

Growing Baldock

Environmental Statement Volume 2: Figures & Appendices

Chapter 9: Archaeology

Appendix 9.4 Archaeological Evaluation Interim Report for Land North of Baldock, Zone 5

Archaeological Evaluation Interim Report for

LAND NORTH OF BALDOCK ZONE 5

For Urban & Civic plc

Stephen Foster MSc



Archaeological Evaluation Interim Report for

LAND NORTH OF BALDOCK ZONE 5

Client: Urban & Civic plc

Local Authority: North Herts District Council

NGR: 25997 34935

Planning App: Pre-application

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1. Introduction

- 1.1. This evaluation report has been prepared by Stephen Foster of MOLA on behalf of Urban & Civic plc. Archaeological evaluation via a program of trial trenching was undertaken at the site for pre-determination works ahead of the proposed residential development site of the Land North of Baldock, North Hertfordshire.
- 1.2. The total proposed development area covers 213.3ha and is divided into Area BA1 (Zones 1-5), Area BA10 (Area C) and Area BA2/3. The site works considered in this report refer exclusively to Zone 5. Targeted trenching has also been undertaken across Area BA10 Zone C and Areas BA2/3, with works to be undertaken across Area BA1 Zones 1-4 imminently. Zone 5 covers an area c.19.7ha in size and is located south of Bygrove Road. It is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 25935 34904 and will hereafter be referred to as 'the site'.
- 1.3. The fieldwork and site survey was carried out by O. Crimes, M. Crowder, M. Kelland, E. Scott, R. Simister Falvey, J. Sulzinger, and led by S. Foster, all of MOLA, undertaken between March and April 2023. Figures were produced by R. Oksman-Sword. Finds processing was undertaken by MOLA Northampton staff and spot-dating was provided by C. Burns and C. Davey. The project was managed by A. Charvet and P. Boyer of MOLA.
- 1.4. The side code LNB24 was used for all phases of work covered within this WSI. The OASIS ID for the project is molastan1-522920.
- 1.5. The work was carried out in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which detailed the method to be employed for the archaeological evaluation (CHARVET 2024). This was based on a brief issued by the Local Planning Authority (LPA), North Herts District Council (NHDC), which takes archaeological planning advice from the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Advisors (as part of the Landscape, Ecology, Archaeology, Design and Sustainability (LEADS) team) who outlined the scope of evaluative works to be undertaken.
- 1.6. The fieldwork adhered to the *Code of Conduct* (CIFA 2021), *Standard for archaeological field evaluation* (CIFA 2023) and *Universal guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIFA 2023B) as set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIFA), with reference to *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (GURNEY 2003).

2. Site Background

2.1.PLANNING

- 2.1.1. The scope of works for the archaeological trial trench evaluation was outlined in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (CHARVET 2024) produced as part of an ongoing pre-determination archaeological assessment works which started in 2008, when NHDC began to gather baseline information on a number of sites at the edge of Baldock for a large housing development as set out in the North Herts Local Plan 2011-2031 (NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL 2022).
- 2.1.2. As part of the Local Plan adopted in November 2022 (NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL 2022), NHDC has allocated a large portion of agricultural land for a new residential development to be built to the north and east of Badlock.
- 2.1.3. The new development is for the construction of a mixed use residential neighbourhood comprising up to 3300 properties with supportive infrastructure including schools, GP surgery, a new community hall and a country park, all with associated access, drainage and services.
- 2.1.4. Pre-application works comprised geophysical surveys (DAVIES 2016) (GALLAGHER ET AL. 2023) and a trial trench evaluation (FINN AND MULDOWNNEY 2017) at a 1.5% sample which were undertaken to clarify if the site could be allocated in the North Hertfordshire Local Plan. As a result, the LEADS team decided additional targeted evaluation trenching based on the geophysical survey and cropmark anomalies was required, to investigate further the buried archaeological remains in the areas of archaeological significance, in order to inform the detail of the development proposals.

2.2.NATIONAL PLANNING LEGISLATION

- 2.2.1. In December 2023, a revised edition of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (DLUHC 2023) was published by the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government, replacing the original 2012 version, with updates in 2019 and 2021. This document sets out planning policies regarding the historic environment in Section 16 'Conserving and enhancing the historic

environment’.

2.3.LOCAL PLANNING LEGISLATION

- 2.3.1. North Herts District Council (NHDC) takes archaeological planning advice from the Hertfordshire Historic Environment Advisors in the LEADS team. In providing advice, LEADS must consider appropriate policies within the relevant Local Plan.
- 2.3.2. The North Herts District Local Plan, adopted in November 2022, sets out the principles which will guide development management, outlines housing allocation in the district and will inform planning decisions until 2031 (NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL 2022).
- 2.3.3. Within the local Plan, Chapter 4 Policy SP14 refers exclusively to the development of site BA1 – North of Baldock (NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL 2022) located within the proposed development site. This area is the largest single development site allocated through the Plan and includes the construction of up to 2800 homes for which 1400 are anticipated to be built within the plan period to 2031. As part of this policy, development proposals provide planning and masterplanning requirements including sensitive treatment of heritage assets and their settings, as detailed in Policy SP14 paragraph m.
- 2.3.4. Within the wider body of the Local Plan, Policies related specifically to the Historic Environment are set out in Chapter 12: Historic Environment (NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL 2022). In accordance with the NPPF, the relevant policies for the Historic Environment are policies HE1 (Designated Heritage Assets), HE2 (Heritage at Risk), HE3 (Non Designated Heritage Assets) and HE4 (Archaeology).

2.4.GEOLOGY

- 2.4.1. The underlying bedrock geology of the site as stated on the British Geological Survey (BGS) is Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation and New Pit Chalk Formation - Chalk which formed between 100.5 and 89.8 million years ago during the Cretaceous period (BGS 2024). Previous archaeological works also

identified areas of Melbourn Rock Member – chalk in the west and north of the site, along with the Zag Chalk Formation to the Northern boundary of the site (DAVIES 2016).

2.4.2. Superficial deposits are locally present within the boundary of the site included Head – clay, silt, sand and gravel. Alluvial deposits comprising eroded orange fine silts, sand and gravel are recorded in the south-west areas of the site (FINN AND MULDOWNNEY 2017).

2.4.3. The underlying superficial geology recorded during the course of the evaluation works mostly comprised a firm white chalk with moderate patches of light yellowish brown sand at a depth of 0.50m below ground level (BGL) in the north, the depth of burial being reduced to just 0.33m to the east, where the site rises to the crest of a hill. To the south, the surface of natural deposits drops to 0.88m BGL as there are deep alluvial/colluvial deposits infilling an east to west aligned dry river valley at the southwestern edge of the site.

2.5. TOPOGRAPHY AND SITE CONDITIONS

2.5.1. The site is located towards the northern edges of the town of Baldock (FIGURE 2). It is located on undulating ground with a general increase in elevation from west to east. There is a promontory located to the northeastern edge of the site which affords far-reaching views to all areas and especially to the south. The site lies between 72m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) to the southwestern corner where a dry river valley is located and 85m aOD where Royston Road joins the A505.

2.5.2. The site is bounded by Ashwell Road to the north and the King's Cross to King's Lynn railway line to the South. An existing public footpath crosses the proposed development site running North to South towards Area C as shown in (FIGURE 3). The site is currently used as arable land or pasture.

2.6. ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

2.6.1. The following historical and archaeological background summarises the results of the previous works conducted in all the areas of the proposed development

site between 2003 and 2023. An up to date search of the Historic Environment Record (HER) will be obtained prior to production of the full evaluation report.

PREVIOUS WORKS

2.6.2. Several intrusive and non-intrusive works have previously taken place on the site and in its vicinity due to the high archaeological potential of the area. These works are summarised below in chronological order:

- ◆ North Baldock, geophysical survey, June 2016 (DAVIES 2016);
- ◆ Land North of Baldock, North Hertfordshire, site BA1, desk-based assessment, August 2016 (MECKSEPER 2016);
- ◆ An archaeological evaluation by the means of trial trenching on Land adjacent to Bygrave Road, Baldock conducted in October – December 2016 (FINN AND MULDOWNNEY 2017);
- ◆ Site South of Ashwell Road, Baldock, North Hertfordshire geophysical survey undertaken in June and July 2023 (GALLAGHER ET AL. 2023).

PREHISTORIC AND ROMAN

2.6.3. Throughout North Hertfordshire, there are a large number of early Prehistoric funerary monuments, located on elevated ground overlooking river valleys. As such, the Baldock area has been occupied since the Prehistoric period during the Neolithic period (FINN AND MULDOWNNEY 2017) and more notably, during the Bronze Age period.

2.6.4. Significant evidence includes the remains of a Bronze Age barrow cemetery containing a large number of barrows recorded both in aerial photographs and during the trial trenching for the A505 Bypass. It is situated to the northeast of the proposed development site, with evidence suggesting that more barrows are present within the boundary of the site (ALBION ARCHAEOLOGY 2003). A small roundhouse associated with domestic activity was also excavated during the works on the A505 Bypass to the east of the development site (MECKSEPER 2016).

2.6.5. The Land North of Baldock continued to be occupied into the Late Iron Age,

revealed through excavation of a settlement including field systems with multiple areas of activity in 2016 (FINN AND MULDOWNNEY 2017). The most significant settlement activity identified through previous works is situated on Zone 5 (FIGURE 3), where the settlement and field system suggested at least three phases of occupation, which became more rectangular and structured with each later phase through to the Roman period. This settlement lay within a broader landscape of enclosures, trackways and field boundaries which continued in use during the Roman period as evidenced by the infilling of existing ditch systems.

- 2.6.6. The evaluation works undertaken in 2016 also recorded several ditches, pits and postholes (evidence of post-built structures) within the settlement, along with several sub-square enclosures laid against a boundary ditch. These were interpreted as well defined areas for possible industrial activity, with further postholes and fired clay found within them which suggested the presence of possible kilns in the vicinity (FINN AND MULDOWNNEY 2017).
- 2.6.7. The geophysical survey conducted in 2023 exhibited good correspondence with the anomalies and archaeological features identified during the archaeological works conducted in 2016, in the area of Zone 5 and in part of Area C to the south (GALLAGHER ET AL. 2023).
- 2.6.8. These features relate to the Late Prehistoric or Romano-British settlement, which consist of large enclosures and boundary ditches with associated pits and additional radiating ditches. Surrounding and within these enclosures are further associated linear anomalies and enclosures (GALLAGHER ET AL. 2023), on differing orientations which would appear to confirm multiple phases of settlement activity within Zone 5 and Area C, further supported by the results of the 2016 evaluation (FINN AND MULDOWNNEY 2017).
- 2.6.9. Baldock was a significant Roman settlement, the status and extent of which were first recognised during excavations at the beginning of the 20th century and during further large-scale investigations in the 1960s and the 1970s. The location of the Baldock Iron Age and Roman settlement is now a Scheduled Monument (NHLE1016305) adjacent to the proposed development site, further

south of the site in Area BA2 (FIGURE 2).

