Archaeological Excavations on land between Arthur Baker Playing Field and Ashford Road, Charing, Kent.

Post-Excavation Assessment

Volume 1

NGR Site Centre: TR 595480 149030

Planning Application Number:

14/01486/AS

Report for;

Jenner Ltd

01/03/2022

Document Reference: **01**

SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY

Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company

The Office, School Farm Oast, Graveney Road

Faversham, Kent ME13 8UP

Tel; 01795 532548 or 07885 700 112

info@swatarchaeology.co.uk www.swatarchaeology.co.uk

Archaeological Excavations on land between Arthur Baker Playing Field and Ashford Road, Charing, Kent.

Post-Excavation Assessment

Contents

Tables

Figures

Abstract

An archaeological excavation was undertaken by Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) of land between Arthur Baker Playing Field and Ashford Road, Charing, Kent. The archaeological excavation formed part of a detailed mitigation strategy requested by the Senior Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council Heritage and Conservation in advance of a planning application (14/01486/AS) and all associated works and infrastructure, together with street lighting, landscaping, temporary works access and compounds.

The archaeological investigation detailed within this assessment forms part of a programme of archaeological works associated with the planning application and the planning condition (Condition No.27) mentioned above. The programme has included various stages of archaeological fieldwork. The programme of work aimed to preserve, by record, archaeological features present within the extent of the proposed development site, in areas where archaeological impact was considered high. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification and in discussion with the Senior Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council Heritage and Conservation.

The archaeological excavation undertaken at Charing has recorded multiphased evidence for agrarian, industrial and domestic activity ranging from the Early Bronze Age through to the post-Medieval period. Possible ceremonial practices and a transitional Late Iron Age-early Roman cremation cemetery have also been identified.

This report details the assessment of the 2019 excavation and includes information obtained from the 2018 evaluation (SWAT Archaeology, 2018). Recommendations for further analysis and details of potential publication have been provided within this report. All future works will be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Client and Kent County Council Heritage & Conservation.

Acknowledgements

SWAT Archaeology would like to thank Jenner Ltd for commissioning the project. Thanks, are also extended to Wendy Rogers, Senior Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council Heritage & Conservation, for her advice and assistance.

Contributors

Dan Worsley MA supervised the archaeological fieldwork. Site survey and illustrations were produced by Jonny Madden of Digitise This. This report was designed by David Britchfield BA (Hons) MCIfA, and prepared by Simon Holmes MA and Dan Worsley, and edited by Simon Holmes and Dr Paul Wilkinson MCIfA.

The ceramic analysis and assessment was undertaken by Malcolm Lyne and the worked flint by Chris Butler MCIfA. The registered small finds were assessed by Simon Holmes and the animal bone by Carol White MA. The environmental samples were processed and assessed by Lisa Gray MSc MA ACIfA and the ironstone report was produced by Dr David Dungworth. The inhumation burial by Kent Osteological Research & Analysis (KORA).

Conservation and assessment of the artefacts block-lifted for micro-excavation is currently being undertaken by Dana Goodburn-Brown ACR BA MSc and the cremated human remains are being analysed and assessed by Achaeological Research Services (ARS). Analysis and assessment of the timber is being prepared by Dr Damian Goodburn-Brown.

Archaeological Excavations on land between Arthur Baker Playing Field and Ashford Road, Charing, Kent.

Post-Excavation Assessment

NGR Site Centre: TR 595480 149030

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Swale & Thames Archaeological Survey Company (SWAT) were contracted by Jenner Ltd to conduct a series of archaeological excavations on land between Arthur Baker Playing Field and Ashford Road, Charing, Kent (NGR) TR 595480 149030 (Figure 1). The excavations were conducted under the direction of Dr Paul Wilkinson (SWAT) between February and July 2019 in accordance with requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification (SWAT Archaeology, 2018c) and in discussion with the Senior Archaeological Officer at Kent County Council, Heritage & Conservation (KCCHC).

1.1.2 The Strip, Map and Sample excavation followed an archaeological evaluation (SWAT Archaeology, 2018a and 2018b). The archaeological investigations revealed an extensive archaeological landscape, with the earliest evidence of human activity originating in the Early-Middle Bronze Age. Activity however, peaked during the Late Iron Age and Roman periods, being represented by enclosures, granaries and cremation burials.

1.2 Planning background

1.2.1 An outline planning application (14/01486/AS) for the build of age restricted housing comprising 46 flats within a main building and 5 bungalows and all associated works and infrastructure, together with alterations to landscaping, temporary works access and compounds, was submitted to Ashford Borough Council (ABC) whereby Kent County Council Heritage & Conservation (KCCHC), on behalf of ABC, requested a programme of Archaeological investigations be undertaken in order to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains. In addition, a number of subsequent reserved matters applications and other submissions have been made to the Local Planning Application as the scheme has developed.

1.2.2 The following condition was attached to the planning consent:

No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work, in accordance with a written scheme of investigation and timetable which has been submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority:

Reason: To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded.

(14/01486/AS, Condition 27)

1.2.3 The archaeological investigation detailed within this assessment forms part of a programme of archaeological works associated with the planning application and the planning condition mentioned above. The programme has included various stages of archaeological fieldwork, as set out in Table 1 below.

Item	Event	Date	Contractor	Document Ref.
1	**Specification** – Written Scheme of Investigation for an Evaluation of land between Arthur Baker Playing Field and Ashford Road, Charing, Kent.	2018a	SWAT Archaeology	-
2	**Fieldwork** –Archaeological Evaluation of land between Arthur Baker Playing Field and Ashford Road, Charing, Kent.	2018	SWAT Archaeology	-
3	**Report** - Archaeological Evaluation of land between Arthur Baker Playing Field and Ashford Road, Charing, Kent.	2018b	SWAT Archaeology	-
4	**Specification** – Specification for an Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample of land between Arthur Baker Playing Field and Ashford Road, Charing, Kent.	2018c	SWAT Archaeology	-
5	**Fieldwork** - Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample of land between Arthur Baker Playing Field and Ashford Road, Charing, Kent.	2019	SWAT Archaeology	-
6	**Report** - The Archaeological Strip, Map & Sample Excavations of land between Arthur Baker Playing Field and Ashford Road, Charing, Kent. (**this report**)	2021	SWAT Archaeology	Report Ref: 01

Table 1. *Archaeological Documentation and Events*

1.2.3 A controlled Strip, Map and Sample (SMS) excavation was subsequently agreed (Table 1, Items 4 and 5), which aimed to preserve, by record, archaeological features present within the extent of the proposed development site, in areas where archaeological impact was considered high. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification (SWAT Archaeology, 2018c, Table 1, Item 4) and in discussion with the Senior Archaeological Officer of Kent County Council.

1.2.4 This assessment report details the findings of the Strip, Map and Sample excavation. The results from the Archaeological Evaluation prior to the initial Strip, Map and Sample excavation between October and November 2018, has previously been reported upon (Table 1, Item 3) and is briefly outlined in section 2.

1.3 Site Description and Topography

1.3.1 Charing is located on the south-facing slope of the North Downs and is situated 6.2 miles northwest of Ashford (Figure 1). The development site was on undeveloped pasture, located on the southeast side of the village. To the north and south of the site lies arable farmland. The site is centred on NGR TR 595480 149030.

1.3.2 The overall development site measured approximately 1.13ha in size and is bounded to the north and northwest by housing and the Arthur Baker Playing Field to the northeast. The east and southeast boundaries are formed by mature shrubbery and the 'Alder beds' - an area of local biodiversity comprising wet woodland and meadow. The south and southwest boundaries are formed by the A20 Ashford Road. The development site also lies approximately 900 metres southwest of the Pilgrims' Way. The development site covered an area measuring approximately 9000 sqm (0.9ha.).

1.3.3 Current information from the British Geological Survey (BGS) identifies the geology of the development site as being West Melbury Marly Chalk, Formation-Chalk with Superficial Deposits of Head Clay and Silt, Sand and Gravel. Ground levels within the development site varied between approximately 89.98m aOD and 92.30m aOD (above Ordnance Datum).

1.3.4 Due to the proximity of a naturally occurring spring line, the site was susceptible to flooding.

Are	*Size (sqm)*	*Date Started*	*Date Completed*	*Supervisor (see Section 4.42)*
1	1527	February 2019	March 2019	DW
2	2189	June 2019	July 2019	DW
3	4115	March 2019	June 2019	DW
4	1186	June 2019	July 2019	DW

Table 2. *Areas of Archaeological Investigation*

1.3.5 The Strip, Map and Sample excavation comprised a total of four areas, as shown on Figure 2 and listed in Table 2 above. The areas were not excavated in numerical order; each area being staggered to facilitate the development Masterplan, the results of which are detailed in this report.

1.4 Scope of the Post-Excavation Assessment Report

1.4.1 In accordance with the generic KCCHC Specification Manual Part B Mitigation – Strip, map and Sample (Kent County Council, 2015), this report comprises a summary of the project background (Section 1), the archaeological background (Section 2) and the project aims (Section 3). Generic and specific methodologies are detailed in Section 4, a stratigraphic assessment in Section 5 followed by the assessment of all archaeological finds and materials in Section 6.

1.4.2 An archaeological narrative section 7, then provides a chronological overview followed by statements of potential recommendation for further analysis and publication in Sections 8-11. Volume 2 of this assessment includes all Apendices and Plates.

1.4.3 Figure 1 shows the location of the site while Figure 2 provides an overall site plan, with a key to the various Areas of excavation and their corresponding numbers. Figure 3 shows all of the archaeological features encountered during the investigation of the site with links to phased detailed plans (Figures 4-12). The figures provide a Graphical Representation of each phase (Phases 1-9) which supports the chronological site narrative provided in Section 7.

1.4.4 At the time of writing this assessment, work on the assessment of the human cremated remains is continuing, as are the conservation and timber reports.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 There is a rich and complex archaeology and history surrounding Charing, therefore only recent archaeological work in the parish and a selection of entries from the Kent Historical Environment Record (Kent HER) are included here.

2.2 Historic Environment Record (HER)

2.2.1 The landscape and land use surrounding Charing has been dedicated to arable farming and a series of quarries for sand extraction. Many of the quarries are historical, appearing on the current Ordnance Survey as disused pits and sand pits. Archaeological investigations within the area are numerous, therefore only a selection are included here.

2.2.2 Early prehistoric activity, includes worked flint, ranging in date from the Mesolithic to the Bronze Age at Leda Cottages, Westwell (Diez and Booth, 2006) and features of Late Neolithic-Early Bronze Age date at Burleigh Farm, Charing (Castle, 2013), Brett Aggregates quarry, Hook Lane, Charing (Douglas, 2014) and Hurst Wood, Charing Heath (Oxford Archaeology, 1999).

2.2.3 The later prehistoric is also represented by features within Brett Aggregates quarry at Hook Lane (Priestley-Bell, 1999) and evidence of a Mid-Late Iron Age field system comprising a series of ditches and other features possibly associated with this field system were also present there (Douglas, ibid).

2.2.4 Late Iron Age activity is represented by two enclosures (c. 10-75 AD) north of Swan Street, at Brett's Farm (Philp, 1992). Philp suggests the existence, over an area of at least 4-6 acres of a rural farmstead established in the Late Pre-Roman Iron Age (LPRIA). Priestly-Bell (ibid) also identified further elements of the same Late Iron Age farmstead and a field system at Tile Lodge Farm, Charing. Features within another LPRIA settlement at Leda Cottages, Westwell, comprised four-post granary structures (Diez and Booth, ibid).

2.2.5 Douglas (ibid) also encountered the same field system, identified by Philp and Priestly-Bell, at Hook Lane. Within this landscape at Hook Lane were iron smelting pits and cremations, dated to the Late Iron Age-early Roman period.

2.2.6 Evidence for iron industrial activities involving furnaces have also been encountered at Hurst Wood (Wessex Archaeology, 1997), Tile Lodge Farm (Priestly-Bell, ibid) and Leda Cottages,

Westwell (Diez and Booth, ibid), and evidence, though ephemeral, of quarrying iron pan, was encountered east of Pluckley Road (MoLAS, 1997b).

2.2.7 Activity continued within the Charing area post-Conquest. Early Roman settlement has been recorded at Leda Cottages, Westwell, where the LPRIA enclosure ditches were re-cut and 'a second rectangular enclosure was dug, possibly in the second half of the 1st century AD, respecting the alignment of the earlier one, which was therefore probably still in use' (Diez and Booth, ibid), and part of the early Roman population within the Charing area is represented by a small cremation cemetery, dating from the middle of the second century, approximately 1km south-west of Charing (Philp, ibid).

2.2.8 Roman field systems have been noted at Tile Lodge Farm (Priestley-Bell, ibid), east of Newlands (MoLAS, 1997a) and east of Pluckley Road (MoLAS, 1997b). Other Roman features, including a pit at Hurst Wood (Oxford Archaeology, ibid), Burleigh Farm (Castle, ibid) and a metalled road at Newlands (MoLAS, 1997a and 1999) and Pluckley Road (MoLAS, 1997b).

2.2.9 Roman activity does not appear to extend beyond the late third century AD, and there would seem to be a hiatus in archaeological activity until the late twelfth century AD.

2.2.10 An early medieval field system, comprising a droveway and a series of enclosures at Hook Lane, Charing, contained pottery indicative of a domestic household dating to between AD 1175- 1225 (Douglas, ibid) and another field system was encountered east of Pluckley (MoLAS, 1997b). Other medieval features include pits at Burleigh Farm (Castle, ibid) and east of Newlands (MoLAS, 1997a).

2.2.11 Post-medieval features within the Charing area include field systems, also recored east of Pluckley (MoLAS, 1997b) and pits at Burleigh Farm (Castle, ibid) and east of Newlands (MoLAS, 1997a). Post-Medieval pits, ditches and gullies, associated with agriculture have also been recorded at Brockton Farm, Charing (Oxford Archaeology, 1998). Douglas (ibid) also encountered Post-Medieval brickearth extraction, probably for use at the nearby kiln at Tile Lodge Farm.

2.2.12 In addition, and according to the Historic Environment Record (HER), features and buildings within the vicinity the site include:

North of the development site:

- The Archbishop's Palace (TQ 94 NE 236), Gatehouse (TQ 94 NE 198) and Boundary Wall (TQ 94 NE 168).
- The Church of St Peter & St Paul (TQ 94 NE 99).
- Medieval Barn (TQ 94 NE 31).
- The Moat House (TQ 94 NE 202) and moat (TQ 94 NE 23).

East of the development site:

- Bronze Age burial (TQ 94 NE 10).
- Roman building (TQ 94 NE 24) and building materials (TQ 94 NE 35).
- Ruins of a Chapel (TQ 94 NE 137).

2.3 Recent investigations in the area

2.3.1 Canterbury Archaeological Trust (CAT) carried out a Strip, Map and Sample excavation in 2016 at Burleigh Farm, Tile Lodge Road, Charing Heath; approximately 2.85km northwest of the Proposed Development Area (PDA).

2.3.2 The CAT excavation also revealed a multi-period landscape; 'Prehistoric activity comprised an assemblage of late Mesolithic worked flint with potential associated occupation, and early to mid Neolithic, late Bronze Age to early Iron Age, and mid to late Iron Age features, including ditches, pits and a potential sunken-featured building, as well as a probable plough-damaged Bronze Age hoard. Late Iron Age to early Roman activity comprised a boundary ditch and track or drove-way, charcoal rich pits and a large sub-rectangular feature. During the early Roman period these features were superseded by new boundary ditches and an associated track or drove-way, along with post-holes, refuse pits, and a limekiln. Placed deposits within some pits, evidence for iron smelting, and a plough-damaged coin hoard (dated AD 64- 85) were also recorded. Roman activity did not appear to date later than the mid second century AD, and a hiatus in archaeological features continued until the early thirteenth century AD, represented by a sequence of boundary ditches which formed the west-side of a rectangular enclosure surrounding a contemporary farm and adjacent chantry chapel, the remains of which still survive today. Post-Medieval to modern features reflected a general continuity from the

medieval land use and included former field boundary ditches illustrated on a manorial map dated 1639, pits, post-holes, a masonry footing or drain, and a metalled yard associated with the Chantry Farm. To the east, contemporary activity, including a brick-lined well, and horticultural pits, represented activity fronting Tile Lodge Road' (Wilson and Helm, 2018).

2.3.3 Jenner Ltd commissioned SWAT Archaeology to undertake an evaluation (SWAT Archaeology 2018, Table 1, Items 2-4 incl.) between October and November 2018 within the proposed development area. The evaluation comprised 21 trenches, having lengths between 15m and 25m, representing approximately a 7.5% sample of the Proposed Development Area.

2.3.4 The evaluation revealed a multi-period landscape represented by a network of linear features and pits. Three cremation burials, including a secondary internment, were dated to the Late Pre-Roman Iron Age and early Roman periods.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Primary Aims

3.1.1 The primary objectives of the excavation were to identify, excavate and record any significant archaeological remains present, which were under threat by the development as a contribution to knowledge of the archaeological and historical development of Charing.

3.1.2 The aims of this archaeological investigation were therefore (not exclusively):

- to understand the character, form, function and date of any other archaeological remains on the site. The investigation should include analysis of the spatial organisation of activities on the site during this period through examination of the distribution of artefactual and environmental assemblages;
- to assist in the understanding of the prehistoric and Roman occupation of Charing through examination of the date, form and character of the site in the context of its topographical position and that of other similarly dated findings within the area and beyond.

3.2 Project Specific Objectives

3.2.1 As well as general objectives, several project specific questions have been raised, as detailed within the KCCHC Manual Specifications Part B, Mitigation - Strip, Map and Sample requirements (Kent County Council, 2015):

- *Establish a broad phased plan of the archaeology revealed following the stripping of the site;*
- *Provide a refined chronology of the archaeological phasing;*
- *Investigate the function of remains and the activities taking place within and close to the site.*
- *to understand the character, form, function and date of any archaeological activities present on the site;*
- *to include analysis of the spatial organisation of such activities on the site through examination of the distribution of artefactual and environmental assemblages;*
- *to consider the site's geology and topography in terms of the activity encountered;*
- *to understand the nature of any Prehistoric activity at the site and to relate this to existing findings from the Charing area;*
- *to understand the nature of any Romano-British activity at the site and to relate this to existing findings from the Charing area;*
- *to understand the nature of any Medieval activity and relate this to past findings from the Charing area*
- *to place any remains exposed in their wider setting and contribute to our understanding of the history of the Borough of Ashford;*
- *to contributing to the environmental and landscape history of the area; and*
- *to contribute to the objectives of the South East Regional Research Framework.*

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 One 13 ton 360° tracked mechanical excavator, fitted with a flat bladed ditching bucket was used to remove overlying topsoil and subsoil deposits to expose the underlying natural geology and archaeological horizon. Overlying deposits were removed in spits of *c.*100mm thickness under constant archaeological supervision. Machined deposits were examined, and any artefacts were bagged by context.

4.1.2 A site grid was established using a Total Station by the SWAT Archaeology Surveyor and tied to the National Grid. On completion of targeted hand-cleaning, a site plan was produced at a scale of 1:100. Spray paint line marker was used to mark the edges of unexcavated features prior to mapping. Levels were taken across the site prior to excavation of archaeological features and added to the site plan.

4.1.3 The broad sampling strategy implemented across the site, in agreement with the Senior Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council, can be summarised as follows:

- All targeted archaeological features were hand-cleaned prior to excavation in order to more clearly define edges and relationships in plan.
- Sections were excavated at all intersections between mapped archaeological features to clarify stratigraphic relationships and inform the overall phasing of the site.
- Slots were excavated across linear ditch features at appropriate intervals (between 2m and 4m as appropriate) measuring no less than 1m in length. All terminal ends of features were investigated through appropriately sized interventions.
- All discrete features including pits and post-holes were half-sectioned at a minimum. Where necessary, features were fully excavated to facilitate retrieval of datable artefacts and/or environmental samples.
- Charred and cremated deposits or potential 'placed deposits' were 100% excavated.

4.1.4 A number of urned and un-urned cremations were identified during the initial cleaning and excavation phases. All cremation deposits were excavated in accordance with the methodology outlined in Section 8.6-10 of the KCCHC Manual of Specifications Part B. All deposits were 100% excavated and recorded as single contexts. A burial licence was also obtained.

4.1.5 All artefacts recovered during the excavations were bagged and marked by context. Bulk finds were bagged together by context and small-finds were individually bagged by context and their locations recorded in three-dimensions using a Total Station. Finds were treated in accordance with Section 9 of the KCCHC Manual of Specifications Part B and current National Guidelines.

4.1.6 Grave assemblages and groups of objects associated with the cremations were block-lifted in accordance with Dana Goodburn-Brown ACR BA MSc, acting conservation consultant for SWAT Archaeology.

4.1.7 An environmental sampling strategy was implemented across the site, in consultation with the Senior Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council, and Lisa Gray MSc MA ACIfA, environmental consultant for SWAT Archaeology (Gray, 2018a). Soil samples were collected from all contexts in which faunal or botanical remains were clearly identifiable and from contexts with significant stratigraphic relationships, as well as representative samples taken from across the excavated features. Samples were collected in clean

sample bags and labelled with context numbers, dates, method of retrieval and sample numbers for processing off-site.

4.2 Monitoring

4.2.1 Curatorial monitoring was made available to Wendy Rogers, (Senior Archaeological Officer) at Kent County Council Heritage & Conservation, throughout the archaeological investigation. Site visits were undertaken, and weekly update reports were maintained and submitted by the site supervisor.

4.3 Recording

4.3.1 All features, deposits and finds were recorded in accordance with accepted professional standards and in line with the KCCHC Manual of Specifications Part B. The following broad recording strategy was followed:

- All archaeological contexts were recorded individually on SWAT Archaeology context record sheets.
- All excavated sections were drawn on polyester drawing film at a scale of 1:10 and fully labelled with context numbers and other appropriate recording numbers and levelled with respect to m. OD.
- Features were planned at a scale of 1:20, labelled and levelled with respect to m. OD. All archaeological interventions including linear slots, intercutting relationship slots and half-sections were also marked on the overall site plan.
- Registers of contexts, small finds, environmental samples, site drawings and photographs were maintained and monitored by the site supervisor.
- A full photographic record including digital photographs was maintained; all excavated sections and features were photographed pre and post-excavation, and a selection of working and site photos were also taken.
- In general, multi-context recording was adopted across the site, however single-context recording was completed for deposits/features considered to be possible placed deposits or cremations.

4.3.2 The current site archive consists of the site records and digital photographs, the evaluation report and associated records, and all artefacts and flots/residues obtained from environmental sampling. Following approval of this report by KCCHC Heritage & Conservation, the archive will be ordered in line with current National Standards and

deposited with a suitable local museum, in agreement with KCCHC and the receiving body. The archive is currently held in SWAT Archaeology Offices, School Farm Oast, Faversham.

4.4 Project timetable, project management and staff structure

Team composition and organisation

4.4.1 As the archaeological contractor for this project, SWAT Archaeology appointed freelance field archaeologists and sub-contracting archaeological units as demand required (see below). As a minimum, the Project Manager/Site Supervisor maintained a constant presence on site during the course of the archaeological fieldwork. Additional staff were called upon as and when required, dependent on timescales/deadlines and the frequency of archaeological deposits encountered.

4.4.2 The core SWAT archaeological team were:

- Project Director – Dr Paul Wilkinson (SWAT Archaeology)
- Project Manager/Site Supervisor – Dan Worsley MA (Freelance Archaeologist)
- GIS/TST Surveyor/CAD draughtsman – Jonny Madden (Digitise This)

4.4.3 All staff were fully qualified, inducted in health & safety protocols/procedures and fully briefed on the archaeological background and potential of the site, as well as SWAT procedures. All archaeological teams worked to a standardised system, were consistently managed and were fully briefed on their responsibilities and duties before commencing work.

4.4.4 The Project Director was Dr Paul Wilkinson (SWAT Archaeology). He was responsible for the implementation of the Archaeological Project Design, assisted by the site-based Project Supervisor, and had overall responsibility for the archaeological project. He liaised directly with the Principal Contractor and was responsible for the submission of weekly progress reports, interim reports and Post-Excavation programmes. He was primarily office-based and attended progress and monitoring meetings; made site visits and provided support in the field as and when required.

4.4.5 The Project Manager/Site Supervisor was Dan Worsley MA (Freelance Archaeologist). He liaised directly with the Principal Contractors and was responsible for supervising the landscape recording element of the Archaeological Design, including the work of the

survey team and maintenance of the Project GIS, and the day-to-day supervision of the field archaeologists. He was also responsible for the creation of weekly progress reports. He was primarily site-based, attended progress meetings with the Principal Contractors, the Senior Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council Heritage and Conservation, and provided support in the field.

5 RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The following section presents a stratigraphic summary of the investigations and is integrated with key specialist material. Features of all periods are shown in Figures 4-12 with a selection of plates at the end of Volume 2, provided to support the text.

5.1.2 The assessment is set out in chronological order and assesses the stratigraphic results of the archaeological excavations. A site-wide chronological overview, or Archaeological Narrative, is included in Section 9. A statement of the stratigraphic potential is given in Section 10. Volume 2 of this assessment contains the Appendices, which include supplementary raw data associated with the ceramic and environmental assessments, along with the plates.

5.1.3 As part of the of the post-excavation process, Group Numbers (i.e., G1000) have been assigned to features where multiple interventions were required. Group Numbers have all been attributed to individual context numbers during the post-excavation process. A list of Group Numbers and associated context numbers is provided as Appendix 2 (Volume 2).

5.2 Chronological periods represented

5.2.1 The different phases described below are discernable primarily from stratigraphic relationships and by spatial relationships between the features, with some groups broadly respecting each other, or otherwise displaying some clear functional relationship, while other groups cut across each other indicating the replacement of one arrangement by another. Within some phases there were clear modifications in landscape organisation, but in many cases the sub-phases cannot be identified, or more precisely dated, at this stage.

5.2.2 Eight chronological phases have been recorded as part of this assessment, ranging from the Early Bronze Age (Phase 1) to the Post-Medieval (Phase 8). Phase 9 has been included for consistency and contains all features that currently remain undated. Table 3, below, summarises the assigned periods.

5.3 Natural deposits and soil sequences

5.3.1 A common stratigraphic sequence was recognised across the site comprising topsoil/overburden overlying reworked mottled subsoil comprising moderately compacted mid-dark brown silty loam. The subsoil contrasted well with the underlying geology of West Melbury Marly Chalk, Formation-Chalk with Superficial Deposits of Head Clay and Silt, Sand and Gravel.

Phase No.	***Chronological Period***	***Dates***
1	Early Bronze Age (EBA)	*c.* 2000-1550 BC
2	Middle Bronze Age (MBA)	*c.* 1550 - 1350 BC
3	Late Bronze Age (LBA)	*c.* 1350 - 1150 BC
4	Mid-Late Iron Age (MLIA)	*c.* 1150 – 100 BC
5	Late Iron Age & Post-Conquest Transition	*c.* 100 BC - 50 AD
6	Roman (R)	*c.* 43 - 410 AD
7	Medieval (M)	*c.* 1066 - 1550 AD
8	Post-Medieval (PM)	*c.* 1550 – 1900 AD
9	Undated (U)	-

Table 3 Chronological Periods used for this Assessment.

5.4 Stratigraphic assessment

PHASE 1 – Early Bronze Age (Figure 4)

5.4.1 The earliest evidence of activity on the development site is Early Bronze Age and was located against the north-eastern periphery of the development site, within Areas 2 and 4. Archaeological remains associated with Phase 1 comprised a series of pits.

5.4.2 Groups and individual features associated with Phase 1 are described below;

5.4.3 A group (G5000) comprising three pits within close proximity to each other, was situated within Area 2.

5.4.4 Pit [2530] was an ovate shaped feature, with a northeast-southwest alignment. It had a length of 1.10m, a width of 0.63m, a depth of 0.21m and contained a backfill (2529) <147> of mid grey-brown silty clay containing occasional flint. Pottery recovered from the backfill has been dated c. 2000-1500 BC.

5.4.5 Pit [2644] had been truncated. It had a surviving length of 1.67m, a width of 0.95m and a depth of 0.19m. The backfill (2644) comprised mid grey-brown clayey silt containing occasional flint, worked flint, animal bone and pottery dated c. 2000-1500 BC.

5.4.6 Pit [2666] was an ovate shaped feature, with a northwest-southeast alignment. It had a length of 1.60m, a width of 0.21m and a depth of 0.13m. The backfill (2665) comprised mid grey-brown clayey silt containing flint, undated worked flint, fired clay and pottery dated c. 2000-1500 BC.

5.4.7 A second group (G5001), also comprising three pits, was situated within Area 4.

5.4.8 Pit [2699] had been truncated. It had a northeast-southwest alignment and a surviving length of 0.81m, a width of 0.58m and a depth of 0.20m. The backfill (2698) comprised light-mid grey-brown silty clay containing frequent flint and pottery dated c. 2000-1700 BC.

5.4.9 Pit [2725] had a circular shape, a diameter of 1.30m and a depth of 0.09m. The backfill (2724) comprised very dark brown-black silty clay containing frequent flint and pottery dated c. 2000 -1500 BC.

5.4.10 Pit [2727] also had a circular shape. It had a diameter of 1m, a depth of 0.25m and also contained very dark brown-black silty clay containing frequent flint and pottery dated c. 2000 -1500 BC.

PHASE 2 – Middle Bronze Age (Figure 5)

5.4.11 The Middle Bronze Age phase of activity comprised a single pit within the same area as the group of pits within Area 2 and a single pit within the same area of Area 4. Therefore, there would seem to have been a relationship between the features belonging to Phase 1.

5.4.12 Pit [2642] was situated within Area 2 and truncated Phase 1 pit [2644]. It had an ovate shape, a north-south alignment, and a length of 1.80m, a width of 1m and a depth of 0.20m. The backfill (2640) comprised dark grey-brown clayey silt containing occasional flint and pottery dated c. 1700-1150 BC.

5.4.13 Pit [2781] was situated within Area 4. It had a circular shape and a diameter of 1.37m and a depth of 0.37m. The pit contained a secondary layer of backfill (2779) comprising dark brown clayey silt containing moderate flint and pottery dated c. 1700-1150 BC, and a primary layer of backfill (2780) comprising orange-grey-brown silty clay containing moderate flint and animal bone.

PHASE 3 – Late Bronze Age (Figure 6)

5.4.14 The Late Bronze Age phase of activity comprised a group (G5002) of 2 post holes and a pit, concentrated within the same area of Area 4 as the features belonging to phases 1 and 2, implying that there may have been a continued correlation between the features.

5.4.15 Post Hole [2768] was an ovate shaped feature, with a north-south alignment. It had a length of 0.35m, a width of 0.21m and a depth of 0.17m. The backfill (2767) comprised dark brown silty clay containing occasional flint and pottery dated c. 1350-1150 BC.

5.4.16 Post Hole [2770] had a circular shape, a diameter of 0.40m and a depth of 0.18m. The backfill (2769) comprised light grey-brown silty clay containing occasional flint and pottery dated c. 1350-1150 BC.

5.4.17 Pit [2799] had an ovate shape, with a northeast-southwest alignment. The southwest end had been truncated. It had a surviving length of 0.82m, a width of 0.48m and a depth of 0.28m. The pit contained a secondary layer of backfill (2797) comprising mid brown clayey silt containing occasional flint and pottery dated c. 1350-1150 BC, and a primary layer of backfill (2798) comprising mottled light yellow and mid brown clayey silt containing frequent flint.

PHASE 4 – Mid-Late Iron Age (Figure 7)

5.4.18 The site witnessed an increase in activity in the area during the Mid-Late Iron Age phase, as there was an increase in the number of features present and spread more widely across the site. Archaeological remains associated with Phase 4 comprised a number of pits and two linear features. A furnace, situated within Area 2 may also have been associated with this phase.

5.4.19 Linear feature (G5003) was situated in Area 2, had a slight northeast-southwest alignment, a length of 9.70m, a width of 0.37m and a depth that varied between 0.04m and 0.13m. The backfill comprised mid-dark grey-brown silty clay containing frequent flint and rounded pebbles. Pottery recovered has been described as MIA.

5.4.20 Linear feature (G5004) was situated within Area 3, had a northwest-southeast alignment, a length of 18m, a width of 0.70m and a maximum depth of 0.29m. The backfill comprised mid grey-brown silty clay containing moderate flint, occasional charcoal and produced an iron artefact and pottery that provided a date range of c. 500-0 BC.

5.4.1 Pit [1060] was situated within Area 2, had an ovate shape and a slight northeast-southwest alignment. It had a length of 1.30m, a width of 1.05, a depth of 0.12m and contained two layers of backfill. The secondary layer comprised charcoal containing occasional flint and pottery described as MIA. The primary layer comprised mottled very light grey, dark grey-brown and orange-brown silty, sandy clay containing occasional charcoal and manganese.

5.4.2 Pit [1505] was situated within Area 3, had an ovate shape, an east-west alignment, and a length of 0.96m, a width of 0.53m and a depth of 0.16m. The backfill comprised dark brown silt containing frequent flint and produced animal bone. The ceramic assemblage produced a date range of c. 600 BC-50 AD.

5.4.3 Pit [1867] also situated within Area 3, had an ovate shape and a northwest-southeast alignment. It had a length of 0.80m, a width of 0.38m, a depth of 0.09m and contained brown silty clay with frequent flint and pottery datec c. 300 BC-0.

