

8.0 Discussion and Conclusions

● Rectangular Snip

- 8.1 Evidence for early prehistoric activity is fairly limited in the study area, although a few flint scatters are recorded, along with a Beaker period burial of two adults and a child. This may represent a former barrow, although no mound was recorded at the site and may have been ploughed flat. The limited extent of the evidence suggests a negligible potential for activity of this date.
- 8.2 There is however plentiful evidence for exploitation of the landscape for settlement and agriculture in the late Iron Age and Roman periods, with several excavated sites showing continuity from the Iron Age into the Roman period. There are further undated cropmark sites of potential Iron Age/Roman date scattered throughout the study area, but mostly to the north and northeast of Istead Rise. None are however particularly close to the current site, the nearest cropmark enclosure being c.500m away. The site is a fairly small plot and likely to have been disturbed to some extent by former and existing trees on the site, but there remains a low potential for Iron Age and Roman activity.
- 8.3 Activity post-dating the Roman period is for the most part limited to finds recorded by the PAS, as well as a few later farmsteads. The area was arable land until developed as orchards in the early 20th century. Istead Rise is a fairly modern settlement as well, which has mostly developed in the later 20th century. As such, there is negligible potential for archaeological activity post-dating the Roman period.