether this messuage and this land doth lie. It is supposed they be among Winsey grounds because in the rentall it is sayd ye Mathei Wynsey. But if Matthew Wynsey owner of the grounds called Hovells shou this messuage and land may be amongst them’* (D/DU 812/3, 9).

Discussion

The tithe information enables the field name for the development site to be traced back to *Colbaynes* in 1438, century, via *Cobhams (*1840) and *Cobonds (*1633). The site is not explicitly linked to Great Winsey, although Cobonds meadow is referenced in a 17th century document granting land from the Winsey estate to the Trustees of the Wethersfield Lectureship, which may confirm that at least part of the development site (*Cobond’s Mead*) was within this bequest, although it doesn’t appear to have remained so. It has not been possible to follow the trail of ownership further back from Walter Wilsher in 1633, and there is no reference to a kiln, although archaeological evidence would indicate that it was not in use by this date.

The name Colbaynes may related to individuals recorded in Finchingfield in the 14th century, broadly contemporary with the suggested date of the kiln. William Colbayne, a smith, was listed in the poll tax of 1381 (Fenwick 1998, 211) and an Agnes/Agnete, widow of Walter Colbayn (deceased) is listed under Finchingfield in the lay subsidy of 1327 (Ward 1983, 62); a Walter Colbayn witnessed deeds relating to Finchingfield in 1307 and 1315. However, no further information is available (D/DU 333/1, D/DCw T46/2).

The nearby moated site at Winsey is shown to have been associated with a consolidated holding in the 17th century, with elements of this confirmed in the 15th century. It would appear, although the historical link cannot be proven, that the kiln site was on the edge of this. A possible connection in ownership between it and a piece of outlying woodland may be interesting in this regard. However, the land may also have been held by other landowners, perhaps far distant, with a kiln placed to utilise resources. It may have lay within other manors

in the parish, or formed part of a different estate or manor, either lordly or ecclesiastical. There may yet be accounts, rentals, conveyances or other court records that relate to the site.

Overall, the documents show a pattern of large fields divided into smaller holdings, at least in the 15th century, which to some extent also reflects the archaeological evidence for smaller parcels of land within larger fields several centuries earlier. Terms include hedge, fence, croft, close, pale and redge.

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APPENDIX F: OASIS REPORT FORM

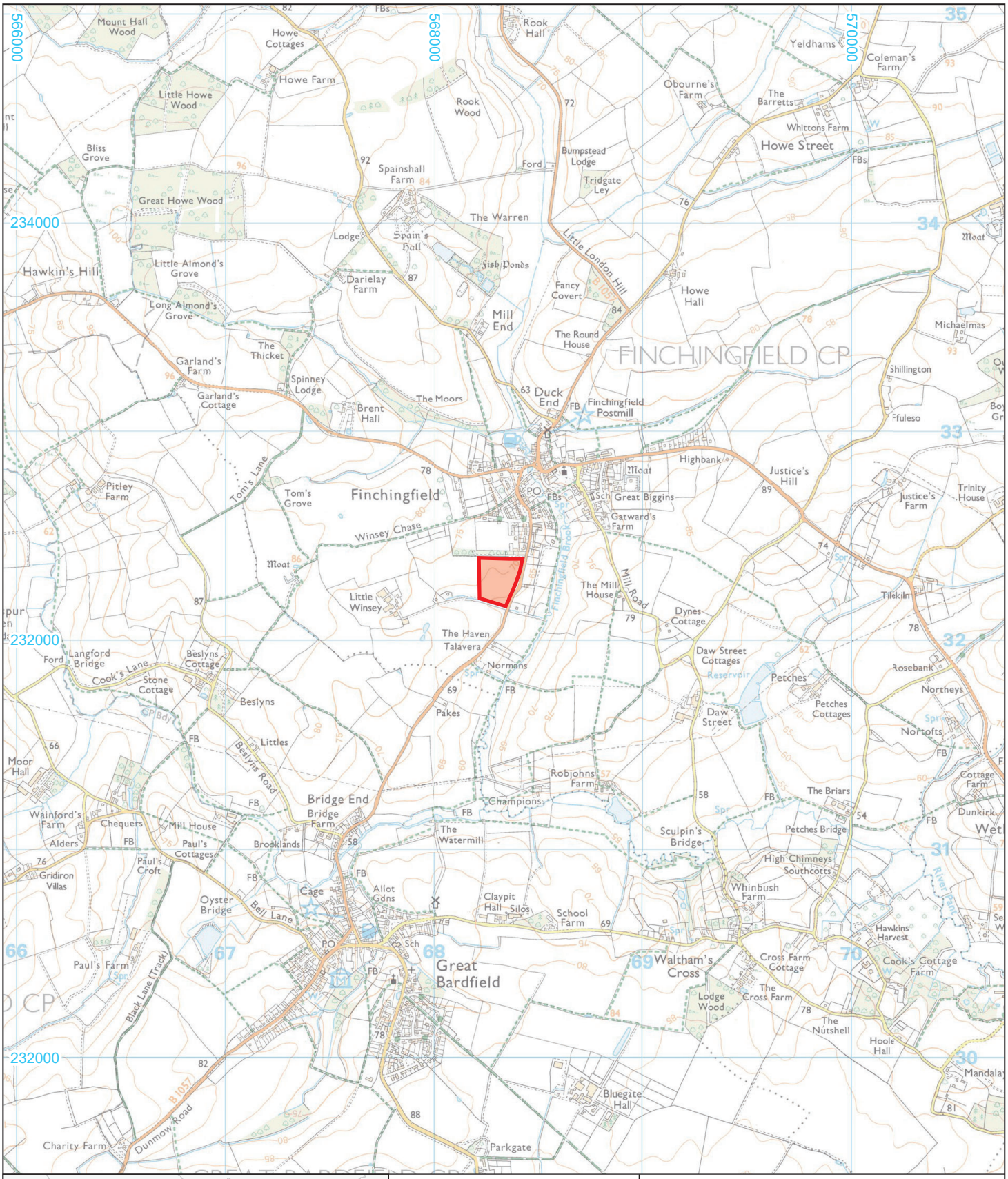
PROJECT DETAILS		
Project name	Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex	
Short description	Archaeological investigation of c.0.5ha recorded medieval rural and industrial activity, including a previously unknown tile kiln, focussed on a trackway that appears to have been the original road to neighbouring Bardfield. Two late 12th/early 13th century enclosures pre-dated the kiln. One contained a series of intercutting pits and might have formed the rear of roadside plots. Possible domestic activity within the other was indicated by postholes and a finds assemblage including fired clay, a hook, a bobbin, and a small but varied collection of animal bones. Across the site, a pit may have been used for making charcoal, and shallow sub-rectangular pits may have related to small scale extraction. Shoe nails suggest the presence of horses or oxen, and a piglet burial may indicate pig husbandry. The land was re-organised in the 13th/14th century, with new enclosures on the same alignments. The tile kiln was built within one of these, possibly towards the end of the phase. It was constructed from peg tiles and dug into the sloping land. It had a ramped stoke pit and twin flues beneath a firing floor. An undated post-built structure may have been for the manufacture or drying of tiles. A well, waste pit, hearth and oven within the enclosure may have been related and other pits may have been for extracting and puddling clay. A few prehistoric features and finds indicate earlier activity, likely focussed on a large palaeochannel and Finchingfield Brook.	
Project dates	28th March 2022–31st May 2022	
Project type	Excavation	
Previous work	Field evaluation, CA 2021, Site Code FFBR21, CA report SU0326_01	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site location	Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Braintree District, Essex	
Study area (m^2/ha)	4.sha	
Site co-ordinates	568306 232305	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project brief originator	Essex Place Services	
Project design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Richard Mortimer	
Project Supervisor	Stephen Foster	
MONUMENT TYPE	Kiln, road, ditch, hearth, oven, pit, well, posthole. OASIS V form to be fully completed using NMR Thesaurus at http://thesaurus.english-heritage.org.uk/frequentuser.htm:	
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	OASIS V form to be fully completed using FISH Thesaurus: Pottery (Medieval), CBM, worked bone, chalk object, animal bone, worked flint, metalwork	
PROJECT ARCHIVES	**Intended final location of archive (museum/Accession no.)**	**Content**
Physical	Braintree Museum/Accession no. TBC.	Ceramics, animal bone, CBM, metalwork, enviro archive, worked flint, fired clay, slag, stone
Paper	Braintree Museum/Accession no. TBC	Context sheets, registers, site drawings, sample sheets

Digital	Archaeology Data Service	Database, digital photos, GIS, scans

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Cotswold Archaeology 2024 A medieval kiln and enclosures at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex: excavation archive report CA typescript report SU0410-02





N

Site boundary

0 1km

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Ordnance Survey 0100031673

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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

DRAWN BY	RW	PROJECT NO.	SU0410	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	20/02/2024	1
APPROVED BY	AA	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	