5.4.4 Pit [2142] was also situated within Area 3. It had an elongated shape, a northwest-southeast alignment and a length of 2.20m, a width of 0.61m, a depth of of 0.18m and contained two layers of backfill. The secondary layer comprised mid brown silty clay containing animal bone. A copper alloy brooch (SF: 25) and pottery produced a date range of c. 25 BC-70 AD. The primary layer comprised mottled yellow and grey-brown sandy clay containing occasional flint and pottery dated c. 300 BC-0.

5.4.5 Pit [2584] situated within Area 2, had a circular shape, a diameter of 0.80m and a depth of 0.25m. The backfill comprised mid brown clayey silt containing occasional small chalk pieces and residual Palaeolithic worked flint. Pottery produced a date range of c. 300 BC-0.

5.4.6 Pit [2664] was also situated within Area 2. It had an irrular ovate shape, a slight northeast-southwest alignment, a length of 2m, a maximum width of 1m and a depth of 0.16m. The backfill comprised dark grey-brown clayey silt containing occasional flint, residual Early Neolithic worked flint and animal bone. The backfill also contained a mineralisation interpreted as a by product of an industrial activity. The pottery assemblage produced a date range of c. 300 BC-50 AD. The pit was also situated immediately south of a furnace.

5.4.7 The furnace [2631] (**Plate 1**) comprised a large oval with a D-shaped northwest section. The interior had a burnt base (the naturally occuring clay) and a purpose-built baked clay wall, that survived to a height of 0.28m. The intensity of the heat penertrated the surrounding natural geology for a distance of 0.39m. The backfill comprised mottled red and black clayey silt containing frequent iron slag, fired clay structural fragments and occasional burnt flint. The close proximity of pit [2664] containing the by product from industrial activity may, therefore, have a direct and contemporaneous relationship with the furnace. A small number of iron objects were found in the flot of furnace [2631] primary fill (sample <155>).

PHASE 5 – Late Iron Age & Post-Conquest Transition (Figure 8)

5.4.8 Phase 5 incorporates the features of the Late Pre-Roman Iron Age (LPRIA) and those features that existed immediately prior to and to features that appeared immediately after the Roman conquest in AD 43. The LPRIA (Millett, 1990) refers to the period within Britain when socio-economic and political influences from Romanized Gaul were exerting themselves amongst the Late Iron Age population of the British Isles. Visible manifestations included changes to the structure and organisation of the landscape, especially within the southern and southeastern counties, and an ever increasing number of imported goods from mainland Europe, primarily the Roman provinces of Gaul, Germany and Spain. The coinage, having been adopted c. 100 BC was also increasing in popularity and was being exchanged well beyond the boundaries of the chiefdoms producing it.

5.4.9 Therefore, this phase spans a period based on a date range c. 50 BC-50 AD +/- 20 years. The aim, is to interpret the activities taking place on the site before the conquest and during the transition and to identify those features influenced by pre-conquest activities and remained in use, and those then influenced by the new Roman administration during the early conquest period.

5.4.10 It was possible to form this slightly later sub-division within the Late Iron Age and early Roman periods, as the features described below contained a greater percentage of pre-Roman material, usually spanning the c. 50 BC-50 AD +/- 20 date range. Later, Roman material recovered from the features, can be interpreted as either intrusive or originating from the final phases of the backfilling of dis-used features.

5.4.11 During this phase the site underwent a considerable transformation, representing changes to the structure and organisation of the landscape. Chief amongst the transitional features present were two enclosures and a trackway. A large partially enclosed open space, djacent to the enclosures may have been used as a field. The trackway was situated across one of the enclosures and led into this open space. The second enclosure contained three timber post built buildings; one, a four post construct, and two comprising twelve posts and beam slots.

5.4.12 Other archaeological remains associated with this phase comprised a number of linear features, pits and a cremation burial.

Enclosure One

5.4.13 The enclosure extended into the development site from the southeast. The section observed suggests that it may have had a rectangular shape. The enclosure had a northwest-southeast orientation and comprised two continuous and one segmented linear feature, enclosing a space of approximately 2165sqm.

5.4.14 The ditch, forming the northeast boundary (G5005) had a length of 46m, an average width of 1m and a depth of 0.50m. It had a wide and undulating U-shaped profile and contained three layer of backfill. The tertiary layer comprised mid brown sandy, silty clay containing occasional flint and produced a mixed pottery assemblage dated c. 25 BC-200 AD. The secondary layer comprised dark brown silty clay also containing flint. The primary layer comprised dark brown silty clay and contained occasional flint, chalk flecks and producd pottery dated c. 25 BC-70 AD.

5.4.15 The ditch, forming the southwest boundary (G5006) had a length of 33m, and also had an average width of 1m and an average depth of 0.50m. It had a V-shaped profile and also contained three layers of backfill. The tertiary layer comprised dark grey-brown silty clay containing fequent flint, chalk flecks, iron slag, animal bone and produced a mixed pottery assemblage dated c. 25 BC-200 AD. The secondary layer comprised mottled light brown and

orange-brown silty clay also containing flint, chalk flecks, plus animal bone and frequent charcoal and also produced a pottery assemblage dated c. 25 BC-200 AD. The primary layer comprised very light grey silty clay and contained frequent chalk pieces and pottery dated c. 25 BC-70 AD.

5.4.16 The ditch, forming the northwest boundary (G5007) comprised three segments, one of which was an overlap of the northwest ditch of Enclosure Two. The arrangement of the segments created a series of openings along the combined length and an entrance at the northwest end of the trackway. Combined, the segments formed a total length of 45m, had an average width of 1.10m, an average depth of 0.40m and had a wide undulating U-shaped profile. Each segment contained two layers of backfill comprising a secondary layer of light grey-brown silty clay containing occasional flint, chalk flecks and pottery dated c. 50 BC-70 AD. The primary layer comprised light grey silt that also contained flint, chalk flecks and very frequent mollusc.

5.4.17 Two continuous, parallel linear features, within the southern half of the enclosure, formed the trackway (G5008). Also aligned northwest-southeast, the trackway had a width of 5m and terminated next the the western corner of the enclosure and in front of an entrance, formed by the segmented northwest boundary.

5.4.18 The north ditch of the trackway was considerably larger and slightly longer than its southern counterpart. It had a length of 40m, an average width of 1.70m and an average depth of 0.55m. It had a V-shaped profile and contained two layers of backfill. The secondary layer comprised mid grey-brown silty clay containing occasional flint, chalk flecks, charcoal, animal bone, worked flint and pottery dated c. 50 BC-150 AD. The primary layer comprised mottled orange-brown and grey silty clay also containing flint, chalk flecks, charcoal, worked flint and pottery dated c. 50 BC-70 AD.

5.4.19 The south ditch had a length of 36m, an average width of 0.65m and an average depth of 0.18m. It had a wide and shallow U-shaped profile and contained a backfill comprising mid grey-brown silty clay that contained occasional flint, animal bone and pottery dated c 50 BC-70 AD.

5.4.20 Situated within the northeast corner of the enclosure were a number of pits (G5009).

5.4.21 Pit [2710] had an ovate shape, an east-west alignment and had a length of 0.70m, a width of 0.45m and a depth of 0.15m. The backfill (2709) comprised mottled dark brown-black and

grey silty clay that contained frequent burnt flint, fired clay and produced pottery dated c. 25 BC-70 AD.

5.4.22 Pit [2733] had a circular shape, a diameter of 1.06m, a depth of 0.26m and contained two layers of backfill. The secondary layer (2731) comprised mid grey-brown silty clay that contained pottery dated c. 100 BC-50 AD. The primary layer (2732) comprised mottled mid brown and light grey sandy, silty clay containing frequent flint and chalk flecks.

5.4.23 Pit [2735] had an irregular ovate shape, a northeast-southwest alignment and had a length of 1.20m, a width of 0.60m and a depth of 0.18m. The backfill (2734) comprised mottled dark brown-black and light brown silty clay that contained frequent flint, chalk flecks, occasional animal bone and produced pottery dated c. 25 BC-70 AD.

5.4.24 Pit [2772] had an ovate shape, a northwest-southeast alignment and had a length of 0.60m, a width of 0.38m and a depth of 0.17m. The backfill (2771) comprised dark brown silty clay that contained occasional flint, chalk flecks and produced pottery dated c. 50 BC-70 AD.

5.4.25 Pit [2784]/[2232] had an ovate shape, a north -south alignment and had a length of 4.04m, a maximum width of 1.80m, a depth of 0.17m and contained two layers of backfill. The secondary layer (2782) comprised dark grey-brown silty clay that contained occasional flint, charcoal, animal bone and produced pottery dated c. 50 BC-60 AD. The primary layer (2783) comprised dark grey silty clay containing very frequent flint.

5.4.26 Pit [2794] had an ovate shape, a northeast-southwest alignment and had a length of 1m, a width of 0.97m and a depth of 0.27m. The backfill (2793) comprised dark grey-brown silty clay that contained occasional flint, chalk flecks, iron slag and produced pottery dated c. 50 BC-60 AD.

5.4.27 Also situated within the enclosure were a number of pits, a single post hole (G5010) to the south and a group of pits to the west (G5011).

5.4.28 Pit [1677] had an ovate shape, a northeast-southwest alignment and had a length of 0.70m, a width of 0.50m and a depth of 0.31m and contained two layers of backfill. The secondary layer (1675) comprised mid grey-brown silty clay that contained occasional flint, chalk flecks and produced pottery dated c. 50 BC-70 AD. The primary layer (1676) comprised light grey-brown silty clay also containing flint and chalk flecks.

5.4.29 Pit [1682] had been truncated by the early Roman re-cut of the south trackway ditch. However, it was possible to determine that the pit had an ovate shape, a northwest-southeast alignment and had a length of 1.40m, a width of +0.60m and a depth of 0.07m. The backfill (1681) comprised dark grey-brown silty clay that contained frequent flint, chalk flecks, animal bone and produced pottery dated c. 50 BC-70 AD.

5.4.30 Pit [1895] had an ovate shape, a northwest-southeast alignment and had a length of 0.48m, a width of 0.40m and a depth of 0.14m. The backfill (1894) comprised grey-brown silty clay that contained occasional flint, chalk flecks, and produced pottery dated c. 50 BC-60 AD. The backfill also contained a complete cast copper alloy dome-shaped stud with iron shank (SF: 23).

5.4.31 Pit [1897] had an ovate shape, a northeast-southwest alignment and had a length of 0.80m, a width of 0.68m and a depth of 0.17m. The backfill (1896) comprised dark brown silty clay that contained moderate flint, chalk flecks, an iron nail (SF: 90) and produced pottery dated c. 25 BC-70 AD.

5.4.32 Pit [1905] had an ovate shape, a northwest-southeast alignment and had a length of 1.14m, a width of 1m and a depth of 0.36m and contained three layers of backfill. The tertiary layer (1902) comprised mid grey-brown silt containing frequent chalk flecks, animal bone and pottery dated c. 0-100 AD. The secondary layer (1903) comprised mid brown silty clay that contained frequent flint and produced pottery dated c. 50 BC-70 AD. The primary layer (1904) comprised dark grey-brown silty clay that contained occasional flint and chalk flecks.

5.4.33 Post hole [1960] had an ovate shape, a northeast-southwest alignment and had a length of 0.30m, a width of 0.20m and a depth of 0.09m. The backfill (1959) comprised orange-brown silty clay that contained moderate flint, chalk flecks and produced pottery dated c. 25 BC-70 AD.

5.4.34 Pit [1837] had an irregular ovate shape, a northwest-southeast alignment and had a length of 1.57m, a width of 0.69m and a depth of 0.26m. The backfill (1836) comprised dark grey-brown silty clay that contained moderate flint, occasional charcoal, animal bone and produced pottery dated c. 50 BC-50 AD.

5.4.35 Pit [2030] had an irregular rectangular shape, an east-west alignment and had a length of 1.40m, a width of 0.65m and a depth of 0.27m and contained two layers of backfill. The secondary layer (2029) comprised mid grey-brown silty clay that contained occasional

charcoal, iron slag, animal bone and produced pottery dated c. 50 BC-60 AD. The primary layer (2040) comprised dark grey silty clay containing occasional flint and chalk flecks.

Enclosure Two

5.4.36 The second enclosure extended into the development site from the southern limits of the excavation and the section observed formed the north corner comprised by two continuous linear features, one being the southwest boundary ditch (G5006) of Enclosure One. The corner enclosed a space of approximately 1070sqm and the alignment suggests that the enclosure had a northeast-southwest orientation.

5.4.37 The ditch, forming the northwest boundary (G5012) had a length of 38m, an average width of 0.90m and an average depth of 0.80m. It had a V-shaped profile and contained at least three layers of backfill – the upper section having been truncated by a Roman re-cut. The tertiary layer comprised light grey-brown silty clay containing occasional flint, chalk flecks, iron slag (SF: 10) and a mixed pottery assemblage dated between c. 43-250 AD. The secondary layer comprised dark grey silty clay that contained occasional flint, Chalk flecks, charcoal, animal bone and pottery (c. 0-100 AD). The primary layer comprised mid grey-brown silty clay containing pottery dated c. 50 BC–150 AD.

5.4.38 Within the enclosure and parallel with the northwest boundary lay a single continuous linear feature (G5013). It had a length of 13m, an average width of 1.20m and had a depth of 0.50m. It had a U-shaped profile and contained two layers of backfill. The secondary layer comprised mid grey-brown silty clay containing occasional flint, chalk flecks, iron slag and pottery dated c. 25 BC-150 AD. The primary layer also comprised mid grey-brown silty clay and produced pottery c. 25 BC-100 AD.

5.4.39 Although not extending across the enclosure, the linear feature divided the interior into two areas. Within the southeast section lay a four post construct, and two larger buildings comprising twelve post pits intermixed with beam slots.

5.4.40 The four post construct (G5014) (**Plates 2** and **3**), traditionally referred to as a granary, had a square floor plan orientated northeast-southwest. It measured 2.3m by 2.3m creating a floor space of 5.5sqm. Each post pit contained a post-pipe within the surrounding main backfill. The main backfill within each post pit comprised mid dark grey silty clay containing large flint nodules as post packing, whereas the post-pipes comprised mottled mid grey and

orange-brown silty clay. Pottery recovered from the post pipes produced a date range c. 25 BC-300 AD, whereas the main backfill produced a ceramic date range c. 100 BC-100 AD.

5.4.41 The two larger buildings were situated at the northeast end of linear feature (G5013), perhaps an entrance. They had rectangular shaped floor plans and comprised twelve post pits intermixed with beam slots. They are of particular interest as, though considerably smaller, they mimick the style of floor plan and construction of military granaries within conquest period Roman forts and supply bases, such as those at Fishbourne (Timber Building 2) and Hod Hill (Cunliffe, 1971. 41-42). They are also contemporary.

5.4.42 It is also of interest that the buildings at Charing are similar and contemporary with another building, interpreted as a granary, at Cressing, Essex (Greef and Moan, 2020), which is also set within a Late Iron Age and Roman rural settlement and located at the entrance to an enclosure. This example, as well as the two buildings from Charing are atypical in form and may be of a form previously unencountered. All three (and the military granary at Fishbourne) are thought to have been demolished before the end of the first century AD.

5.4.43 As mentioned above, both buildings at Charing were constructed of 12 large posts, averaging 0.80m in diameter with the remains of post-pipes surviving in several of the post pits. All 12, forming Building 1 (G5015) (**Plate 4**), were situated within beam slots – each slot housing a row of three posts. Building 1 covered a floor space measuring 10.7m and had a northwest-southeast alignment.

5.4.44 Building 2 (G5016) (**Plates 5** and **6**) comprised a mix of stand alone post pits and post pits set within beam slots. This building also had an additional beam slot running along the north side, perhaps forming a short veranda. Building 2 covered a floor space measuring 14.9m and had a slight northwest-southeast alignment.

5.4.45 Other features within Enclosure two comprised a series of pits, a post pit, a post hole and a linear feature.

5.4.46 Pit [1780] had a circular shape, a diameter of 0.32m, a depth of 0.10m and contained (1779) dark grey-brown-black silt that contained occasional large flint nodules (perhaps post packing), chalk flecks and produced pottery dated c. 25 BC-70 AD.

5.4.47 Post hole [1977] had an ovate shape, an east-west alignment and had a length of 0.40m, a width of 0.30m and a depth of 0.09m. The backfill (1976) comprised dark grey-brown silt

that contained occasional large flint nodules (perhaps post packing), chalk flecks and produced pottery dated c. 100 BC-50 AD.

5.4.48 Linear feature (G5017) had an east-west alignment and pre-dated Building 1. It had a length of 10.4m, an average width of 0.30m, a depth of 0.20m and contained mid brown sandy silt containing charcoal and pottery dated c. 50 BC-60 AD.

5.4.49 Post pit [2126]/[2128] had an irregular ovate shape, a northeast-southwest alignment and had a length of 0.90m, a width of 0.80m and a depth of 0.40m. It contained a main backfill (2127) of mid brown silty clay with occasional chalk flecks and pottery dated c. 100 BC-50 AD. A post pipe within the centre of the post pit measured 0.50m x 0.20m and had a depth of 0.30m. The backfill (2125) of the post pipe comprised dark brown silty clay containing occasional chalk flecks, animal bone and pottery dated c. 25 BC-60 AD.

5.4.50 Pit [2150] had an irregular shape and a northwest-southeast alignment. It had a maximum length of 3.40m, a maximum width of 1.80m, a depth of 0.10m and contained dark grey-black silty clay (2149) with moderately large flint nodules, animal bone, iron slag and pottery dated c. 25 BC-50 AD.

5.4.51 Pit [2174] also had an irregular shape and a northwest-southeast alignment. It had a maximum length of 2.30m, a maximum width of 1m, a depth of 0.11m and also contained dark grey-black silty clay (2173) with moderately large flint nodules, animal bone and pottery dated c. 25 BC-70 AD.

5.4.52 Other features, identified as Late Iron Age and Post-Conquest Transitional were located within the large open space to the west of the enclosures. They comprised linear features, pits and a single cremation burial.

5.4.53 Linear feature (G5018) was situated next to Enclosure Two, had a northeast-southwest alignment and had a length of 7m, an average width of 0.40m, a depth of 0.40m and had a U-shaped profile. It contained dark grey clay containing very frequent flint, chalk flecks iron slag, animal bone and pottery dated c. 25 BC-70 AD.

5.4.54 Linear feature (G5019) projected out from the north LoE in a southwest direction. It had a length of 40m, an average width of 0.60m, a depth of 0.20m and had a wide U-shaped profile. It contained mottled light brown and orange-brown silty clay containing very frequent flint, a spindle whorl (SF: 33) and pottery dated c. 25 BC-70 AD.

5.4.55 Two continuous, parallel linear features, projecting out from the north LoE in a northwest direction, may have formed another trackway (G5020) with an overall width of 4.8m.

5.4.56 The north ditch of the trackway was shorter than its southern counterpart. It had a length of 17m, an average width of 0.60m and an average depth of 0.25m. It had a U-shaped profile and contained mid grey-brown silty clay containing flint, chalk flecks and pottery dated c. 25 BC-70 AD.

5.4.57 The south ditch had a length of 44m, an average width of 0.50m and an average depth of 0.15m. It had a wide and shallow and wide U-shaped profile and contained a backfill comprising mottled yellow-brown and mid brown silty clay that contained occasional flint and pottery dated c 50 BC-70 AD.

5.4.58 Pit [1930] was situated next to Enclosure Two, had an elongated oblong shape northeast-southwest alignment and had a length of 2.90m, an average width of 0.86m, a depth of 0.55m and contained three layers of backfill. The tertiary layer (1927) comprised dark grey-brown silty clay containing flint, chalk flecks, animal bone and pottery dated c. 25 BC-60 AD. The secondary layer (1928) comprised dark grey silty clay containing flint, chalk flecks, charcoal, animal, worked flint and pottery, also dated c. 25 BC-60 AD. The primary layer (1929) comprised mid grey silty clay containing flint, chalk flecks and animal bone.

5.4.59 Pit [2526]/[2635] was situated within the north corner of Area 2. It had an elongated linear shape, a slight northeast-southwest alignment and had a length of 3.3m, a width of 0.38m and a depth of 0.09m. The backfill comprised mid brown silty clay containing flint, chalk flecks and pottery dated c. 25 BC-70 AD.

5.4.60 Pit [2532] was situated north of the trackway (G5020). It had an ovate shape, a northeast-southwest alignment and had a length of 0.80m, a width of 0.77m and a depth of 0.24m. The backfill comprised dark brown silty clay containing flint and pottery dated c. 25 BC-70 AD.

5.4.61 Pit [2545] was situated south of the trackway (G5020). It had an ovate shape, a northeast-southwest alignment and had a length of 1.30m, a width of 0.95m and a depth of 0.16m. The backfill comprised mid brown silty clay containing flint and pottery dated c. 50 BC-0.

5.4.62 The cremation (Cremation 8) (**Plate 7**) had been placed within an ovate shaped grave cut measuring 0.94m x 0.89m with a depth of 0.13m and contained an un-urned cremation and a single ceramic vessel (SF: 124). The burial assemblage also comprised a badly damaged copper alloy brooch in two fragments (SFs: 31 and 32). The backfill within the grave

comprised mid grey-brown silty clay containing occasional flint, chalk flecks and charcoal. The ceramic vessel has been date c. 25 BC-70 AD.

PHASE 6 – Roman (Figure 9)

5.4.63 During the Roman phase, the site experienced a number of changes, representing alterations to the structure and function of the enclosures – including the demolition of all three granary buildings. This phase also witnessed the establishment of a cremation cemetery at the west end of the large open space, djacent to the enclosures. Two features, interpreted as cremation burials were also interred between the enclosures. However, the ceramic assemblage within both suggest that the features may have had a ceremonial or votive use. Other archaeological remains associated with this phase comprised a number of linear features and pits.

5.4.64 Alterations to Enclosure One comprised increasing the internal space by the backfilling of the ditch, forming the northeast boundary (G5005) and extending the length of the north ditch of the trackway (G5008), resulting a re-cut along its entire length. Management of the ditches also included the extension and re-cutting of the ditch, forming the northwest boundary (G5007), resulting in an alteration to the entrance and the closing of the spaces between each segment, thereby producing one continuous linear feature.

5.4.65 Alterations to Enclosure Two also comprised increasing the internal space by the backfilling of the ditch, forming the southwest boundary (G5006) of Enclosure One, and shortening the length of the southern ditch of the trackway. In addition, the four post granary and the larger structures, Buildings 1 and 2, were demolished. Pottery from the post pipes produced a Flavian bias, suggesting that they were demolished before the end of the first century AD.

5.4.66 The space within Enclosure One remained empty, whereas the space within Enclosure Two contained a number of pits, post pits and post holes.

5.4.67 Pit [1833]/[1843] had an irregular shape, a northeast-southwest alignment and had a maximum length of 1.80m, a maximum width of 1.66m and a depth of 0.33m The backfill comprised a secondary layer comprising light grey-brown silty clay containing occasional flint, chalk flecks, animal bone and pottery dated c. 43-250 AD. The primary layer comprised mid brown silty clay containing occasional chalk flecks.

5.4.68 Pit [1869] had an irregular shape, a northeast-southwest alignment and had a length of 0.50m, a width of 0.25m and a depth of 0.07m The backfill comprised light brown silty clay containing occasional flint, chalk flecks and pottery dated c. 43-300 AD.

5.4.69 Post hole [2024] had an oval shape, a northeast-southwest alignment and a length of 0.90m, a width of 0.70 and a depth of 0.15m The backfill comprised mid grey-brown silty clay containing occasisonal flint and pottery dated c. 50-80 AD.

5.4.70 Pit [2026] had a rectangular shape, an east-west alignment and had a length of 2m, a width of 1.10m and a depth of 0.59m The backfill comprised dark grey-brown silty clay containing occasional flint, chalk flecks, iron slag, animal bone and pottery dated c. 43-300 AD.

5.4.71 Pit [2028] had an oval shape, a slight northeast-southwest alignment and had a length of 0.70m, a width of 0.50m and a depth of 0.19m The backfill comprised mid grey silty clay containing occasional flint, chalk flecks, charcoal, animal bone, burnt flint, CBM and pottery dated c. 43-300 AD.

5.4.72 Post pit [2146]/[2148] had an ovate shape, an east-west alignment and had a length of 0.70m, a width of 0.60m and a depth of 0.35m. It contained a main backfill (2147) of light brown silty clay with occasional chalk flecks. A post pipe within the centre of the post pit measured 0.30m x 0.30m and had a depth of 0.30m. The backfill (2145) of the post pipe comprised dark brown silty clay containing occasional flint, chalk flecks, animal bone and pottery dated c. 0-100 AD.

5.4.73 Pit [2176] had an ovate shape, a northeast-southwest alignment and had a length of 0.30m, a width of 0.22m and a depth of 0.04m The backfill comprised mid grey-brown silt containing occasional flint and pottery dated c. 90-175 AD.

5.4.74 Post pit [2210]/[2213] had an ovate shape, a northeast-southwest alignment and had a length of 0.56m, a width of 0.30m and a depth of 0.24m. It contained a main backfill (2211) (2212) of orange-brown silty clay with very frequent flint, frequent chalk flecks, occasional burnt flint and mottled light grey and orange-brown clay. A post pipe within the centre of the post pit measured 0.21m x 0.10m and had a depth of 0.18m. The backfill (2209) of the post pipe comprised very dark brown silty clay containing frequent charcoal, occasional flint, chalk flecks and pottery dated c. 43-300 AD.

5.4.75 Pit [2230] had an irregular ovate shape, an east-west alignment and had a maximum length of 1m, a maximum width of 0.40m and a depth of 0.08m The backfill comprised dark grey-

brown silty clay containing frequent chalk fleck and occasional flint, animal bone and pottery dated c. 0-100 AD.

5.4.76 Pit [2304] had an irregular shape, a northwest-southeast alignment and had a maximum length of 1.78m, a maximum width of 1.50m and a depth of 0.12m The backfill comprised a secondary layer comprising light brown silt containing occasional flint, chalk flecks, iron slag and pottery dated c. 70-200 AD.

5.4.77 Post hole [2348] had an oval shape, a north-south alignment and had a length of 0.32m, a width of 0.30m and a depth of 0.30m The backfill comprised very dark grey silty clay containing frequent flint, occasional chalk flecks and pottery dated c. 43-300 AD.

5.4.78 Situated next to the entrance near the north corner of the enclosure were two features, initially interpreted as cremation burials, although cremated bone was absent within both features. However, both contained a number of miniature ceramic vessels, deliberately placed, suggesting that the features may have had a ceremonial or votive use.

5.4.79 'Cremation 6' (**Plate 8**) contained eight miniature ceramic vessels (SFs: 116-123) arranged at different levels to form a circle surrounding 45 discarded sherds from approximately six other ceramic forms. The assemblage also included a food offering, possibly in the form of a cut of pig or sheep, evenly distributed throughout. The vessels have been dated c. 43-100 AD, whereas the sherds have a c. 43-150 AD date range.

5.4.80 'Cremation 15' (**Plate 9**), encountered during the archaeological evaluation (SWAT Archaeology, 2019), contained five miniature vessels (SFs: 179-183) and 30 discarded sherds. However, a mid-1st – early 2nd century AD pit (see below) truncated the centre of the cremation and removed some of the contents. Therefore, the full composition of the assemblage remains unknown. The vessels have also been dated c. 43-100 AD, whereas the sherds have a c. 25 BC-50 AD date range.

5.4.81 Pit [703] also encountered during the evaluation truncated the centre of 'Cremation 15'. It had an oval shape, a northwest-southeast alignment and had a length of 0.60m, a width of 0.50m and a depth of 0.20m. The backfill comprised silty charcoal containing moderate chalk flecks, burnt flint and occasional burnt bone – suggesting that this feature may have been an un-urned cremation or represents a secondary phase of ceremonial or votive activity. The pit also contained two mid 1st-early 2nd century AD coins.

5.4.82 Another alteration to Enclosure Two comprised the extension of the existing Late Iron Age-Transitional ditch (G5013). The length of the ditch was increased from 13m to 66m and terminated within the southwest periphery of Enclosure One, cutting off the trackway and dividing the interior of Enclosure Two. The new east section remained accessible via the trackway, whereas the new west section remained accessible via the original entrance.

5.4.83 It is also during this phase that an additional linear feature appeared within the south corner of the large open space and may have acted as a land divsion.

5.4.84 Linear feature (G5021) projected out from the southwest LoE in a southeast direction for a length of 36m before turning south for an additional 3.7m before terminating just inside Enclosure Two. The linear feature had a U-shaped profile, an average width of 0.50m and an average depth of 0.20m. The backfill comprised dark grey-brown silty clay that contained frequent flint, chalk flecks and produced pottery dated c. 50-250 AD.

5.4.85 Within the extreme northwest corner of the open space, north of linear feature (G5021) lay a mortuary enclosure containing a row of three equally spaced cremation burials (Cremations 10, 11 and 13) aligned on a northeast-southwest axis. Cremations 10 and 13 also housed secondary cremation burials (Cremations 9 and 12) probably containing family members related to the individuals interred within the original graves.

5.4.86 The mortuary enclosure (G5022) had a northeast-southwest alignment and comprised three linear segments, forming two sides and one corner for the space within which the cremation burials were placed. The interior of the mortuary enclosure measured approximately 205sqm. The segments had an average width of 0.44m, an average depth of 0.14m and contained mid orange-brown silty clay with occasional chalk flecks and produced pottery dated c. 25 BC-150 AD.

5.4.87 Cremation 10 (c. 150-200 AD) (**Plate 10**) had been placed within a rectangular shaped grave cut, aligned northwest-southeast. It measured 1.35m x 1.21m, had a depth of 0.38m and contained mottled light grey and orange-brown silty clay with occasional chalk flecks. The burial assemblage comprised an un-urned cremation, four ceramic vessels (SFs: 128-131) and an iron oil lamp (SF: 132) complete with suspension hanger (SF: 134). The lamp and hanger are identical to examples from cremations at Aylesham (Britchfield, Holmes and Wilkinson, 2020. Cremations 10a and 11). The burial assemblage also contained six iron nails (SFs: 36-41) and a food offering, possibly in the form of a cut of pig or sheep, and a serving of oysters. Cremation 10 also housed a secondary cremation burial – Cremation 9.

5.4.88 Cremation 9 (c. 70-110 AD) (**Plate 11**) had been interred within an oval shaped pit that truncated the upper, central area of Cremation 10. The pit also had a northwest-southeast alignment, measured 0.90m x 0.81m and had a depth of 0.30 – exposing the centre of Cremation 10. The backfill comprised mid brown clayey silt containing moderate flint. The burial assemblage comprised two ceramic vessels (SFs: 125 and 126) and a large glass vessel (SF: 127), a bottle, within which the cremated remains of the deceased were interred. The assemblage also comprised a single, complete iron nail (SF: 35).

5.4.89 Cremation 11 (c. 150-200 AD) (**Plate 12**) had a rectangular shaped grave cut, also aligned northwest-southeast and measured 1.26m x 1.09m. It had a depth of 0.39m and contained mid grey-brown silty clay. The grave had been timber-lined, forming a wooden chamber, and housed the burial assemblage. The wooden chamber is identical to an example discovered at Turners Hall Farm, Wheathampstead, Herts (West, 2015. 10.3.1), dated c. 150 AD or later, and another at Kelshall, Herts (PAS: BH-84CCFA) dated c. 205-215 AD. The timber lining survived, allowing for the timber planks to be block-lifted, x-rayed and are to be assessed by Damien Goodburn-Brown. The burial assemblage within the chamber comprised seven ceramic vessels (SFs: 135-141) and two glass vessels (SFs: 142 and 143). The assemblage also contained nine iron nails (SFs: 42-50) and a food offering, in the form of a cut of pig/sheep.

5.4.90 The cremated remains of the deceased were interred within one of the glass vessels (SF: 143), a large convex jar. The jar is identical to examples from Lower Walmer (Woodruff, 1902), Westborough, near Maidstone (Poste, 1859), Rougham, Suffolk (Henslow, 1843 and Babington, 1872) and very similar to a specimen from Geldestone, Norfolk (Price and Cottam, 1989) - all contained cremated remains.

5.4.91 Cremation 13 (c. 170-200 AD) (**Plate 13**) had a rectangular shaped grave cut, aligned northeast-southwest and measured 1.20m x 0.93m. It had a depth of 0.34m and contained mottled light grey and orange-brown silty clay. The burial assemblage comprised an urned cremation, seven ceramic vessels (SFs: 145-151) and three glass vessels (SFs: 153-155). All had been placed within a large undecorated wooden chest with a hinged lid. Hugh Borrill refers to this type of grave as a box-burial: 'these boxes are large enough to accommodate all of the grave goods and are undecorated' (Borrill, 1981. Pg. 304). In addition to the chest, it was noted, during the excavation of the grave, that the assemblage also contained a small area of soil staining (2655) and an assortment of copper alloy artefacts. The area of soil staining was block-lifted, x-rayed by Dana Goodburn-Brown and has now been identified as

the remains of a small decorated wooden lock-box. The burial assemblage also included a food offering, possibly in the form of a cut of pig or sheep.

5.4.92 The wooden chest containing the burial assemblage is very similar to the chest within Cremation 10a at Aylesham, c. 75-125 AD (Britchfield, Holmes and Wilkinson, ibid). That chest also contained a wooden decorated lock-box, plus a bronze bowl, multiple ceramic and glass vessels. An iron oil lamp and lamp hanger within this example are identical to the those deposited within Cremation 10 (see above). Other examples from Kent include mention of wooden chests from a cremation cemetery near Old Dover Road, Canterbury (Brent, 1861. Pg. 29). Cremation 13 also housed a secondary cremation burial – Cremation 12.

