Portfolio : example statement of responsibility (fictitious example)

CIFA Assessments guidance:

"Your portfolio must include a signed statement verifying that evidence relates to your own work. Where you have been involved in collaborative work, you must clearly identify which elements have been carried out by you and which are the work of other team members."

I am responsible for the creation of all the material included in the portfolio except:

Doc 8 report - I was responsible as lead author for 60% of the main text (introduction, Trench A and B narrative, Conclusion), Jade Brown was responsible for 40% (Trench C and D narrative), specialist text and images as credited (uncredited images are my work). I was responsible as editor for the final version and incorporating changes following comments on the draft (see Doc 11). The project as a whole was managed by Graham Smith and Charles Collingwood, who had written the original Project Design; I was lead Project Officer directing the fieldwork and the team of staff and volunteers (see report page 3).

Doc 10 Workflow - incorporates screenshots from the software; I am responsible for the narrative text. The text was reviewed by Graham Smith but I am responsible for all of the final text.

Doc 11 draft report I was responsible as lead author for 60% of the main text (introduction, Trench A and B narrative, Conclusion), Jade Brown responsible for 40% (Trench C and D narrative), specialist text and images as credited, co-author responsible for 40%, specialist text as credited; comments by readers as credited

Signed



Ann Apprentice

3/2/26

KSB Mapping Document 1 - Excavating Elmswell: Seasons in Time Project

KSB(s) evidenced	**K1** - how to recognise and understand archaeological site types, periods, artefacts and ecofacts and site formation processes. **K2** - methods of archaeological investigation, how and why archaeological materials/ data are recovered **K6** - requirements of formal publication, including standards for writing, editing and style **K7** - fundamentals of relevant Health and Safety legislation and their employer's Health and Safety Policy and Procedures and operational procedures. **K9** - roles of clients, stakeholders and project team members within an archaeological investigation and how to ensure effective relationships and communications between them **S6** - work effectively both independently and within a team **S9** - ability to employ supervisory techniques effectively **B2** - know the limits of their own understanding, abilities and responsibilities, how to practice within them, and when and how to seek expert assistance **B4** - work effectively individually and as part of a team including professional collaboration and cross-disciplinary dialogue **B5** - be approachable and able to communicate with all levels of their own and other organisations, as well as the general public

Table 1: KSBs evidenced

DigVentures' crowdfunded community archaeological research project at Elmswell Farms, East Yorkshire, is now entering its tenth year. The project was initially driven by the landowner's keen interest in contextualising concentrations of Prehistoric, Romano-British and Medieval artefacts recovered from their land through metal detecting and fieldwalking. In 2016 they approached DigVentures, being particularly keen to utilise their model of community archaeology to involve the public in researching the historic landscape at the farm. To date, the project has engaged nearly 1,200 public participants

in excavating a 1st – 2nd century mansio complex, a 2nd-3rd century ladder settlement, a 3rd century Villa and a 4th century religious site.

In 2022, I was asked to take over project management of the Elmswell Farms community archaeological excavation. My responsibilities include leading the project team, project planning, design and logistics as well as fieldwork delivery and post excavation reporting.

In advance of each annual fieldwork season, I produce a MoRPHE-compliant updated project design (**DOC1**). This document outlines how the project will be managed. It includes the methods of archaeological investigation that will be employed (**K2**) as well as outlining the roles of the project team and their key responsibilities, detailing how they will operate and communicate effectively to deliver the project's aims (**K9**).

In addition to outlining key health and safety policies and procedures in the UPD, I also produce a detailed risk assessment document in advance of the fieldwork delivery every year (**DOC2**). This document outlines the relevant health and safety policies and procedures in place that all participants should be aware of (**K7**).

Upon completion of the annual fieldwork delivery, I am responsible for managing the project's post excavation processes including assessment reporting. Collaborating with the wider specialist project team is essential due to the high level of cross-disciplinary expertise required to deliver archaeological research results. An effective way of doing this is by producing a specialist information pack (**DOC3**) that can form the basis of a discussion with the wider project specialist team regarding synthesis of archaeological results (**B4**). This process then informs me of where I may need to seek further expertise and where I am able to draw conclusions based on my own understanding and that of the existing project team (**B2**).

Being responsible for producing the project's annual post excavation assessment report (**DOC4**) is an opportunity for both individual and team work. I work independently to produce the narrative for the overall archaeological excavation results and synthesise the wider specialist contribution to inform an archaeological discussion and conclusion (**K1**). However, I also rely on a wider team contribution to assist with areas of reporting such as DigVentures' bespoke social impact assessment reporting methodology (**S6**).

Leading the project team also includes supervising the team's workflow and timescale. Identifying key tasks, roles and responsibilities by team member and outlining these in a clear and concise format is an essential supervisory technique (**S9**). One of the ways I have done this for the Elmswell Farms project is by completing a post excavation team workplan (**DOC5**).

The post excavation report itself is completed in adherence to the standards and requirements of CIfA, Historic England and as laid out in the project UPD. A quality

assurance process is undertaken in liaison with the project team to ensure that these standards are maintained and the document is also produced to the standards, format and style of DigVentures (**K6**).

As a community archaeological project, there are a number of key dissemination methods the project employs to effectively communicate results to both a professional archaeological and a non-specialist public audience (**B5**). I have contributed towards this aim personally by recording a number of online virtual tours of the excavations tailored to a public participatory audience (**DOC6**) as well as delivering a session to the Roman Finds Group Autumn conference focusing on Roman finds from community archaeology projects (**DOC7**).

Document Number	Document Title	KSBs Evidenced
DOC1	Elmswell Farm Updated Project Design	**K2, K9**
DOC2	Elmswell Farm RAMS	**K7**
DOC3	Elmswell specialist information pack	**B2, B4**
DOC4	Elmswell Farm post excavation assessment report	**K1, S6**
DOC5	Post Excavation Team Workplan	**S9, K6**
DOC6	Elmswell Farm Virtual Tour	**B5**
DOC7	Roman Finds Group Talk	**B5**

Table 2. Project Documents mapped to KSBs.

KSB Mapping Document 2 – Cothelstone Farm Community Excavation

KSB(s) evidenced	**K3** – relevant primary and secondary data and sources relating to archaeology **S3** - maintain and develop reference materials and databases, categorising and classifying data, including electronic data, appropriately. **S4** - select, secure, check and calibrate suitable equipment and reference resources **B1** - be receptive to feedback, commit to quality and continuous professional development, including independent learning. **B6** - apply an awareness of professional judgement and ethical behaviour. Be sensitive to and aware of the cultural, historic and spiritual context of objects and structures

Table 1: KSBs evidenced

DigVentures was commissioned by the Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme to carry out a community archaeological excavation in 2024 at Cothelstone Farm near Taunton in Somerset. The farm had been identified as a potential target for archaeological investigation due to the presence of aerial cropmarks from photographs suggestive of Prehistoric ringwork features. The community excavation recovered evidence of a Late Bronze Age domestic enclosure, including a possible ritual deposit of three complete ceramic vessels at the base of the ring ditch enclosure. The site was later reused in the Late Romano-British or Early Post-Roman period as a cemetery. My role in the project was to oversee management of the project's operations, including the fieldwork and post-excavation team, delivering the community excavation and the resultant archaeological analysis report.

During the course of the excavations at Cothelstone Farm it became apparent that there was likely a cemetery at the site. As soon as this was realised, I took the decision to temporarily stop investigation of these features and make the team aware of the situation, why we were stopping, the sensitivities surrounding human remains and what our next steps would be (**B6**). I also explained that there are due legal processes that have to be carried out before excavation can proceed in order to protect the cultural sensitivities of excavating human remains, including obtaining a burial license (**DOC9**), and that even then, excavation would only occur within the scope of the research questions established as part of the project design.

As part of my responsibilities for compiling an archaeological analysis report (**DOC8**) for the Cothelstone Farm community excavation, I accessed, consulted and interpreted numerous different primary and secondary archaeological sources (**K3**). These included results from geophysical survey, the excavations themselves (including the analysis of the stratigraphic sequence and the artefactual assemblages) alongside sources including LiDAR, historic mapping data and HER records. My discussion of the significance and synthesis of the Cothelstone Farm archaeological results with other known sites in the landscape also required me to access and interpret results from previous publications.

The Cothelstone Farm archaeological analysis report went through several iterations of feedback and edits before the final version was submitted. This was to ensure an end product of the highest quality was issued (**B1**). An example of this feedback and edits process can be seen in **DOC11,** where one of the co-authors issued their comments on my work. I then reviewed these comments and applied them to produce the final version of the report (**DOC8**). The several iterations of the feedback process highlighted the need for independent learning (**B1**), including extensive reading on Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age funerary and domestic enclosures in the southwest of England (Sections 15-16, **DOC8**).

As part of writing up the project's analysis report for Cothelstone Farm, one of the tasks required was to create the 3D photogrammetric models and produce orthomosaics that could be used to generate metrically accurate orthorectified trench plans (Figures 4-11 in **DOC8**). This is a highly process driven workflow and a series of detailed steps, settings and calibrations must be carried out in order to achieve it (**S4**). Therefore, I created a simple step by step guide for which these processes must be carried out to produce the optimal results (**DOC10**). This includes how to label, store and classify the raw photographic data collected to ensure the best results and also create an organised and standardised system for storage and archive of the electronic data (**S3**).

Document Number	Document Title	KSBs Evidenced
DOC8	Cothelstone Farm Archaeological Analysis Report_Final version	**K3**
DOC9	Cothelstone Farm Burial License and Application	**B6**
DOC10	Workflow for building a Trench Orthomosaic	**S3, S4**
DOC11	Cothelstone Farm Archaeological Analysis Report_Draft with Feedback	**B1**

Table 2. Project Documents mapped to KSBs.

DigVentures



Excavating Elmswell: Seasons in Time

2025 Updated Project Design for a Community Excavation

Ben Swain

Excavating Elmswell: Seasons in Time

Community-based archaeological excavation at Elmswell Farm, Elmswell, Driffield, East Riding of Yorkshire

Updated Project Design for a Community Excavation

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Purpose of document

This document has been prepared as an Updated Project Design for continuing community-based research excavations at Elmswell Farms, Driffield. The purpose of this document is to provide an outline of planned fieldwork for 2025, outlining the aims and objectives of the work, and methodology to be employed.

DigVentures accepts no responsibility or liability for any use that is made of this document other than by the Client for the purposes for which it was originally commissioned and prepared.

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Social Value Act

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Carbon Footprint

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DigVentures is aiming to reduce its per capita carbon emissions.

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We'd like to begin with a sincere thank you to John and Henrietta Fenton, the Elmswell Farm landowners, for their enthusiastic support and making this project possible. Particular thanks go to Paul King, Rob Hamer and Robin Siddle for helpful guidance, advice and local knowledge. Thanks are also due to Dan Normandale for providing geophysical services.

The project is managed for DigVentures by Brendon Wilkins, with Lisa Westcott Wilkins in the role of Project Executive and Ben Swain as Site Director.

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Executive summary

This document has been compiled in support of further archaeological investigation at Elmswell Farms, to be undertaken by DigVentures. Eight previous seasons of archaeological excavation have investigated the shrunken medieval village of Little Driffield (2017) and Romano-British elements of Elmswell Farms (2018-2024). This Updated Project Design supports a ninth season of fieldwork focusing on possible Romano-British religious activity associated with the water source at Elmswell Beck. Small-scale excavations in a pasture field called [redacted]' and the adjacent [redacted] field by DigVentures in 2024 and C.N and G.E Grantham in the 1950s recovered archaeological features and artefacts indicative of votive offerings and religious activity. A geophysical survey in [redacted] conducted in January 2025 showed a high potential for surviving archaeological remains at this location, interpreted as a trackway with enclosures and internal features. Archaeological excavation in August 2025 will target a number of these anomalies to characterise their extent, preservation, function, phasing and chronology.

The approach to this work, comprising of a programme of targeted trenching and palaeoenvironmental sampling, is evidenced through the following MoRPHE / PRINCE2 compliant document, outlining key archaeological research questions, roles, procedures, stages and outputs. The overarching aim of this fieldwork is to provide baseline information to contribute to the future management and research of the site, creating multiple educational and participatory learning experiences for community participants. This will be achieved through a community-based archaeological research project designed to understand:

- the nature, extent, date and survival of possible Romano-British remains associated with religious activity at or near the water source at Elmswell Beck;
- the relationship of these remains to nearby sites in the local landscape, specifically the possible shrine interpreted from excavations in the 1950's at [redacted] as well as the Mansio complex and ladder settlement investigated in 2018-2023.

This Project Design provides an outline of the methodology and planned interventions to complete:

Targeted excavation All trenches have been located targeting geophysical anomalies indicative of Romano-British archaeological remains. Trench 18 will target two probable trackway ditches and possible pit features. Trench 19 will target geophysical anomalies in close proximity to previously recovered Romano-British religious artefacts to contextualise this material. Trench 20 will target a small square enclosure with a central circular anomaly; possibly a pit. Trench 21 will target an enclosure/trackway ditch and associated internal features.

Public engagement The project is supported by a comprehensive learning, engagement and activity plan. A digital recording system will be used to enable volunteers to record excavation data in the field, with a dedicated project website, underpinned by a digital and audience building strategy, aiming to increase the engagement and participation numbers outlined in the project brief.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Excavating Elmswell

1.1.1 The 'Excavating Elmswell' project is a multi-staged research project, encompassing an excavation and assessment stage followed by final analysis and publication. Field evaluation is scheduled to take place between the 8th and 22nd August 2025 and forms the ninth Execution Stage of this project. Results from the evaluation will be fully assessed and reported on, informing how the project will progress with an Updated Project Design (see Section 8, Review Point 20). The overarching aim of this work is to characterise the scale, depth and density of the extant archaeological remains pertaining to the history of the estate, from prehistory through to the modern day. Dating evidence will be obtained and an interactive digital archive of the excavation produced. The principal driver for this research project is to provide baseline information to inform the future management of the Site (see Section 5, Business Case).

1.1.2 This document provides a Project Design for delivery of a community-based archaeological investigation at Elmswell Farms, Driffield (hereafter 'the site', Figure 1, [redacted]). This document will define how DigVentures intends to deliver a project which provides benefits to landowners, John and Henrietta Fenton, the local and global community, and all other stakeholders (including Historic England and Natural England).

1.1.3 The project is being managed according to Historic England's MoRPHE project model (Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment). This document defines that process, and is divided into two parts: '*Part 1: Description of the Project*' provides the project context, including a brief summary of proposed methodology, key sources and activities required to support the delivery of the proposal outcomes. '*Part 2: Resources and Programming*' identifies responsibilities of individual project staff members, outlines completion dates for specific tasks, with all costs itemised for transparency. A detailed Project Activity Plan has also been provided as a separate document to assist with project tracking, and evaluation of social and community outcomes.

Part 1: Description of the project

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Research context

2.1.1 For the purpose of this document, the archaeological and historical background focusses on Elmswell Farm and land immediately surrounding the site. The farm is located across the eastern edge of the Yorkshire Wolds dip-slope as it opens out into the plain of Holderness; part of a rich and nationally important historic landscape containing finds and features dating from the Mesolithic to WWII. The approximately 500 hectare modern farm estate encompasses predominantly arable agricultural land surrounding Elmswell Beck; an ecologically important natural chalk stream protected as a SSSI that forms one of the headwaters of the River Hull. The Beck also represents one of the few natural water sources historically available to occupants of the Yorkshire Wolds landscape at its eastern edge.

2.1.2 The farm lies just a few miles to the east of the nationally important excavations at Garton and Wetwang slacks; the locations of an Iron Age open settlement, square-barrow cemetery and early Romano-British enclosed settlement excavated between the 1960's and 1980's by Tony Brewster and John Dent. The excavations revealed invaluable insights into the burial practices of the Parisi tribe, who settled in the Wolds landscape in the Iron Age, as well as changing land-use from open to enclosed settlement towards the end of the Iron Age (Yorkshire Wolds Research Strategy, 2024). Excavations revealed that by the middle of the Iron Age a ditched trackway had been created along the valley floor running approximately east to west. It is possible this trackway links to the water source at Elmswell Beck.

2.1.3 Significant amongst the known archaeological remains at Elmswell farm are Prehistoric Barrows, a Romano-British ladder settlement, an extensive shrunken Medieval village and Elmswell Old Hall. The town of Driffield itself has an interesting association with Anglo-Saxon royalty; once part of the Kingdom of Deira, there is evidence that a royal palace once stood in its centre. Despite the site's archaeological potential, there have been few modern investigations into its archaeology, resulting in a strong need to understand the heritage resource in light of substantial attritional threats.

3 RESULTS OF PREVIOUS WORK

3.1 Earlier excavation

3.1.1 Elmswell has been the subject of widespread antiquarian intervention; in the 19th century, John Mortimer investigated the Neolithic barrows to the south of Elmswell and revealed multiple prehistoric burials, along with evidence of their reuse well into Anglo-Saxon period. Although it is difficult to decipher settlement patterns of the Romano-British period, there were a range of Roman finds as a result of earlier interventions at the site by Corder and others in 1935 - 1938. The most significant artefact recovered during these excavations was a bronze panel 'of Celtic Ornament'

dated to the second half of the 1st century AD (Corder, 1940, pp. 58-60). Excavations by C.N. and G.E. Grantham between 1950-1952 in [redacted] recovered a number of fragmented and worn carved stone artefacts, including altar fragments and figure reliefs indicative of Romano-British religious activity at this location, possibly a shrine to a local water-deity (Dent, 1988).

3.1.2 More recently, metal detecting and fieldwalking recovered a hoard of late 1st century AD silver Denarii, samian ware, and early medieval pottery in [redacted] Such finds accord well with remote aerial photographic evidence, with extensive cropmarks indicative of a Romano-British 'ladder settlement' coupled with a large Iron Age/Roman field system. A late Iron Age to early Anglo-Saxon settlement has also been identified, including the remains of a potential 4th century villa.

3.1.3 Excavations

3.1.4 In 1975 excavations at Moot Hill in Driffield revealed a Norman castle containing the possible remains of a rare 8th century palace (SM1015612), approximately 1.5 miles northeast of the site. Excavations conducted in advance of the construction of Kellythorpe Industrial Estate, 300m southwest of the site, revealed numerous archaeological remains; including prehistoric flints, Roman and medieval ditches and enclosures, and modern remains related to the WWII RAF Driffield. More recently, metal detecting and field walking surveys on Elmswell Farm have revealed extensive Mesolithic flint scatters and further assemblages of over 100 fragments of high status Roman pottery, over 100 Roman coins including 27 denarii; the latest dating to AD390-5.

3.2 Previous fieldwork: 2017 - 2024

3.2.1 In 2017 fieldwork focussed on Little Driffield (Casswell, 2018); a settlement believed to be the burial place of Alchfrid, King of Northumbria, who died in AD704/5 at a now lost royal palace. The location of the burial site and royal palace are not known although Anglo Saxon finds, such as part of a stone cross now incorporated into the fabric of St. Mary's Church, suggest that Little Driffield was a place of importance at that time. The first season of fieldwork focused on the shrunken medieval village of Little Driffield. Remote sensing surveys and targeted trenches enabled the characterisation of the remains, indicating that the landscape east of Church Lane was settled extensively between the late 11th and mid 14th century. The recovery of a Roman coin and a sherd of 9th to 11th century pottery suggest that earlier activity took place on or near to the site. Later pottery was found in smaller quantities, indicating that the main phase of settlement activity at the site had finished by the mid 14th century when the settlement was abandoned.

3.2.2 Fieldwork in 2018 focused on land in [redacted], [redacted] (Casswell, 2019), to; recover the full extent of the treasure hoard found by metal detectorists in 2016/17, determine the nature, date and survival of archaeology at the site of Roman settlement; establish the relationship of these remains to nearby sites and how the settlement played a role in the wider environs. Recommendations made following the assessment of the archaeological material recovered during 2017, included the broadening of investigations to explore features predating the medieval

village. Metal detecting surveys carried out to the north of the Roman settlement on the estate have identified dense concentrations of finds, including an ongoing treasure case. Fieldwork entailed the excavation of three trenches positioned over these areas to enable the full recovery of the hoard, to characterise its depositional context, and to establish whether this area of the estate is worthy of protection and designation on the HER.

3.2.3 In 2019, fieldwork focused on the Roman elements of the farm on land northeast of Elmswell Farm farmyard, east of Elmswell at Spellowgate, representing the third phase of the multi-staged landscape investigation (Casswell, 2020). The investigations involved a programme of targeted interventions, including metal detecting and field walking surveys. Four trenches were opened to the northeast of Elmswell Farm farmyard to investigate concentrations of Roman finds recorded as part of the 2018 fieldwalking and metal detecting survey. Archaeological features were found in all trenches with Roman finds dating to the 2nd to 4th century AD. Roman ceramic and stone building materials – including tesserae, roof tiles, flue tiles and bricks – were found in all areas along with settlement abandonment debris and robber-pits. It was concluded that the site had been settled in the latter part of the 2nd century AD with the construction of a villa that included a large stone building with tiled roof, a hypocaust and mosaic.

3.2.4 In 2020, one trench was opened directly south of Elmswell Farm farmyard to investigate potential structural Roman settlement remains, extending Trench 4 from the 2018 field season (Casswell *et al.*, 2021). Archaeological features were found throughout the trench, with Roman finds dating to the 1st-2nd century AD. Pottery recovered suggests domestic occupation and a site of some significance in the Roman period established soon after the conquest. The wide-ranging taxa identified in the animal bone assemblage suggests waste from beef, pork, lamb/mutton and marine mollusc production and/or consumption. A prehistoric, probably Neolithic, alluvial deposit was found in part of the trench that indicated earlier activity on the south side of the paleochannel adjacent to the site.

3.2.5 In 2021, one trench was opened directly south of Elmswell Farm farmyard to investigate potential structural Roman settlement remains (Jackson *et al.*, 2022), extending Trench 4 from the 2018 and 2020 field season to the north and west (25.00m x 20.00m) and a smaller re-excavation to the east through the alluvium (10.00m x 2.00m). Archaeological features were found throughout the trench, with Roman finds dating to the 1st to 2nd century AD. The features consisted of rubbish pits, post holes, ditches and a series of walls which had either been completely robbed out and rubble left in the cut or only had the foundations remaining. The pottery and animal bone assemblages were much the same as previous seasons. Finds of note included a near mint denarius of Domitian and two interlocked Roman brooches recovered from a rubbish pit. During the 2020 season a prehistoric, probably Neolithic, alluvial deposit was found in part of the trench that indicated earlier activity on the south side of the paleochannel adjacent to the site, in 2021 a small evaluation was opened to investigate the nature of this deposit further. A further evaluation trench, Trench 11 measuring 10.00m x 2.00m, was opened to the west of Trench 4. This trench revealed a probable ditch and two small pits, which were left unexcavated.

3.2.6 In 2022, Trench 4 was opened having been extended to the North with the aim of ascertaining the limits of the settlement (Jackson *et al.*, 2023). Archaeological features were recorded throughout the trench likely associated with the buildings to the south revealed in previous seasons. The features consisted of at least five ditches all appearing to be broadly contemporary. Additionally, a large pit at least 1.40m in depth was excavated in the eastern half of the trench, likely representing a storage pit later reused as a rubbish pit. A ditch aligned NE-SW was observed across the entirety of the trench and it is likely this feature represents the boundary of the settlement as all identified features were located to its south. Pottery recovered suggests domestic occupation and a site of some significance in the Roman period established soon after the conquest. The broad variety identified in the animal bone assemblage suggests waste from beef, pork, lamb/mutton and marine mollusc production and/or consumption. Finds of note include a finger ring, a large copper coin and a copper disc brooch or stud likely dating to the 2nd century AD.

3.2.7 Trench 11 was opened expanding upon an evaluation trench first investigated in 2021. Seven pits were recorded in the eastern half of the trench and a cluster of nine in the western half containing almost no finds, suggesting they may represent storage pits. A large N-S aligned probable enclosure ditch to the settlement was visible in the centre of the trench. A second, shallower ditch containing almost no finds was observed near the western baulk of the trench which may have represented a different phase of boundary to the settlement.

3.2.8 In 2023 (Swain, 2024), excavations in Trench 12 located a segment of a 2nd century enclosure ditch located north of the main trackway running through the centre of a Romano-British ladder settlement in Freshlands field. The only other feature excavated in this trench was a suspected Iron Age or Romano-British crouch burial.

3.2.9 Trench 13 revealed a timber-built structure internal to one of the enclosures south of the main trackway. Excavation of the post holes revealed two phases of a timber-built structure measuring at least 10.00m in length and 5.00m in width, dating from the mid 1st to mid 2nd century. Three rubbish pits likely used for domestic waste were excavated in the eastern half of Trench 13. The pottery recovered was mostly of a mid to late 2nd century date. Two large and very deep pits of similar character were located either side of the timber building in Trench 13. Pottery recovered from these pits was mostly of a mid to late 2nd century date. The substantial size and depth of these pits indicate they were likely used for storing water.

3.2.10 In 2024, three trenches were excavated in the south west corner of [redacted]. Trench 14 was located over a platform where metal detecting and fieldwalking had revealed a dense concentration of Romano-British artefacts. The trench was dominated by mid-4th century AD Romano-British activity and a sizeable assemblage of coinage dating to this period was recovered.

3.2.11 The earliest features encountered were two shallow linear gullies aligned NE-SW probably for drainage. These were truncated by a very large E-W enclosure/boundary ditch. This ditch was partially truncated by the room of a building. This rectangular structure measured approximately 5m by 4m, with the walls visible extending beyond the southern limit of excavation. What was left of the stone wall foundations had been

heavily plough truncated. Features internal to the building consisted of a shallow circular pit containing large flat chalk stones in the NE corner of the room, and a shallow pit with a thin silty fill containing animal bone, pottery and finds of a domestic nature. Due to heavy plough truncation, it is not known if these features are contemporary with the building.

3.2.12 A high density of copper alloy coins were recovered from this part of the trench; of 4th century origin. Ten coins were recovered from a single small pit and five from another adjacent. Three coins were found stuck together and directly overlain by a piece of animal bone that had stained green with the copper in the same pit. These were interpreted as potentially representing a small votive offering deposit of coins and meat set within a small, shallow intentionally dug pit. Two other pieces of green copper stained bone were recovered as surface finds in Trench 14, indicative of other possible similar votive offerings in the vicinity. Two groupings of coins and a spoon were reported to the PAS as possible treasure but have since been discounted and returned to the material archive.

3.2.13 An area of possible copper metalworking was encountered in the central part of Trench 14. Three pits containing heavily burnt ashy and charcoal rich fills with very frequent quantities of metalworking slags, debris and burnt clay were excavated. The base of these pits consisted of a solid, clean orange clay that may have been intentionally laid. The pits then appeared to be filled with debris from the metalworking process, tentatively interpreted on site to be related to copper smelting. Immediately to the south of these pits was a ring gully and some small post holes interpreted as possibly relating to a shelter or wind break structure for the metalworking process. These features were also filled with a very similar burnt ashy material.

3.2.14 To the north of the metalworking area was a small and shallow pit containing an intact inverted beaker SF247 interpreted as possibly representing another votive offering deposit. Just to the west of this was a neonatal burial. The grave cut was very shallow and had been partially truncated by historic ploughing from above. The bones of the individual were poorly preserved, being extremely fragile and fragmented.

3.2.15 In the eastern part of Trench 14, a sequence of N-S aligned ditches were partially excavated. This part of the trench had been subject to substantial animal burrowing which had truncated the edges of some of these ditches. However, despite this it is clear that a very substantial boundary or enclosure ditch existed at this location.

3.2.16 Trenches 15 and 16 were excavated to the east of the platform where Trench 14 was located in an effort to understand the extent and density of archaeological features beyond the platform. The only feature observed was a small pit in Trench 16 from which a crossbow brooch was recovered.

3.2.17 Trench 17 was a small 2x2m intervention located in the adjacent [redacted] over what was anticipated to be one of the Grantham's old trenches from the 1950s. This was indeed confirmed to be the case and artefacts recovered, including a piece of inscribed stone and two bone hair pins, were found in the old trench backfill.

3.2.18 In January 2025, a magnetometry survey was carried out over 1.2 acres of land [redacted] to provide further context to the results from previous archaeological excavation at this location, and to be used as a basis for targeting trenches during the proposed August 2025 fieldwork stage. The results of this survey (Normandale, 2025) showed a high potential for remains of probable archaeological origin. These consisted of linear and rounded positive and negative anomalies indicative of ditches, pits, stone structures and other potential archaeological material (Figure 1).

3.2.19 The results indicated the continuation of a trackway observed from cropmark survey to the south of Elmswell Beck, with enclosures to its western side. A number of archaeological trenches have been targeted based on these results to characterise these anomalies and refine their chronology. These trenches form the basis of the following fieldwork proposals for the 2025 season.

3.3 Fieldwork proposals 2025

3.3.1 In 2025, the focus of fieldwork will continue investigating the possible religious significance of the water source at Elmswell Beck, with archaeological excavations in the pasture field at [redacted], adjacent and to the west of [redacted] Previous excavations by C.N. and G.E. Grantham in the 1950s at [redacted] identified a number of robbed walls and stone floors, as well as carved stone altar fragments indicative of a potential Shrine for a sacred spring at this location (Dent, 1988). Excavations in 2024 confirmed the location of one of these old trenches and the archaeological potential of the area, with the recovery of artefacts considered to represent possible Romano-British religious activity. Geophysical survey in January 2025 revealed a high potential for surviving below-ground archaeological features.

3.3.2 It is proposed that a minimum of four evaluation-style trenches are opened in [redacted] (Figure 1).

- Trench 18 (23.00m x 4.00m) has been located to target two potential trackway ditches and two anomalies interpreted from the geophysical survey as possible pits, with the aim to investigate their chronology, character, function and relationship.
- Trench 19 (15.00m x 4.00m) has been located to target a number of positive magnetic anomalies identified from the geophysical survey adjacent to Trench 17, where previous excavations in the 1950s and in 2024 revealed evidence of possible Romano-British religious artefacts. This trench will aim to further contextualise these results by assessing the relationship, character, function and chronology of any surviving archaeological features at this location.
- Trench 20 (8.00m x 8.00m) has been located targeting anomalies interpreted from the geophysical survey as likely relating to a square enclosure with a central positive magnetic circular pit feature. This trench will aim to better characterise these anomalies by understanding their character and chronology.
- Trench 21 (20.00m x 4.00m) has been located targeting magnetic anomalies likely relating to enclosure ditches and associated internal features in the southern part of [redacted] to refine their character and chronology.

3.3.3 If the initial results from opening Trenches 19 and 21 show a high potential for archaeological remains relating to the geophysical anomalies they are targeting, expanding these trenches may be necessary to fully contextualise their character and address the project aims. For this reason, Trenches 19 and 21 may be partially expanded within the boundary of the marked expansion area (Figure 1) to meet these aims. In both cases, the overall trench size will not exceed a maximum of 150m^2.

3.3.4 Fieldwork will be delivered as a participatory research project, involving members of the community from the local area and further afield who will be trained in archaeological skills. The project will be widely disseminated both during the investigations and throughout post excavation work, and all details about the site can be found on the project website: https://digventures.com/elmswell-farm/

4 RESEARCH AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

4.1 Project model

4.1.1 The overarching aim of the project is to define and characterise the physical extent of the site through a programme of intrusive excavation, obtaining baseline data that will facilitate its future management. This project model is framed as overarching aims and key questions/objectives that provide a framework for the methods, stages, products and tasks set out in Part 2 of this Updated Project Design below.

4.2 Aim 1 – To define and establish the precise physical extent and condition of archaeological remains on the Site with a programme of trenching

4.2.1 This aim will entail archaeological excavation of the site consisting of a number of evaluation-style trenches. This will support the wider interpretation of the site, its environs and the local landscape by addressing these specific questions:

- Q1. Can we contextualise the results of the non-invasive geophysical, metal-detecting and fieldwalking surveys, as well as invasive excavations carried out in the 1950s and during 2024 at [redacted]
- Q2. Can we determine chronological phasing between these features and provide an interpretation of the nature and condition of any surviving remains?
- Q3. Can the location, layout and extent of sub-surface archaeological features, including remains associated with the potential Romano-British shrine for a sacred spring, be established by excavation?
- Q4. What are the typical and atypical features of the potential Romano-British Shrine, including the character, function and date of any associated structures and features that influenced the activities that took place here?

4.3 Aim 2 – Understand the palaeoenvironmental conditions at the site

4.3.1 This aim will be achieved with an assessment of the samples recovered during investigations carried out as part of Aim 1, using appropriate palaeoenvironmental and archaeological techniques to establish preservation and significance and address the following questions:

- Q5: What is the current state of the archaeological and palaeoenvironmental material across the site?
- Q6: How well do deposits and artefacts survive, and how deeply are they buried? Can a comparison be made between the preservation of archaeological deposits in the pasture fields at Elmswell and the ploughed agricultural land?
- Q7: Can the palaeoenvironmental data recovered from sampling in the trenches inform us about farming regimes, specialised food processing, industrial or religious activities that may have taken place at the site?
- Q8: Can we increase our understanding of the relationships to the local environment during the multi-period occupation of the Site?

4.4 Aim 3 – Characterise the results of the programme of trenching, refining the chronology and placing the site in its wider landscape context

4.4.1 In the light of the evidence base collated for Aims 1 and 2, this aim will address the following questions:

- Q9. Can we inform the local landscape setting and its character, including how any evidence recovered for a Romano-British Shrine and associated features influenced its development and design?
- Q10. Can the chronology and phasing of the Site be linked to that of previous excavations at Elmswell Farms, building a picture of how and when the character of the local landscape changed over time?

4.5 Aim 4 - Making recommendations, analysis and publication

4.5.1 This aim will require all data from Aims 1-3 to be collated and assessed in light of any further information recovered from a desk-based assessment of previous archival material. An Updated Project Design will then be produced with management recommendations to research, conserve or enhance the heritage significance of the Site.

- Q11: What can an integrated synthesis of the results of this work with previous remote sensing tell us about the site and its setting?
- Q12: Considering the evidence recovered from this and previous work, can we articulate a link between the multi-phased use of the Site and its different areas?
- Q13: Formulate recommendations for further archaeological and palaeoenvironmental analysis at Elmswell Farms based on Aims 1-3 and implement a programme to publish and disseminate the results or continue fieldwork into additional seasons.

4.6 Aim 5 – Creating opportunities for people and communities

4.6.1 This aim is integral to the success of the project and sits with equal importance alongside our research aims. The excavation will involve participation from volunteers, who will be trained and mentored in the techniques of archaeological excavation. Our site team will deliver an in-person programme at a ratio of 1:8 throughout the dig, with online social media updates to engage and inform the public about the archaeological discoveries. In summary, the project will offer a range of opportunities for community

members and visitors to the area to get involved and learn more about the archaeology of Elmswell Farms.

5 BUSINESS CASE

5.1 Historic England Research Agenda

5.1.1 The project has been designed in accordance with priorities articulated in the Historic England Research Strategy (2017) and Historic England Corporate Plan (2023-26). The Research Strategy defines nine broad themes that describe Historic England's research interests to ensure that any proposed work is aligned with HE's mission. The Project drivers can therefore be articulated within the fundamental theme to #understand (rural landscapes; archaeology of the deeper past in addition to other research outcomes that will address other Historic England and sector priorities, delivering significant value-added benefit. As a consequence of the innovative digital and multi-partner collaborative approach, there is a significant 'value added' dimension to this project, encompassing research themes including #adapt (land management, societal change); #conserve (buildings and landscapes, collections and archives; preserving archaeological remains); #inform (information systems and services); #skill (developing the workforce; working more effectively); #inspire (audience research, research media); #innovate (materials; human environment; dating and chronology; measuring and sensing).

5.2 Research frameworks

5.2.1 The key research agendas relating to Elmswell Farms are the Yorkshire Wolds Research Strategy (2024), the 'Yorkshire Archaeological Research Framework: Research Agenda' (Roskams and Wyman 2005) and the 'South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework' (South Yorkshire Archaeology Service, 2021). These documents summarise research priorities by period as the basis for further consultation with the wider specialist team.

6 INTERFACES

This project will interface with a series of other projects, stakeholders, and initiatives, summarised in the table below:

Interfaces	Description
Academic Advisory Board	An academic advisory group of subject area experts (in prehistoric, Roman and Medieval Archaeology) will be formed to ensure that the project remains pertinent to relevant research questions and agendas, interfacing with other teams working in similar landscapes in the UK. This will build on the core team's existing connections with UCL, University of Bradford, Durham University and Leicester University, in addition to local faculty such as Hull University.
Core Project Team	The core project team and specialist staff have consulted widely during the project planning and will continue to build on this as the project develops, forging strong links with local, national and international professionals and institutions actively engaged in a broad range of multi-period sites.
Heritage at Risk	The heritage of Elmswell Farms is at risk from attritional farming threats, and particularly the removal of artefacts metal detectorists finds (including three ongoing treasure cases without archaeological context). Core and specialist staff will work closely with the PAS and HE to establish management related aims and objectives with recommendations applicable to similar landscapes at risk.
Local Stakeholders	The project will showcase the archaeology from Elmswell, and offer skills-based learning opportunities focused on teaching digital heritage skills to engage as broad a group as possible in the local heritage. Hull is currently third in local authority districts with the largest proportions of deprived neighbourhoods in England, and Driffield also falls in the bottom 30% according to Indices of Deprivation. A survey undertaken by DigVentures has identified that key issues preventing people engaging with their local heritage are based on access and financial concerns. The project will offer free enjoyable learning opportunities, both online and across multiple accessible locations, to help address the strong social and educational needs of the surrounding communities.

Table 1: Project interfaces

7 COMMUNICATIONS

7.1 Project team and management responsibilities

7.1.1 The Project will be funded through crowdfunding. Project Assurance will be allocated to the Project Executive (Lisa Westcott Wilkins, DigVentures) who will monitor compliance against the deliverables detailed in this document. The project team have all worked closely together before (Caerfai 2021-2023, Lindisfarne 2016-present and Sudeley Castle 2019-present, Wittenham Clumps 2018-present). Brendon Wilkins (Projects Director) will undertake overall Project Management supported by Ben Swain (Fieldwork lead) who will oversee the day-to-day archaeological activities on site and during post-ex. There will be at least four core DigVentures archaeological staff on site throughout the fieldwork, and all will be retained throughout the post-excavation phase of the project (see Appendix 2). All core staff are employed in line with CIfA guidelines, and are practicing field archaeologists of good standing at PCIfA level or above. Experts will be drawn from various university departments and laboratories with a considerable range of experience in the undertaking and delivery of similar research projects. This includes Frederick Foulds (lithics); Karen Barker (conservation); Gerry McDonnell (metalworking and industrial waste); Archaeological Services Durham University (palaeoenvironmental); Raphael Kahlenberg (geoarchaeology); Ruth Shaffrey (worked stone); Richard Henry (small finds and metalwork); Hilary Cool (Roman glass); Malin Holst (human remains); Ian Rowlandson (Roman pottery, CBM), and Hannah Russ (animal bone and shell).

7.2 Project management and communications

7.2.1 DigVentures operates a computer-assisted project management system. Projects are undertaken under the direction of the Projects Director who is responsible for the successful completion of all aspects of the project. All work is monitored and checked whilst in progress on a regular basis, and the Projects Director / Site Director checks all reports and other documents before being issued. A series of guideline documents or manuals form the basis for all work.

7.2.2 The DigVentures senior management team are full members of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (MCIfA). DigVentures is a CIfA Registered Organisation (No. 102), and fully endorses the CIfA Code of Conduct and supporting Standards and Guidance documents. All DigVentures staff are employed in line with the Institute's Codes and will usually be members of the Institute.

7.2.3 The Project Manager will be responsible for ensuring that the project runs to schedule, keeping track of key resources and progress. The Project Team will have a project meeting at each milestone to ensure that all major tasks are briefed/debriefed as necessary. Provision will be made for the project in 'Basecamp', which is a web-based project communication package used by DigVentures, enabling project participants to generate and record notes, tasks, milestones and other project-related communication.

7.3 Outreach and engagement

7.3.1 **Public participation.** As a crowdfunded and crowdsourced archaeological project, every aspect of the project is cognisant of a wider outreach agenda. Public participants will take part on site (through participation in the dig, Finds Room, and co-creation of an open-access archaeological record), and online (through interactive online events, live updates on the Dig Timeline, social media content including, and access to digital archaeological record).

7.3.2 **Schools and education.** As in previous years, the project in 2025 will continue to create additional opportunities for local families with children who attend local schools to try archaeology together as a free summer holiday activity. The project will include multiple 'DigCamp' and 'DigClub' sessions for local families, and promotion will be achieved in partnership with local newspapers and local schools. The project will also generate material that can be used to enrich the wider, ongoing educational programme for local schools at Elmswell Farms to do with farming, land use, environment, and caring for the local landscape, by providing examples of these practices through time, as well as enriching the teaching of Roman history with local examples.

7.3.3 **Safe Dig policies.** All projects are now planned for multiple scenarios, depending on local lockdown restrictions, including in person, reduced in person, and online only scenarios. All plans will be adapted in line with changing circumstances and postponed if necessary until it is safe to resume activity.

7.3.4 **Evaluation.** Impact is measured with DigVentures standard audience evaluation of all project participants (field and digital) to establish baseline data and assist with future management strategies and promotion.

7.4 Dissemination and reporting

7.4.1 Rapid dissemination of the results to stakeholders, as well as their involvement throughout, will be vital throughout the delivery of this project. This will take place through multiple channels, addressing a multitude of established and new audiences. Dissemination outlined below will all be undertaken during 2025, and will include, but not be limited to:

- Dedicated website with daily news updates on a blog and all major social media channels (Facebook, Twitter, Google+, Flickr and Instagram) amplified through third-party coverage by the networked blogging community: https://digventures.com/elmswell-farm/
- A dedicated interactive digital archive of excavation data.
- Wide circulation of Assessment and Final Report, Updated Project Design and links to the OASIS record: Oasis ID: digventu1-287349
- Site publication in an appropriate local/national journal commensurate with the final results.
- Deposition of the Assessment Report with the East Riding of Yorkshire County Records Office HER.



7.5 Project archive

7.5.1 The project archive will be prepared in accordance with the East Riding of Yorkshire Council Museum Service (ERYMS) *Guidelines on Archaeological Archives* (2015), and CIfA *Standard and guidance for the preparation and storage of archaeological archives* (2014). All reports produced by the project will be openly and freely disseminated through County Council Historic Environment Record, Archaeological Data Service, OASIS portal and the project microsite.

8 PROJECT REVIEW

The project will be continually reviewed by the Project Executive and Project Manager, with a formal review undertaken at the end of each Stage as follows:

Stage	Description	Review Point	Completion Date
Initiation	Consideration of Project Proposal	RV1 – Assemble Project Team and liaise with stakeholders	Completed – January 2017
Stage 1	Project Start-up, finalising Project Design and definition of scope	RV2 – Sign-off on MoRPHE Project Design, and liaison with stakeholders and landowners	Completed - June 2017
Stage 2	Archaeological Fieldwork – First Season	RV3 – assemble site archive and distribute pertinent data to specialists	Completed - August 2017
Stage 3	Assessment Report & Updated Project Design	RV4 – critically review findings, making recommendations for further work	Completed - February 2018
Stage 4	Archaeological Fieldwork – Second Season	RV5 – assemble site archive and distribute pertinent data to specialists	Completed - August 2018
Stage 5	Assessment Report & Updated Project Design	RV6 – critically review findings, making recommendations for further work	Completed - May 2019
Stage 6	Archaeological Fieldwork – Third Season	RV7 - assemble site archive and distribute pertinent data to specialists	Completed - August 2019
Stage 7	Assessment Report & Updated Project Design	RV8 – critically review findings, making recommendations for further work	Completed – March 2020
Stage 8	Archaeological Fieldwork – Fourth Season	RV9 - assemble site archive and distribute pertinent data to specialists	Completed – August 2020
Stage 9	Assessment Report & Updated Project Design	RV10 – critically review findings, making recommendations for further work	Completed – March 2021
Stage 10	Archaeological Fieldwork – Fifth Season	RV11 - assemble site archive and distribute pertinent data to specialists	Completed - August 2021
Stage 11	Assessment Report & Updated Project Design	RV12 – critically review findings, making recommendations for further work	Completed – March 2022
Stage 12	Archaeological Fieldwork – Sixth Season	RV13 - assemble site archive and distribute pertinent data to specialists	Completed - August 2022
Stage 13	Assessment Report & Updated Project Design	RV14 – critically review findings, making recommendations for further work	Completed – April 2023

Stage	Description	Review Point	Completion Date
Stage 14	Archaeological Fieldwork – Seventh Season	RV15 – assemble site archive and distribute pertinent data to specialists	Completed – August 2023
Stage 15	Assessment Report & Updated Project Design	RV16 - critically review findings, making recommendations for further work	Completed – May 2024
Stage 16	Archaeological Fieldwork – Eighth Season	RV17 – assemble site archive and distribute pertinent data to specialists	Completed – August 2024
Stage 17	Assessment Report & Updated Project Design	RV18 - critically review findings, making recommendations for further work	Completed April 2025
Stage 18	Archaeological Fieldwork – Ninth Season	RV19 – assemble site archive and distribute pertinent data to specialists	Proposed – August 2025
Stage 19	Assessment Report & Updated Project Design	RV20 - critically review findings, making recommendations for further work	Proposed – April 2026
Stage 20	Analysis & reporting	RV21 – final report sign-off, and prepare archive for accession	Proposed May 2026
Closure			May 2026

Table 2: Project review stages

9 HEALTH AND SAFETY

9.1.1 DigVentures will undertake the works in accordance with Health and Safety requirements and a Health and Safety Plan. This document will take account of any design information pertaining to above and below ground hazards. DigVentures will ensure that all work is carried out in accordance with its company Health and Safety Policy, to standards defined in *The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974*, and *The Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1999*, and in accordance with the SCAUM (Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers) health and safety manual *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology* (1997).

Part Two: Resources and Programming

10 PROJECT TEAM STRUCTURE

10.1 Team and responsibilities

10.1.1 DigVentures' Project Team is outlined below in Table 4. A summary CV, setting out the skills and expertise of DigVentures core team members is set out in Appendix 2, with CVs for the wider specialist team available on request.

Name	Initials	Project Role	Key Responsibility
Lisa Westcott Wilkins	LWW	Project Executive	Overall project responsibility, budget responsibility and project assurance
Brendon Wilkins	BW	Projects Director	Overall responsibility for the direction of the project
Stephanie Duensing	SD	Programme Manager	Management of programme (on and off-site), liaison with project team, partners and Stakeholders
Maiya Pina-Dacier	MPD	Head of Community	Management of public programme (on and off site), liaison with project team, partners and Stakeholders, on-site volunteer management.
Nat Jackson	NJ	Project Officer	On-site fieldwork, fieldwork strategy advice and volunteer management/training
Harriet Tatton	HT	Community Archaeologist	On-site field-work, responsible for Dig Camps and Dig Clubs
Maggie Eno	ME	Community Archaeologist	Videography and social media
Ben Swain	BS	Community Archaeologist (Site Director)	Direction of on-site fieldwork and fieldwork strategy, volunteer management/training, logistics.
Anna van Nostrand	AvN	Community Archaeologist	On site fieldwork, venturer management and training

Table 3: Team and responsibilities

10.1.2 In addition to the core team, it is expected that throughout the project between 15 and 25 participants will be present on-site engaging with excavation and finds processing activities. DigVentures will host a series of family-friendly DigCamp sessions, where families with children who attend local schools will be able to join the dig and help to unearth part of the site.

11 METHODOLOGY

11.1 Introduction

11.1.1 The methods reflect the Project Stages set out in Section 9 above. A task list, with allocation of staff time and team member is set out in Section 12 below, setting out a provisional programme. Detailed method statements relating the specific techniques or approaches detailed below to their constituent research questions can be found in Appendix 1 at the end of this document.

11.2 Stage 18 – Archaeological fieldwork – Ninth season

11.2.1 Stage 18 (scheduled for 8th to 22nd August 2025) will comprise the ninth fieldwork season required to meet Aim 1 and will consist of targeted trenching. It will aim to answer the following research questions:

- Q1. Can we contextualise the results of the non-invasive geophysical, metal-detecting and fieldwalking surveys, as well as invasive excavations carried out in the 1950s and during 2024 at [redacted]
- Q2. Can we determine chronological phasing between these features and provide an interpretation of the nature and condition of any surviving remains?
- Q3. Can the location, layout and extent of sub-surface archaeological features, including remains associated with the potential Romano-British shrine for a sacred spring, be established by excavation?
- Q4. What are the typical and atypical features of the potential Romano-British Shrine, including the character, function and date of any associated structures and features that influenced the activities that took place here?

11.2.2 Trench 18 (23.00m x 4.00m) has been located to target two potential trackway ditches and two anomalies interpreted from the geophysical survey as possible pits, with the aim to investigate their chronology, character, function and relationship.

11.2.3 Trench 19 (15.00m x 4.00m) has been located to target a number of positive magnetic anomalies identified from the geophysical survey adjacent to Trench 17, where previous excavations in the 1950s and in 2024 revealed evidence of possible Romano-British religious artefacts. This trench will aim to further contextualise these results by assessing the relationship, character, function and chronology of any surviving archaeological features at this location.

11.2.4 Trench 20 (8.00m x 8.00m) has been located targeting anomalies interpreted from the geophysical survey as likely relating to a square enclosure with a central positive magnetic circular pit feature. This trench will aim to better characterise these anomalies by understanding their character and chronology.

11.2.5 Trench 21 (20.00m x 4.00m) has been located targeting magnetic anomalies likely relating to enclosure ditches and associated internal features in the southern part of Bramble Hill to refine their character and chronology.

11.2.6 If the initial results from opening Trenches 19 and 21 show a high potential for archaeological remains relating to the geophysical anomalies they are targeting, expanding these trenches may be necessary to fully contextualise their character and address the project aims. For this reason, Trenches 19 and 21 may be partially expanded within the boundary of the marked expansion area (Figure 1) to meet these aims. In both cases, the overall trench size will not exceed a maximum of 150m2.

11.2.7 Access to the site will be made through the active farmyard at Elmswell Farm (from the A166, Sykes Lane) no earlier than 08:45 each morning, and egress no later than 17:30 from the same point. All traffic will be closely managed to avoid conflict with agricultural machinery.

11.3 Stage 19 – Assessment report & updated project design

11.3.1 This Stage will address Aims 2-3, culminating in Review Point 20, and focusing on answering the following research questions:

- Q5: What is the current state of the archaeological and palaeoenvironmental material across the site?
- Q6: How well do deposits and artefacts survive, and how deeply are they buried? Can a comparison be made between the preservation of archaeological deposits in the pasture fields at Elmswell and the ploughed agricultural land?
- Q7: Can the palaeoenvironmental data recovered from sampling in the trenches inform us about farming regimes, specialised food processing, industrial or religious activities that may have taken place at the site?
- Q8: Can we increase our understanding of the relationships to the local environment during the multi-period occupation of the Site?
- Q9. Can we inform the local landscape setting and its character, including how any evidence recovered for a Romano-British Shrine and associated features influenced its development and design?
- Q10. Can the chronology and phasing of the Site be linked to that of previous excavations at Elmswell Farms, building a picture of how and when the character of the local landscape changed over time?

11.4 Stage 20 – Further work, analysis and publication

11.4.1 Addressing Aim 4, this is the main reporting and recommendation Stage of the project, culminating in Review Point 21 and focusing on the following research questions.

- Q11: What can an integrated synthesis of the results of this work with previous remote sensing tell us about the site and its setting?
- Q12: Considering the evidence recovered from this and previous work, can we articulate a link between the multi-phased use of the Site and its different areas?
- Q13: Formulate recommendations for further archaeological and palaeoenvironmental analysis at Elmswell Farms based on Aims 1-3 and implement a programme to publish and disseminate the results or continue fieldwork into additional seasons.

11.5 Methodological linkages

11.5.1 It is anticipated that the 2025 work will be undertaken in four stages (see Table 2). These are expanded in the table below showing linkages with the project aims and questions that will be met at each stage, the products that will be produced and the tasks undertaken.

Stage	Description	Project Aims/ Questions	Products	Task & ID Number
Stage 17	Assessment Report & Updated Project Design	Aim 1-4 Q1-13	1. Assessment of previous results 2. Permissions (planning application & stewardship derogations) 3. Finalised UPD & Risk Log 4. Educational Plan & Information Pack 5. Digital Communication Plan 6. Risk Assessment	1. Consult with wider project team and stakeholders to define milestones and delivery timetable. 2.Core Archaeology Team Meeting. 3. Design project database. 4. RV18 – Sign off on MoRPHE
Stage 18	Archaeological Fieldwork – ninth Season	Aim 1 Q1-4	7. Field Archive 8. Survey Archive 9. 3D Survey Archive	5. Site Preparation 6. Fieldwork (excavation) 7. RV19 – assemble site archive & distribute to specialists
Stage 19	Assessment Report & Updated Project Design	Aim 2 Q5-8 Aim 3 Q9-10	10. Stratigraphic & Assessment Report	8. Specialist finds and palaeoenvironmental assessments 9. Integrated assessment report 10.RV20 – recommendations for further work
Stage 20	Analysis and Publication	Aim 4 Q11-13	11. Final report 12. Publication 13. Completed and accessioned archive	11. Specialist analysis 12. Finalise report and publication 13. Prepare data and archive for deposition 14. RV21 – final sign-off. 15. Closure

Table 4: Project stages, products and tasks

12 OWNERSHIP

12.1.1 The Copyright on all reports submitted will reside with DigVentures, although a third party in-perpetuity licence will automatically be given for reproduction of all products, subject to agreement with DigVentures. The original copyright holder will retain copyright in pre-existing data.

13 RISK LOG

Risk number	1	2	3	4
Description	Inclement weather - prolonged periods of rain	Exceptional weather (drying exposed archaeology)	Absence of core team member	Absence of specialist team member
Probability	Medium	Medium-low	Low	Low
Impact	Delay programme of work	Slow progress	Delay programme of work	Delay programme of work
Countermeasures	Provision of site hut, and planned indoor archiving tasks with flexible programme	Provision of water bowser + spray	Reallocate responsibilities or appointment of alternative	Reallocate responsibilities or appointment of alternative
Estimated time/cost	3 Days	None	Minimal if done by adjustment	Minimal if done by adjustment
Owner	BW/BS	BW/BS	BW/SD/BS	BW/SD/BS
Risk number	5	6		
Description	Equipment theft/breakages	Serious site injury		
Probability	Medium	Medium		
Impact	Delay programme of work	Delay programme of work		
Countermeasures	Removal of finds material and digital equipment from site	Detailed H&S Risk Assessment + daily safety briefing		
Estimated time/cost	3 days	3 days		
Owner	BW/BS	BW/BS		

Table 5: Risk Log

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DigVentures

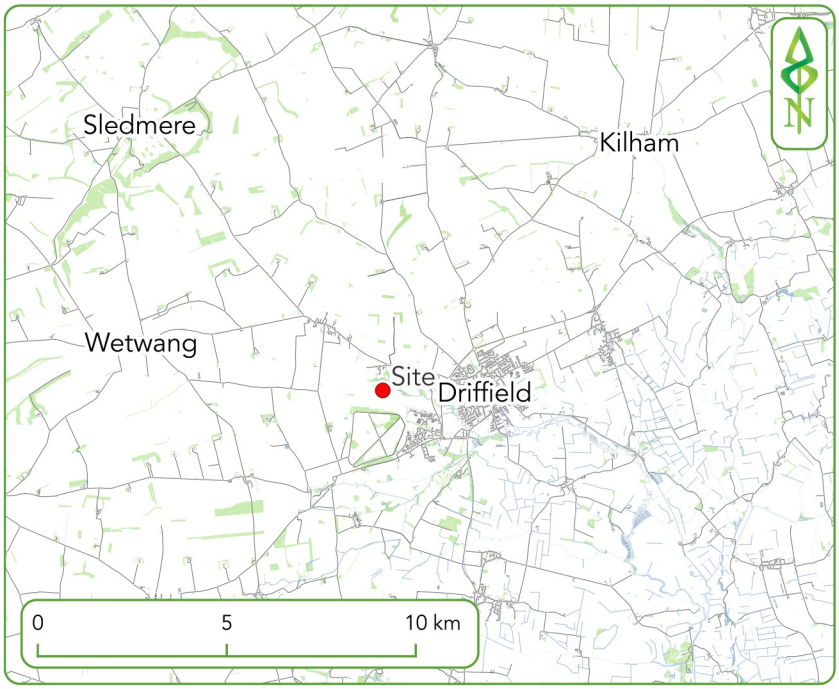




Figure 1. Site location

Appendices

APPENDIX 1 METHOD STATEMENTS

The methods for the proposed project will involve a combination of archaeological excavation, sampling, palaeoenvironmental sampling and assessment. The methods are linked directly to the project aims and objectives (see Table 5) and detailed below.

Key Questions and Objectives	Archaeological Excavation	Sampling	Environmental Assessment	Finds Assessment	Synthesis and Data integration
Q.1	✔				
Q.2	✔			✔	
Q.3	✔				
Q.4	✔			✔	
Q.5	✔	✔	✔	✔	
Q.6	✔	✔	✔		
Q.7		✔	✔	✔	
Q.8		✔	✔	✔	
Q.9			✔		
Q.10			✔	✔	
Q.11					✔
Q.12					✔
Q.13					✔

Table 6: Linking methods with objectives

Topographic survey and GIS modelling

Any topographical survey work will be carried out using a Trimble Real Time Differential GPS survey system. The Trimble VRS system is used in conjunction with a GPS Rover unit. It allows for surveying without the use of a site specific fixed base station. This is achieved by connecting to Trimble's network of fixed base stations by means of mobile phone communication. The method is highly efficient and accurate (+/- 2cm) when good signal is available. The survey data is exported from the data logger as a comma delimited file (.csv) and a Trimble data collector file (.dc). Both files can be imported into Trimble GeoSite Communicator, which recognises the feature code library and plots all strings, polygons and labels as intended. All survey and excavation data will be stored within a GIS environment, which will remain the principle conduit for all spatial data throughout the project.

Archaeological excavation

Four trenches will be excavated in the pasture field called Bramble Hill at Elmswell Farms. These trenches are positioned over the location of anomalies identified from a geophysical survey interpreted as indicative of archaeological remains that may contribute to our understanding of Romano-British religious activity at this location (Figure 1):

Trench	Dimensions	Target	Description
18	23m x 4m	Enclosure/Trackway ditches and internal pit features	Evaluation-style trench, aligned NW-SE, located at the [redacted] Targeting potential Romano-British archaeological remains associated with trackway ditches and associated pit features.
19	15m x 4m	Features internal to an enclosure possibly associated with Romano-British religious activity	15m x 4m trench, aligned E-W, located in [redacted] targeting geophysical anomalies that may be associated with Romano-British religious activity.
20	8m x 8m	A small square enclosure with central pit feature	An 8m x 8m trench targeting a square enclosure with a central pit to refine character, phasing and chronology.
21	20m x 4m	Enclosure/Trackway ditches and internal features	Trench aligned N-S in the south of [redacted] to investigate enclosure ditches and associated internal features.

Table 7: Trench target, location and description

Interventions

All trenches will be cleaned by hand, planned and photographed prior to any further excavation. A representative section, not less than 1m in width, of the entire deposit sequence encountered will be recorded. If complex stratigraphy and/ or significant remains (e.g. structural remains, artefact scatters, remains clearly of a funerary nature etc.) are encountered, these may only be excavated to the minimum requirement in order to satisfy the project objective, to avoid compromising the integrity of remains that may be either (a) preserved in situ, or (b) excavated in detail during any next phase of research excavation. Interventions will focus on feature intersections in order to establish relative chronologies, and 'clean' sections to maximise retrieval of stratigraphically secure dating evidence and environmental samples.

Full written, drawn and photographic records will be made of each trench and test pit, even where no archaeological remains are identified. A plan at an appropriate scale (1:50 or 1:100) will be prepared, showing the areas investigated and their relation to more permanent topographical features, and the location of contexts observed and recorded in the course of the investigation. Plans, sections and elevations of archaeological features and deposits will be drawn as necessary at an appropriate scale (normally 1:20, or 1:10 for complex features). Drawings will be made in pencil (6H) on permanent drafting film and archived in a suitable depository.

Each trench or test pit, will be recorded using the 'Diggit' digital archaeological recording platform. Digital photography will be used for all photography of significant features, finds, deposits and general site working. The photographic record will illustrate both the detail and the general context of the principal features and finds excavated, and the Site as a whole.

Backfilling and reinstatement

Where turf is removed it will be stacked away from the trench edge, maintaining their integrity by ensuring that the turves are placed in a correct position (turf side up) and are watered frequently and monitored daily. Topsoil and subsoil will be removed and retained separately for reinstatement. Trenches will be backfilled immediately following excavation with subsoil followed by topsoil. The site will be visibly similar in appearance to its condition pre-excavation; there shall be no visible mounds of excavated soil around the site and turf shall be replaced and watered in.

Palaeoenvironmental sampling

All deposits with good palaeoenvironmental potential will be sampled; bulk samples will be taken from the section as appropriate, under advice from the project specialist. Context specific samples will be taken by the most appropriate means (kubiena tins, contiguous columns, incremental block, bulk etc.) for multi-disciplinary analysis. All aspects of the collection, selection, processing, assessment and reporting on the environmental archaeology component of the evaluation will be undertaken in accordance with the principles set out in '*Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*' (Historic England 2011) and with reference to the Association for Environmental Archaeology's 'Working *Paper No. 2, Environmental Archaeology and Archaeological Evaluations*' (1995).

Bulk sampling strategy

Bulk samples will usually be 20 litres in size, depending on the likely density of macrofossils. Ten litre samples will only be used for the recovery of plant macrofossils from waterlogged contexts. Samples will be stored in ten litre plastic bags or buckets with lids and handles. A waterproof label will be fixed to the bucket and will record site code, context number and sample number and number of buckets in comprising the sample. A duplicate label will be retained inside the bucket. Samples will be protected from temperatures below 5° and above 25° Celsius and will be prevented from either wetting or drying out.

- Bulk samples selected for processing will be wet-sieved/floated and washed (by the excavation team at a suitable area close to the temporary headquarters) over a mesh size of 250 microns for the recovery of palaeobotanical and other organic remains, and re-floated to maximise recovery;
- Non-organic residues shall be washed through a nest of sieves of 10mm, 5mm, 2mm, 1mm and 250 micron mesh to maximise finds recovery;
- Both organic and non-organic residues shall be dried under controlled conditions;
- The dried inorganic fractions will be sorted for small finds or any non-buoyant palaeoenvironmental remains, and scanned with a magnet to pick up ferrous debris such as hammer scale;
- The dried organic fractions will be sorted under a light microscope to identify the range of species or other material on a presence/absence basis, the degree of preservation of the bio-archaeological material and the rough proportions of different categories of material present;
- In the event that waterlogged deposits are identified and sampled, further processing will be undertaken as appropriate and agreed, including paraffin flotation to recover insect remains. Any such remains will be scanned to identify and assess their potential;
- Selection of other types of sample for processing and the methods to be used for processing and assessment will be undertaken on the advice of the relevant specialist and will be agreed with the Consultant before implementation.

Contexts that are well stratified and potentially datable are all of value, so a systematic approach to selecting samples for processing and assessment will be taken. These will be divided into three categories:

- Category A (always sampled): contexts where the composition of the sediments is likely to inform us of the use of a particular structure or feature or if the deposits are waterlogged. These will include: *in situ* occupation deposits and fills/layers associated with particular activities; hearths; destruction deposits; basal pit/slot trench fills; waterlogged deposits, cesspits or latrines.
- Category B (always sampled, though discretion can be exercised by the trench supervisor): deposits identified as containing material that could yield information regarding their origin or the process that produced them. These will include: dumps, middens, upper pit fills with evidence for charred material, shell, bone and industrial waste.
- Category C: deposits containing material which is not necessarily related to the function of the feature to which they are related, but which can characterise



deposits from different areas of the site. These will include: secondary and tertiary fills, postholes, levelling deposits, spreads etc.

Category A deposits should always be sampled, Category B deposits always sampled however, the supervisor's discretion may allow for a strategy such as 'scatter sampling' enabling exploration of variation within a deposit and Category C deposits sampled on a random basis (such as 1 in 5). These samples can help to characterise the background noise of a site, so as to highlight spatial or temporal trends and provide material that can be directly compared with those from Category A and B. All samples will be taken in large white 10 litre tubs, with labels placed inside with the deposit and attached to the bucket. All samples will be processed off site in a dedicated floatation and wet sieving area.

Zooarchaeology

If large deposits of bone or marine shell are encountered advice of the project Zooarchaeologist will be sought as regards further sampling. If large deposits of bone or marine shell are encountered the project Zooarchaeologist advice will be sought as regards further sampling. If articulated groups of bones are encountered (as found in previous excavations. they will be surveyed, recorded in situ, (including digital photography and planning), and then excavated to retain the group's integrity. Bones from each articulated limb will be bagged separately. If inhumations or cremation burials are encountered and excavated the surrounding soil will be sampled to retrieve any loose teeth or bone fragments.

All hand collected animal bones and bones from processed samples will be assessed, following Historic England's Environmental Archaeology guidelines (2011). If warranted by the size of the recovered assemblage, it will be assessed using two different quantification methods to determine the most suitable for full analysis, taking into account methods used in comparative assemblages. The assessment will not distinguish between certain taxonomic groups; full speciation will be carried out as part of the analysis, using a vertebrate comparative collection. In addition to quantification of domestic species and occurrence of wild species, the assessment will consider the number of articulated bone groups, and the prevalence of aging, sexing and osteometric data available for full analysis, following standard published conventions. The assessment report will comment on the potential of the assemblage, particularly in the context of the excavation's research questions and current understanding of comparative assemblages. It will also provide recommendations for any necessary future analysis.

Human osteoarchaeology

In the event of the discovery of human remains (inhumations, cremations and disarticulated fragments) they will be left *in situ*, covered and protected, until Natural England have been informed. If a decision is taken to remove them, they will be fully recorded and excavated in compliance with the relevant Ministry of Justice Licence. A copy of the Ministry of Justice licence will be supplied to Natural England for logging onto the agri-environment agreement documents. The excavation of human remains will be carried out in accordance with the procedures detailed in the document *Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed human remains* (McKinley and Roberts 1993, CIfA Technical Paper 13). Significant assemblages of human remains will be subject to an assessment of DNA preservation to establish potential familial relationships.



Inhumations will be scanned with a metal detector prior to excavation, and the position of possible metallic grave goods will be noted. Wherever possible, each burial will be excavated within a single working day, particularly with regard to visible grave goods. To minimise unauthorised disturbance of human remains, partially exposed remains will be covered overnight, though in such a way as to not draw undue attention, using loose excavated spoil.

Excavation of inhumations will be undertaken using a trowel, plasterer's leaf, plastic spoon and paintbrush as appropriate depending on the condition of the bones. When lifted the bones will be bagged by skeletal area (skull, axial, upper and lower limbs) with separate bags for the left and right side. A standard series of samples will be taken from each inhumation burial to ensure full recovery of any remaining osseous tissues or small artefacts. Once human remains are removed from inhumation graves, any soil residue remaining at the base of the grave will be retrieved for bulk processing.

Inhumations and cremations will be drawn at a scale of 1:10 and photographed prior to lifting. They will be recorded on Skeleton Record Sheets that form an integral part of the site *pro forma* recording system. The recording will include condition, completeness, articulation, orientation and posture.

Fragile objects found within graves will be lifted with appropriate care and handling to minimise breakage. This may include subsequent controlled excavation under laboratory conditions. A trained conservator will be employed on the site if necessary. All cremation burials and cremation-related contexts will be excavated and sampled in quadrants to ascertain the distribution of any archaeological components within the fills, with division into spit also if appropriate. Cremation-related features other than burials may be subject to more detailed sub-divisions, the appropriate strategy being developed by a specialist as the size and nature of the remains becomes clear.

Undisturbed and slightly disturbed, but largely intact, urn cremation burials will be lifted *en masse* for excavation under laboratory conditions. The urns will be wrapped in crepe bandages and securely boxed for transportation. Where a vessel has been crushed, thereby disrupting any original internal deposition of the cremated remains, it will be lifted *en masse* after separate recovery of displaced sherds. All cremation-related contexts will be subject to whole-earth recovery from the point at which any cremated bone or other pyre debris is observed. If deposits of placed human bone are encountered in features, these may be excavated in spits if appropriate. The soils from these features will be bulk sampled.

Finds

All finds will be treated in accordance with the relevant guidance given in the Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologist's *Universal Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2023), excepting where statements made below supersede them. All artefacts will be retained from excavated contexts, except features or deposits undoubtedly of modern date. In these circumstances, sufficient artefacts will only be retained to elucidate the date and function of the feature or deposit.

All artefacts from the excavation will, as a minimum, be washed, marked, counted, weighed and identified. Any stratified ironwork will be X-rayed and stored in a stable condition along with other fragile and delicate material. The X-raying of objects and other conservation needs will be undertaken by appropriately qualified conservation specialists. Suitable material,



primarily the pottery and non-ferrous metalwork, will be scanned to assess the date range of the assemblage.

Conservation

If Artefacts will be recovered as a matter of routine during the excavation. When retrieved from the ground finds will be kept in a finds tray or appropriate bags in accordance with *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson and Neal 1998). Where necessary, a conservator may be required to recover fragile finds from the ground depending upon circumstances.

After the completion of the fieldwork stage, a conservation assessment will be undertaken which will include the X-radiography of all the ironwork (after initial screening to separate obviously modern debris), and a selection of the non-ferrous finds (including all coins). A sample of slag may also be X-rayed to assist with identification and interpretation. Wet-packed materials, including glass, bone and leather will be stabilised and consolidated to ensure their long-term preservation. All finds will be stored in optimum conditions in accordance with *First Aid for Finds* and *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-Term Storage* (Walker, 1990). The conservation assessment report will include statements on condition, stability and potential for further investigation (with conservation costs) for all material groups. The conservation report will be included in the updated project design prepared for the analysis stage of the project.

Scientific dating

Radiocarbon dating will be appropriate for clarifying and linking aspects of archaeological and environmental chronologies, and a strategy for this will be agreed following discussion with the relevant specialists following assessment.

Synthesis and data integration

Radiocarbon results from the project will be integrated and synthesised with future investigations, and other relevant work within the region and further afield. This will include a literature review of other pertinent sites.

Elmswell Farms 2025

Risk Assessment Method Statement

	Doc. ref. no.	Status	Approval	Date	Comments
Original	ELM25_RAMS	1.0	Ben Swain	24/07/25	Final
Revisions					

1 PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

1.1.1 The purpose of this method statement is to provide detailed guidance on a safe system of work for the employees. The method statement is based on a task specific risk assessment using identified hazards, the likelihood of the hazard occurring and the severity of the consequences. This risk assessment is attached. As conditions may change on site these RAMS will be regularly reviewed and may require amendment during the course of work to reflect the conditions at the time. All personnel involved in this operation must be briefed on the content of this RAMS and associated reference documents before commencement of the work.

2 METHOD STATEMENT

1	Project Management	Name	Position	Contact Details
		[redacted]	Co-CEO	[redacted]
		[redacted]	Co-CEO	[redacted]
		[redacted]	Operations Director	[redacted]
2	Key personnel	Name	Position	Contact Details
		[redacted]	Site Director **(First Aider)**	[redacted]
		[redacted]	Project Officer **(First Aider)**	[redacted]
		[redacted]	Senior Director of Partnerships	[redacted]
		[redacted]	Programme Officer	[redacted]
4	Working Hrs	Saturday to Thursday. 09:30 to 16:30 from 9th – 21st August		

<table>
<tr><td>5</td><td>Plant /Tools/ Vehicles</td><td colspan="4">13T excavator on site Friday 8th and Friday 22nd August
Tools: Hand tools (mattock, shovel, trowel, bucket, wheelbarrow etc).
Vehicles: One van plus staff in their own vehicles (parking as arranged and specified on site).</td></tr>
<tr><td>6</td><td>Specialist Training Required</td><td colspan="4">N/A</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="7">7</td><td rowspan="7">Personal Protective Equipment</td><td>Head Protection:</td><td>X</td><td>Skin Protection:</td><td>X</td></tr>
<tr><td>Eye Protection:</td><td></td><td>Specialist Footwear:</td><td>X</td></tr>
<tr><td>Ear Protection:</td><td></td><td>Flotation Aids:</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Respiratory:</td><td></td><td>Harnesses:</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Hand Protection:</td><td>Gloves</td><td>Other:</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>If other, specify:</td><td colspan="3">Waterproof clothing in inclement weather; sunscreen to be worn in strong sun; head protection (hard hats) and Hi-Vis vests when machinery is on site; PPE to be worn where appropriate; hands always washed before eating and drinking.</td></tr>
<tr><td>8</td><td>Permits Required</td><td colspan="4">Landowner Permission obtained. Landowner has arranged derogations with Natural England</td></tr>
<tr><td>9</td><td>COSHH Assessment</td><td colspan="4">N/A</td></tr>
<tr><td>10</td><td>Environmental</td><td colspan="4">N/A</td></tr>
<tr><td>11</td><td colspan="5">Sequence of works</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="6">Mobilisation (8th August)
• Access for vehicles (van and staff vehicles, Machine excavator) to the site at Elmswell Farms, Driffield, East Yorkshire, [redacted]
• Survey set-out before mechanical excavation of ploughsoil
• Arrival and siting of portaloos, Storage container
• Van unloaded, tent constructed
Safe site checks
• Check access/egress points place signs where appropriate.
• Establish safe access/egress points into areas.
• Inspect the survey area visually to identify unforeseen hazards. Where necessary additional safety measures may be required.
Site Orientation
• Briefing to all staff outlining tasks for the day and updates to the risk assessment where appropriate.</td></tr>
</table>

- All tasks to be carried out in accordance with the agreed safety method statements.

Excavation (9th – 21st August)

- Participants and staff are encouraged to travel in their own cars where possible, adequate parking for off-road capable vehicles will be available on site.
- Small cars, sports cars or vehicles with shallow ground clearance will not be appropriate on site and these vehicles should be parked in nearby Little Driffield village.
- Participants should NOT arrive before 09:20 earliest and should NOT enter the main farmyard complex until the DigVentures' team have arrived to facilitate safe access as a single group.
- Staff and dig participants must keep to the agreed site access and egress routes and not deviate from the marked pathway to and from site. The farm is in active use, with heavy machinery and cattle present in some locations.
- Briefing to all participants outlining tasks for the day and updates to the risk assessment where appropriate.
- All tasks to be carried out in accordance with the agreed safety method statements.
- The trenches will be hand excavated using hand tools by volunteers under the supervision of professional archaeologists. Archaeological features will be cleaned and excavated by hand.
- Volunteers will record the trenches under the supervision of professional archaeologists.
- Spoil will be placed on top of the pre-determined spoil heaps no closer than 1m away from the trenches for open area excavation.
- Individual tool kits to be provided
- No lone working

Upon the discovery of unexpected/widespread/significant/complex archaeological remains, the methodology will be revised.

Demobilisation (22nd August)

- Prior to leaving the area, all safety measures are to be removed together with any works debris.
- Removal of staff and equipment.
- Inform the landowners of completion.

3 RISK ASSESSMENT

Site Address:	Elmswell Farms, Driffield, [redacted]	**RA completed by:** **Date:** **Site visit:**	Ben Swain ACIfA 24/07/25 Site visited in previous excavation seasons
Monitors:	[redacted] DigVentures Ltd	**Documentation:**	Project Design & WSI • ELM25_UPD
Operation/Task:	Community archaeological excavation		

Frequency: *1 = A highly improbable occurrence; 2 = A remotely possible but known occurrence; 3 = An occasional occurrence; 4 = A fairly frequent occurrence; 5 = A regular occurrence; 6 = Almost a certainty*
Severity: *1 = Negligible injuries; 2 = Minor injuries; 3 = Major injuries; 4 = Single fatality; 5 = Multiple fatalities; 6 = Multiple fatalities including persons beyond site*
Risk Rating: *1 – 4 = tolerable; 5 – 7 = moderate; 8 – 11 = substantial; 12+ intolerable (*Risk Rating = Frequency x Severity*)*

Notes:

All staff and to read this document (in conjunction with the PD-WSI) before entry on to site,

and sign-off the Briefing Log once induction from the Health & Safety Supervisor is completed.

The risk assessment summary must be read to all venturers/dig participants and the risk assessment signed before access to site is permitted

Frequency: *1 = A highly improbable occurrence; 2 = A remotely possible but known occurrence; 3 = An occasional occurrence; 4 = A fairly frequent occurrence; 5 = A regular occurrence; 6 = Almost a certainty*
Severity: *1 = Negligible injuries; 2 = Minor injuries; 3 = Major injuries; 4 = Single fatality; 5 = Multiple fatalities; 6 = Multiple fatalities including persons beyond site*
Risk Rating: *1 – 4 = tolerable; 5 – 7 = moderate; 8 – 11 = substantial; 12+ intolerable (*Risk Rating = Frequency x Severity*)*

Remember – Please report anything that is** or seems to be **unsafe to DigVentures Staff immediately.

Hazard/Risk		Risk Rating			Control Measures	Residual Risk			Responsibility	Monitor
		F	S	RR		F	S	RR		
1.1	Deep excavation									
1.1.1	Injury to DV staff, visitors or participants due to trench collapse	1	4	4	No unsupported sections greater than 1.2m depth for archaeological excavation and recording	1	3	3	DV	DV/Client
					Excavation sides to be stepped as ground conditions demand, regardless of depth.				DV	DV/Client
					No persons other than DV staff are permitted to enter deep excavations (greater than 1.2m depth) at any time.				DV	DV/Client
					Access/ egress to trenches to be provided either via a battered ramp. Access/egress to deep excavations to be provided using a ladder of suitable length secured at top and bottom.				DV	DV/Client
					Groundwater seepage to be removed either using a water pump, or if flow is insufficient, by using plant to bail water onto ground surface downslope from the trench.				DV	DV/Client

Frequency: *1 = A highly improbable occurrence; 2 = A remotely possible but known occurrence; 3 = An occasional occurrence; 4 = A fairly frequent occurrence; 5 = A regular occurrence; 6 = Almost a certainty*
Severity: *1 = Negligible injuries; 2 = Minor injuries; 3 = Major injuries; 4 = Single fatality; 5 = Multiple fatalities; 6 = Multiple fatalities including persons beyond site*
Risk Rating: *1 – 4 = tolerable; 5 – 7 = moderate; 8 – 11 = substantial; 12+ intolerable (*Risk Rating = Frequency x Severity*)*

1.1.2	Injury to DV staff, visitors or participants to slips, trips and falls into excavations	2	3	6	All deep excavations to be fenced.	1	3	3	DV	DV/Client
					All deep excavations are to be flagged/taped off				DV	DV/Client
					Tools, equipment etc. to be stockpiled/stored at least 1 m beyond the edge of the excavations to minimise trip hazards.				DV	DV/Client
					All visitors to the site to be made aware of the location of any deep excavations.				DV	DV/Client
					Ensure suitable PPE is worn at all times if appropriate under current restrictions				DV	DV/Client
2	UTILITIES/ BURIED HAZARDS									
2.1	Pre-groundwork									
2.1.1	Identification of services.	2	4	8	All utility mapping possessed by Client will be consulted.	1	4	4	DV/Client	DV/Client
					Before commencing work, all known services to be identified/ marked out/ made aware to site manager and associated staff.					
					Site and surrounding area will be visually inspected in detail for any clues to indicate buried services in the area.				DV/Client	DV/Client
					Site and surrounding area will be swept with a proprietary cable detector (i.e. CAT).				DV/Client	DV/Client
2.2	Groundwork									
2.2.1	Injury to DV staff, other contractors and plant (including utilities) due to rupturing of or contact with utilities (buried or overhead).	2	5	10	If buried services are suspected or anticipated then hand-excavation will initially establish the location and alignment of such services.	1	5	5	DV	DV/Client
					Any cable or pipe encountered will be considered live at all times and will be protected from any subsequent damage.				DV	DV/Client
					Should any unidentified buried services be identified, work(s) will stop immediately until an assessment has been made of what further action(s) are required by authorised personnel.				DV	DV/Client

Frequency: *1 = A highly improbable occurrence; 2 = A remotely possible but known occurrence; 3 = An occasional occurrence; 4 = A fairly frequent occurrence; 5 = A regular occurrence; 6 = Almost a certainty*
Severity: *1 = Negligible injuries; 2 = Minor injuries; 3 = Major injuries; 4 = Single fatality; 5 = Multiple fatalities; 6 = Multiple fatalities including persons beyond site*
Risk Rating: *1 – 4 = tolerable; 5 – 7 = moderate; 8 – 11 = substantial; 12+ intolerable (*Risk Rating = Frequency x Severity*)*

					If buried services need to be exposed/ identified, extreme caution must be taken and only hand tools used for the last 400mm of ground.				DV	DV/Client
					No excavation work to take place within 5-15m either side (dependent upon site condition) of any identified buried service.				DV	DV/Client
					Before commencing work, the project will be inspected for any overhead services.				DV	DV/Client
					Where it is not possible to maintain clearance distances, no work will take place within 6m either side of the overhead line				DV	DV/Client
3	ENVIRONMENT									
3.1	Contamination									
3.1.1	Injury to DV staff, visitors and other contractors, and damage to the local environment through contamination	2	4	8	There are no indications of any ground contamination. Should there be a contamination threat, work will progress in line with *Health & Safety Guidance Note 66 – Contaminated Land*.	1	4	4	DV/Client	DV/Client
					Groundwater removed from deep excavations (if necessary) will be discharged downslope from the trench directly onto the adjacent surface to facilitate the removal of all material carried in solution, suspension or traction.				DV	DV/Client
					Appropriate PPE (overalls, gloves, respirators etc.) to be worn at all times where contaminated ground is anticipated or suspected.				DV	DV/Client
					Suitable/adequate welfare faculties to be provided and staff actively encouraged to use the facilities provided.				DV	DV
					Smoking will not be allowed on site except from in a designated smoking area.				DV	DV

Frequency: *1 = A highly improbable occurrence; 2 = A remotely possible but known occurrence; 3 = An occasional occurrence; 4 = A fairly frequent occurrence; 5 = A regular occurrence; 6 = Almost a certainty*
Severity: *1 = Negligible injuries; 2 = Minor injuries; 3 = Major injuries; 4 = Single fatality; 5 = Multiple fatalities; 6 = Multiple fatalities including persons beyond site*
Risk Rating: *1 – 4 = tolerable; 5 – 7 = moderate; 8 – 11 = substantial; 12+ intolerable (*Risk Rating = Frequency x Severity*)*

3.1.2	Damage to ecosystem through soil degradation	2	2	4	Stripped topsoil will be neatly bunded in a workmanlike manner to a maximum height of 3m and capped off to facilitate run-off and minimise waterlogging.	1	2	2	Client	DV/Client
					DV will follow a like-on-like policy; topsoil will be stored on topsoil, subsoil stored on subsoil.				DV	Client
3.2	**Surveys**									
3.2.1	Rough Ground, slippery/muddy paths and trip hazards e.g. survey lines	4	2	8	Participants advised to wear appropriate footwear.	1	2	2	DV	DV
					Participants advised never to work alone.				DV	DV
					Participants advised to work within their physical limits.				DV	DV
					Participants advised the needs of the survey is not so great that they need to risk their safety.				DV	DV
3.2.2	Contact with hazardous plants e.g. nettles, thorns, poisonous plants	3	2	6	Warn participants about the presence of hazardous plants.	1	2	2	DV	DV
					Where possible, site activities away from brambles/nettles.				DV	DV
					Warn not to lick fingers, wash hands before eating.				DV	DV
3.2.3	Contact with biting or stinging insects / other animals	3	4	12	Participants advised to take appropriate care when on site and to notify staff of any allergies.	1	4	4	DV	DV
3.2.4	Confrontation with member of the public	2	2	4	Participants advised that the need of the project is not greater than their safety and that it's ok for them to leave site if someone is being threatening.	1	2	2	DV	DV
					Participants advised not to work alone.				DV	DV
					Participants advised only to survey areas which we have clear permission to enter.				DV	DV
3.2.5	Conflict between dogs and public/dogs / horses	3	3	9	Avoid contact with loose dogs where possible.				DV	DV
					Avoid approaching any animals.				DV	DV
3.2.6	Conflict with farm animals	3	3	9	Participants must not deviate from the marked safe pathway to and from site to avoid locations where farm animals may be present.	1	3	3	DV	DV

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Severity: *1 = Negligible injuries; 2 = Minor injuries; 3 = Major injuries; 4 = Single fatality; 5 = Multiple fatalities; 6 = Multiple fatalities including persons beyond site*
Risk Rating: *1 – 4 = tolerable; 5 – 7 = moderate; 8 – 11 = substantial; 12+ intolerable (*Risk Rating = Frequency x Severity*)*

					Participants advised not to go into fields that have animals in them.				DV	DV
					Reschedule survey if dangerous animals are found to be in a planned survey area.				DV	DV
4	**FIELDWORK**									
4.1	**Hand-excavation**									
4.1.1	Injury to DV staff, visitors and other contractors whilst using hand tools	**3**	**3**	**9**	All tools will be inspected prior to use by DigVentures staff. All damaged, broken or otherwise unusable hand tools to be marked as such and put to one side.	**1**	**3**	**3**	DV	DV
					All on-site grid pegs will be fitted with safety caps				DV	DV/Client
					Heavy lifting to be avoided where possible. If unavoidable then all staff to receive appropriate training.				DV	DV/Client
					All tools will be used for the purpose for which they were intended.				DV	DV
					At all times DV staff and participants shall be made aware of other persons working in the vicinity.				DV/Client	DV/Client
					All team members to be trained in proper use of tools				DV	DV
4.2	**Extreme weather conditions**									
4.2.1	Hot weather working (i.e. dehydration, sun burn, sun stroke etc.)	**3**	**4**	**12**	Sun cream, min. SPF15 (though SPF30+ recommended) with good UVA and UVB protection to be applied regularly to exposed skin.	**1**	**4**	**4**	DV	DV
					Regular breaks to be taken in shade to limit exposure to sun – use project vehicles with air conditioning if no alternatives available.				DV	DV
					Appropriate clothing to be worn (topless working prohibited; long sleeves, trousers and sun hat to worn wherever feasible).				DV	DV
					Participants to provide own drinks and consume at regular intervals – **do not wait until thirsty, thirst is a symptom of dehydration**.				DV	DV

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Severity: *1 = Negligible injuries; 2 = Minor injuries; 3 = Major injuries; 4 = Single fatality; 5 = Multiple fatalities; 6 = Multiple fatalities including persons beyond site*
Risk Rating: *1 – 4 = tolerable; 5 – 7 = moderate; 8 – 11 = substantial; 12+ intolerable (*Risk Rating = Frequency x Severity*)*

					If necessary, wear sunglasses that offer good UV protection.				DV	DV
4.2.2	Exposure to wet, cold and/ or storm conditions, risk of lightning strike, hypothermia	2	4	8	**Appropriate waterproof clothing to be carried and worn when necessary.**	1	4	4	DV	DV
					No fieldwork to be undertaken during electric storms.				DV	DV
					In extreme adverse weather conditions, the job will be rescheduled.					
					Regular inspections of the trenches or test pits to be undertaken after any adverse weather event likely to have affected the strength or stability of the excavations.				Client	Client
					Dry clothing to be available, as necessary.				DV	DV
					Staff and participants working in cold/wet conditions will be allowed to take sufficient breaks to allow them to work in comfort.					
					Suitable welfare facilities to be provided.				DV	DV
					Mobile phone to be carried at all times.by staff, and all numbers made available to Head Office, colleagues, line manager etc.				DV	DV
4.3	**Driving**									
4.3.1	Injury to DV staff, DV equipment, plant and members of the public resulting from road and site traffic accidents.	3	6	12	Where feasible, all DV projects will have at least two nominated and approved drivers.	1	6	6	DV	DV
					Dig participants must NOT queue in or block access to the main farmyard complex. This is a heavily used area for large agricultural plant and machinery. To avoid this, staff will arrive at 09:00 to facilitate safe access and egress from the site as a single group. Participants should NOT arrive before 09:20am.					

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Severity: *1 = Negligible injuries; 2 = Minor injuries; 3 = Major injuries; 4 = Single fatality; 5 = Multiple fatalities; 6 = Multiple fatalities including persons beyond site*
Risk Rating: *1 – 4 = tolerable; 5 – 7 = moderate; 8 – 11 = substantial; 12+ intolerable (*Risk Rating = Frequency x Severity*)*

				Nominated drivers must familiarise themselves in advance with routes for all journeys, as well as routes to local A&E services and any other destinations considered likely/ necessary as part of project work. If roadmaps are unavailable, or the nominated driver does not have access to internet-based route-planners (e.g. http://maps.google.co.uk/) then the project manager must obtain route details and attach below.				DV	DV
				Extra care should be taken when using walking/driving routes to avoid and give way to heavy machinery and agricultural equipment				DV	DV
				All equipment will be securely stowed during transit, with a fixed bulkhead separating equipment and passengers.				DV	DV/Client
				All consideration must be given to other road users at all times				DV	DV/Client
				Site vehicles to be parked off road if at all possible				DV	DV/Client
				Reversing out of access areas / gateways to be avoided if possible				DV	DV/Client
				Hazard warning lights to be deployed on the vehicle when at slow speeds < 5 mph or when likely to cause a minor obstruction (i.e.) when loading / unloading				DV	DV/Client
				Extreme caution will be exercised when entering or leaving public highways.				DV	DV
				Mobile phones will be turned off before commencing any journey and will not be used at all whilst driving.				DV	DV
				Access to site will via local roads only.				DV	DV
				If minibuses are deployed, each will be equipped with a securely stowed but readily accessible fire extinguisher.				DV	DV

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Severity: *1 = Negligible injuries; 2 = Minor injuries; 3 = Major injuries; 4 = Single fatality; 5 = Multiple fatalities; 6 = Multiple fatalities including persons beyond site*
Risk Rating: *1 – 4 = tolerable; 5 – 7 = moderate; 8 – 11 = substantial; 12+ intolerable (*Risk Rating = Frequency x Severity*)*

5	GENERAL MEASURES									
5.1.1	General measures for implementation to maximise any reduction in risk rating.	-	-	-	**A mobile phone will be available at all times for use in emergencies.**	-	-	-	DV	DV/Client
					Anything that is or seems to be unsafe will be reported to the DV staff immediately.				DV/Client	DV/Client
					A first aid kit will be available to DV staff and participants at all times (i.e. in the messing area and vehicles).				DV	DV/Client
					Directions to the first aid kit and a copy of DV Health & Safety policy will be provided by digital link.				DV	DV/Client
					Suitable and sufficient welfare will be available				DV	DV/Client
					Welfare points / areas to be agreed prior to works commencement				DV	DV/Client
					Planned / Frequent breaks from the work schedule to be taken				DV	DV/Client
					No lone working to be allowed				DV	DV/Client
					Insect repellent may also be necessary in case of excessive presence of horse flies and other daytime biting insects				DV	DV/Client
					High standards of site accommodation / housekeeping to be implemented on site				DV	DV/Client
					A fire extinguisher will be located in each welfare unit if deployed on site.				DV	DV/Client
					The rams will be regularly reviewed and updated if needed				DV	DV/Client

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4 RISK ASSESSMENT METHOD STATEMENT BRIEFING LOG

All field school staff and participants must read the accompanying Risk Assessment prior to entering site. Dig for a day participants should be briefed on its contents. Please sign below to indicate compliance. Any queries or concerns should, in the first instance, be addressed to the Site Director [redacted] or Project Officer [redacted] Major issues of concern should be addressed to the Project Executive [redacted] DigVentures Ltd if they cannot be adequately addressed by the project team.

Name	Signature	Date

Name	Signature	Date

Name	Signature	Date

Name	Signature	Date

Name	Signature	Date

Name	Signature	Date

Name	Signature	Date

1 CONTACTS

Name	Role	Telephone	Address
[redacted]	Project Executive	[redacted]	C/o DigVentures
[redacted]	Project Director	[redacted]	C/o DigVentures
[redacted]	Director of Engagement	[redacted]	C/o DigVentures
[redacted]	Business Manager (Site Director)	[redacted]	C/o DigVentures
[redacted]	Senior Project Officer	[redacted]	C/o DigVentures
[redacted]	Programme Officer	[redacted]	C/o DigVentures
[redacted]	Senior Director of Partnerships	[redacted]	C/o DigVentures
Hospital A&E	York Hospital	**01904 631313**	**York Hospital, Wiggington Road, Clifton, York, YO31 8HE**
Emergency Services		999 112	



Directions from Elmswell Farms to York Hospital A&E

Elmswell Farms 2024 Excavations – Specialist Information Pack

Compiled by Ben Swain

The purpose of this document is to provide the specialist project team with the required contextual information from the excavations that will enable them to carry out their own research on the artefactual assemblages that contribute towards the overall site report. This is structured as a Site Narrative, presented alongside figures and illustrations as well as the detailed context records and the project design for reference – issued separately.

Site Narrative

Trench 14

A 3D sketchfab model of Trench 14 is available from the following link:

https://sketchfab.com/3d-models/east-yorkshire-trench-14-post-ex-e504857d86f84fcfa74e99f762a9e6cd

Trench 14 (Figures 1-3) was excavated as a T-shaped trench; with the E-W segment measuring 50x4m and the N-S segment measuring 25x4m. It was located in the SW corner of Ridge and Furrow field (Figure 1) over a slightly raised platform where a dense concentration of Romano-British coins, pottery and other artefacts had been recovered from metal detecting and field walking surveys. The land noticeably slopes away to the east of this platform to a low point in the field.

The ploughsoil (14001) was machine excavated to an average depth of 0.26m across the trench before the natural geology (14003) was located. Towards the eastern part of the trench where the land slopes away, a colluvial subsoil (14002) had accumulated measuring up to 0.28m in thickness before the natural geology was encountered. A total of 33 archaeological features cut through the natural geology were either entirely or partially excavated in Trench 14. Feature types encountered can be broadly characterized as ditches and gullies, pits, post-holes, hearth bottoms, walls and floor surfaces. Overall preservation of the deposits was considered to be fair, with some features showing visible signs of plough damage and animal burrowing at shallow depths, with preservation improving with depth.

In the western part of Tench 14, the earliest features encountered were two shallow linear gullies (F1409, F1410) aligned NE-SW probably for drainage. These were truncated by a very large E-W enclosure/boundary ditch F1407 consisting of multiple phases of cleaning and recutting suggesting longevity of use. Ditch F1407 was partially truncated by the room of a building F1412. This rectangular structure measured approximately 5m by 4m within the limits of Trench 14, with the walls visible extending beyond the southern limit of excavation. What was left of the stone wall foundations had been heavily plough truncated

to the east but was slightly better preserved to the west. Upon excavation, it was apparent that the wall foundations had been constructed through bedding angular chalk pieces into an orangey clay. At some point in its life, the building had undergone an alteration, repair or improvement with the western N-S aligned wall foundation clearly truncating the E-W wall. Features internal to the building consisted of F1420; a shallow circular pit containing large flat chalk stones in the NE corner of the room, and a shallow pit F1423 with a thin silty fill containing animal bone, pottery and finds of a domestic nature. It is not known if F1420 and F1423 are contemporary with building F1412, but it is considered unlikely.

A high density of copper alloy coins were recovered from this part of the trench, tentatively interpreted on site as being of 4th century origin. During topsoil stripping, 47 coins were recovered from the spoil of a digger bucket and reported to the PAS as a hoard. Other coins were recovered from within archaeological features. Of particular note were small pits F1403 and F1404. Ten coins were recovered from F1403 (also reported to the PAS as a hoard) and five from F1404. Three coins were found stuck together and directly overlain by a piece of animal bone that had stained green with the copper in F1404. These were interpreted as potentially representing a small votive offering deposit of coins and meat set within a small, shallow intentionally dug pit. Two other pieces of green copper stained bone were recovered as surface finds in Trench 14, indicative of other possible similar votive offerings in the vicinity.

Moving slightly further to the east, a small hearth bottom F1418 consisting of a sub circular patch of bright orange burnt clay was excavated. Directly adjacent to this, a glass enamelled brooch SF231 was recovered from context (14060), which overlay hearth bottom F1418.

An area of possible copper metalworking was encountered in the central part of Trench 14. Pits F1413, F1414 and F1424 containing heavily burnt ashy and charcoal rich fills with very frequent quantities of metalworking slags, debris and burnt clay were excavated. The base of these pits consisted of a solid, clean orange clay that may have been intentionally laid. The pits then appeared to be filled with debris from the metalworking process, tentatively interpreted on site to be related to copper smelting. Immediately to the south of these pits was a ring gully (F1401) and some small post holes (F1411) interpreted as possibly relating to a shelter or wind break structure for the metalworking process. These features were also filled with a very similar burnt ashy material.

To the north of the metalworking area was another possible ring gully F1432. This was not fully visible in plan and its interpretation is tentative at best. However, truncating this feature was a small and shallow pit (F1430) containing an intact inverted beaker SF247 interpreted as possibly representing another votive offering deposit. Just to the west of this was a neonatal burial F1427. The grave cut was very shallow and had been partially truncated by historic ploughing from above. The bones of the individual were poorly preserved, being extremely fragile and fragmented.

In the eastern part of Trench 14, a sequence of approximately N-S aligned ditches (F1406, F1426, F1422) were partially excavated. This part of the trench had been subject to substantial animal burrowing which had truncated the edges of some of these ditches. However, despite this it is clear that F1422 is a very substantial boundary or enclosure ditch, likely enclosing the occupation on the platform. It is located at the base of the break of slope of the platform in Trench 14 and may have been dual purpose as a boundary and for draining water away from the industrial metalworking activities taking place just to the west. The feature is at least 3.5m in width and was excavated to a depth of 1.08m before work ceased for health and safety reasons without any sign of reaching the base.

Ditches F1406 and F1426 ran parallel and may represent recuts of a boundary or drainage ditch. No relationship could be established between the two features due to the presence of F1405; a hearth pit filled with burnt clay, ash and charcoal whilst capped by a sub circular patch of compacted bright orange burnt clay.

Trench 15

Trench 15 (Figure 1, Figure 4) measured 20x1.8m. The ploughsoil (15001) was machine excavated to a maximum depth 0.41m where the natural geology (15002) was encountered. No archaeological features were observed other than a modern field drain in the southwestern end of the trench. All artefacts recovered were modern in date and were not retained. The trench had been positioned to identify the extent and density of archaeology beyond the platform in the southwestern corner of Ridge and Furrow field where Trench 14 was located. The fact that no archaeological features were observed in this location suggests the main density of settlement is largely confined to the area of the platform.

Trench 16

Trench 16 (Figure 1, Figure 5) measured 20x1.8m. The ploughsoil (16001) was machine excavated to a maximum depth of 0.34m before the natural geology (16002) was encountered. Other than a modern field drain in the south eastern part of the trench, only one archaeological feature, F1601; a medium sized shallow pit, was observed cut into the natural. This discrete pit was observed partly protruding from the eastern LOE of Trench 16. The visible portion was half-sectioned within the trench and found to consist of a shallow u-shaped pit with concave sides [16003] with a single silting fill (16004). A crossbow brooch (SF203) was recovered from this fill along with a single piece of pottery and some flint flakes. Other than the presence of F1601, the lack of archaeological features observed in this location also suggests the main density of settlement is largely confined to the area of the platform at Trench 14.

Trench 17

Trench 17 (Figure 1, Figure 6) measured 2x2m and was excavated by hand to a maximum depth of 0.70m. It was located in a pasture field called 'Bramble Hill,' near the springs at Elmswell Beck, over a depression in the ground anticipated to be one of the trenches excavated between 1950 and 1952 by C.N. and G.E Grantham. These excavations were

never published and the exact whereabouts of the trench locations was unknown. However, a number of Romano-British worked stone artefacts including fragmented stone figure reliefs and inscribed altar fragments were recovered from these excavations and published by Dent (1988). Dent concluded that the nature of these worked stone artefacts suggested the nearby presence of a Romano-British Shrine for a sacred spring.

Upon excavation, it was clear that Trench 17 was located straddling the edge of one of the old 1950's trenches F1701. The cut of the old trench [17005] measured 0.66m in depth and was visible in profile (Figure 6) truncating through the subsoil (17002), a probable Romano-British occupation layer (17003) and into the natural geology (17006). Before the 1950's trench had been backfilled by (17004), discarded limestone and chalk chunks had clearly been thrown back into the base of the old trench. It is from this deposit of stones that SF256, a fragmented piece of possible inscribed stone was recovered. The stone stood out from the others as of a reddened sandstone (similar material to the worked stone reported on by Dent) in contrast to the other brighter white chalk/limestone. Other artefacts of note recovered from backfill (17004) included two complete bone hair pins (SF250, SF251), three coins (SF248, SF249 and SF255) as well as a possible brooch (SF258). Bulk finds recovered from the backfill (17004), subsoil (17002) and topsoil (17001) included pottery, animal bone, ceramic building material, industrial waste, aluminium and plastic consistent with post-depositional disturbance relating to the 1950's trench and subsequent animal burrowing.







Figure 1. Site location

500300
500325
457800
457775
N

[14037] 13 [14034] 19 21 [14032] 18 [14022] 12 [14039] [14030] 20 [14014] [14043] [14057] [14063] 16 15 17 [14079] [14061] [14068] 75 11
14 28 [14049] [14052] 6 [14026] [14047] [14126] 9 [14101] 27 24 [14124] [14117] [14091] SK14086 [14082] [14115] [14113] 23 29 [14110] [14070] 26 [14088] [14044] 8 [14004] 10 5 4 [14041] [14006] [14008] 2 [14016] 22 3 1 [14012] [14010] [14073] [14077] [14075] [14067]

Key
Limit of Excavation
Field drain

0 5m 10m
1:150 scale on A3

Figure 2. Trench 14 Post Excavation orthorectified photograph plan

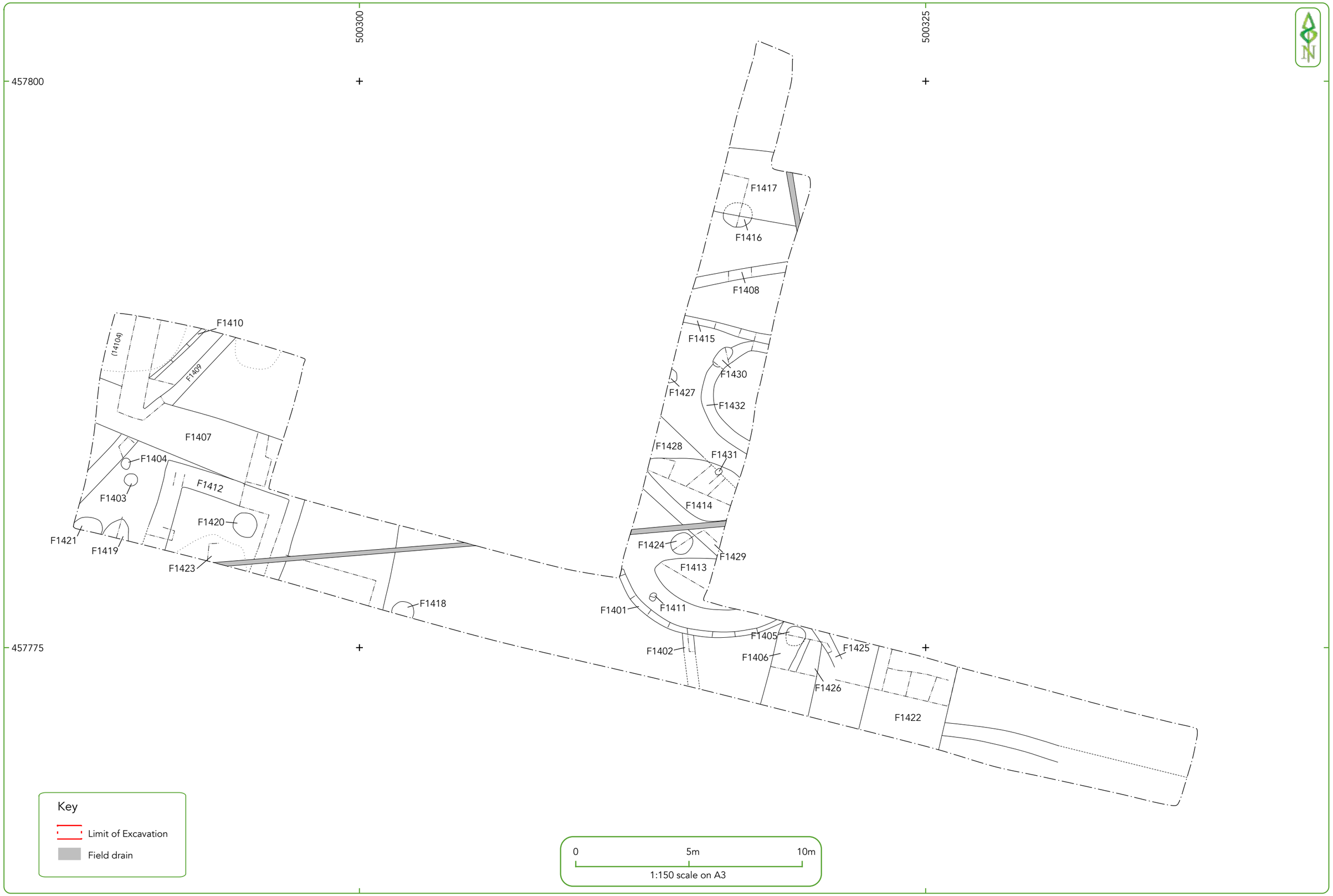


Figure 3. Trench 14 Post Excavation feature annotated plan



Figure 4. Trench 15 Post Excavation Plan



Figure 5. Trench 16 Post Excavation Plan

South east facing section of Trench 17

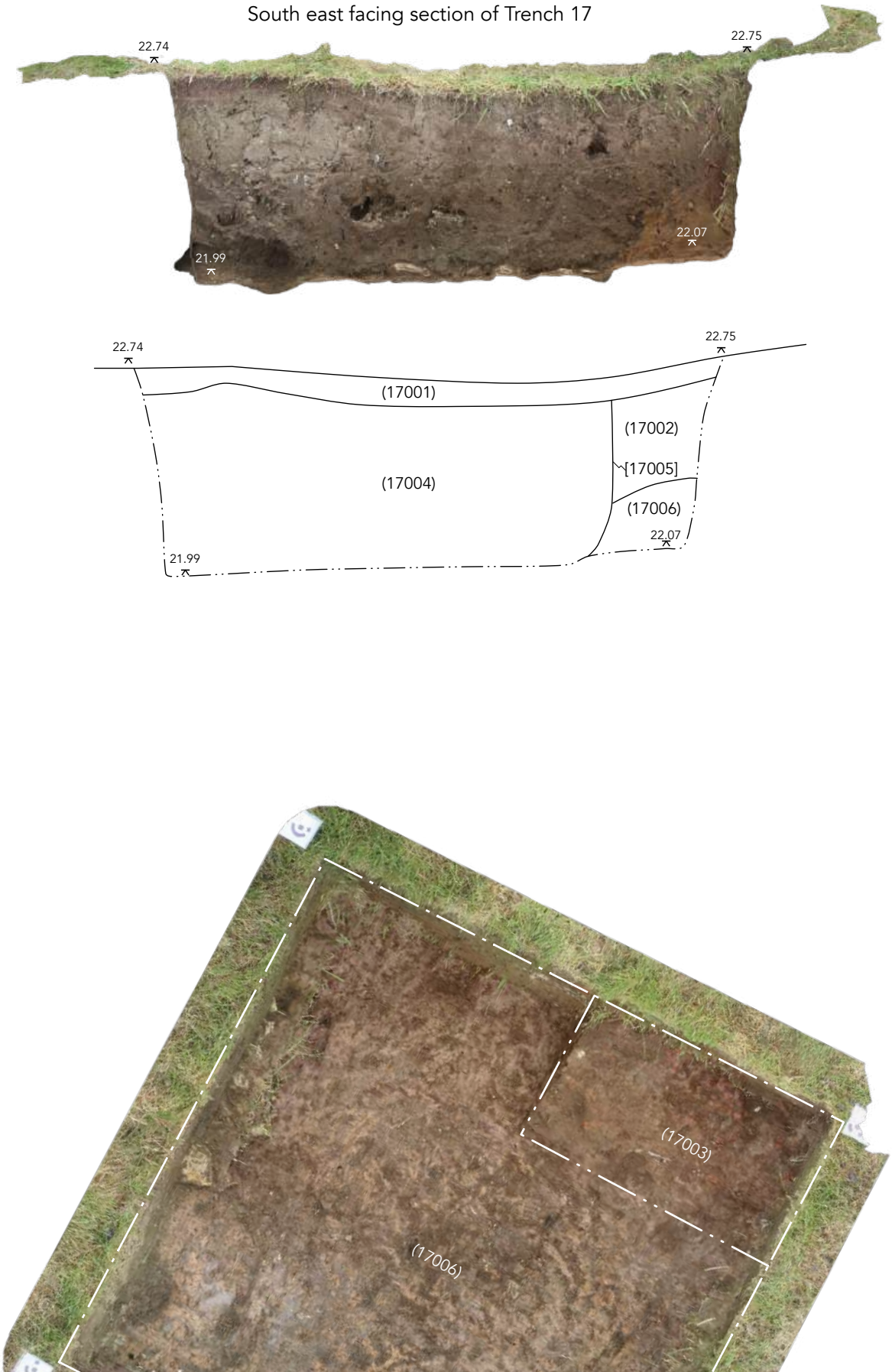
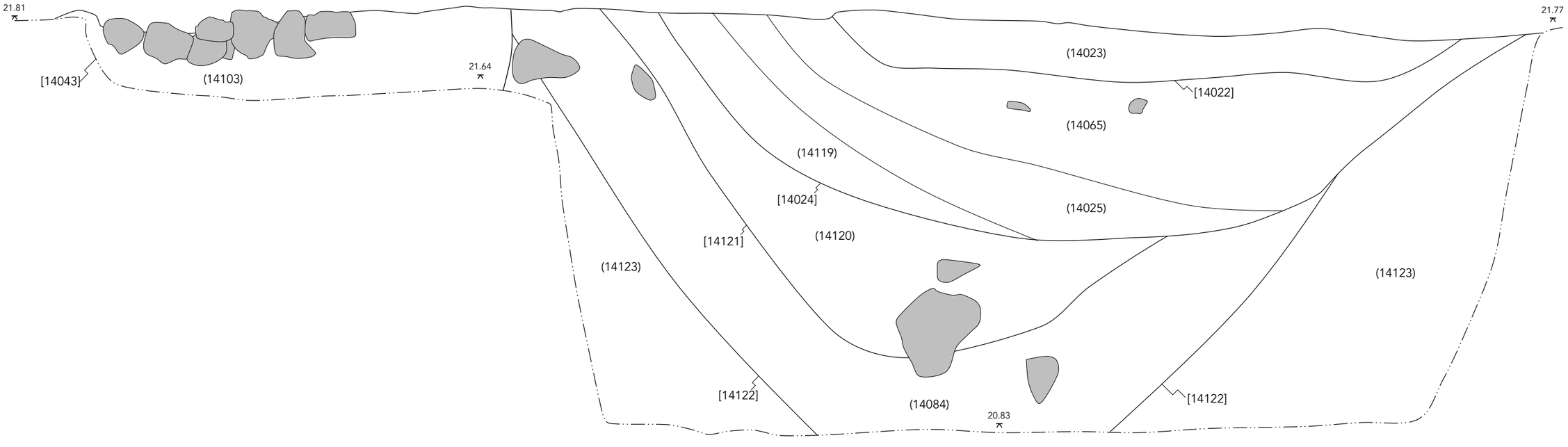


Figure 6. Trench 17; Top - Section, Bottom - Plan

East Facing section of ditches [14022], [14024], [14121], and [14122] and wall [14043]





0m 0.5m 1m

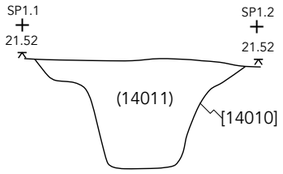
1:10 Scale on A3

Key

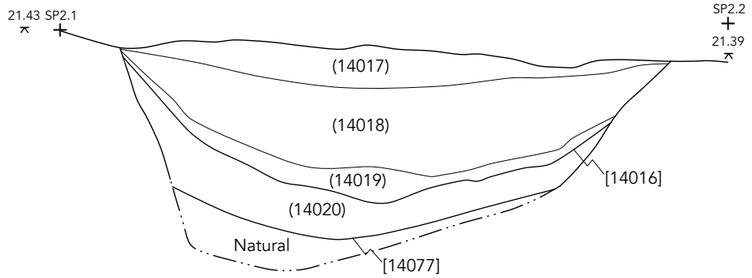
Stone

Figure 7. East facing section of ditches and wall

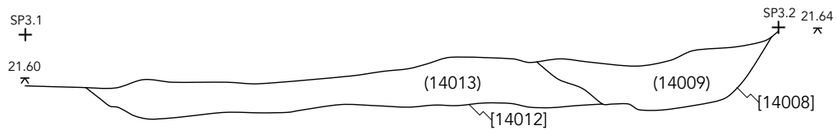
South west facing section of post hole [14010]



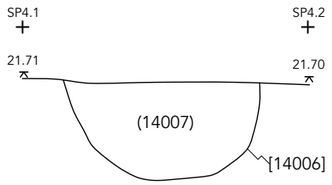
South facing section of possible hearth [14016]



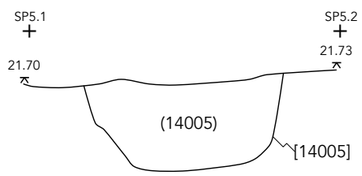
East facing section of gully [14008] and [14012]



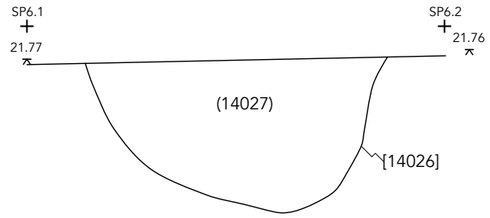
South east facing section of gully [14006]



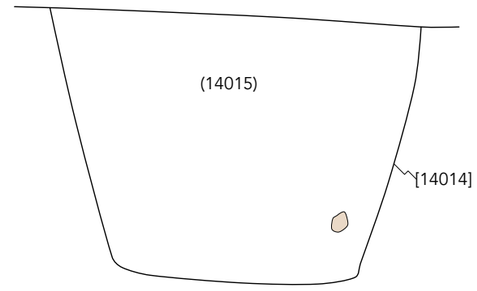
North west facing section of gully [14004]



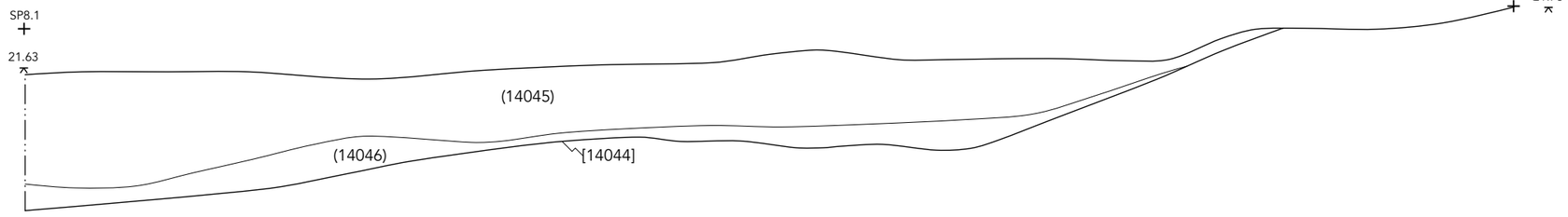
North east facing section of ditch [14026]



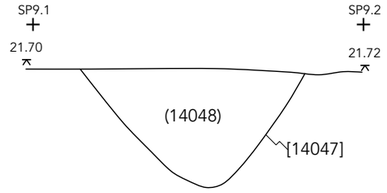
21.87 SP7.1 South facing section of pit [14014] SP7.2 21.89



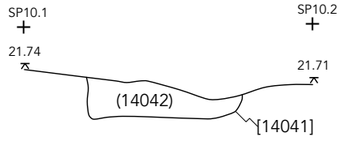
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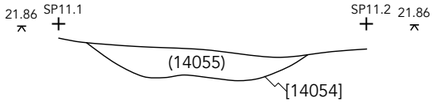
West facing section of gully [14047]



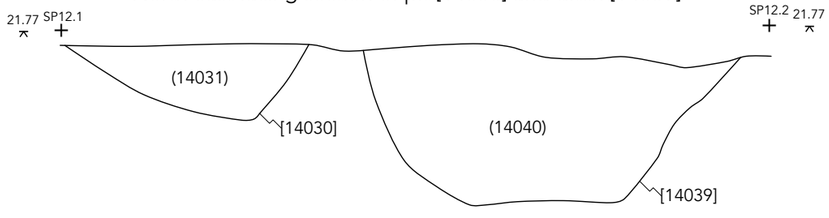
South facing section of post hole [14041]



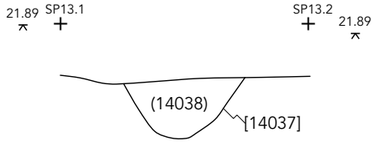
North facing section of pit [14054]



North east facing section of pit [14030] and ditch [14039]



South facing section of gully [14037]

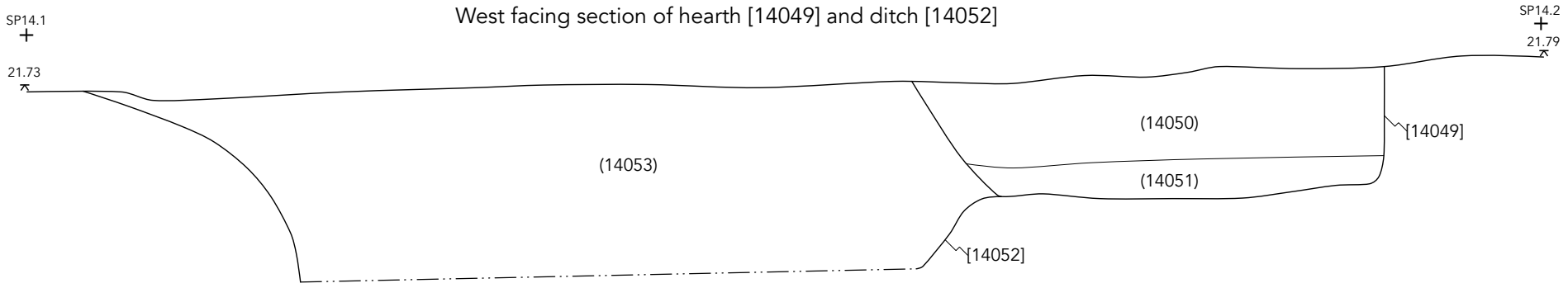


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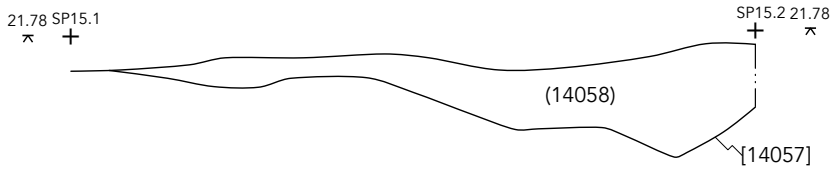
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Figure 8. Trench 14 Sections 1-13

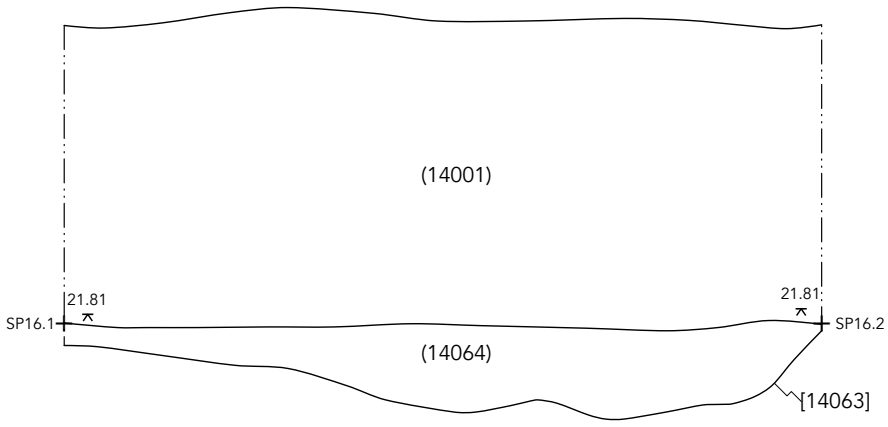
West facing section of hearth [14049] and ditch [14052]



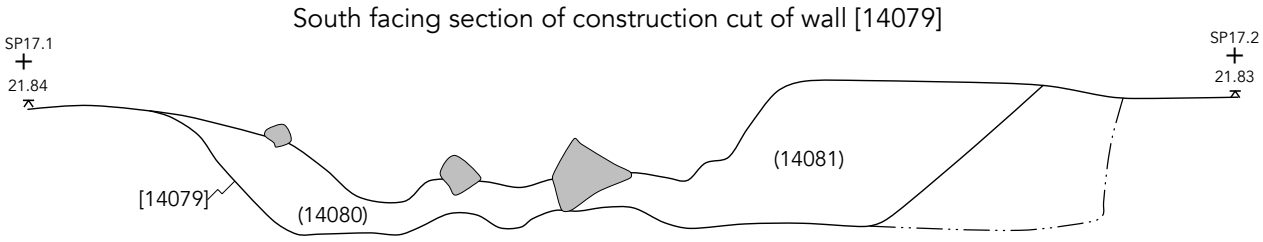
West facing section of a small pit [14057]



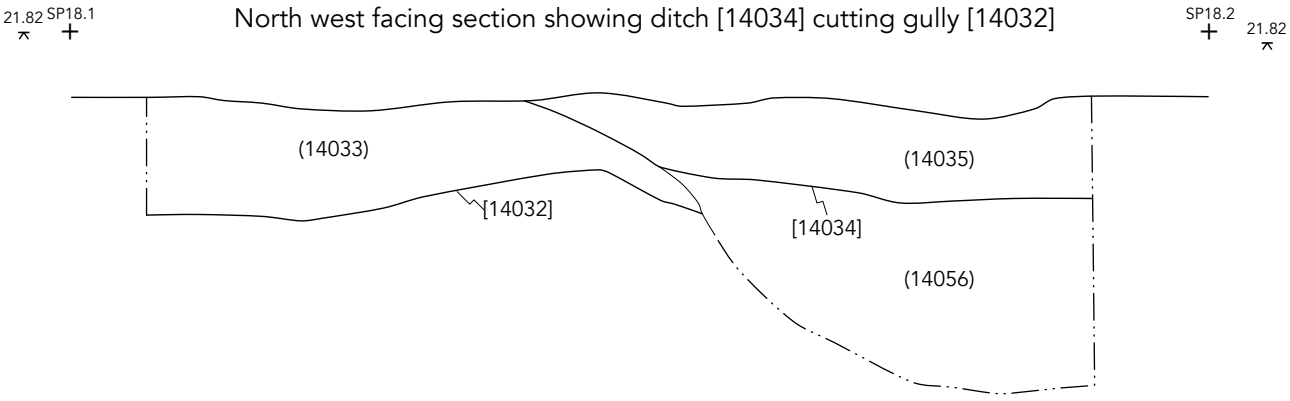
North facing section of pit [14063]



South facing section of construction cut of wall [14079]

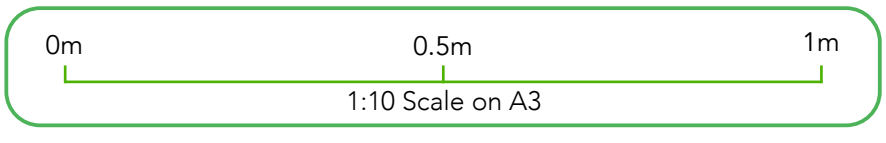


North west facing section showing ditch [14034] cutting gully [14032]



East facing section of ditch [14034] and layers (14036), (14104), (14056) and (14085)





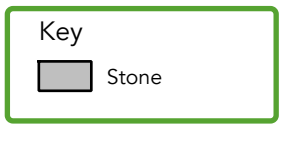
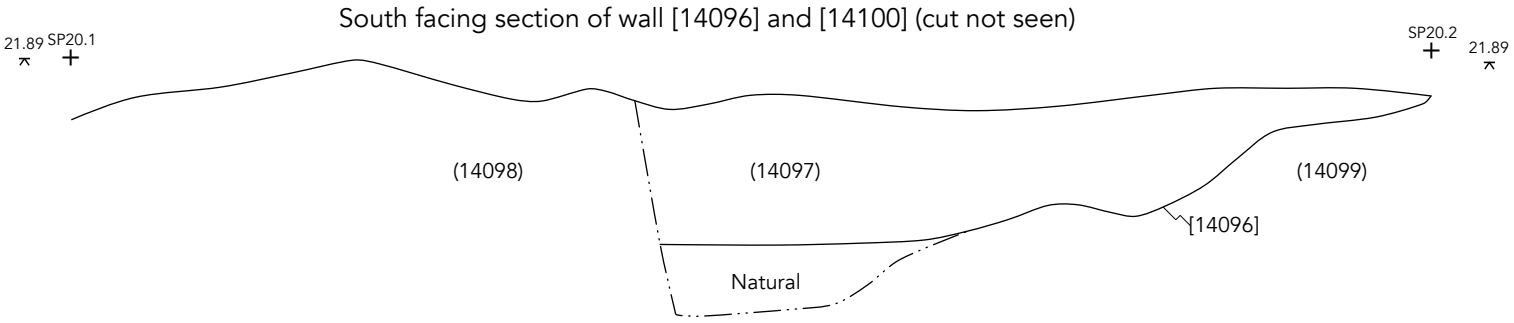
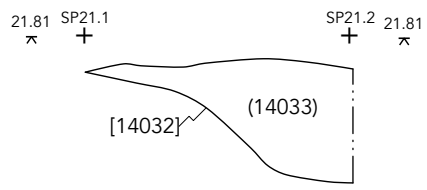


Figure 9. Trench 14 Sections 14-19

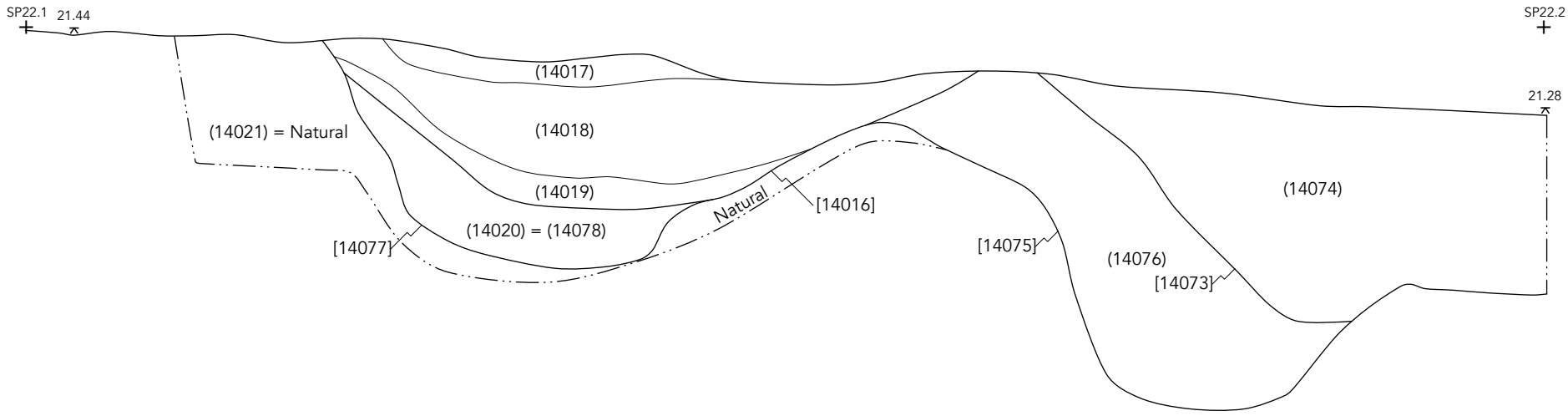
South facing section of wall [14096] and [14100] (cut not seen)



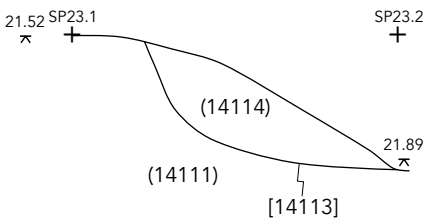
South west facing section of gully [14032]



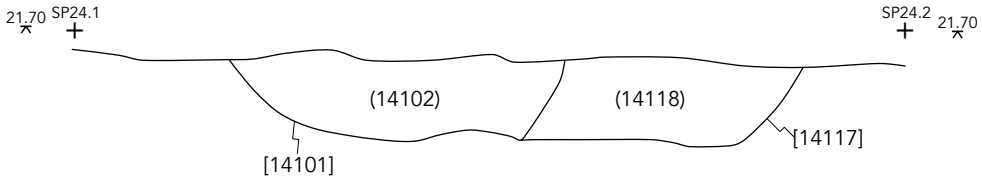
South facing section of showing relationship between ditches [14016], [14073], [14075] and [14077]

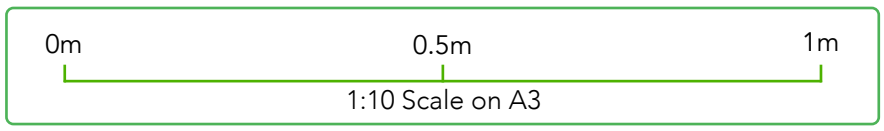


South facing section of posthole [14113]

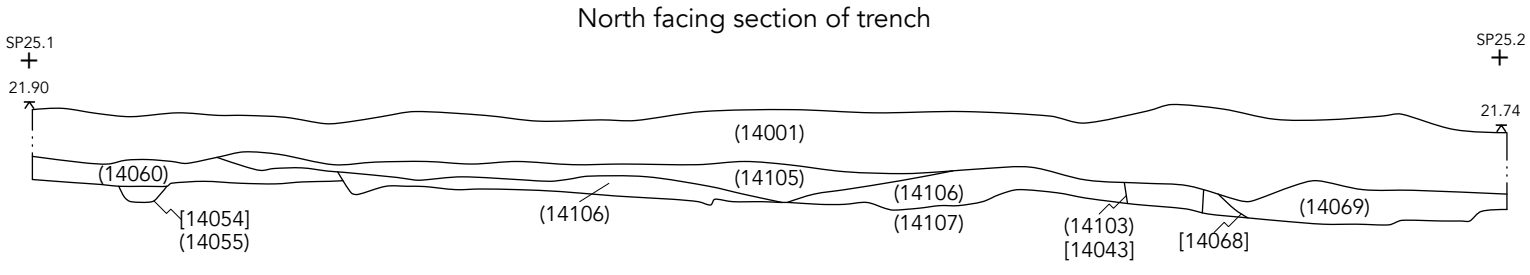


South west facing section of pit [14101] cutting gully [14117]





North facing section of trench



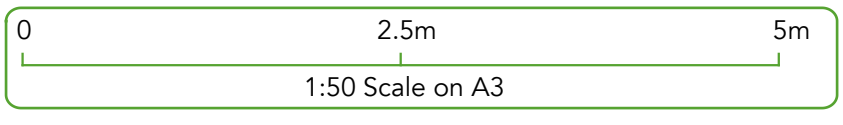


Figure 10. Trench 14 Sections 20-25

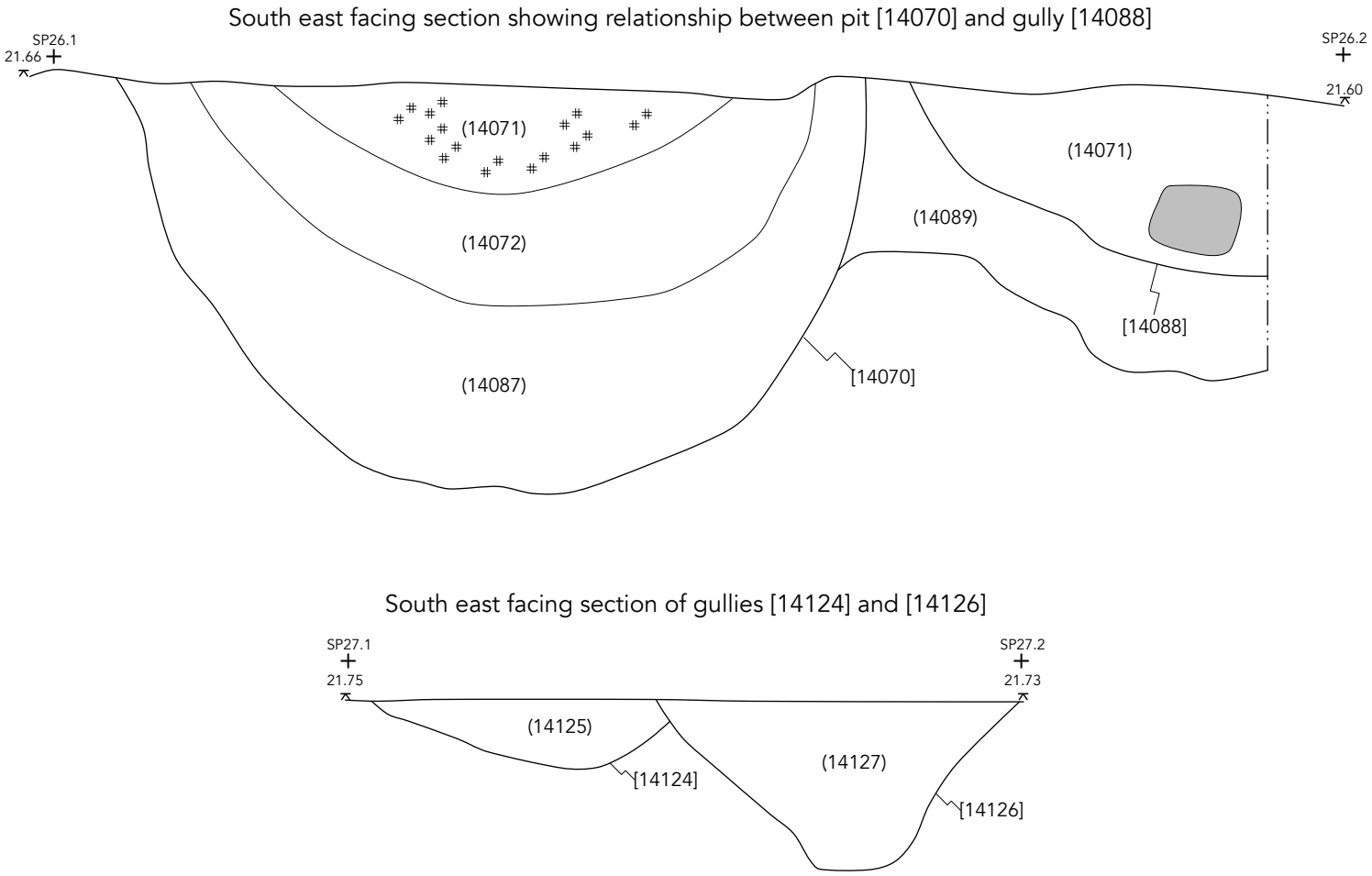
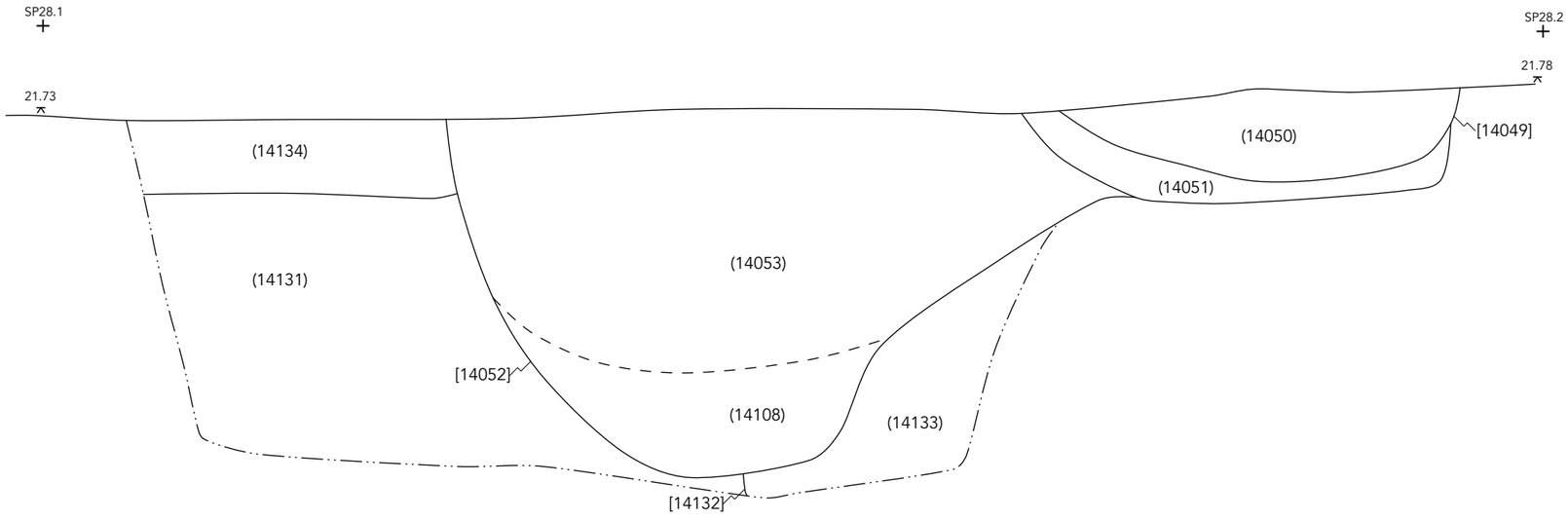


Figure 11. Trench 14 Sections 26 and 27

North west facing section of ditch [14052] and pit [14049]





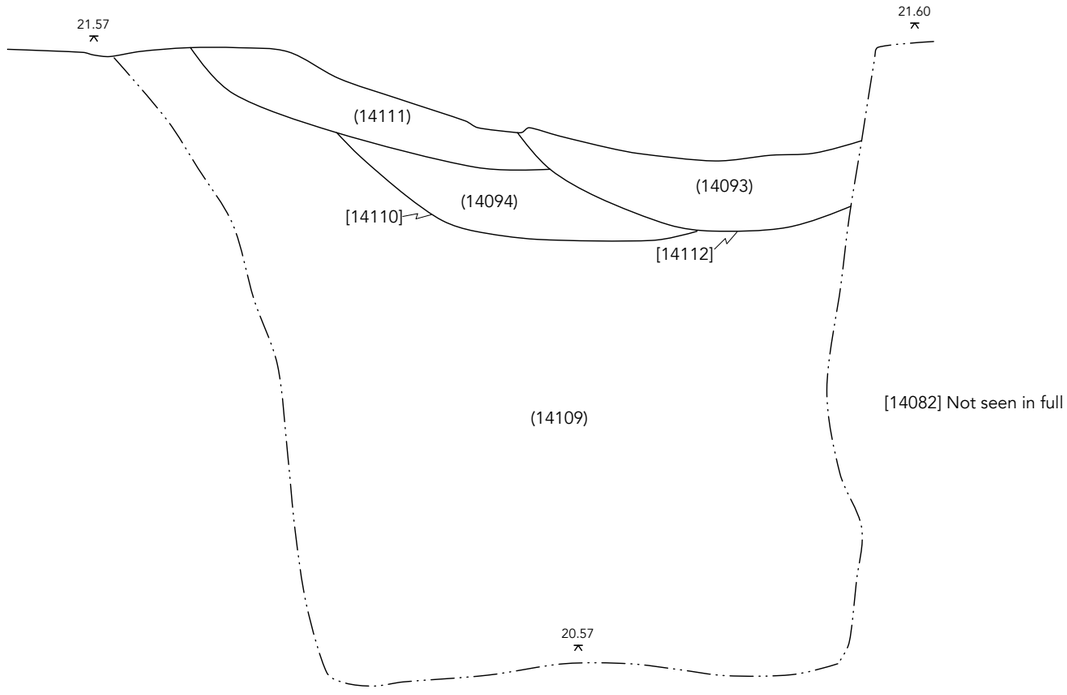
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Figure 12. Section 28 - North west facing section of ditch and pit

West facing section of features in the centre of Trench 14





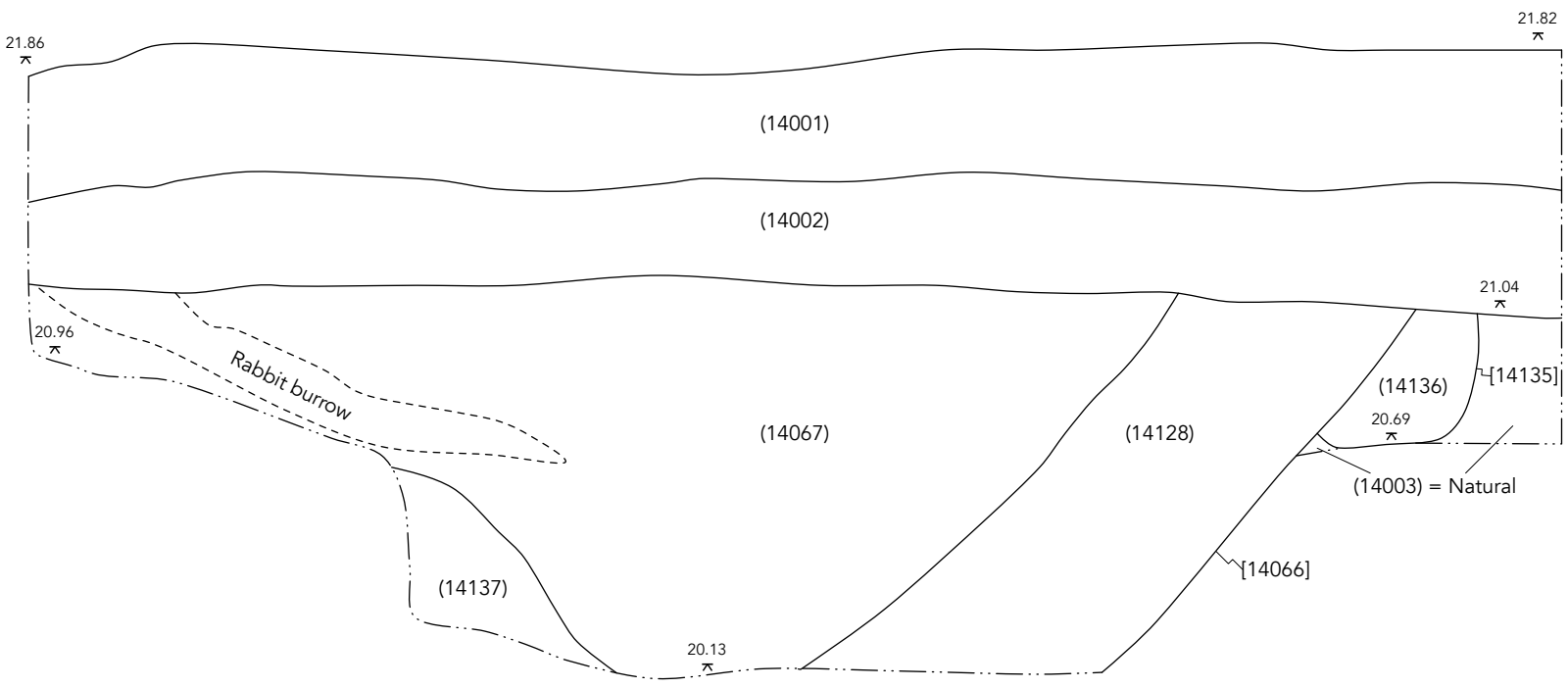
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Figure 13. Section 29 - West facing section of features in the centre of Trench 14.

