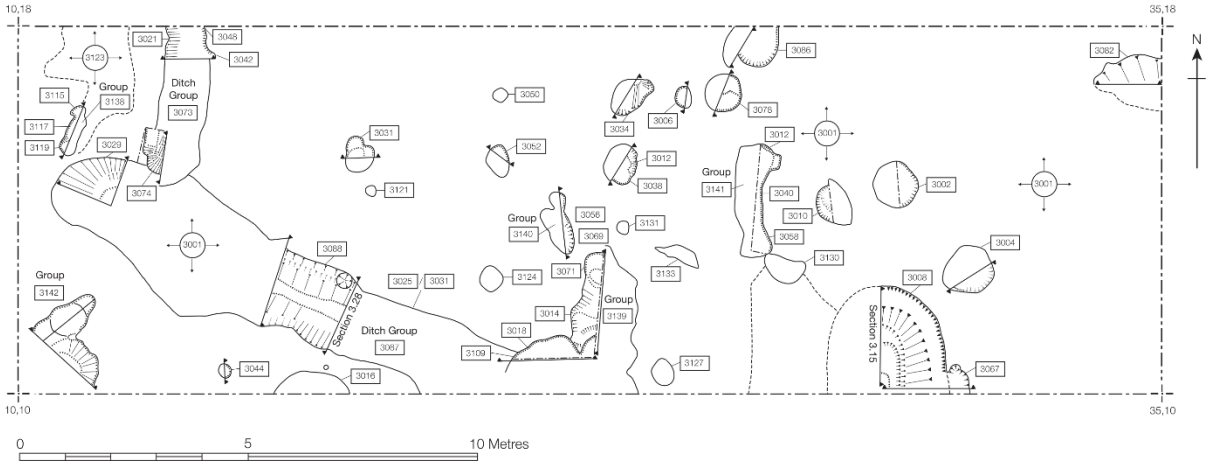
Trench MFNA3 narrative

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Introduction

Trench 3 was opened in 2008, one of three trenches excavated within the Scheduled Ancient Monument area (Scheduled Ancient Monument Consent HSD 9/2/9919) within the garden area of the former Noah's Ark public house. This large trench measured *c.* 25m x 8m. The trench was closed in 2008 and received no further investigation. As with the other two MFNA trenches, this trench was opened to investigate the large barrel-shaped ditched enclosure (BSE) and its associated internal features (as revealed in a geophysical study in 2007 by William Wintle). In Trench 3 however, the focus was also on the apparent east entrance into the enclosure. The geophysics plot also showed a number of other potentially prehistoric features inside the large enclosure in this area. Trench 3 extended from the entrance of the BSE in the east into the centre of the enclosed area.

MFNA 08
Trench 3



Trench MFNA3

One of the main features explored in Trench 3 was the eastern entrance into the large BSE and the northern terminus of its outer ditch (Outer Enclosure Ditch Terminus [3008]). Excavation revealed an arc of shallow pits or large postholes (Terminus Pit Group [3137]) surrounding the ditch terminus, which may have marked out the entrance in some way. Inside the large enclosure, another smaller enclosure was excavated, Linear Ditch Group [3087] (cuts [3088]/[3029]/[3109]), running in a NW-SE alignment and apparently terminating at the western edge of Trench 3. It is not clear what happens to this ditch after in leaves the southern edge of the trench. However, this ditch, whatever it defines or encloses, appears to be earlier than the large BSE, as it was cut by Ring Ditch Group [3073] and by Pit [3025], both of which are thought to be contemporary with the large BSE. Ditch [3088] (part of Linear Ditch Group [3087]) is later re-cut as narrow Re-cut Ditch [3099]. Two other features which may be earlier than the large enclosure, are cuts [3018] and [3078]. Pit [3018], lies on the South edge of the trench and is cut by the two major Iron Age features, namely the potential Internal Palisade Ditch [3014] and Linear Ditch [3088/3104], establishing it as an

earlier feature. Its large size (over 2m across) and depth also suggest it may be another ditch terminus rather than a very large pit. Pit [3078] lies in the northern sector of the trench but the suggested early dating here is based only on the presence of a red sandy fill in the bottom of the pit, which is similar to the red primary fill in other earlier prehistoric features in MFNA Trench 1 and MF Trench 14. Ring Ditch Group [3073] (= cuts [3021] and [3074]) in the north-west corner of the trench represents a possible round-house gully. The curved ditch has a terminus within the trench, suggesting an entrance area. The geophysics are unclear as to whether the other part of the Ring Ditch continues to the south of the trench, but certainly no southern continuation was found within the excavated area.

