Wessex Archaeology

Archaeological Investigations at Weedon Hill, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire

Archaeological Assessment Report
and Updated Project Design

Ref: 62030.02

February 2008

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting, on behalf of Taylor Woodrow, to undertake a programme of archaeological work at Weedon Hill, Aylesbury (NGR481200, 215700) in advance of a primarily residential development of 44 hectares. This assessment report presents the results of the archaeological investigations and includes proposals for a programme of post-excavation analysis leading to publication of the significant findings.

The archaeological work undertaken by Wessex Archaeology consisted of three separate stages of work and comprised:

- A metal detecting survey of the whole site
- An intermittent watching brief, which focused on the access roads
- A 'strip, map and record' excavation of *c.*3ha, targeted on the results of an earlier evaluation and geophysical survey

The investigation recovered finds dating from the Neolithic to post-medieval/modern period; however the archaeological features identified mainly related to occupation of later prehistoric and Romano-British date. Medieval agriculture, presumably associated with the nearby deserted medieval village (Scheduled Monument no. 12004), was also evident in the furrows that truncated all earlier archaeological features.

The first evident division of the landscape was the construction of field boundaries in the 1st millennium BC, although dateable artefacts were few, the pottery seems generally consistent with a Late Bronze Age date. Near the northern edge of site, truncated postholes pertaining to a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age roundhouse and an isolated post-pit of Middle-Late Bronze Age date were identified.

There then appears to have been a hiatus of activity within the site in the Middle-Late Iron Age and no features or deposits of this date were discovered.

During the Romano-British period, the north of the site was divided into a complex of enclosures, probably agricultural in function; the eastern and southern extents of these appear to have been defined within the 'strip, map and record' area. Two roundhouses, an oven and a group of pits were also identified in this locality.

In the north-west of the excavation area, a Romano-British double-ditched enclosure, with an entrance on its south side, was situated in a shallow coombe where an undated palaeochannel or spring-line was located. An internal ditch was recorded that may have acted as a beamslot for a possible rectangular timber building, with three of the main structural postholes surviving inside. The only other contemporary internal feature has been interpreted as a probable oven for drying malt (based on the assessment of the environmental samples). By the entrance to the outer enclosure, a

stone-lined pit with associated outflow drains may have functioned as a tank for steeping the malt until it germinated to the required length, then it would have been removed and de-husked, and dried at low temperatures possibly on a wooden floor (which has not survived) above the oven. It is suggested that the waste from this process was used to fuel the oven.

Although evidence of malting is known from a large number of archaeological sites, it is often just the waste that is represented; the combined environmental, artefactual and structural evidence of a possible Roman malt house at Weedon Hill is therefore significant.

Later periods are poorly represented. A single coin is the only evidence of Saxon activity. The furrows and a number of 13th/14th century coins from the metal detecting survey are the only archaeological indicators of medieval activity, which is likely to have been associated with the nearby deserted medieval village. Approximately 500 objects were recovered during the metal detecting survey and are predominantly post-medieval in date. The only finds from this work that can at this stage be attributed to the putative Civil War Battle of Aylesbury, which recent research has argued was more likely to have been a skirmish, are the musket shot (24 in total).

The archaeological investigations at Weedon Hill have highlighted the utilisation of this marginal clay land on the edge of the River Thame valley in both the later prehistoric and Romano-British periods. It is proposed that the results of this work form the subject of a programme of post-excavation analysis (as outlined in this report) and lead to publication, probably in a relevant journal.

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Acknowledgements

This archaeological investigation was commissioned by CgMs Consulting, archaeological consultants for Taylor Woodrow. The assistance and advice of Duncan Hawkins (CgMs) is acknowledged, as is that of Sandy Kidd (Senior Archaeological Officer, Buckinghamshire County Council) who monitored the archaeological work. Dominique de Moulins (English Heritage) is acknowledged for her advice in the formation of an environmental sampling strategy. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful to Rosalind Tyrrell (Finds Liaison Officer, Buckinghamshire County Council) for her organisation of volunteers for the metal detecting survey. The assistance and cooperation of Agetur (UK) Ltd is also duly acknowledged, in particular Gary Rogers and John Hannan.

Wessex Archaeology would also like to thank the many keen metal detectorists who volunteered. Particular thanks are extended to Tom Clark, who assisted in further metal detecting during the archaeological excavation, and also to his son Jack who kindly took excellent aerial photographs of the site from his motorised glider.

The project was managed for Wessex Archaeology by Nick Truckle (Senior Project Manager). This report was written by Gail Wakeham (Senior Project Officer). The finds were assessed by Lorraine Mepham with Grace Jones (pottery), Jessica Grimm (animal bone), Jacqueline McKinley (human bone), Matt Leivers (flint) and Nick Cooke (coins). The environmental sampling strategy was formulated by Catherine Chisham, with the advice of Dominique de Moulins (English Heritage). The bulk and waterlogged environmental samples were assessed by Chris Stevens and Sarah Wyles. Geoarchaeology, soils and sediments were assessed by Dave Norcott. The molluscs were assessed by Sarah Wyles. The recommendations for environmental analysis were made by Chris Stevens and Catherine Chisham. The report graphics were prepared by Liz James.

The archaeological strip, map and record excavation was directed by Gail Wakeham with the assistance of Gareth Chaffey and Barry Hennessy (Project Supervisors), and Cornelius Barton, Gary Evans, Catrin Matthews, Lucy Maynard, Dave Murdie, Lee Newton, Iain Rockley, Luke Ryalls, Mark Stewart, and Tom Wells. The metal detecting survey was supervised by Mike Dinwiddy and Jon Martin (Project Supervisors). The first stage of the watching brief was undertaken by Angela Batt (Project Officer) and Jon Martin (Project Supervisor). Barry Hennessy (Project Supervisor), assisted by Rudy Domzalski, carried out the second stage of the watching brief.

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SECTION A: POST-EXCAVATION ASSESSMENT

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by CgMs Consulting, on behalf of Taylor Woodrow, to undertake a programme of archaeological work at Weedon Hill, Aylesbury (hereafter 'the Site'). The work was undertaken in advance of, and during construction of, a mixed development (principally residential) covering some 44 hectares (ha), centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 481200, 215700 (**Figure 1**).

1.1.2 Policy AY16 of the Deposit Draft Aylesbury Vale District Local Plan (1998) identified the Site as a 'Major Development Area' (MDA). Following consultation, a Development Brief was adopted by the District Council as 'Supplementary Planning Guidance' (2003). An Environmental Statement (ES) was required to accompany an 'Outline Planning Application'. Archaeology was one of the key areas assessed: a desk-based assessment (DBA) was carried out, supplemented by field walking, metal detector and geophysical surveys of the Site. Pre-determination trial trenching was also undertaken. The results of these investigations (Section 1.4) led to a recommendation for further work.

1.1.3 A planning application (03/00393/AOP) was submitted by Hallam Land Management Ltd to the Local Planning Authority (LPA) for the development. The LPA granted outline permission in 2003 with a number of conditions attached. *Condition 22* advised that:

"*No development shall take place…until the implementation of a programme of archaeological works…in accordance with a written scheme of investigation submitted to and approved in writing by the LPA*."

1.1.4 A brief was provided by Buckinghamshire County Council's Senior Archaeological Officer. Subsequently, an archaeological mitigation strategy was produced by John Samuels Archaeological Consultants (JSAC, now part of CgMs Consulting). The mitigation strategy (JSAC 2005) represents the written scheme of investigation referred to in *Condition 22* and formed the project design for the investigation carried out by Wessex Archaeology.

1.2 Scope of document

1.2.1 This report presents an assessment of the results of archaeological investigations carried out in accordance with the mitigation strategy, which comprised a metal detecting survey, a targeted 'strip map and record' excavation and an intermittent watching brief. The report includes proposals

for a programme of post-excavation analysis, leading to publication of the results, as well as a description of the resources required to complete the programme.

1.3 The Site

1.3.1 The Site is located *c.*2km north of Aylesbury town centre, Buckinghamshire (NGR 481200, 215700). The Site is bounded to the south by the River Thame and the A413 Buckingham Road forms the eastern boundary. The northern boundary is formed by a hedgerow located on a ridgeline and to the west is another hedgerow forming Weedon parish boundary, beyond which lies the nationally important Scheduled Monument (SM no. 12004) of Quarrendon (**Figure 1**; Para 1.4.7).

1.3.2 The Site comprised an irregular parcel of land totalling some 44 ha situated on a gentle south-facing slope on the northern valley side of the River Thame. Before development commenced the land was under arable and pastoral cultivation (with an electricity sub-station in the east). Levels within the Site gently fall from *c.*85m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the north to *c.*75m aOD in the south of the Site.

1.3.3 The underlying geology is predominantly Upper Jurassic and Cretaceous clay (British Geological Survey Sheet 219 exists only as archive copies, but the wider area indicates this) giving rise to seasonally waterlogged clayey soils of the Denchworth Association (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983).

1.4 Archaeological background

Introduction

1.4.1 Four phases of archaeological work preceded Wessex Archaeology's investigation and comprised: a DBA (JSAC 1998), a field walking and metal detecting survey of the entire Site (Network Archaeology 1999), a geophysical survey covering 2ha (GSB 2001), and an archaeological field evaluation consisting of 19 trial trenches, targeted on the results of the former (Foundations Archaeology 2002). The archaeological background relating to the Site is detailed in these previous reports, although is briefly and chronologically outlined below.

Prehistoric

1.4.2 The only evidence of prehistoric activity in the Site was represented by a few pieces of worked flint recovered during field walking. This 'background' activity is probably associated with a possible Bronze Age/Iron Age settlement located *c.*500m to the south-east of the Site (Network Archaeology 1999).

Romano-British (AD 43 – 410)

1.4.3 The Roman 'small town' or roadside settlement of Fleet Marston is located *c.* 3km south-west of the Site on Akeman Street (a probable early military Roman road). A Roman enclosure has also been excavated to the immediate east of the Site (JSAC 1998, 7).

1.4.4 A significant concentration of Romano-British artefacts was found during the field walking survey in the western part of the Site (JSAC 1998). This correlated with geophysical anomalies that produced clear linear and rectilinear ditch type responses suggestive of field system enclosures. The anomalies were weaker than the strong responses to the north (outside of the current development area), perhaps because they lie outside of core settlement activity (GSB 2001, 2).

1.4.5 The correlation between the archaeological features found in the archaeological evaluation and the geophysical survey results was "relatively good" and the latter "appear to provide a moderately accurate representation of the archaeological resource". The evaluation concluded that there were dispersed features of Romano-British date (with pottery from the 1st to 4th centuries) likely to be representative of field systems on the periphery of a settlement. All features were truncated by medieval plough furrows (Foundations Archaeology 2002, 7.1-7.2).

Saxon (410-1066)

1.4.6 There is no known evidence of Saxon remains on the Site, apart from the reported stray find of a spearhead in the far south-east corner. However, the place-name Weedon may be Saxon and derived from the old English meaning 'idol' (JSAC 1998, 3).

Medieval and post-medieval (1066-1799)

1.4.7 The Scheduled Monument (no.12004, **Figure 1**) of Quarrendon lies to the immediate north-west of the Site, and is largely formed of extensive earthworks. The scheduled area is comprised of two deserted medieval villages (which may be a single shifting one), the 13th century St Peters Chapel, a 16th moated country mansion with formal gardens, another moated site, and a post-medieval rabbit warren, previously interpreted as a Civil War battery (English Heritage, National Monuments Record Monument Report, www.ahds.ac.uk). These nationally important archaeological remains are not directly affected by the development, and the ES concluded that any potential indirect impact on the monument's setting had been considered in the development's design and therefore the SM would not be adversely affected.

1.4.8 The geophysics and evaluation confirmed that the Site is covered by medieval plough furrows, which truncate earlier archaeology and have no associated extant ridges, as these have been destroyed by later ploughing. The Site was agricultural fields throughout both periods and the scatter of artefacts is thought to be a result of manuring (JSAC 2003, 3).

1.4.9 It has been claimed that the Battle of Aylesbury (1642) took place in the south-east corner of the Site near Holman's Bridge (**Figure 1**), as shown on early Ordnance Survey (OS) maps. However, recent research by Zeepvat suggested that there was little evidence for this exact location, based on the lack of gravel extraction (because reportedly battlefield burials were found during gravel extraction) and concluded that there was little evidence of the battle being more than a skirmish (JSAC 1998, 6).

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1.1 The general aims of the archaeological investigation as set out in the mitigation strategy, were principally to mitigate the effect of the proposed development scheme on archaeology through preservation by record and publication of the results (JSAC 2005).

2.1.2 Specific defined objectives were:

- The recovery of the plan of the field system and any settlement features;
- The phasing of the plan;
- The dates of the origin and abandonment of the field system and any settlement features.

2.1.3 The research objectives were reviewed throughout the archaeological work in consultation with the Buckinghamshire County Council's Senior Archaeological Officer. After the above objectives had been met, it was agreed to focus on the function and date of the double-ditched enclosure in the west of the Site, the existence of which had not been known from the preceding archaeological work.

2.1.4 The primary objective of the metal detecting survey was to locate evidence of the putative Battle of Aylesbury, as well as to assist in the recovery of other dateable artefacts

3 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The work was undertaken in accordance with the methodology outlined in the mitigation strategy (JSAC 2005).

3.1.2 Two changes were made to the mitigation strategy, with the agreement of the Senior Archaeological Officer:

- Due to the presence of overhead power lines, ecological newt fencing, and the absence of archaeological features in the far east of the stripped area, the size of the excavation area for 'strip, map and record' was reduced.
- In accordance with Wessex Archaeology's purpose, role and philosophy and with the encouragement and cooperation of Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service and CgMs, an extra stage of fieldwork was undertaken. Under the supervision and guidance of Wessex Archaeology, local volunteers conducted a metal detecting survey. Public involvement was encouraged at all stages of the project, with a volunteer detectorist assisting during the area excavation. A public open day had also been organised, although was unfortunately cancelled due to appalling weather which made safe access to the Site impossible.

3.1.3 The metal detecting survey covered the entire Site, apart from an area between the electricity sub-station and Watermead roundabout on the A413 which couldn't be accessed because of construction activity. The survey was undertaken between the 31st January and 2nd February 2006.

3.1.4 The total area of the Site that was subject to archaeological 'strip, map and record' excavation was approximately 3 ha (**Figure 1**). This was carried out in an 12 week period between 7th August and 27th October 2006.

3.1.5 The intermittent watching brief was undertaken in two stages: between 12th January and 10th February 2006, and 22nd to 25th January 2007. The first stage focused on observing the topsoil stripping of access roads in the south-east part of the Site and the second stage monitored the stripping to natural geology of an area (1300m²) for another access road to the south of the 'strip, map and record' excavation area (**Figure 1**).

3.2 Metal detecting survey methodology

3.2.1 Under close supervision, the volunteers (all of whom had signed a formal agreement) systematically scanned each field within the Site, on a field by field basis. When objects were discovered they were bagged with a small finds number and the position marked. The position of every small find was located using a hand-held GPS, and so located to the OS National Grid.

3.2.2 All artefacts were retained, with the exception of small finds of undoubtedly modern date and as a minimum were bagged, labelled, weighed and identified. A statement on the finds potential is given in Section 5.

3.3 'Strip, map and record' methodology

3.3.1 Overburden was removed by 360º tracked excavators equipped with toothless grading buckets under the constant supervision of qualified professional archaeologists. Machining continued down to the top of archaeological deposits, which were seen at the same level as the underlying geology.

3.3.2 All exposed archaeological features were digitally mapped (or planned) using a total station (TST) or GPS, and thereby related to OS National Grid.

3.3.3 Archaeological features and deposits were sufficiently excavated to allow an informed interpretation of their date and function, usually 50% of discrete features (e.g. pits and postholes) and up to a maximum of 25% or up to 10m (whichever was least) of any linear feature.

3.3.4 In accordance with the mitigation strategy, archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A drawn and written record was compiled, including both plans and sections at an appropriate scale. These were surveyed to produce a digital plan using a TST which was tied into the OS National Grid. The Ordnance

Datum (OD) height of principal features and levels has been calculated and plans/sections were annotated with OD heights.

3.3.5 A full photographic record was maintained using both colour transparencies and black and white negatives (on 35mm film). Digital photography was also employed as necessary to the show both the detail and the general context of the principal features, finds excavated, and the Site as a whole.

3.3.6 The excavation area and spoil heaps were scanned with a metal detector to assist in the recovery of dateable material, and where artefacts were recovered their exact position was recorded using a Total Station.

3.3.7 All artefacts were retained from excavated contexts, with the exception of features or deposits of undoubtedly modern date and as a minimum were washed, weighed, counted, marked and identified. A statement on the finds potential is given in Section 5.

3.3.8 During the fieldwork, an environmental sampling strategy was formulated (with the assistance of English Heritage), and adhered to. Bulk environmental samples of a minimum of 10 litres were taken from sealed archaeological features or deposits for plant macrofossils, small animal bones and small artefacts. Where appropriate, column samples for mollusc remains and monoliths for pollen and sediment description were also taken.

3.3.9 All bulk environmental samples taken have been processed and scanned to assess the environmental potential of deposits, but will not be fully analysed at this assessment stage. The residues and sieved fractions will be recorded and retained with the project archive. A statement on the environmental potential of the samples is given in Section 6.

3.4 Intermittent watching brief methodology

3.4.1 The first stage of the watching brief monitored major phases of bulk soil removal, mainly access roads, and concentrated on the south-east part of the Site. This comprised archaeological inspection of the topsoil, and where (rarely) machining continued to natural geology, the ground was monitored for archaeological features.

3.4.2 The second stage of the watching brief was undertaken as a controlled ‘strip and map’ exercise during the construction of an access road, to ascertain if the archaeological features discovered during the ‘strip, map and record’ excavation continued to the south.

3.4.3 Where potential archaeological features were discovered, they were excavated and recorded using the same methods as outlined above for the ‘strip, map and record’ excavation (Section 3.3).

3.5 Quantification of archive

Table 1: Quantification of archive

WA Project Code	File No.	Details	No. of sheets	Format
62030	1	Index to archive	1	A4
62030	1	Context index	23	A4
62030	1	Day book entries	31	A4
62030	1	Graphics registers	14	A4
62030	1	Environmental sample index	4	A4
62030	1	Object registers	41	A4
62030	1	X ray register	?	A4
62030	1	Photo registers	65	A4
62030	1	WSI	38	A4
62030	1	Metal detecting agreements	28	A4
62030	2	Survey record book	A5 book	A5
62030	3	Sample records	68	A4
62030	4	Context sheets (100 – 107 & 200 - 499)	306	A4
62030	5	Context sheets (500 – 699)	199	A4
62030	6	Context sheets (700 – 850)	150	A4
62030	-	Graphics	18	A1
62030	7-8	Graphics	56	A3
62030	7-8	Graphics	64	A4
62030	-	Colour sides	35mm	761 frames
62030	-	Black & white negatives	35mm	761 frames
62030	-	Finds boxes		25 boxes
TOTAL for 62030	**5x A4 lever arch, 2x A3 folders, 1x A5 survey book, 1522 frames (slides), 25 boxes (finds) and a roll of A1 graphics**			

4 ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 This section summarises the results of the assessment of the archaeological investigation, integrated with selected specialist material and presented as a single chronological narrative (treating all fieldwork investigations as one) describing the development of the Site. All periods of activity identified are shown in **Figure 2**. The detailed assessment of the finds assemblage is presented in Section 5 and the assessment of the environmental evidence is given in Section 6 of this report.

4.2 Difficulties encountered & confidence rating

4.2.1 The fieldwork investigations were on the whole undertaken in good weather conditions. However, hot sunny weather during the first few weeks of the 'strip, map and record' baked the natural clay and made hand-excavation extremely hard work and visibility in plan of archaeological deposits poor. During the latter stage of the 'strip, map and record' summer storms hampered progress during the excavation of the double-ditched enclosure and every day part-excavated slots had to be pumped dry in order for hand-excavation to continue (see plate on back cover).

4.2.2 Tracing the alignment of archaeological features in plan was also made difficult by the frequency of medieval furrows which truncated earlier features approximately every six metres (**Figure 2** and **Plate 1**).

4.2.3 The first stage of the watching brief largely involved archaeological monitoring of topsoil stripping for the access roads (in accordance with the mitigation strategy), then Terram sheeting was laid and the level was raised up with hardcore and tarmac, therefore any potential archaeological features that were cut into the natural geology would not have been visible during this stage of fieldwork. As a result, the confidence rate for this particular stage of the archaeological investigation is low. However, some post-medieval - modern archaeological features surviving just below the topsoil were visible and so were recorded (Para 4.9.1).

4.2.4 Despite the difficulties encountered, Wessex Archaeology are highly confident that for all stages of the archaeological investigation (except the first watching brief, as explained above), all archaeological features and deposits were mapped, and that a sufficient sample was excavated in order to establish the phasing of the archaeology and fulfil the aims and objectives of the mitigation strategy.

4.3 Natural deposits and soil sequence

4.3.1 The soil sequence identified was similar across the Site. The plough soil, a mid greyish brown silty clay deposit, approximately 0.3-0.4m in depth, physically overlay the natural geology, at which level archaeological features were visible.

4.3.2 The natural geology consisted of light yellowish brown clay mottled with common reddish brown iron staining and light blueish grey clay, with occasional concentrated patches of flint gravel.

