LAND AT CHALK LANE, NARBOROUGH, NORFOLK: POST-EXCAVATION ASSSESSMENT AND UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN

MARCH 2016

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

R12139

LAND AT CHALK LANE, NARBOROUGH, NORFOLK

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION

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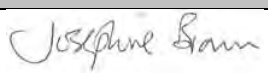
Graphics Checked by:	Josephine Brown		August 2015
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Land at Chalk Lane, Narborough, Norfolk:

Archaeological Excavation. Post-Excavation Assessment

Local Planning Authority:	**Breckland Council**
Central National Grid Reference:	**TF 7487 1225**
Site Code:	**ENF135750**
Planning Reference:	**3PL/2012/1093/O**
Report No.	**R12139**
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ABSTRACT

This report describes the results of archaeological excavation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land at Chalk Lane, Narborough, Norfolk (centred on NGR TF 7487 1225) between the 5th January and the 24th February 2015. The archaeological work was commissioned by Persimmon Homes, in response to a planning condition attached to the redevelopment of the site. The aim of the work was to record any archaeological remains which would be damaged or destroyed by the new development. Based on the evidence uncovered during the archaeological trial trench evaluation and magnetometer survey, three areas were designated for open area excavation.

A large natural hollow was uncovered within Area 1, occupying most of the excavation area. Area 1 was situated close to a former marsh known as Butlers Carr and consequently the hollow would have been seasonally inundated. The base of the hollow undulated considerably, and within the lower depressions, a series of buried soil deposits were recorded. The earliest stratigraphic deposit was associated with two caches of Earlier Neolithic flint tools. This layer was overlain by an Early Bronze Age burnt stone mound, with associated features cutting through the lower soil horizon. The mound and cut features were sealed by a buried soil deposit of presumed later Bronze Age-Iron Age date. To the north of this, a deposit containing Iron Age pottery was recorded, representing periodic waste disposal at the edge of the hollow. These deposits were sealed by a series of medieval ploughsoils.

Areas 2 and 3 revealed limited archaeological activity, with a few discrete pits of prehistoric date and a single pit of Early Saxon date. Sherds of Saxon pottery and a number of metalwork finds found in the medieval ploughsoils indicate Saxon settlement or perhaps even a disturbed cemetery site in the general vicinity

Across all three areas, a series of medieval ditches marking enclosures and field boundaries were recorded, and localised medieval chalk quarrying was recorded in Area 1. Part of an articulated cow skeleton was found within a pit of late medieval date in Area 3.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 An archaeological excavation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) on land at Chalk Lane, Norfolk, Narborough, Norfolk (centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (NGR) TF 7487 1225) between 5th January and 24th February 2015 (Figure 1; Plate 1).

1.2 The site is located on the southern outskirts of Narborough (Figure 1 and 2), bounded to the north by a row of houses forming the edge of the Westfields development, to the west by the former route of the King's Lynn to Dereham railway line and to the east by Chalk Lane. It has an overall area of approximately 2.75ha, of which approximately 0.75ha was excavated. The site area occupies the northern third of a field of arable agricultural land.

1.3 The archaeological work was commissioned by Persimmon Homes, in response to an archaeological planning condition attached to the construction of 55 new homes with associated access roads, services and landscaping (Planning Reference 3PL/2012/1093/O). The excavation was requested following the initial geophysical survey and a trial trench evaluation.

1.4 A geophysical (magnetometer) survey conducted in early October 2011 revealed numerous linear anomalies and a group of curvilinear anomalies, indicating possible field systems and other features. General finds from across the site and its environs previously recorded in the Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER), suggested the presence of Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age activity. The trial trench evaluation was completed by NPS following the geophysical survey and comprised 14 linear trenches (Ames 2011). The evaluation revealed archaeological features relating to Early Saxon settlement activity including a pit and two possible 'grave'-shaped features. A deposit of earlier Iron Age date was identified in the west of the site, within a natural hollow.

1.5 The excavation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of

Investigation (WSI) prepared by Mark Hinman and Taleyna Fletcher of PCA (Hinman and Fletcher 2014) in response to an archaeological brief issued by James Albone of the Historic Environment Service of Norfolk County Council (HES/NCC) (Albone 2014). This advice states that, in accordance with paragraph 141 of the National Planning Policy Framework, any planning permission granted for development of the site should be subject to the following archaeological conditions:

1. No development shall take place within the area indicated [the whole site] until the implementation of a programme of archaeological work has been secured, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

The scheme of investigation shall include an assessment of significance and research questions; and

a. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording

b. The programme for post-investigation assessment

c. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording

d. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation

e. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation

f. Nomination of a competent person or persons/ organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation

g. The site investigation shall be completed prior to development, or in such other phased arrangement, as agreed and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

2. No building shall be occupied until the site investigation and post-investigation assessment has been completed, submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under Condition 1 and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition.

1.6 Following discussion between the archaeological consultant, Hannah Albans, and James Albone of HES/NCC, it was agreed that three areas of excavation would be stripped (Areas 1, 2 and 3). These areas were targeted on the results of the evaluation trenches and there was an agreement that additional stripping could be undertaken to investigate any significant archaeological remains found during the excavation and following discussion with both the consultant and the development control officer. The report describes the results of the excavation of these three areas.

1.7 Area 1 was located in the northwest of the development area, targeting evaluation Trenches 4 and 14, which exposed the natural hollow and buried soil(s). Area 2 was focused around evaluation Trench 3, to explore the extent of the potential Early Saxon 'graves'. Area 3 was positioned to target evaluation Trench 8, where a pit containing Saxon pottery had been revealed suggesting the presence of settlement in the vicinity.

1.8 The main aims of the excavation were to record any archaeological remains present in those areas of the site which would be affected by groundworks associated with the new development, to assess the significance of those remains in a local, regional or national research context, as appropriate, to realise the site’s research potential through a programme of post-excavation analysis and research, and to disseminate the results of the project through publication.

1.9 This Post-Excavation Assessment (PXA) describes the results of the excavation and their significance, presents questions and methods for further analysis and research during the post-excavation phase of the

project, and provides a proposal for dissemination of the project results through publication as a Norfolk Archaeology journal article. Following completion of the project, the site archive will be deposited at the Norwich Museum.

2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

2.1 The underlying solid geology belongs to the West Melbury Marly Chalk and Zig Zag Chalk formations (undifferentiated), formed 94-100 million years ago during the Cretaceous Period. This is overlain by superficial sand deposits. The area is characterised as having poor, acidic soils formed in Cretaceous sands, low-lying waterlogged peat and small patches of clay (Williamson 2005).

2.2 Within the excavation area, the natural geology (102) was overlain by a subsoil (101/2E[1]); a mid orange-brown silty sand with occasional chalk and flint inclusions. This in turn was overlain by a layer of topsoil (100/1E), a dark brown silty sand with rare chalk and flint inclusions. In the vicinity of the hollow, other soil deposits ('buried soils') were present between the subsoil and natural geological substrate.

2.3 The site is on gently-sloping ground, sloping from southeast to northwest down to the River Nar, located approximately 1.2km from the excavation. A small tributary of the Nar flows approximately 175m southwest of the site boundary, where it empties into a low-lying wetland area known as Butler's Carr. Within the excavated areas, the surface of the natural geology was recorded at elevations of 14.77m OD to the southeast, lowering to 11.61m OD in the northwest.

2.4 The development area comprised a total of 2.75ha, of which approximately 0.75ha was subject to open area excavation. At the time of the excavation, the site was arable farmland located between Chalk Lane to the east and the embankment of the disused King's Lynn to Dereham railway to the west. Immediately to the north is a row of houses off the Westfields development, forming the southern edge of the village of Narborough.

[1] See Section 4 (Methodology) for an explanation of the numbering system used for archaeological features and deposits recorded during the evaluation and excavation

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 The site is located in an area of known archaeological significance, as recorded in the Norfolk Historic Environment Record (HER). Evidence of prehistoric and later activity has been recorded from the site itself, as well as from the surrounding land to the east and west. The evaluation report (Ames 2011) and the archaeological brief (Albone 2014) for the site have been used to compile this archaeological background.

3.2 A cropmark of a ring ditch (NHER 11703) was recorded from an aerial photograph taken in 1974 and a low mound is visible in this location on the ground. Two additional semi-circular cropmarks immediately north of this have also been recorded. These potential barrow features are located approximately 130m south of the development site.

3.3 Metal detector surveys (NHER 11703) of the field within which the development site is located have produced finds of several periods. These include Neolithic and Bronze Age flints, a possible Bronze Age tanged chisel, late Roman and Early Saxon coins and brooches and a couple of medieval coins. The late Roman and Early Saxon metalwork, in conjunction with some unstratified human bones recovered from the subsoil and former medieval ploughsoil during the evaluation (Ames 2011), has led to the suggestion of a disturbed Saxon cemetery in the vicinity of the site.

3.4 From the mid-20th century onwards, large quantities of objects have been recovered from the fields to the west and northeast of the development site (NHER3932, NHER32168), either as stray finds or as the result of metal detector surveys. These finds include: Neolithic and Bronze Age flints, 70+ Roman coins, a Roman pin and brooch, pottery fragments dating from the Iron Age to the medieval period, a late-14th- to 15th-century copper alloy belt chape and other metal finds dating from a range of periods between the Late Bronze Age and post-medieval period.

3.5 The line of the former Chalk Lane follows the linear earthwork known as Devil's Dyke (or 'Bichamditch') (NHER3937), presumed to be of Iron Age

or Saxon date. This linear earthwork runs for approximately 11km between the River Nar, just north of Narborough, and a tributary of the River Wissey at Beachamwell, although the earthwork has not survived along its entire length. The earthwork is one of several such features in Norfolk and East Anglia and, as with many of these features, the date of construction is unclear. Most are considered to be of Iron Age or Saxon date, possibly forming territorial boundaries or even defensive features. An excavation along the projected route of the Devil's Dyke at Narborough in 2000 found no evidence of its existence (Percival in Ames 2011). The trial trench evaluation of the current site concluded that the embankment located along the eastern edge of the site in fact related to a post-medieval hedgerow (Ames 2011).

3.6 A magnetometer survey of the site undertaken prior to the trenched evaluation revealed numerous linear anomalies, some of which formed field divisions, and a group of curvilinear anomalies that were interpreted as possible prehistoric features.

3.7 A total of 14 linear trial trenches (totalling 375m in length) were excavated during the course of the evaluation, revealing archaeological features and/ or deposits in eight of the trenches. These features included several ditches, a small number of pits, and a large hollow. A number of the pits were considered to be related to Anglo-Saxon settlement in the area, with a possible Anglo-Saxon cemetery located somewhere in the vicinity, focused around Trench 3. The natural hollow contained a deposit interpreted as a buried soil and was initially dated to the Early Iron Age. A series of ditches occupying at least two different alignments were recorded and corresponded well with the results of the geophysical survey. Some of the ditches contained medieval pottery and some were undated during the evaluation.

3.8 During the evaluation, 16 struck flints were recovered. With the exception of a single flint from the buried soil identified in one of the trenches, the flint was all found in the topsoil. The material was characteristic of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flintworking debris. A significant assemblage

of pottery, suggested to be of Early Iron Age date, was also recovered from the buried soil located in Trench 4, in the western part of the development site. A deposit, considered to be the same buried soil as in Trench 4, was also recorded in Trench 14, 30m to the south. In this trench, the buried soil deposit did not contain any datable finds; however, pieces of human long bones were recovered from the interface between the subsoil and the buried soil.

3.9 Early Saxon activity was recorded in the eastern part of the site (Trench 8), in the form of a large pit which was thought to possibly be a sunken-featured building, although no postholes were recorded. Sherds of Early Saxon handmade pottery were recovered from the fill of this feature. These include fragments of a sub-biconical decorated jar, with decoration typical of the 6th century, similar to vessels which have been found in association with both cremation and inhumation burials. It was these finds, together with potential 'grave-shaped' features in Trench 3 and the human remains recovered from Trench 14 which led to the suggestion of a disturbed Saxon cemetery in the area.

3.10 Overall, the evaluation conclusions suggested a potential Iron Age buried soil and Early Saxon activity, with a possible settlement and cemetery in the immediate vicinity of the development area.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 General (Figure 3)

4.1.1 Excavation Area 1 (c. 2286m²) was targeted on evaluation Trenches 4 and 14 at the western side of the development area. The excavation aimed to investigate the buried soil identified in these trenches, which was previously identified as being of Iron Age date, and to determine whether this deposit masked earlier activity. The fragments of human bone from Trench 14 suggested that there was potential for further human remains, possibly including in-situ burials.

4.1.2 Excavation Area 2 (c. 1782m²) was situated in the north of the development area, targeting evaluation Trench 3, where the possible 'graves' had been identified and where an apparent concentration of Saxon metalwork had been recovered from the topsoil.

4.1.3 Excavation Area 3 (c. 2481m²) was located in the eastern part of the development area adjacent to Chalk Lane. It was targeted around Trench 8, which revealed a pit (or potential sunken-featured building) containing a significant quantity of Early Saxon pottery and animal bone and indicated potential for settlement activity. The eastern edge of this area was reduced due to a Tree Protection Order placed on an oak tree within the roadside embankment. Subsequently, the area was extended by 2.5m along its western edge.

4.2 Excavation Methodology

4.2.1 Ground reduction during the excavation was carried out under archaeological supervision using a 21-ton 360° tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a 2m-wide toothless ditching bucket. Topsoil and subsoil deposits were removed in spits down to the level of the undisturbed natural geological substrate where the majority of archaeological features could be observed and recorded. Where the buried soil and burnt mound deposits were present, these were located stratigraphically above the natural geological horizon. In these areas, the topsoil and subsoil was carefully removed with the machine down to the

uppermost archaeological deposit. The buried soil deposits were then subjected to a series of hand-dug test pits and the burnt mound layers were hand-excavated in single contexts. Spoil was transported away from the edges of the archaeology areas by wheeled dumper truck and stored in bunds next to the excavation areas as per the request of the client.

4.2.2 In Area 1, a more complex series of soils were identified within the hollow. The hollow was essentially was a large depression with an undulating base likely caused by glacial activity. The hollow contained a surviving sequence of ancient buried soils and plough soils. At the lowest point of the hollow, a NEOLITHIC BURIED SOIL[2] (1094) was revealed, through which the prehistoric features were cut. Above this and located on a low-lying 'hump' within the hollow was an Early Bronze Age BURNT MOUND (comprising a series of layers and dumps of material, see context (118)). This in turn was sealed by a POST- EARLY BRONZE AGE buried soil (1042). An IRON AGE DEPOSIT (117) was confined to the northern edge of the hollow (north of the medieval ditches). To the south of the ditches, deposit (1042) was overlain by an EARLY MEDIEVAL PLOUGHSOIL (119). A MEDIEVAL PLOUGH SOIL (77) survived as the uppermost deposit within the area of the hollow and was sealed by the modern subsoil and topsoil, as seen in Areas 2 and 3. A number of pits were found to have been cut from various points within this soil sequence, indicating periodic use of the hollow. The stratigraphic relationship of the features within the hollow suggests activity during the later Neolithic, the Early Bronze Age and the Middle Bronze Age, with some activity (a series of re-cut ditches) during the medieval period.

4.2.3 This sequence was seen in the 'dips' of the hollow, but where natural rises and ridges existed within the hollow, the natural geological substrate was directly overlain by the late Saxon/ early medieval ploughsoil. Outside of the hollow, the modern topsoil and subsoil directly overlaid the natural geological horizon. A specific machining and hand-digging strategy was

[2] See below for an explanation of Group Numbers

applied to Area 1 to investigate these soils and is described below.

4.2.4 Within the area of the hollow, the topsoil and subsoil was machine-stripped to reveal the medieval ploughsoil, which was then metal-detected and scanned for finds. Leaving in a baulk of this medieval soil to demonstrate the soil profile and stratigraphic sequence of deposits (see Figure 8 for sections), this layer was then removed with the machine to expose the Iron Age deposit (117) and the earlier medieval ploughsoil (119). Modern ploughing could be seen to have disturbed all three of these deposits and there was some mixing of finds caused from deep plough-scars.

4.2.5 The area of the hollow (where the buried soils had survived) was subsequently divided into 5m grid squares for sampling and finds location purposes. Initially 1m² test pits were hand-excavated at the southwest corner of each 5m grid square to assess the potential depths of those deposits sealed by the medieval ploughsoils. Further test pits within these grid squares were then hand-excavated, revealing the extent of the burnt mound and several features cutting through NEOLITHIC BURIED SOIL (1094). All buried soils and deposits revealed in the test pits were sieved for finds.

4.2.6 The remaining deposits within the grid squares were hand-excavated in 10cm spits, or by single stratigraphic context as appropriate. Each buried soil layer was planned and had a topographic survey completed across its extent prior to its removal. During excavation, environmental samples were taken from the buried soil deposits in the central and south-western 1m² test pit of each 5m square, where possible. Additional environmental samples were taken as appropriate.

4.2.7 The burnt mound was divided into quadrants for sampling and finds recovery purposes, and each quadrant was hand-excavated by single context. A running section across the mound was recorded during the excavation process, using the previously established baulk. Each layer or deposit of the burnt mound was hand-planned and the heights of the

deposits recorded using a GPS unit. Cut features uncovered during this process were also hand-planned and recorded prior to their full excavation.

4.2.8 Upon full removal of the burnt mound, the 5m grid was reinstated and the lowest buried soil of presumed Neolithic date (1094) was excavated in line with the previously discussed test pit methodology for the buried soil deposits. Environmental samples were taken as appropriate.

4.2.9 Prior to the excavation of discrete features or distinct layers, exposed surfaces were cleaned by trowel and hoe as appropriate before all further excavation was undertaken manually using hand tools.

4.3 Recording and Finds Recovery

4.3.1 The limits of excavations, heights above Ordnance Datum (m OD) and the locations of archaeological features and interventions were recorded using a Leica 1200 GPS rover unit with RTK differential correction, giving three-dimensional accuracy of 20mm or better. A topographic survey was also undertaken, with spot heights taken at regular intervals (*c*. 1m spacing) across the excavation area using GPS. Topographical surveys of Area 1 were completed throughout the process of excavating the buried soil and cut features in order to model the various deposits, as well as the undulating profile of the natural hollow.

4.3.2 The burnt mound was excavated and planned using single context recording, as discussed above.

4.3.3 Deposits or the removal of deposits judged by the excavating archaeologist to constitute individual events were each assigned a unique record number (often referred to within British archaeology as ‘context numbers’) and recorded on pre-printed forms (Taylor and Brown 2009). Archaeological processes recognised by the deposition of material are signified in this report by round brackets (thus), while events constituting the removal of deposits are referred to here as ‘cuts’ and signified by square brackets [thus]. Where more than one slot was excavated through an individual feature, each intervention was assigned additional numbers

for the cutting event and for the deposits it contained (these deposits within cut features being referred to here as 'fills'). Multiple sections excavated across a single feature were later grouped together by unique 'group numbers', signified here by capitals: e.g. DITCH 1. Where these groups include multiple features, the features will be listed in ascending cut order. Where these groups include discrete features which are spread over multiple excavation areas, this will be identified in the text, for ease of reference. The record numbers assigned to cuts, deposits and groups are entirely arbitrary and in no way reflect the chronological order in which events took place. All features and deposits excavated during the excavation are listed in Appendix 2. Artefacts recovered during excavation were assigned to the record number of the deposit from which they were retrieved.

4.3.4 Features excavated during the evaluation that were later considered to relate to the results of the open area excavation are located on the site plans, listed in the context database and referenced in the archaeological sequence and discussion. The cut numbers relating to these features will be followed by an E, e.g. [NumberE]. Where these features were excavated in both the evaluation and the subsequent open area excavation the cut numbers will read [Excavation number/Evaluation NumberE].

4.3.5 Metal-detecting was carried out during the topsoil stripping and throughout the excavation process. Archaeological deposits and spoil heaps were scanned by metal-detector periodically. A large of amount of metalwork was uncovered from the site, mainly dating to the Roman, Saxon and medieval periods. The majority of this metalwork was recovered from the topsoil and subsoil deposits, although a limited quantity was found within the uppermost 'buried soil' layers beneath the top and subsoil. Objects of modern date were also found and were not retained for accession.

4.3.6 High-resolution digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits, and were used to keep a record of the excavation process. In addition, monochrome photographs were taken when deemed appropriate

by the site supervisor.

4.4 Sampling Strategy

4.4.1 Discrete features were half-sectioned, photographed and recorded with a section drawn at an appropriate scale (either 1:10 or 1:20). Where appropriate, discrete features were 100% excavated for finds retrieval purposes. At Narborough specifically, prehistoric and later features with significant finds assemblages and features (both natural and manmade) relating to the use of the burnt mound were 100% excavated.

4.4.2 For linear features, regularly-spaced 1m slots were excavated and recorded along their exposed lengths in order to obtain an approximate 10% sample. Investigations of ditches were largely concentrated on areas away from junctions or intersections in order to recover uncontaminated dating evidence. Where the stratigraphic relationship between features could not be discerned in plan, relationship slots were also excavated and these were recorded as part of the GPS survey and noted on the relevant record sheets. Excavation also focused on ditch terminals as these are known to have often been focal points for deliberate deposits of artefacts, particularly on prehistoric sites.

4.4.3 The buried soils and deposits associated with the hollow and the burnt mound were 100% excavated (as detailed above).

4.5 Environmental Sampling

4.5.1 A total of 131 bulk samples (normally 40 litres in volume unless insufficient material was available due to the size of the feature) were taken to extract and identify micro- and macro-botanical remains. The samples were taken from the buried soil layers, the burnt mound deposits and from cut features. The aim of this sampling was to provide information on the past environment and economy of the site in relationship to the buried soils (where appropriate) and to any archaeological activity on site. An additional aim of the sampling was to recover small objects and artefacts that are not readily recovered by hand-collection (such as metalworking debris or flint debitage). As discussed above, the buried

soils that were seemingly unaffected by medieval, post-medieval and modern ploughing were sampled more intensively (40-80 litre samples from the grid squares) as they were less likely to have seen significant contamination. A total of 60 bulk samples were taken from buried soils deposits. Each layer of the burnt mound was also sampled intensively (up to 40 litres per layer where possible), resulting in a total of eight bulk samples. Samples were taken from sealed deposits whenever practicable. A range of other features across site, including pits, ditches and natural features, were also sampled to assess the environmental remains associated with different periods.

4.5.2 A selection of the environmental samples from across the site were submitted for processing and analysis to assess the potential survival of organic remains. The details of this initial work are contained in this report ,although the remaining samples from the burnt mound and cut features will be analysed and an assessment included in a separate document as part of further post-excavation work.

4.5.3 Three charcoal samples for radiocarbon dating were taken on site; one from the burnt mound layer (1110), one from a fill (1121) of the trough [1122] associated with the burnt mound and one from the base of Pit [1129] (context (1156)), also considered to relate to the use of the mound. Although the sandy soils are generally unsuitable for organic and charcoal survival, the large quantities of charred wood and charcoal associated with the burnt mound allowed for the recovery of small fragments suitable for sub-sampling under laboratory conditions. In addition, five separate pieces of unworked wood from the lower fills of the Bronze Age pit-well were collected for radiocarbon-dating and future assessment. The partial aurochs skull and horn fragments (also from the pit-well) may also be suitable for future radiocarbon-dating. Samples of deposits or artefacts considered suitable for radiocarbon-dating were excavated and removed by trowel and immediately wrapped in aluminium foil in order to avoid contact with any organic material which might contaminate the sample.

4.5.4 Two of the samples were sent for initial radiocarbon-dating (<5072>

(1121) from the trough [1122] and <5118> from layer (1110) of the burnt mound). The dates obtained from these are discussed below. Following the initial assessment of the faunal remains, a sample of the aurochs horn core from pit-well [1033] has also subsequently been sent for radiocarbon-dating. The results of this test will be included in a future report.

4.5.5 A total of nine soil micromorphology samples were taken as 14x8cm kubiena tins. Five were taken through a section of buried soil and burnt mound deposits and four through a sequence of fills within the pit-well [1033] feature. In both cases, the column tins were positioned in order to capture a continuous sequence of the deposits of micromorphological interest. Prior to their removal the positions of the column samples were recorded by photography and by drawing them on the sections from which they were taken.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

5.1 Overview

5.1.1 The excavations at Narborough (Figure 3) revealed four distinct phases of activity across the site: Neolithic, Early Bronze Age, Early Saxon and Medieval. There is some stratigraphic and finds evidence to suggest that limited activity also occurred during the later Bronze Age or Iron Age, although chronologically-diagnostic material culture to date this 'phase' more accurately is lacking. Similarly, a deposit surviving within the natural hollow (119) likely represents some ploughing and cultivation occurring during the later Saxon or early medieval period, although the date of this layer has been suggested by its stratigraphic relationship with other deposits in the hollow and indirectly by the mixture of finds from within it.

5.2 Area 1 (Figure 4)

5.2.1 A natural hollow within an area of low-lying ground was exposed in Area 1, which appears to have been seasonally flooded, providing an intermittent water source throughout later prehistory. The hollow measured at its widest extent approximately 33.5m by 34m and had an undulating base with some higher ridges or 'humps'. The undulating profile of the hollow allowed for a sequence of buried soils and former ploughsoils to survive in spite of modern truncation. The details of these soils and their archaeological significance are outlined below, but in summary, the sequence within the hollow comprised a Neolithic buried soil at the base, overlain by deposits associated with an Early Bronze Age burnt mound, which in turn was sealed by a later Bronze Age or Iron Age buried soil (labelled as post-Early Bronze Age). Confined to the northern edge of the hollow was an Iron Age deposit comprising what appeared to represent a dump or episodic dumping of pottery and charcoal-rich soil. These deposits were then sealed by a sequence of two medieval ploughsoils, defined here as 'Earlier Medieval' and 'Medieval', although the pottery from the two deposits was almost exclusively 12th- to 14th-century. These were sealed by the modern subsoil and topsoil. Medieval and modern agricultural activities had resulted in the mixing of the

deposits in areas, with plough-scars visible as low in the sequence as the surface of the burnt mound. The digging of medieval ditches through the various deposits had also led to some intrusive material with earlier cut features.

5.2.2 Tree throws were recorded in and around the hollow and have been loosely dated to the late Mesolithic/ earlier Neolithic period based on available finds and stratigraphic relationships.

5.2.3 Within the undulating hollow were a number of cut features, including pits and postholes, all of which were seen to cut through the Neolithic buried soil. Many of these were directly linked to the activities associated with the burnt mound and four of the pits contained pottery of later Neolithic/ earlier Bronze Age date. Many of the pits within the hollow were sealed by the POST-EARLY BRONZE AGE BURIED SOIL although a single pit located beyond the hollow, to the east, contained sherds of Middle Bronze Age pottery. Almost all of the remaining cut features outside of the hollow in Area 1 were of medieval date, with the exception of a single ambiguous pit of either Roman or Saxon date.

5.2.4 Medieval ditches forming boundaries and enclosures were also recorded in Area 1, representing the establishment and redefining of agricultural fields.

TREE THROWS ([8], [9], [10], [11], [49], [52], [53], [54], [55], [56], [57], [58], [59], [61], [62], [63], [126/7E], [211], [217], [219], [223], [1065], [1158], [1184]).

5.2.5 A total of 24 TREE THROWS were exposed in Area 1, the majority of which (17) were located along the western edge of the area and contained no cultural material. The remaining eight were located within the hollow, in its southern half. Two ([1158] and [1184]) were located toward the centre of the hollow and, although the uppermost fill was extremely diffuse, the tree throws are regarded as broadly contemporary with or earlier than the Neolithic buried soil. Five were located on slightly higher ground at the hollow's edge, directly cutting the natural geology and sealed by the later

Saxon/ early medieval ploughsoil (119).

5.2.6 No pottery was recovered from the tree throws and only two yielded any struck flint. TREE THROW [223] contained one undiagnostic flake, while TREE THROW [217] contained three flakes, one of which is typical of Late Mesolithic/ Early Neolithic technologies (the other two pieces are undiagnostic). Both of these features were located in the southern part of the hollow, bearing no relationship to the surviving Neolithic buried soil.

5.2.7 None of the tree throws contained any burnt flint, suggesting they were not contemporary with the use of the mound. The relationship of some of the tree throws to the Neolithic buried soil and the limited cultural material from within them suggests they are likely to be of Mesolithic to earlier Neolithic date.

TREE THROW [8] was irregular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base. It comprised of a single fill of mid-brownish grey silty sand (7) which contained no finds.

TREE THROW [9] was irregular in plan with moderately sloping sides, a concave base, no finds and a fill (224) of dark grey silty sand, which merged imperceptibly with the natural geology.

TREE THROW [10] was irregular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of dark grey silty sand (225), which merged imperceptibly with the natural geology and contained no finds.

TREE THROW [11] was an elongated oval in plan, with irregular sides, a flat base and a fill (12) of grey mottled with yellow and dark brown silty sand, which contained no finds.

TREE THROW [49] was sub-circular in plan with slight sloping sides and a flat base. It comprised of a single fill of dark grey silty sand (226) which contained no finds.

TREE THROW [52] was amorphous in plan with slightly sloping sides and an undulating base. It contained a single fill of dark grey silty sand (227) which contained no finds.

TREE THROW [53] was sub-circular in plan with slightly sloping sides and an uneven base. It contained a single fill of dark grey silty sand (228) which contained no finds.

TREE THROW [54] was sub-circular in plan with slightly sloping sides and a flattish base. It contained a single fill of dark grey silty sand (229) which contained no finds.

TREE THROW [55] was sub-circular in plan with slightly sloping sides and an uneven base. It contained a single fill of dark grey silty sand (230) which contained no finds.

TREE THROW [56] was sub-circular in plan with slightly sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of dark grey silty sand (231) which contained no finds.

TREE THROW [57] was sub-circular in plan with slightly sloping sides and an uneven base. It contained a single fill of dark grey silty sand (232) which contained no finds.

TREE THROW [58] was sub-circular in plan with slightly sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of dark grey silty sand (233) which contained no finds.

TREE THROW [59] was sub-circular in plan with slightly sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill of dark grey silty sand (234) which contained no finds.

TREE THROW [61] was sub-circular in plan with moderate sloping sides and an irregular base. It contained a single fill of dark grey silty sand (236) which contained no finds.

TREE THROW [62] was sub-circular in plan with moderate sloping sides and an irregular base. It contained a single fill of dark grey silty sand (237) which contained no finds.

TREE THROW [63] was sub-circular in plan with moderate sloping sides and an irregular base. It contained a single fill of dark grey silty sand (238) which contained no finds

TREE THROW [126/7E] was irregular in plan with slightly sloping sides and an irregular base. It contained a single fill of dark grey silty sand (240) with occasional charcoal inclusions.

TREE THROW [211] was irregular in plan with irregular sloping sides and an

irregular base. It contained a single fill of dark grey silty sand (210) with occasional charcoal flecks.

TREE THROW [217] was irregular in plan with irregular sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of black/ mid brown silty sand (216) which contained three struck flints.

TREE THROW [219] was irregular in plan with irregular sloping sides and an irregular base. It contained a single fill of dark grey brown silty sand (218) which contained no finds.

TREE THROW [223] was irregular in plan with irregular sloping sides and an irregular base. It contained a single fill of dark brown grey silty sand (222) which contained a single struck flint.

TREE THROW [1065] was irregular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid grey/ black silty sand (1064) which contained no finds.

TREE THROW [1158] was sub-circular in plan with irregular sloping sides and an irregular base. It contained a single fill of dark grey sandy silt (242) which contained no finds.

TREE THROW [1184] was irregular in plan with steep to moderate sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of light to mid grey silty sand (1183) which contained no finds.

THE HOLLOW (Figure 5; Plate 3)

5.2.8 The large natural hollow in Area 1 may have been carved by glacial floodwaters. This low-lying area has clearly seen episodic inundation, providing an intermittent source of water throughout later prehistory. The tree throws on site were predominantly located at the edge of the hollow, indicating the suitability of the area for vegetation.

5.2.9 The naturally undulating base of the hollow allowed for pockets of ancient soils to survive beneath the level of modern plough truncation. Finds and/ or features from within the hollow have enabled a broad date range to be ascribed to each deposit. Although the remnant soils did not survive beyond the hollow, it is likely that the following sequence originally

developed across the wider area.