South facing section of ditch [14066] cutting pit [14135]





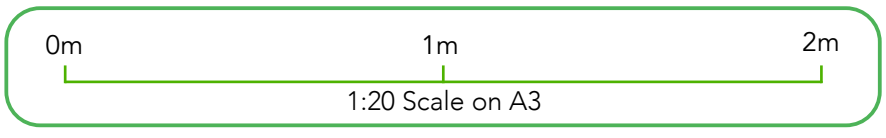


Figure 14. South facing section of ditch [14066]



East facing section of possible small votive offering pit F1404 (0.5m scale). Three small coins visible just to the northern edge of the feature.



South facing section of small pit F1403 (0.5m scale). This feature contained ten coins.



NW looking shot of inverted SF247 within small pit F1430 (0.2m scale).



Plan view of fragmented neonate SK14086 within grave F1427 (0.2m scale).

Figure 15. Selected site photos - possible votive deposits and neonatal burial



South facing section of possible hearth pit F1405 (0.5m scale).



North facing section of pit filled with metalworking debris F1413 (2m scale).



North facing section of possible hearth bottom F1418 (0.5m scale).



North looking view of post-hole F1431 truncating the northern edge of pit F1414 (1m/0.2m scale)

Figure 15. Selected site photos - hearths and metalworking features.

DigVentures



Excavating Elmswell: Seasons in Time

2023 Post-Excavation Assessment Report

Ben Swain

Excavating Elmswell: Seasons in Time

Community based archaeological excavation at Elmswell Farm, Elmswell, Driffield, East Riding of Yorkshire

Archaeological Assessment Report

Compiled by:

Ben Swain

With contributions from:

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Purpose of document

This document has been prepared as an Assessment Report for the landowners and DigVentures' global crowdfunding community (stakeholder sponsors). The purpose of this document is to provide a comprehensive account of the 2023 field season, with specialist assessment of finds and samples, and recommendations for further investigation and analysis. It is supported by an easily accessible online database of all written, drawn, photographic and digital data for the 2023 field season.

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Project summary

OASIS ID	digventu1-287349
DV project code and type	ELM23 Community Excavation
National Grid Reference	SE 9973 5781
County	East Riding of Yorkshire
Title:	Excavating Elmswell: Seasons in Time Community based archaeological excavation at Elmswell Farm - Archaeological Assessment Report
Author(s):	Ben Swain BA ACIfA
Origination date:	19th March 2024
Circulation:	Stakeholders and DV specialist team; Natural England
Reviewed by:	Manda Forster PhD MCIfA FSA Scot
Approval:	Brendon Wilkins PhD MCIfA FSA

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We would like to start by extending our sincere thanks to the landowners; John and Henrietta Fenton, for their enthusiasm, help and support throughout the project. Special thanks are also extended to Rob Hamer, Paul King and Robin Siddle of Priscan Archaeology for helpful guidance, advice and local knowledge. A special acknowledgement is also made in memoriam of Phil Mills, whose expert contributions throughout the Seasons in Time project were invaluable and will be sadly missed.

The site was directed by Ben Swain who was ably assisted by Nat Jackson, Johanna Ungemach, Freddy Wannop, Talia Dalton, Amber Mingus and George Wilkins. The project was managed for DigVentures by Brendon Wilkins, with Lisa Westcott Wilkins in the role of Project Executive.

The project was financed exclusively through crowdfunded contributions from the public, so final thanks must go to our community of Venturers, without whom this work would never have taken place:

Suzi Alexander, James Alexander, Christina Andersen-Bacon, Matthew Andersen-Bacon, Oliver Andersen-Bacon, Sally Anderson, Kim Andrup, Karen Ashmore, Lucas Atkin, Noah Atkin, Mike Bainbridge, Jackie Bainbridge, William Balding, Matilda Bannister, David Barthram, Vanessa Barthram, Rebecca Bates, Amelia Beaumont Heyes, Jonathan Bell, Maddison Bell, Oscar Bell, Kirsten Bilde Andersen, Karin Bint, Andrew Bough, Corina Boughton, Ruby Boughton, Caroline Brewster, Tim Brooks, Alan Buttle, James Buttle, Andrew Caley, Catherine Chamorro, Joanna Coles, Lily Coles, Emma Cresswell , Benjamin Crowson, Emma Davison, Scott Dewar, Michelle Dixon, Oscar Dixon, Oliver Dixon, Sophie Drouet, Paul Etherington, Dr Joanna D Faktor, Hilary Fawcett, Rowan Findlay, Mirjam Fogarty, Rebecca Fowler, Joanne Gahan, Laurence Gahan Rivers, Daphne Gahan Rivers, Ray Gardiner, Miles Gibson, Isadora Glanville, Susana Gonzalez-Sena, Alex Gonzalez-Sena, John Gonzalez-Sena, Thomas Gonzalez-Sena, Mark Goodfellow, Lucy Goodfellow, Natasha Goodwin, Jamie Goodwin, Thomas Grenn, Emily Hamilton, Mark Harris, Paul Harris, Graham Harrison, Nicholas Heavens, Aria Heavens, Aragorn Heavens, Philip Heyes, Joanna Hill, Amy Hill, Rowan Hollis, Rex Hollis, Dr Rachel Holt, Ray Holt, Martin Hoole, Doug Hopper, Nate Howard, Gus Howard, Mike Howe, Louis Howe, Siddak Jhamat, Colin Johnstone, Gavin Jones, Rebecca Jones, Lisa Keeble, Alex Keeble, Tom Keeble, Stella Kent, Duggie Kent, Sarah Keyes, Seth Keyes, Stacey Kiely, Ernie Kiely, James Lucas, Colin Lynskey, Lisa May, Joel May, Annabelle McGrane, Robert McGrath, Bradley McGrath, Paul McIndoe, Sophia McIndoe, Caroline McNiven, Dave Menshew, Orly Metzer, Steven Miller, Catherine Miller, Iris Monaghan, Sue Moore, Kerrisue Morrey-Clark, Edward Morrey-Clark, Emma Muzzatti, Tim Neale, Rosie O'Toole, Anne Papworth, Julian Papworth, Isabelle Parsons, David Parsons, Samuel Parsons, Sarah Pearson, Leo Pearson, Chris Pickens, Ollie Pickens, John Pickles, Guy Poole, Joyce Prentice, John Richardson, Seren Richardson, Charlotte Riley, Pam Risso-Gill, Fiona Rivett, James Rivett, Karen Robinson, Carenza Rome, Holly Runacres, Gordon Russell, Floella Russell, Wendy Scott, Nigel Sewell, Deborah Shaw, Georgia Shaw, Paul Sherratt, Vish Singh, Holly Smith, Gerard Snikkenburg , Janet Steadman, Charlotte Steel, Chester Steel, Izzy Steel, Charles Stephensen, Charlotte Stone, Andrew Stone, Rose Stone, Chris Swindells, Peter Tredinnick, Freddie Tuck, Sangeeta Tutt, Jane Tyson, Nikolaos Tzagadouris, Chris Vaughan, Peter Vaughan, Jane Vessey, Elen Wade-Martins, Richard Wade-Martins, Ben Wade-Martins, Helen Walker, Maureen Walker, Alison Ward, Ben Wasscher, Wendy Waters, Claire Wellington, Ethan Wellington, Marnie Werner, Dawn Whitmore, Kelly Wilkinson, Cameron Wilkinson, Caroline Williams, Louise Williamson, Abigail Willson, Alison Winder and Phillippa Wray.

Executive summary

DigVentures was invited by landowners John and Henrietta Fenton to undertake a community-based archaeological research project at Elmswell Farm (hereafter 'the site'), funded by the DigVentures community. This report details the results of the seventh field season of a multi-staged project, encompassing an excavation and assessment stage, followed by final analysis and publication.

Fieldwork took place between 14th and 27th August 2023 investigating the Romano-British elements of the farm (DigVentures Project Code: ELM23). The potential of these results to achieve the Aims and Objectives of the project are discussed in the final section of this report, with an outline of recommendations for further investigation at Elmswell Farms.

Results summary

Fieldwork was undertaken between the 14th and 27th August 2023 to address a series of research questions which focused on a Romano-British ladder settlement on land near the southern boundary of the modern Elmswell Farms estate. This represented the seventh field season of an ongoing community based local landscape archaeological project initiated in 2017.

Trench 12, measuring 30.00m x 5.00m, was positioned over cropmarks interpreted as likely representing a rectilinear enclosure ditch located north of the main trackway running through the ladder settlement. The five metre segment of ditch located within the trench was fully excavated to a maximum depth of 1.05m. Artefacts recovered included 66 sherds of domestic pottery indicating the land was enclosed in the second half of the 2nd century at this location, having silted up by the mid 3rd century. The only other feature excavated in Trench 12 was a suspected Iron Age or early Romano-British crouch burial located adjacent to and west of the enclosure ditch. The skeleton was 70% complete and bone preservation was poor due to the soil conditions. The individual was possibly a mature adult male displaying degenerative changes to both the spine and upper limbs. No grave goods or dateable material were recovered.

Trench 13 measured 25.00m by 15.00m and was positioned over cropmarks interpreted as likely being related to a timber-built structure internal to one of the enclosures forming part of the ladder settlement. Excavation of post holes revealed two phases of a timber-built structure measuring approximately 10.00m+ in length and 5.00m in width. They contained almost no dateable material, apart from nine flakes of Amphora recovered from a single Phase 2 post hole dating from the mid 1st to mid 2nd century. Eight ephemeral post holes set into a shallow beam slot formed an internal partition wall to the building, likely not load-bearing and instead used for dividing up space.

Three rubbish pits likely used for domestic waste associated with the timber building were excavated in the eastern half of Trench 13. A total of 1,909 sherds of pottery were recovered, mostly of a mid to late 2nd century date but with final deposition in the early or middle 3rd century. Other artefacts included 739 pieces of animal bone, 93 fragments of marine shell, 212 pieces of ceramic building material, 60 fragments of lava rotary quern as well as an iron punch or cold chisel and a number of nails, hobnails, broken knives, mounts, hinges and brackets. Twelve shards of Roman glass from colourless wheel-cut beakers or cups of 1st to mid 2nd

century date were also recovered alongside two bone hair pins dating from the mid 3rd century and an incised bone knife handle.

Two large and very deep pits of similar character were located either side of the timber building in Trench 13. The western pit was excavated to a depth of 1.90m and the eastern to a depth of 1.75m without reaching the base due to safety constraints. A total of 291 sherds of pottery were recovered from these pits, mostly of a mid to late 2nd century date but with final deposition likely in the early 3rd century. Other artefacts included 132 pieces of animal bone, 26 fragments of marine shell, 92 pieces of ceramic building material, as well as a small number of iron nails, brackets or fittings and a possible 'toilet article.' The substantial size and depth of these pits indicate they were likely used for storing water. The finds recovered are consistent with the re-use of these features as rubbish pits for domestic waste when their original function for water storage was no longer required.

A linear gully later recut by a ditch, likely for drainage purposes, was observed parallel to the eastern wall of the timber building and terminating at one of the large water storage pits. A total of 763 sherds of pottery were recovered, mostly dating from the mid 2nd to mid 3rd centuries. Other artefacts included 46 pieces of animal bone, 25 fragments of marine shell, 19 pieces of brick or tile as well as an iron nail and bracket. Pieces of possible charred 'food crust' were recovered that could have originally been the contents of a cooking vessel. These finds are consistent with the re-use of these drainage features for discarding domestic waste in the mid 3rd century when their original function for draining water was no longer required.

For the community engagement a total of 193 individuals joined the archaeological team in the trenches and the finds room. A virtual tour and digital crowdfunding contribution levels engaged a further 119 individuals online. The project succeeded in attracting a new audience for archaeology, with 53% of the in-person participants and 43% of the virtual audience, having never taken part in archaeology activities before.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 DigVentures was invited by John and Henrietta Fenton (hereafter 'the landowners') to undertake a crowdfunded community-based archaeological research project at Elmswell Farm (hereafter 'the site'; Figure 1). Following consultation with the landowners, a project model was devised according to the MoRPHE framework (*Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*, Historic England 2015). This approach has been used to design a multi-staged field research project, encompassing a series of excavation and assessment stages followed by analysis, publication and presentation.

1.1.2 The information contained in this report details results from the seventh season of archaeological excavation and assessment. Fieldwork in 2023 focussed on the Romano-British elements of the approximately 500 hectare multi-period historic landscape that survives within the modern boundaries of Elmswell Farm. Annual fieldwork at Elmswell Farm, conducted between 2017 and 2023 as part of the Seasons in Time project, has identified archaeological evidence from the Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age, Romano-British and Medieval periods. Fieldwork in 2023 targeted an area of extensive cropmarks in Freshlands field thought to relate to a Romano-British ladder settlement to the south of the present Elmswell Farms farmyard complex. Investigations were supported by an Updated Project Design (Swain 2023) and took place between 14th – 27th August 2023.

1.1.3 This report is one of several archive and dissemination products generated by the project, including the digital archive and metadata, the paper archive and the artefact and environmental material recovered and recorded. All archive material is currently held by DigVentures and, when the project is complete, material will be made accessible by the landowners as part of an educational collection about Elmswell Farm or else deposited with East Riding of Yorkshire Museums Service. The site records and digital archive will be disseminated through Humber Historic Environment Record (HER) and the OASIS portal, with all records deposited with the Archaeological Data Service (ADS).

1.2 Project scope

1.2.1 Elmswell Farm lies in a rich and nationally important archaeological landscape containing finds and features dating from the Mesolithic to WWII. Among the most significant of these at the farm include Neolithic/Bronze Age barrows, a Romano-British ladder settlement and the remains of the possible shrunken medieval village of Little Driffield. The overarching aim of the project is to define and characterise the physical extent and chronological phasing of the landscape through a programme of non-intrusive investigations and intrusive excavation, obtaining baseline data that will facilitate its future management (see Aims and Objectives, Section 3).

1.2.2 The first year of evaluation and assessment, undertaken in 2017, focussed on characterising the nature and extent of the medieval village of Little Driffield (Casswell 2018). In 2018, investigations focussed on characterising the nature and extent of Romano-British activity on land to the south of Elmswell Farm farmyard, as well as



building recording of the Old Hall and adjacent dovecote (Casswell 2019). The third year of archaeological excavation concentrated on characterising Romano-British remains to the northeast of Elmswell Farm farmyard (Casswell 2020). The fourth, fifth and sixth years of excavations returned to the land south of Elmswell Farm, extending the excavations first begun in 2018 at 'Cowgrass' field (Casswell 2021, Jackson 2022; 2023). The seventh year of research began a new area of excavations in a field called 'Freshlands,' immediately to the south of Cowgrass field.

1.3 Site description

1.3.1 The remains of the Romano-British ladder settlement (NGR SE 9972 5777) subject to archaeological excavation in 2023 are located due south of Elmswell Farm farmyard and south of Elmswell Beck in a field known as 'Freshlands.' The site lies on land sloping gently down to Elmswell Beck at a height of approximately 24m OD on superficial geological deposits of alluvial clay, silt, sand and gravel, which overly the Flamborough Chalk Formation bedrock (BGS 2018). The land is owned by John and Henrietta Fenton and the farm is currently under the Higher Level Stewardship Scheme.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Research context

2.1.1 For the purpose of this document, the archaeological and historical background focusses on Elmswell Farm and land immediately surrounding the site. The farm is located across the eastern edge of the Yorkshire Wolds dip-slope as it opens out into the plain of Holderness; part of a rich and nationally important historic landscape containing finds and features dating from the Mesolithic to WWII. The approximately 500 hectare modern farm estate encompasses predominantly arable agricultural land surrounding Elmswell Beck; an ecologically important natural chalk stream protected as a SSSI that forms one of the headwaters of the River Hull. The Beck also represents one of the few natural water sources historically available to occupants of the Yorkshire Wolds landscape at its eastern edge.

2.1.2 The farm lies just a few miles to the east of the nationally important excavations at Garton and Wetwang slacks; the locations of an Iron Age open settlement, square-barrow cemetery and early Romano-British enclosed settlement excavated between the 1960's and 1980's by Tony Brewster and John Dent. The excavations revealed invaluable insights into the burial practices of the Parisi tribe, who settled in the Wolds landscape in the Iron Age, as well as changing land-use from open to enclosed settlement towards the end of the Iron Age (Yorkshire Wolds Research Strategy, 2024). Excavations revealed that by the middle of the Iron Age a ditched trackway had been created along the valley floor running approximately east to west. A hand drawn survey of cropmarks identified from aerial imagery completed in 1990 by the RCHME shows this trackway as a major routeway through the Yorkshire Wolds landscape, linking the water source at Elmswell Beck to a large number of sites visible further west, including Garton and Wetwang (Aerial Archaeology Mapping Explorer, 2024).

2.1.3 Significant amongst the known archaeological remains at Elmswell farm are a Romano-British ladder settlement and an extensive shrunken Medieval village. The town of Driffield itself has an interesting association with Anglo-Saxon royalty; once part of the Kingdom of Deira, there is evidence that a royal palace once stood in its centre. Despite the site's archaeological potential, there have been few modern investigations into its archaeology, resulting in a strong need to understand the heritage resource in light of substantial attritional threats.

2.1.4 Elmswell has been the subject of widespread antiquarian intervention; in the 19th century, John Mortimer investigated the Neolithic barrows to the south of Elmswell and revealed multiple prehistoric burials, along with evidence of their reuse well into Anglo-Saxon period. Although it is difficult to decipher settlement patterns of the Romano-British period, there were a range of Roman finds as a result of earlier interventions at the site by Corder and others in 1935. A significant hoard of Roman coins, samian ware, and early medieval pottery were discovered in Cowgrass Field at Elmswell. Such finds accord well with remote aerial photographic evidence, with extensive cropmarks indicative of a Romano-British 'ladder settlement' coupled with a large Iron Age/Roman field system. A late Iron Age to early Anglo-Saxon settlement has also been identified, including the remains of a potential 4th century villa.

2.2 Summary of previous work

2.2.1 Known prehistoric sites at Elmswell Farm include two Neolithic/Bronze Age bowl barrows (SM1013707 and SM1013708) excavated by John Mortimer in 1870, and two further excavated, undated barrows. Excavations undertaken on the farm between 1935 and 1937 revealed Roman occupation, including mortared stone walls and floors, and artefactual evidence to suggest that settlement had begun in the Iron Age and continued into the Anglo-Saxon period (Corder 1940a). This activity is further evidenced by extensive cropmarks south of Elmswell Beck, part of which formed the focus of the 2023 excavations.

2.2.2 In 1975, excavations at Moot Hill in Driffield revealed a Norman castle containing the possible remains of a rare 8th century palace (SM1015612), approximately 1.5 miles northeast of the site. Excavations conducted in advance of the construction of Kellythorpe Industrial Estate, 700m southeast of the site, revealed numerous archaeological remains; including prehistoric flints, Roman and medieval ditches and enclosures, and modern remains related to the WWII RAF Driffield. Recent metal detecting and field walking surveys on Elmswell Farm have revealed extensive Mesolithic flint scatters and further assemblages of over 100 fragments of high-status Roman pottery, over 100 Roman coins including 27 denarii; the latest dating to c AD390.

2.2.3 In 2017 fieldwork focussed on Little Driffield; a settlement believed to be the burial place of Alchfrid, King of Northumbria, who died in AD704/5 at a now lost royal palace. The location of the burial site and royal palace are not known although Anglo Saxon finds, such as part of a stone cross now incorporated into the fabric of St. Mary's Church, suggest that Little Driffield was a place of importance at that time. The first season of fieldwork focused on the shrunken medieval village of Little Driffield. Remote sensing surveys and targeted trenches enabled the characterisation of the

remains, indicating that the landscape east of Church Lane was settled extensively between the late 11th and mid 14th century. The recovery of a Roman coin and a sherd of 9th to 11th century pottery suggest that earlier activity took place on or near to the site. Later pottery was found in smaller quantities, indicating that the main phase of settlement activity at the site had finished by the mid 14th century when the settlement was abandoned.

2.2.4 Fieldwork in 2018 focused on land in 'Cowgrass' field, south of Elmswell Beck, to; recover the full extent of the treasure hoard found by metal detectorists in 2016/17, determine the nature, date and survival of archaeology at the site of Roman settlement; establish the relationship of these remains to nearby sites and how the settlement played a role in the wider environs. Recommendations made following the assessment of the archaeological material recovered during 2017, included the broadening of investigations to explore features predating the medieval village. Metal detecting surveys carried out to the north of the Roman settlement on the estate have identified dense concentrations of finds, including an ongoing treasure case. Fieldwork entailed the excavation of three trenches positioned over these areas to enable the full recovery of the hoard, to characterise its depositional context, and to establish whether this area of the estate is worthy of protection and designation on the HER.

2.2.5 In 2019, fieldwork focused on the Roman elements of the farm on land northeast of Elmswell Farm farmyard, east of Elmswell at Spellowgate, representing the third phase of the multi-staged landscape investigation. The investigations involved a programme of targeted interventions, including metal detecting and field walking surveys. Four trenches were opened to the northeast of Elmswell Farm farmyard to investigate concentrations of Roman finds recorded as part of the 2018 fieldwalking and metal detecting survey. Archaeological features were found in all trenches with Roman finds dating to the 2nd to 4th century AD. Roman ceramic and stone building materials – including tesserae, roof tiles, flue tiles and bricks – were found in all areas along with settlement abandonment debris and robber-pits. It was concluded that the site had been settled in the latter part of the 2nd century AD with the construction of a villa that included a large stone building with tiled roof, a hypocaust and mosaic.

2.2.6 In 2020, one trench was opened directly south of Elmswell Farm farmyard to investigate potential structural Roman settlement remains, extending Trench 4 from the 2018 field season. Archaeological features were found throughout the trench, with Roman finds dating to the 1st to 2nd century AD. Pottery recovered suggests domestic occupation and a site of some significance in the Roman period established soon after the conquest. The wide-ranging taxa identified in the animal bone assemblage suggests waste from beef, pork, lamb/mutton and marine mollusc production and/or consumption. A prehistoric, probably Neolithic, alluvial deposit was found in part of the trench that indicated earlier activity on the south side of the paleochannel adjacent to the site.

2.2.7 In 2021, one trench was opened directly south of Elmswell Farm farmyard to investigate potential structural Roman settlement remains, extending Trench 4 from the 2018 and 2020 field season to the north and west (25.00m x 20.00m) and a smaller re-excavation to the east through the alluvium (10.00m x 2.00m). Archaeological

features were found throughout the trench, with Roman finds dating to the 1st to 2nd century AD. The features consisted of rubbish pits, post holes, ditches and a series of walls which had either been completely robbed out and rubble left in the cut or only had the foundations remaining. The pottery and animal bone assemblages were much the same as previous seasons. Finds of note included a near mint denarius of Domitian and two interlocked Roman brooches recovered from a rubbish pit. During the 2020 season a prehistoric, probably Neolithic, alluvial deposit was found in part of the trench that indicated earlier activity on the south side of the paleochannel adjacent to the site, in 2021 a small evaluation was opened to investigate the nature of this deposit further. A further evaluation trench, Trench 11 measuring 10.00m x 2.00m, was opened to the west of Trench 4. This trench revealed a probable ditch and two small pits, which were left unexcavated.

2.2.8 In 2022, Trench 4 was opened having been extended to the North with the aim of ascertaining the limits of the settlement. Archaeological features were recorded throughout the trench likely associated with the buildings to the south revealed in previous seasons. The features consisted of at least five ditches all appearing to be broadly contemporary. Additionally, a large pit at least 1.40m in depth was excavated in the eastern half of the trench, likely representing a storage pit later reused as a rubbish pit. A ditch aligned NE-SW was observed across the entirety of the trench and it is likely this feature represents the boundary of the settlement as all identified features were located to its south. Pottery recovered suggests domestic occupation and a site of some significance in the Roman period established soon after the conquest. The broad variety identified in the animal bone assemblage suggests waste from beef, pork, lamb/mutton and marine mollusc production and/or consumption. Finds of note include a finger ring, a large copper coin and a copper disc brooch or stud likely dating to the 2nd century AD.

2.2.9 Trench 11 was opened expanding upon an evaluation trench first investigated in 2021. Seven pits were recorded in the eastern half of the trench and a cluster of nine in the western half containing almost no finds, suggesting they may represent storage pits. A large N-S aligned probable enclosure ditch to the settlement was visible in the centre of the trench. A second, shallower ditch containing almost no finds was observed near the western baulk of the trench which may have represented a different phase of boundary to the settlement.

3 PROJECT AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Project model

3.1.1 The aims and objectives articulated below were defined in the Updated Project Design for this stage of research (Swain 2023). The research agenda for the project is based on the priority research aims of the Yorkshire Archaeological Research Framework (Roskams and Whyman, 2005) and the South Yorkshire Historic Environment Research Framework (South Yorkshire Archaeology Service, 2021). The business case for this work has been designed in accordance with Historic England's Research Strategy (2017) and Corporate Plan (2018-2023).

3.2 Aims

3.2.1 The overarching aim of the project was to define and characterise the physical extent of the site through a programme of non-intrusive investigations and intrusive excavation, obtaining baseline data to facilitate its future management.

3.2.2 *Aim 1 – To define and establish the precise physical extent and condition of archaeological remains on the Site with a programme of remote sensing and metric survey.*

3.2.3 This aim was chosen with the intention of carrying out non-invasive investigation of the site through geophysical survey as part of fieldwork in 2023. Due to unforeseen circumstances, this survey was postponed and re-scheduled to a future fieldwork stage. Upon completion, this survey will provide further contextual information to support the results of the targeted trenching and the wider interpretation of the site, its environs and the local landscape by addressing these specific questions:

- Q1: Can the layout and associated sub-surface archaeology be established by remote survey?
- Q2: Can we identify the location and extent of settlement evidence, and determine horizontal phasing between features?

3.2.4 *Aim 2: Characterise the results of non-invasive survey, refining the chronological phasing of the site with a programme of trenching.*

3.2.5 This aim was addressed with targeted trenches to answer the following questions:

- Q3. Can we develop a chronological relationship between the area of settlement and associated structures identified during previous seasons of investigations and the potential Romano-British ladder settlement interpreted from cropmarks in aerial imagery?
- Q4. What are the typical and atypical features of the potential Romano-British ladder settlement, including the character, function and date of associated structures and features internal to the enclosures, and how did this influence the functions and activities that took place across the Site?
- Q5. Can we inform the local landscape setting and its character, including how any evidence recovered for Romano-British settlement remains and associated occupation influenced its development and design?

3.2.6 *Aim 3: Understand the palaeoenvironmental conditions at the site.*

3.2.7 This aim comprised the assessment of archaeological finds and samples recovered during excavations, using appropriate palaeoenvironmental and archaeological techniques to establish preservation and significance.

- Q6: What is the current state of the archaeological and palaeoenvironmental material across the site?
- Q7: How well do deposits and artefacts survive, and how deeply are they buried?

- Q8: Can the palaeoenvironmental data recovered from sampling in the trenches inform us about farming regimes, specialised food processing, industrial or military activities that may have taken place at the site?
- Q9: Can we increase our understanding of the local environment during the multi-period occupation of the Site?

3.2.8 *Aim 4: Making recommendations, analysis and publication.*

- Q10: What can an integrated synthesis of the results of this work with previous remote sensing and building survey tell us about the site and its setting?
- Q11: In light of the evidence recovered from this and previous work, can we articulate a link between the multi-phased use of the site and its different areas?
- Q12: Formulate recommendations for further archaeological and palaeoenvironmental analysis at Elmswell Farms based on Aims 1-3 and implement a programme to publish and disseminate the results or continue fieldwork into additional seasons.

3.2.9 Aim 5: Creating opportunities for people and communities.

3.2.10 In addition to the archaeological research aims of the project, achieving public engagement and benefits for the local community have been key targets embedded within this project. As part of the overarching project, providing opportunities for volunteers was an important component of the defined aims. Key objectives included:

- Engaging participants in undertaking archaeological surveys by delivering educational activities.
- Training participants in archaeological fieldwork, incorporating workshops and masterclasses and providing training in digital recording techniques.
- Provision of a 'Dig Camp' parent and child activity weekend and hosting digital and in-person site tours.
- A pop-up finds tent to enable participants and visitors to experience and learn about finds processing and post-excavation processes.

3.2.11 In showcasing the excavation, the project has engaged both local and global audiences to ensure the future preservation and management of the site. A summary of the project's effectiveness in meeting these aims can be found in Section 7.



4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Project model

4.1.1 The archaeological fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the methodology defined in the Updated Project Design (Swain, 2023, Section 11). All work was undertaken in conjunction with best practice, national guidelines and published standards (CIfA 2014). A summary of methodologies is presented below, following detailed descriptions in the Updated Project Design linking specific techniques to aims and objectives (Swain, 2023, Appendix 1).

4.2 Excavation methodology

4.2.1 Excavation took place between the 14th and 27th August 2023 to address the questions associated with the research aims in Section 3 above. This entailed a programme of targeted excavation, outlined in the Updated Project Design (Swain 2023) and comprised of two trenches designed to assess the nature, character and survival of evidence for the Romano-British ladder settlement interpreted from cropmarks identified in aerial imagery.

4.2.2 All trenches were located using a GPS prior to the commencement of work, and each area was scanned for finds with a metal detector prior to, and during, excavation. Machine excavation of two trenches was carried out using a JCB JS130 fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, removing the overburden to the top of the first recognisable archaeological horizon, under the constant supervision of an experienced archaeologist.

4.2.3 Trenches were subsequently hand-cleaned, planned and photographed prior to hand-excavation. Any archaeological features and deposits exposed in the trenches were hand-cleaned and excavated to determine their nature, character and date. Carefully chosen cross-sections were then excavated through features to enable sufficient information about form, development, date and stratigraphic relationships to be recorded.

4.2.4 A complete drawn record of the trenches comprised plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales and annotated with coordinates and AOD heights. A single context recording system was used to record the deposits and a full list of all records is presented in Appendix A. Layers and fills are recorded '(1001)'. The cut of the feature is shown '[1001]'. Each number has been attributed to a specific trench with the primary number(s) relating to specific trenches (i.e. Trench 1, 1001+, Trench 2, 2001+). Features were also specified in a similar manner, pre-fixed with the letter 'F' (i.e. Trench 1, F101+, Trench 11, F1101+). All interventions were surveyed using a GPS tied into the Ordnance Survey grid. All recording was undertaken using the 'Diggit' digital recording system.

4.3 Human remains

4.3.1 The skeletal remains were analysed in detail according to current guidelines (Brickley and McKinley 2004; Mitchell and Brickley 2017), assessing the preservation and completeness, calculating the minimum number of individuals present, and



determining the age, sex, and stature of the individuals. All pathological lesions were recorded and described using standard methods (ibid).

4.4 Artefacts and ecofacts

4.4.1 The recovery and treatment of finds were carried out in accordance with the relevant guidance given in the CIfA's *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2014b). Archaeological material was handled and sorted following advice in Watkinson and Neal (1998). All artefacts from excavated contexts were washed, counted, weighed and identified. Finds recovered were assessed by appropriately qualified specialists, who examined them to provide an identification, date and provenance of the material, and to also evaluate the significance of the assemblage.

Pottery

4.4.2 A fully quantified assessment was produced to comply with the requirements of the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Barclay et al. 2016) using codes and system developed by the City of Lincoln Archaeological Unit expanded to include local material (Darling and Precious 2014) referenced to the York scheme (Monaghan 1997). Vessels have been paralleled, were possible, to local publications. The vessels suitable for illustration have been marked with 'D*' numbers on the bags and in the archive to facilitate further study. The samian has also been separated from the bulk of the coarse wares to facilitate further study in the future. A basic dating table has been produced along with form and fabric summaries (Appendix D). The dating summaries only provide a date for the pottery presented for study: the main site text should be consulted for the date attributed to each stratigraphic unit as a whole.

Animal Bone and Shell

4.4.3 The animal remains were identified to element, side and to as low a taxonomic level as possible using the archaeology.biz reference collection and published and online identification guides (Cohen and Serjeantson 1996; Hillson 2003; 2005). Quantification for mammal remains used the diagnostic zone method as presented by Dobney and Rielly (1988), with bird remains quantified using the method presented by Cohen and Serjeantson (1996). A taphonomic assessment of each fragment was undertaken, recording the presence and absence of butchery (specified as cut, chop and/or saw marks), burning and calcination, any evidence for animal activity (canid or rodent gnawing), any abnormal features or bone formation (pathology and non-metric traits), and surface preservation; any other surface modifications of note were also recorded. At this stage, no attempt was made to sex any of the remains, or to measure any elements. Sheep (Ovis aries) and goat (Capra hircus) distinctions were also not considered. Fragments of bones that could be identified to element but not any specific species were grouped as far as possible using size and class or order categories. The weight of animal bone for all contexts was also recorded.

4.4.4 Marine mollusc remains were identified using the archaeology.biz reference collection and published identification guides (Hayward and Ryland 1995). Quantification was by fragment and minimum number of valves (MNV) or individuals (MNI), by umbo or apex



count. Quantification was by fragment count and minimum number of individuals based on apex presence.

4.4.5 This assessment has been undertaken in line with published standards and guidelines (Campbell et al. 2011; Winder 2015; Baker and Worley 2019; CIfA 2014), an updated project design for the site (Swain 2023), the site narrative for excavations undertaken in 2023 and with reference to the Yorkshire Archaeological Research Framework's resource assessment (Roskams and Whyman 2005) and research agenda (Roskams and Whyman 2007).

Industrial Waste / Slag

4.4.6 The slags were visually examined, and the classification is based on morphology with additional data obtained from Hand-Held X-Ray Fluorescence Analysis. The instrument used was a Bruker S1 Turbosdr hand-held XRF instrument operating at 40kV. A beam of x-rays is generated in the instrument and focussed on the sample, the x-rays interact with the elements present in the sample resulting in the emission of secondary x-rays which are characteristic (in terms of their energy and wavelength) of the elements present in the sample. The energies of the secondary x-rays are measured, and a spectrum generated showing a level of background noise with peaks of the elements present superimposed on the background noise. Samples were analysed for 30 live seconds; the spectrum is stored. All elements heavier than potassium (K, Z=19), can be detected. The 'interior' and 'exterior' face of each sample was analysed. This will demonstrate whether non-ferrous elements are present in/on both surfaces. The technique is non-destructive.

4.4.7 The debris associated with metalworking or submitted in the understanding that they are associated with metalworking, can be divided into two broad groups; residues diagnostic of a particular metallurgical process or non-diagnostic residues that may have derived from any pyrotechnological process (McDonnell 2001). The diagnostic ferrous debris can be attributed to a particular ironworking process; these comprise ores and the ironworking slags, i.e., the macro, hand recovered smelting and smithing slags and the micro-residues such as hammerscale and slag fragments recovered from sieving programmes. The second group are the diagnostic non-ferrous metalworking debris, e.g., crucibles and moulds. Thirdly, there are the non-diagnostic slags, which could have been generated by a number of different processes but show no diagnostic characteristic that can identify the process. In many cases the non-diagnostic residues, e.g., hearth or furnace lining, may be ascribed to a particular process through archaeological association.

Registered finds and metalwork

4.4.8 The correlation between registered finds/bulk iron and contexts was taken directly from the finds bags. The spreadsheet provided by the excavators was used to confirm context ids. None of the registered finds were macroscopically examined/x-rayed for the purpose of this assessment. This assessment should be considered provisional ahead of any future specialist analysis, cleaning/consolidation and final report. The assessment includes recommendations for further work on the assemblage, including any photography, illustration, conservation, scientific analysis and reconstruction (illustrative or physical).



4.4.9 For the assessment, objects were removed from their bags, but none of the objects were cleaned or brushed by the specialist. The iron bulk finds had received no conservation treatment prior to assessment; however, the iron Single Finds (SF183, SF187 and SF190) had been conserved by the excavating unit and are in very good condition. The objects were measured using 0-150mm digital callipers with 0.1mm accuracy, weighed using a digital scale accurate to 0.01g and visually examined using a loupe with magnification of 30x. The callipers are equipped with a rubber sleeve to protect the objects' surfaces. All context details, identifications, dates, weights, measurements, descriptions as well as general notes and a note on the artefacts' condition were recorded in an Excel Spreadsheet (attached) using FISH terminology (https://www.heritage-standards.org.uk/fish-vocabularies/).

4.4.10 For the identification and dating of the hair pins, fittings, brackets, tools and coins, standard identification references were used, such as Crummy 1983, Manning 1976; 1986, Reece and James 2000 and Humphreys 2021, as well as comparable objects from the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) database (www.finds.org.uk). Reference for PAS objects was made using their PAS IDs.

4.4.11 The specialist finds recording and reporting was completed in accordance with the national finds standards and guidance (Historic England 2008; CIfA 2014; 2021a; 2021b).

4.4.12 The report was prepared with support from the site narrative and project design (Swain 2023), draft field work records, metalwork register, and site plans for Trenches 12 and 13. Reference to individual fragments in the report use ID-number or 'SF' numbers (ID1-ID37). Stickers with ID numbers were stuck to the individual bags with the colours indicating red=bone, green=copper-alloy, blue=lead-alloy and yellow=iron. Generally, there is one object per finds bag, but several bags of the bulk iron contain two or more objects or fragments of different or the same object(s). All objects from the same bag have been given the same Finds ID number and their weights and measurements were recorded in the same row of the Excel table, separated by semicolons. The order of objects' identifications and measurements is mirrored in each cell. If there was more than one object of the same type (e.g. nails), the largest/longest was recorded first, followed by the shorter/smaller ones.

Glass

4.4.13 The assessment of the glass follows the broad outlines for specialist reporting as noted in the CIfA guidelines (https://www.archaeologists.net/reporting-toolkit). In detail the basic archive catalogue follows the guidelines set out in RFG & FRG 1993 adapted for glass. The database produced as part of the assessment records context number; small find number; the typological band; manufacturing method; colour; simple name; typology which is a reference to standard typologies if appropriate; a catalogue field to record brief notes; count; weight (g); spot date. Fields called 'Catalogue needed' and 'Illustrate' indicate which items need further work at the analysis stage. This database will provide sufficient information about the less diagnostic body fragments at the analysis stage that require no further work.

Stone

4.4.14 Stone was retained from three contexts and submitted for assessment. All the stone was examined with the aid of a x10 magnification hand lens and is described in full. Where original, or close to original dimensions could be ascertained, these were measured, and all stone was weighed and counted.

Environmental

4.4.15 The sample residues were sorted and assessed in accordance with Historic England guidelines for environmental archaeology (Campbell et al. 2011) and the CIfA toolkit for specialist reporting (CIfA 2021), with reference to an updated project design for the site (Swain 2023).

4.4.16 Light fractions/flots were sorted under a low power light microscope at 10x to 30x magnification, with any artefactual or environmental remains extracted for identification and assessment. The presence of 'modern' material in the light fractions, such as root fragments and non-charred or non-mineralized plant remains, were recorded by abundance.

4.4.17 Extracted charred and untransformed plant remains were identified under a low power light microscope at 10x to 60x magnification using the archaeology.biz reference collection and published identification guides (Digital Plant Atlas; Delorit 1970; Cappers et al. 2006; Jones et al. 2004). Cereal nomenclature followed Zohary et al. (2012). Quantification was by count, where a grain/seed with 51-100% surviving quantified separately from fragments representing 50% or less of the complete grain/seed.

4.4.18 Terrestrial and freshwater molluscs were identified under a low power light microscope using the archaeology.biz reference collection and published identification guides (Naggs et al. 2014; Cameron 2008; Kerney and Cameron 1979). Quantification was by fragment count and minimum number of individuals based on apex presence. The presence of the blind snail (Cecilioides acicula) was recorded on a scale of abundance only due to its consistent presence in most samples and due to it being a burrowing species, precluding its use in any attempt to reconstruct past environmental conditions at archaeological sites. Environmental/habitat allocation for terrestrial mollusc species followed Evans (1972). A sample of hand-collected charcoal fragments were identified under magnification using a published identification guide (Hather 2000).

4.5 Health and safety

4.5.1 All work was carried out in accordance with the company Health and Safety Policy, to standards defined in The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, and The Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1999, and in accordance with the SCAUM (Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers) health and safety manual Health and Safety in Field Archaeology (1996), and DigVentures Health and Safety Policy.

5 EXCAVATION RESULTS

Ben Swain

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 Between the 14th and 27th August 2023, excavations were carried out at Elmswell Farms, East Yorkshire. This represented the seventh field season of an ongoing community based archaeological project initiated in 2017. Three different sites in the local landscape have been excavated previously as part of the project within the approximately 500 hectare modern farm boundary. These consisted of a deserted Medieval village, a possible Roman villa and mansio complex. Excavations in 2023 began research at a fourth site, consisting of a Romano-British ladder settlement (Figure 1).

5.1.2 The principal purpose of these excavations was to define the extent and chronology of archaeological remains (Aim 1), characterise their function, placing the results in a wider landscape setting (Aim 2) and assess the preservation and significance of buried archaeological deposits (Aim 3). Excavations were designed to address specific research objectives, and these are discussed with the excavation results below.

5.1.3 Ploughsoil was removed by a mechanical excavator, revealing archaeological features cut into the orange clay and yellowish pea-gravel natural geology directly below. All features were cleaned, photographed, excavated and recorded by hand. Figure 1 shows the overall location of each targeted area, Figures 2-5 provide orthorectified trench plans and annotated drawings, whilst Figures 6 to 14 illustrate the digitised section drawings and Figures 15-17 show record photographs of excavated features. Detailed descriptions of every context are included in Appendix A.

5.2 Results

Trench 12

5.2.1 Trench 12 (Figures 2-3) measured 30.00m by 5.00m and was positioned over cropmarks visible from aerial satellite imagery interpreted as likely representing the ditches of two adjacent rectilinear enclosures, north of the main East-West aligned trackway running through the centre of the settlement. Upon removal of the ploughsoil (12001), the ditch anticipated to the west of the trench was not encountered, but enclosure ditch F1201 was located to the east.

5.2.2 F1201 was observed aligned approximately north-south at the eastern end of Trench 12 and continued beyond both the northern and southern limits of excavation. The feature was fully excavated within the boundary of the trench and found to contain two silting fills. The primary fill of the ditch, (12009), contained 20 sherds of pottery, including Samian, Ebor ware and the base of a mortarium dating to the second half of the 2nd century. The secondary fill, (12002), contained 46 sherds of similar fabrics alongside a sherd of Crambeck grey ware that dates the deposit to the late 3rd century.

5.2.3 The only other archaeological feature excavated in Trench 12 was F1202; a suspected Iron Age or early Romano-British crouch burial (Figure 18). This inhumation was located adjacent to and west of enclosure ditch F1201, within an oval-shaped grave cut [12008]. The skeleton SK12006 was 70% complete and bone preservation was poor due to the soil conditions. The upper body was positioned prone with the head facing west and both arms flexed with the hands located by each shoulder. The legs were found to be flexed on the right side. The individual was possibly a mature adult male displaying degenerative changes to both the spine and upper limbs. No grave goods or dateable material were recovered. All other interventions made in Trench 12 were determined to represent naturally occurring geological features.

Trench 13

5.2.4 Trench 13 (Figures 4-5) measured 25.00m by 15.00m and was positioned over cropmarks visible from aerial satellite imagery interpreted as likely being related to a timber-built structure internal to one of the enclosures located south of the main trackway running through the settlement. Upon removal of ploughsoil (13001), two parallel alignments of post holes, a beam slot, a ditch and six pits were encountered.

5.2.5 Excavation of the post holes revealed two phases of a timber-built structure measuring approximately 10.00m+ in length and 5.00m in width, aligned north-south and positioned central to Trench 13. The northern extent of the building was located within the trench, whilst the southern extent continued beyond the limit of excavation. Chronological phasing was established through stratigraphic relationships observed on the eastern post alignment, where four post holes from the Phase 2 structure were observed truncating those belonging to the earlier Phase 1 building. The earlier structure consisted of twelve post holes, F1309, F1310, F1311, F1312, F1313, F1314, F1315, F1316, F1317, F1318, F1319 and F1320, with six on each parallel alignment positioned in increments of approximately two metres. The later Phase 2 structure consisted of ten post holes, F1321, F1322, F1323, F1324, F1325, F1326, F1327, F1328, F1329 and -F1330, with five on each parallel alignment spaced at similar increments. The later building was four metres shorter and half a metre narrower than the original, being positioned marginally offset to the east (Figure 5).

5.2.6 The post holes in Phase 1 ranged in diameter from 0.42m to 1.30m and in depth from 0.45m to 0.81m, suggesting differences in load-bearing weight throughout the structure. The average diameter was 0.83m and average depth was 0.59m. The majority of post holes belonging to this phase were characterised by a charcoal-rich post-pipe surrounded with stone packing material. In a number of examples the packing material remained in-situ surrounding the post-pipe (Figure 16). A very small selection of non-diagnostic finds were recovered from the post holes of the Phase 1 structure, which were subject to a 100% sampling strategy for the purposes of artefact recovery. These included an iron nail and three fragments of animal bone and could not be firmly dated.

5.2.7 The post holes in Phase 2 varied in diameter from 0.27m to 1.25m and in depth from 0.09m to 0.75m, indicating differences in load-bearing weight throughout the structure. The average diameter was 0.75m and average depth was 0.23m. The majority of post holes belonging to Phase 2 were characterised by a single shallow

silting fill with no evidence of a post pipe or packing material. The difference in average diameter and depth of post holes between the two phases of structure, combined with the 4m difference in overall length, indicates that the later building was likely a shorter and less substantial structure compared to the original. A small selection of finds were recovered from the post holes of the Phase 2 structure, which were also subject to a 100% sampling strategy for the purposes of artefact recovery. These included five iron nails, nine fragments of shell, twelve fragments of animal bone and nine flakes of badly degraded pottery. The pottery (SF185) was recovered from a single post hole, F1326, and represented flakes from a mid 1st to mid 2nd century gritty Dressel 20 amphora. This was the only broadly dateable material recovered from the post holes of either phase of structure representing the timber building in Trench 13 and whilst a tentative mid 2nd century date could be ascribed to the demolition of the Phase 2 structure, this should be treated with some degree of caution.

5.2.8 Eight post holes set within two beam slots, F1331, F1332, F1333, F1334, F1335, F1336, F1337, F1338, F1339 and F1340, were observed forming an internal partition wall located approximately half-way along the exposed length of the building visible in Trench 13. All of the post holes associated with the partition wall were very shallow, containing a single silting fill measuring between 0.06m and 0.15m in depth. The average diameter of the post holes was 0.36m and average width of the beam slot was 0.17m. Due to the ephemeral nature of these features, it is unlikely this partition wall would have had any structural load-bearing function and was instead used to divide space within the building. No diagnostic dateable material was recovered from the partition wall and there is no surviving evidence to confirm which phase of the building it belonged to. The only artefacts recovered were 28 fragments of animal bone weighing 1.90g and a single shard of modern mould-pressed glass (SF196) from F1339; determined to be a residual modern intrusion, possibly from rooting.

5.2.9 Three rubbish pits, F1305, F1306 and F1307, were excavated in the eastern half of Trench 13. Pit F1305 measured 2.60m in length and 0.79m in depth, containing two finds-rich dark silting fills; (13013) and (13032). A total of 684 sherds of pottery were recovered from these fills, mostly of a mid 2nd century date but with final deposition likely to have been in the 3rd century. Other artefacts recovered included 413 pieces of animal bone, 47 fragments of oyster and limpet shell, 113 pieces of mud brick or burnt clay lining, 60 fragments of lava rotary quern and a number of iron nails or hobnails, mounts and brackets. Registered finds included ten shards of Roman glass (SF182, SF186, SF191, SF192), most of which came from a wheel-cut beaker or cylindrical cup of 1st to mid 2nd century date. Two bone hair pins (SF184, SF194) dating from the mid 3rd century and an Iron punch, mortise or cold chisel (SF183) were also recovered. The finds recovered are consistent with a rubbish pit used for domestic waste between the mid 2nd to 3rd centuries.

5.2.10 Pit F1306; a smaller but deeper rubbish pit measuring 1.45m in length and 0.84m in depth, was truncated by F1305. This earlier pit contained three finds-rich dark silting fills; (13015), (13059) and (13093). Primary fill (13093) was a layer containing a particularly dense concentration of ash, charcoal and other burnt material near the base of the pit. A total of 708 sherds of pottery were recovered from these fills, mostly of a mid to late 2nd century date. Other artefacts recovered included 221 pieces of animal bone, 22 fragments of oyster and limpet shell, 92 pieces of mud brick, a

number of iron nails and fragments of broken knives. A possible crucible or metalworking mould fragment was recovered from (13015). The only registered find (SF190) was an iron loop hinge broken in two places. The finds recovered are consistent with a rubbish pit used for domestic waste in the mid to late 2nd century.

5.2.11 Pit F1307, measuring 1.92m in length and 0.83m in depth, was located partly protruding from the eastern limit of excavation and was fully excavated within the boundary of Trench 13. It contained two finds-rich silting fills; (13007) and (13017). A total of 517 sherds of pottery were recovered from these fills, mostly of a mid to late 2nd century date but with final deposition likely to have been in the mid 3rd century. Other artefacts recovered included 105 pieces of animal bone, 24 fragments of marine mollusc remains, 7 pieces of brick or tile and two iron nails. Registered finds included a broken bone knife handle with incised decoration (SF195), the broken rim of a colourless cylindrical glass cup (SF188) and a blue/green shard from a similar vessel (SF193) dating from the 1st to 3rd centuries. The finds recovered are consistent with a rubbish pit used for domestic waste between the mid to late 2nd century and the mid 3rd century.

5.2.12 Pit F1308, measuring 2.50m in length and 0.13m in depth, was located in the north-east corner of Trench 13. It contained a single shallow silting fill with a dense concentration of rubble; (13005). One of these rubble pieces was a shaped rectangular block that was faced on at least one side. There were almost no other finds recovered from this feature, with the exception of a single piece of unidentified ceramic building material. Pit F1308 likely represents a single discreet event discarding a small quantity of unwanted stone building debris.

5.2.13 Two large and very deep pits; F1301 and F1302, were located adjacent to the timber building in Trench 13 on its western and eastern sides respectively. Pit F1301 measured approximately 3.00m in diameter and was excavated to a depth of 1.90m, where excavation ceased without reaching the base due to safety constraints. It contained eight fills including various interspersed silting and intentional backfilling events, as represented by steep alternating tipping lines that increased in gradient with depth. A total of 111 sherds of pottery were recovered from these fills, mostly of a mid to late 2nd century date. Other artefacts recovered include 45 pieces of animal bone, 16 fragments of oyster and mussel shell, 53 pieces of brick or tile and burnt clay lining or daub, as well as a small number of iron nails. The substantial size and depth of this pit, cut into the natural orange clays, indicate it was likely used for storing water. The finds recovered are consistent with the re-use of this feature as a rubbish pit for domestic waste in the mid to late 2nd century when its original function for water storage was no longer required.

5.2.14 Pit F1302 measured approximately 3.70m in diameter and was excavated to a depth of 1.75m, where excavation ceased without reaching the base due to safety constraints. It contained six fills representing various interspersed silting and slumping events from the gradual collapse of the very loose pea-gravel superficial geology near the top of the pit at this location. A total of 180 sherds of pottery were recovered from these fills, mostly dating to between the mid to late 2nd century and the early 3rd century. Other artefacts recovered include 87 pieces of animal bone, 10 fragments of oyster shell, 39 pieces of Roman brick and mud brick or tile, as well as 40 pieces of

broken rotary lava quern and a small number of iron nails, brackets or fittings. A possible iron 'toilet article,' possibly representing the handle of a small surgical instrument was recovered from (13106). Registered finds included a shard of colourless glass (SF189) from a cylindrical cup with double base ring dating to the 2nd or 3rd centuries as well as an iron bracket used as a fitting or binding strip for a box or casket (SF187). The substantial size and depth of this pit, cut through the natural pea gravel and into the orange clays below, indicate it was likely used for storing water. The finds recovered are consistent with the re-use of this feature as a rubbish pit for domestic waste in the early 3rd century when its original function for water storage was no longer required.

5.2.15 Gully F1304, later recut by ditch F1303, measured approximately 10.00m in length. It ran north to south from the northern limit of excavation and terminated at the large pit F1302. Five interventions were placed through these north-south aligned features at equally spaced intervals. Gully F1304 measured 0.20m in depth whilst recut ditch F1303 ranged in depth from between 0.34m and 0.46m, becoming shallower towards the terminus. The interventions recorded a single silting fill for each feature, which contained particularly dense concentrations of pottery. A total of 763 sherds of pottery were recovered from these fills, mostly dating from the mid 2nd to mid 3rd centuries. Other artefacts included 46 pieces of animal bone, 25 fragments of marine mollusc remains, 19 pieces of brick or tile as well as an iron nail and bracket. Assessment of environmental samples revealed pieces of possible charred 'food crust' in silting fill (13060) that could have originally been the contents of a cooking vessel. The position of these linear features, parallel to the timber building on its eastern side and terminating at large water storage pit F1302, suggests their original purpose was likely for draining water away from the building and into F1302. The finds recovered are consistent with the re-use of these features for discarding domestic waste in the mid 3rd century when their original function for draining water was no longer required.

6 ARTEFACTS AND ECOFACTS

Dot Boughton (metalwork and small finds), Hilary Cool (glass), Malin Holst (human remains), Gerry McDonnell (metalworking slag), Phil Mills (CBM), Ian Rowlandson (pottery), Hannah Russ and Emma Tong (environmental), Ruth Shaffrey (worked stone), Jessica Waterworth (animal bone and shell).

6.1 Summary

6.1.1 The recovery of finds from the excavations at Elmswell Farm helped to provide phasing between features (Aim 1), provided invaluable insights into the chronological framework (Aim 2) as well as providing a better understanding of the site's archaeological conditions (Aim 3). The condition and preservation of finds across the site varied from poor to good for different artefact types (Aim 3, Q7 and Q8). Animal bone and human skeletal remains existed in a poor state of preservation, whilst much of the pottery consisted of large sherds with fresh breaks.

6.1.2 The excavations in 2023 yielded an assemblage of 1,222 pieces of animal bone and shell (Appendix C), 3,207 sherds of pottery (Appendix D), 226 fragments of burnt clay, 118 fragments of CBM (Appendix E), 21 fragments of industrial waste (Appendix F),

83 pieces of metalwork, 3 pieces of worked bone (Appendix G), 16 fragments of glass and approximately 100 fragments of lava quern stone. Human remains consisting of skeletal fragments from a single individual were also submitted for assessment (Appendix B), as well as 24 flots from environmental samples taken at the site (Appendix H). All material was assessed and reported in detail in the following sections below.

6.1.3 The pottery recovered from excavated features dates them primarily from the mid to late 2nd century AD through to the mid 3rd century AD (Aim 1 Q2). The assemblage from this season of fieldwork and previous investigations between 2018 and 2022 suggests that Elmswell was a landscape of some significance in the Roman period from soon after the conquest until the very end of the Roman period (Q5). The assemblage contains a substantial number of imported legionary wares for a rural settlement, suggesting that the settlement had good trading links and could have had an official function, being well provisioned by the fortresses at York or Malton.

6.1.4 Other finds of note include a small assemblage of Roman glass, an iron cold chisel, a 'toilet article,' a number of brackets, hinges and fittings as well as worked bone hair pins and a knife handle. Possible baking stones or fragments of oven lining were recovered alongside fragments from lava quern stone. A single piece of possible crucible or metalworking mould fragment was also recovered. Environmental samples were largely unproductive but did recover evidence of charred cereal grains and pieces of 'food crust;' possibly the remains of food from the contents of a cooking vessel.

6.2 Human remains

6.2.1 Excavations in 2023 found an adult inhumation located adjacent to and west of an enclosure ditch (Figure 18). It is likely to be an Iron Age or early Romano-British burial. The aim of the skeletal analysis was to determine the age, sex and stature of the skeletal remains, as well as to record and diagnose any skeletal manifestations of disease and trauma.

Osteological Analysis

6.2.2 Osteological analysis is concerned with the determination of the identity of a skeleton, by estimating its age, sex and stature. Robusticity and non-metric traits can provide further information on the appearance and familial affinities of the individual studied. This information is essential in order to determine the prevalence of disease types and age-related changes. It is crucial for identifying sex dimorphism in occupation, lifestyle and diet, as well as the role of different age groups in society. A summary of the osteological and palaeopathological data for the articulated skeletons is given in Table 3.

Preservation

6.2.3 Skeletal preservation depends upon a number of factors, including the age and sex of the individual as well as the size, shape and robusticity of the bone. Burial environment, post-depositional disturbance and treatment following excavation can also have a considerable impact on bone condition (Henderson 1987, Garland and

Janaway 1989, Janaway 1996, Spriggs 1989). Preservation of human skeletal remains is assessed subjectively, depending upon the severity of bone surface erosion and post-mortem breaks, but disregarding completeness. Preservation is important, as it can have a large impact on the quantity and quality of information that it is possible to obtain from the skeletal remains.

6.2.4 Surface preservation, concerning the condition of the bone cortex, was assessed using the seven-category grading system defined by McKinley (2004), ranging from 0 (excellent) to 5+ (extremely poor). Excellent preservation implied no bone surface erosion and a clear surface morphology, whereas extremely poor preservation indicated heavy and penetrating erosion of the bone surface resulting in complete loss of surface morphology and modification of the bone profile. Surface preservation could be variable throughout an individual skeleton, so the condition of the majority of bones in the skeleton was taken as the preservation grade for the whole skeleton. The degree of fragmentation was recorded, using categories ranging from 'minimal' (little or no fragmentation of bones) to 'extreme' (extensive fragmentation with bones in multiple small fragments). Finally, the completeness of the skeletons was assessed and expressed as a percentage: the higher the percentage, the more complete the skeleton. The fragmentation of SK12006 was severe and the surface preservation was poor (Grade 4). SK12006 was 70% complete (Figure 19).

Minimum Number of Individuals

6.2.5 A count of the 'minimum number of individuals' (MNI) recovered from a cemetery is carried out as standard procedure in osteological reports on inhumations in order to establish how many individuals are represented by the articulated and disarticulated human bones (without taking the archaeologically defined graves into account). The MNI is calculated by counting all long bone ends, as well as other larger skeletal elements recovered. The largest number of these is then taken as the MNI. The MNI is likely to be lower than the actual number of skeletons, which would have been interred on the site, but represents the minimum number of individuals, which can be scientifically proven to be present. There was no duplication of bones, implying an MNI of one individual.

Assessment of Age

6.2.6 Age was determined using standard ageing techniques, as specified in Scheuer and Black (2000a; 2000b) and Cox (2000). For non-adults age was estimated using the stage of dental development (Moorrees et al. 1963a; 1963b), dental eruption (Ubelaker 1989), measurements of long bones and other appropriate elements and the development and fusion of bones (Scheuer and Black 2000b). In adults, age was estimated from stages of bone development and degeneration in the pelvis (Brooks and Suchey 1990, Lovejoy et al. 1985) and ribs (modified version of methods developed by İşcan et al. 1984; 1985 and İşcan and Loth 1986 provided in Ubelaker 1989), supplemented through examination of patterns of dental wear (Brothwell 1981).

6.2.7 The individuals were divided into a number of age categories. Non-adults were subdivided into 'foetuses' (f: where the age estimate clearly fell below 38-40 weeks in utero), 'perinates' (p: where the age estimates converged around birth), 'neonates' (n: where the age estimate suggested 0-1 month), 'infant' (i; 1-12 months), juvenile (j; 1-

12 years) and adolescent (ad; 13-17 years). Adults were divided into 'young adult' (ya; 18-25 years), young middle adult (yma; 26-35 years), old middle adult (oma; 36-45 years) and mature adult (46+ years). A category of 'adult' (a) was used to designate those individuals whose age could not be determined beyond the fact that they were eighteen or older.

6.2.8 As many criteria as possible (preservation and completeness allowing) were used to estimate age. However, it is important to note that several studies (for example Molleson and Cox 1993, Molleson 1995, Miles et al. 2008) have highlighted the difficulty of accurately determining the age-at-death of adults from their skeletal remains, with age-at-death frequently being underestimated for older individuals. The categories defined here should be taken as a general guide to the relative physiological age of the adult, rather than being an accurate portrayal of the real chronological age.

6.2.9 Due to the poor preservation of SK12006, post-cranial ageing methods were not available. Based solely on enamel wear, SK12006 was aged 46+ years and was thus a possible mature adult.

Sex Determination

6.2.10 Sex determination was carried out using standard osteological techniques, such as those described by Mays and Cox (2000). Assessment of sex involves examination of the shape of the skull and the pelvis and can only be carried out once sexual characteristics have developed, during late puberty and early adulthood. Evidence from the pelvis was favoured as its shape is directly linked to biological sex (the requirements of childbirth in females) whereas the shape of the skull can be influenced by factors such as age (Walker 1995). Measurements of certain bones were used to supplement the morphological assessment. Due to poor preservation of the pelvis, sex only could be determined from a few cranial features. SK12006 was sexed as a possible male.

Metric Analysis

6.2.11 Stature depends on two main factors, heredity and environment; it can also fluctuate between chronological periods. Stature can only be established in skeletons if at least one complete and fully fused long bone is present, but preferably using the combined femur and tibia. The bone is measured on an osteometric board and stature is then calculated using a regression formula developed upon individuals of known stature (Trotter 1970). Where possible, bones from the legs were used in preference to those of the upper limb as these carry the lowest error margin (ibid). It was not possible to calculate the living height of SK12006.

Platymeric and Platycnemic Indices

6.2.12 Leg measurements were obtained from the femora and tibiae and used to calculate the shape and robusticity of the femoral shaft (platymeric index) and the tibial shaft (platycnemic index; Bass 1987). Both femora and tibiae allowed measurements of the legs and therefore robusticity indices could be calculated for SK12006. Right and left



femora were categorized as platymeric (broad and flattened from front to back), whereas the tibiae were platycnemic (flattened).

Non-Metric Traits

6.2.13 Non-metric traits are additional sutures, facets, bony processes, canals and foramina, which occur in a minority of skeletons and are believed to suggest hereditary affiliation between skeletons (Saunders 1989). The origins of non-metric traits have been extensively discussed in the osteological literature and it is now thought that while most non-metric traits have genetic origins, some can be produced by factors such as mechanical stress (Kennedy 1989) or environment (Trinkhaus 1978).

6.2.14 A total of thirty cranial (skull) and thirty post-cranial (bones of the body and limbs) non-metric traits were selected from the osteological literature (Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994, Finnegan 1978, Berry and Berry 1967) and recorded. These were anomalies that would not have affected the individual. Only the results for the adult skeletons are presented here. SK12006 had bilateral hypotrochanteric fossa in the femora, a groove at the site of insertion of the gluteus maximus.

Pathological Analysis

6.2.15 Pathological conditions (disease) can manifest themselves on the skeleton, especially when these are chronic conditions or the result of trauma to the bone. The bone elements to which muscles attach can also provide information on muscle trauma and excessive use of muscles. All bones were examined macroscopically for evidence of pathological changes.

Degenerative Joint Changes

6.2.16 The most common type of joint disease observed tends to be Degenerative Joint Changes (DJC). DJC is characterised by both bone formation (osteophytes) and bone resorption (porosity) at and around the articular surfaces of the joints, which can cause great discomfort and disability (Rogers 2000). Degenerative changes to the vertebral bodies were recorded when osteophytes (bony outgrowths) were present around the margins or on the body surfaces, coupled with porosity of the body surfaces (Rogers 2000). SK12006 exhibited spinal and extra-spinal degenerative joint changes affecting the cervical spine, the left wrist and both hands.

Dental Health

6.2.17 Analysis of the teeth from archaeological populations provides vital clues about health, diet and oral hygiene, as well as information about environmental and congenital conditions (Roberts and Manchester 2005). Five mandibular teeth were recovered from SK12006. Three of these exhibited dental calculus, and one had a cavity. Severe periodontal disease affected both the maxilla and the mandible, which also exhibited one abscess and unusually high ante-mortem tooth loss of 21 teeth.



Funerary Archaeology

6.2.18 SK12006 was buried in a crouched position orientated north (head) to south (feet). The upper body was found in a prone position, whereas the legs were found flexed on the right side. Both arms were flexed, with the hands by each shoulder. The skull was facing towards the west. SK12006 is thought to be an Iron Age or early Romano-British burial, but no grave goods or associated dateable material were recovered from the burial.

6.2.19 Previous excavations at Elmswell Farm (Casswell and Noon 2018) uncovered a single inhumation from an oval-shaped grave, oriented east to west. The skeleton was partial, with only a few disarticulated remains within the fill of the ditch. Based on a sherd of pottery, this dated to the Roman period. It remains uncertain if both the adult and perinate burials were contemporary.

6.2.20 Philpott (1991, 56) described crouched burials from the Roman period elsewhere in the Midlands and Northern England. More recently, crouched burials have been found across Yorkshire, including from Catterick (SK8126, dating to 235-403AD; Speed and Holst 2018) and Reighton (Holst 2004) in North Yorkshire, Ferrybridge Henge in West Yorkshire (Holst 2005) and Barnsdale Bar, Norton, South Yorkshire (Holst 2007).

Discussion

6.2.21 During excavations at Elmswell Farm, the remains of an adult skeleton were recovered from an oval-shaped grave cut. This was located adjacent to and west of an enclosure ditch (F1201). Preservation of SK12006 was poor due to the soil conditions and the skeleton was 70% complete. It was aged as a possible mature adult and sexed as a possible male. SK12006 displayed degenerative changes both on the spine and the upper limbs. No grave goods or datable material were found in the burial.

6.3 Animal bone and shell

6.3.1 Animal remains comprising mammals, birds and marine molluscs (1,222 fragments, weighing 4.6kg) were recovered via hand collection during the excavations. Animal bone and shell recovered at the site during the excavations between 2018 and 2022 have already been assessed (see Russ 2019a; 2019b; 2020; Chorro-Giner 2022; Waterworth and Russ 2023) and will be referred to in the discussion of the role of animals at the site as a whole. This assessment includes quantification of the assemblage recovered in 2023, with identification at species level where possible, an assessment of significance and recommendation(s) for any further work.

Results

6.3.2 A total of 1,067 vertebrate and 155 marine mollusc remains were recovered via hand collection during excavations at Elsmwell Farm, East Yorkshire, in 2023 (Tables 4 to 6). Identified mammal remains (Table 4) included equid (Equus sp. - horse/donkey/mule), domestic cattle (Bos taurus), roe deer (Capreolus capreolus), pig (Sus domesticus), sheep/goat (Ovis aries/Capra hircus), dog/fox (Canis familiaris/Vulpes vulpes), and European rabbit (Oryctolagus cuniculus). Due to fragmentation and poor surface preservation a large proportion of the mammal bone assemblage was identified within

size categories at clade (ungulate) or class (mammal) level (n=910, 86.0%). Identified bird remains included domestic chicken (Gallus gallus domesticus) and landfowl (Galliformes), as well as specimens assigned to the size class of medium bird (Table 5). Identified marine mollusc remains (Table 6) included European oyster (Ostrea edulis), common cockle (Cerastoderma edule), mussel (Mytilus sp.), common limpet (Patella vulgaris) and common periwinkle (Littorina littorea).

Taphonomic assessment

6.3.3 Bone surface preservation varied across the assemblage, ranging from 'good' (2) to 'very poor' (5), on a scale of 1 to 5. Most specimens presented 'very poor' surface preservation (77%, n=823). Fragmentation was moderate to high throughout the assemblage, with mainly partial bones recovered. Evidence for butchery in the form of cut and chop marks were recorded on four specimens across the assemblage. Cut marks were recorded on one specimen identified as pig and two specimens which were assigned to the size category of large mammal, while chop marks recorded on one specimen also assigned to the size category of large mammal. Site-wide, evidence for carcass processing was minimal, although it is possible that further evidence of butchery may have been present but no longer visible due to poor bone surface preservation.

6.3.4 Evidence for carnivore gnawing activity was observed on eight specimens, representing equid and sheep/goat, as well as specimens assigned to the size classes of large and medium mammal. No evidence for rodent gnawing was observed on any of the specimens. Gnawing activity provides evidence for the presence of carnivores, such as domestic dogs and/or foxes, and that animal remains/carcasses were accessible to these animals at some point after their deposition. While the low number of faunal remains with evidence for gnawing at Elmswell may suggest that few remains were left exposed long enough to allow access to scavengers, it is again possible that evidence for animal interaction has been obscured by other taphonomic processes that have led to poor bone surface preservation.

6.3.5 Due to the high levels of fragmentation across the assemblage, only five bones were considered suitably complete to allow measurement for size estimation. These include two metacarpals identified as cattle, as well as two astragali and one metatarsal identified as equid. Bone fusion data for estimation of age at death was recorded for one or both epiphyses of 28 specimens, representing equid, cattle, roe deer, pig, sheep/goat, dog/fox, rabbit and domestic chicken. Five mandibles and 14 loose teeth were identified as suitable for providing age at death data, representing cattle, pig, and sheep/goat. A single mandibular canine tooth was identified as representing a male pig.

6.3.6 No skeletal abnormalities possibly resulting from disease, injury or age were recorded. Burnt and calcined bone was recovered from 10 contexts in Trench 13, totaling 13 fragments. None of the burnt and calcined bone could be identified to species but was consistent with the remains of medium and large mammals.



Discussion

6.3.7 The range of taxa identified at Elmswell Farm are consistent with those expected at a Roman settlement site in East Yorkshire. Equids (horse/donkey/mule) would have been kept for transportation and/or traction, cattle would have been kept for meat, traction, milk and/or leather, pigs for meat, sheep/goat for meat, milk and/or wool, and chickens for meat, eggs and/or feathers; these taxa are all common features within the assemblages of animal bones recovered from sites within the region and throughout Britain, being five of the main domestic livestock animals from the Iron Age period onwards (Baker and Worley 2019, 3). The bird remains identified as Galliformes (the landfowl order to which chickens belong) and medium bird could present further chicken remains or those of wild or other domestic birds. The species present, along with carcass processing evidence, suggest that at least some of the remains represented food waste.

6.3.8 The single specimen identified as canid may represent either domestic dog (Canis familiaris) or the presence of wild red fox (Vulpes vulpes); further analysis of the remains, using identification criteria and comparative reference material, may allow for identification to genus level and thus give further insight into the presence of domestic and/or wild canids at this site.

6.3.9 The presence of wild mammals is indicated by a total of four specimens, identified as roe deer (n=1) and rabbit (n=3). While it is possible that both of these species were hunted and subsequently consumed at the site as well as being exploited for raw material such as antler, skin and fur, the absence of evidence for human interaction precludes any further discussion. Furthermore, rabbits were only a very recent introduction into Britain during the Roman period, and the current evidence suggests that they were brought to Britain in small numbers and did not establish any wild or widespread populations at this time, this taking place only after their re-introduction in the late 11th century. As a burrowing animal that was rarely present during the Roman period, it is likely that the remains are a more recent intrusion in archaeological deposits.

6.3.10 The marine mollusc assemblage is also consistent with that expected for a Roman period site in the north of England, with oysters and mussels, and to a lesser extent cockles, being known dietary resources exploited during this period (Cool 2006), especially at sites located close to the to the coast like Elmswell. While edible, neither limpet nor periwinkle are species often associated with human diet at Roman period sites. It is thought that limpets were collected to be used as bait for fishing activities, but despite being located close to the coast, the distance of Elmswell from the sea precludes limpet and periwinkle shells discarded from bait collection as these would almost certainly have been left at the water's edge or at the fishing location. Cool (2006, 108) notes that the presence of smaller molluscs, such as periwinkle, may not be due to the consumption of these species, but that they could potentially have been brought to the site accidentally, attached to seaweed transported inland for use as fertilizer.

6.3.11 Overall, the species present, along with, albeit limited, carcass processing evidence, suggest that the majority of the remains represent food waste. Exceptions include the

equid, the meat of which was rarely consumed in Britain during the Roman period, the dog/fox and the likely intrusive rabbit remains. Due to the small size of the assemblage and the poor preservation of the remains, it is not possible to comment further on the role of animals at the site. As a stand-alone assemblage, it is of low local significance with limited future research potential beyond the information contained within this report and associated spreadsheet. However, on completion of the program of excavations, the remains recovered since 2017 should be considered in total. It is likely that the combined recovered material will allow for some further understanding of the roles of animals in human diet and economy, human-animal relationships and environmental conditions at Elmswell during the Roman period.

6.4 Pottery

6.4.1 A total of 3,207 sherds of pottery (34.283 kg, 46.75 RE, maximum vessel count 2,550) were recovered in total from 29 contexts and small unstratified groups. Tables 7-10 in Appendix D provide a full pottery catalogue as well as a summary of fabrics, forms and dating. A good range of pottery from the later 1st through to the 3rd century AD was recovered from the 2023 season; a small quantity of pottery dated to the late 3rd to 4th century AD from an unstratified group (U/S 3) suggests that activity on at least part of the site may have continued into the late Roman period although no Huncliff ware or saxon pottery was recorded from these excavations like that seen from earlier excavations in the parish (Congreve 1937 and 1938).

6.4.2 Much of the pottery was in a fresh condition and a few large assemblages were recovered but a few groups contained high proportions of sherds with high degrees of excoriation and/or abrasion that may be in part due to burial conditions. The average sherd weight of 10.69g was very close to the 10.84g average from the 2022 excavation. It should be noted that although the average sherd weight may be low in part due to a predominantly 'trowel point' excavation methodology that is more prevalent on community and university led excavations. Therefore simple comparisons of mean sherd weight between this project and commercial excavations on 'basic rural' sites in this area may be misleading (cf. Rowlandson and Fiske 2019b). A high proportion of the pottery from this site was recovered from pits and post-holes. Although there is the possibility that these groups contain some material re-deposited from middens the freshness of the assemblages and the prevolence of table ware in fresh condition from a number of the features was significant.

6.4.3 As has previously been noted about other assemblages from Elmswell in a significant proportion of the assemblage was made up of Ebor, or Ebor-type, wares that were manufactured at York or perhaps Malton. As the authors have stressed in previous assessments this group is highly significant as, rather than the high proportion of native tradition handmade wares and the 'jar heavy' assemblage that one might expect to encounter from 'basic rural' sites in this area (Evans 2001), there was instead a good range of legionary wares, imported amphora and samian suggesting that the site was provisioned from York itself. This association suggests that the settlement may have had some form of official function for at least the first half of the Roman period (see also site codes ELM19-22, Fernandes 2020; Rowlandson 2020a; 2020b; 2022; Rowlandson and Fiske 2019a and 2023).



Samian

6.4.4 SAM Samian, undifferentiated (Darling and Precious 2014). Thirty six sherds were recorded which were exclusively from open forms mostly bowls or dishes. Form types included plain bowl type Drag. 31, decorated bowl form Drag. 37 and cup form Drag. 33. A further three scraps of possible samian were also noted (SAM?). The range of samian present was not large but was more common than that seen at contemporary 'basic rural' sites from this area and reflects that the inhabitants of the site had access to imported fine wares into the 2nd century AD. The samian present should be identified to fabric and form level by a samian specialist as part of a final report and the name stamp and three small decorated fragments should also be identified.

Amphora

6.4.5 DR20 Dressel 20 globular amphorae (Tomber and Dore 1998, BAT AM 1). Ten body sherds plus a handle, all in gritty fabric except for a single burnt body sherd in fine buff ware. These large globular amphorae were typically used to transport olive based products such as oil from southern Spain although it appears that they were sometimes re-purposed to carry other goods.

6.4.6 SPAA Miscellaneous Southern Spanish amphora (Darling and Precious 2014). A single undifferentiated Southern Spanish amphora body sherd (Tomber and Dore 1998 fabric BAT AM1). This vessel may be from a Dressel 20 type vessel or another thinner walled type.

6.4.7 Although there was a limited quantity of amphora received from the 2023 investigations and the assemblage was not as diverse as that recorded from the 2022 season the presence of amphora sherds from the site supports the suggestion that the inhabitants of the site were well integrated in to the Roman economy.

Mortaria

6.4.8 A range of mortaria were recorded produced in Yorkshire and further afield. There were only a few vessels present but they suggested that the inhabitants had need for specialist Roman food preparation vessels.

6.4.9 MOCR Crambeck ware mortaria (Tomber and Dore 1998, CRA WH). A single sherd from a mortarium with a hammerhead rim in sandy pale fabric with a pinker core, probably a Crambeck product. This late Roman vessel was recovered from an unstratified context and may not be associated with the structural features recorded from the 2023 trenches.

6.4.10 MOMH1/MOMH2 Mancetter-Hartshill mortaria (broadly as Tomber and Dore 1998, MAH WH). Three sherds from Mancetter-Hartshill mortaria including one hooked (D15) type with 'mixed trituration grits (MOMH1) and one hammerhead rim with fired clay trituration grits (MOMH2). Mancetter-Hartshill mortaria were widely traded from production centres in the Midlands in the 2nd and 3rd century AD and examples of these types of vessel are found at York and other sites in eastern Yorkshire.



6.4.11 MOVR Verulamium mortaria (Tomber and Dore 1998, VER WH). A single hooked rim sherd possibly from the Verulamium region was recovered from pit 13016.

6.4.12 MOYO York mortarium (Monaghan 1997, broadly as Tomber and Dore 1998, EBO OX). A single white-slipped basal sherd with internal use wear was recovered from pit 13014. Previous investigations at Elmswell have found evidence of this vessel type. It is likely that this example reached the site along with the oxidised Ebor coarse wares.

6.4.13 MORT Miscellaneous mortaria. Two vessels were attributed to this group: one basal fragment had a fine fabric similar to the GRFF group (discussed below) in a fine pale grey/buff fabric with mixed trituration grits including sandstone, quartzite and granodiorite (Figure 20). The fabric of this vessel and the stones used as trituration gritts would suggest that it is a local product probably manufactured to the east of the Yorkshire Wolds or, less likely in the Vale of York utilising glacial deposits for the trituration grits. This vessel probably has a similar source to some of the grey wares isolated with the GRFF code.

6.4.14 A further vessel with an unusual buff fabric with a grooved MCO collared type rim similar to examples from Brough, York, and Malton was recorded from an unstratified context (cf. Darling 2000, No. 318; Darling 2005; Hartley in Bidwell and Croom 1997, No. 147). This vessel is possibly a local product but should be researched further to establish if it might be an import.

Other Fine wares

6.4.15 GFIN Fine grey ware (Darling and Precious 2014). A sherd from a beaker, the fabric is close to that utilised for Parisian ware (discussed below).

6.4.16 PART Parisian ware (Darling and Precious 2014). Thirty two sherds in fine reduced silty Parisian ware, many with the distinctive stamped decoration typical for this locally made fine ware (Figure 21 D16, D19, D20, cf. Elsdon 1982). Most of the vessels had a fabric similar to examples produced at Market Rasen (Tomber and Dore 1998, LMR FR) although it should be noted that fine silty grey wares are difficult to provenance with certainty, and they have been manufactured elsewhere but in the same tradition. It is recommended that these stamped sherds should be recorded and discussed in more detail as part of a final report on the pottery from the site.

6.4.17 CC1 Colour-coated wares with pale light-fired cores (eg. Tomber and Dore 1998, LNV CC). Ten sherds, all from beakers including a cornice-rimmed example (D04) were recorded.

6.4.18 CC3 Colour-coated ware with an orange oxidised core, similar to vessels produced at Brough on Humber and elsewhere including Colchester and perhaps elsewhere in Yorkshire (Darling 2005). Fifty five sherds from a maximum of eight vessels were recorded in total including at least two cornice-rimmed rough-cast beakers (BKCOR, D14, D52).

6.4.19 EBOR3 Fine Ebor ware (Monaghan 1997, E3, Perrin 1977). Eight fine oxidised sherds were recorded, mostly from beakers, plus a larger jar or beaker with a bead rim (JBKBR).

6.4.20 **EBOR6** Ebor Parchment ware (Monaghan 1997, E6, Perrin 1977). A single paint-decorated sherd from a copy of the samian form 37 bowl was recorded (B37, York form BH1, D18). Other examples of this type of vessel have been recorded from earlier excavations at Elmswell (Corder 1940, Fig. 10. 42-5).

Oxidised wares

6.4.21 **EBOR1** Ebor ware 1 (Monaghan 1997, E6, Perrin 1977, Tomber and Dore 1998, EBO OX). Ninety four mostly abraded sherds were recorded, one notable form was a flagon with an expanded top ring (FTR11, D31). A frilled tazza sherd in this fabric was also noted.

6.4.22 **OX** Miscellaneous oxidised wares, production source uncertain. Nine abraded sherds including one from a bowl or dish with a grooved rim (BDGR).

6.4.23 **OXFIN** Miscellaneous fine oxidised ware. A single basal sherd.

6.4.24 **OXWS** Oxidised white-slipped wares, probably Ebor white-slipped ware (Monaghan 1997, Tomber and Dore 1998, EBO WS). Thirty two abraded sherds were recorded, most notably from a pulley-rimmed flagon (York form FP, D54). A frilled tazza rim sherd in this fabric was also noted.

Reduced wares

6.4.25 **BB1** Black Burnished ware 1 (Tomber and Dore 1998 DOR BB1). One hundred and eleven sherds were recorded and consisted of a range of forms that were produced in the mid to late 2nd century AD. Bowl types were recorded and typically had chamfered bases, lipped rims and acute lattice decoration externally. One sherd from a bowl or dish had external burnished scroll decoration. Jar forms consisted of everted (JEV) or out-curved rim types (JEVC) many with acute burnished lattice of types typical of those produced in the mid to late 2nd century AD (Gillam 1976) amany with burnished lattice decoration, a notable form was a beaker with an everted rim (D56). Black Burnished wares were imported to the north of England in the first half of the 2nd century AD (Holbrook and Bidwell 1991) and the forms recorded from this investigation could all fit a similar 2nd century AD date range with no material present likely to date to the 3rd century AD.

6.4.26 **BBT** Black Burnished type ware, origin uncertain. Production of Black Burnished wares is know from a growing number of sources in southern England and the north (Bidwell and Holbrook 1991, Bidwell and Croom 2012). The sherds in this group could have been Dorset or locally produced wares. Most of the sherds attributed to this group were very small and a beaker and a bowl were the only two forms that could be identified.

6.4.27 **NORBB1** Norton Black Burnished wares (cf. Bidwell and Croom 2012). Ten sherds including a lipped bowl with burnished lattice decoration from ditch 13004, a beaker with a bead rim from ditch 13004 and beaker with a bead rim with an everted rim from ditch 13100 (BKEV, D59). This industry appears to have been active in the 2nd century AD. It is possible that some of the material attributed to the BB1 fabric group may have also been produced more locally rather than in Dorset.



6.4.28 CRGR Crambeck grey ware (Tomber and Dore 1998, CRA GR). Two sherds from a single very abraded base were recorded from ditch 12003. The presence of this late Roman fabric from unstratified contexts suggests that Roman activity may have continued on nearby into the Roman period but it is not certain that the structures on the site survived into the later 3rd century AD.

6.4.29 GREY Miscellaneous grey wares. This code has been used for medium sandy grey wares that could not be attributed to one of the other existing grey ware fabric types. This category probably includes products from the environs of York (Monaghan 1997), Stamford Bridge (Lawton 2009), Norton/Malton (eg. Hayes and Whitley 1950; Bidwell and Croom 2012), Lockington (Lloyd 1968), perhaps northern Lincolnshire and the Holme on Spalding Moor to Brough areas. For this report the finer fabrics have been separated out with the GRFF code discussed further below.

6.4.30 Three hundred and seventy seven sherds, comprising 11.75% of the assemblage by sherd count. Key vessels were a B334 carinated vessel with lattice decoration on the neck (D11), an everted rim jar with lattice decoration (D12), a necked jar (York form JA, D26), vessels with low carinations and upright rims (B29, York form BB, D36 and D42), a narrow necked jar (D37), a large clumsily made B321V bowl (D40), and a biconical jar (D48). It was noticeable that bowls and carinated jar/bowl forms were well represented. Jar forms present were mostly necked, everted or rusticated types. The date range of the grey ware suggested most of the recorded vessels dated to the later 1st to earlier 3rd century AD with none of the typical type fossils of late Roman groups such as straight sided bead and flanged bowls, plain rimmed dishes or Dales-type lid-seated jars.

6.4.31 GREYC Coarse grey ware. Nineteen sherds from a folded jar or beaker in a coarse grey ware fabric were recorded from a group dated to the later 2nd to mid 3rd century AD (JBKFO, D06, ditch 13004, fill 13003).

6.4.32 GRFF Grey, fairly fine reduced wares. This code was introduced to recorded the finer grey wares from the site with fine sandy fabrics and mica evident in the surface. It should be noted that the grey wares from the previous years were not divided into this category and were 'lumped' within the GREY ware group. A total of 1,379 sherds, comprising 43.00% of the assemblage by sherd count were attributed to this code. Key vessels were biconical jars (JBICO and JBICOA, D01, D02, D43), a jar or beaker with impressed chevron decoration (JBK, D03, Figure 22), a large jar (JL, D05), carinated bowls as York form BB (B29 or BCAR, D09, D10, D50), further carinated bowls (D39, as Elsdon 1987, Fig. 67.214; D49, as Darling and Precious 2014 No. 1160 and Rigby and Stead 1976, Fig. 87.152), B334 carinated vessels (D17, D51, D61; Figure 23), a lipped bowl with lattice decoration (BFL, D27, D35), everted rim beakers mimicking Black Burnished ware forms (BKEV, D30, D38, D47), necked jars (JNK, D32, D33), a plain rimmed dish (DPR?, D41) and a lid (L, D45). Bowls, beakers and carinated bowl forms were more numerous than jars. The jars that were recorded were mostly necked or narrow necked types with a few rusticated vessels, a storage jar with burnished lattice decoration and a lug-handled jar also noted. Lids were also fairly well represented with sherds from a maximum of ten vessels recorded. The date range would suggest the fabric was mostly produced in the later 1st to perhaps earlier 2nd century AD. The repertoire of the potters using this fabric appeared to be local in style

and similar to forms known to have been produced at York and Malton although sherds from up to nine of the Lincolnshire carinated B334 type were also recorded. As such it is possible that this group included products from sites such as South Ferriby on the south bank as well as the products of production sites in eastern Yorkshire. The chevron decorated vessel appears to either be an attempt to mimic Parisian ware decorative styles although may not have been produced with a traditional stamp like examples produced in northern Lincolnshire (Elsdon 1982). The condition of the decorated sherds precludes certain identification. The rare rock fragments evident in some of the vessels from this group and the similarity of the GRFF fabric to the handmade IASA3 fabric used for making jars leads the authors to suggest a fairly local production source for the GRFF fabric.

Quartz and non-soluble rock-gritted handmade wares

6.4.33 Handmade vessels gritted with non-soluble rock-gritted wares were common (ETW, Rigby 2004). Much of this material may have been produced using clays tempered with fragments of erratic rocks from deposits such as the Boulder Clay. A range of the IASA types were also probably locally produced with IASA1 produced with a sandy clay matrix and IASA3 produced with a finer clay matrix with mostly fine sand to silt sand sized quartz evident. All of the vessels in these groups were probably produced in the Roman period.

6.4.34 IASA1 Handmade quartz sand-gritted coarse wares. This code was used to characterise the handmade quartz-gritted wares that did not have any obvious rock-inclusions although it is likely that they were produced at a similar source to the ETW4 sherds which had sparse or rare none-soluble rock-gritted inclusions. Thirty three sherds were attributed to this group including two narrow-necked jars (JNN, D28, D29).

6.4.35 IASA3 Handmade fine sand-gritted wares. These vessels were smooth and 'soapy' with a few rare larger quartz inclusions, mica was also evident on the surfaces of these vessels. The fabric of these vessels appeared similar to the wheel made GRFF vessels. Two hundred and forty sherds, comprising 7.48% of the assemblage by sherd count were attributed to the IASA3 group. Key vessels were handmade jars with tall everted rims (JEVT, D07, D13, D44, D62; Figure 24), jars with upright rims (JUP, D21, D57), a necked jar (D22), and an everted rim jar (JEV, D34). A few sherds from lids and a bowl were also recorded. The forms in this group appeared similar to handmade vessels seen amongst Roman assemblages dating to the later 1st to earlier 3rd century AD in the area such as Rudston villa, Hawling Road and Shiptonthorpe (Rigby 1980, Evans 1999 and 2006). It was also noted that a range of the handmade jars from this site had roughly wiped shoulders up to the rims presumably produced during joining the clay from individual slabs or 'coils' that were not smoothed prior to firing.

6.4.36 ETW1 Rock-tempered handmade ware with large quartzite inclusions. A single handmade body sherd was recorded in this ware group.

6.4.37 ETW2 Rock-tempered with moderate coarse smashed pebbles as temper commonly including basic igneous rocks. One hundred and forty five handmade sherds, comprising 4.52% of the assemblage by sherd count. The jar types present were necked, tall everted rim and everted rimmed types. A notable vessel was a handmade

jar with a tall everted rim (JEVT, D24). All of this material was recorded from contexts dating to the Roman period and these vessels represent locally made handmade vessels during the Roman period.

6.4.38 ETW4 Handmade none-soluble rock-gritted ware with sparse or rare rock grits, a finer version of ETW2. Three hundred and sixty nine handmade sherds were attributed to this group, comprising 11.51% of the assemblage by sherd count. Key vessels were handmade jars with tall everted rims (JEVT, including D25, D53), an unusual lid or bowl (LB, D55), and a necked jar (JNK, D60). All of this material was recorded from contexts dating to the Roman period and these vessels represent locally made handmade vessels during the Roman period.

6.4.39 IASST Handmade sandstone and grit-tempered ware. Five sherds mainly from jars with everted rims (layer 13002) or tall everted rim types (layer 13001). All of these sherds were recorded from groups dated to the Roman period.

Calcareous wares

6.4.40 The pottery in this group would equate to Didsbury's 'none-soluble rock-gritted wares' group H2 (eg. Didsbury 2013a and b). The fabrics have been divided as best as possible by the individual types of inclusion present. However, as many of the sherds were in poor condition it was not possible to successfully identify all of the inclusion types. As has been noted for a number of other sites to the east of the Yorkshire Wolds calcareous-gritted wares were present in smaller quantities than those gritted with none-soluble rock (Didsbury 2013a). The material recorded chronologically fits in the later 1st to earlier 3rd century AD. No examples of vessels in the Huntcliff tradition were noted and there were no feature sherds present that would support a date in the 4th century AD.

6.4.41 CALG Calcite-gritted ware of uncertain type. Fifty-nine handmade sherds from jars including a globular example with a tall everted rim from pit 13014 (JEVT, D46). None of the sherds from the 2023 season appear to be in the Huntcliff tradition and all of the material presen probably represents material produced in the 1st to 3rd century AD.

6.4.42 CALGS Sparry mineral calcite gritted ware. Ninety-three handmade sherds mostly from jars, but also included a bowl or dish (BD, D08). These handmade wares were probably produced along the north-western edge of the Yorkshire Wolds and at sites in the Vale of Pickering. Pottery was produced in these areas from the prehistoric period until the very end of the Roman period (Rigby 2004). Earlier 'Knapton types' developed in the later Iron Age and continued to be used into the Roman period (Corder and Kirk 1932; Rowlandson 2012); latterly in the 4th century AD a greater level of wheel finishing and more consistent firing developed with the 'proto-Huntcilff' and Huntcliff type vessels which became distributed more widely throughout the north of England (Swan 2002; Bidwell and Croom 2010; Rowlandson and Fiske 2021). None of the sherds from the 2023 season appear to be in the Huntcliff tradition and all of the material present probably represents material produced in the 1st to 3rd century AD.

6.4.43 LOOL Handmade Oolitic limestone tempered ware. Examples of this fabric have previously been noted from the project. Production of these types of fabrics most

commonly occurred to the southern end of the Yorkshire Wolds near out-crops of the Cave Oolite. Five handmade body sherd were recorded from ditch 12003 and pit 13008.

Grog-tempered

6.4.44 GROG Grog-gritted ware. Eleven sherds mostly from a single large jar featuring Late La Tène III style combed decoration was recorded from post-hole 13077 and pits 13012 and 13014. An early Roman date would appear likely for this vessel.

6.4.45 IAGROG Handmade grog-tempered ware. Eighteen sherds including four from a globular jar with an everted rim featuring an external bevel were recorded from pit 13016 (D23). It appears likely that this fabric was produced sometime in the 1st to 2nd century AD.

Post-Roman pottery

6.4.46 MED Misc Medieval pottery. A single abraded sherd possibly of medieval date was recorded from layer 13001.

Other material

6.4.47 MISC- Miscellaneous pottery. Six undifferentiated ceramic scraps were recorded.

6.4.48 FCLAY- Fired clay. Ten assorted fragments including a possible piece of daub.

6.4.49 STONE- Stones isolated during recording. A small number of stones were noted during recording and data is held in the archive table. Fragments of shale or similar black rock were recorded from context 13032 but it was not certain if this fragment had originally been from a vessel or object. A fragment of flint, possibly unworked, was recorded from context 13097.

Discussion

6.4.50 This assemblage is an interesting addition to the groups already recovered from the scheme and found further evidence of activity on the site in the later 1st to 3rd centuries AD. Consideration of the pottery from the scheme as a whole at the end of the project will provide good insights into the significance of the settlement at Elmswell and the patterns of pottery distribution in the area.

6.5 CBM and fired clay

6.5.1 There were 118 fragments, 1060g, of ceramic building materials. This included 116 fragments, 1008g collected as bulk finds from stratifies contexts. There were 226 fragments 1861g of burnt clay all recovered as bulk finds from stratified contexts. The material was examined by context, grouped by fabric class (D00 – Burnt clay, T00 – Roman or later CBM; TZ00 – Post Med CXBM) and forms identified where possible. Metrics recorded were number of fragments, weight in grams, and number of corners (corners with complete dimensions were recorded in mm). The full catalogue is shown in Table 11.



6.5.2 The breakdown of the CBM and burnt clay by Context type is shown in Table 12. The majority of the material is from pits with ditches making up only a minor component. This contrasts with the results of previous seasons at Elmswell and could indicate that the area explored by Trench 13 especially had some light industrial function or intensive cooking or baking.

6.5.3 The burnt clay was extremely fragmentary and included possible lining and daub, which could be from ovens. There were also a group of possible mud bricks, as with previous seasons, these could have been used in baking but also supplementing CBM forms for other purposes.

6.5.4 The CBM was fragmentary in nature but identifiable forms included a Roman brick and a flat fragment which may have derived from a tegula. The sooting on the flat fragment suggests a possible use as a hearth or similar. The Roman material (T22.1) is likely from Malton/Norton industries. There is an unstratified fragment of pan tile which is probably 18th century or later in date.

6.5.5 This is a relatively large group of very fragmented burnt clay and some CBM. The majority of the material is from Trench 13, with the majority of the material coming from pits, in contrast with the CBM and burnt clay recovered form earlier seasons at Elmswell.

6.5.6 Whilst so much material from pits may indicate a light industrial function, the presence of possible mud brick and Roman Brick which could have been used as baking stones means that the possibility that the area of Trench 13 was particularly dedicated to baking or cooking can be considered.

6.6 Industrial waste

6.6.1 The previous excavations 2020 to 2022 produced a small amount of residues (less 0.5kg), of smithing slag, fired clay, cinder and some iron ore (McDonnell 2020, 2022 and 2023). A brief overview of the material from the 2023 excavation is provided, followed by a detailed description and quantification. The significance of the material is discussed, and recommendations made for further work. The assessment report follows the guidelines issued by Historic England (Dungworth 2015, 13-14). A very small assemblage of cinder and a possible sherd of crucible were recovered from the excavations.

6.6.2 Table 13 lists the count and weight of the slag types present on the site, no magnetic fractions, e.g. containing hammerscale were recovered from the sieving programme. The assemblage comprises 10 fragments of cinder, and a possible fragment of a crucible. Both faces of the crucible fragment were analysed by HH-XRF, and traces of copper and zinc were detected, typical of background levels detected in the clay. Neither face showed any enhancement in non-ferrous metal elements. This may indicate that the sherd is a fragment of a crucible that had only been used once from an area of the crucible not exposed to liquid metal/alloy. Alternatively, it could be a fragment of a clay mould rather than a crucible, but it is heavily fired, which is typical of crucibles but not moulds.



6.6.3 The current assemblage is consistent with the residues from the previous excavations which have recovered c. 400 grams of cinder or cinder-like material. The presence of a possible crucible or mould fragment is evidence for non-ferrous metalworking on the site. All the residues were recovered from two adjacent Romano-British pits.

6.7 Registered finds and metalwork

6.7.1 This section addresses a group of 86 finds (registered and bulk) from the excavations consisting of three bone objects, five copper-alloy objects, one lead-alloy object and 77 iron objects. 82 finds came from Trench 13, one find came from Trench 12 and three finds were unstratified (U/S). They were all discovered by hand during excavation; no finds from samples are included in the assemblage.

6.7.2 Date-wise we can assign the vast majority of the assemblage to the mid to late Roman period, that is c. 3rd to 4th century AD. Objects that could be identified and dated with certainty (i.e. coins U/S 1 and U/S 2 and bone objects SF184 and SF195) date from c. 250-4th century AD. Most of the iron assemblage, such as the structural nails, brackets and other fittings were assigned a wider date range (from the Roman to the medieval period) because typologically, Roman iron fittings, brackets and nails are often indistinguishable from later early medieval and medieval examples. However, the contexts at Elmswell Farm strongly suggest a later Roman date for the iron bulk finds (Table 14).

6.7.3 The general date and character of the assemblage is unquestionable domestic, with the vast majority of objects likely accidental losses and discarded organic objects (wood, leather or similar) with iron nails, fittings and bindings still attached. Coins, clothes fasteners, belt/strap mounts, jewellery and hair ornaments/pins are generally regarded as accidental losses. The domestic character of the assemblage is evidenced by the lack of military items such as armour, weapons or projectiles. All iron objects are structural, that is nails of different sizes, binding strips or brackets from doors, boxes and smaller caskets, as well as a fragmentary loop hinge and several knife fragments. The knife fragments come from small single edged knives for domestic use. Except for a very small number of hobnails which may have come from Roman military boots, the assemblage is clearly domestic, possibly from one single household.

6.7.4 All objects are damaged or have survived in a fragmentary or corroded state, but no breakage has occurred since their retrieval and arrival in the specialist's office. The conserved loop hinge SF190 (ID4) arrived in two joining fragments that show a clean break, but the break is not fresh. Several finds bags of bulk iron contain two or more fragments each: 27 finds bags contained one object, but ten bags of bulk iron contained more than one object or fragments of different or the same object(s). ID-14 contained a nail and a hobnail; ID-15 a fitting and three nails, ID-18 a fitting, a likely knife blade fragment and three nails, ID-19, ID-20 and ID-21 contained three, two and four nails respectively, ID-25 two nails and a fitting and ID-26, ID-31 and ID-35 contained two nails each. The nails that were accompanied by fittings were originally not necessarily part of or attached to the fittings/brackets as lack of rivet/nail holes or their different sizes of nail/rivet holes in the fittings may suggest.

Materials

6.7.5 The single-find- and bulk assemblage from Elmswell Farm submitted for assessment is made up of four material groups: bone, copper-alloy, lead-alloy and iron (Table 15). Almost all of the objects submitted for assessment were made from iron (N=77), but there were also five copper-alloy objects (or fragments thereof), one lead object and three bone objects. No composite objects survive, e.g. copper-alloy with enamel or glass, and none of the alloys show any evidence for gilding or tinning. The only find that would have originally been part of a composite object is the bone knife handle fragment (SF195/ID-6), but no remains of the likely iron knife tang (or any corrosion products) survive on the inside of the object.

Bone

6.7.6 There are three bone objects: two hair pin fragments (ID-2/SF184 and ID-5/SF194) and a fragment of a bone knife handle (ID-6/SF195). The knife handle (ID-6/SF195) was likely made from one hollowed-out bone rather than two semi-circular bone halves riveted together around the likely iron tang or plate. The handle fragment is decorated with simple incised lines: two circular lines or grooves near the surviving finished end and plaid (crisscross) pattern around the body of the handle. The handle fragment is smooth and shows wear on the outside surface. Whilst only the lower half and tip remain of pin ID-5/SF194, pin ID-2/SF184 survives almost in its entirety with only the tip broken off. Both shanks are smooth and undecorated, but ID-2/SF184 retains a carved elongated bead-and-reel-shaped head (Crummy Type 6).

Copper-alloy

6.7.7 There are five copper-alloy objects, two of which are coins (ID-7 and ID-8/U/S1 and 2). There is also one pin fragment (ID-37/U/S) with a plain more or less spherical head of Crummy Type 3. The remaining two objects only survive in very small fragments and flakes. The fragments are heavily corroded and identifications are tentative but likely evidence for rivet holes and a potentially finished edge suggest ID-10 and ID-24 may have been leather or box mounts/fittings made from thin copper-alloy sheet.

Lead-alloy

6.7.8 ELM23 produced only one lead-alloy object (ID-33). It is made from cast lead-alloy of amorphous shape and is likely casting waste/residue.

Iron

6.7.9 Most of the objects submitted for assessment are made from iron (N=77). There are three SFs (183, 187, 190) and 74 bulk iron finds, mostly structural nails and fittings/brackets.

Condition

6.7.10 Except for the already conserved single finds, the iron bulk assemblage is in fair to poor condition. All iron bulk objects show varying degrees of degradation and corrosion. The lead-alloy object ID-33 is in fair condition, as is the copper alloy pin



head ID-37. However, while this pin fragment's condition can be stabilised and improved through conservation, the fragmentary copper-alloy objects ID-10 and ID-24 survive in too poor condition to be preserved.

Identification and dating

6.7.11 Most of the assemblage of bone, copper alloy, lead-alloy and iron single and bulk finds from Elmswell Farm were recovered from excavated contexts; there were only three unstratified finds: coins ID-7 and ID-8 and pin fragment ID-37. The finds from excavated contexts came from Trenches 12 and 13 in Freshlands field (Swain 2023). The site narrative (supplied by DigVentures) identifies the contexts as being related to two phases of an N-S aligned Romano-British timber building. This dating and site character is reflected in the site finds discussed below. Parallels for identifiable ornaments, fixtures and fittings were drawn from securely dated contexts elsewhere (e.g. Crummy 1983, Manning 1976; 1986, Reece and James 2000 and Humphreys 2021). Generally, iron tools and fittings do not change much in size and shape over the centuries and it is possible – although unlikely – that some of the iron nails and brackets are later and intrusive (Goodall, I.H. 2011, 40; 105ff; 200-211)

Coins

6.7.12 The assemblage includes two late Roman issues: a radiate or antoninianus of Tetricus I dating from c. AD270-273 with a PAX AVG reverse (RIC V (Tetricus), 100) and a later Constantinian nummus with a GLORIA EXERCITVS reverse (two standards) dating from c. AD330-335 (Reece and James 2000, nos. 37 and 97). The obverse of the nummus is too worn to be certain with regards to the ruler but it certainly was a member of the House of Constantine. The mint of the nummus was likely Lyon with PL[G] in the exergue.

Hair pins

6.7.13 There are three hair pin fragments amongst the finds assemblage from Elsmwell Farm. Pin fragments ID-2 (SF184) and ID-37 certainly come from hair pins whilst ID-3 (SF194) might be a needle. Only the lower half and tip of ID-3 (SF194) survive and the lower part of Roman needles and pins are virtually undistinguishable. Bone hair pin SF184 retains its elongated-bead-and-reel head which identifies it as a hair pin of Crummy Type 6 dating from the later 3rd or 4th century (Crummy 1983, 24-25). The U/S copper-alloy hair pin fragment ID-37 with a simple pointed-globular/onion-shaped head is a more common type with a longer date range of 2nd to 4th centuries AD (ibid, 21-22).

Knives

6.7.14 There are three iron finds (ID-16; ID-17; ID-18) which are potentially fragmentary remains of blades of small domestic knives. ID-18 possibly retains a tang and might be a knife of Manning Type 6B (Manning 1985, fig. 28). However, this identification is not certain due its poor condition; it could also be some sort of fitting or bracket. Blade fragments ID-16 and ID-17 (the latter was found with iron nails and a fragmentary fitting/mount) have an elongated triangular cross section suggesting they came from small domestic single-edged knives (Manning 1976, nos. 121-126; Manning 1985, fig. 28). Bone handle fragment ID-6/SF195 probably comes from a



Manning D-type knife with a cylindrical bone or ivory handle (ibid.; Crummy 1983, 107-108). Iron fragment ID-32 appears rounded, with finished edges and (if not a bracket or fitting) could be identified as a knife plate. However, there are no apparent rivet holes that would have held two or four organic bone or ivory handle plates in places around the plate.

Small tool

6.7.15 ID-36 is pointed oval in shape, with likely finished edges and perhaps a loop or broken-off spike at one end. It is likely a tool handle (perhaps a cosmetic or surgical tool) or perhaps a cleat or clip, which is a fastener used for leather (e.g. PAS-IDs: ASHM-4AA5EC; OXON-D2E682, PUBLIC-7EA058). The oval shape is also suggestive of some sort of ornamental, shaped terminal or else, a modelling tool (Manning 1985, C10).

Cold chisel/punch

6.7.16 SF183 (ID-1) has been conserved and can be identified as a Roman wood-working tool, that is a cold chisel or rock wedge, although its narrowing blade make its identification as the former perhaps more likely (Manning 1976, no. 61; Humphreys 2021, 336-337; 424, COL01-09).

Loop hinge

6.7.17 Object SF190/ID-4 is identified as a box or chest fitting, probably a loop hinge that may have been part of the opening/closing hinge (Crummy 1983, no. 2199 or similar). It has a flat rectangular cross-section and the smaller fragment curls at the short end, likely around the bar from the other hinge part.

Latch Lifter?

6.7.18 Iron object ID-30 is a long strip of iron, likely with an oval or rectangular cross-section. It likely had a rounded, slightly broadened, finished terminal, possibly with a loop. The other end is missing but size and shape of the fragment suggest it may have been a latch lifter, or possibly a handle of some sort, perhaps for a bucket (Manning 1966, no 33; Manning 1985, Plate 47; Crummy 1983, 124, esp. nos. 4144-4145).)

Fittings and brackets

6.7.19 There are a number of copper-alloy and iron objects that identified as mount, brackets or fittings that were attached to a wooden box, casket or chest or a larger wooden item such as a door, window shutter, barrel or bucket. The two copper-alloy objects ID-10 and ID-24 survive only as fragments and are in very poor condition. However, some of the fragments retain very small rivet holes and a wavy finished edge which makes identification as possible box or casket mounts possible (Crummy 1983, 85-87, esp. nos. 2171-2177; Riha 2001, Abb.14). Alternatively, they could be the remains of belt or strap fittings: unfortunately, their poor condition makes a definite identification impossible at present.

6.7.20 Four iron bulk objects are likely box/door fittings or brackets for other wooden objects, such as barrels or buckets. ID-28 appears slightly curved along the vertical axis and



may have been part of a bracket for a circular object such as a bucket or barrel (MacGregor 1978, Fig 26). ID-3 (SF183), ID-9 and ID-15 are likely brackets or fittings from boxes or doors. The fragment amongst ID-15 retains a large rectangular somewhat frayed a nail hole suggesting it was used on a larger less ornamental item of furniture or door.

Handle?

6.7.21 ID-34 survives in extremely bad condition, but the curved shape and circular cross-section likely suggest that it is a vessel or box/casket handle (Crummy 1983, 80-82).

Hobnails

6.7.22 There are only two hobnails amongst the assemblage: ID-12 and ID14. Both came from the same context (13013). The nails are small and as they are the only ones from the entire assemblage it appears likely that they came from the same sole/item of footwear. The lack of hobnails overall is also suggestive of a Roman civilian rather than military site.

Nails

6.7.23 There are 30 nails or nail fragments amongst the iron bulk assemblage from Elmswell Farm. Most nails are smaller types with a head diameter of 12-13mm but there are also some more substantial examples with head diameters of 15-18mm (ID-27, ID-22, ID-31). The vast majority of nail shanks have a square cross-section. Most nails from Elmswell Farm will be structural in some way, having come off wooden planks, beams or doors/shutters. Some of the smaller ones may have attached brackets or mounts to larger boxes or trunks (Manning 1976, 41ff; Manning 1985, Fig. 32, Type 1).

Unidentified object

6.7.24 Lead-alloy object ID-33 has no clear shape/form and is likely casting residue or casting waste.

Dating

6.7.25 The iron bulk and bone, copper-alloy, lead-alloy and iron single finds from Elmswell farm form a well-defined Romano-British assemblage. The two coins and the almost complete bone pin date from the later Roman period (3rd to 4th centuries), but unfortunately the coins were unstratified. However, the almost complete bone pin (ID-2/SF184) and the bone knife handle fragment (ID-6/SF195) date contexts (13032) and (13017) to the late Roman period. There are no evidently earlier finds amongst the assemblage (i.e. Late Iron Age/early Roman), and no later objects, dating from the early medieval or medieval period. However, it must be pointed out here that, generally, iron tools and fittings do not change much in size and shape over the centuries and it is possible – although unlikely – that some of the iron nails and brackets or fittings are later and intrusive (Goodall, I.H. 2011, 40; 105ff; 200-211).



Discussion

6.7.26 In general terms, the iron, bone, copper alloy and lead alloy assemblages from Elmswell Farm, East Riding of Yorkshire, offer new insight into the Roman period of the area around the town of Driffield. The large number of iron nails and brackets/fittings is suggestive of a domestic rather than military site, perhaps the homestead of a single household. There are no military items such as weapons or armour and only two hobnails, which would be highly unusual for a military site. There are no brooches or other items of jewellery and no obvious evidence for mounts and other fittings for personal adornment. There are no items that suggest games or other times or even small domestic manufacture of clothing or similar – unless pin fragment (ID-5/SF195) was a needle rather than a hair pin. The bulk iron and small finds assemblage mirror a small household whose members perhaps carried out only rudimentary repairs on the house and very few craft activities (such as spinning or weaving) within the house.

6.8 Glass

6.8.1 In total 14.8g of glass were found. One small blue/green fragment (sf 196 from context 13089) appears to be modern as the preserved surfaces strongly suggest it was mould pressed. The remaining fragments are either certainly or probably Roman.

6.8.2 Most of the glass (12.3g) is good quality colourless glass of the 2nd to 3rd centuries. Sfs 182 and 192 from F1305 consist of several fragments of a wheel-cut beaker of the early to mid 2nd century. The rim fragments sf 188 (context 13007) and sf 189 (context 13012) come from a cylindrical cup with double base ring and plausibly are from the same vessel though coming from different rubbish pits. These cups were extremely common and are found on a wide range of site types.

6.8.3 Other colours are much less common and are represented by single fragments in pale yellow/brown (sf 186 context 13013) and blue/green (sf 193 context 13007). A 1st to 2nd century date would be appropriate for the former and a 1st to 3rd century one for the latter.

6.8.4 Though this is a very small assemblage, it will be useful for helping to establish the date of the occupation within the 2nd to 3rd centuries (Research Aim 2). It may also help establish the nature of the occupation. It shows an unusual profile, dominated as it is by colourless table wares. In addition to the cup and beaker already noted, a small body fragments with wheel-cut lines (sf 186 / ID 5), which was found in the same pit as the wheel-cut beaker, is likely to have come from a different vessel because of the difference in the cutting. Blue/green glass which normally dominates any 1st to 3rd century assemblage is represented by one small fragment, and the normally ubiquitous square bottle is entirely absent. When the vessel glass is set within the context of the other material culture recovered, these odd features may be explicable.

6.9 Stone

6.9.1 In total approximately 101 fragments of stone were sent for assessment. These came from three contexts, one in Trench 12 and two in Trench 13. Context (13011) contained lava fragments weighing 770g in total. The largest fragment is part of a heavily tapered



rotary quern, probably an upper stone, but no original surfaces survive due to degradation. The rest of the lava is even more heavily degraded, some breaking down into dust, and nothing can be said about form or function. The same is true of 252g of lava from context (13013), which is all small friable fragments.

6.9.2 A small piece of granodiorite was recovered from context 12002. This has part of a smooth surface but appears to be a fragment of pebble or cobble: there are no signs that the stone has been humanly modified. There is no reason to suppose it is an import to the region because a range of pebbles and cobbles are included within glacial deposits across the region, often finding their way into river systems etc.

6.9.3 Given the association with the Roman ladder settlement, the lava quern indicates cereal processing of probable Roman date in the vicinity, although lava querns can be of post-Roman date also. Lava querns are less commonly found in this region than further south in Roman Britain, but do occur, for example, at Castleford (Banfield 2023).

6.10 Environmental

6.10.1 Twenty-four flots retrieved from environmental samples taken during the excavations were selected for assessment alongside hand collected charcoal from seven contexts and terrestrial and freshwater mollusc shell from twenty-one contexts. The flots were sorted and the extracted environmental remains and hand-collected material assessed in February 2024.

Light fraction/flot

6.10.2 Twenty-four flots were assessed, weighing a total of 53.11g (Table 16). The flots contained charred plant remains (including microcharcoal), modern roots, untransformed seeds, mollusc shell, earthworm capsules, insect remains, foraminifera and fragments of slag (Table 16). The samples were taken from features in Trenches 12 (n=2) and 13 (n=22). In Trench 12 the two samples were taken from the fills of Grave [12008] (context 12007) and enclosure ditch [12003] (context 12009), and in Trench 13 from the fills of 16 postholes, five pits and one ditch, all associated with Romano-British period activity at the site.

Hand-collected material

6.10.3 Charcoal was hand collected from seven contexts in Trench 13 (Table 18), 148.0g in total, while the remains of terrestrial snails were hand collected from 17 contexts in Trenches 12 (n=2) and 13 (n=15), Table 19. Two-hundred and forty-eight fragments of hand-collected terrestrial snail shell represented aa minimum number of individuals of 97 (Table 19) and added to the terrestrial and freshwater mollusc remains recovered from the bulk environmental samples.

Charred cereal grains and seeds

6.10.4 Nineteen samples contained charred cereal grains and/or seeds (Tables 16 and 17). The charred condition of these remains, alongside the presence of cereals increases the likelihood that this material represents waste associated with human activity rather

than any naturally occurring remains. Nine samples contained cereal grains representing hulled barley (Hordeum vulgare), wheat (Triticum sp.), rye (Secale cereale) and/or oat (Avena sp.), as well as a further 31 cereal grains that could not be attributed to any particular species due to poor preservation caused by charring. The remaining charred seeds represented weed species including goosefoot (Chenopodium sp.), sedges (Carex sp.), cleavers (Galium sp.), knotweed (Persicaria sp.) and water lettuce (Pistia stratiotes). Five charred seeds and one spikelet from four samples were unidentified (Table 17) due to poor preservation by charring. The presence of the charred weeds seeds suggests that these species may have been gathered alongside the cereals during the harvest, becoming charred via the same processes as the cereals.

Untransformed plant remains

6.10.5 There was a variety of untransformed seeds (i.e., not charred, mineralised or waterlogged) recovered, with knotweed seeds being present in abundance (Tables 16 and 2). The untransformed seeds mainly represented weed plants (Table 17) indicative of cultivated land and/or wasteland, and it is likely that these represent recent intrusions in the samples. The most abundant occurring seeds/fruits belonged to the species goosefoot (Chenopodium sp.), fumaria (Fumaria sp.) and birch (Betula sp.). Single seeds/fruits of catchfly (Silene sp.), saltbush (Atriplex sp.) and elderberry (Sambucus nigra) were also identified in the assemblage of unmodified plant materials. In addition to the unmodified seeds and fruits, eight stems of heather (Calluna vulgaris) were also recovered, also likely recent intrusions in the samples.

Insect and earthworm remains

6.10.6 Insect and earthworm egg capsules along with insect remains were recovered from several samples, indicating disturbance of these contexts via bioturbation (Table 16). The inclusion of untransformed roots (Table 16) are further indicative of soil disturbance and the presence of modern/recent contamination.

Charcoal

6.10.7 Charcoal was present in thirteen flots (Tables 16 and 18); charcoal over 2mm in size was recovered from eight flots, while microcharcoal (<2mm) was present in 12 flots. The charcoal recovered from the flots was comminute and not suitable for radiocarbon dating nor of sufficient size or preservation to allow wood species identification. However, the hand-collected charcoal (Table 18) was of sufficient size and preservation to attempt wood species identification. The hand-collected charcoal represented timber, and as such not considered optimal for radiocarbon dating. For each context, a single piece of charcoal was selected at random for species identification. All charcoal selected from each context was identified as European ash (Fraxinus excelsior). On inspection under magnification, the material from context (13060), fill of ditch [13061], was identified as a possible food crust; one surface was smooth and curved, as if once contained within a pot (for example) and the matrix potentially included identifiable charred plant remains.



Terrestrial/Freshwater snails

6.10.8 A minimum of 298 terrestrial molluscs and one freshwater mollusc were recovered from the flots, while 248 fragments of terrestrial mollusc shell with an MNI of 97 were hand collected (Table 19). The blind snail (Cecilioides acicula) was recorded on a scale of abundance only due to its consistent presence in most samples (Table 19) and due to it being a burrowing species, precluding its use in any attempt to reconstruct past environmental conditions at the site. The snails from the flots and the hand collected material represented 14 terrestrial species: the blind snail (Cecilioides acicula), clear glass snail (Aegopinella pura), smooth glass snail (Aegopinella nitidula), one of the vertigo snails (Columella aspera), heath snail/eccentric snail (Helicella itala/Candidula gigaxii), strawberry/hairy snail (Trochulus sp.), slippery snail (Cochlicopa lubrica), glass snail (Oxychilus sp.), smooth grass snail (Vallonia pulchella), leaf snails (Hygromiidae), grove snail (Cepaea sp.), strawberry snail (Trochulus cf. striolatus) and the copse snail (Arianta arbustorum), as well as one freshwater species, dwarf pond snail (Galba trunculata).

Foraminifera

6.10.9 Several examples of foraminifera (or forams, single cell organisms) were recovered from three contexts (13035), (13053) and (13068). Due to their abundance, extremely small size and delicate structure, the remaining forams were left in the flots for future analysis/identification if required. The presence of forams is indicative of a body of water within the vicinity of the site at the time of accumulation and/or the provision of water to the site; further work on these may provide information on the nature of the water.

Slag

6.10.10 Small quantities of micro slag were recovered from three contexts (13032), (13093) and (13017). The presence of slag at the site is indicative of high-temperature activities taking place in the vicinity.

Discussion

6.10.11 The environmental remains recovered through flotation of bulk environmental samples taken during excavations at Elmswell in 2023 provide some useful insights into the lives of people who lived there in the past as well as understanding the surrounding environment. Many of the material categories also have potential to further inform on these areas, pending further analysis within a chronological and geographical framework.

6.10.12 The charring process that preserves cereal grains is usually a result of accidents during crop drying, cooking with whole grains or the discard of spoiled grain into hearths and other fires; as such, the recovery of charred cereal grains suggest that this area of the site was used as or close to a location for drying crops or the discard of material from hearths and/or ovens where cooking took place, such that charred remains could enter the burial environment. The paucity of remains might better support the latter interpretation as crop-drying accidents would usually result in large numbers of grains becoming charred. Wheat, barley, oat and rye were identified among the charred



grain assemblage, along with an additional 31 grains that represented cereals that could not be identified any further. Wheat and barley are common finds on British archaeological site dating from the Neolithic period to Modern periods, being two of the main domestic crop species cultivated since their introduction in Britain around 6,000 years ago. Wheat and barley also frequently form the largest components of charred grain assemblages from Roman period sites in northern England. Oat and rye are also known from Roman periods sites, but generally form much smaller components, with rye and wild oats being suggested as representing weeds within other cereal crops rather than being food crops in their own right (e.g. Moffett 1989). At Elmswell, it was not possible to distinguish wild from cultivated oat grains and as such further comment on their role as a food crop is not possible.

6.10.13 The charred goosefoot, sedge, cleavers, water lettuce and knotweed seeds may represent weeds that grew amongst the cereals that were harvested and subsequently included during the drying process and/or made it through to the dry grain used in cooking where it became accidentally charred. While the samples contained assemblages of charred plant remains, cereals and weed seeds, that might contribute to our understanding of human diet, agricultural practices and local environments, the value and significance of these remains is dependent on confirming that the samples are from secure archaeological contexts and that dating information is available for these.

6.10.14 Due to the small fragment size of the wood charcoal recovered from the flots none was not identifiable to species nor suitable as samples for radiocarbon dating. The charcoal remains from the flots were indicative of burning taking place at or close to the site in the past, which could have resulted from a range of natural and/or human led processes. The hand-collected charcoal was well preserved and all sub-samplesw were identified as heartwood of ash (Fraxinus excelsior). These hand-collected charcoal samples likely represent material resulting from human activity. The charred material recovered from context (13060), fill of ditch [13061], was identified as possible food crusts; these warrant further work to confirm identification and identify any inclusions that might suggest what type of food(s) are represented. Charcoal samples from Trench 13, contexts 13013, 13092, 13097, 13101 and 13013, could be submitted for radiocarbon dating, though no ideal samples were present, and their submission should only be considered if dating these contents contributes significantly to understanding the chronology of the site, and if no other suitable material was recovered.

6.10.15 The untransformed seeds (i.e., not charred, mineralised or waterlogged) are indicative of a mixed cultivated/undisturbed type environment, perhaps farmland/fields surrounded by woodland/hedges. It is likely that these seeds are modern intrusive species that entered the deposits when disturbed during excavations. The presence of earthworm capsules, insect egg capsules and insect remains are indicative of bioturbation further suggesting that these seeds may have entered the deposits through soil disturbance soil.

6.10.16 The terrestrial snail assemblage included species that favour a variety of environments rather than any specific one, including damp sheltered places of all kinds, woods, rocks and fields, underground, in litter and stones, and in damp herbage (Evans 1972). The

freshwater species, dwarf pond snail favours damp environments and is indicative of wetland or freshwater sources within the vicinity of the site. The snails may have potential for understanding past environmental conditions at the site; the chronological framework for the contexts from which snail remains have been recovered should be considered before any further work is undertaken to ensure suitability of the material for this type of analysis. Future work at the site should consider taking samples specifically for the recovery of terrestrial molluscs

6.10.17 The presence of forams indicates the presence of water; this may indicate that a site had previously been wetland or underwater but can also be indicative of water brought to the site for use. Further work to identify the forams may provide a better understanding of their presence and any potential links with human activity at the site or past environmental conditions.

6.10.18 The small quantity of slag recovered from the flots should be sent along with any hand-collected examples or slag recovered from the sample heavy residues to a metalworking specialist for assessment.

7 PUBLIC IMPACT

Anna van Nostrand

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 This section details the social impact of the Excavating Elmswell: Seasons in Time public programming for project participants, crowdfunding supporters and audience members over the course of August 2023. DigVentures defines social impact as a measure of the positive and negative primary and secondary long-term effects produced by the programme, whether directly or indirectly, intended or unintended, over and above what would have happened in the absence of the project initiative. Results were analysed using a bespoke social impact methodology, drawing on DigVentures' Theory of Change and Standards of Evidence framework (Wilkins 2019, 77; Wilkins 2019, 30).

7.1.2 Public engagement was integral to the project design of Excavating Elmswell: Seasons in Time, as 'every aspect of the project is cognisant of a wider outreach agenda. Public participants will take part on site […], and online. […] [and] the project in 2023 will continue to create additional opportunities for local families with children who attend local schools to try archaeology together as a free summer holiday activity.' (Swain 2023).

7.2 Public programming

7.2.1 A carefully designed programme of public participation was planned for the course of the two-week-long project (14th - 27th August 2023), creating different levels of engagement for adults and young people. Participation and training of venturers in the trench and the finds room were serviced to National Occupational Standards:

- Excavation training for adults (14th - 27th August) – 71 participants

- Finds room training for adults (22nd – 27th August) – 19 participants
- Eight 'DigCamps' for children (aged 6-11) and parents (16th until 19th August) – 88 participants
- 'DigClub' for teenagers (aged 12-16) and parents (20th August) – 15 participants
- Virtual site tour (25th August) – 103 bookings
- Digital engagement strategy for 16 digital crowdfunding contributors and the wider community

7.2.2 The site has a documented history with nighthawking/unauthorised metal detecting. Due to this heightened, unwanted attention, it was felt necessary for both the safety of the archaeology and the landowners not to encourage members of the public to visit the site.

7.2.3 DigVentures' own digital engagement strategy for the excavation was designed to keep its core audience up to date, provide opportunities to get a detailed look at what was happening on site, and amplify its social footprint. This strategy included regular progress updates by email, a 'live blog' on the Dig Timeline (https://digventures.com/projects/elmswell-farm/timeline/), and amplification of selected highlights on social media.

7.2.4 Excavating Elmswell: Seasons in Time, reached a minimum of 278k individuals across Facebook and Twitter and Instagram and 28.8k individuals on YouTube. The average engagement rates were 3% on Facebook, 4% for Twitter, 7% on Instagram and 5% on YouTube (1,297 views, 66 likes, 4 comments). In addition, there were 509 unique visitors and 1,316 views to the Dig Timeline and 129 unique visitors and 230 page views of more in-depth information on the project microsite: https://digventures.com/elmswell-farm/ including background information and progress updates. Whilst these results demonstrate a public appetite for the Excavating Elmswell: Seasons in Time project, any evaluation of social impact needs to go beyond a list of output numbers of participants and visitors (Gould 2016). DigVentures has developed a bespoke evaluation methodology for measuring the social impact of public archaeology programmes and this is discussed in specific relation to this project further below.

7.3 Evaluation methodology

7.3.1 The Excavating Elmswell: Seasons in Time community was separated into two broad categories: in-person project participants and virtual audience members, both of which joined the project through a formal booking process. DigVentures have developed a methodology for measuring the social impact of archaeology programmes for participants, pictured as a Theory of Change detailing outputs, outcomes and impacts (see Figure 25). In this framework, social impact can be conceived as the difference that activities make to people's lives over and above what would have happened in the absence of that initiative. Outputs are a measurable unit of product or service, such as a community excavation; outcomes are an observable change for individuals or communities, such as acquiring skills or knowledge. Impact is therefore the effect on outcomes attributable to the output, measured against two

metrics: scale, or breadth of people reached; and depth, or the importance of this impact on their lives.

7.3.2 The credibility of a Theory of Change rests on the level of certainty that organisational activities are the cause of this change. For this certainty to be achieved, the correct data must be collected to isolate the impact to the intervention. The DV Theory of Change is therefore linked to a Standards of Evidence framework designed to articulate and highlight the causal links between activity and change. These tools are then used to create a bespoke, project specific evaluation table linking activities, outputs, outcomes and evidence base (Figure 26).

7.3.3 In support of this overarching methodology, two slightly different data collection strategies were undertaken for both in-person participants and virtual audience members; Both were interviewed before the project. The survey for In-person participants had a 100% completion rate, or 296 in total), and the survey for virtual participants had a 70% completion rate or 72 in total. In-person participants also received a post experience question (67% completion rate, or 130 in total). For analysis, the age and professional background of participants was classified using categories obtained from the Office for National Statistics.. At this stage, the report only focuses on output numbers and socio-economic distribution of community. The final evaluation report will include a more in-depth analysis designed to reveal 'whether or not people will have learnt about heritage, developed skills, changed their attitudes and/or behaviour, and had an enjoyable experience'. The output numbers for in-person participants and virtual audience members are discussed below.

7.4 Social impact – in person participants

7.4.1 To ensure that a wide range of people will be involved in archaeology and heritage, adults as well as children and teenagers were invited to actively participate in the excavation and also take part in recording and finds processing. All of the work happening in the trench, followed DigVentures' CIfA-endorsed Field School curriculum.

7.4.2 Of the in-person participants, 35% or 68 in total prefer she/her pronouns, 26% (n=51) use her/him pronouns and 1% or 1 participant uses they/them pronouns. The age of participants ranged from children aged 6 to people over the age of 75, with Figure 27 showing that over 38% of participants, or 73 in total were aged under 35, which is mostly due to the high number of DigCamp and DigClub sessions on offer, that are specifically tailored for children and teenagers. Participants further represented a variety of part or full-time occupations (42%, or 82 in total), carers, homemakers and volunteers (2% n=4), and retirees (15%, or 28 in total). Another 35% of participants, or 68 in total, were students. This number not only reflects the large percentage of participants under 16 (28%, or 54 in total) who took part in the DigClubs and DigCamps, but also older individuals who attend university. The fact that no people in unemployment participated in the excavation is likely because the excavation was crowdfunded and the majority of participation opportunities were neither free of charge nor easily affordable without regular income (see Figure 27). Two of the six DigCamp sessions were offered to local families for free, providing 25 spaces.



7.4.3 Examples of the professions of participants include; accountant, actor, artist, biomedical scientist, bathroom fitter, caretaker, college professor, doctor, driver, engineer, flight attendant, graphic designer, housing officer, HR consultant, marketing communications officer, nursery assistant, physicist, postman, publishing editor, researcher, retail assistant, salon owner, social worker, solicitor, stay at home mum, teacher, vet, and warehouse packer. Taking this into consideration, almost all age groups and different socio-economic backgrounds were represented in the data. This illustrates that despite the crowd-funding aspect, the project allowed participation for people with different occupations, as well as young people, which is a marked improvement on existing community archaeology provision compared with the typically retired, over 65 local civic society groups (Wilkins 2020, 33).

7.4.4 Participants joined the project from all over the United Kingdom. While 19% of participants, or 36 in total lived within 25 miles of the site, more than two thirds (81%, or 157 in total) of individuals who came to site travelled farther than 50 miles to have the opportunity to take part in the project. Over half of those (98 in total) lived over 100 miles away from site, and 5% of participants, or 10 in total, live outside the UK and joined the excavation from Australia, Canada, and from the United States of America (see Figure 28).

7.4.5 In addition to widening the demographic and socioeconomic range of participation (when compared to existing community archaeology provision), the project attracted a considerably sized new audience for archaeology, with over half the participants (53%, or 102 in total) having never taken part in archaeology activities before (see Figure 27).

7.5 Social impact – virtual audience

7.5.1 A virtual component was added to the project to reach a wider audience for the Excavating Elmswell: Seasons in Time excavation while keeping the location of the site protected. People who wanted to support the crowdfunding campaign but couldn't or didn't want to participate in the dig, could contribute financially to become a digital supporter and be kept up to date with developments on site. A virtual tour took place on 25th August and tickets were free of charge resulting in a total of 103 bookings. When booking a virtual ticket, people were asked to complete a short questionnaire to understand the socio-economic background of audience members.

7.5.2 When analysing the socio-economic background, it needs to be taken into consideration that it might not be a true representation of the audience. The person who booked a space is likely to be the one who filled in their information, but they may have watched the event together with several other people – friends or family members – who would have provided different information. Nearly half of people who booked a virtual ticket did not join the live event, but rather chose to receive a recording that they could watch in their own time (45% or 46 in total). This was especially useful for people from oversees who live in different time zones. On the day, 30 viewing parties joined the tour live, which represents only just over half the tickets for live viewing (see Figure 29). It is likely that some of the people who missed the event watched the recording as well. There were 16 digital crowdfunding

contributors who registered for the event through their initial contribution, rather than through the ticket booking system.

7.5.3 Of the people who witnessed the project online; 65% or 47 in total, preferred the pronouns she/her compared to only 31%; or 21 in total, who preferred the pronouns he/him. In stark contrast to the in-person participants, the majority of virtual audience members were over the age of 45 (82%, or 59 in total). The virtual audience members represented a variety of part or full-time occupations (40%, or 29 in total) and retirees (44%, or 32 in total). The remainder were students, either of compulsory educational age or those attending university (8%, or 6 in total), people in long-term unemployment (1% n=1), and full time parents, carers or homemakers (6%, or 4 in total), (see Figure 29). This illustrates that the virtual components were preferred by several people with lower income, but also favoured by people of older age who might be more willing to follow the excavation from the comfort of their own home. Taking this into consideration, almost age groups and different socio-economic backgrounds were represented in the data, albeit not equally.

7.5.4 The virtual component removed geographical barriers of access and made the experience more inclusive, which is shown in 29% of the bookings and contributions, or 21 in total, coming from outside the UK and 71%, or 51 in total, being done by people living more than 100 miles from the site. Overall, the virtual offers reached not only people from Europe, but also Australia, North America and Asia, and made them aware of the archaeology at Elmswell Farm. Virtual audience members comprised residents of 9 different countries, namely Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and United States (see Figure 30). 43% of the virtual audience members were new to archaeology with 31 respondents stating that they had never done archaeology before. The virtual tour provided an opportunity to build a bigger audience for archaeology in general, with 81% of participants, or 58 in total, expressing their wish of being informed about upcoming events (see Figure 29).

7.6 Conclusion

7.6.1 As a community focussed project, public engagement was integral to the success of the excavation. Several participation opportunities for local community members, and people from further away, provided a chance to experience the archaeology at Elmswell Farm. In total, 193 individuals joining the archaeological team in the trenches and the finds room. A virtual tour and digital crowdfunding contribution levels engaged a further 119 individuals online**.** The project succeeded in attracting a new audience for archaeology, with 53% of the in-person participants and 43% of the virtual audience, having never taken part in archaeology activities before.

7.6.2 The project attracted a diverse community of people from the local area as well as further afield. The Excavating Elmswell: Seasons in Time excavation offered different activity streams for different groups of people and evidence was collected for in-person participants and virtual audience members. Training activities were also independently accredited through CIfA. The insights gained from this evaluation have established a clear community need and demand for more archaeological work at



Elmswell Farm and further evaluation will analyse the deeper motivations and impact of the public engagement programme.

8 DISCUSSION

8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 The Aims of fieldwork in 2023 (Section 3) included characterising the extent (Q2), chronology (Q3), character, function (Q4) and wider landscape setting (Q5) of land enclosure and occupation at the site of a Romano-British ladder settlement at Elmswell Farms. To address these aims, two trenches were excavated targeting cropmarks interpreted from aerial imagery as likely representing enclosure ditches and associated internal features at the settlement. Developing an understanding of changing land use with the transition from open pasture to enclosed land divisions is a key research question of the Yorkshire Wolds Research Strategy (Question 1.11) and an important theme of the Iron Age research agenda in Section 2.5 of the Yorkshire Archaeological Research Framework (Roskams and Whyman, 2007). The following discussion places the results of the fieldwork at Elmswell Farms in 2023 within the context of the project's aims and objectives as well as the wider regional research agenda.

8.2 Land enclosure

8.2.1 The origins of land enclosure in the form of ladder settlements on the Yorkshire Wolds are generally accepted to have begun in the Iron Age and go out of use by the 3rd century (Fenton-Thomas, 2005, pp70-71). There are, however, still questions surrounding their evolution in use, form and character throughout the Romano-British period; particularly in respect to the eventual development of Villa estates and farmsteads in East Yorkshire. Giles (2007) identified the investigation of ditch deposits as a key approach to understanding how the character, occupation and function of these enclosures changed over time through the recovery and analysis of artefacts and environmental remains.

8.2.2 For this reason, Trench 12 targeted the ditches of two separate adjacent enclosures identified from cropmarks in aerial imagery to the north of the main east-west aligned trackway through the centre of the ladder settlement. Whilst excavation did not encounter the ditch anticipated to the west of the trench, the eastern enclosure ditch F1201 was located. It was characteristically Romano-British; a steep-sided V-shape over 1m deep. Finds suggest the enclosure originated in the mid to late 2nd century, before having fully silted up by the late 3rd century. Artefacts were domestic in nature; including pottery, animal bone, shell and ceramic building material, whilst the environmental samples recovered were largely unproductive.

8.2.3 The long-term maintenance of this enclosure in a domestic context implies the longevity of a rural economy at least through to the late 3rd century in this location. No evidence for Iron Age origins was encountered from the enclosure ditch in Trench 12, but this does not discount the possibility of Iron Age activity at this location due to the proportionately very small fraction of the ladder settlement that was investigated.

8.2.4 The only possible evidence for an Iron Age presence at this location was a single crouched inhumation burial F1202 located immediately to the west of the enclosure ditch F1201. However, due to the lack of grave goods, stratigraphic relationships or any other obvious Iron Age characteristics, such as a square barrow ditch usually associated with the middle Iron-Age burial practices of the Parisi tribe in East Yorkshire, this inhumation could also be Romano-British in date. It is therefore considered most likely that land enclosure at this location in Elmswell Farm's ladder settlement occurred in the Romano-British period, around the mid to late 2nd century.

8.3 Internal structural and domestic features

8.3.1 Evidence from the excavation of the timber building and associated water storage pits, rubbish pits and linear drainage features internal to an enclosure in Trench 13 strongly supports a domestic function for this location. Pottery recovered from these features dates the beginning of occupation within the enclosure to the late 1st or early 2nd centuries and ending by the middle of the 3rd century.

8.3.2 The building, likely at least 20m long and 5m wide, probably had multiple uses in a domestic context. The internal partition wall at its northern end may represent structural evidence of this division of space for different activities. The building itself had two phases, having been rebuilt in almost the same location after the original structure either burnt down or was intentionally replaced. This suggests longevity of use as a building with an important function at the settlement. Building Phase 1 was the larger and more substantial of the two, being approximately 4m longer with much deeper post settings compared to Phase 2, albeit both buildings were approximately the same width. Whilst the structural post holes produced almost no artefactual evidence to imply a date or function, it is likely that the adjacent finds-rich rubbish pits F1305, F1306 and F1307 as well as linear drainage features F1303 and F1304 are contemporary with the two phases of structure, as they respect the layout of the building.

8.3.3 Artefacts recovered from these features included over 3,000 sherds from ceramic vessels used for storing and cooking food as well as fine wares for drinking and dining; much of which were legionary wares imported from York or Malton dating to between the late 1st and 3rd centuries. A small assemblage of imports from other Roman provinces in Europe included Samian from Gaul and Spanish Amphora. The ceramic fine tableware assemblage was supplemented by a small number of good quality colourless fragments of 2nd to 3rd century wheel-cut glass cups and beakers. These imports suggest that the site was well connected to and provisioned by the major regional hubs at York or Malton and likely had an important local trading function between the 2nd and 3rd centuries.

8.3.4 Other artefacts recovered from rubbish pits show a range of further domestic activities. Roman brick, mud brick and daub lining from possible ovens was recovered alongside lava quern stone for grinding grain, suggesting that bread could have been baked here. Over 1,000 pieces of animal bone were recovered including cattle, sheep, deer, pig, rabbit, chicken and landfowl. Butchery marks were minimal, suggesting animal husbandry for the exploitation of bi-products such as milk, wool, cheese, eggs and feathers. Oyster dominated the marine mollusc assemblage and would have formed

part of the diet imported from the coast. Environmental assessment produced evidence of possible charred 'food crust' that could have originally been the contents of a cooking vessel, along with other charred cereal grains. A number of knife fragments were also recovered from the metalwork assemblage that could have been used for food preparation. Overall, the range and quantity of domestic material recovered strongly suggests that food preparation and consumption formed one of the main functions of the building in Trench 13.

8.3.5 These were not the only domestic functions at this location, with evidence for people living here too. Small personal items, such as two bone hair pins, a decorated bone handle likely from a small personal knife, part of an iron surgical instrument or toilet article, and some hobnails suggest that the building was almost certainly used by people for living in. The sizeable length of the structure and substantial depth of a number of the post holes alongside the furnishings recovered, which included brackets, hinges, mounts and numerous iron nails, shows that the building was well-built and could easily have serviced multiple functions, perhaps even being two storeys in height.