2.6.10. After the 2nd – 3rd century AD, Roman activity limited and is more poorly defined, evidenced only through material backfilled in three large extraction pits.

SAXON AND MEDIEVAL

2.6.11. Saxon settlement evidence in the form of Early Saxon sunken-feature buildings (SFB) and associated postholes were excavated south of Blackhorse Farm to the west of the site, and also were recorded to the southwest of the site during an excavation on Clothall Common (MECKSEPER 2016).

2.6.12. Other evidence includes a probable Anglo-Saxon burial cut into a Bronze Age barrow recorded in 2016 during the evaluation on site BA1 to the immediate west of the site (FINN AND MULDOWNNEY 2017). The re-use of Bronze Age and other Prehistoric landscape features for Saxon burials is a well documented practice for this period recorded elsewhere in the UK.

2.6.13. The Medieval market town of Baldock was established by the Knights Templar and laid out along the crossing of the Earlier Prehistoric and Roman roads.

2.6.14. A ditch enclosure interpreted as part of the Early Medieval Leper Hospital founded by the Knight Templars in 1200 is known to have existed on the northeastern outskirts of Medieval Baldock, south of the present Royston Road and adjacent to Area C as suggested by written sources and cropmarks from previous surveys. Trial trenching work and geophysical survey undertaken in 2008 and 2009 recorded evidence of this enclosure. Additionally, 19 east to west aligned burials were also revealed along with evidence of pitting and a well of a Medieval date (ALBION ARCHAEOLOGY 2009).

POST MEDIEVAL AND MODERN

2.6.15. The land to the north and east of Baldock remained as agricultural fields during the Post Medieval period and activity from this period revealed during the previous trench evaluation included several field boundaries, pits and a small number of discrete features (FINN AND MULDOWNNEY 2017). The map regression exercise shows the area dissected by the road to Bygrave from the 18th century

(MECKSEPER 2016). A number of other roads that cross the site on north-south and east-west alignments are also recorded, which may correspond to some of the linear cropmarks visible at the proposed development site.

2.6.16. With the exception of the construction of the railway line, the landscape to the north of Baldock did not change greatly in the 19th to the early-mid 20th century, and early edition OS maps show the area still as agricultural fields. There is a mixture of surviving Medieval strip field boundaries, as well as several amalgamated large fields with irregular boundaries. The road shown on the earlier maps continues as a bridleway across the proposed development site from north to south and a road still skirts its northern edge.

2.6.17. There is no modern housing development yet along the distinctive dogleg in Ashwell Road leading from Baldock to Bygrave at the beginning of the 20th century. Housing along this road and Wedon Way was constructed in the 1930s and is first shown on the 25-inch map of 1937 (MECKSEPER 2016).

UNDATED

2.6.18. There are a large number of cropmarks on the proposed development site that have been identified from aerial photographs and confirmed by geophysical surveys but in some cases were not subject to intrusive investigations. These are represented by ring ditches and barrows possibly Prehistoric in date. Other cropmarks such as sub-rectangular enclosures and linear features could range in date from the Prehistoric to the Post Medieval period.

3. Aims

3.1. The general aims of the archaeological evaluation stated in the WSI were to to:

- ◆ Further ground truth the results of the previous geophysical surveys and trial trenching works;
- ◆ Further sample excavate any deposits on site in order to record the form, purpose, date, location, likely extent, localised depth and state of preservation of any archaeological remains on the site within the areas identified as being impacted upon by the works;
- ◆ Investigate further the buried archaeological remains in the areas of archaeological significance in order to inform the detail of the development proposals and to allow further investigation or requirement for the preservation of in situ remains if required. If further mitigation works are required as a result of the evaluation these will be agreed in a separate document;
- ◆ Ensure that the significance of the historic environment of the site is investigated, evidenced, recorded and made publicly accessible in line with National Planning Policy;
- ◆ Further define any research priorities that may be relevant should further field investigation be required. Such priorities will be outlined in the East of England Regional Research Framework (ALGAO EAST OF ENGLAND 2023).

3.1.2. The specific aims of the evaluation were to:

- ◆ Further define and understand the Bronze Age funerary landscape and its relationship with the Iron Age and Roman occupation as well as Saxon occupation;
- ◆ Further define and understand the extent and character of the Iron Age farmstead / and associated enclosures and field system across the site;
- ◆ Further define and understand the extent and character of the different phases of the Roman settlement and associated landscape management across the site including enclosures and field boundaries;

- ◆ Further understand the impact of past land uses and farming activities that have likely affected the state of preservation of the known archaeological remains;
- ◆ Refine the location and extent of colluvial/alluvial deposits in relation to the known paleochannel that is identified on site and define its relationship with the Iron Age and Roman occupation and;
- ◆ Establish the potential for the survival of environment evidence in Zone 5.

4. Methodology

- 4.1. The proposed development site was subject to further trial trench evaluation based on the results of the previous geophysical surveys (ABRAMS 2008) (DAVIES 2016) (GALLAGHER ET AL. 2023) and evaluation works undertaken at the site (NEWBOULT 2008) (ALBION ARCHAEOLOGY 2009) (FINN AND MULDOWNNEY 2017).
- 4.2. The sampling strategy for this phase of the trial trench evaluation was to increase the existing 1.5% sample undertaken across the whole development area to include additional areas that were not subject to previous trenching. The original trench plan was based on the trench plan proposed by HCUK, the appointed archaeological consultant to Urban & Civic plc and agreed by the LEADS advisors, targeting the known archaeological remains identified on the site and the other areas of the proposed development site, which are of archaeological significance (FIGURE 2).
- 4.3. Due to MOLA health & safety constraints several trenches were moved whilst still targeting the potential archaeological anomalies that were originally intended to be investigated. This was approved by LEADS before work began. This was to accommodate a 15m buffer area around the public right of way (PRoW) that runs through the site from north to the south. The trench numbering system was also changed from the original trench plan to allow for a more coherent project archive.
- 4.4. In Zone 5, the excavation of a total of 26 trenches measuring 50m in length by 1.8m wide was agreed with LEADS, with the potential of adding additional trenching to define further any significant archaeological remains. When required, any contingency trenching was discussed and agreed with the LEADS advisors on site, this is detailed below in Section 4.5. In this zone, trenching targeted geophysical survey anomalies indicative of Later Prehistoric and Romano-British activity, such as enclosures and field boundaries (GALLAGHER ET AL. 2023) as well as a potential Bronze Age barrow (FIGURE 3).
- 4.5. During the course of the evaluation, LEADS did request further extension to Trenches 9, 11, 13 and 22 to further reveal archaeological features exposed in the original trench location. Details of the extension are as follows:

- ◆ Trench 9 was extended an additional 48.1m² to further expose the extent of and relationship between an intersection of enclosure ditches.
- ◆ Trench 11 was extended an additional 54.2m² to further expose the extent of and relationship between pit features and a large boundary ditch which was only partially revealed towards the edge of the trench edge.
- ◆ Trench 13 was extended an additional 34.2m² to further expose the extent of and understand the relationship between an intersection of enclosure ditches.
- ◆ Trench 22 was extended an additional 86.9m² to further expose and understand the extent of a ring ditch.

4.6. All trenches were scanned by Cable Avoidance Tools (CAT) and Genny by a suitably trained and qualified individual prior to the commencement of the trench strip to identify any unmapped or unplanned services within the immediate vicinity of the area. All works were undertaken in accordance with HSG47 Avoiding danger from underground services (HSE 2014).

4.7. The trench locations were accurately surveyed before excavation and were located using a Leica Survey Grade RTK GPS operating to an accuracy of +/- 0.05m to Ordnance Survey National Grid and Datum. After excavation, each trench was photographed and further surveyed to record its location and depth, with all stratigraphic deposits recorded whether archaeological features were present or not.

4.8. The trenches were excavated by a 14t 360-degree mechanical tracked excavator fitted with a 1.8m toothless bucket under the constant supervision of an experienced archaeologist. The topsoil and subsoil were stripped and stored separately and kept at a safe distance from the trench edge. One end of each trench was battered back for safe access and egress.

4.9. Machine excavation was conducted in successive level spits to the depth of the uppermost significant archaeological horizon or interface with the underlying geological (natural) deposits, whichever was encountered first. When determining the level to which machine excavation could be carried out it was not assumed that the most recent archaeological remains on the site were the least important. Care was

taken not to damage archaeological deposits through excessive use of mechanical excavation.

- 4.10. Archaeological features/deposits were cleaned and investigated using appropriate hand tools. The features were then GPS surveyed and recorded both in plan and section in accordance with the evaluation WSI (CHARVET 2024).
- 4.11. The trenches were not backfilled without prior agreement by LEADS.
- 4.12. Recording was carried out on *pro forma* recording sheets based on the Museum of London 'single context' recording system, further information on which can be found in the Museum of London *Archaeological Site Manual* (SPENCE 1994). Comprehensive details of the recording techniques adhered to on site during the course of the evaluation are set out in Section 4.2 of the WSI (CHARVET 2024).
- 4.13. All identified artefacts, and industrial and faunal remains were collected and retained. All finds were bagged, cleaned, processed and analysed by finds specialists for the production of the finds reports.
- 4.14. Samples of significant deposits were taken as determined in the WSI, including features devoid of dateable material and those which contained significant quantities of environmental or charcoal/burnt material.
- 4.15. At the request of LEADS an additional number of samples were also taken to further support any artifactual recovery, this included cases where features were found to be infilled with multiple fills, and multiple samples from the same feature were recovered.
- 4.16. All works were carried out in accordance with the *Code of Conduct* (CIFA 2021) and *Standard for archaeological field evaluation* (CIFA 2023) and *Universal guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIFA 2023B) with reference to *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (GURNEY 2003).