N

Site boundary
Excavation area
Palaeochannel

0 1:1500 50m

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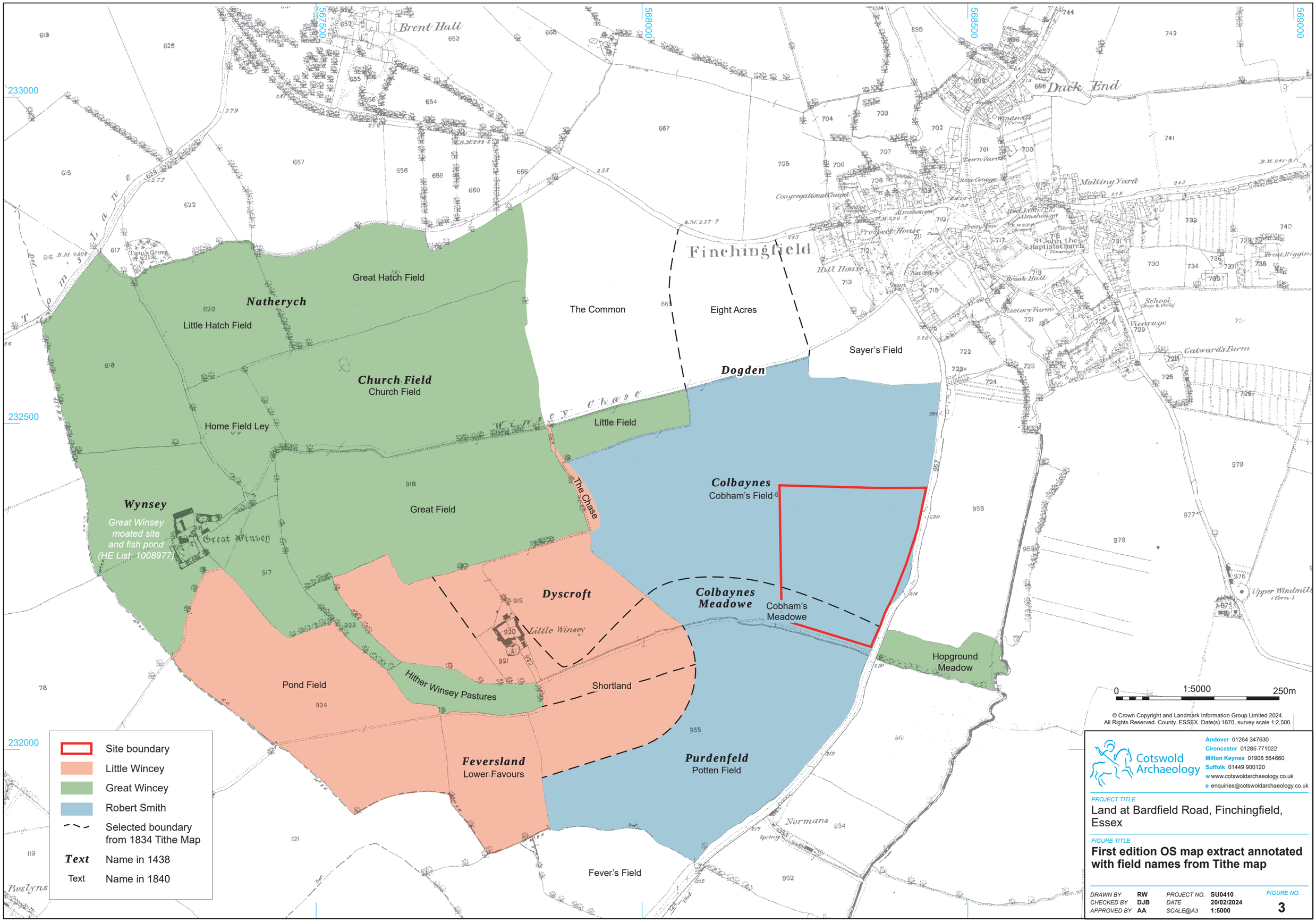
PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

Aerial image, Google Earth 26/06/2018, 51°57'48.59" N, 0°26'54.05" E

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CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**2**
APPROVED BY	**AA**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:1500**	



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PROJECT TITLE
Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE
First edition OS map extract annotated with field names from Tithe map

DRAWN BY	RW	PROJECT NO.	SU0410	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	20/02/2024	3
APPROVED BY	AA	SCALE@A3	1:5000	

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568390

232250

232200

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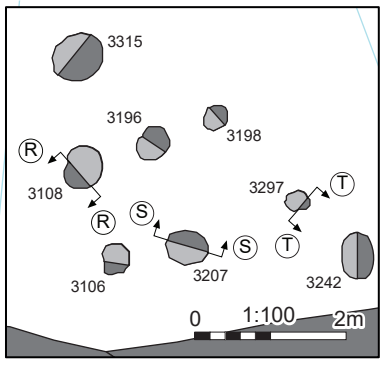


Figure 11

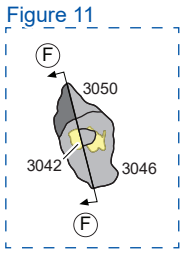
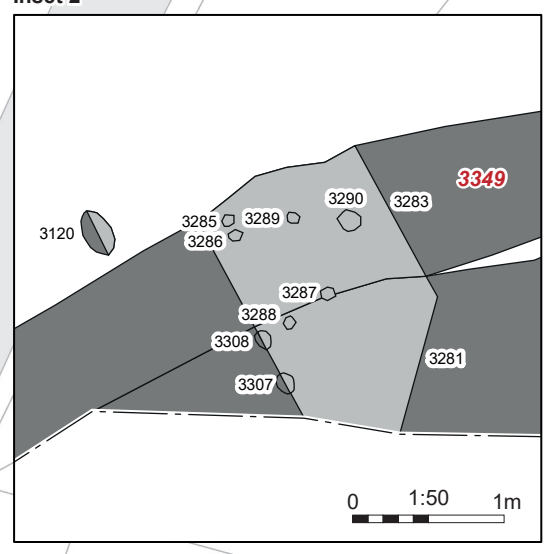


Figure 17

Inset 1

Inset 2



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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

Excavated features plan of Area 1

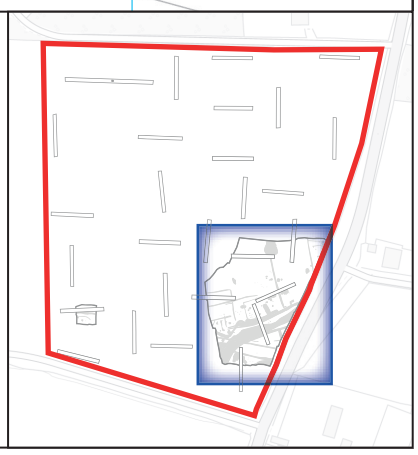
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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	10/01/2023	4
APPROVED BY	AA	SCALE@A3	1:300, 1:100, 1:50	

Site boundary
Evaluation trench / feature
Excavation limit
Archaeological feature (excavated / unexcavated)
Modern / drain
Structure
Natural gravel deposit
Section location
0000 Group number

N

0 1:300 15m

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568340

568390

232250

232200

quarry?

boundary ditch 3335

3332

3333

3182

ENCLOSURE 1

3334

charcoal making
3042 / 46

oven

structure 3
(wind break?)

3336

3352

gate post?

3337

ENCLOSURE 2

3338

3336

ENCLOSURE 4

oven and hearth

chalk-rich pit

stoke pit

ENCLOSURE 3

structure 2

cess pit

kiln 2953

structure 1

structure 4

3339

3342

3347

3331

3346

structure 5

3329

3341

3340

hearth

3342

well

3353

3345

3354

3343

hollow / extraction

3345

3344

3348

3351

structure 6

3349

3350

puddling and exraction pits?

B1057

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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

Phased plan of Area 1

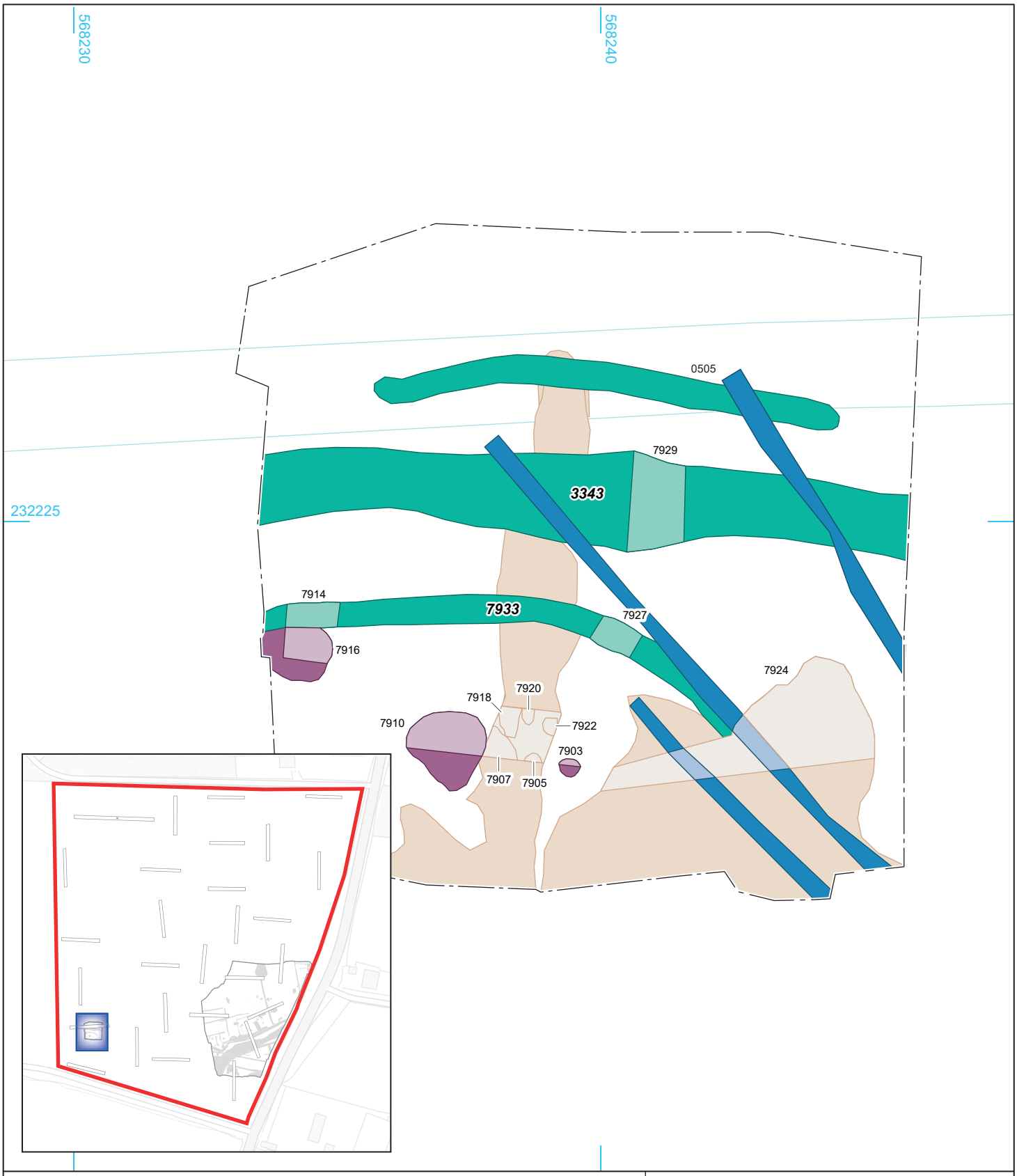
DRAWN BY	RW, LZS	PROJECT NO.	SU0410	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	20/02/2024	5
APPROVED BY	AA	SCALE@A3	1:300	

- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Excavation limit
- Period 1: prehistoric
- Period 2: 12th-14th century
- Period 2.1: late 12th-13th century
- Period 2.2: 13th-14th century
- Period 3: late medieval to post-medieval
- Period 4: post-medieval
- Modern / drain
- Undated
- Structure
- Natural gravel deposit
- Section location