5.4.93 Cremation 12 (2627) [2628] (**Plate 14**) had been interred within an oval shaped pit that truncated the upper, central area of Cremation 13. The pit also had a northeast-southwest alignment, measured 0.80m x 0.77m and had a depth of 0.26 – exposing the centre of Cremation 13. The backfill comprised mid brown clayey silt containing moderate flint and contained an intact single glass vessel (SF: 144). The glass vessel is identical to (SF: 143) within Cremation 11. The cremated remains of the deceased, and fragments of molten glass were interred within the glass vessel. The inclusion of molten glass amongst the remains, alludes to the presence of a glass vessel on the pyre. The burial assemblage also included a badly damaged copper alloy fixture (SF: 51) comprising a thin copper alloy sheet between two oval-shaped and domed studs, and a copper alloy cosmetic implement, an ear-scoop (SF: 201).

5.4.94 Seven additional cremation burials were situated outside outside the mortuary enclosure. Two (Cremation 5 and 7) were isolated, whereas Cremations 1-4 and 14 formed a group.

5.4.95 Cremation 5 (c. 60-110 AD) (**Plate 15**) situated to the east of the mortuary enclosure had been interred within an oval shaped pit. The pit had a slight northeast-southwest alignment, a length of 0.92m, a width of 0.63m and a depth of 0.06m. The backfill comprised mottle mid grey and light brown silty clay containing frequent chalk flecks. The burial assemblage comprised an un-urned cremation and two ceramic vessels (SFs: 114 and 115). The burial assemblage may also have included a food offering, possibly in the form of a cut of pig or sheep.

5.4.96 Cremation 7 (c. 50-150 AD) (**Plate 16**) situated outside the southwest boundary of the mortuary enclosure, had also been interred within an oval shaped pit. The pit had a slight northwest-southeast alignment, a length of 0.54m, a width of 0.45m and a depth of 0.09m.

The backfill comprised dark grey-brown silty clay. The burial assemblage comprised an un-urned cremation burial with a single sherd of coarse Canterbury ware with an oxidised orange fabric.

5.4.97 Cremations 1-4 and 14 were situated to the southwest of the mortuary enclosure and adjacent to the west LoE.

5.4.98 Cremation 1 (c. 70-130 AD) (**Plate 17**) had been interred within a small oval shaped pit. The pit had a slight northwest-southeast alignment, a length of 0.41m, a width of 0.35m and a depth of 0.02m. The backfill comprised dark grey-brown silty clay containing frequent chalk flecks and charcoal. The burial assemvlage comprised an un-urned cremation two ceramic vessels (SFs: 108 and 109), 13 iron hobnails within Sample No. 7 and a food offering, possibly in the form of a cut of pig or sheep.

5.4.99 Cremation 2 (c. 70-110 AD) (**Plate 18**) had been interred within circular shaped pit. The pit had a diameter of 0.80m, a depth of 0.01m and backfilled with mid grey-brown silty clay containing occasional chalk flecks and charcoal. The burial assemblage comprised an un-urned cremation, two ceramic vessels (SFs: 110 and 111) and three iron nails within Sample No. 8.

5.4.100 Cremation 3 (c. 70-110 AD) (**Plate 19**) had been interred within an oval shaped pit. The pit had a northwest-southeast alignment, a length of 0.68m, a width of 0.56m and a depth of 0.11m. The backfill comprised mid grey-brown silty clay containing frequent chalk flecks. The burial assemblage comprised an un-urned cremation, a single ceramic vessel (SF: 112) and a single, incomplete iron nail (SF: 2).

5.4.101 Cremation 4 (c. 60-110 AD) (**Plate 20**) had been interred within a circular shaped pit. The pit had a diameter of 0.78m and a depth of 0.01m. The backfill comprised mid grey-brown silty clay. The burial assemblage comprised an un-urned cremation, a single ceramic vessel (SF: 113) and five iron nails (SFs: 3-5 and 199-200).

5.4.102 Cremation 14 (c. 85-100 AD) (**Plate 21**) encountered during the archaeological evaluation, had been interred within a rectangular shaped grave cut. The grave had a northwest-southeast alignment, a length of 1m, a width of 0.50m and a depth of 0.20m and contained three ceramic vessels (SFs: 171-173) and the remnants of a decorative wooden casket, within which the cremated remains of the deceased had been placed. Attached to the box were a number of copper alloy fittings: comprising four rings (SFs: 1, 6, 7 and 174) and four lion-

head mounts (SFs: 174-177). The assemblage also contained a composite copper and iron object (SF: 178).

5.4.103 The copper alloy fittings of the casket and the casket's use as a receptacle for the deceased is identical to the Flavian period Burial 4 from Cemetery 'A' at Puckeridge (Partridge, 1981) and is similar to another example discovered at Turners Hall Farm, Wheathampstead, Herts (West, ibid), dated c. 150 AD or later.

5.4.104 The remaining features belonging to the Roman phase were also located north of linear feature (G5021) and comprised two pits.

5.4.105 Pit [1238] had an irregular oblong shape, a slight northwest-southeast alignment and had a length of 2.01m, a width of 0.72m and a depth of 0.43m. The pit contained the remains of an articulated horse within a backfill comprising mottled dark brown and grey-brown silty clay containing frequent flint, chalk flecks, charcoal and pottery dated c. 25 BC-200 AD.

5.4.106 Pit [2518] had an ovate shape, a northeast-southwest alignment and had a length of 0.91m, a width of 0.70m and a depth of 0.23m. The backfill comprised a secondary layer of dark grey-brown silty clay containing frequent flint, occasional charcoal, animal bone and pottery dated c. 240-400 AD. The primary layer comprised mottled light-mid grey and orange-brown silty clay containing occasional flint.

PHASE 7 – Medieval (Figure 10)

5.4.107 After the Roman period activity ceased until the mid-late 12th century when a new group of linear features appeared, forming a possible enclosure at the east end of the development site. The enclosure, and the open space to the west were in turn separated by a large earthwork and flanking ditch, dividing the landscape in two.

5.4.108 The enclosure (G5023) comprised two linear segments, forming two sides and one corner, suggesting that the enclosure may have had a northeast-southwest alignment. The space between the segments formed a large entrance along the west boundary. The segments had a wide U-shaped profile, an average width of 1m, an average depth of 0.25m and contained a secondary layer of very dark brown-black silt with occasional flint and a primary layer comprising light-mid grey-brown silty clay containing occasional flint, chalk flecks and produced pottery dated c. 1150-1350 AD.

5.4.109 The large earthwork and flanking ditch (G5024) (**Plate 22**) spanning the landscape, had a serpentine course and a northwest-southeast alignment. The earthwork, therefore, had a total length of 112m and had a surviving width of 1.80m and a height of 0.40m, whereas the ditch running along the south side, had a wide U-shaped profile with a flat base, a maximum width of 1m, a maximum depth of 0.90m and contained a secondary layer comprising light brown silty clay containing occasional flint and chalk flecks and a primary layer comprising grey-brown silty clay also containing occasional flint, chalk flecks and produced pottery dated c. 1150-1350 AD.

5.4.110 North of the earthwork lay a large irregular oval shaped pit and south-southwest of the earthwork were two linear features and an elongated pit.

5.4.111 The large irregular shaped pit [2476]/[2537] was situated within Area 2. It had a slight northwest-southeast alignment, a maximum length of 17.5m, a maximum width of 10.3m and a maximum depth of 0.58m. The feature contained a tertiary layer comprising mid brown silty clay containing occasional flint, chalk flecks, animal bone and pottery dated c. 1200-1350 AD. The secondary layer comprised dark grey silty clay containing very frequent flint and occasional chalk flecks and the primary layer comprised mottled dark and light orange-brown silty clay containing very frequent chalk flecks, occasional flint and pottery dated c. 1200-1350 AD. The function of this feature is not known however, it may have been formed by cattle as a wallow.

5.4.112 Linear feature (G5025) [1149]/[1151] was situated within Area 1 and projected from the southwest LoE for a length of 8m before turning slightly northwest and continuing beyond the northwest LoE. It had a U-shaped profile, was observed for a length of **?**m and had an average width of 0.25m and a depth of 0.27m The backfill comprised very dark grey-black silty clay containing frequent flint, chalk flecks and produced pottery dated c. 1250-1350 AD.

5.4.113 Linear feature (G5026) [1784]/[1788]/[1790]/[1911] was situated within Area 3 and projected from the south LoE in a northeast direction for a length of 17m before terminating. It had a wide U-shaped profile, an average width of 0.60m and a depth of 0.15m The backfill comprised dark brown silty clay and contained frequent flint and chalk flecks and produced pottery dated c. 1250-1350 AD.

5.4.114 Pit [1294]/[1296]/[1298] also situated within Area 3 had a north-south alignment, a length of 3.60m, a width of 0.60m and a depth of 0.07m. The backfill comprised mottled mid grey

and orange-brown silty clay containing frequent chalk flecks, occasional flint, charcoal and produced pottery dated c. 1150-1250 AD.

PHASE 8 – Post-Medieval (Figure 11)

5.4.115 By the avent of the Post-Medieval phase, the features within the medieval landscape had disappeared, with the exception of the large earthwork and flanking ditch, dividing the landscape in two. This feature had been retained and the ditch re-cut in the Post-Medieval period. The maintance of the feature was the only archaeological evidence for activity taking place within the development site during the Post-Medieval phase.

5.4.116 The re-cut (G5027) followed the course of the original medieval ditch. Slightly narrower than the original, the re-cut had a shallow, wide U-shaped profile, an average width of 1.40m, a depth of 0.15m and contained a backfill comprising very dark grey-brown silty clay containing occasional flint and pottery dated c. 1500-1800 AD.

5.4.117 There were a series of stone built and capped masonary drains, forming culverts interposed with French drains formed from brick fragments mixed with stone and or flint nodules. Pottery and CBM imply a Post-Medieval date. They are similar to the Post-Medieval masonary drain, recorded at Burleigh Farm, Tile Lodge Road, Charing Heath (Wilson and Helm, ibid).

5.4.118 Drain (G5028) (**Plates 23** and **24**) projected out from the west LoE in a northeast direction for a length of 10m before turning 090° in a slight northwest direction for an additional 16m. The construction cut had a U-shaped profile with a flat base, an average width of 0.34m and a depth of 0.35m. This feature comprised a mix of stone masonary culvert and rows of randomly deposited red brick fragments (sometimes mixed with stone fragments and or flint nodules). The culvert had been formed from blocks of stone placed into position to form a channel, capped by larger, flatter stones. The culvert had a height of 0.25m and produced pottery dated c. 1500-1800 AD.

5.4.119 Drain (G5029) (**Plates 25** and **26**) ran across and continued beyond the west LoE within Area 1 in a northeast-southwest direction, whereas another section projected out from the the LoE in a southeast direction before linking with (G5027). The construction cut had a U-shaped profile with a flat base, an average width of 0.55m and a depth of 0.40m. Blocks of stone masonary formed a culvert also with a height of 0.25m.

PHASE 9 – Undated (Figure 12)

5.4.120 There are over 100 undated archaeological features and are a mix of linear features, furnaces, pits, post holes and large amorphous deposits. They are discernable primarily from stratigraphic and spatial relationships, with some broadly respecting each other, or otherwise displaying some clear functional relationship, while others truncate each other, indicating the replacement of one arrangement by another. There are also clear modifications in landscape organisation, but in every case, the features cannot be identified, or more precisely dated, at this stage.

5.4.121 Amongst the undated features is an inhumation burial (**Plate 27**), situated within the northeast corner of the excavation. Aligned north-south, the rectilinear-shaped grave cut contained the supine skeleton of a male aged between 28-38 years. The grave truncated the east side of a Late Iron Age pit.

6 FINDS

6.1 The Ceramic Assessment

Introduction

6.1.1 The site excavation yielded 3176 sherds (34.537g.) of pottery from 307 contexts: a further 161 sherds (498g.) of pottery were retrieved from environmental samples. The pottery assemblages are wide-ranging in date and include Early, Middle and Late Bronze Age, Iron Age, Early Roman, Medieval and Post-Medieval material.

Methodology

6.1.2 All of the pottery assemblages were quantified by numbers of sherds and their weights per fabric. These fabrics were identified using a x10 magnification lens with artificial light source in order to determine the natures, forms, sizes and frequencies of added filler inclusions and those naturally present in the prepared potting clay. Eight numbered fabric series were used with the prefixes BA, IA, B, BER, R, LR, M and PM for Bronze Age, Iron Age, 'Belgic' Late Iron Age, Transitional Late Iron Age-Early Roman, Roman, Late Roman, Medieval and Post-Medieval respectively. The 'Belgic' Late Iron Age, Transitional Late Iron Age-Early Roman, Roman, Late Roman and Medieval codings are those created by the Canterbury Archaeological Trust (Macpherson-Grant et al 1995): the rest were created by the author.

6.1.3 All of the pottery assemblages were also quantified by Estimated Vessel Equivalents (EVEs) based on rim sherd percentages per fabric (Orton, 1975) but none of them are large enough for obtaining meaningful results by this method.

The Assemblages

Bronze Age-to-Early Iron Age

6.1.4 Amounts of Bronze Age pottery are very small and concentrated in the extreme north and south-east of the excavated area. The material is for the most part not closely datable due to lack of diagnostic sherds but there are exceptions.

6.1.5 The concentration of sherds at the northern end of the site comes from Pits 2530, 2642, 2643 and 2666 and amounts to a mere 13 sherds (119g.) of pottery. These do, however, include a sherd of a collared-urn of Longworth's primary series (1984) decorated with whipped-cord 'maggots' (c.2000-1700BC) from the fill of Pit 2644 and a similarly-decorated urn sherd from the fill of Pit 2666. These are the only sherds from their pits, but Pit 2530 yielded 6 sherds, comprising two from an urn of unspecified type in fabric IA1B with calcined-flint filler and four from a Middle Bronze Age bucket-urn in grog and calcined-flint tempered fabric BA2 with finger-jabbed rim top (c.1700-1150 BC).

6.1.6 The south-eastern concentration of Bronze Age sherds comes from Pits 2699, 2725 and 2727 and also amounts to a mere 16 sherds (160 g.) of pottery. All but one of these sherds is non-diagnostic: this exception comprises seven fragments of a small hole-mouthed vessel in fabric IA2A with sparse calcined-flint filler. It is probably a Late Bronze Age vessel in Post Deverel Rimbury plain ware (c.950-800 BC).

The Middle Iron Age

6.1.7 Pits 1505 and 1867 at the southern end of the excavated area produced pottery assemblages of Early-to-Middle Iron Age date. The fill of Pit 1505 (Context 1504) produced 71 sherds (808g.) of pottery, comprising 50 fragments in coarse calcined-flint tempered fabrics IA1A and IA1B, six in the finer IA2 version, 14 in grog and calcined-flint tempered fabric B3 and one in 'Belgic' grog-tempered fabric B2. The sherds in coarse fabric IA1A/B include 11 fragments from a storage-jar and more from a saucepan-pot with beaded rim (c.400-50BC). Those in fabric IA2 include sherds from a saucepan with internal impressed circle (c.400-50BC). The presence of the sherds in fabrics B2 and B3 suggests that the pit was dug during the transition from the Middle to Late Iron Age; perhaps in the mid-1st c. BC.

6.1.8 The fill of Pit 1867 (Context 1866) yielded a further 24 sherds (170g.) of pottery, all but one of which come from a small jar with concave neck in calcined-flint tempered fabric IA2A. This suggests a c.300-0 BC date for the feature.

Late Iron Age-to-Early Roman

6.1.9 The most significant features belonging to this phase are the two granaries at the southern end of the site and the cremation cemetery at the northern end.

6.1.10 The fills of the various pits and slots making up the eastern granary (Contexts 1998, 2243, 2253, 2260, 2262, 2298, 2319, 2325, 2327, 2339 and 2347) yielded a total of 41 sherds (213 g.) of pottery between them, most of which can be dated to the period c.AD.43-70. The only exception is the three sherds from the fill of Posthole 2348 (2347) which include two fragments of Canterbury Greyware unlikely to be earlier than AD.90: this feature may, however, be later than the granary.

6.1.11 The 38 other sherds associated with the granary are all in 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware variants, other than two from a Gallo-Belgic Whiteware flagon (c.AD.43-70) and two from ?flagons in Canterbury oxidised fabric R6.1 and R6.2 (c.AD.50-150).

6.1.12 The fills of the western granary post-pits 2273 and 2275 and beam-slot 2282 (Contexts 2213, 2272, 2274, 2279 and 2280) produced 30 sherds (317g.) of pottery between them. The latest fragments are 16 from a dish of Monaghan's Class 5B4 (1987) in North Kent Fineware fabric R16 (c.AD.70-130) retrieved from the fill of constructional Post-pit 2273 and indicate that this structure post-dates AD.70.

6.1.13 The earliest cremations (Cremations 1, 2, 3, 4 and 14) are in a concentration on the north-west side of the excavated area. Cremation 1 (Context 1030) includes a South Gaulish Samian Dr 36 platter (c.AD.70-110) and a beaker of indeterminate form in North Kent Fineware and appears to be of Flavian date. Cremation 2 (Context 1036) is of similar date and has a South Gaulish Samian Dr 18 platter (c.AD.70-90) and a biconical beaker of Monaghan Class 2G1 (c.AD.70-110). There is just one vessel from Cremation 3; a South Gaulish Samian Dr 36 platter. The vessels from Cremation 4 (1049) are very broken up and comprise most of a ring-and-dot beaker in sandfree yellow fabric (c.AD.60-110), part of a truncated jar in very-fine black 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware fired orange/pink and a few fragments from a Gallo-Belgic platter copy in sand-free black fabric fired reddish-brown (c.AD.50-90).

6.1.14 Cremation 14 (1704) was found in Trench 17 during the evaluation but belongs to the same group. It had three vessels, comprising a South Gaulish La Graufesenque Samian Dr 18 platter stamped OFMASV (c.AD.50-80), a Dr 27 cup (c.AD.85-100) and a ring-neck flagon in Verulamium Region Whiteware (c.AD.70-100), dating the cremation to c.AD.85-100. The ashes of the deceased had been placed in a casket.

6.1.15 Cremations 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 were placed in a row of pits aligning with and within a rectangular ditched enclosure in the north of the area. Cremation 10 (2596) was in the north-easternmost pit and yielded three vessels: these comprise a small Central Gaulish Samian Dr.46 cup (c.AD.120-200), a bowl of Monaghan's type 5C0.7 (1987) in Thameside greyware (c.AD.120-240) and a flagon of Pollard type 82 (1988) in oxidised Canterbury fabric R6.1 (c.AD.150-200+). This dates the cremation to c.AD.150-200+

6.1.16 The centre of the pit containing Cremation 10 was cut into by Pit 2580 containing Cremation 9: this yielded a Martres-de-Veyre Samian Dr.18/31 platter stamped SILVI.IXF (c.AD.120-160), a South Gaulish Dr.18 platter stamped A[---]SI.M (c.AD.70-90) and a large glass bottle containing the ashes.

6.1.17 Cremation 12 in the pit to the south-west of Pit 2596/2580 was cut into the fill of Pit 2656 containing Cremation 13 and lacked ceramic vessels. Cremation 13 had seven vessels including a storage-jar containing the ashes and a glass vessel. The ancillary pots comprise a small jar of Monaghan's type 3H1.7 (c.AD.170-270), a Central Gaulish Samian Dr 18/31 dish stamped SILVAIXI (c.AD.120-150), a beaker of Class 3J6 in North Kent Fineware (c.AD.130-200), a Cologne rough-cast beaker (c.AD.130-200) and a flagon of Pollard type 82 in oxidised Canterbury fabric (c.AD.150-200+). This gives a date of c.AD.170-200+ for the cremation.

6.1.18 Cremation 11 occupied the most south-westerly pit (2571) in the enclosure and yielded nine vessels within a wooden box. Two of these are of glass and include a large jar containing the ashes of the deceased. The other vessels comprise a flagon of Pollard type 82 in fine orange Canterbury fabric R8 (c.AD.150-200+), a Central Gaulish Samian Dr 27 cup (c.AD.120-150) a Dr 36 platter in similar fabric (c.AD.120-200), a Martres-de-Veyre Samian example (c.AD.90-130), a Cologne rough-cast beaker (c.AD.130-200), a type 2I3.1 beaker in North Kent Fineware (c.AD.120-150/190) and a small jar in grog-tempered fabric B2.1. The cremation can therefore be dated to c.AD.150-200.

6.1.19 Cremations 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 within the enclosure all appear to be late 2nd-to-early 3rd c. in date and may be a family group.

6.1.20 Cremations 5 and 8 lay just outside the enclosure and both appear to be 1st c. in date. Grave 5 yielded a platter of Thompson's type G1-6 (1982, c.AD.0-70) in fine 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware fabric B1 and a ring-and-dot beaker similar to that from Cremation 4 (c.AD.60-110). Cremation 8 produced a single truncated jar in 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware fabric B2 (c.25BC-AD70).

6.1.21 Other cremations comprise Cremations 6 and 15. Both of these are unusual. Cremation 6 consisted of eight tiny handmade pots in 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware: Cremation 15 was located in Trench 7, Pit 705 during the evaluation and is of particular interest in that the cremated bone does not appear to have been placed in an urn. The ceramic grave goods had been rendered very fragmentary by being cut into and disturbed by later Pit 703 but include sherds from a South Gaulish Samian Dr.35 dish, a North Kent Fineware beaker of uncertain type and a crude grog-tempered miniature vessel. The later pit had, however, missed four further grog-tempered miniature pots arranged around the northern-eastern edge of Pit 705.

6.1.22 Such miniature pots are known from Frensham Surrey, Westhawk Farm Ashford Kent and elsewhere. The 53 examples from Frensham were associated with fragments from a priest's sceptre and a scatter of coins and, in some cases, yielded cannabis pollen from residues within them (Graham, 2009). The Westhawk Farm pot came from the fill of Grave 8160, in association with a mass of freshly shattered pottery: this latter may be from a funerary meal (Lyne, 2008. p.230).

6.1.23 It seems likely that some at least of these tiny pots were used to inhale the fumes of burning cannabis in order to communicate with the gods at funerals and other religious ceremonies.

6.1.24 The various field ditches belonging to this phase tended not to produce much pottery, but the east-west ditch sectioned by Cuts 1391, 1646, 1650, 1659, 1738, 1776, 1811, 1816, 1826, 1852, 1879, 1883, 1893, 1926, 2649, 2688, 2743 and 2757 near the southern end of the excavated area produced more than most (320 sherds, 4370 g.). Two hundred and six of these sherds are in a variety of 'Belgic' grog tempered and include fragments from B5-3 barrel jars and B1-3 jars, unlikely to be later than the Roman Conquest. Another seven sherds are in Glauconitic ware, reflecting distance from their source in the Maidstone area and no later than AD.60 in date. Gallo-Belgic wares include fragments from Terra Nigra platter and cup forms CAM 8 and CAM 56C (c.AD.20-65) and a butt-beaker in fabric BER 10 (c.AD.15-45). Other finewares include fragments from a South Gaulish Samian Dr.37 bowl (c.AD.70-110)

and North Kent Fineware forms 2H2.2 (c.AD.70-100), 4J1 (c.AD.43-120) and 5B4 (c.AD.70-130).

6.1.25 An absence of calcined-flint tempered wares and the presence of Late Iron Age grog-tempered ware forms suggests that the ditch was cut after AD.25 and before AD.43, with an absence of any specifically 2nd c. forms indicating that it ceased receiving rubbish at the end of the 1st century.

6.1.26 Two north-south ditches ran south from the above and were sectioned by Cuts 1499, 1655, 1680, 1687, 1691, 1709 and 1717, and Cuts 1528, 1582, 1584, 1594, 1596, 1601, 1604, 1627, 1630, 1633, 1636, 1639, 1642 and 1653 respectively. The former produced 45 sherds (338g) and the latter 208 sherds (2119 g.) of pottery with a broadly similar date range.

Medieval-to-Post Medieval

6.1.27 The east-west ditch crossing the middle of the site and sectioned by Cuts 1114, 1116, 1118, 1120, 1122, 1124, 1145, 1177, 1181, 1183, 1185, 1187, 1191, 1193, 1199, 2400, 2414, 2420, 2429 and 2435 produced a mere 45 sherds (107 g.) of pottery, of which 41 came from a recut and include 38 fragments from an open form in pink earthenware fabric PM1 with internal flecky olive-green glaze. The presence of a single fresh sherd from a cooking-pot in grey fabric M1B with profuse iron-stained quartz and sparse crushed flint inclusions (c.AD.1150-1250) in the fill of the original ditch does, however, suggest a medieval date for the feature.

6.1.28 This ditch was in turn cut by a large meandering ditch running south to south-east and sectioned by Cuts 1070, 1087, 1195, 1201, 1211, 1224, 1226, 1229, 1230, 1418, 1423, 1425, 1427, 1429, 1446, 1448, 1452, 1465, 1467, 1472, 1479, 2395, 2398, 2422, 2690 and 2692. This ditch also produced very little pottery (25 sherds, 99 g.), all of which bar five residual Late Iron Age/Roman sherds and a piece of Post-Medieval earthenware are Medieval and belong to the period c.AD.1150-1350.

Recommendations

6.1.29 It is recommended that all of the features mentioned above be published in the final pottery report. The pottery from the Bronze Age and Early Iron Age features should be published in detail with four pottery illustrations, as should that from Middle Iron Age Pits 1505 and 1867 with three illustrations.

6.1.30 The pottery from features associated with the two Roman granaries should be published in outline with only one pot illustration. The same applies to the pottery from the various Late Iron Age/Roman ditches but no illustrations are required here.

6.1.31 The pottery information given here, together with that from the glass and other specialists should be brought together for the various cremation groups and used to publish the individual cremations. It is estimated that 46 pots will need to be drawn. The pottery from the medieval ditches can be published in outline without any illustrations.

6.2 The Registered Small Finds Assessment

INTRODUCTION

6.2.1 The archaeological investigations at Ashford Road, Charing, Kent, comprised an evaluation (CHAR-EV-18) and a Strip, Map and Sample excavation (CHAR-EX-19). Both contributed to a site-wide registered finds assemblage containing artefacts retrieved from the archaeological landscape. Within this assemblage are a collection of individual registered finds, retrieved from a number of archaeological features and deposits. This assemblage will be referred within this report as Group One. However, the site assemblage also contains a series of specific artefactual groupings originating from Late Pre-Roman Iron Age (LPRIA) and early Roman cremation burials. The burials, therefore, comprise Group Two.

6.2.2 This assessment is, therefore, separated into the two sections. Each will comprise a general registered finds catalogue, recommendations and discussions. However, the second section will also examine and discuss the contents of the cremation burial assemblages in detail. Both groups will then be amalgamated to discuss the recommendations and implications of the site assemblage as a whole.

METHODOLOGY

6.2.3 During the archaeological investigations, the artefacts were registered within the site archive, assigned a unique Small Find number (SF:) and placed within clearly labelled poly-grip plastic bags. However, a number of artefacts were block-lifted from several of the cremations and delivered to Dana Goodburn-Brown ACR MA ACIfA for x-ray, excavation

under laboratory conditions and for assessment of their condition. The artefacts from the block-lifts were assigned small find numbers after their removal from the blocks.

6.2.4 The artefacts within the assemblages have been assessed and their state of preservation varies; some are intact, whereas others are not. Certain artefacts, foremostly the non-ferrous metal and iron objects exhibit differing stages of corrosion and thus stability. There are also artefacts in a fragmented condition while others are in a perfect state of preservation.

6.2.5 The catalogue has been divided into the traditional material types and each artefact is listed in small find numerical order. Each entry includes a ceramic spot date (where available), describes the status of the artefact and includes recommendations that address the current state of preservation of each artefact, as well as any further post-excavation work required. Each material type is followed by a short discussion.

6.2.6 In addition to published and unpublished literature, references also include online sources, in particular, that of the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) database.

SECTION ONE: THE GENERAL SITE ASSEMBLAGE

6.2.7 The site assemblage comprises the registered artefacts recovered during both phases of archaeological investigation and concerns the objects other than those forming the cremation burial assemblages, as they are discussed in Section Two.

6.2.8 A total of 56 registered small finds were recovered from both phases of archaeological investigation.

CATALOGUE

THE COINS

SF: 12. Context (1464) [1465].

Ruler: William & Mary

Denomination: halfpenny

Obv: [G]ULIELMUS ET [MA]RIA conjoined busts facing r.

Rev: BRIT[AN]N[IA]. 1694 in ex. Britannia std l.

Recommendations and Further Work: corroded but stable. No further work.

SF: 14. Context (1580) [1582] (c. 70-300 AD).

Ruler: uncertain – Late 1st-early 2nd century AD

Denomination: as

Obv: illegible. bust facing r.

Rev: illegible.

Recommendations and Further Work: corroded and unstable – requires stabilising. No further work.

THE NON-FERROUS METAL OBJECTS

6.2.9 The investigations at Ashford Road produced 17 non-ferrous objects, comprising 1 stone object, 7 copper alloy objects, 1 ceramic object, 2 glass shards, 1 bone object and 5 lead objects. Twelve were recovered from archaeological contexts, whereas the remaining 5 were recovered from the subsoil with the aid of a metal detector.

STONE:

SF: 75. Context (2731) [2732] (c. 100 BC-50 AD). Flake with multi-facets, a result of producing longitudinal narrow bladelet flakes. No outer cortex. Also present is a flat striking platform and bulb of percussion. Length: 56mm. Width (max): 30mm. Thickness (max): 8mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

COPPER ALLOY:

SF: 9. Context (1001). Fragment of shrapnel. Length: 45mm. Width: 40mm. Thickness: 1.75mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: none.

SF: 9a. Context (1337) [1338] (c. 100 BC-100 AD). Incomplete pair of tweezers. Length: 33mm. Width: 3.5mm. Thickness: 0.75mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 16. Context (1001). Incomplete ovate-shaped piece of hammered sheet metal. Function unknown. Length: 40mm. Width: 28mm. Thickness: 0.5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: none.

SF: 22. Context (1722) [1724]. Incomplete Knotenfibeln brooch (c. 100-50 BC). The pin and catchplate are missing. The spring comprises four coils. The apex of the bow has an integrally cast, raised decorative zone. The decoration comprises a very fine cross-work lattice. The remnants of the catchplate demonstrate that the catchplate had openwork decoration. Length: 64.5mm. Width (spring): 8.5mm. Width (bow): 5.5mm max. Thickness: 1.5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustration.

SF: 23. Context (1894) [1895] (c. 50 BC-60 AD). Complete cast dome-shaped stud with iron shank. The shank has a square-shaped section and tapers to a point. Length (dome): 11mm. Diameter (dome): 11mm. Length (shank): 15mm. Width (shank): 4mm. Thickness (shank): 4mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: unstable, requires conservation and illustration.

SF: 25. Context (2140) [2142] (c. 25 BC-70 AD). Incomplete Nauheim/Nauheim Derivative brooch. Bow only. Length: 36mm. Width (bow): 3.5mm max. Thickness (max): 1mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: unstable, requires conservation and illustration.

SF: 133. Context (1969) (c. 1000 BC-250 AD). Incomplete Colchester brooch with solid catchplate, recovered from environmental sample <131>. The pin, half of the spring and hook for holding the spring mechanism are missing. Length: 43mm. Width (spring): 15.5mm. Width of bow (max): 5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: unstable, requires conservation and illustration.

CERAMIC:

6.2.10 There were two ceramic artefacts recovered from Ashford Road. However, during the post-excavation process, one entry (**SF: 33**) has been identified as a fragment of peg tile and has therefore, not been included within this assessment.

SF: 26. Context (2149) [2150] (c. 100 BC-100 AD). Complete ovate-shaped spindle whorl, with circular, central hole. Formed from a trimmed sherd, a basal fragment. Length: 50mm. Width: 47mm. Thickness: 10.5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires confirmation of fabric and date. Illustrate.

GLASS:

6.2.11 The investigations at Ashford Road, produced two shards of glass. Both are Roman.

SF: 21. Context (1628) [1630] (c. 25 BC-60 AD). A green-blue coloured shard from the corner of a square-shaped bottle. Length: 25mm. Width (max): 14.5mm. Thickness (max): 4mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate/photograph.

SF: 28. Context (2165) [2166]. Basal shard of cobalt-blue coloured glass with foot ring, probably from a flask, bowl or drinking vessel. Length: 17mm. Width (max): 11.5mm. Thickness (base): 2.5mm. Thickness (foot ring): 4mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate/photograph.

BONE:

6.2.12 There were two bone artefacts recovered from Ashford Road. However, during the post-excavation process, one entry (SF: 19) was identified as a fragment of burnt animal bone and has, therefore, not been included within this assessment.

SF: 20. Context (1542) [1543]. Point fragment of a pin or needle with circular-shaped section. Length: 22mm. Diameter: 5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustration.

LEAD:

6.2.13 The investigations at Ashford Road, produced six lead artefacts. Two were recovered from archaeological contexts, the remainder were recovered from the subsoil (1001) with the aid of a metal detector.

SF: 6. Context (1234) [1235]. Complete, cast and ovate-shaped repair plug for a medieval ceramic vessel. The remnant of a sherd remains *in situ* within one of the recesses formed by the inner edge of the vessel's damaged area. The surface of the rear (or inner) face of the plug has the impression of fabric imprinted into it, suggesting that the vessel and area undergoing repair, had fabric placed within it to act as a medium to prevent the molten lead dispersing from the damaged area, and thereby helping the lead to pool. Length: 71mm. Width (max): 58.5mm. Thickness: 18mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires confirmation of the ceramic fabric and date. Illustrate.

