

SALFORD (Bedfordshire)

SP 982 392

Salford sits near the western border of Bedfordshire on sloping grounds and overlies Bedford Clay Vale and Oxford Clay (Dawson 2005, 1). Excavations at Salford began in 1988 and lasted until 1991 in advance of gravel quarrying (Dawson 2005, 1). The archaeological investigations revealed extensive and intense human activity at the site from the Neolithic into the Late Iron Age (Dawson 2005). In the Early Iron Age Salford was a partially enclosed settlement with numerous round, rectangular and four-post structures (Dawson 2005, 18-19). Occupation continued into the Middle Iron Age but was an open settlement by this time and more intensely settled (Dawson 2005, 45). In the Late Iron Age, the inhabitants had abandoned the settlement and the primary evidence for this period is a small cremation cemetery (Dawson 2005, 76). The cremation cemetery consists of four burials all in a line that runs parallel to the former Early Iron Age settlement enclosure (Dawson 2005, 78). T. A. Jackson conducted the osteological analysis of the cremated bone (2005).