

IRON AGE AND ROMAN ENCLOSED SETTLEMENT AT WINCHESTER ROAD, BASINGSTOKE

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ABSTRACT

Excavation in Area 1 identified an enclosed settlement of Middle–Late Iron Age and Early Roman date, which included a roundhouse gully and deep storage pits with complex fills. A group of undated four-post structures, situated in the east of Area 1, appeared to represent a specialised area of storage or crop processing of probable Middle Iron Age date. A sequence of re-cutting and reorganisation of ditches and boundaries in the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period was followed, possibly after a considerable hiatus, by a phase of later Roman activity. Late Iron Age reorganisation appeared to be associated with the abandonment of a roundhouse, and a number of structured pit deposits may also relate to this period of change. Seven Late Iron Age cremation burials were associated with a contemporary boundary ditch which crossed Area 1. Two partly-exposed, L-shaped ditches may represent a later Roman phase of enclosed settlement and a slight shift in settlement focus. An isolated inhumation burial within the northern margins of Area 1 was tentatively dated by grave goods to the Early Saxon period.

Area 2 contained a possible trackway and field boundary ditches, of which one was of confirmed Late Iron Age/Early Roman date. A short posthole alignment in Area 2 was undated, and may be an earlier prehistoric feature.

INTRODUCTION

A programme of archaeological excavation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology from October to December, 2015, at the request of CgMs Consulting Ltd, on land north of Winchester Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire.

Four individual excavation areas were targeted on areas of archaeological interest identified

by evaluation (Thames Valley Archaeological Services (TVAS) 2012b). Of these, Area 1 contained by far the greatest concentration of features. Following initial stripping, Areas 3 and 4 were found to contain no features of archaeological origin, and were not investigated further.

Location, topography and geology

The 10ha site is located immediately north-west of Winchester Road (A30), on the south-western outskirts of Basingstoke (NGR 459540 148573), and is bounded to the north, west and south by arable farmland, from which it is separated by hedgerows and tree cover. A small byway, representing the course of a Roman road, runs immediately to the west (Fig. 1).

The head of a shallow coombe occupies the western half of the site, which falls from 160m above Ordnance Datum (aOD), at its south-west margins, to 148m aOD at the north-west. Within the eastern half of the site, contours rise gradually to a maximum elevation of 168m aOD. Underlying geology comprises Upper Chalk of the Seaford Formation. The full excavation report, including specialist reports and data and additional illustrations (CA 2017), can be found on the Cotswold Archaeology website: <http://www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk/>. The archive will be deposited with the Hampshire Cultural Trust (Accession Number: A2015.49).

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Earlier prehistoric (c. 12,000–2400 BC)

A large assemblage of Neolithic flint-work was recorded from Kempshott Lane, c. 1 km to the



Fig. 2 Photograph: general view across Area 1, and the Winchester Road site, looking east

north (Willis 1952), with other recorded flint scatters on the open chalk downland environs of Basingstoke, where there are otherwise few monuments of this date. Limited evidence of Late Neolithic and Beaker-period activity was recorded at Marnel Park, Basingstoke, c. 6km to the north-east (Wright *et al.* 2009a, 20–21).

Bronze Age (c. 2400–700 BC)

A Middle Bronze Age cremation cemetery was recorded at Daneshill (Millett & Schadla-Hall 1991), and Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age features at Chineham Lane (Boismier *et al.* 1988), 10km to the north-east. Cropmarks representing Early Bronze Age barrows are located close to the north-east corner of the site (Hampshire Archaeology and Historic Building Record (AHBR) 18787, 39621 & 39622), with a

contracted Beaker inhumation recorded 700m to the south-east (AHBR 50276). A further Beaker burial was recorded at Kempshott Park, 1km to the west (AHBR 42274).

Evaluation and excavation south of Beggarwood Lane, 300m to the south-east, recorded an Early Bronze Age cremation cemetery (Kennedy & Massey, this volume). Evidence of Early and Middle Bronze Age settlement, was recorded at Marnel Park and Merton Rise (Wright *et al.* 2009a, 21–22), with Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pits at the neighbouring Marnel Park Phase 2 site (Clutterbuck & Massey, *forthcoming*).

Iron Age (c. 700 BC–AD 43)

Excavation at Marnel Park and Merton Rise also identified extensive evidence of Early Iron

Age settlement. The Early and Middle Iron Age hillfort at Winklebury, is located 2.9km to the north-east (Smith 1977), and widespread evidence of Middle and Late Iron Age activity, including enclosed settlement and ditched boundaries, indicates a period of observable change in the archaeological record of the Basingstoke area from the second century BC onwards. Contemporary excavated sites include Oakridge, Basingstoke (Oliver 1992), Ructall's Hill (Oliver & Applin 1978), Brighton Hill South (Fasham and Keevil 1995), Old Kempshott Lane (Haslam 2012), Danebury Road, Hatch Warren (Howell and Durden 2005), Viabes II (Gibson, 2004), and Site A, Kennel Farm (Chapman 2006), amongst others.

Three cropmark features recorded close to the eastern margins of the site include two 'banjo' enclosures (AHBR 50276 & 33854), one of which was associated with possible industrial activity, together with an enclosed Middle Iron Age settlement (Chapman 2006; AHBR 33749).

A small, Early-Middle Iron Age ditched enclosure (Site A) was investigated to the east of Winchester Road, in 1996 (Northamptonshire Archaeology 2001; Chapman 2006, 16–25; Hampshire AHBR 33749). This was established between 700–500 BC, and occupied until *c.* 300 BC. A 'banjo' enclosure complex (Site B), of probable Late Iron Age date, and recorded from cropmarks 200m south-east of Site A, has not been investigated, but is probably contemporary with the current site.

In 1998, investigation of a further Iron Age 'banjo' enclosure known through aerial survey, 800m to the south-east of Site A (Thorne & Holmes 2002), confirmed occupation continuing until the 1st century AD. Other investigated cropmarks comprised a small, oval Iron Age enclosure and trackway (*ibid.*).

Roman (AD 43–410)

The course of the Roman road, Margary 42a, which ran from Silchester, 14km to the north, to Winchester (Margary 1973, 89–90) is visible as a surviving section of agger along the north-west side of the site. Locally-recorded finds of this date include tile, pottery and coins dating from the 1st to 4th centuries AD (AHBR 189704–7)

Evidence of an "aisled hall" building, and later Roman finds (AHBR 18704–18707 & 37865), are recorded 50m to the west. Further Roman buildings are attested at Monk Sherborne, *c.* 7 km to the north-west (Teague 2003), with an extensive villa at Wootton St Lawrence, 7.5 km to the north (Scott 1993, 88).

Locally, most Iron Age settlements display evidence of post-Conquest continuity, including that previously recorded at Kennel Farm (NA 1998). However, relatively few of these appear to have survived much beyond the end of the 1st century AD (cf. Coles *et al.* 2011; Applebaum 1953).

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

A walk-over survey and trial trenching evaluation were undertaken in March, 2012 (Thames Valley Archaeological Services (TVAS) 2012). Field walking recovered a small quantity of prehistoric worked flint, and evaluation identified a concentration of ditched features representing an enclosed settlement of Iron Age/Early Roman date within the south-western part of the site (Area 1), to the north of a former chalk pit (TVAS 2012; Fig. 1).

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION

Excavation methodology conformed to the requirements of the project brief, and the relevant period agendas in the regional archaeological research framework (Hey & Hind 2014). Four individual areas were excavated across the site, of which Area 1 measured 0.99ha; Area 2, 0.08ha; Area 3, 0.039ha and Area 4, 0.0066ha (Fig. 1). The objectives of the excavation were to record the form, character and extent of the stratigraphic units encountered; to assess evidence of domestic and economic activity and structural features; and to assess the, survival, condition, and potential of artefactual and ecofactual remains.

Following surface stripping, archaeological features were encountered only within Areas 1 and 2, and excavation within these areas targeted the concentrations of features identified by

evaluation. Area 1 was subsequently extended further eastwards, for 120m², to further investigate an L-shaped ditch (Ditch 116, Fig. 3).

RESULTS OF EXCAVATION

Excavation within Area 1 identified elements of enclosed settlement and associated ditched boundaries, which were principally of Middle/Late Iron Age and Early Roman date, and included evidence of domestic occupation, economic activity, and burial. The intelligibility of stratigraphy across the site was relatively good, with archaeological remains surviving as negative features, layers and fills. However, the general effects of truncation limited chronological relationships between stratigraphically-isolated features. Most features were phased on the basis of dateable material and/or spatial associations.

Area 2 contained elements of a ditched field-system and track-way, with a short, undated posthole alignment. Extensive tree-throw pits, and areas of tree-root disturbance, were identified across Areas 1 and 2.

Phasing

Recorded finds and features were assigned to the following periods:

- Period 1: Mesolithic to Bronze Age (*c.* 10,000–700 BC) (Residual worked flint);
- Period 2: Middle to Late Iron Age (*c.* 400 BC to AD 0);
- Period 3: Late Iron Age to Early Roman (*c.* AD 0–75);
- Period 4: Later Roman (*c.* AD 75–300);
- Period 5: Early medieval (*c.* AD 400–600);
- Undated.

The relatively homogenous character of Middle Iron Age pottery did not permit a close date-range to be determined for Period 2 features. Only a small proportion (4%) of the total site assemblage is of confirmed pre-Roman date, and a relatively late date for Period 2 is suggested.

Distinction between Periods 2 and 3 was complicated by the 'Atrebat' wheel-made

forms, whose appearance may date as late as the opening decades of the first century AD (Tyers 1996, 55–6). Period 3 features displayed considerable evidence of change and re-organisation, although the pottery evidence does not permit any more refined chronology for the sub-phases involved. Period 2 features may therefore be under-represented (as depicted in Figs 3 & 4), and a number of undated ditches and pits cut by Period 3 features, including Ditches 106 and 118, and pits 10264 and 1682, are very probably of Period 2 date.

Geology and soils

The natural chalk geology was covered by a mid-red/brown silty clay subsoil, which ranged in depth from 0.1m in the east of the site, to between 0.4m and 0.8m within lower ground to the south-west. This sealed all archaeological features within Areas 1 and 2, and underlay a plough-soil of grey-brown silty clay, of between 0.1m and 0.3m in depth. Within Area 1, the total depth of overburden ranged from 0.2m in the north-east, to 1m in the west.

Three wide periglacial gullies were aligned north-west/south-east, across Area 1 (Fig. 3) (see Brookfield 2011, 246–7). A large, sub-circular natural solution-hollow, measuring 12m across, was recorded within the south-east of Area 1 (Fig. 3), and was investigated by a 2m-wide, machine-dug slot to a depth of 0.5m, where an archaeologically-sterile fill confirmed a natural origin.

Tree-throw hollows within Area 1 were commonly cut by Iron Age or Roman features, and collectively suggest dense woodland cover in the later prehistoric period. However, these also sealed a number of archaeological features, indicating the reversion of the site to secondary woodland, probably from the later Roman period onwards (see Rackham 2001; Rippon *et al.* 2015, 125).

Primary fills of cut features generally comprised chalky silts of light-brown or light-grey/brown colour. Secondary fills displayed considerable consistency as grey/brown, mid-brown or red/brown clay silts, except for deposits of hearth or domestic debris, which were characteristically darker.

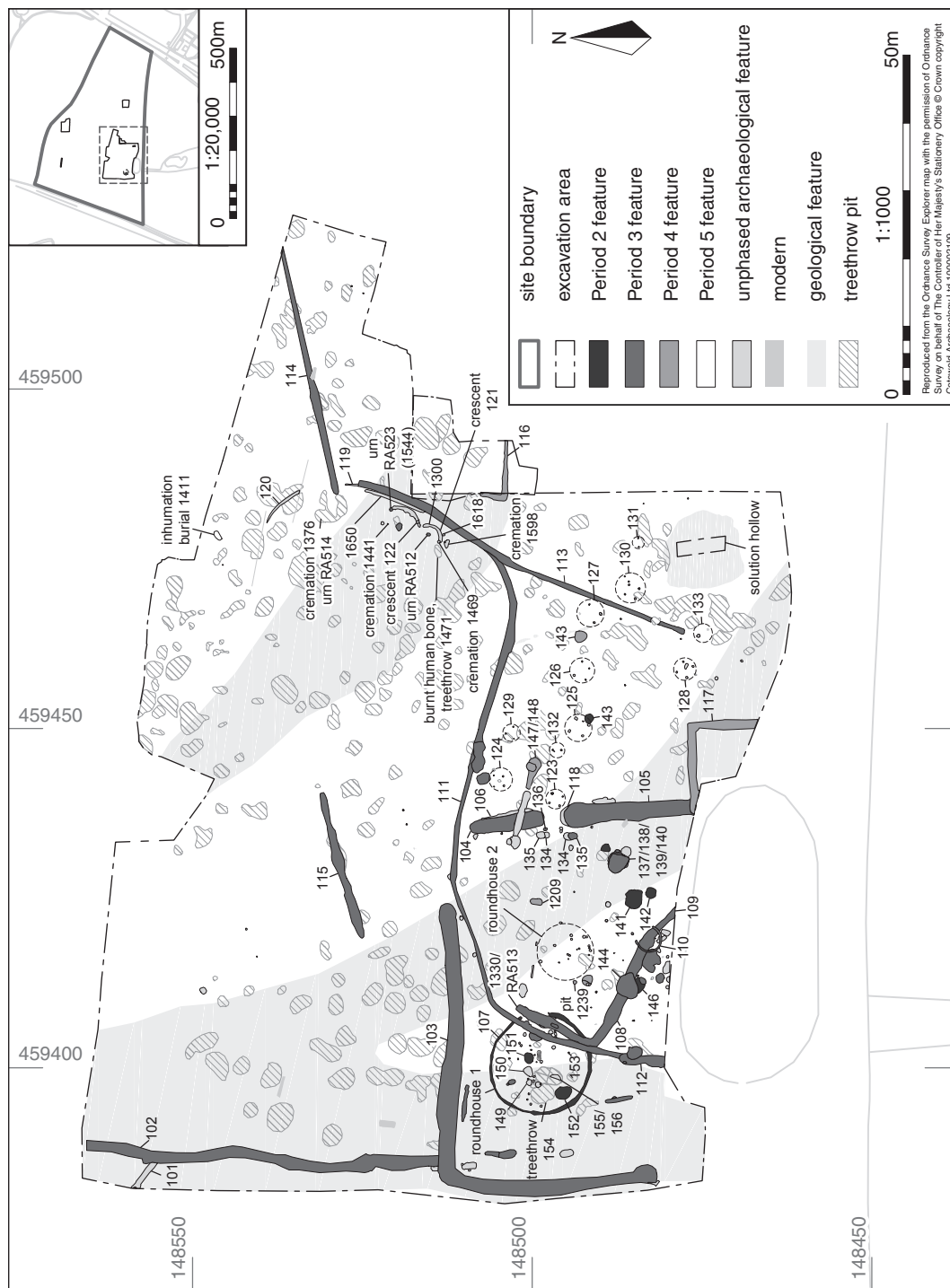


Fig. 3 Plan of Area 1, showing excavated features (1:1000)

Area 1

Period 1: Mesolithic to Bronze Age (c. 10,000–700 BC)

Period 1 was represented only by residual items of worked flint, potentially ranging from Mesolithic to Bronze Age in date (c. 10,000–700 BC). Worked flint was principally recovered from Period 3 pits (44%) and ditches (44%); with the remainder mostly from undated ditch and pit fills.

Period 2: Middle to Late Iron Age (400 BC to AD 25)

This period was principally associated with evidence of domestic occupation in Area 1 (Figs 3 & 4). Only one feature, pit 1453, was exclusively associated with Middle Iron Age material. In addition, a number of undated features, including four-post structure 123 and a number of undated pits within Roundhouse 1, displayed anomalous spatial relationships with Period 2 and 3 features, and may therefore relate to an earlier, and otherwise unrepresented, phase of Iron Age activity.

Ring Gully 107 (Roundhouse 1)

Large, sub-circular ring gully 107 represented a roundhouse, with a 4m-wide, east-facing entrance (Fig. 4). The area enclosed by the gully circuit measured 14m in internal diameter, and the gully itself measured 0.3m to 0.7m in width, and between 0.1m and 0.4m in depth. Primary and secondary fills contained burnt flint and small quantities of Middle Iron Age pottery. Sample 600, from intervention 1126, contained charred cereal grains which, together with roundwood charcoal, may represent dispersed settlement waste. Such gullies are commonly interpreted as “drip-trenches”, although the depth of 107 suggested a construction slot (see Harding 2009, 44–5)

Features within Roundhouse 1

The space enclosed by ring-gully 107 contained 22 individual postholes (Fig. 4), together with two smaller pits, 1149 and 1151, and five bell-profiled pits of varying size, of which two, 151 and 152, were of Period 2 date, while Pits 149, 150 and 156 were undated. A probable hearth deposit, 1611, was centrally positioned within

the roundhouse. Almost all postholes, ranging in depth from 0.1m to 0.3m, were undated. The larger pits, including 151 and 152, suggested storage features, and their anomalous location suggests that they either pre-date roundhouse construction, or closely post-date its demolition.

Pit 151. Pit 151 (cut 1588), located centrally within ring gully 107, was circular in plan, with a bell-shaped profile (Figs 4 & 5). It measured 1.2m in diameter at its opening, to 1.5m at its base, with a depth of 1.4m, and contained a complex sequence of eight charcoal-rich secondary fills, variously comprising deposits of wattle-impressed daub, pottery, fired clay fragments, clay loom weights and fragments of querns or stone rubbers. These fills were notably rich in charred cereal grains and crop processing waste.

Pit 152. Sub-circular pit 152 was located towards the south-western margins of the interior of Gully 107. It measured 2.6m in diameter at its opening, with a depth of 1.02m. This was backfilled with a sequence of four secondary fills, containing Period 2 pottery, animal bone, burnt flint and burnt clay, with abundant charred cereal grains. As with pit 151, 152 was probably dug, and backfilled, on an abandoned site.

Hearth 1611. Shallow, oval feature 1611, within the centre of Roundhouse 1, displayed a maximum diameter of 0.89m, and depth of 0.15m. A charcoal-rich fill included burnt flint, structural daub, a clay loom weight fragment and part of a wheel-thrown bowl of possible Period 3 date. This suggested that occupation of the roundhouse may have continued after c. 50 BC. Some 20 undated postholes were also recorded within the area bounded by gully 107, most of which are of probable Period 2 date.