5. Results

- 5.1. The following results provide a summary of the significant features identified and investigated during the course of the trial trench evaluation. Results are presented by geographical location on the site rather than chronologically by phase of excavation or numerically by trench number. This is to enable a focus of the results into two main areas of the site. Within these sections, trench results are presented in numerical order.
- 5.2. Not all context numbers are referred to in the text or are illustrated but will be included in the archive along with detailed descriptions in the final report.
- 5.3. Deposit and fill numbers are given in (parentheses) and cut numbers are given in [square brackets], where an equal sign (=) is encountered which implies the contexts are a part of the same feature within the same trench. Trench features, contexts and drawing numbers are prefixed by their relevant trench numbers.
- 5.4. All 26 trenches on the site contained stratigraphic deposits of topsoil and subsoil of varying depths, overlying the natural substrate, and in a few cases overlying colluvial deposits. All archaeological features identified were cut into natural deposits or in other cases found to cut each other, in these circumstances a stratigraphic relationship was identified where possible.
- 5.5. Of the 26 trenches excavated, 22 revealed features which were confirmed or had the potential to be archaeological in origin whilst the remaining four were found to be devoid of archaeology or contained features which were found to be geological in nature after further investigation. These are detailed below but not discussed hereafter:

Trench Number	Orientation	Topsoil Depth (m)	Max Depth to Natural (M)
2	NE-SW	0.24	0.45
6	N-S	0.25	0.45
17	NE-SW	0.26	0.35
25	NE-SW	0.25	0.38

Table 1 Trenches devoid of archaeology

5.6. Features were distributed across the site in four areas of discussion, summarised below:

- ◆ In the centre of the site towards the base of the hill there was significant evidence for an Iron Age to Romano-British rectilinear enclosure complex showing potential for multi-phase settlement activity (FIGURE 4).
- ◆ Additional archaeological activity was identified around the periphery of the enclosure which included small-scale activity in the form of isolated pits, postholes and shallow gullies which could possibly be associated with the main enclosure complex.
- ◆ To the northeast of the site further Iron Age to Romano-British archaeological activity was recorded on the summit of the hill. These features appeared to be in the form of a single isolated rectangular enclosure with a possible associated boundary ditch which ran north-west to south-east across the crest of the hill. This ditch appears to connect to another long boundary ditch which ran north-east to south-west along the southeastern edge of the site, and continued in both directions beyond the edges of the development. Where these two boundary ditches appeared to join there is a possible entranceway which was located towards the northeast of the site, and suggested a strong association between the two ditches as they both may have belonged to the same network of field boundary ditches.
- ◆ Amongst these features, there were at least four identifiable ring ditches, again located on the prominent crest of the hill which could be evidence of a funerary complex containing round barrows similar to those excavated to the east during the works on the A505 bypass (ALBION ARCHAEOLOGY, 2003). Two of the four were investigated in this phase of works.

5.7. All these features were clearly identifiable in the form of cropmarks which was later supported by geophysical survey. The 2016 evaluation initially targeted many of these anomalies (FINN AND MULDOWNNEY 2017) as did this current phase of works on the site.

5.8.ROMANO-BRITISH RECTILINEAR ENCLOSURE

5.8.1. An enclosure was located in the centre of the site and was the largest concentration of activity in the field, located within Trenches 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 & 16 (FIGURE 4). The enclosure appeared to show a continuation in use from the Late Iron Age to the Roman period. The spot date results suggested an occupation in some areas of the enclosure complex dating to ca. 40BC to AD400. This enclosure complex was previously targeted by 13 trenches in the 2016 evaluation (FINN AND MULDOWNNEY, 2017) and 11 further trenches were investigated in this area in this phase of work. This was to further define a variety of enclosure ditches and anomalies around the complex.

TRENCH 4

5.8.2. Features recorded in Trench 4 located on the northwestern corner of the enclosure complex revealed the 'outermost' enclosure ditch [404] that ran northwest to southeast through the middle of the trench and two small pits were located towards the southeastern end of the trench. None of the features in this trench produced datable evidence however pottery recovered from Trench 5 to the south and Trench 16 is of a broad Roman date. According to the geophysics results, the outer enclosure ditch [404] continues in both directions towards these trenches and can possibly be dated by association.

TRENCH 5

5.8.3. Trench 5 was located just off the centre of the western edge of the enclosure complex and revealed multiple enclosure ditches. These comprised the outer ditch [504] that ran northwest to southeast through the western end of the trench, and inner enclosure ditches [505] (located toward the centre) and [506] (towards the eastern end), which all ran on the same northwest to southeast orientation through the trench.

5.8.4. Two additional enclosure ditches [507][508] not clearly defined on the geophysics were recorded as parallel features on either side of [506]. A small pit [509] was also revealed at the western end of the trench just on the 'outside' of the outer enclosure ditch [504]. Pottery and animal bone was

recovered from the fills of ditches [504], [506] and [508] which have been dated to the mid to late Roman period ca. AD120 – 400. Pottery recovered in ditch [508] was of a slightly earlier date, possibly indicating evidence of an earlier phase of use/infilling in the transitional period between the Late Iron Age to Roman period.

TRENCHES 8 & 9

- 5.8.5. Trenches 8 and 9 to the south of Trench 5 revealed multiple inner enclosure ditches as identified in the results of the geophysical survey. These included enclosure ditches [805] (centre) and [804] (eastern end) in Trench 8, which were both orientated southeast to northwest, and continued in Trench 9 as [904] and [907 = 918] respectively.
- 5.8.6. To the immediate west of [805] a possible ditch terminus was revealed which entered the trench from the northwest and terminated within the trench. Both enclosure ditches [804][805] produced animal bone fragments and pottery sherds. The sherds recovered from ditch [804] were of a broad Late Iron Age to Roman date, whilst pottery recovered from the fill of ditch [805] was of a broad Roman date.
- 5.8.7. A total of five ‘inner’ enclosure ditches were recorded in Trench 9, and at the request of LEADS the trench was extended to further expose the relationship of the intersection of ditches which had been identified in the results of the geophysical survey. Enclosure ditches [906 = 919] and [911] were revealed to be running northeast to southwest, parallel with each other through the eastern half of the trench. On the same alignment to the northwest was enclosure ditch [905 = 920]. All three ditches appeared to truncate earlier enclosure ditch [907 = 918] at the intersection.
- 5.8.8. In the western end of the trench was a further northwest to southeast orientated enclosure ditch [904]. All enclosure ditches produced pottery sherds which were dated broadly to the Roman period. Only the truncated northwest to southeast enclosure ditch [907 = 918] suggested earlier activity, with pottery sherds of a LIA/Early Roman (50BC to 100AD) date recovered from its fill.

TRENCH 10

5.8.9. To the east, Trench 10 revealed what appeared to be an enclosure entrance to the east of a smaller rectangular enclosure, visible on the geophysical survey results towards the southern end of the site but within the 'interior' of main outer enclosure ditch. The entranceway was not intentionally targeted for investigation however it was revealed in the trench. The southern enclosure ditch [1004] ran into the southeastern end of the trench where it terminated at the entranceway with [1015]. The northern enclosure ditch corner [1024] terminated at the entranceway with [1005] to the southeast.

5.8.10. Two pits [1006] and [1025] were revealed to the northeast of enclosure ditch [1024 = 1005] and pit [1025] was found to be truncated by it. A further two ditches [1007] and [1008] both ran through the northwestern end of the trench and appeared to be unrelated to the rectangular enclosure to the southeast. Ditch [1008] was visible on the results of geophysical survey whereas [1007] was not. Dating evidence was recovered from both enclosure ditches [1004 = 1015] and [1005 = 1015] and truncated pit [1024], which suggests a date of use/infilling sometime in the LIA/Early Roman period, with a quantity of pottery dating to the Mid-Late Roman period recovered from pit [1024].

TRENCH 11

5.8.11. Trench 11 exposed the targeted series of enclosure ditches that were located towards the southwestern end of the complex. The innermost enclosure ditch was located at the centre of the trench and was revealed to be two parallel ditches [1108] and [1113] with what appeared to be a later recut [1112] in the middle of the two.

5.8.12. Immediately to the northeast of these ditches there was a single posthole [1108], and to the northeast of this was the 'outermost' enclosure ditch [1106]. All ditches run were orientated southeast to the northwest and were further recorded in Trenches 12, 13 and 15 consistent with projections of the linear features identified on the geophysical survey.

5.8.13. In the northeastern end an extension to the trench was excavated to further

clarify the relationship between the three large intercutting boundary ditches [1126], [1127] and [1128] at the request of LEADS. These boundary ditches appeared to be truncated by two large pits [1104] and [1105]. However, these boundary ditches appear to not be directly related to the enclosure complex. Both pits [1104] and [1105], inner enclosure ditch [1113] and posthole [1108] all contained pottery sherds of a LIA/Early Roman date, with pottery sherds of an early to mid Roman date recovered from the fill of ditch [1106] and re-cut [1112].

TRENCH 12

5.8.14. In the northeastern end of Trench 12 enclosure ditches [1204], [1205] and [1206] were recorded as a likely continuation of the ditches in Trench 11 to the southeast and Trench 13 to the north. In the southwestern end of the trench, a large feature [1207] was recorded which potentially suggests evidence of hillside terracing with a large posthole [1208] cut into the flat base of the feature. This large feature continued beyond the edges of the trench and the full extent is unknown. On the geophysical survey, subcircular anomalies were detected in the same location but did not match the size of the features.

5.8.15. Immediately to the northeast of [1207] was another large feature [1215] with what appeared to be evidence of multiple pits cut into its uneven base, which are potentially indicative of quarrying activity. Adjacent to the northeastern edge of this potential quarry pit was what appeared to be a ditch [1218] with a later re-cut [1214] running northeast to southwest through the trench. Neither of these features were detected on the geophysical survey. Ditches [1205], [1206] and [1214] and quarry pit [1215] contained pottery sherds of a LIA/Early Roman date, with the possible terrace feature [1207] producing pottery sherds of a broad Roman date.

TRENCH 13

5.8.16. Trench 13 revealed a total of six enclosure ditches and at the request of LEADS was extended to further expose the relationship of the intersection of ditches which had been identified from the geophysics. Enclosure ditches [1304] and [1305] were revealed to be running parallel to each other through the eastern

half of the trench. On the same alignment a possible ditch terminus [1318] seemed to truncate [1305], with a second ditch terminus [1312] truncating it from the southwest. At the intersection of all these ditch, a large pit appeared to truncate all ditches [1324].