There are other significant clusters of intercutting features, mostly pits, within the enclosure. E-W Pit Group [3106] (= cuts [3012], [3023/3080], [3038/3102] and [3052]), is a row of large postholes running east-west across the enclosure interior, spaced evenly apart and possibly representing some form of internal division. There were hints of other possible internal divisions in the form of intercutting pits and postholes in Pit Group [3138] in the NE corner; N-S Group [3139] in the central southern edge of the trench; and smaller Pit Group [3140] just to the north of Group [3139]. All the cut features in these three groups seem to be in a north-south alignment and may have formed smaller radial divisions emanating from the central E-W Group [3106]. However, on closer inspection of one of the features in Group [3139], namely cut [3014], it looks more like a linear ditch than a pit. Both the distance from and alignment to the outer ditch of the BSE (cut [3008]), suggests this is probably the terminal end of the inner ditch or 'internal palisade ditch' of the large enclosure, as seen in MFNA Trench 2 and in the geophysics plot of the area. It is set at *c.* 4m from the outer ditch, almost exactly matching the distance between the outer and inner ditches of the large enclosure in Trench 2. It is also about the same width, though slightly deeper, as the 'internal palisade ditch' in Trench 2. Therefore, this has now been identified as Internal Palisade Ditch Terminus [3014]. Pit/Posthole Group [3141] may represent another north-south division and is positioned close to the large enclosure terminus and to its surrounding arc of pits. Finally Pit/Posthole Group [3142] is made up of a cluster of intercutting pits/postholes and a possible narrow gully in the far SW corner of the trench.

A total of 18 small finds were found in this trench. A Roman coin, three Roman glass vessel fragments and a shale bracelet fragment were all found in the upper Romano British contexts. Nine fragments of worked flint, one piece of worked animal horn and a possible piece of iron slag were found in other contexts in the trench.

Only a small number of bone fragments were found, 138 in total, of which 47.8% were sheep/goat, 36.2% cattle, and the remaining 16% was made up of horse, pig, dog, bird and unidentifiable fragments. These were all found in features which most probably date to the Iron Age, but not all of them included solid dating evidence.

A total of 544 pottery fragments were found, 416 pieces (76.5%) were prehistoric and 128 (23.5%) were of Roman date. Though much of the prehistoric pottery assemblage was of MIA date, there were also a few EIA sherds plus some LIA pottery in upper fills. The majority of the Roman pottery was found in topsoil layer (3000), and the remainder were

found in the upper layers over cut features. Most of this pottery was either reduced grey wares or oxidised coarse wares. The prehistoric pottery was primarily coarse ware but two contexts (3037) and (3063) had a number of reduced fine ware sherds.

Iron Age Phase

Many of the cut features in this trench had no dating material at all, or just a few sherds. Those cuts which either have no intercutting relationships that might help date them or are not part of a group where other parts of the group do have dating, have been described in the Unphased section of this report. Though it must be understood that the majority of these 'unphased' features are most probably prehistoric, but they just have no pottery in their fills. There are a number of features in this Iron Age section that don't individually have any pottery or other dating but are dated by their association with other known prehistoric features.

The majority of these cut features cut through bedrock layer (3001) or natural sand layer (3033) and, unless they are cut by another feature, they are all overlain by topsoil (3000). One aim of this trench was a further exploration of the outer ditch of the large BSE, in this case the ditch terminus. As with other excavated parts of this outer ditch, the pottery dating is mostly MIA with a mix of LIA and Early Roman in the upper fills. The arc of large pits around this terminus also produced mostly MIA pottery in its fills, and again with some LIA sherds in the upper fill. The Internal Palisade Ditch [3014], which shadows the outer ditch, also had MIA pottery, even though it was only four sherds. The Ring Ditch feature (Group [3073]), contained within the BSE is probably contemporary with the latter, although some pottery in its fills may suggest it started a little earlier than the MIA, though it was still in use in the MIA. Though the bulk of the pottery evidence for this trench is MIA, there are some features which are 'stratigraphically' potentially earlier though their lack of dating evidence means we cannot say how much earlier. For instance, the potential ditch terminus feature [3018] is cut by both Internal Palisade Ditch [3014] and recut Ditch [3099]/[3109] and so might be EIA, but typically the prehistoric sherds found in its fills were too undiagnostic to be sure.