External features

Pit 141. Sub-circular pit 141 displayed a bell-shaped profile, and was located 20m to the south-east of ring-gully 107 (Figs 4 & 6). It measured 2.6m in maximum diameter at its opening, and 1.75m in depth. A complex sequence of 15 clay silt fills included pottery,

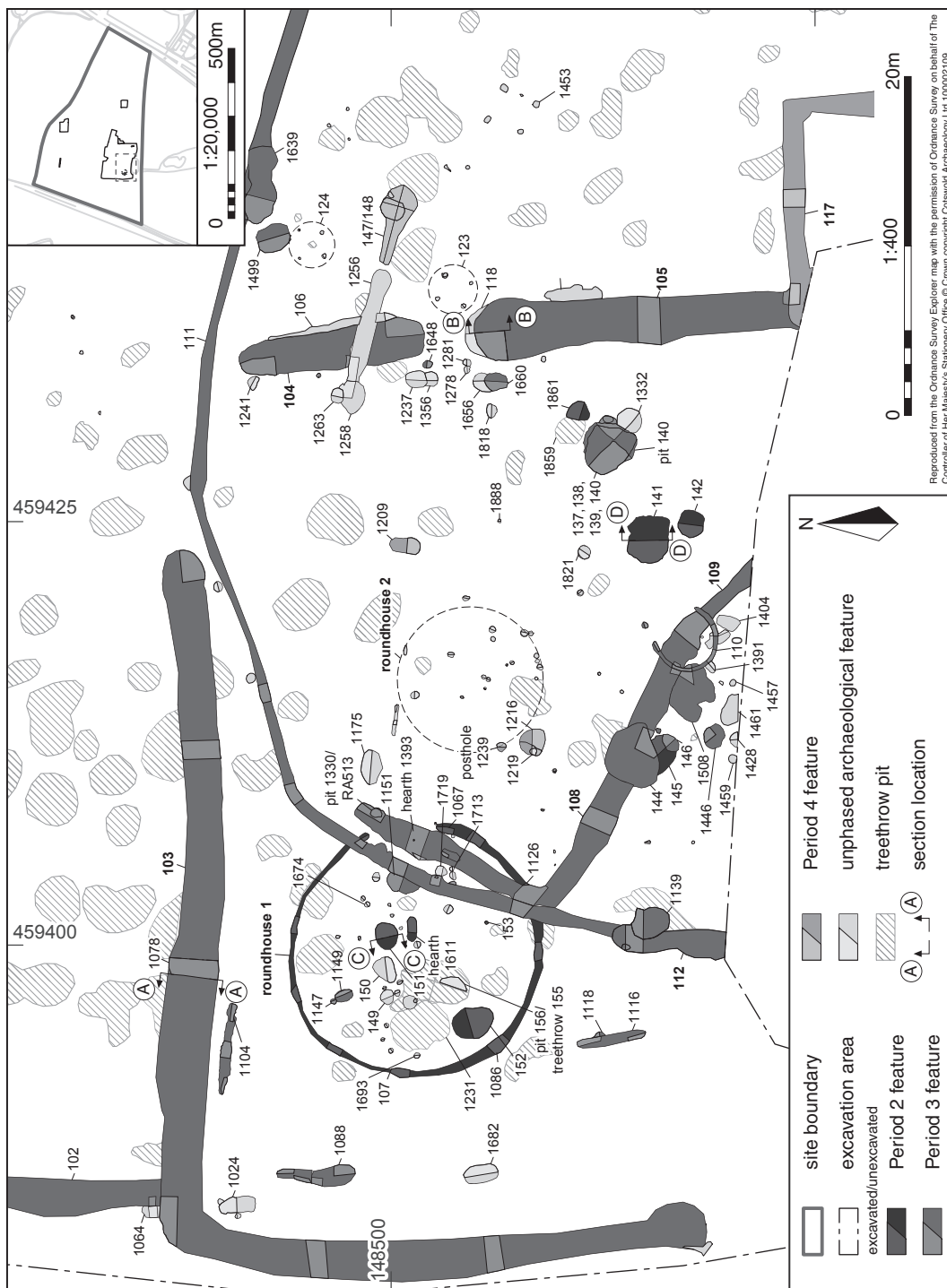


Fig. 4 Expanded plan of Area 1 (south-west), showing excavated features (1:400)

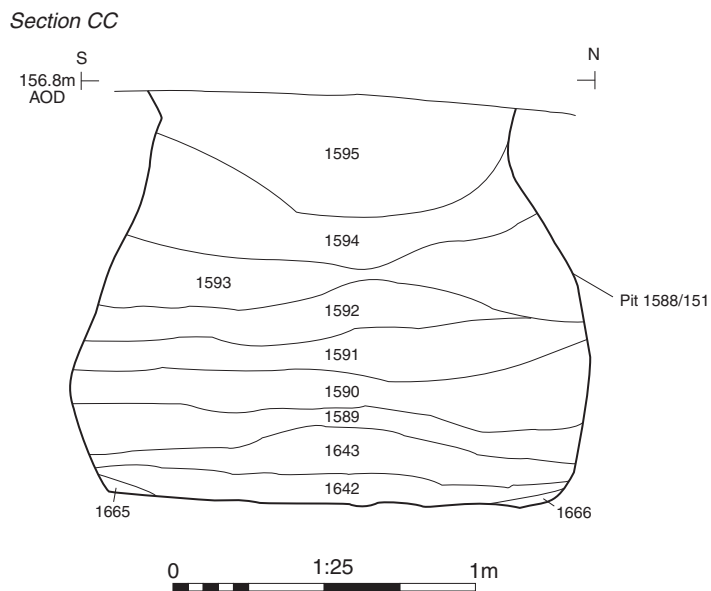


Fig. 5 Photograph and section (1:20) of pit 151 facing south-east (1m scale)

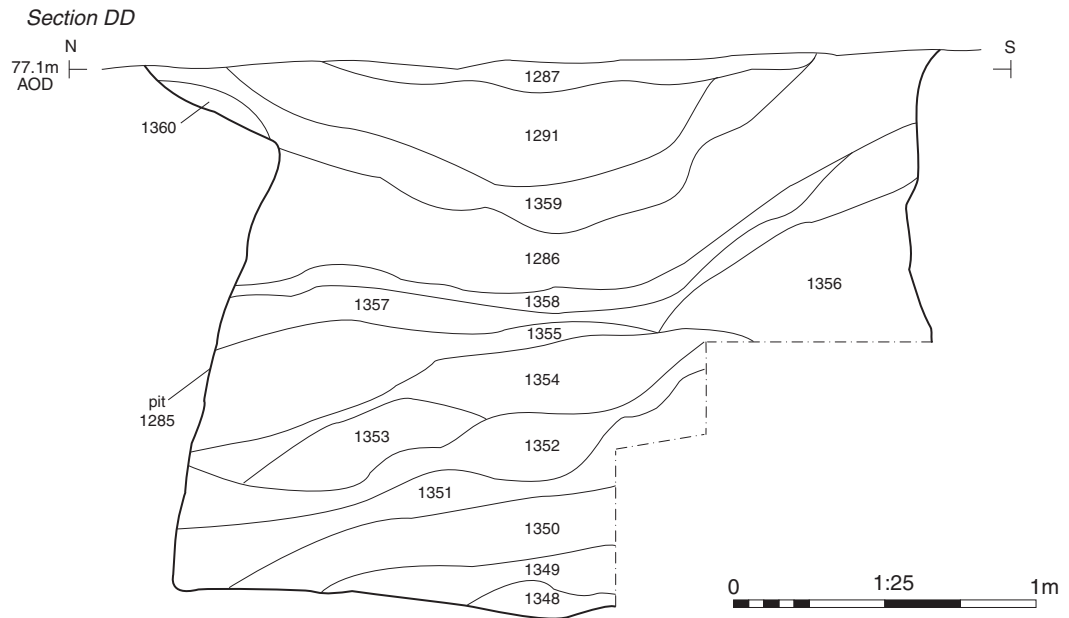


Fig. 6 West-facing section (1:20) of pit 141 (1m scale)

animal bone, charcoal, burnt flint and quantities of clay loom weight fragments (4,716g), together with abundant charred cereal grain fragments and crop processing waste. The presence of organic material and domestic items in different fills, strongly suggested a sequence of structured deposits. The final fill was richest in terms of artefactual and biofactual content, including 97 fragments of clay loom weights, and may represent a symbolic sealing of the pit.

Pit 142. Sub-circular, bell-profiled pit 142, situated south-east of pit 141, was much smaller in size (Figs 3 & 4), with a diameter at its opening of 1.45m, and depth of 0.93m. Of a sequence of nine fills, seven secondary fills contained charcoal, pottery, animal bone and burnt flint.

Pit 145. Circular quarry pit 145 was located to the west of pits 141 and 142, and measured 1.9m in diameter and 0.8m in depth, with steep sides and a flat base. It contained three fills, of which two contained sparse Period 2 sherds, and was cut on its north side by the Period 3 pit 144, and on the south-eastern side by small Period 3 pit, 146 (Fig. 4).

Pits 1861 and 143. Small, sub-circular pit 1861, north-east of pits 141 and 142, contained a single fill of dark-brown silty clay, with Period 2 pottery. Circular pit 143 was located adjacent to undated four-post structure 125, and was partly cut by a posthole of this structure. It displayed a diameter of 1.46m and depth of 0.21m, with near-vertical sides and a concave base. A single fill contained Period 2 pottery.

Enclosure ditches

Ditches 118 and 106, located north and south of the eastern enclosure entrance, appeared to comprise Period 2 features which had been recut by Period 3 Ditches 105 and 104 respectively (Figs 4 & 7). It is probable that most Period 3 ditches (i.e. 103, 104 and 105) represent recut features of Period 2 origin. Ditch 118 displayed a width of 1.82m and depth of 1.2m, and contained secondary fills of grey/brown and red/brown silty clay (Fig. 7). Ditch

106 was only exposed on its moderately-sloping, eastern side, where it measured 0.7m in width and 0.29m in depth. A single silty clay fill was cut on its western side by Ditch 104.

Period 3: Late Iron Age to Early Roman (AD 25–100)

A marked increase in activity was evident in Period 3, when the ditched enclosure (Ditches 103, 104 and 105) was bisected by new ditched boundaries (Ditches 108, 109, 111, and 112), representing an abrupt episode(s) of reorganisation. Period 3 features also included a post-built eastern gateway, and pits 137/140, (Figs 3 & 4), together with a group of cremation burials.

Interior of Roundhouse 1

Two smaller Period 3 pits, 1147 and 1149, may represent activity on the roundhouse site following abandonment (Fig. 4). Shallow pit 1149, of oval plan, was 1.02m in diameter and 0.16m depth, with a single fill containing Period 3 sherds. Pit 1151 was located close to the entrance of Roundhouse 1, and was cut on its eastern side by Period 3 Ditch 111. It was of irregular, sub-circular plan, and contained two secondary fills with Period 3 pottery.

Features to the west of Roundhouse 1

Other Period 3 features were situated to the north and west of roundhouse gully 107 and enclosed within Ditch 103. Gully 1116 measured 3.92m in length and 0.64m in width, with a depth of 0.16m, with gentle sides and a rounded base, and cut a Period 3 posthole on its eastern side. Feature 1088 comprised an elongated pit, 6m east of Ditch 103 (Fig. 4), and displayed a length of 2.6m, maximum width of 1.17m, and depth of 0.19m, with steeply-sloping sides and a convex base. A secondary fill, contained Period 2 pottery. Gully 1104, 1.5m to the south of the east-west length of Ditch 103, measured 11.0m in length, 0.27m in width and 0.17m in depth, with moderately-sloping sides and a rounded, concave base, with a single fill. The linear form of these three features, together with parallel relationships with neighbouring Ditch 103, suggests surviving truncated elements of Period 2 ditches.

Period 3 ditches

Ditches 103, 104 and 105 formed discontinuous elements of a rectilinear-plan enclosure, with entrances located to the east and north-east, and possibly also to the south-west. Ditch 103 clearly cut the north/south-aligned boundary Ditch 102, suggesting that the latter, although undated, was integral to the Period 2 layout.

Ditch 103. Ditch 103 was L-shaped in plan, measuring approximately 30m from north to south, and 40m east/west, as excavated. Section 1078 (Section A-A, Figs 4 & 7) displayed gradual to steeply-sloping sides, a V-shaped profile, a width of 2.7m and depth of 1.2m. A lower secondary fill contained Period 3 pottery, although an upper secondary silty clay fill contained no finds.

Ditch 104. North/south-aligned Ditch 104 was 11m in length, and together with Ditch 105, from which it was separated by a 3m-wide entranceway, formed the eastern boundary of the Period 3 enclosure. Ditch 104 represented a recut of the Period 2 Ditch 106, and displayed steeply-sloping sides, with a concave to flat base, and contained a sequence of six silty clay fills, mostly representing backfilling. Secondary fill 1363 contained burnt flint, and represented a dump of domestic waste.

Ditch 105. Ditch 105 comprised the southern element of the eastern enclosure ditch, and like Ditch 104 represented a Period 3 recut (Fig. 4 & 8, section BB). It was cut by Period 4 Ditch 117, to the south. It was steep-sided in profile, with a width of 1.0m and depth of 1.21m, and contained a sequence of four silty clay fills, of which the uppermost contained residual Period 2 pottery, animal bone and burnt flint, together with a copper alloy Nauheim Derivative brooch (Ra. 500). Within another intervention, an upper secondary fill contained a fragmentary Drahtfibel-type iron brooch (Ra. 502), together with charcoal and charred cereal grain fragments.

Ditch 102. Irregular Ditch 102 was cut by Ditch 103 3m to the east of its external angle, and represented an earlier Period 3 sub-phase. Of smaller dimensions than Ditch 103, it may

represent an external, north/south-aligned boundary. As excavated, it extended 52m north of Ditch 103, and contained two silty clay fills, containing sparse Period 3 pottery. Both fills suggested that Ditch 102 silted up, possibly following Period 3 reorganisation. Ditch 102 cut an undated pit, 1064, at its junction with Ditch 103, which may represent a Period 2 post setting.

L-Shaped ditch 108. L-shaped Ditch 108 cut Period 2 ring-gully 107, and was cut in turn by a later Period 3 Ditch, 111 (Figs 3 & 4). As excavated, Ditch 108 measured *c.* 13m north-east/south-west, and 18m north-west/south-east, with a steep, V-profile measuring 1.75m in width and 0.71m depth. Two secondary fills contained animal bone and Period 3 pottery. Roman CBM within this fill may be intrusive.

Towards the north-eastern terminal of Ditch 108, an upper fill, of grey-brown silty clay, was cut by hearth 1393 (Fig. 4). Like gully 110 (below), this feature may represent a late Period 3 sub-phase, at a time when Ditch 108 was either backfilled or had become completely silted. Hearth 1393 was an irregular oval in plan, measuring 1.06m by 0.99m, with a depth of 0.1m. A single, charcoal-rich fill contained high inclusions burnt clay, burnt flint and charred cereal grains.

Ditch 109. Ditch 109, located immediately south-east of Ditch 108, continued its south-easterly course. Its north-western terminal was cut into the locally-thinned fills of Ditch 108. In section, steep-profiled Ditch 109 contained three clay silt fills, of which the uppermost contained charcoal, animal bone, pottery and burnt flint.

Gully 110. Ditches 108 and 109 were both cut by semi-circular gully 110, displaying an internal diameter of *c.* 3.5m, width of 0.22m and depth of 0.08m. A single fill contained 12 fragments of clay loom weight (494g), with cereal grain fragments and charcoal. As a possible slot for a timber structure, this may be comparable with the open-sided “working areas” identified on some Middle-Late Iron Age sites (cf. Lambrick & Robinson 1979, 21, fig. 11; 24, fig. 13; 138–9). The cutting of this feature into the upper fills

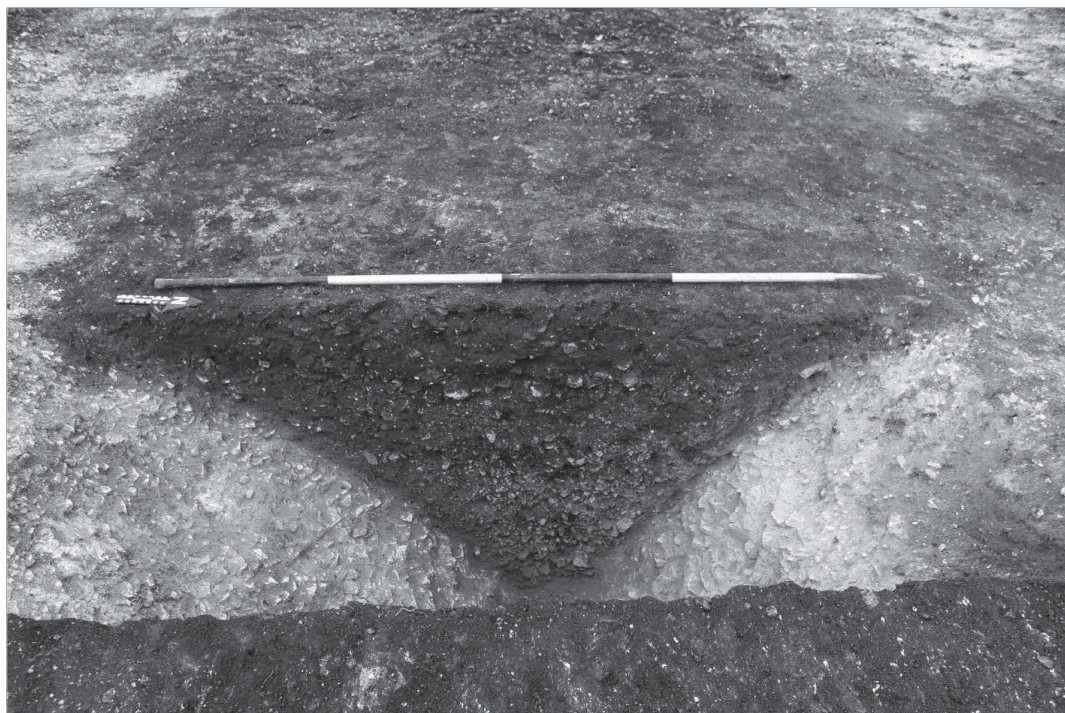
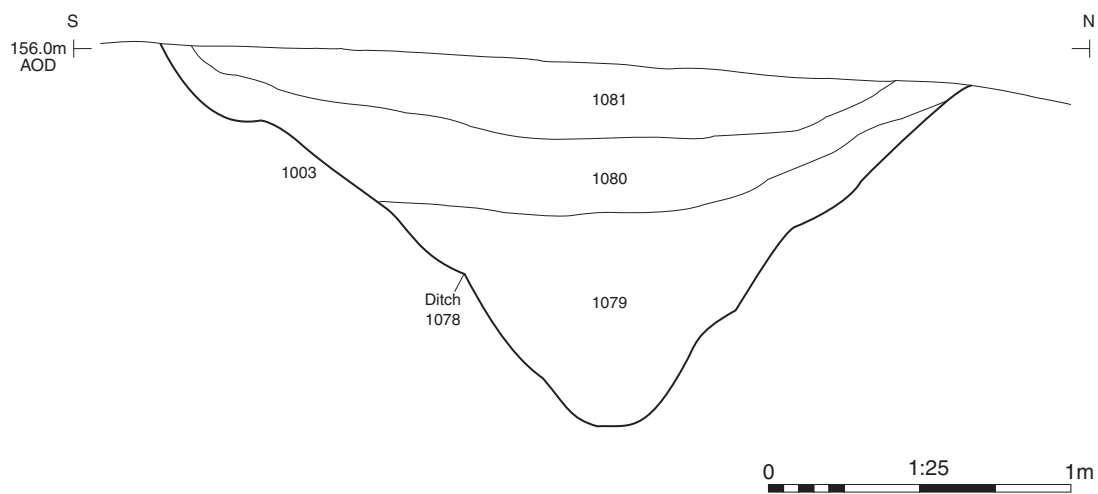
Section AA

Fig. 7 East-facing section (1:20) of Ditch 103 (1078) (2m scale)

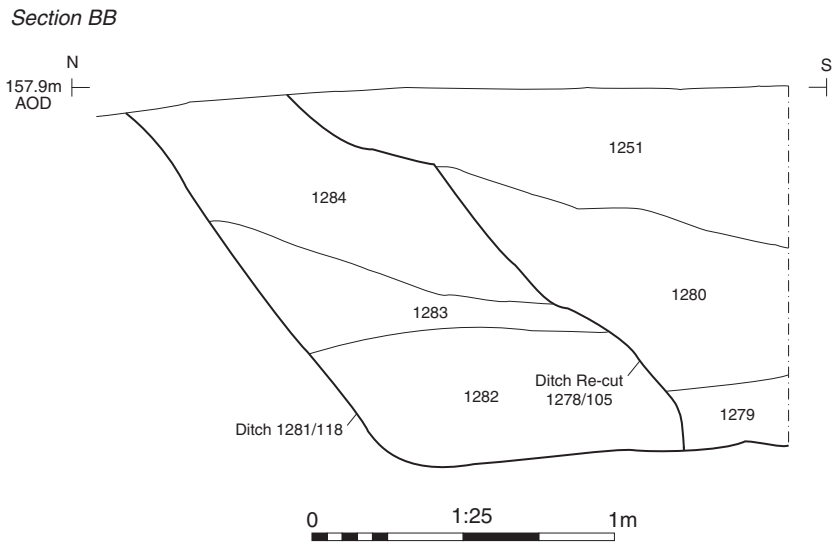


Fig. 8 North-west facing section (1:20) of Ditch 105 (ditch recut 1278) (1m scale)

of Ditches 108 and 109 confirmed that these had been backfilled before the end of Period 3.

Ditch 115. Ditch 115, a discontinuous feature of 24m length and irregular profile, was aligned WSW/ENE and located 12m north of the eastern terminal of Ditch 103 (Fig. 3). In asymmetrical section it displayed a width of 1.73m and depth of 0.5m, with three silty clay fills.

Pit 1330. Within the northern terminal of Ditch 108, a small oval pit (1330) was cut into the upper fill (Fig. 4). This was oval in plan, with a maximum diameter of 0.6m and depth of 0.18m. Its fill contained a well-preserved urn, Ra. 513 (Fig. 12.14), along with charcoal and cereal grain fragments. The urn comprised a distinctive, impressed-girth cordoned jar, dateable to *c.* 50 BC–AD 43 (Cunliffe 2005, 645–6), representing a deliberately-placed item within a symbolic location *i.e.* close to the entrance of the earlier roundhouse

Pit 1508. Ditch 108 cut Period 3 pit 1508, on its northern side. Pit 1508 was of irregular, sub-circular plan, measuring 2.3m in maximum diameter and 0.41m in depth, with a shallow, concave profile (Fig. 4). A secondary silty clay fill contained sparse Period 3 pottery. Semi-circular gully 110, was partly cut into the upper fills of pit 1508.

Pit 1446. Immediately south of Pit 1508, a group of pits extended beyond the southern edge of Area 1 and were incompletely recorded. Of these, only pit 1446 was of confirmed Period 3 date. A disturbed primary fill suggested a post setting, while a lower secondary fill contained Period 3 pottery.

Ditch 111. Sinuous Ditch 111 extended for 100m across Area 1, cutting both Ditch 108 and ring-gully 107 (Fig. 4). The slight Ditches 119 and 120, to the north-east, appeared to represent a northward continuation of Ditch 111. At the intervention of Ditch 111 with Ditch 108 and roundhouse gully 107, it displayed a symmetrical, rounded section, with a width of 0.85m and depth of 0.35m. A single fill contained a rotary quern fragment, although

Ditch 111 was dated elsewhere by Period 3 pottery. The narrow, irregular profile and form of this feature suggest the imposition of a new boundary, possibly a hedgerow, at a late stage of Period 3 (*cf.* Lambrick & Robinson 1979, 139). It appeared to delineate an area of activity immediately to the south-east, and clearly determined the location of crescent-shaped gullies 121 and 122 and associated cremation burials.