5.8.17. To the west of [1305] was a further northwest to southeast orientated ditch [1306] and in the western end of the trench was ditch [1308] of the same orientation, with a small pit [1307] located between the two. Enclosure ditch [1305] contained pottery sherds of a LIA/Roman date, with broadly dated Roman pottery recovered from ditches [1308] and [1312]. Pottery recovered from ditch [1318] is possibly the oldest recorded across the site, with a date range from the Early Iron Age to late Roman period.

TRENCH 14

5.8.18. Two enclosure ditches [1404][1405] and a single pit [1406] were recorded in Trench 14 which was located in the centre of the enclosure complex. The enclosure ditches were on a northeast to southwest alignment and contained LIA/Early Roman pottery. A subcircular storage pit [1406] was excavated against the northeastern edge of the trench (in the south end) and contained broadly Roman dated pottery sherds.

TRENCH 15

5.8.19. Trench 15 was located to the northeast (upslope) of Trench 14 and targeted a smaller rectangular enclosure that extends from the eastern edge of the main complex. In the northwestern end of the trench, an enclosure ditch [1504] was revealed to truncate and intersect an earlier enclosure ditch [1519]. Two other enclosure ditches, east to west [1515] and northeast to southwest [1516] were recorded in the southeastern end of the trench. Pottery was recovered from enclosure ditches [1515], [1516] and [1519] which was of a LIA/Early Roman date. Enclosure ditch [1504] which truncated [1519] produced pottery of a broad Roman date.

5.8.20. A truncated pit [1523] was revealed on the southeastern edge of ditch [1516]. In between the enclosure ditches was what appeared to be a collection eight postholes all of similar size and depth but did not appear together to form any

decipherable pattern, apart from postholes [1505][1506][1507][1508][1509] which may form a row.

TRENCH 16

5.8.21. Four northeast to southwest orientated ditches [1605][1607][1608][1609] were recorded in Trench 16. In the northeastern end of the trench ditch [1605] was recorded, corresponding the outermost enclosure ditch of the complex as identified in the results of the geophysical survey. It was the only feature in the trench in which pottery was recovered, broadly dated to the Roman period. To the south of this ditch [1607] terminated in the trench with what appeared to be a posthole [1606] located at the north-eastern end of the terminus. In the southeastern end of the trench, pit [1610] was recorded on the southeastern side of ditch [1609].

5.9. ENCLOSURE PERIPHERY ACTIVITY

5.9.1. Two trenches located close to Ashwell Road revealed a number of isolated archaeological features which appear to evidence activity peripheral to that associated with the main enclosure complex to the southeast.

TRENCHES 1 & 3

5.9.2. Features recorded in Trench 1 comprised two pits [104] & [105] which were located at either end of the trench, with a potential alignment of three shallow postholes [106, 107, 108] running east to west between the two pits. The only feature from this trench that produced finds was the more well-defined deep pit [105], though the pottery recovered was undiagnostic and therefore only assigned a broad Roman to Medieval date range. However, a Roman date could be associated with these features given their proximity to the Romano-British enclosure complex.

5.9.3. Similar features were recorded in the northern half of Trench 3, consisting of three shallow pits [305][307][308] and a single gully [304] which ran northeast to southwest through the trench. No finds were recovered from any of the features, however they are comparable in form to other features recorded in adjacent Trench 1 and are therefore dated by association to be of a likely Roman date.

5.10.BOUNDARY DITCH NETWORK AND ASSOCIATED RECTANGULAR ENCLOSURE

5.10.1. Located close to the summit of the hill in the northeastern part of site, eight trenches revealed evidence for a possible boundary ditch network. From the results of the geophysical survey, a considerable section of boundary ditch is identifiable running northwest to southeast across the crest of the hill with what appears to be a rectangular enclosure in between. This boundary ditch then appears to join with another long boundary ditch that runs northeast to southwest across the southeastern edge of the site and beyond.

5.10.2. This ditch was further recorded in two trenches towards the southwestern edge of the enclosure complex. Where the two ditches meet in the northeast corner of the site, there is break in the continuation of the northeast to southwest boundary ditch. This interruption seems to create a potential entranceway, made up of two parallel ditches that veer away from the main ditch toward the northwest.

TRENCHES 18

5.10.3. Two narrow, shallow ditches/gullies were recorded in Trench 18 [1804 = 1806][1805]. Ditch [1804 = 1806] is orientated northeast to southwest and ditch [1805] lies perpendicular to it close to its southwestern end, and appears to be contemporary with it. Ditch [1805] possibly forms a continuation of the boundary ditch which runs to the south-east across the crest of the hill. No finds were recovered from either ditch and neither was visible in the results of the geophysical survey.

TRENCH 19

5.10.4. Three ditches [1904][1905][1906], two of which terminated within the trench, were recorded in Trench 19. Ditch terminus [1904] located towards the middle of the trench entered the trench from the southwest, the fill of which produced pottery dating broadly to the Iron Age.

5.10.5. Ditch terminus [1906] towards the northwestern end of the trench, entered the trench edge from the southeast. Both did not appear to be on the same alignment as any feature revealed in adjacent trenches or on the geophysical

survey results. Ditch [1905] was located in the middle of the trench and was orientated southwest to northeast, and is a possible continuation of ditch [1804]=[1806] in Trench 18.

5.10.6.Immediately to the southeast of ditch [1905] two pits [1907][1908] were recorded, which continued beyond the trench limit of excavation.

TRENCH 20

5.10.7.Trench 20 revealed the targeted northwest to southeast boundary ditch [2006] in the centre of the trench. This trench was a radiating ditch from the southwestern corner of the sub-square enclosure ditch recorded in the eastern end of the trench. A small pit [2007] and posthole [2009] were recorded to the southwest of ditch [2006].

5.10.8.In the eastern end of the trench, part of a sub-square enclosure ditch [2005] as identified on the geophysical survey was recorded on a northeast to southwest alignment. Both ditches [2005][2006] produced pottery sherds of a LIA/Early Roman date and more broadly Roman date. The easternmost feature in the trench was an undated posthole [2004], located within the ‘interior’ of the enclosure.

TRENCH 21

5.10.9.A further section of boundary ditch revealed in the results of the geophysical survey was recorded in Trench 21 [2104]. This section of the ditch is deeper and more defined than the ditch interventions found further to the northwest in Trenches 20 and 18. Based on the results of the geophysics it appears there is indeed an indicator that the two are separate with a physical break to the north-west before it reaches the rectangular enclosure. This could suggest even though both ditches are on the same alignment and appear to serve the same boundary purpose they may not necessarily be contemporary with each other. Both animal bone fragments and pottery sherds were recovered from the fill of ditch [2104]. The pottery was of a LIA/Early Roman date.

TRENCH 24

5.10.10.Trench 24 was positioned over the southeastern end of the northwest to

southeast boundary ditch, over the possible entranceway and where it joins the northeast to southwest orientated boundary ditch. The trench revealed two ditches [2404][2405] corresponding to the anomalies identified in the results of the geophysical survey.

5.10.11.Despite both being part of the same possible entranceway they differed substantially from each other in their form. Ditch [2404] formed the southwestern side of the entranceway and was a well-defined near v-shaped ditch, measuring 1.22m in width with a depth of 0.47m, which contained no finds. Ditch [2405] formed northeastern side of the entranceway and measured 4.80m in width and 1.36m in depth, with possible evidence of re-cutting which potentially demonstrates continued maintenance and use. It contained pottery sherds of a LIA/Early Roman date.

TRENCH 25

5.10.12.A single narrow ditch [2504] was recorded in Trench 25 at the northeastern edge of the site, which appears to form the northwestern arm of a further rectilinear enclosure which in part is identifiable in the results of the geophysical survey. There were no finds recovered from ditch but is interpreted as contemporary with enclosure ditches of a LIA/Early Roman date recorded in nearby trenches.

5.11.SOUTHEASTERN BOUNDARY DITCH

TRENCH 7

5.11.1.Trench 7 was positioned to target the boundary ditch which extended across the whole site, parallel to the southeastern site boundary. The trench was located on the edge of a known dry river valley, and as such had 0.75m of subsoil and colluvium sealing the archaeological features. The trench revealed multiple ditches in the northwestern end. Three were orientated northeast to [706][707] [712] and two further ditches were orientated east to west [708] [709]. Pottery sherds were recovered from the fills of ditches [706], [707] and [712], all of a LIA/Early Roman date. These five ditches likely form part of the same network of ditches, either being re-cuts or re-routes of enclosure ditches as part of the complex of LIA/Early Roman activity in this area.

5.11.2. Three pits [710][711][713] were also recorded. Pit [713] appeared to be cut by ditch [712] on its southwestern edge. There is a possibility that these pits are termini of ditches that continue beyond the trench edge. The presence of such a concentration of ditches on the same alignment in itself suggests the possible importance of continued use over a long period of time.

5.11.3. A further northwest to southeast orientated ditch [705] which produced LIA/Early Roman pottery was revealed towards the southeastern end of the trench. The location of it places it possibly on the southern edge of the dry river valley which may have periodically flooded. Some of these ditches may have dual use for boundary purposes and drainage, which would explain the great number of them revealed in the trench.

TRENCH 11

5.11.4. A comparable series of boundary ditches was identified further to the northeast in the northeastern end of Trench 11. At the request from LEADS an extension to the trench was excavated to further clarify the relationship between three large intercutting boundary ditches [1126][1127][1128]. These boundary ditches appeared to have been truncated by two large pits [1104] and [1105] which may be associated with the large enclosure complex to the north-west.

5.11.5. The earliest of the boundary ditches appeared to be [1126] with later re-cuts of [1127] and [1128]. The latest phase of re-cutting [1127] appears to follow the orientation of the original ditch [1126] towards the northeast on the same alignment with ditches in Trench 23 and Trench 7. To the southwest, the intermediary re-cut [1127] however appeared to split off and turned southeast beyond the edge of the trench potentially for another purpose. The differentiation between these ditches was not clear on the geophysics and appeared as one large linear anomaly.

5.11.6. All three intercutting boundary ditches in Trench 11 produced pottery sherds of a LIA/Early Roman date, suggesting the boundary ditch was in use at the same time as the enclosure complex.

TRENCH 23

5.11.7. A further section of the southeastern boundary ditch across the site was

recorded in Trench 23 [2304] in the middle of the trench. Instead of multiple cuts which were revealed in Trenches 7 and 11, only one ditch cut was present here. Dating of the pottery sherds recovered from the fill of the ditch corresponds with that recorded elsewhere along the length of the ditch, producing a date range from the LIA/Early Roman period.

