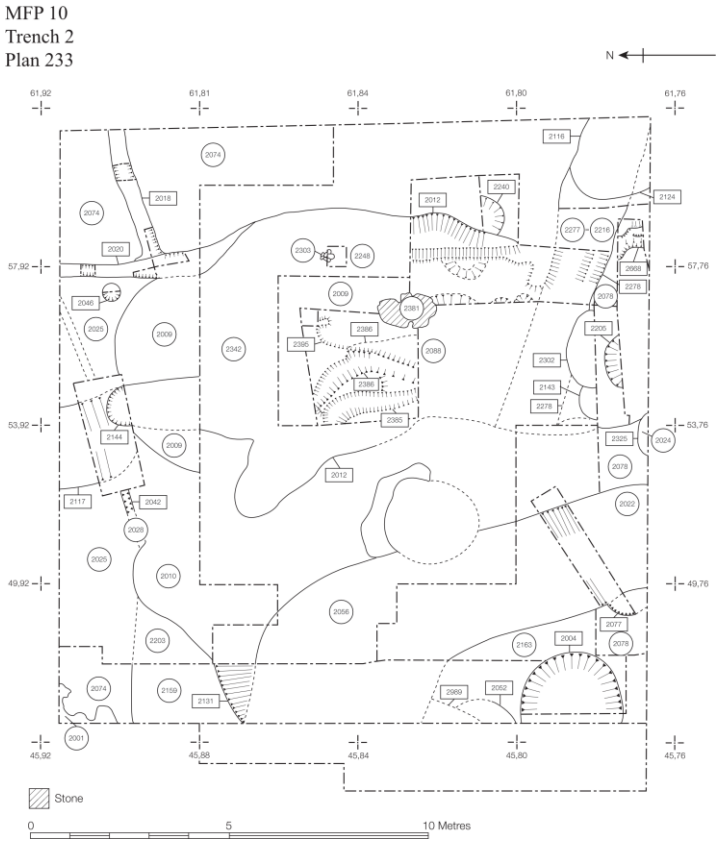
Trench MFP2 narrative

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Introduction

Trench 2, excavated during the 2008-2010 seasons, lay in the south-east of the site, located on sloping ground with higher land to the north-east decreasing to the south and south-west. Here, the bedrock drops almost vertically for nearly two metres and is overlain by a thick, possibly fluvial deposit of blackish-green glauconite-rich silty sand (2157) which in turn is overlain by tufaceous white clay (2156)/(2160)/(2161)/(2162). Within this area, a 15m x 15m trench was laid out over the north-east corner of a large D-shaped enclosure [2131], recorded during a geophysical survey. The results of the geophysics in this area were complex with the enclosure being just one element of a mass of ditches and other smaller enclosures. The large enclosure measured approximately 30m at its widest point. Targeted excavation revealed a number of intercutting ditches, quarry pits and an early Roman midden, with features from the Iron Age through to the Roman period.



Trench MFP2

Iron Age

The D-shaped enclosure.
The D-shaped enclosure [2131] began as a flat-bottomed ditch approximately 1.6-2m deep, flanked by a bank of re-deposited material on either side. Several pits of probable Iron Age date had been cut into the bank on the south side, whilst the bank on the north side appears to have slumped into the ditch. The ditch, pits and bank were all subsequently truncated by a later V-shaped middle Iron Age ditch [2055].

Curvilinear ditches.
At the centre of the trench, two parallel curvilinear features, [2385] and [2386], were cut into the tufaceous clays to a depth of between 2.5m and 3.0m, possibly as drainage channels. The primary fills of both were consistent with waterborne silt deposition. Excavation in wet weather proved their effectiveness for this purpose. However, both channels cut through a thin band of green sand, which weathered during the excavation to create a distinctive profile which was absent from the original section. This suggests that their use may have been necessarily brief. The relationship between these features and the enclosure ditch is uncertain due to the intrusion of later features and can only be said to be broadly contemporaneous although [2385] contained EIA/MIA pottery.

Pits.
Three bell-shaped pits were excavated, [2205], [2182] and [2240]. All the pits had been left open and allowed to silt up naturally, although the lower fills of [2205] appear to be deliberate deposits with quantities of middle Iron Age pottery and animal bone. Two small finds were also recovered from the single fill of [2204], a fragment of copper-alloy and a flint blade.

Intercutting Pits.
Throughout the Iron Age, a series of intercutting pits of various sizes were cut into the natural glauconite-rich green sand and white tufaceous clay where there is a 2m deep shelf in the limestone bedrock. The pits were possibly quarry pits for the extraction of these deposits. A total of 28 Iron Age pits were excavated, 23 of which were intercutting. Of these, 19 formed three main clusters - six underlying the midden, four in the south-east corner and nine in the middle of the trench. Few of these intercutting pits had any material culture within the fills and most appear to have silted up naturally. Where material culture was found it was usually in the upper fills and more likely to have washed in or derive from midden deposits than to represent any significant depositional event.

An exception to this is pit [2214]/[2389], within the central group, where neonate bones, SK20, were placed on the base of the shallow pit against the edge of the cut. No other finds were recovered from the single fill.

In the south-eastern corner of the trench, within the sequence of inter-cutting pits, pit [2124] had significant quantities of EIA/MIA pot and bone throughout most of its five fills. The primary fill of this pit (2137) was cut by pit [2135] containing MIA pottery. This small pit had a relatively large number of animal bones, including four articulating bones from the rear left leg of a horse, and the pit appears to have been

cut for the placement of these. It is possible that the fills were mixed when this pit cut [2124] or during excavation, as a horse patella was recovered from fill (2137) of the earlier pit. After the placement of the leg bones, further artefact-rich fills were deposited into pit [2124]. Individual bones from the left and right rear legs of a horse were included within the fills and it is possible that these are curated bones from the same animal. A single human skull fragment was recovered from the top fill of [2124]. These pits contrast markedly with the extraction pits and appear to have been used for the disposal of domestic waste with some possible acts of propitiation.

Remodelling of D-shaped enclosure.
The D-shaped enclosure [2131] was remodelled, with the original ditch, banks and pits re-cut by the V-shaped Iron Age ditch [2055], curving sharply south. This ditch was itself re-cut twice, once during the Iron Age [2053] and once during the Iron Age to Roman transition [2206]. This and another ditch aligned north-west/south-east, group [2379], may have been partitioned and reduced the size of the enclosure. The edge of the latter ditch was lower on the north side where it truncated the partially silted pits and was itself truncated by further pits. In contrast to the majority of the pits, the ditches contained relatively large amounts of pot, bone and other finds. Of note is ditch [2053], the top fill of which (2075)/(2109) appeared to be deliberately dumped material comprising 65 sherds of Iron Age pottery and 20 fragments of animal bone, 15 of which were the teeth, mandibles or maxilla of horse, ovicaprid, pig and dog. The later recut of this ditch [2206] contained a single artefact-rich deposit of 258 sherds of Iron Age pottery, 2,920 sherds of Roman pottery and 297 animal bones. The majority of the bones came from cattle, ovicaprid and pig and might represent feasting or a closing event. In addition loom weights and spindle whorls were recovered along with a fragment of human skull. A possible continuation of recut ditch [2006]/[2323] was also found to be artefact-rich, with significant quantities of pottery and animal bone and a single neonate bone recovered from its five fills.

Other Ditches.
Excavations across the trench revealed a series of ditches, many of them intercutting, the purpose of which is not fully understood. In the north-eastern corner a possible ring ditch [2018] which appears to have been allowed to silt up naturally, was cut by ditch [2020]. This ditch ran on an approximately east-west alignment. Small quantities of Iron Age pottery were recovered in the fills of both ditches. The continuation of these ditches to the south and west is unclear.

A shallow ditch or gully [2042] in the north of the trench contained 57 sherds of Iron Age pottery and larger quantities (124 sherds) of Roman pottery. Animal bone and a number of small finds were also recovered. It was cut by a further ditch [2049] which in contrast, had only seven sherds of Iron Age pottery within its five fills.

A possible Iron Age ditch [2143], running approximately N-S through the centre of the trench appeared to rise and fall in section and could have been cut as a series of pits. Quantities of Iron Age and some Roman pottery and animal bone were recovered from the upper fill.

A possible boundary ditch was traced for 5m through geophysics and investigated in two cuts [2215], [2278] was also found to have artefact-rich fills although the upper fills possibly derived from the midden deposits that overlay it although further finds

of pottery and animal bone and several small finds were recovered from the primary fill.

Earlier Roman

Midden.
The earlier Roman midden overlying intercutting pit group [2012] and first identified in 2008, dominated the south-eastern area of the trench, measuring a minimum of 4.4 m wide and 8.8 m long. In 2010 it was divided into 1m² grids that were excavated in spits in order to evaluate the pattern of finds identified during previous seasons. The midden was seen to comprise three layers which were divided into groups – [2378] in the re-cut Iron Age ditch [2380]; group [2377] between [2380] and pit group [2012], and which appeared largely comprised of colluvial silts; and group [2376] that levelled the [2012] pit group. The midden contained Roman pottery as well as residual late Iron Age pottery. It is possible that this was curated material brought in from elsewhere and deposited as a single fill after the underlying pits had remained empty for some time. Of particular note are late Iron Age to Roman midden deposits (2009), (2010) and (2056) (2253) in which excavators have identified specific depositional events. Examples of this include lines of animal bone, distinctly separate clusters of pottery of different types and colours, three large tabular limestones between 0.51 m and 1.3 m in size, and a minimum of three burnt clay loom weights. A Roman coin of the first century AD was also found within (2010), the upper surface of group [2376]. It is possible that this deposition represents a closing event where old or out-dated artefacts were disposed of, perhaps as the focus of activity migrated westward toward the Temple complex. The majority of clustered deposits appeared to be within group [2378] but concentrations of oyster shell and metal slag were also found elsewhere.

Tabular limestones.
Central within midden group (2376), over or capping pit group [2012], lay (2381), the largest of three tabular limestones, the others being in midden group (2378) and in the top of what is now known to be an isolated Iron Age pit, [2004]. Stone (2381) measured 1.5 x 0.9 x 0.3m, with rough circular holes throughout. Some of these holes pierced the entire breadth of the stone, but there was no evidence of their being anything other than natural. No distinctive deposits were identified beneath the stone. It seems likely that the holes imbued this stone with an indeterminate significance that warranted its deposition in the midden, possibly as part of a closing event whereby focus shifted toward the religious complex.

Later Roman

Pits.
The final phase of activity was the cutting of three sub-circular Roman pits [2043], [2052] and [2325] through the midden layer (2376). [2043] and [2052] had vertical sides and flat bases, (2376) was not excavated. Another potential unexcavated example cuts the Iron Age ditch [2380]. A cattle skull and maxilla, along with quantities of Iron Age and Roman pot was recovered from the lower fills of [2052], along with some Iron Age and Roman pottery and copper alloy and clay objects. This shows that although the major focus moved towards the west, activity in this area continued longer than previously supposed.