Ditches 113, 114 and 115. Ditch 111 was cut by Ditch 112, close to its excavated south-western extent, and also by Ditch 113, towards the eastern margin of Area 1 (Fig. 3). Ditch 113 may represent a partial recut of 111 beyond this point. Boundary Ditch 114, aligned NNE/SSW, was located closely to the north-east of Ditch 113, from which it was separated by a gap of *c.* 2.5m.

To the south of the cut, Ditch 113 extended for 30m, on a straight, south-west/north-east alignment, before terminating. Ditches 111, 113 and 114 displayed comparable profiles and may comprise part of the same scheme of later Period 3 ditched boundaries. Ditch 113 displayed a symmetrical, steep-sided profile, with a concave base, with three silty clay fills containing Period 3 pottery.

The enclosure gateway

Two pairs of large postholes, 134 and 135, were located immediately to the west of the eastern enclosure entrance (Fig. 4). Of these, only posthole 1660 (135) was of confirmed Period 3 date (Fig. 4). These features represent a post-built gate structure, of which at least two sub-phases were evident, and presumably contemporary with the Period 3 re-cutting of adjacent Ditches 106 and 118. Posthole 1660 contained sub-angular chalk packing material, around a post pipe of grey/brown silt, with Period 3 sherds. A pair of smaller postholes, 1648 and 1821, located slightly to the east, may represent minor settings associated with the gateway, as might undated posthole 1818, to the west.

Cremation burials

A discrete group of 10 cremation-related features, including seven cremation graves,

Table 1 Area 1: Summary of features associated with cremation burials

<i>Pit</i>	<i>Diam</i> (m)	<i>Depth</i> (m)	<i>Sides</i>	<i>Base</i>	<i>Crem.</i> (g)	<i>Bone</i>	<i>Charcoal</i>	<i>Artefacts</i>	<i>Assoc.</i> <i>Features</i>
1300	0.51	0.14	Moderate	Concave	95		*	Urn Ra. 512	Gully 121
1367	0.54	0.09	Moderate	Concave	127		*	Urn Ra. 514	Ditch 114
1383	0.89	0.31	Irregular	Concave	86			Urn Ra. 151	Gully 122
1441	0.23	0.04	Irregular	Concave	55			Fe brooch Ra. 521/522 + Fe disc Ra. 520	Ditch 113
1469	0.38	0.04	Gentle	Concave	310			Cu brooch Ra. 522	Gully 121
1544	0.49	0.29	Steep	Flat	Fragment			Cu brooch Ra. 522	Gully 122
					565		*	Urn Ra. 523	
1596			Gentle	Irregular	23				Tree-throw
1598	0.43	0.14	Steep	Concave	242				Tree-throw
1618	0.3	0.06	concave	concave	-				Gully 121

was located on the north-western side of Ditch 113 (Fig. 3). These are summarised in Table 1, below. The ‘external’ location of the burial group, alongside an established boundary, is typical of this period (Esmonde Cleary 2000, 137–8). Some burials displayed an intimate relationship with two similar, crescent-shaped gullies, 121 and 122, described below. Cremation pit 1469 was cut into the fill of crescent-shaped gully 121, and 1544 within the northern terminal of crescent-shaped gully 122 (Fig. 3).

The cremation pits were small, ranging from 0.89m to 0.23m in diameter, and 0.31m to 0.04m in depth, although some fills had been partly truncated. Recovered quantities of cremated bone varied considerably, from a single cranial fragment to 565g (both from 1544), but averaged only 187g. Fills of cremation pits comprised a range of grey/brown silty clays.

Four burials were accompanied by fragmentary remains of urns, and three by metal objects, including a copper alloy brooch (Ra. 522) from 1544, and an indeterminate iron disc (Ra. 520) and fragmentary iron brooch (Ra. 521/2), from 1441 (Figs 14 & 15). The copper alloy brooch appeared to have been deliberately deposited within a single cremated cranial fragment, in a separate lower fill of 1544, with the brooch pin deliberately inserted through the bone.

Tree-throw hollow 1596, on the southern margins of the burial group, contained a small quantity of cremated bone, possibly representing a disturbed burial, with a further cremation pit, 1598, cut into the fill of the hollow. Pit 1618, situated immediately south of crescent-shaped gully 121, may be related to the group of cremation pits, although the character of its fill did not suggest a cremation-related deposit.



Fig. 9 Cremation burial 1544, with urn Ra.523 and grave goods Ra. 520, 521 and 522 *in situ* (0.15m scale)

Crescent-shaped Gullies 121 and 122

The two crescent-shaped gullies were intimately related to the group of Period 3 cremation burials, and consequently of assumed Period 3 date. Gully 121, the smaller, southern example, was located 1.5m to the north-west of Ditch 113. It measured 4.5m in total length, with a width of 0.3m and depth of 0.2m. A single fill contained charcoal fragments. The slightly larger gully, 122, was located 0.75m to the north-east of gully 121. Cremation pit 1544 was cut into its northern terminal. It measured 7m in total length, with a width of 0.51m and depth of 0.1m, with a gently-sloping, concave profile. A single fill contained no dateable material. Gullies 121 and 122 appear to have no immediate parallels, although a close association with cremation pits suggests possible settings for grave markers, respectively for the 'focal' cremation pits 1300 and 1383 (Fig. 3).

Other Period 3 features

Pits 1499 and 1639. Oval pit 1499, located 1.5m

south of Ditch 111 (Fig. 4), measured 1.92m in maximum diameter and 0.36m in depth, with irregular, steep sides. A single fill contained Period 3 pottery and animal bone. Pit 1639 was located 0.75m north-east of pit 1499, and cut Ditch 111. Of elongated, curvilinear plan, it measured 1.6m in length (east/west), 1.51m in width and 0.36m in depth, with concave sides and base.

Pit 140. Bell-profiled pit 140 was located between Period 2 pits 141 and 1861, and measured 2.6m in maximum width at the opening, and 1.72m in depth, with a complex sequence of 16 fills. A basal fill, of dark clay silt, was followed by four chalky fills representing partial backfilling, and a light-brown silty clay fill, containing Period 3 pottery, animal bone and burnt flint. A worked bone pin was recovered from this fill. A further five chalky fills were followed by a dark-brown silty clay fill of 0.18m depth, containing burnt flint, charcoal, pottery and animal bone, and a

dark-brown silty clay fill with burnt flint and charcoal, pottery, animal bone and a quern fragment. A final fill comprised a sealing deposit of natural chalk. Large quantities of charred cereal remains were recovered from this fill sequence, including spelt wheat and barley grains, together with crop processing waste.

Period 4: Later Roman (AD 100–300)

Period 4 represented a notable decrease in activity within Area 1, principally represented by L-shaped Ditches 117 and 116 (Figs 3 & 4). Period 4 features also included possible corn-drier 147/148, located to the south-east of Ditch 104.

L-shaped Ditch 117

L-shaped Ditch 117 measured approximately 13m east/west, and 10m north/south along its respective lengths, (Figs 3 & 4), and displayed a U-shaped profile, with a width of 1.4m and depth of 0.6m. Primary and secondary fills contained Roman coarseware sherds and quern fragments. Ditch 117 clearly cut Ditch 105, although its southward extent was not established. It may represent part of a Period 4 enclosure; possibly an indirect successor to the Period 2/3 settlement.

L-shaped Ditch 116

On the eastern margins of Area 1, and entailing a small excavated extension to the east, a further L-shaped Ditch, 116, measured 9m east/west and 4m north/south along its respective lengths, and terminated at its northern extent (Fig. 3). It displayed steep sides and a flat base, with a width of 0.8m and depth of 0.3m. Primary and secondary fills contained pottery of 2nd/3rd-century AD date. This further element of Period 4 enclosure appeared to be broadly contemporary with Ditch 117, to the south-west.

Other Period 4 features

Elongated feature 147/148 was located 3m to the east of Ditch 104, and displayed an overall length of 5m, width of 3.6m and depth of 0.52m. This feature appeared to represent a continuation of adjacent undated gully 1256 (Figs 3 & 4). Feature 147/148 contained three

fills, of which two, of dark-brown silty clay, contained Period 4 pottery, animal bone and a quern fragment, together with large quantities of charred cereal remains, which might possibly identify this feature as a form of corn drier.

Pit 143 was located between undated four-post structures 126 and 127 (Fig. 3), and displayed a diameter of 1.83m and depth of 0.81m, with irregular sides. Of its three fills, an upper secondary fill contained Period 4 pottery, together with a copper alloy brooch of Colchester Derivative type (Ra 519, Fig. 16), possibly representing a curated item.

Pit 1209 was located 3m to the north-east of postulated Roundhouse 2 (Fig. 4). It measured 1.8m in length, 0.9m in width and 0.3m in depth, with steep sides and concave base. A single secondary fill contained burnt animal bone, with pottery. Pit 1216, located immediately to the south-west of Roundhouse 2, measured 1.5m in diameter and 0.46m in depth, with steep sides. Of three fills, an upper secondary fill contained Period 4 pottery. Pit 1219 was cut entirely within the fill of pit 1216, on its north-west side. This was a small feature of 0.9m in length, 0.64m in width and 0.33m depth, with a single secondary fill. Posthole 1239, located 1m to the north of pit 1216, may relate to suggested Roundhouse 2. Its single fill included possibly intrusive Period 4 pottery.

Period 5: Early medieval (c. 400–600 AD)

Inhumation burial 1411

The isolated inhumation burial was located 2.5m from the northern edge of Area 1, and 27m north of the Period 3 cremation burials. The south-west/north-east-aligned grave, 1411, comprised a sub-rectangular feature of 1.52m length and 0.86m width, with a depth of 0.21m (Figs 3 & 10). A backfill deposit of mid-brown silty clay contained the poorly-preserved skeletal remains (SK1412) of an adult individual, together with teeth representing a further adult. Three grave goods comprised an iron knife, (Ra. 518), a plano-convex lead object (Ra. 517), possibly a weight or a spindle-whorl, and a Kimmeridge shale spindle-whorl (Ra. 516) (Fig. 17). While a Late Roman date



Fig. 10 Inhumation burial SK 1412, within grave 1411, looking east (1m scale)

for these objects is possible, a stronger case for a post-Roman or earlier Saxon date can be made. The incidence of spindle-whorls as grave goods declined throughout the Roman period, and these are more commonly associated with Early Saxon burials (Smith & Fulford 2018, 357). The presence of a Kimmeridge shale object suggests a curated item of Roman origin, although these have also been recorded in a number of Early Saxon graves (Boyle *et al.* 1995, 55, inhumation 115, fig. 78; Evison 1987).

Unphased

Interior of Gully 107 (Roundhouse 1)

A number of undated internal pits and postholes, many representing structural divisions or supports, were recorded within roundhouse gully 107. While this location suggests a Period 2 date, some features could conceivably belong to an earlier phase of Middle Iron Age activity, pre-dating roundhouse construction.

Large undated pits within Gully 107 (Roundhouse 1)

Sub-circular pit 149 was bell-profiled and situated towards the western side of gully 107. It displayed a maximum diameter at its opening of 0.9m, with a depth of 0.59m. Two successive fills may represent deposits of domestic waste.

Sub-circular Pit 150, 1.5m to the east of pit 149, measured 1.4m in maximum diameter and 0.81m in depth, with steep, partly-inverted sides, and a convex base. A sequence of grey/brown silty clay fills represented successive episodes of back-filling.

Pit 156 was obscured by later tree-throw hollow 155 (Fig. 4), and was of irregular, sub-circular plan. As excavated, it had a length of 1.72m, width of 0.9m, and maximum depth of 1.76m. A sequence of nine fills represented successive weathering and/or backfilling deposits, some of which contained cereal grain fragments and processing waste.

Four-post structures

Eleven post-built structures were identified within the south-east of Area 1, including four-post structures 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, and 130, and probable structures 129 and 131 (Fig. 3). Structure 128 was of comparable dimensions, but comprised five individual post settings, and 132 and 133 were paired postholes (see Harding 1972, 37–8). The four-post structures averaged 2m × 2m in plan, with individual posthole diameters of 0.18m–0.31m, containing fills of red/brown silty clay. These are commonly interpreted as raised timber structures used for agricultural storage during the later prehistoric period (Cunliffe, 2005, 399, 410–11; Cunliffe & Poole 1991, figs 106–12). Given their number, this group of structures could represent a long-term sequence of activity; while a Period 2 date seems plausible, the anomalous positioning of Structure 123, apparently blocking the main enclosure entrance, between Ditches 104 and 105 (Figs 3 & 4), suggests an earlier Iron Age phase, pre-dating the Period 2/3 enclosure ditches. As a discrete group of ‘external’ features, these represent a clearly-designated zone of agricultural storage.

Other undated Area 1 features

Pit 1024, with two associated, undated postholes, was situated 1m from Ditch 103 at its nearest point, with a length of 2.1m, width of 0.89m, and depth of 0.42m, with moderate to steep sides and a concave base (Fig. 4). A number of irregular and undated cut features were located closely to the south and south-east of pits 1508 and 1446, including 1404, 1461, 1457, 1428 and 1459, and 1391. These contained largely undifferentiated silty clay fills, and most appeared to represent post settings.

Gully 1256

Shallow gully 1256 was 7m in length, and cut Period 3 Ditch 106 on a south-east/north-west alignment (Fig. 4). It appeared to represent a north-westward continuation of Period 4 feature 147/148, and was cut at its north-western terminal by undated pit 1258. Gully 1256 was 0.5m in width, and 0.1m in depth, and unlike feature 147/148 contained no charred cereal remains.

Undated ditches

The short exposed length of boundary Ditch 101 intersected, and was cut by, boundary Ditch 102, (Fig. 4). Ditch 101 ran at an oblique angle from Ditch 102, and extended beyond the western edge of Area 1. This may represent a boundary ditch of possibly Period 2, or earlier, date.

Finely-cut Ditches 1650, 119 and 120 were located at, and beyond, the northern terminal of Period 3 Ditch 113 (Fig. 4). Ditch 119 was a short, 3.5m length of tapering gully, extending north from the northern terminal of Ditch 113, with a width of only 0.05m and depth of 0.03m. Curvilinear Ditch 120 extended for 7m, from a point 5m north of the northern terminal of Ditch 113, and appeared to continue the course of Ditches 111 and 119. These slight ditches displayed rounded, concave profiles, with single clay silt fills.

Roundhouse 2

Over thirty, mostly undated, small pits and postholes were identified to the east of ring-gully 107 (Fig. 4). Within a discrete group of 19 postholes suggesting a structure, nine were positioned within a circular configuration of approximately 9m diameter. This was tentatively interpreted as a further circular-plan building (Roundhouse 2, Figs 3 & 4), albeit one of different, and less substantial, construction than Roundhouse 1 (see Harding 2009, 68–71, fig. 12). The constituent postholes, with undifferentiated silty clay fills, were almost entirely undated, with the exception of one of tentative Period 4 date.

Area 2 (Fig. 11)

Area 2 was located 135m north-east of the northern boundary of Area 1, and contained elements of a ditched field system, which may be broadly contemporary with Periods 3 and 4 in Area 1. Of these, only Ditch 203 was of confirmed Period 3 date. A short posthole alignment (208), within the northern margins of Area 2, may be of earlier prehistoric date.

Period 3: Late Iron Age–Early Roman

Ditch 203

Ditch 203 was L-shaped in plan, and measured

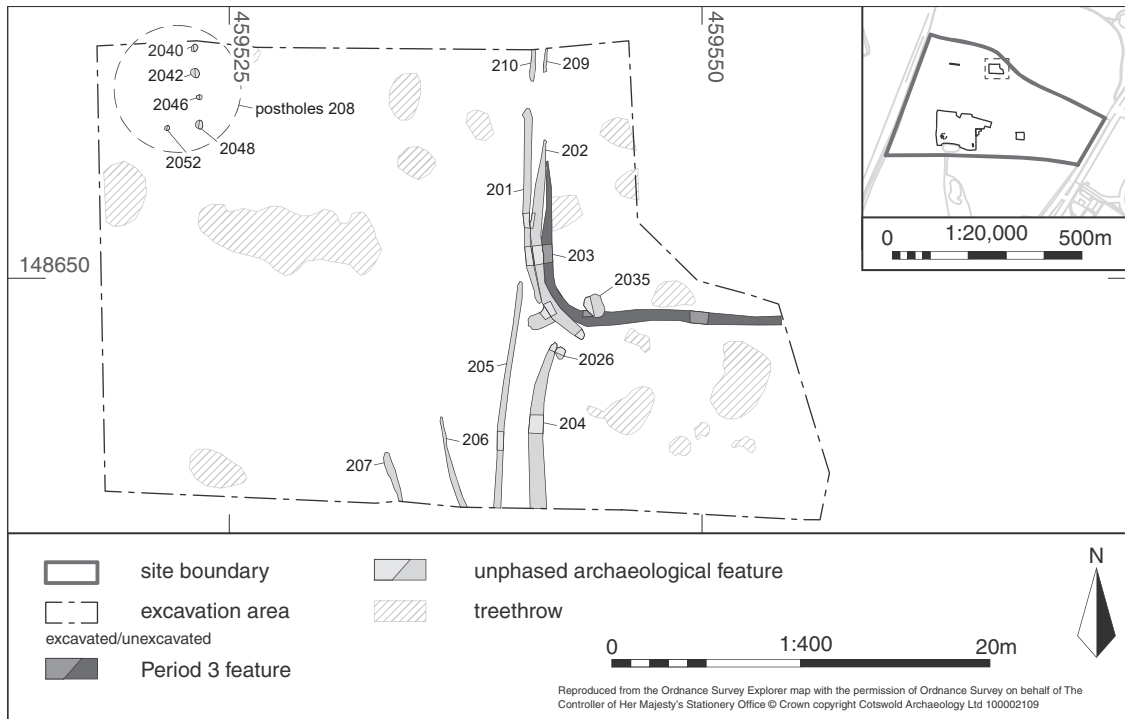


Fig. 11 Plan of Area 2, showing excavated features (1:400)

approximately 17m in length. It displayed a U-shaped profile, with a width ranging from 0.1m to 0.63m, and a depth of 0.25m. It contained a silting fill, with pottery of mid/late 1st century AD date. In view of their close spatial associations, Ditches 201, 202 and 204, are probably also of Period 3 date.

Undated

Ditches 201, 202, 204, 205, 209 and 210
Ditch 203 was cut by Ditch 202, and both ditches cut two earlier, undated pits, 2026 and 2035. Ditch 202 was cut in turn by Ditch 201. On the basis of their morphology and spatial relationships, Ditches 203, 204, 205, 209 and 210 appear to be contemporary, with Ditches 202 and 201 representing modifications to earlier access-points. Both ditches displayed symmetrical profiles, with widths of between 0.44m and 0.31m and fills of brown silty clay.

Gullies 206 and 207

Discontinuous gullies 206 and 207 extended 5m and 3m into Area 2 from its southern edge. These may represent the remains of a north/south-aligned trackway, which extended into Area 2 from the south.

The posthole alignment

Four postholes (2048, 2046, 2042 and 2040), located towards the north-west corner of Area 2, were aligned north/south (208), with a further posthole (2052) located 3.5m to the west. This alignment probably continued beyond the northern edge of Area 2. Individual postholes were separated by intervals ranging from 1.9m to 2.7m, and diameters ranged from 0.48m to 0.24m, with depths of between 0.13m and 0.28m. Fills generally comprised grey/brown clay silts, although 2024 retained evidence of a central post pipe (2043).

Table 2 Breakdown of the lithic assemblage

(Burnt flint	368+)
<i>Primary technology</i>	
Blade	6
Chip	13
Core	2
Flake	51
<i>Secondary technology</i>	
Core tool	1
Microdenticulate	1
Misc retouched	1
Misc retouched/concave scraper	1
Notched flake	1
Retouched flake	1
<i>Total</i>	78

THE FINDS

Worked flint by Jacky Sommerville

A total of 78 worked flints (1150g), and 383 pieces of burnt, unworked flint (12478g) was retrieved from 72 deposits. All but six worked flints came from Area 1. Where cortex is present, it is chalky on 89% of items. Chalk-sourced flint may derive locally, or from superficial deposits (Bishop 2012, 118; Bradley & Leivers 2009, 13).

A mixture of periods is represented, with flake proportions indicating both Mesolithic/Early Neolithic (relatively small and thin), and Late Neolithic/Bronze Age types (large, thick, irregular). Six blades and one blade core suggest Mesolithic/Early Neolithic activity, as deliberate blade production was a feature of these periods (Table 2). All flints retrieved from phased features (47%) were residual in Period 2 (Middle Iron Age) to 4 (later Roman) deposits.

The assemblage compares with those from neighbouring excavations in Hampshire, including Old Kempshott Lane, Basingstoke (Haslam 2012), Marnel Park and Merton Rise, Basingstoke (Bradley & Leivers 2009) and Dowd's Farm, Hedge End. Old Kempshott Lane

produced a mixed assemblage of 170 flints of Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age date, most of which were redeposited items (Bishop 2012, 118–9). The 110 flints from Dowd's Farm were similarly residual and represented a comparable date-range (Clelland 2012, 145–6).

Pottery by E. R. McSloy

Pottery amounting to 1968 sherds, weighing 28806g (13.68 EVEs), was recorded from 146 deposits. The pottery assemblage has been fully recorded, the methodology in accordance with Historic England guidelines (2016). Fabric codes used for recording, are defined below, primarily based on main inclusions.

