Archaeological excavation at Dale Hall Farm, Lawford, Essex, CO11 2LA

January and February 2015

by Dr Pip Parmenter
with contributions from Steven Benfield, Julie Curl, Val Fryer and Adam Wightman
fieldwork by Nigel Rayner and CAT staff

commissioned by Alan Moore on behalf of Rose Builders

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Colchester Archaeological Trust
Roman Circus House,
Roman Circus Walk,
Colchester,
Essex, CO2 7GZ

tel.: 01206 501785
email: pp@catuk.org

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1 Summary

Archaeological excavations were carried out at Dale Hall Farm, Lawford, Essex. The excavations were conducted in three separate areas of a large development site; Areas A and C revealed an agricultural landscape dating from the Late Iron Age to the mid- late Roman period. This landscape largely comprised Late Iron Age/early Roman field boundaries, trackways and enclosures, many of which appear to have been maintained, extended or re-dug over a period of time. Some evidence for structural activity was also present, and may have been related to this agricultural activity. Excavation of Area A also revealed a late 3rd-4th century Roman kiln and associated kiln debris. Activity in Area B comprised an early/middle Roman enclosure ditch that encircled what seemed to be a small cemetery containing eight cremations and at least one inhumation.

2 Introduction (Figs 3 and 4)

This report presents the results of archaeological excavation at Dale Hall Farm, Lawford, Essex, which was carried out in January and February 2015. The work was commissioned by Rose Builders in advance of the construction of 150 new houses and the erection of approximately 700m^2 of B1 use buildings on 0.2ha of land, and 2.6ha of Community Open Space including a children's playground. The work was undertaken by Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT).

Historic Environment Officer, Adrian Gascoyne, advised that the proposed site lay in an area of known archaeological potential, and that, in order to establish the archaeological implications of this application, the applicant should be required to commission a scheme of archaeological investigation in accordance with paragraphs 128, 129 and 132 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012).

All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for Archaeological Excavation* detailing the required archaeological work written by Adrian Gascoyne (Essex County Council Place Services (ECCPS 2014)), and a written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by CAT in response to brief and agreed with ECCPS (CAT 2014).

In addition to the brief and WSI, all fieldwork and reporting was done in accordance with English Heritage's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (*MoRPHE*) (English Heritage 2006), and with *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA **14** and **24**). This report mirrors standards and practices contained in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2014b).

3 Archaeological background

The proposed development site was within an area of known archaeological potential. Crop marks of a ring-ditch and field boundaries on the site indicated the presence of potential significant archaeological remains, and an evaluation preceding the excavations presented in this report (CAT Report 783) confirmed the presence of these features.

4 Results (Figs 1 – 22)

The excavations took place in three different areas of the proposed development site (Fig 2). Area A was *c* 50m x 60m, Area B was *c* 80m x 30m, and Area C was *c* 30m x 45m. Three layers; a topsoil/ploughsoil, subsoil and natural geological horizon were present across the site, though the subsoil was only encountered intermittently and was very shallow where present. Feature numbers across the three areas are prefixed by the area letter; for example AFXX, BFXX and CFXX.

It is thought that much of the archaeological activity belonged to three chronological phases.

Phase	Date
Phase 1	early Roman (late 1st-early 2nd C AD)
Phase 2	early/mid Roman (2nd C AD)
Phase 3	late Roman (*c* 4th Century AD)

Table 1. Chronological Phases.

A relatively small number of features cannot be related to these closely dated features but clearly pre- or post-date the recognised phases. Ninety-eight features remain undated.

4.1 **Area A** (Figs 1,2, 5, 8a-c, 11 and 12)

Photograph 1. Working shot of Area A.

Within this area was a network of field ditches and trackways that seemed to represent at least two different phases of the same type of rural/agricultural activity occurring in the area during the early-middle Roman period. Also in this area were a structure associated with the main field enclosure and a post-built structure located centrally within the main enclosure. These were almost certainly contemporary with the field ditches and trackways. A 3rd-4th century Roman kiln cut the field system and clearly belonged to a much later phase of activity at the site. The phasing of Area A is difficult due to the relatively small number of finds recovered from the features present. Despite this it is possible to discern at least a relative chronology based on the stratigraphy of the ditches.

4.1.1 Pre-Phase 1: miscellaneous features (Fig 8c)
One pit, AF132, contained 30 sherds of Late Bronze Age pottery. This is the only feature from which prehistoric pottery is thought to have been *in situ*. It was located in the south-east corner of the site, just to the south of phase 1 ditch AF114.

Three ditches, AF130, AF134 and AF165, appeared to pre-date the first phase of field system in Area A. AF130 was a short section of ditch aligned roughly east/west and was cut by phase 1 ditch AF114 to the east and 'pre-Phase 2' ditch AF92 to the west. AF134 was a ditch terminus that also appeared to have been cut by phase 1 ditch AF114. It was *c* 5m long and was aligned north-west/south-east. AF165 was also a ditch terminus, but was aligned south-west/north-east. It was cut to the north by Phase 1 ditch AF56. None of these features contained any finds.

4.1.2 Phase 1 (early Roman): field system, stock enclosure and stock control structure (Fig 1, 2, 5, 8a, 11)

Table 2, below, lists and details the features associated with the Phase 1 field system and stock control structure (which was an integrated part of the field-system). A complete list of all features, including the thirty stake-holes making up a stock enclosure (AF157), can be found in Appendix 1. This table and the following discussion should be read in conjunction with Figs 5 and 8a-c.

Feature No.	Description	Relationships	Finds
AF7/AF128	Ditch. Aligned E-W.	AF7/AF128 are the same ditch. Parallel to and *c* 8m north of AF114. Intersected with contemporary ditch AF115. Cut by later ditches AF16, AF88 and AF98.	2 sherds M-L1C pottery (14g), 1 piece flint (2g)
AF22/34	Ditch. Aligned N-S.	Southern terminus adjoined contemporary ditch AF74 and ditch is adjoined by contemporary ditch AF35. Cut by later ditch AF16.	-
AF35	Ditch. Aligned E-W.	Western terminus appeared to adjoin contemporary ditch AF34. Eastern terminus formed part of entrance to 'Structure 1' and was overlain by large pit AF39. Extending north from the terminus and this pit was another contemporary gully AF36.	1 sherd 'Roman' pottery (26g), Quernstone (SF15 – 170g)
AF36	Gully. Aligned N-S. Part of structure 1.	Southern terminus appeared to intersect with contemporary ditch AF35, though relationship was obscured by large pit AF39. Cut by/associated with postholes AF37, AF38, AF40, AF45 and AF46.	-
AF37	Posthole. Part of structure 1.	Situated within gully AF36.	-
AF38	Posthole. Part of structure 1.	Situated within gully AF36.	-
AF39	Posthole. Part of structure 1.	Situated within gully AF36.	-
AF39A	Pit. Part of structure 1.	Situated at junction between ditch AF34 and gully AF35.	-
AF40	Posthole. Part of structure 1.	Situated within gully AF36.	-
AF45	Posthole. Part of structure 1.	Situated within gully AF36.	-
AF46	Posthole. Part of structure 1.	Situated within gully AF36.	-
AF53	Posthole. Part of structure 1.	Located between the northern termini of gullies AF36 and AF66.	-
AF54	Posthole. Part of structure 1.	Located between the northern termini of gullies AF36 and AF66.	-
AF55	Posthole. Part of structure 1.	Located between the northern termini of gullies AF36 and AF66.	-
AF56	Ditch. Aligned E-W.	Parallel with and *c* 6m to the north of ditch AF74. Continues east as contemporary recut AF58. Cuts apparently earlier ditch AF165. Stake-hole AF60 located in section 2.	1 sherd 'Roman' pottery (2g)
AF58	Ditch. Aligned E-W.	Contemporary recut of AF56. Section 2 cut by undated pit AF59.	-
AF66	Gully. Aligned N-S. Part of structure 1.	Parallel and contemporary with gully AF36. Northern terminus cut by posthole AF68. Southern terminus cut by posthole AF67.	1 piece CBM (272g)
AF67	Posthole. Part of structure 1.	Situated in northern terminus of gully AF66.	-
AF68	Posthole. Part of structure 1.	Situated in southern terminus of gully AF66	-
AF74	Ditch. Aligned E-W.	Parallel with, and *c* 3m to the north of contemporary ditch AF7/AF128. A possible earlier cut of this ditch (AF93) was visible at its eastern end. Adjoined to west by contemporary ditch AF34. Cut by later ditches AF16, AF88, AF85, AF92. Overlain by late Roman kiln at western end.	9 sherds 'Roman' pottery (79g).

Feature No.	Description	Relationships	Finds
AF93	Ditch. Aligned E-W. Curved up to AF74.	Possible early cut of AF74?	-
AF114	Ditch. Aligned E-W. Narrow at W, broadening to the E.	Parallel to and *c* 8m south of AF7/AF128. Intersected with contemporary ditch AF115. Cut by later ditches AF16, AF92, AF98 and AF138.	-
AF115	Ditch. Aligned N-S.	Intersected at right angles with contemporary ditches AF7/AF128 and AF114. Cut by later ditch AF98.	-
AF249	Ditch. Aligned N-S.	Short length of ditch extending from northern boundary of Area A.	1 sherd 'Roman' pottery (6g)
AF250	Ditch. Aligned N-S.	Short length of ditch extending from northern boundary of Area A.	

Table 2. Phase 1 field system (Area A).

4.1.2.1 Field System

Twelve long narrow ditches, two gullies and thirteen pits and postholes formed part of a field-system comprising at least one enclosure and a number of parallel trackways in the centre of Area A (Fig 8a). All the ditches were aligned north to south or east to west. The southernmost of these ditches were AF7/AF128, AF114 and AF115. These ditches were not directly stratigraphically linked to the nine ditches in the northern part of Area A but their alignments and the similarity in the profile and dimensions of the ditches make it likely that they were part of the same field-system. Two of these ditches, AF7/AF128 and AF114, may have formed a droveway or trackway used for the control of stock moving in and around the surrounding enclosures. A further droveway was located just to the north, formed by ditches AF74 and AF35/56/58. This droveway appeared to feed into a stock control structure (Fig 1). From here it is possible animals were herded into the large main enclosure to the north, enclosed by ditches AF22/34 to the east and AF56/58 to the south. Alongside ditch AF22/34, and following the same north-south alignment, were three postholes (AF24, AF25 and AF26). Posthole AF26 contained a single sherd of mid-late 1st to early-mid 2nd-century pottery. These postholes may have been contemporary with and related to ditch AF22, though their purpose remains unclear. The two northernmost ditches associated with the phase 1 field system were AF249 and AF250. These have been included in this phase of activity based on their similarity in alignment and dimensions with the ditches described above. Ditches AF249 and AF250 extended into the 'main enclosure' from the northern boundary of Area A.

Very few finds were recovered from any of the features attributed to this first phase of activity. Ditches AF34, AF56, AF74 and AF249 all contained very sparse amounts of non-descript Roman pottery that was not closely datable. AF35 also contained a small fragment of lava quern, which again could not be closely dated.

4.1.2.2: Stock Control Structure (Figs 1, 5, 8a, 11)

Structure 1 appeared to be an integrated part of the field system described above. It was located in the south-west corner of the main enclosure (formed by ditches AF22/34 and AF35/56/58). It was represented by two gullies (AF36 and AF66) and thirteen flat/concave based postholes (AF37, AF38, AF39A, AF39, AF40, AF45, AF46, AF53, AF54, AF55, AF67, AF68, and AF69). There was a small entrance in the south-west corner of the structure (AF36). The western gully extended north from pit AF39A and the terminus of ditch AF35. It was c 10m in length, and contained postholes AF37, AF38 AF39, AF40, AF45 and AF46. The eastern gully was parallel to and c 8m to the east of gully AF36. It had posthole AF67 in its southern terminus and AF68 in its northern terminus. Between the two gullies were four further pits and postholes, roughly aligned east-west. Postholes AF42 and AF50 may also been part of this alignment of postholes, though they were on the outside of the two gullies and their structural purpose is not immediately clear. The same can be said of posthole AF57, which was located centrally within the structure.

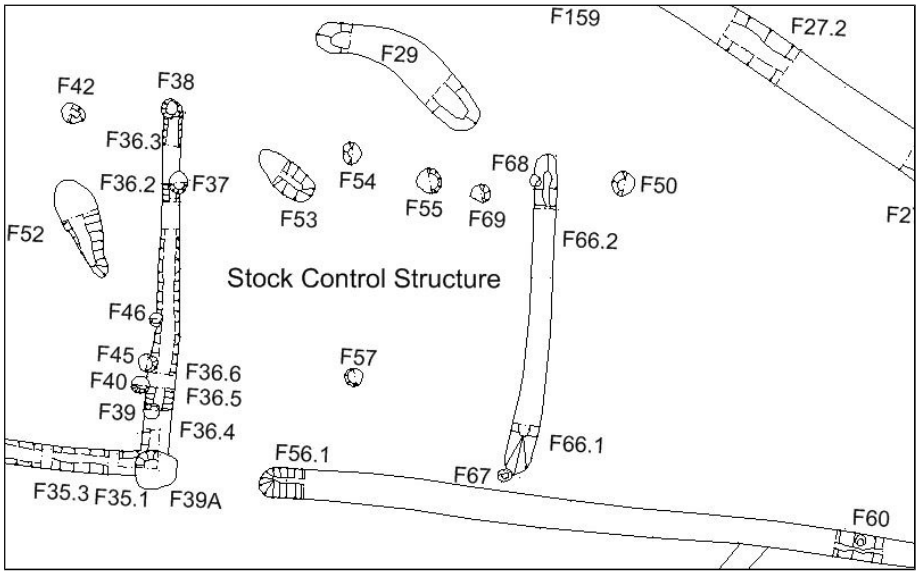


Figure 1. Stock control structure.

4.1.2.3: Stock Enclosure (Fig 2)

Structure 2 was located in the central part of the main phase 1 enclosure. It was a stake-built structure, constructed of thirty small stake-holes with V-shaped profiles. Thirteen of these (AF139 – AF144, AF152 – AF156 and AF160 and AF161) were aligned east-west in two parallel rows and appeared to form some sort of entrance way/porch into the small circular structure comprising stake-holes AF102 – AF111 and AF145 – AF151. The alignment of the 'entrance way' mirrored the alignment of the field ditches thought to be roughly contemporary. Only undatable burnt clay was recovered from any of the stake-holes in this structure. The proximity of this entrance of this structure to large later ditches suggests that Structure 1 precedes this later activity.

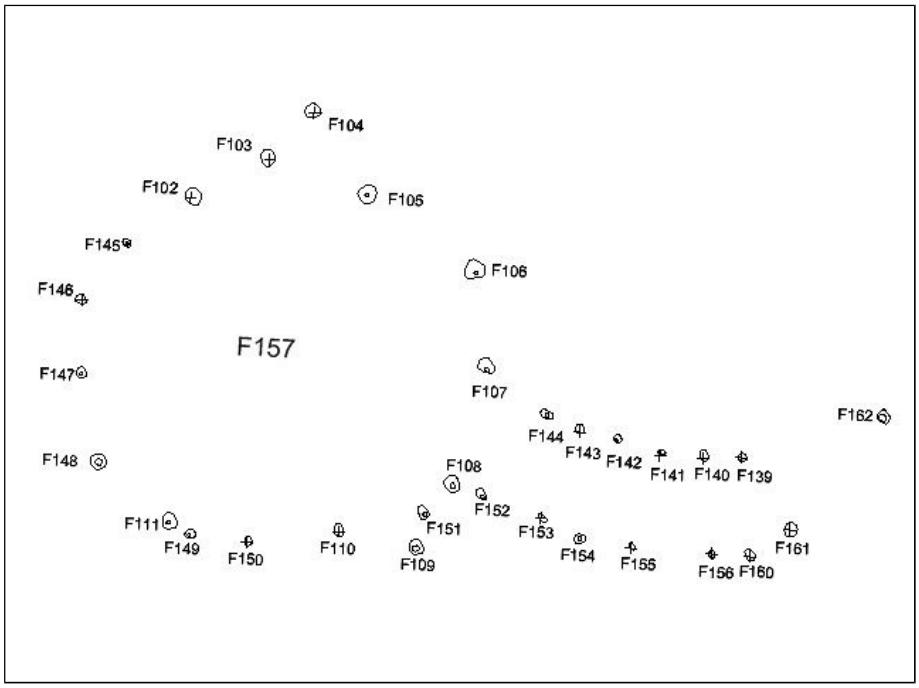


Figure 2. Stock enclosure (F157)

Photograph 2. Posthole AF38 and gully AF36 of stock control structure.

Photograph 3. Stake-hole entrance to stock enclosure.

4.1.3 Pre-Phase 2: miscellaneous features (Figs 8c)
Four features appear to precede Phase 2 activity on the site, but cannot be dated more accurately than this due to the absence of any reliably-datable finds. Ditch AF92 was narrow and roughly aligned south-west/north-east. It cut Phase 1 ditches AF7/AF128, AF74, AF93 and AF114, but was cut by phase 2 ditch AF88. The three other 'pre-phase 2' ditches were all ditch termini and were less than c 4m long. AF18 was cut by phase 2 ditch AF19, AF28 by phase 2 ditch AF27 and AF112 by phase 2 ditches AF101 and AF98.

4.1.4 Phase 2 (early/mid Roman – 2nd C AD): field system (Fig 8b, 11, 12)
The below table lists and details the features associated with the phase 2 field-system. A complete list of all features can be found in Appendix 1. This table and the following description should be read in conjunction with figs 5 and 8b.

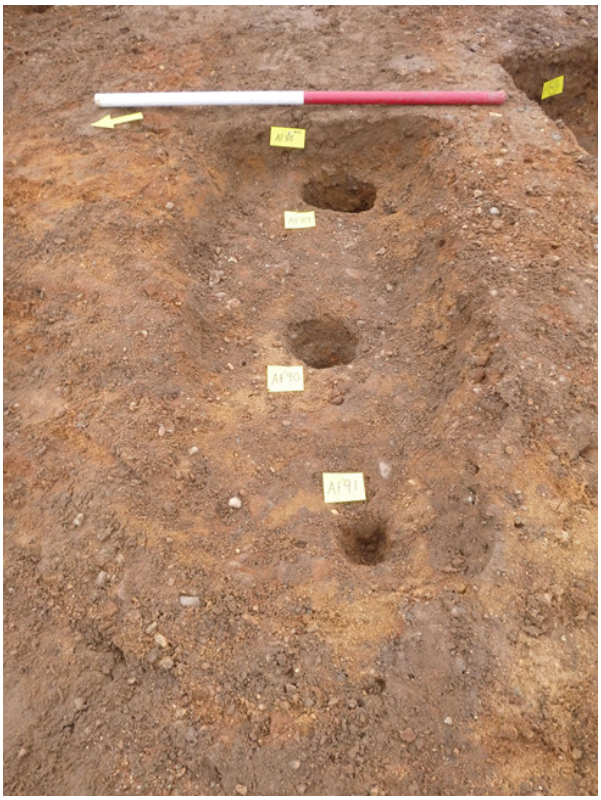
Feature No.	Description	Relationships	Finds
AF1	Ditch. Aligned WNW-ESE.	Parallel to much larger contemporary ditch AF101.	-
AF16	Ditch. Aligned ENE-WSW.	Cut earlier ditches AF114, AF7/AF128, AF74, AF22/34. Adjoined by contemporary ditch AF27.	2 pieces Septaria (14g) 24 sherds M1-2C pottery (202g) 2 pieces CBM (258g) Quern Stone (SF19 – 471g)
AF19	Ditch. Aligned NNE – SSW.	Cuts earlier ditch AF18, cut by contemporary ditch AF64 and later pit AF20. Appeared to adjoin contemporary ditch AF27.	4 pieces ?1 – 2C pottery (52g) 3 pieces flint (20g)
AF27	Ditch. Aligned WNW-ESE.	Adjoined contemporary ditches AF16, AF19 and AF64. Cut earlier ditch AF28.	60 sherds M1–2C pottery (2338g) 12 sherds 2-3/4C pottery (369g)
AF43	Ditch. Aligned NE – SW before turning to an almost N – S alignment.	Cut by later ditch AF51. Likely adjoined by contemporary ditch AF61, though relationship obscured. Adjoins contemporary ditch AF44 to the north.	9 sherds M1 – E2C pottery (98g) 1 piece Septaria (28g)
AF44	Ditch. Aligned N-S before turning through 90° for short stretch.	Extended from south from AF65. Adjoined by AF43 to the south.	1 sherd 'Roman' pottery (23g)
AF61	Ditch. Aligned NW – SE.	Likely adjoined contemporary ditch AF43, though relationship obscured by later ditch AF51.	10 sherds M1 – E2C pottery (175g)
AF63	Ditch. Aligned NNE – SSW.	Extended from contemporary ditch AF65. Exact relationship unclear.	4 sherds M2 – 3/4C pottery (33g) 1 Nail (19g) 1 piece CBM (252g)
AF64	Ditch. Aligned WSW – ENE.	Adjoined contemporary ditch AF27. Cut contemporary ditch AF19.	2 sherds Neo/EBA pottery (6g) 5 sherds LIA/ERom pottery (102g) 951 sherds M1 – 2C pottery (14668g) 46 sherds 'Roman' pottery (929g) 48 pieces Septaria (1897g) 1 piece stone (1312g) 2 pieces fired clay (47g) 10 pieces CBM (435g) Flint Ae Coin (SF1) 5 Quern Stones (SFs 16, 20, 23, 24, 25)
AF65	?Ditch. Aligned E-W.	Only southern edge visible as rest obscured by northern boundary. Adjoined by ditches AF44 and AF63.	2 sherds M1 – 2C pottery (125g) 10 sherds M2 – 3/4C pottery (57g)
AF85	Ditch. Aligned WNW-ESE before turning onto NE – SW alignment.	Cuts earlier ditch AF74. Possible relationship to AF88 immediately to the south.	1 sherd 'Roman' pottery (154g) Quernstone (SF7)

Feature No.	Description	Relationships	Finds
AF86	Posthole.	Situated in terminus of ditch AF85.	-
AF87	Posthole.	Situated in terminus of ditch AF85.	3 sherds 'Roman' pottery (27g)
AF88	Ditch. Aligned WNW-ESE.	Cuts earlier ditches AF7/AF128, AF74, AF92. Adjoins large contemporary boundary ditch AF138.	1 sherd 'Roman' pottery (6g)
AF89	Posthole.	Situated in terminus of ditch AF88.	-
AF90	Posthole.	Situated in terminus of ditch AF88.	-
AF91	Posthole.	Situated in terminus of ditch AF88.	-
AF98	Ditch. Aligned W-E. Turns through almost 90º onto NNE-SSW alignment.	Cut earlier ditches AF7/AF128, AF114 and AF115. Unclear relationship with AF112.	-
AF101	Ditch. Aligned WNW-ESE.	Parallel with much smaller contemporary ditch AF1. Cut earlier ditch AF112 and contemporary ditch AF98. Possibly reappeared in south-east corner of Area A as AF138.	1 sherd LIA/ERom pot (14g) 3 sherds M – L1C pot (15g) 12 sherds 'Roman' pot (655g) 1 sherd L3-4C pot (55g) Ceramic counters (SF17 & 18)
AF138	Ditch. Aligned NE – SW.	Cut earlier ditch AF114. Adjoined by contemporary ditch AF88.	19 sherds M1 – E2C pottery (143g) 1 piece burnt stone (10g)

Table 3. Phase 2 field system (Area A).

The second phase of activity on site comprised part of a field-system consisting of a series of large ditches. Most ditches were considerably larger than those identified as belonging to the earlier phase of field-system on the site, and were aligned slightly differently, though still largely on north-south and east-west axes (see Fig 8b). This phase is tentatively dated based on a *terminus ante quem* of the mid/late 2nd C AD, for the deposition of a group of pots in ditch AF27.

Ditches AF1 and AF101 were located in the far south-western corner of Area A. They appeared to be roughly parallel. Ditch AF101 was considerably larger than ditch AF1 and was the more northerly of the two. AF101 contained relatively sparse amounts of Roman pottery, much of which was not closely dateable, but a few sherds suggested a mid-late 1st century date. It also contained 15 sherds of a much later pot, possibly a product of the 3rd-4th century kiln excavated *c* 15m to the north. This pot was recovered from the upper fill of the ditch and was almost certainly residual. Halfway along AF101 it cut much slighter ditch AF98. AF98 was aligned east-west for *c* 5m before it turned through just over 90°. It seems likely that ditch AF101 continued *c* 20m to the south-east and turned through 90° to become ditch AF138. Ditch AF138 contained some isolated sherds of mid 1st-early 2nd century pottery and the rim and base of a pot of similar date. These two ditches were the largest on the site and may have formed some kind of external field boundary.



Photograph 4. Postholes AF89, AF90 and AF91 in terminus of ditch AF88.

Ditch AF138 cut ditch AF88 near where it crossed the eastern boundary of Area A. In the western terminus of ditch AF88 were three very small postholes, AF89, AF90 and AF91. Parallel to ditch AF88 for *c* 6m and only *c* 50cm away from it, was ditch AF85. As seen in the terminus of AF88, two small postholes (AF86 and AF87) were present in the western terminus of AF85 which, again contained no finds. It is plausible that some kind of structure, such as a fenced gateway, existed between these two features.

Ditch AF85 appears to have formed an entrance-way of some kind with ditch AF43 which carried on along the same alignment, *c* 5m to the north of the terminus of ditch AF85. Ditch AF43 was one of a group of five ditches (AF43, AF44, AF61, AF63 and AF65) which were intercutting and between which the relationships were not completely clear. Only the southern extent of ditch AF65 was visible as it ran along the northern boundary of Area A. Roman pottery dating from the mid 1st to early 2nd century was present in all of these ditches, and a few sherds of mid 2nd to 3rd-4th century material was also found in ditches AF63 and AF65.

Four other ditches (AF16, AF19, AF27, AF64) were associated with this phase of the field system. Ditch AF64 appeared to adjoin ditch AF27 but cut ditch AF19. The just off east-west orientation was slightly at odds with the other ditches in this phase of field system, but it does appear to have been more or less contemporary. Ditch AF64 was visible for *c* 20m, and terminated to the east. It contained an exceptionally large amount of pottery (73% by sherd count and 66% by weight of the Roman assemblage (excluding the kiln assemblage)), the vast majority of which dates to the early Roman period (mid 1st-early 2nd century). Almost all of the pottery from ditch AF64 was recovered from the terminus of the ditch.

Photograph 5. Section through ditch AF19 and pit AF20.

4.1.5 Post-Phase 2: miscellaneous undatable features (Fig 8c)
A pit (AF20) and three ditches (AF48, AF51 and AF62) were thought to post-date phase 2 activity, but cannot be closely dated due to the absence of finds or significant stratigraphic relationships. Pit AF20 cut Phase 2 ditch AF19 in the northern central part of the site. Ditches AF48, AF51 and AF62 possibly formed a single interrupted ditch in the north-eastern part of the site. AF51 was cut Phase 2 ditches AF43 and AF61, and the other two ditches are thought to be contemporary based on their alignment and dimensions.

4.1.6 Phase 3 (late Roman - 3rd/4th century): the kiln (Fig 8c)

Photograph 6. The kiln before excavation (AF73).

A Roman pottery kiln (AF73 – Figs 5 and 8c) was located on the central-west part of Area A. The kiln itself was oval in shape and 1.2m x 0.7m. Directly to the east of the kiln was a rake out pit (AF100) within which were three postholes (AF116, AF117 and AF118), which possibly represent a structure around the mouth of the kiln or over the rake out pit. A significant quantity of pottery was recovered from the kiln firing chamber, rake out pit and postholes, as well as from a layer in the area of the kiln (AL4). The pottery recovered dates the kiln to the late 3rd-4th century (Appendix 2). A small quantity of fired clay and pieces of charcoal were also recovered from the kiln.

Eleven layers of fill were associated with the kiln. The highest of these (Fills 1-3) were the result of the demolition/disturbance of the kiln and contained frequent inclusions of daub, probably redeposited kiln structure, as well as pieces of the kilns sub-structure and possibly clay bars used to rest pots on for firing. They also contained fragments of unabraded pottery and burnt flint.

Fill 4 was thought to be *in situ*, though had clearly been disturbed. It is thought that it is the results of the last firing of the kiln, as a whole pot appeared to be imbedded within it and a cracked and warped waster was also present. Fill 5 was a vitrified clay crust, situated to the north of the kiln lining. Fill 6 was another demolition layer, which appeared to have been cut by fills 1 – 4. It was located on the north side of the kiln, and extended to the west. Fill 7 was the actual red/brown clay of the kiln structure/sub structure (with Fill 11 (kiln lining) inside). Fill 8 was a deposit of rake out debris, presumably from earlier firings of the kiln. Fills 9, 10 and 11 were the light-coloured clay lining of the kiln.

The pottery recovered from the kiln largely comprised coarseware jars, flanged bowls and dishes, all of which suggest that the kiln was in operation during the late 4th century, though for how long production continued is difficult to say. The pottery is discussed in much greater detail in section 5.3 and in the discussion at the end of this report.

Photograph 7. The kiln (AF73), looking south. Pottery visible in the south-western and north-eastern quadrants of the kiln structure.

Photograph 8. The kiln (AF73). Pottery visible embedded in the clay side of the kiln structure in the south-western quadrant.

Photograph 9. Complete pot in the rake-out pit of the kiln (AF73).

Photograph 10. View into kiln (AF73) from rake-out pit.

Photograph 11. Fully excavated kiln, rake out pit and postholes associated with possible structure over rake-out pit.

4.1.6 Undated features

4.1.6.1 Ditches
Five short ditches were unable to be dated. These were AF2, AF8, AF23, AF29 and AF49. Further details of these features can be found in Appendix 1.

4.1.6.2 Postholes
Twenty-nine postholes were undated (AF5, AF6, AF9, AF10, AF11, AF12, AF13, AF14, AF15, AF30, AF31, AF32, AF33, AF50, AF57, AF59, AF60, AF119, AF120, AF122, AF123, AF124, AF125, AF126, AF127 AF158, AF162, AF166 and AF167). AF119 contained a piece of fired clay. It was the only one of these features to contain any finds. Some of the undatable postholes were located in small groups or clusters. It is likely that they were related in use. These include AF11 – AF15, located in the north-western part of Area, in the corner of phase 2 enclosure demarcated by AF16, AF19 and AF27; AF30 – AF33, located just to the north of phase 1 structure 1; and AF123 – AF127, located between phase 1 ditches AF7/AF128 and AF114.

4.1.6.3 Pits
Seventeen pits were undated (AF3, AF4, AF21, AF47, AF70, AF72, AF80, AF82, AF83, AF95, AF96, AF97, AF99, AF113, AF121, AF136 and AF137). Of these, five contained finds. AF82 contained a nail and a small amount of burnt animal bone; AF95 and AF99 contained four sherds of pottery between them which was Roman, but not closely datable.

Photograph 12. Roman pottery in pit AF99.

4.1.6.4 Natural features
Seven amorphous features in Area A are thought to have been tree-throws (AF52, AF71, AF81, AF94, AF129, AF133 and AF135). AF129 contained a flint flake – it was the only feature to contain any finds. Further information relating to these features can be found in Appendix 1.

4.2 Area B (Figs 6, 9 and 12)

Area B was in the southern part of the proposed development site. Here were revealed a small cemetery enclosure, within which were at least one inhumation and as many as eight cremations. The enclosure seems to have been subject to a number of phases of recutting. It was aligned in the same way as the phase 2 field system in Area A, and may have been contemporary, though dating evidence is limited. Other activity in Area B was limited to a small number of pits and postholes and a cluster of large amorphous features thought to be tree-throws.

4.2.1 Enclosed cemetery

Photograph 13. Working shot of Area B.

Photograph 14. Working shot of the enclosure.

The cemetery enclosure measured *c* 22.5m by 17.5m. It was formed on three sides (west, north and east) by large ditch BF172 and to the south by ditch BF180. A terminus to ditch BF172 was visible in the south-west corner of the enclosure and formed the northern edge of an apparent entrance way. Ditch BF172 extended from here for *c* 10m to the north-west before turning though 90° to the south-east. It continued on this alignment for a further *c* 22.5m before turning through 90° to a south-west to north-east alignment once again. It continued for *c* 17m further before intersecting with ditch BF180. Ditch BF172 contained pottery which broadly dated from the mid-1st to 2nd centuries AD with sparse sherds of earlier material. It also contained a quern stone (SF14) A pit, BF173, was present in the north-eastern corner of enclosure ditch F172. Ditch F180 was visible from the southern to the north-western boundaries of Area B. It appeared to form the southern edge of the cemetery enclosure. It contained pottery that broadly dated from the late 1st century BC to mid-1st century AD. To its east it was adjoined by ditch F265, with which it had a slightly ambiguous relationship.

There appears to have been an earlier enclosure directly beneath the main cemetery enclosure. Dating evidence for this is limited. However, it seems likely that it corresponded with the first phase of activity visible in Area A. Only a small part of this enclosure was visible as it was almost entirely cut by the ditches of the later/recut enclosure. Ditch BF260 was the northernmost of the ditches. It contained a single flint flake. It was aligned north-west to south-east and extended for just *c* 2m from the western boundary of Area B before being cut by ditch BF172. Ditch BF178 was aligned north-east to south-west. It contained a single flint flake and a single sherd of Late Iron Age pottery. It was parallel with the eastern side of the phase 2 enclosure and was cut to the north by ditch BF172 and to the south by ditch BF175, which may have been contemporary. Ditch BF175 was aligned north-west to south-east. It was cut by the eastern side of the main enclosure and its southern edge appeared to have been cut by ditch BF180, which it was parallel with and which formed the southern side of the later/recut enclosure. Ditch BF252 was aligned south-west to north-east and was visible within the entrance way to the phase 2 ditch.

Ditches F197, F224, F256 and F262 were also in the vicinity of the enclosure and may have been related to its earlier use, though they did not seem to have such a direct relationship with the later activity as the ditches described above. Ditch F197 extended from the south-western edge of Area B. It was aligned roughly south-west to north-east but did not quite follow the alignment of the rest of the enclosure or the later enclosure. Just the eastern terminus of ditch BF224 was visible. It extended roughly east from beneath the eastern side of the phase 2 enclosure. Like BF197, its alignment was at odds to the rest of the ditches in this area. Ditches BF256 and BF262 were the only of the ditches in this area that were curved. BF256 extended for *c* 3m to the south-east from midway along the western side of the main enclosure before turning to the south and continuing for another *c* 5m. It contained late prehistoric pottery. BF256 was truncated by inhumation BF253. It terminated *c* 2m from were ditch F262 appeared from beneath ditch BF180. BF180 was aligned west-east for *c* 5m before turning to the north-east. Its terminus was cut by pit (?inhumation), BF261.

4.2.1.1 Inhumation and associated pits

One inhumation and five similarly shaped pits were identified within the enclosure. None contained human bone or any apparent grave goods. The only positively identified inhumation was BF253. This was the only one of the six possible inhumations to contain any identifiable grave furniture at all. The others were identified as inhumations based on their rectangular shapes, flat bases and vertical sides. Inhumation BF253 was located in the western part of the cemetery. It was orientated south-west to north-east and cut earlier ditch BF256. It contained three sherds of pottery, a flint flake, 26 iron nails and a small fragment of shale (SF21). It also contained a small amount of highly fragmented cremated bone. It was impossible to say whether this bone was animal or human.

About 3m to the north of BF253 were BF266 and BF267. BF267 was the earlier of the two pits and appeared to have been cut by both BF266 and cremation BF254. It was orientated north/south and was roughly rectangular. BF266 was aligned south-west to north-east. It cut the southern part of BF267 and was cut in its north-western corner by cremation BF254. Early-mid 1st-century pottery was recovered from BF266 and BF267, though it was difficult to discern whether it was present in either one of the features or both.

Two further pits, BF263 and BF264 were also intercutting. BF263 was the earlier of the two features. It was orientated roughly north-south and was roughly rectangular with rounded corners. It contained

sherds of mid 1st-2nd century pottery. It was overlain by BF264, a similarly proportioned feature orientated roughly west-east. BF264 contained Late Iron Age-early Roman pottery, despite being stratigraphically clearly later than BF263. Just *c* 1m from the eastern side of BF264 was BF261, a rectangular feature orientated south-east to north-west. BF261 contained no finds.