4.4 General prehistoric

4.4.1 Seventy nine pieces of worked flint were retrieved comprising a few diagnostic forms of a Neolithic (34000-2400 BC) and Early Bronze Age (2400-1500 BC) date. Although these were predominantly found residually in later contexts or unstratified, they provide an indication of some activity of this date in this area of the River Thame valley.

4.5 Later prehistoric (1st millennium BC) (Figure 2)

4.5.1 The earliest features on the Site were dated to the 1st millennium BC, although the pottery generally seems more consistent with a Late Bronze Age date (1100-700 BC).

4.5.2 Five heavily truncated postholes (group **230**) in the north-west corner of the Site form an arc in plan view (**Plate 2**) and together they represent the remains of a post-built circular building, with a diameter of approximately eight metres. One of these postholes (**299**) contained post-packing and a rim sherd of Post-Deverel-Rimbury fineware (Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age) pottery and also 15 sherds of shell-tempered fabric which may suggest a slightly later Early Iron Age date. A natural hollow (**212**) located near this structure also contained Late Bronze Age pottery within its upper fill.

4.5.3 Another potential structural feature of this phase is post-pit **268**, also located near the northern edge of excavation at the top of the slope, adjacent to undated ditch group **841**(which it could potentially be related to). Its primary fill (**271**) contained a probable Neolithic flint core and Middle-Late Bronze Age pottery. Above this was a charcoal-rich deposit (**270**) thought to be a deliberate backfill event, sealed by an upper secondary fill (**269**) with further pottery, animal bone and worked flint.

4.5.4 Six ditches aligned north-north-west to south-south-east (**827**, **833**, **834**, **836**, **837** and **838**) are truncated by medieval furrows and later ploughing; all are noticeably shallower down slope. All of these ditches, apart from one, contained small amounts of pottery broadly dated to the 1st millennium BC. Ditch **836** is stratigraphically earlier than two Romano-British ditches (**Section A**). In the central part of the 'strip, map and record' area these ditches are relatively evenly spaced and so probably suggestive of field system usage with intervals between them of *c.*15-18m. However, ditch **827** which is stratigraphically earlier than the Roman double-ditched enclosure, is located approximately 55m west of ditches **833** and **834**. It is thought that this large interval may be misleading and it is possible that other contemporary ditches may have been masked by the frequent medieval furrows. Notably there were no ditches perpendicularly aligned to the ones described above.

4.6 Romano-British (Figure 2)

4.6.1 The pottery assemblage ranges in date between the 2nd to 4th centuries AD, although it is dominated by Late Roman (mid 3rd to 4th centuries AD) material, particularly local Oxfordshire industry wares. Refinement of the pottery dating has been hampered by surface abrasion of the fabric, the slip was often left adhered to the blocky clay deposits that the pottery was excavated from, and the way the vessels were broken limited identification of vessel form/type.

4.6.2 This Late Roman date is confirmed by the coin assemblage recovered from the excavation; 14 out of 17 coins all date to the late 3rd or 4th centuries AD.

4.6.3 Some stratigraphic relationships were established during the 'strip, map and record' excavation that may assist in refining the Romano-British phasing; however at this assessment stage these relationships are only noted within the text; further analysis is needed in order to confidently sub-divide the phasing using a combination of stratigraphic relationships, spatial associations and dateable artefacts.

4.6.4 Parts of two highly truncated penannular gullies (**247** and **393**) were found in the south-eastern part of the 'strip, map and record' excavation area. Both contained some Romano-British pottery and the former had one probably contemporary internal feature, truncated pit **286** which contained a single sherd of Roman pottery. Both gullies are considered to be the remains of Romano-British roundhouse buildings, with a diameters of approximately 8-9m and **247** was shown to have a south-east facing entrance, which is the most common orientation of doorways into roundhouses as known from many other excavated examples. Gully **247** was stratigraphically earlier than boundary ditch **774** located to the immediate south, which contained predominantly Late Roman pottery, therefore suggesting that these roundhouses may represent an early component in this Romano-British phase.

4.6.5 Located approximately 10m to the east of roundhouse **247** was a key-hole shaped oven **288**. The use of this oven had caused the surrounding natural clay to be reddened through *in situ* burning, and its charcoal-rich ashy fill contained one sherd of Roman grey ware pottery.

4.6.6 One of the main Romano-British boundary ditches that is likely to be early within this phase is north-north-west to south-south-east aligned ditch **778** in the centre of the 'strip, map and record' area. This was a wide (2.5m) U-shaped profiled ditch, cutting an earlier prehistoric ditch **836** and cut by a later Roman boundary ditch **835** (**Section A**, **Figure 2**). It terminated downhill near the southern edge of excavation in a bulbous deeper terminal, which may have been a separate pit feature, although no relationship could be seen in section to verify this. The naturally-derived secondary fill of the ditch contained small amounts of pottery generally dated as Romano-British, with a larger concentration of Late Roman pottery in the terminal, perhaps

adding weight to the above possibility. Ditch **778** defines the western extent of the system of enclosures that are further discussed below.

4.6.7 Boundary ditch **835** initially follows the north-north-west to south-south-east alignment of the earlier similarly-profiled ditch **778**, before turning and cutting across the former, extending on a west-south-west to east-north-east alignment for some 100m, before finally turning southwards and resuming its previous alignment. This ditch marks a major division of the landscape and is associated with other probably contemporaneous sub-divisions (**839**, **840**, **842**, **847** and **848**) which together form a series of enclosures and a possible drove way that are likely to be agricultural in function, as few other contemporary features are located within them (even upslope where truncation through later ploughing is less). These ditches all contained small amounts of pottery, mostly generally dated as Romano-British, and other type of finds such as animal bone were rare, although of note is the partial skeleton of a horse in **842** and a coin dating to AD350-360 (Object 672) in the upper fill of ditch **835**. An L-shaped ditch (**843**) in the north-east corner of the 'strip, map and record' excavation area forms another separate small enclosure.

4.6.8 Another Romano-British boundary **774** is located in the south of the 'strip, map and record' excavation area. This is somewhat unusual in plan, in comparisons to the other ditches on the Site, having a gently curvilinear south-west to north-east alignment. Several interventions were excavated through this feature in an attempt to understand its construction and date; it appeared to be constructed of different segments and was frequently re-cut along its length. This boundary ditch contained large quantities, relative to other features within the Site, of predominantly Late Romano-British pottery. Episodes of dumping were identified as deliberately infilling this ditch and this appears likely given the amount of domestic waste recovered including pottery, animal bone, ceramic roof tile and small finds including: nails, two coins (Objects 678 and 690) - the former is dated to AD270-296 and the second more generally to the 3-4th centuries AD, a lead weight, copper alloy vessel fragment and a rim of a glass vessel. This boundary is likely to be a late element within the Romano-British phase as it was proved to cut roundhouse gully **247**, ditch **835** and ditch **845**.

4.6.9 Ditch **849** is located to the north-west of ditch **774**, which it is also parallel to and similarly it is slightly curvilinear in plan. The feature had also been deliberately backfilled with domestic waste including Late Roman pottery, fired clay, animal bone, a possible rubbing stone and also a large amount of hulled wheat grain and glume fragments.

4.6.10 Ditches **849** and **774** together enclose an area where a number of largely amorphous features are located. A large percentage of these were investigated: pit group **603** comprised five pits. Stratigraphic relationships between the pits were either not visible or non-existent because they were all backfilled at the same time. The latter seems more likely because the pits were all filled with a similar artefact-rich secondary fill which contained dumped domestic waste with large sherds of mainly Late Roman pottery, animal bone (amongst which a juvenile sheep skeleton is noteworthy) and

several small finds including a cluster of hobnails (derived from a boot) and quern stone fragments. Clearly, this enclosed area was a dumping ground for waste from a nearby settlement, however it is thought that this was not the primary function of the pits and these irregularly shaped pits may have been dug for clay extraction and utilised later for waste deposition.

4.6.11 To the south of boundary ditch **774** there is very little activity, many of these unexcavated discrete irregular features appeared to be natural hollows filled with colluvium deposits. Roman ditch **846** is aligned north-west to south-east and is the only ditch on the Site which follows this orientation; its function is unclear.

4.6.12 The area that was monitored during the second stage of the watching brief is located to the south of the 'strip, map and record' excavation (**Figure 2**). No archaeological features or deposits were discovered here, and therefore it appears that the system of Romano-British enclosures do not continue southwards downhill and likewise the blank eastern part of the 'strip, map and record' shows that the eastern extent of the enclosures has also been defined.

4.6.13 Ditch **844** encloses a sub-rectangular area of approximately 60 x 30m and is located in the south-east part of the 'strip, map and record' excavation area. A probable entranceway is located on the northern side of this enclosure, which may have been later narrowed. Ditch **844** was shown to be stratigraphically later than boundary ditches **774** and **835**, although ditch **774** may have still been partially open as in the south-west corner of this enclosure, the terminus of ditch **844** butts up against **774** as if respecting it and the alignment of this enclosure suggests that it was 'tacked on' to ditch **774**. It is therefore likely that this presumed agricultural enclosure was also a late development within the Romano-British phase.

4.6.14 Ditch **831** is located parallel with the southern edge of the 'strip, map and record' excavation area and extends for some 140m. It is over a metre wide and is a maximum of *c.*0.6m deep and contained few finds. Ditch **831** post-dates an earlier ditch **832** which contained no dateable material (although is also probably Roman), the eastern terminus of this ditch **832** was located in the area of the shallow coombe, it appears in plan that ditch **832** is eventually completely cut away by ditch **831** in the west of the Site. Ditch **831** and ditch **778** together form a large enclosed area; approximately central to this is a shallow linear coomb where an undated palaeochannel **787** and a Romano-British double-ditched enclosure (**514**/**516** and **825**) and other associated features were located.

4.6.15 To the south of ditch **831** is an isolated highly truncated urned cremation burial in a small pit **203**. Only the base of the Roman vessel survived and contained a small amount of cremated bone of an adult (**Plate 3**).

Romano-British double-ditched enclosure and associated features (Figure 3)

4.6.16 The outer enclosure ditch of the Romano-British double-ditched enclosure is comprised of two ditch groups (**514** and **516**) which although contemporary, however have been kept as separate ditches because of differences in size and shape and resulting likely differences in function. Ditch **514** is the western side of the outer enclosure, it has a U-shaped profile, approximately 4m wide and 0.85m deep, with two opposing terminals, both square-ended in plan with steep sides. Environmental monolith samples taken through the fill sequence confirmed that the ditch had an initial thin primary fill followed by a gradually formed humic secondary fill with evidence of deposits being laid in watery conditions. Some Romano-British pottery and animal bone were retrieved and a coin (Object 742) dated to AD270-296 was also found near the top of the secondary fill.

4.6.17 Contemporary ditch **516** forms the other three sides of the outer enclosure ditch and is narrower (maximum of 2.25m wide) and is deepest on the southern side where it a maximum of 0.80m deep. A terminus was excavated on the southern side of ditch **516** showing a clearly defined entranceway into the enclosure at this location. Monolith samples taken show a similar sequence to **514**; an initial primary fill (e.g. **731** on **Section B**) and then dark organic thick secondary fill (e.g. **734** on **Section B**) formed in a wet well-vegetated ditch environment. However, on the south side of ditch **516** the sharp abrupt boundary and the profile of the primary fill in this area suggests that the ditch was cleaned out or re-cut at this point (**Plate 4**). The dark secondary fill formed afterwards (which on this southern side is noticeably darker than elsewhere, although assessment has shown that this is a result of a high component of humic material rather than charcoal, although charred material was present (**Plate 4**). Another difference on the south side of ditch **516** is that charred material was added during the formation of the deposits: this may have been in the form of discrete dumps (e.g. **733** on **Section B**), and/or perhaps by sweeping of material from activity areas within the enclosure through the entrance into the ditch. Some Roman pottery, animal bone and small quantities of fired clay and one fragment of tile were retrieved from ditch **516**, mostly from the southern side, also in this specific area there was a concentration of iron nails, and two pieces of worked stone, one identifiable as a quern fragment (**Section B, Figure 3**).

4.6.18 Ditches **514** and **516** together form the outer enclosure ditch of the double-ditched enclosure, containing an area of approximately 21m by 16m. In this wet low-lying area, they undoubtedly functioned for drainage purposes, to keep the interior of the enclosure dry. However, the differences in dimensions and shape between these two contemporary ditches may also reflect more subtle differences in function; it is postulated that the wider ditch **514** may have also functioned to hold water for use in activities being carried out within the enclosure (below, Para. 4.6.22).

4.6.19 The inner enclosure ditch **825** encloses an area of approximately 17m by 11m. Its dimensions vary between 0.4-0.6m in width and 0.07-0.23m in

depth, presumably due to truncation. The sides are moderate and concave, sometimes straight, and the base is predominantly flat. This ditch is open-fronted to the south side, with two opposing terminals, one of which is heavily truncated by a furrow and modern land drain, creating a wide entranceway of *c.*14m. In contrast to the outer enclosure ditch **514**/**516**, ditch **825** had a single secondary fill that was not organic in nature and did not contain charred grain but did contain a small number of charcoal fragments and occasional sherds of Roman pottery.

4.6.20 Within the interior of the inner enclosure ditch **825**, four postholes (group **826**) were located in the northern upslope part, all were relatively similar in size (sub circular in plan, with an average diameter of *c.*0.5m and depth of 0.20m) and three contained angular stone slabs used as post packing (**Plate 5**). One posthole was cut into the fill of a later prehistoric ditch **827**. Three of these postholes form an east-north-east to west-south-west alignment and are parallel to the inner enclosure ditch **825**, located internally within 0.6-0.9m south of it. No finds were retrieved from these postholes despite 100% excavation, although their spatial association with the inner enclosure ditch and because two of the samples taken contained high numbers of hulled wheat grain and chaff fragments strongly suggests that they are also Romano-British and contemporaneous with the double-ditched enclosure.

4.6.21 Inner enclosure ditch **825** probably functioned as a beam slot for a possible timber-framed building located within the outer enclosure ditch **514**/**516**, with postholes **826** providing the main upright supporting posts. It is considered that any other potential postholes located to the south, down slope, and any floor surfaces have been removed through later truncation. This possible rectangular building would have been approximately 17m long by 11m wide.

4.6.22 The only other contemporary feature within this possible building was feature **804**, which was truncated by a furrow on its east side and also cut by undated linear feature **828** on its north side which is also considered to be a furrow. Feature **804** was irregular in plan and consisted of two heavily truncated rectangular pits to the east (0.03m deep) which fed two channels that were inclined down into the main sub-circular body of the feature; overall the feature was a maximum of 6m by 5m and 0.6m deep (**Plate 6**). Half the length (to the west) of each channel and the base of the main body of the feature were lined with re-deposited clay (**761**) placed thickest against the sides, which is thought to have functioned as a bedding layer for the positioning of the overlying stone slabs (**775**). The angular stone slabs (at least two which were scorched by heat), where they survived, were mainly positioned upright against the vertical sides of the feature (**Plate 6**), although two were flat on the base, perhaps suggesting that the whole feature had once been completely lined. The overlying deposit (**711**) was a black organic silty clay secondary fill which was sampled and contains many charred germinated malted spikelets of spelt. A concentration of late 3rd-4th century Roman pottery and some animal bone found in one area of this deposit is suggestive of dumped refuse. Other later deposits within **804** comprised both dumped backfills and secondary/tertiary fills containing small quantities of

mainly Late Roman pottery and animal bone, although a quern stone fragment and an iron nail were also retrieved.

4.6.23 It is considered that feature **804** is a possible crop drying oven, with two highly truncated stoke pits in the east with two flues inclining into the main chamber. Given the presence of sprouted grain, it is likely that this oven was more specifically for drying malted grain (further discussed below, Section 6.3), a process which only requires low temperatures. There is a lack of *in situ* burnt clay, but had the feature been completely lined with stone and conceivably then been covered with another lining (since lost) then it is possible that the natural clay would not have been exposed to direct heat. Another potential problem with this interpretation is the small quantities of charcoal within the samples taken, however it is suggested that the waste from the malting operations may have been used as a fuel (such as that found in the outer enclosure ditch **516**, as discussed in Section 6.3).

4.6.24 Pit **595** is 3.5m square and 0.6m deep with steep straight sides, with evidence that they had been revetted, and a flat base which was paved with various sized angular flagstones closely fitted (not mortared) to form a stone base or lining (**Plate 7**). It is located to the immediate south-west of the entranceway into the probable timber building (inner enclosure **825** and postholes **826**), adjacent to the southern terminus of outer enclosure ditch **514**. It is cut into the upper fills of the undated palaeochannel **787**. The secondary fills were similar to those seen in outer enclosure ditch **514**, i.e. the feature naturally silted up, probably in standing water; unfortunately no primary fill existed to yield information on its function. The secondary fills contained large amounts of hulled wheat glumes, as well as some Late Roman pottery, a reasonable quantity of animal bone and two quernstone fragments. Within the lowest secondary fill (**597**) a clear small dump of waste was thrown in from the east (inside the outer enclosure) which contained some stone building? rubble and two pieces of ceramic roof tile. Although there is no environmental evidence from within the pit to ascertain its primary function, it is hypothesised that this pit acted as a malting tank, where the grain was soaked in order for it to sprout to the required length before it would have been withdrawn, de-husked and dried. The stone base would have served to keep the water free from silt, maintaining its clarity, and also would have made it easier to remove the grain.

4.6.25 On the southern side of pit **595**, two Roman ditches **807** and **830** are thought to be contemporary and act as outflow drains from pit **595**. A highly truncated gully **829** which peters out before it meets the other ditches may have served a similar function in draining off the outer enclosure ditch **516**, conceivably via pipes. It is also theorised that an above ground pipe may have fed water into pit **595** from the wide outer enclosure ditch **514**, which as stated above may have been designed to hold water. Ditch **830** is the main drain which continues downhill and is located in the lowest lying part of the linear coombe. It widens out as it nears the southern edge of excavation (where it stratigraphically cuts earlier Roman ditch **831**), and this is thought to be a result of pooling water action. At its northern end by pit **595**, the terminus had a stepped appearance, which may have had a role in controlling

the outflow of water. The fills of ditch **830** were highly organic, water lain, and rich in charred remains, like outer enclosure ditch **516**. Finds from ditch **830** consisted of pottery (predominantly Late Roman), animal bone and two coins (Objects 630 and 696) are generally dated to AD34-378 and to the 4th century AD respectively.

4.7 Saxon (410-1066)

4.7.1 No features or deposits of this date were discovered. A stray find from the metal detecting survey of a Saxon coin (Object 11) issued in AD700-710 is the only dateable find (**Figure 4**).

4.8 Medieval (1066-1499)

4.8.1 Within the 'strip, map and record' excavation area the only features that are attributed to the medieval period are the agricultural furrows (group **320**). These cut all earlier archaeological features and are north-north-west to south-south-east aligned and cross the Site at regular intervals, approximately every six metres (**Figure 2** and **Plate 1**). They are generally no deeper than 0.15m, and were certainly shallower down slope (probably due to truncation by modern ploughing), and were filled with mottled yellowish brown silty clay, a mixture of plough soil and redeposited natural torn up by the plough. A small quantity of medieval pottery was recovered from the fills, together with residual Roman pottery. A small number of objects came from the plough furrows, but some of these objects (e.g. lead pot mend, iron hobnail) are likely to be residual Romano-British finds. A small number of sherds of medieval pottery were also found intrusive in Romano-British features.

4.8.2 During the metal detecting survey, seven medieval coins were found within the plough soil, six of which could be dated to the 13th-14th centuries (**Figure 4**) indicating contemporary medieval activity. These coins provide indirect evidence for the date of occupation of the nearby medieval village; the furrows indicate that the Site was the associated agricultural fields to the village.

4.9 Post-medieval 1500-1799

4.9.1 During the first stage of the watching brief, part of a brick-built building was located in the south-east of the Site, near the modern electricity sub-station (**Figure 4**). A narrow mortared brick wall (**102**), of which a maximum of two courses survived, was T-shaped in plan with one wall aligned east-west for eight metres and another contemporary perpendicular wall projecting off this on an north-south alignment for two and a half metres. The wall sat on a foundation course of roughly dressed sandstone blocks mortared with occasional brick fragments (**103**) within a construction cut (**101**) with a maximum width of 0.6m. The only finds were recovered from a demolition layer (**104**) which contained 18th-19th century pottery. This building may be a small agricultural building and could possibly relate to one shown in this vicinity on an OS map of 1900 (JSAC 1998). A brick-lined well (**106**) was observed approximately 5m south of the described building and is possibly contemporary with it (**Figure 4**).

4.9.2 The preliminary scan of the metalwork has revealed that the majority of the assemblage from the metal detecting survey is of post-medieval date. The only items which can with any degree of certainty be assigned specifically to the Civil War period are the lead musket shot, and therefore may be related to the skirmish or putative Battle of Aylesbury. Other items, for example the buckles, buttons, and fittings (including harness fittings) might include objects of this date range, but further work is required in order to positively identify and date these objects. A basic plot of all metal detecting finds is shown in **Figure 4**.

4.10 Modern and undated

4.10.1 A small number of features from the 'strip, map and record' excavation remain undated. These include ditch **841** by the northern edge of Site and a scatter of discrete features mainly in the south of the area; many of these may be natural hollows or tree throws (**Figure 2**).

4.10.2 A palaeochannel **787** was discovered in the west of the 'strip, map and record' area within the shallow linear coombe where the Roman double-ditched enclosure is located (**Figure 3**). This channel is undated, although is likely to be Holocene.

