LAND AT MARTELLO CARAVAN PARK, KIRBY ROAD, WALTON ON THE NAZE, ESSEX : AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

JUNE 2016

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

R12527

LAND AT WALTON ON THE NAZE, ESSEX

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

Quality Control

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Project Number	K4489
Report Number	R12527

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Land at Martello Caravan Park, Kirby Road, Walton on the Naze, Essex, CO14 8QB: An Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

Local Planning Authority:	**Tendring District Council**
Planning Reference:	**TEN/00666/15**
Central National Grid Reference:	**TM 2503 2182**
Site Code/Event Number:	**FWKR16**
Report No.	**R12527**
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June 2016

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ABSTRACT

This report describes the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land at Martello Caravan Park, Kirby Road, Walton on the Naze, Essex, CO14 8QB (NGR TM 2503 2182) between the 27th and the 29th April 2016 and the 6th June 2016. The archaeological work was commissioned by Aldi Stores Ltd in response to a planning condition attached to the construction of a food store together with associated parking and landscaping and regrading of levels. The aim of the work was to characterise the archaeological potential of the proposed development area.

The evaluation identified boundary ditches and postholes relating to activity during the Early-Mid Neolithic and the Late Bronze Age. Three phases of prehistoric activity can be tentatively suggested. An Early-Mid Neolithic phase with ditches on an east-west alignment and similarly dated postholes; an Early-Mid Neolithic phase with ditches on a north-south alignment and a later phase comprising a Late Bronze Age posthole, which contained a fragment of a copper alloy socketed axe. Results from an excavation to the immediate north of the site suggest that the current area was close to or part of a settlement site.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 An archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) on land at Martello Caravan Park, Kirby Road, Walton on the Naze, Essex, CO14 8QB (centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (NGR) TM 2503 2182) from the 27th to the 29th April 2016 and 6th June 2016 (Figure 1).

1.2 The archaeological work was commissioned by Aldi Stores in response to an archaeological planning condition attached to the construction of a food store together with associated parking and landscaping and regrading of levels (Planning Reference TEN/00666/15).

1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Mark Hinman of PCA (Hinman 2016) in response to a Brief for archaeological evaluation issued by Adrian Gascoyne (Gascoyne 2016) of Essex Place Services.

1.4 The aim of the evaluation was to determine the location, date, extent, character, condition and quality of any archaeological remains on the site, to assess the significance of any such remains in a local, regional, or national context, as appropriate, and to assess the potential impact of the development proposals on the site's archaeology.

1.5 A total of seven trial trenches to a total of 200m were excavated and recorded.

1.6 This report describes the results of the evaluation and aims to inform the design of an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy. The site archive will be deposited at Colchester and Ipswich Museum.

2 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

2.1 Geology

2.1.1 The underlying geology of the site is Thames Group Clay Formation, made up of clay, silt and sand (British Geological Survey; Website 1). The eastern part of site may preserve undifferentiated intertidal deposits of sand and silt.

2.2 Topography

2.2.1 The site comprises an area of approximately 0.6ha. It is located in the north-western part of the town of Walton on The Naze, on the North Sea coast in the Tendring district. The site is situated at an elevation of approximately 2-3m OD (above Ordnance Datum). The North Sea is located 500m east of the site.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 General

3.1.1 The historic and archaeological background detailed below has been taken from the Place Services Brief prepared by Adrian Gascoyne and utilises the Essex Historic Environment Record (HER) held at Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford and a recent evaluation report by ASE (Ennis 2016).

3.1.2 The Walton area is significant for the established presence of prehistoric archaeological remains, particularly of the later Neolithic, the discovery of much of which is linked to the results of the Hullbridge Survey (Wilkinson and Murphy 1995). Thousands of worked flints, including polished axes, have been collected from vicinity of the Naze and form a large component of the entries in the EHER. More recently, a Middle Bronze Age bucket urn containing cremated human bone was recovered from the foot of the cliffs at the Naze having eroded from the exposed upper strata and presumably deriving from a grave (Heppell 2010).

3.1.3 At the northern end of the Naze, on the foreshore in front of low lying marshland, remains described as 'red hills' have been noted (e.g. EHER 3511). These features are typically associated with salt working, and are usually of Late Iron Age or Roman date. Towards the south of the Naze, Late Iron Age and Roman pottery was recovered during development on the west side of Old Hall Lane (EHER 3563/3564). Another potential 'red hill' has been recorded on low-lying land to the north-west of the site (EHER 3529). On farmland, also to the north-west of the site, cropmarks of former field boundaries have been plotted along with the tentatively identified remains of a possible ring-ditch (EHER 17239).

3.1.4 In the medieval period Walton was part of the 'soke' or estate of St Pauls, along with Kirby and Thorpe. Walton Hall was first recorded as a separate entity in 1222. The Tendring Historic Environment Characterisation Project notes that no buildings pre-dating the 18th century survive within Walton and that the town's historic core developed from the early 19th century onwards.

The lack of earlier buildings can be blamed on coastal erosion as the medieval settlement originally extended further east with the former medieval church being lost to the sea in 1796. Medieval features and deposits have been identified around the periphery of Hamford Water which probably relate to marsh edge farming whilst the marshes themselves were utilised for the grazing of both sheep and cattle.

3.1.5 Trial-trenching to the immediate north of the proposed development has established the presence of surviving archaeological remains dating to the prehistoric and medieval periods. These include eight shallow pit-like features were investigated, of which four contained small amounts of possible Bronze Age pottery. The pits may be part of a structure or area of activity that clearly extends beyond the limits of the trench. Also in the same trench was a pit or ditch of medieval or later date containing abraded 13th to 14th century pottery.

3.1.6 A subsequent excavation of the area to the immediate north of the site uncovered a number of prehistoric and Late Bronze Age features, as well as medieval features, indicating land clearance for agriculture on the periphery of a settlement that lay outside the excavation area (*pers comm. Holloway 2016)*. Small quantities of abraded Roman material were recovered, but no definitive Roman contexts were recorded. Small quantities of medieval pottery were also recovered during the initial strip and from pits, suggesting agricultural activity on the edge of settlement.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Excavation and Sampling

4.1.1 The Written Scheme of Investigation for the evaluation proposed the excavation of five trial trenches, distributed across the site. However, due to services and large rubble heaps on site, seven trenches in total were dug (Figure 2) during two separate visits. The trenches were positioned in order to obtain a representative sample across the site.