Photograph 15. Pits BF266 and BF267.

A small, roughly rectangular feature (F258) was located centrally within the enclosure. Although roughly the same shape as the other possible inhumations, it was considerably smaller and while it may have been related to activity within the cemetery, it is not thought to have been an inhumation.

Photograph 16. Pits BF263 and BF264.

4.2.1.2 Cremations

Eight cremations were also identified within the area of the enclosure, at least five of which are thought to have been urned.

BF174 and BF177 were located in the north-eastern corner of the enclosure. BF174 contained the base of a cremation urn, thought to date to the mid 1st-2nd century AD. It also contained a small amount of cremated bone (16g) and a small quantity of charcoal. F177 also contained a largely complete, though highly fragmented cremation urn of roughly the same date as the one in BF174. It contained a much larger amount of cremated bone (620g) and four, possibly five iron nails.

BF251 was located just to the north-east of intercutting pits BF266 and BF267. It contained a largely complete, though highly fragmented cremation urn (465g), of mid 1st early-2nd century date. It also contained the sherds of two further pots, one of which appears to have been burnt and may have been a pyre pot. These two pots were of contemporary date with the urn. BF251 also contained a very small amount of cremated bone (10g) and a small piece of iron nail. One metre to the south-west of BF251 was cremation BF254. BF254 was positioned in such a way that it cut both pits F256 and F257. It contained a mid 1st-2nd century cremation urn, which was largely complete (682g), 155g of human bone and a single flint flake.

Photograph 17. Cremation BF174 including excavated vessel *in situ.*

Photograph 18. Cremation BF177 including excavated vessel *in situ.*

Photograph 19. Cremation BF251 including excavated vessel *in situ.*

Photograph 20. Cremation BF254 including excavated *in situ.*

Two other cremations were located within the cemetery enclosure. BF255 was located just to the north of pits BF263 and BF264. It contained a single sherd (5g) of the rim of a jar that was possibly used to contain the cremation. It also contained sherds (133g) from the lower half of a flagon which was possibly an accessory vessel. Also found in cremation BF255 was a small amount of cremated bone (30g), a corroded iron object and a piece of melted vessel glass (recently broken into two joining pieces). The glass is of blue-green colour and was clearly melted on the funeral pyre. There is no clear form or shape of the original glass vessel remaining, but the context, the colour and relatively small quantity of glass suggest that this might be a melted unguent bottle. These small bodied vessels with relatively long, thin necks were used to contain perfumed oils and are a relatively common type of glass find associated with Roman burials. The piece here could either represent a personal possession and/or the remains of a vessel the contents of which had been used to perfume the body of the deceased. BF257 was located just to the south of possible inhumations BF263 and BF264. It contained an almost complete, though largely fragmented pot (700g) and 80g of cremated bone.

Photograph 21. Cremation BF257 including excavated vessel *in situ.*

One other pit (BF259) within the cemetery enclosure was very similar in terms of size and shape to the cremations described above. It did not contain any material making it difficult to positively identify it as a cremation.

4.2.2 Undated features

4.2.2.1 Pits and postholes
Nine pits and postholes were excavated in the rest of Area B - BF179, BF181, BF182, BF183, BF184, BF185, BF191, BF192, BF198. Three of these contained finds; BF179 contained charcoal, BF183 contained burnt stone and F185 contained a small amount of late prehistoric pot. The undated pits and postholes were scattered across Area B and did not seem to have any particular relationships with one another.

4.2.2.2 Ditches
A single undated ditch, BF196, was visible for a short length in the north-east corner of Area B. It was orientated north-west to south-east and extended beyond the northern and eastern edges of the excavation area.

4.2.2.3 Natural features
Fifteen tree throws were excavated in Area B (BF169, BF176, BF186, BF187, BF188, BF189, BF190, BF193, BF194, BF195, BF199, BF200, BF201, BF222, BF223). Seven of these, BF194, BF195, BF200, BF201, BF221, BF222 and BF223, were in close proximity to each other near the eastern boundary of Area B, and possibly represent the removal of a stand of trees. Two of the tree throws contained finds – BF187 contained a single flint flake and BF188 contained two abraded sherds of Late Neolithic-Early Bronze Age pottery.

4.3 Area C (Figs 7, 10, 12 and 13):

Area C was located in the most northern part of the development site. Excavations of this area revealed a number of long ditches, running from the northern boundary of the area to the southern. It is thought that these ditches are related to the same field system as those ditches identified in Area A. A small number of pits and postholes were scattered across the western part of Area C.

4.3.1 Phase 1 (early Roman): Field system (Figs 10 and 12)
Nine of the ditches crossing Area C are thought to have belonged to a continuation of the phase 1 field-system, visible in Area A. Ditches CF219 was aligned north-south. CF219 was visible for the entire extent of the excavation area. It was a narrow ditch which contained various sherds of prehistoric pottery dating from the Bronze Age to the Late Iron Age. It also contained one sherd of Early Roman pottery and two flint flakes. It was cut by CF220 to the south and by CF227. Ditches CF225, CF230, CF242 and CF247 were parallel to CF219, and were possibly originally part of the same complex. None contained any finds. Ditch CF230 was cut by later ditch CF226 and contemporary ditch CF228. Posthole CF248 was excavated in the southern-most section of ditch CF247. Parallel to ditch CF247, and just 1m to the west of it was ditch CF235. It was similar in size and shape to ditch CF247 and the two ditches together appeared to form some sort of droveway or trackway. Ditch CF225 extended from the southern boundary of the site until it was cut by later ditch CF241.

Ditch CF218 was oriented similarly to ditches CF219, CF230 and CF247. It was cut by phase 2 ditch CF220 and cuts ditch CF204. Ditch CF204 was aligned east-west. It possibly adjoined ditch CF219 to the east, however both features were cut by large post-phase 1 well CF238 making their relationship impossible to discern. Ditch CF204 contained three sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery. Also aligned east-west was ditch CF228, which adjoined CF219. CF228 continued from CF219 past the eastern boundary of Area C. It contained a single small sherd of Late Iron Age pottery.

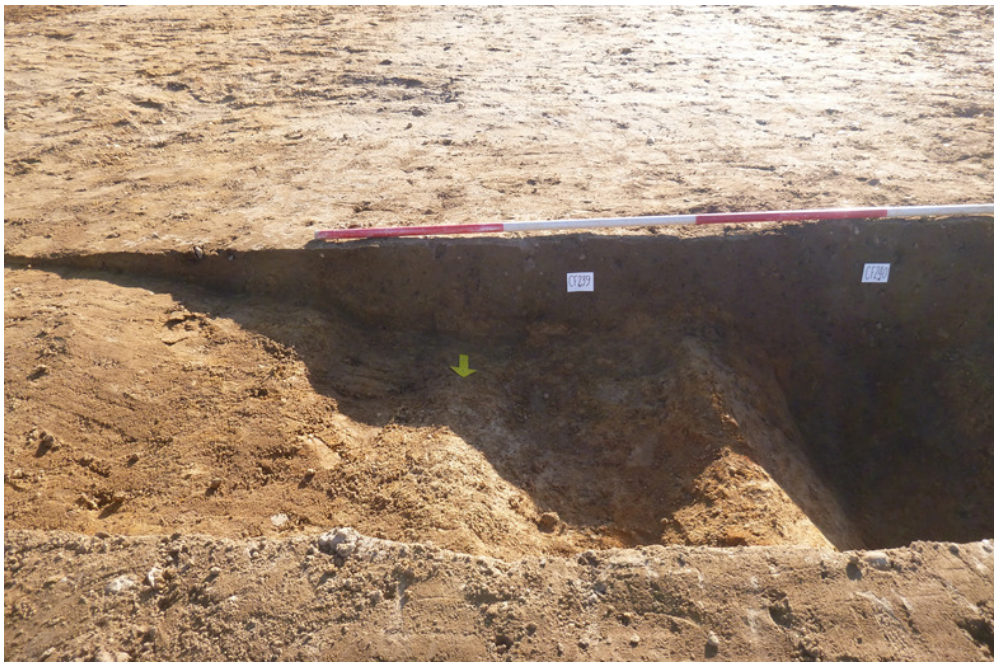
4.3.2 Post-phase 1 features: well (Fig 13)
Well CF238 was situated in such a way that it cut phase 1 ditches CF204 and CF219 and obscured the relationship between the two. It was a large pit with vertical sides which were excavated to 1.4m

and which extended beyond this depth. Despite its size, only one sherd of prehistoric pottery, and two pieces of burnt flint were recovered from within it. Its upper fill was a sandy silt with charcoal flecking and its lower fills were similar but with gravel inclusions.

4.3.3 Phase 2 (early/mid Roman - 2nd C AD): field system (Fig 10)

Ten ditches in Area C are thought to represent a later phase of field system, also visible in Area A. Although similarly aligned, these ditches are distinct in terms of their size and profile to the ditches thought to be related to phase 1 activity. The eastern most of these ditches was CF239. It was also the largest of the ditches. It extended from the northern boundary of Area C and terminated shortly before ditch CF216 and the southern site boundary. It contained a single sherd of Late Prehistoric pottery, two animal bones a post-medieval brick and a modern glass bottle. Ditch CF239 cut ditch CF220 to the south. It was cut around its central point by ditch a short length of ditch (CF240). Ditch CF240 cut ditch CF239 around the point at which adjacent ditch (CF241) terminated. It is possible that it was some sort of recut to shore up the entrance/exit of a droveway. Ditch CF241 was parallel to ditch CF239, which contained a single piece of heavily abraded prehistoric pot. Also parallel to CF239, and in the western corner of the excavation area, was the terminus of CF243.

Ditches CF226, CF227 and CF229 all appeared to originate from the same point on the northern boundary of Area C. Shortly after this point, ditches CF226 and CF227 branched away from each other. CF227 extended roughly south for *c* 30m and CF226 extended for *c* 10m to the south-east. Around 3m from the terminus of F226 it split once again and CF229 continued to the east before being cut by CF241. CF227 was the only of these features to contain any finds, and it only contained a single sherd of Late Iron Age pottery. Posthole CF232 was located in the junction of ditches CF226 and CF229. It contained no finds.



Photograph 22: Ditches CF239 and CF240, looking south

Three phase 2 ditches, CF216, CF220 and CF233 were aligned east/west. CF216 was partially obscured by the southern boundary of Area C, though the western terminus was visible. It cut phase 1 ditch CF242. Ditch CF216 contained a single flint flake, thought to be residual in this context. CF220 was situated *c* 7m to the north of ditch CF216 and was parallel to it. The full extent of this ditch appeared to be visible. It was cut by north-south aligned ditch CF239, but cut ditches CF218, CF219, CF225, CF247 and CF242. Three sherds of pottery (two of which were prehistoric and one of which was more likely Roman), two flint flakes and two burnt flints were recovered from this feature. Only the

western terminus of ditch CF233 was visible, but this too appeared to be parallel to ditches CF216 and CF220. No finds were recovered from this feature.

4.3.4 Undated features

4.3.4.1 Pits and postholes
Seventeen pits and postholes could not be dated. These were CF203, CF205, CF206, CF208, CF209, CF210, CF211, CF212, CF213, CF214, CF215, CF217, CF231, CF234, CF236, CF244, CF246.

4.3.4.2 Natural features
Five tree-throws were also present in Area C - CF202, CF203, CF207, CF237, CF245.

5 Finds

5.1 Prehistoric pottery and stone

by Stephen Benfield

5.1.1 Introduction

In total 68 sherds of hand-made prehistoric pottery with a combined weight of 1,083 g were recovered during the excavation. The quantity of prehistoric pottery by excavation Area (A, B and C) is shown in Table 4 together with the average sherd weight for each Area.

Area	No	Wt/g	Average sherd wt/g
A	38	901	23.7
B	12	67	5.6
C	18	115	6.4
Total	*68*	*1083*	

Table 4. Prehistoric pottery quantity by area.

The pottery fabrics were recorded following Brown (1988, 263-64) and are listed by fabric in Table 5.

Fabric	code	no	wt/g
Flint-tempered			
Flint, small, moderate density, well sorted	A	5	45
Flint, small-medium, moderate density	B	15	89
Flint, small-medium with occasional large, moderate density	C	32	843
sub-total		*52*	*977*
Sand-tempered			
Sand, small, common	G	4	10
Sand, small moderate density	H	9	55
Sand, small-medium, moderate density-common	I	1	12
sub-total		*14*	*77*
Grog-tempered			
Grog – often with some sand or flint and occasional small voids	M	2	29
Total		*68*	*1083*

Table 5. Prehistoric pottery fabric quantities.

5.1.2 Discussion

A significant proportion of the prehistoric pottery was recovered as residual sherds from later-dated features; primarily of Roman date (or at least associated with Roman finds). Most was recovered as single, or just a few sherds from any one feature. Only one feature, pit AF32, produced any significant quantity of prehistoric pottery (30 sherds weighing 860g (average sherd weight 28.6g)). The pottery from this feature is the reason for the high average sherd weight from Area A (Table 4) which otherwise would be 5.1g, similar to that for the other two Areas.

The earliest closely-dated pottery is two small, abraded body sherds (Fabric G) which have an oxidised surface and are decorated with small indentations, possibly produced using the end of a small bone or stick. These can be dated to the period of the Late Neolithic-Early Bronze Age and are probably Beaker. One comes from BF188 (tree throw) and is the only find from this feature, the other was residual in a pit AF70.

The remainder of the pottery is plain with few diagnostic pieces and dating relies heavily on the fabrics, although all of the fabrics (flint, sand and grog-temper) occur throughout much of the prehistoric period and secure, dating to a particular period is difficult.

Flint-tempered pottery makes up 76% of the prehistoric assemblage by count and 90% by weight. There is little indication that any of this pottery is necessarily Neolithic, as most of the flint is relatively fine and generally well embedded in the fabric. There is a large rim sherd among the pottery from AF132 (Fig 23 Pot 1). This is from a rounded/oval closed-mouth bowl and this type of vessel appears typical of Late Bronze Age (LBA), post-Deverel-Rimbury plain ware assemblages (*c* 1200-700 BC) (Barrett 1980). A number of similar vessels can be seen among the illustrated LBA pottery from Capel St Mary, Suffolk (Brudenell 2014, fig 70). The remainder of the pottery from the pit is also flint-tempered, apart from one, burnished, sand-tempered sherd, which is probably, also of LBA date. The remainder of the flint-tempered pottery from the site can be broadly dated as probably LBA-Early Iron Age (EIA) (*c* 1200-350 BC), although the presence of closely dated LBA pottery in AF132 and the absence of decoration among the assemblage might suggest that overall it is more likely to be of LBA date. There are two hand-made sherds in grog-tempered fabric (Fabric M) might also date to the Bronze Age or possibly the Iron Age, especially that from CF238 which has coarse grog although a Late Iron Age date might also be possible.

There are a small number of sand-tempered sherds (Fabrics G, H and I) in addition to the probable beaker sherds and the single sherd associated with LBA pottery in AF132 discussed above. Most of these sherds were recovered from Areas A and C. There are no diagnostic pieces and none are closely dated. Sand-tempered pottery, where this predominates in an assemblage, is most typical of the Middle Iron Age (MIA) and Mid-Late Iron Age period (*c* 350-50/25 BC) and it seems likely that some of this pottery at least broadly dates to the later Iron Age period (mid 4th-late1st century BC/early 1st century AD).

Fig 23 (Pot 1) AF132(86) Closed mouth, rounded bowl with internal chamfer-like rim top, dark grey surface, sparse-moderated small-medium size flint with rare large pieces (Fabric C), angled hand wiping across surface.

5.1.3 Heat-altered (burnt) stone

In total 95 pieces of heat-altered (burnt) stone were recovered (total weight 4,640g). A small number of pieces of sandstone/quartzite are present but the great majority is flint, reflecting a collection of the most readily available stone type rather than any deliberate selection of sandstone/quartzite, which has better thermal properties. The majority of the burnt stones were recovered as a total of 5 pieces or less from any one feature, but with two significant concentrations - pit AF132 (which also contained pottery dated as LBA) produced 37 pieces (1,549 g) and well(?) CF238 produced 36 pieces (2,381g). A small grog-tempered pottery sherd dated as probably Bronze Age was also recovered from CF238.

Of itself the burnt stone is not closely datable, although it is commonly associated with prehistoric activity and was used extensively during the prehistoric period to transfer heat from a fire, primarily to water for boiling. These stones are commonly referred to as 'pot-boilers'. The burnt stone from AF132 is clearly associated with prehistoric activity on the site and the concentration of burnt stone in the fill of well CF238 also suggests a prehistoric date.

5.1.4 Quernstones and utilised stones

A piece from a saddle quern and a large cobble with a polished surface, which had been used as a rubber were both recorded as small finds (SF).

SF14 Part of a broken sandstone saddle quern (701g) was recovered from ditch BF172 (sx7, 210). The piece is in a greenish-grey sandstone that appears to be greensand. It is between 60-50mm thick. The surface is dished and worn smooth. Roman pottery was recovered from the same features and the quern is clearly residual in this context.

Greensand saddle querns are known from a number of sites in Essex and currently around a fifth of recorded saddle querns from the county are greensand (Major 1995). The stone for these querns must have been imported from sources outside of the county and greensand saddle querns in Essex first appear in contexts dated to the Late Bronze Age.

SF28, a large, naturally rounded quartzite/sandstone cobble (2066g) from ditch AF19(123) (SF 28), has a smoothed, slightly polished underside and appears to have been used as a rubber, most likely for a saddle quern (though use as grain rubbers is difficult to identify with any certainty (Major 1995)). Areas of the stone have flaked away on both sides exposing the pale red coloured stone interior. The stone has also been heated at some point in the past, possibly on more than one occasion as one area of dark surface discolouration is clearly truncated by one are of flaking, while some other dark discolouration extends over both of the flaked areas. Despite being recovered alongside Roman pottery, the nature of the piece and the heating, suggest a prehistoric date.

5.2 The flint

by Adam Wightman

Fifteen worked flints were recovered from fourteen contexts. One additional flint was recovered from the ploughsoil (L1). Half of the contexts containing worked flints have been dated to the Roman period based on the pottery dating evidence, meaning the worked flints from these contexts are almost certainly residual. These residual pieces include a small, slender blade with evidence of usewear/edge damage (Mesolithic or Early Neolithic in date), a flake with short, shallow retouch used to strengthen the cutting edge, a core fragment and other undiagnostic flakes and blades. Some of the flints from these contexts exhibit evidence of usewear or edge damage, although this could be the result of post-depositional processes.

Two of the worked flints come from pits/tree throws that also contained small quantities of Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery (BF187 and CF202). Although neither are diagnostic tools, the flake from BF187 exhibits Bronze Age knapping characteristics (short, squat flake with hinge fracture), whereas the flake from CF202 is more Neolithic in character (platform preparation, probably detached with a soft hammer).

The remainder of the worked flints were recovered from pits and ditches which contained no other datable material (AF129, CF216, CF218, CF235, CF244). The blade from AF129 is almost certainly Neolithic in date and the small end scraper (or thumbnail scraper) from CF216 dates to the Early Bronze Age (this is the only formal tool type present in the assemblage). The flakes from CF218, CF235 and CF244 are not closely datable but do exhibit characteristics associated with Bronze Age flint production.

The distribution of the worked flints across the three excavation areas does not highlight any significant concentrations or spatial patterns. Overall, very few of the worked flints were typologically diagnostic. An analysis of the technological characteristics of the flakes, blades and the core suggests that the flints derive from a relatively low level of activity in this area of the river valley dating from the Mesolithic through to the Bronze Age.

context	find no.	artefact type	cortex %	soft/hard hammer	retouch
L1	1	?flake	70		semi-abrupt (short stretch)
AF19	3	?flake	2		
AF64sx3	39	blade	0	soft	usewear/ edge damage
AF128	70	flake	10	hard	
AF129	71	blade	15	?soft	usewear/ edge damage
BF187	150	flake	0	hard	usewear/ edge damage
BF253	191	flake	0	hard	short, shallow- sharp edge
BF254	194	flake/blade	100	soft	
CF202	157	flake	0	soft	usewear/ edge damage
CF216	161	flake	0	hard	Thumbnail scraper

CF218	2183	flake	35	hard	
CF219	168	core fragment	5	hard	semi-abrupt (short stretch)
CF220	165	flake	5	hard	
		blade	15	hard	
CF235 sx2	182	flake	5	hard	
CF244	176	flake	70	hard	

Table 6. Flint concordance.

5.3 Iron Age and Roman pottery

by Steven Benfield

5.3.1 Introduction

The Late Iron Age and Roman pottery reported here includes all of the pottery of this date other than burial (cremation) pots and pottery associated with the kiln (AF73) which are reported separately.

In total there are 1,231 sherds that together weigh 24,159g. The pottery was recorded using the Colchester fabric type series (*CAR* 10) and the Colchester (*Camulodunum*) form type series (Hawkes & Hull 1947 & Hull 1958). In addition, further fabric codes have been introduced for Late Iron Age (Belgic) grog-tempered wares (GTW) and for Cherry Hinton fine wares (CHFW). Samian vessel forms follow Webster 1996. The pottery is listed by fabric in Table 7.

Fabric	**code**	**no**	***% no***	**wt/g**	***% wt***
Imported finewares:					
South Gaulish plain samian	BASG	8	*0.6*	71	*0.3*
Central Gaulish plain samian	BACG	2	*0.1*	20	*0.1*
sub-total		*10*	*0.7*	91	*0.4*
Imported coarsewares:					
Amphora, Dressel 20	AJ	2	*0.1*	507	*2.1*
Local and regional fine wares:					
Terra nigra-type wares	UR	3	*0.2*	19	*0.1*
Cherry Hinton fine ware	CHFW	1	*0.1*	2	*0.1*
Fine oxidised wares	DZ	31	*2.5*	148	*0.6*
sub-total		*35*	*2.8*	169	*0.8*
Local and regional coarsewares:					
Black surface ware	BSW	148	*12*	2682	*11.1*
Coarse oxidised wares	DJ	38	*3.1*	383	*1.5*
Black Burnished ware Category 1	GA	12	*0.9*	369	*1.5*
Grog-tempered ware (LIA)	GTW	4	*0.3*	102	*0.4*
Other coarse wares, principally locally produced grey wares	GX	754	*61.2*	11918	*49.3*
Kiln grey ware	GX B	1	*0.1*	22	*0.1*
Shell-tempered ware	HD	2	*0.1*	8	*0.1*
Large storage jars and other vessels in heavily-tempered grey wares	HZ	190	*15.4*	7146	*29.5*
Mortaria, Colchester and unsourced mortaria	TZ	5	*0.4*	443	*1.8*
Silvery micaceous grey wares	WA	30	*295.9 .4*	319	*1.3*
sub-total		*1184*	*95.9*	*23392*	*96.6*
Total		*1231*	*191.8*	*24159*	*193.2*

Table 7. Late Iron Age and Roman pottery fabric quantities.

5.3.2 Discussion

Most of the pottery was recovered from ditch contexts. There are a very few sherds which might be of Late Iron Age (LIA) date. Those that are grog-tempered broadly date to the late 1st century BC-mid 1st century AD. Two sherds of early shell-tempered ware date to the 1st century AD but the small quantity

does not suggest any significant Late Iron Age (LIA) occupation and these sherds may well belong to the post-conquest period.

A significant proportion of the Roman assemblage can be dated to the early Roman period (mid 1st-early 2nd century), but close dating of this pottery within that period is difficult. Also many of the features recorded produced some sherds of early Roman pottery either as contemporary or residual pieces. The small quantity of grog-tempered ware could indicate that activity/occupation was under-way by the pre-Flavian period (*c* 43-60 AD) and this is supported by the presence of regional or locally produced *terra nigra*-type wares (Fabric UR), which included the platter forms Cam 24 and Cam 26 and by a sherd from an imported samian bowl of form Dr 29 (current in the Claudio-Neronian to Flavian period). The presence of a small number of sherds of South Gaulish samian and the quantity of pottery broadly dated as 1st-early 2nd century shows that occupation was well established on or immediately adjacent to the site by the late 1st century.

Early Roman pottery vessel forms recorded are as follows - Samian: Dr 18 and Dr 29; regional and local coarsewares: platters Cam 24 and Cam 26, beaker Cam 108, Butt-beaker Cam 119(?), jar/bowl Cam 218, jar Cam 266, flat-rimmed bowl Cam 243-244/246 and jar Cam 256.

The presence of the *terra nigra*-type wares (Fabric UR) and the 1st-century samian which includes the dish form Dr 18 shows that at least a proportion of the occupants had adopted, or were versed with some aspects of Gallo-Roman culture and had the desire and the ability to access to the social or trade contacts through which this pottery could be acquired. Also, probably of late 1st-century date is a fineware beaker (sherd) decorated with panel dots which appears to be from the Cherry Hinton kilns, located on the west side of Cambridge (Evans 1990, 24). While considered to have a core distribution of up to 50 km (Evans 1990, 28), this pottery appears to be quite rare in this area, although a sherd (unpublished) has previously been identified by Chris Going in an assemblage from Head Gate Colchester. This indicates contacts with that area, either by travel or possibly acquisition through a market centre such as Colchester. However, it should be noted that the overall assemblage is dominated by coarsewares, while imported pottery and regional and local finewares form only a minor part of the assemblage, as is fairly typical of many rural sites.

Pottery vessel forms and fabrics that can be closely dated to the mid-late Roman period are much less in evidence than early Roman ones. There is a dot-panel beaker from ditch AF64 sx1 (19) dating to the late 1st-early 2nd century and a jar rim from this feature (AF64 sx 1 (19)) – although not closely identified - is possibly either Cam 268 (dated mid 2nd-3rd/4th century) or a storage jar which possibly dates to the 2nd century or later. Sherds from a jar that appears to be of form Cam 268 were also recovered from ditch AF63 sx2 (23). A sherd of Central Gaulish samian broadly dating to early/mid-late 2nd century comes from ditch AF27 which also produced a group of pottery vessels (Fig 23) which date to after the early/mid 2nd century and can be suggested as dating to the mid 2nd century or later (discussed below).

The latest closely-datable pottery associated with the features (other than the Roman kiln) is a sherd from the upper fill of enclosure(?) ditch AF101 sx2 (72). This is the rim of a Cam 305 flanged bowl, which is current in the period of the late 3rd-4th century. From the upper fill of the same feature (sx1 (54)), two small sherds from the base of a shell-tempered jar are possibly also of late Roman date (if not residual from the early Roman occupation). It can be noted that the base of a moderately thin-walled, greyware fabric mortaria was also recovered from this context. However, apart from a late Roman shell-tempered jar from the kiln (AF73) the two sherds from AF101 are the only recognised sherds of shell-tempered pottery from the site and pottery and late fabric types associated with the nearer of the large late Roman industries (Nene Valley, Hadham and Oxford) do not appear to be present. This suggests that very little pottery was arriving on or being disposed of on the site, probably from the mid-late or late 3rd century although some pottery dating to the late 3rd-4th and possibly the late 4th-century pottery (represented by shell-tempered ware) is present in small quantities. Late Roman shell-tempered ware appears on sites in Essex from the mid-late 4th century (Going 1987, 115 and *CAR* 10, 458) and notably in relation to Lawford at the villa site at Little Oakley (Barford 2002, 150).

The presence of a small quantity of pottery dated to the early-mid 2nd-3rd century shows that some activity was taking place on the area during that time and while many of the features produced pottery

of early Roman date, it is often difficult to identify where this may be residual. This is especially the case where early Roman pottery is the only closely datable piece or pieces where only small quantities of pottery were recovered from features. Also, much of the assemblage is made up of coarsewares with many undiagnostic body sherds and some difficulty in confidently dating coarseware jars/bowls from rim sherds alone. This could mask some later Roman (2nd-3rd century) contexts among the assemblage. However, there is (with the exception of one dish from AF27) a lack of coarseware vessel forms typical of most sites in the later 2nd-3rd century, most notably Black-burnished ware and allied forms (consisting of distinctive dishes, bowls and jars) and it can be noted that no colour coated wares typical of that period and which are not uncommon as a small percentage of site pottery, were recorded. The small quantity of closely dated mid and late Roman pottery (other than from the late Roman kiln) indicates that the level and intensity of activity severely diminished after the early Roman period and the area became marginal to the settlement focus.

Almost no pottery that could be recognised as a product of the late Roman kiln (AF73) was recovered from any of the other features; the exception is a single sherd from the upper fill of ditch AF74. This is clearly a waster from the kiln although the ditch predates the kiln so the sherd can be seen as intrusive. There is a sherd from a Cam 305 flanged bowl, from ditch AF101 sx2 (72) (Fig 23.3) in a sandy fabric not dissimilar to that of a near complete dish from the kiln Fig 15.2. The sherd lacks any obvious white quartz or flint inclusions and has a black (fumed) surface (Fabric BSW). While the rim (flange) is also different in shape to any of the rims of the flanged bowls recovered from the kiln, the pieces from the kiln are wasters or rejects not necessarily representative of the appearance of the range among the traded pots. Although not identifiable as a kiln product, it may be possible, or even likely given the near absence of other late Roman pottery from the site; although, like the sherds of late shell-tempered pottery from the kiln (AF73 and AF101) it may also have been brought in from elsewhere. The similarity in date and type between the pottery from the enclosure(?) ditch AF101 and the kiln suggests the pottery from the ditch may be contemporary with the phase of activity associated with the operation of the kiln.

The largest single quantity of Roman pottery from any one feature (965 sherds, weighing 15,973g) comes from a linear identified as a shallow ditch (AF64). The pottery from this ditch makes up 73% by sherd count and 66% by weight of the Roman assemblage (excluding pottery from the kiln). The closely-dated pottery from the ditch is almost entirely early Roman (mid 1st-early 2nd century), although sherds from two pots can be closely dated to the late 1st/early 2nd century and 2nd century. There are also one or two examples of neckless jars with slightly everted or flattened rims which might also date to the late 1st or 2nd century rather than earlier. The assemblage consists primarily of medium size sherds and may include parts of vessels (sherds joining to form a significant part of a pot) although no sherd groups from individual pots were recorded or bagged together during excavation. The ditch does not extend for any great distance and both the ditch terminal (sx1) and another section across it (sx3), which was set just a short distance back from the terminal, produced large amounts of pottery, although a section further along the ditch (sx2) produced no pottery. The large quantity and concentration of pottery recorded from one area (terminal) of the ditch suggests dumping of material, either from a nearby building or from a midden located close by. The total quantities of pottery from other features on the site are very much less. The next largest amounts come from ditches AF27 and AF16. AF27 produced 72 sherds (weighing 2807 g) and AF16 produced 24 sherds (weighing 202 g). Both features include pottery dated to the mid Roman period of the 2nd-3rd century with residual earlier dated Roman pottery present.

While many of the pottery vessel forms recorded at Lawford can be closely paralleled in the Colchester (Cam) type series, it is likely that a significant quantity of the pottery was supplied from kilns at Ardleigh. These were located approximately 2 miles (3.2 km) to the southwest and most of the identified products from there closely parallel forms produced at Colchester (Going & Belton 1999, 144). Pottery production at Ardleigh was underway in the pre-Flavian period and continued into the late 2nd-early 3rd century (Going & Belton 1999, 154-57). The production period encompasses the dating of much of the pottery recovered from Dale Hall and may have been the source for an accessible and possibly comparatively cheap, supply of coarse pottery to the site during that period.

Fig 23.3 Pot AF101 sx2 (72) Rim sherd from a Cam 305 flanged bowl, sandy fabric with grey core and red-brown margins (light reflecting from the sand grains gives the illusion of a silver mica), surface black and abraded, Fabric BSW (55 g, EVE 0.15)

5.3.3 Pottery vessels from ditch AF27

A small group of pottery, comprising significant parts of three pots and joining sherds making up part of the body and a base from two others (Fig 23), was recovered as a finds group from one context in ditch AF27(5). The nature of the pottery and the association suggests they were probably disposed of at, or about the same time, possibly as a group together, this does not necessarily indicate that they were a special deposit. There is a Cam 39A bowl in fabric corresponding to - although this is not clearly a BB1 product and might be BB2 - and an indented beaker (Fig 23.6). The bowl can be dated to after the early/mid-2nd century. The indented beaker, while possibly of later Roman date, could date to the Hadrianic-Antonine period as beakers of similar form dated to the period of the early-mid 2nd to early 3rd century are illustrated from potteries in north Kent (Monaghan 1987, 66-7 Class 2D1). With these vessels are a colander bowl (Fig 23.4), which can probably be broadly dated as 1st/2nd century and sherds from a stab-decorated beaker of form Cam 108 (although the rim is missing) which has two bands of stab decoration separated by cordons (Fig 23.5). The beaker form Cam 108 and the decorative style of comb-stab decoration are current over the period of the mid-1st/early 2nd century. Also among the group is most of the base of a large storage jar (broken into three joining sherds) which has traces of burning (blackened area) on part of the interior, but not extending over the sherd break. Given the presence of the Cam 39A bowl and the indented beaker the pottery must have been deposited after the early 2nd century. Taken as part of this group the Cam 108 beaker and possibly the large, coarse-tempered storage jar might indicate and a date in the early-mid 2nd century, but this beaker is only represented by body sherds and the storage jar may have seen reuse (possibly as an oven). Overall, a date in the mid-late 2nd century or slightly later appears likely for this group.

AF27(5) Cam 39A bowl with burnished wavy line, much of pot present Fabric GA (12 sherds 369g EVE 0.82)

Fig 23.4 AF27(5) Colander bowl, much of pot, Fabric BSW (7 sherds 295g Eve 0.47)

Fig 23.5 AF27(5) Cam 108 beaker with stab-comb decoration and dividing cordons around body, part of pot body with joining sherds, Fabric GX (8 sherds 93g)

Fig 23.6 AF27(5) Indented beaker, everted rim, much of pot, fine brownish-orange fabric with no indication of any surface colour-coat having been present, Fabric DZ (30 sherds 139g EVE 0.38)

5.3.4 Pottery from the cremations and inhumations (Area B)

Cremation BF174: Fig 14 - Pottery (B136) – surviving base of pot probably used as cremation urn. Fabric BSW (92 g). Broken, just a few sherds surviving from base, with small footring and lower wall (12 sherds) (dated Roman, probably mid 1st-2nd century);

Cremation BF177: Fig 17 - Pottery (B140) - jar used as cremation urn. Cam 266 Fabric GX (666 g). Broken, incomplete; much of pot present as sherds with large base sherd and lower body sherd (dated mid 1st-early 2nd century). Eleven sherds were recovered from the environmental sample taken from this feature.

Cremation BF251: Fig 18 - Pottery (B189) - jar used as cremation urn. Necked jar with shoulder, Cam 266, Fabric GX (465 g). Broken, incomplete; most of pot, broken into sherds, large base and lower body sherds, profile to rim (24 sherds) (dated mid 1st/early 2nd century). (B189) Accessory vessel burnt on pyre (?) Fabric DJ (105 g). Broken, incomplete; plain, rounded, flanged bowl some joining sherds, flange edge broken away (10 sherds), probably form Cam 312 (dated late 1st-early 2nd century). (B189). Three small base sherds from a greyware pot, probably a jar or jar/bowl. Fabric GX (12 g) (dated Roman).Ten further sherds were recovered from the environmental sample taken from this feature, one of which was a relatively large fragment of base.

Cremation BF254: Pottery (B194) - jar/deep bowl used as cremation urn. Fabric GX (682 g). Broken, incomplete; grey colour, base and most of pot wall present with profile to base of neck, broad, rounded shoulder (40 sherds). (dated Roman probably M1-2C).

Cremation BF255: Fig 19 - Pottery (B198) Pot used as cremation urn(?). Fabric DJ (682 g). Broken, incomplete; lower half a pot in orange-brown fabric, base has small footring, the broad lower body suggests the pot is probably a flagon (19 sherds) (dated mid 1st-2nd early 3rd century); Other finds - (B198) Molten glass (melted by the cremation pyre), blue-green, irregular pieces (12 g). (B198) Single sherd from the edge of a lid or possibly a jar rim Fabric GX (5g), as a single sherd a direct association with the cremation is unclear.