8.4 Light industry and water management

8.4.1 Limited evidence for light industry was also recovered in the form of possible hearth lining, a crucible fragment and a small quantity of cinder from rubbish pits F1305 and F1306. Perhaps also servicing some form of industrial process were two very deep pits F1301 and F1302 of similar character, both located approximately mid-way along the length of the building; one to the west and another to the east. Neither could be fully excavated due to their depth, which exceeded 1.90m and 1.75m respectively, implying they must have been used for storing water. Gully F1303, later recut by ditch F1304, was probably used for draining groundwater away from the building and into pit F1302. These drainage features were dated to the mid 3rd century by a particularly dense concentration of large and freshly broken sherds of pottery, suggesting they may have been intentionally backfilled with refuse from the area when the building and associated occupation activities within this enclosure were finally abandoned at this time.

8.4.2 These water management features point towards some of the activities being carried out at the building requiring ready access to a plentiful supply of water. Whilst there is no surviving evidence of industry beyond what has already been discussed, it is very possible that industries requiring large quantities of water, such as brewing or leather tanning, were carried out at or near to this location.

9 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 Conclusions

9.1.1 The principle aims of the investigations were to obtain baseline data to facilitate the future management of the site by defining and establishing its physical extent (Aim 1), characterising any surviving archaeological remains, refining their chronological phasing (Aim 2) and understanding the paleoenvironmental potential of deposits (Aim 3) through a programme of archaeological excavation. This was to be achieved

through a programme of public engagement (Aim 5); creating opportunities for people and communities to engage with the history and archaeology of Elmswell Farms. Despite the limited time available on site, the fieldwork results have successfully achieved these aims.

9.1.2 The trenches recovered remains associated with a Romano-British ladder settlement dating from the early to mid 2nd century through to the mid 3rd century (Aim 1). These results relate to extensive and significant Romano-British settlement in the local landscape setting. They build on the results of the 2018 to 2022 seasons of excavation that focused on other nearby sites of occupation, including a possible Roman Villa and Mansio complex, dating from the late 1st century to the 4th century (Aim 2).

9.1.3 The material finds recovered from the site were of mixed levels of preservation. Adverse soil conditions have led to the poor preservation of artefacts made from bone, whilst deeply cut archaeological features have preserved a number of other artefacts, including a substantial quantity of pottery, with minimal disturbance from their original context of deposition. However, a number of more ephemeral archaeological features, such as the internal partition wall from the timber building, were poorly preserved having been heavily truncated by centuries of agricultural ploughing (Aim 3).

9.1.4 Public engagement was key to the success of the project. Opportunities were created for local people and those from further away to participate in multiple aspects of archaeological research, providing them with a chance to experience the archaeology at Elmswell Farm (Aim 5). In total, 193 individuals joined the archaeological team in the trenches and the finds room. A virtual tour and digital crowdfunding contribution levels engaged a further 119 individuals online. The project succeeded in attracting a new audience for archaeology, with 53% of the in-person participants and 43% of the virtual audience, having never taken part in archaeology activities before.

9.2 Recommendations

9.2.1 It is clear from excavations between 2018 and 2023 that the local landscape encompassing the modern Elmswell Farms boundary was of significant importance during the Romano-British period in East Yorkshire. The origins of this significance could have its roots in the important local water source at Elmswell Beck, where a known major late Prehistoric trackway crossing the Yorkshire Wolds from the west links this location with a number of Iron Age Parisi sites, such as Garton and Wetwang slacks.

9.2.2 Shortly after the Romans crossed the Humber in 71 AD, a presence was quickly established near this water source, possibly to take advantage of trading opportunities from local people gathering here, or for administrative control of access to the water source. In the following decades, this presence quickly expanded from a small complex with a possible 'Mansio' into a substantial rural domestic and agricultural settlement from the mid 2nd century, with the enclosure of land immediately to the south of Elmswell Beck.

9.2.3 It is recommended that the next stage of the project focuses on investigating the importance of the water source at Elmswell Beck to the late Prehistoric and Romano-British communities of the Yorkshire Wolds landscape. The eighth season of fieldwork,

planned for August 2024, will involve excavations immediately to the north of Elmswell Beck at a raised mound or platform near the chalk stream bank in a field called 'Ridge and Furrow.' A concentration of Roman coins and other metal artefacts has been recovered from metal detecting surveys at this location, as well as a sizeable quantity of pottery from fieldwalking. An Updated Project Design has been prepared as a separate document and presents the full aims, objectives, and methodology for this next phase of excavation (Swain 2024).

9.2.4 The long-term local landscape focus of the *Excavating Elmswell: Seasons in Time* project will bring together all the evidence from multiple seasons of archaeological investigation, interpreting the material evidence and making the story of Elmswell available to everyone through publication (Aim 4).

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Figure 1. Site location

499690 499700 499710 499720

457680

457670

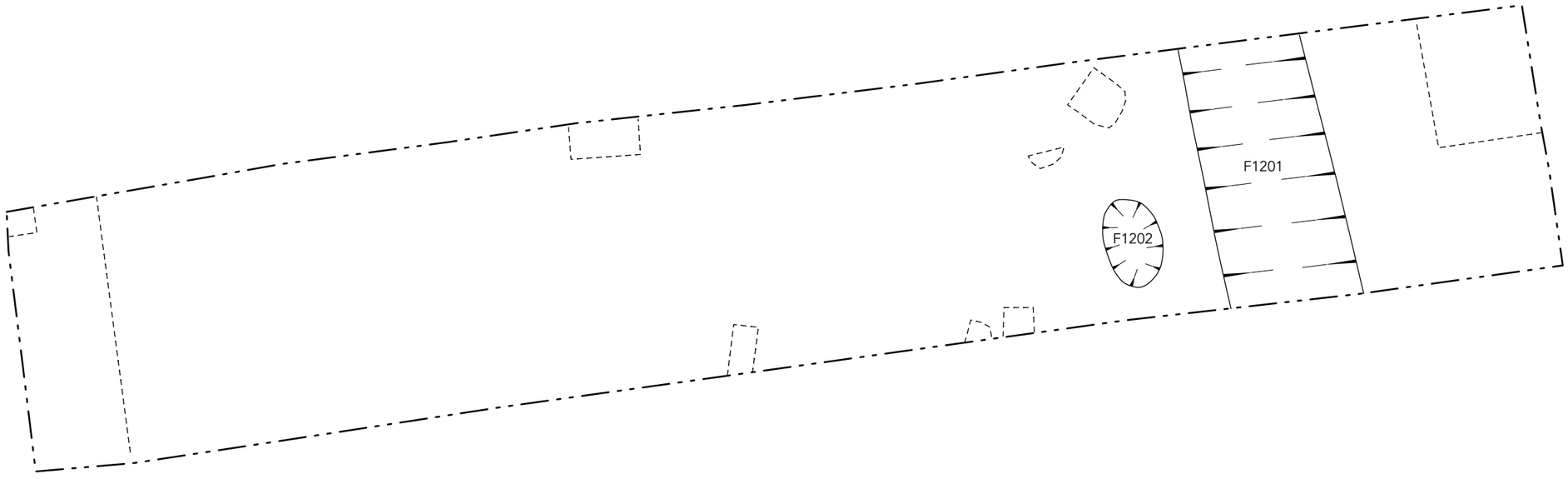


0m 5m 10m

1:100 Scale

Figure 2. Post-Excavation Orthomosaic view of Trench 12.

499690
499700
499710
499720
457680
457670



KEY
Archaeological Feature
Geological Feature interventions

0m 5m 10m
1:100 Scale

Figure 3. Post-Excavation plan of Trench 12.

499750 499760 499770 499780

457590

457580



0m 5m 10m

1:100 Scale

Figure 4. Post-Excavation Orthomosaic view of Trench 13.

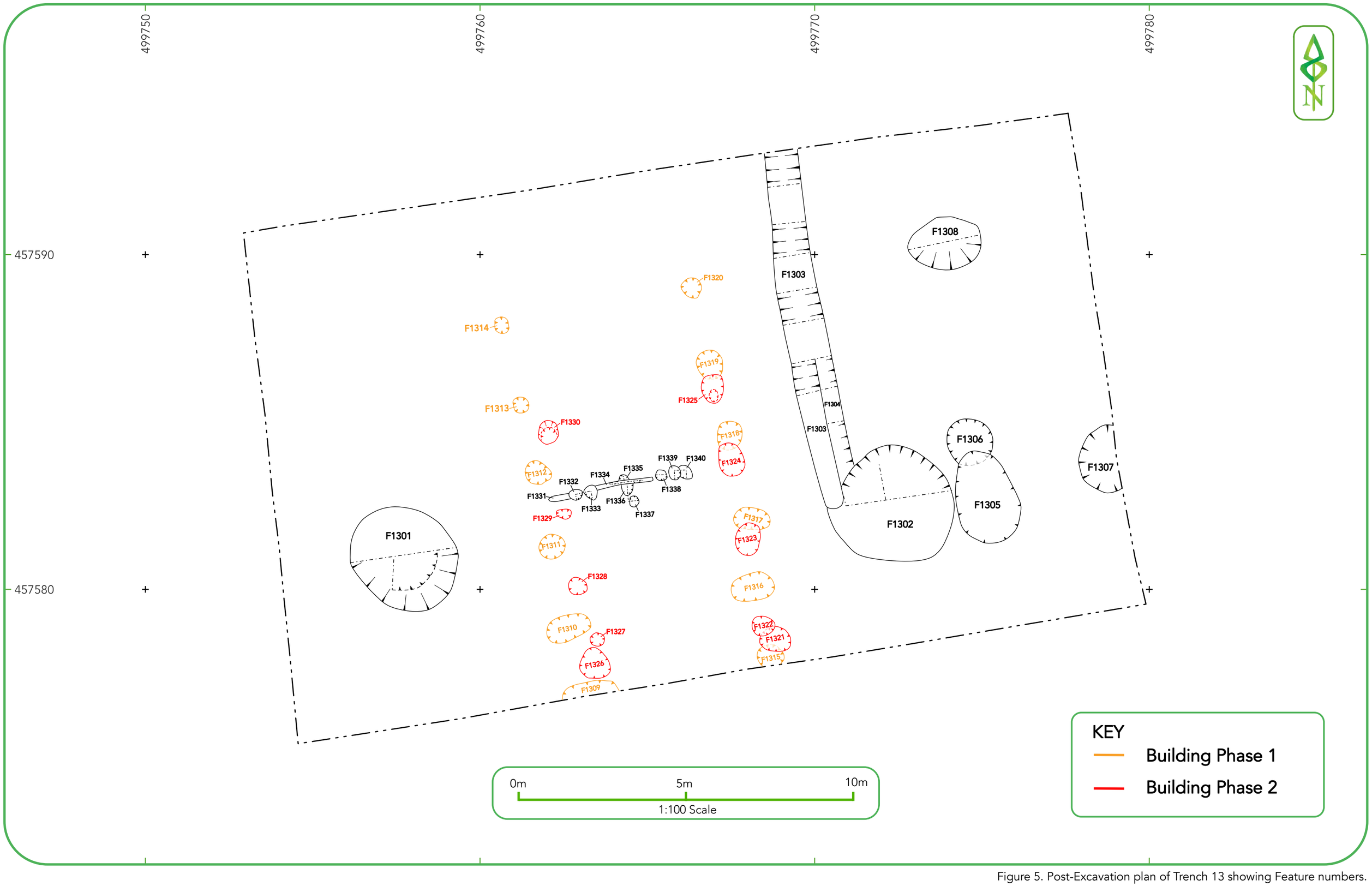
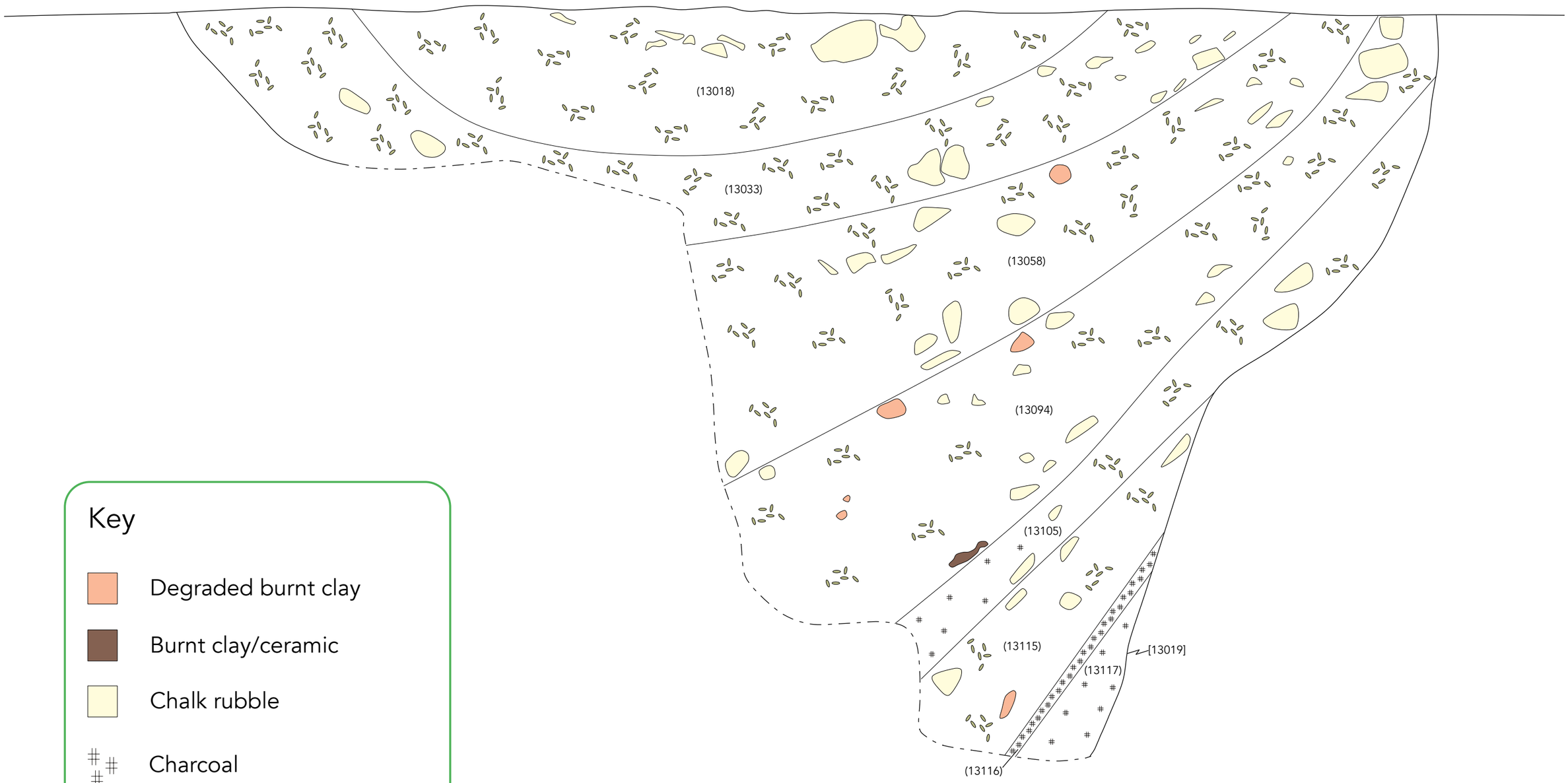


Figure 5. Post-Excavation plan of Trench 13 showing Feature numbers.

Section 137 South facing section of large pit F1301.



Key

- Degraded burnt clay
- Burnt clay/ceramic
- Chalk rubble
- Charcoal
- Gravel

0m 0.5m 1m
1:10 Scale

Figure 6. Section 137; South facing section of pit F1301. Showing distribution of inclusions to highlight depositional processes.

Section 138 North facing section of large pit F1302.

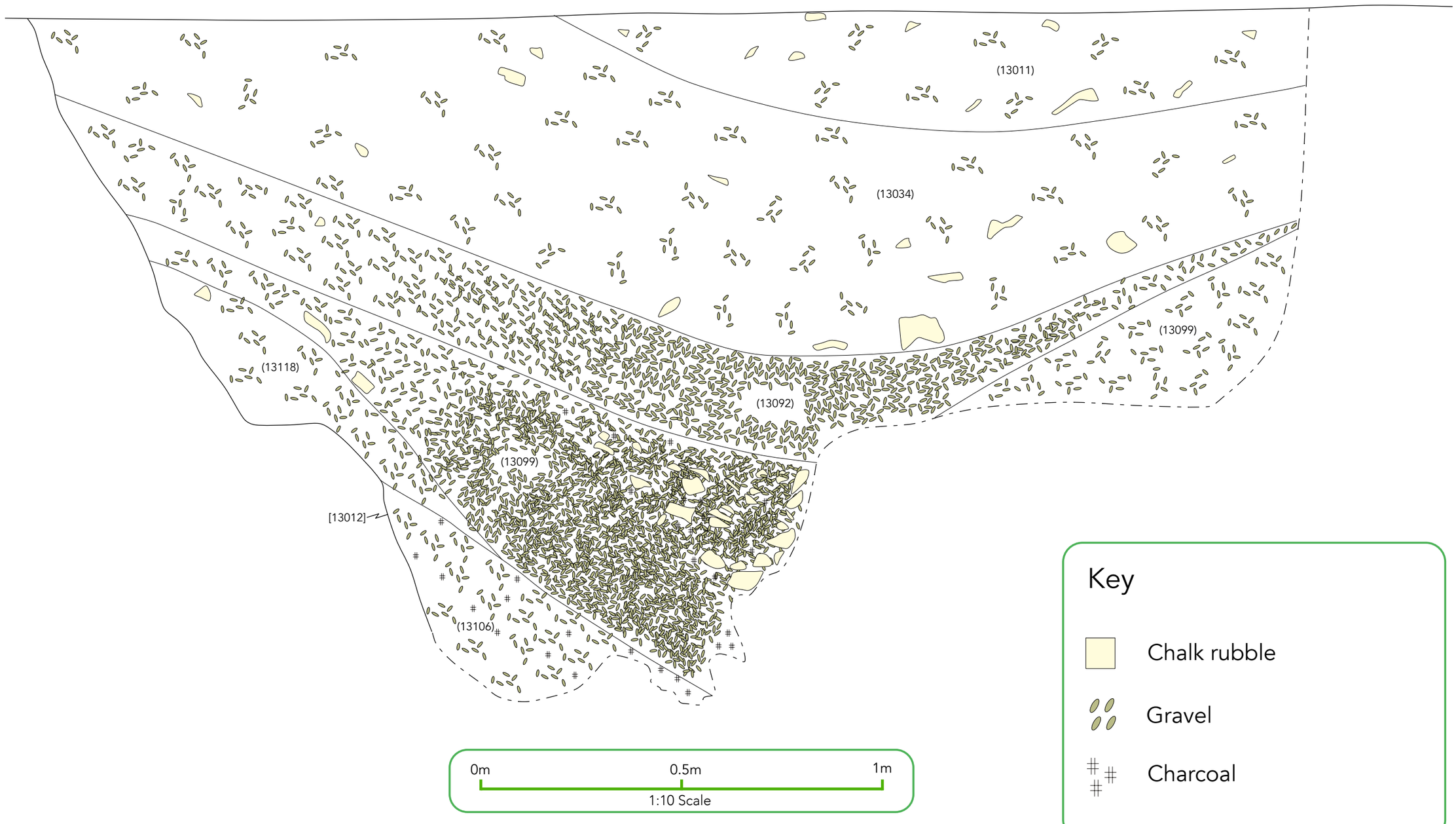
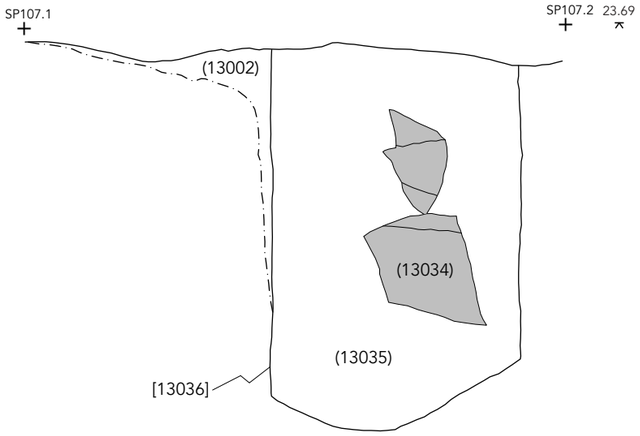
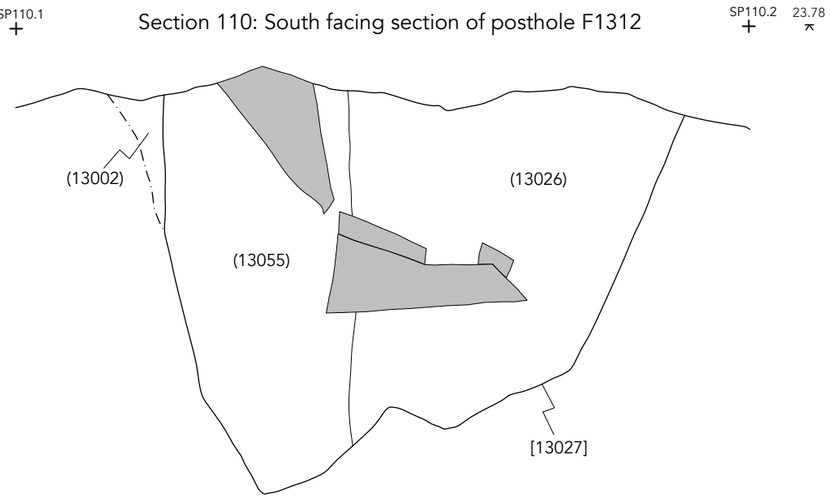


Figure 7. Section 138; North facing section of Pit F1302. Showing density of gravel and the distribution of inclusions to highlight depositional processes.

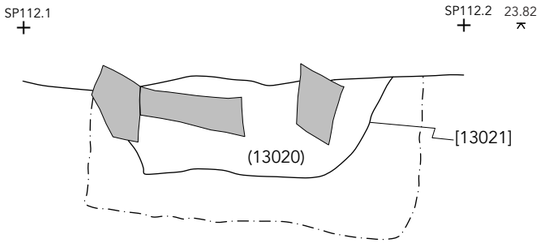
Section 107: South facing section of posthole F1314



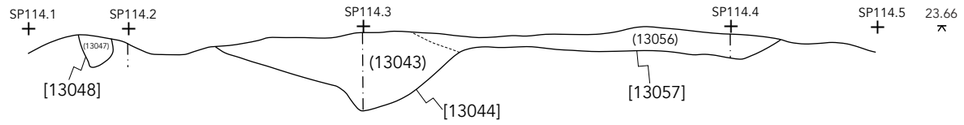
Section 110: South facing section of posthole F1312



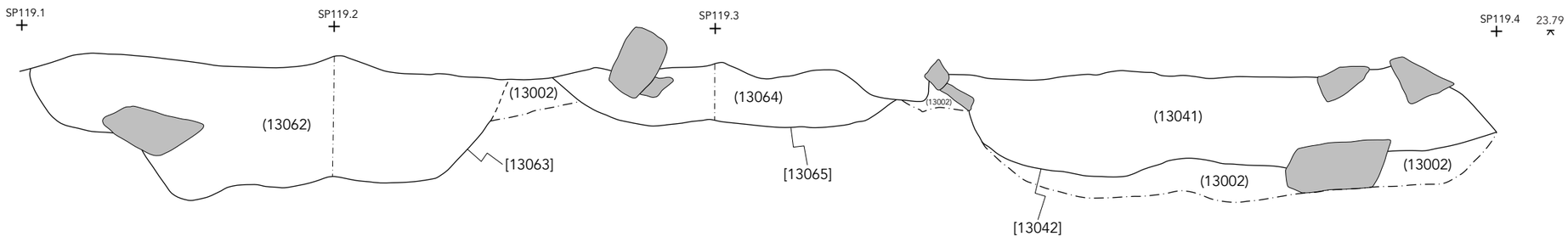
Section 112: South facing section of posthole F1328



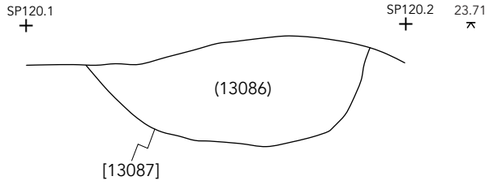
Section 114: South, East, North and West facing sections of postholes F1336 and F1337 and beamslot F1334



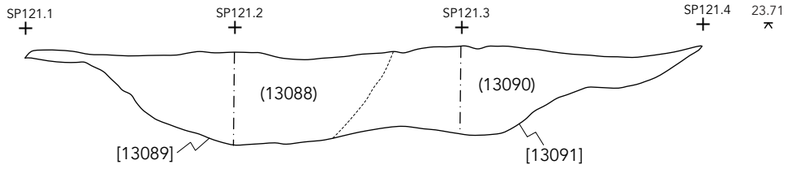
Section 119: Northwest, Southwest and West Northwest facing sections of postholes F1326; F1310 and F1327



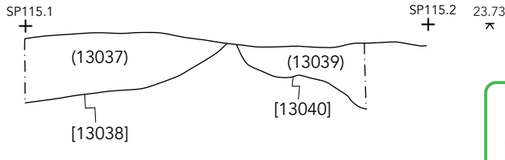
Section 120: South Southeast facing section of posthole F1338

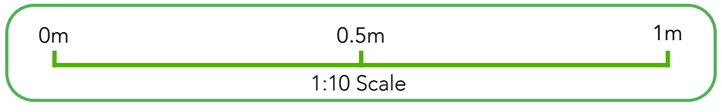


Section 121: Sections of postholes F1339 and F1340



Section 115: South facing section of postholes F1332 and F1333





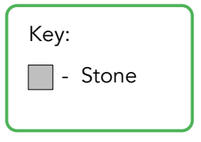
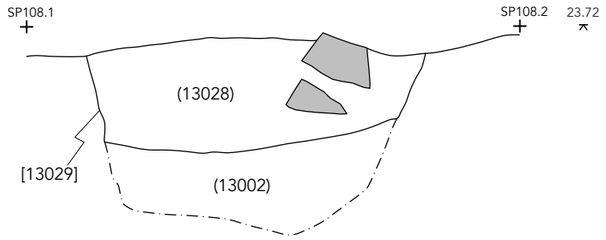
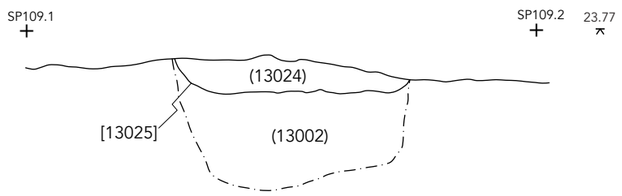


Figure 8. Sections of post holes at a scale of 1:10.

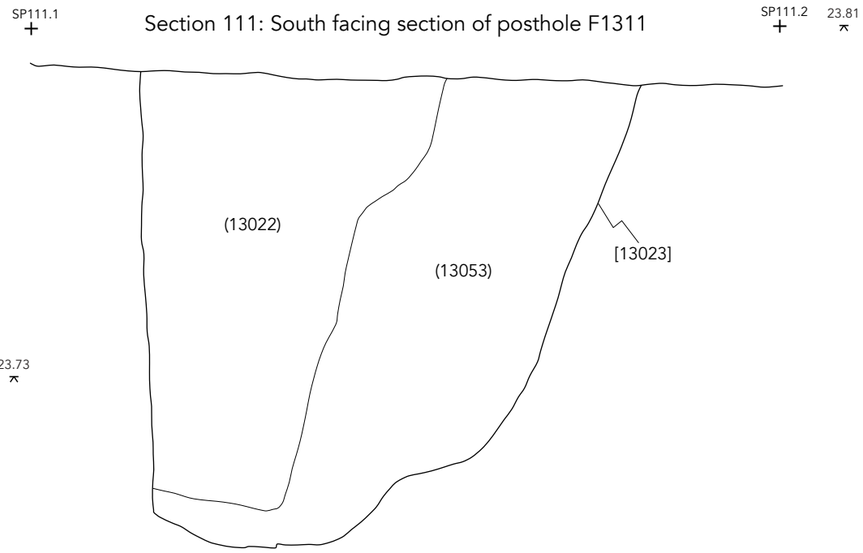
Section 108: South facing section of posthole F1330



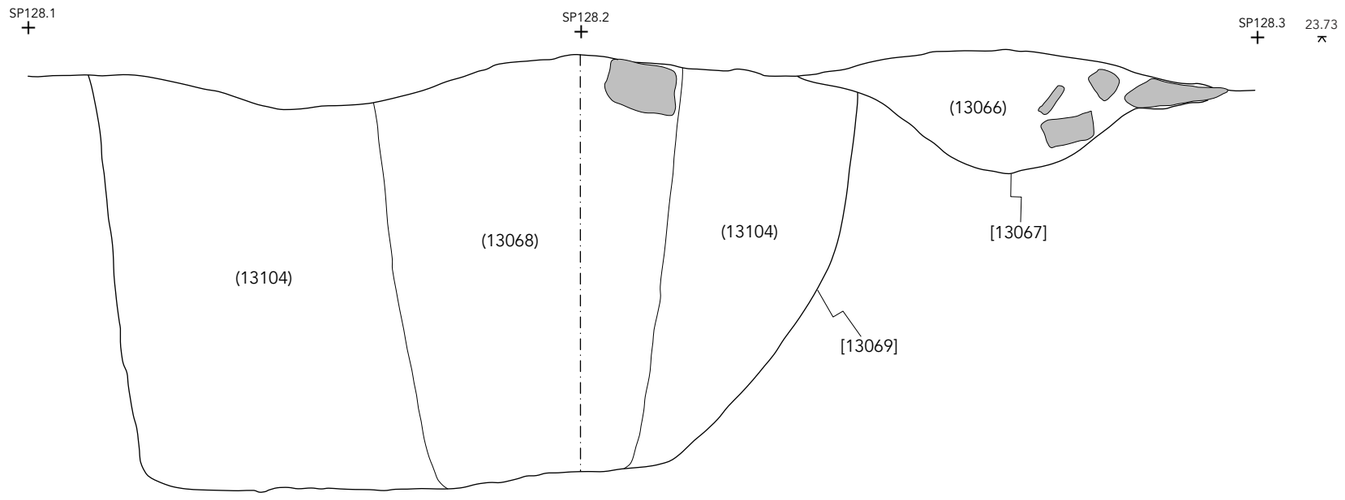
Section 109: South facing section of posthole F1329



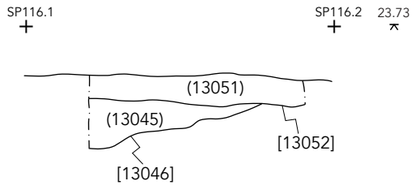
Section 111: South facing section of posthole F1311



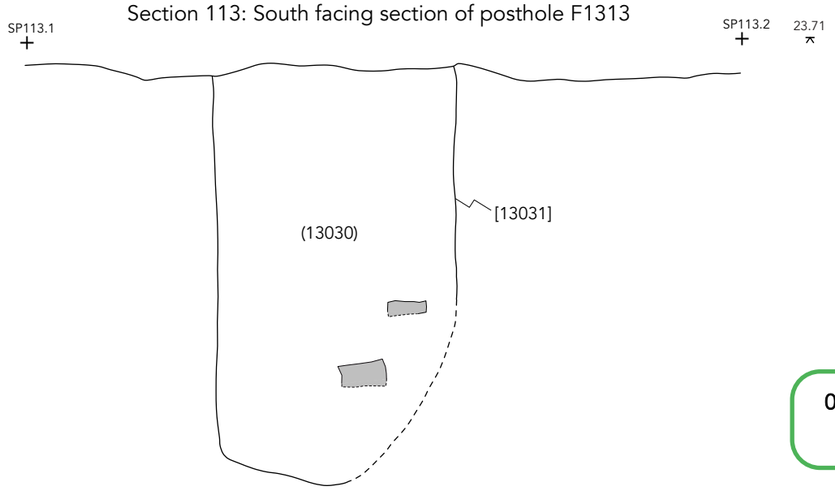
Section 128: North and south facing sections of postholes F1322 and F1321



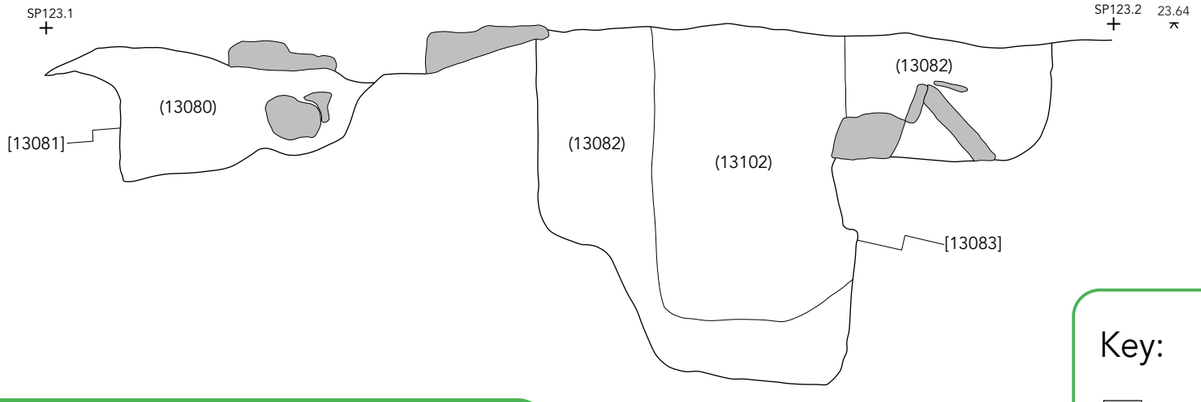
Section 116: North facing section of beam slot F1331 and posthole F1335



Section 113: South facing section of posthole F1313



Section 123: East facing section of postholes F1325 and F1319





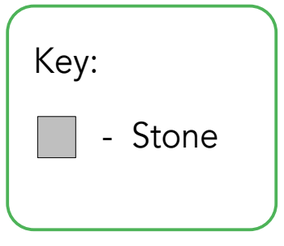
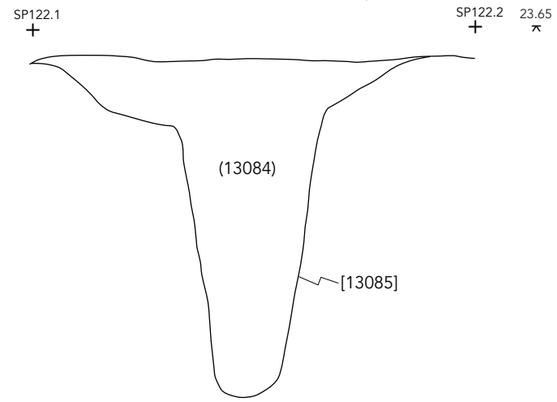


Figure 9. Sections of post holes at a scale of 1:10.

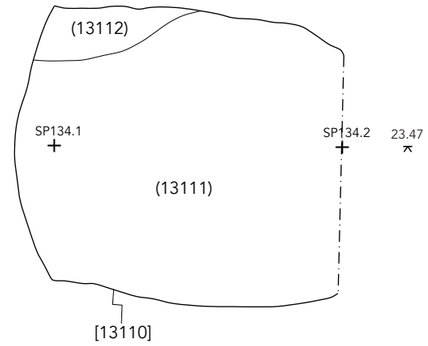
Section 133: North facing section of posthole F1309



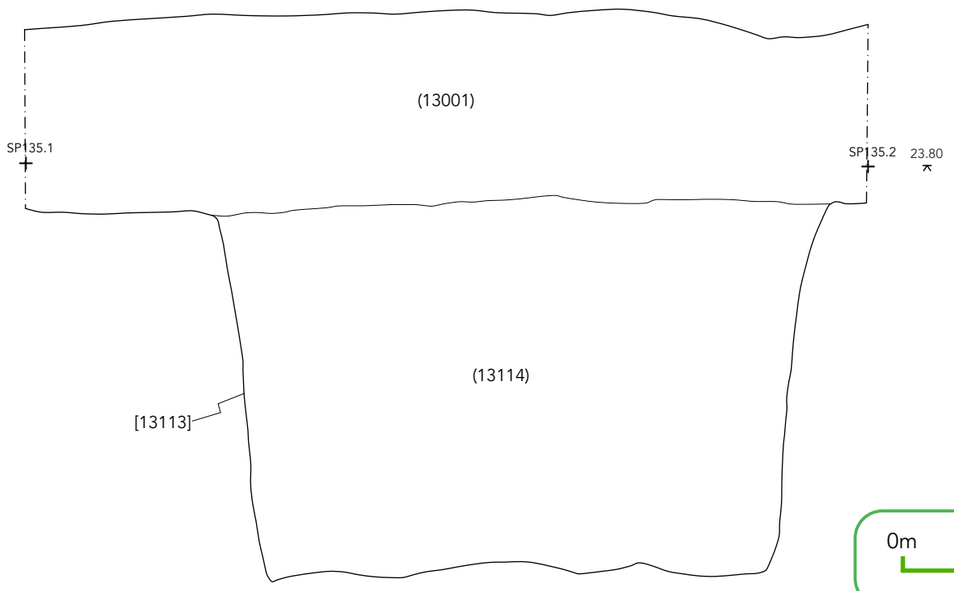
Section 122: South facing section of posthole F1320



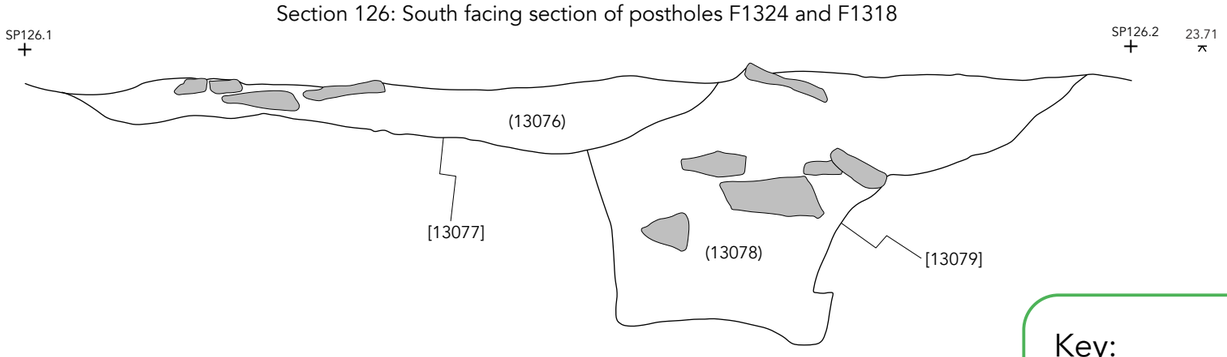
Section 134: South facing section of posthole F1310

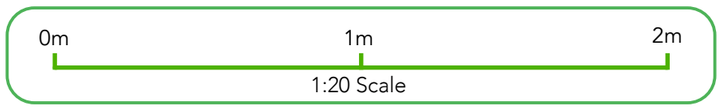


Section 135: North facing section of posthole F1315



Section 126: South facing section of postholes F1324 and F1318





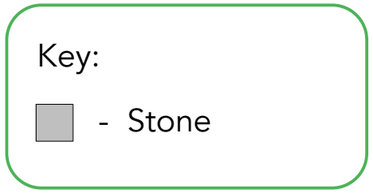
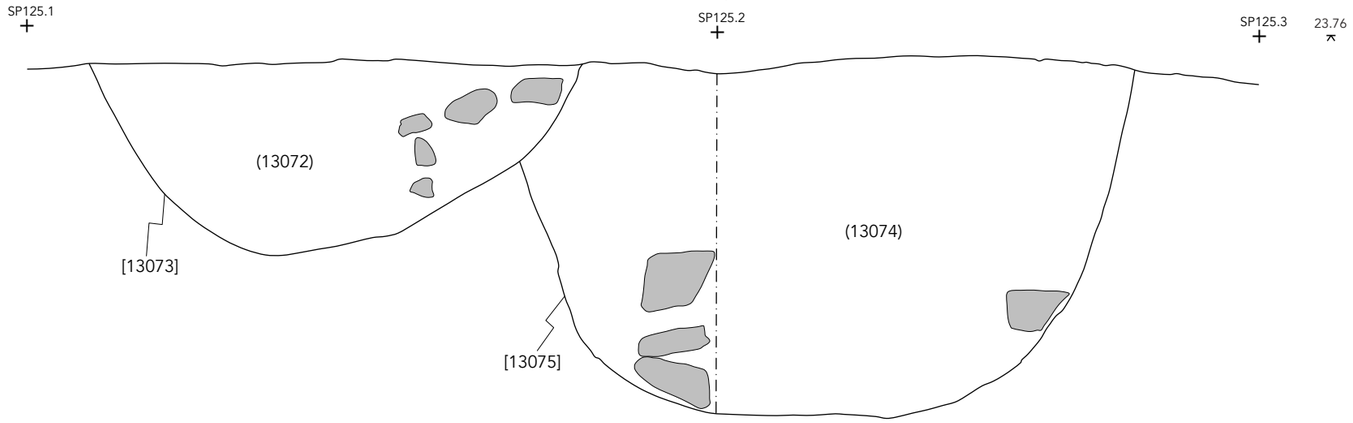
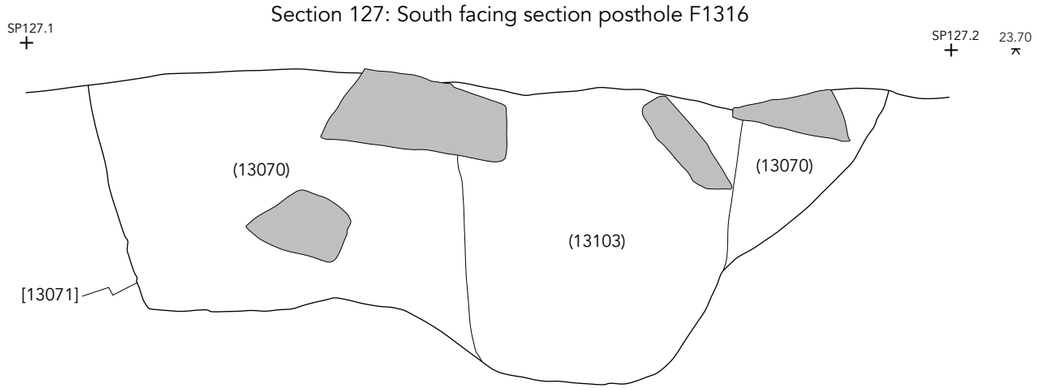


Figure 10. Sections of post holes at a scale of 1:10

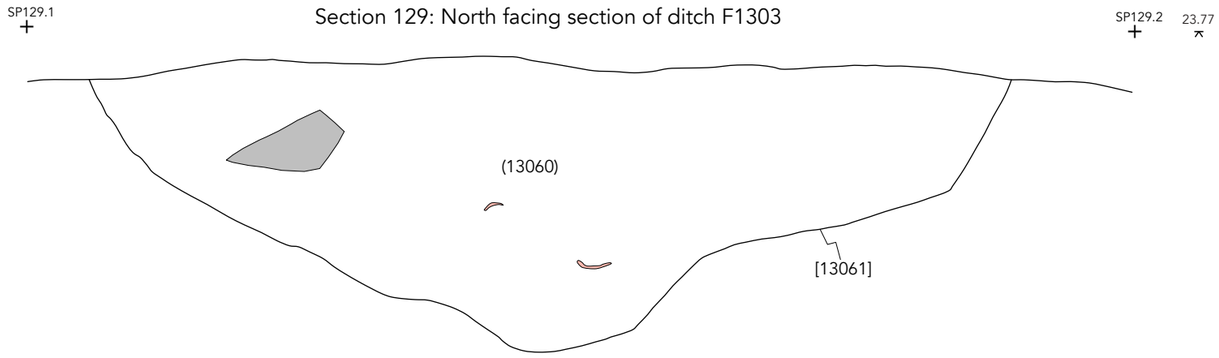
Section 125: Southeast and south facing sections of postholes F1323 and F1317



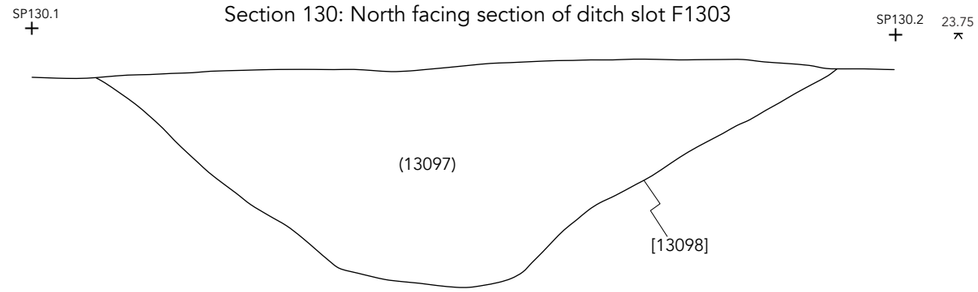
Section 127: South facing section posthole F1316



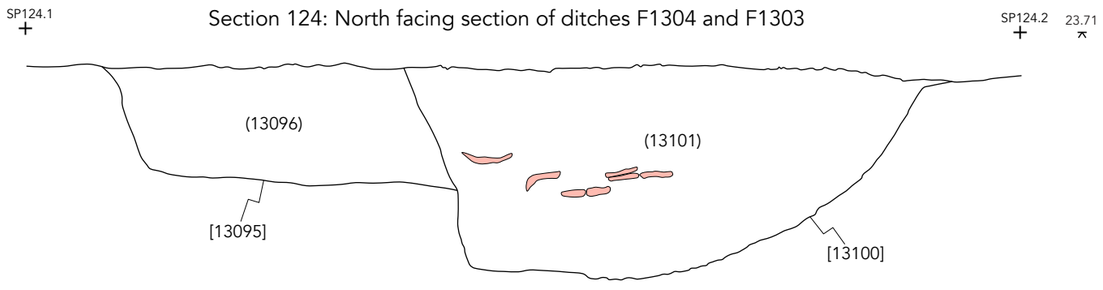
Section 129: North facing section of ditch F1303



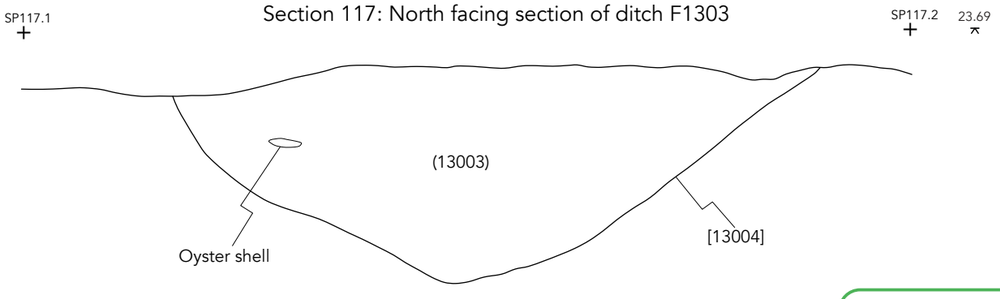
Section 130: North facing section of ditch slot F1303

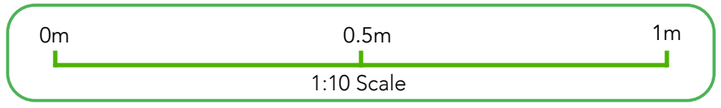


Section 124: North facing section of ditches F1304 and F1303



Section 117: North facing section of ditch F1303





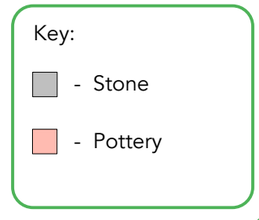


Figure 11. Sections of features at a scale of 1:10

Section 132: South facing section of ditch F1201

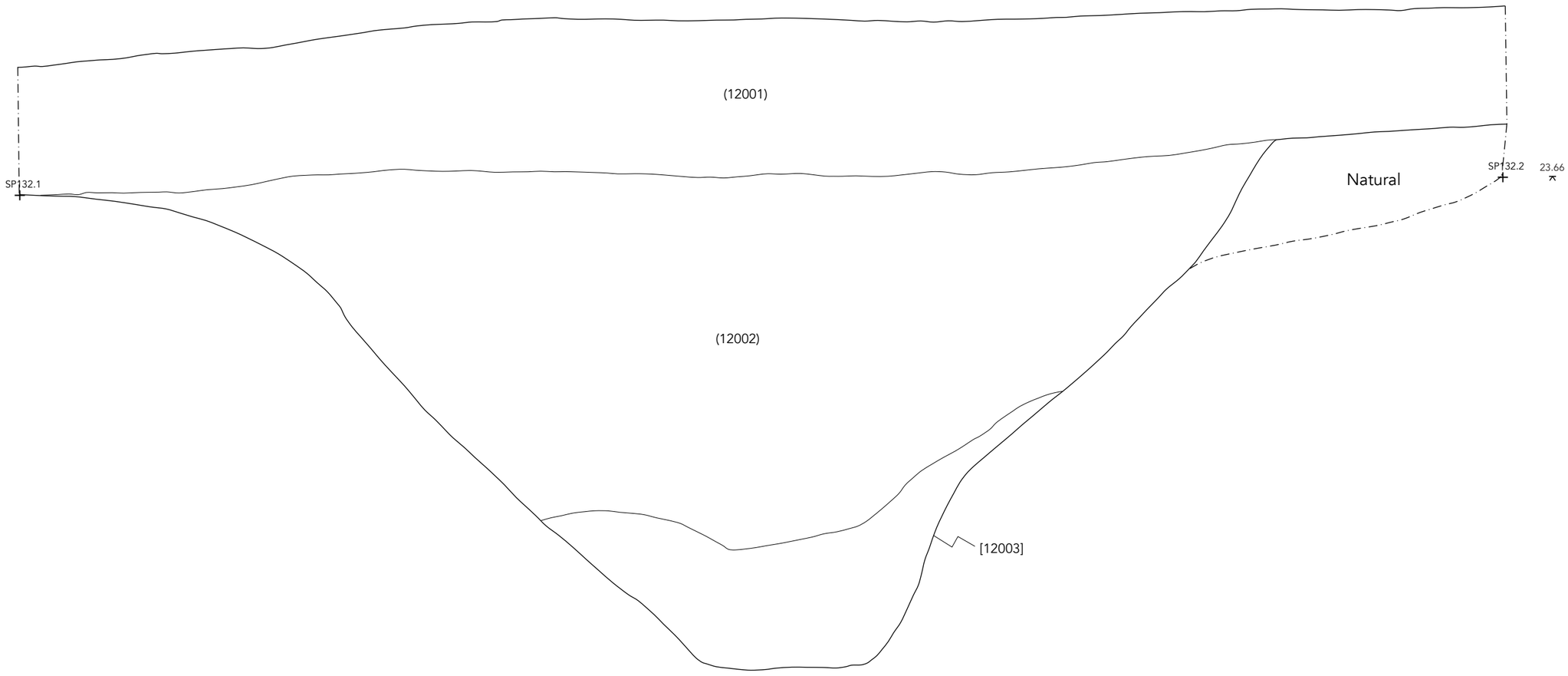


Figure 12. Section of ditch F1201 at a scale of 1:10

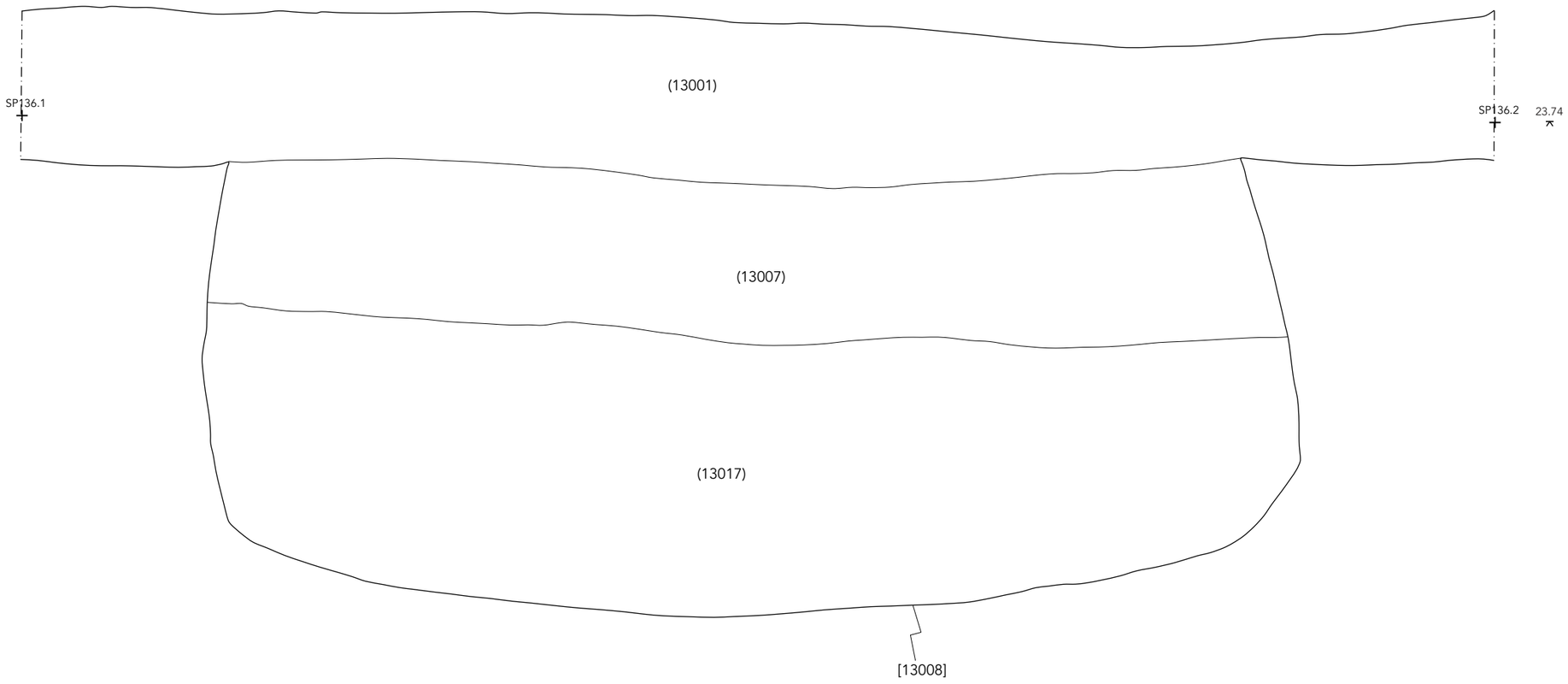
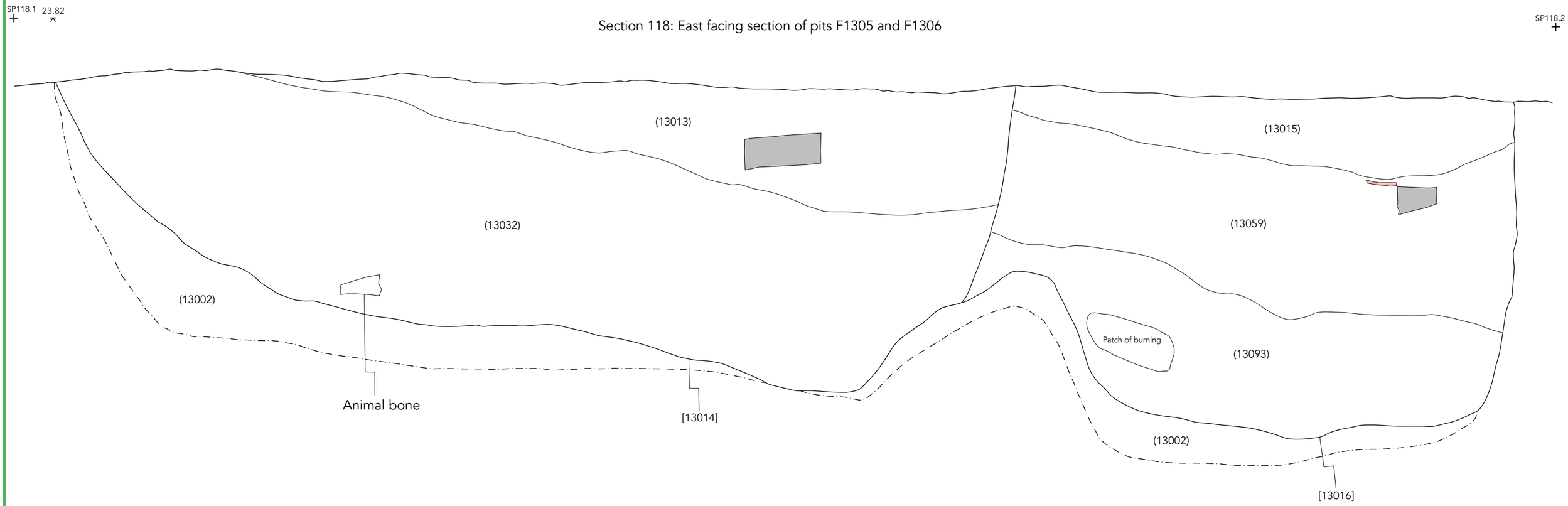


Figure 13. Sections of pits at a scale of 1:10.

Section 118: East facing section of pits F1305 and F1306



Key:

- Stone

0m 0.5m 1m

1:10 Scale

Figure 14. Section of pits at a scale of 1:10.



North looking photo of south facing section (section #132) of ditch F1201, 2m scale.



South looking photo of north facing section (section #138) of large pit F1302, 2m scale.



North looking photo of south facing section (section #137) of large pit F1301, 2m scale.



East looking photo of west facing section (section #136) of pit F1307, 1m scale.

Figure 15. Record photographs of selected features.



West looking photo of SK12006 within grave F1202, 1m scale.



Representative example of a Phase 1 building post hole with stone packing material around a post pipe (west looking photo of F1319, 1m scale).



Representative example of a deep, load bearing Phase 1 building post hole (south looking photo of N facing section of F1315, 1m scale).



Representative example of a Phase 2 building post hole, shallower and smaller than Phase 1 (north looking photo of S facing section #108 of F1330, 0.50m

Figure 16. Record photographs of selected features.



South looking photo of north facing section (section #129) of drainage ditch F1303, with pottery visible in section. 1m scale.



West looking photo of internal partition wall within the Romano-British building consisting of several post holes and beam slots. 0.50m scale.



West looking photo of East facing section (section #118) of rubbish pit F1305, 2m scale.



West looking photo of east facing section (section #118) of rubbish pit F1306, 2m scale.

Figure 17. Record photographs of selected features.

499712

499714

457676



457674

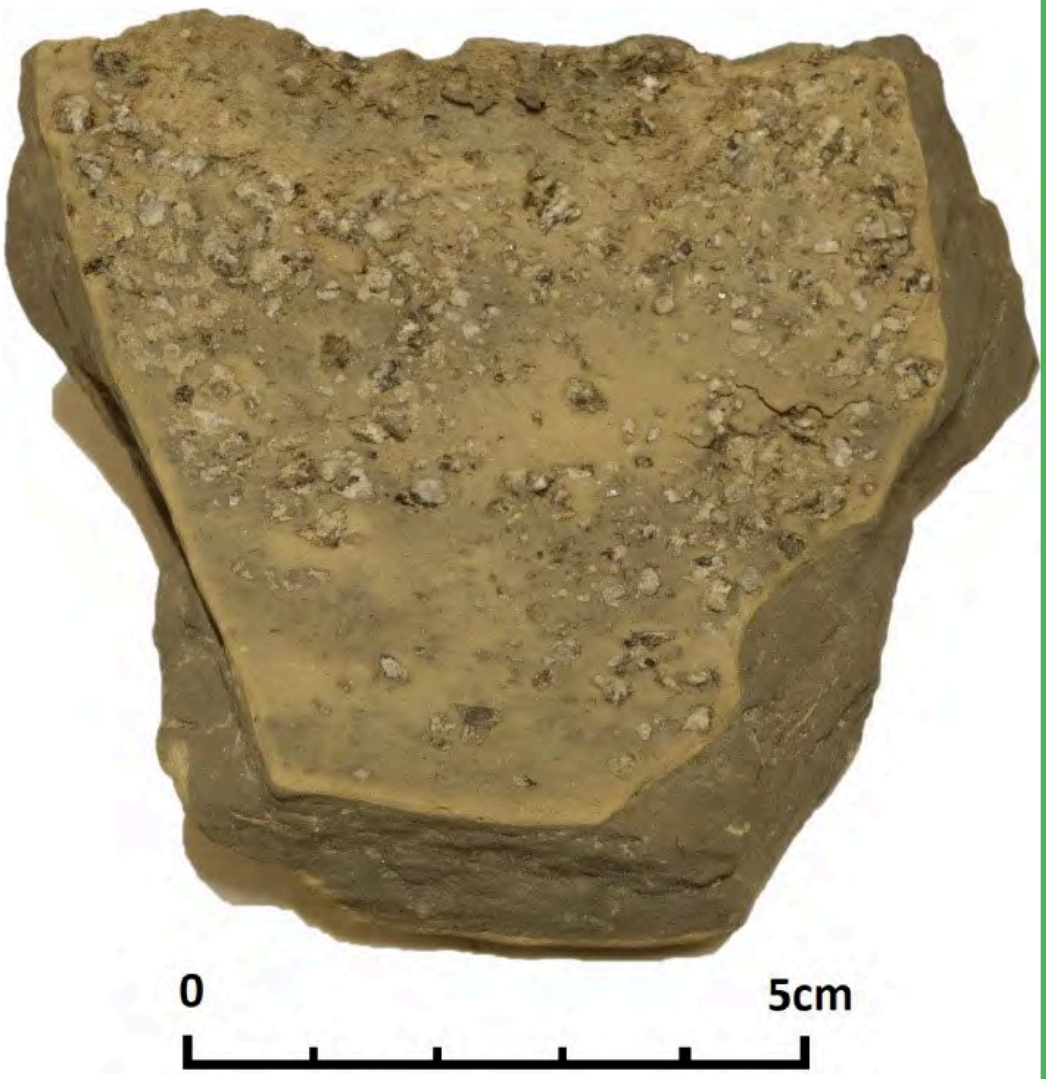
0m 0.5m 1m

1:10 Scale

Figure 18. Orthomosaic model of SK12006 within grave F1202 before lifting.



Figure 19. Preservation and fragmentation of SK12006.



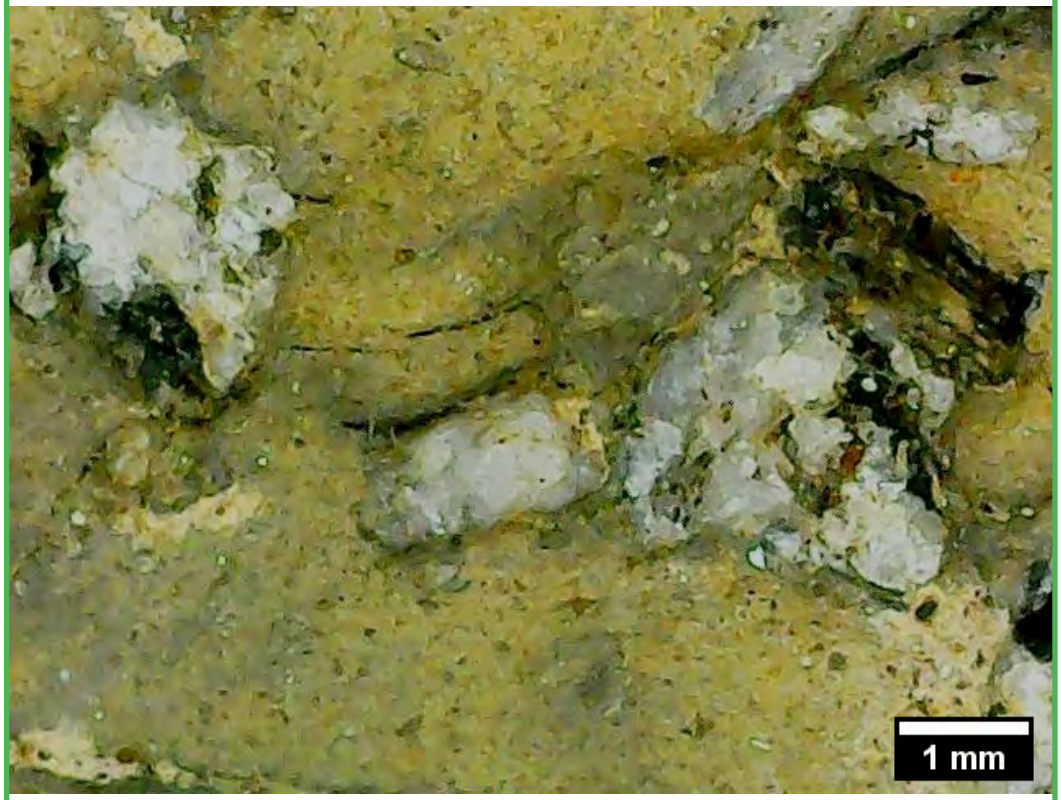


Figure 20. Grey ware mortarium including detailed view of trituration grits (FTS in archive).



Figure 21. Parisian ware sherds with characteristic impressed/rouletted decoration.



Figure 22. Jar/beaker in GRFF fabric with impressed chevron decorations, DO3.



Figure 23. B334 vessel in GRFF fabric, showing rare example of coarse inclusion and microscopic image of fabric; D61.



Figure 24. Jar with tall everted rim in IASA3 fabric, showing finger wiped rim exterior and microscopic image; D62.

	INPUTS internally or externally deployed staff and resources	ACTIVITIES the processes and tasks undertaken by the organisation	OUTPUTS a quantifiable unit of 'product' or 'service' measurable once completed	OUTCOMES Observable change for heritage, individuals or communities	MISSION AND VISION The organisation's guiding mission and long term aspirations
For Archaeology and Heritage	Excavation team Wider specialist team Venturers (public participants)	1 Desk-based assessments 2 Remote Sensing 3 3D landscape and building survey 4 Excavation 5 Post-ex assessment and analysis 6 Accessible digital archive	• Project Designs • Survey reports • Assessment and Final Reports • Management Plans • Archaeological Publications • Site Interpretations	Through our work, heritage will be: • identified, interpreted and better explained • better managed and in an improved condition	By collaborating with citizens, businesses, organisations and government, we aim to create a firm evidence-base for the past through accessible, peer-reviewed research, ultimately enabling places to thrive, prosper and sustain distinct local identities
For Individuals	Community management, educational and editorial teams DigVentures' collaborative platform: • collaborative resources DigVentures.com • collaborative finance Crowdfunding app • collaborative labour Digital Dig Team web app • collaborative knowledge MOOC learning management system	1 Crowdfunding campaigns and matched crowd/grant funded applications 2 Accessible training programme comprising Dig for a Day/ Dirty Weekend/ Field Venturer 3 Digital learning resources including site-specific and skills-based learning available in person or online 4 DigCamp and CyberDig family sessions	Funded/Match-funded Project • Number and diversity of Dig participants • Number and diversity of Digital participants • Number and diversity of DigCamp participants • Co-created digital archives and interactive, open-access, online resource measurable through digital analytics	By taking part in our work: • a wider range of people will be involved in archaeology and heritage • people will have learnt about heritage, leading to changes in ideas and actions • people will have greater wellbeing	By creating a spectrum of digital and physical opportunities to participate together, we aim to equip citizens with the skills needed to use, produce, manage and co-commission heritage resources, fostering civic awareness and a deeper sense of place and belonging
For Communities / Society	Community management educational and editorial teams Site Hut Dig Timeline Social Channels	1 School visits 2 Site open days 3 Pop-up and virtual museums 4 Published web content and native social posts 5 Recorded video and live 6 Traditional broadcast and print media	• Number of web/social engagements, and community growth • Number and diversity of site and pop-up visitors • Site and museum visitors increased and lasting audience for sites	As a consequence of our work: • The local area will be a better place to live, work or visit • Partner organisations will be more resilient	By challenging the perceived barriers to archaeological participation, we will create an accessible 'broad tent' incorporating multi-cultural and diverse perspectives; we aim to increasing the awareness and amenity of sites and visitor attractions, stimulate leisure and tourism, and help to make distinctive heritage the unique selling point of a place

Figure 25. OUR THEORY of CHANGE - Measuring impact for both intrinsic outcome for archaeology and instrumental benefits for people and communities

DigVentures

	EXPECTATION	SUGGESTED METHOD	OUTCOMES FOR HERITAGE	OUTCOMES FOR PEOPLE	OUTCOMES FOR COMMUNITIES
	Providing an academically rigorous framework, whilst ensuring that impact measurement is appropriate to the stage of development of a variety of different products, services and programmes.	Steps needed to ensure correct evidence is collected to determine whether or not a venture is making a positive difference	Intrinsic benefits relating to the research dividend and evidence baseline required for successful management of archaeological sites and landscapes	Instrumental benefits for participants and platform users, enabling the voluntary sector to scale in a sustainable and ethically responsible fashion	Wider social impacts received by those who may not be direct participants, but benefit through increased amenity value, tourism and local distinctiveness.
Level One	A low threshold, appropriate to very early stage innovations, which may still be at the idea stage. Involving little more than a clear articulation of why the intervention is needed, what it will aim to achieve why this is better than what currently happens. Project owners will be able to give an account of impact, providing a logical reason why their intervention could have an impact and why that would be an improvement on the current situation.	A clear rationale to show why the product/service could have an impact, and why that would be an improvement on the current situation. Articulated as a theory of change and logic model, linking activities, outputs, outcomes to hypothesized impact.	A fully illustrated Project Design, signed off by statutory stakeholder, outlining key archaeological research questions, roles, procedures, stages and outputs.	A training or activity plan, linking activities to outputs, outcomes and impact, and an explanation of how the outcome could be measured.	A training, activity, audience development and/or heritage resource management plan, linking activities to outputs, outcomes and impact, and an explanation of how the outcome could be measured.
Level Two	At Level 2 projects will be gathering data that shows some change amongst those receiving or using the intervention. At this stage, data can begin to show that there is a change in the measure of the outcome among the recipients of the product or service, but this may not be sufficient to provide evidence of direct causality.	Pre and post–survey evaluation; cohort/panel study; and regular interval surveying.	Assessment Report; Management Report, base-lined against previous investigations	Evaluation survey for participants to quantify demographics, socio-economic characteristics and spatial data, followed up with a pre and post-survey qualitative evaluation using a separate questionnaire methodology to determine any changes as a consequence of taking part	Evaluation survey for site visitors to quantify audience demographics, socio-economic characteristics and spatial data, followed up with a qualitative study using a separate questionnaire methodology to determine any changes that took place as a consequence of the visit
Level Three	At Level 3 projects will be able to demonstrate that they are causing the hypothesized impact, by showing less impact amongst those who don't receive the product/ service.	Robust methods using a control group, or evaluating a random selection of participants, begin to isolate the impact of the product/ service. All products/services at Level 3 will be well documented, with necessary skills, training (and other delivery requirements) outlined clearly, to enable effective replication in alternative places, situation, contexts etc.	Analytical report, synthesizing specialist reports with previous work locally, regionally and nationally, to determine significance, importance and potential of the site.	Meta-analysis of evaluation results with those derived from projects delivering similar community-based activities, including archaeological/ heritage and other unrelated arts/ citizen science projects.	Meta-analysis of evaluation results with those derived from projects delivering similar community-based activities - including both archaeological/heritage and other unrelated arts/citizen science projects.
Level Four	At Level 4 projects can explain why and how the intervention is having the impact observed and evidenced so far, supported by an independent evaluation to validate the findings. This will also assess the extent to which the intervention can deliver impact at a reasonable cost, and whether it can be replicated and purchased in multiple locations.	Robust independent evaluation that investigates and validates the nature of the impact; this might include endorsement via commercial standards or industry kitemarks, underpinned by a documented standardisation of delivery and processes, data on costs of production and acceptable price point for customers.	Quality assured by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) under the Registered Organisation scheme, and involving independent site inspections and documentary audit.	External audit of quality of training programmes and activities by CIfA, The Archaeological Training Forum, Register of Professional Archaeologists, Skills Passport and National Occupational Standards.	External audit of community programming and impact by specialist consultancy, undertaken independently of project team.
Level Five	At Level 5, projects will be able to demonstrate that the intervention could be operated up by someone else, somewhere else and scaled up, whilst continuing to have positive and direct impact on the outcome, and whilst remaining a financially viable proposition. For a service, this will establish whether it can be delivered by different staff in different locations.	Evidence will be derived from multiple evaluations of the product/ service in different settings (at least two evaluations; one of which will be independent) to demonstrate that the product/service can be used in different settings (which could be in different settings geographically and/or with different types of product/service users). Appropriate methods at this level will include multiple replication evaluations; future scenario analysis; or fidelity evaluation.	An excavation manual, underpinned by a broader operations manual and 'culture deck', detailing how the DigVentures project model should be applied in differing contexts.	A syllabus and training manual, underpinned by a broader operations manual and outline spectrum of engagement, detailing the participant's journey from digital supporter to experienced field digger.	An audience engagement and communications plan, underpinned by a broader operations manual and tailored 'culture deck', detailing how the intervention should be applied with clear and measurable benchmarks.

Figure 26. DigVentures' Standards of Evidence Framework.

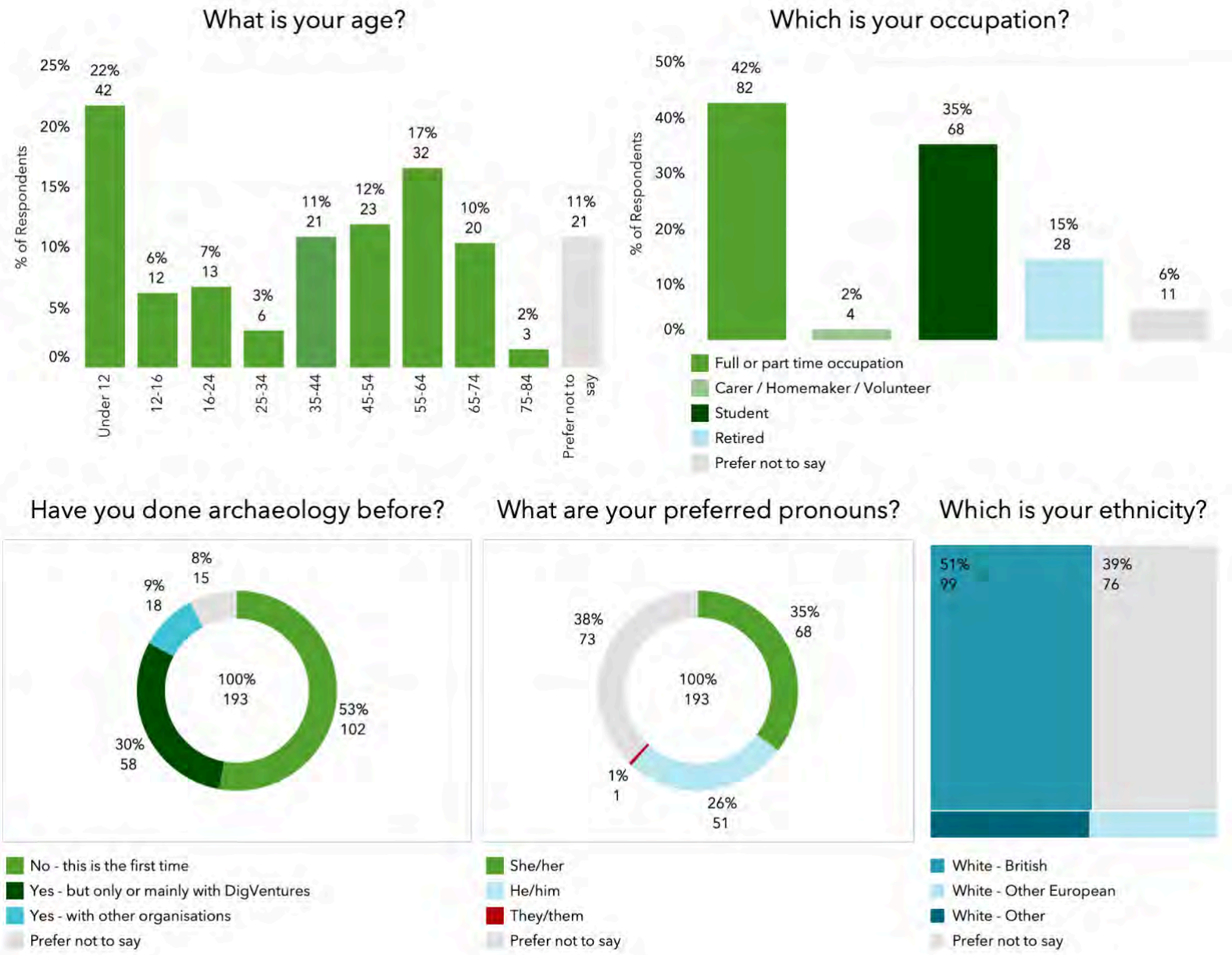


Figure 27. Participant age, occupation, pronouns and ethnicity.

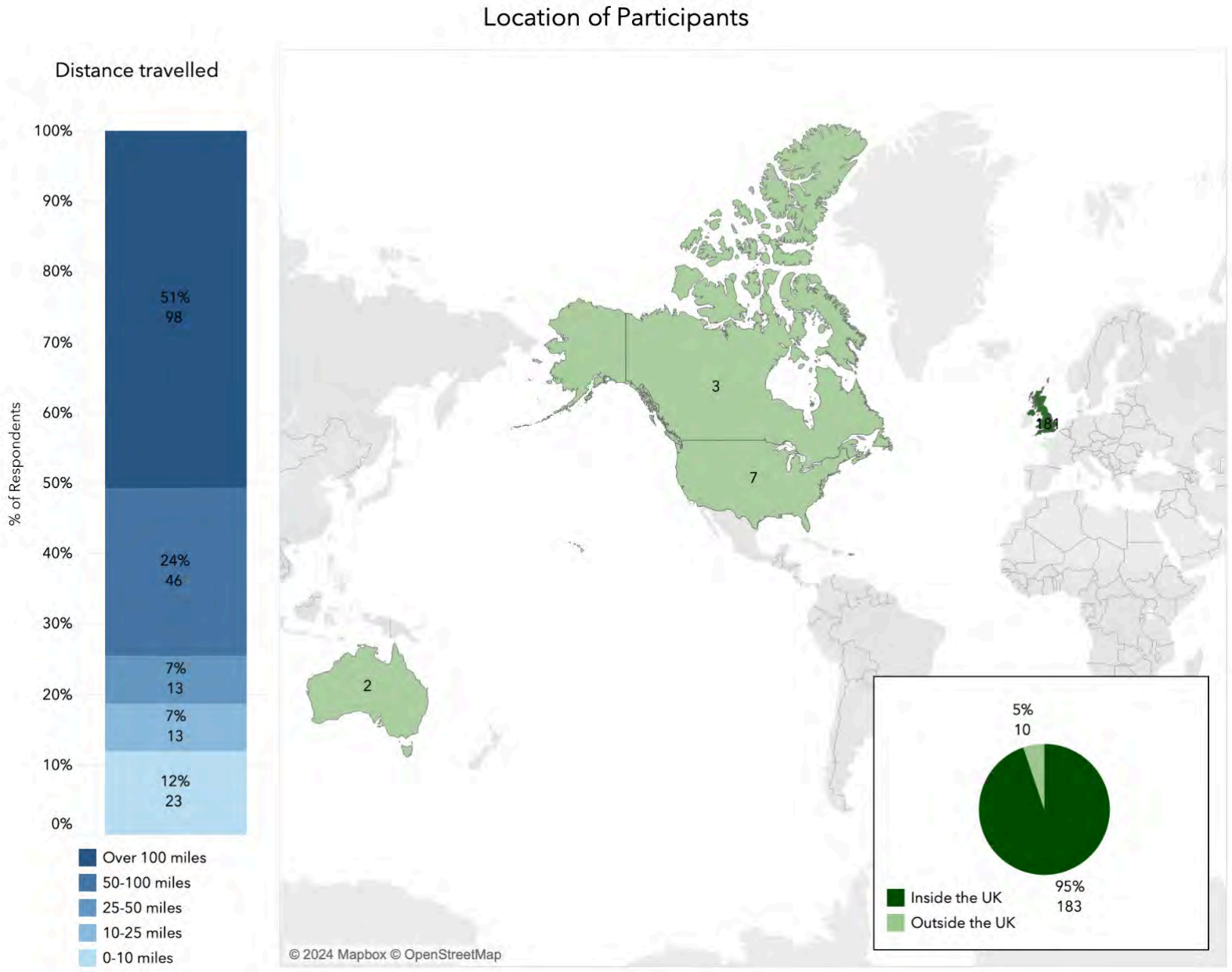


Figure 28. Location of participants.

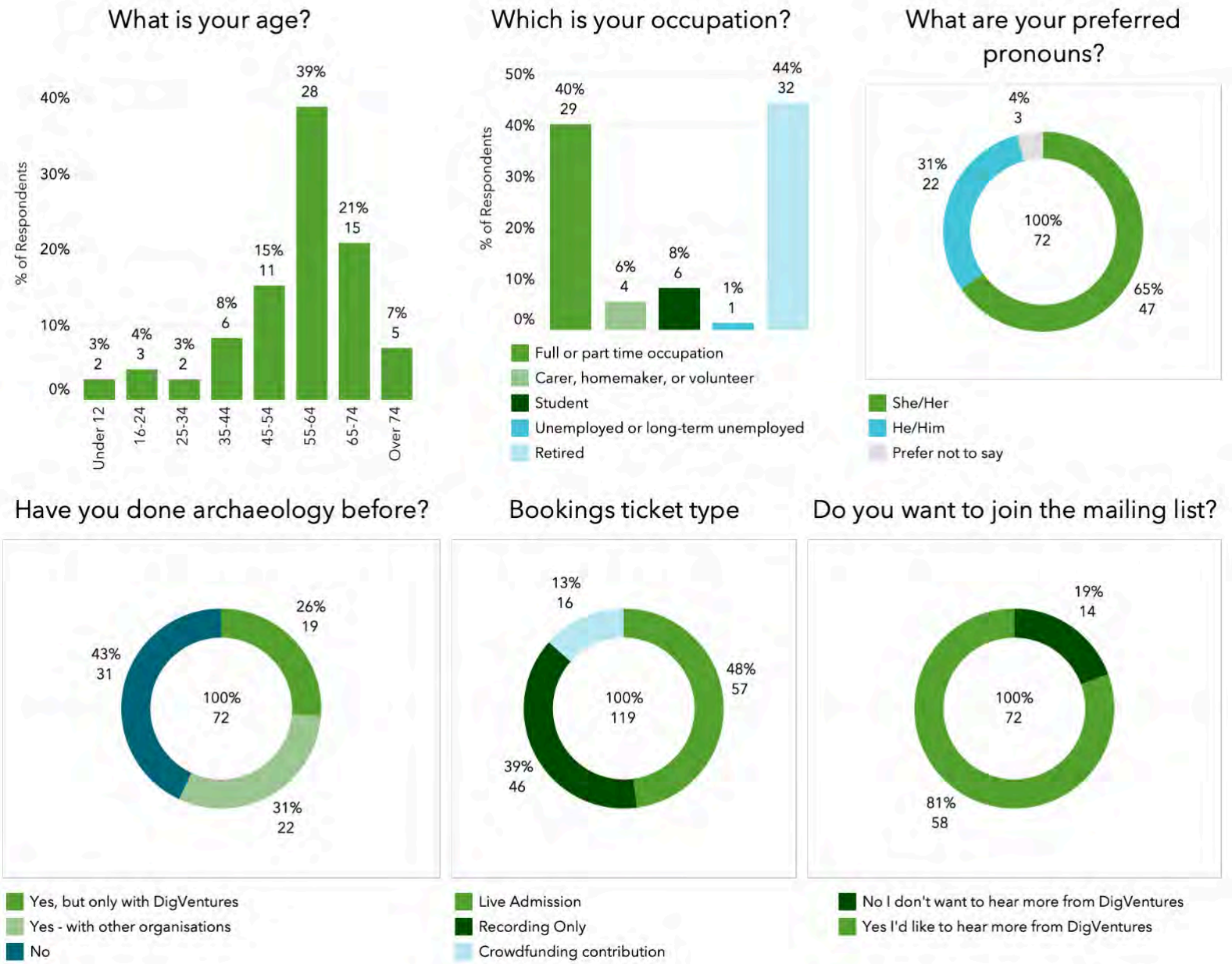


Figure 29. Virtual participant evaluation data.

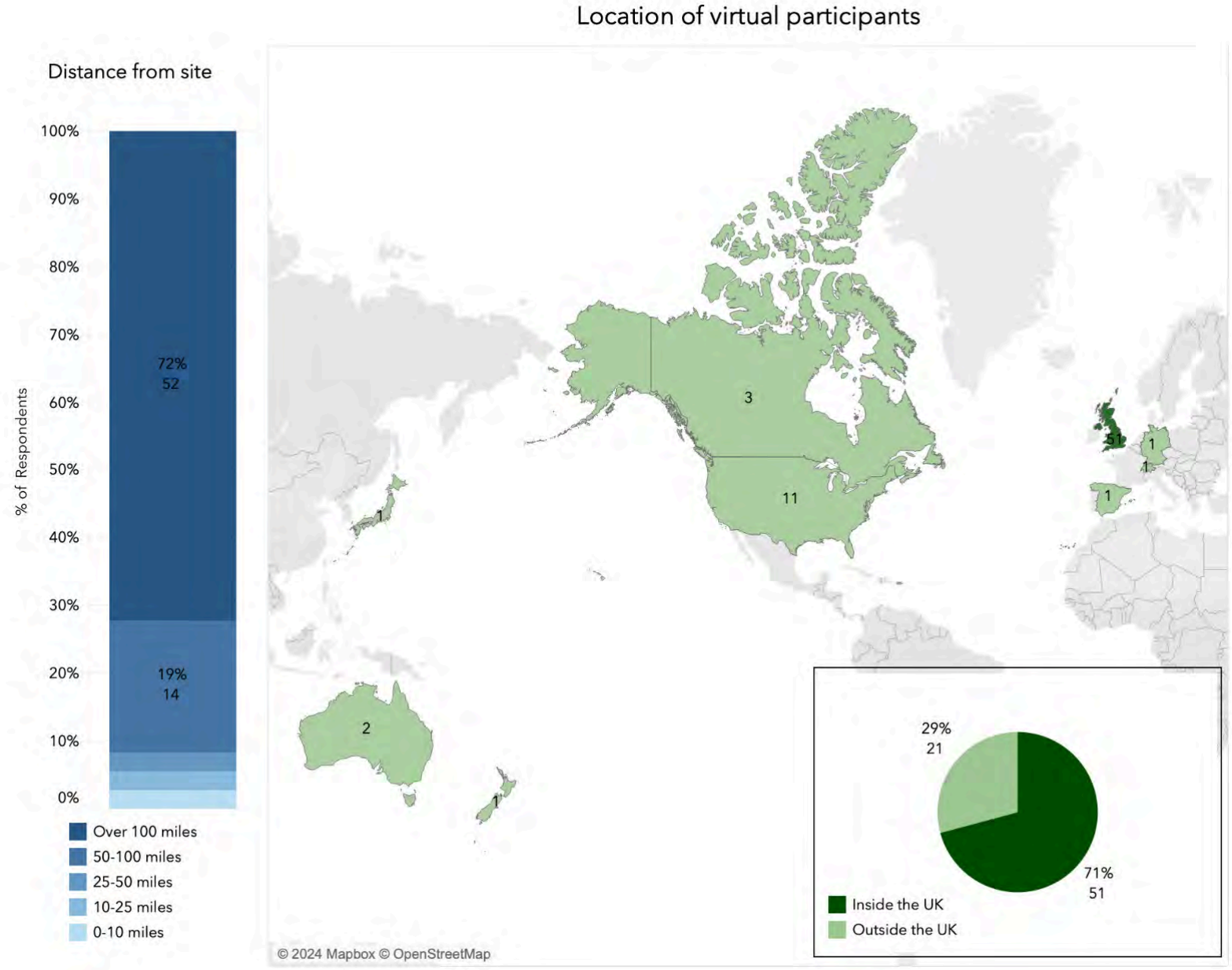


Figure 30. Location of virtual participants.



Venturers recording two rubbish pits in Trench 13



Joel finds a piece of Roman glass



Marnie and Dee proud to have finished recording their feature



Elmswell 2023 dig team



Work at the finds room progressing well



Louise finds a large sherd of Mortaria

Figure 31. Photographs of the community excavation and participants.

Appendix A. Context descriptions

Table 1. Trench 12 context descriptions

Trench 12	**Dimensions:**	30.00m x 5.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate an outer boundary ditch of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
12001	Firm, dark greyish brown loam with pea gravel inclusions	Layer	Ploughsoil in Trench 12	30.00	5.00	0.30	N/A
12002	Fill of ditch. Colour: dark orangey brown. Composition: silty clay. Compaction: dry, firm. Inclusions: moderate small sub-rounded spheroidal gravel, evenly distributed.	Fill	Upper silting fill of the enclosure ditch	5.00	2.36	0.80	F1201
12003	Cut of N-S ditch. Shape in plan: linear. Break at top: sharp. Sides: steep, straight. Break at base: sharp. Base: flat.	Cut	N-S aligned segment of enclosure ditch for one of the enclosures of the ladder settlement on trench 12	5.00	2.36	1.05	F1201
12004	Void	Fill	VOID	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
12005	Void	Cut	VOID	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Trench 12	Dimensions:	30.00m x 5.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate an outer boundary ditch of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
12006	Skeleton of grave.	Skeleton	Possible Iron Age Crouch Burial. Skeleton buried lying on its right side in a small oval shaped grave [12008]. The individual was buried next to an enclosure ditch of likely Romano-British date. No dateable material was recovered from the grave and it cannot be proven what the chronological relationship between the grave and ditch are at this point. However, it is perhaps more likely the grave is earlier than the ditch given its character, but this cannot be proven.	0.94	0.53	N/A	F1202

Trench 12	Dimensions:	30.00m x 5.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate an outer boundary ditch of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
12007	Fill of grave. Colour: mid yellowish brown. Composition: fine clayey sand. Compaction: moist, loose. Inclusions: frequent small sub-rounded platy gravel, evenly distributed.	Fill	Fill of a grave containing skeleton SK12006; a suspected Iron Age crouch burial. The individual was laid out in a crouched position lying on its right side in a small oval grave adjacent to a likely Romano-British enclosure ditch. No artefacts were recovered from the grave fill. Samples 39-41 were taken from this material. Two were for parasite analysis, one was bulk for small bone recovery.	1.69	1.18	0.23	F1202
12008	Cut of N-S grave. Shape in plan: oval. Break at top: gradual. Sides: moderate, concave. Break at base: gradual. Base: flat.	Cut	Cut of an oval grave containing crouched burial SK12006 of suspected Iron Age date.	1.69	1.18	0.23	F1202
12009	Fill of ditch. Colour: dark orangey brown. Composition: silty clay. Compaction: moist, malleable. Inclusions: moderate small sub-rounded spheroidal gravel.	Fill	Initial silting or slipping fill of the enclosure ditch	5.00	1.10	0.28	F1201
12010	Natural in Trench 12	Layer	Natural clays and pea gravel in Trench 12	30.00	5.00	N/A	N/A

Table 2. Trench 13 context descriptions.

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13001	Firm, dark greyish brown loam with pea gravel inclusions	Layer	Ploughsoil in Trench 13	25.00	15.00	0.30	N/A
13002	Natural geology in Trench 13. Bright greyish yellow gravels.	Layer	Natural gravels in Trench 13	25.00	15.00	N/A	N/A
13003	Fill of ditch [13004]. Colour: mid brownish grey. Composition: sandy silt. Compaction: dry, loose. Inclusions: 1) occasional flecks of charcoal 2) frequent flecks to small sub-rounded to rounded stones, evenly distributed.	Fill	Fill of a ditch, possibly for drainage or a boundary or enclosure ditch related to building in middle of tr13.	> 1.00	1.20	0.34	F1303
13004	Cut of N-S ditch. Shape in plan: regular, linear. Break at top: gradual. Sides: moderate, concave. Break at base: imperceptible. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of ditch in eastern side of the trench by northern LoE. Possible drainage ditch leading towards large pit [13012] or a boundary/enclosure associated with the building in Trench 13.	> 1.00	1.20	0.34	F1303
13005	Fill of pit [13006]. Colour: dark brownish grey. Composition: sandy silt. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: 1) occasional flecks of charcoal 2) frequent large to very large angular to sub-angular rubble, evenly distributed.	Fill	Rubble fill of a shallow pit in the east of tr13. This rubble may have been building debris as some fragmented pieces of worked stone blocks were present in the fill	2.50	1.31	0.13	F1308

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13006	Cut of pit. Shape in plan: irregular, oval. Break at top: gradual. Sides: 1) E: moderate, concave 2) W: shallow, straight. Break at base: 1) E: gradual 2) W: imperceptible. Base: uneven, sloping towards E.	Cut	Cut of a very shallow probable pit, may have just been a scoop filled with rubble	2.50	1.31	0.13	F1308
13007	Mid yellowish brown, clayey silt with moderately frequent sub rounded gravel inclusions	Fill	Upper silting fill of a rubbish pit [13008] containing some shards of Roman glass, pottery, CBM, shell, bone etc	1.92	1.16+	0.29	F1307
13008	Cut of a circular rubbish pit with undercut sides and a flat base	Cut	Cut of a Romano-British rubbish pit, likely in association with the occupation of the timber building in the centre of this trench. Artefacts recovered were predominantly domestic in nature, including Roman glass, Pottery, CBM, as well as animal bone and shell	1.92	1.16+	0.83	F1307
13009	Fill of ditch: dark yellowish brown, clayey silt with pea gravel and charcoal inclusions	Fill	Silting fill of a shallow gully [13010] leading towards large pit [13012], itself cut by ditch [13100]	1.93	0.52	0.20	F1304
13010	Cut of a linear N-S aligned steep sided shallow ditch or gully with a shallow U-shaped base.	Cut	Cut of a linear N-S aligned gully, itself truncated by another gully/small ditch [13100]. These gullies both lead towards large pit [13012], a possible water tank/well, and may exist to drain water into this pit.	1.93	0.52	0.20	F1304

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13011	Fill of pit [13012]. Colour: mid yellowish brown. Composition: clayey silt. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: frequent small to large angular to well-rounded stone, evenly distributed.	Fill	Upper silting fill of large pit [13012]	3.73	> 2.44	0.45	F1302
13012	Cut of pit. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: sharp. Sides: dipping, concave.	Cut	Cut of a large pit in the east of Tr13. The pit was just to the east of a large post built building, and is likely a water tank or possibly a well associated with the function of the building. The pit itself measured 1.70m in depth before excavation ceased without reaching the bottom due to safety reasons. The depth and size of the pit suggests its original function must have been for water storage below the level of the water table. It is likely that the pit was reused as a rubbish pit and backfilled after the water was no longer required. Several fills, most notably (13099), contained a high amount of concentrated rubble and stone chunks. This could possibly represent the remains of a collapsed stone well head, although this cannot be proven without further excavation.	3.73	3.59	> 1.75	F1302

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13013	Fill of pit [13014]. Colour: light greyish brown. Composition: pebbly silt. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: 1) frequent medium to large sub-rounded spheroidal limestone rocks 2) occasional large very angular spheroidal larger linestone stones, concentrated towards northern end of pit.	Fill	Upper fill of a rubbish pit containing high concentrations of finds. This fill was dark and rich indicating refuse thrown out. It caps a primary dumping layer below that was also filled with artefacts.	1.80	0.91	0.30	F1305
13014	Cut of N-S pit. Shape in plan: sub-oval. Break at top: sharp. Sides: steep, concave. Break at base: sharp. Base: flat.	Cut	Rubbish pit in east of tr13, immediately adjacent to large pit/water tank [13012] and timber building. This pit is likely associated with the refuse generated from the occupation of the timber building here. This Pit also cuts pit [13016] to north. Both are rubbish pits filled with domestic debris.	2.60	1.85	0.79	F1305
13015	Fill of pit [13016]. Colour: light brownish yellow. Composition: clayey silt. Compaction: very dry, friable. Inclusions: frequent small to medium sub-rounded stones, evenly distributed.	Fill	Upper fill of pit, contained some pot and bone, probably a silting layer formed after the pit had been abandoned.	1.45	1.30	0.20	F1306

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13016	Cut of pit. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: sharp. Sides: vertical, concave, undercut. Break at base: gradual. Base: rounded.	Cut	Possible storage pit initially then waste pit. Undercut possibly by natural water flow originally. It is cut on the southern side by another pit [13014].	1.45	1.30	0.84	F1306
13017	Fill of a pit: Dark yellowish brown clayey silt with moderately frequent sub rounded gravel inclusions	Fill	Primary silting fill of a Romano-British rubbish pit. This included a fragment of a small carved bone knife handle amongst pottery, shell, animal bone and iron nails	1.92	1.16	0.54	F1307
13018	Fill of pit [13019]. Colour: light yellowish brown. Composition: sandy silt. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: frequent flecks to very large very angular to well-rounded stones/gravels.	Fill	Upper gravelly fill of large pit [13019] in west of tr13. This was probably the final silting deposit in the pit.	1.80	1.60	0.43	F1301

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13019	Cut of a large pit, possible water tank reused as a rubbish pit. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: sharp. Sides: dipping, concave.	Cut	Cut of large pit at the west end of tr13. This pit was similar in size and nature to pit [13012] and likely had a similar purpose originally as a water storage tank. Its depth was 1.90m before excavation ceased without reaching the bottom due to safety reasons. The sequence of fills was slightly different than in pit [13012] - here there were more obvious series of tipping events where the pit was most likely used for discarding rubbish and backfiled after the water tank was no longer required. The tipping lines were on a steep angle and showed no signs of levelling out even at 1.90m depth, suggesting there is plenty more depth yet. There was no evidence of a well head here, suggesting the feature was more of a water tank than a well.	3.15	3.10	1.90	F1301
13020	Fill of posthole. Colour: mid greyish brown. Composition: fine silty sand. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: frequent medium sub-angular to sub-rounded stones, evenly distributed.	Fill	Fill of post hole [13021], part of building phase 2 at the western side of the structure.	0.58	0.54	0.15	F1328

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13021	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: sharp. Sides: steep, concave. Break at base: gradual. Base: uneven.	Cut	Cut of a post hole that forms the western wall of a fairly large building in the centre of trench 13, the cut contains a single fill (13020). This post hole represents phase 2 of the timber structure, where the building was seemingly demolished and rebuilt in almost the same location, slightly offset to the east.	0.58	0.54	0.15	F1328
13022	Fill of posthole [13023]. Colour: mid greyish brown. Composition: fine silty sand. Compaction: dry, firm. Inclusions: frequent small to large sub-angular to sub-rounded stones, evenly distributed.	Fill	This is the fill of the post pipe once the post [13023] had been removed, it is directly above the packing (13053).	0.73	0.51	0.77	F1311
13023	Cut of NW-SE posthole. Shape in plan: oval. Break at top: sharp. Sides: steep, concave. Break at base: gradual. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of a post hole, part of the western wall of a Roman timber building in trench 13 belonging to phase 1 of the structure before it likely burnt down and was replaced by a second phase in the same location	0.89	0.77	0.81	F1311
13024	Fill of posthole. Colour: dark brown. Composition: silt. Compaction: dry, malleable. Inclusions: moderate small rounded spheroidal gravel, evenly distributed.	Fill	Fill of a shallow post hole in the western wall of the Roman timber building in trench 13, belonging to phase 2 of the structure.	0.56	0.40	0.09	F1329

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13025	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-circular.	Cut	Cut of a small sub circular post hole in the western wall of the Roman timber building, belonging to phase 2 of the structure. After phase 1 likely burnt down, phase 2 rebuilt the building in almost the same location, slightly offset to the east.	0.56	0.40	0.09	F1329
13026	Fill of posthole. Colour: dark brown. Composition: clayey silt. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: moderate flecks of charcoal, evenly distributed.	Fill	Post pipe of post hole - lots of charcoal near base. Likely belonging to phase 1 of the structure on its western side. The charcoal suggests the structure burnt down. A second phase of post holes suggests it was replaced.	0.33	0.30	0.61	F1312
13027	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: sharp. Sides: steep, concave. Break at base: sharp. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of a post hole - western alignment. Deeper post hole of the 2 alignments on the western side and with the charcoal at the base, suggesting it belonged to phase 1 of the structure which likely burnt down and was replaced by phase 2 in a very similar location, slightly offset to the east and not as long.	0.92	0.80	0.61	F1312
13028	Fill of posthole. Colour: dark yellowish brown. Composition: clayey silt. Compaction: dry, friable.	Fill	Fill of a post hole in the western wall of a Roman timber built structure in Trench 13, likely belonging to phase 2 of the structure, slightly offset to the east of Phae 1. Shallower and containing less charcoal than Phase 1.	0.63	0.60	0.16	F1330

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13029	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-circular, steep sided with a flat base	Cut	Cut of a post hole in the western wall of a Romano-British timber built structure in trench 13, part of phase 2 of the building. The post holes in phase 2 were slightly offset to the east of those in phase 1 and the building was not quite as long. These post holes were also shallower and contained less charcoal. It is likely that phase 1 burnt down and was replaced in a very similar location by the phase 2 structure.	0.63	0.60	0.16	F1330
13030	Fill of posthole. Colour: dark yellowish brown. Composition: clayey silt. Inclusions: moderate small sub-rounded spheroidal gravel, evenly distributed.	Fill	Fill of a post hole in the western wall of a Roman timber built structure in Trench 13, likely belonging to phase 1 of the building.	0.60	0.50	0.62	F1313
13031	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: sharp. Sides: shallow, straight. Break at base: sharp. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of a post hole in the western wall of the Romano-British building likely belonging to Phase 1 of the structure. These post holes tended to be deeper and contain more charcoal, in some cases with a visible post pipe, compared with phase 2 of the building. Phase 2 likely replaced phase 1 when it burnt down. It was located slightly offset to the east and shorter than phase 1 with shallower post holes possibly supporting a smaller building.	0.60	0.50	0.62	F1313

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13032	Fill of pit [13014]. Colour: dark greyish brown. Composition: clayey silt. Compaction: moist, friable. Inclusions: moderate small to medium sub-rounded platy smaller pebbles, evenly distributed.	Fill	Primary dumping layer within rubbish pit [13014]. This material was dark and organic, filled with plentiful finds consistent with domestic waste. A number of special finds were also recovered from this waste dumping deposit including Roman glass, a chisel, a bone pin and others.	2.60	1.72	0.41	F1305
13033	Fill of pit [13019]. Colour: mid greyish brown. Composition: sandy silt. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: frequent small to large angular to rounded stones, evenly distributed.	Fill	Band of darker slightly organic fill in large pit [13019] in west of TR13. This may represent the final rubbish dumping event in the pit before it completely silted up with (13018).	3.10	2.70	0.40	F1301
13034	Fill of pit [13012]. Colour: mid yellowish brown. Composition: clayey silt. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: frequent small sub-rounded spheroidal chalk and flint, evenly distributed.	Fill	Second from latest silting fill within large pit [13012]. This event likely formed just after the intentional backfilling of the pit had ceased.	> 1.43	2.95	0.31	F1302

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13035	Fill of posthole [13036]. Colour: dark greyish brown. Composition: silty clay. Compaction: moist, firm. Inclusions: 1) occasional flecks of charcoal 2) frequent flecks to small angular to rounded stones, evenly distributed.	Fill	Fill of post pipe within post hole [13036] belonging to phase 1 of the timber building. The post pipe was surrounded by packing material (13054). Charcoal was recovered from this deep post hole, in keeping with the character of the post holes belonging to this first phase of the building.	0.42	0.27	0.55	F1314
13036	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: circular. Break at top: 1) NW: gradual 2) SE: sharp. Sides: 1) NW: dipping, straight 2) SE: vertical, straight. Break at base: sharp. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of a post hole associated with Phase 1 of the Romano-British timber building on its western wall. The northern most of the sequence at the building's gable end, this post hole was deeper than those in Phase 2 and contained a substantial amount of charcoal in the post pipe, indicating the structure burnt down before being replaced by Phase 2 in a very similar location.	0.65	0.64	0.62	F1314
13037	Fill of posthole [13038]. Colour: mid greyish brown. Composition: sandy silt. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: frequent flecks to small rounded stones, evenly distributed.	Fill	Silting fill of a post hole, the westernmost of a series running E-W that forms an internal partition wall within the Roman building.	0.33	0.29	0.09	F1332

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13038	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: gradual. Sides: moderate, concave. Break at base: gradual. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of a post hole, the westernmost of a series of post holes that forms an internal partition wall within the Roman building in middle of tr13.	0.33	0.29	0.09	F1332
13039	Fill of posthole [13040]. Colour: greyish brown. Composition: fine silty sand. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: frequent small sub-rounded to well-rounded stones, evenly distributed.	Fill	Silting fill of a post hole, second from the west of a series running E-W that forms an internal partition wall within the Roman building.	0.46	0.46	0.10	F1333
13040	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: gradual. Sides: moderate, straight. Break at base: gradual. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of a post hole, the second from the west of a series of post holes that forms an internal partition wall within the Roman building in middle of tr13.	0.46	0.46	0.10	F1333
13041	Fill of posthole. Colour: mid reddish brown. Composition: clayey silt. Compaction: dry, firm. Inclusions: moderate very large sub-angular spheroidal chalk/limestone, concentrated towards external of feature - poscking.	Fill	Silting fill of post hole belonging to phase 2 of the Romano-British building, after the posthole had been removed. Some packing material still remains. The fill has much less charcoal and in shallower than those from Phase 1 of the building	1.00	0.90	0.23	F1326

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13042	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: sharp. Sides: moderate, concave. Break at base: gradual. Base: rounded.	Cut	Large post hole, shallow, part of a linear arrangement of posts forming the western wall of Phase 2 of the Romano-British building in trench 13. The post holes in this phase are shallower and slightly offset to the east compared to the post holes in phase 1 of the building. They contain much less charcoal compared to phase 1, suggesting the building burnt down and was replaced again in nearly the same location.	1.00	0.90	0.23	F1326
13043	Fill of posthole. Colour: mid greyish brown. Composition: sandy silt. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: moderate flecks to medium sub-angular to sub-rounded stones, evenly distributed.	Fill	Silting fill of a post hole, fourth from the west of a series running E-W that forms an internal partition wall within the Roman building.	0.40	0.40	0.11	F1336
13044	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: sharp. Sides: moderate, concave. Break at base: gradual. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of a post hole, fourth from the west of a series of post holes that forms an internal partition wall within the Roman building in middle of tr13.	0.33	0.33	0.11	F1336

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13045	Fill of posthole [13046]. Colour: mid greyish brown. Composition: sandy silt. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: moderate flecks to medium sub-angular to sub-rounded stones, evenly distributed.	Fill	Silting fill of a post hole, third from the west of a series running E-W that forms an internal partition wall within the Roman building.	0.40	0.40	0.11	F1335
13046	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: sharp. Sides: moderate, concave. Break at base: imperceptible. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of a post hole, third from the west of a series of post holes that forms an internal partition wall within the Roman building in middle of tr13.	0.40	0.40	0.11	F1335
13047	Fill of posthole [13048]. Colour: mid greyish brown. Composition: sandy silt. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: moderate flecks to medium angular to rounded stone, evenly distributed.	Fill	Silting fill of a post hole, immediately to the south of the internal partition wall of the Romano-British building at its centre.	0.30	0.20	0.06	F1337
13048	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: gradual. Sides: shallow, concave. Break at base: imperceptible. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of posthole immediately to the south of the internal partition of the Romano-British building at its centre. This may have been a structural support for the partition wall.	0.30	0.20	0.06	F1337
13049	VOID	Fill	VOID	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
13050	VOID	Cut	VOID	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13051	Fill of a beam slot: Mid greyish brown, clayey silt with flecks of small chalk pieces	Fill	Silting fill of a segment (westernmost) of possible beam slot forming part of the internal partition wall for the Romano-British building in Trench 13. This segment was left unexcavated.	0.62	0.18	N/A	F1331
13052	Cut of beam slot (unexcavated).	Cut	Cut of a segment (westernmost) of possible beam slot forming part of the internal partition wall for the Romano-British building in Trench 13. This segment was left unexcavated.	0.62	0.18	N/A	F1331
13053	Fill of posthole [13023]. Colour: bright yellowish brown. Composition: sandy gravel. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: frequent medium to large sub-angular to sub-rounded stone, concentrated towards eastern side.	Fill	Packing material on eastern side of post hole belonging to Phase 1 of the Romano-British building in Trench 13. Some of the post holes in phase 1 show the burnt post pipe with packing stones and material around it to keep it in place. This is less common in phase 2, where the post holes were also much shallower. This suggests that Phase 1 may have been a more substantial, possible multi storey structure, compared to a smaller phase 2 building	0.72	0.34	0.59	F1311

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13054	Fill of posthole [13036]. Colour: light yellowish brown. Composition: sandy gravel. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: frequent medium to very large angular to sub-angular stones, evenly distributed.	Fill	Packing material of post hole belonging to Phase 1 of the Romano-British building in Trench 13. Some of the post holes in phase 1 show the burnt post pipe with packing stones and material around it to keep it in place. This is less common in phase 2, where the post holes were also much shallower. This suggests that Phase 1 may have been a more substantial, possible multi storey structure, compared to a smaller phase 2 building	0.65	0.64	0.57	F1314
13055	Fill of posthole. Colour: very light orangey yellow. Composition: silt. Compaction: very dry, friable. Inclusions: frequent small sub-rounded spheroidal gravel, evenly distributed.	Fill	Packing material of post hole belonging to Phase 1 of the Romano-British building in Trench 13. Some of the post holes in phase 1 show the burnt post pipe with packing stones and material around it to keep it in place. This is less common in phase 2, where the post holes were also much shallower. This suggests that Phase 1 may have been a more substantial, possible multi storey structure, compared to a smaller phase 2 building	0.78	0.55	0.47	F1312

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13056	Fill of beam slot [13057]. Colour: mid greyish brown. Composition: sandy silt. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: moderate flecks to medium sub-angular to sub-rounded stone, evenly distributed.	Fill	Silting fill of the central segment of a possible beam slot forming part of the internal partition wall for the Romano-British building in Trench 13.	0.81	0.16	0.07	F1334
13057	Cut of beam slot. Shape in plan: linear. Break at top: gradual. Sides: shallow, concave. Break at base: imperceptible. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of the central segment of a possible beam slot forming part of the internal partition wall for the Romano-British building in Trench 13. Very ephemeral, this truncates post hole [13044] and [13046]	0.81	0.16	0.07	F1334
13058	Fill of pit [13019]. Colour: mid yellowish brown. Composition: silty sand. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: Moderate gravel, occasional stone chunks	Fill	A silting event in pit [13019] which occurred before the final dumping event (13033).	> 1.80	> 1.50	0.40	F1301
13059	Fill of pit [13016]. Colour: mid greyish brown. Composition: silty clay. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: moderate small sub-rounded platy stone gravel, evenly distributed.	Fill	Rubbish dumping fill of pit [13016]. Lesser concentration of gravel than in upper layer but still some. Above a layer of burnt material/soil.	1.45	1.45	0.40	F1306

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13060	Fill of ditch [13061]. Colour: mid greyish brown. Composition: sandy silt. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: 1) occasional flecks of charcoal 2) moderate flecks to medium angular to rounded stones, evenly distributed.	Fill	Fill of N-S aligned ditch in east of tr13. The fill in this 1m intervention contained large quantities of pottery (104 sherds), many of which were large or partial vessels. This ditch may have been used to throw out waste material upon the abandonment of the feature (possibly used for drainage into large pit [13012]) and occupation in the area, before the ditch eventually silted up.	> 1.00	1.50	0.46	F1303
13061	Cut of N-S ditch. Shape in plan: linear. Break at top: sharp. Sides: dipping, straight. Break at base: gradual. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of N-S aligned ditch in east of tr13. This ditch was likely used for drainage, draining into the large pit/water tank [13012]. The fill in this 1m intervention contained large quantities of pottery (104 sherds), many of which were large or partial vessels. This ditch may have been used as a convenient place to throw out waste or unwanted domestic material upon the abandonment of occupation in the area, before the ditch eventually silted up.	> 1.00	1.50	0.46	F1303
13062	Fill of posthole. Colour: dark reddish brown. Composition: clayey silt. Compaction: dry, firm. Inclusions: moderate small sub-rounded spheroidal gravel, evenly distributed.	Fill	Silting fill of a post hole - same fill as post hole [13110]. It was discovered upon excavation that this post hole was larger than originally thought and was subsequently fully excavated as post hole [13110] from phase 1 of the western wall of the Roman building.	0.60	0.55	0.15	F1310

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13063	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: sharp. Sides: moderate, concave. Break at base: gradual. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of a post hole, part of the western wall of a Roman building. It was discovered upon excavation that this post hole was larger than originally thought and was subsequently fully excavated as post hole [13110] from phase 1 of the western wall of the Roman building.	0.60	0.55	0.15	F1310
13064	Fill of posthole. Colour: dark reddish brown. Composition: clayey silt. Compaction: dry, firm. Inclusions: moderate small sub-rounded spheroidal gravel, evenly distributed.	Fill	Silting fill of a post hole, part of a western alignment of post holes from Phase 2 of the Roman building in trench 13. The post holes belonging to phase 2 tended to be shallower and slightly offset to the east compared to phase 1 on the western wall of the building. They also contained much less charcoal compared to phase 1, suggesting that this first building may have burnt down and was replaced by a second phase of structure in nearly the same location.	0.55	0.53	0.15	F1327

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13065	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: gradual. Sides: moderate, concave. Break at base: sharp. Base: flat.	Cut	Cut of a circular post hole, part of the alignment of phase 2 post holes on the western side of the Roman building. These post holes were shallower and slightly offset to the east than those in phase 1 of the building on its western wall. The building itself also appears to not have been quite as long as the phase 1 structure. Post holes in Phase 1 contained much more charcoal compared to those in phase 2, suggesting the original structure may have burnt down to be replaced by a smaller structure in nearly the same location. This post hole is particularly small in size and may represent a repair to phase 2 of the building or an additional support. A similar such post hole [13067] was visible on the opposing eastern side of the building.	0.55	0.53	0.15	F1327

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13066	Fill of posthole [13067]. Colour: mid greyish brown. Composition: sandy silt. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: 1) moderate medium to very large sub-angular to sub-rounded stones, concentrated towards around the edge - packing 2) occasional flecks of charcoal, evenly distributed.	Fill	Silting fill of post hole on eastern side of the Romano-British building in trench 13 belonging to phase 2 of the structure. The fill was shallow and observed truncating post hole [13069]. Both of these post holes are expected to relate to phase 2 of the structure due to their being shallower and containing less charcoal than post holes in Phase 1 on the eastern side of the building. Post hole [13067] may represent a repair or supporting post hole at this location on the eastern side of the structure due to its partial truncation of post hole [13069].	0.70	0.70	0.18	F1322
13067	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: circular. Break at top: gradual. Sides: shallow, convex. Break at base: gradual. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of a post hole on the eastern side of the Romano-British building in trench 13 belonging to phase 2 of the structure. The cut was shallow and observed truncating post hole [13069]. Both of these post holes are expected to relate to phase 2 of the structure due to their being shallower and containing less charcoal than post holes in Phase 1 on the eastern side of the building. Post hole [13067] may represent a repair or supporting post hole at this location on the eastern side of the structure due to its partial truncation of post hole [13069].	0.70	0.70	0.18	F1322

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13068	Fill of posthole [13069]. Colour: mid yellowish brown. Composition: sandy silt. Compaction: dry, loose. Inclusions: 1) rare flecks of charcoal 2) frequent small to large angular to rounded stones, evenly distributed.	Fill	Post pipe fill of post hole [13069] on eastern side of building. This post likely relates to phase 2 of the structure and is truncated by a later repair or supporting post hole [13067].	1.25	1.11	0.75	F1321
13069	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: sharp. Sides: vertical, straight. Break at base: sharp. Base: flat.	Cut	Cut of a post hole on the eastern side of the building truncated by [13067], but itself truncating post hole [13113] (visible in plan only). This post likely relates to phase 2 of the structure, replacing the possibly burnt down phase 1. It was later repaired or supported by the addition of post hole [13067], indicating the longevity of use for this structure.	1.25	1.11	0.75	F1321
13070	Fill of posthole. Colour: light yellowish brown. Composition: sandy silt. Compaction: dry, loose. Inclusions: 1) rare flecks of charcoal 2) frequent small to large angular to rounded stones, evenly distributed.	Fill	Post packing material in posthole [13071]. This deeper post hole with visible post pipe (13103) belongs to phase 1 of the structure on its eastern side. It is very similar in size and nature [13110] on the opposite western wall. Phase 1 posts appear to be set much deeper than phase 2, indicating a more substantial structure in this location before it was burnt down and replaced by the smaller phase 2.	1.30	0.83	0.47	F1316

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13071	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-oval. Break at top: sharp. Sides: vertical, straight. Break at base: sharp. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of posthole belonging to phase 1 of the Romano-British structure on the eastern side. This post hole is representative of phase 1 post holes in its larger and deeper size compared to phase 2 and containing more charcoal, suggesting the building may have been burnt down and replaced by the smaller phase 2 structure.	1.30	0.83	0.47	F1316
13072	Fill of posthole. Colour: mid greyish brown. Composition: clayey silt. Compaction: dry, firm. Inclusions: moderate small sub-rounded spheroidal gravel, evenly distributed.	Fill	Silting fill of a post hole likely relating to phase 2 of the Romano-British structure on its eastern side. This post hole was visible truncating Phase 1 post hole [13075]. The smaller size of the phase 2 post holes compared to phase 1 suggests they replaced the original structure (likely to have burnt down) with a smaller version in nearly the same location, indicating longevity of use in this area.	0.70	0.84	0.30	F1323

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13073	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: sharp. Sides: vertical, concave. Break at base: sharp. Base: flat.	Cut	Cut of a post hole, likely relating to phase 2 of the Romano-British structure on its eastern side. This post hole was visible truncating Phase 1 post hole [13075]. The smaller size of the phase 2 post holes compared to phase 1 suggests they replaced the original structure (likely to have burnt down) with a smaller version in nearly the same location, indicating longevity of use in this area.	0.70	0.84	0.30	F1323
13074	Fill of posthole. Colour: mid reddish brown. Composition: clayey silt. Compaction: dry, firm. Inclusions: frequent small sub-rounded spheroidal gravel, evenly distributed.	Fill	Fill of a large post hole, backfilled with gravelly material, occasional packing stones remain. This post hole likely relates to Phase 1 on the eastern side of the structure in TR13. Phase 1 post holes are deeper and more substantial than phase 2, suggesting the original structure here was larger before being replaced by a smaller version in nearly the same location after the original likely burnt down.	1.20	0.92	0.57	F1317

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13075	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: sharp. Sides: vertical, concave. Break at base: sharp. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of a large post hole, sixth down from the north on the eastern alignment. Very substantial post hole, some packing material on the western edge. This post hole likely relates to Phase 1 on the eastern side of the structure in TR13. Phase 1 post holes are deeper and more substantial than phase 2, suggesting the original structure here was larger before being replaced by a smaller version in nearly the same location after the original likely burnt down.	1.20	0.92	0.57	F1317
13076	Fill of posthole [13077]. Dark orangey brown, clayey silt with moderately frequent sub rounded to sub angular platy gravel inclusions	Fill	Silting fill of a shallow post hole relatig to phase 2 of the Romano-British structure on its eastern side. These shallow post holes likely represent a smaller structure replacing the original larger version of Phase 1 that burnt down. This post hole was visible truncating phase 1 post hole [13079].	1.06	0.76	0.11	F1324
13077	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: gradual. Sides: dipping, straight. Break at base: sharp. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of a shallow post hole relatig to phase 2 of the Romano-British structure on its eastern side. These shallow post holes likely represent a smaller structure replacing the original larger version of Phase 1 that burnt down. This post hole was visible truncating phase 1 post hole [13079].	1.06	0.76	0.11	F1324

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13078	Fill of posthole [13079]. Colour: mid yellowish brown. Composition: sandy silt. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: 1) occasional flecks of charcoal 2) frequent flecks to very large angular to rounded stones, concentrated towards large stones as post packing.	Fill	Silting fill of a large post hole on eastern side of building in centre of tr13 belonging to Phase 1 of the structure. Phase 1 post holes are larger and deeper than those of Phase 2, suggesting the original structure here was more substantial than the one that replaced it. The presence of charcoal concentrations within phase 1 post holes suggests it burnt down and was replaced by the smaller phase 2 structure in the same location.This Phase 1 post hole was truncated by Phase 2 post hole [13077].	0.92	0.86	0.45	F1318
13079	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-oval. Break at top: gradual. Sides: dipping, straight. Break at base: sharp. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of large post hole on eastern side of building in the middle of tr13 belonging to Phase 1 of the structure. Phase 1 post holes are larger and deeper than those of Phase 2, suggesting the original structure here was more substantial than the one that replaced it. The presence of charcoal concentrations within phase 1 post holes suggests it burnt down and was replaced by the smaller phase 2 structure in the same location. This Phase 1 post hole was truncated by Phase 2 post hole [13077].	0.92	0.86	0.45	F1318

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13080	Fill of posthole. Colour: light yellowish brown. Composition: clayey silt. Compaction: dry, loose. Inclusions: 1) frequent small sub-rounded spheroidal gravel, evenly distributed 2) occasional very large sub-angular spheroidal packing limestone, concentrated towards northern end.	Fill	Silting fill of a post hole from phase 2 of the structure on its eastern side. This shallow fill is representative of Phase 2 post holes, which are smaler in size than Phase 1 suggesting the building was replaced at some point with a smaller version in the same location. This post hole is visible truncating phase 1 post hole [13083].	0.48	0.27	0.21	F1325
13081	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: sharp. Sides: vertical, straight. Break at base: sharp. Base: flat, sloping towards S.	Cut	Cut of a post hole from phase 2 of the structure on its eastern side. This shallow post hole is representative of Phase 2 post holes, which are smaller in size than Phase 1 suggesting the building was replaced at some point with a smaller version in the same location. This post hole is visible truncating phase 1 post hole [13083]	0.48	0.27	0.21	F1325

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13082	Fill of posthole. Colour: light yellowish brown. Composition: clayey silt. Compaction: dry, loose. Inclusions: 1) frequent medium sub-rounded spheroidal gravel, evenly distributed 2) moderate very large angular spheroidal large limestone rocks, concentrated towards northern end of deposit.	Fill	Stone packing material to keep this phase 1 post in place. It was then backfilled with the redeposited natural material originally dug out of the hole. The original stone packing was observed in-situ around the now burnt away wooden post pipe.This is in keeping with the majority of Phase 1 post holes, which are deeper in nature compared to phase 2 and many of them have a post pipe with packing. This post hole is visible truncated by phase 2 post hole [13081].	0.98	0.76	0.37	F1319
13083	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: sharp. Sides: vertical, straight. Break at base: sharp.	Cut	Cut of a large post hole containing a post pipe and packing material. The original stone packing was observed in-situ around the now burnt away wooden post pipe. The character of this post hole is in keeping with the majority of Phase 1 post holes, which are deeper in nature compared to phase 2 and many of them have a post pipe with packing. This post hole is visible truncated by phase 2 post hole [13081].	0.85	0.72	0.48	F1319

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13084	Fill of posthole [13085]. Colour: mid yellowish brown. Composition: medium silty sand. Compaction: moist, friable. Inclusions: frequent flecks to medium very angular to well-rounded stones, evenly distributed.	Fill	Silting fill of the northernmost post hole belonging to Phase 1 of the Romano-British building in Trench 13 on its eastern side. Phase 1 post holes are more substantial than those of Phase 2, suggesting the original building was larger than the one which replaced it.	0.66	0.63	0.52	F1320
13085	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: sharp. Sides: vertical, straight, undercut. Break at base: sharp. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of the northernmost post hole belonging to Phase 1 of the Romano-British building in Trench 13 on its eastern side. Phase 1 post holes are more substantial than those of Phase 2, suggesting the original building was larger than the one which replaced it.	0.66	0.63	0.52	F1320
13086	Fill of posthole [13087]. Colour: mid greyish brown. Composition: sandy silt. Compaction: dry, loose. Inclusions: moderate flecks to medium angular to rounded stones, evenly distributed.	Fill	Silting fill of a very shallow small post hole, third from the east of a row of E-W aligned post holes relating to a possible internal partition wall to the building in Trench 13. This post hole does not seem to be associated with a beam slot like others to the west, but that may be simply because this ephemeral feature has not survived.	0.36	0.33	0.15	F1338

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13087	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: gradual. Sides: moderate, concave. Break at base: gradual. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of a very shallow small post hole, third from the east of a row of E-W aligned post holes relating to a possible internal partition wall to the building in Trench 13. This post hole does not seem to be associated with a beam slot like others to the west, but that may be simply because this ephemeral feature has not survived.	0.36	0.33	0.15	F1338
13088	Fill of posthole [13089]. Colour: mid greyish brown. Composition: sandy silt. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: moderate flecks to medium angular to rounded stones, evenly distributed.	Fill	Silting fill of a very shallow small post hole, second from the east of a row of E-W aligned post holes relating to a possible internal partition wall to the building in Trench 13. This post hole does not seem to be associated with a beam slot like others further to the west, but that may simply be because such an ephemeral feature has not survived. This small post hole was also visible truncating another adjacent one of similar character [13091], suggesting repair or alteration to the internal partition wall.	0.33	0.33	0.11	F1339

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13089	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: circular. Break at top: gradual. Sides: moderate, concave. Break at base: gradual. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of a very shallow small post hole, second from the east of a row of E-W aligned post holes relating to a possible internal partition wall to the building in Trench 13. This post hole does not seem to be associated with a beam slot like others further to the west, but that may simply be because such an ephemeral feature has not survived. This small post hole was also visible truncating another adjacent one of similar character [13091], suggesting repair or alteration to the internal partition wall.	0.33	0.33	0.11	F1339
13090	Fill of posthole [13091]. Colour: mid greyish brown. Composition: sandy silt. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: moderate flecks to medium angular to rounded stones, evenly distributed.	Fill	Silting fill of a very shallow small post hole, the easternmost of a row of E-W aligned post holes relating to a possible internal partition wall to the building in Trench 13. This post hole does not seem to be associated with a beam slot like others further to the west, but that may simply be because such an ephemeral feature has not survived. This small post hole was also visible truncated by another adjacent one of similar character [13089], suggesting repair or alteration to the internal partition wall.	0.36	0.34	0.11	F1340

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13091	Cut of posthole. Shape in plan: sub-circular. Break at top: gradual. Sides: moderate, concave. Break at base: imperceptible. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of a very shallow small post hole, the easternmost of a row of E-W aligned post holes relating to a possible internal partition wall to the building in Trench 13. This post hole does not seem to be associated with a beam slot like others further to the west, but that may simply be because such an ephemeral feature has not survived. This small post hole was also visible truncated by another adjacent one of similar character [13089], suggesting repair or alteration to the internal partition wall.	0.36	0.34	0.11	F1340
13092	Fill of pit [13012]. Colour: mid brown. Composition: coarse poorly sorted silty pebble. Compaction: moist, malleable. Inclusions: 1) occasional small angular platy flint 2) frequent small to medium sub-angular to sub-rounded chalk, evenly distributed.	Fill	Gravel rich fill in pit [13012]. This fill has a large quantity of gravel concentrated towards its base at the centre of the pit. This suggests it has settled at the lowest point and may have been washed down during silting or alternatively could be the result of an intentional dumping of gravel to backfill the pit.	> 1.13	3.13	0.89	F1302

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13093	Fill of pit [13016]. Colour: dark brownish black. Composition: silt. Compaction: moist, spongey. Inclusions: 1) occasional flecks to small charcoal 2) occasional small sub-rounded stones, evenly distributed 3) moderate burnt patches, concentrated towards base.	Fill	Primary dumping fill within rubbish pit [13016]. This dark organic and burnt material yielded numerous finds and was sampled. It may represent the discarding of refuse associated with nearby occupation, such as the use of the building in trench 13.	1.40	1.16	0.30	F1306
13094	Fill of pit [13019]. Colour: mid yellowish brown. Composition: silty clay. Compaction: moist, friable. Inclusions: 1) occasional flecks of charcoal, evenly distributed 2) frequent flecks to small sub-rounded to well-rounded gravel, evenly distributed.	Fill	Homogenous deposit of mixed silting with occasional artefacts such as CBM and bone, suggesting these may have washed in or sporadically been discarded during this silting event.	> 1.77	> 1.45	> 0.50	F1301
13095	Cut of ditch/gully. Linear, steep sided, N-S aligned with a flat base. Truncated by ditch [13100] on same alignment.	Cut	Silting fill of a shallow linear gully or ditch, likely for drainage into the large pit/water tank [13012]. This feature was truncated/recut by ditch [13100] on the same alignment. Both of these features produced sizeable quantities of pottery perhaps used to backfill the ditches upon the abandonment of the area.	1.00+	0.52	0.20	F1304

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13096	Fill of ditch/gully. Dark orangey brown, clayey silt with charcoal and gravel inclusions	Fill	Cut of a shallow linear gully or ditch, likely for drainage into the large pit/water tank [13012]. This feature was truncated/recut by ditch [13100] on the same alignment. Both of these features produced sizeable quantities of pottery perhaps used to backfill the ditches upon the abandonment of the area.	1.00+	0.52	0.20	F1304
13097	Fill of ditch. Colour: mid greyish brown. Composition: sandy silt. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: 1) occasional flecks of charcoal 2) moderate flecks to medium angular to rounded stones, evenly distributed.	Fill	Silting fill of a N-S aligned linear ditch likely for drainage into large pit/water tank [13012]. This ditch produced very substantial quantities of pottery in various broken or partially complete conditions. It is likely that upon the abandonment of the area, refuse including pottery was collected and discarded into this ditch to backfill it.	> 1.00	1.25	0.35	F1303
13098	Cut of N-S ditch. Shape in plan: linear. Break at top: gradual. Sides: moderate, concave. Break at base: gradual. Base: rounded.	Cut	Cut of a N-S aligned linear ditch likely for drainage into large pit/water tank [13012]. This ditch produced very substantial quantities of pottery in various broken or partially complete conditions. It is likely that upon the abandonment of the area, refuse including pottery was collected and discarded into this ditch to backfill it.	> 1.00	1.25	0.35	F1303

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13099	Fill of pit [13012]. Colour: brown. Composition: coarse poorly sorted silty pebble. Compaction: moist, malleable. Inclusions: 1) frequent small to medium rounded chalk, evenly distributed 2) occasional small to medium angular to sub-angular flint, evenly distributed 3) inclusion.	Fill	Likely a dumping fill of extremely densely concentrated gravel and rubble. This material may have been intentionally dumped into the pit as part of the backfill process once it had gone out of use as a water tank. There is also the possibility that the rubble material represents some sort of collapsed shoring for the pit, or perhaps even collapsed well head. However, more excavation would be required to prove this.	0.99	1.07	0.50	F1302
13100	Cut of a linear N-S aligned moderately steep sided ditch with a flat base. Truncates gully [13095]	Cut	Cut of a linear N-S aligned ditch likely used for drainage into large pit/water tank [13012]. This was filled by a single silting fill. This ditch truncated/recut gully/small ditch [13095], showing extended use of the feature.	1.00+	0.75	0.35	F1303
13101	Fill of ditch. Dark orangey brown, clayey silt with charcoal flecks and gravel inclusions	Fill	Silting fill of a linear N-S aligned ditch likely used for drainage into large pit/water tank [13012]. This ditch truncated/recut gully/small ditch [13095], showing extended use of the feature.	1.00+	0.75	0.35	F1303

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13102	Fill of posthole. Colour: light yellowish brown. Composition: clayey silt. Compaction: dry, firm. Inclusions: 1) moderate small sub-rounded spheroidal gravel, evenly distributed 2) moderate flecks of rounded elongate charcoal, concentrated towards base.	Fill	Possible burnt base of a post, part of a post pipe, from post hole [13083] belonging to Phase 1 of the Romano-British building in trench 13. This post pipe was well packed by in-situ stone packing material (13082). This post hole strongly suggested that the original Phase 1 structure burnt down and was replaced by a less substantial Phase 2 structure in approximately the same location.	0.32	0.28	0.48	F1319
13103	Fill of posthole [13071]. Colour: mid greyish brown. Composition: sandy silt. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: 1) occasional flecks of charcoal 2) moderate flecks to medium angular to rounded stones, evenly distributed.	Fill	Post pipe in posthole [13071]. This was packed by material [13070] in a deep post hole associated with phase 1 of the building on its eastern side. The post pipe contained charcoal, typical of post holes in phase 1, and was sampled.	0.35	0.33	0.47	F1316
13104	Fill of posthole. Colour: dark yellowish brown. Composition: sandy silt. Compaction: dry, friable. Inclusions: 1) occasional flecks of charcoal 2) frequent flecks to large sub-angular to sub-rounded stone.	Fill	Packing material surrounding post pipe (13068) within post hole [13069], part of phase 2 on the eastern side of the structure in trench 13.	0.40	0.40	0.75	F1321

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13105	Fill of pit [13019]. Colour: mid greyish brown. Composition: clayey silt. Compaction: moist, friable. Inclusions: frequent small to very large angular to rounded stones, concentrated towards large stones on lower boundary.	Fill	Band of dark charcoal rich fill within large pit/water tank [13019], likely discarded into the feature as part of a waste dumping event to backfill the feature when it went out of use.	> 1.20	> 0.80	0.15	F1301
13106	Fill of pit [13012]. Colour: mid orangey brown. Composition: sandy silt. Compaction: moist, loose. Inclusions: moderate small rounded chalk, evenly distributed.	Fill	Earliest fill excavated during the 2023 fieldwork season within pit [13012]. This fill was rich in gravel and likely represents a silting event where redeposited natural gravels washed into the pit between dumping events.	0.60	0.65	0.34	F1302
13107	Cut of a posthole. Sub circular with steep sides and a flat base	Cut	Cut of a large post hole likely relating to phase 1 of the Romano-British structure in Trench 13. This post hole is particularly large and likely relates to a load bearing post, perhaps for roof supports or a second storey level.	1.72	0.40	0.65	F1309

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13108	Fill of posthole. Very dark orangey brown, clayey silt with moderately frequent small to medium sized gravel inclusions	Fill	Fill of the post pipe of a large post hole likely relating to phase 1 of the Romano-British structure on the western side of the building. The post pipe was packed with a significant amount of redeposited natural gravel material. This post hole was one of the largest encountered in the building and may have been load bearing for a roof support or second storey level	0.49	0.41+	0.65	F1309
13109	Fill of posthole. Light orangey brown, clayey silt with frequent gravel inclusions	Fill	Packing material within the post hole to pack the large post within this posthole in place. The post in this location was one of the largest encountered in the building and was packed in with a substantial amount of material. This post was probably one of the structural roof supports or second storey levels of the building.	1.50	0.41+	0.63	F1309
13110	Cut of a sub circular posthole, vertical/undercut sides and a flat base.	Cut	Cut of a large post hole, part of Phase 1 of the Romano-British building on its western side. The post holes in Phase 1 were larger and deeper than those in phase 2 and suggest that the original building was more substantial than the one which replaced it. This post hole was originally excavated as [13063], but it was discovered to be bigger than originally thought and was fully excavated as [13110].	0.60	0.55	0.48	F1310

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13111	Fill of a posthole. Dark orangey brown, clayey silt with moderately frequent gravel inclusions and charcoal flecks	Fill	Silting fill of a post hole belonging to phase 1 of the Romano-British building in Trench 13. These post holes were deeper and more substantial than those in phase 2, indicating a larger structure was replaced by a smaller one.	0.60	0.55	0.48	F1310
13112	Fill of posthole. Light orangey brown, clayey silt with frequent gravel inclusions	Fill	Upper gravelly silting fill of a post hole, part of phase 1 of the Romano-British building in Trench 13.	0.60	0.22	0.09	F1310
13113	Cut of posthole. Sub circular, steep sided with a flat base	Cut	Cut of a straight sided deep post hole belonging to Phase 1 of the Romano-British building in Trench 13. This large, deep post hole is representative of the post holes belonging to Phase 1, which was a larger building compared to phase 2 that replaced it. This post hole was truncated by phase 2 post hole [13069] (visible in plan only).	0.75	0.64	0.59	F1315
13114	Fill of posthole. Dark orangey brown, clayey silt with moderate gravel inclusions and charcoal flecks	Fill	Silting fill of a straight sided deep post hole belonging to Phase 1 of the Romano-British building in Trench 13. This large, deep post hole is representative of the post holes belonging to Phase 1, which was a larger building compared to phase 2 that replaced it. This post hole was truncated by phase 2 post hole [13069] (visible in plan only).	0.75	0.64	0.59	F1315

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13115	Fill of pit. Colour: mid yellowish brown. Composition: silty clay. Compaction: moist, malleable. Inclusions: 1) occasional flecks of charcoal, evenly distributed 2) frequent flecks to small sub-rounded to well-rounded gravel, evenly distributed.	Fill	Possible silting or gravel tipping event into the large pit/water tank when it went out of use and was backfilled. There are visible intentional tipping lines of darker charcoal rich material above and below (13105 and 13116). The tipping lines appear to be getting steeper at this point, indicating no sign of the feature bottoming out at this depth.	> 1.10	> 0.75	0.24	F1301
13116	Fill of pit. Colour: strong blackish brown. Composition: loam. Compaction: wet, spongey. Inclusions: inclusion.	Fill	An organic/mulchy and very charcoal rich lens in bottom of large pit in west of tr13. This discreet tipping event is visible as a band running at a steep angle in section. These steep tipping lines imply that the feature likely continues for some depth yet.	> 0.70	> 0.60	0.05	F1301
13117	Fill of pit. Colour: mid yellowish brown. Composition: silty clay. Compaction: moist, malleable. Inclusions: 1) occasional flecks of charcoal, evenly distributed 2) frequent flecks to small sub-rounded to well-rounded gravel, evenly distributed.	Fill	The earliest fill encountered in the pit during the 2023 excavations. This layer was quite damp and contained organic mulched material and charcoal. It is likely that the water table isnt too far below this level, suggesting the potential for preserved organics further below. The tipping lines at this point again are continuing at a steep angle, suggesting there is still some depth to the feature yet.	> 0.68	> 0.59	> 0.20	F1301

Trench 13	Dimensions:	25.00m x 15.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate potential structures and associated pits within an enclosure, part of the ladder settlement					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
13118	Fill of pit. Light orangey brown, clayey silt with moderately frequent gravel inclusions	Fill	Possible gravel slippage from the eastern side of the pit overlying gravel rich silting fill (13106) below	1.98+	1.61+	0.29	F1302

Appendix B. Human remains

Table 3. Summary of osteological and palaeopathological data.

Sk No	C (%)	SP	F	Age	Age Group	Sex	Stature (cm)	Dental Pathology	Pathology
12006	70%	Poor	Severe	46+ years?	MA?	M?	-	Calculus, caries, AMTL, abscess, periodontal disease	DJC on the cervical spine left wrist and both hands

Appendix C. Animal bone and shell

Table 4. Mammal remains from excavations at Elmswell Farm by count.

Trench	Context	Mammals							Ungulate		Mammal				Total
		Equid	Cattle	Roe deer	Pig	Sheep/ goat	Dog/ fox	Rabbit	Large	Small	Large	Medium/ large	Medium	Small	
12	12002	2	10			7			2		47		1		69
	12004											3			3
	12009	5	4		2	3			3		14	3			34
13	13003					1					2	7	2		12
	13007		5		6	1			1	1	21	3	9		47
	13011				1	3					21		3		28
	13013		1		2	2				1	22	15	25		68
	13015		3		1	10				2	45	39	70		170
	13017		1		3	7				3	9	19	13		55
	13018		4		1					1	1		5		12
	13031		2			1									3
	13032		5		3	8			2	1	162	128	34		343
	13033					1					9	6	1		17
	13058		5			2					6				13
	13059										1		2		3
	13060					2					4	3	2		11
	13076					3			2		2		6		13
	13088							3						25	28
	13092		4		1	1					25		11		42
	13093		1		4	5					15	16	5		46
	13094		1									2			3
	13097					2									2

Trench	Context	Mammals							Ungulate		Mammal				Total
		Equid	Cattle	Roe deer	Pig	Sheep/ goat	Dog/ fox	Rabbit	Large	Small	Large	Medium/ large	Medium	Small	
	13101		1	1		2					7	8	2		21
	13106	1				5	1				1		9		17
Total		8	47	1	24	66	1	3	10	9	414	252	200	25	1060

Table 5. Bird remains from excavations at Elmswell Farm by count.

Trench	Context	Birds		Bird	Total
		Chicken	Landfowl	Medium	
13	13015	1		1	2
	13017	1		2	3
	13032		2		2
Total		2	2	3	7

Table 6. Marine mollusc remains from excavations at Elmswell Farm by count.

Trench	Context	Bivalves			Gastropods		Total
		European oyster	Common cockle	Mussel	Common limpet	Common periwinkle	
12	12002	5					5
	12009	1					1
13	13003	3		1			4
	13007	1		3		5	9
	13009	2					2
	13011	4					4
	13013	6			1		7
	13015	17			1		18

Trench	Context	Bivalves			Gastropods		Total
		European oyster	Common cockle	Mussel	Common limpet	Common periwinkle	
	13017	8	1	6			15
	13018	2		10			12
	13032	40					40
	13033	3					3
	13058			1			1
	13059	2					2
	13060	1		7			8
	13076	2					2
	13092	6					6
	13093	2					2
	13096				1		1
	13101	13					13
Total		118	1	28	3	5	155

Appendix D. Pottery

Table 7. Pottery fabric summary.