SF: 8. Context (1001). Complete, cast and ovate-shaped palm guard. Length: 58mm. Width (max): 36mm. Thickness: 3mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 15. Context (1001). Fragment of handle from a pewter vessel. The fragment has a slight curve, tapers and has an elliptical cross-section. Length: 25mm. Width (max): 19.5mm. Thickness (max): 5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 18. Context (1001). A non-determinate, irregular-shaped piece. Length: 25mm. Width (max): 15mm. Thickness: 2.5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: none.

SF: 76. Context (2231) [2232] (c. 100 BC-50 AD). x2 non-determinate, irregular-shaped pieces.

Recommendations and Further Work: very unstable and fragmentary. Stabilise.

THE FERROUS METAL OBJECTS

6.2.14 The investigations at Ashford Road produced 37 ferrous artefacts. The majority of the assemblage comprises objects that are currently unidentifiable due to the extent of the encrustation adhering to them. Thirt-five objects were recovered from archaeological contexts, the remainder were retrieved from the subsoil (1001) with the aid of a metal detector.

6.2.15 Two fragments of Iron slag (**SFs: 10** and **11**) were recorded as registered finds. However, the slag has been assessed in a separate report that discusses the metallurgical process taking place at Ashford Road and are, therefore, not discussed here.

SF: 17. Context (1001). Uncertain and incomplete flat, forged object. Rectangular in shape. Length: 59mm. Width: 32.5mm. Thickness (max): 2.5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 24. Context (1889) [1891] (c. 50 BC-110 AD). Complete latch-lifter comprising a thin strip with a rectangular-shaped section, that has a length of 430mm and is formed into a crescent. The crescent has an average width of 9.5mm and a thickness of 4.5mm. At one end the strip has been turned 090° to form a handle, and the end of the handle terminates as an enclosed loop. The handle has a length of 95mm, a width of 14.5mm and a thickness of 5mm. Identical to a late 4th early 5th century AD example from Elm's Farm, Heybridge (Atkinson and Preston, 2015. Fig. 477. No. 165) and very similar to a mid-2nd- 3rd century AD example from Dragonby, Lincs (May, 1996. Fig. 11.37. No. 62) and a specimen from the King Harry Lane site at Verulamium (Stead and Rigby, 1989. Fig. 22. No. 199).

Recommendations and Further Work: unstable and requires stabilising. Also requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 27. Context (2149) [2150] (c. 100 BC-100 AD). Uncertain incomplete object. Part of the object may be circular in section for a length of 50mm where it then becomes square for an additional 55mm before terminating into a point. Length: 105mm. Diameter: 7.5mm. Width: 4mm. Thickness: 3mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 29. Context (1969) (c. 1000 BC-250 AD). Complete Key with square-shaped solid bit that extends slightly from the end of the shank. The shank is flat, has a rectangular-shaped section and tapers towards the bow. The bow is encrusted and cannot be described. Length: 88mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 30. Context (1969) (c. 1000 BC-250 AD). Probable square-sectioned nail, in 3 fragments. Length: 70mm. Width: 7.5mm. Thickness: 6mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 34. Context (1001). Complete medieval buckle frame. The frame comprises an oval-shaped buckle at one end and a large single loop D-shaped buckle with lip and offset strap

bar at the other. A bar with turned over ends, to form loops, is suspended from the bar of the large buckle. Length of frame: 186mm. Width of frame (average): 15mm. Thickness (average): 6.5mm. The oval-shaped buckle; Length: 35.5mm. Width: 31mm. Thickness: 6mm. D-shaped buckle; Length: 51mm. Width: 48mm. Thickness: 8mm. Suspended bar; Length: 80mm. Thickness: 12mm. Width: 10mm. The frame has a circular-shaped hole behind the bar of the oval-shaped buckle, either for a pin or attachment to another object, perhaps a belt, and another within a D-shaped terminal at the opposite end of the frame. The oval-shaped buckle and section of frame mimics the style of single loop buckles with decorative integral plates, which are dated c. 1250-1400. The style of single loop D-shaped buckle with lip and offset strap bar occur between c. 1350 and 1450 (Whitehead, 2016).

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification and stabilising. Illustrate.

SF: 77. Context (2404) [2405] (c. 1150-1250 AD). Fragment of horseshoe. Length: 117.5mm. Width: 36mm. Thickness: 5.5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 78. Context (2331) [2332]. Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 79. Context (2237) [2238]. Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 80. Context (2302) [2304] (c. 43-200 AD). Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 81. Context (1585) [1586]. Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 82. Context (1575) [1576]. Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 83. Context (1673) [1674] (c. 50 BC-150 AD). Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 84. Context (1572) [1574] (c. 25 BC-70 AD). Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 85. Context (1564) [1565] (c. 50-150 AD). Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 86. Context (1599) [1601] (c. 100 BC-250 AD). Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 87. Context (1608) [1610] (c. 100 BC-100 AD). Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 88. Context (2316) [2318]. Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 89. Context (1538) [1540] (c. 70-250 AD). Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 90. Context (1896) [1897] (c. 25 BC-70 AD). Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 91. Context (1881) [1883] (c. 0-130 AD). Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 92. Context (1317) [1318] (c. 60-200 AD). Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 93. Context (1774) [1776]. Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 94. Context (1480) [1481]. Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 95. Context (1562) [1563]. Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 96. Context (1559) [1561]. Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 97. Context (1612) [1613] (c 1200-1350 AD). Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 98. Context (1647) [1651]. Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 99. Context (1615) [1617]. Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 100. Context (1289) [1290]. Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 101. Context (1560) [1561] (c. 43-300 AD). Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 102. Context (1876) [1879] (c. 0-150 AD). Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 103. Context (1466) [1467]. Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 104. Context (2183) [2184]. Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 105. Context (1626) [1627] (c. 50 BC-150 AD). Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 106. Context (1631) [1633] (c. 50 BC-110 AD). Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 107. Context (1580) [1582] (c. 70-300 AD). Uncertain.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SECTION TWO: THE CREMATION BURIAL ASSEMBLAGES

6.2.16 The archaeological investigations at Ashford Road, Charing, revealed 15 cremation burials. One may have spanned the Late Pre-Roman Iron Age and immediate post-Roman Conquest, transitional period (c. 50 BC-50 AD), whereas ten fall within the early-Roman period (c. 50-150 AD) and four within the mid-Roman period (c. 150-250 AD). Five of the burials contained large assemblages comprising a mixture of artefacts, burial furniture and vessels, whereas eight contained only ceramic vessels. One contained a single glass vessel and another, un-urned cremation, did not have grave goods.

6.2.17 Each cremation entry begins with a brief description of the assemblage and comprises all registered and non-registered artefacts and any other contents placed within the graves. Each entry then breaks down the assemblage into a full description of each of its component parts.

<u>CREMATION 1</u> (c. 70-130 AD)

Cremation 1 (1030) [1031] contained an un-urned cremation and two ceramic vessels (**SFs: 108** and **109**). The burial assemblage also included 13 iron hobnails found in the backfill (Sample No. 7) and a food offering, possibly in the form of a cut of pig or sheep.

The ceramic vessels:

SF: 108. Vessel 1, a samian bowl with ivy-leaf decoration applied around the rim (Dragendorff 36).

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 109. Vessel 2, a North Kent fineware beaker.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

The hobnails:

SFs: 185-195. Ten individual hobnails of, more or less, the same form and size. The average measurements are Diameter (head): 10mm. Length: 10mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 196. A thin rectangular-shaped strip containing 3 hobnails. The strip has a length of 45mm, a width of 12mm and a thickness of 2mm. The hobnails are of the same size and measurements as **SFs: 185-195**.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

<u>CREMATION 2</u> (c. 70-110 AD)

Cremation 2 (1036) [1037] contained an un-urned cremation and two ceramic vessels (**SFs: 110** and **111**). The burial assemblage also included three iron nails, found in the backfill (Sample No. 8).

The ceramic vessels:

SF: 110. Vessel 1, a samian dish (Dragendorff 18).

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 111. Vessel 2, a North Kent fineware biconical beaker.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

The nails:

SF: 1. Incomplete nail (shank only). Shank has a square section. Length: 28mm. Width: 4mm. Thickness: 3mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 197. Incomplete nail (shank only). Shank has a square section. Length: 23mm. Width: 3mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 198. Complete nail with an ovate-shaped head and a shank that has a square section. Length (head): 15mm. Width (head): 13mm. Length: 46mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

CREMATION 3 (c. 70-110 AD)

Cremation 3 (1042) [1043] contained an un-urned cremation, a single ceramic vessel (**SF: 112**) and a single, incomplete iron nail (**SF: 2**).

The ceramic vessel:

SF: 112. Vessel 1, a South Gaulish Samian Dr 36 platter.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

The nail:

SF: 2. Incomplete nail (shank only). Shank has a square section. Length: 32.5mm. Width: 3.5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

CREMATION 4 (c. 60-110 AD)

Cremation 4 (1049) [1050] contained an un-urned cremation, a single ceramic vessel (**SF: 113**) and 41 sherds. The burial assemblage also included five iron nails (**SFs: 3-5** and **199-200**).

The ceramic vessel:

SF: 113. Vessel 1, a Ring-and-dot beaker.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

The nails:

SF: 3. Complete nail with a rectangular-shaped head that is off-set to one side, and a shank that is square in section. The head measures 15mm x 12mm. Length: 48mm. The shank has a width of 4mm and a thickness of 4mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 4. Incomplete nail – part of the shank is missing. The nail has a rectangular-shaped head that is off-set to one side, and a shank that is square in section. The head measures 14mm x 11.5mm. Length: 25mm. The shank has a width of 5mm and a thickness of 4.5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 5. Incomplete nail – part of the shank is missing. The nail has a rectangular-shaped head that is off-set to one side, and a shank that is square in section. The head measures 15mm x 13mm. Length: 33mm. The shank has a width of 6mm and a thickness of 5.5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 199. Incomplete nail (shank only). Shank has a square section. Length: 24mm. Width: 4mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 200. Incomplete nail (shank only). Shank has a square section. Length: 20mm. Width: 3.5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

CREMATION 5 (c. 60-110 AD)

Cremation 5 (1053) [1054] contained an un-urned cremation and two ceramic vessels (**SFs: 114** and **115**). The burial assemblage may also have included a food offering, possibly in the form of a cut of pig or sheep.

The ceramic vessels:

SF: 114. Vessel 1, a platter.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 115. Vessel 2, a ring-and-dot beaker.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

CREMATION 6 (c. 43-70/150 AD)

Cremation 6 (1785) [1786] contained eight ceramic vessels (**SFs: 116-123**) and 45 discarded sherds from approximately six other ceramic forms. The burial assemblage also included a food offering, possibly in the form of a cut of pig or sheep.

The ceramic vessels:

SF: 116. Vessel 1, a Miniature pot.

Recommendations and Further Work: analyse contents. Illustrate.

SF: 117. Vessel 2, a Miniature pot.

Recommendations and Further Work: analyse contents. Illustrate.

SF: 118. Vessel 3, a Miniature pot.

Recommendations and Further Work: analyse contents. Illustrate.

SF: 119. Vessel 4, a Miniature pot.

Recommendations and Further Work: analyse contents. Illustrate.

SF: 120. Vessel 5, a Miniature pot.

Recommendations and Further Work: analyse contents. Illustrate.

SF: 121. Vessel 6, a Miniature pot.

Recommendations and Further Work: analyse contents. Illustrate.

SF: 122. Vessel 7, a Miniature pot.

Recommendations and Further Work: analyse contents. Illustrate.

SF: 123. Vessel 8, a Miniature pot.

Recommendations and Further Work: analyse contents. Illustrate.

CREMATION 7 (c. 50-150 AD)

Cremation 7 (2391) (2392) [2393] was an un-urned cremation burial that contained a single sherd of coarse Canterbury ware with an oxidised orange fabric.

CREMATION 8 (c. 25 BC-70 AD)

Cremation 8 (2389) [2390] contained an un-urned cremation and a single ceramic vessel (**SF: 124**). The burial assemblage also comprised a badly damaged copper alloy brooch in two fragments (**SFs: 31** and **32**).

The ceramic vessel:

SF: 124. Vessel 1, a coarse 'Belgic' grog-tempered jar.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

The brooch:

SFs: 31 and **32**. Incomplete and damaged brooch, possibly a Colchester. The brooch lay within the cremated remains of the deceased and the damage to the brooch may have been caused by the pyre. Most of the spring is missing, as is the pin and catchplate. Length of 41.5mm. Width (head): 16.5mm. Width (bow): 5mm. Thickness (bow): 3mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: unstable, requires stabilising. Determine brooch type and illustrate.

CREMATION 9 (c. 70-110 AD)

Cremation 9 (2579) [2580] contained two ceramic vessels (**SFs: 125** and **126**) and a large glass vessel (**SF: 127**), a bottle, within which the cremated remains of the deceased were interred. The assemblage also comprised a single, complete iron nail (**SF: 35**).

The ceramic vessels:

SF: 125. Vessel 1, a samian dish (Dragendorff 18).

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 126. Vessel 2, a samian dish (Dragendorff 18/31).

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

The glass:

SF: 127. Complete, yet fractured, blue-green coloured, hexagonal-shaped bottle with a single handle. Mould-blown with a raised foundry mark on the underside of the base, in the form of a large outer circle containing a hexagon, which in turn contains a central circle. The sides of the hexagon are slightly concave, and the central circle is wide and bordered with a thinner outer and inner circle. The rim has been folded inward on the underside, and the handle extends from the shoulder. Height: 36cm. Width: 26cm. The distribution of hexagonal-shaped bottles is described as relatively common (Price and Cottam, 1989. Pg. 199). However, the re-use of the larger specimens as cinerary urns are a scarce occurrence. Similar examples have been found within cremation cemeteries at Barrow upon Soar, Leicestershire (Ellis, 1867. Vol. 69. pp. 223-225), Girton College, Cambridge (Liversidge, 1977. Pg. 18. Pl 3) and Glass Bottle 1 (the cremation vessel) from the burial at Kelshall, Herts (PAS: BH-84CCFA) dated c. 205-215 AD. Other examples that may be similar have been recovered from the eastern London cemetery (Barber and Bowsher, 2000) and near the Silchester Gate, Verulamium (Price and Cottam, ibid. Pg.200).

Recommendations and Further Work: requires reconstruction and illustration.

The nail:

SF: 35. Complete nail with an ovate-shaped head and a shank that is square in section. The head measures 16mm x 14mm. Length: 83mm. The shank tapers and has a maximum width of 7mm and a thickness of 6.5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

<u>CREMATION 10</u> (c. 150-200 AD)

Cremation 10 (2595) [2596] contained an un-urned cremation, four ceramic vessels (**SFs: 128-131**) and an iron lamp (**SF: 132**) complete with suspension hanger (**SF: 134**). The burial assemblage also contained six iron nails (**SFs: 36-41**) and a food offering, possibly in the form of a cut of pig or sheep, and oysters.

The ceramic vessels:

SF: 128. Vessel 1, a samian cup (Dragendorff 46).

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 129. Vessel 2, a dish.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 130. Vessel 3, a flagon of coarse Canterbury ware with an oxidised orange fabric.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 131. Vessel 4, a beaker.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

The lamp, chain and suspension hanger:

SF: 132. Complete cast oil lamp. The lamp is pear-shaped, has a flat base and vertical sides, forming an inner bowl. A rectangular-shaped strip extends upwards from the back and partially curves over the rear of the bowl – thus forming a handle. The end of the strip contains a circular hole through which a short rod with a diamond-shaped end has been inserted. The other end of the rod has been bent over and inserted through the loop of a hanger (see **SF: 134**). The function of the rod is to allow the lamp to swivel/pivot. Length: 120mm. Width (max): 90mm. The lamp is identical to specimens recovered from the cremation cemeteries at Arbury, Cambridgeshire (Liversidge, 1977. pp. 11-14. Pl. 1), Aylesham, Kent (Britchfield, Holmes and Wilkinson, 2020. Cremation 10a, c. 75-125 AD and Cremation 11, c. 75-200 AD), Barrow upon Soar, Leicestershire (Ellis, ibid), Bartlow Hills, Essex (Gage, 1841. Vol. 29/1. pp. 1-4), dated c. 75-125 AD, Bayford, near Sittingbourne (Payne, 1886. Vol. 16. Pg. 3) c. mid-2nd century, Brighton (Dudley, 1981. 119. pp. 68-88), Rougham, Suffolk (Henslow, 1843 and Babington, 1872) and Stansted (Havis and Brooks, 2004). Two cremations, both in wooden chests, at Girton College, Cambridge both

contained an iron lamp (Liversidge, 1977. Pg. 18. Pl 3). Other, non-burial examples have been recovered at Barcombe, East Sussex (Millum, 2010) and Corbridge, which has been dated after c. 98 AD (Daniels, 1968. pp. 115-126) and c. 122-138 AD (Allason-Jones & Bishop, 1988. Pg. 60. Fig. 78. No. 98). The Charing lamp is also similar to the lamp, with a rod through the handle, from Kelshall, Herts (PAS: BH-84CCFA) dated c. 205-215 AD.

SF: 134. Complete forged lamp hanger in the form of a spiked rod with a square-shaped cross-section. At one end (traditionally referred to as the bottom) is a flat loop. Approximately 70mm from the opposite end is a downward-curving spiked hook, which has been welded to the rod. The flattened loop houses a short rod with a diamond-shaped end. The other end of the rod has been bent over and inserted through the circular hole in the handle of the lamp (see **SF:132**). The function of the rod is to swivel/pivot. Overall length: 30mm. Width: 13mm. Identical examples from other cremation burials include Arbury, Cambridgeshire (Liversidge, ibid), Aylesham, Kent (Britchfield, Holmes and Wilkinson. 2020. Cremation 10a, c. 75-125 AD), Barrow upon Soar, Leicestershire (Ellis, ibid), Bartlow Hills, Essex (Gage, ibid), dated c. 75-125 AD, Brighton (Dudley, ibid) and two within cremations at Girton College, Cambridge (Liversidge, ibid). Other, non-burial examples include Barcombe, (Millum, ibid), Corbridge (Allason-Jones and Bishop, ibid) and Water Newton, Cambs (British Museum Acc. No. 1882,0621.81). Another example from Aylesham, Kent (Britchfield, Holmes and Wilkinson. ibid. Cremation 11, c. 150-200 AD) is similar but does not possess a flattened loop to house a swivel/pivot.

Recommendations and Further Work: all are unstable and require stabilising before Illustration.

The nails:

SF: 36. Incomplete nail with an oval-shaped head and a shank that is square in section. The head measures 15mm x 13.5mm. Length: 32mm. The shank has a width of 4mm and a thickness of 4mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 37. Incomplete – part of the shank is missing. The nail has a damaged irregular-shaped head and a shank that is square in section. The head measures 14.5mm x 11mm. Length: 35mm. The shank has a width of 4mm and a thickness of 4mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 38. Incomplete – part of the shank is missing. The nail has a rectangular-shaped head and a shank that is rectangular in section. The head measures 14mm x 10.5mm. Length: 34mm. The shank has a width of 4.5mm and a thickness of 3.5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 39. Incomplete – shank only. The shank has a square section. Length: 45mm. Width: 4mm. Thickness: 3.5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 40. Incomplete – shank only. The shank has a rectangular section. Length: 40mm. The shank has a width of 5mm and a thickness of 4mm. The nail has been clinched.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 41. Complete nail with an oval-shaped head and a shank that is square in section. The head measures 15mm x 13.5mm. Length: 70.5mm. The shank has a width of 6mm and a thickness of 6mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

CREMATION 11 (c. 150-200 AD)

Cremation 11 (2568) (2569) (2570) [2571] contained seven ceramic vessels **SFs: 135-141**) and two glass vessels (**SFs: 142 and 143**) placed with a timber-lined grave cut. The cremated remains of the deceased were interred within one of the glass vessels (**SF: 143**), a large convex jar. The timber lining survived and is to be analised by Damien Goodburn-Brown. The timbers were block-lifted, x-rayed and examined by Damien and Dana

Goodburn-Brown. The burial assemblage also contained nine iron nails (**SFs: 42-50**). The timber lining, forming a wooden chamber is identical to another example discovered at Turners Hall Farm, Wheathampstead, Herts (West, 2015. 10.3.1), dated c. 150 AD or later, and that at Kelshall, Herts (PAS: BH-84CCFA) dated c. 205-215 AD. The burial assemblage within Cremation 11 also included a food offering, in the form of a cut of either pig or sheep.

The ceramic vessels:

SF: 135. Vessel 1, a flagon.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 136. Vessel 2, a samian cup (Dragendorff 27).

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 137. Vessel 3, a samian bowl (Dragendorff 36).

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 138. Vessel 4, a samian bowl (Dragendorff 36).

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 139. Vessel 6, a Roughcast beaker.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 140. Vessel 7, a beaker.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 141. Vessel 9, a coarse 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware jar.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

The glass vessels:

SF: 142. Vessel 5. A mostly intact and complete small translucent glass *ungentarium* with a tall neck, an out turned rim and a small slightly bulbous-shaped body with a flat base. Height: 94mm. Diameter (base): 20mm. Diameter (rim): 23mm. The base is similar to a specimen form Colchester (Cool and Price, 1995. Pg. 160. Fig. 9.11. No. 1238). A similar ungentarium has been recovered from Grave 6645 discovered near Gravesend, during excavations on the A2 Pepperhill to Cobham road-scheme (Allen et al, 2012).

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray, restoration and illustration.

SF: 143. Vessel 8. Complete, yet fractured, light blue-green coloured and globular-shaped convex jar (Price and Cottam, 1989. pp. 138-140) with a wide tapering neck, large rim and two wide handles, formed of three convex moulded bands. The vessel is supported by a large circular foot ring. Height: 29cm. Diameter (max): 24.13cm. Identical to Vessel 1 within Cremation 12, which is intact, and another intact specimen from Castle Meadows, Lower Walmer (Woodruff, 1902. *Arch Cant*. Vol. 25. pp. 1-10). A fourth example has also been recorded at Westborough, near Maidstone (Poste, 1859. *Arch Cant*. Vol. 2. pp. 143-148). Also identical to an example from Rougham, Suffolk (Henslow, ibid and Babington, ibid) and very similar to a specimen from Geldestone, Norfolk (Price and Cottam, ibid. Pg. 140). All contained cremated remains.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray, excavation, reconstruction and illustration.

The nails:

SF: 42. Incomplete nail – part of the shank is missing and has an irregular-shaped head that is off-set to one side, and a shank that is rectangular in section. The head measures 17mm x 11mm. Length: 35mm. The shank has a width of 5mm and a thickness of 2mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 43. Incomplete nail – shank only. The shank has a rectangular section. Length: 25.5mm. The shank has a width of 4mm and a thickness of 3mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 44. Incomplete nail – shank only. The shank has a square section. Length: 29.5mm. Width: 5.5mm. Thickness: 5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 45. Incomplete nail – uncertain body part due to encrustation.

Recommendations and Further Work: x-ray and illustrate.

SF: 46. Complete nail with an ovate-shaped head that is off-set to one side, and a shank that is square in section. The head measures 22mm x 17.5mm. Length: 53mm. The shank has a width of 4mm and a thickness of 4mm. The nail has been clinched.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 47. Complete nail with an ovate-shaped head and a shank that is square in section. The head measures 15mm x 13mm. Length: 63mm. The shank has a width of 5mm and a thickness of 5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 48. Incomplete nail – shank only. The shank has a square section. Length: 29mm. The shank has a width of 4.5mm and a thickness of 4mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 49. Incomplete nail – head only. The head has a triangular shape. Length: 15mm. Width: 15mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 50. Complete nail with an ovate-shaped head and a shank with square section. The head measures 13.5mm x 9mm. Length: 45mm. The shank has a width of 5mm and a thickness of 5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

CREMATION 12 (c. 150-200 AD)

Cremation 12 (2627) [2628] contained a single glass vessel, a (**SF: 144**) and a badly damaged copper alloy fixture (**SF: 51**) comprising a thin copper alloy sheet between two oval-shaped and domed studs. The cremated remains of the deceased and fragments of molten glass were interred within the glass vessel. The inclusion of molten glass amongst the remains, alludes to the presence of pyre goods. A copper alloy cosmetic implement, an ear-scoop (**SF: 201**) was also present.

The glass vessel:

SF: 144. Vessel 1 Complete and intact, light blue-green coloured and globular-shaped convex jar (Price and Cottam, 1989. pp. 138-140) with a wide tapering neck, large rim and two wide handles, formed of three convex moulded bands. The vessel is supported by a large circular foot ring. Height: 29cm. Diameter (max): 24.13cm. Identical to Vessel 8 within Cremation 11 and the examples from Lower Walmer (Woodruff, ibid), Westborough, near Maidstone (Poste, ibid), Rougham, Suffolk (Henslow, ibid and Babington, ibid) and very similar to a specimen from Geldestone, Norfolk (Price and Cottam, ibid). All contained cremated remains.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires illustration.

The copper alloy fixture:

SF: 51. Incomplete. The fixture comprises a rectangular-shaped copper alloy sheet measuring approximately 30mm x 8mm. It has a thickness of 0.5mm. The studs are composite artefacts comprising two halves; an upper domed section with integral pin/shank, and a second section in the form of a domed ring through which the pin/shank has been threaded. The space between each half has been filled with lead. The studs have a length of 11.5mm, a width of 9mm and a thickness of 5mm. The domes have a height of 2.5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: unstable, requires stabilising. Illustrate.

The molten glass:

SF: 202. Molten glass fragments. Currently with Archaeological Research Services.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

The cosmetic implement:

SF: 201. Currently with Archaeological Research Services.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

<u>CREMATION 13</u> (c. 170-200 AD)

Cremation 13 (2654) (2655) [2656] contained an urned cremation, seven ceramic vessels (**SFs: 145-151**) and three glass vessels (**SFs: 153-155**). All had been placed within a large undecorated wooden chest with a hinged lid. Hugh Borrill refers to this type of grave as a box-burial: 'these boxes are large enough to accommodate all of the grave goods and are undecorated' (Borrill, 1981. Pg. 304). In addition to the chest, it was noted, during the excavation of the grave, that the assemblage also contained a small area of soil staining (2655) and an assortment of copper alloy artefacts. The area of soil staining was block-lifted, x-rayed by Dana Goodburn-Brown and has now been identified as the remains of a small decorated wooden lock-box. The burial assemblage within Cremation 13 also included a food offering, possibly in the form of a cut of pig or sheep.

The large wooden chest:

The large chest (2654) containing the grave assemblage would have had a rectangular shape, a length of 95cm, a width of 75cm and a probable height of 30cm, the height being based on the depth of the grave cut. The panels of the box had been fixed with iron nails (**SFs: 56-60**) and two iron hinges (**SFs: 63** and **64**) were fitted to attach a lid to the rear panel. The presence of wooden chests, though well-known remain a scarce component within cremation burials. The presence of an undecorated chest, containing the whole burial assemblage, is identical to that of Cremation 11 at Aylesham, c. 75-200 AD (Britchfield, Holmes and Wilkinson, ibid. Cremation 11) and the larger burial discovered at Turners Hall Farm, Wheathampstead, Herts (West, ibid) dated c. 150 AD or later. Both also contained large burial assemblages that included a decorated wooden casket containing the cremated remains of the deceased. The presence of the chest at Ashford Road is also very similar to Cremation 10a at Aylesham, c. 75-125 AD (Britchfield, Holmes and Wilkinson, ibid. Cremation 10a). That undecorated chest contained a wooden decorated lock-box, a bronze bowl, multiple ceramic and glass vessels and an iron lamp and lamp hanger (identical to the those deposited within Cremation 10 at Ashford Road). Other examples from Kent include mention of chests from a cremation cemetery near Old Dover Road, Canterbury (Brent, 1861. Pg. 29).

The nails:

SF: 56. Complete nail with an irregular-shaped head that is off-set to one side, and a shank that is square in section. The head measures 13mm x 10mm. Length: 30mm. The shank has a width of 4mm and a thickness of 4mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 57. Incomplete nail (head and upper shank only) with an irregular-shaped head and a shank that is rectangular in section. The head measures 17mm x 12mm. Length: 20mm. The shank has a width of 6mm and a thickness of 4.5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 58. Complete nail with an irregular-shaped head and a shank that is square in section. The head measures 13.5mm x 11mm. Length: 59mm. The shank has a width of 5mm and a thickness of 5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 59. Complete nail with an irregular-shaped head and a shank that is rectangular in section. The head measures 8mm x 7mm. Length: 55mm. The shank has a width of 3mm and a thickness of 2mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 60. Incomplete nail (head and upper shank only) with an ovate-shaped head and a shank that is rectangular in section. The head measures 13mm x 12.5mm. Length: 24mm. The shank has a width of 3mm and a thickness of 4mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

The hinges:

SF: 63 and **64**. Both hinges are identical and comprise two looped prongs, either side of a central spike, pierced at one end. All three are connected by an iron rod, which allows each hinge to pivot. The ends of the two looped prongs of hinge (**SF: 63**) are missing. However, those of hinge (**SF: 64**) are complete. Therefore, it is possible to determine that both had a length of 56mm. The length of the central spikes cannot be determined as (**SF: 64**) is missing and (SF: 63) is incomplete. The central spike of hinge (**SF: 63**) has a surviving length of 36mm. The hinges are identical to specimens from Burials XLV and LIX from Skeleton Green (Partridge, ibid. pp. 310. Fig. 115. Letter: d, and pp. 311. Fig. 116. Letters: d and e).

Recommendations and Further Work: the hinges are unstable and require stabilising. Illustrate.

Other nails within the assemblage comprised:

SF: 52. Complete nail with an irregular-shaped head and a shank that is square in section. The head measures 14mm x 9mm. Length: 48mm. The shank has a width of 5mm and a thickness of 5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 53. Incomplete nail – shank only. The shank has a square section. Length: 45mm. The shank has a width of 4mm and a thickness of 4mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 54. Complete nail with an ovate-shaped head that is off-set to one side. The shank has a square section. The head measures 11.5mm x 8mm. Length: 33.5mm. The shank has a width of 5mm and a thickness of 4.5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 55. Complete nail with a rectangular-shaped head that is off-set to one side. The shank has a rectangular section. The head measures 8.5mm x 5mm. Length: 47.5mm. The shank has a width of 4mm and a thickness of 4mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 61. Incomplete nail – shank only. The shank has a square section. Length: 42mm. Width: 3.5mm. Thickness: 3mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 70. Incomplete nail – shank only. The shank has a square section. Length: 33mm. Width: 3mm. Thickness: 3mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 71. Complete nail with an irregular-shaped head. The shank has a rectangular section. The head measures 9.5mm x 6mm. Length: 42mm. The shank has a width of 4mm and a thickness of 3mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

The ceramic vessels:

SF: 145. Vessel 1, a jar.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 146. Vessel 3, a samian transitional platter/bowl (Dragendorff 18/31).

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 147. Vessel 4, a North Kent fineware beaker.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 148. Vessel 5, a Roughcast beaker.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 149. Vessel 7, a coarse Canterbury oxidised orange flagon.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 150. Vessel 8, samian.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 151. Vessel 9, contained the cremated remains of the deceased and a bracelet (**SF: 152**).

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

The bracelet:

SF: 152. Complete but fragmentary iron bracelet. Currently with Dana Goodburn-Brown.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires excavation from the block lift to aid identification and illustration. The bracelet is unstable and requires stabilising and reconstruction.

The glass vessels:

SF: 153. Vessel 2. Complete but fragmented, large translucent glass *ungentarium* form 82 B2 (Isings, 1957). Comprises a tall neck with an out turned rim, and a wide, low, and conical-shaped body with a flat base. No pontil mark. Identical to a late 2nd - early 3rd century AD example in the Carnegie Museum (Bergmann & Oliver, 1980. pp 84 No. 106) and a 2nd century candlestick *ungentarium* in the Joop van der Groen Collection (Allaire, 2016). Height: 140mm. Diameter (base): 82mm. Diameter (rim): 38mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires reconstruction and illustration.

SF: 154. Vessel 6. Very fragmented – identification of vessel not identifiable. Translucent glass. Fragments suggest a flask with a tall neck, out turned rim and a bulbous-shaped body with a convex base and applied, hollow foot ring. Remnants of a Handle survive. Dimensions not possible.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires reconstruction, identification and illustration.

SF: 155. Vessel 11. Within the block lift and visible in the x-ray, is a complete and intact small glass vessel, possibly a cosmetic jar. The vessel contained within the smaller box.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires excavation from the block lift to aid identification and illustration.

Miscellaneous:

The larger box also contained two miscellaneous objects:

SF: 62. Context (2654). Miscellaneous iron object - possible nail head. Length: 20mm. Width: 14mm. Thickness: 6mm. Situated within the north corner of the box.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires an x-ray to aid further identification.

SF: 65. Context (2654). Curved fragment of copper alloy, perhaps a section of bow from a brooch. Length: 11.5mm. Width (max): 5mm. Thickness: 1.5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: unstable, requires stabilising.

The smaller lock-box:

The smaller lock-box (2655) had an approximate length of 25cm, a width of 15cm and a probable depth of 8-10cm (the box contained an intact glass vessel, which as a height of 70mm). X-ray shows that there is a complete absence of nails, suggesting that the box had been a dovetailed construct. Four corners of the box have been fitted with copper binding fixtures, two of which (**SFs: 156** and **157**) were found *in situ*, survive relatively intact, and are held in place by copper studs (including **SFs: 66-69, 73** and **74**). The box has also been fitted with six decorative finials (**SF: 72** and **158-162**) and has a copper alloy handle (**SF: 163**) attached to an iron backing plate (**SF: 166**). The backing plate has been fixed to the box by copper studs. The box has a locking mechanism comprising a thin iron casing/escutcheon plate (**SF: 167**) housing a copper alloy lock bolt (**SF: 168**). Situated next to the handle is an iron key (**SF: 169**).