Cremation BF257: Fig 19 - Pottery - Differences in the surface and fabric of pottery sherds from BF257 suggest they come from two pots; although this is not certain and has not been able to be fully resolved. No joins between sherds in the two fabric types have been found. The sherds have been separated out as B202A and B202B. (B202A) Jar used as cremation urn. Fabric GX (631g). Broken, incomplete, many sherds with abraded surfaces, most of pot body, including the base, but much or all of rim, neck and shoulder missing, rim not joining (42 sherds, EVE 0.15) (Roman, probably mid 1st-2nd century). (B202B) Shoulder and body sherds (min. 9 sherds, weight 69 g) from a Cam 218 jar (Fabric BSW) lattice decorated on the shoulder cordon (dated mid 1st-early 2nd century). Eight small sherds were recovered from the environmental sample taken from this feature.

5.3.4.1 Discussion

Placed pottery vessels were recovered from six cremation burials (BF174, BF177, BF251, BF254, BF255 and BF257) located within a ditched enclosure (BF172). All are part vessels, having been broken and truncated post-burial, although one heat-damaged pot may have been recovered as a broken vessel from a pyre.

The pottery consists primarily of single greyware jars used as cremation urns, although in one burial an oxidised (buff ware) flagon or jar was used as a cremation urn. In one burial (BF251) the urn was accompanied by sherds from a flanged bowl in a buff fabric that had been burnt, presumably on the funeral pyre, which is the only clear example of an accessory vessel and another (BF257) contained sherds from a jar in black surface ware, which appears to be additional to the remains of a grey jar that held the ashes.

Although many of the upper parts of the urns have been severely damaged or removed by later disturbance sufficient remains of several to be able to identify a vessel form and to date them closely within the Roman period. There are two necked, shouldered jars corresponding to form Cam 266 (BF177 and BF251) which can be dated to the period of the mid 1st-early 2nd century. A buff ware bowl with downward curving flange (BF251) can probably be identified as form Cam 312 which is current during the same period and sherds from a jar of form Cam 218 jar/bowl (with BF257) that is also of mid-1st-early 2nd century date. Dating of the other pottery from the cremations is made difficult as the lower portions of the jars surviving in these burials can only be broadly dated as Roman. However, the more closely dated pots suggest that the cremation burials here are probably of early-mid Roman date. The choice of a coarseware jar as a container for the ashes is common to many Roman cremation burials. The sherds from the single accompanying bowl (BF251) indicate a vessel burnt on a pyre and which was not necessarily buried as a complete pot. This pot, together with sherds from a jar of form Cam 218 with another urned cremation, which are possibly part of a second pot, might indicate a wider range of vessels used in the funerary rites than is reflected with the individual burials. However, overall the general lack of accessory pots (which, where present commonly consist of vessels for serving food and drink) does not suggest any emphasis on display during the burial interment itself and may reflect use of the burial area a family or close-knit community.

The small quantity (22 sherds) of Roman pottery from the enclosure ditch (BF172) is broadly of 1st-2nd to 3rd century date, although it can be noted that many of the sherds are abraded. The most closely dated pieces are from a Cam 218 jar (mid 1st-early 2nd century) and a rim from a Dressel 20 amphora of a type indicating a probable mid-late 1st century date. The remaining pottery includes part of the flanged rim of a mortarium that is probably a Colchester product and another sherd from a Dressel 20 amphora.

5.3.5 Pottery from the late Roman kiln

The kiln, together with other structural features (postholes) and associated material spread (L4) closely associated with it, produced 1,012 sherds of pottery with a combined weight of 14,555g. The quantity of pottery from the kiln structure (firing chamber and stoke-pit) and from associated features (postholes) and layers is shown in Table 8.

Context	no	wt/g
Kiln firing chamber	591	9438
Kiln stoke-pit	346	4369
Postholes (stoke-pit)	20	384
Kiln (general)	28	234
Layer AL4	27	130
Total	*1012*	*14555*

Table 8. Roman pottery (sherds and weight) from the kiln structure and associated features.

The pottery fabric types represented were broadly based on the Colchester Roman pottery fabric series (*CAR* 10). Most of the greyware pottery (Fabric GX) can be seen to be a homogeneous assemblage in terms of the fabric type and the limited number of vessel forms present. A significant proportion of the pots have firing defects, most clearly cracks to the body, but many other sherds also

appear to exhibit signs of poor firing with buff-brown, moderately soft fabric rather than the intended grey. Apart from one (waster) sherd from the upper fill of a ditch (AF74(101)) all of this pottery was recovered from a discreet group of contexts (features and layers) associated with the kiln and its immediate area. The greyware pottery was divided, into three fabrics (GX1, GX2 and GX3), based on a visual appraisal of inclusions, and these are described below. Fabric GX3 is finer and some sherds contain common fine mica. There is also a small quantity of shell-tempered ware (Fabric HD) from the kiln that probably represents sherds from a single jar. The quantity of each fabric type among the kiln assemblage is shown in Table 9.

5.3.5.1 Kiln pottery fabrics:

Fabric GX1
Grey to dark-grey sandy fabric with coarse surface feel, prominent moderate-sparse, ill-sorted, milky quartz and flint up to 3-4 mm long in surfaces and fine silver mica. Some pots, or parts of pots which are possibly underfired, have a tendency to grey/buff-brown.

Fabric GX2
Grey to dark-grey sandy fabric, occasional milky quartz and flint inclusions and fine silver mica. This appears simply to be a finer variant of F1. Most of the sherds from rilled jars of Form 3 recorded are in this fabric.

Fabric GX3
Dark grey, grey and grey-brown, fine sand fabric, often with common, fine silver mica. The fabric is generally present as relatively thin, small sherds.

Fabric HD(late)
Late shell-tempered ware

Fabric	No	*% no*	wt/g	*% wt*	EVE
GX1	892		12856		20.79
GX2	72		1215		3.69
GX3	24		100		
HD	24		384		0.57
Total	*1012*		*14555*		*25.05*

Table 9. Roman kiln pottery fabric quantities.

While division of greyware sherds between fabrics is based on a relatively rapid, visual appraisal it is clear that most of the pottery (well over 80% by count and weight) was produced in a moderately coarse fabric, GX1. The slightly less coarse fabric GX2 appears most commonly associated with rilled jars of form J1(R). The difference in the fabrics may represent only finer preparation treatment of the parent clay, although the association of fabric GX2 with rilled jars suggests selection and therefore possibly deliberate preparation of a slightly finer clay. Given the absence of any clear indication of significant residual pottery, or pottery introduced to the kiln site (other probably than a few sherds from a shell-tempered jar) the presence of the finer, thinner fabric GX3 (less than 3% of the assemblage) suggests it is also a kiln product, although no vessels types could be identified for this fabric.

5.3.5.2 Kiln pottery forms:
The types of pottery vessel recovered from the kiln comprises a limited range of dishes, bowls and jars. Two distinct types of upright-walled dish are present (D1 and D2) together with a rim from a probable dish/bowl (D3). There is one type bowl (B1) with which is flanged and with variation in the nature of the flange (B1A-B1C). The greyware jars could be divided between four broad types (J1-J3) with one shell-tempered jar (J4). The forms are described below and a selection of the pottery representing the forms and variation present is illustrated in Figs 15 - 16.

Dishes
D1 Dish with slightly flaring sides, plain rim and broad, flat base with small chamfer at edge (Fig 15)

D2 Dish with slightly flaring sides, plain (rounded or flattened) rim with a slight groove below the rim and broad, flat base (Fig 15)

D3 Dish/bowl with flaring sides, plain (rounded) rim and indentation below rim (Fig 15)

Bowls

B1 Bowl. Flanged bowl, flange below rim, curving wall - B1A sloping flange, B1B small flat flange, B1C small stubby flange (Fig 15)

Jars

J1 Jar. Oval bodied jar with flaring rim, sometimes squared-off, commonly with uneven rilling (J1R) around the upper part of the body (Fig 15)

J2 Jar. Oval body jar with beaded rim, commonly squared-off, some slightly under-cut (Fig 16)

J3 Jar. Oval bodied necked-jar with flaring rim (Fig 16)

J4 Jar. *CAR* 10 Fabric HD Type 36 - Necked jars in shell-tempered and calcite gritted wares with slightly hooked rim (Fig 16)

While the number of individual pots of each form could not be easily ascertained, as an attempt to show the broad occurrence of each of the forms as part of the kiln assemblage, the numbers of sherds, sherd weight and EVE for pottery (rim sherds) identified to a specific form is presented in Table 10.

Form	**no**	***% no***	**wt/g**	***% wt***	**EVE**	***% EVE***
Dishes						
D1	2	*1.3*	84	*1.6*	0.54	*2.5*
D2	10	*6.7*	562	*10.6*	1.90	*8.8*
D3	2	*1.3*	8	*0.2*	0.13	*0.6*
sub-total	*14*	*9.3*	*654*	*12.4*	*2.57*	*11.9*
Bowls						
B1	11	*7.4*	238	*4.5*	0.72	*3.3*
Jars						
J1	72	*48.3*	1877	*35.6*	10.37	*48.5*
J1(R)	13	*8.7*	919	*17.4*	2.72	*12.7*
J2	11	*7.4*	310	*5.9*	1.87	*8.7*
J3	23	*15.4*	1183	*22.4*	2.83	*13.2*
J4	5	*3.3*	90	*1.7*	0.30	*1.4*
sub-total	*124*	*83.1*	*4379*	*83.0*	*18.09*	*84.5*
Total	*149*	*99.8*	*5271*	*99.9*	*21.38*	*99.7*

Table 10. Roman kiln pottery quantities of sherds and EVE for rims able to be identified to a specific Form type.

Of the pottery recovered, jars are by far the most common form (over 80% of kiln pottery). Of these, form J1 is the most common. Jars of this form appear to be closely related to the jar form J3, which is also one of the more common of the forms recorded and possibly represents larger versions/variants of form J1. Jar form J2, with a bead or undercut rim, is recorded as several examples and although there is some variation noted between the rim sherds grouped within this type they appear to be kiln products. The other two vessel types which can be identified as kiln products are dishes (form D1-D3) and flanged bowls (form B1). There are pieces from several different vessels of form D2 (with a broad groove below the rim). The dish/bowl form D3 may be variant of this form, although the body appears more bowl-like. There is variation in the flange of the bowls (forms B1A, B1B and B1C), with B1A having a sloping upper surface and the other two being rather short and stubby so that they may be related.

It is not clear to what extent that variation seen in some of the forms of both the jars and bowls is related to a deliberate reproduction of particular forms or form variations, or how much this may be related to more than one potter working here producing individual variations of a form type. At a minimum one could see essentially three core products: the jar forms J1 and J3 relating to size, with the decoration (rilling) of some of the J1 forms producing J1(R), dishes or dishes/bowls with a groove below the rim (forms D2 and D3) and flanged bowls (form B1) with variations in the forming of the flange. Some of the few pots recorded as form J2 could be variations on form J1, although there a few pots which are clearly significantly different in rim form to J1 and there is just a single example of the

dish form D1. Although no residual pottery from the earlier Roman occupation here appeared to be present, the recovery of pieces of what was probably a single, late shell-tempered jar (form J4) suggests that some pottery, other than kiln products might be present. Given this, vessel forms which appear in very low numbers have to be treated cautiously as necessarily being part of the kiln repertoire. That they may exhibit firing damage might reflect their inclusion in the kiln during one or more firing rather than reflect a waster status.

5.3.5.3 Other finds from the kiln

Fired clay
Pieces of fired clay were recovered from the kiln firing chamber (AF73) and stoke pit (AF100), with most coming from the firing chamber. In total 262 pieces were collected with a combined weight of 3,640g, giving an average weight of just under 13.9g. The colour of pieces varies between grey/brown, grey/buff and reddish brown, the most common colour description recorded being grey/buff to reddish/brown. Almost all of the pieces are irregular lumps with no obvious surfaces. None are vitrified and so do not appear to come from the kiln lining in areas exposed to the greatest heat. One piece (AF73 Q4 (121)) has a possible wattle void or slab join and one area may be part of a surface. One other piece (AF73 Q4 (122)) may also retain part of a surface. It appears likely that much of this material might derive from a clay wall or dome over the upper part of the kiln.

Charcoal
Six pieces of charcoal were hand recovered from the kiln. Together these weigh 32g with an average weight of 5.3g. Most come from the kiln firing chamber (AF73). The largest piece (AF73 Q4 (121)) weighs approximately 5g.

Bone
A single, small piece of burnt bone (weight 1g) was hand recovered from one of the postholes (AF163) located in the area of the stoke pit.

A note on heat affected stone
A quantity of heat affected stone was recovered from the kiln. Most of this is discoloured rather than whitened and crazed (calcified) and is clearly incidentally heat affected from the kiln firing(s) rather than residual prehistoric 'burnt' flint/stone.

5.3.5.2 Discussion
The kiln appears to have produced a limited range of courseware forms (jars, flanged bowls and dishes) during the Late Roman period. The pottery assemblage indicates that it broadly dates to the late 3rd/4th-century and most likely was operating in the late 4th century. It is not known over what time span the kiln was in use.

Dating
Close dating of the kiln relies on the forms of the pots found in it and that can be closely associated with it. The presence of a late shell-tempered jar in the fill of the firing chamber is of significance in the dating.

In terms of the pottery that can be identified as kiln products, the flanged bowls (form B) can be firmly dated to after the mid-late 3rd century and are current throughout the 4th century (*CAR* 10, 481-82; Going 1985, 15). Beyond this, closer dating (based on the kiln products) is more rather more subjective. The form J1(R) has rilling on the body. This form of decoration appears throughout the Roman period on 'Broughing' type coarseware jars found in Essex and more especially to the west (west Essex and Hertfordshire) and on shell-tempered pottery in the midlands. The 'Broughing' jars is a distinctive form with rilling confined to the upper body in the Late Roman period (Going 1987 25, form G21) and the decoration here may be copying the close rilling found on the shell-tempered jars which appear during the Late Roman period in this region (see Going 1987, fig 10, G27.11). This could indicate a mid-late 4th century date for the J1(R) kiln form. It can also be noted that an apparently similar rilled jar in a gritty greyware (possibly similar to kiln Fabric A) is illustrated from Gt. Oakley from a context dated there to the mid 3rd/mid 4th century (Barford 2002, fig 107, no. 110, Period 3-Phase 3).

A late Roman date for the kiln is supported by sherds from a single late shell-tempered jar. This can be broadly dated to the 4th century, but most probably dates to the late 4th century, after c AD 360 when this pottery can be shown to appear in significant quantities on sites in Essex (Wallace 1993). This is the only shell-tempered pottery associated with the kiln and given this it seems unlikely to be a kiln product. However, it does not appear to be intrusive to the kiln and was found in close association with the other kiln pots so it does not appear to have been introduced after the kiln had been abandoned for any length of time. The apparent lack of any other significant late Roman activity on the site also suggests it is closely associated with the active life of the kiln. It may be that waster material was dumped into the kiln at the end of its life, but again would indicate that this took place in the late 4th century. The presence of this pot suggests that the kiln was in operation or had only recently been abandoned at some point in the late 4th century.

Although subjective, it can be noted that the coarse fabric of some sherds, which have some flint in the fabric matrix, might be considered similar to fabrics with flint-temper recovered from late Roman kilns at Chelmsford and Inworth. These fabrics there are closely associated with 'Rettendon wares', produced primarily in the southeast of the county and which centres on the period of the early-mid 4th century (Going 1987, 10 Fabric 48).

Products and possible distribution

The limited range of utilitarian coarsewares, essentially kitchen wares, that can be associated with the single kiln suggest production for relatively local consumption and distribution. It was possibly intended just to supply the needs of the local area, although it is noted that the River Stour estuary at Manningtree is only approximately 2km to the northeast. The kiln may have been required, or was set up as an opportunity to provide a supply of pottery during the late Roman period of the late 3rd-4th century at a time when the known kilns at the locally important centre at Ardleigh and at the large regional production at Colchester were either no longer in production or no longer provided any significant output in terms of regional supply. While the distribution area may be likely to have be relatively local to the kiln the products this area might possibly have included sites to the east as far as Little Oakley, located approximately 6 km away. This possibility is raised by a rilled greyware jar from the late Roman levels at the villa site there (see above) which is similar to kiln Form J1(R) and might conceivably be a product from the kiln here. However, it might also have been produced in another, as yet unlocated kiln working in the same tradition of forms and situated closer to the villa.

Dishes

Form D1

Fig 15.1 AF73 Q3 About one third of rim and wall, base missing, possibly slightly underfired where broken away at one edge, grey with pale grey fabric and darker margins, Fabric GX1 (74 g, EVE 0.42)

Form D2

Fig 15.2 AF73 Q3 (128) Complete pot wall, base missing, large crack through wall, evidence of hand finishing inside close to base join, slightly distorted oval shape to body, grey, Fabric GX1 (426 g, EVE 100)

Fig 15.3 AF100 (47) Rim sherd, gritty dark grey fabric with grey surface Fabric GX1 (16 g, EVE0.07)

Form D3

Fig 15.4 AF73 (54) Rim (two joining sherds) small dish/bowl with sloping wall and broad groove or indentation below rim, grey fabric, Fabric GX1 (8 g, EVE 0.13)

Bowls

Form B1A

Fig 15.5 AF100 Rim sherd, gritty grey fabric with some cracking on body, Fabric GX1 (63 g, EVE.17)

Form B1B

Fig 15.6 AF100 Rim sherd, gritty grey fabric, Fabric GX1 (22 g, EVE0.07)

Form B1C

Fig 15.7 AF100 Rim sherd, gritty brownish grey and grey fabric, some cracking on body, Fabric GX1 (75 g, EVE 0.12)

Jars

Form J1

Fig 15.8 AF73 Q4 (114) Rim, some cracking to body, grey fabric, brownish-grey surfaces, Fabric GX1 (70 g, EVE 0.40)

Fig 16.15 AF73 Q3 (110) Rim (2 non-joining sherds), rim flattened and squared-off, slightly undercut, gritty grey fabric, Fabric GX1 (128 g, EVE0.50)

Fig 15.9 AF73 Q1 (80) Rim, slightly distorted, gritty grey fabric, Fabric GX1 (84 g, EVE 0.30)

Fig 15.10 AF73 Q1 (80) Rim (2 joining sherds), some turning marks of grooves around upper body, gritty grey fabric, Fabric GX1 (134 g, EVE 0.35)

Form J1R
Fig 15.11 AF73 (113) Complete pot, rim top distorted (oval) body cracked on one side (sherd detached during processing), ovoid body with slight neck off-set, uneven rilling effect on mid and upper body, gritty grey fabric, Fabric GX (469 g, EVE 100).

Fig 15.12 L4 (162) Rim (3 joining sherds), squared-off rim, rilled shoulder, grey fabric, some fine cracking to body, Fabric GX2 (24 g, EVE 0.06)

Fig 15.13 AF73 Q3 (110) and AF73 Q3 (121) Rim (2 joining sherds) rilled on shoulder extending onto lower body, dark grey fabric with brownish-grey surface, Fabric GX2 (57 g, EVE 0.20)

Fig 15.14 AF100 (47) Rim (3 joining sherds) rilled shoulder extending onto lower body, grey fabric, Fabric GX2 (137 g, EVE 0.35)

Form J2
Fig 16.16 AF100 (81) Rim, slightly distorted, squared-off, slightly undercut, faint pair of grooves on top of shoulder, grey fabric with brownish-grey surface, Fabric GX1 (42 g, EVE 0.35)

Fig 16.17 AF100 Rim, bead rim, two faint grooves on neck area, soft, flaking, grey fabric, Fabric GX1 (36 g, EVE 0.16)

Fig 16.18 AF73 Q1 (96), AF73 Q1 (83) and AF73 (114) Rim, rim and body sherds (some joining), probably all part of one jar, squared bead rim, slightly undercut, gritty grey fabric, Fabric GX1 (216 g, EVE 0.70)

Fig 16.19 AF73 (54) Rim, squared bead rim, grey fabric, Fabric GX2 (14 g, EVE 0.22)

Form J3
Fig 16.20 AF73 Q3 (110) and AF73 (128) Rim (joining sherds) crack in body, grey fabric, Fabric GX1 (245 g, EVE 0.49)

Fig 16.21 AF73 Q1 (80) Rim, gritty grey fabric, Fabric GX1 (120 g, EVE 0.26)

Form J4
Fig 16.22 AF73 Q2 (83), AF73 Q4 (114) and AF73 (75) Rim, rim and body sherds (some joining), squared-off rim, slightly undercut, finely rilled shoulder, grey fabric with voids from dissolved shell-temper, Fabric HD – CAR 10 Type 36 (225 g, EVE 0.39)

5.4 Ceramic building materials and fired clay

by Steven Benfield

A total of 17 pieces of ceramic building material (CBM) with a combined weight of 2,565g were recovered. All are in red, sandy fabrics. All apart from two pieces all of the CBM appear to be of Roman date.

5.4.1 Roman

Almost all of the Roman CBM was recovered from ditches in Area A. Although several pieces (11 pieces, 634g) were recovered from AF64(Sx3), there does not appear to be any significant concentration of CBM from one context or any area of the ditches in that area.

The only positively-identified pieces of CBM are *tegula* roof tiles from ditches AF16, AF63 and AF64. One *tegula* piece (AF16(2)) has a broken lower cut-away of Warry type C5 (Warry 2006, fig 1.3) which he suggests is of mid-2nd/mid 3rd century currency. The base of this tile is 20mm thick, while the two other measurable *tegula* pieces are both 25mm thick.

The Roman CBM consists of pieces from tiles which are flat or have a flat base area. Most, if not all of which are probably *tegula*. The very small quantity makes comment difficult. The tiles were recovered from excavated sections of ditch so represent a sample of a larger group of material present in the ditches. The quantity recovered does not suggest a building on the site, although as all are from Area A they may have come from a tile-roofed structure in the vicinity. There are no pieces from *imbrex* tiles which are the other tile component required for such a roof, but this may reflect the chance element of sample from linear features or possibly careful salvage of tile from a roof here leaving only a relatively small quantity of material on the site. However, the flat *tegulae* tiles are commonly reused (or simply

used for other purposes), on Roman (and later) sites in unmortared construction and might possibly also have been brought onto the site for this purpose.

5.4.2 Post-Roman
A small piece of tile from pit CF231 appears to be peg-tile (dated later medieval-post-medieval) and there is one piece of post-medieval brick (966g) (dated late 17th-early 18th century) which comes from ditch CF239(Sx 5).

5.4.3 Fired clay
Only a very small quantity of fired clay was recovered from features other than the Roman kiln. In total there are nine pieces with a combined weight of 81g. The fired clay was mostly recovered as individual pieces with a maximum of three from any one context. None is identifiable as part of an object. Five of the pieces are from the fill of ditch AF64 which contained Roman pottery dated to the 1st and 2nd centuries. The remainder are finds from contexts which otherwise produced no closely datable finds are almost certainly of early-mid Roman date.

5.5 Querns
by Steven Benfield

Parts of querns in puddingstone, imported lava and sandstone (millstonegrit) were recovered. These were recorded as individually numbered small finds (SF). It notable that two querns, one lava (SF8) and one sandstone (SF19), are both broken at the hole made for the handle.

5.5.1 Puddingstone
A single large portion of a puddingstone quern (SF7) was recovered from AF85(28). The piece comprises about a half upperstone of a bun-shaped quern and includes part of the central hopper shaft. One area of the edge has been broken away. The curvature indicates an original diameter of approximately 280-300mm. The maximum height (thickness) close to the central hopper shaft is approximately 700mm.

Puddingstone rotary querns are associated with the Late Iron Age and early Roman period although the great majority recorded are associated with early Roman contexts. While very few have been recovered from Iron Age contexts their production is thought to have begun around the turn of the 1st century and probably they were not current after *c* AD 160 (Major 2004).

It has recently been recognised that some of the pudding stone utilised for querns in England was imported from the continent in the Late Iron Age period, coming from sources in North France (Peacock 2014, 159-160 and fig 8.16). It has been recognised that the nature of the stones in the conglomerate matrix can help to determine its point of origin and French sources are noted for black stones with white cores. Unfortunately, there are similarities between this imported stone and some Hertfordshire puddingstone, notably that associated with Radlett, although the stones within the conglomerate matrix from Radlett are noted as generally black throughout (Peacock 2014, 159). The stones in the matrix of the quern here are almost entirely dark throughout possibly suggesting a source in the Hertfordshire Radlett area, although this is far from certain.

SF7 AF85(28) Approximately half of the upper stone of a puddingstone quern. Low, bun-shaped quern with part of the central hopper shaft surviving. One area of the edge broken away. The curvature indicates an original diameter of approximately 280-300 mm. The maximum height (thickness) close to the central hopper shaft is approximately 70mm. The stones in the light-grey conglomerate matrix are or small-medium size and close-set giving an even appearance to their distribution. The stones themselves are mostly dark coloured and dark throughout, although on or two have lighter interiors. Weight approximately 3000g

5.5.2 Lava
Imported lava quernstone was recovered from three features – ditches AF35 and AF64 and pit AF99. Among these is a large section of an upper stone (in three joining pieces) from AF99 (SF 8) which retains part of the turning hole, part of the edge of an upper stone from AF35 (SF 15) and part of a lower stone from AF64 (SF 16). The remaining pieces (SF 20 and SF 25) are small, broken-up lumps, pieces and fragments.

Lava quernstone, primarily from the Mayen quarries of the Eifel Hills in the Rheinland, was imported into Britain from the Early Roman period. This trade had ceased by the early Saxon period but resumed again in the Mid-Late Saxon period and continued into the medieval period (Buckley & Major 1983).

SF 15 AF35(8) Piece from the edge of the upper stone of an imported lava quernstone with part of low edging collar (thickness 32mm, weight 170g)

SF 25 AF64 sx1(19) Small piece of imported lava quernstone (weight 17g)

SF 20 AF64 sx1(20) Small pieces and fragments from an imported lava quernstone (20 pieces, weight 170g)

SF 16 AF64 sx3(41) Piece from an imported lava quernstone, lower stone, small part of edge remaining, radial dressing (not extending onto central area of stone), appears to be approximately 320-340mm dia. (thickness 35-30mm, weight 1099g)

SF 8 AF99(43) Three joining pieces representing one half of the upper stone (about 45%) of an imported lava quern, edge collar decorated with vertical tooling, angled tooling across upper face and top of collar, worn grinding surface with a distinct worn, smooth radial band, part of handle (turning) hole at edge penetrating from the side through to the top of the quern. Centre area of stone less than 15mm thick, outer edge of collar 50mm thick (weight approx 3800g)

5.5.3 Sandstone

Pieces of coarse sandstone from querns or millstones were recovered from ditches AF16 and AF64, with the majority of pieces coming from AF64. All of the sandstone appears similar and is most probably millstonegrit, sourced in the Pennine Hills in the Derbyshire region. This stone is known to have been exploited for querns in the Iron Age, but at a point following the conquest of the north of Britain in the Flavian period querns from this source began a wider exploitation and distribution. A piece from a millstonegrit quern has been recovered in Essex from a context dated *c* AD 120 at the *Mansio* site in Chelmsford, but the majority of querns in this stone appear to belong to the late Roman period (Buckley & Major 1999).

Most of the few pieces of sandstone quern were recovered from ditch AF64, which also contained a significant quantity of Roman pottery dated to the period of the mid 1st-early 2nd century, the latest closely dated sherds among which are dated to the late 1st-early 2nd century. The four pieces of quern from this ditch are small. Two joining pieces are from the upper stone of the same quern and it may be that all of the pieces are part of stones from one quern, although the two upper stone pieces are approximately 15mm thick with the other two pieces are between 20mm and 25mm thick. However, as small pieces the quernstone is quite broken-up and may have been of some age when they entered the context. In respect of this a possible late 1st-early 2nd century date appears unusually early in relation to the majority of querns of this type from sites in Essex.

SF 19 Fig 24.1 AF16(7) Quite abraded piece from the edge of a sandstone (millstone grit) quern, upper stone with rounded raised collar. Part of hole for handle or rope for turning surviving at one edge and penetrating through to the surface of the quern, the base of the hole almost penetrates to the grinding surface. (thickness behind collar 30 mm, weight 471 g)

SF 26 AF64 sx1(103) Small abraded piece from a sandstone (millstone grit) quern (thickness 25 mm, weight 115 g)

SF 23 Fig 24.2 AF64 sx3(39) **and SF 27** AF64 sx3(125) Joining pieces from same quern.
SF23 - Quite abraded small piece from the edge of an upper stone of a sandstone (millstone grit) quern, with small collar and lip on lower edge, very faint vertical tooling on collar edge. Possibly small enough to be from a household quern (thickness behind collar 15 mm, weight 107 g)
SF 27 - Small abraded piece from a sandstone (millstone grit) quern with small collar and lip on lower edge, faint vertical tooling on collar edge (thickness behind collar 15 mm, weight 54 g)

SF 24 AF64 sx3(39) Quite abraded piece from a sandstone (millstone grit) quern (thickness 20 mm, weight 125 g)

5.6 Metal small finds

by Pip Parmenter

5.6.1 Introduction

Thirteen numbered metal small finds and twenty-nine unnumbered iron nails were recovered during excavations at Dale Hall. Of the thirteen numbered small finds, only two – a City of Rome commemorative coin and an amorphous piece of copper alloy, were recovered from stratified contexts. Twenty-six of the nails were recovered from a single inhumation, and the three further nails were

recovered from pit BF259 and cremation BF205. The unstratified small finds included an early Roman brooch and possible *as*, as well as various post-medieval finds. These will be discussed below. A catalogue of all the small finds can be found in Appendix 3 at the back of this report.

5.6.2 Stratified Small Finds
A City of Rome commemorative coin (SF1) was recovered during metal detecting of the terminus of early 1st-mid 2nd century AD ditch AF64. Coins such as this were issues in the early 330s AD, when Constantine refounded Byzantium and relocated the capital of the Holy Roman Empire there from Rome. Coins were issued commemorating both cities. The coin appears to post-date the ditch in which it was found. Rather, it is contemporary with the kiln slightly to the south-west and likely relates to this.

Two cut down pottery bases of jars (SF17 & SF18) were recovered from the upper fill of ditch AF101 and can be described as belonging to a class of artefact broadly referred to as counters. These are relatively common finds in larger Roman settlements such as Colchester and the use of these objects has previously been discussed by Nina Crummy (*CAR* **2**, 93). Other finds from the upper ditch fill indicate a Late Roman (late 3rd-4th century) date. Both are in greyware, one (SF17) in slightly gritty fabric with sparse white/milky quartz similar to some of the pottery from the kiln (AF73), and both bases might come from products of the kiln here. They are of similar size, at between 93mm-95mm in diameter, and are large examples, most counters recorded from Colchester commonly being between 25mm-50mm in diameter. On both, the wall of the pot has been entirely removed to a level with, or just below the bottom of the base interior creating a flat disc. This is clearly deliberate, but although there is some light smoothing/abrasion to some areas of the broken edges, there is little indication beyond this of any significant modification to the broken edges. It can be noted that a jar base from the kiln (F78 (80)) has separated in a neat break at the base wall, but part of the wall remains and the clean separation over most of the base edge can be clearly be identified as a manufacture/firing fault. The presence of the two bases together in this one context also indicates deliberate manufacture as counters.

The other stratified small finds include a small piece of copper-alloy, that looks like part of the head of a Colchester type bow brooch (SF5) recovered from a cremation (BF174) in Area B of the site. The cremation is thought to have been late 1st-early 2nd century date. Twenty-six Manning (1985) Type 1b nails were recovered from Inhumation BF253. These were all of small/medium size and had flat, round heads. Most were corroded and broken. Also recovered from BF253 was a small piece from a shale vessel (SF21) was recovered from the grave fill of burial BF253 (191). The piece retains two smooth surfaces but no surviving original edges. What appears probably to be the internal surface is curving with one broken wall edge relative thick and expanding, the other thinning down, and the piece is possibly from the wall or base edge of a vessel. One further nail was recovered from pit BF259, and two more from cremation BF205.

5.6.3 Unstratified Small Finds
All the unstratified small finds are included in the catalogue in Appendix 3. Their utility with regards to the understanding of activity at Dale Hall is limited by their unstratified nature. The majority were located during the metal detecting of spoil heaps. They have dates ranging from mid-late 1st century AD to *c* 1701.

5.6.4 Topsoil
A number of the unstratified finds were recovered during the stripping of topsoil. One of these was a copper-alloy disc brooch decorated with concentric wreaths (SF9). It is thought that the central design had originally included blue glass hearts and silvered triangles. A pin attachment was evident on the rear of the brooch. The edges of this brooch are damaged. It likely dates from the mid 1st-late 2nd century AD. Also recovered were two copper-alloy jettons, both badly damaged, half a medallion depicting a double-headed eagle and thought to date to the late 18th century AD.

5.6.5 Area A
An illegible *as*, a lead weight with cream coloured surface and central perforation, a (post-medieval) small lead seal, a William III halfpenny dating to 1701 and a lead shot with one side flattened were recovered during metal detecting in Area A.

5.6.6 Area C
A small Colchester type bow brooch (SF2), thought to date from the mid/late 1st century AD (C181), was recovered from a spoil heap in Area C. This had an intact spring and rope decoration on the spine.

5.7 Human bone
by Julie Curl

5.7.1 Methodology
Seventeen bags of cremated bone were submitted for recording and analysis. The contents were dry-sieved through a stack of 10, 5, 2 and 1mm sized mesh to ensure maximum recovery and assess the degree of fragmentation. Fragments measuring over 5mm were manually separated for analysis, those below 2mm were scanned, but not fully sorted and examined in greater depth for this report. Greatest lengths were measured for the larger pieces in each bag. Material was recorded onto the cremation recording sheet. A summary catalogue of the material is provided in Appendix 4 and a full catalogue is available in the digital archive.

5.7.2 Quantification, provenance and preservation
Seven features produced cremated bone, with some of these producing multiple bags from excavation and sieving of the surrounding soil, one urn was also excavated in a series of spits as well as a sample of sieved soil. In total, seventeen bags were examined, producing a total of 880g of bone, consisting of 1434 pieces.

Of the seven features producing cremated material, six of them were placed inside ceramic vessels. The cremated bone from BF253 was placed directly into the ground. Most of the cremation vessels date to the mid 1st-2nd centuries, with BF254 producing a vessel of a possible 2nd-3rd century date.

The majority of the bone had been fully cremated, with the vast majority (over 98%) of the remains having been left a white to sandy-white colour.

5.7.3 Analysis results and discussion

5.7.3.1 Size of cremation
The cremated material from this assemblage varied in weight from 5g to 191g. The size of a cremation depends on the individual (age, sex, body mass, bone density), maintenance of the pyre, the extent of bone recovery from the pyre site and during excavation, as well as on the rate of bone preservation (McKinley 1993).

Context	Feature and weight in grams							Context Total
	BF174	BF177	BF251	BF253	BF254	BF255	BF257	
136	22g							22g
138	29g							29g
140		258g						258g
188			79g					79g
189			71g					71g
192				30g				30g
196					169g			169g
198						31g		31g
199						68g		68g
202							82g	82g

203							41g	41g
Feature Total	51g	258g	150g	30g	169g	99g	123g	880g

Table 11. Quantification of the cremated material by context, feature number and weight (g).

This weight for the cremations in this assemblage is on the low end of the weight range in comparison to average archaeological cremations (range: 57–3000 g) (McKinley, 2000) and substantially incomplete in comparison to a modern cremation (1000–3600 g) (McKinley, 2000), with two of the cremations from Dale Hall are below the minimum average weight. Cremations in containers are normally larger than cremations in pits and finely crushed cremations tend to be smaller due to poor preservation. The smallest cremation (by weight) in this assemblage was un-urned and it is likely the lack of a protective vessel resulted in some loss of bone. The smaller size of these cremations may be due to a range of factors including loss of the volatile portion of bone before burial as well as post-depositional bone decay. Despite this, most of the remains at this site were interred in vessels (urns), therefore the low weight for the urned burials may be due to poor collection of the cremated remains, some crushing or adverse soil conditions. Quantification of the assemblage by context, feature number and weight can be seen in Table 11.