N

0 1:300 10m

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Evaluation trench
Excavation limit
Period 1: prehistoric
Period 4: post-medieval
Modern / drain
Natural
Section location

N

0 1:100 3m

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FIGURE TITLE
Phased plan of Area 2

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CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	20/02/2024	6
APPROVED BY	AA	SCALE@A4	1:100	



Pits 7903 (left) and 7910 (right), and natural features (centre), looking south (1m scale)

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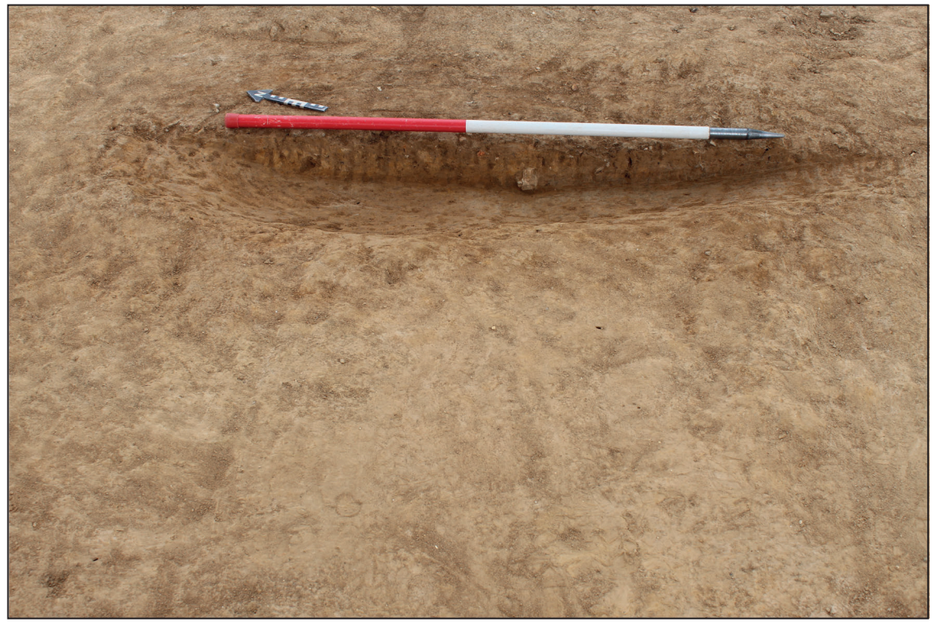
PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

Phase 1 pits 7903 and 7910, and natural features: photograph

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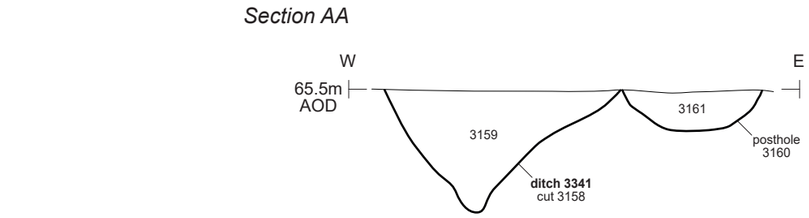
Ditch 3229, looking north-east (1m scale)

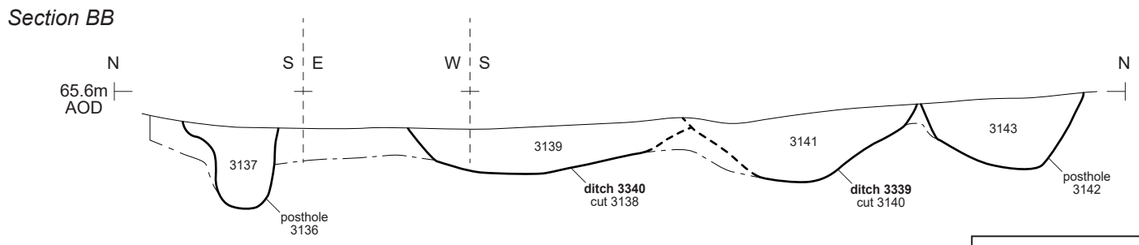


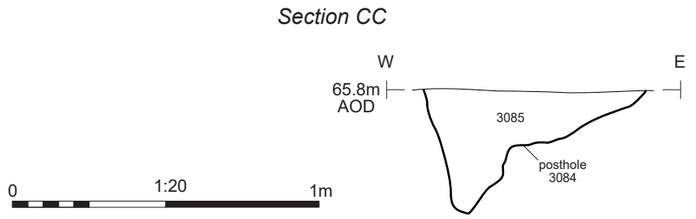
Ditch 3341 (cut 3158; left) and posthole 3160 (right), looking north (1m scale)



Posthole 3136, ditch 3340 (cut 3138), Phase 2.2 ditch 3339 (cut 3140) and posthole 3142, looking south-west (2m scale)







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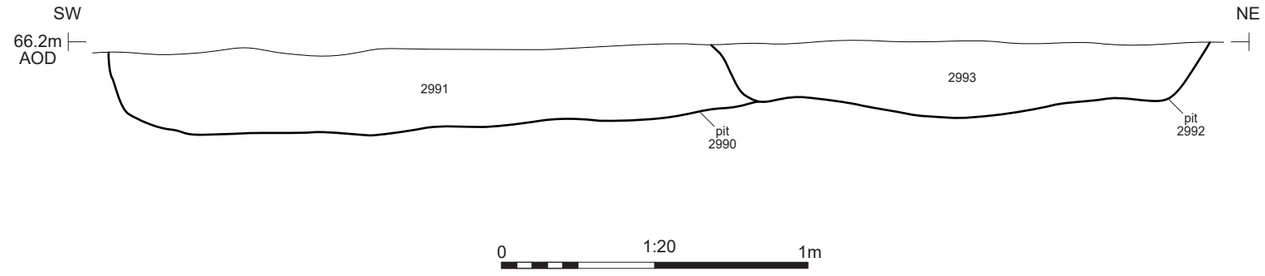
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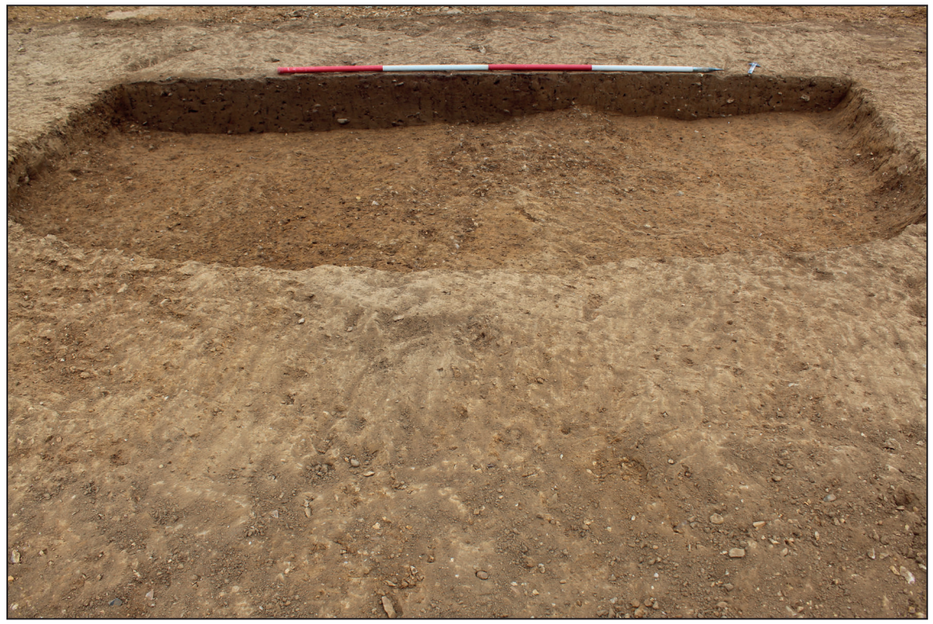
FIGURE TITLE

Phase 2.1 Structure 1 and associated features: selected sections and photographs

DRAWN BY	RW	PROJECT NO.	SU0410	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	20/02/2024	8
APPROVED BY	AA	SCALE@A3	1:20	

Section DD





Phase 2.1 pits 2990 and 2992, looking north-west (2m scale)

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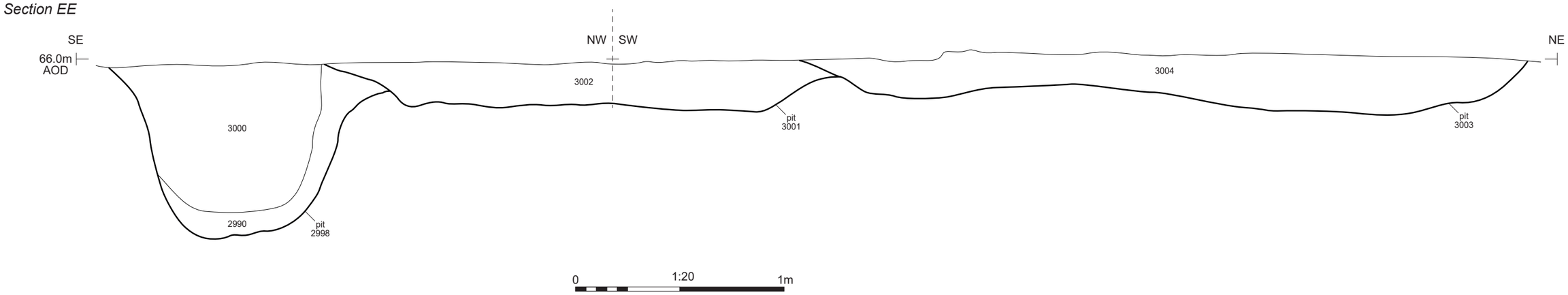
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FIGURE TITLE

Phase 2.1 pits 2990 and 2992: section and photograph

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CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**9**
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Section EE





Pits 2998, 3001 and 3003, looking north (1m scale)