THE HOLLOW. The hollow comprised a series of ancient buried deposits including naturally developed former soils and man-made cultivation or ploughsoils. The earliest was a NEOLITHIC BURIED SOIL (1094). The burnt mound overlay this deposit ((118), see below). The burnt mound was sealed by a POST-EARLY BRONZE AGE BURIED SOIL (1042). A localised area of an IRON AGE DEPOSIT (117) was recorded at the northern edge of the hollow, and seemed to comprise a dump of occupation material including 50 sherds of Iron Age pottery and a large quantity of charcoal. This deposit was cut by the medieval ditches (DITCHES 7, 8 and 9). An EARLY MEDIEVAL PLOUGHSOIL (119) overlay the hollow deposits to the south of the ditches but did not extend as far north as deposit (117). The latest soil in the sequence was a MEDIEVAL PLOUGHSOIL (77) which overlay the entire hollow. Finds from the ploughsoils were quite mixed, comprising medieval, Early Saxon, Iron Age and Bronze Age pottery, some animal bone and Roman and Saxon metalwork (from (77) only). It is likely that much of the material in the medieval ploughsoils (117) and (77) was imported during manure spreading. Some deep plough damage was visible in the pre-medieval deposits and within the surface of the burnt mound and had led to some intrusive material in earlier features.

NEOLITHIC BURIED SOIL (1094) (equivalent to (188) and test pit numbers (1116), (1125), (1128), (1130), (1131), (1132), (1133), (1134), (1135), (1136), (1137), (1138), (1139), (1140), (1141), (1142), (1143), (1144), (1145), (1146), (1147), (1148), (1149), (1150), (1151), (1152), (1153), (1154) and (1157)) was a light grey sand with finds of struck flint predominantly of late Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age date. The deposit survived within the lowest undulations of the hollow.

BURNT MOUND (118). The burnt mound comprised a series of charcoal-rich layers; includes (1024), (1109), (1110), (1112), (1113), (1115), (1120), (1126), (1127), (1205) and (1206) (see section 5.2.13 for full details on burnt mound). The burnt mound layers contained fragments of oats and wheat as well as legumes (indeterminate species) and fragments of hazelnut shells in layer (1120). A small amount of animal bone fragments were recovered from the environmental samples from the burnt mound layers. See Section 5.2.14 for full description.

POST-EARLY BRONZE AGE BURIED SOIL (1042) (equivalent to test pit numbers (1043), (1044), (1045), (1046), (1047), (1048), (1049), (1050), (1051), (1052), (1053), (1054), (1055), (1056), (1057) and (1058)) was a mid to dark brown/ grey sandy silt with rare inclusions of burnt flint and charcoal deriving from weathering and later ploughing of the burnt mound surface. Flintwork from this layer dated to the Late Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age, although there was some mixing of pottery from the overlying layers and the pottery included some Bronze Age and Iron Age material.

IRON AGE DEPOSIT (117) (equivalent to evaluation number (4E) and test pit numbers (1002), (1003), (1007) and (1008)) was a dark grey/ black silty sand with charcoal flecks and finds of earlier and later Iron Age pottery, medieval ceramic building material (CBM), animal bone and flint. It was cut to the south by DITCH 7.

EARLY MEDIEVAL PLOUGHSOIL (119) (equivalent to test pit numbers (1000), (1001), (1004), (1005), (1006), (1009), (1010), (1011), (1012), (1013), (1014), (1015), (1016), (1017), (1018), (1019), (1020), (1021), (1022), (1023), (1024), (1025), (1026), (1027), (1028), (1029) and (1030)) was a mixed deposit heavily affected by ploughing and therefore the makeup of the soil was influenced by the underlying layer in the area. Close to the burnt mound areas, rich in charcoal, the ploughsoil was a dark to mid grey/ brown sandy silt with rare burnt flint and charcoal inclusions; however, over areas away from the burnt mound the layer was a mid to light grey silty sand. Finds recovered from the layer included medieval pottery, a single sherd of Bronze Age and a single sherd of Iron Age pottery, animal bone, burnt flint, and struck flints of Late Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age date.

MEDIEVAL PLOUGHSOIL (77) was a mottled mid orange/ brown and grey/ brown sandy silt, with finds of medieval pottery and CBM, animal bone and metalwork. The metalwork comprised a 1st-century Roman brooch and four late Roman coins.

5.2.10 A soil developed (NEOLITHIC BURIED SOIL (1094)) probably during the Late Mesolithic/ earlier Neolithic period, with vegetation focused around the hollow edge. A few flints of this date were recovered from two of the excavated tree throws and although the flintwork within the buried soil in the hollow was largely undiagnostic, a few pieces in the assemblage and the placing of special flint tool deposits suggest a peak of activity in the earlier Neolithic period (see Bishop, Section 6.2).

5.2.11 Two shallow NEOLITHIC PITS ([1037] and [1041]) (Figure 5; Plates 4 and 5)) were cut into this buried soil and contained caches of earlier Neolithic flint tools. A single axehead (SF310) was also found at the hollow's edge and may have been part of a 'cache' or a single placed deposit in its own right. Pit [1037] contained seven leaf-shaped arrowheads in various stages of manufacture but which may have been struck from the same core. A further three re-touched flakes were also found in the pit and may have similarly been struck from the same flint core. Pit [1041] included four flint tools: two axeheads, a small fragment of a probable chisel and a bifacially worked knife. The two axeheads displayed variable levels of use and re-flaking, while the chisel had been broken some considerable time after its manufacture (see Bishop, Section 6.2). A single sherd of Iron Age pottery was found in Pit [1041], which had undoubtedly been intrusively incorporated when the later medieval ditch cut through the pit, truncating any stratigraphically later deposits (such as IRON AGE DEPOSIT (117)) and resulting in some mixing of material.

5.2.12 Both of these pits (and the isolated axehead) demonstrate the intentional collection and deposition of selected flint tools within the hollow, indicating a level of 'ceremonial' or 'ritual' activity occurring in the earlier Neolithic period.

NEOLITHIC PIT [1037] was sub-circular in plan with a gently-sloping, very shallow profile (0.23m long x 0.26m wide x 0.04m deep). It contained one fill of light brown/ grey silty sand (1036) that held a cache of Neolithic flint tools. The pit was sealed by buried soil (119).

NEOLITHIC PIT [1041] was sub-circular in plan with a gently-sloping rounded profile (0.26m wide x 0.06m deep). It contained one fill of light to mid brown/grey silty sand (1040) that held a cache of Neolithic flint tools. The pit was cut by medieval DITCH 7. A single intrusive fragment of Late Iron Age pottery was found in this pit. The pit was significantly truncated and therefore what remained of it was excavated in plan.

THE BURNT MOUND (Plates 2, 6 and 9)

5.2.13 The use of the hollow during the Early Bronze Age is represented by the

presence of a burnt mound and a number of associated cut features.

5.2.14 The burnt mound (Figure 4 and 5) comprised a series of charcoal-rich deposits (Master Number (118) but including deposits (1109), (1110), (1112), (1113), (1120), (1124), (1126), (1127), (1205) and (1206)) which contained extremely large quantities of burnt and fire-cracked flint. A small dump of redeposited natural chalk (1115) was also recorded within the mound layers, and is thought to represent material from a nearby excavated pit. Charcoal from layer (1110) was radiocarbon-dated and returned a date of 2208-2034 cal BC at 93.1% probability (SUERC-60716). Two fragments of what has been identified as Iron Age pottery were recovered from layer (1110) and (1113) of the burnt mound, however, this is most certainly intrusive, perhaps deriving from later ploughing or as a result of the medieval ditch cutting through the mound layers and the Iron Age deposit (117).

5.2.15 The mound itself was formed by the repeated dumping of this material in a localised area. Although burnt mounds are generally poorly understood, it is widely accepted that the material represents the heating of stones in fire-pits to be used to heat water. This interpretation is based on the proximity of burnt mounds to natural water sources (in the case of Narborough, within the hollow), the occurrence of cut features such as pit-wells and 'troughs' found adjacent to the burnt deposits, and the nature of the fire-cracked stone. At Narborough, analysis of the burnt flint from the mound indicates that much of the material had been reheated several times, causing the stone to fragment into extremely small pieces (see Bishop, Section 6.3). Although plant remains were limited, the burnt mound layers contained fragments of oats and wheat as well as legumes (indeterminate species) and fragments of hazelnut shells in layer (1120).

5.2.16 Immediately sealing the mound and all of the prehistoric pits within the hollow was the buried soil deposit (1042). The material culture from this layer included Late Mesolithic to Bronze Age flints, one sherd of later Iron Age pottery and eight sherds of pottery of broadly 'prehistoric' date. Although Iron Age pottery was found intrusively in a few earlier cut

features (the direct result of deep ploughing and the digging of the medieval boundary ditches), the majority of the Iron Age material was found in the EARLY MEDIEVAL PLOUGHSOIL (119), which sealed this buried soil. While it is possible that the deposit sealing the burnt mound was laid down during the Iron Age, it could also be earlier or indeed significantly later. There was no stratigraphic relationship between this deposit and the one Middle Bronze Age pit on site (see below, Pit [209]), and therefore the soil has been classified simply as a POST-EARLY BRONZE AGE BUREID SOIL, given its relationship with the burnt mound.

BURNT MOUND (118). The burnt mound comprised a series of charcoal-rich layers with extremely high quantities of burnt and fire-cracked flint. The earliest layer was (1024). The next stratigraphic layer was (1120) (equivalent to test pit context (1206)). A thin layer of redeposited natural (1115) was next in the sequence, which was sealed by (1110) (equivalent to test pits contexts (1113), (1126) and (1127)). This was overlain in part by (1112). The latest layer in the burnt mound sequence was (1109) (equivalent to test pit context (1205)). The overall dimensions of the mound were approximately 9.1m long (where it was cut by the medieval ditches) and 8.8m wide. Although plant remains were limited, the burnt mound layers contained fragments of oats and wheat as well as legumes (indeterminate species) and fragments of hazelnut shells in layer (1120). A small amount of animal bone fragments were recovered from the environmental samples from the burnt mound layers.

5.2.17 Of particular interest is the quantity of animal bone fragments recovered from the burnt mound layers compared with the quantities found in the associated and nearby cut features. The environmental samples processed from the burnt mound yielded a small assemblage of faunal remains, however those samples from the trough [1122], pit [1129] and an additional four postholes and seven pits contained a significantly larger assemblage of bone fragments. This bone has only been separated out from the plant macrofossils and has so far not been identified as animal or human, however with the limited remains of animal bones found in the burnt mound layers and the associated features, it can be assumed at this stage that these smaller fragments are likely to also be animal remains.

The quantity of bone found in these cut features could indicate that one of the primary functions of the site was the processing and cooking of animal remains and that the burnt stone and the organic remains were indeed deposited separately as part of practical or cultural convention.

5.2.18 At Narborough, both a pit-well ([1033], Plate 7 and a sub-rectangular cut trough ([1122]) were found adjacent to the burnt mound. The pit-well and trough had been dug at a lower point of the hollow, through the NEOLITHIC BURIED SOIL (1094), while the charcoal-rich material and burnt stone (i.e. the burnt mound) had been dumped north of this on a higher ridge or 'hump' within the hollow.

5.2.19 The pit-well (EARLY BRONZE AGE PIT [1033]) was circular in plan with vertical sides and a slightly stepped base (0.7m deep). The pit contained a series of fills representing side collapse and erosion, as well as periods of natural silting up. The pit had been cut into a low point of the hollow, through a cluster of Early Bronze Age pits ([1085], [1180], [1182], [1186], [1194], and [1196]) and was presumably dug to take advantage of the seasonally variable water-table and inundation of the hollow. A few pieces of unworked preserved wood were found at the base of the pit, while low quantities of burnt stone were recovered from the uppermost fills. Towards the top of the pit, a partial aurochs skull and horncore (Plate 7) of a single animal were found in fill (1066). This material could be regarded as evidence for ritualistic behaviour; the intentional placing of faunal remains in Bronze Age pits is well documented in the region (see Reilly, Section 6.7).

EARLY BRONZE AGE PIT-WELL [1033]) was sub-circular in plan with a steeply-sloping 'U'-shaped profile (2.30m long x 2.14m wide x 0.70m deep). It contained six fills: the lowest fill (1119) consisted of natural erosion and slumping from the sides of the well and was a mottled light yellow/brown and blue/grey sand with lenses of material fallen in from the surrounding features. Overlying fill (1119) was a dark to mid grey clayey sandy silt (1114) containing occasional organic material and frequent charcoal. Pieces of unworked wood were recovered from this fill. Fill (1114) was overlain by a shallow fill (1111): a dark grey sandy silty clay with frequent organic material, including small fragments of unworked wood. Sealing this

was fill (1079), a dark grey clayey silty sand with occasional flecks of charcoal and some organic material. Above (1079) was a dark brown silty clay (1066) which contained a large piece of aurochs skull and horncore, fragments of pottery and struck flint. The upper fill of the pit well was a mottled dark greyish- brown and light yellowish-brown silty sand (1032) with frequent flecks of charcoal and rare burnt flint.

5.2.20 The trough (EARLY BRONZE AGE PIT [1122]) was dug into a slightly higher area within the hollow just northwest of the pit-well and immediately adjacent to the bulk of the burnt mound deposits. Following the disuse and abandonment of the feature, the trough had been infilled by slumped deposits from the burnt mound.

EARLY BRONZE AGE PIT (TROUGH) [1122] was sub-rectangular in plan with a 'U'-shaped profile (measuring 2.40m long x 1.10m wide x 0.33m deep), though the eastern edge of the pit was significantly less steeply-sloped than the western edge. It contained three fills: a shallow upper fill (0.06m) of dark brown/black silty sand rich in burnt flint and charcoal (1121), a lower fill of dark brown/black silty sand with an extremely large quantity of burnt flint (1121), and fill (1123), a light to mid grey silty sand representing the erosion of the western edge of the pit. Fragments of bone were recovered from the environmental sample of fill (1121).

5.2.21 A third pit (EARLY BRONZE AGE PIT [1129]), located to the north of the pit-well and trough, was similarly cut through the NEOLITHIC BURIED SOIL but had been infilled and sealed with slumped burnt mound deposits. The pit was sub-oval in plan and may have originally acted as a trough feature, before being superseded by Pit [1122]. Early Bronze Age pottery was found in the upper fill of the pit and a radiocarbon date of 2206-2031 cal. BC at 94.9% probability (SUERC-60712) was obtained from charcoal from this pit. This date is contemporary with the dated layer of the burnt mound (1110), although it is possible that the dated charcoal was derived directly from this layer which sealed the pit, partially infilling the top of it.

EARLY BRONZE AGE PIT [1129] was sealed by the burnt mound deposit (1110). It was sub-oval in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (measuring 0.79m in diameter x 0.25m deep). It contained two fills: an upper fill of dark brown/grey sandy

silt (1155) with large quantities of burnt flint and nine fragments of Late Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age pottery, and a lower fill of dark grey/ black sandy silt (1156) with very large quantities of burnt flint but no other finds. Pieces of bone were recovered from the environmental sample.

5.2.22 The EARLY BRONZE AGE PIT CLUSTER [(1085], [1180], [1182], [1186], [1194], and [1196]) seems to represent attempts to collect water from a low point in the hollow prior to the creation of a more formal well (pit-well [1033]). There were no finds from these features, but their relationship to the NEOLITHIC BURIED SOIL and the PIT-WELL (which cut these pits) indicate that they are Early Bronze Age in date.

PIT [1085] cut through buried soil (1042). It was circular in plan with a steeply-sloping 'U'-shaped profile (0.94m wide x 0.40m deep). It contained one fill of dark brown clayey sandy silt (1084) with remains of a large cow/aurochs-sized pelvic fragment and an intrusive sherd of probable Iron Age pottery. Small pieces of bone were found in the environmental sample.

PIT [1180] cut through buried soil (1094). It was sub-rectangular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (0.88m wide x 0.17m deep). It contained one fill of mid brownish/grey silty sand (1179) with no finds present. The pit was partially sealed by burnt mound deposit (1024).

PIT [1182] cut through by buried soil (1094). It was sub-rectangular in plan with a steeply-sloping rounded profile (0.89m wide x 0.25m deep). It contained one fill of mid brownish/grey silty sand (1181) with no finds present. The pit was partially sealed by burnt mound deposit (1024).

PIT [1186] cut through buried soil (1094). It was oval in plan with moderately sloping sides, a concave base (1.6m by 0.45m by 0.18m deep), no finds and a fill (1185) of light to mid grey silty sand.

PIT [1194] cut through buried soil (1094). It was circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (1.20m wide x 0.08m deep). It contained one fill of mid brownish-grey silty sand (1193) with no finds present.

PIT [1196] cut through buried soil (1094). It was circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (1.20m wide x 0.08m deep). It contained one fill of mid brownish-grey silty sand (1193) with no finds present.

5.2.23 An apparent ring of eight postholes ([1071], [1118], [1168], [1173], [1175], [1188], [1190], [1202]) was recorded 'surrounding' the pit-well and indicate the remains of a former structure, perhaps a shelter or windbreak. Three postholes ([1080], [1170], [1178]) were located internally to this ring, implying that some central supporting posts may have existed. Interestingly, Posthole [1178] was cut by the pit-well, suggesting the structure may have related to the Early Bronze Age pit cluster rather than the pit-well. However, Posthole [1080] cut one of the pits of that cluster, suggesting the structure may have seen several phases of modification to encompass the activities occurring in that part of the hollow. With the exception of some burnt flint, no finds were recovered from these postholes, but they have been ascribed to the Early Bronze Age based on their apparent spatial relationships to the pit cluster and their stratigraphic relationships to the buried soils (i.e. they cut the NEOLITHIC BURIED SOIL and were sealed by the POST-EARLY BRONZE AGE BURIED SOIL).

EARLY BRONZE POSTHOLE STRUCTURE:

POSTHOLE [1071] cut though buried soil (1094). It was sub-circular in plan with a moderately-sloping stepped profile (0.65m long x 0.40m wide x 0.37m deep). It contained one fill of dark brown silty sand (1072) with small fragments of bone.

POSTHOLE [1080] cut though pit [1194]. It was sub-circular in plan with a steeply-sloping 'u'-shaped profile (0.30m long x 0.18m wide x 0.15m deep). It contained one fill of dark brown silty sand (1081) with fragments of bone in the environmental sample.

POSTHOLE [1118] was circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (0.28m wide x 0.09m deep). It contained one fill of dark grey/ black silty sand (1117) with no finds present.

POSTHOLE [1168] cut though buried soil (1094). It was circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (0.44m wide x 0.12m deep). It contained one fill of dark grey silty sand (1167) with inclusions of burnt flint.

POSTHOLE [1170] cut though buried soil (1094). It was circular in plan with a

steeply-sloping 'u'-shaped profile (0.22m wide x 0.05m deep). It contained one fill of dark grey silty sand (1169) with no finds present.

POSTHOLE [1173], cut though buried soil (1094). It was sub-circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (0.60m long x 0.50m wide x 0.15m deep). It contained one fill of dark grey silty sand (1174) with no finds present.

POSTHOLE [1175] cut though buried soil (1094). It was sub-circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (0.45m long x 0.40m wide x 0.10m deep). It contained one fill of dark grey silty sand (1176) with no finds present.

POSTHOLE [1178] cut though buried soil (1094). It was sub-circular in plan with a moderately-sloping 'U'-shaped profile (0.37m wide x 0.09m deep). It contained one fill of mid to dark brownish-grey silty sand (1177) with no finds present.

POSTHOLE [1188] cut though buried soil (1094). It was circular in plan with a gradually-sloping rounded profile (0.39m wide x 0.08m deep). It contained one fill of dark grey silty sand (1187) with no finds present.

POSTHOLE [1190] cut though buried soil (1094). It was circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (0.20m wide x 0.09m deep). It contained one fill of dark grey silty sand (1189) with no finds present.

POSTHOLE [1202] cut though buried soil (1094). It was sub-circular in plan with a steeply-sloping shallow profile (0.34m long x 0.18m wide x 0.05m deep). It contained one fill of dark grey silty sand (1201) with no finds present.

5.2.24 A total of 22 additional pits ([205], [207], [221], [1035], [1060], [1068], [1070], [1077], [1083], [1087], [1089], [1093], [1096], [1100], [1160], [1162], [1164], [1166], [1171], [1192], [1200] and [1204]) of Early Bronze Age or probable Early Bronze Age date were recorded in Area 1, and all but one of these ([207]) was located within the hollow (Plate 3).

5.2.25 Four of these pits ([1070], [1077], [1096] and [1166]) contained fragments of pottery in Late Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age fabric, although the sherds are not diagnostic. Two pits contained struck flint of Bronze to Iron Age date ([1096] and [1100]) and four of the pits contained burnt flint deriving from the burnt mound

5.2.26 ([207], [1060], [1070], and [1100]). With the exception of six pits ([205], [207], [1068], [1089], [1164] and [1192]), these pits cut through the NEOLITHIC BURIED SOIL. Furthermore, where the POST-EARLY BRONZE AGE BURIED SOIL existed in relationship to the pits, it exclusively sealed them. The stratigraphic relationships of the pits to the soil deposits, in conjunction with the limited finds, indicate that they represent Early Bronze Age activity within the hollow, some of which appears to be directly associated with the burnt mound, in so far as some of the pits contained burnt stone deriving from the mound.

Pit [205] was sub-circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (1.96m wide x 0.66m deep). It contained two fills: an upper fill of light to mid brownish-grey silty sand (203) which contained fragments of bone, and a lower fill of mottled dark grey/ black and light yellowish-grey silty sand (204) which contained no finds.

Pit [207] was circular in plan with a steeply-sloping 'U'-shaped profile (1.00m wide x 0.34m deep). It contained one fill of light to mid yellowish-grey silty sand (206) with burnt flint inclusions.

Pit [221] was circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (0.65m wide x 0.16m deep). It contained one fill of dark grey/ brown silty sand (220) which contained no finds.

Pit [1035] cut through buried soil (1094) and was sealed by (119). It was sub-oval in plan with a moderately-sloping 'U'-shaped profile (2.35m wide x 0.46m deep). It contained one fill of mottled mid greyish/brown with grey/ black and white/ yellow silty sand (1034) with finds of struck flint and fragments of bone.

Pit [1060] cut through (1094) and was sealed by buried soil (1042). It was sub-circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (0.69m long x 0.70m wide x 0.30m deep). It contained one fill of dark brown silty sand (1061) with faunal remains including 2-3 partial cow skulls. Small fragments of animal bone were found in the environmental sample.

Pit [1068] was sealed by (119). It was sub-circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (1.00m long x 0.65m wide x 0.15m deep). It contained one fill of dark brown/grey silty sand (1067) with pieces of animal(?) bone present in the environmental sample.

Pit [1070] cut through (1094) and was sealed by (119). It was circular in plan with a steeply-sloping 'U'-shaped profile (1.00m long x 1.05m wide x 0.40m deep). It contained one fill of dark grey to black silty sand (1069) that included one sherd of Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age pottery and animal bone fragments.

Pit [1077] cut through (1094) and was sealed by buried soil (1042). It was sub-circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (0.65m long x 0.60m wide x 0.14m deep). It contained one fill of dark brown silty sand (1078) with one sherd of Late Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age pottery.

Pit [1083] cut through buried soil (1094). It was circular in plan with a steeply-sloping 'u'-shaped profile (0.40m long x 0.28m wide x 0.13m deep). It contained one fill of mid brown/grey silty sand (1082) with no finds present.

Pit [1089] was sealed by (119). It was sub-circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (0.66m wide x 0.11m deep). It contained one fill of mottled light to mid brownish/ grey silty sand (1088) with no finds present.

Pit [1087] Pit [1087] was sealed by buried soil (119). It was sub-circular in plan with a moderately-sloping u-shaped profile (0.80m wide x 0.25m deep). It contained one fill of dark greyish brown silty sand (1086) with pieces of animal(?) bone present in the environmental sample.

Pit [1093] was sealed by (119). It was sub-oval in plan with a steeply-sloping 'U'-shaped profile (1.65m long x 0.84m wide x 0.27m deep). It contained one fill of mid brownish/ grey silty sand (1092) with small pieces of animal(?) bone in the environmental sample.

Pit [1096] cut through buried soil (1094) and was sealed by (119). It was circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (1.00m wide x 0.39m deep). It contained one fill of mid to dark grey silty sand (1095) containing a single sherd of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age pottery and small fragments of animal(?) bone in the environmental sample

Pit [1100] cut through buried soil (1094) and was sealed by (119). It was circular in plan with a moderately-sloping 'U'-shaped profile (0.75m long x 0.65m wide x 0.30m deep). It contained one fill of mid grey silty sand (1099) with finds of struck flint present.

Pit [1160] cut through buried soil (1094) and was sealed by (119). It was circular in

plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (0.68m wide x 0.16m deep). It contained one fill of light grey silty sand (1159) with no finds present.

Pit [1162] cut through buried soil (1094). It was sub-circular in plan with a moderately-sloping 'U'-shaped profile (0.90m long x 0.68m wide x 0.26m deep). It contained one fill of light grey silty sand (1161) with fragments of bone present.

Pit [1164] cut through buried soil (1094). It was circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (0.50m wide x 0.14m deep). It contained one fill of light grey silty sand (1163) with no finds present.

Pit [1166] cut through buried soil (1094). It was sub-rectangular in plan with a steeply-sloping 'U'-shaped profile (1.02m long x 0.90m wide x 0.26m deep). It contained one fill of mid yellowish/grey silty sand (1165) containing four sherds of Late Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age pottery.

Pit [1171] cut through buried soil (1094). It was sub-circular in plan with a steeply-sloping 'u'-shaped profile (1.00m long x 0.70m wide x 0.41m deep). It contained one fill of dark grey silty sand (1172) with bone and struck flint present.

Pit [1192] cut through buried soil (1094). It was sub-circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (0.89m long x 0.74m wide x 0.20m deep). It contained one fill of mid to dark orangey-grey silty sand (1191) with no finds present.

Pit [1200] cut through buried soil (1094).It was circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (0.36m wide x 0.11m deep). It contained one fill of dark grey silty sand (1199) with no finds present.

Pit [1204] cut through buried soil (1094). It was sub-circular in plan with a moderately-sloping 'u'-shaped profile (0.70m long x 0.62m wide x 0.16m deep). It contained one fill of mid grey silty sand (1203) with no finds present.

5.2.27 A further eight postholes ([1073], [1075], [1091], [1102], [1104], [1106], [1108], and [1198]) of probable Early Bronze Age date were located at the southwest edge of the hollow. With the exception of posthole [1108], which was located at the very edge of the hollow on higher ground, all of the postholes cut through the NEOLITHIC BURIED SOIL and five ([1073], [1075], [1091], [1104] and [1198]) were sealed by the POST-EARLY

BRONZE AGE BURIED SOIL, suggesting they are broadly contemporary with the burnt mound and other Early Bronze Age features. Three of the postholes ([1073], [1075] and [1198]) were located immediately west of the posthole structure and were perhaps associated with this feature. The remaining postholes did not appear to form coherent structures but may have originally been associated with activities relating to the burnt mound.

POSTHOLE [1073] cut through buried soil (1042). It was sub-circular in plan with a steeply-sloping 'U'-shaped profile (0.40m long x 0.27m wide x 0.20m deep). It contained one fill of dark brown silty sand (1074) with fragments of animal(?) bone found in the environmental sample.

POSTHOLE [1075] cut through buried soil (1042). It was sub-circular in plan with a steeply-sloping rounded profile (0.40m long x 0.28m wide x 0.13m deep). It contained one fill of dark brown silty sand (1076) with no finds present.

POSTHOLE [1091] was circular in plan with a steeply-sloping 'u'-shaped profile (0.26m wide x 0.32m deep). It contained one fill of mid grey silty sand (1090) with no finds present. The posthole was cut by DITCH 2.

POSTHOLE [1102] cut through buried soil (1042). It was sub-circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (0.32m wide x 0.05m deep). It contained one fill of dark grey/ black silty sand (1101) with no finds present.

POSTHOLE [1104] cut through buried soil (1042). It was sub-circular in plan with a steeply-sloping 'U'-shaped profile (0.30m wide x 0.09m deep). It contained one fill of dark grey/ black silty sand (1103) with no finds present.

POSTHOLE [1106] cut through buried soil (1042). It was sub-circular in plan with a steeply-sloping rounded profile (0.45m wide x 0.09m deep). It contained one fill of dark grey/ black silty sand (1105) with no finds present.

POSTHOLE [1108] cut through buried soil (1042). It was sub-circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (0.27m wide x 0.06m deep). It contained one fill of mottled mid grey/ black and light yellow silty sand (1107) with no finds present.

POSTHOLE [1198] cut through buried soil (1094). It was circular in plan with a steeply-sloping rounded profile (0.33m wide x 0.06m deep). It contained one fill of dark grey silty sand (1197) with no finds present.

MIDDLE BRONZE AGE PIT

5.2.28 A single pit ([209] located at the east side of Area 1, beyond the edge of the hollow contained 25 sherds of what has been identified as probable Middle Bronze Age pottery. The pottery has been identified based on the large basal fragment from a bucket-shaped jar, comparable to other Middle Bronze Age examples at Witton and Cromer Road, Antingham (see Percival, Section 6.4). A further two sherds of Bronze Age pottery were recovered from the EARLY MEDIEVAL PLOUGHSOIL (119), although the material from the ploughsoils is mixed and should not necessarily be regarded as indicative of activity. However, it should be noted that the prehistoric pottery fabrics from the site have been very difficult to distinguish and therefore the pit could potentially be of earlier or later Bronze Age date. Four flints were also recovered from pit [209]: two undiagnostic flakes, an undiagnostic scraper and a flake of probable Bronze Age to Iron Age date.

MIDDLE BRONZE AGE PIT [209] was circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (1.40m wide x 0.30m deep). It contained one fill of light to mid yellowish-grey silty sand (208), which contained struck flints and a flint scraper, 25 sherds of pottery and fragments of cattle bone.

IRON AGE DEPOSIT (117)

5.2.29 At the northern edge of the hollow was a thin deposit of charcoal-rich soil. When it was investigated during the evaluation, 31 sherds of what was identified as Early Iron Age pottery were recovered from this deposit (number 4E). The 29 sherds recovered from the same deposit during the excavation have been dated as later Iron Age. Locally-produced later prehistoric handmade pottery fabrics are often difficult to distinguish and date on typological grounds, and it is possible that all of this pottery is actually contemporary. However, due to this discrepancy, the deposit has been labelled simply as 'Iron Age'. The charcoal-rich soil indicates that the material may have derived from nearby occupation, although only two cow bone fragments were recovered from the deposit. A single sherd of Early Saxon pottery was also found in (117) and likely derives from later medieval manuring and subsequent ploughing.

5.2.30 The occurrence of this Iron Age layer suggests that deposit (1042) labelled as 'Post-Early Bronze Age' could similarly be of Iron Age date, although there is insufficient dating evidence to confirm this. The areas of deep ploughing and the medieval ditches that cut through the hollow have undoubtedly resulted in the mixing of later material into earlier deposits and accounts for some intrusive material in the Neolithic and Bronze Age cut features.

ROMAN/SAXON PIT

5.2.31 A single pit ([50]) was excavated just beyond the southwest edge of the hollow. Due to its location, the pit had no stratigraphic relationship with any of the plough soil or buried soil deposits to indicate its date. A Roman brooch dating the to the 1st-century AD (AD 25-60) was found within the pit; however, there were no other Roman artefacts from any other cut features across the site to indicate Roman activity. Five sherds of 1st-century Roman pottery and some Roman metalwork were recovered from the topsoil (100) and subsoil (101) elsewhere on the site but this material is not considered to be indicative of settlement in the vicinity and more likely represents chance losses and redeposition during later agricultural activities. In fact, a pierced late Roman coin and several fragments of 5th- and 6th-century metalwork from the topsoil and subsoil suggest a possible disturbed Saxon cemetery site in the area.

5.2.32 With the complete lack of any Roman features on site and the lack of any other stratified Roman finds found during the excavation, a Roman date for Pit [50] is considered unlikely. The Saxon pottery from Pit [161] in Area 3 and the possibility of a Saxon cemetery in the vicinity, with reused and curated Roman metalwork potentially associated with some of the burials (a common phenomenon in Early Anglo-Saxon cemeteries) might indicate that Pit [50] is actually of Early Saxon date and that the brooch is a curated item.

PIT [50] was circular in plan with gently sloping sides and a concave base (1m in diameter by 0.18m deep). The pit contained a single fill (51) of dark greyish-brown sandy silt with occasional stones. A single residual flint of Late Mesolithic/ Early

Neolithic date and a Roman Colchester-type brooch (AD 25-60) were found in the pit.

MEDIEVAL PITS ([2], [3], [26], [28], [67/91], [75], [79], [81], [83], [85], [87], [89], [93], [95], [97], [99])

5.2.33 A total of 16 medieval quarry pits were excavated in Area 1, located along the western edge of the area, with a particular concentration at the southwest corner representing some localised quarrying. The pits ranged from sub-circular in plan to long sub-rectangular/ elongated oval features and were generally shallow (no more than 0.4m deep).