4.10.3 Modern features comprised land drains forming a herringbone pattern (**Figure 2 and Plate 1**), geotechnical pits and occasional postholes; these were identified and mapped during the 'strip, map and record' and the second stage of the watching brief.

5 FINDS ASSESSMENT

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 This section considers the finds recovered from the site during the initial metal detecting survey and the subsequent excavation and watching brief. An assemblage of moderate size was recovered, ranging in date from prehistoric to post-medieval, but with an emphasis on the Romano-British period. Condition of the assemblage was variable; the pottery assemblage in particular was fragmentary and had suffered a relatively high degree of abrasion.

5.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context. Totals by material type are presented in **Table 2**. For the purposes of this assessment, all finds have been at least briefly visually scanned in order to determine their range, condition and potential date. Spot dates have been recorded for datable material (pottery, ceramic building material, coins and other metalwork). All data is held in the project database (Access).

Table 2: Finds totals by material type

	MD Survey		Excavation & watching brief		TOTAL	
	No.	**Wt. (g)**	**No.**	**Wt. (g)**	**No.**	**Wt. (g)**
Pottery	3	174	2994	35,153	2997	35,327
Prehistoric	-	-	*74*	*746*	*74*	*746*
Romano-British	*2*	*158*	*2851*	*33,454*	*2853*	*33,612*
Medieval	-	-	*6*	*48*	*6*	*48*
Post-Medieval	*1*	*16*	*30*	*890*	*31*	*906*
Undated	-	-	*3*	*15*	*3*	*15*
Ceramic Building Mat.	17	1024	66	8710	83	9734
Romano-British	-	-	*65*	*8647*	*65*	*8647*
Post-Medieval	*17*	*1024*	*1*	*63*	*18*	*1087*
Fired Clay	-	-	163	2488	163	2488
Worked Flint	-	-	79	1183	79	1183
Burnt Flint	-	-	46	596	46	596
Stone	-	-	34	29,028	34	29,028
Glass	-	-	3	3	3	3
Slag	-	-	-	2938	-	2938
Metalwork	482	-	185	-	667	-
Coins	*67*	-	*17*	-	*110*	-
Silver	*1*	-	-	-	*1*	-
Copper Alloy	*323*	-	*20*	-	*343*	-
Lead	*86*	-	*16*	-	*102*	-
Iron	*5*	-	*132*	-	*137*	-
Human Bone (burnt)	-	-	-	81	-	81
Animal Bone	-	-	2956	33,736	2956	33,736

5.2 Pottery

5.2.1 The pottery assemblage from Weedon Hill amounts to 2997 sherds, weighing 35,327g. The material is of later prehistoric, Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval date, with a clear focus on the Roman period (**Table 3**). Despite a mean sherd weight (MSW) of 11.8g, the condition of the material is poor, with high levels of surface and edge abrasion which has led to the loss of surface treatments. This is probably due to aggressive soil conditions.

Table 3: Breakdown of pottery by chronological period and ware group

Ware	**No. sherds**	**Wt. (g)**
Prehistoric		
Flint-tempered wares	51	648
Grog- and flint-tempered wares	3	10
Grog-tempered wares	4	15
Shell-tempered wares	15	66
Sandy wares	1	7
Sub-total prehistoric	*74*	*746*
Roman		
Imported wares		
Central Gaulish black-slipped ware	4	15
Moselkeramik	3	12
Samian	21	78
British finewares		
Nene Valley colour-coated ware	30	92
Oxfordshire colour-coated ware	53	470
Oxfordshire parchment ware	2	28
Unassigned colour-coated ware	3	106
Amphora		

Dressel 20	5	586
Mortaria		
Oxfordshire red colour-coated mortaria	7	96
Oxfordshire whiteware mortaria	15	767
Oxidised wares		
Oxidised ware	506	3530
Verulamium-region whiteware	1	3
Whiteware	66	736
Other coarsewares		
Black-burnished ware	35	323
Greyware	1472	15,361
Grog-tempered ware	220	2279
Pink grog-tempered	406	8494
Iron-gritted ware	24	465
Shell-tempered ware	10	171
Sub-total Roman	*2883*	*33,612*
Medieval		
Coarse sandy ware	6	48
Sub total medieval	*6*	*48*
Post-Medieval		
All wares	31	906
Sub total post-medieval	*33*	*906*
Undated		
Grog-tempered	2	12
Sandy	1	3
Sub total undated	*3*	*15*
OVERALL TOTAL	**2997**	**35,327**

Later prehistoric

5.2.2 A small quantity of prehistoric material was recovered from 13 contexts. The most commonly occurring fabric is flint-tempered, but only two rim fragments were present, one is a post-Deverel-Rimbury fineware cup or bowl (Barrett 1980 Class IV or V; posthole **299**); the other is too small to be identified. The size, frequency and sorting of the flint suggests a Late Bronze Age date for most, with the exception of the coarser sherds in post-pit 268, which are of Middle to Late Bronze Age date. Material identified as Late Bronze Age occurred in feature **212**, post-pit **268**, ditch **838** and posthole **299**, and apparently provide primary dating evidence for these features, although posthole **299** also contained 15 sherds from a very leached and abraded shell-tempered fabric which may be of a slightly later, Early Iron Age, date.

5.2.3 The other prehistoric fabrics (flint-tempered, grog-and-flint tempered and sandy wares) were present as body sherds, and could be only broadly dated to the 1st millennium BC (ditch **833**; ditch **827**). The exception is a single sandy sherd of possible Late Iron Age date from ditch **232**. These sherds appear to be residual in Romano-British features, and further residual sherds were also present in ditches **516, 656**, **803**, **830**, **835** and **885**; pits **450** and **595**.

Romano-British

5.2.4 The Romano-British pottery spans the 2nd to 4th centuries AD, with an emphasis on the Late Roman period. Fabric identification has been hampered by the high levels of surface abrasion. Many of the vessels had broken at the

neck/shoulder join, limiting the number of vessels that could be identified by type. A small number of partially complete (although fragmentary) vessels were recovered, including the lower part of one vessel used as a cremation urn (cut **203**).

5.2.5 The imported wares are scarce, consisting of four sherds of Central Gaulish black-slipped ware (AD 150 to early 3rd century), three sherds of Moselkeramik (late 2nd to late 3rd/early 4th century) and 21 sherds of samian including three form 33 cups and a form 37 bowl. A small quantity of Dressel 20 amphora was also present, including a very poorly preserved rim from ditch 516. This globular form (Peacock and Williams Class 25) was produced in the Spanish province of Baetica, and was used to transport olive oil from the 1st to the 3rd centuries AD (Peacock and Williams 1986, 126).

5.2.6 Regional imports include colour-coated ware from the Nene Valley, whiteware from the Verulamium region and Black Burnished ware from south-east Dorset. The Nene Valley colour-coated ware is present as body sherds, including several from an indented beaker. The fabric dates from the mid 2nd century to the end of the 4th century. The Black Burnished ware accounts for 1.1% of the Roman material by count, and includes four straight-sided dishes (Seager Smith and Davies 1993, type 20), one of which displays late surface treatments. Grog-tempered wares also occur with relative frequency in the assemblage. These are dominated by pink grogged ware (13.8% by count), probably from the kilns at Stowe Park, Buckinghamshire (Booth 1999). This fabric is of late 3rd to 4th century date, although earlier examples occur in the source area (Booth and Green 1989, 82).

5.2.7 The assemblage is dominated by products of the Oxfordshire industry. Coarse and fine wares are represented; the fabrics include oxidised wares, reduced wares, colour-coated products, parchment ware and mortaria. Most date from the mid 3rd to the 4th centuries AD, although some may have reached this area from the 2nd century onwards. The oxidised wares includes sherds which may originally have been colour-coated, however few surfaces survive, and only 53 sherds are positively identified as Oxford colour-coated ware. Tablewares include bowls and beakers, many of which are copies of samian vessel forms (Young 1977 forms C88/O43; C47/O44; C45 and O47). A seemingly complete greyware indented beaker (Young R36/37) was recovered from enclosure ditch **516**. These forms are dated to the period AD 270-400+. The small quantity (2 sherds) of Oxfordshire parchment ware (AD 240-400+) include a flagon rim from pit **547**, although other abraded examples are likely to be present amongst the unsourced whitewares.

5.2.8 The 22 mortaria sherds are also all Oxford products (red colour-coated and whiteware examples), and include rims from five Young (1977) M17 vessels (AD 240-300).

5.2.9 A range of utilitarian kitchen vessels occur in grey and oxidised fabrics. Hooked-rim jars and wide-mouthed necked jar/bowl forms occur in both fabrics and are of late Roman date (AD 240-400+). Upright-necked jars also

occur in both oxidised and greyware fabrics, including one oxidised example with three parallel post-firing notches on the rim, representing an owner's mark (ditch **830**, context **542**). Other greywares comprise plain-rimmed dishes, drop-flanged bowls and flat-rimmed bowls. The flat-rimmed bowls, some with grooves, occur from approximately 100-300 AD (Young 1977, types R43/R45/R46); the plain-rimmed dishes from the mid 3rd century (Young 1977, form R53), whilst the drop-flanged bowls are of late 3rd to 4th century date. A small number of triangular-rimmed bowls, of early 2nd to late 2nd/early 3rd century date, were also present. A number of other forms are not chronologically distinctive, such as narrow-necked jars, which occur in this region from the 1st to the 4th centuries AD (Young 1977, forms R24 and R38). No early Roman greywares were recorded.

5.2.10 One oddity warrants particular comment – this is a small, cylindrical vessel (or object) (diameter 65mm; height 55mm) with the stumps of four small tubular protruberances emerging from one end, possibly originally converging over the end. It is uncertain whether the entire wall of the vessel/object is also hollow. The fabric is a relatively fine greyware. No parallels have been found for this item and its function remains unknown. It was an unstratified find.

5.2.11 An unsourced ironstone-gritted fabric and shell-tempered ware represent minor components of the assemblage.

Medieval

5.2.12 Six medieval sherds are present, deriving from contexts **202**, **203**, **231**, **460** and **468**. These were recognisable by tiny patches of glaze, applied decoration or form type. It is possible that other medieval sherds may exist amongst the assemblage, but diagnostic traits, such as glaze, have not survived. The medieval material is thought to be related to the presence of ridge and furrow on the site.

Post-medieval

5.2.13 All pottery recovered during the initial watching brief, as well as one sherd from the metal detecting survey, is of post-medieval date, and includes coarse redwares, stonewares and modern refined whitewares.

5.3 Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

5.3.1 This category includes fragments of brick and tile. The majority of the fragments are of Romano-British date, and include one identifiable *tegula* roof tile and one *imbrex* roof tile; other pieces cannot be assigned to specific brick/tile type. Eighteen fragments, comprising all the CBM from the initial watching brief and from the metal detecting survey, as well as fragments from excavation context **713** (the fill of a furrow), are post-medieval and include roof tile and unfrogged bricks.

5.4 Fired clay

5.4.1 The fired clay is also likely to be of structural origin; all fragments are abraded and featureless, and no objects (e.g. spindlewhorls, loomweights)

were identified. Although undiagnostic, the date range of this material is likely to be Romano-British.

5.5 Struck flint

5.5.1 A total of 79 pieces were recovered, mostly flakes (46 pieces). The pieces are chronologically mixed, but identifiable forms are predominantly Neolithic and Early Bronze Age. These include a multi-platform bladelet core from an unstratified location (probably Neolithic), a flake core with two platforms, platform preparation and maintenance from post-pit **268** (Neolithic), a multi-platform flake core from ditch **516** (Early Bronze Age or later) and a barbed and tanged arrowhead of Green's Sutton A type from pit **774** (Early Bronze Age). The only chronologically diagnostic tool is a thumbnail scraper (probably Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age). Other tools include notched flakes, a piercer, and 10 pieces with miscellaneous retouch.

5.6 Burnt flint

5.6.1 A small amount of burnt, unworked flint was recovered. This material type is intrinsically undatable, although often associated with prehistoric activity. In this instance, most of the burnt flint came from contexts dated by pottery as Romano-British.

5.7 Stone

5.7.1 The stone includes identifiable objects, in the form of six quern fragments (oven **804**, cut **505** within pit group **603**, ditches **516** and **774**), as well as some apparently unworked pieces of limestone which could be building material (these include pieces from the basal stone lining of pit/tank **595**). One rounded pebble could have been utilised as a rubbing stone (ditch **849**), while a group of 11 pebbles from another context (posthole **230**) are not obviously utilised, but have been partially burnt.

5.8 Glass

5.8.1 Of the three pieces of glass recovered, two are Romano-British, and include part of a ribbon handle from a flask or bottle (cut **308** within pit group **603**), and a small rim fragment from a vessel of unknown form (pit **774**). The third fragment (ditch **835**) is post-medieval.

5.9 Slag

5.9.1 A small amount of ironworking (probably smithing) slag was recovered, but in insufficient quantities to postulate on-site metalworking.

5.10 Metalwork

5.10.1 The metalwork assemblage includes a significant number of objects (482) recovered as part of a metal detecting survey of the site. This includes coins and tokens as well as other objects of silver, copper alloy and lead. Further metal objects (primarily of iron) were subsequently recovered during excavation).

5.10.2 At this stage brief preliminary identifications only have been compiled for the metal objects, and spot dates (by broad period) recorded. Iron objects have been X-radiographed as a basic record and as an aid to identification.

5.10.3 The preliminary scan has revealed that the majority of the metalwork assemblage from the metal detecting survey is of post-medieval date. Apart from a few coins, only one object recovered during the survey was dated earlier – a medieval iron horseshoe. Given the putative proximity of the site of the Civil War Battle of Aylesbury, particular attention was paid to determining whether any finds of this date could be identified within the metal detecting finds. At this stage, the only items which can with any degree of certainty be assigned to this general period are the lead musket shot. Other items, for example the buckles, buttons, and fittings (including harness fittings) might include objects of this date range, but these cannot definitively be identified at this stage. Further examination will be undertaken on this part of the assemblage.

5.10.4 Amongst the metalwork from the excavation and watching brief most is either identifiable as Romano-British (coins, iron hobnails, lead pot mends) or is presumed, on the basis of pottery dating evidence, to be of this date, although some objects in apparently Romano-British contexts (such as two buttons) must be intrusive here.

5.10.5 A small number of objects (eight copper alloy, three iron and six lead) came from the plough furrows and were associated with medieval pottery, but some objects (e.g. lead pot mend, iron hobnail) are likely to be residual Romano-British finds.

Silver and copper alloy

5.10.6 Amongst the objects of silver and copper alloy buttons are the most common object type (122 examples), but examples of the following types are also included: awl (1 object), bell (12), brooch (1), buckle (29), chain (4), fitting (31), handle (9), jew's harp (1), key (2), pin (2), ring (16), spur (1), thimble (5), weight (2). A number of objects remain unidentified. None of the silver or copper alloy objects came from stratified Romano-British contexts – most were recovered during the metal detecting survey, with a few from the medieval plough furrows and some unstratified finds. All have been provisionally dated as post-medieval.

Iron

5.10.7 Apart from nails (38 examples) and hobnails (36 examples, 33 from cut **488** within pit group **603**), iron objects are largely unidentified, but there are examples of tools (3), fittings (2), and a horseshoe. Most iron objects came from stratified Romano-British contexts, with only a few from later or unstratified contexts (five from the metal detecting survey, three from the medieval plough furrows, one from a post-medieval context in the watching brief)

Lead

5.10.8 The lead objects include lids (4), plumb bobs (4), pot mends (7), seals (4), shot (23) and weights (23). Some objects remain unidentified. Most objects

(100) derived from the metal detecting survey, with six from the medieval plough furrows, five from stratified Romano-British contexts (pot mends, plumb bobs and a weight) and four unstratified.

5.11 Coins

5.11.1 A total of 84 coins were recovered in total from the archaeological investigations at Weedon Hill (**Appendix 1**). Of these, 67 were recovered from the metal detecting survey, with the remaining 17 recovered from the 'strip, map and record' excavation. The coins from the metal detecting survey comprise both silver and copper alloy coins, and range in date from the Roman period to the late 20th century, whilst those recovered from the excavations comprise Roman silver and copper alloy coins. All of the metal detector finds were recovered from the plough soil **201**, and are therefore unstratified, although their spatial distribution may allow some conclusions about their use and loss to be drawn. In general, their condition is poor, with some coins badly corroded. The coins recovered from the excavation (all with object numbers above 600) were recovered from both stratified and unstratified deposits. All, however, were in poor condition, with significant numbers of coins showing signs of corrosion, whilst many also bore signs of wear.

Coins from metal detecting survey (**Figure 4**)

5.11.2 The 67 coins from the metal detecting survey are dominated by post-medieval and modern issues, although a small but significant quantity of Roman and medieval coins were also found. Eleven of the coins recovered dated to the Roman period. These were generally too badly corroded to be identified to period, with seven of the 11 only dated to broad periods. Four were dated to the 1st to 3rd centuries AD (Objects 52, 59, 126 and 530). The latter was a silver *denarius*, whilst the remaining three were large bronzes, and only dated on the basis of the size and form of their flan. Three coins were also dated to the 4th century on the basis of their size alone (Objects 10, 20 and 47).

5.11.3 Of the four coins which could be dated to period, one (Object 270) is an *As* of Claudius, struck between AD 43 and AD 54. This may be one of the contemporary copies of Claudian coins circulating in Britain in the first century AD. Two (Objects 19 and 358) are radiate *antoniniani* of the late third century AD. The former was minted by the emperor Gallienus (AD 253 – 268), whilst the latter is a radiate copy. These irregular copies of 'official' coinage (sometimes known as 'Barbarous Radiates') may have been struck to compensate for gaps in supply of coinage to Britain and to supply sufficient small change for the provinces needs. It is unclear whether these copies were officially sanctioned, if at all, but they are common site finds, and seem to have circulated in the same fashion as officially struck coins. The fourth coin (Object 524) is a *nummus* of the House of Valentinian minted between AD 364 and 378, and which could have remained in circulation into the early 5th century.

5.11.4 A single Saxon silver sceatta was also recovered (Object 11). This type C sceatta was probably minted between *c.* AD 700 – 710. Its presence amongst the assemblage may be an indicator of Saxon activity in the area.

5.11.5 Seven of the coins recovered were medieval hammered silver coins. Six of these could be dated closely, all of which dated to the late 13th or 14th centuries. Four of these (Objects 117, 138, 231 and 415) were long cross pennies struck during the reign of Henry III, whilst the other two (Objects 17 and 298) were minted during the reign of his successor Edward I. the single undated coin was a badly worn groat, struck after AD 279 in London (Object 236). The long cross pennies were first issued during the reign of Henry III in order to prevent clipping of silver coinage, reducing its silver content and value. The recovery of so tightly dated a group of medieval coins suggests that these indicate contemporary medieval activity in the area, although there are no apparent concentrations in their distribution.

5.11.6 Two of the coins recovered were small copper alloy farthings of Charles I, and could have been in circulation at the time of the battle of Aylesbury in November 1642 (Objects 161 and 327). The remaining post-medieval coins from the site include farthings and half pennies of George II (Objects 54, 185, 293, 462, 495 and 496), farthings, half pennies and pennies of George III (Objects 48, 116, 175, 315, 379, 384, 394 and 435) as well as a number of badly worn and corroded coins which could not be closely identified, but which were probably struck in the 18th century (Objects 65, 141, 152, 223, 256, 286, 383 and 460), whilst four (Objects 16, 314, 400 and 412) were so badly damaged that they could only be assigned a general post-medieval date. One of these, Object 400, may be a post-medieval token.

5.11.7 The remaining coins from the metal detecting date to the 19th and 20th century, and include coins of Queen Victoria (Objects 51, 131, 194, 208, 272, 332, 361, 362, 470 and 497), Edward VII (Object 477), George V (Objects 91, 366, 380 and 463), George VI (Objects 15 and 407) and Elizabeth II (Objects 483 and 498).

5.11.8 Because the location of the majority of the finds from the metal detecting survey were three-dimensionally recorded, it is possible to look at their spatial distribution. The locations of nine of the Roman coins from the Site were recorded in detail. Five of these (Objects 19, 20, 47, 52 and 59) all lay in close proximity to the area of the later excavations. Interestingly, the Saxon sceatta recovered also lay close to the northern edge of the Site.

5.11.9 The medieval coins were all three-dimensionally recorded. Six of the seven were clustered within or close to the north-eastern field. Plotted out, these form a roughly north – south band on the east facing slope in this area and on a slight terrace at its southern end. This area may have been a focus of medieval activity.

5.11.10 The two 17th century farthings recovered both lay in the south-eastern area of the site. This would place them close to the likely site of the Battle of Aylesbury in 1642, although these could equally be later losses. The remaining post-medieval and modern coins show no significant

concentrations. These were found across the Site, and almost certainly represent accidental losses.

Coins from the 'strip, map and record' excavation

5.11.11 The 17 coins recovered from the excavation all date to the Roman period. The earliest coins amongst this group were a corroded silver *denarius* (Object 646, which cannot be closely dated, but which would have been minted in the 1st to 3rd centuries AD) and two bronze *asses* or *dupondii* (Objects 675 and 682) of a similar date. Both were too worn or corroded to be identified closely.