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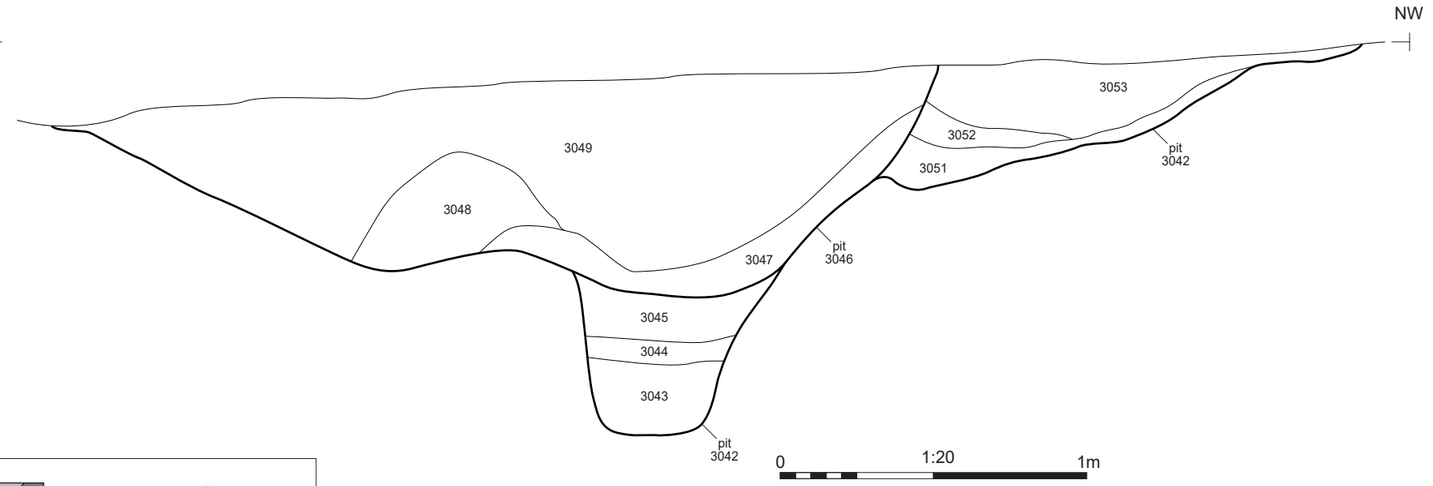
Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

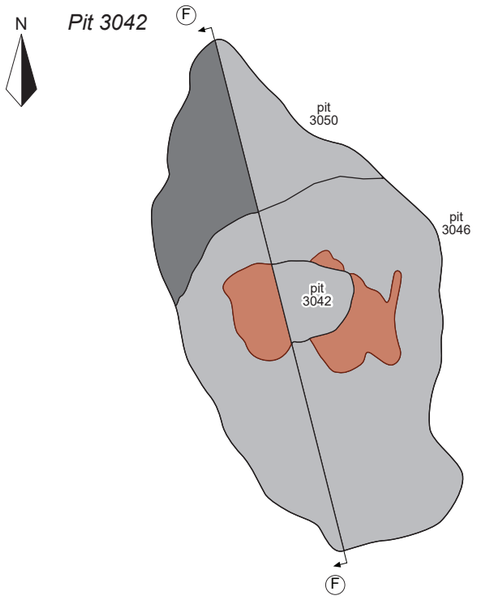
Phase 2.1 pits 2998, 3001 and 3003: section and photograph

DRAWN BY	**RW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**SU0410**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**10**
APPROVED BY	**AA**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:20**	

Section FF



Pit 3042



Archaeological feature (excavated / unexcavated)

Burnt area

A A Section location

0 1:50 2m





Pit 3042 / 3046, looking north-west (2m scale)



Pit 3042 / 3046, looking south-east (1m scale)

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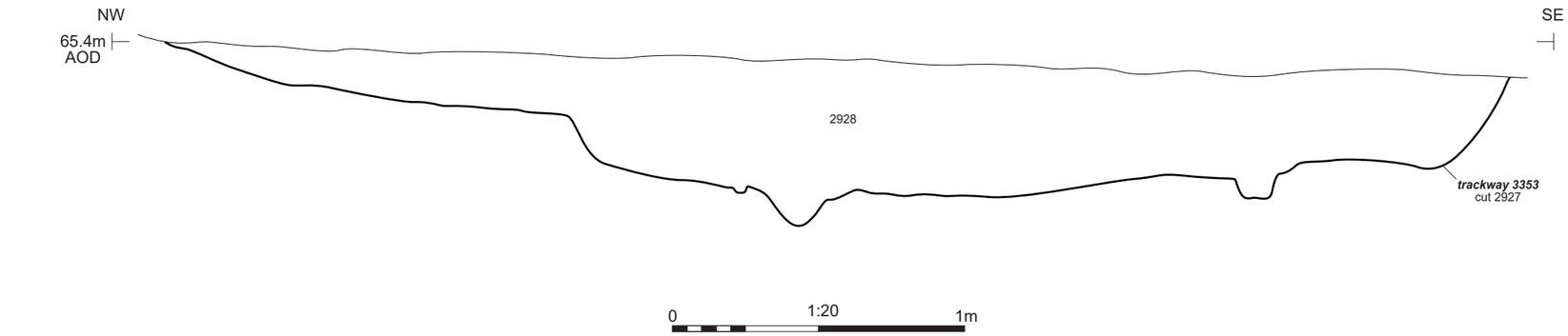
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FIGURE TITLE

Phase 2.1 Pit 3046 / 3042: section, plan and photographs

DRAWN BY	RW	PROJECT NO.	SU0410	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	20/02/2024	11
APPROVED BY	AA	SCALE@A3	1:20, 1:50	

Section GG





Trackway 3353, looking north-east (1m scale)



Trackway 3353, looking south-east

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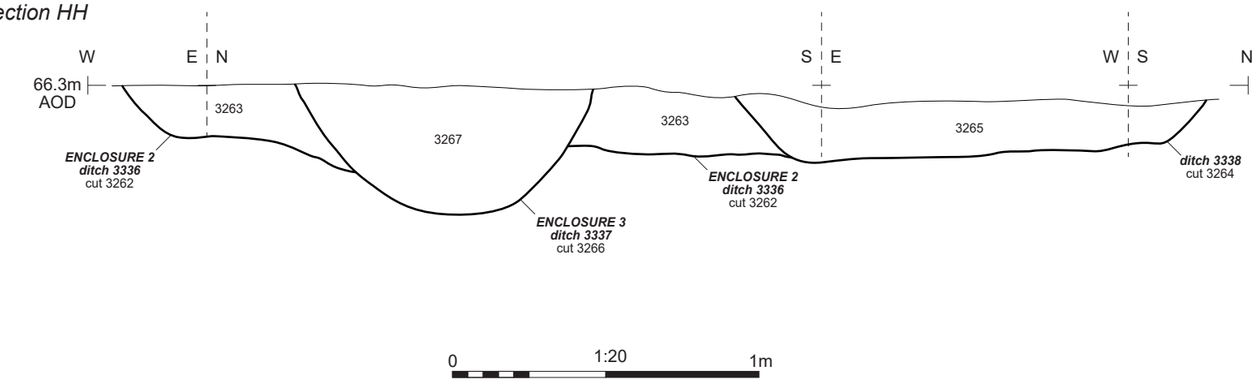
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FIGURE TITLE

Trackway 3353: section and photographs

DRAWN BY	**RW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**SU0410**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**12**
APPROVED BY	**AA**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:20**	

Section HH





Ditches 3336, 3337 and 3338, looking east (1m scale)

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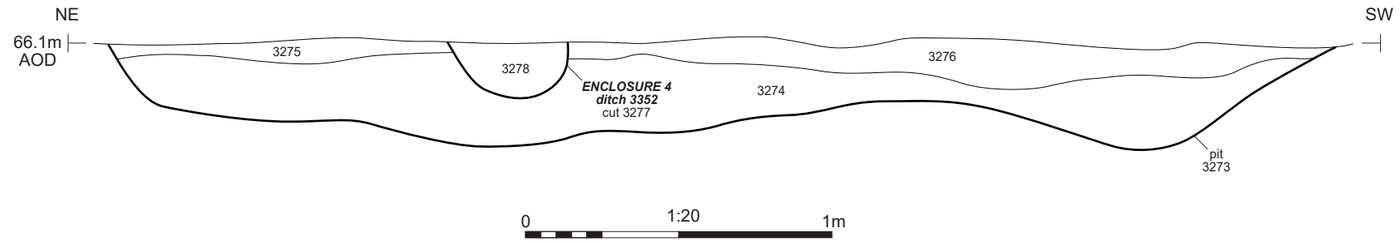
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FIGURE TITLE

Phase 2.2 ditches 3337 (Enclosure 3) and 3338 cutting Phase 2.1 Enclosure 1 ditch 3336: section and photograph

DRAWN BY	**RW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**SU0410**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**13**
APPROVED BY	**AA**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:20**	

Section II



Ditch 3352 and pit 3273, looking south (1m scale)

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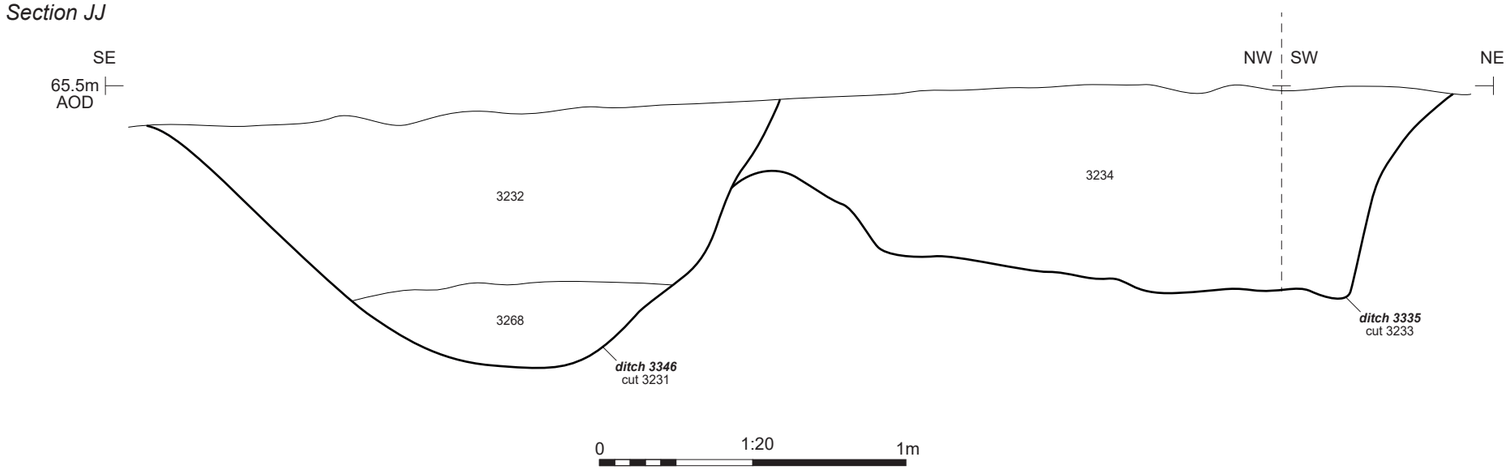
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FIGURE TITLE

