

1.5 Descriptions of post lines (PL) and post structures (PS)

Fences (post lines)

PL1	Length (exposed): 17 m			Alignment: NNW–SSE		
<u>PhNo</u>	<u>Diam (top)</u>	<u>Depth</u>	<u>Void</u>	<u>PPF</u>	<u>cp</u>	<u>Relationships</u>
Ph 1063	65 x 80	26	30	0.36		cuts F723
Ph 1043	75	?12	–	0.16		cuts F710
Ph 1044	68 x 70	42	–	0.61		isolated
Ph 1045	64 x 78	36	35	0.51		cut (411) (441)
Ph 1046	74 x 88	32	20	0.4		cut (411) (441)
Ph 1047	68 x 82	38	–	0.51		cut (441) (435)
Ph 1048	60	42	20	0.7		below (442)
Ph 1049	56 x 70	26	–	0.41		?cut (442)
Ph 1050	50 x 60	25	19	0.45		?cut (439)
Ph 1077	52	17	14	0.33		below (439)
<i>Average</i>	<i>64 x 75</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>0.44</i>		

The post-holes are all similar, tending to be oval in plan. In terms of size there appears to be a general decrease towards the north end of the fence line, together with post-holes becoming shallower. Ph 1043 is probably not fully excavated: no cut was immediately visible in plan and no attempt was made to excavate it more fully. However if both post-hole and ditch had been sectioned at this point a more substantial post-hole in keeping with the rest of the alignment may have been visible. The post line presumably formed a fence with a junction at its north end with PL2, which cuts across its terminus at right angles.

The post-hole fills were all similar with evidence of flint packing surviving in most, sometimes disrupted suggesting the posts had been removed, though in some cases the shape of void and packing was clearly preserved. The fill of the voids and the matrix around the flints usually consisted of a yellowish-brown clayey soil with frequent small chalk fragments.

The relationship of the post-holes to the surrounding stratigraphy is obscure. It was clear that some of the post-holes were sealed by some of the gravel spreads, whereas others appear to cut the layers. It is possible the latest gravel layers shifted over the post-holes after the posts had rotted or been removed or as a result of later ploughing.

PL2a	Length (exposed): 21.2 m			Alignment: ENE–WSW		
<u>PhNo</u>	<u>Diam (top)</u>	<u>Depth</u>	<u>Void</u>	<u>PPF</u>	<u>cp</u>	<u>Relationships</u>
Ph 1033	52 x 65	15	–	0.26		isolated
Ph 1034	44 x 60	26	–	0.5		isolated
Ph 1035	60	16	–	0.27		isolated
Ph 1036	56 x 80	20	–	0.3		isolated
Ph 1053	74 x 97	28	<i>c.20–25</i>	0.32		isolated
Ph 1059	50 x 55	24	<i>c.20–25</i>	0.45		isolated
Ph 1064	54	16 [21]	21	0.39		isolated

Ph 1068	86	38	?25	0.44	isolated
Ph 1076a	70	24	c.29	0.34	below (439)
Ph 1076b	100	27	–	0.27	below (439)
Ph 1083	60	–	–	–	unex
<i>Average</i>	<i>55 x 71</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>0.35</i>	

The post-hole fills generally consisted of brown or yellowish-brown clayey silt soil with small chalk and flints and flint nodules 80–200 mm, occasionally 260–300 mm. In some of the post-holes the flints formed *in situ* packing but in others were mixed generally in the fill.

PL2b Length (exposed): 21.2 m Alignment: NNW–SSE

PhNo	Diam (top)	Depth	Void	PPF	cp	Relationships
Ph 1055	66 x 78	28	20	0.39		?cut (439)
Ph 1056	45 x 56	18	20	0.36		isolated
Ph 1060	52 x 56	17 [21]	21	0.39		isolated
Ph 1061	56 x 66	27 [33]	25	0.41		isolated
Ph 1062	60	34 [21]	–	0.57		isolated
Ph 1065	50	25	28	0.5		isolated
Ph 1066	50	32	27	0.64		isolated
Ph 1067	52 x 62	16	–	0.28		?cut (439)
Ph 1069	50 x 70	16	–	0.27		isolated
Ph 1070	54 x 60	12 [15]	26	0.21		isolated
<i>Average</i>	<i>54 x 64</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>0.4</i>		

The fills of the post-holes were broadly similar in character: voids usually had a fill of yellowish- or greyish-brown clayey silt soil containing small chalk pieces; packing generally consisted of broken flint nodules and occasional chalk blocks 70–130 mm, with a few rare instances of nodules 200–260 mm.

The fence line PL2 has been divided into two phases based on the plan, which shows the possibility of two separate alignments, though not clearly separated and perhaps complicated by repairs. Except for ph 1076, which could be interpreted as a recut, all the post-holes are single phase, similar in size and form in both alignments. Voids, where preserved, are generally 200–250 mm in diameter, but a few are slightly larger.