CUTS:

Pit [3002] - see Group [3137]

Pit [3004] – see Group [3137].

Outer Enclosure Ditch Terminus [3008] is the semi-circular terminus of the outer ditch of the BSE. This probably represents an eastern entrance. It had a similar profile to the same ditch as seen in MFNA Trench 2, with sloping sides and a flat base. It measured *c.* 3.2m wide and 1.4m deep and cut layers (3001) and (3033). Its relationship to small pit [3067] on its eastern edge is unclear. The ditch terminus here appears to be surrounded by an arc of large postholes (see Group [3137]). The ditch contained five fills (3009), (3064), (3065), (3066), and (3095). Top fill (3009) contained both LIA and Roman pottery of the 3rd and 4th centuries CE. Below this, fill (3064) yielded just three fragments of MIA pottery. This

overlays lower fill (3065), containing 23 sherds of MIA pottery. Fill (3066) represents an early erosion layer on the sides of the ditch cut (3066), containing 12 MIA sherds. This overlay primary or bottom fill (3095), which contained no dating material. The MIA dating in the two lower fills matches that found in other cuts through the outer BSE ditches in Trenches 1 and 2. See Unphased section for details of the recut of this ditch, namely cut [3099].

Pit [3010] – see Group [3137]

Posthole/pit [3012] – see Group [3106] and [3141].

Internal Palisade Ditch Terminus [3014] – see Group [3139]

Large Pit/Ditch Terminus [3018] – see Group [3139]

Ring Ditch [3021] – see Group [3073]

Pit/Posthole [3023] - see Group [3106]

Posthole [3025] - see Group [3087]

Pit [3027] – see Group [3142]

Linear Ditch Terminus [3029]- see Group [3087]

Pit/Posthole [3031] - see Group [3106]

Pit [3036] – see Group [3142]

Pit/Posthole [3038] – see Group [3106]

Pit [3040] – see Group [3141]

Pit/Posthole [3052] – see Group [3106]

Pit or posthole [3058] – see Group [3141]

Posthole/Pit [3060] – see Group [3142]

Pit [3062] – see Group [3142]

Posthole [3067] – see group [3137]

Posthole [3071] – see group [3139]

Ring Ditch Terminus [3074] – see Group [3073]

Posthole [3080] – see Group [3106]

Pit [3086] is an oval pit with steep sides, *c.* 1m in diameter and 0.6m deep. It cuts into the northern baulk. It contained two fills (3108) and (3110). They both contained a few sherds of prehistoric pottery.

Linear Ditch [3088]/[3104] – see Group [3087]

Ditch [3090] = same as Ditch [3088] – see Group [3087]

Pit/Posthole [3097] – see Group [3142]

Posthole [3102] – see Group [3106]

Pit [3130] – see Group [3137]

GROUPS:

Ring Ditch Group [3073] consists of a large penannular gully or Ring Ditch terminus [3021]/[3074] which runs southwards from the northern edge of the trench and appears to end in a U-shape in the centre of the trench. This suggests an entrance area through the Ring Ditch. It is situated at the W end of the trench and therefore well inside the BSE. It is thought to be contemporary with this major feature, but the pottery dating may suggest it was slightly earlier. The few sherds found in its fills suggests dating possibly as early as late EIA and MIA, going into LIA in an upper fill. This Ring Ditch probably cut linear ditch [3088]/[3029] (= Ditch Group [3087]). The projected diameter of the Ring Ditch feature is approximately 12m. It may be a roundhouse gully but the lack of a south continuation in this trench and the fact that excavation area only covers a small eastern sector of this feature means we cannot be totally certain.

Ring Ditch [3021] is the northern sector within the trench, running N-S and measuring *c.* 1m wide x 0.4m deep. The ditch profile has a gentle slope on west side and a more broken profile on the east side with a straight edge. It only has one fill, which is (3022) containing LIA sherds with some residual MIA pottery. The upper part of the ditch is cut on the W edge by posthole [3046] and on the E edge by posthole [3048] and posthole [3042].

Ring Ditch Terminus [3074] is the U-shaped southern terminal end of the Ring Ditch, measuring approx. 0.42m at its deepest and approx. 1m at its widest. It has an irregular stepped profile and is fairly shallow. It cuts through natural sand layer (3033) and bedrock. It appears to cut linear ditch [3039]/[3088]. There are two fills, the uppermost being (3075) contained 23 EIA or EIA/MIA sherds. The primary fill (3101) was just a thin lens, only seen on the W edge of the feature and containing a single prehistoric sherd.