Phase 2.2 pit 3273 and Enclosure 4 ditch 3352: section and photograph

DRAWN BY	**RW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**SU0410**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**14**
APPROVED BY	**AA**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:20**	

Section JJ





Ditches 3335 and 3346, looking south-west (1m scale)

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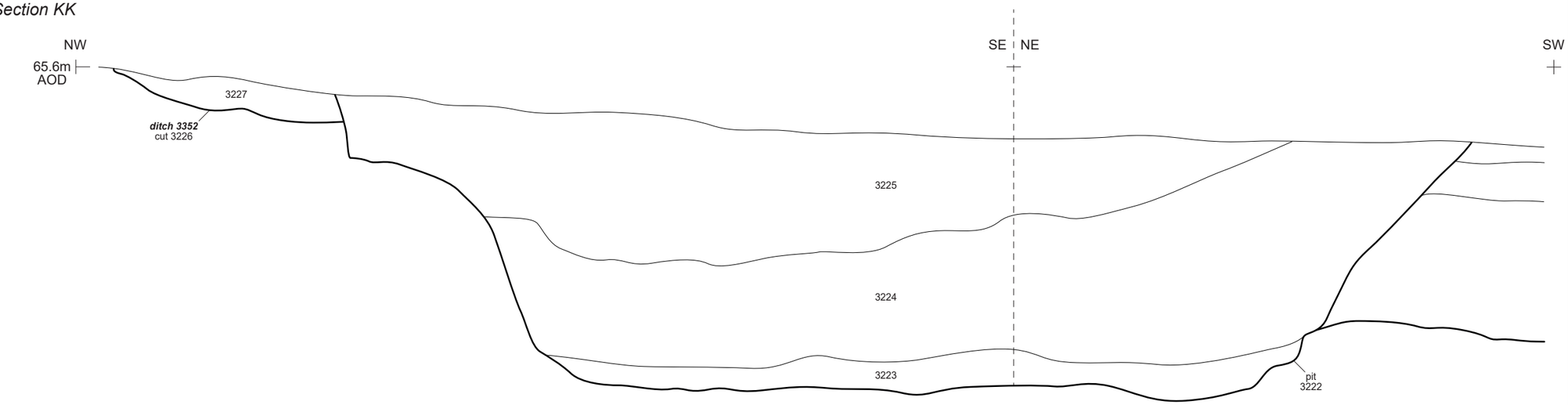
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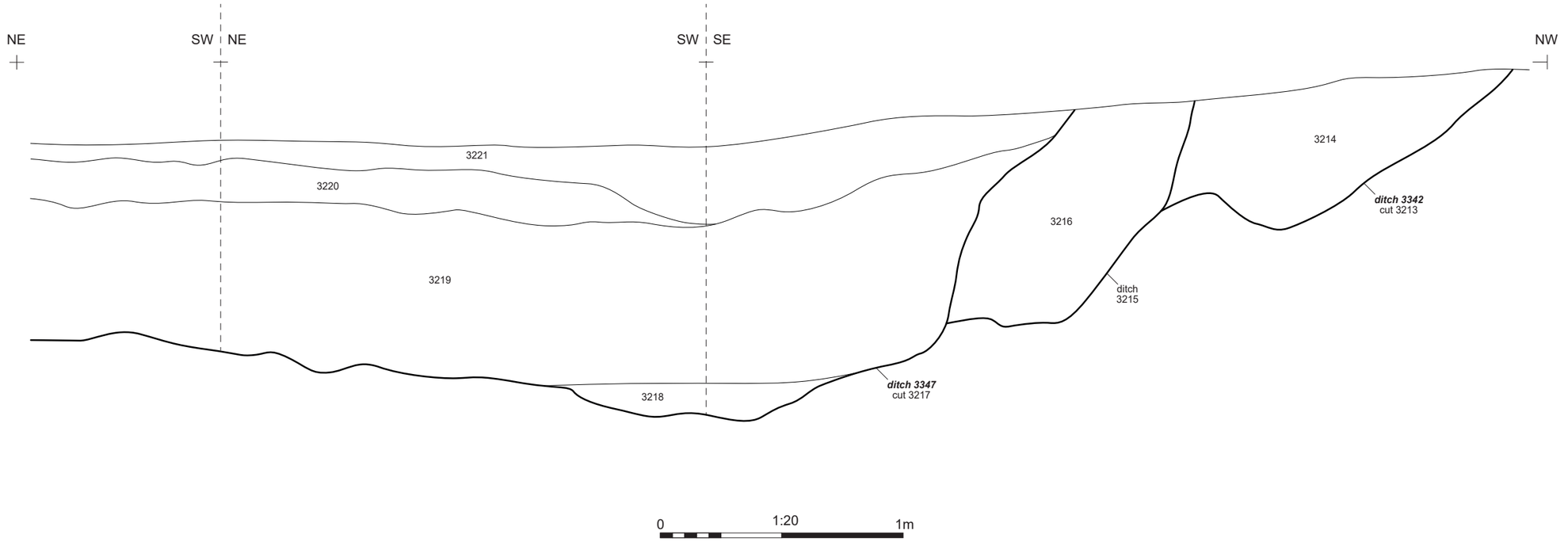
FIGURE TITLE

Phase 2.0 boundary ditch 3335 and Phase 2.2 ditch 3346: section and photograph

DRAWN BY	**RW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**SU0410**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**15**
APPROVED BY	**AA**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:20**	

Section KK





0 1:20 1m

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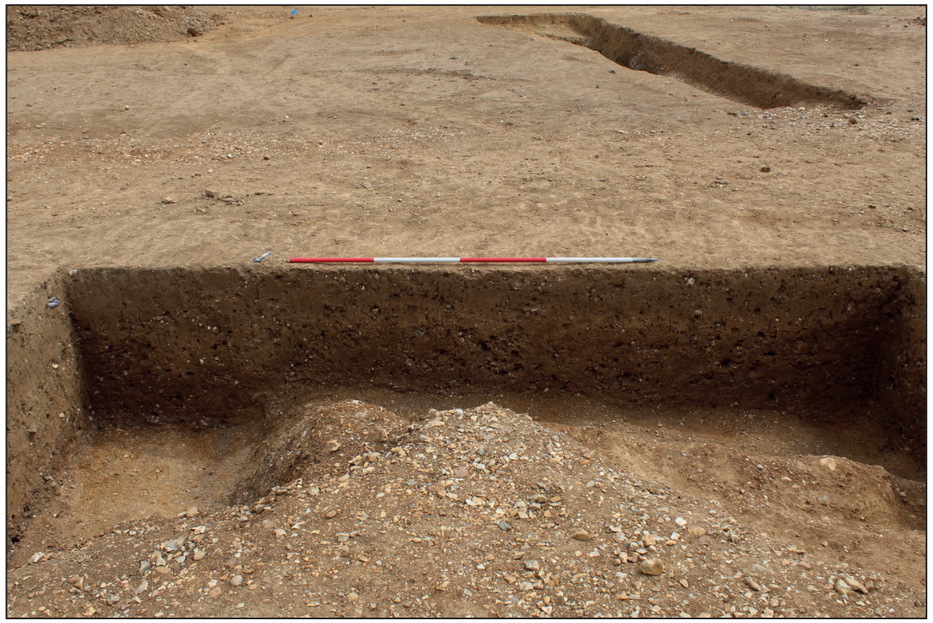
FIGURE TITLE

Phase 2.2 ditches 3342, 3347 and 3352 and pit 3222: section

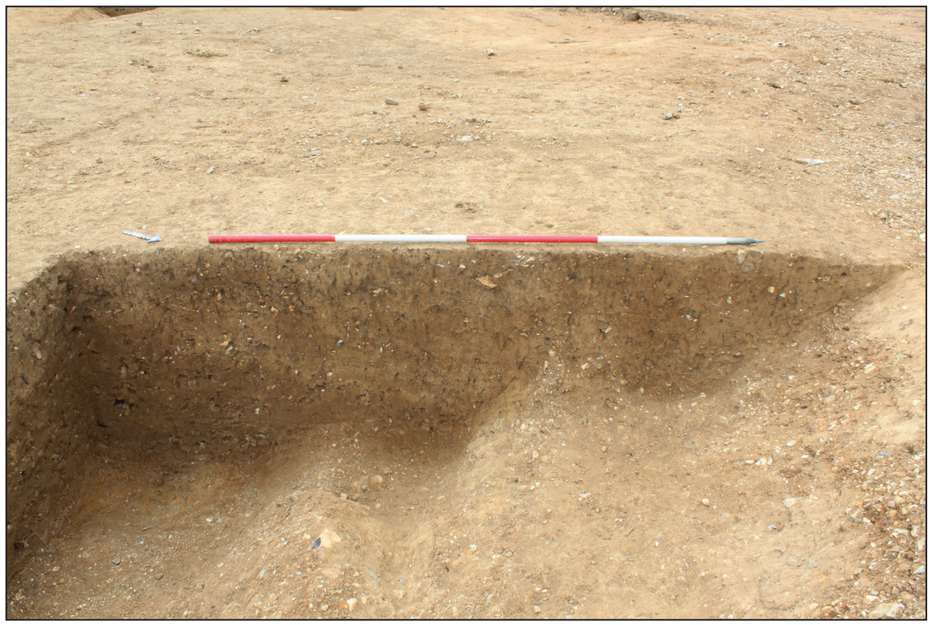
DRAWN BY	**RW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**SU0410**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**16**
APPROVED BY	**AA**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:20**	



Ditch 3352 and pit 3222, looking north-east (2m scale)



Pit 3222 and ditch 3347, looking south-east (2m scale)



Ditches 3347, 3215 and 3342, looking south-west (2m scale)

