



Post Excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design

MANOR FARM DENVILLES

For Barratt David Wilson Southampton

Cornelius Barton BA AlFA

Post Excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design

MANOR FARM DENVILLES

Client: Barnatt David/Wilson Southampton

Local Authority: Havant Borough Council

NGR: 473118, 106705

Planning Ref: PA/06/00144

Site Code: LP1416L

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Abstract

This report contains an assessment of the results and a statement of potential of the archaeological excavations undertaken at Manor Farm, Denvilles, Hampshire, under site code LP1416L. The excavations took place between June and August 2013 in advance of the redevelopment of the site by Barratt David Wilson Southampton.

A trenching evaluation found evidence for Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron age activity on the site. The subsequent strip, map and record exercise found further remains from the same period. The remains found consisted of two sections of enclosure containing a number of small, post-built structures. These were dated to the Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age period by pottery fragments found in the fills. There were no remains of any other period.

The original research aims of the project are reassessed in relation to the excavation results. The significance of the excavation findings is discussed, and a summary of the research and publication aims and plans for archive deposition is provided in the updated project design.

The fieldwork is now complete, and it has been agreed with the Local Planning Authority that no further work on the site is required.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This document summarises the results of archaeological excavations undertaken between May and August 2013 by L – P : Archaeology at Manor Farm and the former Copsey's Nursery, Denvilles, Havant, Hampshire. The excavations were undertaken on behalf of Barratt David Wilson Southampton. The works were undertaken at the request of Havant Borough Council (HBC), who are advised on archaeological matters by Dr. Hannah Fluck of the Historic Environment Team at Hampshire County Council.
- 1.2. The site is centred on National Grid Reference 473118, 106705. (FIGURE 1). The site is approximately 2.1 hectares (21,000m²) in area. It is bound to the south by the West Coastway railway, by property boundaries to the west, and by open fields to the north and east (FIGURE 2).
- 1.3. The site was evaluated in May 2013 under the site code 1416L. Evaluation works were carried out between February and March (FIGURE 3). 29 machine-excavated trenches were opened and recorded by a team of two archaeologists.
- 1.4. Following the results of the evaluation, which found evidence of Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age activity, it was agreed with HBC that a further programme of archaeological work be undertaken in order to mitigate the impact of the development on the buried archaeological remains on the site.
- 1.5. This comprised a strip map and record exercise over a large part of the development site, with further trenching in other less accessible areas (FIGURE 4). The mitigation works were agreed by Barratt David Wilson and HBC in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by L – P : Archaeology (DUFFY, 2013).
- 1.6. This report is an assessment of the results of these excavations. It has been prepared following the guidelines outlined in English Heritage's Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE) v1.1 (ENGLISH HERITAGE, 2009) and the IfA Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Excavations (INSTITUTE FOR ARCHAEOLOGISTS, 2008).
- 1.7. The excavated area has been divided into four areas for the purposes of this report (FIGURE 2). Areas 1-3 were part of the Manor Farm development. Area 4 was

previously Copsey's Nursery.

2. Site Background

2.1.GEOLOGY

2.1.1. The British Geological Survey GeoIndex shows the site to be located on a bedrock of white chalk with superficial deposits of clay, sand, gravel and silt. This data is at relatively low resolution and offers only a rough indication of the site geology (BRITISH GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, 2013).

2.1.2. The results of the excavation confirmed the superficial deposits to consist of clay to a depth of approximately 0.9m, underlain by flint gravels. The clay was overlain by a grey-brown silty ploughsoil deposit to a depth of between 0.60m and 0.85m below ground level.

2.2.TOPOGRAPHY

2.2.1. The site is situated on relatively level ground on the coastal plain below the large chalk outcrop of the South Downs in the southeast of Hampshire. It is 1.4km north of Warblington Creek and 1.8km east of the coastal village of Emsworth.

2.2.2. The site lies 1.5km west of the centre of Havant and 12km east of Chichester to the north of the A27 bypass and to the north of the railway line.

2.2.3. There is a slight rise in the ground if traversed from south to north from 12m OD to 13m OD.

2.2.4. The site has been divided into 4 areas. Areas 1 and 2, in the southern and central parts of the site, were previously open arable fields. Area 3 contained a residential building, garden areas and outbuildings. Area 4 was covered by hard standing which served as a base for greenhouses and nurseries.

2.3.STRUCTURE OF THE REPORT

2.3.1. This report has been written by Cornelius Barton, with contributions from Mike Allen MIFA, FSA (environmental data) and Rachel Hall AIFA(Pottery).

2.3.2. A brief discussion of the archaeological background of the site is included in

Section 3 of the report.

- 2.3.3. The research aims of the excavation were set out in the WSI, and these aims are reproduced in Section 4.
- 2.3.4. The results of the excavations are presented in Sections 4-6 of the report and a final discussion of these results with reference to the research aims is included in Section 7.
- 2.3.5. It should be noted that this summary is based upon preliminary assessment of *the results* and thus may be subject to revision in the light of additional work.
- 2.3.6. A summary of proposals for additional work is included in Section 8 of the report which sets out revised research aims and an Updated Project Design, including publication proposals, detailing the completion of the project and final discharge of the planning condition.

NOTES ABOUT ABBREVIATIONS, SYMBOLS AND REFERENCES

- 2.3.7. Throughout this report, WSI is used to indicate the Written Scheme of Investigation for the excavation works (DUFFY, 2013).
- 2.3.8. Context numbers are enclosed in brackets. Square brackets indicate a cut (eg. [123]) and round brackets are used to indicate deposits (eg. (123)). Burials and cremations are indicated by underlining (eg. 123). Group numbers are indicated by braces (e.g. {123}). Samples are indicated by pointed brackets (eg. <123>). Registered finds are in italics (e.g. *123*).
- 2.3.9. The Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age periods are abbreviated to LBA and EIA respectively (see Section 3).

3. Archaeological Background

3.1. This section aims to briefly outline the archaeological background of the site and the surrounding area. A full archaeological and historical background to the site can be found in the Desk Based Assessment (DBA) (MADIGAN 2012) and the evaluation report (DUFFY 2013).

3.2. Additional research has been completed for the site, principally wider research into LBA/EIA sites from southeast Hampshire and West Sussex. The most relevant points arising from this research have been incorporated into this summary.

TIMESCALES USED IN THIS REPORT:

PERIOD	FROM	TO
PREHISTORIC		
PALAEOLITHIC	450,000	12,000 BC
MESOLITHIC	12,000	4,000 BC
NEOLITHIC	4,000	1,800 BC
BRONZE AGE	1,800	600 BC
IRON AGE	600	43 AD
HISTORIC		
ROMAN	43	410 AD
EARLY MEDIEVAL	410	1066 AD
MEDIEVAL	1066	1485 AD
POST MEDIEVAL	1485	PRESENT

3.3. Information from the Hampshire Archaeological and Historic Buildings Record (HAHBR) is referenced with the Monument ID or Listed Building Number in brackets e.g. (12345). The following summary analysis is from a 1km radius search of the HCCHER around the study site, and additional research undertaken by L – P : Archaeology staff.

3.4. This section aims to give a very general overview of the background of the site, while the reader is advised to consult the above mentioned sources for full details.

3.5. EARLY PREHISTORIC

3.5.1. There are no entries in the HAHBR for the Early Prehistoric period within a 1km radius of the site.

3.5.2. Early hunter gatherer activity would most likely have been concentrated in the coastal lagoons and estuaries to the south. The heavy London Clay would have been covered in tracts of woodland until the Neolithic period. Throughout the later Prehistoric period the heavy clay may have deterred agricultural settlements when communities were beginning to settle the drier more fertile chalk based soils of the South Downs and the better drained gravel terrace soils located toward Chichester to the east (MADIGAN, 2012).

3.6. BRONZE AGE

3.6.1. There are no Bronze Age sites recorded within the 1km radius surveyed in the DBA. However there is widespread Bronze Age activity in the Langstone Harbour area located approximately 2km to the south (ALLEN AND GARDINER, 2000), and in a number of sites in West Sussex including LBA hillforts at Goosehill, Harting and Torberry approximately 10km to the north and east of the site (RUDLING, 2003).

3.6.2. Although there is little evidence for Bronze Age occupation in the Havant area this is possibly due to lack of excavation, either for research or in advance of development.

3.7. IRON AGE

3.7.1. Recent work undertaken at Warblington Villa by Chichester and District Archaeological Society has revealed evidence of late Iron Age trade with the European mainland in the form of a Dressel 9 amphorae sherd found within a sealed Iron Age ditch (MADIGAN, 2012). A report on this is forthcoming but forms part of increasing evidence of the late Prehistoric people of this area undertaking cross channel trade.

3.8. ROMAN

3.8.1. There is significant activity within the area during the Roman period and it is

concentrated upon the southern periphery of the study radius.