PL3 Length (exposed): 4 m Alignment: NE–SW

PhNo	Diam (top)	Depth	Void	PPF	cp	Relationships
?Ph 1006	34 x 42	10 [18]	–	0.26		isolated
Ph 1007	70	27 [21]	22	0.39		isolated
Ph 1012	54	17	?30	0.31		isolated
Ph 1037	60	20	15	0.33		isolated
<i>Average</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>0.32</i>		

This line starts at the south-west corner of the aisled hall continuing the alignment of its south-east wall. Ph 1006 though on line is very close to ph 1012 and interrupts the even spacing of the three other post-holes, set at intervals of 1.5–1.6 m. These three are all of similar size. Ph 1006 may represent a repair or could form a pair with ph 1010, which is similar (but see PS2).

The post-hole fills were grey/brown clayey silt soils with small chalk fragments filling the post voids, whilst packing was more variable consisting of flint nodules 70–170 mm, limestone slabs 120–200 mm or chalk rubble, in various combinations.

PL4		Length (exposed): 6 m			Alignment: ENE–WSW	
<u>PhNo</u>	<u>Diam (top)</u>	<u>Depth</u>	<u>Void</u>	<u>PPF</u>	<u>cp</u>	<u>Relationships</u>
Ph 1005	60	9	–	0.15		isolated
Ph 1008	70	20	c.18	0.29		isolated
Ph 1016	54	–	–	–		isolated; unex
Ph 1018	40	17	20	0.43		isolated
Ph 1075	50	12	–	0.24		isolated
<i>Average</i>	<i>55</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>0.28</i>		

There are no post-holes continuing this line to the north of the ditch F680, indicating that the line ends with ph 1075 or in the area cut by the ditch. This could be the north side of a timber building rather than a fence. The posts are evenly spaced at intervals of about 1.5 m.

The fills were variable, though containing noticeably more chalk rubble than the other post lines. This was frequently combined with small broken flint nodules, set in a brown clay soil matrix. Only one post-hole had what might be genuinely considered a post void and it is possible that the other features were post pads.

PL5		Length (exposed): 21.2 m			Alignment: NW–SE	
<u>PhNo</u>	<u>Diam (top)</u>	<u>Depth</u>	<u>Void</u>	<u>PPF</u>	<u>cp</u>	<u>Relationships</u>
Ph 1015	44 x 48	17	–	0.37		isolated
Ph 1019	40 x 42	20	–	0.49		isolated
Ph 1020	50	28	c.13	0.56		isolated
Ph 1021	34	29	c.18	0.85		isolated
Ph 1022	52	36	–	0.69		isolated
Ph 1023	38 x 54	25	–	0.54		isolated
Ph 1031	35	28	20	0.8		isolated
<i>Average</i>	<i>43</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>0.61</i>		

This line is set at right angles to the north-west wall of the aisled hall, essentially aligned on the rebuilt south-west wall F654. The post-holes are mostly set at intervals of 1.8 m, but at the south end 1.4 m and 2.0 m.

The post-holes are of similar size and shape. Post voids are poorly preserved, but generally contain greyish-brown clayey silt soil with small chalk; this material is the basis of most of the other post-hole fills. Packing consisted of small broken flint nodules, limestone slabs and small chalk blocks. These same materials occurred throughout the other post-hole fills, suggesting these had similar packing originally, probably disturbed by removing the posts.

PL6 Length (exposed): 12.2 m Alignment: NE–SW

PhNo	Diam (top)	Depth	Void	PPF	cp	Relationships
Ph	55 x 62	–	?30	–		abuts F651; unex
Ph 1029	30 x 44	11	c.18	0.3		isolated
Ph 1080	54	–	–	–		cuts F679; unex
Ph 1081	46 x 54	–	?20	–		cuts F679; unex
Ph 1082	34 x 40	–	–	–		unex
<i>Average</i>	<i>41 x 50</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>0.3</i>		

Most of the post-holes were only observed late in the excavation after heavy rain and remained unexcavated, thus it is not possible to compare all characteristics. However it is clear from the plans that several of the post-holes contained broken flint nodules, probably remains of packing in the post-holes. The post-holes are at intervals of 2.3–2.7 m, though there is a gap of 6 m between ph 1081 and ph 1082. It is possible the remnant of occupation soil (358) over the area masked intervening post-holes.