Possible earlier activity
The three large stones described above are similar in appearance to the stones within the late Neolithic or early Bronze Age Kings Men stone circle within the Rollright Stones complex, Oxfordshire, which are composed of Jurassic oolitic limestone local to the area around the Rollrights. At least one of the stones was wider along one edge, allowing it to stand unsupported. Regardless of the interpretation of the final use of the stones, they were extremely heavy and would have required considerable person power to move them. Are these the remnants of a stone circle somewhere on the field, extending the area back further as a site of possible religious importance? Or were they brought here during the Bronze Age by the people who came to occupy the site, as a link to their ancestors? Does the field name 'Trendle' derive from the 'amphitheatre' or refer to an earlier feature such as a stone circle?

Animal Bone.
A total of 2,158 bones and fragments of bone were recovered from Trench 2, with 1,470 the main food animals with ovicaprid forming the largest proportion. Dog and horse bones show these animals were present on the site from at least the Iron Age. The presence of deer might indicate that occasional hunting supplemented the diet.

Species	***Number***
Cattle	452
Horse	59
Sheep/goat	1155
Pig	263
Large mammal	37
Medium mammal	49
Small mammal	15
Dog	38
Deer	4
Rodent	1
Water vole	1
Mole	10
Mouse	2
Vole	3
Bird	53
Frog	12
Squirrel	1
Unidentified	3

Trench MFP2 stratigraphy

Individual Pits

Pit [2004]
Note: The recording of this pit was confused by its complexity. It has 6 section drawings 2.14, 2.47, 2.48, 2.62, 2.63, 2.65 although 2.62 is missing. 2.14 shows a deep, wide pit in MF08. This is now considered to have been considerably overcut into natural. Originally 14 fills, only those highlighted below are pit deposits. Those

marked here with 'n' are natural or colluvium from the natural and some numbers have been used elsewhere where the deposit continued (2005), (2016), (2037), (2081), (2033), (2034n)/(2069n), (2038), (2039n)/(2164n), (2066n), (2067n)/(2331n), (2068n)/(2071n), (2069n), (2070n), (2163n). Section 2.47 shows different fill numbers for this cut. The context sheet says the pit is 1m wide but Section 2.63 shows it as 2.8m N-S, which is what is used here.

In SW corner of the trench partially underlying the baulk. A large tabular limestone overlay 6 fills, (2005), (2016), (2037), (2081), (2033), (2038). Irregular U-shaped cut, 2.8m wide at the surface, maximum depth 0.82m, the irregularity being a product of seams within the natural into which it is cut. Only the two upper fills contained archaeological material.

Top fill (2005) a greyish brown clayey sand, 0.14m thick with occasional angular limestone fragments, pot and bone. It appears to be the capping or sealing layer of the pit, overlying the edge of the cut in the N.
Prehistoric Pottery: 22 sherds
Roman Pottery: 1 sherd
Animal Bones: 6 fragments and complete bones. 3 cattle, 1 sheep/goat, 1 horse, 1 dog
Small Finds: <20> Worked bone pin or tool

(2016) Partially underlying (2005) in the N of the pit, a mid-yellowish brown clayey sand with approximately 5% angular limestone fragments and pea grit 5-10mm in the N of the pit. U-shaped fill, maximum thickness 0.32m.
Prehistoric Pottery: 14 sherds
Roman Pottery: 1 sherd
Animal Bones: 6 fragments and complete bones. 4 cattle, 2 sheep/goat
Small Finds <24> whetstone

(2037) Partially underlying (2005) in the S and (2016), a light greyish white silty clay with occasional flecks of charcoal and angular limestone fragments. Thickness varies but maximum thickness in centre of fill 0.40m. Interpreted as backfill of natural into the pit.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bones: None.

(2081) Dark reddish-brown clayey sand with occasional fragments of pot and small snail shells. It appears to have slumped down the side of the pit in the S, underlying (2037) and where near to the surface, (2005). Maximum thickness 0.20m
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bones: None.

(2038) Underlying (2037) on the sloping side of the pit in the N, a mound of mid reddish-brown clayey sand with patches of white sandy clay and occasional angular and sub-angular limestone fragments 2-5mm, maximum thickness 0.14m. Appears to be a dump deposit in the pit.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None

Animal Bones: None.

(2033) Dark greyish-brown clayey sand with occasional flecks of charcoal and pea grit lying centrally on the bottom of the pit. It appears to have been deposited from the N side. Maximum thickness 0.12m.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bones: None

Pit [2023]
In the NW of the trench. A shallow, U-shaped cut 80cm wide, 14cm deep with gently sloping sides and flat base. Probably heavily truncated. Single fill (2024), medium brown sandy silt with flecks of charcoal.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bones: None

Pit [2043] Partially underlying the baulk in the S of the Trench and appearing to cut through the midden deposits (2009). Sub-circular pit with steep sides and with slightly stepped bottom, estimated at 2.10m in diameter and 0.5m deep. Three fills (2030), (2047), (2050)/(2078)/(2083).

Top fill (2030) Dark brown organic-rich loam 0.1-0.25 thick where seen in section. Darkness of deposit suggests large amounts of charcoal or burning. 4 grams of charcoal recovered
Prehistoric Pot: 49 sherds
Roman Pot: 1 sherd
Animal Bone: 7 fragments and complete bone. Sheep/goat

(2047) Mixed dark brown loam and orange clay 80:20 with traces of charcoal, 0.33m thick. It overlies a mound of clay (2050)/(2078)/(2083) within part of the pit but otherwise lies on the base of the pit
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 2 fragment and complete bone. Sheep/goat

(2050)/(2078)/(2083) Mound of orange clay lying on the base of the pit. Extent in section 0.66m wide by 0.22m thick with a small amount of archaeological material. Appears to have been dumped in the pit
(2050) Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None
(2078) Prehistoric Pottery: 13 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 2 fragments sheep/goat
(2083) Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Pit [2077]
In the S of the trench and partially underlying the baulk, almost vertical side in the W. The E side probably cut by ditch [2057] although relationship unclear. Flat bottomed, 1.1m deep. Five fills (2064), (2065), (2083), (2084), (2085). Fills (2064), (2065) and (2083) appear to have slumped sequentially in from the western side of the pit and therefore they all appear at the surface of the pit.

Top fill (2065) medium brown clayey silt 0.05-0.15m thick with limestone inclusions and occasional flecks of charcoal.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2064) Mix of three types of sediment – rotten limestone in silty clay matrix; dark brown silty clay; light grey calcareous clay producing a marbling effect.
Prehistoric Pottery: 16 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2083) Mid orange-brown fine-grained sandy clay, some brown streaks, probably bioturbation. Appears to be a dump of natural material. Maximum thickness in W 0.90m
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2085) Mid-dark brown sandy clay, some streaks of orange clay throughout with small grains of limestone. Very fine-grained. Variable thickness of a few cm to max 0.30m. It lies on the base of the pit in the E but overlies (2084) in the W
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2084) Light grey sandy clay, very fine-grained. A light green/grey when first exposed but developed orange streaks when oxidized. 0.70m wide and 0.10m thick. Possibly a slump of material from the side of the pit when cut.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Pit [2202]
Bell-shaped pit cut into [2164] the south bank of ditch [2131]. 0.73m wide and 0.60m deep. Single fill (2141) light yellowish-brown with patches of light reddish-brown silty clay and sandy silt giving a mottled appearance. Sandy silt has inclusions of small to medium sized stones. Mix of colluvium and redeposited bank material.
Prehistoric Pottery: 5 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone 1 fragment sheep/goat

Pit [2182]
Described as a large bell-shaped storage pit in the N end of the trench. Sides concave and slightly undercut, flat base. Width 1.3m at the surface undercut to 1.1m at the base, depth 0.9m. It cuts or is cut by probable linear feature [2117] and [2217] and cuts [2049]. Seven fills, (2102), (2177), (2183), (2184), (2208), (2209), (2239).

Top fill (2177) dark orange-brown clay loam with 20% degraded limestone forming white patches. Appears to have slumped into pit from the NE with a maximum thickness of 0.20m at the NE side of the pit and partially overlies (2102).
Prehistoric Pottery: 4 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None
Small Find: <77> Fe slag

(2102) Described as a cleaning layer with no further description.
Note: Shown on the section in place of (2183), (2102) is recorded on all associated context sheets.
Prehistoric Pottery: 1 sherd
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 3 fragments dog

(2183) Mid yellowish-brown sandy loam with lenses of white (?), sloping SW-NE approximately 0.20m thick. Probably colluvium
Prehistoric Pottery: 1 sherd
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2184) Light yellowish-brown sandy clay mixed with 20% reddish-brown sandy clay and 20% small gravel and stones in the SW of the pit. Maximum thickness 0.25m. Probably colluvium.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2239) Dark greyish-brown silty clay 0.04m thick extending for approximately 0.30m between (2184) and (2208). Lens of colluvium in the SW of the pit.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2208) Light brownish-yellow sandy loam mixed with brown and white patches with small pebbles. Maximum thickness 0.60m in SW of trench tapering to a few centimetres in the NE. This is probably the same deposit as (2184) overlain in a small area by lens (2239).
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2209) Some confusion by recorder but probably redeposited light yellowish-brown tuffaceous clay 0.57m thick.

Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Intercutting Pits not Associated with Main Groups

Pit [2052]
Partially underlies the baulk in the W of the trench and cuts or is cut by pit [2089] on the N side.
Note: Context sheet amendment in 2010 season says it cuts midden (2009), making it one of the latest cuts. No plan shows (2009) extending that far across the trench but it is described as a 'top level cut'.
Possibly oval in plan with vertical sides and a flat base 0.8m deep. It is recorded with 5 fills (2051), (2061), (2073), (2080), (2243).

(2051) Top fill or layer
Note: section drawings 2.18 and 2.38 show this extending beyond the cut with the appearance of it being a layer. Mid reddish-brown silty sand with a mix of both fine and coarse sand and small pebbles. Approximately 0.23m thick where it overlies the pit.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None
Small Finds: <48> Cu-alloy object

(2061) Mixed reddish-brown clayey sand with a mix of both fine and coarse sand and small pebbles. Pockets of mid brownish-red sandy clay, mid brownish-yellow sandy clay and light greyish-white silty clay 0.2-0.41m thick.
Prehistoric Pottery: 37 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 2 fragments. 1 cattle, 1 sheep/goat
Small Finds: <58> Clay crucible & Cu-alloy; <182> Fe slag

(2243) Partially underlying (2061) and partially overlying (2073) and (2080). Greyish-white clay with dark brownish-black streaks of gravel and sandy silt. Maximum thickness 0.23m. Probably a natural accumulation of silts ponding in the hollow created where (2073) is abutted by (2080).
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2073) On the S side of the pit. Mid reddish-brown silty sand with a mix of both fine and coarse sand and small pebbles. Maximum thickness 0.30m
Prehistoric Pottery: 10 sherds
Roman Pottery: 8 sherds
Animal Bone: Cattle cranium and maxilla
Small Find: <50> 2 x Cu-alloy strip fragments, possibly from a brooch

(2080) On the N side of the pit, tilted to the S, dark reddish-brown to dark-brown silt, with very few inclusions, 0.12m thick.

Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: 1 sherd
Animal Bone: None

Pit [2089]
Note: Details here taken from section 2.38 which are different to those given on the context sheet for the cut. The fills are muddled and the relationship to intercutting pits and ditch are uncertain.
Pit in W edge of trench, cut by pit [2167] in the N. It appears to underlie cut of ditch [2053] and cuts or is cut by (section drawings show both relationships) pit [2052] and possible ditch [2242] in the S. Sides and base are stepped. Estimated width in section 1.6m. Fills are substantially truncated and appear to have slumped in from the S side. Seven fills, (2093), (2094), (2165), (2169), (2207), (2211), (2212).

Top fill (2093) a dark brown sandy silt with patches of white clay and flecks of charcoal. 0.13-0.23 tapering in from the S.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 3 fragments sheep/goat horn core

(2094) Mid brownish-yellow sandy silt with a mix of course and fine grains and limestone inclusions, 0.17m thick sloping in from the S, abutting (2165).
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2207) Dark reddish-brown silt deposited on a small shelf created by a stepped cut. Some small patches of white clay. Approximately 0.18m deep and 0.30m wide. Probably slumped material.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2165) Light yellowish brown and dark brown silty clay with patches of white clay. Small inclusions only within dark brown deposit. Maximum 0.25m thick, sloping in from the S and butting (2094).
Prehistoric Pottery: 2 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2211) Dark reddish-brown sandy silt with lenses of white clay, butting (2212). Inclusions of pebbles and small angular fragments of stone. Maximum thickness 0.18m. It was suggested that the reddish-brown deposit could be related to the fill of posthole (2225).
Prehistoric Pottery: 5 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2212) Dark reddish-brown fine-grained silt 0.10m thick, slumping in from the S.
Prehistoric Pottery: None

Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 1 fragment, bird

(2169) Primary fill, a grey to reddish-brown silty clay with no inclusions, 0.17m thick. Possibly natural silting.
Prehistoric Pottery: 6 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2079)
Note: There is some confusion as to whether this fill belongs in [2089] or [2052]
Prehistoric Pottery: 2 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Pit [2167]
Irregular stepped cut in the S cutting the fills of pit [2089], cut by ditch [2055] in the N. It survives to a depth of 0.40m and estimated at 1.1m in diameter. Two fills (2168) and (2210).

(2168) Top fill, a dark greyish-brown sandy clay with inclusions of small stones 0.14m thick. It overlies (2210) and is probably a further slump of redeposited silts.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Primary **fill (2210) a** dark yellowish-brown silt with some course-grained sandy silt and lenses of white clay and fragments of charcoal and chalk. Maximum thickness at the surface 0.15m tapering to 0.08m at the base. Probably a slump of redeposited silts.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Pit [2205]
On the W side of trench. Stepped sides with a slightly concave base. Approximately 1.7m wide and 0.42m deep. It cuts natural hollow or animal burrow [2221] and is cut by pit [2302].

Pottery analysis shows this pit to have been cut and filled in the EIA/MIA.

Note: Section 2.29 shows three fills, context sheets show eight fills (2134)/(2333), (2145), (2172), (2173), (2174), (2175), (2178).

Top fill (2172) lens of dark greyish-brown gritty, sandy clay mottled with white and orange. Some flecks of charcoal and some small stones. Approximately 0.06m thick, sloping down to the S and visible only in east-facing slot. Possibly colluvium or trample of suggested late Bronze Age/early Iron Age date.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None

Animal Bone: None

(2173) Orange-brown silty clay with small pebbles or stone fragments. Approximately 0.15m wide on east face only, running N-S and sloping to S. Probable hillwash.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2174) Greyish-brown slightly gritty silty clay with 1% small fragments of charcoal, 50% grit, and burnt clay. Seen only in slot running N-S and sloping towards the S. Probable hillwash.
Prehistoric Pottery: 15 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2175) Brownish-orange silty clay less than 1% inclusions. Approximately 0.18m thick visible on east face of slot sloping towards the S. Probable hillwash
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2145) Light brownish-green clayey silt with less than 15% white patches and some grit. Approximately 0.20-0.25m thick. Visible in N-S slot. Probable hillwash.
Prehistoric Pottery: 10 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2333)/(2134) Dark brownish-black medium grain sandy clay 0.25m thick.
(2333) Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: 4 sherds
Animal Bone: None
(2134) Prehistoric Pottery: 82 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 6 fragments. 1 cattle, 1 horse, 4 sheep/goat

(2178) Primary fill dark grey clay flecked with orange and white patches and small flecks of charcoal. Approximately 0.25m thick in S face of slot above natural.
Prehistoric Pottery: 7 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 2 fragments. 1 sheep/goat, 1 pig

Pit [2242]
In W of trench. Shallow pit with flat base and convex sides approximately 0.90m in diameter and 0.36m deep. It cuts into the bank of ditch [2055] and is cut by pits [2089] and [2052]. Two fills (2176), (2241).

Top fill (2241), light yellowish-brown silty clay with patches of white clay 0.30m thick. Similar to bank deposit (2164) and considered to be redeposited bank material.
Prehistoric Pottery: None

Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2176) Bottom fill, light brownish-grey silty clay with greenish patches 10cm thick. Redeposited material
Prehistoric Pottery: 16 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 1 fragment sheep/goat
Small Finds: <79> slag; <80> Cu-alloy smelt

Pit [2302]
On SW edge of trench. Oval cut with almost vertical sides and a flat base, 1.35m x 0.56m and 0.60m deep. Cut by [2205], cuts possible ditch [2143]. Two fills (2301), (2305).

Top fill (2301), dark greyish-brown silty clay with inclusions of <5% limestone and <5% charcoal 0.24m-0.30m thick. Appears to be a mix of waste material and redeposited material resulting from the cutting of nearby ditches.
Prehistoric Pottery: 32 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 3 fragments sheep/goat

(2305) Bottom fill, a light reddish-brown sandy silt with 30% charcoal and redeposited white clay within a dark greyish-brown matrix, 0.38m thick.
Prehistoric Pottery: 2 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: Single cattle P3

Pit [2325] Not excavated, seen only in plan on S edge of trench 0.70m x 0.30m. Top fill assigned (2324), mid greyish-brown sandy silt.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Intercutting Pits Underlying Midden Deposits

[Pit Group 2012]
Group of six pits [2186], [2187], [2198], [2199], [2200], [2201] underlying Roman midden deposits of Group [2376]**.** Pits [2187] and [2199] are the earliest pits recorded in Group [2012], cutting the natural (2162). In the north [2199] is cut by [2200] which is cut by [2198] - all cut by [2201]. In the S, [2187] cuts or is cut by [2198]. [2187], [2198], [2201] cut by latest cut [2186]
Note: Group number [2012] has 9 sherds of prehistoric pottery, 64 sherds of Roman pottery and 12 animal bones assigned to it

Pit [2187]
Stepped sides with a rounded base. Width unknown as later cut by [2186] and cuts or cut by [2199] but in excess of 1.2m wide at the surface and 0.8m deep. Two fills (2086) and (2188) which appear to have slumped in at the side and both visible at the surface.

(2188) Light reddish brown clayey sand with patches of sandier deposits. Survived to a thickness of 0.28m but cut by [2186].
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 2 fragments. Sheep/goat

(2086) Bottom fill comprising a light grey silty clay with patches of red-brown clay. Truncated by [2186] Thickness between 0.1m-0.4m.
Prehistoric Pottery: 15 Sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Pit [2199]
Possible extraction pit that had been left to silt up naturally. Cut in the S by [2200], [2201], cuts [2162]. Where surviving in the N it had a straight side and flat base approximately 0.70m deep. It had four fills (2129), (2194), (2196), (2197).

Top fill (2196) dark brownish-grey sandy silt with charcoal flecks and patches of red-brown clay, single patch of white clay 0.20-0.25m thick. Considered to be colluvium.
No finds

(2197) Thin band of light whitish grey silty clay 0.04m thick. Appears to be redeposited natural, possibly trample.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2129) 0.45m thick, no description.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2194) Primary fill, a light reddish-grey clayey silt with patches of red-brown clay. Some bioturbation. Maximum thickness 0.13m.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Pit [2200]
Cuts [2199] in the N and cut by [2198] and [2201]. Sloping side in the N with rounded base 0.3m deep. Single fill (2128). No description.
Prehistoric Pottery: 8 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Pit [2198]
Possible extraction pit that had been left to silt up naturally.

Cuts [2200] and is cut by [2201] in the N and cuts or is cut by [2187] in the S. It was later cut, possibly at the surface by [2186] Note: previously recorded as [2012] now changed to a group number.

Approximately 0.52m deep and 1.1m wide It had six fills (2130), (2189), (2190), (2191), (2192), (2193). Top fill (2189) Light brownish-grey clayey silt with 30-40% sandier deposits. Flecks of charcoal and white clay 5-10%. Maximum thickness 0.16m. Appears to be a mix of redeposited colluvium and natural.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2193) Dark brownish-grey clayey silt with occasional flecks of charcoal, maximum 0.05m thick. Along N edge of pit. Overlies (2192).
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2192) Light whitish grey silty clay 0.05m thick with occasional patches of red-brown clay 5-10%. Abutted by (2190). Possibly trample within the pit.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2190) Dark brownish grey silty clay with 15% patches of white clay and 10% brown clay with flecks of charcoal 5-10%. 0.32m thick. Butts (2190) (2192). Mix of redeposited colluvium and natural.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2191) Dark brownish grey clayey silt with 25% each of large patches of white and brown clay with flecks of charcoal. 0.39m thick. Abutted by (2190). Mix of redeposited colluvium and natural.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2130) Primary fill. No description. 0.20m thick. Appears to have slumped in from N side. Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Pit [2201]
Cuts [2199] in the N and [2198] in the S and possibly truncates [2200] at the surface. Cut by [2186]. Steep sides with slightly domed base. Maximum depth 0.22m. Single fill (2195) a dark brownish-grey clayey silt with 30% white clay flecks, 5% charcoal flecks, 10% small stones. Colluvium.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None

Animal Bone: None

Pit [2186]
Cuts [2187], cut by [2198]. Steep sides with undulating base sloping to the S. Two fills, (2072), (2185).

Top fill (2072) Dark brownish-grey clayey silt with frequent inclusions of limestone chips 15-20%. Maximum thickness 0.20m. Colluvium mixed with Iron Age pot and bone.
Prehistoric Pottery: 31 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 13 fragments. 3 cattle, 7 sheep/goat, 2 pig, 1 dog
Small Finds: <170> Flint blade

(2185) Dark brownish-grey sandy silt with 30% patches of sandier deposits and charcoal flecks 1-2%. Appears to be deposit of natural colluvium on S side of pit.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Pit [2240]
Note: Not included in Group [2012] but cut by a pit within that group
Shallow pit in SE of trench approximately 1m by 0.50m with a maximum depth of 0.55m. Concave base and sides. Single **fill (2029)** light reddish brown sandy silt with bioturbation, probably a layer of colluvium.

Pottery analysis shows this pit to have been dug and filled in the MIA.

Prehistoric Pottery: 5 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None
Small Finds: <34> Cu-alloy fragments; <83> flint blade

Intercutting Pits in Centre of Trench - no group number assigned

Further group of intercutting pits which appear to underlie area where large limestone [2381] located in centre of trench and within area of midden but not included in pit group [2012].

Pit [2214]/[2389]
Note: The neonate burial was originally given context number 2140, then renamed as SK20. The section drawing for [2214] doesn't correspond to the description from context sheet. It was reinterpreted and renumbered to [2389] in the 2010 season, the latest descriptions for [2389] and section 2.55 are used here.