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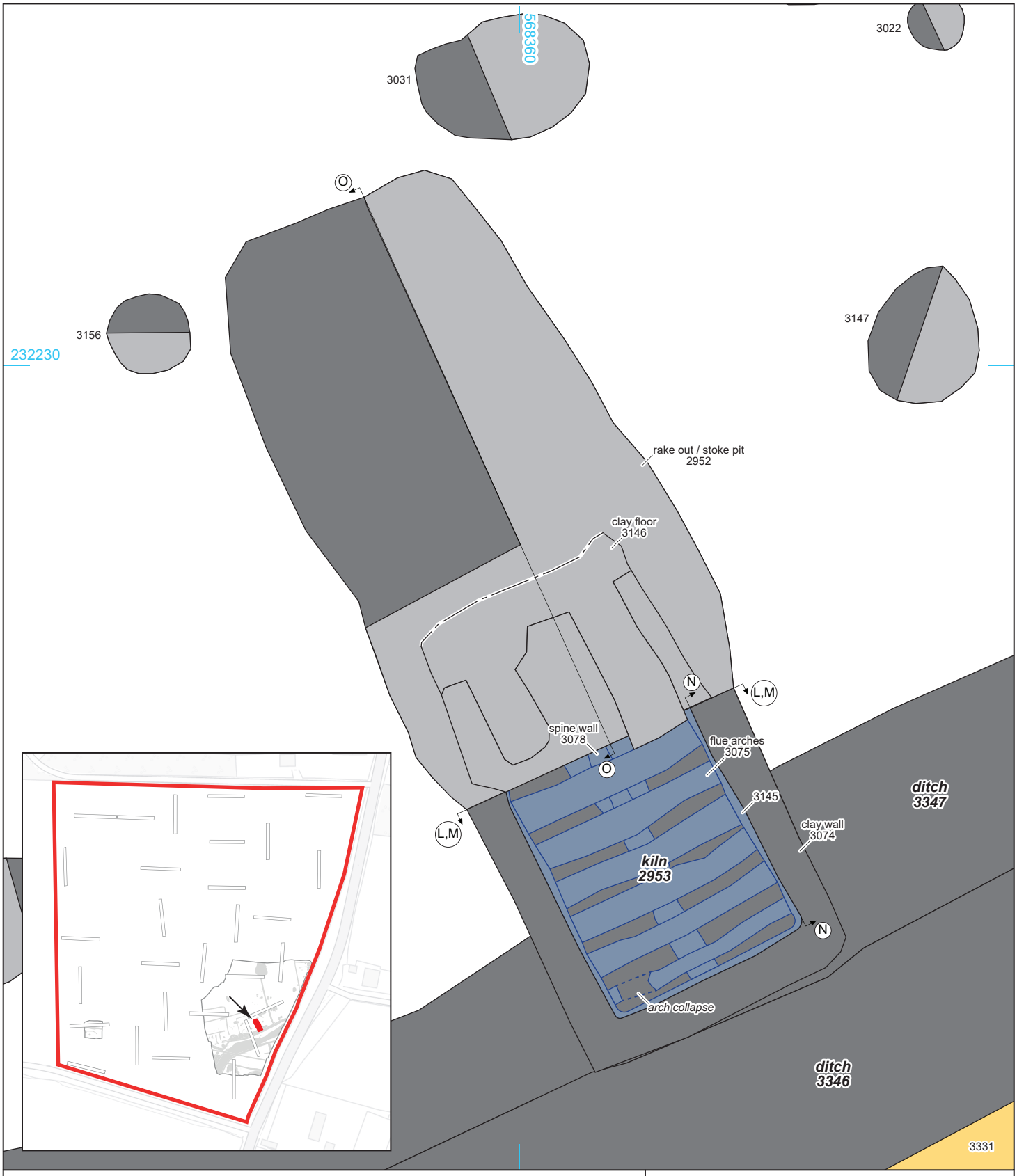
PROJECT TITLE

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FIGURE TITLE

Phase 2.2 ditches 3342, 3347 and 3352 and pit 3222: photographs

DRAWN BY	**RW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**SU0410**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**17**
APPROVED BY	**AA**	*SCALE@A3*	**NA**	



Excavation limit

Archaeological feature (excavated / unexcavated)

Structure

Deposit

Section location

N

0 1:50 2m

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FIGURE TITLE

Plan of kiln 2953

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Working photograph of kiln 2953 (top), showing the firing floor (centre) and rake out / stoke pit 2952 (lower-right), looking south

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FIGURE TITLE

Kiln structure 2953: photograph

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APPROVED BY	**AA**	*SCALE@A4*	**NA**	



Overview photograph of kiln 2953, showing flues, fills in the rake out pit 2952 and front structure 2969, looking south-east

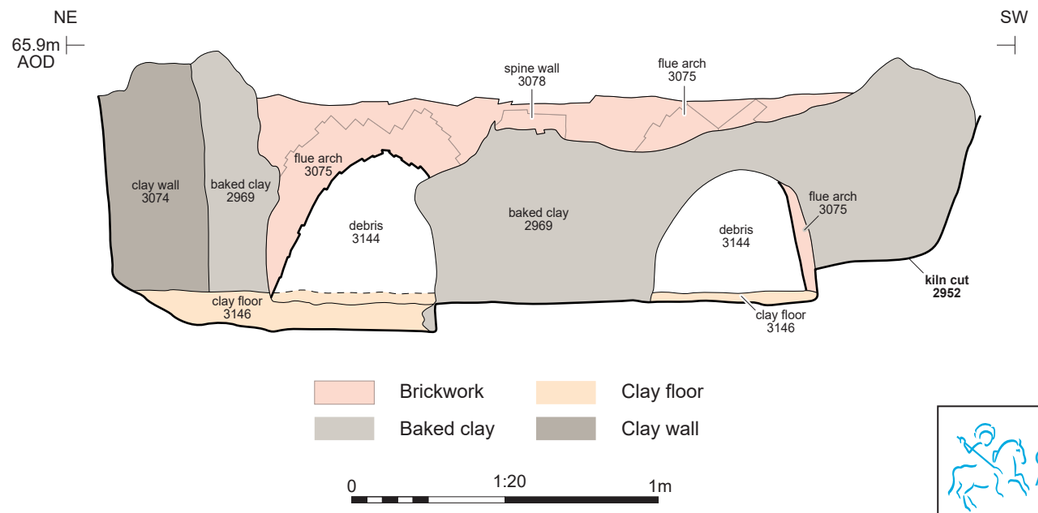


Kiln 2953 from above, showing firing floor (right), looking south-west



Front of kiln 2953, showing 2969 prior to its removal, and firing floor (bottom), looking south-east (0.4m scale)

Section LL



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FIGURE TITLE

Kiln structure 2953: photographs and section

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APPROVED BY	**AA**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:20**	



Close up of tiles used in the construction of kiln 2953, looking south-east (0.4m scale)

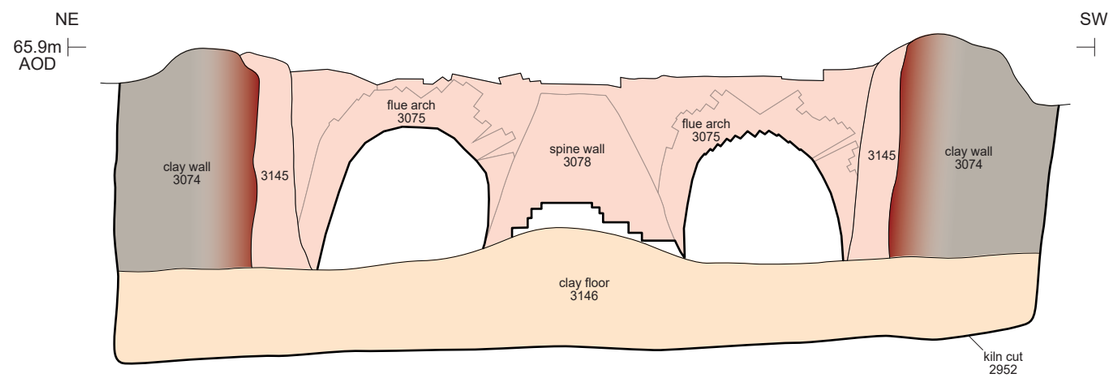


View showing both flues of kiln 2953 and front structure 2969, looking south-west (1m scale)



Arches (3075), spine wall (3078) and rubble within the kiln 2953, looking south-east (1m scale)

Section MM



Brickwork
Heat scorched
Clay floor
Clay wall

0 1:20 1m

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FIGURE TITLE
Kiln structure 2953: photographs and section

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View of half of kiln 2953, showing construction of spine wall 3078, looking south-east (0.4m scale)

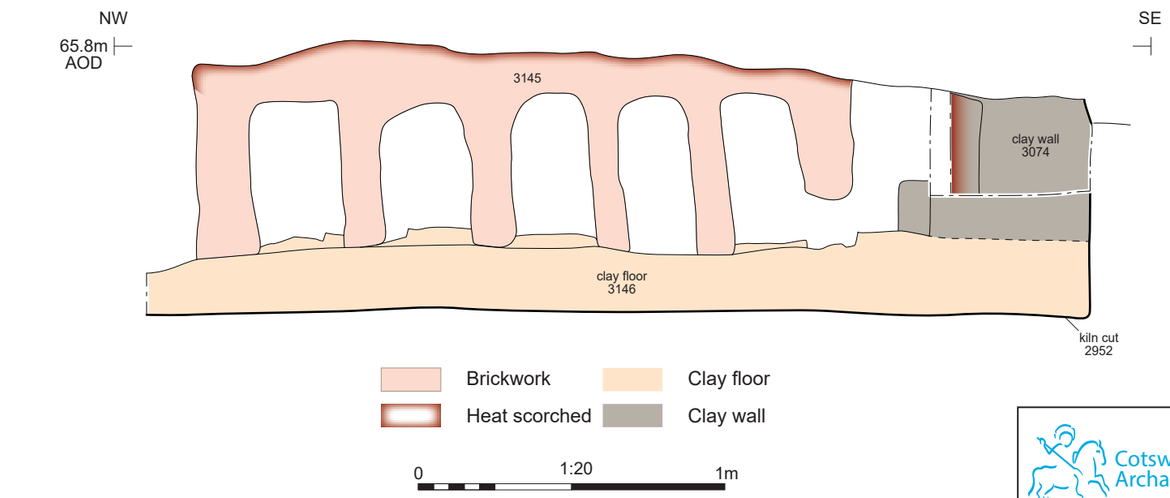


Construction cut for kiln 2953 / 2952, after removal of the kiln structure, showing clay walls 3074 (left and right), looking south-east (1m scale)



Charcoal and wood fragments in fill 2962, within the rake out / stoke pit of kiln 2953 / 2952, looking south-east (0.4m scale)