5.12.POSSIBLE FUNERARY COMPLEX

5.12.1. Located towards the summit of the hill in the northeastern half of the site, two trenches (22 & 23) targeted the cropmark and geophysical survey evidence for two ring ditches, which possibly attest to funerary activity in the form of ploughed out round barrows. To the east of the site during the 2003 excavation for the A505 bypass, similar features were revealed (ALBION ARCHAEOLOGY 2003). In 2016 one trench targeted the same ring ditch and another trench targeted two other ring ditches located further to the north of the site.

5.13.TRENCHES 22 & 23

5.13.1. The northern part of a ring ditch identified on the results of the geophysical survey was recorded in Trench 22. As only part of the extent was revealed in the original position of the trench, at the request from LEADS the northern edge of the trench was extended to fully expose the extent of the ditch.

5.13.2. The northern extent of this ring ditch [2204 = 2205 = 2206] appeared to have been disturbed by intrusive ploughing as the continuity of the ditch was broken at two points where the ditch did not survive. The ditch [2204 = 2205 = 2206] was very wide but shallow with a gradual concave base. A single possible posthole [2207] was recorded close to the eastern end of the ring ditch. Cremation burials are sometimes associated with barrows and in this case, the ring ditch may be all that survived of a ploughed-out barrow. There was no evidence of cremated bone within the fill, despite this the feature was fully sampled for further investigation. No finds were recovered from any of the features in the trench but could possibly be dated by association with the comparable ring ditch feature in Trench 23 to the south.

TRENCH 23

5.13.3. To the southeast, Trench 23 revealed the southeastern part of a further ring ditch identified in the results of the geophysical survey. Ditch [2305] was located in the northwestern end of the trench and had a very wide but shallow profile and a gradual concave base. Pottery was recovered from the fill of the ring ditch of a LIA/Early Roman date, with the interpretation that the ring ditch to the north in Trench 22 is of a comparable date.

6. Finds

LATE IRON AGE AND ROMAN POTTERY SPOT-DATES (JULY 2024) by Charlotte Burn (BA MA) and Claire Davey (BSc MSc MCIfA)

6.1.METHODOLOGY

6.1.1. All 82 contexts with pottery, in a numeric sequence between [111] and [2407], from the site were given a spot date based on a rapid scan and interpretation of the material. Sherds were counted and weighed (g) and the data added to the accompanying Excel spreadsheet. Where identifiable, fabrics and forms were noted in the comments field and classified by the Roman Pottery Vessel Type Series applied to the A14 MOLA Headland Project (LYONS 2020). Reference was also made to the MOLA London Roman Pottery type series (MOLA 2024).

6.1.2. The assemblage totalled 1095 sherds with a total weight of 19215g (19.22kg) and broadly dates the contexts from the late Iron Age to the Roman period.

6.2.DATING

6.2.1. The dates given may be slightly broader than typical for the fabrics and forms (eg grog-tempered are dated here up to 100AD, to cover contexts which didn't contain Roman forms or greywares, however, these may be amended to AD70). Possible dating refinements are otherwise suggested in the comments field.

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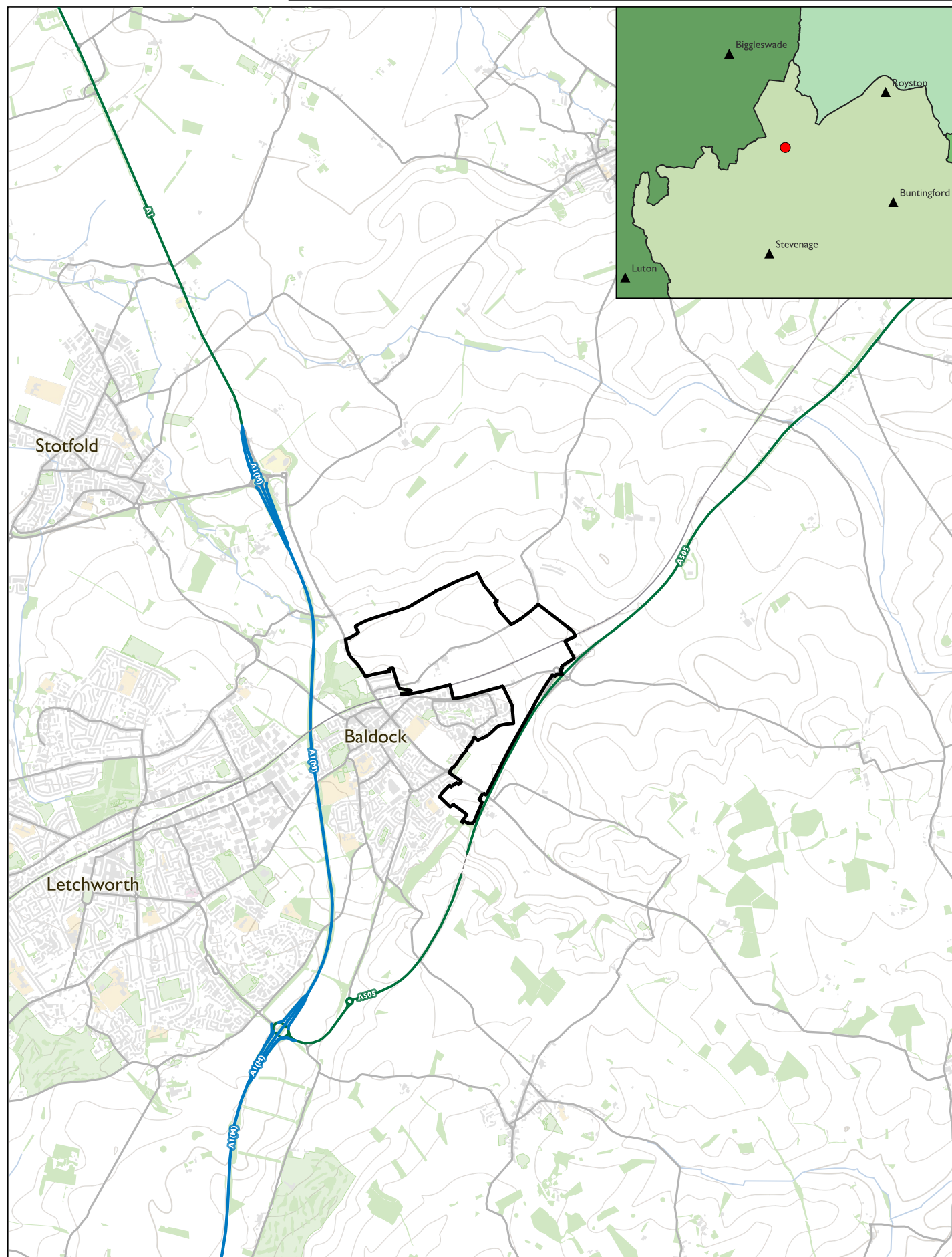
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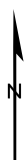
FIGURES

FIGURE I // Site Location - General



Development Area

0 1 2 km



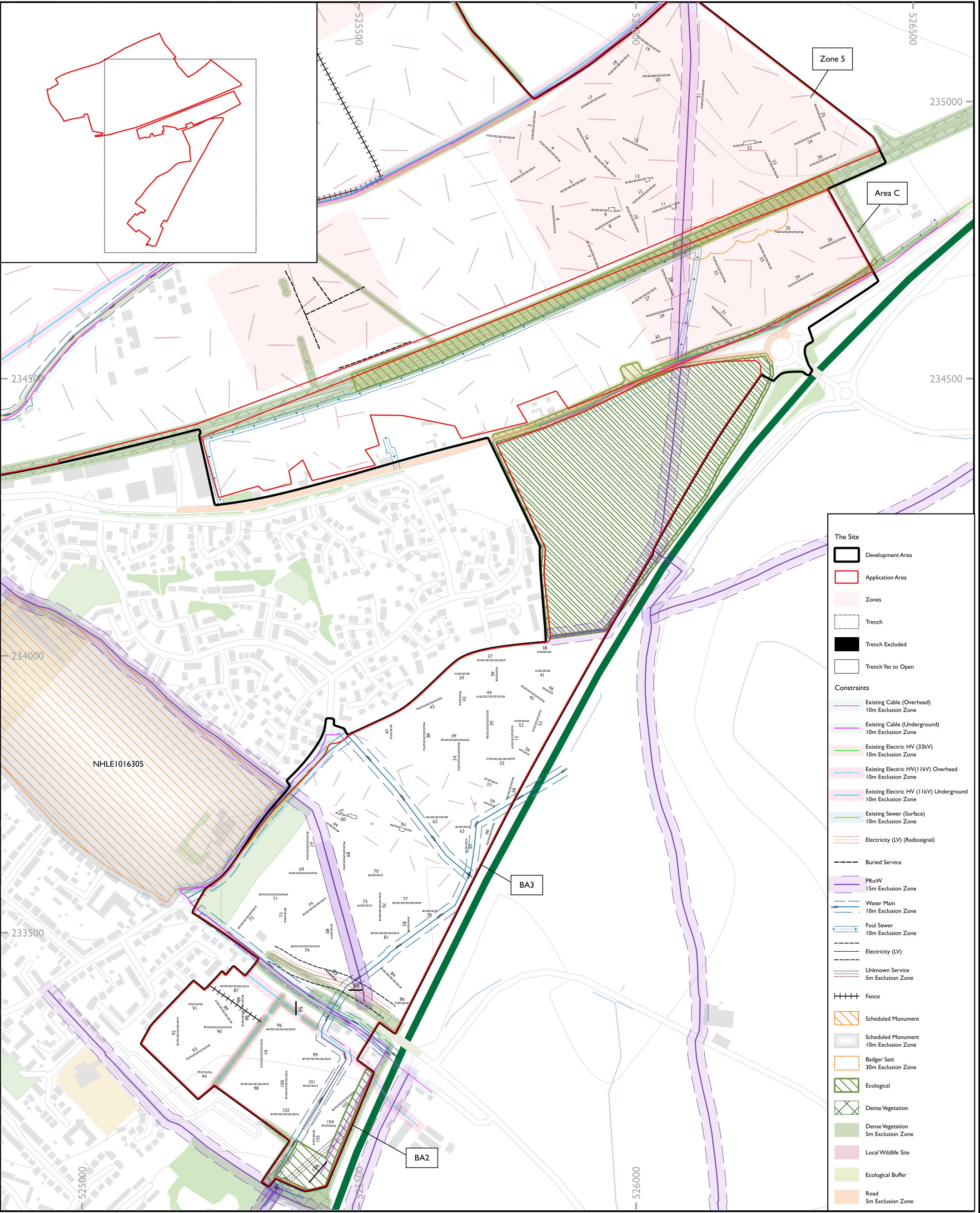
PROJECT // P24-039 - Land at Baldock

DESCRIPTION // Site Location

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DOC REF: P24-039-Interim-v1

FIGURE 2 // Site Location - Detail



PROJECT // P24-039 - Land at Baldock

DESCRIPTION // Site location showing evaluation trenches in
Zone 5, Zone C and BA2/3