5.7.4 Fragmentation

The fragmentation of bone resulting from the cremation process may be increased by funerary practices such as raking and tending of the pyre, collection of bone at the pyre site, deliberate crushing prior to burial, as well as a result of post-depositional processes, excavation and processing (McKinley, 1989).

Context	Sample/Spit	Feature	>10mm	5-9mm	2-4mm	
136		BF174	14	4	0	
138	Sample	BF174	55	19	7	
192	Sample	BF253	48	12	6	
202		BF257	76	39	21	
203	Sample	BF257	51	10	8	
198		BF255	21	9	6	
199	Sample	BF255	122	38	13	
196	Sample	BF254	19	5	2	
196	Sample	BF254	147	51	20	
189		BF251	56	21	12	
188	Sample	BF251	110	37	18	
140	Spit 1	BF177	15	2	1	
140	Spit 2	BF177	3	5	2	
140	Spit 3	BF177	10	4	3	
140	Spit 4	BF177	2	10	2	
140	‘Crem pot'	BF177	14	0	0	Total Count
140	Sample	BF177	218	43	23	
		Totals	981	309	144	1434

Table 12. Quantification of the cremated material by fragment size. Table does not include fragments/dust below 2mm.

There is quite a lot of variation in fragment size with the largest fragment in these urned cremations measuring a maximum of 61mm. Overall, a greater proportion (in terms of count) of bone (68%) was in the range of >10mm in length, 22% of the remains are over 5-9mm, 10% are between 2-4mm; the smallest fragments/bone dust in the assemblage were not included in these counts and percentages. The degree of bone fragmentation is greater than that generally seen in archaeological cremations where an average of 50% of bone fragments are over 10 mm in size (McKinley 1994). This may be

due to the lack of a cremation urn for most of the samples or the remains may be from a clearing of the pyre and have undergone a greater degree of fragmentation as a result. Quantification of the assemblage by context, feature and fragment count by fragment size can be seen in Table 12.

The cremation in the urned burial BF177 was largely excavated in spits. There was variation in the fragment size between spits, with the largest fragments found in Spit 1 and smaller fragments found in other spits and the largest fragment decreasing in size from Spits 1 to 4.

5.7.4.2 Colour
The colour of cremated bone depends on a range of factors including the maximum temperature reached, the length of the cremation process, the type and amount of fuel, the quantity of oxygen, the amount of body fat as well as on the degree of uniformity of exposure to the heat across the body. A correlation has been found between the temperature attained and colour changes. Cremated bone can exhibit a large range of heat-induced colour variation from normal coloured (unburnt), to black (charred: *c* 300°C), through hues of blue and grey (incompletely incinerated: up to *c* 600°) to fully oxidised white (> *c* 600°C) (McKinley, 2004).

The majority of bone in this assemblage was fully oxidised i.e exposed to a temperature in excess of *c* 600°C. A few fragments retained some typical brown colour of unburnt bone, notably from BF251, which might suggest these fragments were to the edge of the cremation or residual remains in the deposit or perhaps conditions, such as poor weather, prevented complete burning.

5.7.4.3 Surface changes
Surface changes such as warping, cracking and fissuring were noted throughout. These are characteristics of cremated bone and are produced during the process of dehydration undergone by bone exposed to heat. The pattern of heat-induced bone changes in colour and texture can be exploited to infer the technological aspects of the ritual, the condition of the body at the time when the cremation process took place and the nature of post-depositional disturbance (Shipman *et al.*1984).

5.7.4.4 Elements and species identified during the assessment
Most of the identifiable elements are thought to be human, with no diagnostic elements from any animal remains seen in this assemblage. It is possible that animal bone may be included in the smaller fragments. The elements identified cover much of the skeleton, although there is a notable lack of hands and feet and it is possible these small elements were completely destroyed during the burning or perhaps only larger fragments were collected for placing in the urn.

5.7.5 Conclusions
The remains in this assemblage are small compared to the average sizes of archaeological cremations (McKinley 2000), the remains in these cremations, even the urned cremations, appear not to represent the complete cremation of one individual.

The average size of most of the fragments was small to very small and most of these smaller fragments could be identified further than 'mammal/HSR'. It therefore not possible to say whether the majority of the smaller fragments of bone are human, animal or a mixture. It is possible that the remains in this assemblage represent bone cleared from a pyre area that has undergone extensive raking and disturbance of material, hence a greater degree of fragmentation. The remains may well be the residual bone left from the cremation of more than one individual.

5.8 The Animal Bone
by Pip Parmenter

Three animal bone fragments were recovered during excavations at Dale Hall, Lawford. Only one of these was unburnt. This bone was in Area C ditch CF239. It comprises the proximal end of an unfused cattle tibia. Both of the unfused epiphyses and the shaft of the bone are present. A large saw mark across the proximal end of the unfused shaft. This mark almost certainly derives from attempts to disarticulate the tibia from the carcass. Only a very short section of shaft is present. The visible fracture is dry/mineralised and is not related to butchery or processing of the carcass.

The two burnt fragments were recovered from different contexts – one from a possible fire pit in Area A (AF82) and one from a pit within the cemetery in Area B (BF266/267). The fragment from pit AF82 has significant charring to its external surface, implying heating at a relatively low temperature. The fragment from pit BF266/267 is much paler and more in line with burning at a higher temperature. Both fragments appear to be from small ungulate ribs (pigs or sheep).

5.9 The environmental samples

by Val Fryer

5.9.1 Introduction

Excavation of three separate areas at Dale Hall Farm, Lawford was undertaken by the Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT). The work recorded pits, ditches and cremation deposits of probable first to second century date and a kiln of third to fourth century date. Other discrete features were also noted, but a general paucity of finds meant that most were undated at the time of excavation. Samples for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from all three excavation areas and a total of twenty-nine were submitted for assessment.

The samples were bulk floated by CAT and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Appendix 5. Nomenclature within the tables follows Stace (2010). All plant remains were charred. Modern roots, seeds and arthropod remains were also noted within most assemblages.

5.9.2 Results

Although seeds of ruderal weeds and/or grassland herbs are present within many of the assemblages, other plant macrofossils are generally scarce. Preservation is poor to moderate, with many of the seeds lacking surface features due to post-combustion abrasion. In addition, other remains are severely puffed and distorted, probably as a result of combustion at extremely high temperatures.

Cereal grains are particularly scarce, occurring as single specimens within only five of the assemblages studied. Barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains are recorded, with most of the latter being of an elongated 'drop' form typical of spelt *(T. spelta*). Cereal chaff is entirely absent.

As stated above, weed seeds are present at a low to moderate density within many assemblages, occurring most frequently within the samples from kiln AF73 (Table 1) and cremation BF177 (Table 2). Taxa noted include fat hen (*Chenopodium album*), black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*), hemp-nettle (*Galeopsis* sp.), grasses (Poaceae), knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*), buttercup (*Ranunculus* sp.), dock (*Rumex* sp.) and sheep's sorrel (*R. acetosella*). A number of the same assemblages also include onion-couch (*Arrhenatherum* sp.) type tubers and seeds/fruits of wetland plants including sedge (*Carex* sp.), spike-rush (*Eleocharis* sp.), blinks (*Montia fontana*) and lesser spearwort (*Ranunculus flammula*). A single bramble (*Rubus* sect. *Glandulosus*) 'pip' is present within the assemblage from quadrant 1 of the kiln (sample 6). Charcoal/charred wood fragments are present throughout, although rarely at a high density. Other plant macrofossils include fragments of charred root or stem and indeterminate tubers.

Other remains are generally very scarce. Black porous and tarry residues are recorded, most commonly within the cremation deposits, but it is unclear whether they are bi-products of the cremation process or later intrusive contaminants.

5.9.3 Discussion

For the purposes of this discussion the samples have been divided by feature type.

5.9.3.1 Kiln AF73 and associated features

Six samples are from deposits within the kiln and a further two assemblages are from fills within the adjacent rake out pit (AF100). The kiln assemblages are all small (<0.1 litres in volume), possibly

indicating that the structure was cleaned regularly as a means of preventing accidental fires. The few plant macrofossils which are recorded are probably derived from the use of dried herbage as tinder, kindling or fuel, and it would appear that much of this material was gathered from areas of marginal grassland or meadow. Small quantities of cereal processing waste may also have been used to supplement the fuel, with contemporary parallels for this practise coming from, for example, a kiln at Heath Farm, Postwick near Norwich (Fryer 1997). Although charcoal is scarce within the kiln itself, both rake out pit assemblages are charcoal dominant, with large roundwood fragments being present in both instances.

5.9.3.2 Funerary contexts

Samples were taken from an inhumation of later prehistoric or Roman date (BF253 sample 28) and from seven cremations of probable early Roman date. The inhumation deposit contains little other than fragments of charcoal/charred wood and pieces of charred root/stem, all of which may have accidentally accumulated within the grave fill. The cremation deposits are all reasonably uniform in composition, containing seeds, a low density of charcoal/charred wood and a low to moderate density of charred root/stem. Bone fragments are generally scarce. The weed assemblages are essentially the same as those from the later kiln (see above), but it is currently unclear whether the remains are primarily derived from fuel, or whether they may be indicative of plants which were burnt *in situ* beneath the pyres.

5.9.3.3 Other contexts

Samples are from ditches, pits, fire pits and a possible well. With the possible exception of the sample from ditch AF64 (sample 2), which is similar to both the kiln and cremation deposits, the assemblages are generally very sparse, with most containing only occasional cereals, seeds and flecks of charcoal. It would, therefore, appear most likely that the few remains which are recorded are derived from scattered or wind-dispersed refuse, much of which was probably accidentally incorporated within the feature fills.

5.9.4 Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In summary, with very few exceptions, the assemblages from Lawford are small (<0.1 litres in volume) and limited in composition. Seeds are present within the cremation deposits and the kiln assemblages, but plant remains are generally scarce elsewhere. However, given the nature of the two main activities recorded at the site, this is, perhaps, not that surprising. Cremation pyres and kilns were generally placed well away from any focus of habitation or settlement, both because of the unpleasant nature of the process (in the case of the cremations) and because of the not inconsiderable risk of accidental fires. As a result, this area was probably treated as marginal land throughout much of the Roman period. Assuming that the fuels used within both the pyres and the kiln were gathered from nearby sources, it would appear that rough, marginal grassland conditions were locally prevalent, with some annual weeds appearing as the ground was disturbed.

As one of the assemblages contain a sufficient density of material for quantification (i.e. 100+ specimens) no further analysis is recommended. However, a summary of this assessment should be included within any publication of data from the site.

6 Discussion (Figs 5 – 24)

Excavations at Dale Hall revealed evidence of a primarily agricultural landscape dating predominantly to the 1st and 2nd centuries AD. Agricultural activity was represented by two phases of a large and complex system of field boundaries and trackways in both Areas A and C of the site. Also in Area A was a late 3rd-4th-century kiln. The agricultural activity represented in Areas A and C was not present in Area B. Here, archaeological activity comprised a small, enclosed mixed rite cemetery, which contained six cremations and at least one inhumation. The enclosure, inhumation and cremations are dated to the late 1st/early 2nd century AD, and it seems likely they were contemporary with the proposed second phase of agricultural activity in the other areas.

Despite the relative abundance of archaeological features on the site, particularly within areas A and C, very few of the features contained any closely datable material, making an accurate phasing of the site difficult. Many of the features across all the areas of the site, particularly pits and postholes, remain undated due to the absence of either datable finds or stratigraphic relationships with other

features. Many of the larger boundary ditches and trackways were dated solely on their stratigraphic relationships, whether direct or indirect, with features within which datable finds were found and where the stratigraphy of these finds was thought to be sound.

The Enclosed Cemetery

The small, enclosed cemetery in Area B dated broadly to the late 1st/early 2nd centuries. The enclosure itself was orientated north-west to south-east and appeared to have a small entrance in its western corner. It was demarcated by two ditches, AF172, which formed the north-western, north-eastern and south-eastern sides and AF180 which formed the south-western side. There was some evidence that the enclosure overlay an earlier enclosure (ditches AF178, AF252, AF256, AF262), however only very small parts of these ditches were visible. Three of these ditches (AF178, AF252 and AF256) contained prehistoric pottery, making a pre-phase 1 date likely. There is no evidence that this earlier enclosure was used for the same purpose as the later one.

Situated within the enclosure were an inhumation and five similarly shaped pits, and seven cremations. The inhumation (BF253) was located in the eastern half of the enclosure. It overlay earlier ditch BF256. Within its fill was found 30g of cremated bone, however its almost complete destruction makes it impossible to determine whether this derived from a human or an animal. It contained no uncremated bone or grave goods, but has been positively identified as an inhumation based on the presence of twenty-six iron nails, typically associated with the construction of coffins, within its fill. It is aligned similarly to the enclosure surrounding it. Five other pits all superficially have the appearance of being inhumations as they are all roughly the same size and shape as BF253, and have straight-sides and flat bases. Of these pits, four were in intercutting pairs (BF266 and BF267; BF263 and BF264). None of these pits are on the same alignment as BF253, nor do they contain any human bone or grave-goods of any kind. They therefore cannot be positively identified as inhumations.

Six small pits containing cremated bone were all located centrally within the enclosure ditch. There were no obvious groupings between these cremations, with the possible exception of BF251 and BF254, which were located in close proximity to one another. All six cremations were deposited in vessels that broadly date to the late 1st-early 2nd centuries AD. One vessel (in BF254) was possibly slightly later than this and has a 2nd-3rd century AD date. All the cremations were relatively low in weight, with one falling below the minimum average for an archaeological cremation (BF174) It is evident from the extremely sparse faunal remains that bone preservation was particularly poor, and in the case of BF174, the lack of cremation vessel is likely to have contributed to the severe degradation of the cremated bone.

The group of cremations at Dale Hall appears to be fairly typical of cremation burials in the local area in the late 1st/early 2nd centuries. A very similar group of cremations recovered during archaeological investigations at Birch Pit (CAT Report 383) comprised four late 1st-early 2nd cremation burials which contained almost identical vessels to those at Dale Hall. Similarly, single contemporary cremation burials from around the Colchester area appear to contain the same types of greyware jars as cremation vessels (eg CAT Reports 293 and 413).

In the pre-Roman Iron Age in south-east Britain, the main visible burial rite was cremation and this certainly seems to be true in and around Colchester. This is particularly evident at sites such as the Lexden cemetery, the Lexden Tumulus and the cemetery at the Stanway site (Crummy 1997, 22, 23) but is also visible at more rural sites such as Birch Pit and here at Dale Hall. The Romans also practised cremation of the dead, which was intended to completely dispose of the body to ensure that the spirit entered the other world and did not return to haunt the living (Alcock 1980, 50). Inhumation appears to have taken over as the primary burial rite during the 3rd century AD, when people tended to be buried in wooden coffins. The presence of an inhumation within the context of an early Roman cremation cemetery is slightly unusual but may be associated with later activity at the site. It is known that the site was active during the late 3rd-4th centuries AD and possible that an awareness of the earlier cemetery meant that it was utilised for this single burial.

Field System (Figs 5 and 8a-b)

Although not datable with absolute certainty, it is thought that Phase 1 activity dates to the early Roman period (*c* late 1st century-early 2nd century). All the features belonging to this phase have

been designated as such because of their relationships with each other and the fact that they clearly preceded Phase 2 activity. In both areas, Phase 1 activity comprises a complex of regularly aligned field ditches, all of which are aligned either north-south or east-west. The field system itself appears to have been efficiently organised, and, in Area A at least, is thought to have included stock-handling structures. With the exception of possible phase 1 ditch AF64 (see below), only 12 sherds, weighing 113g, were recovered from the twelve ditches dated to this phase in Area A. None of these sherds were more closely datable than as being 'Roman' in date. The same number of sherds was recovered from Phase 1 features in Area C. These weighed 104g and represented a much wider date range, from late Prehistoric to post-medieval. This suggests that Phase 1 activity in this area may have disturbed previous activity, and that it itself was disturbed by later activity. Phase 1 activity in Area C was limited to nine ditches, all of which were very similar in alignment, dimension and profile to those in Area A identified as belonging to this phase. It is clear that the agricultural activity identified in Area C was a continuation of a widespread agricultural field-system, also visible in Area A.

AF64 contained the largest quantity of Roman pottery from any feature, and 73% by sherd count/66% by weight of the entire Roman assemblage (excluding material associated with the kiln) at Dale Hall. The assemblage recovered from this feature comprised largely medium-sized sherds, some of which were joining though none of were bagged as groups of sherds belonging to single pots during excavation. The vast majority of the pottery recovered from this ditch was from Section 3, which was almost at the eastern terminus of the ditch. It is thought that the assemblage represents a midden dump.

The second phase of activity at the site is also thought to date to the late 1st and 2nd centuries AD. Much of the Phase 2 activity comprised large field boundaries and ditches that directly overlay the earlier Phase 1 field system. Despite this clear intercutting of the two phases of ditch system, close dating of either is impossible. The alignment of the whole Phase 2 field system, both in areas A and C, was slightly different to that of the earlier field system, the layout of the ditches was far more variable, and their sizes and shapes distinctly more amorphous. Nevertheless, there appears to be evidence of systems for the control of stock in both, for example, entrances between ditches and trackways or droveways.

In the southern part of Area A were large ditches AF101 and AF138. These were very similar in size and shape and could conceivably have formed part of the same large external enclosure ditch, which may have surrounded the internal stock control features represented by many of the other Phase 2 ditches. AF16 appeared to be parallel to AF138 and may have been another significant boundary within this network of ditches. The other ditches in Area A that were associated with Phase 2 activity were smaller and are more likely to have been the remains of stock control systems within the field system. For example, in the south-western corner of Area A was a small entrance way between ditches AF16 and AF101, on from which ran a very slight ditch (AF98) which turned through almost 90° directly opposite the entrance, as if to guide or direct animals/people through it. At the northern terminus of AF98 was an entrance with AF88 into a small enclosure in the south-east corner of the site. Another entranceway was visible between ditches AF85 and AF43 into an enclosure in the east of Area A.

One of the Phase 2 ditches in Area A contained relatively large amounts of pottery. AF27 was in the north-western corner of the site. It was clearly related to the rest of the Phase 1 field system activity in this area. It produced 72 sherds, weighing 2807g and consisting of large proportions of three pots, joining sherds from two others. It is thought that they were deposited at the same time. It is clear from the forms and fabrics recovered from this context that the pottery must have been deposited after the early-mid 2nd century AD. This *terminus ante quem* has tentatively been extrapolated to all ditches associated with AF27 and the Phase 2 field system, giving a likely date of the mid-late 2nd century for this activity.

There was no clear evidence of the Phase 2 field system in Area B, though the southern ditch of the cemetery enclosure does extend past the three-sided ditch which marks the other sides of the enclosure, and was possibly a boundary ditch, onto which the other sides of the enclosure was joined. In Area C the ten Phase 2 ditches do seem to be a continuation of those present in Area A. Finds from these features were sparse and had a wide date range, from prehistoric to medieval. The

phasing of the Area C ditches remains extremely tentative and is based on significant stratigraphic similarities with the two phases of ditch system in Area A.

Stock control structure and stock enclosure (Figs 1, 2, 5 and 8a)

The stock control structure appears to have been an integrated part of the ditch complex. It was located at the western end of the droveway formed by ditches AF56 and AF74 and was represented by two gullies and twelve flat-bottomed postholes. It had a small entrance to the south onto the droveway, and possibly another opposite this to the north, into the large main enclosure. Both the gullies are very similar in terms of alignment, dimensions and profile to the ditches of the field system and their close relationship with ditches AF35 and AF56 leaves little doubt that they would have been in use contemporaneously. Six of the associated postholes were present within the western of the two gullies (AF36) and followed its north-south alignment. Four postholes bridged the gap between the gullies, and two more were present in the termini of the eastern gully (AF35). The whole structure was a little under 10m wide and was almost square. Given its position at the end of the droveway, and that one of its sides appeared to have been at least partially open, it seems entirely likely that this structure was utilised for the control of stock, or possibly as some kind of byre. A single sherd of CBM was associated with this feature.

The stock enclosure was represented entirely by the remains of stake-holes with strongly V-shaped bases. The profile of the base of the stake-holes is important as it implies that small posts were knocked into the ground, rather than being dropped into a pre-dug hole, as was the case with the stock control structure (above). While the stock enclosure is similar in size and shape to Iron Age roundhouses (Pope 2007, 218), its long 'entrance-way' is not a familiar aspect of such structures. Roundhouses tend to include a gully around their perimeter, which is absent here. The small stake-holes depicting the plan of the structure also suggest that this was not a domestic building but rather a fenced enclosure within the larger field system. In this capacity, it is most likely that structure 2 was another, small, stock control structure, much like a corral. None of the features associated with this structure contained any finds.

The Kiln (Fig 8c and 14)

While many pottery kilns have been found during excavations in Colchester itself, the presence of a late Roman kiln at a rural site such as Dale Hall is more unusual. The kiln found at Dale Hall was of a fairly simple design, not dissimilar to Hull's Kiln 8 (Josselin's No. 2 – Hull 1963, 3/4). It was keyhole shaped, with single flue and firing chamber. Ploughing had destroyed most of the superstructure of the kiln. However, some of the substructure, including the firing chamber, remained. Some of the kilns that have been found in Colchester produced pottery for export across Britain and represent the production of Roman pottery, both basic and ornate, on an industrial scale.

The kiln at Dale Farm does not represent the manufacture of pottery on anywhere near this scale. The range of pottery being produced was limited to utilitarian coarsewares which were probably intended only for local use and distribution. Similar kilns are known from rural settlements at Ardleigh (Brown 1999) and Witham (EHER 14043). It is possible that the kiln at Dale Farm was built in the late 3rd-4th centuries in order to maintain a local supply of pottery following the cessation of pottery production at Ardleigh and the diminishing supply of pottery from Colchester.

Conclusions

Excavation at Dale Hall revealed a large and rural complex of field boundaries and measures to facilitate the control of stock around the immediate area. Activity of this nature appears to have been occurring on site from at least the mid 1st century AD, though is likely to have been on-going by this point. There is relatively little evidence for earlier activity at the site, whether residual or *in situ,* though some small quantities of Late Iron Age pottery were present, indicating at least some activity dating to this period. Evidence for activity earlier than this comprises just a few sherds of pre-Iron Age pottery and pieces worked flint. Clearly the area was subject to some prehistoric use, but the scarcity of finds dating to this time makes it unlikely that this activity was particularly intensive.

Cropmarks known prior to these excavations appeared to indicate the presence of a small number of ditches crossing Area A (Fig 4). Following excavation, all three of the cropmarks have probably been identified on the site. However, the cropmarks and the actual ditches are slightly out of alignment with the ditches located *c* 10m further to the west and *c* 2m further to the north of the plotted

cropmarks. This is probably due to the cropmarks either not being rectified or there being an error during this process. The long N/S cropmark appears to be ditch F16, the short N/S cropmark ditches F19 and F98 (although excavation showed that they are not one continuous length of ditch, perhaps the result of either being over-stripped or ploughed-out), and the E/W cropmark ditch F7. The excavation of Area A also proved that the field-system was both more complex and extensive than suggested by aerial photography.

None of the other three cropmarks from the development site were identified during either the evaluation phase or the excavation, suggesting that they might have been of a natural origin. It is interesting to note that, as currently plotted, the NE/SW cropmark running through Area B is on the exact same alignment as overhead power cables and may have been misidentified as a cropmark. However, as the cropmarks and ditches in Area A do not align there is a chance that, if rectified, these cropmarks may also move slightly further to the north and west.

Excavation of Areas A-C also proved that the field-system was more complex and extensive than that suggested by the 2014 evaluation (CAT Report 783). It is unfortunate in Area C that all of the preceding evaluation trenches in this corner of the site were aligned N/S. As the vast majority of the ditches in Area C were also aligned N/S it has made tracking the extent of the field-system outside of the excavation area virtually impossible. According to the evaluation trenches, the rest of the development site to the south of Area C would certainly seem to be fairly empty of features, is there a reason for this? Area C is located in the NE corner of the development site which gently slopes away by approximately 1m. This may have been enough to affect the geology/drainage of the site possibly making this corner better agricultural land, and therefore influencing the frequency of features (ditches) laid-out here.

Similarly, not all of the ditches subsequently identified in Areas A and B were recorded in the evaluation trenches. A simple explanation may be that the evaluation trenches just needed machining a bit harder. This was not helped by the scarcity of archaeological finds across the site, as some silt patches were not fully investigated (being thought of as natural) as no finds were being recovered from them. Some of these patches proved to be ditches during later excavation when a wider area of stripped. Unfortunately this has meant that, like Area C, it is almost impossible to track the extent of the activity outside of excavation Areas A and B. However, two undated ditches two the east and south of Area B (evaluation trenches T20 (F28) and T21 (F21) would suggest that activity continues in these directions.

Unfortunately, the majority of the archaeological features on the site were not directly datable due to the very small number of closely-dated finds contained within them. Rather, they are dated according to their stratigraphic relationships and similarities to the few features that were directly datable. This leaves us with a general understanding of the relative chronology of the site, but unfortunately not a detailed understanding of precisely when features were being constructed or when they might have been no longer extant. Equally unfortunately, much of the pottery that has provided the dates upon which the phasing of the site has been based cannot be more closely dated than to within a couple of centuries. Almost all of the pottery recovered from both the Phase 1 and Phase 2 field systems has been dated to between the late 1st and early 3rd centuries AD, and within that the majority falls within a range of the late 1st and 2nd centuries. The separate phases of activity, while obvious when looked at in plan, are almost impossible to judge based on material evidence.

No direct evidence exists for the presence of any Roman occupation in, or in the immediate vicinity of Areas A, B or C. Given the amount of pottery present across the site, it seems likely that there was settlement activity but that it was occurring peripherally to the excavated areas. The large dump of coarseware pottery within Phase 1 ditch AF64, possibly from some kind of midden, indicates that people were living close by in the late 1st-early 2nd centuries, as does the existence of the contemporary enclosed cremation cemetery. It is impossible to speculate as to where such settlement activity may have been occurring. It is unlikely that, wherever it was, it would have been any more than a small rural settlement. Links between the people living and working at Dale Hall and larger centres such as Colchester can be traced through the (limited) presence of local and regional finewares at the site.

Evidence for activity of a 2nd-3rd century date is considerably more limited than the evidence for 1st and 2nd century activity. It is possible that it exists in the form of undiagnostic body sherds, but it seems more likely that the there was something of a hiatus, or at least a shift in focus, in activity at this time until the establishment of the 3rd-4th century kiln in the central part of Area A. The presence of this simple late Roman kiln provides us with evidence that some kind of settlement activity in the area is likely, though gives no further clue as to where this might have been. It is thought that the kiln only served the needs of the immediate area and was used for the production of basic kitchenware. It is unclear whether activity relating to the kiln was occurring contemporarily with late phases of agricultural activity in the vicinity. Certainly there is little evidence for pottery that was produced in the kiln finding its way into the field system features.

Based on the above, it seems reasonable to speculate that there was a complex system of fields and trackways established at Dale Farm by the late 1st century. It is likely that there was a small settlement peripheral to this field system, whose inhabitants established and utilised the small enclosed cremation cemetery identified in Area B. The field system was maintained for a time, before being radically simplified at some point during the 2nd century. During the late 2nd or 3rd centuries activity associated with this field system slowed or ceased, possibly to be relocated or possibly, as a result of the establishment of a series of much larger enclosures. Then, during the late 3rd or 4th century a small pottery kiln was established in the centre of Area A in order to make pottery for the local area. Much like the earlier field systems, this kiln was likely peripheral to a rural settlement.

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Note: all CAT reports, except for DBAs, are available online in PDF format at http://cat.essex.ac.uk

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9 Abbreviations and glossary

Anglo-Saxon	period from *c* AD 410 to Norman conquest of AD 1066
BA	Bronze Age
CAT	Colchester Archaeological Trust
CBCPD	Colchester Borough Council Planning Department
context	specific location of finds on an archaeological site
ECCPS	Essex County Council Place Services
EHER	Essex Historic Environment Record
feature (F)	an identifiable thing like a pit, a wall, a drain: can contain ‘contexts’
IA	Iron Age
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
layer (L)	distinct or distinguishable deposit of soil
medieval	period from AD 1066 to Henry VIII
modern	period from *c* AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
NGR	National Grid Reference
post-medieval	from Henry VIII to *c* AD1800
prehistoric	pre-Roman
residual	something out of its original context, e.g. a Roman coin in a modern pit
Roman	the period from AD 43 to c AD410
section	(abbreviation sx or Sx) vertical slice through feature/s or layer/s
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

10 Contents of archive

Finds

Paper and digital record
Two A4 document wallet containing:
The report (CAT Report 847)
ECCPS brief; CAT written scheme of investigation
Original site record (feature and layer sheets, finds record, trench record sheet)
Site digital photographic log, site photographic record on CD
Attendance register, benchmark data, risk assessment

11 Archive deposition

The paper archive and finds are currently held by CAT at Roman Circus House, Roman Circus Walk, Colchester, Essex, but will be permanently deposited with Colchester Museum under project code COLEM: 2014.80

Distribution list
Rose Builders
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Roman Circus Walk,
Colchester,
Essex, CO2 7GZ

tel.: 01206 501785
email: pp@catuk.org

Checked by: Philip Crummy
Date: October 2016
minor revisions: April 2017

APPENDIX 1: COMPLETE CONCORDANCE (FEATURES AND FINDS)

Context	Context Type	Detail	Finds	Period/Spot Date
AF1	Ditch	NW-SE	-	-
AF2	Ditch terminus	Likely ditch terminus, disappears into south baulk	-	-
AF3	Pit	Shallow, slightly irregular oval	-	-
AF4	Ditch	Short, narrow and slightly curved. NW-SE.	-	-
AF5	Posthole	?Associated with AF6	-	-
AF6	Posthole	?Associated with AF5	-	-
AF7	Ditch	E-W, part of AF128	-	-
AF8	Ditch terminus	E-W	-	-
AF9	Pit	Small, round, shallow pit	-	-
AF10	Pit	Small, round, shallow pit	-	-
AF11	Posthole	Small sub-round/oval. V steep sides and flat/concave base. Part of group including F12 – F15	-	-
AF12	Posthole	Large sub-oval with vertical sides and flat base.	-	-
AF13	Pit	Small sub-oval with moderate slope to the NE and mod/steep slope to the SW. Base slopes up to NE.	-	-
AF14	Pit	Small sub-oval with moderately steep sides. V similar to AF13.	-	-
AF15	Stake-hole	Vertical sides and concave base. Sealed beneath AF14.	-	-
AF16	Ditch	Aligned N-S. Stepped on E side.	Septaria (2 sherds - 14g) Pottery (24 sherds - 202g) CBM (2 sherds - 258g) Quern Stone (SF19 – 471g)	Roman, M1 – 2C
AF17	Posthole	In northern part of AF16, on eastern side.	-	-
AF18	Ditch	Narrow ditch w/terminus to west. Aligned E – W	-	-
AF19	Ditch	N-S/NE-SW aligned. Mod sides and flat base. Cut by AF20.	Flint (3 pieces – 20g) Pottery (4 sherds - 52g)	Roman, ?1 – 2 C
AF20	Pit	Sub oval with mod steep sides and flat/concave base. Cuts AF19.	-	-
AF21	Pit	Oval with moderate sides and flat base.	-	-
AF22	Gully	Gradually sloping sides and concave base.	-	-
AF23	Gully	At right-angles to AF22. Moderate sides and flat base.	-	-
AF24	Posthole	Oval posthole with moderate/steep sides and flat base.	-	-
AF25	Posthole	Small sub round posthole with steep sides and irregular base.	-	-
AF26	Posthole	Large sub oval with vertical sides and flat base. In alignment with AF24 and AF25, though different in shape.	Pottery (1 sherd – 1g)	Roman, M/L1 – E/M2 C
AF27	Ditch	E-W aligned. Cut by AF16 to W. Moderate sides, concave base.	Pottery (60 sherds – 2338g)	M1 – 2 C

			Pottery (12 sherds – 369g)	2 – 3/4C
AF28	Gully	Short with shallow sides and flat base. Cut by AF27 to the N.	-	-
AF29	Ditch	Curved south to west	-	-
AF30	Posthole	Line of postholes (AF30 – 33) aligned E – W.	-	-
AF31	Posthole	Line of postholes (AF30 – 33) aligned E – W.	-	-
AF32	Posthole	Line of postholes (AF30 – 33) aligned E – W. Charcoal flecking.	-	-
AF33	Posthole	Line of postholes (AF30 – 33) aligned E – W. Charcoal flecking.	-	-
AF34	Ditch	N - S aligned, moderate sides and flat base. Cuts AF35	-	-
AF35	Beam slot	E – W aligned with mod/steep sides and flat base. Cut by posthole AF39 at E end.	Pottery (1 sherd – 26g) Quern Stone (SF15 – 170g)	Roman
AF36	Beam slot	N – S aligned beam slot adj to E end of AF35 to N and at right-angles with AF35. Steep sides and flat base. Cut by AF39 at S end, AF37, AF38, AF40, AF45, AF46.	-	-
AF37	Posthole	Sub-round posthole with mod steep sides and flat base. Cuts beam slot AF35.	-	-
AF38	Posthole	Sub round with mod/steep sides and flat base. Cuts AF36 at N end.	-	-
AF39	Posthole	Large sub rectangular posthole, vertical sides and flat base. Cuts AF35 and AF36 at junction.	-	-
AF39a	Posthole	Sub round posthole, cutting beam slot AF36. Mod/steep sides and flat base.	-	-
AF40	Posthole	Sub round with steep sides and irregular base. Cuts AF36.	-	-
AF41	Posthole	Small round posthole with step sides and concave base.	-	-
AF42	Posthole	Small sub oval posthole with moderately steep sides and concave base.	-	-
AF43	Ditch	Aligned SW-NE. Truncated by AF44, ?cuts AF61. Cut by AF51 in middle.	Pottery (9 sherds – 98g) Septaria (1 piece – 28g)	M1 – E2C
AF44	Ditch	N-S before turning through right angle to terminus. Truncates AF43. Much deeper than AF43.	Pottery (1 sherd – 23g)	Roman
AF45	Posthole	Sub oval with mod/steep sides and flat base. But by AF36 – only posthole to be cut by slot rather than cut it.	-	-
AF46	Posthole	Sub-oval with mod/steep sides and concave base.	-	-
AF47	Pit	Rectangular pit aligned N-S	-	-
AF48	Ditch	Shallow, curving E-S	Pottery (1 sherd – 1g)	?M1 – 2C
AF49	Ditch	Shallow, curving N – W	-	-
AF50	Posthole		-	-
AF51	Ditch	Aligned N-S, cut AF43	Pottery (1 sherd – 30g)	M1 – 2C
AF52	Tree throw	Irregular with steep sides and slat base	-	-
AF53	Pit	Oval with mod sides and concave base	-	-
AF54	Posthole	Sub oval with steep sides and flat base	-	-
AF55	Posthole	Large sub round with vertical sides and flat base. Very deep.	-	-
AF56	Ditch	E – W aligned with terminus to W. Aligned with AF35. V steep sides and flat base.	Pottery (1 sherd – 2g)	Roman
AF57	Posthole	Sub oval with very steep sides and flat/concave base.	-	-
AF58	Ditch	Aligned E – W with v steep sides and flat base. Recut of AF56, overlapping it and extending to E.	-	-
AF59	Posthole	Small rounded with steep sides and flat base. Cuts AF56.	-	-