Unlike the decorative cosmetic box from Gravesend (Allen et al, ibid. Grave 6635. pp.354-359 and 369-373. Fig. 4.31.) which has internal copper alloy partitions, the x-ray of the lock-box revealed a seemingly open interior. However, it is possible that the interior may have contained wooden compartments, of which one may have contained an intact glass vessel (**SF: 155**) and another, object, perhaps a penannular brooch (**SF: 170**).

Of note, the cosmetic box from Gravesend and the casket within the larger grave at Turners Hall farm, Wheathampstead, Herts were also dovetailed, and it is of interest, that

the dovetailed chest containing the Corbridge Hoard (Allason-Jones and Bishop, ibid. Pg. 94. Fig. 107) contained an iron lamp and lamp hanger, almost identical to those contained within Cremation 10.

The copper binding fixtures and studs:

SFs: 156 and **157**. Both fixtures comprise undecorated rectangular-shaped strips of copper alloy sheet, fixed into place with five studs. Though relatively intact, the fixtures are in an extremely fragile condition. The fixtures have an approximate length of 50mm and a width of 45mm. The studs are identical to **SFs: 66-69, 73** and **74**, recovered during the excavation of the main burial assemblage, and those recovered from Cremation 12. The studs are composite artefacts comprising two halves; an upper domed section with integral pin/shank, and a second section in the form of a domed ring through which the pin/shank has been threaded. The space between has been filled with lead. They are all of equal size and have a length of 11.5mm, a width of 9mm and a thickness of 5mm. The domes have a height of 2.5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: the fixtures and studs are unstable and require stabilising. They also require excavation from the block lift to aid identification and illustration.

The finials:

SFs: 72 and **158-162**. The decorative finials take the form of a pear-shaped body with a rounded knop at the top and a bulbus central area. At the base of each is a pronounced rounded collar with a single radial groove. The remains of iron shanks, which are rectangular in section, are visible underneath. Diameter (max): 9.5mm. Length: 14.5mm. Similar to examples from Colchester (Crummy, 1983. pp. 167. No. 4656) and South Shields (Allason-Jones and Miket, 1984. pp. 239. No. 45). Similar examples are also recorded on the Portable Antiquities Scheme database: Beedon, West Berkshire (PAS: PUBLIC-68E404), Gainsborough, Lincs (PAS: LIN-5B92F4), Godstone, Surrey (PAS: SUR-B3C6A3Z), Isle of White (PAS: IOW-FE3FC4), Stondon, Beds (PAS: BH-879905), Sudbrooke, Lincs (PAS: LIN-153351) and Shropshire (PAS: HESH-23DE9C).

Recommendations and Further Work: the finials are unstable and require stabilising. They also require excavation from the block lift to aid identification and illustration.

The handle and backing plate:

SF: 163. The copper alloy handle is D-shaped in plan and the ends have been bent back on themselves to form attachment loops. Each end is decorated with a moulded terminal. The terminals are very similar in style to the finials, and take the form of a pear-shaped body with a rounded knop at the top below which there is a circular projecting disc. The body is bulbus and at the base are two pronounced rounded collars between which is a single radial groove. Each terminal has been threaded through a copper alloy loop (**SFs: 164-5**) and they in turn, have been threaded through eyelets in the backing plate (**SF: 166**). The backing plate has a rectangular shape, a length of 115mm, a width of 35mm and had been fixed to the box using six copper studs arranged into three pairings. The studs are identical to those described above. The handle is similar to an example from Colchester (Crummy, 1983. pp. 80-81, Fig. 85. No. 2134) and Darlington (PAS: NCL-5B0503).

Recommendations and Further Work: the handle and backing plate are unstable and require stabilising. They also require excavation from the block lift to aid identification and illustration.

The locking mechanism:

SF: 167. Fragmentary and incomplete. The locking mechanism comprises an escutcheon plate formed from thin iron sheets. Unfortunately, the poor state of preservation does not allow for a reconstruction, however the presence of the lock bolt suggests that the escutcheon plate had a rectangular shape and measured approximately 65mm x 15mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires conservation, excavation from the block lift to aid identification and illustration.

SF 168. The lock bolt is complete and is a cast copper alloy object. It is rectangular in plan and in cross-section and has a central rectangular openwork panel comprising two sets of four inward pointing triangles. A flat bar projects from either end of the plate. One bar extends from one edge of the openwork panel for a length of 25mm. It is thin, rectangular in section and the terminal tapers to a point. The other bar is shorter and is rectangular in shape. Similar to the example from the decorative wooden box in Cremation 10a at

Aylesham, Kent (Britchfield, Holmes and Wilkinson, ibid). There are over 50 specimens of lock bolt recorded on the Portable Antiquities database, including: East Riding of Yorkshire (YORYM-086647), Hertfordshire (PAS: BH-E81763), North Kesteven, Lincs (PAS: LIN-5158CE and PUBLIC-845201), West Lindsey, Lincs (PAS: LIN-E6D82B, PUBLIC-FE70A9, SWYOR-756F37 and SWYOR-7580D9), Stockton-on Tees (PAS: DUR-16ABE1), Chichester, West Sussex (PAS: HAMP-BADF2E).

Recommendations and Further Work: the locking mechanism is unstable and requires stabilising. It also requires excavation from the block lift to aid identification and illustration.

The key:

SF: 169. Complete iron key/latch lifter. The key is within the block lift and visible in the x-ray. The key is L-shaped, perhaps with a suspension loop at one end and has an offset bit, at 090° at the other.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires excavation from the block lift to aid identification and illustration.

The possible brooch:

SF: 170. Within the block lift and visible in the x-ray, is another copper alloy object. Although the image is not particularly clear, it is possible to discern a ring and pin, suggesting that the object may be a penannular brooch.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires excavation from the block lift to aid identification and illustration.

<u>CREMATION 14</u> (c. 85-100 AD)

Cremation 14 (1703) (1704) (1705) [1706], encountered during the archaeological evaluation, contained three ceramic vessels (**SFs: 171-173**) and the remnants of a decorative wooden casket, within which the cremated remains of the deceased had been placed. Attached to the box were a number of copper alloy fittings: comprising four rings (**SFs: 1, 6, 7** and **174**) and four lion-head mounts (**SFs: 174-177**). The assemblage also

contained a composite copper and iron object (**SF: 178**). The copper alloy fittings of the casket and the casket's use as a receptacle for the deceased is identical to the Flavian period Burial 4 from Cemetery 'A' at Puckeridge (Partridge, 1981) and is similar to another example discovered at Turners Hall Farm, Wheathampstead, Herts (West, ibid), dated c. 150 AD or later. The assemblage also includes a large group of iron objects comprising mostly nails and tacks.

The ceramic vessels:

SF: 171. Vessel 1, a samian platter (Dragendorff 18).

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 172. Vessel 2, a samian campanulate cup (Dragendorff 27).

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

SF: 173. Vessel 3, a Verulamium Region, Whiteware ring-neck flagon.

Recommendations and Further Work: illustrate.

The copper rings:

SFs: 1, 6-7 and **174** probably functioned as handles, and are similar to those belonging to a box from Grave 6645 discovered near Gravesend, during excavations on the A2 Pepperhill to Cobham road-scheme (Allen *et al*, ibid). Two of the rings from Cremation 14 were attached to the box by an iron hoop with shank, each hoop looping around the ring. Each ring varies slightly in shape and size, and each has an oval cross section. Two of the rings also have a central groove around their circumference. They have an average diameter of 28.5mm, a thickness of 3mm and are identical to specimens from Cemetery 'A' at Puckeridge (Partridge, 1981. Pg. 314. Fig. 119. Letters: c-j). The rings are also similar to those attached to the casket within the larger of the two cremation burials at Turners Hall Farm, Wheathampstead, Herts (West, ibid).

Recommendations and Further Work: the iron hoops require conservation. All four rings require illustration.

The decorative mounts:

SFs: 174-177. The decorative mounts are cast, circular and represent lion heads in relief, surrounded by stylised and incised manes. The bodies are hollow, and the interiors show traces of an iron shank, for fitting the mounts to the box. The iron shanks were square in section. The mounts have an average diameter of 17mm and a depth of 10.5mm. They are identical to the specimens from Cemetery A at Puckeridge (Partridge, ibid. Pg. 314. Fig. 119. Letter: a). Hugh Borrill (ibid) divided the lion-head mounts into two distinct periods and noticed a difference between the method of manufacture for each period. The earlier, first-century examples have robust bodies and are smaller, whereas those produced in the late second-century are larger and are manufactured from thin copper alloy sheeting. The specimens from Charing fall within the first category and are therefore of first-century AD manufacture. At the time of writing in 1981, Borrill recorded 75 examples of lion-head mount within the South East of England and East Anglia. The author of this assessment report is aware of one additional group within the South East of England and East Anglia, attached to the casket within the larger of the two cremation burials at Turners Hall Farm, Wheathampstead, Herts, discovered in 2002 (West, ibid). The scarcity of this type of artefact within the South East of England and East Anglia is also reflected by their minimal presence within the Portable Antiquities Scheme database. Of the 1,524,099 objects within 977,906 records in the database (April 2021), there are only four examples (PAS: East Riding of Yorkshire. YORYM-909426, Norfolk. NMS-0134FD, North Yorkshire. DUR-7FD820 and Suffolk. SF-C16F94), of which only two originate within the South East of England and East Anglia.

Recommendations and Further Work: all require illustration.

The composite object:

SF: 178 is a fragmented composite iron and copper alloy object comprising a thin sheet of iron and a copper alloy domed stud with iron shank very similar to SF: 23 above. Due to the poor state of preservation, the shape and size of the iron sheet cannot be determined, however, it had a thickness of 1.5mm. The domed stud is circular and has a diameter of

8.5mm and a height of 6.5mm. The shank has a square-shaped section, tapers to a point and has a length of 8mm, a width of 3mm and thickness of 2.5mm.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires stabilising and Illustration.

The iron objects:

SF 201. The iron objects are encrusted and can only be identified as an assortment of small nails and tacks.

Recommendations and Further Work: they require x-ray, to aid further identification, stabilising and illustration.

CREMATION 15 (c. 43-100 AD)

Cremation 15 (704) [705], encountered during the archaeological evaluation, contained five vessels (**SFs: 179-183**) and 30 discarded sherds. A mid-1st – early 2nd century AD pit (702) [703], also encountered during the archaeological evaluation, truncated the centre of the cremation and removed its contents in antiquity. Therefore, the full composition of the burial assemblage remains unknown. However, the assemblage is also thought to have contained an unknown number of coins, of which, two remain.

The ceramic vessels:

SF: 179. Vessel 1, a Miniature pot.

Recommendations and Further Work: analyse contents. Illustrate.

SF: 180. Vessel 2, a Miniature pot.

Recommendations and Further Work: analyse contents. Illustrate.

SF: 181. Vessel 3, a Miniature pot.

Recommendations and Further Work: analyse contents. Illustrate.

SF: 182. Vessel 4, a Miniature pot.

Recommendations and Further Work: analyse contents. Illustrate.

SF: 183. Vessel 5, a Miniature pot.

Recommendations and Further Work: analyse contents. Illustrate.

The coins:

SF: 13. Copper As. Illegible late 1st – early 2nd century.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires conservation.

SF: 184. Copper As. Illegible mid-1st – early 2nd century.

Recommendations and Further Work: requires conservation.

DISCUSSION

6.2.18 The assemblage of registered finds from Ashford Road, Charing comprises two distinct groupings; the first being the artefacts recovered from 'secular' contexts, whereas the second comprises artefacts deliberately placed within the graves of the cremation burials.

6.2.19 The first grouping is associated with the archaeological phases present and are most prevalent from the periods of greatest activity, chiefly the Late Pre-Roman Iron Age, Roman and Medieval phases. Their presence is a mixture of deliberate discard and accidental loss.

6.2.20 Perhaps the most significant artefact within this grouping is the large medieval iron buckle frame (**SF: 34**) dated c. 1250- 1450 AD. This is a high-quality piece of metalwork, and its complexity suggests that it was of relatively high status. It is, therefore, likely to have been utilised by someone linked to the medieval Bishop's Palace and or the manor house situated immediately north and north-west of the excavation.

6.2.21 Also, of interest and also originating from the medieval phase is the lead repair plug (**SF: 6**) for a medieval ceramic vessel. This piece is somewhat unusual as lead repairs to ceramic

vessels are more commonly associated with Roman ceramics, especially the more decorative fine wares, such as samian. The volume of lead used to repair the medieval vessel is substantial, being more than one would assume necessary, implying that the vessel, something that would usually be labelled as common and easily replaceable, was literally worth its weight in lead and investment in time to have it repaired.

6.2.22 However, it is the second grouping that is, unsurprisingly, of greater interest and significance. The examination of the grave assemblages enables the cremation burials to be divided into five groups. Group One comprises burials containing ceramic vessels (with, perhaps, the occasional iron nail or other artefact) and Cremations 1-5, 8 and 15 fall within this group. Group Two comprises the burials containing numerous object types and Cremations 10, 11, 13 and 14 fall within this group. Group Three are secondary burials (Cremations 9 and 12) containing just one vessel: in this instance, single glass cremation urns. Group Four are burials that contained miniature ceramic vessels and therefore, may have had ceremonial/funerary connotations, and Cremations 6 and 15 fall within this group. Finally, Group Five concerns a single un-urned cremation (Cremation 7) interred without grave goods.

6.2.23 The ceramic grave assemblages within the cremations forming Group One are discussed in more detail within the ceramic assessment report by Malcolm Lyne and therefore are not discussed in detail here.

6.2.24 The grave assemblages that form Group Two comprised a total of 21 ceramic vessels, 5 glass vessels, 1 wooden chest, 1 wooden casket, 1 wooden lock-box, an iron lamp and its hanger, a bracelet, a brooch and 2 coins. One of the graves, Cremation 11, also had a timber lining.

6.2.25 Again, the ceramic components of this group are discussed in more detail within the ceramic assessment report by Malcolm Lyne and therefore are not discussed here.

6.2.26 The glass vessels comprise two *ungentaria* (Cremations 11 and 13), a bottle, re-used as the cinerary urn (Cremation 11), a cup (Cremation 13) and another vessel (Cremation 13), which is currently unidentifiable due to its state of preservation.

6.2.27 The bottle (**SF: 143**), re-used as the cinerary urn, is of particular interest. Prior to the excavation at Charing, there were only two known specimens of this type in Kent; from Castle Meadows, Lower Walmer (Woodruff, ibid) and Westborough, near Maidstone (Poste, ibid).

6.2.28 The jar (**SF: 155**) from inside the wooden lock-box within Cremation 13 is in a form not illustrated within Price and Cottam (1998) or Bergmann and Oliver (1980) and is not part of the Allaire Collection (2016). Therefore, this vessel requires further research.

6.2.29 At the time of writing, the shattered glass vessel (**SF: 154**) from Cremation 13 remains unidentified. However, examination of the fragments suggest that the vessel is a flask with a tall neck.

6.2.30 The chest within Cremation 13 was a simple, nailed construct with a hinged lid, and contained the entire contents of the grave assemblage. Cremation burials containing chests that housed the contents of a cremation are also known from Aylesham, Kent (Britchfield, Holmes and Wilkinson. ibid, Cremation 10a), Canterbury (Brent, ibid), Girton College, Cambs (Liversidge, ibid), Turners Hall Farm, Herts (West, ibid) and yet they remain uncommon and (with the exception of the example from Canterbury) would seem to be reserved for cremation cemeteries within rural settings.

6.2.31 The lock-box from Cremation 13 containing the glass cup, and possible penannular brooch may have had a similar function to the decorated cosmetic box from Gravesend (Allen *et al*, ibid. Grave 6635. pp.354-359 and 369-373. Fig. 4.31.) which has internal partitions, a palette and contained a number of items including a copper alloy spatula-probe. Such boxes, though seemingly more elaborate than the Charing example have also been recovered from a grave in Lyon, from a house in Pompeii and across the Roman Empire (Allen *et al*, ibid. 369-371). Allen suggests that 'these were not common items, even in the houses of the well to do, but might have been found in the houses of the very wealthy and were used perhaps both for cosmetics and for personal medicines'. Therefore, the specimen from Charing is of particular interest.

6.2.32 The decorative casket with the lion-head mounts from Cremation 14 is also of particular interest. According to Hugh Borrill, writing in 1981, there were 31 occurrences of lion-head mounts discovered within the South East of England and East Anglia, totalling 75 individual pieces. However, at least one casket, the example from Turners Hall Farm, Wheathampstead, Herts has been discovered since 1981. Of the occurrences listed by Borrill, 9 originated as casket burials, fitted with lion-head mounts and five of those were also fitted with a locking mechanism.

6.2.33 Borrill cites the other four caskets as being without a locking mechanism: one from Icklingham, Suffolk, one from Puckeridge (Cemetery A, Burial 4) and two from the cemetery at St Pancras, Chichester (Burials 26 and 31). Three have been assigned a Flavian (c. 69-96

AD) date range whereas one (Icklingham) remains undated. The casket from Cremation 14 at Charing has lion-head mounts belonging to the Flavian period, and the pottery assemblage within Cremation 14 implies that the vessels were present in the late Flavian period and are thus contemporary.

6.2.34 The scarcity of caskets adorned with lion head mounts is demonstrated by their apparent continued rare occurrence within the South East of England and East Anglia, and by the presence of just two specimens, from further afield, recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS: East Riding of Yorkshire. YORYM-909426 and North Yorkshire. DUR-7FD820). Therefore, their presence within Cremation 14 is of regional and national significance.

6.2.35 Group Three are secondary burials (Cremations 9 and 12), in each instance, comprising a single vessel: a glass bottle, re-used as an urn. It is of interest that the secondary cremation burials at Aylesham (Britchfield, Holmes and Wilkinson, ibid. Cremation 10b) and Lower Walmer (Woodruff, ibid) also comprised glass bottles – suggesting a funerary practice that comprises the specific use of glass vessels as urns for secondary internments.

6.2.36 Furthermore, the re-used vessel forming Cremation 12, and that within the assemblage of Cremation 11 are identical to the vessels at Lower Walmer (Woodruff, ibid) and Westborough, near Maidstone (Poste, ibid). The examples from Charing, therefore, represent 50% of the four examples found in Kent. They also form one-third of all the known specimens of that particular form of vessel found in the United Kingdom.

6.2.37 Group Four comprises burials (Cremations 6 and 15) that contain miniature ceramic vessels. Malcolm Lyne suggests that they may have been used to inhale cannabis. Therefore, the vessels and their means of deposition, may have had ceremonial/funerary connotations, and will require further analysis.

6.2.38 Group Five comprised a single un-urned cremation (Cremation 7) without grave goods. However, the presence of a single sherd of coarse Canterbury ware within the backfill provides a date range c. 50-150 AD. Therefore, the burial is contemporary with the other cremations present. It is of interest then, that there should be complete absence of grave goods. The excavation revealed nothing to suggest that it had been disturbed by later ploughing or robbing.

RECOMMENDATIONS

6.2.39 The majority of the registered small finds from Ashford Road, Charing require re-packaging. Stabilization and conservation is also required for the copper alloy and all iron objects. To further aid conservation, identification and illustration, it is necessary to x-ray the iron objects.

6.2.40 A number of the artefacts will require inclusion in an illustrated catalogue for publication. The illustrated catalogue should contain those objects recommended here for illustration (including a number of iron objects, the illustration of which is to be determined after x-ray) and should be hand drawn to a scale of 1:1. The glass is also recommended for inclusion and should be entered as coloured photographs against a white background, also at a scale of 1:1.

6.2.41 The contents of all vessels present within the grave assemblages, and the lamp, should be analysed for residues. This analysis should also include the soil contents of the block lift containing the small lock-box, to determine whether any chemicals present can suggest its use as a cosmetic box. The contents of the lamp should also be examined for the survival of the wick. The wick has survived in at least to examples (Bartlow Hills and Rougham) as “a carbonaceous lump, near the lip” (Henslow, ibid).

6.2.42 The contents and the internal surface of the miniature ceramic vessels also require residue analysis. As stated above, Malcolm Lyne suggests that they may have been used to inhale cannabis. Therefore, the vessels and their means of deposition, may have had ceremonial/funerary connotations.

CONCLUSIONS AND FURTHER RESEARCH

6.2.43 It has been demonstrated that the assemblage of registered small finds from Ashford Road, Charing share contemporaneous relationships with the Late Iron Age, Roman, Medieval and Post-Medieval periods present on the site. The site assemblage is however, dominated by the occurrence and volume of artefacts produced by the individual cremation burial assemblages. Further analysis of the cremation assemblages from Ashford Road is therefore, recommended.

6.2.44 Concerning the chest from Cremation 13, any further research aims should include a study of the proportion between chests interred within rural and urban cremation cemeteries. Concerning the casket from Cremation 14, there should also be a reappraisal of the

occurrence and distribution of lion-head mounts and decorated caskets within the South East of England, East Anglia and beyond, to produce a national table. Concerning and the lock-box (also from Cremation 13); comparisons should be sought, nationally and Empire-wide, as the implications are that this item may have been another form of cosmetic box and therefore, an extremely rare artefact.

6.2.45 Concerning the glass; there should be a study to determine the apparent rarity of the globular glass vessels (**SF: 143** and **SF: 144**) within the South East of England and further afield. The study should also include the larger hexagonal-shaped bottle (**SF: 127**) as the larger form would also seem to be scarce occurrence. For this bottle, a thorough cross reference of the foundry maker's mould with British and Continental examples may determine a place of origin. Indeed, all of the glass vessels warrant comparison with examples from the continent to determine not only places of origin but also the demographic and economical influences of their trade, and final re-use.

6.2.46 Concerning the iron lamp (**SF: 132**) and lamp hanger (**SF: 134**); there should also be a reappraisal of the occurrence and distribution of iron lamps and lamp hangers within the South East of England, East Anglia, and beyond, to produce a national table. It has been noted by Hilary Cool (2011. Pg. 307) that there are conflicting regional trends for the occurrence and deposition of lamps (primarily ceramic) between the living and deceased populations in Britain. Any further study should determine whether iron lamps follow these trends or represent something else.

6.2.47 Finally, it is recommended that there is a thorough examination of the cremated bone and environmental samples for any evidence of pyre goods (Cool, ibid. pp. 295-296). With the exception, perhaps, of the badly damaged brooch (**SFs: 31** and **32**) from Cremation 8, there is an apparent absence of material, other the cremated remains of the deceased, to suggest that artefacts, reflecting possible use and deposition on the pyre during funerary practices, were observed prior to internment. However, preliminary analysis of the cremated remains from Cremations 2, 3, 4 and 14 has revealed metallic related staining that may be directly associated with the presence of pyre goods – as may the presence of molten glass from Cremation 12 (Grzybowska, forthcoming). Analysis of the contents of the miniature ceramic vessels from Cremations 6 and 15 is also highly recommended as they may have been used to inhale cannabis during ceremonial/funeral acts.

6.3 The Lithic Assessment

6.3.1 A small assemblage of 13 pieces of struck flint weighing 101gms and 18 pieces of un-worked fire-fractured flint weighing 189gms, was recovered during the fieldwork, including Area 3. The worked flint is summarised in the following table.

Context	Type	Number
1722	Hard hammer-struck flake	1
1928	Flake fragment	1
2521	Soft hammer-struck bladelet	1
2583	Soft hammer-struck flake	1
	Chips	2
	Retouched natural piece	1
2663	Axe thinning flake	1
	Soft hammer-struck flakes	2
	Blade fragment	1
	Bladelet fragment	1
2665	Hard hammer-struck flake	1
	Total	11

6.3.2 The flintwork comprised entirely of debitage, which is predominantly soft hammer-struck, although lacking evidence for platform preparation. The flint all appears to be from a Chalk Downland flint source, some having a blue-grey patination, and all of the pieces from Context **2663** being white patinated. The soft hammer-struck axe thinning flake from Context **2663** is likely to have come from Early Neolithic axe production, and it sems likely that the other pieces from this Context are probably of the same date, although unlikely to be related to axe production. The bladelet from Context **2521** is more likely Mesolithic in date.

6.3.3 The only piece with any retouch/reworking on it was a natural piece, probably iron-stained, from Context **2583** which had some retouch on part of one lateral edge. This piece seems out of context in this assemblage and may actually be a residual Palaeolithic item.

6.3.4 None of the fire-fractured flint was worked.

6.4 The Faunal Assessment

6.4.1 Animal bone weighing 7.57kg was recovered from 26 contexts and identified to 6 taxa; where bone could not be identified to taxa or skeletal element, they were recorded as medium or large mammal and assigned as long bone fragment (LBF) (119) or unidentified (64). A total of 318 bones and 13 teeth were recovered, of which the partial remains of a single horse were recovered from context 1237 with feature 1238 and weighing 5.993kg; 142 bones or partial bones were present. Cattle, dog, hare/rabbit, horse, shark and sheep were present.

6.4.2 Due to the fragmented condition of the majority of the bones, measurements could only be taken of 30.

Context	Cattle	Dog	Hare/Rabbit	Horse	Large Mammal	Medium Mammal	Shark	Sheep	Total
1237				142					142
2403						5			5
2404							1		1
2411					1			1	2
2421			1						1
2473		1			1	11			13
2481		3				34			37
2494		19			1	8			28
2501						1			1
2516						6			6
2533	1								1
2555								1	1
2643						15			15
2648								5	5
2663						1			1
2669						1			1
2675	1			1	2				4
2706						1			1
2714					4	1			5
2726								2	2
2731	1				1	5			7
2734	1				1	1		4	7
2748	1								1
2780	1				8	1			10
2782	10			3	11	7		2	33
(blank)					1				1
Total	16	23	1	146	31	98	1	15	331

Taxa to Context

Cattle

6.4.3 Eight bones and 8 teeth recovered from 7 contexts were identified as cattle. Four of the bones (humerus, metatarsal, metacarpal and calcaneum, all left-hand side) and 6 teeth/tooth fragments were recovered from Context 2782 (c. 50 BC-70 AD). The bone was on the whole fragmented with measurement of only 2 bones possible.

Side and Fusion

	LHS			RHS	
	Distal fused	Fused	Proximal fused	Distal fused	Fused
Cattle					
Astragalus		1			
Calcaneum			1		
Humerus	1				
Metacarpal			1		
P1					1

Metrics

FEATURE	CONTEXT	SPECIES	BONE	Bd	BFp	Bp
[2784]	2782	Cattle	Humerus	65.60		
[2784]	2782	Cattle	Metacarpal			54.10

6.4.4 The distal humerus fused by age 18 months and the proximal metacarpal before birth. From the small assemblage present, it is only possible to say the humerus recovered from context 2782 indicates an age at death of in excess of 18 months.

Dog

6.4.5 Twenty-one bones and 2 teeth identified as dog were recovered from 3 contexts. 18 bones and a single tooth of which were from context 2494 (c. 50 BC-70 AD) – these may relate to a single animal, given the skeletal elements present – left humerus, right femur, right and left ulna, left MC5, partial metapodials, rib fragments, vertebra fragments and 6 mandible fragments. Due to the fragmented condition of the bones, it is not possible to record any metrics or an approximate age at death of the bone from this context.

Side and Fusion

	LHS		
Row Labels	Distal fused	Fused	Proximal fused
Dog			
Humerus	1		
MC5			1
P1		1	

A P1 was recovered from context 2481, metrics given below:

FEATURE	CONTEXT	SPECIES	BONE	GL	Bp	Dp
[2482]	2481	Dog	P1	18.30	6.40	5.10

The proximal fusion of this bone would indicate an age at death greater than 7 months.

Hare/Rabbit

A single humerus, identified as hare/rabbit, was recovered from context 2421, metric given below:

FEATURE	CONTEXT	SPECIES	BONE	Dp
[2422]	2421	Hare/ Rabbit	Humerus	12.10

Horse

Context 1237 (c. 25 BC-200 AD) – Partial Remains of Horse

6.4.6 The table below lists the bones identified and left and right sides. 67 bone fragments were assigned as long bone fragments as there was insufficient evidence to assign to specific skeletal elements. Similarly, 9 fragments were assigned as unidentified but possibly are fragments of scapula or pelvis. The head and pelvis were absent. Ribs and vertebra were too fragmented to wash and were not included in the weight given due being covered in wet clay.

BONE	LHS	RHS	(blank)	Total
Astragalus	1	1		2
Calcaneum	1	1		2
Cuboid	1	1		2
Femur		1		1
Grand Cunieform	1	1		2
Grand Os	1	1		2
Grand Sesamoid	2	4		6
Humerus	1	1		2
LBF			67	67
MC	1	1		2
MC2	1	1		2
MC4		1		1
MT	1	1		2
MT2	1	1		2
MT4	1	1		2
Os Crochu	1			1
P1	2	2		4
P2	2	2		4
P3	2	2		4
Pelvis		1		1
Pisiform	1			1
Pyramidal	1	1		2
Radius	1	2		3
Scaphoid	2	2		4
Scapula	1	1		2
Semi Lunaire	1	1		2
Small Cunieform	1	1		2
Tibia	1	1		2
Trapezoid	1	1		2
Ulna	1	1		2
Unidentified			9	9
Total	31	35	76	142

6.4.7 Given the presence of the carpal and tarsal bones, it is assumed that the animal was articulated when deposited. The skeleton was particularly fragmented and measurement of the majority of the bones was not possible.

6.4.8 None of the bones exhibited signs of butchery, e.g., chop or cut marks, and there was no evidence of burning.

6.4.9 Height at withers could only be calculated from the metacarpals and metatarsals as these were the only complete bones (other than phalanges) recovered. A withers height of approximately 144cm (14.1732 Hands) was calculated.

Metrics

SPECIES	BONE	SIDE	GL	GLl	Ll	BFd	Bd	BFp	Bp	Dp
Horse	Astragalus	RHS				52.00				
Horse	Astragalus	LHS				49.50				
Horse	Calcaneum	RHS	110.70							
Horse	MC	LHS	226.26	222.79	219.79		51.40		48.99	
Horse	MC	RHS	225.52	223.41	221.47		50.80		49.80	
Horse	MT	RHS	269.19	263.77	259.91		48.89		50.34	
Horse	MT	LHS	267.95	264.67	260.42		47.46		50.33	
Horse	P1	RHS	83.20			41.40	46.10	48.70	56.20	38.40
Horse	P1	LHS	87.10			43.20	50.20	45.40		33.40
Horse	P1	LHS	83.50			43.20	46.50	45.80	58.50	37.50
Horse	P1	RHS	86.60			43.60	50.30	47.10	58.50	34.60
Horse	P2	RHS	52.00				46.80	41.10	52.80	34.50
Horse	P2	LHS	48.00				49.70	45.90	54.00	31.70
Horse	P2	LHS	50.70				47.20	43.50	53.30	34.20
Horse	P2	RHS	48.60				47.30	45.20	54.50	

SPECIES	BONE	SIDE	GL	Ld	HP	BF	LF
Horse	P3	RHS		51.40	52.80		
Horse	P3	LHS	57.00	51.40	51.30		25.80
Horse	P3	LHS		53.40	54.00		
Horse	P3	RHS		50.90	51.50	49.60	
SPECIES	**BONE**	**SIDE**	**SLC**	**GLP**			
Horse	Scapula	RHS	66.10	90.40			
Horse	Scapula	LHS	65.40				
SPECIES	**BONE**	**SIDE**	**Bd**				
Horse	Tibia	RHS	74.22				

A single, left astragalus was recovered from context 2675 and 3 teeth (2 incisors and a lower molar) from context 2782 (c. 50 BC-70 AD).

Measurement of the astragalus is given below:

Comment on Bag	CONTEXT	SPECIES	BONE	GB
[2676]	2675	Horse	Astragalus	50.70

Shark

A single tooth recovered from context 2404 (c. 1150-1250 AD) was identified as possible shark.

Sheep

15 bones were recovered from 6 contexts were identified as sheep.

Side and Fusion

	LHS			RHS		
	Distal fused	Fused	Proximal fused	Distal fused	Fused	Immature
Sheep						
Acetabulum fragment						
Humerus				1		1
Metacarpal						1
Metatarsal	1					
Radius						1

6.4.10 As illustrated above, 3 bones identified to this species were of an immature animal; none of the bones exhibited commencement of fusion. All were recovered from Context 2734 (c. 500 BC-70 AD), and possibly relate to a single animal.

6.4.11 Due to the fragmented condition of bones recovered, measurement of only two bones was possible, although elements had been subjected to heat and were coated in some form of concretion:

FEATURE	CONTEXT	SPECIES	BONE	Bd
[2727]	2726	Sheep	MT	22.70
[2727]	2726	Sheep	Humerus	40.10

6.4.12 Fusion of the distal metatarsal is complete by age 28 months; that of the distal humerus by 12 months. It should not be assumed that these bones relate to the same animal.

Discussion

6.4.13 An assemblage of animal bone of which 142 bones were from the partial skeleton of a horse recovered from a single context and within a single feature. Dog bone recovered from context 2481 may relate to a single animal.

6.4.14 The majority of the assemblage was fragmented, probably indicative of butchery and food consumption. Some bone (see Sheep above) was noted to be coated in some form of concretion, possibly indicative of bone used as fuel.