Commented [GL1]: Skele details?

Pit in centre of trench. Sub-circular with base sloping to the W. 1.5m in diameter and 0.5m deep. It is cut by [2390] and cuts (truncates) [2387]. Two fills (2213)/(2360), (2379). Bottom fill (2379) a light yellowy-grey sand with small chalk and limestone inclusions.
Prehistoric Pottery: None

Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2213)/(2360), Primary fill a mid brownish-grey sandy clay with patches of white clay and charcoal flecks. Described as redeposited natural. Neonate remains were placed on the base of the pit.
(2213)/2360) Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None
Human Remains: Neonate burial <SK20>
(2360) Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Pit [2387]
Sub-circular pit in centre of trench. Approximately 1m x 1m and 2m deep. Cuts gully [2385], cut by ditch/channel [2386]. Filled by (2283), (2336), (2337), (2362), (2363) (2338), all of which appear to be colluvium or deposits of natural.

Top fill (2362), mid greyish-brown silty with patches of yellow and orange. Inclusions 5-10% limestone chippings, 0.17m-0.22m thick
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2363) Light orange-grey sandy silt with some limestone chippings observed in W of pit. Maximum thickness 0.20m.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2336) Mound of reddish-brown sandy silt with sparse limestone chippings, 0.11m thick. Redeposited natural.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone None

(2283) Mid greyish-red sandy clay, approximately 20% sand with mottled patches of reddish and greenish clay. Deposited colluvium.
Prehistoric Pottery: 3 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2337) One of two primary fills. Mid-yellowish-grey sandy silt with 80% limestone chippings, probably derived from the bedrock. Maximum thickness 0.11m from W side of pit.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2338) Mound of whiteish-yellow sandy soil with approximately 50% limestone chippings derived from the bedrock. Maximum thickness 0.20m.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Pit [2388]/[2126]
Sub-circular pit in centre of trench. Steep concave sides and base giving an irregular U-shaped profile. Approximately 2m in diameter, 0.7m-0.8m deep. It cuts into the fills of ditch/channel [2386]. Two fills (2341)/(2125) and (2342).

Top fill (2342), light brownish-grey silt with limestone and shelly inclusions 0.20m thick. Described as a layer and shown on section as extending beyond the extent of the cut. Suggests pit was left partially open and left to fill naturally.
(2341) Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None
(2125) Prehistoric Pottery: 29 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 14 fragments and complete bones. 3 cattle, 9 sheep/goat, 2 pig
Human Bone: Neonate left and right petrous

Bottom fill (2342) Mid-brownish grey silt with inclusions charcoal, burnt stone and 20% limestone. Maximum thickness of centre of pit 0.50m.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Pit [2390]
Sub-circular pit in centre of trench. Concave base with shallow, irregular concave sides. Approximately 2m in diameter and 1.3m deep. It is cut by pits [2391], [2392], [2393] and cuts pits [2389], [2395], [2214]/[2389]. Four fills **(2170), (2171), (2180),** (2359).

Top fill (2359), mid-dark brownish-grey silty loam with approximately 10% limestone and chalk inclusions and flecks of charcoal, 0.20m thick.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2171) Dark greyish-brown silty loam with orange and brown flecks and inclusions of small pebbles, 0.19m thick.
Prehistoric Pottery: 15 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 2 fragments of dog (radius and ulna)

(2170) Light yellowish-brown tenacious clay with orange and dark-brown flecks and pebble inclusions, 0.31m thick. Shown as bottom fill on west-facing section
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None

Animal Bone: None

(2180) Bottom fill, light yellowish-brown tenacious clay with orange and grey-brown flecks and small amount of charcoal, 0.20m thick.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 2 fragments sheep/goat

Pit [2391]
In centre of trench directly beneath large stone [2381] sub-circular pit with concave base and steep concave sides. Approximately 0.30m x 0.40m, depth 0.30m. It cuts pits [2390], [2392]/[2151].
Note: the context sheet says it also cuts [2395] but this is not shown on the section.
Single fill **(2351)** mid yellowish-orange sandy-clay soil with small inclusions derived from the bedrock.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Pit [2392]/[2151]
Sub-circular pit in centre of trench. Concave base and shallow concave sides. Approximately 1m x 0.5m, 0.40m deep. Cut by pit [2391] and cuts pit [2393]. Single fill (2120)/(2152), dark orange-brown silty loam with gritty inclusions.
(2120) Prehistoric Pottery: 1 sherd
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 1 fragment sheep/goat

(2152) Prehistoric Pottery: 19 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 6 fragments. 5 sheep/goat, 1 pig

Pit [2393]
Sub-circular pit in centre of trench. Concave base and shallow concave sides. Approximately 1m x 1m, 0.60m deep. Cut by pit [2392] and ditch/channel [2386]. Cuts [2394]. Three fills (2347), (2348), (2349).

Top fill (2347) mid-greyish brown with occasional inclusions of stone fragments, 0.18m thick.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2348) Mid brownish-grey sandy loam, occasional inclusions of limestone fragments, 0.18m thick.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2349) Bottom fill, light brownish yellow sandy clay with inclusions of limestone fragments, 0.12m thick. Not fully excavated, possibly forming a mound at the bottom of the pit.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Pit [2394]
Sub-circular with irregular base and steep, irregular sides. Approximately 2m x 1.5m, 1.5m deep. Cut by pits [2393], [2386], [2395?]. Four fills (2344), (2281)/(2280), (2345), (2346).

Top fill (2346) light greyish-yellow sandy silt with small pebble inclusions, up to 0.28m thick.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2345) Light orange-yellow sandy/chalky clay with numerous chippings derived from the bedrock, 0.20m thick.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2280)/(2281) Mid greyish-red silty clay, approximately 15% silt, with mottled patches of redder clay and occasional green patches and small flecks of charcoal, 0.05-0.10m thick.
(2280) Prehistoric Pottery: 5 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 8 fragments. 1 cattle, 3 sheep/goat, 2 pig, 2 deer
Small Finds: <189> Flint blade
(2281) Prehistoric Pottery: 4 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2344) Bottom fill light orange-grey sandy clay, approximately 0.10m thick.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Pit [2395]
Sub-circular with concave base and steep sides. Approximately 2.5m x 1.5m and 2m deep. It cuts pit [2394] and is cut by ditch/channel [2386] and pit [2390]. Two fills (2350), (2321).

(2350) Top fill a light whitish yellow with patches of orange or dark blackish yellow with <5% limestone and flint inclusions.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2321) Primary fill a dark blackish yellow sandy clay with <5% inclusions of stones and flint and some bioturbation.
Prehistoric Pottery: 7 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 2 fragments. 1 cattle, 1 sheep/goat

Intercutting pits in SE Corner of trench – no group number assigned

Pit [2122]
Small pit, oval in plan 1.15m by 0.50m, 0.30m deep, cutting [2124] in SE of trench. Sloping sides with a flat base. Single fill (2121) Dark blackish-brown clayey silt with 5% charcoal pieces, possibly waste deliberately deposited. Original purpose of pit unknown, possibly extraction.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Pit [2124]
Cut of a large pit underlying the baulk in the S and E corner of the trench. Irregular sides and concave base. In excess of 1.5m in diameter and 0.77m deep.

Pottery analysis shows this pit to have been cut in the EIA and filled in the EIA/MIA.

It cuts earlier pit [2228] and must have remained open as later pit [2135] cut through the primary fill (2137). Five fills (2106)/(2103)/(2104)/(2105), (2123), (2137), (2233).

Top fill (or layer) (2076) dark brownish-grey silty clay 0.15m thick with rotten limestone fragments and larger stones probably a mix of colluvium washed in to the pit and Iron Age domestic waste.
Note: 2076 and 2352 recorded as large quantities of finds on context sheet, although shown as a fill on section 2.28. Possibly a midden deposit that filled a hollow in the open pit.
(2076) Prehistoric Pottery: 67 sherds
Roman Pottery: 1 sherd
Animal Bone: 69 fragments and complete bone. 24 cattle, 5 horse (pelvis and leg bones), 32 sheep/goat, 7 pig, 1 dog
Small Find: <53> Pottery counter

(2352) Within (2076). Dark black humic soil. A layer of white stone lay at approximately 0.20m deep with a number of animal bones on the surface of the stones. At the bottom of the deposit were further animal bones including a sheep and horse mandible. A piece of red limestone lay on the horse mandible. An inverted pot base lay above a further bone. All perhaps intentionally placed.
Prehistoric Pottery: 10 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 5 fragments and complete bones. 3 cattle, 1 horse, 2 sheep/goat

(2106)/(2103)/(2104)/(2105)

Note: these are spit numbers of same context. No description other than possibly same as (2076).
Between 0.35-0.6m thick.
(2103) Prehistoric Pottery: 57 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 33 fragments and complete bone. 9 cattle, 18 sheep/goat, 5 pig, 1 deer
Human Remains: Adult skull fragment
(2104) Prehistoric Pottery: 23 sherds
Roman Pottery: 1 sherd
Animal Bone: 12 fragments and complete bone. 4 cattle, 7 sheep/goat, 1 dog
(2105) Prehistoric Pottery: 21 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 5 fragments and complete bone. 3 sheep/goat, 2 possible pheasant
(2106) Prehistoric Pottery: 130 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 22 fragments and complete bone. 4 cattle, 2 horse, 11 sheep/goat, 3 pig, 1 bird, 1 rodent
Small Finds: <583> Bone handle or tool
(2233) Mid greyish-brown clay with patches of orange and black. 0.39m thick extending across the pit for 0.36m. Appears to be washed in or dumped natural on the W side of the pit. Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2123) Mid greyish-brown clay with orange, brown and white inclusions. Maximum thickness 0.25m. It overlies cut [2135]. Interpreted as a mix of natural colluvium and Iron Age domestic waste.
Prehistoric Pottery: 64 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 36 fragments and complete bone. 6 cattle, 1 horse, 18 sheep/goat, 4 pig, 1 dog, 1 deer, 1 large mammal, 4 fragments of burnt bone

(2137) Dark brownish-black clay silt with 10% charcoal flecks and 5% limestone of less than 5cm. Thickness 0.05-0.25m but cut by [2135]
Prehistoric Pottery: 13 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 1 complete horse patella, 1 sheep/goat fragment

Pit [2135]
In SE corner of trench, a small oval cut into the primary fill of pit [2124], 0.85m by 0.4m, with a maximum depth of 0.27m. Sloping sides with a level base that slopes upwards towards the S.

Pottery analysis shows this pit to have been cut and filled in the MIA.

Note: Described as possibly for clay extraction but considering the relatively large number of animal bones including an articulated horse leg, from the fill, it was possibly cut for the placement of these. It is also possible that the deposits were mixed when this pit cut [2124] and horse bones are from same animal.

Single fill (2136) dark brownish-black clayey silt with 5% charcoal flecks and 5% stones and gravel.
Prehistoric Pottery: 17 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 42 fragments and complete bone. 6 cattle, 4 horse (articulated left leg), 23 sheep/goat, 8 pig, 2 medium mammal.