5.11.12 The remaining 14 coins all date to the late 3rd or 4th centuries AD. Of these, four (Objects 674, 690, 696 and 740) could only be broadly identified to period. Three of those coins which could be dated to period were minted in the late 3rd century AD (Objects 678, 685 and 742). All three are radiate copies, and may have remained in circulation into the 4th century. Three coins were minted by emperors of the House of Constantine (Objects 668, 672 and 706). The latter two of these are small contemporary copies, and appear, like the radiate copies before them to have been struck to make up for shortfalls in the supply of official coinage to Britain, and seem to have circulated alongside 'official' coins. The four latest coins from the Site (Objects 630, 656, 673 and 743) were all minted by Emperors of the House of Valentinian. Of these, the latest to be minted is almost certainly the coin of Gratian (Object 743), which may well have been minted towards the end of his reign. All four of these coins could conceivably have been in circulation until the end of the 4th or early 5th century AD.

5.11.13 The small assemblage of Roman coins from the excavation indicates that coins were in use on the Site in the late 3rd and 4th centuries AD. The badly corroded earlier coins recovered do point to earlier activity on the Site, but this cannot be confirmed from the coin assemblage alone, as there were no official mechanisms for removing bronze coins from circulation, and coins such of these could have remained in circulation until *circa* AD 260.

5.12 Human bone

5.12.1 Human remains in the form of cremated bone were recovered from a single context, an urned cremation burial (feature **203**). The cremation vessel was highly truncated and only 81g of bone survived. The bone is that of an adult, is in relatively good, unabraded condition, and shows variation in oxidation and survival of trabecular bone which would be consistent with a Romano-British date.

5.13 Animal bone

Methods

5.13.1 The potential of the assemblage to provide information about husbandry patterns, population structures and consumption practices was ascertained from the number of bones that could give information on the age and sex of animals, butchery, burning and breakage patterns. The number of bones that could provide metrical information was also counted.

5.13.2 Conjoining fragments that were demonstrably from the same bone were counted as one bone in order to minimise distortion. No fragments were recorded as 'medium mammal' or 'large mammal'; these were instead consigned to the unidentified category.

5.13.3 Whole animal skeletons were given a count of 1 to avoid over-representation, although the bone elements present and total number of fragments was noted.

5.13.4 The extent of mechanical or chemical attrition to the bone surface was recorded, with 1 indicating very poor condition, 2 poor, 3 fair, 4 good and 5 very good. The numbers of gnawed bone were also noted. Marks from chopping, sawing, knife cuts and fractures made when the bone was fresh were recorded as butchery marks.

Results

5.13.5 1333 bones were hand-recovered. All bones derive from mammals and many new breaks were observed. Only six bones came from contexts dated by pottery as prehistoric (post-pit **268**), and none from post-Roman contexts; for the purposes of this assessment, therefore, all bone has been considered as Romano-British.

Condition and preservation

5.13.6 77% of the Roman bone fragments were moderately well preserved, with 13% in poor condition and 9% in good condition. Quite a high proportion (67%) of the material was not identifiable to species (**Table 4**). This is likely due to the fact that the large long bones of large mammals are heavily fragmented and show many new breaks. Refitting likely reduces the amount of unidentified material.

Table 4: Animal bone condition and potential (% of total)

Unid.	Gnawed	Loose teeth	Burnt	Measure-able	Age-able	Butchered	Total number of fragments
67	0	5	0	5	9	0	1333

5.13.7 Although the bone seems to be preserved rather well, it is striking that mainly bones of large mammals were found. Particularly the very small number of pig bones (known to be less resilient) is alarming. Thus, species proportions might not be the result of cultural preferences as it is likely that taphonomic processes were at work.

5.13.8 Loose teeth were sparse in the material although the number of jaws was quite high. This could indicate that the material was not extensively reworked. The low numbers of gnawed bone indicate that dog scavenging was not a significant biasing factor. Together, they indicate that the bones come from primarily depositions.

Animal husbandry

5.13.9 **Table 5** clearly shows a dominance of cattle and horse over the smaller sheep/goat and pig. As the material dates to the Roman period, it is better to speak of equid remains instead of assigning them to horse as they could

derive from mules, hinnies or donkeys as well. The proportion of equid remains is quite high and might be a result of taphonomic processes. Some remains derive from juvenile horses, this might indicate horse breeding.

Table 5: Species proportions (% of identified bones)

Horse	Cattle	Sheep/ Goat	Pig	Dog	Identified Bones
12	77	9	2	0	435

5.13.10 Context **556** (ditch **514**) contained a horse's 1st Phalanx with slight exostosis and might be interpreted as a stress-related pathology. A cattle humerus from context **592** (ditch **774**) showed a cavity/foramen in the fossa olecrani.

Consumption and deposition

5.13.11 Clear butchery marks were rare as were burnt bones. The distribution of the skeletal elements might be able to shed some light on carcass utilisation. However, taphonomic processes should be kept in mind.

5.13.12 Noteworthy animal bone groups include the partial skeletons of a horse (ditch **842**) and a juvenile sheep (cut **348** within pit group **603**). Ditch **844** contained a large number of cattle metatarsals.

6 PALAEO-ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

6.1 Introduction and methodology

6.1.1 Samples were taken to assess their potential in adding to our understanding of archaeological events, activities and economy, and how the local landscape was affected by the above. Assessment of the palaeo-environmental remains was considered in relation to archaeological context, preservation of material and significance of the archaeological questions they can address.

6.1.2 Fifty-three bulk samples covering a range of phases and feature types (Table 6) were taken and processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and wood charcoal.

Table 6 Assessed bulk samples by phase and feature type.

Phase	No. of bulk samples	Vol *(L)*	Feature type
Later prehistoric	5	51	Roundhouse, natural hollow, pit
Romano-British	47	459.025	Double-ditched enclosure, crop-drying oven, posthole group, stone lined pit, drainage ditch, boundary ditch, enclosure ditch, pit group, roundhouses, cremation vessel, oven, tree throw
Undated	1	20	Palaeochannel
Total	53	530.025	

6.1.3 An environmental sampling strategy was formulated (with the assistance of English Heritage) and adhered to; this primarily focused on the retrieval of specific sample types from the double-ditched enclosure including mollusc

columns, samples for waterlogged remains, and monoliths for sedimentological description and geoarchaeological interpretation (**Table 7**).

Table 7 Total samples assessed by sample type.

Sample type	Samples assessed	Summary (no. of samples in bracket)
Bulk Samples	53 samples	
Mollusc	6 samples	Outer enclosure ditch **514**
Monoliths	5 profiles/sequences	Outer enclosure ditch **516** sections 359 (x1), 730 (x1), outer enclosure ditch **514** sections 554 (x1), 505 (x1), Stone-lined pit feature **595** (x1)
Waterlogged	9 samples	Outer enclosure ditch **514** (x4), Stone-lined pit **595** (x4), outer enclosure ditch **516** (x1)

6.1.4 A number of sequences were collected as undisturbed samples in monoliths for more detailed sedimentological description and geoarchaeological interpretation. These monoliths also facilitated sub-sampling for pollen and other microfossils at 20, 40 and 80mm intervals as appropriate (**Table 8**). The monoliths were cleaned prior to recording and standard descriptions used, (following Hodgson 1976) including Munsell colour, texture, structure and nature of boundaries (**Appendix 2)**.

6.1.5 Bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 5.6 mm, 2mm and 1mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. Flots were scanned under a x10 – x40 stereo-binocular microscope and the presence of charred remains quantified to record the preservation and nature of the charred plant and charcoal remains (**Appendix 3**) and assess their potential. Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997).

6.1.6 In the field, some features were thought to be waterlogged, or partially waterlogged. Nine sub-samples of 1 litre were taken from bulk samples and processed for the recovery of waterlogged remains. Laboratory flotation was undertaken with flots retained on a 0.25mm mesh and residues on a 0.5mm mesh. Residues and flots were stored in sealed containers with Industrial Methylated Spirits (IMS). The larger fraction (>5.6mm) was sorted, weighed and discarded. The flots were visually inspected under a x10 to x40 stereo-binocular microscope to determine if waterlogged material was preserved.

6.1.7 Samples of between 1200 and 1500g were processed by standard methods (Evans 1972) for land snails. The flots (0.5mm) were rapidly assessed by scanning under a x 10 – x 30 stereo-binocular microscope to provide some information about shell preservation and species representation.

6.2 Sediments

Outer enclosure ditch 514/516

6.2.1 Four monoliths were taken through deposits in the outer enclosure ditch (**514**/**516**). These can be separated into two groups: monoliths <37> and <49> were located through sequences near the north-west corner of ditch

514; whilst samples <31> and <68> were taken near the ditch terminus east of the apparent entrance in the southern side of the ditch **516**.

6.2.2 Monoliths <37> and <49> in the north-west section of the external enclosure ditch **514** show a similar sequence. Wet conditions are evident throughout the deposits in the form of small iron concreted nodules of quartz sand – an *in-situ* product of gleying. An episode of deposition of fine material in standing water constitutes a thin primary fill in at least one of the sections, after which both ditch sections are largely filled with what could essentially be described as a humic secondary/ tertiary fill.

6.2.3 In this wet situation two things seem to have occurred; it is likely regular flooding led to an increased input of fine sediment; and luxuriant plant growth occurred in the ditch itself, encouraged due to its retention of moisture. This dense vegetation will have added to the deposition of sediment as an accumulation of incompletely decomposed humic material (which is also largely responsible for the dark colouration of the deposit). Thus this secondary/tertiary fill continued to build up, essentially filling the entire feature.

6.2.4 Monolith <37> was sub-sampled for pollen (see below).

6.2.5 Monoliths <31> & <68> are located in the outer enclosure ditch **516** near the terminus/entrance only 1.7m apart, and contain very similar sequences. Fine sediments at the base of the ditch form an occasionally laminated layer which extends with quite regular thickness up the feature sides (particularly in monolith <68>). This represents fine waterlain material, most likely deposited *in situ.* The abrupt/sharp boundary between this and the overlying material, combined with the unusual profile (in a 'naturally' filling ditch sequence one would expect such a deposit to be thickest at the base of the feature and to taper off up the ditch sides) are indicative of a re-cut or cleaning out episode. This must have been carried out after the ditch had filled considerably.

6.2.6 Above this probable re-cut were black silty clays to silty clay loams, which were quite organic and contained charred cereal remains, including hulled wheat, oats and glumes (picked out of monolith and also present in large numbers in bulk sample <61>). Although these deposits were very dark, under the microscope it was apparent that most of the colouration was due to humic material rather than charcoal though charred material was also present. The deposits became slightly less dark and contained less charred material towards the top of the sequence. Gleying was indicated as elsewhere by the presence of sand/iron concretions.

6.2.7 It is suggested that these very dark deposits are analogous to the dark fills around the rest of the outer enclosure ditch; i.e. a thick secondary fill formed in a wet well-vegetated ditch environment. The difference near the terminus/entrance is that material was added during the formation of the deposits: this may have been in the form of discrete dumps, and/or perhaps by sweeping of material from activity areas within the enclosure into the ditch.

Pit 595

6.2.8 Monolith <50> was taken through the sequence filling pit **595**. The sequence described was very similar to that from enclosure ditch **514**; i.e. silting up of the feature, likely in standing water, with a thick secondary fill above filling the bulk of the feature. Wet conditions are indicated throughout by the presence of sand/iron concretions.

6.2.9 The sequence was sampled for pollen; however if - as seems likely - this feature was cleaned out whilst in use, the whole sequence may be contemporary with a disuse phase of the site rather than with the features primary function.

6.2.10 Smear samples from the base of the sequence were rapidly scanned at 400x magnification to assess the possibility of phytoliths providing an indication of function (i.e. if this pit was used for retting or a similar plant-processing purpose we might expect an abundance of relevant phytoliths). Although a few rod-type cells generally attributable to grasses or cereals were observed no conclusions were reached. The function of this feature remains unclear.

6.3 Charred plant remains and charcoal

Summary

6.3.1 The flots were generally small, with only four samples producing large flots. There were varying numbers of roots and modern seeds that may be indicative of stratigraphic movement, reworking or the degree of contamination by later intrusive elements. Charred material comprised varying degrees of preservation.

6.3.2 Wood charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples and is recorded in **Appendix 3**. Fragments (5.6mm or greater in size) were quantified in order to provide a relative guide to frequency.

Later prehistoric samples

6.3.3 The five samples from later prehistoric features contained sparse charred remains. A few hulled wheat fragments and a spelt glume were recovered from pit **268** along with a few knotweed seeds (*Polygonaceae*). Goosefoot (*Chenopodium*) seeds were also recovered but it is likely that these are modern intrusions.

6.3.4 While this material may be associated with Bronze Age occupation and settlement, given the number of roots and modern seeds in these samples combined with the high level of Romano-British activity, the possibility that some or all of this material is intrusive must be considered. However, it is notable that the sample containing the cereal remains from the secondary fill (**270**) of pit **268** contained generally few roots and it might be that the material is secure. Spelt wheat is certainly known from other Late Bronze Age sites in south-east England (Campbell 1992; Pelling 2003) and so would not be out of place within this part of south-east England.

6.3.5 Moderate quantities of charcoal fragments greater than 5.6mm were retrieved from pit **268**.

Romano-British: the double-ditched enclosure and associated features

6.3.6 The four samples taken from outer enclosure ditch **514** (cut **554**) produced high numbers of hulled wheat glumes, but contained little grain. Generally low levels of charred weed seeds were recorded; oats/brome grass (*Avena/Bromus* sp), stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*), knotweeds (*Polygonum* sp.) and goosefoots (*Chenopodium* sp.). Almost no charcoal of greater than 5.6mm was recovered from these deposits.

6.3.7 Seven samples were taken from four other interventions through ditch **516**. All these samples with the exception of that from cut **464** (deposit **466**) were very rich in cereal grains, glumes, coleoptiles of spelt and weed seeds, with some grains of barley. Many of the grains showed clear signs of germination and in most it is probable that glumes of spelt wheat outnumber grains. Grains of oat (*Avena* sp.) were also abundant, including a whole spikelet of wild oat seen from horse-shoe shaped scar. There were also smaller numbers of seeds of brome grass (*Bromus* sp.), and black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*). The deposits also contained a large number of smaller seeded weeds species, including goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.), fat-hen (*Chenopodium album*), clover (*Trifolium* sp.), perennial rye-grass (*Lolium perenne*), scentless mayweed (*Tripleurospermum inodorum*), docks (*Rumex* sp.), orache (*Atriplex* sp.), red bartsia (*Odontites vernus*), self-heal (*Prunella vulgaris*), and also one seed of possible field pepperwort (*Lepidium campestre*). Other weed seeds recorded included small grass seeds (*Poaceae)*, stinking mayweed (*Anthemis cotula*), knotweeds (*Polygonaceae*) and cleavers (*Galium*). As with the previous samples, there was little to almost no charcoal in the samples from the outer enclosure ditch.

6.3.8 The four samples from the possible crop drying oven **804** were all rich in charred remains. The richest sample <711> was seen to contain many germinated grains, which dominated the sample. While spelt glume bases and weed seeds were still numerous there were far less than seen in ditch **516**. The weed seeds included vetches/tare (*Vicia* sp.), wild pea (*Lathyrus* sp.), woundwort (*Stachys* sp.) and wild mustard (*Brassica* sp.). Smaller seeded species were largely absent from this sample. Other weed seeds retrieved from this feature include knotweeds, stinking mayweed, oats/ brome grass, poa grass and goosefoot.

6.3.9 Generally the double-ditched enclosure and internal features produced sparse amounts of wood charcoal, apart from a sample from the inner enclosure ditch **825** and another from oven **804**.

6.3.10 Only two of the five samples from posthole group **826** produced significant quantities of charred remains. Both postholes (cuts **385** and **387**) contained high numbers of hulled wheat grain and chaff fragments and charred weed seeds, including oats/brome grass, knotweeds, meadow grass (*Poa* sp.) and goosefoot.

6.3.11 Generally large amounts of hulled wheat glumes and few grain fragments were recovered from the four samples from stone-lined pit **595**. The samples resembled those found within the outer enclosure ditch. The moderate to high numbers of weed seeds included oats/brome grass, knotweeds, stinking

mayweed, scentless mayweed, spike-rush (*Eleocharis*), meadow grass and goosefoot.

6.3.12 The three samples taken from ditch **830** (cut **349**) were also very rich in charred remains. The assemblages also appear similar to those recovered from the outer enclosure ditch **516**.

6.3.13 Tentatively it is suggested that while the deposit from the outer enclosure ditch **516** and those deposits from ditch **830** represent dumps of waste from the dehusking of malted grain, that from oven **804** contains either germinated malted spikelets of spelt or possibly even spelt grain.

Malting

6.3.14 In order to obtain malt from spelt wheat it must be malted prior to de-husking, as this operation frequently damages the embryo preventing germination. The spikelets then appear to have been de-husked and the glumes and coleoptiles (sprouted embryos) removed with sieving. These appear to then have been used to fuel the malting kiln in which the spikelets were dried to prevent further germination from taking place. The sprouted spikelets would have been placed upon a cloth or raised wooden floor above the oven (cf. Andrews 1995, 85). It is assumed that the assemblage rich in charred malted spikelets occurred as a result of spikelets that spilt into the oven during this operation.

6.3.15 The absence of wood charcoal has been noted from a deposit of malted grain at Mucking where it was suggested that this was because malt rather than fuel was represented (van der Veen 1989). However, it might be noted that only small quantities of wood charcoal were recovered from Catsgore (Hillman 1982) and at Droitwich too the samples are largely composed of glumes with relatively little wood charcoal (cf. Vaughan 1982).

6.3.16 Evidence for malting has been seen at a large number of Romano-British sites within England. However often it would appear to be the waste from these operations that is preserved, as seen in the outer enclosure ditch samples, rather than the malt itself as seen in the oven. Examples of such waste probably used as fuel within malting kilns include large amounts of glumes and coleoptiles from Droitwich, Worcestershire (Vaughan 1982), Catsgore, Somerset (Hillman 1982) and Mildenhall Suffolk (Fryer 2004). At Mildenhall the assemblages, as at Weedon Hill, were in association with an oven situated in a large barn or building (Bales 2004). At Mucking (Van der Veen 1991) as also seen at this Site a sample that appeared to represent malted spikelets was recovered from an L-shaped oven. The significance of the material at Weedon Hill is that both waste and the malted grain are recovered in association with an oven and other structures.

Other Romano-British features

6.3.17 There were 19 samples taken from a range of features of Romano-British date other than those associated with the double enclosure. Generally the charred remains were recovered in small quantities, although boundary ditch **831** and ditch **849** produced high numbers of charred remains. The charred material recovered from ditch **831** (cut **672**) is similar to that recovered from

the double-ditched enclosure and is likely to be derived from there. The assemblage from ditch **849** comprised of high numbers of hulled wheat grain and glume fragments, as well as large weed seeds, including oats/brome grass and vetches. At least some of this material may be associated with normal routine processing and domestic waste as recovered from Romano-British settlements in this part of south-east England (Jones 1988).

6.3.18 The samples from the other Romano-British features only contained small numbers of charcoal fragments, with the exception of the sample from tree throw **489**.

Undated

6.3.19 The single sample from palaeochannel **787** only produced sparse quantities of grain and chaff fragments. No charcoal was recorded.

6.4 Waterlogged plant remains

6.4.1 No waterlogged remains were recorded from the samples.

6.5 Pollen

6.5.1 Monolith samples <37> and <50>, taken through sequences filling the external enclosure ditch **514** and stone-lined pit **595** respectively, were sub-sampled for pollen at 20, 40 and 80mm intervals as appropriate. At this stage the interrupted (probable re-cut) sequence in the enclosure ditch terminus **516** (cut **730**) has not been sub-sampled for microfossils (see Section 8 below).

6.5.2 Thirty three samples have been taken in total from the two monoliths as recorded in the sediment descriptions (**Appendix 2**) and are summarised in the list below (**Table 8**). Recommendations for analysis of a selected number are made below.

Table 8 Summary of pollen samples

Monolith/ core sample no.	Depth (cm)	Context	Unit/summary description
37	8, 16	558	Secondary/tertiary fill
37	24,32,36	557	Secondary/tertiary fill
37	38,40,42, 44,46	556	Secondary fill
37	48,52,56, 60,64	555	?Primary fill
50	1,5,9,13	625	Secondary/tertiary fill
50	17,21,25, 29	599	Fill
50	33,35,37, 39,41	598	Secondary fill
50	43,45	597	Fill
50	47,49,51	597	Silting in standing water

6.6 Molluscs

6.6.1 A series of six samples for the retrieval of molluscs was taken from the outer enclosure ditch **514**. No molluscs were preserved except for a few *Cecilioides acicula* (a burrowing snail of medieval introduction) in a single sample, <47>.

SECTION B: UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN

7 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL

7.1 Overview of archaeological sequence

7.1.1 The archaeological investigations at Weedon Hill have produced evidence of human activity from the Neolithic to the post-medieval/modern period with the main phases of occupation being later prehistoric and Romano-British in date.

7.1.2 No archaeological features or deposits were dated earlier than 1st millennium BC. From the Site, evidence of earlier human activity on the edges of the River Thame valley is limited to a small amount of worked flint, of which only a handful of pieces are diagnostic (the earliest two are likely to be Neolithic), of which the majority were residual or unstratified; there were no *in situ* scatters and therefore this provides little to contribute to our understanding of earlier prehistoric times.