5.2.34 Two discrete pits were located towards the northwest corner ([2] and [3]) and a further two intercutting pits ([26] and [28]) were excavated at the west edge of the area, the latter of which contained late-12th- to 14th-century pottery. Ten intercutting pits ([79], [81], [83], [85], [87], [89], [91] and [95]) were located at the southwest corner and two of these yielded additional late-12th- to 14th-century pottery sherds. A further three pits ([75], [93] and [99]) were situated immediately south of this area of intercutting pits and are considered to be directly associated.

5.2.35 Although pottery was not recovered from the majority of these pits, the fills were dissimilar to the prehistoric features on site and the pits were generally comparable in terms of their overall dimensions and shapes in plan, suggesting they are broadly contemporary. The low quantity of finds from these pits indicates that settlement is unlikely to have been in the immediate vicinity, although the quarried chalk/ clunch undoubtedly provided building material for use in a nearby town or village. Two of the pits located at the western edge of site (pits [26] and [28]) were cut by DITCH 1 of ENCLOSURE 1, suggesting that at least some of the quarrying activity pre-dated the establishment of the enclosure.

PIT [2] was sub-circular in plan with a steeply-sloping rounded profile (1.35m long x 1.14m wide x 0.22m deep). It contained one fill of mid to dark greyish-brown silty sand (1) which contained no finds.

PIT [3] was oval in plan with a gently-sloping rounded profile (1.24m long x 0.57m

wide x 0.13m deep). It contained one fill of mid greyish-brown silty sand (4) which contained pieces of animal bone.

PIT [26] was rectangular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (1.90m long x 1.33m wide x 0.42m deep). It contained one fill of dark brown/ grey silty sand with rare flecks of charcoal (25) which contained no finds. The pit was cut by pit [28].

PIT [28] was sub-circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (2.10m wide x 0.58m deep). It contained three fills: an upper fill of light brown/ grey silty sand (27), a middle fill of dark brownish-grey silty sand (33) and a basal fill of light grey silty sand (34). Nine fragments of late-12th- to 14th-century pottery were recovered from fill (33). The pit was cut by DITCH 1 and cut Pit [26].

PIT [67]=[91] was sub-rectangular in plan with a steeply-sloping squared profile (3.30m long x 1.08m wide x 0.31m deep). It contained one fill of mid greyish-brown silty sand (68)=(90) with large to small fragments of clunch towards the base and a single sherd of late-12th- to 14th-century pottery.

PIT [75] was oval in plan with a gradual to steeply-sloping stepped profile (2.40m long x 1.01m wide x 0.35m deep). It contained one fill of mid brownish-grey silty sand (76) with frequent small to medium fragments of clunch and contained no finds.

PIT [79] was sub-circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (1.30m long x 0.74m wide x 0.13m deep). It contained one fill of dark to mid brown silty sand (78) which contained no finds.

PIT [81] was cut by Pit [79]. It was an elongated oval in plan with steeply sloping sides and a concave base (4.48m long x 2.14m wide x 0.28m deep). It contained one fill of dark to mid brown silty sand (80) which contained a single sherd of late-12th- to 14th-century pottery.

PIT [83] was cut by Pits [81] and [91]. It was linear in plan with a steeply-sloping shallow profile (3.00m long x 1.10m wide x 0.30m deep). It contained one fill of dark to mid brown silty sand (82) which contained a single sherd of late-12th- to 14th-century pottery.

PIT [85] was cut by Pits [81] and [87]. It was linear in plan with a steeply-sloping shallow profile (1.30m long x 0.60m wide x 0.20m deep). It contained one fill of dark

to mid brown silty sand (84) and contained no finds.

PIT [87] was cut by Pit [81]. It was linear in plan with a steeply-sloping shallow profile (2.05m long x 1.64m wide x 0.23m deep). It contained one fill of dark to mid brown silty sand (86) which contained fragments of pottery and struck flint.

PIT [89] was cut by pits [81] and [91]. It was linear in plan with a steeply-sloping shallow profile (1.89m long x 0.98m wide x 0.22m deep). It contained one fill of dark to mid brown silty sand (88) which contained no finds.

PIT [93] was cut by Pit [97]. It was sub-circular in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (1.50m wide x 0.24m deep). It contained one fill of dark to mid brown silty sand (92) which contained no finds.

PIT [95] was cut by Pit [83]. It was linear in plan with a steeply-sloping shallow profile (over 3.10m long x 2.09m wide x 0.36m deep). It contained one fill of dark to mid brown silty sand with frequent chalk and sand inclusions (94) which contained no finds.

PIT [97] was was truncated by Pit [95]. It was linear in plan with a steeply-sloping shallow profile (2.32m long x 1.10m wide x 0.34m deep). It contained one fill of dark to mid brown silty sand (96) which contained no finds.

PIT [99] was oval in plan with a moderately-sloping rounded profile (1.80m long x 1m wide x 0.38m deep). It contained one fill of dark to mid brown silty sand (98) which contained fragments of cattle bones.

MEDIEVAL POSTHOLES

5.2.36 Two postholes of medieval date were recorded in the northwest part of Area 1 ([5] and [13]). The postholes did not form any coherent structure but may have been associated with some sort of agricultural outbuilding, the remains of which have not survived. Some fired clay was recovered from Posthole [5] and may have derived from a former building.

POSTHOLE [5] was sub-circular in plan with a steeply-sloping 'U'-shaped profile (0.61m long x 0.47m wide x 0.20m deep). It contained one fill of dark greyish-brown silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks (6) and fragments of fired clay.

POSTHOLE [13] was sub-circular in plan with a steeply-sloping 'V'-shaped profile

(0.41m long x 0.35m wide x 0.11m deep). It contained one fill of mottled grey, yellow and dark brown silty sand (12) with no finds.

MEDIEVAL DITCHES

5.2.37 A total of ten ditches of medieval date were recorded in Area 1. These ditches formed what appeared to be two phases of boundary features and an enclosure.

5.2.38 BOUNDARY 1 comprised a series of three, re-cut ditches (DITCHES 7, 8 and 9) aligned west-southwest to east-northeast. The ditches cut through the hollow and terminated approximately at its eastern edge. DITCH 7 was the earliest of these linear features, with DITCH 8 cutting its southern edge (which was in turn cut by DITCH 9). The ditches contained late-12th- to 14th-century pottery and residual burnt flint material where they cut through the burnt mound in the hollow. Some post-medieval material (pottery sherds and tile) were recovered from DITCH 9, although this is likely to have derived from ploughing activity on the site, which caused the mixing of material between the uppermost topsoil and subsoil and the earlier medieval ploughsoils.

BOUNDARY 1

DITCH 7 ([18], [44], [74], [106] and [190]. Slot [190] was excavated prior to stripping down to the burnt mound and is thus not visible on plans) was aligned west-southwest to east-northeast and extended across Area 1 for over 50m, terminating in the east. The ditch had slightly convex sides leading to a concave base (measuring on average 0.94m wide and 0.30m deep). It contained a single fill of dark brown silty sand with rare flecks of charcoal ((17), (43), (73), (105) and (189)) with two sherds of late-12th- to 14th-century pottery and some residual burnt flint where the ditch cut through the burnt mound layers. The ditch was cut by DITCH 8.

DITCH 8 (slots [20], [42], [72] and [177] Slot [177] was excavated prior to stripping down to the burnt mound and is thus not visible on plans) was aligned similarly to DITCH 7 and extended for over 50m. The ditch appeared to turn slightly southwards at its western end and presumably terminated where it was cut by DITCH 9. The ditch had a moderately sloping rounded profile (measuring on average 0.94m wide and 0.40m deep). It contained a single fill of dark brown mottled with light grey silty sand ((19), (41), (71) and (176)) and contained four sherds of late-12th- to 14th-

century pottery and residual burnt flint. The ditch was cut by DITCH 9.

DITCH 9 (slots [22], [40], [70], [104] and [175]. Slot [175] was excavated prior to stripping down to the burnt mound and is thus not visible on plans)) was aligned parallel to DITCH 7 and extended for over 50m, with a rounded terminus to the east. The ditch had a gradually sloping rounded profile (measuring on average 1.84m wide and 0.42m deep). It contained a single fill of dark brown silty sand with rare flecks of charcoal ((21), (39), (69), (103) and (174)), containing three sherds of late-12th- to 14th- century pottery and a single sherd of post-medieval pottery and some post-medieval tile. The ditch also contained some residual burnt flint and was cut by DITCH 12 to the west.

5.2.39 Aligned parallel to BOUNDARY 1 and located south of it, a series of six ditches defined a rectangular enclosure (ENCLOSURE 1). This enclosure comprised a double-ditched eastern arm (DITCHES 3 and 4), the former of which was cut by the northern arm of the enclosure (DITCH 2). DITCH 2 also cut a short segment of an earlier ditch (DITCH 5). The partial western arm of the enclosure was defined by DITCH 6, which was cut by the medieval quarry pits [26] and [28]. These in turn were later cut by DITCH 1, which appeared to reinstate the northern edge of the enclosure and form a new western arm, or sub-division.

ENCLOSURE 1 comprised DITCHES 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6:

DITCH 1 (slots [32] and [37]) was 'L'-shaped in plan and aligned west to east, turning south where it terminated. The ditch had a moderately sloping 'U'-shaped profile (0.58m wide and 0.30m deep). It contained one fill of dark brownish-grey silty sand ((31) and (38)) which contained one sherd of late-12th- to 14th-century pottery.

DITCH 2 (slots [36], [46], [128]) was aligned west-southwest to east-northeast, extended for about 14m and terminating at each end. The ditch had a steeply sloping 'U'-shaped profile (and measured on average 0.70m wide and 0.42m deep). It contained one fill of dark grey silty sand ((35), (45), (127)) with frequent flecks of charcoal and a sherd of late-12th- to 14th-century pottery. DITCH 2 cut DITCH 5.

DITCH 3 (slot [215]) was aligned north-northwest to south-southeast and had a steeply sloping 'U'-shaped profile (measuring on average 0.38m wide and 0.06m deep). It contained one fill of dark brown silty sand with charcoal flecks (214), which

contained two sherds of late-12th- to 14th-century pottery. The ditch was sealed by medieval plough soil (77). DITCH 3 was cut by DITCH 2.

DITCH 4 (slots [108] and [213]) was aligned north-northwest to south-southeast, parallel to DITCH 3) and terminating to the south. The ditch had a steeply sloping 'U'-shaped profile (measuring on average 0.62m wide and 0.26m deep). It contained one fill of mid grey and dark brown silty sand with charcoal flecks ((107) and (212)) which contained two sherds of late-12th- to 14th-century pottery. The ditch was sealed by medieval ploughsoil (77).

DITCH 5 (slot [48]) was aligned roughly east to west, terminating at its eastern end, but mostly truncated by DITCH 2. The ditch had a steeply-sloping 'U'-shaped profile (measuring on average 0.24m wide and 0.08m deep) and extended for approximately 3.5m. It contained one fill of light to mid grey mottled silty sand (47) and contained one sherd of late-12th- to 14th-century pottery. The ditch was cut by DITCH 2.

DITCH 6 (slots [23] and [30]) was aligned north-northwest to south-southeast, terminating to the south. The ditch had a gently-sloped 'U'-shaped profile (measuring 0.88m wide and 0.18m deep). It contained one fill of mid-greyish brown silty sand ((24) and (29)), which contained a single sherd of late-12th- to 14th-century pottery. The ditch was cut by medieval quarry Pit [26].

5.2.40 A third boundary feature (BOUNDARY 3) was represented by two ditches (DITCHES 11 and 12) at the very western edge of Area 1 and only partially exposed within the excavation area. DITCH 11 cut DITCH 12, but they are presumed to be broadly contemporary, perhaps representing the extension of a boundary. The boundary cut through DITCH 1 of ENCLOSURE 1 and the latest ditch of BOUNDARY 1, suggesting that it may have been established to redefine the landscape into a series of large fields.

BOUNDARY 3 (DITCHES 11 and 12)

DITCH 11 (slots [16], [66] and [130]) was located at the very western edge of Area 1, aligned northwest to southeast. The ditch extended for over 30m and although the full ditch profile was not visible in the area, it measured on average at least 0.66m wide and 0.22m deep. It contained one fill of mid brown silty sand with rare flecks of charcoal ((15), (65), (129)), which contained a single fragment of CBM.

DITCH 11 cut DITCH 12 but seems to be a continuation of the same boundary.

DITCH 12 (slot [132]) was aligned northwest to southeast and was located at the western edge of Area 1. As with DITCH 11, the full profile was not visible, although the ditch was over 0.4m wide and 0.17m deep. It contained one fill of dark brown silty sand ((131)) with occasional charcoal flecks but no finds.

5.2.41 The stratigraphic relationship between ENCLOSURE 1 and the medieval ploughsoil (77) suggests that the ditches were infilled by the time the area was ploughed. However, the relationships between the latest ditches (DITCH 9 of BOUNDARY 1 and DITCH 11 of BOUNDARY 3) and this ploughsoil were slightly more ambiguous. As the medieval ploughsoil only survived within the hollow and DITCH 12 was located to the west of the hollow, a stratigraphic relationship was not present. However, where DITCH 9 cut across the hollow, the horizon between the fill of the ditch and the medieval ploughsoils ((119) and (77)) was diffuse and it is not clear if the ditch was cut through both soils.

5.2.42 It is likely that BOUNDARY 1 was established as part of a medieval field system, with ENCLOSURE 1 created within this. The establishment of BOUNDARY 3 suggests that the enclosure may have gone into disuse, with BOUNDARY 1 being redefined (DITCH 9) as part of a larger field system (with BOUNDARIES 1 and 3). These fields were likely used for crop cultivation, giving rise to the ploughsoil that has survived within the hollow. In short, it is likely that the medieval boundary features enclosed large arable agricultural fields, the remnants of this activity having survived as medieval ploughsoils in the hollow (see (119) and (77)).

5.3 Area 2 (Figure 6)

5.3.1 Area 2 revealed a TREE THROW, a small EARLY BRONZE AGE PIT and two MEDIEVAL DITCHES occupying different alignments and representing two phase of field boundaries.

5.3.2 A single tree throw [144] was revealed in Area 2, cut by DITCH 13. The tree throw was located at the western edge of the area some 40m from the natural hollow in Area 1, where vegetation thrived. The tree throw

contained two flint flakes, which although undiagnostic, are in keeping with activity during the Late Mesolithic to Late Neolithic.

TREE THROW [144] was irregular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of dark grey silty sand (241) which merged with the natural geology and yielded two undiagnostic struck flints.

5.3.3 EARLY BRONZE AGE PIT [135] was located toward the western end of Area 2. Although no pottery was recovered from the feature, a quantity (122 fragments) of burnt and fire-cracked flint was found within the pit and was directly comparable to the material from the burnt mound and its associated features in Area 1.

PIT [135] was sub-circular in plan with a steep sloping rounded profile (0.83m long x 0.78m wide x 0.20m deep). It contained a single fill of dark grey/ black silty sand (133) which contained burnt flints.

5.3.4 BOUNDARY 2 comprised a single ditch (DITCH 10), aligned northwest to southeast. The pottery recovered from this feature dated to between the late 12th and 14th century, although four sherds of early medieval (AD 1000-1100) date were also found in slot [121], indicating that the ditch could have originally been dug in the earlier medieval period. Two sherds of what has been suggested as later Iron Age pottery were recovered from slots [12] and [125], although given the difficulty in confidently distinguishing between local Iron Age and Saxon pottery, it is possible this is in fact residual Early Saxon pottery.

DITCH 10 (Slots [11E], [21E], [33E], [114], [121], [123], [125], [159], [165], [167], [171] and [173]). DITCH 10 extended northwest to southeast for c. 57m across Area 2 and for c. 37m in Area 3. The ditch extended beyond the limits of Areas 2 and 3 in both directions. The ditch had a steep sloping 'V'-shaped profile and concave base, measuring on average 1.68m wide and 0.6m deep. The ditch contained a single fill along its length: a light to mid orange/brown silty sand ((12E), (19E), (34E), (113), (120), (122), (124), (158), (164), (166), (170) and (172)), which yielded a sherd of Early Saxon pottery and four sherds of probable early medieval pottery. DITCH 10 cut EARLY SAXON PIT [161] in Area 3, was cut by DITCH 13 in Area 2 and by DITCH 14 in Area 3.

5.3.5 BOUNDARY 4 comprised a single ditch (DITCH 13) which was aligned north to south and cut DITCH 10. Comparable pottery dating to the late 12th to 14th century was found in this ditch, although the ditch appeared to represent the establishment of a new series of differently aligned fields.

DITCH 13 ([9E], [35E], [110], [112], [116]). DITCH 13 was aligned north to south in Area 2 and extended beyond the limit of excavation in both directions. It had a steeply sloping 'U'-shaped profile and a concave base, measuring on average 1.22m wide and 0.38m deep. It contained a single fill along its length: a mid to dark grey/ brown silty sand ((10E), (36E), (109), (111), (115)), which yielded a single sherd of late-12th- to 14th- century pottery. DITCH 13 cut DITCH 10 and tree throw [144].

5.4 Area 3 (Figure 7)

5.4.1 Area 3 contained a single TREE THROW, eight pits and five ditches. Six of the pits were considered to be prehistoric in date (PREHISTORIC PITS [163], [194], [196], [198], [200] and [202]) and pit [161/19E] was dated to the Early Saxon period. The ditches dated to the medieval period and, as seen in Area 2, represented the establishment of two distinct boundaries. The remaining pit (MEDIEVAL PIT [147]) was likely of later medieval date as it was cut into one of the medieval ditches.

5.4.2 The TREE THROW [179] contained no finds, but is of presumed earlier prehistoric date (Late Mesolithic-Late Neolithic) based on comparable features in Areas 1 and 2.

TREE THROW [179] was irregular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a single fill of mid grey/black silty sand (180), which contained no finds.

5.4.3 Four of the PREHISTORIC PITS ([194], [196], [198], [200]) were located at the northwest corner, [202] at the northeast corner and pit [163] was situated at the eastern side. No cultural material was recovered from these features and while they could be broadly contemporary with the Early Bronze Age activity in Area 1, the hollow also indicated localised activity in the earlier Neolithic and the Iron Age periods, suggested these

pits could relate to either of these phases. The pits were considered to pre-date the Saxon and medieval phases given their lack of any contemporary finds.

PIT [163] was sub-rectangular in plan with a steep sloping 'u'-shaped profile (0.73m long x 0.64m wide x 0.19m deep). It contained a single fill of light grey silty sand (162) which contained no finds.

PIT [194] was sub-circular in plan with a steeply sloping 'u'-shaped profile (1.37m long x 0.97m wide x 0.22m deep). It contained a single fill of dark brownish-grey silty sand (193), which contained no finds.

PIT [196] was circular in plan with a steeply-sloping 'u'-shaped profile (0.38m long x 0.35m wide x 0.27m deep). It contained a single fill of dark grey silty sand (195), which contained no finds.

PIT [198] was sub-circular in plan with moderately sloping sides and a concave base (0.65m x 0.53m x 0.26m deep). The pit contained a single fill of dark brownish-grey silty sand (197), but no finds.

PIT [200] was circular in plan with steeply sloping sides and a flattish base (0.67m diameter by 0.34m deep). The pit contained a single fill of dark brownish-grey silty sand (199), which contained no finds.

PIT [202] was sub-circular in plan with moderately steep sides and a concave base (c. 0.73m diameter x 0.25m deep). The pit contained a single fill of mid brownish-grey silty sand (201), which contained no finds.

5.4.4 An EARLY SAXON PIT ([161/19E) (Plate 8) was partially excavated in the evaluation and 100% excavated during the open area excavation. In the evaluation, the feature was suggested as a possible sunken-featured building; however, during the stripping of Area 3 and the feature's full excavation, it was apparent that this was not the case. The pit contained a diagnostic assemblage of Early Saxon (AD 400-650) pottery and a significant quantity (458 pieces) of animal bone. Sheep/goat are the dominant species represented, with lesser numbers of cattle and pig bones and a small number of chicken and goose bones. The assemblage is typical of domestic occupation and suggests settlement in the vicinity.

PIT [161] was sub-circular in plan with a moderately sloping rounded profile. The pit measured 2.50m long x 2.47m wide x 0.34m deep. It contained a single fill of dark grey/ black silty sand (160) which yielded charcoal flecks, 29 sherds of Early Saxon (AD 400-650) pottery and 458 pieces of animal bone.

5.4.5 The medieval ditches included BOUNDARY 2, represented by DITCH 10, which continued from Area 2 into Area 3. A north- to south-aligned boundary (BOUNDARY 5) was also present, aligned parallel to BOUNDARY 4 in Area 2.

5.4.6 BOUNDARY 5 comprised two parallel ditch lines (DITCH 14 and DITCH 15), the former of which contained late-12th- to 14th-century pottery. DITCH 14 cut a short segment of a narrow north- to south-aligned ditch (DITCH 17) at its northern exposed extent. This narrow ditch may have been the originally boundary feature, which was later re-cut and redefined by DITCH 14. It is possible that the parallel ditches of BOUNDARY 5 actually formed a trackway, although there was no evidence for any surviving trackway surface between the ditches. A wide ditch was recorded in evaluation Trench 9, cutting Ditch 14, but did not continue into the excavation area. Presumably it terminated before Area 3, or turned to the east or west.

5.4.7 A short ditch segment (DITCH 16) aligned perpendicular to DITCH 14 and 15 was seen to cut both ditches at their southern exposed extent, suggesting a shift in access and field boundaries.

5.4.8 To the south of the excavation area in evaluation Trench 9, a wide north-south aligned ditch (DITCH 18) was present, cutting DITCH 14. However this feature was not exposed in Area 3, implying that it either terminated or turned outside of the excavation area. This ditch may represent another field boundary or internal field division.

DITCH 14 (Slots [13E], [17E], [23E], [149], [151], [153], [155], [169] and [183]) was aligned north to south and extended for c. 50m in Area 3. It had a steep sloping 'U'-shaped profile with a concave base and was on average 1.36m wide and 0.5m deep. The ditch contained a single fill along its length: a light brown/ grey silty sand

((14E), (18E), (24E), (148), (150), (152), (154), (168) and (182)) which yielded a single sherd of late-12th- to 14th-century pottery. DITCH 14 was cut by MEDIEVAL PIT [147].

DITCH 15 (Slots [137], [139], [141] and [143]). DITCH 15 extended from south to north across the east side of Area 3, continuing beyond the limits of excavation in both directions. It had a moderately sloped 'U'-shaped profile and a concave base, measuring on average 0.7m wide and 0.2m deep. The ditch contained a single fill along its length: a mid to dark grey/ brown silty sand (136), (138), (140) and (142) which contained no finds. DITCH 15 was cut by DITCH 16.

DITCH 16 (slot [157]) was a short segment of ditch located in the southeast part of Area 3. It extended from east to west for c. 6.5m, terminating at both ends, where it cut DITCHES 14 and 15. It had a steeply sloping 'U'-shaped profile and a concave base and measured 0.56m wide and 0.2m deep. It contained a single fill of mid to light grey silty sand (156) which contained fragments of post-medieval tobacco pipe. DITCH 16 cut DITCHES 14 and 15.

DITCH 17 (Slots [185] and [187]) was aligned north to south, extending for c. 10m and terminating at both ends. It had a moderately sloping 'U'-shaped profile and a concave base measuring on average 0.3m wide and 0.12m deep. It contained a single fill of dark brown/ grey silty sand ((184) and (186)) which contained rare charcoal flecks. DITCH 17 was cut by DITCH 14.

DITCH 18 (Slot [15E]) was aligned north to south and was visible in evaluation Trench 9 only. The ditch was 2.2m wide and 0.65m deep and contained a single fill (16E) of dark brown silty sand. No finds were present.

5.4.9 A MEDIEVAL PIT was partially exposed within the excavation area, at the eastern edge. The pit was cut into the infilled DITCH 14 but contained a comparable fill to all the other medieval features on site. Although no pottery was found, it is presumed to be of medieval date. The pit contained the highest quantity of animal bone from any medieval feature (approximately 71.6% of the medieval assemblage). The majority of this bone is sheep/goat remains, including two adult sheep (one male and one female), one of which was mostly articulated. Some rat bones and bones of a 'blackbird-sized' bird were also recovered from this pit.

MEDIEVAL PIT [147] was sub-circular in plan with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. The pit was partially exposed in the excavation area and was approximately 1.1m long and 0.1m deep. It contained a single fill of dark brown/ grey silty sand (145). The pit contained a large quantity (58 pieces) of animal bone including a partially articulated sheep skeleton (146). The pit was cut into DITCH 14.

6 THE FINDS

6.1.1 Due to the size of the finds catalogues, this information will not be presented alongside this post-excavation assessment. The full catalogue for all specialist material can be provided in digital format on request and will be deposited with the archive.

6.2 Struck Flint by Dr Barry Bishop

Introduction

6.2.1 The excavations at Chalk Lane in Narborough resulted in the recovery of a moderately sized assemblage of worked flint from a series of buried soils and a variety features. All of the pieces have been individually catalogued which includes details of their contextual origin, raw material, condition and, where possible, a suggested date of manufacture. This should be consulted whilst reading this report, which provides a summary description of the assemblage and assesses its archaeological significance and potential to contribute to the further understanding of the nature and chronology of activity at the site. All metrical descriptions follow the methodology established by Saville (1980).

Quantification

Context	Decortication flake	Flake	Chip (<15mm)	Prismatic blade	Non-prismatic blade	Blade-like flake	Flake fragment	Core	Arrowhead	Axe	Backed knife	Edge trimmed implement	Ground chisel	Scraper	Flint quern fragment
Evaluation	2	7		1	2		2								
Buried Soils	12	19		15		3	2	2	1	1	1	4		3	2
Burnt Mound	3	6	5	3	1	1	6				1				
Pit 1037		3							7						
Pit 1041										2	1		1		
Other Features	3	20	1	3	4	1	1	2	2	1	1			5	
Total	20	55	6	22	7	5	11	4	10	4	4	4	1	8	2

Table 1: Quantification of worked flint from Chalk Lane

6.2.2 A total of 163 worked flints were recovered, the largest proportion, amount

to c.40% of the total, coming from a series of buried soils that had been preserved within a hollow and beneath a burnt mound feature (Table 1). Around a third of the assemblage came from a variety of cut features and the body of the burnt mound also contained small amounts of both burnt and unburnt struck flint. A small assemblage was recovered during an earlier evaluation at the site (see Appendix L01 for details of individual pieces).

Description

6.2.3 The worked flint comprises a diverse assemblage which contains several of notable items, including a number of axeheads and a 'set' of arrowheads in various stages of manufacture. Both its typological and technological characteristics indicate that it had been manufactured over a long period. A small number of relatively large and heavily recorticated or stained blades, such as those from pits [87], [1035] and from square 16 of buried soil [119], could potentially be of late Glacial or early Post-glacial date but certainly the bulk of the assemblage is the product of a blade-based reduction strategy that can be dated to the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic periods. Typologically diagnostic pieces and the general technological traits of some pieces indicate that flintworking continued at the site, certainly into the Early Bronze Age and perhaps until the late second or first millennia BC. These include many of the pieces recovered during the evaluation stage. These mostly came from topsoil deposits and include a high proportion of thick and crudely struck flakes that are most likely to date to the later parts of the Bronze Age and which suggest flintworking activity continued at the site long after the final use of the burnt mound.

6.2.4 Many pieces have recorticated and/or become mineral stained, obscuring their original colours and textures. However, the assemblage appears to have been manufactured from a variety of raw material types, with good knapping quality 'glassy' translucent or mottled flint predominantly used. The nature of the original cortex also varies, from being hard and smooth worn to weathered but still rough, suggesting that the raw materials were

gathered from both the glacial tills of the region and from alluvial terrace deposits such as those lining the river Nar.

6.2.5 The condition of the assemblage as a whole is variable but many pieces do show some signs of post-depositional damage, as would be expected from an assemblage that was largely surface deposited and recovered from soil horizons or as residual material redeposited into later features. However, the generally light nature of the post-deposition chipping or abrasion indicates that in most cases the pieces were probably recovered from close to where they had been originally discarded.

The Buried Soils

6.2.6 A series of buried soils produced the largest quantities of worked flint from the excavations. This material is chronologically mixed but, as with the assemblage as a whole, the majority of pieces are blade-based and can be dated to the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic periods. Although differentiating the mass of debitage from these two periods is difficult, the present of some diagnostic pieces, such as a polished flint axe from buried soil [1094], and a leaf-shaped arrowhead and a blunted-back knife from buried soil [119], confirm that the later period is certainly represented. Additionally, many of the blades, whilst being prismatic, are not the product of true, sustained systematic production which may also suggest an Early Neolithic rather than Mesolithic date. Taken together, the bulk of the material from the buried soils is perhaps most comparable to the classic Early Neolithic assemblages from the region, such as those from Hurst Fen or Spong Hill (Clark et al. 1960; Healy 1988). Interestingly, there are a number of large, wide and thin flakes with multi-directional dorsal scars comparable to biface thinning flakes, suggesting that implements such as axes were being made here, although there are not enough to suggest any sustained production.

6.2.7 There are also indications of later flintworking activity contained within the buried soils. A few of the flakes are notably ‘squat’; being short and thick with unmodified, wide and obtuse striking platforms (cf Martingell 1990; 2003). Perhaps the clearest evidence of this is the small assemblage from

square 9 of buried soil [117], which contains a number of 'squat' flakes including two that refit, as well as one of the two flakes struck from flint querns that were found at the site and which are also most commonly found in Bronze Age contexts (Clark 1936; Healy 1996). Five of the six pieces from this square are burnt, and it is possible that they are associated with the use of the burnt mound. Of a similar date to the burnt mound is a barbed and tanged arrowhead from sub-soil [101] which is finely made but missing both barbs.

The Burnt Mound

6.2.8 In amongst the mass of unworked burnt flint fragments from the samples taken from the burnt mound are a small number of both unburnt and burnt struck flints. Due to the high degree of fragmentation of the flints from the burnt mound, it is entirely possible that more pieces had been struck but are no longer recognizable as such. The struck assemblage that has been identified comprises knapping waste and includes some very small core trimming and other flakes (chips) and fragments, but few diagnostic pieces. The only retouched implement is a blade with blunting along one side that obliquely truncates both its proximal and distal ends. This is somewhat reminiscent of Late Upper Palaeolithic 'curved backed points' but whilst such an identification should not be dismissed and the possibility raised, the retouch is more scalar than abrupt, and it may perhaps more feasibly be considered an unusual type of blunted-back knife dating to the Neolithic. Whilst not closely dateable, many of the pieces from the burnt mound do have blade-based traits which suggest they pre-date its construction, and these are likely to have been 'accidentally' gathered up and incorporated during the construction of the burnt mound. Unfortunately, none of the struck pieces shed much light on the function of the burnt mound or the activities surrounding its use.

The pits and other features

6.2.9 Most of the pits and other features contained single pieces or small quantities of flintwork that are most likely to have been residually or incidentally incorporated into their fills. Two of the pits, however, provided

very unusual and significant assemblages. Pit [1037] produced a singular assemblage of seven leaf-shaped arrowheads, all in various stages of manufacture but quite possibly struck from the same light brown slightly mottled flint core. They range from flakes that have small areas of bifacial retouch to three possibly finished but broken arrowhead fragments. There are also three unretouched flakes from the pit. These are again of very similar raw materials to the arrowheads and possibly from the same core. Each is of a shape and size appropriate for conversion into arrowhead and hence may represent unretouched blanks. Evidence for the manufacture of leaf-shaped arrowheads is very rare in the region and it is generally thought to have been done on a more ad hoc basis than seems to be the case here. Interestingly, one of the few cases where arrowheads may have been made in bulk is at Harford near Norwich, where axeheads were also being made in quantity (Bishop forthcoming).

6.2.10 The assemblage from pit [1041] is also particularly notable. It comprises two axeheads, a small fragment of what is probably a narrow parallel-sided ground chisel and a large bifacially worked knife. One of the axeheads has been reflaked and retains a small patch of fine polishing at its cutting edge, the other shows no evidence of polishing and either has been completely re-flaked or was never ground, but it does exhibit some wear suggesting it was not new. The ground chisel is fragmentary but interestingly appears to have broken after it became stained, indicating it was probably quite old when broken and buried. The knife is leaf-shaped and well made with an invasively retouched cutting edge and, unusually, has partially grinding forming ‘backing’ along the opposed edge. All four of these pieces, as well as the other axeheads recovered from the site, have become mineral stained obscuring their original colour. The chisel, however, has broken after becoming stained, revealing it to be made of an opaque light grey flint with a ‘stony’ texture comparable to the ‘Lincolnshire Wolds’ flint that was commonly used for axeheads found in the region. The use of this flint has long been thought to indicate the importation of axeheads from the northern chalklands, but recent excavations have identified similar raw materials present in derived glacial

deposits which were being used to make axeheads at some locations within Norfolk (Bishop forthcoming). There can be little doubt that the contents of pit [1041] were deliberately chosen, but all of the pieces show evidence of use and the chisel had broken some considerable time after manufacture, raising the possibility that they had been re-assembled and buried long after they had been first discarded.