- 3.8.2. A Roman road lies 500m south of the site. The road ran from the west gate of the Roman town of *Noviomagus Reginorum* (Chichester) to the fort of *Clausentum* at Bitterne. In this locality is thought to follow the approximate line of Havant Road (MARGARY, 1967)(23354).
- 3.8.3. A Roman villa is known to exist 650m to the southeast of the site. Excavations are periodically ongoing and have thus far revealed floors, tiles, tesserae, pottery, bronze objects, wall foundations and evidence of large rooms. A potential bath house has also been identified (23474).
- 3.8.4. The site is situated somewhat to the north of both the road and the villa sites. It would have been on the periphery of the land that the villa presided over or it was in the wooded hinterland between the villa to the south and the elevated South Downs to the north.

3.9. EARLY MEDIEVAL

- 3.9.1. There is limited archaeological evidence dating to the Early Medieval period within the 1km search radius of the DBA with only one entry in the HCCHER.
- 3.9.2. A large quantity of Early Medieval pottery was found during excavations at the Roman villa which may indicate a period of reoccupation of the site (23474).
- 3.9.3. In c.500AD a Saxon named Weorbald sailed up Chichester Harbour to found Weorblings Ton (REGAR, 1967). Warblington Church is thought to have Saxon origins and was built with material robbed from the villa complex. Timmins states that before the Norman Conquest of Britain, Warblington was part of the Westbourne Hundred and answered for 12 hides (1440 acres). It was owned by Earl Harold Godwin of Wessex (TIMMINS, 2005).
- 3.9.4. It is clear that there was settlement within the area of the study site during the Early Medieval period and that the population was large enough to warrant the construction of a Church and possible reoccupation of the villa.

3.10.LATE MEDIEVAL

- 3.10.1. The Domesday survey of 1086 states that the Hundred of Westbourne had 4

hides (480 acres) land for 2 ploughs, 17 villagers, 12 small holders, 2 churches, 6 slaves and 1 mill worth 10 shillings (TIMMINS, 2005).

3.10.2. There is continued evidence for the settlement of the area during the Medieval period with Warblington, 1.4km to the south, still continuing as a local hub. However, after the 12th century the Warblington Creek began to silt up and so access via sea to Warblington became limited to small draft boats. It is after this time that Emsworth, 1.8km east of the study site, gained more prominence with an open channel to its harbour (REGAR, 1967). In consequence the nearest settlement of Warblington suffered from a downturn in fortune and a re-centering of the population to the east.

3.10.3. There is therefore evidence for activity within the area during the Medieval period, however there is no evidence within the boundary of the study area, with the concentration of activity over half a kilometer to the south.

3.11. POST MEDIEVAL

3.11.1. The information in the HAHBR details large manorial type houses scattered within an agricultural landscape. Most notably this included Denvilles House 400m west of the study site which is a Grade II listed building (6852).

3.11.2. Agricultural buildings are also listed within the study radius creating a picture of a heavily utilised agricultural landscape at Northney Farm (42582), Southleigh Farm (42598), (42600), (42601), (42602) and Home Farm (50632) all to the north and northeast of the site boundary.

3.11.3. The 1841 Tithe Map of Warblington shows the site as divided into fields or tithings. The site area of the proposed development spans two full fields and parts of a further three fields. These fields are listed in the Tithe Apportionment as arable (FIGURE 4). Again the land is situated to the east of Denvilles Farm and to the north of Warblington Farm.

3.11.4. The railway line appears beyond the southern boundary of the site on the OS map of 1869 (FIGURE 5). The study site spans the same field boundaries as in the 1841 Tithe Map but indicates that a public footpath runs north to south alongside a field boundary and through the central area of the site.

3.11.5. It is clear from the available evidence that during the Post Medieval period the study site existed within a rural landscape with a scatter of farms tending arable fields.

4. Original Research Aims

4.1. The research aims of the project are based on both the research aims of the WSI and consultation with Dr Fluck of HCC. The general aims of the work are:

- 4.1.1. To describe and characterize the archaeological remains found on the site. The vast majority of these relate to the LBA/EIA period.
- 4.1.2. To assess the potential for further analysis of the archive, and for further research in order to place the findings in a broader context.
- 4.1.3. To make the findings of the excavation and subsequent research available via publication in an appropriate form

4.2. SPECIFIC AIMS

- 4.2.1. Can the nature of LBA/EIA activity on the site be established? This would involve analysis of the feature types and their spatial relationships, and of the material within the fills, particularly of the environmental material recovered.
- 4.2.2. Can a more specific date range be established for the activity on the site, and is it possible to identify distinct phases of activity?
- 4.2.3. Can the full extent of the LBA/EIA activity be determined, and if so what are the likely impacts of future development around the site?
- 4.2.4. Can the LBA/EIA material be related to material of similar date from the surrounding area? In particular, can it be related to the known activity of the Langstone Harbour area?

5. Summary of Site Excavation Archive

5.1. This section is a summary of the existing site archive and a summary of the work carried out to date.

5.2. Work carried out on the stratigraphic site archive:

- ◇ The site records have been completed and checked.
- ◇ A stratigraphic matrix has been compiled for the site.
- ◇ All plans have been digitised using a desktop GIS system and attributed with the relevant context information
- ◇ Contexts have been dated with reference to the spot dating provided by the pottery assessments.
- ◇ Contexts have been grouped together into interpretative groups where possible.

5.3.The physical archive contains:

- 148 x Context Sheets
- 4 x Context Register Sheets
- 24 x Drawing Film
- 177 x Photographs
- 1 x CD Digital Images
- 30 x Trench Sheets
- 2 x Archive Boxes Pottery Sherds

6. Methodology

- 6.1. In Areas 1 and 2 the topsoil and subsoil was stripped using two 360-degree mechanical excavators under constant archaeological supervision. Spoil was transported away from the stripping area by dumper trucks and piled to the east.
- 6.2. Following machine stripping, archaeological features were hand-cleaned and excavated.
- 6.3. The excavation of the main strip and map area was undertaken in two discrete areas (1 and 2) in order to leave a clear entrance and exit route from the site (FIGURE 3).
- 6.1. Machine stripping began on the 1st July 2013. Works started at the south end of the site area to facilitate construction of a showhome and related services, and progressed to the north.
- 6.2. Following the main stripping, additional trenches and stripping were undertaken in the areas to the northwest and southwest of the main strip areas (Areas 3 and 4 – see FIGURE 3). Works concluded on 8th August 2013.
- 6.3. The work was undertaken by an experienced Project Officer (Cornelius Barton) with the assistance of Field Technician Neralie Hughes. Monitoring visits were conducted by Dr Fluck of HCC.

7. Summary of Excavation Results

7.1. INTRODUCTION

7.1.1. In order to facilitate this assessment, all site records have now been checked and organised into a complete matrix for the site. The stratigraphic matrix has been provisionally dated based on the dating information supplied from the ceramic specialist.

7.1.2. With one exception (see Section 7), all the material recovered from the site was of LBA/EIA date. Due to the nature of the site, there are very few stratigraphic relationships between features. As a result, there has been no attempt to break the excavated material into phases.

7.1.3. This summary of the excavation results is therefore organised by area. This section should be read in conjunction with Figures 4 to 9.

7.2. STRATIGRAPHIC SUMMARY

AREA 1

7.2.1. The features in Area 1, the southern part of the main strip area, consisted of two segments of linear ditch [4024] and [4028] forming what appeared to be part of an enclosure (FIGURE 4 AND FIGURE 12). The ditch segments were 0.65m – 1.24m wide and 0.09m – 0.24m deep (Plate 1). The fills consisted of a uniform pale grey-brown silty clay with occasional inclusions of sub-angular flint gravel.



Plate 1 - East facing section ditch [4024] 1m scale

- 7.2.2. Within the area of the posited enclosure were two groups of four circular cuts groups {4078} and {4079}. In each case the cuts were arranged in a rough square.
- 7.2.3. {4078} consisted of circular cuts of 0.36m to 0.45m arranged in a rectangle measuring 2.10m by 2.45m. Viewed in section the cuts were between 0.11m and 0.20m deep, with a uniform grey-brown silty clay fill containing occasional flint gravel and burnt flint fragments. The fills were moderately well-sorted (FIGURE 6).
- 7.2.4. {4079} consisted of circular cuts of 0.36m to 0.45m arranged in a rectangle measuring 2.05m by 2.60m. Viewed in section the cuts were between 0.08m and 0.14m deep, with a similarly uniform grey-brown silty clay fill containing occasional flint gravel and burnt flint fragments. The fills were moderately well-sorted.
- 7.2.5. The two rectilinear structures appeared to be post hole structures of the type commonly called 4-posters. The fills of both structures contained pottery of LBA/EIA date. The two groups were spaced approximately 20m apart.
- 7.2.6. Area 1 also contained five isolated small pits or postholes as shown on FIGURE 4. The fills were of a similar nature to those of {4078} and {4079}. The pottery sherds within the fills were also of similar date.