7.1.3 The construction of field boundaries in the 1st millennium BC (the pottery generally seems consistent with a Late Bronze Age date) marks a major change in the use of the landscape. Near the northern edge of the Site, an isolated post-pit of Middle-Late Bronze Age date and truncated postholes of a post-built roundhouse of probable Early Iron Age date were identified. The potential for further analysis of these features is limited by their truncation (through later ploughing) and the small assemblage of finds. Non-hillfort settlement and field systems of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date are well known in the wider Thames Valley area (Yates 2001) but are fairly rare locally, for example the small group of roundhouses at Walton, Aylesbury and the large (perhaps specialised) roundhouse at Bancroft together with other occupation evidence from Aston Clinton Bypass Site B and Stoke Hammond Bypass (Kidd 2007, 9). Therefore, although the later prehistoric features have limited potential, their reporting is considered to be of local value.

7.1.4 There appears to be a hiatus of activity within the Site in the Middle-Late Iron Age; no features or finds (except a single sherd of pottery) of this date were discovered.

7.1.5 During the Romano-British period, the clay land in the north of the Site was divided into a complex of enclosures, the eastern and southern extent of which appear to be defined within the investigated areas. The enclosures in the east of the 'strip, map and record' area also contained two roundhouses, a keyhole-shaped oven, and groups of pits.

7.1.6 In the west of the 'strip, map and record' excavation area, a Romano-British double-ditched enclosure was located in a shallow coombe where an undated channel or spring-line was located. It has been illustrated that the internal ditch may have acted as a beamslot for a rectangular timber building, with main structural postholes located internally, three of which survived in the

northern upslope part of the enclosure. The only other contemporary internal feature is a probable drying oven and assessment of the environmental samples suggests the presence of malted grain could indicate that it was used specifically for drying malt in order to produce beer. A stone-lined pit with associated outflow drains by the entranceway into the outer enclosure may have been used to steep the grain allowing it to germinate to the required point before it was removed, de-husked and dried. The waste material from the de-husking of the germinated spikelets may have been used to fuel the oven and this charred waste was found dumped in the external enclosure ditch, near the entrance.

7.1.7 Rural Romano-British agricultural systems and settlements are relatively common in the south of England, although excavated evidence from the Vale of Aylesbury itself is lacking; some nearby excavated examples such as Three Locks Golf Course, Stoke Hammond; Aston Clinton Bypass; Berryfields, Aylesbury; and Broughton, Milton Keynes (Zeepvat & Radford 2007) would allow comparison to broaden interpretation.

7.1.8 The evidence of a possible malt house within a managed rural landscape is potentially more significant in terms of the combined environmental, artefactual and structural evidence. Nationally, evidence of malting is known from a large number of sites, however it is often just the waste from the process that is preserved not the malt itself, let alone the potential structural features where the processing occurred. A small number of excavated sites could be used as a comparison such as Beck Row, Mildenhall, Suffolk where similar environmental remains were found in association with a T-shaped flue and a malting floor within a barn building (Bales 2004), Stebbing Green, Essex (Bedwin & Bedwin 1988) and Scole, Norfolk (Current Archaeology 140). Aside from the major villas there is little evidence for rural specialisation other than small-scale pottery production sites in Buckinghamshire, and although crop driers are numerous, only the Bancroft villa site produced important evidence of malting (Zeepvat & Radford 2007). Evidence for horticultural trenches (possibly representing viticulture) have been found at sites in Buckinghamshire (eg. Waddesdon).

7.1.9 It has been demonstrated that the features of this Romano-British landscape are not all contemporary and analysis has the potential to allow the Romano-British phase to be sub-divided using a combination of stratigraphic relationships, spatial associations and refined pottery dates.

7.1.10 Analysis could then focus on the development of the enclosure system and questions it might raise may include: What were the enclosures used for? Do the enclosures have differing functions? Is organisational control implied by the division of land and can it be related to developments in wider society and the economy? Is this a settled landscape? What was the environment into which the enclosures were placed? Information from the geophysical survey undertaken to the north will be examined.

7.1.11 The only features of medieval date were furrows; and the remains of a small building found during the watching brief are the only features of post-medieval/modern date. These have no further potential for analysis.

7.2 Finds

7.2.1 Excavation at Weedon Hill has produced a finds assemblage of moderate size, with an emphasis on the Romano-British period. The metal detecting survey resulted in the collection of a significant number of objects, including a few Roman and medieval coins and other objects, of which the majority are post-medieval.

7.2.2 The small amount of prehistoric (pottery, worked flint) and medieval material (pottery, coins) is of limited archaeological value beyond providing dating evidence for a handful of features.

7.2.3 Most interest lies in the Romano-British assemblage, although here the potential is limited by relatively poor condition of the pottery in particular, and a relatively restricted range of material culture – apart from the pottery, only animal bone and metalwork occurred in significant quantities. The potential for exploring structural evidence (CBM, fired clay, stone, iron nails), lifestyle (personal items of metalwork, glass vessels), agricultural processing (quernstones) or craft/industrial activities (slag) is minimal.

7.2.4 The pottery is fairly typical of sites in the region, and appears to be dominated by Late Roman material from the Oxfordshire industry, with smaller quantities imported from other regional industries, and fewer continental imports. The assemblage suggests a low-status, rural community, using a range of utilitarian forms and tablewares. Further detailed analysis of the entire assemblage is unlikely to enhance our understanding of the Site and its chronology, although the examination of key context or feature groups (such as enclosure ditch **516**) would be worthwhile and could elucidate some relative phasing. It is possible that radiocarbon dating may be able to assist with refining the chronology although there are difficulties with dating the middle centuries of the Romano-British period due to the radiocarbon curve. It may be more worthwhile trying to elucidate the dating of the malting complex by close examination of the pottery combined with a single radiocarbon date from the dump of charred material in the upper fills of the ditch (see below).

7.2.5 The animal bone, on the other hand, does warrant further analysis. The number of ageable and measurable bones is moderate and could provide insights into husbandry practices, and the Site's taphonomic processes could be further investigated.

7.2.6 The post-medieval metalwork assemblage recovered during the metal detecting survey has potential to illuminate the question of the putative Civil War battle site. As well as the musket shot, more detailed examination of this assemblage could identify further items which could be ascribed to this event, or at least to the general period of the mid 17th century. A specialist in this field will be used to comment on this material.

7.3 Palaeo-environmental evidence

Summary

7.3.1 With the exception of a few remains of spelt wheat from pit **268**, the later prehistoric samples were generally poor and given the number of roots it should be considered that this material may be intrusive.

7.3.2 The outer enclosure ditch **514**/**516** of the Romano-British double-ditched enclosure once contained slow-moving or standing water. As demonstrated by the presence of rich humic horizons, it was also well-vegetated at times but no waterlogged plant material was preserved within the ditch. However it proved to contain large amounts of charred waste generated from the malting of spikelets of spelt wheat and the processing of these spikelets presumably for brewing. The possible malting oven **804** contained large numbers of malted spikelets assumingly charred as they fell from above into the central chamber. The waste from the dehusking of the germinated spikelets appears to have been used for firing the malting oven, and then dumped in the ditches when the stoke holes were cleaned out. The fact that this waste is centred on the southern side of the probable building (inner enclosure **825** and postholes **826**) where the entrance was located suggests its accumulation was associated with its disposal through this entrance.

7.3.3 In the east of the 'strip, map and record' excavation area, the samples from the Romano-British system of enclosures and other features contained little evidence for malting, and cereals were less abundant. Spelt was the main cereal represented and it might be considered that the samples represent the general waste produced by normal, routine domestic activities.

Sediments

7.3.4 All monoliths samples have been described in detail and have no further potential. They are recommended for discard once it is established that no further sub-sampling will be required.

Charred plant remains and charcoal

7.3.5 The analysis of a sample from pit **268** has the potential to inform on the Site economy and agricultural processes during the Bronze Age period. None of the remaining later prehistoric samples have any further potential. The analysis of a targeted selection of samples from the Romano-British double-ditched enclosure and associated internal features may assist in elucidating the nature of the function of and the processes being carried out. A radiocarbon date on material from the upper fill of this enclosure ditch may help elucidate the chronology of the feature. The samples from the other Romano-British features in the east of the excavation area have the potential to provide information general site economy and agricultural processes.

7.3.6 The analysis of a small selection of samples has the potential to provide an insight into the possible exploitation and management of the woodland resource and whether this changed from the Late Bronze Age to the Romano-British period. Within the Romano-British period there is some potential to examine whether there were differences in use such as specific wood type selection, between the wood charcoal assemblages from the double-ditched enclosure and associated features and the other features to the east.

Waterlogged plant remains

7.3.7 There is no potential as no waterlogged remains were recovered during the assessment.

Pollen

7.3.8 All sampled sequences of the Romano-British period show good potential for the preservation of pollen and if dated may provide information on the local and regional environment contemporary with site activity and disuse.

Molluscs

7.3.9 There is no potential due to poor preservation.

8 RECOMMENDATIONS AND METHOD STATEMENT

8.1 Archaeological sequence

8.1.1 The known archaeological background in the immediate vicinity of the Site will be reassessed. This will include reviewing published reports and available archaeological 'grey literature'. This will contribute towards discussion of the Site in the context of the wider landscape.

8.1.2 An initial phase of work will be devoted to using the Site records and database to undertake stratigraphic analysis, which will involve confirming the grouping of features carried out at assessment and their provisional phasing; these will be checked and corrected against the final project database. Initial specialist analyses will only begin once this stage of work is complete, preceded by a verbal or written briefing from the stratigraphic specialist.

8.1.3 Once the above is completed, the stratigraphic specialist will only make revisions to the Site sequence and phasing that are required. Advised by a post-excavation manager, they will write the detailed outline of the publication text, concentrating on the description of the sequence, but indicating where specialist input is expected or would be helpful. This will assist finds and environmental specialists to target their publication reports to the proposed form of publication.

8.1.4 The stratigraphic specialist will work closely with all specialists to provide the contextual information they require to progress their analyses. It is anticipated that the stratigraphic specialist will be the principal author of the report. As such they will be responsible for the integration of material from the specialist reports into the final publication text, as appropriate.

8.2 Finds

Pottery

8.2.1 Pottery from selected key groups will be subjected to full fabric and form analysis, following the standard Wessex Archaeology recording system (Morris 1984), and conforming to the minimum standards for the archiving of Roman pottery (SGRP 1994). Correlations will be made with the existing type series for the area where appropriate (Marney 1989). Data from the key

groups will feed into the stratigraphic text, while basic data on the whole assemblage will be presented in tabular form. The pottery assessment report will be enhanced with information from the selective analysis and could be presented as a specialist report within the main text, or as an appendix. A few selected vessels could be illustrated to support the text.

Human bone

8.2.2 The cremated bone will be recorded following recommended standard recording methods (McKinley 1994; 2000; 2004), the age and sex assessed, and briefly discussed in terms of pyre conditions and type of cremation-related deposit.

Animal bone

8.2.3 The entire animal bone assemblage will be further analysed. For each bone fragment, the following characteristics will be recorded where applicable: species, bone element and side, fusion, mandible wear stages (following Grant 1982), sex and measurements (following von den Driesch 1976). Butchery marks, burning, and evidence of gnawing and condition will also be recorded. A report will be prepared summarising the results of the analysis and drawing conclusions on animal husbandry and Site taphonomic processes.

Metalwork

8.2.4 Following conservation treatment (see Task List), the metalwork catalogue will be enhanced where appropriate and further parallels sought where necessary. Objects from Romano-British contexts, and unstratified objects definitively identified as Romano-British, will be considered in functional classes (e.g. personal items, tools, structural) and briefly described and discussed. Data from the metal detecting survey could be presented in tabular form as an appendix, and any items identified as potentially originating from the Civil War period will be briefly discussed.

Coins

8.2.5 Given the poor state of many of the copper alloy coins recovered, it is felt that few would benefit from further investigative cleaning and conservation. However a number of silver coins were recovered and it recommended that the ten Roman, Saxon and medieval silver coins be submitted for conservation and cleaning. A short publication report will be prepared on the coins using information gathered as part of this assessment phase.

Other finds

8.2.6 Geological identifications will be obtained for the worked and utilised stone objects and added to catalogue entries. Identification of the stone from pit 595 will also be undertaken. The stone will be briefly discussed in terms of potential sources of supply, as well as any functional implications for the Site. This material will be compared with examples from Milton Keynes (Last 2001) and North Marston (Farley 1973). It is unlikely that any stone objects will warrant illustration.

8.2.7 No other finds categories warrant further analysis, but the information gathered as part of this assessment phase could be utilised in any publication text.

8.3 Palaeo-environmental evidence

Sediments

8.3.1 The findings reported here should be included in the proposed publication.

Charred plant remains and charcoal

8.3.2 The analysis of the charred plant remains from a targeted number of samples from the later prehistoric (from the more precisely dateable features of this phase e.g. pit **268**) and Romano-British periods will assist in the understanding of the general economy and agricultural processes, in particular the function of and the processes being carried out in the double-ditched enclosure. A radiocarbon date will be obtained in order to help date the malting complex.

8.3.3 The analysis of wood charcoal remains from a small targeted number of samples will augment the interpretation of the nature of the Site and the exploitation of the local woodland resources within both the later prehistoric and Romano-British periods. Fragments 2mm and greater will be used for identification during the analysis.

Waterlogged plant remains

8.3.4 No waterlogged plant remains were preserved.

Pollen

8.3.5 Of the 33 sub-samples taken from sequences associated with the Romano-British double-ditched enclosure, eight samples (**Table 8**) are initially recommended for palynological assessment in order to establish preservation and range of taxa in the sequences. In addition it is proposed to take an additional sample from the sequence through outer enclosure ditch **516** (cut **730**, monolith <68>) and pollen assessment is undertaken in place of <37> if the sediments there are found to be undateable or not to be contemporary with use of the feature. These have been chosen on the basis of the length of the sedimentary sequence, the nature of individual layers and the believed speed of deposition (based on laboratory assessment by the geoarchaeologist) and the level of preservation of waterlogged remains.

8.3.6 The sequences near the outer enclosure ditch terminus/entrance (**516**, (monoliths <68> and <31>) which contained rich charred remains dumps/ sweepings were not sub-sampled for pollen as they were apparently interrupted by a recut and were therefore discontinuous. These may be worth returning to however, especially if the apparently continuous pollen sampled sequence <37> from elsewhere in the enclosure ditch proves undateable.

Molluscs

8.3.7 No further work is recommended.

9 PUBLICATION PROPOSAL, RESOURCES AND PROGRAMME

9.1 Proposed publication title and synopsis

9.1.1 It is proposed that the results of this archaeological investigation be made available to all through publication in *The Records of Buckinghamshire*. The draft publication text will be sent to the Senior Archaeological officer Buckinghamshire County Council (Sandy Kidd) prior to submission to the journal.

9.1.2 A provisional publication synopsis is set out below in **Table 9**.

Table 9: Publication synopsis

INTRODUCTION Project background Geology, topography and land-use Archaeological background Research design Excavation methodology	750 words
Later Prehistoric	250 words
Romano-British	1500 words
Post medieval	750 words
Discussion	1000 words
Acknowledgements	100 words
Bibliography	500 words
Tables	3
Figures	6
Total words	4,850

9.2 Designated project team

9.2.1 The team consists primarily of internal Wessex Archaeology staff. The post-excavation project will be managed by Pippa Bradley. The following staff (**Table 10**) are provisionally scheduled to undertake the work as outlined in the task list (**Table 11**).

Table 10: The Project Team

Name	Position
Pippa Bradley BA, MPhil, MIFA	Post-excavation Manager
Julie Gardiner BA, PhD, FSA MIFA	Senior Technical Manager Publications
Alistair Barclay BSc, PhD, MIFA	Senior Project Manager (Radiocarbon dating coordinator)
Gail Wakeham BA, AIFA	Senior Project Officer (stratigraphic sequence)
Andrew Crockett BSc MIFA	Finds & Environmental Team Leader

Lorraine Mepham BA, MIFA	Senior Post-Excavation Manager (finds)
Rachael Seager Smith BA, MIFA	Senior Project Officer (Roman pottery)
Nicholas Cooke BA PhD, AIFA	Senior Project Officer (coins)
Grace Jones BA, MA, AIFA	Project Officer (misc. finds)
Glenn Foard	External finds specialist (Civil War material)
Jessica Grimm MA, AIFA	Zooarchaeologist (Project Officer)
Chris Stevens BSc PhD, MIFA	Archaeobotanist (Senior Project Officer)
Catherine Chisham BSc MSc PhD, MIFA MIEEM	Geoarchaeologist (Senior Project Officer)
Dr Robert Scaife, FGS	External Pollen Specialist
Sarah Wyles BA, AIFA	Environmental Officer (Project Officer)
Elizabeth James BA, MAAIS	Senior Illustrator
Christine Butterworth AIFA	Archive Officer (Project Officer)

9.3 Management structure

9.3.1 Wessex Archaeology operates a project management system. The team will be headed by the Project Manager, in this instance Pippa Bradley, who will assume ultimate responsibility for the implementation and execution of the project specification as outlined in the Updated Project Design, and the achievement of performance targets, be they academic, budgetary, or scheduled.

9.3.2 The Manager may delegate specific aspects of the project to other key staff, who both supervise others and have a direct input into the compilation of the report. They may also undertake direct liaison with external consultants and specialists who are contributing to the publication report, and the museum named as the recipient of the project archive. The Manager will have a major input into how the publication report is written. He will define and control the scope and form of the post-excavation programme.

9.4 Performance monitoring and quality standards

9.4.1 The Manager will be assisted by the Reports Manager (Julie Gardiner), who will help to ensure that the report meets internal quality standards as defined in Wessex Archaeology's guidelines. The overall progress will be monitored internally by the Head of Post-Excavation (Karen Walker).

9.5 Task list and resources

9.5.1 The tasks necessary to complete the proposed programme of post-excavation analyses and publication is set out in. Indications of which individuals will carry out specific task are, at this stage, **provisional only**. The quoted publication costs may change depending on a final decision regarding the content of the proposed publication. **All costings given are valid for the financial year 2007/8**.

Table 11: Task list and resources

Task No	Task description	Grade	Name	Time	Rate (per day)	Cost
Management						
1	Project Management	PM	Pippa Bradley	5		
2	Finds & environmental management	SPM	Crockett, A	4		
Stratigraphic						
3	Revise phasing	SPO	Wakeham, G	5		
4	Brief specialists and DO illustrator	SPO	Wakeham, G	3		
5	Site narrative	SPO	Wakeham, G	10		
Finds						
6	Pottery	SPO	Seager Smith, R	5 days		
7	Coins	SPO	Cooke, N	1		
8	Metalwork *MD finds* Civil War material	PO PO External	Jones, G Dinwiddy, M Foard, G	2 days 2 days 4 days		
9	Human bone	SPO	McKinley, J	1 day		
10	Animal bone	PO	Grimm, J	8 days		
11	Conservation			40 hrs		
Environmental						
11	Extraction of charred plants and charcoal (15 samples)	EO	Wyles, S	4 days		
12	Charred plant remains analysis (15 samples)	SPO	Stevens, C	7 days		
13	Charcoal analysis (4 samples)	SPO	Chisham, C	4 days		
14	Select material for C14, submit samples, comment on result	SPO SPM	Stevens, C, Barclay, A	1 day		
15	Process C14 sample	external	Kiel	-		
16	Pollen analysis	Ext	Scaife, R	-		
17	Integration and editing of geoarchaeological assessment	SPO	Chisham, C	1 day		
Report						
18	Write and assemble publication report (includes captions	SPO	Wakeham, G	10		

	and bibliography)					
19	Figures for publication	DO	James, E	7		
20	Check drawings	SPO	Wakeham, G	1		
21	Review and edit report	SPM	Gardiner, J	4		
22	Liaise with journal	SPM	Gardiner, J	0.5 day		
23	Publication submission	SPM	Gardiner, J	0.5 day		
24	Journal publication cost	Ext				
25	Proof reading	PM		4		
26	Figure preparation for journal	DO	James, E	2day		
Archive						
27	Archive preparation	PO	Butterworth,C	0.5 day		
28	Environmental archive preparation	EO	Wyles, S	1 day		
29	Microfilm job sheets and checking	PO	Butterworth,C	1 day		
30	Microfilm paper records	Ext	Marathon UK	-		
31	Box storage grant	Ext	-	-		
32	Archive deposition	PO	Butterworth,C + vehicle hire/fuel	1 day -		
Total						

Grade: DO = drawing office (Illustrator); Ext = external; PM = Project Manager; PO = Project Officer; SPM = Senior Project Manager; SPO = Senior Project Officer

Programme

9.5.2 It will be necessary to agree and finalise the proposals for post-excavation analysis and publication with the client and with the curator. Following acceptance of this report and agreement of the costs, a detailed programme timetable will be drawn up and implemented.

10 STORAGE AND CURATION

10.1 Museum

10.1.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the excavation be deposited with Buckinghamshire County Museum. The Museum has agreed in principle to accept the project archive on completion of the project, under the Accession Number 2006.16. Deposition of the finds with the Museum will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner.

10.2 Conservation

10.2.1 No immediate conservation requirements were noted in the field. Finds which have been identified as of unstable condition and therefore potentially in need of further conservation treatment comprise the metal objects, a high proportion of which derived from the metal detecting survey.

10.2.2 Iron objects have been X-radiographed as part of the assessment phase, as a basic record and also to aid identification. On the basis of the X-rays, the range of objects present and their provenance on the Site, 11 objects (1 iron object, 10 coins) have been selected for further conservation treatment, involving investigative cleaning and stabilisation.