6.4.15 Worthy of note is the single tooth identified as shark recovered. It is recommended this tooth is passed to a fish specialist for further recording.

6.5 THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

INTRODUCTION

6.5.1 This report describes the contents of bulk/whole earth soil samples for flotation taken during excavations by Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company on land between the Arthur Baker Playing Field and Ashford Road, Charing, Kent (NGR) TR 595480 149030 prior to development by Jenner Ltd (*pers. comm*. Simon Holmes). The excavation revealed an extensive archaeological landscape with activity beginning in the Early-Middle Bronze Age that peaked in the Late Iron Age and Roman periods with enclosures, granaries and cremations present (ibid.)

6.5.2 This report will list all archaeobotanical, faunal and artefactual items found in the fully processed samples and assess the significance and potential of the archaeobotanical remains.

6.5.3 Faunal, artefactual and geological remains will be reported on but not assessed. The assessment of these items will be made by the relevant specialists.

METHODOLOGY

6.5.4 Sampling was carried out by the Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey led team during excavations in 2019.

6.5.5 All samples were processed using a Siraf-type flotation device. Flot was collected in a 300-micron mesh sieve then dried. No samples were taken from waterlogged contexts, so Siraf-type flotation was carried out for all samples.

6.5.6 The residues and flots were air dried. The flots were scanned using a low-powered binocular stereomicroscope with magnifications of between 10 and 45 times. The quality of preservation, diversity of plant macro-remains, mollusca and bone were recorded as were any artefactual remains.

6.5.7 Identifications were made using uncharred reference material (author's own and the Northern European Seed Reference Collection at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London) and reference manuals (such as Beijerinck 1947; Cappers et al. 2006; Charles 1984; Jacomet 2006). Nomenclature for plants is taken from Stace (Stace 2010). Latin names are given once, and the common names used thereafter. Common names are used in the tables.

6.5.8 At this stage, to allow comparison between samples, numbers have also been estimated but where only a very low number of items are present, they have been counted. Identifiable charred wood (>4mm in diameter) has been separated from charred wood flecks (<4mm in diameter). Fragments this size are easier to break to reveal the cross-sections and diagnostic features necessary for identification and are less likely to be blown or unintentionally moved around the site (Asouti. 2006, 31; Smart and Hoffman, 1988. 178-179). Charred wood flecks <4mm diameter have been quantified but not recommended for further analysis unless twigs or roundwood fragments larger then 2mm in diameter were present.

RESULTS

Quality and Type of Preservation

6.5.9 Samples <144>, <146> and <148> were 'void'. Samples <10>, <11>, <12>, <13>, <14>, <16>, <18> and <135> were cremation samples not taken for flotation so not part of this report.

Unfortunately, samples <21>, <22>, <27>, <84>, <102> <140>, <168> appear to be missing. Samples <3>, <35>, <63>, <69>, <123>, <124>, <126>, <165>, <167> and <171> produced no flots. Samples <26>, <35>, <63>, <68>, <92>, <123>, <124>, <126>, <129>, <136>, <143>, <157>, <162>, <163>, <167> and <172> produced no residues.

6.5.10 Preservation conditions appear to have been mostly well-drained and alkaline with bones, charred plant remains and mollusca being the dominant organic remains. There was no evidence for waterlogging and where uncharred seeds were present most were modern of likely to be intrusive due to the high amount of modern root/rhizome fragments and terrestrial molluscs present in each sample. Bioturbation by faunal activity was observed during excavation in the form of an ants' nest during the excavation of Linear [1256] (sample <41>). In the flots terrestrial mollusca, including those of Ceciliodes acicula, a snail that burrows well below the ground surface (Kerney & Cameron 1979, 149) were present in every sample, mostly in high numbers.

No other forms or contamination of bioturbation were noted while sampling.

Report on the Plant Macro-Remains

6.5.11 Due to the evidence of bioturbation evident in the high quantity of rootlets fragments and mollusca the uncharred seeds are likely to be intrusive. Some, such as seeds of cleavers (Galium aparine L.) are clearly modern, retaining fresh internal tissue. The uncharred seeds present are ruderals typical of grassland and scrub and include seeds of dead-nettle (Lamium sp.), elderberry (Sambucus nigra L.) and curled dock (Rumex crispus L.).

6.5.12 Therefore, only the charred plant remains can confidently be considered archaeological. The uncharred rush (Juncus sp.) fragments in pond/clay extraction pit [1442] (sample <60>) may be desiccated remains from the use of the feature and finds of freshwater mollusca in fourteen of the 145 flots suggests that at some time standing or running water was present on site.

6.5.13 Charring of plant-macrofossils occurs when plant material is heated under reducing conditions where oxygen is largely excluded leaving a carbon skeleton resistant to decay (Boardman and Jones 1990, 2; Campbell et al. 2011, 17). These conditions can occur in a charcoal clamp, the centre of a bonfire or pit or in an oven or when a building burns down with the roof excluding the oxygen from the fire (Reynolds, 1979, 57). Thirty-one of the flots

processed contained fragments of charcoal of identifiable size. Roundwood fragments were found in deposit of slag and charcoal (1969) (sample <131>). The most abundant quantities were from the secondary fill of undated pit [1060] (sample <20>) and deposit of slag and charcoal (1969). The original volume of this sample <20> was 18 litres so given the fact that this charcoal came from the secondary fill of a pit and from a relatively small amount of soil it is likely that these fragments are associated with the feature and may be useful for analysis of the charcoal for fuel or selection for radiocarbon dating. Sample <131> produces a Roman brooch pin so it may be associated with the cremations. The identifiable charcoal in the other flots was present in low to moderate quantities. The low numbered assemblages of charcoal are likely to be intrusive or residual but the moderate numbered assemblages in smaller samples may be associated with the feature, for example fragments from possible remains of furnace [1954] (sample <103>) or from Cremations 1 and 11.

6.5.14 Charred cereal grains and indeterminate grain tissue fragments were present in eight of the 140 flots. They were present in low numbers and poorly preserved, all vacuoled and abraded, indicating the likelihood of being moved around in redeposited soil. The grains present had the morphology of free-threshing type wheat (Triticum aestivum/durum/turgidum). No chaff was present in any sample, so it was not possible to use chaff to make a more secure identification.

6.5.15 The only other plant macro-remain present were fragments of hazelnut (Corylus avellana L.) shell in undated pit [2471] (sample <141>). These fragments were present in moderate quantities but were from a 32-litre bulk sample so, due to the robust nature of charred nut-shell fragments, they may have been moved around the site so cannot be confidently associated with the feature.

Report on the Faunal remains

6.5.16 The author is not a zooarchaeological or osteoarchaeological specialist so this section will simply describe the presence of these items in the samples and no attempts will be made beyond basic identifications, quantity, apparent level of preservation and distribution. These items should be added to the hand collected items and sent to the relevant specialists for assessment.

6.5.17 A zooarchaeological report on the hand collected bone has already been carried out (White 2020) that found evidence of butchery, bones of horse, cattle, dog, sheep, hare/rabbit and a possible sharks tooth. None of the hand collected bone came from the same contexts as the bulk/whole earth samples so it is possible that the faunal remains in these samples may add useful information.

6.5.18 Terrestrial mollusca were the most frequent type of faunal remain in the samples. Oyster (Ostrea edulis L.) shell fragments were present in low numbers.

6.5.19 Cremated human bone fragments were found in eight samples, with most fragments found in Cremation fills. An uncharred possible human tooth was found in ditch [1765] (sample <99>). An osteoarchaeological report has already been completed (Grzybowska, 2020). It is unlikely that the cremated bone fragments from the bulk/while earth soil samples can contribute much more than the specialist analysis of carefully taken bone samples in the osteoarchaeological report but some of the bone retrieved from the residues may be useful. Only fragments larger than 10mm were retrieved.

Report on the Inorganic Artefactual finds

6.5.20 The author is not a finds specialist so this section will simply describe the presence of these items in the samples and no attempts will be made beyond basic identifications, quantity, apparent level of preservation and distribution. These items should be added to the hand collected items and sent to the relevant specialists for assessment.

6.5.21 The most interesting find in these samples was a Roman brooch fragment in deposit (1969) (sample <131>). Other indeterminate metallic objects were found in the fills of cremation 1 [1031] (sample <7>, cremation 2 [1037] (sample <8>) and cremation 4 [1050] (sample <15>). A low number of iron objects were found in the flot of furnace [2631] primary fill (sample <155>). These have been kept in the flot bag.

Fragments of burnt flint were the most frequent inorganic artefactual finds. Twenty-six samples contained potsherds.

Report on the inorganic geological remains

6.5.22 The author is not a geoarchaeologist so this section will simply describe the presence of these items in the samples and no attempts will be made beyond basic identifications, quantity and distribution.

6.5.23 The most frequent geological remains were sub-angular and angular unburnt and un-worked flint and chalk.

Report on the organic remains in the Cremation Vessels

6.5.24 Organic material from vessels found in Cremations 9 , 10, 11 and 15 were presented for assessment. All that was present of any significance in these assemblages were fragments of charcoal of identifiable size. Vessel 8 in Cremation 9 had charcoal embedded in dried clay that appears to have a grass (Poaceae) stem impression on one fragment, but it could also be a mark from a tool used to excavate this find.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER WORK

Potential and Significance of the Plant Macro-Remains

6.5.25 What is interesting for this site is what the lack of plant macro-remains can tell us. There is no archaeobotanical evidence to support the interpretation of features as granaries and no evidence of rubbish or cess disposal or any activity relating to the storage or processing of cereals. The samples associated with cremations and soil from fills of cremation vessels were unproductive.

6.5.26 The charred grains that survive are vacuoled and abraded so indicative of movement across a site by human, faunal and floral bioturbation or simply blown across the site after periods of soil disturbance and abandonment.

6.5.27 In this case the charcoal could be associated with cremations, and it is possible that the stray cereal grains are associated with the cremations too, but they are present in such low quantities that unless they are radiocarbon dated to the dates of the cremations it is not possible to associate them with that activity.

6.5.28 Problems of interpreting charred plant macro-remains like these have been discussed in a study of intrusion and residuality in the archaeobotanical record for southern England (Pelling et al. 2015). This article highlighted the problem of assigning charred plant remains such as these to the dated contexts they were taken from because it is possible that these durable charred plant remains survived being moved between contexts by human action and bioturbation so cannot be properly interpreted unless radiocarbon dates are gained from the plant macro-remains themselves. That is the only way to secure a genuine date for the charred plant macro-remains (Pelling et al. 2015, 96). With low numbers of abraded charred plant remains it is not wise to assume that the context in which the plant macro-remain was found during excavation was the context in which it was originally deposited, especially when the preservation of the plant remain is poor, numbers are very low relative to the amount of soil sampled and there is evidence of bioturbation, truncation or backfilling.

6.5.29 At the time of writing no other archaeobotanical reports from archaeological interventions at Charing and near this site appear to have been carried out or made available via the H.E.R. or the Archaeology Data Service. Due this, the significance of these plant remains is that this report should be a useful source of information for any future archaeological work at or near the site and for the creation of sampling strategies.

6.5.30 The potential for further work on these plant remains to provide any useful information is limited due to the likelihood that they are intrusive or residual and not associated with the features they were found in.

6.5.31 However, the charcoal assemblages from the secondary fill of undated pit [1060] (sample <20>), where the quantity of fragments relative to the small sample size does suggest that it is an in-situ dump of charcoal from a fire and the charcoal from deposit (1969), that contained roundwood fragments, are likely to be useful. As may the moderate quantities in features associated with the furnace and cremations. It may be useful to identify those charcoal for selection for radiocarbon dating and, if securely dated, to provide information about fuel.

6.5.32 Post-excavation analysis and subsequent priorities may require the identification of charcoal in this and other features but aside from this, no further work is recommended on the plant-macro remains in the remaining samples unless items are needed for radiocarbon dating.

ARCHIVING AND DISTRUBUTION OF ITEMS FROM SAMPLES TO OTHER SPECIALISTS

6.5.33 The flots will be kept in the author's archive for twelve months from the date of this report unless requested back soon after the report has been submitted. After that time, the client will be consulted with regards the future use of these items. The items from the residues are stored at the premises of Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company and should be distributed to the relevant specialists.

6.6 INHUMATION BURIAL ASSESSMENT

Preservation

6.6.1 Preservation of the inhumation was moderate. Level of preservation was recorded as a percentage (50% - 75%) compared to a complete skeleton.

Estimation of age at death

6.6.2 Methods to estimate the age at death were based upon the pubic symphysis, auricular surface, cranial suture closures and dental wear. When estimating the age at death for individuals, certain variables must be considered, the most important being the life history of the individual (Cox, 2000). Disease and dietary differences can also affect the estimation of age at death. Therefore, consideration must be given to the region and populations that are being assessed (Deter, 2009; Mahoney, 2006; Schwartz, 1995).

Pubic symphysis

6.6.3 The morphological degeneration of pubic symphysis surface (Brooks and Suchey, 1990) is considered to be among the most reliable criterion for estimating age-at-death in adult human remains (Buikstra and Ubelaker, 1994). The KORA age estimates were based on the Brooks and Suchey (1990) method, which is summarised in Buikstra and Ubelaker (1994).

Auricular Surface

6.6.4 Morphological changes accumulate with age. The changes in the sacro-iliac joint are usually independent of osteoarthritic or osteophytic change (Schwartz, 1995). As the sacro-iliac joint is very complex, an estimation of age-at-death from the auricular surface is more difficult to assess than the pubic symphysis. It is, however, very important for bioarchaeologists, as it is

often very well preserved archaeologically (Buikstra and Ubelaker, 1994; Krogman and Isçan, 1986; Schwartz, 1995). The left auricular surface, (right side was used if left was not present or unable to assess) was assigned one of the eight phases described by Ubelaker (1989), based upon earlier work by Lovejoy et al. (1985) and Meindl and Lovejoy (1989).

Cranial assessment

6.6.5 Ectocranial vault suture closure is associated with more advanced age than the previous two methods and is more accurate in the higher age categories. While suture closures do not appear to be sexually or racially bias, they do have the disadvantage of broad age ranges (Key et al., 1994). They are based on the degree of ectocranial suture closure of the cranial vault and lateral aspect of the skull (Schwartz, 1995). Most researchers believe that age estimates based on suture closure are only useful when other methods cannot be used or utilised in conjunction with other methods (Buikstra and Ubelaker, 1994; Key et al., 1994; Meindl and Lovejoy, 1995). The latter stance is adopted by KORA using Meindl and Lovejoy (1985).

6.6.6 A composite score was taken for the vault sites (mid-lambdoid, lambda, obelion, anterior sagittal and bregma) and the lateral-anterior sites (pterion, midcoronal, spheno-frontal, inferior spheno-temporal, superior spheno-temporal). Compiled scores from these vault landmark sites were compared to Meindl and Lovejoy (1985) to estimate the age at death. This method cannot be used on cranial fragments.

Dental attrition wear

6.6.7 Dental wear independent of diet, can be used to estimate age. Miles (1963) devised a scheme which relates the wear of the lower molar teeth to the age of the individual. In order to use this method, one must ensure that the skeleton has a normal pattern of dental eruption and occlusion, and that the wear gradient along the molar row is similar to that established by Miles (1963); i.e. M1, M2 and M3 should give roughly similar age estimates. Dental attrition wear can give a reliable age range if all three molars are present.

Juvenile age estimation

6.6.8 The most accurate method to estimate juveniles is based on the dental development. KORA uses Smith (1991) for all juveniles with developing deciduous and adult dentition and Mahoney (2011, 2012) for infants under 13 months.

All techniques used to estimate age were used independent of each other. For a final age at death estimation, a composite score of methods used and an age group assigned.

Estimation of biological sex

6.6.9 Biological sex estimation depends on the reliable detection of sexually dimorphic characteristics in the human skeleton (Brothwell, 1981; Cox and Mays, 2000; Krogman and Isçan, 1986). Assessment of the morphological features of the cranium was by direct observation (Krogman, 1955). When data from the cranium and pelvis are combined, the accuracy of the sex estimation is increased (Mays and Cox, 2000). Sex-based characteristics are partially age related, appearing or becoming more pronounced at puberty, and many are affected by extreme old age (Krogman and Isçan, 1986; Buikstra and Ubelaker, 1994; Schwartz, 1995). KORA uses morphological features of both the pelvis and the cranium when possible for estimation of biological sex. In very fragmented individual where morphological analysis could not be done, metric analysis of the femur was used.

6.6.10 The pelvis has several reliable features for sex estimation. The scored morphological features in the pelvis were:

- Overall shape/structure
- Ventral arch
- Greater sciatic notch
- Width of sacral ala
- Anterior sacral curvature
- Sacral auricular surface
- Iliac tuberosity
- Iliac blade
- Iliac crest
- Auricular surface
- Preauricular 6sulcus
- Pubic symphysis height
- Pubic rami
- Sub-pubic concavity
- Inferior ramus
- Obturator foramen
- Ischial tuberosity
- Ischial spine
- Medial ischio-pubic ridge

Cranial assessment

6.6.11 Cranial sex estimation was primarily based on morphology. Certain morphological featuresof the cranium tend to be larger or more robust in males than in females (Buikstra and Ubelaker, 1994). The main attributes of the cranium used were:

- Overall shape/structure
- Glabellar profile
- Frontal slope
- Supraorbital ridges
- Orbital outline
- Nasal bones
- Mastoid process
- Nuchal area
- Occipital protuberance
- Mandibular condyles
- Mandibular ramus
- Mental protuberance
- Angle of mandible

6.6.12 Sex classifications for the cranium and for the pelvis were based on a 1–5 scale (stage 1, definitely female – stage 5, definitely male) from *Standards for Data Collection from Human Skeletal Remains* (Buikstra and Ubelaker, 1994). Sex estimation techniques were scoredindependently of one another, and a composite score was given.

Metric assessment

6.6.13 When morphological features cannot be assessed, metric analysis was used to estimate biological sex. Measurements that were taken are the vertical diameter of the femoral head (Stewart 1979), femoral bicondylar breadth (Krogman and Isçan, 1986), circumference of femoral mid-shaft (Black, 1978), and scapula glenoid cavity (Holman et. al.,1991).

Dimensions (mm)	♂	♂	♂ ? ♀	♀	♀
Femoral vertical head diameter	>47.6mm	46.6-47.5mm	43.6-46.5mm	42.6-43.5mm	<42.5mm
Femoral bicondylar breadth	Males greater than 78mm		72.5-77.5mm	Females less than 72mm	
Femoral mid-shaft circumference	Males greater than 86mm		84.5-85.5mm	Females less than 84mm	
Scapula - length of glenoid cavity	Males greater than 28mm		26.5-27.5mm	Females less than 26mm	

Stature

Stature estimation

6.6.14 Stature was estimated using several methods. These methods were applied when preservation allowed. The methods used by KORA are the long bone length (Trotter, 1970), femur/stature ratio (Feldesman et al, 1990) and Fully's method (Fully, 1956). The long bone length (Trotter, 1970) uses the length of all available long bones, taking the maximum length.

Tables are then used to estimate the stature of each bone, and a medial result is used to best estimate stature. Femur/ stature ratio is estimated by 3.74x (bicondylar length of femur) (Feldesman et al, 1990). The Fully method (Fully, 1956) stature is estimated by measuring the: (cranial height) + (vertebral body heights) + (femoral bicondylar length) + (tibia length) + (height of talus and calcaneus) + soft tissue correction. When necessary, stature was estimated from fragmented long bones (femur, tibia), using the regression equations devised by Jacobs (1992).

Pathology

Health and Disease

6.6.15 Several methods are available to record palaeopathology from the skeletal and dental remains. Methods used by KORA are provided by Buikstra and Ubelaker (1994), and Hillson, (2000; 2001). These systems account for some of the previously discussed problems, such as an individual's age, sex, and the location of dental disease upon individual dentition. The methods used by KORA also include the recording of other dental conditions such as dental enamel hypoplasia and attrition by incorporating existing and appropriate recording methods (Molnar et al., 1983).

Individual Skeletal Report for Inhumation [2730]

Overview

6.6.16 This skeleton [2730] was received by KORA from Swale and Thames Archaeology. This report provides information about the age-at-death, biological, sex, stature estimation, and pathological conditions.

Anatomical Position of Skeleton.

Preservation

6.6.17 This skeleton is a fragmented individual with most of the key skeletal elements for biological profile analysis missing. This skeleton is of moderate preservation.

Inventory of Bones and Dentition

Below are tables of the inventory of bones and dentition.

Bones present:

Cranium	**L**	**R**	**P**	**Foot**	**L**	**R**	**Vertebrae**	**P**
Mandible	X	X		Talus	--	--	C1	F
Frontal			--	Calcaneus	--	--	C2	X
Parietal	F	F		Cuboid	--	--	C3	F
Occipital			X	Navicular	--	--	C4	F
Temporal	X	X		Cune1	--	--	C5	F
Sphenoid	-	--		Cune 2	--	--	C6	F
Zygomatic	-	--		Cune 3	--	--	C7	F
Maxilla	X	X		Mt1	--	--	T1	F
Palatine	X	X		Mt2	--	--	T2	F
Nasal			--	Mt3	--	--	T3	F
Lacrimal	--	--		Mt4	--	--	T4	F
In.concha	--	--		Mt5	--	--	T5	F
Ethmoid	--	--		P.prox	--	--	T6	F
Vomer	--	--		P.int	--	--	T7	F
Hyoid			--	P.dist	--		T8	F
Shoulder, pelvic girdle and long bones				**Hand**			T9	F
Sternum			--	Scaphoid	F	X	T10	F
Manubrium			--	Lunate	F	--	T11	F
Body			--	Triquetral	F	--	T12	F
Xiphoid			--	Pisiform	F	--	L1	F
Scapula	F	F		Trapezium	F	X	L2	F
Clavicle	F	X		Trapezoid	F	--	L3	F
Humerus	F	F		Capitate	F	--	L4	F
Radius	F	F		Hamate	F	X	L5	F
Ulna	F	F		Mc1	F	X	S1	F
Acetabulum	--	--		Mc2	X	F	S2	F
Ilium	--	--		Mc3	X	X	S3	F
Ischium	--	--		Mc4	F	X	S4	F
Pubis	--	--		Mc5	X	X	S5	F
Femur	F	F		P.prox	X	3	Rib Frags	F
Patella	X	--		P.int	4	4	1st rib	--
Tibia	F	F		P.dist	3	4	2nd rib	--
Fibula	F	F	X = Present , -- = Not present, F = Fragment				11th rib	--

Dentition present:

Upper Right								DENTITION							Upper Left
M3	M2	M1	P2	P1	C	I2	I1	I1	I2	C	P1	P2	M1	M2	M3
		x	x	x	x	x	x			x					
	x	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
M3	M2	M1	P2	P1	C	I2	I1	I1	I2	C	P1	P2	M1	M2	M3
Lower Right								Lower Left							

Estimation of age at death

6.6.18 The pubic symphysis, auricular surface, and cranial vault were not present to estimate age-at-death. Therefore, dental wear was used to estimate age-at-death. Miles (1963) dental wear age estimation was used. The age at death for this individual based on Miles (1963) is estimated to be between 28 and 38 years. Therefore, this individual was placed into the young adult 2 to middle adult age category.

Method	**Age group**
Dental wear	Young Adult 2
Composite score	**Young adult 2 28-38yrs**

Estimation of biological sex

6.6.19 The skeletal elements analysed to estimate biological sex were the occipital protuberance, mental protuberance, angle of mandible, and the mastoid process. All of these skeletal elements were analysed using (Buikstra and Ubelaker, 1994) scoring methods. The mental protuberance and angle of mandible were scored as 5. While the occipital protuberance and mastoid process were scored as 4. Therefore, this individual is estimated to have been possibly a male.

Cranial assessments			
• Overall shape/structure		• Nuchal area	
• Glabellar profile		• Occipital protuberance	4
• Frontal slope		• Mandibular condyles	
• Supraorbital ridges		• Mandibular ramus	
• Orbital outline		• Mental protuberance	5
• Nasal bones		• Angle of mandible	5
• Mastoid process	4		
Composite score		**Probable male**	

Stature estimation

6.6.20 The stature of this individual was estimated by examining the (insert long bones and measurements next to them). Based on the fragmentation of the long bones, Jacobs (1992) stature estimation method was used. The stature is estimated to be between 166cm or 5'4" to 168cm or 5'5".

Method	**Stature estimation**
Long bone length	166-167cm
Composite stature 166-167 cm	

Pathology

6.6.21 The skeleton displays slight osteophytic activity to the palmar surface of the phalanges of the left and right hand and the left tibial tuberosity.

Osteophytic activity of the left tibial tuberosity

Osteophytic activity to the palmar surface of the left proximal phalanx

Notes

6.6.22 Most of the skeletal elements of this individual is represented by fragments. This individual also displays robust muscle attachments of both humeri and femurs.

Robust muscle attachment of the left proximal anterior humerus

Robust muscle attachment of the left proximal posterior femur

Summary

6.6.23 This skeleton [2730] was placed into the young adult 2 (28-38) category based on the dental wear. This individual has been estimated to be probable male with a stature of 166 to 167cm. There are some slight osteophytic activity on both hand phalanges and left tibial tuberosity. Also, the humeri and femurs exhibit robust muscle attachments.

Site	Individual number	Age group	Biological Sex	Percent present	Pathology
CHAR-EX-19	[2730]	Middle adult	Probable male	50-75%	Robust muscle attachments. Slight osteophytesto phalanges and left tibial tuberosity.

6.7 IRONSTONE ASSESSMENT

Introduction

6.7.1 The ironstone samples submitted for assessment were recovered during archaeological recording undertaken by SWAT in Charing, Kent. The author carried out a site visit in June 2019 and observed what appeared to be ironworking furnaces (hypothesised to be iron smelting but no slag from the site has yet been examined).

Methods

6.7.2 All of the material submitted was examined visually and the larger fragments were weighed in air and water to determine their density.

Results

6.7.3 In total 1296kg of material was examined. The material includes one fragment of fayalitic slag which appears to be tapped slag and several fragments of ironstone (containing enough iron to be a viable ore in bloomery iron smelting); however, the bulk of the material is ferruginous stone. The ironstone has a black fracture with no visible inclusions and, in one case, appears to have had a boxstone morphology. The ferruginous stones are of varied character: some are sandstones while others are siltstones or mudstones (and some small fragments appear to be iron-stained flint). They all have relatively low densities indicating that they contain insufficient iron to have been suitable ores for a bloomery furnace. Most of the ferruginous stones show signs of (natural?) abrasion.

List of material

Description	Weight (g)
Slag (smelting?)	114
Ironstone	152
Ferruginous stone	1030

Density of selected pecimens

Item	Density (g/cm^3)
Slag (smelting?)	3.1
Ironstone	4.2
Ironstone	4.3
Ironstone?	3.5
Ferruginous stone	2.3
Ferruginous stone	2.8
Ferruginous stone	2.4

Discussion

6.7.4 The material examined for this report provides slight evidence for bloomery iron smelting, but most is simply ferruginous stone that could not have been used as iron ore.

7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL NARRATIVE

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 The programme of archaeological investigations undertaken at Charing revealed a concentrated and previously unknown archaeological resource, part of the wider archaeological landscape within the area surrounding Charing. The excavation and post-excavation process established that there were phases present that originated in the Early bronze Age and continued throughout the Middle Bronze Age, Late Bronze Age, the Mid-Late Iron Age, the Late Iron Age-post conquest transition, early-mid Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods, representing activity spanning a period of approximately 3700 years, from c. 2000 BC up to 1700 AD.

7.2 Early Bronze Age

7.2.1 The earliest evidence of activity on the development site is Early Bronze Age and was located against the north-eastern periphery of the development site and comprise a small number of pits.

7.3 Middle Bronze Age

7.3.1 The Middle Bronze Age phase of activity also comprised a small number of pits, within the same area as those belonging to the Early Bronze Age, implying that there was continued occupation between both phases.

7.4 Late Bronze Age

7.4.1 The small number of features, 2 post holes and a pit, of the Late Bronze Age phase were also concentrated within the north periphery as the features belonging to phases 1 and 2. This suggests that activity throughout the Bronze Age had been taking place within the north periphery. It also implies that a Bronze Age landscape continues beyond the north limits of the excavation area.

7.5 Mid-Late Iron Age

7.5.1 The development site witnessed an increase in activity in the area during the Mid-Late Iron Age phase, as there was an increase in the number of features present. They were also spread more widely across the landscape. Archaeological features associated with this phase comprised a number of pits and two linear features. In addition, a furnace, has also been associated with this phase, suggesting that the advent of iron working in environs around Charing, may have originated during this period.

7.5.2 Two additional furnace were uncovered during the excavtions at Charing; however, they remain undated. Whereas evidence for iron industrial activities involving Late Iron Age furnaces have been encountered at Hurst Wood (Wessex Archaeology, 1997), Tile Lodge Farm (Priestly-Bell, ibid) and Leda Cottages, Westwell (Diez and Booth, ibid), and evidence, though ephemeral, of quarrying iron pan, was encountered east of Pluckley Road (MoLAS, 1997b).

7.6 Late Iron Age-post conquest transition

7.6.1 This phase spans a period based on a date range c. 50 BC-50 AD +/- 20 years. The aim, is to interpret the activities taking place on the site before the conquest and during the transition and to identify those features influenced by pre-conquest activities and remained in use, and those then influenced by the new Roman administration during the early conquest period.

7.6.2 It was possible to form this slightly later sub-division within the Late Iron Age and early Roman periods, as the features contained a greater percentage of pre-Roman material, usually spanning the c. 50 BC-50 AD +/- 20 date range. Later, Roman material recovered from the features, can be interpreted as either intrusive or originating from the final phases of the backfilling of dis-used features.

7.6.3 During this phase the site underwent a considerable transformation, representing changes to the structure and organisation of the landscape. Chief amongst the transitional features present were two enclosures and a trackway. A large partially enclosed open space, djacent to the enclosures may have been used as a field. The trackway was situated across one of the enclosures and led into this open space.

7.6.4 The second enclosure contained three timber post built buildings comprising a four post construct, and two larger buildings comprising twelve post pits intermixed with beam slots. They are of particular interest as, though considerably smaller, they mimick the style of floor plan and construction of conquest period military granaries within Roman forts and supply bases, such as those at Fishbourne (Timber Building 2) and Hod Hill (Cunliffe, ibid). The buildings at Charing are also contemporary with the buildings at Fishbourne and Hod Hill.

7.6.5 They are also contemporary with another building, interpreted as a granary, at Cressing, Essex (Greef and Moan, ibid). This example and the buildings from Charing are situated within Late Iron Age – Transitional rural contexts and were located next to entrances. This suggests that, although atypical in form, their positioning followed a form of planning with military influences. It is also of interest that all three (and the military granaries at Fishbourne and Hod Hill) are thought to have been demolished before the end of the first century AD.

7.6.6 Other archaeological remains associated with this phase comprised a number of linear features, pits and a cremation burial, perhaps a precursor to the cremation cemetery that would appear during the early-Roman period.

7.7 Roman

7.7.1 During the Roman phase, the site experienced a number of changes, representing alterations to the structure and function of the enclosures – including the demolition of all three granary buildings. This phase also witnessed the establishment of a cremation cemetery at the west end of the large open space, djacent to the enclosures. Two features, interpreted as cremation burials were also interred between the enclosures. However, the ceramic assemblage within both suggest that the features may have had a ceremonial or votive use. Other archaeological remains associated with this phase comprised a number of linear features and pits.

7.7.2 Alterations comprised increasing the internal space of both enclosures by the backfilling of ditches and extending others. Additional space was also obtained within Enclsure Two by demolishing all three buildings.

7.7.3 The cremation cemetery comprised a single mortuary enclosure containing a row of three equally spaced burials and two secondary cremation burials within glass vessels, implying the continued presence and use of the mortuary enclosure by the same local inhabitants, perhaps a singular family group.

7.7.4 The practice of interring secondary cremation burials within glass vessels have also been encountered, at Lower Walmer (Woodruff, 1902) and recently, Aylesham (Britchfield, Holmes and Wilkinson, 2020) perhaps suggesting a practice of secondary burial, specifically in glass vessels, within the wider Kent landscape. Of note, the bottles from Charing and Walmer are identical, suggesting not only a contemporaneous date but also the same source of manufacture for the bottles.

7.7.5 The examination of the grave assemblages enables the cremation burials to be divided into groups, representing; burials containing a collection of ceramic vessels; burials containing numerous object types; secondary burials containing just one vessel: in this instance, single glass cremation urns; burials that contain miniature ceramic vessels; and the burial interred without grave goods.

7.7.6 This division of the burials suggest that differing socio-economic influences, and perhaps, funerary practices may have been present at Charing and or within the vicinity. In addition, the burial assemblages may represent a demographic organisation or structuring within the local communities.

7.7.7 Two of the features containing deliberately placed miniature ceramic vessels have been initially identified as cremations. However, their presence within features absent of cremated human remains, suggest that they may represent ceremonial episodes, rather than funerary connections.

7.8 Medieval

7.8.1 The archaeological phases present at Charing suggest that after the Roman period, activity ceased until the mid-late 12th century when new features appeared, forming a possible enclosure and a large earthwork with flanking ditch, dividing the landscape within the development site into two.

7.8.2 The enclosure implies an agricultural re-worked landscape, perhaps part of the manorial complex or associated with the Bishop's Palace. The earthwork with flanking ditch may have represented a park-pale or a dike, for the management of the ground water, associated with the numerous springs in the vicinity.

