

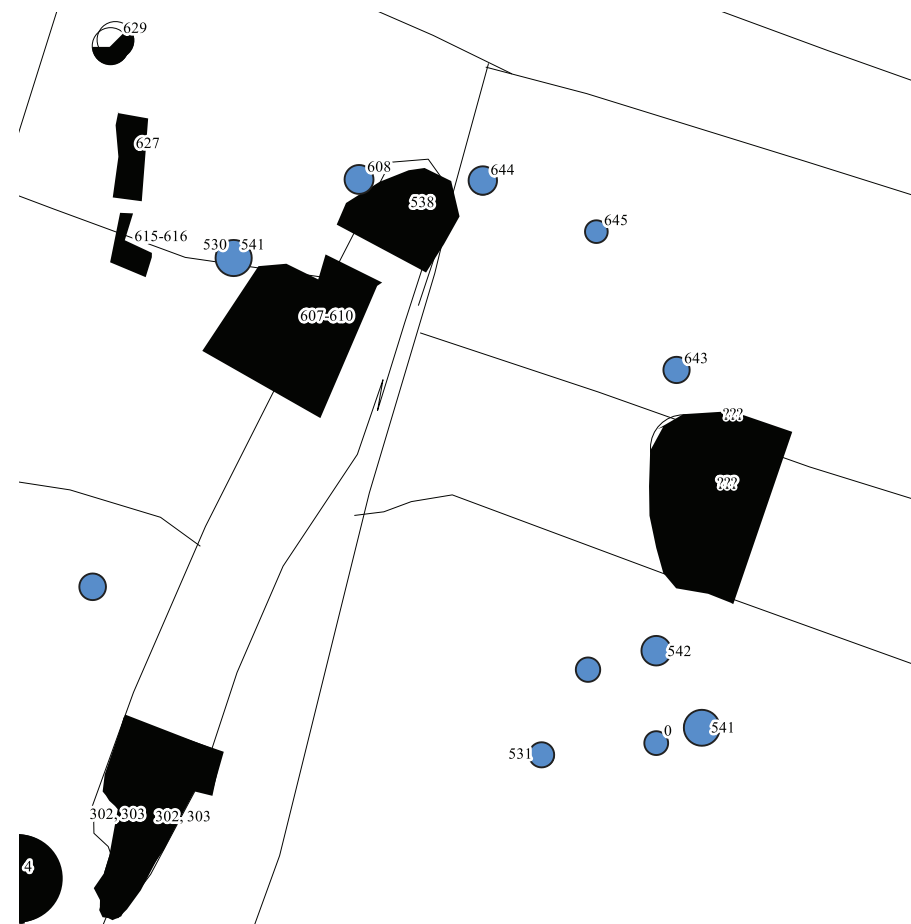
Other Highlights

Excavations at Somerton Road, Langport, Somerset

While the Villa may be the most noticable and eye catching of the archaeological features on site, it is only one part of the wider picture. Below are some of the other highlights:

The Roundhouse

The partial remains of a roundhouse can be seen in an incomplete circle of nine postholes with a further two postholes on its eastern side forming a porch at the entrance to the building. The missing post holes have been obscured by the later Roman ditch. Pottery from the postholes possibly date the structure to the later Bronze Age (1500-900BC) or Iron Age (750BC-AD43). The purpose of the building is unclear but is presumed to be a dwelling.