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FIGURE 3 // Trench Location & Features in Zone 5

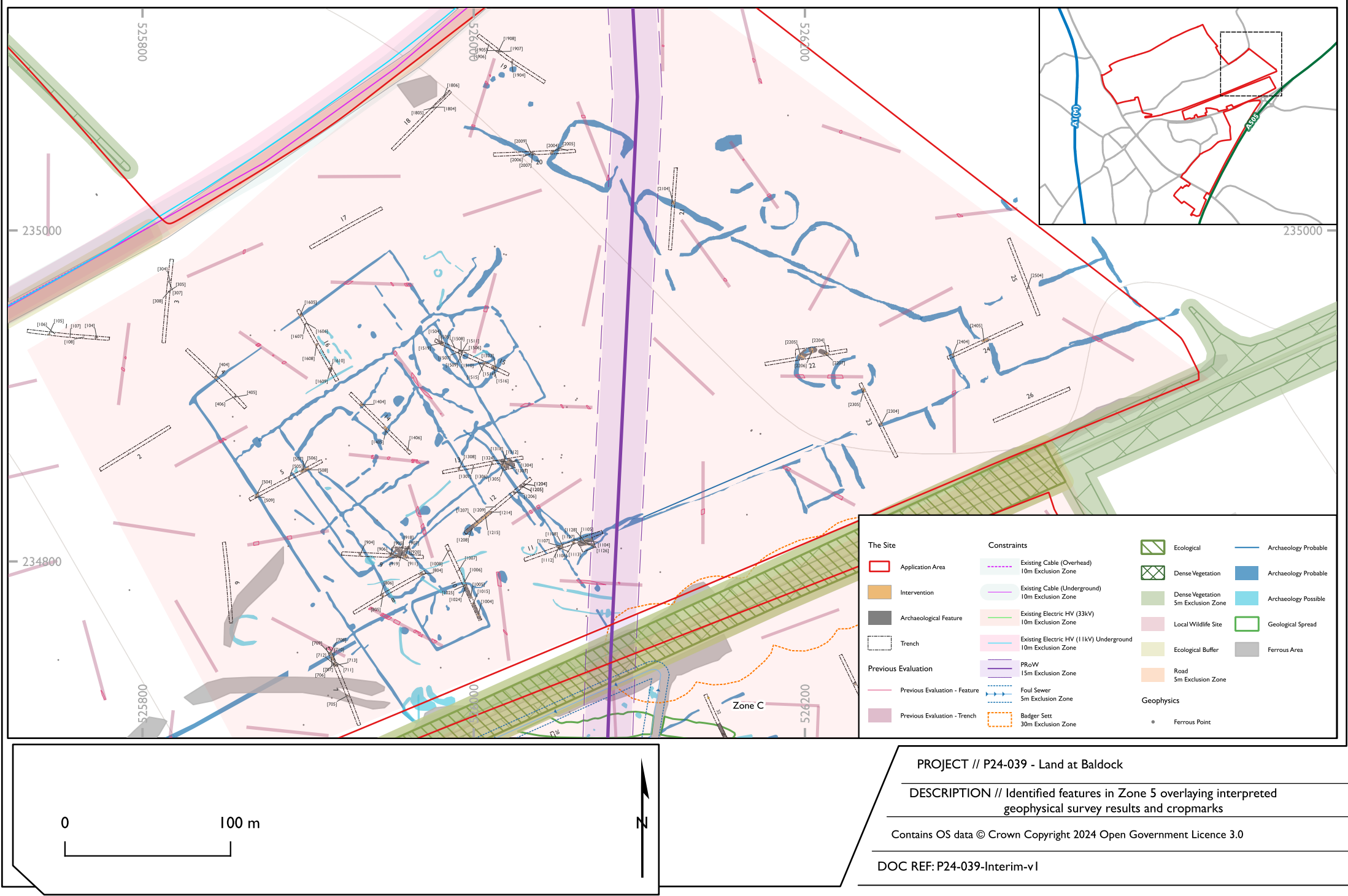


FIGURE 4 // Detail of Settlement Activity in Zone 5



0 50 m



PROJECT // P24-039 - Land at Baldock

DESCRIPTION // Detail of settlement activity in Zone 5 overlaying interpreted geophysical survey and cropmarks

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POTTERY

APPENDIX I

LNB24 Baldock Spot Dates Result (July 2024)

Context	Sherd Count	Weight (g)	Period	Edate (TPQ)	Ldate	Comments
111	2	2	?R	?40	?400+	ONLY 2 TINY SHERDS - HARD TO DIAGNOSE. COULD BE MEDIEVAL?
513	7	76	R	120	400	DATED FROM 1SH SAMIAN (LEZ SA2) - PROB DEC BOWL SHERD, SMALL SHERD. RIM X 1 ?GROG/SHELLS 4.11 TYPE STORAGE JAR. FINE SANDYWARE SHERD X 1, IA TYPE GROG TEMPERED X 4 (1 X BASE)
514	24	321	R	150	400	DATED AD150+ FROM 2 RIM SHERDS (1 X VER WH 4.7 AND 1 X LNV WH 7.2). COULD BE AD150-200 FROM VER WH 4.7 RIM. 2SH(1 RIM 1 BODY) FROM A POPPY HEAD BEAKER (3.4) FRAG WITH BD DEC. 3SH SAMIAN INC DR18. SEVERAL SHELL TEMPERED SHERDS AND WHITE SLIPPED SHERDS AND REDUCED SANDY WARES. 1SH HAS ?LINEAR IMPRESSION ON INT. SURFACE - SIMILAR TO [716]?
515	64	617	R	0	100	NO OBVIOUSLY 'ROMAN' SHERDS, HIGH NUMBER OF IMPORTS (TN, ?TR, PRW DISH WITH ROULETTEING, GBWW BUTT BEAKER 3.1 WITH ROULETTEING) ALSO ?AMPH HANDLE WITH ROUND PROFILE. ALSO PRESENT WHEELMADE SAND TEMPERED CORRUGATED THOMPSON FORM WITH RIM. NUMEROUS GROG TEMPERED BODY SHERDS SOME WITH COMBING/RILLING. ALSO LARGE STORAGE JAR GROG TEMPERED RIM.
516	1	16	LIA/R	-50	400	PROBABLY LIA/ER ?JAR BASE. APPEARS GROG TEMPERED.
715	1	20	LIA/R	-50	400	PROBABLY LIA/ER. APPEARS GROG TEMPERED.
716	16	98	LIA/R	-50	100	1SH HAS ?LINEAR IMPRESSION ON INT. SURFACE - SIMILAR TO [514]? OTHER SHERDS GROG TEMPERED BODY SHERDS, PROBABLY FROM ONE VESSEL
721	8	43	LIA/R	-50	100	PROBABLY THOMPSON FORM. 2 X RIM SHERDS. ALL SHERDS FROM ONE VESSEL
807	3	33	R	40	400	PROBABLY ROMAN FROM A POSSIBLE BEAKER FORM RIM. 2 X SHELLY SHERDS.
809	13	542	LIA/R	-50	100	NOTHING OBV ROMAN. 7SH/1VESS HM REDUCED VESSEL. 2SH GROG TEMPERED STORAGE JARS - ONE WITH ROLLED RIM COULD BE EARLY ROM. POSSIBLE THOMPSON FORM - LARGE SHERDS NARROW MOUTHED ?JAR.
810	8	168	LIA/R	-50	100	NOTHING OBV ROMAN. GROG TEMPERED BODY SHERDS SOME WITH RILLING/COMBING - PROB STORAGE JARS
811	25	518	LIA/R	-50	160	DATED ON STORAGE JAR WITH EVERTED RIM AND WL COMB DEC BUT SHELL TEMPERED JAR WITH LID SEATED RIM (?MOLA 2A16) COULD BE 1STC. NECKED JAR WITH PROMINENT RILLING - COULD BE A THOMPSON FORM LIKE C7-1. OTHER FINE GROG WARES (PROBABLE NECKEDJAR AND STORAGE JAR) AND FINE SANDY WARES INC ONE BASE WITH OXIDISED SURFACES
908	14	489	LIA/R	-50	100	11SH/1VESS POSS RILLED NECKED JAR - THOMPSON FORM AS FINE BLACK GROG? SO COULD BE LIA/ER OTHER GROG TEMPERED SHERDS AND SHELLY SHERD.
909	11	250	LIA/R	-50	100	MOSTLY FINE GROG TEMPERED AND SHELLY WARES, 2 NECKED JAR RIMS ONE WITH MULTIPLE GROOVES AT BASE OF NECK - POSS THOMPSON FORM. 1SH SHELLY ?JAR WITH SHORT FLATTISH RIM. 1LG SJ SHERD WITH RILLING/COMBING
910	8	74	LIA/R	-50	100	FINE GROG BODY SHERDS, ONE WITH RILLING/COMBING. 1SH FINE SANDY REDUCED WARE WITH CORDON.
913	1	16	R	40	400	FINE SANDY CLOSED VESSEL BASE WITH WHITE SLIP
914	3	28	R	40	400	FINE SANDY WARES WITH REDUCED SURFACES, 2SH/1VESS BLACK SLIPPED
916	2	33	R	40	400	FINE SANDY BUFFISH SHERD - PROB ENCLOSED VESS. 1 SH - CBM?
917	9	111	R	50	400	SHELL-TEMPERED BODY SHERDS X 3,GROG-TEMPERED SHERDS X 5 (2 WITH COMBING). 1 OXIDISED SHERD LACKING OUTER SURFACE BUT PROB ROMAN
921	6	80	R	50	400	SANDY GREY-WARE BODY SHERD WITH SCRATCHES ON INTERIOR. ?GROG-TEMP BODY SHERD (WHEELMADE?). SAMIAN X 1, PROB FROM DR27 CUP (BURNT). 2SH (1V) BURNT JECKED JAR RIM AND RILLED BODY (FORM 4.5.1?). SAMIAN WOULD DATE AD50-160
923	10	261	R	75	400	1 SH ?REED RIMMED BOWL (6.12) IN BURNT VER WH? THIS FORM DATES AD75-130. SHELL-TEMP (?HARROLD) RIM FROM A ?BOWL FORM. GROG-TEMP RIM SIMILAR TO A 4.41 (GLOB JAR WITH LID-SEAT&GROOVE IN RIM) HOWEVER COULD BE EARLIER PRODUCT? . OTHER GROG-TEMP SHERDS INCL. COMBED AND POSS DELIBERATE SCRATCHES ON SURFACES. SANDY GREY-WARE BASE HAD GRAFFITO ON EXTERIOR BASE (SMALL ETCHED LINE). 1 X SHELL-TEMPERED (OR GROG AND SHELL?) SHERD - UNUSUAL - COULD BE CBM? OR COULD BE FROM A HUGE VESSEL AS IT HAS VERY SLIGHT CURVATURE AND PLAIN, SQUARED RIM - BUCKET TYPE VESSEL OR BRIQUETAGE - FURTHER WORK?
1012	69	1019	LIA/R	-50	100	ALMOST ALL LIA/ER TYPE GROG WARES. MULTIPLE SHERDS WITH WL DEC/COMBING/RILLING. POSSIBLE THOMPSON FORM NECKED JARS. PROBABLE VESSEL LINKS. BEAD RIM JAR WITH POST-FIRING NEAT HOLE UNDER RIM. SOME RELATIVELY THICK BASE SHERDS
1013	3	22	LIA/R	-50	100	LIA/ER TYPE GROG WARE BODY SHERDS.
1016	2	113	LIA/R	-50	100	LIA/ER TYPE GROG WARES. BASE AND EVERTED RIM.