AF60	Posthole	Sub round with stepped steep N side.	-	-
AF61	Ditch	Shallow, aligned NW-SE. Cut by AF51.	Pottery (10 sherds – 175g)	M1 – E2C
AF62	Ditch	Shallow, aligned N-S. ?Continuation of AF51 to S.	-	-
AF63	Ditch	Shallow, aligned N-S	Pottery (4 sherds – 33g) Nail (1 piece – 19g) CBM (1 piece – 252g)	M2 – 3/4C
AF64	Ditch	Terminus to E, aligned E-W. Cuts F19, cut by F27.	Pottery (2 sherds – 6g) Pottery (5 sherds – 102g) Pottery (951 sherds – 14668g) Pottery (46 sherds – 929g) Septaria (48 pieces – 1897g) Stone (1 piece – 1312g) Fired Clay (2 pieces – 47g) Burnt Stone (1 sherds – 472g) CBM (10 pieces – 435g) Flint SF1 – Ae Coin, SF16 – Quern Stone, SF20 – Quern Stone, SFs23, 24, 25 – Quern Stones	Neo/EBA LIA/ERom M1 – 2C Roman
AF65	Ditch	Aligned E – W. Northern edge under baulk.	Pottery (2 sherds – 125g) Pottery (10 sherds – 57g)	M1 – 2C M2 – 3/4C
AF66	Ditch/gully	N-S aligned. Mod/gradual sides and flattish base.	CBM (1 piece – 272g)	Roman
AF67	Posthole	Sub oval/round with mod steep sides and concave/flat base. ?Boundary/fenceline marker?	-	-
AF68	Posthole	Round, containing two ?stake-holes, with V-shaped bases and steep sides.	-	-
AF69	Posthole	Sub round with steep sides and flattish/concave base.	-	-
AF70	Pit	Small, circular.	Pottery (2 sherds – 3g)	L NEO/EBA
AF71	Pit/Tree throw		-	-
AF72	Pit		-	-
AF73	Kiln	R-B Kiln, Oval shape – 1.2 x 0.7m.	See separate list (Appendix 2)	-
AF74	Ditch	E – W aligned, parallel with AF56. Adjoined by AF34. Palisade along some of length. Steep sides and flat base.	Pottery (9 sherds – 79g)	Roman
AF75	Postholes	Small rounded with steep sides and flat/concave base. ?Palisade along AF74?	-	-
AF76	Postholes	Small rounded with steep sides and flat/concave base. ?Palisade along AF74?	-	-
AF77	Postholes	Small rounded with steep sides and flat/concave base. ?Palisade along AF74?	-	-
AF78	Posthole	Round with vertical sides and concave base. Overlain by AF34	-	-
AF79	Posthole	Irregular, with steep sides and stepped base. Possibly 2 postholes, but truncated.	-	-
AF80	Pit		-	-
AF81	Pit/Natural		-	-
AF82	?Fire pit	Burnt red soil around edges. Carbonised twigs? A.Bone frags.	Iron Nail (2 pieces – 4g) Animal Bone (3 fragments – 6g)	-
AF83	?Fire pit	Burnt red soil around edges. Carbonised twigs?	-	-
AF84	?Fire pit	Burnt red soil around edges. Carbonised twigs? A.Bone frags.	Fired Clay (1 piece – 6g)	-

AF85	Ditch	Curved from W - NE	Pottery (1 sherd – 154g) Quern Stone (SF7)	Roman
AF86	Posthole	Associated with AF87, at base of AF85	-	-
AF87	Posthole	Associated with AF86, at base of AF85	Pottery (3 sherds – 27g)	M – L1C
AF88	Ditch	Aligned SE-NW, cuts E-W ditch AF7/AF128	Pottery (1 sherd – 6g)	Roman
AF89	Postholes	Associated with AF90, AF91, at base of AF88	-	-
AF90	Postholes	Associated with AF89, AF91, at base of AF88	-	-
AF91	Postholes	Associated with AF 90, AF91, at base of AS88	-	-
AF92	Ditch	Aligned N-S, vertical sides, flat base.	-	-
AF93	Ditch	Shallow, aligned E-W	-	-
AF94	Pit/Natural		-	-
AF95	Pit	Oval, aligned N-S	Pottery (2 sherds – 7g)	Roman
AF96	Pit	Oval	-	-
AF97	Pit/P-Hole		-	-
AF98	Ditch	Narrow ditch truncated by AF101 to south and AF7 to north. Aligned N-S before turning through right angle to E-W.	-	-
AF99	Pit		Pottery (2 sherds – 15g) Quern Stone (SF7)	M – L1C
AF100	Pit	Sub-oval, aligned at right angles to kiln	-	
AF101	Ditch	Aligned NW-SE	Pottery (1 sherd – 14g) Pottery (3 sherds – 15g) Pottery (12sherds – 655g) Pottery (1 sherd – 55g) Ceramic counters (SF17, SF18)	LIA/ERom M – L1C Roman L3 – 4C
AF102	Posthole	Circular alignment of associated p-holes	-	-
AF103	Posthole	Circular alignment of associated p-holes	-	-
AF104	Posthole	Circular alignment of associated p-holes	-	-
AF105	Posthole	Circular alignment of associated p-holes	-	-
AF106	Posthole	Circular alignment of associated p-holes	-	-
AF107	Posthole	Circular alignment of associated p-holes	-	
AF108	Posthole	Circular alignment of associated p-holes	-	-
AF109	Posthole	Circular alignment of associated p-holes	-	-
AF110	Posthole	Circular alignment of associated p-holes	-	-
AF111	Posthole	Circular alignment of associated p-holes	-	-
AF112	Ditch	Aligned NE-SW	Burnt Flint (3 sherds – 58g)	Preh
AF113	Pit	Small, round, south of AF114	-	-
AF114	Ditch	Aligned E-W, narrow at W end, broadening to E. Vertical sides, flat base.	-	-
AF115	Ditch	Aligned N-S, vertical sides, flat base.	-	-
AF116	Posthole	?Associated w/AF117, AF118 ?structure around rake out pit? Vertical sides, flat base.	-	-
AF117	Posthole	?Associated w/AF116, AF118 ?structure around rake out pit? Vertical sides, flat base.	-	-
AF118	Posthole	?Associated w/AF116, AF117 ?structure around rake out pit? Vertical sides, flat base.	-	-
AF119	Pit/P-Hole		Fired Clay (1 sherd – 1g)	-

AF120	Pit/P-Hole		-	-
AF121	Pit		-	-
AF122	Posthole		-	-
AF123	Pit/P-Hole		-	-
AF124	Pit/P-Hole		-	-
AF125	Pit/P-Hole		-	-
AF126	Pit/P-Hole		-	-
AF127	Posthole		-	-
AF128	Ditch	Aligned E-W, part of AF7.	Pottery (2 sherds – 14g) Flint (1 piece – 2g)	M-L1C
AF129	Tree Throw	Irregular, aligned SE-NW	Flint (1 piece – 4g)	Neo/EBA
AF130	Ditch	Aligned NW-SE, shallow, vertical sides and flat base.	-	-
AF131	Posthole	In base of AF7	-	
AF132	Pit	Circular	Pottery (30 sherds – 860g) Burnt Stone (37 pieces - 1549g)	LBA
AF133	Pit/Tree Throw	Oval shape	-	-
AF134	Ditch	Short length between AF114 and AF128, cut by AF114 and AF130. Aligned NW-SE	-	-
AF135	Tree throw	Oval, aligned E-W	-	-
AF136	Pit	Small, round	-	-
AF137	Pit	Small, oval, aligned N-S	-	-
AF138	Ditch	Cut by AF114, aligned E-W	Pottery (19 sherds – 143g) Burnt Stone (1 piece – 10g)	M1 – E2C
AF139 – AF156	Posthole	Associated with alignment of postholes AF102 – AF111	AF144 – Fired Clay (1 piece – 17g)	-
AF157	Post-structure	Context number for complete post-structure	-	-
AF158	Posthole	Near northern baulk	-	-
AF159	Posthole		-	-
AF160	Posthole		-	-
AF161	Posthole		-	-
AF162	Posthole		-	-
AF163	Posthole	Associated with kiln structure	-	-
AF164	Posthole	Associated with kiln structure	-	-
AF165	Ditch	Shallow, aligned NE-SW	-	-
AF166	Pit/P-Hole	Small, round	-	-
AF167	Pit/P-Hole		-	-
AF 170-171	Compacted Layer	L4- Compacted gravel/pebble layer from adjacent to kiln/oven. Seals Ditch F114.	Pot	Roman
AF249	Ditch	Aligned N-S, terminus to south. Parallel to AF250	Pottery (1 sherd – 6g)	Roman
AF250	Ditch	Aligned N-S, terminus to south. Parallel to AF249		
AREA B				

BF169	Pit	Small, round, natural silt patch	-	
BF172	Enclosure Ditch	Rectangular ditched enclosure, extended by BF180. Entrance to the SW.	Pottery (1 sherd – 9g) Pottery (1 sherd – 12g) Pottery (13 sherds – 211g) Pottery (8 sherds – 97g) Quern Stone (SF14)	Preh EIA M1 – 2C Roman
BF173	Pit	Circular pit, cut into base of north corner of BF172		-
BF174	Cremation	Urned cremation (base only), truncated by ploughing. Pea grit and some human bone visble.	Pottery (Cremation Urn) (12 sherds – 92g) H Bone (16g) Charcoal (1g) Small piece of Cu Alloy (SF5)	M1 – 2C
BF175	Ditch	Narrow ditch, aligned NW-SE. Cuts BF178 and BF172. Cut by BF180	-	-
BF176	Pit/Tree Throw	Beneath BF175	-	-
BF177	Cremation	Urned cremation. Pot smashed/disturbed by ploughing. Pottery, burnt stones and bone present in feature surface. Much burnt charcoal/bone/stone present under pot. Cuts BF178	Pot (Cremation Urn) (43 sherds – 666g) H Bone (620g) Nail (1 piece – 14g)	Roman
BF178	Ditch	Cut by BF172 to N and by BF175/180 to south	Pottery (3 sherds – 27g)	LIA
BF179	Pit	Small irregular pit, charcoal in fill	-	-
BF180	Ditch	Ditch aligned E – W. Thin spread of pyre debris in SX4. Black silt/sand, charcoal and cremated bone flecking.	Pottery (2 sherds – 16g) Pottery (4 sherds – 8g)	L Preh Roman
BF181	Pit	Small irregular pit	-	-
BF182	Pit	Flat bottomed oblong pit with gravelly fill	-	-
BF183	Pit	Irregular round pit. Cuts BF182	Burnt Stone (5 pieces – 48g)	-
BF184	Pit	Small oval pit.	-	-
BF185	Posthole	Small circular posthole.	Pottery (1 sherd – 2g)	LPreh
BF186	Pit/Tree throw	Irregular round feature	-	-
BF187	Tree Throw		Flint (1 piece – 5g)	LPreh
BF188	Tree Throw		Pottery (2 sherds – 7g)	L Neo/EBA
BF189	Tree Throw		-	-
BF190	Tree Throw	Charcoal fill	-	-
BF191	Pit	Small, shallow round pit	-	-
BF192	Posthole	Small round posthole	-	-
BF193	Tree Throw		-	-
BF194	Tree Throw	?Possibly two together	-	-
BF195	Tree Throw		-	-
BF196	Ditch	Aligned NW-SE	-	-
BF197	Ditch	Thin, shallow, aligned NW-SE. Parallel to BF172	-	-
BF198	Pit	Probably natural	-	-
BF199	Tree Throw		-	-

BF200	Tree Throw		-	-
BF201	Tree Throw		-	-
BF221	Pit		-	-
BF222	Tree Throw		-	-
BF223	Tree Throw		-	-
BF224	Linear	V. Deep, aligned NE-SW. Very steep/vertical sides. Cut by BF172?	-	-
BF251	Cremation	Fragmented urned cremation, possibly 2 vessels, possibly deliberately broken. Bone throughout fill.	Pottery (Cremation Urn) (24 sherds – 465g) Pottery (4 sherds – 117g), H Bone (10g)	M1 – 2C L1 – E2C
BF252	Ditch	Ditch aligned N-S between BF172 and BF180. Cut by both.	-	-
BF253	Inhumation	Aligned N-S. No surviving bone. Cremated bone and charcoal flecking throughout. No gravegoods.	Pottery (2 sherds – 7g) Pottery (1 sherd – 3g) Flint (1 piece – 9g) Shale vessel? Fe Nails (SF190 – 26 pieces)	LPreh M1 – 2C
BF254	Cremation	Disturbed urned cremation	Pottery (Cremation Urn) (37 sherds – 682g) H Bone (155g)	M1 – 2C
BF255	Cremation	Bone throughout fill and at top of feature. Smashed urn.	Pottery (17 sherds – 138g) H Bone (30g) Glass (2 pieces – 12g) Nails (2 pieces – 9g)	M1 – 2C
BF256	Ditch	Shallow, curving S – W. Cut by BF253	Pottery (1 sherd – 9g)	L Preh
BF257	Cremation	Badly damaged urned cremation	Pottery (Cremation Urn) (51 sherds – 700g) H Bone (80g)	M1 – E2C
BF258	?Inhumation	Rectangular feature with vertical sides and flat base. Aligned NW – SE.	-	-
BF259	Cremation	Very damaged remains of ?cremation. Charcoal and cremated bone flecks in fill.	SF204 – Fe Nail	-
BF260	Ditch	Aligned E-W, cut by BF172	Burnt Flint (1 piece – 27g)	Preh
BF261	?Inhumation	Aligned N-S, no surviving bone or grave goods.	-	-
BF262	Ditch	Curved ditch, NE – W. Cut by BF180 and BF261	-	-
BF263	?Inhumation	Aligned N-S, cut by E-W ?inhumation BF264	Pottery (7 sherds – 35g)	M1 – 2C
BF264	?Inhumation	Aligned E-W, cuts N-S ?inhumation BF263. Fragmentary storage jar in base.	Pottery (22 sherd – 970g)	LIA/E Roman
BF265	Ditch	Aligned E-W, parallel to BF180	-	-
BF266	?Inhumation	Aligned NE-SW. No surviving bone, grave goods or nails. Pot and cremated bone present, but could be from BF267. Cut by BF254, cuts BF267	Pottery (2 sherds – 12g)	M1 – E2C
BF267	?Inhumation	Aligned N-S. No surviving bone, grave goods or nails. Cut by BF266.	Pottery (3 sherds – 18g) (though could be from BF266)	?Roman
AREA C				
CF202	Pit/Tree	Shallow, oval	Flint (1 sherd – 12g)	M/LBA - EIA

	Throw			
CF203	Pit/Tree Throw	Shallow, oval	Pottery (2 sherds – 12g)	Preh
CF204	Ditch	Shallow, v-shaped, aligned E-W	Pottery (3 sherds – 23g)	MIA
CF205	Posthole	Large, round. Cuts CF218	-	-
CF206	Posthole	-	-	-
CF207	Pit/Tree Throw	Shallow, oval, aligned E-W	Corroded nail (1 piece – 3g)	-
CF208-210	Pits	Group of three circular pits. Charcoal flecking in CF208	-	-
CF211-215	Small pits	Group of five circular pits	-	-
CF216	Ditch	V. large, truncated by south and east side of site. Aligned E-W.	Flint (1 sherd – 5g)	Preh
CF217	Pit		-	-
CF218	Ditch/gully	N-S gully/ditch, terminating at both ends. Cut by BF205 and BF220	Flint (1 sherd – 10g)	Preh
CF219	Ditch	Aligned N-S along entire site.	Pottery (13 sherds – 67g) Pottery (1 sherd – 2g) Pottery (1 sherd – 10g) Flint (2 sherds – 53g) Fired Clay (1 sherd – 10g)	Preh M1 – 2C ?med/pmed
CF220	Ditch	Aligned E-W, terminating at both ends	Pottery (1 sherd – 15g) Pottery (5 sherds – 171g) Pottery (1 sherd – 2g) Burnt Stone	BA/IA Preh Roman
CF225	Ditch	Shallow, aligned N-S. Intersects with CF220 and possibly continues N as CF241	-	-
CF226	Ditch	Aligned N-S then turns SE. Cut by CF227. Cuts CF228, 230. Unknown relationship with CF229	-	-
CF227	Ditch	Aligned N-S. Appears to cut or branch off into CF226, Cuts CF228, but cut at terminus by CF219.	Pottery (1 sherd 41g)	LIA
CF228	Ditch	Aligned E-W, cut by CF226, 227, 241 and 239. Cuts CF230.	Pottery (1 sherd – 2g)	LIA
CF229	Ditch	Appeared to branch off from CF226	-	-
CF230	Ditch	Cut by CF228 and CF226. Runs parallel to CF227. Terminates to the south.	-	-
CF231	Pit	Small round, stepped on east side.	Pottery (1 sherd – 5g) CBM (1 piece – 8g)	13-14C med/pmed
CF232	?	V Small round feature in junction of CF226 and CF229	-	-
CF233	Ditch	Aligned E-W, terminates to the W	-	-
CF234	Pit	Oval	-	-
CF235	Ditch	Aligned N-S, terminating to the north. Unclear to the south.	Pottery (2 sherds – 17g) Flint (1 sherd – 2g) C Pipe (1 piece – 3g)	L.Preh 17-19C
CF236	Pit		-	-
CF237	Tree Throw		-	-

CF238	Well	Large, circular, probably well. Vertical sides, exc to 1.10m with slot to 1.70m, no base reached. Cut CF204 and CF219. Charcoal flecking in fill.	Pottery (1 sherd – 14g) Burnt Stone (6 pieves – 2381g) Fired clay Object (SF22)	LBA/EIA
CF239	Ditch	Aligned N-S. Cut by CF239 along W edge	Pottery (1 sherd – 5g) A Bone (2 fragments – 105g) CBM (1 piece – 966g) Glass (2 pieces – 6g)	LPreh L18-E18C 19/20C
CF240	Ditch	Aligned N-S. Cuts CF239 along E edge	-	-
CF241	Dtich	Aligned NW-SE, shallow. Cuts CF225 to N.	Pottery (1 sherd – 1g)	Preh
CF242	Ditch	Aligned N-S, terminating to N. Cut by CF220 and CF216	-	
CF243	Ditch	Aligned N-S, terminating to south	-	
CF244	Pit	Small, circular	Flint (1 sherd – 2g)	LPreh
CF245	Tree Throw		-	
CF246	Pit	Small, circular. ?Burnt?	-	
CF247	Ditch	Aligned N-S. Cut by CF220	-	
CF248	Posthole	In SX3 of ditch CF248.		

APPENDIX 2: CONCORDANCE OF FINDS (THE KILN)

Dale Hall Excavation 2015.18. Kiln Bulk finds list

Pottery from the Roman pottery kiln (Kiln 1) at Lawford:

J4 Jar/bowl. Jar or closed-mouth bowl with simple beaded rim

Pottery vessel forms
Dishes
D1 Dish with flaring sides, plain rim and broad, flat base with small chamfer at edge

D2 Dish with flaring sides, plain (rounded or flattened) rim with a slight groove below the rim and broad, flat base

Bowls
B1 Bowl. Flanged bowl, flange below rim, curving wall

Jars
J1 Jar. Oval bodied jar with out-turned pointed or rounded rim, commonly with uneven rilling around the upper body and most in Fabric B.

J2 Jar. Oval body jar with with out-turned, pointed, rounded, flattened or slightly under-cut rims

J3 Jar. Oval bodied necked-jar with out-turned, rounded, flattened or slightly under-cut rims

J4 Jar/bowl. Jar or closed-mouth bowl with simple beaded rim

Fabrics
Fabric GX1 Grey to dark-grey sandy fabric with coarse surface feel; prominent moderate-sparse, ill-sorted, milky quartz & flint inclusions up to 3-4mm in surfaces and fine silver mica. Underfired parts of pots or sherds have a tendency to grey/buff-brown.

Fabric GX2 Grey to dark-grey sandy fabric, occasional milky quartz & flint inclusions and fine silver mica. This appears simply to be a slightly finer variant of GX(1). Most of the sherds from rilled jars of **J1** are in this fabric.

Fabric GX3 Dark grey, grey & grey-brown, fine sand fabric, often with common, fine silver mica, commonly thin sherds.

Fabric HD Shell-temperd ware

Pottery vessel forms
Dishes
D1 Dish with slightly flaring sides, plain rim and broad, flat base with small chamfer at edge

ctxt type	ctxt no.	find no	Find type	Finds description	per	Fab inc	freq inc	Fabric code	form	Dia mm	Eve	no	Wt/g	Ab/ w	Period/ spot date	Pot no.
	AL004	132	pot	Body sherds	Rom			GX1				7	23		Rom	
	AL004	132	pot	Base & body sherd	Rom			GX2				1	18		Rom	
	AL004	132	pot	rim	Rom			GX1	J1	140	6	1	7		Rom	
	AL004 (AF073)	162	pot	Rilled jar	Rom			GX2	J1R	160 (?)	6	3	24		M2-4C	**K38c**
Kiln	US	0	pot	Two pots, grey	Rom			GX1	D2	160	21	2	31	(*)	M2-3/4C	
Kiln	US	0	pot	Misc sherds	Rom			GX1				23	159	(*)	Rom	
Kiln	US	0	pot	rim	Rom			GX1	J3	140	13	1	21		Rom	
Kiln	US	0	pot	rim	Rom			GX1	J2	100	15	1	10		M2-4C	
Kiln	US	0	pot	rim	Rom			GX2	J1	120	16	1	13		M2-4C	
Kiln chamber	AF073	54	pot	Body sherds (mostly jars)	Rom			GX1				76	507		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073	54	pot	rim	Rom			GX2	B1A		4	1	5			
Kiln chamber	AF073	54	pot	Base (bowl)	Rom			GX1	bowl			1	11		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073	54	pot	Base (jars)	Rom			GX1	jars			9	194	(w)	Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073	54	pot	Body sherds	Rom			GX2				2	28		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073	54	pot	Body sherds	Rom			GX3				3	8		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073	54	pot	rim	Rom			GX1	B1B	140 (?)	5	1	7		L3-4C	**K28**
Kiln chamber	AF073	54	pot	Thin walled dish (poss a lid? but unlikely) joining sherds, similar to D2	Rom			GX2	D3	140 (?)	13	2	13		M2-4C	**K29**
Kiln chamber	AF073	54	pot	Necked jar (small)	Rom			GX1	J3	150	7	1	23	(w)	Rom	**K30**
Kiln chamber	AF073	54	pot	Jar rim pieces prob J1 & but some J2?	Rom			GX1	(J1 & J2?)	140 (?)	185	18	147	(w)	Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073	54	pot	Prob	Rom			GX1	J3 (?)	180	12	1	21		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073	54	pot	Small jar	Rom			GX2	J2	100	22	1	14		Rom	**K31**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	80	pot	Rim, body slightly distorted	Rom			GX1	J3	160	26	1	120		M2-4C	**K17**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	80	pot	Rim sherd, slightly distorted rim	Rom			GX1	J1	120	30	1	84		M2-4C	**K18**
Kiln	AF073	80	pot	Rim sherds (joining)	Rom			GX1	J1	150	35	2	134		M2-4C	**K19**

ctxt type	ctxt no.	find no	Find type	Finds description	per	Fab inc	freq inc	Fabric code	form	Dia mm	Eve	no	Wt/g	Ab/ w	Period/ spot date	Pot no.
chamber	Q1															
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	80	pot	Abraded grey sherd, shell leached out	Rom			HD				1	70		4C	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	80	pot	Rim sherd	Rom			GX1	J1	120	13	1	40		M2-4C	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	80	pot	Base sherds, jars	Rom			GX1				4	235	(w)	Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	80	pot	Rim sherd, orange/grey-brown	Rom			GX1	B1A	120 ?	6	1	13	(w)	M2-4C	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	80	pot	Body sherds	Rom			GX1				26	270	(w)	Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	80	pot	Body sherds, in rilled sherds	Rom			GX2	J1R			4	39		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	80	pot	Body sherds	Rom			GX3				2	11		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	80	pot	rim	Rom			GX1			6	1	5		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	127	pot	Body sherds (jars)	Rom			GX1				6	30		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	127	pot	rim	Rom			GX1	J1	130 (?)	14	1	10		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	44	pot	Body sherds	Rom			GX1				14	60		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	44	pot	rims	Rom			GX1	J1	150	21	2	45	(w)	M2-4C	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	46	B stone	Misc incidentally heated flints (NR)	Rom							28	448		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	89	B stone	Misc incidentally heated flints (NR)	Rom							20	267		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	88	pot	Body sherds	Rom			GX1				4	36	(w)	Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	88	pot	Body sherds	Rom			HD				2	19		4C	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	88	pot	sherd	Rom			GX2				1	6		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	88	pot	Rim, cracked, rilled body	Rom			GX2	J1	150	17	1	34	(w)	Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	88	pot	rim	Rom			GX2	J1		6	1	6		Rom	
Kiln	AF073	90	F clay	Irregular fragments, grey-	Rom							4	44		Rom	

ctxt type	ctxt no.	find no	Find type	Finds description	per	Fab inc	freq inc	Fabric code	form	Dia mm	Eve	no	Wt/g	Ab/ w	Period/ spot date	Pot no.
chamber	Q1			brown												
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	45	F clay	Small irregular fragments, grey brownish-buff	Rom							18	41		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	80	charcoal	Piece	Rom							2	1		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	78	B stone	Misc incidentally heated flints (NR)	Rom			flint				20	290		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1	79	F clay	Irregular fragments, grey to grey-buff	Rom								756		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1 (6)	96	pot	Rim (3 joining sherds)	Rom			GX1	J2	150 ?	22	3	91		M2-4C	**K11/ K24**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1 (6)	96	pot	Rim sherd (underfired brown) + 1 other rilled sherd (sherd joins with pot K8	Rom			GX2	J1/J3	150	34	3	140		Rom M2-4C	**K36a**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1 (6)	96	pot	Body sherds inc. 1 base	Rom			GX1				6	197		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1 (6)	96	pot	Rim sherd	Rom			GX1	J2	150	13	1	31		Rom M2-4C	**K21**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q1 (6)	98	F clay	Irregular fragments, grey-brown	Rom							3	32		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	83	pot	Body sherds (jars)	Rom			GX1				17	234	(w)	Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	83	pot	Body sherd from rilled jar	Rom			GX2				1	8		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	83	pot	Small body sherd	Rom			GX3				1	1		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	83	pot	rim	Rom			GX1	J3	160	35	1	121		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	83	pot	Jar base, light, poor waster, sagging base, cracked	Rom			GX1				1	86		Rom	**(K23)**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	83	pot	Leached out shell voids, large jar with slightly undercut rim, 3 joining sherds, 2 other prob shell – one with fine rilling	Rom			HD	jar	170	30	5	90		Rom 4C	**K22**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	83	pot	Rim, slight groove around rim edge	Rom			GX1	J1	140	16	1	41		Rom M2-4C	**K24**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	75	pot	Body sherds inc. one comb decorated	Rom			GX1				33	289	(w)	Rom	
Kiln	AF073	75	pot	Rim	Rom			GX1	J1	140-	23	2	13	(w)	M2-4C	

ctxt type	ctxt no.	find no	Find type	Finds description	per	Fab inc	freq inc	Fabric code	form	Dia mm	Eve	no	Wt/g	Ab/ w	Period/ spot date	Pot no.
chamber	Q2									160						
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	75	pot	Shell-tempered jar, joins with pot K22				HD			12	2	50		4C	**(K22)**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	126	pot	Body sherds	Rom			GX1				6	95		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	56	pot	Bases from 2 pots	Rom			GX1				2	28		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	56	pot	Body sherds (jars)	Rom			GX1				13	60		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	56	pot	Rilled body jar	Rom			GX1				1	5		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	56	pot	Rims (jar 5)	Rom			GX1	J1	120-130 (?)	20	3	29		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	56	pot	Flanged rim	Rom			GX1	B1A	140	6	1	8	(w)	L3-4C	**K33 (K35)**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	57	B stone	Misc incidentally heated flints (NR)	Rom							10	144		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	92	B stone	Misc incidentally heated flints (NR)	Rom							12	212		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	76	B stone	Misc incidentally heated flints (NR)	Rom							14	248		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	93	F clay	Piece with surface(?)	Rom							1	3		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	84	B stone	Misc incidentally heated flints (NR)	Rom							13	81		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	94	F clay	Irregular fragments, grey-brown	Rom							6	88		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	85	F clay	Irregular fragments, grey-buff to reddish-brown	Rom							9	240		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	85	pot	Base, abraded, shell leached out	Rom			HD				1	16		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	58	F clay	Small irregular fragments, grey-buff to reddish-brown	Rom							14	25		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	77	F clay	Irregular fragments, grey & grey-buff	Rom							38	276		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	83	charcoal	Piece	Rom							1	1.2		Rom	
Kiln	AF073	128	pot	Bowl complete wall, base	Rom			GX1	D2	197	100	1	426	w	M2-4C	**K2**

ctxt type	ctxt no.	find no	Find type	Finds description	per	Fab inc	freq inc	Fabric code	form	Dia mm	Eve	no	Wt/g	Ab/ w	Period/ spot date	Pot no.
chamber	Q3			missing, large crack through wall, evidence of some poor (hand) finishing inside close to base join, slightly distorted oval shape to body												
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	128	pot	Jar rim & shoulder, light grey colour (join with AF73 110) 2 262g	Rom			GX1	J3			1	137	(w)	M2-4C	**K4**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	128	pot	Misc body sherds	Rom			GX2				4	33		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	128	pot	sherd	Rom			GX1				1	5		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	128	pot	sherd	Rom			GX3				1	6		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q2	110	pot	sherds	Rom			GX1				13	47		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	110	pot	Jar rim & shoulder, light grey colour (join with AF73 128)	Rom			GX1	J3			1	126	w	M2-4C	**(k4)**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	110	pot	Dish, about one thired of rim and wall, base missing, possibly slightly underfired where broken away	Rom			GX1	D1	130	42	1	74	(w)	M2-4C	**K3**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	110	pot	Jar rim	Rom			GX1	J1	150	26	1	71		M2-3C	**K5**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	110	pot	Jar rim	Rom			GX1	J1	120	35	1	72		M2-3C	**K6**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	110	pot	Jar rim, probably same vessel (not joining)	Rom			GX1	J2	130	50	2	128		M2-3C	**K7**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	110	pot	Large sherd, part profile, rilling over much of body	Rom			GX2	J1	140 ?	5	1	41		M2-4C	**K9**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	113	pot	Jar, complete, rim top distorted on one side and cracked (later this section of the pot detached as a large sherd), ovoid body with slight neck off-set, uneven rilling effect on upper body, grey fabric with prominent, sparse moderate white/whitish-grey sand derived flint and or milky quartz inclusions up to	Rom			GX1	J1R	110-115	100	1	469	w	Rom M2-4C	**K1**

ctxt type	ctxt no.	find no	Find type	Finds description	per	Fab inc	freq inc	Fabric code	form	Dia mm	Eve	no	Wt/g	Ab/ w	Period/ spot date	Pot no.
				3mm showing in surface.												
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	110	pot	Rim sherd	Rom			GX1	D2	140 ?	13	1	22		Rom M2-4C	**K10**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	110	pot	Rim sherd	Rom			GX1	D1	140	12	1	10		Rom M2-4C	**K12**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	110	pot	Small rim sherd	Rom			GX1	D3		3	1	5		Rom	**K16 (K29)**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	110	pot	Base sherds from jars, ncludes cracked, underfired? W sherds	Rom			GX1				5	253	(w)	Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	110	pot	Rim sherds	Rom			GX1	J3	150-180	55	3	151		M2-4C	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	110	pot	Rim sherds from 3 pots	Rom			GX2	J1R (3)	120-140	80	3	133		M2-4C	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	110	pot	Rilled body sherds	Rom			GX2	J1R			11	110		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	110	pot	Rim sherd	Rom			GX1	J1	130	15	1	40		M2-4C	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	110	pot	Rim sherd, buff colour	Rom			GX1	D2	150	10	1	10		M2-4C	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	110	pot	Misc rims	Rom			GX1			30	4	25		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	110	pot	Rim & body sherd	Rom			GX2			22	3	16		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	110	pot	Body sherds	Rom			GX3				4	14		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	110	pot	Body sherds	Rom			GX1				57	796		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	111	B stone	Misc incidentally heated flints (NR)	Rom							20	396		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	112	F clay	Irregular fragments, grey-buff to reddish-brown	Rom							27	827		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q3	110	charcoal	Piece	Rom							1	1.6		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	114	pot	rim	Rom			GX1	J1	110	40	1	70		Rom	**K20**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	114	pot	rims	Rom			GX1	J1	140-150	75	4	199		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	114	pot	rims	Rom			GX1	J3	160-170	20	2	107	w	Rom	

ctxt type	ctxt no.	find no	Find type	Finds description	per	Fab inc	freq inc	Fabric code	form	Dia mm	Eve	no	Wt/g	Ab/ w	Period/ spot date	Pot no.
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	114	pot	Rilled sherds	Rom			GX1	J1R			9	67	w	Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	114	pot	Base sherds	Rom			GX1				2	75		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	114	pot	Misc body sherds	Rom			GX1				29	196	(w)	Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	114	pot	body sherds, grey abraded, shell leached out	Rom			HD				1	8		4C	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	114	pot	Rim & body sherds, grey abraded, shell leached out	Rom			HD			15	8	90		4C	**(K22)**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	114	pot	Body sherds	Rom			GX3				5	43		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	114	pot	Body sherds (jars)	Rom			GX1				17	272		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	114	pot	Rilled jar sherds	Rom			GX1	jar			2	24		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	114	pot	Dish base	Rom			GX1	dish			1	15		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	114	pot	Base sherds, jars	Rom			GX1				7	157	(w)	Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	114	pot	Rim sherd	Rom			GX1	J3	160	14	1	38		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	114	pot	Jar rims, 2-3 pots	Rom			GX1	J1	140	51	4	33	w	M2-4C	**K27**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	114	pot	Jar rim (non join sherds)	Rom			GX1	J2	140	51	2	70		M2-4C	**(K11)**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	121	pot	Body sherds (jars)	Rom			GX1				12	144		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	121	pot	Body sherds	Rom			GX2				2	18		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	121	pot	Rims 4-5pots	Rom			GX1	J1	120-140	70	6	59		M2-4C	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	121	pot	Jar 5 with necked rim	Rom			GX1	J1	120	16	1	15		M2-4C	**K32**
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	121	F clay	Irregular pieces, none vitrified, one with poss join/wattle marks & poss surface	Rom							8	125		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	121	B stone	Misc incidentally heated flints (NR)	Rom							15	212		Rom	

ctxt type	ctxt no.	find no	Find type	Finds description	per	Fab inc	freq inc	Fabric code	form	Dia mm	Eve	no	Wt/g	Ab/ w	Period/ spot date	Pot no.
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	115	B stone	Misc incidentally heated flints (NR)	Rom							50	1194		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	122	F clay	Misc irregular small pieces	Rom							7	109		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	122	pot	sherds	Rom			GX1				5	45		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	122	pot	rim	Rom			GX1	D2	180	14	1	24		M2-4C	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	117	pot	sherds	Rom			GX1				26	105		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	117	pot	Rilled body sherds, abraded, grey, shell leached out	Rom			HD				3	31		4C	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	117	pot	Base, black, burnished body wall	Rom			GX2	dish			1	17		Rom M2-4C	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	117	pot	flange	Rom			GX2	B1A			1	8		L3-4C	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	117	pot	sherds	Rom			GX2				3	9		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	117	pot	sherds	Rom			GX2	J1	140	7	1	16		M2-4C	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	116	F clay	Irregular fragments, grey-buff to reddish-brown	Rom							50	432		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	118	B stone	Misc incidentally heated flints (NR)	Rom			flint				12	286		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4	119	F clay	Irregular fragments, grey to grey-buff	Rom							7	49		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4 (6)	129	pot	Body sherds	Rom			GX1				11	206		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4 (6)	129	pot	Base sherds 2 pots	Rom			GX1				3	179		Rom	
Kiln chamber	AF073 Q4 (6)	129	B stone	Misc incidentally heated flints (NR)	Rom							9	94		Rom	
p-hole	AF118	67	pot	Rim & body sherds	Rom			GX1	J3	140	27	7	84	*	Rom (L3-4C?)	
p-hole	AF118	67	pot	Rim & body sherds, body cracked (w)	Rom			GX2	J1	140	10	3	20	(w)	Rom (L3-4C)	
p-hole	AF163	108	pot	Base, firing cracks, kiln product	Rom			GX1	jar			1	171	w	Rom	
p-hole	AF163	108	pot	Body sherds	Rom			GX1				4	29		M2-3/4C	
p-hole	AF163	108	pot	Rims	Rom			GX1	J1		36	2	61			