AREA 2

- 7.2.7. Area 2 contained three further segments of linear ditch forming group {4080} (FIGURE 5 AND 11). These varied in width between 1.41m and 0.46m, and between 0.25m and 0.08m in depth. The fills were of uniform grey-brown silty clay with flint gravel and burnt flint inclusions.
- 7.2.8. An intervention was dug at the intersection between the north-south aligned ditch segment and the northwest-southeast segment (FIGURE 11) but there was no relationship discernible between the two segments.
- 7.2.9. Within the enclosed area were two more groups of post holes {4075} and {4111} (see FIGURE 5 and FIGURE 8). {4075} consisted of 17 roughly circular

cuts varying in depth between 0.05m and 0.31m, and in diameter between 0.14m and 0.52m. One of the cuts, [4056] had been backfilled by packing with burnt flint.

7.2.10. The cuts were arranged in a roughly rectangular shape (FIGURE 8). The majority of the surviving cuts were very shallow, and there may have been other features in the cluster which did not survive deep ploughing. The shape suggests another post-built structure, possibly through several phases.

7.2.11. 6m to the southwest of {4075} was another cluster of post holes {4111}. The dimensions and fill were of a similar nature to {4085}, and again the cuts were arranged in a sub-rectangular pattern suggesting a post-built structure.



Plate 2 - Post Hole Group {4082}

7.2.12. Another group of 4 post holes {4082} was present at the eastern edge of the strip area. This was of similar dimensions and form to {4079} in area 1 (see PLATE 2 and FIGURE 7).

7.2.13. To the south of the enclosed area, 35m to the south of enclosure [4081] was a small sub-circular cut [4076] measuring 0.35m in diameter. The cut was only 0.08m deep, and was filled with pottery sherds. This was likely the remains of a vessel buried whole, but had unfortunately been fragmented by ploughing. The pottery is again of LBA/EIA date.

AREA 3

7.2.14. Area 3 was investigated by means of 7 additional trenches. There were no

archaeological features present in any of them. The topsoil was much thinner in this area, since it had been used as garden and storage space, and had never been deep ploughed.

AREA 4

7.2.15. Area 4, located at the north end of the site, had previously been Copsey's nursery. The area had contained a number of large greenhouses, which were demolished prior to investigation.

7.2.16. 19 trenches were excavated across the area. There were no archaeological features present in any of the trenches, and no further work in this area was considered necessary.

7.3. DISCUSSION

7.3.1. The features recorded by the strip and map exercise are of a form typically associated with LBA/EIA settlement, consisting of enclosed area containing post-built structures of 4 or 6 posts. Similar features have been found on LBA/EIA sites across Hampshire and West Sussex, notably at Popley Basingstoke (WRIGHT ET AL., 2009), Grooms Farm Frithend (COOKE AND POWELL, 2012) and Westhampnett (CHADWICK, 2006), (FITZPATRICK, 1997)

7.3.2. The 4 or 6 post groups are usually interpreted as support for raised wooden structures, used for grain storage. However the palaeoenvironmental evidence (see Section 9) would seem to contradict this and there is little evidence of cereal remains from the samples taken.

7.3.3. Such structures are normally associated with occupation sites, and it is notable that there are no dwellings or other occupation evidence such as rubbish pits or animal bone present in the strip and map area. Another theory sometimes advanced for post-built structures is that they are supports for platforms used in funerary practices, either for cremation or excarnation, but again there is little or no supporting evidence for either of these.

7.3.4. Given the depth of the ploughsoil it appears likely that the site has undergone some level of truncation, and that many other features may have been present on site originally but are now lost.

8. Summary of Finds Archive

8.1. Work carried out on the finds archive

- ◇ All bulk finds have now been processed (i.e. washed, dried, marked and bagged).
- ◇ All finds have been examined by the relevant specialists and recorded using standard techniques.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT	QUANTITY
LBA/EIA POTTERY	2267G	198 SHERDS
ROMAN POTTERY	6G	1 SHERD

Table 1 - Summary of finds archive

9. Pottery Assessment

9.1.SUMMARY

9.1.1. A total of 198 fragments of pottery, weighing 2267g were recovered from 30 contexts (see Table 1) during two phases of excavation at Manor Farm, Havant. The first phase contains contexts (102-1503) and the second phase context range is (4001-4077). The majority of the assemblage dates to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (1100-400BC), with the exception of a single sherd dating to the Romano-British period. The assemblage is in good to fair condition and the average sherd size is 11.45g with moderately fresh breaks.

9.2.LATE BRONZE AGE/EARLY IRON AGE

9.2.1. A total of 71 sherds, weighing 734g, was recovered from 29 contexts. The sherds are all in flint-tempered fabrics with varying degrees of coarseness and variable firing. The sherds are in good to fair condition with moderately fresh breaks.

9.2.2. The assemblage comprises largely of plain, body sherds which were recovered from layers (102), (2902), (2909), ditches [404], [704], [1504], [4021], [4023], [4025], [4037], [4052] and [4073] and postholes, [2913] and [4033], [4035] posthole groups [4078] and [4079]. A small number of sherds were recovered from posthole [2915] and cut [4077] which display distinctive wipe marks on the exterior of the vessel. Of particular note are eighteen sherds, in a finer fabric which were recovered from posthole [1603]. Several of the sherds conjoin and the profile of the vessel suggests that this is a plain bowl with a simple, everted rim. A small amount of other finer sherds with smoothed surfaces and micaceous sandy fabrics, were also recovered from postholes [2509] and [2905] and from enclosure ditches [4021], [4035], [4052] and [4073].

9.2.3. The assemblage appears to contain both the plain coarse ware and a finer element of plain bowls and based on both form and fabric identification, this assemblage belongs to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age group of the Post-Deverel-Rimbury (PDR) Ceramic Tradition. Similar assemblages of pottery have

10. Palaeoenvironmental Assessment

10.1.INTRODUCTION

10.1.1. A series of five bulk samples taken from the excavations at Manor Farm, Havant from a series of Late Bronze Age/Iron Age postholes; two were from isolated postholes and the rest were associated with posthole and feature clusters (TABLE 1). The site has several 4-posters, but no evidence of houses; this is possibly due to truncation from ploughing (C. BARTON PERS. COMM.) or pedogenic and biotic reworking of the parent material in the current soil profile.

10.1.2. Whole earth samples of 10 litres were processed using a double processing methods. The samples processed by standard flotation with flots retained on 300 μ mesh and residues on 1mm mesh. The residues were then subjected to wash-over bucket flotation in the AEA laboratory facilities and addition flot recovered before the residues were fractionated into >4mm, >2mm and >1mm fractions and dried.

SAMPLE	CONTEXT	VOLUME	DESCRIPTION
1	4053	6 LITRES	FILL OF SMALL ISOLATED POSTHOLE
2	4055	5 LITRES	POST-HOLE CLUSTERS
3	4057	6 LITRES	POST-HOLE CLUSTERS
4	4076	6 LITRES	FILL OF SMALL ISOLATED POSTHOLE WITH A LOT OF POT POSSIBLY A BURIED VESSEL
5	4052	6 LITRES	POST-HOLE CLUSTERS

Table 2 - Samples

10.2.AIMS AND REQUIREMENTS

10.2.1. Each sample plot was assessed for charcoal and charred plant remains (Table 2).

The aims of assessment were to :

- Determine the presence, quantity, quality and diversity of palaeo-environmental remains to aid in the understanding and interpreting of the features, the activity and economy of the site, and indicate the archaeological and palaeo-environmental significance of the assessed remains

- Determine samples suitable for analysis of charred plant remains and charcoal
- Make recommendations for suitable analyses as and if necessary

10.2.2. The coarse residues (>4mm) weighed (Table 2), and discarded. Burnt flint was weighed separately and discarded, while pottery was also retained separately but retained and returned to LP Archaeology.

10.2.3. All dried flots were sieved to separate the charcoal and both the recovered charcoal and remaining flots were, were scanned under a $\times 7$ - $\times 45$ stereo-binocular microscope and the presence of charred plant and charcoal remains recorded in Table 3. The volume of flot is the charred remains plus modern rooty material, and the presence of charred remains and charcoal were recorded but none of the flots were sorted.

10.3. ASSESSMENT RESULTS

10.3.1. The flots were very variable many containing a moderate amount of modern rooty material. The quantity of charred material and tended to be small (5-15ml). A proportion of the residues were rapidly scanned to examine for charred cereal remains that had not floated, but none were obvious.