Section NN



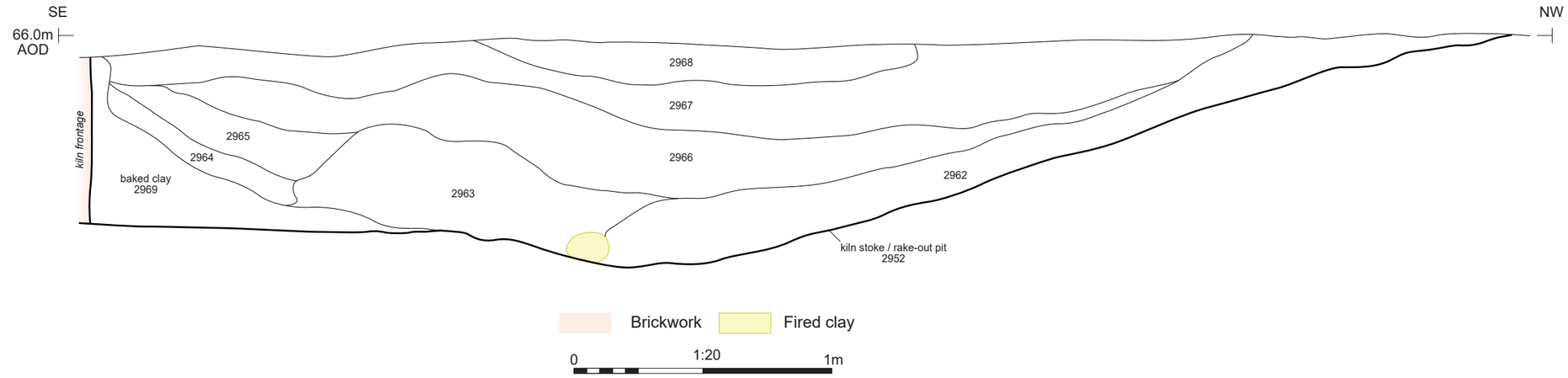
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FIGURE TITLE
Kiln structure 2953: photographs and section

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APPROVED BY	AA	SCALE@A3	1:20	

Section OO



View of kiln 2953, showing stoke / rake-out pit, looking south-west (2m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

Kiln stoke / rake-out pit 2952: section and photograph

DRAWN BY	**RW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**SU0410**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**23**
APPROVED BY	**AA**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:20**	



Rear of arches 3075, looking north-east (0.4m scale)



Inside of arches, looking south-west (0.4m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

Kiln arches 3075 during removal: photographs

DRAWN BY	**AW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**SU0207**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**24**
APPROVED BY	**MG**	*SCALE@A4*	**NA**	



Undated pit 3147, looking north-west (1m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE

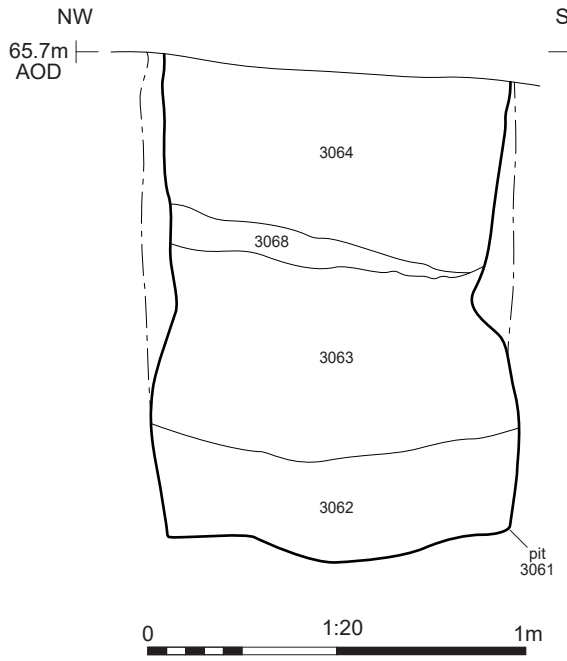
Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

Undated pit 3147, with chalk/mortar deposit: photograph

DRAWN BY	**RW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**SU0410**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**25**
APPROVED BY	**AA**	*SCALE@A4*	**NA**	

Section PP





Pit 3061, looking north-east (1m scale)

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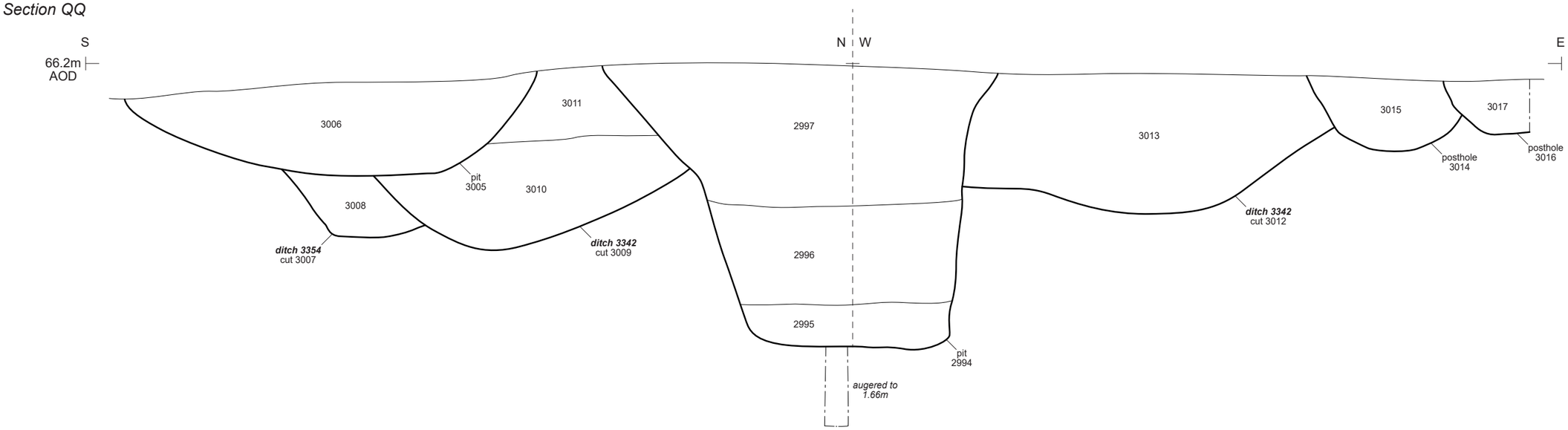
Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

Phase 2.2 Pit 3061: section and photograph

DRAWN BY	**RW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**SU0410**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**26**
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Section QQ





Pits 2994 and 3005 and earlier features, looking north-west (1m scales)

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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

Phase 2.2 pits 2994 and 3005 and earlier features: section and photograph

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CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**27**
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Kiln/oven 2984, looking north-west (1m scales)

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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

Phase 2.2 kiln/oven 2984: photograph

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CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**28**
APPROVED BY	**AA**	*SCALE@A4*	**NA**	



Pit 3111, looking east (1m scale)



Pits 3174 and 3177, looking east (1m scale)



Pits 3174 and 3177, looking north-east (1m scales)

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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

Phase 2.0 pits within Enclosure 1: photographs

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CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**29**
APPROVED BY	**AA**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:20**	



Quarry 3319, looking west (1m scales)

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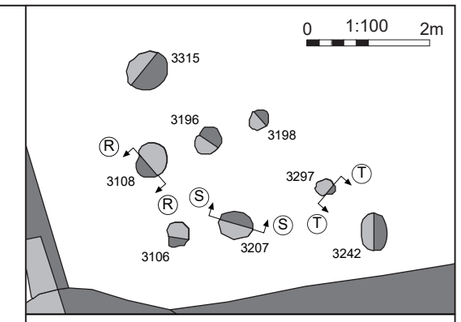
PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

Phase 2.0 quarry 3319: photograph

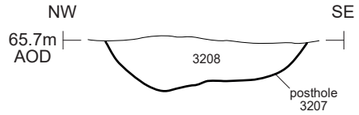
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CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**30**
APPROVED BY	**AA**	*SCALE@A4*	**NA**	



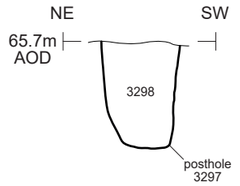
Section RR

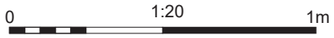


Section SS



Section TT







Posthole 3315, looking south-east (0.4m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

Undated Structure 2 postholes: plan, selected sections and photograph

DRAWN BY	**LZS, RW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**SU0410**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**31**
APPROVED BY	**AA**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:20, 1:100**	



Oven 2954, looking north-east (1m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE

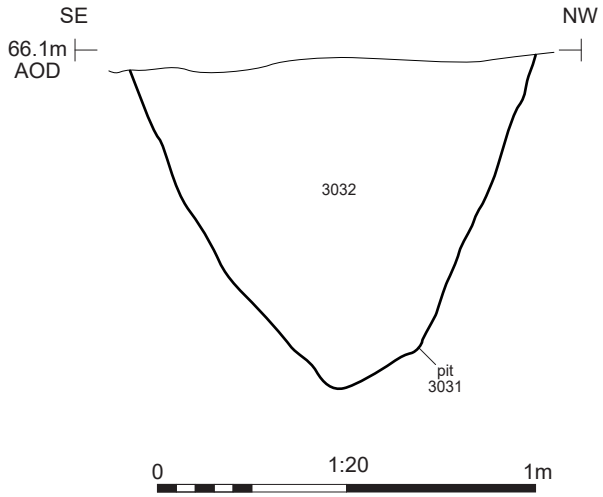
Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