Fabric code	Fabric group	Fabric details	Sherd	Sherd %	Weight (g)	Weight %	Total RE %
SAM	Samian	Undifferentiated	36	1.12%	286	0.83%	70
SAM?	Samian	Undifferentiated	3	0.09%	3	0.01%	0
DR20	Amphora	Dr 20 amphorae	13	0.41%	656	1.91%	0
SPAA	Amphora	Baetican- Misc Southern Spanish	1	0.03%	22	0.06%	0
MOCR	Mortaria	Crambeck mortaria	1	0.03%	22	0.06%	2
MOMH1	Mortaria	Mancetter-Hartshill mortaria: As Leicester MO12 (Pollard 1999)	1	0.03%	255	0.74%	17
MOMH2	Mortaria	Mancetter-Hartshill mortaria: Meta sediment trits; Leicester fabric MO4 (Pollard 1999)	2	0.06%	138	0.40%	8
MORT	Mortaria	Mortaria; undifferentiated	2	0.06%	198	0.58%	2
MOVR	Mortaria	Verulamium region mortaria	1	0.03%	16	0.05%	2
MOYO	Mortarium	York	1	0.03%	62	0.18%	0
GFIN	Fine	Miscellaneous fine grey wares	1	0.03%	3	0.01%	0
PART	Fine	Parisian type wares	32	1.00%	93	0.27%	50
CC1	Fine	Colour coated fabric 1	10	0.31%	97	0.28%	27
CC3	Fine	Colour-coated with a pale orange fabric	55	1.71%	296	0.86%	38
EBOR3	Fine	Ebor 3	8	0.25%	35	0.10%	23
EBOR6	Fine	Ebor with paint decoration	1	0.03%	16	0.05%	7
EBOR1	Oxidised	Ebor 1	94	2.93%	665	1.94%	123
OX	Oxidised	Misc. oxidized wares	4	0.12%	48	0.14%	7
OX?	Oxidised	Misc. oxidised wares	5	0.16%	25	0.07%	0
OXFIN	Oxidised	Fine Oxidised fabric	1	0.03%	6	0.02%	0
OXWS	Oxidised	Oxidized with white slip	32	1.00%	406	1.18%	123

Fabric code	Fabric group	Fabric details	Sherd	Sherd %	Weight (g)	Weight %	Total RE %
BB1	Reduced	Black burnished 1, unspecified	110	3.43%	848	2.47%	131
BB1?	Reduced	Black burnished 1, unspecified	1	0.03%	2	0.01%	0
BBT	Reduced	Black Burnished type copies	6	0.19%	81	0.24%	0
CRGR	Reduced	Crambeck grey wares	2	0.06%	34	0.10%	0
CRGR?	Reduced	Crambeck grey wares	3	0.09%	115	0.34%	7
GREY	Reduced	Miscellaneous grey wares	334	10.41%	4533	13.22%	773
GREY?	Reduced	Miscellaneous grey wares	43	1.34%	260	0.76%	12
GREYC	Reduced	Coarse Grey ware	19	0.59%	210	0.61%	25
GRFF	Reduced	Grey fairly fine	1379	43.00%	13536	39.48%	1942
GROG	Reduced	Grog-tempered wares	11	0.34%	351	1.02%	0
IASA1	Reduced	Iron Age Sandy: Site Fabric 1	33	1.03%	521	1.52%	60
IASA3	Reduced	Iron Age Sandy: Site Fabric 3	240	7.48%	3306	9.64%	482
NORBB1	Reduced	Norton Black Burnished ware	10	0.31%	100	0.29%	18
CALG	Calcareous	Calcite tempered	59	1.84%	593	1.73%	16
CALGS	Calcareous	Sparry calcite gritted	93	2.90%	756	2.21%	83
LOOL	Calcareous	Oolitic tempered	5	0.16%	77	0.22%	0
ETW1	Rock temper	Large quartzite inclusions	1	0.03%	10	0.03%	0
ETW2	Rock temper	Erratic pebbles broken up as temper	145	4.52%	1352	3.94%	171
ETW4	Rock temper	Erratic pebbles broken up as temper, finer than ETW2	369	11.51%	3622	10.57%	408
IAGROG	Grog	Iron Age Grog tempered wares	18	0.56%	376	1.10%	18
IASST	Rock temper	Sandstone and grit tempered	5	0.16%	118	0.34%	30
MED?	Misc	Misc Medieval	1	0.03%	3	0.01%	0
MISC	Misc	Misc uncategorised	6	0.19%	9	0.03%	0
FCLAY	Fired Clay	Fired Clay	9	0.28%	119	0.35%	0
FCLAY?	Fired Clay	Fired Clay	1	0.03%	3	0.01%	0

Table 8. Pottery form summary.

Form	Form Type	Form Description	Sherd	Sherd %	Weight (g)	Weight %	Total RE %
A	Amphora	Unclassified form	14	0.44%	678	1.98%	0
BK	Beaker	Unclassified form	17	0.53%	83	0.24%	0
BK?	Beaker	Unclassified form	5	0.16%	22	0.06%	2
BKBR	Beaker	Bead rim	2	0.06%	6	0.02%	14
BKCOR	Beaker	Cornice rim	45	1.40%	264	0.77%	49
BKEV	Beaker	Everted rim	42	1.31%	410	1.20%	250
BKFOC	Beaker	Folded; with curved rim	1	0.03%	10	0.03%	16
BKRC	Beaker	Roughcast	1	0.03%	2	0.01%	0
37	Bowl	Samian form- see Webster 1996	2	0.06%	23	0.07%	7
B	Bowl	Unclassified form	16	0.50%	169	0.49%	52
B29	Bowl	Carinated possibly imitating samian 29	17	0.53%	500	1.46%	109
B321V	Bowl	As Coppack 1973 Fig. 5.11	1	0.03%	187	0.55%	12
B334	Bowl	Carinated jar/bowl (flat cordon as D&P 1157-9)	32	1.00%	498	1.45%	155
B37	Bowl	Hemispherical possibly imitating samian 37	5	0.16%	77	0.22%	26
BCAR	Bowl	Carinated	22	0.69%	643	1.88%	74
BFL	Bowl	Flange rimmed (eg Gillam 1970 Types 218-220)	18	0.56%	339	0.99%	127
BNK	Bowl	Necked	1	0.03%	21	0.06%	12
BL	Bowl-large	Large	2	0.06%	41	0.12%	7
BWM1	Bowl-large	Wide-mouthed; D&P No.1225-7	1	0.03%	91	0.27%	17
BD	Bowl/dish	-	39	1.22%	453	1.32%	40
BDGR	Bowl/dish	Grooved rim	1	0.03%	6	0.02%	7
CLSD	Closed	Form	168	5.24%	3190	9.30%	0
33	Cup	Samian form- see Webster 1996	1	0.03%	2	0.01%	0
31	Dish	Samian form- see Webster 1996	1	0.03%	18	0.05%	11
D	Dish	Unclassified form	1	0.03%	12	0.04%	7
DPR?	Dish	Plain rim	1	0.03%	34	0.10%	5
F	Flagon	Unclassified form	2	0.06%	187	0.55%	100

Form	Form Type	Form Description	Sherd	Sherd %	Weight (g)	Weight %	Total RE %
FTR	Flagon	Ringed dominant top ring	1	0.03%	9	0.03%	11
FTR11	Flagon	Top-rimmed (as Webster 1949 Fig 13.64)	1	0.03%	132	0.39%	100
FJ	Flagon/jar	Unclassified form	21	0.65%	167	0.49%	0
FS	Flask	Or exceptionally small flagon	1	0.03%	9	0.03%	22
J	Jar	Unclassified form	110	3.43%	1785	5.21%	292
J?	Jar	Unclassified form	2	0.06%	14	0.04%	9
JBICO	Jar	Biconical, as Hayes and Whitley 1950 Fig. 11.10	10	0.31%	479	1.40%	106
JBICOA	Jar	Biconical, as Hayes and Whitley 1950 Fig. 11.10A	7	0.22%	272	0.79%	56
JBICOB	Jar	Biconical, as Hayes and Whitley 1950 Fig. 13.10B	2	0.06%	110	0.32%	0
JEV	Jar	Everted rim	84	2.62%	907	2.65%	378
JEVC	Jar	Everted rim- curved as Gillam type 135	8	0.25%	125	0.36%	51
JEVEB	Jar	Everted rim with external bevel	17	0.53%	192	0.56%	73
JEVT	Jar	Everted rim- tall	134	4.18%	2988	8.72%	672
JL	Jar	Large	42	1.31%	1098	3.20%	93
JLH	Jar	Lug-handled	7	0.22%	106	0.31%	2
JNK	Jar	Necked	50	1.56%	876	2.56%	377
JNN	Jar	Narrow-necked	17	0.53%	353	1.03%	181
JRUST	Jar	Rusticated	7	0.22%	72	0.21%	0
JS	Jar	Storage	3	0.09%	208	0.61%	0
JUP	Jar	Upright rim	12	0.37%	279	0.81%	78
JBK	Jar/Beaker	Small jar or beaker	12	0.37%	118	0.34%	37
JBKCAR	Jar/Beaker	Carinated	1	0.03%	7	0.02%	0
JBKEV	Jar/Beaker	Everted rim	7	0.22%	46	0.13%	74
JBKFO	Jar/Beaker	Folded; indeterminate type	28	0.87%	293	0.85%	25
JBKNK	Jar/Beaker	Necked	56	1.75%	367	1.07%	319
JB	Jar/Bowl	Unclassified form	14	0.44%	187	0.55%	58
JBCAR	Jar/Bowl	Carinated	25	0.78%	316	0.92%	0
JBKBR	Jar/Bowl	Bead-rim	1	0.03%	4	0.01%	11
JBL	Jar/Bowl	Large	3	0.09%	143	0.42%	13
JBNK	Jar/Bowl	Necked	40	1.25%	636	1.86%	309
JBNNK	Jar/bowl	No neck	1	0.03%	16	0.05%	28
L	Lid	Unclassified form	11	0.34%	162	0.47%	68
LTR	Lid	Lid triangular rim	1	0.03%	12	0.04%	6



Form	Form Type	Form Description	Sherd	Sherd %	Weight (g)	Weight %	Total RE %
LB	Lid/bowl		3	0.09%	149	0.43%	29
LD	Lid/dish	Unclassified	1	0.03%	9	0.03%	4
T	Misc	Tazza	3	0.09%	28	0.08%	12
M	Mortaria	Unclassified Form	3	0.09%	303	0.88%	0
MCO	Mortaria	Collared rim cf. Colchester types	1	0.03%	35	0.10%	2
MHH	Mortaria	Hammerheads as Gillam 279-84	2	0.06%	82	0.24%	10
MHK	Mortaria	Hook-rimmed as Gillam 237-45	2	0.06%	271	0.79%	19
OPEN	Open	Form	7	0.22%	93	0.27%	0
-	Unknown	Form uncertain	1991	62.08%	12859	37.51%	51

Table 9. Pottery dating summary.

Feature No	Context	Feature Type	Spot date	Comments	Sherd	Weight (g)	Total RE %
	U/S 1		ML2-E3	Grey ware and a single samian sherd. [bag marked 'Kiddie Fieldwalk"]	2	42	0
	U/S 2		Roman	A single grey ware sherd.	1	6	0
	U/S 3		L3-4	A small mixed group including a stamped samian base, grey ware and calcite-gritted ware. Two mortarium rims were also present: A Crambeck white ware example in a sandy fabric (as Corder 1937 type 6, 3rd variant, and Corder 1928, No. 122), and a probably local vessel with a grooved rim similar to examples from Brough, York, and Malton in an unusual buff fabric (cf. Darling 2000, No. 318; Hartley in Bidwell and Croom 1997, No. 147).	15	269	19
Void	12004	Void	Roman	A small group including a burnt oxidised sherd and a stone. [shown void on context list]	1	12	0
12001	12001	Layer	L1-E3	A small group of Ebor type oxidised wares.	5	7	2
12003	12002	Ditch	L3+	A medium sized group including a sherd from a Mancetter-Hartshill mortarium with a hammerhead rim (as Darling and Precious 2014 No. 1687), small scraps of samian, Ebor ware, grey ware including a necked jar, and the rim from a calcite-gritted jar. A single Crambeck grey ware vessel dates the group but much of the material present dated to the 2nd century AD.	46	430	54
12003	12009	Ditch	ML2	A small group including samian, Ebor ware, calcareous-gritted sherds, and the base from a Mancetter-Hartshill type mortarium.	20	174	4
13001	13001	Layer	L1-E3/Medieval?	A small group including an Ebor ware white slipped sherd, grey ware including a lipped bowl with straight sides (Monaghan 1997, type BD No. 3039). A single abraded sherd was possibly of medieval date.	11	122	27

Feature No	Context	Feature Type	Spot date	Comments	Sherd	Weight (g)	Total RE %
13002	13002	Layer	L2-M3	A small fresh group including a sherd from a samian bowl, a bag-shaped colour-coated beaker with a cornice rim, a grey ware folded jar, a stamped grey ware vessel, biconical jars (Hayes and Whitley 1950, No. 10A; Lawton 2009, Fig. A1.D), and coarse quartz-gritted handmade jars.	21	756	93
13004	13003	Ditch	L2-M3	A medium sized group including an Ebor ware bowl mimicking samian form 37, large jars, necked jars, carinated jars, a folded jar or beaker in a coarse grey ware, and a roughly finished handmade jar with a tall everted rim.	100	1202	199
13008	13007	Pit	L2-M3	A large group including sherds from a samian bowl, a white-slipped flagon with an expanded top ring (Gillam 1970, No. 5), a colour-coated beaker with an outcurved rim (Howe et al 1980, Fig. 4.40), a fine grey ware biconical jar (Norton type as Hayes and Whitley 1950 Fig. 11.10A), a grey ware jar with an outcurved rim, and a lug-handled jar with burnished lattice decoration. Handmade wares included a calcite-gritted jar with a tall everted rim, an externally bevelled rim, and a dish also with an externally bevelled rim. Further sherds from stamped grey ware vessel D03 were also present.	213	1749	178
13008?	13017	Pit	ML2	A large group including a small fragment of samian, a flagon and a bowl in Ebor1 fabric, white-slipped Ebor1 ware, Black Burnished ware 1 jars, a grey ware beaker with an everted rim mimicking Black Burnished ware prototypes, grey wares including necked jars (Monaghan 1997 type JA), everted rim jars, and a lid. A range of native tradition handmade wares was also present including two narrow-necked jars mimicking Roman types. [feature no. ascertained by triangulation, not stated]	304	2541	332
13010	13009	Ditch/Gully	M2	A large group including Ebor ware, a sherd from a colour-coated rough-cast beaker, a grey ware jar with burnished lattice decoration, a B334 vessel also with burnished lattice decoration, two carinated bowls with upright rims (Monaghan 1997, type BB, Nos. 3935 and 1217), and handmade jars with tall everted rims.	167	2315	305

Feature No	Context	Feature Type	Spot date	Comments	Sherd	Weight (g)	Total RE %
13012	13011	Pit	M2	A medium sized group including a sherd from a colour-coated beaker, fine Ebor ware beakers, a grey ware beaker with an everted rim, carinated bowls (Monaghan 1997, form BB and BD, No. 3039), grey ware jars, and samian including a sherd from a decorated bowl.	82	874	84
13012	13092	Pit	ML2	A medium sized group including samian, Nene Valley type colour-coated ware, Ebor ware, grey ware jars, a lid, a large comb-decorated storage jar, and handmade jars with tall everted rims.	70	819	123
13012	13106	Pit	ML2-E3	A medium sized group including samian, colour-coated ware, grey ware and handmade wares.	28	187	25
13014	13013	Pit	M2	A large group including samian, a Dressel 20 amphora, a Mancetter-Hartshill mortarium with a hooked rim (Gillam 1970, No. 242 and Darling and Precious 2014, No. 1604), a York mortarium, white-slipped Ebor ware, colour-coated beakers including most of a roughcast example, Black Burnished ware 1 lipped bowls, a grey ware lid, a B334 carinated vessel, a large jar, and handmade jars with tall everted rims. Also present were fragments of fired clay.	281	3337	283
13014	13032	Pit	M2/3C	A large group including sherds from a Dressel 20 amphora, handmade jars with tall everted rims, Ebor ware, a white-slipped tazza, a grey ware narrow-necked jar, a B334 carinated vessel, a carinated necked jar similar to examples from Sleaford (Elsdon 1997, Fig. 67.214) and Roxby (Rigby and Stead 1976, Fig. 66.31). Grey ware forms included a deep bowl with a reeded lip (large clumsy B321 variant), a grey ware beaker with an everted rim, and a carinated bowl with an upright rim (York form BB, No. 1217). Although most of the pottery fitted the proposed date range the presence of a biconical jar (Hayes and Whitley 1950, No. 10), and a plain rimmed dish may suggest a final deposition in the 3rd century AD.	403	3864	411

Feature No	Context	Feature Type	Spot date	Comments	Sherd	Weight (g)	Total RE %
13016	13015	Pit	ML2	A large group of small sherds, including samian sherds from a bowl or dish and a decorated bowl, a stamp-decorated Parisian ware beaker, a Brough type colour-coated sherd, Ebor ware including a hemispherical bowl, a tazza and a lipped bowl, Ebor white-slipped ware, an Ebor Parchment ware hemispherical bowl and a white ware mortarium. Black Burnished ware 1 included jars, one with comb-stabbed decoration, and a lipped bowl with burnished lattice decoration and a low carination. Grey ware forms present included a lid, jars, and a B334 carinated vessel. Coarse gritted wares consisted of a range of rock-gritted jars with tall everted rims.	607	4959	816
13016	13059	Pit	Roman	A small group of handmade sherds.	3	26	0
13016	13093	Pit	ML2+	A large group including Ebor white-slipped ware, grey ware jars, sherds of Black Burnished ware 1 and handmade jars with tall everted rims.	98	897	99
13019	13018	Pit	ML2	A medium sized group including a heavily burnt sherd from a Dressel 20 amphora, a Black Burnished ware 1 lipped bowl, grey ware, and handmade rock-gritted wares.	41	607	51
13019	13033	Pit	ML2+	A medium sized group including oxidised ware, carinated bowls, and handmade jars including one with an upright rim.	38	389	64
13019	13058	Pit	ML2+	A medium sized group including samian, Ebor ware, grey ware, handmade jars with tall everted rims and Black Burnished ware 1.	24	251	76
13019	13094	Pit	Roman	A small group including grey ware, handmade wares and a fragment of fired clay.	8	135	0
	U/S		E2	A small group including a samian dish, a flagon with an expanded top ring, carinated bowls (York form BB, as No. 1217), early necked jars (York type JA), a carinated post-Legionary style bowl (York form BD, No. 3039), and handmade jars with everted rims.	20	897	258
13042?	13041	Post hole	M1-M2	Flakes from a gritty Dressel 20 amphora. [feature no. ascertained by triangulation, not stated]	9	171	0

Feature No	Context	Feature Type	Spot date	Comments	Sherd	Weight (g)	Total RE %
13061	13060	Ditch	M2-?E3	A large unusually fresh group of Roman pottery from a restricted range of vessel types, including a large proportion of a beaker with an everted rim, a B334 carinated vessel, a carinated bowl with an upright rim (York form BB), and a biconical bowl (JBICO, Hayes and Whitley Fig. 11.10), and another carinated bowl with a low carination (Rigby and Stead 1976, Fig. 87.152). Other material included handmade sherds, a large jar, and a sherd of Ebor ware.	117	2169	391
	U/S		M2	A medium sized group including samian, sherds of Ebor and Ebor white-slipped ware, a colour-coated beaker with a cornice rim, grey ware and handmade sherds.	93	870	120
13095	13096	Gully	ML2-E3	A medium sized group including the rim and handle from an Ebor white-slipped pulley-rimmed flagon (York form FP, No. 1454; Gillam type 16 ML2-E3), a grey ware B334 carinated vessel, a Black Burnished ware 1 beaker with an everted rim, and handmade jars with everted rims.	74	1091	250
13098	13097	Ditch	ML2	A large group including handmade jars with tall everted rims, a grey ware B334 vessel, a jar with an everted rim, and a bowl or dish with a grooved rim in an oxidised fabric.	167	1909	240
13100	13101	Ditch	ML2	A large group including sherds from a colour-coated roughcast beaker, a Parisian ware vessel, a tiny scrap of samian, an Ebor white-slipped ware flagon or jar, grey ware beakers and lipped bowls, a rusticated jar, and handmade wares including a necked jar.	138	1206	171

Table 10. Full pottery catalogue.

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
12001	EBOR1	-	-	-	-		3			BS		3	4	0	0
12001	EBOR1	JBKNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		2	3	0	2
12002	GRFF	JNN	-	-	-		1			RIM NECK		1	15	11	17
12002	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE		2	4	0	0
12002	GRFF	BD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE		1	10	0	0
12002	GRFF	JL	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS; POORLY MIXED		2	64	0	0
12002	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BASE		2	31	0	0
12002	GRFF	-	-	-	-		3	ABR		BS		3	46	0	0
12002	GRFF	-	-	-	-		14	ABR		BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		14	22	0	0
12002	GREY	-	-	-	-		3	ABR		BS		3	30	0	0
12002	GRFF	J	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	6	16	6
12002	CRGR?	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	5	0	0
12002	CRGR?	B	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	13	22	7
12002	CRGR	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE		2	34	0	0
12002	MOMH2	MHH	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	60	24	8
12002	GRFF	J	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	10	19	7
12002	SAM?	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS FLAKES; ?SAMCG		2	1	0	0
12002	GREY	JRUST	-	-	-	RLIN	1			BS		2	25	0	0
12002	CALGS	J	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	29	20	9
12002	EBOR1	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		2	4	0	0
12002	CALGS	J	-	-	-		1			BS SHLDR		1	15	0	0
12002	CALGS	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	2	0	0
12002	OX?	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	2	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
12002	SAM?	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	2	0	0
12004	STONE	-	-	-	-		0			UNWORKED STONE X1		0	0	0	0
12004	OX?	-	-	-	-		1	BURNT; ABR		BS		1	12	0	0
12009	EBOR1	-	-	-	-		2	ABR		BS		2	15	0	0
12009	SAM	OPEN	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		1	2	0	0
12009	SAM	OPEN	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		2	4	0	0
12009	CALG	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS; R		1	3	0	0
12009	LOOL	-	-	-	-	HM	1			BS; R		1	5	0	0
12009	EBOR1	-	-	-	-		1			RIM SCRAP		1	5	0	2
12009	GRFF	-	-	-	-		2	ABR		BS		2	12	0	0
12009	GRFF	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM?		1	2	0	2
12009	MOMH2	M	-	-	-		1	WORN INT		BASE		1	78	0	0
12009	GRFF	-	-	-	-		7	ABR		BS		7	33	0	0
12009	GRFF	BD	-	-	-		1			BASE		1	15	0	0
13001	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	7	0	0
13001	MED?	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS; OX/R; MED?		1	3	0	0
13001	IASST	JEVT	RD	U	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	11	20	7
13001	EBOR1	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	10	0	0
13001	OXWS	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	3	0	0
13001	GREY?	-	-	-	-		1	BURNT; ABR		BS		1	11	0	0
13001	GRFF	JEV	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	5	14	6
13001	GRFF	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	2	0	0
13001	GRFF	JBL	-	-	-		1			BS		1	43	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13001	GRFF	BFL	-	-	-		1			RIM; YORK FORM BD		1	20	22	8
13001	STONE	-	-	-	-		0			UNWORKED STONE X1		0	0	0	0
13001	GRFF	JB	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	7	16	6
13002	IASST	JEV	EVR	-	-	WF	1	ABR		RIM; R		1	22	12	11
13002	MORT	M	-	-	-		1	VAB	FTS; P	BASE; FINE PALE FABRIC AS MANY OF THE GREY WARES FROM THIS SITE (GRFF); TRITS INCLUDED SANDSTONE QUARTZITE AND ?GRANO-DIORITE IGNEOUS ROCK		1	163	0	0
13002	SAM	B	-	-	-		1			BS		1	23	0	0
13002	IASST	JEV	EVR	-	-	WF	1	ABR		RIM; R		1	23	14	12
13002	GREY	JBKFO	-	-	-	SHG	1			BS		4	59	0	0
13002	CC1	BKCOR	-	-	-		1		D04	RIM BASE PEDESTAL; BAG-SHAPED WITH STACKING SHADOW		2	64	10	11
13002	GRFF	JBK	-	-	-	STAMP	1	VAB	D03; RUBBING	BS; SIMPLE CHEVRON STAMP; BROADLY AS D&P NOS. 257-9; ELSDON 1982 FIG. 4.2	13007	1	29	0	0
13002	GRFF	JBICOA	-	-	-		1			BS CARINATION		1	22	0	0
13002	GRFF	JBICOA	-	-	-	LA	1	ABR	D02	RIM CARINATION		3	104	16	33
13002	GRFF	JBICOA	-	-	-		1		D01	RIM CARINATION		1	91	14	15
13002	GRFF	-	-	-	-		4	VAB		BS		4	135	0	0
13002	GREY	JEVC	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	21	16	11
13003	GREY	CLSD	-	-	-		1			BASE		1	118	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13003	NORBB1	BKBR	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	3	10	7
13003	GRFF	-	-	-	-		9	ABR		BS		9	62	0	0
13003	GRFF	JBICOB	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS CARINATION		1	13	0	0
13003	GRFF	JL	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM SHLDR		1	50	16	15
13003	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM NECK		1	5	12	9
13003	GRFF	JBCAR	-	-	-		1			BASE FTG; NECK TO CARINATION		3	61	0	0
13003	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		2	ABR		BS		2	28	0	0
13003	IASA3	J	BEAD	U	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	7	14	7
13003	NORBB1	-	-	-	-		1			BS		1	5	0	0
13003	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE PEDESTAL		2	60	0	0
13003	GREY?	-	-	-	-		1			BS; ?BB1		1	4	0	0
13003	GREY	JBNK	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	8	16	9
13003	GREY	JBNK	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	4	21	7
13003	GREY	JNN	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	15	12	16
13003	GREY	-	-	-	-		2	VAB		BS		2	13	0	0
13003	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	7	0	2
13003	IASA3	JEVT	EVR	GLOB	-	HM; WIPE	1		D07	RIM SHLDR; IRF; BROAD FINGER WIPES FROM RIM DOWN OUTER WALL		1	135	15	17
13003	GRFF	JBK	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	8	12	15
13003	EBOR1	B37	-	-	-		1			RIM; YORK FORM BH1 NO. 1400		1	9	20	4
13003	GREYC	JBKFO	-	-	-		1	VAB	D06	RIM GIRTH BASE		19	210	12	25
13003	IASA3	-	-	U	-	HM	9	ABR		BS; R		9	28	0	0
13003	IASA3	-	-	U	-	HM	2	ABR		BS; R		2	12	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13003	IASA3	JEV	EVR	-	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	10	12	14
13003	CALGS	-	-	U	-	HM	5	ABR		BS; IRF		5	30	0	0
13003	NORBB1	BD	-	-	-		2	ABR		BASE CARINATION		2	10	0	0
13003	ETW2	-	-	U	-	HM	2	ABR		BS; R		2	4	0	0
13003	ETW2	J	U	-	-	HM	1	VAB		RIM; R		1	5	0	2
13003	ETW2	JEV	EVR	-	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	9	14	7
13003	ETW2	CLSD	-	-	FLT	HM	1	ABR		BASE; R		1	18	0	0
13003	NORBB1	BFL	-	-	-	LA	1			RIM		2	20	20	4
13003	IASA3	-	-	-	FLT	HM	1			BASE; R		1	3	0	0
13003	GRFF	JL	-	-	-		1	ABR	D05	RIM SHLDR; DARK GREY SURFACES		18	215	13	39
13003	ETW2	-	-	U	-	HM	3	ABR		BS; R		3	13	0	0
13007	GREY	JBKNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	1	14	4
13007	GREY	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		2	4	0	0
13007	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	8	14	4
13007	GRFF	JBCAR	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS CARINATION		2	10	0	0
13007	GRFF	J	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM; PATCHY SURFACES		1	11	16	5
13007	GRFF	-	-	-	-		15	ABR		BS; PATCHY SURFACES; ?NO OF VESSELS		15	80	0	0
13007	GRFF	JNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	8	18	7
13007	GRFF	JNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	4	16	5
13007	FCLAY	-	-	-	-		0	VAB		FINE POORLY MIXED ORANGE FABRIC; ?FIRED CLAY		1	4	0	0
13007	GRFF	J	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	5	14	4
13007	GRFF	JNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	4	16	6

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13007	GFIN	BK	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS; PART TYPE FABRIC		1	3	0	0
13007	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-	LA	1	ABR		BS		1	5	0	0
13007	CALGS	-	-	U	-	HM	23			BS; IRF; ?NO OF VESSELS		23	143	0	0
13007	CALGS	JEVT	RD	OV	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	26	12	11
13007	CALGS	JEVEB	EB	OV	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	23	18	13
13007	CALGS	BD	EB	OPEN	-	HM	1		D08	RIM TO NEAR BASE; R		1	20	0	2
13007	ETW2	-	-	U	-	HM	7	ABR		BS; IRF		7	43	0	0
13007	GREY	JBKFO	-	-	-		1			BS		1	4	0	0
13007	IASA3	-	-	U	-	HM	2	ABR		BS; IRF		2	11	0	0
13007	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM; PATCHY SURFACES		1	16	24	11
13007	GRFF	J	-	-	-	LA	1	VAB		BS		1	9	0	0
13007	LOOL	-	-	U	-	HM	4			BS; R		4	72	0	0
13007	SAM	BD	-	-	-		1			RIM FLAKES		4	5	0	2
13007	GRFF	JBK	-	-	-	STAMP	1	VAB	D03	RIM; SIMPLE CHEVRON STAMP; BROADLY AS D&P NOS. 257-9; ELSDON 1982 FIG. 4.2	13002	2	28	12	5
13007	CC1	BK	-	-	-		1			BS; SIMILAR TO VESSEL IN CONTEXT 13002		3	14	0	0
13007	SAM	BD	-	-	-		1			RIM; 18/31?		1	36	18	23
13007	SAM	BD	-	-	-		1	BURNT		BS		1	5	0	0
13007	SAM	37	-	-	-	MOULD	1			BS OVOLO		1	3	0	0
13007	EBOR1	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		3	11	0	0
13007	OXWS	FTR	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM; EBOR WHITE SLIPPED		1	9	8	11
13007	GRFF	JLH	-	-	-	LA	1	VAB		RIM HANDLE		7	106	0	2

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13007	GRFF	JBICOA	-	-	-	LA	1	ABR		RIM; FORM AS D02		1	31	16	8
13007	GRFF	JBICOA	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS; FORM AS D01		1	24	0	0
13007	GREY	JEVC	-	-	-		1			RIM SHLDR		3	48	16	11
13007	GRFF	-	-	-	-		20			BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		20	92	0	0
13007	CC1	BKFOC	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	10	10	16
13007	GREY	JEVC	-	-	-		1			RIM SHLDR		3	43	16	19
13007	GRFF	-	-	-	-		28	ABR		BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		28	224	0	0
13007	GRFF	-	-	-	-		5			BS		5	146	0	0
13007	BB1	J	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	5	0	2
13007	GREY	-	-	-	-		8			BS		8	32	0	0
13007	GRFF	JBCAR	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS CARINATION		3	17	0	0
13007	GREY	JBKFO	-	-	-		1			BS		4	20	0	0
13007	GRFF	JL	-	-	-		1	BURNT; ABR		BS		5	97	0	0
13007	GREY	-	-	-	-		34			BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		34	188	0	0
13007	GREY	BL	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM GIRTH		2	41	20	7
13009	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE		1	34	0	0
13009	GREY	JL	-	-	-		1			RIM SHLDR		1	47	16	16
13009	GRFF	JNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	9	0	2
13009	GRFF	-	-	-	-		4	VAB		BS SCRAPS		4	5	0	0
13009	GRFF	JEV	-	-	-	LA	1	VAB		RIM SHLDR BASE		41	280	12	57
13009	STONE	-	-	-	-		0			UNWORKED STONE X1		0	0	0	0
13009	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM NECK		2	17	18	13
13009	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	7	20	7
13009	GRFF	-	-	-	-		2	VAB		BS		2	28	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13009	IASA3	JBNK	-	NB/NJ	-	HM; B EXT	1			BS NECK CARINATION; R		3	70	0	0
13009	IASA3	JEVT	RD	U	-	HM	1	VAB		RIM; OXID		2	20	16	13
13009	IASST	-	-	U	-	HM	1			BS; R		1	45	0	0
13009	GREY	JL	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	106	0	0
13009	GREY	J	-	-	-	LA	1	ABR		BS		3	82	0	0
13009	GREY	JBKEV	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	5	12	11
13009	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE FTG		2	39	0	0
13009	IASA3	JEV	EVR	-	-		1	VAB		RIM; R		1	7	14	7
13009	GREY	CLSD	-	-	-		1			BASE FTG		1	278	0	0
13009	IASA3	-	-	U	-	HM	1			BS; IRF		5	134	0	0
13009	GRFF	-	-	-	-		34	ABR		BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		34	210	0	0
13009	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1			BS NECK; DARK SURFACED		1	13	0	0
13009	GRFF	BCAR	-	-	-		1		D10	RIM; AS YORK BB FORM NO. 1217		2	57	0	2
13009	GREY	B334	-	-	-	LA NECK	1		D11	RIM NECK CARINATION		2	66	16	31
13009	IASA3	-	-	U	-	HM	12	ABR		BS; IRF; ?NO OF VESSELS		12	75	0	0
13009	GRFF	BCAR	-	-	-		1		D09	RIM; DARK SURFACES; AS YORK BB FORM NO. 3935		1	44	18	8
13009	IASA3	-	-	U	-	HM	1			BS; IRF		2	56	0	0
13009	IASA3	CLSD	-	U	FLT	HM	1			BASE; IRF		3	43	0	0
13009	BB1	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		BASE; ?CLSD		7	38	0	0
13009	EBOR1	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		1	30	0	0
13009	OXWS	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	4	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13009	CC3	BKRC	-	-	-	RC	1	ABR		BS; CLAY ROUGHCAST; MID-ORANGE FABRIC DARK COLOUR-COAT; BROUGH OR LOCAL?		1	2	0	0
13009	CALGS	JEVT	RD	GLOB	-		1			RIM; R		6	32	14	12
13009	IASA3	JEVT	RD	GLOB	-	HM	1		D13	RIM; IRF		6	210	16	48
13009	GREY	JEV	-	-	-	LA	1		D12	RIM GIRTH		7	148	12	78
13009	GRFF	J	-	-	-	LA	1			BS; ?D12		8	74	0	0
13011	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	7	18	8
13011	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	33	24	8
13011	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-	CORD	1			RIM		1	6	12	9
13011	GRFF	JB	-	-	-	CORD	1			RIM		1	8	20	5
13011	GRFF	-	-	-	-		23	ABR		BS MISC; ?NO OF VESSELS		23	104	0	0
13011	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	6	16	9
13011	BB1?	-	-	-	-		1			BS		1	2	0	0
13011	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1			BS		1	16	0	0
13011	IASA3	-	-	U	-	HM	1	VAB		BS; R		1	11	0	0
13011	GRFF	JBCAR	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS CARINATION		1	9	0	0
13011	IASA3	-	-	U	-	HM	1	ABR		BS; IRF		1	6	0	0
13011	GRFF	L	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	7	22	7
13011	GRFF	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		1	1	0	0
13011	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BASE		1	17	0	0
13011	GRFF	BCAR	-	-	-		1	VAB; BURNT		BS CARINATION		1	26	0	0
13011	BB1	BD	-	-	-		1	BURNT		BASE		1	5	0	0
13011	GREY	LD	-	-	-		1			RIM; D452?		1	9	24	4

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13011	CC1	BK	-	-	-		1			BS; NV TYPE		1	3	0	0
13011	GRFF	JEV	-	-	-		1			RIM; HIGH SHLDR		1	11	14	12
13011	GREY	-	-	-	-		5	ABR		BS		5	86	0	0
13011	GRFF	BCAR	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM; LOW CARINATION AS YORK BD NO. 3039		1	25	0	2
13011	GRFF	BCAR	-	-	-	CORD	1	VAB		RIM		1	14	0	2
13011	SAM	BD	-	-	-		1			BS		1	10	0	0
13011	SAM	B	-	-	-	OVOLO	1			RIM; EARLY; SMEARED OVOLO		1	11	20	7
13011	GRFF	BKEV	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM; GLOBULAR		1	14	0	2
13011	EBOR3	BK?	-	-	-	CORD	1	VAB		BS		1	4	0	0
13011	SAM	33	-	-	-		1			BS		1	2	0	0
13011	EBOR1	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	5	0	0
13011	STONE	-	-	-	-		0			UNWORKED STONE X1		0	0	0	0
13011	IASA3	-	-	U	-	HM	1	VAB		BS; IRF		1	4	0	0
13011	IASA3	-	-	U	-	HM	2	ABR		BS; IRF		2	21	0	0
13011	IASA3	JEV	EVR	U	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; R		1	13	20	7
13011	CALGS	-	-	U	-	HM	2			BS; IRF		2	13	0	0
13011	GRFF	-	-	-	-		14			BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		14	70	0	0
13011	GRFF	JS	-	-	-	LA; WIPE INT	1			BS		3	208	0	0
13011	IASA3	CLSD	-	U	FLT	HM	1			BASE; OXID		2	26	0	0
13011	EBOR3	BK?	-	-	-	CORD	1			RIM SCRAP		2	9	0	2
13011	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1			BASE		1	52	0	0
13013	BB1	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BASE		1	14	0	0
13013	GREY	JNK	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	3	12	7

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13013	GREY	JNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	4	12	7
13013	GREY	-	-	-	-		1			RIM SCRAP		1	4	0	2
13013	GREY	JBKNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	2	0	2
13013	BB1	-	-	-	-		3			BS		3	9	0	0
13013	GREY	CLSD	-	-	-		1			BASE PEDESTAL		1	11	0	0
13013	GREY	BKEV	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	4	8	9
13013	GREY	J	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	24	14	11
13013	GREY	JBKNK	-	-	-		1			RIM NECK		1	9	11	10
13013	GREY	BD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE		1	36	0	0
13013	GREY?	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	2	0	0
13013	GREY	-	-	-	-		2	ABR		BS		2	8	0	0
13013	BB1	BFL	-	-	-	LA EXT	1			RIM		3	29	19	12
13013	PART	CLSD	-	-	-	STAF	1		D16; RUBBING; P	BS; MRPART TYPE BLACK SILTY FABRIC		1	2	0	0
13013	ETW4	JEV	EVR	-	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; R		1	6	12	7
13013	GREY	-	-	-	-		27			BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		27	232	0	0
13013	ETW4	JEVT	RD	OV	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	22	16	7
13013	PART	FS	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM NECK; FLAGON OR SMALL NARROW-NECKED JAR		1	9	7	22
13013	SAM	BD	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM SCRAP		1	1	0	2
13013	ETW4	JEV	EVR	U	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; R		1	9	12	12
13013	ETW4	JEVT	RD	U	-	HM	1	VAB		RIM; IRF		1	13	15	7
13013	ETW4	JEVT	RD	U	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; R		1	14	16	8
13013	ETW2	-	-	U	-	HM	1	VAB		BS; IRF		1	17	0	0
13013	ETW4	JEVT	RD	OV	-	HM	1			RIM; R		5	62	21	9

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13013	ETW4	JEV	EVR	-	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; R		1	4	14	6
13013	BB1	BFL	-	-	-	LA EXT	1			RIM		1	20	19	10
13013	CALGS	J	FRE	-	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; IRF		1	12	0	2
13013	CALG	JB	-	-	FLT	HM	1	ABR		BASE; R		1	23	0	0
13013	CALG	J	-	OV	FLT	HM	1	CARBON DEP INT		BASE; R		4	154	0	0
13013	CALG	CLSD	-	-	FLT	HM	1	VAB		BASE; R		2	28	0	0
13013	CALG	-	-	U	-	HM	25	ABR		BS; R; ?NO OF VESSELS		25	152	0	0
13013	GROG	JL	-	-	-	COMB	1	VAB		BS; LATE LA TENE III TYPE COMBING	13076; 13092	3	124	0	0
13013	FCLAY	-	-	-	-		0			FINE FABRIC; 1 FRAGMENT WITH LARGE FLINT INCLUSION		5	61	0	0
13013	ETW4	-	-	U	-	HM	8	VAB		BS; IRF		8	66	0	0
13013	OXWS	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		6	48	0	0
13013	GRFF	J	-	-	-	LA	1			BASE FTG		1	217	0	0
13013	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1			BASE		1	122	0	0
13013	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1			RIM GIRTH		1	118	22	17
13013	GRFF	BKEV	-	-	-		1			RIM GIRTH		1	17	8	12
13013	MOMH1	MHK	-	-	-		1		D15	RIM		1	255	34	17
13013	STONE	-	-	-	-		0			UNWORKED STONE X1		0	0	0	0
13013	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1			BASE FTG		1	85	0	0
13013	EBOR1	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	7	0	0
13013	SAM	OPEN	-	-	-		1			BS		2	15	0	0
13013	MOYO	M	-	-	-		1	WORN INT		BASE; WHITE SLIP		1	62	0	0
13013	CC1	BK	-	-	-	ROUZ	1			BS		1	2	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13013	CC3	CLSD	-	-	-		1			BASE LOWER WALL		4	80	0	0
13013	CC3	BKCOR	-	-	-	RC	1		D14	RIM GIRTH		41	187	14	15
13013	GRFF	-	-	-	-		77	ABR		BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		77	472	0	0
13013	GRFF	JL	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		1	60	0	0
13013	SPAA	A	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS; BAT AM1		1	22	0	0
13013	GRFF	JNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	4	18	4
13013	GRFF	BKEV	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	7	8	6
13013	GRFF	JB	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM SCRAP		1	4	0	2
13013	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1			BASE		1	95	0	0
13013	GRFF	-	-	-	-		12	VAB		BS		12	35	0	0
13013	GRFF	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		BASE		1	6	0	0
13013	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	5	0	0
13013	GRFF	J	-	-	-	LA	1	ABR		BS		2	55	0	0
13013	GRFF	JNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	11	18	8
13013	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	12	14	11
13013	GRFF	BCAR	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS CARINATION		1	13	0	0
13013	GRFF	B334	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS CARINATION		1	17	0	0
13013	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-	CORD	1			RIM; ?JBICO		1	26	16	7
13013	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-		1			RIM NECK; ?B334		2	61	14	24
13013	GRFF	L	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	24	16	8
13013	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	3	0	0
13015	PART	JBKNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	13	16	11
13015	PART	CLSD	-	-	-	SHG	1	ABR		BS		1	6	0	0
13015	BB1	J	-	-	-		1			BS SHLDR		2	23	0	0
13015	PART	BK?	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	2	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13015	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BASE; SMALL PEDESTAL; CENTRAL 13MM HOLE PIERCED POST-FIRING		1	21	0	0
13015	BB1	-	-	-	-		8			BS		8	18	0	0
13015	BB1	BFL	-	-	-	LA	1	ABR		RIM CHAMFER; FORM AS GILLAM 1976 FIG. 3.35		2	57	20	12
13015	BB1	JEVC	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	13	14	10
13015	BB1	CLSD	-	-	-	LA	1	ABR		BS		1	5	0	0
13015	BB1	J	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	6	12	5
13015	BB1	BKEV	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	3	10	7
13015	GREY?	-	-	-	-		3	ABR		BS		3	33	0	0
13015	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-	BWL	1	VAB		BS		1	8	0	0
13015	GREY?	JBKNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	9	20	6
13015	PART	BK	-	-	-	CORD	1	ABR		BS		1	4	0	0
13015	OXWS	-	-	-	-		4	VAB		BS		4	15	0	0
13015	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1			BASE		1	10	0	0
13015	GREY?	BD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BASE		1	7	0	0
13015	PART	-	-	-	-	STAF	1	ABR	D19; P	BS; MRPART TYPE FABRIC		8	17	0	0
13015	GREY	JBKNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	3	10	7
13015	EBOR1	-	-	-	-		16	VAB		BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		16	100	0	0
13015	ETW4	JEVEB	EVEB	-	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; R		1	7	0	2
13015	OX?	-	-	-	-		2	ABR		BS		2	6	0	0
13015	BB1	J	-	-	-		1			BS		1	15	0	0
13015	EBOR1	B37	-	-	-	SHG	1	VAB		RIM		1	20	21	8
13015	EBOR1	T	-	-	-	FRILL	1	VAB		BS		1	7	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13015	EBOR1	B	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	13	0	2
13015	MOVR	MHK	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM; ?FABRIC ID		1	16	0	2
13015	PART	JBK	-	-	-		1			RIM; FORM AS ELSDON 1982 FIG. 4.2		1	6	14	7
13015	PART	-	-	-	-	STAF	1	ABR	D20; P	BS; MRPART TYPE FABRIC		2	4	0	0
13015	SAM	31	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	18	20	11
13015	SAM	-	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	2	20	3
13015	SAM	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS SCRAP		1	1	0	0
13015	SAM	37	-	-	-		1			RIM; DEEP ZONE ABOVE OVOLO		1	20	22	7
13015	SAM	B	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	3	0	2
13015	CC3	BK	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	2	0	0
13015	EBOR6	B37	-	-	-	PA; SHG	1	ABR	D18	RIM; YORK FORM BH1 NO. 1402		1	16	20	7
13015	ETW4	J	-	U	-	HM	1			BS SHLDR; IRF		1	10	0	0
13015	ETW2	JEVT	RD	U	-	HM	1	VAB		RIM; IRF		1	10	17	7
13015	ETW2	JEVT	RD	U	-	HM	1	CARBON DEP INT		RIM; IRF		1	12	16	8
13015	ETW2	JEVT	RD	U	-	HM	1	VAB		RIM; IRF		2	17	16	11
13015	ETW2	JEVT	RD	U	-	HM	1	VAB		RIM; IRF		1	5	0	2
13015	ETW2	JNK	EVT	NJ	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; IRF		1	4	10	11
13015	ETW4	-	-	U	-	HM	1	VAB		BS; IRF		1	13	0	0
13015	CALGS	-	-	U	-	HM	5	VAB		BS; IRF		5	22	0	0
13015	GREY?	-	-	-	-		7	VAB		BS		7	29	0	0
13015	CALGS	JB	EB	-	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	7	0	2
13015	ETW2	JEVT	RD	U	-	HM	1	VAB		RIM; IRF		2	20	22	10
13015	MISC	-	-	U	-	HM	2			BS; ?VESSELS		2	2	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13015	MISC	-	-	U	-	HM	4			BS; ?VESSELS		4	7	0	0
13015	IAGROG	-	-	U	-	HM	10			BS; IRF		10	177	0	0
13015	IAGROG	J	-	U	FLT	HM	1			BASE LOWER WALL; IRF		2	52	0	0
13015	IAGROG	J	-	U	FLT	HM	1	ABR		BASE LOWER WALL; IRF		1	47	0	0
13015	IAGROG	J?	EB	-	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; IRF		1	4	0	2
13015	ETW2	-	-	U	-	HM	1	VAB		BS; IRF		1	10	0	0
13015	CALGS	-	-	-	FLT	HM	1			BASE; IRF		1	8	0	0
13015	ETW4	-	U	-	-	HM	15	VAB		BS; IRF		15	67	0	0
13015	IASA3	JUP	RD	GLOB	-	HM	1	VAB	D21	RIM GIRTH; IRF; FORM AS CUMBERPATCH 2016 NO. 25 & DIDSBURY UNPUBLISHED A NO. 11		6	81	12	43
13015	IASA3	JNK	EVR	NJ	-	HM	1		D22	RIM NECK SHLDR; R; PERHAPS COPY OF FLAVIAN NECKED JAR AS YORK MONAGHAN 1997 FORM JA		4	105	16	34
13015	IAGROG	JEVEB	EVEB	GLOB	-	HM	1		D23	RIM SHLDR; IRF; CF STAXTON		4	96	16	16
13015	ETW2	JEVT	RD	GLOB	-	HM	1	ABR	D24	RIM SHLDR; IRF		3	154	14	41
13015	ETW4	JEVT	RD	GLOB	-	HM	1	ABR	D25	RIM SHLDR; IRF		5	316	15	60
13015	ETW4	-	-	U	-	HM	14			BS; IRF		14	76	0	0
13015	ETW4	CLSD	-	GLOB	FLT	HM	1	VAB		BASE; IRF		2	20	0	0
13015	ETW2	JEVT	RD	U	-	HM	1	VAB		RIM; IRF		1	13	14	12
13015	ETW4	BD	-	OPEN	FLT	HM	1			BASE; R		1	18	0	0
13015	ETW2	JEVT	RD	U	-	HM	1	VAB		RIM; IRF		1	20	16	8
13015	ETW2	-	-	U	-	HM	55			BS; IRF; ?NO OF VESSELS		55	355	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13015	ETW2	-	-	U	-	HM	11	ABR		BS; IRF		11	137	0	0
13015	ETW2	-	-	U	-	HM	4			BS; IRF		4	26	0	0
13015	GREY	JBKNK	-	-	-	CORD	1			RIM		1	8	10	15
13015	ETW4	JEVEB	EVEB	-	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; R		1	7	20	6
13015	GRFF	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	2	0	2
13015	ETW2	JEVT	RD	U	-	HM	1	VAB		RIM; IRF		5	67	18	18
13015	PART	JBK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	4	14	4
13015	ETW4	JNK	RD	NJ	-	HM	1	VAB		RIM; IRF		2	12	12	14
13015	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BASE		1	44	0	0
13015	GRFF	B334	-	-	-	LA EX	1		D17	RIM CARINATION		1	33	13	17
13015	GRFF	B334	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS CARINATION		1	9	0	0
13015	GRFF	JBCAR	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		1	15	0	0
13015	GRFF	JBCAR	-	-	-		2	VAB		BS		2	32	0	0
13015	GRFF	JBCAR	-	-	-	LA	1	VAB		BS		1	22	0	0
13015	GREY	CLSD	-	-	-		3	ABR		BS		3	38	0	0
13015	GRFF	JNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	9	16	4
13015	GREY	JNN	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	7	9	7
13015	GREY	-	-	-	-		31	VAB		BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		31	191	0	0
13015	GRFF	L	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	16	20	7
13015	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-	CORD	1	ABR		RIM		1	12	16	12
13015	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	10	14	9
13015	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	7	14	8
13015	GRFF	JNK	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	8	18	7
13015	GRFF	JNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	7	16	5
13015	GRFF	JNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	9	14	4

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13015	GRFF	-	-	-	-		2	ABR		BS		2	22	0	0
13015	GRFF	-	-	-	-		50	ABR		BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		50	235	0	0
13015	GRFF	-	-	-	-		83	ABR		BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		83	172	0	0
13015	GREY	-	-	-	-		9	VAB		BS		9	25	0	0
13015	GREY	JRUST	-	-	-	RUST	1	ABR		BS SHLDR		1	15	0	0
13015	GREY	CLSD	-	-	-		1			BASE		1	34	0	0
13015	GREY	J	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	25	22	11
13015	GREY	J	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	39	24	12
13015	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		4	13	10	24
13015	GRFF	J	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	4	16	5
13015	GRFF	-	-	-	-		45	ABR		BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		45	268	0	0
13015	GREY	CLSD	-	-	-		1			BASE		1	18	0	0
13015	GRFF	JRUST	-	-	-	RUST	1	VAB		BS		1	3	0	0
13015	GRFF	-	-	-	-		5	VAB		BASE		6	50	0	0
13015	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		2	5	13	8
13015	GRFF	-	-	-	-		48	ABR		BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		48	248	0	0
13015	GRFF	JL	-	-	-	LA	1	ABR		BS		1	113	0	0
13015	STONE	-	-	-	-		0			UNWORKED STONES X4		0	0	0	0
13015	GRFF	BWM1	-	-	-		1			RIM GIRTH		1	91	26	17
13015	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE		1	12	0	0
13015	GRFF	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	2	0	2
13015	GRFF	-	-	-	-	CORD	1	VAB		BS		1	4	0	0
13015	GRFF	BKEV	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	4	0	2
13015	GRFF	JNN	-	-	-		1			RIM NECK		1	12	8	21

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13015	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		1	25	0	0
13015	GRFF	JNK	-	-	-		2	ABR		BS		2	14	0	0
13015	GRFF	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	2	0	0
13015	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1			BASE		1	5	0	0
13015	GRFF	JNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	10	18	4
13015	GRFF	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	3	0	2
13015	GRFF	LTR	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	12	22	6
13015	GREY	J	-	-	-		1			RIM GIRTH		1	40	12	8
13015	GREY	JBNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	10	16	8
13015	GREY	JBKNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	10	12	11
13015	GREY	J	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	7	16	8
13015	GREY	-	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	7	18	7
13015	GREY	JBNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	7	18	7
13015	GRFF	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	5	0	2
13015	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	17	18	9
13015	GRFF	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	3	0	2
13015	GRFF	BFL	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	32	22	10
13015	GRFF	JNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	5	16	5
13015	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	5	14	9
13015	GRFF	L	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	6	24	6
13015	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	8	14	9
13015	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	25	24	7
13015	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	10	20	7
13015	GRFF	JBCAR	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS CARINATION		3	56	0	0
13015	GRFF	JBKEV	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	14	11	23

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13015	GRFF	BFL	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	21	22	11
13015	GRFF	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	8	20	7
13015	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-	LA	1	ABR		BS		1	9	0	0
13015	GRFF	OPEN	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE FTG		1	70	0	0
13015	GRFF	J	-	-	-	COST	1	ABR		BS		2	34	0	0
13015	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-	CORD	1			RIM		1	15	21	18
13015	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	6	22	6
13015	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	6	20	7
13017	GRFF	L	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	9	19	8
13017	GRFF	-	-	-	-		11	ABR		BS		11	44	0	0
13017	GRFF	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		BASE FTR		1	10	0	0
13017	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		2	ABR		BASE		2	10	0	0
13017	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BASE FTG		1	44	0	0
13017	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	4	8	7
13017	GRFF	BKBR	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	3	12	7
13017	GRFF	JEV	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	8	16	9
13017	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		1	7	0	0
13017	STONE	-	-	-	-		0			UNWORKED STONE X1		0	0	0	0
13017	GRFF	JNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM NECK		1	4	10	7
13017	GREY	JNK	-	-	-		1		D26	RIM; YORK FORM JA		2	52	12	37
13017	GREY	JNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	22	18	9
13017	GREY	J	-	-	-		1			BS SHLDR		1	11	0	0
13017	GREY	JEV	-	-	-	LA	1			RIM SHLDR		9	102	13	15
13017	SAM	-	-	-	-		1			BS		1	2	0	0
13017	OXWS	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		2	3	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13017	EBOR1	B	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	5	20	5
13017	GRFF	BFL	-	-	-	LA EXT	1	ABR	D27	RIM; AS YORK FORM BD, NO. 261		1	14	16	11
13017	EBOR1	F	-	-	-		1			HANDLE		1	20	0	0
13017	IASA3	J	RD	-	-	HM	1	VAB		RIM; R		1	6	0	2
13017	BB1	-	-	-	-		39	ABR		BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		39	204	0	0
13017	BB1	-	-	-	-		3	ABR		BS		3	48	0	0
13017	BB1	CLSD	-	-	-	LA	2			BS		2	11	0	0
13017	BB1	BD	-	-	-	BSC EXT	1	ABR		BASE		7	44	0	0
13017	BB1	BD	-	-	-		2	VAB		BASE		2	18	0	0
13017	GREY?	-	-	-	-		22	VAB		BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		22	137	0	0
13017	IASA3	J	RD	-	-	HM	1	VAB		RIM; R		1	8	12	7
13017	ETW4	-	-	U	-	HM	5	ABR		BS; R		5	30	0	0
13017	PART	JBKNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM; R; MRPART TYPE FABRIC		13	24	10	6
13017	STONE	-	-	-	-		0			UNWORKED STONE X1		0	0	0	0
13017	CALG	-	-	U	-	HM	3	ABR		BS; IRF		3	19	0	0
13017	CALG	-	-	-	FLT	HM	1			BASE; IRF		1	13	0	0
13017	CALG	J	TRIF	-	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; OXID; THIN WALLED		1	3	0	2
13017	GREY?	-	-	-	-		3	VAB		BS		3	13	0	0
13017	BB1	JEV	-	-	-	LA	1	BURNT		RIM SHLDR; AS GILLAM 1976 FIG. 1.1 WITH NO BWL		9	116	16	36
13017	GREY	-	-	-	-		7			BS		7	38	0	0
13017	ETW2	-	-	-	-	HM	13	ABR		BS; IRF		13	71	0	0
13017	GRFF	BKEV	-	-	-	LA	1		D30	RIM SHLDR BASE; MIMICS BB1 TYPES		9	159	8	78

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13017	IASA1	-	-	-	FLT	HM	1	ABR		BASE; R/OX		22	272	0	0
13017	IASA1	JNN	EB	NJ	-	HM; WIPE EX	1	ABR	D28	RIM NECK SHLDR; R/OX/R/OX/R		5	111	18	30
13017	IASA1	JNN	RD	GLOB	-	HM	1	ABR	D29	RIM NECK SHLDR; R/OX/R/OX/R		5	126	12	30
13017	IASA1	CLSD	-	-	FLT	HM	1	VAB		BASE; R		1	12	0	0
13017	GRFF	-	-	-	-		34	ABR		BS		34	161	0	0
13017	IASA3	JEVT	RD	U	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	16	14	8
13017	IASA3	J	RD	-	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	4	16	4
13017	IASA3	J	RD	-	-	HM	1	VAB		RIM; R		1	4	0	2
13017	IASA3	L	EB	OPEN	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	11	22	7
13017	IASA3	-	-	U	-	HM	46	ABR		BS; R; ?NO OF VESSELS		46	437	0	0
13017	GRFF	J	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	3	14	5
13017	GRFF	-	-	-	-		1			BASE FTG		1	10	0	0
13017	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		4	ABR		BASE		4	38	0	0
13018	ETW4	J	-	GLOB	FLT	HM	1			BASE SHLDR		4	80	0	0
13018	BB1	BFL	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	16	20	4
13018	ETW4	JNK	TRIF	NJ	-	HM	1	VAB		RIM; OXID		1	6	0	2
13018	CALGS	-	-	U	-	HM	1			BS; R		1	12	0	0
13018	CALGS	-	-	U	-	HM	1			BS; IRF		2	67	0	0
13018	FCLAY?	-	-	-	-		0			REDUCED AND VITRIFIED		1	3	0	0
13018	ETW4	JEVEB	EVEB	-	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM SHLDR		10	59	16	36
13018	ETW4	-	-	GLOB	-	HM	1			BS; R		1	37	0	0
13018	GRFF	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		2	38	0	0
13018	GRFF	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	4	0	2
13018	GRFF	BD	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	15	18	7

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13018	GREY	-	-	-	-		4	VAB		BS		4	22	0	0
13018	DR20	A	-	-	-		1	BURNT		BS; ?BUFF FABRIC; FINE FABRIC BURNT TO GREY COLOUR		1	213	0	0
13018	GRFF	-	-	-	-		11	VAB		BS		11	35	0	0
U/S	GRFF	B29	-	-	-	CORD	1	VAB		RIM CARINATION; YORK FORM BB NO. 1219		1	23	19	6
U/S	GRFF	JNK	-	-	-		1	ABR	D33	RIM NECK; YORK FORM JA		2	63	14	35
U/S	BBT	BK	-	-	-	HM	1	ABR		BASE; HANDMADE; ?SOURCE		1	39	0	0
U/S	ETW2	JEV	EVR	-	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; IRF; AS BREWSTER 1957 FIG. 12.5		1	25	15	15
U/S	GREY	JNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM NECK; AS YORK FORM JA		1	56	17	25
U/S	GREY	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		1	16	0	0
U/S	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1			BASE		1	87	0	0
U/S	GRFF	JL	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	68	0	0
U/S	EBOR1	FTR11	-	-	-		1	ABR	D31	RIM NECK HANDLE		1	132	7	100
U/S	GREY	B29	-	-	-	CORD	1		D36	RIM CARINATION; YORK FORM BB NO. 1219		2	90	19	22
U/S	SAM	D	-	-	-		1			RIM; 18/31		1	12	20	7
U/S	EBOR1	FJ	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		2	44	0	0
U/S	GRFF	JNK	-	-	-		1		D32	RIM NECK SHLDR		3	184	15	25
U/S	GRFF	BFL	-	-	-		1	ABR	D35	RIM; AS YORK TYPE BD, NO. 3039		1	28	19	10
U/S	IASA3	JEV	EVR	GLOB	-	HM	1	ABR	D34	RIM SHLDR; R		1	30	11	13
13032	ETW4	-	-	U	-	HM	104	ABR		BS; R; ?NO OF VESSELS		104	518	0	0
13032	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BASE FTG		1	27	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13032	ETW2	J	RD	-	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; IRF		1	10	0	2
13032	GRFF	-	-	-	-		2	ABR		BS		2	8	0	0
13032	STONE	-	-	-	-		0			SHALE? BADLY DEGRADED POSSIBLE VESSEL		0	0	0	0
13032	CALG	JEVT	RD	-	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	5	0	2
13032	IASA3	-	-	U	-	HM	4			BS; R		4	85	0	0
13032	ETW4	-	-	U	-	HM	15			BS; IRF; ?NO OF VESSELS		15	113	0	0
13032	ETW2	J	RD	-	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; IRF		1	5	0	2
13032	GRFF	-	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	3	0	2
13032	ETW2	J	RD	-	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; IRF		1	7	0	2
13032	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-	LA	1	VAB		BS		1	9	0	0
13032	ETW2	-	-	U	-	HM	8			BS; IRF; ?NO OF VESSELS		8	56	0	0
13032	ETW2	J	RD	-	-	HM	1	VAB		RIM; OXID		1	5	0	2
13032	IASA3	-	-	U	-	HM	13	ABR		BS; IRF; ?NO OF VESSELS		13	57	0	0
13032	GREY	-	-	-	-		10	ABR		BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		10	33	0	0
13032	GRFF	-	-	-	-		14	ABR		BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		14	42	0	0
13032	CALG	JEVT	RD	GLOB	-	HM	1		D46	RIM SHLDR; R; THIN WALLED		5	110	20	12
13032	BB1	BD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE		1	3	0	0
13032	BB1	-	-	-	-	LA EXT	1			BS		1	6	0	0
13032	BB1	BD	-	-	-	LA EXT	1			BS		1	13	0	0
13032	ETW2	J	-	-	FLT	HM	2	ABR		BASE; IRF		2	43	0	0
13032	ETW4	J	U	U	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	10	16	5
13032	GRFF	BD	-	-	-		1			BASE		1	8	0	0
13032	CALG	-	-	U	-	HM	9			BS; R		9	37	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13032	ETW4	-	-	CAR	-	HM	1			BS; R		1	5	0	0
13032	ETW4	JNK	RD	NJ	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; R		1	13	14	9
13032	ETW4	JNK	RD	NJ	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	13	16	8
13032	ETW4	J	U	-	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	3	16	4
13032	ETW4	J	U	-	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	9	22	4
13032	ETW4	J	U	-	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	5	0	2
13032	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BASE		1	7	0	0
13032	ETW4	J	U	U	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	8	0	2
13032	GRFF	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	5	0	0
13032	ETW4	JNK	EVR	NJ	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	35	20	7
13032	ETW4	-	-	-	FLT	HM	2			BASE; R		2	16	0	0
13032	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE		1	12	0	0
13032	ETW2	-	-	U	-	HM	1	VAB		BS FLAKES; OXID		2	2	0	0
13032	ETW1	-	-	U	-	HM	1	ABR		BS; R		1	10	0	0
13032	BBT	CLSD	-	-	-	BL EXT	1	ABR		BASE; ?FABRIC		1	6	0	0
13032	BBT	CLSD	-	-	-		1			BASE; ?FABRIC		1	22	0	0
13032	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-	LA	1	VAB		BS		1	11	0	0
13032	GRFF	JRUST	-	-	-	RUST	1	ABR		BS		1	7	0	0
13032	ETW4	J	U	U	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	7	0	2
13032	STONE	-	-	-	-		0			UNWORKED STONE X4		0	0	0	0
13032	IASA3	JEVT	EVR	GLOB	FLT	HM; WIPE	1	CARBON DEP EXT	D44	RIM BODY BASE; AS BREWSTER 1957 FIG. 12.6		7	307	14	44
13032	GRFF	JBICO	-	-	-	BWL	1		D43	RIM CORD		1	26	16	14
13032	CRGR?	JBICOB	-	-	-		1			BS CARINATION		1	97	0	0
13032	BB1	BD	-	-	-	LA EXT	1			BS		1	8	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13032	GREY	B29	-	-	-	CORD	1		D42	RIM; DARK SURFACE; AS YORK FORM BB		1	75	24	12
13032	OX	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS LOWER WALL		2	30	0	0
13032	GRFF	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS; R/OX/R		1	4	0	0
13032	GRFF	BCAR	-	-	-	BSC EXT	1	VAB		BS NECK; R/OX/R		1	7	0	0
13032	GRFF	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS; R/OX/R		21	145	0	0
13032	GRFF	B37	-	-	-	SHG	1			RIM		1	19	22	7
13032	OXWS	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	3	0	0
13032	EBOR1	FJ	-	-	-		1			BS NECK		1	4	0	0
13032	EBOR1	-	-	-	-		7	ABR		BS		7	8	0	0
13032	OXWS	T	-	-	-	FRILL	1	VAB; BURNT		RIM; GROOVED RIM AS YORK NO. 2796		2	21	16	12
13032	GRFF	DPR?	-	-	-		1		D41	RIM BASE		1	34	18	5
13032	GREY	B321V	-	-	-		1		D40	RIM; LARGE CLUMSY EXAMPLE		1	187	30	12
13032	GRFF	BCAR	-	-	-	LA	1	VAB	D39	RIM NECK CARINATION; AS ELSDON 1997 FIG. 67.214		6	263	14	43
13032	GRFF	BKEV	-	-	-		1		D38	RIM SHLDR		1	5	8	11
13032	GREY	JNN	-	-	-		1		D37	RIM NECK		1	42	9	32
13032	DR20	A	-	-	-		1	ABR		HANDLE; GRITTY FABRIC		3	272	0	0
13032	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE PEDESTAL		1	15	0	0
13032	GRFF	B334	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM CARINATION; R/OX/R		7	34	13	16
13032	GREY	JBKNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	7	12	8
13032	EBOR1	B37	-	-	-	SHG	1			BS; YORK FORM BH1		1	13	0	0
13032	GRFF	L	-	-	-		1	ABR	D45	RIM		1	25	22	9
13032	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1			BASE		1	38	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13032	GREY	JNK	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	7	12	8
13032	GREY	JBKCAR	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		1	7	0	0
13032	GREY	JB	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE		1	37	0	0
13032	GREY	-	-	-	-		20	ABR		BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		20	130	0	0
13032	GREY	BKEV	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	4	8	9
13032	GREY	J	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	19	15	12
13032	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	3	12	5
13032	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	13	24	7
13032	GRFF	JNN	-	-	-		1			RIM NECK		1	18	10	18
13032	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	10	16	11
13032	GRFF	-	-	-	-		70	ABR		BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		70	418	0	0
13032	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		4	VAB		BASE		4	37	0	0
13032	GRFF	BKEV	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	4	6	20
13032	GRFF	L	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	24	20	5
13032	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		2	8	11	11
13032	GRFF	B	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	12	20	4
13032	GRFF	BD	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM SCRAP		1	5	0	2
13032	GRFF	J?	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	10	15	7
13033	GREY	JBKEV	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	7	12	6
13033	EBOR3	JBKBR	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	4	14	11
13033	GRFF	-	-	-	-		13	ABR		BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		13	75	0	0
13033	IASA3	JEVT	RD	U	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM SHLDR; R; GREY WARE FIRING		1	17	12	11
13033	ETW2	-	-	U	-	HM	1	VAB		BS; OXID		1	46	0	0
13033	IASA3	JEVT	RD	GLOB	-	HM; WIPE	1	ABR		RIM SHLDR; R		1	29	16	8

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13033	ETW4	J	U	-	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	4	0	2
13033	ETW4	-	-	U	-	HM	4			BS; IRF		4	20	0	0
13033	BBT	B	-	-	-	BIA	1			BS; ?NORBB1		1	12	0	0
13033	STONE	-	-	-	-		0			UNWORKED STONE X1		0	0	0	0
13033	GRFF	JB	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	3	18	4
13033	GRFF	J	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS SHLDR		2	9	0	0
13033	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1			BASE		1	35	0	0
13033	GRFF	B29	-	-	-	CORD	1			RIM; YORK FORM BB		1	31	24	7
13033	GRFF	JB	-	-	-	SHG	1	VAB		RIM; JBICO TYPE?		1	32	0	2
13033	GRFF	B29	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	11	24	7
13033	GREY	-	-	-	-		6	ABR		BS		6	39	0	0
13033	GRFF	JB	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM; JBICO TYPE?		1	15	16	6
13041	DR20	A	-	-	-		1			BS FLAKES; GRITTY		9	171	0	0
13058	IASA3	-	-	U	-	HM	3	ABR		BS; R		3	12	0	0
13058	ETW4	-	-	U	-	HM	1	ABR		BS; R		1	4	0	0
13058	BBT	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS SCRAPS		2	2	0	0
13058	ETW4	JEVT	RD	OV	-	HM	1	CARBON DEP EXT		RIM SHLDR; R		6	153	16	28
13058	ETW4	JEVT	RD	-	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	7	14	6
13058	ETW4	J	U	-	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	3	14	5
13058	GRFF	JBKEV	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	4	14	8
13058	CALGS	-	-	U	-	HM	1	VAB		BS; OX/R; POORLY MIXED		1	7	0	0
13058	GRFF	-	-	-	-		2			BS		2	4	0	0
13058	GRFF	BFL	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	8	16	7
13058	GRFF	-	-	-	-	CORD	1	ABR		BS		1	4	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13058	EBOR1	-	-	-	-		1			BS		1	20	0	0
13058	SAM	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS FLAKE		1	1	0	0
13058	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	7	14	13
13058	IASA3	JEVT	RD	OV	-	HM	1			RIM; R; THIN WALLED		1	15	14	9
13059	CALGS	-	-	U	-	HM	1	ABR		BS; OXID		1	3	0	0
13059	IASA3	-	-	U	-	HM	1	ABR		BS; R		1	9	0	0
13059	ETW4	-	-	-	FLT	HM	1			BASE; R; ?SAND BEDDED VERY UNUSUAL		1	14	0	0
13060	GRFF	BFL	-	-	-		1			RIM; AS YORK FORM BD		1	12	18	10
13060	CC3	BK	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	2	0	0
13060	GRFF	JNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	8	16	7
13060	GRFF	B334	-	-	-		1			RIM NECK CARINATION		2	38	15	11
13060	GRFF	B29	-	-	-	CORD	1			RIM CARINATION		1	24	0	2
13060	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1			BASE PEDESTAL		1	126	0	0
13060	BB1	CLSD	-	-	-	LA	1	VAB		BS		1	12	0	0
13060	OX	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	12	0	0
13060	CALGS	-	-	U	-	HM	1			BS; R		2	23	0	0
13060	IASST	-	-	U	-	HM	1			BS; R		1	17	0	0
13060	ETW4	-	-	U	-		1	VAB		BS; IRF		2	17	0	0
13060	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BASE FTG		1	8	0	0
13060	GRFF	JEV	-	-	-		1			RIM; HIGH SHLDR		1	18	13	16
13060	GRFF	JBCAR	-	-	-		2	ABR		BS CARINATION		2	34	0	0
13060	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	2	16	4
13060	GRFF	BCAR	-	-	-		1			BS CARINATION		1	18	0	0
13060	GRFF	-	-	-	-		7	ABR		BS		7	64	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13060	STONE	-	-	-	-		0			UNWORKED STONE X1		0	0	0	0
13060	GRFF	JL	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	50	15	23
13060	GRFF	B334	-	-	-	BL; BIA	1	VAB	D51	RIM CARINATION; BAND OF DECORATION ON NECK		15	179	14	54
13060	GROG	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		1	46	0	0
13060	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		3			BASE		3	84	0	0
13060	GRFF	BKEV	-	-	-		1	VAB	D47	RIM BASE PEDESTAL		12	63	6	32
13060	GREY	JBICO	-	-	-	CORD; LA	1		D48	RIM CARINATION BASE FTG		9	453	16	92
13060	GRFF	B29	-	-	-	CORD; LA	1		D50	RIM BASE LOW CARINATION; YORK FORM BB		8	209	16	30
13060	GRFF	JRUST	-	-	-	RUST	1	ABR		BS		1	17	0	0
13060	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1			RIM NECK		1	18	16	17
13060	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM NECK		1	53	16	23
13060	GRFF	J	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	9	16	5
13060	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM NECK		1	37	16	19
13060	GRFF	BNK	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	21	20	12
13060	GRFF	B334	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS CARINATION		1	41	0	0
13060	GRFF	-	-	-	-		10	VAB		BS		10	80	0	0
13060	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BASE		1	68	0	0
13060	GRFF	JB	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	12	20	8
13060	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM NECK		1	15	18	9
13060	GRFF	BCAR	-	-	-	SHG	1	VAB	D49	RIM CARINATION; AS D&P NO. 1160 AND R&S FIG. 87.152		1	86	18	17
13060	GRFF	-	-	-	-		20			BS		20	193	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
U/S	GREY	CLSD	-	-	-		4	ABR		BS		4	64	0	0
U/S	GROG	JL	-	-	-	COMB	1	VAB		BS; LATE LA TENE III TYPE COMBING	13013; 13092	6	75	0	0
U/S	GRFF	J	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	6	13	11
U/S	GRFF	JB	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	5	20	8
U/S	GRFF	J	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	4	0	2
U/S	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	5	16	5
U/S	GRFF	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	2	0	0
U/S	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE		1	10	0	0
U/S	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM NECK		1	13	21	13
U/S	GRFF	JNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	7	15	7
U/S	CALGS	JNK	BEAD	NJ	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; R		1	10	14	6
U/S	CALGS	-	-	U	-	HM	1			BS; R		1	2	0	0
U/S	IASA3	B	RD	OPEN	FLT	WF	1	ABR		RIM BASE		1	20	26	4
U/S	CALGS	-	-	U	-	HM	1	ABR		BS; IRF		1	9	0	0
U/S	ETW4	-	-	-	FLT	HM	1	VAB		BASE; IRF		1	30	0	0
U/S	IASA3	-	-	U	FLT	WF	1	VAB		BASE; R		1	50	0	0
U/S	ETW4	-	-	U	-	HM	1	VAB		BS; IRF		4	51	0	0
U/S	ETW4	-	-	U	-	HM	8			BS; IRF		8	47	0	0
U/S	ETW4	-	-	U	-	HM	4	VAB		BS; IRF		4	38	0	0
U/S	OXWS	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BASE FTR		2	18	0	0
U/S	STONE	-	-	-	-		0			UNWORKED STONE X1		0	0	0	0
U/S	EBOR1	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		10	32	0	0
U/S	GRFF	JBL	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	59	26	13
U/S	SAM	OPEN	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		1	2	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
U/S	EBOR1	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		1	2	0	0
U/S	EBOR3	-	-	-	-		1	BURNT		RIM		1	5	16	4
U/S	EBOR3	BK?	-	-	-	CORD; WIPE	1			BS		1	7	0	0
U/S	FCLAY	-	-	-	-		0			OXID FORMLESS SCRAP		1	1	0	0
U/S	GRFF	-	-	-	-		6	ABR		BS		6	36	0	0
U/S	GREY	JNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		2	42	15	11
U/S	GRFF	-	-	-	-		14	ABR		BS		14	64	0	0
U/S	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE		1	7	0	0
U/S	CC3	BKCOR	-	-	-	RC?	1	VAB	D52	RIM		2	13	7	23
U/S	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		1	5	0	0
U/S	GRFF	BCAR	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS CARINATION		1	7	0	0
U/S	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE FTG		2	13	0	0
U/S	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	17	16	13
U/S	GRFF	BCAR	-	-	-		1			BS CARINATION		1	30	0	0
U/S	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-	CORD	1			BS		1	11	0	0
U/S	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1			BASE PEDESTAL		2	35	0	0
U/S	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	BURNT; ABR		BS		1	16	0	0
13092	GRFF	JNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	5	14	7
13092	ETW2	-	-	U	-	HM	4	ABR		BS; IRF		4	32	0	0
13092	GREY	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BASE FTG		1	11	0	0
13092	GRFF	JNN	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM NECK		1	7	9	10
13092	GRFF	JNK	-	-	-	CORD	1	VAB		BS		1	10	0	0
13092	GRFF	-	-	-	-	BWL	1	ABR		BS		1	11	0	0
13092	GRFF	-	-	-	-		10	VAB		BS		10	70	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13092	GRFF	J	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	7	16	7
13092	GREY	-	-	-	-		5			BS		5	44	0	0
13092	CALGS	-	RD	U	-	HM	1			RIM; IRF		1	7	0	2
13092	ETW4	-	-	U	-	HM	4	ABR		BS; IRF		4	81	0	0
13092	ETW4	JEVT	RD	-	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; IRF		3	68	16	27
13092	GRFF	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		1	6	0	0
13092	ETW2	JEV	EVR	-	-	HM; WIPE	1			RIM; R; HEAVY FINGER WIPE MARKS BELOW RIM		1	23	16	11
13092	GRFF	J	-	-	-	CORD	1	ABR		RIM		1	37	20	17
13092	GRFF	JBKEV	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	7	13	11
13092	IASA3	-	-	U	-	HM	3	ABR		BS; OXID		3	48	0	0
13092	FCLAY	-	-	-	-		0			OXID FORMLESS		1	1	0	0
13092	STONE	-	-	-	-		0			UNWORKED STONE X3		0	0	0	0
13092	CC1	BK	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		2	4	0	0
13092	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	13	18	9
13092	EBOR1	-	-	-	-		4	VAB		BS		4	8	0	0
13092	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-	CORD	1	VAB		RIM		1	13	20	7
13092	OXFIN	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BASE FTG		1	6	0	0
13092	GROG	-	-	-	-	COMB	1	ABR		BS; LATE LA TENE III TYPE COMBING	13013; 13076	1	106	0	0
13092	GRFF	-	-	-	-		11			BS		11	96	0	0
13092	GRFF	JBCAR	-	-	-		1			BS CARINATION		1	13	0	0
13092	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-	CORD	1	VAB		RIM		1	12	19	8
13092	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BASE		1	10	0	0
13092	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE		1	6	0	0
13092	GRFF	L	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	28	22	7

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13092	GRFF	JBCAR	-	-	-	CORD; SHG; BWL	1	VAB		BS		1	17	0	0
13092	SAM	B	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE FTR		2	12	0	0
13093	CALG	-	-	U	-	HM	1	ABR		BS; IRF		1	3	0	0
13093	GRFF	-	-	-	-		1			RIM SCRAP		1	3	0	2
13093	GRFF	J	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	3	16	5
13093	GREY	-	-	-	-		2	ABR		BS		2	16	0	0
13093	GREY?	JBK	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM; ?BB1		1	3	11	6
13093	ETW4	JEVT	RD	OV	FLT	HM	1	CARBON DEP EXT	D53	RIM BASE; R; AS 3C DEVELOPED TYPE? CF NORTON		25	464	16	36
13093	ETW4	-	-	U	-	HM	8	ABR		BS; IRF		8	54	0	0
13093	IASA3	L	RD	OPEN	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	6	0	2
13093	GRFF	JB	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	8	0	2
13093	CALGS	-	-	U	-	HM	1	ABR		BS; IRF		4	19	0	0
13093	ETW4	JEVT	RD	-	-	HM	1			RIM; R		2	12	19	7
13093	GRFF	-	-	-	-		29	ABR		BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		29	133	0	0
13093	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM NECK		1	10	18	4
13093	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1			BASE		1	6	0	0
13093	GRFF	-	-	-	-		13	ABR		BS		13	61	0	0
13093	GRFF	J	-	-	-	CORD	1			RIM; ?CRGR		2	42	14	23
13093	BB1	CLSD	-	-	-		1			BS		1	4	0	0
13093	STONE	-	-	-	-		0			UNWORKED STONES X7		0	0	0	0
13093	BB1	J	-	-	-		1			BS SHLDR		1	13	0	0
13093	OXWS	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		1	7	0	0
13093	GRFF	J	-	-	-		1			RIM		2	30	20	12

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13094	ETW4	-	-	U	-	HM	1	VAB		BS; IRF		1	7	0	0
13094	FCLAY	-	-	-	-		0			MID GREY FINE FABRIC; PIERCED/THUMPRINT; ?DAUB OR OBJECT		1	52	0	0
13094	GRFF	-	-	-	-		2	ABR		BS		2	20	0	0
13094	ETW4	-	-	U	-	HM	1	ABR		BS; IRF		3	52	0	0
13094	GRFF	JBCAR	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		1	4	0	0
13096	GRFF	-	-	-	-		8	ABR		BS		8	38	0	0
13096	GRFF	B334	-	-	-		1			RIM NECK CARINATION		1	30	16	8
13096	ETW4	-	-	U	-	HM	1	ABR		BS; IRF		1	9	0	0
13096	GREY	-	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	7	0	0
13096	GREY	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE FTG		1	8	0	0
13096	GREY	JBKNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		2	32	15	21
13096	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	11	16	8
13096	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	4	14	4
13096	GRFF	JBCAR	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS CARINATION		1	5	0	0
13096	GRFF	JBCAR	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS CARINATION		2	11	0	0
13096	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		1	15	0	0
13096	GRFF	JBL	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		1	41	0	0
13096	ETW4	LB	RD	OPEN	FTR	HB/WF	1	ABR	D55	RIM BASE; UNUSUAL FORM PROBABLY AN OPEN VESSEL		3	149	23	29
13096	GRFF	L	-	-	-		1	BURNT		RIM		1	6	0	2
13096	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BASE		2	9	0	0
13096	EBOR1	FJ	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		18	119	0	0
13096	BB1	BKEV	-	-	-		1		D56	RIM SHLDR		6	72	9	33

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13096	IASA3	JUP	RD	GLOB	FLT	HM	1		D57	RIM; R		6	198	10	35
13096	IASA3	CLSD	-	U	-	HM	1			BS; R		1	23	0	0
13096	GRFF	-	-	-	-		6	ABR		BS		6	68	0	0
13096	ETW4	-	-	U	-	HM	4	VAB		BS; IRF		4	13	0	0
13096	ETW4	JNK	RD	NJ	-	HM	1	VAB		RIM; R; THIN WALLED		1	18	14	10
13096	IASA3	-	-	U	-	HM	3	VAB		BS; R		3	14	0	0
13096	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE		1	24	0	0
13096	OXWS	F	-	-	-		1	ABR	D54	RIM HANDLE NECK SHLDR; PULLEY RIM; YORK FORM FP		1	167	8	100
13097	ETW4	-	U	-	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; R; THIN-WALLED		1	1	0	2
13097	ETW4	J	RD	NJ	-	HM	1			RIM; R; THIN-WALLED		1	3	14	6
13097	ETW4	-	-	U	-	HM	1	ABR		BS; R		1	1	0	0
13097	ETW4	-	-	-	FLT	HM	1	ABR		BASE; R		1	15	0	0
13097	GREY	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		1	5	0	0
13097	ETW4	-	-	U	-	HM	13			BS; R; THIN WALLED		13	61	0	0
13097	ETW4	-	U	-	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; R; THIN-WALLED		1	4	0	2
13097	IASA3	JEVT	RD	OV	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; R; THIN WALLED		1	107	14	25
13097	GRFF	B334	-	-	-		1		D61; P	RIM NECK CARINATION; PHOTO FABRIC AND LARGE SS INCLUSION		1	51	16	18
13097	IASA3	JEVT	RD	OV	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; R; THIN WALLED		1	39	16	9
13097	ETW4	-	-	U	-	HM	1			BS; R; THIN WALLED		9	68	0	0
13097	STONE	-	-	-	-		0			?UNWORKED FLINT FLAKE		0	0	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13097	ETW4	J	-	OV	FLT	HM	1			BASE; R; THIN WALLED		15	240	0	0
13097	ETW2	-	-	OV	-	HM	1			BS; R; MID-GREY ?KILN FIRED		4	68	0	0
13097	IASA3	JEVT	RD	U	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; R		1	7	14	5
13097	IASA3	-	-	-	FLT	HM	1	ABR		BASE; R; ?VEG BEDDED BASE		1	6	0	0
13097	IASA3	CLSD	-	-	FLT	HM	1	ABR		BASE; R		1	11	0	0
13097	IASA3	-	-	U	-	HM	29	ABR		BS; R; ?NO OF VESSELS		29	150	0	0
13097	IASA3	JEVT	RD	OV	FLT	HM; WIPE	1		D62; P	RIM NECK BASE; FABRIC PHOTO AND FINGER WIPED SURFACE		19	308	10	67
13097	IASA3	JEVT	RD	OV	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; R; THIN WALLED		1	27	16	6
13097	GREY	J	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	9	18	6
13097	IASA3	CLSD	-	-	FLT	HM	1	ABR		BASE; R; ?FOLDED		1	15	0	0
13097	GRFF	-	-	-	-		12	VAB		BS		12	72	0	0
13097	GREY	CLSD	-	-	-		1			BASE FTG		1	25	0	0
13097	GREY	JEV	-	-	-		1			RIM SHLDR		1	35	13	25
13097	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM NECK		1	3	0	2
13097	GREY	B29	-	-	-	CORD	1	VAB		RIM		1	16	16	14
13097	GRFF	BCAR	-	-	-		3	VAB		BS CARINATION		3	43	0	0
13097	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE		1	6	0	0
13097	GREY	-	-	-	-		5	ABR		BS		5	24	0	0
13097	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE PEDESTAL		2	84	0	0
13097	IASA3	JEVT	RD	-	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; R; THIN WALLED		1	15	14	7
13097	IASA3	-	-	U	-	HM	3	VAB		BS; R		3	17	0	0
13097	IASA3	JEVT	RD	OV	-	HM	1	VAB		RIM SHLDR; R; THIN WALLED		6	64	12	17

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13097	IASA3	JBK	-	OV	FLT	HM	1	ABR		BASE LOWER WALL; ?FOLDED		5	40	0	0
13097	OX	BDGR	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	6	20	7
13097	CALGS	JEVT	RD	-	-	HM	1			RIM; IRF		2	23	20	9
13097	CALGS	JEVT	RD	-	-	HM	1			RIM; R		1	16	14	13
13097	CALGS	J	-	-	FLT	HM	1			BASE; R		4	60	0	0
13097	CALGS	-	-	U	-	HM	11			BS; IRF		11	46	0	0
13097	IASA3	-	-	U	-	HM	1	ABR		BS; R		1	6	0	0
13097	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE PEDESTAL		1	112	0	0
13101	CALG	-	-	U	-	HM	1			BS; IRF; ?LOOL		2	10	0	0
13101	OXWS	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		7	51	0	0
13101	GRFF	JBKEV	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	3	12	7
13101	GRFF	B29	-	-	-	CORD	1	ABR		RIM; YORK FORM BB		1	21	18	9
13101	GRFF	BKEV	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	8	7	16
13101	GRFF	JBKEV	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	6	10	8
13101	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		3	VAB		BS		3	9	0	0
13101	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BASE PEDESTAL		1	9	0	0
13101	GREY	CLSD	-	-	-	SHG	1			BS		1	41	0	0
13101	GREY	J	-	-	-		1			RIM		2	9	18	11
13101	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-	LA	1			BS		1	12	0	0
13101	OX?	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		1	5	0	0
13101	GRFF	JEV	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	3	0	2
13101	GRFF	BCAR	-	-	-		1			BS CARINATION		1	10	0	0
13101	CALG	-	-	U	-	HM	1			BS; R; ?LOOL		3	33	0	0
13101	GRFF	-	-	-	-		15			BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		15	86	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13101	OXWS	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE		1	11	0	0
13101	EBOR1	-	-	-	-		9	VAB		BS		9	15	0	0
13101	OXWS	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		2	46	0	0
13101	PART	CLSD	-	-	-	COST	1		D58	BS		1	2	0	0
13101	CC3	BK	-	-	-	RC?	1	VAB		BS		3	6	0	0
13101	SAM	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM SCRAP		1	1	0	2
13101	GRFF	JBKNK	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	6	14	10
13101	GRFF	JRUST	-	-	-	RLIN	1	ABR		BS		1	5	0	0
13101	EBOR3	BKEV	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		2	6	10	6
13101	GREY	CLSD	-	-	-		2	VAB		BASE FTG		2	38	0	0
13101	CALGS	-	-	U	-	HM	3			BS; IRF		4	15	0	0
13101	ETW4	J	EVR	-	-	HM	1	ABR		RIM; R		1	12	22	6
13101	ETW4	-	-	-	FLT	HM	1	VAB		BASE; R		1	5	0	0
13101	ETW4	-	-	U	-	HM	14			BS; R		14	71	0	0
13101	GREY	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		1	2	0	0
13101	NORBB1	BKEV	-	-	-	LA	1	ABR	D59	RIM SHLDR		3	40	9	7
13101	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-	LA	1			BS		1	6	0	0
13101	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BASE		1	13	0	0
13101	GRFF	BFL	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM; YORK FORM BD		1	43	22	14
13101	GREY	CLSD	-	-	-	CORD	1			BS		1	20	0	0
13101	GREY	-	-	-	-		18	ABR		BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		18	185	0	0
13101	ETW4	JNK	EVR	NJ	-	HM	1	CARBON DEP EXT	D60	RIM; R		4	91	14	23
13101	GRFF	-	-	-	-		17	ABR		BS; ?NO OF VESSELS		17	190	0	0
13101	GRFF	B	-	-	-		1			BS CARINATION		1	9	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
13101	GRFF	BFL	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	19	24	4
13101	GRFF	JBNNK	-	-	-		1			RIM NECK		1	16	8	28
13101	GRFF	B	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	7	20	4
13101	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1			RIM NECK		1	7	20	7
13101	GRFF	J	-	-	-		1	VAB		RIM		1	3	14	7
13106	GRFF	B	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	14	19	7
13106	ETW4	-	-	U	-	HM	4			BS; R		4	26	0	0
13106	GREY?	-	-	-	-		2	VAB		BS		2	12	0	0
13106	SAM	B	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	4	0	2
13106	GRFF	CLSD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS; ?ID		1	19	0	0
13106	GRFF	JBCAR	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS CARINATION		1	10	0	0
13106	CALGS	-	-	U	-	HM	1			BS; IRF		1	5	0	0
13106	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	3	0	2
13106	GRFF	JBNK	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	2	20	4
13106	CC3	BK	-	-	-		1	VAB		BS		2	4	0	0
13106	SAM	BD	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM; ?SAMEG		3	25	0	2
13106	GRFF	B	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	11	20	8
13106	GRFF	-	-	-	-		9	ABR		BS		9	52	0	0
U/S 1	SAM	BD	-	-	-		1			BS; ?SAMEG		1	13	0	0
U/S 1	GREY	JL	-	-	-		1			BS SHLDR		1	29	0	0
U/S 2	GREY	-	-	-	-		1			BS		1	6	0	0
U/S 3	SAM	-	-	-	-	MOULD	1			BS		1	1	0	0
U/S 3	GREY	JB	-	-	-		1			RIM		1	8	24	7
U/S 3	GREY	JB	-	-	-		1	ABR		RIM		1	18	21	6
U/S 3	GREY	CLSD	-	-	-	SHG	1			BS		1	8	0	0

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	Body	Base	Decoration	Vessels	Alt	Drawing	Comments	Join	Sherd	Weight	Rim diam	Rim eve
U/S 3	GREY	-	-	-	-		1	ABR		BS		1	4	0	0
U/S 3	GREY	BD	-	-	-		1	ABR		BASE		1	49	0	0
U/S 3	NORBB1	BD	-	-	-		1	VAB		BASE		1	22	0	0
U/S 3	CALGS	-	-	U	-	HM?	4	ABR		BS		4	40	0	0
U/S 3	MOCR	MHH	-	-	-		1			RIM; SANDY FABRIC WITH PINKER CORE; ?CRAMBECK OR UNUSUAL OXFORD PRODUCT		1	22	0	2
U/S 3	MORT	MCO	-	-	-		1	ABR	D63	RIM; SANDY BUFF FABRIC; ?IMPORT OR LOCAL YORKSHIRE VESSEL; SEE PARALLELS IN SPOTDATE FOR RAETIAN TYPES		1	35	0	2
U/S 3	SAM	BD	-	-	-	NAME	1			BASE FTR; STAMP READS RE.. [		1	52	0	0
U/S 3	CALGS	J	U	-	-	WF	1	ABR		RIM; R		1	10	0	2

Appendix E. Ceramic building material

Table 11. The CBM and burnt clay catalogue.

Trench	Context	Fabric	Function	Number of sherds	Weight (g)	Corner	Thickness	Comments
12	12002	T22.1	Flat	1	72	0	15	
12	12009	T22.1	B/T	1	3	0	0	
13	13001	D00	Unidentified	1	7	0	0	
13	13003	D00	Unidentified	1	5	0	0	
13	13003	D00	Unidentified	9	69	0	0	
13	13003	T22.1	B/T	2	6	0	0	
13	13005	D00	Unidentified	1	1	0	0	
13	13007	D00	Unidentified	3	1	0	0	
13	13007	T22.1	B/T	4	27	0	0	
13	13009	T22.1	B/T	2	8	0	0	
13	13011	D00	Unidentified	2	10	0	0	
13	13011	D00	Mud Brick?	20	152	0	0	
13	13011	T22.1	B/T	5	9	0	0	
13	13013	D00	mud brick	46	170	0	0	
13	13013	D00	Unidentified	5	35	0	0	
13	13015	D00	mud brick	15	220	0	0	
13	13015	T22.1	BB/T	66	370	0	0	
13	13018	D00	Unidentified	2	3	0	0	
13	13018	D00	Unidentified	11	19	0	0	
13	13032	D00	mud brick	62	661	0	44	
13	13033	D00	Lining	6	33	0	0	
13	13033	T22.1	B/T	4	23	0	0	
13	13058	D00	Daub	3	26	0	0	poss. wattle 10mm diameter
13	13058	D00	Unidentified	2	7	0	0	
13	13059	D00	MUD BRICK	5	183	0	0	
13	13060	T22.1	B/T	1	3	0	0	
13	13076	T22.1	B/T	10	47	0	0	
13	13092	T22.1	B/T	11	55	0	0	
13	13093	D00	Mud Brick?	6	89	0	0	
13	13094	D00	Daub	5	13	0	0	5mm diameter wattle
13	13094	D00	lining	20	156	0	0	flat edge
13	13096	D00	Unidentified	1	1	0	0	
13	13101	T22.1	B/T	4	75	0	0	
13	13106	T00	B/T	4	16	0	0	
13	13106	T00	Roman Brick	1	294	0	35	
0	us	TZ00	Pan Tile	2	52	0	0	

Table 12. CBM and burnt clay by context type.

Context type	Number of sherds	Weight	MSW
Ditch	6.50%	8.50%	11
Pit	90.60%	89.90%	8.33
Posthole	2.90%	1.60%	4.7
N/AVG	*341*	*2862*	*8.39*

Appendix F. Industrial waste.

Table 13. Catalogue of the residues recovered (weight in grams).

Context	Feature Number	Feature Type	Cinder Count	Cinder Weight	Crucible Count	Crucible Weight
13013	1305	Pit	1	9		
13015	1306	Pit	9	26	1	5
13032	1305	Pit	10	30		
Totals			20	65	1	5

Appendix G. Metalwork and registered finds.

Table 14. Assessed finds assemblage (SFs and bulk) from Elmswell Farm.

ID	Context Number	SF No.	Object Type	Short description	Weight (g)	Material	Date
1	13032	183	PUNCH	Punch, mortise or cold chisel	73.2	Iron	1st-4th C
2	13032	184	HAIR PIN	Crummy Type 6	0.72	Bone	AD250-4th C
3	13092	187	BRACKET	Box/casket fitting / binding strip	11.18	Iron	1st-15th C
4	13093	190	HINGE	Loop hinge, broken in two pieces	13.58	Iron	1st-4th C
5	13032	194	HAIR PIN	Crummy Type 6	0.19	Bone	AD250-4th C
6	13017	195	KNIFE HANDLE	One-piece with incised decoration	2,13	Bone	3rd-4th C
7	U/S	U/S 1	COIN	Radiate/antoninianus of Tetricus I	0.53	Copper alloy	AD270-273
8	U/S	U/S 2	COIN	Nummus of the House of Constantine	1.4	Copper alloy	AD330-335
9	12002		BRACKET	Likely door fitting	11.55	Iron	1st-15th C
10	13011		MOUNT	Box/casket fitting / mount or box plate	1.36	Copper alloy	1st-4th C
11	13011		NAIL	Shank with square section and oval head; tip missing	4.31	Iron	1st-15th C
12	13013		HOB NAIL	Hobnail, slightly bent	0.69	Iron	1st-4th C
13	13013		NAIL	Shank with square section and oval head; tip missing	2.16	Iron	1st-15th C
14	13013		HOB NAIL; NAIL	One hobnail and one larger nail fragment with square section and circular head	4.27	Iron	1st-4th C
15	13013		MOUNT; NAIL	Part of likely fitting for a barrel or rounded wooden object and three nail fragments	20.93	Iron	1st-15th C
16	13015		KNIFE	Small single edged knife fragment	6.33	Iron	1st-4th C

ID	Context Number	SF No.	Object Type	Short description	Weight (g)	Material	Date
17	13015		KNIFE; MOUNT; NAIL	Possible fitting (rectangular cross section); possible single edged knife fragment (elongated triangular cross section); 3 nail fragments	14.67	Iron	1st-4th C
18	13015		KNIFE or MOUNT	Possible fitting fragment or possible single edged knife fragment (cross section currently undeterminable)	2.12	Iron	1st-4th C
19	13017		NAIL	Three nails or fragments thereof, with square shank cross section and circular heads	10.49	Iron	1st-15th C
20	13017		NAIL	Two nails with square cross section, one smaller one with circular head (complete) and one larger one (head missing)	13.54	Iron	1st-15th C
21	13018		NAIL	Four nails/fragments of the same type of nail: square cross section and circular head	46.52	Iron	1st-15th C
22	13020		NAIL	Structural nail with square cross section and circular flat head, slightly bent at the tip	11.64	Iron	1st-15th C
23	13028		NAIL	Structural nail with square cross section and circular flat head	11.41	Iron	1st-15th C
24	13032		MOUNT	Four fragments of badly preserved mount fragment - likely strap/leather/belt mount	0.67	Copper alloy	1st-4th C
25	13032		NAIL; BRACKET	Two nail fragments with square shank and circular head; two fragments of a likely casket or small box mount/fitting	23.46	Iron	1st-4th C
26	13033		NAIL	Two nail fragments with square shank and circular head	17.19	Iron	1st-15th C
27	13058		NAIL	Nail fragment, upper part surviving; rectangular shank, circular head	4.63	Iron	1st-15th C
28	13060		BRACKET	Likely door fitting or hinge fragment; slightly curved along vertical axis; possibly remains of nail hole	34.81	Iron	1st-15th C
29	13072		NAIL	Nail fragment, upper part surviving; rectangular shank, circular head	5.26	Iron	1st-15th C
30	13074		BRACKET	Likely door or box fitting	43.35	Iron	1st-15th C
31	13076		NAIL	Two nails with square cross-section; one retains a circular head	20.53	Iron	1st-15th C
32	13092		BRACKET	Likely strap or hinge/door fitting or bracket fragment, probable rectangular cross section	7.78	Iron	1st-4th C
33	13093		UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT	Unidentified - potentially casting residue	20.69	Lead alloy	1st-15th C



ID	Context Number	SF No.	Object Type	Short description	Weight (g)	Material	Date
34	13094		UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT	Two joining fragments of a probable bent nail; possibly a small handle	4.57	Iron	1st-15th C
35	13101		NAIL	Two fragments of two nails with square cross section; heads missing	10.12	Iron	1st-15th C
36	13106		TOILET ARTICLE	Possible cleat fragment or, more likely, handle fragment of a surgical instrument or toilet article	4.78	Iron	1st-4th C
37	U/S		HAIR PIN	Terminal/top of hair pin with pointed globular/onion-shaped head	3.82	Copper alloy	2nd-4th C

Table 15. Material of finds submitted for assessment.

Material	Number of artefacts	ID Numbers (SF number)
Bone	3	2 (SF184), 5 (SF194) , 6 (SF195)
Copper alloy	5	7 (U/S 1), 8 (U/S 2), 10, 24, 37
Lead alloy	1	33
Iron	77	1, 3, 4, 9, 11-23; 25-32, 34-36
TOTAL	865	865

Appendix H. Environmental

Table 16. Summary of remains recovered from flots by count and weight.

Context	Sample	Charcoal >2mm			Charcoal <2mm	Charred grain		Charred plant remains		Charred seeds		Foraminifera		Insect egg capsules		Insect remains		Shell			Slag		Untransformed plant remains		Untransformed seeds		Recent roots/straw	Total	
		Count	Abundance	Weight (g)	Abundance	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Abundance	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Abundance	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Abundance	Count	Weight (g)
12007	41					3	< 1									9	< 1	6	***	< 1			1	< 1	8	< 1	***	27	<1
12009	61																		*	< 1							*		<1
13017	55	1		< 1		3	< 1			1	< 1								**	< 1	2	0			3	< 1		10	0.3
13020	48					5	< 1			1	< 1								***	< 1					26	< 1	***	32	<1
13024	46					1	< 1												*	< 1					2	< 1	*	3	<1
13026	45		**	2	**														**	< 1							**		1.8
13028	44				*	2	< 1												**	< 1					12	< 1	**	14	<1
13030	43		**	1	**					19	< 1				*	18	< 1		**	< 1					13	< 1	**	50	0.5

Context	Sample	Charcoal >2mm			Charcoal <2mm	Charred grain		Charred plant remains		Charred seeds		Foraminifera		Insect egg capsules		Insect remains		Shell			Slag		Untransformed plant remains		Untransformed seeds		Recent roots/straw	Total	
		Count	Abundance	Weight (g)	Abundance	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Abundance	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Abundance	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Abundance	Count	Weight (g)
13032	50				*	6	< 1												**	< 1	9	0			4	< 1		19	0.4
13035	42				*			1	< 1			8	< 1		*				**	1.1					2	< 1	**	11	1.1
13041	49																		**	< 1					22	< 1	**	22	<1
13053	47					3	< 1					4	< 1						** *	< 1					4	< 1	** *	11	<1
13060	64																		*	< 1					6	< 1		6	<1
13062	53									1	< 1								**	< 1					17	< 1	**	18	<1
13064	52				*														**						4	< 1	**	4	<1
13068	60				*	1	< 1			2	< 1	5	< 1						**	< 1					10	< 1	**	18	<1
13074	57														*				*	< 1					5	< 1	*	5	<1
13078	58		*	1	*					1					*				**	< 1					1		**		1.1

Context	Sample	Charcoal >2mm			Charcoal <2mm	Charred grain		Charred plant remains		Charred seeds		Foraminifera		Insect egg capsules		Insect remains		Shell			Slag		Untransformed plant remains		Untransformed seeds		Recent roots/straw	Total	
		Count	Abundance	Weight (g)	Abundance	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Abundance	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Abundance	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Abundance	Count	Weight (g)
13082	56		**	2	**					6	< 1			1					*	< 1					5	< 1	*	11	2.2
13084	54		**	0	*														*	0.5							*		0.8
13093	51		*	0	*	#				7	< 1								*	< 1	36	1					*	61	1.3
13103	59		*	< 1	*										*				**	1.8					17	< 1		17	1.8
13106	63																		**										
13117	62																		**	< 1									<1
Total		1		6		#		1	< 1	38	< 1	#		1		27	< 1	6		3.4	47	2	1		#	< 1		339	11.3

Table 17. Untransformed and charred seeds/fruits recovered from flots.

		Charred cereals					Other charred plant remains						Untransformed plant remains							
Context	Sample	Wheat	Oat	Rye	Barley	Cereal indet.	Goosefoot	Cleavers	Knotweed	Sedge	Water lettuce	Unidentified	Goosefoot	Fumaria	Birch	Heather	Saltbush	Elder	Catchfly	Total
12007	41	1				2					1		8			1				13
13017	55		1			1				1						2		1		6
13020	48					5							19	8		3				35
13024	46				1								1	1						3
13028	44					2							10	1			1			14
13030	43						18					1			12				1	32
13032	50		1			4							4							9
13035	42											1	2							3
13041	49												22							22
13053	47	1		1		1							3	1						7
13060	64												5	1						6
13062	53							1					12	5						18
13064	52												3	1						4
13068	60					1						2	8	2						13
13074	57												4	1						5
13078	58												12	3						15
13082	56						6							3	2					11
13093	51	1		1	1	15		3	1	1		2				2				27
13103	59												9	8						17

Context	Sample	Charred cereals					Other charred plant remains						Untransformed plant remains							Total
		Wheat	Oat	Rye	Barley	Cereal indet.	Goosefoot	Cleavers	Knotweed	Sedge	Water lettuce	Unidentified	Goosefoot	Fumaria	Birch	Heather	Saltbush	Elder	Catchfly	
Total		3	2	2	2	31	24	4	1	2	1	6	122	35	14	8	1	1	1	260

Table 18. Summary of hand collected charcoal and charcoal recovered from flots.

Trench	Sample	Context	Hand collected		Flot		
					>2mm		<2mm
			Count	Weight (g)	Abundance	Weight (g)	Abundance
13	HC	13013	80	106			
		13060*	8	19			
		13092	27	7			
		13097	16	5			
		13101	47	5			
		13013	23	6			
	42	13035					*
	43	13030			**	0.5	**
	44	13028					*
	45	13026			**	0.8	**
	50	13032					*

Trench	Sample	Context	Hand collected		Flot		
					>2mm		<2mm
			Count	Weight (g)	Abundance	Weight (g)	Abundance
	51	13093			*	0.4	*
	52	13064					*
	54	13084			**	0.3	*
	55	13017			*	<1	
	56	13082			**	1.2	**
	58	13078			*	1.1	*
	59	13103			*	<1	*
	60	13068					*

Table 19. Terrestrial and freshwater mollusc remains from Elmswell Farms.

Trench	Context	Sample	Clear glass snail		Smooth glass snail		Copse snail		Grove snail		Grove/copse snail		Slippery snail		Vertigo snail		Heath snail		Heath/eccentric snail		Cellar snail		Strawberry snail		Strawberry/hairy snail		Smooth grass snail		Dwarf pond snail		Hygromiidae		Unidentified		Blind snail	Total Qty	Total MNI
			Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Abundance		
12	12002	HC							9	4																										9	4
	12007	41			3	3																					3	3							*	6	6
	####	61																									10	10			10	10				20	20
		HC							9	3																										9	3
13	13003	HC					1	1	18	4																							1	1		20	6
	13005	HC					16	16	15	15	67	0									1	1														99	32
	13007	HC					10	10	3	3	23	0																								36	13
	13011	HC					7	4	8	2																										15	6
	13013	HC							2	1													1	1												3	2
	13015	HC					1	1																												1	1
	13018	HC							16	4																										16	4
	13020	48																									9	9			9	9			**	18	18
	13024	46																									2	2			6	6			**	8	8
	13026	45																									1	1			7	7			**	8	8
	13028	44																							5	5	3	3								8	8
	13030	43													2	2			1	1							6	6			10	10			**	19	19
	13032	50																									3	3			3	3				6	6
	13033	HC							8	3																										8	3
	13035	42	11	11									44	44	1	1			1	1	23	23			20	20	20	20	1	1	9	9			**	130	130
	13041	49																									6	6			3	3			**	9	9

Trench	Context	Sample	Clear glass snail		Smooth glass snail		Copse snail		Grove snail		Grove/copse snail		Slippery snail		Vertigo snail		Heath snail		Heath/eccentric snail		Cellar snail		Strawberry snail		Strawberry/hairy snail		Smooth grass snail		Dwarf pond snail		Hygromiidae		Unidentified		Blind snail	Total Qty	Total MNI
			Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Qty	MNI	Abundance		
	13053	47											1	1													2	2			2	2			**	5	5
	13058	HC					2	2	9	2																										11	4
	13060	64																											5	5				**	5	5
	13062	53																									6	6							**	6	6
	13064	52																									4	4			2	2			*	6	6
	13068	60																			1	1					5	5							**	6	6
	13074	57																									5	5							**	5	5
	13076	HC					3	3	3	3									1	1																7	7
	13078	58																									2	2							**	2	2
	13082	56																									3	3							**	3	3
	13084	54																	1	1																1	1
	13092	HC							7	5							1	1			1	1														9	7
	13093	51											2	2																						2	2
	13096	HC					1	1																												1	1
	13097	HC							2	2																										2	2
	13101	HC							1	1																										1	1
	13103	59											1	1							10	10					3	3			6	6			**	20	20
	13106	HC							1	1																										1	1
	13117	62																													6	6				6	6
Total			11	11	3	3	41	38	111	53	90	0	48	48	3	3	1	1	4	4	36	36	1	1	25	25	93	93	1	1	78	78	1	1		547	396

Project Team member 1
Project Team member 2
Project Team member 3
Project Team member 4

PROJECT	10-Nov-24	11-Nov-24
ELMSWELL FARMS POST EXCAVATION		
Initial Records check (Diggit, drawings, registers, photos etc)		
Photogrammetry processing		
Illustrations (Trench plans, digitised sections, plated photos)		
Site Narrative		
Trench Tables		
Finds to specialists		

12-Nov-24	13-Nov-24	14-Nov-24	15-Nov-24	16-Nov-24	17-Nov-24	18-Nov-24	19-Nov-24
						OFF	OFF
						OFF	OFF
						OFF	OFF
						OFF	OFF
						OFF	OFF
						OFF	OFF

20-Nov-24	21-Nov-24	22-Nov-24	23-Nov-24	24-Nov-24	25-Nov-24	26-Nov-24	27-Nov-24
			OFF	OFF			
			OFF	OFF			
			OFF	OFF			
			OFF	OFF			
			OFF	OFF			
			OFF	OFF			

28-Nov-24	29-Nov-24	30-Nov-24	01-Dec-24	02-Dec-24	03-Dec-24
		OFF	OFF		
		OFF	OFF		
		OFF	OFF		
		OFF	OFF		
		OFF	OFF		
		OFF	OFF		

04-Dec-24	05-Dec-24	06-Dec-24	07-Dec-24	08-Dec-24	09-Dec-24
			OFF	OFF	
			OFF	OFF	
			OFF	OFF	
			OFF	OFF	
			OFF	OFF	
			OFF	OFF	

10-Dec-24	11-Dec-24

DOC6: Elmswell Farm Virtual Tour

Summary:

As part of DigVentures' ongoing public engagement during the delivery of their community crowdfunded excavation at Elmswell Farms, a virtual tour is prepared of the dig site to reach digital audiences who are not able to attend the dig in person. This is an opportunity to broaden the reach of the dig and its social impact beyond just in person participants.

The video itself is framed as a 'studio' and 'site' model, where the host begins with some introductory background information about the project before handing over to the site staff for the tour itself. The video is then wrapped up with an opportunity for questions and how to find out more information about the project or get involved.

At Elmswell Farms, I usually host the tour from site segment of the video each year and an example of this is available in the link below from our 2024 season. My segment begins at timestamp 9:45 through to 22:07.

https://digventures.com/watch/livestream-roman-archaeology-in-east-yorkshire/

DOC7: Roman Finds Group Talk

Written and presented by Ben Swain

This talk was presented at the annual Roman Finds Group Autumn Online Conference, held on 31st October 2025. The theme of the conference was ‘Finds from Volunteer and Community Excavations.’

Digging the Romans of East Yorkshire

Ten Years of Crowdfunded Community Archaeology



DigVentures

Coming Up

- Who we are and what we do
- Project Background
- The Site
- The finds
- Sum Up
- How to Find out more and get involved

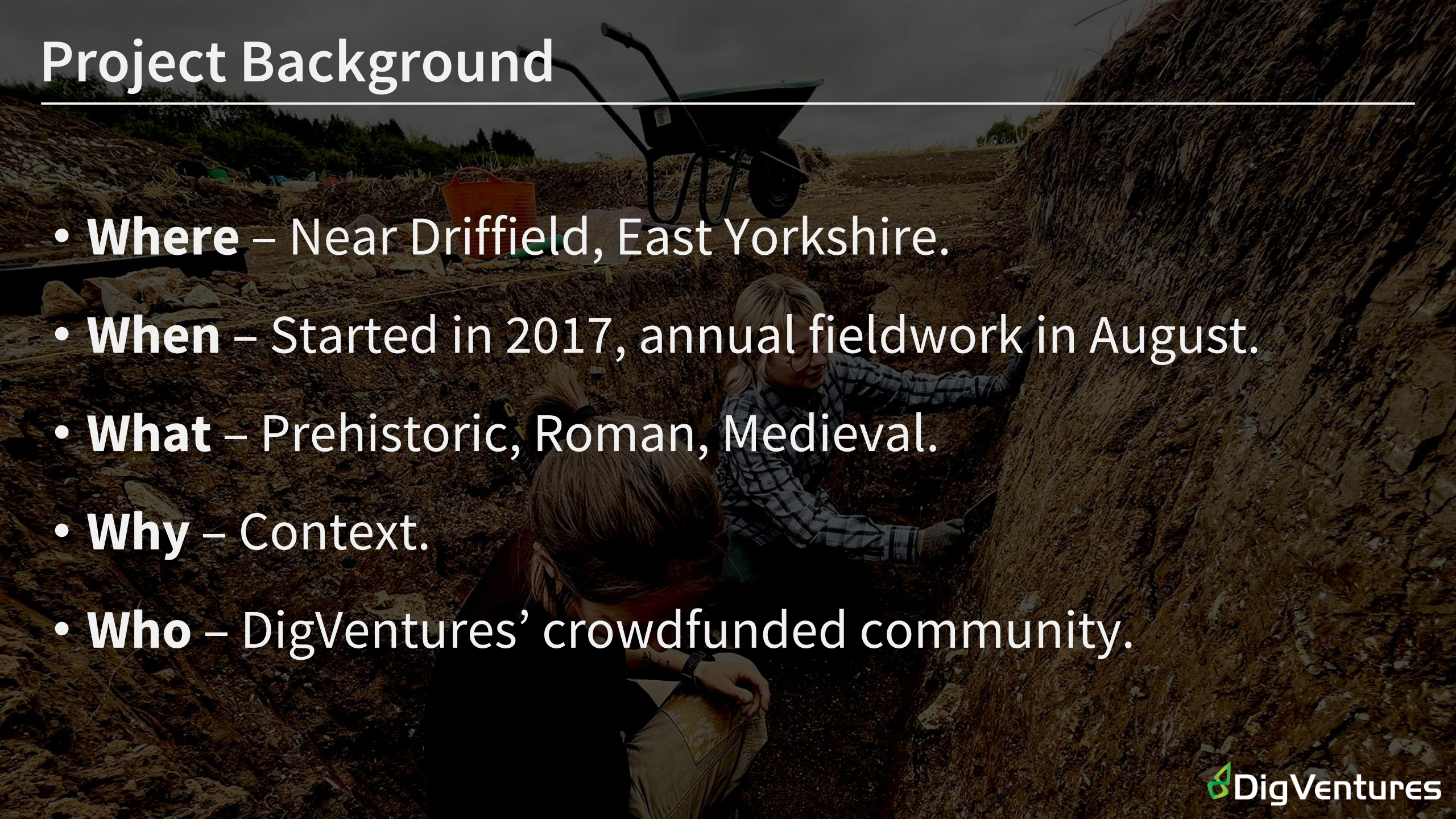
DigVentures

DigVentures

- Who we are
- What we do
- Crowdbased methods
- Community archaeology
- Results for archaeology and people

DigVentures

Project Background

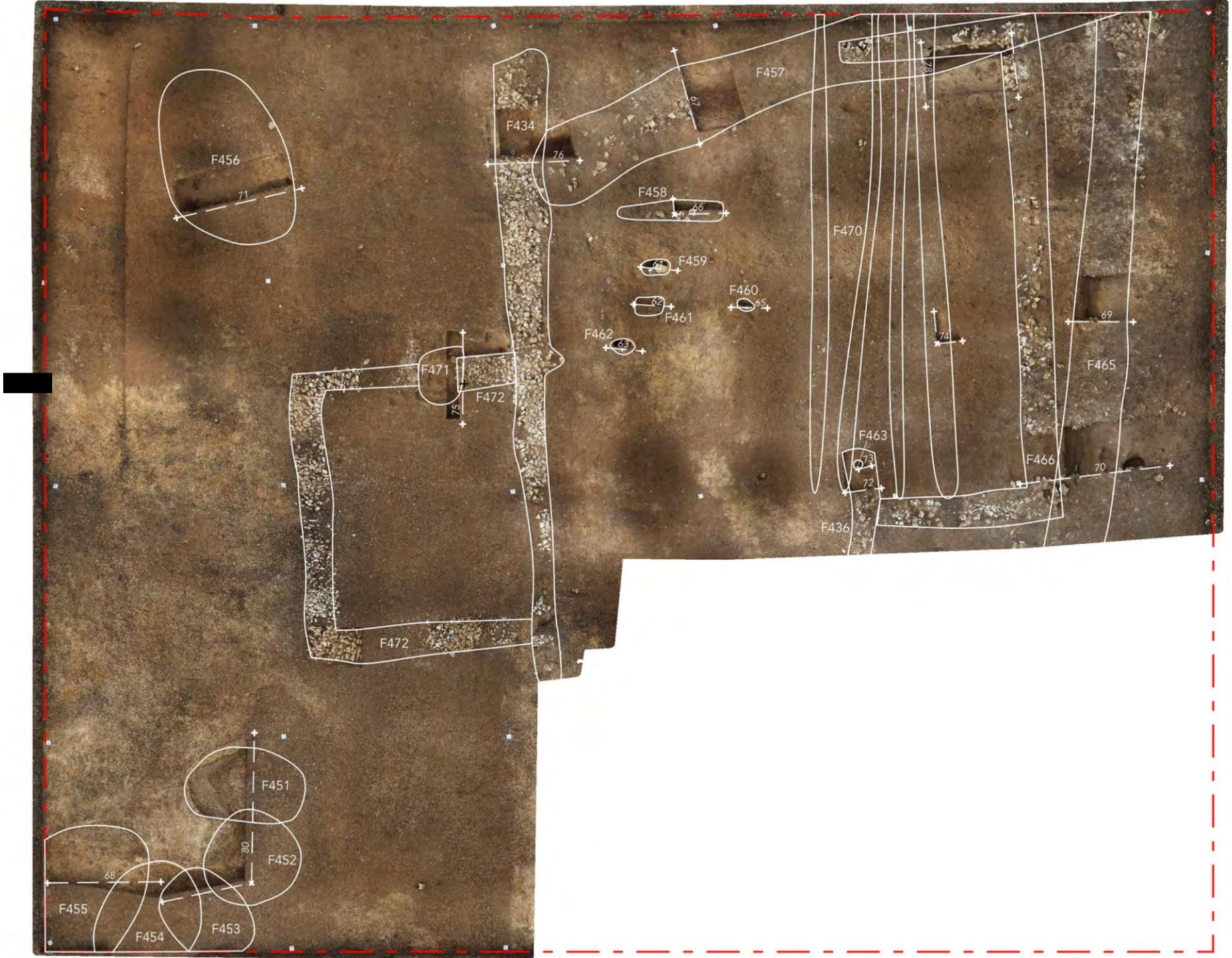


- **Where** – Near Driffield, East Yorkshire.
- **When** – Started in 2017, annual fieldwork in August.
- **What** – Prehistoric, Roman, Medieval.
- **Why** – Context.
- **Who** – DigVentures' crowdfunded community.

DigVentures

1st – 2nd Century Settlement





DigVentures

2nd – 3rd Century Ladder Settlement



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4th Century Settlement



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The Finds



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The Metalwork









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The Metalwork



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The Pottery











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Votive Deposits







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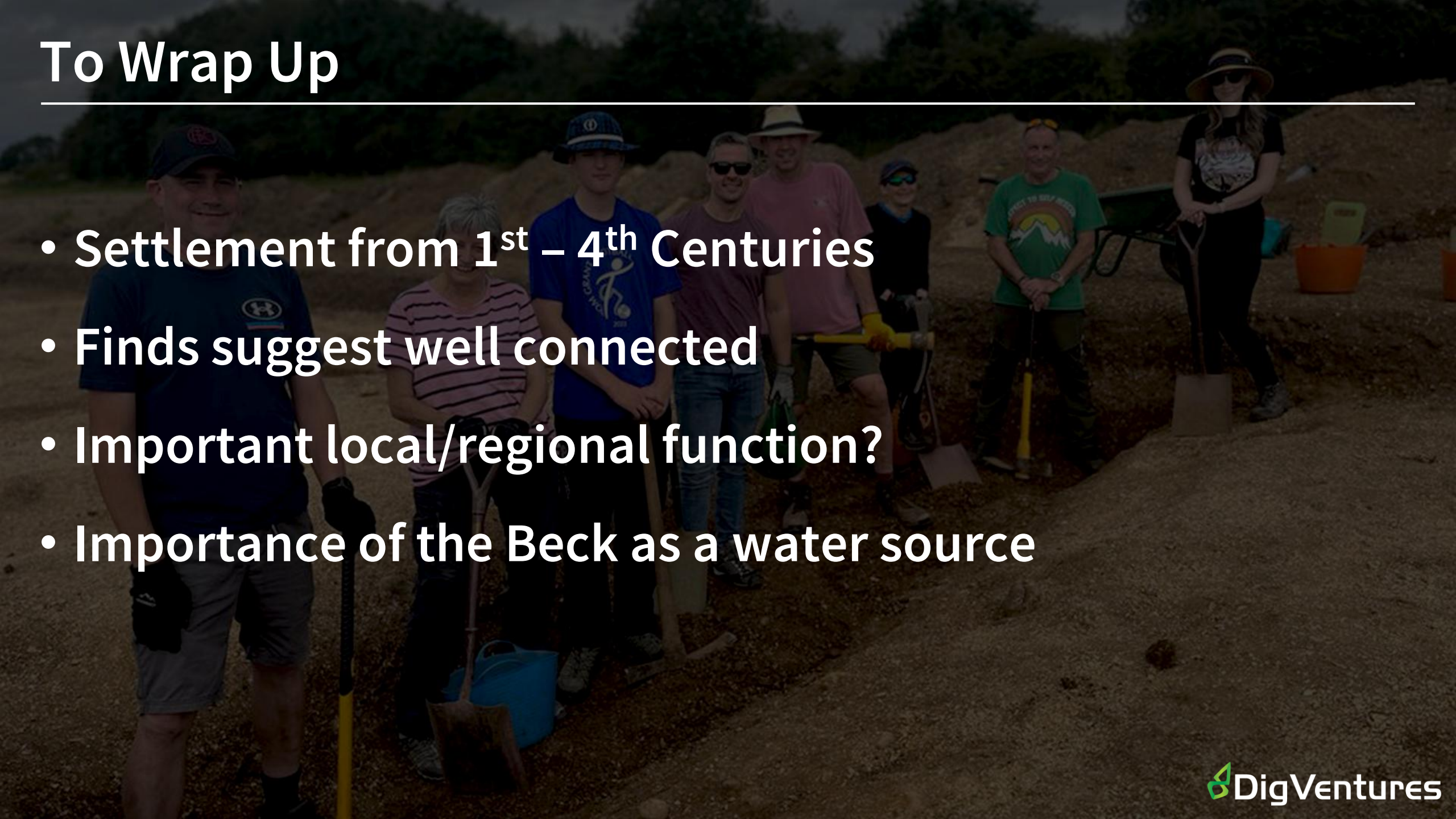






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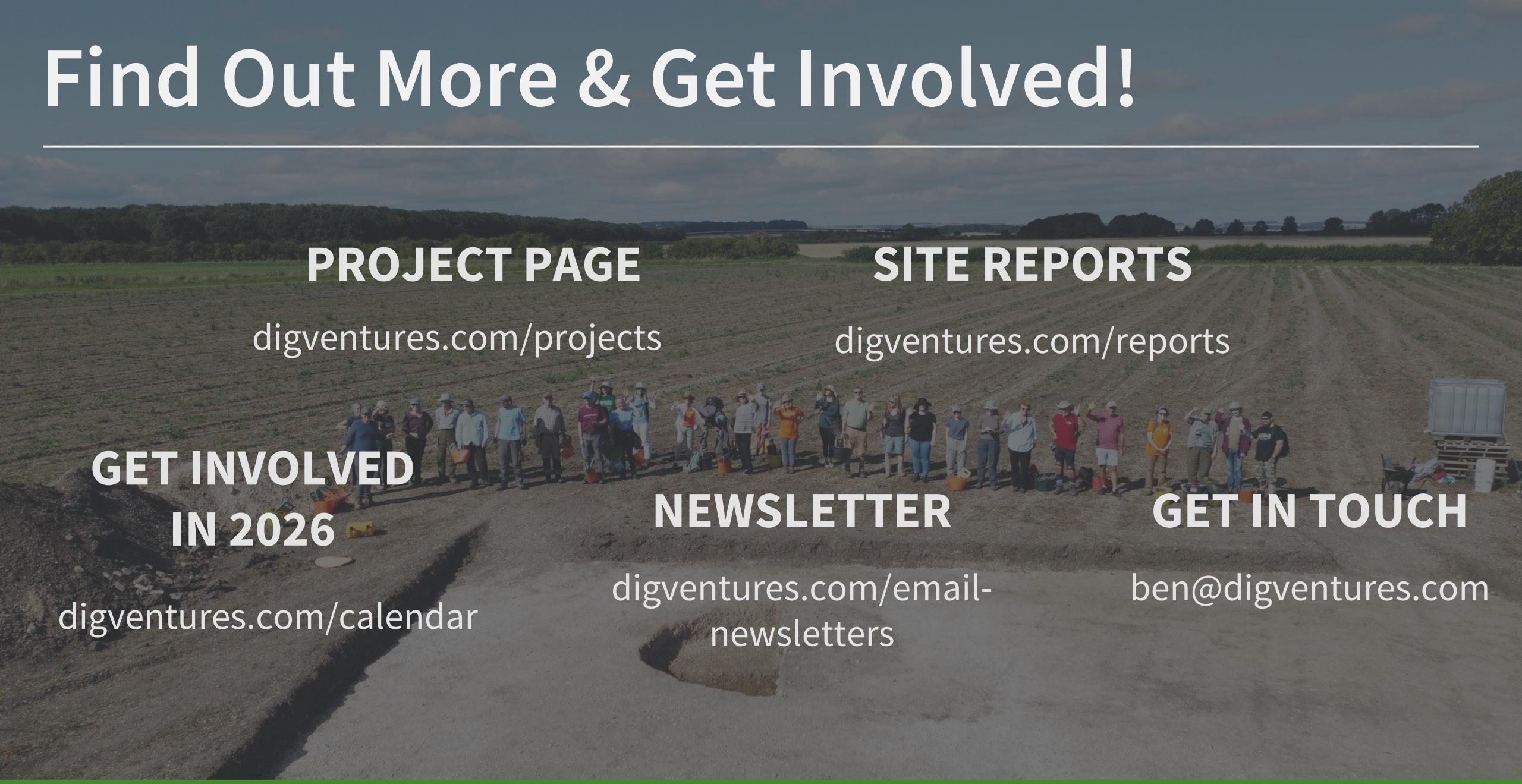
To Wrap Up



- Settlement from 1st – 4th Centuries
- Finds suggest well connected
- Important local/regional function?
- Importance of the Beck as a water source

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Cothelstone Farm Community Excavation

Archaeological Analysis Report

Ben Swain and Nat Jackson

Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme

Quantock Hills National Landscape

Made possible with Heritage Fund

Cothelstone Farm Community Excavation

Archaeological Analysis Report

Compiled by:

Ben Swain, Nat Jackson

With contributions from:

Karen Barker, Dot Boughton, David Griffiths, Tom Hill, Richard Henry, Joshua Hogue, Mark Hoyle, Hannah Russ, Harriet Tatton, Emma Tong, Anna van Nostrand, Imogen Wood

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Purpose of document

This document has been prepared as an Analysis Report for the Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme (QLPS). The purpose of this document is to provide a comprehensive account of the community archaeological investigation at Cothelstone Farm, with specialist assessment and analysis of finds and samples.

DigVentures accepts no responsibility or liability for any use that is made of this document other than by the client for the purposes for which it was originally commissioned and prepared.

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Project summary

OASIS ID	digventu1-528876
DV project code and type	CSF24
NGR	ST 17901 31650
County	Somerset
Title:	Cothelstone Farm Community Excavation
Author(s):	Ben Swain BA ACIfA Nat Jackson BA MA
Origination date:	10/10/2024
Version:	V2.0
Circulation:	QLPS, South West Heritage Trust, Somerset HER, OASIS
Reviewed by:	Stephanie N. Duensing PhD ACIfA
Approval:	Brendon Wilkins PhD MCIfA MIAI FSA

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The fieldwork was directed by Ben Swain who was ably assisted by Ant Haskins, Harriet Tatton and Anna van Nostrand. The project was managed for DigVentures by Stephanie Duensing and Manda Forster, with Brendon Wilkins in the role of Project Executive.

Final thanks must go to the local community participants and volunteers from the QLPS scheme who joined the excavations, dedicating their time and efforts to understanding more about the fascinating archaeology and history of Cothelstone Farm:

Kerry Armstrong, Karen Bailey, Nathan Baker, Lily Baker, Alison Ball, David Ball, Lucy Beasley, Charlie Bosworth, Elaine Burgess, Nigel Canham, Ric Canham, Brooke Chapman, Amy Clapinson, Ruth Conley, Emily Cosgrove, Victoria Coxon, Jane Davies, June Eckhart, Siobhan Elson, Alex English, Karen Fear, Sandie Fenech, Charlie Fitzer, Anne Garnish, David Goodchild, Louise Gosling, Leigh Hall, Emily Hall, Sandra Heath, Colin Henderson, Karen Hughes, Kathryn Hyman, Vanessa Jeger, Catherine Knibbs, Darren Knibbs, Mary Knight, Chantelle Lawrence, Mary Lennox, William Little, Gina Little, Joanne Love, Anita Maney, Michaela Martin, Michaela Martin, Lisa Millar, John Millar, Ross Milum, Lisa Moore, Denise Moyse, Derek Mullenger, Jo Musgrave, Will Musgrave, Janet Oke, Celia Palmer, James Palmer, Zach Palmer, Tammy Pay, Kerry Paye, Gavin Paye, Matthew Pearson, Natalie Perry, Ros Pope, Sue Powley, Diane Scully, Chris Smith, Nicky Taylor, Jack Taylor, Annie Trolley, Paul Trolley, Caroline Upton, Justin Vallance, Matt Wales, Sarah Waring, Philip Webber, Laurence Whitlock, Veronica Willcocks, Louise Williamson, Paul Willis, Becca Wootton, Toby Wootton, Albie, Arthur, Augustus, Briony, Cameron, Carys, Chloe, Dominic, Evie, Fergus, Hettie, Hugo, Jasper, Jem, Jude, Kate, Phoebe, Rory, Rose and Ted.

Executive summary

DigVentures was commissioned by the Quantocks Landscape Partnership Scheme (QLPS) to deliver a community archaeological excavation at Cothelstone Farm, Somerset, between 24th May and 9th June 2024. This was the fourth and final community excavation carried out by the QLPS as part of the wider landscape partnership scheme's delivery programme. Previous public participatory archaeological excavations investigated a Late Bronze Age enclosure on Cothelstone Hill in summer 2021, a Medieval Manor at Crowcombe in 2022 and a Late Bronze Age ring-work at Broomfield in 2023.

The principle archaeological aim of the community project at Cothelstone Farm was to assess the nature of cropmarks identified by aerial photography through geophysical survey and community excavation. The excavations revealed evidence of a Late Bronze Age ring ditch enclosure that was re-used in the Late Romano-British or Early Post-Roman period as a cemetery. Special finds of note included a deposit of three largely complete Late Bronze Age ceramic vessels at the base of the ring ditch, whilst three iron knives representing grave goods were recovered from the burials.

Public engagement and meaningful participation was integral to the success of the project, which offered a range of opportunities for local community members and visitors to get involved in and learn more about the archaeology of Cothelstone Farm. Volunteers were trained in field excavation and recording tasks, including finds handling, photogrammetry and GPS survey. In total, the project provided excavation and finds room training for 71 adult participants as well as 61 children and young people through in person participatory experiences. Additionally, guided tours on a public open day engaged a further 41 individuals with the archaeology of Cothelstone Farm.

Results summary

A 35m diameter ring ditch identified in cropmark and geophysical surveys was excavated and confirmed to be Late Bronze Age in origin. A deposit of three ceramic vessels had been intentionally placed directly on the base of the newly opened ditch, dating to between the late 11th and 9th centuries BC. This likely represented a social act of ceremonial significance within a small-scale rural domestic context, possibly to commemorate the completion of the enclosure itself.

The ditch was recut in either the Early or Middle Iron Age. In the years that followed, waste from sporadic domestic activity within the enclosure was tipped into the ditch and interspersed with short periods of silting. This could be indicative of seasonal abandonment and re-occupation around the early 8th to mid 6th centuries BC. A longer period of abandonment occurred after the Middle Iron Age when the ditch began to more substantially silt up but was likely still visible as an earthwork in the landscape into the Romano-British period and beyond.

Most likely in the Late Romano-British or Early Post-Roman period, possibly around the 5th century AD, the ring ditch enclosure was reused as a cemetery. At least 13 east to west aligned grave cuts were identified in parallel rows respecting each other in what appears to be an organised cemetery. Nine graves were excavated but no skeletal remains survived due to poor preservation conditions. However, three iron knives and a possible tang or awl were recovered from two of the graves in Trench 4. The cemetery may have been enclosed by shallow linear ditches from which two 3rd to 4th century black burnished ware jars were recovered that may represent grave goods partially disturbed by later ploughing.

Comparison with other contemporary sites in the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age local landscape, including at Broomfield and Cothelstone Hill, opens the possibility that all three locations may have been used seasonally by members of the same communities.

Evaluation of the public impact from the Cothelstone Farm community archaeological excavations shows significant benefit for both individual participants and community visitors as a result of the project. In total, the project provided excavation and finds room training for 71 adult participants and 61 children and young people through in person participatory experiences. Additionally, guided tours on a public open day engaged a further 41 individuals with the archaeology of Cothelstone Farm.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 This report presents an analysis of the community archaeological excavations undertaken at Cothelstone Farm in late May and early June 2024 by DigVentures on behalf of the Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme (QLPS). The project, commissioned by the QLPS and funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, included a programme of geophysical survey, community-based excavation and a heritage open day. It was designed to contribute towards the wider QLPS programme aims; to conserve, protect and interpret the cultural and natural heritage of the Quantocks landscape.

1.1.2 The QLPS is a landscape partnership led by the Quantock Hills National Landscape (QHNL) to deliver a five-year programme of works and activities in and around the Quantock Hills. The scheme consists of twenty-three individual projects grouped under the three themes of *Inspire, Live,* and *Learn*. The project at Cothelstone Farm was the fourth and final programme of community excavation carried out by the QLPS under sub-theme 3.5; *Understanding the Landscape*. Previous public participatory excavations investigated a Late Bronze Age enclosure on Cothelstone Hill in summer 2021, a Medieval Manor at Crowcombe in 2022 and a Late Bronze Age ring-work at Broomfield in 2023.

1.1.3 The aims, objectives and methodology for the community archaeological excavation at Cothelstone Farm were designed and delivered in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Jackson and Duensing, 2024). The principle archaeological aim of the project was to assess the nature of cropmarks identified by aerial photography through geophysical survey and community excavation. Public engagement and meaningful participation was integral to the success of the project, which offered a range of opportunities for local community members and visitors to get involved in and learn more about the archaeology of Cothelstone Farm.

1.1.4 The information contained in this report provides a full account of the archaeological work undertaken. This technical analysis report is one of several archive and dissemination products generated by the project, including the digital archive and metadata, the paper archive as well as the artefacts and ecofacts recovered. Upon project closure, all digital and physical material selected for archiving will be archived with the South West Heritage Trust and freely disseminated through the Somerset Historic Environment Record (HER), OASIS portal (OASIS ID: digventu1-528876) and the Archaeological Data Service (ADS). The physical archive will be deposited with South West Heritage Trust.

1.2 Site description

1.2.1 The site of the excavations (centred on NGR: ST 17901 31650) was located in a pasture field north of Cothelstone Road and approximately 300m west of the Cothelstone Manor Farm estate (Figure 1). Cothelstone sits within the Quantock Hills National Landscape, 2.5km to the northeast of Bishops Lydeard and 7km north of Taunton. The excavations themselves were located on a high point in the local landscape at a maximum elevation of 98mAOD, sloping towards the east at a minimum elevation of

85mAOD. Significant views from the site are available south towards Toulton and west towards Stoneage Barton. Further east, the land rises significantly to a height of 330mAOD at Cothelstone Hill, where a number of Prehistoric Bowl Barrows are located. The land at Cothelstone Farm is part of the historic Cothelstone Park and currently in permanent use as grassland for the grazing of livestock.

1.2.2 The bedrock geology of the site is part of the Helsby Sandstone Formation, a sedimentary bedrock formed between 247.1 and 241.5 million years ago during the Triassic period. No superficial deposits have been recorded (British Geological Survey, 2024).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Historic background

2.1.1 Cothelstone village is dominated by two main features; Cothelstone Manor (HER number 17909) and the Church of St Thomas of Canterbury (HER number: 43023). The earliest parts of the church date back to the 12th century, it mostly dates to the 15th century and was restored in the 1860s.

2.1.2 Cothelstone Manor and estate was given to the Stawell family following the Norman conquest in 1066. The current manor was originally built in the mid-16th century. During the First English Civil War the lord of the manor, John Stawell fought on the side of the royalists and was imprisoned for high treason. During this time Oliver Cromwell ordered the destruction of the manor by canon fire, the right wing and the first floor were demolished, and the house abandoned. The manor was returned to Stawell following the restoration of Charles II. The estate was purchased in 1791 by Edward Jeffries, whose grandson Edward Jeffries Esdaile built a new residence, Cothelstone House, between 1817 and 1820, and was demolished in the 1960s. In the 1850s Esdaile restored Cothelstone Manor to the way it had been when John Stawell was living there in the mid-17th century (https://www.cothelstonemanor.com/estate; accessed 29/01/24).

2.1.3 On the land around Cothelstone Manor an extensive earthwork survey was carried out in 2003 as part of the English Heritage archaeological survey of the Quantock Hills (HER number: 17905). This work included a brief assessment of the principal buildings of Cothelstone Manor and the remnants of the surrounding medieval landscape.

2.2 Previous fieldwork

2.2.1 To the south west of Cothelstone at Stoneage Barton an excavation was carried out in 2000 (Webster & Brunning, 2004) (HER number: 11697). This targeted cropmarks (HER numbers: 26796, 44524 and 44524), and revealed Romano-British enclosures and a 7th century cemetery. The graves, unlike those at Cothelstone Farm did contain a small amount of bone, from which radiocarbon dates were taken that returned early to middle 7th century AD dates. No grave goods were recovered.

2.2.2 Within the QLPS project various other excavations have taken place in the local landscape near to Cothelstone Farm (Figure 3). These include a large ring ditch at Broomfield (Green and Fairclough, 2024), a 17th century garden at Crowcombe court

(McConnell, 2023) and earthworks at the top of Cothelstone Hill (Brunning and Grove, 2022). The aim of the excavation at Crowcombe manor was to investigate the location of a 13th-century manor house, however, this proved elusive and the instead evidence of a 17th-century formal garden was revealed in the form of a pavilion and garden wall. The excavations at Broomfield and Cothelstone Hill are more relevant to those at Cothelstone Farm, both were investigating prehistoric features that were roughly contemporary with those discovered on site.

2.2.3 The excavations at Broomfield, located 4km to the east of Cothelstone Farm, targeted a large 93m diameter ring ditch and internal features. The ditch itself likely dates to the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age, however no secure dating from the construction was found. Radiocarbon dates from the Middle to Late Iron Age were recovered from internal features, a post hole and a pit, indicating sporadic occupation during this time. A later Romano-British field system was also identified on site.

2.2.4 At Cothelstone Hill earthworks previously thought to be associated with a cross-ridge dyke were suggested through recent LiDAR survey to be a complete enclosure. The excavations aimed to prove this. The earthworks were dated to the Late Bronze Age, and a rampart identified there probably collapsed shortly after its creation. Evidence of burning in the partially filled ditches were from various points in the Iron Age and so, like at Broomfield, suggest sporadic occupation in this period.

3 PROJECT AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Geophysics

3.1.1 The principle aim of the geophysical survey (see Aim 1, below) was to clarify the presence and absence of potential archaeological remains at the site and to provide updated and accurate locations for these remains, as observed through aerial photography.

Aim 1: Through non-intrusive investigation, establish the extent and depth of potential buried archaeology at the site.

- Q1. Can the extent of archaeological remains be established through geophysical survey, including the presence and nature of any interior details of the enclosures?
- Q2. Can geophysical survey clarify the presence and absence of potential archaeological remains within the site, providing updated and accurate locations for the remains observed through aerial photography?

3.1.2 A full magnetometer survey of approximately 7Ha was conducted in February 2024, the results of which informed targets for the subsequent community excavation at the site. Results were presented in a full scientific report (Appendix J) including georeferenced greyscale plots of the data, interpretative figures, and photographs.

3.2 Excavation

3.2.1 The overarching aim of the archaeological excavation was to define and characterise several identified features in the site through a programme of intrusive excavations, obtaining data which will better characterise and understand the site. The principal

aim of the excavation was to provide further information concerning the presence/absence, date, nature, and extent of any buried archaeological remains and to investigate and record these within the target area. Fieldwork comprised a structured community volunteer assisted project, providing a range of physical and digital opportunities to participate and/or observe findings. The project model is framed as overarching aims and key questions/objectives designed to meet the project requirements to:

- verify the archaeological potential of the site,
- characterise buried archaeology associated with the cropmarks,
- where possible, establish the relationship and stratigraphic sequence between the three cropmarks
- establish a date and sequence for the cropmarks and enclosure closure complex.