FEATURE	CONTEXT NUMBER	SAMPLE NUMBER	SAMPLE VOLUME (LITRES)	FLOT VOLUME (ML) CHARRED /ROOTS	GRAIN	WEED SEEDS/ CHAFF	CHARCOAL >4MM	NOTES	ANALYSIS
Posthole	4053	1	6	20 / 15	-	- / -	18	Mainly fine comminuted charcoal	
Posthole	4055	2	5	40 / 10	-	- / -	c. 60	Mainly fine comminuted charcoal, inc branch/rw	C C14
Posthole	4057	3	6	40 / 5	-	- / -	c. 30	Mainly fine comminuted charcoal	
Posthole	4076	4	6	10 / 10	-	C / -	c. 20	Mainly fine comminuted charcoal inc possible legume	P
Posthole	4052	5	6	5 / 1	-	- / -	-	Few fine comminuted charcoal	

Table 3 - Palaeoenvironmental Summary

Key: A*** = > 75; A** = >20; A=10-20; B= 5-9; C= 1-5.

rw = roundwood Analysis C = Charcoal; P = charred plant remains

10.3.2. The assemblages were characterised by charcoal and the general absence of charred cereal remains; neither caryopses, nor chaff were noted. Only 1 sample produced any seeds (sample <4> from context 4076) and here a possible legume (pea/bean) and weeds seeds were present (Table 3).

10.3.3. Charcoal was present to common in all samples; most containing a moderate number of identifiable (>4mm) fragments. Most of the charcoal was large wood (i.e. trunk and large branch) fragments, with a few branch roundwood fragments noted in context 4055 (sample <2>).

10.3.4. No other palaeo-environmental remains (snails, shell, small bones etc.) were present in the samples.

10.3.5. These features have produced remains similar to others from Late Bronze Age/Iron Age postholes on the Hampshire-West Sussex coast plain as seen for instance at Westhampnett (FITZPATRICK ET AL., 2008), and Langstone Harbour (ALLEN AND GARDINER, 2000).

10.4.POTENTIAL AND SIGNIFICANCE

10.4.1.The coastal plain contains both large flat cemeteries of the later Bronze Age to Iron Age (ALLEN AND GARDINER, 2000), often with small urns inserted in small pits with pyre-remains (charcoal) or cremated bone. In a domestic context, four-post structures are commonly seen, and at Westhampnett several contain large quantities of burnt food crops including cereals (barley and oats), and legumes (peas/beans).

CHARRED PLANT REMAINS

10.4.2.The charred plant remains are sparse and normally would not warrant identification and analysis; but the presence of a potential legume is important at this date, and fits with the abundance of peas/beans found in Iron Age four-post structures at Westhampnett (FITZPATRICK ET AL., 2008) for instance, and this provides another potentially important early finds of this in this zone.

CHARCOAL

10.4.3.The charcoal is predominantly large wood fragments and may have been species specifically selected for high-temperature burning events rather than a wider range of species for more general domestic fires. The charcoal here, therefore, has the potential to examine the specific whether this is selected of timber for its high temperature burning properties, reflecting specific activities (pyres, kilns etc), or more general domestic burning. The wood species and also possibly to examine the selection of large timbers. The analysis of a selection of these (Table 3) has the potential to help define the character and function of the features.

10.4.4.In addition the nature of the tree species present, can provide some indication of the environment (i.e. soils) of the exploited woodlands. Analysis may also be able to indicate if these were locally exploited woodlands or timber brought in from further afield.

RADIOCARBON POTENTIAL

10.4.5.Rapid assessment of the charcoal suggest that the assemblages are mainly large woody fragments and thus could be heartwood of up to 350 age when burnt.

However some roundwood or branchwood is present giving a much lower offset and has the potential to give a much better near-event age result.

10.5.SUMMARY

10.5.1.The material from this site is largely restricted to charcoal. The lack of cereal remains and charred weed seeds, however, may suggest that all of these features lay away from the foci of domestic activity and burning events associated with domestic fires, and settlement activity.

10.5.2.The charcoal in itself can provide information about the feature function and use, the nature of the site and the woodlands exploited and of woodland management to complement the archaeological record.

10.5.3.There is the potential to obtain suitable short-lived material for AMS dating from some samples (e.g. <sample> 2, context 4055), and may exist in others but would require specialist examination.

10.6.RECOMMENDATIONS

10.6.1.A targeted selection of samples are suggested for analysis of charcoal and also AMS radiocarbon dating and these are identified on Table 3. Recommendations for these and other elements are outlined below.

CHARCOAL

10.6.2.Charcoal should be identified and analysed from at least one of the features (preferably at least two). This should include sample <2> (context 4055) and at least one of samples <1> (context 4053), <3> (context 4057) or <4> (context 4076).

CHARRED PLANT REMAINS

10.6.3.Charred plant remains from samples 4 (context 4076) should be analysed.

CHARCOAL IDENTIFICATION AND AMS RADIOCARBON DATING

10.6.4.Identified roundwood/short-lived charcoal should be considered for AMS dating from sample <2> (context 4055).

10.6.5.Identified roundwood charcoal from any other sample should also be

considered in addition to sample <2> to ensure the features represent the same phase of activity.

11. Discussion of Results and Potential of Findings

11.1. The purpose of this section is to discuss the results of the excavation with reference to the original research aims that were set out in the WSI. These aims have been reproduced in section 4 of this report. Each aim has been re-examined in light of the findings and is discussed below.

11.2.GENERAL AIMS

11.2.1. The surviving remains on site can be characterised with confidence as Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age activity.

11.2.2. There is some potential for further analysis of the archived material to place the findings in a more specific context. This will involve closer examination of the archive and some of the environmental material.

11.2.3. The findings of this report and of the subsequent further research will be made available in a more accessible form as detailed in the updated project design (Section 13).

11.3.SPECIFIC AIMS

11.3.1. The nature of the LBA/EIA activity on the site can be broadly characterised as agricultural. Comparison with material of similar date from the surrounding area suggests a settlement of moderate size, although there are no dwellings visible.

11.3.2. The highly uniform nature of the pottery (with one exception) gives a date range of c800-700 BC. The lack of material predating or post-dating this range suggests that the site was occupied for this relatively short period only. C14 dates may refine this date further, but given the limited amount of material this is unlikely to establish distinct phases of activity.

11.3.3.Regarding the full extent of the LBA/EIA activity on the site- it is unlikely that there are extensive further remains to the north or west. There may be further remains to the east and south, particularly of dwellings or other occupation evidence which was *noticably absent from the strip and map area*. Any remains immediately to the east would likely have undergone the same truncation as

those discussed in this report.

12. Significance of Data

12.1. The data is of local significance. The extent of Bronze and Iron Age activity throughout Eastern Hampshire and West Sussex, considered low until relatively recently, is now understood to be extensive. Work at sites in the surrounding area has found evidence of widespread occupation during these periods, particularly to the south and east of the site (ALLEN AND GARDINER, 2000), (FITZPATRICK ET AL., 2008). The features found on the site are of types common to sites of this period in southern Britain.

12.2. There has been little LBA/EIA material found in the area around immediately around Havant and Denvilles, but since the area has not been extensively developed there have been few investigations as yet. The results of the strip map and record exercise will be of use in informing strategies for future work, whether part of the planning process or part of a wider research strategy.

13. Project Aims and Objectives

- 13.1. The primary aim of the ongoing project will be to further characterise the function of the 4 and 6 post structures. The most common interpretation is that these are constructed for grain storage, although the environmental evidence in this case does not appear to support this theory.
- 13.2. The chief aim of publication is to make the results of the strip map and record exercise available to future interested parties, whether for commercial or academic research purposes. Given the limited nature of the findings, following discussion with Dr Hannah Fluck, Senior Archaeologist at the Strategic Environmental Delivery Group, Hampshire County Council, it has been determined that publication should consist of a brief article in the local journal, and by publication of a summary of results online in a publically accessible format.
- 13.3. Proposals for further research, publication and archiving are detailed in Section 13. No further fieldwork is required in order to complete the project.

14. Updated Project Design

14.1.FURTHER RESEARCH

- 14.1.1.A small amount of further research will be conducted in order to complete the project. This will consist of comparative research into sites of similar type and date in the surrounding area, in order to more accurately characterise the function of the structures on the site.

SETTLEMENT PATTERN

- 14.1.2.Do any other LBA/EIA site in Hampshire or West Sussex show a similar settlement pattern, i.e. 4 or 6 post structures without any other occupation evidence? Also are there any other sites of this size with such a narrow date range? Larger sites such as Westnampnett and Popley generally have a more diverse range of features and dates, but there may be smaller sites which show a similarly limited range.

- 14.1.3.Might there be supporting evidence for the use of the site in funerary practices such as excarnation? There was a marked lack of bone evidence; might this be due to corrosive elements in the soil?

POTTERY

- 14.1.4.No further work is required on the finds assemblage, which has been adequately described. The remains of the vessel from 1603 will be illustrated.

PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL

- 14.1.5.Further analysis will be carried out on Samples <2> and <3> for charcoal identification, and sample <4> for pollen analysis. The aim of this research will be to further characterise the species utilised, and thereby potentially shed further light on the function of the post-built structures. Material from sample <5> will be radiocarbon dated.

14.2.PUBLICATION

- 14.2.1.It is proposed that publication will be in the form of a short article in the local journal, the Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society. The article will contain a brief summary of findings, results of further

analyses and discussion of the site in its regional context.

14.2.2.A summary of findings and local context will be made available on the web.

This will be in a format accessible to the general public.

14.2.3.Financial resources for the publication project were agreed by the developer at the time of the excavation.

14.2.4.Management of the project and responsibility for completion will lie with
L - P : Archaeology.

FIGURES

FIGURE 1 // Site Location - General



PROJECT // 1416L - Manor Farm and Copseys Nurseries

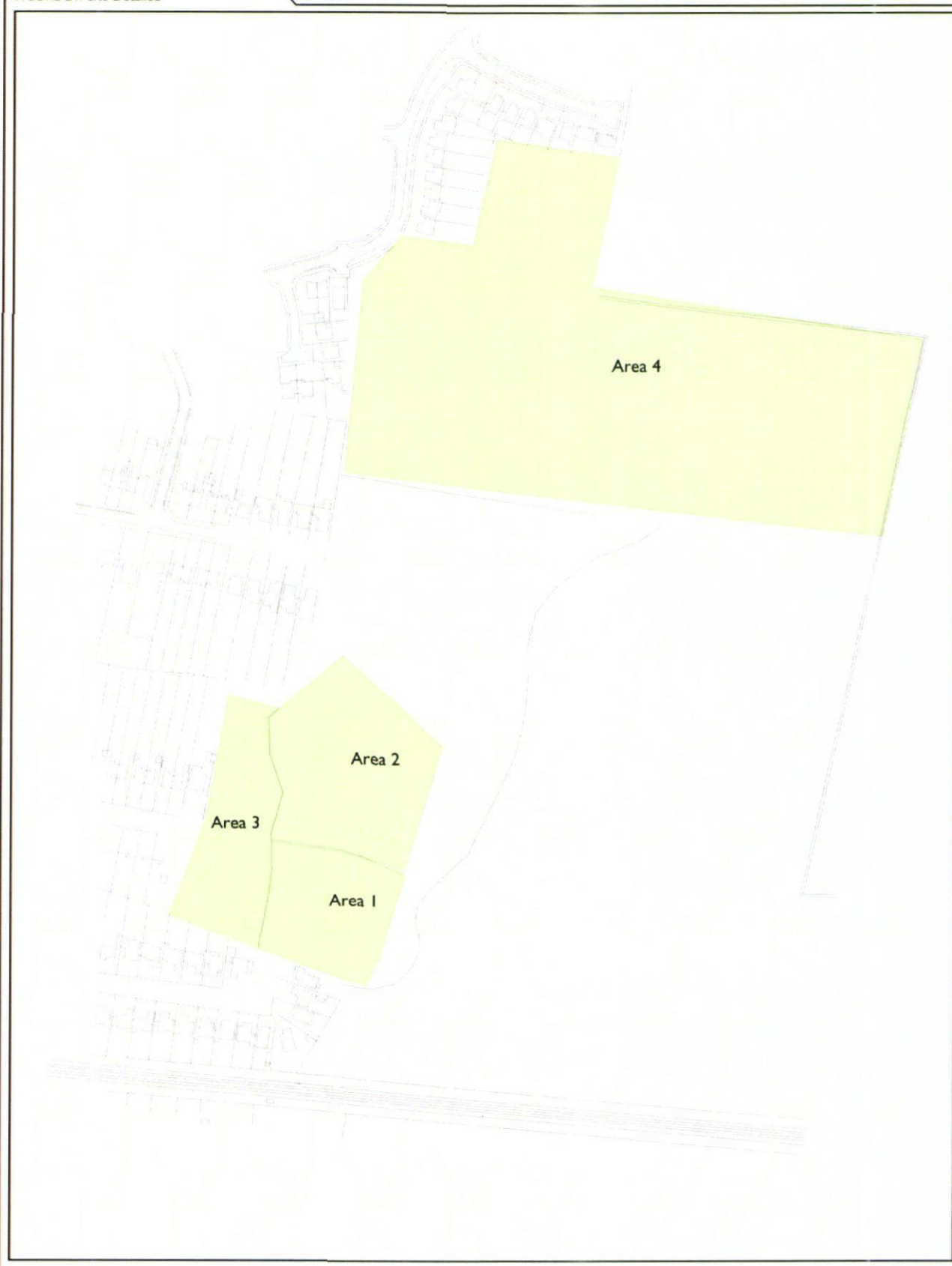
DESCRIPTION // Site Location

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DOC REF: LPI416L-PXA-v1

L-P:ARCHAEOLOGY

FIGURE 2 // Site Detailed



0 50 m



PROJECT // 1416L - Manor Farm and Copseys Nurseries

DESCRIPTION // Site Detailed

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L-P: ARCHAEOLOGY

FIGURE 3 // Site Detail - Overview



PROJECT // 1416L - Manor Farm and Copseys Nurseries

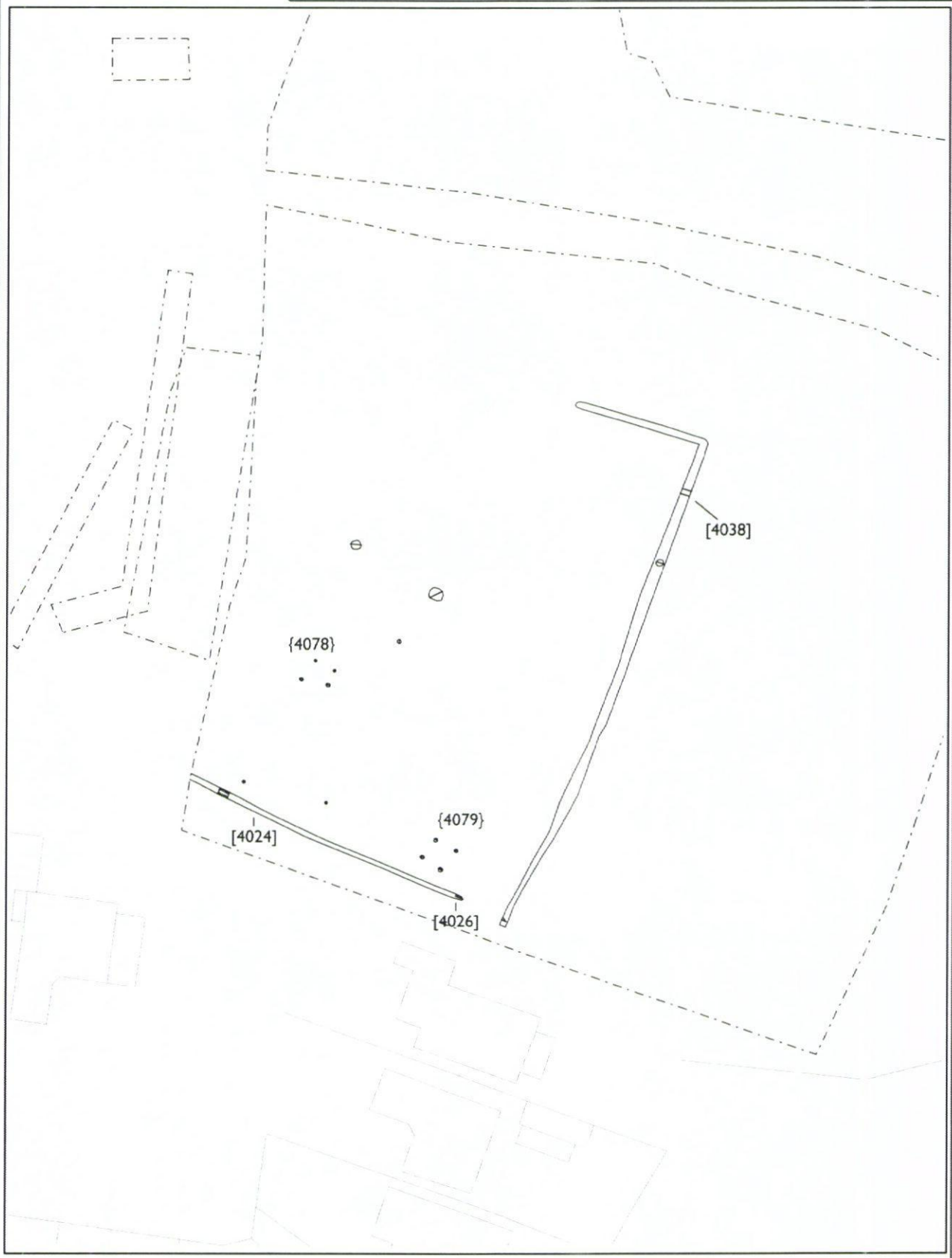
DESCRIPTION // Overview of Archaeological Features

