



# Land at Eaton Leys Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire

Post-excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design



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## Contents

Summary.....	iv
Acknowledgements.....	v
<b>1 INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Project and planning background .....	1
1.2 Scope of the report.....	2
1.3 Location, topography and geology .....	2
<b>2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND .....</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1 Introduction.....	3
2.2 Previous works related to the development .....	3
2.3 Archaeological and historical context .....	4
<b>3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES .....</b>	<b>7</b>
3.1 Aims .....	7
3.2 Research objectives .....	7
<b>4 METHODS.....</b>	<b>8</b>
4.1 Introduction.....	8
4.2 Fieldwork methods .....	8
4.3 Artefactual and environmental strategies .....	9
4.4 Monitoring.....	9
<b>5 STRATIGRAPHIC RESULTS .....</b>	<b>9</b>
5.1 Introduction.....	9
5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits.....	10
5.3 Area Ai.....	10
5.4 Area Aii.....	15
5.5 Area B .....	16
5.6 Area C .....	16
5.7 Area D .....	17
5.8 Area E .....	19
5.9 Area F.....	20
<b>6 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE.....</b>	<b>20</b>
6.1 Introduction.....	20
6.2 Pottery .....	23
6.3 Ceramic building material/fired clay.....	27
6.4 Worked flint .....	27
6.5 Glass .....	28
6.6 Slag .....	29
6.7 Metalwork .....	29
6.8 Human bone .....	30
6.9 Animal bone .....	39
6.10 Conservation .....	41
<b>7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE .....</b>	<b>41</b>
7.1 Introduction.....	41
7.2 Aims and methods.....	41
7.3 Results .....	42
<b>8 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL .....</b>	<b>45</b>
8.1 Summary of potential .....	45
8.2 Stratigraphic potential.....	46
8.3 Finds potential .....	46



8.4	Environmental potential .....	47
8.5	Overall research potential .....	48
8.6	Updated project aims .....	49
<b>9</b>	<b>UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN AND RECOMMENDATIONS .....</b>	<b>49</b>
9.1	Introduction.....	49
9.2	Recommendations and proposed methodologies for analysis .....	49
9.3	Radiocarbon dating .....	53
9.4	Proposals for publication .....	54
9.5	Programme for analysis and publication .....	55
9.6	Personnel and resources .....	55
9.7	Management structure .....	57
<b>10</b>	<b>STORAGE AND CURATION .....</b>	<b>57</b>
10.1	Museum.....	57
10.1	Preparation of the archive .....	57
10.2	Selection policy .....	58
10.3	Security copy .....	58
10.4	OASIS .....	58
<b>11</b>	<b>COPYRIGHT .....</b>	<b>58</b>
11.1	Archive and report copyright .....	58
11.2	Third party data copyright.....	59
	<b>REFERENCES .....</b>	<b>60</b>
	<b>APPENDICES.....</b>	<b>64</b>
	Appendix 1: OASIS form.....	64
	Appendix 2: Assessment of the environmental evidence .....	67
	Appendix 3: Context summary.....	77

### List of Figures

<b>Figure 1</b>	Site location
<b>Figure 2</b>	Location of excavation areas with evaluation trenching overlay
<b>Figure 3</b>	Area A (west)
<b>Figure 4</b>	Area A (east)
<b>Figure 5</b>	Areas B and C
<b>Figure 6</b>	Area D
<b>Figure 7</b>	Area E
<b>Figure 8</b>	Sections: ditches
<b>Figure 9</b>	Sections: cremation graves

### List of Plates

<b>Cover</b>	Area A, camera facing east
<b>Plate 1</b>	Areas A and B
<b>Plate 2</b>	Area A, driveway ditch 6401, south facing section
<b>Plate 3</b>	Area A, driveway ditch 6402, west facing section
<b>Plate 4</b>	Area A, enclosure ditch 6055, south-west facing section
<b>Plate 5</b>	Area A, staff demarcating driveway ditch 6401
<b>Plate 6</b>	Area A, unurned cremation burial 6240 in grave 6239, south facing section
<b>Plate 7</b>	Area A, pit 6288, north facing section
<b>Plate 8</b>	Area C, unurned cremation burial 4010 in grave 4009, south facing section
<b>Plate 9</b>	Area C, ditch 4017, south-west facing section



- Plate 10** Area C, pit 4021, south facing section  
**Plate 11** Area D, camera facing east  
**Plate 12** Area D, unurned cremation burial 3065 in grave 3066, south facing section  
**Plate 13** Area D, urned cremation burial 3076 in grave 3075, south facing section  
**Plate 14** Area D, cremation urn *in situ* in grave 3097  
**Plate 15** Area D, four-post structure 3060, camera facing north  
**Plate 16** Area E, cremation-related deposit 2004 in feature 2003, south facing section  
**Plate 17** Area E, pit 2009, south facing section

#### List of Tables

- Table 1** Summary of excavation areas  
**Table 2** Quantification of excavation records  
**Table 3** Summary of Area A cremation-related features  
**Table 4** Summary of cremation graves and cremation-related features in Area D  
**Table 5** Area E pits  
**Table 6** Finds by material type (number of pieces/weight in grammes)  
**Table 7** Breakdown of pottery by chronology and ware type  
**Table 8** Summary of results of scan of cremated bone  
**Table 9** Animal bone: number of identified specimens present (or NISP) by period from Area A  
**Table 10** Animal bone: quantity and type of detailed information  
**Table 11** Sample Provenance Summary  
**Table 12** Objects selected for conservation treatment  
**Table 13** Proposed radiocarbon dates  
**Table 14** Task list



## Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Heritage, on behalf of Gallagher Estates, to undertake archaeological mitigation work at Eaton Leys, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire (NGR 488940 233160). The work was carried out as a condition of planning permission for a residential development.

Six areas occupying 2.95 ha in total were investigated by means of strip, map and sample excavation. This work followed on from a scheme of earlier investigations comprising desk-based assessment, geophysical survey, evaluation trenching and fieldwalking.

The most significant remains from the strip, map and sample excavation were in Area A and Area D. Area A contained ditches forming droveways and a co-axial field system. These appear to be Late Iron Age/early Romano-British in date, with at least some forming part of the hinterland of the former Roman town of *Magiovinium*, which lies just to the north of the excavated area. A total of five cremation graves and five other features containing cremation-related deposits, some forming loose groupings, were also identified in Area A. Most were undated, although three belong to the 1st century AD. The group of vessels from one grave is particularly significant, containing as it does decorated samian vessels, which are rarely found in funerary contexts.

Area D contained an early/middle Saxon cremation cemetery containing over 30 burials. The majority had been placed in urns. A potential small four-post structure representing a mortuary house or shrine was found alongside the graves.

Areas B–C and E contained further cremation-related deposits, along with minor linear features and discrete pits and postholes; the majority were undated but some are assumed to be Romano-British. Area F proved to be archaeologically sterile.

Flintwork provides clear evidence of earlier prehistoric activity taking place in the vicinity of the site, probably from the Mesolithic and/or Early Neolithic periods, although the assemblage is small and redeposited.

The majority of the finds assemblage comprises Late Iron Age/Romano-British pottery – other material types are not well represented, and are in generally poor condition (particularly the animal bone). Of most interest are the human remains, pottery, metalwork and glass from urned and unurned Saxon cremation burials. These are significant as cremation assemblages of this date are very rare within this part of the country. Some evidence for cremation in the Late Iron Age/early Romano-British period was also encountered. Further analysis of the human bone will provide more detailed demographic data and further information related to the mortuary rites.

Over 300 environmental samples were collected from a range of features, although in general, they are not particularly informative. The environmental remains recovered from the samples are dominated by wood charcoal; the majority originates from cremation-related deposits, and likely represents fuel for funeral pyres. Within the assemblage, there is scope for recognising potential changes in the choice of pyre fuelwood between the Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon periods. Charred remains of cereals and other plants are generally rare and poorly preserved and were found in secondary deposits, and so offer limited scope for understanding how the site was exploited in the past.

This post-excavation assessment describes the archaeological results and discusses the remains in their local context. Updated questions to guide ongoing analysis are identified; recommendations for further work are presented, leading to the publication of the Site, and deposition of the archive at Buckinghamshire County Museum.





The physical archive resulting from the excavation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Sheffield and Salisbury. The digital records are stored on a server located at Wessex Archaeology's Salisbury office. Buckinghamshire County Museum has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under the accession code AYBCM:2018.84. Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full written agreement of the landowner to transfer title of all finds to the museum.

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The fieldwork was directed by Hannah Dabill, with the assistance of Nick Woodward, Dora Olah, Max Higgins, Justyna Dekiert, Andy Swann, Adam Fraser, Jonathon Landless, Krzysiek Sendek, Chris Warburton, Callum Bruce, Otis Gilbert and Kieron Kinninmont.

The assessment of the human bone was carried out by Jacqueline I McKinley. The animal bone and flint were assessed by Lorrain Higbee and Erica Gittins respectively. Amy Thorp and Grace Jones assessed the Late Iron Age and Romano-British pottery; Lorraine Mephram assessed the post-Roman pottery and all other finds. The environmental samples were processed by Fiona Eaglesham, Liz Foulston, Jenny Giddins, Gwen Naylor, Jasmine Porter, Samantha Rogerson, Martina Tenzer, Chris Warburton and Morgan Windle. The flots were sorted by Liz Chambers and Fiona Eaglesham and assessed by Inés López-Dóriga. The environmental assessment report was written by Inés López-Dóriga, with contributions from Liz Chambers.

This report was written by Hannah Dabill and Patrick Daniel, and edited by Andrew Norton. The project was managed by Andrew Norton on behalf of Wessex Archaeology.



# Land at Eaton Leys, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire

## Post-excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design

### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Project and planning background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Heritage, on behalf of Gallagher Estates, to undertake archaeological mitigation works at Eaton Leys, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire (NGR 488940 233160) (Fig. 1). Six areas occupying 2.95 ha in total were investigated by means of strip, map and sample excavation. The work was carried out as a condition of planning permission granted by Milton Keynes Council (15/01533/OUTEIS) for a residential development.

1.1.2 The overall development area comprises approximately 109 ha and lies across the administrative boundary of Milton Keynes and Aylesbury Vale. The planning permission and archaeological mitigation results here discussed all pertain to the land north of the boundary, that is, the area under the administration of Milton Keynes Council.

1.1.3 The wording of archaeological condition 38 states:

*'Prior to the commencement of the development a programme of archaeological field evaluation comprising trial trenching shall be completed, full details of the dimensions of the trenches shall be provided and agreed by the Local Planning Authority. The programme of archaeological evaluation shall be detailed in a Written Scheme of Investigation submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. On completion of the agreed archaeological field evaluation a further Written Scheme of Investigation for a programme of archaeological mitigation in respect of any identified areas of significant buried archaeological remains shall be submitted and approved by the local planning authority in writing. The scheme for archaeological mitigation shall include an assessment of significance and research questions; and:*

*1. The programme and method of site investigation and recording*

*2. The programme for post excavation assessment*

*3. Provision to be made for the analysis of the site investigation and recording*

*4. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and record of the site investigation*

*5. Provision to be made for archive disposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation*

*6. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation*

*7. Full details of the dimensions of trenches will be provided*



*No development will take place other than in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation so approved. The development hereby permitted shall not be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation excavation has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the approved Written Scheme of Investigation and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition have been secured'.*

- 1.1.4 The excavation was the final stage in a programme of archaeological works, which had included an archaeological desk-based assessment (CgMs Heritage 2015), geophysical survey (MOLA 2014 & 2015a), fieldwalking (MOLA 2015b), and two phases of trial trenching (MOLA 2016, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) 2017) which identified a possible settlement area in the northwest of the site and evidence for scattered cremation burials across the site.
- 1.1.5 The excavation was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI), which detailed the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed, for both the fieldwork and the post-excavation work (CgMs Heritage 2018). Nick Crank, Senior Archaeological Officer for Milton Keynes County Council approved the WSI, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), prior to fieldwork commencing. The excavation was undertaken between July and October 2018.

## **1.2 Scope of the report**

- 1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the provisional results of the excavation to assess the potential of the results to address the research aims outlined in the WSI. It will, where appropriate, recommend a programme of further analysis work, and outline the resources needed, to achieve the aims (including the revised research aims arising from this assessment), leading to dissemination of the archaeological results via publication and the curation of the archive.

## **1.3 Location, topography and geology**

- 1.3.1 The excavation area is centred on NGR 488940 233160. It is bounded to the north by Watling Street, to the east by the A4146 and to the west by the River Ouzel. An east–west drain bisecting the wider development area marks the administrative boundary between Milton Keynes Borough and Aylesbury Vale District councils. The archaeological mitigation undertaken and the planning permission all pertained to the Milton Keynes ‘half’ of the site, north of the east–west drain.
- 1.3.2 The highest part of the site was an east–west ridge that crossed the site’s centre and descended to the west. From its local highpoint (c 78 m OD) at the eastern site margin, the ridge fell away to approximately 70 m OD in the north and 67 m OD along the banks of the River Ouzel.
- 1.3.3 The underlying geology is mapped as Oxford Clay to the west of the site with West Walton Mudstone Formation predominating in the east. Superficial deposits are recorded as river terrace deposits across the north of the site, and along the borders of the River Ouzel, with head deposits mapped in the southwest limits of the site (British Geological Survey online viewer, 2018).



## 2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 There is evidence for activity on or near the site from nearly all historical periods. With the exception of the Romano-British period, this appears to be largely background or agricultural activity. More significantly, the site encompasses part of the Roman town of *Magiovinium* (SAM1006943) and the agricultural hinterland surrounding the urban centre.
- 2.1.2 The current programme of archaeological works attached to the planning permission for the development include an archaeological desk-based assessment (CgMs Heritage 2015), geophysical survey (MOLA 2014 & 2015a), fieldwalking (MOLA 2015b), and two phases of trial trenching (MOLA 2016, CA 2017). These are discussed below.

### 2.2 Previous works related to the development

#### *Geophysical survey (2014)*

- 2.2.1 An extensive geophysical survey conducted on the site identified the southern extent of *Magiovinium* (MOLA 2014 & 2015a). It revealed an extensive urban sprawl south of Watling Street initially unenclosed with evidence of later contraction and fortification in the form of multivallate defences. It also identified evidence of possible Roman activity 1 km south of *Magiovinium* with dispersed boundary ditches and trackways in the agricultural land south of the town (MOLA 2014).

#### *Heritage desk-based assessment (2015)*

- 2.2.2 A desk-based assessment was conducted in association with the development. It informed the development plan so as to negate damage to the settlement of *Magiovinium* and minimise the impact to other non-designated Roman strata (CgMs Heritage 2015).

#### *Fieldwalking survey (2015)*

- 2.2.3 The site was fieldwalked during 2015 (MOLA 2015b). The survey identified finds from the Neolithic through to the modern period. With the exception of the Romano-British and post-medieval periods, the volume of finds was consistently low, suggesting background prehistoric activity and agricultural activity throughout the medieval period. Outside the scheduled monument there was a medium scatter of Romano-British pottery across the fields that became the target of the mitigation works. A single sherd was identified further south. Medium levels of post-medieval pottery were identified across the site.

#### *Trial trench evaluation phase 1 (2016)*

- 2.2.4 A programme of trial trenching targeting anomalies identified by the geophysical survey was undertaken in August 2016 (MOLA 2016). Of the total of 22 trenches, 10 were located within the jurisdiction of Milton Keynes Council. Of these trenches, only one contained archaeological remains: an unurned deposit of cremated bone.

#### *Trial trench evaluation phase 2 (2017)*

- 2.2.5 A second, more substantial, programme of trial trenching was undertaken in 2017 (CA 2017). A total of 108 trenches were excavated; 60 of these contained archaeological features. The features were broadly concentrated in the north-west of the site, in close proximity to *Magiovinium* but became more dispersed away from the town. A single feature yielded prehistoric pottery; the bulk of the dateable features were late Iron Age or Romano-British. These features included two possible trackways running south of *Magiovinium*, possible enclosures, pits and gullies. Further ditches were also dated to the Roman period. Nine possible cremation burials were identified from seven trenches



distributed across the site, indicating that the cremation excavated by MOLA was not an isolated example. The cremation-related features were left unexcavated and tentatively dated to the early–mid Romano-British period.

## 2.3 Archaeological and historical context

The following background material primarily derives from the archaeological desk-based assessment (CgMs Heritage 2015) for the site.

### *Prehistoric*

- 2.3.1 No evidence of Palaeolithic activity was identified within the study site.
- 2.3.2 A Palaeolithic axe was retrieved from dredging deposits following cleaning of the River Ouzel adjacent to the site (MMK1083 at SP88520 33300). Three Palaeolithic axes were found 1.3 km to the north of the site in similar circumstances (MMK1102, MMK1103 and MMK1104).
- 2.3.3 There are no references to the Mesolithic period either within the site or the study area.
- 2.3.4 Approximately 100 m to the south of the study site and located within an Archaeological Notification Area (0186400000), a ring ditch identified on an aerial photograph was tentatively dated to the Neolithic/Bronze Age. Within the study area and the Archaeological Notification Area, an undated enclosure was identified on the same aerial photograph (0187200000). The recent geophysical survey (MOLA 2014) identified an enclosure in the approximate position for the enclosure mentioned above, however, the regular internal divisions identified by the survey implies a later Roman date.
- 2.3.5 There are no entries on either the Milton Keynes or Buckinghamshire HERs for artefacts or sites dating to the Bronze Age within the site.
- 2.3.6 Within the wider study area all entries dating to the Bronze Age relate to metal finds and flint arrowheads. These are located to the west of the study area on better drained land. A collection of arrowheads was found at SP85400 33400 (MMK1085) approximately 200 m from the site boundary.
- 2.3.7 An arrowhead was found at SP88300 33480 (MMK1088) 400 m from the site's western boundary. Metal fragments, possibly a hoard, were found 1 km north-west of the site's centre (MMK1084). Bronze Age arrowheads were also found 1.3 km to the west of the site boundary (MMK1086).
- 2.3.8 There are no entries on either the Milton Keynes or the Buckinghamshire HER for artefacts or structures belonging to the Iron Age. It is possible that evidence for Iron Age settlement may be located beneath the Roman occupation levels of the scheduled monument but this has yet to be proven.
- 2.3.9 An early Iron Age settlement was identified on the opposite bank of the River Ouzel 50 m from the western boundary of the site (MMK1166 to MMK1172).
- 2.3.10 An enclosure, dated to the Iron Age, was found during excavations 1.5 km to the south of the study site (0612300000).



### *Romano-British*

- 2.3.11 The northern part of the development site lies over a scheduled monument (1006943). The scheduled area covers the Roman town of *Magiovinium*, which straddles Watling Street and an earlier fort (MMK684), the latter located to the south of Watling Street. Based on minor investigations in the past, the area also includes an extensive industrial area outside the town (MMK688) and cemeteries. The enclosed town covers 0.8 ha of the scheduled area.
- 2.3.12 HER entries within the scheduled area relate to numerous artefacts recovered during watching briefs, small evaluations and fieldwalking. The majority of the finds are coins spanning the Romano-British period from the 1st to 4th centuries, however large amounts of pottery spanning the period have also been retrieved.
- 2.3.13 Immediately outside the town (to the east) and adjacent to the south side of Watling Street a possible Roman temple was excavated (MMK693 to MMK700).
- 2.3.14 Roman buildings and enclosures are located further east adjacent to Watling Street (MMK690 and MMK691).
- 2.3.15 A pair of parallel ditches observed on an aerial photograph within the site (MMK7684) was thought to mark the course of a Roman road leading south from the town of *Magiovinium*. The area is regarded as an Archaeological Notification Area. The northern end of this road has been detected by the recent geophysical survey (MOLA 2014) emanating from the southern edge of *Magiovinium*.
- 2.3.16 The geophysical survey has identified five concentric defensive ditches protecting the southern edge of *Magiovinium*. The ditches, believed to be late 2nd or 3rd century AD, protect the core of the previously undefended Roman town and have cut through and destroyed earlier phases of buildings and activities associated with the much larger original town footprint. These later defences of the reduced town area suggest suburban contraction (Hunn *et al* 1997) in the later Roman period. However, the brutal nature and extent of the defensive works that carved through the town footprint is more indicative of hasty defences against some unknown, but archaeologically well documented, civil unrest that occurred in eastern England around AD 170 (Brown 1995).
- 2.3.17 A Roman road (Buckinghamshire HER, 0297910000) is believed to leave Watling Street at SP232850 490500 and head in a gentle south-west curve to the eastern boundary of the site and then follow the line of the drain that bisects the site. The recent geophysical survey did not identify this road.

### *Anglo-Saxon and medieval*

- 2.3.18 No Anglo-Saxon or medieval sites or finds are recorded within the study site although it is likely that the area would have been farmed.
- 2.3.19 To the east of the site, centred on SP90100 32500, a metal detector survey retrieved numerous metal objects dating to the medieval and post-medieval periods. The artefacts are not necessarily indicative of a settlement or building, for which no evidence exists, but they may have been deposited as a result of 'manuring' (rubbish from nearby settlements ploughed into fields).
- 2.3.20 To the west of the River Ouzel, approximately 100 m from the site boundary, a complex of features may represent the site of an early medieval manor. MMK2133 (also MMK2134)



marks the site of Water Hall; MMK2135–6 marks the site of a moated enclosure and a fishpond.

- 2.3.21 Earthworks interpreted as evidence of the shrunken medieval village of Water Eaton are located in the same area (MMK2137 at SP88200 33200).
- 2.3.22 Water Eaton Mill (MMK2018 at SP88300 32900) may be located on the site of an Early Medieval mill.
- 2.3.23 Ridge and furrow, which can date to the medieval period, was recorded in the centre of the site in 1995. The upstanding earthworks are no longer observable although the recent geophysical survey (MOLA 2014) recorded weak signals of their former extent. The ridge and furrow has been destroyed by modern farming methods.

*Post-medieval and modern*

- 2.3.24 Small villages existed at Water Eaton and Fenny Stratford, with isolated dwellings and farms dotted across the landscape to the east. Land within the study site and the study area had an agricultural focus throughout the post-medieval and modern periods.
- 2.3.25 Jeffery's map dated 1768 shows the site as a large open space bisected by the east–west aligned drain still visible today. The area of the Roman settlement, although not labelled, is depicted as higher ground; the southern edge corresponding to the southern edge of the Roman town and fort. A mill, presumably Eaton Leys mill, is annotated.
- 2.3.26 The 1772 Great Brickhill and Little Brickhill Enclosure maps show the southern half of the site as an open field and the northern half as Great Tithes. The existing east–west drain divides the site and forms the boundary between the two parishes.
- 2.3.27 The Grand Union Canal (Buckinghamshire HER 0411900000) was commissioned in 1793 and completed in 1805. The canal is located to the west of the River Ouzel and runs roughly parallel at a distance of 150m to the west of the site boundary.
- 2.3.28 The Ordnance Survey map, dated 1813, shows the area in low detail, however, the northern part of the site is located within an open area, and the southern part of the site is divided, presumably into arable fields. The road forming the eastern boundary of the site is labelled as Galley Lane. Eaton Leys Farm is shown toward the middle of the site's western boundary. The small settlement of Water Eaton is shown to the west of the site boundary, separated by the Grand Union Canal.
- 2.3.29 Bryant's Map shows the site in poor detail. Eaton Leys Farm and Water Eaton Mill are shown.
- 2.3.30 The 1898, 1923–24, 1950 and 1967 Ordnance Survey maps show an unchanged landscape within the study area. On the western bank of the River Ouzel an earthwork, later labelled fishpond, is annotated. On the 1923–24 map the site of Water Hall, a manor, is depicted to the west of the fishpond. The 1950 and 1967 maps show the rapid development of Fenny Stratford but the site remains unchanged. All of the maps show the site of the Roman town (*Magiovinium*) centred adjacent to Watling Street opposite the north-west tip of the study site.
- 2.3.31 The 1982–83 and 2010 Ordnance Survey maps shows no change within the study site although residential infill to the west (Fenny Stratford) abuts the west bank of the Grand Union Canal.



2.3.32 The 2007 Ordnance Survey plan and Google Image shows the site as arable fields, unchanged from the present (CgMs Heritage 2018).

### **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

#### **3.1 Aims**

3.1.1 The general aims of the excavation, as stated in the WSI (CgMs Heritage 2018) were:

- To establish a broad phased plan of the archaeology revealed following the stripping of the site;
- To seek a better understanding of the resource;
- To compile a lasting record of the resource; and
- To analyse and interpret the results of the excavation and disseminate them.

#### **3.2 Research objectives**

3.2.1 Following consideration of the archaeological potential of the site and the regional research framework (Hey & Hind 2014), the research objectives of the excavation defined in the WSI (CgMs Heritage 2018) were:

- To establish the presence or otherwise of activity dating to the prehistoric period. Can the period and type of activity be defined? Is there any evidence which can be attributed to settlement activity? How does the pattern of activity identified relate to the scatter of prehistoric artefacts recovered during the programme of fieldwalking?
- To better define through excavation the nature, extent, character and chronology of the Late Iron Age and Roman utilisation of the site. Can the evolution of the established system of enclosures and trackways be traced? What is the pattern of Roman activity like to the south of the Scheduled Roman town? Can the nature of such activity be fully characterised?
- How does the pattern of Late Iron Age and Roman activity relate to the scatter of cremation identified during the previous phases of evaluation?
- To determine the presence of any Anglo-Saxon or medieval activity on site.

3.2.2 In addition, the following research aims were drawn from the Solent-Thames Research Framework for the Historic Environment (Hey and Hind 2014):

##### *Late Iron Age/Roman*

12.2.1 Sites with well-preserved deposits of both late Iron Age and Roman date should be given careful attention in order to investigate continuity of local tradition at these sites. Sampling strategies should ensure that as wide a range of contexts are sampled as possible. Excavations of deep, well-sealed features are required (as opposed to buildings). (Hey & Hind 2014, p179)

12.3.1 Environmental evidence should be collected and analysed to help identify how field systems operated and developed. (Hey & Hind 2014, p179)





12.4.12 Breed improvement for cattle and sheep, and variation in the proportions of the principal domestic animals in relation to the socioeconomic status of the producer. (Hey & Hind 2014, p180)

12.5 The careful excavation of burials and cemeteries in association with their parent towns and settlements can also shed important light on social organisation. (Hey & Hind 2014, p180)

12.7.2 The hinterland settlement and mortuary landscape of both 'large' and 'small' towns require further research. Examples with hinterlands relatively untouched by modern development offer major opportunities for research. (Hey & Hind 2014, p181).

## **4 METHODS**

### **4.1 Introduction**

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methods set out within the WSI (CgMs Heritage 2018) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in ClfA guidance (ClfA 2014a). The methods employed are summarised below.

4.1.2 The areas were given letter identifiers A to F. The larger area of A was further subdivided into Ai, referring to the main excavation area, and Aii, a smaller trench running north-west to south-east, dug for the installation of a rising water main through the preservation *in situ* area.

### **4.2 Fieldwork methods**

#### *General*

4.2.1 The excavation areas were set out using a Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet, in the same positions as proposed in the WSI (**Fig.1**). The topsoil/overburden was removed in level spits using a 360° excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under the constant supervision and instruction of the monitoring archaeologist. Machine excavation proceeded in level spits until the archaeological horizon or the natural geology was exposed.

4.2.2 Where necessary, the surface of archaeological deposits was cleaned by hand to aid visual definition. A sample of archaeological features and deposits identified was hand-excavated, sufficient to address the aims of the excavation. A sample of natural features such as tree-throw holes were also investigated.

4.2.3 Spoil derived from both machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological features was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. A metal detector was also used. Where found, artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained, although those from features of modern date (19th century or later) were recorded on site and discarded.

#### *Recording*

4.2.4 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's digital *pro forma* recording system, with context sheets and other records completed using handheld tablets. A complete drawn record of excavated features and deposits was made including both plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 or 1:50 for



plans and 1:10 for sections) tied into the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD: Newlyn) heights of all principal features were calculated, and levels added to plans and section drawings.