ctxt type	ctxt no.	find no	Find type	Finds description	per	Fab inc	freq inc	Fabric code	form	Dia mm	Eve	no	Wt/g	Ab/ w	Period/ spot date	Pot no.
p-hole	AF163	108	bone	burnt	Rom							1	1			
p-hole	AF164	109	pot	Body sherds	Rom			GX1				2	14		Rom	
p-hole	AF164	109	pot	Body sherds	Rom			GX2				1	5	*	Rom	
Stk-pit	AF100	47	pot	Joining rim sherds	Rom			GX2	J1	150	35	2	119		M2-4C	**K8**
Stk-pit	AF100	47	pot	Rim, flanged bowl, cracked fabric	Rom			GX1	B1C	160	12	1	75	w	L3-4C	**K13**
Stk-pit	AF100	47	pot	Rim, flanged bowl, soft brown fabric, grey surface (underfired)	Rom			GX1	B1A	180	9	1	23	w	L3-4C	**K14**
Stk-pit	AF100	47	pot	rim	Rom			GX1	J3	170	29	1	95		M2-4C	
Stk-pit	AF100	47	pot	Rims from several pots	Rom			GX1	J1	130-180	45	3	83		M2-4C	
Stk-pit	AF100	47	pot	2 pots, firing cracks	Rom			GX2	J1	140	41	2	97	w	M2-4C	
Stk-pit	AF100	47	pot	Jar base sherds, inc. underfired & firing cracks	Rom			GX1				8	384	w	Rom	
Stk-pit	AF100	47	pot	Misc sherds, inc w sherds	Rom			GX1				118	835	(w)	Rom	
Stk-pit	AF100	47	pot	Misc rim sherds from jars	Rom			GX1			95	11	28	(w)	Rom	
Stk-pit	AF100	47	pot	Rim, underfired, cracking, buff-brown	Rom			GX1	D2	150	7	1	16		M2-4C	**K15**
Stk-pit	AF100	47	pot	Body sherds	Rom			GX2				6	94	(w)	Rom	
Stk-pit	AF100	47	pot	Body sherds, rilled	Rom			GX2	J1			2	14		Rom	
Stk-pit	AF100	47	pot	Inc waster sherd	Rom			GX1				4	16	(w)	Rom	
Stk-pit	AF100	61	pot	Body sherds, jars	Rom			GX1				43	287	(w)	Rom	
Stk-pit	AF100	61	pot	Base sherds, jar	Rom			GX1				2	138	w	Rom	
Stk-pit	AF100	61	pot	Body sherds	Rom			GX3				5	12		Rom	
Stk-pit	AF100	61	pot		Rom			GX1	D2	160	12	1	20		M2-4C	
Stk-pit	AF100	61	pot	Rim top, bowl, flat rim, flake sherd	Rom			GX1			7	1	4		Rom	**K25**
Stk-pit	AF100	61	pot	Rims, 3-4 pots	Rom			GX1	J1	140-160	70	5	90	w	M2-4C	
Stk-pit	AF100	61	pot	rim	Rom			GX2	J2	120	13	1	16		M2-4C	**K26**
Stk-pit	AF100	107	B stone	Misc incidentally heated flints (NR)	Rom							5	90		Rom	
Stk-pit	AF100	107	pot	Body sherds (jars)	Rom			GX1				8	60	(w)	Rom	
Stk-pit	AF100	107	pot	bases	Rom			GX1				3	34	(w)	Rom	
Stk-pit	AF100	107	pot	flange	Rom			GX1	B3			1	7	(w)	L3-4C	
Stk-pit	AF100	107	pot	sherd	Rom			GX2				1	54		Rom	
Stk-pit	AF100	107	pot	rim	Rom			GX1	J1	130	19	1	20	(w)	M2-4C	
Stk-pit	AF100	81	pot	Sherds (jars)	Rom			GX1				4	45		Rom	
Stk-pit	AF100	81	pot	rim	Rom			GX1	J2	110	35	1	42		M2-4C	**K39d**

ctxt type	ctxt no.	find no	Find type	Finds description	per	Fab inc	freq inc	Fabric code	form	Dia mm	Eve	no	Wt/g	Ab/ w	Period/ spot date	Pot no.
Stk-pit	AF100	63	F clay	Small irregular pieces, none vitrified	Rom							5	18		Rom	
Stk-pit	AF100	0	pot	Body sherds	Rom			GX1				76	849	(w)	Rom	
Stk-pit	AF100	0	pot	Body sherd, grey – appears to have been shell-tempered	Rom			HD				1	10		4C	
Stk-pit	AF100	0	pot	Body sherds	Rom			GX3				3	5		Rom	
Stk-pit	AF100	0	pot	Base sherds (jars)	Rom			GX1				6	155		Rom	
Stk-pit	AF100	0	pot	rim	Rom			GX1	B1	160 (?)	7	1	22		L3-4C	**K34**
Stk-pit	AF100	0	pot	rim	Rom			GX1	B1	190 (?)	17	1	63		L3-4C	**K35**
Stk-pit	AF100	0	pot	Rims from several (6-7) pots	Rom			GX1	J1	130-160 (?)	187	15	328		M2-4C	
Stk-pit	AF100	0	pot					GX1	J2		16	1	36			**K37b**
Stk-pit	AF100	0	pot	Rims from 2 pots	Rom			GX2	J1	140	38	2	47	(w)	M2-4C	
Stk-pit	AF100	0	pot	rims	Rom			GX1	J3	170	45	2	139		Rom	
Stk-pit	AF100	49	B stone	Misc incidentally heated flints (NR)	Rom							30	513		Rom	
Stk-pit	AF100	62	B stone	Misc incidentally heated flints (NR)	Rom							20	466		Rom	
Stk-pit	AF100	105	B stone	Misc incidentally heated flints (NR)	Rom							25	667		Rom	
stk-pit	AF100	106	F clay	Irregular fragments, mostly brown-buff	Rom							8	250		Rom	
stk-pit	AF100	48	F clay	Irregular fragments, mostly reddish grey-brown	Rom							57	325		Rom	
stk-pit	AF100	48	pot	rim	Rom			GX1	B1A	140 (?)	6	1	7		L3-4C	
stk-pit	AF100	106	charcoal	Large piece	Rom							1	5		Rom	
stk-pit	AF100	106	charcoal	piece	Rom							1	1		Rom	
stk-pit	L4/AF100	68	B stone	Misc incidentally heated flints (NR)	Rom							9	159		Rom	
stk-pit	L4/AF100	68	pot	Body sherds	Rom			GX1				13	37		Rom	
stk-pit	L4/AF100	68	pot	base	Rom			GX1				1	15	(w)	Rom	
stk-pit	L4/AF100	68	pot	Rim, prob jar 5	Rom			GX1	J1	130	6	1	6	(w)	Rom	

D2 Dish with slightly flaring sides, plain (rounded or flattened) rim with a slight groove below the rim and broad, flat base

D3 Dish/bowl with flaring sides, plain (rounded) rim and indentation below rim

Bowls
B1 Bowl. Flanged bowl, flange below rim, curving wall - B1A sloping flange, B1B small flat flange, B1C small stubby flange

Jars
J1 Jar. Oval bodied jar with flaring rim, sometimes squared-off, commonly with uneven rilling (J1R) around the upper part of the body and most in Fabric B.

J2 Jar. Oval body jar with with beaded rim, commonly squared-off, some slightly under-cut

J3 Jar. Oval bodied necked-jar with flaring rim rim

W=kiln waster NR=not retained

APPENDIX 3: THE METAL SMALL FINDS

SF	Ctxt	find no.	ctxt type	Mat.	obj type	Description	no.	wt (g)	lgth mm	width mm	thick mm	dia mm	spot date
1	AF64	A154	Ditch	Copper-alloy	Coin	City of Rome Commemorative. Obverse: VRBS ROMA. Left-facing crested and helmeted bust of Roma. Reverse: Standing she-wolf suckling Romulus and Remus. Two stars above.		1.2g				16	AD 330 – 333
2	U/S	C181	Spoil	Copper-alloy	Brooch	Upper half of small Colchester type bow brooch with spring intact. Rearward hook. Rope decoration on spine of brooch.		7	30	25			M – L 1st C
3	U/S	A153	Spoil	Copper-alloy	Coin	Illegible ?*as.*		7				25	Rom
4	U/S	A69	Spoil	Pb	Weight	Small oval weight, cream coloured surface, flattened on one side with a central perforation		11			7	19	
5	BF174	B137	Crem	Copper-alloy	Fragment	Small, irregular piece of copper alloy – brooch part?		3	14	11			Rom
6	U/S	A69	Spoil	Pb	Seal	Small, circular lead disk (undecorated), with bent over tab extended to one side. Cloth Seal?		4.1				17	p-med
9	U/S	-	Topsoil	Copper-alloy	Brooch	Copper alloy and enamel disc brooch, concentric wreaths, damage at edges. Pin attachment at rear. Central design had originally been blue glass hearts with silvered triangles.		11				29	Rom

SF	Ctxt	find no.	ctxt type	Mat.	obj type	Description	no.	wt (g)	lgth mm	width mm	thick mm	dia mm	spot date
10	U/S	-	Topsoil	Copper-alloy	Jetton	Damaged at edges. Small central perforation. Patterned on both sides. Circular pattern around circumference on both sides. Patchy smooth, dark patina on surface.		0.6				17	p-med
11	U/S	-	Topsoil	Copper-alloy	Jetton	Patterned on one side, badly damaged edges		3.4				24	p-med
12	U/S	-	Topsoil	Copper-alloy	?Medallion/ token	Cut in half. Double-headed eagle. Likely 1770 or 1776?		3.4				40	p-med
13	U/S	A69	Topsoil	Copper-alloy	Coin	William III half-penny, dated 1701		8.8				27	1701
A	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Complete			64				Rom
B	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Incomplete, heavily corroded			65				Rom
C	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail								Rom
D	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Incomplete, heavily corroded			26				Rom
E	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Incomplete			27				Rom
F	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Incomplete			22				Rom
G	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Incomplete, v heavy			52				Rom
H	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Incomplete			44				Rom
I	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Incomplete			40				Rom
J	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Incomplete, heavily corroded			36				

SF	Ctxt	find no.	ctxt type	Mat.	obj type	Description	no.	wt (g)	lgth mm	width mm	thick mm	dia mm	spot date
K	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	No head, clenched			38				
L	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Incomplete			36				
M	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Incomplete			46				
N	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Incomplete			49				
O	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Incomplete			26				
P	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Incomplete, two pieces			62				
Q	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Incomplete			13				
R	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Complete			68				
S	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Complete, heavily corroded. In two pieces			105				
T	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Incomplete, in four pieces			-				
U	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Complete			65				
V	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Incomplete			43				
W	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Incomplete, no head			21				
X	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Incomplete, no head, clenched			26				
Y	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Incomplete, large head			40				
Z	BF253	190	Grave	Iron	Nail	Incomplete			27				
-	BF259	204	Grave	Iron	Nail	Complete Fe nail, medium size, flat round head			50				Rom
-	BF255	198	Crem	Iron	Nails	Very corroded. Appear to be heads and upper shanks of nails.	2						Rom

SF	Ctxt	find no.	ctxt type	Mat.	obj type	Description	no.	wt (g)	lgth mm	width mm	thick mm	dia mm	spot date
-	BF177	140	Crem	Iron	Nail	Corroded Fe nail			60				Rom
-	U/S	A69	Topsoil	Lead	Firearm Ball	Lead shot, flattened on one side.							p-med

APPENDIX 4: THE CREMATED BONE

Summary catalogue of the cremated bone from Dale Hall, Lawford.

Key:
>10mm/5-9mm/2-4mm/<1mm (* = present, but not counted) = count of the fragments in that size range
Level: Level of burning – w = white, ub = unburnt
Warp = warped remains (from intense heat)
Crack = cracked bone (from intense heat)
Max = greatest length of fragments, 2nd GL = 2nd greatest length in bag
HSR = Human Skeletal Remains, M = Mammal (Human/Animal)
Element range: ll = lower limb, ul = upper limb, v = vertebrae, r = rib, sk = skull, mand = mandible, pel = pelvis, sca = scapula

Context	Vessel	Other	Feature	>10mm	5-9mm	2-4mm	<1mm	Level	Warp	Crack	Max	2ndGl	T.Qty	T. Wt (g)	HSR	M	Adult	Juv	Sex	Element range	Comments
136	y		BF174	14	4	0		w	*	*	47	44	18	22	*	*				Fragments	Fragments only
138	y	Sample	BF174	55	19	7		w	*	*	29	27	81	29	*	*				Fragments	1 skull frag, limb and misc
140	y	Spit 1	BF177	15	2	1		w	*	*	34	20	18	13	*	*				misc	
140	y	Spit 2	BF177	3	5	2		w	*	*	25	11	10	6	*	*				misc	
140	y	Spit 3	BF177	10	4	3		w	*	*	21	15	17	11	*	*				limb, misc	proximal end of radius, misc fragments
140	y	Spit 4	BF177	2	10	2		w	*	*	11	10	14	5	*	*				misc	
140	y	crem pot'	BF177	14	0	0		w	*	*	42	39	14	32	*	*				sk, limb, misc	skull, tibia, fibia, misc
140	y	Sample	BF177	218	43	23	*	w	*	*	42	41	284	191	*	*				limb, sk, pel, misc	skull frags unfused sutures, femur and other limb frags, ?clavicle
188	y	Sample	BF251	110	37	18	*	ub -w	*	*	39	33	165	79	*	*		*		pel, limb, misc	unfused frags
189	y		BF251	56	21	12	*	ub -w	*	*	47	41	89	71	*	*		*		sk, ul, pel, misc	unfused femur inc fe head, skull (uf sutures), limb, misc. Fe + pel part unburnt
192	n	Sample	BF253	48	12	6		w	*	*	30	29	66	30	*	*	*			sk, misc	
196	y	Sample	BF254	19	5	2		w	*	*	30	24	26	13	*	*	*			sk, limb, misc	
196	y	Sample	BF254	147	51	20	*	w	*	*	59	55	218	156	*	*	*			sk, limb, misc	unfused sutures, fe,tib, pel, hu, sk,

198	y		BF255	21	9	6	*	w	*	*	61	33	36	31	*	*	*			ul, frags	humerus shaft (61mm), limb frags, misc
199	y	Sample	BF255	122	38	13	*	w	*	*	29	22	173	68	*	*	*			sk, limb, misc	Most frags <15mm
202	y		BF257	76	39	21	*	w	*	*	34	30	136	82	*	*	*			sk, misc	skull (fused sutures), limb and rib frags and misc
203	y	Sample	BF257	51	10	8	*	w	*	*	34	27	69	41	*	*	*			sk, ll,misc	skull (fused sut.), tib, rad frags and misc. *Cribra orbitalis*

APPENDIX 5: THE ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

Sample No.	**28**	**20**	**22**	**23**	**24**	**25**	**26**	**27**	**29**	**30**	**34**
Finds No.	**192**	**138**	**141**	**142**	**143**	**144**	**188**	**196**	**199**	**203**	**206**
Context No.	**BF253**	**BF174**	**BF177**	**BF177**	**BF177**	**BF177**	**BF251**	**BF254**	**BF255**	**BF257**	**BF259**
Feature type	**Inhum.**	**Crem.**	**Crem.**	**Crem.**	**Crem.**	**Crem.**	**Crem.**	**Crem.**	**Crem.**	**Crem.**	**Crem.**
Date	**LP/Rom**	**Roman**	**Roman**	**Roman**	**Roman**	**Roman**		**Roman**	**Roman**	**Roman**	
Herbs											
Arrhenatherum sp. (tubers)			x	x		x					x
Chenopodium album L.		x		x		x					
Fabaceae indet.			x								
Large Fabaceae indet.									xcffg		
Fallopia convolvulus (L.)A.Love		x	x	x		x					x
Medicago/Trifolium/Lotus sp.				xcf		x	x				
Persicaria maculosa/lapathifolia				x	x	x					
Plantago lanceolata L.		x									
Polygonum aviculare L.		x	x	xx	x	x		x		x	
Polygonaceae indet.			x	x	x						
Rumex acetosella L.		x	x	x		x		x			
Spergula arvensis L.				x							
Wetland plants											
Carex sp.		x	xcf	x							
Montia fontana L.				x							
Other plant macrofossils											
Charcoal <2mm	xxx	xx	x	x	x	x	xx	x	xx	x	
Charcoal >2mm	xx	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x
Charcoal >5mm	x						x				
Charcoal >10mm	x								x	x	
Charred root/stem	xx	xx	xx	xx	x	xx	x	x	x		xx
Indet. seeds	x	x	x	x	x			x		x	

Indet. tubers	x				x					x	
Other remains											
Black porous 'cokey' material							x				
Black tarry material				x	x	x	x		x		x
Bone	xb						x xb		xb	x	
Small coal frags.	x	x					x	x		x	
Vitreous material		x									x
Sample volume (litres)	**16**	**5**	**9**	**2**	**4**	**6**	**15**	**11**	**17**	**21**	
Volume of flot (litres)	**<0.1**	**<0.1**	**<0.1**	**<0.1**	**<0.1**	**<0.1**	**<0.1**	**<0.1**	**<0.1**	**<0.1**	**<0.1**
% flot sorted	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

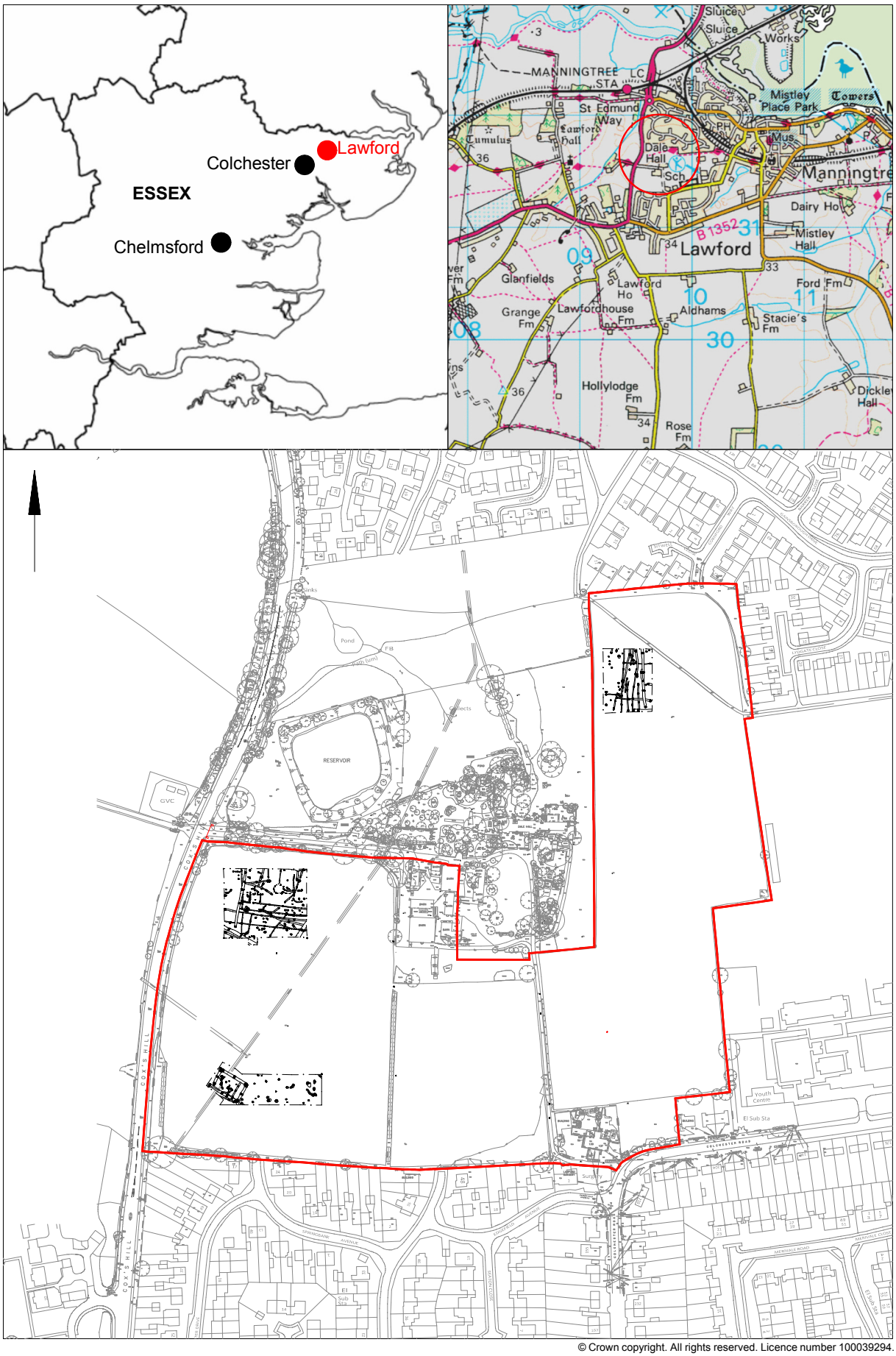
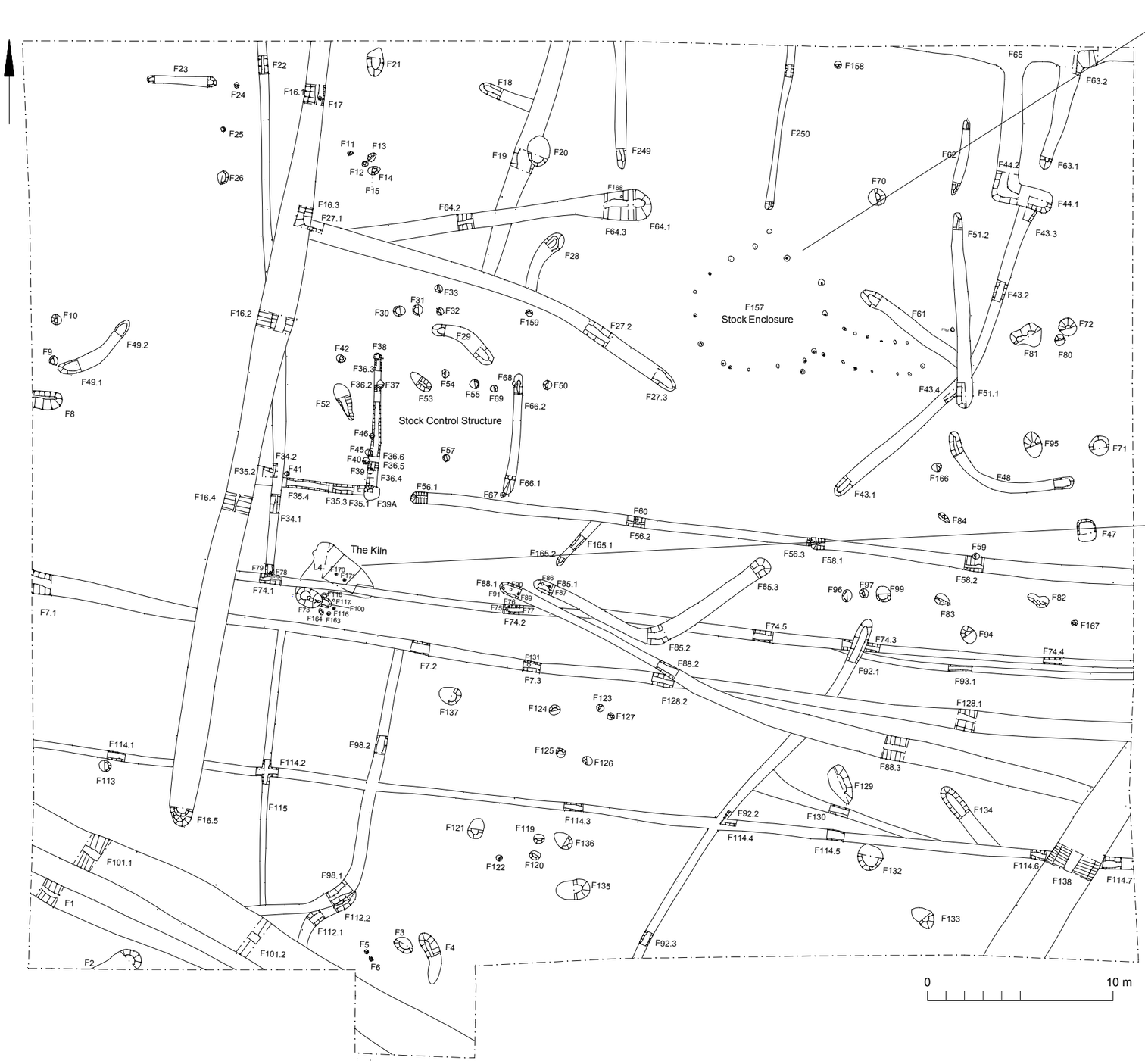
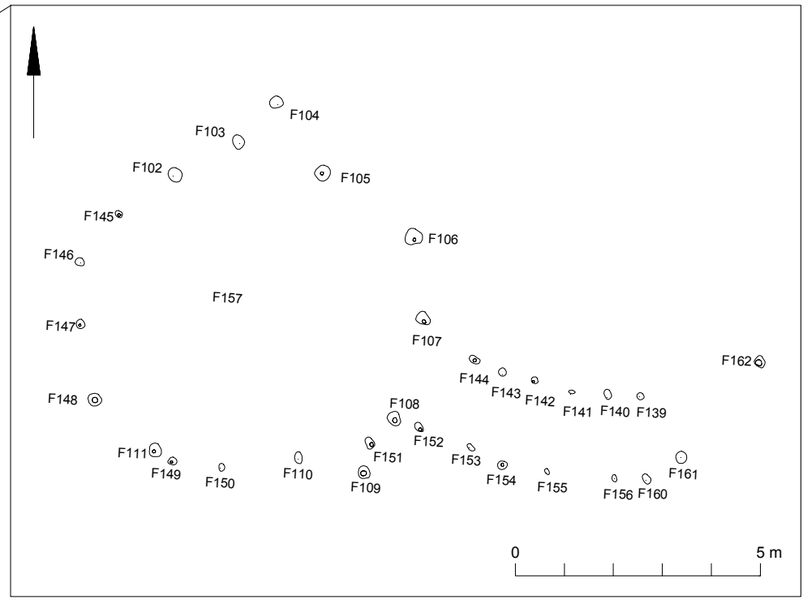


Fig 3 Site location.

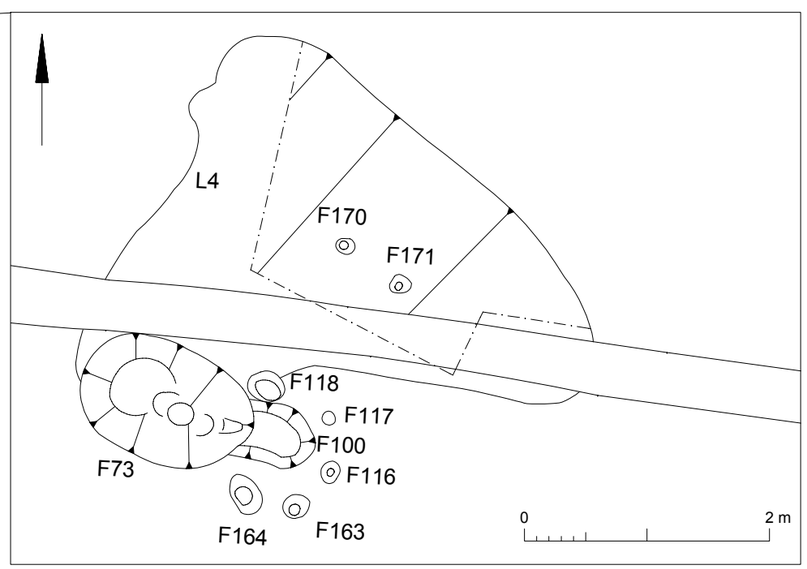
0 200 m

Fig 4 Detailed site location with cropmarks and trial trenches





Detail of stock enclosure (AF157)



Detail of the Kiln (AF73)

Fig 5 Area A results

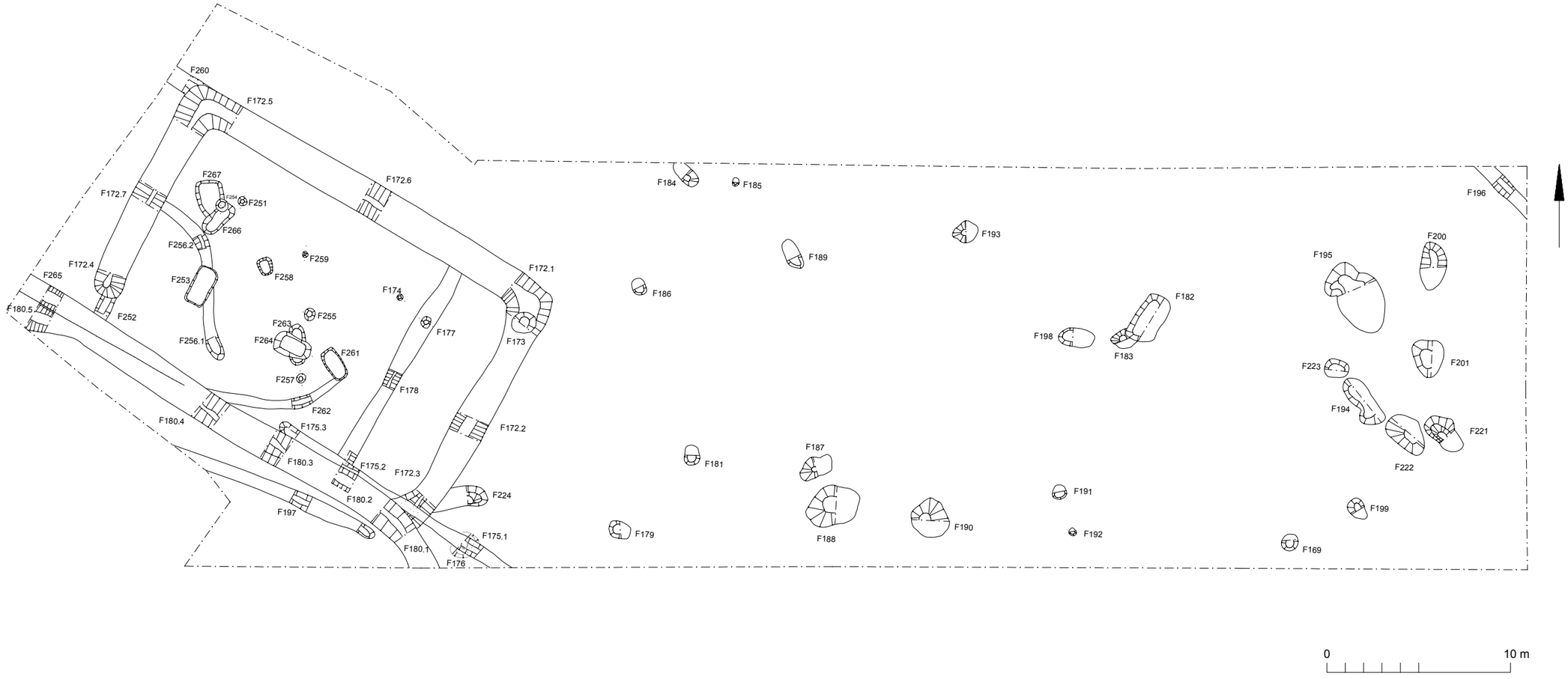


Fig 6 Area B results

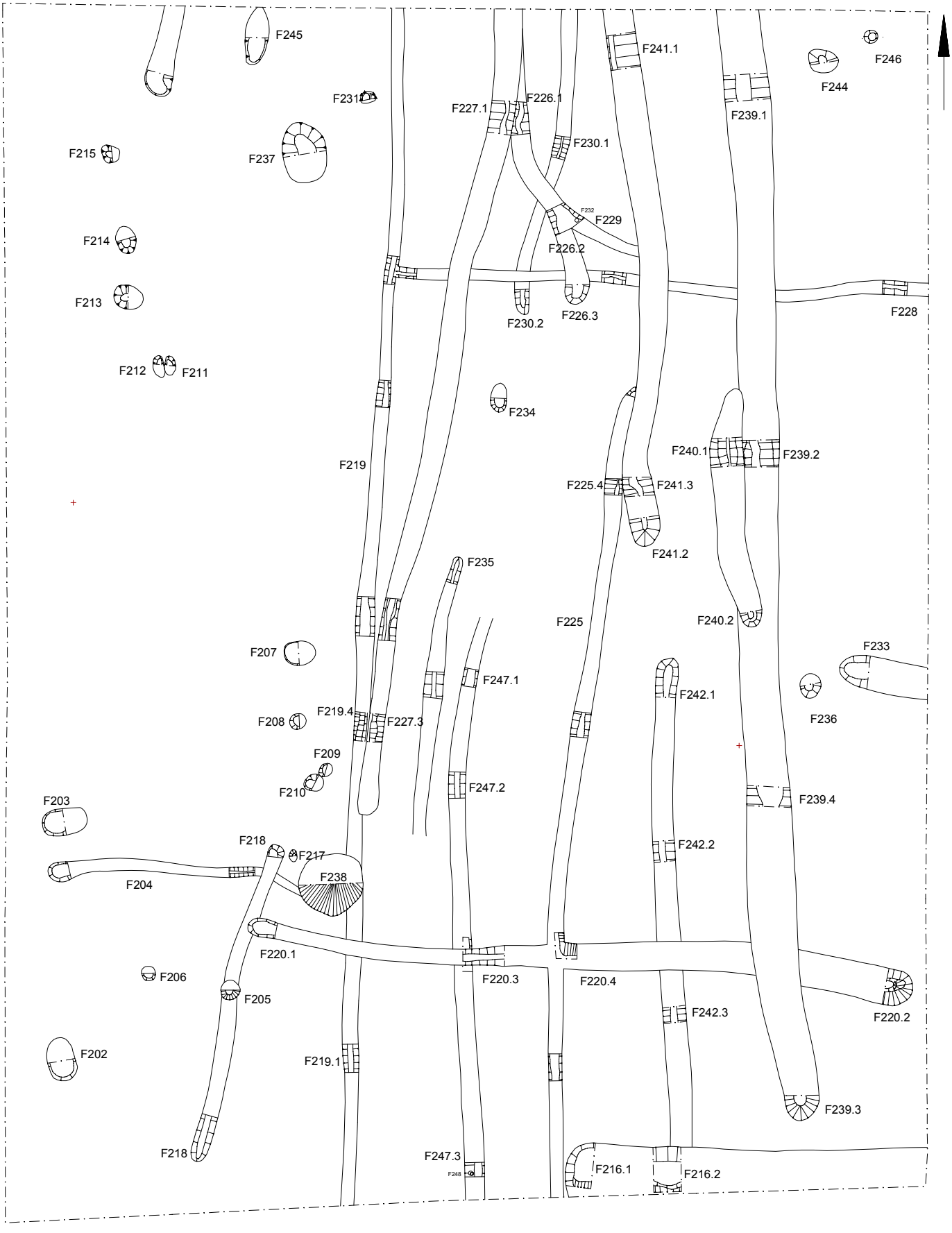


Fig 7 Area C results

Phase 1

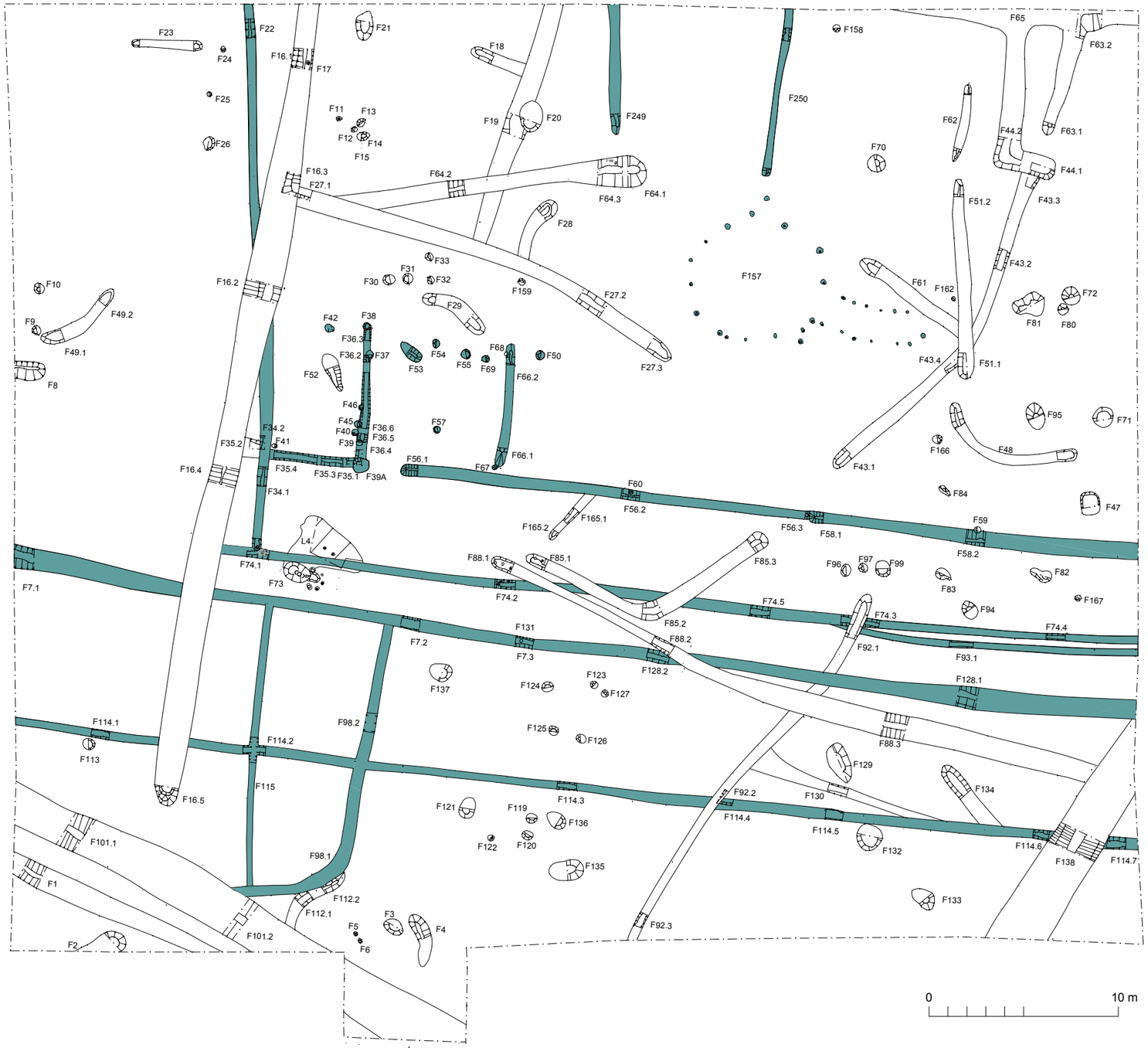


Fig 8a Area A (Phase 1)