Mean sherd weight 14.7g) is high for pottery of the periods represented and there is minimal surface loss/abrasion. A number of vessels were complete or substantially so, including from cremation burials (Fig. 13.18). A vessel from pit 1330, was also reconstructable to its full height (Ra. 513, Fig. 12.14). This had been deposited on its side, in a pit close to the entrance of Roundhouse 1, and might represent a structured deposit, possibly relating to the 'closure' of the building.

Assemblage composition

Fabric codes used in recording are defined in summary below. For the few Roman imported types, the corresponding National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes are used (Tomber and Dore 1998).

There is close correspondence in the composition of this group with assemblages from sites in the near vicinity, including Kennel Farm (Chapman 2006), Brighton Hill South (Rees 1995) and Merton Rise, Popley, Basingstoke (Seager Smith 2009). The dominant fabrics are flint-tempered types, a well-known tradition across south-central Britain with its origins in the Iron Age and earlier, but continuing into the Early Roman period. The wheel-thrown grogged and sandy types are also common, and characteristic of a transitional Late Iron Age/Early Roman tradition. Romanised coarsewares are less common and of these, the sandy greywares, probably largely composed of Alice Holt/Farnham products, predominate (147 sherds or 7.5%).

It is expected that the majority of Iron Age and Late Iron Age/Early Roman material is of local origin, although the homogeneity of fabrics from the Hampshire/Sussex chalklands makes this difficult to demonstrate. The source of glauconitic sandy fabric QZgl, a type also noted at Brighton Hill South (Rees 1995, 35, Fabric 4), may be the Upper Greensand, from areas bordering the chalk downlands and within 10–15km of Basingstoke. Centralised production of decorated finewares comprises the most distinctive component among later Middle Iron Age groups from Hampshire, and is represented in this group by vessels in forms B1–B3. Cunliffe has claimed (1984), and a limited programme of fabric analysis (Vince 2004) has suggested, the Winchester area as the most likely source of these.

Evidence for regional trade is present in the Late Iron Age/Early Roman group, in the form of small quantities of 'Durotrigian' Black-burnished ware, from the Poole Harbour area of Dorset. The few sherds of Gallo-Belgic finewares and amphora types (see Williams below) also relate this period. The occurrence of *Terra Rubra* and *Terra Nigra* (albeit as single sherds) is notable, as there are few findspots in the north of Hampshire, other than at Silchester 14km to the north (Gallo-Belgic pottery database: internet edition). The important regional centre at Silchester, may well be the distribution point for the imported material.

Fabrics

Iron Age (all handmade)

FL Flint tempered. 805 sh (40.9%); 12917g; 4.49 EVEs.

QZfl Quartz (rounded/sub-rounded) and flint. 71 sh (3.6%); 1696g; 0.35 EVEs.

QZ Quartz (rounded/sub-rounded). Variably sparse flint, iron oxide or calcareous inclusions. 143 sh (7.3%); 1296g; 0.49 EVEs.

QZf Fine (silt-sized) quartz and organic. 34 sh (1.7%); 455g; 0.15 EVEs.

QZgl Glauconitic sand, sparse, quartz and sparse iron oxides. 11 sh; 74g; 0.23 EVEs.

FE Iron ore/iron oxides. 3 sh; 47g.

LI Sparse limestone (or voids where leached). 13 sh; 50g.

ORG Sparse organics (voids); sparse fine quartz. 5 sh; 27g.

Late Iron Age/Roman (wheelthrown unless stated)

ES1 'Early sandy' type. Mostly wheelthrown, with some larger vessels handmade. Dark grey fired. Common rounded/sub-rounded quartz; sparse red-brown iron oxides; may contain sparse fine flint 407 sh (20.7%); 4782g; 2.77 EVEs.

GT1 Grog-tempered wares (coarser). Dark grey-brown throughout. Common, grog (1–2mm). May contain sparse quartz or flint. 76 sh (3.9%); 1787g; 1.16 EVEs.

GT2 Grog-tempered (fine). Common angular or sub-angular dark grey grog; sparse fine quartz. 102 sh (5.2%); 1762g; 1.84 EVEs.

GT3 Grog-tempered with limestone/fossil shell. Common grog (1–2mm) and common fossil shell or limestone. 91 sh (5.2%); 2196g; 0.31 EVEs.

DUR 'Durotrigian' type. Corresponds to Southeast Dorset Black-burnished ware (Tomber and Dore 1998, 127). 7 sh; 116g; 0.03 EVEs.

Gallo-Belgic wares

TR1C Gallia Belgica fabric: Terra Rubra fabric 1C (Tomber and Dore 1998, 19). 1 sh; 14g; 0.06 EVEs.

TN1 Gallia Belgica fabric: Terra Nigra fabric 1 (Tomber and Dore 1998, 15). 1 sh; 3g.

Amphorae

CAT AM Catalan amphorae (Tomber and Dore 1998, 88). 1 sh; 40g.

CAM AM Campanian (black sand) amphorae (Tomber and Dore 1998, 91). 2 sh; 127g.

Romano-British

GW1 Fine greyware (unsourced). Sparse to common sub-angular quartz. 15 sh; 170g; 0.29 EVEs.

GW2 Sandy greyware. Probably Alice Holt (Tomber and Dore 1998, 138). 130 sh (6.6%); 974g; 1.12 EVEs.

GW3 Sandy greyware with black slip. Probably Alice Holt (Tomber and Dore 1998, 138). 2 sh; 36g; 0.12 EVEs.

OX Oxidised. Pale orange throughout.

Abundant coarse quartz. 44 sh (2.2%); 277g.

WS Oxidised/white-slipped. Abundant fine angular quartz and sparse red-brown iron. Micaceous. 1 sh; 33g; 0.22 EVEs.

WW White ware. White/buff throughout. Common, angular quartz and sparse iron. Micaceous. 2 sh; 17g.

Vessel forms/decoration

Vessel forms are defined below, and incidence according to fabric is shown in Table 3. Decoration or burnishing occurs on 212 sherds amongst the Iron Age group, representing a minimum of 32 vessels (Table 4), mainly on fineware bowls (forms B1–B3), and saucepan pot vessels (SP). Saucepan pots and shouldered jars were also noted in the assemblage from the 1996 Kennel Farm excavation (Chapman 2006, 44–45, figs 18–19), although decorated fineware bowls were not recorded. There is closer correspondence with Brighton Hill South (Rees 1996), where decorated bowls and wheel-thrown forms were common.

Middle/Late Iron Age

- J1 Large, rounded or barrel-shaped jars. Simple, short everted or 'pulled' rims. Rim diam. 220–260mm. Plain/decorated. Fig. 12; nos. 11, 13.
- J2 Slack-shouldered or ovoid jars. Simple, upright or slightly everted rims. Rim diam. 140–160mm. Fig. 12; no. 12.
- J3 Tall, necked, round-shouldered 'fineware' jars. Everted rim. Rim diam. 200mm. Decorated. Fig. 12; no. 14.
- SP 'Saucepan pot' jars. Vertical/slightly convex walls. Simple upright, 'proto-bead' or externally-thickened rims. Rim diam. 130–170mm. Burnished or decorated. Fig. 12; nos. 9–10.
- B1 Neckless rounded/globular 'fineware' bowls. Bead-like or short 'pulled' rims. Rim diam. 170–200mm. Decorated. Fig. 12; nos. 2, 4.
- B2 Neckless bipartite/carinated 'fineware' bowls. Bead-like or short 'pulled' rims. Rim diam. 160–200mm. Decorated. Fig. 12; nos. 1, 3 and 8.
- B3 Necked, globular/round-shouldered

'fineware' bowls. Out-curved or bead-like rims. Rim diam. 170–200mm. Decorated. Fig. 12; nos. 7–8.

Late Iron Age to Early Roman/ Romano-British

- B4 Wheelthrown, necked/round-shouldered bowls (cordons to neck). Out-curved/everted rims. Rim diam. 120–200mm. Fig. 13; nos. 16–18.
- J4 Neckless barrel-shaped or ovoid jars. Bead or (less-commonly), simple upright/sl. everted rims. Rim diam. 120–300mm. Plain. Fig. 13; nos. 19, 24.
- J5 Wheelthrown necked (medium or narrow mouth) jars. Out-curved, flat or everted rims. Rim diam. 100–320mm. Most plain. Fig. 13; nos. 22, 26–27.
- BB Butt-beaker (CAM 113) 'copies'. Decorated. Rim diam. 120–200mm. Fig. *; no. 20.
- BO Ovoid beaker (CAM 112) copies. Plain. Rim diam. 100mm. Fig. 13; no. 21.
- P5a Platter (CAM 5a). Rim diam. 280mm. Fig. 13; no. 31.
- PC Platter copy (CAM 16). Rim diam. 230–260mm. Fig. *; no. 32.
- FLC 'Collared' flagon. Rim diam. 130mm. Fig. 13; no. 30.
- LID Lids/covers. Simple, convex forms, simple rim. Rim diam. 180–280mm.

Ceramic phasing/stratigraphy

Ceramic phase 1: Later Middle Iron Age (c. 200/100 BC to 1/25 AD)

The pottery attributed to this, the earliest ceramic phase, comprises vessels of forms J1–J3, SP, and bowls B1–B3, occurring in a range of handmade fabrics. Most were associated with features ascribed to stratigraphic Period 2 (Middle to Late Iron Age); the largest groups (65–163 sherds), are from pits 151, 152, and 1330.

Simple, linear, 'shallow-tooled' decoration and burnishing occurs among saucepan pots (Fig. 12. 9&10), with more complex schemes of impressed 'stitched' borders and oblique-line infill mostly on bowls (Fig. 12. 1.3&6). The decorated saucepan pots and bowls characterising this ceramic phase are a

Table 3 Vessel forms concordance. Shown as min. vessel no. by fabric and EVEs totals

Date	Form/Fabr.>	FL	QZ	QZfl	QZgl	ES	GT1	GT2	GT3	TR IC	WS	GW1	GW2	GW3	MNV	EVEs
IA	J1	2													2	.51
	J2	2	1												3	.39
	J3		1												1	.30
	SP	7	1												8	1.24
	B1		2		1										3	.28
	B2	3													3	.25
	B3	1	1												2	.33
LIA/ Roman	J4	20		1		14		4				3			42	2.91
	J5	3				5	1	3	1				5		18	3.77
	B4					2		3							5	1.09
	B4/J5	1				1		2							4	.36
	BB					2		1							3	.25
	BO												1		1	.32
	FLC										1				1	.22
	PC					2									2	.18
	P5A									1					1	.06
	LID	3													3	.25
	B5											1	1		2	.18
Roman	B6													2	2	.12

Table 4 Iron Age pottery. Decoration summary

Decoration	Fabrics	Forms	Min.ves.	Draw. Nos.
Simple shallow tooled	FL, QZ	SP	7	9
Complex (geometrical) shallow tooled	FL, QZ	B1, B3	2	2, 7
Shallow tooled/impressed ('stitching')	FL, QZ, QZfl	B1-B2, ?SP	5	1, 6
Impressed ('stitching')	FL	J1	1	13
Impressed ('stitching') on cordons	QZ	B3	1	8
Impressed ('stitching') on cordons and shallow tooled	QZfl	J3	1	14
Burnish	FL, QZ, QZfl, FE	SP, indet.	15	10, 12
Totals			32	

feature of Cunliffe's St Catherine's Hill-Worthy Down style, which he placed in the third to first centuries BC (2005, 627, fig. A:16). The style is found across Hampshire including the Winchester area, at Danebury, and from the north-east of the county – both here and at Brighton Hill South.

A number of vessels occurring in handmade fabrics (FL, QZfl, QZ) share characteristics untypical of Cunliffe's St Catherine's Hill-Worthy Down grouping. Most unusual is the tall jar-profiled (form J3) no. 14, an apparent 'placed' deposit, in pit 1330, located close to the entrance of Roundhouse 1. Neither the scored decoration, nor the cordons to the neck and girth, are features of the St Catherine's Hill-Worthy Down style, and hint at a regional variation. The use of cordons to this, and on necked bowl no. 8, may result from familiarity with wheel-thrown wares, and of a date late in the suggested range.

Ceramic phase 2: Late Iron Age to Early Roman (c. 50 BC/1 AD to 50/70 AD)

The largest portion of the assemblage can be placed within this ceramic phase, defined largely by the presence of wheel-thrown pottery, and by flint-tempered coarsewares. There is good correspondence between the pottery defining Ceramic Phase 2 and stratigraphic Period 3, with the largest groups from enclosure ditches 103/104/105, L-shaped ditch 108 and sinuous Ditch 111 (Table 5). Pottery vessels from the Period 3 cremation burials grouped at the northern end of Ditch 111, are also consistent with Ceramic Phase 2. Complete vessel no. 18 (cremation pit 1544), matches most closely Thompson's Type B2–4 or B3–5, forms, where dating spans the period of 'Belgic' style pottery use (Thompson 1982, 133). A pre-Conquest date was suggested by the metal objects with which it was associated (Fig. 13.18).

Good indications of pre-Conquest dating, probably to the very late 1st century BC or the first quarter of the 1st century AD, are the Catalan amphora sherds (CAT AM) from Ditch 111, and a *Terra Rubra* platter sherd of form CAM 5A (Fig. 13.25). Significantly, the certainly post-Conquest elements (greywares GW1–2) were absent from Ditch 111, and the adjacent feature, Ditch 108. The coarsewares

which make up the bulk of pottery defining CP3 (and from stratigraphic Period 3) are not closely dateable. At Silchester, equivalent types have pre-Conquest origins, although the sandy wares appear not to be abundant until after the Conquest (Timby 1990, 251). The handmade flint-tempered types occur primarily as high-shouldered jars with bead rims (Form J4), together with a few lids. There are none of the large jars with tall everted rims which characterise true 'Silchester ware' (*ibid.*, 239), although broadly similar dating, and no later than the end of the 1st century AD, is probable. Forms among the wheel-thrown grogged fabrics are mainly necked jars or bowls, with one or more cordons (Fig. 12; 4. 5&8), forms which persist into the 60s/70s, or a little later. More variation is demonstrated by the early sandy types, with the butt beaker/ovoid beaker and platter copies (Fig. 13. 20–21 & 32) consistent with a Claudian/Neronian, or perhaps early Flavian, date-range. Grey-firing sandy fabrics (GW1–2), certainly of post-Conquest date, occur in small quantities from enclosure ditches 103–105. A proportion, at least, are Alice Holt/Farnham products, the earliest production date for which is by c. AD 50 or 60 (Lyne and Jeffries 1979). Identifiable vessel forms are mainly jars, which are not closely dateable, although none of these need be later than c. AD 100.

Pottery from stratigraphically-later Period 4 features came mostly from Ditches 116, 117 and 113. Significantly among these groups, the flint-tempered and grog-tempered types abundant in Period 3 deposits are much less common, or absent altogether. Compositionally, the larger groups from features 116 and 117 (Table 5), are weighted to reduced coarsewares (ES1 and GW1–2). Beakers and platters copying Gallo-Belgic classes (Fig. 13.20–21) imply a date-range no later than c. AD 70/100, and still within the range indicated for Ceramic Phase 2. Collared flagon no. 30, from Ditch 117 (Fig. 13.30), would also accord with such dating.

Abraded conical flanged bowl sherds, in fabric BBIM (pit 147 and Ditch 115), are incongruously 'late' in this assemblage, being no earlier than c. AD 250. They may be 'intrusive', or reflect very limited Late Roman or post-Roman activity in the area.

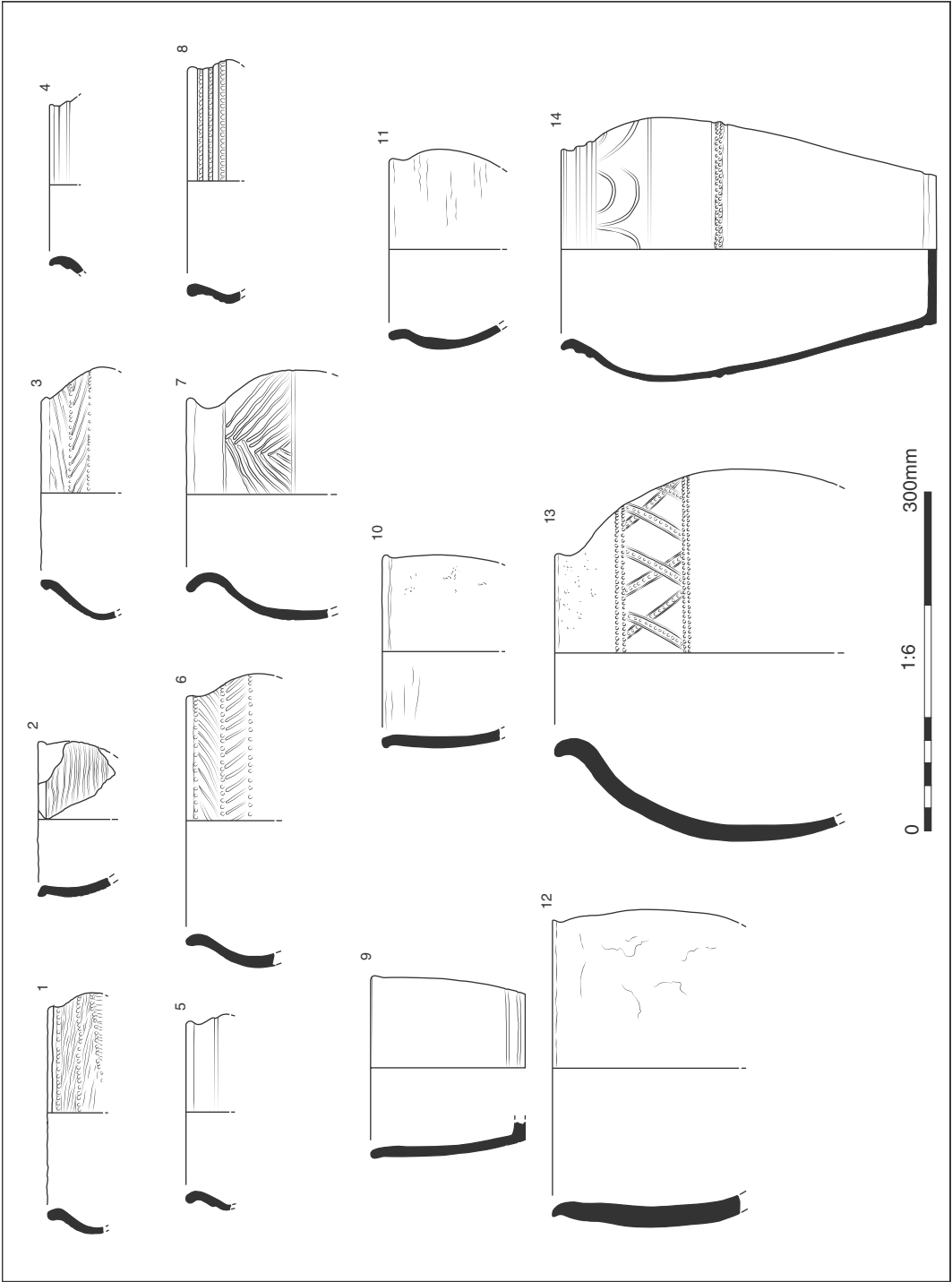


Fig. 12 Middle Iron Age pottery. Representative sherds nos. 1-14 (1:6)

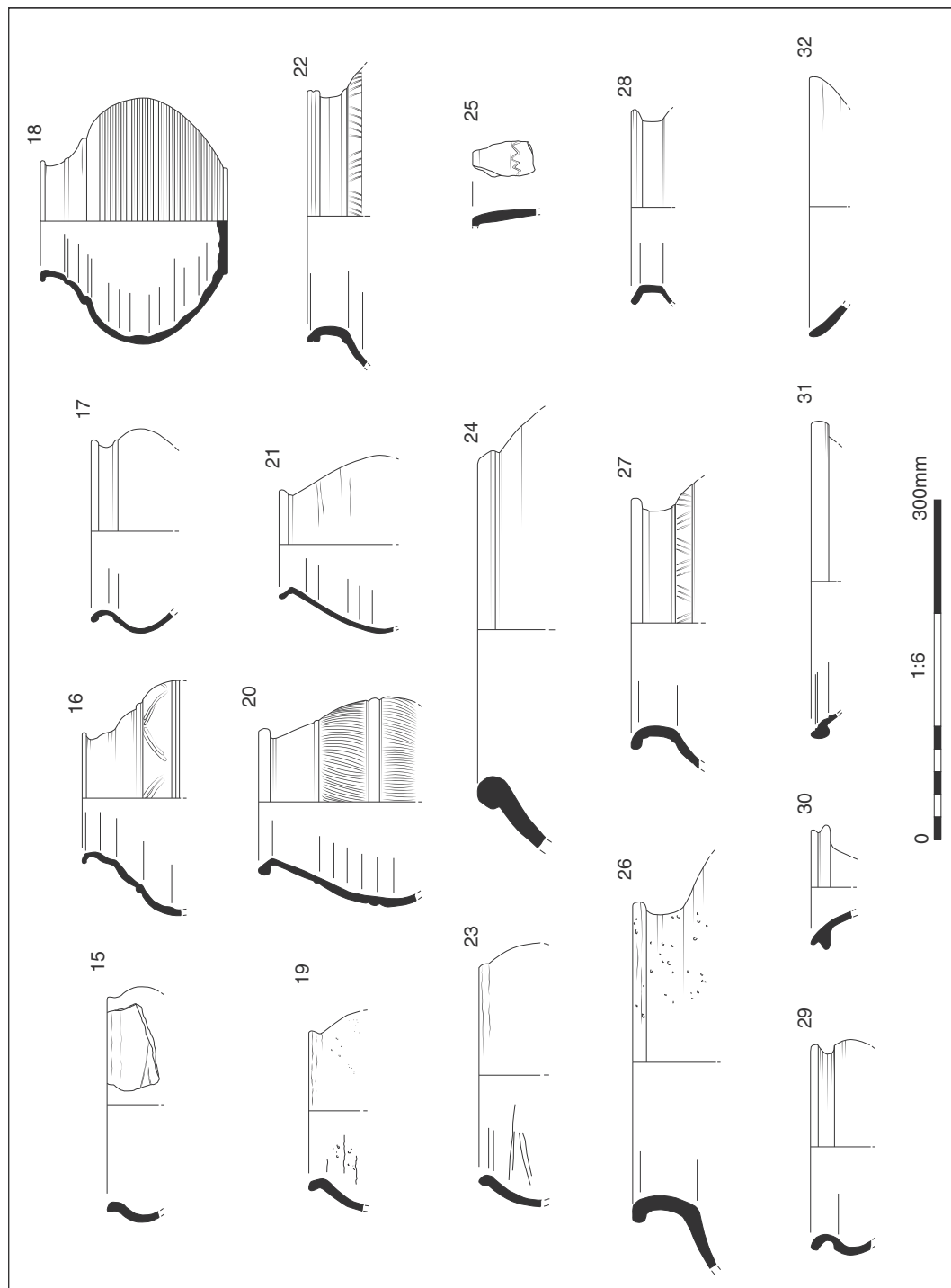


Fig. 13 Late Iron Age and Early Roman pottery: representative sherds Nos. 15-32 (1:6)