Linear Ditch Group [3087] includes cuts [3029], [3088]/[3104], [3090], later posthole cut [3025] and the later unphased (see Unphased section for details) recut ditch [3099]/[3109]. It may represent the northern edge of another smaller ditched enclosure within the large BSE. It ran on a NW-SE alignment through the centre of the trench, disappearing under the southern baulk. And seemingly ending in a rounded terminus at the W end of the trench. Geophysics did not show it continuing further south-east, so the function of this ditch is still unclear. Whether it represents a smaller BSE as perhaps suggested by the geophysics is not certain. As it was cut by Ring Ditch Group [3073], which appears to be roughly contemporary with the large Iron Age enclosure, it is possible that it represents a much earlier feature, possible

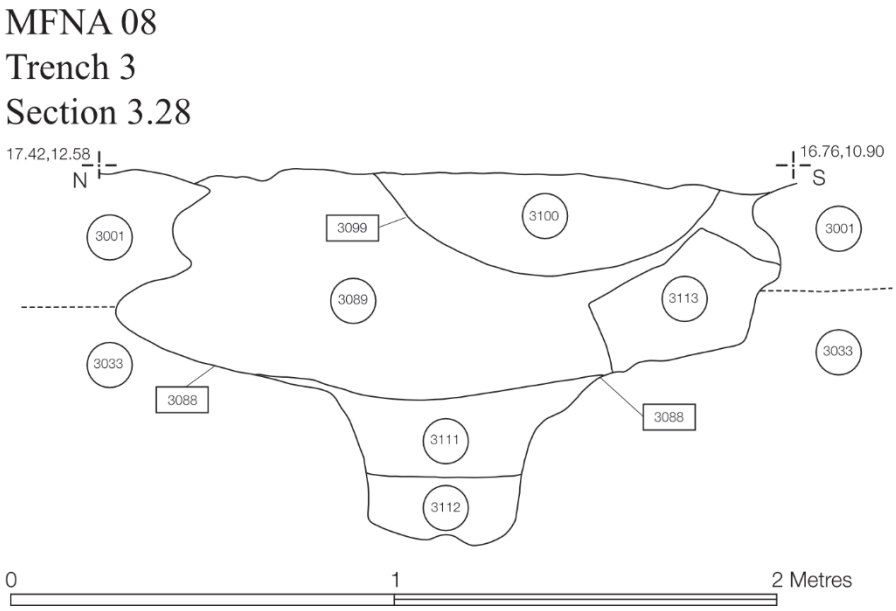
related to the Bronze Age ditch complex excavated in trenches MF3 and MF4 to the east. The lack of any diagnostic pottery in these linked features makes the group difficult to date.

Posthole [3025] is a large posthole on the N edge of large ditch [3088]. It measured *c.* 0.5m across by *c.* 0.4m deep with steep but irregular sides. It may have cut the recut [3099] of the original ditch [3088]. The only fill (3026) included 11 undiagnostic prehistoric sherds.

Linear Ditch Terminus [3029] is the rounded terminal end of the NW-SE ditch [3088] situated inside the larger BSE. The profile is gently sloping with a steeper step lower down with nearly vertical sides. It measures *c.* 1.8m across and *c*. 0.8m at its deepest point. The recut of the ditch as seen in cut [3088] is not visible here. The ditch contained three fills at this point. Top fill (3030) contained only four pieces of worked flint (SF 59,64,65,67) and a fragment of sheep bone, while the lower fills (3135) and (3136) contained no finds.

Linear Ditch [3088]/[3104] had sloping sides changing into the same stepped lower profile with near vertical sides and flat bottom as seen in the terminal end [3029]. The ditch measured *c*. 2m across at its widest point and *c.* 1.1m deep. It was cut in this section by a shallow later recut [3099] (see Unphased section). There were four fills, (3089)/(3105), (3111), (3112), and (3113). The top fill of the ditch (3089)/(3105) contained one sherd of prehistoric pottery, and a flint flake, while the lower fills (3111) and (3112) contained no finds. Fill (3113) represents a fallen section of bedrock.

Cut [3090] was thought to be a separate pit next to ditch [3088] but was later seen to be part of the same ditch and not a separate feature.



Cut [3088]

E-W Pit group [3106] consists of a linear group of five pits or large postholes running E-W through the middle of the trench up to the eastern edge of the curvilinear ditch. The group consists of pits [3012], [3023], [3031], [3038], [3052], [3102] and posthole [3080]. These pits

seem to be spaced at regular intervals of *c.* 2.6m to 3m apart. Their diameters vary from *c.* 0.6m to 0.8m and the depths vary between 0.3m and 0.6m. Some have been recut by later features. This group may represent an internal division of the large BSE.