10.3 Storage

10.3.1 The finds are currently stored in perforated polythene bags in 25 cardboard or airtight plastic boxes, ordered by material type, following nationally recommended guidelines (Walker 1990).

10.4 Discard Policy

10.4.1 Wessex Archaeology follows the guidelines set out in Selection, Retention and Dispersal (Society of Museum Archaeologists 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant any future analysis. In this instance, any further discard could target undiagnostic fired clay, and obviously modern items of metalwork collected during the metal detecting survey. The discarding of any artefacts will be carried out only with the complete agreement of the Museum.

10.4.2 The discard of environmental remains and samples follows the guidelines laid out in Wessex Archaeology's 'Archive and Dispersal Policy for Environmental Remains and Samples'. The archive policy conforms to nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1993; 1995; English Heritage 2002) and is available upon request.

10.5 Archive

10.5.1 The complete site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts and ecofacts, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Buckinghamshire County Museum (version 1.4, September 2003), and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995).

10.5.2 The complete site archive is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology under the reference number 62030.

10.6 Copyright

10.6.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the Site will be retained by Wessex Archaeology Ltd under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved. The recipient museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-

profit making, and conforms to the Copyright and Related Rights regulations 2003.

10.7 Security Copy

10.7.1 In line with current best practice, on completion of the project a security copy of the paper records will be prepared, in the form of microfilm. The master jackets and one diazo copy of the microfilm will be submitted to the National Archaeological Record (English Heritage); a second diazo copy will be deposited with the paper records, and a third diazo copy will be retained by Wessex Archaeology.

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APPENDIX 1: COIN LIST

Coins from metal detecting survey

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 25
Issuer Unknown Roman Emperor
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust r, laureate -STA-
Mint Unknown
Notes Almost certainly a large follis dating to the early C4. Badly corroded. Pierced for suspension.
Reece Periods:

Object **010**
Denomination Follis ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 5
Issue date C4
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Standing fig?
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Silver
Diameter 12
Issuer ? Kentish Saxon
Obverse condition Worn
Obverse Bust r stylised
Mint Unknown
Notes Fragment only.
Reece Periods:

Object **011**
Denomination sceatta ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 0.6
Issue date AD 700 - 710
Reverse condition Worn
Reverse Stylised standard
Officina:
References North, 1994, Vol. 1, type C, p 59
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 25
Issuer George VI
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust l -IVSVI D: G: BR: OMN: REX-
Mint Unknown
Notes V badly corroded
Reece Periods:

Object **015**
Denomination Half Penny ***Reverse axis*** 12
Weight 4.8
Issue date AD 1936 - 1948
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Sailing ship l
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 4115
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 27
Issuer Unknown
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Illegible
Mint Unknown
Notes Completely corroded and worn. Flan size suggests a post medieval half penny, perhaps of George II
Reece Periods:

Object **016**
Denomination Half Penny ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 5.3
Issue date Post medieval
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Silver
Diameter 18
Issuer Edward I
Obverse condition Worn
Obverse Bust facing, crown type 1. + EDWARANGLDNSHYB
Mint Canterbury
Notes Penny of Edward I, struck at Canterbury
Reece Periods:

Object **017**
Denomination Penny ***Reverse axis*** 9
Weight 1.3
Issue date AD 1302 - 1310
Reverse condition Worn
Reverse Long cross with 3 pellets in each quarter. CIVI TAS CAN TOR
Officina:
References North, 1975, Vol. II, 1040
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 19
Issuer Gallienus
Obverse condition Extremely worn
Obverse Bust r, radiate
Mint Lyons
Notes Irregular oval flan, but damaged
Reece Periods: 13 - AD 260 - 275

Object **019**
Denomination Antoninianus ***Reverse axis*** 6
Weight 1.5
Issue date AD 260 - 268
Reverse condition Worn
Reverse Mars standing l, holding olive branch, with spear and shield. MARTI PACIFERO. Mint Mark: A | /
Officina:
References RIC V (I) Gallienus 236
Casey Period: 18 - AD 260 - 273

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 14
Issuer Unknown Roman Emperor
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust r, pearl diadem
Mint Unknown
Notes The pearl diadem confirms a C4 date. Possibly a copy judging from the size of the flan
Reece Periods:

Object **020**
Denomination Nummus ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 1.2
Issue date C4
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 10
Issuer Unknown Roman Emperor
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Illegible
Mint Unknown
Notes Dated by size alone. V badly corroded
Reece Periods:

Object **047**
Denomination Nummus ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 0.8
Issue date C4
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 28
Issuer George III
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust r -IUS-
Mint Nicomedia
Notes
Reece Periods:

Object **048**
Denomination Penny ***Reverse axis*** 6
Weight 8.4
Issue date AD 1797 - 1799
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Britannia seated l, shield and trident -NNIA
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 3777
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 30
Issuer Victoria
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust r, bun head type. VICTORIA D:G: BTITT:REG:F:D
Mint
Notes Badly corroded on both sides
Reece Periods:

Object **051**
Denomination Penny ***Reverse axis*** 12
Weight 7.3
Issue date AD 1865
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Britannia r, shield and trident. ONE PENNY. 1865 below.
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 3954
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 26
Issuer Unknown Roman Emperor
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust r
Mint Unknown
Notes Dated by size alone. Slightly irregular flan
Reece Periods:

Object **052**
Denomination As/Dupondius ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 7.9
Issue date C1 - C3
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 22
Issuer George II
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust l, laureate
Mint Unknown
Notes Farthing of George II
Reece Periods:

Object **054**
Denomination Farthing ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 3.6
Issue date AD 1727 - 1760
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References Seaby, 1989, 3720
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 28
Issuer Unknown Roman Emperor
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Illegible
Mint Unknown
Notes Dated by size alone
Reece Periods:

Object **059**
Denomination Sestertius ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 12.2
Issue date C1 - C3
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 22
Issuer Unknown
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Illegible
Mint
Notes prob. a v corroded C18 farthing
Reece Periods:

Object **065**
Denomination Farthing ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 3
Issue date C18?
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Silver
Diameter 28
Issuer George V
Obverse condition Slightly worn
Obverse Bust l, bearded. GEORGIVS V DEI GRA: BRITT: OMN: REX
Mint
Notes
Reece Periods:

Object **091**
Denomination Florin ***Reverse axis*** 9
Weight 10.4
Issue date AD 1929
Reverse condition Slightly worn
Reverse four shields between cruciform sceptres. FID DEF IND IMP 1929 ONE FLORIN
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 4038
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 28
Issuer George III
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust r -S III R-
Mint
Notes
Reece Periods:

Object **116**
Denomination Half Penny ***Reverse axis*** 6
Weight 7.4
Issue date AD 1760 - 1797
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Britannia seated l
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 3774
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Silver
Diameter 18
Issuer Henry III
Obverse condition Worn
Obverse Bust facing. -ENRICVS-. ENR are litigated
Mint Unknown
Notes Cut in half along the cross. Only half present.
Reece Periods:

Object **117**
Denomination Penny ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 0.6
Issue date AD 1248 - 1250
Reverse condition Worn
Reverse Split long cross with 3 pellets in each corner. -TO-
Officina:
References North 1994, Vol. I, 987/1
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 23
Issuer Unknown Roman Emperor
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Illegible
Mint Unknown
Notes Badly corroded and incomplete. Dated by size alone
Reece Periods:

Object **126**
Denomination As/Dupondius ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 3.4
Issue date C1 - C3
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 25q4.3
Issuer Victoria
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust l (Bun head bust)
Mint
Notes v badly corroded
Reece Periods:

Object **131**
Denomination Half Penny ***Reverse axis*** 12
Weight 4.3
Issue date AD 1860 - 1895
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Britannia seated r -PE-
Officina:
References Seaby, 1989, 3956
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Silver
Diameter 9
Issuer Henry III
Obverse condition Worn
Obverse Bust facing
Mint Unknown
Notes A quarter of a long cross penny struck after 1247
Reece Periods:

Object **138**
Denomination Penny ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 0.3
Issue date AD 1247 - 1272
Reverse condition Worn
Reverse split long cross with 3 pellets. NIC-
Officina:
References As North 1994 Vol. 1, 985/1
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 21
Issuer Unknown
Obverse condition Extremely worn
Obverse Bust l
Mint
Notes Possibly a farthing of George IV, but far from certain
Reece Periods:

Object **141**
Denomination Farthing ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 2.1
Issue date ? C18
Reverse condition Extremely worn
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 21
Issuer Unknown
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust r
Mint
Notes Badly worn and corroded post medieval farthing
Reece Periods:

Object **152**
Denomination Farthing ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 2
Issue date ? C18
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 11
Issuer Charles I
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Illegible
Mint
Notes Very badly corroded Rose farthing.
Reece Periods:

Object **161**
Denomination Farthing ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 0.3
Issue date AD 1625 - 1649
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Central rose
Officina:
References As Seaby, 1989, 3201
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 28
Issuer George III
Obverse condition Extremely worn
Obverse Bust r
Mint Unknown
Notes
Reece Periods:

Object **175**
Denomination Half Penny ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 7.9
Issue date AD 1760 - 1797
Reverse condition Extremely worn
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References Seaby, 1989, 3774
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 28
Issuer George II
Obverse condition Very worn
Obverse Bust l, laureate. GEORGIUS II REX

Mint
Notes
Reece Periods:

Object **185**
Denomination Half Penny ***Reverse axis*** 6
Weight 7.7
Issue date AD 1737
Reverse condition Very worn
Reverse Britannia seated l, shield and olive branch. BRITANNIA. 1737 below
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 3717
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 30
Issuer Victoria
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust l, bun head type. VICTORIA D: G: BRITT: REG: F: D:
Mint
Notes
Reece Periods:

Object **194**
Denomination Penny ***Reverse axis*** 12
Weight 7.3
Issue date AD 1861
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Britannia seated r, shield and trident. ONE PENNY. 1861 below
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 3954
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 30
Issuer Victoria
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust l , bun head type. VICTORIA D: G: BRITT: REG: F: D
Mint
Notes Badly corroded
Reece Periods:

Object **208**
Denomination Penny ***Reverse axis*** 12
Weight 8.2
Issue date AD 1877
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Britannia seated r, shield and trident. ONE PENNY. 1877 below
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 3954
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 20
Issuer Unknown
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust r
Mint
Notes Too badly corroded to be dated closely
Reece Periods:

Object **223**
Denomination Farthing ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 1.7
Issue date C18?
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Silver
Diameter 17
Issuer Henry III
Obverse condition Worn
Obverse Facing bust -REXTERCI

Mint Lyons
Notes Moneyer Nicole, struck in London. Halved along the voided long cross
Reece Periods:

Object **231**
Denomination Penny ***Reverse axis***
Weight 0.6
Issue date AD 1248
Reverse condition Worn
Reverse Voided long cross with 3 pellets. -VND NIC-
Officina:
References North, 1994, Vol. 1, 985/1

Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Silver
Diameter 24
Issuer Unknown
Obverse condition Very worn
Obverse Illegible. ?gilded

Mint London
Notes Halved medieval groat
Reece Periods:

Object **236**
Denomination Groat ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 1.4
Issue date After AD 1279
Reverse condition Very worn
Reverse Long cross with 3 pellets. Internal text reads -TAS LON-
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 22
Issuer Unknown
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Illegible
Mint Unknown
Notes Badly corroded post medieval farthing
Reece Periods:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 20
Issuer Claudius
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Illegible

Mint Unknown
Notes
Reece Periods: 2 - AD 41 - 54

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 30
Issuer Victoria
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust l. Bun head type
Mint
Notes Badly corroded
Reece Periods:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 31
Issuer Unknown
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Illegible
Mint
Notes May be a large penny of George III
Reece Periods:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 28
Issuer George II
Obverse condition Worn
Obverse Bust , laureate. GEORGIVS II REX

Mint
Notes
Reece Periods:

Context **201**
Metal Silver
Diameter 18
Issuer Edward I
Obverse condition Very worn
Obverse Crowned bust facing. EDWA R ANGL DNS HYB

Mint London
Notes Misshapen coin.
Reece Periods:

Object **256**
Denomination Farthing ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 3.4
Issue date C18?
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Object **270**
Denomination As ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 1.9
Issue date AD 41 - 54
Reverse condition Very worn
Reverse Minerva advancing r with shield and spear
Officina:
References ? Copy as RIC I, Claudius 100
Casey Period: 1 - AD 43 - 54

Object **272**
Denomination Penny ***Reverse axis*** 12
Weight 7.3
Issue date AD 1861
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Britannia r. 1861 below
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 3954
Casey Period:

Object **286**
Denomination Penny ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 9.9
Issue date C18?
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Object **293**
Denomination Half Penny ***Reverse axis*** 6
Weight 7.6
Issue date AD 1737
Reverse condition Worn
Reverse Britannia l with shield and olive branch. BRTAN NIA. 1837 below
Officina:
References Seaby, 1989, 3717
Casey Period:

Object **298**
Denomination Penny ***Reverse axis*** 10
Weight 1.3
Issue date AD 1302 - 1310
Reverse condition Very worn
Reverse Long cross with 3 pellets in each division. CIVI TAS LON DON
Officina:
References North, 1975, Vol. 2 1039 c - e
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 26
Issuer Unknown
Obverse condition Extremely worn
Obverse illegible
Mint Unknown
Notes Post medieval coin, worn flat
Reece Periods:

Object **314**
Denomination coin ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 4.3
Issue date Post-medieval
Reverse condition Extremely worn
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 28
Issuer George III
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust r
Mint
Notes
Reece Periods:

Object **315**
Denomination Half penny ***Reverse axis*** 6
Weight 7.1
Issue date AD 1770 - 1775
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Britannia seated l
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 3774
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 13
Issuer Charles I
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Crown and crossed sceptres -MAG-
Mint Unknown
Notes
Reece Periods:

Object **327**
Denomination Farthing ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 0.7
Issue date AD 1625 - 1649
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References Seaby, 1989, 3181
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Silver
Diameter 19
Issuer Victoria
Obverse condition Very worn
Obverse Bust l, 'young bust'. VICTORIA DEI GRATIA REG F D
Mint
Notes
Reece Periods:

Object **332**
Denomination Six Pence ***Reverse axis*** 6
Weight 2.6
Issue date AD 1881
Reverse condition Very worn
Reverse Crown and laurel wreath. SIX PENCE. BRITANNIA 1881 below
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 3912
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 16
Issuer Radiate copy
Obverse condition Very worn
Obverse Bust r, radiate
Mint Unknown
Notes Barbarous Radiate
Reece Periods: 14 - AD 275 - 296

Object **358**
Denomination Antoninianus ***Reverse axis*** 3
Weight 1.3
Issue date AD 270 - 296
Reverse condition Very worn
Reverse Standing fig l. Stylised
Officina:
References
Casey Period: 19 - AD 273 - 286

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 30
Issuer Victoria
Obverse condition Worn
Obverse Bust l, bun head type VICTORIA D G BRITT REG F D
Mint
Notes
Reece Periods:

Object **361**
Denomination Penny ***Reverse axis*** 12
Weight 8.3
Issue date AD 1880
Reverse condition Worn
Reverse Britannia r with shield and trident. 1880 below
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 3954
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 20
Issuer Victoria
Obverse condition Worn
Obverse Bust l VICTORIA D G BRITT REG F D

Mint Unknown
Notes
Reece Periods:

Object **362**
Denomination Farthing ***Reverse axis*** 12
Weight 2.6
Issue date AD 1886
Reverse condition Worn
Reverse Britannia seated r, shield and spear. FARTHING. 1886 below
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 3958
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 30
Issuer George V
Obverse condition Worn
Obverse Bust l, bearded GEORGIVS V DEI GRA BRITT OMN REX FID DEF IND IMP
Mint
Notes
Reece Periods:

Object **366**
Denomination Penny ***Reverse axis*** 12
Weight 8.9
Issue date AD 1920
Reverse condition Worn
Reverse Britannia seated r, shield and trident. ONE PENNY. 1920 below
Officina:
References Seaby 1989 4051
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 34
Issuer George III
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust r. GEORGIUS III·D:G·REX·1806

Mint
Notes
Reece Periods:

Object **379**
Denomination Penny ***Reverse axis*** 6
Weight 18.5
Issue date AD 1806
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Britannia seated left on rock, holding branch and trident, shield resting at side, waves around, ship to left BRITANNIA
Officina:
References Seaby, 1989, 3780
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 31
Issuer George V
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust l, bearded. GEORGIVS V DEI GRA BRITT OMN REX FID DEF IND IMP
Mint
Notes
Reece Periods:

Object **380**
Denomination Penny ***Reverse axis*** 12
Weight 8.5
Issue date AD 1916
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Britannia seated r with shield and trident. ONE PENNY. 1916 below
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 4051
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 27
Issuer Unknown
Obverse condition Extremely worn
Obverse Illegible
Mint
Notes Flan consistent with C18 half penny (?George III)
Reece Periods:

Object **383**
Denomination Half Penny ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 7.2
Issue date C18?
Reverse condition Extremely worn
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 24
Issuer George III
Obverse condition Extremely worn
Obverse Bust r GEORGIUS III REX
Mint
Notes
Reece Periods:

Object **384**
Denomination Half Penny ***Reverse axis*** 6
Weight 6.7
Issue date AD 1774
Reverse condition Extremely worn
Reverse Britannia seated l. 1774 below
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 3774
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 22
Issuer George III
Obverse condition Extremely worn
Obverse Bust r GEORGI-
Mint
Notes
Reece Periods:

Object **394**
Denomination Farthing ***Reverse axis*** 6
Weight 2.1
Issue date AD 1760 - 1797
Reverse condition Extremely worn
Reverse Britannia seated l BRITAN-
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 3775
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 14
Issuer Unknown
Obverse condition Extremely worn
Obverse Shield with? Heraldic device
Mint
Notes Post medieval token, worn almost smooth
Reece Periods:

Object **400**
Denomination Token ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 0.4
Issue date Post medieval
Reverse condition Extremely worn
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 28
Issuer George VI
Obverse condition Slightly worn
Obverse Bust r. GEORGIVS VI D G BR OMN REX

Mint
Notes
Reece Periods:

Object **407**
Denomination Florin ***Reverse axis*** 12
Weight 11.1
Issue date AD 1950
Reverse condition Slightly worn
Reverse Rose, crown, thistle and shamrock. FID DEF TWO SHILLINGS 1950
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 4107
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 14
Issuer Unknown
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Illegible
Mint
Notes May not be a coin, or could be a fragment or large bronze
Reece Periods:

Object **412**
Denomination coin ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 2.2
Issue date Unknown
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References

Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Silver
Diameter 18
Issuer Henry III
Obverse condition Worn
Obverse Bust facing w sceptre HEN- -II

Mint Canterbury
Notes Minted by Willem in Canterbury
Reece Periods:

Object **415**
Denomination Penny ***Reverse axis*** 5
Weight 0.6
Issue date AD 1251 - 1272
Reverse condition Worn
Reverse Voided long cross with 3 pellets I each quadrant. (WIL) LEM ONC (ANT)
Officina:
References North 1994, Vol. I, 991/2
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 22
Issuer Unknown
Obverse condition Extremely worn
Obverse Illegible
Mint Unknown
Notes Badly worn post-medieval farthing
Reece Periods:

Object **418**
Denomination Farthing ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 4.5
Issue date Post-medieval
Reverse condition Extremely worn
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 22
Issuer George III
Obverse condition Extremely worn
Obverse Bust r GEORGIUS-
Mint Unknown
Notes
Reece Periods:

Object **435**
Denomination Farthing ***Reverse axis*** 6
Weight 3.3
Issue date AD 1760 - 1797
Reverse condition Extremely worn
Reverse Britannia seated l
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 3775
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 22
Issuer Unknown
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Illegible
Mint
Notes Completely illegible, but size and flan shape suggests a post medieval half penny
Reece Periods:

Object **460**
Denomination Half Penny ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 7.9
Issue date C18?
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References

Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 27
Issuer George II
Obverse condition Extremely worn
Obverse Bust l -GIUS-
Mint
Notes Extremely worn farthing of George II
Reece Periods:

Object **462**
Denomination Half Penny ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 6.8
Issue date AD 1727 - 1760
Reverse condition Extremely worn
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References Seaby, 1989, 3717
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 25
Issuer George V
Obverse condition Worn
Obverse Bust l bearded GEORGIVS V DEI GRA BRITT OMN REX FID DEF IND IMP
Mint
Notes
Reece Periods:

Object **463**
Denomination Half Penny ***Reverse axis*** 12
Weight 5.3
Issue date AD 1918
Reverse condition Very worn
Reverse Britannia seated r, shield and trident. H-

Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 4056
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 31
Issuer Victoria
Obverse condition Very worn
Obverse Bust l, bun head type - D G BRI-
Mint
Notes
Reece Periods:

Object **470**
Denomination Half Penny ***Reverse axis*** 12
Weight 4.8
Issue date AD 1864
Reverse condition Very worn
Reverse Britannia seated r H-. 1864 below
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 3956
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 31
Issuer Edward VII
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust r. EDWARDVS VII DEI GRA BRITT OMN REX FID DEF IND IMP
Mint
Notes
Reece Periods:

Object **477**
Denomination Penny ***Reverse axis*** 12
Weight 8
Issue date AD 1905
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Britannia r with shield and trident. ONE PENNY. 1905 below
Officina:
References Seaby, 1989, 3990
Casey Period:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 25
Issuer Elizabeth II
Obverse condition Very worn
Obverse Bust r D G REG F D 1980 ELIZABETH II

