

Final Report

on excavations at Benedin,
N7 Nenagh Bypass, Co. Tipperary.

Client: North Tipperary County Council

Author: Cia McConway & Garrett Sheehan

Licence Holder: Cia McConway

Location: Nenagh

NGR: 186350,177210

Date of Field Work: 16th – 25th September 1998

Submission Date: November 2011

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Client: North Tipperary N.R. Co. Co.

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ABSTRACT

This report outlines the results of archaeological excavation of features, uncovered during monitoring along the line of the N7, Nenagh Bypass, in the townland of Benedin. The site consisted of three separate areas that contained a series of pits (A), two possible structures (B) and pits adjacent to a ditch (C). While the features in Area A were the result of several periods of activity at least some of the activity took place in the middle ages. The activity at Area B comprised two possible structures, possible domestic, of likely Middle to Late Bronze Age date. A similar date was returned for the activity in Area C.

1. INTRODUCTION

The site at Benedin was investigated as part of an archaeological mitigation strategy for the construction of the N7 Bypass, Nenagh Co. Tipperary (Fig. 1). The investigations at this site took place between 16th and 25th September 1998. The archaeological excavation took place under licence 98E0444. Three areas of archaeological interest were identified and these were subsequently assigned the following RMP numbers: Area A: TN020-133001, Area B: TN020-133002 and Area C: TN020-134 (Fig. 3). Each area is also described in the Archaeological Inventory of North Tipperary. The reference for each area is as follows: Area A: 207 OS20:12:5 (Farrelly and O'Brien 2002, 40), Area B: 293 OS20:12:5 (Farrelly and O'Brien 2002, 50) and Area C: 208 OS20:12:5 (Farrelly and O'Brien 2002, 40).

This document comprises the final report on these excavations and integrates the results of various specialist analyses that were undertaken on material recovered from these sites.

2. SITE LOCATION AND TOPOGRAPHY

This site consisted of three areas of archaeological deposits which were identified during topsoil stripping in Benedin townland (Figs 1 & 2). The sites were located just north of the route of the bypass in an area that was used for construction purposes relating to the works been carried out on the bypass. The centre of the site lies at grid reference 186350, 177210.

The site was located in an area of high ground, bounded along the north, east and west by pastureland and to the south by the N7 Bypass.

3. GEOLOGY

The area to the south of the town of Nenagh is one, as with much of the midlands of Ireland, that is underlain by a geology of carboniferous limestone. To the south, east and west are areas of Devonian Old Red Sandstones and Silurian Slates that comprise features such as the Silvermines Mountains (Aalen *et al.* 1997).

This geology is overlain by glacially derived deposits of till, dating to the end of the last glacial period and resulting from the retreat of the glacial ice cap. Other features deriving from this period are evidenced in the wider area with eskers occurring to the northeast, kames to the south and drumlins to the west (Ibid).

The soils that have developed over these deposits consist, exclusively, of grey-brown podzolics, with brown podzolics and acid brown earths occurring on the higher ground to the south, east and west (Ibid).

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The removal of topsoil along the line of the N7 Bypass revealed 21 sites in total. Of these, several were found in the general vicinity of the deposits investigated on this site. The proximity of similar features of possible Bronze Age date may suggest a wider prehistoric landscape.

A burnt mound or *fulachta fiadh*, situated in low-lying ground, Lahesserragh Site D, to the west of the Benedin construction area, was excavated under licence (98E0475). This site measured 22 by 28m and 0.9m deep. It had been heavily disturbed in the recent past, primarily during the construction of two pump stations, but also by agricultural field drains and tree root intrusion, and is likely to be of Bronze Age date.

This period of activity is further evidenced with the excavation of a Bronze Age House site (98E0474) on the western side of the Ballycahill ridge, at Lahesserragh Site C. This site measured approximately 17 by 24m and excavations revealed evidence for a small, roughly circular hut structure with a foundation trench measuring between 3.3 and 3.7m in diameter. There was also evidence of a possible entrance on one side and internal habitation deposits. Pits and postholes were found to the southwest of the hut and finds recovered included a stone spindle whorl, a rubbing stone, a grinding stone, burnt bone fragments two saddle querns and charcoal. The artefactual and structural evidence from this site would suggest a Bronze Age occupation site.

Along the eastern side of the Ballycahill ridge at Lahesserragh Site A, excavations (98E0473) uncovered a large number of postholes and pits, a linear feature and two hearths within a 30 by 40m area. A number of the postholes formed a possible sub-rectangular structure and this may have extended beyond the road-take. Finds included a rubbing stone, worked flint, chert flakes and a chert arrowhead.

On agricultural grassland on either side of the Dolla Road, the Ballintotty & Clashnevin (98E0430) excavations revealed a total of 15 subsoil cut pits. The pits varied substantially in dimensions and were fairly isolated from each other showing no apparent structural arrangement. It is thought that these pits are possibly prehistoric, forming part of the wider archaeological landscape.

5. EXCAVATION METHODS

The investigation of the deposits uncovered on the site was undertaken in accordance with the method statement that accompanied the licence application.

Each deposit or area of deposits was cordoned off using hazard tape with access to all machinery denied until the deposits were archaeologically investigated and resolved. Each area was cleaned, planned and photographed. The composition, stratigraphic position and interpretation of all contexts were recorded on a pro forma ADS context sheet prior to its full excavation.

Contexts were sampled for palaeobotanical material, radiocarbon dating, micromorphology, petrology and wood identification, where appropriate. All sections and cut features were photographed and drawn. The position of all finds and samples were recorded in three dimensions (if practicable) in relation to the site grid.

All artefacts were fully recorded by context. A sampling strategy for soil, wood, charcoal, and stone was also employed. These samples will be retained for post excavation analysis should it prove necessary. The excavation was undertaken between 16th and 25th September 1998 with a crew provided by ADS Ltd.

6. EXCAVATION RESULTS

For ease of discussion, the findings from the area investigated will be described separately using letters A, B and C. Only those deposits that proved to be archaeological in nature are described; those that proved to be recent or non archaeological in nature are not described within the report.

6.1 AREA A

Along the western half of the site twelve pits were identified, cutting into the natural subsoil and bedrock. The features were spread across an area measuring 155m east-west and 105m north-south. The majority of these pits were not positioned especially close together (Figs 5 & 6).

The first of these isolated pits [034] was sub circular in shape, measuring 0.54 by 0.50 by 0.10m. Its sole fill consisted of charcoal-rich black silt (035) with some larger burnt wood inclusions.

Pit [036], measured 1.10 by 0.66m in width by 0.20m in depth (Plate 1). The basal fill consisted of a layer of compact, fire-reddened clay (039), measuring 0.06m in maximum thickness. Overlying this was a 0.08m thick layer of charcoal (038), which was in turn

overlain by mottled, charcoal-flecked orange / grey clay (037), which filled the remaining depth of the pit. It seems certain that this pit was a fire place of some sort, with the primary layer clearly indicative of *in-situ* burning.

Pit [040] was an east west aligned oval feature measuring 0.64 by 0.54 by 0.20m (Plate 2). Three fills were present; the basal fill consisted of charcoal-flecked mottled yellow / brown clay (043), which was overlain by a layer of charcoal (042), which was in turn overlain by a firm, charcoal-flecked orange-brown clay deposit (041). A posthole [044] was cut into the base of this pit at its northern side. The posthole was east west aligned and measured 0.22 by 0.18 by 0.24m. Its sole fill (045) was identical in composition to (043), the basal fill of pit [040].

Pit [046] was an irregular feature measuring 0.80m north south by 0.70m east west and 0.21m in depth (Plate 3). Five deposits filled this cut; the basal fill consisted of charcoal-flecked brown silt (051), which measured between 0.01-0.07m in thickness. Overlying this was a 0.05m thick layer of fire – reddened clay (050), which was overlain by a sandy silt deposit (049), which was in turn overlain by charcoal-flecked brown clay (048), which showed evidence of exposure to heat. The final deposit was composed of light brown clay (047), which contained some charcoal. A chert core was recovered from this upper fill. Again, this pit showed evidence of *in-situ* burning, as evidenced by the secondary and quaternary fills.

Pit [052] was a large, broadly east west aligned sub rectangular feature (Plate 4). This cut measured 1.80 by 1.34 by 0.41m. Nine fills were present, with the basal fill composed of a layer of fire-reddened clay (069), which measured up to 0.08m in thickness. The secondary fill measured between 0.06 and 0.15m in thickness and consisted of horizontal bands of charcoal interspersed with bands of fire-reddened clay (068); it would appear that this deposit represents the remains of timbers, which had been burnt in-situ along with the underlying clay layer (069). This burnt timber layer was overlain by a 0.18m thick deposit of grey brown, sticky silty clay (064/066), which contained some charcoal flecking. Above this silty clay layer, at the eastern end of the pit, was a thin charcoal-rich deposit (067). The fifth deposit in this pit was composed of a firm, light brown/yellow clay (063), with some charcoal-flecking; this deposit also contained a small fired clay lens (065). Lying above the eastern end of this clay deposit was charcoal-flecked brown silty clay (062), while situated above its central area was a layer of fire-reddened and charcoal-flecked clay (061), possibly representing *in-situ* burning of the surface of (063) itself. The uppermost fill consisted of soft, sticky grey brown silty clay (060), with some charcoal flecking.

Pit [053] was a broadly east west aligned sub rectangular feature with rounded corners and steeply sloping sides, which ran into a narrow pointed base. This pit measured 0.90m in length by 0.75m in width and 0.50m in depth. The basal deposit consisted of a 0.20m thick deposit of fine, gritty grey silt (057), which was overlain by a 0.10m thick layer of

brown sandy clay (056). The tertiary deposit consisted of a 0.03m thick layer of fire-reddened clay (055), while the remaining depth of the pit was filled by charcoal-rich silt (054).

A small pit or posthole [058] was cut through the upper fill of pit [053]. This later pit measured 0.14m in diameter by 0.12m in depth and was filled by soft brown grey clay with small amounts of charcoal flecking (059).

Pit [070] was oval in shape and aligned northeast southwest. Evidence of *in-situ* burning was present in the form of a 0.06m thick basal layer of fire-reddened clay (493), which was overlain by a 0.15m thick charcoal-rich deposit (074). The remaining depth of the pit was filled with a soft, brown charcoal-flecked clay silt deposit (071).

The north end of pit [070] was truncated by a large east west aligned pit [494], measuring 2.60 by 1.40 by 0.60m. The pit was filled with loose, charcoal-rich, dark brown gritty clay silt (495), containing some burnt clay patches. This pit had near vertical sides and an uneven base, the western end of which was cut into bedrock.

Pit [075] was elongated oval in plan and aligned northwest southeast measuring 0.70 by 0.30 by 0.08m. Its sole fill consisted of sticky brown clay silt (076) containing small amounts of charcoal.

Pit [077] was sub square in plan, measuring 0.34m by 0.15m. Its basal fill consisted of brown sticky silty clay (079), containing some charcoal-flecking, while the upper fill was composed of fine, black charcoal-rich clay soil (078).

Situated 0.60m west/northwest of the pit [077] was a north south aligned sub rectangular pit [080], measuring 0.40 by 0.28 by 0.16m. Its two fills (082) and (081) were identical in composition to those of pit [077]. Both pits [077] and [080] had steeply sloping sides and flat bases. It is almost certain that these two features, similar in size, shape and composition of fills, were contemporary and it is likely that they were postholes.

Pit [083] was irregular shaped and bedrock-cut, measuring 1.10m in width by 0.20m in maximum depth (Plate 5). It was filled by a series of charcoal-flecked silty clay deposits (084)-(087), with burnt clay inclusions. The primary deposit (087) sealed seven postholes [090], [092], [094], [096], [098], [102] and [323], cut into the base of [083]. These postholes were all steep sided with vertically inclined axes. The first of these [090] was located at the pit's eastern side and was steep sided with a rounded base. This posthole measured 0.12 by 0.20m in width and 0.45m in depth and was filled with charcoal-flecked soft silty clay with burnt clay inclusions (091). Located approximately 0.16m to the southwest of [090] was [092], this measured 0.13 by 0.25m in width and 0.20m in depth. It was filled by a firm, brown silty clay (093) with frequent small stone inclusions. Posthole

[323] was located approximately 0.20m west of [092] and measured 0.12 by 0.14m in width and 0.26m in depth. It was filled with loose, charcoal-rich, dark brown gritty clay silt (324), containing some burnt clay patches. Posthole [098] was situated immediately northwest of [323] and measured 0.25m in width by 0.28m in depth. It was filled by three deposits; the basal fill was composed of fine silt (101), which was overlain by two distinct layers of fire-reddened soil (099) and (100). Situated approximately 0.10m northwest of [098] was posthole [096], measuring 0.12m in width by 0.35m in depth. It was filled by soft, charcoal-rich dark brown clay silt (097), which produced 2 chert flakes. Posthole [094] was located 0.10m east of [096]. It measured 0.10 by 0.13m in width by 0.20m in depth and was filled by dark brown clay silt with occasional charcoal flecking and burnt clay inclusions (095). Finally posthole [102] was located at the northwest corner of pit [083]. This posthole measured 0.12 by 0.15m in width and 0.32m in depth and was filled by charcoal-rich clay silt (103).

6.2 AREA B

A concentration of pits, postholes and stakeholes in an area measuring 16m by 7m was uncovered along the eastern and higher end of the site, approximately 30m to the east of Area A (Figs 7, 8 & 9). The majority of these cuts were filled by loose charcoal-rich soil containing burnt clay inclusions. Upon excavation one circular setting of postholes, enclosing an area measuring 3.80m in diameter was identified as a possible round house (Plate 6). Of these, the postholes defining the south western side of the house were the largest in plan¹, typically measuring in excess of 0.50 by 0.60m, but shallow, measuring between 0.05 and 0.25m in depth (Plate 7). With the exception of one [353], the postholes defining the north and northeast side of the house² were smaller (Plate 8). A 1.50m wide gap in the post circle at the eastern side of the structure probably indicated the presence of the house entrance. Finds from deposits associated with the post circle included lithic artefacts as well as a sherd of coarse pottery³.

The area enclosed by the posthole circle was occupied by a possible floor area composed of beaten clay (232) as well as a large number of stakeholes. A dense cluster of stakeholes⁴, overlain by a charcoal-rich deposit (237), concentrated in the centre of this enclosed area was probably indicative of a central fire place (Plate 9). Three chert flakes and one rock crystal fragment were recovered from the charcoal deposit (237).

¹ [330], [350], [348], [388], [114], [117], [104], [109], [112] & [476]

² [226], [223], [217], [219], [356], [353] [386], [107] & [163]

³ Core and flake from (237), core from [271], core and pot from [353], chunk, core, utilised flake and flake from [109], rubbing stone from [104], debitage, core and chunk from [114], flake from [388], core from [350].

⁴ [233], [424], [426], [428], [430], [438], [440], [442], [444], [446], [466], [467], [469], [470], [471], [472], [473], [474] & [475]

Another dense stakehole concentration was situated at the eastern end of the house, just inside the entrance⁵ (Plate 10), while yet another was located opposite, on the exterior⁶.

Aside from the above described clusters, numerous stake and postholes were identified both in and around the possible house structure⁷. These may be indicative of internal structural features such as bedding and storage areas within the house and areas of fencing and animal pens et cetera outside.

A northwest southeast aligned cut [332], measuring 1m in length by 0.40m in width and 0.09m in depth, was situated just outside the southern end of the post circle. This cut may have represented the truncated remains of a run-off gully, which may have surrounded the wall of the house structure. The sole fill (333) of this gully produced a small number of chert flakes.

Three charcoal-rich deposits (225), (160) and (133), sealed structural features at the north, east and south ends of the house respectively. Together with the charcoal flecking and fire-reddened areas within the beaten clay floor surface (232) this may represent evidence for post occupation burning of the structure, intentional or otherwise.

Immediately southeast of the possible house was a second concentration of posts and stakeholes, the majority of which forming a broad ellipse, which may represent the remains of a second structure⁸ (Plate 11). The area enclosed by the main posthole grouping was broadly north south aligned and measured approximately 6m in length by 3m in width, with a 3.40m wide opening on the eastern side.

The enclosing postholes typically measured 0.20m in average diameter and between 0.20 to 0.30m in depth. Notable exceptions to this included the two largest postholes [346] and [366] at the southern end of the possible structure, measuring 0.50 by 0.60m in plan and 0.30 and 0.20m in depth respectively (Plate 12).

⁵ [211], [213], [215], [245], [247], [249], [251], [253], [259], [261], [263], [265], [267], [269], [271], [272], [326], [328] & [374]

⁶ [165], [167], [169], [171], [173], [175], [177], [179], [183], [185], [189], [193], [195], [197], [199], [201], [203], [205], [207], [209], [457], [485] & [489]

⁷ [221], [163], [485], [154], [156], [158], [181], [140], [142], [144], [146], [148], [150], [152], [181], [191], [257], [136], [138], [134], [129], [131], [134], [127], [123], [125], [121], [119], [382], [432], [434], [436], [235], [241], [240], [238], [240], [243], [245], [368], [421], [423], [428], [273], [275], [276], [447], [455], [451], [453], [487], [228] and [230]

⁸ [282], [364], [380], [280], [287], [289], [296], [300], [324], [305], [302], [304], [366], [346], [344], [449], [417] & [400]

A spread of heavily charcoal-flecked reddish brown clay (284) in the centre of the enclosed area may be indicative of a central hearth.

Several postholes and pits outside the main posthole alignment may be indicative of ancillary structures outside the possible structure⁹, while others within the enclosed area were suggestive of internal subdivisions and/or structures¹⁰.

A number of pits identified outside both possible structures may have served as refuse or storage areas. Cut [360] was located approximately 2.80m south/southwest of the possible house structure; this was a northwest to southeast aligned sub triangular pit, measuring 0.70m in length by 0.50m in width and 0.12m in depth. It was filled by a dark brown friable silty clay deposit (361), with frequent small stone inclusions.

Pit [358] lay immediately southwest of pit [360] and consisted of a northeast to southwest aligned oval feature measuring 0.70m in length by 0.55m in width and 0.09m in depth. Its sole fill (359), was almost identical in composition to the fill of the neighbouring pit [360], except for the presence of a small amount of charcoal

Pit [088] was located just outside the northwest end of the probable house structure. This was a broadly north to south aligned sub rectangular feature measuring 1.20m in length by 0.60m in width and 0.07m in depth. Its sole fill consisted of charcoal-rich grey brown soil (089), with moderate amounts of small stones.

A pair of closely spaced pits [415] and [340], just outside the elliptical posthole alignment may have considerably post-dated that possible structure. Both cuts were sub circular in plan, measuring just under 0.50m in diameter by 0.10m in depth. The fragmented remains of an unidentified iron object, as well as the remains of numerous small nails, were recovered from (341); the sole fill of the southernmost pit [340]. A posthole [413] measuring 0.15m in diameter by 0.50m in depth was cut into the base of pit [430], towards its south edge.

Pit [370] was located approximately 2m to the south of the elliptical structure. This was northeast to southwest aligned, oval in plan and measured 0.68m in length by 0.50m in width and 0.10m in depth. Its sole fill consisted of mottled light brown/grey sandy clay (371), with occasional amounts of charcoal flecking.

Other finds from this area consisted of chert debitage, a core, flake and chunk from [346] and a core from the feature that produced the iron finds.

⁹ [336], [464], [462], [278], [294], [292], [317], [307], [311], [313], [309], [315] [317] & [319]

¹⁰ [285], [298] & [321]

6.3 AREA C

Area C measured 22m N-S and 16m wide and was located 140m east of Area B and 170m east of Area A. In this area a group of five large intercutting pits, located on the east side of a north-south running shallow ditch were identified (Figs 10 & 11). The ditch [394] ran for 12m between the north and south limits of excavation and measured between 0.60 and 1.20m in width, being widest to the south, and between 0.10 and 0.26m in depth. It was filled by charcoal flecked grey brown silty clay (496), with the charcoal inclusions being most frequent towards the top of the deposit at the south end of the cut (Plate 13).

Three of the intercutting pits were subrectangular in shape and east west aligned; of these [481] was the earliest. This pit was cut into the natural bedrock and truncated at the east by pit [393] and at the west by pit [482]. Its surviving dimensions were 0.60m long by 0.46m wide and 0.46m deep. Its basal fill consisted of charcoal-flecked dark brown silty clay (461), which was overlain by a layer of fire-reddened clay and heat-shattered stones (460), indicative of *in-situ* burning. The remaining depth of the pit was back filled with light brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecking (459).

Pit [393] measured 2.40m in length by 1.20m in width and 0.65m in depth (Plate 14). The basal fill consisted of a 0.10m thick layer of dark brown silty clay, containing frequent amounts of charcoal and fire-reddened clay patches (397/412). Overlying this was a 0.14m thick layer of fire-reddened clay (398/411), which was in turn overlain by a deposit of heavily charcoal-flecked silty clay (396/409), which measured 0.55m in maximum thickness. The remaining depth of the pit was filled with brown sandy clay containing occasional amounts of charcoal (395/408). A small quantity of animal bone fragments was recovered from the secondary burnt layer (411).

Pit [482] measured 1.50m in length by 1m in width and 0.50m in depth. A 0.10m thick layer of light brown clay with occasional charcoal inclusions (484) overlay the bedrock cut base. The remaining depth of the pit was filled with charcoal-flecked grey brown sandy soil (483).

Pit [482] also truncated the northern end of a north south aligned oval pit [392]. This pit measured 2.80m in length by 1.60m in width and 0.70m in maximum depth (Plate 15). Overlying the natural bedrock, through which the pit had been cut, was a 0.14m thick layer of charcoal-rich soil and burnt clay (404). The remainder of the pit was filled by grey brown silty clay with some charcoal inclusions (402).

6.5 POST-EXCAVATION CONDITION OF THE SITE

All archaeological deposits uncovered during the monitoring of the construction works area associated with the N7 bypass were investigated. These deposits were preserved by record using methods set out in the methodology.

7. INTERPRETATION AND DATING

7.1 AREA A

While no securely datable material was recovered from the pits in Area A, their proximity to the occupation site at Area B suggested that the activity at the two areas may have been related. However, while the majority of the activity at Area B was likely to have been of Bronze Age date (see below), the single dated feature from Area A produced a date (from alder charcoal) of 1168-1263 cal. AD (2 sigma, UBA-15646). It is therefore likely that this collection of pit features represented activity of prehistoric, medieval and perhaps recent date.

7.2 AREA B

While none of the samples from the excavation of Area B produced either suitable or sufficient material for radiocarbon dating, it was still possible for the features that have been interpreted as the remains of a structure, to be dated on an artefactual basis.

An analysis of the lithic finds that consisted of 26 artefacts (mainly cores but also flakes, debitage and dubbing stones) indicated that flint knapping took place at the site and that the material was potentially of Middle Bronze Age date (Sternke 2010, see Appendix VII). However, given the difficulty in distinguishing between Middle and Late Bronze Age assemblages (*ibid.*) a later date could also be possible for this material. This would then be in agreement with the single sherd of pottery, likely to have been of Late Bronze Age date (Brindley 2009, see Appendix IX), that was recovered from a pit within the suggested structure. This pit could, however, have been a later feature.