Pit/Posthole [3012] is an oval shaped flat-based cut at the eastern end of this group. It is also part of pit Group [3141] to the east. It measures *c*. 0.96m x 0.8m and was *c*. 0.3m deep and had vertical sides and a flat base. It is cut by pit [3040] in Group [3141]. Its only fill (3013) included seven prehistoric sherds and two Roman sherds

Pit/Posthole [3023], the most westerly feature in the group was roughly circular and flat based, measuring *c.* 0.8m in diameter and *c*. 0.6m deep. It had two fills, upper fill (3024) and lower fill (3094), and was cut by posthole [3080] on its S edge. Fill (3024) contained ten sherds of prehistoric pottery, while the bottom fill (3094) had no finds.

Pit/Posthole [3031] is a sub-circular cut with sloping ledges on either side and a central deep cut that has sharp vertical sides and a flat base. It is situated in the centre of the pit/posthole group. It is possible that the sloping sides seen in section represent at least one secondary cut that was missed. This feature measured *c.*0.75m in diameter and was *c*. 0.55m deep. The single fill (3032) only contained fragments of sheep/goat bone and no pottery.

Pit/Posthole [3038] is a roughly circular cut with sloping sides and a flat base. It measured *c.* 0.68m in diameter and *c.* 0.4m deep. The single fill (3039) contained only two sherds of prehistoric pottery. This feature cuts earlier pit/posthole [3102], but which of these was contemporary with the other cuts in this E-W group is difficult to say.

Pit/Posthole [3052] is a sub-circular cut, with vertical sides and a flat base and is situated in the centre of the group of pits/postholes. It measures *c.* 0.6m in diameter by *c*. 0.35m deep. The single fill (3053) contained one prehistoric pottery sherd.

Posthole [3080] is a small circular cut, *c.* 0.5m in diameter and *c*. 0.4m deep. It cut pit [3023] and its single fill (3081) contained no dating material.

Pit/Posthole [3102] was roughly circular, though the shape is very obscured by the later cut [3038]. It also had a flat base and was *c.* 0.4m deep. Single fill (3103) contained no finds.

Terminus Pit Group [3137] comprises cuts [3002], [3004], [3010], [3130] and [3067]. This group is made up of four large pits or postholes, which form a neat arc around the terminus of the outer enclosure ditch [3008] and clearly associated with it in some way. Only two out of the five postholes contained any pottery at all and this was just a handful of sherds of MIA and LIA date, with three intrusive Roman sherds. It seems most likely that this terminus arc of pits dates to the same MIA period as the BSE outer ditch, but with evidence of still being in use in the LIA. The fifth cut [3067] is a much smaller feature and is situated right on the edge of the ditch [3008] rather than a set distance from it like the other cuts and may have been cut by it. Because of this [3067] is unlikely to be part of this arc around the terminus. The larger pits are all *c.*1m in diameter and less than 0.3m deep and together form an arc with a diameter of around 4.5m. Where excavated these features all had near vertical sides and flat bases. If they were post holes, at a metre in diameter, the posts would be very

substantial. Their unusual dimensions, particularly their shallow depth compared to their wide diameter, makes their interpretation difficult. However, their clear spatial association with ditch terminus [3008] suggests they may have further marked out this important entrance area.

Pit/Posthole [3002] it is situated in the centre of the arc of cuts, directly N of the terminus [3008], some 1.7.m from it. It measures *c.* 0.9m in diameter and *c.* 0.3m deep and had a single fill (3003) containing no finds and no dating evidence.

Pit/Posthole [3004] is a large circular shallow cut with near vertical sides and a slightly concave profile. It is situated to the NE of terminus [3008] and *c*. 0.7m from it. It measures c. 0.95m in diameter and *c.* 0.23m deep. The single fill (3005) cuts natural sand layer (3033) and contained cattle and sheep/goat bones and a mixture of MIA (five sherds) and Roman pottery (three sherds).

Pit/Posthole [3010] is a large circular shallow cut with near vertical sides and a slightly concave profile. It is situated to the NW of terminus [3008] and *c.* 1.5m from it and measures *c*. 0.85m in diameter and *c*. 0.28m deep. The single fill (3011) contained some cattle bone and seven sherds of MIA pottery.