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DOC REF: LP1416L-PXA-v1

L-P:ARCHAEOLOGY

FIGURE 4 // Site Detail - Area I



0 10 m



PROJECT // 1416L - Manor Farm and Copseys Nurseries

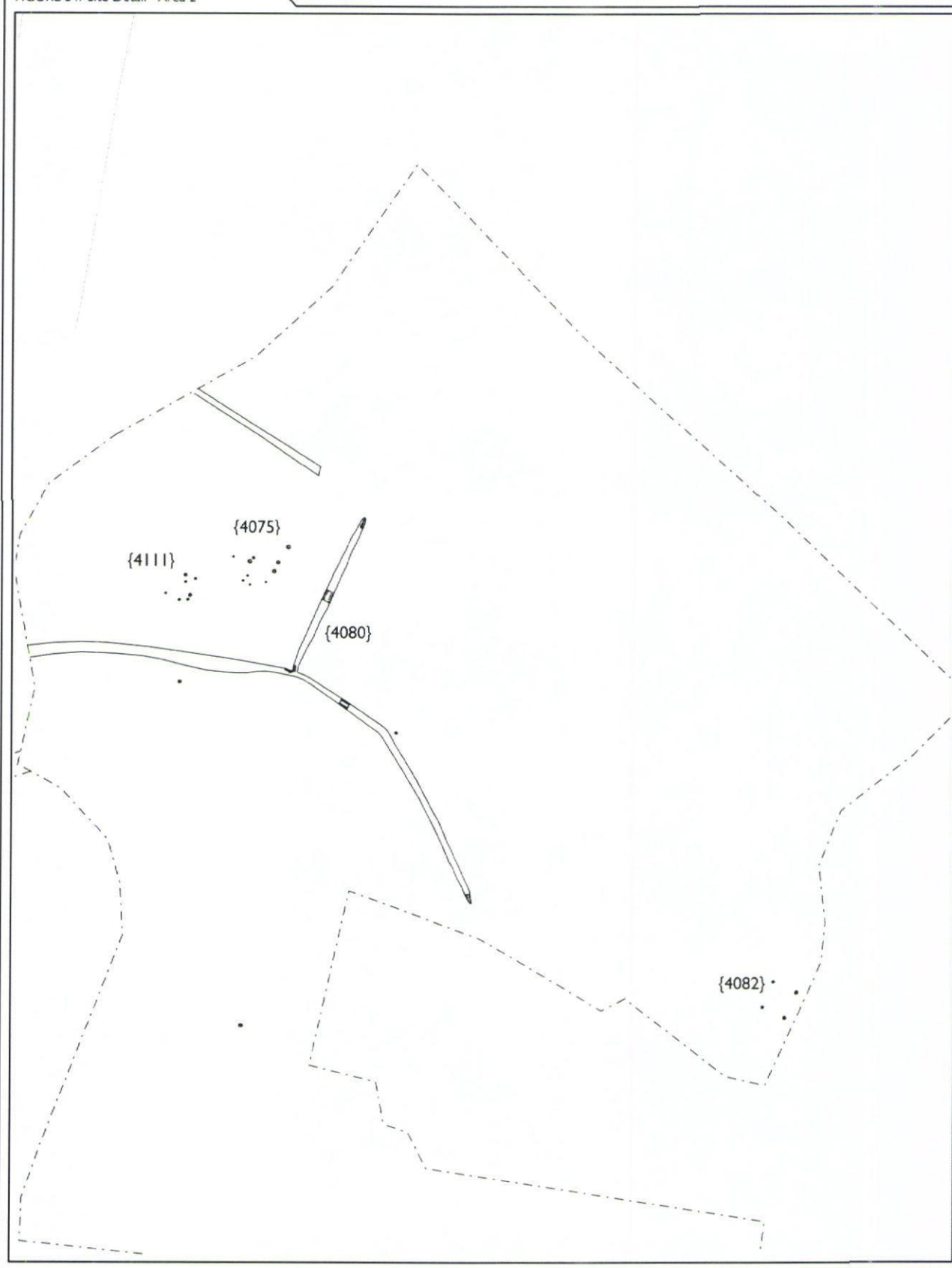
DESCRIPTION // Overview of Archaeological Features

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FIGURE 5 // Site Detail - Area 2



0 10 m



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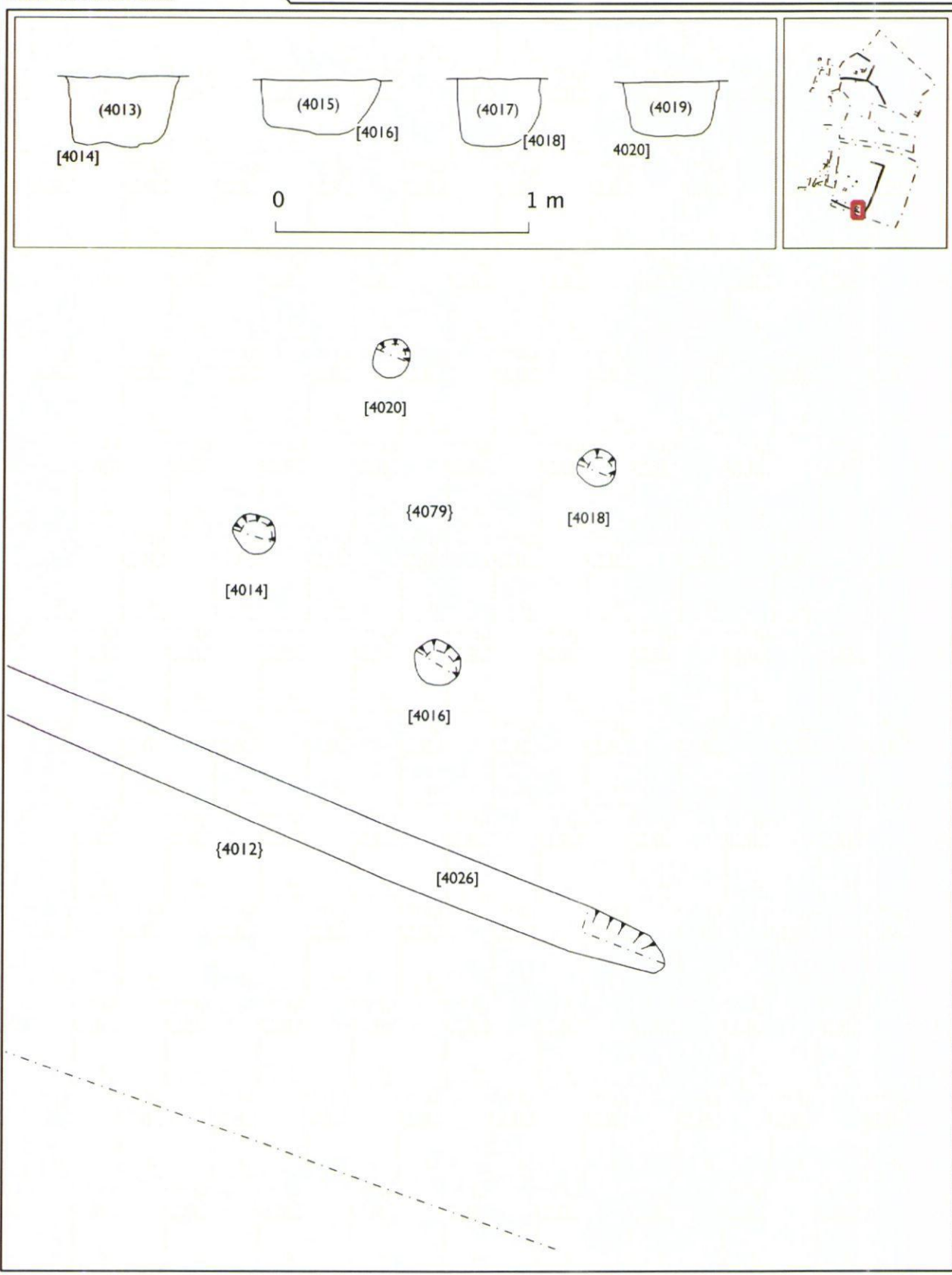
DESCRIPTION // Overview of Archaeological Features