Although morphologically dissimilar this structure may have been in use at a similar time to that excavated at Lahesseragh, Site C that has been dated to the late Middle/Late Bronze Age (Leahy & O'Brien 2011). The majority of houses discussed by Doody (2000), of similar form to the Benedin site, have been dated to the Late Bronze Age. However, examples are also known from the Middle Bronze Age, such as Chancellorsland, structure 10, although this structure was also associated with a footing trench (*ibid.*).

It is therefore suggested that the archaeological features excavated at Area B represented the remains of a structure that may have functioned as a domestic dwelling. As similar lithic finds to those from the circular structure were recovered from the area to the southeast, it was also possible that the features in this area represented a further house-type structure. It was not possible to assess whether these structures were contemporary or not.

However, not all of the features were of prehistoric origin and later activity in this area was attested to by the recovery of 10 iron nail fragments from [340] that indicated a date “considerably later” than that suggested for the adjacent structures (Schuster 2010, see Appendix VIII).

7.3 AREA C

At Area C the excavated remains consisted of a section of linear ditch and a series of intercutting pits. The ditch and the remains recovered from it bore similarities to the features excavated at both Knockalton Upper and Knockalton Lower as part of the excavations carried out in advance of the Nenagh bypass (Leahy & O’Brien 2011 a & b). At these sites sections of linear ditch were interpreted as possible elements of field boundary systems. A medieval date has been suggested for the ditches at both of these sites (ibid.). However, in the case of Area C at Benedin, a radiocarbon date (from hazel charcoal, see Appendix VI) of 1386-1134 cal. BC (Appendix X, UBA- 15647) was returned from material recovered from the single fill of this ditch feature. Also recovered from this ditch were grains of both oat (possible) and either wheat or barley. While cultivated oats only became common in the early Christian period (Allen 2010, see Appendix V) this was only a single possible grain and the diagnostic floret was not present for it to be identified as wild or domesticated. Barley became commonly used during the Bronze Age (ibid.) and its presence was therefore in keeping with the radiocarbon date from this feature.

No dateable material was recovered from the adjacent pits and, as a result their relationship to the ditch remains unclear. Given the presence of burnt stone fragments in [481] it is possible that this heavily truncated feature may originally have functioned as a trough, but only for a short period of time, given the absence of an associated mound of burnt stone. The use of pits with hot stone technology was a common feature of, the Bronze Age in particular, and this could then have been broadly contemporary with the ditch feature. A fragment of a burnt cattle or deer phalanx was recovered from the fill of the pit [393] (Hamilton-Dryer 2010, see Appendix IV), but this did not lend to any interpretation of this feature.

8. CONCLUSIONS

The discovery and excavation of these three areas of archaeology at Benedin reflected the type and pattern of sites as excavated elsewhere in association with the N7 Nenagh Bypass scheme. Here the features were representative of the continued utilisation and habitation of this portion of the North Tipperary landscape throughout prehistory, the middle ages and into the modern period.

The sites were located just north of the N7 bypass and several of the excavated features extended beyond, or were located close to, the limits of the excavation. It will, therefore,

be necessary for any future development in the area to take account of the probability of further archaeological features in the vicinity of those excavated.

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Appendices

10. APPENDIX I: FINDS LIST

Finds number	Context	Cut	Description
98E0444:47:1	047	046	Chert core
98E0444::89:1	089	088	Worked chert
98E0444:97:1	097	096	worked chert
98E0444:97:2	097	096	Worked chert
98E0444:110:1	110	109	worked chert
98E0444:110:2	110	109	worked chert
98E0444:110:3	110	109	worked chert
98E0444:110:4	110	109	worked chert
98E0444:110:5	110	109	(worked?) quartz
98E0444:110:6	110	109	(worked?) quartz
98E0444:111:1	111	109	Worked chert
98E0444:115:1	115	114	worked chert
98E0444:115:2	115	114	worked chert
98E0444:115:3	115	114	worked chert
98E0444:115:4	115	114	worked chert
98E0444:115:5	115	114	worked chert
98E0444:218:1	218	217	Worked chert
98E0444:237:1	237		worked chert
98E0444:237:2	237		worked chert
98E0444:237:3	237		worked chert
98E0444:237:4	237		(worked ?) rock crystal
98E0444:241:1	241	240	Worked chert
98E0444:333:1	333	332	worked chert
98E0444:333:2	333	332	worked chert
98E0444:333:3	333	332	worked chert
98E0444:341:1	341	340	worked chert
98E0444:341:2	341	340	worked chert
98E0444:341:3	341	340	worked chert
98E0444:341:4	341	340	worked chert
98E0444:341:5	341	340	worked chert
98E0444:341:6	341	340	Fe (probable nail remains) fragments
98E0444:341:7	341	340	Fe (probable nail remains) fragments
98E0444:341:8	341	340	Fe (probable nail remains) fragments
98E0444:347:1	347	346	worked chert
98E0444:347:2	347	346	worked chert
98E0444:347:3	347	346	worked chert
98E0444:347:4	347	346	worked chert

Finds number	Context	Cut	Description
98E0444:347:5	347	346	worked chert
98E0444:352:1	352	350	Worked chert
98E0444:354:1	354	353	prehistoric pot sherd
98E0444:354:2	354	353	burnt bone fragment
98E0444:354:3	354	353	worked chert
98E0444:354:4	354	353	worked chert
98E0444:354:5	354	353	worked chert
98E0444:355:1	355	353	worked chert/flint
98E0444:355:2	355	353	worked chert/flint
98E0444:355:3	355	353	worked chert/flint
98E0444:362:1	362	240	Worked chert
98E0444:367:1	367	366	worked chert
98E0444:367:2	367	366	worked chert
98E0444:367:3	367	366	worked chert
98E0444:367:4	367	366	worked chert
98E0444:371:1	371	370	Worked chert
98E0444:391:1	391	388	worked chert
98E0444:391:2	391	388	worked chert
98E0444:402:1	402	392	Worked chert
98E0444:411:1	411	393	Animal bone fragments
98E0444:477:1	477	476	worked chert
98E0444:477:2	477	476	worked chert
98E0444:477:3	477	476	worked chert

11. APPENDIX II: SAMPLE LOG

Context	Cut	Sample No.	Material	No. Of Bags
343	342	001	Soil	1
320	319	002	Soil	1
218	217	003	Soil	1
322	321	004	Soil	1
106	104	005	Soil	1
124	123	007	Soil	1
182	181	008	Soil	1
331	330	009	Soil	1
437	436	010	Soil	1
341	340	011	Soil	1
116	114	012	Soil	1
363	240	013	Soil	1
244	243	014	Soil	1
085	083	015	Soil	1
352	350	016	Soil	1
337	336	017	Soil	1
303	302	018	Soil	1
082	080	019	Soil	1
314	313	020	Soil	1
349	348	021	Soil	1
41	40	022	Soil	1
490	489	023	Soil	1
299	298	024	Soil	1
025	031	025	Soil	1
224	223	028	Soil	1
461		029	Soil	1
115	114	030	Soil	1
222	221	031	Soil	1
113	112	035	Soil	1
	394	036	Soil	1
103	102	037	Soil	1
139	138	038	Soil	1
483	482	039	Soil	1
387	386	040	Soil	1
351	350	041	Soil	1
	394	042	Soil	1

Context	Cut	Sample No.	Material	No. Of Bags
237	470	043	Soil	1
237	475	044	Soil	1
477	476	047	Soil	1
089	088	048	Soil	1
459	481	050	Soil	2
493	492	053	Soil	1
214	213	054	Soil	1
	394	055	Soil	1
237	473/474	056	Soil	1
	394	058	Soil	1
383	382	059	Soil	1
492	491	060	Soil	1
237	467	062	Soil	1
237	469	063	Soil	1
206	205	067	Soil	1
427	426	072	Soil	1
375	374	073	Soil	1
354	353	075	Soil	1
411	393	076	Soil	1
237	471	077	Soil	1
445	444/446	078	Soil	1
118	117	079	Soil	1
405	392	080	Soil	1
435	434	081	Soil	1
274	273	083	Soil	1
486	485	084	Soil	1
410	393	088	Soil	1
406	392	089	Soil	1
225		091	Soil	1
412	393	092	Soil	1
411	393	094	Soil	1
404	392	095	Soil	1
412	393	096	Soil	1
408	393	097	Soil	1
410	393	099	Soil	1
441	440	100	Soil	1
166	165	102	Soil	1
237		103	Soil	1
237		104	Soil	1

Context	Cut	Sample No.	Material	No. Of Bags
418	417	106	Soil	1
401	400	108	Soil	1
347	346	110	Soil	1
458	457	111	Soil	1
425	424	112	Soil	1
357	356	114	Soil	1
324	323	115	Soil	1
318	393	116	Soil	1
395	393	117	Soil	1
492	491	119	Soil	1
365	364	120	Soil	1
443	442	121	Soil	1
407	392	122	Soil	1
362	240	123	Soil	1
484	484	124	Soil	1
390	388	125	Soil	1
403	392	126	Soil	1
396	393	127	Soil	2
399	393	128	Soil	1
399	393	128	Soil	1
397	393	129	Soil	2
391	388	130	Soil	1
395	393	131	Soil	1
408	393	133	Soil	1
389	388	134	Soil	1
331	330	137	Soil	1
339	338	139	Soil	1
279	278	140	Soil	1
365	364	141	Soil	1
402	392	142	Soil	1
220	219	143	Soil	1
111	109	144	Soil	1
422	423	145	Soil	1
422	421	146	Soil	1
350	353	147	Soil	1
256	255	148	Soil	1
110	109	149	Soil	1
155	154	153	Soil	1
281	280	154	Soil	1

Context	Cut	Sample No.	Material	No. Of Bags
308	307	157	Soil	1
227	226	158	Soil	1
333	332	162	Soil	1
312	311	165	Soil	1
369	368	168	Soil	1
133		169	Soil	1
	432	170	Soil	1
306	305	171	Soil	1
141	140	172	Soil	1
381	380	174	Soil	1
204	203	176	Soil	1
143	142	177	Soil	1
290	289	178	Soil	1
295	294	179	Soil	1
291		180	Soil	1
363	240	183	Soil	1
301	300	185	Soil	1
310	309	186	Soil	1
054	053	187	Soil	1
284		195	Soil	1
038	036	197	Soil	1
060		198	Soil	1
318	317	199	Soil	1
049	046	200	Soil	1
208	207	201	Soil	1
108		202	Soil	1
236	235	203	Soil	1
135	134	205	Soil	1
297	296	209	Soil	1
216	215	212	Soil	1
147	146	213	Soil	1
345	344	215	Soil	1
429	428	217	Soil	1
324	323	218	Soil	1
045	044	219	Soil	1
288	287	220	Soil	1
448	447	221	Soil	1
246	245	223	Soil	1
212	211	223	Soil	1

Context	Cut	Sample No.	Material	No. Of Bags
431	430	227	Soil	1
452	451	228	Soil	1
194	393	229	Soil	1
264	263	230	Soil	1
454	453	231	Soil	1
385	384	232	Soil	1
244	243	233	Soil	1
329	328	234	Soil	1
456	455	235	Soil	1
242	241	236	Soil	1
258	257	237	Soil	1
480	479	238	Soil	1
327	326	239	Soil	1
286	285	240	Soil	1
488	487	241	Soil	1
192	191	242	Soil	1
377	376	243	Soil	1
465	464	244	Soil	1
237	466	245	Soil	1
262	261	246	Soil	1
248	247	247	Soil	1
379	378	248	Soil	1
237	468	249	Soil	1
159	158	250	Soil	1
232	472	251	Soil	1
450	449	252	Soil	1
268	267	253	Soil	1
250	249	254	Soil	1
270	269	255	Soil	1
260	259	256	Soil	1
164	163	257	Soil	1
252	251	258	Soil	1
157	156	259	Soil	1
042	040	260	Soil	1
316	315	261	Soil	1
199	197	262	Soil	1
179	177	263	Soil	1
202	201	264	Soil	1
145	144	265	Soil	1

Context	Cut	Sample No.	Material	No. Of Bags
239	238	266	Soil	1
126	125	267	Soil	1
122	121	268	Soil	1
293	292	269	Soil	1
274	275	270	Soil	1
335	334	271	Soil	1
149	148	272	Soil	1
231	230	273	Soil	1
184	183	274	Soil	1
186	185	275	Soil	1
254	253	276	Soil	1
170	169	277	Soil	1
277	276	278	Soil	1
180	179	279	Soil	1
128	127	280	Soil	1
106	325	281	Soil	1
272	271	281	Soil	1
120	119	282	Soil	1
234	233	282	Soil	1
190	189	283	Soil	1
196	195	283	Soil	1
176	175	284	Soil	1
200	199	284	Soil	1
174	173	285	Soil	1
130	129	285	Soil	1
168	167	286	Soil	1
188	187	286	Soil	1
162	161	287	Soil	1
	323	287	Soil	1
210	209	288	Soil	1
151	150	288	Soil	1
266	265	289	Soil	1
172	171	289	Soil	1
361	360	290	Soil	1
059	58	290	Soil	1
137	136	291	Soil	1
105	104	?	Soil	1
132	131	?	Soil	1
230	228	?	Soil	1

Context	Cut	Sample No.	Material	No. Of Bags
333	332	?	Soil	1
400	393	?	Soil	1
420	419	?	Soil	1
045		?	Soil	2
373	372	?	Soil	1

12. APPENDIX III: CONTEXT REGISTER

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
034	Cut	A	Sub circular pit. Measured 0.54 by 0.50 by 0.10m. Its sole fill consisted of charcoal-rich black silt (035) with some larger burnt wood inclusions.	Isolated pit towards western side of site	
035	Deposit	A Cut [034]	Black charcoal-rich silt. Filled extent of pit [034]	Fill of pit [034]	
036	Cut	A	Northwest southeast aligned oval pit. Measured 1.10 by 0.66m in width by 0.20m in depth. Filled by (039), (038), (037)	Isolated pit towards western side of site	
037	Deposit	A Cut [036]	Mottled, charcoal-flecked orange / grey clay. Measured 0.06m in thickness	Upper fill of pit [036]	
038	Deposit	A Cut [036]	Charcoal deposit. Measured 0.08m in thickness	Secondary fill of pit [036]	
039	Deposit	A Cut [036]	Compact, fire-reddened clay measuring 0.06m in maximum thickness.	Basal fill of pit [036] with evidence of <i>in-situ</i> burning	
040	Cut	A	East west aligned oval pit with steeply sloping-near vertical sides and a concave base. Measured 0.64m in length by 0.54m in width by 0.20m in depth. Filled by (043), (042) and (041). Posthole [044] cut into base.	Isolated pit towards western side of site	
041	Deposit	A Cut [040]	Charcoal-flecked orange-brown clay. Measured 0.10m in max. thickness.	Upper fill of pit [044]	
042	Deposit	A Cut [040]	Charcoal layer. Measured 0.05m in max. thickness.	Secondary fill of pit [040]	
043	Deposit	A Cut [040]	Charcoal-flecked mottled yellow / brown clay. Measured 0.08m in max. thickness.	Basal fill of pit [040]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
044	Cut	A Cut [040]	East west aligned sub circular cut with near vertical sides and a slightly concave base. Measured 0.22 by 0.18 by 0.24m in depth. Filled by (045)	Posthole cut into base of pit [040]	
045	Deposit	A Cut [044]	Charcoal-flecked mottled yellow / brown clay. Filled extent of [044]	Fill of posthole [044]	(043)?
046	Cut	A	Irregularly shaped pit. Measured 0.80m north south by 0.70m east west and 0.21m in depth. Filled by (051), (050), (049), (048) and (047)	Isolated pit towards western side of site	
047	Deposit	A Cut [046]	Light brown clay with occasional charcoal flecking. Measured 0.05m in thickness. Produced chert core	Upper fill of pit [046]	
048	Deposit	A Cut [046]	Charcoal-flecked brown clay with fire-reddened patches. Measured 0.05m in thickness	Quaternary fill of pit [046]	
049	Deposit	A Cut [046]	Light brown sandy silt. Measured 0.04m in thickness	Tertiary fill of pit [046]	
050	Deposit	A Cut [046]	Hard fire-reddened clay. Measured 0.05m in thickness.	Secondary fill of pit [046] with evidence of <i>in-situ</i> burning	
051	Deposit	A Cut [046]	Charcoal-flecked brown silt. Measured 0.01-0.07m in thickness.	Primary fill of pit [046]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
052	Cut	A	Broadly east west aligned sub rectangular pit with steeply sloping to near vertical sides and a broad base which stepped down slightly from west to east. Measured 1.80 in length by 1.34 in width by 0.41m in depth. Filled by (069), (068), (064/066), (067), (063), (065), (062), (061), and (060)	Large isolated pit towards western side of site with evidence of repeated <i>in-situ</i> burning within fills	
053	Cut	A	Broadly east west aligned sub rectangular pit with rounded corners and steeply sloping sides, which ran into a narrow pointed base. This pit measured 0.90m in length by 0.75m in width and 0.50m in depth. Filled by (057), (056), (055) and (054)	Isolated pit towards western side of site	
054	Deposit	A Cut [053]	Black charcoal-rich silt. Measured 0.27m in thickness	Upper fill of pit [053]	
055	Deposit	A Cut [053]	Hard fire-reddened clay. Measured 0.03m in thickness	Tertiary fill of pit [053] with evidence of <i>in-situ</i> burning	
056	Deposit	A Cut [053]	Brown sandy clay. Measured 0.10m in thickness	Secondary fill of pit [053]	
057	Deposit	A Cut [053]	Gritty grey silt. Measured 0.20m in thickness.	Basal fill of pit [053]	
058	Cut	A	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a slightly concave base. Measured 0.14m in diameter by 0.12m in depth. Filled by (059)	Small pit/posthole cut through upper fill (054) of pit [053]	
059	Deposit	A Cut [058]	Soft brown grey clay with small amounts of charcoal flecking. Filled extent of cut [058]	Fill of small pit/posthole [058]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
060	Deposit	A Cut [052]	Soft, sticky grey brown silty clay (060), with some charcoal flecking. Measured 0.04m in thickness	Upper fill of pit [052]	
061	Deposit	A Cut [052]	Fire-reddened and charcoal-flecked clay. Measured 0.03m in thickness	Senary fill of pit [052] with evidence of <i>in-situ</i> burning	
062	Deposit	A Cut [052]	Charcoal-flecked brown silty clay. Measured 0.02m in max. thickness	Septenary fill of pit [052]	
063	Deposit	A Cut [052]	Light brown/yellow clay, with some charcoal-flecking; this deposit also contained a small fired clay lens (065). Measured 0.12m in max. thickness	Quinary fill of pit [052]	
064	Deposit	A Cut [052]	Grey brown, sticky silty clay. Measured 0.18m in thickness	Tertiary fill of pit [052]	(066)
065	Deposit	A Cut [052]	Fire-reddened clay	Fired clay lens within (063), quinary fill of pit [052]	
066	Deposit	A Cut [052]	See (064)	Tertiary fill of pit [052]	(064)
067	Deposit	A Cut [052]	Charcoal layer. Measured 0.01m in thickness	Quaternary fill of pit [052]	
068	Deposit	A Cut [052]	Horizontal bands of charcoal interspersed with bands of fire-reddened clay measured between 0.06 and 0.18m in thickness	Secondary fill of pit [052]; represents the remains of timbers, which had been burnt in-situ along with the underlying clay layer (069)	
069	Deposit	A Cut [052]	Fire-reddened clay. Measured up to 0.08m in thickness	Primary fill of pit [052] with evidence of <i>in-situ</i> burning	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
070	Cut	A	Northeast southwest aligned oval pit. Measured approximately 1m in length by 0.70m in width and 0.50m in depth. Filled by (493)/(072), (073), (074) and (071)	Isolated pit towards western side of site with evidence of repeated <i>in-situ</i> burning at base	
071	Deposit	A Cut [070]	Soft charcoal-flecked brown clay silt. Measured 0.30m in max. thickness	Upper fill of pit [070]	
072	Deposit	A Cut [070]	Charcoal-rich silt mixed with fire-reddened burnt clay patches. Measured 0.06m in thickness	Basal fill of pit [070]	(493)
073	Deposit	A Cut [070]	Charcoal-rich grey brown silty soil	Charcoal lens in pit [070]	
074	Deposit	A Cut [070]	Black charcoal-rich clay silt. Measured 0.15m in thickness	Secondary fill of pit [070]	
075	Cut	A	Northwest southeast aligned, elongated oval pit. Measured 0.70 in length by 0.30 in width by 0.08m in depth. Filled by (076)	Isolated pit towards western side of site	
076	Deposit	A Cut [075]	Sticky brown clay silt containing small amounts of charcoal. Filled extent of pit [075]	Fill of pit [075]	
077	Cut	A	Sub square cut with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. Measured 0.34m in width by 0.15m in depth. Filled by (079) and (078)	Probable posthole towards western side of site	
078	Deposit	A Cut [077]	Fine, black charcoal-rich clay soil. Measured 0.08m in thickness	Upper fill of pit [077]	(081)?
079	Deposit	A Cut [077]	Brown sticky silty clay. Measured 0.07m in thickness	Basal fill of pit [077]	(082)?