3.2.2 The excavation targeted each of the three enclosures (HER numbers: 44536, 44537, and 44538) with the aim of establishing the date and function of each. Trench locations were decided following the geophysical survey of the area and in consultation with the QLPS and their partners at the South West Heritage Trust (SWHT).

Aim 2: Characterise the results of non-invasive survey, refining the chronology and phasing of the site with a programme of targeted excavation.

- Q3. Can we establish the date and sequence for the enclosure / ring ditch complex?
- Q4. Can the nature of the enclosures / ring ditches be established?
- Q5. Can a chronological sequence and stratigraphic phasing for the cropmark features archaeological evidence be established?
- Q6. Can a relationship between the cropmark features be established?

Aim 3: Understand the site's archaeological and palaeoenvironmental conditions.

- Q7. What is the current state of preservation of the archaeological and palaeoenvironmental material across the sites?
- Q8. How well do deposits and artefacts survive, and how deeply are they buried?
- Q9. What is the range and spatial patterning of ecofacts and artefacts recovered from the site?

Aim 4: Making recommendations, analysis and publication

- Q10. What can an integrated synthesis of the results of this work with previous studies of contemporary regional sites tell us about the site and its setting?
- Q11. What recommendations can be made to protect, conserve and enhance the site?
- Q12. What strategies should be put in place to protect archaeological remains and deposits at Cothelstone Farm for the enjoyment of future generations?

3.3 Public participation

3.3.1 Public engagement and meaningful participation is integral to the success of the project and sits with equal importance alongside our research aims. The excavation

involved participation from volunteers, who were trained and mentored in the techniques of archaeological excavation. Our site team delivered an in-person programme at a ratio of 1:3 throughout the dig, with online social media updates to engage and inform the public about the archaeological discoveries. In summary, the project offered a range of opportunities for local community members and visitors to the area to get involved and learn more about the archaeology of Cothelstone Farm.

3.3.2 In addition to public participation in the excavation, an archaeological Open Day took place on the final weekend of the excavation, (exact day to be confirmed). The Open Day was hosted by team members and involve site tours with a display of the finds recovered. Site visitors were able to talk to the excavation team (including staff and volunteers) and heard about the archaeological discoveries as they were guided around the site.

Aim 5: To engage and train local people in the research of Quantocks Landscape study area, and provide opportunities for public engagement.

- To further the study, understanding and enjoyment of the study area by interested individuals and community groups.
- To provide training, guidance and technical support to members of the community in the methods and techniques used in archaeology and the investigation of the historic environment.
- To disseminate the results of fieldwork in an accessible and clear way, raising awareness to the archaeology of the site and wider landscape.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Archaeological method

4.1.1 All work was completed to CIfA standards and guidance for archaeological excavation (2023) and was undertaken in accordance with the standards set out within the WSI (Jackson and Duensing 2024).

4.1.2 All areas were stripped of overburden deposits with a mechanical excavator under continuous archaeological supervision down to the first archaeological horizon. All machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision using a toothless bucket and included visually scanning spoil for artefacts. The area was then assessed by a professional archaeologist to establish the extent of survival and preservation of archaeological remains.

4.1.3 A sufficient sample of each feature type/deposit was examined in order to establish the date, nature, extent and condition of any archaeological remains, encompassing the following percentage interventions as a minimum where relevant:

- 50% of each intrusive feature (pits, postholes)
- 10% of each linear feature's exposed area + all terminals & intersections
- 50% structural features (beamslots, ring ditches) - actual surviving structural elements (walls, collapse/debris fields) just require exposure, cleaning and preservation for excavation in more appropriate circumstances
- 50-100% domestic/industrial working features (hearths, ovens).

4.1.4 Full written, drawn and photographic records were made of each trench. They were showing the areas investigated and the location of contexts and features observed and recorded during the investigation. Sections and elevations of archaeological features and deposits were drawn as necessary at an appropriate scale (1:20 or 1:10).

4.1.5 All interventions were surveyed using a GPS tied into the Ordnance Survey grid. All recording was undertaken using the digital first format Diggit, following the DigVentures single context recording system. Digital photography was used for all photography of significant features, finds, deposits and general site working. The photographic record illustrates both the detail and the general context of the principal features and finds excavated, and the Site as a whole.

4.2 Finds and environmental samples

4.2.1 Finds were treated in accordance with the relevant guidance given in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation (revised 2014), and the Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (2014), excepting where they were superseded by statements made below. Archaeological material was handled and sorted following advice in Watkinson and Neal (1998).

4.2.2 All artefacts from excavated contexts were washed, counted, weighed, and identified. Finds recovered were assessed by appropriately qualified specialists, who examined the finds to provide an identification, date, and provenance of the material, and to also evaluate the significance of the assemblage.

4.2.3 Bulk environmental soil samples for plant macrofossils, small animal bones and other small artefacts were taken from appropriate sealed and dateable archaeological contexts. Samples of between 10-20 litres were taken of each context. Samples were not taken from the intersection of features. Bulk environmental soil samples were processed by flotation and scanned to assess the environmental potential of deposits. The residues and sieved fractions have been recorded and retained with the project archive.

4.3 Geophysical survey

Matthew Harris

4.3.1 Magnetic survey methods rely on the ability of a variety of instruments to measure very small magnetic fields associated with buried archaeological remains. A feature such as a ditch, pit or kiln can act like a small magnet, or series of magnets, that produce distortions (anomalies) in the earth’s magnetic field. In mapping these slight variations detailed plans of sites can be obtained, as buried features often produce reasonably characteristic anomaly shapes and strengths (Gaffney & Gater 2003). Further information on soil magnetism and the interpretation of magnetic anomalies is provided in Appendix J.

4.3.2 Magnetometry is the most widely used geophysical survey technique in archaeology as it can quickly evaluate large areas and, under favourable conditions, identify a wide range of archaeological features including infilled cut features such as large pits,

gullies and ditches, hearths, and areas of burning, and kilns and brick structures. It is therefore good at locating settlements of all periods, prehistoric field systems and enclosures, and areas of industrial or modern activity, amongst others. It is less successful in identifying smaller features such as post-holes and small pits (except when using a non-standard sampling interval), unenclosed (prehistoric) settlement sites and graves/burial grounds. However, magnetometry is by far the single most useful technique and was assessed as the best non-intrusive evaluation tool for this site.

4.3.3 The survey was undertaken using four Bartington Grad601 sensors mounted at 1m intervals (1m traverse interval) onto a rigid frame. The system was programmed to take readings at a frequency of 10Hz (allowing for a 10-15cm sample interval) on roaming traverses (swaths) 4m apart (Illus 5). These readings were stored on an external weatherproof laptop and later downloaded for processing and interpretation. The system was linked to a Trimble A12 Real Time Kinetic (RTK) differential Global Positioning System (dGPS) outputting in NMEA mode to ensure a high positional accuracy for each data point.

4.3.4 MLGrad601 and MultiGrad601 (Geomar Software Inc.) software was used to collect and export the data. Anomaly GeoSurvey v1.11 (Austrums 2018) and QGIS software was used to process and present the data respectively.

4.4 Animal bone

Hannah Russ

4.4.1 The animal remains were identified to element, side and to as low a taxonomic level as possible using the archaeology.biz reference collection and published and online identification guides (2003; 2005). Quantification for hand-collected remains was by weight (g) and count, and for mammals used the diagnostic zone method as presented by Dobney and Rielly (1988). A taphonomic assessment of each fragment was undertaken, recording the presence and absence of butchery (specified as cut, chop and/or saw marks), burning and calcination, any evidence for animal activity (canid or rodent gnawing), any abnormal features or bone formation (pathology and non-metric traits), and surface preservation; any other surface modifications of note were also recorded.

4.4.2 No attempt was made to sex any of the remains, or to measure any elements. Sheep (Ovis aries) and goat (Capra hircus) and Equid distinctions were also not considered. Fragments of bones that could be identified to element but not any specific species were grouped as far as possible using size and class or order categories. Animal bone recovered from bulk environmental samples was weighed and only identified specimens included in the overall count for animal bone from the site. Results for all quantification were recorded in an electronic proforma in Microsoft Excel. This assessment has been undertaken in line with published standards and guidelines (Baker and Worley 2019; CIfA 2014; 2021), with reference to the South West England Archaeological Research Framework (Accessed September 2024).

4.5 Prehistoric pottery

Imogen Wood

4.5.1 The methods and terminology used conform to the 'Standards in pottery studies in archaeology' guidance (2016) and CIFA guidelines for specialist reporting (https://www.archaeologists.net/reporting-toolkit). The sherds were counted and weighed, and the sherd type noted (rim/body/handle), as far as possible, individual sherds were identified to a broad class. General observations of fabric and surface treatment were noted. Minimum Number of Vessels is not included as the features were not fully excavated and not representative.

4.5.2 588 sherds from 18 contexts were examined macroscopically with a hand lens at x2 magnification to identify initial fabric groups; these groups were then examined under a binocular microscope at a magnification of x10. This enabled large areas of the surface and edges of sherds to be examined, and in many cases useful diagnostic mineral and rock components to be identified. Sherds have been assessed by a subjective measure of 'condition' from level 1 good, level 2 moderately good, to level 3 abraded using Sorensen's method (Sorensen 1996). Sorensen's commonly established method of assessing abrasion was developed in the Runnymead Bridge Research Excavations, ceramic report, see this publication for further details (Sorensen 1996).

4.6 Romano-British pottery

David Griffiths

4.6.1 All pottery was examined visually by eye and sorted into broad ware groups including handmade and wheel-made Romano-British fine wares and coarse wares. Identification and classification of fabrics was based on colour, hardness, fracture, and inclusion composition, as outlined in Tomber and Dore (1998, 6-8). The material was recorded and analysed in accordance with national guidelines (Barclay et al. 2016; CIfA 2024). The ware groups were further refined by class, and fabric codes assigned based on fabric composition (see Table 10, Appendix D). Reference is made to Holbrook and Bidwell's type series from Exeter (1991), and Young's (2000) extensive study of pottery of the Oxford region.

4.6.2 This analysis was undertaken following the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' documents: Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials (2014); Toolkit for Specialist Reporting (2021); and Toolkit for finds: pottery (2024). Reference was made to the Written Scheme of Investigation produced by DigVentures (Jackson and Duensing, 2024) and an overall narrative for the excavations (DigVentures, 2024). In addition, reference was made to the South West England Archaeological Research Framework (Accessed November 2024).

4.6.3 Each class of pottery was quantified by count, weight, and estimated vessel equivalents (EVEs, based on percentage of rim preserved). Where appropriate, key vessels with diagnostic features have been illustrated (Figure 28, IDs 1/6, 3, and 5). Featured vessels are identified using a reference 'ID' code in the text based on the

relevant entry row in Table 10 (Appendix D). Where vessel form and chronology were clear, a date range is provided. A full catalogue of all material is provided in Table 10 (Appendix D).

4.6.4 Detailed fabric analysis was undertaken using a low power microscope at X30 magnification. This analysis has enabled refinement of fabrics and identified local/regional wares, and possibly nationally distributed wares within the assemblage. A full catalogue of fabric descriptions is provided in Table 11 (Appendix D). The results are presented by period and area and are followed by a discussion of pottery supply and consumption at the site. The results are discussed to place the pottery consumed by the inhabitants of the settlement within the wide local and regional context.

4.6.5 Romano-British pottery type codes broadly follow classifications of material from Exeter (Holbrook and Bidwell 1991), and Young (2000) for Roman pottery from Oxfordshire. Where it was not possible to identify a source for pottery, fabric codes (i.e. RE1, OX1, etc.) have been assigned which are site specific (see Table 11, Appendix D).

4.7 Fired clay

David Griffiths

4.7.1 Analysis of the fired clay/daub and fired clay included quantification by count and weight, identification by type, broad date range (if possible), and discussion of the findings in their regional and chronological context.

4.7.2 A catalogue of items is provided in Table 13 of Appendix E. Fired clay/daub is reported on following the Minimum Standards for Recovery, Curation, Analysis, and Publication for Ceramic Building Material (Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group 2002) and Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014).

4.7.3 Reference was made to the Written Scheme of Investigation produced by DigVentures (Jackson and Duensing 2024) and an overall narrative for the excavations (DigVentures 2024). In addition, reference was made to the South West England Archaeological Research Framework (https://researchframeworks.org/swarf/ Accessed November 2024).

4.8 Lithics

Joshua Hogue

4.8.1 The typo-technological classification follows standard recording procedures (Ballin 2021; Butler 2005; Inizan et al. 1999). A primary removal is a flake with at least half of the dorsal surface retaining cortex. A blade is a flake with length at least equal to twice its width; a bladelet is a small blade with a width less than 12 mm; and a blade-like flake is a flake exhibiting traits of a true blade (e.g. parallel margins, arises), but not fulfilling the metric criteria of a true blade. A chip refers to debitage or indeterminate fragments less than 10mm. A chunk is an indeterminate piece measuring equal or greater than 10mm (*cf.* Ballin 2000).



4.9 Registered finds

Dot Boughton and Richard Henry

4.9.1 The specialist finds recording and reporting was completed in accordance with the national finds standards and guidance (Historic England 2008; CIfA 2014; 2021a; 2021b). The assemblage of four objects was recorded in a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet and further assessed using a magnifier with 55x magnification. The objects were described, weighed, and recorded in a single data table (Table 17, Appendix G). Identification was made using appropriate reference material and other assemblages as needed.

4.9.2 The report was prepared with support from the South West England Regional Research Framework (2023), the draft post-excavation report, and site plans. Reference to individual fragments in the report use 'SF' numbers (SF1-SF2, SF4-SF6), which corresponds to the accompanying data spreadsheet. This spreadsheet contains all finds data and metadata.

4.9.3 All context details, identifications, dates, weights, measurements, descriptions as well as general notes and a note on the artefacts' condition were recorded in an Excel Spreadsheet (Table 17, Appendix G). The metal finds were x-rayed and where an object's measurements were taken from its x-ray rather than the object itself, it was indicated in Table 17. Objects were taken out of their bags for analysis. The objects were analysed using a hand lens and measured using pocket scales and callipers with a rubber sleeve to protect the objects' surfaces.

4.9.4 For the identification and dating of the knives and spindle whorl, standard identification references were used, such as Crummy 1983, Manning 1976, Manning 1985, Humphreys 2021, Walton Rogers 2007, Owen-Crocker 2010 and Goodall 2011.

4.10 Environmental – Flotation

Emma Tong

4.10.1 The samples were processed using the Siraf method of flotation (Williams 1973) at Ecus facilities in Barnard Castle. Light fractions (flots) were collected using a 500 µm (micron) mesh and once dry were sieved using 2mm and 1mm Endecott sieves. The flots were then sorted under a low-powered Microtec stereo zoom microscope. Dry heavy fractions (residues) were sieved at 4mm and 2mm, with the >4mm fraction sorted and the <4mm scanned for any artefacts or ecofacts. A magnet was run through the residues to recover magnetic material, including any hammerscale (Dungworth and Wilkes 2007).

4.10.2 Plant macrofossils were identified to the lowest taxon where possible, under a low-powered Microtec stereo zoom microscope using the Ecus reference collection and published guides (Digital Plant Atlas; Cappers et al. 2006; Jones et al. 2004; Delorit 1970, Jacomet, 2006; Zohary et al, 2012). Plant nomenclature followed Stace (2019). Quantification was by count, with grain/seed/fruit remains with 51-100% survival quantified separately from fragments representing 50% or less of the complete item.



4.10.3 All material has been counted and/or assigned an abundance score, listed as; a (1-10), b (11-50), c (51-100), d (101-200), e (201-500), f (501-1000), g (>1000). Results were recorded in an electronic proforma in Microsoft Excel. The sample residues were assessed in accordance with Historic England guidelines for environmental archaeology (Campbell et al. 2011) and the CIfA toolkit for specialist reporting (CIfA 2021). The assessment has been carried out in line the project Written Scheme of Investigation (Jackson and Duensing, 2024).

4.11 Environmental – Charcoal

Hannah Russ

4.11.1 The charcoal fragments had been extracted from the heavy residues of bulk environmental samples, with material from eight samples provided for assessment. The charcoal was quantified by fragment, count and weight in grams to the nearest 0.1g. A sample of fragments from each archaeological context was selected for fracturing to attempt wood species identification. Wood charcoal was identified to species where possible using published identifications guides (Fahn et al. 1986; Hather 2000; Schoch et al. 2004).

4.11.2 Results for all quantification were recorded in an electronic proforma in Microsoft Excel. This assessment has been undertaken in line with published standards and guidelines (Campbell et al. 2011; CIfA 2014; 2021), with reference to the South West England Archaeological Research Framework (Accessed September 2024) and a Review of Archaeological Wood Analyses in Southern England (Smith 2002).

4.12 Environmental – Pollen

Tom Hill

4.12.1 A selection of three spot samples were prepared for pollen assessment from the trench sequence under investigation. A summary of the sampling strategy applied by DigVentures to the sequence, including generalised descriptions of the deposits encountered, can be found in Table 25 of Appendix H.

4.12.2 Pollen extraction for the samples was undertaken by Quaternary Scientific, University of Reading (QUEST) and the standard methodology is modified from Campbell et al (2016) as follows (1) sampling a standard volume of sediment; (2) adding one tablet of the exotic clubmoss Lycopodium clavatum to provide a measure of pollen concentration in each sample, when required; (3) deflocculation of the sample in 1% Sodium pyrophosphate; (4) sieving of the sample to remove coarse mineral and organic fractions (>125µ); (5) acetolysis; (6) removal of finer minerogenic fraction using Sodium polytungstate (specific gravity of 2.0g/cm3); (7) mounting of the sample in glycerol jelly. Each stage of the procedure was preceded and followed by thorough sample cleaning in filtered distilled water.

4.12.3 Upon completion of preparation, a standard assessment of potential requires a count of at least 100 total land pollen grains (TLP), excluding aquatics and spores or, if pollen abundance is found to be low, 10 microscope slide traverses are undertaken. Pollen nomenclature follows Moore et al. (1991) with the amendments suggested by Bennett



et al. (1994). During assessment, the state of pollen and spore preservation is observed, whilst other visible microfossil features (charcoal, pre-Quaternary pollen and spores, other identifiable non-pollen palynomorphs such as dinoflagellate cysts, testate amoebae etc) are also recorded, if encountered.

4.13 Health and safety

4.13.1 All work was carried out in accordance with DigVentures' company Health and Safety Policy (2018), in accordance with its company Health and Safety Policy, to standards defined in The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, and The Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1999, and in accordance with the SCAUM (Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers) health and safety manual Health and Safety in Field Archaeology (1996), and DigVentures Health and Safety Policy.

5 EXCAVATION RESULTS

Ben Swain

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 Excavations at Cothelstone Farm consisted of four evaluation style trenches located in a pasture field that is part of the Cothelstone Manor Farm estate. No previous archaeological excavations are known to have occurred in this location, however a number of cropmarks are recorded in the local HER (ID: 44536) relating to an undated ring ditch and an enclosure. Consequently, DigVentures commissioned Headland Archaeology to conduct a magnetometry survey in February 2024 (Appendix J) of the pasture field to inform the location of potential archaeological targets for investigation as part of the community excavations (Figure 2).

5.1.2 The principal purpose of these excavations was to define and characterise a number of the geophysical anomalies and cropmarks visible from aerial imagery, obtaining data that will better characterise and understand the site (Jackson and Duensing, 2024). Details of the key questions and objectives that contributed towards achieving the aims of the excavation are available in Section 3 of this report. The overarching archaeological aims were to:

- verify the archaeological potential of the site,
- characterise any buried archaeology associated with the cropmarks and geophysical anomalies,
- establish stratigraphic relationships and a chronological sequence between these features.

5.1.3 The topsoil and subsoil were removed by a mechanical excavator, revealing archaeological features cut into the natural geology; an orange clay and yellowish pea-gravel with moderately frequent sandstone and shillet inclusions. All features were cleaned, photographed, excavated and recorded by hand. Figure 2 shows the location of each targeted area, Figures 4-11 provide orthorectified trench plans and annotated drawings, Figures 12-15 and Figures 21-25 illustrate the digitised section drawings. Figures 16-20 show record photographs of excavated features and detailed descriptions of every context are included in Appendix A.

5.1.4 The following sub-sections detail the stratigraphic narrative of each trench chronologically by feature type, which has been phased (unless otherwise stated) by results from radiocarbon dating, pottery and registered finds. Detailed analysis relating to the pottery can be found in Sections 8-9, the registered finds in Section 12 and radiocarbon dating in Appendix I.

5.2 Trench 1

5.2.1 Trench 1 (Figures 4-5) measured 15m x 6m and was positioned over the southern arc of a circa 35m diameter cropmark (HER ID: 44536) and geophysical anomaly interpreted as a ring ditch of probable archaeological origin (Harris, 2024, 3-4; Appendix J). The trench, oriented NNE-SSW, was also positioned to target a possible inner bank and a large magnetic response internal to the ring ditch. These were interpreted from the geophysical survey results as of possible and probable archaeological origin respectively. No evidence of the inner bank or large magnetic response was encountered during excavation and it is possible these anomalies were geological in origin.

5.2.2 Upon mechanical excavation, a common sequence of topsoil (1001) and subsoil (1002) was observed to a maximum depth of 0.46m before the natural geology (1003) was located. The trench was cleaned and a number of archaeological features were observed cut through the natural geology. These were then excavated and recorded by hand, with the results from this process discussed chronologically by feature type as part of the following phased stratigraphic narrative.

Late Bronze Age ring ditch monument

5.2.3 The earliest feature excavated in Trench 1 was a ring ditch (F01) constructed in the Late Bronze Age having fully silted no earlier than the Middle Iron Age. The 2.50m excavated segment of the ditch showed that the cut [1024] was at least 1.38m in width and 1.44m in depth at this location (Figures 12-13). In summary, the chronological sequence of deposits filling this segment of the ring ditch consisted of the following;

- an intentional deposit of at least three Late Bronze Age ceramic vessels placed directly on the base of the ditch and buried by a charcoal-rich basal fill,
- a recut or cleaning-out event in the early Iron-Age followed by a series of fills slipping in from the southern (exterior) side of the ditch.
- next, a number of single-event burnt/ashy tipping deposits originating from the northern (interior) side of the ditch were interspersed with periodic silting during the Early to Middle Iron Age,
- finally, gradual homogenous silting completely filled the ditch no earlier than the Middle Iron Age.

5.2.4 Shortly after the ditch was originally cut, a very thin compacted clean greyish clay (1030) no more than 0.03m in thickness formed at its base. This was interpreted as likely representing the natural clay geology that had been exposed when the ditch was cut and had discoloured with exposure to air and water. Placed directly on to this material at the base of the ditch was a deposit of three largely complete Late Bronze Age ceramic vessels; SF8, SF10 and SF11 (Figure 20). Detailed analysis of these vessels is available in Section 8 of this report with digitised illustrations showing form and

fabric available in Figure 27. In summary, they consisted of the following vessels in a coarse local red sandstone fabric:

- SF8 – Late Bronze Age plain ware hook-rim jar,
- SF10 – Late Bronze Age plain ware bucket-shaped jar,
- SF11 – Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age plain ware high-shouldered jar.

5.2.5 Although largely complete, the vessels were partially fragmented and whilst SF11 was block lifted intact, SF8 and SF10 were too fragile to lift whole. Subsequently, upon micro excavation, SF11 also became fragmentary. Sherds from SF9 were determined in post-excavation to have likely been part of vessel SF8. Further sherds were recovered from other fills higher in the sequence (1028, 1029) that may relate to these three vessels, or at least other vessels of very similar form and fabric. Combined with the broken and fragmented nature of the vessels, this strongly implies at least some degree of post-depositional disturbance that most likely occurred through cleaning out and maintaining of the ditch itself.

5.2.6 There was no evidence for a cut feature truncating the ditch to deposit these vessels and stratigraphically they must have been placed directly onto the base of the ditch shortly after it was originally opened. Radiocarbon dating of charcoal retrieved during micro-excavation of the contents of vessel SF11 returned a date of 911-814calBC with 95.4% probability (lab code: SUERC-128589) and a date of 1005-841calBC with 95.4% probability (lab code: SUERC-128590) was retrieved from a sample taken directly below the base of vessel SF11. Further details of the radiocarbon dating results are available in Appendix I.

5.2.7 These radiocarbon dates align well with the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age dates for vessels SF8, SF10 and SF11 assigned by the ceramic specialist (Section 8). Combined, this analysis strongly supports a Late Bronze Age date for the intentional deposition of these three vessels and the origin of the ring ditch itself, due to their location in the stratigraphic sequence.

5.2.8 The vessels were buried by the basal fill of the ditch (1025), consisting of an ash and charcoal-rich deposit of silty clay at least 0.16m thick Other artefacts recovered from this fill included small fragments of fired clay, animal bone and two pieces of flint blade debitage (SF12), all suggestive of domestic waste. During the very Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age transition, a significant cleaning event or ditch recut truncated deposit (1025) from above. This recut [1041] measured 3.38m in width and 1.25m in depth and likely accounts for the broken and fragmented nature of the ceramic vessels as well as the presence of some of these sherds in stratigraphically later deposits.

5.2.9 Next in the sequence was a series of fills (1031, 1032, 1033) that had slipped in from the external side of the ring ditch. All three deposits combined measured a maximum thickness of 0.49m, contained no finds and were consistent with re-deposited natural geology. Context (1032) in particular was a very gravelly deposit consistent with natural slumping. Whilst these events could be indicative of the presence of a possible bank external to the feature, no extant bank material was observed in profile due to the truncation of both the southern and northern ditch edges by later features F04 and F05 respectively. Therefore, the slumping events could also relate to erosion of the southern ditch edge over time.



5.2.10 Following this, a series of silting events (1034) and (1037) were interspersed with discrete single-event tipping lines of charcoal and ash containing animal bone and pottery (1026) and (1027). From their profile, these deposits appear to have been tipped into the ditch from the internal side of the feature and may represent the discard of debris from the periodic re-occupation of the space enclosed by the ring ditch whilst the monument was in active use.

5.2.11 Silting event (1037) was 0.20m thick and originated from the northern (interior) side of the ditch. No artefacts were recovered from this material, suggesting a short period of abandonment at the site. This was followed by (1026), the first of two discrete ash and charcoal-rich tipping lines, measuring 0.09m in thickness and containing six fragments of animal bone as well as 90 sherds of pottery dated to the Late Bronze Age. Radiocarbon dating of a concentration of charcoal (Sample 19) retrieved from tipping line (1026) returned a date of 790-551calBC with 95.4% probability (lab code ref: SUERC-128588), suggesting this tipping event most likely occurred in the Early or Middle Iron Age. This was followed by another silting event (1034), a dark orangey-brown silty clay measuring 0.18m in thickness. Again, no artefacts were recovered from this material, suggesting a secondary short period of abandonment at the site. This was followed by another discrete ash and charcoal-rich tipping event (1027), measuring 0.08m in thickness, implying a temporary re-occupation of the site.

5.2.12 These deposits were then capped by two thick homogenous silting fills (1028) and (1029) to a maximum combined thickness of 0.97m, representing the final sealing of the ring ditch. Both fills consisted of an orangey brown clayey silt and contained similar artefacts, including 71 sherds of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age transitional pottery, occasional pieces of charcoal, fired clay and fragments of animal bone. Two flint cores and three flint tools were recovered from (1029), including two end/side scrapers and a retouched flake dating to the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic. The dating attributed to the pottery and flint from these fills indicates a degree of residuality consistent with long-term silting.

Romano-British enclosures

5.2.13 The next phase of activity in Trench 1 consists of two very shallow Romano-British ditches. The earlier of the two, F02, was observed as a linear measuring 9.20m in length and 1.03m in width. It was aligned northeast-southwest and extended beyond the eastern and western limits of excavation. This feature was excavated in three separate interventions with the overall depth varying between 0.06m and 0.13m. Two near-complete, albeit fragmentary, late 3rd to 4th century black-burnished ware jars (Figure 28) were the only artefacts recovered from the feature in two of these interventions; [1008] and [1014]. Further details and analysis on these vessels is available in Section 9 of this report.

5.2.14 The later of the two ditches, F03, was observed measuring at least 3m in length and 0.84m in width. It was similarly aligned northeast-southwest and partially truncated ditch F02 where the two features met in the central northern part of the trench. Ditch F03 terminated in the central western half of the trench and two interventions were placed into the feature, establishing a depth of between 0.08m and 0.15m. A single piece of flint recovered from fill (1007) was determined in post-excavation to be unworked and no other artefacts were recovered. The stratigraphic relationship



observed between these features means F03 must be at least Roman in date and may represent a recut of the original feature.

Late Romano-British/Early Post-Roman cemetery

5.2.15 The latest features excavated in Trench 1 were five approximately east-west aligned probable graves (F06-F10), with at least four other probable graves left unexcavated (Figures 4-5). The graves were all of a similar size and orientation They were laid out in parallel rows at similar distances respecting each other in what appears to be an organized cemetery. Remnants of possible stone lining were visible around the western edge of grave F08. Despite dry sieving all excavated material, no skeletal remains were recovered from these features due to the highly acidic soils at the site. Another possible grave F05 was only partly excavated and was visible truncating the internal edge of the ring ditch F01 but was not fully characterized. Six small fragments of heavily abraded Late Bronze Age pottery and three pieces of possible Bronze Age flint debitage were recovered from F06-F10, and are most likely residual due to their abraded nature.

5.2.16 The graves were all broadly similar in character, however there was some minor variation in size. F07 was the smallest, measuring 1.53m in length and 0.51m in width, whilst F06 was the largest, measuring 2.40m in length and 1.15m in width. The former could represent the burial of a smaller or younger individual, with the latter representing a larger adult. However, in the absence of any skeletal remains or associated grave goods, it is impossible to make further insights into the demographics of the burial population.

5.2.17 Whilst there was an absence of dateable material recovered from these features, stratigraphic relationships can give a broad insight into their chronology. Grave F07 was observed partially truncating Romano-British ditch F03, which itself truncates ditch F02. This shows that F07 cannot be earlier in date than the late 3rd to 4th century and implies that at least one phase of the cemetery was in use during or shortly after the later Romano-British period. Consequently, F02 and F03 may represent boundary ditches from an earlier phase of the cemetery or another form of 3rd to 4th century enclosure at the site.

5.3 Trench 2

5.3.1 Trench 2 (Figures 6-7) measured 15m by 1.5m and was positioned oriented east-west targeting a segment at the western end of a D-shaped enclosure visible on the geophysical survey (Figure 2) and as a cropmark on the HER (ID: 44536). Topsoil (2001) and subsoil (2002) were removed by mechanical excavator to a maximum depth of 0.68m, revealing the colluvial hillwash (2006) below.

5.3.2 Only one feature was observed in the centre of Trench 2; a northeast-southwest aligned stone-filled channel in the style of a French drain, F11. This 1.5m segment of drain was visible extending beyond the northern and southern limits of excavation and measured 0.30m in width. It was observed truncating through the subsoil (2002) into the colluvial hillwash (2006) below (Figure 23).

5.3.3 An intervention approximately 8m in length and 0.5m in width was placed through the colluvial hillwash against the northern limit of excavation in an attempt to reach any masked archaeological features below. However, excavation within this intervention ceased after 0.22m upon the discovery that drain F11 was still actively channelling water and it was decided not to disturb the area any further to prevent flooding the trench.

5.3.4 The only artefact recovered from Trench 2 was an indeterminate residual flint flake fragment from Topsoil (2001). No evidence of the D-shaped enclosure visible on the geophysical survey was recovered in Trench 2, almost certainly due to the shallow depths of the excavations and the thickness of the colluvial hillwash (2006) masking the archaeology further below.

5.4 Trench 3

5.4.1 Trench 3 (Figures 8-9) measured 15m by 1.5m and was positioned northeast-southwest on the eastern slope of the hillside down towards Cothelstone Farm at the bottom of the valley. It was targeting a segment at the western end of a crescent-shaped feature on the geophysical survey (Figure 2), interpreted from the survey results as possibly relating to quarrying activities (Harris, 2024, 3-4; Appendix J).

5.4.2 A common stratigraphic sequence of topsoil (3001) and subsoil (3002) was removed by mechanical excavator to a maximum depth of 0.85m before the natural geology (3003) was located. A large pit, F12, was observed cut through the natural geology measuring 9.7m in width and extending beyond both the northwest and southeast limits of excavation. Due to its substantial size, this feature could only be safely excavated in a 0.50m wide intervention against the southeastern limit of excavation to a maximum depth of 0.45m without reaching the base (Figure 24).

5.4.3 The lowest fill encountered within F12 was (3005); a mid-greyish brown sandy loam 0.34m in thickness, with a mid-greyish brown clayey silt (3004) 0.11m thick representing the uppermost silting fill. Eighteen small fragments of abraded Late Bronze Age pottery and seven pieces of flint flake or blade debitage were recovered from these fills in addition to a near-complete flint arrowhead (SF3) from (3004). This leaf-shaped arrowhead (Figure 26) had a slight break at the tip but was kite-shaped in plan and is probably Neolithic. Further analysis is available in Section 11 of this report.

5.4.4 The artefacts recovered from F12 are likely residual and suggest the presence of Prehistoric activity in the vicinity, but in a secondary context having washed into the upper fills of this feature down the hillside over time. The limited size of the interventions in Trench 3 makes it difficult to characterize the crescent-shaped feature identified from the geophysical survey beyond initial interpretations of possible quarrying.

5.5 Trench 4

5.5.1 Trench 4 (Figures 10-11) measured 13m x 4m and was positioned over the northern arc of the same ring ditch targeted by excavations in Trench 1. The trench, oriented approximately north-south, was also positioned to target the possible continuation of a linear anomaly identified from the geophysical survey. Upon excavation, a common

sequence of topsoil (4001) and subsoil (4002) was observed to a maximum depth of 0.42m before the natural geology (4003) was located.

Late Bronze Age ring ditch monument

5.5.2 The earliest feature excavated in Trench 4 was ring ditch F01, constructed in the Late Bronze Age having fully silted up no earlier than the end of the Romano-British period. The 4.30m excavated segment of the ditch showed that the original cut [4030] was at least 2m in width and 1.58m in depth at this location (Figures 14-15). In summary, the stratigraphic sequence of deposits filling this segment of the ring ditch consisted of a series of basal and slumping fills before a significant cleaning or recut event followed by long term final homogenous silting.

5.5.3 The basal fill (4029) was a dark reddish-brown sandy clay with regular sandstone and shillet inclusions, measuring 0.10m in thickness. This was followed by a mid greyish-red sand (4019), measuring 0.18m in thickness directly above. The next earliest fill (4024) was 0.16m thick and may represent a partial collapse of the natural sandy ditch edge on the internal side of the feature. Five sherds of Late Bronze Age pottery in a red sandstone fabric were recovered from (4019), including one sherd from a high-shouldered plain ware jar. Additionally, two pieces of blade and flake debitage and one flint chip were also recovered from (4019) of indeterminate date. No other artefacts were recovered from the fills of [4030].

5.5.4 This sequence was followed by a significant cleaning event or recut of the ditch measuring 3.29m in width and 1.37m in depth. This recut [4034] truncated all three fills of the original ditch from above and was itself filled by a series of three homogenous silting events; (4012), (4011) and (4004).

5.5.5 Whilst it is possible, based on their profile, that the fills of the original ditch [4030] were formed from slipped bank material originating from the external side of the monument, this cannot be proven due to the later recut. A layer of light greyish yellow silty sand with frequent sandstone and shillet inclusions (4031) measuring 4.90m in width and 0.07m in thickness was observed external to the ring ditch feature in the east facing section of Trench 4 (Figure 15). However, this material was not directly observed slumped into the ditch profile itself due to truncation by the recut and no direct relationship can be proven between (4031) and the fills of original ditch [4030]. Therefore, the presence of an external bank contemporary with the construction phase of F01 remains tentative.

5.5.6 Recut [4034] was filled by three homogenous silting events that indicate a gradual filling in of the feature over time. The first of these is (4012) from which three joining everted rim sherds of a Romano-British jar or bowl were recovered (Figure 28; ID3_4012). Another artefact recovered from the recut was SF2, a probable Late Iron Age baked clay spindle whorl. Residual artefacts include two pieces of flake debitage and a Late Upper Palaeolithic curved back point. Deposit (4012) was the earliest fill in the sequence where material suitable for radiocarbon dating was recovered. Charcoal retrieved from environmental sampling was dated to 1051-851calBC with 95.4% probability (lab code ref: SUERC-129541), consistent with the Late Bronze Age radiocarbon dates from the ring ditch in Trench 1. However, due to the presence of

the Romano-British pottery, (4012) must date the silting up of the recut ditch to no earlier than this period.

5.5.7 No artefacts were recovered from silting fill (4011), the next in the sequence, implying a period of abandonment at the site. A final thick homogenous silting fill (4004) measured 0.68m thick and fully sealed the ditch deposits. Residual Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age pottery was recovered from this fill as well as six pieces of flint debitage and three tools; an endscraper, a retouched flake and a notched fragment. The residual nature of these artefacts is consistent with long-term silting.

Late Romano-British/Early Post-Roman cemetery

5.5.8 Four E-W aligned graves (F15-F18) were excavated in Trench 4. Like the graves in Trench 1, they were all of a similar size and orientation, being laid out in parallel rows at similar distances and respecting each other in what appears to be a continuation of the cemetery. Grave F18 was the smallest, measuring at least 0.50m in length, 0.45m in width and 0.06m in depth. However, this grave had been heavily truncated by a Post-Medieval field boundary ditch and from above by ploughing. The largest grave was F15, measuring 1.80m in length, 0.80m in width and 0.29m in depth.

5.5.9 Whilst no skeletal remains were present due to the high acidity of the soil in this location, two of the graves produced ironwork grave goods (Figures 18, 26). These included an iron knife (SF1) recovered from F16, with two iron knives (SF4 and SF5) and a possible knife tang or awl (SF6) recovered from F17. All three knives were domestic tools, likely used for food preparation or consumption. In all cases they were recovered from the central portion of the grave, indicating they would likely have fastened to a belt around the waist. SF4 and SF5 were recovered together (Figure 18). Typologically, these knives cannot be more precisely dated than to the later Romano-British or Early Post-Roman period, possibly the 5th century AD. Further detailed analysis on these artefacts is available in Section 12 of this report. The only other artefact recovered was a single flint chip from F15, considered to be residual.

Post-Medieval field boundaries

5.5.10 Two linear ditches, F13 and F14, were visible running NW-SE through Trench 4 extending beyond the LOE. These ditches truncated through all other features within Trench 4. Interventions were placed at the northern end of Trench 4 to characterise the ditches and establish any relationships. F13 measured 5.63m in length, 1.10m in width and 0.40m in depth whilst F14 measured 9.95m in length, 0.76m in width and 0.39m in depth. Whilst no direct relationship was observed between the two ditches, Post-Medieval pottery was recovered from F14, strongly indicating these features are likely field boundary or drainage ditches of this date.



6 THE FINDS – PRESERVATION, ASSEMBLAGE OVERVIEW AND CHRONOLOGY

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 The finds are the tangible objects that connect us with the people who lived and died in the local landscape at Cothelstone Farm from the Late Bronze Age to the Early Post-Roman period. They give us glimpses of their identities, perceptions of place and belief systems in both life and death. The analysis carried out on these finds provide fascinating insights into domestic settlement practices and the significance of social acts of commemoration in the Late Bronze Age as well as beliefs and practices regarding burial of the dead in the later Romano-British or Early Post-Roman period. This section of the report looks at the condition and preservation of finds recovered from across the site, the artefact assemblage, and the radiocarbon dating.

6.1.2 The chronology and stratification of the finds has provided a vastly improved understanding of the site. This has been supplemented by four radiocarbon dates (see section 6.4) targeting dateable material recovered from deposits of particular stratigraphic importance to the phased chronological site narrative.

6.2 Preservation of archaeological data

6.2.1 Generally, the preservation of archaeology at the site ranged from fair to poor depending on the depth of deposits. Modern and historic agricultural practices have clearly played a role in heavily truncating a number of shallower archaeological features, such as the graves. However, more deeply stratified deposits including within the ring ditch are far better preserved.

6.2.2 Organic preservation suffered from highly acidic soil conditions, with a significant adverse impact on the preservation of bone. No skeletal remains were recovered from any of the burials excavated at the site and only very fragmentary pieces of bone were recovered from the lower fills of the ring ditch. The preservation of environmental remains was also poor, with plant remains and pollen suffering in particular; even within the deeper deposits of the ring ditch.

6.2.3 The ironwork recovered from the site was well preserved, including the three iron knives from graves in Trench 4. The preservation of ceramics was also good, with a deposit of Late Bronze Age pottery consisting of three near-complete vessels recovered from the base of the ring ditch in Trench 1.

6.3 The artefact assemblage

6.3.1 The excavations yielded an assemblage of over 800 artefacts, including 588 sherds of Prehistoric pottery (Appendix C), 157 sherds of Romano-British pottery (Appendix D), 59 pieces of worked flint (Appendix F), 32 pieces of animal bone (Appendix B), six fragments of fired clay/daub (Appendix E), three iron knives and a ceramic spindle whorl (Appendix G). In addition, eleven bulk samples and three pollen samples were processed for the recovery and assessment of environmental remains. The finds assemblage has been analysed by the appropriate specialists and several finds have been conserved. A summary of the results from the assessment and analysis of each material type assemblage are discussed below.

6.3.2 The ceramic assemblage has been split in Prehistoric and Romano-British pottery. The prehistoric material predominantly dates to the Late Bronze and Early Iron Age and included four registered finds, SF8, SF9, SF10 and SF11. These were all from ring ditch F01, and SF8, SF10 and SF11, were recovered from the base of the feature. SF9 may represent a part vessel of the same vessel as SF8 and post-depositional disturbance probably accounts for the separation. The Romano-British assemblage included fine table wares and coarse utilitarian vessels. The material was recovered from the ring ditch F01, and two later gullies, F02 and F03. Two near complete but fragmentary black burnished ware jars were recovered from F02 and F03 and may have originally been deposited as grave goods in the burials nearby.

6.3.3 The flint recovered from site was likely all residual. The material included a Later Upper Palaeolithic curved-backed point, and a leaf-shaped arrowhead from the Neolithic. Other material dating from the Mesolithic to the Bronze Age was also recovered throughout site.

6.3.4 The registered iron and ceramic finds consisted of a Late Iron Age spindle whorl (SF2), three knives (SF1, SF4 and SF5) and a possible awl or tang of another knife (SF6). The iron objects were all found in graves and are either very Late Roman or very Early Medieval in date.

6.3.5 Only a small quantity of animal bone was recovered from the site and no human remains were preserved within the excavated graves due to the high acidity of the soil. The bone recovered was very poorly preserved and the sole species identified was cattle. Preservation was also an issue for the environmental remains and yielded minimal results. Charred material recovered included a small quantity of seeds and fragments of wood charcoal. Three samples were submitted for pollen analysis, but the preservation proved too poor in assessment for a full analysis to take place.

6.4 Radiocarbon dating

6.4.1 Four samples were submitted to Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC) for radiocarbon dating. The samples were all taken from ring ditch F01; three from Trench 1 and one from Trench 4. They consisted of charcoal recovered from well-stratified deposits within the feature to assist in refining the chronology of its construction, occupation and abandonment. No material suitable for radiocarbon dating was recovered from the graves excavated at the site. The date ranges have been calibrated to the calendar timescale using the Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program OxCal 4 (Ramsey, 2009) and using a mix of the IntCal13 and Marine13 calibration curves (Reimer et al., 2013) (Dunbar et al. 2016). Detailed results of the four samples sent for radiocarbon dating are available in Appendix I.

6.4.2 The three charcoal samples submitted from the ring ditch in Trench 1 consisted of one from sample 29; context (1030), one from sample 28; context (1025), and one from sample 19; context (1026). One charcoal sample was submitted from the ring ditch in Trench 4 and was recovered from sample 7; context (4012).

6.4.3 Charcoal from sample 29 was recovered during the micro-excavation of vessel SF11 directly adhering to the external base of the vessel. The date returned from this sample was considered to represent the time after which the vessel must have been deposited



at the base of the feature. The result returned from radiocarbon dating of this sample was 1005-841calBC with 95.4% probability (lab code: SUERC-128590).

6.4.4 Charcoal from sample 28 was recovered during the micro-excavation of vessel SF11 directly adhering to the internal base of the vessel. The date returned from this sample was considered to be contemporary with when the vessel must have been deposited within the feature. The result returned from radiocarbon dating of this sample was 911-814calBC with 95.4% probability (lab code: SUERC-128589).

6.4.5 The final sample from F01 in Trench 1 was sample 19, recovered during the excavation of context (1026). It was interpreted as a discrete single-event tip line originating from domestic waste from activity internal to the ring ditch enclosure. The date returned from this sample was thought to be contemporary with when this waste tipping had occurred and the result was 790-551calBC with 95.4% probability (lab code: SUERC-128588).

6.4.6 Charcoal from sample 7 was recovered during the processing of environmental samples taken from context (4012); interpreted as the primary silting fill of a recut of the ring ditch in Trench 4. This was the stratigraphically earliest deposit within the ring ditch in Trench 4 from which material suitable for radiocarbon dating was recovered. The aim of this sample was to provide a date for before the recut of the ring ditch must have occurred, and as a control date from which the dates from Trench 1 could be compared. The result returned from radiocarbon dating of this sample was 1051-851calBC with 95.4% probability (lab code: SUERC-129541).

6.4.7 The results from the radiocarbon dating at Cothelstone Farm have been highly informative in refining the chronology and phasing of the ring ditch enclosure excavated in Trench 1 and Trench 4. Two of the dates were returned from material stratigraphically contemporary with the construction of the ring ditch and the deposition of the three ceramic vessels at its base. Combined with the typological date assigned to the vessels themselves by the ceramic specialist, it is clear that the ring ditch must have been constructed in the Late Bronze Age, likely between the late 11th and early 9th centuries BC.

6.4.8 The date from sample 19 suggests an Early to Middle Iron Age date for the recut of the ring ditch and when sporadic or seasonal domestic occupation internal to the enclosure may have occurred. This chronology also implies that the homogenous silting that occurred within the ring ditch after this deposit must have happened after this date.

6.4.9 The final date returned was 1051-851calBC from context (4012) in Trench 4. Artefacts recovered from this deposit were typologically dated to the Late Iron Age and Romano-British period, implying this sample was residual. However, its value is more in acting as a comparator control sample for the dates received from the ring ditch in Trench 1, where very similar Late Bronze Age dates were returned from radiocarbon dating of more secure deposits.



7 ANIMAL BONE

Dr Hannah Russ MCiFA FSA

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 Animal bone (32 fragments weighing 49.2g) representing mammals was recovered via hand collection and from a bulk environmental sample taken during the excavation. This report includes quantification of the assemblage recovered with identification at species level where possible (Table 5, Appendix B), an assessment of significance, and recommendation(s) for any further work.

7.2 Results

7.2.1 Thirty-two fragments of animal bone weighing 49.2g were recovered from four contexts across two of the four excavation trenches, Table 5. Hand-collected bone comprised 28 specimens weighing 47.9g from four contexts, while four fragments of animal bone weighing 1.3g were recovered from a bulk environmental sample from context (1025) (sample <10>). Preservation was extremely poor throughout the assemblage (see taphonomic assessment, below), with bone preserved either through being burnt (n= 18; 10.1g) or through impregnation by iron from the burial environment (n=14; 39.1g); surface preservation was poor and fragmentation extremely high; no compete bones were recovered and a species identification could only be suggested for a single fragment of axis (C2 vertebra) which compared with cattle (Bos taurus). Additional mammal remains were identified within size categories at class level (96.9% of total remains, n=31).

7.2.2 Most of the remains were recovered from three fills of a ring ditch (F01), contexts (1025), (1026), and (1028); the only other bone recovered was a single fragment of burnt bone from the fill of a sub-circular crescent-shaped feature in Trench 3 (3005), Table 5.

7.3 Taphonomic assessment

7.3.1 Bone surface preservation varied throughout the assemblage from 'good' (2), to very poor (5) on a scale of 1 to 5 from 'excellent' to 'very poor'. Most specimens had 'very poor' (5) or 'poor' (4) surface preservation, 87.5% by count (n=28). Fragmentation was extremely high throughout the assemblage with only partial bones recovered.

7.3.2 No evidence for skeletal abnormalities, butchery in the form of chop, cut or saw marks or carnivore/rodent gnawing activity was observed. Bone fusion data and measurable elements suitable for use in size or shape reconstruction were not recovered. No animal remains were suitable for estimating sex. Burnt bone, 18 fragments weighing 10.1g, was recovered from Trench 1, contexts 1025 (n=7), 1026 (n=3) and 1028 (n=7), and Trench 3, context 3005 (n=1).

7.4 Discussion

7.4.1 The animal bone recovered during archaeological excavations at Cothelstone Farm formed a very small assemblage of fragmentary, poorly preserved bone that was either burnt or preserved through iron absorption from the burial environment. The only

species identified was cattle, a species present in Britain from the Neolithic period onwards and is one of the main domestic livestock species kept for meat, milk, leather and traction since that time. The burnt animal bone from Trench 1, the fills of ring ditch F01, were recovered alongside three complete, though fragmentary, ceramic vessels of Late Bronze Age date. Whilst at least one fragment represented cattle, the possibility remains that fragments attributed to both the medium and medium/large mammal categories (Table 5) could include human bone.

7.4.2 The recovery of only bone that had been burnt or had absorbed iron from the surrounding burial environment demonstrates poor burial conditions for the preservation of bone. The few remains that were recovered demonstrate the presence of animals and/or animal products at the site, and that some animal remains were exposed to high temperatures before being deposited/discarded in features at the site.

7.4.3 Due to the small size and fragmentary condition of the assemblage, it is not possible to comment further on the role of animals at the site, nor confirm the presence of human burials. The assemblage is of low local significance, with no future research potential beyond the information contained within this report and associated data spreadsheet.

8 PREHISTORIC POTTERY

Imogen Wood

8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 The 588 sherds weighing 13403g from features in Trenches 1, 3 and 4 date to the Late Bronze Age -Early Iron Age period. The vessels are characteristic of Late Bronze Age Plain Ware which crosses over chronologically into the Early Iron Age period. This is supported by the carbon dates from associated vessels in enclosure ditch deposits. The deposition of three near complete vessels in enclosure ditch [1024] possibly suggests a socially specific act, whilst their life after deposition demonstrates the open nature of the ditch deposits and gradual burial over time. The assemblage is of moderate (regional) significance contributing to the growing corpus of Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age sites in Somerset.

8.2 Aims

8.2.1 The aim of this report is to identify and characterise the ceramic forms and fabrics of the vessel excavated. To inform the dating evidence for excavated features containing pottery on the site and support the stratigraphic interpretation. Macroscopic analysis identified fabrics for comparison to established regional fabrics and refers to relevant petrographic descriptions.

8.2.2 The aims of this project of relevance to the ceramic analysis are to:

- Date and function of each feature,
- Establish the relative date, sequence and nature for the enclosure / ring ditch,
- Establish current state of preservation of the pottery.

8.3 Recovery strategy and condition of the assemblage

8.3.1 Finds were treated in accordance with the relevant guidance given in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (2014), excepting where they are superseded by statements made below.

8.3.2 All artefacts were retained from excavated contexts, except features or deposits undoubtedly of modern date. In these circumstances, sufficient artefacts were only retained to elucidate the date and function of the feature or deposit.

8.3.3 The condition of the pottery is moderately good with most sherds being abrasion level 2 but there is variable abrasion on some of the mostly complete vessels and many of the sherds from the ditch fill contexts are small and Level 3 highly abraded. This suggests that the larger almost complete vessels were partly sealed within the ditch fill material and partly exposed to the dynamic post depositional environment of the ditch feature. See table 7 for detail of each context.

8.4 Geology

8.4.1 The nearby Quantock Hills provide a clear geological contrast due to their predominant middle Devonian Sandstone formations resulting in quartz rich derived gravels and clay. In places the solid geology is overlain by Pleistocene sediments, which comprise sands and gravels, undifferentiated Head deposits, and alluvium interspersed with peat layers. The upper alluvium is equivalent to the Wentlooge palaeosol, which is thought to have formed as a result of land drainage during the Romano-British period (Allen and Rae 1987).

8.4.2 The fabric of 95% of the assemblage is coarse and fine variations of a sandy fabric with a harsh feel. This is a directly comparable with fabric (SS1) identified at Hinkley Point (Quinnell and Wood 2024, 52), which is of a similar date to the pottery at Cothelstone Farm. The comprehensive petrographic analysis of the Hinkley Point Late Bronze Age Early Iron Age assemblage carried out by the author is the type-site for this fabric.

8.4.3 The Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age assemblage from Hinkley Point has a predominant and homogenous group of sandstone tempered fabrics which are clearly composed of a locally derived mudstone clay to which sand from a sandstone-rich river has been added as temper. It is characterised by common New Red Sandstone rock fragments, sub-rounded 10mm–0.5mm, predominant monocrystalline quartz sub-rounded to well-rounded generally <2mm, but larger 6mm if angular in shape. Rare mudstone and iron-rich limonite, well-rounded 1.5mm–0. 5mm (Quinnell and Wood 2023, 52-53). The local sandstone-derived pottery (SS1) makes up 88% of the Late Bronze Age pottery at Hinkley Point. The analysis by the author established a provenance source of the clay suite of minerals and rock fragments in this quartz-rich temper most likely derives from the geology of the Quantock Hills and extracted from a river system such as the River Parrett (Quinnell and Wood 2023, 52-53).

8.4.4 The small quantity of sherds with Quartzite inclusions from Cothelstone Farm are comparable with Fabric 6 'Quartzite' identified by David William during his petrographic analysis of Late Bronze Age pottery from Norton Fitzwarren (1987). The

results and a full description this fabric from this type-site carried out by David William's can be found in the Norton Fitzwarren petrographic report (Williams 1987).

8.5 Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age pottery assemblage

8.5.1 The forms of vessels have been identified using Tyler and Woodward's Late Bronze Age Jar typology from vessels excavated at Tinney's Lane, Sherbourne (2013, 37). The stratigraphic context of the finds is indicated in the text by nature of fill and feature cut. For further information please consult the context descriptions (Tables 1-4, Appendix A).

8.6 Trench 1

8.6.1 See Table 7 for detail of vessel form and fabric by context. There are a minimum number of 20 vessels present in Trench 1 based on the rims and fabrics present. Most are from context (1025).

8.6.2 The majority of the pottery from this trench derives from basal fill (1025) from the enclosure ditch [1024], overlain by fill (1037), (1026), (1031), (1033), (1034), (1027), (1028) and (1029), all of which are accumulated deposits and do not represent (1025) being immediately sealed.

8.6.3 The Hook-rim Type 3 Jar; SF8 (Figure 27) has 119 sherds weighing 6416g found in enclosure ditch [1024] fill (1025). It has a 200mm base diameter and 340mm rim diameter. The vessel walls are between 8-12mm thick, and the exterior of the vessel has deep vertical finger-smearing which has in some places dragged large inclusions creating incised lines. The rim sherds vary considerably in levels of abrasion, and evidence of burning between con-joining sherds suggests that some sherds were in sealed layer and others more exposed. The differential abrasion on the breaks indicates a dynamic post-depositional environment which is consistent with a ditch feature. There is only one base sherd and basal angle sherd suggest only 60% is present with some sherds lost. There are two con-joining rim sherds from (1026) and two con-joining rim sherds from SF11 (1025), demonstrating the mixed nature of the deposit.

8.6.4 There is a rim sherd from a smaller vessel included in SF8 with a 180mm rim diameter of a similar Type 3 Hook-rim Jar with a wall thickness of 6-9mm in the same Red Sandstone fabric.

8.6.5 There are a further eleven body sherds from fill (1025) which are mostly likely part of vessel SF8 and there is one basal angle sherd in a Quartzite fabric seen in (1026) and (1028). The pottery from soil samples <10> and <16> also have finger-smearing suggesting a similar vessel type. The vessel SF9 from fill (1025) is probably the same vessel as SF8 as the sherd thickness, sandy fabric and deep finger-smearing marks suggest.

8.6.6 The Bucket-shaped jar Type 1 SF10 (Figure 27) from deposit (1025) is mostly complete but lacking 50% of the 180mm in diameter flat-topped rim, with a total vessel height of 190mm in a Red Sandstone fabric. The complete base is 160mm diameter and the body sherds a between 7-10mm thick with vertical finger-smearing marks on the

exterior surface. The sherds are in good condition, all the breaks are fresh suggesting it was immediately sealed within the deposit and not exposed as the sherds from SF8 were. This vessel is smaller and finer than SF8.

8.6.7 The Plain high shouldered jar Type 2 SF11 (Figure 27) has a 200mm diameter rim and possible 100mm base with a 6mm sherd thickness. The fine vessel has a reduced burnished exterior in a Red Sandstone fabric. The abrasion of the breaks on the lower body suggests the base was lost, whilst the upper body and rim are not as abraded suggesting it was in a sealed deposit. The total vessel height is 140mm, total girth at shoulder height is 260mm. A sherd found within the vessel during micro-excavation is from a Bucket-form Jar with finger-smearing on the exterior surface and a rim diameter of only 12mm suggesting a very small vessel, the abrasion suggests was most likely accidentally included.

8.6.8 The ditch fill (1026) has sherds from at least 10 other vessels. There is a flat-topped Bucket-form Type 1 Jar with a diameter rim 160mm from a small vessel, a larger Hook-rim Jar Type 3 with a rim diameter of 220mm with a wall thickness of 15mm, both in a Red Sandstone fabric. A Barrel-form Jar Type 4 has a rim diameter of 200mm with finger-smearing marks on the exterior. There is a basal angle sherd 120mm in diameter from a very fine well-made vessel with slightly burnished external surface in a reduced sandy fabric which is similar to or part of SF11. There is one Bucket-form Jar Type 1 with a coarse body and basal angle sherd 100mm in diameter with external expansion which has been exposed to high temperatures suggesting burning. The rest of the body sherds from fill (1026) represent large vessels with finger-smearing Jars similar to SF8 and SF10 and finer carinated body sherds similar to the high shouldered vessel SF11. A small flared-out rim sherd belonging to the Plain Ware vessel con-joins with a rim from (1028) suggesting a mixing of these contexts.

8.6.9 The only vessels in this context not to be in a Red Sandstone fabric are two body sherds with a soft fabric tempered with crushed white Quartzite from a large coarse jar with finger-smearing, suggesting it is a comparable form to the other jars. Williams (1987) identified a quartzite fabric at Norton Fitzwarren, fabric 6, which dated to the Late Bronze Age.

8.6.10 The sherds from fill (1028) have differential abrasion suggesting this was a dynamic context. There are five everted rim sherds 140mm in diameter of a Plain Ware flared-rim Jar most are conjoining and 26 body sherds from the same vessel all in a reduced sandy fabric. Comparable examples of the form are seen at Brean Down in the Late Bronze Age phase (Woodward 1991). There are 18 sherds, mainly basal angle, from a small jar with a burnished exterior surface and well-made reduced fabric with a base diameter of 80mm. There are seven small, abraded body sherds in a Quartzite fabric very similar to the two sherds in (1026). A single sherd, SF13 from (1028), is most likely from the same vessel as SF11 or if not a very similar form and burnished surface treatment.

8.6.11 The sherds from (1029) are small and highly abraded, but their Red Sandstone and Quartzite fabrics suggest a similar date to the rest of the ditch fills. There are three very abraded small sherds in a Quartzite fabric from (1036) which suggests a Late Bronze Age Early Iron Age date. The two small sherds from (1023) are equally abraded and date from the same period. A flat-topped Bucket-form Type 1 Jar rim sherd from

(1017) is of a similar date. The small sherd from (1013) with two horizontal incised grooves is similar to Trevisker Related pottery which is often decorated with incised lines and contemporary with Plain Ware Jars as seen at Brean Down (Woodward 1990).

8.7 Trench 3

8.7.1 See Table 7 for detail of vessel form and fabric by context. There are a minimum number of 4 vessels present in Trench 3 based on the rims and fabrics. The small assemblage of abraded sherds from (3005) are the same forms as seen in Trench 1 and characteristic of the Late Bronze Age Early Iron Age period as suggested by a flat-topped rim from a Bucket-form Jar Type 1 in a sandy fabric; as is the flared-out rim of a Plain Ware jar from (3004). The highly abraded sherds from (3001) are of a similar Red Sandstone fabric to pottery in other trenches suggesting a similar date.

8.8 Trench 4

8.8.1 See Table 7 for detail of vessel form and fabric by context. There are a minimum number of 4 vessels present in Trench 4 based on the rims and fabrics present. There is a neck from a High shouldered Plain Ware Jar from fill (4019) and a very small highly abraded pottery sherd from (4019); SF7, which is undiagnostic in terms of form, but the sandy fabric could suggest a similar date as those from Trenches 1 and 3.

8.8.2 There is one sherd from a high shouldered vessel, a carinated body sherd from a similar vessel, along with an expanded basal angle sherd from (4004) and a small Bucket-form Jar Type1 with flat-topped rim 160mm diameter. These diagnostic forms and sandstone fabrics strongly suggest the pottery from context (4004) is Late Bronze Age - Early Iron Age in date. A piece of ceramic from sample <21> is too small to establish a date.

8.9 Discussion

8.9.1 The interpretation of the result of the analysis of the pottery from features excavated at Cothelstone Farm have contributed to the research aims set out in the WSI. The ceramic assemblage from Cothelstone Farm clearly demonstrate diagnostic characteristics confirming a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date for the enclosure ring ditch monument and features in Trenches 3, and the ring ditch monument in Trench 4. This compares well with the date range 911-814calBC from within SF11 and charcoal from underneath the vessel SF11 1005-841calBC, which also provide relative dates for SF8 and SF10. The date 790-551calBC, from ditch fill (1026) associated with the vessels in (1025), is moving into the Early Iron Age which is still consistent in the range of forms present.

8.9.2 The carbon dates of the Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age Plain ware high shouldered jars from the enclosure ditch at Cothelstone Farm are directly comparable with those of the Shurton enclosure ditch at Hinkley Point which have dates from 930-800calBC (SUERC-70970) to 840-790calBC (SUERC-70974) (Quinnell and Wood 2024, 54). The first phase of the Shurton enclosure has Late Bronze Age dates of 1150–800calBC (SUERC-70979), 1280-105calBC (SUERC-70970) and 930–800calBC (SUERC-70973), giving non-overlapping date ranges (Quinnell and Wood 2024). The Shurton Enclosure ditch at Hinkley Point was roughly square shaped and is thought to have incorporated

a palisade and bank and was used into the Early Iron Age (Mudd et al 2024, 43). The same range of Plain Ware shouldered jars from Norton Fitzwarren are considered to be Late Bronze Age into the Early Iron Age up to the 7th century BC (Woodward 1989, Fig20.45-47, p45).

8.9.3 These dates also compare well with the Tinney's Lane 12th -11th centuries BC Type 1 Bucket-form Jar, Type 3 Hook-rim Jar and Type 4 barrel-form Jars (Woodward and Tyler 2013) and the 11th-9th centuries BC assemblages at Brean Down (Woodward 1990).

8.9.4 The petrographic analysis of the assemblage from Cothelstone Farm has identified that a Red Sandstone derived fabric dominates the assemblage for both the fine high shouldered Jars and the Bucket, Barrel and Hook-rim Jars. This is mirrored at Hinkley Point where analysis concluded that 88% of the Late Bronze Age Early Iron Age Plain Ware was in a Red Sandstone fabric (Quinnell and Wood 2024, 53). David Williams analysis of Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age pottery from Norton Fitzwarren also identified Sandy fabrics (1987).

8.9.5 In South West Britain, Late Bronze Age Plain Ware appears to have been in use by the 11th century BC and continued into the 9th century BC, when elements of the subsequent style were certainly present the degree of overlap is uncertain (Quinnell and Wood 2024, 54). All the forms seen at Cothelstone Farm are also seen within the enclosure ditch at Hinkley Point, with the same carbon date range, suggesting comparable domestic activity in that period (Quinnell and Wood 2024) and are also a match for the less well dated assemblages in many features from Norton Fitzwarren (Woodward 1989, 19–20).

8.9.6 The refitting of vessels SF8, SF10 and SF11 indicate that the vessels were not complete in that context and that parts of them have been transported into other deposits (1028) and (1029). The variable level of abrasion suggests that these vessels were possibly deposited whole and broke in the ditch context, after which some sherds were sealed in ditch deposits and others were exposed on the surface and became more abraded overlain by a succession of fills (1037), (1026), (1031), (1033), (1034), (1027), (1028) and (1029). The sherds found within SF11 during micro-excavation do not represent an accessory vessel but sherds from other vessels that had been transported within the ditch. The vessel had external sooting suggesting they were used in a domestic context and not a new vessel.

8.9.7 The deposition of largely complete vessels in ditches is not a common practice and is typically assumed to represent an atypical domestic practice and considered a 'special' deposit particularly in ditch termini. J. D. Hill proposed the idea of 'special' or 'structured' deposits of artefacts in the 1990's to explain artefacts deposited in a way not consistent with casual waste disposal (Hill 1995). Pollard suggests that maintenance and creation of social action in the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age is based within the settlement context and "evidence for a range of practices affecting the way in which pottery was treated in deposition, from routine and largely unconsidered use and disposal to special acts as part of a ritual" (2002, 29).

8.9.8 The reason for 'special' deposits in ditches is open to speculation but is assumed to represent the performance of a socially significant act. However, the excavation of

well-preserved Late Bronze Age houses has demonstrated that a relatively large portion of vessels were deposited in midden areas relatively rapidly (Brudenell 2024). It must be noted that as only one section through the enclosure ditch [1024] at Cothelstone Farm was excavated, the deposition of three possibly complete vessels from (1025) may indeed be representative of the typical process of deposition. It is not possible to conclusively comment unless the entire enclosure ditch was excavated.

8.9.9 The pottery excavated at Cothelstone Farm across the three trenches represents vessels used in everyday domestic life in the Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age period. The function of the features and range of ceramic forms indicate this was a typical settlement site. The abrasion of the pottery suggests the ditch and gully features were open to the elements and backfilled slowly over time incorporating more pottery from disposal of settlement waste material. It is possible that if the deposition of the three vessels in the enclosure ditch was not typical disposal and the nature of their deposition offers a glimpse into the unknown roles they can perform outside the everyday.

9 ROMAN POTTERY

David Griffiths

9.1 Introduction

9.1.1 Later prehistoric to Romano British period handmade and wheel-thrown Romano-British period pottery was recovered via hand collection during archaeological excavations at Cothelstone Farm, Somerset (NGR: ST 17901 31650), conducted by DigVentures in 2024 (CSF24). The excavations revealed a series of ditches and pits containing prehistoric handmade and Romano-British period pottery. Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery was also recovered and is reported on in Section 8 of this report.

9.2 Results

9.2.1 A total of 158 sherds, weighing 813.2g, were recovered from stratified and topsoil deposits (Tables 8 and 10, Appendix D). A single sherd of handmade pottery was recovered and dates and may date to the Late Iron Age or Romano-British period (i.e. the 1st century AD). The Romano-British period pottery assemblage included the remains of fine and coarse wares and fine wares; the range was limited and did not include amphorae, mortaria, or samian ware.

9.3 Late Iron Age to Romano-British pottery

9.3.1 A single body sherd (10.7g) of handmade pottery was recovered from topsoil (ID12, context 1001; Tables 8 and 10, Appendix D). The fabric had large quartz inclusions. The sherd had no clear diagnostic features and it was not possible to identify vessel form or infer a reliable date. The sherd was found alongside Romano-British pottery, including the partial remains a black-burnished ware jar dating from the late 3rd to 4th century AD (ID1/6).

9.4 Romano-British pottery

9.4.1 In total, 157 sherds weighing 802.5g of Romano-British pottery were recovered, which included fine table wares and coarse utilitarian vessels. The material was recovered from deposits in ditch F01 (4 sherds), gullies F02 (41 sherds) and F03 (83 sherds), and topsoil (29 sherds).

9.5 Fine wares

9.5.1 In total, there were eight body sherds of fine table ware recovered from gully F03 (6 sherds) and topsoil (2 sherds; Tables 8 and 10, Appendix D). All the sherds were heavily abraded Oxford Red-slipped ware (fabric OXF RS, Tomber and Dore 1998, 176) and may all be part of the same vessel (IDs 2 and 7). It was not possible to identify vessel form, however, an open vessel, such as a bowl, is possible. Oxford Red-slipped ware types date broadly from approximately AD240 to 400 (Young 2000, 123-4).

9.5.2 In total, 149 sherds weighing 776.2g of coarse wares were recovered from deposits in features ditch F01, gullies F02 and F03, and topsoil. Black-burnished wares formed the greatest component of the assemblage (135 sherds); however, these likely represent only two vessels (ID5, gully F02, context 1009, and ID1/6, 77 sherds from gully F03, context 1015 and 17 sherds from topsoil). The two black-burnished ware vessels were both everted rim jars dating from the late 3rd to 4th centuries AD (Holbrook and Bidwell's type 20 (1991, 103, and fig. 28, 104 and fig. 29, 105), and Gillam's form 12 (1976, 64, and fig. 2, 65)). One vessel (ID5) was decorated with a band of obtuse-angled lattice; jar ID1/6 had a rough unburnished band around the upper body of the vessel (see Holbrook and Bidwell 1991, fig. 29, no. 20.3). Vessel ID1/5 was in South-East Dorset Black-burnished ware 1 (DOR BB 1, Tomber and Dore 1998, 127); vessel ID5 was in an unsourced fabric and a full description is provided (Table 11, Appendix D).

9.5.3 There were 13 sherds in a range of reduced ware fabrics (Tables 8, 10 and 11; Appendix D). There were three joining rim sherds (weighing 55.3g) of a jar or large bowl (ID3, ditch F01, context 4012); the rim of the vessel was everted and relatively upright, and may be a type similar Holbrook and Bidwell's type 8.1 jar (1991, 149), dating from the late 1st to 2nd century AD, or Young's reduced ware type R38 (2000, 220), dating from the 1st to 4th centuries AD, or oxidised bowl type O27 (2000, 195), dating from approximately AD240 to 400. The fabric (RE1, Table 11) is similar to that described by Holbrook and Bidwell for 'Fabric ware B' – a heavily gritted fabric with a 'pimply' surface (1991, 149). The remaining ten sherds of reduced wares were recovered from topsoil (context 1001); the sherds were all body sherds and heavily abraded, with a range of fabrics represented (Table 11).

9.5.4 A single body sherd (weighing 7.7g) of oxidised ware (ID4) was recovered from ditch F01, context 4012.

9.6 Pottery by feature

9.6.1 Pottery was recovered from three contexts in Trench 1 and one context in Trench 4 (Table 9). Near complete pots, albeit fragmentary, were recovered from a fill in gully F02 (ID5, a late 3rd to 4th century AD black-burnished ware jar) and a fill in gully F03



(ID1/6, a second late 3rd to 4th century AD black-burnished ware jar with joining sherds also recovered from topsoil (context 1001)). A Romano-British coarse ware jar rim was recovered from ditch F01 (context 4012). Given the proximity of multiple graves nearby (of uncertain date), the two black-burnished ware pots may have originally been deposited as grave goods in nearby burials during in late Roman period, which were disturbed at a later date and redeposited in gullies F02 and F03. The fragmentary remains of fine table wares, in Oxford Red-slipped fabric (*c.* AD240-400), were also recovered from gully F03 and topsoil.

9.7 Discussion and conclusions

9.7.1 There is relatively limited evidence for Roman period sites in the region of Cothelstone Farm. There are a range of Roman military sites, including a marching or temporary camp near Taunton (Norton Fitzwilliam), and a small fort at Nunnington Park, Wiveliscombe, Somerset (Webster 1958, approximately 11km to the west of the site. There were more substantial settlements during the Romano-British period further afield at Exeter, c. 46km to the south-west (an early Roman legionary fortress and later town (Holbrook and Bidwell 1991)), and the settlement at Bath, c. 65km to the north-east.

9.7.2 The overall pottery assemblage contained material potentially dating from the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (reported on in Section 8) and the Late Iron Age to late Roman periods, indicating human occupation at or close to the site for potentially for more than a millennium. A single handmade body sherd was recovered which may date to the Late Iron Age or Romano-British periods; this was residual and recovered from topsoil along with late Roman material. The Roman pottery assemblage was small, but it was possible to provide reliable dates (i.e. late 3rd to 4th century AD) for the two black-burnished ware jars (IDs 5 and 1/6).

9.7.3 The two black-burnished ware jars may have originally been deposited as goods in graves nearby. Vessels of this type were common throughout Britain (Gillam 1976, 65), with examples found in late 3rd to 4th century contexts at Exeter (Holbrook and Bidwell 1991, 104-5). There were sherds of fine, table ware, the sherds may be of a single vessel; these were produced in Oxfordshire, and were common at sites in the south of England from the middle of the 3rd to 4th centuries AD. The jar/bowl (ID3) may have been produced in the Exeter region, as the fabric has similarities with Holbrook and Bidwell's Fortress ware B (1991, 149). It was not possible to source many of the coarse ware fabrics. The pottery assemblage was too small for statistical comparisons with other sites in the region. The pottery vessels were likely originally used by low-status individuals living and working nearby in a long-lived rural settlement, with some vessels potentially reused as grave goods in the later Roman period.

9.7.4 The pottery sherds are in relatively poor condition, with evidence of post-depositional damage. This report and associated data should be integrated into any site-wide analysis or publication reporting and retained within the site archive. A basic archive catalogue of material is provided in Appendix D.

10 FIRED CLAY

Dr David G Griffiths

10.1 Introduction

10.1.1 Fragments of fired clay/daub and fired clay were recovered via hand collection during archaeological excavations at Cothelstone Farm, Somerset (NGR: ST 17901 31650), conducted by DigVentures in 2024 (CSF24). The excavations revealed a series of ditches and pits containing prehistoric handmade and Romano-British period pottery.

10.2 Results

10.2.1 In total, six fragments of fired clay/daub and one fragment of fired clay were recovered during the excavations (Table 12; Appendix E). All material was recovered from three fills of ring ditch 1024, Trench 1 (Appendix E). The basal fill (1025) of the ring ditch also contained prehistoric pottery (Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age), including the remains of three vessels which had been placed directly onto the base of the ditch. Radiocarbon dates correspond with the dates of the prehistoric pottery (see Section 8). The upper fills (1028) and (1029), where fragments fired clay/daub was found, also date to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age.

10.3 Fired clay or daub

10.3.1 Six fragments weighing 77.8g of fired clay or daub were recovered from two fills (1028) and (1029) in ring ditch 1024, Trench 1. While these fragments were orange-brown, there was no evidence of them being subjected to very high temperatures, such as vitrification of the clay or melted residues (as might result from metalworking); there was also no evidence of any finished surfaces. These fragments may be the remains of a hearth; however, they may also be daub, used in wattle-and-daub construction.

10.4 Fired clay

10.4.1 A single fragment of fired clay weighing 20.2g was recovered from the basal fill of ring ditch 1024, Trench 1. The fragment has two distinct colour layers, one of which is red-brown and has been subjected to high temperatures and direct heat; the other layer is pale brown and was presumably not in direct contact with heat. The clay fabric is mostly fine quartz sand with some large quartz, rock, and iron-rich inclusions. Three complete vessels dating to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age were also recovered from this deposit, along with charcoal.

10.5 Discussion

10.5.1 This was a small fired-clay assemblage, all of which was recovered from three fills of ring ditch 1024. The material was relatively undiagnostic, and it was not possible to infer what type of feature the material was original part of, and/or their function. The material provides limited information for site function or dating. There was no structural evidence associated with these fired clay finds, however, there was prehistoric pottery found in association with this material, which may suggest that it results from activity that took place around the same time.



11 LITHICS

Joshua Hogue

11.1 Introduction

11.1.1 In total, 59 worked flints, 1 burnt unworked flint, and 4 naturally broken/unmodified stones were recovered during excavations. None of the material could be confidently identified as being in situ and all were likely residual finds incorporated into later features. In amongst the assemblage were pieces characteristic of knapping strategies adopted in the Later Upper Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age.

11.2 Results

11.2.1 None of the flintwork appears to have been part of a single cohesive assemblage. Most of the assemblage had slight edge damage, characterised by isolated or small discontinuous nicks, consequently indicating that may have moved some distant from its original place of discard, albeit not necessarily particularly far.

11.2.2 There were distinct differences in the condition of the finds, with some flints exhibiting a slight patina, a slight speckling or 'milky' film on the surfaces, whilst others were heavily patinated with a distinctive white re-cortication entirely obscuring the colour of the flint. A distinction in the surface condition plausibly indicates that the flintwork had distinct depositional histories.

11.2.3 The raw materials were also relatively diverse, again suggesting a lack of coherency amongst the assemblage. A breakdown description of the raw materials is included in Table 15 of Appendix F. It includes a variety of flints and chert, diversity reflective of the heterogeneous lithologies available within the clay-with-flints accessible within the Wellington district, within the Wessex Basin, as well as quartz that outcrops in the bedrock geology (Scrivener et al. 2014).

11.2.4 The assemblage includes cores, debitage and retouched tools, indicating a diversity of activities from blank production to tool use, but due to the lack of chronological coherence amongst the assemblage it is not possible to more accurately describe the activities taking place during any given period. A description of the most characteristic elements of the assemblage is given below by trench, with further attribute data provided in the archive catalogue. It should be noted that although the handful of more diagnostic pieces dated to the Later Upper Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and/or Early Neolithic, most of the flintwork was generally more characteristic of knapping strategies adopted in the Later Neolithic and Bronze Age, with a high occurrence of features associated with the hard-hammer technique (e.g. bulb of percussion, no lip, hinged terminations).

11.3 Trench 1

11.3.1 A single platform core was recovered from (1029) of F01. It was conical in shape, had blade-like removals, and measured 30.7 x 32.9 x 22.2 mm. It was typo-technologically consistent with dating from the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic. An end-scraper on a broken blade was recovered from the same feature and was likely broadly contemporary in age. It measured 27.1 x 21. 3 x 4.7 mm. All three blades, two proximal



fragments and one distal fragment, recovered from the trench were also likely LUP, Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date. All were recovered from F01; however, one was more heavily patinated than the others and may indicate it was relatively old.

11.3.2 Most of the other material was less diagnostic, although there were some identifications that the assemblage also contained flints from the later Neolithic or Bronze Age. A retouched flake recovered from F01 and a retouched fragment from topsoil (1001), both had features commonly associated with hard-hammer percussion (e.g. pronounced bulb, hinged termination) and were broadly consistent with dating to Later Neolithic or Bronze Age. A bipolar flake was recovered from F10 and was indicative of bipolar reduction, a technique more typically associated with the Bronze Age, especially in the southwest, albeit not unknown in the LUP, Mesolithic or Neolithic (Ballin 2021, p.24).

11.4 Trench 2

11.4.1 A single undiagnostic flake fragment from topsoil was the only find recovered from Trench 2.

11.5 Trench 3

11.5.1 A leaf-shaped arrowhead was the only find of note in Trench 3. It was recovered from fill (3004) of F12. It had a slight break at the tip but was kite-shaped and classified as Green's type 2B. It measured 38.2 (45.5) x 22.9 x 5.4 mm. It was finely worked by invasive low sub-parallel retouch. It was more heavily patinated than most of the finds from the same feature, plausibly indicating that it was earlier in origin and had been later incorporated into the backfill of the feature. An age of c.2500-2000BC has been provided for this type of arrowhead (Green 1980), albeit others place these pieces within the later part of the Early Neolithic period (Ballin 2021, p. 27).

11.6 Trench 4

11.6.1 A curved backed point made on a plunging blade was recovered from fill (4012) of F01. It was of particular significance, likely dating from the Later Upper Palaeolithic (Ballin 2021, p.25). It was made on an opaque mid grey flint, distinct from the rest of the assemblage. It measured 47.1 x 11.4 x 12.3 mm.

11.7 Discussion

11.7.1 The lithic assemblage recovered during excavations represents a diverse collection of materials and techniques spanning multiple prehistoric periods, with notable evidence of activity from the Later Upper Palaeolithic/Mesolithic to the Neolithic and Bronze Age. Despite the lack of stratigraphic integrity and the residual nature of many finds, the assemblage provides some insights into past human activity in the region. However, the lack of cohesive chronological or functional context limits the scope for more precise interpretation.

11.7.2 The assemblage is characterized by a mixture of diagnostic and undiagnostic flintwork, including cores, blades, debitage, and retouched tools. The diagnostic elements span a wide temporal range.

11.7.3 Later Upper Palaeolithic/Mesolithic/Early Neolithic: The conical core and end-scraper from Trench 1, along with blade fragments, suggest activity dating to this period. The curved-backed point from Trench 4 is particularly significant, typologically associated with the Later Upper Palaeolithic.

11.7.4 Neolithic/Bronze Age: The recovery of retouched flakes and fragments, some with features associated with hard-hammer percussion, suggests activity during the later Neolithic/Bronze Age, though these finds are less temporally specific. A leaf-shaped arrowhead from Trench 3 classified as Green's type 2B, reflects a formalized knapping tradition and may date to c.2500–2000 BC, though alternative interpretations place such tools within the later part of the Early Neolithic. A bipolar flake from Trench 1 is most likely indicative of Early Bronze Age reduction strategies.

11.7.5 The chronological range and diversity of the assemblage suggest sporadic, low-intensity activity at the site, with material deposited through a combination of primary and secondary processes. The residual nature of the assemblage complicates attempts to ascribe specific activities to any given period. The absence of clear stratigraphic integrity and the mixed depositional histories of the finds limit the interpretative value of the material.

12 REGISTERED FINDS

Dot Boughton and Richard Henry

12.1 Introduction

12.1.1 The registered finds that were not pottery were sent for assessment with Dot Boughton and then for further analysis with Richard Henry. This chapter combines both these reports into one.

12.1.2 A small assemblage of one ceramic and four iron registered finds (SFs) was recovered during the excavations. The iron and ceramic single finds (SF1, SF2, SF4, SF5, and SF6) were hand-collected from three contexts (4006), (4012), and (4017) on-site during the excavation (Table 17). The assessment of the five objects includes a discussion of their individual identification and date of production/use as well as an assessment of significance and recommendations for any further work.

12.1.3 The iron and ceramic small finds assemblage from Cothelstone Farm is made up of one ceramic object (SF2) and four iron objects (SF1, SF4, SF5 and SF6). The character of the assemblage can tentatively be identified as either intentional deposition or accidental loss. The ceramic object (SF2) is a spindle whorl of likely Late Iron Age/early Romano-British date which was discovered in the silting fill of a ditch and may have been an accidental loss whilst the iron objects – likely three knives and an awl or other tanged implement (SF1, SF4, SF5, and SF6) – were found in what has been interpreted by the excavators as shallow remnants of grave cuts. The preliminary report by DigVentures indicates that skeletal material recovery was extremely poor across much of the site; hence the lack of skeletal material in what was interpreted as graves.

12.1.4 The artefactual remains discussed in this assessment can be provisionally dated to the Late Iron Age/Romano-British or very early post-Roman period, likely 1st-5th centuries



AD. The ceramic spindle whorl (SF2) is probably the oldest object, likely dating from the Late Iron Age, when ceramic spindle whorls were most common. During the Roman period, spindle whorls were predominantly made from reused broken pottery fragments (amongst a small number of whorls made from other materials such as amber) whilst early medieval Anglo-Saxon whorls were usually made from natural materials: stone, bone, chalk, or rarely, amber or quartz.

12.1.5 The four iron objects are identified as knives; there was one fragmentary iron object (SF6) which was identified by the excavators as shroud pin, but identification as a small tool, perhaps an awl, or the tang of another knife seems more appropriate. Iron knives and knife blades are notoriously difficult to date: their shape and size did not change much from the Iron Age to the medieval period and often they can only be dated via their handles (material, shape and decoration). However, in this case, none of the handles have survived. The blades are in good condition, having been conserved prior to assessment.

12.2 Results

12.2.1 Four iron objects (SF1, SF4, SF5, SF6) and one ceramic object (SF2) were submitted for assessment. They all survive in fair to good condition; the iron finds were professionally conserved prior to assessment. However, SF4 and SF5 have broken into two and three fragments respectively with remnants of glue on the surfaces of the breaks. It is unclear if the breaks occurred before, during or after conservation. Even though conserved, the awl or tang fragment (SF6) survives in flaky condition with two slivers of ferrous material already flaked off the surface: it will need further conservation treatment. The ceramic object (SF2) is sturdy and survives without fragmentation or damage.

Ceramic (SF2)

12.2.2 The ceramic object was found in the middle silting fill of the ditch that sat above slumping fills which the excavators postulated had started forming after the nearby ring ditch went out of use. The object is a spindle whorl with a diameter of 37.5mm and a thickness/height of 20mm. It is generally of oval shape with one face slightly flattened, giving that side a slightly more conical shape. The central aperture has a diameter of 6mm. The distaff does not survive. Distaffs are often made from bone, wood or iron and rarely survive in the archaeological record (Owen-Crocker 2010, 274-275).

12.2.3 The shape and size of the spindle whorl from Cothelstone Farm strongly suggest that it is a spindle whorl of Walton Rogers Type B2 or D2 dating from the Iron Age to the early medieval period (Walton Rogers 2007, Fig 2.18). Walton Rogers suggests that amongst early medieval spindle whorls ceramic specimens are more common in the earlier Anglo-Saxon period rather than the later anglo-Saxon or middle Saxon periods (Walton Rogers 2007, 25). Furthermore she argues that amongst the clay or ceramic spindle whorls those with a central aperture of 6mm or less are much more common in the Roman period and pre-Roman Iron Age (Walton Rogers 2077, 24) making it likely for the spindle whorl from Cothelstone Farm to predate the 5th century.

12.2.4 Baked clay or ceramic spindle whorls are more common than whorls made from other materials in the Iron Age of South West Britain (Cunliffe 2005, 453, 485-487, fig. 18.1) strongly suggesting that the spindle whorl found at Cothelstone Farm predates the Roman and post-Roman features and was a residual find most likely dating from the Later Iron Age. Generally, Roman ceramic or baked clay spindle whorls were fabricated from reused broken ceramic sherds rather than being made separately – they are known to have been made using most known Roman fabrics (Samian, Black-Burnished, colour-coated ware or amphorae) (Crummy 1987, 67). Furthermore, Owen-Crocker argues that the spindle whorls of the conversion period were usually made from natural materials such as stone, bone, chalk or, rarely, amber or quartz (Owen-Crocker 2007, 274-275; Walton Rogers in: Parfitt and Anderson 1988, 144-145). Thus, on the basis of probability, the ceramic spindle whorl from Cothelstone Farm was most likely residual, dating to the pre-Roman Later Iron Age.

Further analysis

12.2.5 A ceramic spindle whorl which is broadly oval in plan and broadly D shaped in cross section with one face slightly flattened (this is likely the top face). The perforation tapers from 6mm to 4mm narrowing towards the top and has been created by inserting an object from the bottom face. The distaff is missing.

12.2.6 As has been noted by Broughton (above paragraph 12.2.2) the spindle whorl is likely to be a Walton Rogers type B2 or D2 that dates from the Iron Age to the early-medieval period (Walton Rogers, 2007, Figure 2.18). The method of manufacture, diameter of the aperture to affix to the distaff and material suggests the spindle whorl was likely to have been produced in the late Iron Age or Early Roman period.

12.2.7 The spindle whorl was recovered from a ring ditch that had a number of basal and slumping gills followed by homogenous silting that represented gradual filling of the ditch over time. The object was recovered from (4012) which is the first of these silting fills. The site narrative notes that the second silting layer (4011) included Roman pottery supporting the suggestion of a late Iron Age or early Roman date for the manufacture of this object.

Iron (SF1, SF4, SF5, SF6)

12.2.8 Amongst the small finds assemblage from Cothelstone Farm were also four iron objects: three knives (SF1, SF4, SF5) and one iron fragment which has been identified by the excavators as a 'shroud pin' but may in actual fact be better identified either as a small tool (an awl) or the tang of a fourth knife. It has a flat rectangular cross section very similar in shape to the tangs on the other knives whereas cloth/shroud, clothes or hair pins generally have a circular cross section to avoid snagging and damaging or tearing the weave of the cloth.

12.2.9 The awl/tang (SF6) was found in the same context as SF4 and SF5: 4017, a feature which the excavators postulated is a grave. SF4 and SF5 are most certainly small knives used in the kitchen or during food preparation or consumption. This is also true for SF 1 from context 4006 which was recovered from a single event backfill material. SF4 and SF5 were discovered in the middle section of the hollow, suggesting that if they were part of a grave assemblage, they would have been attached to a belt or girdle.



However, without any skeletal or other organic remains present, the identification of the feature must remain speculative. It would be highly unusual – though not impossible by all means – to find a number of graves without grave goods or clothes attachments (brooches, buckles, pins or strap fittings) but with iron knives still attached to a woven or plaited girdle (unlikely a belt as no belt attachments were found). The knives were certainly not types of early medieval seax: generally, even the narrow seax is defined as having a blade longer than 174mm and a blade wider than 20mm (Bayliss, A. et al 2013, 194-195; see also West 1998, fig. 8.1).

12.2.10 The knives from Cothelstone Farm are 100mm, 130mm and 180mm in length respectively, but this is their entire length (blade and tang), not just the blade length. Furthermore, the shape and outline of the iron knives from Cothelstone Farm does not match any of the smaller seax types discussed by Bayliss et al (2013, figs. 5.119-5.121), making their identification as small knives for food production or consumption more likely than their identification as a seax or bladed weapon: they were too small to be effective weapons in combat. However, iron knives are very common finds in graves and other features from the Roman to the medieval period: in Anglo-Saxon graves they are slightly more common in male than female graves, but it is rare to find assemblages with two or more knives: it was most common to be buried with one small knife in the 6th-7th century AD (Bayliss et al 2013, 228). Small iron knives with more or less angled or rounded backs or angled tips are known from both Roman and (early) medieval contexts (Manning 1976, fig. 21, 121-6; Manning 1985, Plates 53-55; West 1998, figs. 78.11 and 79.1). Single finds of iron knives are difficult to date more precisely without other body accessories or grave goods, but generally, a late Roman or early post-Roman date for the knives from Cothelstone Farm is put forward in this assessment.

Further analysis – the knives (SF1, SF4, and SF5)

12.2.11 The three utilitarian knives are of a common form with relatively long blades with a straight back set slightly above the tang and an almost straight edge, which is stepped down from the tang and which slopes up at its end to meet the back in a pointed tip. The main typology for the Roman period was developed by William Manning, these examples appear to be Type 15 which are the most common knife type. In x-ray K24/66 the tip of the blade appears more angled than in K24/65 which might suggest a Type 17. The utilitarian nature of these objects is problematic in this instance as very similar examples to both Roman types also occur in the early-medieval period (Cf Babb, 1998, no. 51-54).

12.2.12 It is unfortunate that the human remains from the burials do not survive due to the acidic soils. The selection of graves goods allows for some tentative discussions on the potential date of the burials. Knives have been recovered from Roman and post-Roman burials in Britain. The absence of other goods such as buckles and other belt fittings or brooches suggests a late Roman date is less likely but this date cannot be discounted.

12.2.13 Assigning a date for the burials based on knives alone will always be problematic as they are a utilitarian item and a range of forms were deposited as grave goods at the extensive urban cemetery at Lankhills in Winchester, the vast majority of knives were deposited as part of a wider suite of graves goods which predominantly consist of

form of knife regularly seen is distinctive with a wider more oval blade (Clarke, 1979; Booth et al., 2010 such as Grave 1175; Cool, 2010). Further forms which fall into William Manning's typology of domestic knives include a Manning type 14 knife (from grave 1760) and a type 16 (from grave 1310).

12.2.14 758 graves were excavated at Lankhills by the Winchester Excavation Committee and subsequently by Oxford Archaeology. Of the many often elaborately furnished burials, only four had only a knife as the single grave good (Grave 1760 and 1805 from the Oxford Archaeology excavations as well as Grave 349 and Grave 418 from the Winchester Excavation Committee excavations). Knives tend to be part of a wider suite of material including late Roman belt fittings.

12.2.15 Ironwork, particularly Manning 1b nails, are a ubiquitous find from excavations of Roman sites across Britain. In the later fourth century the evidence suggests that the supply of raw materials is decreasing, and we see greater evidence of recycling and more selective disposal of ironwork archaeologically even in London and at the Saxon shore fort of Richborough (Rhodes, 1991; Fleming, 2012; Henry, 2020). At sites such as Poundbury which had a significant fourth and early fifth century cemetery ironwork becomes much scarcer in the fifth century and the prominence or importance of these objects arguably increases (Farwell and Molleson, 1993; Sparey-Green, 1996).

12.2.16 In this setting the selection of knives as the only form of grave good has a greater prominence in the post-Roman period. We have a limited number of potential parallels for cemeteries in the fifth and sixth centuries in the region but include Bradley Hill (Leech et al., 1981; Gerrard, 2005), Stoneage Barton Farm (Webster and Brunning, 2004) and Lamyatt Beacon (Leech, 1986) all in Somerset. These cemeteries do not have knives as recorded grave goods, but single knives do occur in post-Roman burials further afield include a number published by Babb (1998) from Buckinghamshire.

Further analysis – Knife tang / awl (SF6)

12.2.17 This iron fragment was identified as a potential shroud pin on site and a potential knife tang or awl by Broughton (2024) who noted that it was found in the same grave as SF4 and SF5. The tang of SF4 is missing, little further discussion can be added but it has potential to be the tang of SF4.

12.3 Discussion

12.3.1 Based on what can currently be observed, the iron objects are not strongly identifiable, but likely identification can be put forward based on their size, shape, occurrence of rivet holes and information gleaned from excavation report provided. Whilst the spindle whorl most likely dates from the Later Iron Age, the iron knives were probably late Roman, transitional or very early medieval in date, probably c5th century. However, determining their exact dating and date of deposition is difficult due to the lack of other datable finds (organic and inorganic) and skeletal material from the site in general and their contexts in particular. Nevertheless, if they are part of the local post Roman-to-early medieval transitional period, their archaeological potential is considerate and should be investigated further. It is likely that the contexts at Cothelstone Farm are comparable to (and can be interpreted similarly) to the later prehistoric and Roman-British sites at Fosse Way and Cannards Grave, both Shepton

Mallet, and Bradley Hill, Somerset, were similar less well-furnished graves and contexts were discovered (Birbeck, V. 2000; Moscrop 2001, Gerrard 2004).

13 ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS

13.1 Flotation

Introduction

13.1.1 Eleven bulk environmental samples (140 litres of sediment in total) were taken during the excavations. All eleven samples yielded flots, which were sorted and assessed in September 2024. This report presents the results of sample processing, including a list of items recovered from the heavy fractions and an assessment of environmental remains recovered from the heavy fractions, light fractions and handpicked material micro excavated from a complete ceramic vessel.

13.1.2 A range of artefactual, faunal and environmental remains were present in the residues and flots derived from the soil samples, as summarised in Table 18. Material from residues is presented in Table 19, and that present in flots is detailed in Table 20.

Results

Charred plant remains

13.1.3 In total, 4 charred plant remains were recovered from flots (Table 20). Context 1025 and Samples 21, 23 and 26 yielded single indeterminate cereal grains (Cerealia indet.). A single charred indeterminate rachis segment was recovered from Sample 23. The single charred grains recovered from Samples 21 and 26 can be tentatively identified as ?oat (cf. *Avena* sp.) and ?wheat (cf. *Triticum* sp.) (Table 21). Four fragments of charred hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell were recovered from Sample 23 (Table 21).

Uncharred plant remains

13.1.4 Six uncharred plant remains were recovered from Context 1025 and Samples 23 and 26 (Table 20). The list of plant remains from this sample was sparse and included weedy vegetation, fat hen (n=3 *Chenopodium album*) and grasses (n=3 Poaceae) (Table 21).

Charcoal

13.1.5 A total of 790 fragments of charcoal (measuring >2mm) weighing 101.11g were recovered from the heavy residues, flots and handpicked material (Table 22). These were recovered from Contexts 4012, 1025, 1028 and 1026, and Sample 23 from the heavy residues; and Contexts 1025 and 1027, and Samples 21, 23 and 26 from the flots and handpicked material. The >2mm charcoal will allow for surface breakage to consider species identification and therefore may be considered as potential samples for radiocarbon dating, if required. Several roundwood fragments were present in the charcoal assemblage that are most suitable for submission.

13.1.6 Microcharcoal measuring <2mm was present in flots from all contexts and from the handpicked material (Sample 26; abundance, e). The microcharcoal fragments were abraded, in poor condition and not of sufficient size for wood species identification, therefore none of the microcharcoal is suitable for radiocarbon dating.

Discussion

13.1.7 The fills from a ring ditch in Trench 1 (1025, 1026, 1027 and 1028) contained charcoal and a single charred, indeterminate cereal grain that may be interpreted as being derived from a domestic context, with the assemblage accumulating, or being discarded in the ditch. Two seeds and a single floret identified as belonging to the family of grasses (Poaceae) and a single fat hen seed (*Chenopodium album*) were also recovered from these contexts, which may be modern inclusions. The charcoal and single charred grain are suitable for radiocarbon dating; however, there remains the possibility that the material is residual.

13.1.8 The fills from a ring ditch in Trench 4 (4012, 4019 and 4029) contained comminute and small fragments of charcoal that was in poor condition. The material had abraded edges, suggesting there has been some post-depositional movement.

13.1.9 Sample 21 contained comminute and small fragments of poorly preserved charcoal along with some larger fragments (>2mm), which may represent discarded domestic waste. A single charred cereal grain, possibly ?oat (cf. *Avena* sp.) was also present in Sample 21; however, its preservation was poor due to charring and the grain could not be confidently identified.

13.1.10 Sample 23 contained an accumulation of domestic waste including charcoal, a single charred grain and 4 fragments of charred hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell. A single weed seed (likely a modern inclusion) identified as fat hen (*Chenopodium album*) was also present. The single charred grain and fragments of hazelnut shell provide limited information regarding the past use of the site and human diet due to the paucity of material.

13.1.11 A similar assemblage was recovered from the flot of Sample 26, which represented material micro excavated from a complete vessel. The flot included comminute and small fragments of poorly preserved charcoal, along with larger fragments of charcoal (>2mm) and a single charred cereal grain. The preservation of the cereal grain was poor due to charring and has been tentatively identified as ?wheat (cf. *Triticum* sp.). This assemblage of material is indicative of discarded domestic waste.

Conclusions

13.1.12 The overall preservation of the archaeobotanical remains was fair/poor. The >2mm charcoal from Contexts 1025 and 1027, and Samples 21, 23 and 26; and the charred cereal grains from Context 1025 and Sample 21, 23 and 26 has the potential to provide sufficient material for radiocarbon dating should this be desirable; however, the condition of the remains suggests there may have been some post-depositional movement, and the material may exhibit a degree of residuality. The presence of charcoal suggests that burning activities were taking place at, or in the vicinity of, the site such as domestic hearths. Wood species identification may contribute to an

understanding of tree species accessible, and exploited by the community that once occupied the site.

13.1.13 In terms of plants cultivated for food or other purposes, the assemblage contained only sparce evidence. Cultivated cereal species included ?oat (n=1 cf. Avena sp.), ?wheat (n=1 *Triticum* sp.) and a fragmentary indeterminate grain (n=1). The recovery of single grains from a context that is as yet undated, precludes further interpretation. Gathered food items included hazelnuts, a common source of food throughout history.

13.1.14 The presence of uncharred seeds belonging to weed/wildflower and grasses are indicative of cultivated and open grassland environments at, or in the vicinity of the site in more recent times. The material was most likely introduced into these contexts by bioturbation, further suggested by the presence of modern roots in all sampled contexts.

13.2 Charcoal

Introduction

13.2.1 Wood charcoal (1080 fragments weighing 76.1g) and three fragments of charred hazelnut shell were recovered from eight bulk environmental samples taken during the excavation. This section includes quantification of the assemblage recovered with identification at species level where possible, and an assessment of significance.

Results

13.2.2 Wood charcoal (1080 fragments weighing 76.1g) and three fragments of charred hazelnut shell were recovered from eight bulk environmental samples (Table 23). One hundred and twenty fragments of charcoal were fractured to attempt woods species identification, of which 74 were identified, Table 24.

13.2.3 A maximum of seven possible species or groups of wood charcoal were identified, with common hazel (*Corylus avellana*) being the most frequently represented species within the wood charcoal as well as the charred remains of hazelnut shell being recovered, Table 24. Wood charcoal from willow (*Salix* sp.) or poplar (*Populus* sp.) could not be differentiated due to the similarities in their microscopic structures, but wood from one or both of these trees formed the second most frequently identified group, Table 24. Nine fragments were identified as oak (*Quercus* sp.), seven as one or more trees of the *Prunus* genus (plum/cherry genus), two as English ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), one as birch (*Betula* sp.) and one as possible common elder (*Sambucus nigra*). Both heart wood and round wood were present, with roundwood being most common.

13.2.4 Preservation was variable between the samples, with material from the ring ditch (F01, contexts 1025, 1026, 1027, 1028 and 4012) being especially fragile and, on occasion, crumbling when fracturing for identification was attempted; wood charcoal from these contexts was also affected by iron-rich burial conditions with oxidised residues occurring internally affecting attempts to identify wood species.

13.2.5 Roundwood charcoal suitable for radiocarbon dating was present in all samples except that from context 1027, Table 23. The abundance of roundwood indicates that smaller

branches and twigs formed a large proportion of the wood burned and subsequently preserved as charcoal at the site. These types of remains may result from the use of small branches and wigs as kindling, the burning of old wattle

Ring ditch F01

13.2.6 All of the wood charcoal was recovered from fills of a ring ditch (F01), contexts (1025), (1026), (1027), and (1028) in Trench 1 and context (4012) in Trench 4; samples <21> and <26> were the fills of two Late Bronze Age pots recovered from context 1025, SF10 and SF11, respectively, Table 23. The lower fills of this feature appear to represent activity in the later prehistoric period based on Late Bronze Age pottery and Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age radiocarbon dates (contexts 1025 and 1026), while the upper fills contain pottery dating to the Roman period (contexts 4012).

Discussion

13.2.7 The charcoal from the two lower fill of the ring ditch (context 1025 and 1026) as well as that from inside the late Bronze Age ceramic vessel from context 1025 is likely associated with later prehistoric period activity in the Late Bronze Age and/or Early Iron Age. The species recorded in these contexts are consistent with those expected resulting from activity during these periods, with hazel and oak being particularly common in wood charcoal and waterlogged wood assemblages dated to these time periods (Smith 2002, 23).

13.2.8 All of the seven groups identified have been recorded previously within charcoal and/or waterlogged wood assemblages for this time period (op. cit.), and represent species considered native to the British Isles. The abundance of roundwood indicates that smaller branches and twigs formed a large proportion of the wood burned and subsequently preserved as charcoal at the site. These types of remains may result from the use of small branches and twigs as kindling, or perhaps the burning of old wattle, which would be consistent with the high frequency of hazel and willow/poplar identified as species well suited to weaving.

13.2.9 The charred hazelnut shells could result from a range of activities and/or processes. The hazelnut fruit of the common hazel could have been collected whilst still attached to branches and become burnt through incidental inclusion with firewood; if this could be confirmed this would provide evidence for season of activity at the site as hazelnuts would only be ripe on the tree in late summer. However, it would be impossible to confirm that this was the case, and the shells could easily result from human collection, consumption and discard of the inedible shell in fires as a means of disposal or could have become burnt as a result of drying accidents as people prepared the nuts for longer-term storage. Alongside hazel being the most frequently recorded species within the wood charcoal assemblage the hazelnut shells support their being hazel dominated woodland at or close to the site during the later-prehistoric period

13.2.10 The species recorded in the charcoal from the lower fills of the ring ditch are broadly consistent with those recovered from the upper fills, suggesting some continuity in the species of trees growing locally. Again, the species recorded in the contexts with Roman pottery are as expected for the Roman period in Britain (Smith 2002), including other sites in Somerset (e.g., Metcalfe and Levy 1977; Metcalfe and Richardson 1977).



13.2.11 The charcoal recovered from Cothelstone Farm provides an insight into wood use and the woodland environment within the vicinity of the site during the later prehistoric and Roman periods. The data recorded for charcoal from later prehistoric contexts is sufficient to allow comparison with that recovered from contemporary sites within the region and ring ditch sites nationally.

Further discussion

Nat Jackson

13.2.12 Within the charcoal assessment (above Section 13.2.1-9) it was recommended that further work be carried out on the specific use of different wood types seen in the assemblage and to place them in their wider chronological and geographic context. The most prevalent species identified at Cothelstone and over half the identifiable assemblage was common hazel and hazelnut shell. The hazel may be indicative of managed woodland (Smith 2002, p23). Coppiced hazel was used for wattle in wattle and daub structures, and basket weaving. The second most common wood seen in the charcoal assemblage was poplar/willow. This again would have been used for construction.

13.2.13 Oak was recovered from the basal fill of the ditch F01 (1025) and from samples recovered from pot fills of SF10 and SF11. It is likely that the oak was being brought in specifically for ritual use. Oak found in a cemetery ditch at Cowleaze, Dorset, was linked to the barrow 'structure and cremation ritual at the time of the cemetery usage' (Carruthers and Thomas, 1991, 114). This may also be the case at Cothelstone. The other wood species recovered are indicative of a scrubbier environment rather than dense woodland, this may be due to increased deforestation and farming by the Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age periods.

13.3 Pollen

Introduction

13.3.1 A total of three samples were submitted by DigVentures for pollen assessment. The three samples derived from a ring ditch feature [1024] excavated in Trench 1, in which artefacts including pottery, charcoal and fragments of burnt bone were encountered towards the base of the feature. Sampling focussed on sedimentary deposits surrounding a number of pots, including SF8, that were believed to have been intentionally placed on the base of the ditch not long after it was first opened. At the time of writing, it was believed that a single sample was taken from the sediments that surrounded the pottery (1025), in addition to further samples from sediments overlying the deposit (1026 and 1028), which were believed to be associated with a series of silting and tipping fills that took place after the pots have been placed within the ditch. With regards the chronology of the archaeological features, the pottery has been tentatively dated on site as Romano-British and as such it is assumed the ring ditch feature also dates to this period.

13.3.2 Provisional pollen assessments were commissioned in order to evaluate whether pollen is preserved in sufficient abundance and diversity within the samples. If so, the



assessment will infer whether the pollen assemblages can inform landscape conditions that prevailed during the development of the sedimentary archives.

Results

13.3.3 In relation to the contexts under provisional palynological assessment, pollen preservation was found to be very poor in all samples under consideration, whilst pollen abundance and diversity was similarly low in all samples. A summary of the pollen and spores encountered within each of the three samples is summarised in Table 26. Due to the relatively restricted nature of the assemblages encountered, brief summaries of the assemblages encountered will be provided below.

(1025)

13.3.4 The sample derived from the deposits surrounding the pottery remains contained a very restricted assemblage, with only eight pollen grains in total being encountered during the assessment. These were restricted to occasional grains derived from herbs and shrubs, with no tree pollen encountered. The pollen present included occasional grains of Lactuceae (e.g. dandelions), *Corylus-Myrica* type (hazel or sweetgale) and isolated grains of Cyperaceae (sedges) and Poaceae (wild grasses). Aquatic pollen was absent from the sample. Spores were relatively common within the sample, with *Pteropsida* (monolete) *undif.* (ferns) most frequently encountered, in addition to occasional spores of *Polypodium* (polypody) and *Peridium* (bracken).

13.3.5 Supporting microfossil information was restricted. Charcoal appeared to be present in abundance, whilst the majority of grains displayed evidence of surface corrosion to suggest post-depositional alteration of the pollen archive. Grains were also often crumpled, whilst many of the spores of *Pteropsida* (monolete) *undif.* were broken; such preservation features may allude to taphonomic issues, such as transportation into the depositional setting.

(1026)

13.3.6 The sample derived from the lowermost stratigraphic units that overlay the pottery within Trench 1 contained a similarly restricted assemblage, with only 16 pollen grains in total being encountered during the assessment. These were predominantly species of herbs, with a slightly greater floral diversity than that encountered within (1025). The assemblage included occasional grains of Poaceae, Cyperaceae, Lactuceae and *Sambucus* type (e.g. elderberry). In addition, isolated grains of Poaceae (>37µm) (grasses with grain diameters exceeding 37microns), Asteraceae undif (e.g. daisies), Cirsium type (thistles), Caryophyllaceae (e.g. pinks) and *Plantago* undif. (plantains) were present. A single grain of *Corylus-Myrica* type was also observed. Aquatics are once again absent, whilst a more restricted spore assemblage was present, including occasional spores of Pteropsida (monolete) *undif.*, *Polypodium* and *Peridium*.

13.3.7 Supporting microfossil information was once again restricted. Charcoal appeared relatively abundant, whilst the majority of grains displayed evidence of surface corrosion to suggest post-depositional alteration of the pollen archive. Grains were also often crumpled, which may allude to taphonomic issues, such as transportation into the depositional setting.



(1028)

13.3.8 The sample derived from one of the uppermost stratigraphic units under investigation yielded a similarly restricted assemblage, with only 16 pollen grains in total being encountered during the assessment. These were predominantly species of herbs, with a single grain of *Betula* (birch) also encountered. The herbs present were typified by Poaceae, including occasional grains of Poaceae (>37µm), Cyperaceae and a single grain of Lactuceae. Aquatics are once again absent, whilst only occasional spores were present, including *Pteropsida* (monolete) *undif.*, *Peridium* and a single spore of Sphagnum (moss).

13.3.9 Supporting microfossil information was limited. Charcoal once again appeared relatively abundant, and isolated ascospores of *Podospora* sp (HdV368) and testate amoebae were also encountered. Grains once again displayed evidence of surface corrosion to suggest post-depositional alteration of the pollen archive. Grains were also often crumpled, which may allude to taphonomic issues, such as transportation into the depositional setting.

Discussion

13.3.10 The following comments are based on assessment level pollen counts and as a result, any provisional interpretations must be treated with caution. For interpretations to be deemed reliable, full analysis would be required. However, the overall very restricted assemblages observed throughout the three samples derived from ring ditch [1024] would suggest such further analyses would not be of palaeoenvironmental value.

13.3.11 The overall absence of pollen within the selected samples, combined with the poor level of preservation (evidenced through of grain/spore surface corrosion, crumpling or fragmentation), suggests the biochemical and mechanical alteration of the pollen archive and as such it is highly likely that, if pollen was indeed present within the archive during the development of the various contexts, much of the pollen has since been destroyed through post-depositional processes. Biochemical alteration (indicated through grain/spore corrosion) suggests in-situ degradation of the archive, whilst the crumpling and/or fragmentary nature of some of the grains and spores would suggest some level of transportation prior to deposition within the ditch feature. This understandably makes any interpretations of such a limited set of assemblages tenuous at best.

13.3.12 The majority of grains encountered are derived from herbs, which may suggest an open landscape at the time of deposition (assuming the assemblage is indeed a fair reflection of the original pollen archive). Isolated large wild grasses were occasionally encountered, which could be grains of cereal pollen. However, the level of crumpling hinders any grain dimensions from being reliably measured to confirm this interpretation. Isolated ascospores of Podosira sp were encountered within the uppermost sample (1028), which are coprophilous fungi often believed to relate to the presence of herbivore dung.



14 PUBLIC IMPACT

Anna van Nostrand

14.1 Introduction

14.1.1 This section details the social impact of the community excavations at Cothlestone Farm delivered by DigVentures on behalf of the Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme (QLPS) for project participants and visitors over three weeks from 25 May to 9 June 2024. DigVentures defines social impact as a measure of the positive and negative primary and secondary long-term effects produced by the programme, whether directly or indirectly, intended or unintended, over and above what would have happened in the absence of the project initiative. Results were analysed using a bespoke social impact methodology, drawing on DigVentures' Theory of Change and Standards of Evidence framework (Wilkins 2019; 77; Wilkins 2019: 30).

14.1.2 Public engagement was integral to the aims of the QLPS project and the community dig, guided site tours and finds laboratory sessions were designed by DigVentures to meet the aim to 'increase the capacity and skills of the volunteer base working in the area and to give more, and more diverse people opportunities to contribute' (Landscape Conservation Action Plan; Part 1: 7) through.

While the Quantock Hills AONB and parishes that make up the LPS are relatively affluent, a high proportion of areas in the surrounding towns fall into the 30% most deprived areas in England with four areas in the towns of Taunton and Bridgwater falling into the top 10% most deprived (Landscape Conservation Action Plan; Part 1: 65-7). The project therefore presented an opportunity to help address some of the social and educational needs of the surrounding communities, based on the principle that archaeology can do so much more than answer a planning brief: it can transform lives and communities and provide the kind of public support that underpins positive, sustainable growth (Wilkins 2020: 33).

14.2 Public programming

14.2.1 A carefully designed programme of public participation was planned for the course of the three-week project, creating different levels of engagement for adults and young people. Participation and training of participants in the trench and the finds room were serviced to National Occupational Standards.

- Excavation training for adults (24th May until 9th June) – 59 participants
- Finds room training for adults (4th 5th 8th and 9th June) – 12 participants
- Guided tours on (8th June) – 41 bookings
- Three 'DigCamps' for children (aged 6-11) and parents (26th and 29th May, 10th June) – 30 participants
- 'DigClub' for teenagers (aged 12-16) and parents (31st May) – 11 participants
- Two Young Archaeologist Club sessions (6th June) - 20 participants
- Digital engagement strategy for participants

14.3 Digital engagement strategy

14.3.1 DigVentures' digital engagement strategy for the excavation was designed to keep its core audience up to date and provide opportunities to get a detailed look at what was happening on site. This was achieved through regular progress updates by email, and a 'live blog' on the Dig Timeline https://digventures.com/projects/cothelstone-farm/timeline/. Updates on the the DigVentures live feed, the Cothlestone Farm Community Excavation live feed and the Cothlestone Farm Community Excavation project page were viewed a total of 1,962 times during the time the excavation was promoted to the public.

14.3.2 The excavation was covered by BBC Somerset both as a radio piece and in an article: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c988n19q0pjo. The project was also featured during an edition of the BBC Points West regional television news show, with reporters visiting site to capture a recorded piece.

14.3.3 Whilst these results demonstrate a public appetite for the Cothelstone excavation, any evaluation of social impact needs to go beyond a list of output numbers of participants and visitors (Gould 2016). DigVentures has developed a bespoke evaluation methodology for measuring the social impact of public archaeology programmes and this is discussed in specific relation to this project below.

14.4 Evaluation methodology

14.4.1 DigVentures have developed a methodology for measuring the social impact of archaeology programmes for participants, pictured as a Theory of Change detailing outputs, outcomes and impacts (Figure 33). In this framework, social impact can be conceived as the difference that activities make to people's lives over and above what would have happened in the absence of that initiative. Outputs are a measurable unit of product or service, such as a community excavation; outcomes are an observable change for individuals or communities, such as acquiring skills or knowledge. Impact is therefore the effect on outcomes attributable to the output, measured against two metrics: scale, or breadth of people reached; and depth, or the importance of this impact on their lives.

14.4.2 The credibility of a Theory of Change rests on the level of certainty that organisational activities are the cause of this change. In order for this certainty to be achieved, the correct data must be collected to isolate the impact to the intervention. The DV Theory of Change is therefore linked to a Standards of Evidence framework designed to articulate and highlight the causal links between activity and change (Figure 32). These tools are then used to create an evaluation table linking activities, outputs, outcomes and evidence base.

14.4.3 In support of this overarching methodology, slightly different data collection strategies were undertaken for excavation participants and site tour audiences; all adult participants complete a questionnaire as part of the booking process (100% completion rate or 77 in total) and then participants are interviewed on-site about their experience (75% completion rate, or 58 in total). Data for Dig Club and Dig Camp participants who are minors consist of age group, student status (100% completion rate or 25 in total) and on-site experience survey (52% or 13 in total). Tour audiences

only complete the booking questionnaire (100% completion rate, or 41 in total). The age, pronouns and professional background of participants were derived through digital analytics, with categories derived from the Office for National Statistics, followed by more in-depth analysis designed to reveal 'whether or not people will have learnt about heritage, developed skills, changed their attitudes and/or behaviour, and had an enjoyable experience'. Questionnaires combined closed-end questions easily convertible to statistical data (usually attitudinal questions) and open-ended questions designed to elicit extended responses which were then coded for statistical analysis or otherwise consolidated in order to address the observable implications. The social impact results for both groups are discussed in turn below, with evidence organised according to the specific social outcome that activities were designed to achieve. Due to the format of the activities and the fact that the Young Archaeologists Club bookings were made through their group leader, participant information for the YAC groups is limited to participant numbers.

14.5 Social impact – in-person participants

14.5.1 The focus of the community excavation at Cothelstone Farm was to get people involved in their local heritage and broaden the typical audience for archaeology and heritage projects. To ensure that a wide range of people will be involved in archaeology, different groups of people were invited to actively participate in the excavation and take part in recording and finds processing.

14.5.2 Participation on the excavation was free of charge and to help decrease perceived barriers to participation, adults and teenagers over 12 who crowdfunded the project, could take part for any length of time starting from a taster day and culminating in two or three entire weeks, depending on their availability. Accessible half-day DigCamp sessions were offered to children between 6 and 11 years and accompanying guardians to give them a taste of the work happening in the trench. DigClub sessions for teenagers lasted for 5 hours, which was a slightly shorter day than that of the adults. All training followed DigVentures' CIfA-endorsed Field School curriculum.

14.5.3 A larger proportion of people who use female pronouns joined the excavation with 69% preferring she/her pronouns and 25% preferring he/him pronouns (see Figure 29). The age of participants raged from children aged 6 to one participant aged over 75 with Figure 29 showing that 32% of participants or 32 in total were under age 35. This mainly reflects the DigCamp and DigClub sessions making archaeology accessible to this younger age group. Apart from the 17-24 and 75-84 age groups which each had a single participant, each of the age groups from ages 6-12 to 75-84 was well represented, with representation ranging from 6%-18% of participants showing this excavation was attractive to people of all ages.

14.5.4 Participants represented a variety of full-time occupations (46%) and retirees (14%). The remainder were students, either of compulsory educational age or those attending university (27%), Carers, Homemakers or Volunteers (10%) or people in long-term unemployment (1%). Those in full time employment were divided into categories based on the Office of National Statistics (ONS) classifications, the breakdown of which can be seen in Figure 29 which illustrates that excavation opportunities were taken up by people with a variety of socioeconomic classifications. Examples of professions included Accountant, Carpenter, Drug Manufacturer, Farmer, Geospatial Specialist,

HR Manager, Labourer, Mechanical Engineer, Nurse, Pilates Instructor, Sales, Teacher, and Vet. Taking this into consideration, all age groups and socio-economic backgrounds (apart from routine and semi-routine professions) were represented in the data, with a marked improvement on existing community archaeology provision compared with the typically retired, over age 65 local civic society groups (Wilkins 2020, 33) (Figure 29).

14.5.5 Local residents were the main target audience for participation. Places on the excavation were advertised through the existing Quantocks Landscape Partnership networks and then through DigVentures to fill additional availability. This method was successful in reaching a hyper local audience (See Figure 29). 35% of respondents or 27 individuals lived within 10 miles of the site. A further 9 participants or 11% of respondents lived within 15 miles of site. 19% or 15 individuals travelled between 20 and 30 miles to participate, 10 participants (13%) travelled between 30 and 40 miles and just 5 individuals (6%) travelled more than 40 miles to participate in the excavation.

14.5.6 As part of the booking process, all project participants were asked why they had decided to get involved in an archaeology project to provide a baseline understanding against which the impact of the experience could be determined through post-experience interviews. Participants answered in their own words, and the responses were coded into 12 categories.

14.5.7 The results show that almost 35% of respondents described themselves as having 'always enjoyed watching/ reading about archaeology' and embraced the opportunity to finally get hands-on with their interest. A further 4% of said that it was Time Team that had specifically influenced their desire to be involved with archaeology. 4% of respondents were prospective archaeology students or able to tick this experience off their bucket list. In contrast, 3% of respondents said that it was the teamwork and camaraderie that drew them to the project rather than the archaeology and 3% of participants joined a friend or family member who was interested in the project, but they did not have pre-existing interest in archaeology themselves (See Figure 29) This shows that while the main reason people joined the excavation was to be involved with the archaeology, others found a purely social benefit

14.5.8 21% of participants stated that they joined the project because they 'enjoy being actively involved in archaeology' and 12% of participants took part because they had a 'special interest in the project'. These are likely to be previous participants in Quantocks Landscape Partnership Scheme excavations and people with a connection to the local area. 14% of participants who joined said they did so because of a recommendation from somebody else. This speaks to the positive experiences that people have had as a result of other QLPS or DigVentures projects and events.

14.5.9 Post-experience 'exit' interviews were also undertaken with participants, indicating how initial perceptions of archaeology may have changed and providing evidence for wider social outcomes, such as learning, skills acquisition and well-being. Participants were asked to summarise their highlight of the project in their own words, with responses then codified into 9 categories to visualise the results (Figure 29). The most important consideration for 44% of participants was the experience of real archaeology, and the opportunity to get hands-on experience. Closely related to the



experience of real archaeology was the 'thrill of discovery' for 14% of participants, indicating a positive emotional reaction to the process of excavation.

14.5.10 Five individuals (5%) stated that the quality of teaching on the excavation and their experience with the DigVentures staff gave them the most value - indicating a positive experience for participants. 6% of respondents described the teamwork and camaraderie or watching their child or companion participate as the highlight of their experience, illustrating a powerful positive side product of taking part in archaeology (Figure 29). A closer assessment of interviewees answers (often elicited through follow up questions) reveals that in addition to having a good time (such as "I just love it!"), more subtle impacts could be clearly discerned.

14.5.11 Further analysis of participant responses indicates that many of the participants felt that the community excavation at Cothlestone Farm provided a unique opportunity to be a part of; Rachel, a 31-year-old Pilates instructor, said she "never thought [she would] get to do something like this" and she was happy to be able to bring her son along saying "[he] is really interested so it's been nice seeing him broaden his horizons." A DigCamp participant expressed "I just like digging in the dirt, I don't ever get to do anything like this." This demonstrates that the project achieved the QLPS goal of "giving more people opportunities to contribute" (Landscape Conservation Action Plan; Part 1: 7). Participants also expressed that they were happy to have learned something new. Emily, a 58-year-old carer said "I feel really privileged to have been able to take part and I hope that we can do more." Similarly, Sara (42) said "learning stuff I hadn't done before was really good!" this demonstrates that the project was successful in meeting the QLPS outcome of "[increasing] capacity and skills of the volunteer base working in the area" (Landscape Conservation Action Plan; Part 1: 7). These responses also show success in reaching the outcomes: "A wider range of people will be involved in archaeology and heritage" and "people will have learnt about heritage" within the DigVentures Theory of Change.

14.5.12 Several participants described the positive benefit of sharing an experience with likeminded people. Jacqui a 66-year-old administrator said "I really enjoyed being with other people who like the same things as me" Krista, a 67-year-old children's author said she relished "the camaraderie, the group experience and enthusiasm of the dig." This demonstrates a positive experience that resulted from the opportunity to participate in archaeology as well as reaching the outcome: "people will have greater wellbeing" within the DigVentures theory of change. Participants also expressed that excavating burials made them feel a particularly strong connection with the history. Sam (49) said "You realise that it's someone's last resting place. It's a sobering and enriching experience." Kit (54) felt "the graves were really emotional. It's that connection to people who were buried there but their remains have gone." These thoughts demonstrate the outcome: "people will have learnt about heritage, leading to changes in ideas and actions"

14.5.13 Participants also expressed an excitement in learning new things about their local area and a desire to remain involved. Jane a 55-year-old retiree said "It was amazing to see the graves I think they're early medieval and I'm going to enjoy following along online as you find out what they are" This demonstrates the achievement of the outcome that "heritage will be identified, interpreted and better explained" through the excavation and post excavation analysis and dissemination of results.



14.6 Social impact – Community – site tour

14.6.1 Alongside structured activities for project participants, site tours were provided at the end of the excavation as an opportunity for members of the wider public to talk to and interact with the team, and to see what had been discovered. Attendees completed a booking form to attend.

14.6.2 By analysing the responses on the booking survey we can see that there was a reasonably even split of gender identity between preferring she/her pronouns (54% or 22 individuals) and he/him pronouns (41% or 17 individuals). All professional categories (according to ONS classifications) were also represented including; accountant, cleaner, delivery driver, farmer, geologist, museum conservator, office manager and teacher (Figure 30).

14.6.3 78% (n=32) of people who booked the tour stated that this was their first time participating in archaeology. 20% of participants or 8 individuals stated that they had been involved with archaeology through other organisations and 1 participant had previously participated in archaeology through DigVentures (Figure 30). When asked about their motivation for attending the tour, 70% of participants said they booked because they enjoy watching or reading about archaeology, enjoy being actively involved in it or that it is on their bucket list. 10% of participants stated that they booked because of a special interest in the area or the project. 7% of participants stated they joined due to a recommendation from somebody else and the remaining 5 participants joined for a variety of reasons including that they wanted to support DigVentures, they were an archaeology student, or they were accompanying someone else (Figure 30).

14.6.4 Site tour attendees were almost entirely from the immediate vicinity of the site with 71% of tour participants saying they visited from within 10 miles. 6 people (14%) travelled between 10 and 20 miles to attend the site tour and 3 (7%) people travelled between 20 and 30 miles to visit the site (Figure 30).

14.7 Conclusions

14.7.1 Structured through a Theory of Change, the evidence presented here shows significant impact for both individual participants and community visitors as a result of the community excavation at Cothlestone Farm. The project attracted a diverse community of people within the local community to explore and investigate the heritage the Quantock Hills Landscape in a new and different way. Evaluation shows that the project tackled the social and educational needs of the surrounding communities and was a success for public engagement. A high number of locals was engaged with archaeology and individuals gained a deeper connection to their heritage, as well as ownership of their involvement in the excavation. This project improved participants' skills and understanding of the discipline, and provided a new opportunity for local visitors to the site – 70% of whom had never been involved with archaeology before.

14.7.2 The credibility of a Theory of Change rests on the level of certainty that organisational activities are the cause of any impact observed. To address this DigVentures has developed a 'Standards of Evidence' framework drawing on evidential standards



devised by Nesta. This framework determines the levels of certainty that project activities will have a positive impact on the intended outcome, ensuring that the correct data is collected to isolate the impact to the intervention, and that findings are validated externally.

14.7.3 This framework begins with Level 1, where practitioners are able to give an account of hypothesised impact, providing a logical reason why project activities could have an impact on outcomes, and how that would be an improvement on alternative provision. For a project to achieve Level 2 practitioners gather data that shows some change amongst participants, but this may not be sufficient to provide evidence of direct causality. At Level 3 practitioners will be able to demonstrate that they are causing the hypothesised impact, by showing less impact amongst those who don't participate in the project or receive the product/service. Progressing to Level 4 and practitioners can explain why and how the project is having the impact observed, with results potentially independently verified. Finally, at Level 5 the project methodology is robust and well-evidenced enough to be scaled up and operated by other teams or organisations, whilst continuing to have positive and direct impact on the outcome and remaining a financially viable proposition.

14.7.4 The Project offered different activity streams for participants and visitors, and as such, can be seen to have reached differing levels on the standards of evidence framework (level 1 for community and level 3 for participant impact). Evidence was collected for project participants indicating a change as a consequence of project activities (level 2), however, impact for participants was additionally established through a pre-and post-experience survey showing a significant improvement on similar data for other local archaeological society groups (Wilkins 2020, 33). Training activities were also independently accredited through CIfA – an independent body – ensuring that impact evidence for participants can be assigned to level 3. By allowing volunteers to join for as short or long as they were able, creating opportunities for children and families and by offering tours for the public we were able to attract a diverse audience for different levels of engagement with the community excavation.

14.7.5 The insights gained from this evaluation have established a clear community need and demand for more archaeological work in the Quantocks Landscape and should assist with the impactful design and funding applications for any future activities.

15 ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCUSSION

15.1 Introduction

15.1.1 Four trenches were excavated at Cothelstone Farm by 71 in-person adult participants as well as 61 children and young people. The participants and volunteers from the QLPS scheme and wider local region revealed evidence of a Late Bronze Age ring ditch enclosure that was re-used as a cemetery, likely in the later Romano-British or Early Post-Roman period.

15.1.2 The following discussion places the results of the fieldwork at Cothelstone Farm within the context of the project's key aims and objectives, which included verifying the archaeological potential of the site, characterising any buried archaeology and

establishing key stratigraphic relationships between features. The results are discussed chronologically by feature type, establishing a narrative of the development, function and character of human interaction with the landscape at Cothelstone Farm from the Late Bronze Age to the Early Medieval and beyond.

15.2 Ring ditch monument

15.2.1 An intervention was placed into the southern arc of the ring ditch in Trench 1, revealing that the steep-sided U-shaped ditch was 3.38m in width and 1.44m in depth with a sub-rounded base at this location. Originally constructed in the Late Bronze Age, the ditch was recut to a depth of 1.25m and possibly widened in a significant cleaning episode that occurred in the Early Iron Age. Artefacts recovered from the upper fills indicate the ditch cannot have silted up at this location before the Middle Iron Age.

15.2.2 A second intervention was placed into the northern arc of the same ring ditch in Trench 4, revealing a similar profile measuring 3.29m in width and 1.58m in depth at this location. The ditch was also recut and possibly widened, this time to a depth of 1.37m, in the Iron Age. Pottery recovered from the upper fills indicates the ditch was not fully silted up at this location before the Romano-British period, implying the monument must have been partially maintained in some capacity as a visible earthwork in the landscape for many centuries.

15.2.3 Excavations in Trench 1 revealed that shortly after the ditch was originally cut, a group of three ceramic vessels dated typologically and by radiocarbon dating to the Late Bronze Age were intentionally placed together directly on its base. These undecorated plain-ware jars were all a coarse local red sandstone fabric and typically associated with a domestic function. They were buried by a basal deposit rich in charcoal and ash containing fragments of fired clay, animal bone and flint debitage consistent with domestic debris.

15.2.4 The processing of samples retrieved during micro-excavation of the vessels and of the surrounding burial deposit recovered small quantities of charred cereal grains, including wheat and oats as well as hazelnut shells, implying waste products from small-scale food processing and consumption at or near the site. The charcoal recovered represented a range of wood species available in the local environment including Hazel, Poplar, Willow, Oak, Ash, Birch and Elder. The highest proportion of this was roundwood Hazel suggestive of twigs, small branches and perhaps old wattle being used as fire kindling.

15.2.5 The intentional deposition of multiple ceramic vessels grouped together at the base of a ring ditch is not common practice within the context of everyday domestic settlement in the Late Bronze Age (Hill, 1995). It is instead more likely indicative of a single-event social act of ceremonial significance (Pollard, 2002). Some possibilities, such as a funerary deposit, can be ruled out. No evidence of cremated human remains were recovered, with the limited quantity of burnt bone fragments considered too small to represent a cremation burial and more likely to consist of burnt animal bone from domestic waste. Additionally, roundwood charcoal from comparatively cooler-burning wood species would also be unsuited to cremation; an act more commonly associated with the heartwood of hotter burning woods such as oak (Carruthers and Thomas, 1991, 114).



15.2.6 Due to the stratigraphic location of the vessels directly on the base of the ditch cut and buried by the basal fill itself, they must have been placed there very shortly after it was opened. Therefore, it is considered most likely that this deposit represents a single-event social act, perhaps associated with a feast commemorating the completion of the ring ditch monument in the Late Bronze Age. Similar regional examples of Late Bronze Age vessel deposits of the same form and fabric as those at Cothelstone Farm found in enclosure ditches are known from the Shurton enclosure at Hinkley Point (Quinnell and Wood, 2024) and at Norton Fitzwarren (Williams, 1987).

15.2.7 Whilst largely complete, the vessels were very fragmented and some joining sherds were located in fills much later in the stratigraphic sequence. This post-depositional disturbance is explained by a recut of the ditch in the Early Iron Age. The recut was filled initially by material eroding in from the external side of the ditch. This was shortly followed by periodic silting events interspersed with a series of discrete tipping lines of domestic waste being discarded from inside the enclosure. This sequence suggests successive periods of abandonment and re-occupation of the space enclosed by the ring ditch throughout the Early to Middle Iron Age, based on radiocarbon dating from one of these tipping lines. The two homogenous upper fills of the ditch represent an extended period of abandonment at the monument after the Middle Iron Age as it began to fully silt up.

15.2.8 In contrast, finds recovered from the first phase of the ring ditch in Trench 4 were sparse. Environmental sample processing was largely unproductive and no material suitable for radiocarbon dating was present in the basal fills. However, a few sherds of Late Bronze Age pottery were recovered from one of these fills, corroborating the narrative that the ring ditch was constructed during this period. Tentative evidence for possible bank material, heavily truncated by historic ploughing, was observed in the form of a very thin layer of gravel and silty sand visible in profile external to the ring ditch feature. However, no direct relationship was observed between this ephemeral spread and the ring ditch itself, meaning the existence of an external bank remains tenuous.

15.2.9 The recut of the ditch in Trench 4 was filled by homogenous silting with no evidence of tipping lines indicative of discarding domestic waste in discrete events. This may imply the ditch was more regularly cleaned at this location, or that domestic waste discard within the enclosure was more focused towards the southern area near Trench 1. A Late Iron Age ceramic spindle whorl and three joining sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered from the first of these silting fills. The remainder of the limited selection of artefacts recovered from the recut ditch were considered residual and consistent with long-term silting. The presence of Late Iron Age and Romano-British artefacts within the recut ditch is particularly informative and suggests the ring ditch was at least still partially open and visible in the landscape into this period.

15.2.10 No other archaeological features relating to Late Bronze Age or Iron Age occupation were present within the ring ditch enclosure in either trench. This does not discount the possibility that features relating to such activities do exist at or near this location due to the limited size of the interventions in Trench 1 and Trench 4. Alternatively, the apparently sporadic nature of occupation within the enclosure may mean that any such evidence was too ephemeral to survive being truncated away by later archaeological features as well as historic ploughing.



15.3 Late Romano-British/Early Post-Roman cemetery

15.3.1 Excavations in Trench 1 and Trench 4 revealed evidence of up to 13 approximately east to west aligned grave cuts. Five of these were excavated in Trench 1 and four in Trench 4. In all cases, the graves were laid out in parallel rows respecting each other in an arranged pattern indicative of an organised cemetery. A single grave in Trench 1 was observed to contain remnants of possible stone lining at its western end.

15.3.2 No skeletal remains or material suitable for radiocarbon dating survived due to poor preservation conditions caused by the acidic soils. However, two of the graves in Trench 4 produced ironwork grave goods; three small personal utilitarian knives and a possible knife tang or awl. Two of these knives were found together within a single grave. Typologically they are broadly dateable to the Late Romano-British or Early Post-Roman periods, with a 5th century AD date considered most likely. However, without any additional securely dateable material from the graves themselves it is impossible to attribute any firm dating based on the knives alone.

15.3.3 The graves were all of broadly similar shape with some minor variation in size that could be indicative of a range of age at death. However, without any surviving skeletal remains, it is impossible to make any further insights to the demographics of the burial population. All graves excavated in Trench 1 were inside the prehistoric enclosure whilst those in Trench 4 were external. The trenches were approximately 35m apart at the northern and southern extents of the ring ditch, suggesting a sizeable cemetery that likely covers most of the monument.

15.3.4 Two ephemeral linear ditches that may represent cemetery enclosures were observed aligned northeast to southwest in Trench 1. It is also possible that these ditches relate to a pre-cemetery phase of mid to late Romano-British occupation at the site. One of these partially truncated the other in what could be a recut. A number of square-ditched enclosures were excavated at the nearby cemetery site of Stoneage Barton, where burials were dated to the 7th century AD (Webster and Brunning, 2004). The possible cemetery enclosures within the excavated area at Cothelstone Farm were linear and two near complete, though fragmented, late 3rd to 4th century AD black-burnished ware jars were recovered from these features.

15.3.5 These vessels may have represented grave goods or were placed in the ditches nearby graves and disturbed through later ploughing. Later Romano-British pottery is known to be reused in Early Post-Roman burial contexts and could support the tentative 5th century AD date for the knives. However, the presence of the knives could equally be attributed to a later Romano-British date in association with the late 3rd to 4th century AD date of the pottery. Consequently, the date of the cemetery cannot at this point be refined any further than the later Romano-British or early post-Roman period.

15.4 Post-Medieval and undated features

15.4.1 Two parallel Post-Medieval field boundaries were excavated in Trench 4, aligned northwest to southeast and truncating all other features within the trench. The location of these ditches tie in well with the potential continuation of a strong magnetic linear anomaly interpreted from the geophysical survey to represent a probable field boundary. Post-Medieval pottery was recovered from this feature and it is likely that a



number of other strong magnetic linear responses on the survey results also relate to Post-Medieval field systems.

15.4.2 Excavations in Trench 2 targeted a D-shaped enclosure ditch but were hampered by the presence of a field drain actively channelling water at this location. It was decided not to disturb this area any further to avoid flooding the trench and consequently the anomaly could not be characterised at this location.

15.4.3 Trench 3 targeted a crescent-shaped geophysical anomaly interpreted as possible quarrying. The substantial size and depth of the feature meant that excavation had to cease for safety reasons without reaching the base it could not be fully characterised. However, artefacts recovered included small quantities of abraded Late Bronze Age pottery, flint flake debitage and a near complete Neolithic leaf-shaped arrowhead from the upper fills. Whilst these artefacts are likely residual, they strongly suggest human interaction with the local environment in the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods. Their residuality is also consistent with the upper silting fills of very large cut features and at this point there is no reason to doubt the interpretation of the anomaly as a quarry pit.

16 CONCLUSIONS

16.1 Archaeological conclusions

16.1.1 Community excavations at Cothelstone Farm confirmed that the 35m diameter ring ditch identified in cropmark and geophysical surveys was Late Bronze Age in origin. A deposit of three ceramic vessels intentionally placed directly upon the base of the newly opened ditch were dated typologically and by radiocarbon dating to between the late 11th and 9th centuries BC. This social act of ceremonial significance was carried out most likely within a small-scale rural domestic context, possibly to commemorate the completion of the enclosure itself.

16.1.2 Probably in the Early or Middle Iron Age, the ditch was recut in a significant cleaning event that partially disturbed and fragmented the vessels on the base of the ditch. In the years that followed, waste from sporadic domestic activity within the enclosure was tipped into the ditch and interspersed with short periods of silting indicative of seasonal abandonment and re-occupation around the early 8th to mid-6th centuries BC. A longer period of abandonment occurred after the Middle Iron Age when the ditch began to more substantially silt up. However, based on finds recovered from the upper silting fills, the ditch was still partially open and visible as an earthwork attracting the presence of people in the local landscape into the Romano-British period.

16.1.3 Most likely in the later Romano-British or Early Post-Roman period, possibly around the 5th century AD, the ring ditch monument was reused as a cemetery. At least 13 east to west aligned grave cuts were identified in parallel rows respecting each other in what appears to be an organised cemetery. Nine of these graves were fully excavated but no skeletal remains survived due to poor preservation conditions. However, three iron knives and a possible tang or awl were recovered from two of the graves in Trench 4. The cemetery may have been enclosed by shallow linear ditches from which two 3rd to 4th century largely complete, though fragmented, black

burnished ware jars were recovered. Late Romano-British pottery is known to be re-used in Early Post-Roman burial contexts, and these may have represented grave goods disturbed by later ploughing.

16.2 Character and function

16.2.1 No evidence of extant bank material, funerary deposits or internal features within the enclosed space contemporary with the construction phase of the ringwork were recovered during the excavations. Combined with the Late Bronze Age date for the ring ditch, it is considered unlikely that the enclosure originally represented a ritualised space, such as a Henge or Hengiform-type monument. The lack of evidence relating to funerary deposits or an extant mound, berm or bank also makes it difficult to argue the feature was a definitive Bronze Age Barrow. However, given the limited extent of the excavations and the characteristic re-use of the site as a later Romano-British or Early Post-Roman cemetery, this remains a possibility.

16.2.2 On balance of the evidence available, it is most likely that the space enclosed by the ring ditch was sporadically settled and abandoned within the context of seasonal domestic occupation from the Late Bronze Age to the Middle Iron Age. The domestic nature of the Late Bronze Age vessels and occupation debris within the surrounding burial deposit, and the Early to Middle Iron Age waste tipping events containing artefacts of a similar character, are all indicative of a domestic function for the site.

16.2.3 After the primary function of the ring ditch enclosure ceased and the site was abandoned as a domestic space after the Middle Iron Age, it was re-used in the Late Romano-British or Early Post-Roman period as a cemetery. This change in function is characteristic of up to a quarter of cemeteries dating to around this period in southern, central and eastern England, but is less common in the south west (Williams, 1997, 4-5). A well-known example is the 6th century Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Barrow Clump in Wiltshire (Andrews et al., 2019). The reuse of the enclosure at Cothelstone Farm shows that the ring ditch was still visible as an earthwork at this time and was viewed as a significant place in the local landscape, perhaps symbolising a relationship between ancient monuments and the world of the dead (Williams, 1997, 25).

16.3 Local and regional landscape synthesis

16.3.1 The recent growth in contemporary excavations of Late Bronze Age enclosures in the local and regional landscape provide a number of parallels for the ring ditch at Cothelstone Farm. Most recently, excavations in 2023 by the QLPS at a 93m diameter ring ditch near Broomfield, located 2.7 miles east of Cothelstone Farm, revealed an enclosure ditch that was probably constructed in the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age and backfilled in the Middle to Late Iron Age (Green and Fairclough, 2024). Evidence of small-scale structure and sporadic domestic occupation was recovered from inside the enclosure. Similarly, another excavation by the QLPS in 2021 at Cothelstone Hill, just over a mile to the east of Cothelstone Farm, found evidence of a Late Bronze Age ditch and rampart with sporadic domestic occupation into the Iron Age (Brunning and Grove, 2022).