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L-P:ARCHAEOLOGY

FIGURE 6 // Posthole Cluster



A4 scale 1:50

0 1 m



PROJECT // 1416L - Manor Farm and Copseys Nurseries

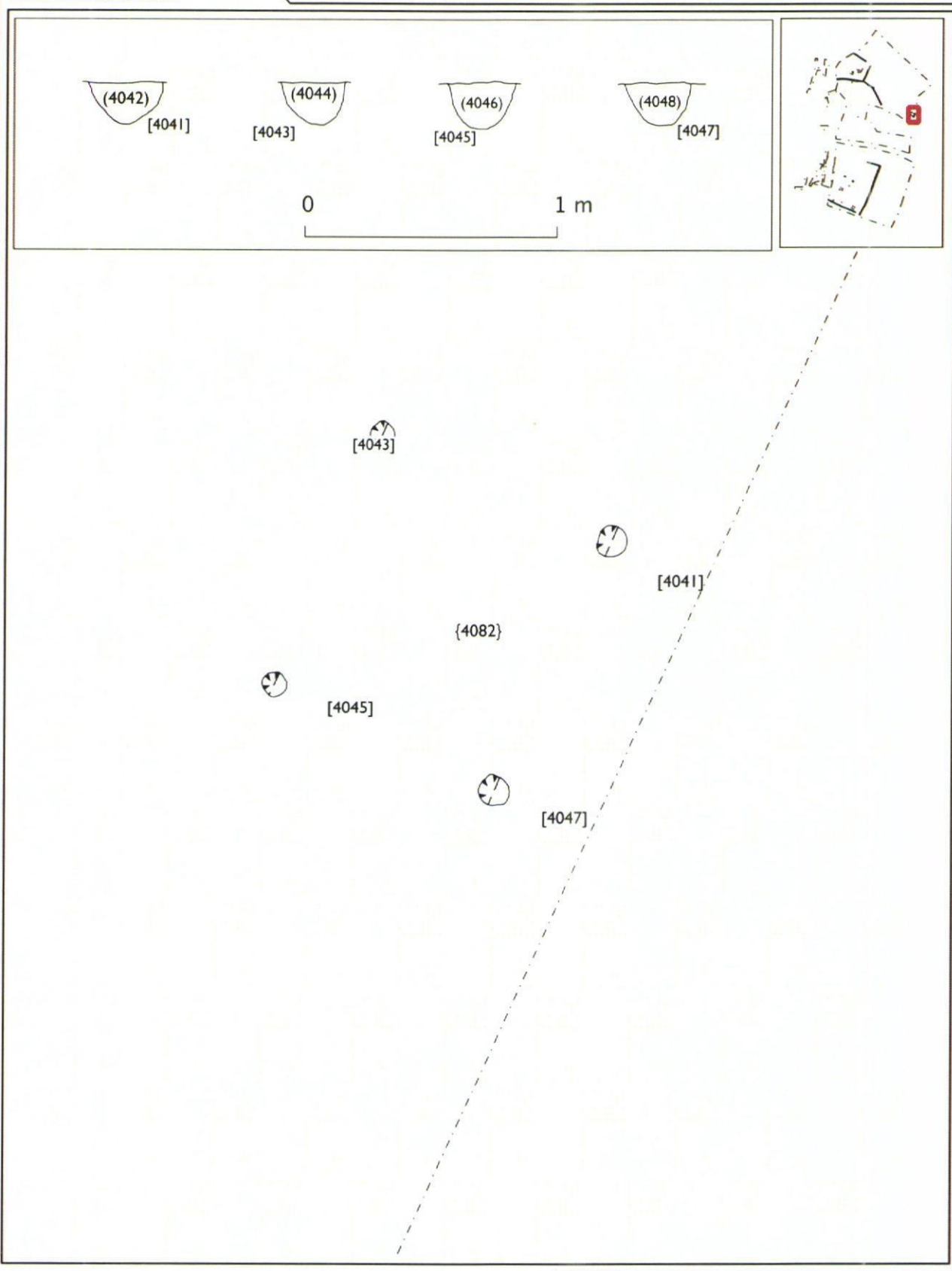
DESCRIPTION// Four-post structure at south of site

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L-P-ARCHAEOLOGY

FIGURE 7 // Posthole Cluster



A4 scale 1:50

0 1 m



PROJECT // 1416L - Manor Farm and Copseys Nurseries

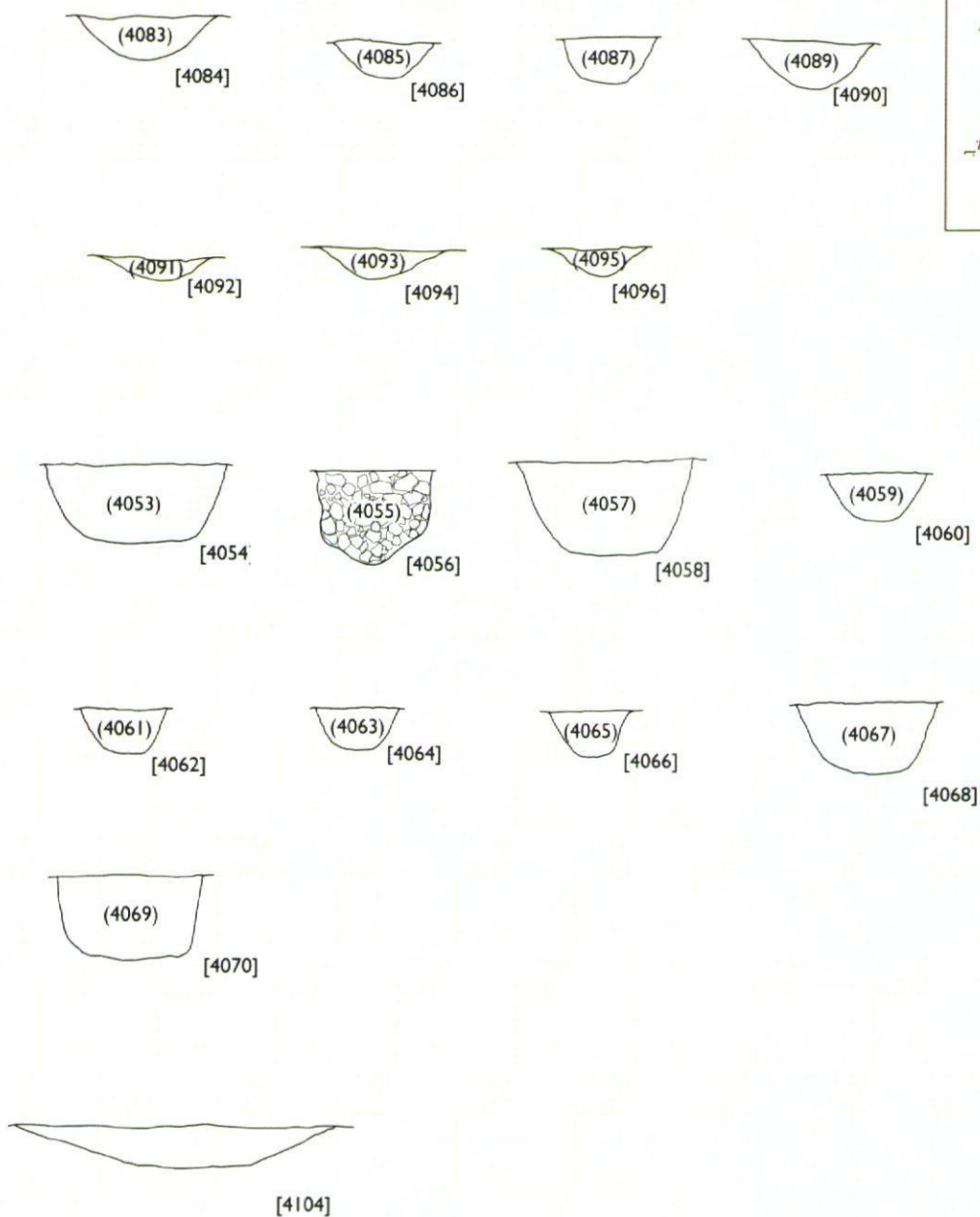
DESCRIPTION// Four post structure at east of site

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FIGURE 8 // Sections of cluster {4075}