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
080	Cut	A	North south aligned sub rectangular cut with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. Measured 0.40 in length by 0.28 in width by 0.16m in depth. Filled by (082) and (081)	Probable posthole towards western side of site	
081	Deposit	A Cut [080]	Fine, black charcoal-rich clay soil. Measured 0.08m in thickness	Upper fill of pit [080]	(078)?
082	Deposit	A Cut [080]	Brown sticky silty clay. Measured 0.08m in thickness	Basal fill of pit [080]	(079)?
083	Cut	A	Irregular shaped bedrock-cut pit with steep, uneven sides and a broad undulating base. Measured 1.10m in width by 0.25m in maximum depth. Filled by deposits (084)-(087). Seven postholes [090], [092], [094], [096], [098], [102] and [323] cut into base	Irregularly shaped pit towards west of site with posthole arrangement at base	
084	Deposit	A Cut [083]	Light brown sandy clay	Upper fill of pit [083]	
085	Deposit	A Cut [083]	Red sticky burnt clay with moderate amounts of charcoal flecking	Tertiary fill of pit [083] with evidence of <i>in-situ</i> burning	
086	Deposit	A Cut [083]	Brown soft sticky clay with some charcoal flecking	Secondary fill of pit [083]	
087	Deposit	A Cut [083]	Pale red burnt clay	Basal fill of pit [083] with evidence of <i>in-situ</i> burning	
088	Cut	B	Broadly north to south aligned sub rectangular pit measuring 1.20m in length by 0.60m in width and 0.07m in depth. Filled by (089)	Pit to NW of probable house structure	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
089	Deposit	B Cut [088]	Charcoal-rich grey brown soil with moderate amounts of small stones. Filled extent of pit [088]	Fill of pit [088]	
090	Cut	A Cut [083]	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.12 by 0.20m in width and 0.45m in depth. Filled by [091]	Posthole cut into base of pit [083]	
091	Deposit	A Cut [090]	Charcoal-flecked soft silty clay with burnt clay inclusions.	Fill of posthole [090]	
092	Cut	A Cut [083]	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.13 by 0.25m in width and 0.20m in depth. Filled by (093)	Posthole cut into base of pit [083]	
093	Deposit	A Cut [092]	Firm, brown silty clay with frequent small stone inclusions	Fill of posthole [092]	
094	Cut	A Cut [083]	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.10 by 0.13m in width and 0.20m in depth. Filled by (095)	Posthole cut into base of pit [083]	
095	Deposit	A Cut [094]	Dark brown clay silt with occasional charcoal flecking and burnt clay inclusions	Fill of posthole [094]	
096	Cut	A Cut [083]	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.12 in width and 0.35m in depth. Filled by (097)	Posthole cut into base of pit [083]	
097	Deposit	A Cut [096]	Soft charcoal-rich dark brown clay silt. Produced 2 chert flakes.	Fill of posthole [096]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
098	Cut	A Cut [083]	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.25 in width and 0.28m in depth. Filled by (101), (099) and (100)	Posthole cut into base of pit [083]	
099	Deposit	A Cut [098]	Fire-reddened sandy clay.	Upper fill of posthole [098]	
100	Deposit	A Cut [098]	Fire reddened (paler than (099)) sandy clay with occasional small stone inclusions	Secondary fill of posthole [098]	
101	Deposit	A Cut [098]	Fine light brown sticky silty clay	Basal fill of posthole [098]	
102	Cut	A Cut [083]	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.12 by 0.15m in width and 0.32m in depth. Filled by (103)	Posthole cut into base of pit [083]	
103	Deposit	A Cut [102]	Charcoal-rich clay silt	Fill of posthole [102]	
104	Cut	B	Sub circular cut measuring approximately 0.50m in diameter by 0.20m in depth. Stakehole [325] cut into base. filled by (106) and (105)	Posthole; part of circular posthole arrangement forming probable house	
105	Deposit	A Cut [104]	Soft friable charcoal-flecked grey brown silty soil. Measured approximately 0.10m in thickness	Upper fill of posthole [104]	
106	Deposit	A Cut [104]	Light brown friable salty clay with occasional charcoal flecking. Measured approximately 0.10m in thickness.	Primary fill of posthole [104]	
107	Cut	B	Small irregular shaped cut. Measured approximately 0.30m in width by 0.15m in depth. Filled by (108)	Posthole; part of circular posthole arrangement forming probable house	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
108	Deposit	B Cut [107]	Soft friable charcoal-flecked dark grey brown silty soil. Filled extent of cut [107]	Fill of posthole [107]	
109	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steep sides and a concave base. Measured approximately 0.50m in diameter by 0.20m in depth. Filled by (111) and (110)	Posthole; part of circular posthole arrangement forming probable house	
110	Deposit	B Cut [109]	Charcoal-rich dark grey brown silty soil. Measured 0.10m in thickness. Produced 4 chert flakes and 2 pieces of possibly worked quartz	Upper fill of posthole [109]	
111	Deposit	B Cut [109]	Light brown silty soil with occasional charcoal flecking. Measured 0.10m in thickness. Produced worked chert	Basal fill of posthole [109]	
112	Cut	B	Circular cut with gently sloping sides and a broad flat base. Measured approximately 0.50m in diameter by 0.07m in depth. Filled by (113). Truncated by [109]	Posthole; part of circular posthole arrangement forming probable house	
113	Deposit	B Cut [112]	Charcoal-flecked brown grey silty soil. Filled extent of cut [112]	Fill of posthole [112]	
114	Cut	B	Circular shaped cut with near vertical sides and a concave base. Measured 0.50m in diameter by 0.20m in depth. Filled by (116) and (115)	Posthole; part of circular posthole arrangement forming probable house	
115	Deposit	B Cut [114]	Charcoal-rich dark brown grey silty soil. Measured 0.10m in thickness	Upper fill of posthole [114]	
116	Deposit	B Cut [114]	Light brown silty soil with occasional charcoal flecking. Measured 0.10m in thickness	Primary fill of posthole [114]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
117	Cut	B	Circular shaped cut with near vertical sides and a concave base. Measured 0.45m in diameter by 0.05m in depth. Filled by (118)	Posthole; part of circular posthole arrangement forming probable house	
118	Deposit	B Cut [117]	Charcoal-flecked light brown/grey clay silt. Filled extent of cut [117]	Fill of posthole [117]	
119	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a tapered pointed base. Measured 0.115 x 0.11m in width and 0.31m in depth. Filled by (120)	Stakehole associated with probable house structure	
120	Deposit	B Cut [119]	Charcoal-flecked red brown silty soil. Filled extent of cut [119]	Fill of stakehole [119]	
121	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a tapered pointed base. Measured 0.05 x 0.10m in width and 0.08m in depth. Filled by (122)	Stakehole associated with probable house structure	
122	Deposit	B Cut [121]	Charcoal-flecked red brown silty soil. Filled extent of cut [121]	Fill of posthole [121]	
123	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with vertical sides and a broad flat base. Measured 0.18 by 0.16m in width and 0.15m in depth.	Posthole associated with probable house structure	
124	Deposit	B Cut [123]	Charcoal-flecked red brown silty soil. Filled extent of cut [123]	Fill of posthole [123]	
125	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a tapered pointed base. Measured 0.065 by 0.075m in width by 0.13m in depth.	Stakehole associated with probable house structure	
126	Deposit	B Cut [125]	Charcoal flecked brown silty clay. Filled extent of cut [125]	Fill of stakehole [125]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
127	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a tapered pointed base. Measured 0.085 by 0.07m in width by 0.7m in depth.	Stakehole associated with probable house structure	
128	Deposit	B Cut [127]	Charcoal-flecked brown silty clay soil. Filled extent of cut [127]	Fill of stakehole [127]	
129	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a tapered pointed base. Measured 0.08 by 0.075m in width by 0.13m in depth.	Stakehole associated with probable house structure	
130	Deposit	B Cut [129]	Charcoal-flecked red brown silty soil. Filled extent of cut [129]	Fill of stakehole [129]	
131	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a tapered pointed base. Measured 0.10 by 0.11m in width by 0.25m in depth.	Stakehole associated with probable house structure	
132	Deposit	B Cut [131]	Charcoal-flecked red brown silty soil. Filled extent of cut [131]	Fill of stakehole [131]	
133	Deposit	B	Charcoal-flecked orange brown clay silt. Measured 0.30 by 0.20m in extent by 0.04m in thickness	Charcoal-rich deposit sealing postholes at south end of probable house structure	
134	Cut	B	Conjoined circular cuts. Larger cut has near vertical sides and rounded base. Measured 0.165m in diameter by 0.08m in depth. Smaller cut at W edge has steeply sloping sides and tapered pointed base. Measured 0.11 by 0.12m in width by 0.19m in depth. Filled by (134)	Conjoined stakehole and posthole associated with probable house structure	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
135	Deposit	B Cut [134]	Charcoal-flecked soft red brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [134]	Fill of conjoined stakehole and posthole [134]	
136	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a tapered pointed base. Measured 0.055 by 0.045m in width by 0.08m in depth.	Stakehole associated with probable house structure	
137	Deposit	B Cut [136]	Charcoal-flecked soft red brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [136]	Fill of stakehole [136]	
138	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with near vertical sides and a flat base. Measured 0.15 by 0.20m in width by 0.19m in depth.	Posthole associated with probable house structure	
139	Deposit	B Cut [138]	Charcoal-flecked soft red brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [138]	Fill of posthole [138]	
140	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with near vertical sides and a flat base. Measured 0.17 by 0.10m in width by 0.15m in depth.	Posthole associated with probable house structure	
141	Deposit	B Cut [140]	Charcoal-flecked soft red brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [140]	Fill of posthole [140]	
142	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with near vertical sides and a flat base. Measured 0.15 by 0.14m in width by 0.19m in depth.	Posthole associated with probable house structure	
143	Deposit	B Cut [142]	Charcoal-flecked soft red brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [142]	Fill of posthole [142]	
144	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a tapered pointed base. Measured 0.08 by 0.06m in width by 0.045m in depth.	Stakehole associated with probable house structure	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
145	Deposit	B Cut [144]	Charcoal-flecked soft red brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [144]	Fill of stakehole [144]	
146	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a tapered pointed base. Measured 0.08 by 0.07m in width by 0.14m in depth.	Stakehole associated with probable house structure	
147	Deposit	B Cut [146]	Charcoal-flecked brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [146]	Fill of stakehole [146]	
148	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a tapered pointed base. Measured 0.12 by 0.11m in width by 0.165m in depth.	Stakehole associated with probable house structure	
149	Deposit	B Cut [148]	Charcoal-flecked soft red brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [148]	Fill of stakehole [148]	
150	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a tapered pointed base. Measured 0.08 in diameter by 0.13m in depth.	Stakehole associated with probable house structure	
151	Deposit	B Cut [150]	Charcoal-flecked soft red brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [150]	Fill of stakehole [150]	
152	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a tapered pointed base. Measured 0.095 by 0.085m in width by 0.17m in depth.	Stakehole associated with probable house structure	
153	Deposit	B Cut [152]	Charcoal-flecked brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [152]	Fill of stakehole [152]	
154	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with irregularly sloping sides. Measured 0.22 by 0.13m in width and 0.09m in depth	Posthole associated with probable house structure	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
155	Deposit	B Cut [154]	Charcoal-flecked grey brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [154]	Fill of posthole [154]	
156	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with near vertical sides and a flat base. Measured 0.09 by 0.085m in width and 0.075m in depth	Posthole associated with probable house structure	
157	Deposit	B Cut [156]	Charcoal-flecked grey brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [156]	Fill of posthole [156]	
158	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a tapered pointed base. Measured 0.10 by 0.075m in width by 0.09m in depth.	Stakehole associated with probable house structure	
159	Deposit	B Cut [158]	Charcoal-flecked grey brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [158]	Fill of stakehole [158]	
160	Deposit	B	Charcoal-rich dark brown silty soil. Measured > 0.30m in diameter by 0.02m in thickness	Charcoal-rich deposit sealing postholes at east side of probable house structure	
161	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a tapered pointed base. Measured 0.08m in diameter by 0.14m in depth.	Stakehole; associated with circular posthole arrangement forming probable house	
162	Deposit	B Cut [161]	Charcoal-flecked red brown clay silt. Fill of cut [161]	Fill of stakehole [161]	
163	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with vertical sides and a broad flat base. Measured 0.27 by 0.20m in width and 0.14m in depth.	Posthole; part of circular posthole arrangement forming probable house	
164	Deposit	B Cut [163]	Charcoal-flecked grey brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [163]	Fill of posthole [163]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
165	Cut	B	Irregularly shaped cut with steep sides and concave base. Measured 0.21 by 0.08m in width and 0.07m in depth	Stakehole; part of dense stakehole cluster outside entrance of probable house	
166	Deposit	B Cut [165]	Charcoal-flecked red brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [165]	Fill of stakehole [165]	
167	Cut	B	Irregularly shaped cut with steep sides and concave base. Measured 0.21 by 0.06m in width and 0.12m in depth	Stakehole; part of dense stakehole cluster outside entrance of probable house	
168	Deposit	B Cut [167]	Charcoal-flecked dark brown/grey clay silt. Filled extent of cut [167]	Fill of stakehole [167]	
169	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with irregularly sloping sides and a tapered pointed base. Measured 0.08 by 0.055m in width by 0.045m in depth.	Stakehole associated with probable house structure	
170	Deposit	B Cut [169]	Charcoal-flecked red brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [169]	Fill of stakehole [169]	
171	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with irregularly sloping sides and a tapered pointed base. Measured 0.07 by 0.055m in width by 0.13m in depth.	Stakehole; part of dense stakehole cluster outside entrance of probable house	
172	Deposit	B Cut [171]	Brown charcoal-flecked sandy soil. Filled extent of cut [171]	Fill of stakehole [171]	
173	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with near vertical sides and a flat pointed base. Measured 0.085 by 0.07m in width by 0.08m in depth.	Stakehole; part of dense stakehole cluster outside entrance of probable house	
174	Deposit	B Cut [173]	Charcoal-flecked brown sandy soil. Filled extent of cut [173]	Fill of stakehole [173]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
175	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with near vertical sides and a flat pointed base. Measured 0.075 by 0.05m in width by 0.05m in depth.	Stakehole; part of dense stakehole cluster outside entrance of probable house	
176	Deposit	B Cut [175]	Charcoal-flecked brown sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [175]	Fill of stakehole [175]	
177	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered pointed base. Measured 0.06 by 0.06m in width and 0.03m in depth	Stakehole; part of dense stakehole cluster outside entrance of probable house	
178	Deposit	B Cut [177]	Charcoal-flecked brown clay. Fill of [177]	Fill of stakehole [177]	
179	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered pointed base. Measured 0.055 by 0.045m in width and 0.02m in depth	Stakehole; part of dense stakehole cluster outside entrance of probable house	
180	Deposit	B Cut [179]	Charcoal-flecked brown clay silt. Fill of [179]	Fill of stakehole [179]	
181	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. Measured 0.19m in diameter by 0.30m in depth	Posthole associated with probable house structure	
182	Deposit	B Cut [181]	Charcoal-rich dark brown sticky silty clay. Filled extent of cut [181]	Fill of posthole [181]	
183	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered pointed base. Measured 0.07 by 0.06m in width and 0.08m in depth	Stakehole; part of dense stakehole cluster outside entrance of probable house	
184	Deposit	B Cut [183]	Charcoal-flecked brown silty clay. Filled extent of cut [183]	Fill of stakehole [183]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
185	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered pointed base. Measured 0.065 by 0.06m in width and 0.075m in depth	Stakehole; part of dense stakehole cluster outside entrance of probable house	
186	Deposit	B Cut [185]	Charcoal-flecked brown silty clay. Filled extent of cut [185]	Fill of stakehole [185]	
187	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered pointed base. Measured 0.085 by 0.05m in width and 0.095m in depth	Stakehole; part of dense stakehole cluster outside entrance of probable house	
188	Deposit	B Cut [187]	Charcoal-flecked brown sandy soil. Filled extent of cut [187]	Fill of stakehole [187]	
189	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered pointed base. Measured 0.08 by 0.06m in width and 0.085m in depth	Stakehole; part of dense stakehole cluster outside entrance of probable house	
190	Deposit	B Cut [189]	Charcoal-flecked brown sandy soil. Filled extent of cut [189]	Fill of stakehole [189]	
191	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered pointed base. Measured 0.08 by 0.095m in width and 0.12m in depth	Stakehole associated with probable house structure	
192	Deposit	B Cut [191]	Charcoal flecked red brown silty clay. Filled extent of cut [191]	Fill of stakehole [191]	
193	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered pointed base. Measured 0.08 by 0.07m in width and 0.075m in depth	Stakehole; part of dense stakehole cluster outside entrance of probable house	
194	Deposit	B Cut [193]	Sticky brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecking. Filled extent of cut [193]	Fill of stakehole [193]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
195	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered pointed base. Measured 0.045 by 0.05m in width and 0.02m in depth	Stakehole; part of dense stakehole cluster outside entrance of probable house	
196	Deposit	B Cut [195]	Charcoal flecked red brown silty clay. Filled extent of cut [195]	Fill of stakehole [195]	
197	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and rounded base. Measured 0.085 by 0.07m in width and 0.05m in depth	Stakehole; part of dense stakehole cluster outside entrance of probable house	
198	Deposit	B Cut [197]	Charcoal flecked red brown sandy soil. Filled extent of cut [197]	Fill of stakehole [197]	
199	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered pointed base. Measured 0.095 by 0.105m in width and 0.15m in depth	Stakehole; part of dense stakehole cluster outside entrance of probable house	
200	Deposit	B Cut [199]	Charcoal-flecked red brown sandy soil. Filled extent of cut [199]	Fill of stakehole [199]	
201	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and rounded base. Measured 0.09 by 0.08m in width and 0.09m in depth	Stakehole; part of dense stakehole cluster outside entrance of probable house	
202	Deposit	B Cut [201]	Charcoal-flecked red brown sandy soil. Filled extent of cut [201]	Fill of stakehole [201]	
203	Cut	B	Conjoined circular cuts with steeply sloping sides and rounded bases. Measured 0.08 by 0.07m in width and 0.07m in depth (individually)	Stakehole; part of dense stakehole cluster outside entrance of probable house	
204	Deposit	B Cut [203]	Charcoal-flecked brown silty clay. Filled extent of cut [203]	Fill of stakehole [203]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
205	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered pointed base. Measured 0.095m in diameter and 0.125m in depth	Stakehole; part of dense stakehole cluster outside entrance of probable house	
206	Deposit	B Cut [205]	Charcoal-flecked brown sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [205]	Fill of stakehole [205]	
207	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and rounded base. Measured 0.12 by 0.11m in width and 0.10m in depth	Stakehole; part of dense stakehole cluster outside entrance of probable house	
208	Deposit	B Cut [207]	Charcoal-rich brown sandy clay. Filled extent of stakehole [207]	Fill of stakehole [207]	
209	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and rounded base. Measured 0.07m in diameter and 0.10m in depth	Stakehole; part of dense stakehole cluster outside entrance of probable house	
210	Deposit	B Cut [209]	Charcoal-rich grey brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [209]	Fill of stakehole [209]	
211	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.09 by 0.08m in width and 0.155m in depth	Stakehole; part of stakehole cluster just inside entrance of probable house	
212	Deposit	B Cut [211]	Charcoal-rich orange brown silty clay. Filled extent of cut [211]	Fill of stakehole [211]	
213	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.08 by 0.06m in width and 0.11m in depth	Stakehole; part of stakehole cluster just inside entrance of probable house	
214	Deposit	B Cut [213]	Charcoal-rich dark brown silty clay. Filled extent of cut [213]	Fill of stakehole [213]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
215	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.08 by 0.09m in width and 0.10m in depth	Stakehole; part of stakehole cluster just inside entrance of probable house	
216	Deposit	B Cut [215]	Charcoal-rich dark brown sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [215]	Fill of stakehole [215]	
217	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and rounded base. Measured 0.19m in diameter and 0.21m in depth	Posthole; part of circular posthole arrangement forming probable house	
218	Deposit	B Cut [217]	Charcoal-rich dark brown sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [217]	Fill of posthole [217]	
219	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and broad flat base. Measured 0.22m in diameter and 0.125m in depth	Posthole; part of circular posthole arrangement forming probable house	
220	Deposit	B Cut [219]	Charcoal-flecked grey brown sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [219]	Fill of posthole [219]	
221	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and concave tapered base. Measured 0.10m in diameter and 0.155m in depth	Posthole associated with probable house structure	
222	Deposit	B Cut [221]	Charcoal-flecked brown sticky silty clay. Filled extent of cut [221]	Fill of posthole [221]	
223	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and concave tapered base. Measured 0.30 by 0.21m in width and 0.21m in depth	Posthole; part of circular posthole arrangement forming probable house	
224	Deposit	B Cut [223]	Charcoal-flecked brown sticky silty clay. Filled extent of cut [223]	Fill of posthole [223]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
225	Deposit	B	Charcoal-rich dark brown grey clay silt. Measured 0.30m in diameter by 0.045m in thickness	Charcoal-rich layer sealing postholes at northern end of probable structure	
226	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.285 by 0.24m in width and 0.22m in depth	Posthole; part of circular posthole arrangement forming probable house	
227	Deposit	B Cut [226]	Charcoal-flecked brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [226]	Fill of posthole [226]	
228	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.11 in diameter and 0.19m in depth	Posthole associated with probable house structure	
229	Deposit	B Cut [228]	Charcoal-flecked brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [228]	Fill of posthole [228]	
230	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.08 by 0.11m in width and 0.09m in depth	Posthole associated with probable house structure	
231	Deposit	B Cut [230]	Charcoal-flecked brown sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [230]	Fill of posthole [230]	
232	Deposit	B	Layer of beaten/tamped down clay. Measured approximately 16m by 7m in extent and 0.04m in max. thickness	Floor surface of probable house	
233	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.065 by 0.055m in width and 0.07m in depth	Stakehole; part of stakehole concentration below charcoal-rich layer (237) towards centre of probable house	
234	Deposit	B Cut [233]	Grey brown silty clay. Filled extent of cut [233]	Fill of stakehole [233]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
235	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steep/irregular sides and a broad flat base. measured 0.20 by 0.16m in width and 0.08m in depth	Posthole associated with probable house structure	
236	Deposit	B Cut [235]	Charcoal-flecked brown silty clay. Filled extent of cut [235]	Fill of posthole [235]	
237	Deposit	B	Charcoal-rich silty clay. Produced 3 chert flakes and 1 rock crystal fragment.	Charcoal-rich layer sealing stakehole cluster at centre of probable house	
238	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.075m in diameter and 0.12m in depth	Stakehole associated with probable house structure	
239	Deposit	B Cut [238]	Light brown sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecking. Filled extent of cut [238]	Fill of stakehole [238]	
240	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with gently sloping sides which ran into a broad slightly concave base. Measured approximately 0.20m in diameter by 0.08m in depth	Shallow pit associated with probable house structure	
241	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with near vertical sides and a broad flat base. Measured 0.12 by 0.08m in width and 0.12m in depth. Truncated by [240]	Posthole associated with probable house structure	
242	Deposit	B Cut [241]	Charcoal-flecked light brown sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [241]	Fill of posthole [241]	
243	Cut	B	Circular cut with near vertical sides and a broad flat base. Measured 0.17m in diameter and 0.14m in depth. Truncated by [240]	Posthole associated with probable house structure	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
244	Deposit	B Cut [243]	Charcoal-rich loose friable grey brown silty soil. Filled extent of cut [243]	Fill of posthole [243]	
245	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.065m in diameter and 0.09m in depth	Stakehole; part of stakehole cluster just inside entrance of probable house	
246	Deposit	B Cut [245]	Charcoal-flecked grey brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [245]	Fill of stakehole [245]	
247	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.05m in diameter and 0.055m in depth	Stakehole; part of stakehole cluster just inside entrance of probable house	
248	Deposit	B Cut [247]	Charcoal-flecked grey brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [247]	Fill of stakehole [247]	
249	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.09 by 0.07m in width and 0.075m in depth	Stakehole; part of stakehole cluster just inside entrance of probable house	
250	Deposit	B Cut [249]	Charcoal-flecked grey brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [249]	Fill of stakehole [249]	
251	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.08 by 0.07m in width and 0.08m in depth	Stakehole; part of stakehole cluster just inside entrance of probable house	
252	Deposit	B Cut [251]	Charcoal-flecked grey brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [251]	Fill of stakehole [251]	
253	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.07 by 0.06m in width and 0.065m in depth	Stakehole; part of stakehole cluster just inside entrance of probable house	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
254	Deposit	B Cut [253]	Charcoal-flecked grey brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [253]	Fill of stakehole [253]	
255	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with vertical sides and a flat base. Measured 0.175 by 0.15m in width and 0.125m in depth.	Posthole associated with probable house structure	
256	Deposit	B Cut [255]	Charcoal-flecked orange brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [256]	Fill of posthole [255]	
257	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.115 by 0.09m in width and 0.025m in depth	Stakehole associated with probable house structure	
258	Deposit	B Cut [257]	Charcoal-flecked brown silty clay. Filled extent of cut [258]	Fill of stakehole [257]	
259	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.075 by 0.07m in width and 0.07m in depth	Stakehole; part of stakehole cluster just inside entrance of probable house	
260	Deposit	B Cut [259]	Brown grey sandy soil with occasional charcoal flecking. Filled extent of cut [259]	Fill of stakehole [259]	
261	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.11 by 0.08m in width and 0.11m in depth	Stakehole; part of stakehole cluster just inside entrance of probable house	
262	Deposit	B Cut [261]	Brown grey sandy soil with occasional charcoal flecking. Filled extent of cut [262]	Fill of stakehole [261]	
263	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.125 by 0.09m in width and 0.04m in depth	Stakehole; part of stakehole cluster just inside entrance of probable house	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
264	Deposit	B Cut [263]	Light brown sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecking. Filled extent of cut [263]	Fill of stakehole [263]	
265	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.07 by 0.08m in width and 0.08m in depth	Stakehole; part of stakehole cluster just inside entrance of probable house	
266	Deposit	B Cut [265]	Charcoal-rich dark grey brown silty clay. Filled extent of cut [265]	Fill of stakehole [265]	
267	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.08 by 0.07m in width and 0.09m in depth	Stakehole; part of stakehole cluster just inside entrance of probable house	
268	Deposit	B Cut [267]	Firm light brown clay with occasional charcoal flecking. Filled extent of cut [267]	Fill of stakehole [267]	
269	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.065 by 0.06m in width and 0.06m in depth	Stakehole; part of stakehole cluster just inside entrance of probable house	
270	Deposit	B Cut [269]	Charcoal-flecked brown silty clay. Filled extent of cut [269]	Fill of stakehole [269]	
271	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.10 by 0.08m in width and 0.06m in depth	Stakehole; part of stakehole cluster just inside entrance of probable house	
272	Deposit	B Cut [271]	Charcoal-flecked grey brown silty clay. Filled extent of cut [271]	Fill of stakehole [271]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
273	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.115m in diameter and 0.15m in depth. Adjoins and is probably contemporary with cut [275]	Stakehole associated with probable house structure	
274	Deposit	B Cut [275]	Charcoal-flecked grey brown clay silt. Filled extent of cuts [273] and [275]	Fill of stakeholes [273] and [275]	
275	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.08m in diameter and 0.14m in depth. Adjoins and is probably contemporary with cut [273]	Stakehole associated with probable house structure	
276	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.125 by 0.115m in width and 0.15m in depth.	Stakehole associated with probable house structure	
277	Deposit	B Cut [276]	Charcoal-rich brown grey soft clay silt. Filled extent of cut [276]	Fill of posthole [276]	
278	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with near vertical sides and a slightly concave base. Measured 0.19 by 0.165m in width and 0.18m in depth.	Posthole; possibly part of ancillary structure outside elliptical structure	
279	Deposit	B Cut [278]	Charcoal-flecked red brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [278]	Fill of posthole [278]	
280	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with near vertical sides and a slightly concave base. Measured 0.17 by 0.145m in width and 0.15m in depth.	Posthole; part of elliptical posthole arrangement forming second possible house structure	
281	Deposit	B Cut [280]	Charcoal-flecked red brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [280]	Fill of posthole [280]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
282	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with near vertical sides, except at E where sides slope gradually, and a concave base. Measured 0.19 by 0.14m in width and 0.18m in depth.	Posthole; part of elliptical posthole arrangement forming second possible house structure	
283	Deposit	B Cut [282]	Charcoal-rich orange brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [282]	Fill of posthole [282]	
284	Deposit	B	Charcoal-flecked reddish brown clay. Measured 0.75m by 0.50m in extent and 0.03m in thickness	Charcoal-rich clay with possible evidence of <i>in-situ</i> burning towards centre of elliptical structure. Possible hearth	
285	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a tapered pointed base. Measured 0.075 by 0.06m in width and 0.12m in depth.	Stakehole; possibly part of internal structure/subdivision within elliptical structure	
286	Deposit	B Cut [285]	Charcoal-rich orange brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [285]	Fill of stakehole [285]	
287	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.22 by 0.19m in width and 0.07m in depth.	Posthole; part of elliptical posthole arrangement forming second possible house structure	
288	Deposit	B Cut [287]	Charcoal-rich orange brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [287]	Fill of posthole [287]	
289	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with near vertical sides and a broad slightly concave base. Measured 0.18 by 0.17m in width and 0.065m in depth.	Posthole; part of elliptical posthole arrangement forming second possible house structure	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
290	Deposit	B Cut [289]	Charcoal-rich orange brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [289]	Fill of posthole [289]	
291	Deposit	B	Charcoal-flecked friable brown/orange silty clay. Measured 0.50 by 0.40m in extent and 0.04m in thickness	Charcoal-flecked deposit at western side of elliptical posthole structure	
292	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with near vertical sides and a flat base. Measured 0.115 by 0.10m in width and 0.09m in depth.	Posthole; possibly part of ancillary structure outside elliptical structure	
293	Deposit	B Cut [292]	Charcoal-rich orange brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [292]	Fill of posthole [292]	
294	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with near vertical sides and a flat base. Measured 0.145 by 0.14m in width and 0.17m in depth.	Posthole; possibly part of ancillary structure outside elliptical structure	
295	Deposit	B Cut [294]	Charcoal-rich orange brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [294]	Fill of posthole [294]	
296	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with near vertical sides and a slightly rounded base. Measured 0.25 by 0.24m in width and 0.10m in depth.	Posthole; part of elliptical posthole arrangement forming second possible house structure	
297	Deposit	B Cut [296]	Charcoal-flecked grey brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [296]	Fill of posthole [296]	
298	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.21 by 0.20m in width and 0.46m in depth.	Posthole; possibly part of internal structure/subdivision within elliptical structure	
299	Deposit	B Cut [298]	Charcoal-flecked light brown sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [298]	Fill of posthole [298]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
300	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with near vertical sides and a flat base. Measured 0.15 by 0.17m in width and 0.28m in depth.	Posthole; part of elliptical posthole arrangement forming second possible house structure	
301	Deposit	B Cut [300]	Charcoal-rich brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [300]	Fill of posthole [300]	
302	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with near vertical sides and a flat base. Measured 0.23 by 0.20m in width and 0.20m in depth.	Posthole; part of elliptical posthole arrangement forming second possible house structure	
303	Deposit	B Cut [302]	Charcoal-flecked dark brown/grey clay soil. Filled extent of cut [302]	Fill of posthole [302]	
304	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with near vertical sides and a concave base. Measured 0.23 by 0.20m in width and 0.27m in depth.	Posthole; part of elliptical posthole arrangement forming second possible house structure	
305	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with near vertical sides and a concave base. Measured 0.22m in diameter and 0.18m in depth.	Posthole; part of elliptical posthole arrangement forming second possible house structure	
306	Deposit	B Cut [305]	Charcoal-flecked grey brown clay soil. Filled extent of cut [305]	Fill of posthole [305]	
307	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with near vertical sides and a concave base. Measured 0.25m in diameter and 0.04m in depth.	Posthole; possibly part of internal structure/subdivision within elliptical structure	
308	Deposit	B Cut [307]	Charcoal-flecked orange brown clay soil. Filled extent of cut [307]	Fill of posthole [307]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
309	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.11m in diameter and 0.36m in depth.	Posthole; possibly part of internal structure/subdivision within elliptical structure	
310	Deposit	B Cut [309]	Charcoal-rich brown clay soil. Filled extent of cut [309]	Fill of posthole [309]	
311	Cut	B	Conjoined sub circular cuts with near vertical sides and concave rounded bases. Measured 0.28m by 0.13m in width and 0.14m in depth (both)	Double/conjoined postholes; possibly part of internal structure/subdivision within elliptical structure	
312	Deposit	B Cut [311]	Charcoal-flecked brown clay soil. Filled extent of cut [311]	Fill of posthole [311]	
313	Cut	B	Sub circular cut measured 0.15 by 0.18m in width and 0.42m in depth. Filled by (314)	Posthole; possibly part of internal structure/subdivision within elliptical structure	
314	Deposit	B Cut [313]	Charcoal-rich grey brown clay silt. Filled extent of cut [313]	Fill of posthole [313]	
315	Cut	B	Sub circular cut. Measured 0.19m in diameter by 0.06m in depth	Posthole; possibly part of internal structure/subdivision within elliptical structure	
316	Deposit	B Cut [315]	Charcoal-flecked orange brown clay soil. Filled extent of cut [315]	Fill of posthole [315]	
317	Cut	B	Circular cut with near vertical sides and a concave base. Measured 0.19m in diameter by 0.23m in depth. Filled by (318)	Posthole; possibly part of internal structure/subdivision within elliptical structure	
318	Deposit	B Cut [317]	Charcoal-flecked grey brown clay soil. Fill of [317]	Fill of posthole [317]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
319	Cut	B	Circular cut with steep sides which narrowed towards tapered base. Measured 0.20m in diameter by 0.31m in depth. Filled by (320)	Posthole; possibly part of internal structure/subdivision within elliptical structure	
320	Deposit	B Cut [319]	Charcoal-flecked grey brown clay soil. Filled extent of cut [319]	Fill of posthole [319]	
321	Cut	B	Circular cut with vertical sides and a concave base. Measured 0.17m in diameter by 0.24m in depth. Filled by (320)	Posthole; possibly part of internal structure/subdivision within elliptical structure	
322	Deposit	B Cut [321]	Charcoal-flecked grey brown clay soil. Filled extent of cut [321]	Fill of posthole [321]	
323	Cut	A Cut [083]	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.12 by 0.14m in width and 0.26m in depth. Filled by (324)	Posthole cut into base of pit [083]	
324	Deposit	A Cut [323]	Loose, charcoal-rich, dark brown gritty clay silt, containing some burnt clay patches. Filled extent of cut [323]	Fill of posthole [323]	
325	Cut	A Cut [324]	Small circular cut filled by (106)	Stakehole at base of posthole [104]	
326	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steep sides and a tapered base. Measured 0.065 by 0.06m in width and 0.10m in depth	Stakehole; part of stakehole cluster just inside entrance of probable house	
327	Deposit	B Cut [326]	Charcoal flecked dark brown sandy clay. Fill of stakehole [326]	Fill of stakehole [326]	
328	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steep sides and a tapered base. Measured 0.07 by 0.09m in width and 0.12m in depth	Stakehole; part of stakehole cluster just inside entrance of probable house	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
329	Deposit	B Cut [328]	Light brown sandy clay. Filled extent of [328]	Fill of stakehole [328]	
330	Cut	B	Sub circular cut measured approximately 0.50 by 0.60m in width and 0.15m in depth. Filled by (331)	Posthole; part of circular posthole arrangement forming probable house	
331	Deposit	B Cut [330]	Mottled grey/brown sandy clay with frequent charcoal flecking and mid-sized stone inclusions. Filled extent of cut [330]	Fill of posthole [330]	
332	Cut	B	Northwest southeast aligned cut. Measured 1m in length by 0.40m in width and 0.09m in depth. Filled by (333)	Truncated remains of possible run-off gully, which may have surrounded circular house structure	
333	Deposit	B Cut [332]	Charcoal-flecked red brown sandy/silty clay. Filled extent of cut [332]. Produced small number of chert flakes	Fill of possible run-off gully [332]	
334	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steep sides and a tapered base. Measured 0.11 by 0.10m in width and 0.10m in depth. Filled by (335)	Stakehole	
335	Deposit	B Cut [334]	Charcoal flecked red brown silty clay. Filled extent of cut [334]	Fill of stakehole [334]	
336	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steep sides and a broad flat base. Measured 0.085 by 0.10m in width and 0.09m in depth. Filled by (337)	Posthole; possibly part of ancillary structure outside elliptical structure	
337	Deposit	B Cut [336]	Charcoal flecked red brown silty clay. Filled extent of cut [336]	Fill of posthole [336]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
338	Cut	B	Northwest southeast aligned linear feature. Measured 0.80m in length by 0.15m in width and 0.10m in depth	Slot/truncated gully?	
339	Deposit	B Cut [338]	Light brown sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecking. Filled extent of [338]	Fill of linear feature [338]	
340	Cut	B	Northwest southeast aligned sub circular pit with gradually sloping sides and a broad base which sloped downwards to southeast. Measured 0.50m in diameter by 0.10m in depth. Filled by (341). Posthole [413] cut into base.	Pit just outside elliptical structure; produced iron artefacts. Probably associated/contemporary with adjacent pit [415]	
341	Deposit	B Cut [340]	Mottled reddish brown/grey sandy soil with moderate charcoal flecking. Produced 5 chert flakes as well as Fe finds including nails and fragmented object	Fill of pit [340]. Produced iron artefacts	
342	Cut	B	Circular cut. Filled by (343)	Posthole/stakehole associated with elliptical structure.	
343	Deposit	B Cut [342]	Charcoal flecked brown/orange clay soil. Fill of [342]	Fill of posthole [342]	
344	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with sharply sloping sides and a tapered pointed base. Measured approximately 0.20m in diameter by 0.25m in depth. Filled by (345)	Posthole or large stakehole; part of elliptical posthole arrangement forming second possible house structure	
345	Deposit	B Cut [344]	Charcoal-rich dark brown silty clay. Filled extent of cut [344]	Fill of posthole [344]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
346	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.50m in diameter by 0.30m in depth. Filled by (347)	Posthole; part of elliptical posthole arrangement forming second possible house structure	
347	Deposit	B Cut [346]	Charcoal-rich brown sandy soil with reddened clay patches. Produced 5 x worked chert pieces	Fill of posthole [346]	
348	Cut	B	Northeast southwest aligned sub circular cut with near vertical sides and a concave base. Measured approximately 0.50m in diameter by 0.20m in depth. Filled by (349)	Posthole; part of circular posthole arrangement forming probable house	
349	Deposit	A Cut [348]	Mottled light brown/grey sandy clay with moderate charcoal flecking. Filled extent of [348]. Produced chert core	Fill of posthole [348]	
350	Cut	B	Northeast southwest aligned sub circular cut with near vertical sides and a broad slightly concave base. Measured approximately 0.50m in diameter by 0.25m in depth. Filled by (352) and (351)	Posthole; part of circular posthole arrangement forming probable house	
351	Deposit	A Cut [350]	Charcoal-rich brown clay silt. Measured 0.07m in thickness	Upper fill of posthole [350]	
352	Deposit	A Cut [350]	Charcoal-flecked yellow/light brown sandy clay. Measured 0.25m in thickness	Primary fill of posthole [350]	
353	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a broad, somewhat uneven base. Measured 0.90m in diameter by 0.25m in depth. Filled by (355) and (354)	Posthole; part of circular posthole arrangement forming probable house	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
354	Deposit	A Cut [353]	Soft charcoal-rich dark brown silty soil with moderate small-mid-sized stone inclusions. Measured 0.20m in max. thickness. Produced numerous chert flakes as well as a coarse pottery sherd and burnt bone fragments	Secondary/main fill of posthole [353]	
355	Deposit	A Cut [353]	Firm charcoal-flecked light brown sandy soil. Measured 0.07m in max. thickness. Produced 3 chert flakes	Basal fill of posthole [353]	
356	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with near vertical sides and a rounded concave base. Measured 0.50 by 0.40m in width by 0.20m in depth	Posthole; part of circular posthole arrangement forming probable house	
357	Deposit	B Cut [356]	Friable charcoal-flecked light brown sandy soil. Filled extent of cut [356]	Fill of posthole [356]	
358	Cut	B	Northeast to southwest aligned oval pit measuring 0.70m in length by 0.55m in width and 0.09m in depth	Pit to southwest of possible house	
359	Deposit	B Cut [358]	Dark brown friable silty clay, with occasional charcoal flecking and frequent small stone inclusions.	Fill of pit [358]	
360	Cut	B	Northwest to southeast aligned sub triangular pit, measuring 0.70m in length by 0.50m in width and 0.12m in depth.	Pit to southwest of possible house	
361	Deposit	B Cut [360]	Dark brown friable silty clay with frequent small stone inclusions.	Fill of pit [360]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
362	Deposit	B Cut [240]	Friable grey/light brown sandy soil with frequent charcoal flecking. Measured 0.06m in thickness	Upper fill of pit [240]	
363	Deposit	B Cut [240]	Fire-reddened clay with occasional charcoal inclusions. Measured 0.03m in thickness	Basal fill of pit [240] with evidence of <i>in-situ</i> burning	
364	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and concave base. measured approximately 0.40m in diameter and 0.20m in depth	Posthole; part of elliptical posthole arrangement forming second possible house structure	
365	Deposit	B Cut [364]	Firm light brown/orange silty clay with occasional charcoal flecking. Filled extent of cut [364]	Fill of posthole [364]	
366	Cut	B	Northeast southwest aligned sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and concave base. measured approximately 0.80m in length by 0.65m in width and 0.20m in depth	Posthole; part of elliptical posthole arrangement forming second possible house structure	
367	Deposit	B Cut [366]	Brown sandy soil with occasional charcoal flecking and small stone inclusions. Filled extent of cut [366]	Fill of post pit [366]	
368	Cut	B	Shallow irregular cut filled with (369)	Possible posthole; possibly part of ancillary structure outside elliptical structure	
369	Deposit	B Cut [368]	Orange brown sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecking. Filled extent of cut [368]	Fill of post pit [368]	
370	Cut	B	Northeast to southwest aligned oval pit, measuring 0.68m in length by 0.50m in width and 0.10m in depth	Pit to southwest of elliptical posthole structure	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
371	Deposit	B Cut [370]	Light brown orange sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecking. Filled extent of cut [370]	Fill of post pit [370]	
372	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.06m in diameter by 0.06m in depth.	Stakehole	
373	Deposit	B Cut [372]	Light brown sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecking. Filled extent of cut [372]	Fill of stakehole [372]	
374	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.07 by 0.08m in width by 0.16m in depth.	Stakehole; part of stakehole cluster just inside entrance of probable house	
375	Deposit	B Cut [374]	Charcoal-flecked dark brown grey sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [374]	Fill of stakehole [374]	
376	Cut	B Cut [350]	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and concave base. Measured 0.065m in diameter by 0.08m in depth.	Stakehole cut into base of posthole [350]	
377	Deposit	B Cut [376]	Charcoal-flecked sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [376]	Fill of stakehole [376]	
378	Cut	B Cut [350]	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and concave base. Measured 0.075m in diameter by 0.08m in depth.	Stakehole cut into base of posthole [350]	
379	Deposit	B Cut [378]	Charcoal-flecked sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [378]	Fill of stakehole [378]	
380	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steep sides and a slightly concave base. Measured 0.14 by 0.12m in width by 0.15m in depth.	Posthole; part of elliptical posthole arrangement forming second possible house structure	
381	Deposit	B Cut [380]	Charcoal-flecked light brown sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [380]	Fill of posthole [380]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
382	Cut	B	North south aligned irregular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave undulating base. Measured 0.35m in length by 0.20m in width by 0.08m in depth.	Probable conjoined stakeholes southwest of circular posthole arrangement	
383	Deposit	B Cut [382]	Charcoal-flecked light brown sandy clay. Filled extent of stakehole(s) [382]	Fill of stakehole(s) [382]	
384	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.10m in diameter by 0.08m in depth.	Stakehole north of pit [088]	
385	Deposit	B Cut [384]	Charcoal-flecked light brown sandy clay. Filled extent of stakehole [384]	Fill of stakehole [384]	
386	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a slightly concave base. Measured 0.25m in diameter by 0.15m in depth. Truncated by posthole [107]	Posthole at northwest side of circular posthole arrangement	
387	Deposit	B Cut [386]	Friable charcoal-flecked brown/grey silty soil. Filled extent of cut [386]	Fill of posthole [386]	
388	Cut	B	Circular cut with near vertical sides and a broad slightly concave base. Measured 0.75m in diameter by 0.20m in depth.	Posthole; part of circular posthole arrangement forming probable house	
389	Deposit	B Cut [388]	Charcoal-rich dark grey-black sandy clay with moderate small stone inclusions. Measured 0.10m in thickness	Upper fill of posthole [388]	
390	Deposit	B Cut [388]	Brown sandy clay. Measured 0.10m in thickness	Secondary fill of posthole [388]	
391	Deposit	B Cut [388]	Charcoal-flecked light brown sandy clay. Measured 0.06m in thickness	Basal fill of posthole [388]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
392	Cut	C	North south aligned oval pit with near vertical sides and a broad flat base. Measured 2.80m in length by 1.60m in width and 0.70m in maximum depth. Truncated by pit [482]	Large bedrock-cut pit to north of Area A	
393	Cut	C	East west aligned sub rectangular pit with near vertical sides and a broad rounded base. Measured 2.40m in length by 1.20m in width and 0.65m in depth	Large bedrock-cut pit to north of Area A	
394	Cut	C	North south aligned linear feature ran for 12m between the north and south limits of excavation and measured between 0.60 and 1.20m in width, being widest to the south, and between 0.10 and 0.26m in depth. Filled by (496).	Ditch to north of Area A	
395	Deposit	C Cut [393]	Friable sandy brown clay with occasional charcoal flecking. Measured 0.25m in thickness	Upper fill of pit [393]	
396	Deposit	C Cut [393]	Heavily charcoal-flecked silty clay. Measured 0.55m in maximum thickness	Tertiary fill of pit [393]	
397	Deposit	C Cut [393]	Charcoal-flecked dark grey brown silty clay with fire-reddened clay patches. Measured 0.10m in maximum thickness	Basal fill of pit [393]	
398	Deposit	C Cut [393]	Fire-reddened clay layer. Measured 0.14m in thickness	Secondary fill of pit [393]	399 411
399	Deposit	C Cut [393]	See description for (398)	Secondary fill of pit [393]	398 411

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
400	Cut	B	Circular cut with near vertical sides and a slightly concave base. Measured 0.35m in diameter by 0.17m in depth	Posthole; part of elliptical posthole arrangement forming second possible house structure	
401	Deposit	C Cut [400]	Charcoal-rich dark grey brown silty clay. Filled extent of cut [400]	Fill of posthole [400]	
402	Deposit	C Cut [392]	Grey brown silty clay with occasional charcoal inclusions. Measured 0.47m in thickness. Produced quantity of chert flakes	Upper fill of pit [392]	
403	Deposit	C Cut [392]	Firm charcoal-flecked gritty brown grey soil.	Fill of pit [392]; lens within (404)?	
404	Deposit	C Cut [392]	Soft charcoal-rich soil and burnt clay. Measured 0.14m in thickness	Basal fill of pit [392]	
405	Deposit	C Cut [392]	Soft charcoal-rich black soil	Fill of pit [392]; variation of deposit (404)	
406	Deposit	C Cut [392]	Fire-reddened clay	Fill of pit [392]; variation of deposit (404)	
407	Deposit	C Cut [392]	Firm brown grey soil	Fill of pit [392]; variation of deposit (402)	
408	Deposit	C Cut [393]	Light brown sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecking.	Fill of pit [393]; variation of deposit (396)	396 409
409	Deposit	C Cut [393]	Brown sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecking	Fill of pit [393]; variation of deposit (396)/(408)	396 408
410	Deposit	C Cut [393]	Dark brown clay with occasional charcoal flecking	Fill of pit [393]; variation of deposit (395)	395
411	Deposit	C Cut [393]	Charcoal-flecked fire-reddened burnt clay	Fill of pit [393]; variation of deposit (398)/(399)	398 399

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
412	Deposit	C Cut [393]	Charcoal-rich dark purplish brown clay	Fill of pit [393]; variation of deposit (397)	397
413	Cut	B Cut [340]	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and slightly concave base. Measured 0.15m in diameter by 0.50m in depth.	Posthole cut into base of pit [340]	
414	Deposit	B Cut [413]	Dark brown soft sticky clay with occasional charcoal flecking and frequent small stone inclusions. Filled extent of cut [413]	Fill of posthole [413]	
415	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with gradually sloping sides and a broad flat base. Measured just under 0.50m in diameter by 0.10m in depth.	Pit just outside elliptical structure. Probably associated/contemporary with adjacent pit [340]	
416	Deposit	B Cut [415]	Firm brown grey gritty sandy clay with frequent small stone inclusions and occasional charcoal flecking	Fill of pit [415]	
417	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.08m in diameter by 0.08m in depth.	Stakehole south of posthole [400]; part of elliptical posthole arrangement	
418	Deposit	B Cut [417]	Friable charcoal-rich dark brown grey clay. Filled extent of cut [417]	Fill of pit [417]	
419	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.19 by 0.10m in width by 0.11m in depth. Truncated by large posthole [388]	Stakehole within circular posthole arrangement	
420	Deposit	B Cut [419]	Friable charcoal-flecked light brown sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [419]	Fill of pit [419]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
421	Cut	B	North south aligned oval cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.40m in length by 0.25m in width and 0.08m in depth	Posthole/pit within possible house defined by circular posthole arrangement	
422	Deposit	B Cut [421]	Friable charcoal-flecked light brown sandy clay. Filled extent of cuts [421] and [423]	Fill of posthole [421] and stakehole [423]	
423	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.06 by 0.08m in width by 0.08m in depth. Filled by (422)	Stakehole cut into base of posthole/pit [421]	
424	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.14 by 0.13m in width by 0.10m in depth.	Stakehole; part of stakehole concentration below charcoal-rich layer (237) towards centre of probable house	
425	Deposit	B Cut [424]	Friable charcoal-flecked light brown sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [424]	Fill of stakehole [424]	
426	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.09m in diameter by 0.08m in depth.	Stakehole; part of stakehole concentration below charcoal-rich layer (237) towards centre of probable house	
427	Deposit	B Cut [426]	Charcoal-flecked brown silty clay. Filled extent of cut [426]	Fill of stakehole [426]	
428	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.10 by 0.14m in width by 0.11m in depth.	Stakehole; part of stakehole concentration below charcoal-rich layer (237) towards centre of probable house	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
429	Deposit	B Cut [428]	Charcoal-flecked light brown sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [428]	Fill of stakehole [428]	
430	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.07 by 0.055m in width by 0.04m in depth.	Stakehole; part of stakehole concentration below charcoal-rich layer (237) towards centre of probable house	
431	Deposit	B Cut [430]	Charcoal-flecked light brown sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [430]	Fill of stakehole [430]	
432	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.14 by 0.13m in width by 0.02m in depth.	Stakehole within possible house defined by circular posthole arrangement	
433	Deposit	B Cut [432]	Charcoal-flecked light brown sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [432]	Fill of stakehole [432]	
434	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.125 by 0.12m in width by 0.16m in depth.	Stakehole within possible house defined by circular posthole arrangement	
435	Deposit	B Cut [434]	Charcoal-flecked light brown sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [434]	Fill of stakehole [434]	
436	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.08 by 0.10m in width by 0.12m in depth.	Stakehole within possible house defined by circular posthole arrangement	
437	Deposit	B Cut [436]	Charcoal-flecked light brown sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [436]	Fill of stakehole [436]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
438	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.15 by 0.155m in width by 0.145m in depth.	Stakehole; part of stakehole concentration below charcoal-rich layer (237) towards centre of probable house	
439	Deposit	B Cut [438]	Charcoal-flecked brown sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [438]	Fill of stakehole [438]	
440	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.125m in diameter by 0.11m in depth.	Stakehole; part of stakehole concentration below charcoal-rich layer (237) towards centre of probable house	
441	Deposit	B Cut [440]	Charcoal-flecked brown sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [440]	Fill of stakehole [440]	
442	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.155 by 0.165m in width by 0.12m in depth.	Stakehole; part of stakehole concentration below charcoal-rich layer (237) towards centre of probable house	
443	Deposit	B Cut [442]	Charcoal-rich orange sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [442]	Fill of stakehole [442]	
444	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.095 by 0.09m in width by 0.16m in depth.	Stakehole; part of stakehole concentration below charcoal-rich layer (237) towards centre of probable house	
445	Deposit	B Cut [444]	Charcoal-rich brown/grey sandy clay. Filled extent of cuts [444] and [446]	Fill of stakeholes [444] and [446]	
446	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.12 by 0.095m in width by 0.17m in depth.	Stakehole; part of stakehole concentration below charcoal-rich layer (237) towards centre of probable house	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
447	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.085 by 0.08m in width by 0.13m in depth.	Stakehole within possible house defined by circular posthole arrangement	
448	Deposit	B Cut [447]	Charcoal-rich orange sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [447]	Fill of stakehole [447]	
449	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.08m in diameter by 0.07m in depth.	Stakehole south of posthole [400]; part of elliptical posthole arrangement	
450	Deposit	B Cut [449]	Charcoal-flecked orange grey sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [449]	Fill of stakehole [449]	
451	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.085 by 0.08m in width by 0.085m in depth.	Stakehole within possible house defined by circular posthole arrangement	
452	Deposit	B Cut [451]	Brown/ orange sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecking. Filled extent of cut [451]	Fill of stakehole [451]	
453	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.07m in diameter by 0.14m in depth.	Stakehole below charcoal-rich deposit (225) at northeast of possible house defined by circular posthole arrangement	
454	Deposit	B Cut [453]	Brown/ orange sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecking. Filled extent of cut [453]	Fill of stakehole [453]	
455	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.08 by 0.10m in width by 0.16m in depth.	Stakehole below charcoal-rich deposit (225) at northeast of possible house defined by circular posthole arrangement	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
456	Deposit	B Cut [455]	Brown sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecking. Filled extent of cut [455]	Fill of stakehole [455]	
457	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. Measured 0.07 by 0.075m in width by 0.15m in depth.	Stakehole; part of dense stakehole concentration outside entrance of circular posthole arrangement	
458	Deposit	B Cut [457]	Coarse orange/brown sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecking. Filled extent of cut [457]	Fill of stakehole [457]	
459	Deposit	C Cut [481]	Light brown sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecking. Measured 0.48m in thickness	Upper fill of pit [481]	
460	Deposit	C Cut [481]	Firm fire-reddened clay with frequent burnt stone inclusions. Measured 0.08m in max. thickness	Secondary fill of pit [481] with evidence of <i>in-situ</i> burning	
461	Deposit	C Cut [481]	Charcoal-flecked dark brown silty clay. Measured 0.17m in thickness	Basal fill of pit [481]	
462	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and slightly concave base. Measured 0.12m in diameter by 0.075m in depth	Small pit/posthole south of possible house defined by circular posthole arrangement	
463	Deposit	B Cut [462]	Brown sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecking. Filled extent of cut [462]	Fill of small pit/posthole [462]	
464	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and slightly concave base. Measured 0.07 by 0.06m in width by 0.08m in depth	Stakehole between circular and elliptical posthole arrangements	
465	Deposit	B Cut [464]	Charcoal-flecked dark brown sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [464]	Fill of stakehole [464]	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
466	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.075 by 0.04m in width and 0.08m in depth. Filled by (237)	Stakehole; part of stakehole concentration below charcoal-rich layer (237) towards centre of probable house	
467	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.09 by 0.065m in width and 0.25m in depth. Filled by (237)	Stakehole; part of stakehole concentration below charcoal-rich layer (237) towards centre of probable house	
468	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.08 by 0.075m in width and 0.07m in depth. Filled by (237)	Stakehole; part of stakehole concentration below charcoal-rich layer (237) towards centre of probable house	
469	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.11 by 0.09m in width and 0.07m in depth. Filled by (237)	Stakehole; part of stakehole concentration below charcoal-rich layer (237) towards centre of probable house	
470	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.12 by 0.11m in width and 0.13m in depth. Filled by (237)	Stakehole; part of stakehole concentration below charcoal-rich layer (237) towards centre of probable house	
471	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.11 by 0.105m in width and 0.15m in depth. Filled by (237)	Stakehole; part of stakehole concentration below charcoal-rich layer (237) towards centre of probable house	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
472	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.06 by 0.09m in width and 0.06m in depth. Filled by (237)	Stakehole; part of stakehole concentration below charcoal-rich layer (237) towards centre of probable house	
473	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.085 by 0.075m in width and 0.11m in depth. Filled by (237)	Stakehole; part of stakehole concentration below charcoal-rich layer (237) towards centre of probable house	
474	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.06 by 0.05m in width and 0.09m in depth. Filled by (237)	Stakehole; part of stakehole concentration below charcoal-rich layer (237) towards centre of probable house	
475	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.09 by 0.08m in width and 0.08m in depth. Filled by (237)	Stakehole; part of stakehole concentration below charcoal-rich layer (237) towards centre of probable house	
476	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with gently sloping sides. Measured approximately 0.40m east west by 0.20m north south in surviving width by 0.05m in surviving depth. Truncated by cut [112]	Posthole; part of circular posthole arrangement forming probable house	
477	Deposit	B Cut [476]	Light brown clay with moderate charcoal flecking. Filled surviving extent of cut [476]	Fill of posthole [476]	
478	Deposit	B	Layer of beaten/tamped down charcoal-flecked orange/brown clay.	Floor surface of probable house	232
479			VOID		

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
480			VOID		
481	Cut	C	East/-northeast west-southwest aligned sub rectangular pit with near vertical sides and a broad slightly concave base. Surviving dimensions measured 0.60m in length by 0.46m in width and 0.46m in depth. Truncated by pits [393] and [482]. Filled by (459), (460) and (461).	Heavily truncated bedrock-cut pit to north of Area A	
482	Cut	C	East/-northeast west-southwest aligned sub rectangular pit with near vertical sides and a broad irregular concave base. Measured 1.50m in length by 1m in width and 0.50m in depth.	Bedrock-cut pit to north of Area A	
483	Deposit	C Cut [482]	Charcoal-flecked grey brown sandy soil. Measured 0.48m in thickness	Upper /main fill of pit [482]	
484	Deposit	C Cut [482]	Light brown clay with occasional charcoal inclusions. Measured 0.10m in max. thickness	Basal fill of pit [482]	
485	Cut	B	Circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.075m in diameter and 0.11m in depth	Stakehole; east of dense stakehole cluster outside entrance of probable house	
486	Deposit	B Cut [485]	Charcoal-flecked brown sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [485]	Fill of stakehole [485]	
487	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.07 by 0.065m in width and 0.06m in depth	Stakehole; within probable house defined by circular posthole arrangement	

Context	Type	Area/Cut	Description	Interpretation	Same As
488	Deposit	B Cut [487]	Charcoal-flecked brown sandy clay. Filled extent of cut [487]	Fill of stakehole [487]	
489	Cut	B	Sub circular cut with steeply sloping sides and tapered base. Measured 0.075m by 0.07m in width and 0.05m in depth	Stakehole; part of dense stakehole cluster outside entrance of probable house	
490	Deposit	B Cut [489]	Charcoal-flecked light brown sand. Filled extent of cut [489]	Fill of stakehole [489]	
491			VOID		
492			VOID		
493	Deposit	A Cut [070]	Charcoal-rich silt mixed with fire-reddened burnt clay patches. Measured 0.06m in thickness	Basal fill of pit [070]	072
494	Cut	A	East west aligned irregular /sub rectangular shaped pit with near vertical sides and an uneven base, the western end of which was cut into bedrock. Measured 2.60m in length by 1.40m in width by 0.60m in depth.	Large isolated pit towards western side of site with evidence of repeated <i>in-situ</i> burning at base	
495	Deposit	A Cut [494]	Loose, charcoal-rich, dark brown gritty clay silt containing some burnt clay patches. Filled extent of pit [494]	Fill of large pit [494]	
496	Deposit	A Cut [394]	Loose, charcoal-flecked, grey brown silty clay; charcoal inclusions being most frequent towards the top of the deposit at the south end of the cut. Filled extent of cut [394].	Fill of ditch [394]	

13. APPENDIX IV: N7 NENAGH BYPASS, CO. TIPPERARY: ANIMAL BONES

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04 August 2010

INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

Taxonomic identifications were made using the author's modern comparative collections. All fragments were identified to species and element where possible with the following exceptions: ribs and vertebrae of the ungulates (other than axis, atlas, and sacrum) were identified only to the level of cattle/horse-sized and sheep/pig-sized. Unidentified shaft and other fragments were similarly divided. Any fragments that could not be assigned even to this level have been recorded as mammalian only. Where possible sheep and goat were separated using the methods of Boessneck (1969), Payne (1985) and Halstead & Collins (2002). Recently broken bones were joined where possible and have been counted as single specimens. Tooth eruption and wear stages of cattle, sheep and pig mandibles were recorded following Grant (1982). Measurements mainly follow von den Driesch (1976) and are in millimetres unless otherwise stated. Withers height calculations of the domestic ungulates are based on factors recommended by von den Driesch and Boessneck (1974). Shoulder heights of dogs are calculated using the factors of Harcourt (1974). The archive includes further details of metrical and other data not presented in the text.

RESULTS: PART 1, SMALL ASSEMBLAGES

Benedin: 98E0444

[393] (411) ss 350

The only bone recovered from the site is a fragmented and calcined 2nd phalanx of cattle or deer. The fact that this bone is burnt might indicate that other bone was present but has been eroded as burnt bone often survives better in aggressive soil conditions.

Lahasseraigh C: 98E0474

[104] (112) ss 200

The fragmentary remains of an eroded cattle tooth are the only evidence of animal bone from this site.

Knockaunkennedy: 98E0472

There are nine animal bones from four contexts; 1, 34, 88 and 141. The bones are in poor condition and are in many pieces but in spite of this five could be identified to species. A horse tooth, a fragment of deer metapodial and a possible pig calcaneum were recovered from the topsoil. Most of the bone is dark but an antler from the cobbled area 34 is soft and chalky. This is a shed antler and would therefore have been collected rather than taken from a hunted stag. The other bone from the cobbles is a fragment of pig tooth. A cattle axis and a cattle or deer longbone fragment were recovered from deposit 141 above the cobbles. The remaining two bones are from stakehole 88. These are poor and

fragmentary and could not be fully identified but one may be of cattle radius. The sample is far too small for detailed analysis but, considering the small number of specimens and their poor condition it is interesting that several taxa are represented.

Knockalton Lower: 98E0471

Animal bone was recovered from four contexts; 1, 2, 4 and 11. From context 1 there is a poorly preserved sheep/goat metacarpus and from context 11 a fragmentary cattle upper molar.

Most of the bone is from the two ditches. There are 20 bones from ditch 5 context 4, mainly the head and foot bones of a young, but not neonatal, calf. The proximal ends of the feet are slightly charred. It seems likely that these bones represent the disposal of the waste head and feet from a carcass. It is possible that the innards and perhaps skin were burnt and then the remains, including the still unburnt parts, buried in the ditch. The other bone find from this context is the partial and fragmentary remains of a red deer antler. This is a large, naturally shed, antler with the brow and bezel tine present but the main beam and the rest of the antler absent. The bones from ditch 3 context 2 are all of dog and, although split across two samples, the remains are almost certainly of a single animal. All areas of the body are present but many of the smallest elements such as toes are missing, either missed during collection or eroded away in the ground. The skull is extremely fragmentary and only the rear portion and the loose teeth are present. The neck vertebrae are all present but none of the thoracic and lumbar vertebrae were recovered. None of the major limb bones are complete but an estimated length of 192 mm from the right radius gives a shoulder height calculation of around 63 cm. The bones were also compared with recent specimens. They are similar in general size and build to a modern greyhound of 68 cm shoulder height in the reference collection, but are slightly shorter. The teeth are slightly larger than those of the reference specimen. None of these bones give much indication of a likely date for deposition, all can be found in deposits from the Neolithic onwards. If associated with prehistoric special finds the burials could be considered ritual, whereas for later periods the interpretation might be of the disposal of farm casualties in a convenient location.

RESULTS: PART 2, TULLAHEDY: BURNT MOUND COMPLEX – SITES A, B, C, D 98E0540 AND TULLAHEDY 97E0472

A total of 823 specimens were recorded from sites A-D (Table 1) with a further 259 from site 97E0472 (Table 2). The preservation is variable, very poor from A, B and C but moderate or good from the other two areas. The majority of the bone is from the domestic ungulates with a high proportion of teeth and teeth fragments in many cases.

Tullahedy A

There are 37 teeth and bones from this site. Numerically, these are mainly of horse but 19 are teeth and fragments of maxillae from context 659. Although more than one horse is

represented and the remains include a tooth from a young foal, the remains are still biased by the high number of fragments representing only a few bones. Cattle is represented by loose teeth and the proximal portion of a radius. Pig is represented by two upper molars. The high number of loose teeth and the level of erosion and fragmentation indicate that considerable taphonomic loss has occurred. The presence of the cattle radius indicates that, for cattle at least, the deposit was not of the head alone but also contained at least one major meat bearing bone.

Tullahedy B

A total of 177 bones and teeth were recovered from site B. The material is in poor condition and almost all of the determinate material is of teeth. Even these are sometimes represented only by fragments of the resistant enamel crown. The four horse teeth from context 58 are probably all from one animal of about 20 years old at death. The majority of the identified remains are of cattle but there are also several of sheep/goat, pig and an antler spike of a young red deer.

Tullahedy C

The 75 bones and teeth from this site are poorly preserved. All 24 of the specimens identified to taxon are teeth. The majority are of cattle with several of sheep/goat and pig, together with a single one of horse. There are also nine sheep/pig sized bone fragments and one of cattle size but the remaining 41 fragments are indeterminate. Context notes mention a much polished tusk from the primary peat fill in the possible trough 511. This can be identified as a pig lower canine (tusk) from context 542. This tooth is from a large male and is dark in colour. Charring is usually the reason for blackening of bones and teeth but recovery from anaerobic substrate can also cause colour change. The tooth does have a gloss but without microscopic analysis it is difficult to say whether this is natural or is from deliberate polishing. Although large it is also not possible to say whether this is from a domestic or a wild animal.

Tullahedy D

The bones from this part of the site are quite different from the others at Tullahedy; there are many more bones and the remains are in better condition. The context is not of burnt mounds and associated features but rather concerns the fills of two ditches. The differences in the bones may be from preservation or a genuine difference in the disposal strategy (or a combination). The taxa representation is also slightly different; the majority of the identified bone is of sheep/goat with cattle in second place. Remains of horse and pig are few and deer absent altogether, despite the much larger number of specimens (534). The bones also include those of dog.

Horse is represented only by two loose incisors, pig by a tooth, a patella and a fragment of pelvis. Cattle and sheep/goat bones are frequent at 26 and 39 respectively and there are further indeterminate fragments of these sizes. Anatomically, the cattle and sheep bones

are spread across the body with the typical taphonomic bias in favour of the sturdiest elements (Table 3). The bones of sheep/goat are distributed a little more evenly, but they are also more frequent than those of cattle and the differences are probably not significant. Where it is possible to tell, most of the cattle bones are fused whereas some of the sheep bones are from one or more lambs (in fill 2375 and 2378). Remains of young animals such as these bones from lambs are an indication of the better preservation conditions in this feature, their absence from the other areas of site may be for taphonomic reasons.

The majority of the dog bones are from (2381) with another three from (2406). Although not from the same context, none of the bones overlap anatomically and, being similar in size, all may be the remains of a single burial of a small/medium animal of about 40 cm at the shoulder.

Tullahedy 97E0472

A total of 259 specimens were recorded from this site (Table 2). At least eight taxa are present and include smaller mammals and birds in addition to the large domestic ungulates. Cattle bones at 45 specimens are the most frequent in the larger mammal bones. The other bones are eight of sheep/goat, five of pig and a single horse tooth fragment.

A large number of rabbit bones were recovered from 3059. These represent most of a single animal and appear to be the remains of a natural mortality. The other rabbit bones, from 3001, 3021, 3036 and 3054 are also likely to be intrusive. The bone of a badger from 3001 may well fall into this category too.

Bones of domestic fowl were recovered from 3020 and 3054; this last also contained rabbit and duck. As fowl and rabbits were not introduced into Ireland until after the prehistoric period this throws into doubt the security of other material in these particular contexts. Unlike ceramics and some other categories of finds, the individual animal bones are rarely dateable without, for example, testing by radiocarbon analysis. The domestic ungulate taxa can be found in deposits from the Neolithic onwards and therefore might be prehistoric or, like the rabbit and fowl, deposited more recently. Rabbits, by their burrowing activity, can also cause mixing of material.

COMMENTS ON THE MATERIAL FROM THE BURNT MOUNDS AND ASSOCIATED TROUGHS

It was once thought that animal bone material was not associated with these features as little had been found and many interpretations for the function of these sites have been offered (Brindley et al 1990, Moore and Wilson 1999). In recent years, however, an increasing body of evidence shows that, given suitable conditions, animal bone can be

quite common, lending support for the view that activities involving butchery and cooking were being carried out at at least some of the sites (Tourunen 2008). From all the sites that do have at least some bone a variety of large mammals are represented. The domestic ungulates are often represented by meat bones as well as the lower quality or waste head and feet. Butchery on the domestic ungulate bones has been noted at other sites, and there are some marks and evidence of splitting bones for marrow at Tullahedy although here the poor preservation has damaged most surfaces. Deer on the other hand seem to be represented only by antlers and foot bones. In the Tullahedy material several of the antlers are even shed ones, i.e. they have been collected rather than taken from a hunted animal. This indicates a different type of activity for the deer, perhaps bone working and skin preparation.

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14. APPENDIX V: BENEDIN (98E0444) PLANT REMAINS REPORT

Ryan Allen, MSc

2010

INTRODUCTION

Two samples were analyzed from Benedin (98E0444), part of the N7 Nenagh Bypass. While small, the samples did produce some barley grains along with one possible oat grain.

METHODOLOGY

Carbonized remains ("flots") were analyzed using a low-power binocular microscope (8x-80x). Remains were identified using a modern reference collection with the help of identification manuals (Martin & Barkley, 1973; Schoch, Pawlik, & Schweingruber, 1988). A full list of results can be found at the end of this report (Table 1).

RESULTS

Two samples of charred grains were identified from Benedin. While the preservation was poor in both cases some seeds could be identified. S15 produced a possible oat grain (cf. *Avena* sp.) and a grain which could only be identified as either barley or wheat (*Hordeum/Triticum*). S197 contained more carbonized grains, of which ten were found to be barley (*Hordeum vulgare*).

Domesticated oats (*Avena sativa*) became common in Ireland during the Early Christian period (Monk 1985/86), growing well in the cool damp climate found throughout the island. While it is not possible to identify an oat grain as domestic without a diagnostic floret, grains are generally assumed to be from the cultivated variety if found in a context from the Early Christian onward.

Barley is a shallow rooted crop that is best suited to light loams; it is intolerant of excessive moisture, but can ripen in colder climates than wheat and it is a particularly versatile crop, as it survives well in many ecological conditions (Monk *et al.*, 1998). Barley was probably used for coarse breads and gruels in the prehistoric period. It can also be used for malting, although there is no evidence of this occurring in Ireland until the early historic period. It was a common cereal, probably grown in Ireland since the earliest day of farming, although evidence for its use in the early Neolithic is scant and it became more common in the Bronze Age.

CONCLUSION

Two samples of charred cereal grains were sorted and identified from Benedin (98E0444). While the preservation was poor a possible oat grain and ten barley grains were identified.

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Sample	58	197
Context	496	38
Cut	394	36
Preservation	+	++
Hordeum vulgare	0	10
cf. Avena sp.	1	0
Hordeum/Triticum	1	0

Table 1. Plant remain results from Benedin (98E0444).

15. APPENDIX VI: CHARCOAL FOR C14 DATING

Susan Lyons

May 2010

Site Licence	Site Name	Context No	Sample No	Material for C14 (AMS)	Plant genus/species	Weight (grams)	Comments
9830444	Benedin	38	197	Charcoal	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i> (alder)	0.3 grams	
		496	58	Charcoal	<i>Corylus avellana</i> (hazel)	0.2 grams	Elm charcoal (0.1 gr) sent as back-up sample

16. APPENDIX VII: LITHICS FINDS REPORT FOR 98E0444 BENEDIN, CO. TIPPERARY N7 NENAGH TO LIMERICK HQDC ROAD SCHEME

Farina Sternke MA, PhD

INTRODUCTION

Sixty lithic finds from the archaeological excavations of a prehistoric site at 98E0444 Benedin, Co. Tipperary as part of the N7 Nenagh Bypass were presented for analysis (Table 1). The finds are associated with a Bronze Age habitation site including a hut, several large pits, burnt mounds etc.

Find Number	Context	Material	Type	Condition	Cortex	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Complete
98E0444:1:1	1	Flint	Blade	Reasonably Fresh	Yes	19	9	3	Yes
98E0444:47:1	47	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:89:1	89	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:97:1	97	Chert	Flake	Fresh	No	35	18	4	No
98E0444:97:2	97	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:106:1	106	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:106:2	106	Sandstone	Rubbing Stone	Burnt	n/a	65	57	44	No
98E0444:110:1	110	Quartz	Natural Pebble						
98E0444:110:2	110	Chert	Chunk	Reasonably Fresh	Yes	35	19	19	No
98E0444:110:3	110	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:110:4	110	Chert	Core?	Reasonably Fresh	Yes	11	14	13	Yes
98E0444:110:5	110	Chert	Core	Reasonably Fresh	No	20	10	11	Yes
98E0444:110:6	110	Quartz	Utilised Stone	Reasonably Fresh	Yes	77	87	119	Yes
98E0444:110:7	110	Chert	Flake	Reasonably Fresh	Yes	34	59	23	Yes
98E0444:111:1	111	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:115:1	115	Chert	Debitage						
98E0444:115:2	115	Chert	Debitage						
98E0444:115:3	115	Chert	Core?	Reasonably Fresh	Yes	8	20	12	Yes
98E0444:115:4	115	Chert	Debitage						
98E0444:115:5	115	Chert	Chunk	Burnt	No	27	21	11	No
98E0444:218:1	218	Chert	Core	Slightly Rolled	Yes	36	25	15	Yes
98E0444:237:1	237	Chert	Core	Reasonably Fresh	Yes	12	13	13	Yes
98E0444:237:2	237	Chert	Core?	Slightly Rolled	Yes	13	18	20	Yes
98E0444:237:3	237	Chert	Flake	Reasonably Fresh	No	29	22	9	No
98E0444:237:4	237	Quartz Crystal	Unmodified Crystal						
98E0444:241:1	241	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:333:1	333	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:333:2	333	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:333:3	333	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:341:1	341	Chert	Core?	Slightly Rolled	No	9	17	15	Yes
98E0444:341:2	341	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:341:3	341	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:341:4	341	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:341:5	341	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:343:1	343	Sandstone	Rubbing Stone	Weathered	n/a	102	81	31	No
98E0444:347:1	347	Chert	Debitage						
98E0444:347:2	347	Chert	Core?	Rolled	No	16	29	28	Yes
98E0444:347:3	347	Chert	Flake	Reasonably Fresh	No	30	26	10	No
98E0444:347:4	347	Chert	Chunk	Reasonably Fresh	No	16	14	11	Yes
98E0444:347:5	347	Chert	Natural Chunk						

Find Number	Context	Material	Type	Condition	Cortex	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Complete
98E0444:352:1	352	Chert	Core	Slightly Rolled	Yes	27	18	9	No
98E0444:354:1	354	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:354:2	354	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:354:3	354	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:355:1	355	Chert	Core?	Rolled	Yes	26	37	15	Yes
98E0444:355:2	355	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:355:3	355	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:362:1	362	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:367:1	367	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:367:2	367	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:367:3	367	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:367:4	367	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:371:1	371	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:391:1	391	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:391:2	391	Chert	Flake	Reasonably Fresh	No	33	25	7	No
98E0444:391:3	391	Limestone	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:402:1	402	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:477:1	477	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:477:2	477	Chert	Natural Chunk						
98E0444:477:3	477	Chert	Natural Chunk						

Table 1 Composition of the Lithic Assemblage from Benedin (98E0444)

METHODOLOGY

All lithic artefacts were examined visually and catalogued using Microsoft Excel. The following details were recorded for each artefact which measures at least 2 cm in length or width: context information, raw material type, artefact type, cortex, artefact condition, length, with and thickness measurements and fragmentation. The general typological and morphological classifications are based on Woodman *et al.* 2006. Natural chunks were not analysed further.

QUANTIFICATION

The lithics are 22 worked pieces of chert, one worked piece of flint, one modified piece of quartz and two modified pieces of sandstone. Twenty-two artefacts measure more than 2 cm in length and width or are typologically and technologically significant and were therefore recorded in detail. In addition, 31 natural chunks of chert, one natural chunk of limestone and a natural quartz pebble were also presented for analysis.

PROVENANCE

The finds were recovered from the topsoil, a number of posthole fills, a charcoal rich deposit and a pit fill (see Table 2).

Find Number	Context	Description	Type
98E0444:1:1	1	Topsoil	Blade
98E0444:97:1	97	Fill of Posthole c. 96	Flake
98E0444:106:2	106	Fill of Posthole c. 325	Rubbing Stone
98E0444:110:2	110	Fill of Posthole c. 109	Chunk
98E0444:110:4	110	Fill of Posthole c. 109	Core?
98E0444:110:5	110	Fill of Posthole c. 109	Core
98E0444:110:6	110	Fill of Posthole c. 109	Utilised Stone
98E0444:110:7	110	Fill of Posthole c. 109	Flake
98E0444:115:1	115	Fill of Posthole c. 114	Debitage
98E0444:115:2	115	Fill of Posthole c. 114	Debitage
98E0444:115:3	115	Fill of Posthole c. 114	Core?
98E0444:115:4	115	Fill of Posthole c. 114	Debitage
98E0444:115:5	115	Fill of Posthole c. 114	Chunk
98E0444:218:1	218	Fill of Posthole c. 217	Core
98E0444:237:1	237	Charcoal Rich Deposit	Core
98E0444:237:2	237	Charcoal Rich Deposit	Core?
98E0444:237:3	237	Charcoal Rich Deposit	Flake
98E0444:341:1	341	Fill of Pit c.340	Core?
98E0444:343:1	343	Fill of c. 342	Rubbing Stone
98E0444:347:1	347	Fill of Posthole c. 346	Debitage
98E0444:347:2	347	Fill of Posthole c. 346	Core?
98E0444:347:3	347	Fill of Posthole c. 346	Flake
98E0444:347:4	347	Fill of Posthole c. 346	Chunk
98E0444:352:1	352	Fill of Posthole c. 350	Core
98E0444:355:1	355	Fill of Posthole c. 353	Core?
98E0444:391:2	391	Fill of Posthole c. 388	Flake

Table 2 Context Information for the Worked Assemblage from Benedin (98E0444)

CONDITION

The artefacts survive in variable condition (Table 3). Nine finds are incomplete (see Table 1).

TECHNOLOGY/MORPHOLOGY

The lithics are five flaking products including a flint blade, two rubbing stones and an utilised stone (Table 4).

CONDITION	AMOUNT
Fresh	1
Reasonably Fresh	12

Weathered	1
Slightly Rolled	4
Rolled	2
Burnt	2
Total	22

Table 3 Assemblage Condition from Benedin (98E0444)

TYPE	AMOUNT
Core (including 6 possible examples)	10
Chunk	3
Blade	1
Flake	5
Debitage	4
Rubbing Stone	2
Utilised Stone	1
Total	17

Table 4 Assemblage Composition from Benedin (98E0444)

Cores

The 10 cores include six possible examples. The definite cores (98E0444:110:5, 98E0444:218:1, 98E0444:237:1 and 98E0444:352:1) are all bipolar examples (Ill.s 1 & 2). The two larger examples (98E0444:218:1 and 98E0444:352:1) are smash-it-and-see examples which were produced on unsuitable raw material, hence their early abandonment. The other two cores are very small examples measuring 20 mm and 12 mm in length.

Two of the six possible cores (98E0444:110:4, 98E0444:115:3, 98E0444:237:2, 98E0444:341:1) are very small bipolar examples which measure between 8 mm and 13 mm long. Cores 98E0444:347:2 and 98E0444:355:1 are possible platform cores. These two cores are rolled which seems to indicate that they may represent an earlier residual component at this site. Given the association of most of these cores with definite examples, it is likely that they are indeed cores. However, their condition and extremely small size casts some doubt over their identification, a fact, which has to be noted.

The specific bipolar technology used on the cores and their extremely small size suggest a possible Middle Bronze Age date for the cores.

Chunks

The three chunks (98E0444:110:2, 98E0444:115:5 and 98E0444:347:4) are core by-products which are generally associated with the use of chert and/or the bipolar technology. The chunks measure between 16 mm and 35 mm in length (Fig. 1).

Blades

The flint blade (98E0444:1:1) was recovered from the topsoil and produced on a bipolar core. It measures 19 mm long, 9 mm wide and 3 mm in thickness. It most likely dates to Bronze Age based on its morphology and technology.

Flakes

The five flakes (98E0444:97:1, 98E0444:110:7, 98E0444:237:3, 98E0444:347:3 and 98E0444:391:2) are all bipolar examples. They are comparatively large given the overall small character of the assemblage. The flakes measure between 29 mm and 35 mm in length (Fig. 1) and also appear to date to the Bronze Age.

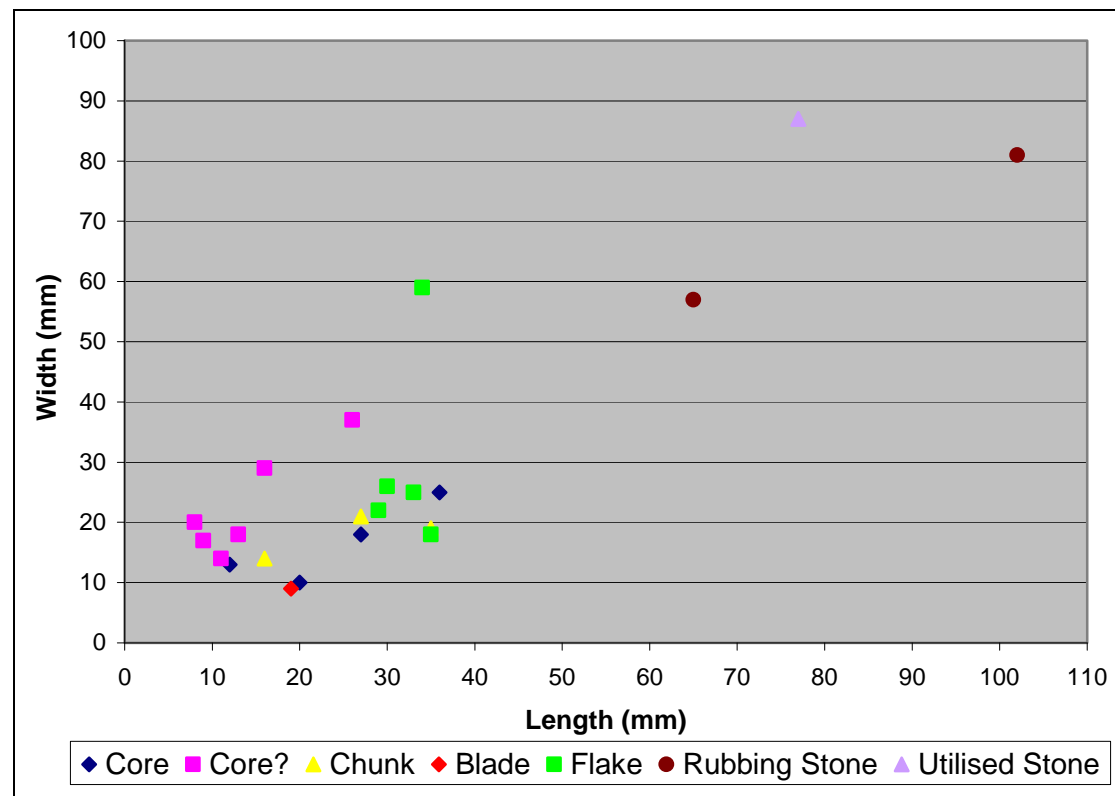


Figure 1 Dimensions (mm) of the Lithic Assemblage from Benedin (98E0444)

Debitage

The presence of four pieces of chert debitage (98E0444:115:1-2, 98E0444:115:4 and 98E0444:347:1) together with the other knapping products suggest that *in situ* knapping took place at this site.

Rubbing Stones

The assemblage contains two incomplete rubbing stones (98E0444:106:2 and 98E0444:343:1). Artefact 98E0444:106:2 is heat fractured and shows extensive wear on two opposed surfaces and one edge. It measures 65 mm in length, 57 mm in width and 44 mm in thickness. The other rubbing stone (98E0444:343:1) is weathered and lightly smoothed on two flat sides and its edge. It also shows extensive damage on two ends and may also have been used for pounding. This stone measures 102 mm long, 81 mm wide and 31 mm thick.

Both tools were probably associated with metalworking and date to the Bronze Age.

Utilised Stones

Artefact 98E0444:110:6 is a rather large, possibly utilised piece of quartz. It measures 77 mm long, 87 mm wide and 119 mm thick. This artefact is at the very least a manuport, but it also displays possible evidence of flake removal attempts or attempts to split it and therefore, may perhaps also be interpreted as a failed core.

DATING

The assemblage from Benedin is typologically undiagnostic. However, it probably dates to the Bronze Age based on its technological characteristics, i.e. the bipolar and technology used. The small size of most of the cores and possible cores suggest a more precise dating to the Middle Bronze. The absence of retouched artefacts at this site would seem to support this suggestion (but, see discussion below). The larger cores and flakes may tentatively be dated to the Early Bronze Age, but this is by no means certain (see below).

CONSERVATION

Lithics do not require specific conservation, but should be stored in a dry, stable environment. Preferably, each lithic should be bagged separately and contact with other lithics should be avoided, so as to prevent damage and breakage, in particular edge damage which could later be misinterpreted as retouch. Larger and heavier items are best kept in individual boxes to avoid crushing of smaller assemblage pieces.

Discussion

In Co. Tipperary, flint is only found in the glacial tills. Green and Zvelebil (1990, 65) noted that "flint takes on a less distinct or definable function" in the Bronze Age which is born out in the Benedin assemblage. This is all the more reason to suggest a dating to the Middle-Late Bronze Age. However, since flint is scarce in Co. Tipperary, chert was the dominant exploited raw material in all prehistoric periods.

O'Hare (2005) suggested that during the Bronze Age, there is a significant drop in the range of stone tool types that occur (note that the Benedin assemblage does not contain

any retouched artefacts). In fact, it is generally assumed that the use of lithics had seized by the Late Bronze Age, but this is by no means certain, as earlier prehistoric artefacts may have been re-used, as may be the case at this site. It is difficult to separate Early Bronze Age from Middle/Late Bronze Age material based solely on technological characteristics, as the smash-it-and-see bipolar technology tends to be dominant in both periods (O'Hare 2005). This is particularly apparent with the Benedin assemblage which appears to contain two different chronological components, larger cores and flakes which perhaps date to an earlier Bronze Age phase and extremely small bipolar cores which are almost certainly Middle-Late Bronze Age in date.

SUMMARY

The lithics from the archaeological excavation at 98E0444 Benedin, Co. Tipperary are ten predominantly bipolar cores including six possible examples, a bipolar flint blade, three chert chunks, five bipolar flakes, four pieces of chert debitage, two sandstone rubbing stones and a utilised piece of quartz. In addition, the assemblage also contained 31 natural chunks of chert, one natural chunk of limestone and a natural quartz pebble.

The assemblage is technologically diagnostic and probably dates to the Bronze Age, possibly containing a residual earlier Bronze Age component. The majority of artefacts appear to be Middle-Late Bronze Age in date.

The artefacts most likely represent waste from lithic production and domestic activities associated with the settlement site.

This site makes a minor contribution to the evidence for prehistoric settlement and land use in Co. Tipperary.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ILLUSTRATION

Core (98E0444:110:5)

Core (98E0444:237:1)

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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17. APPENDIX VIII: METALWORK FROM ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS ALONG THE ROUTE OF THE N7 NENAGH BYPASS, CO. TIPPERARY

Dr Jörn Schuster MA Drphil MifA

27 August 2010

INTRODUCTION

This report describes 78 items (35 data base entries) of metalwork recovered during archaeological excavations at four sites along the route of the N7 Nenagh Bypass in Co. Tipperary. (see Table 1). Five items collected from Tullahedy Site D by the excavators have been identified as natural ferrous concretions which, therefore, require no further consideration in this report.

LOCATION	LICENCE NO.	REPORT
Benedin	98E0444	McConway & Sheehan 2009
Lissatuny	98E0477	Leahy 2009
Tullahedy Site A	98E0540	Leahy & Sheehan 2010
Tullahedy Site B	98E0540	Leahy & Sheehan 2010

Table 1: N7 Nenagh Bypass sites with metalwork

The site at Benedin has been interpreted as a Bronze Age habitation site including at least one circular hut structure. Some of the smaller pits found at the site appear to be substantially later (McConway & Sheehan 2009). At Lissatuny, a probable Bronze Age house was destroyed by construction traffic prior to excavation (Leahy 2009). The two sites at Tullahedy were interpreted as burnt mounds of probable Bronze Age date, with probable evidence of later metalworking (Leahy & Sheehan 2010).

METHODOLOGY

Analysis involved a rapid appraisal (including the use of X-radiographs) of the metalwork assemblage, to ascertain broad details of the range of objects present, and their condition. Descriptions for all objects, including identification, weighing and measuring, were entered into separate Excel spreadsheets for each site, which form the catalogue for this assemblage and are held in archive. Typo-chronological identifications mentioned in the discussion are supported by references to published parallels and typologies, where possible. A selection of objects was made for illustration, concentrating on the more unusual and uncommon types or objects of intrinsic interest.

The two copper alloy objects generally exhibited a good state of preservation, while virtually all iron objects suffer from surface lamination. Recommendations for conservation treatment (cleaning/ stabilisation/ reconstruction) and requirements for long-term storage and/or discard were also considered.

DISCUSSION

Where necessary, references to individual objects in the discussion either use the catalogue numbers or the context and running number of the museum number, thus a reference in the format 'MN1:7' in the discussion of finds can be found under '98E0540:1:7' in the database (held in archive), the sequence of numbers and letters before the first colon referring to the licence number 98E0540.

The objects will be discussed by site.

BENEDIN

The ten iron objects in the assemblage were all found in the single fill of small pit 340. All are heavily corroded, and all have been identified as more or less fragmented nails. One nail with a domed head may be a hobnail; others had mineralised remains attached to their shafts which were too corroded to allow secure identification. In one case the remains were possibly leather, in two others leather, textile or wood and in a further two only the presence of remains was noted (Lynn Wootten pers. comm.). The majority of the nails may have been hobnails of a shoe, while two nails probably had riveted ends indicating another purpose. While these nails are intrinsically undatable, they nevertheless indicate that pit 340 must be of considerably later date than the main Bronze Age occupation of the site.

LISSATUNY

The two metal objects (one composite, one copper alloy) collected from the destroyed site are not related to the presumed Bronze Age occupation, instead they attest to the post-medieval/modern use of the area. One (MN1:21) is a piece of iron cutlery with a bone scale tang and a swollen stem. Its tip is missing but it was most probably a fork; although found throughout the 18th century, the swollen stem was more common in the third quarter of the century (cf. Noël Hume 1969, 182 fig. 63, 8). The copper alloy object is a sheet fragment with curved profile of unknown purpose.

TULLAHEDY A

Of the 48 iron objects 31 are nails or nail shaft fragments – where recognisable predominantly with square-sectioned shafts. Shaft lengths range between 12mm – thus a small tack – to more than 77mm. Among the few nails with preserved heads head forms include flat circular, club-headed and thin flat head with rounded edge (MN637:45; cf. Koch 1984, 167, Taf. 59,4). The latter could be completely sunk into the material, an effect especially desirable for furniture. One L-hook was also retrieved.

One iron billet of pentagonal shape (MN600:38), with one corner taken out by a subrectangular cut, can be interpreted as raw material for ironworking/smithing. Considering the amount of slag found at the site (Andrews 2010), this adds further evidence for local ironworking. It is likely that the majority of the 15 unidentifiable iron lumps and strip fragments from the site also attest to metalworking.

TULLAHEDY B

One copper alloy and twelve iron objects were retrieved from the site. The copper alloy object is a rectangular-sectioned pin with looped head (Cat. No. 1) probably of a penannular or pseudo-penannular ring-brooch (eg. Flynn 2009, 140 illus. 6), less likely a ringed pin (Fanning 1994, 4 fig. 2). Without the stylistically generally more distinctive brooch ring the object can only broadly be dated to the early medieval period.

The twelve iron objects comprise one unfinished workpiece, probably of a knife (MN5:2), one nail with a flat fragmented head and ten amorphous corrosion fragments, some of which may have been nails. Similar to Tullahedy A, the unfinished workpiece adds further evidence for on-site ironworking which is largely attested by iron slag (Andrews 2010).

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER ANALYSIS AND TREATMENT

No further analysis is recommended. A selection of objects for illustration has been made based on intrinsic interest; these objects are listed in the catalogue below.

CATALOGUE OF ILLUSTRATED OBJECTS

Cat. No. 1. Copper alloy pin. Rectangular-sectioned, shaft and looped head, slightly bent; lower half tapering gently towards missing/damaged tip.; 2g; L. 85mm, W. 3.6mm, Th. 2.2mm. Mus No. 98E0540:1:65

18. APPENDIX IX: REPORT ON PREHISTORIC POTTERY FROM EXCAVATIONS AT BENEDIN, NENAGH, CO. TIPPERARY (98E0444)

Dr A.L. Brindley

2009

This site was one of several sites excavated by C. Mc Conway for ADS Ltd on the N7 Nenagh bypass in 1998. Information regarding the discovery and context of the pottery from this excavation was contained in the introduction to the excavations at Benedin licence 98E0430. This referred to the excavation of a Bronze Age habitation site and stated that 'Finds recovered from the features include charcoal, burnt bone, hazel nut shells, pottery, chert scrapers and metal slag.' No other information was available at the time this report was made (June 2009).

Cut 353, fill 354

#4

One sherd of pottery (plus one detached crumb of same) was received for examination. This sherd (Th. 12 mm) has a wide grey core and pale beige surfaces, only traces of which survive on the interior. Medium sized angular grits are now exposed in both faces. The sherd is very worn and is in an unstable condition (crumbling). It probably is of later rather than earlier Bronze Age date, but a more specific identification is not possible.

RECOMMENDATION

This sherd does not require drawing for publication.

19. APPENDIX X: RADIOCARBON DATES

I.D.	Context	Material	Date	1 Sigma	2 Sigma
UBA-15646	(38)	Charcoal (alder)	823 ± 27	1194-1195 cal. AD 1208-1258 cal. AD	1168-1263 cal. AD
UBA-15647	(496)	Charcoal (hazel)	3019 ± 25	1370-1356 cal. BC 1316-1258 cal. BC 1233-1217 cal. BC	1386-1329 cal. BC 1326-1195 cal. BC 1140-1134 cal. BC

Figures & Plates

Final Report on Excavations at Benedin, N7 Nenagh Bypass, Co. Tipperary

Final Report on Excavations at Benedin, N7 Nenagh Bypass, Co. Tipperary

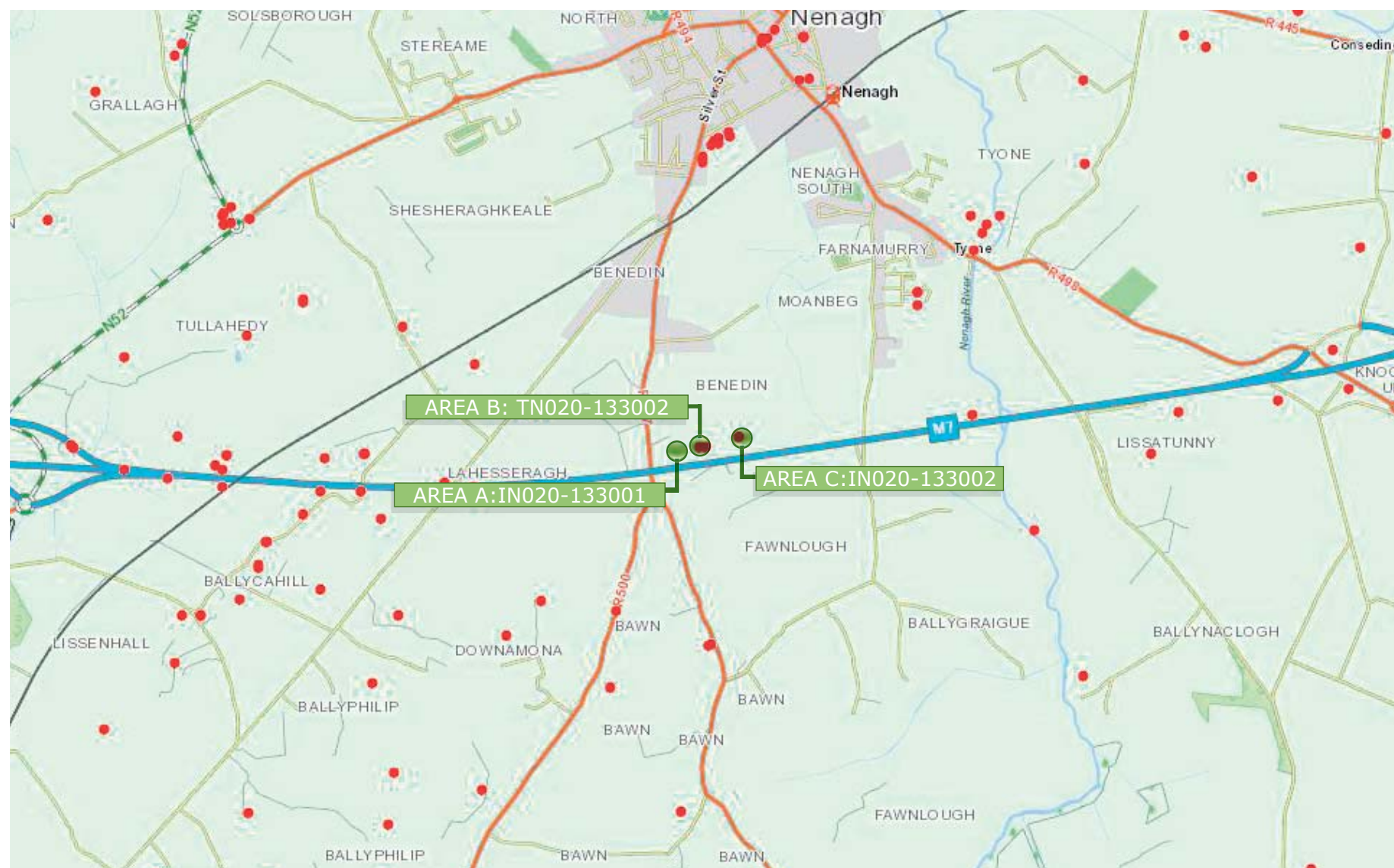


Fig. 3 Location of the site on an extract from the Record of Monuments & Places, Sheets 19 & 20, Tipperary North

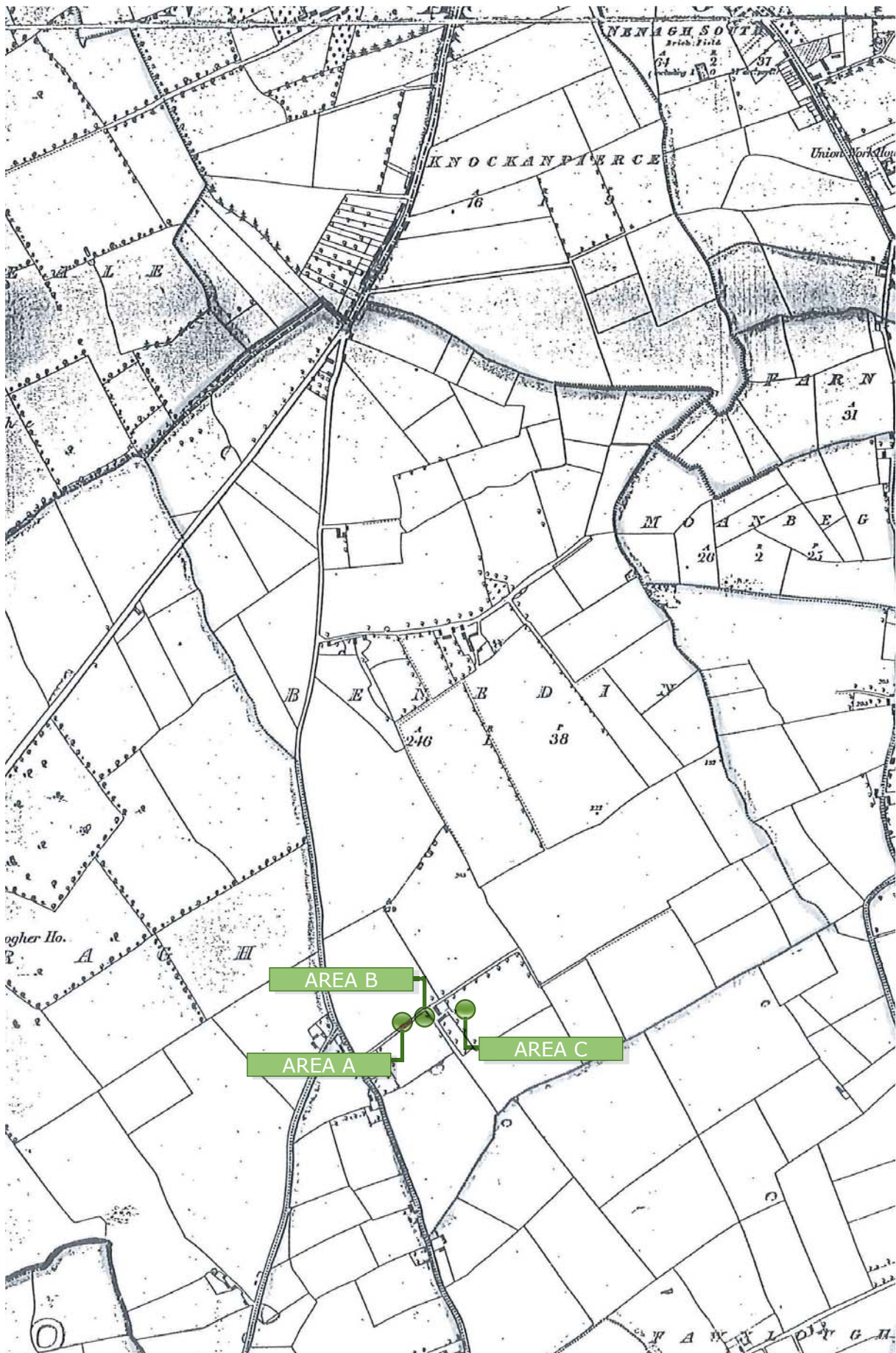


Fig. 4 Location of the site on 1st ed. OS map

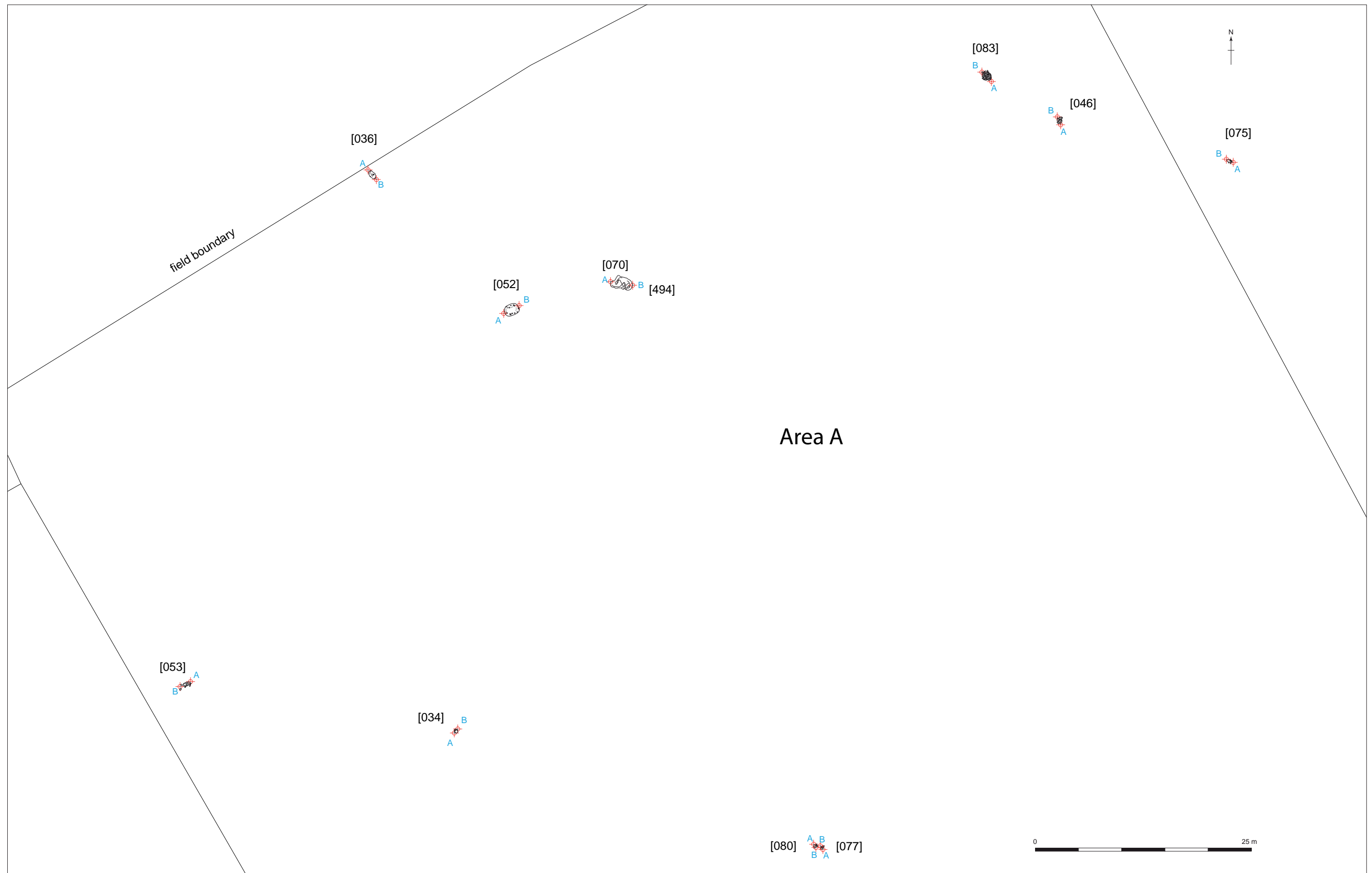
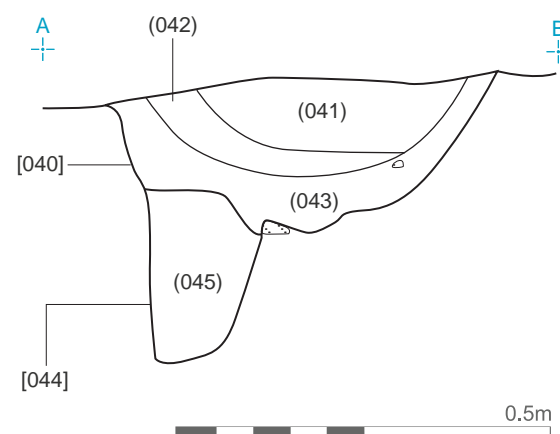
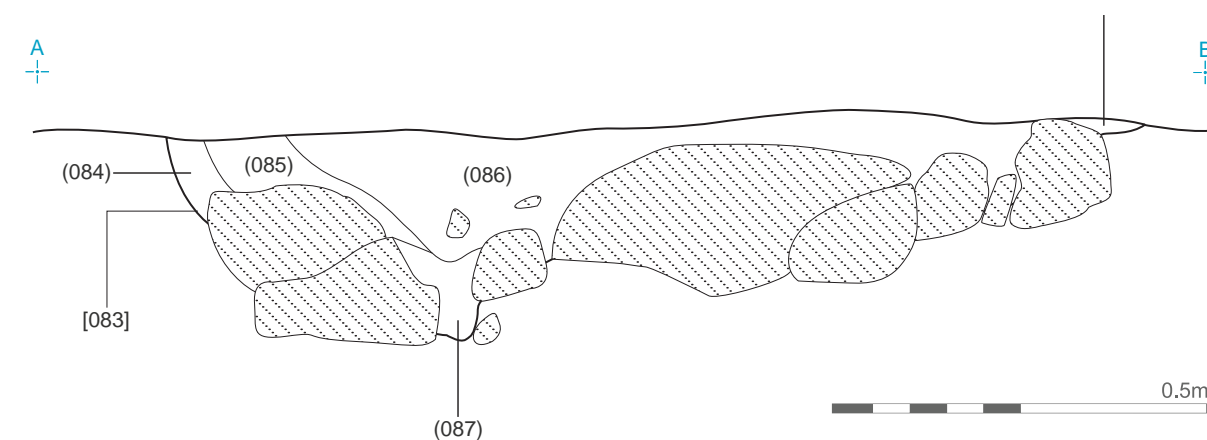


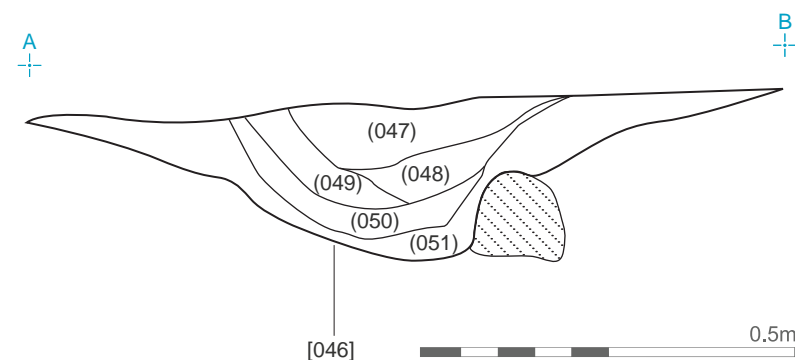
Fig. 5: Post excavation plan of Area A.



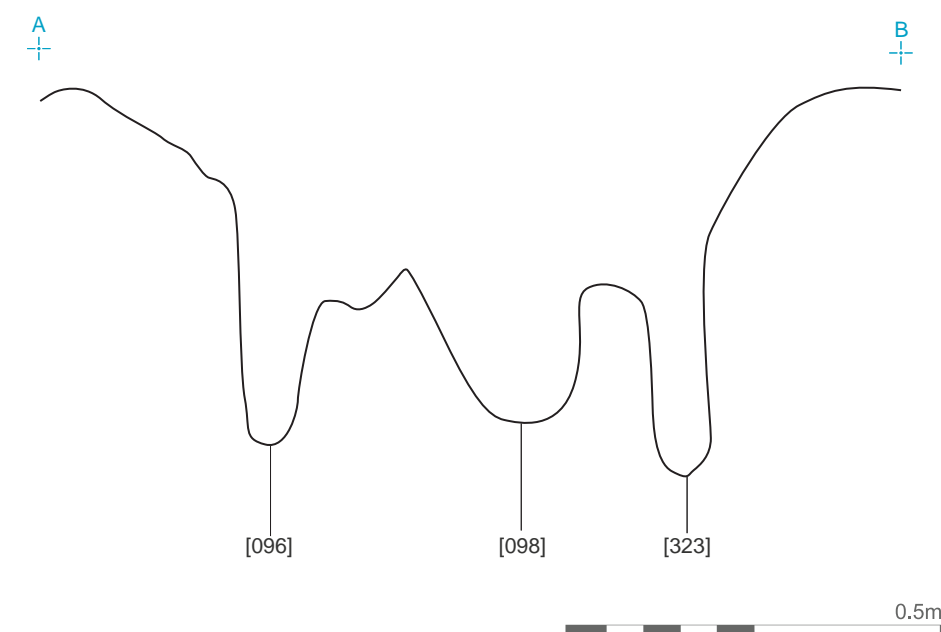
Northwest facing section of [040] and [044].



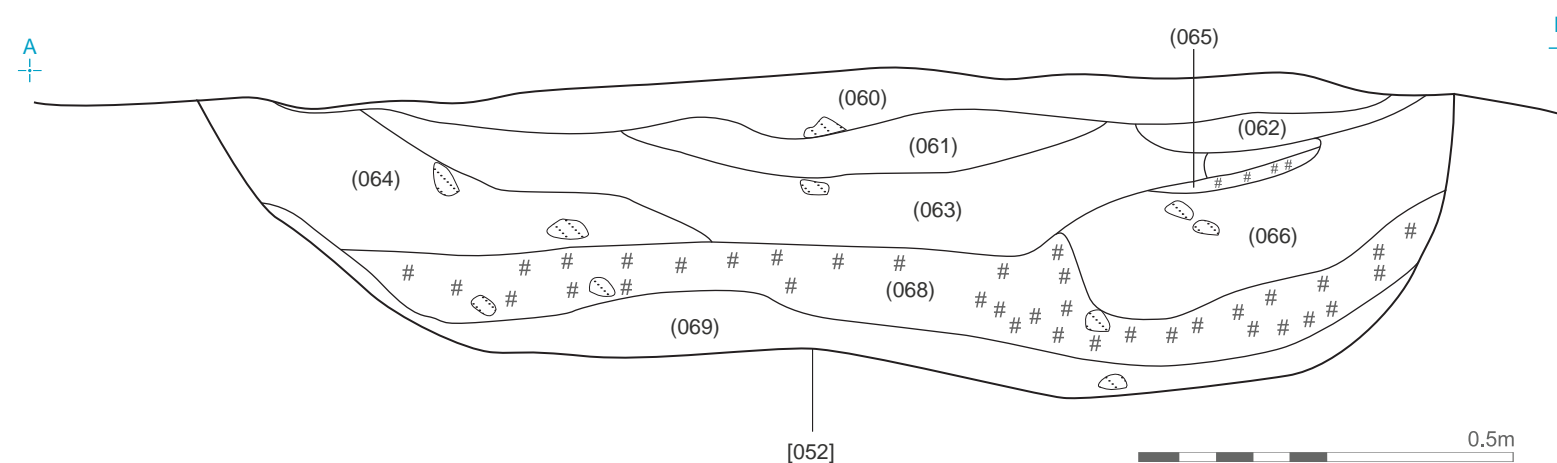
Northwest facing section of [083].



East facing section of [046].



Northwest to Southeast profile of [096], [098] and [323].

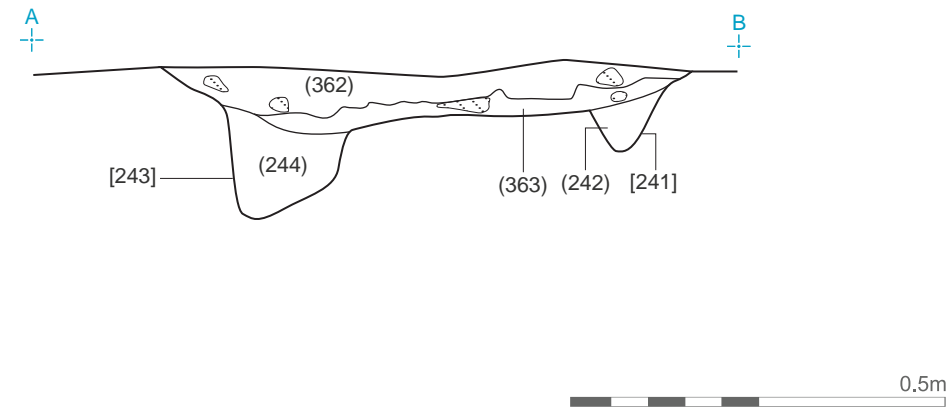


Southeast facing section of [052].

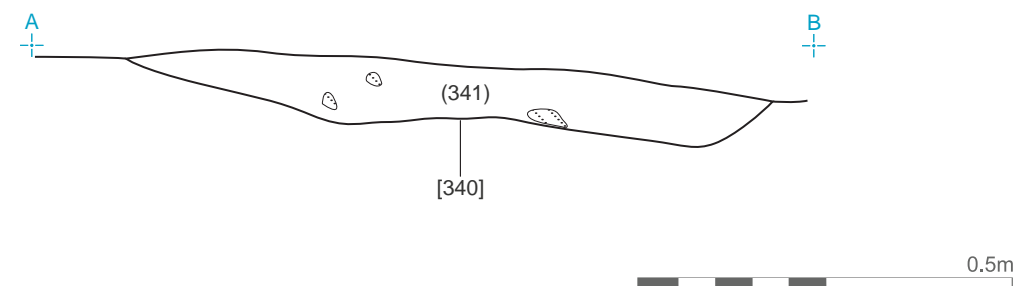
Fig. 6: Selection of section drawings Area A



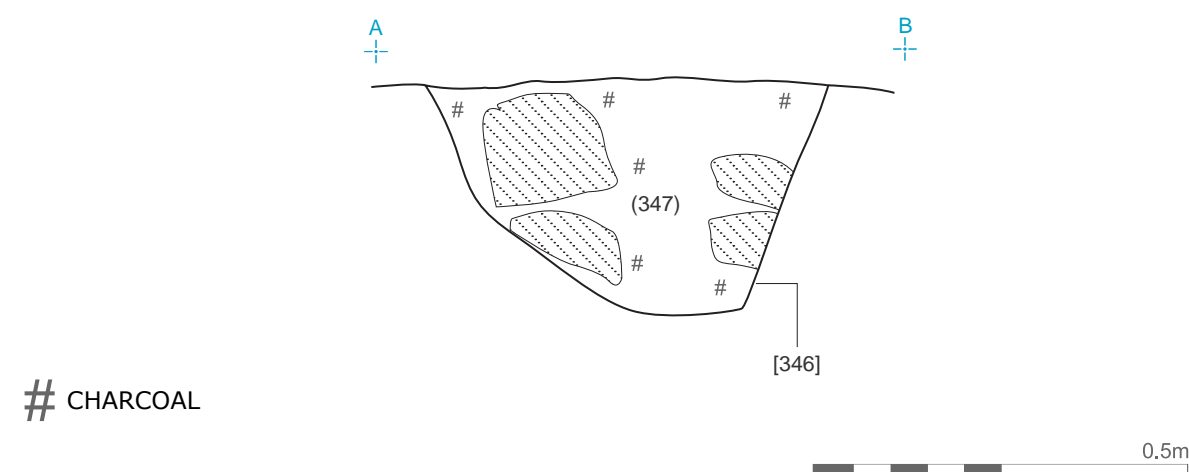
Fig. 7: Post excavation plan of Area B.



West facing section of [240], [241] and [243].



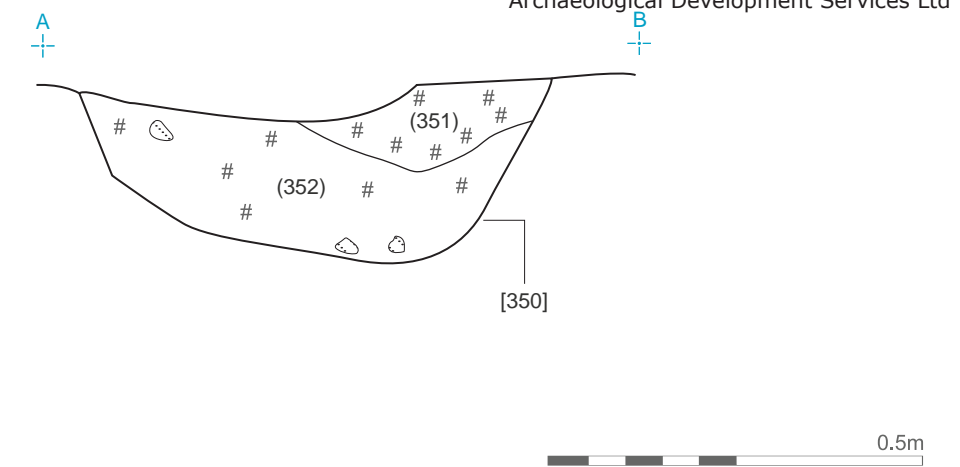
Southwest facing section of [340].



East facing section of [346].

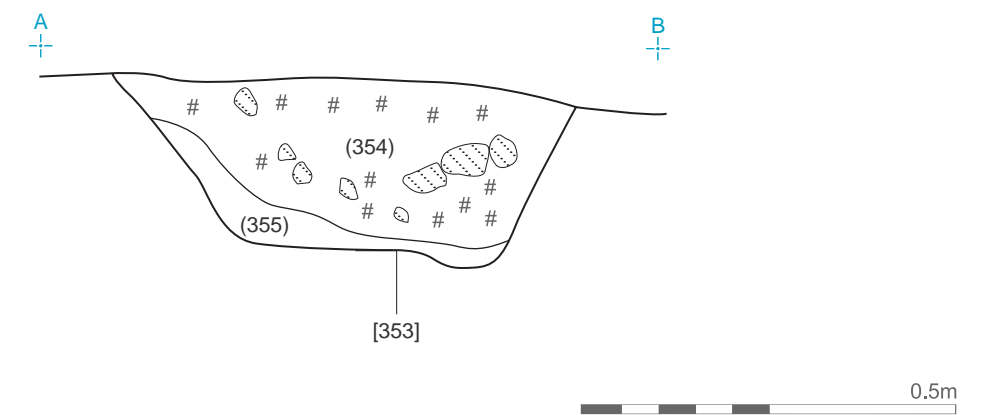
Fig. 8: Selection of section drawings Area B

CHARCOAL



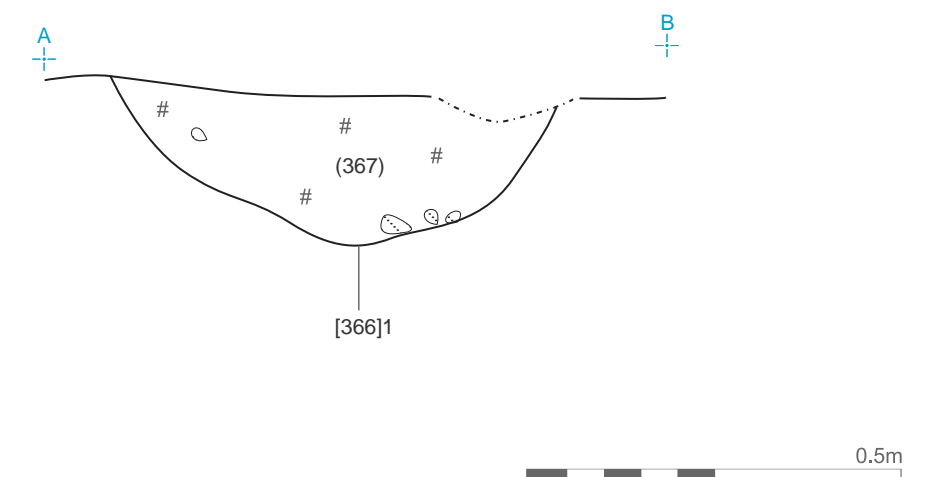
Southeast facing section of [350].

CHARCOAL



South facing section of [353].

CHARCOAL



South facing section of [366].

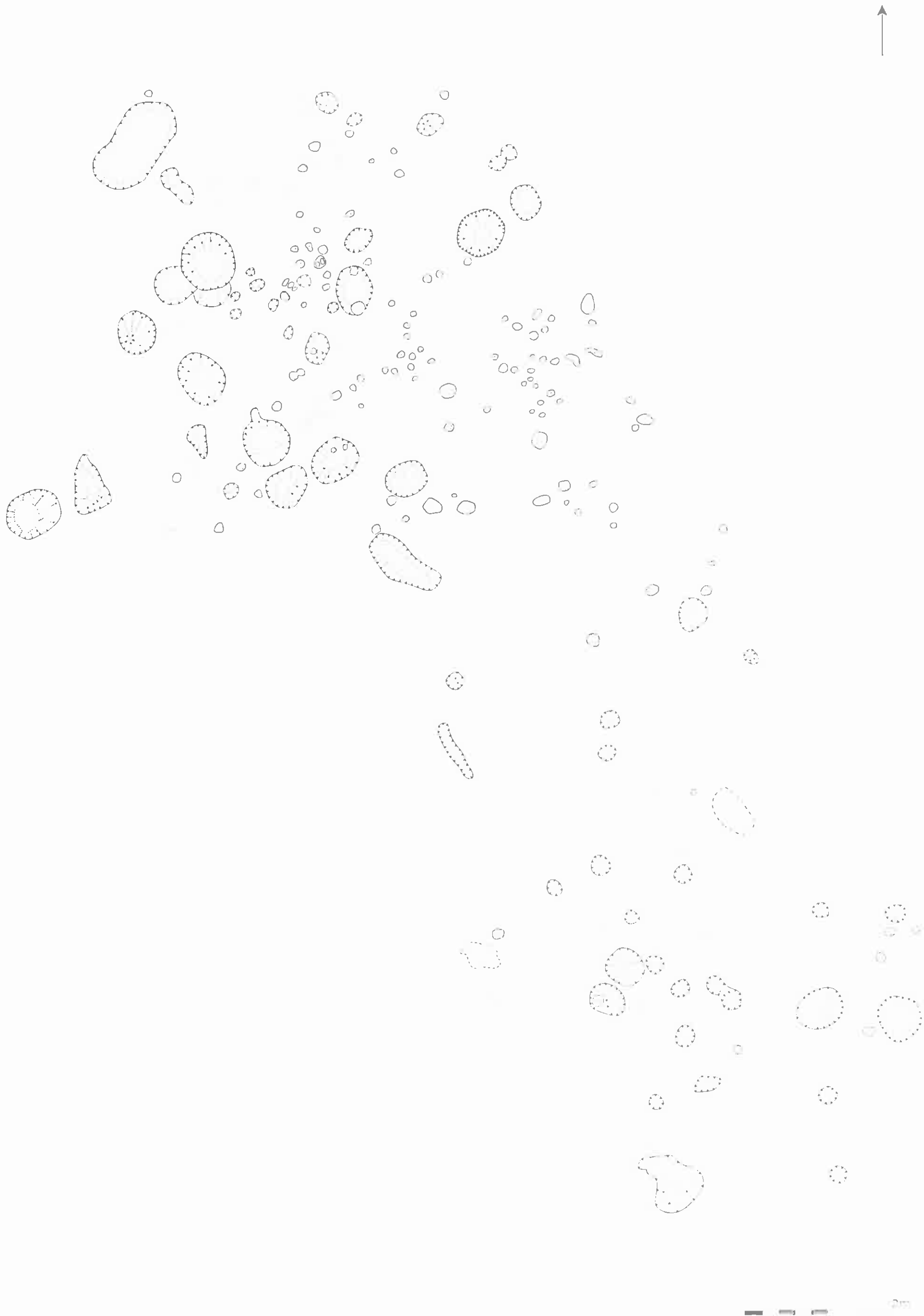


Fig. 9 : Post excavation plan of Area B, without text.

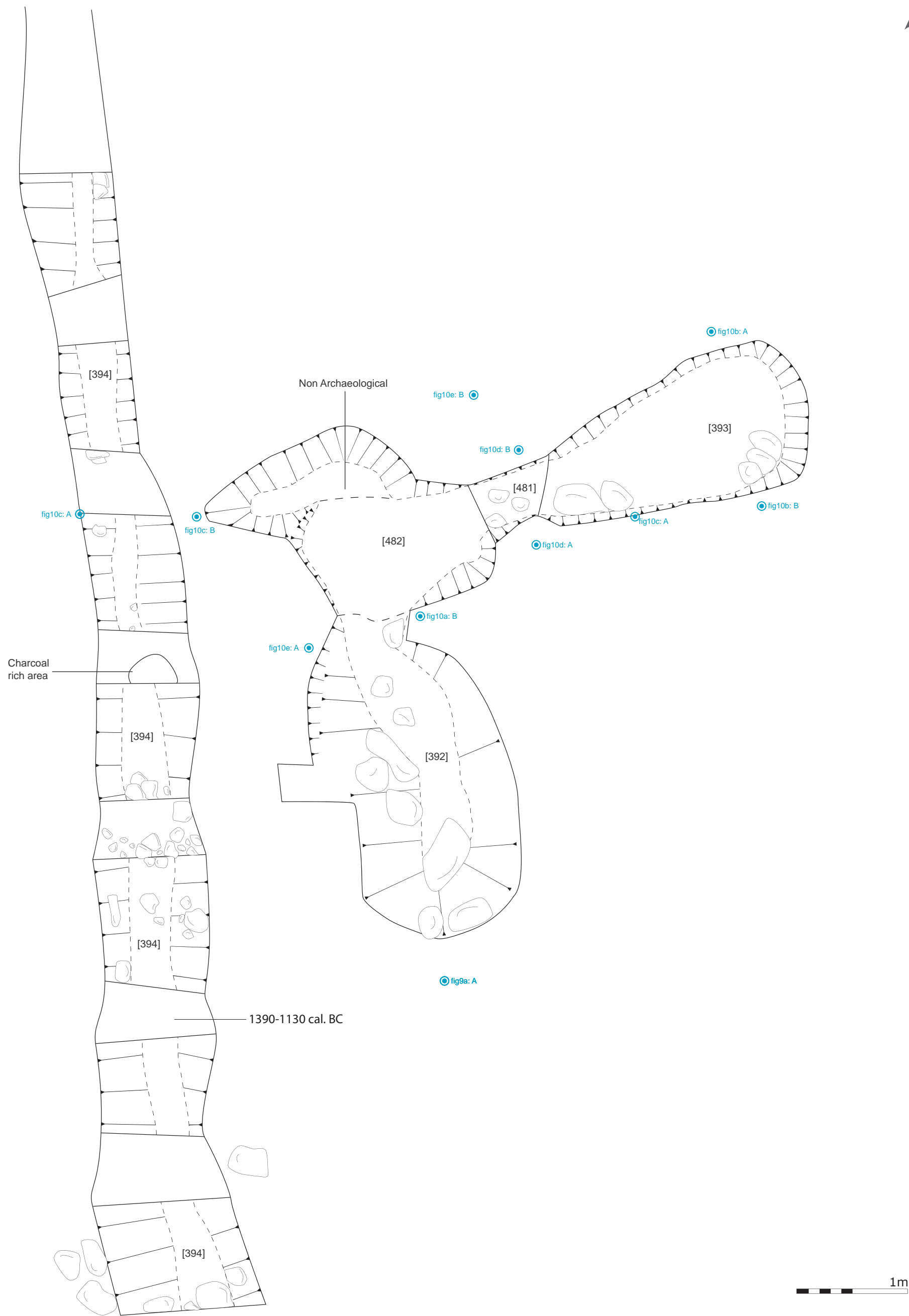
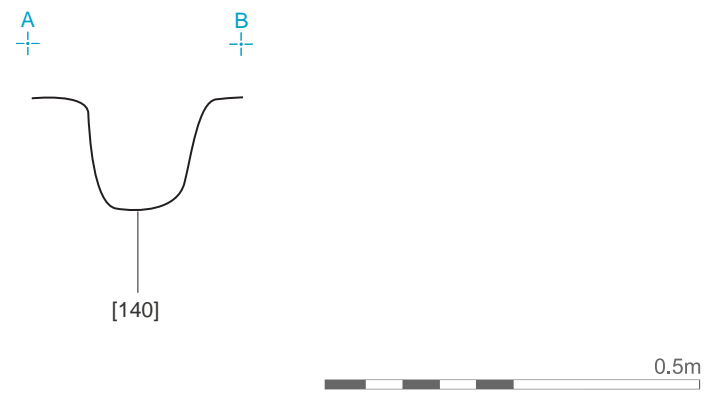
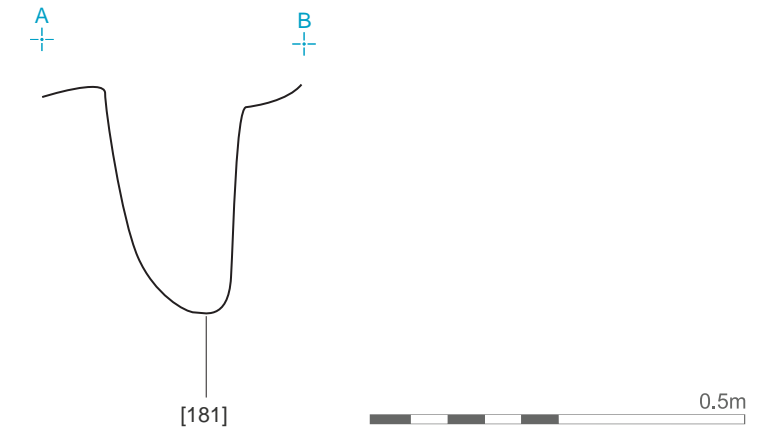


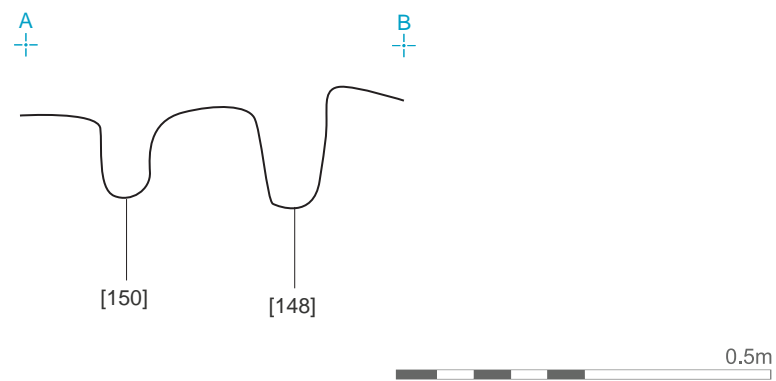
Fig. 10: Post excavation plan of Area C.



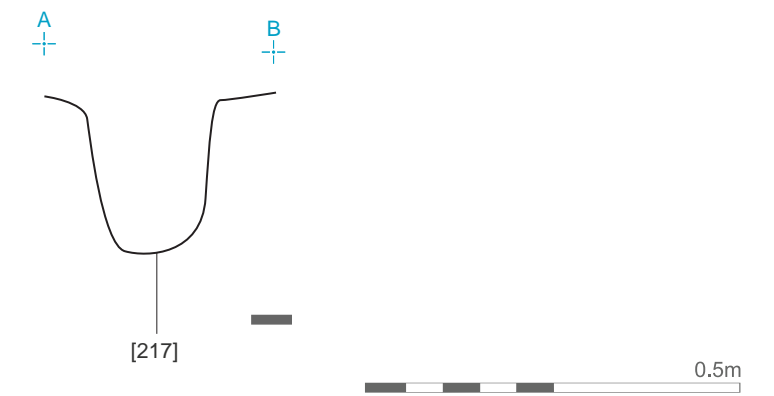
East to West profile of [140].



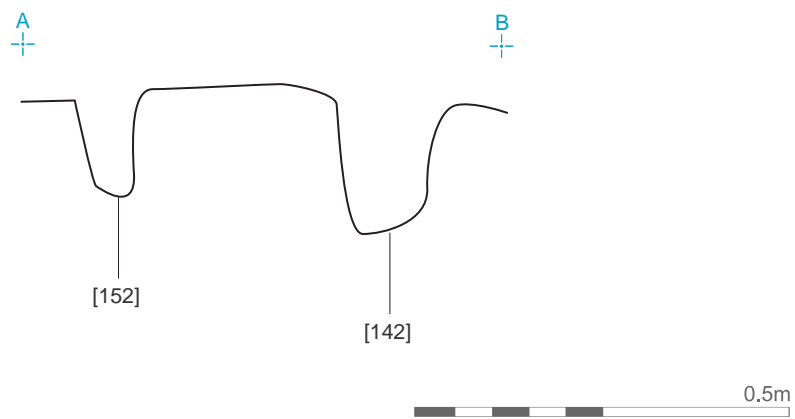
West to east profile of [181].



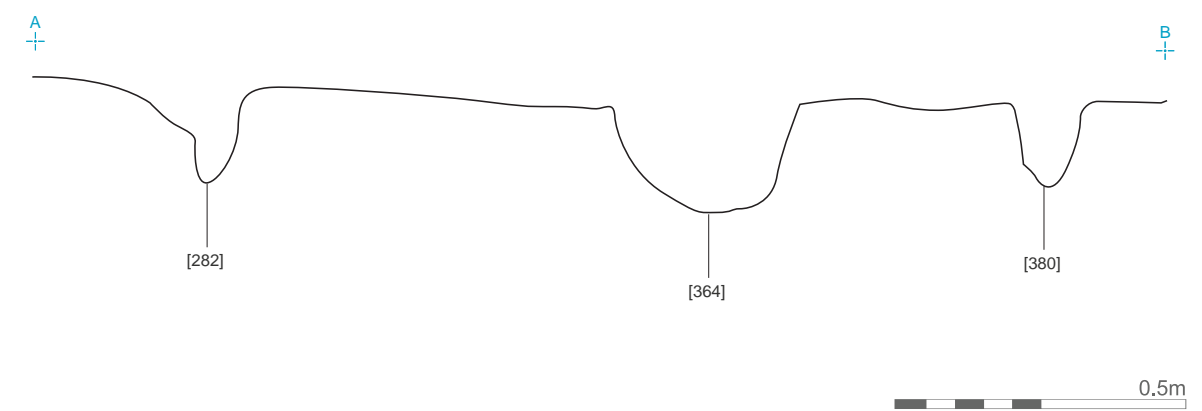
South to north profile of [148] and [150].



Southeast to northwest profile of [217].



East to west profile of [142] and [152].



Southeast to northwest profile of [282], [364] and [380].

Fig. 11: Selection of section drawings Area C



Plate 1: Area A; mid excavation shot of pit [036].



Plate 2: Area A; mid excavation shot of pit [040].



Plate 3: Area A; mid excavation shot of pit [046].



Plate 4: Area A; mid excavation shot of pit [052].



Plate 5: Area A; post excavation shot of pit [083].



Plate 6: Area B; post excavation shot of northern possible round house looking east.

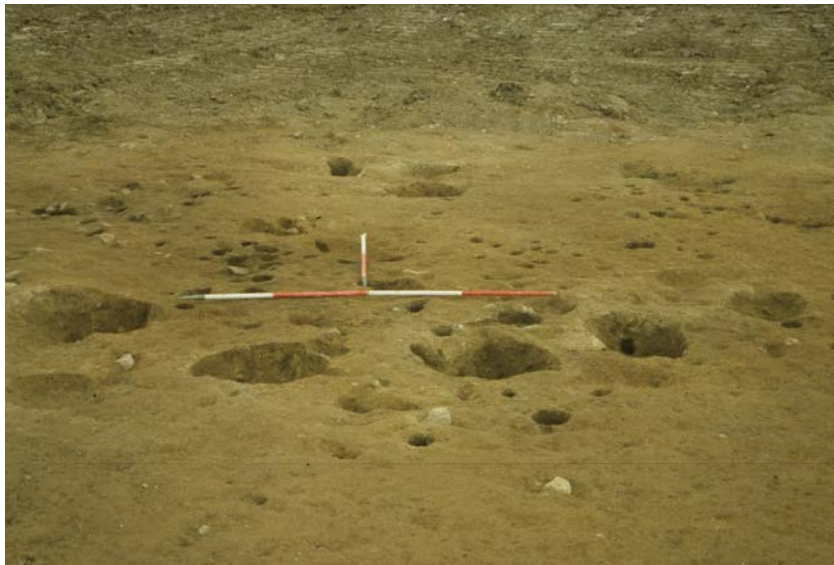


Plate 7: Area B; post excavation shot of southwest end of round house.



Plate 8: Area B; post excavation shot of northeast end of round house circle



Plate 9: Area B; stakehole cluster below (237) at centre of round house.



Plate 10: Area B; stakehole cluster inside entrance to round house.



Plate 11: Area B; post excavation shot of southern possible structure looking south/southwest.



Plate 12: Area B; post excavation shot of post pits [346] and [366], looking north.



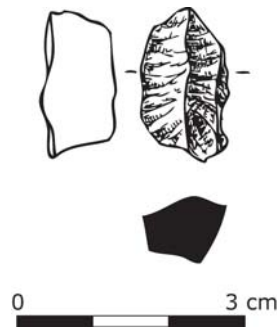
Plate 13: Area C; mid excavation shot of ditch [394].



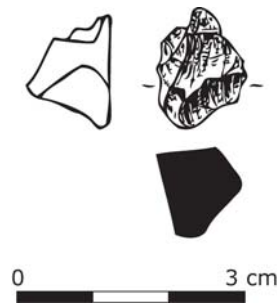
Plate 14: Area C; mid excavation shot of pit [393].



Plate 15: Area C; mid excavation shot of pit [392].



III. 1 Core (98E0444:110:5).



III. 2 Core (98E0444:237:1).