4.1.2 Ground reduction was carried out under archaeological supervision using a 21-ton tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.8m-wide toothless ditching bucket. Topsoil, modern hard-core and subsoil deposits were removed in spits down to the level of the undisturbed natural geological deposits where potential archaeological features could be observed and recorded. Exposed surfaces were cleaned by trowel and hoe as appropriate and all further excavation was undertaken manually using hand tools. Overburden deposits were set aside beside each trench and examined visually and with a metal-detector for finds retrieval.

4.1.3 Metal-detecting was carried out during the topsoil and subsoil stripping and throughout the excavation process. Archaeological features and spoilheaps were scanned by metal-detector as they were encountered/ created.

4.1.4 Field excavation techniques and recording methods are detailed in the PCA Fieldwork Induction Manual (Operations Manual I) by Joanna Taylor and Gary Brown (2009).

4.1.5 All features were investigated and recorded in order to properly understand the date and nature of the archaeological remains on the site and to recover sufficient finds assemblages to assess the chronological development and socio-economic character of the site over time.

4.1.6 Discrete features such as pits and postholes were at least 50% excavated and, where considered appropriate, 100% excavated.

4.2 Recording Methodology

4.2.1 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.

4.2.2 Manual plans and section drawings of archaeological features and deposits were drawn at an appropriate scale (1:10, 1:20 or 1:50).

4.2.3 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 individual 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]. The record numbers assigned to cuts and deposits are entirely arbitrary and in no way reflect the chronological order in which events took place. All features and deposits recorded during the evaluation are listed in Appendix 2. Artefacts recovered during excavation were assigned to the record number of the deposit from which they were retrieved.

4.2.4 High-resolution digital photographs were taken at all stages of the evaluation process. Digital photographs were taken of all archaeological features and deposits and black and white film photographs were taken when considered appropriate by the excavator and supervisor.

4.2.5 Artefacts and ecofacts were collected by hand and assigned to the record number of the deposit from which they were retrieved, receiving appropriate care prior to removal from the site (CIfA 2014; Walker 1990; Watkinson 1981).

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The trenches are described below in numerical order, with technical data tabulated. Features and deposits are subdivided into feature type, before being described in numeric cut order within the trench. Archaeological features and deposits were sealed by the subsoil, unless otherwise stated.

5.1.2 A layer of modern hard-core had been laid across the site prior to excavation. This had no impact on any potential archaeology as it was built up from the original ground level; however, it did affect the depth of the trenches and resulted in two trenches being deemed unsafe to enter (Trenches 4 and 6).

5.1.3 The evaluation identified a series of postholes and ditches dating to the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age periods.

5.2 Trench 1

5.2.1 Trench 1 contained three ditches, five postholes and a pit.

5.2.2 Ditch [108] (Plate 3; Figures 3 & 4, Section 1) was located at the east end of the trench, on a north to south alignment; it was 2.27m wide and over 0.20m deep with moderately sloping sides, the base was not reached due to a significant amount of water present. It had a single fill (107) of light orangey grey sandy clay silt which contained 17 sherds (49.5g) of Early-Mid Neolithic pottery (see Tinsley, Section 6.1).

5.2.3 Ditch [112] (Figures 3 & 4, Section 2) was located at the west end of the trench, on a north to south alignment. It was 2.34m wide and 0.40m deep with moderately sloping sides and a flattish base. It had a basal fill of mid orange brown sandy clay (121), overlain by mid brownish grey silty clay (110). No finds were present.

5.2.4 Ditch [114] (Figures 3 & 4, Section 3) was on a north-east to south-west alignment and truncated by ditch [108]. The ditch was 1.15m wide and 0.35m deep with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. It had a single fill of light orange brown silty clay (113), which contained Early-Mid

Neolithic pottery (13 sherds; 41.5g) (See Tinsley, Section 6.3).

5.2.5 Pit [126] (Figures 3 & 4, Section 2), measuring 0.9m wide and 0.45m deep, was located at the west end of the trench, truncated by ditch [112] to the west. It contained a mid-orange grey sandy silty clay (111). No finds were present.

5.2.6 Posthole [106] (Plate 2; Figures 3 & 4) was identified just east of ditch [112]. It was circular in plan with stepped steep to vertical sides and a concave base and measured 0.47m wide by 0.26m deep. The posthole contained a basal fill of light greyish-brown sandy silty clay (109), which was overlain by an upper fill of dark grey brown silty clay (105), which contained an almost complete Early Neolithic vessel (See Tinsley, Section 6.1).

5.2.7 Posthole [117] (Figures 3 & 4, Section 4) was identified just east of posthole [106]. It was circular in plan with steep to vertical slightly convex sides and a concave base and measured 0.46m wide by 0.29m deep. The posthole contained a basal fill of light greyish-brown mottled orange brown silty clay (116), which was overlain by an upper fill of mid grey silty clay (115), which contained a single abraded sherd of Early Neolithic pottery (See Tinsley, Section 6.1). A small piece of animal bone was also recovered from this fill.

5.2.8 Posthole [120] (Figures 3 & 4, Section 5) was identified just east of posthole [117] and extended under the southern edge of the trench. It was circular in plan with steep to moderate slightly convex sides and a concave base and measured 0.60m wide by 0.33m deep. The posthole contained a basal fill of light greyish-brown mottled orange brown silty clay (119), which was overlain by an upper fill of mid grey silty clay (118).

5.2.9 Posthole [123] (Figures 3 & 4, Section 6) was identified towards the centre of the trench. It was circular in plan with steep sides and a flat base and measured 0.35m wide by 0.17m deep. The posthole contained a single fill of dark brownish grey silty clay (122), which contained five sherds (28.5g) of Early-Mid Neolithic pottery (See Tinsley, Section 6.1).

5.2.10 Posthole [125] (Figures 3 & 4, Section 7) was identified just west of posthole [123]. It was circular in plan with steep sides and a concave base and measured 0.40m wide by 0.20m deep. The posthole contained a single fill of mid brownish grey silty clay (124), which contained a single abraded sherd of Early- Mid Neolithic pottery (See Tinsley, Section 6.1), and part of a Late Bronze Age socketed axe blade (See Beveridge, Section 6.2).

TRENCH 1	**Figures 3-4**		**Plates 1-3**	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 44m		Level of Natural (m OD): 3.06-3.52m	
Deposit	**Context No.**		**Average Depth (m)**	
			E End	**W End**
Topsoil	(100)		0.15m	0.10m
Subsoil	(101)		0.20m	0.12m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)		0.35m+	0.22m+

Summary

Trench 1 was located close to the north boundary of the site.
The trench contained three ditches, of which [108] and [114] dated to the Neolithic period. Two lines of postholes were also recorded in the trench. Postholes [106], [117], [120] were located at the west end of the trench and dated to Early-Mid Neolithic from pottery recovered. Postholes [123] and [125] were located more centrally in the trench and contained pottery dating to the Neolithic; however the metalwork found suggests a Late Bronze Age date. An undated pit, truncated by ditch [112] was also found.

5.3 Trench 2

5.3.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within the trench.

TRENCH 2	**Figure 2**		**Plate 4**	
Trench Alignment: NNE-SSW	Length: 53m		Level of Natural (m OD): 2.54-3.15m	
Deposit	**Context No.**		**Average Depth (m)**	
			NNE End	**SSW End**
Modern hard-core	(104)		1.25m	0.45m
Topsoil (buried)	(100)		0.15m	0.15m
Subsoil	(101)		0.18m	0.10m
Natural (max machined depth)	(108)		1.58m+	0.70m+

Summary
Trench 2 was located in the north of the site. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present.

5.4 Trench 3

5.4.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within the trench.

TRENCH 3	**Figure 2**		**Plate 5**	
Trench Alignment: E-W	Length: 25m		Level of Natural (m OD): 2.54-2.61m	
Deposit	**Context No.**		**Average Depth (m)**	
			W End	**E End**
Modern hard-core	(103)		0.56m	0.75m
Subsoil	(101)		0.64m	0.59m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)		1.20m+	1.34m+
Summary				
Trench 3 was located towards west side of the site. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present. The trench was shortened and changed orientation due to spoil heaps and machine access issues on site.				

5.5 Trench 4

5.5.1 No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present within the trench.

TRENCH 4	**Figure 2**		**Plate 6**	
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 16m		Level of Natural (m OD): 2.53m	
Deposit	**Context No.**		**Average Depth (m)**	
			Central	
Modern hard-core	(103)		1.25m	
Subsoil	(101)		0.35m	
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)		1.60m+	
Summary				
Trench 4 was located centrally on the site. No archaeologically significant features or deposits were present. The trench was				

shortened due to on site conditions.

5.6 Trench 5

5.6.1 Archaeological features were present in the north-east of the trench. In agreement with the Historic Environment Advisor from Essex County Council, they were not excavated or recorded due to the presence of sewage in this trench.

TRENCH 5	**Figure 2**		
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 22m	Level of Natural (m OD): N/A	
Deposit	**Context No.**	**Average Depth (m)**	
		SW End	
Topsoil	(100)	0.90m	
Subsoil	(101)	0.10m	
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	1.00m+	
Summary			
Trench 5 was located towards the south side of the site. Archaeological features were present in the north-eastern end of the trench, but were unable to be excavated or recorded due to a burst sewage pipe.			

5.7 Trench 6

5.7.1 Two pits were seen in this trench, however due to the depth of the trench and in-coming water, it was agreed with the Historic Environment Advisor from Essex County Council that these features were not excavated. Instead, a plan of their location was recorded from the top of the trench (Figure 2).

TRENCH 6	**Figure 2**		**Plates 7 & 8**
Trench Alignment: NW-SE	Length: 25m	Level of Natural (m OD): 2.11m	
Deposit	**Context No.**	**Average Depth (m)**	
		SE End	**NW End**
Modern hard-core	(103)	1.45m	1.25m
Subsoil	(101)	0.40m	0.30m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)	1.85m+	1.55m+
Summary			

Trench 6 was located towards the east side of the site.
Two pits were seen in this trench, however due to the depth of the trench and in-coming water it was considered unsafe to enter the trench and therefore the pits remain unrecorded. A plan of their location was recorded from the top of the trench.

5.8 Trench 7

5.8.1 Two parallel ditches dating to the Mid Neolithic to Early Bronze Age were recorded in trench 7.

5.8.2 Ditch [128] (Plate 9; Figure 5, Section 8) was located at the south end of the trench, on an east to west alignment; it was 0.84m wide and 0.22m deep with moderately sloping sides, and a concave base. It had a single fill (127) of mid brown grey sandy silty clay which contained two sherds (12g) of Mid Neolithic to Early Bronze Age pottery (see Tinsley, Section 6.1).

5.8.3 Ditch [130] (Figure 5, Section 9) was just south of ditch [128], on an east to west alignment; it was 0.81m wide and 0.15m deep with moderately sloping sides, and a concave base. It had a single fill (129) of mid brown grey sandy silty clay which contained three sherds (17.5g) of decorated Mid Neolithic to Early Bronze Age pottery (see Tinsley, Section 6.1).

TRENCH 7	**Figures 2 & 5**		**Plate 10**	
Trench Alignment: NE-SW	Length: 25m		Level of Natural (m OD): 2.32-2.52m	
Deposit	**Context No.**		**Average Depth (m)**	
			SW End	**NE End**
Modern hard-core	(103)		0.52m	0.80m
Subsoil	(101)		0.50m	0.36m
Natural (max machined depth)	(102)		1.02m+	1.16m+

Summary

Trench 6 was located towards the west side of the site.
There were two ditches dating to the Neolithic or Early Bronze Age period in the trench.

6 THE FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

6.1 Pottery

By Dr Adam S. Tinsley

Introduction

6.1.1 A small assemblage of ceramic material was examined from the site of Walton-on-the-Naze, Essex, consisting of 62 sherds, with a combined weight of 636.5g. Diagnostic features identified in the assemblage indicate the presence of 6 distinct vessels, with variation in fabric, colour, and context indicating perhaps a further 6 or more. Assessment of the diagnostic features suggest the assemblage derives from a potential spread of activity from the Early Neolithic through to perhaps the early Bronze Age.

Methodology

6.1.2 All material was set out by context and the quantity and weight of individual sherds were recorded, with diagnostic features such as rim and body form, decorative treatment, fabric type, colour and wall thickness also noted (see Catalogue). A sherd, is classified as an individual ceramic fragment with a diameter above 1cm. Material of smaller dimensions were classified as crumbs, which, due to their restricted size, were held to be of little interpretative value and consequently were collectively recorded by weight only in the catalogue. Examination of material to determine fabric groups was carried out using a hand held x10 magnifying glass with details relating to the type, frequency and character of any deliberately included temper agents, as well as the general colour and consistency of paste, recorded and used to formulate relevant fabric types and codes (see Table 1). On the basis of variation in the diagnostic features identified above, sherd material was divided according to the minimum number of vessels represented. The material so grouped was then further examined for the occurrence of adjoining sherds in order to check against any potential replication of vessel groupings and develop a firmer impression of the original vessel form. Discussion of the diagnostic features, their typological affinities, and the justification for any groupings will be ordered below according to criteria

established in guidelines for the production of ceramic reports issued by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (PCRG 2011: 2016).

Quantification and qualification

6.1.3 A total of 62 sherds and a small number of crumbs comprise the assemblage, with a collective weight of 636.5g. Examination of the diagnostic features indicates that the material derives from approximately 12 parental vessels, although the presence of several more vessels may be indicated by unassignable plain body sherds. This material was distributed between 8 different contexts and features, although the bulk of the assemblage, by sherd and vessel count as well as weight, derives from three of the depositional features.

6.1.4 Context (109) relating to cut [106] produced 19 sherds, with a combined weight of 485.5g. While the material from context [106] represents over two thirds of the total weight of the assemblage, and just under a third of the total number of sherds, this almost entirely derives from a single vessel (**1**). Individual sherds representing Vessel **1** are therefore relatively large, when compared to the average size of sherds within the rest of the assemblage. They include several examples of adjoining sherds although these occur along fresh fracture lines, probably indicative of breakage during recovery rather than immediately prior to or post-deposition. However, probably less than a third of the vessel has been recovered, with no sherds definitively attributable to the base of the vessel, and only two rim fragments representing less than a quarter of the rim circumference. In addition, many of the sherds demonstrate abrasion and wear to the original fractured edges, as well as erosion to the external surface, suggesting the material was left exposed to the elements between breakage and ultimately being sealed in the feature. A small number of the sherds also appear to show signs of having been burnt during this time.

6.1.5 Context (107), of cut [108], produced a similar quantity of 17 sherds, however, the collective weight of the sub-assemblage is much lower than that of context (109), at 49.5g. A single vessel (**2**) can be positively identified

by the presence of a single small rim fragment, although variation in the fabric, colour, and thickness of the majority of the plain body sherds indicate the remains of perhaps 5 or more vessels. The majority of the sherds display some sign of abrasion, suggesting the material was left exposed for a period of time prior to being sealed in the feature.

6.1.6 Context (113), of cut [114], produced a slightly smaller sub-assemblage of 13 sherds with a collective weight of 41.5g. It included a single, relatively fresh and un-abraded, base sherd representing Vessel **3**, and a series of plain body sherds unassignable to distinct vessels, but probably deriving from two or more additional parental vessels. The majority of this material displays signs of abrasion indicative of a period of exposure prior to being sealed in the feature.

6.1.7 Context (115), of cut [117], and context (124), of cut [125], both produced a single, small, plain, and relatively abraded body sherd. The isolated nature of these sherds may suggest they were accidentally incorporated into the fill of the feature and, as such, may also be residual in nature.

6.1.8 Context (122), of cut [123], produced a small assemblage of 5 sherds with a collective weight of 28.5g. A single vessel (**4**) is indicated by a relatively thick walled sherd, possibly deriving from the base of the vessel or alternatively perhaps a lug, while the remaining sherds derive from a thinner walled vessel. All sherds display signs of slight abrasion.

6.1.9 Context (127), of cut [128], produced just two relatively heavily abraded sherds with a collective weight of 12g, which, based upon fabric variation, derive from two separate parental vessels. The degree of abrasion evident particularly upon the base sherd representing Vessel 5, may indicate the material derives from residual activity.

6.1.10 Context (129), of cut [130], produced three sherds with a collective weight of 17.5g. Two of the sherds are adjoining and represent a heavily abraded fragment of a decorated vessel (**6**). The third sherd represents a second distinct and potentially decorated vessel (**7**).

Form

6.1.11 Very few of the parental vessels, with the exception of Vessel **1**, are represented by more than a single diagnostic sherd, and commentary upon the form of the constituent vessels is therefore considerably limited.

6.1.12 Vessel **1**: the material constitutes probably less than a third of the original vessel, predominantly comprising large body sherds, including several adjoining examples, as well as two adjoining rim fragments, but no positively identifiable base sherds. The rim can be identified as a short vertical example with a slightly rolled externally projecting lip, protruding directly from a globular shaped body. The vessel therefore has no distinguishable neck section and it can be defined as either a neutral or closed bowl applying a system adopted by Cleal (1992). Similar simple rimmed globular bowls are most indicative of early Neolithic forms dating to the first half of the fourth millennium BC (Smith 1965; Cleal 1992; Gibson 2002), although they do also occur among later prehistoric assemblages. A close parallel for the vessel can be found in the Early Neolithic component of an assemblage recovered in close proximity to Walton-on-the-Naze, but further south along the Essex coastline at Clacton (Warren *et al* 1936, Fig 2.3, 187).

6.1.13 Vessel **2**: is represented by a single, relatively small rim sherd, and possibly a second smaller sherd of indistinct type. Commentary relating to the wider form of the parental vessel is therefore very limited and entirely speculative. The rim fragment is too small to allow an estimate of the diameter of the original vessel, while in profile it may relate to an externally angled rim with a slight, inwardly rolled lip. The inwardly rolled lip of the rim would suggest a potential affinity with a typological extension of Early Neolithic bowl forms among examples of the Ebbsfleet Ware subgroup of the Peterborough Ware or Impressed Ware tradition (Smith 1956; Gibson 2002; Tinsley 2013). The exact chronological timeframe of the Ebbsfleet Ware subgroup has not yet been firmly resolved, but probably relates to the middle to second half of the fourth millennium BC. Examples of Ebbsfleet Ware vessels have similarly been recovered from the Essex submerged coastline at Clacton (Warren *et al* 1936).

6.1.14 Vessel **3**: is represented by a single, relatively small, but unabraded base sherd, although there is the slim possibility that this could derive from Vessel **2**. The vessel is relatively thin walled and has a flattened base. However, the flat base may not be entirely intentional, but rather the result of natural sag and compression in the formed vessel prior to its firing. This distinction is of some importance as deliberately constructed flat based vessels make a consistent appearance only among ceramic traditions from the Middle Neolithic onwards, i.e. among the Mortlake and Fengate Ware subgroups of the Peterborough Ware tradition (Smith 1956), and, more prominently within the subsequent Grooved Ware tradition (Wainwright and Longworth 1971; Manby 1974; Cleal and McSween 1999), and are a particular characteristic of vessels from the Early Bronze Age onwards (Kinnes and Varndell 1995; Gibson 2002; Woodward and Hill 2002). This would suggest that the base derives from a further globular or perhaps bipartite vessel associated with Early Neolithic bowl forms or possibly Ebbsfleet Ware.

6.1.15 Vessel **4**: is represented by a single relatively thick walled sherd. The profile of the sherd displays a pronounced curvature, perhaps indicative of a basal fragment, although an alternative interpretation as a fragment of a vessel lug is also possible. Without further material it is impossible to be certain of the wider form and typology of the vessel, although it can be noted that, if a lug, such features have been identified upon Early Neolithic vessels, but are less often recorded relative to other ceramic traditions until the Middle Bronze Age and Iron Age.

6.1.16 Vessel **5**: is represented by a single, small, and heavily abraded basal fragment. The fragment indicates it derives from a deliberately constructed flat bottomed vessel, although the fragment offers no further indication of the wider form of that vessel. Flat bottomed vessels occur within ceramic traditions from the Middle Neolithic onwards (see above), although they are most common from the late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age onwards. Without further evidence it is impossible to provide a definitive typological designation for the vessel, although one among the Beaker tradition (Clarke 1970), may tentatively be suggested.

6.1.17 Vessel **6**: is represented by two adjoining, relatively thin walled, decorated body sherds. The sherds are very heavily abraded and offer no indication of the wider form of the vessel. Based upon the decoration applied to the sherds, the vessel may belong to the Beaker tradition (Clarke 1970).

6.1.18 Vessel **7**: is represented by a single sherd, which, based upon the slight curvature of its profile may derive from the neck of the parental vessel. No further diagnostic features can be identified in relation to the wider form of the vessel, although the presence and possible nature of decoration upon the external surface may suggest an affinity with the Peterborough Ware tradition (Smith 1956).

Fabric

6.1.19 A total of five basic fabric groups were identified within the assemblage and indicate the use of three main temper agents (see Table 1). By far the most ubiquitous in the assemblage were fabrics tempered using calcined (burnt) crushed flint. While the quantity of the flint temper varied slightly, from vessel to vessel, and indeed sherd to sherd, it was often fairly well sorted and finely crushed, with individual elements often highly visible erupting from the surface of individual sherds. However, in many cases, particularly in relation to sherds from Vessel 1, the temper had been exposed due to erosion of the surface, and the surface may originally have been smoothed and therefore partially masked the presence of the flint. The use of flint as a ceramic temper is well known among any number of prehistoric ceramic traditions across the country, and more locally, from the Early Neolithic to the Iron Age (Gibson 2002). In this particular instance, there appears to be other diagnostic features that confirm its use at Walton-on-the-Naze predominantly in relation to Early Neolithic bowl forms or else subsequent derivative styles such as Ebbsfleet Ware, among which flint tempers are commonly identified (Cleal 1995).

6.1.20 A small number of sherds were executed in predominantly quartz tempered fabric and include a rim sherd from a possible Ebbsfleet Ware bowl (Vessel **2**). While less ubiquitously used than flint, quartz tempered fabrics are known

among a wide range of prehistoric ceramic traditions, and are well represented in some regions among Early Neolithic bowl forms and, in particular, the various subgroups of the Peterborough Ware tradition (Gibson 1995; Tinsley 2013). Its use may have particular ritual significance (Gibson 1995), although it may also simply reflect the expedient use of materials close to hand (Tinsley 2013).

6.1.21 A small number of sherds were executed in a fabric for which no visible temper inclusions could be identified. This may include sherds produced using grog (crushed ceramic) as a temper, which can be difficult to identify, although no supporting evidence, such as a soapy texture, which can sometimes indicate its use, were recorded. Vessels in which such a fabric was identified include Vessel **5** and Vessel **6**, for which a possible Beaker affiliation has been identified. The use of such a fabric, either plain or grog tempered, would be entirely in keeping with such a typological prognosis.

Fabric Code	**Description**	**Vessel Number**	**Provisional Date**
F1	Abundant (>20%) angular calcined flint, moderately well sorted (1-5mm in size)	1, 4	Early Neolithic (EN) to Middle Neolithic (MN)
F2	Common (>15%) angular calcined flint, well sorted (1-3mm in size)	3	Early Neolithic (EN) to Middle Neolithic (MN)
F3	Rare (>5%) calcined flint, well sorted (1-3mm in size)	7	Early Neolithic (EN) to Early Bronze Age (EBA)
Q1	Rare (>5%) angular quartz well sorted (2-4mm in size)	2	Early Neolithic (EN) to Middle Neolithic (MN)
QSSt1	Rare (>1%) angular quartz Rare (>5%) possible igneous stone Rare (>5%) elongate sand and occasional mica flecks		Early Neolithic (EN) to Middle Neolithic (MN)
N	No visible inclusions	5, 6	Early Neolithic (EN) to Early Bronze Age (EBA)

Table 1: Summary of the probable prehistoric ceramic fabric groups

Decoration

6.1.22 The vast majority of the assemblage comprised undecorated sherds, although in the case of Vessels **1**, **2**, and **3**, the surface originally appears to have been at least smoothed, if not had a slip application. The absence of decoration would be entirely in keeping with the typological identification of the majority of the assemblage among Early Neolithic bowl forms or Ebbsfleet Ware, which tend to be plain and unadorned, sometimes provided with a simple slip, or smoothing of the surface, or else a more elaborate burnish.

6.1.23 Decoration was recorded upon the external surface of fragments relating to Vessel **6,** although it is difficult to be certain of the exact type of decorative media employed, due to the heavily abraded nature of the material. Small oval impressions appear to be arranged in multiple horizontal rows, with individual impressions within each row quite evenly and regularly spaced. This may suggest the use of comb decoration. Such a decorative technique is a common characteristic of the Beaker tradition (Clarke 1970), and conversely was rarely employed among earlier Neolithic traditions, for example only one possible case of its use was recorded in relation to Peterborough Wares (Tinsley 2013). A single sherd representing Vessel **7** may also possess faint traces of decoration in the form parallel vertical markings. It is slightly unclear how the markings were formed, but they may represent stab and drag marks executed with a flint or other implement. Such crude forms of decoration are known among Neolithic ceramic traditions, particularly Peterborough Wares, where they are often used to decorate the external surface of the neck of the vessel (Gibson 1995; Tinsley 2013).

Conclusions

6.1.24 Definitive diagnostic features are somewhat scant within the small assemblage of ceramic material recovered from Walton-on-the-Naze, Essex, and subsequent typological and chronological conclusions must therefore be treated with some caution. However, it would appear that several possible phases of activity can be identified by the assemblage. The strongest evidence points towards an Early to Middle Neolithic phase of activity, as

identified in relation to the bulk of the assemblage, but in particular the presence of Vessels **1**, **2**, and **3**, which have been tentatively aligned with Early Neolithic bowl forms and possibly Ebbsfleet Ware. A later phase of possible Early Bronze Age activity may also be indicated by the relatively insecure identification of potential Beaker vessels. However, given the lack of definitive diagnostic traits it is possible that the features identified may also derive from a Middle Neolithic phase. Close chronological and typological parallels for both Neolithic to Early Bronze Age materials are known in close proximity to the site, recovered further south along the coastline at Clacton. In any event, while the material is not of exceptional quality it is relatively rare, and given the potentially early prehistoric origin is at least of regional significance. Further work in the area should aim to maximise the potential recovery of such material, together with any associated palaeoenviromental and dating evidence. If more material is recovered the assemblage would undoubtedly benefit from a programme of thin section analysis, in order to help further characterise the manner and source of production, and should be supported by a scheme of radiocarbon dating if suitable materials are identified.

6.2 Metalwork

By Ruth Beveridge

6.2.1 A single object of copper alloy was recovered during the evaluation and is catalogued below. It was found in Trench 1 in fill 124 of posthole 125. The object has been examined and identified to material and type as far as possible.

Copper Alloy

6.2.2 <1>, fill 124 of posthole 125. Fragment of a cast, copper alloy socketed tool or axe blade. The surface of the object is worn.

6.2.3 This fragment is part of the hollow section of a socketed axe. It is from the outer edge of the blade. In plan it is rectangular, in section it is curved slightly. The blade would have had a rectangular cross section with parallel sides that are slightly concave.

6.2.4 The fragment measures 16mm in length. The width of the outer edge is 14mm; the thickness of the casting is 6mm.

6.2.5 It is likely to be of Late Bronze Age in date (1000 - 800BC) and is possibly comparable to a socketed axe from the Burnham hoard (McLean, 2012) which is an example of a Petters Type A.1 (Needham, 1990).

Recommendations for further work

6.2.6 The axehead fragment could be x-rayed to preserve a clear depiction of the object.

Discussion

6.2.7 SF1, found within the fill of a posthole, could be a stray loss or discard of a damaged item and possibly relates to the Late Bronze Age activity immediately to the north of the site uncovered in excavations earlier this year.

6.2.8 Socketed axes are more commonly found in Essex in the context of founders hoards (Butcher, 1923). The discovery in 2010 of a hoard at Burnham, south of Walton along the coast, being one of the more recent discoveries of this type (McLean, 2007). The Burnham hoard is dated to the Ewart Park phase of the late Bronze Age, c. 1020 – 800BC (Needham et al. 1998, 93, 98). SF1 may also belong to this phase.

6.3 Plant Macrofossils

By Kate Turner

Introduction

6.3.1 This report summarises the findings of the rapid assessment of flot residues from ten bulk samples submitted for review. These were taken from a series of ditches and postholes, thought to be of prehistoric date, at the former site of the Martello Carvan Park, in Walton on the Naze, Essex. The aim of this assessment is to determine the environmental potential of these samples and to establish whether any further work is required.

Methodology

6.3.2 The residues and flots were scanned under a low-power binocular microscope in order to identify and quantify any environmental material, in the form of seeds, chaff, charred grains, molluscs and charcoal. These were recorded using a non-linear scale to denote abundance where '1' indicates the occasional occurrence of an ecofact (1-10 items), '2' indicates that it is fairly frequent (11-30 items), '3' more frequent (31-100 items) and '4' abundant (>100 items). A note was also made of any other significant inclusions, for example roots and modern plant material. The results of this assessment are shown in Appendix 5.

Results and Discussion

6.3.3 The flots samples assessed ranged from 0.1 to 15ml in volume, and were generally poor in environmental remains. Small amounts of wood charcoal are present throughout the assemblage, though none of these are of a size to warrant further study, samples <8> and <9> also contained single grains of charred Triticum spp. (wheat). Low concentrations of un-charred seeds of Brassica spp. (mustards), Chenopodium album (fat-hen) and Polygonum/rumex spp. (knotweed/dock/sorrel) were identified in samples <4>, <6> and <10> but are, for the most part, likely to be modern intrusions. Sample <6> also contained single snail of the species Punctum pygmaeum (Dwarf snail).

6.3.4 Evidence for contamination, in the form of modern insect eggs and roots, was found in all of the samples, with the exception of sample <1>. This indicates that the environmental material present may have been subject to substantial bioturbation, and is therefore of limited use.

Recommendations

6.3.5 None of the samples in this assemblage contained environmental artefacts of any significance, and the evidence for modern contamination and post depositional reworking within the sediment itself is also substantial. As a result, any material contained therein, however limited, should be considered heavily compromised and it is not recommended that any further analysis be

carried out.

7 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Prehistoric Activity

7.1.1 The evaluation identified boundary ditches and postholes relating to activity during the Early-Mid Neolithic and the Late Bronze Age. Three phases of prehistoric activity can be tentatively suggested. An Early-Mid Neolithic phase with ditches on an east-west alignment and similarly dated postholes; an Early-Mid Neolithic phase with ditches on a north-south alignment and a later phase of a Late Bronze Age posthole.

7.1.2 Although this Neolithic and Bronze Age activity was localised to trenches in the north-west of the site, features seen in Trenches 5 and 6 suggest that activity from similar periods are present across the whole of the site.

7.1.3 The finds evidence suggests there are three periods of activity, Early to Mid-Neolithic, Mid-Neolithic to Early Bronze Age and Late Bronze Age. However, this dating may only show the site at its peak, with 'quieter' phases of activity, particularly the late Neolithic, not represented within the relatively small sample provided by the trial trenching, and therefore masking a phase of continuous activity ranging from the Early Neolithic through to the Bronze Age.

7.1.4 The results of the evaluation are in keeping with the known prehistoric archaeology of Walton on the Naze, though dating from the site could be amongst the earliest known from the town. The close proximity to late Bronze Age activity to the north of the site suggests a possible transition of activity in this area during the Bronze Age period, from low lying land to the south to higher land to the north.

7.1.5 Archaeological preservation appears to be relatively good, with survival of features, and fairly deep overburden in several of the trenches (e.g. 3, 6 and 7).

7.2 Conclusions

7.2.1 The trial trench evaluation has identified features reflecting three periods of

activity; Early to Mid-Neolithic, Mid-Neolithic to Early Bronze Age and Late Bronze Age.

7.2.2 The archaeological features and deposits are relatively well-preserved and associated with moderately large finds assemblages.

7.2.3 Although the densest concentration of archaeology is in the north-west of the site, features were seen in the south and eastern areas of the site.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

8.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Aldi Stores Ltd for commissioning the work. PCA are also grateful to Adrian Gascoyne of Essex County Council Historic Environment Team for his advice and for monitoring the work and thanks to Ben Holloway of Colchester Archaeological Trust for providing information regarding their investigations to the immediate north. The author would like to thank Taleyna Fletcher for managing the project. And the project team: Hannah Barrett, Zoe Richardson and Dan Britton for their hard work, and finally PCA's CAD department for preparing the figures.

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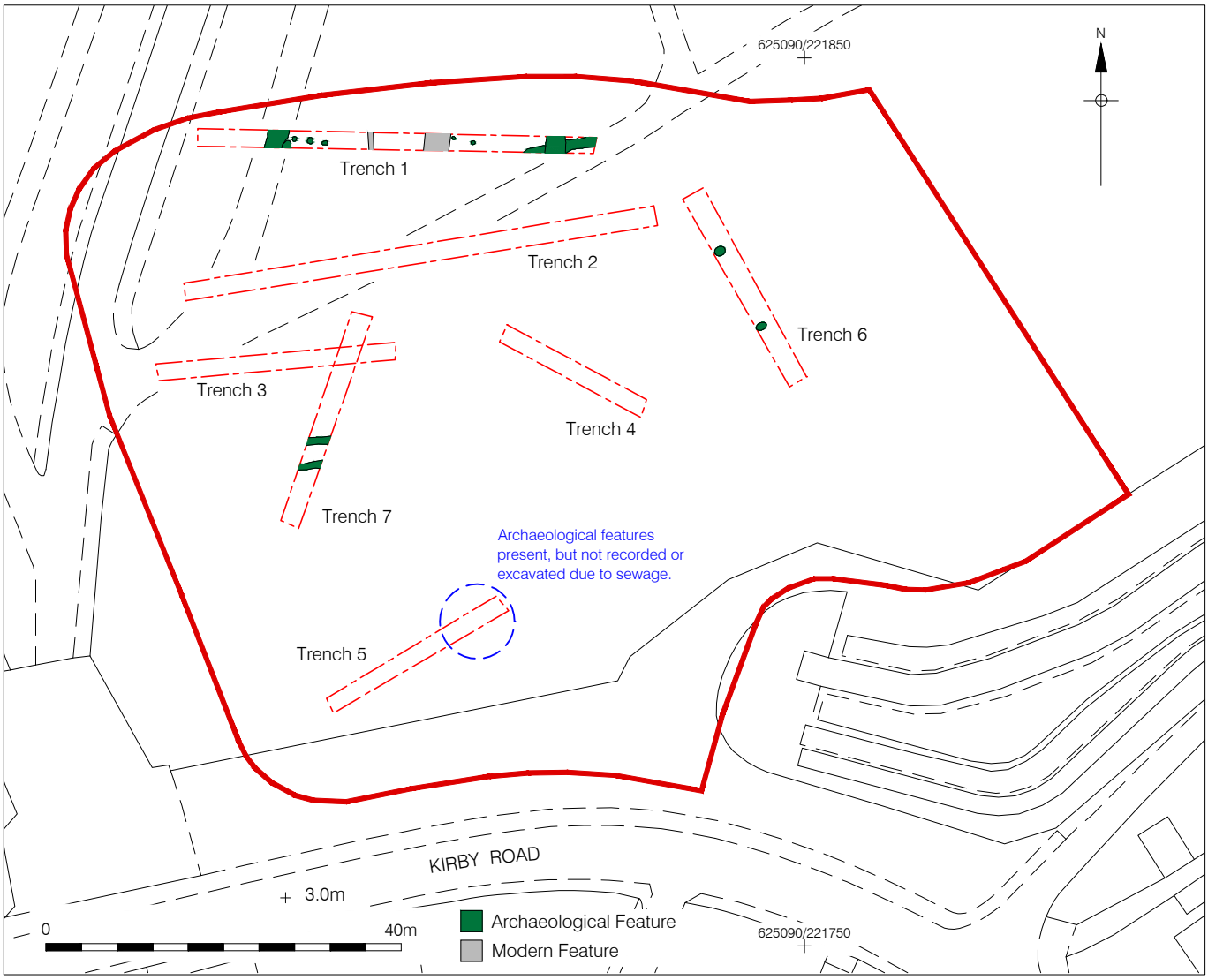
1) http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html. Date accessed 20/06/2016