Context	Sherd Count	Weight (g)	Period	Edate (TPQ)	Ldate	Comments
1019	11	194	LIA/R	-50	100	LIA/ER TYPE GROG WARES SOME SHERD POSS MORE LIKE ER GROG. 1SH ROW OF LINEAR NOTCHES AND RILLING. OTHER SHERDS RILLED/WL DEC
1020	2	16	LIA/R	-50	100	LIA/ER TYPE GROG WARES JAR WITH EVERTED RIM INT SURFACE ABRADED AWAY - GROG AND SAND TEMPERED.
1021	1	12	LIA/R	-50	100	LIA/ER TYPE GROG RILLED BODY SHERD.
1023	21	355	LIA/R	-50	100	MOSTLY LIA/ER GROG TYPE WARES. 1SH NECKED VESSEL WITH POST FIRING HOLE JUST UNDER RIM.
1026	1	14	LIA/R	-50	100	CHUNKY BUT POINTY RIM - POSS A PEDESTAL BASE SHERD? - THOMPSON FORM A?
1027	22	208	LIA/R	-50	100	QUITE FRAGMENTED SHERDS. LIA/ER GROG TEMPERED WARES. SOME SHERDS RILLED.
1028	11	178	LIA/R	-50	100	MOSTLY LIA/ER TYPE GROG WARES - 1SH FROM A PEDESTAL JAR. 1SH FINE SHANY OXIDISED WARE COULD BE MORE 'ROMAN'. SOME SHERDS RILLED. 1SH NECKED VESSEL WITH BEADED RIM FLATTISH ON OUTSIDE EDGE.
1029	3	58	LIA/R	-50	400	PROBABLY LIA/ER - 2SH FINE GROG TEMPERED. BUT 1SH PLAIN RIM ?BEAKER - QUITE UPRIGHT SAND TEMPERED BUT NOT LOOK LIKE A LATE FORM/FABRIC?
1030	9	113	LIA/R	-50	150	MOSTLY LIA/ER TYPE GROG WARES. 1SH SAND TEMPERED WITH MULTIPLE GROOVES ON EXT SURFACE.
1115	29	356	LIA/R	-50	100	MOSTLY LIA/ER GROG TEMPERED WARES, SOME WITH RILLING. VERY NICELY FINISHED GROG TEMPERED ?JAR WITH VERY FINE RILLING AND ROULETTING AND STORAGE JAR RIM. SHELL TEMPERED VESSEL WITH DEEP LID-SEATING TYPE GROOVE ON TOP OF SQUARISH UPTURNED RIM.
1117	2	3	LIA/R	-50	100	2 SMALL SHERD, ONE LIA/ER TYPE GROG, OTHER POSSIBLY FROM A LID.
1119	3	13	R	40	260	2SH LIA/ER GROG TEMPERED WARE. 1SH SAMIAN - COULD BE LG BUT MORE BLACK INC AND ORANGY FABRIC THAN EXPECTED. POSSIBLY A DR15/17 BUT ONLY A SMALL SHERD.
1121	1	4	LIA/R	-50	100	1SH LIA/ER GROG TEMPERED VESSEL
1122	8	125	R	50	300	1SH POSSIBLE WALL SIDED MORTARIA FORM 7.3. ONLY GRITS PRESENT ARE POLY CRYSTALLINE Q THOUGH? COULD BE LIKE OXWW BUT GRITS NOT ROSE. SMALL FRAGMENT OF PROBABLY LG SAMIAN. OTHER SHERDS LIA/ER GROG TEMPERED. COULD BE LATER MORT AND RESIDUAL OTHER BITS?
1123	18	288	LIA/R	-50	100	MOSTLY LIA/ER GROG TEMPERED, INC PROBABLE STORAGE JAR SHERDS. SOME RILLED. 1SH COULD BE FROM A CORRUGATED VESSEL, INT MUCH MORE ABRADED THAN EXT. SURFACE. 1SH FINE SANDY WARE - POSSIBLY VERY MICACEOUS FABRIC
1124	36	405	LIA/R	-50	100	LIA/ER GROG TEMPERED VESSELS. SOME PROBABLE STORAGE JAR VESSELS. SOME WITH RILLING AND WL DEC.
1126	38	495	R	60	150	3SH FROM ER BURNISHED GLOBULAR NECKLESS JAR LIKE FORM 4.2, REST OF THE SHERDS LIA/ER TYPE GROG TEMPERED, INCLUDING VERY ABRADED LARGE STORAGE JAR RIM AND RIM FROM SMALL BEADED VESSEL. SOME RILLED SURFACES. (ALSO 2 FRAGMENTS CHALK NOT INC IN QUANTIFICATION)
1129	103	2251	LIA/R	-50	100	LARGE CONTEXT. LARGE SHERDS, MOSTLY OF LIA/ER GROG TEMPERED WARES, MULTIPLE VESSEL LINKS. SOME LARGE STORAGE JARS, MULTIPLE SHERDS WITH RILLING/COMBING. 1SH FROM A PEDESTAL BASE, 1SH POSSIBLY FROM ANOTHER THOMPSON TYPE TALL JAR WITH SPLAYING BASE, 1SH FROM A NARROW NECKED VESSEL, 1SH FROM A NECKED VESSEL, 1SH EVERTED THICKENED RIM WITH MULTIPLE GROOVES, 1SH WITH POSSIBLE RECTANGULAR TOOTH ROULETTING ON LOWER WALL AND POTTERS WHORL ON EXT. BASE. 1 RILLED SHERD WITH POST-FIRING HOLE. ALSO SOME SHELLY WARE SHERDS. NOTHING OBV. ROMAN.
1130	68	903	LIA/R	-50	100	2SH AMBIGUOUS OXIDISED WARES. MOSTLY LIA/ER GROG WARES, INC STORAGE JARS, A PEDESTAL URN AND SMALL DIAMETER HIGH SHOULDERED VESSEL WITH SHORT EVERTED RIM. SOME SHERDS RILLED/COMBED. POSSIBLE THOMPSON FORM JAR. ONE SHELL TEMPERED VESSEL WITH LARGE BEAD RIM.
1131	35	620	LIA/R	-50	100	LOTS OF LIA/ER GROG TEMPERED WARES INC JAR WITH CORRUGATED NECK - THOMPSON FORM. SOME SHERDS WITH RILLING. SOME SHELL TEMPERED WARES - SHERD LINK WITH [1130] LARGE BEADED RIM VESSEL. ALSO 1SH WITH FINE INCISED HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL LINES, FORMING A CLOSE GRID PATTERN. 5SH NOG WH WITH FINE ROULETTING. NOTHING OBV. ROMAN.
1132	31	416	LIA/R	40	100	MOSTLY LIA/ER GROG TEMPERED WARES, SOME RILLED. 1SH FINE SANDY TEMPERED WITH FINE ROULETTING. 1SH OXIDISED WITH CALC INCLUSIONS.
1210	12	132	LIA/R	-50	150	MOSTLY LIA/ER GROG TEMPERED SHERDS, INC THICK WALLED PROBABLY STORAGE VESSEL. OTHER SHERDS FRAGMENTARY 1SH SANDY OXIDISED WARE WITH DARK GREY CORE AND BURNISHED EXT SURFACE.
1213	2	9	LIA/R	-50	100	1SH LIA/ER GROG TEMPERED WARE, 1SH SAND AND ?GROG/CP TEMPERED