Pit/Posthole [3067] is a small circular cut right on the eastern edge of ditch terminus [3008] and possible cutting or cut by it. It measures *c.* 0.4m in diameter and *c*. 0.27m deep. The single fill (3068) contained no dating evidence.

Pit/Posthole [3130] was a circular cut, *c.* 0.9m in diameter and situated to the NW of [3008] and *c.* 1.1m from terminus [3008]. It was not excavated and so produced no dating evidence. From its position and diameter however, we must assume it formed part of the arc feature around ditch terminus [3008].

N-S Group [3139] includes cuts [3018], [3071], and originally 'pit' [3014]. It was thought to be a group running roughly N-S, possibly an internal division in alignment with the terminus of the enclosure's outer ditch. However, on closer examination 'pit' [3014] being a large and deep cut with sloping sides and in total alignment with the large enclosure ditch terminus [3008], looks remarkably like the internal palisade ditch cut seen in Trench 2. It probably has no connection to pit [3071] to the north and is much more likely, given its profile, dimensions and distance from and alignment with the enclosure terminus ditch, to be the terminal end of the internal palisade ditch. Furthermore, a revaluation of large 'pit' [3018] in this group also makes its definition as being part of a N-S internal division group equally unlikely and it is much more likely to be a ditch terminus. Though the Internal Palisade Ditch only had a handful of MIA sherds, this does match the dating of this feature in trench MFNA2.

Internal Palisade Ditch [3014] runs N-S from the southern edge of the trench and, as discussed in the introduction, runs on exactly the same alignment as the 'Internal Palisade Ditch [2009], as excavated in trench MFNA2. It is also set at the same 4m distance from the outer ditch (in this case [3008]) of the large BSE as its companion in trench MFNA2. The

dimensions of [3014] are *c.* 0.6m across and 0.7m deep, which also matches closely the same feature in Trench 2, though this ditch is slightly shallower than the ditch further north. The single fill (3015) produced only four sherds of MIA pottery and some fragments of cattle and sheep/goat bone.

Large Pit/Ditch Terminus [3018] lies to the south and east of pit [3071] and is probably not part of a N-S group as originally thought, and because of its size requires further interpretation. It is an extremely large flat-bottomed cut with sloping sides, set on the southern edge of the trench, and on the north edge of Ditch group [3087]. Its projected size is probably larger than the 2m visible between the two ditches that cut it and may have been as large as 2.5m across. Its depth was *c.* 0.9m. The size of this feature outstrips any other pit in this sector so the possibility of it being another ditch terminus must be considered. The feature is cut by linear ditch [3099]/[3109] (Group [3087]) and by the Internal Palisade ditch [3014] and is therefore earlier than both of these prominent Iron Age features. It contained only one fill (3019), which included much animal bone and 17 undiagnostic prehistoric sherds.

Pit [3071] is the northernmost feature in this group and is an irregular circular pit with sloping sides and a rounded base. It measures *c.* 0.6m in diameter with a maximum depth of *c.* 0.26m. It has a single fill (3072) with no finds. Due to reasons discussed above it is unlikely that this pit forms a N-S internal division with features [3014] and [3018].

Pit/posthole Group [3141] is made up of three intercutting pits [3040], [3012] and [3058] inside the large enclosure and close to the arc of pits surrounding the outer ditch terminus of the BSE. There is very little dating material in any of these pits (only one prehistoric sherd in the large oval pit [3040] and a mix of prehistoric and Roman sherds in pit [3012]), so the dating is not very secure but it seems likely the group is prehistoric in date.

Pit/Posthole [3012] – see Group [3106] of which it is also a part.

Pit [3040] is an oval pit with a flat base that looked like a linear feature on the geophysics. The profile is steep sided on the N side and stepped on the south side and it measures *c*. 1.0m x 0.7m across and *c*. 0.4m deep. It cuts both [3012] and [3058]. The single fill (3041) contained one sherd of a beadrim jar of MIA-LIA date and a single sheep/goat bone fragment.

Pit/Posthole [3058] is a circular shallow cut at the S end of Group [3141]. It is close to the W end of the arc of pits surrounding Ditch Terminus [3008] but not quite in position, and pit [3130] is much more likely to be the west end of this group. The pit measures *c.* 0.8m in diameter by *c.* 0.26m deep and has irregular sloping sides and a concave base. It is cut by [3040]. The single fill (3059) contained no dating material.