7.9 Post-medieval

7.9.1 By the avent of the Post-Medieval phase, the features within the medieval landscape had disappeared, with the exception of the large earthwork and flanking ditch. This feature had been retained and the ditch re-cut in the Post-Medieval period. The maintance of the feature is the only archaeological evidence for activity taking place within the development site during the Post-Medieval phase.

7.9.2 However, there were a series of stone built and capped masonary drains, forming culverts interposed with drains formed from brick fragments mixed with stone and or flint nodules. They may represent Post-Medieval activity as they are similar to the Post-Medieval masonary drain at Burleigh Farm, Tile Lodge Road, Charing Heath (Wilson and Helm, ibid) and may have eventually replaced large earthwork and flanking ditch as the means for the management of the ground water.

7.10 Overview

7.10.1 To summarise, the archaeological investigation on land between Arthur Baker Playing Field and Ashford Road, Charing, prior to the development of the site, revealed a landscape that contained evidence of human activity originating during the Early Bronze Age and that peaked in the Late Iron Age and early-mid Roman periods. The discovery of Late Iron Age and Roman enclosures containing large buildings mimicking conquest period military granaries are of regional importance, as is the presence of a group of early-mid Roman cremation burials. A number of these were furnished with unique and very scarce items and are therefore, of regional and national significance.

8 STATEMENT OF POTENTIAL AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER ANALYSIS

8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 Archaeological excavations undertaken at Charing have recorded evidence for agrarian activity and domestic settlement dating to the early prehistoric periods, the Late Iron Age and Roman phase. Medieval features include an earthwork and corresponding ditch, that may have been associated with the Bishops Palace and or the manor house.

8.1.2 The excavations revealed an early-mid Roman cremation cemetery and clustered cremation groups, thereby providing evidence of mortuary and funerary practices. In addition, a small number of iron processing furnaces were present, demonstrating that together with previous discoveries, was an industrial activity, widespread within Charing's environs.

8.1.3 Consequently, specialist assessment undertaken on the stratigraphic results and the finds assemblages has identified further work required to bring the project to completion, and Recommendations for further analysis are provided below, with an Updated Project Design set out in Section 9 and proposals for publication in Section 10.

8.2 Strategraphic Potential

8.2.1 The provisional dating will be checked and refined at the analysis stage. It is anticipated that many of the context groups of ambiguous date (marked and noted as possible in the text and figures) will be

reconsidered. Hopefully, through spatial analysis and by re-examining the dateable finds some of the stratigraphic relationships can be resolved. For example, it should be possible to clarify the sequence of development for the various phases of the site. Alterations to the project database (re-phasing, re-grouping, etc.) resulting from this stratigraphic analysis will need to be completed before the further specialist analyses can be undertaken.

8.2.2 The archaeological excavations at Charing have revealed multiple phases of activity on the site, dated by finds (principally pottery) to the Early, Middle and Late Bronze Age, Late Iron Age, early-mid Roman, Medieval and Post-Medieval periods. Further analysis should allow for the interpretation of the various elements of the multiphased settlements, into areas of domestic activity, enclosures for livestock and boundaries.

8.2.3 Activity is thought to have originated in the Early Bronze Age, continuing into the Late Bronze Age. The primary aim of further analysis should seek to compare with other contemporary features within the region in order to establish/confirm the potential social, political and/or religious elements of such a site and place it within its regional context.

8.2.4 Changes in use of the landscape in the Mid-Late Iron Age and early-mid Roman periods relating to, for example, the management of animals and crops, the local economy and increasing population, can be explored with specific reference to similar sites within East kent. In addition, transitional elements associated with the Late Iron Age-early Roman landscape can be explored, in particular the presence and use of enclosures.

8.2.5 Examination of the grave assemblages may identify differing socio-economic influences, and perhaps, funerary practices present and any demographic organisation or structuring. Two features contain deliberately placed miniature ceramic vessels. The absence of cremated human remains, suggest that they may represent ceremonial episodes, rather than funerary connections.

8.2.6 Further analysis of the stratigraphic sequence of medieval and post-medieval features may also enhance our understanding of the development of the last phases of activity identified.

8.3 Ceramic Assemblage

Recommendations

8.3.1 The following recommendations have been made:

1 - In the event that the ceramic from this excavation is taken through to final publication it is recommended;

2 - all of the features mentioned above be published in the final pottery report. The pottery from the Bronze Age and Early Iron Age features should be published in detail with four pottery illustrations, as should that from Middle Iron Age Pits 1505 and 1867 with three illustrations.

3 - The pottery from features associated with the two Roman granaries should be published in outline with only one pot illustration. The same applies to the pottery from the various Late Iron Age/Roman ditches.

4 - The pottery information, together with that from the glass and other specialists should be brought together for the various cremation groups and used to publish the individual cremations. It is estimated that 46 pots will need to be drawn.

5 - The pottery from the medieval ditches can be published in outline without any illustrations.

8.4 Registered Small Finds Assemblage

Recommendations

8.4.1 The following recommendations have been made:

1 - The majority of the registered small finds require re-packaging, stabilising and conservation.

2 - A number of the artefacts require inclusion in an illustrated catalogue for publication. The illustrated catalogue should contain those objects recommended for illustration.

3 - The contents of all vessels present within the grave assemblages, and the lamp, should be analysed for residues. Analysis should also include the soil contents of the block lift containing the small lock-box, to determine whether any chemicals present can determine its use as a cosmetic box.

4 - The contents and the internal surface of the miniature ceramic vessels also require residue analysis. As stated above, Malcolm Lyne suggests that they may have been used to inhale cannabis during ceremonial/funeral acts.

5 - Further analysis of the cremation assemblages from Ashford Road is therefore, recommended;

6 - Concerning the chest from Cremation 13, any further research aims should include a study of the proportion between chests interred within rural and urban cremation cemeteries.

7 - Concerning the casket from Cremation 14, there should also be a reappraisal of the occurrence and distribution of lion-head mounts and decorated caskets within the South East of England, East Anglia and beyond, to produce a national table.

8 - Concerning and the lock-box (also from Cremation 13); comparisons should be sought, nationally and Empire-wide, as the implications are that this item may have been another form of cosmetic box and therefore, an extremely rare artefact.

9 - Concerning the glass; there should be a study to determine the apparent rarity of the globular glass vessels (SF: 143 and SF: 144) within the South East of England and further afield. The study should also include the larger hexagonal-shaped bottle (SF: 127) as the larger form would also seem to be scarce occurrence. For this bottle, a thorough cross reference of the foundry maker's mould with British and Continental examples may determine a place of origin. Indeed, all of the glass vessels warrant comparison with examples from the continent to determine not only places of origin but also the demographic and economical influences of their trade, and final re-use.

10 - Concerning the iron lamp (SF: 132) and lamp hanger (SF: 134); there should also be a reappraisal of the occurrence and distribution of iron lamps and lamp hangers within the South East of England, East Anglia, and beyond, to produce a national table. It has been noted by Hilary Cool (2011. Pg. 307) that there are conflicting regional trends for the occurrence and deposition of lamps (primarily ceramic) between the living and deceased populations in Britain. Any further study should determine whether iron lamps follow these trends or represent something else.

11 - Finally, it is recommended that there is a thorough examination of the cremated bone and environmental samples for any evidence of pyre goods (Cool, ibid. pp. 295-296).

8.5 Lithic Assemblage

Recommendations

8.5.1 With regard to the lithic assemblage, there are no recommendations.

8.6 Faunal Assemblage

Recommendations

8.6.1 With regard to the faunal assemblage, it is recommended that the shark tooth be passed to a fish specialist for further recording.

8.7 Archaeobotanical Recommendations

8.7.1 The following recommendations have been made:

1 - In the event that the ceramic from this excavation is taken through to final publication it is recommended;

2 - Post-excavation analysis and subsequent priorities may require the identification of charcoal in this and other features but aside from this, no further work is recommended on the plant-macro remains in the remaining samples unless items are needed for radiocarbon dating.

8.8 Inhumation Remains

Recommendations

8.8.1 With regard to the lithic assemblage, there are no recommendations.

8.9 Metallurgical Analysis

Recommendations

8.9.1 With regard to the lithic assemblage, there are no recommendations.

9 UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN

9.1 Introduction

9.1.1 In light of the potential of the results of the fieldwork to answer not only the original aims and objectives (Wilkinson, 2018 and Britchfield, Holmes, Wilkinson and Worsley, 2021) but other questions raised during the excavation, this section provides an Updated Project Design (UPD) which proposes revised research aims and objectives, and details of the further analyses recommended to achieve them.

9.1.2 In accordance with guidance provided by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014) the following revised research aims are proposed and form part of an UPD which is subject to the agreement of Kent County Council Heritage Conservation (KCCHC). This UPD sets out the requirement for further archaeological works. It is therefore proposed that further analysis takes into consideration recommendations made in Section 8 above, along with the proposed revised research aims set out below.

9.2 Revised Research Aims

9.2.1 The revised research aims will;

- Determine the date, relationship, function and extent of the archaeological phases present with the archaeological resource encountered within the development between Arthur Baker Playing Field and Ashford Road, Charing;

- Determine the date, function and extent of permanent settlement within the site, and its development during the early prehistoric, Late Iron Age, Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods;

- Investigate the function of the prehistoric features and relate them to any ritual practices with any associated remains within the landscape;

- to characterise the pottery assemblage from the prehistoric periods with other regional assemblages;

- Determine the date, nature and extent of landscape organisation within the site, in the form of field systems, trackways and enclosures, and how they may relate to other, contemporary sites in East Kent;

- Investigate the transformation of the Late Iron Age and early-mid Roman Landscape and draw comparisons with other similar sites within the region;

- Characterise the type of field-systems and enclosures and to characterise the pottery assemblage from the Late Iron Age and early-mid Roman periods with other regional assemblages;

- Investigate the presence and origins of the large Late Iron Age and early-mid Roman buildings;

- Characterise the early-mid Roman cremation burials and to characterise the grave assemblages with other regional assemblages;

- Investigate the presence and origins of the medieval features in relation to the Bishop's Palace and the manor house;

- Consider the the evidence of decline and abandonment of the site in the later medieval period and post-medieval periods and place this within a broader context of settlement change in the region.

9.2.2 Proposals for the reporting and publication of the results from this assessment and further analysis is detailed in Section 10 below.

10 RESOURCES AND PUBLICATION

10.1 Introduction

10.1.1 The proposal is to produce a Final Report and to publish the site and the remaining elements of the fieldwork project as a SWAT Archaeology monograph.

10.2 Final Report

10.2.1 The report structure will be thematic and will be based on a series of identified research aims that have been developed during the post-excavation assessment phase (taken from the original research aims-see above). The aims are likely to cover the following key themes:

- Rural settlement: organisation and development
- Living and farming practices: the evidence for everyday activities
- Depositional practices: rubbish and ritual.
- Death and burial

10.3 Publication

10.3.1 The proposal is to publish the site and the remaining elements of the fieldwork project as a SWAT Archaeology monograph. At present time it is believed that a large monograph incorporating approximately 10 years of SWAT Archaeology fieldwork will include approximately 6 or 7 Kent sites which draw strong comparisons.

10.3.2 In addition, and prior to the publication of the monograph, a more condensed summary of the results will be provided to the Kent Archaeological Society of publication in *Archaeologia Cantiana.*

10.3.3 All publication works will be carried out in consultation with KKCHC.

10.4 Personnel

10.4.1 The team consists primarily of self-employed specialist staff. The post-excavation project will be managed by Dr Paul Wilkinson of SWAT Archaeology. The following staff (Table 4) are scheduled to undertake the work as outlined in the task list (Table 5) and the programme.

Name	Position
Dr Paul Wilkinson	Post-Excavation Manager
David Britchfield	Project Manager/Reports Manager
Dan Worsley	Project Officer
Simon Holmes	Project Officer

Malcolm Lyne	Ceramic Specialist
Simon Holmes	Registered Small Finds
Carol White	Animal bone specialist
Matilda Holmes	Animal Bone Specialist
Paul Hart	Worked Flint Specialist
Chris Butler	Worked Flint specialist
QUEST	Environmental Specialist
ARS	Cremated Human Remains Specialists
ARS	Inhumation Burial Specialists
David Dungworthy	Metallurgical Specialist
SWAT Archaeology	Photography
Dana Goodburn-Brown	Conservator
Digitise This	Illustrator
SWAT Archaeology	Archiving

Table 4. *List of Contributing Personnel*

10.5 Proposed publication and dissemination

10.5.1 The Full Report outlined above will be published in PDF A format for publication with OASIS.

10.5.2 The significance of the results of the fieldwork – in relation to the evidence for Late Iron Age and early-mid Roman agarian and mortuary activity warrants detailed and comprehensive publication, describing specific components of the Site, its overall development and its relationship to the known archaeology of the East Kent area and the wider region (as mentioned above).

10.6 Task list

10.6.1 Table 5 lists the stages and tasks, the personnel and scheduled work duration required to achieve the project objectives. Specialist recommendations, which are included within this assessment, are taken into consideration in the table below;

Task No.	Description	Days	Staff
Management			
1	Project Director	5	Dr Paul Wilkinson
2	Project Management	10	David Britchfield
Analysis and reporting			
3	Phasing and stratigraphy	10	Simon Holmes
4	Background research	10	Simon Holmes
5	Reporting	10	Simon Holmes
6	Edit report	5	David Britchfield
Ceramic			
7	Report	10	Malcolm Lyne

8	Comparative analysis	10	Malcolm Lyne
9	Pre-drawing restoration	20	Malcolm Lyne
10	Illustration	20	Malcolm Lyne
11	Photography	5	Malcolm Lyne
12	Edit specialist report	1	Simon Holmes
Registered Small finds			
13	Comparative analysis	20	Simon Holmes
14	Report	10	Simon Holmes
15	Edit specialist report	5	David Britchfield
Animal Bone			
16	Report (shark tooth)	1	Matilda Holmes
17	Edit specialist report	1	Simon Holmes
Environmental			
18	Charcoal Identification	5	QUEST
19	Report writing (just charcoal)	5	QUEST
20	Edit specialist report	1	Simon Holmes
Cremated Human Remains			
21	Report	20	ARS
22	Analysis	20	ARS
23	Edit specialist report	1	Simon Holmes
Inhumation Burial			
24	Report	5	ARS
25	Edit specialist report	1	Simon Holmes
Conservation			
26	Report	10	Dana Goodburn-B
27	Analysis	20	Dana Goodburn-B
28	Edit specialist report	1	Simon Holmes
Report			
29	Introduction and background	2	Simon Holmes
30	Collation and integration of report	2	Simon Holmes
31	Integrate specialist contributions	2	Simon Holmes
32	Discussion	2	Simon Holmes
33	Illustrations	10	Digitise This
34	Bibliography/footnotes	1	Simon Holmes
35	Edit draft report	5	David Britchfield
36	Production	2	David Britchfield
37	Report QA	2	David Britchfield
38	Corrections	2	David Britchfield
Publication			
39	Preparation of text	5	David Britchfield
40	Preparation of illustrations	5	Digitise This
41	Collation and QA	5	David Britchfield
42	Submission/liaison with journal editor	TBC	SWAT Archaeology
43	Journal charges	TBC	SWAT Archaeology
Archive			
44	Archive preparation	5	SWAT Archaeology
45	Archive deposition	1	SWAT Archaeology

Table 5. *Task List*

11 ARCHIVING ETC

11.1 General

11.1.1 The Site archive, which will include; paper records, photographic records, graphics and digital data, will be prepared following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; CIfA 2009; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).

11.1.2 All archive elements will be marked with the site/accession code, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive comprises 1 file/document case of paper records & A4 graphics.

12 REFERENCES

12.1 Bibliography

ADS 2013. Caring for Digital Data in Archaeology: a guide to good practice, Archaeology Data Service & Digital Antiquity Guides to Good Practice.

Asouti, E. 2006. 'Factors affecting the formation of an archaeological wood charcoal assemblage.'

Bass, W. 1995. Human Osteology: A Laboratory and Field Manual, 4th ed. Missouri Archaeological Publications.

Beijerinck, W. 1947. Zadenatlas der Nederlandsche Flora. Veenman and Zonen, Wageningen.

Black, T. K. III. 1978, A new method for assessing the sex of fragmentary skeletal remains: Femoral shaft circumference. American Journal of Physical Anthropology, 48.

Boardman, S. and Jones, G. E. M. 1990. Experiments on the Effect of Charring on Cereal Plant Components. in *Journal of Archaeological Science* 17, 1-12.

Britchfield, D., Holmes, S. P., Wilkinson, P. and Worsley, D. 2021. Archaeological Excavations at Ashford Road, Charing, Kent. Interim Report. SWAT Archaeology.

Brooks, S. T. and Suchey, J. M. 1990. Skeletal age determination based upon the os pubis: A comparison of the Ascádi Nemeskéri and Suchey Brooks method. Human Evolution, 5.

Brothwell, D. R. 1981. Digging up Bones. Cornell University Press, Ithica.

Brown, D.H. 2011. *Archaeological archives; a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*, Archaeological Archives Forum (revised edition).

Buikstra, J. E. and Ubelaker, D. H. 1994. Standards for Data Collection from Human Skeletal remains. Fayetteville: Arkansas.

Campbell, G., Moffett, L. and Straker, V. 2011. Environmental Archaeology. A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (second edition). Portsmouth: English Heritage.

Cappers, R. J. T., Bekker, R. M. and Jans, J. E. A. 2006. Digital Zadenatlas Van Nederlands - Digital Seeds Atlas of the Netherlands. Groningen Archaeological Studies Volume 4. Groningen: Barkhius Publishing, Groningen.

Charles, M. 1984. 'Introductory remarks on the cereals.' Bulletin on Sumerian Agriculture 1, 17-31.

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014a. *Standard and guidance for Archaeological excavation*.

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014b. *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*.

Castle, A. 2013. Land at Burleigh Farm, Charing, Ashford, Kent. An Archaeological Evaluation. Thames Valley Archaeological Services South.

Cox, M. 2000. Ageing Adults from the Skeleton. In: M. Cox & S. Mays, eds. Human Osteology in Archaeology and Forensic Science. Greenwich Medical Media LTD. London.

Cox M. and Mays, S. 2000. Human osteology in archaeology and forensic science. London: Greenwich Medical Media LTD. London.

Deter, C. A. 2006. Dental wear patterns of hunter-gatherers and agriculturalists: The impact of behavioural changes accompanying the transition [PhD]. London: University College London.

Diez, V. and Booth, P. 2006. The Late Iron Age and Roman Settlement at Leda Cottages, Westwell, Kent. Oxford-Wessex Archaeology Joint Venture.

English Heritage. 2002. Environmental Archaeology: *A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation*. Swindon, Centre for Archaeology Guidelines.
English Heritage. 2011. Environmental Archaeology: *A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (second edition)* English Heritage

English Heritage. 2004. *Human bones from archaeological sites: guidelines for producing assessment documents and analytical reports.*

Feldesman, M. R., Kleckner, J. G. and Lundy, J. K. 1990. Femur/stature ratio and estimates in mid and late-Pleistocene fossil hominids. American Journal of Physical Anthropology, 83.

Fully, G. 1956. Une nouvelle méthode de determination de la taille. Ann Med Legale, 35.

Graham, D. and Graham, A. 2009. 'Roman miniature pots and their contents from Frensham Common, Surrey', JRPS 14, 67-70.

Gray, L. 2018a. Environmental Sampling Strategy for Excavations at Charing. Unpublished Archive Report for Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey.

Grzybowska, M. Forthcoming. Laboratory excavation and osteoarchaeological analysis of cremated human remains from Charing, Kent. ARS Ltd Report 2020/78, Unpublished Archive Report for Archaeological esearch Services.

Harvig, L. L. and Lynnerup, N. 2013. On the volume of cremated remains: a comparative study of cremated bone volume measured manually and assessed by Computed Tomography. *Journal of Archaeological Science*, 40.

Hillson, S. W. 2000. Dental Pathology. In: Katzenberg, M. A. and Saunders, S. R. (eds). Biological Anthropology of the Human Skeleton. Wiley-Liss Inc, New York.

Hillson, S. W. 2001. Recording Dental Caries in Archaeological Human Remains, International Journal of Osteology, 11.

Historic England. 2015. *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment.* The MoRPHE Project Manager's Guide.

Holman, D. J. and Bennett, K. A. 1991. Determination of sex from arm bone measurements. American Journal of Physical Anthropology, 84.

Jacobs, K. 1992. Estimating Femur and Tibia Length from Fragmentary Bones: An Evaluation of Steele's (1970) Method Using a Prehistoric European Sample. American Journal of Physical Anthropology, 89.

Jacomet, S. 2006. Identification of cereal remains from archaeological sites - second edition. Basel: Basel University Archaeobotany Lab IPAS.

Kent County Council (Heritage & Conservation) 2015. Strip, Map and Sample. Specification Manual Part B.

Kerney, M. P. and Cameron R. A. D. 1979. Land Snails of Britain and North-West Europe. London: Harper Collins Publishers.

Key, C. A., Aiello, L. C. and Molleson, T. 1994. Cranial Suture Closure and Its Implications for Age Estimation, International Journal of Osteoarchaeology, 4.

Krogman, W. M. and Isçan, M. Y. 1986. The Human Skeleton in Forensic Medicine, Charles C Thomas, Springfield.

Lawrence, M. J. and Brown, R. U. 1973. Mammals of Britain; their tracks, trails and signs. London, Blandford Press

Longworth, I. 1984. Collared Urns of the Bronze Age in Great Britain and Ireland, Cambridge University Press.

Lovejoy, C. O., Meindl, R. S., Pryzbeck, T. R. and Mensforth, R. P. 1985a. Chronological metamorphosis of the auricular surface of the ilium: A new method for the determination of adult skeletal age of adult of death. American Journal of Physical Anthropology, 68.

Lyne, M. 2008. 'The Roman and Medieval pottery', in Booth, P., Bingham, A.M. and Lawrence, S. The Roman roadside settlement at Westhawk Farm, Ashford, Kent, Excavations 1998-9, Oxford Archaeology Monograph 2.

Macpherson-Grant, N., Savage, A., Cotter, J., Davey, M. and Riddler, I. 1995. Canterbury Ceramics 2. The Processing and Study of Excavated Pottery, Canterbury Archaeological Trust.

Mahoney, P. 2006. Microwear and morphology: functional relationships between human dental microwear and the mandible. Journal of Human Evolution, 50.

Mahoney, P. 2011. Human deciduous mandibular molar incremental enamel development. American Journal of Physical Anthropology, 144.

Mahoney, P. 2012. Incremental enamel development in modern human deciduous anterior teeth. American Journal of Physical Anthropology, 147.

Miles, A. 1963. The dentition in the assessment of individual age of skeletal material. In: D. R. Brothwell (ed). Dental anthropology. Oxford Pergamum Press.

Meindl, C. O. and Lovejoy, R. S. 1989. Age Changes in the Pelvis: Implications for Masticatory Function. American Journal of Physical Anthropology, 57.

Meindl, R. S. and Lovejoy, C. O. 1985. Ectocranial suture closure: a revised method for the determination of skeletal age at death based on the lateral anterior sutures. American Journal of Physical Anthropology, 68.

MoLAS, 1997a. East of Newlands (ARC NEW97). An Archaeological Evaluation. Museum of London Archaeology Service.

MoLAS, 1997b. East of Pluckley Road (ARC PRD97). An Archaeological Evaluation. Museum of London Archaeology Service.

MoLAS, 1998. Tutt Hill (ARC TUT98). An Archaeological Evaluation. Museum of London Archaeology Service.

MoLAS, 1999. East of Newlands, Charing Heath, Kent (ARC NEW98). Detailed Archaeological Works Interim Report Final. Museum of London Archaeology Service.

Molnar, S. 1971b. Sex, Age and Tooth Position as Factors in the Production of Tooth Wear. American Antiquity, 36.

Monaghan, J. 1987. Upchurch and Thameside Roman Pottery, BAR British Series 173.

Orton, C. J. 1975. 'Quantitative pottery studies, some progress, problems and prospects', Science and Archaeology 16, 30-5.

Oxford Archaeology, 1998. Brockton Farm, Charing, Kent (ARC BRO98) Archaeological Evaluation Report.

Oxford Archaeology, 1999. Hurst Wood, Charing Heath, Kent (ARC HWD98). Strip, Map and Sample Archaeological Works, Interim Report Final.

Pelling, R., Campbell, G., Carruthers, W., Hunter, K. and Marshall, P. 2015. 'Exploring contamination (intrusion and residuality) in the archaeobotanical record: case studies from central and southern England'. In *Vegetation History and Archaeobotany.* (2015) 24: 85-99.

Pollard, R. J. 1988. The Roman Pottery of Kent, Monograph Series. Kent Archaeol Society No 5.

Priestley-Bell, G. 1999. Post-Excavation Assessment of Brett's Charing Sand PIt, Tile Lodge Farm, Charing, Kent. Archaeology Southeast.

Reynolds, P. 1979. The Iron Age Farm: The Butser Experiment. London: British Museum Press.

Schmid, E. 1972. Atlas of Animal Bones for Prehistorians, Archaeologists and Quaternary Geologists. Amsterdam. Elsevier Science Publishers.

Schwartz, J. 1995. Skeleton Keys: An Introduction To Human Skeletal Morphology, Development and Analysis. Oxford University Press.

SERF. 2008. *Notes on the South-East Research Framework public seminar on the Environment theme (12/01/08)* Retrieved from the World Wide Web on 27th April 2015: https://shareweb.kent.gov.uk/Documents/leisure-and-culture/heritage/serf-seminar-notes/environment.pdf

Silver, A. The Ageing of Domestic Animals in Brothwell, D. & Higgs, E. Science in Archaeology (1969) London, Thames & Hudson.

SMA 1993. Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections, Society of Museum Archaeologists

SMA 1995. Towards an Accessible Archaeological Archive, Society of Museum Archaeologists.

Smart, T. L. and Hoffman, E. S. 1988. *Environmental Interpretation of Archaeological Charcoal.* In Hastorf, C.A. and Popper, V.S. *Current Palaeobotany Chicago and London. University of Chicago Press.*

Smith, A., Allen, M., Brindle, T and Fulford, M. 2016. The Rural Settlement of Roman Britain. Britannia Monograph Series No. 29.

Smith, P. 1991. Standards of tooth formation and dental age assessment. In: Kelly, M. A. and Larsen, C. E. (eds). Advances in dental anthropology. New York, Wiley-Liss.

Stace, C. 2010. New Flora of the British Isles, 3rd Edition, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Stewart, T.D. 1979. Essentials of forensic anthropology: especially as developed in the United States. Springfield, IL: CC Thomas.

Thompson ,I. 1982. Grog-tempered 'Belgic' Pottery of South-eastern England, BAR British Series 108.

Trotter, M. 1970. Estimation of stature from intact long limb bones. In: Stewart, T. D. (ed). Personal Identification in Mass Disasters.

Ubelaker, D. H. 1989. Skeletal Remains, Taraxacum Press, Washington D.C.

Udrescu, M. and Van Neer, W. 2002. Looking for human therapeutic intervention in the healing of fractures in domestic animals in Diet and Health in Past Animal Populations pp 24-35 9th ICAZ Conference, Durham 2002. Oxbow Books.

Von Den Dreisch, A. 1976. A Guide to the Measurements of Animal Bones from Archaeological Sites. Peabody Museum Bulletin 1. Harvard University.

Wessex Archaeology, 1997. Archaeological Evaluation at Hurst Wood (ARC HWD97), Charing Heath, Kent. Environmental Statement Route Window 28 Final Fieldwork Report.

White, C. 2020. 'CHAR-EX-19- Animal Bone Report' Unpublished Archive Report for Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey Company.

Wilkinson, P. 2018. Specification for a programme of archaeological strip, map and sample of land between Arthur Baker Playing Field and Ashford Road, Charing, Kent. SWAT Archaeology.

Wilson, T. and Helm, R. 2018. Land at Burleigh Farm, Tile Lodge Road, Charing Heath Kent TN27 0BX Archaeological strip, map and monitoring and set-piece excavation Phase 1 Post-excavation assessment report. Canterbury Archaeological Trust.

12.2 Websites

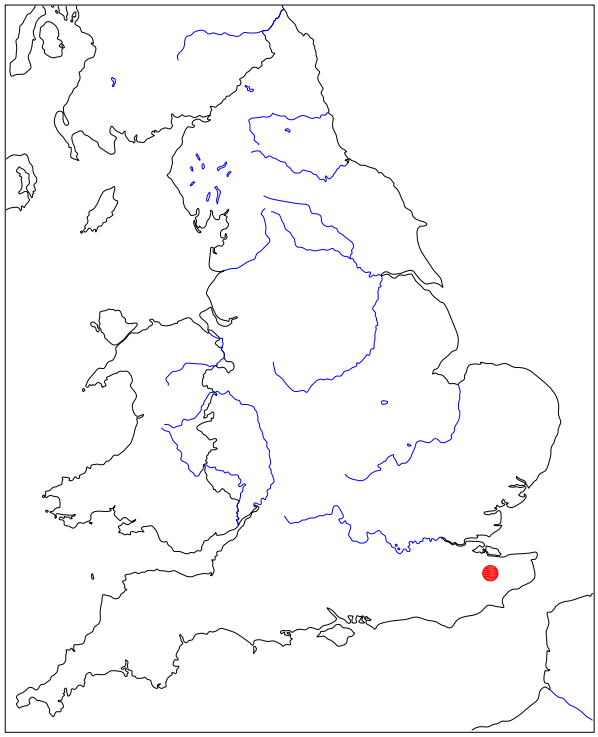
Archaeology Data Service
https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/

British Geological Survey 2016. Geology of Britain viewer.
http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyof britain/home.html

Kent County Council HER
Webapps.kent.gov.uk/KCC.ExploringKentsPast.Web.Sites.Public/

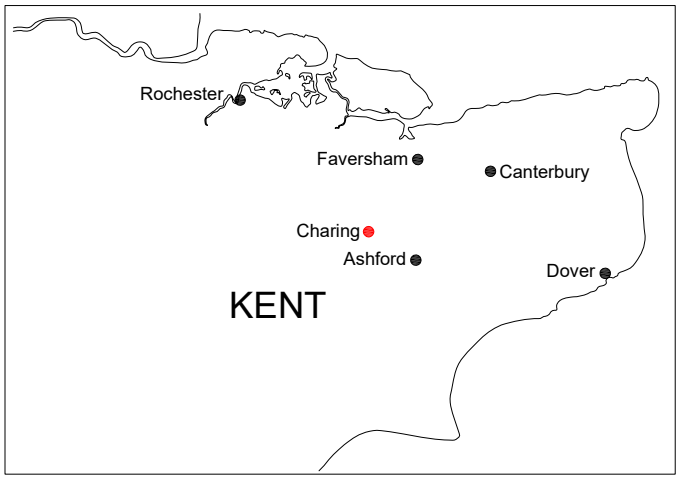
Portable Antiquities Scheme
https://finds.org.uk