PL7 Length (exposed): ?3.0 m Alignment: NW–SE

PhNo	Diam (top)	Depth	Void	PPF	cp	Relationships
Ph 1040	42 x 46	25	15	0.57		isolated
Ph 1042	44 x 48	26	–	0.56		isolated
?3rd ph	30	–	–	–		unex; isolated

This ‘line’ of post-holes is set at right angles to the aisled hall, running out from the north-west wall F652. An unexcavated hollow containing flint nodules close to the wall may be the first post-hole of the fence line. Although only two post-holes can be assigned to this post line they are almost identical in size and shape, suggesting the two are connected and the fact that they are at right angles to the wall of the Hall is suggestive of a fence line. They are two metres apart and start about 1.5 m from the aisled hall. Their fills are slightly dissimilar in that one had a mixed fill of flint nodules and limestone slabs in brown clayey silt, whilst the other had packing of flints and limestone around the upper edge of the fill with chalky brown silty soil filling the void. It would appear that in one the post was removed, but not the other.

PL9 Tr 3 Length: 15.5 m Alignment: ENE–WSW

PhNo & GR	Diam (top)	Depth	Void	PPF	Relationships
1084 K636350	0.62 x 0.50	0.20		0.36	isolated
1085 K650357	0.74 x 0.64	0.10		0.15	isolated
1086 K663364	0.60 x 0.54	0.10	0.10	0.18	isolated

1087	K678370	0.60 x 0.52	0.13		0.23	cut F863
1088	K689376	0.60 x 0.54	0.14	0.15	0.25	isolated
1089	K704385	0.64	0.18	0.24	0.28	cut F865
1090	K718391	0.55	0.18		0.33	isolated
1091	K730397	0.68 x 0.65	0.17	0.18	0.26	isolated
1092	K745407	0.44	0.14		0.32	isolated
1093	K770419	0.62	0.27	0.28	0.44	cut F749
1097	K755410	0.52	0.23	0.20	0.44	cut F863
<i>Average</i>		<i>0.6 x 0.57</i>	<i>0.12</i>	<i>0.19</i>	<i>0.29</i>	

The alignment probably formed the north wall of a timber building enclosed by F750 and F751. The post-holes were of similar size and shape, though post void diameters were more variable. These post-holes are noticeably smaller and shallower than those of PL10, which are regarded as part of the same structure. The packing was a mixture of chalk blocks and flint nodules and was largely confined to the upper levels of the post-holes with some evidence of it having been disturbed.

PL10 Tr 3 Length: 6 m Alignment: NNW–SSE

<u>PhNo & GR</u>	<u>Diam (top)</u>	<u>Depth</u>	<u>Void</u>	<u>PPF</u>	<u>Relationships</u>	
1094 K783390	1.00 x 0.56	0.10		0.13	isolated	
1095 K777409	0.60	0.34	0.30	0.57	isolated	
1096 K793364	0.68	0.36	0.30	0.53	isolated	
1098 K787379	0.78 x 0.70	0.42	0.30	0.57	isolated	
<i>Average</i>		<i>0.77 x 0.63</i>	<i>0.31</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.45</i>	

The alignment probably formed the east wall of the timber building enclosed by ditches F750 and F751. The post-holes were of similar size, shape and fill. Packing was well preserved predominantly tightly packed flints and the surviving post voids were all identical in size.

PL11 Tr 3 and 4 Length: 6 m Alignment: ENE–WSW

<u>PhNo & GR</u>	<u>Diam (top)</u>	<u>Depth</u>	<u>Void</u>	<u>PPF</u>	<u>Relationships</u>
1101 K981594	0.42	0.35	0.20	0.83	isolated
1108 K992602	0.90 x 0.50	0.25		0.36	?cut by ph 1130
1109 L004607	0.88 x 0.64	0.32		0.42	isolated
1110 L015614	0.65 x 0.56	0.24		0.40	isolated
1111 L027621	0.50 x 0.44	0.35	0.22	0.75	isolated
1112 L033623	0.42 x 0.38	0.19	0.18	0.48	isolated
1113 L043630	0.48 x 0.42	0.20	0.16	0.44	isolated
1114 L054635	0.65 x 0.46	0.24		0.44	isolated
1115 L068642	0.60 x 0.56	0.31	0.20	0.53	isolated
1116 L081649	0.44	0.25	0.15	0.57	isolated
1117 L087651	0.40	0.17	0.14	0.43	isolated
1118 L096657	0.64	0.35	0.20	0.55	isolated
1119 L105660	0.50 x 0.44	0.33	0.22	0.70	isolated

1120	L111664	0.46	0.35	0.20	0.76	isolated
1121	L123668	0.42	0.25		0.59	isolated
1130	K996603	0.42	0.33		0.79	?cut ph 1108
<i>Average</i>		<i>0.55 x 0.49</i>	<i>0.28</i>	<i>0.19</i>	<i>0.57</i>	

This post line appears to have formed a fence linking the corners of buildings 3 and 4. It comprised a total of 15 post-holes, some of which may have been replacements/ repairs from the close spacing of the post-holes in places. Post-hole fills were generally similar with packing of flint nodules sometimes with limestone slabs tightly packed, when not disrupted by removal of the post, in a matrix of brown clayey soil.