Pit [2228]
In SE corner of trench, cut by pit [2124] and ditch [2215], sloping sides breaking sharply at a depth of c. 0.50m to straight sides. Flat base, 1m deep. Six fills (2229), (2230), (2231), (2232), (2234), (2235). All appear to be washed in colluvium slumped in from the sides.

Top fill (2235) medium orange-brown clay interpreted as colluvium, 0.35m thick.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2234) Greyish-white clay with green and brown patches, redeposited colluvium. Maximum thickness 0.35m
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2232) Orange-brown clay with dark brown patches, 0.49m thick.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2231) Whitish-grey silt clay with green and yellow patches, 0.22m thick.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2230) Mid greyish-brown clay with orange patches, 0.17m thick
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2229) Bottom fill, mid whiteish-grey clay with brown and orange patches, 0.27m thick.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

D-Shaped Enclosure Ditch – Group [2026] – [2006]/[2053]/[2323]/[2380], [2057]

[2131]
On the W side of the trench a segment of curving ditch aligned approximately ESE-WNW forming part of the large D-shaped enclosure extending southwards on the side

of the slope. Visible in slot at western edge of Trench 2 and in plan at southern edge. Connection is based on geophysics rather than direct observation for most of its length. Steep cut in the N levelling out to a flat base at 1.5m deep, sloping gently to 1.6m where it overlies limestone bedrock (2158). At a width of 2.5m it is cut on the S side by [2055] and the original width could not be determined but estimated to have been at least 2.5m wide and 1.6m deep.

The ditch is flanked by banks of redeposited material on either side. It contained two fills (2132), (2181). These are both light yellowish brown silty sands, considered to be slump deposits washed in from the northern bank.

(2132) Prehistoric Pottery: 3 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bones: Two fragments. 1 sheep/goat, 1 cattle.

(2181) Prehistoric Pottery: 3 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2203) Interpreted as material from the north bank of ditch [2131] lying approximately 3m to the N, seen only in section. Light brownish-yellow clayey sand with 20% gravel up to 2cm in size, probably deposited natural against which a red clayey sand colluvial layer had built up (2078). Root and water disturbance seen as vertical lines running through the deposit from the overlying layer. Approximately 0.2m thick. Considered to be Bronze Age.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 2 fragments sheep/goat.

The ditch was recut in the Iron Age by [2055] that was itself recut twice, once during the Iron Age by [2053] and once during the Iron Age to Roman transition by [2206].

Ditch [2055]
Narrow V-shaped ditch 1.2m wide and 0.40m deep. Base and sides appear slightly irregular, possibly due to redeposited material. It cuts enclosure ditch [2131], [2167], [2089] and is cut at the surface by ditch [2053].

Pottery analysis shows this ditch to have been cut and filled in the MIA.

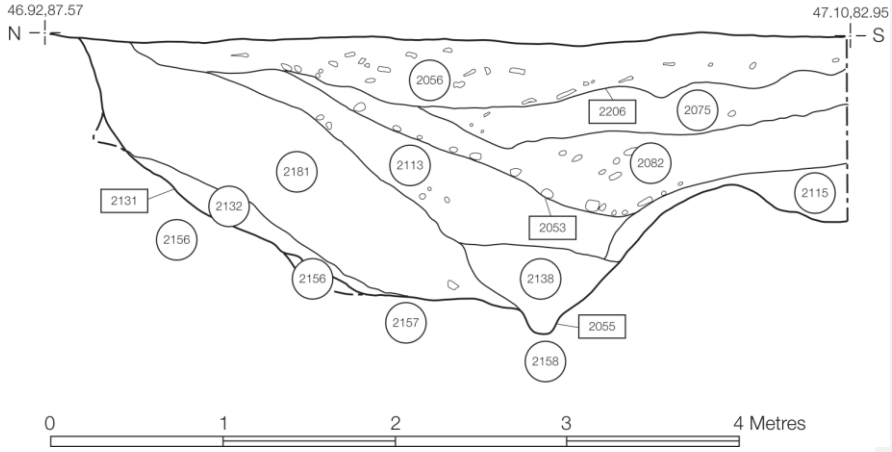
Seven fills (2112)/(2108), (2113)/2107)/(2110), (2115), (2090), (2091), (2092) (2114)/(2138).

Top fill (2112)/(2108) light brownish-yellow clayey sand with inclusions of limestone gravel <2cm, charcoal, crushed shell, particles of greensand and dark reddish-brown silty clay.
(2108) Prehistoric Pottery 1
Roman Pottery: 3
Animal Bone: None
(2112) Prehistoric Pottery: 18 sherds
Roman Pottery: None

Animal Bone: 1 cattle PII
Small Finds: <71> Stone tool

(2113)/(2107)/(2110) A light greyish-brown sandy clay with flecks of crushed shell and fragments of stone. Possibly a mix of naturally accumulated silts and some domestic waste. Probably a slump of material from side of ditch. Overlay (2115).

MFP 09
Trench 2
Section 2.51



Cuts [2055] and [2131]

(2113) Prehistoric Pottery: 11 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: Single fragment of sheep mandible
(2107) Prehistoric Pottery: None:
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None
(2110) Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2115) A light greyish-brown clayey sand approximately 10cm thick consisting of black and white sand grains. Probably a slump of material from the side of the ditch.
Prehistoric Pottery: 4 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bones: None

(2090) Dark reddish-brown sandy clay with very few inclusions, 0.23m thick.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2092) Dark reddish brown sandy silt with patches of yellow-brown, inclusions of large stones and pebbles with some charcoal. Approximately 0.40m thick. Very similar to (2090) and probably derived from the same parent material.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2091) Light yellowish-brown sandy silt with inclusions of limestone gravel forming a lens of material within (2090) and considered to have been deposited at the same time. Possibly redeposited bank material 0.16m thick.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Primary fill (2114)/(2138) a light brownish-grey clayey sand approximately 45cm thick. This deposit appears to be a mix of redeposited natural (2156), (2157) and fill (2181) of [2131] into which the ditch was cut.
(2114) Prehistoric Pottery: 3 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bones: Cattle PII
(2138) Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: Complete cattle femur, fragment of femur, mandible.
Small Finds: <75> Flint blade

Ditch [2053]
Possibly a recut of [2055] or cut by [2055]. At least 3.6m wide and 0.77m deep with sloping side in the N and shallow concave base, curving gently upwards in the S. It contained 2 fills (2075)/(2109), (2082)/(2166).

Top fill (2075)/(2109) a dark grey clay deposit with approximately 10% cobbles, becoming more sandy in the N and S. Maximum thickness 0.3m. Pottery and animal bone within the fill which appears to be dumped material.
(2075) Prehistoric Pottery: 58 sherds
Roman Pottery: 3 sherds
Animal Bones: 20 fragments of which 15 were teeth, mandibles or maxilla across several species -10 cattle, mainly mandibles and teeth, 1 horse incisor, 6 sheep/goat including 4 mandibles, 2 pig, maxilla and tooth, 1 dog maxilla
Small Finds: <52> Flint scraper
(2109) Prehistoric Pottery: 7 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2082)/(2166) Bottom fill, a silty sand, dark grey, grading to brown and yellow across the top of the fill changing to yellowish brown with depth. Inclusions of small stones, some pot and bone. Maximum thickness as centre of fill 0.5m. Probably colluvium built up over time.
(2082) Prehistoric Pottery: 18 sherds
Roman Pottery: None

Animal Bones 6 fragments, 4 cattle, 1 sheep/goat, 1 pig
Small Finds: <78> Cu-alloy scrap/smelt
(2166) Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Ditch [2206]
Recut of ditch [2053], approximately 4.2m wide extending across almost all of the original ditch [2131] with a maximum depth of 0.4m. At the surface it cuts through earlier ditch cuts [2131] [2055], [2053] and [2206] truncating the top fill of each. Purpose unknown. Single fill (2056), soft, greyish brown-dark brown sandy silt with 10% inclusions of angular and rounded stones. Large amounts of Roman pot, with smaller amounts of Iron Age deposited within the centre of the fill that overlay a large dump of animal bone. Pottery appeared to have been placed around loom weights in NE corner of excavated area. Thought to be a correlation between pottery colour and spatial arrangement. Large limestone [2223], 0.51m x 0.42m x 0.16m lay within the cluster of artefacts, rectangular in plan with convex top and natural grooves running lengthwise. Smaller stones beneath and pottery around it.
Prehistoric Pottery: 258
Roman Pottery: 2920
Animal Bones: 297 fragments and complete bone. 91 cattle, mostly fragments representing adults and juveniles. 148 sheep/goat, 40 pig, 2 horse, 2 large mammal, 9 dog, 1 frog, 1 deer? 1 carnivore (check), 2 bird. Most parts of the main food animals are represented which could possibly represent feasting and/or curated material brought in from somewhere else, perhaps as a closing event
Small Finds: <47> Fe pin or very simple bow brooch; <51> flint scraper; <55> pierced bone handle; <62> flint; <82> Cu-alloy coin; <84> loom weight; <85> flint debitage; <86> pot spindle whorl; <87> loom weight; <88> loom weight; <89> loom weight; <93> glass vessel fragment
Human Remains: Adult skull fragment

Recut [2006]/[2323]
Possibly part of re-cut of the D-shaped enclosure. 2.6m wide and 1.2m deep. The eastern side slopes gradually for 60cm with a sharp break in slope to form the V-shaped cut. It curves NW where it cuts Iron Age ditch [2053] and pit [2077]. Western side partially lost.
Pottery analysis shows this ditch to have been cut and filled during the MIA.

Five fills (2007), (2013), (2017), (2044), (2045).

Top fill (2013), spread of stones overlying (2007), this provided the only indication of the ditch at the surface.
Prehistoric Pottery: 59
Roman Pottery: 114
Animal Bone: 10 fragments and complete bones. 5 sheep/goat, 1 pig, 4 bird

(2007) Medium brown sandy silt with angular limestone inclusions of up to 12cm.
Prehistoric Pottery: 65 sherds
Roman Pottery: 726 sherds

Animal Bone: 49 fragments and complete bone. 8 cattle, 2 horse, 28 sheep/goat, 7 pig, 2 bird, 1 frog, 1 mole
Small Finds: <21> Cu-alloy Nauheim derivative brooch LIA; <38> Cu-alloy coin; <49> flint scraper

(2017) Fine, red-brown silty sand with occasional flecks of charcoal and limestone fragments. Maximum thickness 0.30m in the centre.
Prehistoric Pottery: 64
Roman Pottery: 12
Animal Bone: 5 fragments: 1 cattle, 2 sheep/goat, 1 medium mammal, 1 bird
Small Finds: <63> Flint
Human Bone: Neonate bones, possibly a former burial

(2044) Middle fill, medium brown silty sand with limestone fragments approximately 10-20cm and occasional flecks of charcoal, 0.6m thick in centre.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 3 fragments. 1 cattle, 2 pig
Small Finds: <59> clay crucible fragment

(2045) Orange/brown clayey silt 0.60m thick with inclusions of angular limestone pebbles <3cm.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal bone: 2 fragments. 1 cattle, 1 pig

Ditch [2057]
Vertical cut through east side of pit [2077], 0.65, deep. Probably the cut of the original ditch in S of trench and recut by ditch [2006]. Single fill (2058), dark brown silty sand with flecks of charcoal.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Ditch [2323]/[2006]/[2053]
Not fully seen or excavated, thought to possibly be part of the D-shaped enclosure connecting with [2053] or a recut above [2131] but uncertain. It is described as having a single fill (2322) a mid-greyish-brown sandy silt with flecks of charcoal.
Prehistoric Pottery: 3 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Ditch Group [2379] - [2215], [2278]

Possible boundary ditch with may align with [2055] to the W. [2215] in the SE was shown to be the same as [2278] in the NW and given an overall group number of [2379]. Rounded base, 1.27-1.38m wide at the surface with sloping sides at approximately 45 degrees to a depth of 1m. Could be traced for approximately 5m through geophysics running in a north-westerly direction. Thought to be late Iron Age

contemporaneous with pit group [2012]. Cut by [2214] and [2202] and cuts [2012], [2078] and [2228].