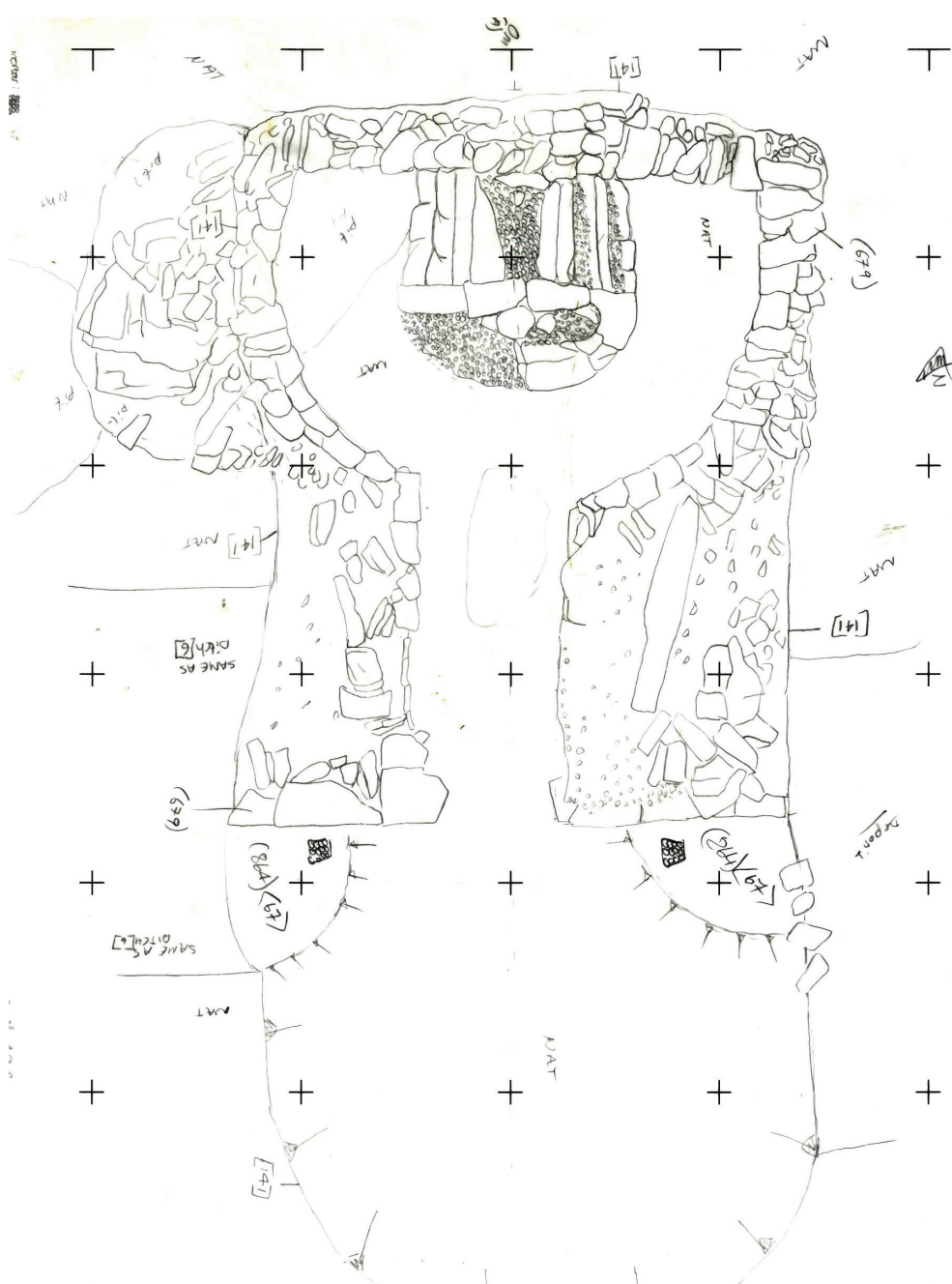


Above Left: Aerial photograph of the roundhouse with blue circles marking the postholes.

Above Right: Plan of roundhouse with postholes marked in blue.

The Corn Dryer

Consisting of a stone built flue that divides into two in an almost 'Y' shape, this flue would have carried hot air from a fire in the stoke pit, heating up a now missing floor level above on which grain crops would have been spread to remove moisture prior to processing or storage.

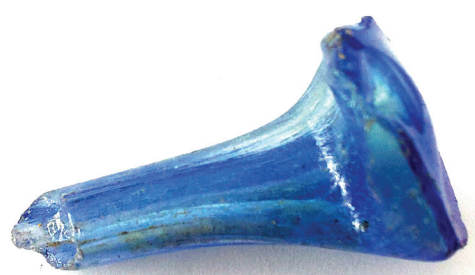


Left: Drawn plan of corn dryer.

Above: Photograph of corn dryer.

The Finds

The vast majority of finds retrieved from the site as a whole were either pottery or animal bone. The highlights of the metal finds were Roman coins and a wheel brooch.



Left: Fragment of fine glass handle.

Above left: Coin. Vespasian AD69-79.

Above Right: Roman Wheel Brooch.

Right : Roman pottery repaired with lead staples.



The Burial

The remains of a single human burial has been uncovered on site. The remains were heavily damaged and missing a large number of bones, most likely due to more modern ploughing. Its location within the villa and within a deposit of probable hill wash suggests it post dates the occupation of the building. Further analysis of the remains will be able to determine if the individual was male or female, their age and even potential health issues that the person suffered from.



Above: Detailed plan and photograph of the single burial to have been found onsite. Note the missing limbs removed by ploughing.

Possible Barn?

Consisting of a rectangular post built structure some 10m by 9m with a stone built drain or flue running through the centre. Could it be an animal barn or perhaps a drying barn working similarly to the corn dryer.



Above: Possible Roman Barn.