A4 scale 1:20

0 1 m



PROJECT // 1416L - Manor Farm and Copseys Nurseries

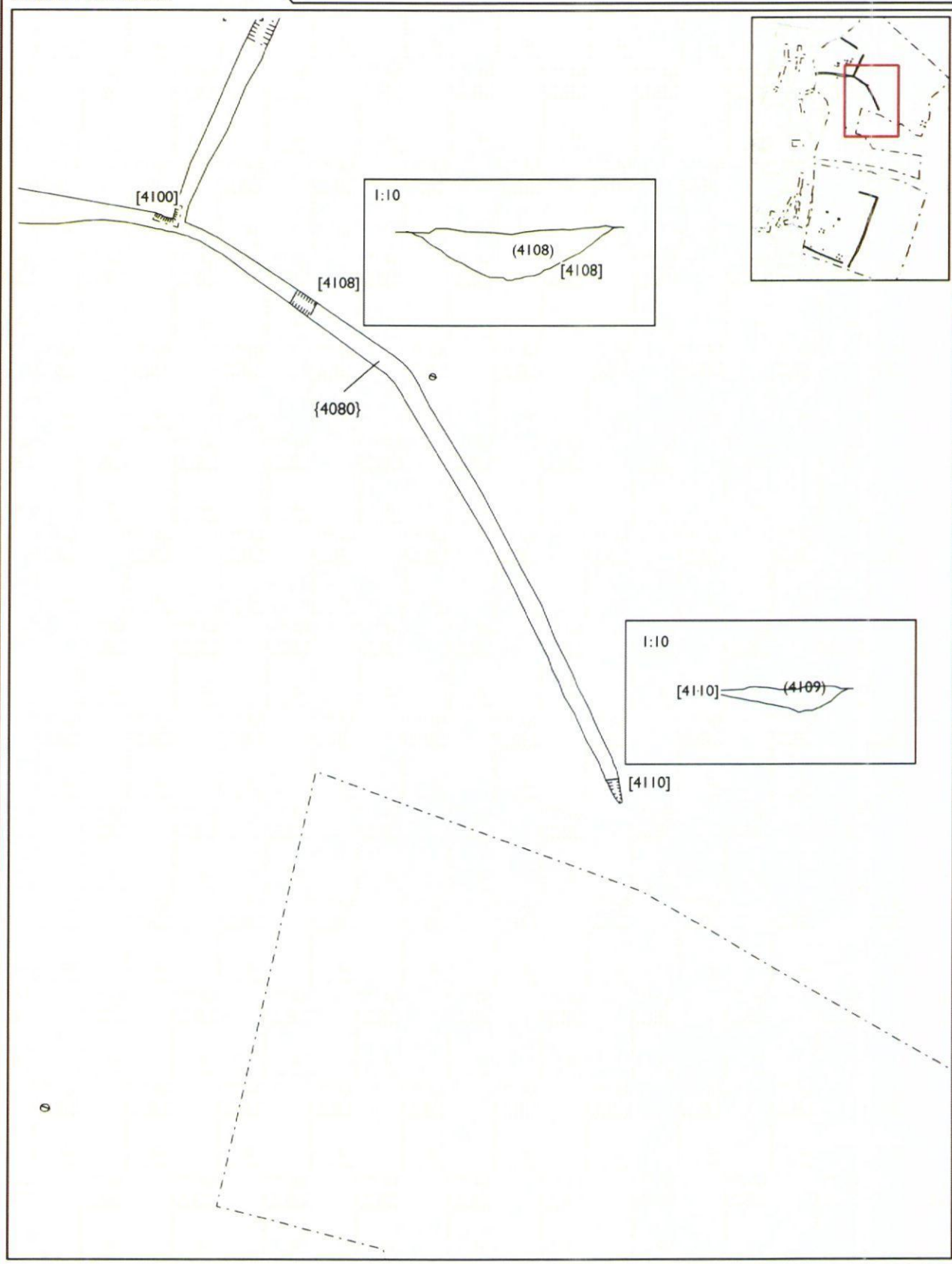
DESCRIPTION // Sections of posthole cluster {4075}

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FIGURE 9 // Ditch Sections



A4 scale 1:200

0 10 m



PROJECT // 1416L - Manor Farm and Copseys Nurseries

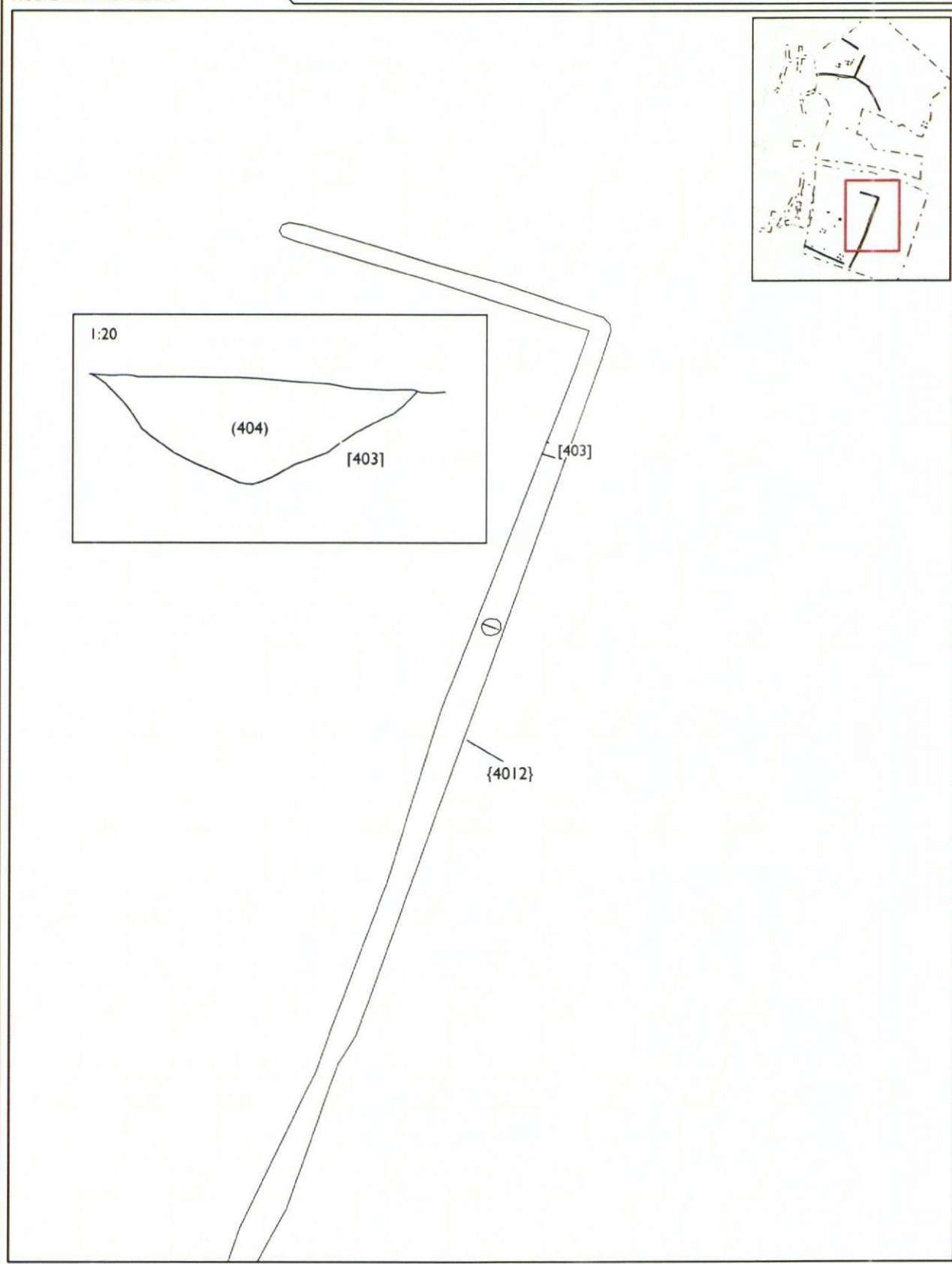
DESCRIPTION // Ditch Sections [4108] and [4110]

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L-P:ARCHAEOLOGY

FIGURE 10 // Ditch Sections



A4 scale 1:200

0 10 m



PROJECT // 1416L - Manor Farm and Copseys Nurseries

DESCRIPTION // Ditch Sections [4108] and [4110]

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L-P: ARCHAEOLOGY

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OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: Iparchae1-175467

Project details

Project name	Manor Farm, Denvilles
Short description of the project	Strip, map and record exercise on rural site in advance of development. LBA/EIA features recorded including enclosure ditches and 4-post structures.
Project dates	Start: 01-07-2013 End: 08-08-2013
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	1416 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	N/A None
Monument type	N/A None
Significant Finds	POTTERY SHERDS Late Bronze Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY SHERDS Early Iron Age
Investigation type	"Full excavation"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	HAMPSHIRE HAVANT HAVANT Manor Farm, Denvilles
Postcode	PO9 2PN
Study area	2.10 Hectares
Site coordinates	SZ 473118 106705 49.9936701291 -1.33986006807 49 59 37 N 001 20 23 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 12.00m Max: 13.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	L - P : Archaeology
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	L - P : Archaeology
Project director/manager	Kelly Madigan
Project supervisor	Cornelius Barton
Type of	Developer

sponsor/funding
body
Name of
sponsor/funding
body Barratt David Wilson Southampton

Project archives

Physical Archive
recipient Hampshire
Physical Archive ID 1416L
Physical Contents "Ceramics"
Digital Archive
recipient Hampshire
Digital Archive ID 1416L
Digital Contents "Ceramics"
Digital Media
available "GIS", "Images raster / digital photography", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive
recipient Hampshire
Paper Archive ID 1416L
Paper Contents "Ceramics"
Paper Media
available "Context
sheet", "Drawing", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey "

Project bibliography 1

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