6.2.11 The flintwork from the other features can mostly be thought of as residually or incidentally incorporated but there are some pieces worthy of mention. Pit [1037] contained a broken but very finely made leaf-shaped arrowhead of similar raw materials and quality of manufacture to the more finished examples from pit [1037] and is almost certainly associated with them. The hollow produced a ground axehead that has been re-flaked along one side but is of similar general form as the other axeheads and which was made from an opaque light grey flint.

Summary and Discussion

6.2.12 The worked flint assemblage is not particularly large but indicates that the site had a long history prior to the burnt mound being constructed during Early Bronze Age. In particular, much of the material is likely to represent Early Neolithic occupation that can be characterized as containing a high percentage of retouched implements and correspondingly relatively low proportions of cores and other waste, suggestive of broad-based settlement activities. There is also some evidence in the form of thinning flakes that bifaces such as axeheads were being manufactured. This is of interest considering the presence of complete and re-flaked axeheads at the site, but there are far too few waste flakes to account for the manufacture of even a single axehead, and all of the thinning flakes are from relatively early stages in the process with no refitting piece present. However, axeheads were being manufactured elsewhere in the Nar valley, such as at Massingham Heath (Pitts 1996, 361) and it is possible that further evidence might be present in the vicinity.

6.2.13 The most notable pieces are those deposited within pits [1037] and [1041]. These certainly appear selected, one containing the waste

representing all stages in process of making leaf-shaped arrowheads, the other a range of what would probably be considered prestigious artefacts, including axeheads and a ground chisel and knife. Purposeful or structured deposition within pits during the Neolithic is a commonly recorded practice and, particularly during the latter parts of that period, often involves carefully chosen items that had particular significance to those burying them and which may have experienced a considerable history prior to being buried (Thomas 1999; Garrow 2006).

Significance and Recommendations

6.2.14 The worked flint assemblage is not particularly large but is of at least regional significance in that it represents important indications of Early Neolithic occupation which includes very rare evidence for the manufacture of leaf-shaped arrowhead as well as unusual deposits of axeheads and other prestigious implements. This activity pre-dates the construction of the burnt mound but it may have perhaps contributed to this location gaining a sense of history and significance, which may have been important in defining its later history as the site of a burnt mound.

6.2.15 The assemblage has been comprehensively catalogued and described and no further analytical work is needed. However, the significance of the assemblage warrants it being fully written up and illustrated for publication. This should include present a detailed description and take into account regional comparanda and consideration of the material's spatial distribution, stratigraphic sequence and consideration of discussions of other artefact classes.

6.3 Burnt Stone by Dr Barry Bishop

Introduction

6.3.1 The excavations at the above site resulted in the recovery of a substantial assemblage of burnt stone that amounts to over 620kg. This report quantifies and describes the material, assesses its significance and recommends any further work required for it to achieve its full research potential. A full catalogue detailing its distribution within individual contexts is presented in a separate appendix.

Methodology

6.3.2 All of the burnt stone recovered during the investigations was examined and weighed by individual context, with notes made of the intensity of burning and the size distribution of the assemblages, including the proportions by weight of fragments equal to or greater than 30mm in maximum diameter. For most contexts the number of fragments of burnt stone was counted. For the contexts constituting the burnt mound and its two associated features, all of which produced very large assemblages, a randomly selected sample of c.10% was counted and the results used to estimate the total number of pieces present.

Quantification

Feature	Burnt stone (no.)	Burnt stone (wt:g)	Ave clast size (wt:g)	Burnt stone >30mm (% by weight)
Buried Soil	229	3,427	15.0	60
Burnt Mound Features	127,000 (e)	116,458	0.9	18
Burnt mound	1,051,000 (e)	495,726	0.5	8
Other features	513	4,536	8.8	52
Total	1,178,742	620,147		

Table 2: Quantification of burnt flint by major feature class NB: (e) = estimated from sub-samples

6.3.3 Over 620kg of burnt stone was recovered during the excavations (Table 2). The vast majority came from the fills of the burnt mound feature, which produced nearly 500kg made up of over an estimated one million fragments, with significant quantities also coming from two pits, [1122] and [1129], which were closely associated with the burnt mound. The buried soil upon which the mound had been constructed also produced quantities of burnt flint as did a number of other features scattered across the site.

Description

6.3.4 All of the burnt stone comprises flint which had been intensively and uniformly heated, causing it to become ‘fire-crazed’, attain a greyish white

colour and become highly fragmented. Due to the degree of fragmentation it was rarely possible to identify the nature of the raw materials that had been selected for burning. This is particularly true for the very fragmented material from the burnt mound fills, but where identifiable the original cortex on this was smooth worn with thermally fractured (frost) shattered surfaces also present. The more complete pieces comprise fragments from rounded to sub-angular pebbles and small cobbles, few of which appear to have exceeded 100mm in diameter. These must have been gathered from alluvial gravel terraces, the nearest mapped deposits of which are those of the Nar valley which can be found c. 350m to the west of the site and at a slightly further distance to the north. Much of the burnt flint from the other contexts also comprised pebbles and cobbles from alluvial sources but a few of the larger pieces from the buried soil and the other features did have a thicker and less abraded cortex and appeared to come from thermally affected nodular fragments. These are likely to have originated from the glacial tills that are common in the region but it is also possible they had been brought closer to the site through incorporation into the gravel terraces. Even if all of the flint used for burning came from the nearest sources, it should be recognized that the transport of these not-inconsiderable quantities represents a major logistical undertaking.

Distribution - The burnt mound

6.3.5 The burnt mound provided the bulk of the burnt flint from the site with over 500kg collected as bulk samples (Table 3).

Context	Quadrant / Square	Master	Total sample (wt:g)	Burnt stone (est. no.)	Burnt stone (wt:g)	Ave clast size (est. g)	% by weight burnt fragments ≥30mm	Unburnt stone (wt:g)	% unburnt/burnt stone by wt	Est. Organic material (wt:g)	% Organic material / burnt stone	Struck flint (no.)	Pottery (no.)	Animal bone (no.)
1109	1	Upper fill	9,300	14,000	6,261	0.45	4	3,036	48.5	3.3	0.035			1
1110	1	Middle fill	389,196	801,000	364,605	0.46	7	23,431	6.4	1,088.5	0.298	14		

1113	2	Middle fill	62,306	122,000	58,278	0.48	7	3,952	6.8	169.4	0.290	6	1	
1127	3	Middle fill	14,447	19,000	13,076	0.69	9	1,319	10.1	47.0	0.359			
1126	4	Middle fill	44,274	80,000	41,073	0.51	8	3,070	7.5	112.0	0.273	4		
1120	1	Lower fill	13,168	15,000	12,433	0.83	11	693	5.6	63.0	0.506			
1121	1	Pit 1122	50,850	59,000	49,321	0.836	15	1,521	3.0	66.7	0.135			
1155	4	Pit 1129	29,251	29,000	28,301	0.976	19	887	3.1	45.0	0.159	1		
1156	4	Pit 1129	40,019	39,000	38,755	0.994	21	1,180	3.0	54.0	0.139	1	1	

Table 3: Composition of the bulk samples taken from the main body of the burnt mound and its associated features

6.3.6 The burnt flint from the burnt mound was heavily fragmented; nearly all of the estimated over 1,000,000 fragments collected measured less than 30mm in diameter and none were recorded that measured in excess of 60mm. It had all been intensively burnt and, as has been suggested at other burnt mound sites (e.g. Crowson 2004, 11), it is entirely possible that the stone had been heated and reheated until the fragments were too small to be of any further practical use. All of the burnt stone consists of flint, despite quartz and sandstone being present in low numbers in the glacial tills and alluvial deposits in the area. This may indicate that flint was being specifically chosen for being heated despite it being prone to easily fragment and even explode when heated.

6.3.7 The intensity of burning and size distribution of the pieces was very uniform throughout the mound and no evidence of separate dumps of material could be discerned. This is particularly true spatially across the mound, but there is a tendency for the pieces to become smaller and therefore presumably being more fragmented with height, with the pieces in the lower fills being slightly larger and there also being higher proportions of pieces in excess of 30mm in diameter. Again, this could

support the notion that the pieces were being reheated, and as the mound accumulated the pieces were getting progressively smaller.

6.3.8 Probably the most notable differences are in the composition of the material throughout the mound. All of the samples contained quantities of unburnt flint which is important in that it confirms that the flint was not being burnt in-situ but had become mixed in with unfired pieces between being burnt and being dumped on to the mound. The proportions of unburnt pieces present also varied; whilst the two lower fills (M1120 and M1110) were fairly comparable, nearly a third of stone from the uppermost fill (M1009) comprised unburnt pieces. The unburnt stone all consists of brownish-yellow rounded to sub-angular pebbles and cobbles of flint with a very abraded or hard-worn cortex, which as far as can be seen is comparable (and almost certainly from the same source) to the burnt flint from the mound. Given that all of the flint must have been brought to the site, this could possibly suggest the dumping of unburnt stockpiles at the end of the use of the burnt mound.

6.3.9 A further difference is the proportion of organic material within the mound's fills. These comprise fragments of charcoal, unburnt wood and charred humic material. Whilst not present in large quantities, they were found throughout the mound with the densities decreasing with height.

6.3.10 In addition, small quantities of pottery fragments, burnt and unburnt struck flint and a single animal bone were also present within the samples from the mound.

Feature associated with the burnt mound

6.3.11 Two features pit [1129] and pit or trough [1122] both contained extremely large quantities of burnt stone, comprising just over 67kg and just under 50kg respectively (see Table 3). It all consists of flint that had been intensively heated and highly fragmented and is clearly related to the material from the burnt mound. The material from the two features was remarkably similar to each other but some slight differences between them and that from the burnt mound were noted. The pieces from the

features were on average slightly larger and included higher proportions of pieces that exceed 30mm in diameter. There are lower proportions of unburnt pieces presence, although the presence of any suggests the features were not used for in-situ burning, and they also contained relatively little organic material. Taken together, these difference whilst slight might suggests that the contents of the pits represents a relatively early stage in the life cycle of the burnt flint and that they represent a stage in between the initial heating of the flint and it becoming too fragmented and discarded onto the mound proper.

The pre-mound buried soil

6.3.12 Although significantly smaller a reasonably substantial quantity of burnt flint was recovered from the soil horizon buried beneath the burnt mound (see Appendix for details of its distribution). Much of this material comprised intensively heated and highly fragmented pieces similar to those from the burnt mound and which were probably intrusively introduced from it. Some of the pieces, however, are notably larger and possibly even from a different source. These larger pieces could represent an early stage in the use of the flint prior to it becoming heavily fragmented, but given the other evidence for pre-mound activity such as that provided by the struck flint, it is entirely likely that hearths were constructed and flint burnt prior to the main phase of the burnt mound. Interestingly and if so, this would support the evidence from the struck flint that considerable interest was taken in this particular spot long before it was used for the burnt mound activities.

Other features

6.3.13 The remainder of the burnt stone from site, amounting to just over 4.5kg, came from fifteen other pits, postholes and ditches. This material was rather variably heated although mostly quite intensively and all pieces recorded had become ‘fire-crazed’ and changed colour. It was mostly present as single pieces or in small quantities and in most cases probably represents incidentally incorporated ‘background waste’, either from the burnt mound related activities or from other hearth use at the site. One

feature, pit [135], provided 2.4kg which is likely to represent the dumping of deliberately burnt flint. The only other notable quantities came from ditches [72] and [74], both of which contained just over 0.5kg each.

Significance and discussion

6.3.14 The sheer quantity of burnt flint recorded here confirms that the main feature at the site comprises a 'burnt mound' of a type typical found in East Anglia. These have been identified in great numbers in Norfolk and along many parts of the Fenland margins (Layard 1922; Apling 1931; Silvester 1991; Healy 1996; Edmonds et al. 1999. However, very few have been excavated to the standards achieved here and consequently very little is understood of their precise character and function, or of broader regional variations and the development of this class of monument. The detailed recording of the mound's burnt stone suggests that flint was brought to the site, perhaps not from far but certainly requiring considerable effort and investment, to this spot located close to springs and ponds that fed into the river Nar. It is likely that the flint was heated and placed in pits in order for it to fulfil its function, and then quite possibly reheated until it had become too fragmented for practical use and subsequently discarded to form the accumulating mound. Similar sequences are indicated at the few other burnt mounds in the region that have seen any detailed excavation, such as the examples at Feltwell Anchor and at Northwold (Bates and Wiltshire 2000; Crowson 2004). A relative lack of detailed excavation has led to the actual purpose of burnt mounds remaining contested and many explanations have been forwarded, although of course there is no reason why they should be constrained to one overarching use. They have traditionally been interpreted as the residues of repeated cooking events, with the associated troughs being seen as filled with burnt stone either to boil water or 'dry roast' meat. Excavations of two examples in Birmingham in 1980 led to the suggestion that they could be the sites of prehistoric sweat lodges, an idea largely gleaned from ethnographic studies (Barfield and Hodder 1987; Barfield 1991). Many other explanations have also been forwarded for the production of large quantities of burnt stone, including a

role in beer making (Quinn and Moore 2007), wool processing (Jeffery 1991), leather production (Bishop 2012) and for a wide variety of other craft or industrial purposes (e.g. Barfield and Hodder 1987, 371). Yates and Bradley (2010a; 2010b) have argued that in the Fenland burnt mounds may demark elements of a ritual or ceremonial landscape, and their visibility may also have enabled them to act as tenurial or landscape markers (Edmonds et al.1999, 70; Bishop 2012). Recent studies have also concentrated on the potential symbolic qualities of burnt mounds (e.g. Loktionov 2013). It has been noted that even if used for cooking, the scale implied suggests that this may have involved aggregation, feasting and other ceremonial practices, which could also embrace their use as sweat lodges (e.g. Bruchac 1993; Needham 1993).

Recommendations

6.3.15 The burnt stone from the site has been examined and catalogued in detail and no further processing or analytical work is required. Burnt mounds as a class are poorly understood and the results as outlined in this report should be expanded with consideration to the stratigraphic record and discussion of other artefact classes. This should be used to provide a detailed account of the form and construction of the burnt mound, with the aim of attempting a better understanding of their development, functions and possible significance to those who used them.

6.4 Prehistoric Pottery by Sarah Percival

Introduction

6.4.1 A total of 156 sherds weighing 1,401g were collected from seventeen excavated contexts. A range of periods are represented within the assemblage (Table 4). A single undiagnostic earlier Bronze Age body sherd was recovered along with nineteen sherds of later Neolithic early Bronze Age Beaker. A further 25 sherds are probably mid Bronze Age and 101 are Iron Age date perhaps spanning the 5th to 3rd centuries BC. Ten sherds are not closely datable. The sherds are mostly small and often abraded. Average sherd weight is 9g.

Spot Date	Quantity	Weight (g)
Bronze Age	1	37
Later Neolithic early Bronze Age	19	54
Middle Bronze Age	25	547
Iron Age	20	87
Later Iron Age	81	657
Not Closely Datable	10	19
Total	156	1401

Table 4: Quantity and weight of prehistoric pottery by spot date.

Methodology

6.4.2 The assemblage was analysed in accordance with the Guidelines for Analysis and Publication produced by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (PCRG 2010). The total assemblage was studied and a full catalogue was prepared. The sherds were examined using a binocular microscope (x10 magnification) and were divided into fabric groups defined on the basis of inclusion types. Fabric codes were prefixed by a letter code representing the main inclusion (F representing flint, G grog and Q quartz). Vessel form was recorded; R representing rim sherds, B base sherds, D decorated sherds, PP partial profile and U undecorated body sherds. The sherds were counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram. Decoration and abrasion were also noted. The pottery and archive are curated by PCA.

Bronze Age

6.4.3 A single coarse undecorated body sherd in grog and flint-tempered fabric was recovered from buried soil (1016) (see separate appendix information). The sherd has no diagnostic characteristics but the fabric suggests that it may be from a coarse, domestic beaker contemporary with other sherds found at the site or perhaps from a Deverel-Rimbury style urn.

Later Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age

6.4.4 A total of nineteen later Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age sherds were collected from seven excavated features including a well, buried soil, four pits and a posthole (Table 5). The assemblage comprises sherds in three fabrics all

made with fine, sandy clay with a variety of flint, shell and grog inclusions (see appendix). Four sherds are decorated with pinched fingertip impressions typical of rusticated 'domestic' Beaker found on the Norfolk fen edge (Bamford 1984; Gibson 1984). The sherds are all abraded to very-abraded consistent with having spent considerable time in surface or subsoil deposits prior to eventual deposition.

Feature type	Feature	Quantity	Weight (g)
Well	1033	1	25
Buried Soil	0	2	6
Pit	1070	1	7
	1129	9	11
	1166	4	3
	1096	1	1
Posthole	1077	1	1
Total		19	54

Table 5: Quantity and weight of later Neolithic early Bronze Age pottery by feature

6.4.5 The sherds are likely to derive from periodic occupation on the fen edge from around 2490/2340BC to c.-1800-1620BC (Healy 2012) and are comparable with local domestic Beaker assemblages such as that found at nearby Narford illustrated by Gibson (1982, fig. MET.3, 12-17). Beaker has been found associated with burnt mound material at Northwold (Crowson 2004) dated to 2265/2165 to 2140/2065 cal. BC and Feltwell Anchor, (2400-1800 cal. BC; Bates and Wiltshire 2000).

Middle Bronze Age

6.4.6 The mid Bronze Age pot comprises base and body sherds, probably from two vessels, in coarse flint-tempered fabrics (Appendix 1). The pot was found in the fill of pit [209], located close to the burnt mound. A total of 25 sherds were recovered weighing 547g including the substantial base from a coarse bucket-shaped jar similar to examples found at the mid Bronze Age settlement site at Witton, near North Walsham (Lawson 1983, fig.25, 10) and the cremation cemetery at Cromer Road, Antingham (Percival 2012, 69). The assemblage probably dates to around 1700-900BC.

Iron Age and later Iron Age

6.4.7 A total of 101 sherds weighing 744 are Iron Age with the majority being later Iron Age (350-100BC).

6.4.8 The sherds were recovered in a variety of fabrics (Appendix 1). The sandy fabrics compare well with those from identified within the later Iron Age assemblage from Honey Pots Plantation, Shropham (NHER36281) whilst the sandy fabrics with fine flint inclusions are similar to those from the large Iron Age assemblage from Beeston-with-Bittering on the line of the Launditch, which lies some 23km along the Nar Valley to the east of Narborough (Percival 1999, 246). Smaller numbers of sherds have shell inclusions, also found within the Launditch assemblage and amongst the Iron Age pottery from nearby Spong Hill, North Elmham (Gregory 1995).

6.4.9 Rims were present from three vessels. The first is from a wide-mouth, everted rim jar or bowl with a triple incised band decorating the shoulder and a rounded rim ending. The vessel is made of sandy fabric and has smoothed surfaces. The second is a small, fine jar with everted rim and rounded rim terminal and the third is from an everted rim jar decorated with a double finely incised band immediately below the rim which is also rounded. A large body sherd from a coarse cordoned storage jar was also found. The pottery is comparable with that found at Honey Pots Plantation, Shropham (NHER36281). A base sherd, from a vessel with a widely flaring base angle in sandy fabric Q1, came from buried soil 1044.

Spot date	Feature type	Feature	Fabric	Quantity	Weight (g)
Iron Age	Buried Soil	0	QF	16	59
	Burnt Mound	0	QF	1	6
			Qffine	1	4
	Ditch	1032	QF	1	12
	Pit	1085	Qqu	1	6
Later Iron Age	Buried Soil	0	Q1	54	340
			Qffine	13	216
			QV	1	10
	Ditch	72	QF	1	5
		121	Q1	1	1
		125	Q1	1	3

	Pit	1041	QF	1	15
	Unstratified	Unstratified	Q1	7	50
			Qffine	2	17
Total				101	744

Table 6: Quantity and weight of Iron Age pottery

6.4.10 Extensive fieldwalking undertaken around the parish of Barton Bendish, 8km to the south of Narborough, revealed twenty one sites with concentrations of Iron Age pottery in the ploughsoil, interpreted as representing domestic material spread from middens spread as fertiliser (Rogerson 1999, fig.5.1, 128). It is possible that the Iron Age pottery found at Narborough was distributed through similar agricultural activity, with some material becoming incorporated into the fill of pits cut through the soil and re-filled with it. A similar distribution of Iron Age sites was also noted at Fransham, where six concentrations of Iron Age sherds were recorded.

6.5 Roman Pottery by Katie Anderson

6.5.1 A small assemblage of Roman pottery totalling five sherds weighing 131g was recovered from the subsoil (101). This comprised one black-slipped sherd from a beaded rim jar, three coarse sandy reduced ware body sherds and one fine sandy greyware body sherd. The fabrics identified suggest an earlier Roman date c. AD 50-150.

6.6 Saxon Pottery and Medieval Pottery by Chris Jarrett

Introduction

6.6.1 A small sized assemblage of pottery was recovered from the site (one box). Early Saxon and medieval pottery has been previously reported upon (Anderson 2011) from the evaluation stage (ENF 127745: contexts [3], [18] and [20]) of this archaeological intervention and has been included in this report. The post-Roman pottery dates to the Early Saxon, medieval and post-medieval periods. A small number of sherds show evidence for abrasion or lamination, while residual material was also present and indicates that some of the assemblage was deposited under tertiary circumstances. The state of fragmentation of the pottery ranges

from sherd material to identifiable forms, but no vessels have a complete profile. The material was quantified using sherd count (SC), estimated number of vessels (ENV) and weight measured in grams. Pottery was recovered from 28 contexts, three of which belong to the evaluation (ENF 127745) and individual deposits produced small groups of pottery (fewer than 30 sherds).

6.6.2 All of the pottery (75 sherds/61 ENV/1.034kg, of which none are unstratified) was examined macroscopically and microscopically using a binocular microscope (x20), and recorded in a database format, by fabric, form, decoration, sherd count (SC), estimated number of vessels (ENV's) and weight (wt). The classification of the pottery types for the Early Saxon pottery is largely according to Anderson (2011), while the codes used for the later pottery types are those employed by the Norfolk Archaeological Unit.

The Pottery Types

6.6.3 A chronological break down of the quantification of the pottery by site code and for each period is shown in Table 7.

	ENF 127745			ENF 135750			Total		
Period	SC	ENV	Wt	SC	ENV	Wt	SC	ENV	Wt
Early Saxon	16	11	437	17	13	216	33	24	653
Medieval	1	1	7	36	31	349	37	32	356
Post-medieval				1	1	4	1	1	4
Indeterminate				4	4	21	4	4	21
Total	17	12	444	58	49	590	75	61	1034

Table 7: Quantification of the chronological periods of the pottery by sherd count (SC), estimated number of vessels (ENV) and weight (wt)

Early Saxon

6.6.4 The majority of the Early Saxon pottery was recovered from fill (160) of pit [161], which was previously excavated during the evaluation as fill (20E) of feature [19E] (Trench 8). An attempt was made to see if sherds from the same vessels were present in both of these deposits. However, even

taking into account fabric type and wall thickness, due to the fragmentary nature of the assemblage and the variability of surface firing of the Early Saxon pottery, it was only possible to find family sherds from one vessel in both of the contexts.

6.6.5 The early Saxon fabrics consist of eight types and the sand/quartz-tempered wares, dated c.400–650 are found as:

Early Saxon sparse quartz (ESSQ), one sherd/1 ENV/6g: a body sherd, reduced throughout with wiped surfaces and an internal food deposit. Context [160].

Early Saxon medium sandy ware (ESMS), 6 sherds/4 ENV/40g: two very small sherds are from jar rims of a simple type: one is upright or slightly everted (context (20E)) and the other has burnished surfaces (context (160)). The two other sherds have either external sooting found on a small sized vessel (context (20E)) or have an internal food residue (context [160]).

Early Saxon coarse quartz ware (ESCQ), four sherds/3 ENV/36g. Only body sherds with wiped surfaces (and probably derived from jars or cooking pots) were noted in this fabric type. Two sherds have an internal residue (one each found in contexts (20E) and (160)).

6.6.6 Variant sand tempered fabrics also occur with the addition of either organic material or chalk.

Early Saxon organic and sandy ware (ESO2), 3 sherds/1 ENV/27g. A small shouldered bowl is recorded in this pottery type and it consists of a rim with a slightly beaded finish (120mm in diameter) and the vessels surfaces are wiped (context (20E)).

Early Saxon sand and sparse chalk (ESSC), 5 sherds/3 ENV/317g. This pottery type was solely found in context (20E). One sherd has burnished surfaces and another has smoothed or wiped surfaces. The most impressive vessel in the post-roman pottery assemblage occurs in this pottery type and consists of a sub-biconical jar with an upright, simple, beaded rim and complex decoration. On the shoulder carination are found discrete vertical oval bosses, which have been applied and further emphasised with internal thumb impressions. The incised decoration consist of pairs of lines and these occur as a pair of incised horizontal

lines on the shoulder, while the vertical incised ones are found on each side of the bosses. Additionally small circular cruciform crosses (Type A4) occur as two, close together, parallel horizontal bands, the top one delineated by the horizontal pair of incised lines. The vessel was used for cooking or heating water and dates to the 6th century (Anderson 2011, 28, plate 16).

Three fabrics are recorded that are quartz and granite-tempered and may possibly be from a source in the Charnwood Forest, Leicestershire or possibly from a glacial source of clay containing granite derived from Scandinavia (Williams and Vince 1977; Blackmore and Vince 2007).

6.6.7 Early Saxon organic/granitic ware (ESOM), five sherds/4 ENV/121g

Three sherds of a small baggy jar were recovered from both contexts (20E) and 9160). The vessel was originally defined as the 'rim of a small baggy vessel, oxidised surfaces, smoothed, 100mm in diameter' (Anderson 2011, 38, Table 8) however, the recovery of family sherds of the same vessel from context [160] allows the form to be better defined as a jar. The vessel has a simple, inverted rim and a newer excavated sherd has a finger impression on the top of the rim, while the body/base carination is rounded. The vessel is externally sooted and was used to cook food or heat water. Another sherd of an ESOM vessel is noted in context [20], while a sherd from a probable jar or cooking pot was found in context [1032] and it is sooted on the exterior and has an internal food deposit.

Early Saxon calcareous/granitic ware (ESCM), six sherds/6 ENV/90g. The calcareous inclusions can either occur as fine 'white' peppering of the fabric or as calcareous algal marbling. The only form identified in this fabric is a bowl with a simple upright rim and burnished surfaces (context [160]), which occurred with three other sherds of ESCM with wiped surfaces, two of which have an internal food residue. Single sherds of ESCM were found in contexts [3] and [20].

Early Saxon calcareous/granitic ware with sparse organic temper (ESCM O), one sherd/1 ENV/11g. This ware is found as a burnished sherd derived from an unidentified form (context [160]).

6.6.8 Chaff/organic-tempered ware:

Two small, abraded sherds of pottery weighing 5g are in a chaff- and sand-tempered ware (CHFS) and these were recovered from fill (120) of feature [121].

Chaff-tempered wares, although dated from c. AD 400 are more frequently found in the Middle Saxon period and possibly date as late as AD 900.

Medieval pottery

6.6.9 A shoulder sherd of a jar (3g) is present in possibly early medieval coarse ware (EMCW), dated to c. 1000–1200 and it was found in fill (120) of feature [121]. Medieval coarse ware (MCW) occurs as a total of 21/sherds/16 ENV/151g and the pottery type is dated to the late 12th–14 century. The only form recognised are cooking pots and jars: the most complete example was derived from fill (33) of feature [28] and it survives as a narrow rim with an external bevel, short concave neck and rounded shoulder and it is of composite manufacture (a wheel-thrown rim and handmade body). The vessel has external sooting.

6.6.10 The main glazed pottery-type found in the medieval component of the assemblage is Grimston glazed-ware (GRIM), dated to the late 12th–14 century and this ware was found as 15 sherds/15 ENV/198g. A single abraded body sherd was found in the evaluation (context [18]) and the rest was recovered from the ENF135750 fieldwork. The only identifiable form is jugs and fragments of rounded types were noted in fill (31) of feature [32], decorated with discrete horizontal cordons, while a continuously thumbed base was found in fill (35) of feature [37]. A jug with a collared rim and a strap handle was also of note in context (1170.

6.6.11 A glazed strap handle (7g) also occurs in East Anglian orange sandy ware, dated c.1200-1500 and this was recovered from context (145). It is possible that this is from an Essex source.

Post-medieval pottery

6.6.12 A single body sherd (4g) of post-medieval glazed red earthenware (GRE), dated c. 1500–1900 was found in context [69].

Miscellaneous (undated pottery)

6.6.13 The neck of a jar with a horizontal cordon, made in a fabric with frequent, ill-sorted, fine to medium quartz, moderate fine flint and occasional calcareous inclusions, weighting 12g was found in fill [73] of feature [74]

and occurs with medieval pottery. A small body sherd (2g) with oxidised surfaces and made in a fabric with frequent quartz and possible flint inclusions was found in context (120) and could be either of a prehistoric or an early medieval date. A sherd of pottery, weighing 1g was too abraded to assign to a type and this was found in fill (124). A fragment of a fine sandy fabric with a dark grey core and oxidised surfaces, weighing 16g, is in a laminated condition and this may possibly represent ceramic building material. It was found in context (1006).

Distribution

6.6.14 Table 8 shows the contexts containing post-Roman pottery, the number of sherds, the pottery types and forms in the deposit and a spot date for the group.

Site code	Context	Fill of	SC	ENV	Wt (g)	Pottery types and forms	Spot date
ENF127745	3E		1	1	9	ESCM	400–650
ENF127745	18E	17E	1	1	7	GRIM	Late 12th–14th century
ENF127745	20E	19E	15	10	428	ESCM ESCQ ESMS ESO2: small bowl ESOM: baggy jar ESSC: sub–biconical jar with boss, incised line and stamp decoration	6th–7th century
ENF135750	21	22	1	1	4	MCW: jar or cooking pot	Late 12th–14th century
ENF135750	24	23	1	1	16	GRIM: jug	Late 12th–14th century
ENF135750	31	32	1	1	21	GRIM: jug, rounded	Late 12th–14th century
ENF135750	33	28	9	4	110	MCW: jar or cooking pot	Late 12th–14th century
ENF135750	35	37	1	1	8	GRIM: jug, rounded	Late 12th–14th century
ENF135750	39	40	2	2	9	GRIM: jug, MCW	Late 12th–14th century
ENF135750	41	42	2	2	5	GRIM: jug, MCW	Late 12th–14th century
ENF135750	47	47	1	1	2	MCW	Late 12th–14th century
ENF135750	68	67	1	1	2	MCW	Late 12th–14th century
ENF135750	69	70	1	1	4	GRE	1550–1900
ENF135750	71	72	1	1	4	GRIM	Late 12th–14th century
ENF135750	73	74	2	2	20	MCW: jar or cooking pot	Late 12th–14th century

Site code	Context	Fill of	SC	ENV	Wt (g)	Pottery types and forms	Spot date
						MISC: jar or cooking pot	
ENF135750	77		6	6	34	GRIM: jug, MCW	Late 12th–14th century
ENF135750	80	81	1	1	6	MCW	Late 12th–14th century
ENF135750	82	83	1	1	6	MCW	Late 12th–14th century
ENF135750	109	110	1	1	1	GRIM: jug	Late 12th–14th century
ENF135750	117		1	1	68	GRIM: jug	Late 12th–14th century
ENF135750	120	121	4	3	10	CHFS ?EMCW	? Early medieval
ENF135750	124	125	1	1	1	MISC	Undated
ENF135750	145		1	1	7	East Anglian medieval sandy orange ware (?Essex)	1200–150
ENF135750	148	147	1	1	3	GRIM: jug	Late 12th–14th century
ENF135750	160	161	14	11	175	ESCM: bowl ESCM (O) ESCQ: jar ESMS: jar ESOM: jar baggy ESSQ	400–650
ENF135750	212		1	1	2	MCW	Late 12th–14th century
ENF135750	214		2	2	33	GRIM: jug	Late 12th–14th century
ENF135750	1032		1	1	36	ESOM: jar, rounded	400–650

Table 8: ENF127745 and ENF135750: Distribution of the post-Roman pottery showing individual contexts containing ceramics, the number of sherds, estimated number of vessels and weight, the fabrics, forms etc. present and a suggested deposition date. SC: sherd count, estimated number of vessels (ENV)

Significance and Potential

6.6.15 The pottery assemblage has significance for demonstrating Early Saxon and medieval activity on the study area. Of particular interest are fragments of the Early Saxon sub-biconical decorated jar decorated with incised lines, stamps and bosses, typical of the 6th century and sometimes found in association with both cremation and inhumation burials (Anderson 2011, 38). Should further Early Saxon evidence be found in the locality of the site during future work, the single Early Saxon

pit may become of greater significance in a wider context and might warrant further work such as radiocarbon dating and illustration of the ceramics.