Table 5 Period 3–4 Selected feature groups. Fabric totals as sherd count and weight

Feat. Fabr.	108		111		103		104		105		113		116		117		Totals	
	Ct.	Wt.(g)	Ct.	Wt.(g)	Ct.	Wt.(g)	Ct.	Wt.(g)	Ct.	Wt.(g)	Ct.	Wt.(g)	Ct.	Wt.(g)	Ct.	Wt.(g)	Ct.	Wt.(g)
F1	55	763	21	254	36	261	12	100	209	1603	8	38	1	10	11	230	353	3259
QZfl	1	12															1	12
QZ	6	47	3	7			1	11							1	23	11	88
QZf	1	3															10	56
FE					2	6			5	38	4	15					2	6
ES1	6	68	7	22	21	292	7	166	61	608	39	374	8	101	55	1204	204	2835
GT1	21	154	2	53	6	24			7	126							36	357
GT2	5	43			3	22	1	42	2	27							11	134
GT3									91	2196							91	2196
DUR									1	18	1	70					2	88
TRIC			1	14													1	14
CAT AM			2	127													2	127
CAM AM	1	40															1	40
GW1									3	62					3	36	6	98
GW2					2	28	5	54	62	479	6	17	17	51	8	150	100	779
OX							13	65	21	182			2	12			36	259
WS															1	33	1	33
WW									1	9							1	9
Totals	96	1130	36	477	70	633	39	438	463	5348	58	514	28	174	79	1676	869	10390

Discussion

The pottery assemblage provides good evidence for activity spanning the later Middle Iron and Early Roman periods. Among the earliest elements are the decorated bowl forms also seen at Brighton Hill South (Rees 1995), approximately 1km to the north-east. Such forms were absent from previous excavations at Kennel Farm, immediately to the west (Chapman 2006), a possible indication that this group was a little earlier. The decorated bowls belong to a tradition common to the Winchester area, suggesting cultural affiliations across this region, or perhaps inter-community trade. Other vessels of distinctive character (Fig. 12. 7–8 & 14) are possibly influenced by ‘intrusive’ wheel-thrown forms.

Unusually in a small group, and away from the large regional centres, there is evidence for closely pre-Conquest activity in the form of imported Gallo-Belgic finewares and amphorae. Although the character of the site in this period is unclear from the surviving archaeology, the apparent access to high-quality tableware and wine hints at higher status. Significant occupation at the site probably extended as late as the final quarter of the 1st century AD. In common with the site at Brighton Hill South (Fasham *et al.* 1995, 22), there is only limited evidence for activity later than this.

Amphora sherds by David Williams

Two featureless bodysherds are from a Catalan amphora, in a hard, slightly rough, reddish-brown fabric (Williams 1981: Fabric 1). Small pieces of white feldspar, and grains of quartz with a vitreous lustre, can easily be seen by eye, breaking through the surfaces, together with some small fragments of granite

and a little golden mica. The two Catalan amphora imports to late Iron Age and early Roman Britain: Pascual 1 or Dressel 2–4, can have a similar fabric (Carreras in Williams & Keay, 2006). Both forms carried local wine from along the coastal zone of north-eastern Spain, especially from the area of Barcelona (Peacock & Williams, 1986, Classes 6 and 10; Carreras in Williams and Keay, 2006). Given the probable context of these sherds of c. 1–25 AD, it is more likely that the form represented here is Pascual 1, which resembles the Italian Dressel 1B, with the majority of dateable finds from north-western Europe tending to be Augustan or a little later in date (Williams, 1981). There is as yet no available evidence to suggest that Pascual 1 was imported to Britain after the conquest of AD 43. Pascual 1 is well-represented in late Iron Age Wessex (Williams & Peacock, 1994), and especially at Silchester, just some 14km to the north of the site (Williams 2000).

Illustration catalogue

Ceramic phase 1

- Fabric FL. Bowl form B2. Rows of circular indents and oblique shallow tooled line infill. Period 3 Pit 140 (fill 1316) (Fig. 12, No 1).
- Fabric QZ. Bowl form B2 with shallow tooled horizontal lines. Period 3 Pit 140 (fill 1316) (Fig. 12, No 2).
- Fabric FL. Bowl form B2. Rows of circular indents and (opposed) oblique shallow tooled line infill. Period 2 Pit 152 (fill 1226) (Fig. 12, No 3).
- Fabric QZgl. Bowl form B1. 'Collared' rim. Period 2 Pit 152 (fill 1226) (Fig. 12, No 4).
- Fabric FL. Bowl form B2. Carinated form with scored horizontal line at base of neck. Period 2 Pit 152 (fill 1226) (Fig. 12, No 5).
- Fabric QZ. Bowl form B1. Rows of circular indents and oblique shallow-tooled line infill and shallow tooled horizontal lines. Vessel burnt/'refired'. Period 3 Pit 140 (fills 1316 and 1317) (Fig. 12, No 6).
- Fabric FL. Bowl form B3. Zoned shallow-tooled geometrical decoration. Period 2 Pit 151 (fill 1590) (Fig. 12, No 7).
- Fabric QZ. Bowl form B3. Multiple horizontal cordons with impressed circular indents. Period 2 Pit 151 (fills 1590 and 1594) (Fig. 12, No 8).
- Fabric FL. Saucepan pot with simple rim. Paired shallow-tooled horizontal lines above base. Period 2 Pit 151 (fills 1589) (Fig. 12, No 9).
- Fabric FL. Saucepan pot with flattened rim. Shallow-tooled oblique lines above to body. Period 3 Ditch 108 (fills 1372) (Fig. 12, No 10).
- Fabric FL. Jar form J1. Undecorated. Period 2 Pit 151 (fills 1643, 1665) (Fig. 12, No 11).
- Fabric QZ. Jar form J2. Burnished. Period 2 Pit 141 (fill 1348) (Fig. 12, No 12).
- Fabric FL. Jar form J1. Zoned decoration to neck with double rows of circular indents and infill of oblique lines of indents and shallow tooling. Vessel overfired (plate 1). Period 2 Pit 151 (fills 1588) (Fig. 12, No 13).
- Fabric QZfl. Tall jar/beaker form J3. Shallow-tooled arcs/swags at shoulder, impressed girth cordon and plain cordon above base. Period 3 Pit 1330 (fill 1329) (Fig. 12, No 14).

Ceramic phase 2

- Fabric ES1. Bowl form B4. Scored decoration below shoulder. Period 3 Pit 141 (fill 1287) (Fig. 13, No 15).
- Fabric GRf. Bowl form B4. Girth cordon (cf. Seager Smith 2009, 30, no. 1). Period 3 Pit 141 (fill 1287).
- Fabric GRf. Bowl form B4. Neck cordon (cf. Thompson 1982, form D1–1). Period 3 Pit 140 (fill 1323).
- Fabric GRf. Bowl form B4. With wide and narrow neck cordons and rilling to body (cf. Thompson 1982, form D2–1). Period 3 Cremation Burial Pit 1544 (fill 1548).
- Fabric FL. Jar form J4. Short everted rim. Period 3 Ditch 105 (fill 1251).
- Fabric ES1. Butt beaker copy form BB. Fine incised or roller-stamped decoration. Period 4 Ditch 117 (fill 1477).
- Fabric ES1. Ovoid beaker copy form BO. Period 4 Ditch 117 (fill 1032).
- Fabric ES1. Necked jar form J5. Period 4 Ditch 117 (fill 1032).
- Fabric FL. Jar form J4. Bead/triangular rim. Period 3 Pit 141 (fill 1287).

- Fabric ES1. Jar (large) form J4. Bead rim. Period 3 Ditch 105 (fill 1251).
- Fabric DUR. Jar? With burnished wavy line decoration below rim. Period 3 Ditch 105 (fill 1251).
- Fabric GT3. Necked jar form J5. Period 3 Ditch 105 (fill 1251).
- Fabric ES1. Necked jar form J5. Period 3 Ditch 113 (fill 1290).
- Fabric GW2. Necked jar form J5. Flat everted rim (cf. Lyne and Jefferies 1979, 21, Fig. 6, nos 1.11–1.12). Period 3 Ditch 105 (fill 1251).
- Fabric GW1. Bowl (S-profiled). Flat everted rim. Period 3 Ditch 105 (fill 1251).
- Fabric WS. Collared/bifid rim flagon. Period 4 Ditch 117 (fill 1414).
- Fabric GAB TR1C. Platter form CAM5a. Period 3 Ditch 111 (fill 1248).
- Fabric ES1. Platter copy. Period 4 Pit 147 (fill 1746).

Ceramic building material (CBM) by E.R. McSloy

Two fragments (31g) of CBM were recorded from Period 4 pit 1427 (fill 1426), and from undated gully 206, in Area 2. Both occur in a similar, orange-firing, fine sandy fabric. Neither fragment preserves features permitting identification of form or class, although a Roman date is most likely.

Fired/burnt clay and daub by Katie Marsden

A total of 506 fragments (18174g) of fired/burnt clay were recorded from 31 deposits. Of these, 115 fragments (4055g) were identified as burnt daub, and 188 fragments (5367g) comprise formless fragments of uncertain function. The remaining 172 fragments (8445g) represent objects, and are described further below. Minor fabric variations are evident within the assemblage, with a fine sandy fabric being the most common, containing occasional coarse, poorly-sorted flint inclusions. These may occur naturally within local clays, indicating minimal treatment before firing.

Fired clay objects

The majority of the 172 fired clay objects were

recovered from fills 1287 and 1291, of storage pit 141. Where identifiable, these comprise weights for vertical (warp-weighted) looms, and while the majority are too fragmentary to conclusively identify form, most appear to be either triangular or pyramidal types. Only Ra. 506, and fragments from deposit 1287, can be positively identified as triangular and tri-perforated types. These are common finds on regional Iron Age sites, including at Danebury, (Poole 1984b, 401–4, figs. 7.47–8), and Winnall Down (Poole 1984a; Bates & Winham 1985).

Daub/oven structure

Quantities of burnt daub were recovered from ten deposits within Period 2 features, the majority (2937g) from multiple fills of storage pit 151, within ring-gully 107.

This material is typically buff-coloured, of a soft and powdery texture, and commonly preserves a smoothed (flat) surface and round-sectioned wattle impressions. Unusually, the 'fabric' is largely free of organic (i.e. straw or similar) content, although the occasional presence of small flint-pebble inclusions, suggests use of local clays. This material may represent structural daub, or derive from an oven, or similar, within ring-gully 107. None of these fragments feature the degree of curvature which might be expected for a domed oven structure, and the perforated oven floor/plates commonly associated with features of this type are absent (cf. Lambrick & Robinson 2009, 159–60; Allen *et al.* 1993, 252).

Worked stone by Ruth Shaffrey

These items comprise single fragments representing three rotary querns, one saddle quern, and one indeterminate quern, and two processors.

Three rotary querns fragments were recovered from the fills of pit 151, pit 147, and Ditch 111, all Period 3 contexts. Of these, two are of Lodsworth Greensand (Peacock 1987), and one from another Greensand source. Another probable quern fragment is of Lodsworth Greensand, from L-shaped ditch 117, and a second is of a gritty stone, containing polished quartz and rock

fragments and resembling Lower Calcareous Grit, from Culham in Oxfordshire.

Two other stones are forms of processor, made from pebbles. The rubbed condition of one, recovered from fill 1593 of storage pit 151, suggests use as a whetstone, or rubber. The second is a pebble, with worn faces from rubbing, and faceted, damaged edges probably caused by light percussion. This was recovered from fill 1358, of bell-shaped pit 141. These items are not intrinsically datable.

Shale objects by E. R. McSloy

A single object of shale comprised a spindlewhorl (Ra. 516) (Fig. 17), from Period 5 inhumation grave 1411 (Fig. 17). The raw material is almost certainly Kimmeridge shale from Dorset, the source of most later Iron Age and Roman shale objects. The spindlewhorl is lathe-made, and of discoid form, comparable to examples of Roman date from Silchester (Lawson 1975, 271, fig. 14, no. 108e), and Colchester (Crummy 1983, 67, fig. 71, no. 2002). Spindlewhorls are relatively common grave finds of the Early Roman period, but become progressively rarer thereafter. Philpott's survey (1991, 184) recorded concentrations within the region closest to the source i.e. Dorset, Hampshire and Somerset. However, the finds within grave 1411 collectively suggest a post-Roman or Early Saxon rather than a Roman date, in which case the spindlewhorl may represent a reused or curated object.

Metal finds by E. R. McSloy

A total of 14 metal objects (10 of iron; two copper alloy and two lead) was recorded. Selected objects only are described and illustrated. Included are the finds from Period 3 urned cremation burial 1544 (Figs 14, & 15, nos. 1–2), and Period 4 inhumation burial 1411 (Fig. 17. 1 & 3).

The assemblage includes four brooches, three of which are described individually and drawn. The fourth is fragmentary iron brooch, Ra. 502, from Period 3 Ditch 105. It was of one-piece, sprung construction, with a rod-like bow; features associated with Drahtfibel-type

brooches (Mackreth 2011), common to the early or mid-1st century AD. Iron brooch no. 1 is very heavily corroded and with significant degradation to the head, resulting in the loss of much of the spring and (probably) the wings and hook retaining the spring chord. Its proportions and form of catchplate suggest that no. 1 is of Colchester type. The large size, straight bow and open, 'fretted' catchplate, are indications of 'early' dating (Mackreth 2011, 37). As such, it is very probably pre-Conquest in date, and as early as the late 1st century BC.

The copper alloy brooches are later; no. 3 is a type very common in the early decades of the Roman period (c. 40s–60s AD). The two-piece, Colchester Derivative no. 4 is later, still probably dating to the late 1st century AD.

Iron disc no. 2 (from cremation burial 1544) is one of at least 10 objects of similar form known from southern and south-eastern England, including from Danebury, Hants (Cunliffe 1984, 370, fig 7.23, no 2.174) (Figs 14 & 15). At least six are known from cremation burials dating to the Late Iron Age, with an example from Monkston Park, Milton Keynes, associated with pottery dated c. AD25–50 (Wardle 2006), and from a Phase 1 (pre-Conquest) deposit at King Harry Lane, Verulamium (Stead & Rigby 1989, 107). Their function is not well understood, although all share the characteristics of a reinforced central perforation and blade-like edges, suggesting a use for cutting. Some or possibly all, exhibit a semi-circular 'cut-out' to one section of the blade edge. This feature would seem to preclude one suggested use, as a form of rotary knife for crafts use (Wardle 2006). The cut-out can be presumed to have been to secure a wooden handle and most likely use is as a razor or cutting implement in the manner of a craft-worker's lunate knife. Use in the manner of the triangular 'razor knives' known from a number of Late Iron Age graves is plausible, some of which have a pronounced curve to the cutting edge (Stead & Rigby 1989, 105 no. 4).

The objects associated with isolated inhumation burial 1411 (Fig. 17) are not dateable, and while a Roman date remains a possibility, an earlier Anglo-Saxon date appears more plausible. The form of knife no. 3 has parallels among Roman assemblages;

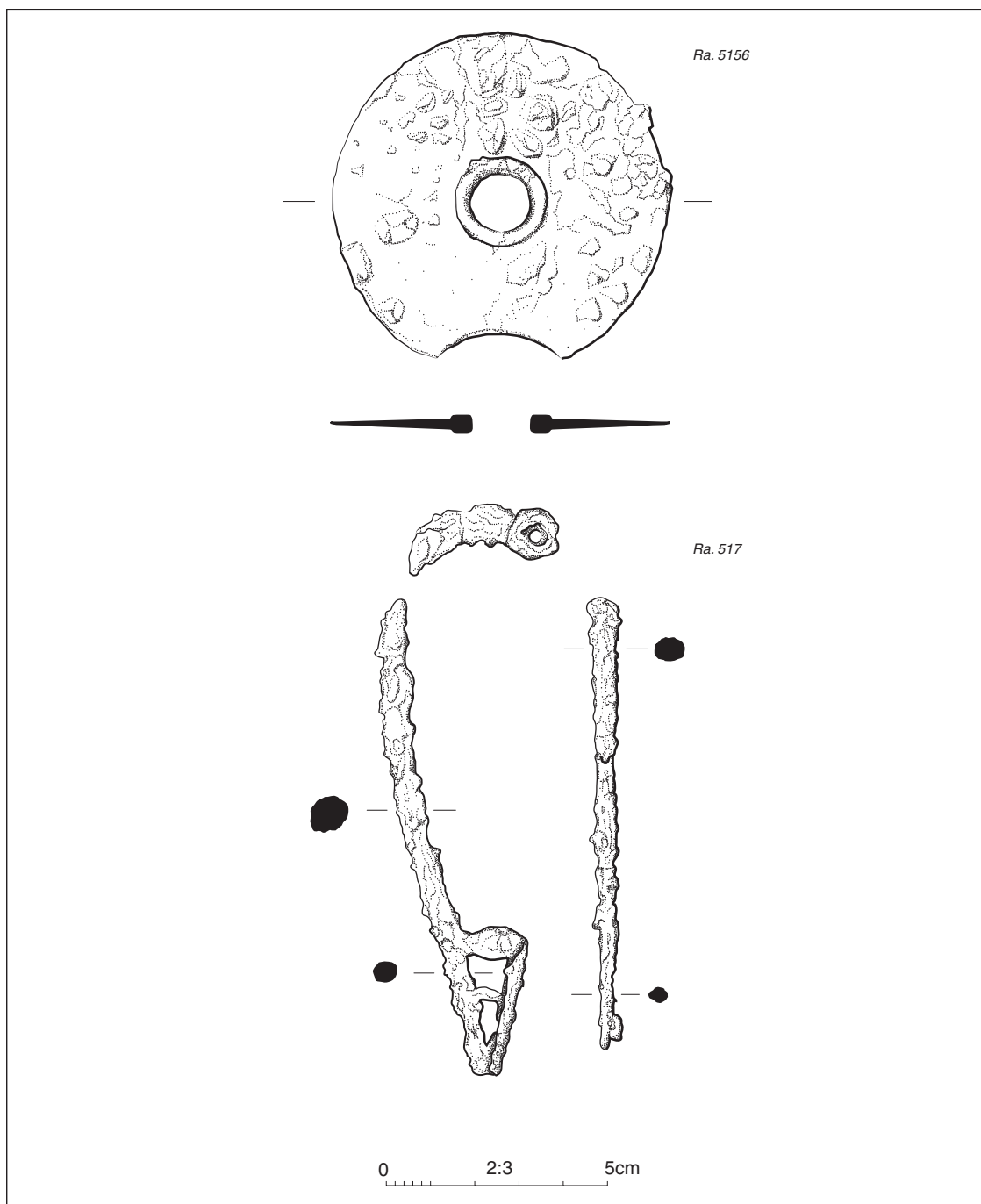


Fig. 14 Iron brooch Ra. 521 and iron disc Ra. 520 from cremation pit 1544 (2:3)



Fig. 15 Photograph: iron brooch RA. 521 and iron disc 520, with cremation urn from cremation pit 1544

Manning's long-lived Type 16 (1982, 116). Similar knives are, however, very common in earlier Anglo-Saxon burials from across the areas of settlement, with the cemetery at Alton, Hants providing good parallels (Evison 1988, 23: Type 1).

Philpott's (1991) survey of Romano-British burial noted that graves accompanied either by knives or spindlewhorls are generally rare, although for both classes it was noted that there were concentrations of finds in south-central or south-western England (Philpott 1991, 176 and 184–185). The Roman spindlewhorls from these areas (mostly from the urban cemeteries serving Winchester and Dorchester) are mainly of shale or bone, however. Spindlewhorls from Anglo-Saxon burials are also not common, but examples of conical or sub-conical lead whorls include those from Dover Buckland (Evison 1987, 298, Grave 48, no. 13), and Butler's Field, Lechlade (Boyle *et al.* 1995, 244, Grave 150, no. 2).