PL12 Tr 3 Length: 8 m Alignment: NNW–SSE

<u>PhNo & GR</u>	<u>Diam (top)</u>	<u>Depth</u>	<u>Void</u>	<u>PPF</u>	<u>Relationships</u>	
1103n K994614	0.40	0.19	0.25	0.48	rel not observed	
1103s K994614	0.40	0.20		0.50	rel not observed	
1102 K990624	0.46	0.24		0.52	?cut by ph 1131	
1104 L000598	0.66 x 0.52	0.26		0.44	isolated	
1105 L006588	0.50 x 0.42	0.20	0.20	0.43	isolated	
1106 L012577	0.44 x 0.42	0.25	0.20	0.58	isolated	
1107 L025557	0.40 x 0.26	0.05	0.23	0.15	isolated	
1131 K900600	0.50	0.07		0.14	cut by ph 1102	
<i>Average</i>		<i>0.47 x 0.4</i>	<i>0.18</i>	<i>0.22</i>	<i>0.41</i>	

This post line ran parallel to the east wall of building 4 at right angles to PL11 and cutting across it. The arrangement of post-holes suggests the two fences were not necessarily contemporary. It is unclear whether ph 1107, much shallower than the other post-holes and with a rather different fill, is in fact part of the alignment or whether it ended on the south with ph 1106. It is possible this fence continued northwards to form a right-angled enclosure with PL13. Most of the post-holes had evidence of flint packing set in brown clayey soil, but the packing had been disturbed in several cases, suggesting removal of the posts.

PL13 Tr 3 Length: 9.5 m Alignment: ENE–WSW

<u>PhNo & GR</u>	<u>Diam (top)</u>	<u>Depth</u>	<u>Void</u>	<u>PPF</u>	<u>Relationships</u>	
1122a L019721	0.66	0.28		0.42	cut F766	
1122b L019721	0.66	0.23		0.35	cut F766	
1123 L033729	0.46	0.21		0.46	cut F766	
1124 L042735	0.44	0.25		0.57	cut F766	
1125 L065748	0.46 x 0.40	0.24	0.18	0.56	cut F766	
1126 L075754	0.40	0.23	0.20	0.58	isolated	
1127 L089761	0.62 x 0.46	0.13		0.24	isolated	
1128 L100770	0.68 x 0.56	0.16		0.26	isolated	
<i>Average</i>		<i>0.55 x 0.47</i>	<i>0.22</i>	<i>0.19</i>	<i>0.43</i>	

This post line ran parallel with PL11, on the same alignment as buildings 3 and 4, set 9.5 m to the north. It probably continued to run westward, possibly joining to form a corner with PL12. At the east end it appears to have terminated at ph 1128, which lines up with the west wall of building 3.

Post structures

PS1 Type: L(E) Length: 2.6 m Alignment: NNE–SSW

<u>PhNo</u>	<u>Diam (top)</u>	<u>Depth</u>	<u>Void</u>	<u>PPF</u>	<u>cp</u>	<u>Relationships</u>
Ph 1025	38 x 42	9 [19?]	>20	0.22		isolated
Ph 1027	42	15	16	0.36		isolated
<i>Average</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>0.29</i>		

These two post-holes are of very similar size and shape forming an obvious pair. Both appeared to have flint packing or remnants of it, with chalky brown clayey silt infilling the remainder of the post-holes. They could also relate to ph 1026 and a small hollow with a flint near ph 1025 to suggest two phases to this structure.

PS2 Type: L(E) Length: 1.7/3.5 m Alignment: WNW–ESE

<u>PhNo</u>	<u>Diam (top)</u>	<u>Depth</u>	<u>Void</u>	<u>PPF</u>	<u>cp</u>	<u>Relationships</u>
Ph 1009	46	15	22	0.33		isolated
Ph 1010	37	11 [15]	c.25	0.4		isolated
?Ph 1011	52	10	–	0.2		

These post-holes could form a line of three, though ph 1011 is slightly different in size and may not be associated. An alternative pairing could be of ph 1006 with ph 1010, which are also similar in size.

The post-holes all had fairly typical fills of yellow/greyish-brown clayey soils with small chalk, with evidence of flint packing in the form of some nodules around the upper edges.

PS8 Tr 3 Length: 2.2 m Alignment: N–S

<u>PhNo</u>	<u>Diam (top)</u>	<u>Depth</u>	<u>Void</u>	<u>PPF</u>	<u>Relationships</u>
Ph 1099	0.30	0.11	0.12	0.37	Isolated
Ph 1100	0.32	0.15	0.15	0.47	Isolated
<i>Average</i>	<i>0.31</i>	<i>0.13</i>	<i>0.14</i>	<i>0.42</i>	

These two small shallow post-holes were very similar in size and fill, both having remnants of flint packing.