6.6.16 The medieval pottery infers that the table wares, i.e. the glazed jugs were provided by the Grimston industry, while the kitchen wares (the cooking pots and storage jars) were sourced from the medieval coarse ware industries. The post-medieval pottery occurs as a single non-diagnostic sherd and has no significance.

6.7 Faunal Remains by Kevin Reilly

Introduction

6.7.1 The site was located at the southern perimeter of the small town of Narborough, this in the western part of Norfolk, some 10km south-east of Kings Lynn. A series of 14 evaluation trenches formed the initial stage of investigation, with archaeological features recognised within eight of these trenches. The subsequent full scale excavation, using this data, was divided into three main trenches adjacent to the western, northern and eastern perimeters of the investigation area, designated Areas 1, 2 and 3 respectively. There is evidence for prehistoric (Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age), Roman, Early Saxon and medieval occupation. Animal bones were found in deposits dating throughout this sequence.

6.7.2 This report combines and describes the animal bones from the evaluation (ENF127745) and the excavation (ENF135750). Contexts from the evaluation are indicated by the number followed by the letter 'E' (thusE). Bones from the evaluation where originally identified by Curl (2011). These where re-examined by the present author in order to provide a greater degree of consistency as an aid to comparison. The great majority of the bones were hand collected, with the exception of those taken from two samples, one from an undated natural feature and the other from the Early Saxon sunken-floored building.

Methodology

6.7.3 The bone was recorded to species/taxonomic category where possible

and to size class in the case of unidentifiable bones such as ribs, fragments of longbone shaft and the majority of vertebra fragments. Recording follows the established techniques whereby details of the element, species, bone portion, state of fusion, wear of the dentition, anatomical measurements and taphonomic including natural and anthropogenic modifications to the bone were registered. A concerted effort was undertaken to refit as many bones as possible, noting the actual number of fragments prior to refitting.

Description of faunal assemblage

6.7.4 The two stages of excavation provided a grand total of 1,453 fragments, this reducing to 623 following refitting. This total corresponds to 148 and 475 bones from the earlier and later excavations respectively. In addition 39 bones were retrieved from two samples taken at the time of the evaluation. There is a notably high level of fragmentation throughout these collections, with the notable exception of the Saxon collection and the bones from the medieval pit [147], as demonstrated in part by the reduction in quantity after refitting, while most bones show some root damage, occasionally severe. A small proportion of the collection was burnt (charred to partly calcined), these entirely limited to the Early Saxon deposits and mainly deriving from pit [161] (16 out of 19 bones). There were just six dog gnawed bones, two from Early Saxon and four from medieval levels.

Period:	Neo	Preh	ESax	Med	PM	Undated
Feature type						
Ditch				7	1	
Layer	5	33		9		3
Natural feature		1		2		3(15)
Pit		29	458(24)	63		5
Posthole		3				
Well		1				
Grand Total	5	67	458(24)	81	1	11(15)

Table 9: Distribution of hand collected and sieved (in brackets) bones by period and feature type using refitted Total fragment counts where Neo is Neolithic, B/IA is Bronze Age/Iron age, ESax is Early Saxon, Med is Medieval, PM is post-medieval

and SFB is sunken-floored building.

6.7.5 It was mentioned that animal bones were taken from deposits representing each stage of the occupation sequence (see Tables 9 and 10). Starting at the Neolithic period, there was a minor quantity from layers beneath the burnt mound in Area 1, these comprising two cattle maxillary teeth, a red deer antler fragment and a sheep/goat mandible. The antler piece is clearly from a large stag, while the sheep/goat represents an older adult as shown by the third molar in full wear. Much of the later prehistoric material (designated Bronze Age/Iron Age due to dating problems) derives from layers immediately overlying the burnt mound with the remainder taken from a variety of cut features, also in Area 1. This larger collection provided a greater array of species with cattle (including cattle-size) as a major component, featuring a broad range of skeletal parts. There was a minor concentration within posthole [1060] comprising eight cattle bones, all head parts, probably representing the remains of two or three skulls. The horncores suggest the presence of at least one sub-adult and one adult, both Small horned (length less than 96mm), the latter possibly a bull (using the criteria described in Armitage 1982 and Armitage and Clutton-Brock 1976). It is to be wondered if these represent a placed deposit, as indeed may also be demonstrated by the contents of pit [1033] which contained much of the posterior part and the left complete horncore of an aurochs. Notably this feature was completely excavated and thus it can be assumed that this portion of the skull represents the entirety of the deposited faunal remains. A pelvis fragment from a similarly large individual was recovered from fill (1084) of pit [1085]. As this feature is dated to the prehistoric era, it can be suggested that this bone may also derive from an aurochs. It was located adjacent to and in fact was truncated by the feature containing the aurochs skull. The basal circumference of the horncore measured 380mm which places this animal towards the upper limit of the male aurochs, as described in Grigson (1969, 282). Of interest in the cattle collection was the recovery of a single juvenile, represented by a femur from deposit (1015) overlying the mound. This is in sharp contrast to the generally adult age of the other

cattle bones. The prehistoric collection also featured small quantities of equid, sheep/goat and pig bones, with four out of the six equid bones from layer (1015).

6.7.6 By far the largest part of the site collection was recovered from Early Saxon deposits, essentially from pit [161], recognised as such in the later excavation and as a probable sunken-featured building [19E] (Trench 8) in the evaluation. Sheep/goat is clearly the predominant species within this combined collection, followed by cattle and then pig. There is a notable abundance of head and foot parts amongst the cattle collections (approximately 80%), contrasting with a general array of sheep/goat and pig skeletal parts and note also the large number of sheep-size pieces, with a large contingent of ribs although including just one vertebra. The age data shows a diverse range of juveniles to adults, although with a greater proportion of the latter age group. The presence of notably young lambs is probably indicative of sheep breeding in this locality. Finally there is a small quantity of bird bones, with chicken and goose.

Period:	Neo	BA/IA	ESax	Med	PM	Undated
Species						
Cattle	2	31	38	6	1	5
Equid		6		6		
Cattle-size	1	17	97	6		5(15)
Sheep/Goat	1	4	93(2)	14		1
Pig		1	17			
Sheep-size		6	204(22)	40		
Red deer	1					
Aurochs		1				
Small mammal		1				
Rat				8		
Chicken			3			
Chicken-size			2			
Goose			1			
Goose-size			3			
Large thrush				1		
Total	5	67	458[24]	81	1	11[15]

Table 10: Species distribution amongst the hand collected and sieved (in brackets)

assemblages following Table 8 concerning quantification and periods used.

6.7.7 Most of the medieval assemblage was taken from pit [147] in Area 3 (58 bones) with the remainder taken from a variety of features/layers, the latter including the ploughsoil over the burnt mound in Area 1. The pit collection comprised 10 sheep/goat bones, 39 sheep-size fragments, all the rat bones and the large thrush (blackbird-sized). The sheep/goat and sheep-size bones clearly represent the remains of at least two adult sheep, one male and one female (identified from the pelves), the former with a greater array of parts. These remains were clearly in articulation (described as a 'dog skeleton' during excavation) and it can perhaps be suggested that at least one of these animals, presumably the male, was deposited as a whole carcass. The missing parts may relate to survival pressures and differential retrieval. The rat bones probably represent one individual, adult but not fully adult as shown by the lack of complete fusion of the limb bones. The date of the deposit would suggest it is a black rather than a brown rat and the size of the bones do appear to conform to the smaller species.

6.7.8 The latest collection was taken from the fill (69) of ditch [70] in Area 1, this dated between AD1550 and 1900. This provided just one bone, a cattle scapula fragment.

6.7.9 A total of 26 bones were taken from deposit (5E) in the evaluation, ditch [36E] in the evaluation and pit [3] from the excavation. They include a heavily fragmented equid femur from ditch [36E] in Trench 3 (Area 2) and a similarly fragmented complete cattle metatarsus from the fill of pit [3]. The sample bones consist of 15 cattle-size indeterminate fragments. All three of these features are likely to be medieval in date.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

6.7.10 This site provided notable quantities of bones dating to the prehistoric, Early Saxon and medieval eras. The dating evidence for the latter two collections is reliably precise – 6th century and 12th to 14th centuries respectively. However, the evidence concerning the earlier deposits still

requires some refinement. This being said, the general inference based on the combined data would suggest a Bronze Age date for the majority of the deposits with an underlying Neolithic presence. There is a moderate to high level of fragmentation in all but the Saxon collections and the contents of medieval pit [147] with a tendency towards slight to moderate surface damage (root etching). It can be proposed that the smaller species are likely to be under represented within a large part of this site assemblage

6.7.11 It is of interest that the prehistoric collection features a large proportion of cattle processing waste, this contrasting with the sheep/goat collection suggestive of the different treatment of larger and smaller carcasses. This deposition pattern is clearly different to that seen in later prehistoric sites where there is again differential deposition of cattle processing and food waste but where the former is generally dumped within enclosure ditches at the outskirts of the settlement (see descriptions of Iron Age assemblages in Maltby 1981, 165-6). Even with this bias regarding skeletal representation, cattle is undoubtedly predominant amongst these collections. This may be typical of the period, or at least the general area, as perhaps shown by a similar dominance at the Late Bronze Age site of Godwin Ridge in the Fens (Evans 2013, 61). In addition the importance of cattle during the Early Bronze Age is clearly shown by their recovery, often in very large quantities, in association with human burials (Towers et al 2010, 509-10). A possible ritual connotation could be applied to the 2 or possibly three cattle skulls found in a prehistoric pit, this interpretation perhaps confirmed by the absence of any other bones in this feature. The aurochs skull in a nearby pit, again the exclusive contents, may represent a similar ritual act. This species became extinct sometime in the Bronze Age with the latest example from Britain found at Chapterhouse Warren Swallett in the Mendips, a single bone radiocarbon dated to about 1300BC (Levitan et al 1988). Further work is certainly required concerning this skull in order to deduce whether it is a typical size for this period, first deducing of course how old it actually is, no doubt following radiocarbon testing.

6.7.12 The Early Saxon collection, showing a predominance of sheep/goat is certainly comparable to the immense contemporary assemblage found at West Stow in Suffolk (Crabtree 1989, 6). There is insufficient evidence to provide a closer comparison, although it is of interest that both sites show a general mix of sheep/goat ages tending towards adult animals. The medieval collection is largely dominated by the articulations found in the Area 3 pit, which presumably represent the remains of discarded carcasses. If this was dated to the Saxon or prehistoric eras, a case could be made for some kind of ritual deposit. However in this later period and considering the mix of other bones in this feature, their disposal is more likely related to disease or at least some condition which made these carcasses unfit for human consumption.

6.7.13 It is recommended that the prehistoric assemblage is worthy of further work, aiming towards researching the various points raised in this conclusion section. There is, as mentioned, a problem with the dating of the prehistoric assemblage and this should of course be resolved prior to any discussion of the earliest material.

6.8 The Metalwork by Ruth Beveridge

Introduction

6.8.1 Table 11 summarises the quantities of metalwork collected from the excavation. Of the 92 objects listed in the catalogue, 77 were recovered from the metal detecting of the topsoil (100). The remainder of the finds were retrieved from layer (77), the uppermost layer of soil within a natural hollow on the site and fill (51), the fill of a small pit [50], located at the edge of this hollow. The finds are detailed in full in the catalogue. In the report below the finds have been grouped by period and then material type.

6.8.2 The metalwork from Narborough is a moderately large, mixed period assemblage of finds that date from the 1st century BC through to the post-medieval period. With the exception of six of the Roman coins, the overall condition of the copper alloy is good though sometimes fragmentary. The most noteworthy find is SF 1012, a silver penny of William I that was

found in the topsoil (100).

Find type	Number
Copper Alloy objects	77
Silver objects	8
Lead object	5
Gold objects	1
Iron objects	1
Total	92

Table 11: Metalwork quantities

Roman

6.8.3 The Roman small finds are made up for the most part of metal-detected objects of copper alloy from the topsoil (100) and layer (77). They include late Roman coins and a series of copper alloy brooches of 1st to 2nd century date.

Copper alloy

6.8.4 A total of 12 coins were recovered dating from the third and fourth centuries AD. The coins were weighed and their diameters recorded, they were identified using standard available books (Reece and James 1986) but were not identified to standard catalogue type (i.e. not LRBC ref).

6.8.5 SFs 1000, 1004, 1005, 1016 were all found in layer (77); SFs 1049, 1058, 1060, 1061, 1065, 1068, 1069, 1070 were recovered from the topsoil (100).

SF 1000: Magnentius or Decentius, Ae3, 350-353, worn, Reece period 18.

SF 1004: Ae3, 4th century, worn and corroded.

SF 1005: Constans, Ae3, 343-348, worn, Reece period 17

SF 1016: Constantius II, Ae3, 355-361, good, Reece period 18

SF 1049: ?Tetricus, barbarous radiate, fair, 275-285, Reece period 14.

SF 1058: Constantius II, Ae4, contemporary copy, 355-361, worn, Reece period 18

SF 1060: ?Valens (Valentinian/Gratian), 364-378, very worn, Reece peiod 19.

SF 1061: Helena, Ae3, ?contemporary copy, 337-40, worn, Reece period 17.

SF 1065: Ae4, 4th century, very worn.

SF 1068: Ae4, 4th century, very worn.

SF 1069: Ae3, 4th century, worn and corroded.

SF 1070: Ae3, 4th century, worn and corroded.

6.8.6 Whilst the coins have been placed into their Reece period where possible, the sample is too small to examine the chronological significance of the assemblage.

6.8.7 Of all the Roman coins recovered the most noteworthy is SF 1016. It is a re-used Roman nummus of Constantius II that has been pierced. The circular perforation is placed at the end of the legend on the obverse, at approximately the 4 o'clock position. On the obverse is a bust facing right with diadem and drapes. The legend reads DNCONSTAN TIVSPFAVG. The reverse shows a soldier spearing a barbarian fallen from a horse. The legend reads FELTEMPRE PARATIO. The coin dates between AD 354-361.

6.8.8 Although this coin is of Roman date it can be considered more in the light of how the Saxons were re-using metal objects that they were collecting in the vicinity. During the Saxon period it is known that Roman coins were often pierced for use as jewellery or amulets, and frequently placed in early graves dating to the 5th and 6th centuries. There seemed to be little preference for the types of Roman coins used or the orientation of the piercing. (Burnett 2005).

6.8.9 In addition to the coins, a further eight objects of Roman date were recovered from the excavation, seven of these were brooches.

6.8.10 The earliest type of brooch found from this excavation is SF 1064 (100), a Nauheim derivative type brooch (La Tene III), dating from 1st century BC

to mid 1st century AD. The bow is flat and leaf shaped, narrowing at the base with remnants of the catchplate. None of the spring or pin survives. Compare with Hattatt, 1989, pp290, Fig 149, No 238. A similar example was also found at Scole (Seeley, 2014 in Ashwin and Tester, Fig 7.2, No1).

SF 1055 (100) is a fragment of a one piece Colchester type brooch dating from AD 25 - 60. The upper section of the bow survives, rectangular in section, with remnants of the hook bending onto the bow. A complete example can be seen in Blagg et al, 2004, pp94, Fig 63, No 63.

SF 1003, from pit fill (51) is likely the same type and date of brooch as SF 1055, however only the lower bow and catchplate remains.

SF 1015 was found in layer (77) and is a Colchester derivative type with rear hook. It is almost complete with only the spring and pin missing. The wings have deep, angled mouldings with a rear facing hook above them. The D sectioned bow tapers to a square foot. The bow has a central groove with obliquely incised notching either side. Similar examples can be seen in Blagg et al, 2004, pp 94, Fig 63, Nos 71, 73, 74. Mackreth (1991, 122-123) points out that spring attachments held by rear hooks appear to be centred on the Icenian region and fall within a date range of AD 40 to 70, with production likely stopping in AD 61 post the Boudiccan revolt.

SF 1054 (100) is a fragment of a Colchester derivative hinged type brooch. A section of the upper bow remains, the cylindrical wings and the upper part of the pin with flattened head. The pin is hinged to the bow. The bow has a central rib and is D shape in section; there are vertical grooves on the wings. Dated to between AD 45 and 65.

SF 1048 (100) is a tapering pin with a pierced flattened head and would have been a pin for a brooch similar to SF 1054.

6.8.11 The only type of Roman brooch found on the excavation that could date beyond the 1st century AD is SF 1071, recovered from the topsoil (100). It is a hinged head enamelled, rectangular plate brooch. The wing cover folds forward around an iron pin. The bow plate is rectangular with moulded edges. Along the centre of the plate are three circles infilled with enamel. The outer circles are white, the central one blue. The terminal is

acorn shaped. The pin is missing and there is evidence of silvering/tinning on the hinge, the terminal and around the plate edges. These brooches continue into the 2nd century AD; compare with Hattatt, 1989, pp324, Fig 183, No 1554.

6.8.12 As well as the brooches, SF 1046 was found in the topsoil (100) and is a cast copper alloy nail cleaner consisting of a circular suspension loop facing the same plane as the leaf shaped blade. The junction between loop and blade is marked by a series of moulded grooves. Along the centre of the blade, on both faces, is a row of notches. It is a Crummy Type 2a which is of mid-late 1st century AD, possibly continuing into the 2nd century (compare with Crummy, 1988, pp58, Fig 62, Nos 1872 and 1874).

Saxon/Early medieval

6.8.13 The early Saxon small finds represent only a small proportion of the datable finds but may assist in the understanding of the nature of the Saxon presence on the site.

Copper alloy

6.8.14 A number of objects were recovered from the topsoil (100) of early Saxon date.

SF 1044 is the lower part of catchplate and terminal of a Mortimer type 'A' early Anglo-Saxon cruciform brooch, 5th century in date. The terminal has prominent round eyes at the side and a rounded muzzle. Compare to Green (1987), pp226, Fig 323.

SF 1045 is an early medieval cast hooked tag, it is a triangular plate decorated with a beaded border and an incised 'V' between the two attachment holes. The hook is forward facing with a missing tip. A similar, plain version in iron can be seen in Rogerson and Dallas (1984) pp72, Fig. 111, No.40.

SF 1047 is a Mortimer type 'A' cruciform long brooch with only a fragment of the bow. It has a square headplate with narrow side wings, and extends upwards into a collar, then full-round knob. The catchplate, spring and pin are missing. A similar

example is from Hattatt Fig 231, No1300, found in East Anglia, and also from Flixton (Boulter and Rogers 2012), pp199, Fig.15.3 /ING3.

6.8.15 In addition to these three small finds, two strips of copper alloy were recovered, listed as entry 80 in the catalogue. Each strip is broken at both ends and has a stamped dot motif running along the edges. They are possibly binding strips for stave-built buckets that are frequently found in 5th to 7th century Saxon graves. Compare to Ashley (2013) and Cook (2004), pp110, Fig.8.

6.8.16 A horse harness was recovered and is listed in the catalogue as entry 72. It is an incomplete copper alloy cruciform harness mount. The mount consists of a central circular body and the remains of three circular terminals, one terminal is broken and another is detached. Originally there may have been four. It has a thin rectangular section. Two of the terminals have a central integral rivets to the reverse. There are traces of silvering on the central design and on the only complete terminal. It is possibly of early Medieval in date though a good comparison cannot be found.

Medieval

6.8.17 The medieval finds, primarily from the top soil and sub soil, can be seen to represent a typical metal-detected assemblage for eastern England, their overall significance is limited but worth noting.

Silver

6.8.18 The coins were weighed and their diameters recorded. The coins were identified using standard available books (Wren 1992, 1993 and 1995).

6.8.19 In total, eight medieval coins were found during the excavation, SFs 1001 and 1002 were from layer (77) and the remainder were retrieved from the topsoil (100).

SF 1001: Henry II-Henry III, penny, short voided cross, 1180-1247

SF 1002: Henry III, penny, long voided cross, mint London, 1247-1272

SF 1011: Obverse worn, penny, long cross, 1279-1489

SF1012: William I, penny, two stars type, moneyer is possibly Godpine of London, 1066-1087

SF 1017: Henry III, penny, short voided cross, moneyer is Roger of Canterbury, 1217/8 - c.1242

SF 1018: Edward I, farthing, long cross, mint London, 1272-1307

SF 1056: Edward VI, groat, posthumous issue for Henry VIII, 1541-1553

SF: 1057: Henry II-Henry III, short voided cross, 1180-1247

6.8.20 The silver penny of William I, SF 1012, is not a common find and should be noted as an important find.

6.8.21 SFs 1001, 1002, 1017 and 1057 would have been in circulation at the same time and it is possibly they represent a single purse loss.

Copper alloy

6.8.22 The range of medieval objects recovered from the metal detecting of the topsoil (100) are dominated by dress accessories, primarily belt fittings, buckles and plates that date to the 14th century.

6.8.23 SF 1051 is a bar mount with suspension loop of 14th century date. The small suspension hoop is cast and D shaped in section. It is attached to a folded plate that is held in place with a single rivet. The hoop is greatly worn where it attaches to the plate. A similar example can be seen in Egan and Pritchard (2002), pp 221, Fig 138, No 1190, where it also illustrates how these fittings were attached to the belt.

6.8.24 Four bar mounts were recovered from the topsoil (100) and are listed in the catalogue under entries 73-76. They are of 13th-14th century date. Two (73 and 74) are cast bar mounts with central lobes that are crudely cross-hatched. They are secured to a belt by rivets through the smaller terminal lobes. Compare to Egan and Pritchard (2002), pp214, Fig. 134, No 1161. Bar mounts 75 and 76 are cast rectangular mounts, secured by either one or two rivets, (Egan and Pritchard, 2002, pp 212, Fig 133, No.

1138.

6.8.25 A further possible bar mount (listed under catalogue entry 94) is a cast sheet rectangular mount with rivet holes at each terminal. One has a surviving rivet. Along each edge is a double line of raised dots. There is an additional central perforation. It is broken into two fragments.

Catalogue entries 77 and 78 (from the topsoil 100) are strap loops, they have trapezoidal frames with internal projections. Compare with examples excavated in London in Egan and Pritchard (2002), pp234, Fig 149, Nos 1257 and 1258. Strap loops with these internal projections are the earliest form of strap loop, being current from the 12th to 14th centuries (Egan and Pritchard, 2002, 233).

Catalogue entry 81 (100) is a fragment of a 13th century annular brooch in the form of a miniature coronet with two angled bosses. The top of the bosses are recessed and flat and may have originally been set with gems. Compare to No 58 in Margeson (1993), pp14, Fig 7.

Catalogue entry 82 (100) is a flat, sexfoil mount with central perforation for rivet, it is late 13th - mid 14th century in date. A similar example can be seen in Egan and Pritchard (2002), pp 186, Fig 119, no 949, and pp113, Fig 73, No 520 which shows a similar sexfoil mount attached to a buckle plate.

Catalogue entry 83 (100) is a buckle with a D shaped frame with the pin folded around the outer bar. It is probably 14th century in date, compare with Margeson (1993) pp27, Fig 14, No 144.

Entry 84 (100) is a 14th century rectangular sheet buckle plate with central notch at one end and two perforations for rivets. It is decorated with double lines of punched triangles along each edge. Compare with Egan and Pritchard (2002), pp111, Fig 72, no 514.

Catalogue entry 85 (100) is a two piece rectangular strap end, tapering to a point at one end. It is worn at this narrowest point. The widest end has a surviving rivet. There are a double row of notches along each length on one plate.

SF 1063 (100) is possibly a casket mount. It is a rectangular sheet of copper, narrowing at one terminal and folding over on itself. In the centre of the plate is a rectangular perforation.

SF 1050 (100) is a small cast key, ovoid shaped bow, solid stem and stepped over bit. There are signs of wear on the bow suggesting it may have been suspended from something. This type of key was probably used for securing caskets and is similar to No. 1311 in Margeson (1993) pp162, Fig.120. This latter one is of 13th - early 14th century in date.

SF 1062 (100) is a 14th/15th century mount. It is a ?copper alloy/tin sheet quatrefoil with two opposing lobes pierced, these are attachment holes, either for sewing onto clothing or for attaching to furniture.

Post Medieval

Copper alloy

6.8.26 Three jettons were retrieved from the topsoil (100).

SF 1052: Nuremberg jetton, rose and orb type, probably milled by Hans Schultes, 16th century.

SF 1053: Nuremberg jetton, rose and orb type, probably milled by Hans Schultes I, 1553-1584

SF 1059: Nuremberg jetton, rose and orb type, anonymous, first half of 16th century.

6.8.27 These examples of post-medieval coinage seem most likely to represent manuring nearby or general losses.

Catalogue entry 79 was recovered from the topsoil (100) and is the fragment of a cast decorated shoe buckle frame, probably rectangular. Similar elaborate buckles can be seen in Margeson (1993), p p31, Fig 17, N0179.

Catalogue entry 93 is a cast hollow button, with separate strip for attachment loop.

Lead

Catalogue entry 87 is a domed head button with remnants of integral attachment loop. The dome has decorative ridges radiating from a central pellet. Refer to Basford (2015) for a similar example.

Catalogue entry 88 is a button with circular head and flat back. The front face has a raised border with raised (?)letters in the centre. The back face has a prominent casting seam and the remains of an integral suspension loop that is now missing. Compare with Brown (2009).

Catalogue entries 89 and 90 are also of lead, one being a counter the other a piece of waste.

Objects of uncertain date:

Gold

SF 1019 (100) Thin strip of folded gold, possibly a piece of hack gold.

Iron

Catalogue entry 86 (150) is a nail with tapering shaft, square in section and damaged head, possibly originally square.

Discussion

6.8.28 Whilst the majority of the metalwork was recovered by the metal detecting of the topsoil, and thus, not within firm archaeological contexts, some of the finds are important.

6.8.29 The Roman objects comprise of early brooches and late coins; only one of the brooches, SF 1003, being from a stratified context, fill 51, from pit 50. The low concentration of later Roman coins on the site are insufficient evidence on their own to suggest occupation in the late 4th century. Rather, they may simply represent random losses.

6.8.30 Of significance are the finds of early Saxon date as these are typical of what would be expected from early Saxon cemeteries: the fragments of cruciform brooches, the decorated bucket strips and the Roman coin with its circular perforation that is indicative of it originating from a grave (Walton Rogers 2012, pp106). These finds reinforce what has been previously found by metal-detector surveys on the site (Ames, 2011, pp3) and what was found in the trenches during the evaluation (Ames, 2011, pp10), that the presence of a Saxon cemetery/settlement on the site is

likely.

6.8.31 The medieval and post-medieval assemblage derive from the metal-detecting and few of the objects are stratified. The coinage seems most likely to represent manuring from the nearby vicinity or casual losses. The silver William I coin is of note as an individual find.

6.9 Charred Plant Macrofossils and Other Environmental Remains by Val Fryer

Introduction and method statement

6.9.1 Excavations at Narborough, undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology, recorded a buried soil horizon, a burnt mound and various pits, post–holes and other discrete features. The dating of the features was somewhat problematic due to post-depositional plough disturbance, but the burnt mound and some of the associated pits and post-holes were almost certainly of Bronze Age date. Samples for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from across the excavated area, and thirty six were submitted for assessment.

6.9.2 The samples (or 10 litre sub-samples thereof) were processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Tables 12, 13 and 14 in Appendix 3. Nomenclature within the tables follows Stace (2010). With the exception of very rare mineral replaced root/stem fragments, all plant remains were charred. Modern roots, seeds and arthropod remains were also recorded.

6.9.3 The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and will be sorted when dry. Any artefacts/ecofacts will be retained for further specialist analysis.

Results

6.9.4 Although charcoal/charred wood fragments are present at varying densities within all thirty six assemblages, other plant macrofossils are

exceedingly scarce. Preservation is generally poor, with the majority of the material being very rounded and abraded, possibly as a result of exposure to the elements for some considerable period prior to burial.

6.9.5 Individual oat (Avena sp.) and wheat (Triticum sp.) grains are recorded along with occasional cereals which are too poorly preserved for close identification. The assemblage from sample 5069 (from the burnt mound - context 1120) includes two cotyledons of indeterminate small legumes (Fabaceae), and eight samples contain fragments of hazel (Corylus avellana) nutshell.

6.9.6 As stated above, charcoal/charred wood fragments are present throughout, with the highest density occurring within the assemblages from the burnt mound. Although most fragments are highly comminuted, some larger and more robust pieces are recorded, again largely from the burnt mound contexts. In many instances, the fragments are heavily coated with either small grits or with a bright orange mineral deposit. Other plant macrofossils occur very infrequently. However, both charred and mineral replaced root/stem fragments are noted (the latter again being most common within the mound deposits) and occasional pieces of heather (Ericaceae) stem are also recorded.

6.9.7 Fragments of black porous and tarry material are present at a low density within a number of the assemblages studied. Although some may be derived from the high temperature combustion of organic remains, most are hard and brittle, and it is thought most likely that these are more modern in origin and possible bi-products of the combustion of coal (small pieces of which are also recorded). Such material is often recorded where night soil was spread on the land during the post-medieval period, or where steam implements were used during the early modern era. Perhaps unexpectedly, bone fragments are present within most assemblages, being particularly common within the pit and post-hole fills. Most fragments are very badly abraded, and in many instances it would appear that the bone has been steeped in mineral rich water (possibly post-deposition), resulting in a very bright orange appearance and a semi-

mineralised state. Occasional burnt/calcined bone fragments are also recorded, most notably from buried soil horizon [1042]. Small splinters/flakes of heat fractured stone are also present within most assemblages, occurring most frequently within the samples from the burnt mound. In addition, all but seven assemblages include mineralised and/or burnt soil concretions, although at the time of writing, it is unclear whether these are natural or a result of the high temperatures of combustion which appear to have occurred during the processes carried out on site. Most are grey to dark brown in colour with a friable texture, but others, which are hard and black, are possible natural ferrimanganiferrous concretions.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

6.9.8 In summary, although the assemblages are all broadly similar in composition, there are subtle differences which may be indicative of specific phases of site use. It would appear most likely that the majority of the recovered material is related to activities which were occurring at or adjacent to the burnt mound (Table 12). Such mounds (often of Bronze Age date) have now been recorded at various sites across Britain and northern Europe, although they remain enigmatic, as the associated assemblages are nearly always limited, with artefacts being particularly scarce or completely absent. However, research carried out in Ireland (Brindley et. al 1989/90) has shown that the mounds (known as Fulachta Fiadh) generally share common characteristics including a source of water, an accumulation of heat fractured stone mixed with black soil and charcoal, a trough and hearths. It would appear that the principal activity associated with the mounds was the heating of water by the immersion of hot stones, although it remains unclear precisely how the heated water was subsequently used. Possibilities include the cooking of large quantities of meat (potentially as a community activity or part of a funeral rite), the preparation of other animal products (including hide, antler or bone), the washing and/or dying of cloth or possibly bathing, with one or more of these activities probably occurring at any given site. At Narborough, it would appear that waste products from the mound activities were becoming incorporated within the fills of the adjacent

features (Table 13), with the abundance of bone fragments possibly suggesting that culinary preparation and/or the industrial processing of bone/hide were of particular local significance. Other remains were probably scattered further from the mound, with some becoming incorporated within buried soil horizon 1042 (Table 14). The subsequent disturbance of this deposit resulted in the material becoming distributed across an even wider area, with residual remains occurring within many later features. As plant remains other than charcoal are so scarce within the assemblages, it is assumed that most are present as either accidental inclusions or possibly as constituents of tinder/kindling, although the hazel nutshells may be the remains of snacks eaten by those conducting activities at the burnt mound.

6.9.9 As the assemblages are so limited in composition and as these sites are difficult to interpret with any degree of accuracy, it is unclear whether further analysis would add significantly to the data already included within this assessment. However, it is suggested that the eleven samples which do contain cereals and/or nutshell fragments are fully processed to ascertain whether other similar remains are also present. It is stressed that this work will probably add little to the understanding of the site itself, but it could supplement the existing data for agricultural production and the importance of gathered foodstuffs from Bronze Age contexts in north-west Norfolk.