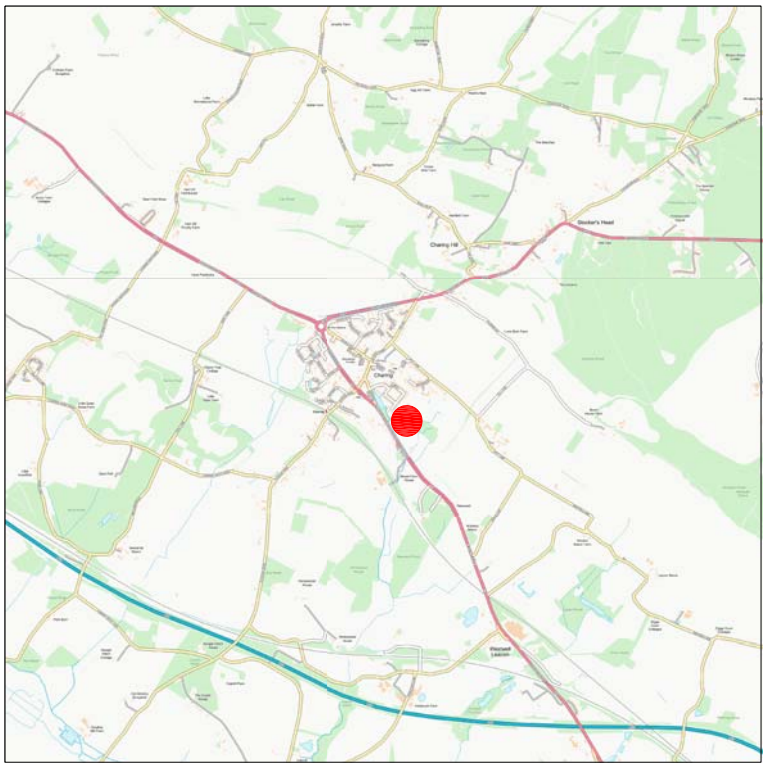
NOT TO SCALE



N

NOT TO SCALE





1:50000@A4

Figure 1: Site Location Plan

0m 5km

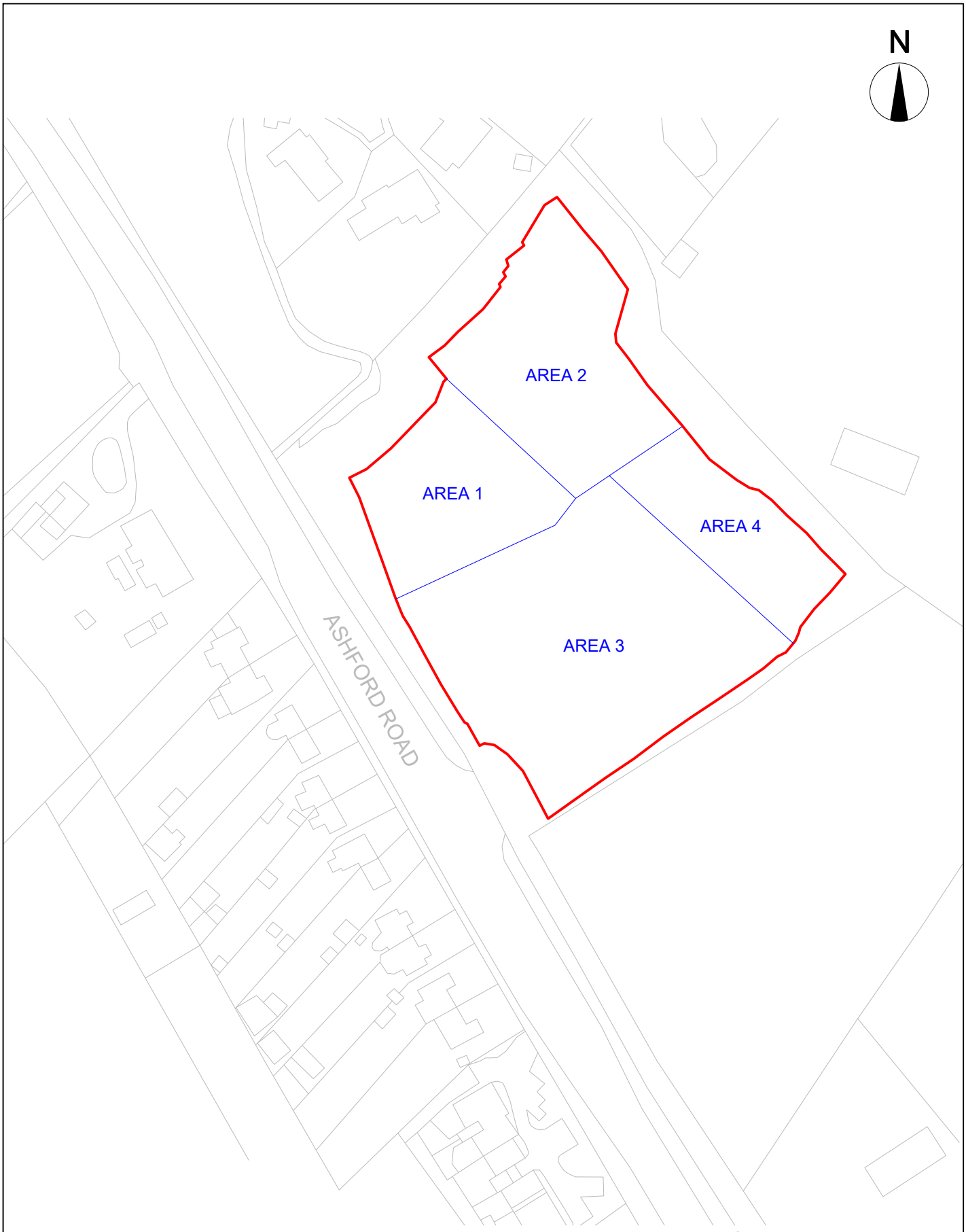


Figure 2: Site plan showing areas of archaeological excavation

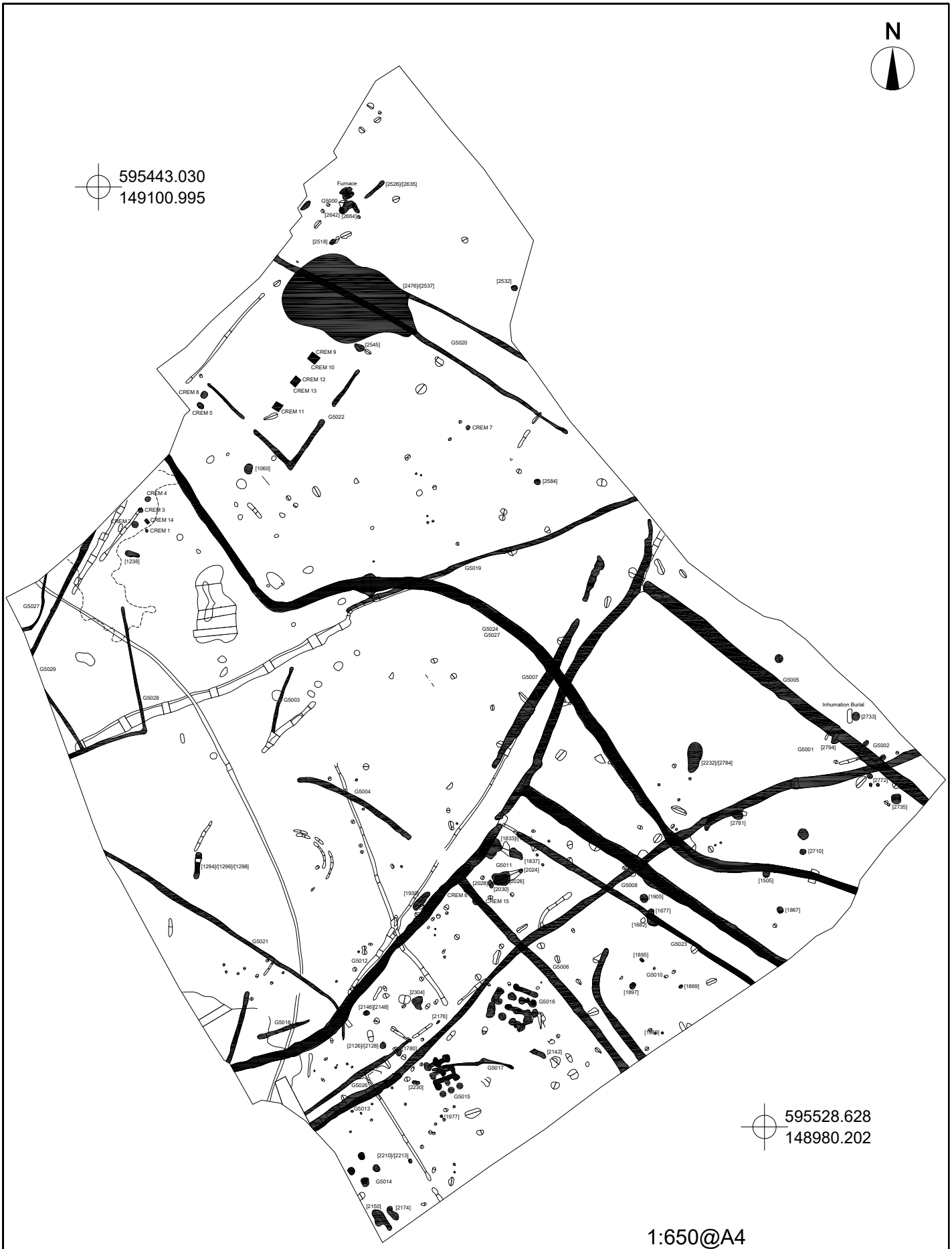


Figure 3: Site Plan of all archaeological features

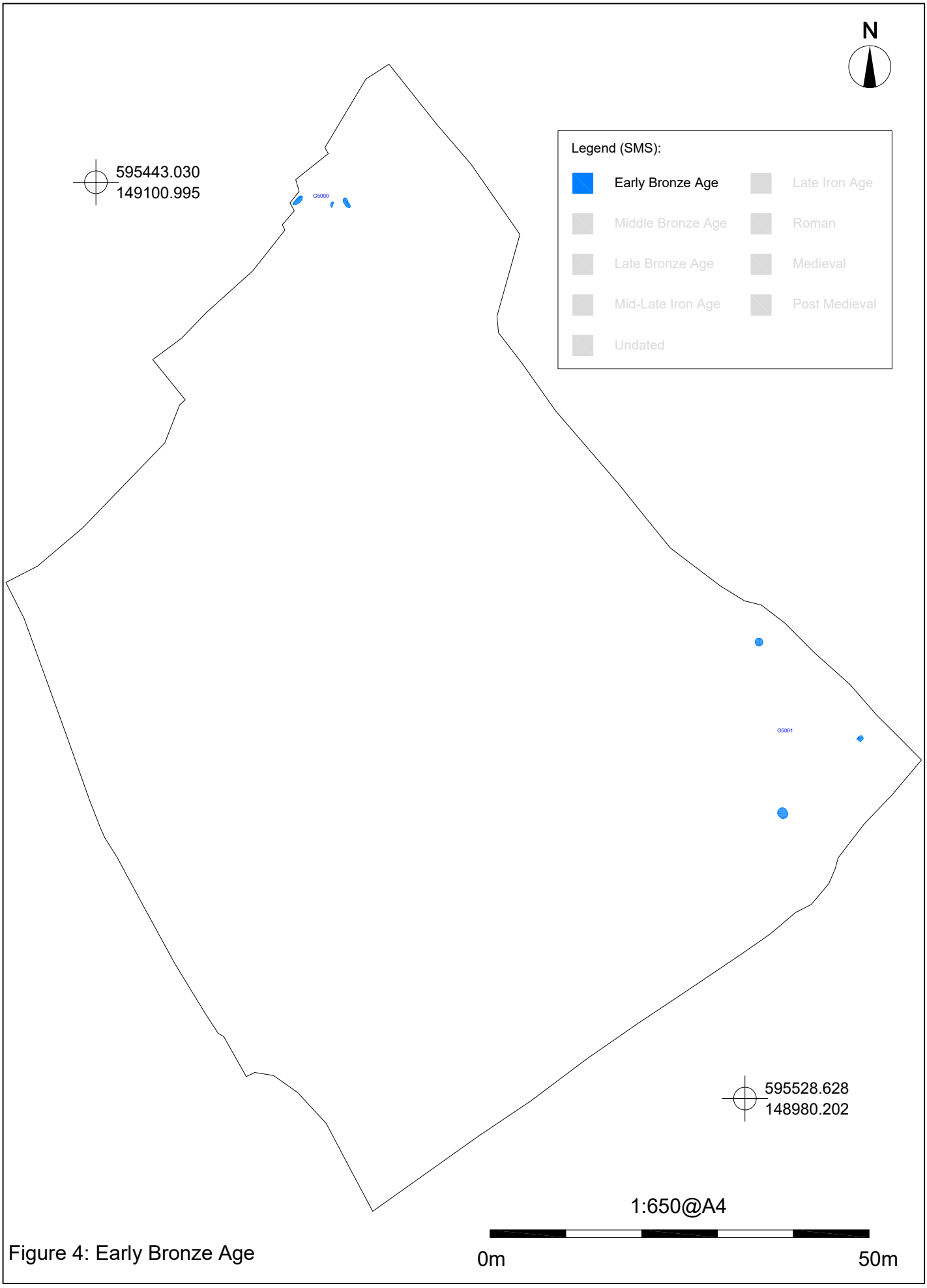


Figure 4: Early Bronze Age

Figure 5: Middle Bronze Age

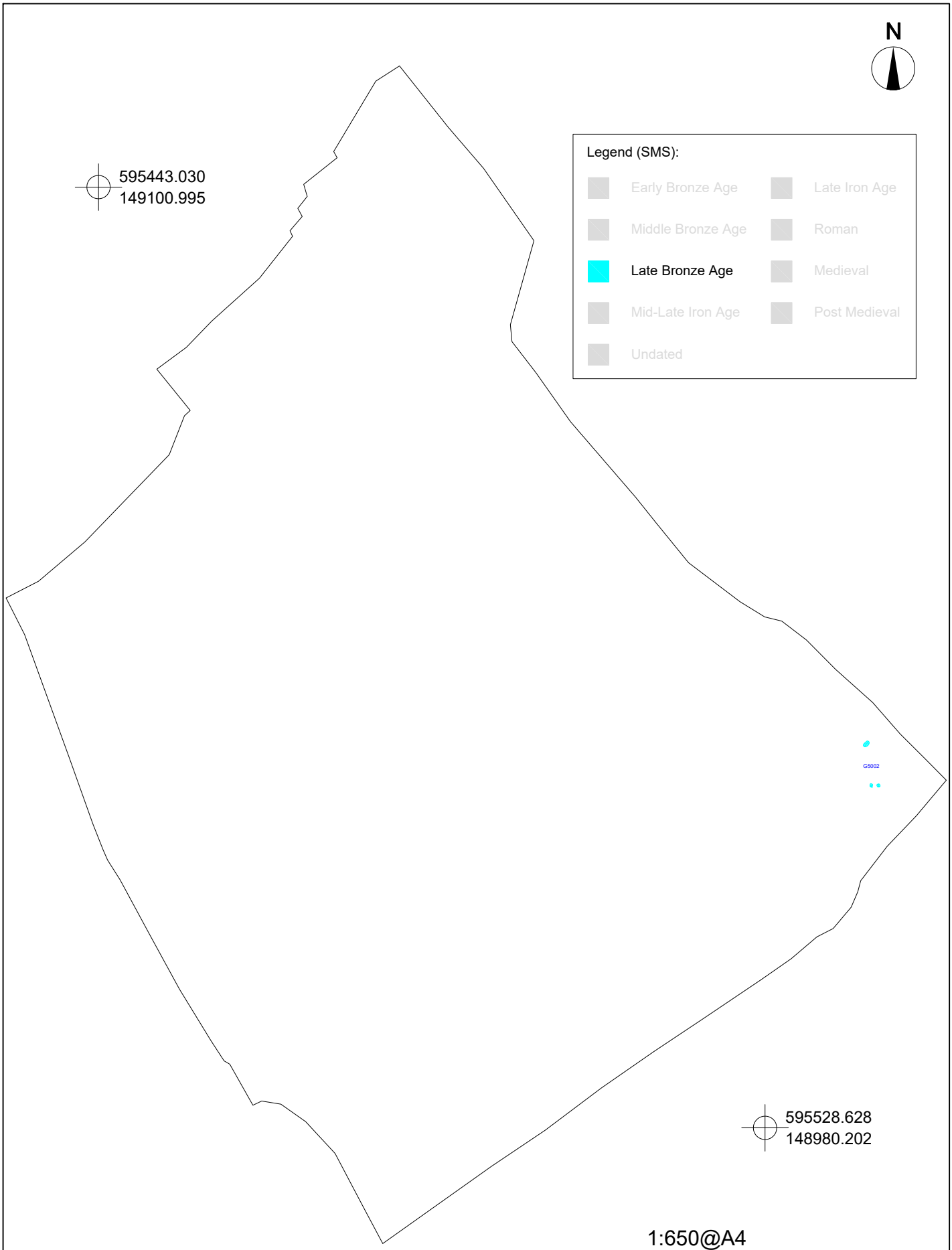


Figure 6: Late Bronze Age

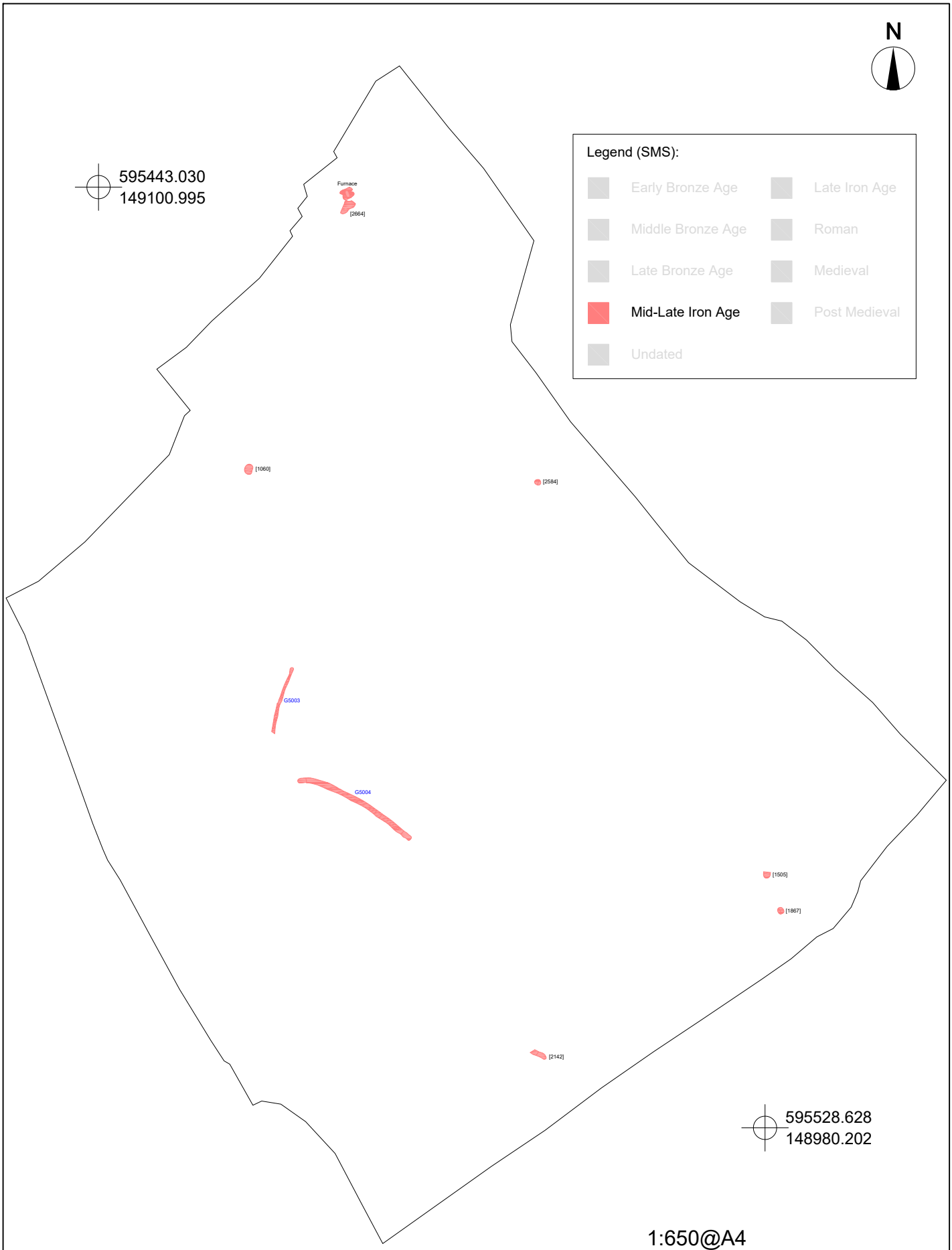


Figure 7: Mid-Late Iron Age

Figure 8: Late Iron Age and Transition

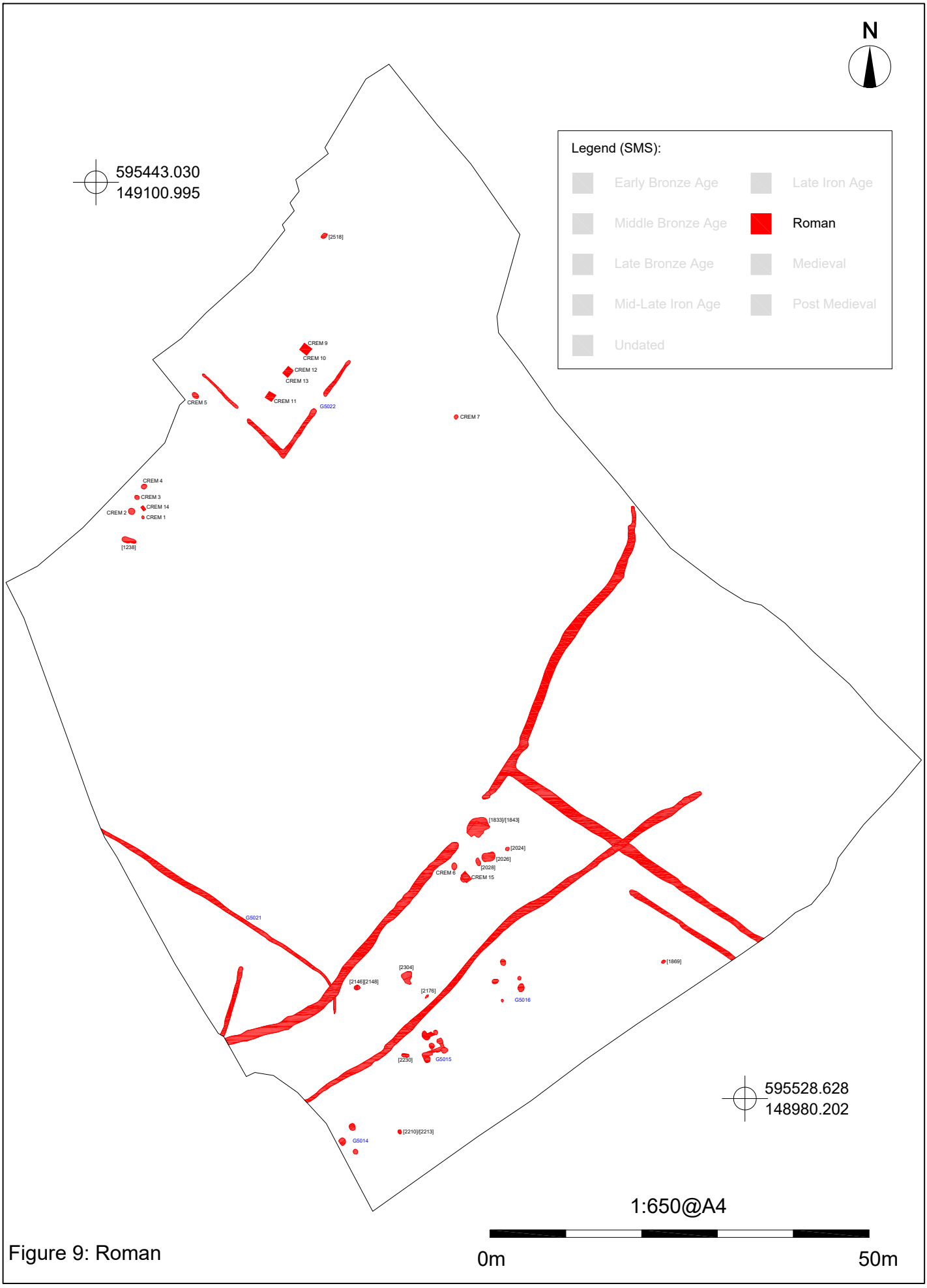


Figure 9: Roman

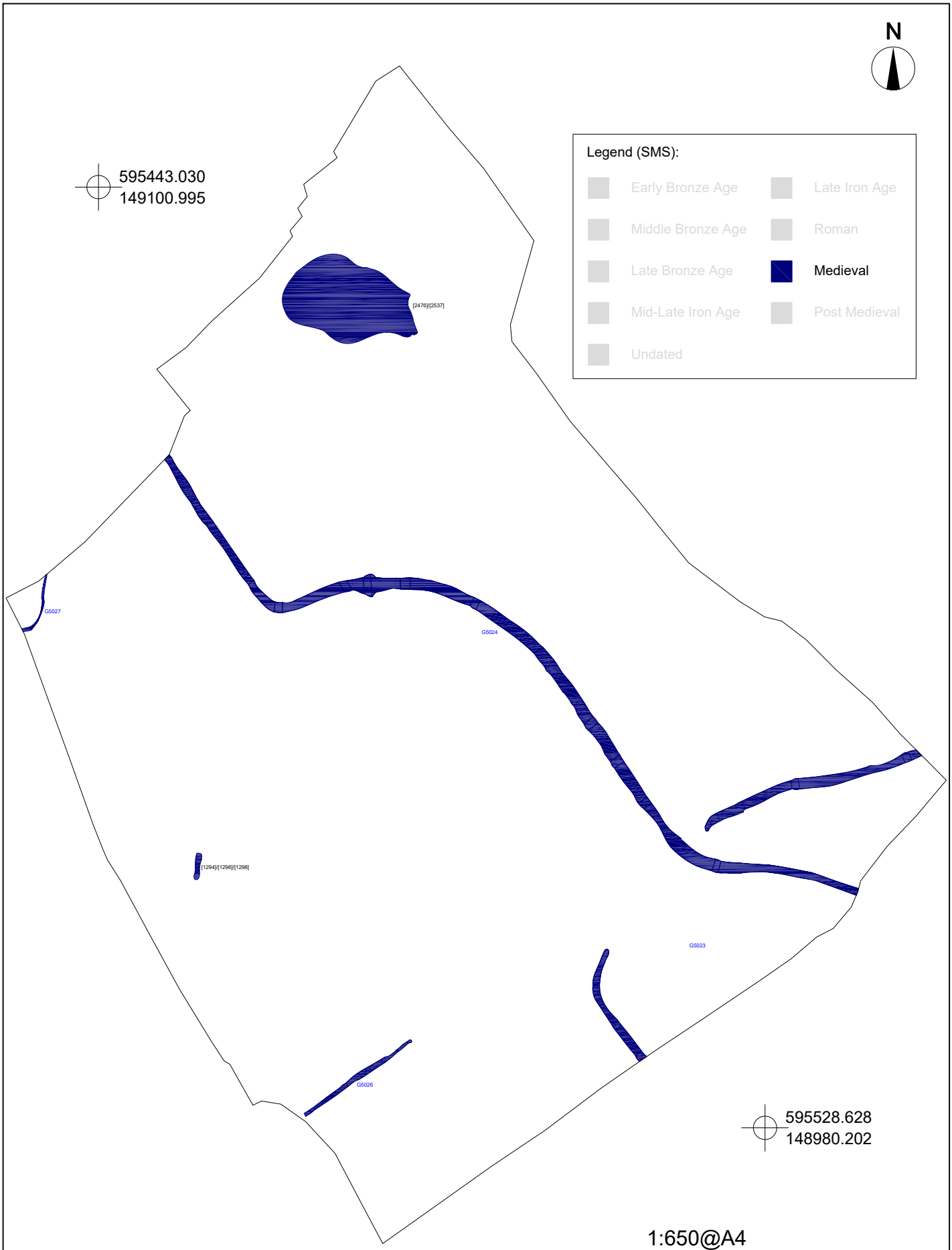


Figure 10: Medieval

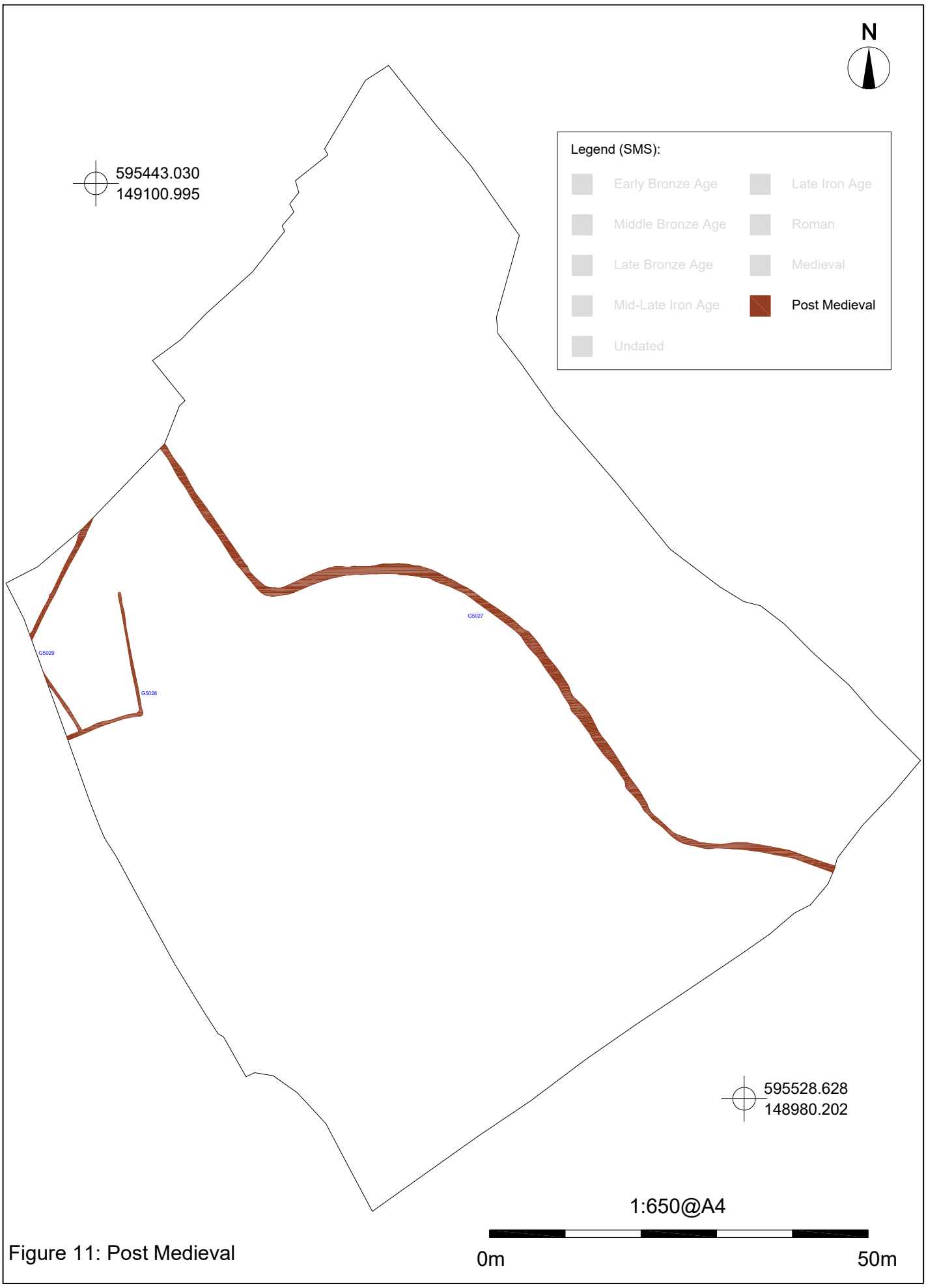


Figure 11: Post Medieval

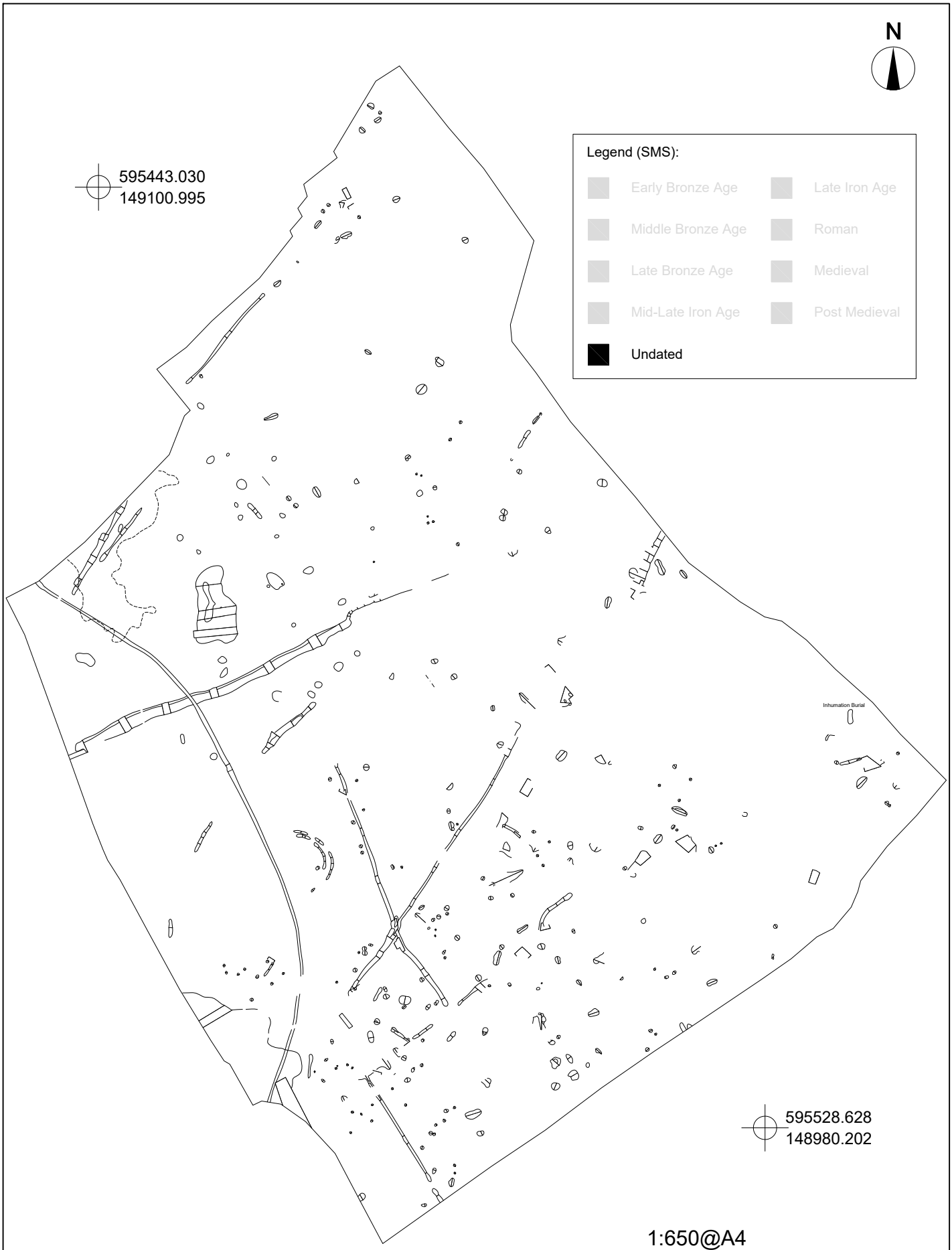


Figure 12: Undated archaeological features