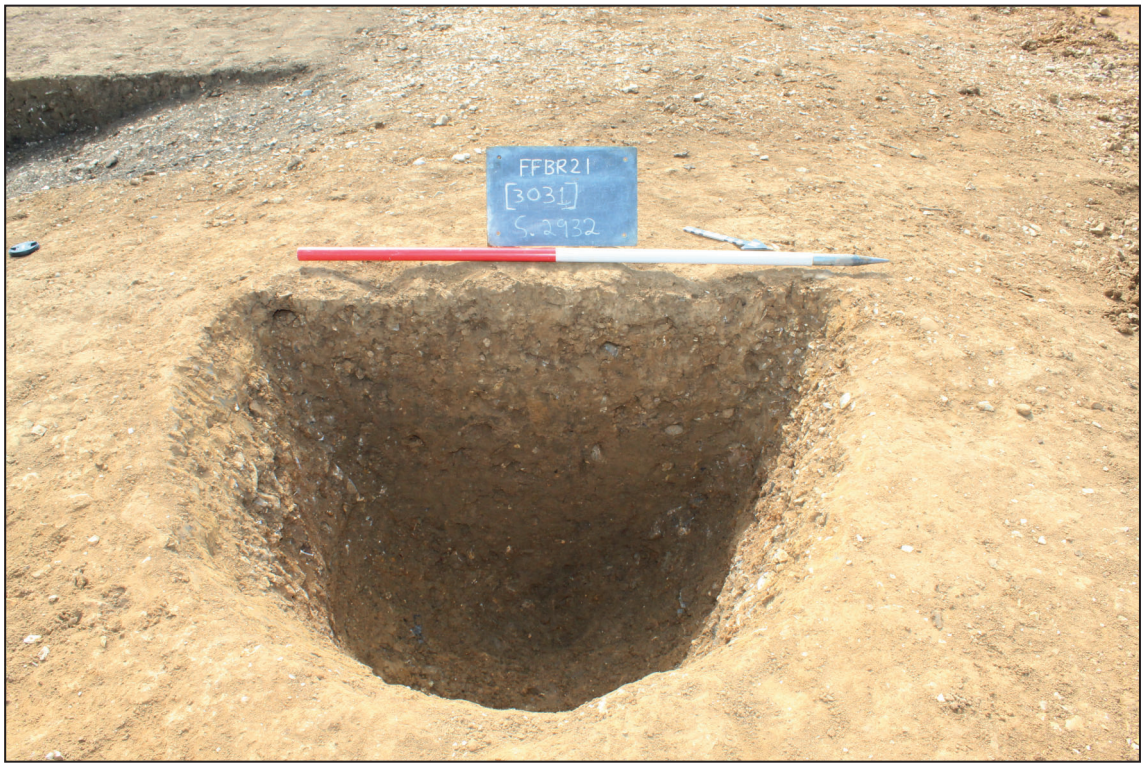
FIGURE TITLE

Phase 2.0 oven 2954 in Enclosure 4: photograph

DRAWN BY	**RW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**SU0410**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**32**
APPROVED BY	**AA**	*SCALE@A4*	**NA**	

Section UU





Pit 3031, looking south-west (1m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

Phase 2.0 pit 3031: section and photograph

DRAWN BY	**RW**	PROJECT NO.	**SU0410**	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	DATE	**20/02/2024**	**33**
APPROVED BY	**AA**	SCALE@A4	**1:20**	



Pits 2904 and 2907, looking south-west (1m scale)



Pits 2916 and 2914, looking west (1m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

Phase 2.0 pits 2904, 2907, 2914 and 2916: photographs

DRAWN BY	**RW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**SU0410**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**34**
APPROVED BY	**AA**	*SCALE@A4*	**NA**	



Ditch 3349, looking north-east (0.4m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

Phase 2.0 ditch 3349: photograph

DRAWN BY	**LZS**	*PROJECT NO.*	**SU0410**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**35**
APPROVED BY	**AA**	*SCALE@A4*	**NA**	



Hearth 2931, looking north-west (0.3m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

Hearth 2931: photograph

DRAWN BY	**RW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**SU0410**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**36**
APPROVED BY	**AA**	*SCALE@A4*	**NA**	



Kiln in the landscape showing the road, and lower lying area with wetland vegetation

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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

Photograph of the kiln in the landscape showing the road, and lower lying area with wetland vegetation

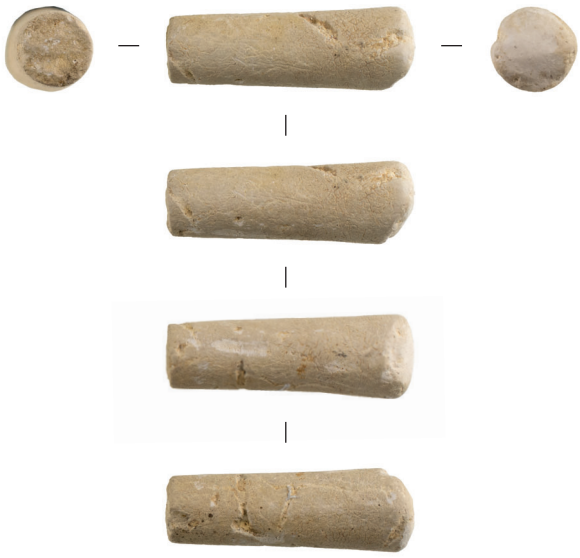
DRAWN BY	**RW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**SU0410**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**20/02/2024**	**37**
APPROVED BY	**AA**	*SCALE@A4*	**NA**	

1



Palaeolithic flint handaxe, fill 3097 of natural feature 3091

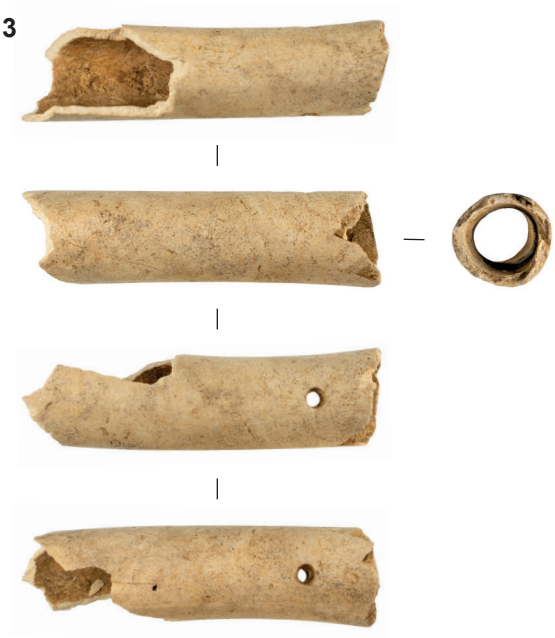
2



Chalk point Ra. 2, feature 2952, fill 2967

0 2:1 10mm

3



Worked bone Ra. 33, ditch 3158, fill 3159

0 1:1 50mm

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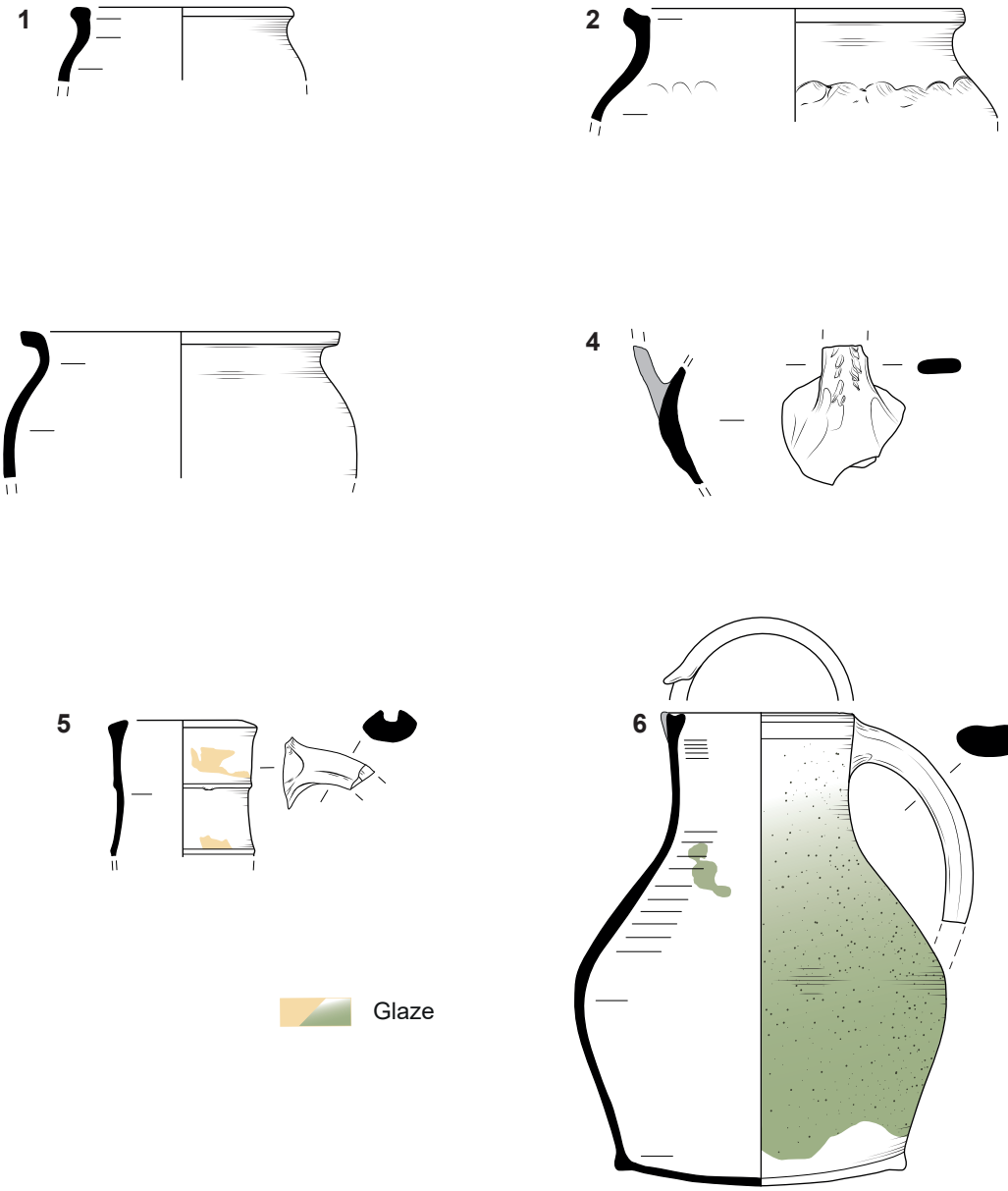
PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

Artefact photographs

DRAWN BY	**RW**	PROJECT NO.	**SU0410**	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	DATE	**20/02/2024**	**38**
APPROVED BY	**RM**	SCALE@A4	**1:1, 2:1**	



0 1:4 150mm

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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

Medieval pottery

DRAWN BY	HMM	PROJECT NO.	SU0410	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	20/02/2024	39
APPROVED BY	AA	SCALE@A4	1:4	

1



Ra. 24, strip fitting with nail

2



Ra. 21, hook

3



Ra. 19, hook

4



RA 1, strap end

5



Ra. 18, buckle

6



Ra. 4, eyelet

7



Ra. 7, horseshoe

0 1:2 50mm

8

Ra. 23, arrowhead



0 1:1 50mm

9



Ra. 32, composite knife

10



segment 1

segment 2

Ra. 5, unidentified cylindrical item

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PROJECT TITLE

Land at Bardfield Road, Finchingfield, Essex

FIGURE TITLE

Metal Registered Artefacts

DRAWN BY	RW	PROJECT NO.	SU0410	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	DJB	DATE	08/03/2024	40
APPROVED BY	AB	SCALE@A3	1:1, 1:2	

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