Pit Group 3142 is situated in the south-western corner of the trench and includes intercutting features [3027], [3036], [3060], [3062] and [3097].

Pit [3027] is a large pit with steep sides, situated in the SW corner of the trench, the southernmost of this group. It measured *c.* 1.6m in diameter and was *c.* 0.6m deep and cut

natural bedrock and sand. It cut both pit [3036] and [3097]. The latter feature is completely obscured by pit [3027] in plan. The cut contained four fills, the top one being (3028) which produced prehistoric, possibly MIA, pottery. This overlay fills (3092), which produced MIA-LIA pottery and (3093), which produced one MIA sherd. The latter in turn overlay bottom fill (3096), which also produced a few sherds of MIA pottery.

Posthole/Pit [3036] is a small circular pit just to the north of pit [3027] measuring *c.* 0.8m in diameter and *c.* 0.5m deep. It is cut by [3027] and may have cut pit [3097]. The single fill (3037) contained 68 sherds of MIA pottery.

Posthole [3060] is a roughly circular shallow cut on the north edge of this intercutting group. It measures *c.* 0.45m in diameter and *c.* 0.10 deep. It cuts [3062] and is overlain by (3063) which was originally thought to be a fill of [3062]. The single fill (3061) contained no dating material.

Pit [3062] is a circular cut set between [3060] and [3036]. It was shallow with sloping sides and a curved base and its estimated diameter before being intercut is between 0.8m – 1.3m. it was cut by both [3060] and [3036]. Single fill (3077) contained one prehistoric sherd. Layer (3063) originally thought to be its top fill, actually directly overlies this feature and feature 3036 contained a large amount of prehistoric pottery (67 sherds) including some fine ware.

Pit/Posthole [3097] is cut by and lies directly underneath pit [3027] and is not visible in plan at all, only in section. The limited view in section suggests it had a rounded base with gently sloping sides and probably measured *c.* 0.85m in dimeter and at least 0.25 in depth. The single remaining fill (3098) contained no dating material.

Roman0-British

Though from the pottery evidence there was clearly Roman activity in the layers overlying the prehistoric features in this trench and some of the prehistoric features have intrusive Roman pottery in their upper layers – there are no specific features to which we can safely assign a Roman date.

Unphased

As discussed in the Iron Age section above, though none of these features contained either dating evidence themselves or were cut by other features that did, it is most likely that the majority of these cuts were Iron Age in date.

CUTS:

Tree-throw [3006] was a small irregular feature on the N side of the trench, *c.* 0.7m by 0.4m and 0.1m deep. The single fill (3007) contained no finds and the whole was interpreted as a natural feature, possibly a small tree-throw. The feature contained no dating evidence.

Pit [3016] is a large pit on the southern baulk, only a small part of which appears in the trench. It measures *c.* 1.4m in diameter and was not excavated, apart from revealing its upper fill (3017) which contained no dating material.

Tree-throw [3034] is a large pear-shaped feature, *c.* 1.1m x 0.6m and *c.* 0.35m deep with uneven sides. The single fill (3035) contained a single sherd of Romano British pottery.

Posthole [3042] is a small posthole, *c.* 0.2m in diameter and *c.* 0.13m deep. It cuts the east edge of Ring Ditch [3021] (see Group [3073]). The single fill (3043) contained no dating material.

Posthole [3044] is a small circular posthole, *c*. 0.25m in diameter and *c*. 0.1m. deep. It had straight sides and a flat bottom and was situated in the SE corner of the trench, just S of Ditch Group [3087]. The single fill (3045) had no finds.

Posthole [3046] is a small posthole cutting into the E edge of Ring Ditch [3021] (see group [3073]). It measures *c.* 0.2m in diameter, by *c.* 0.15m deep. The single fill (3049) contained no dating material. The position of this posthole and posthole [3046] on opposite sides of the Ring Ditch and facing each other, may suggest they were contemporary and had some deliberate relationship to the Ring Ditch

Posthole [3048] is a small posthole cutting into the W edge of Ring Ditch cut [3021] (see Group [3073]. It measured *c.* 0.3m in diameter, by *c.* 0.14m deep. The single fill (3047) contained no dating material. See above entry for [3046] for suggested relationships.

Posthole [3050] is a small posthole, *c.* 0.2m in diameter, situated near the middle of the trench on the northern side. Apart from its upper fill (3057) it was not excavated and produced no dating material.