16.3.2 These results suggest that the enclosures at Cothelstone Farm, Cothelstone Hill and Broomfield were local contemporaries in the Early to Middle Iron Age landscape and

perhaps even before. They may well have been known and visited by members of the same communities, with the apparent sporadic and temporary nature of Iron Age domestic occupation at Broomfield and Cothelstone Hill fitting well with the narrative at Cothelstone Farm. It is possible that all three sites were occupied seasonally and visited by the same communities at different points throughout the year.

16.3.3 The re-use of the ring ditch monument at Cothelstone Farm as a cemetery strongly implies it was still visible as an earthwork in the later Romano-British or Early Post-Roman period, possibly as a known focal point in the local landscape. Prehistoric ringwork monuments such as barrows are known to have been re-used as places of burial in the later Romano-British and Early Post-Roman periods (Gerrard, 2015; Williams, 1997). Excavations at Stoneage Barton, very close to Cothelstone Farm, provide the nearest example geographically and chronologically of a Post-Roman cemetery in the local landscape (Webster and Brunning, 2004). At Stoneage Barton, a number of unfurnished burials were observed to be enclosed by square ditches and one of these returned a radiocarbon date of the 7th century AD.

16.3.4 Minimally furnished burials on an east to west alignment and those completely unaccompanied by grave goods are typically associated with Late Roman burial practice in eastern England, and in the west country it is apparent this burial tradition continued well into the early Post-Roman period (Gerrard, 2015). Regionally comparable 5th and 6th century AD graves were excavated in rural cemeteries at Bradley Hill (Leech, 1981) and Poundbury (Sparey-Green, 1987) where the graves were aligned east to west and contained few or no grave goods. Comparative examples from other cemetery sites in the local and regional landscape combined with the iron knives and late Romano-British ceramics recovered from Cothelstone Farm imply a later Romano-British or Early Post-Roman date for this cemetery, possibly the 5th century AD.

16.4 Public impact

16.4.1 Evaluation of the public impact from the Cothelstone Farm community archaeological excavations shows significant benefit for both individual participants and community visitors as a result of the project. In total, the project provided excavation and finds room training for 71 adult participants and 61 children and young people through in person participatory experiences. Additionally, guided tours on a public open day engaged a further 41 individuals with the archaeology of Cothelstone Farm.

16.4.2 The excavations attracted a diverse community of people within the local community to explore and investigate the heritage the Quantock Hills Landscape in a new and different way. Evaluation shows that the project tackled the social and educational needs of the surrounding communities and was a success for public engagement. A high number of locals were engaged with archaeology and individuals gained a deeper connection to their heritage, as well as ownership of their involvement in the excavation. This project improved participants' skills and understanding of the discipline and provided a new opportunity for local visitors to the site – 70% of whom had never been involved with archaeology before.

17 ARCHIVING AND DISSEMINATION

17.1 Digital archive

17.1.1 All archiving products will be prepared to the Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives (CIfA, 2014) and Archaeological Archives; A guide to best practice in the creation, compilation, transfer and curation (Archaeological Archives Forum, 2007).

17.1.2 The digital data and accompanying metadata pertaining to the Cothelstone Farm archive will be selected in accordance with a data management plan (DMP) and FAIR Principles. A copy of the final report will be sent to the HER, collecting repository and uploaded to OASIS under unique identifier digventu1-5228876.

17.1.3 The full selected digital archive and accompanying metadata will be uploaded to the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) or other appropriate Core Trust Seal Digital Repository.

17.2 Physical archive

17.2.1 The physical archive including documentary or artefactual material produced from the excavations will be deposited with South West Heritage Trust (SWHT), from whom an accession number for the archive has been requested. Decisions regarding selection will be made in conjunction with the collecting repository taking into account their deposition requirements alongside any key recommendations given by specialists throughout this report.

17.2.2 Any material selected for discard will be offered back to the landowner or in the case that the landowner does not wish for it to be returned will be utilised for another purpose such as reference collections, handling collections, educational materials etc. A more finite option of discard such as reburial will be considered as a last resort.

17.3 Dissemination

17.3.1 Copies of this report and its digital archivable products will be disseminated to the QLPS, the South West Heritage Trust, the Somerset HER and to the Archaeological Data Service (ADS) via the OASIS platform.



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19 FIGURES



DigVentures

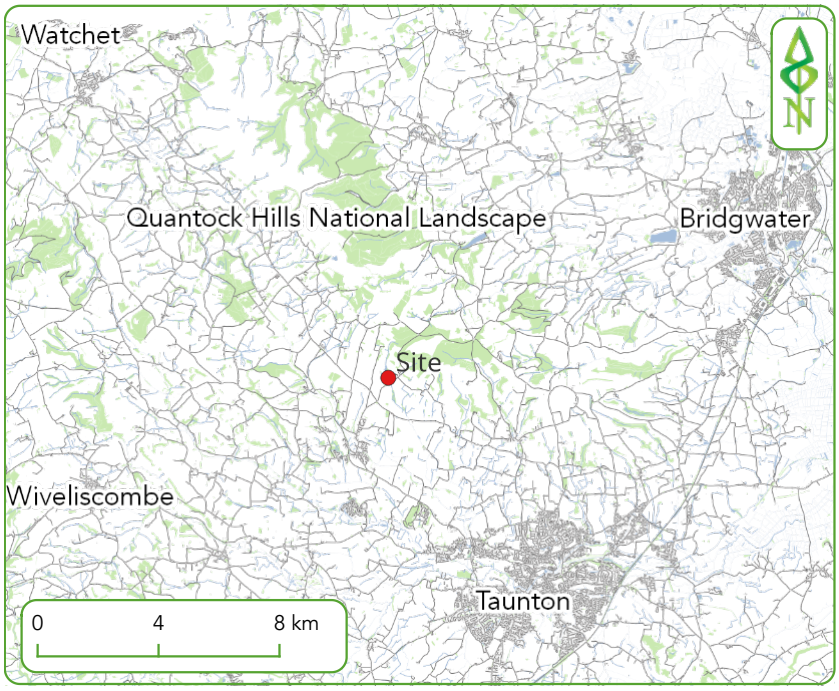




Figure 1. Site location



Figure 2. Geophysical survey of land at Cothelstone Farm with location of trenches.

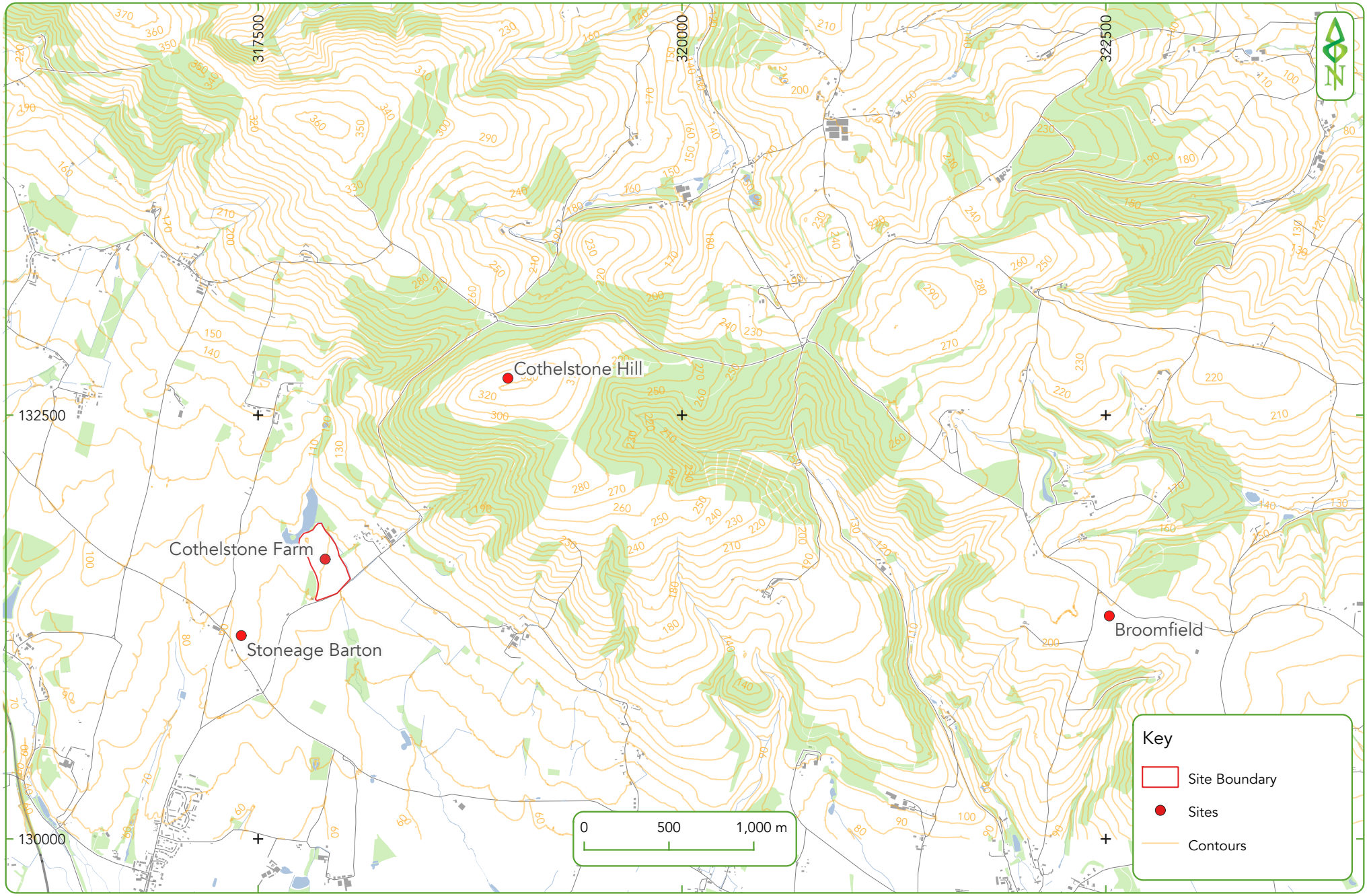


Figure 3. Parallel sites to Cothelstone Farm in the local landscape.

317820
317830
131620
131610



0m 2.5m 5m
1:50 Scale on A3

Figure 4. Post Excavation Orthomosaic plan of Trench 1

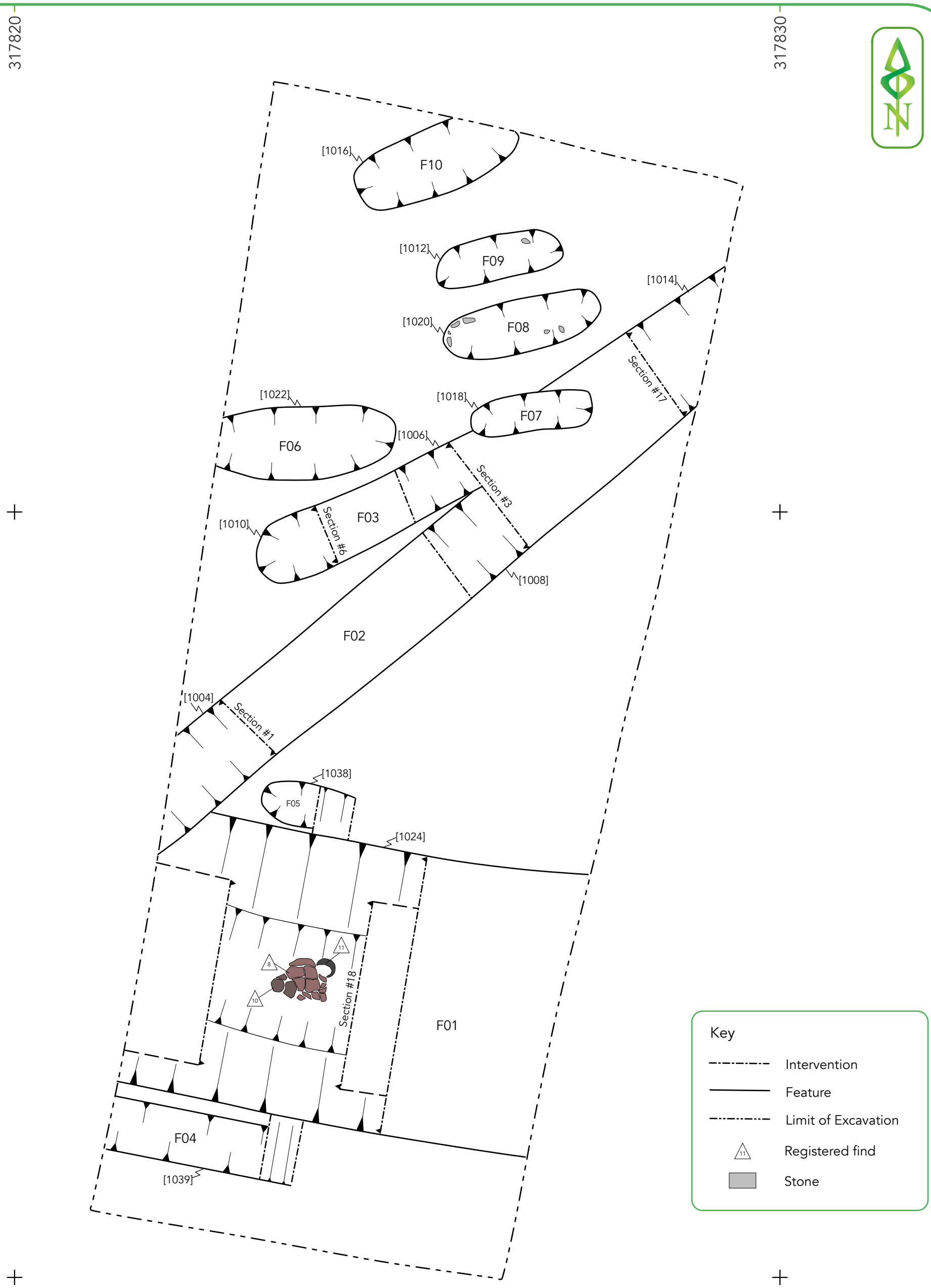


Figure 5. Annotated post-excavation plan of Trench 1

317950
317955
317960
317965
131550
131545



0m 2.5m 5m
1:50 Scale on A3

Figure 6. Post-excavation orthomosaic plan of Trench 2

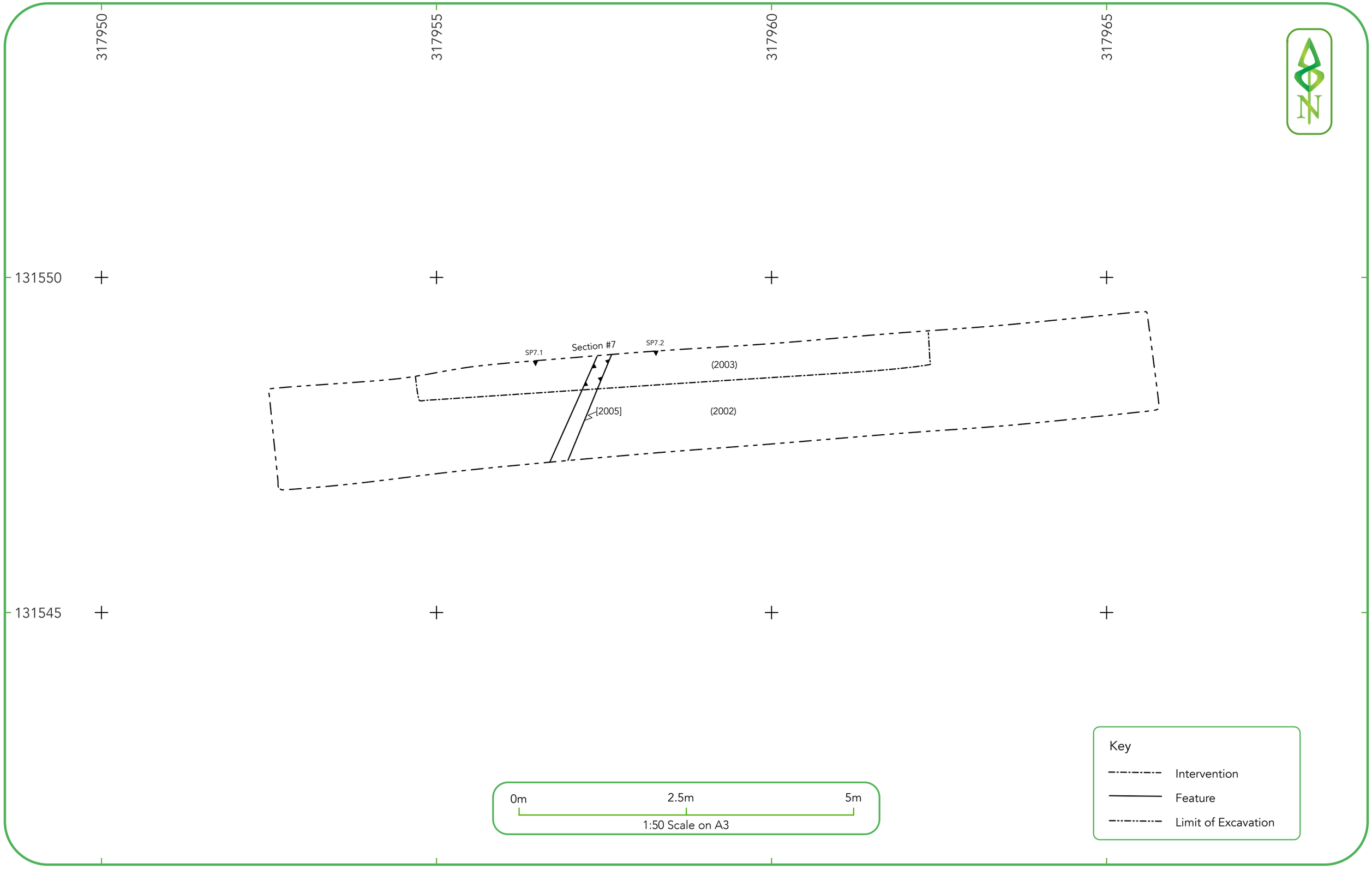


Figure 7. Annotated post-excavation plan of Trench 2



Figure 8. Post-excavation orthomosaic plan of Trench 3

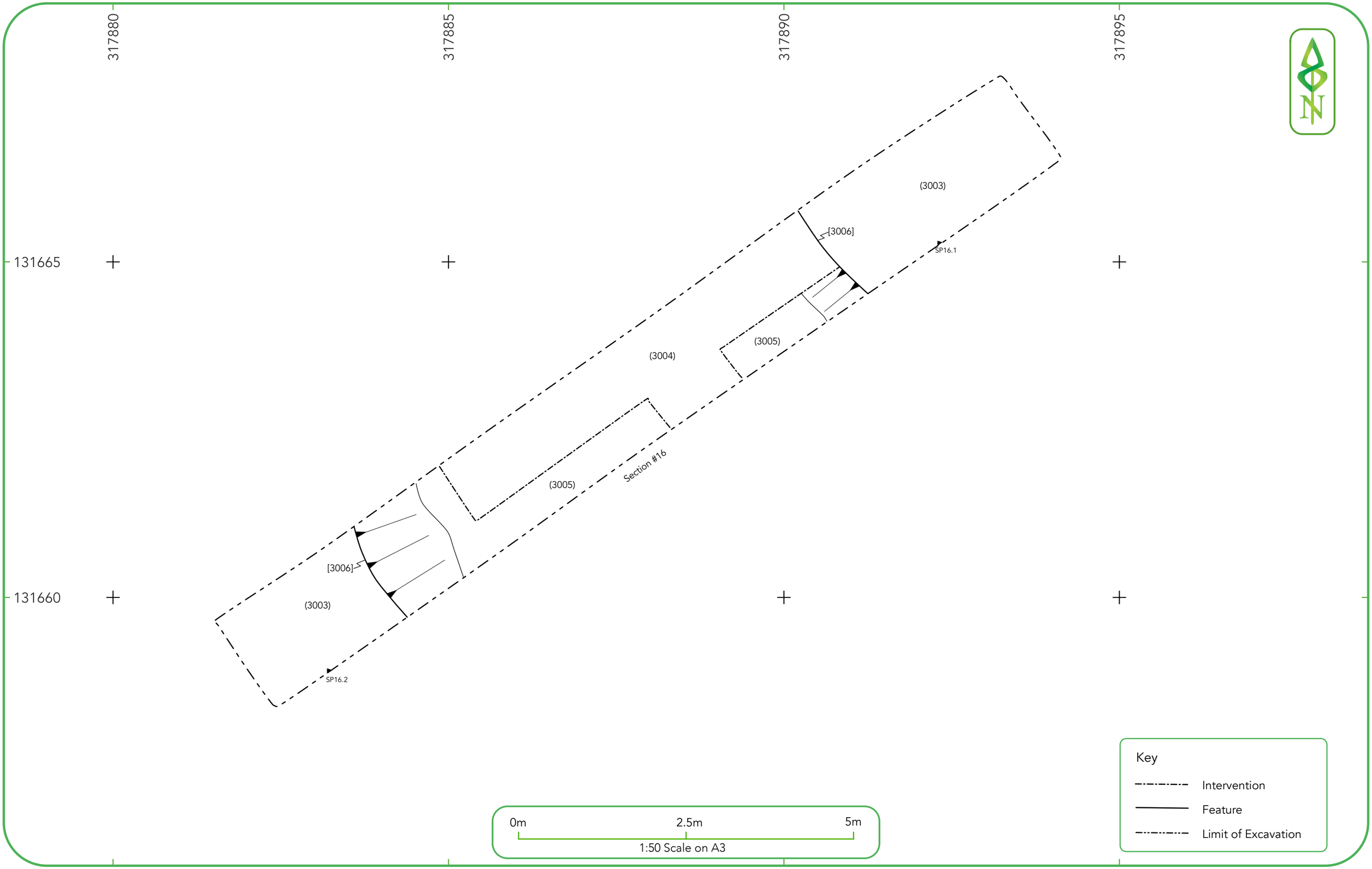


Figure 9. Annotated post-excavation plan of Trench 3

317811
317821
131650
131640



0m 2.5m 5m
1:50 Scale on A3

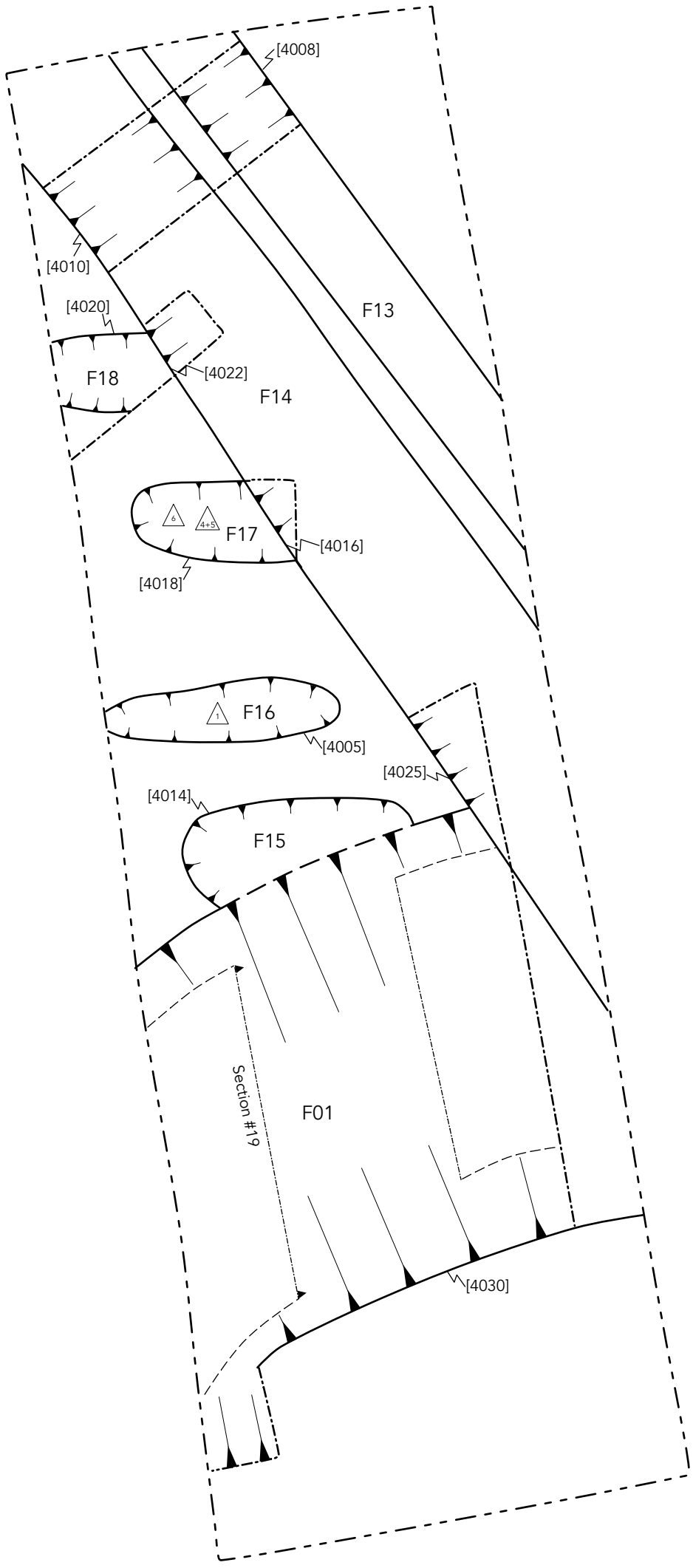
Figure 10. Post-excavation orthomosaic plan of Trench 4

317811

317821

131650

131640



Key

- Intervention
- Feature
- Limit of Excavation

0m 2.5m 5m

1:50 Scale on A3

Figure 11. Annotated post-excavation plan of Trench 4



Figure 12. Section 18 - west facing section of ring ditch in Trench 1.

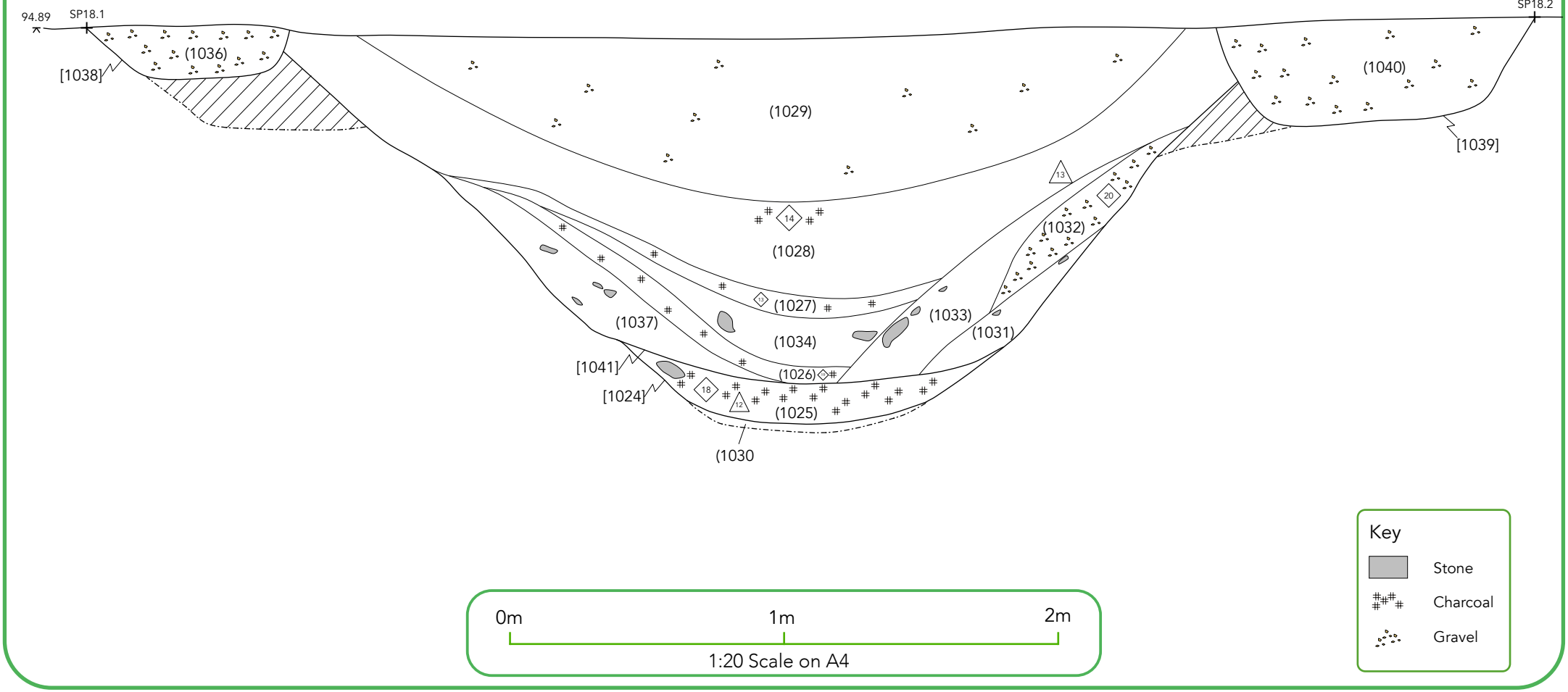


Figure 13. Annotated drawing of Section #18 .



Figure 14. Section 19 - east facing section of ring ditch in Trench 4.

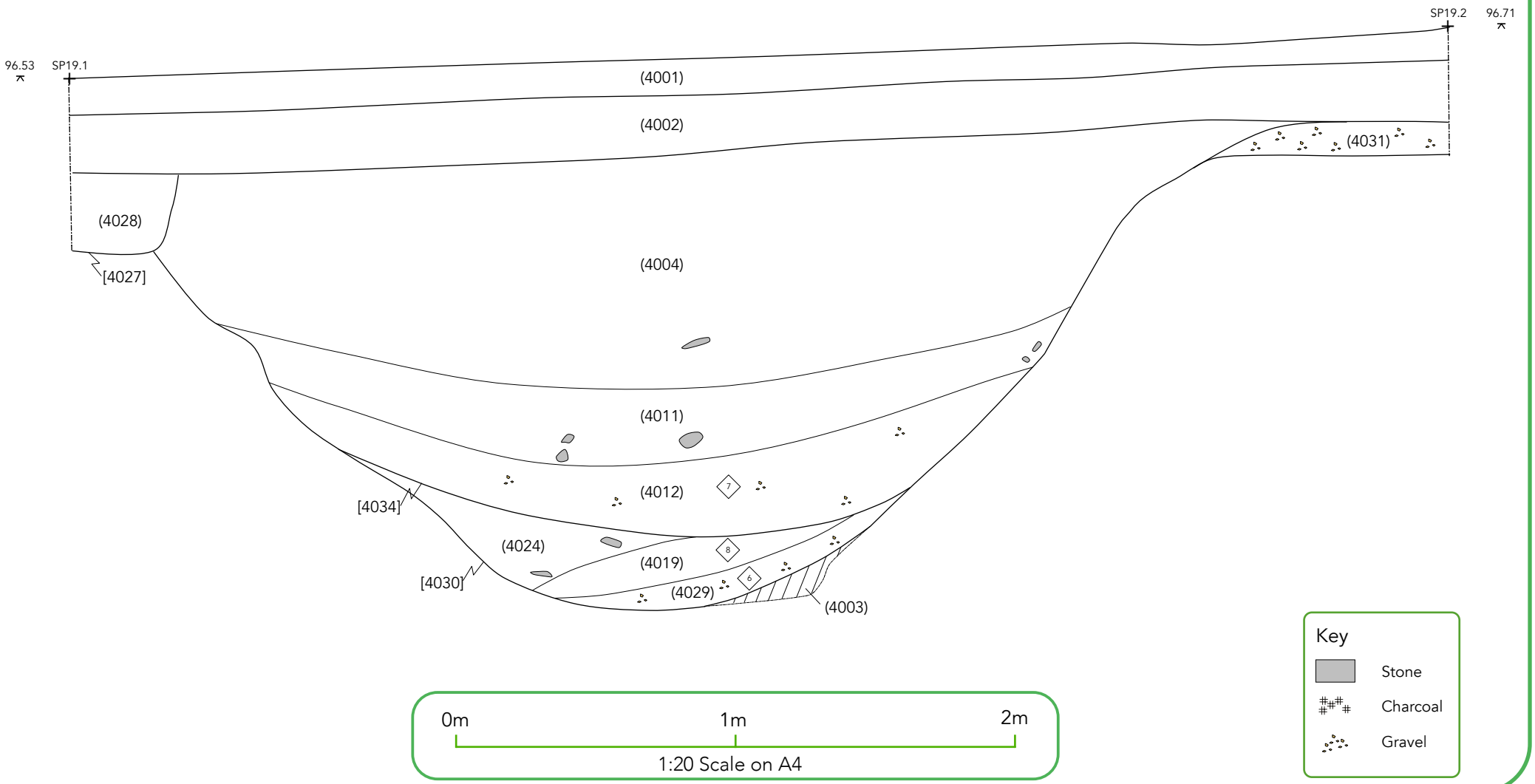


Figure 15. Annotated drawing of Section #19.



SW looking photo of half-section through likely grave F09, 1m scale.



South looking photo of half-section through likely grave F16, 1m scale.



North looking photo of half-section through likely grave F07, 1m scale.

Figure 16. Selected photographs of half-sections excavated through graves.



East looking photo of fully excavated grave F08, 1m scale.



WNW looking photo of fully excavated grave F10, 1m scale.



NNW looking photo of fully excavated grave F06, 1m scale.

Figure 17. Selected photographs of fully excavated graves.



South looking photo of iron knives SF4 and SF5 in grave F17, 0.20m scale.



Close up photo of iron knives SF4 and SF5 found within grave F17, 0.20m scale.



Close up photo of iron knife SF1, 0.20m scale.



North looking photo of grave F16 showing iron knife SF1, 0.20m scale.

Figure 18. Selected photographs of in-situ iron knives recovered from graves at Cothelstone Farm.



West facing section of ring ditch F01 in Trench 1 (Section drawing #18), 2m scales.



East facing section of ring ditch F01 in Trench 4 (Section drawing #19), 2m scales.

Figure 19. Photographs of interventions through Ring Ditch F01 in Trench 1 and 4.



North looking shot of In-situ Deposit of all three ceramic vessels SF8, SF10 and SF11 at base of ditch F01 in Trench 1. 1m and 0.20m scales.



East looking shot of vessel SF10 before lifting, 0.20m scale.



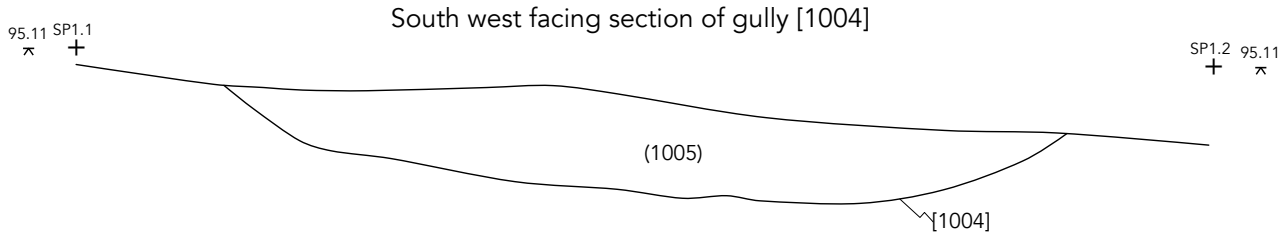
East looking shot of SF8 before lifting. 0.20m scale.



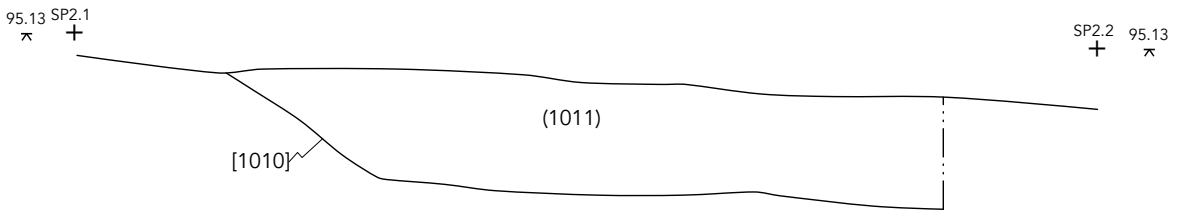
North looking shot of vessel SF11 before lifting. 1m scale.

Figure 20. Late Bronze Age vessels recovered from the base of ring ditch F01 in Trench 1.

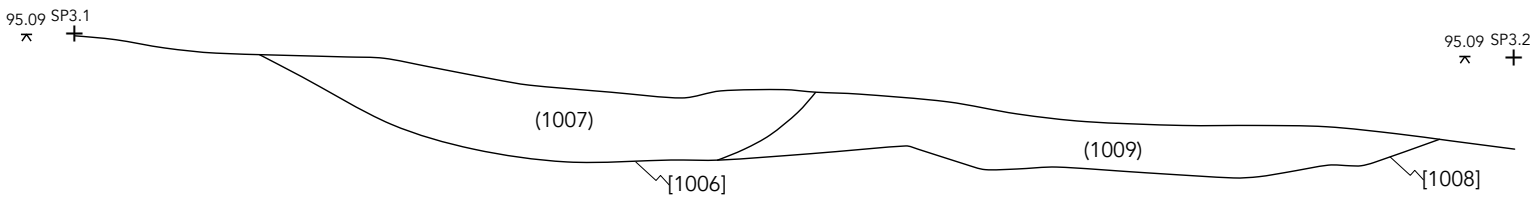
South west facing section of gully [1004]



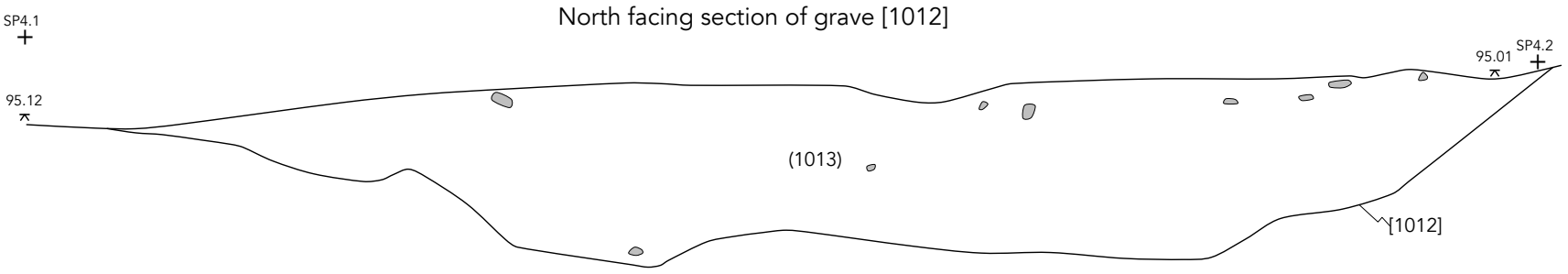
South east facing section of gully [1010]



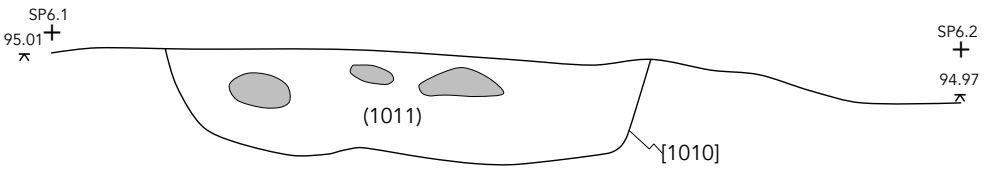
South west facing section showing the relationship between gullies [1006] and [1008]



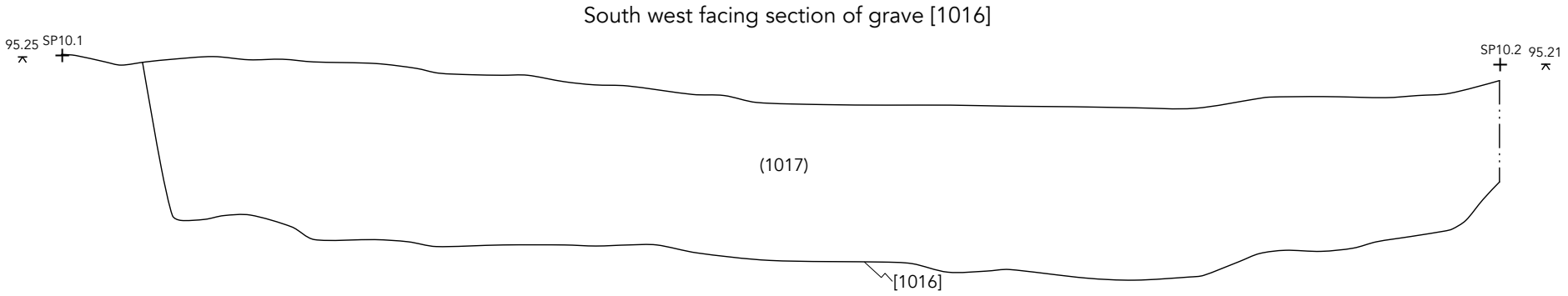
North facing section of grave [1012]



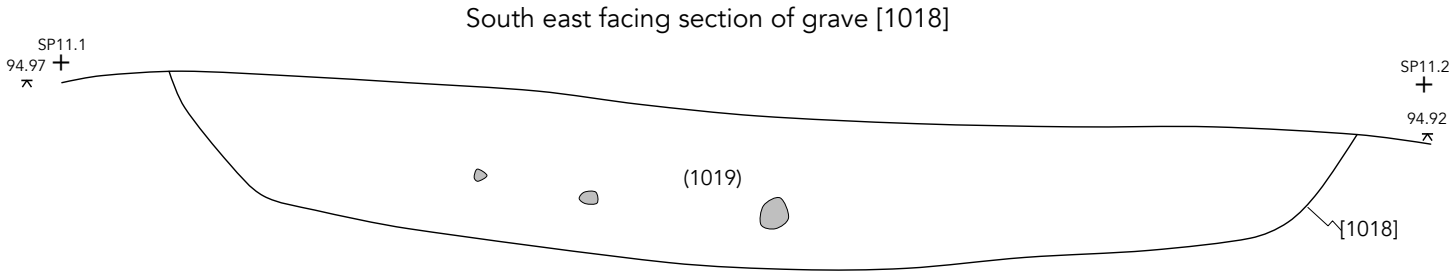
South west facing section of gully terminus [1010]

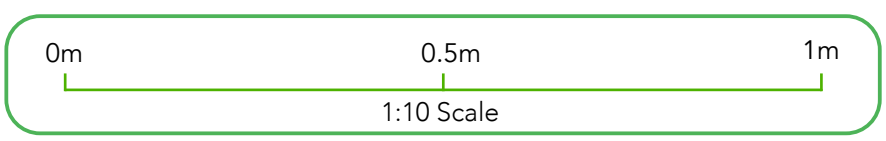


South west facing section of grave [1016]



South east facing section of grave [1018]





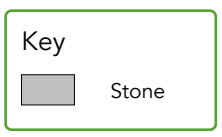


Figure 21. Trench 1 Section drawings (1 of 2).

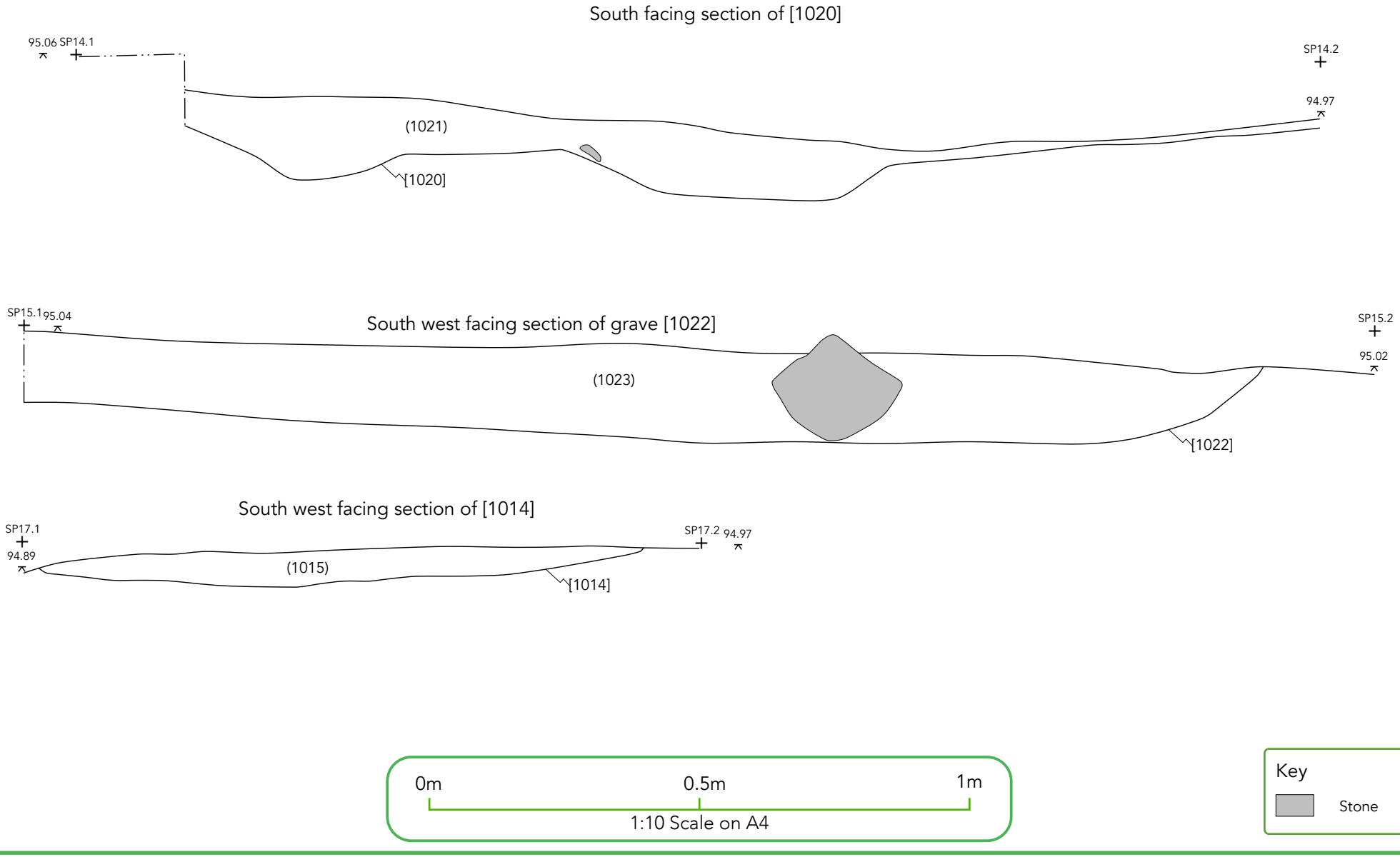


Figure 22. Trench 1 Section drawings (2 of 2).

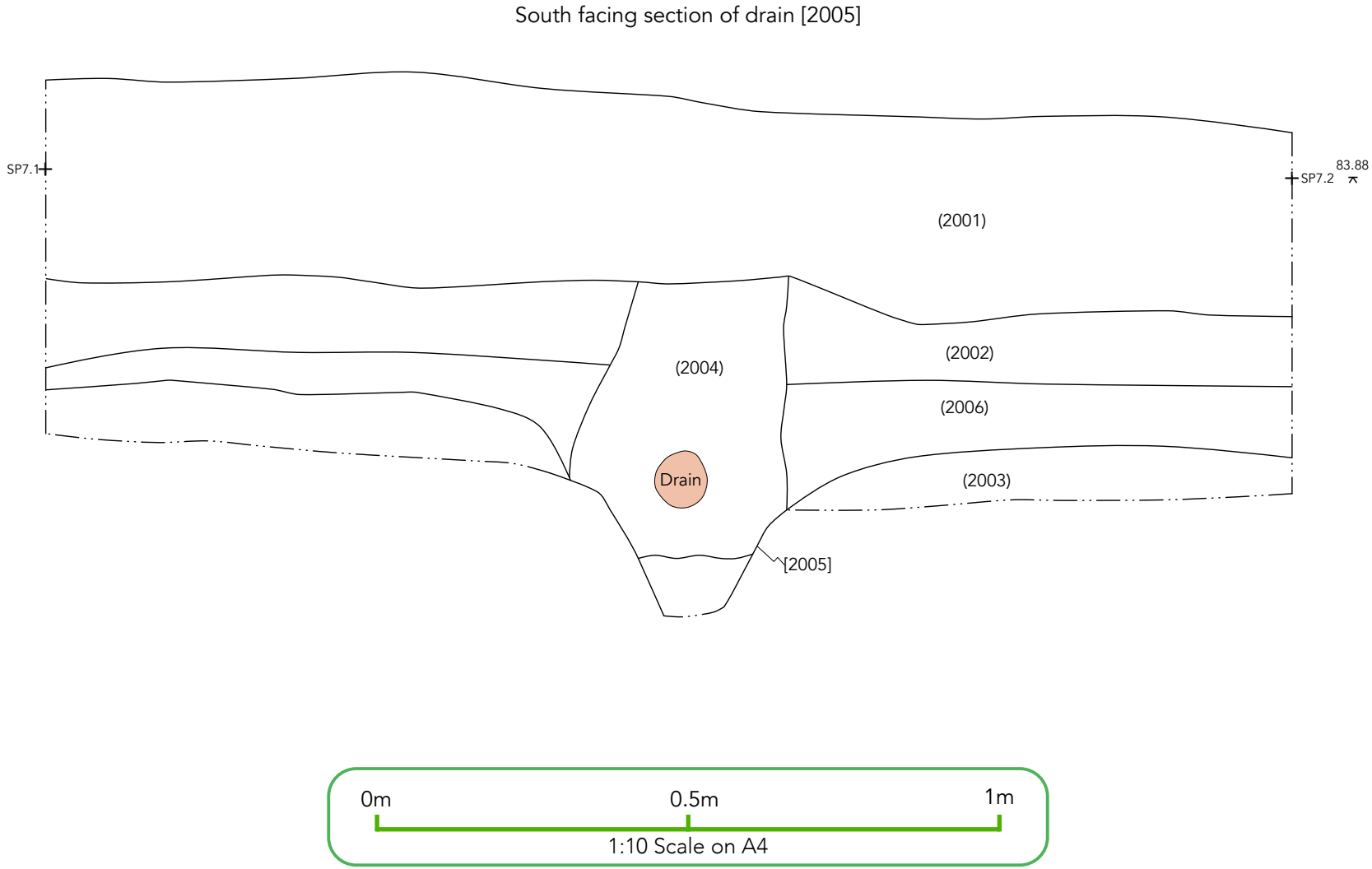


Figure 23. South facing representative section of Trench 2.

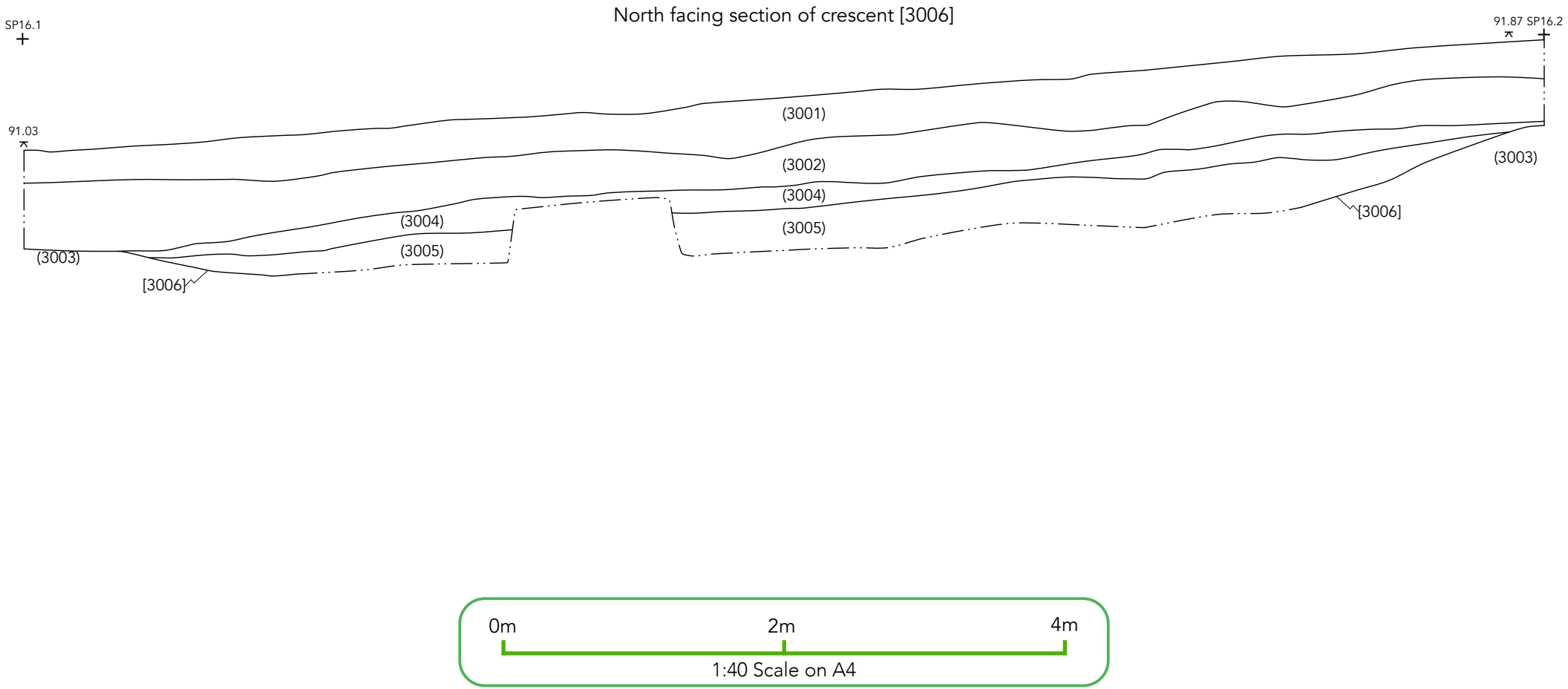
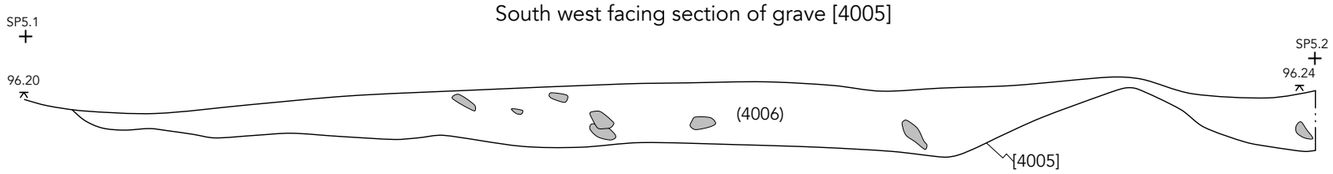
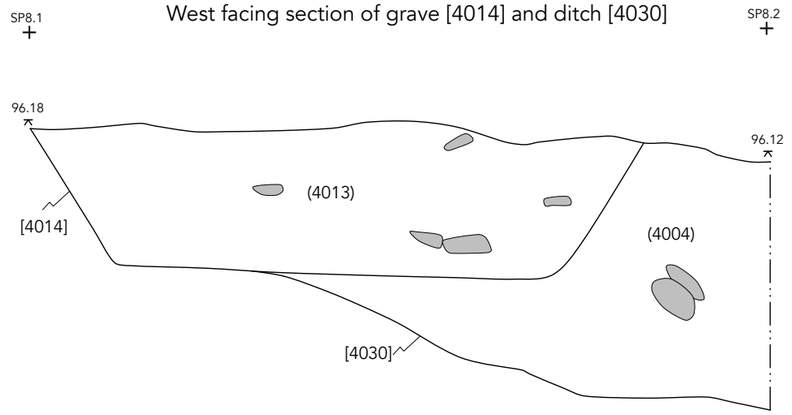


Figure 24. North facing representative section of Trench 3.

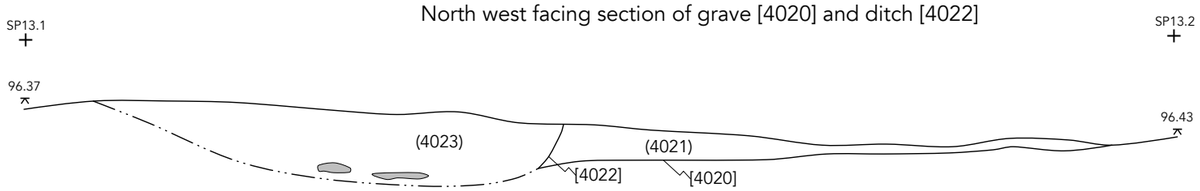
South west facing section of grave [4005]



West facing section of grave [4014] and ditch [4030]



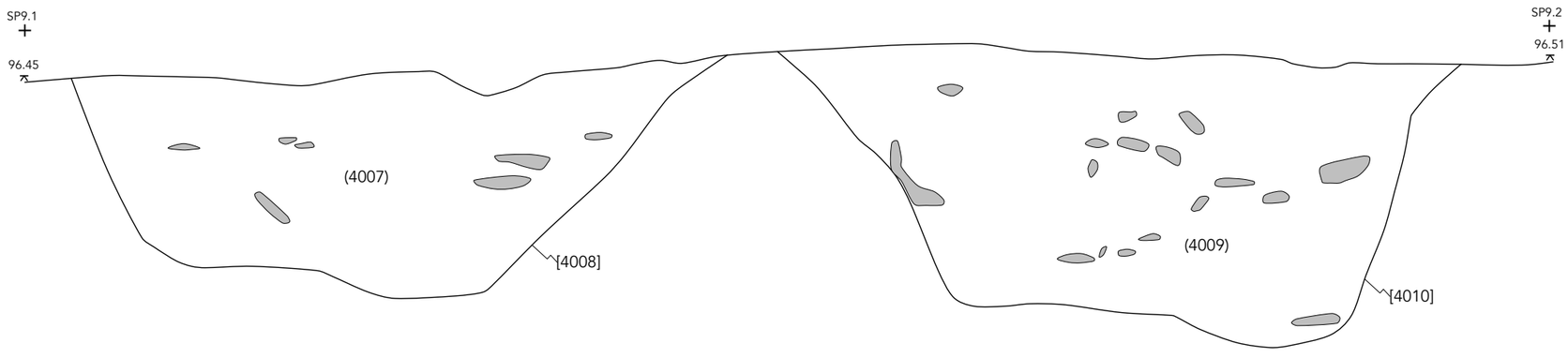
North west facing section of grave [4020] and ditch [4022]

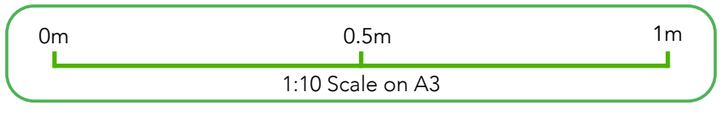


North west facing section of ditch [4015] and grave [4018]



South west facing section of ditches [4008] and [4010]





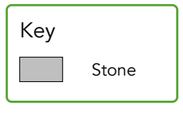


Figure 25. Trench 4 Section drawings.

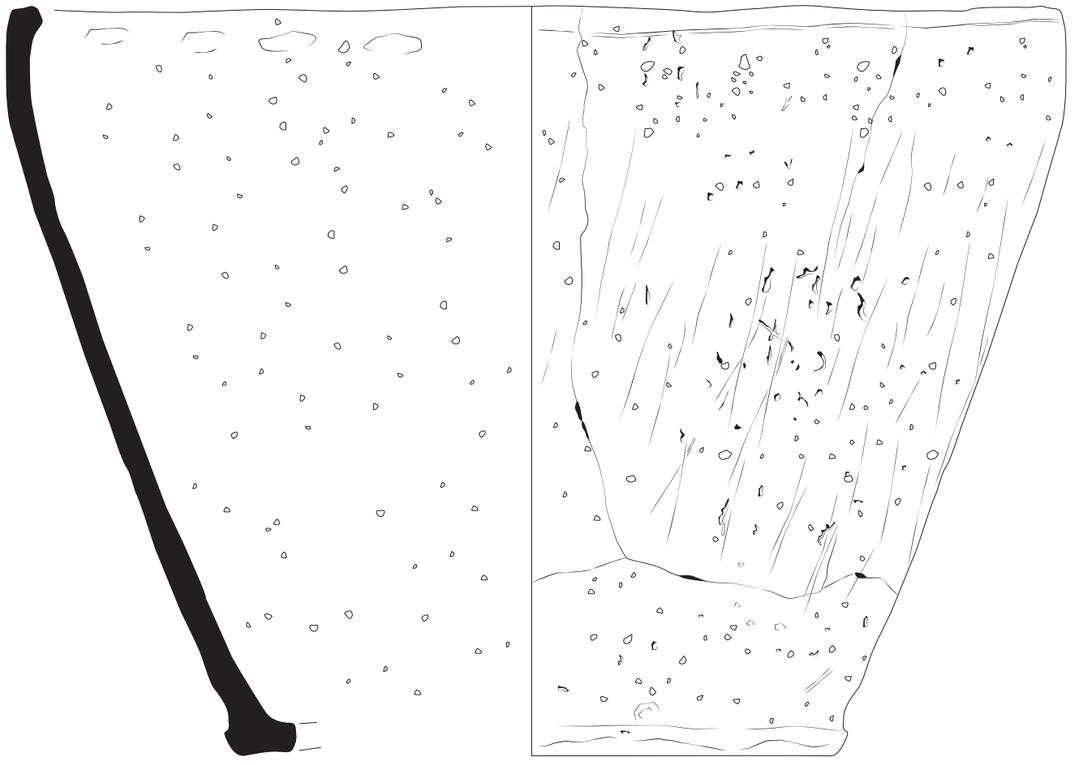


1. SF1 - Iron knife (4006); 2. SF2 - Spindle whorl (4012); 3. SF3 - Leaf-shaped arrowhead (3004); 4. SF4 - Iron knife (4017); 5. SF5 - Iron knife (4017)

Figure 26. Photographs of selected registered finds.

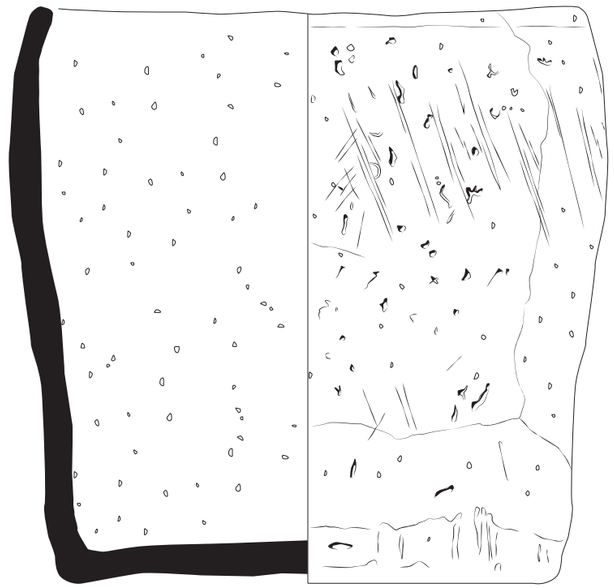
Tinney's Type 3 Late Bronze Age plain ware hook-rim jar, coarse red sandstone fabric, deep vertical finger marks on exterior surface

SF 8



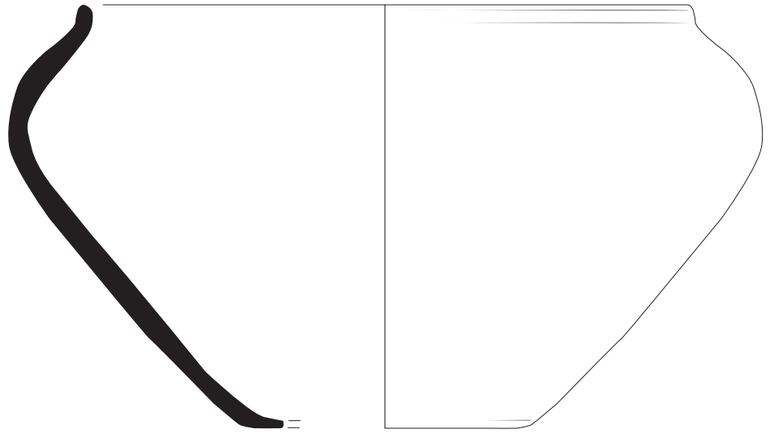
Tinney's Type 1 Late Bronze Age plain ware bucket-form jar, coarse red sandstone fabric, deep vertical finger marks on exterior surface

SF10



Tinney's Type 2 Late Bronze Age plain ware high-shouldered jar, red sandstone fabric, slightly burnished external surface

SF11



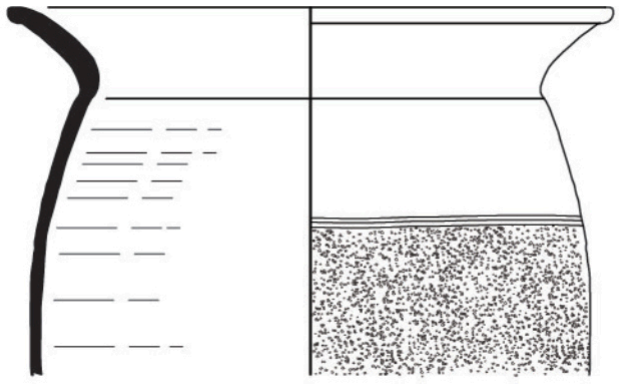
0 10cm

1:2 scale on A3

Figure 27. Digital illustrations of the three Late Bronze Age vessels recovered from the base of the ring ditch in Trench 1.

ID 1/6_1015/1001

Everted rim jar with broad unburnished/rough band to upper body. Heavily abraded and worn. Some patches of burning and limescale residue on inner surface.



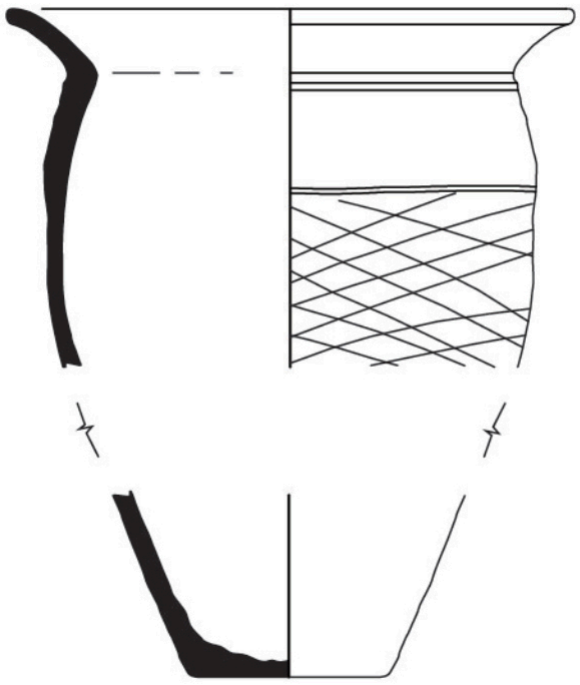
ID3_4012

Everted rim jar with relatively upright rim Similar form to Holbrook and Bidwell 8.1 (1991, 150, and fig. 8.1. The fabric is mostly reduced (mid- grey) with pinkish margins and surfaces; 'pimply' feel.



ID5_1009

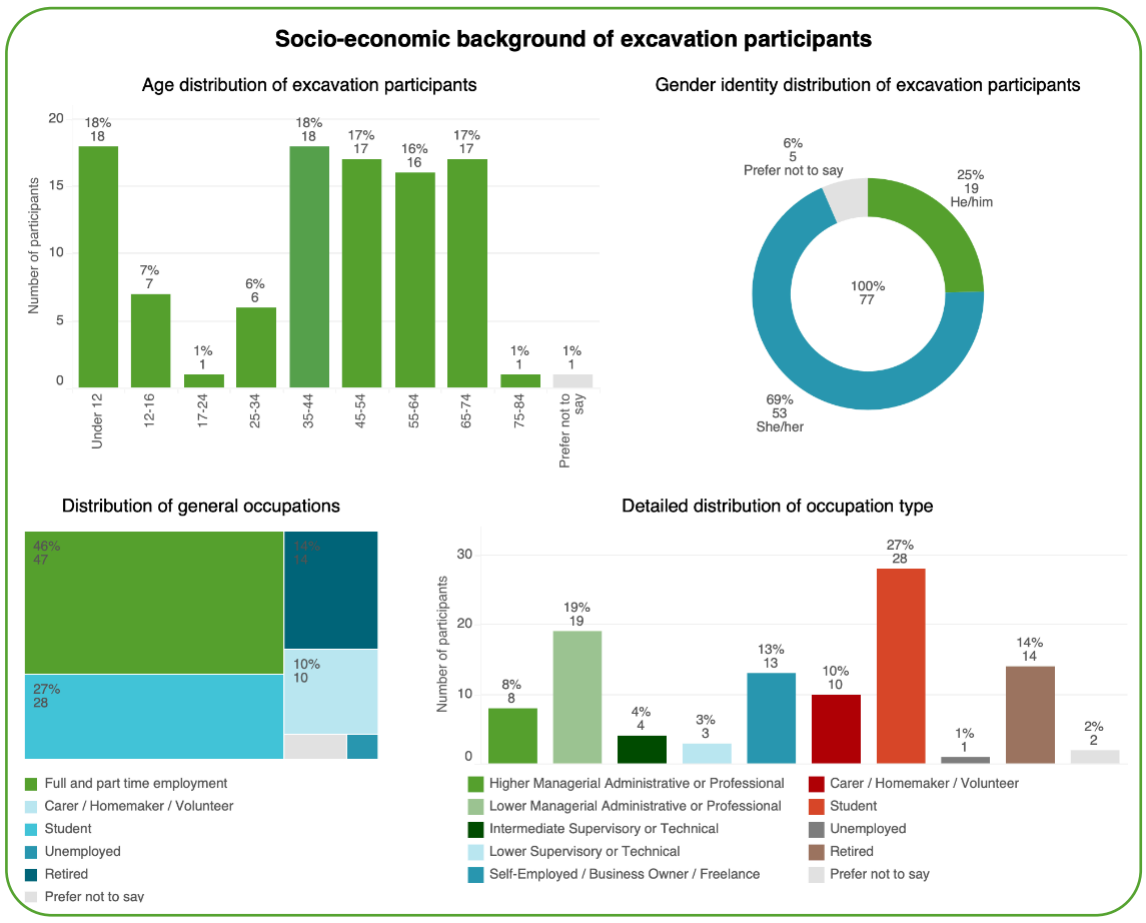
Everted rim jar with broad band of obtuse-angled cross-hatch decoration to middle body; some fragments with incised cross-hatching.

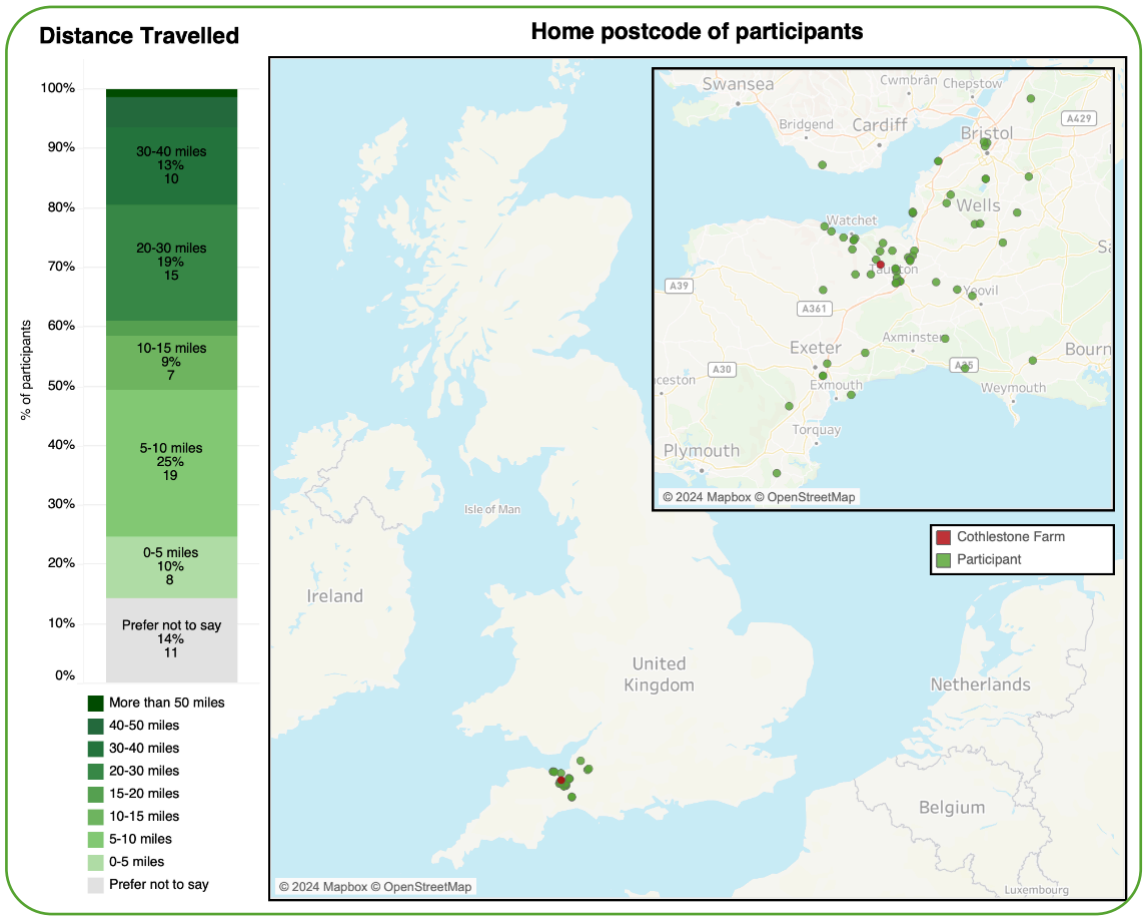


0 10cm

1:2 scale on A3

Figure 28. Digital illustrations of Romano-British pottery recovered in Trench 1.





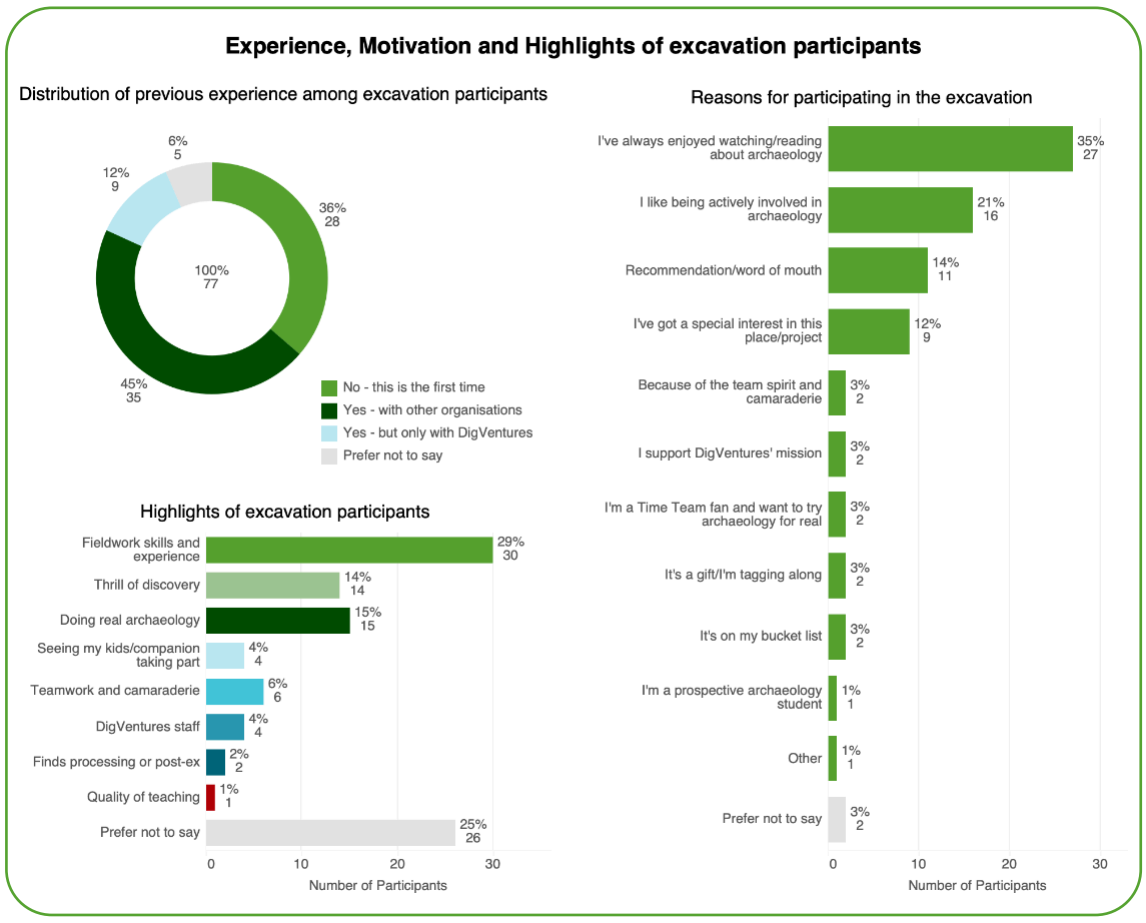
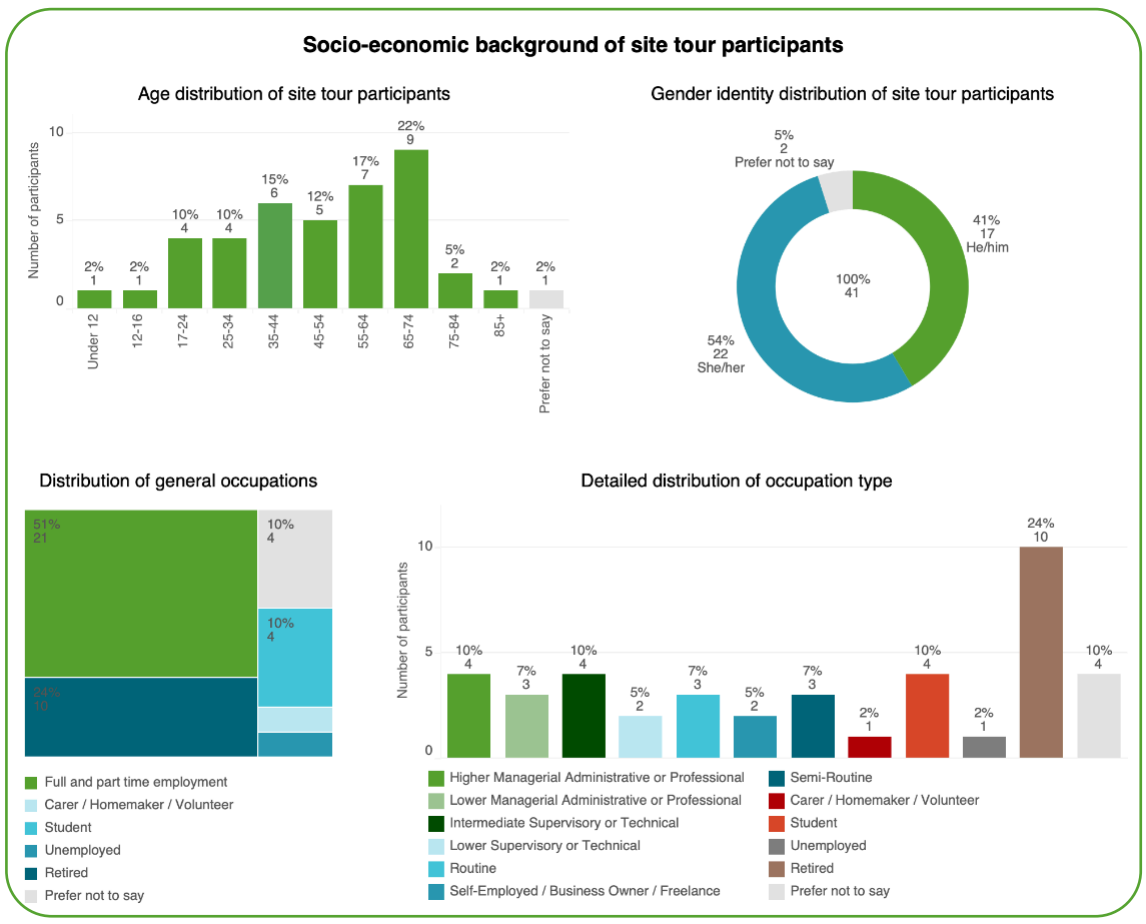
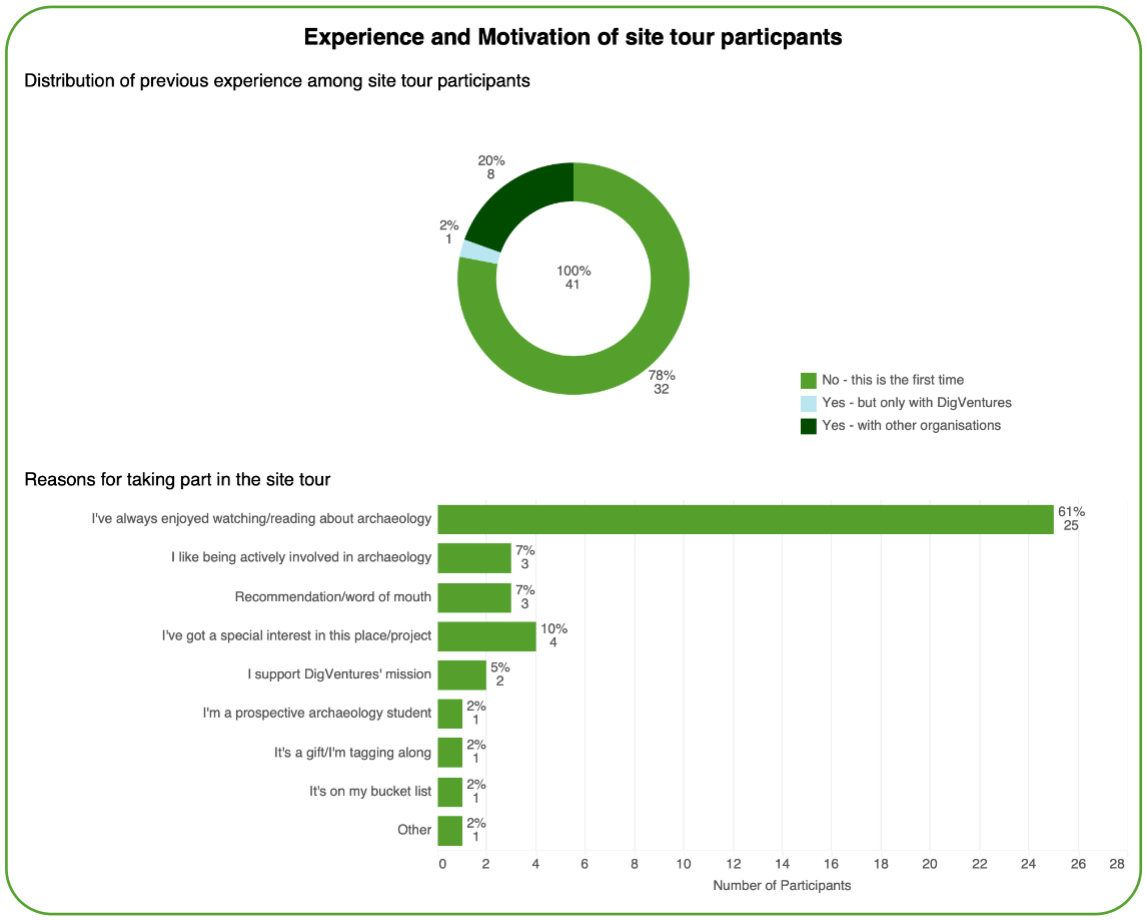


Figure 29. Public impact - Excavation participants demographics





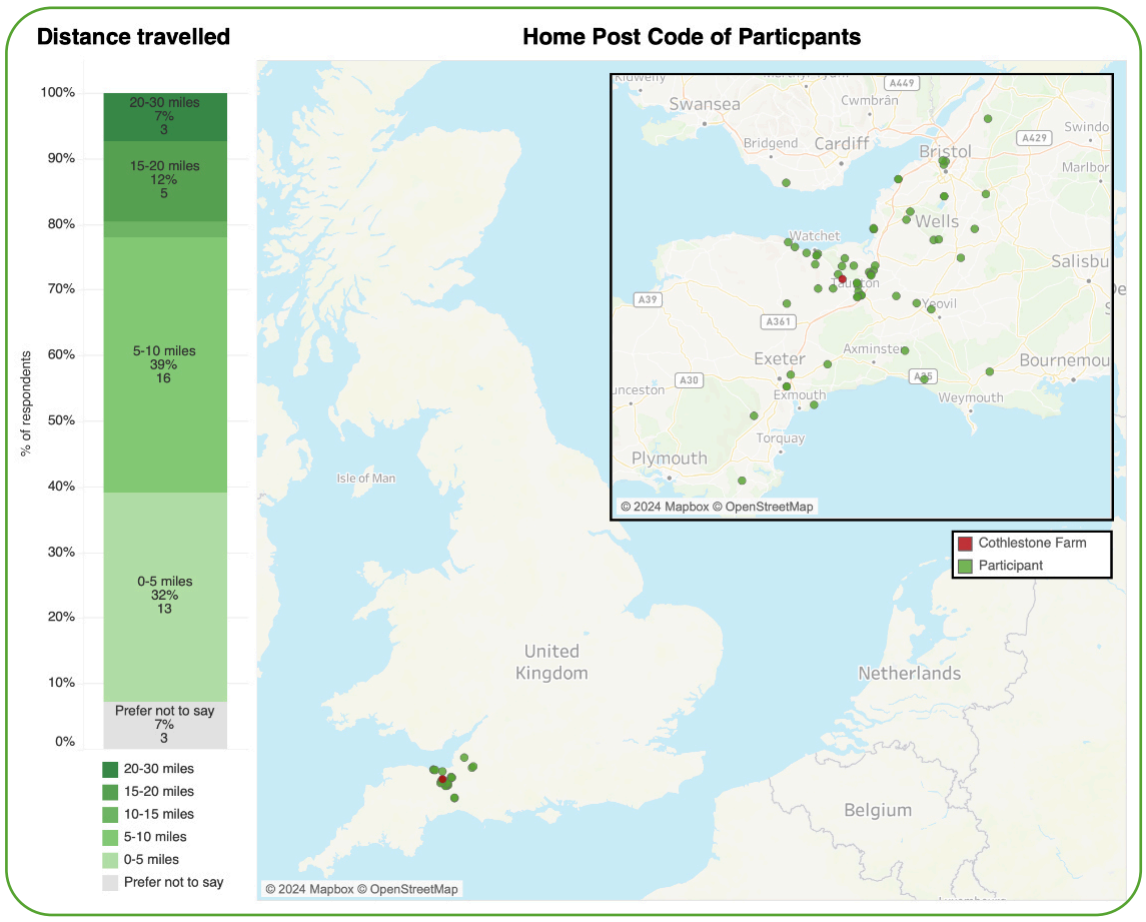


Figure 30. Public impact - Site tour participants demographics



A morning briefing in the trench



A clean trench is a happy trench! All smiles in the trowel line.



Lifting the pottery in the bottom of the ditch



The finds team reconstructing one of the Roman pots



Having a sieve searching in vain for any surviving human remains



The moment of discovery, one of the iron knives as it was excavated

Figure 31. Photographs of community participants excavating at Cothelstone Farm.

DigVentures

	EXPECTATION	SUGGESTED METHOD	OUTCOMES FOR HERITAGE	OUTCOMES FOR PEOPLE	OUTCOMES FOR COMMUNITIES
	Providing an academically rigorous framework, whilst ensuring that impact measurement is appropriate to the stage of development of a variety of different products, services and programmes.	Steps needed to ensure correct evidence is collected to determine whether or not a venture is making a positive difference	Intrinsic benefits relating to the research dividend and evidence baseline required for successful management of archaeological sites and landscapes	Instrumental benefits for participants and platform users, enabling the voluntary sector to scale in a sustainable and ethically responsible fashion	Wider social impacts received by those who may not be direct participants, but benefit through increased amenity value, tourism and local distinctiveness.
Level One	A low threshold, appropriate to very early stage innovations, which may still be at the idea stage. Involving little more than a clear articulation of why the intervention is needed, what it will aim to achieve why this is better than what currently happens. Project owners will be able to give an account of impact, providing a logical reason why their intervention could have an impact and why that would be an improvement on the current situation.	A clear rationale to show why the product/service could have an impact, and why that would be an improvement on the current situation. Articulated as a theory of change and logic model, linking activities, outputs, outcomes to hypothesized impact.	A fully illustrated Project Design, signed off by statutory stakeholder, outlining key archaeological research questions, roles, procedures, stages and outputs.	A training or activity plan, linking activities to outputs, outcomes and impact, and an explanation of how the outcome could be measured.	A training, activity, audience development and/or heritage resource management plan, linking activities to outputs, outcomes and impact, and an explanation of how the outcome could be measured.
Level Two	At Level 2 projects will be gathering data that shows some change amongst those receiving or using the intervention. At this stage, data can begin to show that there is a change in the measure of the outcome among the recipients of the product or service, but this may not be sufficient to provide evidence of direct causality.	Pre and post–survey evaluation; cohort/panel study; and regular interval surveying.	Assessment Report; Management Report, base-lined against previous investigations	Evaluation survey for participants to quantify demographics, socio-economic characteristics and spatial data, followed up with a pre and post-survey qualitative evaluation using a separate questionnaire methodology to determine any changes as a consequence of taking part	Evaluation survey for site visitors to quantify audience demographics, socio-economic characteristics and spatial data, followed up with a qualitative study using a separate questionnaire methodology to determine any changes that took place as a consequence of the visit
Level Three	At Level 3 projects will be able to demonstrate that they are causing the hypothesized impact, by showing less impact amongst those who don't receive the product/ service.	Robust methods using a control group, or evaluating a random selection of participants, begin to isolate the impact of the product/ service. All products/services at Level 3 will be well documented, with necessary skills, training (and other delivery requirements) outlined clearly, to enable effective replication in alternative places, situation, contexts etc.	Analytical report, synthesizing specialist reports with previous work locally, regionally and nationally, to determine significance, importance and potential of the site.	Meta-analysis of evaluation results with those derived from projects delivering similar community-based activities, including archaeological/ heritage and other unrelated arts/ citizen science projects.	Meta-analysis of evaluation results with those derived from projects delivering similar community-based activities - including both archaeological/heritage and other unrelated arts/citizen science projects.
Level Four	At Level 4 projects can explain why and how the intervention is having the impact observed and evidenced so far, supported by an independent evaluation to validate the findings. This will also assess the extent to which the intervention can deliver impact at a reasonable cost, and whether it can be replicated and purchased in multiple locations.	Robust independent evaluation that investigates and validates the nature of the impact; this might include endorsement via commercial standards or industry kitemarks, underpinned by a documented standardisation of delivery and processes, data on costs of production and acceptable price point for customers.	Quality assured by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) under the Registered Organisation scheme, and involving independent site inspections and documentary audit.	External audit of quality of training programmes and activities by CIfA, The Archaeological Training Forum, Register of Professional Archaeologists, Skills Passport and National Occupational Standards.	External audit of community programming and impact by specialist consultancy, undertaken independently of project team.
Level Five	At Level 5, projects will be able to demonstrate that the intervention could be operated up by someone else, somewhere else and scaled up, whilst continuing to have positive and direct impact on the outcome, and whilst remaining a financially viable proposition. For a service, this will establish whether it can be delivered by different staff in different locations.	Evidence will be derived from multiple evaluations of the product/ service in different settings (at least two evaluations; one of which will be independent) to demonstrate that the product/service can be used in different settings (which could be in different settings geographically and/or with different types of product/service users). Appropriate methods at this level will include multiple replication evaluations; future scenario analysis; or fidelity evaluation.	An excavation manual, underpinned by a broader operations manual and 'culture deck', detailing how the DigVentures project model should be applied in differing contexts.	A syllabus and training manual, underpinned by a broader operations manual and outline spectrum of engagement, detailing the participant's journey from digital supporter to experienced field digger.	An audience engagement and communications plan, underpinned by a broader operations manual and tailored 'culture deck', detailing how the intervention should be applied with clear and measurable benchmarks.

Figure 32. Standards of Evidence

	INPUTS internally or externally deployed staff and resources	ACTIVITIES the processes and tasks undertaken by the organisation	OUTPUTS a quantifiable unit of 'product' or 'service' measurable once completed	OUTCOMES Observable change for heritage, individuals or communities	MISSION AND VISION The organisation's guiding mission and long term aspirations
For Archaeology and Heritage	Excavation team Wider specialist team Venturers (public participants)	1 Desk-based assessments 2 Remote Sensing 3 3D landscape and building survey 4 Excavation 5 Post-ex assessment and analysis 6 Accessible digital archive	• Project Designs • Survey reports • Assessment and Final Reports • Management Plans • Archaeological Publications • Site Interpretations	Through our work, heritage will be: • identified, interpreted and better explained • better managed and in an improved condition	By collaborating with citizens, businesses, organisations and government, we aim to create a firm evidence-base for the past through accessible, peer-reviewed research, ultimately enabling places to thrive, prosper and sustain distinct local identities
For Individuals	Community management, educational and editorial teams DigVentures' collaborative platform: • collaborative resources DigVentures.com • collaborative finance Crowdfunding app • collaborative labour Digital Dig Team web app • collaborative knowledge MOOC learning management system	1 Crowdfunding campaigns and matched crowd/grant funded applications 2 Accessible training programme comprising Dig for a Day/ Dirty Weekend/ Field Venturer 3 Digital learning resources including site-specific and skills-based learning available in person or online 4 DigCamp and CyberDig family sessions	Funded/Match-funded Project • Number and diversity of Dig participants • Number and diversity of Digital participants • Number and diversity of DigCamp participants • Co-created digital archives and interactive, open-access, online resource measurable through digital analytics	By taking part in our work: • a wider range of people will be involved in archaeology and heritage • people will have learnt about heritage, leading to changes in ideas and actions • people will have greater wellbeing	By creating a spectrum of digital and physical opportunities to participate together, we aim to equip citizens with the skills needed to use, produce, manage and co-commission heritage resources, fostering civic awareness and a deeper sense of place and belonging
For Communities / Society	Community management educational and editorial teams Site Hut Dig Timeline Social Channels	1 School visits 2 Site open days 3 Pop-up and virtual museums 4 Published web content and native social posts 5 Recorded video and live 6 Traditional broadcast and print media	• Number of web/social engagements, and community growth • Number and diversity of site and pop-up visitors • Site and museum visitors increased and lasting audience for sites	As a consequence of our work: • The local area will be a better place to live, work or visit • Partner organisations will be more resilient	By challenging the perceived barriers to archaeological participation, we will create an accessible 'broad tent' incorporating multi-cultural and diverse perspectives; we aim to increasing the awareness and amenity of sites and visitor attractions, stimulate leisure and tourism, and help to make distinctive heritage the unique selling point of a place

Figure 33. OUR THEORY of CHANGE - Measuring impact for both intrinsic outcome for archaeology and instrumental benefits for people and communities

Appendix A: Context descriptions

Table 1. Trench 1 context descriptions

Trench 1	**Dimensions:**	**15.00m x 6.00m**					
	Orientation:	**NNE-SSW**					
	Reason for trench:	**To investigate geophysical anomalies and cropmarks from aerial photographs consistent with a ring ditch**					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
1001	Dark greyish brown, loose, clayey silt with occasional small to medium sub-angular charcoal and moderately small to medium sized angular to sub-angular platy shillet/sandstone inclusions.	Deposit	Topsoil	15	6	0.28 (avg.)	N/A
1002	Mid greyish brown, loose, clayey silt with moderately frequent small to medium sized angular to sub-angular platy shillet/sandstone.	Deposit	Subsoil	15	6	0.18 (avg.)	N/A
1003	Light greyish yellow, firm, sandy clay with frequent small to medium angular to sub-angular platy shillet/sandstone inclusions and moderately frequent small angular to sub-angular spheroidal gravel.	Deposit	Natural geology in Trench 1 - superficial yellow gravel, sandstone and greyish green shillet coming on to a dark orange clay with sands.	15	6	0.05 (avg.)	N/A
1004	NE-SW aligned linear gully with a flat base and shallow, concave sides.	Cut	Possible water drainage gully or one phase of a cemetery boundary ditch. Terminus slot	> 2.00	1.03	0.13	F02
1005	Dark pinkish brown, friable clayey silt with moderately frequent small to medium sized sub-angular platy stones concentrated towards the base of the feature.	Fill	Silting fill of a gully	> 2.00	1.03	0.13	F02
1006	E-W aligned linear, shallow u-shaped gully with a rounded base and shallow concave sides.	Cut	Cut of a linear gully/ditch that truncates Romano-British feature [1008], possibly representing two phases of cemetery boundary	> 0.98	0.84	0.08	F03
1007	Mid reddish brown, firm, clayey silt with moderately frequent small to medium sized sub-angular platy sandstone/shillet.	Fill	Fill of a potential linear gully	> 0.98	0.84	0.08	F03
1008	NE-SW aligned linear shallow u-shaped gully with a flat base and shallow, concave sides.	Cut	Possible drainage gully or cemetery boundary	> 1.00	0.92	0.07	F02
1009	Dark reddish brown, friable clayey silt with moderately frequent small sub-angular spheroidal gravel inclusions and occasional medium sub-angular platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Silting fill of a possible Romano-British gully or cemetery boundary ditch	> 1.00	0.92	0.07	F02
1010	NE-SW aligned linear shallow u-shaped gully with a flat base and shallow, concave sides.	Cut	Possible shallow drainage gully or maybe a cemetery boundary ditch	> 1.00	0.67	0.15	F03
1011	Dark reddish brown, friable clayey silt with occasional small to medium sized angular platy sandstone.	Fill	Gradual silting fill of a linear gully	> 1.00	0.67	0.15	F03
1012	E-W aligned sub-rectangular possible grave cut with a flat base and steep, straight sides.	Cut	Likely grave cut, part of a group of potential graves in the northern half of Trench 1 on an E-W alignment. No skeletal remains were recovered but these features are aligned parallel and respect each other as part of a possible arranged cemetery	1.9	0.54	0.27	F09
1013	Mid reddish brown, friable sandy clay with rare flecks of sub-angular platy sandstone inclusions concentrated towards top of feature.	Fill	Backfill of possible grave 1012. One pot sherd recovered. No bone preservation due to soil conditions	1.9	0.54	0.27	F09

Trench 1	Dimensions:	15.00m x 6.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate geophysical anomalies and cropmarks from aerial photographs consistent with a ring ditch					
Context	Description	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Feature
1014	NE-SW aligned linear shallow u-shaped gully with a flat base and shallow, concave sides.	Cut	Cut of a very shallow linear gully - Romano-British pottery recovered from the fill. Ephemeral nature makes it uncertain as to whether this is a plough furrow truncating features in the vicinity or a genuine Romano-British feature, such as a cemetery boundary ditch	> 1.30	1.2	0.06	F03
1015	Light reddish brown, firm clayey silt with moderate small to medium sized sub-angular platy sandstone/shillet inclusions.	Fill	Fill of a possible Romano-British gully or a plough furrow truncating Romano-British features in the vicinity.	> 1.30	1.2	0.06	F03
1016	E-W aligned sub-rectangular shallow u-shaped possible grave cut with a flat base and vertical, straight sides.	Cut	Cut of a grave - larger and better dug than the three excavated graves to the south, possibly of a different phase of cemetery.	> 1.82	0.88	0.25	F10
1017	Dark reddish brown, firm clayey silt with occasional small to medium sized sub-angular platy sandstone/shillet inclusions.	Fill	Backfill of a grave - silty material	> 1.82	0.88	0.25	F10
1018	E-W aligned sub-rectangular shallow u-shaped possible grave cut with a sub-rounded base and vertical, straight sides.	Cut	Cut of an E-W aligned grave in the early Christian tradition. Shallow and slightly irregularly dug. Possibly relating to an earlier phase of cemetery.	1.53	0.51	0.18	F07
1019	Mid reddish brown, firm clayey silt with moderate small to medium sub-angular platy sandstone/shillet inclusions.	Fill	Backfill of a grave	1.53	0.51	0.18	F07
1020	E-W aligned sub-rectangular possible grave cut with a flat base and vertical, straight sides.	Cut	Cut of an E-W aligned burial, part of a row of four parallel burials in Trench 1. Very shallow and poorly dug - possibly representing one phase of cemetery.	1.95	0.58	0.12	F08
1021	Mid reddish brown, firm, clayey silt with moderate small to medium sized sub-angular platy sandstone/shillet inclusions.	Fill	Backfill of grave	1.95	0.58	0.12	F08
1022	E-W aligned irregular sub-rectangular shallow u-shaped possible grave cut, flat base and shallow, concave sides.	Cut	Irregularly shaped large possible E-W aligned possible grave	2.4	1.15	0.16	F06
1023	Mid reddish brown, firm clayey silt with moderately frequent small to medium sized sub-angular platy sandstone/shillet inclusions	Fill	Backfill of a possible E-W aligned grave	2.4	1.15	0.16	F06
1024	35m diameter circular deep u-shaped ring ditch with sub-rounded base and steep, concave sides.	Cut	Cut of a circular ring ditch	> 2.50	1.38+	0.16+	F01
1025	Dark orangey brown, friable silty clay with frequent small to medium sized sub-angular to sub-rounded spheroidal charcoal inclusions and rare small to medium sized sub-angular elongated shillet/sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Basal fill of the ring ditch in Trench 1. This material was very charcoal rich with ashy sediments throughout indicating an intentional dumping deposit of burnt waste directly into the base of the ditch not long after it was first opened. Within this basal fill was an intentionally placed deposit of three complete though partially fragmented ceramic vessels (SF8, SF10-11) that were placed directly onto the base of the ditch perhaps either as cremations or intentional offerings of food vessels.	> 2.50	1.32	0.16	F01
1026	Dark orangey grey, friable clayey silt with frequent medium to large sub-angular spheroidal shaped charcoal inlcusions.	Fill	Intentional tipping event of burnt ashy waste material. Thin tip line visible in section below silting (1034) and above (1037). Could represent waste tipping from whatever activity is being carried out inside the ring ditch enclosure.	> 2.50	1.47	0.09	F01

Trench 1	Dimensions:	15.00m x 6.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate geophysical anomalies and cropmarks from aerial photographs consistent with a ring ditch					
Context	Description	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Feature
1027	Light orangey grey friable clayey silt with occasional small to medium sized sub-angular charcoal inclusions.	Fill	Thin layer of silting with some grey ashy charcoal inclusions. This represents the last of a series of thin silting and tipping events containing burnt material before later thicker homogeneous silting up of the ring ditch in the Romano-British/early medieval periods.	> 2.50	1.78	0.08	F01
1028	Mid orangey brown friable clayey silt with occasional flecks of small sub-rounded spheroidal charcoal inclusions concentrated towards top central area of the fill.	Fill	Silting fill of the ring ditch in Trench 1, possibly associated with use during the Romano-British period based on pottery recovered. This silting event appears to have occurred after a series of ashy tipping and silting below and may represent a change in use of the monument in the Romano-British period from its function in the Prehistoric	> 2.50	3.42	0.38	F01
1029	Dark orangey brown friable clayey silt with occasional small to medium sized sub-angular to sub-rounded platy gravel inclusions.	Fill	Final silting event filling in and sealing off ditch [1024] after the ring ditch monument finally went out of use and was no longer visible in the landscape. A fairly homogeneous silting fill with occasional gravel inclusions suggests a relatively undisturbed silting event over an extended period of time	> 2.50	3.02	0.59	F01
1030	Light grey, plastic clay, no inclusions	Fill	A very thin band of greyish clay was observed immediately below the basal fill (1025) were small pools of water were occasionally developing. It is perhaps most likely this represents the exposed natural clay base of the originally cut ditch that changed color over time due to exposure to water and air. Alternatively this could also represent an intentional clay lining to the base of the ditch, but this is considered unlikely given that the natural geology in this location is clay	> 2.50	0.83	0.03	F01
1031	Mid orangey brown, friable, silty clay with occasional small to medium angular to sub-angular spheroidal shale/sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Possible initial bank slippage material slumping in from the external side of the ring ditch and sitting on top of basal fill (1025).	> 2.50	0.84	0.13	F01
1032	Light yellowish brown, loose sandy silt with frequent small to medium sized angular to sub-angular spheroidal gravel inclusions	Fill	Likely bank slippage material consisting of a very gravelly redeposited natural slump falling in from the external side of the ring ditch.	> 2.50	0.97	0.16	F01
1033	Dark orangey brown friable silty clay with occasional small to medium sized angular to sub-angular platy sandstone/shillet inclusions.	Fill	Possible silting event consisting of material washing in from the external side of the ring ditch after initial bank slumping (1031) and (1032).	> 2.50	1.3	0.2	F01
1034	Dark orangey brown, firm, silty clay with rare medium sub-angular spheroidal shillet/sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Silting event between two possible tipping lines (1026) below and (1027) above. This likely represents a short period of silting between two burnt waste tipping events.	> 2.50	1.43	0.18	F01
1035	Light orangey brown, plastic, clay with moderately frequent small sub-angular spheroidal gravel inclusions.	Fill	Upon further excavation this context was considered to be natural geological clays and gravels	> 2.50	0.56	> 0.02	F01
1036	Colour: light greyish yellow. Compaction: dry, firm. Composition: clayey silt. Inclusions: frequent small to medium sub-angular platy gravel, evenly distributed.	Fill	Gravelly backfill of a possible grave	> 1.25	0.75	0.2	F05

Trench 1	Dimensions:	15.00m x 6.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate geophysical anomalies and cropmarks from aerial photographs consistent with a ring ditch					
Context	Description	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Feature
1037	Dark orangey brown, friable silty clay with frequent small to medium sized sub-angular platy sandstone/shillet inclusions and moderately frequent small to medium sized sub-angular platy gravel inclusions.	Fill	First silting event after the basal fill deposition and before the first burnt ashy tipping event.	> 2.50	1.49	0.2	F01
1038	E-W aligned irregular sub-rectangular possible shallow u-shaped grave cut with flat base and steep, concave sides.	Cut	Cut of a possible grave visible in west facing section through ring ditch in Trench 1. A relationship was established in section of this feature cutting the upper ring ditch fills but it is not known for sure if this was a grave as no bone or grave goods were recovered and the full extent of the feature was not identified. The feature is on an E-W alignment, but at a slightly different orientation to the other graves excavated in the trench. Therefore it could also represent a shallow gully similar to [1039] on the southern side of the ring ditch.	> 1.25	0.75	0.2	F05
1039	E-W aligned regular, sub-rectangular shallow u-shaped possible grave cut with flat base and steep, concave sides.	Cut	Cut of a possible gully or shallow recut running parallel to the ring ditch. This was visible in both the west facing section of the ring ditch and in the east facing section of the trench. It's continuation beyond the ring ditch intervention towards the east could not be seen in plan due to the similarity of the soil matrix. It had also been considered that this feature could be a grave truncating the ring ditch, but this appears unlikely due to the size and orientation of this feature.	> 1.80	1.16	0.37	F04
1040	Light yellowish brown, friable clayey silt with moderately frequent small to medium sub-angular platy gravel inclsusions concentrated towards base of feature.	Fill	Silting fill of a possible shallow gully running parallel to the southern side of the ring ditch.	> 1.80	1.16	0.37	F04
1041	Recut of [1024] with sub-rounded base	Cut	Possible recut of ring ditch in Trench 1	2.50+	3.38	1.25	F01

Table 2. Trench 2 context descriptions

Trench 2	**Dimensions:**	**15.00m x 1.50m**					
	Orientation:	**E-W**					
	Reason for trench:	**To investigate geophysical anomalies and cropmarks from aerial photographs consistent with a sub-circular enclosure**					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
2001	Mid reddish brown, friable silty loam with small angular to sub-angular platy gravel inclusions.	Deposit	Topsoil	15	1.5	0.28 (avg.)	N/A
2002	Dark brownish red, friable silty clay with frequent flecks of medium sized angular to sub-angular platy stone inclusions.	Deposit	Subsoil	15	1.5	0.09-0.40	N/A
2003	Mid orangey brown plastic silty clay with frequent inclusions of small to medium sized angular to sub-angular platy shillet/sandstone inclusions.	Deposit	Natural	15	1.5	0.10+	N/A
2004	Mid reddish brown moderately loose silty clay with frequent flecks of large and very angular to sub-angular platy gravel and stone inclusions.	Fill	Fill of field drain	1.50+	0.21-0.30	0.53+	F11
2005	N-S aligned linear cut of a field drain with steep, straight sides.	Cut	Cut of field drain - not fully excavated	1.50+	0.21-0.30	0.53+	F11
2006	Mid orangey brown silty clay with frequent flecks of medium angular to sub-angular stone inclusions.	Deposit	Colluvial build up above the natural	15	1.5	0.12+	N/A

Table 3. Trench 3 context descriptions

Trench 3	Dimensions:	15.00m x 1.50m					
	Orientation:	NE-SW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate a large semi-curvilinear oblong geophysical anomaly					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
3001	Dark greyish brown, friable clayey silt with frequent small angular to sub-rounded sandstone/shillet inclusions.	Deposit	Topsoil	15	1.5	0.20 to 0.40	N/A
3002	Mid greyish brown, friable clayey silt with frequent medium sized angular to sub-rounded platy sandstone/shillet.	Deposit	Subsoil	15	1.5	0.20 to 0.45	N/A
3003	Dark greyish brown, compacted fine silty sand with moderately frequent small to very large sub-angular to sub-rounded sandstone inclusions	Deposit	Natural	15	1.5	0.10 (avg.)	N/A
3004	Mid greyish brown, malleable clayey silt with frequent flecks of large angular to sub-rounded platy sandstone/shillet inclusions.	Fill	Uppermost silting fill of partially excavated large geophysical feature. Prehistoric artefacts such as a flint arrowhead and pottery were recovered from this fill. This feature could not be fully characterized due to its large size within the trench 3 limit of excavation.	9.7	1.50+	0.11	F12
3005	Mid greyish brown, friable sandy loam with frequent large angular to sub-rounded sandstone/shillet inclusions and moderately frequent flecks of charcoal.	Fill	Lowest fill encountered as part of the partial excavation of feature [3006]. This very dark clayey silt fill container small sherds of prehistoric pottery. Only a very small depth of this deposit was excavated and it could not be fully characterized due to depth restrictions.	9.7	1.50+	0.34	F12
3006	Irregular sub circular crescent shaped feature - not fully excavated	Cut	This feature could not be fully characterized due to its large size and depth within the limit of excavation. It was partially excavated with two interventions - neither reached the base. The fills were fairly homogeneous throughout and this feature may be related to post industrial quarrying, as interpreted on the geophysical survey. However, the fills did not contain any modern artefactual material and all finds appeared to be prehistoric. It is possible this feature may have been some sort of utilization of the old paleochannel river bank that once existed here, but further excavation would be required to refine this interpretation.	9.7	1.50+	0.45	F12

Table 4. Trench 4 context descriptions

Trench 4	Dimensions:	13.00m x 4.00m					
	Orientation:	NNW-SSE					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate geophysical anomalies and cropmarks from aerial photographs consistent with a Ring Ditch and linear features					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
4001	Dark greyish brown, loose clayey silt with occasional flecks of small sub-angular to platy shillet/sandstone inclusions	Deposit	Topsoil	13	4	0.17 (avg.)	N/A
4002	Light reddish brown, loose clayey silt with occasional small to medium sized sub-angular platy sandstone/shillet inclusions.	Deposit	Subsoil	13	4	0.25 (avg.)	N/A
4003	Very light greyish yellow, firm medium sand with frequent medium to large sized angular platy sandstone/shillet inclusions.	Deposit	Natural	13	4	0.05 (avg.)	N/A
4004	Mid reddish brown, friable silty sand with rare flecks of medium sub-angular to rounded spheroidal heamatite and frequent pieces of large angular to sub-rounded platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Upper silting fill of ditch 4030 marking the final abandonment of the feature as it fully silted up.	> 3.50	4	0.68	F01
4005	E-W aligned sub-rectangular shallow u-shaped grave cut with a flat base and steep, straight sides.	Cut	E-W aligned shallow grave cut with a single intentional backfill. No skeletal remains surviving, an iron knife SF1 was recovered. This is a likely early Christian or Anglo-Saxon burial, part of a group of at least 4 in the northern part of trench 4. The very shallow nature of this cut may suggest heavy ground erosion over the centuries eroding away a possible bank into which this grave may have been cut.	2.1	0.63	0.12	F16
4006	Dark reddish brown, firm sandy silt with occasional small sub-angular to sub-rounded platy sandstone inclusions concentrated towards Surface of feature.	Fill	Single event backfill material of a grave. No skeletal remains recovered although a small knife SF1 was recovered.	2.1	0.63	0.12	F16
4007	Mid reddish brown, friable silty sand with frequent large sub-angular to rounded platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Single event possible backfill of field drain	> 1.00	1.1	0.4	F13
4008	NW-SE aligned linear deep u-shaped ditch with a flat base and moderately steep, straight sides.	Cut	Possible post medieval agricultural drainage ditch. Aligned nw-se and running parallel to another similar ditch [4010], though no relationship could be established between the two. They are however likely broadly contemporary	> 1.00	1.1	0.4	F13
4009	Mid reddish brown, friable silty sand with frequent large sub-angular to rounded platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Fill of post medieval field boundary or agricultural drainage ditch.	> 1.00	0.76	0.39	F14
4010	NW-SE aligned linear deep u-shaped ditch with a flat base and steep, straight sides.	Cut	Possible post med drain/field boundary ditch running parallel to similar ditch [4008]. The two are likely broadly contemporary.	> 1.00	0.76	0.39	F14
4011	Mid brownish red, friable silty sand with frequent large sub-angular to rounded platy sandstone and shillet inclusions	Fill	Secondary silting fill of ditch 4030. Represents gradual silting up of ditch as it went out of use. Romano-British pottery fragments found within this layer Suggesting the feature remained visible in the landscape over a long period of time and was possibly being maintained to achieve this.	> 1.50	2	0.3	F01
4012	Mid brownish red, loose clayey sand with frequent medium sub-angular to rounded platy sandstone inclusions and occasional small sub-angular to sub-rounded spheroidal heamatite inclusions.	Fill	Middle silting fill of the ditch. Potentially started forming after ring ditch went out of use. Spindle whorl found in it. Sits above slumping fills	> 1.50	1.8	0.3	F01

Trench 4	Dimensions:	13.00m x 4.00m					
	Orientation:	NNW-SSE					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate geophysical anomalies and cropmarks from aerial photographs consistent with a Ring Ditch and linear features					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
4013	Mid reddish brown, friable sandy silt with rare flecks and small sub-angular to sub-rounded platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Fill of possible early medieval E-W aligned grave visible truncating northern edge of ring ditch in Trench 4.	1.8	0.8	0.29	F15
4014	E-W aligned shallow u-shaped potential grave with flat base and vertical, straight sides.	Cut	Possible grave cut on an E-W alignment truncating ring ditch F01 on it's external northern edge in trench 4. No skeletal remains recovered. Part of a series of graves making up an early medieval cemetery in this location	1.8	0.8	0.29	F15
4015	Mid reddish brown, friable sandy silt with frequent large angular to sub-rounded platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Fill of post medieval drain 4018. Cuts through grave 4016	> 0.80	> 0.50	> 0.22	F14
4016	NW-SE aligned linear deep u-shaped ditch with flat base and steep, straight sides.	Cut	Cut of a post medieval drainage ditch/field boundary truncating grave 4018.	> 0.80	> 0.50	> 0.22	F14
4017	Mid reddish brown, friable silty sand with frequent flecks and small sub-angular to rounded platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Likely single event backfill of grave 4016 containing two iron knives.	1.1	0.6	0.19	F17
4018	E-W aligned sub-rectangular possible grave with flat base and vertical, straight sides.	Cut	Cut of E-W aligned grave truncated by post medieval drainage ditch 4016. No skeletal remains were recovered but two iron knives, likely grave goods, were recovered suggesting these burials may date to the Anglo Saxons period. This grave is part of a group of at least 4 burials visible in the northern part of trench 4 indicating a possible Anglo Saxon cemetery	1.1	0.6	0.19	F17
4019	Mid greyish red very loose medium-grained sand.	Fill	Sandy slump material collapse into the ditch. The profile would again suggest this has entered from the external side of the ditch, but may also have been manufactured by cleaning out of the feature.	1.5	> 0.80	0.18	F01
4020	E-W aligned shallow u-shaped sub-rectangular possible grave cut with a flat base and shallow, straight sides.	Cut	Heavily truncated very shallow possible grave. Likely truncated by ploughing from above and on the eastern side by a post med boundary ditch.	0.5	0.45	0.06	F18
4021	Mid reddish brown, firm silty sand with occasional flecks and medium sized sub-angular to sub-rounded platy sandstone inclusions	Fill	Heavily truncated fill of possible grave	0.5	0.45	0.06	F18
4022	NW-SE aligned linear ditch, not fully excavated.	Cut	Cut of post-medieval boundary/drainage ditch showing relationship with truncated grave [4020].	> 0.50	> 0.60	> 0.10	F14
4023	Mid reddish brown, friable silty sand with frequent large sub-angular to rounded platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Fill of post med drainage/field boundary ditch	> 0.50	> 0.60	> 0.10	F14
4024	Mid reddish brown, loose fine-grained silty sand with frequent flecks of sub-angular to sub-rounded platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Possible collapsed natural ditch edge slumping from the internal side of the ditch.	> 1.50	0.7	0.16	F01
4025	NW-SE aligned, linear deep u-shaped sitch with rounded base and steep, straight sides.	Cut	Cut of post med drain drainage or field boundary ditch visible truncating ring ditch F01 in trench 4	> 1.50	> 0.62	0.46	F14
4026	Mid reddish brown, friable silty sand with frequent very large sub-angular to rounded platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	fill of post med ditch/field boundary truncating ring ditch F01 in trench 4.	> 1.50	> 0.62	0.46	F14
4027	E-W aligned sub-rectangular shallow u-shaped possible grave with flat base and steep, straight sides.	Cut	Probable grave cut truncating edge of ditch 4030. Same alignment as other similar features possibly indicating an early medieval cemetery	> 0.60	0.8	0.25	F20

Trench 4	Dimensions:	13.00m x 4.00m					
	Orientation:	NNW-SSE					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate geophysical anomalies and cropmarks from aerial photographs consistent with a Ring Ditch and linear features					
Context	**Description**	**Type**	**Interpretation**	**Length (m)**	**Width (m)**	**Depth (m)**	**Feature**
4028	Mid reddish brown, friable sandy clay with moderately frequent flecks of small angular to sub-angular platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Fill of possible grave truncating ditch 4030, only partially excavated.	> 0.60	0.8	0.25	F20
4029	Dark reddish brown, malleable sandy clay with frequent flecks of large angular to sub-rounded platy sandstone and shillet inclusions.	Fill	Basal slump in ditch with the profile suggesting slumping from the outside of the feature. However, it is also possible this profile has been manufactured by clearung out of the ditch, but no clear recut is visible.	> 1.50	1.4	0.1	F01
4030	Curvi-linear, deep u-shaped ring ditch with a flat base and moderately steep, concave sides.	Cut	Large 35m diameter ring ditch visible in both trenches 1 and 4. The intervention in trench 4 revealed a very different sequence of deposition compared to trench 1 with a series of homogeneous silting fills approximately 1.6m in depth. Possible remnants of initial slumping from the external side of the ditch and remnants of external bank material 4031 was visible in the western LOE of the trench. Romano-British pottery was found within the later silting fills, suggesting the ditch was still at least partially open at this period and may have been maintained until final silting up after abandonment.	> 4.30	1.96	0.27	F01
4031	Light greyish yellow, friable silty sand with frequent large angular to rounded platy sandstone and shillet inclusions.	Deposit	Remnants of potential bank material outside of ring ditch. Seen in east facing section of tr 4.	4.9	4	0.07 (avg.)	F01
4032	Mid reddish brown, friable silty sand with frequent flecks of medium sized angular to sub-rounded platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Possible single event backfill of a grave heavily truncated by drainage ditch [4010].	> 0.28	> 0.29	0.34	F19
4033	E-W aligned irregular, rectangular deep u-shaped possible grave cut with a flat base and steep, straight sides.	Cut	Heavily truncated possible grave cut by post med drainage ditch 4008. Only a very small portion of this feature survives and it is not possible to fully characterize it as a grave at this point.	> 0.28	> 0.29	0.34	F19
4034	Regular deep U-shaped with steep concave sides and a rounded base	Cut	Recut of ring ditch F01, likely in the Romano-British period	4.30+	3.29	1.37	F01

Appendix B: Animal Bone

Table 5. Summary of animal bone

Trench	Context	Feature	Context description	cf. Cattle	Medium/large mammal	Medium mammal	Total
	1025		Basal fill of ring ditch [1024]		7	4	11
	1026		Fill of ring ditch [1024]		6		6
1	1028	F01	Fill of ring ditch [1024]	1	6	7	14
3	3005	F12	Fill of sub-circular crescent-shaped feature [3006]			1	1
Total				1	19	12	32

Appendix C: Prehistoric pottery

Table 6. Quantification by Trench with individual vessels from Trench 1 listed separately to not skew the data for the feature.

Period Late Bronze Age Early Iron Age	No of sherds	Weight (grams)
Trench 1 SF8	119	6416
Trench 1 SF9	7	268
Trench 1 SF10	24	2039
Trench 1 SF11	66	1364
Trench 1	329	3027
Trench 3	25	62
Trench 4	18	227
Total	588	13403g

Table 7. Details of Context, fabrics, abrasion, quantification vessel types and date of all Trenches

Trench	Deposit (Fill/Layer)	SF No.	Quantity	Weight (g)	Abrasion	Fabric	Description	Date
1	1001		26	124	2		Not present	
1	1009		39	401	2		Not present	
1	1013		1	3	2	Red sandstone	two horizontal incised grooves is similar to Trevisker Related pottery	LBA/EIA
1	1015		75	238	2		Not present	
1	1017		3	11	2	Red sandstone	flat-topped Bucket-form Type 1 Jar rim sherd	LBA/EIA
1	1023		2	6	2	Red sandstone	two small sherds abraded similar to (1036) and date	LBA/EIA
1	1025	8	4	81	1	Red sandstone/Quartzite	Type 3 hook-rim jar Smaller vessel 180mm rim diameter of Type 3 hook-rim jar	LBA
1	1025	8	119	6416	1 to3	Red sandstone	Type 3 Hook-rim jar200mm base diameter, 340mm rim diameter, wall thickness 8-12mm coarse fabric, deep vertical finger marks on exterior surface average inclusions size 3mm largest 12mm. Type 3 Hook-rim jar	LBA
1	1025	9	7	268	2	Red sandstone	Same vessel as SF8 as the sherd thickness, sandy fabric and deep finger-smearing marks	LBA



Trench	Deposit (Fill/Layer)	SF No.	Quantity	Weight (g)	Abrasion	Fabric	Description	Date
1	1025	10	24	2039	1	Red sandstone	Type 1 bucket-form jar vessel height of 190mm mostly complete but lacking 50% of the flat-topped rim 180mm in diameter in a Red sandstone fabric. The complete base is 160mm diameter with a sherd thickness of 7-10mm with vertical finger-smearing marks on the exterior surface. smaller than SF8	LBA
1	1025	11	66	1364	1	Red sandstone	High shouldered jar burnished	LBA/EIA
1	1025		14	199	2	Red sandstone	Body sherds from fill mostly part of vessel SF8, one basal angle sherd in a Quartzite fabric seen in (1026) and (1028). The pottery from soil samples <10> and <16> also have finger-smearing suggesting similar vessel type.	LBA/EIA

Trench	Deposit (Fill/Layer)	SF No.	Quantity	Weight (g)	Abrasion	Fabric	Description	Date
1	1026		90	1389	2	Red sandstone and Quartzite	a flat-topped Bucket-form Type 1 Jar diameter rim 160mm from a small vessel, a larger Hook-rim Jar Type 3 rim diameter 220mm wall thickness of 15mm. A Barrel-form Jar Type 4 rim diameter of 200mm with finger-smearing marks on the exterior. A basal angle sherd very fine well-made vessel 120mm in diameter from a with slightly burnished external surface in a reduced sandy fabric which is similar to or part of SF11. One Bucket-form Jar Type 1 coarse body and basal angle sherd 100mm diameter with external expansion, evidence of burning at high temperatures. Sherds from large vessels with finger-smearing Jars similar to SF8 and SF10, two finer carinated body sherds similar to the high shouldered vessel SF11. A small flared-out rim sherd belonging to the Plain Ware vessel con-joins with a rim from (1028)	LBA

Trench	Deposit (Fill/Layer)	SF No.	Quantity	Weight (g)	Abrasion	Fabric	Description	Date
1	1028		63	500	2	Red sandstone	five everted rim sherds 140mm in diameter of a Plain Ware flared-rim Jar most are conjoining and 26 body sherds from the same vessel all in a reduced sandy fabric	LBA/EIA
1	1029		8	49	2	Red sandstone and Quartzite	18 sherds, mainly basal angle, from a small jar with a burnished exterior surface and well-made reduced fabric base diameter of 80mm. seven small, body sherds in Quartzite fabric.	LBA/EIA
1	says (1028) on bag no bag with 1033 on	13	1	20	2	Red sandstone	In bag (1028) not (1033) same vessel as SF11 or if not a very similar form and burnished surface treatment	LBA/EIA
1	1036		3	6	2	Red sandstone and Quartzite	Three very abraded small sherds in a Quartzite fabric suggests a Late Bronze Age Early Iron Age date	LBA/EIA
3	3001		7	24	3	Red sandstone	highly abraded sherds undiagnostic but fabric suggests LBA/EIA date	LBA
3	3004		4	11	3	Red sandstone	flat-topped rim from a Bucket-form Jar Type 1 flared-out rim of a Plain Ware jar	LBA
3	3005		14	27	3	Red sandstone	Abraded sherds undiagnostic but probably similar date LBA/EIA	LBA

Trench	Deposit (Fill/Layer)	SF No.	Quantity	Weight (g)	Abrasion	Fabric	Description	Date
4	4004		9	145	3	Red sandstone	One sherd from high shouldered vessel and carinated body sherd from a similar vessel, One sherd with an expanded basal angle sherd, rim sherds from a small Bucket-form Jar Type1 flat-topped rim 160mm diameter.	LBA/EIA
4	4012		4	65			Not present	
4	4019		4	15	3	Red sandstone	One sherd High shouldered Plain Ware Jar	LBA
4	4019	7	1	2	3	Red sandstone	one very small highly abraded pottery sherd from /SF7\ which is undiagnostic in terms of form.	LBA

Appendix D: Roman pottery

Table 8. All pottery by period, ware and class, and count, weight, and estimated vessel equivalents (EVEs).

Period	Ware and class	Count	Weight	EVEs
Late Iron Age to Romano-British	**Handmade**	1	10.7	
	Quartz	1	10.7	
Romano-British	Fine ware	8	26.3	
	Oxford Red-slipped ware	8	26.3	
	Coarse ware	149	776.2	144.5
	Black-burnished ware	135	687	127
	Reduced ware	13	81.5	17.5
	Oxidised ware	1	7.7	
	Grand Total	**158**	**813.2**	**144.5**

Table 9. Pottery by feature, count, weight (g).

Feature	Context number	Count	Weight
Ditch F01	4012	4	63
Gully F02	1009	41	399
Gully F03	1015	83	233.6
Topsoil	1001	30	117.6
Grand Total		**158**	**813.2**

Table 10. Roman pottery archive catalogue

ID	Area / Trench	Context	Same	Part	Abrasion	Feature type	Feature	Earliest date	Latest date	Ware general	Ware class	Fabric code	Form1	Form2	Count	Weight	Rim diameter	Rim percentage	Base diameter	Base percentage	Sooting / Burning	Reference	Draw	Notes	Dectec1	Decmotif1
1	1	1015	6	Rim + Body	Abraded	Gully	Gully F03	L3C	4C	Coarse ware	Black-burnished ware 1	BB1-T1/DOR BB1	Jar	Gillam form 12	77	215.5	160	47			Y	Holbrook and Bidwell 1991, p. 103, type 20.1; fig. 28, p. 104. Gillam (1976) form 12, p. 64; fig. 2, p. 65. Fabric DOR BB 1, Tomber and Dore 1998, 127	X	Everted rim jar with broad unburnished/rough band to upper body. Heavily abraded and worn. Some patches of burning and limescale residue on inner surface.		
2	1	1015		Body	Heavy	Gully	Gully F03	240	410	Fine ware	Oxford Red-slipped ware	OXF RS	Uncertain		6	18.1					X	Fabric OXF RS, Tomber and Dore 1998, 176.	X	Heavily abraded body sherds of an open vessel, possibly a bowl.		
3	4	4012		Rim	Abraded	Ditch	Ditch F01	ROM	ROM	Coarse ware	Reduced ware	RE1/Fortress ware B; fabric 190/ Young fabric O1 (p. 185)	Jar/Bowl	Fortress ware B type 8.1/Young O27 (AD240-400) or R38 (1-4C)	3	55.3	180	17.5			X	Holbrook and Bidwell 1991, 149, fabric Fortress ware B/Fabric 190. Young 2000, p. 195, type O27 or type O38, p. 220	Y	Everted rim jar with relatively upright rim Similar form to Holbrook and Bidwell 8.1 (1991, 150, and fig. 8.1. The fabric is mostly reduced (mid- grey) with pinkish margins and surfaces; 'pimply' feel.		
4	4	4012		Body	Abraded	Ditch	Ditch F01	RB	RB	Coarse ware	Oxidised ware	OX2	Uncertain		1	7.7					X		X			
5	1	1009		Full profile	Unabraded	Gully	Gully F02	L3C	4C	Coarse ware	Black-burnished ware 1	BB1-T2	Jar	Gillam form 12	41	399	150	52.5	50	100	X	Holbrook and Bidwell 1991, p. 103, type 20.1; fig. 28, p. 104. Gillam (1976) form 12, p. 64; fig. 2, p. 65. Fabric DOR BB 1, Tomber and Dore 1998, 127	Y	Everted rim jar with broad band of obtuse-angled cross-hatch decoration to middle body; some fragments with incised cross-hatching.	Burnished	Obtuse-angled cross-hatch
6	1	1001	1	Rim + Body	Abraded	Topsoil	Topsoil	L3C	4C	Coarse ware	Black-burnished ware 1	BB1-T1/DOR BB1	Jar	Gillam form 12	17	72.5	160	27.5			Y	Holbrook and Bidwell 1991, p. 103, type 20.1; fig. 28, p. 104. Gillam	Y	Everted rim jar with broad unburnished/rough band to upper body. Heavily		

ID	Area / Trench	Context	Same	Part	Abrasion	Feature type	Feature	Earliest date	Latest date	Ware general	Ware class	Fabric code	Form1	Form2	Count	Weight	Rim diameter	Rim percentage	Base diameter	Base percentage	Sooting / Burning	Reference	Draw	Notes	Dectec1	Decmotif1
																						(1976) form 12, p. 64; fig. 2, p. 65. Fabric DOR BB 1, Tomber and Dore 1998, 127		abraded and worn. Some patches of burning and limescale residue on inner surface.		
7	1	1001		Body	Heavy	Topsoil	Topsoil	240	410	Fine ware	Oxford Red-slipped ware	OXF RS	Uncertain		2	8.2					X	Fabric OXF RS, Tomber and Dore 1998, 176.	X	Heavily abraded body sherds of an open vessel, possibly a bowl.		
8	1	1001		Body	Heavy	Topsoil	Topsoil	ROM	ROM	Coarse ware	Reduced ware	RE2	Uncertain		1	11.1					X		X			
9	1	1001		Body	Heavy	Topsoil	Topsoil	ROM	ROM	Coarse ware	Reduced ware	RE3	Uncertain		1	2.1					X		X			
10	1	1001		Body	Heavy	Topsoil	Topsoil	ROM	ROM	Coarse ware	Reduced ware	RE4	Uncertain		4	5.6					X		X			
11	1	1001		Body	Heavy	Topsoil	Topsoil	ROM	ROM	Coarse ware	Reduced ware	RE5	Uncertain		4	7.4					X		X			
12	1	1001		Body	Heavy	Topsoil	Topsoil	LIA	ROM	Handmade	Quartz	HM1	Uncertain		1	10.7					X		X			

Table 11. Fabric descriptions

The fabric of the pottery was first examined by eye and sorted into fabric groups on the basis of colour, hardness, feel, fracture, inclusions and manufacturing technique. Samples of the sherds were further examined under an x30 binocular microscope to verify these divisions. The size of the sample was as large as was felt necessary for each fabric group. National fabric collection codes are given wherever possible (Tomber and Dore 1998).

Colour: narrative description only

Hardness: after Peacock 1977

soft - can be scratched by finger nail

hard - can be scratched with penknife blade

very hard - cannot be scratched

Feel: tactile qualities

smooth - no irregularities

rough - irregularities can be felt

sandy - grains can be felt across the surface

leathery - smoothed surface like polished leather

soapy - smooth feel like soap

Fracture: visual texture of fresh break, after Orton 1980.

smooth - flat or slightly curved with no visible irregularities

irregular - medium, fairly widely spaced irregularities

finely irregular - small, fairly closely spaced irregularities

laminar - stepped effect

hackly - large and generally angular irregularities

Inclusions:

Type: after Peacock 1977

Frequency: indicated on a 4-point scale - abundant, common, sparse and very sparse where abundant is a break packed with an inclusion and very sparse is a break with only one or two of an inclusion.

Sorting: after Tomber and Dore 1998

Shape: angular - convex shape, sharp corners

sub-angular - convex shape, sharp to rounded corners

rounded - convex shape, no corners

sub-rounded - convex shape, rounded to no corners

Size: after Orton 1980

Size: subvisible - only just visible at x30 and too small to measure

fine - 0.1-0.25mm



medium - 0.25-0.5

coarse - 0.5-1mm

very coarse - over 1mm

Handmade

HM1 Handmade 1. Medium dark-brown fabric with dark-brown surfaces. Soft fabric, rough surface, with finely irregular fracture. Ill-sorted, common coarse rounded iron-rich, sparse coarse sub-rounded quartz, and sparse mica inclusions.

Fine wares

OXF RS Oxford Red-slipped ware. Fabric OXF RS, Tomber and Dore 1998, 176.

Black-burnished wares

DOR BB1 South-East Dorset Black-burnished ware. Fabric DOR BB 1, Tomber and Dore 1998, 127.

BB1-type Black-burnished ware 1-type. Medium fabric with black/brown burnished surface, brown-grey core and brown-orange margins. Hard fabric with smooth surface, and irregular fracture. Well-sorted, abundant medium sub-angular quartz, abundant medium sub-rounded iron-rich, common coarse rounded iron-rich, and sparse mica inclusions.

Oxidised wares

OX1 Oxidised ware 1. Medium fabric with pale brown margins and surface, and pale grey core. Hard fabric, rough surface, with irregular fracture. Ill-sorted, abundant fine rounded quartz, common coarse rounded iron-rich, sparse coarse angular quartz, sparse coarse sub-rounded rock, and sparse mica inclusions.

Reduced wares

RE1 Reduced ware 1. Medium fabric with broad grey core and pinkish margins and surface. Hard fabric with 'pimply' surface, and finely irregular fracture. Ill-sorted, common medium sub-rounded quartz, common coarse rounded grey rock, common medium and coarse sub-angular iron-rich, and sparse mica inclusions.

RE2 Reduced ware 2. Very coarse, gritty fabric, with grey core and pinkish-grey surface. Hard fabric with rough surface, with finely irregular fracture. Ill-sorted, common medium sub-rounded quartz, common coarse rounded grey rock, common coarse sub-angular iron-rich, and sparse mica inclusions. A coarser version of RE1.

RE3 Reduced ware 3. Medium, grey-brown fabric and surface. Hard fabric, rough surface, and finely irregular fracture. Well-sorted, common medium sub-angular quartz, sparse coarse rounded grey rock, common coarse sub-angular iron-rich (some black), and common mica inclusions.



RE4 Reduced ware 4. Medium, dark brown-grey fabric and grey-brown surfaces. Hard fabric, rough surface, with finely irregular fracture. Ill-sorted, abundant fine and medium sub-angular quartz, common medium sub-rounded iron-rich, and sparse mica inclusions.

RE5 Reduced ware 5. Fine fabric with some coarse inclusions. Dark brown fabric with brown-grey surfaces. Soft fabric, rough surfaces, with fine fracture. Ill-sorted, common fine and medium angular quartz spares coarse rounded iron-rich, sparse fine rounded lime, and common mica inclusions.

Appendix E: Fired clay

Table 12. Material by count and weight (g).

Material type and context	Count	Weight
Fired Clay/Daub	**6**	**77.8**
1028	1	43
1029	5	34.8
Fired Clay	**1**	**20.2**
1025	1	20.2
Grand Total	**7**	**98**

Table 13. Fired clay archive catalogue

ID	Context	Feature number	Feature type	Feature group	Context description	Type	Fabric code	Count	Weight	Height	Reused	Mortar	Overfired	Keying	Signature	Impressions	Reduced Core:	Comments	Retained	Catalogue	Illustrate	Period	Further analysis	Lath marks	Finished surface	Discarded	Scoring/tool marks	Underfired	Category	Glaze	Vitrified	Residue	Sooting
1	1028	F01	Ring ditch	F01 ring ditch 1024	Fill of ring ditch 1024	Fired Clay/Daub	Oxidised	1	43	21mm	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Orange-brown fabric, mostly fine quartz sand with some large quartz and rock. Possible surface preserved.	X	X	X	Unknown	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
2	1029	F01	Ring ditch	F01 ring ditch 1024	Fill of ring ditch 1024	Fired Clay/Daub	Oxidised	5	34.8	10-22mm	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Orange-brown fabric, mostly fine quartz sand with some large quartz and rock. Possible surface preserved on some fragments.	X	X	X	Unknown	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
3	1025	F01	Ring ditch	F01 ring ditch 1024	Basal fill of ring ditch 1024	Fired Clay	Oxidised	1	20.2	22mm	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Sample No. 10. Fragment of fired clay. The fragment has two distinct layers, one of which is red-brown and has been subjected to high temperatures (possibly a hearth?); the other layer is pale brown and presumbably not in direct contact with heat. The clay fabric is mostly fine quartz sand with some large quartz, rock, and iron-rich inclusions.	X	X	X	Unknown	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X

Appendix F: Lithics

Table 14. Summary of lithics assemblage according to class/type by trench/feature

	Trench 1										Trench 2		Trench 3			Trench 4				Total
	F01	F02	F03	F05	F06	F09	F10	Subsoil	Topsoil	Total	Topsoil	Total	F12	Topsoil	Total	F01	F15	Topsoil	Total	
core	2									2										2
rough-out	1									1										1
single platform	1									1										1
conical	1									1										1
debitage	11	1		1		2	1	1	1	18	1	1	5		5	8		1	9	33
blade	3			1						4			2		2	1			1	7
flake	7	1				1	1	1	1	12	1	1	3		3	6		1	7	23
primary removal	1					1				2						1			1	3
debris	1								3	4			1	2	3	3	1		4	11
chip									2	2				2	2	1	1		2	6
chunk	1								1	2			1		1	2			2	5
tool	3								2	5			1	2	3	4		1	5	13
backed point																1			1	1
curved-backed																1			1	1
end-/side-scraper	1									1										1

	Trench 1										Trench 2		Trench 3			Trench 4				Total
	F01	F02	F03	F05	F06	F09	F10	Subsoil	Topsoil	Total	Topsoil	Total	F12	Topsoil	Total	F01	F15	Topsoil	Total	
endscraper	1									1						1			1	2
on a break	1									1										1
leaf-shaped arrowhead													1		1					1
notched									1	1						1			1	2
flake									1	1										1
fragment																1			1	1
retouched	1								1	2				2	2	1		1	2	6
flake	1									1						1			1	2
fragment									1	1				2	2			1	1	4
unworked	1		1		1				1	4			1		1					5
burnt, unworked									1	1										1
unworked	1		1		1					3			1		1					4
Total	18	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	7	33	1	1	8	4	12	15	1	2	18	64

Table 15. Raw materials

No.	Description
1	Flint, indeterminate (e.g., through burning).
2	Flint, translucent dark brown to opaque greyish brown flint with light brownish-grey spots; thin (less than 1mm) slightly abraded light reddish-brown cortex, likely from soil staining.
3	Flint, semi-transparent pale brown to mottled pale grey/opaque flint with thin, heavily abraded cortex
4	Flint, semi-transparent light greyish-brown flint with thin, heavily abraded and cortex.
5	Quartz, translucent pale yellowish.
6	Chert, dark brown, almost opaque chert with speckled light grey limestone-like inclusions; cortex is thin, hard, pockmarked, and light brownish-grey.
7	Flint, opaque mid-grey flint, homogeneous, lacking fossiliferous inclusions; distinct from other flints. The coloration is likely due to patination.

Appendix G: Registered finds

Table 16. Registered finds (metalwork and spindle whorl) catalogue

Context Number	SF No.	Object Type	Short description	Material	Weight (g)	Date (c.)
4006	1	KNIFE	Complete iron knife (blade and tang), organic hilt plate missing; blade is curved	iron	18.94	3rd-5th C
4012	2	SPINDLE WHORL	Complete ceramic spindlewhorl, flat oval cross-section, one face slightly tapered, undecorated	ceramic	31.51	1st-5th C
4017	4	KNIFE	Knife blade, tang/handle plate and organic handle missing; blade is long and thin, slightly curved	iron	10.65	3rd-4th C
4017	5	KNIFE	Complete iron knife (blade and tang), organic hilt plate missing; blade is angled at the tip	iron	23.92	1st-4th C
4017	6	AWL	Awl fragment or tang of small bladed tool	iron	1.37	3rd-5th C

Table 17. Archive catalogue

ID	Site code	Excavation year	Box no	Trench no	Context	Unstratified	SF no	Material	Object simple type	Condition	Description	Head count	Length (mm)	Clenched	Clenched length (mm)	Type	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Diameter (mm)	Weight (g)	Count	MNI	Period	Date from	Date to	Type	Comment	Recommendation Illustration	Recommendation X-ray	Recommendation Conservation	Recommendation Research	Recommendation Other	Xray no
1	CSF24	2024		4	4006	FALSE	1	Iron	KNIFE	Good	Complete iron knife (blade and tang), organic hilt plate missing; blade is curved	1	12.92	FALSE		KNIFE	12.92	15.5	3.5		18.94	1	1	ROMAN	LATE ROMAN	EARLY MEDIEVAL	Manning (1985), Fig. 28, Type 14	3rd - 5th C	TRUE		TRUE	TRUE	Photography, Publication	FALSE
2	CSF24	2024		4	4012	FALSE	2	Ceramic	SPINDLE WHORL	Good	Complete ceramic spindlewhorl, flat oval cross-section, one face slightly tapered, undecorated	1	37.5	FALSE		SPINDLE WHORL	37.5	20	20	37.5	31.51	1	1	ROMAN	LATE IRON AGE	EARLY MEDIEVAL	Walton Rogers (2007), B2	1st - 5th C	TRUE	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE	Photography, Publication	FALSE
4	CSF24	2024		4	4017	FALSE	4	Iron	KNIFE	Good	Knife blade, tang/handle plate and organic handle missing; blade is long and thin, slightly curved	2	102.5	FALSE		KNIFE	102.5	7	4		10.65	2	1	ROMAN	LATE ROMAN	EARLY MEDIEVAL	Late Roman/EM types	3rd - 4th C	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	Photography, Publication	FALSE
5	CSF24	2024		4	4017	FALSE	5	Iron	KNIFE	Good	Complete iron knife (blade and tang), organic hilt plate missing; blade is angled at the tip	3	179	FALSE		KNIFE	179	15	4		23.92	3	1	ROMAN	LATE IRON AGE	EARLY MEDIEVAL	Manning (1985), Fig. 29, Type 19	1st - 4th C	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	Photography, Publication	FALSE
6	CSF24	2024		4	4017	FALSE	6	Iron	AWL	Good	Awl fragment or tang of small bladed tool	1	31.4	FALSE		AWL	31.4	3.5	2		1.37	1	1	ROMAN	LATE ROMAN	EARLY MEDIEVAL	fragmentary: no further id possible	3rd - 5th C	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	Photography, Publication	FALSE

Appendix H: Environmental

Table 18. Summary of material from heavy residues and flots, by count, abundance and weight.

	Heavy residue		Flot		
Material	**Count**	**Weight (g)**	**Abundance**	**Count**	**Weight (g)**
Bone	4	1.3			
Charcoal	223	87	g	381	9.7
Charred plant remains				4	<0.1
Nutshell				4	0.14
Seeds				5	<0.1
Roots			g		
Fired clay	1	20.3			
Pottery	6	21.9			
Stone	1	70			

a (1-10), b (11-50), c (51-100), d (101-200), e (201-500), f (501-1000), g (>1000).

Table 19. Summary of artefacts from heavy residues, by count and weight.

		Bone		Charcoal		Fired clay		Pottery		Stone		Total	
Context	Sample	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)
	21			10	0.2			1	0.7			11	0.9
	23			10	0.9							13	1.1
0	26			65	13.6							65	13.6
	10	3	1.3	50	36.1	1	20.3	5	21.2	1	70	60	148.9
1025	16			15	6.4							15	6.4
1026	12			25	12.1							25	12.1
1027	13			10	6.8							10	6.8
1028	14			25	9.1							25	9.1
4012	7			10	1.6							10	1.6
Total		3	1.3	220	86.8	1	20.3	6	21.9	1	70	234	200.5

Table 20. Summary of material from flots by count, abundance and weight.

		Charcoal <2mm	Charcoal >2mm		Charred plant remains		Nutshell		Roots	Uncharred seeds		Total	
Context	Sample	Abundance	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Abundance	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)
	10	f	7	1					c	3	1	10	2
1025	16	f	33	1	1	1			c			34	2
1026	12	c	6	1					c			6	1
1027	13	b	27	1					a			27	1
1028	14	c							c				
4012	7	e							e				
4019	8	a							a				
4029	6	a							a				
	21	e	57	1	1	1			b			58	2
	23	f	155	1	1	1	4	1	c	1	1	161	4
0	26	e	96	1	1	1			e	1	1	98	3
Total			381	7	4	4	4	1		5	3	394	15

Table 21. Summary of charred and uncharred plant remains from flots by count.

		Charred plant remains		Uncharred plant remains		
Context	**Sample**	**Cerealia indet.**	**Corylus avellana**	**Chenopodium album**	**Poaceae**	**Total**
	10			1	3	4
1025	16	1				1
	21	1				1
	23	1	4	1		6
0	26	1		1		2
Total		4	4	3	3	14

Table 22. Summary of charcoal from the heavy residue and flots by abundance and weight.

		Heavy residue		Flot			Handpicked		
		Charcoal >2mm		Charcoal <2mm	Charcoal >2mm		Charcoal <2mm	Charcoal >2mm	
Context	Sample	Count	Weight (g)	Abundance	Count	Weight (g)		Count	Weight (g)
1025	10	50	36.1	f	7	0			
1025	16	15	6.4	f	33	0.3			
1026	12	25	12.1	c	6	0			
1027	13	10	6.8	b	27	4.6			
1028	14	25	9.1	c					
4012	7	10	1.6	e					
4019	8			a					
4029	6			a					
	21	10	0.2	e	57	1.5			
	23	13	0.11	f	155	2.4			
0	26	65	13.6	e	96	0.9	e	186	5.4
Total		223	86.01		381	9.7		186	5.4

Table 23. Summary of charcoal recovered from bulk environmental samples from Cothelstone (CSF24), count and weight (g).

Context	Sample	Fraction		Feature	Date	Count	Weight (g)	No. fractured	Roundwood?
	10	Heavy	>4mm	Ring ditch F01		385	36.1	24	Yes
	16	Heavy	>4mm			64	6.4	12	Yes
	21	Heavy	4-2mm	(Pot fill SF10)		57	1.5	12	Yes
		Heavy	>4mm	(Pot fill SF11)		41	1.6	12	Yes
1025	26	Heavy	4-2mm		Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age	96	0.9	0	Yes
1026	12	Heavy	>4mm			212	12.1	24	Yes
1027	13	Heavy	>4mm			16	6.8	6	No
1028	14	Heavy	>4mm			201	9.1	24	Yes
4012	7	Heavy	>4mm		Roman?	11	1.6	6	Yes
Total						1083	76.1	120	

Table 24. Identification of wood charcoal species, including hazelnut shell, from Cothelstone Farm (CSF24), count.

Context	Sample	Feature	Date	Hazel	Hazelnut shell	Poplar /willow	Oak	Plum/cherry genus	Ash	Birch	Elder?	Total
	10	Ring ditch F01	Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age	10		5	4					19
	16			7	2	1				1		11
	21	(Pot fill SF10)		1			3	3	1			8
1025	26	(Pot fill SF11)		4		5	1				1	11
1026	12			5	1	2		3				11
1027	13		Roman?					1				1
1028	14			7		1	1					9
4012	7			1		2			1			4
Total				35	3	16	9	7	2	1	1	74

Table 25. Summary of samples submitted for palynological consideration from ring ditch [1024], Cothelstone Farm

Site	Sample	Stratigraphic description
CSF24 Trench 1	1025	Dark orangey brown, friable silty clay with frequent small to medium sized sub-angular to sub-rounded spheroidal charcoal inclusions and rare small to medium sized sub-angular elongated shillet/sandstone inclusions.
	1026	Dark orangey grey, friable clayey silt with frequent medium to large sub-angular spheroidal shaped charcoal inclusions.
	1028	Mid orangey brown friable clayey silt with occasional flecks of small sub-rounded spheroidal charcoal inclusions concentrated towards top central area of the fill.

Table 26. Summary of pollen encountered in ring ditch [1024], Cothelstone Farm

		Context		
		1025	1026	1028
Trees	**Betula**			1
Shrubs	**Corylus-Myrica type**	2	1	
Herbs	**Poaceae**	1	3	8
	Poaceae >37mic		1	2
	Cyperaceae	2	3	4
	Asteraceae undiff.		1	
	Caryophyllaceae		1	
	Cirsium type		1	
	Lactuceae undiff.	3	2	1
	Plantago undif.		1	
	Sambucus type		2	
Spores	**Polypodium**	2	4	
	Pteridium	3	1	1
	Pteropsida (monolete) undif.	25	2	2
	Sphagnum			1
Charcoal		xxx	xxx	xxx
HdV368 Podospora sp				x
Testate amoebae				x
Grain crumpling		xx	xx	xxx
Grain degradation		xxx	xx	xxx
Abundance		low	low	low
Diversity		low	low	low
Suitable for further analysis?		n	n	n

Appendix I: Radiocarbon dates

Table 27. Radiocarbon dating certificate – sample 19 (1026)

SUERC | RADIOCARBON LABORATORY

Rankine Avenue, Scottish Enterprise Technology Park, East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 0QF, Scotland, UK
Director: Prof. Darren F Mark Tel: +44 (0)1355 223332 www.glasgow.ac.uk/suerc

RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE
02 October 2024

Laboratory Code	SUERC-128588 (GU69189)
Submitter	Jasmine Tomys DigVentures Witham Studios #5 Hall Street Barnard Castle DL12 8JB
Site Reference	Cothelstone Farm (CSF24)
Context Reference	1026
Sample Reference	19
Material	Charcoal
$\delta^{13}C$ relative to VPDB	-22.7 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	2533 ± 22

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 SUERC 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.*

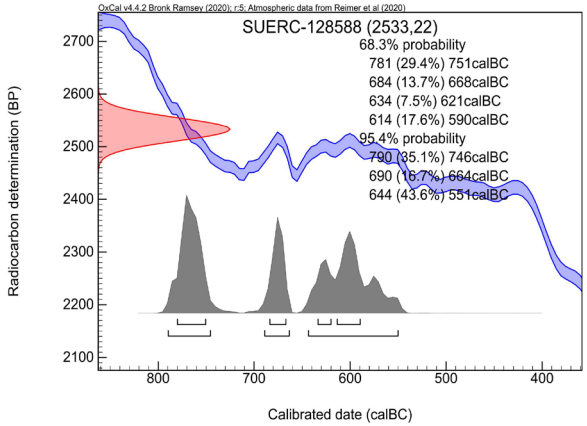
For any queries relating to this certificate, the laboratory can be contacted at suerc-c14lab@glasgow.ac.uk.

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

Checked and signed off by : Helen Rose Smith

University of Glasgow
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*

Table 28. Radiocarbon dating certificate – sample 28 (Micro-excavation of SF11)

SUERC | RADIOCARBON LABORATORY

Rankine Avenue, Scottish Enterprise Technology Park, East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 0QF, Scotland, UK
Director: Prof. Darren F Mark Tel: +44 (0)1355 223332 www.glasgow.ac.uk/suerc

RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE
02 October 2024

Laboratory Code	SUERC-128589 (GU69190)
Submitter	Jasmine Tomys DigVentures Witham Studios #5 Hall Street Barnard Castle DL12 8JB
Site Reference	Cothelstone Farm (CSF24)
Context Reference	Micro-ex of SF11
Sample Reference	28
Material	Charcoal
$\delta^{13}C$ relative to VPDB	-25.0 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	2723 ± 23

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 SUERC 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.*

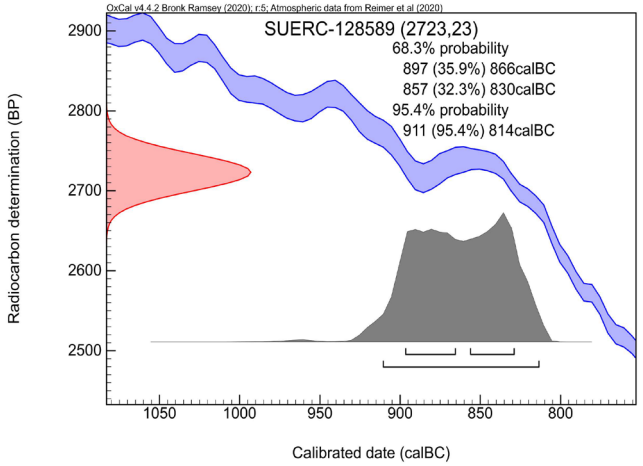
For any queries relating to this certificate, the laboratory can be contacted at suerc-c14lab@glasgow.ac.uk.

Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by : E Dunbar

Checked and signed off by : Helen Rose Knill

University of Glasgow
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*

Table 29. Radiocarbon dating certificate – sample 29 (1030)

SUERC | RADIOCARBON LABORATORY

Rankine Avenue, Scottish Enterprise Technology Park, East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 0QF, Scotland, UK
Director: Prof. Darren F Mark Tel: +44 (0)1355 223332 www.glasgow.ac.uk/suerc

RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE
02 October 2024

Laboratory Code	SUERC-128590 (GU69191)
Submitter	Jasmine Tomys DigVentures Witham Studios #5 Hall Street Barnard Castle DL12 8JB
Site Reference	Cothelstone Farm (CSF24)
Context Reference	1030
Sample Reference	29
Material	Charcoal
$\delta^{13}C$ relative to VPDB	-24.3 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	2783 ± 21

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 SUERC 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.*

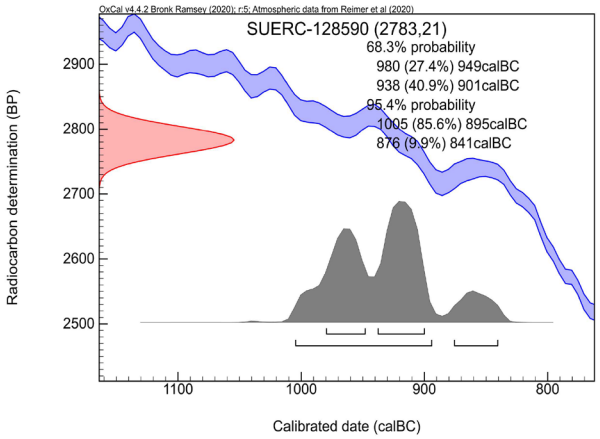
For any queries relating to this certificate, the laboratory can be contacted at suerc-c14lab@glasgow.ac.uk.

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

Checked and signed off by : Helen Rose Knill

University of Glasgow
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*

Table 30. Radiocarbon dating certificate – sample 7 (4012)

SUERC | RADIOCARBON LABORATORY

Rankine Avenue, Scottish Enterprise Technology Park, East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 0QF, Scotland, UK
Director: Prof. Darren F Mark Tel: +44 (0)1355 223332 www.glasgow.ac.uk/suerc

RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE
06 December 2024

Laboratory Code	SUERC-129541 (GU69778)
Submitter	Jasmine Tomys DigVentures Witham Studios #5 Hall Street Barnard Castle DL12 8JB
Site Reference	Cothelstone Farm (CSF24)
Context Reference	4012
Sample Reference	7
Material	Charcoal
$\delta^{13}C$ relative to VPDB	-26.3 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	2812 ± 30

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 SUERC 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.*

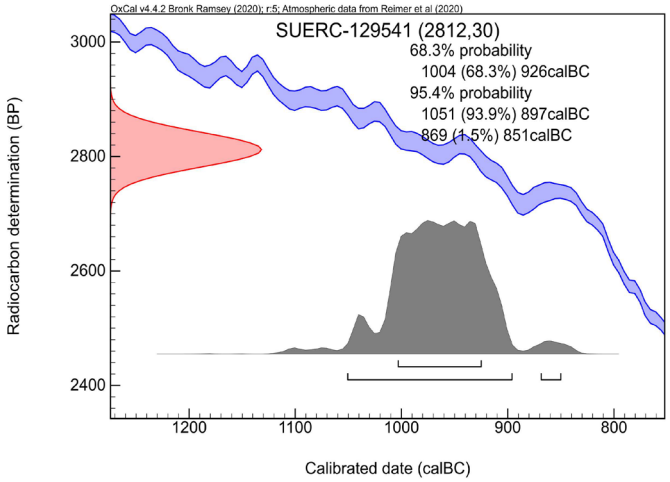
For any queries relating to this certificate, the laboratory can be contacted at suerc-c14lab@glasgow.ac.uk.

Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by :

Checked and signed off by :

University of Glasgow
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*

Appendix J: Geophysics report

LICENCE FOR THE REMOVAL OF HUMAN REMAINS

The Secretary of State, in exercise of the power vested in him by section 25 of the Burial Act 1857 (20 & 21 Vic., cap.81), grants a licence for the removal of the remains of **persons unknown** from or within the place in which they are now interred at **Cothelstone Farm, Cothelstone, Taunton.**

2. It is a condition of this licence that the following precautions shall be observed:

   (a) Any removal or disturbance of the remains shall be effected with due care and attention to decency;

   (b) The ground in which the remains are interred shall be screened from the public gaze while the work is in progress;

   (c) The remains shall, no later than 30 May 2029 be buried in a burial ground where burials may legally take place. In the meantime, shall be kept safely, privately and decently by DigVentures under the control of a competent member of staff.

3. This licence merely exempts those from the penalties, which would be incurred if the removal took place without a licence. It does not in any way alter civil rights. It does not confer the right to bury the remains in any place where such right does not already exist.

4. This licence expires on **30 May 2029.**

Junaid Patel
on behalf of the Secretary of State for Justice

Ministry of Justice

Licence Number: **24-0125**
Date: **31 May 2024**

Ministry of Justice

Authority to excavate human remains for archaeological purposes – application form

Please read the Guidance Notes at the end of this form.

The purpose of this form is to provide the Ministry of Justice with information to enable a decision to be taken on the issue of an excavation licence and any conditions to be attached to it regarding the treatment of the remains during and after excavation.

Section A is to establish who the applicant is and how to make contact.
Section B is to clarify the nature of the archaeological site, the legislation which applies to it, the purpose of the excavation, and who is to take responsibility for post-excavation and archive deposition and/or reburial.
Section C seeks information regarding the expected age, nature and number of the human remains.
Section D seeks information about any known or likely objections to the proposed excavation and study.
Section E asks what is to happen to the human remains after excavation.

A. Applicant's details

1. Name	Ben Swain
2. Telephone number	[redacted]
3. Organisation (if applicable)	DigVentures
4. Position (if applicable)	Community Archaeologist
5. Address	[redacted]
6. Email address	[redacted]

7. Do you observe a recognised code of practice on the treatment of human remains? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If **Yes**, which one?	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists; Historic England
If **No**, please give the title of your own code if you have one	

B. Site details

8. Name of site (if it has one)	Cothelstone Farm
9. Address or location of site	[redacted]

10a. Please give a brief summary of the site archaeology and research questions

The Cothelstone Farm community excavation is proposed as a community-focused archaeological research project encompassing geophysical survey, excavation and an assessment stage followed by final analysis and publication. Field evaluation is scheduled to take place between the 23rd May and 10th June 2024.

The principle aim of the proposed project will be to assess the nature of cropmarks identified by aerial photography through geophysical survey and community excavation. The project sits within the Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme (QLPS) project 'Understanding the Landscape,' which involves working with the local community to improve understanding of the landscape history of the Quantocks through archaeological fieldwork.

The site sits just south west of the village of Cothelstone, on the edge of the Quantock Hills National Landscape. Cothelstone village is dominated by two main features; Cothelstone Manor (HER number 17909) and the Church of St Thomas of Canterbury (HER number: 43023). The earliest parts of the church date back to the 12th century, it mostly dates to the 15th century and was restored in the 1860s.

To the south west of Cothelstone at Stoneage Barton an excavation was carried out in 2000 (HER number: 11697). This targeted cropmarks (HER numbers: 26796, 44524 and 44524), and revealed Romano-British enclosures and a 7th century cemetery.

The overarching aim of the archaeological excavation is to define and characterise several features identified through geophysical survey and aerial photographs, obtaining data which will better characterise and understand the site. The excavation will aim to provide further information concerning the presence/absence, date, nature, and extent of any buried archaeological remains and to investigate and record these within the target area. Fieldwork will comprise a structured community volunteer assisted project, providing a range of physical and digital opportunities to participate and/or observe findings.

10b. Is the excavation necessitated by development? ☐ Yes ☒ No

11. Name and address of the land owner

[redacted]

Is the site owned by a religious organisation? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If **Yes**, which one?

12. Has the land owner given permission for the remains to be excavated? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If **No**, explain why not

13. Has the proposed excavation been developed in response to a brief or agreed written scheme of investigation from the appropriate curatorial archaeologist? ☒ Yes ☐ No

14. Is the site subject to Church of England faculty jurisdiction or the Care of Cathedrals Measure? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If **Yes**, has approval been given? ☐ Yes ☐ No

15. Is the site a burial ground in current use? ☐ Yes ☒ No
    If **No**, has the site been put to other use? ☒ Yes ☐ No
16. If the site has been put to other use, has the site been built over (including roads)? ☐ Yes ☒ No
17. If the site has been put to other use, has the site been put to agricultural use or become open land? ☒ Yes ☐ No
18. Has the site been acquired commercially/by agreement? ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A
19. Has the site been acquired by Compulsory Purchase Order? ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A
20. Has Planning Permission been obtained? ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A
21. Is the site a scheduled monument? ☐ Yes ☒ No
    If **Yes**, has scheduled monument consent been obtained for the excavation? ☐ Yes ☐ No
22. Is the excavation of human remains from the site subject to any specific Act of Parliament? ☐ Yes ☒ No
    If **Yes**, which Act?

23. If the proposed excavation is not being carried out under planning conditions or scheduled monument consent, please give **brief** details of the planned programme of excavations, the relevant experience and qualification of the applicants the source(s) of funding and whether resources are in place to cover post-evaluation assessment, analysis, dissemination and archive deposition/reburial.

The excavations are being undertaken as part of a community research project, run by DigVentures on behalf of the Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme. Funding has come from grant applications ([redacted]). The funding resource is in place to cover the excavation, post excavation analysis, dissemination and archive deposition / reburial of human remains.

DigVentures is a not-for-profit social business and UK Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) Registered Organisation, pioneering a collaborative, tech-enabled model of participation in archaeology. Our team comprises community engagement experts, heritage professionals and specialists in digital technologies, focused on increasing access and enabling the public to genuinely participate in archaeological and heritage research.

The Projects Director, Brendon Wilkins BSc MSc MIAI MCIfA is responsible for project management and oversight of the Cothelstone Manor Farm project. Brendon is an experienced field archaeologist and researcher, with over fifteen years of directing and leading archaeological excavations. Manda Forster BSc PhD MCIfA has oversight over post excavation delivery and has held senior management roles in several organisations and a track record in leading complex analysis and publication programmes.

The field based team are led by Ben Swain BA ACIfA. Ben has a multi-disciplinary background, having studied Finance and worked in accounting and retail for five years before moving into archaeology full time in 2019. He has extensive fieldwork experience in the UK, having worked on multi-period sites in regions including East Yorkshire, Oxfordshire, Northumberland and County Durham. He leads the field-based team of community archaeologists responsible for co-delivering DigVentures' volunteer learning and skills training programme both in person and digitally. He is also responsible for post-excavation and assessment reporting processes.

Post excavation analysis of human remains will be undertaken by Malin Holst BA MSc MCIfA and the team at York Oseoarchaeology. With expertise in consultancy, skeletal excavation, processing of human remains, analysis of cremated and inhumed remains, reporting, publication and community engagement, York Osteoarchaeology Ltd adheres to the standards set by BABAO, CIfA, Historic England, Historic Scotland and the Irish Heritage Council.

24. Do you/your organisation accept responsibility for ensuring that post-excavation study and archive deposition/reburial are completed? ☒ Yes ☐ No
    If **No**, explain why not

25. Expected project start date: 23/05/24 End date: 10/06/24

26. Dates for excavation of human remains (if different from above):
Start date: 29/05/24 End date: 10/06/24

C. Human remains

27. Expected date range of the remains:
From: 0AD To: 1066AD

28. Expected number of buried individuals (or, if unknown, estimated range): 10

29. Expected type of remains ☒ Skeletal ☐ Soft tissue ☐ Cremated ☐ Not known

30. If some or all of the human remains are likely to be in sealed coffins or in a crypt, or to include preserved soft tissue, or to be less than 100 years old, please provide the contact details for the Environmental Health Officer (EHO) for the district.

31. Has the EHO already been notified that excavation will take place at the site? ☐ Yes ☒ No

32. Are the remains known to be of a particular religion or faith? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If **Yes**, which religion/faith?

If **Yes**, are representatives of that religion/faith aware of the excavations? ☐ Yes ☐ No

D. Objections

33. Are there any known or likely objections to the removal, study and/or retention of the remains? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If **Yes**, state who is objecting or likely to object and their reasons

E. What would happen to the remains?

34. Is it the intention to excavate and remove some or all of the human remains? ☒ Yes ☐ No
If **Yes**, please proceed to question E35–40

Is it the intention to uncover the remains, leave them *in situ* and rebury them? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If **Yes**, you do not need to complete questions E35–40.

35. If the human remains are to be examined, please outline the reasons:

Examination of the burials will provide an additional layer of evidence from which to understand the population at the site during the Romano-British/early medieval period. Examination of the skeletal evidence will provide detailed evidence of the health of the population, such as medical conditions and/or environmental stresses trends. The nature of the burials will add new data to the wider understanding of burial practices during the period in this region. The site appears to have originated as a Prehistoric round barrow that was re-used in the Romano-British/early medieval period. All analysis of the human remains will be undertaken by qualifed osteoarchaeologists.

36. If remains less than 100 years old are expected to be found, and will be examined, please outline how you intend to comply with the conditions of the Human Tissue Act 2004.

37. After excavation, what do you expect will happen to the remains?

☐ a. Assessed and studied as necessary, and then reburied

☐ b. Studied and then deposited in a museum or similar institution ☒ c. Not yet known

38. If for question 37 you selected a:

i. Please provide the name and address of the location where the remains are to be reburied.

ii. Who will be responsible for taking care of the remains until reburial occurs?

iii. When will the remains be reburied?

Is appropriate funding in place? ☐ Yes ☐ No

39. If for question 37 you selected b:

i. When and where will the remains be examined?

ii. Who will make the decision about the retention of the remains?

iii. When will the decision be made?

iv. Has a museum or comparable institution agreed to take the remains? ☐ Yes ☐ No

v. What is the museum or comparable institution's name and address?

vi. Is it an accredited museum? ☐ Yes ☐ No

vii. Who will be responsible for taking care of the remains until this happens?

viii. Is appropriate funding in place? ☐ Yes ☐ No

40. If for question 37 you selected c:

i. When is a decision likely to be known?

A decision on the final repository for the material or the place of reburial will be articulated in the archive plans defined following the excavation, expected in June 2024.

ii. Who will make this decision?

DigVentures archaeologists and the wider project team will discuss the arrangements for reburial or justificaitons for further research with the landowners and appropriate authorities. The decision will be made as part of the research discussions for the publication and archive for the project.

iii. Who will be responsible for taking care of the remains until this happens?	DigVentures will take full responsibility for the analysis of the skeletal material, and will ensure that the material is kept in line with conditions outlined in the CIfA Standard and guidance, and in line with Historic England practice.

Declaration

I confirm that the information given is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Name	Ben Swain
Date	27/05/24

When completed, please email this form to: coroners@justice.gsi.gov.uk

Applications will be considered on their individual merits, balancing, amongst other things, the case for the removal, examination and retention of the remains in the interests of archaeological research against any countervailing factors, such as any public known concerns about the proposals or any risk to public confidence in the decent and respectful treatment of human remains in any particular instance.

An application for a licence should be made whether buried human remains are to be removed from the ground or intended to be left *in situ* (since excavation is likely to disturb them).

The following notes are intended to help applicants in completion of the form. Please ring 020 3334 3555 for any further assistance.

Q A5	Please give address of organisation unless applying as an individual, in which case give applicant's address.
Q A7	If you observe no code of practice, it is suggested that you adopt one.

Q B9	If there is no satisfactory address which will identify the site, please give the National Grid Reference or attach a plan of the site.
Q B10	Please explain why the excavation is required (e.g. because the site is to be developed, or for research purposes).
Q B11	The purpose of the supplementary questions about religious ownership is to enable any religious concerns there may be to be taken into account.
Q B12	It is expected that the site owner has given permission for excavation; if this is not the case, an explanation should be given.
Q B14	If the site is a Church of England burial ground and subject to ecclesiastical faculty jurisdiction, a faculty will be required in addition to a licence. However, a licence will not be needed if the remains are to be reburied within consecrated ground. If the site is within a cathedral precinct and subject to the Care of Cathedrals Measure, then formal approval for the works will also be required from either the Cathedrals Fabric Commission for England or, on occasion, the cathedral's own Fabric Advisory Committee. A copy of correspondence confirming this approval has been granted should be provided.
Q B15-19	The intention is to identify the specific legislation which governs the removal or disturbance of human remains buried on the site (e.g. the Burial Act 1857, the Disused Burial Grounds (Amendment) Act 1981, or the Town & Country (Churches, Places of Religious Worship, and Burial Grounds) Regulations 1950 and 1990).
Q B22	Large infrastructure projects are often subjected to a specific Act; if this is the case, the name of the Act should be given.
Q B23	This information is not required for sites excavated under scheduled monument consent or as a condition of planning consent, as the relevant regimes require good reason for excavation and appropriate planning and provision, and so these can be assumed to be in place already.
Q B24	In some emergency situations, funding for post-excavation and archive deposition may not be in place. If so, the circumstances should be explained.

Q C27 and C28	These may be unknown at the time of excavation; it would be helpful to provide any available information or estimate, and it is accepted that what is found may be unexpected. Disarticulated remains should not be included in the estimate of the number of buried individuals. For example: "100–150 burials and some disarticulated human remains".
Q C29	Please tick all that apply.

Q C30 and C31	It would normally be expected that an excavator should contact the EHO if soft tissue survival is likely, or if human remains less than 100 years old or sealed coffins or crypts are likely to be excavated.
Q C32	When remains are of known religion or faith, it may be appropriate to contact representatives of that religion, but this is not required. It is accepted that religion or faith are usually uncertain for pre-Mediaeval human remains.

Q D33	Applicants are not expected to research the existence of objections, simply to report if any such objections have come to their attention. Objections will be considered and balanced against the need for and benefits of excavation and study.

Q E34	If you tick **Yes** to the intention to uncover the remains, leave them *in situ* and rebury them, you do not need to complete questions E35–40. If, however, circumstances then change and it becomes necessary to remove any of the remains, you would need to apply to vary your licence, and would then need to answer these questions.
Q E36	If this applies, additional information may be required before consideration will be given to issuing a licence.
Q E37a	Please tick this option if it is expected that some or all of the remains will be assessed, studied as necessary as part of the site's post-excavation analysis, and buried once this is completed. Please complete all questions at E38.
Q E37b	Please tick this option if, after study as part of the site's post-excavation analysis, the intention is to retain some or all of the remains in a museum or comparable institution so that they are available for further study. Please complete all questions at E39.
Q E37c	Please tick this option if, at the time of application, no decision has been taken on what will happen to the remains, or if no decision can be taken until the remains have been examined. Please complete all questions at E40.
Q E38 (ii), E39(vii) and E40(iii)	If the application is made on behalf of an organisation, it will be assumed that if the individual who is named leaves the organisation, the responsibility remains with the organisation. A licence condition is likely to be attached requiring the remains to be under the control of a competent member of staff or the holder of the stated position. Please indicate if such a licence condition would be inappropriate.
Q E39(ii) and E39(iii)	These questions are to clarify when a decision on the future of the remains is likely to be taken and who will be involved in the decision-taking process (for example, the local authority archaeologist and local museum). Where these arrangements are clear, a licence may be issued to allow retention/curation of the remains subject to compliance with the specified timescale and process.
Q E39(iv), E39(v) and E39(vi)	The purpose of these questions is to ensure that deposited human remains will be treated appropriately. If the place of deposition is not an accredited museum, please provide information to show that it can and will provide appropriate care.
Q E40	Where the decision about the remains is unknown, it may be necessary to issue a licence with a re-burial condition only pending an alternative decision. An application to vary the licence would then need to be made at a later date.

Agisoft Workflow for building a Trench Orthomosaic

Stage 1 – Add Photos:

Step 1.1

For consistency of filenaming and to assist in digital archiving processes, raw photos should be renamed using batch renaming software (numerous freely available programmes online), programmed to the following conventions:

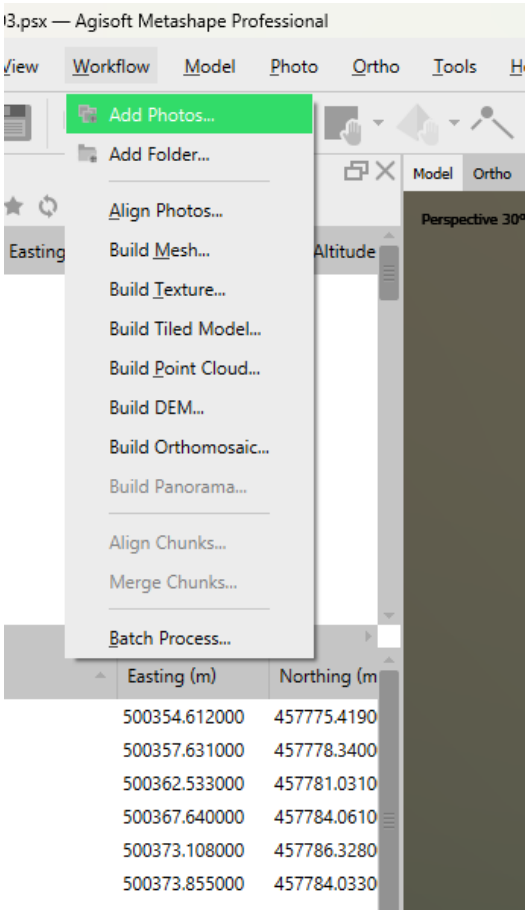
[SITE CODE]_[MODEL NUMBER]_[CAMERA NUMBER]_[SD CARD NUMBER]_{Filename Number}_{EXIF:Date Taken[Y-m-d]}

Hence, filenames should like the following example:

“LHL25_MOD003_CAM002_SD004_4169_2025-07-01”

Step 1.2

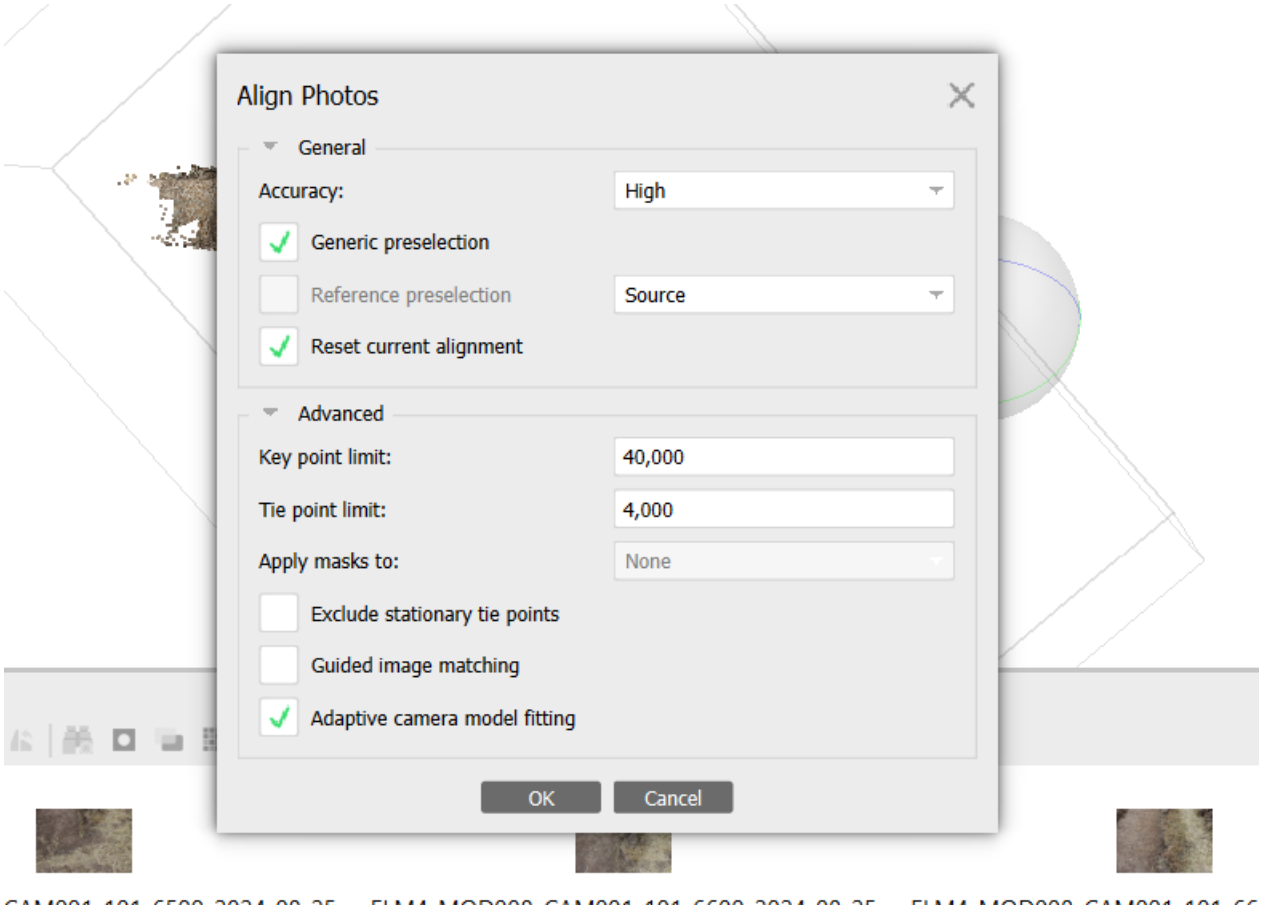
One all photo files have been batch renamed and saved into the relevant project folder, Open Agisoft and add your photos to the project.



Stage 2: Align Photos

From the Workflow tab, select Align Photos.

The settings should be as follows:



Once the alignment is complete, remove any photos from the project that failed to align.

Remember to save your project!

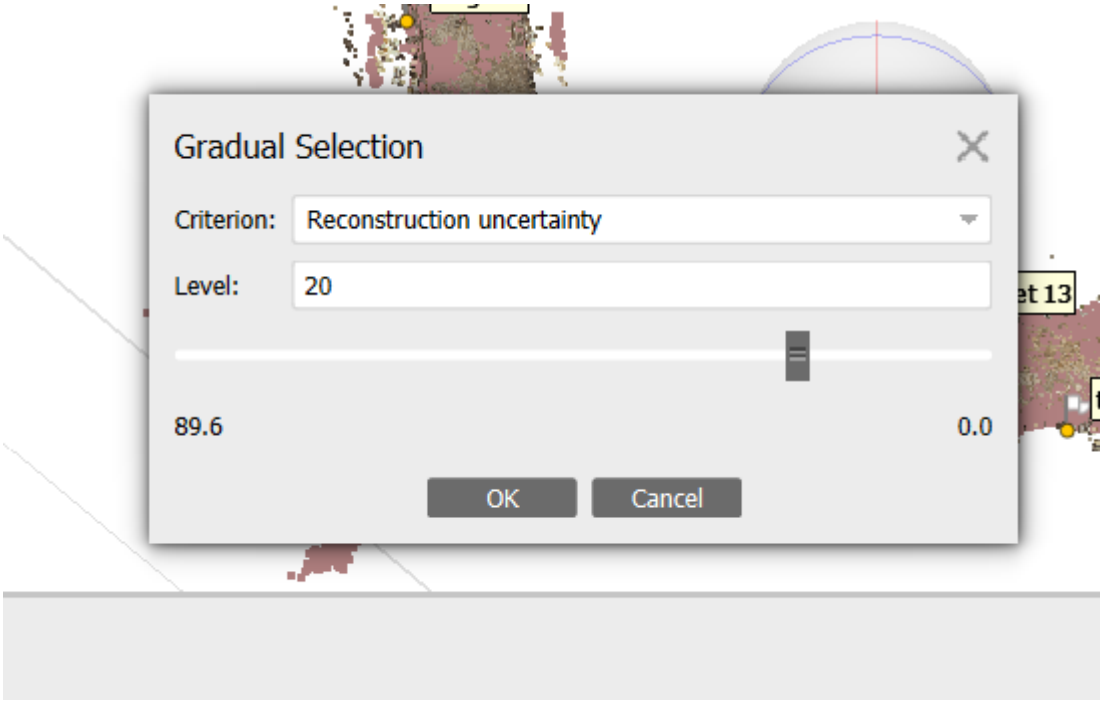
Stage 3: Tie point filtering

It is very important to filter your tie points before building the mesh. This will have a significant influence on the quality of the final model output.

There are three steps to filtering the tie points through Agisoft's Gradual Selection function.

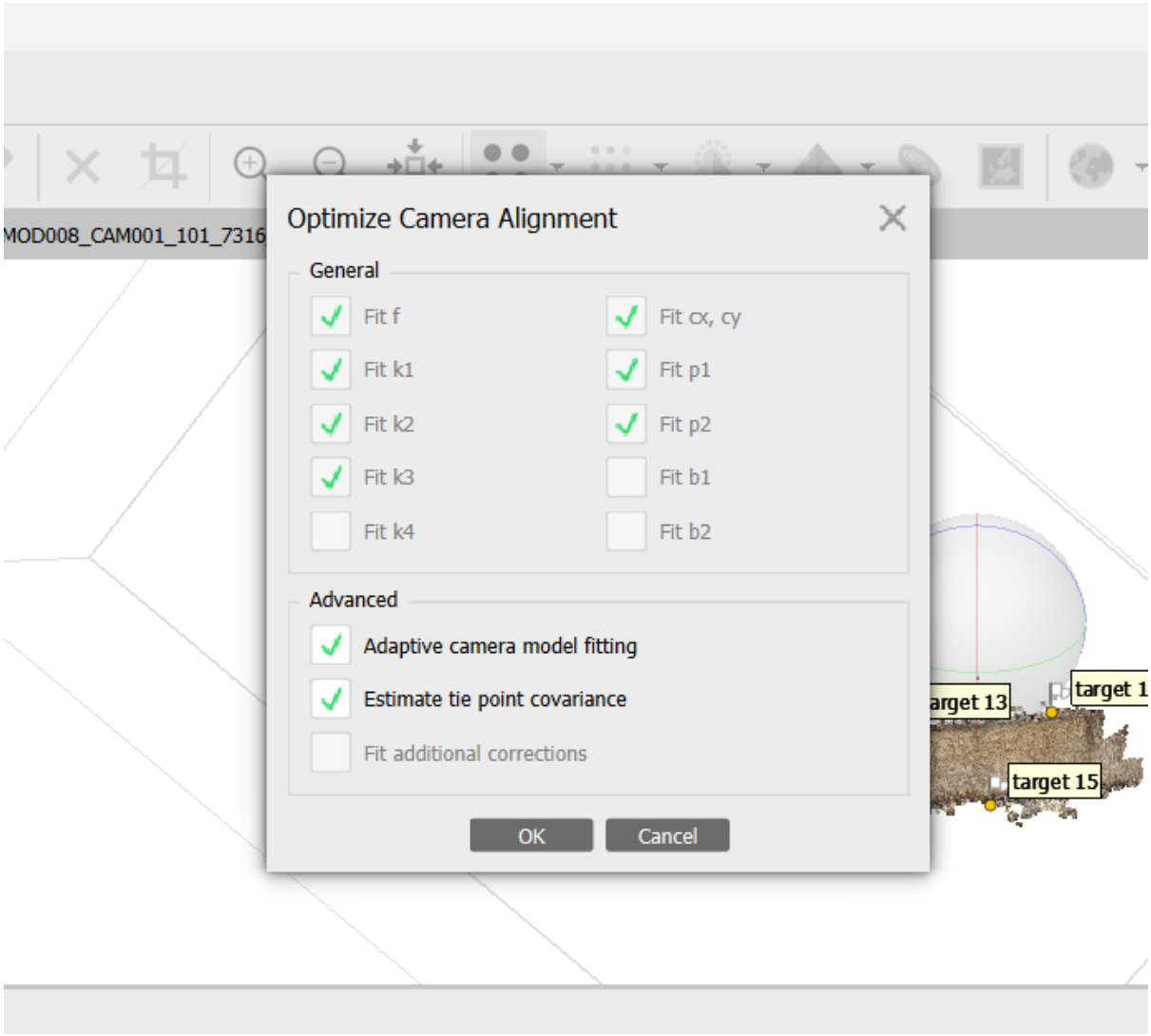
Step 3.1

From the Model tab, select the gradual selection tool. Then select the 'Reconstruction Uncertainty' and adjust the slide bar to around 20. Press ok and then delete the selected points.



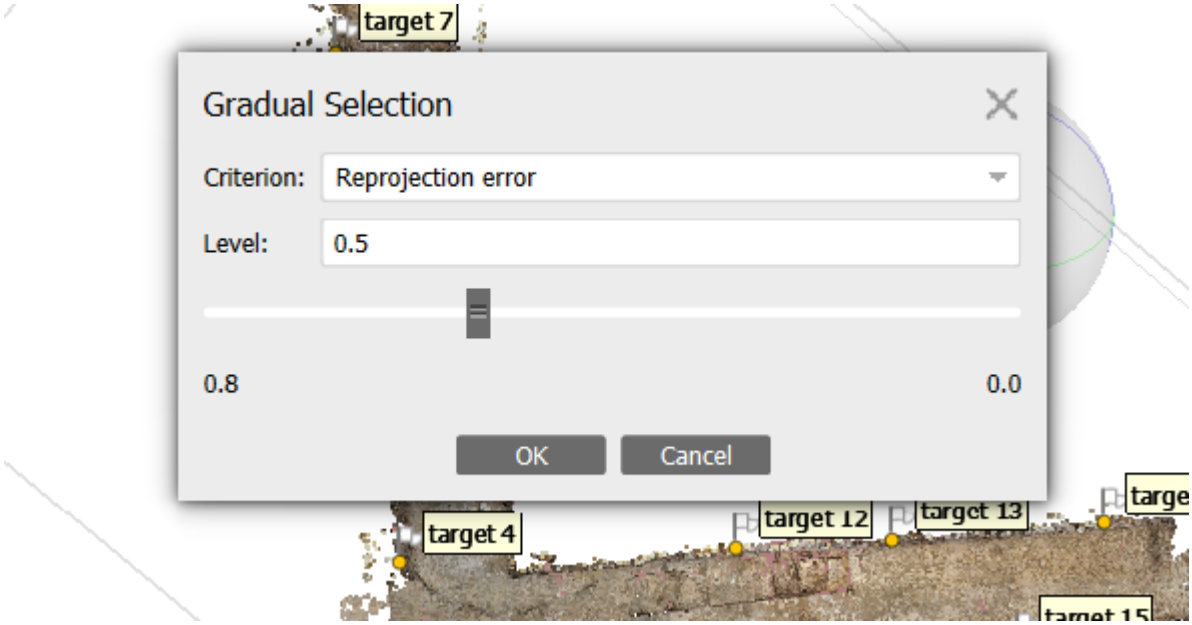
Step 3.2

Then optimize your camera locations using the following settings;



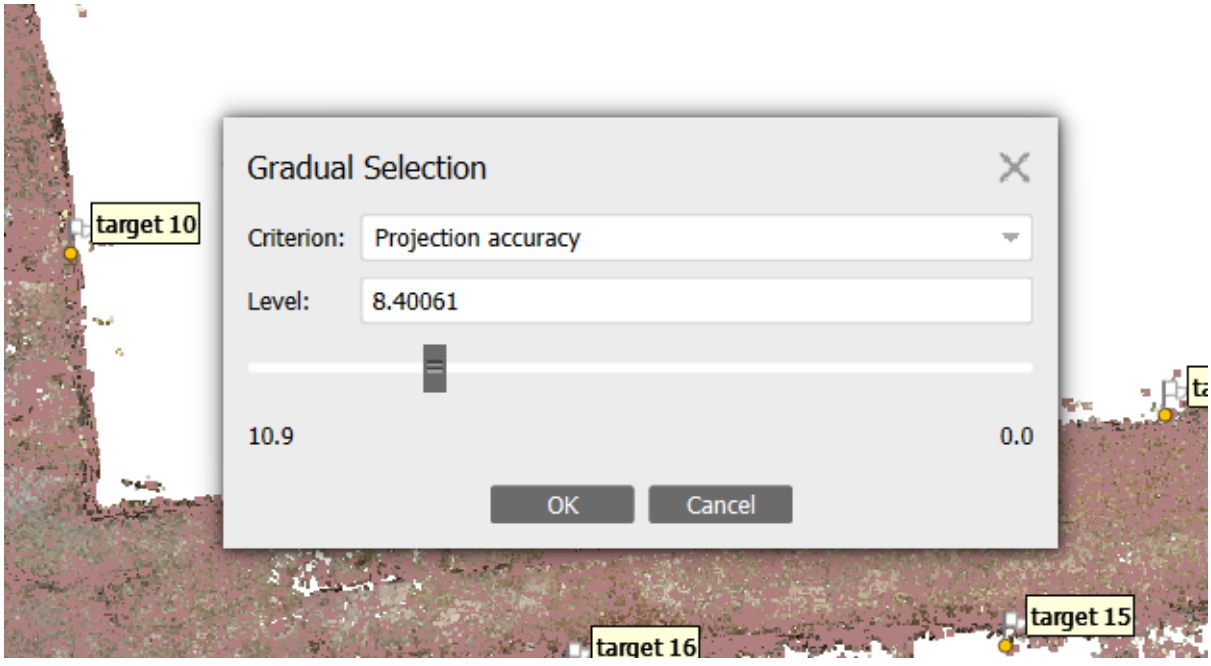
Step 3.3

The next step in Gradual selection is to select ‘Reprojection Error’ and then select a pixel size of around 0.5. Then delete these points and optimize camera locations again (Step 3.2).



Step 3.4

The final step in gradual selection is ‘Projection Accuracy.’ This time we want to select about 10% of the active tie points in the model. Select these and delete, then optimize camera locations again (Step 3.2).



Step 3.5

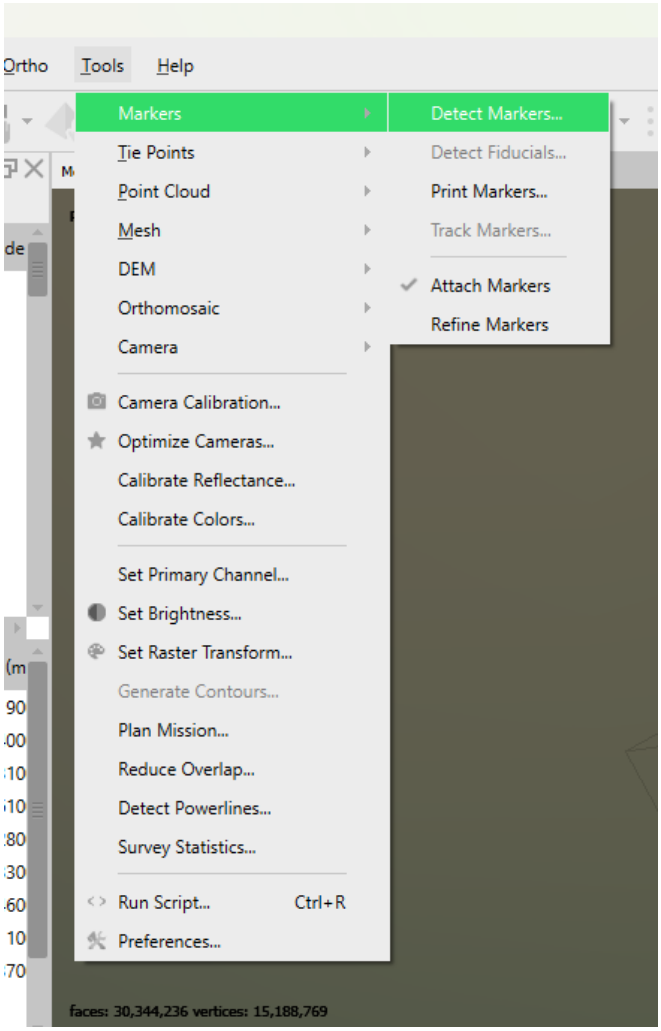
Finally, manually inspect your tie points and select any remaining erroneous points by hand. Delete these and optimize your camera locations one last time (Step 3.2).

Stage 4: Marker detection and PGCP Import

This stage will use the software's automatic marker detection functionality to locate all of the Agisoft markers used as Photogrammetry Ground Control Points (PGCP) when taking photos.

Step 4.1

From the Tools menu, select Markers>Detect Markers.



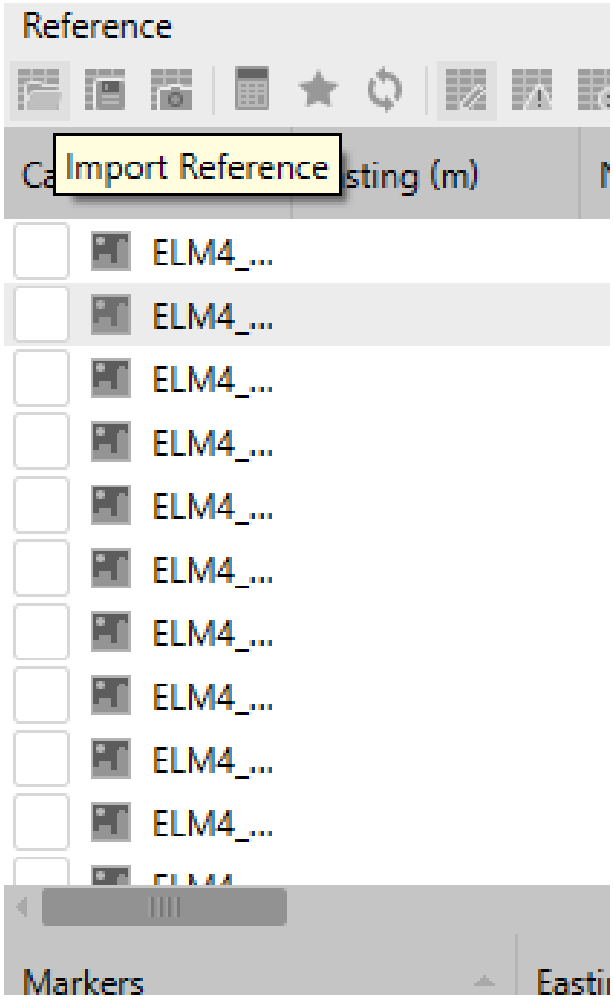
Step 4.2

Inspect the photos within the project for any markers identified with white flags and manually reposition these if necessary. Those marked with green flags are considered accurately positioned.



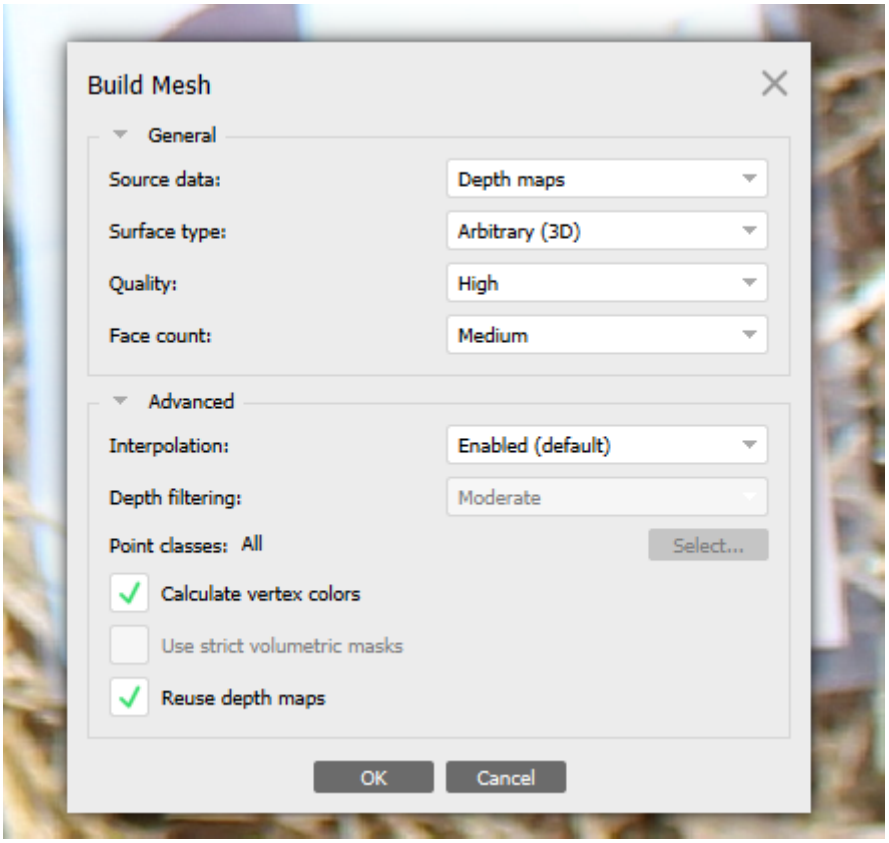
Step 4.3

Import your PGCP co-ordinates into the Project using the ‘import reference’ function in the ‘Reference’ pane. Upload the resulting CSV file.



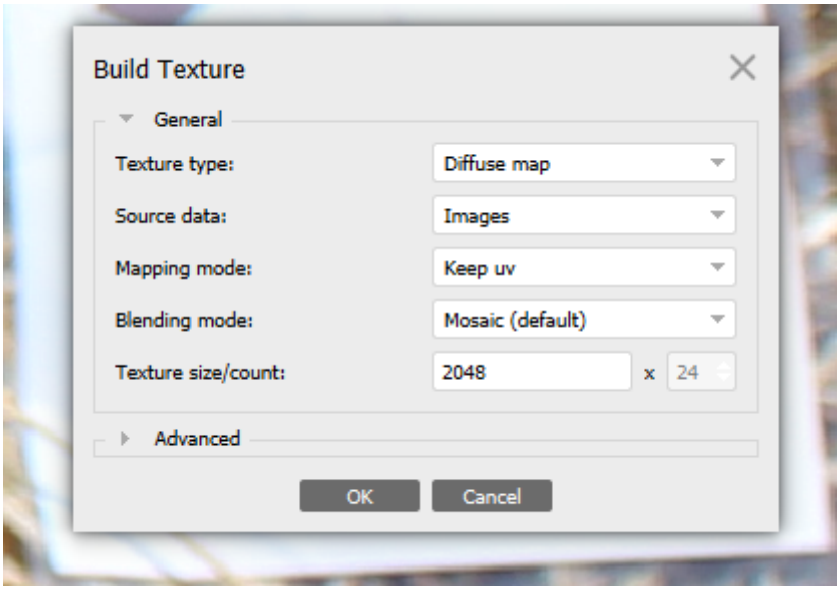
Stage 5: Build Mesh

The 3D mode is now ready to be built – select 'Build Mesh' from the workflow pane and use the following settings:



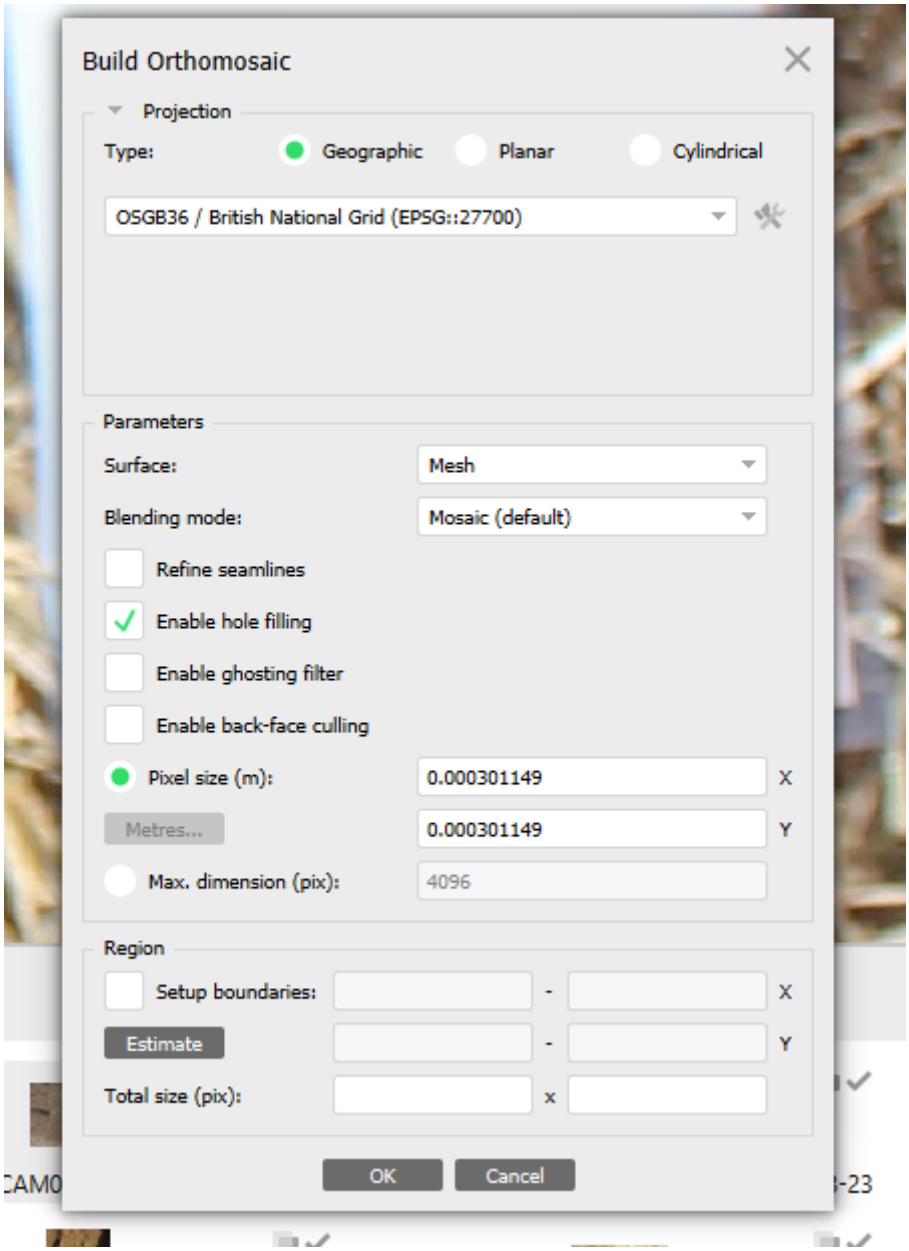
Stage 6: Build Textures

If you are happy with the 3D mesh generated by the software, you can now add textures by selecting the 'Build Texture' tool from the workflow pane and use the following settings:



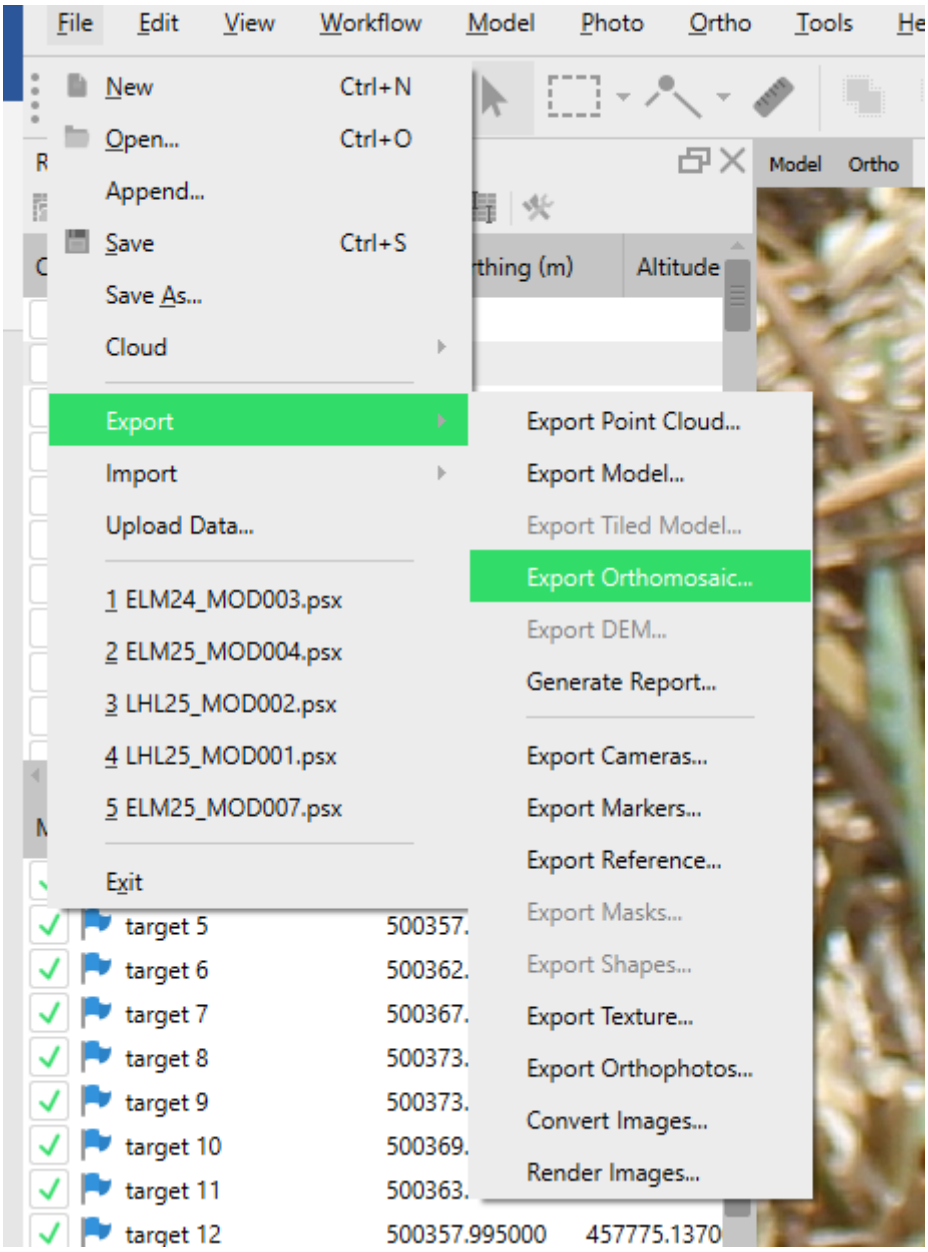
Stage 7: Build Orthomosaic

If you are happy with the texturized model output, you can now move on to build the orthomosaic. From the workflow pane, select 'Build Orthomosaic' and apply the following settings;



Stage 8: Export Orthomosaic

You can then choose to export the orthomosaic to the desired file format (usually TIF file) for use as a raster in GIS packages. Your workflow is now complete!



DigVentures



Cothelstone Farm Community Excavation

Archaeological Analysis Report

Ben Swain and Nat Jackson

Cothelstone Farm Community Excavation

Archaeological Analysis Report

Compiled by:

Ben Swain, Nat Jackson

With contributions from:

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Purpose of document

This document has been prepared as an Analysis Report for the Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme (QLPS). The purpose of this document is to provide a comprehensive account of the community archaeological investigation at Cothelstone Farm, with specialist assessment and analysis of finds and samples.

DigVentures accepts no responsibility or liability for any use that is made of this document other than by the client for the purposes for which it was originally commissioned and prepared.

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Project summary

OASIS ID	digventu1-528876
DV project code and type	CSF24
NGR	ST 17901 31650
County	Somerset
Title:	Cothelstone Farm Community Excavation
Author(s):	Ben Swain BA ACIfA Nat Jackson BA MA
Origination date:	10/10/2024
Version:	v1.2
Circulation:	QLPS, South West Heritage Trust, Somerset HER, OASIS
Reviewed by:	Stephanie N. Duensing PhD ACIfA
Approval:	Brendon Wilkins PhD MCIfA MIAI FSA

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The fieldwork was directed by Ben Swain who was ably assisted by Ant Haskins, Harriet Tatton and Anna van Nostrand. The project was managed for DigVentures by Stephanie Duensing and Manda Forster, with Brendon Wilkins in the role of Project Executive.

Final thanks must go to the local community participants and volunteers from the QLPS scheme who joined the excavations, dedicating their time and efforts to understanding more about the fascinating archaeology and history of Cothelstone Farm:

Kerry Armstrong, Karen Bailey, Nathan Baker, Lily Baker, Alison Ball, David Ball, Lucy Beasley, Charlie Bosworth, Elaine Burgess, Nigel Canham, Ric Canham, Brooke Chapman, Amy Clapinson, Ruth Conley, Emily Cosgrove, Victoria Coxon, Jane Davies, June Eckhart, Siobhan Elson, Alex English, Karen Fear, Sandie Fenech, Charlie Fitzer, Anne Garnish, David Goodchild, Louise Gosling, Leigh Hall, Emily Hall, Sandra Heath, Colin Henderson, Karen Hughes, Kathryn Hyman, Vanessa Jeger, Catherine Knibbs, Darren Knibbs, Mary Knight, Chantelle Lawrence, Mary Lennox, William Little, Gina Little, Joanne Love, Anita Maney, Michaela Martin, Michaela Martin, Lisa Millar, John Millar, Ross Milum, Lisa Moore, Denise Moyse, Derek Mullenger, Jo Musgrave, Will Musgrave, Janet Oke, Celia Palmer, James Palmer, Zach Palmer, Tammy Pay, Kerry Paye, Gavin Paye, Matthew Pearson, Natalie Perry, Ros Pope, Sue Powley, Diane Scully, Chris Smith, Nicky Taylor, Jack Taylor, Annie Trolley, Paul Trolley, Caroline Upton, Justin Vallance, Matt Wales, Sarah Waring, Philip Webber, Laurence Whitlock, Veronica Willcocks, Louise Williamson, Paul Willis, Becca Wootton, Toby Wootton, Albie, Arthur, Augustus, Briony, Cameron, Carys, Chloe, Dominic, Evie, Fergus, Hettie, Hugo, Jasper, Jem, Jude, Kate, Phoebe, Rory, Rose and Ted.

Executive summary

DigVentures was commissioned by the Quantocks Landscape Partnership Scheme (QLPS) to deliver a community archaeological excavation at Cothelstone Farm, Somerset, between 24th May and 9th June 2024. This was the fourth and final community excavation carried out by the QLPS as part of the wider landscape partnership scheme's delivery programme. Previous public participatory archaeological excavations investigated a Late Bronze Age enclosure on Cothelstone Hill in summer 2021, a Medieval Manor at Crowcombe in 2022 and a Late Bronze Age ring-work at Broomfield in 2023.

The principle archaeological aim of the community project at Cothelstone Farm was to assess the nature of cropmarks identified by aerial photography through geophysical survey and community excavation. The excavations revealed evidence of a Late Bronze Age ring ditch enclosure that was re-used in the Late Romano-British or Early Post-Roman period as a cemetery. Special finds of note included a deposit of three largely complete Late Bronze Age ceramic vessels at the base of the ring ditch, whilst three iron knives representing grave goods were recovered from the burials.

Public engagement and meaningful participation was integral to the success of the project, which offered a range of opportunities for local community members and visitors to get involved in and learn more about the archaeology of Cothelstone Farm. Volunteers were trained in field excavation and recording tasks, including finds handling, photogrammetry and GPS survey. In total, the project provided excavation and finds room training for 71 adult participants as well as 61 children and young people through in person participatory experiences. Additionally, guided tours on a public open day engaged a further 41 individuals with the archaeology of Cothelstone Farm.

Results summary

A 35m diameter ring ditch identified in cropmark and geophysical surveys was excavated and confirmed to be Late Bronze Age in origin. A deposit of three ceramic vessels had been intentionally placed directly on the base of the newly opened ditch, dating to between the late 11th and 9th centuries BC. This likely represented a social act of ceremonial significance within a small-scale rural domestic context, possibly to commemorate the completion of the enclosure itself.

The ditch was recut in either the Early or Middle Iron Age. In the years that followed, waste from sporadic domestic activity within the enclosure was tipped into the ditch and interspersed with short periods of silting. This could be indicative of seasonal abandonment and re-occupation around the early 8th to mid 6th centuries BC. A longer period of abandonment occurred after the Middle Iron Age when the ditch began to more substantially silt up but was likely still visible as an earthwork in the landscape into the Romano-British period and beyond.

Most likely in the Late Romano-British or Early Post-Roman period, possibly around the 5th century AD, the ring ditch enclosure was reused as a cemetery. At least 13 east to west aligned grave cuts were identified in parallel rows respecting each other in what appears to be an organised cemetery. Nine graves were excavated but no skeletal remains survived due to poor preservation conditions. However, three iron knives and a possible tang or awl were recovered from two of the graves in Trench 4. The cemetery may have been enclosed by shallow linear ditches from which two 3rd to 4th century black burnished ware jars were recovered that may represent grave goods partially disturbed by later ploughing.

. Comparison with other contemporary sites in the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age local landscape, including at Broomfield and Cothelstone Hill, opens the possibility that all three locations may have been used seasonally by members of the same communities.

Evaluation of the public impact from the Cothelstone Farm community archaeological excavations shows significant benefit for both individual participants and community visitors as a result of the project. In total, the project provided excavation and finds room training for 71 adult participants and 61 children and young people through in person participatory experiences. Additionally, guided tours on a public open day engaged a further 41 individuals with the archaeology of Cothelstone Farm.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 This report presents an analysis of the community archaeological excavations undertaken at Cothelstone Farm in late May and early June 2024 by DigVentures on behalf of the Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme (QLPS). The project, commissioned by the QLPS and funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, included a programme of geophysical survey, community-based excavation and a heritage open day. It was designed to contribute towards the wider QLPS programme aims; to conserve, protect and interpret the cultural and natural heritage of the Quantocks landscape.

1.1.2 The QLPS is a landscape partnership led by the Quantock Hills National Landscape (QHNL) to deliver a five-year programme of works and activities in and around the Quantock Hills. The scheme consists of twenty-three individual projects grouped under the three themes of *Inspire, Live,* and *Learn*. The project at Cothelstone Farm was the fourth and final programme of community excavation carried out by the QLPS under sub-theme 3.5; *Understanding the Landscape*. Previous public participatory excavations investigated a Late Bronze Age enclosure on Cothelstone Hill in summer 2021, a Medieval Manor at Crowcombe in 2022 and a Late Bronze Age ring-work at Broomfield in 2023.

1.1.3 The aims, objectives and methodology for the community archaeological excavation at Cothelstone Farm were designed and delivered in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Jackson and Duensing, 2024). The principle archaeological aim of the project was to assess the nature of cropmarks identified by aerial photography through geophysical survey and community excavation. Public engagement and meaningful participation was integral to the success of the project, which offered a range of opportunities for local community members and visitors to get involved in and learn more about the archaeology of Cothelstone Farm.

1.1.4 The information contained in this report provides a full account of the archaeological work undertaken. This technical analysis report is one of several archive and dissemination products generated by the project, including the digital archive and metadata, the paper archive as well as the artefacts and ecofacts recovered. Upon project closure, all digital and physical material selected for archiving will be archived with the South West Heritage Trust and freely disseminated through the Somerset Historic Environment Record (HER), OASIS portal (OASIS ID: digventu1-528876) and the Archaeological Data Service (ADS). The physical archive will be deposited with South West Heritage Trust.

1.2 Site description

1.2.1 The site of the excavations (centred on NGR: ST 17901 31650) was located in a pasture field north of Cothelstone Road and approximately 300m west of the Cothelstone Manor Farm estate (Figure 1). Cothelstone sits within the Quantock Hills National Landscape, 2.5km to the northeast of Bishops Lydeard and 7km north of Taunton. The excavations themselves were located on a high point in the local landscape at a maximum elevation of 98mAOD, sloping towards the east at a minimum elevation of 85mAOD. Significant views from the site are available south towards Toulton and west towards Stoneage Barton. Further east, the land rises significantly to a height of 330mAOD at Cothelstone Hill, where a number of Prehistoric Bowl Barrows are located. The land at Cothelstone Farm is part of the historic Cothelstone Park and currently in permanent use as grassland for the grazing of livestock.

1.2.2 The bedrock geology of the site is part of the Helsby Sandstone Formation, a sedimentary bedrock formed between 247.1 and 241.5 million years ago during the Triassic period. No superficial deposits have been recorded (British Geological Survey, 2024).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Historic Background

2.1.1 Cothelstone village is dominated by two main features; Cothelstone Manor (HER number 17909) and the Church of St Thomas of Canterbury (HER number: 43023). The earliest parts of the church date back to the 12th century, it mostly dates to the 15th century and was restored in the 1860s.

2.1.2 Cothelstone Manor and estate was given to the Stawell family following the Norman conquest in 1066. The current manor was originally built in the mid-16th century. During the First English Civil War the lord of the manor, John Stawell fought on the side of the royalists and was imprisoned for high treason. During this time Oliver Cromwell ordered the destruction of the manor by canon fire, the right wing and the first floor were demolished, and the house abandoned. The manor was returned to Stawell following the restoration of Charles II. The estate was purchased in 1791 by Edward Jeffries, whose grandson Edward Jeffries Esdaile built a new residence, Cothelstone House, between 1817 and 1820, and was demolished in the 1960s. In the 1850s Esdaile restored Cothelstone Manor to the way it had been when John Stawell was living there in the mid-17th century (https://www.cothelstonemanor.com/estate; accessed 29/01/24).

2.1.3 On the land around Cothelstone Manor an extensive earthwork survey was carried out in 2003 as part of the English Heritage archaeological survey of the Quantock Hills (HER number: 17905). This work included a brief assessment of the principal buildings of Cothelstone Manor and the remnants of the surrounding medieval landscape.

2.2 Previous fieldwork

2.2.1 To the south west of Cothelstone at Stoneage Barton an excavation was carried out in 2000 (Webster & Brunning, 2004) (HER number: 11697). This targeted cropmarks (HER numbers: 26796, 44524 and 44524), and revealed Romano-British enclosures and a 7th century cemetery. The graves, unlike those at Cothelstone Farm did contain a small amount of bone, from which radiocarbon dates were taken that returned early to middle 7th century AD dates. No grave goods were recovered.

2.2.2 Within the QLPS project various other excavations have taken place in the local landscape near to Cothelstone Farm (Figure 3). These include a large ring ditch at Broomfield (Green and Fairclough, 2024), a 17th century garden at Crowcombe court (McConnell, 2023) and earthworks at the top of Cothelstone Hill (Brunning and Grove, 2022). The aim of the excavation at Crowcombe manor was to investigate the location of a 13th-century manor house, however, this proved elusive and the instead evidence of a 17th-century formal garden was revealed in the form of a pavilion and garden wall. The excavations at Broomfield and Cothelstone Hill are more relevant to those at Cothelstone Farm, both were investigating prehistoric features that were roughly contemporary with those discovered on site.

2.2.3 The excavations at Broomfield, located 4km to the east of Cothelstone Farm, targeted a large 93m diameter ring ditch and internal features. The ditch itself likely dates to the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age, however no secure dating from the construction was found. Radiocarbon dates from the Middle to Late Iron Age were recovered from internal features, a post hole and a pit, indicating sporadic occupation during this time. A later Romano-British field system was also identified on site.

2.2.4 At Cothelstone Hill earthworks previously thought to be associated with a cross-ridge dyke were suggested through recent LiDAR survey to be a complete enclosure. The excavations aimed to prove this. The earthworks were dated to the Late Bronze Age, and a rampart identified there probably collapsed shortly after its creation. Evidence of burning in the partially filled ditches were from various points in the Iron Age and so, like at Broomfield, suggest sporadic occupation in this period.

3 PROJECT AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Geophysics



3.1.1 The principle aim of the geophysical survey (see Aim 1, below) was to clarify the presence and absence of potential archaeological remains at the site and to provide updated and accurate locations for these remains, as observed through aerial photography.

Aim 1: Through non-intrusive investigation, establish the extent and depth of potential buried archaeology at the site.

- Q1. Can the extent of archaeological remains be established through geophysical survey, including the presence and nature of any interior details of the enclosures?
- Q2. Can geophysical survey clarify the presence and absence of potential archaeological remains within the site, providing updated and accurate locations for the remains observed through aerial photography?

3.1.2 A full magnetometer survey of approximately 7Ha was conducted in February 2024, the results of which informed targets for the subsequent community excavation at the site. Results were presented in a full scientific report (Appendix J) including georeferenced greyscale plots of the data, interpretative figures, and photographs.

3.2 Excavation

3.2.1 The overarching aim of the archaeological excavation was to define and characterise several identified features in the site through a programme of intrusive excavations, obtaining data which will better characterise and understand the site. The principal aim of the excavation was to provide further information concerning the presence/absence, date, nature, and extent of any buried archaeological remains and to investigate and record these within the target area. Fieldwork comprised a structured community volunteer assisted project, providing a range of physical and digital opportunities to participate and/or observe findings. The project model is framed as overarching aims and key questions/objectives designed to meet the project requirements to:

- verify the archaeological potential of the site,
- characterise buried archaeology associated with the cropmarks,
- where possible, establish the relationship and stratigraphic sequence between the three cropmarks
- establish a date and sequence for the cropmarks and enclosure closure complex.

3.2.2 The excavation targeted each of the three enclosures (HER numbers: 44536, 44537, and 44538) with the aim of establishing the date and function of each. Trench locations were decided following the geophysical survey of the area and in consultation with the QLPS and their partners at the South West Heritage Trust (SWHT).

Aim 2: Characterise the results of non-invasive survey, refining the chronology and phasing of the site with a programme of targeted excavation.

- Q3. Can we establish the date and sequence for the enclosure / ring ditch complex?
- Q4. Can the nature of the enclosures / ring ditches be established?
- Q5. Can a chronological sequence and stratigraphic phasing for the cropmark features archaeological evidence be established?
- Q6. Can a relationship between the cropmark features be established?

Aim 3: Understand the site's archaeological and palaeoenvironmental conditions.

- Q7. What is the current state of preservation of the archaeological and palaeoenvironmental material across the sites?
- Q8. How well do deposits and artefacts survive, and how deeply are they buried?
- Q9. What is the range and spatial patterning of ecofacts and artefacts recovered from the site?

Aim 4: Making recommendations, analysis and publication

- Q10. What can an integrated synthesis of the results of this work with previous studies of contemporary regional sites tell us about the site and its setting?

- Q11. What recommendations can be made to protect, conserve and enhance the site?
- Q12. What strategies should be put in place to protect archaeological remains and deposits at Cothelstone Farm for the enjoyment of future generations?

3.3 Public participation

3.3.1 Public engagement and meaningful participation is integral to the success of the project and sits with equal importance alongside our research aims. The excavation involved participation from volunteers, who were trained and mentored in the techniques of archaeological excavation. Our site team delivered an in-person programme at a ratio of 1:3 throughout the dig, with online social media updates to engage and inform the public about the archaeological discoveries. In summary, the project offered a range of opportunities for local community members and visitors to the area to get involved and learn more about the archaeology of Cothelstone Farm.

3.3.2 In addition to public participation in the excavation, an archaeological Open Day took place on the final weekend of the excavation, (exact day to be confirmed). The Open Day was hosted by team members and involve site tours with a display of the finds recovered. Site visitors were able to talk to the excavation team (including staff and volunteers) and heard about the archaeological discoveries as they were guided around the site.

Aim 5: To engage and train local people in the research of Quantocks Landscape study area, and provide opportunities for public engagement.

- To further the study, understanding and enjoyment of the study area by interested individuals and community groups.
- To provide training, guidance and technical support to members of the community in the methods and techniques used in archaeology and the investigation of the historic environment.
- To disseminate the results of fieldwork in an accessible and clear way, raising awareness to the archaeology of the site and wider landscape.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Archaeological Method

4.1.1 All work was completed to CIfA standards and guidance for archaeological excavation (2023) and was undertaken in accordance with the standards set out within the WSI (Jackson and Duensing 2024).

4.1.2 All areas were stripped of overburden deposits with a mechanical excavator under continuous archaeological supervision down to the first archaeological horizon. All machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision using a toothless bucket and included visually scanning spoil for artefacts. The area was then assessed by a professional archaeologist to establish the extent of survival and preservation of archaeological remains.

4.1.3 A sufficient sample of each feature type/deposit was examined in order to establish the date, nature, extent and condition of any archaeological remains, encompassing the following percentage interventions as a minimum where relevant:

- 50% of each intrusive feature (pits, postholes)
- 10% of each linear feature's exposed area + all terminals & intersections
- 50% structural features (beamslots, ring ditches) - actual surviving structural elements (walls, collapse/debris fields) just require exposure, cleaning and preservation for excavation in more appropriate circumstances
- 50-100% domestic/industrial working features (hearths, ovens).

4.1.4 Full written, drawn and photographic records were made of each trench. They were showing the areas investigated and the location of contexts and features observed and recorded during the investigation. Sections and elevations of archaeological features and deposits were drawn as necessary at an appropriate scale (1:20 or 1:10).

4.1.5 All interventions were surveyed using a GPS tied into the Ordnance Survey grid. All recording was undertaken using the digital first format Diggit, following the DigVentures single context recording system. Digital photography was used for all photography of significant features, finds, deposits and general site working. The photographic record illustrates both the detail and the general context of the principal features and finds excavated, and the Site as a whole.

4.2 Finds and environmental samples

4.2.1 Finds were treated in accordance with the relevant guidance given in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation (revised 2014), and the Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (2014), excepting where they were superseded by statements made below. Archaeological material was handled and sorted following advice in Watkinson and Neal (1998).

4.2.2 All artefacts from excavated contexts were washed, counted, weighed, and identified. Finds recovered were assessed by appropriately qualified specialists, who examined the finds to provide an identification, date, and provenance of the material, and to also evaluate the significance of the assemblage.

4.2.3 Bulk environmental soil samples for plant macrofossils, small animal bones and other small artefacts were taken from appropriate sealed and dateable archaeological contexts. Samples of between 10-20 litres were taken of each context. Samples were not taken from the intersection of features. Bulk environmental soil samples were processed by flotation and scanned to assess the environmental potential of deposits. The residues and sieved fractions have been recorded and retained with the project archive.

4.3 Geophysical survey

Matthew Harris

4.3.1 Magnetic survey methods rely on the ability of a variety of instruments to measure very small magnetic fields associated with buried archaeological remains. A feature such as a ditch, pit or kiln can act like a small magnet, or series of magnets, that produce distortions (anomalies) in the earth's magnetic field. In mapping these slight variations detailed plans of sites can be obtained, as buried features often produce reasonably characteristic anomaly shapes and strengths (Gaffney & Gater 2003). Further information on soil magnetism and the interpretation of magnetic anomalies is provided in Appendix J.

4.3.2 Magnetometry is the most widely used geophysical survey technique in archaeology as it can quickly evaluate large areas and, under favourable conditions, identify a wide range of archaeological features including infilled cut features such as large pits, gullies and ditches, hearths, and areas of burning, and kilns and brick structures. It is therefore good at locating settlements of all periods, prehistoric field systems and enclosures, and areas of industrial or modern activity, amongst others. It is less successful in identifying smaller features such as post-holes and small pits (except when using a non-standard sampling interval), unenclosed (prehistoric) settlement sites and graves/burial grounds. However, magnetometry is by far the single most useful technique and was assessed as the best non-intrusive evaluation tool for this site.

4.3.3 The survey was undertaken using four Bartington Grad601 sensors mounted at 1m intervals (1m traverse interval) onto a rigid frame. The system was programmed to take readings at a frequency of 10Hz (allowing for a 10-15cm sample interval) on roaming traverses (swaths) 4m apart (Illus 5). These readings were stored on an external weatherproof laptop and later downloaded for processing and interpretation. The system was linked to a Trimble A12 Real Time Kinetic (RTK) differential Global Positioning System (dGPS) outputting in NMEA mode to ensure a high positional accuracy for each data point.

4.3.4 MLGrad601 and MultiGrad601 (Geomar Software Inc.) software was used to collect and export the data. Anomaly GeoSurvey v1.11 (Austrums 2018) and QGIS software was used to process and present the data respectively.

4.4 Animal bone

Hannah Russ

4.4.1 The animal remains were identified to element, side and to as low a taxonomic level as possible using the archaeology.biz reference collection and published and online identification guides (2003; 2005). Quantification for hand-collected remains was by weight (g) and count, and for mammals used the diagnostic zone method as presented by Dobney and Rielly (1988). A taphonomic assessment of each fragment was undertaken, recording the presence and absence of butchery (specified as cut, chop and/or saw marks), burning and calcination, any evidence for animal activity (canid or rodent gnawing), any abnormal features or bone formation (pathology and non-metric traits), and surface preservation; any other surface modifications of note were also recorded.

4.4.2 No attempt was made to sex any of the remains, or to measure any elements. Sheep (Ovis aries) and goat (Capra hircus) and Equid distinctions were also not considered. Fragments of bones that could be identified to element but not any specific species were grouped as far as possible using size and class or order categories. Animal bone recovered from bulk environmental samples was weighed and only identified specimens included in the overall count for animal bone from the site. Results for all quantification were recorded in an electronic proforma in Microsoft Excel. This assessment has been undertaken in line with published standards and guidelines (Baker and Worley 2019; ClfA 2014; 2021), with reference to the South West England Archaeological Research Framework (Accessed September 2024).

4.5 Prehistoric Pottery

Imogen Wood

4.5.1 The methods and terminology used conform to the 'Standards in pottery studies in archaeology' guidance (2016) and CIFA guidelines for specialist reporting (https://www.archaeologists.net/reporting-toolkit). The sherds were counted and weighed, and the sherd type noted (rim/body/handle), as far as possible, individual sherds were identified to a broad class. General observations of fabric and surface treatment were noted. Minimum Number of Vessels is not included as the features were not fully excavated and not representative.

4.5.2 588 sherds from 18 contexts were examined macroscopically with a hand lens at x2 magnification to identify initial fabric groups; these groups were then examined under a binocular microscope at a magnification of x10. This enabled large areas of the surface and edges of sherds to be examined, and in many cases useful diagnostic mineral and rock components to be identified. Sherds have been assessed by a subjective measure of 'condition' from level 1 good, level 2 moderately good, to level 3 abraded using Sorensen's method (Sorensen 1996). Sorensen's commonly established method of assessing abrasion was developed in the Runnymead Bridge Research Excavations, ceramic report, see this publication for further details (Sorensen 1996).

4.6 Romano-British Pottery

David Griffiths

4.6.1 All pottery was examined visually by eye and sorted into broad ware groups including handmade and wheel-made Romano-British fine wares and coarse wares. Identification and classification of fabrics was based on colour, hardness, fracture, and inclusion composition, as outlined in Tomber and Dore (1998, 6-8). The material was recorded and analysed in accordance with national guidelines (Barclay et al. 2016; ClfA 2024). The ware groups were further refined by class, and fabric codes assigned based on fabric composition (see Table 10, Appendix D). Reference is made to Holbrook and Bidwell's type series from Exeter (1991), and Young's (2000) extensive study of pottery of the Oxford region.

4.6.2 This analysis was undertaken following the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' documents: Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials (2014); Toolkit for Specialist Reporting (2021); and Toolkit for finds:

pottery (2024). Reference was made to the Written Scheme of Investigation produced by DigVentures (Jackson and Duensing, 2024) and an overall narrative for the excavations (DigVentures, 2024). In addition, reference was made to the South West England Archaeological Research Framework (Accessed November 2024).

4.6.3 Each class of pottery was quantified by count, weight, and estimated vessel equivalents (EVEs, based on percentage of rim preserved). Where appropriate, key vessels with diagnostic features have been illustrated (Figure 28, IDs 1/6, 3, and 5). Featured vessels are identified using a reference 'ID' code in the text based on the relevant entry row in Table 10 (Appendix D). Where vessel form and chronology were clear, a date range is provided. A full catalogue of all material is provided in Table 10 (Appendix D).

4.6.4 Detailed fabric analysis was undertaken using a low power microscope at X30 magnification. This analysis has enabled refinement of fabrics and identified local/regional wares, and possibly nationally distributed wares within the assemblage. A full catalogue of fabric descriptions is provided in Table 11 (Appendix D). The results are presented by period and area and are followed by a discussion of pottery supply and consumption at the site. The results are discussed to place the pottery consumed by the inhabitants of the settlement within the wide local and regional context.

4.6.5 Romano-British pottery type codes broadly follow classifications of material from Exeter (Holbrook and Bidwell 1991), and Young (2000) for Roman pottery from Oxfordshire. Where it was not possible to identify a source for pottery, fabric codes (i.e. RE1, OX1, etc.) have been assigned which are site specific (see Table 11, Appendix D).

4.7 Fired Clay

David Griffiths

4.7.1 Analysis of the fired clay/daub and fired clay included quantification by count and weight, identification by type, broad date range (if possible), and discussion of the findings in their regional and chronological context.

4.7.2 A catalogue of items is provided in Table 13 of Appendix E. Fired clay/daub is reported on following the Minimum Standards for Recovery, Curation, Analysis, and Publication for Ceramic Building Material (Archaeological Ceramic Building Materials Group 2002) and Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014).

4.7.3 Reference was made to the Written Scheme of Investigation produced by DigVentures (Jackson and Duensing 2024) and an overall narrative for the excavations (DigVentures 2024). In addition, reference was made to the South West England Archaeological Research Framework (https://researchframeworks.org/swarf/, Accessed November 2024).

4.8 Lithics

Joshua Hogue

4.8.1 The typo-technological classification follows standard recording procedures (Ballin 2021; Butler 2005; Inizan et al. 1999). A primary removal is a flake with at least half of the dorsal surface retaining cortex. A blade is a flake with length at least equal to twice its width; a bladelet is a small blade with a width less than 12 mm; and a blade-like flake is a flake exhibiting traits of a true blade (e.g. parallel margins, arises), but not fulfilling the metric criteria of a true blade. A chip refers to debitage or indeterminate fragments less than 10mm. A chunk is an indeterminate piece measuring equal or greater than 10mm (*cf*. Ballin 2000).

4.9 Registered finds

Dot Boughton and Richard Henry

4.9.1 The specialist finds recording and reporting was completed in accordance with the national finds standards and guidance (Historic England 2008; CIfA 2014; 2021a; 2021b). The assemblage of four objects was recorded in a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet and further assessed using a magnifier with 55x magnification. The objects were described, weighed, and recorded in a single data table (Table 17, Appendix G). Identification was made using appropriate reference material and other assemblages as needed.

4.9.2 The report was prepared with support from the South West England Regional Research Framework (2023), the draft post-excavation report, and site plans. Reference to individual fragments in the report use 'SF' numbers (SF1-SF2, SF4-SF6), which corresponds to the accompanying data spreadsheet. This spreadsheet contains all finds data and metadata.

4.9.3 All context details, identifications, dates, weights, measurements, descriptions as well as general notes and a note on the artefacts' condition were recorded in an Excel Spreadsheet (Table 17, Appendix G). The metal finds were x-rayed and where an object's measurements were taken from its x-ray rather than the object itself, it was indicated in Table 17. Objects were taken out of their bags for analysis. The objects were analysed using a hand lens and measured using pocket scales and callipers with a rubber sleeve to protect the objects' surfaces.

4.9.4 For the identification and dating of the knives and spindle whorl, standard identification references were used, such as Crummy 1983, Manning 1976, Manning 1985, Humphreys 2021, Walton Rogers 2007, Owen-Crocker 2010 and Goodall 2011.

4.10 Environmental – Flotation

Emma Tong

4.10.1 The samples were processed using the Siraf method of flotation (Williams 1973) at Ecus facilities in Barnard Castle. Light fractions (flots) were collected using a 500 µm (micron) mesh and once dry were sieved using 2mm and 1mm Endecott sieves. The flots were then sorted under a low-powered Microtec stereo zoom microscope. Dry heavy fractions (residues) were sieved at 4mm and 2mm, with the >4mm fraction sorted and the <4mm scanned for any artefacts or ecofacts. A magnet was run through the residues to recover magnetic material, including any hammerscale (Dungworth and Wilkes 2007).

4.10.2 Plant macrofossils were identified to the lowest taxon where possible, under a low-powered Microtec stereo zoom microscope using the Ecus reference collection and published guides (Digital Plant Atlas; Cappers et al. 2006; Jones et al. 2004; Delorit 1970, Jacomet, 2006; Zohary et al, 2012). Plant nomenclature followed Stace (2019). Quantification was by count, with grain/seed/fruit remains with 51-100% survival quantified separately from fragments representing 50% or less of the complete item.

4.10.3 All material has been counted and/or assigned an abundance score, listed as; a (1-10), b (11-50), c (51-100), d (101-200), e (201-500), f (501-1000), g (>1000). Results were recorded in an electronic proforma in Microsoft Excel. The sample residues were assessed in accordance with Historic England guidelines for environmental archaeology (Campbell et al. 2011) and the CIfA toolkit for specialist reporting (CIfA 2021). The assessment has been carried out in line the project Written Scheme of Investigation (Jackson and Duensing, 2024).

4.11 Environmental – Charcoal

Hannah Russ

4.11.1 The charcoal fragments had been extracted from the heavy residues of bulk environmental samples, with material from eight samples provided for assessment. The charcoal was quantified by fragment, count and weight in grams to the nearest 0.1g. A sample of fragments from each archaeological context was selected for fracturing to attempt wood species identification. Wood



charcoal was identified to species where possible using published identifications guides (Fahn et al. 1986; Hather 2000; Schoch et al. 2004).

4.11.2 Results for all quantification were recorded in an electronic proforma in Microsoft Excel. This assessment has been undertaken in line with published standards and guidelines (Campbell et al. 2011; CIfA 2014; 2021), with reference to the South West England Archaeological Research Framework (Accessed September 2024) and a Review of Archaeological Wood Analyses in Southern England (Smith 2002).

4.12 Environmental – Pollen

Tom Hill

4.12.1 A selection of three spot samples were prepared for pollen assessment from the trench sequence under investigation. A summary of the sampling strategy applied by DigVentures to the sequence, including generalised descriptions of the deposits encountered, can be found in Table 25 of Appendix H.

4.12.2 Pollen extraction for the samples was undertaken by Quaternary Scientific, University of Reading (QUEST) and the standard methodology is modified from Campbell et al (2016) as follows (1) sampling a standard volume of sediment; (2) adding one tablet of the exotic clubmoss Lycopodium clavatum to provide a measure of pollen concentration in each sample, when required; (3) deflocculation of the sample in 1% Sodium pyrophosphate; (4) sieving of the sample to remove coarse mineral and organic fractions (>125µ); (5) acetolysis; (6) removal of finer minerogenic fraction using Sodium polytungstate (specific gravity of 2.0g/cm3); (7) mounting of the sample in glycerol jelly. Each stage of the procedure was preceded and followed by thorough sample cleaning in filtered distilled water.

4.12.3 Upon completion of preparation, a standard assessment of potential requires a count of at least 100 total land pollen grains (TLP), excluding aquatics and spores or, if pollen abundance is found to be low, 10 microscope slide traverses are undertaken. Pollen nomenclature follows Moore et al. (1991) with the amendments suggested by Bennett et al. (1994). During assessment, the state of pollen and spore preservation is observed, whilst other visible microfossil features (charcoal, pre-Quaternary pollen and spores, other identifiable non-pollen palynomorphs such as dinoflagellate cysts, testate amoebae etc) are also recorded, if encountered.

4.13 Health and safety

4.13.1 All work was carried out in accordance with DigVentures' company Health and Safety Policy (2018), in accordance with its company Health and Safety Policy, to standards defined in The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, and The Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1999, and in accordance with the SCAUM (Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers) health and safety manual Health and Safety in Field Archaeology (1996), and DigVentures Health and Safety Policy.

5 EXCAVATION RESULTS

Ben Swain

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 Excavations at Cothelstone Farm consisted of four evaluation style trenches located in a pasture field that is part of the Cothelstone Manor Farm estate. No previous archaeological excavations are known to have occurred in this location, however a number of cropmarks are recorded in the local HER (ID: 44536) relating to an undated ring ditch and an enclosure. Consequently, DigVentures commissioned Headland Archaeology to conduct a magnetometry survey in February 2024 (Appendix J) of the pasture field to inform the location of potential archaeological targets for investigation as part of the community excavations (Figure 2).

5.1.2 The principal purpose of these excavations was to define and characterise a number of the geophysical anomalies and cropmarks visible from aerial imagery, obtaining data that will better characterise and understand the site (Jackson and Duensing, 2024). Details of the key questions and objectives that contributed towards achieving the aims of the excavation are available in Section 3 of this report. The overarching archaeological aims were to:

- verify the archaeological potential of the site,
- characterise any buried archaeology associated with the cropmarks and geophysical anomalies,
- establish stratigraphic relationships and a chronological sequence between these features.

5.1.3 The topsoil and subsoil were removed by a mechanical excavator, revealing archaeological features cut into the natural geology; an orange clay and yellowish pea-gravel with moderately frequent sandstone and shillet inclusions. All features were cleaned, photographed, excavated and recorded by hand. Figure 2 shows the location of each targeted area, Figures 4-11 provide orthorectified trench plans and annotated drawings, Figures 12-15 and Figures 21-25 illustrate the digitised section drawings. Figures 16-20 show record photographs of excavated features and detailed descriptions of every context are included in Appendix A.

5.1.4 The following sub-sections detail the stratigraphic narrative of each trench chronologically by feature type, which has been phased (unless otherwise stated) by results from radiocarbon dating, pottery and registered finds. Detailed analysis relating to the pottery can be found in Sections 8-9, the registered finds in Section 12 and radiocarbon dating in Appendix I.

5.2 Trench 1

5.2.1 Trench 1 (Figures 4-5) measured 15m x 6m and was positioned over the southern arc of a circa 35m diameter cropmark (HER ID: 44536) and geophysical anomaly interpreted as a ring ditch of probable archaeological origin (Harris, 2024, 3-4; Appendix J). The trench, oriented NNE-SSW, was also positioned to target a possible inner bank and a large magnetic response internal to the ring ditch. These were interpreted from the geophysical survey results as of possible and probable archaeological origin respectively. No evidence of the inner bank or large magnetic response was encountered during excavation and it is possible these anomalies were geological in origin.

5.2.2 Upon mechanical excavation, a common sequence of topsoil (1001) and subsoil (1002) was observed to a maximum depth of 0.46m before the natural geology (1003) was located. The trench was cleaned and a number of archaeological features were observed cut through the natural geology. These were then excavated and recorded by hand, with the results from this process discussed chronologically by feature type as part of the following phased stratigraphic narrative.

Late Bronze Age ring ditch monument

5.2.3 The earliest feature excavated in Trench 1 was a ring ditch (F01) constructed in the Late Bronze Age having fully silted no earlier than the Middle Iron Age. The 2.50m excavated segment of the ditch showed that the cut [1024] was at least 1.38m in width and 1.44m in depth at this

location (Figures 12-13). In summary, the chronological sequence of deposits filling this segment of the ring ditch consisted of the following;

- an intentional deposit of at least three Late Bronze Age ceramic vessels placed directly on the base of the ditch and buried by a charcoal-rich basal fill,
- a recut or cleaning-out event in the early Iron-Age followed by a series of fills slipping in from the southern (exterior) side of the ditch.
- next, a number of single-event burnt/ashy tipping deposits originating from the northern (interior) side of the ditch were interspersed with periodic silting during the Early to Middle Iron Age,
- finally, gradual homogenous silting completely filled the ditch no earlier than the Middle Iron Age.

5.2.4 Shortly after the ditch was originally cut, a very thin compacted clean greyish clay (1030) no more than 0.03m in thickness formed at its base. This was interpreted as likely representing the natural clay geology that had been exposed when the ditch was cut and had discoloured with exposure to air and water. Placed directly on to this material at the base of the ditch was a deposit of three largely complete Late Bronze Age ceramic vessels; SF8, SF10 and SF11 (Figure 20). Detailed analysis of these vessels is available in Section 8 of this report with digitised illustrations showing form and fabric available in Figure 27. In summary, they consisted of the following vessels in a coarse local red sandstone fabric:

- **SF8** – Late Bronze Age plain ware hook-rim jar,
- **SF10** – Late Bronze Age plain ware bucket-shaped jar,
- **SF11** – Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age plain ware high-shouldered jar.

5.2.5 Although largely complete, the vessels were partially fragmented and whilst SF11 was block lifted intact, SF8 and SF10 were too fragile to lift whole. Subsequently, upon micro excavation, SF11 also became fragmentary. Sherds from SF9 were determined in post-excavation to have likely been part of vessel SF8. Further sherds were recovered from other fills higher in the sequence (1028, 1029) that may relate to these three vessels, or at least other vessels of very similar form and fabric. Combined with the broken and fragmented nature of the vessels, this strongly implies at least some degree of post-depositional disturbance that most likely occurred through cleaning out and maintaining of the ditch itself.

5.2.6 There was no evidence for a cut feature truncating the ditch to deposit these vessels and stratigraphically they must have been placed directly onto the base of the ditch shortly after it was originally opened. Radiocarbon dating of charcoal retrieved during micro-excavation of the contents of vessel SF11 returned a date of 911-814calBC with 95.4% probability (lab code: SUERC-128589) and a date of 1005-841calBC with 95.4% probability (lab code: SUERC-128590) was retrieved from a sample taken directly below the base of vessel SF11. Further details of the radiocarbon dating results are available in Appendix I.

5.2.7 These radiocarbon dates align well with the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age dates for vessels SF8, SF10 and SF11 assigned by the ceramic specialist (Section 8). Combined, this analysis strongly supports a Late Bronze Age date for the intentional deposition of these three vessels and the origin of the ring ditch itself, due to their location in the stratigraphic sequence.

5.2.8 The vessels were buried by the basal fill of the ditch (1025), consisting of an ash and charcoal-rich deposit of silty clay at least 0.16m thick Other artefacts recovered from this fill included small fragments of fired clay, animal bone and two pieces of flint blade debitage (SF12), all suggestive of domestic waste. During the very Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age transition, a significant cleaning event or ditch recut truncated deposit (1025) from above. This recut [1041] measured 3.38m in width and 1.25m in depth and likely accounts for the broken and fragmented nature of the ceramic vessels as well as the presence of some of these sherds in stratigraphically later deposits.

5.2.9 Next in the sequence was a series of fills (1031, 1032, 1033) that had slipped in from the external side of the ring ditch. All three deposits combined measured a maximum thickness of 0.49m, contained no finds and were consistent with re-deposited natural geology. Context (1032) in particular was a very gravelly deposit consistent with natural slumping. Whilst these events could be indicative of the presence of a possible bank external to the feature, no extant

bank material was observed in profile due to the truncation of both the southern and northern ditch edges by later features F04 and F05 respectively. Therefore, the slumping events could also relate to erosion of the southern ditch edge over time.

5.2.10 Following this, a series of silting events (1034) and (1037) were interspersed with discrete single-event tipping lines of charcoal and ash containing animal bone and pottery (1026) and (1027). From their profile, these deposits appear to have been tipped into the ditch from the internal side of the feature and may represent the discard of debris from the periodic re-occupation of the space enclosed by the ring ditch whilst the monument was in active use.

5.2.11 Silting event (1037) was 0.20m thick and originated from the northern (interior) side of the ditch. No artefacts were recovered from this material, suggesting a short period of abandonment at the site. This was followed by (1026), the first of two discrete ash and charcoal-rich tipping lines, measuring 0.09m in thickness and containing six fragments of animal bone as well as 90 sherds of pottery dated to the Late Bronze Age. Radiocarbon dating of a concentration of charcoal (Sample 19) retrieved from tipping line (1026) returned a date of 790-551calBC with 95.4% probability (lab code ref: SUERC-128588), suggesting this tipping event most likely occurred in the Early or Middle Iron Age. This was followed by another silting event (1034), a dark orangey-brown silty clay measuring 0.18m in thickness. Again, no artefacts were recovered from this material, suggesting a secondary short period of abandonment at the site. This was followed by another discrete ash and charcoal-rich tipping event (1027), measuring 0.08m in thickness, implying a temporary re-occupation of the site.

5.2.12 These deposits were then capped by two thick homogenous silting fills (1028) and (1029) to a maximum combined thickness of 0.97m, representing the final sealing of the ring ditch. Both fills consisted of an orangey brown clayey silt and contained similar artefacts, including 71 sherds of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age transitional pottery, occasional pieces of charcoal, fired clay and fragments of animal bone. Two flint cores and three flint tools were recovered from (1029), including two end/side scrapers and a retouched flake dating to the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic. The dating attributed to the pottery and flint from these fills indicates a degree of residuality consistent with long-term silting.

Romano-British enclosures

5.2.13 The next phase of activity in Trench 1 consists of two very shallow Romano-British ditches. The earlier of the two, F02, was observed as a linear measuring 9.20m in length and 1.03m in width. It was aligned northeast-southwest and extended beyond the eastern and western limits of excavation. This feature was excavated in three separate interventions with the overall depth varying between 0.06m and 0.13m. Two near-complete, albeit fragmentary, late 3rd to 4th century black-burnished ware jars (Figure 28) were the only artefacts recovered from the feature in two of these interventions; [1008] and [1014]. Further details and analysis on these vessels is available in Section 9 of this report.

5.2.14 The later of the two ditches, F03, was observed measuring at least 3m in length and 0.84m in width. It was similarly aligned northeast-southwest and partially truncated ditch F02 where the two features met in the central northern part of the trench. Ditch F03 terminated in the central western half of the trench and two interventions were placed into the feature, establishing a depth of between 0.08m and 0.15m. A single piece of flint recovered from fill (1007) was determined in post-excavation to be unworked and no other artefacts were recovered. The stratigraphic relationship observed between these features means F03 must be at least Roman in date and may represent a recut of the original feature.

Late Romano-British/Early Post-Roman Cemetery

5.2.15 The latest features excavated in Trench 1 were five approximately east-west aligned probable graves (F06-F10), with at least four other probable graves left unexcavated (Figures 4-5). The graves were all of a similar size and orientation They were laid out in parallel rows at similar distances respecting each other in what appears to be an organized cemetery. Remnants of possible stone lining were visible around the western edge of grave F08. Despite dry sieving all excavated material, no skeletal remains were recovered from these features due to the highly acidic soils at the site. Another possible grave F05 was only partly excavated and was visible truncating the internal edge of the ring ditch F01 but was not fully characterized. Six small

fragments of heavily abraded Late Bronze Age pottery and three pieces of possible Bronze Age flint debitage were recovered from F06-F10, and are most likely residual due to their abraded nature.

5.2.16 The graves were all broadly similar in character, however there was some minor variation in size. F07 was the smallest, measuring 1.53m in length and 0.51m in width, whilst F06 was the largest, measuring 2.40m in length and 1.15m in width. The former could represent the burial of a smaller or younger individual, with the latter representing a larger adult. However, in the absence of any skeletal remains or associated grave goods, it is impossible to make further insights into the demographics of the burial population.

5.2.17 Whilst there was an absence of dateable material recovered from these features, stratigraphic relationships can give a broad insight into their chronology. Grave F07 was observed partially truncating Romano-British ditch F03, which itself truncates ditch F02. This shows that F07 cannot be earlier in date than the late 3rd to 4th century and implies that at least one phase of the cemetery was in use during or shortly after the later Romano-British period. Consequently, F02 and F03 may represent boundary ditches from an earlier phase of the cemetery or another form of 3rd to 4th century enclosure at the site.

5.3 Trench 2

5.3.1 Trench 2 (Figures 6-7) measured 15m by 1.5m and was positioned oriented east-west targeting a segment at the western end of a D-shaped enclosure visible on the geophysical survey (Figure 2) and as a cropmark on the HER (ID: 44536). Topsoil (2001) and subsoil (2002) were removed by mechanical excavator to a maximum depth of 0.68m, revealing the colluvial hillwash (2006) below.

5.3.2 Only one feature was observed in the centre of Trench 2; a northeast-southwest aligned stone-filled channel in the style of a French drain, F11. This 1.5m segment of drain was visible extending beyond the northern and southern limits of excavation and measured 0.30m in width. It was observed truncating through the subsoil (2002) into the colluvial hillwash (2006) below (Figure 23).

5.3.3 An intervention approximately 8m in length and 0.5m in width was placed through the colluvial hillwash against the northern limit of excavation in an attempt to reach any masked archaeological features below. However, excavation within this intervention ceased after 0.22m upon the discovery that drain F11 was still actively channelling water and it was decided not to disturb the area any further to prevent flooding the trench.

5.3.4 The only artefact recovered from Trench 2 was an indeterminate residual flint flake fragment from Topsoil (2001). No evidence of the D-shaped enclosure visible on the geophysical survey was recovered in Trench 2, almost certainly due to the shallow depths of the excavations and the thickness of the colluvial hillwash (2006) masking the archaeology further below.

5.4 Trench 3

5.4.1 Trench 3 (Figures 8-9) measured 15m by 1.5m and was positioned northeast-southwest on the eastern slope of the hillside down towards Cothelstone Farm at the bottom of the valley. It was targeting a segment at the western end of a crescent-shaped feature on the geophysical survey (Figure 2), interpreted from the survey results as possibly relating to quarrying activities (Harris, 2024, 3-4; Appendix J).

5.4.2 A common stratigraphic sequence of topsoil (3001) and subsoil (3002) was removed by mechanical excavator to a maximum depth of 0.85m before the natural geology (3003) was located. A large pit, F12, was observed cut through the natural geology measuring 9.7m in width and extending beyond both the northwest and southeast limits of excavation. Due to its substantial size, this feature could only be safely excavated in a 0.50m wide intervention against the southeastern limit of excavation to a maximum depth of 0.45m without reaching the base (Figure 24).

5.4.3 The lowest fill encountered within F12 was (3005); a mid-greyish brown sandy loam 0.34m in thickness, with a mid-greyish brown clayey silt (3004) 0.11m thick representing the uppermost

silting fill. Eighteen small fragments of abraded Late Bronze Age pottery and seven pieces of flint flake or blade debitage were recovered from these fills in addition to a near-complete flint arrowhead (SF3) from (3004). This leaf-shaped arrowhead (Figure 26) had a slight break at the tip but was kite-shaped in plan and is probably Neolithic. Further analysis is available in Section 11 of this report.

5.4.4 The artefacts recovered from F12 are likely residual and suggest the presence of Prehistoric activity in the vicinity, but in a secondary context having washed into the upper fills of this feature down the hillside over time. The limited size of the interventions in Trench 3 makes it difficult to characterize the crescent-shaped feature identified from the geophysical survey beyond initial interpretations of possible quarrying.

5.5 Trench 4

5.5.1 Trench 4 (Figures 10-11) measured 13m x 4m and was positioned over the northern arc of the same ring ditch targeted by excavations in Trench 1. The trench, oriented approximately north-south, was also positioned to target the possible continuation of a linear anomaly identified from the geophysical survey. Upon excavation, a common sequence of topsoil (4001) and subsoil (4002) was observed to a maximum depth of 0.42m before the natural geology (4003) was located.

Late Bronze Age ring ditch monument

5.5.2 The earliest feature excavated in Trench 4 was ring ditch F01, constructed in the Late Bronze Age having fully silted up no earlier than the end of the Romano-British period. The 4.30m excavated segment of the ditch showed that the original cut [4030] was at least 2m in width and 1.58m in depth at this location (Figures 14-15). In summary, the stratigraphic sequence of deposits filling this segment of the ring ditch consisted of a series of basal and slumping fills before a significant cleaning or recut event followed by long term final homogenous silting.

5.5.3 The basal fill (4029) was a dark reddish-brown sandy clay with regular sandstone and shillet inclusions, measuring 0.10m in thickness. This was followed by a mid greyish-red sand (4019), measuring 0.18m in thickness directly above. The next earliest fill (4024) was 0.16m thick and may represent a partial collapse of the natural sandy ditch edge on the internal side of the feature. Five sherds of Late Bronze Age pottery in a red sandstone fabric were recovered from (4019), including one sherd from a high-shouldered plain ware jar. Additionally, two pieces of blade and flake debitage and one flint chip were also recovered from (4019) of indeterminate date. No other artefacts were recovered from the fills of [4030].

5.5.4 This sequence was followed by a significant cleaning event or recut of the ditch measuring 3.29m in width and 1.37m in depth. This recut [4034] truncated all three fills of the original ditch from above and was itself filled by a series of three homogenous silting events; (4012), (4011) and (4004).

5.5.5 Whilst it is possible, based on their profile, that the fills of the original ditch [4030] were formed from slipped bank material originating from the external side of the monument, this cannot be proven due to the later recut. A layer of light greyish yellow silty sand with frequent sandstone and shillet inclusions (4031) measuring 4.90m in width and 0.07m in thickness was observed external to the ring ditch feature in the east facing section of Trench 4 (Figure 15). However, this material was not directly observed slumped into the ditch profile itself due to truncation by the recut and no direct relationship can be proven between (4031) and the fills of original ditch [4030]. Therefore, the presence of an external bank contemporary with the construction phase of F01 remains tentative.

5.5.6 Recut [4034] was filled by three homogenous silting events that indicate a gradual filling in of the feature over time. The first of these is (4012) from which three joining everted rim sherds of a Romano-British jar or bowl were recovered (Figure 28; ID3_4012). Another artefact recovered from the recut was SF2, a probable Late Iron Age baked clay spindle whorl. Residual artefacts include two pieces of flake debitage and a Late Upper Palaeolithic curved back point. Deposit (4012) was the earliest fill in the sequence where material suitable for radiocarbon dating was recovered. Charcoal retrieved from environmental sampling was dated to 1051-851calBC with 95.4% probability (lab code ref: SUERC-129541), consistent with the Late Bronze Age

radiocarbon dates from the ring ditch in Trench 1. However, due to the presence of the Romano-British pottery, (4012) must date the silting up of the recut ditch to no earlier than this period.

5.5.7 No artefacts were recovered from silting fill (4011), the next in the sequence, implying a period of abandonment at the site. A final thick homogenous silting fill (4004) measured 0.68m thick and fully sealed the ditch deposits. Residual Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age pottery was recovered from this fill as well as six pieces of flint debitage and three tools; an endscraper, a retouched flake and a notched fragment. The residual nature of these artefacts is consistent with long-term silting.

Late Romano-British/Early Post-Roman Cemetery

5.5.8 Four E-W aligned graves (F15-F18) were excavated in Trench 4. Like the graves in Trench 1, they were all of a similar size and orientation, being laid out in parallel rows at similar distances and respecting each other in what appears to be a continuation of the cemetery. Grave F18 was the smallest, measuring at least 0.50m in length, 0.45m in width and 0.06m in depth. However, this grave had been heavily truncated by a Post-Medieval field boundary ditch and from above by ploughing. The largest grave was F15, measuring 1.80m in length, 0.80m in width and 0.29m in depth.

5.5.9 Whilst no skeletal remains were present due to the high acidity of the soil in this location, two of the graves produced ironwork grave goods (Figures 18, 26). These included an iron knife (SF1) recovered from F16, with two iron knives (SF4 and SF5) and a possible knife tang or awl (SF6) recovered from F17. All three knives were domestic tools, likely used for food preparation or consumption. In all cases they were recovered from the central portion of the grave, indicating they would likely have fastened to a belt around the waist. SF4 and SF5 were recovered together (Figure 18). Typologically, these knives cannot be more precisely dated than to the later Romano-British or Early Post-Roman period, possibly the 5th century AD. Further detailed analysis on these artefacts is available in Section 12 of this report. The only other artefact recovered was a single flint chip from F15, considered to be residual.

Post-Medieval field boundaries

5.5.10 Two linear ditches, F13 and F14, were visible running NW-SE through Trench 4 extending beyond the LOE. These ditches truncated through all other features within Trench 4. Interventions were placed at the northern end of Trench 4 to characterise the ditches and establish any relationships. F13 measured 5.63m in length, 1.10m in width and 0.40m in depth whilst F14 measured 9.95m in length, 0.76m in width and 0.39m in depth. Whilst no direct relationship was observed between the two ditches, Post-Medieval pottery was recovered from F14, strongly indicating these features are likely field boundary or drainage ditches of this date.

6 THE FINDS – PRESERVATION, ASSEMBLAGE OVERVIEW AND CHRONOLOGY

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 The finds are the tangible objects that connect us with the people who lived and died in the local landscape at Cothelstone Farm from the Late Bronze Age to the Early Post-Roman period. They give us glimpses of their identities, perceptions of place and belief systems in both life and death. The analysis carried out on these finds provide fascinating insights into domestic settlement practices and the significance of social acts of commemoration in the Late Bronze Age as well as beliefs and practices regarding burial of the dead in the later Romano-British or Early Post-Roman period. This section of the report looks at the condition and preservation of finds recovered from across the site, the artefact assemblage, and the radiocarbon dating.

6.1.2 The chronology and stratification of the finds has provided a vastly improved understanding of the site. This has been supplemented by four radiocarbon dates (see section 6.4) targeting dateable material recovered from deposits of particular stratigraphic importance to the phased chronological site narrative.

6.2 Preservation of archaeological data

6.2.1 Generally, the preservation of archaeology at the site ranged from fair to poor depending on the depth of deposits. Modern and historic agricultural practices have clearly played a role in heavily truncating a number of shallower archaeological features, such as the graves. However, more deeply stratified deposits including within the ring ditch are far better preserved.

6.2.2 Organic preservation suffered from highly acidic soil conditions, with a significant adverse impact on the preservation of bone. No skeletal remains were recovered from any of the burials excavated at the site and only very fragmentary pieces of bone were recovered from the lower fills of the ring ditch. The preservation of environmental remains was also poor, with plant remains and pollen suffering in particular; even within the deeper deposits of the ring ditch.

6.2.3 The ironwork recovered from the site was well preserved, including the three iron knives from graves in Trench 4. The preservation of ceramics was also good, with a deposit of Late Bronze Age pottery consisting of three near-complete vessels recovered from the base of the ring ditch in Trench 1.

6.3 The artefact assemblage

6.3.1 The excavations yielded an assemblage of over 800 artefacts, including 588 sherds of Prehistoric pottery (Appendix C), 157 sherds of Romano-British pottery (Appendix D), 59 pieces of worked flint (Appendix F), 32 pieces of animal bone (Appendix B), six fragments of fired clay/daub (Appendix E), three iron knives and a ceramic spindle whorl (Appendix G). In addition, eleven bulk samples and three pollen samples were processed for the recovery and assessment of environmental remains. The finds assemblage has been analysed by the appropriate specialists and several finds have been conserved. A summary of the results from the assessment and analysis of each material type assemblage are discussed below.

6.3.2 The ceramic assemblage has been split in Prehistoric and Romano-British pottery. The prehistoric material predominantly dates to the Late Bronze and Early Iron Age and included four registered finds, SF8, SF9, SF10 and SF11. These were all from ring ditch F01, and SF8, SF10 and SF11, were recovered from the base of the feature. SF9 may represent a part vessel of the same vessel as SF8 and post-depositional disturbance probably accounts for the separation. The Romano-British assemblage included fine table wares and coarse utilitarian vessels. The material was recovered from the ring ditch F01, and two later gullies, F02 and F03. Two near complete but fragmentary black burnished ware jars were recovered from F02 and F03 and may have originally been deposited as grave goods in the burials nearby.

6.3.3 The flint recovered from site was likely all residual. The material included a Later Upper Palaeolithic curved-backed point, and a leaf-shaped arrowhead from the Neolithic. Other material dating from the Mesolithic to the Bronze Age was also recovered throughout site.

6.3.4 The registered iron and ceramic finds consisted of a Late Iron Age spindle whorl (SF2), three knives (SF1, SF4 and SF5) and a possible awl or tang of another knife (SF6). The iron objects were all found in graves and are either very Late Roman or very Early Medieval in date.

6.3.5 Only a small quantity of animal bone was recovered from the site and no human remains were preserved within the excavated graves due to the high acidity of the soil. The bone recovered was very poorly preserved and the sole species identified was cattle. Preservation was also an issue for the environmental remains and yielded minimal results. Charred material recovered included a small quantity of seeds and fragments of wood charcoal. Three samples were submitted for pollen analysis, but the preservation proved too poor in assessment for a full analysis to take place.

6.4 Radiocarbon dating

6.4.1 Four samples were submitted to Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC) for radiocarbon dating. The samples were all taken from ring ditch F01; three from Trench 1 and one from Trench 4. They consisted of charcoal recovered from well-stratified deposits within the

feature to assist in refining the chronology of its construction, occupation and abandonment. No material suitable for radiocarbon dating was recovered from the graves excavated at the site. The date ranges have been calibrated to the calendar timescale using the Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program OxCal 4 (Ramsey, 2009) and using a mix of the IntCal13 and Marine13 calibration curves (Reimer et al., 2013) (Dunbar et al. 2016). Detailed results of the four samples sent for radiocarbon dating are available in Appendix I.

6.4.2 The three charcoal samples submitted from the ring ditch in Trench 1 consisted of one from sample 29; context (1030), one from sample 28; context (1025), and one from sample 19; context (1026). One charcoal sample was submitted from the ring ditch in Trench 4 and was recovered from sample 7; context (4012).

6.4.3 Charcoal from sample 29 was recovered during the micro-excavation of vessel SF11 directly adhering to the external base of the vessel. The date returned from this sample was considered to represent the time after which the vessel must have been deposited at the base of the feature. The result returned from radiocarbon dating of this sample was 1005-841calBC with 95.4% probability (lab code: SUERC-128590).

6.4.4 Charcoal from sample 28 was recovered during the micro-excavation of vessel SF11 directly adhering to the internal base of the vessel. The date returned from this sample was considered to be contemporary with when the vessel must have been deposited within the feature. The result returned from radiocarbon dating of this sample was 911-814calBC with 95.4% probability (lab code: SUERC-128589).

6.4.5 The final sample from F01 in Trench 1 was sample 19, recovered during the excavation of context (1026). It was interpreted as a discrete single-event tip line originating from domestic waste from activity internal to the ring ditch enclosure. The date returned from this sample was thought to be contemporary with when this waste tipping had occurred and the result was 790-551calBC with 95.4% probability (lab code: SUERC-128588).

6.4.6 Charcoal from sample 7 was recovered during the processing of environmental samples taken from context (4012); interpreted as the primary silting fill of a recut of the ring ditch in Trench 4. This was the stratigraphically earliest deposit within the ring ditch in Trench 4 from which material suitable for radiocarbon dating was recovered. The aim of this sample was to provide a date for before the recut of the ring ditch must have occurred, and as a control date from which the dates from Trench 1 could be compared. The result returned from radiocarbon dating of this sample was 1051-851calBC with 95.4% probability (lab code: SUERC-129541).

6.4.7 .

6.4.8 The results from the radiocarbon dating at Cothelstone Farm have been highly informative in refining the chronology and phasing of the ring ditch enclosure excavated in Trench 1 and Trench 4. Two of the dates were returned from material stratigraphically contemporary with the construction of the ring ditch and the deposition of the three ceramic vessels at its base. Combined with the typological date assigned to the vessels themselves by the ceramic specialist, it is clear that the ring ditch must have been constructed in the Late Bronze Age, likely between the late 11th and early 9th centuries BC.

6.4.9 The date from sample 19suggests an Early to Middle Iron Age date for the recut of the ring ditch and when sporadic or seasonal domestic occupation internal to the enclosure may have occurred. This chronology also implies that the homogenous silting that occurred within the ring ditch after this deposit must have happened after this date.

6.4.10 The final date returned was 1051-851calBC from context (4012) in Trench 4. Artefacts recovered from this deposit were typologically dated to the Late Iron Age and Romano-British period, implying this sample was residual. However, its value is more in acting as a comparator control sample for the dates received from the ring ditch in Trench 1, where very similar Late Bronze Age dates were returned from radiocarbon dating of more secure deposits.



7 ANIMAL BONE

Dr Hannah Russ MCiFA FSA

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 Animal bone (32 fragments weighing 49.2g) representing mammals was recovered via hand collection and from a bulk environmental sample taken during the excavation. This report includes quantification of the assemblage recovered with identification at species level where possible (Table 5, Appendix B), an assessment of significance, and recommendation(s) for any further work.

7.2 Results

7.2.1 Thirty-two fragments of animal bone weighing 49.2g were recovered from four contexts across two of the four excavation trenches, Table 5. Hand-collected bone comprised 28 specimens weighing 47.9g from four contexts, while four fragments of animal bone weighing 1.3g were recovered from a bulk environmental sample from context (1025) (sample <10>). Preservation was extremely poor throughout the assemblage (see taphonomic assessment, below), with bone preserved either through being burnt (n= 18; 10.1g) or through impregnation by iron from the burial environment (n=14; 39.1g); surface preservation was poor and fragmentation extremely high; no compete bones were recovered and a species identification could only be suggested for a single fragment of axis (C2 vertebra) which compared with cattle (Bos taurus). Additional mammal remains were identified within size categories at class level (96.9% of total remains, n=31).

7.2.2 Most of the remains were recovered from three fills of a ring ditch (F01), contexts (1025), (1026), and (1028); the only other bone recovered was a single fragment of burnt bone from the fill of a sub-circular crescent-shaped feature in Trench 3 (3005), Table 5.

7.3 Taphonomic assessment

7.3.1 Bone surface preservation varied throughout the assemblage from 'good' (2), to very poor (5) on a scale of 1 to 5 from 'excellent' to 'very poor'. Most specimens had 'very poor' (5) or 'poor' (4) surface preservation, 87.5% by count (n=28). Fragmentation was extremely high throughout the assemblage with only partial bones recovered.

7.3.2 No evidence for skeletal abnormalities, butchery in the form of chop, cut or saw marks or carnivore/rodent gnawing activity was observed. Bone fusion data and measurable elements suitable for use in size or shape reconstruction were not recovered. No animal remains were suitable for estimating sex. Burnt bone, 18 fragments weighing 10.1g, was recovered from Trench 1, contexts 1025 (n=7), 1026 (n=3) and 1028 (n=7), and Trench 3, context 3005 (n=1).

7.4 Discussion

7.4.1 The animal bone recovered during archaeological excavations at Cothelstone Farm formed a very small assemblage of fragmentary, poorly preserved bone that was either burnt or preserved through iron absorption from the burial environment. The only species identified was cattle, a species present in Britain from the Neolithic period onwards and is one of the main domestic livestock species kept for meat, milk, leather and traction since that time. The burnt animal bone from Trench 1, the fills of ring ditch F01, were recovered alongside three complete, though fragmentary, ceramic vessels of Late Bronze Age date. Whilst at least one fragment represented cattle, the possibility remains that fragments attributed to both the medium and medium/large mammal categories (Table 5) could include human bone.

7.4.2 The recovery of only bone that had been burnt or had absorbed iron from the surrounding burial environment demonstrates poor burial conditions for the preservation of bone. The few remains that were recovered demonstrate the presence of animals and/or animal products at the site, and that some animal remains were exposed to high temperatures before being deposited/discarded in features at the site.



7.4.3 Due to the small size and fragmentary condition of the assemblage, it is not possible to comment further on the role of animals at the site, nor confirm the presence of human burials. The assemblage is of low local significance, with no future research potential beyond the information contained within this report and associated data spreadsheet.

8 PREHISTORIC POTTERY

Imogen Wood

8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 The 588 sherds weighing 13403g from features in Trenches 1, 3 and 4 date to the Late Bronze Age -Early Iron Age period. The vessels are characteristic of Late Bronze Age Plain Ware which crosses over chronologically into the Early Iron Age period. This is supported by the carbon dates from associated vessels in enclosure ditch deposits. The deposition of three near complete vessels in enclosure ditch [1024] possibly suggests a socially specific act, whilst their life after deposition demonstrates the open nature of the ditch deposits and gradual burial over time. The assemblage is of moderate (regional) significance contributing to the growing corpus of Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age sites in Somerset.

8.2 Aims

8.2.1 The aim of this report is to identify and characterise the ceramic forms and fabrics of the vessel excavated. To inform the dating evidence for excavated features containing pottery on the site and support the stratigraphic interpretation. Macroscopic analysis identified fabrics for comparison to established regional fabrics and refers to relevant petrographic descriptions.

8.2.2 The aims of this project of relevance to the ceramic analysis are to:

- Date and function of each feature,
- Establish the relative date, sequence and nature for the enclosure / ring ditch,
- Establish current state of preservation of the pottery.

8.3 Recovery strategy and condition of the assemblage

8.3.1 Finds were treated in accordance with the relevant guidance given in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (2014), excepting where they are superseded by statements made below.

8.3.2 All artefacts were retained from excavated contexts, except features or deposits undoubtedly of modern date. In these circumstances, sufficient artefacts were only retained to elucidate the date and function of the feature or deposit.

8.3.3 The condition of the pottery is moderately good with most sherds being abrasion level 2 but there is variable abrasion on some of the mostly complete vessels and many of the sherds from the ditch fill contexts are small and Level 3 highly abraded. This suggests that the larger almost complete vessels were partly sealed within the ditch fill material and partly exposed to the dynamic post depositional environment of the ditch feature. See table 7 for detail of each context.

8.4 Archiving Recommendations

8.4.1 All pottery to be accessioned and the pottery report and accompanying excel database has been included with the complete project archive prepared in accordance with the CIfA Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives (2014). An OASIS online record has been initiated, and a copy of the OASIS form has been included with the final report. On approval, the report will be submitted in hard copy and in

digital copy to the Somerset HER and the QLPS, with copyright licence granted to use the report for the purposes of the HER. Agreement on the format of the digital archive submission will be established with the QLPS and the Somerset HER. Deposition of the digital archive will be at the end of the project following guidelines outlined by the Archaeological Data Service (ADS 2015). A digital version of the project archive will be deposited with ADS and published subject to agreement with the QLPS and the Somerset HER.

8.4.2

8.5 Geology

8.5.1 The nearby Quantock Hills provide a clear geological contrast due to their predominant middle Devonian Sandstone formations resulting in quartz rich derived gravels and clay. In places the solid geology is overlain by Pleistocene sediments, which comprise sands and gravels, undifferentiated Head deposits, and alluvium interspersed with peat layers. The upper alluvium is equivalent to the Wentlooge palaeosol, which is thought to have formed as a result of land drainage during the Romano-British period (Allen and Rae 1987).

8.5.2 The fabric of 95% of the assemblage is coarse and fine variations of a sandy fabric with a harsh feel. This is a directly comparable with fabric (SS1) identified at Hinkley Point (Quinnell and Wood 2024, 52), which is of a similar date to the pottery at Cothelstone Farm. The comprehensive petrographic analysis of the Hinkley Point Late Bronze Age Early Iron Age assemblage carried out by the author is the type site for this fabric.

8.5.3 The Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age assemblage from Hinkley Point has a predominant and homogenous group of sandstone tempered fabrics which are clearly composed of a locally derived mudstone clay to which sand from a sandstone-rich river has been added as temper. It is characterised by common New Red Sandstone rock fragments, sub-rounded 10mm–0.5mm, predominant monocrystalline quartz sub-rounded to well-rounded generally <2mm, but larger 6mm if angular in shape. Rare mudstone and iron-rich limonite, well-rounded 1.5mm–0. 5mm (Quinnell and Wood 2023, 52-53). The local sandstone-derived pottery (SS1) makes up 88% of the Late Bronze Age pottery at Hinkley Point. The analysis by the author established a provenance source of the clay suite of minerals and rock fragments in this quartz-rich temper most likely derives from the geology of the Quantock Hills and extracted from a river system such as the River Parrett (Quinnell and Wood 2023, 52-53).

8.5.4 The small quantity of sherds with Quartzite inclusions from Cothelstone Farm are comparable with Fabric 6 'Quartzite' identified by David William during his petrographic analysis of Late Bronze Age pottery from Norton Fitzwarren (1987). The results and a full description this fabric from this type site carried out by David William's can be found in the Norton Fitzwarren petrographic report (Williams 1987).

8.6 Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age pottery assemblage

8.6.1 The forms of vessels have been identified using Tyler and Woodward's Late Bronze Age Jar typology from vessels excavated at Tinney's Lane, Sherbourne (2013, 37). The stratigraphic context of the finds are indicated in the text by nature of fill and feature cut. For further information please consult the context descriptions (Tables 1-4, Appendix A).

8.7 Trench 1

8.7.1 See Table 7 for detail of vessel form and fabric by context. There are a minimum number of 20 vessels present in Trench 1 based on the rims and fabrics present. Most are from context (1025).

8.7.2 The majority of the pottery from this trench derives from basal fill (1025) from the enclosure ditch [1024], overlain by fill (1037), (1026), (1031), (1033), (1034), (1027), (1028) and (1029), all of which are accumulated deposits and do not represent (1025) being immediately sealed.



8.7.3 The Hook-rim Type 3 Jar; SF8 (Figure 27) has 119 sherds weighing 6416g found in enclosure ditch [1024] fill (1025). It has a 200mm base diameter and 340mm rim diameter. The vessel walls are between 8-12mm thick and the exterior of the vessel has deep vertical finger-smearing which has in some places dragged large inclusions creating incised lines. The rim sherds vary considerably in levels of abrasion, and evidence of burning between con-joining sherds suggests that some sherds were in sealed layer and others more exposed. The differential abrasion on the breaks indicates a dynamic post-depositional environment which is consistent with a ditch feature. There is only one base sherd and basal angle sherd suggest only 60% is present with some sherds lost. There are two con-joining rim sherds from (1026) and two con-joining rim sherds from SF11 (1025), demonstrating the mixed nature of the deposit.

8.7.4 There is a rim sherd from a smaller vessel included in SF8 with a 180mm rim diameter of a similar Type 3 Hook-rim Jar with a wall thickness of 6-9mm in the same Red Sandstone fabric.

8.7.5 There are a further eleven body sherds from fill (1025) which are mostly likely part of vessel SF8 and there is one basal angle sherd in a Quartzite fabric seen in (1026) and (1028). The pottery from soil samples <10> and <16> also have finger-smearing suggesting a similar vessel type. The vessel SF9 from fill (1025) is probably the same vessel as SF8 as the sherd thickness, sandy fabric and deep finger-smearing marks suggest.

8.7.6 The Bucket-shaped jar Type 1 SF10 (Figure 27) from deposit (1025) is mostly complete but lacking 50% of the 180mm in diameter flat-topped rim, with a total vessel height of 190mm in a Red Sandstone fabric. The complete base is 160mm diameter and the body sherds a between 7-10mm thick with vertical finger-smearing marks on the exterior surface. The sherds are in good condition, all the breaks are fresh suggesting it was immediately sealed within the deposit and not exposed as the sherds from SF8 were. This vessel is smaller and finer than SF8.

8.7.7 The Plain high shouldered jar Type 2 SF11 (Figure 27) has a 200mm diameter rim and possible 100mm base with a 6mm sherd thickness. The fine vessel has a reduced burnished exterior in a Red Sandstone fabric. The abrasion of the breaks on the lower body suggests the base was lost, whilst the upper body and rim are not as abraded suggesting it was in a sealed deposit. The total vessel height is 140mm, total girth at shoulder height is 260mm. A sherd found within the vessel during micro-excavation is from a Bucket-form Jar with finger-smearing on the exterior surface and a rim diameter of only 12mm suggesting a very small vessel, the abrasion suggests was most likely accidentally included.

8.7.8 The ditch fill (1026) has sherds from at least 10 other vessels. There is a flat-topped Bucket-form Type 1 Jar with a diameter rim 160mm from a small vessel, a larger Hook-rim Jar Type 3 with a rim diameter of 220mm with a wall thickness of 15mm, both in a Red Sandstone fabric. A Barrel-form Jar Type 4 has a rim diameter of 200mm with finger-smearing marks on the exterior. There is a basal angle sherd 120mm in diameter from a very fine well-made vessel with slightly burnished external surface in a reduced sandy fabric which is similar to or part of SF11. There is one Bucket-form Jar Type 1 with a coarse body and basal angle sherd 100mm in diameter with external expansion which has been exposed to high temperatures suggesting burning. The rest of the body sherds from fill (1026) represent large vessels with finger-smearing Jars similar to SF8 and SF10 and finer carinated body sherds similar to the high shouldered vessel SF11. A small flared-out rim sherd belonging to the Plain Ware vessel con-joins with a rim from (1028) suggesting a mixing of these contexts.

8.7.9 The only vessels in this context not to be in a Red Sandstone fabric are two body sherds with a soft fabric tempered with crushed white Quartzite from a large coarse jar with finger-smearing, suggesting it is a comparable form to the other jars. Williams (1987) identified a quartzite fabric at Norton Fitzwarren, fabric 6, which dated to the Late Bronze Age.

8.7.10 The sherds from fill (1028) have differential abrasion suggesting this was a dynamic context. There are five everted rim sherds 140mm in diameter of a Plain Ware flared-rim Jar most are conjoining and 26 body sherds from the same vessel all in a reduced sandy fabric. Comparable examples of the form are seen at Brean Down in the Late Bronze Age phase (Woodward 1991). There are 18 sherds, mainly basal angle, from a small jar with a burnished exterior surface and well-made reduced fabric with a base diameter of 80mm. There are seven small, abraded body sherds in a Quartzite fabric very similar to the two sherds in (1026). A single sherd, SF13 from

(1028), is most likely from the same vessel as SF11 or if not a very similar form and burnished surface treatment.

8.7.11 The sherds from (1029) are small and highly abraded, but their Red Sandstone and Quartzite fabrics suggest a similar date to the rest of the ditch fills. There are three very abraded small sherds in a Quartzite fabric from (1036) which suggests a Late Bronze Age Early Iron Age date. The two small sherds from (1023) are equally abraded and date from the same period. A flat-topped Bucket-form Type 1 Jar rim sherd from (1017) is of a similar date. The small sherd from (1013) with two horizontal incised grooves is similar to Trevisker Related pottery which is often decorated with incised lines and contemporary with Plain Ware Jars as seen at Brean Down (Woodward 1990).

8.8 Trench 3

8.8.1 See Table 7 for detail of vessel form and fabric by context. There are a minimum number of 4 vessels present in Trench 3 based on the rims and fabrics. The small assemblage of abraded sherds from (3005) are the same forms as seen in Trench 1 and characteristic of the Late Bronze Age Early Iron Age period as suggested by a flat-topped rim from a Bucket-form Jar Type 1 in a sandy fabric; as is the flared-out rim of a Plain Ware jar from (3004). The highly abraded sherds from (3001) are of a similar Red Sandstone fabric to pottery in other trenches suggesting a similar date.

8.9 Trench 4

8.9.1 See Table 7 for detail of vessel form and fabric by context. There are a minimum number of 4 vessels present in Trench 4 based on the rims and fabrics present. There is a neck from a High shouldered Plain Ware Jar from fill (4019) and a very small highly abraded pottery sherd from (4019); SF7, which is undiagnostic in terms of form but the sandy fabric could suggest a similar date as those from Trenches 1 and 3.

8.9.2 There is one sherd from a high shouldered vessel, a carinated body sherd from a similar vessel, along with an expanded basal angle sherd from (4004) and a small Bucket-form Jar Type1 with flat-topped rim 160mm diameter. These diagnostic forms and sandstone fabrics strongly suggest the pottery from context (4004) is Late Bronze Age - Early Iron Age in date. A piece of ceramic from sample <21> is too small to establish a date.

8.10 Discussion

8.10.1 The interpretation of the result of the analysis of the pottery from features excavated at Cothelstone Farm have contributed to the research aims set out in the WSI. The ceramic assemblage from Cothelstone Farm clearly demonstrate diagnostic characteristics confirming a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date for the enclosure ring ditch monument and features in Trenches 3, and the ring ditch monument in Trench 4. This compares well with the date range 911-814 cal BC from within SF11 and charcoal from underneath the vessel SF11 1005-841 cal BC, which also provide relative dates for SF8 and SF10. The date 790-551 cal BC, from ditch fill (1026) associated with the vessels in (1025), is moving into the Early Iron Age which is still consistent in the range of forms present.

8.10.2 The carbon dates of the Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age Plain ware high shouldered jars from the enclosure ditch at Cothelstone Farm are directly comparable with those of the Shurton enclosure ditch at Hinkley Point which have dates from 930-800 cal BC (SUERC-70970) to 840-790 cal BC (SUERC-70974) (Quinnell and Wood 2024, 54). The first phase of the Shurton enclosure has Late Bronze Age dates of 1150–800 cal BC (SUERC-70979), 1280-1050 cal. BC. (SUERC-70970) and 930–800 cal. BC (SUERC-70973), giving non-overlapping date ranges (Quinnell and Wood 2024). The Shurton Enclosure ditch at Hinkley Point was roughly square shaped and is thought to have incorporated a palisade and bank and was used into the Early Iron Age (Mudd et al 2024, 43). The same range of Plain Ware shouldered jars from Norton Fitzwarren are considered to be Late Bronze Age into the Early Iron Age up to the 7th century BC (Woodward 1989, Fig20.45-47, p45).

8.10.3 These dates also compare well with the Tinney's Lane 12th -11th centuries BC Type 1 Bucket-form Jar, Type 3 Hook-rim Jar and Type 4 barrel-form Jars (Woodward and Tyler 2013) and the 11th-9th centuries BC assemblages at Brean Down (Woodward 1990).

8.10.4 The petrographic analysis of the assemblage from Cothelstone Farm has identified that a Red Sandstone derived fabric dominates the assemblage for both the fine high shouldered Jars and the Bucket, Barrel and Hook-rim Jars. This is mirrored at Hinkley Point where analysis concluded that 88% of the Late Bronze Age Early Iron Age Plain Ware was in a Red Sandstone fabric (Quinnell and Wood 2024, 53). David Williams analysis of Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age pottery from Norton Fitzwarren also identified Sandy fabrics (1987).

8.10.5 In South West Britain, Late Bronze Age Plain Ware appears to have been in use by the 11th century BC and continued into the 9th century BC, when elements of the subsequent style were certainly present the degree of overlap is uncertain (Quinnell and Wood 2024, 54). All the forms seen at Cothelstone Farm are also seen within the enclosure ditch at Hinkley Point, with the same carbon date range, suggesting comparable domestic activity in that period (Quinnell and Wood 2024) and are also a match for the less well dated assemblages in many features from Norton Fitzwarren (Woodward 1989, 19–20).

8.10.6 The refitting of vessels SF8, SF10 and SF11 indicate that the vessels were not complete in that context and that parts of them have been transported into other deposits (1028) and (1029). The variable level of abrasion suggests that these vessels were possibly deposited whole and broke in the ditch context, after which some sherds were sealed in ditch deposits and others were exposed on the surface and became more abraded overlain by a succession of fills (1037), (1026), (1031), (1033), (1034), (1027), (1028) and (1029). The sherds found within SF11 during micro-excavation do not represent an accessory vessel but sherds from other vessels that had been transported within the ditch. The vessel had external sooting suggesting they were used in a domestic context and not a new vessel.

8.10.7 The deposition of largely complete vessels in ditches is not a common practice and is typically assumed to represent an atypical domestic practice and considered a 'special' deposit particularly in ditch termini. J. D. Hill proposed the idea of 'special' or 'structured' deposits of artefacts in the 1990's to explain artefacts deposited in a way not consistent with casual waste disposal (Hill 1995). Pollard suggests that maintenance and creation of social action in the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age is based within the settlement context and "evidence for a range of practices affecting the way in which pottery was treated in deposition, from routine and largely unconsidered use and disposal to special acts as part of a ritual" (2002, 29).

8.10.8 The reason for 'special' deposits in ditches is open to speculation but is assumed to represent the performance of a socially significant act. However, the excavation of well-preserved Late Bronze Age houses has demonstrated that a relatively large portion of vessels were deposited in midden areas relatively rapidly (Brudenell 2024). It must be noted that as only one section through the enclosure ditch [1024] at Cothelstone Farm was excavated, the deposition of three possibly complete vessels from (1025) may indeed be representative of the typical process of deposition. It is not possible to conclusively comment unless the entire enclosure ditch was excavated.

8.10.9 The pottery excavated at Cothelstone Farm across the three trenches represents vessels used in everyday domestic life in the Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age period. The function of the features and range of ceramic forms indicate this was a typical settlement site. The abrasion of the pottery suggests the ditch and gully features were open to the elements and backfilled slowly over time incorporating more pottery from disposal of settlement waste material. It is possible that if the deposition of the three vessels in the enclosure ditch was not typical disposal and the nature of their deposition offers a glimpse into the unknown roles they can perform outside the everyday.

9 ROMAN POTTERY

David Griffiths

9.1 Introduction

9.1.1 Later prehistoric to Romano British period handmade and wheel-thrown Romano-British period pottery was recovered via hand collection during archaeological excavations at Cothelstone Farm, Somerset (NGR: ST 17901 31650), conducted by DigVentures in 2024 (CSF24). The excavations revealed a series of ditches and pits containing prehistoric handmade and Romano-British period pottery. Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery was also recovered and is reported on in Section 8 of this report.

9.2 Results

9.2.1 A total of 158 sherds, weighing 813.2g, were recovered from stratified and topsoil deposits (Tables 8 and 10, Appendix D). A single sherd of handmade pottery was recovered and dates and may date to the Late Iron Age or Romano-British period (i.e. the 1st century AD). The Romano-British period pottery assemblage included the remains of fine and coarse wares and fine wares; the range was limited and did not include amphorae, mortaria, or samian ware.

9.3 Late Iron Age to Romano-British pottery

9.3.1 A single body sherd (10.7g) of handmade pottery was recovered from topsoil (ID12, context 1001; Tables 8 and 10, Appendix D). The fabric had large quartz inclusions. The sherd had no clear diagnostic features and it was not possible to identify vessel form or infer a reliable date. The sherd was found alongside Romano-British pottery, including the partial remains a black-burnished ware jar dating from the late 3rd to 4th century AD (ID1/6).

9.4 Romano-British pottery

9.4.1 In total, 157 sherds weighing 802.5g of Romano-British pottery were recovered, which included fine table wares and coarse utilitarian vessels. The material was recovered from deposits in ditch F01 (4 sherds), gullies F02 (41 sherds) and F03 (83 sherds), and topsoil (29 sherds).

9.5 Fine wares

9.5.1 In total, there were eight body sherds of fine table ware recovered from gully F03 (6 sherds) and topsoil (2 sherds; Tables 8 and 10, Appendix D). All of the sherds were heavily abraded Oxford Red-slipped ware (fabric OXF RS, Tomber and Dore 1998, 176) and may all be part of the same vessel (IDs 2 and 7). It was not possible to identify vessel form, however, an open vessel, such as a bowl, is possible. Oxford Red-slipped ware types date broadly from approximately AD240 to 400 (Young 2000, 123-4).

9.5.2 In total, 149 sherds weighing 776.2g of coarse wares were recovered from deposits in features ditch F01, gullies F02 and F03, and topsoil. Black-burnished wares formed the greatest component of the assemblage (135 sherds); however, these likely represent only two vessels (ID5, gully F02, context 1009, and ID1/6, 77 sherds from gully F03, context 1015 and 17 sherds from topsoil). The two black-burnished ware vessels were both everted rim jars dating from the late 3rd to 4th centuries AD (Holbrook and Bidwell's type 20 (1991, 103, and fig. 28, 104 and fig. 29, 105), and Gillam's form 12 (1976, 64, and fig. 2, 65)). One vessel (ID5) was decorated with a band of obtuse-angled lattice; jar ID1/6 had a rough unburnished band around the upper body of the vessel (see Holbrook and Bidwell 1991, fig. 29, no. 20.3). Vessel ID1/5 was in South-East Dorset Black-burnished ware 1 (DOR BB 1, Tomber and Dore 1998, 127); vessel ID5 was in an unsourced fabric and a full description is provided (Table 11, Appendix D).

9.5.3 There were 13 sherds in a range of reduced ware fabrics (Tables 8, 10 and 11; Appendix D). There were three joining rim sherds (weighing 55.3g) of a jar or large bowl (ID3, ditch F01, context 4012); the rim of the vessel was everted and relatively upright, and may be a type similar Holbrook and Bidwell's type 8.1 jar (1991, 149), dating from the late 1st to 2nd century AD, or Young's reduced ware type R38 (2000, 220), dating from the 1st to 4th centuries AD, or

oxidised bowl type O27 (2000, 195), dating from approximately AD240 to 400. The fabric (RE1, Table 11) is similar to that described by Holbrook and Bidwell for 'Fabric ware B' – a heavily gritted fabric with a 'pimply' surface (1991, 149). The remaining ten sherds of reduced wares were recovered from topsoil (context 1001); the sherds were all body sherds and heavily abraded, with a range of fabrics represented (Table 11).

9.5.4 A single body sherd (weighing 7.7g) of oxidised ware (ID4) was recovered from ditch F01, context 4012.

9.6 Pottery by feature

9.6.1 Pottery was recovered from three contexts in Trench 1 and one context in Trench 4 (Table 9). Near complete pots, albeit fragmentary, were recovered from a fill in gully F02 (ID5, a late 3rd to 4th century AD black-burnished ware jar) and a fill in gully F03 (ID1/6, a second late 3rd to 4th century AD black-burnished ware jar with joining sherds also recovered from topsoil (context 1001)). A Romano-British coarse ware jar rim was recovered from ditch F01 (context 4012). Given the proximity of multiple graves nearby (of uncertain date), the two black-burnished ware pots may have originally been deposited as grave goods in nearby burials during in late Roman period, which were disturbed at a later date and redeposited in gullies F02 and F03. The fragmentary remains of fine table wares, in Oxford Red-slipped fabric (c. AD240-400), were also recovered from gully F03 and topsoil.

9.7 Discussion and conclusions

9.7.1 There is relatively limited evidence for Roman period sites in the region of Cothelstone Farm. There are a range of Roman military sites, including a marching or temporary camp near Taunton (Norton Fitzwilliam), and a small fort at Nunnington Park, Wiveliscombe, Somerset (Webster 1958, approximately 11km to the west of the site. There were more substantial settlements during the Romano-British period further afield at Exeter, c. 46km to the south-west (an early Roman legionary fortress and later town (Holbrook and Bidwell 1991)), and the settlement at Bath, c. 65km to the north-east.

9.7.2 The overall pottery assemblage contained material potentially dating from the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (reported on in Section 8) and the Late Iron Age to late Roman periods, indicating human occupation at or close to the site for potentially for more than a millennium. A single handmade body sherd was recovered which may date to the Late Iron Age or Romano-British periods; this was residual and recovered from topsoil along with late Roman material. The Roman pottery assemblage was small, but it was possible to provide reliable dates (i.e. late 3rd to 4th century AD) for the two black-burnished ware jars (IDs 5 and 1/6).

9.7.3 The two black-burnished ware jars may have originally been deposited as goods in graves nearby. Vessels of this type were common throughout Britain (Gillam 1976, 65), with examples found in late 3rd to 4th century contexts at Exeter (Holbrook and Bidwell 1991, 104-5). There were sherds of fine, table ware, the sherds may be of a single vessel; these were produced in Oxfordshire, and were common at sites in the south of England from the middle of the 3rd to 4th centuries AD. The jar/bowl (ID3) may have been produced in the Exeter region, as the fabric has similarities with Holbrook and Bidwell's Fortress ware B (1991, 149). It was not possible to source many of the coarse ware fabrics. The pottery assemblage was too small for statistical comparisons with other sites in the region. The pottery vessels were likely originally used by low-status individuals living and working nearby in a long-lived rural settlement, with some vessels potentially reused as grave goods in the later Roman period.

9.7.4 The pottery sherds are in relatively poor condition, with evidence of post-depositional damage. This report and associated data should be integrated into any site-wide analysis or publication reporting and retained within the site archive. A basic archive catalogue of material is provided in Appendix D.



10 FIRED CLAY

Dr David G Griffiths

10.1 Introduction

10.1.1 Fragments of fired clay/daub and fired clay were recovered via hand collection during archaeological excavations at Cothelstone Farm, Somerset (NGR: ST 17901 31650), conducted by DigVentures in 2024 (CSF24). The excavations revealed a series of ditches and pits containing prehistoric handmade and Romano-British period pottery.

10.2 Results

10.2.1 In total, six fragments of fired clay/daub and one fragment of fired clay were recovered during the excavations (Table 12; Appendix E). All material was recovered from three fills of ring ditch 1024, Trench 1 (Appendix E). The basal fill (1025) of the ring ditch also contained prehistoric pottery (Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age), including the remains of three vessels which had been placed directly onto the base of the ditch. Radiocarbon dates correspond with the dates of the prehistoric pottery (see Section 8). The upper fills (1028) and (1029), where fragments fired clay/daub was found, also date to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age.

10.3 Fired clay or daub

10.3.1 Six fragments weighing 77.8g of fired clay or daub were recovered from two fills (1028) and (1029) in ring ditch 1024, Trench 1. While these fragments were orange-brown, there was no evidence of them being subjected to very high temperatures, such as vitrification of the clay or melted residues (as might result from metalworking); there was also no evidence of any finished surfaces. These fragments may be the remains of a hearth; however, they may also be daub, used in wattle-and-daub construction.

10.4 Fired clay

10.4.1 A single fragment of fired clay weighing 20.2g was recovered from the basal fill of ring ditch 1024, Trench 1. The fragment has two distinct colour layers, one of which is red-brown and has been subjected to high temperatures and direct heat; the other layer is pale brown and was presumably not in direct contact with heat. The clay fabric is mostly fine quartz sand with some large quartz, rock, and iron-rich inclusions. Three complete vessels dating to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age were also recovered from this deposit, along with charcoal.

10.5 Discussion

10.5.1 This was a small fired-clay assemblage, all of which was recovered from three fills of ring ditch 1024. The material was relatively undiagnostic, and it was not possible to infer what type of feature the material was original part of, and/or their function. The material provides limited information for site function or dating. There was no structural evidence associated with these fired clay finds, however, there was prehistoric pottery found in association with this material, which may suggest that it results from activity that took place around the same time.

11 LITHICS

Joshua Hogue

11.1 Introduction

11.1.1 In total, 59 worked flints, 1 burnt unworked flint, and 4 naturally broken/unmodified stones were recovered during excavations. None of the material could be confidently identified as being in situ and all were likely residual finds incorporated into later features. In amongst the assemblage were pieces characteristic of knapping strategies adopted in the Later Upper Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age.

11.2 Results

11.2.1 None of the flintwork appears to have been part of a single cohesive assemblage. Most of the assemblage had slight edge damage, characterised by isolated or small discontinuous nicks, consequently indicating that may have moved some distant from its original place of discard, albeit not necessarily particularly far.

11.2.2 There were distinct differences in the condition of the finds, with some flints exhibiting a slight patina, a slight speckling or 'milky' film on the surfaces, whilst others were heavily patinated with a distinctive white re-cortication entirely obscuring the colour of the flint. A distinction in the surface condition plausibly indicates that the flintwork had distinct depositional histories.

11.2.3 The raw materials were also relatively diverse, again suggesting a lack of coherency amongst the assemblage. A breakdown description of the raw materials is included in Table 15 of Appendix F. It includes a variety of flints and chert, diversity reflective of the heterogeneous lithologies available within the clay-with-flints accessible within the Wellington district, within the Wessex Basin, as well as quartz that outcrops in the bedrock geology (Scrivener et al. 2014).

11.2.4 The assemblage includes cores, debitage and retouched tools, indicating a diversity of activities from blank production to tool use, but due to the lack of chronological coherence amongst the assemblage it is not possible to more accurately describe the activities taking place during any given period. A description of the most characteristic elements of the assemblage is given below by trench, with further attribute data provided in the archive catalogue. It should be noted that although the handful of more diagnostic pieces dated to the Later Upper Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and/or Early Neolithic, most of the flintwork was generally more characteristic of knapping strategies adopted in the Later Neolithic and Bronze Age, with a high occurrence of features associated with the hard-hammer technique (e.g. bulb of percussion, no lip, hinged terminations).

11.3 Trench 1

11.3.1 A single platform core was recovered from 1029 of F01. It was conical in shape, had blade-like removals, and measured 30.7 x 32.9 x 22.2 mm. It was typo-technologically consistent with dating from the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic. An end-scraper on a broken blade was recovered from the same feature and was likely broadly contemporary in age. It measured 27.1 x 21. 3 x 4.7 mm. All three blades, two proximal fragments and one distal fragment, recovered from the trench were also likely LUP, Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date. All were recovered from F01; however, one was more heavily patinated than the others and may indicate it was relatively old.

11.3.2 Most of the other material was less diagnostic, although there were some identifications that the assemblage also contained flints from the later Neolithic or Bronze Age. A retouched flake recovered from F01 and a retouched fragment from topsoil 1001, both had features commonly associated with hard-hammer percussion (e.g. pronounced bulb, hinged termination) and were broadly consistent with dating to Later Neolithic or Bronze Age. A bipolar flake was recovered from F10 and was indicative of bipolar reduction, a technique more typically associated with the Bronze Age, especially in the southwest, albeit not unknown in the LUP, Mesolithic or Neolithic (Ballin 2021, p.24).

11.4 Trench 2

11.4.1 A single undiagnostic flake fragment from topsoil was the only find recovered from Trench 2.

11.5 Trench 3

11.5.1 A leaf-shaped arrowhead was the only find of note in Trench 3. It was recovered from fill 3004 of F12. It had a slight break at the tip but was kite-shaped and classified as Green's type 2B. It measured 38.2 (45.5) x 22.9 x 5.4 mm. It was finely worked by invasive low sub-parallel retouch. It was more heavily patinated than most of the finds from the same feature, plausibly indicating that it was earlier in origin and had been later incorporated into the backfill of the feature. An age of c.2500-2000BC has been provided for this type of arrowhead (Green 1980), albeit others place these pieces within the later part of the Early Neolithic period (Ballin 2021, p. 27).



11.6 Trench 4

11.6.1 A curved backed point made on a plunging blade was recovered from fill 4012 of F01. It was of particular significance, likely dating from the Later Upper Palaeolithic (Ballin 2021, p.25). It was made on an opaque mid grey flint, distinct from the rest of the assemblage. It measured 47.1 x 11.4 x 12.3 mm.

11.7 Discussion

11.7.1 The lithic assemblage recovered during excavations represents a diverse collection of materials and techniques spanning multiple prehistoric periods, with notable evidence of activity from the Later Upper Palaeolithic/Mesolithic to the Neolithic and Bronze Age. Despite the lack of stratigraphic integrity and the residual nature of many finds, the assemblage provides some insights into past human activity in the region. However, the lack of cohesive chronological or functional context limits the scope for more precise interpretation.

11.7.2 The assemblage is characterized by a mixture of diagnostic and undiagnostic flintwork, including cores, blades, debitage, and retouched tools. The diagnostic elements span a wide temporal range.

11.7.3 Later Upper Palaeolithic/Mesolithic/Early Neolithic: The conical core and end-scraper from Trench 1, along with blade fragments, suggest activity dating to this period. The curved-backed point from Trench 4 is particularly significant, typologically associated with the Later Upper Palaeolithic.

11.7.4 Neolithic/Bronze Age: The recovery of retouched flakes and fragments, some with features associated with hard-hammer percussion, suggests activity during the later Neolithic/Bronze Age, though these finds are less temporally specific. A leaf-shaped arrowhead from Trench 3 classified as Green's type 2B, reflects a formalized knapping tradition and may date to c.2500–2000 BC, though alternative interpretations place such tools within the later part of the Early Neolithic. A bipolar flake from Trench 1 is most likely indicative of Early Bronze Age reduction strategies.

11.7.5 The chronological range and diversity of the assemblage suggest sporadic, low-intensity activity at the site, with material deposited through a combination of primary and secondary processes. The residual nature of the assemblage complicates attempts to ascribe specific activities to any given period. The absence of clear stratigraphic integrity and the mixed depositional histories of the finds limit the interpretative value of the material.

12 REGISTERED FINDS

Dot Boughton and Richard Henry

12.1 Introduction

12.1.1 The registered finds that were not pottery were sent for assessment with Dot Boughton and then for further analysis with Richard Henry. This chapter combines both these reports into one.

12.1.2 A small assemblage of one ceramic and four iron registered finds (SFs) was recovered during the excavations. The iron and ceramic single finds (SF1, 2, 4, 5, and 6) were hand-collected from three contexts (4006, 4012 and 4017) on-site during the excavation (Table 17). The assessment of the five objects includes a discussion of their individual identification and date of production/use as well as an assessment of significance and recommendations for any further work.

12.1.3 The iron and ceramic small finds assemblage from Cothelstone Farm is made up of one ceramic object (SF2) and four iron objects (SF1, 4, 5 and 6). The character of the assemblage can tentatively be identified as either intentional deposition or accidental loss. The ceramic object (SF2) is a spindle whorl of likely Late Iron Age/early Romano-British date which was discovered in the silting fill of a ditch and may have been an accidental loss whilst the iron objects – likely three knives and an awl or other tanged implement (SF1, 4, 5, and 6) – were found in what has



been interpreted by the excavators as shallow remnants of grave cuts. The preliminary report by DigVentures indicates that skeletal material recovery was extremely poor across much of the site; hence the lack of skeletal material in what was interpreted as graves.

12.1.4 The artefactual remains discussed in this assessment can be provisionally dated to the Late Iron Age/Romano-British or very early post-Roman period, likely 1st-5th centuries AD. The ceramic spindle whorl (SF2) is probably the oldest object, likely dating from the Late Iron Age, when ceramic spindle whorls were most common. During the Roman period, spindle whorls were predominantly made from reused broken pottery fragments (amongst a small number of whorls made from other materials such as amber) whilst early medieval Anglo-Saxon whorls were usually made from natural materials: stone, bone, chalk, or rarely, amber or quartz.

12.1.5 The four iron objects are identified as knives; there was one fragmentary iron object (SF6) which was identified by the excavators as shroud pin, but identification as a small tool, perhaps an awl, or the tang of another knife seems more appropriate. Iron knives and knife blades are notoriously difficult to date: their shape and size did not change much from the Iron Age to the medieval period and often they can only be dated via their handles (material, shape and decoration). However, in this case, none of the handles have survived. The blades are in good condition, having been conserved prior to assessment.

12.2 Results

12.2.1 Four iron objects (SF1, SF4, SF5, SF6) and one ceramic object (SF2) were submitted for assessment. They all survive in fair to good condition; the iron finds were professionally conserved prior to assessment. However, SF4 and SF5 have broken into two and three fragments respectively with remnants of glue on the surfaces of the breaks. It is unclear if the breaks occurred before, during or after conservation. Even though conserved, the awl or tang fragment (SF6) survives in flaky condition with two slivers of ferrous material already flaked off the surface: it will need further conservation treatment. The ceramic object (SF2) is sturdy and survives without fragmentation or damage.

Ceramic (SF2)

12.2.2 The ceramic object was found in the middle silting fill of the ditch that sat above slumping fills which the excavators postulated had started forming after the nearby ring ditch went out of use. The object is a spindle whorl with a diameter of 37.5mm and a thickness/height of 20mm. It is generally of oval shape with one face slightly flattened, giving that side a slightly more conical shape. The central aperture has a diameter of 6mm. The distaff does not survive. Distaffs are often made from bone, wood or iron and rarely survive in the archaeological record (Owen-Crocker 2010, 274-275).

12.2.3 The shape and size of the spindle whorl from Cothelstone Farm strongly suggest that it is a spindle whorl of Walton Rogers Type B2 or D2 dating from the Iron Age to the early medieval period (Walton Rogers 2007, Fig 2.18). Walton Rogers suggests that amongst early medieval spindle whorls ceramic specimens are more common in the earlier Anglo-Saxon period rather than the later anglo-Saxon or middle Saxon periods (Walton Rogers 2007, 25). Furthermore she argues that amongst the clay or ceramic spindle whorls those with a central aperture of 6mm or less are much more common in the Roman period and pre-Roman Iron Age (Walton Rogers 2077, 24) making it likely for the spindle whorl from Cothelstone Farm to predate the 5th century.

12.2.4 Baked clay or ceramic spindle whorls are more common than whorls made from other materials in the Iron Age of South West Britain (Cunliffe 2005, 453, 485-487, fig. 18.1) strongly suggesting that the spindle whorl found at Cothelstone Farm predates the Roman and post-Roman features and was a residual find most likely dating from the Later Iron Age. Generally, Roman ceramic or baked clay spindle whorls were fabricated from reused broken ceramic sherds rather than being made separately – they are known to have been made using most known Roman fabrics (Samian, Black-Burnished, colour-coated ware or amphorae) (Crummy 1987, 67). Furthermore, Owen-Crocker argues that the spindle whorls of the conversion period were usually made from natural materials such as stone, bone, chalk or, rarely, amber or quartz (Owen-Crocker 2007, 274-275; Walton Rogers in: Parfitt and Anderson 1988, 144-145). Thus, on the basis of probability, the ceramic spindle whorl from Cothelstone Farm was most likely residual, dating to the pre-Roman Later Iron Age.



Further analysis

12.2.5 A ceramic spindle whorl which is broadly oval in plan and broadly D shaped in cross section with one face slightly flattened (this is likely the top face). The perforation tapers from 6mm to 4mm narrowing towards the top and has been created by inserting an object from the bottom face. The distaff is missing.

12.2.6 As has been noted by Broughton (above paragraph 12.2.2) the spindle whorl is likely to be a Walton Rogers type B2 or D2 that dates from the Iron Age to the early-medieval period (Walton Rogers, 2007, Figure 2.18). The method of manufacture, diameter of the aperture to affix to the distaff and material suggests the spindle whorl was likely to have been produced in the late Iron Age or Early Roman period.

12.2.7 The spindle whorl was recovered from a ring ditch that had a number of basal and slumping gills followed by homogenous silting that represented gradual filling of the ditch over time. The object was recovered from (4012) which is the first of these silting fills. The site narrative notes that the second silting layer (4011) included Roman pottery supporting the suggestion of a late Iron Age or early Roman date for the manufacture of this object.

Iron (SF1, SF4, SF5, SF6)

12.2.8 Amongst the small finds assemblage from Cothelstone Farm were also four iron objects: three knives (SF1, SF4, SF5) and one iron fragment which has been identified by the excavators as a 'shroud pin' but may in actual fact be better identified either as a small tool (an awl) or the tang of a fourth knife. It has a flat rectangular cross section very similar in shape to the tangs on the other knives whereas cloth/shroud, clothes or hair pins generally have a circular cross section to avoid snagging and damaging or tearing the weave of the cloth.

12.2.9 The awl/tang (SF6) was found in the same context as SF4 and SF5: 4017, a feature which the excavators postulated is a grave. SF4 and SF5 are most certainly small knives used in the kitchen or during food preparation or consumption. This is also true for SF 1 from context 4006 which was recovered from a single event backfill material. SF4 and SF5 were discovered in the middle section of the hollow, suggesting that if they were part of a grave assemblage, they would have been attached to a belt or girdle. However, without any skeletal or other organic remains present, the identification of the feature must remain speculative. It would be highly unusual – though not impossible by all means – to find a number of graves without grave goods or clothes attachments (brooches, buckles, pins or strap fittings) but with iron knives still attached to a woven or plaited girdle (unlikely a belt as no belt attachments were found). The knives were certainly not types of early medieval seax: generally, even the narrow seax is defined as having a blade longer than 174mm and a blade wider than 20mm (Bayliss, A. et al 2013, 194-195; see also West 1998, fig. 8.1).

12.2.10 The knives from Cothelstone Farm are 100mm, 130mm and 180mm in length respectively, but this is their entire length (blade and tang), not just the blade length. Furthermore, the shape and outline of the iron knives from Cothelstone Farm does not match any of the smaller seax types discussed by Bayliss et al (2013, figs. 5.119-5.121), making their identification as small knives for food production or consumption more likely than their identification as a seax or bladed weapon: they were too small to be effective weapons in combat. However, iron knives are very common finds in graves and other features from the Roman to the medieval period: in Anglo-Saxon graves they are slightly more common in male than female graves, but it is rare to find assemblages with two or more knives: it was most common to be buried with one small knife in the 6th-7th century AD (Bayliss et al 2013, 228). Small iron knives with more or less angled or rounded backs or angled tips are known from both Roman and (early) medieval contexts (Manning 1976, fig. 21, 121-6; Manning 1985, Plates 53-55; West 1998, figs. 78.11 and 79.1). Single finds of iron knives are difficult to date more precisely without other body accessories or grave goods, but generally, a late Roman or early post-Roman date for the knives from Cothelstone Farm is put forward in this assessment.

Further analysis – the knives (SF1, SF4, and SF5)

12.2.11 The three utilitarian knives are of a common form with relatively long blades with a straight back set slightly above the tang and an almost straight edge, which is stepped down from the tang



and which slopes up at its end to meet the back in a pointed tip. The main typology for the Roman period was developed by William Manning, these examples appear to be Type 15 which are the most common knife type. In x-ray K24/66 the tip of the blade appears more angled than in K24/65 which might suggest a Type 17. The utilitarian nature of these objects is problematic in this instance as very similar examples to both Roman types also occur in the early-medieval period (Cf Babb, 1998, no. 51-54).

12.2.12 It is unfortunate that the human remains from the burials do not survive due to the acidic soils. The selection of graves goods allows for some tentative discussions on the potential date of the burials. Knives have been recovered from Roman and post-Roman burials in Britain. The absence of other goods such as buckles and other belt fittings or brooches suggests a late Roman date is less likely but this date cannot be discounted.

12.2.13 Assigning a date for the burials based on knives alone will always be problematic as they are a utilitarian item and a range of forms were deposited as grave goods at the extensive urban cemetery at Lankhills in Winchester, the vast majority of knives were deposited as part of a wider suite of graves goods which predominantly consist of form of knife regularly seen is distinctive with a wider more oval blade (Clarke, 1979; Booth et al., 2010 such as Grave 1175; Cool, 2010). Further forms which fall into William Manning's typology of domestic knives include a Manning type 14 knife (from grave 1760) and a type 16 (from grave 1310).

12.2.14 758 graves were excavated at Lankhills by the Winchester Excavation Committee and subsequently by Oxford Archaeology. Of the many often elaborately furnished burials, only four had only a knife as the single grave good (Grave 1760 and 1805 from the Oxford Archaeology excavations as well as Grave 349 and Grave 418 from the Winchester Excavation Committee excavations). Knives tend to be part of a wider suite of material including late Roman belt fittings.

12.2.15 Ironwork, particularly Manning 1b nails, are a ubiquitous find from excavations of Roman sites across Britain. In the later fourth century the evidence suggests that the supply of raw materials is decreasing and we see greater evidence of recycling and more selective disposal of ironwork archaeologically even in London and at the Saxon shore fort of Richborough (Rhodes, 1991; Fleming, 2012; Henry, 2020). At sites such as Poundbury which had a significant fourth and early fifth century cemetery ironwork becomes much more scarce in the fifth century and the prominence or importance of these objects arguably increases (Farwell and Molleson, 1993; Sparey-Green, 1996).

12.2.16 In this setting the selection of knives as the only form of grave good has a greater prominence in the post-Roman period. We have a limited number of potential parallels for cemeteries in the fifth and sixth centuries in the region but include Bradley Hill (Leech et al., 1981; Gerrard, 2005), Stoneage Barton Farm (Webster and Brunning, 2004) and Lamyatt Beacon (Leech, 1986) all in Somerset. These cemeteries do not have knives as recorded grave goods but single knives do occur in post-Roman burials further afield include a number published by Babb (1998) from Buckinghamshire.

Further analysis – Knife tang / awl (SF6)

12.2.17 This iron fragment was identified as a potential shroud pin on site and a potential knife tang or awl by Broughton (2024) who noted that it was found in the same grave as SF4 and SF5. The tang of SF4 is missing, little further discussion can be added but it has potential to be the tang of SF4.

12.3 Discussion

12.3.1 Based on what can currently be observed, the iron objects are not strongly identifiable, but likely identification can be put forward on the basis of their size, shape, occurrence of rivet holes and information gleaned from excavation report provided. Whilst the spindle whorl most likely dates from the Later Iron Age, the iron knives were probably late Roman, transitional or very early medieval in date, probably c5th century. However, determining their exact dating and date of deposition is difficult due to the lack of other datable finds (organic and inorganic) and skeletal material from the site in general and their contexts in particular. Nevertheless, if they are part of the local post Roman-to-early medieval transitional period, their archaeological potential is

considerate and should be investigated further. It is likely that the contexts at Cothelstone Farm are comparable to (and can be interpreted similarly) to the later prehistoric and Roman-British sites at Fosse Way and Cannards Grave, both Shepton Mallet, and Bradley Hill, Somerset, were similar less well-furnished graves and contexts were discovered (Birbeck, V. 2000; Moscrop 2001, Gerrard 2004).

13 ENVIRONMENTAL REMAINS

13.1 Flotation

Introduction

13.1.1 Eleven bulk environmental samples (140 litres of sediment in total) were taken during the excavations. All eleven samples yielded flots, which were sorted and assessed in September 2024. This report presents the results of sample processing, including a list of items recovered from the heavy fractions and an assessment of environmental remains recovered from the heavy fractions, light fractions and handpicked material micro excavated from a complete ceramic vessel.

13.1.2 A range of artefactual, faunal and environmental remains were present in the residues and flots derived from the soil samples, as summarised in Table 18. Material from residues is presented in Table 19, and that present in flots is detailed in Table 20.

Results

Charred plant remains

13.1.3 In total, 4 charred plant remains were recovered from flots (Table 20). Context 1025 and Samples 21, 23 and 26 yielded single indeterminate cereal grains (Cerealia indet.). A single charred indeterminate rachis segment was recovered from Sample 23. The single charred grains recovered from Samples 21 and 26 can be tentatively identified as ?oat (cf. *Avena* sp.) and ?wheat (cf. *Triticum* sp.) (Table 21). Four fragments of charred hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell were recovered from Sample 23 (Table 21).

Uncharred plant remains

13.1.4 Six uncharred plant remains were recovered from Context 1025 and Samples 23 and 26 (Table 20). The list of plant remains from this sample was sparse and included weedy vegetation, fat hen (n=3 *Chenopodium album*) and grasses (n=3 Poaceae) (Table 21).

Charcoal

13.1.5 A total of 790 fragments of charcoal (measuring >2mm) weighing 101.11g were recovered from the heavy residues, flots and handpicked material (Table 22). These were recovered from Contexts 4012, 1025, 1028 and 1026, and Sample 23 from the heavy residues; and Contexts 1025 and 1027, and Samples 21, 23 and 26 from the flots and handpicked material. The >2mm charcoal will allow for surface breakage to consider species identification, and therefore may be considered as potential samples for radiocarbon dating, if required. Several roundwood fragments were present in the charcoal assemblage that are most suitable for submission.

13.1.6 Microcharcoal measuring <2mm was present in flots from all contexts and from the handpicked material (Sample 26; abundance, e). The microcharcoal fragments were abraded, in poor condition and not of sufficient size for wood species identification, therefore none of the microcharcoal is suitable for radiocarbon dating.

Discussion

13.1.7 The fills from a ring ditch in Trench 1 (1025, 1026, 1027 and 1028) contained charcoal and a single charred, indeterminate cereal grain that may be interpreted as being derived from a domestic context, with the assemblage accumulating, or being discarded in the ditch. Two seeds

and a single floret identified as belonging to the family of grasses (Poaceae) and a single fat hen seed (*Chenopodium album*) were also recovered from these contexts, which may be modern inclusions. The charcoal and single charred grain are suitable for radiocarbon dating; however, there remains the possibility that the material is residual.

13.1.8 The fills from a ring ditch in Trench 4 (4012, 4019 and 4029) contained comminute and small fragments of charcoal that was in poor condition. The material had abraded edges, suggesting there has been some post-depositional movement.

13.1.9 Sample 21 contained comminute and small fragments of poorly preserved charcoal along with some larger fragments (>2mm), which may represent discarded domestic waste. A single charred cereal grain, possibly ?oat (cf. *Avena* sp.) was also present in Sample 21; however, its preservation was poor due to charring and the grain could not be confidently identified.

13.1.10 Sample 23 contained an accumulation of domestic waste including charcoal, a single charred grain and 4 fragments of charred hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell. A single weed seed (likely a modern inclusion) identified as fat hen (*Chenopodium album*) was also present. The single charred grain and fragments of hazelnut shell provide limited information regarding the past use of the site and human diet due to the paucity of material.

13.1.11 A similar assemblage was recovered from the flot of Sample 26, which represented material micro excavated from a complete vessel. The flot included comminute and small fragments of poorly preserved charcoal, along with larger fragments of charcoal (>2mm) and a single charred cereal grain. The preservation of the cereal grain was poor due to charring and has been tentatively identified as ?wheat (cf. *Triticum* sp.). This assemblage of material is indicative of discarded domestic waste.

Conclusions

13.1.12 The overall preservation of the archaeobotanical remains was fair/poor. The >2mm charcoal from Contexts 1025 and 1027, and Samples 21, 23 and 26; and the charred cereal grains from Context 1025 and Sample 21, 23 and 26 has the potential to provide sufficient material for radiocarbon dating should this be desirable; however, the condition of the remains suggests there may have been some post-depositional movement, and the material may exhibit a degree of residuality. The presence of charcoal suggests that burning activities were taking place at, or in the vicinity of, the site such as domestic hearths. Wood species identification may contribute to an understanding of tree species accessible, and exploited by the community that once occupied the site.

13.1.13 In terms of plants cultivated for food or other purposes, the assemblage contained only sparce evidence. Cultivated cereal species included ?oat (n=1 cf. Avena sp.), ?wheat (n=1 *Triticum* sp.) and a fragmentary indeterminate grain (n=1). The recovery of single grains from a context that is as yet undated, precludes further interpretation. Gathered food items included hazelnuts, a common source of food throughout history.

13.1.14 The presence of uncharred seeds belonging to weed/wildflower and grasses are indicative of cultivated and open grassland environments at, or in the vicinity of the site in more recent times. The material was most likely introduced into these contexts by bioturbation, further suggested by the presence of modern roots in all sampled contexts.

13.2 Charcoal

Introduction

13.2.1 Wood charcoal (1080 fragments weighing 76.1g) and three fragments of charred hazelnut shell were recovered from eight bulk environmental samples taken during the excavation. This section includes quantification of the assemblage recovered with identification at species level where possible, and an assessment of significance.

Results

13.2.2 Wood charcoal (1080 fragments weighing 76.1g) and three fragments of charred hazelnut shell were recovered from eight bulk environmental samples (Table 23). One hundred and twenty fragments of charcoal were fractured to attempt woods species identification, of which 74 were identified, Table 24.

13.2.3 A maximum of seven possible species or groups of wood charcoal were identified, with common hazel (*Corylus avellana*) being the most frequently represented species within the wood charcoal as well as the charred remains of hazelnut shell being recovered, Table 24. Wood charcoal from willow (*Salix* sp.) or poplar (*Populus* sp.) could not be differentiated due to the similarities in their microscopic structures, but wood from one or both of these trees formed the second most frequently identified group, Table 24. Nine fragments were identified as oak (*Quercus* sp.), seven as one or more trees of the *Prunus* genus (plum/cherry genus), two as English ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), one as birch (*Betula* sp.) and one as possible common elder (*Sambucus nigra*). Both heart wood and round wood were present, with roundwood being most common.

13.2.4 Preservation was variable between the samples, with material from the ring ditch (F01, contexts 1025, 1026, 1027, 1028 and 4012) being especially fragile and, on occasion, crumbling when fracturing for identification was attempted; wood charcoal from these contexts was also affected by iron-rich burial conditions with oxidised residues occurring internally affecting attempts to identify wood species.

13.2.5 Roundwood charcoal suitable for radiocarbon dating was present in all samples except that from context 1027, Table 23. The abundance of roundwood indicates that smaller branches and twigs formed a large proportion of the wood burned and subsequently preserved as charcoal at the site. These types of remains may result from the use of small branches and wigs as kindling, the burning of old wattle

Ring ditch F01

13.2.6 All of the wood charcoal was recovered from fills of a ring ditch (F01), contexts (1025), (1026), (1027), and (1028) in Trench 1 and context (4012) in Trench 4; samples <21> and <26> were the fills of two Late Bronze Age pots recovered from context 1025, SF10 and SF11, respectively, Table 23. The lower fills of this feature appear to represent activity in the later prehistoric period based on Late Bronze Age pottery and Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age radiocarbon dates (contexts 1025 and 1026), while the upper fills contain pottery dating to the Roman period (contexts 4012).

Discussion

13.2.7 The charcoal from the two lower fill of the ring ditch (context 1025 and 1026) as well as that from inside the late Bronze Age ceramic vessel from context 1025 is likely associated with later prehistoric period activity in the Late Bronze Age and/or Early Iron Age. The species recorded in these contexts are consistent with those expected resulting from activity during these periods, with hazel and oak being particularly common in wood charcoal and waterlogged wood assemblages dated to these time periods (Smith 2002, 23).

13.2.8 All of the seven groups identified have been recorded previously within charcoal and/or waterlogged wood assemblages for this time period (op. cit.), and represent species considered native to the British Isles. The abundance of roundwood indicates that smaller branches and twigs formed a large proportion of the wood burned and subsequently preserved as charcoal at the site. These types of remains may result from the use of small branches and twigs as kindling, or perhaps the burning of old wattle, which would be consistent with the high frequency of hazel and willow/poplar identified as species well suited to weaving.

13.2.9 The charred hazelnut shells could result from a range of activities and/or processes. The hazelnut fruit of the common hazel could have been collected whilst still attached to branches and become burnt through incidental inclusion with firewood; if this could be confirmed this would provide evidence for season of activity at the site as hazelnuts would only be ripe on the tree in late summer. However, it would be impossible to confirm that this was the case, and the shells could easily result from human collection, consumption and discard of the inedible shell in fires as a means of disposal or could have become burnt as a result of drying accidents as people prepared the nuts for longer-term storage. Alongside hazel being the most frequently recorded



species within the wood charcoal assemblage the hazelnut shells support their being hazel dominated woodland at or close to the site during the later-prehistoric period

13.2.10 The species recorded in the charcoal from the lower fills of the ring ditch are broadly consistent with those recovered from the upper fills, suggesting some continuity in the species of trees growing locally. Again, the species recorded in the contexts with Roman pottery are as expected for the Roman period in Britain (Smith 2002), including other sites in Somerset (e.g., Metcalfe and Levy 1977; Metcalfe and Richardson 1977).

13.2.11 The charcoal recovered from Cothelstone Farm provides an insight into wood use and the woodland environment within the vicinity of the site during the later prehistoric and Roman periods. The data recorded for charcoal from later prehistoric contexts is sufficient to allow comparison with that recovered from contemporary sites within the region and ring ditch sites nationally.

Further discussion

Nat Jackson

13.2.12 Within the charcoal assessment (above Section 13.2.1-9) it was recommended that further work be carried out on the specific use of different wood types seen in the assemblage and to place them in their wider chronological and geographic context. The most prevalent species identified at Cothelstone and over half the identifiable assemblage was common hazel and hazelnut shell. The hazel may be indicative of managed woodland (Smith 2002, p23). Coppiced hazel was used for wattle in wattle and daub structures, and basket weaving. The second most common wood seen in the charcoal assemblage was poplar/willow. This again would have been used for construction.

13.2.13 Oak was recovered from the basal fill of the ditch F01 (1025) and from samples recovered from pot fills of SF10 and SF11. It is likely that the oak was being brought in specifically for ritual use. Oak found in a cemetery ditch at Cowleaze, Dorset, was linked to the barrow 'structure and cremation ritual at the time of the cemetery usage' (Carruthers and Thomas, 1991, 114). This may also be the case at Cothelstone. The other wood species recovered are indicative of a more scrubby environment rather than dense woodland, this may be due to increased deforestation and farming by the Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age periods.

13.3 Pollen

Introduction

13.3.1 A total of three samples were submitted by DigVentures for pollen assessment. The three samples derived from a ring ditch feature [1024] excavated in Trench 1, in which artefacts including pottery, charcoal and fragments of burnt bone were encountered towards the base of the feature. Sampling focussed on sedimentary deposits surrounding a number of pots, including SF8, that were believed to have been intentionally placed on the base of the ditch not long after it was first opened. At the time of writing, it was believed that a single sample was taken from the sediments that surrounded the pottery (1025), in addition to further samples from sediments overlying the deposit (1026 and 1028), which were believed to be associated with a series of silting and tipping fills that took place after the pots have been placed within the ditch. With regards the chronology of the archaeological features, the pottery has been tentatively dated on site as Romano-British and as such it is assumed the ring ditch feature also dates to this period.

13.3.2 Provisional pollen assessments were commissioned in order to evaluate whether pollen is preserved in sufficient abundance and diversity within the samples. If so, the assessment will infer whether the pollen assemblages can inform landscape conditions that prevailed during the development of the sedimentary archives.

Results

13.3.3 In relation to the contexts under provisional palynological assessment, pollen preservation was found to be very poor in all samples under consideration, whilst pollen abundance and diversity

was similarly low in all samples. A summary of the pollen and spores encountered within each of the three samples is summarised in Table 26. Due to the relatively restricted nature of the assemblages encountered, brief summaries of the assemblages encountered will be provided below.

(1025)

13.3.4 The sample derived from the deposits surrounding the pottery remains contained a very restricted assemblage, with only eight pollen grains in total being encountered during the assessment. These were restricted to occasional grains derived from herbs and shrubs, with no tree pollen encountered. The pollen present included occasional grains of Lactuceae (e.g. dandelions), *Corylus-Myrica* type (hazel or sweetgale) and isolated grains of Cyperaceae (sedges) and Poaceae (wild grasses). Aquatic pollen was absent from the sample. Spores were relatively common within the sample, with *Pteropsida* (monolete) *undif*. (ferns) most frequently encountered, in addition to occasional spores of *Polypodium* (polypody) and *Peridium* (bracken).

13.3.5 Supporting microfossil information was restricted. Charcoal appeared to be present in abundance, whilst the majority of grains displayed evidence of surface corrosion to suggest post-depositional alteration of the pollen archive. Grains were also often crumpled, whilst many of the spores of *Pteropsida* (monolete) *undif*. were broken; such preservation features may allude to taphonomic issues, such as transportation into the depositional setting.

(1026)

13.3.6 The sample derived from the lowermost stratigraphic units that overlay the pottery within Trench 1 contained a similarly restricted assemblage, with only 16 pollen grains in total being encountered during the assessment. These were predominantly species of herbs, with a slightly greater floral diversity than that encountered within (1025). The assemblage included occasional grains of Poaceae, Cyperaceae, Lactuceae and *Sambucus* type (e.g. elderberry). In addition, isolated grains of Poaceae (>37µm) (grasses with grain diameters exceeding 37microns), Asteraceae undif (e.g. daisies), Cirsium type (thistles), Caryophyllaceae (e.g. pinks) and *Plantago* undif. (plantains) were present. A single grain of *Corylus-Myrica* type was also observed. Aquatics are once again absent, whilst a more restricted spore assemblage was present, including occasional spores of Pteropsida (monolete) *undif*., *Polypodium* and *Peridium*.

13.3.7 Supporting microfossil information was once again restricted. Charcoal appeared relatively abundant, whilst the majority of grains displayed evidence of surface corrosion to suggest post-depositional alteration of the pollen archive. Grains were also often crumpled, which may allude to taphonomic issues, such as transportation into the depositional setting.

(1028)

13.3.8 The sample derived from one of the uppermost stratigraphic units under investigation yielded a similarly restricted assemblage, with only 16 pollen grains in total being encountered during the assessment. These were predominantly species of herbs, with a single grain of *Betula* (birch) also encountered. The herbs present were typified by Poaceae, including occasional grains of Poaceae (>37µm), Cyperaceae and a single grain of Lactuceae. Aquatics are once again absent, whilst only occasional spores were present, including *Pteropsida* (monolete) *undif*., *Peridium* and a single spore of Sphagnum (moss).

13.3.9 Supporting microfossil information was limited. Charcoal once again appeared relatively abundant, and isolated ascospores of *Podospora* sp (HdV368) and testate amoebae were also encountered. Grains once again displayed evidence of surface corrosion to suggest post-depositional alteration of the pollen archive. Grains were also often crumpled, which may allude to taphonomic issues, such as transportation into the depositional setting.

Discussion

13.3.10 The following comments are based on assessment level pollen counts and as a result, any provisional interpretations must be treated with caution. For interpretations to be deemed reliable, full analysis would be required. However, the overall very restricted assemblages

observed throughout the three samples derived from ring ditch [1024] would suggest such further analyses would not be of palaeoenvironmental value.

13.3.11 The overall absence of pollen within the selected samples, combined with the poor level of preservation (evidenced through of grain/spore surface corrosion, crumpling or fragmentation), suggests the biochemical and mechanical alteration of the pollen archive and as such it is highly likely that, if pollen was indeed present within the archive during the development of the various contexts, much of the pollen has since been destroyed through post-depositional processes. Biochemical alteration (indicated through grain/spore corrosion) suggests in-situ degradation of the archive, whilst the crumpling and/or fragmentary nature of some of the grains and spores would suggest some level of transportation prior to deposition within the ditch feature. This understandably makes any interpretations of such a limited set of assemblages tenuous at best.

13.3.12 The majority of grains encountered are derived from herbs, which may suggest an open landscape at the time of deposition (assuming the assemblage is indeed a fair reflection of the original pollen archive). Isolated large wild grasses were occasionally encountered, which could be grains of cereal pollen. However, the level of crumpling hinders any grain dimensions from being reliably measured to confirm this interpretation. Isolated ascospores of Podosira sp were encountered within the uppermost sample (1028), which are coprophilous fungi often believed to relate to the presence of herbivore dung.

14 PUBLIC IMPACT

Anna van Nostrand

14.1 Introduction

14.1.1 This section details the social impact of the community excavations at Cothlestone Farm delivered by DigVentures on behalf of the Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme (QLPS) for project participants and visitors over three weeks from 25 May to 9 June 2024. DigVentures defines social impact as a measure of the positive and negative primary and secondary long-term effects produced by the programme, whether directly or indirectly, intended or unintended, over and above what would have happened in the absence of the project initiative. Results were analysed using a bespoke social impact methodology, drawing on DigVentures' Theory of Change and Standards of Evidence framework (Wilkins 2019; 77; Wilkins 2019: 30).

14.1.2 Public engagement was integral to the aims of the QLPS project and the community dig, guided site tours and finds laboratory sessions were designed by DigVentures to meet the aim to 'increase the capacity and skills of the volunteer base working in the area and to give more, and more diverse people opportunities to contribute' (Landscape Conservation Action Plan; Part 1: 7) through.

While the Quantock Hills AONB and parishes that make up the LPS are relatively affluent, a high proportion of areas in the surrounding towns fall into the 30% most deprived areas in England with four areas in the towns of Taunton and Bridgwater falling into the top 10% most deprived (Landscape Conservation Action Plan; Part 1: 65-7). The project therefore presented an opportunity to help address some of the social and educational needs of the surrounding communities, based on the principle that archaeology can do so much more than answer a planning brief: it can transform lives and communities and provide the kind of public support that underpins positive, sustainable growth (Wilkins 2020: 33).

14.2 Public programming

14.2.1 A carefully designed programme of public participation was planned for the course of the three-week project, creating different levels of engagement for adults and young people. Participation and training of participants in the trench and the finds room were serviced to National Occupational Standards.

- Excavation training for adults (24th May until 9th June) – 59 participants
- Finds room training for adults (4th 5th 8th and 9th June) – 12 participants

- Guided tours on (8th June) – 41 bookings
- Three 'DigCamps' for children (aged 6-11) and parents (26th and 29th May, 10th June) – 30 participants
- 'DigClub' for teenagers (aged 12-16) and parents (31st May) – 11 participants
- Two Young Archaeologist Club sessions (6th June) - 20 participants
- Digital engagement strategy for participants

14.3 Digital engagement strategy

14.3.1 DigVentures' digital engagement strategy for the excavation was designed to keep its core audience up to date and provide opportunities to get a detailed look at what was happening on site. This was achieved through regular progress updates by email, and a 'live blog' on the Dig Timeline https://digventures.com/projects/cothelstone-farm/timeline/. Updates on the the DigVentures live feed, the Cothlestone Farm Community Excavation live feed and the Cothlestone Farm Community Excavation project page were viewed a total of 1,962 times during the time the excavation was promoted to the public.

14.3.2 The excavation was also covered by BBC Somerset both as a radio piece and in an article: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c988n19q0pjo

14.3.3 Whilst these results demonstrate a public appetite for the Lindisfarne excavation, any evaluation of social impact needs to go beyond a list of output numbers of participants and visitors (Gould 2016). DigVentures has developed a bespoke evaluation methodology for measuring the social impact of public archaeology programmes and this is discussed in specific relation to this project below.

14.4 Evaluation methodology

14.4.1 DigVentures have developed a methodology for measuring the social impact of archaeology programmes for participants, pictured as a Theory of Change detailing outputs, outcomes and impacts. In this framework, social impact can be conceived as the difference that activities make to people's lives over and above what would have happened in the absence of that initiative. Outputs are a measurable unit of product or service, such as a community excavation; outcomes are an observable change for individuals or communities, such as acquiring skills or knowledge. Impact is therefore the effect on outcomes attributable to the output, measured against two metrics: scale, or breadth of people reached; and depth, or the importance of this impact on their lives.

14.4.2 The credibility of a Theory of Change rests on the level of certainty that organisational activities are the cause of this change. In order for this certainty to be achieved, the correct data must be collected to isolate the impact to the intervention. The DV Theory of Change is therefore linked to a Standards of Evidence framework designed to articulate and highlight the causal links between activity and change. These tools are then used to create an evaluation table linking activities, outputs, outcomes and evidence base.

14.4.3 In support of this overarching methodology, slightly different data collection strategies were undertaken for excavation participants and site tour audiences; all adult participants complete a questionnaire as part of the booking process (100% completion rate or 77 in total) and then participants are interviewed on-site about their experience (75% completion rate, or 58 in total). Data for Dig Club and Dig Camp participants who are minors consist of age group, student status (100% completion rate or 25 in total) and on-site experience survey (52% or 13 in total). Tour audiences only complete the booking questionnaire (100% completion rate, or 41 in total). The age, pronouns and professional background of participants were derived through digital analytics, with categories derived from the Office for National Statistics, followed by more in-depth analysis designed to reveal 'whether or not people will have learnt about heritage, developed skills, changed their attitudes and/or behaviour, and had an enjoyable experience'. Questionnaires combined closed-end questions easily convertible to statistical data (usually attitudinal questions) and open-ended questions designed to elicit extended responses which were then coded for statistical analysis or otherwise consolidated in order to address the observable implications. The social impact results for both groups are discussed in turn below,



with evidence organised according to the specific social outcome that activities were designed to achieve. Due to the format of the activities and the fact that the Young Archaeologists Club bookings were made through their group leader, participant information for the YAC groups is limited to participant numbers.

14.5 Social impact – in-person participants

14.5.1 The focus of the community excavation at Cothelstone Farm was to get people involved in their local heritage and broaden the typical audience for archaeology and heritage projects. To ensure that a wide range of people will be involved in archaeology, different groups of people were invited to actively participate in the excavation and take part in recording and finds processing.

14.5.2 Participation on the excavation was free of charge and to help decrease perceived barriers to participation, adults and teenagers over 12 who crowdfunded the project, could take part for any length of time starting from a taster day and culminating in two or three entire weeks, depending on their availability. Accessible half-day DigCamp sessions were offered to children between 6 and 11 years and accompanying guardians to give them a taste of the work happening in the trench. DigClub sessions for teenagers lasted for 5 hours, which was a slightly shorter day than that of the adults. All training followed DigVentures' ClfA-endorsed Field School curriculum.

14.5.3 A larger proportion of people who use female pronouns joined the excavation with 69% preferring she/her pronouns and 25% preferring he/him pronouns (see Figure 29). The age of participants raged from children aged 6 to one participant aged over 75 with Figure 29 showing that 32% of participants or 32 in total were under age 35. This mainly reflects the DigCamp and DigClub sessions making archaeology accessible to this younger age group. Apart from the 17-24 and 75-84 age groups which each had a single participant, each of the age groups from ages 6-12 to 75-84 was well represented, with representation ranging from 6%-18% of participants showing this excavation was attractive to people of all ages.

14.5.4 Participants represented a variety of full-time occupations (46%) and retirees (14%). The remainder were students, either of compulsory educational age or those attending university (27%), Carers, Homemakers or Volunteers (10%) or people in long-term unemployment (1%). Those in full time employment were divided into categories based on the Office of National Statistics (ONS) classifications, the breakdown of which can be seen in Figure 29 which illustrates that excavation opportunities were taken up by people with a variety of socioeconomic classifications. Examples of professions included Accountant, Carpenter, Drug Manufacturer, Farmer, Geospatial Specialist, HR Manager, Labourer, Mechanical Engineer, Nurse, Pilates Instructor, Sales, Teacher, and Vet. Taking this into consideration, all age groups and socio-economic backgrounds (apart from routine and semi-routine professions) were represented in the data, with a marked improvement on existing community archaeology provision compared with the typically retired, over age 65 local civic society groups (Wilkins 2020, 33) (Figure 29).

14.5.5 Local residents were the main target audience for participation. Places on the excavation were advertised through the existing Quantocks Landscape Partnership networks and then through DigVentures to fill additional availability. This method was successful in reaching a hyper local audience (See Figure 29). 35% of respondents or 27 individuals lived within 10 miles of the site. A further 9 participants or 11% of respondents lived within 15 miles of site. 19% or 15 individuals travelled between 20 and 30 miles to participate, 10 participants (13%) travelled between 30 and 40 miles and just 5 individuals (6%) travelled more than 40 miles to participate in the excavation.

14.5.6 As part of the booking process, all project participants were asked why they had decided to get involved in an archaeology project to provide a baseline understanding against which the impact of the experience could be determined through post-experience interviews. Participants answered in their own words, and the responses were coded into 12 categories.

14.5.7 The results show that almost 35% of respondents described themselves as having 'always enjoyed watching/ reading about archaeology' and embraced the opportunity to finally get hands-on with their interest. A further 4% of said that it was Time Team that had specifically influenced their desire to be involved with archaeology. 4% of respondents were prospective archaeology



students or able to tick this experience off their bucket list. In contrast, 3% of respondents said that it was the teamwork and camaraderie that drew them to the project rather than the archaeology and 3% of participants joined a friend or family member who was interested in the project, but they did not have pre-existing interest in archaeology themselves (See Figure 29) This shows that while the main reason people joined the excavation was to be involved with the archaeology, others found a purely social benefit

14.5.8 21% of participants stated that they joined the project because they 'enjoy being actively involved in archaeology' and 12% of participants took part because they had a 'special interest in the project'. These are likely to be previous participants in Quantocks Landscape Partnership Scheme excavations and people with a connection to the local area. 14% of participants who joined said they did so because of a recommendation from somebody else. This speaks to the positive experiences that people have had as a result of other QLPS or DigVentures projects and events.

14.5.9 Post-experience 'exit' interviews were also undertaken with participants, indicating how initial perceptions of archaeology may have changed and providing evidence for wider social outcomes, such as learning, skills acquisition and well-being. Participants were asked to summarise their highlight of the project in their own words, with responses then codified into 9 categories to visualise the results (Figure 29). The most important consideration for 44% of participants was the experience of real archaeology, and the opportunity to get hands-on experience. Closely related to the experience of real archaeology was the 'thrill of discovery' for 14% of participants, indicating a positive emotional reaction to the process of excavation.

14.5.10 5 individuals (5%) stated that the quality of teaching on the excavation and their experience with the DigVentures staff gave them the most value - indicating a positive experience for participants. 6% of respondents described the teamwork and camaraderie or watching their child or companion participate as the highlight of their experience, illustrating a powerful positive side product of taking part in archaeology (Figure 29). A closer assessment of interviewees answers (often elicited through follow up questions) reveals that in addition to having a good time (such as "I just love it!"), more subtle impacts could be clearly discerned.

14.5.11 Further analysis of participant responses indicates that many of the participants felt that the community excavation at Cothlestone Farm provided a unique opportunity to be a part of; Rachel, a 31-year-old Pilates instructor, said she "never thought [she would] get to do something like this" and she was happy to be able to bring her son along saying "[he] is really interested so it's been nice seeing him broaden his horizons." A DigCamp participant expressed "I just like digging in the dirt, I don't ever get to do anything like this." This demonstrates that the project achieved the QLPS goal of "giving more people opportunities to contribute" (Landscape Conservation Action Plan; Part 1: 7). Participants also expressed that they were happy to have learned something new. Emily, a 58-year-old carer said "I feel really privileged to have been able to take part and I hope that we can do more." Similarly, Sara (42) said "learning stuff I hadn't done before was really good!" this demonstrates that the project was successful in meeting the QLPS outcome of "[increasing] capacity and skills of the volunteer base working in the area" (Landscape Conservation Action Plan; Part 1: 7). These responses also show success in reaching the outcomes: "A wider range of people will be involved in archaeology and heritage" and "people will have learnt about heritage" within the DigVentures Theory of Change.

14.5.12 Several participants described the positive benefit of sharing an experience with likeminded people. Jacqui a 66-year-old administrator said "I really enjoyed being with other people who like the same things as me" Krista, a 67-year-old children's author said she relished "the camaraderie, the group experience and enthusiasm of the dig." This demonstrates a positive experience that resulted from the opportunity to participate in archaeology as well as reaching the outcome: "people will have greater wellbeing" within the DigVentures theory of change. Participants also expressed that excavating burials made them feel a particularly strong connection with the history. Sam (49) said "You realise that it's someone's last resting place. It's a sobering and enriching experience." Kit (54) felt "the graves were really emotional. It's that connection to people who were buried there but their remains have gone." These thoughts demonstrate the outcome: "people will have learnt about heritage, leading to changes in ideas and actions"

14.5.13 Participants also expressed an excitement in learning new things about their local area and a desire to remain involved. Jane a 55-year-old retiree said "It was amazing to see the graves I think they're early medieval and I'm going to enjoy following along online as you find out what they are" This demonstrates the achievement of the outcome that "heritage will be identified, interpreted and better explained" through the excavation and post excavation analysis and dissemination of results.

14.6 Social impact – Community – site tour

14.6.1 Alongside structured activities for project participants, site tours were provided at the end of the excavation as an opportunity for members of the wider public to talk to and interact with the team, and to see what had been discovered. Attendees completed a booking form to attend.

14.6.2 By analysing the responses on the booking survey we can see that there was a reasonably even split of gender identity between preferring she/her pronouns (54% or 22 individuals) and he/him pronouns (41% or 17 individuals). All professional categories (according to ONS classifications) were also represented including; accountant, cleaner, delivery driver, farmer, geologist, museum conservator, office manager and teacher (Figure 30).

14.6.3 78% (n=32) of people who booked the tour stated that this was their first time participating in archaeology. 20% of participants or 8 individuals stated that they had been involved with archaeology through other organisations and 1 participant had previously participated in archaeology through DigVentures (Figure 30). When asked about their motivation for attending the tour, 70% of participants said they booked because they enjoy watching or reading about archaeology, enjoy being actively involved in it or that it is on their bucket list. 10% of participants stated that they booked because of a special interest in the area or the project. 7% of participants stated they joined due to a recommendation from somebody else and the remaining 5 participants joined for a variety of reasons including that they wanted to support DigVentures, they were an archaeology student, or they were accompanying someone else (Figure 30).

14.6.4 Site tour attendees were almost entirely from the immediate vicinity of the site with 71% of tour participants saying they visited from within 10 miles. 6 people (14%) travelled between 10 and 20 miles to attend the site tour and 3 (7%) people travelled between 20 and 30 miles to visit the site (Figure 30).

14.7 Conclusions

14.7.1 Structured through a Theory of Change, the evidence presented here shows significant impact for both individual participants and community visitors as a result of the community excavation at Cothlestone Farm. The project attracted a diverse community of people within the local community to explore and investigate the heritage the Quantock Hills Landscape in a new and different way. Evaluation shows that the project tackled the social and educational needs of the surrounding communities and was a success for public engagement. A high number of locals was engaged with archaeology and individuals gained a deeper connection to their heritage, as well as ownership of their involvement in the excavation. This project improved participants' skills and understanding of the discipline, and provided a new opportunity for local visitors to the site – 70% of whom had never been involved with archaeology before.

14.7.2 The credibility of a Theory of Change rests on the level of certainty that organisational activities are the cause of any impact observed. To address this DigVentures has developed a 'Standards of Evidence' framework drawing on evidential standards devised by Nesta. This framework determines the levels of certainty that project activities will have a positive impact on the intended outcome, ensuring that the correct data is collected to isolate the impact to the intervention, and that findings are validated externally.

14.7.3 This framework begins with Level 1, where practitioners are able to give an account of hypothesised impact, providing a logical reason why project activities could have an impact on outcomes, and how that would be an improvement on alternative provision. For a project to achieve Level 2 practitioners gather data that shows some change amongst participants, but this may not be sufficient to provide evidence of direct causality. At Level 3 practitioners will be able to demonstrate that they are causing the hypothesised impact, by showing less impact amongst

those who don't participate in the project or receive the product/service. Progressing to Level 4 and practitioners can explain why and how the project is having the impact observed, with results potentially independently verified. Finally, at Level 5 the project methodology is robust and well-evidenced enough to be scaled up and operated by other teams or organisations, whilst continuing to have positive and direct impact on the outcome and remaining a financially viable proposition.

14.7.4 The Project offered different activity streams for participants and visitors, and as such, can be seen to have reached differing levels on the standards of evidence framework (level 1 for community and level 3 for participant impact). Evidence was collected for project participants indicating a change as a consequence of project activities (level 2), however, impact for participants was additionally established through a pre-and post-experience survey showing a significant improvement on similar data for other local archaeological society groups (Wilkins 2020, 33). Training activities were also independently accredited through CIfA – an independent body – ensuring that impact evidence for participants can be assigned to level 3. By allowing volunteers to join for as short or long as they were able, creating opportunities for children and families and by offering tours for the public we were able to attract a diverse audience for different levels of engagement with the community excavation.

14.7.5 The insights gained from this evaluation have established a clear community need and demand for more archaeological work in the Quantocks Landscape and should assist with the impactful design and funding applications for any future activities.

15 ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCUSSION

15.1 Introduction

15.1.1 Four trenches were excavated at Cothelstone Farm by 71 in-person adult participants as well as 61 children and young people. The participants and volunteers from the QLPS scheme and wider local region revealed evidence of a Late Bronze Age ring ditch enclosure that was re-used as a cemetery, likely in the later Romano-British or Early Post-Roman period.

15.1.2 The following discussion places the results of the fieldwork at Cothelstone Farm within the context of the project's key aims and objectives, which included verifying the archaeological potential of the site, characterising any buried archaeology and establishing key stratigraphic relationships between features. The results are discussed chronologically by feature type, establishing a narrative of the development, function and character of human interaction with the landscape at Cothelstone Farm from the Late Bronze Age to the Early Medieval and beyond.

15.2 Ring ditch monument

15.2.1 An intervention was placed into the southern arc of the ring ditch in Trench 1, revealing that the steep-sided U-shaped ditch was 3.38m in width and 1.44m in depth with a sub-rounded base at this location. Originally constructed in the Late Bronze Age, the ditch was recut to a depth of 1.25m and possibly widened in a significant cleaning episode that occurred in the Early Iron Age. Artefacts recovered from the upper fills indicate the ditch cannot have silted up at this location before the Middle Iron Age.

15.2.2 A second intervention was placed into the northern arc of the same ring ditch in Trench 4, revealing a similar profile measuring 3.29m in width and 1.58m in depth at this location. The ditch was also recut and possibly widened, this time to a depth of 1.37m, in the Iron Age. Pottery recovered from the upper fills indicates the ditch was not fully silted up at this location before the Romano-British period, implying the monument must have been partially maintained in some capacity as a visible earthwork in the landscape for many centuries.

15.2.3 Excavations in Trench 1 revealed that shortly after the ditch was originally cut, a group of three ceramic vessels dated typologically and by radiocarbon dating to the Late Bronze Age were intentionally placed together directly on its base. These undecorated plain-ware jars were all a coarse local red sandstone fabric and typically associated with a domestic function. They were buried by a basal deposit rich in charcoal and ash containing fragments of fired clay, animal bone and flint debitage consistent with domestic debris.

15.2.4 The processing of samples retrieved during micro-excavation of the vessels and of the surrounding burial deposit recovered small quantities of charred cereal grains, including wheat and oats as well as hazelnut shells, implying waste products from small-scale food processing and consumption at or near the site. The charcoal recovered represented a range of wood species available in the local environment including Hazel, Poplar, Willow, Oak, Ash, Birch and Elder. The highest proportion of this was roundwood Hazel suggestive of twigs, small branches and perhaps old wattle being used as fire kindling.

15.2.5 The intentional deposition of multiple ceramic vessels grouped together at the base of a ring ditch is not common practice within the context of everyday domestic settlement in the Late Bronze Age (Hill, 1995). It is instead more likely indicative of a single-event social act of ceremonial significance (Pollard, 2002). Some possibilities, such as a funerary deposit, can be ruled out. No evidence of cremated human remains were recovered, with the limited quantity of burnt bone fragments considered too small to represent a cremation burial and more likely to consist of burnt animal bone from domestic waste. Additionally, roundwood charcoal from comparatively cooler-burning wood species would also be unsuited to cremation; an act more commonly associated with the heartwood of hotter burning woods such as oak (Carruthers and Thomas, 1991, 114).

15.2.6 Due to the stratigraphic location of the vessels directly on the base of the ditch cut and buried by the basal fill itself, they must have been placed there very shortly after it was opened. Therefore, it is considered most likely that this deposit represents a single-event social act, perhaps associated with a feast commemorating the completion of the ring ditch monument in the Late Bronze Age. Similar regional examples of Late Bronze Age vessel deposits of the same form and fabric as those at Cothelstone Farm found in enclosure ditches are known from the Shurton enclosure at Hinkley Point (Quinnell and Wood, 2024) and at Norton Fitzwarren (Williams, 1987).

15.2.7 Whilst largely complete, the vessels were very fragmented and some joining sherds were located in fills much later in the stratigraphic sequence. This post-depositional disturbance is explained by a recut of the ditch in the Early Iron Age. The recut was filled initially by material eroding in from the external side of the ditch. This was shortly followed by periodic silting events interspersed with a series of discrete tipping lines of domestic waste being discarded from inside the enclosure. This sequence suggests successive periods of abandonment and re-occupation of the space enclosed by the ring ditch throughout the Early to Middle Iron Age, based on radiocarbon dating from one of these tipping lines. The two homogenous upper fills of the ditch represent an extended period of abandonment at the monument after the Middle Iron Age as it began to fully silt up.

15.2.8 In contrast, finds recovered from the first phase of the ring ditch in Trench 4 were sparse. Environmental sample processing was largely unproductive and no material suitable for radiocarbon dating was present in the basal fills. However, a few sherds of Late Bronze Age pottery were recovered from one of these fills, corroborating the narrative that the ring ditch was constructed during this period. Tentative evidence for possible bank material, heavily truncated by historic ploughing, was observed in the form of a very thin layer of gravel and silty sand visible in profile external to the ring ditch feature. However, no direct relationship was observed between this ephemeral spread and the ring ditch itself, meaning the existence of an external bank remains tenuous.

15.2.9 The recut of the ditch in Trench 4 was filled by homogenous silting with no evidence of tipping lines indicative of discarding domestic waste in discrete events. This may imply the ditch was more regularly cleaned at this location, or that domestic waste discard within the enclosure was more focused towards the southern area near Trench 1. A Late Iron Age ceramic spindle whorl and three joining sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered from the first of these silting fills. The remainder of the limited selection of artefacts recovered from the recut ditch were considered residual and consistent with long-term silting. The presence of Late Iron Age and Romano-British artefacts within the recut ditch is particularly informative and suggests the ring ditch was at least still partially open and visible in the landscape into this period.

15.2.10 No other archaeological features relating to Late Bronze Age or Iron Age occupation were present within the ring ditch enclosure in either trench. This does not discount the possibility that features relating to such activities do exist at or near this location due to the limited size of the interventions in Trench 1 and Trench 4. Alternatively, the apparently sporadic nature of

occupation within the enclosure may mean that any such evidence was too ephemeral to survive being truncated away by later archaeological features as well as historic ploughing.

15.3 Late Romano-British/Early Post-Roman cemetery

15.3.1 Excavations in Trench 1 and Trench 4 revealed evidence of up to 13 approximately east to west aligned grave cuts. Five of these were excavated in Trench 1 and four in Trench 4. In all cases, the graves were laid out in parallel rows respecting each other in an arranged pattern indicative of an organised cemetery. A single grave in Trench 1 was observed to contain remnants of possible stone lining at its western end.

15.3.2 No skeletal remains or material suitable for radiocarbon dating survived due to poor preservation conditions caused by the acidic soils. However, two of the graves in Trench 4 produced ironwork grave goods; three small personal utilitarian knives and a possible knife tang or awl. Two of these knives were found together within a single grave. Typologically they are broadly dateable to the Late Romano-British or Early Post-Roman periods, with a 5th century AD date considered most likely. However, without any additional securely dateable material from the graves themselves it is impossible to attribute any firm dating based on the knives alone.

15.3.3 The graves were all of broadly similar shape with some minor variation in size that could be indicative of a range of age at death. However, without any surviving skeletal remains, it is impossible to make any further insights to the demographics of the burial population. All graves excavated in Trench 1 were inside the prehistoric enclosure whilst those in Trench 4 were external, the trenches were approximately 35m apart at the northern and southern extents of the ring ditch, combined this suggests a sizeable cemetery that likely covers most of the monument.

15.3.4 Two ephemeral linear ditches that may represent cemetery enclosures were observed aligned northeast to southwest in Trench 1. One of these partially truncated the other in what may be a recut for a later phase of the cemetery. A number of square-ditched enclosures were excavated at the nearby cemetery site of Stoneage Barton, where burials were dated to the 7th century AD (Webster and Brunning, 2004). However, the possible cemetery enclosures within the excavated area at Cothelstone Farm were linear rather than square and two near complete, though fragmented, late 3rd to 4th century AD black-burnished ware jars were recovered from these features.

15.3.5 It is possible these vessels may have represented grave goods or were placed in the ditches nearby graves and disturbed through later ploughing. Later Romano-British pottery is known to be reused in Early Post-Roman burial contexts and could support the tentative 5th century AD date for the knives. However, the presence of the knives could equally be attributed to a later Romano-British date in association with the late 3rd to 4th century AD date of the pottery. Consequently, the date of the cemetery cannot at this point be refined any further than the later Romano-British or early post-Roman period.

15.4 Post-Medieval and undated features

15.4.1 Two parallel Post-Medieval field boundaries were excavated in Trench 4, aligned northwest to southeast and truncating all other features within the trench. The location of these ditches tie in well with the potential continuation of a strong magnetic linear anomaly interpreted from the geophysical survey to represent a probable field boundary. Post-Medieval pottery was recovered from this feature and it is likely that a number of other strong magnetic linear responses on the survey results also relate to Post-Medieval field systems.

15.4.2 Excavations in Trench 2 targeted a D-shaped enclosure ditch but were hampered by the presence of a field drain actively channelling water at this location. It was decided not to disturb this area any further to avoid flooding the trench and consequently the anomaly could not be characterised at this location.

15.4.3 Trench 3 targeted a crescent-shaped geophysical anomaly interpreted as possible quarrying. The substantial size and depth of the feature meant that excavation had to cease for safety reasons without reaching the base it could not be fully characterised. However, artefacts recovered included small quantities of abraded Late Bronze Age pottery, flint flake debitage and a near complete Neolithic leaf-shaped arrowhead from the upper fills. Whilst these artefacts

are likely residual, they strongly suggest human interaction with the local environment in the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods. Their residuality is also consistent with the upper silting fills of very large cut features and at this point there is no reason to doubt the interpretation of the anomaly as a quarry pit.

16 CONCLUSIONS

16.1 Archaeological conclusions

16.1.1 Community excavations at Cothelstone Farm confirmed that the 35m diameter ring ditch identified in cropmark and geophysical surveys was Late Bronze Age in origin. A deposit of three ceramic vessels intentionally placed directly upon the base of the newly opened ditch were dated typologically and by radiocarbon dating to between the late 11th and 9th centuries BC. This social act of ceremonial significance was carried out most likely within a small-scale rural domestic context, possibly to commemorate the completion of the enclosure itself.

16.1.2 Probably in the Early or Middle Iron Age, the ditch was recut in a significant cleaning event that partially disturbed and fragmented the vessels on the base of the ditch. In the years that followed, waste from sporadic domestic activity within the enclosure was tipped into the ditch and interspersed with short periods of silting indicative of seasonal abandonment and re-occupation around the early 8th to mid-6th centuries BC. A longer period of abandonment occurred after the Middle Iron Age when the ditch began to more substantially silt up. However, based on finds recovered from the upper silting fills, the ditch was still partially open and visible as an earthwork attracting the presence of people in the local landscape into the Romano-British period.

16.1.3 Most likely in the later Romano-British or Early Post-Roman period, possibly around the 5th century AD, the ring ditch monument was reused as a cemetery. At least 13 east to west aligned grave cuts were identified in parallel rows respecting each other in what appears to be an organised cemetery. Nine of these graves were fully excavated but no skeletal remains survived due to poor preservation conditions. However, three iron knives and a possible tang or awl were recovered from two of the graves in Trench 4. The cemetery may have been enclosed by shallow linear ditches from which two 3rd to 4th century largely complete, though fragmented, black burnished ware jars were recovered. Late Romano-British pottery is known to be re-used in Early Post-Roman burial contexts and these may have represented grave goods disturbed by later ploughing.

16.2 Character and function

16.2.1 No evidence of extant bank material, funerary deposits or internal features within the enclosed space contemporary with the construction phase of the ringwork were recovered during the excavations. Combined with the Late Bronze Age date for the ring ditch, it is considered unlikely that the enclosure originally represented a ritualised space, such as a Henge or Hengiform-type monument. The lack of evidence relating to funerary deposits or an extant mound, berm or bank also makes it difficult to argue the feature was a definitive Bronze Age Barrow. However, given the limited extent of the excavations and the characteristic re-use of the site as a later Romano-British or Early Post-Roman cemetery, this remains a possibility.

16.2.2 On balance of the evidence available, it is most likely that the space enclosed by the ring ditch was sporadically settled and abandoned within the context of seasonal domestic occupation from the Late Bronze Age to the Middle Iron Age. The domestic nature of the Late Bronze Age vessels and occupation debris within the surrounding burial deposit, and the Early to Middle Iron Age waste tipping events containing artefacts of a similar character, are all indicative of a domestic function for the site.

16.2.3 After the primary function of the ring ditch enclosure ceased and the site was abandoned as a domestic space after the Middle Iron Age, it was re-used in the Late Romano-British or Early Post-Roman period as a cemetery. This change in function is characteristic of up to a quarter of cemeteries dating to around this period in southern, central and eastern England, but is less common in the south west (Williams, 1997, 4-5). Some well-known examples include the 6th century Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Barrow Clump in Wiltshire (Andrews et al., 2019). The reuse



of the enclosure at Cothelstone Farm shows that the ring ditch was still visible as an earthwork at this time and was viewed as a significant place in the local landscape, perhaps symbolising a relationship between ancient monuments and the world of the dead (Williams, 1997, 25).

16.3 Local and regional landscape synthesis

16.3.1 The recent growth in contemporary excavations of Late Bronze Age enclosures in the local and regional landscape provide a number of parallels for the ring ditch at Cothelstone Farm. Most recently, excavations in 2023 by the QLPS at a 93m diameter ring ditch near Broomfield, located 2.7 miles east of Cothelstone Farm, revealed an enclosure ditch that was probably constructed in the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age and backfilled in the Middle to Late Iron Age (Green and Fairclough, 2024). Evidence of small-scale structure and sporadic domestic occupation was recovered from inside the enclosure. Similarly, another excavation by the QLPS in 2021 at Cothelstone Hill, just over a mile to the east of Cothelstone Farm, found evidence of a Late Bronze Age ditch and rampart with sporadic domestic occupation into the Iron Age (Brunning and Grove, 2022).

16.3.2 These results suggest that the enclosures at Cothelstone Farm, Cothelstone Hill and Broomfield were local contemporaries in the Early to Middle Iron Age landscape and perhaps even before. They may well have been known and visited by members of the same communities, with the apparent sporadic and temporary nature of Iron Age domestic occupation at Broomfield and Cothelstone Hill fitting well with the narrative at Cothelstone Farm. It is possible that all three sites were occupied seasonally and visited by the same communities at different points throughout the year.

16.3.3 The re-use of the ring ditch monument at Cothelstone Farm as a cemetery strongly implies it was still visible as an earthwork in the later Romano-British or Early Post-Roman period, possibly as a known focal point in the local landscape. Prehistoric ringwork monuments such as barrows are known to have been re-used as places of burial in the later Romano-British and Early Post-Roman periods (Gerrard, 2015; Williams, 1997). Excavations at Stoneage Barton, very close to Cothelstone Farm, provide the nearest example geographically and chronologically of a Post-Roman cemetery in the local landscape (Webster and Brunning, 2004). At Stoneage Barton, a number of unfurnished burials were observed to be enclosed by square ditches and one of these returned a radiocarbon date of the 7th century AD.

16.3.4 Minimally furnished burials on an east to west alignment and those completely unaccompanied by grave goods are typically associated with Late Roman burial practice in eastern England, and in the west country it is apparent this burial tradition continued well into the early Post-Roman period (Gerrard, 2015). Regionally comparable 5th and 6th century AD graves were excavated in rural cemeteries at Bradley Hill (Leech, 1981) and Poundbury (Sparey-Green, 1987) where the graves were aligned east to west and contained few or no grave goods. Comparative examples from other cemetery sites in the local and regional landscape combined with the iron knives and late Romano-British ceramics recovered from Cothelstone Farm imply a later Romano-British or Early Post-Roman date for this cemetery; possibly the 5th century AD.

16.4 Public impact

16.4.1 Evaluation of the public impact from the Cothelstone Farm community archaeological excavations shows significant benefit for both individual participants and community visitors as a result of the project. In total, the project provided excavation and finds room training for 71 adult participants and 61 children and young people through in person participatory experiences. Additionally, guided tours on a public open day engaged a further 41 individuals with the archaeology of Cothelstone Farm.

16.4.2 The excavations attracted a diverse community of people within the local community to explore and investigate the heritage the Quantock Hills Landscape in a new and different way. Evaluation shows that the project tackled the social and educational needs of the surrounding communities and was a success for public engagement. A high number of locals were engaged with archaeology and individuals gained a deeper connection to their heritage, as well as ownership of their involvement in the excavation. This project improved participants' skills and understanding of the discipline, and provided a new opportunity for local visitors to the site – 70% of whom had never been involved with archaeology before.

17 ARCHIVING AND DISSEMINATION

17.1 Digital archive

17.1.1 All archiving products will be prepared to the Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives (CIfA, 2014) and Archaeological Archives; A guide to best practice in the creation, compilation, transfer and curation (Archaeological Archives Forum, 2007).

17.1.2 The digital data and accompanying metadata pertaining to the Cothelstone Farm archive will be selected in accordance with a data management plan (DMP) and FAIR Principles. A copy of the final report will be sent to the HER, collecting repository and uploaded to OASIS under unique identifier digventu1-5228876.

17.1.3 The full selected digital archive and accompanying metadata will be uploaded to the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) or other appropriate Core Trust Seal Digital Repository.

17.2 Physical archive

17.2.1 The physical archive including documentary or artefactual material produced from the excavations will be deposited with South West Heritage Trust (SWHT), from whom an accession number for the archive has been requested. Decisions regarding selection will be made in conjunction with the collecting repository taking into account their deposition requirements alongside any key recommendations given by specialists throughout this report.

17.2.2 Any material selected for discard will be offered back to the landowner or in the case that the landowner does not wish for it to be returned will be utilised for another purpose such as reference collections, handling collections, educational materials etc. A more finite option of discard such as reburial will be considered as a last resort.

17.3 Dissemination

17.3.1 Copies of this report and its digital archivable products will be disseminated to the QLPS, the South West Heritage Trust, the Somerset HER and to the Archaeological Data Service (ADS) via the OASIS platform.

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Appendix A: Context descriptions

Table 1. Trench 1 context descriptions

Trench 1	Dimensions:	15.00m x 6.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate geophysical anomalies and cropmarks from aerial photographs consistent with a ring ditch					
Context	Description	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Feature
1001	Dark greyish brown, loose, clayey silt with occasional small to medium sub-angular charcoal and moderately small to medium sized angular to sub-angular platy shillet/sandstone inclusions.	Deposit	Topsoil	15	6	0.28 (avg.)	N/A
1002	Mid greyish brown, loose, clayey silt with moderately frequent small to medium sized angular to sub-angular platy shillet/sandstone.	Deposit	Subsoil	15	6	0.18 (avg.)	N/A
1003	Light greyish yellow, firm, sandy clay with frequent small to medium angular to sub-angular platy shillet/sandstone inclusions and moderately frequent small angular to sub-angular spheroidal gravel.	Deposit	Natural geology in Trench 1 - superficial yellow gravel, sandstone and greyish green shillet coming on to a dark orange clay with sands.	15	6	0.05 (avg.)	N/A
1004	NE-SW aligned linear gully with a flat base and shallow, concave sides.	Cut	Possible water drainage gully or one phase of a cemetery boundary ditch. Terminus slot	> 2.00	1.03	0.13	F02
1005	Dark pinkish brown, friable clayey silt with moderately frequent small to medium sized sub-angular platy stones concentrated towards the base of the feature.	Fill	Silting fill of a gully	> 2.00	1.03	0.13	F02
1006	E-W aligned linear, shallow u-shaped gully with a rounded base and shallow concave sides.	Cut	Cut of a linear gully/ditch that truncates Romano-British feature [1008], possibly representing two phases of cemetery boundary	> 0.98	0.84	0.08	F03
1007	Mid reddish brown, firm, clayey silt with moderately frequent small to medium sized sub-angular platy sandstone/shillet.	Fill	Fill of a potential linear gully	> 0.98	0.84	0.08	F03
1008	NE-SW aligned linear shallow u-shaped gully with a flat base and shallow, concave sides.	Cut	Possible drainage gully or cemetery boundary	> 1.00	0.92	0.07	F02
1009	Dark reddish brown, friable clayey silt with moderately frequent small sub-angular spheroidal gravel inclusions and occasional medium sub-angular platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Silting fill of a possible Romano-British gully or cemetery boundary ditch	> 1.00	0.92	0.07	F02
1010	NE-SW aligned linear shallow u-shaped gully with a flat base and shallow, concave sides.	Cut	Possible shallow drainage gully or maybe a cemetery boundary ditch	> 1.00	0.67	0.15	F03
1011	Dark reddish brown, friable clayey silt with occasional small to medium sized angular platy sandstone.	Fill	Gradual silting fill of a linear gully	> 1.00	0.67	0.15	F03
1012	E-W aligned sub-rectangular possible grave cut with a flat base and steep, straight sides.	Cut	Likely grave cut, part of a group of potential graves in the northern half of Trench 1 on an E-W alignment. No skeletal remains were recovered but these features are aligned parallel and respect each other as part of a possible arranged cemetery	1.9	0.54	0.27	F09
1013	Mid reddish brown, friable sandy clay with rare flecks of sub-angular platy sandstone inclusions concentrated towards top of feature.	Fill	Backfill of possible grave 1012. One pot sherd recovered. No bone preservation due to soil conditions	1.9	0.54	0.27	F09

Trench 1	Dimensions:	15.00m x 6.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate geophysical anomalies and cropmarks from aerial photographs consistent with a ring ditch					
Context	Description	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Feature
1014	NE-SW aligned linear shallow u-shaped gully with a flat base and shallow, concave sides.	Cut	Cut of a very shallow linear gully - Romano-British pottery recovered from the fill. Ephemeral nature makes it uncertain as to whether this is a plough furrow truncating features in the vicinity or a genuine Romano-British feature, such as a cemetery boundary ditch	> 1.30	1.2	0.06	F03
1015	Light reddish brown, firm clayey silt with moderate small to medium sized sub-angular platy sandstone/shillet inclusions.	Fill	Fill of a possible Romano-British gully or a plough furrow truncating Romano-British features in the vicinity.	> 1.30	1.2	0.06	F03
1016	E-W aligned sub-rectangular shallow u-shaped possible grave cut with a flat base and vertical, straight sides.	Cut	Cut of a grave - larger and better dug than the three excavated graves to the south, possibly of a different phase of cemetery.	> 1.82	0.88	0.25	F10
1017	Dark reddish brown, firm clayey silt with occasional small to medium sized sub-angular platy sandstone/shillet inclusions.	Fill	Backfill of a grave - silty material	> 1.82	0.88	0.25	F10
1018	E-W aligned sub-rectangular shallow u-shaped possible grave cut with a sub-rounded base and vertical, straight sides.	Cut	Cut of an E-W aligned grave in the early Christian tradition. Shallow and slightly irregularly dug. Possibly relating to an earlier phase of cemetery.	1.53	0.51	0.18	F07
1019	Mid reddish brown, firm clayey silt with moderate small to medium sub-angular platy sandstone/shillet inclusions.	Fill	Backfill of a grave	1.53	0.51	0.18	F07
1020	E-W aligned sub-rectangular possible grave cut with a flat base and vertical, straight sides.	Cut	Cut of an E-W aligned burial, part of a row of four parallel burials in Trench 1. Very shallow and poorly dug - possibly representing one phase of cemetery.	1.95	0.58	0.12	F08
1021	Mid reddish brown, firm, clayey silt with moderate small to medium sized sub-angular platy sandstone/shillet inclusions.	Fill	Backfill of grave	1.95	0.58	0.12	F08
1022	E-W aligned irregular sub-rectangular shallow u-shaped possible grave cut, flat base and shallow, concave sides.	Cut	Irregularly shaped large possible E-W aligned possible grave	2.4	1.15	0.16	F06
1023	Mid reddish brown, firm clayey silt with moderately frequent small to medium sized sub-angular platy sandstone/shillet inclusions	Fill	Backfill of a possible E-W aligned grave	2.4	1.15	0.16	F06
1024	35m diameter circular deep u-shaped ring ditch with sub-rounded base and steep, concave sides.	Cut	Cut of a circular ring ditch	> 2.50	1.38+	0.16+	F01
1025	Dark orangey brown, friable silty clay with frequent small to medium sized sub-angular to sub-rounded spheroidal charcoal inclusions and rare small to medium sized sub-angular elongated shillet/sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Basal fill of the ring ditch in Trench 1. This material was very charcoal rich with ashy sediments throughout indicating an intentional dumping deposit of burnt waste directly into the base of the ditch not long after it was first opened. Within this basal fill was an intentionally placed deposit of three complete though partially fragmented ceramic vessels (SF8, SF10-11) that were placed directly onto the base of the ditch perhaps either as cremations or intentional offerings of food vessels.	> 2.50	1.32	0.16	F01
1026	Dark orangey grey, friable clayey silt with frequent medium to large sub-angular spheroidal shaped charcoal inlcusions.	Fill	Intentional tipping event of burnt ashy waste material. Thin tip line visible in section below silting (1034) and above (1037). Could represent waste tipping from whatever activity is being carried out inside the ring ditch enclosure.	> 2.50	1.47	0.09	F01

Trench 1	Dimensions:	15.00m x 6.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate geophysical anomalies and cropmarks from aerial photographs consistent with a ring ditch					
Context	Description	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Feature
1027	Light orangey grey friable clayey silt with occasional small to medium sized sub-angular charcoal inclusions.	Fill	Thin layer of silting with some grey ashy charcoal inclusions. This represents the last of a series of thin silting and tipping events containing burnt material before later thicker homogeneous silting up of the ring ditch in the Romano-British/early medieval periods.	> 2.50	1.78	0.08	F01
1028	Mid orangey brown friable clayey silt with occasional flecks of small sub-rounded spheroidal charcoal inclusions concentrated towards top central area of the fill.	Fill	Silting fill of the ring ditch in Trench 1, possibly associated with use during the Romano-British period based on pottery recovered. This silting event appears to have occurred after a series of ashy tipping and silting below and may represent a change in use of the monument in the Romano-British period from its function in the Prehistoric	> 2.50	3.42	0.38	F01
1029	Dark orangey brown friable clayey silt with occasional small to medium sized sub-angular to sub-rounded platy gravel inclusions.	Fill	Final silting event filling in and sealing off ditch [1024] after the ring ditch monument finally went out of use and was no longer visible in the landscape. A fairly homogeneous silting fill with occasional gravel inclusions suggests a relatively undisturbed silting event over an extended period of time	> 2.50	3.02	0.59	F01
1030	Light grey, plastic clay, no inclusions	Fill	A very thin band of greyish clay was observed immediately below the basal fill (1025) were small pools of water were occasionally developing. It is perhaps most likely this represents the exposed natural clay base of the originally cut ditch that changed color over time due to exposure to water and air. Alternatively this could also represent an intentional clay lining to the base of the ditch, but this is considered unlikely given that the natural geology in this location is clay	> 2.50	0.83	0.03	F01
1031	Mid orangey brown, friable, silty clay with occasional small to medium angular to sub-angular spheroidal shale/sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Possible initial bank slippage material slumping in from the external side of the ring ditch and sitting on top of basal fill (1025).	> 2.50	0.84	0.13	F01
1032	Light yellowish brown, loose sandy silt with frequent small to medium sized angular to sub-angular spheroidal gravel inclusions	Fill	Likely bank slippage material consisting of a very gravelly redeposited natural slump falling in from the external side of the ring ditch.	> 2.50	0.97	0.16	F01
1033	Dark orangey brown friable silty clay with occasional small to medium sized angular to sub-angular platy sandstone/shillet inclusions.	Fill	Possible silting event consisting of material washing in from the external side of the ring ditch after initial bank slumping (1031) and (1032).	> 2.50	1.3	0.2	F01
1034	Dark orangey brown, firm, silty clay with rare medium sub-angular spheroidal shillet/sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Silting event between two possible tipping lines (1026) below and (1027) above. This likely represents a short period of silting between two burnt waste tipping events.	> 2.50	1.43	0.18	F01
1035	Light orangey brown, plastic, clay with moderately frequent small sub-angular spheroidal gravel inclusions.	Fill	Upon further excavation this context was considered to be natural geological clays and gravels	> 2.50	0.56	> 0.02	F01
1036	Colour: light greyish yellow. Compaction: dry, firm. Composition: clayey silt. Inclusions: frequent small to medium sub-angular platy gravel, evenly distributed.	Fill	Gravelly backfill of a possible grave	> 1.25	0.75	0.2	F05
1037	Dark orangey brown, friable silty clay with frequent small to medium sized sub-angular platy sandstone/shillet inclusions and moderately frequent small to medium sized sub-angular platy gravel inclusions.	Fill	First silting event after the basal fill deposition and before the first burnt ashy tipping event.	> 2.50	1.49	0.2	F01

Trench 1	Dimensions:	15.00m x 6.00m					
	Orientation:	NNE-SSW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate geophysical anomalies and cropmarks from aerial photographs consistent with a ring ditch					
Context	Description	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Feature
1038	E-W aligned irregular sub-rectangular possible shallow u-shaped grave cut with flat base and steep, concave sides.	Cut	Cut of a possible grave visible in west facing section through ring ditch in Trench 1. A relationship was established in section of this feature cutting the upper ring ditch fills but it is not known for sure if this was a grave as no bone or grave goods were recovered and the full extent of the feature was not identified. The feature is on an E-W alignment, but at a slightly different orientation to the other graves excavated in the trench. Therefore it could also represent a shallow gully similar to [1039] on the southern side of the ring ditch.	> 1.25	0.75	0.2	F05
1039	E-W aligned regular, sub-rectangular shallow u-shaped possible grave cut with flat base and steep, concave sides.	Cut	Cut of a possible gully or shallow recut running parallel to the ring ditch. This was visible in both the west facing section of the ring ditch and in the east facing section of the trench. It's continuation beyond the ring ditch intervention towards the east could not be seen in plan due to the similarity of the soil matrix. It had also been considered that this feature could be a grave truncating the ring ditch, but this appears unlikely due to the size and orientation of this feature.	> 1.80	1.16	0.37	F04
1040	Light yellowish brown, friable clayey silt with moderately frequent small to medium sub-angular platy gravel inclsusions concentrated towards base of feature.	Fill	Silting fill of a possible shallow gully running parallel to the southern side of the ring ditch.	> 1.80	1.16	0.37	F04
1041	Recut of [1024] with sub-rounded base	Cut	Possible recut of ring ditch in Trench 1	2.50+	3.38	1.25	F01

Table 2. Trench 2 context descriptions

Trench 2	Dimensions:	15.00m x 1.50m					
	Orientation:	E-W					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate geophysical anomalies and cropmarks from aerial photographs consistent with a sub-circular enclosure					
Context	Description	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Feature
2001	Mid reddish brown, friable silty loam with small angular to sub-angular platy gravel inclusions.	Deposit	Topsoil	15	1.5	0.28 (avg.)	N/A
2002	Dark brownish red, friable silty clay with frequent flecks of medium sized angular to sub-angular platy stone inclusions.	Deposit	Subsoil	15	1.5	0.09-0.40	N/A
2003	Mid orangey brown plastic silty clay with frequent inclusions of small to medium sized angular to sub-angular platy shillet/sandstone inclusions.	Deposit	Natural	15	1.5	0.10+	N/A
2004	Mid reddish brown moderately loose silty clay with frequent flecks of large and very angular to sub-angular platy gravel and stone inclusions.	Fill	Fill of field drain	1.50+	0.21-0.30	0.53+	F11
2005	N-S aligned linear cut of a field drain with steep, straight sides.	Cut	Cut of field drain - not fully excavated	1.50+	0.21-0.30	0.53+	F11
2006	Mid orangey brown silty clay with frequent flecks of medium angular to sub-angular stone inclusions.	Deposit	Colluvial build up above the natural	15	1.5	0.12+	N/A

Table 3. Trench 3 context descriptions

Trench 3	Dimensions:	15.00m x 1.50m					
	Orientation:	NE-SW					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate a large semi-curvilinear oblong geophysical anomaly					
Context	Description	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Feature
3001	Dark greyish brown, friable clayey silt with frequent small angular to sub-rounded sandstone/shillet inclusions.	Deposit	Topsoil	15	1.5	0.20 to 0.40	N/A
3002	Mid greyish brown, friable clayey silt with frequent medium sized angular to sub-rounded platy sandstone/shillet.	Deposit	Subsoil	15	1.5	0.20 to 0.45	N/A
3003	Dark greyish brown, compacted fine silty sand with moderately frequent small to very large sub-angular to sub-rounded sandstone inclusions	Deposit	Natural	15	1.5	0.10 (avg.)	N/A
3004	Mid greyish brown, malleable clayey silt with frequent flecks of large angular to sub-rounded platy sandstone/shillet inclusions.	Fill	Uppermost silting fill of partially excavated large geophysical feature. Prehistoric artefacts such as a flint arrowhead and pottery were recovered from this fill. This feature could not be fully characterized due to its large size within the trench 3 limit of excavation.	9.7	1.50+	0.11	F12
3005	Mid greyish brown, friable sandy loam with frequent large angular to sub-rounded sandstone/shillet inclusions and moderately frequent flecks of charcoal.	Fill	Lowest fill encountered as part of the partial excavation of feature [3006]. This very dark clayey silt fill container small sherds of prehistoric pottery. Only a very small depth of this deposit was excavated and it could not be fully characterized due to depth restrictions.	9.7	1.50+	0.34	F12
3006	Irregular sub circular crescent shaped feature - not fully excavated	Cut	This feature could not be fully characterized due to its large size and depth within the limit of excavation. It was partially excavated with two interventions - neither reached the base. The fills were fairly homogeneous throughout and this feature may be related to post industrial quarrying, as interpreted on the geophysical survey. However, the fills did not contain any modern artefactual material and all finds appeared to be prehistoric. It is possible this feature may have been some sort of utilization of the old paleochannel river bank that once existed here, but further excavation would be required to refine this interpretation.	9.7	1.50+	0.45	F12

Table 4. Trench 4 context descriptions

Trench 4	Dimensions:	13.00m x 4.00m					
	Orientation:	NNW-SSE					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate geophysical anomalies and cropmarks from aerial photographs consistent with a Ring Ditch and linear features					
Context	Description	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Feature
4001	Dark greyish brown, loose clayey silt with occasional flecks of small sub-angular to platy shillet/sandstone inclusions	Deposit	Topsoil	13	4	0.17 (avg.)	N/A
4002	Light reddish brown, loose clayey silt with occasional small to medium sized sub-angular platy sandstone/shillet inclusions.	Deposit	Subsoil	13	4	0.25 (avg.)	N/A
4003	Very light greyish yellow, firm medium sand with frequent medium to large sized angular platy sandstone/shillet inclusions.	Deposit	Natural	13	4	0.05 (avg.)	N/A
4004	Mid reddish brown, friable silty sand with rare flecks of medium sub-angular to rounded spheroidal heamatite and frequent pieces of large angular to sub-rounded platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Upper silting fill of ditch 4030 marking the final abandonment of the feature as it fully silted up.	> 3.50	4	0.68	F01
4005	E-W aligned sub-rectangular shallow u-shaped grave cut with a flat base and steep, straight sides.	Cut	E-W aligned shallow grave cut with a single intentional backfill. No skeletal remains surviving, an iron knife SF1 was recovered. This is a likely early Christian or Anglo-Saxon burial, part of a group of at least 4 in the northern part of trench 4. The very shallow nature of this cut may suggest heavy ground erosion over the centuries eroding away a possible bank into which this grave may have been cut.	2.1	0.63	0.12	F16
4006	Dark reddish brown, firm sandy silt with occasional small sub-angular to sub-rounded platy sandstone inclusions concentrated towards Surface of feature.	Fill	Single event backfill material of a grave. No skeletal remains recovered although a small knife SF1 was recovered.	2.1	0.63	0.12	F16
4007	Mid reddish brown, friable silty sand with frequent large sub-angular to rounded platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Single event possible backfill of field drain	> 1.00	1.1	0.4	F13
4008	NW-SE aligned linear deep u-shaped ditch with a flat base and moderately steep, straight sides.	Cut	Possible post medieval agricultural drainage ditch. Aligned nw-se and running parallel to another similar ditch [4010], though no relationship could be established between the two. They are however likely broadly contemporary	> 1.00	1.1	0.4	F13
4009	Mid reddish brown, friable silty sand with frequent large sub-angular to rounded platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Fill of post medieval field boundary or agricultural drainage ditch.	> 1.00	0.76	0.39	F14
4010	NW-SE aligned linear deep u-shaped ditch with a flat base and steep, straight sides.	Cut	Possible post med drain/field boundary ditch running parallel to similar ditch [4008]. The two are likely broadly contemporary.	> 1.00	0.76	0.39	F14
4011	Mid brownish red, friable silty sand with frequent large sub-angular to rounded platy sandstone and shillet inclusions	Fill	Secondary silting fill of ditch 4030. Represents gradual silting up of ditch as it went out of use. Romano-British pottery fragments found within this layer Suggesting the feature remained visible in the landscape over a long period of time and was possibly being maintained to achieve this.	> 1.50	2	0.3	F01
4012	Mid brownish red, loose clayey sand with frequent medium sub-angular to rounded platy sandstone inclusions and occasional small sub-angular to sub-rounded spheroidal heamatite inclusions.	Fill	Middle silting fill of the ditch. Potentially started forming after ring ditch went out of use. Spindle whorl found in it. Sits above slumping fills	> 1.50	1.8	0.3	F01

Trench 4	Dimensions:	13.00m x 4.00m					
	Orientation:	NNW-SSE					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate geophysical anomalies and cropmarks from aerial photographs consistent with a Ring Ditch and linear features					
Context	Description	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Feature
4013	Mid reddish brown, friable sandy silt with rare flecks and small sub-angular to sub-rounded platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Fill of possible early medieval E-W aligned grave visible truncating northern edge of ring ditch in Trench 4.	1.8	0.8	0.29	F15
4014	E-W aligned shallow u-shaped potential grave with flat base and vertical, straight sides.	Cut	Possible grave cut on an E-W alignment truncating ring ditch F01 on it's external northern edge in trench 4. No skeletal remains recovered. Part of a series of graves making up an early medieval cemetery in this location	1.8	0.8	0.29	F15
4015	Mid reddish brown, friable sandy silt with frequent large angular to sub-rounded platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Fill of post medieval drain 4018. Cuts through grave 4016	> 0.80	> 0.50	> 0.22	F14
4016	NW-SE aligned linear deep u-shaped ditch with flat base and steep, straight sides.	Cut	Cut of a post medieval drainage ditch/field boundary truncating grave 4018.	> 0.80	> 0.50	> 0.22	F14
4017	Mid reddish brown, friable silty sand with frequent flecks and small sub-angular to rounded platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Likely single event backfill of grave 4016 containing two iron knives.	1.1	0.6	0.19	F17
4018	E-W aligned sub-rectangular possible grave with flat base and vertical, straight sides.	Cut	Cut of E-W aligned grave truncated by post medieval drainage ditch 4016. No skeletal remains were recovered but two iron knives, likely grave goods, were recovered suggesting these burials may date to the Anglo Saxons period. This grave is part of a group of at least 4 burials visible in the northern part of trench 4 indicating a possible Anglo Saxon cemetery	1.1	0.6	0.19	F17
4019	Mid greyish red very loose medium-grained sand.	Fill	Sandy slump material collapse into the ditch. The profile would again suggest this has entered from the external side of the ditch, but may also have been manufactured by cleaning out of the feature.	1.5	> 0.80	0.18	F01
4020	E-W aligned shallow u-shaped sub-rectangular possible grave cut with a flat base and shallow, straight sides.	Cut	Heavily truncated very shallow possible grave. Likely truncated by ploughing from above and on the eastern side by a post med boundary ditch.	0.5	0.45	0.06	F18
4021	Mid reddish brown, firm silty sand with occasional flecks and medium sized sub-angular to sub-rounded platy sandstone inclusions	Fill	Heavily truncated fill of possible grave	0.5	0.45	0.06	F18
4022	NW-SE aligned linear ditch, not fully excavated.	Cut	Cut of post-medieval boundary/drainage ditch showing relationship with truncated grave [4020].	> 0.50	> 0.60	> 0.10	F14
4023	Mid reddish brown, friable silty sand with frequent large sub-angular to rounded platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Fill of post med drainage/field boundary ditch	> 0.50	> 0.60	> 0.10	F14
4024	Mid reddish brown, loose fine-grained silty sand with frequent flecks of sub-angular to sub-rounded platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Possible collapsed natural ditch edge slumping from the internal side of the ditch.	> 1.50	0.7	0.16	F01
4025	NW-SE aligned, linear deep u-shaped sitch with rounded base and steep, straight sides.	Cut	Cut of post med drain drainage or field boundary ditch visible truncating ring ditch F01 in trench 4	> 1.50	> 0.62	0.46	F14
4026	Mid reddish brown, friable silty sand with frequent very large sub-angular to rounded platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	fill of post med ditch/field boundary truncating ring ditch F01 in trench 4.	> 1.50	> 0.62	0.46	F14
4027	E-W aligned sub-rectangular shallow u-shaped possible grave with flat base and steep, straight sides.	Cut	Probable grave cut truncating edge of ditch 4030. Same alignment as other similar features possibly indicating an early medieval cemetery	> 0.60	0.8	0.25	F20

Trench 4	Dimensions:	13.00m x 4.00m					
	Orientation:	NNW-SSE					
	Reason for trench:	To investigate geophysical anomalies and cropmarks from aerial photographs consistent with a Ring Ditch and linear features					
Context	Description	Type	Interpretation	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Feature
4028	Mid reddish brown, friable sandy clay with moderately frequent flecks of small angular to sub-angular platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Fill of possible grave truncating ditch 4030, only partially excavated.	> 0.60	0.8	0.25	F20
4029	Dark reddish brown, malleable sandy clay with frequent flecks of large angular to sub-rounded platy sandstone and shillet inclusions.	Fill	Basal slump in ditch with the profile suggesting slumping from the outside of the feature. However, it is also possible this profile has been manufactured by clearung out of the ditch, but no clear recut is visible.	> 1.50	1.4	0.1	F01
4030	Curvi-linear, deep u-shaped ring ditch with a flat base and moderately steep, concave sides.	Cut	Large 35m diameter ring ditch visible in both trenches 1 and 4. The intervention in trench 4 revealed a very different sequence of deposition compared to trench 1 with a series of homogeneous silting fills approximately 1.6m in depth. Possible remnants of initial slumping from the external side of the ditch and remnants of external bank material 4031 was visible in the western LOE of the trench. Romano-British pottery was found within the later silting fills, suggesting the ditch was still at least partially open at this period and may have been maintained until final silting up after abandonment.	> 4.30	1.96	0.27	F01
4031	Light greyish yellow, friable silty sand with frequent large angular to rounded platy sandstone and shillet inclusions.	Deposit	Remnants of potential bank material outside of ring ditch. Seen in east facing section of tr 4.	4.9	4	0.07 (avg.)	F01
4032	Mid reddish brown, friable silty sand with frequent flecks of medium sized angular to sub-rounded platy sandstone inclusions.	Fill	Possible single event backfill of a grave heavily truncated by drainage ditch [4010].	> 0.28	> 0.29	0.34	F19
4033	E-W aligned irregular, rectangular deep u-shaped possible grave cut with a flat base and steep, straight sides.	Cut	Heavily truncated possible grave cut by post med drainage ditch 4008. Only a very small portion of this feature survives and it is not possible to fully characterize it as a grave at this point.	> 0.28	> 0.29	0.34	F19
4034	Regular deep U-shaped with steep concave sides and a rounded base	Cut	Recut of ring ditch F01, likely in the Romano-British period	4.30+	3.29	1.37	F01

Appendix B: Animal Bone

Table 5. Summary of animal bone

Trench	Context	Feature	Context description	cf. Cattle	Medium/large mammal	Medium mammal	Total
	1025		Basal fill of ring ditch [1024]		7	4	11
	1026		Fill of ring ditch [1024]		6		6
1	1028	F01	Fill of ring ditch [1024]	1	6	7	14
3	3005	F12	Fill of sub-circular crescent-shaped feature [3006]			1	1
Total				1	19	12	32

Appendix C: Prehistoric pottery

Table 6. Quantification by Trench with individual vessels from Trench 1 listed separately to not skew the data for the feature.

Period Late Bronze Age Early Iron Age	No of sherds	Weight (grams)
Trench 1 SF8	119	6416
Trench 1 SF9	7	268
Trench 1 SF10	24	2039
Trench 1 SF11	66	1364
Trench 1	329	3027
Trench 3	25	62
Trench 4	18	227
Total	588	13403g

Table 7. Details of Context, fabrics, abrasion, quantification vessel types and date of all Trenches

Trench	Deposit (Fill/Layer)	SF No.	Quantity	Weight (g)	Abrasion	Fabric	Description	Date
1	1001		26	124	2		Not present	
1	1009		39	401	2		Not present	
1	1013		1	3	2	Red sandstone	two horizontal incised grooves is similar to Trevisker Related pottery	LBA/EIA
1	1015		75	238	2		Not present	
1	1017		3	11	2	Red sandstone	flat-topped Bucket-form Type 1 Jar rim sherd	LBA/EIA
1	1023		2	6	2	Red sandstone	two small sherds abraded similar to (1036) and date	LBA/EIA
1	1025	8	4	81	1	Red sandstone/Quartzite	Type 3 hook-rim jar Smaller vessel 180mm rim diameter of Type 3 hook-rim jar	LBA
1	1025	8	119	6416	1 to3	Red sandstone	Type 3 Hook-rim jar200mm base diameter, 340mm rim diameter, wall thickness 8-12mm coarse fabric, deep vertical finger marks on exterior surface average inclusions size 3mm largest 12mm. Type 3 Hook-rim jar	LBA
1	1025	9	7	268	2	Red sandstone	Same vessel as SF8 as the sherd thickness, sandy fabric and deep finger-smearing marks	LBA

Trench	Deposit (Fill/Layer)	SF No.	Quantity	Weight (g)	Abrasion	Fabric	Description	Date
1	1025	10	24	2039	1	Red sandstone	Type 1 bucket-form jar vessel height of 190mm mostly complete but lacking 50% of the flat-topped rim 180mm in diameter in a Red sandstone fabric. The complete base is 160mm diameter with a sherd thickness of 7-10mm with vertical finger-smearing marks on the exterior surface. smaller than SF8	LBA
1	1025	11	66	1364	1	Red sandstone	High shouldered jar burnished	LBA/EIA
1	1025		14	199	2	Red sandstone	Body sherds from fill mostly part of vessel SF8, one basal angle sherd in a Quartzite fabric seen in (1026) and (1028). The pottery from soil samples <10> and <16> also have finger-smearing suggesting similar vessel type.	LBA/EIA

Trench	Deposit (Fill/Layer)	SF No.	Quantity	Weight (g)	Abrasion	Fabric	Description	Date
1	1026		90	1389	2	Red sandstone and Quartzite	a flat-topped Bucket-form Type 1 Jar diameter rim 160mm from a small vessel, a larger Hook-rim Jar Type 3 rim diameter 220mm wall thickness of 15mm. A Barrel-form Jar Type 4 rim diameter of 200mm with finger-smearing marks on the exterior. A basal angle sherd very fine well-made vessel 120mm in diameter from a with slightly burnished external surface in a reduced sandy fabric which is similar to or part of SF11. One Bucket-form Jar Type 1 coarse body and basal angle sherd 100mm diameter with external expansion, evidence of burning at high temperatures. Sherds from large vessels with finger-smearing Jars similar to SF8 and SF10, two finer carinated body sherds similar to the high shouldered vessel SF11. A small flared-out rim sherd belonging to the Plain Ware vessel con-joins with a rim from (1028)	LBA

Trench	Deposit (Fill/Layer)	SF No.	Quantity	Weight (g)	Abrasion	Fabric	Description	Date
1	1028		63	500	2	Red sandstone	five everted rim sherds 140mm in diameter of a Plain Ware flared-rim Jar most are conjoining and 26 body sherds from the same vessel all in a reduced sandy fabric	LBA/EIA
1	1029		8	49	2	Red sandstone and Quartzite	18 sherds, mainly basal angle, from a small jar with a burnished exterior surface and well-made reduced fabric base diameter of 80mm. seven small, body sherds in Quartzite fabric.	LBA/EIA
1	says (1028) on bag no bag with 1033 on	13	1	20	2	Red sandstone	In bag (1028) not (1033) same vessel as SF11 or if not a very similar form and burnished surface treatment	LBA/EIA
1	1036		3	6	2	Red sandstone and Quartzite	Three very abraded small sherds in a Quartzite fabric suggests a Late Bronze Age Early Iron Age date	LBA/EIA
3	3001		7	24	3	Red sandstone	highly abraded sherds undiagnostic but fabric suggests LBA/EIA date	LBA
3	3004		4	11	3	Red sandstone	flat-topped rim from a Bucket-form Jar Type 1 flared-out rim of a Plain Ware jar	LBA
3	3005		14	27	3	Red sandstone	Abraded sherds undiagnostic but probably similar date LBA/EIA	LBA

Trench	Deposit (Fill/Layer)	SF No.	Quantity	Weight (g)	Abrasion	Fabric	Description	Date
4	4004		9	145	3	Red sandstone	One sherd from high shouldered vessel and carinated body sherd from a similar vessel, One sherd with an expanded basal angle sherd, rim sherds from a small Bucket-form Jar Type1 flat-topped rim 160mm diameter.	LBA/EIA
4	4012		4	65			Not present	
4	4019		4	15	3	Red sandstone	One sherd High shouldered Plain Ware Jar	LBA
4	4019	7	1	2	3	Red sandstone	one very small highly abraded pottery sherd from /SF7\ which is undiagnostic in terms of form.	LBA

Appendix D: Roman pottery

Table 8. All pottery by period, ware and class, and count, weight, and estimated vessel equivalents (EVEs).

Period	Ware and class	Count	Weight	EVEs
	Handmade	1	10.7	
Late Iron Age to Romano-British	Quartz	1	10.7	
	Fine ware	8	26.3	
	Oxford Red-slipped ware	8	26.3	
	Coarse ware	149	776.2	144.5
	Black-burnished ware	135	687	127
	Reduced ware	13	81.5	17.5
Romano-British	Oxidised ware	1	7.7	
	Grand Total	**158**	**813.2**	**144.5**

Table 9. Pottery by feature, count, weight (g).

Feature	Context number	Count	Weight
Ditch F01	4012	4	63
Gully F02	1009	41	399
Gully F03	1015	83	233.6
Topsoil	1001	30	117.6
Grand Total		**158**	**813.2**

Table 10. Roman pottery archive catalogue

ID	Area / Trench	Context	Same	Part	Abrasion	Feature type	Feature	Earliest date	Latest date	Ware general	Ware class	Fabric code	Form1	Form2	Count	Weight	Rim diameter	Rim percentage	Base diameter	Base percentage	Sooting / Burning	Reference	Draw	Notes	Dectec1	Decmotif1
1	1	1015	6	Rim + Body	Abraded	Gully	Gully F03	L3C	4C	Coarse ware	Black-burnished ware 1	BB1-T1/DOR BB1	Jar	Gillam form 12	77	215.5	160	47			Y	Holbrook and Bidwell 1991, p. 103, type 20.1; fig. 28, p. 104. Gillam (1976) form 12, p. 64; fig. 2, p. 65. Fabric DOR BB 1, Tomber and Dore 1998, 127	X	Everted rim jar with broad unburnished/rough band to upper body. Heavily abraded and worn. Some patches of burning and limescale residue on inner surface.		
2	1	1015		Body	Heavy	Gully	Gully F03	240	410	Fine ware	Oxford Red-slipped ware	OXF RS	Uncertain		6	18.1					X	Fabric OXF RS, Tomber and Dore 1998, 176.	X	Heavily abraded body sherds of an open vessel, possibly a bowl.		
3	4	4012		Rim	Abraded	Ditch	Ditch F01	ROM	ROM	Coarse ware	Reduced ware	RE1/Fortress ware B; fabric 190/ Young fabric O1 (p. 185)	Jar/Bowl	Fortress ware B type 8.1/Young O27 (AD240-400) or R38 (1-4C)	3	55.3	180	17.5			X	Holbrook and Bidwell 1991, 149, fabric Fortress ware B/Fabric 190. Young 2000, p. 195, type O27 or type O38, p. 220	Y	Everted rim jar with relatively upright rim Similar form to Holbrook and Bidwell 8.1 (1991, 150, and fig. 8.1. The fabric is mostly reduced (mid- grey) with pinkish margins and surfaces; 'pimply' feel.		
4	4	4012		Body	Abraded	Ditch	Ditch F01	RB	RB	Coarse ware	Oxidised ware	OX2	Uncertain		1	7.7					X		X			
5	1	1009		Full profile	Unabraded	Gully	Gully F02	L3C	4C	Coarse ware	Black-burnished ware 1	BB1-T2	Jar	Gillam form 12	41	399	150	52.5	50	100	X	Holbrook and Bidwell 1991, p. 103, type 20.1; fig. 28, p. 104. Gillam (1976) form 12, p. 64; fig. 2, p. 65. Fabric DOR BB 1, Tomber and Dore 1998, 127	Y	Everted rim jar with broad band of obtuse-angled cross-hatch decoration to middle body; some fragments with incised cross-hatching.	Burnished	Obtuse-angled cross-hatch
6	1	1001	1	Rim + Body	Abraded	Topsoil	Topsoil	L3C	4C	Coarse ware	Black-burnished ware 1	BB1-T1/DOR BB1	Jar	Gillam form 12	17	72.5	160	27.5			Y	Holbrook and Bidwell 1991, p. 103, type 20.1; fig. 28, p. 104. Gillam (1976) form 12, p. 64; fig. 2, p. 65. Fabric DOR BB 1, Tomber and Dore 1998, 127	Y	Everted rim jar with broad unburnished/rough band to upper body. Heavily abraded and worn. Some patches of burning and limescale residue on inner surface.		
7	1	1001		Body	Heavy	Topsoil	Topsoil	240	410	Fine ware	Oxford Red-slipped ware	OXF RS	Uncertain		2	8.2					X	Fabric OXF RS, Tomber and Dore 1998, 176.	X	Heavily abraded body sherds of an open vessel, possibly a bowl.		
8	1	1001		Body	Heavy	Topsoil	Topsoil	ROM	ROM	Coarse ware	Reduced ware	RE2	Uncertain		1	11.1					X		X			
9	1	1001		Body	Heavy	Topsoil	Topsoil	ROM	ROM	Coarse ware	Reduced ware	RE3	Uncertain		1	2.1					X		X			
10	1	1001		Body	Heavy	Topsoil	Topsoil	ROM	ROM	Coarse ware	Reduced ware	RE4	Uncertain		4	5.6					X		X			
11	1	1001		Body	Heavy	Topsoil	Topsoil	ROM	ROM	Coarse ware	Reduced ware	RE5	Uncertain		4	7.4					X		X			
12	1	1001		Body	Heavy	Topsoil	Topsoil	LIA	ROM	Handmade	Quartz	HM1	Uncertain		1	10.7					X		X			

Table 11. Fabric descriptions

The fabric of the pottery was first examined by eye and sorted into fabric groups on the basis of colour, hardness, feel, fracture, inclusions and manufacturing technique. Samples of the sherds were further examined under an x30 binocular microscope to verify these divisions. The size of the sample was as large as was felt necessary for each fabric group. National fabric collection codes are given wherever possible (Tomber and Dore 1998).

Colour: narrative description only

Hardness: after Peacock 1977

soft - can be scratched by finger nail

hard - can be scratched with penknife blade

very hard - cannot be scratched

Feel: tactile qualities

smooth - no irregularities

rough - irregularities can be felt

sandy - grains can be felt across the surface

leathery - smoothed surface like polished leather

soapy - smooth feel like soap

Fracture: visual texture of fresh break, after Orton 1980.

smooth - flat or slightly curved with no visible irregularities

irregular - medium, fairly widely spaced irregularities

finely irregular - small, fairly closely spaced irregularities

laminar - stepped effect

hackly - large and generally angular irregularities

Inclusions:

Type: after Peacock 1977

Frequency: indicated on a 4-point scale - abundant, common, sparse and very sparse where abundant is a break packed with an inclusion and very sparse is a break with only one or two of an inclusion.

Sorting: after Tomber and Dore 1998

Shape: angular - convex shape, sharp corners

sub-angular - convex shape, sharp to rounded corners

rounded - convex shape, no corners

sub-rounded - convex shape, rounded to no corners

Size: after Orton 1980

Size: subvisible - only just visible at x30 and too small to measure

fine - 0.1-0.25mm

medium - 0.25-0.5

coarse - 0.5-1mm

very coarse - over 1mm

Handmade

HM1 Handmade 1. Medium dark-brown fabric with dark-brown surfaces. Soft fabric, rough surface, with finely irregular fracture. Ill-sorted, common coarse rounded iron-rich, sparse coarse sub-rounded quartz, and sparse mica inclusions.

Fine wares

OXF RS	Oxford Red-slipped ware. Fabric OXF RS, Tomber and Dore 1998, 176.

Black-burnished wares

DOR BB1	South-East Dorset Black-burnished ware. Fabric DOR BB 1, Tomber and Dore 1998, 127.
BB1-type	Black-burnished ware 1-type. Medium fabric with black/brown burnished surface, brown-grey core and brown-orange margins. Hard fabric with smooth surface, and irregular fracture. Well-sorted, abundant medium sub-angular quartz, abundant medium sub-rounded iron-rich, common coarse rounded iron-rich, and sparse mica inclusions.

Oxidised wares

OX1	Oxidised ware 1. Medium fabric with pale brown margins and surface, and pale grey core. Hard fabric, rough surface, with irregular fracture. Ill-sorted, abundant fine rounded quartz, common coarse rounded iron-rich, sparse coarse angular quartz, sparse coarse sub-rounded rock, and sparse mica inclusions.

Reduced wares

RE1	Reduced ware 1. Medium fabric with broad grey core and pinkish margins and surface. Hard fabric with 'pimply' surface, and finely irregular fracture. Ill-sorted, common medium sub-rounded quartz, common coarse rounded grey rock, common medium and coarse sub-angular iron-rich, and sparse mica inclusions.
RE2	Reduced ware 2. Very coarse, gritty fabric, with grey core and pinkish-grey surface. Hard fabric with rough surface, with finely irregular fracture. Ill-sorted, common medium sub-rounded quartz, common coarse rounded grey rock, common coarse sub-angular iron-rich, and sparse mica inclusions. A coarser version of RE1.
RE3	Reduced ware 3. Medium, grey-brown fabric and surface. Hard fabric, rough surface, and finely irregular fracture. Well-sorted, common medium sub-angular quartz, sparse coarse rounded grey rock, common coarse sub-angular iron-rich (some black), and common mica inclusions.
RE4	Reduced ware 4. Medium, dark brown-grey fabric and grey-brown surfaces. Hard fabric, rough surface, with finely irregular fracture. Ill-sorted, abundant fine and medium sub-angular quartz, common medium sub-rounded iron-rich, and sparse mica inclusions.
RE5	Reduced ware 5. Fine fabric with some coarse inclusions. Dark brown fabric with brown-grey surfaces. Soft fabric, rough surfaces, with fine fracture. Ill-sorted, common fine and medium angular quartz spares coarse rounded iron-rich, sparse fine rounded lime, and common mica inclusions.

Appendix E: Fired clay

Table 12. Material by count and weight (g).

Material type and context	Count	Weight
Fired Clay/Daub	**6**	**77.8**
1028	1	43
1029	5	34.8
Fired Clay	**1**	**20.2**
1025	1	20.2
Grand Total	**7**	**98**

Table 13. Fired clay archive catalogue

ID	Context	Feature number	Feature type	Feature group	Context description	Type	Fabric code	Count	Weight	Height	Reused	Mortar	Overfired	Keying	Signature	Impressions	Reduced Core:	Comments	Retained	Catalogue	Illustrate	Period	Further analysis	Lath marks	Finished surface	Discarded	Scoring/tool marks	Underfired	Category	Glaze	Vitrified	Residue	Sooting
1	1028	F01	Ring ditch	F01 ring ditch 1024	Fill of ring ditch 1024	Fired Clay/Daub	Oxidised	1	43	21mm	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Orange-brown fabric, mostly fine quartz sand with some large quartz and rock. Possible surface preserved.	X	X	X	Unknown	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
2	1029	F01	Ring ditch	F01 ring ditch 1024	Fill of ring ditch 1024	Fired Clay/Daub	Oxidised	5	34.8	10-22mm	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Orange-brown fabric, mostly fine quartz sand with some large quartz and rock. Possible surface preserved on some fragments.	X	X	X	Unknown	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
3	1025	F01	Ring ditch	F01 ring ditch 1024	Basal fill of ring ditch 1024	Fired Clay	Oxidised	1	20.2	22mm	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Sample No. 10. Fragment of fired clay. The fragment has two distinct layers, one of which is red-brown and has been subjected to high temperatures (possibly a hearth?); the other layer is pale brown and presumbably not in direct contact with heat. The clay fabric is mostly fine quartz sand with some large quartz, rock, and iron-rich inclusions.	X	X	X	Unknown	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X

Appendix F: Lithics

Table 14. Summary of lithics assemblage according to class/type by trench/feature

	Trench 1										Trench 2		Trench 3			Trench 4				Total
	F01	F02	F03	F05	F06	F09	F10	Subsoil	Topsoil	Total	Topsoil	Total	F12	Topsoil	Total	F01	F15	Topsoil	Total	
core	2									2										2
rough-out	1									1										1
single platform	1									1										1
conical	1									1										1
debitage	11	1		1		2	1	1	1	18	1	1	5		5	8		1	9	33
blade	3			1						4			2		2	1			1	7
flake	7	1				1	1	1	1	12	1	1	3		3	6		1	7	23
primary removal	1					1				2						1			1	3
debris	1								3	4			1	2	3	3	1		4	11
chip									2	2				2	2	1	1		2	6
chunk	1								1	2			1		1	2			2	5
tool	3								2	5			1	2	3	4		1	5	13
backed point																1			1	1
curved-backed																1			1	1
end-/side-scraper	1									1										1

	Trench 1										Trench 2		Trench 3			Trench 4				Total
	F01	F02	F03	F05	F06	F09	F10	Subsoil	Topsoil	Total	Topsoil	Total	F12	Topsoil	Total	F01	F15	Topsoil	Total	
endscraper	1									1						1			1	2
on a break	1									1										1
leaf-shaped arrowhead													1		1					1
notched									1	1						1			1	2
flake									1	1										1
fragment																1			1	1
retouched	1								1	2				2	2	1		1	2	6
flake	1									1						1			1	2
fragment									1	1				2	2			1	1	4
unworked	1		1		1				1	4			1		1					5
burnt, unworked									1	1										1
unworked	1		1		1					3			1		1					4
Total	**18**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**1**	**1**	***7***	**33**	**1**	**1**	**8**	**4**	**12**	**15**	**1**	**2**	**18**	**64**

Table 15. Raw materials

No.	Description
1	Flint, indeterminate (e.g., through burning).
2	Flint, translucent dark brown to opaque greyish brown flint with light brownish-grey spots; thin (less than 1mm) slightly abraded light reddish-brown cortex, likely from soil staining.
3	Flint, semi-transparent pale brown to mottled pale grey/opaque flint with thin, heavily abraded cortex
4	Flint, semi-transparent light greyish-brown flint with thin, heavily abraded and cortex.
5	Quartz, translucent pale yellowish.
6	Chert, dark brown, almost opaque chert with speckled light grey limestone-like inclusions; cortex is thin, hard, pockmarked, and light brownish-grey.
7	Flint, opaque mid-grey flint, homogeneous, lacking fossiliferous inclusions; distinct from other flints. The coloration is likely due to patination.

Appendix G: Registered finds

Table 16. Registered finds (metalwork and spindle whorl) catalogue

Context Number	SF No.	Object Type	Short description	Material	Weight (g)	Date (c.)
4006	1	KNIFE	Complete iron knife (blade and tang), organic hilt plate missing; blade is curved	iron	18.94	3rd-5th C
4012	2	SPINDLE WHORL	Complete ceramic spindlewhorl, flat oval cross-section, one face slightly tapered, undecorated	ceramic	31.51	1st-5th C
4017	4	KNIFE	Knife blade, tang/handle plate and organic handle missing; blade is long and thin, slightly curved	iron	10.65	3rd-4th C
4017	5	KNIFE	Complete iron knife (blade and tang), organic hilt plate missing; blade is angled at the tip	iron	23.92	1st-4th C
4017	6	AWL	Awl fragment or tang of small bladed tool	iron	1.37	3rd-5th C

Table 17. Archive catalogue

ID	Site code	Excavation year	Box no	Trench no	Context	Unstratified	SF no	Material	Object simple type	Condition	Description	Head count	Length (mm)	Clenched	Clenched length (mm)	Type	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Diameter (mm)	Weight (g)	Count	MNI	Period	Date from	Date to	Type	Comment	Recommendation Illustration	Recommendation X-ray	Recommendation Conservation	Recommendation Research	Recommendation Other	Xray no
1	CSF24	2024		4	4006	FALSE	1	Iron	KNIFE	Good	Complete iron knife (blade and tang), organic hilt plate missing; blade is curved	1	12.92	FALSE		KNIFE	12.92	15.5	3.5		18.94	1	1	ROMAN	LATE ROMAN	EARLY MEDIEVAL	Manning (1985), Fig. 28, Type 14	3rd-5th C	TRUE		TRUE	TRUE	Photography, Publication	FALSE
2	CSF24	2024		4	4012	FALSE	2	Ceramic	SPINDLE WHORL	Good	Complete ceramic spindlewhorl, flat oval cross-section, one face slightly tapered, undecorated	1	37.5	FALSE		SPINDLE WHORL	37.5	20	20	37.5	31.51	1	1	ROMAN	LATE IRON AGE	EARLY MEDIEVAL	Walton Rogers (2007), B2	1st-5th C	TRUE	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE	Photography, Publication	FALSE
4	CSF24	2024		4	4017	FALSE	4	Iron	KNIFE	Good	Knife blade, tang/handle plate and organic handle missing; blade is long and thin, slightly curved	2	102.5	FALSE		KNIFE	102.5	7	4		10.65	2	1	ROMAN	LATE ROMAN	EARLY MEDIEVAL	Late Roman/EM types	3rd-4th C	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	Photography, Publication	FALSE
5	CSF24	2024		4	4017	FALSE	5	Iron	KNIFE	Good	Complete iron knife (blade and tang), organic hilt plate missing; blade is angled at the tip	3	179	FALSE		KNIFE	179	15	4		23.92	3	1	ROMAN	LATE IRON AGE	EARLY MEDIEVAL	Manning (1985), Fig. 29, Type 19	1st-4th C	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	Photography, Publication	FALSE
6	CSF24	2024		4	4017	FALSE	6	Iron	AWL	Good	Awl fragment or tang of small bladed tool	1	31.4	FALSE		AWL	31.4	3.5	2		1.37	1	1	ROMAN	LATE ROMAN	EARLY MEDIEVAL	fragmentary: no further id possible	3rd-5th C	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	Photography, Publication	FALSE

Appendix H: Environmental

Table 18. Summary of material from heavy residues and flots, by count, abundance and weight.

	Heavy residue		Flot		
Material	Count	Weight (g)	Abundance	Count	Weight (g)
Bone	4	1.3			
Charcoal	223	87	g	381	9.7
Charred plant remains				4	<0.1
Nutshell				4	0.14
Seeds				5	<0.1
Roots			g		
Fired clay	1	20.3			
Pottery	6	21.9			
Stone	1	70			

a (1-10), b (11-50), c (51-100), d (101-200), e (201-500), f (501-1000), g (>1000).

Table 19. Summary of artefacts from heavy residues, by count and weight.

		Bone		Charcoal		Fired clay		Pottery		Stone		Total	
Context	Sample	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)
	21			10	0.2			1	0.7			11	0.9
	23			10	0.9							13	1.1
0	**26**			65	13.6							65	13.6
	10	3	1.3	50	36.1	1	20.3	5	21.2	1	70	60	148.9
1025	**16**			15	6.4							15	6.4
1026	**12**			25	12.1							25	12.1
1027	**13**			10	6.8							10	6.8
1028	**14**			25	9.1							25	9.1
4012	**7**			10	1.6							10	1.6
Total		**3**	**1.3**	**220**	**86.8**	**1**	**20.3**	**6**	**21.9**	**1**	**70**	**234**	**200.5**

Table 20. Summary of material from flots by count, abundance and weight.

		Charcoal <2mm	Charcoal >2mm		Charred plant remains		Nutshell		Roots	Uncharred seeds		Total	
Context	Sample	Abundance	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)	Abundance	Count	Weight (g)	Count	Weight (g)
	10	f	7	1					c	3	1	**10**	**2**
1025	**16**	f	33	1	1	1			c			**34**	**2**
1026	**12**	c	6	1					c			**6**	**1**
1027	**13**	b	27	1					a			**27**	**1**
1028	**14**	c							c				
4012	**7**	e							e				
4019	**8**	a							a				
4029	**6**	a							a				
	21	e	57	1	1	1			b			**58**	**2**
	23	f	155	1	1	1	4	1	c	1	1	**161**	**4**
0	**26**	e	96	1	1	1			e	1	1	**98**	**3**
Total			**381**	**7**	**4**	**4**	**4**	**1**		**5**	**3**	**394**	**15**

Table 21. Summary of charred and uncharred plant remains from flots by count.

		Charred plant remains		Uncharred plant remains		
Context	Sample	Cerealia indet.	Corylus avellana	Chenopodium album	Poaceae	Total
	10			1	3	4
1025	16	1				1
	21	1				1
	23	1	4	1		6
0	26	1		1		2
Total		4	4	3	3	14

Table 22. Summary of charcoal from the heavy residue and flots by abundance and weight.

		Heavy residue		Flot			Handpicked		
		Charcoal >2mm		Charcoal <2mm	Charcoal >2mm		Charcoal <2mm	Charcoal >2mm	
Context	Sample	Count	Weight (g)	Abundance	Count	Weight (g)		Count	Weight (g)
1025	**10**	50	36.1	f	7	0			
1025	**16**	15	6.4	f	33	0.3			
1026	**12**	25	12.1	c	6	0			
1027	**13**	10	6.8	b	27	4.6			
1028	**14**	25	9.1	c					
4012	**7**	10	1.6	e					
4019	**8**			a					
4029	**6**			a					
	21	10	0.2	e	57	1.5			
	23	13	0.11	f	155	2.4			
0	**26**	65	13.6	e	96	0.9	e	186	5.4
Total		**223**	**86.01**		**381**	**9.7**		**186**	**5.4**

Table 23. Summary of charcoal recovered from bulk environmental samples from Cothelstone (CSF24), count and weight (g).

Context	Sample	Fraction		Feature	Date	Count	Weight (g)	No. fractured	Roundwood?
1025	10	Heavy	>4mm	Ring ditch F01	Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age	385	36.1	24	Yes
	16	Heavy	>4mm			64	6.4	12	Yes
	21	Heavy	4-2mm	(Pot fill SF10)		57	1.5	12	Yes
		Heavy	>4mm	(Pot fill SF11)		41	1.6	12	Yes
	26	Heavy	4-2mm			96	0.9	0	Yes
1026	12	Heavy	>4mm			212	12.1	24	Yes
1027	13	Heavy	>4mm		Roman?	16	6.8	6	No
1028	14	Heavy	>4mm			201	9.1	24	Yes
4012	7	Heavy	>4mm			11	1.6	6	Yes
Total						1083	76.1	120	

Table 24. Identification of wood charcoal species, including hazelnut shell, from Cothelstone Farm (CSF24), count.

Context	Sample	Feature	Date	Hazel	Hazelnut shell	Poplar /willow	Oak	Plum/cherry genus	Ash	Birch	Elder?	Total
	10			10		5	4					19
	16	Ring ditch F01		7	2	1				1		11
	21	(Pot fill SF10)		1			3	3	1			8
1025	26	(Pot fill SF11)	Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age	4		5	1				1	11
1026	12			5	1	2		3				11
1027	13							1				1
1028	14			7		1	1					9
4012	7		Roman?	1		2			1			4
Total				35	3	16	9	7	2	1	1	74

Table 25. Summary of samples submitted for palynological consideration from ring ditch [1024], Cothelstone Farm

Site	Sample	Stratigraphic description
CSF24 Trench 1	1025	Dark orangey brown, friable silty clay with frequent small to medium sized sub-angular to sub-rounded spheroidal charcoal inclusions and rare small to medium sized sub-angular elongated shillet/sandstone inclusions.
	1026	Dark orangey grey, friable clayey silt with frequent medium to large sub-angular spheroidal shaped charcoal inclusions.
	1028	Mid orangey brown friable clayey silt with occasional flecks of small sub-rounded spheroidal charcoal inclusions concentrated towards top central area of the fill.

Table 26. Summary of pollen encountered in ring ditch [1024], Cothelstone Farm

		Context		
		1025	1026	1028
Trees	Betula			1
Shrubs	Corylus-Myrica type	2	1	
Herbs	Poaceae	1	3	8
	Poaceae >37mic		1	2
	Cyperaceae	2	3	4
	Asteraceae undiff.		1	
	Caryophyllaceae		1	
	Cirsium type		1	
	Lactuceae undiff.	3	2	1
	Plantago undif.		1	
	Sambucus type		2	
Spores	Polypodium	2	4	
	Pteridium	3	1	1
	Pteropsida (monolete) undif.	25	2	2
	Sphagnum			1
Charcoal		xxx	xxx	xxx
HdV368 Podospora sp				x
Testate amoebae				x
Grain crumpling		xx	xx	xxx
Grain degradation		xxx	xx	xxx
Abundance		low	low	low
Diversity		low	low	low
Suitable for further analysis?		n	n	n

Appendix I: Radiocarbon dates

Appendix J: Geophysics report