Phase 2

Fig 8b Area A (Phase 2)

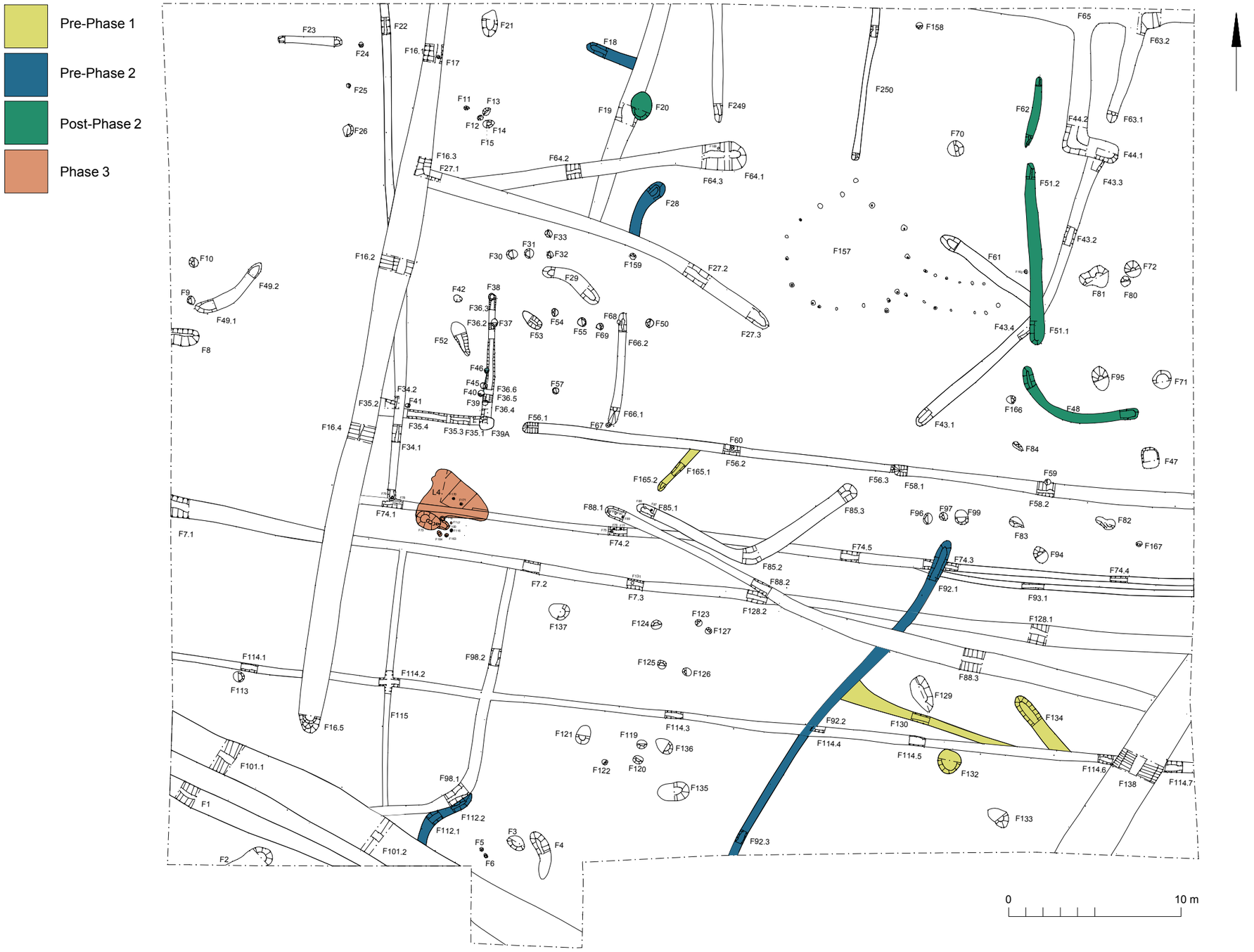
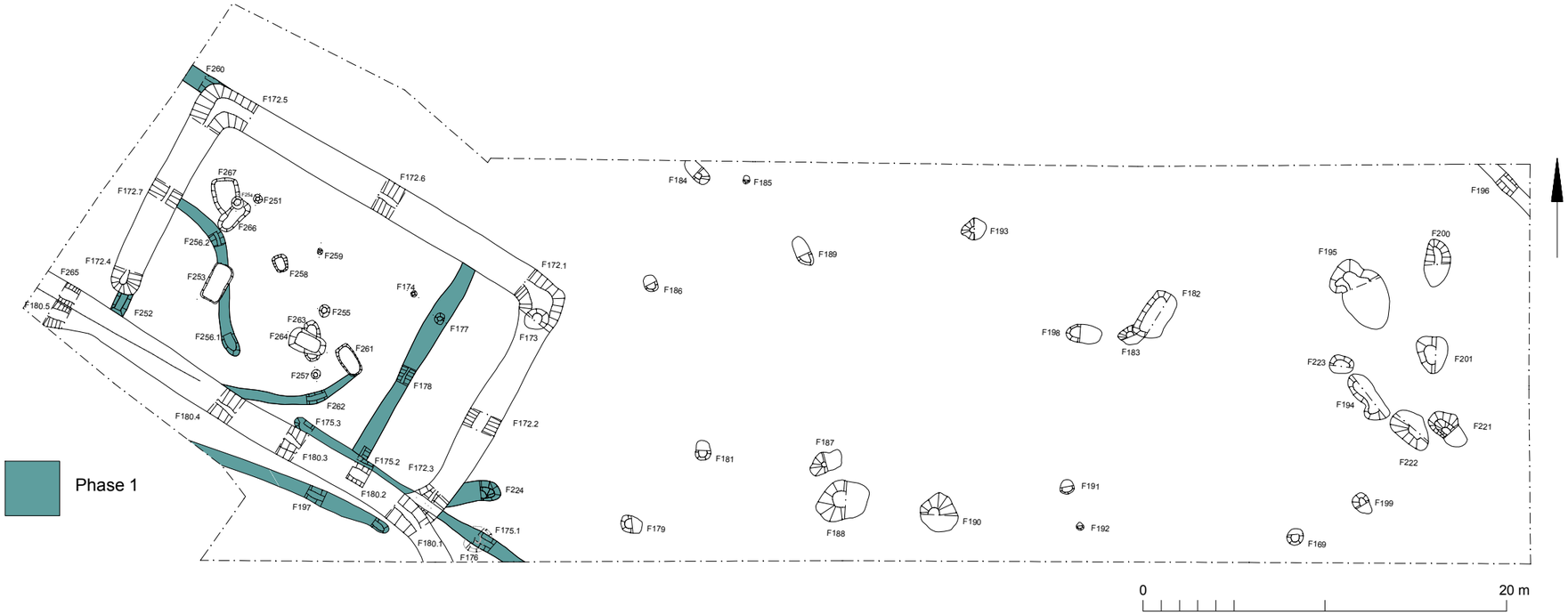


Fig 8c Area A (other phases)



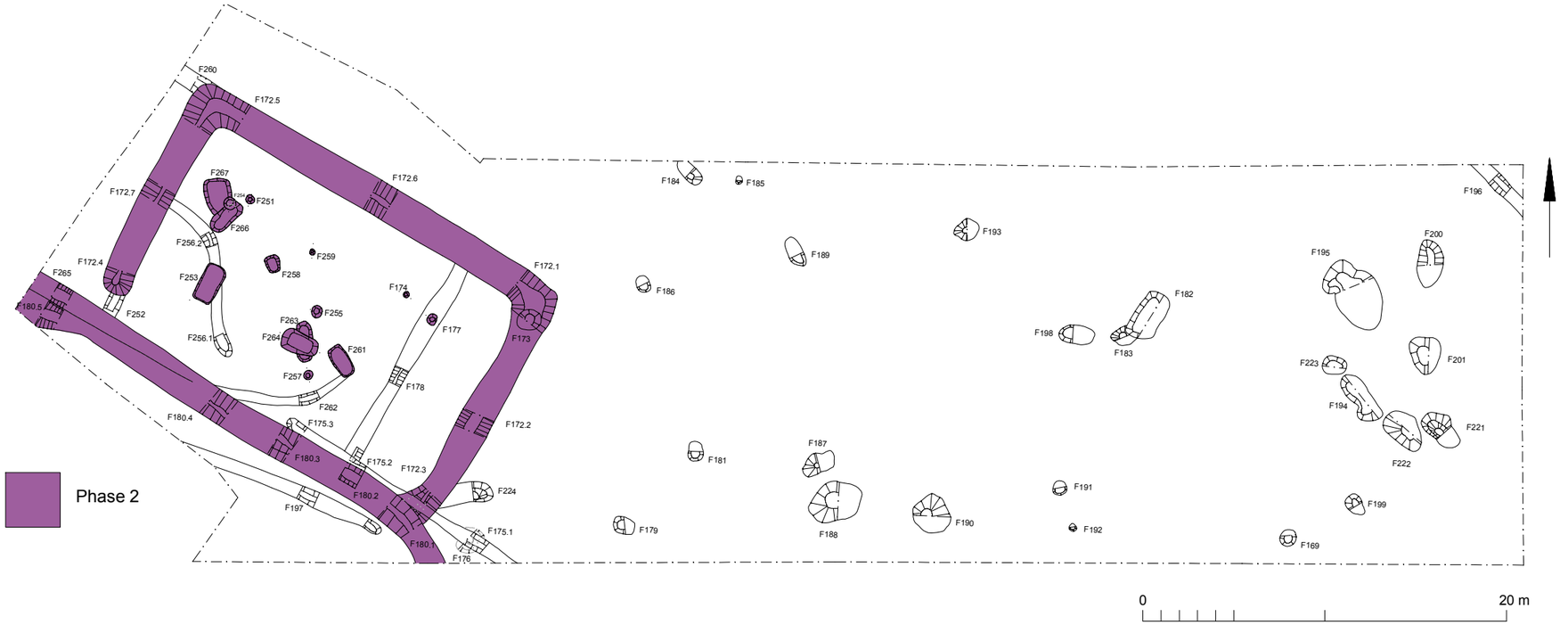
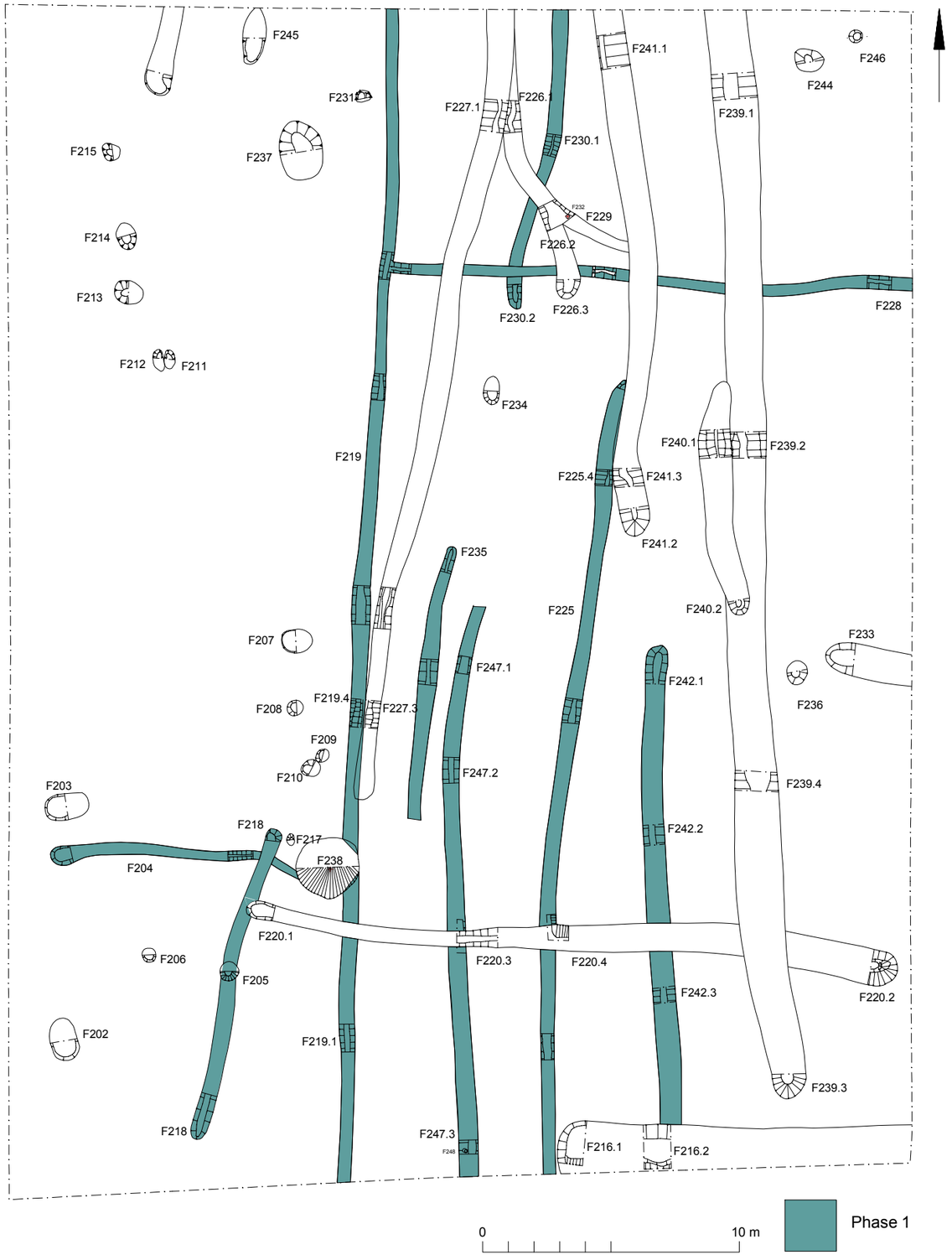


Fig 9 Area B by phase



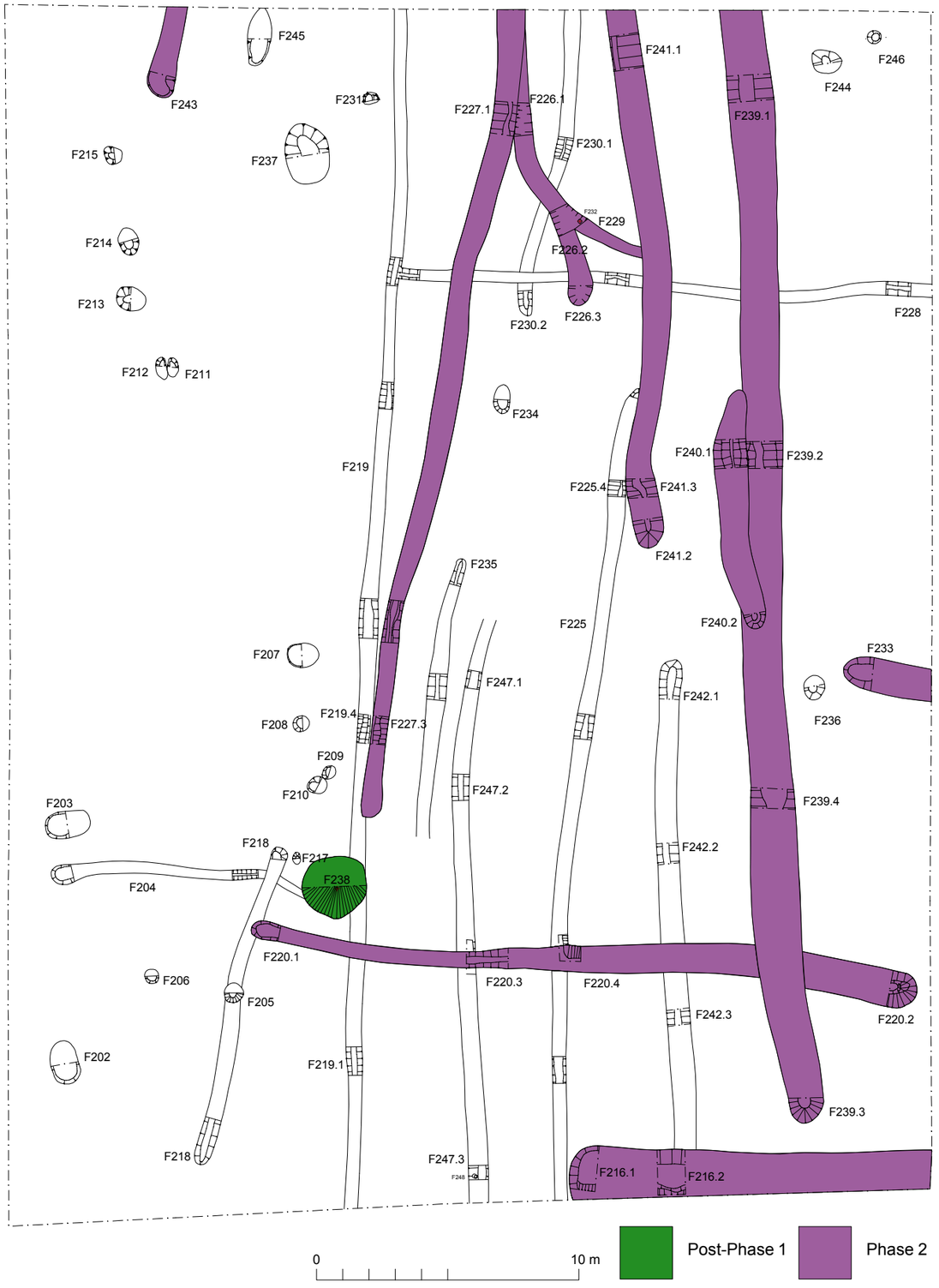


Fig 10 Area C by phase

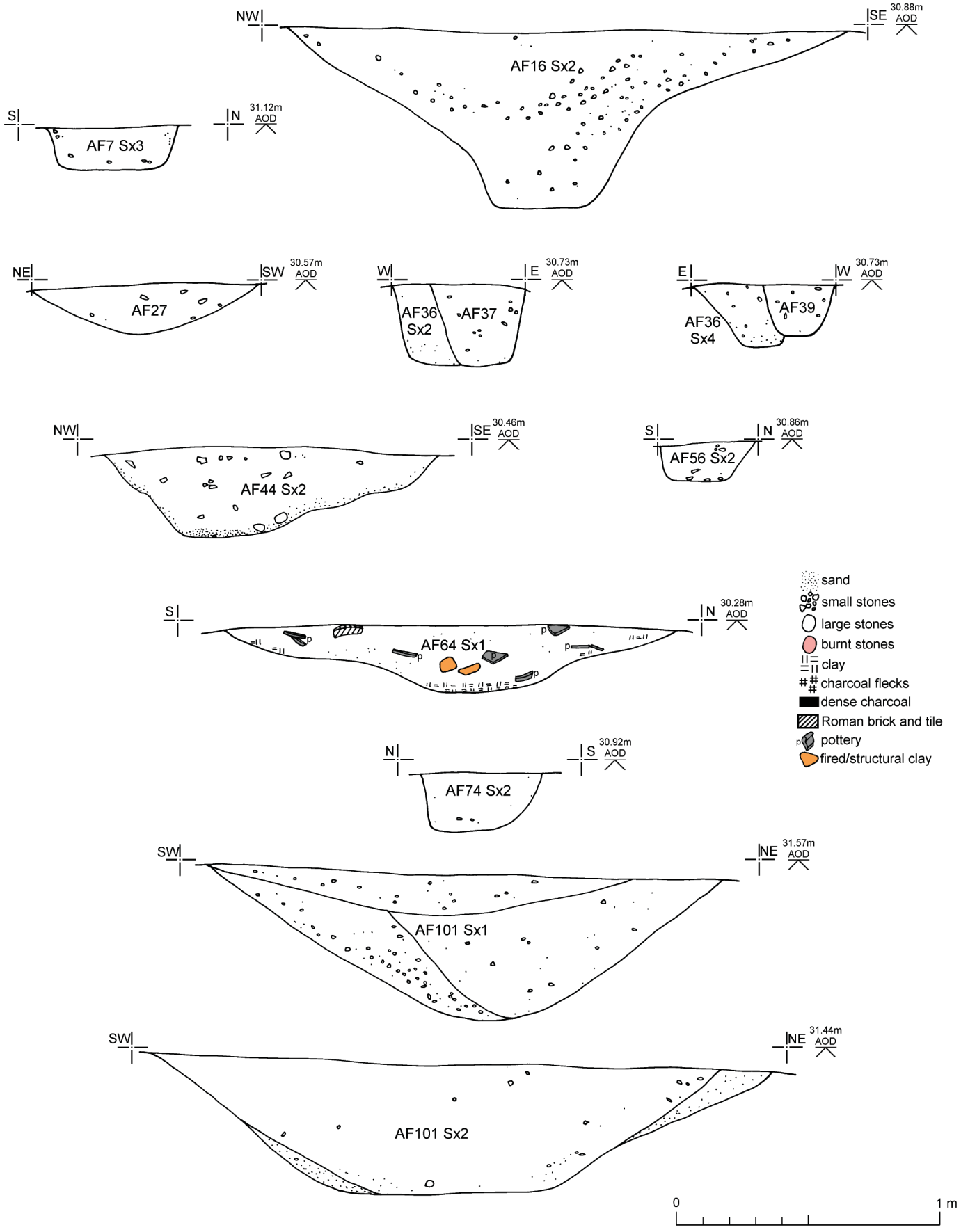


Fig 11 Area A: sections.

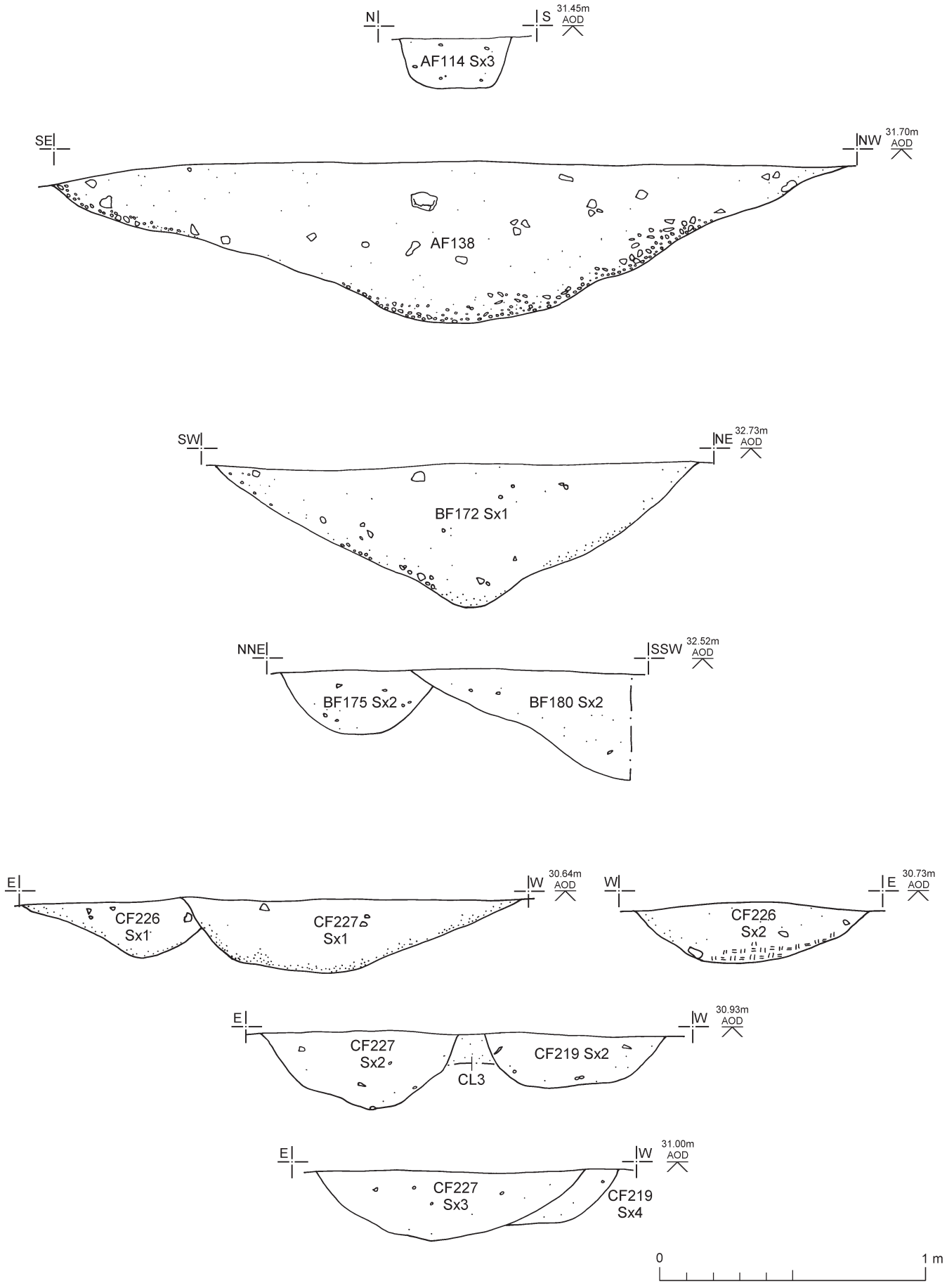


Fig 12 Areas A, B and C: sections.

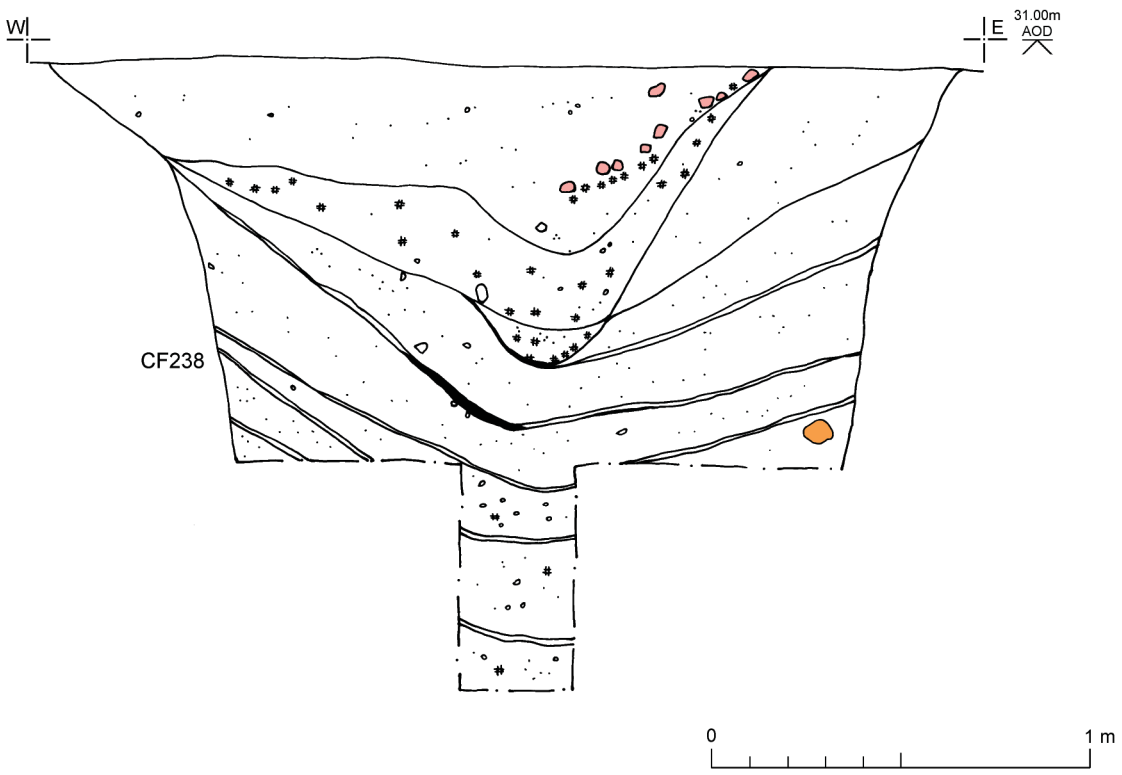


Fig 13 Area C: section.

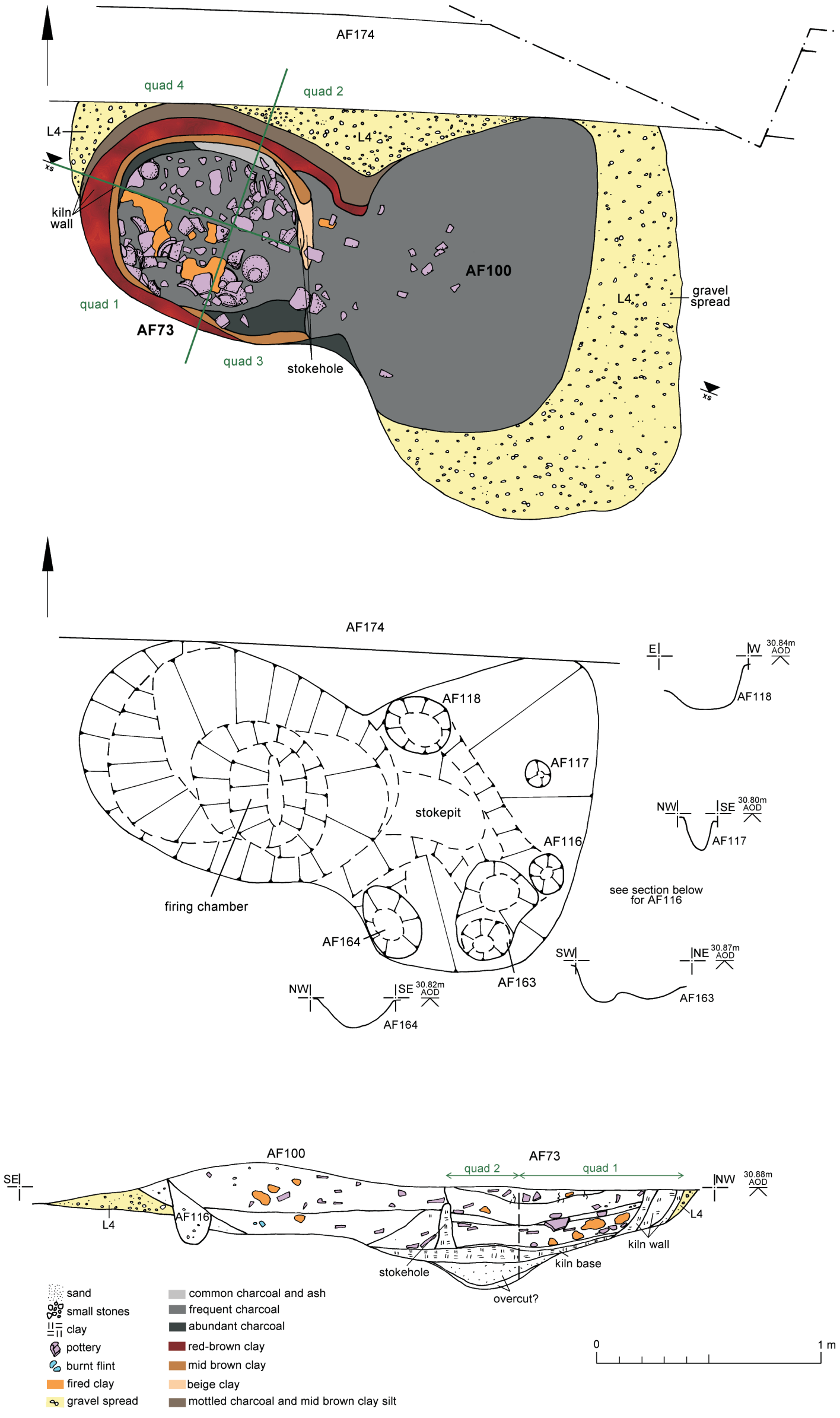


Fig 14 Pottery kiln AF73/AF100: mid-excavation plan, final excavation plan, section and profiles.