Ditch [2215]
Cut by [2160], [2236], [2235], [2237], [2124]. Assigned a single fill (2216) a dark greyish-brown silt clay with stones and pebble inclusions and large amounts of charcoal. A mix of natural colluvium and Iron Age material. Possibly the same as (2277).
Prehistoric Pottery: 40 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 8 fragments and complete bone. 7 sheep/goat, 1 pig

Ditch [2278]
Assigned 5 fill numbers (2277), (2282), (2293), (2384), (2315).

Top fill (2277), possibly the same as (2216) comprising a blackish-brown silty clay with fragments of burnt/fired clay and chalk/limestone. Approximately 0.13m thick. Possibly derived from layer of Roman midden deposits (2009) overlying it.
Prehistoric Pottery: 44 sherds
Roman Pottery: 6 sherds
Animal Bone: 45 fragments and complete bone. 9 cattle, 2 horse, 25 sheep/goat, 3 pig, 6 small mammal (possibly same animal)
F <128> Flint blade

(2384) Light brownish-yellow silty clay with <5% gravel and <10% white clay, 0.05m thick.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2282) Mid greyish-brown sandy clay, small amount of stones and white-yellow flecks. A vein of whitish clay 5cm thick runs through the deposit. Mix of Iron Age-Roman waste, redeposited material and silts. Approximately 0.20m thick
Prehistoric Pottery: 105 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 44 fragments and complete bone. 6 cattle, 24 sheep/goat, 7 pig, 3 large mammal, 1 rodent, 3 bird
Human Bone: Skull fragment

(2315) Dark reddish-brown sandy clay, less than 3% charcoal fragments, 0.03m thick. Lies almost vertically against north side of pit edge and appears to have slumped in. Natural colluvium.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2293) Primary fill comprising dark brown silty clay with less than 5% stones
Prehistoric Pottery: 74 sherds
Roman Pottery: 3 sherds
Animal Bone: 8 fragments. 6 sheep/goat, 1 pig, 1 bird

Small Finds: <172> horn scraper/worked tooth? <178> bone point

Curvilinear Channels [2385], [2386]

In the centre of the trench a pair of curvilinear parallel channels cut into the tuffaceous clay, divided by a thin bank of greensand. In profile they are similar to the ditch cuts and considered to be not natural. According to a sketch of relationships on Section 2.50, 2.53 the ditches cut or join near the base. No sign of weathering therefore the channels were probably rapidly filled.

Channel [2385]
Steep concave sides and flat base.
Note: the dimensions given on the context sheet are 4.0 by 0.5 by 3.0 metres but these don't match any of the drawings.
Four fills (2284)/(2340), (2300), (2339).

Top fill (2300) Dark reddish-black silty clay 0.30m thick. Some fragments of charcoal and five burnt stones, with largest stone 12cm in diameter.
Prehistoric Pottery: 11 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 5 fragments and complete bones. 2 cattle, 2 sheep/goat, 1 bird

(2339) Mid-reddish brown with few inclusions. Probably derived from adjacent contexts.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Bottom fill (2284)/(2340) Mid reddish-grey clayey-sand >25% sand and flecks of charcoal of approximately 1cm.
(2284) Prehistoric Pottery: 1 sherd
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 2 fragments sheep/goat
(2340) Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Channel [2386] Steep concave sides and flat base. 2.5m x 4m, 2.5m-3m deep. Cut by pits [2387], [2388], [2389], cuts pit [2394]. Four fills (2204)/(2150), (2285), (2361), (2343).
Note: complicated stratigraphy resulting in different context numbers on the section drawings.

Pottery analysis has shown this channel to have been cut in the EIA/MIA and filled in the MIA.

Top fill? (2150)/(2204) Mid greyish-brown clay with small charcoal and stone inclusions, 0.14m thick.
(2150) Prehistoric Pottery: 18 sherds
Roman Pottery: None

Animal Bone: 9 fragments and complete bones: 3 cattle, 2 horse, 2 sheep/goat, 2 dog
(2204) Prehistoric Pottery: 50 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 23 fragments and complete bones: 5 cattle, 1 horse, 12 sheep/goat, 5 pig

(2343) Dark orange-grey clay with small charcoal and stone inclusions.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2361) Mid brownish-grey with patches of orange and yellow (clay? silt?) and 10% small stone inclusions. Probably natural silting
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Bottom fill (2285) Dark reddish-brown silty clay, 0.30m thick. Probably colluvium
Prehistoric Pottery: 6 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2279) Described as a fill which Sheila thought might be from this channel. Not shown on drawings and context sheet doesn't record what it is the fill of. Could be a layer near the surface. Mid yellowish-grey silty clay with 15% small stones approximately 3cm with patches of yellow clay. 1.4-2.7m thick.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 1 complete cattle PII
Small Finds: <127> Flint blade

Other Ditches

Ditch [2018]
Note: This was previously called Group 2031 but comprised only [2018[and is now considered to be the same

Small, narrow ditch running approximately NE-SW in NE corner of the trench. possibly part of a ring ditch. Shallow sides and concave base, giving a U-shaped profile. Width 0.43m at the surface to 0.25m at the base, 0.17m deep cut down to the natural. Possibly cut by ditch [2020]. Two fills (2019), (2035).

Top fill (2019), a brown sandy loam with 20-30% small limestone inclusions. Probably a natural deposit resulting from the silting of the ditch.
Prehistoric Pottery: 6
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone. 1 pig carpal

(2035) Bottom fill, light yellowish-brown sandy loam with limestone gravel derived from the bedrock. Maximum thickness 0.04m.

Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Ditch [2020]
Small ditch running NNW to SSE in the NE corner of the trench. Width 0.30m, depth 0.20m with a concave base and sides. Tapers slightly at the bottom in the W. It cuts through possible ring ditch [2018]. Slight but indistinct curve suggests it might be part of a ring ditch. Single fill **(2021)** mid-brown sandy silt with flecks of charcoal becoming more yellow and gritty towards the base. Probably deposited as a natural silting of the ditch.
Prehistoric Pottery: 11
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 4 fragments and complete bone. 1 cattle, 2 sheep/goat, 1 pig
Small Finds: <91> Cu-alloy small ball

Gully [2042]
Shallow ditch or gully, 3.51m wide, 0.05m-0.25m deep in the W and 0.05m-0.18m deep in the E, with a maximum depth of 0.28m. Cut centrally by [2049], the terminal end of a ditch. Single fill (2028), dark brown sandy silt with approximately 5% limestone inclusions. Relatively large quantities of animal bone and prehistoric and Roman pottery recovered.
Prehistoric Pottery: 57
Roman Pottery: 124
Animal Bone: 34 fragments and complete bones. 5 cattle, 1 horse, 18 sheep/goat, 6 pig, 4 bird.
Small Finds: <31> Cu-alloy pin; <33> Cu-alloy pin or needle; <36> bone spatula or tool; <591> pin/needle fragment
Human Bone: fibula? <35>

Ditch [2049]
Shown on its context sheet in MF08 and section 2.11 as a narrow U-shaped cut interpreted as the terminal end of a ditch 0.67m wide by 0.31m deep cutting centrally through gully [2042] with a single fill (2048). It continues as [2097]. In MF09 there appears to have been a second cut through the ditch at another location. This shows the ditch in excess of 2.7m wide and 0.65m deep. At approximately 0.33m deep it narrows to 1.2m wide and at 0.53m deep it narrows again to 0.6m wide giving a stepped appearance, or possibly recuts. Five fills (2048), (2146), (2147), (2148), (2149).

Top fill (2048) a dark brown sandy loam with limestone inclusions. Maximum thickness 0.20m
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2146) Yellowish-brown silty loam with white gravel patches of varying sizes. Thickness 0.18-0.35m.
Prehistoric Pottery: 7 sherds
Roman Pottery: None

Animal Bone: None
Small Finds: <92> Bone needle

(2147) Dark greyish-brown clayey loam with white gravel patches of varying sizes. Maximum thickness 0.20m. Interpreted as natural silting.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2148) Dark yellowish-brown sandy clay with irregular gravel patches maximum thickness 0.06m. It does not extend across entire pit and is possibly slumping from the side.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2149) Primary fill, a dark greyish-brown clayey loam with irregular gravel patches, similar to (2147) and probably representing silting up of the ditch. Maximum thickness 0.10m.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Ditch [2097]
Terminus of ditch in centre of trench being a continuation of [2049] in the N. Sub-rectangular in section with slightly concave sides. Single fill (2098) a brownish sandy loam with 10% limestone gravel. Only partially excavated and extent uncertain.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Ditch [2117]
Probable linear feature with shallow concave base and sides. Could be natural. Cut by ditch terminus [2049] and possibly pit [2182]. Single fill (2116) light reddish-brown sandy clay and 2% gravel inclusions <10cm approximately 0.40m thick. Probably colluvial wash from the north of the site.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 2 fragments of unidentified bone

Ditch [2219]
Cut with wide shallow base with gradual breaks of slope, possibly representing several recuts over a number of phases. Approximately 0.4m wide and 0.09m deep. Single fill (2161) a mottled creamy-beige sandy clay with some white patches, probably a natural tufaceous colluvium similar to (2160) and (2178) that has washed in.
Prehistoric Pottery: 3 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Ditch [2143]
Cut of a ditch running approximately N-S through the centre of the trench. It appears to rise and fall in section and could have been cut as a series of pits. Cut by small pit or posthole [2217] and pit [2302]. Two fills (2139), (2245).

Top fill (2139), dark brownish-grey sandy clay with inclusions of charcoal and small stones, 0.54m thick at deepest point but possibly the same as primary fill (2245) with same description, 0.70m thick.
Prehistoric Pottery: 143
Roman Pottery: 39
Animal Bone: 22 fragments and complete bone. 1 cattle, 14 sheep/goat, 5 pig, 1 bird, 1 rodent, possibly red squirrel.
Small Finds: <132> Bone awl; <175> flint blade

(2245) Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Roman Midden – Groups [2376], [2377], [2378]

Early Roman midden first identified in MF08 was later divided by 1m² grids and excavated in spits in order to evaluate the pattern of finds identified in MF09. The midden comprised three layers: Group [2378] in the re-cut Iron Age ditch [2380], group [2377] between [2380] and pit group [2012], and which appeared largely comprised of colluvial silts, and group [2376] that levelled the [2012] pits. Deposits were distributed evenly across a large area of the trench and thought to be broadly contemporary.