6.10 Pollen Analysis by Marta Pérez

Introduction

6.10.1 This report summarises the findings from the assessment of two column samples (Kubiena tins) from the Narborough site, Norfolk. The aim of this assessment was: 1) to establish the potential of pollen and spores preservation in the site, 2) to establish the potential of the column samples for reconstructing the environmental history of the site and its environs and 3) to determine the potential for further analysis of the column samples taken during the excavation.

Methodology

Lithostratigraphic descriptions

6.10.2 Two column samples (sample <5111> and <5061> were described using standard procedures for recording unconsolidated sediment and organic sediments, noting the physical properties (colour), composition (gravel, sand, clay, silt and organic matter) and inclusions (e.g. artefacts) (Tröels-Smith, 1955). The procedure involved: (1) cleaning the samples with a spatula or scalpel blade and distilled water to remove surface contaminants; (2) recording the physical properties, most notably colour using a Munsell Soil Colour Chart; (3) recording the composition; gravel, sand, silt and clay (4) recording the degree of peat humification and (5) recording the unit boundaries e.g. sharp or diffuse. The results are detailed in Table 15.

Pollen and spore assessment

6.10.3 The two column samples were sub-sampled at three centimetres intervals. These samples were extracted for an assessment of pollen and spore content. They were processed in Chatham, at the Greenwich University campus labs, and processed to extract microfossils by physical and chemical treatments using KOH, HCL and acetolysis techniques (Moore et al, 1991). Known numbers of Lycopodium spores were added to the subsamples at the earliest stage to assess pollen concentrations. Due to the high content of mineral matter in the samples, they were treated with Sodium polytungstate to separate the organic from the mineral matter, prior to the acetolysis (Dr. Haggart, pers comm). The prepared samples were mounted in glycerine jelly with safranin stain and counted: using both conventional pollen and spore counts.

6.10.4 Both the pollen and spores were recorded using and Olympus binocular microscope at x400 magnification. The pollen grains were identified using the keys in Moore et al (1991) and a photographic reference collection. Fungi were identified using the published illustrations and descriptions of Van Geel (1978) and Blackford et al (forthcoming). Fungi and other non-pollen microfossils were identified taxonomically where possible and using a fungal catalogue. Type numbers are shown and their ecological affinities

are flagged up where these are known or may be inferred from previous research.

Results

Lithostratigraphy

6.10.5 ENF 135750 sample <5061>: Very uniform sediment was present along the 14cm column samples, without stratigraphic boundaries. 10yr 3/2 (very dark greyish brown) silty clay with some sand. Abundant inclusions, small to medium size sub-rounded pebbles. Slightly sandier at the top of the sequence, few roots found and few flint fragments. The sediment is not very organic.

6.10.6 ENF 135750 sample <5111>: This 14cm sequence does not show any stratigraphic boundaries, the sediment is very uniform along the whole column. 10yr 5/4 (yellowish brown) silty sand. There is a dark brown layer between 10 and 12 cm, very irregular in shape but the sediment is still a silty sand. The sediment is mainly mineral, no organic component in evidence.

Pollen

6.10.7 The results of the pollen assessment indicate that pollen concentration and preservation was poor throughout both assessed samples.

6.10.8 Very few pollen grains were recovered from sample <5111>, this was expected as the sediment wasn't organic at all. 200 lycopodium were counted for each sample and only very few Poaceae pollen were found. The numbers so small that they cannot be representative of the environment.

6.10.9 Sample <5061> produced some pollen, but very small quantities, where possible a minimum of 100 land pollen grains were counted. Most of the pollen grains were very damaged and broken, nevertheless a few pollen grains were identified. The pollen diagram is shown in Table 15.

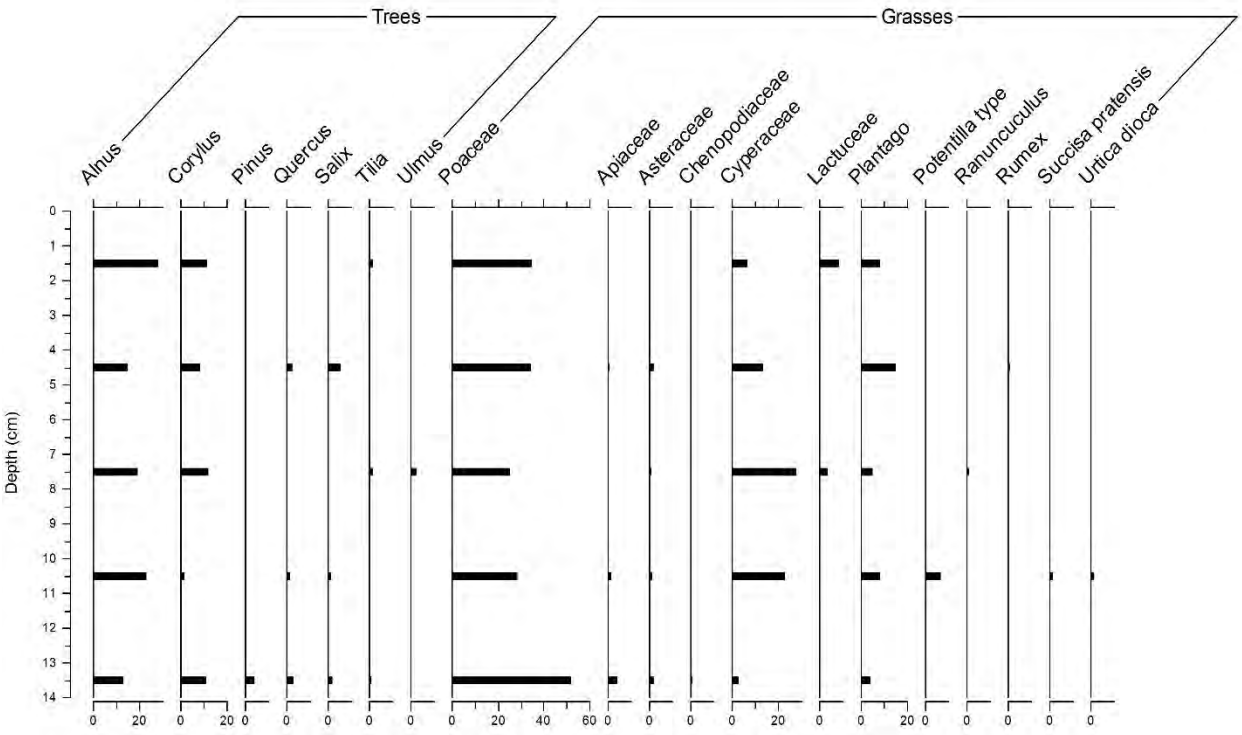

Table 15: <5061> pollen percentage results.

Spores

6.10.10 Sample <5111> produced few spores, and they were not of environmental importance.

6.10.11 A good assemblage of fungi spores and algae was recovered from sample <5061>, the diagram is shown in Table 16.

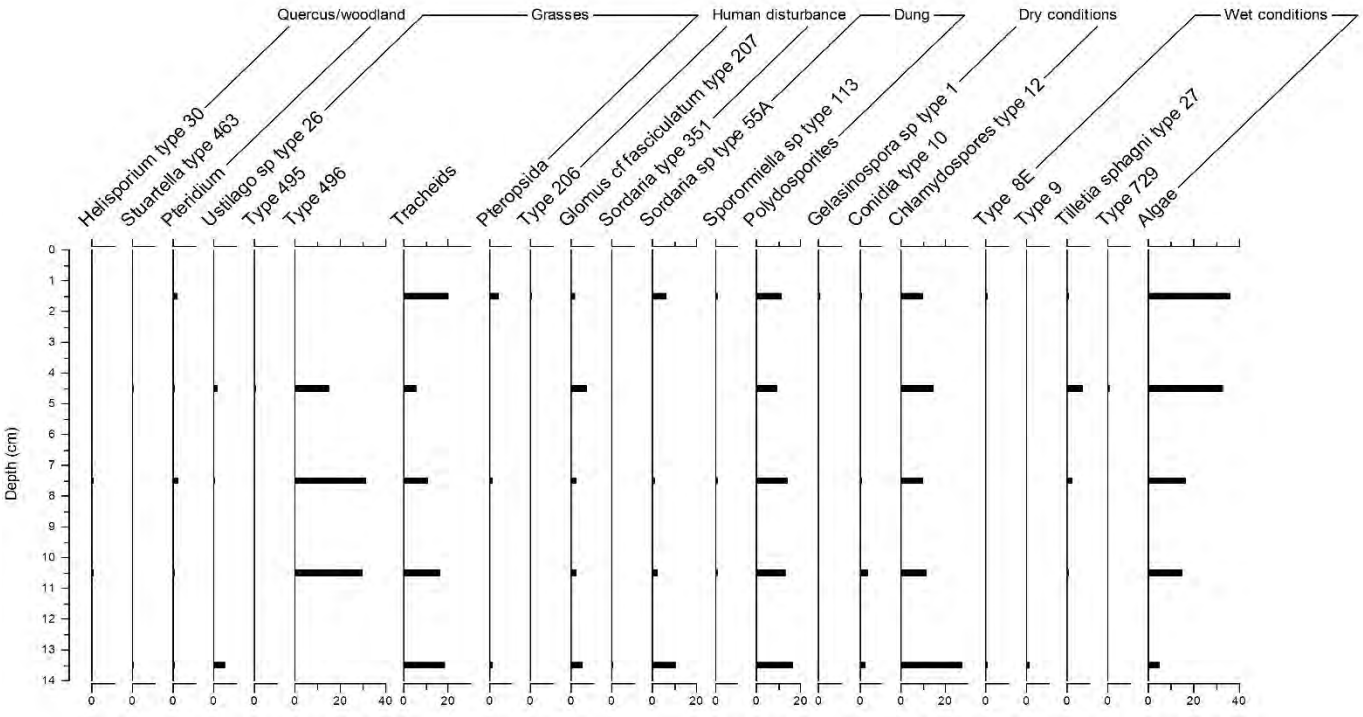

Table 16: <5061> Spore and algae percentage results.

Pollen Discussion

6.10.12 The pollen diagram shows very limited pollen taxa, all of the pollen grains found are particularly resistant to decay and thus it is likely that they are over represented in comparison to other taxa. As a result of this, no comment can be made of the vegetation history of the site based in this sort sequence. Nonetheless, this sequence can add information to the plant macrofossils and spore assemblages.

6.10.13 The pollen diagram shows little change in the wider landscape in this short sequence, trees like Alnus and Corylus are important around the site, and the grasses are numerous at a more local level. Trees and some shrubs are overrepresented in pollen diagrams whilst some herbs may be present in the vegetation but recorded in low frequencies or even absent in diagrams (Brostrom et al, 2008).

6.10.14 The presence of Poaceae and other grasses such as Lactuceae and Plantago is consistent with pastoral land use and suggests impoverished soil conditions (Edwards et al, 2005). Possible pastoral use of the land is also indicated by the presence of Potentilla type the growth of which can

be encouraged by grazing (Blackford et al, 2006).

6.10.15 This pollen diagram though of limited use shows a clear open grassland dominating the local landscape with woodland also being present in the surrounded area.

Spores Discussion

6.10.16 Fungal remains, most often their spores, are an important part of the 'non-pollen' information in peat deposits. They are potential indicators of specific ecological (e.g. wetness), substrate (e.g. specific host plants, decaying organic matter, including dung) and also soil/vegetation disturbance (Van Geel, 1978a ; Yeloff et al, 2007).

6.10.17 Agricultural societies and domesticated animals have created a range of new habitats for fungi. Consequently the mycoflora of settlement sites and the surrounding cropland, pastures and hay meadows reflects these land uses and land cover changes with different fungal assemblages relative to the original, undisturbed natural ecosystems (Van Geel et al, 2011).

6.10.18 The data show that Type 496 are the most abundant spores through the entire profile (except at the top and bottom of the sequence. These spores together with the presence of tracheids and Ustilaginales type 26, suggest a localised record of grazing directly at the sampling site, rather than in the general area as do some of the well-dispersed pollen taxa (Van Geel, 1978a; Prager et al, 2006).

6.10.19 The diagram also shows that Chlamydospores type 12 are very abundant throughout the entire profile. These spores are found in leaves of Calluna and Ericales and they seem to be indicative of dry conditions (Van Geel, 1978b). However, in new studies by Yeloff et al (2007), the peaks of Type 12 have been demonstrated to occur during periods when the water table is rising rapidly. They are probably produced by the fungus when conditions become too wet for the host plant. Similarly indicative of eutrophic conditions and possible shallow waters are the algae spores (Marinova and Atanassova, 2006), which were found in large amount especially at the top of the sequence.

6.10.20 Sporormiella (type 113) and Sordaria type (type 55A, type 351 and polydosporites) are robust indicators of grazing activities, their presence in dung indicates that herbivores are present in the immediate environment (Cugny et al, 2010). There is an important amount of polydosporites in the spore diagram, it is very likely that these are Sordariales type that have grouped together in chains and groups. These data do not suggest large concentrations of dung or possible human disturbance but a constant presence. Although there are small percentages of Sporormiella spores in the assemblage these constitute evidence for very localise animal and human disturbance, they are found in sclerotia on the surface of drying dung and are spread passively to nearby vegetation (Davis and Shafer, 2006). More evidence for anthropogenic activities, animals and soil erosion is confirmed by the presence of Glomus cf. fasciculatum (Argant et al, 2006). This spore also is indicative of human and animal trampling pressure (Ejarque et al, 2011). The continuous although somehow small presence of dung related spores suggests that animals and people were present in the sampled area over time.

6.10.21 Besides noticeable tree pollen along the sequence, there are also spores that can be associated with woodland. Helisporium (type 30) and Stuartella (type 463) are both found in the leaves of Quercus, the Pinus needles and cone, and usually occur in Quercus woodland surfaces (Blackford et al, forthcoming)

Conclusions

6.10.22 The pollen and spore assemblage show and open landscape where grazing and human activities were taken place with a possible woodland nearby.

Recommendations

6.10.23 Although the pollen preservation was not very good the preservation and amount of spores was good and further study of these could provide an accurate picture of the environmental changes happening at the site over time.

6.11 Wood by Graham Morgan

6.11.1 The samples were identified from thin sections. The diameter is that measured in mm, the rings are those actually seen, and the age is that estimated from the rate of growth shown by the tree ring width. The wood is not worked and very little useful information can be taken from these samples.

Ref			Dia	Rings	Age	Species
1114	1036		300?			knot or bole - maple
1114	1040		60	12	15	hazel
1111	1041					unidentified knot
1111	1042		frag			oak
1111	1066	1033	frag			maple
1114	1094		80	8	20	hazel

Table 17: Species identification

The species list is as follows:

Oak Quercus spp.

Field Maple Acer campestre.

Hazel Corylus avellana.

6.11.2 These fragments are mostly degraded so some were not clearly identifiable, particularly the Field Maple. The massive piece appeared to be Field Maple but had a very distorted structure.

7 DISCUSSION

7.1.1 The excavations at Narborough revealed five main phases of activity across the site: these comprised Early Neolithic, Early Bronze Age, Iron Age, Early Saxon and Medieval phases.

7.1.2 The date of formation of the large natural hollow in Area 1 is unknown and although the flint assemblage from within the basal buried soil in the hollow is mixed, the material indicates a presence in the landscape during the Early Neolithic period. The seasonal inundations of the hollow would have provided a water source for people, animals and vegetation and thus an attractive location for temporary occupation during this early period. The basal deposit of the hollow represented an inorganic buried soil ('B') horizon, which likely formed during the later Mesolithic or earlier Neolithic period. The two 'caches' of earlier Neolithic flint tools and the single axehead indicate intentional collection and deposition of material within the hollow and demonstrate the desire to 'mark' this natural landscape feature as culturally significant or meaningful.

7.1.3 It has been suggested that the seven leaf-shaped arrowheads and three unretouched flakes (which may have been arrowhead 'blanks') from Pit [1037] could all have been struck from the same core. In the eastern region, there is little evidence for arrowheads being manufactured in bulk at particular sites, the most pertinent site being Harford, near Norwich, where there is evidence for arrowhead production alongside the manufacturing of axeheads (see Bishop, Section 6.2). The Narborough material could represent a small-scale arrowhead manufacturing site, and is therefore of regional and national significance. Furthermore, there is evidence in the assemblage from the buried soils that axeheads may have also been manufactured here, or close by (ibid). The two axeheads with variable wear, bifacial knife and chisel from Pit [1041] display the desire to bring together a more diverse collection of tools for the purpose of intentional deposition in the hollow. The implements had undoubtedly been selected, but the condition of the chisel indicates the tools may have been gathered over a long period before their burial (ibid.). There was no

indication that the isolated axehead had originally been part of a larger assemblage of tools, and it is considered to represent the intentional deposition of a single item.

7.1.4 The flint caches are significant in themselves and warrant further work to assess the sources of the raw material and to clarify, if possible, where the tools were manufactured. What is of particular interest is the difference between the caches and the isolated axehead. The selection of different types and quantities of material could reflect different cultural preferences. Further work including cross-site comparisons should be completed as part of the publication work, in order to try to better understand the meaning and cultural significance of these deposits

7.1.5 The most significant aspect of the excavation was undoubtedly the burnt mound and its associated features. The burnt mound on the site was of a type commonly found on the fen margins of East Anglia and consisted of layered deposits composed mainly of small pieces of heated and fire-cracked flint. The relatively small median size of much of the flint suggests that it had undergone repeated heating events. This flint was mixed with a dark grey/ black 'greasy' sand stained as a result of the high quantity of burnt organic remains in the deposits. This material represents the hearth waste derived from fire pits over which, or in which, the stone was heated originally. The wood for these hearths was likely sourced locally, perhaps even from the vegetation that grew around the hollow. Remnants of hazel found associated with the mound suggest it may have been gathered for food and tinder, whilst the piece of possible field maple found in Pit [1033] indicates a possible source of fuel. The Narborough burnt mound was positioned in a damp, marshy hollow with easy access to water and fuel.

7.1.6 It is widely accepted that the burnt stone was used for heating water, although beyond this, little more is known for certain in spite of the relatively common occurrence of burnt mounds close to river systems and within the fen edge environs of East Anglia. Often, a rectangular pit or ‘trough’ is found in close proximity to burnt mounds, which are interpreted as water containers to which the heated stone was added, thus warming

the water. At Narborough, a rectangular trough was excavated and is thought to have served this function, while an earlier sub-rectangular pit sealed by the burnt mound layers may have been the original water-heating feature. It has been suggested that the small size of the flint indicates repeated heating and fracturing (see Bishop, this report) and that the material was discarded as soon as it became impractical or inefficient for heating water.

7.1.7 The water is apparently sourced directly from natural sources or, as at Narborough, a well was dug in the lowest point of the hollow to facilitate water collection from a potentially seasonally variable water-table. A cluster of pits within this lower area suggests there may have been several attempts to dig to the water table before the establishment of a more formal well feature. Of interest at Narborourgh is the compelling evidence for a circular posthole structure, seemingly surrounding the well. One of the internal postholes was cut by the well, which implies the structure may pre-date the well, at least in part. A series of radiocarbon dates may serve to resolve this. However, what can be said at this stage is that there is little evidence for formal structures associated with burnt mounds elsewhere in East Anglia. The postholes imply that a superstructure, perhaps a shelter or a windbreak, was established at the site to facilitate the heating processes and other activities occurring at the site.

7.1.8 Within the uppermost well deposit was a partial aurochs skull and horncore, which were seemingly placed in the feature to indicate the end of its use. Aurochs remains (in particular the skulls and horns) within Early Bronze Age pits have been noted elsewhere as special deposits to mark the end of use of a feature and this is almost certainly the case at Narborough. A partial pelvic bone of a probable aurochs was recovered from one of the earlier pits cut by the well and may have been used similarly to mark the end of this feature prior to the digging of the well. The site soil conditions are not conducive to the survival and preservation of faunal remains, although the limited material from the Early Bronze Age

pits close to the mound show a preference for cattle which could suggest that the processing of cattle remains occurred at the site (see Reilly, this report). Cattle were also the dominant species represented in the buried soil assemblages from the Neolithic and post-Early Bronze Age soils and this material may have derived from activities occurring in the hollow during the Early Bronze Age use. In common with other excavated examples, the burnt mound itself contained very few artefacts, suggesting that the burnt stone and any associated faunal (or other) remains were discarded separately.

7.1.9 Although the formation of burnt mounds is well understood, the reason for heating water has never been conclusively resolved. The fact remains that very few examples have been excavated to modern standards and, consequently, very little is understood of their precise character and function, or of the broader regional variations and development of this class of monument. Of the examples that have been excavated and researched, few have proved rich in archaeological material beyond the burnt flint itself. They have traditionally been interpreted as the residues of repeated, 'special' cooking events away from usual settlement centres, with the associated troughs being seen as containers to either boil wrapped, or 'dry roast' meat. Excavations of two examples in Birmingham in 1980 led to the suggestion that they could be the sites of prehistoric sweat lodges or saunas (Barfield and Hodder 1987; Barfield 1991), based on a series of postholes thought to represent shelters around the troughs. This interpretation does not seem to fit well with the evidence found at Narborough, as although evidence for a posthole structure was present, it was focused around the well, not around the trough.

7.1.10 Numerous other explanations have also been forwarded for the function of burnt mounds, including a role in beer making (Quinn and Moore 2007), wool processing (Jeffery 1991), leather production (Bishop 2012) and for a wide variety of other craft or industrial purposes (Barfield and Hodder 1987).

7.1.11 The Narborough excavations certainly have the potential to contribute to

this debate, as the faunal evidence would seem to suggest a link with cattle processing. Large faunal remains are not abundant, although preservation is undoubtedly a factor in this, and it must be noted that the remains present could represent day to day cooking and consumption, as a subsidiary activity to the actual process and primary function of burnt mound creation and use. However, the recovery of a relatively large assemblage of bone fragments from the cut features associated with, or adjacent to, the burnt mound suggests that there is indeed a link with animal processing and/or cooking. The significantly lower quantity of bone fragments found in the burnt mound layers by comparison highlights potential cultural or practical differences in depositional practices; with burnt stone largely being deposited in a localised area, and animal remains (deriving from the primary activities) being swept up and deposited into the pits and other cut features.

7.1.12 As it stands, the bone found in the environmental samples is presumed to be animal, although it has not yet been identified by the appropriate specialist. Any human remains found within this assemblage would have significant implications for the interpretation of the Narborough burnt mound. Fragments of black, porous matter found in many of these samples, and those from the post-Early Bronze Age buried soil (1042), might be intrusive modern material deriving from the combustion of coal (see Fryer, Section 6.9), however similar remains are produced through the combustion of organic material at high temperatures and it is possible that much of this may have resulted from the burnt mound activities. Further analysis on these remains and any found in the additional samples to be processed will help to clarify the types of activities that occurred at the Narborough burnt mound site and provide meaningful contribution to the function debate of this monument type.

7.1.13 Apart from the debates around the practicalities of burnt mound function, Yates and Bradley (2010a; 2010b) have argued that, in the fens, burnt mounds may demarcate elements of a ritual or ceremonial landscape, and their visibility may have enabled them to act as landscape markers

(Edmonds et al. 1999; Bishop 2012). The position of the Narborough example within a hollow would have been prominent as part of the boundary between the higher, drier areas to the north and east and the lower, wetter areas of the carr and river systems to the south and west. The placement of the auroch and cattle skulls within cut features associated with the burnt mound is also suggestive of a degree of ritual action being carried out here, in line with the focus of recent studies on the symbolic qualities of burnt mounds (e.g. Loktionov 2013), although the extent to which this was involved with the burnt mound's active life or marking its falling into disuse must remain speculative. It should be noted that in the Narborough examples, as in much of the published corpus, the sheer size of the burnt mound suggests a scale of use that could easily encompass more symbolic uses such as aggregation, feasting and other ceremonial practices as well as functions such as the processing of animal remains (e.g. Bruchac 1993; Needham 1993).

7.1.14 The Iron Age was represented on the site by a distinct layer to the north of the burnt mound. A small amount of Iron Age pottery was recovered from the buried soil overlying the burnt mound and from within Bronze Age cut features, although this was undoubtedly incorporated intrusively through later ploughing of the Iron Age deposit. The Iron Age layer was comparatively rich in artefacts and burnt organic material and seems to represent a deliberate dump, or repeated dumps, of occupation debris at the edge of the still-visible hollow. Although the Iron Age activity on the site was limited to this layer, the nature of this layer is suggestive of nearby settlement.

7.1.15 Although small quantities of Roman material were recovered from the topsoil and subsoil deposits, the absence of cut features of this date indicates a lack of Roman activity on the site. Activity here resumed in the Early Saxon period and was represented by a pit in Area 3 and possibly also by a pit in Area 1. The pit in Area 3 contained a large assemblage of pottery and faunal remains, indicative of nearby settlement, with a potential economic focus on -rearing of sheep and/ or goats. The pit in

Area 1, although containing a 1st-century brooch, is considered to be of potential Saxon date based on the recovery of some Saxon pottery from the medieval ploughsoils overlying the pit and the discovery of Saxon and Roman metalwork in the topsoil, thought to represent evidence for a disturbed Saxon cemetery site in the vicinity.

7.1.16 The latest period of archaeology present on the site is represented by two phases of medieval activity, comprising field boundaries, enclosures and an area of localised chalk quarrying. While some of the first phase of ditches undoubtedly went out of use, others were maintained or reused as part of the second phase of medieval field boundary development. The pottery suggests that the earliest phase may have had its origins in the early medieval period (c. 11th-century), although clearly the main period of activity was between the 12th and 14th centuries.

7.1.17 Medieval Phase 1 comprised a small enclosure in the western part of Area 1, as well as larger, sometimes reinstated, ditch lines that continued across Area 1 from east to west, and across Areas 2 and 3 from southeast to northwest. Medieval Phase 2 (the latest phase of archaeological remains present on the site) comprised a series of roughly north to south ditch lines, which formed large rectilinear outfields, as well as a cluster of quarry pits in the west and southern part of Area 1. The medieval archaeology represents the delineation of the landscape into successive phases of an agricultural field system. The initial phase contained a smaller subdivision in Area 1, which when combined with the multiple re-cuts of parts of the boundary systems in this area, suggests that this part of the site may have functioned as part of the agricultural infield and may have been closer to the main focus of settlement. This corresponds with the location of the quarry pits, some of which were cut by this enclosure. The quarry pits suggest they served settlements to the south and/ or west of Area 1. During the second phase of medieval activity, the area was reorganised into large outfields, although the quarrying activity likely continued and the smaller enclosure within Area 1 may still have been in use.

7.1.18 The results of the Narborough excavations are of regional significance. The Neolithic flint caches indicate a ceremonial aspect to the use of this natural, seasonally wet hollow on the fen edge, and suggests that it was seen as a culturally significant 'place' by the Neolithic people who lived in or exploited the resources of this landscape. The potential that arrowheads and perhaps even axeheads were manufactured at or close to the site is of great importance and would add to our understanding of regional Neolithic tool production. Without a doubt, the most significant result of the excavation was the Early Bronze Age burnt mound and associated features. The range of features included one or possibly two water troughs, a cluster of pits, a formal well feature and a circular post-built structure, as well as the mound itself. The excavation of these features represents one of the most complete and thorough excavations of this monument type to have been undertaken in recent years and the potential information that can be obtained from future analysis of the monument and its associated environmental and artefactual material is significant.

7.1.19 Future analysis of the remaining environmental samples (see Section 4.5.2) from the burnt mound and its associated features may shed light on the types of raw materials used for burning and/ or that may have been involved in any other related processes. Any artefacts recovered from the mound and its features (i.e. the faunal remains) and any additional material collected from residues following environmental processing should be assessed for evidence of butchery and/ or human intervention, which may help to clarify the types of activities associated with the mound. A series of radiocarbon dates to accompany those already obtained may indicate the period of use of the mound and thus refine our interpretations on their role in the Early Bronze Age.

8 UPDATED PROJECT DESIGN AND PUBLICATION PROPOSAL

8.1 Additional Specialist Research

8.1.1 Radiocarbon-date the aurochs skull, before comparison of this example with the known corpus in terms of size, sex etc (one sample).

8.1.2 Radiocarbon-date the unworked wood present within the Early Bronze Age well (one sample).

8.1.3 More detailed analysis of the faunal assemblage, focusing on the prehistoric evidence, i.e. species abundance, age and size data.

8.1.4 Completion of the programme of analysis of the buried soil layer deposits, comprising micromorphology of the burnt mound and Neolithic buried soil deposits.

8.1.5 Fully process the bulk samples containing cereals and/ or nutshell fragments to ascertain if further remains are present.

8.1.6 Fully write-up and illustrate the worked flint assemblage, taking into account regional comparanda and consideration of the material's spatial distribution, stage of manufacture and association of worked flint with other artefact classes.

8.2 Additional Research and Reporting

8.2.1 Investigate the Updated Research Questions listed below, by means of library and Norfolk HER research, in order to realise the site's research potential.

8.2.2 Update this report with the results of radiocarbon-dating and further specialist analysis, before creating an expanded discussion (with additional illustrations as necessary) based on the additional research into context/ parallels. The report will then be reissued as the Final Report on the project.

8.2.3 Disseminate the significant results of the project by publication (see Publication Proposal in Section 9 below).

8.2.4 Prepare the site archive for long-term storage and deposit it at Norwich Castle Museum in order to facilitate future research.

8.3 Updated Research Questions

The Early Neolithic Flint Caches

8.3.1 How do the caches relate to the natural landscape and any known Neolithic activity in the immediate or wider region and do they provide any information towards modelling types of Neolithic activity in the region? Is there any evidence for Neolithic ceremonial features in the landscape (i.e. monuments) and how does the deposition of flint artefacts in the hollow relate to such activity?

-Compare the site with evidence for contemporary Neolithic activity including finds, cropmarks and known sites of all types in the region, with specific focus on material deposition in relationship to the sites, their function and the natural landscape.

-Compare and contrast the caches and worked flints deposited in the hollow at Narborough with contemporary examples of similar depositional activity in Norfolk, especially those containing similar artefact assemblages or being located in similar topographical locations.

8.3.2 To what extent can the flint caches in the hollow add to current knowledge of Neolithic flint tool manufacturing, depositional practices and trade?

-Compare and contrast the worked flint caches with other examples of similar assemblages in Norfolk and indeed the wider region, especially those containing evidence for the manufacturing process (i.e. similar to the leaf-shaped arrowheads in cache [1037]) or for curation of prestigious artefacts.

-Compare the choice of sources of flint for these artefacts with other similar artefacts from Norfolk and the wider region. Can patterns of trade or transport of material be identified? The choice and sources of raw materials specifically for arrowheads and axes in the region requires more attention

(Medleycott 2011).

The Early Bronze Age Burnt Mound and Associated Features

8.3.3 What is the date range of the mound and its associated features and how does this relate to known burnt mound sites in the region and on a cross-regional basis? Is there any patterning to the distribution of Norfolk burnt mounds and how does this compare to the wider region?

-Look at the full results of the radiocarbon-dating; compare with other dating evidence recovered from site. Is Bayesian modelling applicable to the mound deposits and how will this aid our understanding of these feature types?

-Compare the dates with those obtained from other burnt mound sites (or sites with closely associated dateable material culture).

-Examine distribution of burnt mounds in Norfolk and in the wider regions which might indicate distributional patterns and how this relates to settlements and/ or the natural landscape. Is there any evidence for a Norfolk-specific type site (Medleycott 2011)?

8.3.4 How does the evidence for the date of the burnt mound and associated features at Narborough compare/ contrast with that from other sites in East Anglia? And how does the burnt mound relate to contemporary settlement? Given the limited area of excavation, the context of the burnt mound in relationship to settlement is not clear, therefore meaningful comparisons to other regional Bronze Age sites associated with burnt mounds might not be entirely feasible.

-Compare and contrast the Narborough site with other excavated examples in the study area, especially any that have larger artefact assemblages.

-Investigate other known examples of burnt mounds with associated cut features or potential structures in Norfolk.

-Investigate other known examples of deliberate deposition in Early Bronze

Age wells, pits or burnt mound contexts, especially those involving aurochs remains.

-Examine the evidence for contemporary activity in the vicinity including known sites, cropmarks and finds distributions, (e.g. the posited barrow to the south of the site). How far is it possible to determine how the Narborourgh burnt mound relates to the local natural and human landscape?

8.3.5 What is the likely function of the Narborough burnt mound and how does this compare with the current academic discourse on burnt mound function(s)?

-Investigate the different theories posited for burnt mounds, compare and contrast the evidence in support of these interpretations with the Narborough example.

8.3.6 Is it possible to further refine the prehistoric pottery at Narborough and if so, what does this contribute to the regional chronologies for the Later Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age pottery as well as the Iron Age pottery?