Iron

Colchester brooch. Fragmentary, with much of the spring absent and the join between bow and head also unclear. Long, rod-like bow with

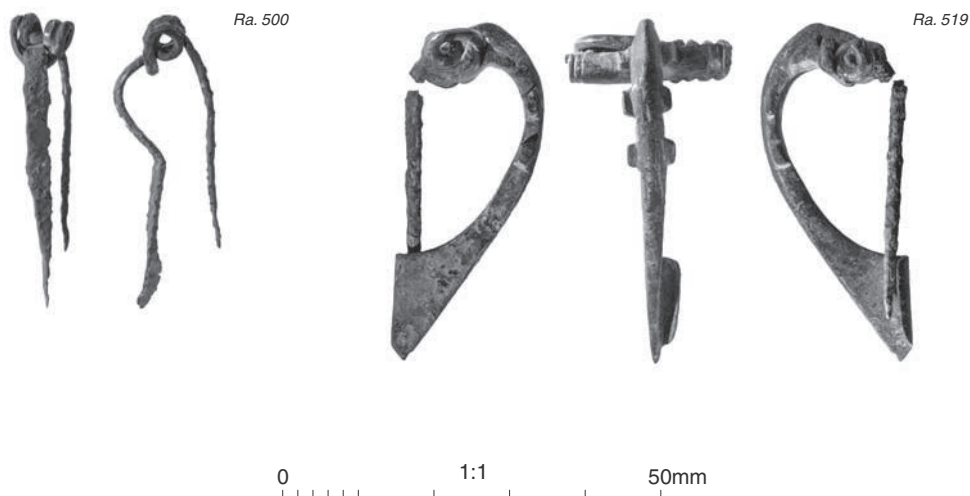


Fig. 16 Copper alloy brooches Ra.500 and Ra. 519 (1:1)

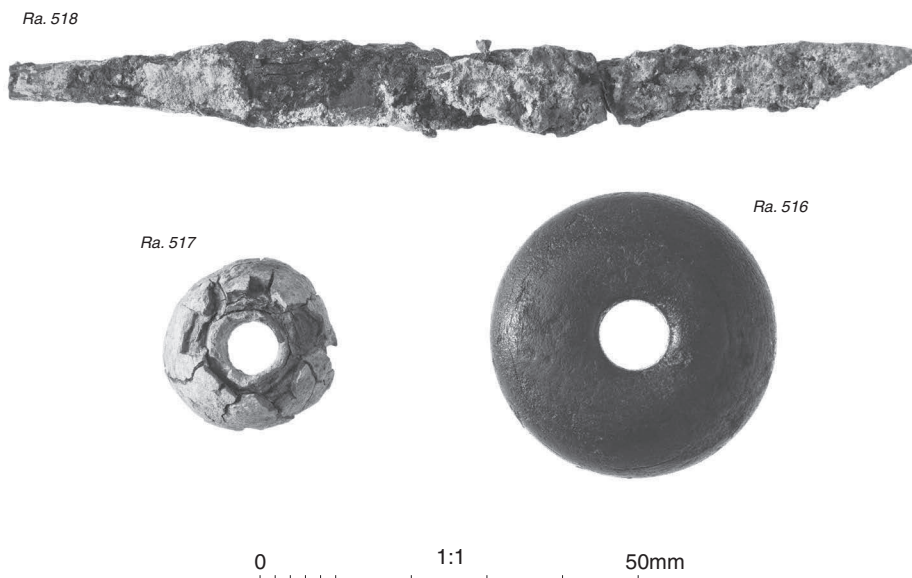


Fig. 17 Iron knife Ra. 518, shale spindlewhorl Ra. 516 and lead object Ra. 517, from inhumation grave 1411 (1:1)

open, divided triangular catchplate. Period 3 cremation burial 1544 (fill 1565). Length *c.* 115mm. Registered artefact 521–522.

Disc. Central perforation with low, rounded collar. Thin, blade-like edges to the disc and with semi-circular rebate for handle (24mm wide). External diam. 72mm; internal diam. 13.5mm; thickness at collar 6.2mm; thickness at edge <1mm. Period 3 cremation burial 1544 (fill 1565). Registered artefact 520.

Knife. Narrow blade with slightly curving back and edge tapering to point. The (broken) tang is central to the blade. Period 4 inhumation burial 1411 (fill 1412). Surviving length 118mm; width (max) 11.6mm. Registered artefact 518.

Lead

A single sub-conical or plano-convex object displayed a central perforation. The original surfaces are much degraded. Probably a spindlewhorl. Ext. diam 22.8mm; internal. Diam 7mm; thickness 13.8mm. Period 4 inhumation burial 1411 (fill 1412). Ra. 517 (Fig. 17).

Copper alloy brooches

Nauheim Derivative. The brooch bow is distorted, and much of the original surface is lost. The spring has four coils and an internal chord. The bow is strip-like, and tapers evenly to the foot. Where the original surface survives on the bow, there are traces of tooled decoration and a possible cross-moulding above the (plain) catchplate. Period 3: Enclosure ditch 105 (fill 1387). Length 38mm; max width at bow, 3.5mm. Ra. 500 (Fig. 16).

Colchester Derivative (Harlow spring system). The 8-coil spring is covered by wings, with simple moulding at ends. The bow is undecorated apart from three paired rectangular projections to its upper part. The catchplate is solid. Ra. 519 (fig. 16) matches Mackreth's type CD Ha.Xb (Mackreth 2011, 59), which are distinguished by wave effect or (as here) projections to the upper bow. Period 3 Pit 143 (fill 1426). Length 44mm; width across head 22mm.

Table 6 Human remains: macroscopic techniques used

Pubic symphysis	Brooks and Suchey 1990
Auricular surface	Lovejoy <i>et al.</i> 1985; Buckberry and Chamberlain 2002 (used for older adults)
Dental attrition	Miles 1962
Cranial suture closure	Meindl and Lovejoy 1985
Sternal Rib ends	Işcan and Loth 1984; 1985
Epiphyseal fusion	McKern and Stewart 1957; Webb and Suchey 1985
Dental eruption	Moorees <i>et al.</i> 1963; AlQahtani 2009

THE BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL

Human skeletal remains by Sharon Clough

Period 5 skeletal remains

Methodology

All skeletal material was examined and recorded in accordance with national guidelines (Brickley & McKinley 2004; Mays *et al.* 2004). The articulated skeleton was assessed for its condition (Grade 0–5+, after McKinley, 2004: 16) and completeness (0–25%, 26–50%, 51–75%, 76–100%). For age, a multi-method approach was taken (Table 6) to provide a range of estimates, after which each indicator was weighted on reliability. Where only one (less reliable) method was available, the individual was determined to be only adult or sub-adult. Sex was estimated where possible using relevant standards (Ferembach *et al.* 1980; Schwartz). Standard metrical analysis was carried out, and stature was calculated, where possible, using regression equations devised by Trotter and Gleser (1952;1958) and revised by Trotter (1970). Non-metric traits were systematically recorded for adults, following the guidelines set out by Berry and Berry (1967) and Finnegan (1978), and any pathologies were recorded with reference to standard texts (e.g. Aufderheide & Rodríguez-Martín 1998; Ortner 2003).

Results

Skeleton 1412. This individual was recovered from an earth-cut grave which had clearly been disturbed in antiquity, as the bones were no longer in anatomical position. The cranium was

complete (with post-mortem fragmentation), and the left arm and vertebrae roughly in the correct position, but other bones, including ribs, scapula and lower arm-bones, had moved from their original position.

This individual was 25–45 years of age at the time of death, and probably at the younger end of this range. Less than 50% of the skeleton was available for observation, and the bone surface was grade 3–4. All bones were fragmented, and only one was complete enough for metrical assessment.

The left orbit had slight *cribra orbitalia* (Stuart-Macadam grade 1 (1990)), and the right side not observable. *Cribralia orbitalia* was thought to be indicative of iron deficiency anaemia, although reappraisal suggests a more complex aetiology (Walker *et al.* 2009).

Spondylolysis was present on the fifth lumbar vertebra. The spinous process was not attached and not recovered (disturbed burial), but a clear articulation was present on the inferior aspect of the superior articular processes. Irregular and extending pseudo joint surfaces, with slight porosity, suggested that the instability of the joint was causing bony growth and joint surface degeneration. No joint degeneration of osteoarthritis was observed on any other vertebrae, which suggests that instability of the fifth lumbar vertebrae did not affect the rest of the spine. This may indicate a younger individual, as there may have been insufficient longevity to develop osteophytes.

The right ulna was the only bone sufficiently complete to measure, of which the maximum

Table 7 Summary of cremation burials

Cut number	Fill numbers	Total weight (g)	Details
1300	1302, 1303	89.3	Accessory vessel Ra. 512
1376	1377, 1378, 1911	206.7	Urn Ra.514
1383	1384, 1385	78.6	Accessory vessel Ra.515
1441	1442, 1443, 1444, 1445	49.3	
1469	1470, 1565	302.9	
1544	1545, 1546, 1547	530	Accessory vessel Ra. 523
1598 (inc. 1596)	1597, 1599, 1600	251.5	

length was 237mm. Stature calculation, using Trotter 1970, estimated height at 158.96cm ± 4.3 .

Fourteen teeth (of which three were loose) were present. Calculus was present on 10 teeth, on the buccal and lingual surfaces in a medium quantity.

Conclusion

The burial was of the remaining upper half of a female adult. This individual was estimated to be 158.96cm in height, when the female range at the time was 152–170cm (mean 161cm, Roberts and Cox 2003), indicating fairly average stature for the time. From the teeth present, there was no dental disease other than some calculus deposits. Bone pathological lesions were limited to *cribra orbitalia* and spondylolysis. These are fairly common findings in all time-periods, and in the early medieval period spondylolysis has been identified in 1.3% of excavated individuals (*ibid.*), where it is associated with repeated bending and lifting. *Cribra orbitalia* has been identified in 5.7% of the population in the early medieval period (*ibid.*), and is common amongst settled communities dependant on agricultural subsistence where there may be seasonal access to food.

The individual was buried with grave goods typical of the Early Saxon period; the inclusion of a spindlewhorl may indicate a gender-related activity, or represent an amulet for protection in the afterlife.

Skeleton catalogue

Skeleton number: 1412

Sex: Female

Age: adult 25–45 years

Height: (right radius) 158.959cm ± 4.3

Completeness: 50%

Condition: (McKinley 2004) grade 3, medium fragmentation

Pathologies: spondylolysis, left orbit slight *cribra orbitalia* grade 1

Dental: 14/18, calculus 10

Cremated bone

Methodology

Methodology follows the guidelines and standards suggested by McKinley (in Brickley & McKinley 2004). The samples were sieved through stacks of 10, 5 and 2mm mesh-size. The relative weight of bone from each sieve illustrates the degree of bone fragmentation. Identifiable bone was further separated into skull, axial, upper and lower limb categories. This was to identify any deliberate collection bias, and to examine the bone for age, sex and pathological lesions. The 2mm fraction is not normally included in the weights, as it is mixed with pea grit. However, in this instance there was a substantial amount of bone in this fraction, so it was extracted and included. Animal bone (if identified) was also removed.

Results (Period 3)

Weight of cremated bone. The seven cremated bone deposits varied in total weight from 49.3 – 530g (Table 7). The weight of bone of modern adult cremations varies from about 1000 to 3600g (McKinley 2000, 404), and a complete cremated juvenile will produce around 500g of bone (Trotter & Hixon 1973). This suggests that none of the cremation deposits comprised the majority of the individual. This may be due to vertical truncation, since all but one burial was

Table 8 Weight (g) of cremated bone by skeletal area and percentage of the total weight (%)

Cut number	1300	1376	1383	1441	1469	1544	1598 (1596 & 1598)
Cranial	9.6 (10.8%)	23.7 (11.5%)	6.6 (8.4%)	1.9 (3.9%)	48.4 (16%)	171.1 (32.3%)	41.9 (16.7%)
Axial	0	3.2 (1.5%)	0.9 (1.1%)	5.3 (10.8%)	5.5 (1.8%)	32.7 (6.2%)	9.8 (3.9%)
Upper limb	5.1 (5.7%)	12.3 (6%)	0	0	23 (7.6%)	31.7 (6%)	13.6 (5.4%)
Lower limb	0	29.2 (14.1%)	21.8 (27.7%)	2.4 (4.9%)	48.7 (16.1%)	119.8 (22.6%)	19.6 (7.8%)
Unid. limb	7 (7.8%)	22.6 (10.9%)	8.5 (10.8%)	0	8.4 (2.8%)	0	7.6 (3%)
Unid.	67.6 (75.7%)	115.7 (56%)	40.3 (51.3)	39.7 (80.5%)	168.9 (55.8%)	174.7 (33%)	159 (63.2%)
Total	89.3	206.7	78.6	49.3	302.9	530	251.5

Unid. - unidentified

un-urned, and therefore the degree of truncation cannot be measured. However, it is also possible that bone collected from the pyre and deposited in the pit represented only a token amount, and may reflect the status of the individual. However, the single urned burial, 1376, did not have the highest weight of cremated bone. Burial 1544 was deposited adjacent to a pottery vessel, and had the highest recovered weight of 530g. Deposition in a ceramic urn does not necessarily relate to the quantity of bone recovered. The amount deposited may reflect other, imponderable factors, possibly including status, gender, number of mourners or season.

Skeletal elements by area

From the seven cremation deposits, 33–80.5% of bone fragments were not identified, so results are necessarily tentative. The most identified elements were from burial 1544, and with more than expected quantity of cranial bone and less than expected lower limb bone (Table 8). This burial had the greatest collected weight, and the bias towards cranial fragments cannot be entirely explained by the

ease with which these elements are identified when compared to other fragments, since other areas of the body were much less well represented. Iron Age belief is known to have placed particular emphasis on the ‘head’, as a focal point of human existence (Harding 2016, 276), and this burial appears to display a bias towards this element of the body.

Amongst the other lower-weighted and more fragmented burials, the slightly higher proportions of long and cranial bone observed may simply reflect the ease with which these elements are identified, compared to other bones. These also have thicker cortical bone than those of the axial skeleton, and it is thought that areas of high trabecular bone content (epiphyses and *os coxae*) will disintegrate easily (McKinley 1998). The very low quantity of axial skeleton identified indicates that spongy bone areas were not preserved.

Fragmentation

Average fragment-size across the cremations was 46 mm, ranging from 27–72 mm. Four burials had the majority of fragments in the

Table 9 Weight of bone (g) by fraction to determine level of fragmentation

<i>Context</i>	<i>>10mm weight</i>	<i>>10mm %</i>	<i>10-5mm Weight</i>	<i>10-5mm %</i>	<i><5mm Weight</i>	<i><5mm %</i>
1300	13	14.6	52.4	58.7	23.9	26.8
1376	84.6	40.9	99.3	48	22.8	11
1383	34.7	44.1	36.5	46.4	7.4	9.4
1441	17.1	34.7	20.7	42	11.5	23.3
1469	160	52.8	135.5	44.7	7.4	2.4
1544	405.8	76.6	117.6	22.2	6.6	1.2
1598 (1596 & 1598)	134	53.3	107.5	42.7	1	4

10–5 mm fraction, and three burials had them in the >10mm fraction. This suggests high fragmentation levels for four burials and low fragmentation for the other three. This has affected the identification of some elements (see section on skeletal elements), and Table 9 presents the results. Most fragmentation occurs after burial, and during excavation, and occurs along the dehydration fissures which formed during the cremation process.

Some burials were excavated in two halves, or other segregation, and it has been possible to determine that there was no bias in the distribution of skeletal elements. It is possible to collect bones from the pyre in anatomical order, and thus deposit them in similar order. Due to the effects of truncation and deposition in a biodegradable container (except one, and the urn had become fragmented), or possibly none at all, any potential ordering of elements will have been lost.

Pyre technology

The cremation deposits were predominantly white in colour, except for burial 1441, which was badly burnt, and brown and black in colour. The low weight of this burial (55g), together with the fact that the largest surviving fragments comprised vertebral bodies (unfused, so a young individual), and no bone was confirmed as human, casts some doubt on the identification of 1441 as a cremation burial. Elsewhere, the brilliant white colouration associated with full oxidation (equates to temperature greater than 800°C, Schmidt & Symes 2008) indicates good pyre technology.

In two burials (1376, 1469), a ‘sandwich’ effect was observed, where the bone was white on the outside and black on the interior. This indicates that pyre heat was sufficient to fully calcine external surfaces, but did not continue long enough to complete the process internally. Within Late Iron Age and early Romano-British cremation burials, a substantial minority of fragments are observed to demonstrate this effect (McKinley 2008).

Age, sex and pathology

It was not possible to observe sexually dimorphic features for most of the burials. Burial 1544 had some aspects of cranial fragments which suggested a male individual. There was osteophytosis on one cervical vertebra body; this is an out-growth of bone tissue or spur, commonly found on the edge of spinal bodies (although more often thoracic), and indicates degeneration of the spine and is often associated with osteoarthritis.

Burial 1441 had an unfused vertebral body not conclusively identified as either human or animal which, on the basis of size, might indicate an adolescent. In burial 1300, the bones were small and thin, possibly indicating a child, but with only 89g of bone recovered, and no elements identified, this remains a tentative suggestion.

Animal bone

Burial 1469 included an identified fragment of bird radius (0.3g). Animal bone is commonly identified in cremation burials, and Iron Age examples indicate specific choices in

Table 10 Catalogue of cremated bone

<i>Cut number</i>	<i>Total weight (g)</i>	<i>Largest Fragment size (mm)</i>	<i>Identified bones</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Bone colour</i>	<i>Comments</i>
1300	89.3	43	Cranial vault, unid long bones	Adult	Unknown	white	Small and thin. No tooth roots. 2 frags of possible animal bone
1376	206.7	39	Cranial, rib, hum, rad, uln, fem, tib, navicular, calcaneus, petrous, cv2 odontoid process, scaphoid	Adult	Unknown	White, with rare grey/blue, rare black in centre (sandwich)	Urned (broken)
1383	78.6	43	Cranial, mandible, tib, fem, hand phalanx	Adult	unknown	White	
1441	49.3	27	Cranial, lumbar vert, distal fem, poss. MT1 head frag.	Adult	unknown	Brown, black for large fragments, small white and grey	Large frags badly burnt all spongy bone areas. Vert body unfused, so young individual.
1469	302.9	56	Clavicle, tib, cranial, mandible, Cv, hum, uln, rad, scap, fem head, dist fib, tib, upper 2nd molar roots, rib, hand phalanx	Adult	unknown	White, some blue/grey, 1 frag black. Occasional black in centre (sandwich)	Bird radial bone 0.3g.
1544	530	72	Cranial, mastoid, petrous, maxilla, Cvs, ribs, hum, scap, tooth root,	Adult	?male	White, rare grey	Iron staining across several bones- probably from brooch. CV body with osteophytes.
1598 inc. 1596	251.5	57	Cranial, rib, ilium, mandible, CV	Adult	unknown	white	17.8g from 1596

the selection of species. The Late Iron Age/ Early Roman cemetery at King Harry Lane (Davis 1989) was dominated by pig, with a few ovicaprids. Birds were included in 25% of all burials associated with cremated animals. At Westhampnett (Fitzpatrick 1997) 45 cremation-related contexts had animal bone present. Again, pig was dominant, with sheep/goat and some cattle. Burial 1300 contained two fragments (1.1g) which were much denser and thicker than the rest, and dark-grey in colour, possible representing animal bone.

Discussion

Low weights are often recovered from Late Iron Age cremation burials (McKinley 2013), and this site had three containing less than 100g, with urned burial 1376 comprising only 200g. At Westhampnett, the mean weight of un-urned adult burials was *c.* 300g (Fitzpatrick 1997). However, at Westhampnett 30g was adopted as a cut-off weight, and any features containing bone deposits below this were interpreted as memorials, or representing other, unknown activity. Re-deposited pyre debris is a possible

explanation for such low weights of cremated bone, especially where located in pre-existent features or spreads.

The cremated bone deposits from Winchester Road have revealed limited information, but of the seven cremation burials, five represent adult individuals, with one possibly of younger age and the unfused vertebral body of burial 1441 may not in fact be human. This deposit of burnt bone was the lowest in weight, and the largest fragments were poorly burnt, although smallest fragments were white. It did not appear to conform to the expected ratio of bone elements, with more axial skeleton than any other, and suggests either a pyre-related deposit or a partly-cremated food offering associated with funerary ritual.

Smaller bones of the hands and feet were present in some burials, indicating a careful collection method which included their selection. Except for burial 1441, the other burials included elements from all areas of the body, with an expected bias towards cranial and long bones.

The remainder of the cremated bone, not formally interred, may have been deposited elsewhere in the landscape, or distributed amongst mourners as a physical means of remembrance (Chapman & Gaydarska 2007).

Animal bone by Matilda Holmes

Introduction

A small assemblage of animal bone was recovered from the Iron Age to later Roman features identified from Area 1. While the Iron Age and early Roman phases are well represented in the assemblage, it is unfortunate that fewer bones were recovered from Period 4, the later Roman phase. Nonetheless, the animal economy provides a useful comparison between the Middle-Late Iron Age and Late Iron Age to early Roman transition period.