Mint
Notes
Reece Periods:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 27
Issuer George II
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust l GEORGIUS II REX
Mint
Notes
Reece Periods:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 27
Issuer George II
Obverse condition Extremely worn
Obverse Bust r
Mint
Notes
Reece Periods:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 20
Issuer Victoria
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust l, bun head issue. VICTORIA D G BRITT REG F D
Mint
Notes
Reece Periods:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 26
Issuer Elizabeth II
Obverse condition Slightly worn
Obverse Bust r. D G REG F D 1981 ELIZABETH II

Mint
Notes
Reece Periods:

Context **201**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 14
Issuer Emperor of the House of Valentinian
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust r, pearl diadem

Mint Unknown
Notes Badly corroded and damaged
Reece Periods: 19 - AD 364 - 378

Object **483**
Denomination Two pence ***Reverse axis*** 12
Weight 7.1
Issue date AD 1980
Reverse condition Very worn
Reverse Prince of Wales feathers. 2 NEW PENCE
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 4230
Casey Period:

Object **495**
Denomination Half Penny ***Reverse axis*** 6
Weight 6.3
Issue date AD 1727 - 1760
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Britannia seated l BRIT-
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 3717
Casey Period:

Object **496**
Denomination Half Penny ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 6.9
Issue date AD 1727 - 1760
Reverse condition Extremely worn
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 3717
Casey Period:

Object **497**
Denomination Farthing ***Reverse axis*** 12
Weight 2.3
Issue date AD 1864
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Britannia seated r, shield and trident FARTHING. 1864 below
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 3958
Casey Period:

Object **498**
Denomination Two pence ***Reverse axis*** 12
Weight 7.1
Issue date AD 1981
Reverse condition Slightly worn
Reverse Prince of Wales feathers. 2 NEW PENCE
Officina:
References Seaby 1989, 4230
Casey Period:

Object **524**
Denomination Nummus ***Reverse axis*** 12
Weight 1.1
Issue date AD 364 - 378

Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Emperor r with standard, dragging captive. Gloria Romanorum type
Officina:
References As LRBC II, 82
Casey Period: 25 - AD 364 - 378

Context **201**
Metal Silvered Cu Alloy
Diameter 16
Issuer Unknown
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust r
Mint Unknown
Notes Probably the cu alloy core of a plated copy of a C1 - C3 denarius. Badly corroded
Reece Periods:

Object **530**
Denomination Denarius ***Reverse axis*** 6
Weight 2
Issue date C1 - C3
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Seated fig l, raising olive branch
Officina:
References

Casey Period:

Coins from the 'strip, map and record'excavation

Context **356**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 18
Issuer Valens
Obverse condition Worn
Obverse Bust r, pearl diadem DNVALEN SPFAVG

Mint Unknown
Notes
Reece Periods: 19 - AD 364 - 378

Object **630**
Denomination Nummus ***Reverse axis*** 6
Weight 1.5
Issue date AD 34 - 378
Reverse condition Worn
Reverse Winged victory l with wreath. Securitas Reipublicae type
Officina:
References As LRBC II, 82
Casey Period: 25 - AD 364 - 378

Context **unstratified**
Metal Silver
Diameter 12
Issuer Unknown
Obverse condition Worn
Obverse Bust r, laureate
Mint Unknown
Notes Fragment of a C1 - C3 denarius
Reece Periods:

Object **646**
Denomination Denarius ***Reverse axis*** 12
Weight 0.6
Issue date C1 - C3
Reverse condition Worn
Reverse Trophy
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **202**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 14
Issuer Emperor of the House of Valentinian
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust r, pearl diadem

Mint Unknown
Notes Small damaged flan heavily corroded
Reece Periods: 19 - AD 364 - 378

Object **656**
Denomination Nummus ***Reverse axis*** 12
Weight 1.2
Issue date AD 364 - 378

Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Emperor r with standard, dragging captive. (GLORIARO M) ANORVM. Mint Mark: OF | II ?
Officina: Second
References ? Copy as LRBC II, 280
Casey Period: 25 - AD 364 - 378

Context **234**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 15
Issuer Emperor of the House of Constantine
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust r, pearl diadem.

Mint Trier
Notes
Reece Periods: 17 - AD 330 - 348

Object **668**
Denomination Nummus ***Reverse axis*** 6
Weight 1.2
Issue date AD 335 - 341

Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse 2 soldiers, 1 standard GLOR (IAEXERC ITVS). Mint Mark TRS
Officina: Second
References As LRBC I, 87
Casey Period: 23 - AD 330 - 348

Context **317**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 13
Issuer Emperor of the House of Constantine
Obverse condition Very worn
Obverse Bust r, pearl diadem DN-

Mint Unknown
Notes

Object **672**
Denomination Nummus ***Reverse axis*** 6
Weight 0.8
Issue date AD 350 - 360

Reverse condition Very worn
Reverse Soldier spearing a fallen horseman. Fel Temp Reparatio type.
Officina:
References Copy as LRBC II, 25

Context **202**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 12
Issuer Emperor of the House of Valentinian
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust r, pearl diadem

Mint Unknown
Notes
Reece Periods: 19 - AD 364 - 378

Object **673**
Denomination Nummus ***Reverse axis*** 6
Weight 0.7
Issue date AD 364 - 378

Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Winged victory l, holding wreath. Securitas Reipublicae type
Officina:
References ? Copy as LRBC II, 82
Casey Period: 25 - AD 364 - 378

Context **202**
Metal Cu Alloy

Diameter 17
Issuer Unknown Roman Emperor
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Illegible
Mint Unknown
Notes Dated by size alone
Reece Periods:

Object **674**
Denomination Antoninianus/Nummus ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 1.1
Issue date C3 - C4

Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **unstratified**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 28
Issuer Unknown Roman Emperor
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust r
Mint Unknown
Notes Dated by size alone
Reece Periods:

Object **675**
Denomination As/Dupondius ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 16.7
Issue date C1 - C2

Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Standing fig?
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **522**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 18
Issuer Radiate copy
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust r, radiate
Mint
Notes Barbarous Radiate
Reece Periods: 14 - AD 275 - 296

Object **678**
Denomination Antoninianus ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 1.9
Issue date AD 270 - 296
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period: 19 - AD 273 - 286

Context **unstratified**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 27
Issuer Unknown Roman Emperor
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Illegible
Mint Unknown
Notes Dated by size alone
Reece Periods:

Object **682**
Denomination As/Dupondius ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 6.3
Issue date C1 - C3

Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **356**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 16
Issuer Radiate copy
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust r, radiate

Mint Unknown
Notes Barbarous Radiate
Reece Periods:

Object **685**
Denomination Antoninianus ***Reverse axis*** 12
Weight 1
Issue date AD 270 - 296
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Standing figure l with cornucopia and patera
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **694**
Metal Cu Alloy

Diameter 19
Issuer Unknown Roman Emperor
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Bust r
Mint Unknown
Notes Irregular flan, possibly once pierced
Reece Periods:

Object **690**
Denomination antoninianus/nummus ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 3.1
Issue date C3 - C4

Reverse condition Extremely worn
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **769**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 11
Issuer Unknown Roman Emperor
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Illegible
Mint Unknown
Notes Nice round flan, dated by size alone
Reece Periods:

Object **696**
Denomination Nummus ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 0.4
Issue date C4

Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **unstratified**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 13
Issuer Emperor of the House of Constantine
Obverse condition Very worn
Obverse Bust l, helmeted. Constantinopolis type
Mint Unknown
Notes Small flan. Slightly stylised engraving
Reece Periods: 17 - AD 330 - 348

Object **706**
Denomination Nummus ***Reverse axis*** 9
Weight 1.5
Issue date AD 330 - 345

Reverse condition Very worn
Reverse Winged victory on prow
Officina:
References Copy as LRBC I, 52
Casey Period: 23 - AD 330 - 348

Context **unstratified**
Metal Cu Alloy

Diameter 16
Issuer Unknown Roman Emperor
Obverse condition Corroded
Obverse Illegible
Mint Unknown
Notes Dated by size alone
Reece Periods:

Object **740**
Denomination Antoninianus/nummus ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 0.9
Issue date C3 - C4

Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period:

Context **325**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 16
Issuer Radiate copy
Obverse condition Very worn
Obverse Bust r, radiate. Stylised
Mint Unknown
Notes Barbarous Radiate copy
Reece Periods: 14 - AD 275 - 296

Objectb**742**
Denomination Antoninianus ***Reverse axis*** 6
Weight 1.8
Issue date AD 270 - 296
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Stylised fig l
Officina:
References
Casey Period: 19 - AD 273 - 286

Context **unstratified**
Metal Cu Alloy
Diameter 14
Issuer Gratian
Obverse condition Very worn
Obverse Bust r, pearl diadem. DNGRA
Mint Unknown
Notes Small flan suggests a copy.
Reece Periods: 19 - AD 364 - 378

Object **743**
Denomination Nummus ***Reverse axis*** 0
Weight 1
Issue date AD 367 - 383
Reverse condition Corroded
Reverse Illegible
Officina:
References
Casey Period: 25 - AD 364 – 378

APPENDIX 2: SEDIMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Sediment descriptions and sub- samples monolith <31>

Feature 359 Dwg# 135, monolith 31, DN

[[1] is used to denote when top of monolith taken as 0cm]

Depth[1] (m)	*Pollen samples taken*	*Other samples taken*	*Context (and excavators description)*	*Full sediment description*	*Interpretation*
0-0.41			376 Dark grey silty clay loam, eroding in material from abandonment	10YR 3/1 very dark grey clay loam, rare small s/a flints, occasional small lens/lump of 'natural' (lumps rather than laminae) <15mm. ?weak ?fine ?blocky structure. Darkens slightly down profile. Occ charcoal lump, appearance suggests lots of small and/or comminuted charcoal too. Clear to abrupt boundary. Is this deposit local to this section of ditch only?	Could be: dump or ploughed/eroded in charcoal rich material from alongside feature.
0.41-0.52			375 ?deliberate backfill	10yr 2/1 black silty clay, very moist, 'feels' to have high small/comminuted charcoal context. Burnt grain observed (carbonised grains rapidly recovered from small amount of sediment c.10ml = 2x hulled wheat + 4x oat). Common small charcoal though few recognisable lumps – ?mainly small/comminuted?. Occasional inclusions of the above context. Sharp to abrupt boundary.	Dump or dumps – could be sweepings?
0.52-0.54			374 Silting / recut /cleaning	5y 4/1 dark grey silty clay, very moist. No laminae visible, but will have settled in standing water. Stonefree, abrupt boundary. Profile similar to adjacent section with sample <68> - likewise is possibly recut.	Fine sediment laid in standing water. Possibly recut?
.54-.65			373 – primary fill	2.5Y 5/2 greyish brown clay loam/silty clay. Stone free. Some structure - ?fine to ?med ?blocky. Some greyer patched mixed in – difficult to describe well as very sticky – almost looks like some of above material entering cracks. Not ped coatings as such. Clear boundary.	?primary fill – mix of topsoil & side material
0.65-0.70				10yr 5/3 brown silty clay, some glassing, greyer patches.	Geology.
			NOTES	Sequence is ?primary fill (possibly with some stasis) –then fine material laid down in standing water – then charcoally dump(s). The bulk of material forming the very dark upper fill is also likely to be deliberate backfill (if it were ploughed in from a dump of charcoally material alongside (now gone) one would expect some non-charcoally material to enter from the other side).	
				NB very similar to adjacent section with mono <68>	

Sediment descriptions and sub- samples monolith <37>

Feature 554 Dwg# 171, monolith 37

[[1] is used to denote when top of monolith taken as 0cm]

Depth[1] (m)	*Pollen samples taken(m)*	*Other samples taken*	*Context (and excavators description)*	*Full sediment description*	*Interpretation*
0-0.22	(all 1cm starting at no.) 8, 16		558	10yr 4/1dark grey clay loam, with common small (1-4mm) concretions. These not obvious to eye but when handled/sliced can be felt easily – give a 'crunchy' texture. Otherwise stone free. Concretions examined at x100 – are quartz concreted with Fe. This is indication of gleying. ?weak ?med ?blocky structure. Apparently quite humic. Diffuse boundary.	Essentially continuation of 2ndary fill, could be described as tertiary. Humic & sediment build up in disused well vegetated ditch
0.22-0.37	**24*** 32 36		557 Side collapse	10yr 4/2 dark greyish brown clay loam with very common concretions as mentioned above. Structure difficult to observe. Clear to diffuse boundary.	Same as above but with small input of material from side collapse (from section & photo can see is thicker to west).
0.37-0.48	38 **40*** 42 44 46		556 Dumping and/or washing in	10yr 4/1 dark grey clay loam/silty clay loam (hard to finger test due to concretions – now 1-2mm and quite common). Occasional macropores. Clear to diffuse horizon.	Secondary fill/stasis horizon.
0.48-0.65	**48*** 52 56 60 **64***		555 Primary fill	2.5y 4/2 dark greyish brown, slightly more olive than 22-37cm. very common concretions 1-4mm as above, most c.2mm. occ macropores, ?weak ?fine/med blocky ?structure. Abrupt horizon.	?primary fill – possible side/topsoil material, but looks very similar to secondary
0.65-0.8+				2.5y 5/4 yellowish brown clay loam, occ small flint & rare calcareous lump.	Natural geology.
	NOTES: This feature is largely filled with what could essentially be described as a secondary fill (stasis horizon). In a dryer situation this would be a relatively thin stable layer – however in this apparently quite wet situation 2 things will have occurred: 1/regular inputs of sediment via inundation 2/luxuriant plant growth in the ditch itself due to this moisture being retained. This ?dense vegetation will have added to the deposition of sediment (in the form of humic material, which is also responsible for the dark colouration). It is quite possible that the feature may have been cleaned out when in use and that thus this sequence represents a post-abandonment phase, The concretions are a product of gleying and form in-situ. NB Pollen sampling of this monolith may be productive. .the adjacent mollusc column is likely to reflect the ditch microenvironment – i.e. very moist & shady. This may not be particularly useful for interpretation of the enclosure itself. *** denotes pollen samples recommended for assessment**				

Sediment descriptions and sub- samples monolith <49>

Feature 505 Dwg# 159d-e, monolith 49

[[1] is used to denote when top of monolith taken as 0cm]

Depth[1] (m)	*Pollen samples taken*	*Other samples taken*	*Context (and excavators description)*	*Full sediment description*	*Interpretation*
0-0.09			508 Eroded material	10yr 4/1 dark grey clay loam, occ to quite common small (1-2mm) Fe concreted lumps as in mono <37> - caused by gleying. ?moderately developed coarse gran to fine blocky structure. Diffuse horizon.	Upper fill / base of mod soil
0.09-0.32			508 Eroded material	10yr 4/1 dark grey sandy clay loam to clay loam (tricky to finger texture due to concretions). Common small concretions as above. Subangular gravel to lower half of deposit. weak ?fine to ?med ?blocky structure. Diffuse horizon.	Secondary fill – heavily vegetated, could be disuse phase. Wet/gleying.
0.32-0.56			507 eroded in	10yr 4/1 dark grey sandy clay loam (again difficult to finger texture). Abundant concretions, larger (up to 5mm). Make deposit feel 'crispy' when cut/worked. Quite common gravel, rounded to subangular <25mm (more common 42cm+). Clear to diffuse horizon	Colluvial possibly with elements of 2ndary fill. No worm sorting of gravel apparent. Similar gravel apparent on surface around feature (digi 1331). Again wet/gleying.
0.56-0.74			507 eroded in	10yr 4/1 dark grey silty clay, quite common concretions as above & quite common gravel. Fine material essentially eroded from natural. Would be deposited in standing water, though no laminations observed. Wet/gleyed again. Abrupt horizon.	Fine material washed from natural and laid down in standing water.
0.74-0.79				10yr 5/6 yellowish brown silty clay loam – looks very similar to underlying 'natural', however is laminated & represents side material deposited in standing water soon after feature was dug.	Primary fill

Notes: The sequence demonstrates frequently if not permanently waterlogged conditions with gleying. Questions were raised regarding the gravel content of sequence – both rounded and subangular gravel is present, and can be seen on/in the surface surrounding the feature in photographs. This is colluvial in origin, and its distribution in the deposits does not suggest worm-sorting (also any soil developing in the wet conditions of the ditch would be shallow, gleyed and with relatively little worm activity compared to a drier situation). Concretions as elsewhere are formed insitu as a product of gleying.

SAMPLING – not sampled at present, may be worth it as could be contemporary with activity on site. However core <37> may be more promising and is already sampled.

Sediment descriptions and sub- samples monolith <50>

Feature 595 Dwg# 184, monolith 50

[1 is used to denote when top of monolith taken as 0cm]

Depth[1] (m)	*Pollen samples taken(1cm from)*	*Other samples taken*	*Context (and excavators description)*	*Full sediment description*	*Interpretation*
0-0.17	1 5 9 **13***		625 Gradual silting	10yr 4/1 dark grey sandy clay loam quite common small (<2mm) concretions of sand concreted with Fe (gleying). Clear boundary	Could be described as secondary or tertiary – lush vegetation in wet ditch introducing humic material. Disuse/vegetation /silting in wet/gleyed conditions.
0.17-0.33	17 21 25 **29***		599 Eroding sides/land surface	10yr 4/1 dark grey sandy clay loam – very common concretions as above <5mm. further silting up of ditch, likely quite rapid due to wet conditions.	Fill, wet/gleyed.
0.33-0.43	33 **35*** 37 39 41		598	10yr 4/1 dark grey sandy clay loam to clay loam. Slightly darker than above. Concretions less common and smaller. ?weak ?med ?granular structure. Abrupt horizon.	Stabilization horizon / 2ndary fill
0.47-0.47	43 45		597	As 17-33. Abrupt horizon.	Fill, wet/gleyed.
0.47-0.53+	47 49 **51***		597	10yr 4/1 dark grey silty clay/sandy clay loam. Concretions quite common <1mm. silting of feature in standing water. Wet/gleyed.	Silting (?disuse?)

Notes: beyond that wet conditions predominated throughout deposition of sequence is difficult to extract much info from sediment description. If (as seems likely) this feature was cleaned out during use, the whole sequence may be contemporary with the disuse phase of the site rather than activity.
SAMPLING – sampled for pollen @2cm in lower fills and 4cm above.
*** denotes pollen samples recommended for assessment**

Sediment descriptions and sub-samples monolith 68

Feature 730 Dwg# 222, monolith 68,

[[1] is used to denote when top of monolith taken as 0cm]

Depth[1] (m)	*Pollen samples taken*	*Other samples taken*	*Context (and excavators description)*	*Full sediment description*	*Interpretation*
0-0.28			734	10yr 2/1 black (actually not quite black but nearest munsell unit) silty clay loam. Occ small (<6mm) concretion of sand/Fe (result of gleying). Appears quite organic. Clear horizon.	?tertiary fill, some inwash, possibly some dumping
0.28-0.47			733	10yr 2/1black silt/silty clay loam, highly organic, wet, very dark. Has *some* charcoal but under microscope is mostly humic. NB from bulk sample <61> we know that this context has a lot of charred grain (looks like mostly wheat & oats). Abrupt boundary.	Accumulation of very organic material including some charred, into very wet vegetated ditch. Possibly regular sweeping of material into ditch from activity area?
0.47-0.63			731	10yr 5/1 grey silty clay loam to clay. Roughly laminar waterlain fine sediments, some layers clay some silty clay to silty clay loam. Charcoal lens half way up. Abrupt boundary. From section photos and drawing must be a recut or possibly an applied lining.	Likely represents ?primary silting of ditch into which recut has been made. *Could* be a lining.
0.63-0.74				10yr 5/4 yellowish brown silty clay loam	'natural' geology

Note: Interesting profile & difficult to interpret with confidence. Possibility that the fine material is an applied lining of feature, but this seems unlikely. Recut more probable – certainly the 'natural' profile of fills has been altered in some way as the waterlain material (731) is as thick at top of profile as at bottom (see section photo/dwg).
The charred grain/humic layer could represent regular additions/small dumps of material possibly from sweeping of activity area within.