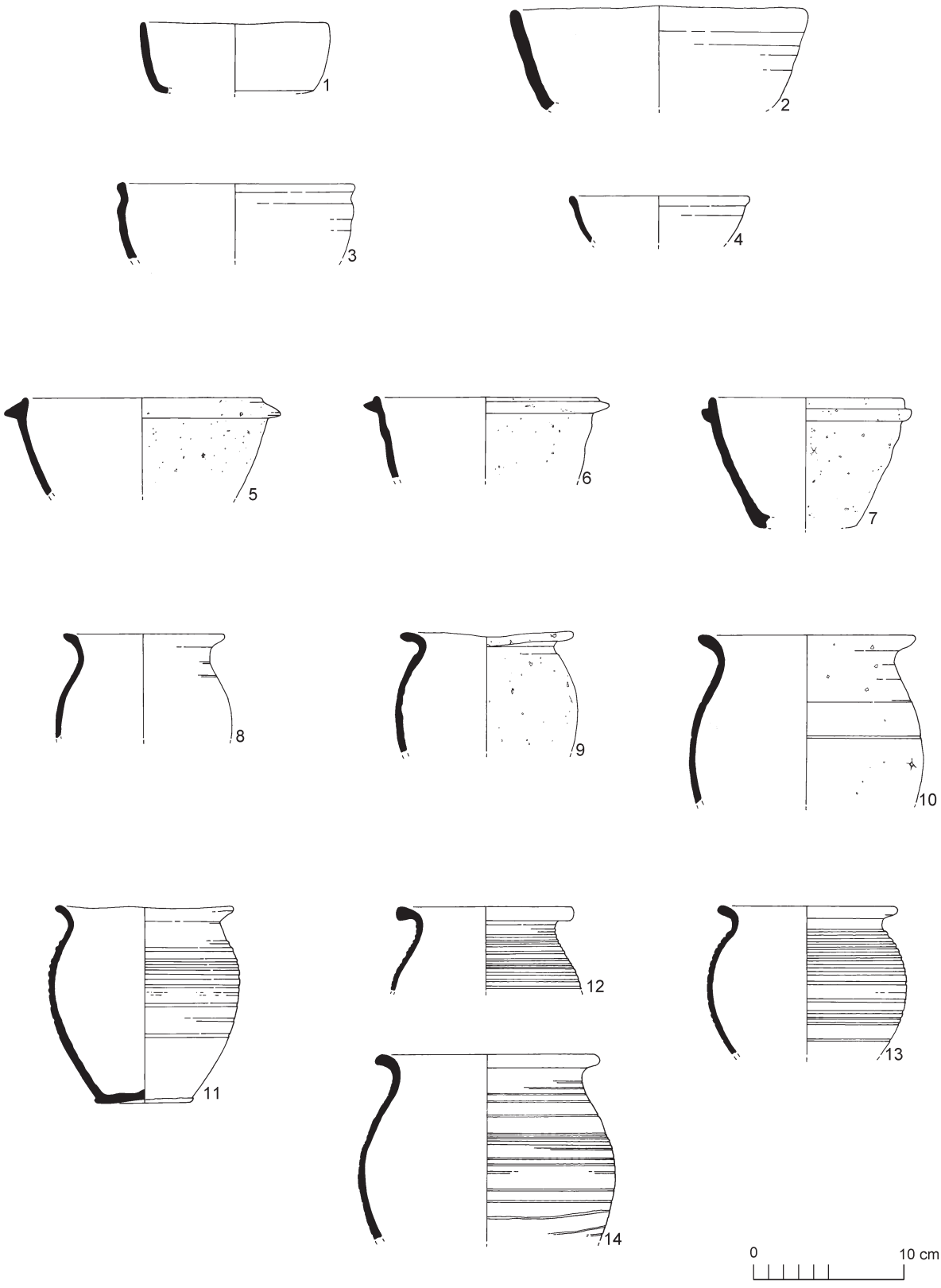


Fig 15 Pottery from the kiln: dishes (1-4), bowls (5-7) and jars (8-14).

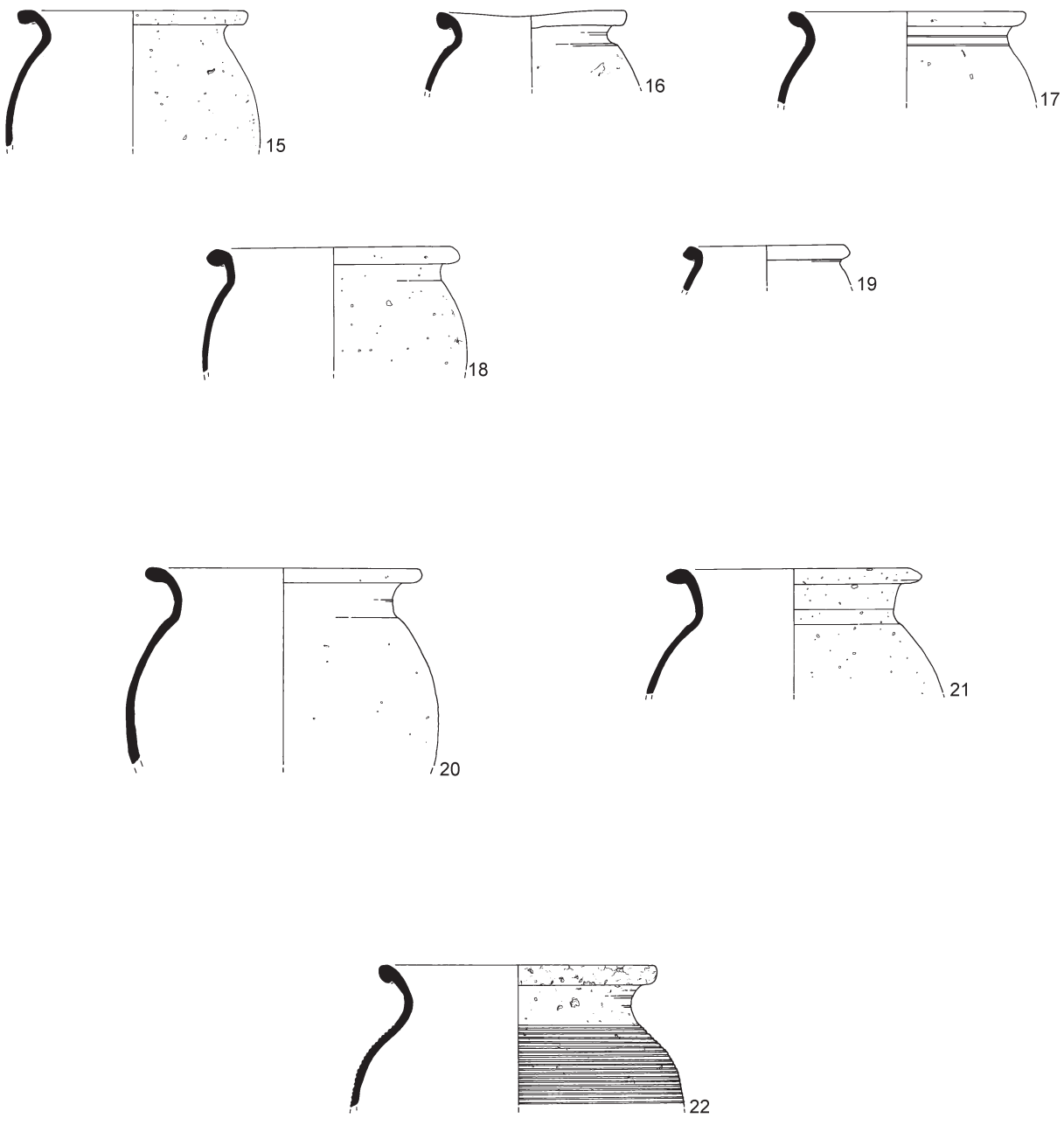


Fig 16 Pottery from the kiln: jars (15-22)

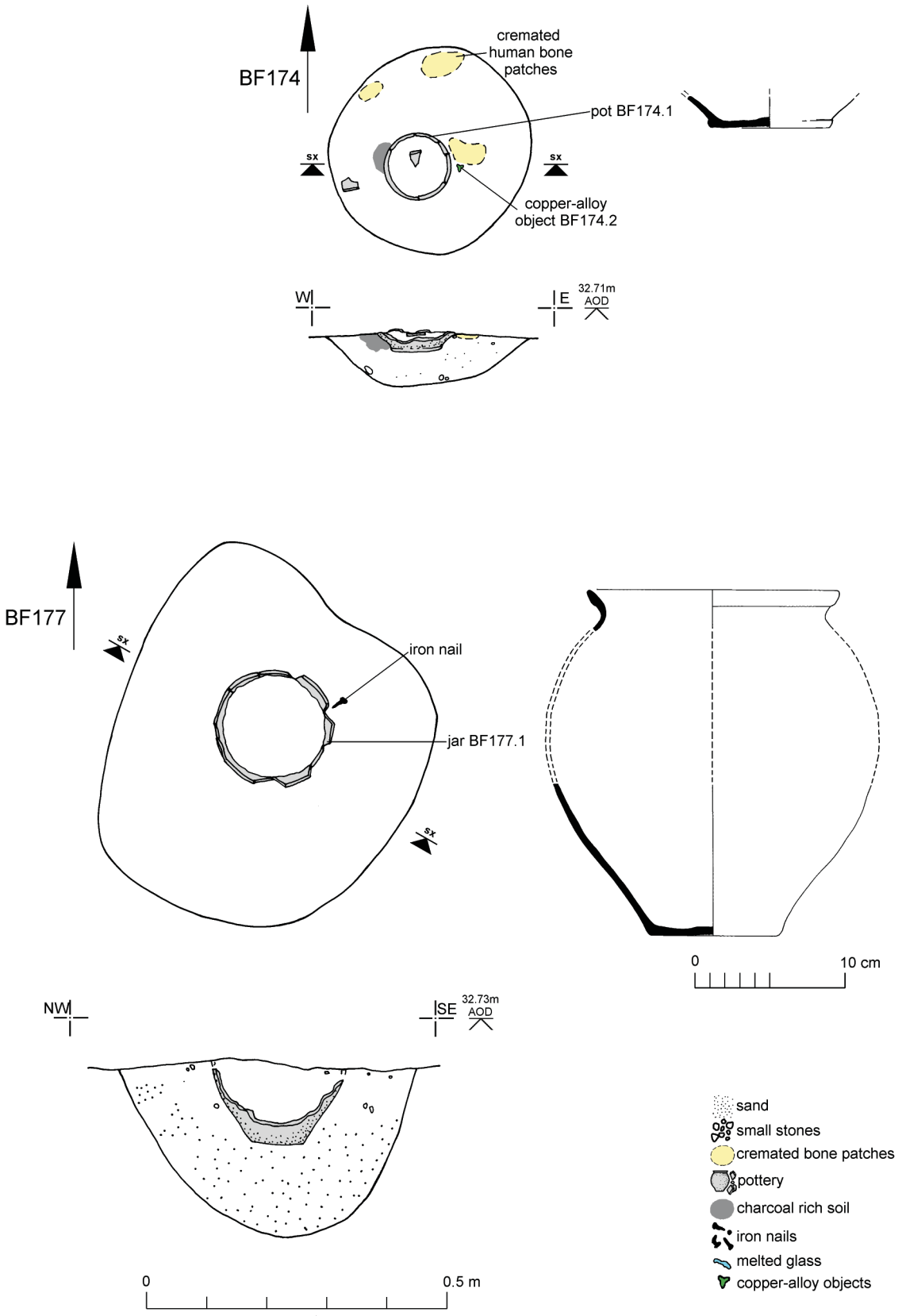


Fig 17 Area B burials: BF174 and BF177 plans, sections and pottery.

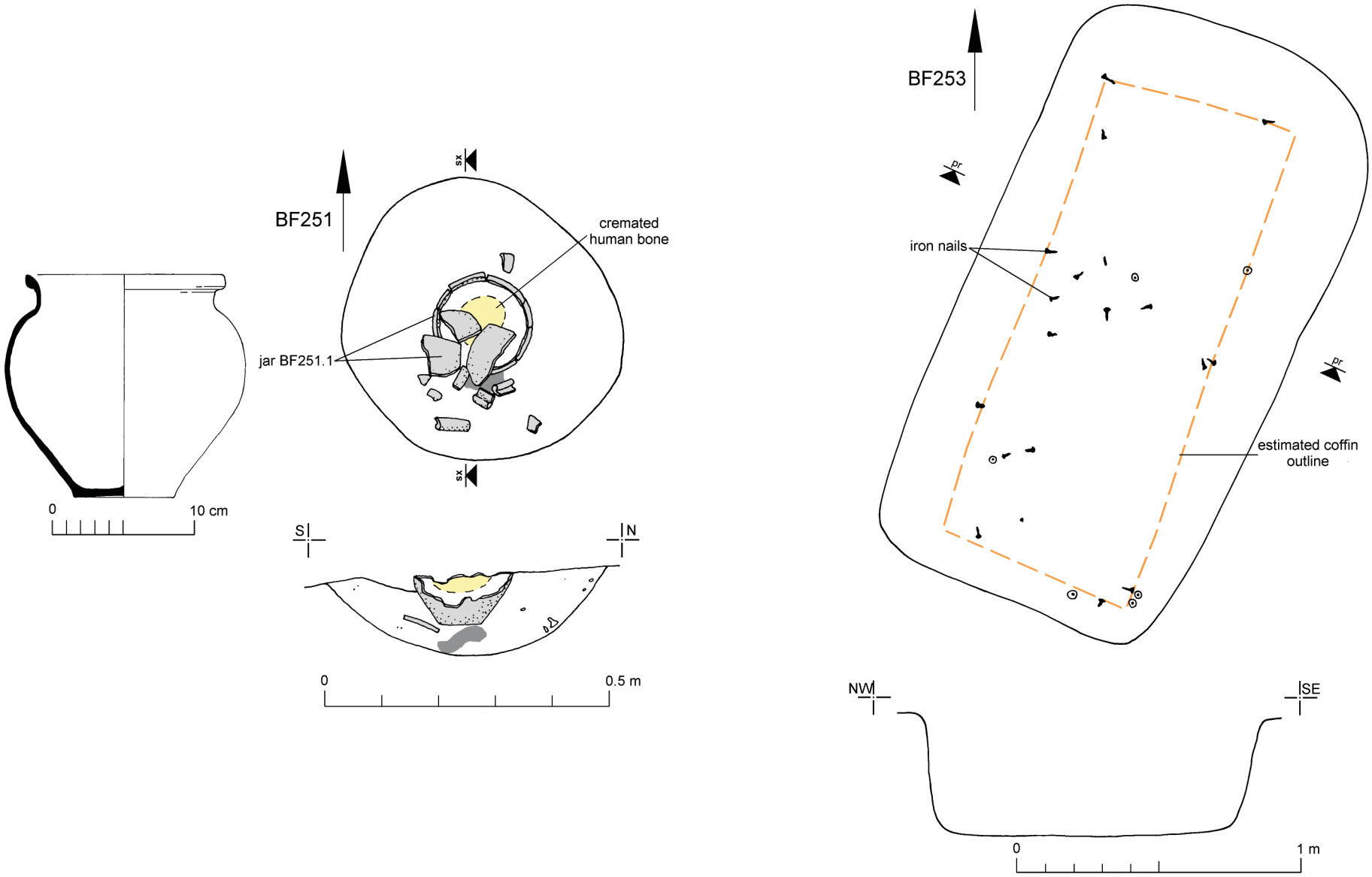


Fig 18 Area B burials: BF251 plan, section and pottery. BF253 plan and profile.

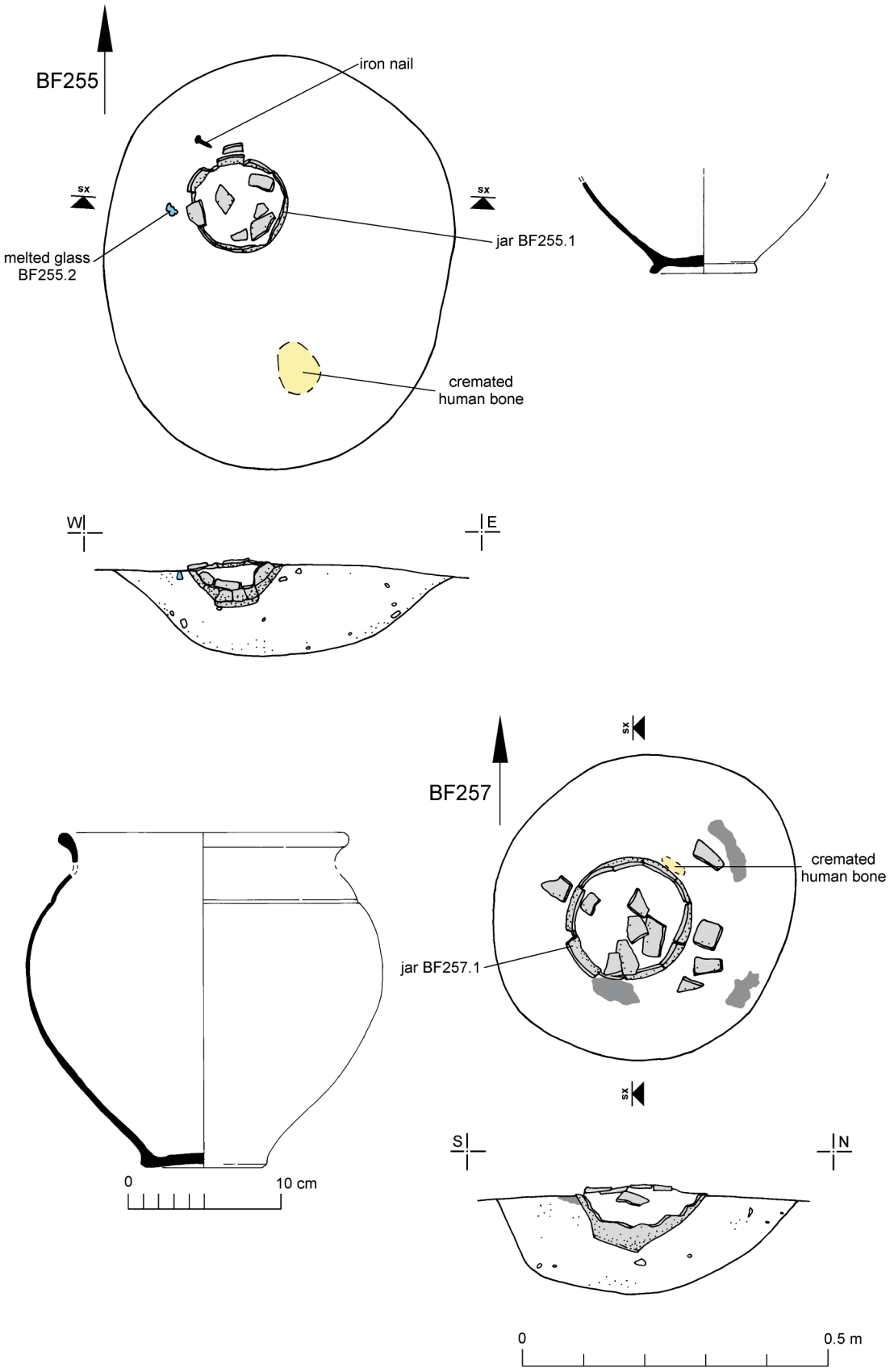


Fig 19 Area B burials: BF255 and BF257 plans, sections and pottery.

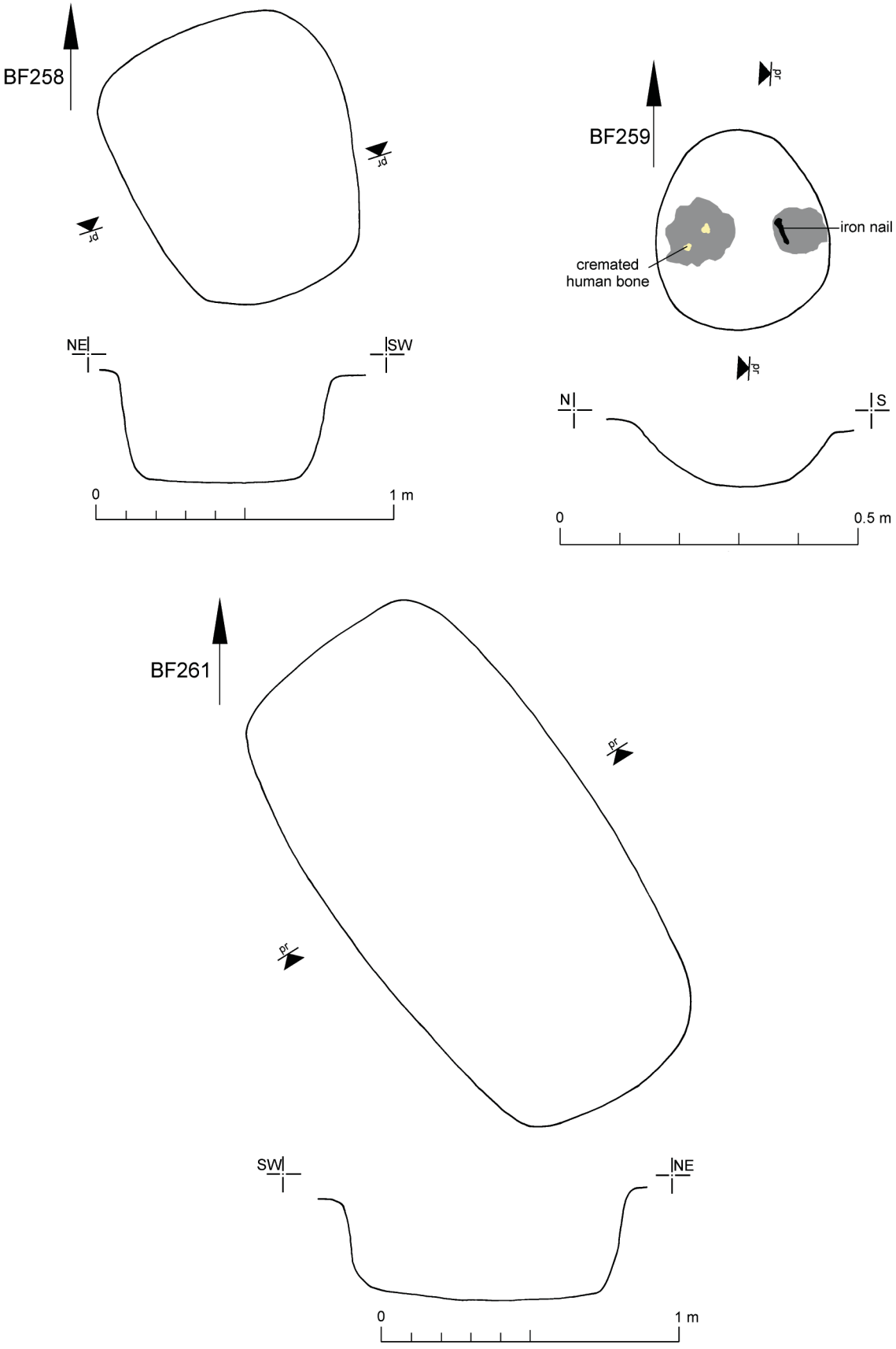


Fig 20 Area B burials: BF258-9 and BF261 plans and profiles.

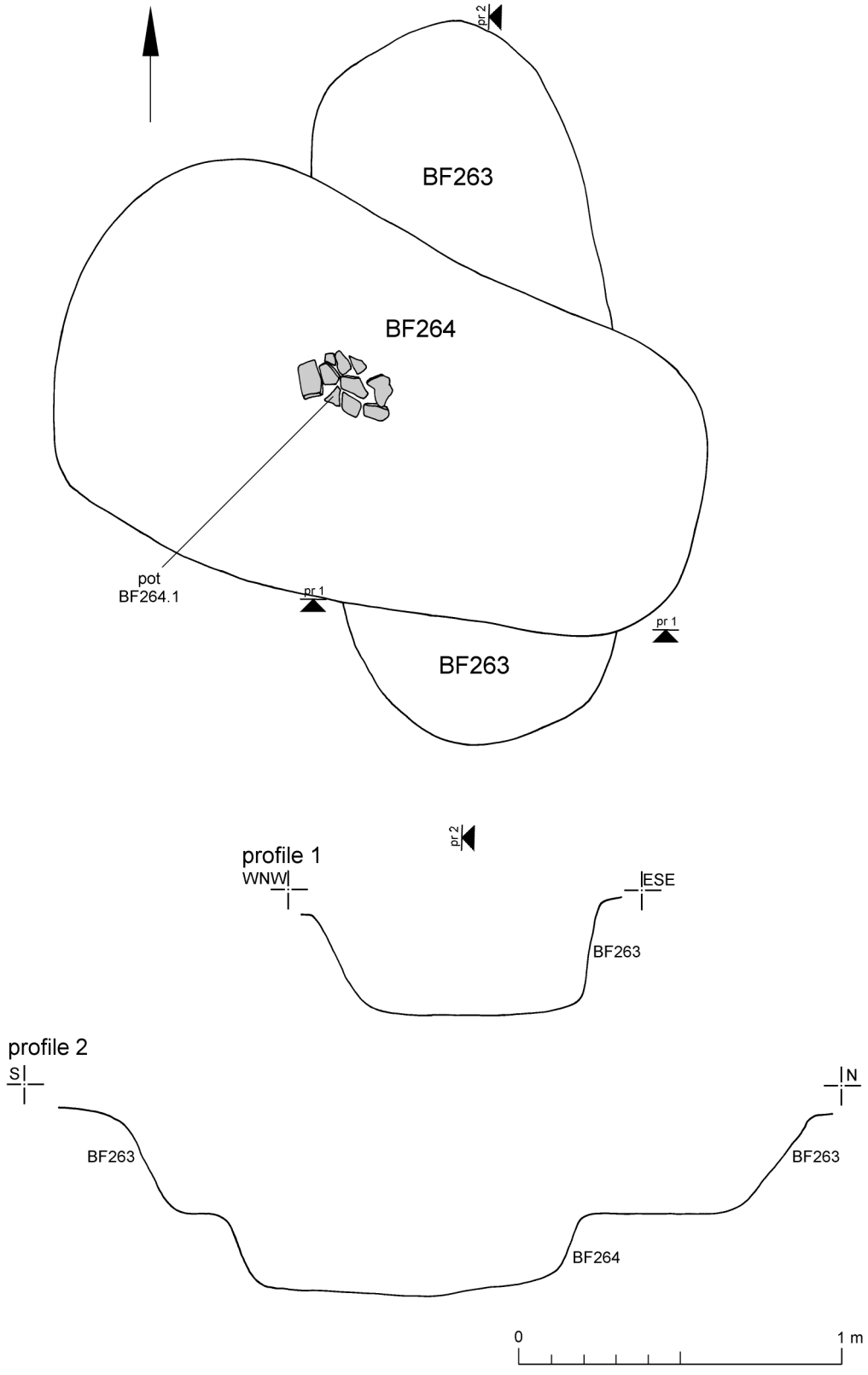


Fig 21 Area B burials: BF263-4 plans and profiles.

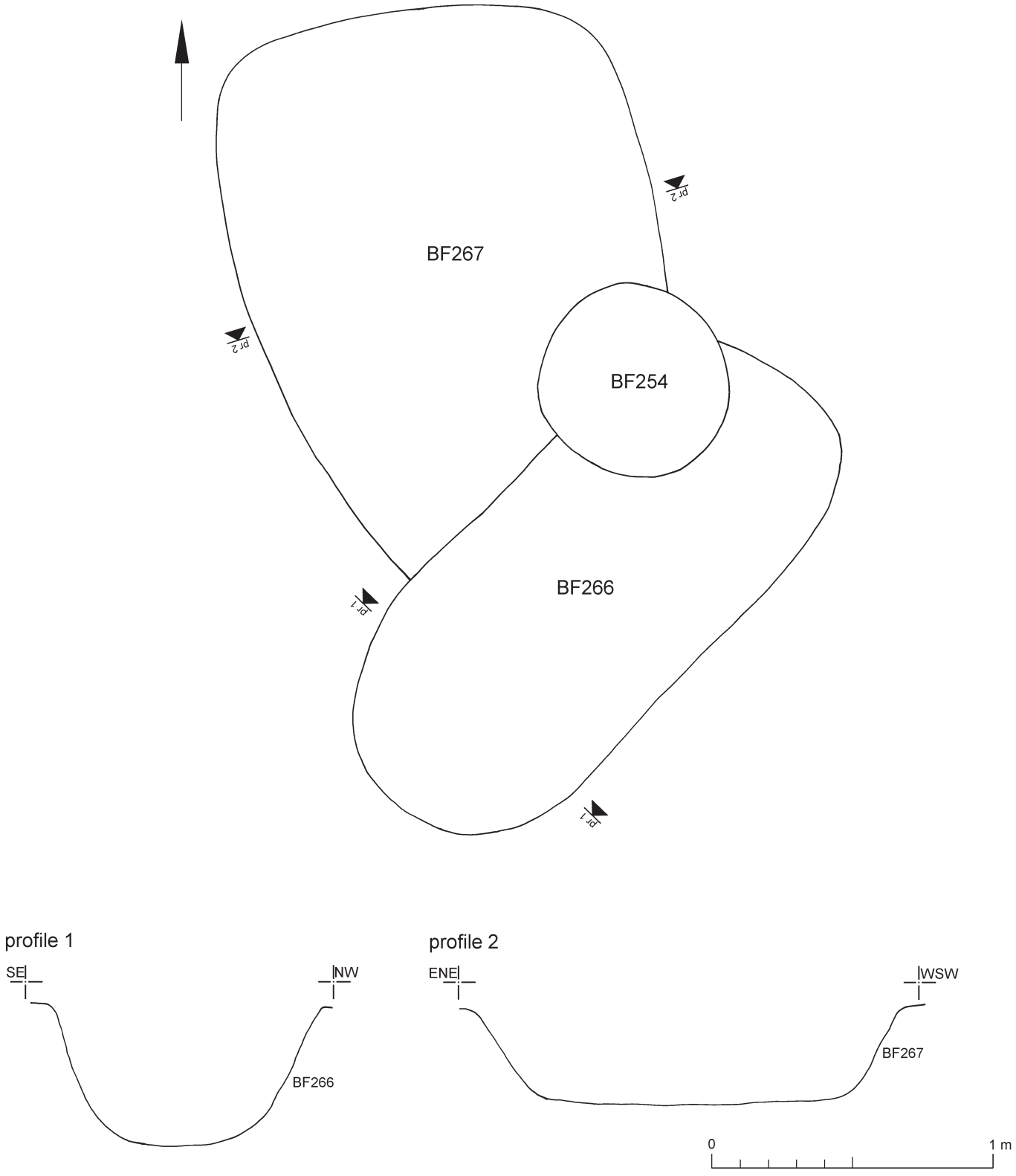


Fig 22 Area B burials: BF266-7 plans and profiles.

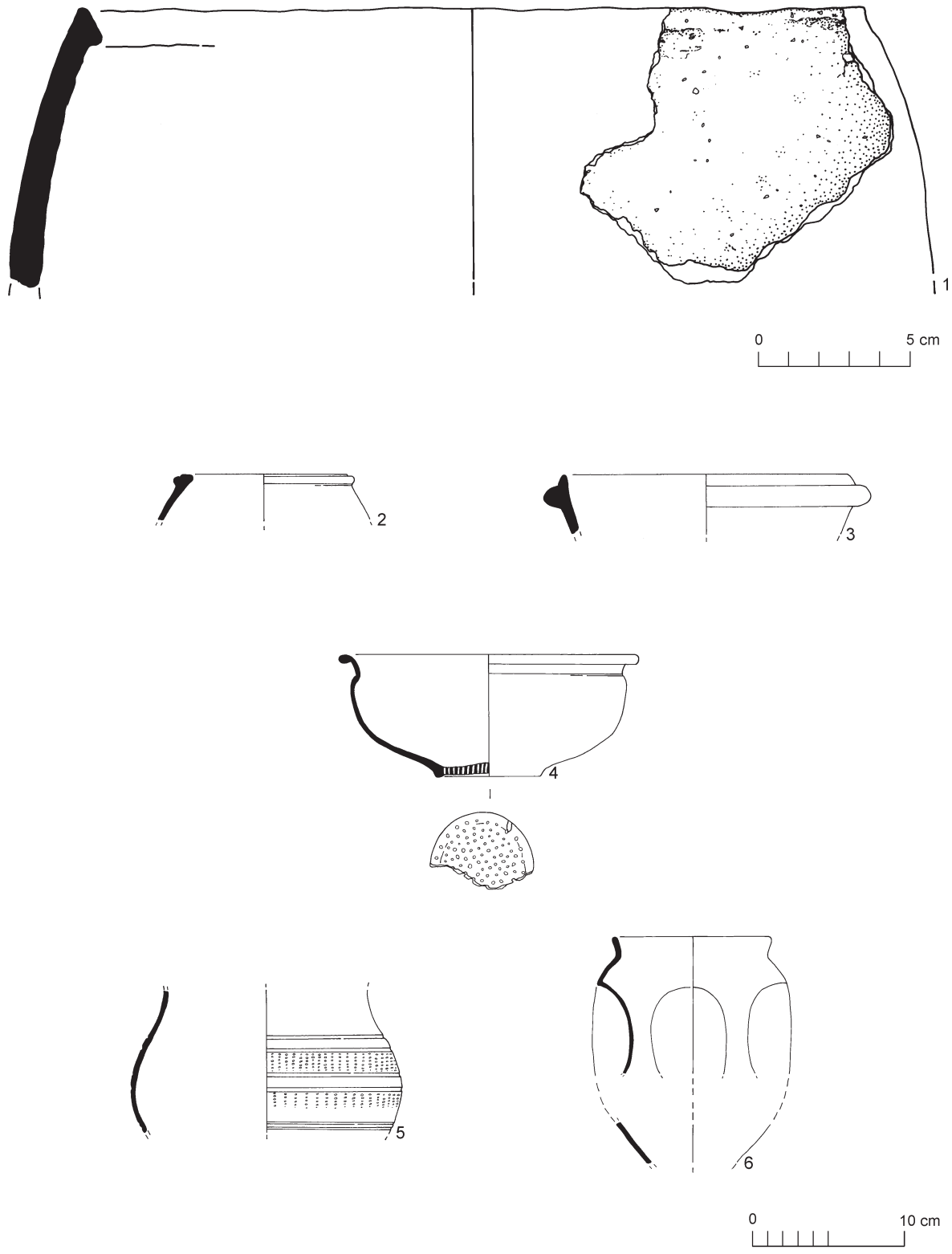


Fig 23 Prehistoric (1) and LIA-Roman(2-6) pottery.

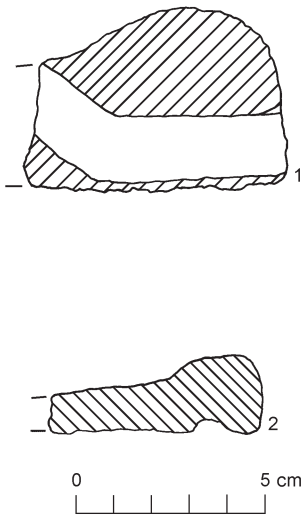


Fig 24 Quernstones.

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

Printable version

OASIS ID: colchest3-268002

Project details

Project name	Dale Hall Farm, Lawford, Essex
Short description of the project	Archaeological excavations were carried out at Dale Hall Farm, Lawford, Essex. The excavations were conducted in three separate areas of a large development site; Areas A and C revealed an agricultural landscape dating from the Late Iron Age to the mid- late Roman period. This landscape largely comprised Late Iron Age/early Roman field boundaries, trackways and enclosures, many of which appear to have been maintained, extended or re-dug over a period of time. Some evidence for structural activity was also present, and may have been related to this agricultural activity. Excavation of Area A also revealed a late 3rd-4th century Roman kiln and associated kiln debris. Activity in Area B comprised an early/middle Roman enclosure ditch that encircled what seemed to be a small cemetery containing eight cremations and at least one inhumation.
Project dates	Start: 01-01-2015 End: 28-02-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	14/12b - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	COLEM 2015.18 - Museum accession ID
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 2 - Vacant land not previously developed
Monument type	CEMETERY Roman
Monument type	FIELD SYSTEM Late Iron Age
Monument type	FIELD SYSTEM Roman
Monument type	KILN Roman
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman
Investigation type	"'Full excavation'"
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX TENDRING LAWFORD Dale Hall Farm, Lawford
Postcode	CO11 2LA
Study area	6250 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 093 314 51.070968731756 -0.43977375197 51 04 15 N 000 26 23 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project brief originator	HEM Team Officer, ECC
Project design originator	Adrian Gascoyne, HEM Team Officer, ECC
Project director/manager	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Project supervisor	Nigel Rayner
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Rose Builders

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Human Bones","Industrial","Metal","Worked stone/lithics","Animal Bones"
Digital Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Glass","Human Bones","Industrial","Metal","Stratigraphic","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Spreadsheets","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Correspondence","Diary","Drawing","Miscellaneous Material","Notebook - Excavation"," Research"," General Notes","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological excavation at Dale Hall Farm, Lawford, Essex, CO11 2LA
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Parmenter, P.
Other bibliographic details	CAT Report 847
Date	2017
Issuer or publisher	Colchester Archaeological Trust
Place of issue or publication	Colchester
Description	A4 ringbound loose leaf
URL	http://cat.essex.ac.uk/all-reports.html

Entered by	Laura Pooley (lp@catuk.org)

Entered on 27 April 2017

OASIS: