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S O U T H

**Iron Age Occupation at Scratchface Lane, Bedhampton,
Havant, Hampshire**

Archaeological Excavation

by Daniel Bray and David Platt

Site Code: SLB13/09

(SU 6951 0674)

Iron Age Occupation at Scratchface Lane, Bedhampton, Havant, Hampshire

**An Archaeological Excavation
for Crayfern Homes Ltd**

by Daniel Bray and David Platt
Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code SLB 13/09

January 2015

Summary

Site name: Land at Scratchface Lane, Bedhampton, Havant, Hampshire

Grid reference: SU 6951 0674

Site activity: Archaeological Excavation

Date and duration of project: 19th March – 22nd April 2014

Project manager: Steve Ford

Site supervisor: Daniel Bray and David Platt

Site code: SLB 13/09

Area of site: 8940 sq m

Summary of results: Excavation prior to a new housing development revealed two phases of activity. A single burnt flint-rich pit with no datable finds but radiocarbon dated to the middle Bronze Age hints at earlier activity within the vicinity of the site. The main finding was an early Iron Age occupation site consisting of two post-built roundhouse structures, a pit cluster, and linear features. A Mesolithic flint, and sherds of Roman and medieval pottery point to a very low level of activity on the site in other periods.

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited with Hampshire County Museum Service in due course.

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Iron Age Occupation at Scratchface Lane, Bedhampton, Havant, Hampshire An Archaeological Excavation

by Daniel Bray and David Platt

Report 13/09c

Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological field excavation carried out on land at Scratchface Lane, Bedhampton, Havant, Hampshire (SU 6951 0674) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Ian Wood of Crayfern Homes Ltd, 14 St Johns Road, Hedge End, Southampton SO30 4AB.

Planning permission (APP/13/00103) has been gained from Havant Borough Council to develop the site for housing. The consent was subject to three conditions (23, 24 and 25) relating to archaeology, which required the implementation of a programme of archaeological work. Following recent archaeological evaluations of the site by geophysical survey (Dawson 2013) and trial trenching (Bray 2014), a further phase of archaeological work was requested in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government's *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF 2012), and the Borough's policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Dr Hannah Fluck, Senior Archaeologist with Hampshire County Council, who acts as archaeological advisers to the Borough Council.

The fieldwork was undertaken by Steve Crabb, Jo Pine, Tom Stewart and Daniel Strachan under the supervision of Daniel Bray and David Platt between 19th March and 22nd April 2014 with the site code SLB 13/09. The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at Hampshire County Museum Service in due course.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located to the south of Scratchface Lane on the western edge of Bedhampton, a suburb of Havant in Hampshire (SU 6951 0674). It consists of two parcels of farmland, divided by a drain (Fig. 1). The northern field is the larger of the two, and was previously used as a paddock, whilst the southern field was left overgrown. The site is bounded by late 20th-century housing to the east, Littlepark Wood and Scratchface Lane to the north, and an embankment carrying the A3(M) to the west. The site is level at c.29m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) at the northern end before rising slightly to c.31m and then falling gently to the drain a height of c.22m and then rises again to its highest point of c.41m aOD at the southern tip of the southern field. The underlying geology varies

across the site: in the northern field it is mapped (BGS 1998) as primarily London Clay with a band of Bognor Sand crossing it approximately half way along the length of the field, whereas the southern field overlies head deposits near the dividing drain and, further up the hill, Portsdown Chalk. The main excavation area (A) was located on the London Clay. A smaller excavation area (B) was located on the Portsdown Chalk.

Archaeological background

The archaeological potential of the site was considered in a desk-based assessment (Smith 2009), and has been confirmed by a recent geophysical survey (Dawson 2013) and trial trench evaluation (Bray 2014). It had been speculated that the Roman road from Chichester (*Noviomagus*) to Bitterne (*Clausentum*) may cross the north-eastern part of the site, close to Scratchface Lane. A ditch was recorded during the evaluation, in the north-east corner of the site, which, it was thought, may be associated with this Roman road. Unfortunately this feature could not be investigated at that time in detail due to flooding. The evaluation also revealed two parallel ditches in the north-western corner of the site dating from the mid-late Iron Age, which could possibly represent a trackway. A small number of features were identified in the southern field, including a pit containing fragments of burnt flint. In the wider area, Bronze Age pottery and flintwork were found when the A3(M) was constructed in the 1970s, along with an Iron Age pit. Slightly further afield, the Neolithic long barrow known as Bevis' Grave (a Scheduled Ancient Monument) is located on Portsdown Hill, about 300m west of the site, and a sizeable early Saxon cemetery was recorded in its vicinity. Littlepark Roman villa is another Scheduled Ancient Monument, situated approximately 300m north-west of the site. Roman finds have also been noted to the north and east of the site.

Objectives and methodology

The general objectives of the project are to:

- excavate and record all archaeological deposits and features within the areas affected by the proposed development;
- produce relative and absolute dating and phasing for deposits and features recorded on the site.
- establish the character of these deposits in attempt to define functional areas on the site such as industrial, domestic, etc; and
- produce information on the economy and local environment and compare and contrast this with the results of other excavations in the region.

The specific research objectives of the excavation and post-excavation project are to answer the following questions:

- What is the nature of the prehistoric activity on the site and what is its date and extent?
- What is the nature and extent of activity during the Roman period?
- What is the relationship between the occupation evidence for the late Iron Age and Roman periods, and does it suggest any level of continuation?
- What use was made of floral and faunal resources and can these be identified and assessed from a programme of environmental sampling?
- What is the palaeoenvironmental setting of the various episodes of activity on the site?

The excavation areas comprise a total of c. 8940 sq m (Fig. 2). Area (A) targeted the various linear features recorded at the northern end of the site during the evaluation, and covered an area of approximately 8100 sq m. Area (B) was positioned around the probable prehistoric pit in the southern field, about 840 sq m. Both areas were stripped of topsoil and subsoil by a 360°-type machine fitted with a toothless grading bucket under constant archaeological supervision.

Following machine clearance, all investigation of archaeological levels was by hand, to an agreed sampling fraction. A metal detector was used to enhance recovery of small finds, and a programme of bulk soil sampling undertaken for environmental remains.

The Excavation

The excavation revealed a palaeochannel and a modest amount of archaeological deposits in Area A, dating predominantly to the early Iron Age, with a single Middle Bronze Age feature. These features were mainly postholes representing the rings of two roundhouse structures and an associated fence but also segments of linear features which relate to a minimum of three ditches, truncated by subsequent (modern) agricultural activity. In the smaller southern Area B, a small number of undated pits/postholes were revealed. A catalogue of all excavated features forms Appendix 1.

Results

Area A

Palaeochannel

The excavation revealed that the NE–SW linear features identified in the northern part of the evaluation were part of a wider palaeo-channel. A machine excavated slot (244) revealed that the palaeochannel to have a steep curved southern edge and a gradual sloped northern edge and was 1.00m in deep and consisted of 8 deposits (364–71). The stratigraphy of the main channel consisted of 0.20m of yellow grey sandy silt (369) which overlay 0.10m of dark brown grey sandy silt (368) on top of 0.22m of mottled red grey sandy silt (367). Below this

deposit was 0.16m of dark brown grey silty clay (366) which was above a light mottled red and red sandy silt (370). This deposit was above 0.16m of mottled mid red grey sandy silt (365) and 0.08m of blue grey sandy silt clay (364). A light grey red sandy silt (371) with burnt stone inclusions was present on the shallower northern side of the channel. A number of the early Iron Age linear features and pits cut into the shallow deposits at the edge of the palaeochannel but none could be convincingly traced across its deeper middle section.

Middle Bronze Age

Pit 209 located to the north of the palaeochannel was oval in plan and was 1.60m in length by 1.00m wide and 0.32m deep and contained three fills (260, 261 and 262). The primary fill was mid to dark grey orange sandy clay (262) with frequent burnt flint inclusions. Charcoal recovered from a sample of this fill was radiocarbon dated to the middle Bronze Age, 1773 – 1609 cal BC (UBA-27415). A small fragment of self fired clay was also recovered. Above this was a friable dark grey sandy clay (261) also with frequent burnt flint inclusions. The latest fill of the pit was a mid orange grey silty clay (260) with burnt flint inclusions but less than the previous two fills.

Early Iron Age

A moderate number of postholes were identified in the south-east corner of Area A representing a minimum of two post-built roundhouses and an associated fence-line. A small assemblage of pottery dates these tentatively to the early Iron Age and two radiocarbon dates suggest this was late in the early Iron Age.

Roundhouse 1 (Fig. 4)

A total of 7 postholes (126-30, 216, 218 and 219: Table 1) are associated with this roundhouse forming a structure 10.50m in diameter. Four postholes (126, 127, 130 and 219) form a continuous ring with a gap on the western side. Postholes (129, 216 and 218) are possible replacements posts. The postholes measured between 0.19m and 0.36m in diameter and between 0.05m and 0.21m deep. Posthole 130 was oval in shape and measured 0.45m by 0.30m and was 0.09m in depth. A single sherd of the earliest Iron Age pottery was recovered from the fill. Posthole 219 produced 2 sherds of Early Iron Age pottery and charcoal recovered from the sample was radiocarbon dated and produced a date of 522 – 358 cal BC (UBA-27414).

Table 1: Postholes of Roundhouse 1

<i>Cut</i>	<i>Fills</i>	<i>Diameter(m)</i>	<i>Depth (m)</i>	<i>Finds</i>
126	176	0.28	0.21	
127	177	0.19	0.10	

129	179	0.30	0.05	
130	180	0.45 x 0.30	0.09	Pottery
216	282	0.26	0.13	
218	284	0.24	0.15	
219	285	0.36	0.12	Pottery, Radiocarbon date

Roundhouse 2 (Fig. 4)

A second roundhouse was revealed overlapping the plan of the first roundhouse: no sequence was established between them except that they cannot be contemporary. The structure consisted of 19 postholes (131, 132, 134, 214 - 217, 220 - 232: Table 2). Postholes (217, 220, 222, 225/6, 227 and 229/30) form the main continuous ring of the roundhouse which was not complete as half lay outside the excavation area but would have measured 10.50m in diameter, the same as Roundhouse 1. Postholes (131, 132, 134, 214 and 215) and stake hole (134) form a square north-east facing porch (or an unrelated rectangular structure) measuring 3.4m by 2.4m. Two sherds of early Iron Age pottery were recovered from posthole 131. The remaining postholes (221, 223, 224, 228, 231 and 232) are possibly replacements. The postholes range in diameter from 0.13m to 0.55m and in depth from 0.04m to 0.22m.

Table 1: Postholes of Roundhouse 2

Cut	Fills	Diameter(m)	Depth (m)	Finds
131	181	0.15	0.25	pottery
132	182	0.35	0.19	
134	184	0.12	0.13	
214	280	0.29	0.24	
215	281	0.41	0.35	
217	283	0.16	0.04	
220	286	0.29	0.17	
221	287	0.25	0.05	
222	288	0.38	0.22	
223	289	0.38	0.18	
224	290	0.15	0.08	
225	291	0.20	0.07	
226	292	0.20	0.07	
227	293	0.22	0.04	
228	294	0.18	0.07	
229	295	0.20	0.06	
230	296	0.30	0.11	
231	297	0.55	0.04	
232	298	0.22	0.08	

Fence structure

Eight postholes (112-115 and 119-122: Table 3) formed a straight line 15.00m in length to the north of the two roundhouses and is interpreted as a fence-line. The postholes measured between 0.20m and 0.36m in diameter and in depth from 0.04m to 0.13m. Two sherds of the earliest Iron Age pottery were recovered from posthole 119.

Table 3: Postholes of fenceline

Cut	Fills	Diameter (m)	Depth (m)	Comment
112	62	0.33	0.11	
113	63	0.27	0.04	
114	64	0.20	0.13	

115	65	0.36	0.12	pottery
119	69	0.25	0.12	
120	70	0.20	0.02	
121	71	0.21	0.05	
122	72	0.24	0.06	

Eight further postholes (110, 111, 116-8, 123-5 and 128) were located close to the roundhouses and fence-line but could not be attributed to a structure. Of these, postholes 110, 116 and 125 contained early Iron Age pottery while 124 contained a small sherd of (?intrusive) medieval pottery. The remaining postholes 111, 117, 118, 123 and 128 were undated.

Other Pits and Postholes

A total of 23 other pits and postholes were revealed across the excavation areas (Table 4). Postholes 107-9 were located in the southern part of the area. They measured between 0.18m and 0.42m in diameter and between 0.07m and 0.12m in depth. A single sherd of early Iron Age pottery was recovered from posthole 107. Posthole 109 produced a piece of intrusive modern glass.

All other pits and postholes were located in the north-western corner of the site, most of which were north of the palaeochannel. Postholes ranged in diameter between 0.18m and 0.45m and were between 0.05m and 0.22m in depth. No structures were associated with any of the postholes and no finds were recovered.

Slots 300 (378, 379) and 301 (380, 381) are quadrants of a large oval pit truncated on the southern edge by ditch 241 and itself cut into palaeochannel fill. Both quadrants contained a very dark grey silty clay (378, 380) fill and a mid brown grey silty clay (379, 381). Early Iron Age pottery c. 8th – 6th century BC was recovered from both slots along with a heavily corroded piece of metal, most likely a nail, and frequent burnt flint. A radiocarbon date from charcoal within the sample gave a date of 543-400 cal BC (UBA-27416).

Table 4: Postholes not attributed to structures, and pits in Area A

Cut	Fills	Type	Diameter (m)	Depth (m)	Comment
107	57	Posthole	0.42	0.12	Pot
108	58	Posthole	0.18	0.07	
109	59	Posthole	0.29	0.10	Modern Glass
140	190	Posthole		0.05	Relationship with 141 unclear
141	191	Posthole		0.07	Relationship with 141 unclear
145	194	Posthole	0.45	0.06	
146	195	Posthole	0.60 x 0.45	0.06	
202	253	Posthole	0.20	0.06	
203	254	Posthole	0.25	0.13	
205	256	Posthole	0.39	0.13	
206	257	Posthole	0.24	0.05	
207	258	Posthole	0.32	0.10	
208	259	Posthole	0.32	0.22	
209	260 – 262	Pit	1.60 x 1.00	0.32	Burnt flint, Radiocarbon date
210	263 – 267	Pit	1.80 x 1.08	0.42	Burnt flint
211	268 – 271	Pit		0.46	Burnt flint, cut by 212
212	272 – 275	Pit	1.38	0.55	Burnt flint, cuts 211
234	350 – 352	Pit		0.46	Burnt flint, same as 3, 4 in eval
238	356	Pit	0.57	0.35	
239	357	Pit		0.72	Relationship with 240 unclear

240	358	Pit		0.67	Relationship with 239 unclear
300	378, 379	Pit		0.18	Metal, Pot, Radiocarbon date
301	380, 381	Pit		0.24	Bone, Burnt flint, Pot

Linear Features

A number of segmented linear features were observed within Area A which were investigated during the evaluation but due to the flooding of the trenches was interpreted as a single ditch (Fig 2). These segments were recorded from the southern edge of excavation on a south–north alignment for c.20m, curving towards the northern end onto a SE–NW alignment, cutting the palaeochannel and represent a minimum of three linear ditches truncated by later agricultural activity. Ditch 1000, furthest west, is stratigraphically the earliest in the sequence and was seen in 10 slots (135, 138, 139, 143, 144, 200, 235, 236, 245 and 248) which showed it contained a mid grey orange sandy clay changing to a firmer mid brown grey clay silt towards the palaeo-channel. Early Iron Age pottery and a single flint spall were recovered from slot 248.

Ditch 1000 was cut by Ditch 1001 which was recorded on the same alignment and observed in six slots (105, 136, 148, 204, 246 and 249) that showed they all contained mid to dark brown grey or grey sandy clay fills. A very small number of finds were recovered from this ditch. These include early Iron Age pottery from slots 105, 136 and 249; burnt flint from 136 and 148 and an intact flint flake from 249.

The latest ditch in the sequence is Ditch 1002 which was also the furthest east, and was observed in six slots (106, 137, 147, 149, 237 and 247) and ranged between 0.39m and 0.56m wide and 0.13m and 0.21m deep. The slots contained a mid to dark grey brown sandy clay or silty clay fill. Early Iron Age pottery was recovered from slots 106 and 247, the later also included and broken flint blade and spall.

Ditch terminus 201, seen to the east of 1000-1002 was 0.56m wide and 0.20m deep and may relate to a fourth re-cut but could also be unrelated. No finds were recovered.

All of these seem to mark the same boundary line, cut and recut in, perhaps, quite a short period.

On the western edge of the area a c. 5m length of ditch aligned east – west was observed which cut pit 239 and 240. The excavated ditch terminus 241, which was 0.60m wide and 0.39m deep, contained two fills (359 and 360) both of which were dark grey and sandy silt in composition. Fill 359 produced 77 sherds of early Iron Age pottery, likely to date to the 5th to 4th century BC, two intact flint flakes and burnt clay and flint.

AREA B

Three postholes (100-102), a shallow scoop (103) and a treebole (104) were revealed in Area B. The postholes were all oval and were between 0.30m and 0.45m in length, 0.30m and 0.40m wide and between 0.10m and

0.20m deep. The shallow scoop was 0.70m in length, 0.40m wide and 0.05m deep. The treebole was crescent shaped and 1.00m in length, 0.30m wide and 0.20m deep. All were filled with a reddish brown or grey brown silty clay fill with frequent burnt flint. A single small abraded sherd of pottery was recovered from posthole 102 but a date could not be given.

Finds

Pottery by Frances Raymond

The assemblage (155 sherds, 1020g.), which is from 17 features and two general horizons, is dominated by small fragments in variable condition derived from at least 19 vessels. The limited evidence of form coupled with other chronologically sensitive attributes supports the radiocarbon dates for activity during the Earliest and Early Iron Age, between the late 8th and 4th centuries BC. While it is probable that all of the pottery was deposited during this time span it is not possible to confirm this from the ceramic characteristics, as the sherds are in flint tempered fabrics that had a long history of use in the area extending from the Late Bronze Age into the Early Iron Age.

The pottery was recorded by context following the guidelines of the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG 2010). Details of fabric, form, decoration, surface treatment and colour, wall thickness, fragmentation, condition and estimated vessel equivalents have been entered on a database and are available in the archive. The sherds were sorted into fabric groups with the aid of a binocular microscope at X20 magnification, while the descriptions were prepared using this and a higher magnification of X40.

The Fabrics

The pottery is made from fourteen flint tempered fabrics, which have evenly distributed inclusions and are mainly hard. These have been amalgamated into three broad ware groups based on the density of flint tempering (Table 5), which have been sub-divided by grade into four categories: a: very fine (up to 1mm.); b: fine (up to 2mm.); c: medium (up to 4mm.); and d: coarse (up to 6mm.). The evidence points the exploitation of at least four different clay sources (Table 5): CS1: sand-free; CS2: with silt sized to very fine quartz sand; CS3: with sparse glauconite and silt sized to very fine quartz sand; and CS4: with fine to coarse quartz sand. All of the identified inclusions would have been available locally including the glauconite, which is present in the nearby London Clay and Bognor Sand Member.

Table 5: Relative proportions of wares by clay source

Ware	Clay Source								TOTALS	
	CS1		CS2		CS3		CS4			
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt
	Common to Very Common Burnt Flint									
1a	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	14	1	14

1b	3	141	-	-	-	-	4	59	7	200
1c	-	-	2	15	-	-	47	133	49	148
1d	2	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6
Moderate Burnt Flint										
2a	-	-	26	135	-	-	-	-	26	135
2b	35	112	8	43	-	-	3	15	46	170
2c	-	-	8	141	-	-	-	-	8	141
2d	-	-	11	201	-	-	-	-	11	201
Sparse Burnt Flint										
3a	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	3	3
Indeterminate										
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
TOTALS	40	259	55	535	3	3	55	221	155	1020

The majority of sherds tempered with common to very common burnt flint are in wares that also incorporate coarser sand (Ware 1a-1c, CS4), which appear to have been preferred for medium grade fabrics (CS4, 1c). By contrast, those with moderate frequencies of burnt flint are principally either sand free (38%) or include silty sand (58%: Ware 2a-2d: CS1 and CS2). This pattern may partly be related to an apparent bias in the use of these fabrics for very fine and fine wares (2a and 2b).

Fabric and Surface Treatment

All of the sherds with common to very common flint tempering regardless of grade have smoothed or partly smoothed surfaces and oxidised exteriors. The very fine Group 2a and 3a wares were reserved for three bowls with dark grey burnished surfaces. At least two burnished bowls were made from the Group 2b wares, which were also selected for vessels with oxidised smoothed or partly smoothed exteriors. The sherds in the coarser 2c and 2d fabrics are exclusively characterized by these more rudimentary treatments.

Key Groups

The largest assemblages are from three features on the western edge of the site (Cuts 239, 241 and 300/301). One of the earliest, from pit 300/301, is composed of sherds from at least six vessels (40 sherds, 327g.): two bowls with dark grey burnished surfaces (Ware Groups 2a, CS2 and 2b, CS1); and four vessels in various oxidized hues with smoothed or rudimentary surface treatments (Ware Groups 1b, CS4; 2b, CS1; 2b, CS2; and 2c, CS2). The only identifiable form is a tripartite carinated bowl with a flaring neck in a very fine ware (Ware Group 2a, CS2) represented by neck, shoulder and wall fragments (25 sherds, 132g.; 4-9mm. thick). The type was current between the late eighth and early sixth centuries cal BC, consistent with the earlier part of the radiocarbon range at 2 sigma (729-692 and 658-653 cal BC). Confirmation of an Earliest Iron Age date for the group is provided by part of a base with patchy abundant fine flint on its exterior (Ware Group 2a, CS2) and by a wall sherd with traces of vertical finger smearing (Ware Group 1b, CS4). Both are recurrent Late Bronze Age technological traits that continued into the Earliest Iron Age.

It is probable that a complete base and associated lower wall fragments from pit 239 are of contemporary origin (11 sherds, 201g.; base diameter of 85mm). The coarse and poorly sorted fabric (Ware Group 2d, CS2) is typical of the Late Bronze Age and Earliest Iron Age, as is the splayed foot. The lower walls are heavily finger moulded and it is possible that the marks are part of a vertically finger smeared exterior, but too little of the profile survives for this to be confirmed.

Pit 239 is cut by the terminal of ditch 241, which produced an Early Iron Age assemblage (77 sherds, 242g.), although it is possible that some of the fragments may be derived from earlier deposits. The sherds are from at least four vessels (Ware Groups 1a, CS4; 1c, CS4; 2b, CS1; and 2c, CS2) with the only identifiable form being a round shouldered bowl current between the 5th and 4th centuries cal BC, represented by neck, shoulder and wall fragments (28 sherds, 79g.; Ware Group 2b, CS1). This has thin walls (3-5mm. thick), burnished surfaces and a dark grey to reddish brown exterior. The bowl is decorated with two narrow shallow tooled lines at the base of its neck and a third at its shoulder.

Other Pottery

The rest of the deposits produced between one and four sherds of pottery, virtually all of which are wall or base fragments. The only exception is a simple, rounded and upright rim from a bowl with dark grey burnished surfaces from posthole 116 (Ware Group 2a, CS2). Too little of the profile survives for an identification of the vessel type, which can only be attributed broadly to the Earliest or Early Iron Age.

The phasing of the pottery from the other features is similarly uncertain within this time frame. The few ill-sorted medium and coarse ware wall fragments from two of the postholes (postholes 107 and 131; Ware Groups 1c, CS2 and 1d, CS1) can be tentatively ascribed to the Earliest Iron Age. The two lightly abraded wall sherds (138g) from posthole 219 are from a single vessel in a fine fabric of Earliest to Early Iron Age character (Ware Group 1b, CS1). This would suggest that a date in the earlier part of the 2 sigma range is most likely for the feature (540-355 cal BC).

Discussion

In terms of fabric the pottery exhibits affinities with sites to the east of Bedhampton in West Sussex. The longevity of flint tempered wares is a typical characteristic of assemblages from some of the sites on the coastal plain, where particular note has been made of the continued production of fine wares from the Late Bronze Age into the Early Iron Age (Hamilton 2004, 26-27).

The two bowl forms are well recognised types with a widespread distribution in southern England. The Earliest Iron Age example is closest in character to the tripartite carinated bowls from sites to the west (e.g.,

Gingell and Morris 2000, fig. 48: Bowl Type 3.3) represented in Hampshire amongst the 7th-century pottery from Old Down Farm (Davies 1981, Fig. 16.59: Type B3). The round shouldered variety is an established Early Iron Age form comparable in profile to the coarse-ware bowls from the Stockbridge area (Brown 2000, fig. 3.29: Type BA2.3) and to the fine flint tempered examples from West Sussex (Hamilton 2004, fig. 17.52 and 58).

Ceramic Building Materials by Danielle Milbank

Brick and tile fragments were recovered from two contexts encountered during the excavation. In total, 2 fragments weighing 5g were present, all of which were of a very small size, and were recovered from sieved soil samples. The fabric was examined under x10 magnification.

Cut 235 (353) contained two very small co-joining pieces of a pale red friable fabric with some blackening. These pieces are of insufficient size to enable identification, and cannot be closely dated.

Fired Clay by Danielle Milbank

Fired clay was found in cut 209 which comprised a hard sandy fabric and dark red in colour. Fired clay was also recovered from a sieved soil sample from context 210 (267). These comprised three small pieces of a fine fabric with an orange red colour. No marks (from straw or wattles) are present to suggest the fired clay represents daub or another type of object. An 18g piece in ditch 241 (359) does appear to be daub.

Metalwork by Susan Porter

A single fragment of metalwork was recovered from a sample taken from pit (300). It is highly corroded with heavy concretions, but is more than likely to be a nail. It was 35mm in length and weight 13g.

Struck Flint by Steve Ford

A small collection comprising just 8 struck flints was recovered from the site. These comprised five flakes, 2 spalls (pieces under 20x20mm) and a well made broken blade. Apart from the blade, which is of Mesolithic date, the items are not closely datable and could be of Bronze Age date, and less likely of Iron Age date contemporary with the pottery with which they are associated.

Palaeo-environmental remains by Rosalind McKenna

Fifty-six bulk soil samples together with nine hand picked charcoal samples were processed by flotation and sieving using a 0.25mm mesh. The flots were examined under a low-power binocular microscope at magnifications between x12 and x40. Terminology and identifications for charcoal follow Schweingruber (1978) and Hather (2000). Charred plant macrofossils were absent from the samples. Charcoal fragments were present in fifty of the samples, but preservation was very poor and only five of the sieved samples contain material that was identifiable (Appendix 5a). Seven of the nine hand picked charcoal samples, however, contained identifiable remains (Appendix 5b).

The total range of taxa comprised willow / poplar (*Salix / Populus*), hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and oak (*Quercus* spp.). A local environment with an oak dominant woodland, at the extents of which hazel thrives, is indicated from the charcoal of the site. A damp component is also hinted at with the presence of willow/poplar charcoal. As seen in Tables 1a and 1b, oak is the most numerous of the identified charcoal fragments, and it is possible that this was the preferred fuel wood obtained from a local environment containing a broader choice of species, including hazel and willow/poplar.

It is likely that these samples all represent deposition of fuel waste. This probably occurred through intentional dumping. The disposal of spent fuel either into features such as pits, postholes or ditches/gullies or directly dumped onto the site seems a likely explanation for the arrival of this material on site. As there are so few identifiable charcoal fragments, from a small number of samples, other than to state the presence of these species in the environment and subsequent use as fuel, nothing further can be concluded.

Radiocarbon Dating

Three radiocarbon determinations were obtained from Queen's University of Belfast from various burial deposits on the site. The results were calibrated using Intcal 13.14c (Reimer *et al.* 2013) and are presented at 2-sigma (95.4% confidence), with the most likely range in **bold**.

UBA-27414 Charcoal, posthole 219 (285)

Radiocarbon Age BP 2335 ± 37

Calibrated age: cal BC 536–527 relative area under curve 0.7%
cal BC 522–358 relative area under curve 96.6%
cal BC 281–257 relative area under curve 2.8%

results rounded out to 5-year brackets overlap, so the preferred range for this sample is **540–355 cal BC (97.3%)**

UBA-27415 Charcoal, pit 209 (262)

Radiocarbon Age BP 3388 ± 38

Calibrated age: cal BC 1866–1849 relative area under curve 1.5%
cal BC 1773–1609 relative area under curve 97.2%
cal BC 1580–1562 relative area under curve 1.4%

UBA-27416 Charcoal, pit 300 (378)

Radiocarbon Age BP 2399 ± 29

Calibrated age: cal BC 729–692 relative area under curve 6.6%
cal BC 658–653 relative area under curve 0.8%
cal BC 543–400 relative area under curve 92.7%

Conclusion

The excavation revealed a modest quantity of archaeological deposits and although the site was artefact-poor, two main phases of activity were identified. A flint blade of Mesolithic date, four sherds of Roman pottery and a sherd of medieval pottery, are the only other artefacts to indicate a very low level of activity in those times also. No Roman activity associated with the projected Roman road to the north was present.

The earliest below ground activity recorded was a single pit (209) filled with frequent burnt flint which was radiocarbon dated to the early part of the middle Bronze Age (1773–1609 cal BC). Unfortunately no other Bronze Age features were recorded on the site and other datable features nearby were of Iron Age date. No stray finds of Bronze Age pottery were present and possibly the only earlier prehistoric activity recorded was represented by a few struck flints. Thus with an absence of any supporting evidence there is the possibility that the charcoal was residual and the feature is of Iron Age date like others elsewhere on the site. Nevertheless, the association of Bronze Age deposits of burnt flint, namely burnt mounds, spreads and pit clusters and an association with riparian or low-lying settings is a recurrent one (Yates and Bradley 2010). For example, recent excavations at North Bersted, Sussex, examined a combination of mounds and pit clusters close to a water course, which were radiocarbon dated to the earlier part of the Bronze Age (Taylor *et al.* 2014). Thus the presence of a MBA burnt flint-filled pit adjacent to a former watercourse is not out of character but points only to a very low of activity at this time.

The palaeochannel had silted prior to the Iron Age, as the segmented linear features cut across it. Samples taken for environmental analysis hint that the area was waterlogged or damp at the time of occupation but also an oak dominated woodland was nearby. It is possible, but not demonstrated, that the channel was still flowing water in the Bronze Age.

The main activity on the site lies within the earlier part of the Iron Age with two main foci of activity. One focus is represented by Roundhouses 1 and 2 which are considered to represent a relatively modest scale of occupation on the site, but, if the interpretation of two successive roundhouses is correct, there is some time depth to this activity. Only a small quantity of flint tempered pottery, which had a long time span from the late Bronze Age through to the early Iron Age, was recovered but a radiocarbon date from Roundhouse 1 gives a date between 522–358 cal BC. This area of settlement was unenclosed with few other below ground remains such as storage pits, though there did appear to be a short length of fence present and a possible four-post structure perhaps for above ground storage (considered more likely than a north-west-facing porch, though this is not impossible if the pits were related).

To the north-west, a dense cluster of pits, often with burnt flint-rich fills, and small linear features of uncertain function partly overlay the infilled palaeochannel. Several of these features produced Iron Age pottery and a radiocarbon date of 543–400 cal BC was obtained from pit 300/1. This suggests a broad contemporaneity with the roundhouses to the south-east. Pit 300/1, was truncated by ditch terminus 241 again indicating some time depth to the formation of these deposits.

Between these two clusters, another area of early Iron Age activity was represented on the site in the form of a wide ditch, identified during the evaluation, which had been redefined on at least two occasions (1000–1002). The ditch and its recuts terminated in the trench but its southern extent is not known. It was not revealed in any other evaluation trenches to the south but there are gaps in the trench positions through which it could pass undetected. Its function, other than a general boundary feature, is not known.

The majority of the deposits on the site are considered to represent elements of a small farmstead in use for a relatively short time. There are very few indicators of the subsistence base for the settlement with no survival of animal bone, and no charred plant remains other than charcoal, though tentatively the absence of cereal remains might be taken to indicate that animal husbandry was the primary economic concern.

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APPENDIX 1: Feature details

<i>Cut</i>	<i>Fill (s)</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Dating evidence</i>
100	150	Posthole		
101	151	Posthole		
102	152	Posthole		
103	153	Posthole		
104	154	Treebole		
105	155	Ditch	Early Iron Age	Pottery
106	156	Gully	Early Iron Age	Pottery
107	157	Posthole	Early Iron Age?	Pottery
108	158	Posthole		
109	159	Posthole		
110	160	Posthole	Early Iron Age	Pottery
111	161	Posthole		
112	162	Posthole		
113	163	Posthole		
114	164	Posthole		
115	165	Posthole		
116	166	Posthole	Early Iron Age	Pottery
117	167	Posthole		
118	168	Posthole		
119	169	Posthole	Early Iron Age	Pottery
120	170	Posthole		
121	171	Posthole		
122	172	Posthole		
123	173	Posthole		
124	174	Posthole		
125	175	Posthole	Early Iron Age	Pottery
126	176	Posthole		
127	177	Posthole		
128	178	Posthole		
129	179	Posthole		
130	180	Posthole	Early Iron Age	Pottery
131	181	Posthole	Early Iron Age?	Pottery
132	182	Posthole		
134	184	Stakehole		
135	185	Ditch		
136	186	Ditch	Early Iron Age	Pottery
137	187	Gully		
138	188	Gully		
139	189	Gully		
140	190	Posthole		
141	191	Posthole		
143	192	Gully Terminus		
144	193	Gully Terminus		
145	194	Posthole		
146	195	Posthole		
147	196	Ditch		
148	198, 199	Ditch Terminus		
149	197	Ditch		
200	250	Gully		
201	251, 252	Ditch Terminus		
202	253	Posthole		
203	254	Posthole		
204	255	Gully Terminus		
205	256	Posthole		
206	257	Posthole		
207	258	Posthole		
208	259	Posthole		
209	260, 261, 262	Pit	1773 – 1609 cal BC	Radiocarbon Date
210	263, 264, 265, 266, 267	Pit		
211	268, 269, 270, 271	Pit		
212	272, 273, 274, 275	Pit		
213	276, 277, 278, 279	Ditch		
214	280	Posthole		
215	281	Posthole		
216	282	Posthole		
217	283	Posthole		
218	284	Posthole		
219	285	Posthole	540–355 or 281–257 cal BC	Pottery, Radiocarbon date

220	286	Posthole		
221	287	Posthole		
222	288	Posthole		
223	289	Posthole		
224	290	Posthole		
225	291	Posthole		
226	292	Posthole		
227	293	Posthole		
228	294	Posthole		
229	295	Posthole		
230	296	Posthole		
231	297	Pit		
232	298	Posthole		
233	299	Posthole		
234	350, 351, 352	Pit		
235	353	Gully Terminus		
236	354	Gully Terminus		
237	355	Ditch		
238	356	Pit		
239	357	Pit	Early Iron Age?	Pottery
240	358	Pit		
241	359, 360	Ditch Terminus	Early Iron Age	Pottery
242	361	Spread		
	362	Spread		
243	363	Ditch		
244	364-371	Palaeochannel		
245	372	Gully		
245	373	Gully		
246	374	Gully		
247	375	Gully Terminus	Early Iron Age	Pottery
248	376	Gully Terminus	Early Iron Age	Pottery
249	377	Ditch Terminus	Early Iron Age	Pottery
300	378, 379	Pit	543-400 cal BC	Pottery, Radiocarbon date
301	380, 381	Pit	Early Iron Age	Pottery

APPENDIX 2: Pottery Catalogue

<i>Cut</i>	<i>Fill</i>	<i>Ceramic date</i>	<i>Feature date</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>	<i>Fabric</i>
	subsoil	Medieval	n/a	1	5	n/a
	subsoil	Earliest to Early Iron Age	n/a	1	8	FS/3
102	152	Indeterminate	Indeterminate	1	1	Indeterminate
	155	Earliest to Early Iron Age	Earliest to Early Iron Age	1	6	F/3
106	156	Earliest to Early Iron Age	Earliest to Early Iron Age	1	6	FS/3
107	157	?Earliest Iron Age	?Earliest Iron Age	1	12	FS/1
107	157	?Earliest Iron Age	?Earliest Iron Age	1	3	FS/1
110	160	Indeterminate	Indeterminate	1	1	Indeterminate
116	166	Earliest to Early Iron Age	Earliest to Early Iron Age	1	3	FS/4
119	169	Earliest to Early Iron Age	Earliest to Early Iron Age	1	2	FglS/1
119	169	Earliest to Early Iron Age	Earliest to Early Iron Age	2	1	FglS/1
124	174	Medieval	Medieval	1	7	coarse greyware
125	175	Earliest to Early Iron Age	Earliest to Early Iron Age	1	1	FS/3
130	180	Earliest to Early Iron Age	Earliest to Early Iron Age	1	1	FSV/1
131	181	?Earliest Iron Age	?Earliest Iron Age	1	5	F/1
131	181	?Earliest Iron Age	?Earliest Iron Age	1	1	F/1
136	186	Earliest to Early Iron Age	Earliest to Early Iron Age	2	41	FS/2
136	186	Earliest to Early Iron Age	Earliest to Early Iron Age	1	7	FS/2
136	186	Earliest to Early Iron Age	Earliest to Early Iron Age	1	4	FSV/1
219	285	Earliest to Early Iron Age	540–355 cal BC	1	132	F/2
223	285	Earliest to Early Iron Age	540–355 cal BC	1	6	F/2
239	357	?Earliest Iron Age	?Earliest Iron Age	1	190	cIFS/1
239	357	?Earliest Iron Age	?Earliest Iron Age	2	10	cIFS/1
239	357	?Earliest Iron Age	?Earliest Iron Age	8	1	cIFS/1
241	359	Early Iron Age	Early Iron Age	3	24	F/3
241	359	Early Iron Age	Early Iron Age	2	15	F/3
241	359	Early Iron Age	Early Iron Age	23	40	F/3
241	359	Early Iron Age	Early Iron Age	1	14	FS/7
241	359	Early Iron Age	Early Iron Age	1	16	FS/5
241	359	Early Iron Age	Early Iron Age	12	110	FS/8
241	359	Early Iron Age	Early Iron Age	1	5	FS/8
241	359	Early Iron Age	Early Iron Age	34	18	FS/8
247	375	Earliest to Early Iron Age	Earliest to Early Iron Age	3	5	FS/6
248	376	Earliest to Early Iron Age	Earliest to Early Iron Age	1	1	F/3
249	377	Earliest to Early Iron Age	Earliest to Early Iron Age	1	3	F/2
300	378	Earliest Iron Age	543–400 cal BC	3	20	FS/4
300	378	Earliest Iron Age	543–400 cal BC	1	3	FS/4
300	378	Earliest Iron Age	543–400 cal BC	1	60	FS/4
300	378	Earliest Iron Age	543–400 cal BC	20	49	FS/4
301	380	Earliest Iron Age	543–400 cal BC	2	68	FS/5
301	380	Earliest Iron Age	543–400 cal BC	2	11	FS/5
301	380	Earliest Iron Age	543–400 cal BC	1	13	FS/5
301	380	Earliest Iron Age	543–400 cal BC	1	18	FS/5
301	380	Earliest Iron Age	543–400 cal BC	1	15	FS/5
301	380	Earliest Iron Age	543–400 cal BC	5	38	FS/6
301	380	Earliest Iron Age	543–400 cal BC	1	7	F/3
301	380	Earliest Iron Age	543–400 cal BC	1	13	F/3
301	380	Earliest Iron Age	543–400 cal BC	1	1	F/3
301	380	Earliest Iron Age	543–400 cal BC	1	11	FS/2

Earliest Iron Age: late 8th to early 6th centuries cal BC

Early Iron Age: 5th to 4th century BC

APPENDIX 3: Catalogue of ceramic building material

<i>Cut</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Sample</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Wt (g)</i>
235	353	Gully Terminus	56	2	4

APPENDIX 4: Struck Flint Catalogue

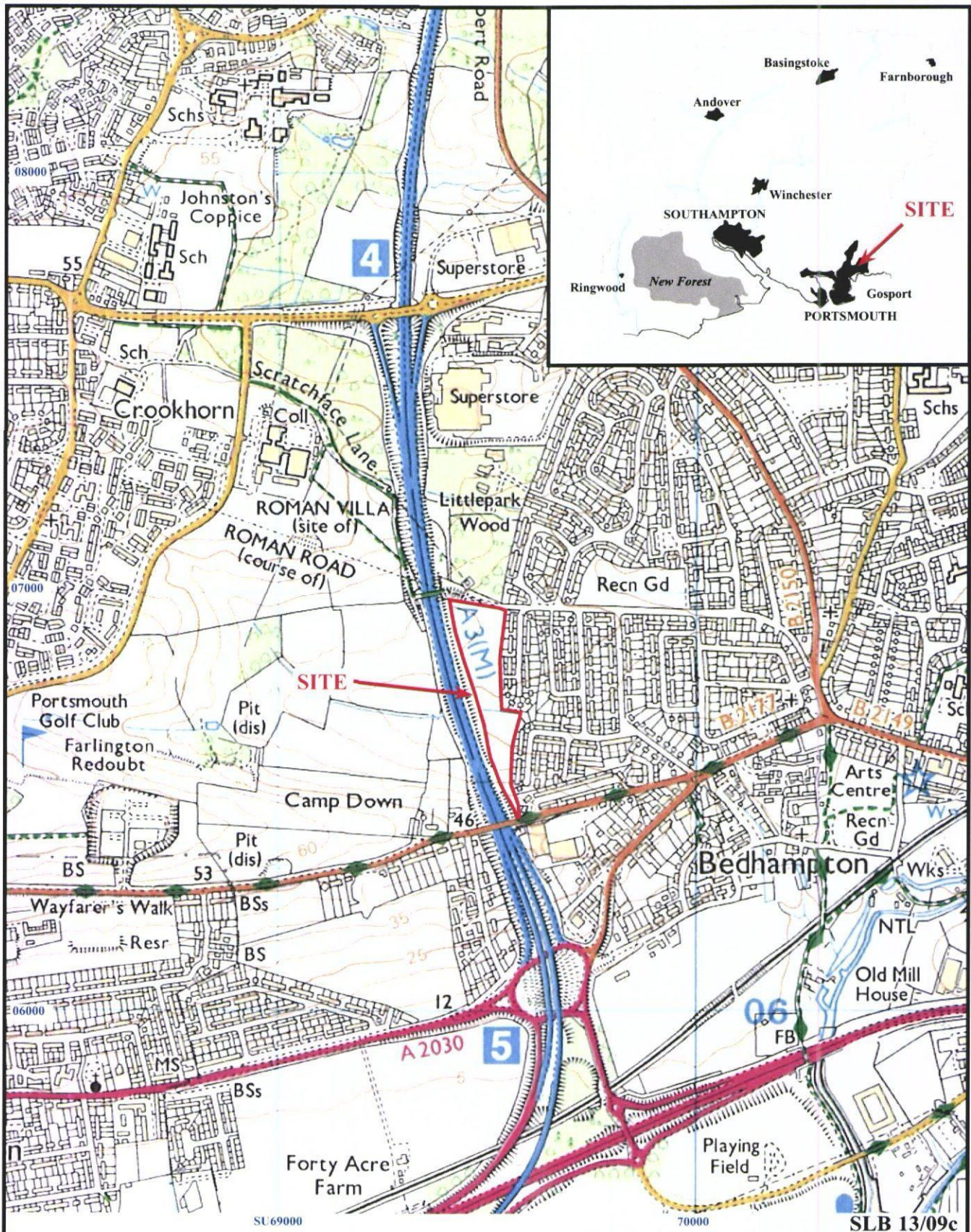
<i>Cut</i>	<i>Fill</i>	<i>Flake</i>	<i>Blade</i>	<i>Spall</i>
124	174	1		
239	357	1		
241	359	2		
247	375		1	1
248	376			1
249	377	1		

APPENDIX 5a: Charcoal from sieved samples.

	Sample	47	54	55	60	65
	Cut	220	233	234	241	300
	Deposit	286	299	350	359	378
	Feature type	Post hole	Post hole	Pit	Ditch terminus	Pit
	No fragments	23	10+	50+	30+	200+
	Max size (mm)	14	6	8	9	19
Name	Vernacular					
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	-	-	-	6	-
<i>Salix / Populus</i>	Willow / Poplar	-	-	2	2	-
<i>Quercus</i> spp.	Oak	4	4	5	3	65
	Indeterminate	19	6	43	19	35

APPENDIX 5b: Charcoal from hand picked samples

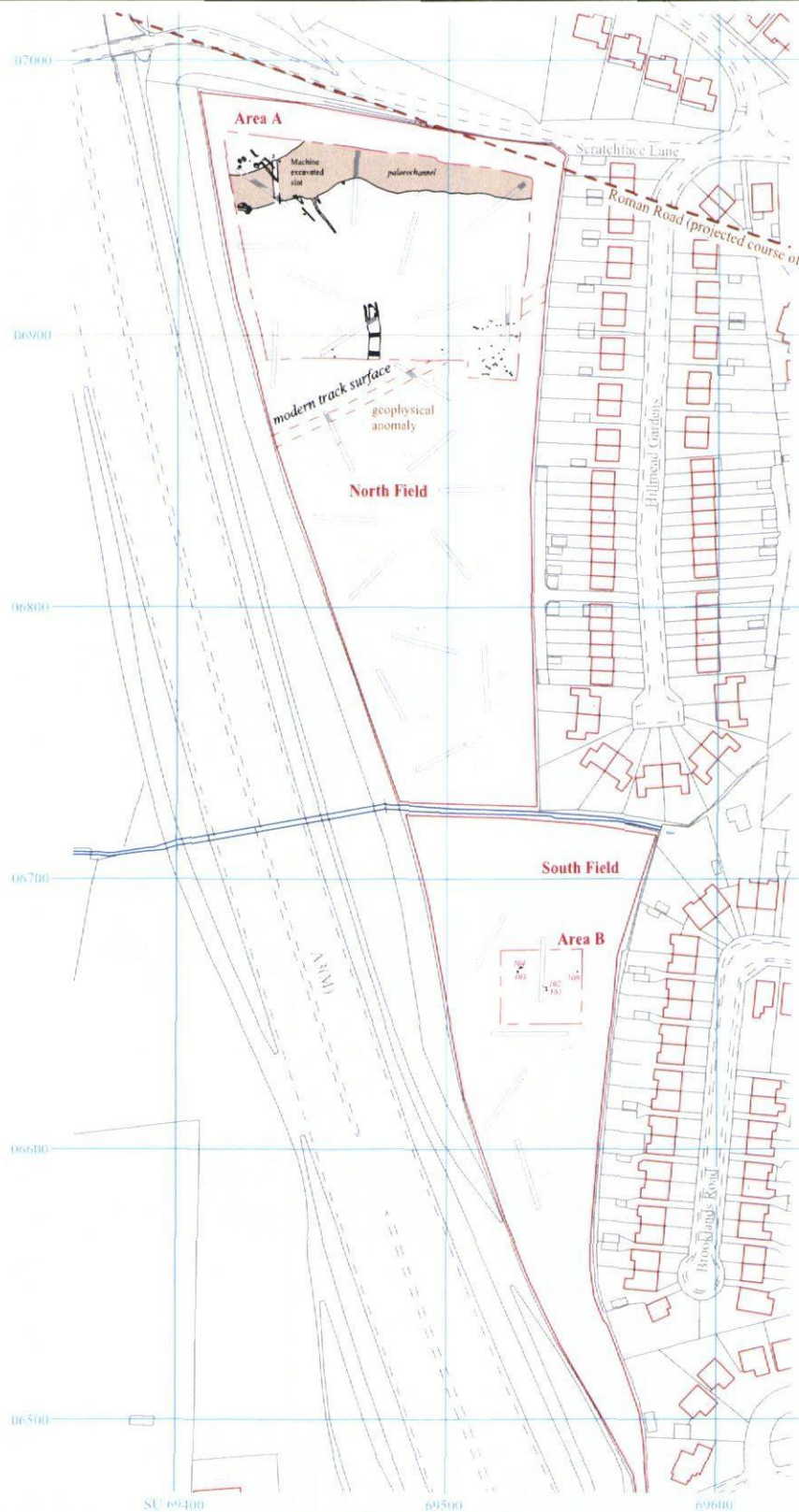
	Sample	38	39	45	55	61	63
	Cut	209	210	218	234	245	247
	Deposit	262	267	284	350	372	375
	Feature type	Pit	Pit	Post hole	Pit	Gully	Gully terminus
	No fragments	13	5	2	18	6	3
	Max size (mm)	26	16	7	11	15	11
Name	Vernacular						
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	5	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Salix / Populus</i>	Willow / Poplar	-	-	1	-	-	-
<i>Quercus</i> spp.	Oak	8	3	1	5	6	2
	Indeterminate	-	2	-	13	-	1



**Land at Scratchface Lane, Bedhampton,
Havant, Hampshire, 2014
Archaeological Excavation**
Figure 1. Location of site within Bedhampton, Havant
and Hampshire.

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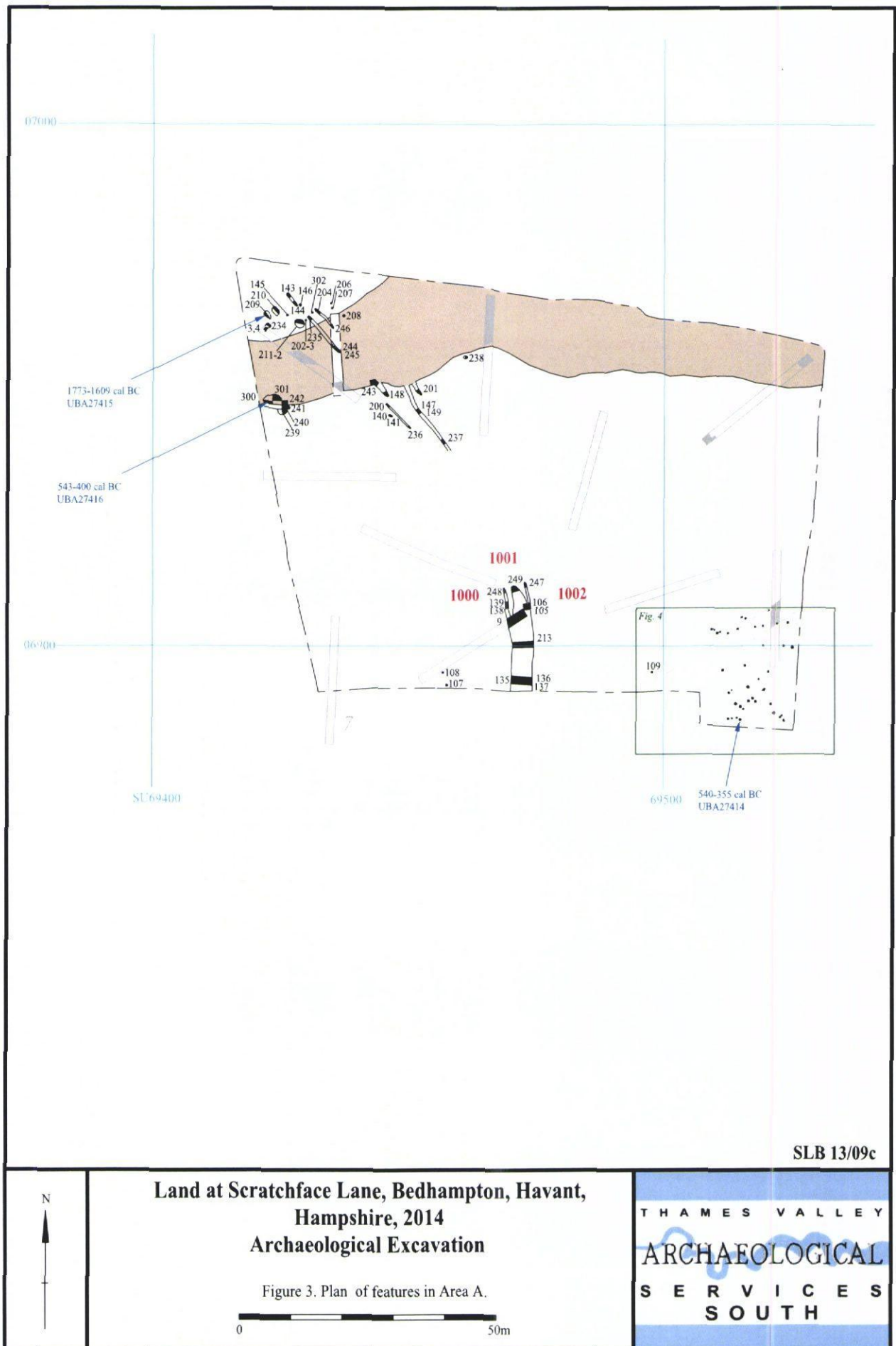
SLB 13/09c

**Land at Scratchface Lane, Bedhampton,
Havant, Hampshire, 2014
Archaeological Excavation**

Figure 2. Location of areas.

0 100m

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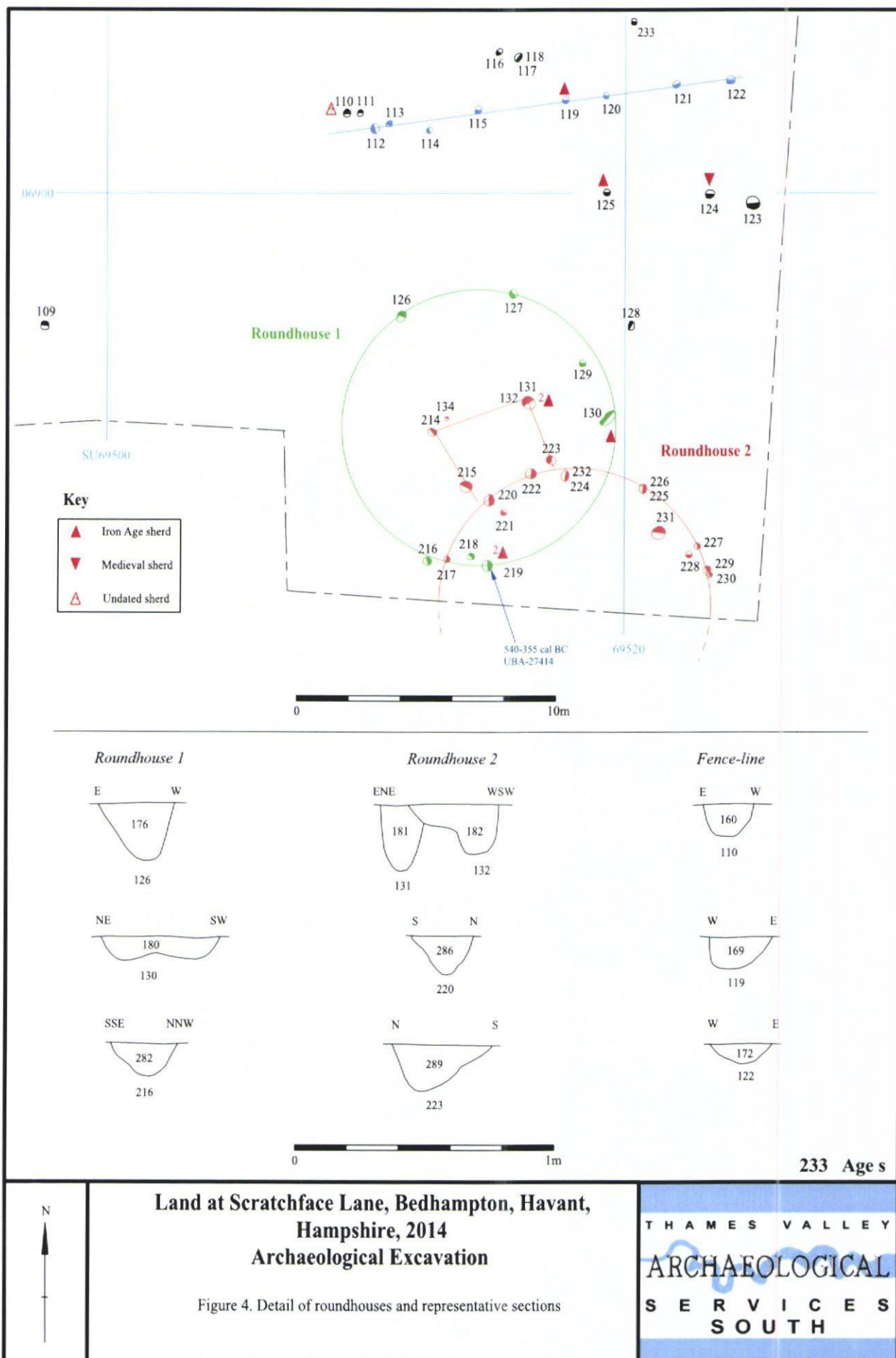
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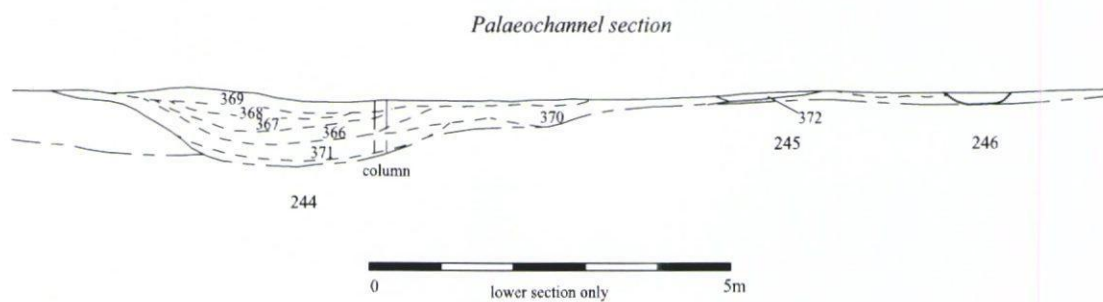
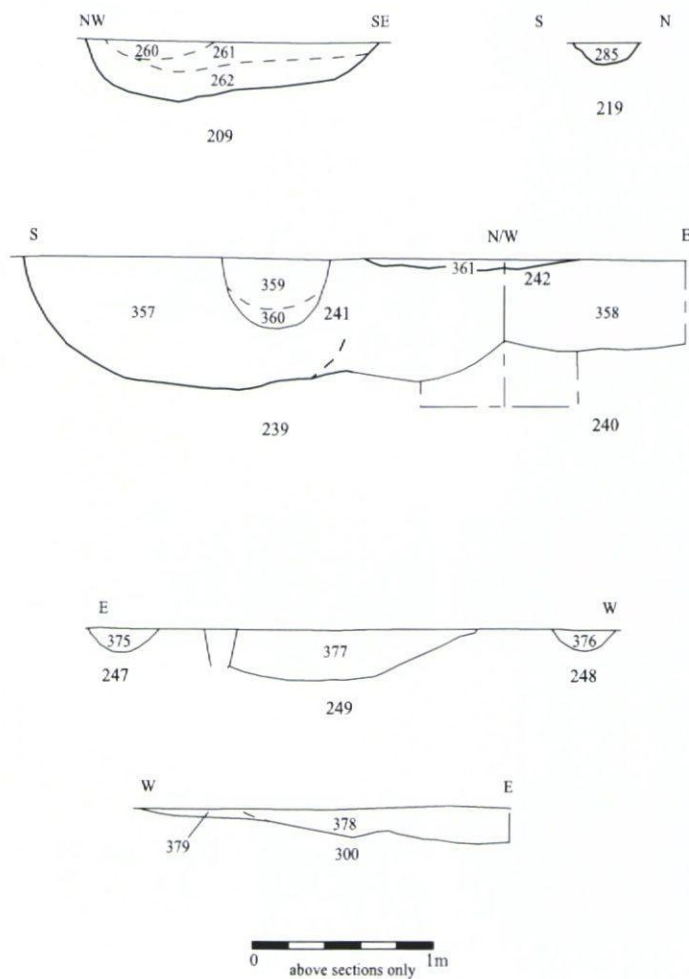
**Land at Scratchface Lane, Bedhampton, Havant,
Hampshire, 2014
Archaeological Excavation**

Figure 3. Plan of features in Area A.

0 50m

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Land at Scatchface Lane, Bedhampton, Havant,
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Figure 5. Sections.

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Plate 1. General view over northern field, looking north.



Plate 2. Area of roundhouses and fence line, looking north east,

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Land at Scratchface Lane, Bedhampton
Havant, Hampshire, 2014
Archaeological Excavation
 Plates 1 - 2.

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Plate 3. Middle Bronze Age pit 209, looking north east, Scales: 1m and 0.1m.

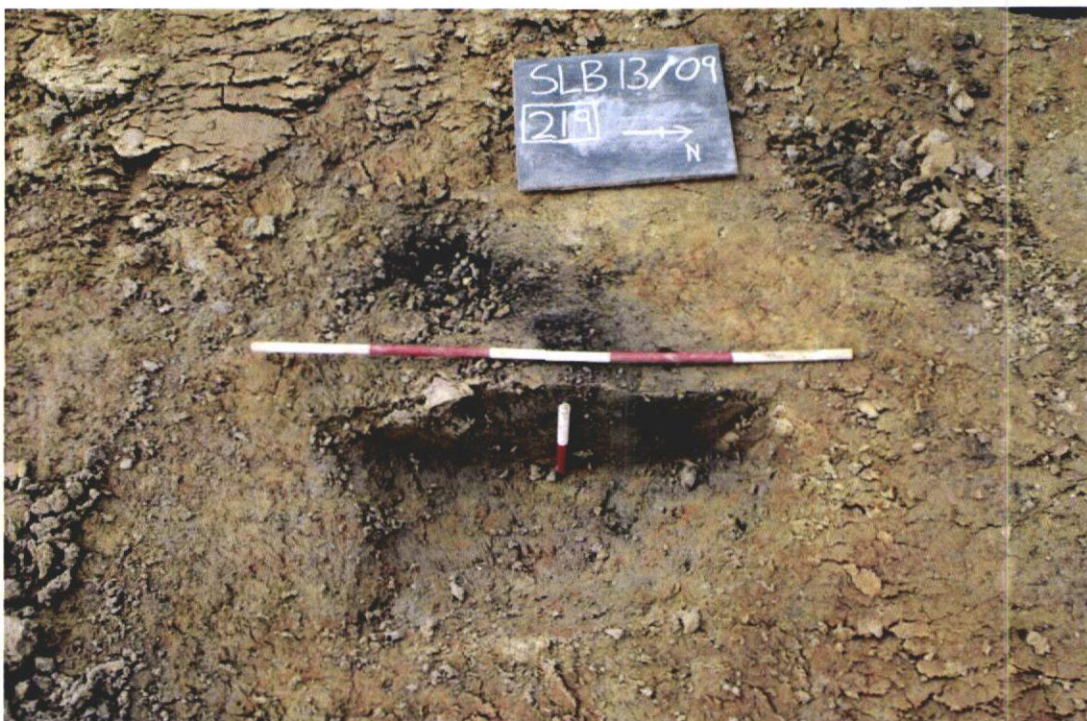


Plate 4. Iron Age post-hole 219 looking west, Scales: 0.5m and 0.1m.

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Land at Scratchface Lane, Bedhampton
Havant, Hampshire, 2014
Archaeological Excavation
Plates 3 - 4.

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Plate 5. Iron Age pit 300 looking north, Scales: 1m, 0.5m and 0.1m.



Plate 6. Palaeochannel section 244, looking west north west, Scales: 2m and 1m.

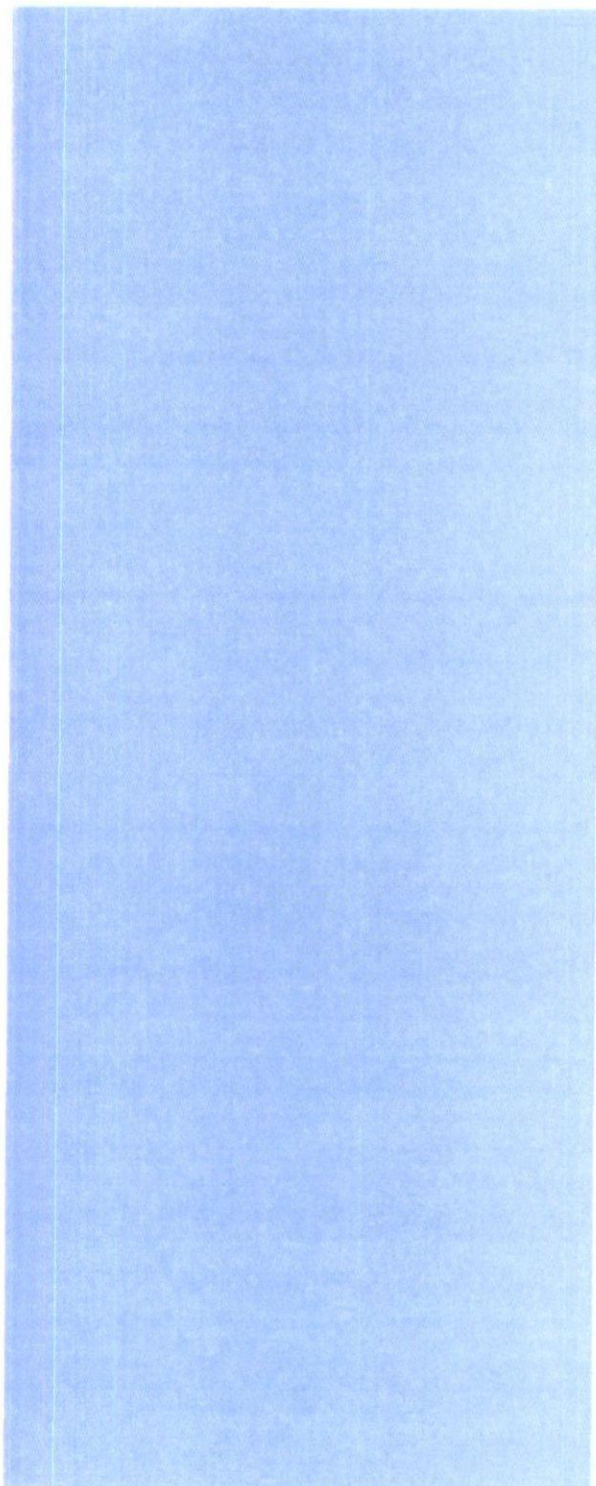
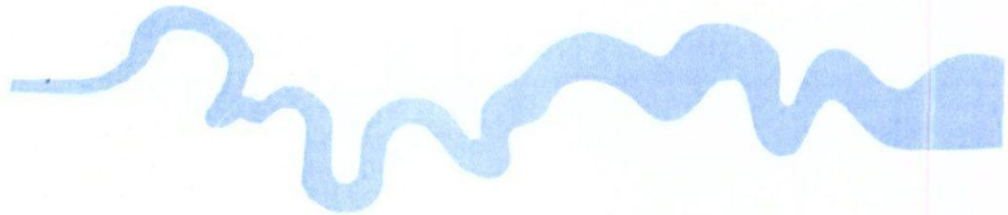
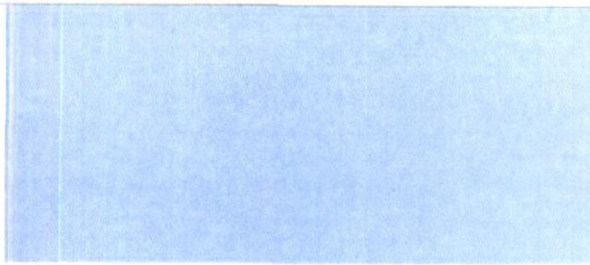
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Land at Scratchface Lane, Bedhampton
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Archaeological Excavation
 Plates 5 - 6.

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TIME CHART

	Calendar Years
Modern _____	AD 1901
Victorian _____	AD 1837
Post Medieval _____	AD 1500
Medieval _____	AD 1066
Saxon _____	AD 410
Roman _____	AD 43
Iron Age _____	BC/AD 750 BC
 Bronze Age: Late -----	 1300 BC
Bronze Age: Middle -----	1700 BC
Bronze Age: Early -----	2100 BC
 Neolithic: Late	 3300 BC
Neolithic: Early	4300 BC
 Mesolithic: Late	 6000 BC
Mesolithic: Early	10000 BC
 Palaeolithic: Upper	 30000 BC
Palaeolithic: Middle	70000 BC
Palaeolithic: Lower	2,000,000 BC
↓	↓



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