Pit or posthole [3054] – see [Group 3140]

?Posthole [3056] - see Group [3140]

Tree-throw [3069] – see [group [3140]

Pit [3078] is a circular pit, *c.* 0.9m in diameter and *c*. 0.4m deep. It is situated close to the northern edge of the trench. The pit cuts into bedrock on the northern side and had two fills. The upper fill (3079) contained a flake of worked flint, while the lower stony fill (3114) overlay a natural sand layer. No pottery dating material was found.

Tree-throw [3082]/[3084] is an irregular ovoid shape originally interpreted as two features. It is situated in the NW corner of the trench and measured *c*. 1.5m x 1.1m with a maximum depth of 0.18m. It contained a single fill (3083)/3085) which contained no finds.

Recut Ditch [3099] is a shallow ditch cut with gently sloping sides and a concave base, measuring *c.* 0.9 to 1.1m across and *c*. 0.25 -0.35m deep. It is part of group [3087], but with no dating. It cuts a channel through the centre of large linear ditch [3088] (= part of Group [3087]), cutting upper fill (3089). It is probably a recut of ditch [3088], though on a considerably smaller scale and may well be of Roman date. The single fill (3100) contained no dating material, so we cannot be sure it is prehistoric. This may be the same feature as cut [3109] below.

Recut Ditch [3099] = [3109] is a ditch with sloping sides, *c.* 0.6m wide and *c.* 0.5m deep situated at the SE end of Ditch Group [3087] where it disappears under the south baulk. It cuts pit [3018]. It seems to be on the same alignment as large linear ditch [3088]and its smaller re-cut [3099]. Though it is slightly deeper than recut [3099] further west, it is not deep enough to be the eastern section of the large linear feature [3088] (= part of Group [3087]), so it is most likely that is the same ditch as re-cut [3099]. Its single fill (3107) contained no dating material apart from a single flint flake.

Posthole [3115] – see Group [3138]

Posthole [3117] – see Group [3138]

Posthole [3119] - see Group [3138]

Posthole [3121] is a small circular cut, *c.* 0.3m in diameter and situated in the centre of the trench just south of Group [3106]. It was not excavated apart from its upper fill (3122), which contained no dating material.

Posthole [3124] is a large sub-rectangular cut, *c.* 0.5m in diameter and situated to the west of Group [3139]. It was not excavated apart from its upper fill (3125), which contained no dating material.

Posthole/Pit [3127] is a large sub-circular feature, probably a posthole, measuring *c*. 0.45m in diameter and situated on the south baulk and to the east of Group [3139]. It was not excavated apart from its upper fill (3128), which contained no dating material.

Posthole [3131] is a small ovoid cut, *c*. 0.3m x 0.24m and situated in the centre of the trench. It was not excavated apart from its upper fill (3132), which contained no dating material.

Posthole/pit [3133]is an irregular oblong pit measuring *c*. 0.9m x 0.5m and situated in the centre of the trench. It was not excavated apart from its upper fill (3134), which contained no dating material.

UNPHASED GROUPS:

Pit Group [3138] is a small group of intercutting postholes at the west end of the trench, close to ditch terminus [3029]. It comprises the shallow cuts [3115], [3117] and [3119], none of which provided any dating material.

Posthole [3115] is roughly circular with vertical sides and a flat bottom, *c.* 0.25m in diameter and 0.15m deep. It had a single fill (3116) with no finds.

Posthole [3117] was sub-circular with vertical sides and a flat bottom, *c*. 0.45m in diameter and 0.15m deep. It was cut by both [3115] and [3119]. The single fill (3118) had no finds.

Posthole [3119] is a deep narrow cut with vertical sides, *c.* 0.45m in diameter and *c*. 0.53m deep. It contained a single fill (3120) and produced no dating material.

Pit Group 3140 was roughly in the centre of the trench and to the north of group [3139] and includes intercutting features [3054], [3056], and [3069]. The only dating evidence was two Roman sherds found in posthole cut [3054], so it is possible that this feature and the two intercutting ones in the group were Roman, but the dating is very insecure.

Posthole/Pit [3054] is *c.* 0.5m in diameter and 0.1m deep. It was cut by [3056] and contained a single fill (3055) which contained just two sherds of Roman pottery.

Posthole/Pit [3056] is *c.* 0.25m in diameter and *c*. 0.15m deep. It cut [3054] and [3069] and contained a single fill (3057) with no finds.

Tree-throw [3069] is *c.* 0.6m x 0.45m and *c*. 0.17m deep. It was irregular in plan and had an uneven base. It was cut by posthole [3056]. The single fill (3070) contained no finds.