Context	Sherd Count	Weight (g)	Period	Edate (TPQ)	Ldate	Comments
1217	9	211	R	50	400	LARGE SHELL-TEMPERED ROLL-RIMMED JAR RIM. GREYWARE RIM SHERD FROM PROBABLE JAR - NO MATCH IN A14 SERIES. 2SH SAND-TEMPERED FROM PROBABLY A BOWL FORM (SIMILAR TO MOLA LONDON 4F TYPE RIM - FOLDED BACK, BUT NO MATCH IN A14 SERIES. MODERATE ABRASION TO SHERDS.
1219	8	68	LIA/R	-50	100	LIA/ER GROG TEMPERED WARES. MOSTLY BODY SHERD BUT ONE SMALL EVERTED RIM WITH STRIATED (?WIPE) SURFACES
1221	5	45	LIA/R	-50	100	LIA/ER GROG TEMPERED OR GROG/CP AND SAND TEMPERED. SOME SHERDS RILLED.
1222	6	83	LIA/R	-50	100	LIA/ER GROG TEMPERED SHERDS, INC ONE WITH RILLING. 2SH/1VESS WITH FINE ROULETTEING. 1SH POSSIBLE GROG AND SAND TEMPERED WITH BEADED RIM AND NOTCHED RIM TOP SURFACE.
1225	29	317	R	40	150	SOME LIA/ER GROG TEMPERED WARES, SOME SHERDS WITH RILLING/COMBING AND WL DEC. ALSO SOME SHELL TEMPERED SHERDS. 1SH RIM WITH FRILLED DEC ON TOP OF RIM - LIA. BUT ALSO 1SH FROM A TN DISH AND 1SH FROM A WHITE SLIPPED POSSIBLE FLAGON.
1227	38	573	R	40	110	DATED ON TINY SHERD OF LG SAMIAN. MOST OTHER SHERDS ARE LIA/ER GROG TEMPERED SHERDS, SOME WITH RILLING/COMBING. SOME THICK WALLED, COULD BE STORAGE JARS. SOME SHELLY WARES INC NECKLESS JAR WITH LID SEATING GROOVE AND FRILLED RIM EDGE. SOME SMALL SHERDS OR FINE AND COARSE SANDY WARES. 1SH PROBABLE DAUB - CHALKY INC - NOT COUNTED IN QUANTIFICATION.
1229	9	110	R	40	150	SOME GROG WARES BUT NOT THE TYPICAL LIA/ER FABRICS - SOME ?GROG AND SAND TEMPERED. SOME WITH RILLING. 3SH FINE SANDY JAR WITH SHORT EVERTED RIM.
1309	3	47	R?	50	400	1SH POSSIBLE ABRATED ROMAN GREYWARE HENCE ROMAN DATE. OTHER 2 SHERDS ARE GROG-TEMPERED BODY SHERDS FROM LARGE VESSELS.
1314	13	123	R	50	400	ROMAN DATE FROM SINGLE SHERD OF MORTARIUM WITH ROSE QUARTZ GRITS (THIS MAY SUGGEST OXFORDSHIRE INDUSTRY WHICH WOULD BE AD240+ BUT UNCERTAIN SO NOT DATED FROM THIS). MOST OF REST OF CONTEXT IS GROG-TEMPERED INCLUDING STORAGE JAR RIM SHERD. 2 SMALL SHERDS SAND-TEMPERED WITH DARK SURFACES (?ROMAN TOO)
1317	26	273	LIA/ER	-50	100	GROG-TEMPERED CARINATED SHERD COULD BE FROM CARINATED BEAKER (FORM 3.2 AD50-100) - OR COULD BE FROM THOMPSON TYPE CARINATED BOWL WHICH MAY SUGGEST EARLIER DATE. NO GREYWARES AND MOST OTHER SHERDS APPEAR GROG-TEMPERED.
1321	1	13	IA/R	-800	400	CALCAREOUS TEMPERED SHERD. NOTHING DIAGNOSTIC AND ABRATED INTERIOR SURFACE.
1322	1	553	LIA/R	-50	400	INTERESTING SHERD. GROG-TEMPERED WITH VERTICAL COMBING, PROB FROM LARGE STORAGE JAR. SHERD HAS LIME/MORTAR TYPE RESIDUE ON THE EXTERIOR - COULD IT HAVE BEEN RE-USED IN BUILDING OR IS IT AN ACCRETED RESIDUE FROM USE? DO BRIQUESTAGE VESSELS EVER HAS THIS TYPE OF RESIDUE (I DON'T KNOW)?
1323	7	69	R	160	400	DATED ON LNV CC SHERD. OTHERWISE MATERIAL APPEARS GROG-TEMPERED (STORAGE JAR, 1 SH CORDONED JAR) AND 1 RANDOM VERY COARSE-TEMPERED SHERD WITH FLINT AND COARSE QUARTZ.
1328	5	192	LIA/R?	-50	400	SHELL-TEMPERED SH X 2 FROM LARGE VESSEL (STORAGE JAR?) APPEAR TO BE WHEELMADE. 2SH GROG-TEMPERED WITH COMB/RILLING. 1SH IS WHEELMADE BASE FROM JAR? WITH HORIZONTAL BURNISHED LINES NEAR BASE. COULD BE SAND TEMPERED OR GROG-TEMPERED - HARD TO SAY.
1407	3	29	LIA/ER	-50	100	NO 'ROMAN' SHERDS. CALCAREOUS TEMPERED SH X 1. FINE GROG-TEMPERED SHERDS X 2
1409	5	83	LIA/ER	-50	100	NO 'ROMAN' SHERDS. GROG-TEMPERED BODY SHERDS (STORAGE JARS?) SOME WITH COMBING/RILLING.
1410	3	50	LIA/ER	-50	100	NO 'ROMAN' SHERDS. 2SH GROG-TEMPERED WITH COMBING, PROB STORAGE JAR BODY SHERDS. 1SH SMALL ?SAND AND GROG?
1411	5	51	LIA/ER	-50	100	NO 'ROMAN' SHERDS. 4SH GROG-TEMPERED (1 WITH COMBING/RILLING). 1SH SHELL-TEMPERED WITH COMB/RILLING.
1412	8	106	IA/R?	-800	400	6SH (1V) HANDMADE SHELL-TEMPERED JAR/BOWL WITH GROOVE IN THE RIM (PARALLEL? - IS IT IA OR ROM? HARROLD-TYPE SHELL). GROG-TEMPERED SH X 1 AND GROG/SH TEMPERED X 1
1413	26	1481	R	120	400	CONTEXT COULD BE 2ND C AD. 1 SAMIAN SHERD RIM (LEZ SA2) PROVIDES POST-AD120 DATE. POSSIBLE VER WH (MIXED CLAY) COULD SUGGEST HADRIANIC /EARLY ANTONINE DATE. REST OF CONTEXT LARGE STORAGE JAR SHERDS (GROG-TEMPERED AND SHELL-TEMPERED) AND LARGE ROLL RILLED JAR RIM (4. 11?)
1416	14	791	R	75	400	1SH OF PROBABLE 1ST C AD SAMIAN DR27 CUP FRAGMENT. REMAINING SHERDS ALL SHELL-TEMPERED. LID-SEATED JAR SHERDS (1ST C DATE?) AND ANOTEHR VESSEL HAS A 'ROLLED' TYPE STORAGE JAR RIM BUT VERY SQUARED. CONTEXT DATES POST-AD 75 FROM SHERD OF SHALLOW STRAIGHT-SIDED DISH PART PROFILE WITH SINGLE GROOVE UNDER RIM (6.10)
1418	11	602	R	120	400	DATED ON LEZ SA2 SAMIAN DEC BOWL FRAG (WITH DRILLED HOLE ON EDGE OF BREAK). REST OF THE CONTEXT SUGGESTS EARLIER DATE (LIA/1ST C AD) AS GROG-TEMPERED STORAGE JARS WITH COMBING, SHELL TEMPERED ?LID SEATED RIM AND POSS TERRA-RUBRA RIM?

Context	Sherd Count	Weight (g)	Period	Edate (TPQ)	Ldate	Comments
1518	17	167	LIA/ER	-50	100	NO DEFFINITIVE ROMAN SHERDS, MAJORITY GROG-TEMPERED AND SOME COMBED, PROB STRAGE JARS. 1SH HAS HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL COMBING CREATING A TARTAN TYPE PATTERN. RIM FROM A THOMPSON TYPE FORM AND A PLAIN RIM COULD BE SLACK SHOULDERED JAR SHERD (IA)
1520	6	87	R	50	400	COULD BE AD50-160 AS OXIDISED SHERDS COULD BE VER WH. FINE SANDY GREYWARE SHERD AND CALCAREOUS TEMPERED SHERDS WITH COMBING ON EXTERIOR
1521	7	83	LIA/ER	-50	100	FINE GROG-TEMPERED SHERDS, NO 'ROMAN'
1527	9	448	LIA/ER	-50	100	MAINLY SHERDS FROM GROG-TEMPERED STORAGE JARS INCL. LARGE ROLLED OR EVERTED RIM, COMBED BODY SHERDS. 2 BASES (1 LOOKS WHEELMADE AND BURNISHED LINES AND ZONE ON EXTERIOR). 2SH (1V) = RIM FROM VERY LARGE PLAIN-RIMMED VESSEL - BUCKET OR BRIQUETAGE?
1529	21	162	LIA/ER	-50	100	NO DEFFINITIVE ROMAN SHERDS, MAJORITY GROG-TEMPERED AND SOME COMBED. 1 LOWER VESS SHERD IS HM AND HAS COARSE COMBING
1618	4	47	R	120	400	1 X SAMIAN - DEC BOWL SHERD (FAB COULD BE LEZ SA2? OR EAST GAULISH?). 1 X CALCAREOUS TEMP AND 1 X JAR/BEAKER (BB IMITATION?) AND 1 X FINE GROG-TEMP SHERD
1909	1	3	IA	-800	100	SMALL SHERD, SAND-TEMP DARK FABRIC AND SURFACES
2013	2	17	LIA/R?	-50	400	COULD BE LIA? 1 X GROG-TEMP BODY SH AND 1 X FINE SANDY OXIDISED RIM MORE ROMAN TYPE?
2016	1	4	LIA/R?	-100	400	FINE SANDY WARE SHERD WITH LIGHT ?COMBING. CAN'T TELL IF HM OR WHEEL MADE
2107	2	12	LIA/ER	-50	100	1 X FINE GROG-TEMP WITH COMB DEC, 1 X FINE GROG-TEMP SHERD
2306	2	15	LIA/ER	-50	100	FINE GROG TEMP SHERDS
2307	1	9	LIA/ER	-50	100	BASE SHERD, GROG-TEMPERED AND BURNT OUT ORGANICS?
2407	10	173	LIA/ER	-50	100	7SH HM SHELL-TEMP OXIDISED SURFACES. 1 X FINE GROG-TEMP PROB THOMSON FORM RIM, 1 X COARSER GROG-TEMP SHERD WITH COMB DEC AND MORTAR OR LIME STUCK TO EXTERIOR? REUSED AS BM? SIMILAR TO [1322] SHERD. 1SH GROG-TEMPERED BASE SHERD, OXIDISED AND DECORATED WITH VERTICAL NOTCHES AND HORIZONTAL BANDS
Total	1095	19215				

Abbreviations

SH – sherd

VESS - vessel

CP – clay pellets

ER – Early Roman

LIA – Late Iron Age

IA – Iron Age