-Compare the site assemblage to other assemblages in the local and wider region. For the Later Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age pottery, can this be considered to relate directly to the use and life of the mound and how does this compare to other burnt mound sites? Any contexts associated with good assemblages of pottery should be considered for radiocarbon dating in order to tie in typological dating with scientific dating at the site. Comparison of the Narborough pottery with other assemblages either dated scientifically or typologically (Medleycott 2011) might serve to aid in refining regional chronologies.

-The regional chronology for Iron Age pottery needs considerable work although this is largely true of Early and Middle Iron Age material. Radiocarbon dating and Bayesian modelling should be considered where possible (Medleycott 2011) however the Iron Age pottery from Narborough is

not from a securely dated and poorly understood context and therefore accompanying radiocarbon dates are not likely to be valid. Regional comparisons of the assemblage and typological comparisons would in this case be the most suitable course for future work.

8.4 Tasks for Post-Excavation Analysis and Publication

Task	Description		Complete?
1	Complete programme of radiocarbon-dating (SUERC)		
2	Complete further analysis of the artefact assemblages, as per specialist recommendations.		
3	Generate bibliography for library/ HER research		
4	Investigate Updated Research Questions:		
4.1	Library research (Cambridge University Library)	-Parallels for the Neolithic finds assemblages. -Parallels for Early Bronze Age burnt mounds in East Anglia. -Parallels for Iron Age pottery assemblages in the region. -Published reports on fieldwork in the area.	
4.2	HER research (Gressenhall, Norfolk)	-Any cropmarks from the landscape around the site. -Grey reports on unpublished fieldwork in the area.	
5	Incorporate results of radiocarbon-dating and additional research into PXA and reissue as Final Report		
6	Write publication report		
6.1	Cutting down, reordering and changing emphasis of existing text into publication format + writing expanded discussion of the significant elements.		
6.2	Re-working of Assessment Report figures for publication		
6.3	Incorporate new figures and illustrations into the report.		
7	Liaise with NA regarding publication		
8	Prepare and deposit site archive with Norwich Castle Museum.		

8.4.1 Table 18: Tasks for post-excavation analysis and publication

8.5 Timetable

8.5.1 All additional specialist work will be commissioned within three months of acceptance of this report.

8.5.2 A publication-ready text and figures will be submitted to Norfolk Archaeology within two years of completion of the fieldwork.

9 PUBLICATION PROPOSAL

9.1 General

9.1.1 It is proposed to publish the results of the project as an article in the county archaeological journal, Norfolk Archaeology ('NA'), entitled 'An Early Neolithic Buried Soil and Early Bronze-Age Burnt Mound at Narborough'.

9.2 Estimated Report Statistics

Estimated Word Count

9.2.1 Approximately 4-5000 words, depending on the results of the further research.

Figures (see Table 18)

9.2.2 Figures will use colour.

Figure No.	Title	Content
1	Site Location	Showing location in region, county, and detailed plan showing position of current site and excavation area(s).
2	Phase Plan, Area 1	Plan of the series of phases of buried soils, burnt mound and other cut features. Each period to be represented by a colour, with a key. Labelling will be kept to a minimum so that the figure does not become cluttered at this scale.
3	Saxon and Medieval Phase Plan, Areas 1-3	Plan of the Saxon and medieval archaeology in all three areas, including group and subgroup labels. Each period to be represented by a colour, with a key. Labelling will be kept to a minimum so that the figure does not become cluttered at this scale.
4	Local Landscape and Cropmarks	The excavated field system, relevant local sites and finds recorded in the

		Norfolk HER, and any relevant cropmarks, plotted against the main local landscape features, including Butlers Carr and the natural topography. If cropmark evidence is limited, the information on this figure may instead be incorporated into the detailed location plan on Fig. 1.
5	Comparative Plans of Bronze Age Burnt Mounds	If parallels with similar/informative morphology can be found with associated cut features. Comparative sites shown in the same style and at the same scale, alongside a copy of the plan of the burnt mound and associated deposits, in order to allow direct comparison.

Table 19: Proposed publication figures

9.3 Report Structure and Headings (approximate word count)

Abstract (200 words)

9.3.1 Non-technical summary of the background to the project, the principal results, the content of the article, and the significance of the findings.

Introduction and Background (800 words)

9.3.2 Site location, geology & topography, the previous phases of trial trenching, the known archaeology of the Narborough area and details of previous archaeological work and any cropmarks, some general discussion about the growing body of evidence for Bronze Age burnt mounds and the exploitation/settlement of the fen margins in East Anglia. The reasons for current fieldwork, fieldwork methodology, where to access 'grey' report and site archive.

The Early Neolithic Buried Soil and Finds Assemblages (1000 words)

9.3.3 Brief physical description of the Early Neolithic buried soil deposit, including its position within the hollow. Discussion of what the soil

represents in terms of probable environmental conditions. Discussion of the dating of the finds assemblages and their limitations. Discussion of the nature of the finds assemblages, focusing on the 'special' nature of the flint caches and partially polished axe head. Comparison with other contemporary examples of deliberate deposition in similar contexts.

The Early Bronze Age Burnt Mound and Associated Features (2000 words)

9.3.4 Brief physical description of the burnt mound and its associated features, including the relationship of the various cut features to the burnt mound and their position within the hollow. Discussion of the implications of these relationships to how this burnt mound functioned, together with a brief background detailing the current typologies of burnt mounds in the region and where the Narborough example fits within this wider corpus. Discussion of the importance and potential interpretation of the potential 'placed' deposits within these contexts. Detail of the various positions taken on the interpretations of burnt mounds, prior to suggesting the potential function(s) of the Narborough burnt mound. Brief overview of the deposits overlying the burnt mound stratigraphically and their significance/meaning.

The Saxon Evidence (500 words)

9.3.5 Brief physical description of the Early Saxon archaeology on site and its position within the site. Discussion about the nature of the finds assemblages from the Saxon features, focusing on the faunal assemblages. Discussion of what these assemblages suggest about stock raising at Narborough in this period, brief comparison to known Early Saxon economic strategies in the local area.

The Early Medieval Boundaries and Enclosures (300 words)

9.3.6 Brief physical description of the early medieval boundaries and enclosures. Discussion of the relationship of the enclosure and field systems with topography and the main natural landscape features, discussion of any links to recorded cropmarks or other known sites in the area.

Conclusions (200 words)

9.3.7 Summary of the principal results of the project, their context and significance.

Acknowledgements

9.3.8 Client, consultant, planning archaeologist, manager, CAD Department and officer, site team, site manager, others.

Bibliography

9.3.9 List of sources consulted.

10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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12 APPENDIX 1: PLATES

Plate 1: Excavation Area 1, view south-east

Plate 2: Pollen sampling the burnt mound deposits, view north-west

Plate 3: The hollow, post-excavation, view west

Plate 4: Flint cache [1037], view north

Plate 5: Flint cache [1041], view east

Plate 6: The burnt mound and underlying Neolithic layer (1094), view north

Plate 7: Well [1033], part-excavated showing aurochs horn, view north

Plate 8: Saxon pit [161/19E], view north-west

Plate 9: View of burnt mound, pre-excavation, with Boundary 1 to the right, view west

13 APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT DATA

Sitecode	Context Number	Cut	Type	Category	Ditch Number	Group	Phase
ENF135750	1	2	Fill	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	1	1	Layer	Topsoil			Modern
ENF135750	2	2	Cut	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	2	2	Layer	Subsoil			Modern
ENF127745	3	3	Cut	Natural		Hollow	Iron Age
ENF135750	3	3	Cut	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	4	3	Layer	Natural		Buried Soil	Iron Age
ENF135750	4	3	Fill	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	5	5	Cut	Natural		Hollow	Undated
ENF135750	5	5	Cut	Posthole		Medieval Postholes	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	6	5	Layer	Natural		Buried Soil	Undated
ENF135750	6	5	Fill	Posthole		Medieval Postholes	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	7	7	Cut	Pit		VOID	VOID
ENF135750	7	8	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	
ENF127745	8	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
ENF135750	8	8	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	
ENF127745	9	9	Cut	Ditch	13	Boundary 4	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	9	9	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF127745	10	9	Fill	Ditch	13	Boundary 4	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	10	10	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF127745	11	11	Cut	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	11	11	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF127745	12	11	Fill	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1

ENF135750	12	11	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF127745	13	13	Cut	Ditch	14	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	13	13	Cut	Posthole		Medieval Discrete Features 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	14	13	Fill	Ditch	14	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	14	13	Fill	Posthole		Medieval Discrete Features 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	15	15	Cut	Ditch	18	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	15	16	Fill	Ditch	11	Boundary 3	Medieval Phase 2
ENF127745	16	15	Fill	Ditch	18	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	16	16	Cut	Ditch	11	Boundary 3	Medieval Phase 2
ENF127745	17	17	Cut	Ditch	14	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	17	18	Fill	Ditch	7	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	18	17	Fill	Ditch	14	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	18	18	Cut	Ditch	7	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	19	20	Fill	Ditch	8	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	19	19	Cut	SFB		Early Saxon Pits	Early Saxon
ENF135750	20	20	Cut	Ditch	8	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	20	19	Fill	SFB		Early Saxon Pits	Early Saxon
ENF127745	21	21	Cut	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	21	22	Fill	Ditch	9	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	22	21	Fill	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	22	22	Cut	Ditch	9	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	23	23	Cut	Ditch	14	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	23	23	Cut	Ditch	6	Enclosure 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	24	23	Fill	Ditch	6	Enclosure 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	24	23	Fill	Ditch	14	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF127745	25	25	Cut	Natural		Hollow	Undated

ENF135750	25	26	Fill	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	26	25	Layer	Natural		Buried Soil	Undated
ENF135750	26	26	Cut	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	27	25	Layer	Natural		Buried Soil	Undated
ENF135750	27	28	Fill	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	28	25	Layer	Natural		Buried Soil	Undated
ENF135750	28	28	Cut	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	29	30	Fill	Ditch	6	Enclosure 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	29	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
ENF135750	30	30	Cut	Ditch	6	Enclosure 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	30	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
ENF135750	31	32	Fill	Ditch	1	Enclosure 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	31	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
ENF135750	32	32	Cut	Ditch	1	Enclosure 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	32	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
ENF127745	33	33	Cut	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	33	28	Fill	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	34	33	Fill	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	34	28	Fill	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	35	36	Fill	Ditch	2	Enclosure 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	35	35	Cut	Ditch	13	Boundary 4	Medieval Phase 2
ENF127745	36	35	Fill	Ditch	13	Boundary 4	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	36	36	Cut	Ditch	2	Enclosure 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	37	37	Cut	Ditch	1	Enclosure 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	37	37	Cut	Field Drain		Modern Features	Modern
ENF135750	38	37	Fill	Ditch	1	Enclosure 1	Medieval Phase 1

ENF127745	38	37	Fill	Field Drain		Modern Features	Modern
ENF135750	39	40	Fill	Ditch	9	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	39	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
ENF135750	40	40	Cut	Ditch	9	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF127745	40	19	Fill	SFB		Early Saxon Pits	Early Saxon
ENF135750	41	42	Fill	Ditch	8	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	42	42	Cut	Ditch	8	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	43	44	Fill	Ditch	7	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	44	44	Cut	Ditch	7	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	45	46	Fill	Ditch	2	Enclosure 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	46	46	Cut	Ditch	2	Enclosure 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	47	48	Fill	Ditch	5	Enclosure 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	48	48	Cut	Ditch	5	Enclosure 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	49	49	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	50	50	Cut	Pit		Roman/Saxon Pit	Saxon
ENF135750	51	50	Fill	Pit		Roman/Saxon Pit	Saxon
ENF135750	52	52	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	53	53	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	54	54	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	55	55	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	56	56	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	57	57	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	58	58	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	59	59	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	60	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
ENF135750	61	61	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric

ENF135750	62	62	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	63	63	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	64	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
ENF135750	65	66	Fill	Ditch	11	Boundary 3	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	66	66	Cut	Ditch	11	Boundary 3	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	67	67	Cut	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	68	67	Fill	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	69	70	Fill	Ditch	9	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	70	70	Cut	Ditch	9	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	71	72	Fill	Ditch	8	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	72	72	Cut	Ditch	8	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	73	74	Fill	Ditch	7	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	74	74	Cut	Ditch	7	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	75	75	Cut	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	76	75	Fill	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	77	77	Layer	Buried Soil		Medieval Ploughsoil	Medieval
ENF135750	78	79	Fill	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	79	79	Cut	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	80	81	Fill	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	81	81	Cut	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	82	83	Fill	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	83	83	Cut	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	84	85	Fill	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	85	85	Cut	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	86	87	Fill	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	87	87	Cut	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1

ENF135750	88	89	Fill	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	89	89	Cut	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	90	91	Fill	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	91	91	Cut	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	92	93	Fill	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	93	93	Cut	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	94	95	Fill	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	95	95	Cut	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	96	97	Fill	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	97	97	Cut	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	98	99	Fill	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	99	99	Cut	Pit		Medieval Quarry Pits	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	100	100	Layer	Topsoil		Modern	Modern
ENF135750	101	101	Layer	Subsoil		Modern	Modern
ENF135750	102	102	Layer	Natural		Natural	Undated
ENF135750	103	104	Fill	Ditch	9	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	104	104	Cut	Ditch	9	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	105	106	Fill	Ditch	7	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	106	106	Cut	Ditch	7	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	107	108	Fill	Ditch	4	Enclosure 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	108	108	Cut	Ditch	4	Enclosure 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	109	110	Fill	Ditch	13	Boundary 4	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	110	110	Cut	Ditch	13	Boundary 4	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	111	112	Fill	Ditch	13	Boundary 4	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	112	112	Cut	Ditch	13	Boundary 4	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	113	114	Fill	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1

ENF135750	114	114	Cut	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	115	116	Fill	Ditch	13	Boundary 4	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	116	116	Cut	Ditch	13	Boundary 4	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	117	117	Layer	Buried Soil		Iron Age Deposit	Iron Age
ENF135750	118	118	Layer	Burnt Mound		Burnt Mound	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	119	119	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	120	121	Fill	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	121	121	Cut	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	122	123	Fill	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	123	123	Cut	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	124	125	Fill	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	125	125	Cut	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	126	126	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	127	128	Fill	Ditch	2	Enclosure 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	128	128	Cut	Ditch	2	Enclosure 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	129	130	Fill	Ditch	11	Boundary 3	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	130	130	Cut	Ditch	11	Boundary 3	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	131	132	Fill	Ditch	12	Boundary 3	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	132	132	Cut	Ditch	12	Boundary 3	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	133	135	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	134	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
ENF135750	135	135	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	136	137	Fill	Ditch	15	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	137	137	Cut	Ditch	15	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	138	139	Fill	Ditch	15	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	139	139	Cut	Ditch	15	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2

ENF135750	140	141	Fill	Ditch	15	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	141	141	Cut	Ditch	15	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	142	143	Fill	Ditch	15	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	143	143	Cut	Ditch	15	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	144	144	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	145	147	Fill	Pit		Medieval Pits	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	146	147	Fill	Skeleton		Medieval Pits	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	147	147	Cut	Pit		Medieval Pits	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	148	149	Fill	Ditch	14	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	149	149	Cut	Ditch	14	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	150	151	Fill	Ditch	14	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	151	151	Cut	Ditch	14	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	152	153	Fill	Ditch	14	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	153	153	Cut	Ditch	14	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	154	155	Fill	Ditch	14	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	155	155	Cut	Ditch	14	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	156	157	Fill	Ditch	16	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	157	157	Cut	Ditch	16	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	158	159	Fill	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	159	159	Cut	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	160	161	Fill	Pit		Early Saxon Pit	Early Saxon
ENF135750	161	161	Cut	Pit		Early Saxon Pit	Early Saxon
ENF135750	162	163	Fill	Pit		Prehistoric	Prehistoric
ENF135750	163	163	Cut	Pit		Prehistoric	Prehistoric
ENF135750	164	165	Fill	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	165	165	Cut	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1

ENF135750	166	167	Fill	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	167	167	Cut	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	168	169	Fill	Ditch	14	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	169	169	Cut	Ditch	14	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	170	171	Fill	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	171	171	Cut	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	172	173	Fill	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	173	173	Cut	Ditch	10	Boundary 2	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	174	175	Fill	Ditch	9	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	175	175	Cut	Ditch	9	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	176	177	Fill	Ditch	8	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	177	177	Cut	Ditch	8	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	178	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
ENF135750	179	179	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	180	179	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	181	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
ENF135750	182	183	Fill	Ditch	14	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	183	183	Cut	Ditch	14	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	184	185	Fill	Ditch	17	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	185	185	Cut	Ditch	17	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	186	187	Fill	Ditch	17	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	187	187	Cut	Ditch	17	Boundary 5	Medieval Phase 2
ENF135750	188	188	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	189	190	Fill	Ditch	7	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	190	190	Cut	Ditch	7	Boundary 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	191	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID

ENF135750	192	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
ENF135750	193	194	Fill	Pit		Prehistoric	Prehistoric
ENF135750	194	194	Cut	Pit		Prehistoric	Prehistoric
ENF135750	195	196	Fill	Pit		Prehistoric	Prehistoric
ENF135750	196	196	Cut	Pit		Prehistoric	Prehistoric
ENF135750	197	198	Fill	Pit		Prehistoric	Prehistoric
ENF135750	198	198	Cut	Pit		Prehistoric	Prehistoric
ENF135750	199	200	Fill	Pit		Prehistoric	Prehistoric
ENF135750	200	200	Cut	Pit		Prehistoric	Prehistoric
ENF135750	201	202	Fill	Pit		Prehistoric	Prehistoric
ENF135750	202	202	Cut	Pit		Prehistoric	Prehistoric
ENF135750	203	205	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	204	205	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	205	205	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	206	207	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	207	207	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	208	209	Fill	Pit		MBA Pit	Mid Bronze Age
ENF135750	209	209	Cut	Pit		MBA Pit	Mid Bronze Age
ENF135750	210	211	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	211	211	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	212	213	Fill	Ditch	4	Enclosure 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	213	213	Cut	Ditch	4	Enclosure 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	214	215	Fill	Ditch	3	Enclosure 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	215	215	Cut	Ditch	3	Enclosure 1	Medieval Phase 1
ENF135750	216	217	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	217	217	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric

ENF135750	218	219	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	219	219	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	220	221	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	221	221	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	222	223	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	223	223	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	224	9	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	225	10	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	226	49	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	227	52	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	228	53	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	229	54	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	230	55	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	231	56	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	232	57	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	233	58	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	234	59	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	235	60	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	236	61	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	237	62	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	238	63	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	239	64	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	240	126	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	241	144	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	242	1158	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	1000	1000	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval

ENF135750	1001	1001	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoill	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1002	1002	Layer	Buried Soil		Iron Age Deposit	Iron Age
ENF135750	1003	1003	Layer	Buried Soil		Iron Age Deposit	Iron Age
ENF135750	1004	1004	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1005	1005	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1006	1006	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1007	1007	Layer	Buried Soil		Iron Age Deposit	Iron Age
ENF135750	1008	1008	Layer	Buried Soil		Iron Age Deposit	Iron Age
ENF135750	1009	1009	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1010	1010	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1011	1011	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1012	1012	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1013	1013	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1014	1014	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1015	1015	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1016	1016	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1017	1017	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1018	1018	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1019	1019	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1020	1020	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1021	1021	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1022	1022	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1023	1023	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1024	1024	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1025	1025	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1026	1026	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval

ENF135750	1027	1027	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1028	1028	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1029	1029	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1030	1030	Layer	Buried Soil		Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1031	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
ENF135750	1032	1033	Fill	Pit-Well		EBA Pits (Burnt Mound)	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1033	1033	Cut	Pit-Well		EBA Pits (Burnt Mound)	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1034	1035	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1035	1035	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1036	1037	Fill	Pit		Neolithic Pits	Neolithic
ENF135750	1037	1037	Cut	Pit		Neolithic Pits	Neolithic
ENF135750	1038	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
ENF135750	1039	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
ENF135750	1040	1041	Fill	Pit		Neolithic Pits	Neolithic
ENF135750	1041	1041	Cut	Pit		Neolithic Pits	Neolithic
ENF135750	1042	1042	Layer	Buried Soil		Post-Early Bronze Age Buried Soil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1043	1043	Layer	Buried Soil		Post-Early Bronze Age Buried Soil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1044	1044	Layer	Buried Soil		Post-Early Bronze Age Buried Soil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1045	1045	Layer	Buried Soil		Post-Early Bronze Age Buried Soil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1046	1046	Layer	Buried Soil		Post-Early Bronze Age Buried Soil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1047	1047	Layer	Buried Soil		Post-Early Bronze Age Buried Soil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1048	1048	Layer	Buried Soil		Post-Early Bronze Age Buried Soil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1049	1049	Layer	Buried Soil		Post-Early Bronze Age Buried Soil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1050	1050	Layer	Buried Soil		Post-Early Bronze Age Buried Soil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1051	1051	Layer	Buried Soil		Post-Early Bronze Age Buried Soil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1052	1052	Layer	Buried Soil		Post-Early Bronze Age Buried Soil	Earlier Medieval

ENF135750	1053	1053	Layer	Buried Soil		Post-Early Bronze Age Buried Soil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1054	1054	Layer	Buried Soil		Post-Early Bronze Age Buried Soil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1055	1055	Layer	Buried Soil		Post-Early Bronze Age Buried Soil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1056	1056	Layer	Buried Soil		Post-Early Bronze Age Buried Soil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1057	1057	Layer	Buried Soil		Post-Early Bronze Age Buried Soil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1058	1058	Layer	Buried Soil		Post-Early Bronze Age Buried Soil	Earlier Medieval
ENF135750	1059	1059	Layer	Re-deposited Natural		Burnt Mound	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1060	1060	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1061	1060	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1062	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
ENF135750	1063	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
ENF135750	1064	1065	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	1065	1065	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	1066	1033	Fill	Pit-Well		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1067	1068	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1068	1068	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1069	1070	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1070	1070	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1071	1071	Cut	Posthole		EBA Posthole Structure	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1072	1071	Fill	Posthole		EBA Posthole Structure	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1073	1073	Cut	Posthole		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1074	1073	Fill	Posthole		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1075	1075	Cut	Posthole		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1076	1075	Fill	Posthole		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1077	1077	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1078	1077	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age

ENF135750	1079	1033	Fill	Pit-Well		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1080	1080	Cut	Posthole		EBA Posthole Structure	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1081	1080	Fill	Posthole		EBA Posthole Structure	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1082	1083	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1083	1083	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1084	1085	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1085	1085	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1086	1087	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1087	1087	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1088	1089	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1089	1089	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1090	1091	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1091	1091	Cut	Pit		MEBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1092	1093	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1093	1093	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1094	1094	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1095	1096	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1096	1096	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1097	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
ENF135750	1098	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID	VOID
ENF135750	1099	1100	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1100	1100	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1101	1102	Fill	Posthole		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1102	1102	Cut	Posthole		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1103	1104	Fill	Posthole		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1104	1104	Cut	Posthole		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age

ENF135750	1105	1106	Fill	Posthole		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1106	1106	Cut	Posthole		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1107	1108	Fill	Posthole		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1108	1108	Cut	Posthole		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1109	1109	Layer	Burnt Mound		Burnt Mound	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1110	1110	Layer	Burnt Mound		Burnt Mound	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1111	1033	Fill	Pit-Well		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1112	1112	Layer	Burnt Mound		Burnt Mound	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1113	1113	Layer	Burnt Mound		Burnt Mound	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1114	1033	Fill	Pit-Well		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1115	1115	Layer	Burnt Mound		Burnt Mound	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1116	1116	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1117	1118	Fill	Posthole		EBA Postholes Structure	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1118	1118	Cut	Posthole		EBA Postholes Structure	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1119	1033	Fill	Pit-Well		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1120	1120	Layer	Burnt Mound		Burnt Mound	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1121	1122	Fill	Trough		Burnt Mound and Features	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1122	1122	Cut	Trough		Burnt Mound and Features	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1123	1122	Fill	Trough		Burnt Mound and Features	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1124	1124	Layer	Burnt Mound		Burnt Mound	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1125	1125	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1126	1126	Layer	Burnt Mound		Burnt Mound	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1127	1127	Layer	Burnt Mound		Burnt Mound	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1128	1128	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1129	1129	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits (Burnt mound)	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1130	1130	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic

ENF135750	1131	1131	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1132	1132	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1133	1133	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1134	1134	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1135	1135	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1136	1136	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1137	1137	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1138	1138	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1139	1139	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1140	1140	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1141	1141	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1142	1142	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1143	1143	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1144	1144	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1145	1145	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1146	1146	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1147	1147	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1148	1148	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1149	1149	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1150	1150	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1151	1151	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1152	1152	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1153	1153	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1154	1154	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1155	1129	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits (burnt mound)	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1156	1129	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits (burnt mound)	Early Bronze Age

ENF135750	1157	1157	Layer	Buried Soil		Neolithic Buried Soil	Neolithic
ENF135750	1158	1158	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	1159	1160	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1160	1160	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1161	1162	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1162	1162	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1163	1164	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1164	1164	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1165	1166	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1166	1166	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1167	1168	Fill	Posthole		EBA Posthole Structure	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1168	1168	Cut	Posthole		EBA Posthole Structure	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1169	1170	Fill	Posthole		EBA Posthole Structure	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1170	1170	Cut	Posthole		EBA Postholes Structure	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1171	1171	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1172	1171	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1173	1173	Cut	Posthole		EBA Posthole Structure	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1174	1173	Fill	Posthole		EBA Posthole Structure	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1175	1175	Cut	Posthole		EBA Posthole Structure	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1176	1175	Fill	Posthole		EBA Posthole Structure	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1177	1178	Fill	Posthole		EBA Posthole Structure	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1178	1178	Cut	Posthole		EBA Posthole Structure	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1179	1180	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1180	1180	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1181	1182	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1182	1182	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age

ENF135750	1183	1184	Fill	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	1184	1184	Cut	Treethrow		Tree Throws	Prehistoric
ENF135750	1185	1186	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1186	1186	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1187	1188	Fill	Posthole		EBA Posthole Structure	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1188	1188	Cut	Posthole		EBA Posthole Structure	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1189	1190	Fill	Posthole		EBA Posthole Structure	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1190	1190	Cut	Posthole		EBA Posthole Structure	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1191	1192	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1192	1192	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1193	1194	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1194	1194	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1195	1196	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1196	1196	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1197	1198	Fill	Posthole		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1198	1198	Cut	Posthole		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1199	1200	Fill	Posthole		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1200	1200	Cut	Posthole		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1201	1202	Fill	Posthole		EBA Postholes Structure	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1202	1202	Cut	Posthole		EBA Postholes Structure	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1203	1204	Fill	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1204	1204	Cut	Pit		EBA Pits	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1205	1205	Layer	Burnt Mound		Burnt Mound	Early Bronze Age
ENF135750	1206	1206	Layer	Burnt Mound		Burnt Mound	Early Bronze Age

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RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

18 June 2015

Laboratory Code	SUERC-60712 (GU37648)
Submitter	Sîan O'Neill Pre-Construct Archaeology The Granary Rectory Farm Brewery Road Pampisford CB22 3EN
Site Reference	ENF135750
Context Reference	1121
Sample Reference	5072
Material	Charcoal
$\delta^{13}C$ relative to VPDB	-24.5 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	3728 ± 31

N.B. The above ^{14}C age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD). The error, which is expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standard and blank and the random machine error.

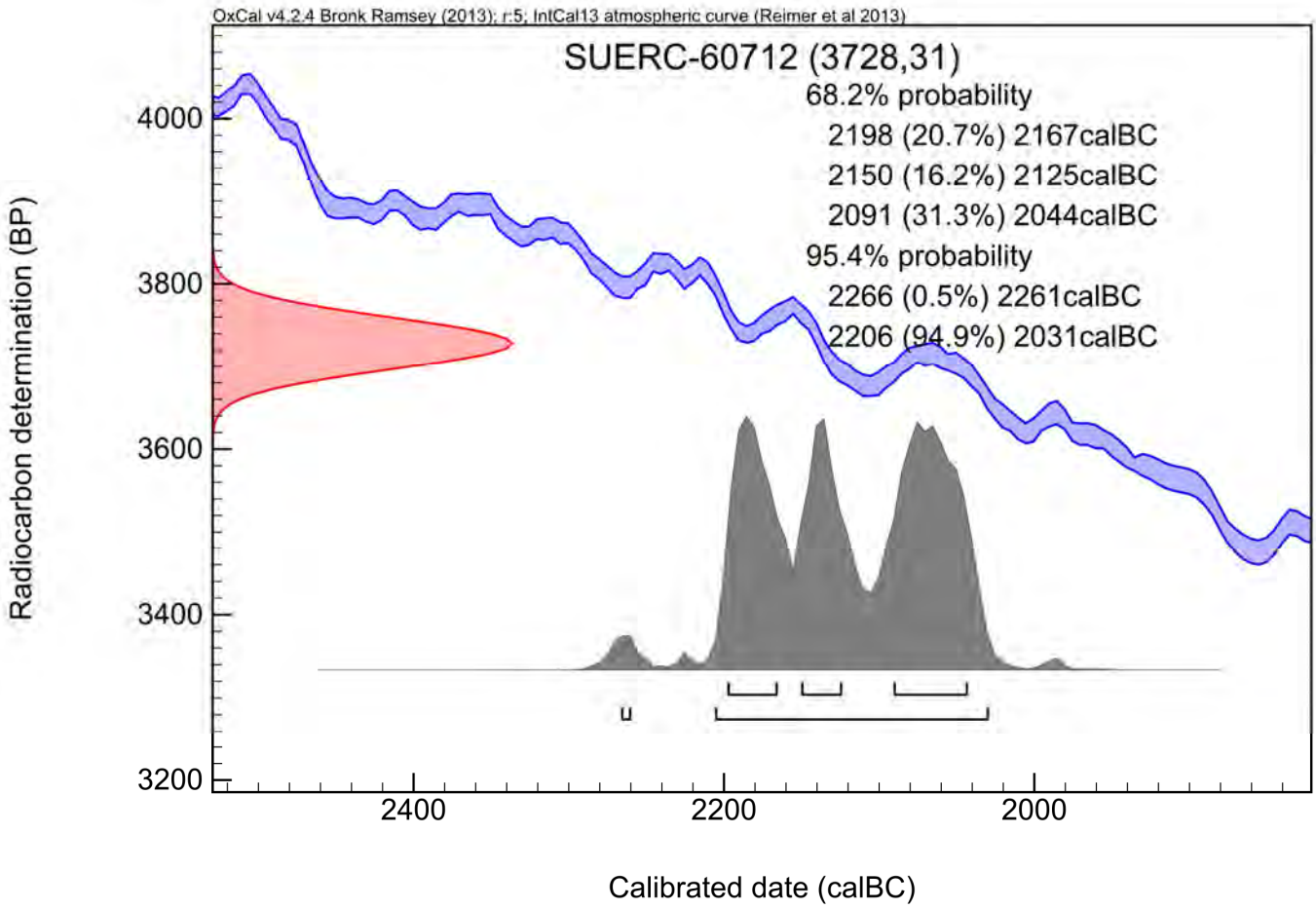
The calibrated age ranges are determined from the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program (OxCal4).

Samples with a SUERC coding are measured at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre AMS Facility and should be quoted as such in any reports within the scientific literature. Any questions directed to the Radiocarbon Laboratory should also quote the GU coding given in parentheses after the SUERC code. The contact details for the laboratory are email Gordon.Cook@glasgow.ac.uk or telephone 01355 270136 direct line.

Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by :- E Dunbar Date :- 18/06/2015

Checked and signed off by :- P. Nayont Date :- 18/06/2015

Calibration Plot



Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre

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RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

18 June 2015

Laboratory Code	SUERC-60716 (GU37649)
Submitter	Sîan O'Neill Pre-Construct Archaeology The Granary Rectory Farm Brewery Road Pampisford CB22 3EN
Site Reference	ENF135750
Context Reference	1110
Sample Reference	5118
Material	Charcoal
$\delta^{13}C$ relative to VPDB	-25.1 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	3736 ± 31

N.B. The above ^{14}C age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD). The error, which is expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standard and blank and the random machine error.

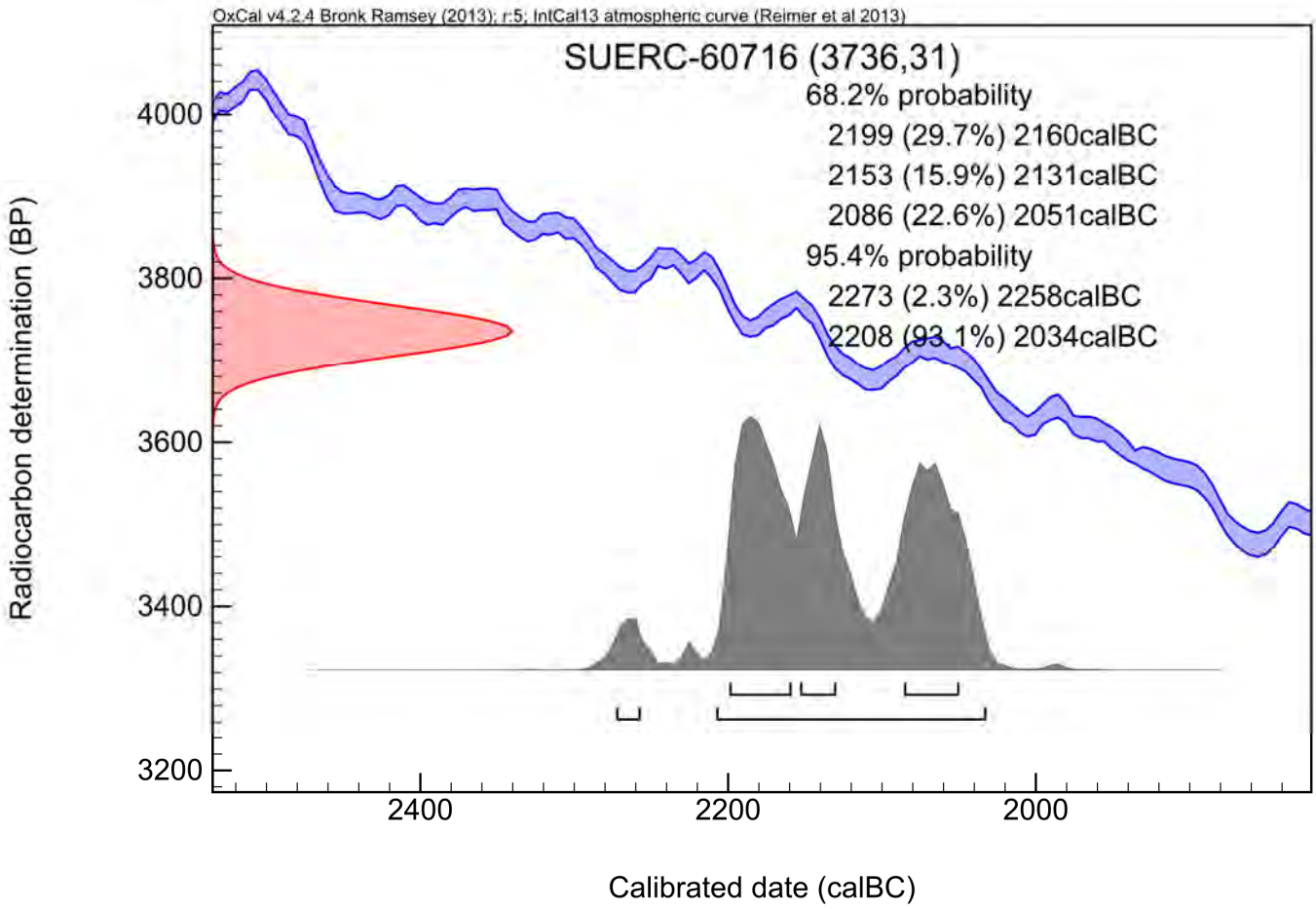
The calibrated age ranges are determined from the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program (OxCal4).

Samples with a SUERC coding are measured at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre AMS Facility and should be quoted as such in any reports within the scientific literature. Any questions directed to the Radiocarbon Laboratory should also quote the GU coding given in parentheses after the SUERC code. The contact details for the laboratory are email Gordon.Cook@glasgow.ac.uk or telephone 01355 270136 direct line.

Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by :- E Dunbar Date :- 18/06/2015

Checked and signed off by :- P. Nayont Date :- 18/06/2015

Calibration Plot



16 APPENDIX 5: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-221334

Project details

Project name	Land off Chalk Lane, Narborough, Norfolk
Short description of the project	This report describes the results of archaeological excavation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land at Chalk Lane, Narborough, Norfolk (centred on NGR TF 7487 1225) between the 5th January and the 24th February 2015. The archaeological work was commissioned by Persimmon Homes, in response to a planning condition attached to the redevelopment of the site. The aim of the work was to preserve by record any archaeological remains which would be damaged or destroyed by the new development. Based on the evidence uncovered during the archaeological trial trench evaluation and magnetometer survey, three areas were designated for open area excavation. A large natural hollow was uncovered within Area 1, occupying most of the excavation area. Area 1 was situated close to a former marsh known as Butlers Carr and consequently the hollow would have been seasonally inundated. The base of the hollow undulated considerably, and within the lower depressions, a series of buried soil deposits were recorded. The earliest stratigraphic deposit was associated with two caches of Earlier Neolithic flint tools. This layer was overlain by an Early Bronze Age burnt stone mound, with associated features cutting through the lower soil horizon. The mound and cut features were sealed by a buried soil deposit of presumed later Bronze Age-Iron Age date. To the north of this, a deposit containing Iron Age pottery was recorded, representing periodic waste disposal at the edge of the hollow. These deposits were sealed by a series of medieval ploughsoils.
Project dates	Start: 05-01-2015 End: 27-02-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	ENF135750 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation
Monument type	HOLLOW Early Prehistoric
Monument type	BURNT MOUND Early Bronze Age
Monument type	PITS Early Bronze Age
Monument type	QUARRY Medieval
Monument type	DITCHES Medieval
Monument type	PITS Early Medieval
Monument type	FLINT CACHES Early Neolithic
Significant Finds	BURNT FLINT Early Bronze Age

Significant Finds	FLINT TOOLS Early Neolithic
Investigation type	"Open-area excavation"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	NORFOLK BRECKLAND NARBOROUGH Land off Chalk Lane, Narborough
Study area	6.5 Hectares
Site coordinates	TF 7487 1225 52.679283628093 0.587067521561 52 40 45 N 000 35 13 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 11.61m Max: 14.77m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	James Albone
Project design originator	Mark Hinman
Project director/manager	Mark Hinman
Project supervisor	Lawrence Morgan-Shelbourne
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Persimmon Homes

Project archives

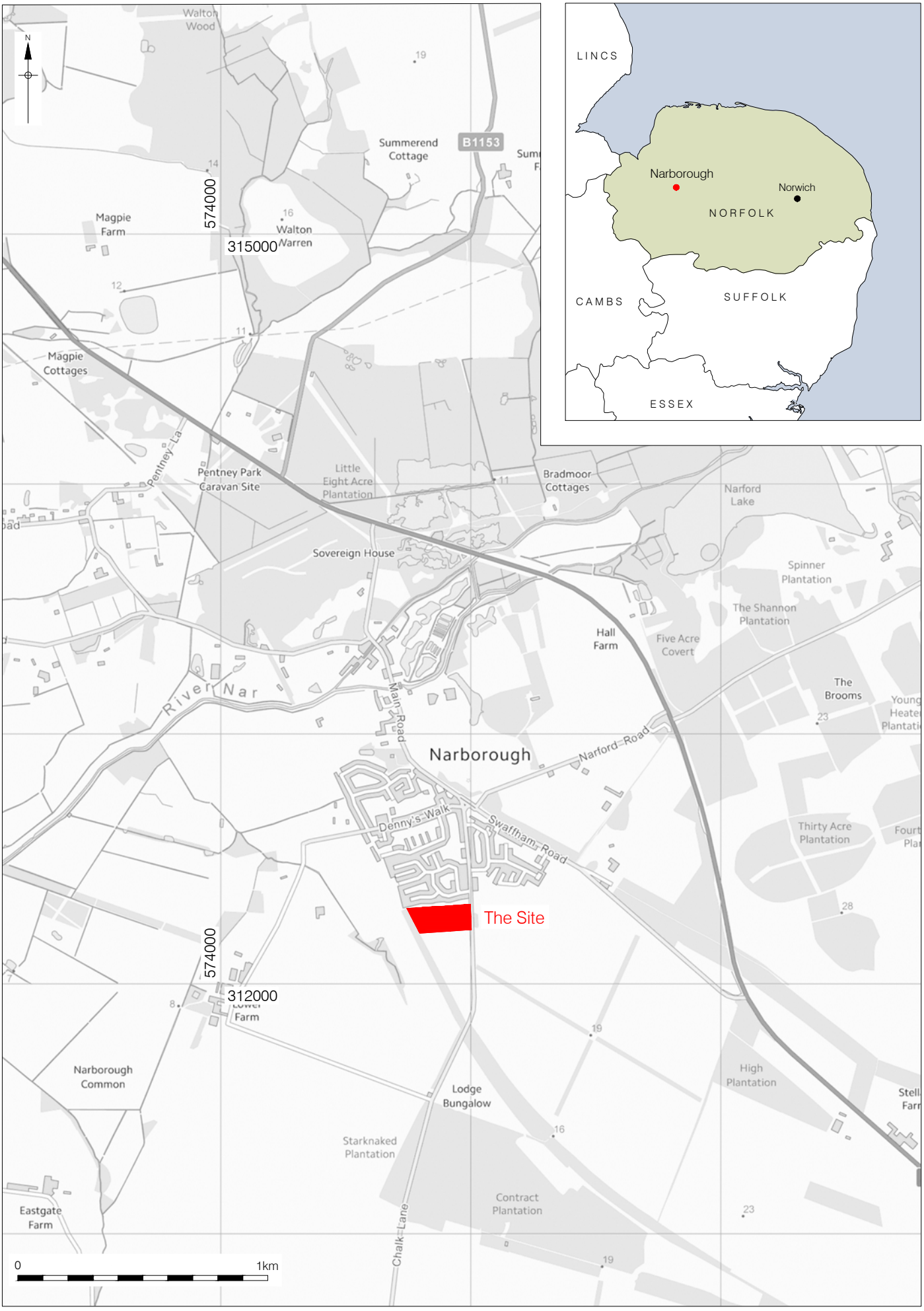
Physical Archive recipient	Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service
Physical Archive ID	ENF135750
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Metal","Wood","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Norfolk Museum and Archaeology Service
Digital Archive ID	ENF135750
Digital Contents	"Animal

	Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Metal","Survey","Wood","Worked stone/lithics","other"
Digital Media available	"Database","GIS","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service
Paper Archive ID	ENF135750
Paper Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Metal","Survey","Wood","Worked stone/lithics","other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Notebook - Excavation',' Research',' General Notes","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey ","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land at Chalk Lane, Narborough, Norfolk
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Morgan-Shelbourne, L. and Hogan, S.
Other bibliographic details	R12139
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	PCA
Place of issue or publication	Cambridge
Description	A4 bound report. c.200 pages, colour plates and figures
URL	www.oasis.ac.uk

Entered by	Shannon Hogan (shogan@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	21 August 2015

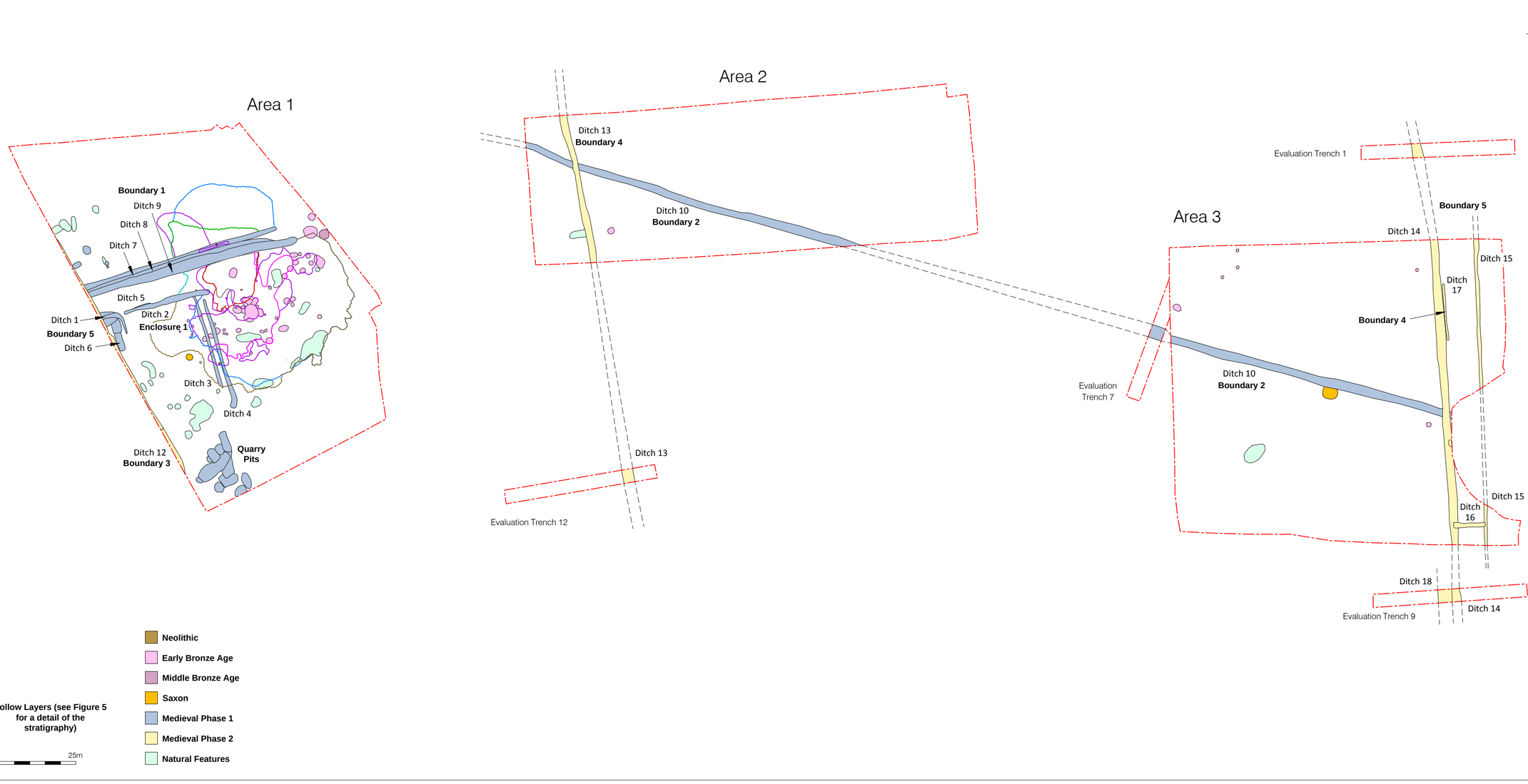


20/08/15 JS

Figure 1
Site Location
1:2,000,000 and 1:20,000 at A4

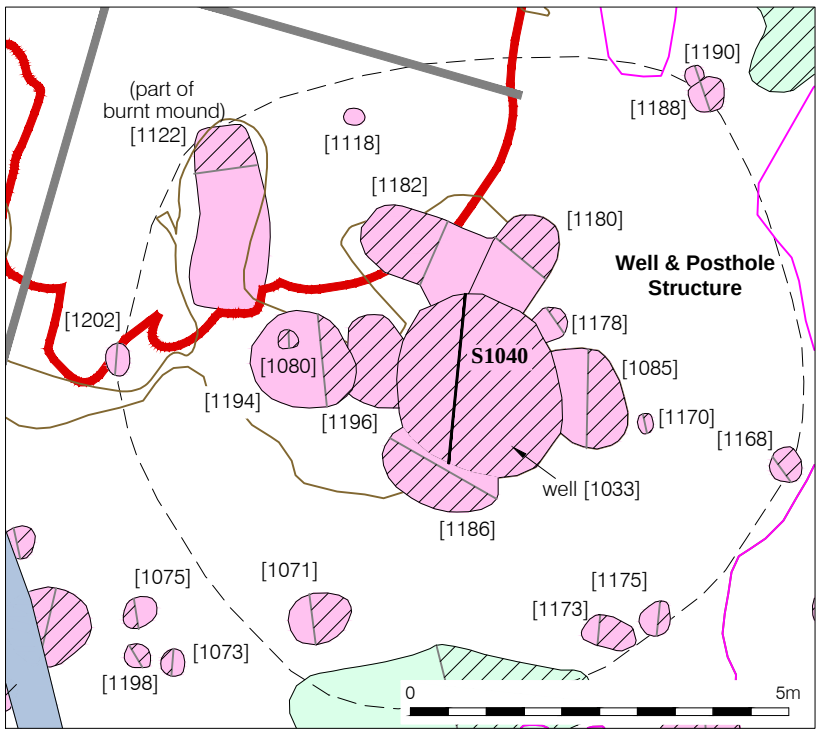
20/08/15 JS

Figure 2
Trench Location
1:1,000 at A4



21/08/15 JS

Figure 3
All Areas
1:500 at A2 (length) / A4 (height)



Area 1

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Ditch 7
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Ditch 8
Ditch 9
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S19
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Boundary 1
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S1043
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Ditch 2
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Ditch 5
Enclosure 1
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Boundary 5
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Ditch 6
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Boundary 3
Ditch 11
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Ditch 3
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Ditch 4
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Ditch 12
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Quarry Pits
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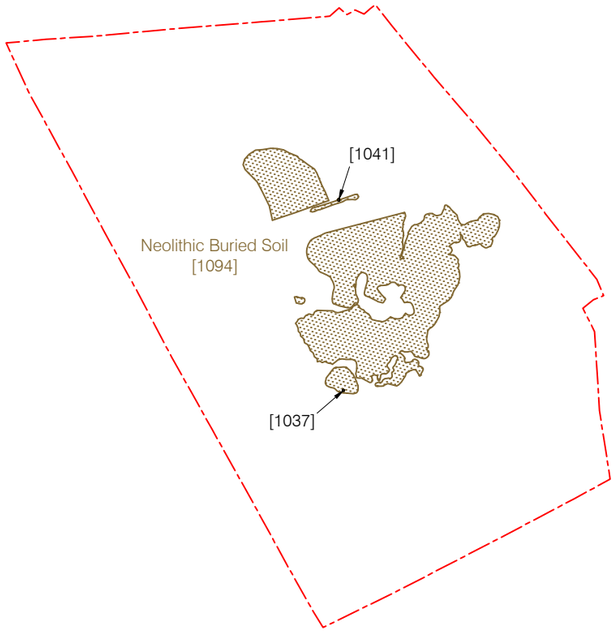
Neolithic
Early Bronze Age
Middle Bronze Age
Saxon
Medieval Phase 1
Medieval Phase 2
Natural Features
Excavated Slot

Hollow Layers
(see Figure 5 for a detail of the stratigraphy)

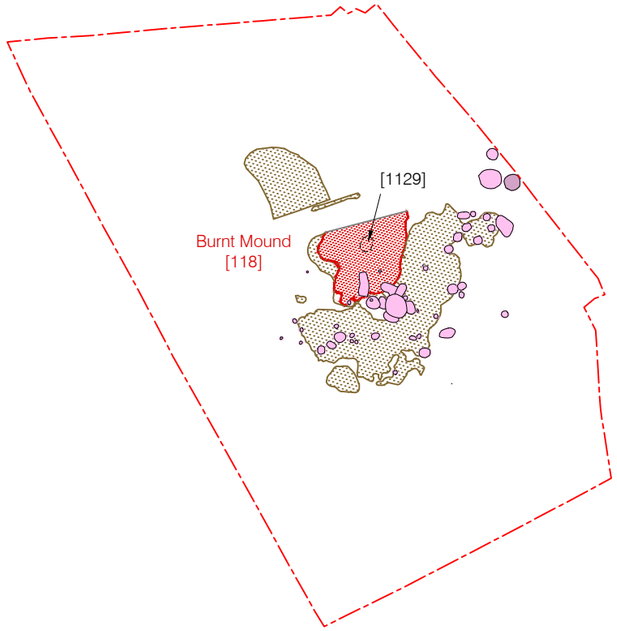
0 10m

21/08/15 JS 07/03/16 JS_revision 2

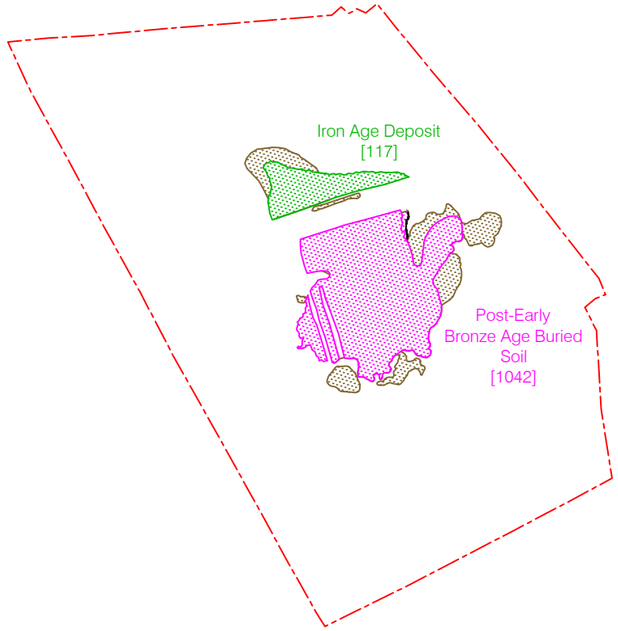
Figure 4
Area 1 Plan
Plan 1:250; Inset 1:100 at A3



Neolithic Buried Soil [1094]



Burnt Mound [118]



Post-Early Bronze Age Buried Soil [1042]

- Neolithic Feature
- Neolithic Buried Soil [1094]
- Burnt Mound [118]
- Early Bronze Age Feature
- Post-Early Bronze Age Buried Soil [1042]
- Middle Bronze Age Feature
- Iron Age Deposit [117]
- Earlier Medieval Ploughsoil [119]
- Medieval Plough Soil [77]
- Medieval Phase 1 Feature
- Medieval Phase 2 Feature

0 25m

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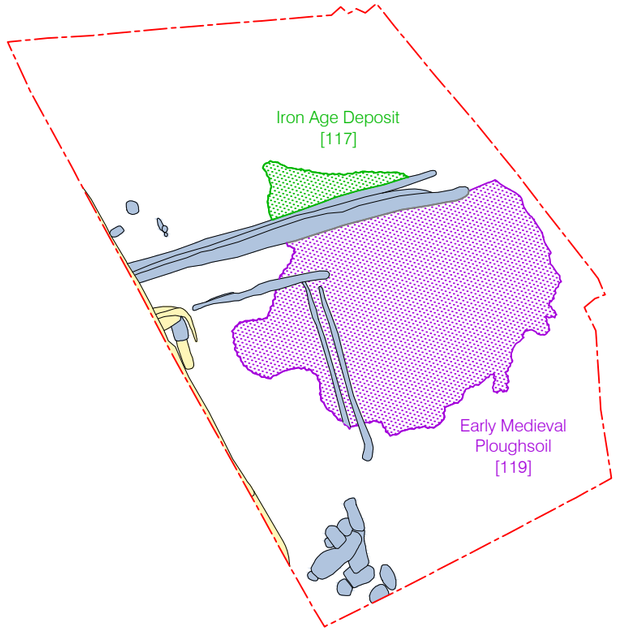
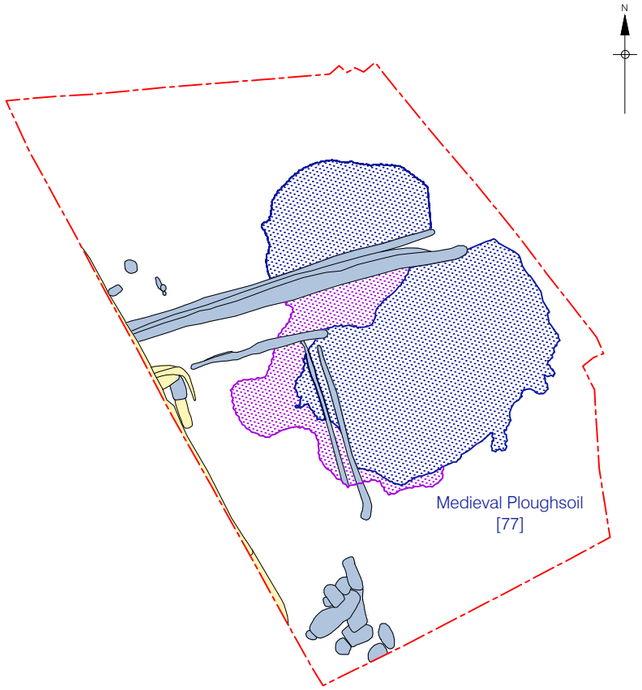


Early Medieval Ploughsoil [119]



Medieval Plough Soil [77]

Figure 5
Area 1 Hollow Stratigraphy
1:625 at A3

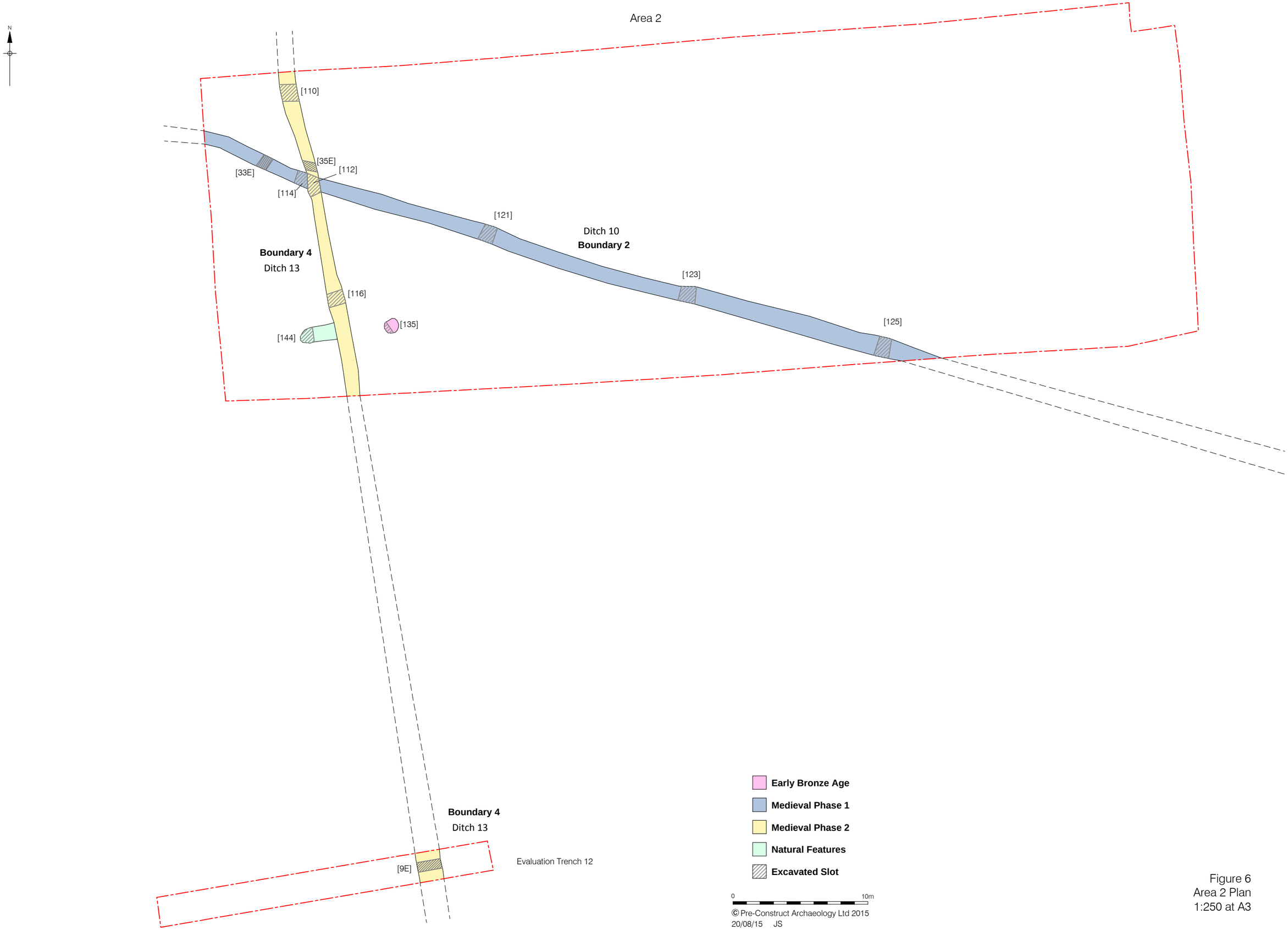


Figure 6
Area 2 Plan
1:250 at A3

N

[17E]

Evaluation Trench 1

Ditch 14

Boundary 5

Area 3

[200]

[198]

[196]

[202]

[151]

[187]

Ditch 15

[137]

[194]

Ditch 17

Boundary 4

[139]

[183]

[185]

[11E]

[165]

[23E]

[153]

[173]

Ditch 10

Boundary 2

[167]

[21E]

[159]

[141]

S43

[161]/[19E]

[171]

Evaluation Trench 7

[169]

[163]

[149]

[179]

[147]

[155]

[143]

[157]

Ditch 16

Ditch 18

Ditch 14

[15E]

[13E]

Evaluation Trench 9

Prehistoric Pits

Saxon

Medieval Phase 1

Medieval Phase 2

Natural Features

Excavated Slot

0 10m

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Figure 7
Area 2 Plan
1:250 at A3

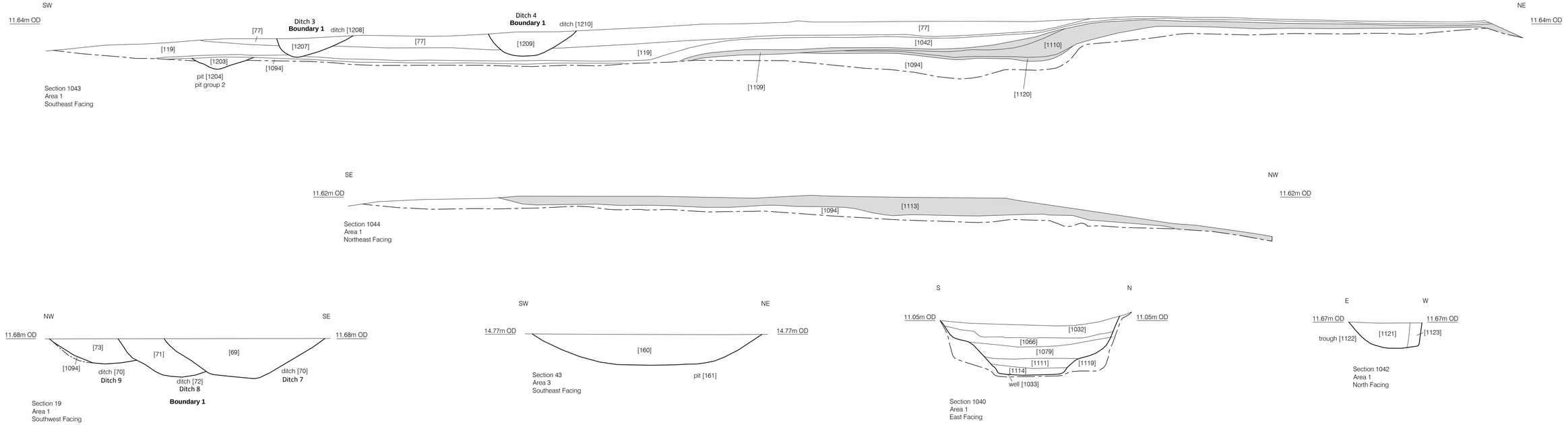

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Figure 8
Sections
1:25 at A1 (length) / A4 (height)

P C A

PCA SOUTH
UNIT 54
BROCKLEY CROSS BUSINESS CENTRE
96 ENDWELL ROAD
BROCKLEY
LONDON SE4 2PD
TEL: 020 7732 3925 / 020 7639 9091
FAX: 020 7639 9588
EMAIL: info@pre-construct.com

PCA NORTH
UNIT 19A
TURSDALE BUSINESS PARK
DURHAM DH6 5PG
TEL: 0191 377 1111
FAX: 0191 377 0101
EMAIL: info.north@pre-construct.com

PCA CENTRAL
THE GRANARY, RECTORY FARM
BREWERY ROAD, PAMPISFORD
CAMBRIDGESHIRE CB22 3EN
TEL: 01223 845 522
FAX: 01223 845 522
EMAIL: info.central@pre-construct.com

PCA WEST
BLOCK 4
CHILCOMB HOUSE
CHILCOMB LANE
WINCHESTER
HAMPSHIRE SO23 8RB
TEL: 01962 849 549
EMAIL: info.west@pre-construct.com

PCA MIDLANDS
17-19 KETTERING RD
LITTLE BOWDEN
MARKET HARBOROUGH
LEICESTERSHIRE LE16 8AN
TEL: 01858 468 333
EMAIL: info.midlands@pre-construct.com