Layer Group [2376]
(2009)/(2247)/(2248)/(2250)/(2252)/(2255)/(2256)/(2259)/(2262)/(2266)/(2267)/(2268)/(2270)/(2275)/(2292)/(2307)/(2308)/(2309)/(2310)/(2311)/(2312)/(2317)/(2318)/(2319)/(2320)/(2249)/(2353)/(2354)/(2355)/(2356)/(2357)/(2358)
Note: (2009) has been called both a layer and a group and is the same as [2376]. As it contained 1,143 pottery sherds, 434 animal bones, 13 small finds, it is treated as a layer here within group [2376]. In season 2010 the area of (2009) was gridded out and each grid was given a new context number. (2009) was partially excavated in MF08/9 and then gridded in 2010 over an area 10m by 11m, the majority of the finds came from the upper part of this context, mostly excavated in the first season.

(2009) Overlies (2063) and it is one of the uppermost layers of the midden. Dark brownish-black clayey loam with flecks of charcoal and limestone cobbles and pebbles, some of which were burnt. Numerous pottery sherds both Iron Age and Roman and small finds. Where recorded under (2292) described as dark greyish-black with patches of light yellow-brown colluvium. The darker deposits contained Roman pottery sherds and animal bone.

Pottery analysis has shown this layer to date to Romano-British period and to contain MIA/LIA residual material.

Prehistoric Pottery: 664
Roman Pottery: 479
Animal Bone: 434 fragments and complete bone. 105 cattle, 6 horse, 264 sheep/goat, 39 pig, 4 bird, 4 dog, 1 mole, 5 large mammal, 5 medium mammal, 1 small mammal
Small Finds: <22> Cu-alloy coin; <25> spindle whorl; <26> Fe strip; <28> Fe brooch; <29> flint scraper; <30> Cu-alloy fitting; <37> Fe staple; <39> Cu-alloy bar; <40> Fe knife?; <41> bone awl; <42> Fe pin; <43> microlith; <44> Cu-alloy bead?; <56> bone pierced handle; <57> clay crucible fragment <180> flint borer

(2247) Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 1 cattle tooth

(2249) Prehistoric Pottery: 5 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 6 fragments. 3 cattle, 1 horse, 2 pig
Small Finds: <171> Flint blade

(2250) Prehistoric Pottery: 14 sherds
Roman Pottery: 5 sherds
Animal Bone: 21 fragments. 1 cattle, 11 sheep/goat, 5 pig, 3 dog, 1 bird
Small Find: <110> Fe cleat; <270> flint scraper

(2292) Prehistoric Pottery: 38 sherds
Roman Pottery: 8 sherds
Animal Bone: 4 fragments. 1 cattle, 3 sheep/goat
Small Finds: <316> Bone needle fragment

(2248) Prehistoric Pottery: 18 sherds
Roman Pottery: 1 sherd

Animal Bone: 4 fragments. 3 sheep/goat, 1 dog tooth

(2252) Prehistoric Pottery: 14 sherds
Roman Pottery: 5 sherds
Animal Bone: 4 fragments. 2 sheep/goat, 1 large mammal, 1 medium mammal

(2255) Prehistoric Pottery: 18 sherds
Roman Pottery: 37 sherds
Animal Bone: 14 fragments. 7 sheep/goat, 2 pig, 2 large mammal, 3 medium mammal

(2256) Prehistoric Pottery: 19 sherds
Roman Pottery: 1 sherd
Animal Bone: 9 fragments. 2 cattle, 1 horse, 5 sheep/goat, 1 medium mammal

(2259) Prehistoric Pottery: 18 sherds
Roman Pottery: 5 sherds
Animal Bone: 3 fragments. 1 cattle, 1 sheep/goat, 1 pig

(2262) Prehistoric Pottery: 9 sherds

Roman Pottery: 1 sherd
Animal Bone: 5 mostly teeth. 2 sheep/goat (including 1 tooth), 1 cattle tooth, 1 horse tooth, 1 pig tooth
Small Finds: <183> Polished bone

(2266) Prehistoric Pottery: 18 sherds
Roman Pottery: 4 sherds
Animal Bone: 10 fragments and complete bones. 1 cattle, 1 horse, 4 sheep/goat, 2 pig, 1 dog, 1 bird

(2267) Prehistoric Pottery: 5 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2268) Prehistoric Pottery: 23 sherds
Roman Pottery: 2 sherds
Animal Bone: None

(2270) Prehistoric Pottery: 20 sherds
Roman Pottery: 52 sherds
Animal Bone: 17 fragments. 3 cattle, 8 sheep/goat, 5 pig, 1 frog
Small Find: <184> Fe slag

(2275) Prehistoric Pottery: 22 sherds
Roman Pottery: 13 sherds
Animal Bone: 14 fragments and complete bone. 2 cattle, 9 sheep/goat, 1 pig, 1 bird, 1 large mammal
Small Finds: <123> Fe sheet fragment

(2307) Prehistoric Pottery: 5 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 5 fragments and complete bones. 1 cattle, 1 sheep/goat, 1 pig, 1 bird, 1 vole

(2308) Prehistoric Pottery: 11 sherds
Roman Pottery: 3 sherds
Animal Bone: 8 fragments. 1 cattle, 5 sheep/goat, 1 pig, 1 small mammal
,
(2309) Prehistoric Pottery: 8 sherds
Roman Pottery: 1 sherd
Animal Bone: 8 fragments and complete bones. 4 sheep/goat, 1 bird, 1 medium mammal, 2 small mammal

(2310) Prehistoric Pottery: 13 sherds
Roman Pottery: 4 sherds
Animal Bone: 3 fragments and complete bone. 1 sheep/goat, 2 pig

(2311) Prehistoric Pottery: 18 sherds
Roman Pottery: 5 sherds

Animal Bone: 21 fragments and complete bones: 5 cattle, 3 sheep/goat, 1 pig, 1 dog, 3 bird, 8 mole (intrusive)
Small Finds: <187> Cu-alloy slag; <188> Fe slag

(2312) Prehistoric Pottery: 3 sherds
Roman Pottery: 1 sherd
Animal Bone: 7 fragments. 1 cattle, 2 horse, 2 sheep/goat, 1 pig, 1 small mammal
Small Finds: <190> Fe slag: <192> Fe blade/strip

(2317) Prehistoric Pottery: 5
Roman Pottery: 1 sherd
Animal Bone: 17 fragments and complete bone. 2 cattle, 1 horse, 4 sheep/goat, 3 pig, 1 bird, 5 frog, 1 small mammal

(2318) Note: large deposits of Fe slag in the SW corner of grid square. Thought to indicate an underlying pit or specific depositional event. Corresponding grid square (2312) is probably the same deposit.
Prehistoric Pottery: 14 sherds
Roman Pottery: 3 sherds
Animal Bone: 18 fragments. 7 cattle, 3 horse, 7 sheep/goat, 1 pig
Small Finds: <195> Fe strip curved; <198>, <199>, <233>, <234>, <235>,<236>, <237>, <238>, <258>, <259>, <260>, <261>, <262>, <263>, <264>, <265> slag; <268> clay crucible fragment; <299>, <300> slag; <301> Fe object/sheet; <302>, <303>, <304>, <305>, <306>, <307>, <308>, <309>; <310> slag

(2319) Prehistoric Pottery: 8 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 4 fragments. 1 cattle, 2 sheep/goat, 1 pig

(2320) Prehistoric Pottery: 1 sherd
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 4 fragments. 1 cattle, 3 sheep/goat, 1 small mammal

(2353) Pottery: 47 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 12 fragments. 8 sheep/goat, 3 pig, 1 medium mammal
Human Remains: Infant bones found post-ex among animal bone and assigned to SK23. Appears to be part of the infant also found during post-ex in (2354)

Commented [GL2]: Skele info?

(2354) Prehistoric Pottery: 118 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 4 fragments sheep/goat
Human Remains: Infant skull fragments, unerupted teeth, vertebral body. These are in corresponding grid squares and are the same infant.

Pottery analysis shows this layer to be possibly EIA.

(2355) Prehistoric Pottery: 7 sherds
Roman Pottery: 8 sherds
Animal Bone: 7 fragments. 2 cattle, 4 sheep/goat, 1 pig

(2356) Prehistoric Pottery: 7 sherds
Roman Pottery: 12 sherds
Animal Bone: 11 fragments sheep/goat

(2357) Prehistoric Pottery: 63 sherds
Roman Pottery: 32 sherds
Animal Bone: 19 fragments. 3 cattle, 10 sheep/goat, 6 pig

(2358) Prehistoric Pottery: 40 sherds
Roman Pottery: 22 sherds
Animal Bone: 21 fragments. 1 cattle, 14 sheep/goat, 3 pig, 1 dog, 2 mouse
Small Finds: <257> Cu-alloy strip; <312> Fe brooch

[2381]
Large tabular limestone, 1.5m x 0.8m and approximately 0.20-0.30m thick. Naturally weathered. Approximately 1-8cm holes throughout the stone, some extending through the stone, were natural. It was laid flat within (2009) and above pit group [2012]. Interpreted by the excavator as deliberate structured deposition of an early Roman midden [Group 2376], possibly deposited as part of a closing event. One side of the stone had a relatively flat edge allowing it to be stable if stood up.

Layer Group [2377] –
(2010), Grids
(2251)/(2258)/(2260)/(2261)/(2264)/(2265)/(2269)/(2271)/(2272)/(2276)/
(2288)/(2289)/(2290)/(2294)/(2295)/(2296)/(2297)/(2298)/(2299)

Part of the Roman midden contemporaneous with, but underlying, Group [2376] and overlying [2378]. It overlies some of the cut features of [2012].
Note: As with (2009) this was partially excavated in MF08 and then gridded in later seasons. (2251) and subsequent grids have very similar description

(2010) Mid-brown very fine grained sandy silt with charcoal flecks. 1% rounded limestone inclusions less than 1mm in size. Variable thickness between 10-15cm.

Pottery analysis dates this layer to the MIA.