Methodology

Bones were identified using the author's reference collection. Due to anatomical similarities between sheep and goat, bones of this type were assigned to the category 'sheep/goat', unless a definite identification could be

made (Zeder & Lapham 2010; Zeder & Pilaar 2010). Bones that could not be identified to species were, where possible, categorised according to the relative size of the animal represented (micro – rat/vole size; small – cat/rabbit size; medium – sheep/pig/dog size; or large – cattle/horse size). Ribs were identified to size category where the head was present, vertebrae were recorded when the vertebral body was present, and maxilla, zygomatic arch and occipital areas of the skull were identified from skull fragments. Due to problems with the identification of post-cranial bones of micro-mammals, only their mandibles and maxillae were identified to taxon. Humeri and femora were also recorded, as the most robust elements, to check the presence of Associated Bone Groups (ABGs).

Tooth wear and eruption were recorded using guidelines from Grant (1982) and Payne (1973), as were bone fusion, metrical data (von den Driesch 1976), anatomy, side, zone (Serjeantson 1996) and any evidence of pathological changes, butchery (Lauwerier 1988) and working. The condition of bones was noted on a scale of 0–5, where 0 represents fresh bone and 5 where bone is disintegrating (Lyman 1994, 355). Other taphonomic factors were also recorded, including the incidence of burning, gnawing, recent breakage and refitted fragments. All fragments were recorded, although articulated or associated fragments were entered as a count of 1, so they did not bias the relative frequency of species present. Details of associated bone groups were recorded in a separate table. Where bones from both sides of the body of a single individual could be identified from an ABG, only one set of bones were measured. A number of sieved samples were collected, but because of the highly fragmentary nature of such samples a selective process was undertaken, whereby fragments were recorded only if they could be identified to species and/or element, or showed signs of taphonomic processes. Bones were only included in analysis if they came from features that could be securely dated. Quantification of taxa and anatomical elements used a count of all fragments (NISP – number of identified specimens). Mortality profiles were constructed based on tooth eruption and wear of mandibles

Table 11 Condition and taphonomic factors affecting the hand-collected assemblage identified to taxa and/or element. Teeth included where stated

<i>Condition</i>	<i>Mid-late Iron Age</i>	<i>Mid IA-Early Roman</i>	<i>L IA-Early Roman</i>	<i>Later Roman (100-300)</i>
Fresh	2			
Very good	28		21	2
Good	42		25	6
Fair	52		43	3
Poor	43	1	9	8
Very poor				1
<i>Total</i>	<i>167</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>98</i>	<i>20</i>
Refit	83=11		144=8	148=9
Fresh break	28		31	7
Gnawed	18		17	2
Loose mandibular teeth*	29		40	5
Teeth in mandibles*	13		7	2
Butchery	6		9	1
Burning	2			3

*deciduous and permanent 4th premolar and molars

and loose 3rd molars (Hambleton 1999), and bone fusion (O'Connor 2003).

Taphonomy and condition

Bones were in highly variable condition (Table 11), with much root-etching evident, indicating shallow burial and/or overgrowth of the areas of deposition. They were very fragmentary, and the high number of refitted fragments, fresh breaks and loose teeth (Tables 11 and 12) reflects poor preservation. The high proportion of loose teeth to those remaining in the mandible implies some delay in burial, and long enough for tough connective tissue holding the teeth in place to break down and for the teeth to fall out. Alternatively, it may reflect poor preservation, or disturbance of the primary deposit.

Evidence of gnawing was also prevalent (Table 11), again suggesting a delay in burial. There were few observations of butchery marks, although those that existed may have been

obliterated by poor preservation or canid gnawing. Butchery marks that did exist were consistent with carcass reduction, with cut and chop-marks coming from the removal of the head or tongue, skinning, disarticulation and/or jointing, and splitting through the vertebral column. There was also evidence for possible marrow removal and filleting of meat from the carcass. Three sheep/goat metapodials were observed with holes in the centre of the articular surface of the proximal end of the bone, two from the Mid to Late Iron Age, and one from the later Roman period. In later assemblages, such perforations are interpreted as the use of metapodials as pegs for stretching out skins during the tanning process (Yeomans 2008).

Very few burnt bones were recorded, which suggests that there were no specific deposits of bones that were routinely exposed to fire during cooking, as a means of disposal or as a fuel. It is of note that all three of the burnt bones from

Table 12 Species representation by anatomical element in order of expected preservation (Epiphysis count). Hand-collected bones

<i>Element</i>	<i>M-LIA</i>			<i>LIA-ER</i>			<i>LR</i>		
	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Sheep/ goat</i>	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Sheep/ goat</i>	<i>Pig</i>	<i>Equid</i>	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Sheep/ goat</i>	<i>Equid</i>
Partial Skeleton		3	2						
Horn core +frontal		2							
Skull		1			1		1		
Maxilla with teeth		2							
Mandible with teeth		6	4	3	2	1	1	1	
Loose tooth	11	42	30	55	4	8	9	6	
1st cervical vertebra		2	1						
2nd cervical vertebra	2	2							
Cervical vertebra		1							
Thoracic vertebra		1	1						
Lumber vertebra		2	1		1				
Sacrum			2		1				
Caudal vertebra	1								
Vertebra		1	1						
Scapula D	2	3	1		2	1			
Humerus P									
Humerus D		2	1	1					1
Radius P		3	2			1		1	
Radius D		1	1					1	
Pelvis		2	1	1	1		1		
Femur P		1	1						1
Femur D		4	4						1
Tibia D		2			1	1			
Metacarpal P	2	5				1			
Metacarpal D		4				1	1		
Metatarsal P	1	3	4			2	1		
Metatarsal D	2	1	2						
1st phalanx*		3		1	1				
2nd phalanx*		2							
3rd phalanx*		1							
<i>Total</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>115</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>3</i>

* adjusted for frequency bias

Period 4 were recovered from pit 1209 (context 1210). All had been partly singed, with other surfaces of the bone remaining unburnt. A cattle femur epiphysis comprised two refitted fragments, and both broken surfaces had been singed, suggesting that they were broken before being exposed to the fire. It is possible that this deposit was discarded close to a fire before being deposited in a rubbish pit – it is therefore

possible that this represents the waste from a single episode.

Period 2 pit 151 (context 1665) and Period 4 pit 147 (context 1754) contained the shaft and corresponding unfused epiphyses (ends of the long bone) that indicate burial, soon after discard, in a primary context that had undergone little post-depositional movement. ABGs were recovered from Period 2 pits 141

Table 13 Quantification of the major domesticates and wild taxa by phase and group

Mid-Late Iron Age										Late Iron Age-Early Roman										Later Roman							
Taxa																											
R107	D118	P141	P142	P151	P152	N/A	Total	D103	D104	D105	D108	D109	D111	D112	D113	PH135	P140	P141	P144	N/A	Total	D117	P147	N/A	Total		
	1	5	27				33	9	3	24*	18*		2	1	2	1	8		6	7	81	4	3	11	18		
Sheep/ goat	6	2	45*	6	45	3	169	1	2	16	29	1	2				3	3	6	21	84	7	4	11			
Pig	1	1	11	1			14	1	2	9	1	1	1							5	20	5		5			
Equid	1		3*				4	3		3	5						1			4	16	2	1	3			
Canid		1	2				3			1	3						1			2	7						
Red deer											1						1				2						
Roe deer						1	1																				
Deer				1			1																				
Total	8	3	52	6	88	5	63	225	14	7	54	57	2	5	1	2	1	14	3	12	39	210	6	16	15	37	
Associated bone groups included as a count of 1																											
Total, P= Pit, PH= Posthole, N/A= Ungrouped features, R= Ring gully																											

D= Ditch, P= Pit, PH= Posthole, N/A= Ungrouped features, R= Ring gully

* Associated bone groups included as a count of 1

and 151, and Period 3 ditches 105 and 108 that also would have come from largely undisturbed deposits. Another bone, from pit 151 (context 1590), had been trampled prior to disposal, again implying delayed burial of some of the bones.

Period 2: Mid to Late Iron Age (c. 400 BC–0 AD)

Bones from the earliest phase of occupation were recovered from the ring gully, ditches and pits (Table 11). The paucity of bones from the ring gully is not unusual, as refuse tends to be disposed of away from living areas (Wilson 1996), this would also not be unexpected if this feature were a construction slot instead of a drip gully. The small number of animal remains recovered from ditch 118 (Table 11) is surprising, but can be explained by the localised area of ditch remaining due to later re-cutting. Pits 152 and 142 also contained few bones, although pits 151 and 141 held larger assemblages that will be considered in more detail.

Storage pit 151

This pit, within Roundhouse 1, provided a considerable assemblage of animal bone, (Table 11). Although the general trend for the phase is for sheep/goat bones to predominate (Table 13), it is of note that pit 151 contained the greatest quantity of cattle and pig remains of any feature as well as a horse ABG (context 1595), comprising fragmentary long bones (pelvis, femur, tibia, metatarsal, metapodial(s) and radius and ulna), most probably from both sides of the same individual. Its presence in the final fill of the pit may represent an offering relating to the end of use of the associated roundhouse and/or the pit itself. Also of interest is a butchered sub-adult canid (dog or fox) lumbar vertebra from primary fill 1665, the lateral processes of which had been removed from both sides, a form of butchery commonly interpreted as

Table 14 Species representation (NISP) of hand-collected assemblage

<i>Taxa</i>	M-L IA		LIA-ER		LR	
	<i>H</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>H</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>H</i>	<i>S</i>
Cattle	33	1	81	1	18	
sheep/ goat	163	1	84	6	11	
Sheep	6					
Pig	14	8	20	1	5	
Equid	4		16		3	
Canid	3		7	1		
Red deer			2			
Roe deer	1					
Deer	1					
Field vole	2	8				
Wood mouse		34				
Common shrew		10				
Micro-mammal		54		13		
Frog/ toad						1
Crab				1		
<i>Total identified</i>	<i>227</i>	<i>116</i>	<i>210</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>1</i>
Unidentified						
mammal	124		190		59	
Large mammal	195		244		76	
Medium mammal	186		121		10	
<i>Total</i>	<i>732</i>		<i>765</i>		<i>182</i>	

H= hand collected; S= samples

* Associated bone groups included as a count of 1

the removal of the spine to split the carcass into two sides.

Pit 141

This was a large pit, and although the species proportions recorded are consistent with other features, it included at least three sheep/ goat ABGs. The partial skeleton of a perinatal lamb (scapula, radius and mandible) was recovered from context 1351, and the remains of a different perinatal lamb (mandible, humeri, femora, tibia and metatarsal), and almost complete adult sheep, were recovered from context 1352. The latter bore no signs of butchery, and numerous phalanges were

recorded, which suggests that the animal was not skinned. There was nothing of significance from the final fill 1291, despite similarities in other aspects of the material culture with that of pit 151.

General comments

Sheep/goat remains dominated this assemblage (Table 14), although the recovery of the majority of bones from pits may produce a bias towards the bones of smaller animals, as the remains of larger animals are more likely to be disposed of in ditches, away from domestic areas (Wilson 1996). A fragment of antler, most probably from red deer was recovered from pit 152 (context

1226) that was singed, but not worked, and a roe deer pelvis was found in posthole 1613 (context 1614). The samples produced several micro-mammals, including field vole, common shrew and wood mouse. While these probably did not originate as anthropogenic markers, they may be useful (if not very specific) indicators of the environment, which would have included wooded areas, grasslands and cultivated fields. The wood mice may also have inhabited buildings during the winter months.

Cattle bones were largely restricted to the extremities – head, vertebrae and metapodials (Table 10), the only limb bones recovered were two scapula fragments. This is typical of primary butchery waste, and implies that the meat-bearing limb bones were subject to redistribution and disposed of elsewhere. Sheep/goat bones came from all parts of the carcass, suggesting that they represent the remains of animals that were processed and consumed in the area.

Very little mortality data were available for cattle in this phase, although a single mandible was recorded at wear stage H (Table 13), and the available fusion data also represents adult animals, with no unfused bones observed (Table 14). It must be remembered, however, that the poor preservation of much of the assemblage means that the bones of younger animals may be under-represented. Sheep/goat remains also indicate the presence of large numbers of adult animals, with only one unfused bone from the intermediate stage and two from animals that had not reached the final fusion stage (Table 14). Tooth wear data were more abundant, however, and indicate that animals were culled at a range of ages (Table 13), from those just a few months old at wear stage B, to adults at wear stages G and H. One pelvis was complete enough to be sexed, which came from a ewe. The likely under-representation of juvenile bones is highlighted by several porous bones from perinatal lambs and calves, which implies the breeding of livestock in and around the settlement.

Period 3: Late Iron Age to Early Roman (c. AD 0–75)

A similar-sized assemblage was recovered from this phase to that of the preceding period of

occupation, but came from a larger number of features (Table 11). The shift in settlement focus during this period has meant that animal bones were recovered from ditches, a posthole and pits, although only the enclosure ditches 105 and 108 produced large enough assemblages to be considered in detail.

Ditch 105

A dump of domestic waste was observed in this part of the enclosure ditch, which is consistent with the relatively large quantity of animal bone recovered, compared to the other ditches 103 and 104 (Table 11). Cattle were more common than sheep/goat in this ditch, which may relate to a tendency to dispose of larger bones in ditches, or a greater emphasis on cattle in the economy (see below). A group of three cattle thoracic vertebrae and a pig skull were recovered from context 1251, which may represent butchery waste. Part of a dog skull was also recorded in context 1387.

Ditch 108

Most striking in the animal assemblage was the burial of a skull, mandibles and the fragmented remains of a lower leg (tarsal, metapodial and phalanges) from context 1436. Such remains are typical of primary butchery waste, and may indicate that such a process took place nearby. However, it is becoming more likely, from the evidence of similar deposits at other sites, that their burial took on more of a symbolic role and may represent a form of ritual deposition (Holmes *forthcoming*). A red deer tibia was recovered from the secondary fill 1245, which would most probably have come from a hunted animal. It is also of note that three bones from a dog paw (identified using criteria from Ratjen & Heinrich 1978) were recovered from the lowest fills (1245 and 1246), which were most likely from the same animal.

General comments

Cattle remains become more common in this phase, being recovered in similar numbers to those of sheep/goat (Tables 13 and 14). However, the majority of the sheep assemblage came from loose teeth (Table 12), which makes this apparent change more significant, as one of the most notable Roman influences

Table 15 Tooth wear stages for cattle, sheep/goat and pig

Stage	Cattle			Sheep/ goat		Pig
	M-LIA	LIA-ER	LR	M-LIA	LIA-ER	LIA-ER
A						
B				1		
C				1	1	
D		1				
E				1		1
F					2	
G		2		1	1	
GH					4	
H	1	1		1		
I		1	2			
Total	1	5	2	5	8	1

Table 16 Fusion data for the main domesticates

Fusion Stage	Cattle						Sheep/ goat					
	M-LIA		LIA-ER		LR		M-LIA		LIA-ER		LR	
	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F	U	F
Neonatal		3		4		1		9				
Early		2		5		1	2	27	1	3		1
Intermediate		2	1	1		1	3	6				
Late				6			3	4			1	
Final		2	2	5			6	2				
Total		9	3	21		3		62				

U=Unfused. F=Fused

on the native economy was a move to cattle husbandry away from sheep/goat, to supply the Roman army (King 1999). The change from sheep to cattle ABCs in this phase may also be significant, reflecting such a change in emphasis. Pig and dog bones continued to be recorded in small numbers. The number of equid remains increased slightly, although half of these comprised loose teeth (Table 12).

The red deer in pit 140 (context 1252) was represented by a large, shed antler fragment. The burr, beam and brow tine were intact, but the bez (second tine) had been removed and the beam sawn through above this point.

The antler would have represented a valuable resource, and it may be of note that it was recovered from the top fill of the pit, along with a piece of broken quern, possibly representing a closure deposit before the final chalk backfill was deposited. While the antler was probably picked up after it had been naturally shed, the tibia fragment from Ditch 108 (see above) would most likely have come from a hunted animal. The presence of wild mammals is unusual on Iron Age sites, and may represent an occasional hunt, perhaps as a rite of passage or to mark a special event (Hambleton 2008, 37). The most unusual find was a fragment of crab

claw from the lowest fill of pit 140, and indicates contact with markets at the coast.

Cattle bones came from all parts of the carcass, suggesting that animals were killed and processed on site (Table 12), although there was an under-representation of metacarpals and phalanges, which may mean that the lower fore-legs were disposed of elsewhere. The mortality data for cattle was similar from tooth wear and bone fusion (Tables 15 and 16), indicating that cattle were culled both as juveniles and adults, consistent with a mixed economy where they were kept for meat as well as secondary products, including dairying and use as draft animals. A single pelvis fragment could be sexed, and probably came from a cow. There was little fusion data for sheep/goat, although the tooth wear implies that animals were culled as adults, although not elderly, as all were culled by Stage H (Table 15). Some younger animals were recorded that would have been of prime importance for meat, rather than wool or milk. The single pig mandible useful for ageing also came from this phase, which was from an animal also killed for meat. Occasional finds of perinatal bones of calf and lamb were also recovered, suggesting that they were bred in the vicinity of the site.

Period 4: Later Roman (AD 75–300)

The animal bone assemblage from later Roman contexts is too small for detailed analysis. Cattle continue to be the most common taxa recorded (Table 13 and 14), followed by sheep/goat, with a few bones of pig and equid also noted. Both cattle mandibles were from very old animals, at wear stage I, which may reflect the need in this period for increased arable production to supply food for urban and military populations. The only notable finds from this period were cattle and pig skulls from elongated pit 147, both from context 1750. There do not appear to be any other unusual finds from this context, other than large quantities of general waste, suggesting that the skulls may simply have been disposed of with everyday rubbish.

Summary

Although this is a small assemblage, an emphasis on cattle husbandry is evident in the later Iron

Age to Early Roman transition period. This may indicate the integration of those living at the site with the Roman economy, either providing more beef or increasing arable production to supply growing urban populations. The general husbandry observed indicates a self-sufficient site, where the bones most probably resulted from the consumption of animals that were bred, killed and processed on site.

Charred plant remains by Sarah F. Wyles

The charred plant remains, recovered from a total of 10 bulk soil samples, were selected for analysis from a range of features of Middle-Late Iron Age, Late Iron Age–Early Roman and Late Roman date.

The bulk samples were processed following standard flotation methods, using a 250µm sieve for the recovery of the flot, and a 1mm sieve for the collection of the residue. All identifiable charred plant remains were identified following the nomenclature of Stace (1997) for wild plants, and traditional nomenclature, as provided by Zohary *et al.* (2012), for cereals. The results are recorded in Table 17.

Period 2: Middle–Late Iron Age

The very large and moderate charred plant assemblages recovered respectively from fills 1222 and 1226, of pit 1221 of pit group 152, were dominated by cereal remains, with grains greatly outnumbering chaff elements. The cereal grains were mainly those of hulled wheat, emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*), with smaller numbers of barley (*Hordeum vulgare*). The weed seeds were dominated by the larger species, particularly those with seed heads, or twining species. These included seeds of vetch/wild pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.), possible celtic bean (*Vicia faba*), oats (*Avena* sp.), brome grass (*Bromus* sp.), knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*), clover/medick (*Trifolium/Medicago* sp.), bedstraw (*Galium* sp.) and scentless mayweed (*Tripleurospermum inodorum*). These assemblages are likely to represent debris from cleaned grain.

Pits 1588 and 1589, of pit group 151, produced a moderate quantity of charred remains. These assemblages were more mixed, with barley the

predominant cereal taxon. The weed seeds included those of curled dock (*Rumex crispus*), fat-hen (*Chenopodium album*), clover/medick and ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*). Other remains included false oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius* var. *bulbosum*) tuber fragments, buds, sloe/hawthorn (*Prunus spinosa*/*Crataegus monogyna*)-type thorn fragments and hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) stones. This assemblage may represent domestic hearth waste material.

The moderately small assemblage from pit 1632, part of pit group 156, was dominated by cereal remains, including those of hulled wheat and barley. Again, the grains outnumbered the chaff elements. The weed seeds included those of brome grass. This assemblage may represent material from cleaned grain.

Period 3: Late Iron Age–Early Roman

Fill 1251, of section 1278, of ditch 105, contained a moderate assemblage of plant remains, again dominated by cereal remains, including those of both hulled wheat and barley, with grains outnumbering chaff elements. Other remains included seeds of oats and brome grass, and hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell fragments.

A very large assemblage was recorded from fill 1312, together with significant remains from fill 1314, and a smaller amount from fill 1215 of pit 1311, part of pit 140. The assemblage from fill 1312 comprised almost equal numbers of grain fragments and seeds, while cereal remains outnumbered other remains in the other assemblages. In all three assemblages, grain fragments were significantly more numerous than the chaff elements. The cereal remains included those of spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*), and barley. A large quantity of brome grass seeds was recovered from fill 1312. Other weed seeds include those of fat-hen, black-bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*), and curled dock.

Spelt wheat is the dominant wheat species during the Roman period within this region (Greig 1991), and again the weed species are typical of grassland, field margins and arable environments. These assemblages are probably indicative of domestic waste material. The high number of brome grass seeds, (33% of the assemblage) from fill 1312, suggest

that these were deliberately left in the crop, possibly reflecting a poor harvest and the need to bulk-out the crop. The occurrence of large amounts of brome grass in association with cereal remains, as a possible indicator of 'famine food' (Jones 1988), has been observed in some Iron Age assemblages at Danebury (Campbell 2000). It appears unlikely that the brome grass seeds within this assemblage represented debris from fodder material. Those assemblages including a large amount of charred material derived from fodder/hay tend to contain higher numbers of small weeds and culm nodes than noted here.

Period 4: Later Roman

A high number of charred plant remains were recorded from fill 1750, of pit 1748 of pit 147. These were dominated by cereal grains, which greatly outnumbered the chaff elements. The cereals mainly comprised hulled wheat, with some identifiable as spelt wheat, and there were also smaller numbers of barley grains. Weed seeds included seeds of fat-hen, knotgrass, black-bindweed and brome-grass. Again, this assemblage is probably indicative of debris from cleaned grain.

Summary

Spelt wheat was the dominant wheat species during the Middle–Late Iron Age and Roman period in this region (Greig 1991), and has been recorded, together with barley, from other contemporary deposits within the surrounding area, including at Danebury (Jones & Nye 1991; Campbell 2000), Marnel Park, Popley (Wright *et al.* 2009), Danebury Road, Hatch Warren (Letts 2005), Brighton Hill South (Fasham *et al.* 1995) and Viabes Farm Basingstoke (Millett & Russell 1984).

The weed seed species are typical of grassland, field margins and arable environments. The majority of those present are those favouring drier calcareous soils, such as field madder, clover, medick, prickly poppy (*Papaver argemone*) and ribwort plantain. The presence of low-growing weed species, such as clover and medick, and twining species such as black bindweed, suggest a low harvesting-height by sickle (Hillman 1981). There is also an

indication of the exploitation and use of woodland edge and hedgerow environments.

Wood charcoal by Dana Challinor

Introduction

Charcoal was not well preserved, and the majority of the 50 samples taken for the recovery of charred plant remains were either sterile of charcoal, or produced unidentifiable flecks. Unfortunately, this included multiple cremation-related assemblages, in which the few potentially identifiable fragments were compromised by significant quantities of modern roots. Moderate to abundant charcoal assemblages were recovered from 12 samples from pits, ditches and a ring gully, dating to either the Mid–Late Iron Age (Period 2) or the Late Iron Age to Early Roman (Period 3). These were analysed to examine fuel use at the site during these phases, and are summarised in Table 18, below.

Methodology

Standard identification procedures were followed, using identification keys (Hather 2000, Schweingruber 1990), and modern reference material. Observations on maturity and other features were made, where appropriate. Classification and nomenclature follow Stace (1997).

Results

Charcoal preservation was generally poor, and the character of much material (small roundwood pieces) inhibited differentiation of species, and there was quite a high level of indeterminate fragments (10%). Seven taxa were positively identified:

FAGACEAE: *Quercus* sp., oak

BETULACEAE: *Corylus avellana*, hazel

ROSACEAE: *Prunus spinosa*, blackthorn

Large ray-width confirmed the identification of this species in some fragments, but not all of these appeared to have large rays, which may indicate the presence of another species. However, large rays are not always visible in small roundwood fragments, and

the additional presence of blackthorn-type thorns in some assemblages makes it likely that the majority, if not all, derived from *P. spinosa*.

ROSACEAE: Maloideae, hawthorn group (*Malus*, *Pyrus*, *Sorbus*, *Crataegus*),

The presence of hawthorn stones in at least two pits (Wyles, this report) suggests that this genus may be represented in the charcoal, though there could be more than one species present.

RHAMNACEAE: *Rhamnus cathartica*, purging buckthorn

OLEACEAE: *Fraxinus excelsior*, ash

CAPRIFOLIACEAE: *Sambucus nigra*, elder.

The vast majority of the charcoal derived from small roundwood, although the small fragment size meant that few pieces retained both pith and bark, and diameter measurements were rarely greater than 6mm. Age ranges were ≤ 12 years, frequently around 5–7 years. In multiple fragments, only 1–2 rings were preserved (with no pith or cambium), although strong ring curvature indicated that the material derived from small roundwood pieces. Tyloses were only observed in a few oak fragments in sample 639, but the comminuted character of the material in this sample inhibited determination of maturity.

Discussion

Period 2: Mid–Late Iron Age

All features examined from this phase were associated with Roundhouse 1, and contained debris from domestic settlement activities. There were no significant differences in the charcoal assemblages from the separate fills of pit 151. Ring gully 110 was cut into ditch 108, and the similarity of respective charcoal assemblages suggests that the later fill 1375 may have contained residual material from 1129, especially as the material was small and sparse.

Indeed, four of the five features examined produced very similar charcoal assemblages (Fig. 17); dominated by blackthorn and other hedgerow/scrub-type taxa, including hawthorn group, buckthorn and elder. All material was from small roundwood, consistent with the use of branches or coppiced stems used

Table 17 Charred plant identifications (continued on the opposite page)

Period	2 - M-LIA				3 - LIA-ERB			4 - LRB	
Feature type	Pit gp 152	Pit gp 151	Pit gp 140	Ditch gp	Pit gp 147				
Cut	1221	1588	1589	105	1278	1311		Pit gp 147	
Context	1222	1226	1642	1643	1251	1252	1312	1314	
Sample	601	602	640	641	639	607	610	609	
Vol (L)	18	17	17	18	13	17	12	19	
Flot size	50	60	30	25	70	40	80	80	
% Roots	10	5	15	15	15	40	5	5	
								10	
Cereals									
<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L. s.l (grain)	33	1	7	9	3	9	56	32	
<i>Triticum spelta</i> L. (grain)	-	-	-	-	-	4	84	25	
<i>Triticum spelta</i> L. (glume bases)	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	1	
<i>Triticum spelta</i> L. (spikelet fork)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
<i>Triticum dicoccum/spelta</i> (grain)	175	22	1	2	7	18	190	95	
<i>Triticum dicoccum/spelta</i> (spikelet fork)	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	
<i>Triticum dicoccum/spelta</i> (glume bases)	-	1	-	-	1	2	3	-	
<i>Triticum sp.</i> (grain)	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	
Cereal indet. (grains)	100	15	8	10	8	23	105	80	
Cereal frag. (est. whole grains)	60	5	4	3	5	10	60	45	
Cereal frags (culm node)	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	
Other Species									
<i>Ranunculus</i> sp.	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	
<i>Papaver argemone</i> L.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L. (fragments)	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	
<i>Chenopodium</i> sp. L.	2	2	3	6	-	1	2	16	
<i>Chenopodium album</i> L.	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	6	
<i>Atriplex</i> sp. L.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	
<i>Stellaria</i> sp. L.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
<i>Silene</i> sp. L.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> L.	2	3	1	-	-	2	7	4	
<i>Fallolopia convolvulus</i> (L.) Å. Löve	2	1	-	-	1	2	25	15	
<i>Rumex</i> sp. L.	1	2	3	2	-	-	10	7	
<i>Rumex crispus</i> L.	2	-	2	1	-	-	2	2	
curled dock	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Table 17 Charred plant identifications (continued from the opposite page)

<i>Prunus spinosa</i> L./ <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> Jacq (thorns/twigs)	sloe/hawthorn type thorns	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i> Jacq.	hawthorn	-	-	1	-	-	8	-	-	-	-
<i>Vicia</i> L./ <i>Lathyrus</i> sp. L.	vetch/wild pea	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1
<i>Vicia faba</i>	celtic bean	-	cf. 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Medicago/Trifolium</i> sp. L.	medick/clover	-	1	3	-	-	-	2	2	2	-
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i> L.	ribwort plantain	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	-
<i>Sterardia arvensis</i> L.	field madder	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Galium</i> sp. L.	bedstraw	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i> Lam.	oxeye daisy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-
<i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i> (L.) Sch. Bip.	scentless mayweed	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	3	3	-
<i>Lolium/Festuca</i> sp. L.	rye-grass/fescue	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-
<i>Poa/Phleum</i> sp. L.	meadow grass/cat's tails	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	-
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i> Var. <i>bulbosum</i> (Willd) (tuber frags)	false oat-grass (tuber frags)	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
<i>Avena</i> sp. L. (grain)	oat grain	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	10	3	-
<i>Avena</i> L./ <i>Bromus</i> L. sp.	oat/brome grass	3	4	1	-	4	2	100	35	2	2
<i>Bromus</i> sp. L.	brome grass	2	4	1	1	4	1	330	45	3	3
Monocot. Stem/rootlet frag	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	4	5	-	-
Bud	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuber/Rhizomes	-	-	-	6	4	-	-	-	-	-	8
Mineralised nodule	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 18 Charcoal identifications (showing fragment count)

Phase		2							3			
Group no.	108	110	141		151		156	105	108		140	
Feature	Ditch 1128	Ring gully 1374	Pit 1285		Pit 1588		Pit 1632	Ditch 1278	Ditch 1433		Pit 1311	
Context no.	1129	1375	1291	1589	1642	1643	1634	1251	1437	1252	1312	1314
Sample no.	600	613	604	634	640	641	639	603	625	607	610	609
<i>Quercus</i> sp. oak							28 (hr)	1	2		22 (hr)	10 (s)
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L. hazel					1r	6r	2r			1r		2r
<i>Alnus/Corylus</i> alder/hazel												1r
<i>Prunus spinosa</i> L. blackthorn	6r	3r	5r	12r	8r	7r			23r	4r		
<i>Prunus</i> sp. cherry type	18r	5r	17r	25r	16r	10r		8r	2r	13r		
Maloideae hawthorn group	1r	2r	4r	6 (r)		2r		3r		9r	1r	14r
<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i> L. buckthorn				1								
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> L. ash	2	5						4 (r)	1			
<i>Sambucus nigra</i> L. elder		6r										
Indeterminate diffuse	3r	9 (r)	4r	6r				14 (r)	2b	3r	2r	3r

r=roundwood; h=heartwood; s=sapwood; b=bark

for domestic fuel. It is also possible that the charcoal represents the burnt remains of hedgerow trimmings. Pit 156 contrasts with the other assemblages, as it was almost entirely dominated by oak. This suggests a different activity which required the specific selection of oak as fuel. However, the function of this pit is uncertain as, despite being located within the interior of Roundhouse 1, it did not contain the same evidence for domestic refuse. Some cereal remains were recovered from the same fill, 1634, as the charcoal assemblage, suggesting an origin in crop processing or food preparation. This pit, which was not directly dated, may represent a different phase of activity to the others.

Period 3: Late Iron Age/Early Roman

The samples from Ditches 105, 108 and pit 140 represent a later phase of activity, although the similarity of charcoal assemblages to those of earlier phases indicates continuity in fuel-gathering practices, and suggests that the phases were not very chronologically distinct.

Oak is more frequent in this set of samples; with an 80% ubiquity value compared to 14% in the earlier set, but the fragment count is only 25%. More significantly, there is still a strong component of blackthorn and hawthorn types (combined fragment count of >60%) and the character of the charcoal (small roundwood) remains comparable to the earlier assemblages. Pit 140 was another complex storage feature, with layers of dumped settlement waste, including crop processing debris. There are some differences in the assemblages from discrete fills, with the basal fill, 1312, dominated by oak. It was suggested that this basal fill might represent intentional burning in the storage pit for sterilisation purposes, whereas the other fills represented dumps of settlement waste. Certainly, there is a greater element of scrub/hedgerow type charcoal in the other fills.

Conclusion

Domestic fuel use at the site was characterised by the utilisation of scrub/hedgerow-type resources, with significant components

of blackthorn and hawthorn, and minor components of other scrubby taxa, such as elder and buckthorn. Deciduous woodland types, oak and hazel, are less well represented, and could have come from further afield, or from local boundary markers/small stands in fields. This is consistent with the mollusc assemblage, which includes both open-country and shade-loving species, which would have thrived in hedgerow/woodland margins (Wyles, this report). A notable characteristic of the charcoal assemblage as a whole is its homogeneity – with consistent patterns of usage evident throughout the phases represented. It is possible that much of the charcoal, spread throughout features of the same phase, might have derived from hedgerow clearance/trimming. Certainly, there is less evidence for the use of oak woodland than commonly found in Iron Age domestic fuel waste in the region (e.g. Danebury Hillfort, Poole 1984; Dowd's Farm, Pelling 2012).

DISCUSSION

The site north of Winchester Road produced a wide range of archaeological evidence relating to domestic occupation, material culture, enclosure, burial practices and patterns of belief from the later Middle Iron Age to the Early Saxon periods. This encompasses periods of rapid social and cultural change, particularly growing social complexity and the adoption of Romanised cultural traits during the decades surrounding the conquest of AD 43 (Hill 2007, 16–18). This site represents a significant addition to the growing record of Iron Age and Roman archaeology in the Basingstoke area, which appears to indicate rapid aggregation of settlement around the headwaters of the River Loddon from the late Middle Iron Age period onwards (Massey 2006).

The relative proximity and parallel patterns of development of neighbouring settlements suggest the local formation of a kinship or lineage group (Fox 1976, 101–2; Roymans 1990, 18–19, 24). An earlier Iron Age curvilinear enclosure immediately to the south of Winchester Road (Site A, Chapman 2006), appeared to be superseded by a Late Iron Age 'banjo' enclosure complex some

200m to the south-east (Gingell & Trott 1995, 61, fig 33, 'Complex B'), with a further 'banjo' enclosure at Kennel Farm, 800m to the south-east (Thorne & Holmes 2002). Site A included features pre-dating the enclosure ditch, with a pottery date-range extending possibly as early as the 5th century BC, with a final date of abandonment of *c.* 100 BC (Chapman 2006, 24). As at Winchester Road, most finds were associated with the fills of storage pits, and included a range of Middle Iron Age shouldered jars and 'saucepan pot' types closely comparable with those from this site and neighbouring Brighton Hill South (Rees 1995, 35). Evidence of structured deposition at Site A was extensive, with pit fills including clay loom weights, daub, and domestic animal bone, including partial carcasses of dogs and sheep.

The Kennel Farm enclosure complex (Thorne & Holmes 2002) was established *c.* 700–500 BC, as a small domestic enclosure, which in *c.* 300 BC was replaced by an oval ditch enclosing post-built structures and abundant storage pits. Following a hiatus, suggested by silting, this was succeeded by a rectilinear Late Iron Age enclosure, subsequently remodelled in the Late Iron Age/Early Roman period, in a distinctly 'banjo' enclosure form. By *c.* AD 100, this enclosure had been abandoned, and elements of a field system extended across the site (Thorne & Holmes 2002, 13). Sites B/C and K at Brighton Hill South (Fasham and Keevil 1995, 19–32), located respectively 1.2km south and south-east of the current site, exhibited comparable phasing, from the Early/Middle Iron Age (i.e. 5th – 2nd/3rd centuries BC) extending to the Early Roman period. Notable Late Iron Age/Early Roman sub-phases at Site B/C, involving a radical re-organisation of site layout, are directly comparable, and contemporary, with Period 3 of the current site.

An apparent shift in settlement focus in the later Roman period at Winchester Road suggests that a hiatus in occupation between Periods 3 and 4 is likely (see Smith *et al.* 2016, 83–4). Abandonment of the Period 3 settlement would conform to a recognised regional pattern of widespread structural change in the post-Conquest countryside, involving the demise of a high percentage of 'rural' settlements (Allen

2016, 84–6). Amongst earlier commentators, Applebaum (1953, 123–4) noted:

“...the evidence for abandonment of significant numbers of rural settlements in the Basingstoke area, and the increase in *de novo* settlements from the Flavian period onwards, in response to new road networks and market centres”.

The evidence here suggests that, despite evidence of later first-century discontinuity, settlement activity persisted on or around the site until at least the third century. Period 4 features, rather than “transitional” Period 3 elements, may therefore mark the inception of authentically Roman cultural patterns. An apparent re-establishment of settlement in this case may simply reflect an advantageous location, close to a major Roman road (Smith *et al.* 2016, 115–117).

The pottery

The pottery assemblage correlates well with contemporary assemblages from the rich record of the Basingstoke area and beyond (i.e. Seager Smith 2009; Timby 2000; Chapman & Hylton 2006 *inter alia*), and is illustrative of developing patterns of exchange, distribution and acculturation during the later Iron Age and beyond (see Freeman 1993; Hodder 1972). The pottery for the most part relates to earlier Iron Age traditions, and is thus closely comparable with groups from Brighton Hill South (Rees 1995) and Merton Rise, Popley (Seager Smith 2009). In the wider context, reference can be made to the very large contemporary assemblage from the emerging pre-Conquest and Early Roman centre at Silchester, probably the source of pre and post-Conquest finewares/amphorae, and very possibly a proportion of the coarseware types.

Aspects of the pottery assemblage are illustrative of social identity and levels of acculturation within the pre-Conquest and Early Roman settlement landscape (Taylor 2001, 48–54; Willis 1996). While vessel forms suggest a relatively low-status indigenous settlement (Smith *et al.* 2016, 121–4; Evans 2001, 26–35), the presence of imported finewares and amphora at least indicate some access to

markets and development of Roman tastes. The flint-tempered fabrics Fl and Flf, correspond closely to the Silchester ware (Timby 2000, 239–243), which was widely distributed within its economic hinterland.

A small component of the pottery assemblage recalls earlier Middle Iron Age traditions, and invites speculation regarding an earlier phase of Iron Age activity pre-dating Period 2, which is not otherwise represented by investigated features. This material appears to be largely residual within Period 2/3 contexts, although the apparent paucity of features of exclusively Middle Iron Age date is problematic. While it is possible that at least some of this material represents an earlier focus of occupation located beyond Area 1, the anomalous locations of some undated features, including four-post structure 123, strongly suggest an earlier, possibly unenclosed, phase of occupation pre-dating the Period 2/3 enclosure ditches. It is also possible that further material of earlier Iron Age date is represented within the abundant flint-tempered types which comprise a predominant component of the assemblage. The Silchester evidence (Timby 2000, 251–3) suggests that at least some of this material simply represents continuity into Period 3, albeit at a probably domestic level of production (cf. Peacock 1981), of earlier indigenous traditions.

Structured deposition

Pit 151 was situated centrally within the interior of ring-gully 107 (Roundhouse 1) of Middle–Late Iron Age date. No stratigraphic relationship existed between these two features, although pottery evidence suggested broad contemporaneity. The pit contained a complex sequence of deposits, including two primary, and eight tertiary, fills. These variously contained charcoal, fragments of structural daub, burnt clay fragments, animal bone and pottery. The nature of this sequence, and the range of deposited materials, conforms closely to the definitions of late prehistoric structured depositional practice observed by Hill (1995, 39–40). It is therefore possible to speculate on the

relationship of pit 151 with the roundhouse, and with specific events in the life of the building. Further context is provided by pit 1330, situated close to the northern terminus of L-shaped ditch 108, and just outside the entrance of Roundhouse 1. This pit contained a complete pottery vessel (Ra. 513), which had evidently been deliberately placed on its side (Fig. 12.14). This vessel is of unusual character, and had apparently been deliberately placed, in complete condition, as a 'special' deposit. In observing the placing of such deposits in relation to late prehistoric houses, Hill considered them to be frequently episodic in nature (*ibid.*, 88–9; 100–1). Furthermore, Lambrick and Robinson (2009, 286) and Sharples (2010, 222–4) consider that such deposits mark important episodes of change, often relating to acts of closure and decommissioning. The presence of specific deposits of charcoal and wattle-impressed daub within pit 151 may commemorate the deliberate destruction, possibly by fire, of the roundhouse. The pottery from pit 151 may not in itself be indicative of ritual activity, although large conjoinable sherds characterised much of this assemblage, and some commentators (Lambrick 1984, Bradley *et al.* 1980) have argued against any correlation between sherd size and ritualistic behaviour per se.

Roundhouses 1 and 2

Roundhouse 1 was principally defined by continuous, circular gully 107, whose depth suggested construction involving an earth-fast outer wall of planks or posts (Davies 2018, 290; Harding 2009, 73–5). In other excavated examples of this building type, the outer wall is generally in association with internal post settings for load-bearing timbers, and while most undated postholes within Roundhouse 1 probably fulfilled this function, their general configuration has been obscured by tree-throw hollows and later pits. However, two substantial, but undated, postholes on the east side of the interior of Roundhouse 1 (Fig. 5) are each situated 2m to the west of the respective

terminals of gully 107, and appear to define the roundhouse entrance.

Roundhouse 2 remains a more conjectural feature, apparently represented by a discrete concentration of postholes within an area bounded by L-shaped ditch 108. The presence of an insubstantial stake-built structure in this part of the site might fit the evidence for a brief Period 3 phase of reorganisation, following the demolition of Roundhouse 1 and the digging of Ditch 108. As envisaged, Roundhouse 2 is of notably smaller plan, and with limited surviving evidence of earth-fast supporting timbers. Harding (2009, 68) has observed that simple stake-wall structures of this type in Wessex seldom attain the same proportions as those of more traditional construction, and that it is by no means certain that all such examples were roofed; the small size of Roundhouse 2 might suggest a livestock pen (*ibid.* 70). The better-preserved examples of this type, particularly those recorded behind the hillfort rampart at Danebury (Cunliffe & Poole 1991, Fig. 4.9; Cunliffe 2005, 271–3), display substantial post settings only at the entrance, which in the case of Roundhouse 2 appear, as might be expected, to be on the south-east side.

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