- 4.2.5 The Leica GNSS surveyed the location of archaeological features. All survey data was recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and heights above OD (Newlyn), as defined by OSGM15 and OSTN15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of at least 50 mm.
- 4.2.6 A full photographic record was made using both black and white film and digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. Digital images have been subjected to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

### **4.3 Artefactual and environmental strategies**

#### *General*

- 4.3.1 Appropriate strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of artefacts and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (CgMs Heritage 2018). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b) and *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011).

#### *Human remains*

- 4.3.2 The human remains were removed under the terms of a Licence for the Removal of Human Remains held by Wessex Archaeology (Ref: 18-0180 dated 17 July 2018). The excavation and post-excavation assessment of human remains was in accordance with Wessex Archaeology protocols, and undertaken in-line with current guidance documents (eg, McKinley 2013) and the standards set out in ClfA Technical Paper 13 (McKinley and Roberts 1993).

### **4.4 Monitoring**

- 4.4.1 Nick Crank, Senior Archaeological Officer for Milton Keynes Council, on behalf of the LPA, monitored the excavation. Any variations to the WSI, if required to better address the project aims, were agreed in advance with both the client and the Senior Archaeological Officer.

## **5 STRATIGRAPHIC RESULTS**

### **5.1 Introduction**

#### *Summary of archaeological features and deposits*

- 5.1.1 Table 1 provides a summary of the results of the excavation areas (Fig. 1 and 2).

**Table 1** Summary of excavation areas

Excavation Area	Hectares	Contexts	Period	Summary of remains
Ai	1.8	374	LIA/ERB	Droeways, enclosure system, gullies, pits, Cremation graves & cremation-related deposits
Aii		9	LIA/ERB	Field boundaries
B	0.05	5	?	Redeposited pyre debris
C	0.17	27	?	Cremation grave & cremation-related deposits, pits, field boundary
D	0.7	124	E/mid Saxon	Cremation graves & cremation-related deposits
E	0.15	19	?	Cremation-related deposits
F	0.08	4	-	None
Totals	2.95	562	-	-

*Methods of stratigraphic assessment and quantity of data*

- 5.1.2 All hand written and drawn records from the excavation have been collated and checked for consistency and stratigraphic relationships. Key data have been transcribed into an Access database for assessment, which can be updated during any further analysis. The excavation has been preliminary phased using stratigraphic relationships and the spot dating from artefacts, particularly pottery.
- 5.1.3 Table 2 (below) provides a quantification of the records from the excavation.

**Table 2** Quantification of excavation records

Type	Quantity
Context records	562
Context registers	22
Graphics (A4 and A3)	178
Graphics (A1)	-
Graphics registers	13
Environmental sample registers	21
Object registers	3
Digital photographs	Approx. 2175

**5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits**

- 5.2.1 The soil sequence is discussed in detail on an area-by-area basis below. For the most part the soil sequence was relatively consistent across site. The observable deviations from the norm consisted of colluvial deposits and differences in geology adjacent to the river. The fields containing the six mitigation areas all supported arable crop until recently and were scrubland immediately prior to excavation.

**5.3 Area Ai**

*Introduction*

- 5.3.1 Area Ai was the largest of the excavation areas (Fig. 3 and 4, PI. 1). It was of irregular shape and occupied approximately 1.8 ha centred on NGR SP 88839 33289. Beyond the area in all directions bar south, the land was designated preservation *in situ* due to the



high concentration of archaeology associated with *Magiovinium*. The ground level is relatively flat averaging 69 m OD.

- 5.3.2 The archaeological potential of Area A was first signalled by the geophysical survey, which detected the presence of a trackway or road running north–south through the land south of *Magiovinium* (Fig. 2). It also identified a number of ditches and pits to the east and west of the trackway. These anomalies were targeted by MOLA evaluation trenches 1 to 4 and Cotswold Archaeology (CA) evaluation trenches 2, 3, 70, 83, 84, 85, 90 and 91. Positive results were identified in MOLA trench 3 and all CA trenches except trench 90 (MOLA 2016; CA 2017).
- 5.3.3 The excavation area was stripped to the archaeological horizon during August 2018. For health and safety purposes, two small areas remained unexcavated: a square buffer around an 11KV HV overhead support post in the north of site and, in the west, a smaller buffer around a standpipe.
- 5.3.4 Most of the pottery assemblages from Area A span the 1st century BC and 1st century AD. In groups where more ‘Romanised’ fabrics are present, a post-conquest date can be assigned with more confidence. Diagnostic material post-dating the 1st century AD is very rare, however, and it seems most of the pottery groups from Area A do not date beyond AD 70/80.
- 5.3.5 Stratigraphic analysis has been limited by the lack of intercutting between the features. As such the features are grouped and discussed by type in subheadings below.

#### *General soil sequence*

- 5.3.6 The natural geology was not consistent across the whole area. An orangey brown sandy clay with gravel patches predominated. In the south-west part of the site the natural became paler and increasingly sandier and resembled the geology in Area C. There was also a band of darker, very gravelly natural running vaguely east–west across the northern part of the site; this appeared to follow a natural spring line. The overlying deposits were consistent across the site. The subsoil was a yellowish brown silty clay loam and the topsoil was greyish brown silty clay loam.

#### *Droeway*

- 5.3.7 The geophysical survey initially identified a series of anomalies interpreted as a road or droeway running broadly north–south. Their presence was confirmed by the evaluation trenching.
- 5.3.8 Stripping established that Area Ai was bisected north–south by the droeway (6400/6401), which was over 140 m long (it extended beyond the limits of excavation) with constituent ditches set approximately 25 m apart. Upon discussion with the consultant and monitoring archaeologist, it was agreed that the ditches would be sampled at approximately 20 m intervals, where there were relationships to establish, and targeting any obvious surface finds.
- 5.3.9 Slots in the westernmost ditch (6400) characterised it as having a flared ‘U’-shaped profile (Fig. 8A). It was wider towards the south of the area (between 2.5 and 3.0 m) and narrowest to the north at 1.1 m wide; the depth remained consistent between 0.4 and 0.6 m. The fills were characterised as orangey brown sandy clay and silts and the majority of slots produced pottery.

- 5.3.10 The easternmost ditch (6401) was slightly smaller. Its width averaged between 0.9 and 1.1 m with a depth of between 0.32 and 0.43 m (Fig. 8C; Pl. 2). Its fills were predominantly of yellowish-grey clay. There was a lower level of pottery recovery from this ditch in contrast to its western counterpart.
- 5.3.11 At its southernmost extent, shortly before passing beyond the limits of excavation, the droveway appeared to flare out. Both the geophysical survey data and evaluation trenching had suggested that the droveway ditches diverged south of this point and followed two different alignments. The different trajectories were noted in trenches 9 and 10 and in several trenches further south.
- 5.3.12 A second droveway was exposed, this (6402/6403) followed an east–west alignment. This was only vaguely indicated by the geophysical survey. The droveway’s ditches formed a bell-shaped opening approximately 37 m wide where they met the north to south droveway and contracted to approximately 20 m apart before they passed beyond the limit of excavation to the east. An extensive but diffuse deposit of disturbed natural substrate lay within the second droveway, and is assumed to represent trample from its use. At the point where the two droveways intersected, no relationship could be discerned, with the two elements appearing contemporary.
- 5.3.13 The more northerly of the east–west droveway’s ditches, 6402, had an average width of between 1.15 and 1.9 m and a depth of 0.26 to 0.52 m (Fig. 8D; Pl. 3). It had fills of predominantly yellow or orangey sandy silts or clays; multiple slots produced pottery and animal bone.
- 5.3.14 The southern side of the droveway, 6403 had a consistent recut, the later ditch being the more northern and slightly smaller of the two (Fig. 8B). The earlier ditch averaged between 1.1 and 1.4 m in width and 0.3 and 0.5 m in depth whilst the later ditch had an average width of 0.8 m and depth of 0.2 to 0.3 m.

#### *Disturbed area*

- 5.3.15 A large strip of mixed brown and grey silty clay crossed the northern part of the site on an east–west alignment. It was not visible on the geophysical survey and obscured many of the earlier ditches and features, including the north–south droveway that crossed it at the western extent. It continued beyond the limit of excavation in both directions and was patchier in the east and more substantial in the west. It had an average width of 12.5 m.
- 5.3.16 Large test slots were excavated through the deposits in three places, as agreed with the consultant and the monitoring archaeologist. The deposits were generally shallow and of geological origin in the east, becoming deeper in the western part of the site. A probable single large ditch (6189=6372: up to 4 m wide and 1 m deep) ran through the two westernmost slots (Fig. 8E). The remainder of the deposit did not appear to be of clear archaeological origin, rather it suggested that the area was formed by a combination of water and livestock. Human activity was apparent in the form of the use of large cobblestones to consolidate the edges of the area, and the presence of pottery sherds and metal finds.

#### *Enclosure system*

- 5.3.17 The geophysical survey identified a series of ditches in the western part of Area A, with some subsequently identified within the evaluation trenches. Following topsoil stripping at the mitigation stage, it was apparent that the ditches were more extensive than the geophysical survey had suggested.



- 5.3.18 The enclosures formed a co-axial grid; two ditches ran on a north-north-east to south-south-west alignment (6042=6227 and 6404), with boundaries set at 90 degrees dividing the intervening strip into individual plots of land measuring approximately 33 x 18 m (c. 600m<sup>2</sup>). The north-south ditches averaged 1.4–1.7 m in width and 0.33 m in depth (Fig. 8F; Pl. 4). The east-west ditches were generally smaller with widths of between 0.52 and 1.5 m and 0.11–0.33 m in depth (Fig. 8G). The fills comprised mainly yellowish grey or brown sandy clay; pottery sherds were recovered from the majority of the slots.
- 5.3.19 Three spurs from the enclosure system continued towards ditch 6400, which defined the western side of the north-south driveway. A further spur ran eastward from the driveway towards the enclosure system at the point where the driveway flared and split.
- 5.3.20 Relationship slots were positioned to investigate the intersections of the enclosure ditches. They proved inconclusive and delivered mixed results, which could itself indicate that the ditches were maintained and recut as necessary.
- 5.3.21 The environmental remains from the sampled ditches appear generally uninformative and there are high numbers of roots and variable numbers of modern seeds, which indicates some stratigraphic movement and the high possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements.

*Cremation graves and other cremation-related features*

- 5.3.22 A total of five cremation graves and a further five features containing cremation-related deposits were identified within Area Ai. Information relating to these features is tabulated below (Table 3). Some of the features formed loose groupings.
- 5.3.23 Three were located within the ladder enclosure system in the western part of Area Ai (6298, 6321, 6362). Of these three, 6362 contained an urned burial (Fig. 9H). This grouping was sited east of the single cremation grave excavated in MOLA's trench 3.
- 5.3.24 Three of the graves form a vaguely linear pattern within the driveway (6013, 6021, 6239); the relative chronology of the graves and the driveway remains unclear.
- 5.3.25 The remaining features form isolated examples dotted across site. A single grave, 6041, was located at the internal angle where the east-west and north-south driveways met. This grave was highly truncated with no true 'cut' remaining, but cremated human bone was found in association with three forms of pottery, including decorated samian, thought to be grave goods. The group of vessels from this grave is particularly significant, as decorated samian vessels are rarely found in funerary contexts (see below). Cremation-related deposits were found contained within small scoops (6265 and 6323) in disturbed ground in the northern part of the site; one of these also contained two sherds of grog-tempered Late Iron Age or Early Roman pottery. Redeposited pyre debris (a single tibia shaft fragment) was also recovered from a large pit within the area of trample, 30 m to the east of scoop 6265.
- 5.3.26 The flots from the cremation-related features contain wood charcoal and the remains of cereals and wild plants, but in generally minor amounts, although that from grave 6239 (Pl. 6) merits further analysis (see below).



**Table 3** Summary of Area A cremation-related features

Context	Cut	Deposit type	Dimensions	Shape in plan	Fill	Findings
6012	6013	Unurned burial	0.44 x 0.45 x 0.10	Subcircular	blackish grey silty clay	-
6020	6021	Unurned burial	0.47 x 0.55 x 0.13	Subcircular	brownish grey silty clay	Fe Objects (nails)
6240	6239	Unurned burial	0.60 x 0.50 x 0.02	Incomplete	-	Fe object (nail)
6041	-	?in situ unurned burial	0.32 x 0.32 x 0.21	Circular	Dark brownish grey silty clay	Pottery inc. imitation Terra Nigra
6081	6079	Redeposited pyre debris	2.22 x 0.8 x 0.48	Subcircular	Greyish brown sandy silt	-
6266	6265	Cremation-related deposit	0.32 x 0.38 x 0.05	Subcircular	Brownish grey sandy silt	-
6299	6298	? Redeposited pyre debris	0.63 x 0.42 x 0.13	Suboval	Brownish grey sandy silt	-
6322	6321	? Redeposited pyre debris	0.44 x 0.31 x 0.06	Suboval	Greyish brown sandy clay	-
6324	6323	Cremation-related deposit	0.32 x 0.32 x 0.07	Subcircular	Greyish brown sandy clay	Fe Objects (nails) and pottery
6363	6362	Urned burial	0.2 x 0.22 x 0.05	Subcircular	Greyish brown sandy clay	Pottery (cremation urn)

### *Pits*

- 5.3.27 There was a number of discrete features within Area Ai. For the most part, they formed groups with a commonality of form and probable function.
- 5.3.28 Within the co-axial fields, there was a series of pits of similar form and shape. All were subcircular or oval with straight sides and flat bases and were filled with a yellowish-brown silty sand. They varied in size, with the smallest having a diameter of 0.35 m and a depth of 0.18 m and the largest 1.29 m by 1.15 m and 0.97 m deep (Pl. 7). Few finds were recovered from these features, with the assemblage mostly comprising grog-tempered Iron Age/Romano-British pottery, with lesser amounts of Romanised wares, along with a handful of struck flints and a few animal teeth.
- 5.3.29 Unlike the pits discussed above, pit 6147 in the north-east corner of one of the enclosures was fairly finds-rich, containing as it did nearly 3.8 kg of Late Iron Age/Romano-British grog-tempered pottery.
- 5.3.30 A number of pits were identified within CA trench 5. The mitigation area revealed that these continued northwards along the western boundary of the excavation area where the geophysical survey suggests they continue into the preservation *in situ* area. The pits



were of irregular shape, frequently intercut and produced low levels of pottery (c. 0.5 kg total, mostly Late Iron Age or Roman grog-tempered wares, with a small amount of fully Romanised material). They varied from 0.28 m to 2.0 m across, with depths up to 0.4 m. The fills were uniform greyish-brown sandy silts with gravel.

- 5.3.31 An isolated pair of pits, 6329 and 6332, was dug into the central area where the droveways met. The larger of the pair measured 1.82 m by 0.74 m with a depth 0.34 m and the smaller 1.11 m by 0.60 m and 0.19 m deep. The fills were blackish grey silty clays; the larger pit produced large amounts (almost 2 kg) of pot of early Roman date.
- 5.3.32 There was a single large pit (6267: 3.10 x 2.70 x 1.04 m) in the eastern part of Area Ai. The pit had a large number of fills, a mix of brown sands and clay linings and produced animal bone and grog-tempered pottery of Late Iron Age or early Romano-British date.

#### *Gullies*

- 5.3.33 A number of gullies was identified on site. One north–south example (6167=6171) was cut by the east–west droveway, but did not extend beyond it. Just to the south-west, the western terminal of east–west gully 6022=6039 respected the north–south droveway. Broad contemporaneity with the wider field system is therefore indicated, for these features at least.

#### *Modern feature*

- 5.3.34 A ‘U’-shaped ditch (6237=6185) ran east–west for 150 m across the northern part of the area. The ditch was visible just under the topsoil and in section clearly cuts the subsoil. It is believed to be a relatively modern field boundary.

## **5.4 Area Aii**

### *Introduction*

- 5.4.1 Where it joined Area Ai, Area Aii formed a rectangle of 15 m by 10 m, with a 2 m-wide trench running to the north-west through the preservation *in situ* area. Area Aii was dug to allow the installation of a rising main corridor and pumping station related to the development. The ground level was relatively flat and averaged 69 m OD (Figures 1–3).
- 5.4.2 The only evaluation trenches relevant to the area were CA trenches 4 and 104; neither contained features that related to what was found in Area Aii.

### *General soil sequence*

- 5.4.3 The natural geological substrate presented as an orangey brown silty clay similar to that within Area Ai. This become increasingly clayey as it neared the River Ouzel. The subsoil was a yellowish-brown silty clay loam and the topsoil was greyish-brown silty clay loam.

### *Ditches*

- 5.4.4 Only two features, both ditches, were identified within Area Aii. An isolated ditch with a brownish-grey silty-sand fill (6108: 3.6 x 1.2 x 0.19 m) in the eastern half of the area may have represented a northern ‘rung’ of the enclosure system in the western part of Area Ai. The other ditch (6099 2+ x 1.2 x 0.45 m) ran parallel and immediately adjacent to the current field boundary. This undated feature has not been illustrated, but was located approximately 50 m along Area Aii from ditch 6108.





## 5.5 Area B

### *Introduction*

- 5.5.1 Area B formed an irregular-shaped area of 0.05 ha centred on NGR SP 88974 33244. The smallest of the excavation areas, it was positioned east of Area A and immediately south-east of the historic pond located at the meeting of field boundaries. The ground level was relatively flat and averaged 72 m OD (Fig. 2 and 5).
- 5.5.2 The area was positioned to further investigate the single feature containing cremated bone identified in CA evaluation trench 69, and to prospect for further remains.
- 5.5.3 The excavation was stripped to the archaeological horizon during August 2018. CA trench 69 and the cremation-related feature within it were successfully identified but no further archaeological remains were observed within the excavation limits.
- 5.5.4 The feature, 5003, was found to contain redeposited pyre debris rather than a cremation burial. It was suboval in plan, measured 0.5 m by 0.3 m, with a depth of 0.17 m. The fill was a dark brown silty sand. Charcoal flecks were found throughout the deposit, however there was only a small amount of cremated bone and it was limited to the centre of the northern quadrants. There was no trace of either grave goods or a funerary vessel.

## 5.6 Area C

### *Introduction*

- 5.6.1 Area C was the westernmost of the excavation areas and so was the closest to the River Ouzel. It formed an irregularly shaped parcel of land of 0.17 ha centred on NGR SP 88673 33202. The ground level was relatively flat and averaged 67 m OD (Fig 2 and 5).
- 5.6.2 The excavation area was positioned to further investigate the unexcavated cremation-related features identified by CA trenches 8 and 101. The excavation was stripped to the archaeological horizon during August 2018. CA trenches 8 and 101, and the unexcavated cremation-related features within, were successfully identified along with a number of pits and a field boundary.

### *General soil sequence*

- 5.6.3 The natural geology was an orangey-brown sand. The overlying subsoil was a light-orangish brown sandy-silt whilst the topsoil was a greyish-brown sandy-silt loam. The stratigraphy in this area varied from the majority of the site and there was some initial difficulty in identifying the archaeological horizon which resulted in the over machining of cremation 4011. The level was immediately rectified and the remaining features were exposed intact.

### *Cremation-related features*

- 5.6.4 Three cremation-related features were excavated within Area C. The northernmost, 4011, measured 0.62 m in length, 0.12 m in width and 0.2 m in depth.
- 5.6.5 Two further cremation-related features, 4007 and 4009, were identified in the southern part of Area C; both had been previously identified within CA trench 101. Both were subcircular in shape and contained iron nails. The northernmost of the two, 4009 (0.45 x 0.42 x 0.07 m; Pl. 8), contained an unurned burial; feature 4007 (0.47 x 0.39 x 0.17 m; Fig. 9I) contained probable redeposited pyre debris.



### *Ditch*

- 5.6.6 A single ditch, 4005=4017, ran north-east to south-west through Area C. It exceeded 25 m in length and continued beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. The ditch measured approximately 1.0 m in width and between 0.22 and 0.26 m in depth (Pl. 9). The fill was a greyish-brown sandy-clay loam. One slot produced grog-tempered pottery of Romano-British date.

### *Pits*

- 5.6.7 The remaining features located within Area C included pits and natural anomalies. The pits were sub-oval or irregular in shape, between 1.0 m and 1.6 m in length; all were artefactually sterile apart from pit 4019 (which contained a struck flint flake), although some contained charcoal-rich fills (see pit 4021, Pl. 10).
- 5.6.8 Four features of the excavated features appeared to be of natural origin.

## **5.7 Area D**

### *Introduction*

- 5.7.1 Area D was roughly rectangular in plan; it occupied some 0.7 ha centred on NGR SP 89069 33098. The area targeted CA trench 39, which contained a single unexcavated cremation-related feature. Area D straddled the east-west ridge that crossed the site's centre, its ground surface descended gently to the south, from around 76 m OD in the north to around 75 m OD in the south (Fig. 2 and 6; Pl. 11).
- 5.7.2 Area D was stripped of overburden in August 2018 and the unexcavated cremation-related feature identified. A number of cremation burials, both urned and unurned, and further cremation-related features, were also identified. Area D underwent a number of further extensions until an archaeologically blank buffer of 15 m around the cremation burials was achieved in all directions.
- 5.7.3 Apart from a small group of sherds recovered from the subsoil or unstratified contexts, all of the pottery from Area D derived from cremation graves, and the assemblage appears to be early/middle Saxon in date.

### *General soil sequence*

- 5.7.4 The natural substrate was an orangey-brown silty sand with patches of coarse gravel. The natural was overlain by an orangey-brown silty sand loam subsoil. This varied in depth across the site being almost absent on the south-east slopes of the ridge and reaching a maximum depth of 0.10 m in the north-east. The topsoil was a greyish-brown silty clay loam common across the site. The combined shallow nature of topsoil and subsoil and regular ploughing of the field had led to poor preservation and, in places, complete truncation, of the burial remains.

### *Cremation graves and cremation-related features*

- 5.7.5 A total of 53 features containing cremated bone were excavated (Pl. 12–14). The details of these are tabulated below (Table 4).
- 5.7.6 At least 22 of the cremation burials were made within urns. The unurned burials and other cremation-related features were concentrated along the eastern and northern boundaries. A further six isolated pot fragments were recorded as small finds due to the similarity of the fabric to that of the funerary urns. This suggests that these small finds could represent heavily truncated or lost urned burials.



5.7.7 It seems likely the graves were marked in some capacity as despite some clustering none of the graves intercut one another. They also maintain a vaguely linear 'edge' to the north and east suggesting that they may have respected a field boundary or other landscape delineation of some description.

5.7.8 The flots from the cremation-related samples are generally small and comprise charcoal and the charred remains of cereals and wild plants.

**Table 4** Summary of cremation graves and cremation-related features in Area D

Cut	Deposit	Deposit type	Dims	Shape	Fill
3003	3004	?urned burial	0.24 x 0.21 x 0.05	Circular	Greyish brown sandy soil
3006	3005	?urned burial	0.42 x 0.50 x 0.14	Subcircular	Brownish grey sandy silt
3007	3008	urned burial	0.35 x 0.31 x 0.05	Subcircular	Brownish grey silty sand
3009	3010	urned burial	0.24 x 0.20 x 0.09	Subcircular	Greyish brown silty sand
3012	3011	crd inc. fuel ash	0.35 x 0.32 x 0.15	Subcircular	Greyish brown silty sand
3013	3014	?un. burial inc. rpd	0.24 x 0.21 x 0.09	Subcircular	Greyish brown silty sand
3016	3015	crd	0.32 x 0.25 x 0.05	Subcircular	Greyish brown silty sand
3017	3018	?R – urned burial	0.35 x 0.26 x 0.03	Subcircular	Greyish brown silty sand
3020	3019	?R – urned burial	0.18 x 0.15 x 0.04	Subcircular	Brownish grey sandy silt
3021	3022	crd	0.26 x 0.22 x 0.03	Subcircular	Greyish brown silty sand
3025	3026	?R – crd with vessel	0.19 x 0.20 x 0.03	Circular	Reddish brown silty sand
3027	3028	urned burial	0.21 x 0.18 x 0.03	Subcircular	Reddish brown silty sand
3030	3029*	un. burial + rpd	0.54 x 0.55 x 0.09	Subcircular	Brownish grey silty sand
3031	3032	crd inc. fuel ash	0.23 x 0.19 x 0.05	Subcircular	Reddish brown silty sand
3034	3033	burial – ?unurned	0.25 x 0.23 x 0.05	Subcircular	Mid greyish brown sandy silt
3035	3036	?R – ?urned burial	0.18 x 0.17 x 0.03	Subcircular	Reddish brown silty sand
3038	3037	urned burial	0.26 x 0.18 x 0.04	Subcircular	Greyish brown silty sand
	3041	R crd	0.12 x 0.15 x 0.02	Incomplete	Greyish brown silty sand
	3042	R crd inc. rpd	0.18 x 0.18 x 0.02	Incomplete	Greyish brown silty sand
3044	3043	urned burial	0.38 x 0.25 x 0.04	Subcircular	Brownish grey silty sand
3046	3045	crd – ?rpd	0.47 x 0.52 x 0.09	Subcircular	Brownish grey silty sand
3061	3062	R crd inc. ceramics	0.20 x 0.20 x 0.02	Incomplete	Brownish grey silty sand
3064	3063	?R – urned burial + rpd	0.46 x 0.39 x 0.07	Subcircular	Brownish grey silty sand
3066	3065*	un. burial + rpd	0.65 x 0.42 x 0.17	Subcircular	Brownish grey silty sand
3068	3067	urned burial	0.29 x 0.25 x 0.07	Subcircular	Brownish grey silty sand
3070	3069	R – ?urned burial	0.25 x 0.25 x 0.3	Subcircular	Brownish grey silty sand
3072	3071	?R – urned burial	0.22 x 0.20 x 0.05	Subcircular	Brownish grey silty sand
3074	3073*	urned burial	0.25 x 0.25 x 0.12	Subcircular	Brownish grey silty sand
3075	3076*	urned burial	0.23 x 0.2 x 0.14	Subcircular	Brown silty sand
3078	3077	R crd	0.15 x 0.2 x 0.03	Incomplete	Brownish grey silty sand
3080	3079	urned burial	0.07 x 0.16 x 0.03	Subcircular	Brownish grey silty sand
3081	3082	urned burial	0.21 x 0.23 x 0.03	Circular	Brown silty sand
3083	3084	urned burial	0.21 x 0.18 x 0.01	Subcircular	Brown silty sand
3086	3085	urned burial	0.24 x 0.25 x 0.02	Subcircular	Greyish brown sandy silt
3087	3088	urned burial	0.16 x 0.19 x 0.04	Circular	Blackish grey sand
3089	3090	urned burial	0.14 x 0.11 x 0.02	Subcircular	Brown silty sand
3092	3091	urned burial	0.24 x 0.20 x 0.06	Subcircular	Brownish grey silty sand
3093	3094	?R – urned burial	0.40 x 0.24 x 0.07	Oval	Brown silty sand
3095	3096	urned burial	0.17 x 0.17 x 0.06	Circular	Brown silty sand



Cut	Deposit	Deposit type	Dims	Shape	Fill
3097	3098*	urned burial	0.20 x 0.20 x 0.15	Circular	Blackish grey sand
3100	3099	crd	0.18 x 0.16 x 0.01	Subcircular	Brown silty sand
	3101	crd	0.10 x 0.16 x 0.01	Incomplete	Brown silty sand
3104	3105	urned burial	0.18 x 0.15 x 0.02	Subcircular	Brown silty sand
3106	3107	?memento mori – ?urned	0.27 x 0.25 x 0.10	Circular	Yellowish brown silty sand
3108	3109	urned burial	0.20 x 0.17 x 0.05	Suboval	Greyish brown sandy silt
3110	3111	urned burial	0.27 x 0.27 x 0.07	Circular	Greyish brown sand
	3112	R crd	0.20 x 0.20 x 0.01	Incomplete	Greyish brown sandy silt
	3113	R crd	0.40 x 0.40 x 0.04	Incomplete	Brown sandy silt
3114	3115	crd/?un. burial + rpd	0.40 x 0.40 x 0.10	Subcircular	Greyish brown sandy silt
3116	3117	urned burial	0.31 x 0.28 x 0.04	Subcircular	Brown silty sand
3119	3118	crd	0.80 x 0.40 x 0.02	Incomplete	Greyish brown silty sand
3122	3123	crd	0.33 x 0.33 x 0.03	Circular	Grey brown sand
3125	3124*	urned burial	0.25 x 0.2 x 0.12	Subcircular	Brownish grey silty sand

KEY: R – redeposited; rpd – redeposited pyre debris; crd – non-specific cremation-related deposit

### *Postholes*

- 5.7.9 A group of four postholes, 3060, was excavated in the northern portion of the original excavation area (Fig. 6; Pl. 15). No finds were recovered from any of the postholes. Each contained brownish-grey silty sand and small quantities of charcoal. The postholes ranged from 0.22 to 0.39 m in length, 0.23 to 0.38 m in width and between 0.09 and 0.16 m in depth. Their similarity in form and position suggests they formed a four-post structure with sides c. 1.5 m long. The purpose of the proposed structure is unclear, but it may conceivably have been related to the former funerary usage of the land hereabouts. It has been suggested that the four-post structures occasionally seen on Anglo-Saxon cemeteries in southern England were used as 'houses' for above-ground cremation 'graves' (J McKinley, pers. comm.).