Prehistoric Pottery: 144
Roman Pottery: 45
Animal Bone: 29 fragments and complete bones. 4 cattle, 18 sheep/goat, 3 pig, 4 bird
Small Finds: <54> flint tool; <60> Cu-alloy slag; <72> pottery vessel fragment; <73> pottery vessel fragment; <74> flint object; <81> Cu-alloy coin
Human Bone: infant right petrous

(2251) Dark greyish-brown to yellowish-brown clayey sand with some stones approximately 2-5cm in diameter. Patches of dark red/brown burnt or fired clay in grid (2271).
Prehistoric Pottery: 12 sherds
Roman Pottery: 9 sherds
Animal Bone: None

(2258) Prehistoric Pottery: 13 sherds
Roman Pottery: 10 sherds
Animal Bone: 7 fragments. 1 cattle, 5 sheep/goat, 1 pig

(2260) Prehistoric Pottery: 19 sherds
Roman Pottery: 16 sherds
Animal Bone: 9 fragments. 1 cattle, 6 sheep/goat, 2 pig

(2261) Prehistoric Pottery: 14 sherds
Roman Pottery: 1 sherd
Animal Bone: 6 fragments. 3 cattle, 1 horse, 2 pig
Small Finds: <174> Flint blade

(2264) Prehistoric Pottery: 18 sherds
Roman Pottery: 67 sherds
Animal Bone: 20 fragments. 17 sheep/goat, 1 bird, 2 frog
Small Find: <116> Cu-alloy tweezers

(2265) Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 2 fragments. 1 cattle, 1 sheep/goat

(2269) Prehistoric Pottery: 20 sherds
Roman Pottery: 6 sherds
Animal Bone: 6 fragments and complete bone. 4 sheep/goat, 2 pig
Small Finds <118> Fe ring

(2271) Prehistoric Pottery: 8 sherds
Roman Pottery: 10 sherds
Animal Bone: 7 fragments and complete bone. 1 cattle, 5 sheep/goat, 1 frog

(2272) Prehistoric Pottery: 2 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 2 fragments and complete bone, horse

(2276) Prehistoric Pottery: 8 sherds
Roman Pottery: 2 sherds
Animal Bone: 4 fragments. 2 horse, 2 sheep/goat

(2288) Prehistoric Pottery: 7 sherds
Roman Pottery: 1 sherd
Animal Bone: 4 fragments. 1 cattle, 1 horse, 1 sheep/goat, 1 pig

(2289) Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2290) Prehistoric Pottery: 9 sherds
Roman Pottery: 1 sherd

Animal Bone: 4 fragments. 1 cattle, 1 sheep/goat, 2 pig
Small Finds: <129> Cu-alloy coin
(2294) Animal Bone: None

(2295) Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: 4 sherds
Animal Bone: None

(2296) Prehistoric Pottery: 2 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2297) Prehistoric Pottery: 7 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2298) Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 1 fragment sheep/goat

(2299) Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Layer Group [2378] –
(2253)/(2263)/(2286)/(2287)/(2291)/(2327)/(2328)/(2329)
Partially underlies Group [2377] and overlies ditch [2380]. Comprised colluvial silts similar to [2377] but said to contain deliberately placed clusters of objects distinctly different from the rest of the midden [2376], [2377]. Deposits considered to possibly represent a closing event for the original enclosure, contemporary with the focus of activity moving west towards the temple area.

Pottery analysis dates this group to the Romano-British period with MIA/LIA residual material.

(2253) Dark yellowish-brown to greyish brown sandy clay approximately 5% stone inclusions up to 3cm.
Prehistoric Pottery: 22 sherds
Roman Pottery: 22 sherds
Animal Bone: 12 fragments and complete bone. 12 sheep/goat, 3 pig, 1 medium mammal
Small Finds: <111> flint blade; <112> flint blade; <269> Flint scraper

(2263) Prehistoric Pottery: 16 sherds
Roman Pottery: 12 sherds
Animal Bone: 5 fragments. 2 sheep/goat, 2 pig, 1 medium mammal

(2286) Prehistoric Pottery: 28 sherds
Roman Pottery: 82 sherds

Animal Bone: 21 fragments and complete bones. 3 cattle, 13 sheep/goat, 2 pig, 2 large mammal, 1 medium mammal.
Small Find: <131> Cu-alloy pin/needle
Other: Oyster shell

(2287) Prehistoric Pottery: 14 sherds
Roman Pottery: 16 sherds
Animal Bone: 11 fragments and complete bone. 7 cattle, 4 pig

(2291) Prehistoric Pottery: 4 sherds
Roman Pottery: 12 sherds
Animal Bone: 9 fragments. 7 sheep/goat, 2 pig

(2327) Prehistoric Pottery: 23 sherds
Roman Pottery: 55 sherds
Animal Bone: 20 fragments. 2 cattle, 1 horse, 14 sheep/goat, 1 bird, 1 large mammal, 1 medium mammal
Small Finds: <256> Flint blade fragment; <314> flint blade

(2328) Prehistoric Pottery: 27 sherds
Roman Pottery: 109 sherds
Animal Bone: 26 fragments and complete bone. 6 cattle, 2 horse, 16 sheep/goat, 2 pig

(2329) Blackish-brown sandy loam approximately 5% limestone inclusions 1-5cm.
Prehistoric Pottery: 46 sherds
Roman Pottery: 121 sherds
Animal Bone: 25 fragments: 17 sheep/goat, 6 pig, 1 medium mammal, 1 frog
Small Finds: <589> Bone pin/needle fragment

Midden Deposits not Assigned to a Group

(2254) Dark greyish-brown sandy clay with flecks of charcoal and burnt stone.
Prehistoric Pottery: 13 sherds
Roman Pottery: 6 sherds
Animal Bone: 4 fragments sheep/goat

(2257) Dark greyish brown clayey silt with burnt clay and stone
Prehistoric Pottery: 11 sherds
Roman Pottery: 37 sherds
Animal Bone: 26 fragments and complete bone. 1 cattle, 14 sheep/goat, 2 pig, 3 bird, 1 large mammal, 2 medium mammal, 2 small mammal, 1 vole

Postholes

[2099]
Sub-rounded cut, 29cm E-W, 15cm N-S, 11cm deep. Rounded base and sides. Single fill (2100), mid-brown loam.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

[2217]
Possible posthole or small pit. Steep sides and concave base, approximately 0.20m in diameter and 0.50m deep. It cuts [2245], [2143], [2050], [2145]. Overlain by (2010) considered to be a late Iron Age-early Roman deposit. Two fills **(2144), (2218)**.

Top fill (2218), mottled brown-orange sandy clay, <1% gritty inclusions, possibly colluvium, 0.30m thick.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2144) Bottom fill, creamy whitish-beige silty clay approximately 0.20m thick, probably colluvium.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

[2225]
Shallow circular cut with straight sides and flat base. Approximately 10cm in diameter and 2cm deep. Cuts through the fill of pit [2089]. Single fill (2224), dark reddish-brown silty clay with inclusions of charcoal and small stones.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

[2238]
Small posthole in SE corner of trench, 0.25m in diameter 0.05m deep with straight sides and a flat base. It cuts natural [2160], possibly [2124] and is possibly cut by ditch [2215]. Single fill (2237), a dark greyish-brown clay with orange and black inclusions, 0.05m thick. Appears to have washed in.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

[2365]
Shallow sub-circular cut, u-shaped in profile 20cm N-S, 30cm E-W, 8cm deep. It cuts the fill of pit [2395]. Single fill (2364), dark brownish-black silty clay, >10% course sand, >5% charcoal flecks
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

[2370]
Circular cut 14cm in diameter, steep sides 8-10cm deep with a rounded base. Single fill (2369), blackish-grey clayey deposit with some charcoal and a few stone inclusions.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None

Animal Bone: None

[2372]
Circular cut 14cm in diameter, steep sides 8-10cm deep with a rounded base. Single fill (2371), blackish-grey clayey deposit with some charcoal and a few stone inclusions.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Other

(2008)
Possible post pad or remnants of a cobbled surface. Tightly packed patch of irregular shaped-limestones, some heated covering an area of c. 0.80m x 0.60m forming a single layer laid directly on to (2010), a layer overlying midden deposits. Tile, CBM and possibly daub recovered from among the stones.
Prehistoric Pottery: 27 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 7 fragments. 2 cattle, 5 sheep/goat
Human Bone: Infant fibula

[2046]
Circular cut with straight sides and concave base. Approximately 55cm in diameter and 8cm-14cm deep. Possibly too wide for a posthole and purpose uncertain. Single fill (2032) Yellowish, orange-brown granular silt c. 20% yellow sand, c. 10% small, rounded stones.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 4 cattle, 1 horse, 2 sheep/goat, 1 pig

(2303)
Cluster of stones, probably limestone all at least 10cm across, 4-6cm thick. Extent 30cm across, 35cm deep. Found within midden deposit (2009). Thought to be post packing but no cut could be determined. Function unknown.
Prehistoric Pottery: 6 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 2 fragments. 1 dog, 1 medium mammal

(2375)
Irregular feature described as a cut but more possibly a natural irregular hollow, possibly created by a root, 0.24m wide, 0.08m deep. Single fill **(2374)** a dark blackish-brown silty clay with some charcoal and limestone inclusions. Bioturbated deposit. It contained a small amount of pot but probably residual.
Prehistoric Pottery: 5 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

[2220]

Possible quarry. Shallow concave base with gradual break of slope. Approximately 0.3m wide, 0.02m deep. Identified only as an anomaly within layer of greensand (2179), where the greensand rises to a point and curves away on either side into [2220] and [2219] all of which might have been cut to quarry the greensand. Single fill, colluvium from natural (2161).
Note: This is also recorded as the fill of [2219] and could be the same feature.

Layers

(2063)
Identified in section as overlaying pits [2186], [2187] of Pit group [2012] and interpreted as possible trampled colluvium, where some of the deposit has filled slight depressions at the surface of these pits. Dark brownish-grey sandy silt with 30-40% red-brown clay and 5-10% limestone inclusions and occasional flecks of charcoal. Thickness varies, with maximum thickness 0.20m.
Prehistoric Pottery: 55 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: 15 fragments. 3 cattle, 2 horse, 7 sheep/goat, 3 pig

(2226)
Light white silty clay. Natural layer underlying everything in the south end of Trench 2, possibly a tufa deposit (M. Bell pers. comm.) Characteristic of interglacial periods and probably laid down in the Holocene. Some naturally occurring corticated flint among the deposit.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2304)
Dark greyish-brown silty sand with occasional stones, possibly redeposited hillwash from midden deposit (2009) but very uncertain.
Prehistoric Pottery: 3 sherds
Roman Pottery: 2 sherds
Animal Bone: 3 fragments sheep/goat

(2306)
Possibly redeposited clay with some charcoal flecks
Prehistoric Pottery: 10 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

(2366)
Dark grey humic soil with small number of 1-3cm stones. A large animal rib was found lying on broken pot. Interpreted by excavator as a deliberate deposit of animal bone on broken pot within context (2076) at interface with context (2233).
Note: This description is similar to (2352), also within (2076) and might be part of same deposit
Prehistoric Pottery: 5 sherds
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: Fragment from large mammal spinous process (vertebra)

(2383)
Lens of light yellowish-brown sandy clay with 10% gravel inclusions approximately 0.10m thick extending across S of trench.
Prehistoric Pottery: None
Roman Pottery: None
Animal Bone: None

Natural deposits

(2156)/(2160)/(2161)/(2162) White clay
(2157)/(2227) Greensand
(2158)/(2001) Limestone bedrock
(2159)/(2118) Gravel/sand
(2160) White clay
(2162) White clay
(2179) Fluvial deposit possibly Mesolithic
(2226) Tuffaceous deposit

Large Stones

2223
Large naturally weathered limestone within (2056), to S of 2055. Rectangular in plan with convex top and natural grooves running lengthwise. Measuring 0.51m x 0.42m x 0.16m.

2381
Large tabular limestone, 1.5m x 0.8m and approximately 0.20-0.30m thick. Naturally weathered. Approximately 1-8cm holes throughout the stone, some extending through the stone, were natural. It was laid flat within (2009) and above pit group [2012]. Very heavy and difficult to move and interpreted by the excavator as deliberate structured deposition of an early Roman midden [Group 2376], possibly deposited as part of a closing event. One side of the stone had a relatively flat edge allowing it to be stable if stood up.

A third large limestone similar to 2223 and 2381 was recorded but not numbered.