APPENDIX 3: THE CHARRED PLANT REMAINS AND CHARCOAL

Feature	Context	Sample	Size Litres	Flot Size ml	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Notes	Charcoal > 5:6mm	Residue Charcoal >5:6mm	Analysis
Late Bronze Age													
Roundhouse 230 – Posthole													
299	300	11	7	3	60	-	-	-	C	Chenopodium (probably modern)	-	-	
Natural Hollow													
212	210	2	20	5	70	-	-	-	B	*Chenopodium* (probably modern)	-	-	
Pit													
268	269	4	6	5	50	-	-	-	C	*Polygonaceae, Chenopodium* (probably modern)	-	20	
268	270	5	10	40	10	B	C	Hulled wheat grain fragment and spelt glume fragments	C	*Polygonaceae*, Bud, *Chenopodium*	B	25	**P + C**
268	271	6	8	5	25	-	-	-	-	-	C	10	
Romano-British													
Double Enclosure and Internal features													
Outer Enclosure Ditch 514													
554	555	33	8	5	50	C	A	Hulled wheat grain fragments and glume fragments	C	*Avena/Bromus*	-	-	
554	556	34	10	3	20	-	C	Hulled wheat glume fragments	C	*Anthemis cotula, Chenopodium*	-	-	
554	557	35	10	2	25	-	A	Hulled wheat glume fragments	C	*Avena/Bromus, Chenopodium*	C	-	
554	558	36	8	3	35	C	A	Indet. grain fragments and hulled wheat glume fragments	B	*Polygonaceae, Chenopodium* (probably modern)	-	-	

Feature	Context	Sample	Size Litres	Flot Size ml	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Notes	Charcoal > 5:6mm	Residue Charcoal >5:6mm	Analysis
Outer Enclosure Ditch 516													
359	376	17	10	15	10	A*	A**	Hulled wheat grain and glume fragments	A*	*Avena/Bromus, Vicia/Lathyrus, Polygonaceae, Poaceae, Anthemis cotula, Tripleurospermum inodorum, Chenopodium*	C	-	
359	375	18	10	250	2	A***	A***	Spelt. germinated grain. ?T.d gbx1. 1x hulled barley 2x culm nodes, coleoptiles and chaff dominate	A***	oat/Bromus (some germinated). Vicia. wild oat spikelet, Tri ino. Lol per. Atriplex. C album. Odo ver.	C	3	**P+C**
359	373	39	20	15	10	A	A**	Hulled wheat and barley grain fragments and glume fragments	A	Polygonaceae, Avena/Bromus, Poaceae, Vicia/Lathyrus, Chenopodium	-	-	**P**
464	466	21	8	5	10	B	B	Hulled wheat grain fragments and glume fragments	B	*Anthemis cotula, Avena/Bromus, Chenopodium*	B	9	
674	676	32	6	50	8	A*	A**	Hulled wheat (some germinated) and barley grain fragments and glume fragments and coleoptiles	A*	*Avena/ Bromus, Polygonaceae, Vicia/Lathyrus, Anthemis cotula, Poaceae, Tripleurospermum inodorum, Chenopodium*	-	1	
730	731	60	8	3	20	A	A*	Hulled wheat grain fragments and glume fragments, coleoptile	A	*Avena/Bromus, Polygonaceae, Anthemis cotula, Chenopodium*	-	-	
730	733	61	8	100	5	A*	A***	Hulled wheat grain fragments (some germinated) and glume fragments, Coleoptiles, awns	A**	*Avena/Bromus, Polygonaceae, Vicia/Lathyrus, Anthemis cotula, Brassicaceae, Galium, Poaceae, Chenopodium*	-	-	**P**
Inner Enclosure Ditch 825													
704	705	55	0.025	20	0	-	-	-	-	-	A	-	**C**

Feature	Context	Sample	Size Litres	Flot Size ml	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Notes	Charcoal > 5:6mm	Residue Charcoal >5:6mm	Analysis
Central Feature 804 - ?Drying oven													
804	658	29	18	40	5	A*	A**	Hulled wheat grain fragments and glume fragments, awns	A*	*Avena/ Bromus, Polygonaceae, Vicia/Lathyrus, Anthemis cotula, Chenopodium*	C	-	
804	680	30	16	20	20	A	A**	Hulled wheat grain fragments and glume fragments, awns	A*	*Avena/ Bromus, Polygonaceae, Poaceae, Anthemis cotula, Chenopodium*	C	6	**P (sub-sample)**
804	708	58	16	40	10	A	A*	Hulled wheat grain fragments (some germinated) and glume fragments, Coleoptiles, awns	A	*Avena/Bromus, Vicia/Lathyrus, Polygonaceae, Poaceae, Anthemis cotula*	C	-	
804	711	59	16	250	1	A***	A**	Germinated spelt grain+glumes. F-t type wheat x1	A*	Oats, Vicia, cf. Brassica? Bromus, Lathyrus, buds, Stachys, Lolium	A	-	**P + C**
Posthole Group 826													
511	512	22	10	5	60	-	-	-	C	*Chenopodium* (probably modern)	-	-	
511	512	24	8	5	50	C	C	Indeterminate grain fragment and glume fragments	-	-	-	2	
412	413	41	8	5	60	C	B	Hulled wheat grain fragments and glume fragments	-	-	C	1	
387	388	42	10	5	50	A	A	Hulled wheat grain fragments and glume fragments	A	*Avena/Bromus, Poaceae, Chenopodium* (probably modern)	C	-	
385	386	40	10	5	30	A	A*	Hulled wheat grain fragments and glume fragments	A	*Polygonaceae, Avena/Bromus, Poaceae, Chenopodium*	-	-	**P**

Feature	Context	Sample	Size Litres	Flot Size ml	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Notes	Charcoal > 5:6mm	Residue Charcoal >5:6mm	Analysis
Stone-Lined Pit 595													
595	597	51	10	5	50	A	A*	Hulled wheat grain fragments and glume fragments	A	*Polygonaceae, Avena/Bromus, Eleocharis, Anthemis cotula, Poaceae, Chenopodium*	-	-	**P (sub-sample)**
595	598	52	10	5	30	C	A*	Hulled wheat grain fragments and glume fragments	A	*Polygonaceae, Anthemis cotula, Avena/Bromus*	-	-	
595	599	53	10	3	50	C	A	Indeterminate grain fragments and glume fragments	B	*Avena/Bromus, Anthemis cotula,, Tripleurospermum inodorum*	-	-	
595	625	54	10	5	60	C	C	Hulled wheat grain fragments and glume fragments	B	Avena/Bromus, Chenopodium (probably modern)	-	-	
Drainage Ditch 830													
349	356	12	10	60	50	A**	A***	Hulled wheat grain (including germinated) and ? barley grain fragments, hulled wheat glume fragments, coleoptiles, awns, culm nodes	A**	*Avena/Bromus, Polygonaceae, Anthemis cotula, Vicia/Lathyrus, Poaceae, Tripleurospermum inodorum, Chenopodium*	C	-	**P+C**
349	357	13	10	50	5	A*	A**	Hulled wheat grain (including germinated) and ? barley grain fragments, hulled wheat glume fragments, coleoptiles, awns	A*	*Avena/Bromus, Polygonaceae, Anthemis cotula, Vicia/Lathyrus, Poaceae, Chenopodium Tripleurospermum inodorum*	C	-	
349	358	14	10	40	5	A*	A**	Hulled wheat grain (including germinated) and glume fragments, coleoptiles, awns	A*	*Avena/Bromus, Polygonaceae, Anthemis cotula, Vicia/Lathyrus, Galium, Chenopodium Tripleurospermum*	C	-	

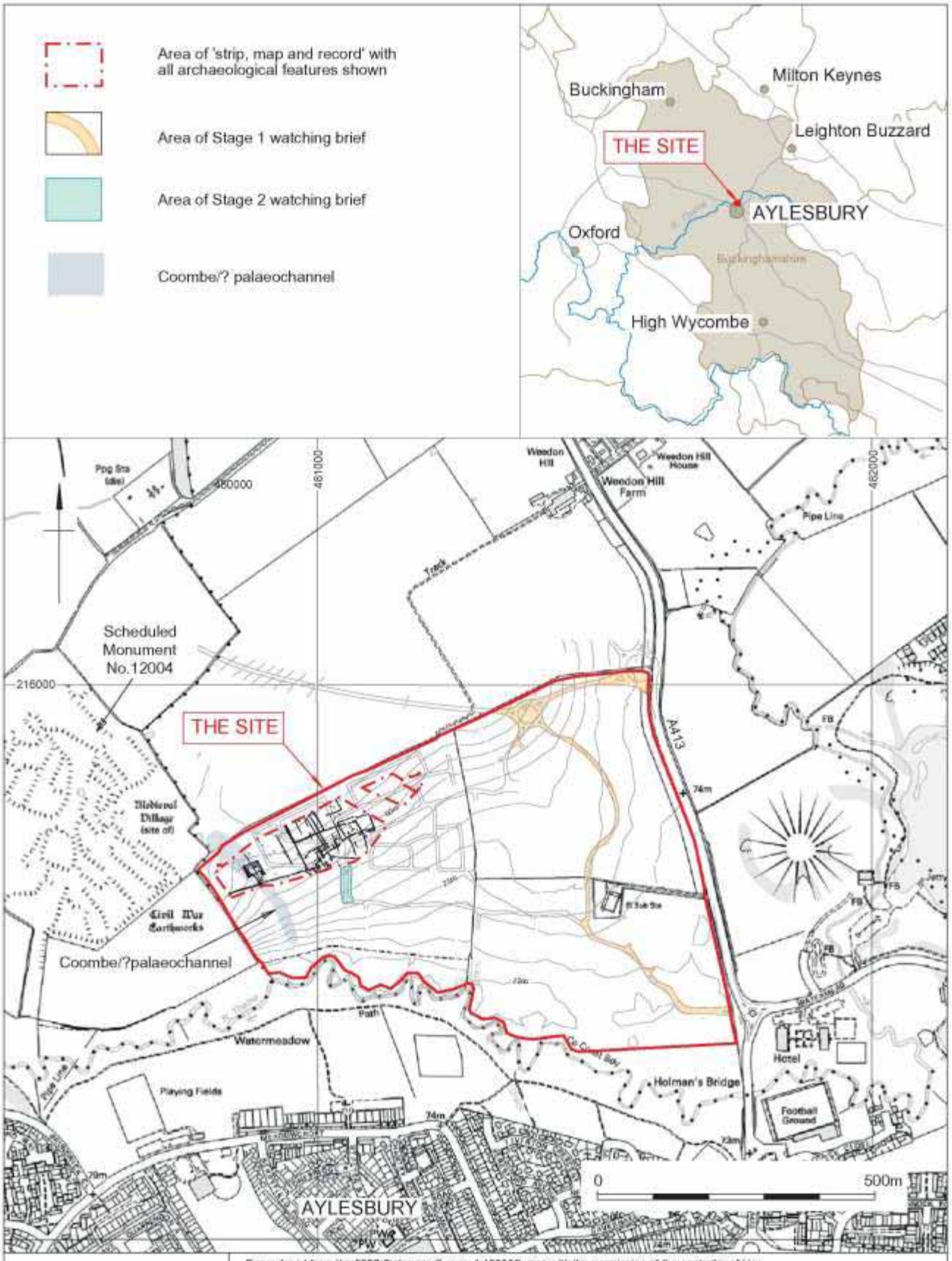
Feature	Context	Sample	Size Litres	Flot Size ml	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Notes	Charcoal > 5:6mm	Residue Charcoal >5:6mm	Analysis
Boundary Ditch 774													
292	293	15	8	5	10	C	-	Indeterminate grain fragments	C	*Avena/Bromus*	C	-	
390	391	20	10	60	80	C	-	Indeterminate grain fragment	B	*Polygonaceae, Chenopodium* (probably modern)	C	-	
390	392	28	8	20	65	C	C	Indeterminate grain fragment and glume fragments	C	*Avena/Bromus*	-	-	**P**
Boundary Ditch 831													
672	671	27	6	15	10	A*	A**	Hulled wheat and barley grain fragments and glume fragments and coleoptiles	A	*Avena/Bromus, Vicia/Lathyrus, Polygonaceae, Poaceae, Galium, Chenopodium*	-	4	**P**
Boundary Ditch 835													
548	549	25	8	3	30	C	-	Indeterminate grain fragments	C	*Poaceae, Chenopodium*	-	-	-
335	339	64	10	5	50	-	B	Hulled wheat glume fragments	A	*Chenopodium* (probably modern)	-	-	-
335	337	65	10	5	65	C	-	Hulled wheat grain fragment	A	*Anthemis cotula, Chenopodium* (probably modern)	-	-	-
335	336	66	10	3	80	C	C	Indeterminate grain fragment, glume base fragment	-	-	-	-	**P**
Ditch 849													
580	581	26	8	5	25	A	A*	Hulled wheat grain fragments and glume fragments	A	*Avena/Bromus, Vicia/Lathyrus, Chenopodium*	-	-	**P**
Enclosure Ditch 844													
627	628	57	10	5	50	-	-	-	A	*Chenopodium* (probably modern)	-	-	-
Pit Group 603													
348	347	62	10	5	50	-	-	-	A	*Eleocharis, Chenopodium* (probably modern)	-	-	-

348	425	63	10	5	50	C	C	Hulled wheat grain fragments and glume fragments	A	*Chenopodium* (probably modern)	-	-	-

Feature	Context	Sample	Size Litres	Flot Size ml	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Notes	Charcoal > 5:6mm	Residue Charcoal >5:6mm	Analysis
Roundhouse 247													
Pit 286	287	9	8	10	15	C	C	Hulled wheat grain and chaff fragments	A	*Vicia/Lathyrus, Polygonaceae, Poaceae, Chenopodium*	C	-	**P**
Gully 267	266	3	10	5	60	C	C	Hulled wheat grain and chaff fragment	A	*Polygonaceae, Tripleurospermum inodorum, Chenopodium* (probably modern)	-	3	**P**
Roundhouse 393													
Pit 410	411	19	8	3	65	-	-	-	C	*Chenopodium* (probably modern)	-	-	-
Gully 364	365	16	10	5	50	C	-	Indeterminate grain fragments	-		-	1	-
Cremation burial vessel fill													
203	204	1	1	2	50	-	C	Glume base fragment	-	-	-	-	-
Oven													
288	289	10	16	120	10	C	C	Indeterminate grain fragment, culm node	A	*Polygonaceae, Chenopodium* (probably modern)	B	2	**P + C**
Tree throw													
489	490	23	10	5	50	-	-	-	C	*Chenopodium* (probably modern)	C	40	-
Undated													
Palaeochannel													
787	808	67	20	2	50	C	C	Indeterminate grain fragment, glume base fragments	-	-	-	-	-

KEY: A***= exceptional, A**= 100-500 items, A* = 30+ items, A = ≥10 items, B = 9 – 5 items, C = < 5 items.

Analysis: C = charcoal, P = plant, M = molluscs, C14 = radiocarbon suggestions



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Site location

Figure 1

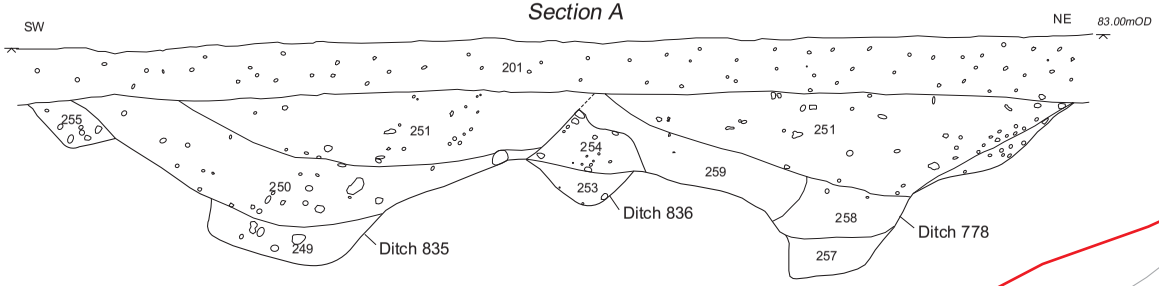


Plate 3. Romano-British cremation burial 203

Plate 1. Aerial view of area of 'strip, map and record' area

Plate 2. Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age building 230

Later prehistoric
Romano-British
Modern disturbance
Coombe/? palaeochannel
Undated
probable Romano-British
Ridge and furrow
Treethrow
Stage 2 watching brief

Wessex Archaeology

Date:	14/05/07	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	Plans @ 1:1250 & 1:500, section @ 1:50	Illustrator:	SEJ
Path:	Y:\PROJECTS\62030\Drawing Office\Report Figures (y-m)\Assessment\07_04\Sitebase.dwg		

Phased plan of the 'strip, map & record' area

Figure 2

Plate 6. Partly excavated possible malting oven 804

Plate 5. Section through posthole of possible building 826

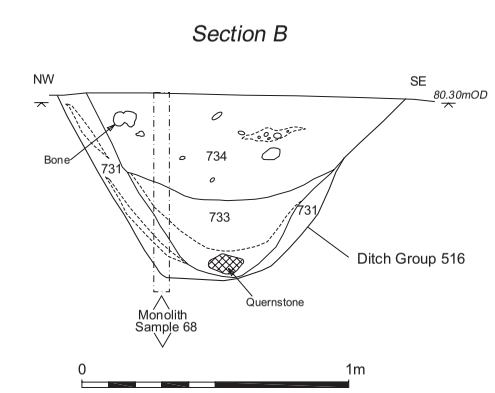


Plate 7. Stone-lined pit 595 fully excavated

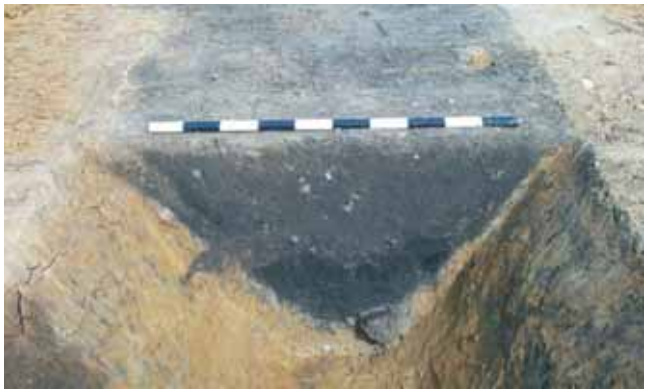


Plate 4. Section through south side of enclosure ditch 516

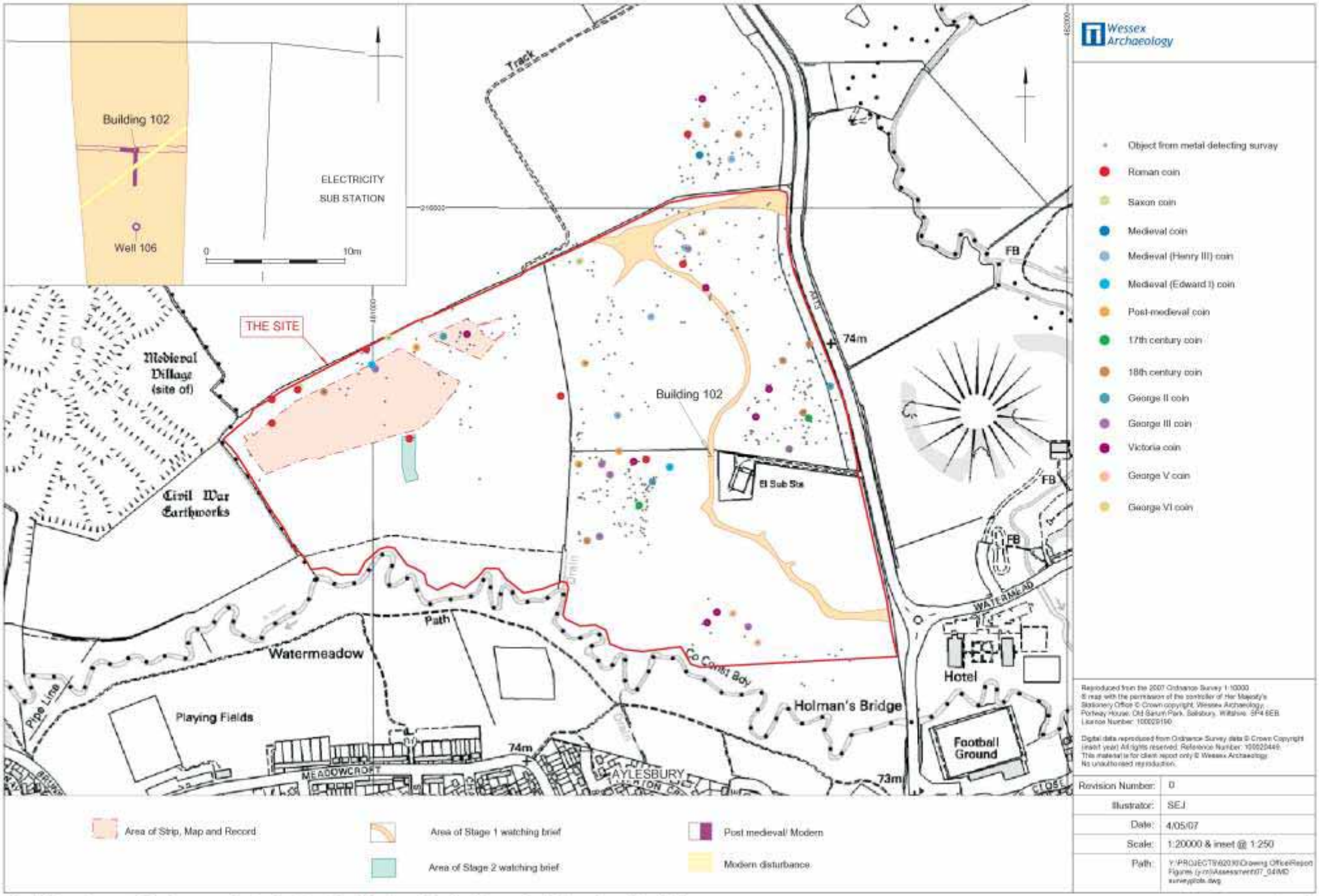
Later prehistoric
Undated
Romano-British
Romano-British stone slabs
Coombe/? palaeochannel

Wessex Archaeology

Date:	4/05/07	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	Plans @ 1:250, section @ 1:20	Illustrator:	SEJ
Path:	Y:\PROJECTS\62030\Drawing Office\Report Figures (y-m)\Assessment\07_04\Sitebase.dwg		

Detailed plan of the Romano-British double-ditched enclosure

Figure 3



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Revision Number:	0
Illustrator:	SEJ
Date:	4/05/07
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Plot of objects from metal detecting survey showing location of dateable coins and detail of features found in Stage 1 watching brief

Figure 4

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