### *Pits*

- 5.7.10 The only other features excavated within Area D were two discrete pits. One, 3049, was located in the north of the area and the other, 3048, lay in the central portion. They were slightly dissimilar in form and neither produced any finds or dating material.

## **5.8 Area E**

### *Introduction*

- 5.8.1 Area E was rectangular in shape (0.15 ha; NGR SP 89226 33162). It lay in the north-east corner of the site immediately south of the scheduled monument. The ground level was relatively flat, and lay at around 76 m OD.
- 5.8.2 Area E targeted CA trenches 22 and 23, which contained one and two unexcavated cremation-related features respectively. Area E was stripped of overburden in July 2018 when the trenches and two of the features were identified; the third could not be seen. Features identified in addition to the expected cremation-related features included a further deposit of burnt bone and a number of small pits (Fig. 2 and 7).



### General soil sequence

- 5.8.3 The natural geology consisted of orangey-brown sandy clay overlain by a subsoil of yellowish-brown sandy-clay. The topsoil, greyish-brown silty clay loam, was consistent across the site.

### Cremation-related features

- 5.8.4 Three cremation-related features were identified and excavated in Area E. The most northerly, 2005, initially identified within CA trench 23, was subcircular in shape, 0.21 m by 0.19 and 0.05 m deep.
- 5.8.5 The feature first identified in trench 22 proved to be a possible unurned burial (2017: 0.32 x 0.28 x 0.05 deep; Fig. 9L). The feature was subcircular and contained a group of approximately 81 hobnails plus miscellaneous iron fragments (undated but assumed to be Romano-British). It was slightly larger than the other two in this area.
- 5.8.6 A third and previously unknown cremation-related feature (2003: 0.23 x 0.22 x 0.06 m deep) was identified in the southern part of the excavation area (Pl. 16).

### Pits

- 5.8.7 A series of small pits was excavated across the area. The details of these are tabulated below (Table 5, Pl. 17). All contained charcoal-rich fills with no finds. They have no direct stratigraphic relationship to the other features but were all located within approximately 10 m of one of the three cremation-related features.

**Table 5** Area E pits

Cut	Dimensions L x W x D (m)	Shape	Fill	Environmental
2007	0.44 x 0.37 x 0.09	Irregular	Brownish grey silty clay loam	Charcoal
2009	0.27 x 0.25 x 0.16	Subcircular	Brownish grey silty clay loam	Charcoal
2011	0.68 x 0.52 x 0.12	Irregular	Greyish brown silty clay loam	Charcoal
2013	0.45 x 0.37 x 0.11	Irregular	Greyish brown silty clay loam	Charcoal
2015	0.37 x 0.25 x 0.11	Subcircular	Brownish grey silty clay loam	Charcoal

## 5.9 Area F

- 5.9.1 Area F occupied a triangular area of 0.08 ha in the south-east corner of the site (NGR SP 89215 33002). The ground level was relatively flat and averaged 77 m OD.
- 5.9.2 The area targeted the features identified in CA trench 16, (three ditches and a pit/ditch terminal). Of these, ditch 1603 was aligned east–west and contained Roman pottery.
- 5.9.3 The area was stripped of overburden during July 2018 although the features identified during the evaluation could not be located. Inspection by the senior archaeological officer and the consultant confirmed no need for further work within the area.

## 6 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

### 6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 This section discusses the finds recovered from the site. The assemblage is of moderate size and includes two broadly defined groups of material: Late Iron Age/early Romano-British settlement debris (largely pottery), with a small number of cremation graves which



are less confidently attributed to this period; and a smaller group of material from a cremation cemetery of Anglo-Saxon date (cremated human remains, pottery and other artefacts).

- 6.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and these data form part of the project archive. A breakdown of the assemblage by material type and by site subdivision is given in Table 6.
- 6.1.3 This section provides a brief overview of the finds assemblage, characterising it in terms of nature, date range, quantity and condition. On this evidence is based the statement of potential for the assemblage and recommendations for further analysis (see below).



**Table 6** Finds by material type (number of pieces/weight in grammes)

Material Type	Area A	Area B	Area C	Area D	Area E	Unstratified	Total
Pottery	3066/28,067	-	13/49	1538/11,700	-	-	4617/39,816
<i>Prehistoric</i>	1/7	-	-	-	-	-	1/7
<i>LIA/Roman</i>	3064/28,055	-	12/32	102/421	-	-	3178/28,508
<i>Saxon</i>	-	-	-	1436/11,279	-	-	1436/11,279
<i>Post-med/modern</i>	1/5	-	1/17	-	-	-	2/22
CBM	19/446	-	-	-	-	-	19/446
Flint	21/130	-	11/98	1/19	1/1	-	34/248
Glass	1/1	-	-	41/38	-	-	42/39
Metalwork	114	1	102	673	89	2	982
<i>Coins</i>	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
<i>Copper alloy</i>	6	-	-	1	-	2	9
<i>Lead</i>	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
<i>Iron</i>	98	1	102	672	89	-	962
Slag	10/776	-	1/34	-	-	-	11/810
Wood	21	-	-	-	-	-	21
Human Bone (wt)	1162 g	6 g	260 g	7731 g	106 g	-	9265 g
Animal Bone	345/1636	-	-	-	-	-	345/1636

## 6.2 Pottery

### *Introduction*

- 6.2.1 The pottery assemblage amounts to 4617 sherds, weighing 39,816 g. This ranges in date from Late Iron Age/Romano-British to post-medieval/modern, but the main chronological focus is on the Late Iron Age/Romano-British period, with a smaller Saxon group. The Saxon material derived entirely from cremation graves in Area D (mainly occurring as accessory vessels with unurned burials), while the Late Iron Age/Romano-British material was concentrated in Area A and was recovered mainly from ditches and pits, with a small amount from cremation graves (both urned and unurned). A very small quantity came from Area C.
- 6.2.2 The assemblage has been assessed following recommended standards for pottery recording, with the aim of providing preliminary quantifications and of characterising the assemblage in terms of date range, ware types, diagnostic forms and condition (Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group 2016, section 2.3). Table 7 presents the overall quantification broken down by period and by site subdivision.

### *Late Iron Age/Romano-British*

- 6.2.3 The Late Iron Age/Romano-British sherds are the main component (69% by sherd count) of the ceramic assemblage and were primarily retrieved from Area A. Pottery of this period was found in 73 features (mostly ditches and pits), of which 30 contained greater than 25 sherds. The assemblage is dominated by grog-tempered fabrics (86% of Late Iron Age/Romano-British sherd count), with the remainder mainly small quantities of further coarsewares (Table 7). Among these latter fabrics Romanised greyware and oxidised wares are the most common (combined total 8% of LIA/RB sherds). An exception to this is a vesicular fabric (3% of LIA/RB sherds), from a single cremation urn (3009), which may have contained shell temper but has been completely leached. These fabrics are all likely to be local products and evidence of ceramics traded from outside the immediate region is sparse. Imports are represented by small quantities of samian (15 sherds), which aside from one tiny sherd, are all from South Gaulish production centres dating to the mid to late 1st century AD. A CAM 8/24 platter (Symonds and Wade 1999, 468) from burial 6041 is currently identified as Imitation Terra Nigra but needs examination by a Gallo-Belgic specialist to confirm if the vessel is Romano-British rather than imported.
- 6.2.4 The high fragmentation (9 g mean sherd weight) of the Late Iron Age/Romano-British assemblage means there is a distinct lack of complete or even partial profiles for the forms. Many fragments are broken at or above the shoulder junction and only a generic identification can be attributed to the form (ie, everted rim jar or bowl). Among the grog-tempered wares, jars (mostly storage and lid-seated types) and platters predominate. The strong presence of lid-seated jars is particularly consistent with the Buckinghamshire region (Marney 1989, 11; Thompson 1982, 245) and the type also occurs among the shell-tempered fabrics. Additional forms include a carinated cup, plain rounded bowls, squat bowls, and two beakers. One of the beakers (pit 6267), a well-preserved and highly decorated example of a girth beaker, is very similar to another example from Bletchley (Thompson 1982, 505, no 13). Diagnostic sherds among the other coarsewares are sparse and limited to mainly jar/bowl rim fragments. The exceptions to this are small sections of cordoned jar/bowls and a butt beaker (pit 6329) and a ring-neck flagon (topsoil 6000).
- 6.2.5 Most contexts have been given a wide date range of either Late Iron Age or early Roman, as the fabrics and forms span the 1st century BC and 1st century AD. In groups where more 'Romanised' fabrics (ie, greywares and oxidised wares) are present, a post-





conquest date can be assigned with more confidence. One group of exceptional importance is grave 6041, which contained sherds from six or possibly seven vessels including CAM 8/24 and CAM 7/8 platters (Symonds and Wade 1999, 468; Thompson 1982, 459), a CAM 56 cup (Thompson 1982, 493) and the base of a Dragendorff form 29 samian bowl. The samian bowl is a Montans product with an internal stamp of the potter lucundus I dating to AD 40–70 (Hartley and Dickinson 2009, 301, die 2a). This is only the second known occurrence of an lucundus i stamp in Britain, with the other on a vessel from Colchester (J M Mills pers comm). The preservation of this samian bowl base stands out, with remaining samian sherds in the assemblage confined to small body or rim fragments (2.6 g MSW). Diagnostic material dating beyond the 1st century AD is very limited with a tiny scrap of 2nd century AD central Gaulish samian retrieved from pit 6249 and a body sherd from a Late Roman Oxfordshire colour-coated mortarium found in ditch 6400.

- 6.2.6 Comparative groups from the locality are not plentiful. However, the LIA/RB assemblage has distinct similarities to material from Walton (Marney 1989, 7) and Cotton Valley (*ibid*, 9). The high proportion of grog-tempered ‘Belgic’ wares in particular is reminiscent of the Walton groups, where these wares account for 95% of the assemblage and potentially date to just after the conquest. This fabric bias was suggested to be a result of the proximity to the Caldecotte kilns, which is likely to also be the case for Eaton Leys. The grog-tempered fabrics from these kilns are in a range of oxidised colours (orange to buff) and nearly always have a grey core (Marney 1989, 95). Variability in these grog-tempered fabrics, with a range of additional inclusions including quartz, fossil shell/limestone and ironstone (*ibid*), may indicate the Eaton Leys grog-tempered fabrics are from one source. An early group (Late Iron Age/Belgic) from Bancroft (Williams and Zeepvat 1994, 406) also has some similarities with the Eaton Leys assemblage, but the presence of specific forms (eg, lid-seated jars) indicates it might be slightly later. The higher proportions of sand-tempered wares in later 1st to 2nd-century AD groups, for example at both Bancroft (*ibid*, 423) and Constantine Way (Marney 1989, 12) are however absent. This may indicate that the majority of the Eaton Leys groups do not date beyond AD 70/80.



**Table 7** Breakdown of pottery by chronology and ware type

	Ware group/type	AREA A		AREA C		AREA D		TOTAL	
		No. sherds	Wt. (g)	No. sherds	Wt. (g)	No. sherds	Wt. (g)	No. sherds	Wt. (g)
PREHISTORIC	Flint-tempered	1	7					1	7
LIA/ROMAN	<i>Imported finewares</i>								
	La Graufesenque Samian	12	25					12	25
	Montans Samian	1	131					1	131
	Micaceous Lezoux Samian	1	11					1	11
	Central Gaulish Samian	1	1					1	1
	<i>Other finewares</i>								
	Imitation Terra Nigra	6	55					6	55
	Unassigned colour-coated ware	1	6					1	6
	<i>Mortaria</i>								
	Oxfordshire colour-coated mortarium	1	22					1	22
	<i>Oxidised wares</i>								
	Oxidised Ware	158	531					158	531
	<i>Coarsewares</i>								
	Greyware	99	1084					99	1084
	Grog-tempered ware	2434	23366	12	32			2446	23398
	Grog-tempered fabric with calcareous inclusions	20	81					20	81
	Grog-tempered fabric with organic inclusions	12	47					12	47
	Sand and grog-tempered ware	254	2147					254	2147
	Sandy ware	37	389					37	389



	Shell-tempered ware	14	95					14	95
	Shelly limestone-gritted fabric	3	15					3	15
	Verulamium region whiteware	1	6					1	6
	Vesicular fabric	3	24			102	421	105	445
SAXON	Sandy ware					1318	10328	1318	10328
	Sandy with organics					118	951	118	951
POST-MED	Redware			1	17			1	17
	Refined whiteware	1	5					1	5
	OVERALL TOTAL	3066	28067	13	49	1538	11700	4617	39816



### *Saxon*

- 6.2.7 A total of 772 sherds have been identified as Saxon, all from Area D. Apart from 16 sherds from subsoil and 21 sherds found unstratified, all sherds derived from cremation graves. There appear to be the remains of at least 31 vessels, with stray sherds from several others, and these came from 41 graves, five or them containing urned burials and the rest unurned. A group of 102 sherds from grave 3009, representing a single vessel, in a vesicular fabric (see Table 7) has at this stage been provisionally dated as Late Iron Age/Romano-British – the vessel has a flat base and the fabric is anomalous within the Saxon assemblage, but this may well be reviewed during analysis.
- 6.2.8 Fabrics are all sandy, in varying degrees of coarseness, and with quartz inclusions ranging from subrounded to subangular. Some fabrics also contained sparse amounts of organic temper. Diagnostic sherds are not numerous. No complete profiles could be reconstructed; the most complete is from a globular jar (grave 3075; Pl. 13). The globular jar is vertically scored around the lower half of the vessel, but this is the only vessel that carries this surface treatment. There is another partial profile from grave 3097 (Pl. 14). Four vessels carry stamped decoration, but other decoration is restricted to tooled lines on one vessel (grave 3038).
- 6.2.9 Grave 3064 contained six sherds from a heavily burnt vessel alongside sherds from a second, unburnt vessel (the funerary container). The burnt vessel can be identified as a pyre good, and this is the only instance in this cemetery of pottery being burnt on the pyre, although other artefacts (eg, glass, see below) were treated in this way.
- 6.2.10 Comparable assemblages in the Milton Keynes area are scarce, but some parallels can be found in the assemblages from Pennyland and Hartigans (Blinkhorn 1993); the fabrics identified from Pennyland contained varying mixtures of crushed mineral (largely sandstone, some granitic-derived, some limestone), sand and organic material, crushed mineral forming the dominant tempering agent. Some of these are likely to be of non-local origin, particularly the granitic-derived wares which have a potential source in the Charnwood Forest area of Leicestershire, and there is a possibility that some of the Eaton Leys wares could also be non-local.

### *Post-medieval/Modern*

- 6.2.11 Two sherds of later date were recovered: a glazed redware (broadly dated as post-medieval) from Area C, and a refined whiteware (19th–20th-century) from Area A.

## **6.3 Ceramic building material/fired clay**

- 6.3.1 Nineteen fragments have been recorded as ceramic building material (CBM); all came from Area A. Two are medieval roof tile (ditch 6202, driveway ditch 6400) and one is post-medieval brick (pit 6314). The remaining 16 fragments are less confidently identified as CBM – they are heavily abraded, and none appear to preserve more than one surface. They could alternatively be structural fired clay, and are not necessarily of Romano-British date, but could be earlier; all came from contexts dated as Late iron Age/early Romano-British on pottery grounds.

## **6.4 Worked flint**

- 6.4.1 Thirty-four pieces of worked flint were recovered from 17 contexts. The condition of the flint is generally reasonable, with some pieces in good condition. There are also pieces showing heavy patina. A variety of flint pebbles and nodules appear to have been used, ranging from light grey to dark brown in colour. The quality of the flint is relatively good on all the pieces however, with occasional cherty inclusions. The cortex is thin to medium

thickness, being off-white to dirty brown in colour. The source of this flint is most likely to have been the local alluvium and river terrace gravel deposits. It would appear that in this small assemblage higher quality flint was selected from a relatively poor source material in the drift geology.

#### *Chronological/technological indicators*

- 6.4.2 The only possibly chronologically indicative pieces are two bladelet cores from topsoil in Area C. They differ from each other in style, one being a remarkably small pressure flaked pyramidal bladelet core, and the other being larger and cruder in style. The former would appear to be Late Mesolithic, the latter either Mesolithic or Early Neolithic.
- 6.4.3 There is also a unifacially worked piece from the same topsoil context, which does not conform to a known tool type. The piece shows skill in its manufacture. It could be an unusual leaf-shaped arrowhead, but the surface has been worked to form a ridged midline producing a rather large and thick piece. It could also be a piece of a plano-convex knife, or an unusually small example. Neither is certain, but in either case the piece might date to the Early Neolithic or Neolithic.
- 6.4.4 There are 21 flakes, three blades, one bladelet and three core fragments. The debitage suggests that all stages of core reduction were being carried out in the vicinity of the site. Blades and bladelets also suggest that material from the Mesolithic and Early Neolithic is likely to be present. A core fragment from Romano British pit 6162 is 'wrung out', showing a percussion mark that indicates an attempt to use the core beyond its capacity. The lack of readily available good flint may have encouraged greater and more efficient use of the raw material. Similarly, the side struck *flanc de nucleus* from topsoil in Area A shows two bladelet scars and is clearly from a small nodule with the flake itself an attempt to rejuvenate what was probably already limited raw material at that point in the reduction sequence.
- 6.4.5 The material appears evenly distributed across the site showing no great concentrations and is likely to have been redeposited. However, taken as a whole, the assemblage is clear evidence of earlier prehistoric activity taking place in the vicinity of the site, probably dating to the Mesolithic and/or Early Neolithic, with possible later elements in the flake assemblage.

## **6.5 Glass**

- 6.5.1 Forty-two fragments of glass were recovered, all of them retrieved from sieved soil samples. One fragment came from Area A (pit 6147), while all other fragments came from Area D, from five Saxon cremation graves (3007, 3064, 3072, 3083 and 3125); the latter, with two exceptions, have been heavily burnt, masking original details of colour and form. It is most likely, however, that all these fragments represent the remains of glass beads, burnt as pyre goods. One fragment from grave 3064 appears to consist of two or more beads melted together, one of them polychrome. Tiny fragments from grave 3072 include some in a deep blue colour. Apart from these few examples, colour cannot be determined, nor can the incidence of polychrome and/or monochrome beads. The unburnt fragments were both from grave 3007 and are bright and absolutely clear. It is possible that these fragments were part of a rock crystal bead, but otherwise the brightness and colourlessness suggest that these could be intrusive modern fragments.
- 6.5.2 The single fragment from Area A is a tiny, heavily abraded fragment of vessel glass in a dull greenish colour. The form is unknown and the date is uncertain, although assumed to be Romano-British.



## 6.6 Slag

- 6.6.1 A very small quantity of slag was recovered (810 g), deriving from three contexts (topsoil in Area C, two ditch fills in Area A). This material is characteristic of ironworking slag. The topsoil find is undated; other slag is assumed to be Late Iron Age/Romano-British on pottery evidence.

## 6.7 Metalwork

- 6.7.1 Metalwork comprises coins (6) as well as objects of copper alloy (8), lead (5) and iron (964). The majority of objects were recovered from cremation-related deposits, that is, from urned and unurned cremation graves in Areas A–E.

### *Coins*

- 6.7.2 All six coins are Roman copper alloy issues, but all are too badly degraded for identification. No useful detail is visible on the X-rays. Flan size would be consistent with an early Romano-British date (1st or 2nd century AD). All six coins were found in Area A; five were topsoil finds, and the sixth came from ditch 6189, within the disturbed area at the northern edge of Area A.

### *Copper alloy*

- 6.7.3 Apart from the coins, other copper alloy objects include two brooches, and two hairpins. Both brooches are Romano-British. One (Obj No 6005) is an early hinged brooch of Hod Hill type (mid–late 1st century AD); the other is a small circular plate brooch (Obj No 6001), probably of similar date. Both brooches were subsoil finds. Two small fragments found unstratified (Obj No 6011) may also belong to a Romano-British brooch, although of unknown type; one appears to be part of a catchplate.
- 6.7.4 One of the pins has a globular head; the shank is broken. The object came from a Saxon cremation grave 3072 (containing an urned burial) in Area D. The other pin is Romano-British (Obj No 6010); it is complete, with a moulded head and bent shank (ditch 6189 within the disturbed area at the northern edge of Area A).
- 6.7.5 Other objects comprise a post-medieval disc button and an unidentifiable flattish, heavily corroded fragment. Both were subsoil finds.

### *Lead*

- 6.7.6 Five fragments of lead from driveway ditch 6400 appear to comprise melted waste. This could have resulted from casting, but there is nothing distinctive about it to allow a definitive identification. The feature is dated as early Romano-British.

### *Iron*

- 6.7.7 Out of the total of 962 iron objects, the overwhelming majority were recovered from cremation graves in Areas A, B, C, D and E, and mostly from Areas A and D (see Table 6). These are generally small fragments, badly corroded. Some have traces of cremated bone adhering.
- 6.7.8 In Area A, 83 iron objects came from three cremation graves, all containing unurned burials (graves 6013, 6021, 6239) and a cremation-related deposit (6323). All these objects appear to be nails or nail fragments and are mostly of relatively small size (<35 mm). Cremation-related deposit 6323 contained two sherds of Late Iron Age/Romano-British pottery; the graves are undated but are assumed also to be of this date.

- 6.7.9 In Area B, one nail was found with redeposited pyre debris in feature 5003.
- 6.7.10 Two cremation-related deposits in Area C produced iron objects. Three nails were associated with redeposited pyre debris in feature 4007, while 99 nails/nail fragments were found with unurned burial 4009. The nails are all relatively small – mostly <30 mm with a few larger examples. Some have bent shanks, presumably through use. These features are undated but are assumed to be Late Iron Age/Romano-British.
- 6.7.11 The largest proportion of the iron assemblage (672 objects) came from Area D. Large groups of nails came from graves 3030 (210 nails/fragments) and 3066 (382 nails/fragments); both graves are otherwise undated but are within the area of the Saxon cemetery in Area D. A smaller group (66 nails) came from grave 3114, with a few more from 3027, 3068 and 3097 (all urned burials), 3114 (possible unurned burial), and 3046 (redeposited pyre debris). Again, there appears to be a preponderance of smaller nails (<25 mm), although the group from grave 3030 has a wider size range. Some nails have bent shanks, presumably through use.
- 6.7.12 Finally, from Area E, a group of approximately 81 hobnails plus miscellaneous fragments was found in unurned cremation grave 2017 (undated but assumed to be Romano-British).
- 6.7.13 No other object types were recognised amongst the funerary assemblage, either Late Iron Age/Romano-British or Saxon. It is impossible to tell, from their condition, whether these objects were pyre goods or not, but the fact that they occur in some numbers in the graves suggests that they were burnt on the pyre, possibly as fixtures in coffins, boxes, furniture, etc.
- 6.7.14 Objects from non-funerary contexts include a post-medieval horseshoe (context 6003) and four further nails of uncertain date (various ditches and pits in Area A).

## 6.8 Human bone

### *Introduction*

- 6.8.1 Cremated human bone was recovered from 70 contexts distributed across five areas of the site (A–E). The majority (53 contexts) relate to the early/middle Saxon cremation cemetery in Area D (Fig. 6), where the *in situ* remains of a minimum of 24 urned and two, possibly four unurned burials were recovered from graves distributed across a 92 m (north–south) x 65 m (east–west) area (Table 8). The apparently redeposited remains of a further seven urned burials were identified, and one other deposit – potentially contained within a ceramic vessel – could comprise a *memento mori* (McKinley 2013). The nature of several other cremation-related deposits from this area is currently unclear.
- 6.8.2 The few mortuary-related deposits from other areas of the site appear likely to be Late Iron Age/Romano-British in date, though there is, as yet, restricted conclusive dating evidence associated with many of them. Ten contexts containing cremated bone, including a small group of graves and several singletons, were found in Area A to the north of the Saxon cemetery. The remains of three unurned burials formed a north–south line in the southern part of the Area, extending over 15 m with 3–12 m between the graves. A fourth unurned burial lay 36 m to the north, and the one urned burial from the Area was situated some 40 m to the west. Other cremation-related deposits of uncertain form lay close to the latter and some distance to the north (Fig. 3–4).



**Table 8** Summary of results of scan of cremated bone

Context	Cut	Deposit type	Bone weight (g)	Age/sex	Pathology	Comment
<i>Area E</i>						
2004	2003	crd	22	>infant (>5 yr)		0.06m, common fuel ash, Fe nail; quads., most in W half; degraded, comminuted frags., little trab.; <i>pyre goods</i> – ?some animal
2006	2005	crd	15	prob. human > 5yr		0.05m, ?common fuel ash, Fe nail; quads.; degraded, comminuted frags., little trab.; <i>pyre goods</i> – ?some animal
2018	2017	crd – ?un. burial +rpd	69	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.05m, fuel ash & burnt stone, Fe nails; quads., most in S&W; heavily degraded but bit chalky, little/no trab.; few blue/grey
<i>Area D – Early/middle Saxon</i>						
3004	3003	?urned burial	183	adult 20–40 yr		0.03m, rare fuel ash; quads.; good trab.
3005	3006	?urned burial	182	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.14m; heavily truncated, sparse fuel ash; quads; eroded, chalky appearance, little trab.
3008	3007	urned burial	603	adult 18–40 yr		0.05m, vessel collapsed out & down, little fuel ash; slight degraded, little trab., small frags.
3010	3009	urned burial	648	adult 20– 45 yr		0.09m, heavily truncated, bone at surface level, sparse fuel ash; quads.; good trab., many small frags. NB. Poss. LIA/RB
3011	3012	crd inc. fuel ash	3.5	>2 yr		0.15m, truncated by land drain, fuel ash
3014	3013	?un. burial inc. rpd	157	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.09m, bone & fuel ash at surface; quads., most in SE; eroded & slightly chalky, not trab.; few grey
3015	3016	crd	33	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.05m; quads.; small frags, no trab.; some slightly grey
3018	3017	?R – urned burial	76	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.03m, heavily disturbed, possibly redeposited; quads. + 1; eroded, chalky appearance, no trab., small frags.; few charred/blue frags.
3019	3020	?R – urned burial	39.7	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.04m, heavily disturbed, possibly redeposited; slightly eroded, no trab.; slightly grey
3022	3021	crd	51	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.03m, heavily truncated, trashed @surface level, some fuel ash; eroded, slightly chalky, no trab.
3026	3025	?R – crd with vessel	0.3	>2yr		0.03m, trashed, bone @ surface with some ceramics & fuel ash; eroded scraps





Context	Cut	Deposit type	Bone weight (g)	Age/sex	Pathology	Comment
3028	3027	urned burial	75	juvenile/subadult 6-18 yr		0.03m, heavily truncated, Fe nails; quads., most in W half; no trab.; few blue/black; pyre goods – ?some animal
3029*	3030	un. burial + rpd	205	adult >18 yr		0.09m, charcoal-rich fill inc. at surface, little bone at surface level, Fe nails; quads., most in NW (& N); small frags., little trab.; common grey
3032	3031	crd inc. fuel ash	59	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.05m, mashed components at surface level, some fuel ash; quads.; slightly eroded, chalky appearance, no trab.; some slightly blue/grey
3033	3034	burial – ?unurned	93	adult >25 yr		0.05m, tight gp at surface level, heavily truncated, little ceramics (?no 'urn'); quads, most in NW/N; largish frags., slight eroded, no trab.
3036	3035	?R – ?urned burial	22	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.03m, smashed sherds & bone at surface level; degraded scraps, little trab.
3037	3038	urned burial	126	juvenile/subadult 6-18 yr		0.04m, truncated; small frags., some trab.
3041	–	R crd	12	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.02m; degraded scraps, no trab.; few blue/grey
3042	–	R crd inc. rpd	1	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.02m; fuel ash rich; degraded scraps, no trab.
3043	3044	urned burial	75	subadult/adult 14-25 yr		0.04m, bone at surface level & fine particle fuel ash; quads., most in W half; some trab.
3045	3046	crd – ?rpd	12	immature <18 yr		0.09m, fuel ash rich, little bone, Fe nails, feature not grave-like; quads.; degraded scraps, no trab.
3062	3061	R crd inc. ceramics	4	>5 yr		0.02m, heavily truncated, no evidence any of this was <i>in situ</i> ; degraded scraps, no trab.
3063	3064	?R – urned burial + rpd	98	adult >21 yr		0.07m, heavily smashed vessel possibly R? (few base & rim sherds + body), frags., ceramic pyre good, glass beads; quads, most in N half; some trab.; few blue/grey
3065*	3066	un. burial + rpd	448	adult >30 yr		0.17m, charcoal rich, very little bone @ surface, Fe nails; quads, very little in upper 5–6 cm; many small frags., degraded, chalky appearance, some trab.
3067	3068	urned burial	201	adult >18 yr		0.07m, truncated, bone at surface level, Fe nails; quads., most in W half; degraded, slightly chalky, no trab.



Context	Cut	Deposit type	Bone weight (g)	Age/sex	Pathology	Comment
3071	3072	R - ?urned burial	103	subadult/adult 13-40 yr		0.05m, bone at surface level, ceramic body sherds only, glass beads; quads.; slightly degraded, little trab.; pyre goods – semi-melted blue glass bead, bone adhering, some animal?
3069	3070	R – ?urned burial	29	adult >18 yr		0.03m, truncated, ?dragged, not <i>in situ</i> ; single deposit; degraded, slightly chalky, no trab.
3073*	3074	urned burial	301	adult >18 yr		0.12m, largely intact vessel, no bone at surface level (in lower half); slight degraded, some trab.
3076*	3075	urned burial	530	adult 25–45 yr		0.14m, largely intact, bone clearly in lower half of vessel only; quads., most in N half; slightly degraded/chalky, common trab.
3077	3078	R crd	23	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.03m, fragments bone & pot on surface; slightly degraded & chalky, no trab.
3079	3080	urned burial	48	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.03m, heavily truncated (?knocked-over); quads.; slightly degraded & chalky, no trab.
3082	3081	urned burial	114	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.03m, badly truncated (knocked sideways) some probably <i>in situ</i> ; quads.; slightly degraded & chalky, no trab.
3084	3083	urned burial	48	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.01m, heavily truncated, ?knocked sideways, beads; quads; slightly degraded/eroded, little trab.; few blue/grey; <i>pyre goods</i> – 2 small ?blue glass beads melted together (NWQ), larger bead melted around bone (NEQ)
3085	3086	urned burial	33	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.02m, heavily truncated, vessel flattened much removed; quads.; eroded, slightly chalky, no trab
3088	3087	urned burial	241	adult 18-40 yr, female		0.04m, heavily truncated, bone at surface, no obv. fuel ash; quads., mostly NW; common trab.
3090	3089	urned burial	20	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.02m, heavily truncated, bone dragged out by machine; few scraps, some trab.; <i>pyre goods</i> – ?some animal
3091	3092	urned burial	195	adult 23–35 yr		0.06m, truncated, little bone at surface but one half lower vessel & base only; quads.; common trab.
3094	3093	?R – urned burial	23	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.07m, small part base sherds only (max. ¼ survive) ... possibly not <i>in situ</i> ; quads; no trab.
3096	3095	urned burial	415	adult 30-45 yr	osteoarthritis – temporo-mandibular	0.06m, bone at surface, vessel trashed & collapsed out; quads., some trab.; pyre goods – min. 1 glass bead melted & fused to bone;



Context	Cut	Deposit type	Bone weight (g)	Age/sex	Pathology	Comment
3098*	3097	urned burial	649	adult 20–35 yr	dental abscess – mandible	0.15m, no bone at surface level; common trab., large fragments
3099	3100	crd	3	>5 yr		0.01m, vessel fragment, ?in situ, with few scraps bone of uncertain provenance; scraps degraded compact bone
3101	–	R crd	9	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.01m, scatter of bone & pot on surface, no evidence to demonstrate it was <i>in situ</i> ; slight degraded fragments compact bone
3105	3104	urned burial	153	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.02m, bone at surface, no evidence for fuel ash, flattened ceramics; quads., most in 2; heavily eroded & chalky, no trab.; few slightly grey
3107	3106	? <i>memento mori</i> – ?urned	19	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.10m, little bone at surface or section; quads., most in NW, none in one; heavily eroded scraps, no trab.
3109	3108	urned burial	109	subadult/adult ?15-20 yr		0.05m, bone exposure at surface, no fuel ash evident (?where was this excavator mentioned? – check); quads.; some trab.; pyre goods – animal bone (sheep)
3111	3110	urned burial	497	adult >20 yr		0.07m, bone at surface level, no fuel ash visible; quads; some trab.; some blue 'sandwich'
3112	–	R crd	4	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.01m, few frags on surface with sherd, cannot assume <i>in situ</i> ; small frags., no trab.
3113	–	R crd	49	adult >18 yr		0.04m, scattered frags bone on surface & few sherds, no cut, cannot assume <i>in situ</i> ; heavily degraded & chalky; no trab.; slight blue 'sandwich' in femur min.
3115	3114	crd/?un. burial + rpd	87	adult >20 yr	enthesophytes – femur	0.10m, surface spread of material, Fe nails. & fuel ash; quads.; slightly eroded, some trab.
3117	3116	urned burial	279	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.04m, vessel collapsed out, bone & ceramics at surface, no fuel ash evident; quads.; slightly eroded/chalky appearance, small frags./comminuted, no trab.; some slight grey 'sandwich'
3118	3119	crd	69	subadult/adult >25 yr	osteophytes – atlas anterior facet	0.02m, few frags., bone at surface & some ceramics; slightly eroded, small frags., little trab.; some blue/grey
3123	3122	crd	36	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.03m, scattered bone at surface, no fuel ash; quads.; small scraps, no trab.



Context	Cut	Deposit type	Bone weight (g)	Age/sex	Pathology	Comment
3124*	3125	urned burial	236	adult >18 yr	dental abscess – mandible	0.12m, no bone at surface, restricted to lower half of vessel, glass beads; quads.; slight eroded/chalky, little trab.
3773			1	subadult/adult >12 yr		2 degraded frags., no trab.
<b>Area C</b>						
4008	4007	crd – ?rpd	6	>10 yr		0.07m, bone & fuel ash at surface, Fe nails; quads.; few scraps, no trab.
4010	4009	unurned burial + rpd	249	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.17m, common fuel ash at surface, little bone evident here or in section, possibly largely undisturbed, Fe nails; quads., + 1; slight eroded & chalky, little trab
4012	4011	crd – ?rpd	5	>8 yr		0.20m, common fuel ash; quads.; small scraps, little trab
<b>Area B</b>						
5004	5003	?R – rpd	6	>5 yr		0.17m, some fuel ash; quad., bone in 3; heavily degraded scraps
<b>Area A – Late Iron Age/Romano-British</b>						
6012	6013	un. burial + rpd	133	subadult/adult >12yr		0.10m, common fuel ash, bone at surface, Fe nails; quads., most S half; eroded & chalky, small frags., no trab.; common blue/grey
6240*	6239	un. burial + rpd	378	subadult/adult 15-40 yr, ?male		0.21m, burial deposit confined to lower half of grave, fuel ash in backfill above; quads., most in N half; eroded & chalky, little trab., common blue/grey
6020	6021	un. burial + rpd	400	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.13m, common fuel ash, little bone at surface, Fe nails; eroded, chalky appearance, no trab.; common blue/grey
6041	-	?in situ un. Burial	46	subadult/adult >15 yr		0.02m, no fuel ash, bone at surface level 3 sides of 0.60 x 0.50m area which could correspond to square RB grave form with ceramic grave goods, (grave goods inc. parts 7 vessels – no urn) possibly in situ; quads, most S & W; eroded & chalky, no trab.
6081	6079	R	4	subadult/adult >15 yr		single tibia shaft fragment
6266	6265	?R – crd	1	?infant/juvenile		0.05m, common fuel ash at surface, few bones; 3 tiny scraps
6299	6298	R – ?rpd	5	subadult/adult >12 yr		0.13m, fuel ash rich, no bone evident at surface; quads, bone in 2 W small scraps, no trab.



Context	Cut	Deposit type	Bone weight (g)	Age/sex	Pathology	Comment
6322	6321	?rpd	7	>3 yr		0.06m, some fuel ash & bone at surface level; quads.; eroded scraps, no trab.
6324	6323	crd	37	>10 yr		0.07m, very common fine particle fuel ash, bone at surface level, Fe nails; quads.; eroded & chalky, small frags., no trab.; some blue/grey
6363	6362	urned burial	151	subadult/adult >15 yr, ??female		0.05m, vessel knocked sideways, no bone at surface level, possibly burial remains undisturbed; quads., bone in 3 (mostly N half); eroded & chalky, no trab.; much black/blue/grey

KEY: \* undisturbed; R – redeposited; rpd – redeposited pyre debris; crd – non-specific cremation-related deposit; *pyre goods* – items observed in osteological scan; trab. – trabecular bone



- 6.8.3 A single deposit of uncertain type was found in Area B, some 126 m from the nearest other cremation-related deposit in Area A to the west. Of the three contexts inclusive of cremated bone in Area C, on the western margins of the site, one comprised the remains of an unurned burial, with deposits of what appears to have comprised pyre debris recovered some 20–25 m to the south and west. Two of the three deposits from Area E on the eastern margins of the site were similarly undiagnostic as to type, with the remains of one probable unurned burial (Table 8).

#### *Methods*

- 6.8.4 All the cremated remains were subject to a very rapid scan to assess the condition of the bone, demographic data, the potential presence of pathological lesions and information related to the mortuary rites. Assessments were based on standard ageing and sexing methods (Bass 1987; Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994; Scheuer and Black 2000). The deposit types were assessed from the combined osteological and excavation context data, including consultation with the ceramic specialist. The smaller fraction residues (<2 mm) have been retained for scanning at analysis stage; three include residues from contexts – 3024, 3121 and 6283 – where no bone was found in the larger fraction residues (>2 mm).

#### *Results*

- 6.8.5 There was extensive plough damage across the site resulting in substantial horizontal truncation of features and deposits. The majority (56%) of those containing cremated bone had survived to a depth of only 0.05 m or less, the features in Area D being particularly badly affected (64%). Relatively few features (21%) had survived to a depth of 0.10 m or more, the lowest proportion lying in Area D (16%). The maximum depth of 0.21 m was recorded in Area A (grave 2639), the maximum in the Area D Saxon cemetery being 0.17 m for grave 3066. Cremated bone was evident at surface level in the majority of features and inevitably bone will have been lost in many cases, particularly from those of less than 0.05 m in depth. In the few instances from Areas A and D where the burial deposits (if not the grave cuts) had survived undisturbed (denoted “\*” in Table 8), the bone could be seen to be confined to the lower portions of the features (depth 0.05–0.10 m).
- 6.8.6 The condition of the bone is generally poor; in the majority of cases it is eroded with a slightly chalky appearance, and often relatively little or no trabecular bone (subject to preferential destruction in an aggressive burial environment such as the acidic sands at Eaton Leys) survives. Many of the bone fragments are noticeably smaller than is commonly observed, undoubtedly due to the physical and chemical taphonomic pressures specific to the site. There are marked exceptions to this general observation, eg, the undisturbed urned burial remains from grave 3097, which had survived to a depth of 0.15 m (Pl. 14). It is probable, however, that in many instances trabecular bone elements will have been lost from the deposits in response to taphonomic mechanisms.
- 6.8.7 A minimum of 40 individuals (MNI) is represented. The potential Late Iron Age/Romano-British assemblage comprises a minimum of nine individuals, one from each grave identified in Areas A, C and E (Table 8). The remains from most of the other deposits in these areas could have derived from the same cremations as those of the individuals represented within the burials made in their respective areas. The one exception here is from feature 6265 in Area A, where the only young immature (<13 years) individual within this part of the assemblage was recorded. In this case, irrespective of the deposit type, the individual is clearly not represented elsewhere and has therefore been included among the MNI. The other additional individual derives from Area B; here, despite the deposit probably representing pyre debris rather than burial remains, it does represent the only deposit made in this area. This suggests a cremation was undertaken in close proximity to where the deposit was made but that most of the bone was taken for curation

or deposition elsewhere, and that the individual is unlikely to be otherwise represented within the assemblage.

- 6.8.8 The MNI of 31 within the Saxon assemblage all derived from the identified burial remains; no multiple burials were observed at this stage. As with the Late Iron Age/Romano-British assemblage, remains from the other deposits, currently of uncertain form, could have derived from the cremations of individuals already represented within the MNI.
- 6.8.9 The remains of very few younger immature individuals (<13 years) were observed in any part of the assemblage, with only the aforementioned remains from Area A and those of two juvenile/subadult individuals from graves in Area D. Clearly this does not represent a 'normal' population demographic for the Saxon cemetery. In this case preservation is likely to have posed a major problem, both in terms of truncation – the smaller, shallower graves of immature individuals having suffered preferential eradication in an area of extensive plough damage – and the tendency for the more fragile remains of such young individuals to have been lost to taphonomic destruction.
- 6.8.10 The majority of the assemblage comprises the remains of adults, or subadult/adults >12 years of age. The poor condition of the bone and rapidity of the scan rendered it difficult to give greater definition in many cases at this stage, but no individuals of >45 years of age were confidently identified. It was possible to suggest the sex of very few individuals due to the paucity of readily accessible sexually dimorphic skeletal elements. One probable male and one probable female were identified amongst the Late Iron Age/Romano-British remains from Area A, and one adult female within the Saxon assemblage. The recovery of several glass beads from five graves – the remains of pyre goods – will assist in sexing the individuals buried therein, such items being highly gender related in this period.
- 6.8.11 A few, minor, pathological lesions – predominantly indicative of dental diseases and age-related degenerative joint degeneration – were observed in the remains of five Saxon adults. The loss of much of the trabecular bone, where many of the disease processes affecting skeletal material are commonly manifest, will undoubtedly have a negative effect on this area of osteological investigation.
- 6.8.12 Almost all the surviving bone from the Saxon deposits and most of the Iron Age/Romano-British deposits is well oxidised being almost universally white in colour.
- 6.8.13 The remains from Area A appear in marked contrast, with the frequent presence of poorly oxidised bone (black/blue/grey in colour) indicating variations in the cremation technology between those burying their dead in this area and those cremated and buried elsewhere within the confines of the site.
- 6.8.14 Pyre goods in the form of melted glass beads were recovered both in general post-excavation processing and in osteological assessment (see above). Other pyre goods, including ceramics and iron nails are discussed elsewhere. Very small quantities of cremated animal bone were observed amongst the material from five graves, including four Saxon, but there are none of the large assemblages of cremated animal bone, which commonly feature in the large cemeteries of the first half of the 5th century such as Spong Hill, Norfolk (McKinley 1994), Loveden Hill in Lincolnshire (Wilkinson n.d.) and Sancton in Yorkshire (Timby 1993).

#### *Discussion*

- 6.8.15 Few Anglo-Saxon cemeteries are known from this area of the country (Lucy 2000, fig. 4.7). The relatively small size of the cemetery at Eaton Leys, coupled with the mortuary

rites reflected in the form and nature of the deposits – e.g. relatively few artefactual pyre goods, no large quantities of cremated animal bone, no communal graves – suggests it falls at earliest in the latter part of the 5th century following the shift away from the use of large ‘centralised’ burial grounds such as Loveden Hill (Lincs), Millgate Newark-on-Trent (Notts) (Kinsley 1989), and Elsham (Lincs) (Squires 2011). These large cemeteries drew together a dispersed population from several settlements/farmsteads, the dead being cremated near their place of habitation and their remains transported to be buried with other relatively recent migrants (not necessarily first generation) with whom they shared a common mortuary culture. Over time and with succeeding generations the need to congregate in death seems to have faded, and both the primary (cremation) and secondary (burial) part of the mortuary rite increasingly occurred closer to settlements of the individual groups. At the same time, subtle changes in the mortuary rite, with a slightly different emphasis on the secondary, burial stage, seems to have occurred.

## 6.9 Animal bone

### *Introduction*

- 6.9.1 A total of 343 fragments (or 1.635 kg) of animal bone came from Late Iron Age/early Romano-British ditches, pits and layers, and a modern tree-throw hole in Area Ai. This is a raw fragment count and once conjoins are considered the total falls to 245 fragments (Table 9).
- 6.9.2 A few calcined fragments of possible animal bone came from three cremation-related deposits of possible Romano-British date in Areas A and E, and four urned cremations of early/middle Saxon date in Area D (see *Human Bone* section above).

### *Methods*

- 6.9.3 The assemblage was rapidly scanned following current guidelines for best practice (Baker and Worley 2019) and basic information quantified where applicable. Quantified data includes species, skeletal element, preservation condition, fusion and tooth ageing data, butchery marks, metrical data, gnawing, burning, surface condition, pathology and non-metric traits. This information was directly recorded into a relational database (in MS Access) and cross-referenced with relevant contextual information. The assemblage has been roughly quantified into broad chronological periods based on spot dating evidence from associated ceramics and other artefacts (eg, coins).

### *Results*

- 6.9.4 The bones are fragmented and in poor condition, consequently only 27% are identifiable to species. Cortical surfaces are eroded and flaky, and in some instances the outer few layers have been completely removed. The net result of fragmentation and poor condition is that fine surface details such as butchery marks, have been effaced and there is little detailed information available relating to the age and size of livestock.





**Table 9** Animal bone: number of identified specimens present (or NISP) by period from Area A

Species	Late Iron Age- early Romano-British	Modern	Total
Cattle	19	15	34
Sheep/goat	12	-	12
pig	3	1	4
horse	13	-	13
dog	3	-	3
<b>Total identified</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>Total unidentifiable</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>179</b>
<b>Overall total</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>245</b>

*Late Iron Age-early Romano-British*

- 6.9.5 A total of 190 fragments of animal bone came from ditches forming a co-axial field system and associated droveways 6400–6403, five pits, and layers 6381 and 6195. Most of the identified bones are from cattle, sheep and horse, and there are also a few bones from pig and dog.
- 6.9.6 The range of body parts is limited and clearly reflects the survival of more robust elements such as teeth and the compact parts of post-cranial bones. Groups of loose teeth from some ditch deposits indicate the presence of skulls and mandibles from cattle and horse. Burnt bones survive in a more recognisable form than unburnt fragments. Of note is a burnt lamb tibia from pit 6329 and burnt fragments of pig ulna and tibia from ditch 6178 and layer 6373. A dog canine came from ditch terminus 6380, and fragments of vertebra and distal femur from layer 6381.
- 6.9.7 Possible fragments of calcined and charred animal bone came from cremation-related deposits 6239 in Area A, and 2003 and 2005 in Area E. The fragments which represent pyre goods are associated with the remains of a subadult/adult and two infants.

*Early/middle Saxon*

- 6.9.8 A few calcined fragments of possible animal bone came from urned cremation burials 3027, 3072, 3089 and 3108 in Area D. The fragments represent pyre goods, three are associated with the remains of subadult/adult individuals and one with a juvenile/subadult. The fragment of bone from 3108 is the costal end of a sheep/goat rib.

*Modern*

- 6.9.9 A relatively large number of bones came from modern tree-throw hole 6103, possibly part of a hedgerow. Most of the identified bones are from cattle, they include fragments of skull, vertebrae and long bones from at least two or three animals. The general size of the more complete specimens indicates that the bones are from an improved breed and this confirms the recent date of the feature. A single pig humerus was also identified from 6103.



**Table 10** Animal bone: quantity and type of detailed information

Type of information	Late Iron Age-early Romano-British	Modern
Age – mandibles 2+ teeth	-	1
Age – epiphyseal fusion	3	6
Biometry	-	2
Butchery	-	1

## 6.10 Conservation

6.10.1 Finds which may be considered as vulnerable, and thus potentially in need of conservation treatment, comprise the metal objects, particularly the ironwork, which are actively corroding. Metal objects have already been X-rayed (see above), and the X-ray plates will act as a basic record for objects which may suffer further deterioration, and which may not be recommended for long-term curation.

## 7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

### 7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 Three hundred and seven bulk sediment samples were taken from a range of Romano-British and Saxon features. The archaeology incorporates a range of cremation-related features and also, pits, postholes, ditches, gullies and a driveway. The samples, which were processed for the recovery and assessment of the environmental evidence, break down into the following groups:

**Table 11** Sample Provenance Summary

Area	No. of bulk samples	Volume (litres)	Feature types
Ai	75	1207	Urned burial, unurned burials, redeposited cremation-related deposits, possible redeposited cremation-related deposits, and possible redeposited pyre debris, pits, driveway, ditches, gullies
Aii	1	40	Ditch
B	4	2.9	Pit
C	16	159	Unurned burial, cremation-related deposits, pits, ditch
D	195	248.8	Confirmed and possible urned and unurned burials, redeposited pyre debris and other cremation-related deposits; pits, postholes
E	16	42.2	Cremation-related deposits (including possible unurned burial), pits
F	0	0	-
<i>Totals</i>	<i>307</i>	<i>1699.9</i>	

### 7.2 Aims and methods

7.2.1 The purpose of this assessment is to determine the potential of the environmental remains preserved at the site to address project aims and to provide archaeobotanical data

valuable for wider research frameworks. This assessment follows recommendations set by English Heritage (2011).

- 7.2.2 The size of the bulk sediment samples varied between 0.01 and 40 litres, and on average was around 5.5 litres. Some of the samples were pre-soaked in a solution of water and hydrogen peroxide to help break up the clayey sediment. The samples were processed by standard flotation methods on a Siraf-type flotation tank and by bucket flotation; the flots retained on a 0.25 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 5.6 or 4 mm and 1 mm fractions. The coarse fractions (>5.6 or 4 mm) were sorted by eye and discarded. The environmental material extracted from the residues was added to the flots. The flots and a selection of the fine residue fractions were scanned using a stereo incident light microscopy (Leica MS5 microscope) at magnifications of up to x40 for the identification of environmental remains. Different bioturbation indicators were considered, including the percentage of roots, the abundance of modern seeds and the presence of mycorrhizal fungi sclerotia (eg, *Cenococcum geophilum*) and animal remains, such as earthworm eggs and insects, which would not be preserved unless anoxic conditions prevailed on site. The preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains, as well as the presence of other environmental remains such as terrestrial and aquatic molluscs and animal bone was recorded. Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary and Hopf (2000, Tables 3, page 28 and 5, page 65), for cereals. Abundance of remains is qualitatively quantified (A\*\*\* = ex-ceptional, A\*\* = 100+, A\* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5) as an estimation of the minimum number of individuals and not the number of remains per taxa.

### 7.3 Results

- 7.3.1 The results of the assessment of the environmental remains are set out in Appendix 2 and discussed below.

#### *Area Ai*

- 7.3.2 The flots from cremation-related features (including urned burial 6362, unurned burials, redeposited cremation-related deposits, possible redeposited cremation-related deposits, and possible redeposited pyre debris) are generally small (<50 ml). There are high numbers of roots and low numbers of modern seeds that may be indicative of some stratigraphic movement and the high possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements. Charred material exhibits varying degrees of preservation. Wood charcoal is noted in generally small quantities, of both roundwood and mature examples, and the charcoal from cremation-related feature 6265 is mineral coated. No other environmental evidence is preserved in the samples. These flots contain examples of wild plants (Trifoliae (clovers/trefoils), Polygonaceae (knotgrasses), indeterminate remains and the remains of barley (*Hordeum vulgare*).
- 7.3.3 Pit sample flots from this area are of variable volumes. There is a variable number of roots and generally low numbers of modern seeds that may indicate some stratigraphic movement and the possibility of later contamination. Charred material exhibits varying degrees of preservation and, in several cases, is mineral or iron coated (6045, 6147, 6329). Wood charcoal is noted in generally small quantities, apart from pits 6288 and 6329 which contain >50 ml, and is both from roundwood and mature wood. No other environmental evidence is preserved in the samples, however, very small quantities of bone are present in two flots. The flots are dominated by the remains of cereal plants but also include wild plant seeds and examples of possibly exploitable plant resources. The cereal plant taxa are composed of Triticeae (including *Triticum aestivum/iturgidum*



(bread/rivet wheat), *Triticum spelta/dicoccum* (spelt/emmer wheat) and *Hordeum vulgare* grains and a culm node. The wild plant taxa comprise Poaceae (meadow-grasses), Viciae (vetches), *Chenopodium* sp. (fat-hen), *Galium* sp. (cleavers/bedstraws), Asteraceae (daisies), *Polygonum* sp., *Atriplex* sp. (orache), *Veronica hederifolia* (ivy-leaved speedwell), *Bromus* sp. (brome) and *Raphanus raphanistrum* (wild radish). The potentially exploitable plant resources are represented by the remains of *Corylus avellana* (hazel) nut shell.

- 7.3.4 The ditch sample flots are generally small. There are high numbers of roots and variable numbers of modern seeds. This may indicate some stratigraphic movement and the high possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements. Charred material exhibits varying degrees of preservation, one grain from ditch 6380 has vitrified silica attached to it. Wood charcoal is noted in generally small quantities and is both mature and roundwood. No other environmental evidence is preserved in the samples, however very small quantities of both bone and cremated bone are present in three flots. The flots from ditches in area Ai are dominated by the remains of wild plants but also include examples of cereal plants. The wild plant taxa include Poaceae (including grain and culm nodes), Viciae, *Chenopodium* sp., *Galium* sp., Caryophyllaceae (pinks), Asteraceae, *Polygonum* sp., *Atriplex* sp., *Rumex* sp. (sorrel/dock), *Avena* sp. (oat), and *Plantago lanceolata* (ribwort plantain), *Veronica hederifolia*, Cyperaceae (sedges), Trifoliae, *Poa/Phleum* (meadow-grasses/cat's-tail) and indeterminate roots and fragments. The cereal plant taxa comprise *Triticum* sp. (including examples of *Triticum spelta/dicoccum*), *Hordeum vulgare* and indeterminate wheat remains (including a culm node).
- 7.3.5 The flots from the gully samples are small and may be bioturbated, on account of their high numbers of roots and low numbers of modern seeds. The charred material exhibits varying degrees of preservation and wood charcoal is noted in very small quantities and composed of mature examples. No other environmental evidence is preserved in the samples. The flots are dominated by the remains of wild plants which include *Chenopodium* sp., *Atriplex* sp., *Rumex* sp., Viciae and indeterminate roots and fragments. Gully 6319 also contains the remains of cereals *Triticum* cf. *spelta* and indeterminate wheat.
- 7.3.6 Layer 6373 within the disturbed area at the northern edge of Area A produced a small flot with a low number of roots and modern seeds. Charred material is poorly preserved, and iron coated. There is a very small quantity of wood charcoal which comprises mature examples, and no other environmental evidence is preserved. The flot contains the remains of *Triticum* sp. and *Hordeum vulgare* cereal grains. It also includes the remains of wild plants, represented by *Chenopodium* sp.

#### Area Aii

- 7.3.7 Ditch 6108 flot is small and contains indicators of some stratigraphic movement and the high possibility of contamination, namely a high number of roots. Charred material is fairly well preserved, and no other environmental evidence remains in the samples. The flot contains cereal plant remains, which include *Triticum* cf. *spelta*, and the remains of wild plants in the form of indeterminate tubers.

#### Area B

- 7.3.8 Pit 5003 (containing possibly redeposited pyre debris) has a small flot (<50ml) with a moderate number of roots and low numbers of modern seeds, which may be indicative of some stratigraphic movement and the possibility of later contamination. Wood charcoal is noted in a small quantity and comprises both roundwood and mature examples. No other environmental evidence is preserved.



### Area C

- 7.3.9 The flots from the cremation-related deposits and unurned burial samples in this area are large (>50 ml). There are generally high numbers of roots and low numbers of modern seeds that may indicate stratigraphic movement and the high possibility of contamination. Wood charcoal is noted in high quantities and contains both mature and roundwood examples. No other environmental evidence is preserved in the samples, however, there is a very small quantity of slag present in cremation-related deposit 4011.
- 7.3.10 The flots from the pit samples are small (<50 ml) and contain a high number of roots and low numbers of modern seeds, which may indicate stratigraphic movement and the high possibility of later contaminative intrusion. Charred material is fairly well preserved, but mineral coated and wood charcoal is noted in small quantities and composed of mature examples. No other environmental evidence is preserved. The flot from pit 4015 contains an example of a potentially exploitable plant resource in the form of *Corylus avellana* nut shell.
- 7.3.11 Ditch 4017 flot is moderate in volume with a high number of roots and low numbers of modern seeds. This may be indicative of some stratigraphic movement and the high possibility of later intrusion by contaminating elements. No other environmental evidence is preserved in the sample.

### Area D

- 7.3.12 The flots from the cremation-related samples (including confirmed and possible urned and unurned burials, redeposited pyre debris and other cremation-related deposits) are generally small (<50 ml) with only two being more than 50 ml in volume (urned burial 3030 and unurned burial 3066). There are generally high numbers of roots and low numbers of modern seeds, which may indicate that there has been some stratigraphic movement and later intrusion. Charred material exhibits varying degrees of preservation and, in the case of urned burial 3086 and possible urned burial 3006, is iron coated. Wood charcoal is noted in generally small quantities, apart from urned burial 3030 and unurned burial 3066, where charcoal comprises half of the flot volume. The charcoal present in the flots incorporates both mature and roundwood examples. No other environmental evidence is preserved in the samples, however, small quantities of pot (in possible redeposited pyre debris 3120) and melted silica (in possible redeposited urned burial 3072) were present. The flots are dominated by the remains of wild plants but also include cereal plant remains. The wild plant taxa comprise Poaceae (including culms, roots, culm nodes and culm bases), *Chenopodium* sp., Caryophyllaceae, *Polygonum* sp., *Atriplex* sp., *Plantago lanceolata*, Trifoliae, roots (including *Arrhenatherum elatius* subsp. *bulbosum* (false oat-grass)) and indeterminate roots, tubers and fragments. Cereal remains are indeterminate fragments (Triticeae), sometimes with *Hordeum vulgare* being identified.
- 7.3.13 The pit samples flots are large (>50 ml) and contain low numbers of roots and high numbers of modern seeds. This could be indicative of stratigraphic movement and the possible contamination by later elements. Charred material was fairly well preserved, with wood charcoal noted in generally large quantities, and composed of mature and roundwood examples. No other environmental evidence is preserved in the samples. The flots include the remains of wild plant taxa Viciaeae, *Corylus avellana* and indeterminate roots. Cereal remains are represented by *Triticum* sp.
- 7.3.14 The flots from posthole samples are generally small (≤50 ml) and have variable numbers of roots and generally low numbers of modern seeds. This may be indicative of some stratigraphic movement, with the possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements. Charred material exhibits varying degrees of preservation, with wood charcoal noted in



small quantities and composed of mature examples. No other environmental evidence is preserved. The flots are dominated by the remains of wild plants (Poaceae culms, roots and tubers) but also include some cereal plant remains (*Triticum* sp.).

#### Area E

- 7.3.15 The flots from cremation-related deposits (including one with a possibly unurned burial) are small (<50 ml) with a high number of roots which may be indicative of some stratigraphic movement and the high possibility of contamination by later intrusions. Wood charcoal is noted in small quantities and contains both mature and roundwood examples. No other environmental evidence is preserved.
- 7.3.16 Pit sample flots from this area are generally small, apart from pit 2015 (295 ml). There are variable numbers of roots and low numbers of modern seeds that may indicate some stratigraphic movement and possible contamination by later intrusive elements. Charred material is poorly preserved and, in the case of pit 2007, iron coated. Wood charcoal is noted in generally small quantities, apart from pit 2015, and is composed of mature examples. No other environmental evidence is preserved. Only one flot (pit sample 2007) contains plant remains (*Hordeum vulgare*).

## 8 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

### 8.1 Summary of potential

- 8.1.1 The site contains evidence of Late Iron Age/Romano-British land division and farming and early/middle Saxon funerary activity as carried out in the hinterland of the Roman town of *Magiovinium*. The 2014 regional resource assessment relating to the early medieval period stated that the number of known urned early medieval cremation burials from Buckinghamshire is 'probably in single figures' (Dodd 2014, 212). Cremation was less common than inhumation across the region in the early medieval period, and cremations have been less well studied (*ibid.*). Unfortunately the site was highly plough-disturbed and most of the cremations were heavily truncated.
- 8.1.2 The majority of the finds assemblage comprises Late Iron Age/Romano-British pottery – other material types are not well represented, and are in generally poor condition (particularly the animal bone). Of most interest are the human remains, pottery, metalwork and glass from the from urned and unurned cremation burials. These are mostly of Saxon date, and as indicated above are significant as cremation assemblages of this date are very rare within this part of the country. Some evidence for cremation in the Late Iron Age/early Romano-British period was also encountered.
- 8.1.3 The environmental data gathered from soil samples is not, in general, particularly informative. The environmental assemblages are dominated by wood charcoal, most of which is presumed to represent fuel for funeral pyres. Within the assemblage, there is scope for recognising potential changes in the choice of pyre fuelwood between the Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon periods. Charred remains of cereals and other plants are generally rare and poorly preserved and were found in secondary deposits, and so offer limited scope for understanding how the site was exploited in the past.
- 8.1.4 Although the cremation burials were highly plough-disturbed and many are as-yet undated, the site can nonetheless be considered to be of regional significance, but perhaps at the lower end of that range.



## 8.2 Stratigraphic potential

8.2.1 The archaeological sequence exposed within the strip, map and sample areas was relatively simple: the majority of pre-medieval deposits were sealed by ploughsoil/subsoil and were cut in to the geological substrate. Most of the site's pre-medieval boundary features were set out on a common template and, generally there was little evidence for stratification. Where different linear features met, typically both elements appeared contemporary, or no relationship could be discerned. The chronological sequence has therefore generally been established so far as possible from stratigraphic relationships, and the overall stratigraphic sequence of the site's archaeological remains is, therefore, sufficiently well understood.

## 8.3 Finds potential

8.3.1 The main interest in this finds assemblage lies in the collection of material from cremation-related deposits – human remains, pottery, metalwork and glass from urned and unurned graves, mostly of Saxon date, with some of Late Iron Age/Romano-British date. This is a small but significant group, of which the Saxon funerary component in particular is very sparsely represented in the region.

8.3.2 The majority of the assemblage, however, comprises Late Iron Age/Romano-British settlement-related material, mainly pottery – other material types are not well represented. Small quantities and poor condition (particularly for the animal bone) will affect the archaeological potential of this material.

### *Saxon cemetery: human remains and grave goods*

8.3.3 The small early/middle Saxon cemetery at Eaton Leys, despite the undoubted truncation and loss of remains, provides a rare opportunity to study in greater detail all aspects of one of these later smaller cemeteries and to document the changes in the mortuary rites in the region.

8.3.4 Full analysis of the bone will provide more detailed demographic data, confirming the minimum number of individuals (MNI), refining their age and making further assessment of sex. Although few pathological lesions were observed in the scan, and this area of analysis will undoubtedly be limited due to the condition of the bone, some might be revealed in the more detailed analysis and a full record and study of such changes could contribute towards a broad assessment of the health status of at least some of the individuals.

8.3.5 The contents of the Saxon cemetery in particular are of regional significance due to the scarcity of published cremation burials from the region, with urned cremation burials especially uncommon (Dodd 2014, 211–12). Comparison with settlement ceramics from Milton Keynes (Blinkhorn 1993) may determine whether the funerary assemblage shows any significant differences in terms of ware types, vessel forms or use of decoration. There may be some potential to identify non-local pottery types, and thus add to the evidence for production and distribution of pottery at this period. There is now some evidence from other parts of the country that cemetery pots were not necessarily made purely for funerary use, but may display evidence for a pre-burial function (eg, Perry 2011). Given the condition of the Eaton Leys assemblage, the potential for identifying similar evidence is probably limited, but the attempt should be made.

8.3.6 The metalwork and glass from the cemeteries is in very poor condition (and it may not be possible to determine whether some of these objects were burnt as pyre goods), but should be able to contribute to a discussion of burial rites.



#### *Late Iron Age/Romano-British pottery*

- 8.3.7 The Late Iron Age and Roman pottery has contributed to the broad chronological framework for the site, although the widespread use of grog-tempered fabrics and 'Belgic' style forms throughout the later 1st century BC and beyond the Roman conquest to the late 1st century AD has hampered attempts to distinguish pre- and post-conquest groups (Fulford 2014, 157). A basic record has been made of the assemblage, in line with national guidelines (Barclay *et al* 2016), and further fabric analysis is unwarranted, except for the *terra nigra* type vessel and consideration of the sand and grog-tempered fabrics to ascertain if they represent exploitation of different clay sources. Further analysis will instead concentrate on examining aspects of form to explore vessel function, social identity, the range of on-site activities and deposition practices. The group of vessels from cremation grave 6041 is particularly significant as decorated samian vessels are rarely found in funerary contexts (Willis 2005). The Eaton Leys assemblage should be considered with reference to others from this region.

#### *Animal bone*

- 8.3.8 The faunal assemblage is small, poorly preserved and of limited potential. Information relating to the mortality, size and butchery of livestock is scarce (Table 10) and provides little insight about animal husbandry strategies in the immediate environs of *Magiovinium* or the wider region during the Late Iron Age–early Romano-British period.

#### *Other finds*

- 8.3.9 Structural evidence (CBM, fired clay) is extremely limited, and little can be gained from any further study of this material.
- 8.3.10 The evidence for earlier prehistoric activity (Mesolithic and/or Early Neolithic) is of some interest, but the evidence (34 pieces of worked flint) is very limited and appears entirely redeposited.

### **8.4 Environmental potential**

- 8.4.1 In general, a limited environmental assemblage has been retrieved, dominated by wood charcoal. Most of the charcoal originates from cremation-related deposits and may have been deliberately chosen for funerary activities; the material could therefore inform about the composition of the local woodland and the dynamics of fuel selection practices, particularly between the Romano-British and the Saxon periods.
- 8.4.2 The charred plant remain assemblages are restricted and generally poorly preserved, having a limited explanatory potential for the reconstruction of past plant exploitation practices. Many of the charred plant remains retrieved from cremation-related features and deposits may have been intentionally exploited as fuel (eg, false oat grass tubers) but they could have also been present in the sediment and accidentally charred. Sparse remains of cereals and other wild plant seeds retrieved from these types of deposits may have been intentionally deposited in cremation pyres, but their low density in the deposits indicates that they are most likely residual or intrusive from other activities in the area, particularly since a considerable number of the cremation deposits are redeposited.
- 8.4.3 The cereal assemblages, which could have a great potential for reconstructing local agricultural practices, are generally rare and often of a secondary nature (Fuller *et al.* 2014) being present in ditch fills rather than in domestic features. Although in most cases precise identification to species level was not possible due to poor preservation, the presence of hulled wheats (emmer and spelt) and barley are consistent with the dominant Romano-British chronology of Area A, where some domestic activities may have been





carried out judging by the presence of some assemblages probably originating from crop-processing by-products. Sparse naked or free-threshing wheat remains (*T. aestivum/turgidum*), consistent with agriculture from Saxon or later times, are present in a number of samples in areas A and possibly D, but none of them formed part of rich and diverse cereal and weed assemblages which would suggest the crop-processing activities were carried out in the area during that period, contrary to the Romano-British evidence.

## 8.5 Overall research potential

### *Reappraisal of the project objectives*

- 8.5.1 The general aims and specific research objectives that guided the fieldwork (CgMs Heritage 2018) are set out above (section 3). The project has been reasonably successful in meeting these. The site's archaeological resource is now better understood, and it has been possible to broadly phase the principal suites of remains. The chronology of the unurned cremation graves has not been proven, however.
- 8.5.2 Aside from a background scatter of flint, there is no evidence of pre-Late Iron Age activity, much less settlement. The site therefore has little potential for defining the periods and type of activity on the site during the bulk of prehistory, other than to remark that it appears to have made no great archaeological impact.
- 8.5.3 The pottery assemblage from Area A dates to the Late Iron Age/Romano-British period, suggesting this part of the site has the potential to investigate continuity of local traditions after the conquest (Hey and Hind 2014, 179). However, the difficulty in establishing whether a particular pottery assemblage (and therefore its parent feature) dates to before or after the conquest obscures such developments. The recommended detailed analysis of the pottery assemblages (see below) may bring some clarity to matters, however.
- 8.5.4 How field systems operated and developed is a research priority, and the value of environmental evidence in casting light on this has been acknowledged (Hey and Hind 2014, 179). The nature of the activity to the south of the scheduled Roman town appears largely horti/agricultural as revealed by the co-axial field system and droveways, and the evidence of crop-processing activities found within them. The environmental assemblages are not particularly informative however, casting no great light on such activities. Overall, the environmental evidence from the field system conforms to expectations with regard to how they operated. The discovery of five cremation graves and a further five features containing cremation-related deposits within Area A provides some evidence for the mortuary use of land within the droveways and field system. However, as only three of these features contained dateable pottery, the relative chronology of the mortuary and agrarian use of this part of the site is currently unclear.
- 8.5.5 Few stratigraphic relationships could be determined at the intersections of boundary features, either because of their overall contemporaneity, or more likely due to the typically homogeneous fills across Area A. Whatever the reason for the lack of clear stratigraphic relationships, the evolution of the system of enclosures and trackways remains obscure.
- 8.5.6 Although it is difficult to argue from negative evidence, the lack of post-1st century AD pottery from Area A is intriguing given the proximity of *Magiovinium*. This disparity permits some discussion of changes regarding how urban centres exploited their agrarian hinterlands, and developments in patterns of discard of material culture etc.



8.5.7 The animal bone assemblage is small and poorly preserved, and so cannot improve our understanding of breed improvement for cattle and sheep, and variations in the proportions of livestock (Hey and Hind 2014, 180).

8.5.8 The excavated data has good potential to cast light onto the mortuary hinterland of 'small' towns, and their related social organisation (Hey and Hind 2014, 180). Area D, where the Saxon cremation burials were found, lay on a ridge some distance from the focus of Late Iron Age/Romano-British activity, which lay in Area A. The cremation burials therefore appear focussed on a part of the site more likely chosen for its topographic prominence than association with previous use of the landscape, although the general proximity of the site of *Magiovinium* may have been a factor in determining the mortuary use of this part of the landscape in the Saxon period.

## 8.6 Updated project aims

8.6.1 The significance and potential of the archaeology of Buckinghamshire were appraised during the course of the compilation of the Solent-Thames Research Framework (Hey and Hind 2014). Other documents identify research priorities for the chronological periods relating to the site at the national level (eg, English Heritage 2012). These have been used to update the project aims in light of the archaeological and palaeoenvironmental remains encountered.

8.6.2 Following assessment, the results of the archaeological fieldwork at Eaton Leys have the potential to contribute to the following research objectives:

- Roman to Post-Roman: recognising, capturing and understanding 5th century data (English Heritage 2012)
- The identification of the extent to which there was continuity of use between Romano-British sites and Anglo-Saxon (Hey and Hind 2014, 228)
- The development of better definition of chronologies within Anglo-Saxon cemeteries (Hey and Hind 2014, 228)
- Better definition and dating of [early medieval] pottery sequences in the region (Hey and Hind 2014, 228).

## 9 UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### 9.1 Introduction

9.1.1 Further work is required to better place the archaeology of the site within its local, regional and national context. A stage of analysis and publication will allow the results of the fieldwork to contribute to the relevant established research aims and questions. This accords with one of the aims of the excavation, as stated in the WSI (CgMs Heritage 2018): "To analyse and interpret the results of the excavation and disseminate them".

### 9.2 Recommendations and proposed methodologies for analysis

#### *Stratigraphy*

9.2.1 It may be possible to identify pre- and post-conquest features within Area A by considering the results of the proposed pottery analysis in light of the site stratigraphy. A Harris matrix for Area A should be prepared and augmented with pottery spot-dates, and an effort should be made to phase the excavated sequence.

### Context

9.2.2 To better understand the context of the site, both in terms of its physical location within the ancient landscape and against the backdrop of the latest understanding of Romano-British and early medieval Buckinghamshire, it is recommended that a project specific GIS be created, incorporating the results of:

- a literature review and updated HER search, and
- the sourcing of existing LiDAR data to enable production of a digital model of the site landscape.

9.2.3 A literature review will also be carried out in order to better understand the site in its local, regional and national context. The following local/regional sources have been identified, but more will be consulted as they are identified during the course of the literature review:

- Booth, P, Dodd, A, Robinson, M and Smith, A, 2007 *The Thames through time; the archaeology of the gravel terraces of the Upper and Middle Thames. The early historical period: Britons, Romans and the Anglo-Saxons in the Thames Valley AD 1-1000*, Oxford Archaeology Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph 27
- Farley, M, 2008 *Early Medieval Buckinghamshire*, at [http://thehumanjourney.net/pdf\\_store/sthames/phase3/County/Early%20Medieval/Early%20Medieval%20Buckinghamshire.pdf](http://thehumanjourney.net/pdf_store/sthames/phase3/County/Early%20Medieval/Early%20Medieval%20Buckinghamshire.pdf)
- Hunn A, Lawson J and Farley M, 1994 *The Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Dinton, Buckinghamshire*, *Anglo-Saxon Studies in Archaeology and History* 7, 85-148

9.2.4 Comparanda for the possible four-post 'mortuary house' in Area E will be sought, with the following source already flagged:

- Down, A. and Welch, M. (1990) *Chichester Excavations 7, Apple Down and the Mardens*. Chichester District Council, Chichester

### Finds recommendations

#### Pottery

9.2.5 The whole pottery assemblage will be subjected to full fabric and form analysis, following the standard Wessex Archaeology recording system for pottery, which accords with nationally recommended guidelines for detailed pottery analysis (Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group 2016, section 2.4.6). The pottery will be described and discussed by chronological period.

9.2.6 Further analysis of the Late Iron Age/Romano-British assemblage will concentrate on an enhancement of the scan data (including rim diameters). The samian sherds and *terra nigra* type vessel will be examined by the relevant specialists, with petrological analysis carried out of the latter if deemed necessary. Examination of morphological traits will aid in identification of intended use, however several vessels may also be considered for organic residue analysis to ascertain actual use, such as the storage jar from pit 6147 and beaker from pit 6267. The assemblage will be described and discussed within its local and regional context, with particular reference to other sites in the Milton Keynes area such as Walton (Marney 1989, 7), Cotton Valley (*ibid*, 9) and Bancroft (Williams and Zeepvat 1994). Up to 27 vessels will be illustrated to demonstrate the range of forms and key groups; a rubbing will also be made of the samian vessel from cremation burial 6041.



9.2.7 Further refinement of the Saxon fabrics will be undertaken, supported by a limited programme of petrological analysis (maximum of six samples), in order to determine whether the assemblage includes any non-local wares. Dimensions will be recorded where possible, and any evidence for pre-burial use (although this is likely to be negligible or absent given the condition of the assemblage). The discussion of the assemblage will seek to place it in its local and regional context, with some comment on the use of vessels in the cemetery. A maximum of nine Saxon vessels will be illustrated (mostly partial profiles).

#### Grave goods

9.2.8 The catalogue entries for metalwork from Romano-British and Saxon graves will be checked and amended and/or enhanced as necessary; these will form part of the published grave catalogue. A commentary will be prepared which discusses the metalwork by chronological in terms of potential function, and the role of the objects in the burial rite. The pin from grave 3072 will be illustrated.

9.2.9 The same will be undertaken for the glass from the Saxon graves: careful examination will be made to determine whether any further detail of the original glass beads can be discerned. This may have chronological implications. None of these beads survives well enough for illustration.

#### Other metalwork

9.2.10 The catalogue entries for other metal objects from Late Iron Age/Romano-British contexts will be supplemented with appropriate parallels to support identification and dating. This will be used to enhance the information presented in this report which can be used for publication. The hairpin and two brooches will be illustrated.

#### Human bone

9.2.11 Analysis of the cremated bone will follow the writer's standard procedures (McKinley 1994, 5–6; 2004). The unsorted <4mm residues will be subject to a rapid scan at this stage to extract any identifiable material, osseous or artefactual.

9.2.12 Taphonomic factors potentially affecting differential bone preservation will be assessed in collaboration with other specialists. The age and – for the adult at least – sex of individuals will be further considered using standard methodologies (Beek 1983; Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994; Gejvall 1981; Scheuer and Black 2000).

9.2.13 The form and nature of the deposits will be further considered in light of the osteological and other finds information together with the context data. Aspects of pyre technology and the cremation mortuary rite will be discussed in their temporal, regional and, if appropriate, national context.

9.2.14 In the absence of conclusive dating evidence via directly related artefactual remains from burial deposits recovered from in several areas of the site, it will be necessary to undertake a sequence of radiocarbon dating on samples from selected deposits.

#### Animal bone

9.2.15 No further analytical work is required on the animal bone, but a summary of the assemblage should be included in any future publication of the fieldwork results. The assessment data is sufficient for this purpose. The report should seek to place the assemblage within a broad regional context for the Late Iron Age-early Romano-British period (Hambleton 2008; Allen 2017).

### Other finds

- 9.2.16 No further analysis is proposed for any other finds categories. Information presented in this report could be incorporated in the publication report with some slight adaptation.
- 9.2.17 For the flint, all the worked flint pieces (11) from Area C topsoil should be photographed together as they are representative of the assemblage (two bladelet cores, one unifacially worked piece, one blade and seven assorted flakes).

### Conservation

- 9.2.18 On the basis of the X-rays, and a scan of the metal objects concerned, minimal further recommendations for conservation treatment are proposed. Two copper alloy objects require cleaning and stabilisation for long-term curation (Table 12). Other copper alloy objects are considered to be in a sufficiently stable condition, or are in such poor condition that cleaning would not reveal any further detail (coins).
- 9.2.19 Amongst the ironwork, there is no requirement for further investigative cleaning, and sufficient detail is visible on the X-rays, there are no items of intrinsic interest, and moreover cleaning would potentially make the objects more vulnerable to further deterioration. The metal objects may be targeted for selective retention (see below), and objects retained will be appropriately packaged in stable storage (airtight plastic tubs with drying agent) for long-term curation.

**Table 12** Objects selected for conservation treatment

Material	Obj Type	Obj No	Action
Copper alloy	Brooch	6005	Remove soil
Copper alloy	Pin	6010	Remove soil and consolidate

### Environmental recommendations

- 9.2.20 All extracted environmental material and flots with environmental evidence are recommended for retention, whilst all sorted and unsorted residues are recommended for discard once the requirements for analysis have been met. The retention of residues from cremation-related deposits will be dependent on the preservation of human bone and decided upon completion of the analysis by the project's osteoarchaeologist.

### Charred plant remains

- 9.2.21 The analysis of a selection of three samples with rich charred plant assemblages has the potential to provide information on the settlement, and its environment within the wider context of agricultural practices and crop husbandry techniques in the area in Romano-British times.
- 9.2.22 The samples proposed for analysis are indicated with a 'P' in the analysis column in Appendix 2. All identifiable charred plant macrofossils will be extracted from the <5.6/4 residues and the flot, which may be subsampled with the aid of a riffle box in the case of very rich assemblages. The analysis will involve the full quantification (Antolín *et al.* 2016) and taphonomic assessment of the charred plant assemblages.

### Wood charcoal

- 9.2.23 The analysis of the wood charcoal from a selection of thirteen cremation-related deposits of different natures and a domestic refuse deposit, as comparison, would provide information on the species composition, management and exploitation of the local

woodland and would help understand the nature of local funerary practices. It is however expected to encounter problems in identification due to frequent iron coating.

- 9.2.24 The samples proposed for charcoal analysis are indicated with a 'C' in the analysis column in Appendix 2. Identifiable charcoal will be extracted from the 2mm residue together and the flots (>2mm). Larger richer samples will be sub-sampled: up to a maximum of 100 charcoal fragments per sample will be analysed, as recommended by Keepax (1988). Only fragments greater than 2mm, and primarily those greater than 4mm, will be examined, as fragments <2mm generally lack sufficient anatomical detail and thus cannot be conclusively identified. Fragments will be prepared for identification according to the standard methodology of Leney and Casteel (1975). Charcoal pieces will be fractured with a razor blade to reveal three planes: transverse section (TS), radial longitudinal section (RL) and tangential longitudinal section (TL). They will then be examined under bi-focal epi-illuminated microscopy at magnifications of x50, x100 and x40. Identification will be undertaken according to the anatomical characteristics described by Schweingruber (1990) and Butterfield and Meylan (1980). Identification will be to the lowest taxonomic level possible, usually that of genus and nomenclature according to Stace (1997), individual taxon (mature and twig) will be separated, quantified, and the results tabulated.

### 9.3 Radiocarbon dating

- 9.3.1 Around twenty radiocarbon dates are proposed (see table below); it is anticipated that the dating will be undertaken by the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC) and the <sup>14</sup>CHRONO Centre, Queen's University, Belfast.
- 9.3.2 The samples will target the cremation graves, in an attempt to improve understanding of the periods in which cremated bone was being interred on the site, the spatial development of the mortuary areas, and pottery chronologies. The list of proposed samples is based on published research priorities (eg, Fulford 2014; Hey and Hind 2014) and constrained by the fact that not all graves contained sufficient quantities of bone to allow radiocarbon dating (>25 g).
- 9.3.3 In line with current best practice guidance, 'paired dating' is recommended, whereby a short-lived fragment or plant remain associated with each of the radiocarbon dated cremated human bone fragments is also dated, in order to test the accuracy and reliability of the results from the human remains. This is due to the potential occurrence of the 'old wood effect' whereby the potential use of wood from long-lived species of trees, such as oak, can lead to inaccurate results from cremated bone (eg, Olsen *et al.* 2013, Snoek *et al.* 2014, Waterbolk 1971, Zazzo *et al.* 2009). In addition, paired dating will allow for Bayesian statistical modelling of the measurements, which in some cases could increase the accuracy of the results for each deposit, particularly as the calibration curve for some specific periods may be slightly problematic. A phased approach may be adopted to determine to what extent the samples are affected by the old wood effect.
- 9.3.4 The radiocarbon dating of the environmental samples selected for further analysis is not recommended, as the results are unlikely to improve upon the ceramic dates already obtained for these features.
- 9.3.5 Human bone samples will be selected by Jackie McKinley, with particular note taken of the osteological analysis to avoid sampling the same individual where the human remains could occur in more than one discrete deposit and/or feature. In the case of the cremation-related deposits that are not certainly burials, then sampling for further dating will occur after the analysis of the bone has been undertaken. The charred plant remains and wood

charcoal samples will be selected by Inés López-Dóriga. The wood charcoal samples will be taxonomically identified before submission if no roundwood can be macroscopically selected from each context targeted for dating.

- 9.3.6 The dating scheme will follow guidance and best practice from the Historic England Scientific Dating Team. Dates will be calculated using the IntCal13 calibration curve (Reimer et al. 2013) and the computer program OxCal (v4.2.3) (Bronk Ramsey and Lee 2013) and cited at 95% confidence.

**Table 13** Proposed radiocarbon dates

Area	Context	Feature	Question	Available entity suitable for paired dating
E	2018	2017	Does the funerary use of Area E relate to the site's IA/RB or Saxon phase?	Roundwood
D	3028	3027	When was cremated bone being interred in the northern part of Area D?	Not available
D	3029	3030	Are the unurned burials in Area D LIA/RB or Saxon?	Onion-couch grass tubers or short-lived wood
D	3037	3038	When was cremated bone being interred in the northern/central part of Area D?	Wood charcoal (if short-lived)
D	3043	3044	When was cremated bone being interred in the central part of Area D?	Wood charcoal (if short-lived)
D	3065	3066	Are the unurned burials in Area D LIA/RB or Saxon?	Onion-couch grass tubers, roundwood or short-lived wood
D	3073	3074	When was cremated bone being interred in the south-western part of Area D? + date for largely intact vessel	Wood charcoal (if short-lived)
D	3124*	3125	When was cremated bone being interred in the south-eastern part of Area D?	Tuber
C	4010	4009	Does the funerary use of Area C relate to the site's IA/RB or Saxon phase?	Wood charcoal (if short-lived)
A	6012	6013	What date are the unurned cremation burials in Area A? Do they pre- or post-date the driveway/field system?	Wood charcoal (if short-lived)
A	6240	6239	What date are the unurned cremation burials in Area A? Do they pre- or post-date the driveway/field system?	Roundwood

## 9.4 Proposals for publication

- 9.4.1 In light of the significance of the remains, the publication of an overview article is proposed. This will present a summary and synthesis of the results and discuss the site in its regional context. In the first instance, the draft text will be submitted for comment to the archaeological curator representing Milton Keynes council. The approved draft will then be submitted for publication in the *Records of Buckinghamshire* journal, and will be supported by an accessible, 'project page' containing full specialist reports and supporting data. This will be hosted on the Wessex Archaeology and/or ADS website.

- 9.4.2 It is estimated that the article will be approximately 16,400 words long and, with plates, tables and figures, occupying an estimated 35 pages of the journal (assuming maximum 800 words per page).

### *Provisional synopsis of the publication*

Working title: *Eaton Leys, Milton Keynes: Life and death on the southern edge of Magiovinium*. By Hannah Dabill with principal specialist contributions from Inés López-Dóriga, Jacqueline I. McKinley and Lorraine Mepham



Introduction	400 words
Results	4500 words
Finds and environmental reports	8000 words
Discussion	2000 words
Bibliography	1500

Total: approximately 16400 words, 10 figures, 5 plates, 5 tables

- 9.4.3 It is anticipated that, due to its rarity, a short article on the stamped samian bowl from cremation burial 6041 will also be produced for the *Journal of Roman Pottery Studies* or similar (to be confirmed).

## 9.5 Programme for analysis and publication

- 9.5.1 Analysis and publication will only commence when this document and the proposals therein have been approved by the Senior Archaeological Officer for Milton Keynes Council, and the work has been commissioned in full by CgMs Heritage on behalf of Gallagher Estates.
- 9.5.2 Typically, the analysis and publication programme for a project of this scale and complexity will take around nine months but will vary depending on the availability of specialists and external laboratories. A project-specific programme will be developed and agreed at the time of commission.

## 9.6 Personnel and resources

- 9.6.1 The following Wessex Archaeology core staff are scheduled to undertake the work as outlined in the task list for post-excavation analysis and publication (Table 14).

**Table 14** Task list

Task no.	Task description	Days	Staff
<b>1. Management and support</b>			
1.1	Project management	2	A Norton
1.2	Project monitor and QA	1	A Norton
1.3	Finds management	3	J Irwin
1.4	Environmental management	1.5	I López-Dóriga
1.5	Publication management	0.5	P Bradley
<b>2. Pre-analysis</b>			
2.1	Site database updates	1	H Dabill
2.2	Digitisation of selected drawings	1	I Atkins
2.3	Project meetings	1	Var.
2.4	Background research	4	H Dabill
<b>3. Analysis and specialist reporting</b>			
<b>3.1 Finds</b>			
3.1.1	Human bone analysis/reporting	22	J McKinley
3.1.2	Pottery report: LIA/RB	15	A Thorp
3.1.3	Pottery report: samian identification	1	J Mills
3.1.4	Pottery report: Saxon	4	L Mepham
3.1.5	Glass	0.5	L Mepham





3.1.6	Metalwork	3	G Jones
3.1.7	Metalwork: conservation	1	L Wootten
3.1.8	Animal bone	0.5	L Higbee
3.1.9	Find illustration (36 pottery vessels, 3 metal objects)	4.5	GO
<b>3.2 Environmental</b>			
3.2.1	Extraction of Charred Plants and Wood Charcoal (16 samples)	4	ES
3.2.2	Analysis of Charred Plant Remains (3 samples)	3	I López-Dóriga
3.2.3	Analysis of Wood Charcoal (13 samples + ID of 3 samples for dating)	11	D Challinor
3.2.4	Environmental Illustration Requirements	0.5	I López-Dóriga
3.2.5	Overview and Palaeo-environmental Summary	1	I López-Dóriga
3.2.6	Environmental Management	0.5	I López-Dóriga
<b>3.3 Radiocarbon dating</b>			
3.3.1	Samples: despatch, dating and report	n.=c. 20	Univ Belfast/SUERC/ I López-Dóriga
<b>3.4 Stratigraphy</b>			
3.4.1	Phasing of Area A following pottery analysis/Harris matrix production	2	H Dabill
<b>4. Context (HER search, literature review etc)</b>			
4.1	HER search	0.5	R Milwain
4.2	Literature review	3	H Dabill
4.3	LiDAR model	0.5	R Milwain
4.4	GIS production	1	R Milwain
<b>5. Publication compilation (journal article)</b>			
5.1	Introduction and background	1	H Dabill
5.2	Compile and integrate report	4	H Dabill
5.3	Discussion	3	H Dabill
5.4	Bibliography	2	H Dabill
5.5	Captions (figures, plates and tables)	0.5	H Dabill
5.6	Brief finds and figure illustrations	1	H Dabill
5.7	Illustrations	3	I Atkins
5.8	Edit report	2	A Norton
5.9	Review report	1.5	P Bradley
5.10	Revise report following journal review	2	Var
5.11	Check proofs	2	Var
5.12	Journal publication cost	TBC	
<b>6. Archiving</b>			
6.1	Physical archive preparation	2	L Ainscough
6.2	Digital archive preparation	2	L Ainscough
6.3	Find selection policy finalisation & implementation	0.5	L Ainscough
6.4	Final environmental archive checking	0.5	L Chambers
6.5	Archive deposition	1	J Crangle
6.6	Box storage grant	30 boxes	Buckingham County Museum
6.7	ADS digital deposition charge	TBC	ADS



## 9.7 Management structure

- 9.7.1 Wessex Archaeology operates a project management system. The team will be headed by a Post-excavation Manager, who will assume ultimate responsibility for the implementation and execution of the project specification as outlined in the Updated Project Design, and the achievement of performance targets, be they academic, budgetary, or scheduled.
- 9.7.2 The Post-excavation Manager may delegate specific aspects of the project to other key staff, who will both supervise others and have a direct input into the compilation of the report. They may also undertake direct liaison with external consultants and specialists who are contributing to the publication report, and the museum named as the recipient of the project archive. The Post-excavation Manager will have a major input into how the publication report is written. They will define and control the scope and form of the post-excavation programme.
- 9.7.3 The Post-excavation Manager will be assisted by the Senior Research Manager and Senior Publications Manager, who will help to ensure that the report meets internal quality standards as defined in Wessex Archaeology's guidelines.

## 10 STORAGE AND CURATION

### 10.1 Museum

- 10.1.1 The physical archive resulting from the excavation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Sheffield and Salisbury. The digital records are stored on a server located at Wessex Archaeology's Salisbury office. Buckinghamshire County Museum has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under the accession code AYBCM:2018.84. Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full written agreement of the landowner to transfer title of all finds to the museum.

### 10.1 Preparation of the archive

#### *Physical archive*

- 10.1.1 The physical archive, which includes paper records, graphics, artefacts and ecofacts, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Buckinghamshire County Museum's *Procedures for notifying and transferring archaeological archives* (last revised 2013) and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014c; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).
- 10.1.2 All archive elements will be marked with the accession code, and a full index will be prepared.
- 10.1.3 The physical archive currently consists of the following:
- 40 boxes finds/environmental material
  - 1 file of paper records and A3/A4 graphics
- 10.1.4 Some rationalisation of the finds/environmental boxes is likely during analysis, and following the proposed selection policy (see below).



### *Digital archive*

- 10.1.5 The digital archive generated by the project, which will include born-digital data (survey data, databases and spreadsheets, photographs and reports) as well as a scanned security copy of the physical records (see below), will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) to ensure its long-term curation. Digital data will be prepared following ADS guidelines (ADS 2013 and online guidance) and accompanied by full metadata.

## **10.2 Selection policy**

- 10.2.1 Wessex Archaeology follows national guidelines on selection and retention (SMA 1993; Brown 2011, section 4), with the aim of retaining only those finds with further research potential, or which fulfil other criteria within the Museum's collecting policy.
- 10.2.2 In this instance, finds categories which could be targeted for selective retention include the ceramic building material, fired clay and slag, all of which were found in very small quantities; none of these categories has any significant further research value.
- 10.2.3 All other finds should be retained *in toto*. The selection policy will be agreed with the Museum and will be fully documented in the project archive.
- 10.2.4 Some rationalisation of the environmental material is also likely during the analysis phase: cremation residues will be sorted and discarded, and any other unsorted residues from non-cemetery contexts will also be discarded.

## **10.3 Security copy**

- 10.3.1 In line with current best practice (eg, Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

## **10.4 OASIS**

- 10.4.1 An OASIS online record (<http://oasis.ac.uk/pages/wiki/Main>) has been initiated, with key fields completed (wessexar1-334083). The record will be finalised and a copy of this report uploaded to OASIS on the completion of the project. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the OASIS record will be integrated into the relevant local and national records and published through the Archaeology Data Service ArchSearch catalogue.

## **11 COPYRIGHT**

### **11.1 Archive and report copyright**

- 11.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*. In some instances, certain regional museums may require absolute transfer of copyright, rather than a licence; this should be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.



11.1.2 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record (HER) where it can be freely copied without reference to Wessex Archaeology for the purposes of archaeological research or development control within the planning process.

## **11.2 Third party data copyright**

11.2.1 This document and the project archive may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (eg, Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which Wessex Archaeology are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of *the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of such material.



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## APPENDICES

### Appendix 1: OASIS form

OASIS ID: [wessexar1-334083](#)

#### Project details

Project name	Land at Eaton Leys, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire
Short description of the project	<p>Wessex Archaeology was commissioned to undertake archaeological mitigation work at Eaton Leys, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire Six areas occupying 2.95 ha in total were investigated by means of strip, map and sample excavation. The most significant remains were in Area A and Area D. Area A contained ditches forming droeways and a co-axial field system. These appear to be LIA/ERB in date, and would have formed part of the hinterland of the former Roman town of Magiovinium, which lies just to the north of the excavated area. Area D contained a cremation cemetery containing over 30 burials. The majority had been placed in urns of early/middle Saxon manufacture. The majority of the finds assemblage comprises Late Iron Age/Romano-British pottery - other material types are not well represented, and are in generally poor condition (particularly the animal bone). Of most interest are the human remains, pottery, metalwork and glass from urned and unurned Saxon cremation burials. Over 300 environmental samples were collected from a range of features, although in general, they are not particularly informative. The environmental remains recovered from the samples are dominated by wood charcoal; the majority originates from cremation-related deposits, and likely represents fuel for funeral pyres.</p>
Project dates	Start: 23-07-2018 End: 12-10-2018
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	207760 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	15/01533/OUTEIS - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	AYBCM:2018.84 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	DITCH Roman
Monument type	CREMATION CEMETERY Early Medieval
Monument type	CREMATION GRAVE Roman
Significant Finds	POT Roman
Significant Finds	URN Early Medieval
Significant Finds	DEBITAGE Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	URN Roman
Investigation type	"Open-area excavation"



Prompt	Planning condition
<b>Project location</b>	
Country	England
Site location	BUCKINGHAMSHIRE MILTON KEYNES BLETCHLEY Land at Eaton Leys, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire
Postcode	MK2 2UZ
Study area	3 Hectares
Site coordinates	8894 3316 8894 00 00 N 3316 00 00 E Point
Site coordinates	SP 88940 33160 51.989332821625 -0.704609645831 51 59 21 N 000 42 16 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 67m Max: 78m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator	with advice from County Archaeologist
Project design originator	CgMs
Project director/manager	Andrew Norton
Project supervisor	Hannah Dabill
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Gallagher Estates

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Buckinghamshire County Museum
Physical Archive ID	AYBCM:2018.84
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Human Bones","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	ADS
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey"
Digital Media available	"Database","GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Buckinghamshire County Museum
Paper Archive ID	AYBCM:2018.84
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"



Paper Media available "Diary","Plan","Section"

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**Project bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Land at Eaton Leys, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. Post-excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design

Author(s)/Editor(s) Dabill, H and Daniel, P

Other bibliographic details 207761.01

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Entered by Patrick Daniel (p.daniel@wessexarch.co.uk)

Entered on 14 May 2019



## Appendix 2: Assessment of the environmental evidence

Area	Feature	Context	Group	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Sub-sample	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal >2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Analysis	Comments (Preservation)
A	6180	6181	6400	6023	34	47	-	90%, A**, I, E	C	-	<i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	B	Caryophyllaceae, <i>Atriplex</i> sp., <i>Polygonum</i> sp., Viciaeae, indet.	9	Mature	Bone (C)		Heterogeneous
A	6187	6188	6400	6025	31	11	-	40%, A, I	-	-	-	-	-	<1	Mature	-		-
A	6290	6291	6400	6058	10	6	0.25 <4mm residue	80%, C, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	4.5	Mature	-		-
A	6009	6008	6401	6010	40	13	-	99%, C, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
A	6059	6061	6402	6051	35	11.5	-	60%, B, I	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	Bone (C)		-
A	6159	6161	6403	6017	35	5	-	1%, C, I	B	-	<i>Triticum</i> sp.	A	Poaceae, <i>Atriplex</i> sp., indet. root	<1	Mature	Crem bone (C)		Poor
A	6055	6053	6404	6013	40	40	-	75%, A, F, E, I	A	-	<i>Triticum</i> sp. (inc. <i>spelta/dicoccum</i> ), <i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	B	Poaceae, Viciaeae	15	Roundwood, mature	-		Heterogeneous
A	6013	6012	-	6000	45	17	-	85%, B, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	12	Mature	-	C	-
A	6021	6020	-	6005	45	50	-	40%. E, I	-	-	-	C	cf. <i>Polygonaceae</i>	25	Roundwood, mature	-	C	-
A	6022	6023	-	6011	40	16	-	99%, B, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
A	6042	6043	-	6047	33	8	-	50%, A	-	-	-	A	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Veronica</i>	<1	Mature	-		Good



Area	Feature	Context	Group	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Sub-sample	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal >2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Analysis	Comments (Preservation)
A	6045	6044	-	6012	20	12	-	60%, A, F, E, I	A	-	<i>Triticum</i> sp., <i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	C	Poaceae <i>hederifolia</i> , Poaceae grain and culm node	6	Roundwood, mature	-		Heterogeneous, mineral coated?
A	6049	6050	-	6048	40	34	-	95%, B, E	-	-	-	-	-	<1	Mature	-		-
A	6058	6056	-	6050	34	14	-	90%, B, F, I	B	C	<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> and <i>Triticum</i> sp. grains, Triticeae culm node	C	Viciae, <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	1.5	Mature	-		Heterogeneous
A	6097	6098	-	6049	36	38	-	80%, C	C	-	<i>Triticum</i> sp., <i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	A	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp., indet. root	10	Mature	-		Heterogeneous
A	6106	6107	-	6014	31	15	-	95%, B, E, I	C	-	<i>Triticum</i> sp.	-	-	Trace	Mature	-		Poor
A	6108	6109	-	6015	40	10	-	95%, B, E, I	C	-	<i>Triticum</i> cf. <i>spelta</i>	C	Indet tuber	-	-	-		Fair
A	6119	6120	-	6083	36	15	-	65%, B	-	-	-	C	Indet. root, <i>Atriplex</i> sp., <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	1.5	Mature	-		Good
A	6125	6126	-	6084	32	8	-	20%, C	-	-	-	C	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp., indet.	1	Mature, roundwood	-		Fair
A	6147	6148	-	6016	40	70	-	40%, A, E, I	A*	-	<i>Triticum</i> sp. (inc. <i>spelta/dicoccum</i> ), <i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	A	Viciae, Poaceae, indet. tuber, culms, roots	35	Roundwood, mature	-	P	Heterogeneous, iron coated
A	6153	6154	-	6019	40	18	-	99%, A, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	1	Mature	-		-
A	6155	6156	-	6018	38	13	-	90%, C, E, I	B	-	<i>Triticum</i> sp.	B	Poaceae culm node,	<1	Mature	-		Poor



Area	Feature	Context	Group	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Sub-sample	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal >2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Analysis	Comments (Preservation)	
A	6162	6163	-	6021	34	78	-	10%, C, I, E	B	-	<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> , <i>Triticum</i> sp.	A	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp., Viciaeae, <i>Galium</i> sp., indet. root, <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	49	Mature	Bone (C)	-	Heterogeneous	
A	6164	6165	-	6020	34	12	-	95%, B, I	-	-	-	A	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp., indet	<1	Mature	-	-	Good	
A	6171	6172	-	6022	40	36	-	95%, B, I, E	-	-	-	B	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp., indet root	<1	Matre	-	-	Fair	
A	6178	6179	-	6024	35	63	-	1%, B, I, E	A	-	<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> , <i>Triticum</i> sp.	B	<i>Rumex</i> sp., <i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	57	Mature	-	-	Heterogeneous	
A	6198	6200	-	6026	40	29	-	80%, B, E	-	-	-	-	-	1.5	Mature	-	-	-	
A	6204	6205	-	6027	35	7	-	80%, A, I, F	C	-	<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> , Triticeae	A	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	<1	Mature	-	-	Heterogeneous	
A	6220	6221	-	6085	31	10	-	30%, B, I	-	-	-	B	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	<1	Mature	-	-	Fair	
A	6239	6240	-	6028	45	19	-	80%, A, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	5	Roundwood, mature	-	-	-	
A	6258	6264	-	6045	10	43	-	40%, B, F, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	33	Mature	-	-	-	
A	6265	6266	-	6033	45	43	-	<1%, C, E, I, F	A	-	<i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	C	Trifoliae	35	Mature, mineral coated	-	C	Heterogeneous, mineral coated	
A	6267	6277	-	6038	17	10.5	-	60%, C	-	-	-	C	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp., indet. root	<1	Mature	-	-	Fair	
A	6267	6278	-	6039	1	1.5	-	0.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
A	6282	6283	-	6040	45	6.5	-	5%, C, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	-	-	-	
A	6286	6287	-	6046	4	3.5	-	90%, B, E, I	C	-	<i>Triticum</i> cf. <i>aestivum/turgidum</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Fair



Area	Feature	Context	Group	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Sub-sample	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal >2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Analysis	Comments (Preservation)
A	6288	6289	-	6057	12	112	-	5%, C, I	-	-	-	B	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Veronica hederifolia</i>	73	Mature	-	-	Good
A	6298	6299	-	6052	45	80	-	60%, F, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	36	Mature	-	C	-
A	6319	6320	-	6059	36	65	-	75%, B	C	-	<i>Triticum</i> cf. <i>spelta</i> , Triticeae	B	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Atriplex</i> sp., <i>Rumex</i> sp., Viciaeae	1	Mature	-	-	Poor
A	6321	6322	-	6060	45	35	-	85%, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	-	-	-
A	6323	6324	-	6065	45	48	-	35%, C, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	45	Mature	-	C	-
A	6325	6326	-	6070	10	14	-	85%, B, F, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	6	Mature	-	-	-
A	6329	6331	-	6071	37	172	-	1%, B, E	A**	B	<i>Triticum</i> sp. (inc. <i>spelta</i> ) and <i>Hordeum vulgare</i> grains, Triticeae culm node	A*	Asteraceae, <i>Polygonum</i> sp., Viciaeae, Poaceae (inc. <i>Bromus</i> sp.), <i>Veronica hederifolia</i> , <i>Corylus avellana</i> shell, <i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Atriplex</i> sp. <i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Veronica hederifolia</i> <i>Raphanus</i>	114	Mature, roundwood	Bone (C)	P, C	Heterogeneous, iron coating
A	6339	6340	-	6073	16	2	-	40%, B, I	-	-	-	A	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Veronica hederifolia</i>	<1	Mature	-	-	Good
A	6341	6342	-	6074	8	2	-	99%, C, E, I	C	-	<i>Hordeum</i>	C	<i>Raphanus</i>	-	-	-	-	Poor?



Area	Feature	Context	Group	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Sub-sample	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal >2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Analysis	Comments (Preservation)
						5		I			<i>vulgare</i>		<i>raphanistrum</i>					
A	6343	6344	-	6075	6	7	-	75%, B, E	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	-	-	-
													<i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Atriplex</i> sp., Caryophyllaceae, <i>Avena</i> sp., <i>Bromus</i> sp., <i>Plantago lanceolata</i> , <i>Polygonum</i> sp., Viciaeae, Cyperaceae, Asteraceae, Trifoliae, <i>Poa/Phleum</i> , <i>Galium</i> sp., indet.					
A	6351	6354	-	6072	36	50	-	50%, A, I	A*	-	<i>Triticum cf. spelta</i> , <i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	A*	-	11.5	Mature, roundwood	-	P	Heterogeneous
A	6362	6363	-	6076	45	6	-	85%, C, F, E, I	-	-	-	C	Indet.	2.5	Mature	-	-	Poor
A	6380	6378	-	6082	30	3	-	<1%, B, E	C	-	<i>Triticum</i> sp., <i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	-	-	1	Mature, roundwood	-	-	Poor, one grain has vitrified silica attached
A	-	6373	-	6081	40	24	-	30%, C, E, I	B	-	<i>Triticum</i> sp., <i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	C	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	10	Mature	-	-	Poor, iron coating
B	5003	5004	-	5000	45	9	-	50%, C, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	7.5	Roundwood, mature	-	-	-
C	4007	4008	-	4000	0.35	65	-	95%, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	50	Roundwood, mature	-	C	-
C	4009	4010	-	4005	0.41	10	-	95%, F, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	65	Mature	-	C	-
C	4011	4012	-	4011	0.18	24	-	40%, C, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	130	Mature	Slag (C)	C	-





Area	Feature	Context	Group	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Sub-sample	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal >2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Analysis	Comments (Preservation)
						0		I										
C	4015	4016	-	4016	40	20	-	95%, B, E, I	-	-	-	C	<i>Corylus avellana</i> nut	3	Mature	-		Fair, but mineral coated
C	4017	4018	-	4015	40	55	-	95%, B, F, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
C	4019	4020	-	4017	20	5	-	99%, C, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
C	4021	4022	-	4018	38	23	-	95%, B, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	3	Mature	-		-
D	3053	3052	3060	3111	10	7.5	-	95%, C, F	-	-	-	A	Poaceae culms	<1	Mature	-		Fair
D	3055	3054	3060	3109	10	36	-	30%, I	C	-	<i>Triticum</i> sp.	C	Poaceae culms	12	Mature	-		Heterogeneous
D	3057	3056	3060	3112	10	15	-	40%, E	-	-	-	C	Poaceae culms and tubers	3	Mature	-		Fair
D	3059	3058	3060	3110	10	50	-	70%, F	-	-	-	C	Poaceae culms and roots	24	Mature	-	C	Good
D	0	3041	-	3095	0.05	<1	-	0.99	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
D	0	3042	-	3096	0.02	<1	-	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
D	3003	3004	-	3000	2.05	5	-	80%, A, F	-	-	-	A	Caryophyllaceae <i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Plantago lanceolata</i> , indet. roots	<1	Mature	-		Fair
D	3006	3005	-	3010	8.25	6.5	-	99%, C, F	C	-	Triticeae	-	-	-	-	-		Poor, iron coating
D	3007	3008	-	3005	2.2	8.5	-	98%, A, E, I, F	-	-	-	C	Trifoliae	<1	Mature	-		Poor
D	3009	3010	-	3015	4.65	10	-	40%, C, I	-	-	-	-	-	3	Mature	-		-
D	3012	3011	-	3020	1.05	11	-	75%, B, I	-	-	-	B	Poaceae culms, Caryophyllaceae	3.5	Mature	-		Fair



Area	Feature	Context	Group	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Sub-sample	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal >2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Analysis	Comments (Preservation)
D	3013	3014	-	3025	3.1	3.5	-	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	2.5	Mature	-	-	-
D	3016	3015	-	3030	1.7	2	-	50%, C, I	-	-	-	-	-	<1	Mature	-	-	-
D	3017	3018	-	3035	2.2	5	-	99%, C, I, E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D	3020	3019	-	3040	4.1	1	-	99%, C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D	3021	3022	-	3045	5.5	3	-	0.99	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D	3023	3024	-	3050	8	2	-	99%, E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D	3025	3026	-	3055	41.6	1	-	0.99	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D	3027	3028	-	3060	36.6	2.5	-	0.99	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	-	-	-
D	3030	3029	-	3065	18.8	97	-	30%, C, I, E	C	-	0	C	Roots (inc. <i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i> subsp. <i>bulbosum</i> )	54	Mature	-	C	Fair
D	3031	3032	-	3070	9.7	2	-	99%, F, E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D	3034	3033	-	3075	5.2	2	-	99%, I	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Roundwood	-	-	-
D	3035	3036	-	3080	2.9	<1	-	0.95	-	-	-	-	-	<1	Mature	-	-	-
D	3038	3037	-	3085	5	2	-	95%, I	-	-	-	C	Caryophyllaceae	<1	Mature	-	-	Poor
D	3044	3043	-	3097	779.22	4	-	99%, B, E, I	-	-	-	C	Indet.	1	Mature	-	-	Fair?
D	3046	3045	-	3102	706.21	30	-	30%, E, I	-	-	-	C	Indet. tuber and roots	7	Roundwood, mature	-	-	Fair
D	3048	3047	-	3107	40	280	-	20%, A*, E, I, F	C	-	<i>Triticum</i> sp.	B	<i>Corylus avellana</i> , Viciaeae, indet. roots	146	Roundwood, mature	-	-	Fair
D	3049	3050	-	3108	33	178	-	5%, A, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	135	Mature	-	-	Fair
D	3061	3062	-	3113	0.01	<1	-	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D	3064	3063	-	3114	633.2	42	-	80%, B, E, I	-	-	-	A	Poaceae culms, <i>Atriplex</i> sp.	10	Mature	-	C	Fair
D	3066	3065	-	3119	344.45	410	-	25%, A, E, I, F	-	-	-	A	Poaceae culms and	294	Mature, roundwood	-	C	Fair



Area	Feature	Context	Group	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Sub-sample	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal >2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Analysis	Comments (Preservation)
D	3068	3067	-	3124	186.9	14.5	-	98%, B, E	-	-	-	-	-	<1	Mature	-	-	-
D	3070	3069	-	3129	0.2	2.5	-	99%, C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D	3072	3071	-	3130	101.65	20	-	60%, C, I	-	-	-	-	-	1.5	Mature	Melted silica (C)	-	Fair
D	3074	3073	-	3135	55.7	10.5	-	0.2	-	-	-	-	-	1	Mature, Fe coated	-	-	-
D	3075	3076	-	3140	29.35	13.5	-	80%, C	-	-	-	B	Indet. roots	2.5	Mature	-	-	Fair
D	3078	3077	-	3145	0.1	3	-	80%, B	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D	3080	3079	-	3151	16.5	2.5	-	50%, B, I, F	-	-	-	C	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	<1	Mature	-	-	Fair
D	3081	3082	-	3146	9.75	3	-	30%, C	-	-	-	-	-	<1	Mature	-	-	Fair
D	3083	3084	-	3156	6.25	5	-	0.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D	3086	3085	-	3166	2.4	3.5	-	98%, A	C	-	<i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	Fair some Fe coating
D	3087	3088	-	3161	1.3	4.5	-	98%, C	-	-	-	C	Poaceae culm base, Caryophyllaceae	-	-	-	-	Fair
D	3089	3090	-	3171	0.1	1.5	-	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	-	-	-
D	3092	3091	-	3177	349.5	21	-	10%, A	-	-	-	C	<i>Polygonum</i> sp.	<1	Mature	-	-	Fair
D	3093	3094	-	3172	190.2	16	-	60%, B	-	-	-	-	-	2.5	Mature	-	-	-
D	3095	3096	-	3187	103.1	8	-	99%, A	-	-	-	-	-	<1	Mature	-	-	-
D	3097	3098	-	3182	56	14.5	-	95%, C	-	-	-	A	Poaceae culm nodes, Caryophyllaceae,	<1	Mature	-	-	Fair



Area	Feature	Context	Group	Sample	Vol (l)	Flot (ml)	Sub-sample	Bioturbation proxies	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal >2mm (ml)	Charcoal	Other	Analysis	Comments (Preservation)
D	3100	3099	-	3192	0.2	<1	-	0.99	-	-	-	-	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp.	-	-	-	-	-
D	3104	3105	-	3194	30.9	8	-	0.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D	3106	3107	-	3199	16	26	-	90%, C, E	-	-	-	A	<i>Chenopodium</i> sp., Poaceae culm bases	2	Mature	-	-	Fair
D	3108	3109	-	3204	8.9	2.5	-	95%, C	C	-	<i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	-	-	<1	Mature	-	-	-
D	3110	3111	-	3209	10.58	6	-	40%, C	-	-	cf. <i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	C	Caryophyllaceae, <i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	<1	Mature	-	-	Fair
D	3114	3115	-	3216	6.04	12.5	-	30%, C, F	-	-	-	B	Indet. roots	6.5	Mature	-	-	Fair
D	3116	3117	-	3221	3.22	9	-	75%, B	-	-	-	-	-	<1	Mature	-	-	-
D	3119	3118	-	3226	0.32	3	-	99%, B	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D	3120	3121	-	3227	2.8	8	-	80%, I	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Pot (B)	-	-
D	3122	3123	-	3232	5.3	4	-	0.4	-	-	-	-	-	<1	Mature	-	-	-
D	3125	3124	-	3237	4.15	14	-	90%, C	-	-	-	C	Indet. tuber	-	-	-	-	Fair
D	-	3101	-	3193	0.3	1	-	95%, C	C	C	-	-	-	Trace	Mature	-	-	Fair
D	-	3112	-	3214	0.05	<1	-	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
D	-	3113	-	3215	0.8	4	-	90%, C, F	-	-	-	-	-	<1	Mature	-	-	Fair
E	2003	2004	-	2000	3	3	-	50%, E	-	-	-	-	-	1	Mature	-	-	-
E	2005	2006	-	2005	1.6	<1	-	90%, I	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
E	2007	2008	-	2010	20	30	-	90%, B, F, E, I	C	-	<i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	-	-	8	Mature	-	-	Poor, iron coated
E	2009	2010	-	2011	5	25	-	40%, C	-	-	-	-	-	17	Mature	-	-	-
E	2013	2014	-	2018	3	1	-	99%, E, I	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
E	2015	2016	-	2017	8	29.5	0.25 <4mm residue	5%, C, E	-	-	-	-	-	295	Mature	-	-	-
E	2017	2018	-	2012	3.8	5	-	60%, E	-	-	-	-	-	1	Roundwood, mature	-	-	-



Key: Scale of abundance: A\*\*\* = exceptional, A\*\* = 100+, A\* = 30-99, A = >10, B = 9-5, C = <5; Bioturbation proxies: Roots (%), Uncharred seeds (scale of abundance), F = mycorrhizal fungi sclerotia, E = earthworm eggs, I = insects; Sab/f/c = small animal/fish bones/charred faecal pellets, Moll-t = terrestrial molluscs, Moll-f = aquatic molluscs, Moll-m = marine molluscs; Analysis: C = charcoal, P = plant, M = molluscs, C14 = radiocarbon



### Appendix 3: Context summary

Key:crd: cremation-related deposit; del bf: deliberate backfill

Area	Context	Type	Category	In cut	P/O group
Area F	1001	Unexcavated	Subsoil	N/A	N/A
Area F	1002	Unexcavated	Colluvium	N/A	N/A
Area F	1003	Layer	Natural	N/A	N/A
Area E	2000	Layer	Topsoil	N/A	N/A
Area E	2001	Layer	Subsoil	N/A	N/A
Area E	2002	Layer	Natural	N/A	N/A
Area E	2003	Cut	Crem Grave - un-urned	N/A	N/A
Area E	2004	Fill	Del bf	2003	N/A
Area E	2005	Cut	Crem Grave - un-urned	N/A	N/A
Area E	2006	Fill	Del bf	2005	N/A
Area E	2007	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area E	2008	Fill	Del bf	2007	N/A
Area E	2009	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area E	2010	Fill	Del bf	2009	N/A
Area E	2011	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area E	2012	Fill	Del bf	2011	N/A
Area E	2013	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area E	2014	Fill		2013	N/A
Area E	2015	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area E	2016	Fill	Del bf	2015	N/A
Area E	2017	Cut	Crem Grave - un-urned	N/A	N/A
Area E	2018	Fill	Crd	2017	N/A
Area D	3000	Layer	Topsoil	N/A	N/A
Area D	3001	Layer	Subsoil	N/A	N/A
Area D	3002	Layer	Natural	N/A	N/A
Area D	3003	Cut	Crem grave -	N/A	N/A

Area	Context	Type	Category	In cut	P/O group
			urned		
Area D	3004	Fill	Crd	3003	N/A
Area D	3005	Fill	Crd	3006	N/A
Area D	3006	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3007	Cut	Crem grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3008	Fill	Crem burial deposit	3007	N/A
Area D	3009	Cut	Crem grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3010	Fill	Crd	3009	N/A
Area D	3011	Fill	Crd	3012	N/A
Area D	3012	Cut	Crem Grave - un-urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3013	Cut	Crem burial (unurned)	N/A	N/A
Area D	3014	Fill	Crd	3013	N/A
Area D	3015	Fill	Crd	3016	N/A
Area D	3016	Cut	Crem burial (unurned)	N/A	N/A
Area D	3017	Cut	Crem grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3018	Fill	Crd	3017	N/A
Area D	3019	Fill	Crd	3020	N/A
Area D	3020	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3021	Cut	Crem Grave - un-urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3022	Fill	Crd	3021	N/A
Area D	3023	Cut	Crem Grave - un-urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3024	Fill	Crem Grave - un-urned	3023	N/A



Area	Context	Type	Category	In cut	P/O group
Area D	3025	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3026	Fill	Del bf	3025	N/A
Area D	3027	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3028	Fill	Crd	3027	N/A
Area D	3029	Fill	Crd	3030	N/A
Area D	3030	Cut	Crem Grave - un-urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3031	Cut	Crem Grave - un-urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3032	Fill	Crd	3031	N/A
Area D	3033	Fill	Crd	3034	N/A
Area D	3034	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3035	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3036	Fill	Crd	3035	N/A
Area D	3037	Fill	Crd	3038	N/A
Area D	3038	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3041	Layer	Crem Grave - un-urned (scatter)	N/A	N/A
Area D	3042	Layer	Crem Grave - un-urned (scatter)	N/A	N/A
Area D	3043	Fill	Crd	3044	N/A
Area D	3044	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3045	Fill	Crd	3046	N/A
Area D	3046	Cut	Crem Grave - un-urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3047	Fill	Del bf	3048	N/A

Area	Context	Type	Category	In cut	P/O group
Area D	3048	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area D	3049	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area D	3050	Fill	Pit	3049	N/A
Area D	3051	Fill	Primary fill	3048	N/A
Area D	3052	Fill	Secondary fill	3053	3060
Area D	3053	Cut	Posthole	N/A	3060
Area D	3054	Fill	Secondary fill	3055	3060
Area D	3055	Cut	Posthole	N/A	3060
Area D	3056	Fill	Secondary fill	3057	3060
Area D	3057	Cut	Posthole	N/A	3060
Area D	3058	Fill	Secondary fill	3059	3060
Area D	3059	Cut	Posthole	N/A	3060
Area D	3060	Feature Group	Funeral Pyre	N/A	3060
Area D	3061	Cut	Crem Grave - urned (scatter)	N/A	N/A
Area D	3062	Fill	Del bf	3061	N/A
Area D	3063	Fill	Crd	3064	N/A
Area D	3064	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3065	Fill	Crd	3066	N/A
Area D	3066	Cut	Crem Grave - un-urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3067	Fill	Crd	3068	N/A
Area D	3068	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3069	Fill	Crd	3070	N/A
Area D	3070	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3071	Fill	Crd	3072	N/A
Area D	3072	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A



Area	Context	Type	Category	In cut	P/O group
Area D	3073	Fill	Crd	3074	N/A
Area D	3074	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3075	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3076	Fill	Crd	3075	N/A
Area D	3077	Fill	Crd	3078	N/A
Area D	3078	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3079	Fill	Crd	3080	N/A
Area D	3080	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3081	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3082	Fill	Del bf	3081	N/A
Area D	3083	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3084	Fill	Crd	3083	N/A
Area D	3085	Fill	Crd	3086	N/A
Area D	3086	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3087	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3088	Fill	Del bf	3087	N/A
Area D	3089	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3090	Fill	Crd	3089	N/A
Area D	3091	Fill	Crd	3092	N/A
Area D	3092	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3093	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3094	Fill	Del bf	3093	N/A
Area D	3095	Cut	Crem Grave -	N/A	N/A

Area	Context	Type	Category	In cut	P/O group
			urned		
Area D	3096	Fill	Crd	3095	N/A
Area D	3097	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3098	Fill	Crd	3097	N/A
Area D	3099	Fill	Crd	3100	N/A
Area D	3100	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3101	Layer	Crem Grave - urned (scatter)	N/A	N/A
Area D	3102	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3103	Fill	Crd	3102	N/A
Area D	3104	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3105	Fill	Crd	3104	N/A
Area D	3106	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3107	Fill	Del bf	3106	N/A
Area D	3108	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3109	Fill	Crd	3108	N/A
Area D	3110	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3111	Fill	Crd	3110	N/A
Area D	3112	Layer	Crem Grave - urned (scatter)	N/A	N/A
Area D	3113	Layer	Crem Grave - urned (scatter)	N/A	N/A
Area D	3114	Cut	Crem Grave - un-urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3115	Fill	Crd	3114	N/A





Area	Context	Type	Category	In cut	P/O group
Area D	3116	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3117	Fill	Crd	3116	N/A
Area D	3118	Fill	Crd	3119	N/A
Area D	3119	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3120	Cut	Crem Grave - urned (scatter)	N/A	N/A
Area D	3121	Fill	Del bf	3120	N/A
Area D	3122	Cut	Crem Grave - un-urned	N/A	N/A
Area D	3123	Fill	Crd	3122	N/A
Area D	3124	Fill	Crd	3125	N/A
Area D	3125	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area C	4000	Layer	Topsoil	N/A	N/A
Area C	4001	Layer	Subsoil	N/A	N/A
Area C	4002	Layer	Natural	N/A	N/A
Area C	4003	Cut	Natural feature	N/A	N/A
Area C	4004	Fill	Secondary fill	4003	N/A
Area C	4005	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area C	4006	Fill	Secondary fill	4005	N/A
Area C	4007	Cut	Crem burial (unurned)	N/A	N/A
Area C	4008	Fill	Crd	4007	N/A
Area C	4009	Cut	Crem burial (unurned)	N/A	N/A
Area C	4010	Fill	Crd	4009	N/A
Area C	4011	Cut	Crem Grave - un-urned	N/A	N/A
Area C	4012	Fill	Crd	4011	N/A
Area C	4013	Cut	Natural	N/A	N/A

Area	Context	Type	Category	In cut	P/O group
			feature		
Area C	4014	Fill	Secondary fill	4013	N/A
Area C	4015	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area C	4016	Fill	Del bf	4015	N/A
Area C	4017	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area C	4018	Fill	Secondary fill	4017	N/A
Area C	4019	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area C	4020	Fill	Secondary fill	4019	N/A
Area C	4021	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area C	4022	Fill	Del bf	4021	N/A
Area C	4023	Cut	Natural feature	N/A	N/A
Area C	4024	Fill	Secondary fill	4023	N/A
Area C	4025	Cut	Natural feature	N/A	N/A
Area C	4026	Fill	Secondary fill	4025	N/A
Area B	5000	Layer	Topsoil	N/A	N/A
Area B	5001	Layer	Subsoil	N/A	N/A
Area B	5002	Layer	Natural	N/A	N/A
Area B	5003	Cut	Crem Grave - un-urned	N/A	N/A
Area B	5004	Fill	Del bf	5003	N/A
Area A	6000	Layer	Topsoil	N/A	N/A
Area A	6001	Layer	Subsoil	N/A	N/A
Area A	6002	Layer	Natural	N/A	N/A
Area A	6003	Layer		N/A	N/A
Area A	6004	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6401
Area A	6005	Fill	Primary fill	6004	6401
Area A	6006	Fill	Secondary fill	6004	6401
Area A	6007	Fill	Secondary fill	6009	6401
Area A	6008	Fill	Primary fill	6009	6401
Area A	6009	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6401



Area	Context	Type	Category	In cut	P/O group
Area A	6010	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6401
Area A	6011	Fill	Secondary fill	6010	6401
Area A	6012	Fill	Crd	6013	N/A
Area A	6013	Cut	Crem Grave - un-urned	N/A	N/A
Area A	6014	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6401
Area A	6015	Fill	Primary fill	6014	6401
Area A	6016	Fill	Secondary fill	6014	6401
Area A	6017	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6401
Area A	6018	Fill	Secondary fill	6017	6401
Area A	6019	Fill	Primary fill	6017	6401
Area A	6020	Fill	Crd	6021	N/A
Area A	6021	Cut	Crem Grave - un-urned	N/A	N/A
Area A	6022	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6023	Fill	Secondary fill	6022	N/A
Area A	6024	Fill	Secondary fill	6022	N/A
Area A	6025	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6403
Area A	6026	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6401
Area A	6027	Fill	Secondary fill	6025	6403
Area A	6028	Fill	Secondary fill	6026	6401
Area A	6029	Fill	Secondary fill	6026	6401
Area A	6030	Fill	Primary fill	6026	6401
Area A	6031	Fill	Primary fill	6025	6403
Area A	6032	Fill	Secondary fill	6034	6403
Area A	6033	Fill	Primary fill	6034	6403
Area A	6034	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6403
Area A	6035	Fill	Secondary fill	6036	6403
Area A	6036	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6403
Area A	6037	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6401
Area A	6038	Fill	Secondary fill	6037	6401
Area A	6039	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A

Area	Context	Type	Category	In cut	P/O group
Area A	6040	Fill	Secondary fill	6039	N/A
Area A	6041	Layer	Crd	N/A	N/A
Area A	6042	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6043	Fill	Secondary fill	6042	N/A
Area A	6044	Fill	Tertiary fill	6045	N/A
Area A	6045	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6046	Fill	Secondary fill	6048	6404
Area A	6047	Fill	Primary fill	6048	6404
Area A	6048	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6404
Area A	6049	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6050	Fill	Secondary fill	6049	N/A
Area A	6051	Fill	Secondary fill	6052	6404
Area A	6052	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6404
Area A	6053	Fill	Secondary fill	6055	6404
Area A	6054	Fill	Primary fill	6055	6404
Area A	6055	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6404
Area A	6056	Fill	Secondary fill	6058	N/A
Area A	6057	Fill	Primary fill	6058	N/A
Area A	6058	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6059	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6402
Area A	6060	Fill	Primary fill	6059	6402
Area A	6061	Fill	Secondary fill	6059	6402
Area A	6062	Cut	Gully	N/A	6402
Area A	6063	Fill	Secondary fill	6062	6402
Area A	6064	Cut	Pit or gully?	N/A	6402
Area A	6065	Fill	Secondary fill	6064	6402
Area A	6066	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6400
Area A	6067	Fill	Primary fill	6066	6400
Area A	6068	Fill	Secondary fill	6066	6400
Area A	6069	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6400
Area A	6070	Fill	Primary fill	6069	6400



Area	Context	Type	Category	In cut	P/O group
Area A	6071	Fill	Secondary fill	6069	6400
Area A	6072	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6400
Area A	6073	Fill	Secondary fill	6072	6400
Area A	6074	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6075	Fill	Secondary fill	6074	N/A
Area A	6076	Fill	Primary fill	6074	N/A
Area A	6077	Layer	Spread	N/A	N/A
Area A	6078	Layer	Droeway layer?	N/A	N/A
Area A	6079	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6080	Fill	Primary fill	6079	N/A
Area A	6081	Fill	Secondary fill	6079	N/A
Area A	6082	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6083	Fill	Secondary fill	6082	N/A
Area A	6084	Cut	Pit?	N/A	N/A
Area A	6085	Fill	Primary fill	6084	N/A
Area A	6086	Fill	Secondary fill	6084	N/A
Area A	6087	Cut	Gully terminal?	N/A	N/A
Area A	6088	Fill	Secondary fill	6087	N/A
Area A	6089	Cut	Gully	N/A	N/A
Area A	6090	Fill	Secondary fill	6089	N/A
Area A	6091	Layer	Spread	N/A	N/A
Area A	6092	Layer	Spread	N/A	N/A
Area A	6093	Layer	Spread	N/A	N/A
Area A	6094	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6402
Area A	6095	Fill	Secondary fill	6094	6402
Area A	6096	Fill	Tertiary fill?	6094	6402
Area A	6097	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6098	Fill	Secondary fill	6097	N/A
Area A	6099	Cut	Gully	N/A	N/A
Area A	6100	Fill	Primary fill	6099	N/A

Area	Context	Type	Category	In cut	P/O group
Area A	6101	Fill	Secondary fill	6099	N/A
Area A	6102	Fill	Secondary fill	6099	N/A
Area A	6103	Cut	Tree Throw	N/A	N/A
Area A	6104	Fill	Primary fill	6103	N/A
Area A	6105	Fill	Bioturbation	6103	N/A
Area A	6106	Cut	Gully	N/A	N/A
Area A	6107	Fill	Secondary fill	6106	N/A
Area A	6108	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6109	Fill	Secondary fill	6108	N/A
Area A	6110	Cut	Gully	N/A	N/A
Area A	6111	Fill	Secondary fill	6110	N/A
Area A	6112	Cut	Natural feature	N/A	N/A
Area A	6113	Fill	Natural deposit	6112	N/A
Area A	6114	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6400
Area A	6115	Fill	Secondary fill	6114	6400
Area A	6116	Fill	Secondary fill	6114	6400
Area A	6117	Cut	Gully	N/A	N/A
Area A	6118	Fill	Secondary fill	6117	N/A
Area A	6119	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6120	Fill	Secondary fill	6119	N/A
Area A	6121	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6122	Fill	Primary fill	6121	N/A
Area A	6123	Fill	Secondary fill	6121	N/A
Area A	6124	Layer	Silted deposit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6125	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6126	Fill	Secondary fill	6125	N/A
Area A	6127	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6403
Area A	6128	Fill	Secondary fill	6127	6403
Area A	6129	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6403
Area A	6130	Fill	Secondary fill	6129	6403



Area	Context	Type	Category	In cut	P/O group
Area a	6131	Cut	Spread	N/A	N/A
Area A	6132	Fill	Spread	6131	N/A
Area A	6133	Fill	Secondary fill	6131	N/A
Area A	6134	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6402
Area A	6135	Fill	Primary fill	6134	6402
Area A	6136	Fill	Secondary fill	6134	6402
Area a	6137	Fill	Secondary fill	6134	6402
Area A	6138	Fill	Secondary fill	6134	6402
Area A	6139	Fill	Secondary fill	6134	6402
Area a	6140	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area a	6141	Fill	Secondary fill	6140	N/A
Area a	6142	Fill	Secondary fill	6140	N/A
Area a	6143	Fill	Secondary fill	6140	N/A
Area a	6144	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area a	6145	Fill	Secondary fill	6144	N/A
Area a	6146	Fill	Secondary fill	6144	N/A
Area A	6147	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6148	Fill	Del bf	6147	N/A
Area a	6149	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6150	Fill	Secondary fill	6149	N/A
Area A	6151	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6403
Area A	6152	Fill	Secondary fill	6151	6403
Area A	6153	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6154	Fill	Del bf	6153	N/A
Area A	6155	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6156	Fill	Del bf	6155	N/A
Area A	6157	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6403
Area A	6158	Fill	Secondary fill	6157	6403
Area A	6159	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6403
Area A	6160	Fill	Primary fill	6159	6403
Area A	6161	Fill	Secondary fill	6159	6403

Area	Context	Type	Category	In cut	P/O group
Area A	6162	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6163	Fill	Del bf	6162	N/A
Area A	6164	Cut	Gully	N/A	N/A
Area a	6165	Fill	Secondary fill	6164	N/A
Area A	6166	Fill	Secondary fill	6189	N/A
Area A	6167	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6168	Fill	Secondary fill	6167	N/A
Area A	6169	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6403
Area A	6170	Fill	Secondary fill	6169	6403
Area A	6171	Cut	Gully	N/A	N/A
Area a	6172	Fill	Secondary fill	6171	N/A
Area A	6173	Cut	Gully	N/A	N/A
Area a	6174	Fill	Secondary fill	6173	N/A
Area a	6175	Cut	Spread	N/A	N/A
Area a	6176	Fill	Primary fill	6175	N/A
Area a	6177	Fill	Secondary fill	6175	N/A
Area A	6178	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area a	6179	Fill	Secondary fill	6178	N/A
Area A	6180	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6400
Area A	6181	Fill	Del bf	6180	6400
Area A	6182	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6183	Fill	Del bf	6182	N/A
Area a	6184	Layer	Overfill layer	N/A	N/A
Area A	6185	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6186	Fill	Secondary fill	6185	N/A
Area A	6187	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6400
Area A	6188	Fill	Secondary fill	6187	6400
Area A	6189	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6190	Fill	Primary fill	6189	N/A
Area A	6191	Fill	Secondary fill	6189	N/A
Area A	6192	Fill	Secondary fill	6189	N/A



Area	Context	Type	Category	In cut	P/O group
Area A	6193	Cut	Gully	N/A	N/A
Area A	6194	Fill	Primary fill	6193	N/A
Area A	6195	Cut	Spread	N/A	N/A
Area A	6196	Fill	Secondary fill	6195	N/A
Area A	6197	Fill	Secondary fill	6195	N/A
Area A	6198	Cut	Recut	N/A	N/A
Area A	6199	Fill	Primary fill	6198	N/A
Area A	6200	Fill	Del bf	6198	N/A
Area A	6201	Fill	Secondary fill	6198	N/A
Area A	6202	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6203	Fill	Secondary fill	6202	N/A
Area A	6204	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6404
Area A	6205	Fill	Secondary fill	6204	6404
Area A	6206	Cut	Number not used	N/A	N/A
Area A	6207	Fill	Number not used	6206	N/A
Area A	6208	Cut	Number not used	N/A	N/A
Area A	6209	Fill	Number not used	6208	N/A
Area A	6210	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6211	Fill	Primary fill	6210	N/A
Area A	6212	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6213	Fill	Secondary fill	6212	N/A
Area A	6214	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6215	Fill	Primary fill	6214	N/A
Area A	6216	Fill	Secondary fill	6214	N/A
Area A	6217	Layer	Tertiary layer	N/A	N/A
Area A	6218	Cut	Gully	N/A	N/A
Area A	6219	Fill	Secondary fill	6218	N/A
Area A	6220	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A

Area	Context	Type	Category	In cut	P/O group
Area A	6221	Fill	Secondary fill	6220	N/A
Area A	6222	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6223	Fill	Secondary fill	6222	N/A
Area A	6224	Fill	Secondary fill	6222	N/A
Area A	6225	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6404
Area A	6226	Fill	Secondary fill	6225	6404
Area A	6227	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6228	Fill	Secondary fill	6227	N/A
Area A	6229	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6230	Fill	Secondary fill	6229	N/A
Area A	6231	Cut	Pit or Tree Throw	N/A	N/A
Area A	6232	Fill	Secondary fill	6231	N/A
Area A	6233	Fill	Primary fill	6231	N/A
Area A	6234	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6400
Area A	6235	Fill	Secondary fill	6234	6400
Area A	6236	Fill	Redeposited natural	6234	6400
Area A	6237	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6238	Fill	Redeposited natural	6237	N/A
Area A	6239	Cut	Crem Grave - un-urned	N/A	N/A
Area A	6240	Fill	Del bf	6239	N/A
Area A	6241	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6400
Area A	6242	Fill	Primary fill	6241	6400
Area A	6243	Fill	Secondary fill	6241	6400
Area A	6244	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6245	Fill	Secondary fill	6244	N/A
Area A	6248	Layer	Capping layer	N/A	N/A
Area A	6249	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6250	Fill	Secondary fill	6249	N/A



Area	Context	Type	Category	In cut	P/O group
Area A	6251	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6252	Fill	Secondary fill	6251	N/A
Area A	6253	Layer	Tertiary layer	N/A	N/A
Area A	6254	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6255	Fill	Del bf?	6254	N/A
Area A	6256	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6257	Fill	Del bf?	6256	N/A
Area A	6258	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6259	Fill	Tertiary fill	6258	N/A
Area A	6260	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6261	Fill	Secondary fill	6260	N/A
Area A	6262	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6404
Area A	6263	Fill	Secondary fill	6262	6404
Area A	6264	Fill	Tertiary fill	6258	N/A
Area A	6265	Cut	Crem Grave - un-urned	N/A	N/A
Area A	6266	Fill	Del bf	6265	N/A
Area A	6267	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6268	Fill	Primary fill	6267	N/A
Area A	6269	Fill	Primary fill	6267	N/A
Area A	6270	Fill	Tertiary fill	6267	N/A
Area A	6271	Fill	Secondary fill	6267	N/A
Area A	6272	Fill	Tertiary fill	6267	N/A
Area A	6273	Fill	Secondary fill	6267	N/A
Area A	6274	Fill	Primary fill	6267	N/A
Area A	6275	Fill	Tertiary fill	6267	N/A
Area A	6276	Fill	Tertiary fill	6267	N/A
Area A	6277	Fill	Tertiary fill	6267	N/A
Area A	6278	Fill	Primary fill	6267	N/A
Area A	6279	Fill	Primary fill	6267	N/A
Area A	6280	Fill	Secondary fill	6267	N/A

Area	Context	Type	Category	In cut	P/O group
Area A	6281	Fill	Teritary fill	6267	N/A
Area A	6282	Cut	Crem Grave - un-urned	N/A	N/A
Area A	6283	Fill	Del bf	6282	N/A
Area A	6284	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6285	Fill	Secondary fill	6284	N/A
Area A	6286	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6287	Fill	Secondary fill	6286	N/A
Area A	6288	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6289	Fill	Del bf	6288	N/A
Area a	6290	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6400
Area A	6291	Fill	Secondary fill	6290	6400
Area A	6292	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6293	Fill	Secondary fill	6292	N/A
Area A	6294	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6295	Fill	Secondary fill	6294	N/A
Area A	6296	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6297	Fill	Secondary fill	6296	N/A
Area A	6298	Cut	Crem Grave - un-urned	N/A	N/A
Area A	6299	Fill	Del bf	6298	N/A
Area A	6300	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6301	Fill	Secondary fill	6300	N/A
Area A	6302	Cut	Pit?	N/A	N/A
Area A	6303	Fill	Secondary fill	6302	N/A
Area A	6304	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6305	Fill	Secondary fill	6304	N/A
Area A	6306	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6307	Fill	Secondary fill	6306	N/A
Area A	6308	Fill	Secondary fill	6309	N/A
Area A	6309	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6310	Fill	Secondary fill	6312	N/A



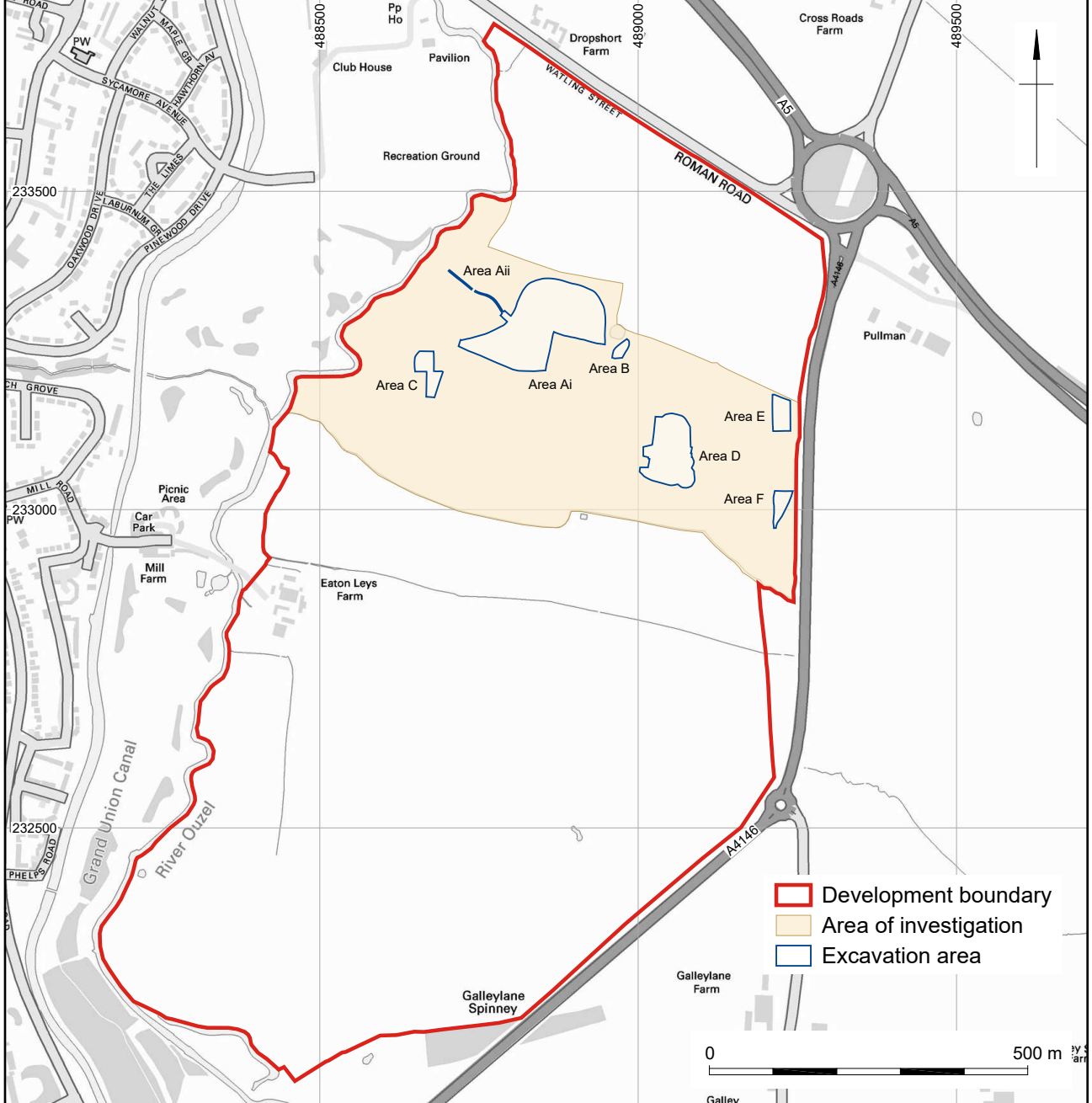
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Area A	6311	Fill	Primary fill	6312	N/A
Area A	6312	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6313	Fill	Secondary fill	6314	N/A
Area A	6314	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6315	Fill	Secondary fill	6316	N/A
Area A	6316	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6317	Fill	Secondary fill	6318	N/A
Area A	6318	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6319	Cut	Gully	N/A	N/A
Area A	6320	Fill	Del bf	6319	N/A
Area A	6321	Cut	Crem Grave - un-urned	N/A	N/A
Area A	6322	Fill	Del bf	6321	N/A
Area A	6323	Cut	Crem Grave - un-urned	N/A	N/A
Area A	6324	Fill	Del bf	6323	N/A
Area A	6325	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6326	Fill	Del bf	6325	N/A
Area A	6327	Cut	Gully	N/A	N/A
Area A	6328	Fill	Secondary fill	6327	N/A
Area A	6329	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6330	Fill	Primary fill	6329	N/A
Area A	6331	Fill	Secondary fill	6329	N/A
AREA a	6332	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6333	Fill	Secondary fill	6332	N/A
Area A	6334	Layer	Spread	N/A	N/A
Area A	6335	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6336	Fill	Secondary fill	6335	N/A
Area A	6337	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6338	Fill	Del bf	6337	N/A
Area A	6339	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6340	Fill	Secondary fill	6339	N/A

Area	Context	Type	Category	In cut	P/O group
Area A	6341	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6342	Fill	Secondary fill	6341	N/A
Area A	6343	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6344	Fill	Secondary fill	6343	N/A
Area A	6345	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6346	Fill	Secondary fill	6345	N/A
Area A	6347	Layer	Layer	N/A	N/A
Area A	6349	Cut	Pit?	N/A	N/A
Area A	6350	Fill	Secondary fill	6349	N/A
Area A	6351	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6352	Fill	Primary fill	6351	N/A
Area A	6353	Fill	Secondary fill	6351	N/A
Area A	6354	Fill	Tertiary fill	6351	N/A
Area A	6355	Fill	Secondary fill	6356	N/A
Area A	6356	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6357	Fill	Secondary Deosit	6358	N/A
Area A	6358	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6359	Fill	Secondary fill	6361	N/A
Area A	6360	Fill	Primary fill	6361	N/A
Area A	6361	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6362	Cut	Crem Grave - urned	N/A	N/A
Area A	6363	Fill	Del bf	6362	N/A
Area A	6364	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6365	Fill	Secondary fill	6364	N/A
Area A	6366	Layer	Trackway or tertiary fill?	N/A	N/A
Area A	6367	Layer	Trackway	N/A	N/A
Area A	6368	Layer	Droeway layer	N/A	N/A
Area A	6369	Layer	Droeway	N/A	N/A



Area	Context	Type	Category	In cut	P/O group
			layer		
Area A	6370	Fill	Secondary fill	6372	N/A
Area A	6371	Fill	Secondary fill	6372	N/A
Area A	6372	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6373	Layer	Layer	N/A	N/A
Area A	6374	Layer	Layer	N/A	N/A
Area A	6375	Fill	Secondary fill	6376	N/A
Area A	6376	Cut	Ditch	N/A	N/A
Area A	6377	Layer	Tertiary layer	N/A	N/A
Area A	6378	Fill	Tertiary fill	6380	N/A
Area A	6379	Fill	Primary fill	6380	N/A
Area A	6380	Cut	Ditch terminal	N/A	N/A
Area A	6381	Layer	Natural feature	N/A	N/A
Area A	6382	Fill	Secondary fill	6383	N/A
Area A	6383	Cut	Pit	N/A	N/A
Area A	6384	Fill	Primary fill	6380	N/A
Area A	6385	Cut	Ditch	N/A	6404
Area A	6386	Fill	Secondary fill	6385	6404
Area A	6400	Feature Group	N-S Droveaway Ditch (W side)	N/A	6400
Area A	6401	Feature Group	Ditch	N/A	6401
Area A	6402	Feature Group	Ditch	N/A	6402
Area A	6403	Feature Group	Ditch	N/A	6403
Area A	6404	Feature Group	Ditch	N/A	6404
O5-s	333229	Layer	Layer	N/A	N/A





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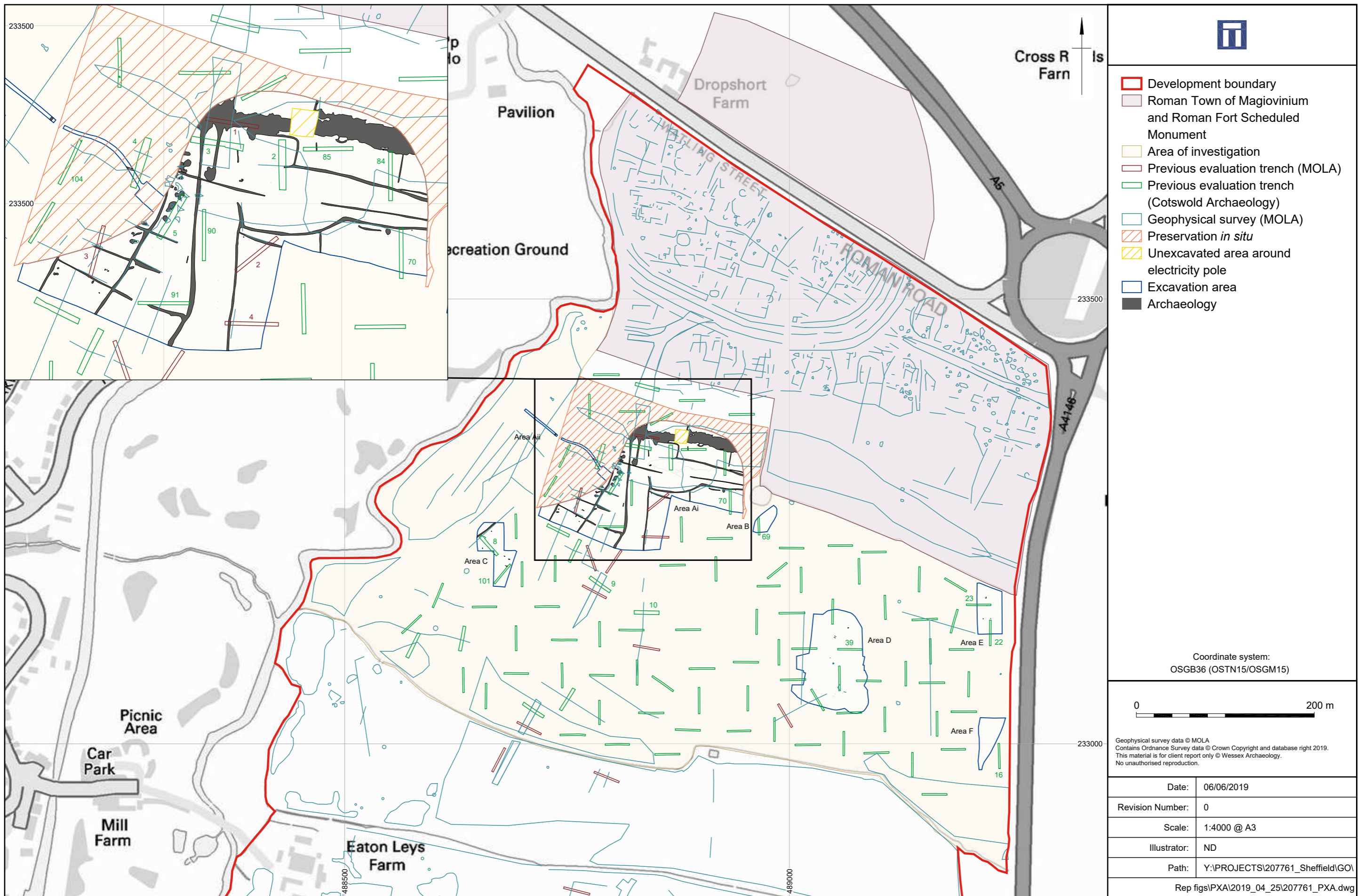


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Site location

Figure 1



Location of excavation areas with evaluation trenching overlay

Figure 2







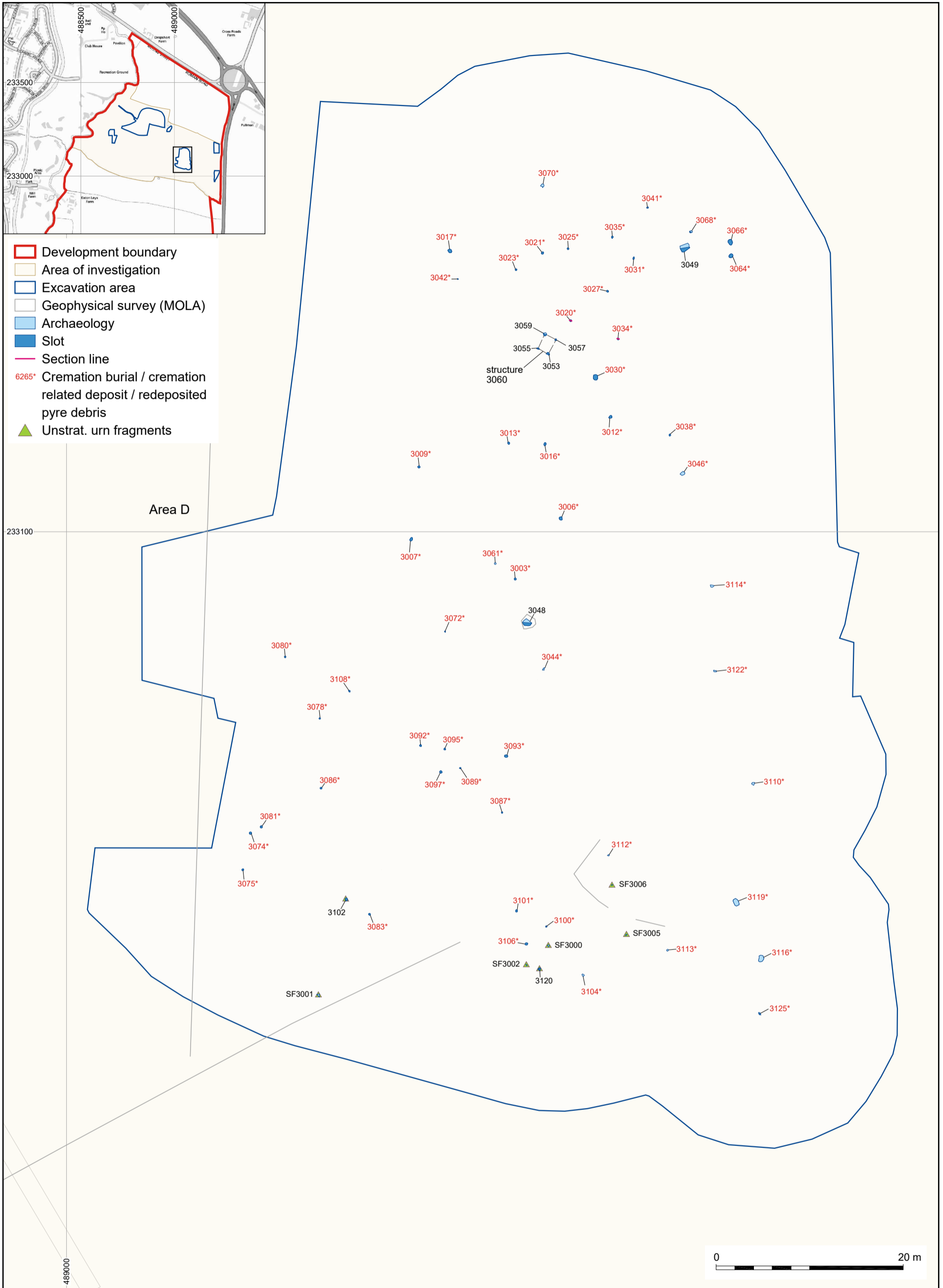
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Areas B and C

Figure 5



- Development boundary
- Area of investigation
- Excavation area
- Geophysical survey (MOLA)
- Archaeology
- Slot
- Section line
- 6265\* Cremation burial / cremation related deposit / redeposited pyre debris
- ▲ Unstrat. urn fragments

Area D



Coordinate system:  
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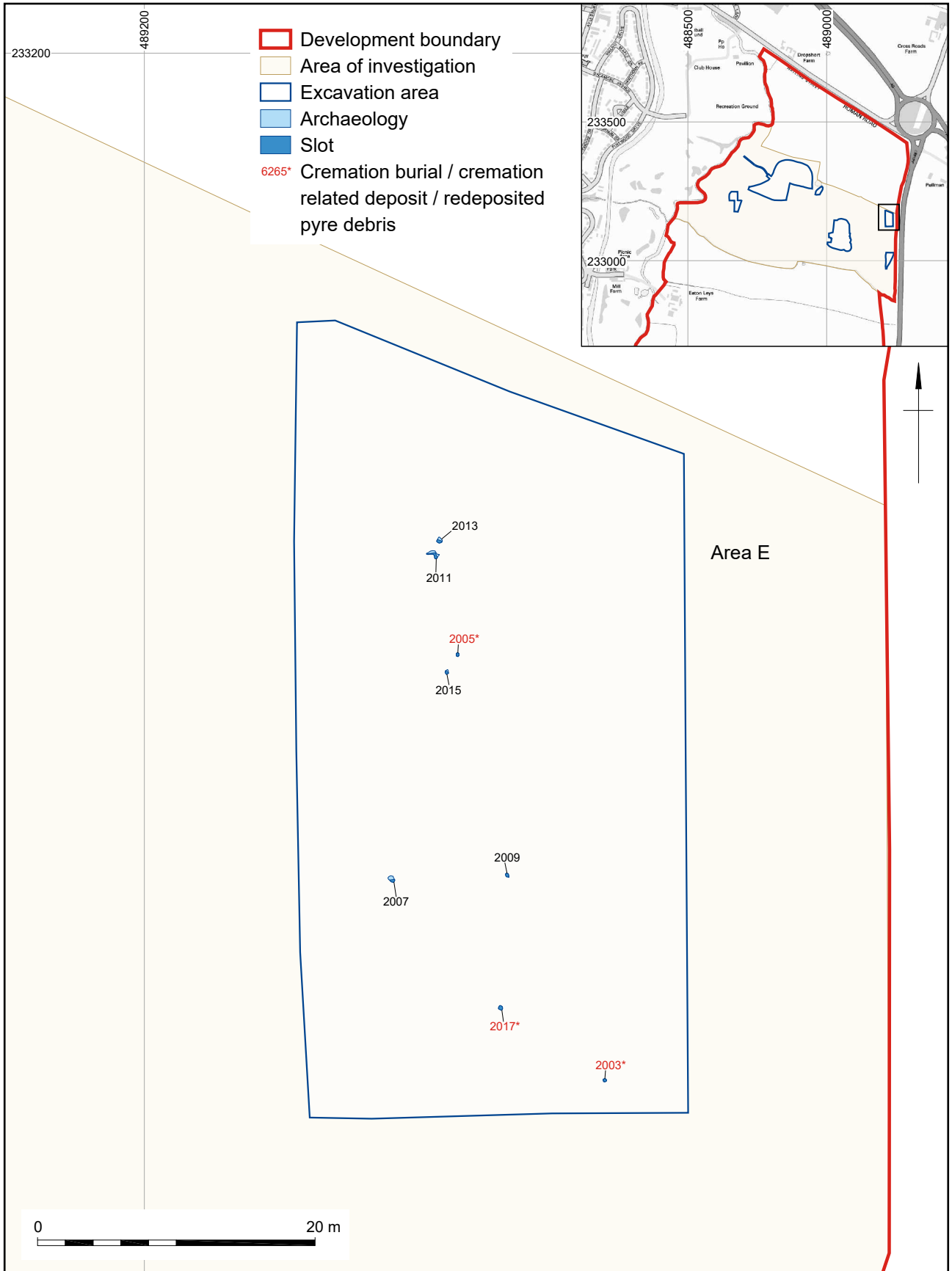


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Area D

Figure 6



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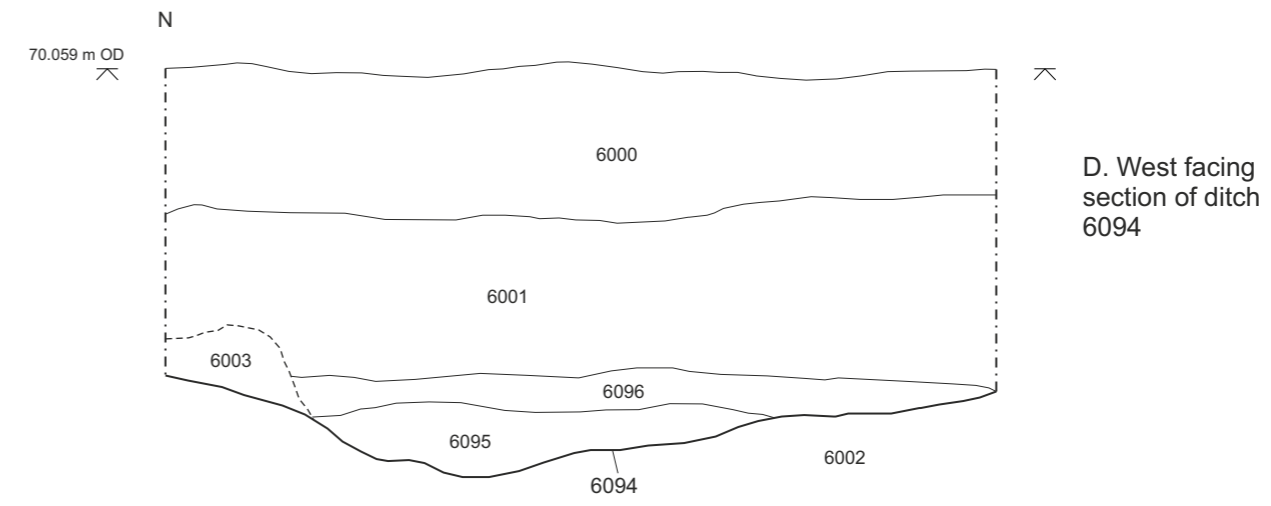
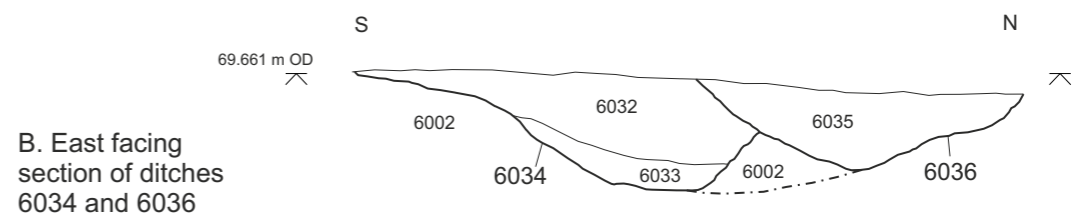
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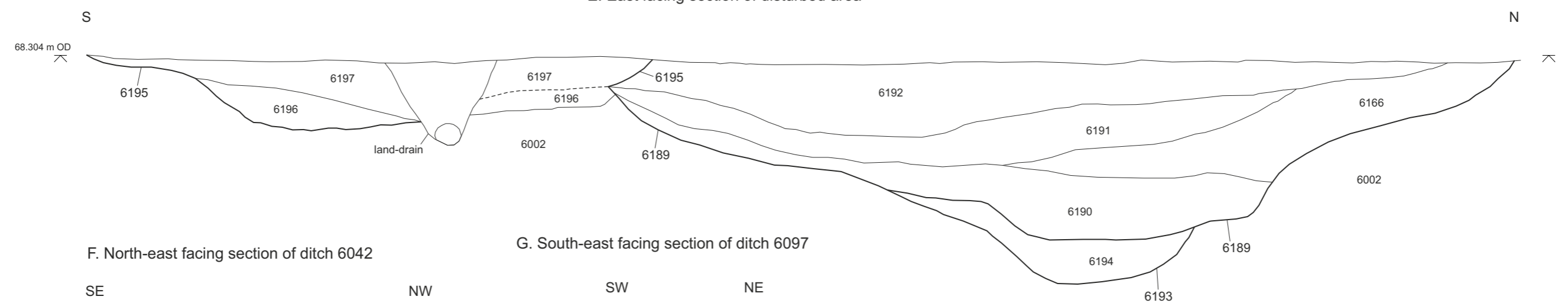
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C. South facing section of ditch 6010

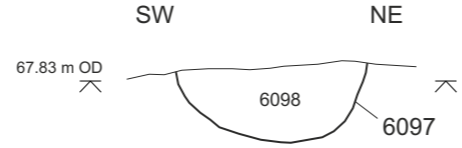
D. West facing section of ditch 6094

E. East facing section of disturbed area



F. North-east facing section of ditch 6042

G. South-east facing section of ditch 6097

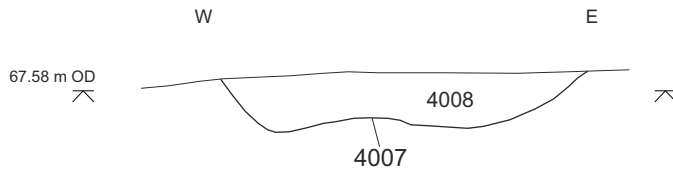
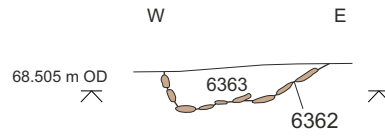


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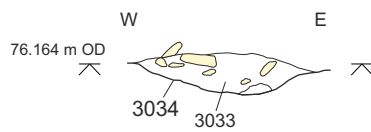
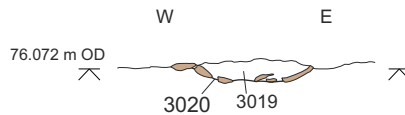


H. South facing section of urned cremation burial 6363 in grave 6362



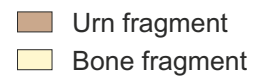
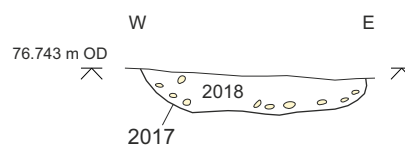
I. South facing section of urned cremation burial 4008 in grave 4007

J. South facing section of urned cremation burial 3019 in grave 3020



K. South facing section of urned cremation burial 3033 in grave 3034

L. South facing section of possible urned cremation burial 2018 in feature 2017



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Plate 2: Area A, driveway ditch 6401, south facing section



Plate 3: Area A, driveway ditch 6402, west facing section


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Plate 4: Area A, enclosure ditch 6055, south-west facing section



Plate 5: Area A, staff demarcating driveway ditch 6401


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Plate 6: Area A, unurned cremation burial 6240 in grave 6239, south facing section



Plate 7: Area A, pit 6288, north facing section


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Plate 8: Area C, unurned cremation 4010 burial in grave 4009, south facing section



Plate 9: Area C, ditch 4017, south-west facing section


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Plate 10: Area C, pit 4021, south facing section



Plate 11: Area D, camera facing east


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Plate 12: Area D, unurned cremation burial 3065 in grave 3066, south facing section



Plate 13: Area D, urned cremation burial 3076 grave 3075, south facing section


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Plate 14: Area D, cremation urn *in situ* in grave 3097



Plate 15: Area D, four-post structure 3060, camera facing north



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Plate 16: Area E, cremation-related deposit 2004 in feature 2003, south facing section



Plate 17: Area E, pit 2009, south facing section

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