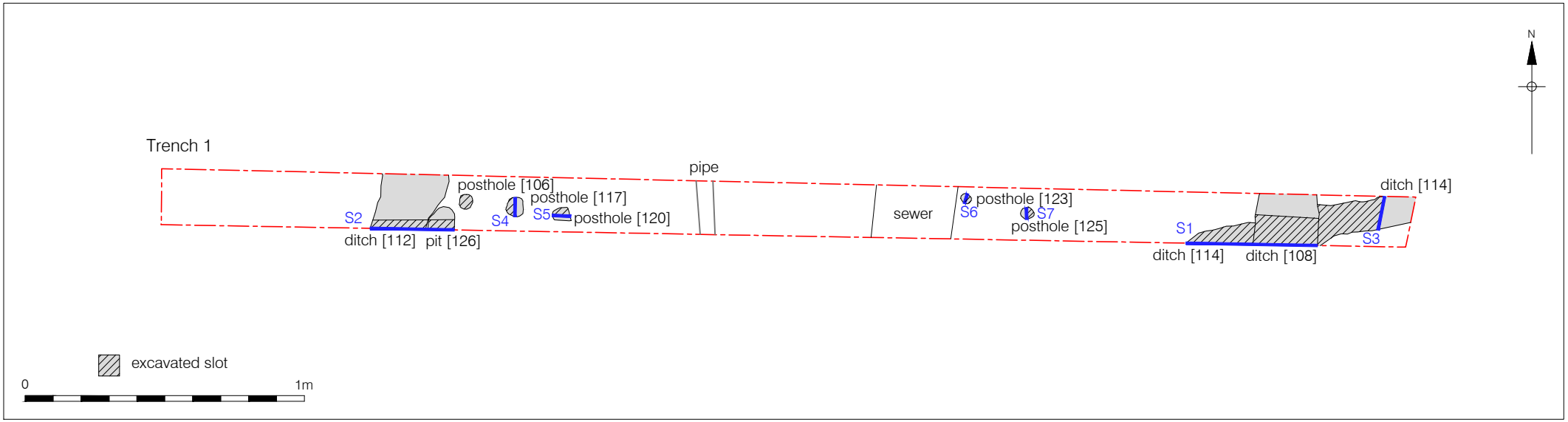
10/06/16 JS

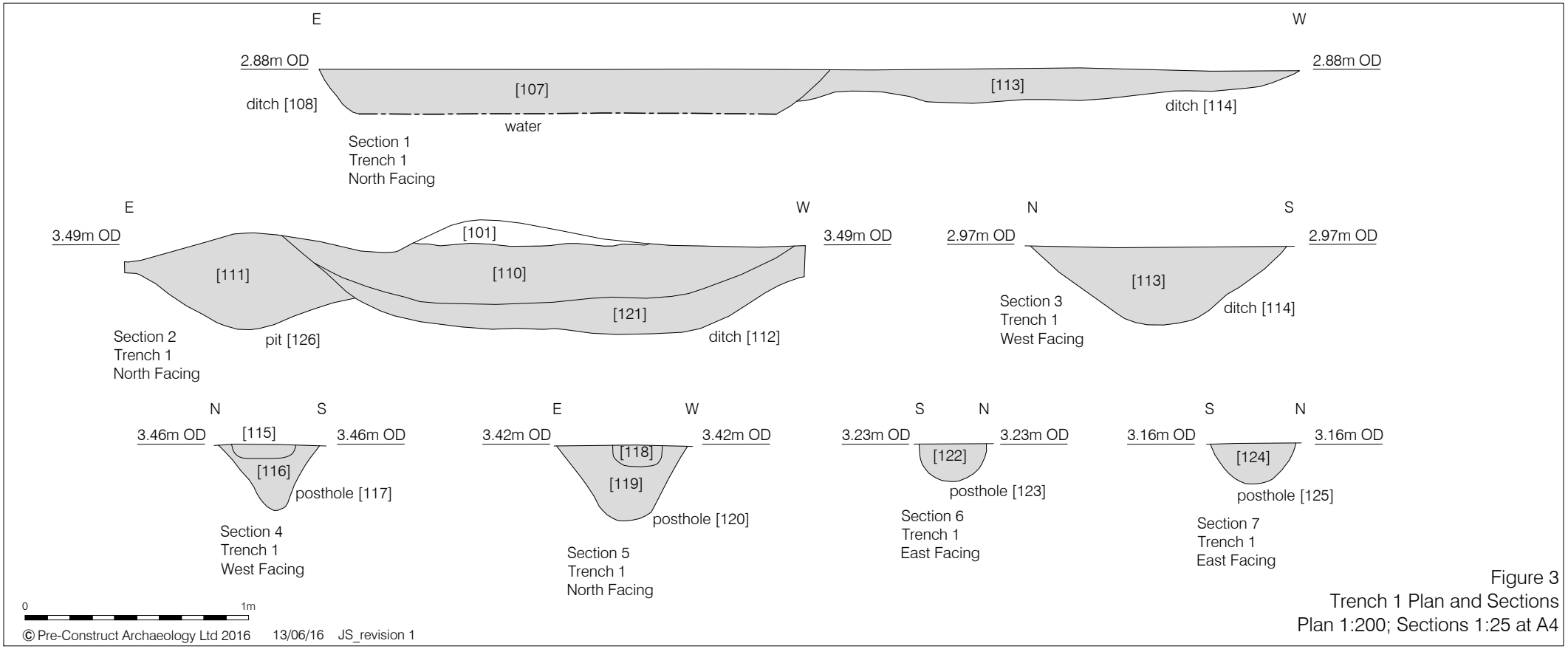
Figure 1
Site Location
1:2,000,000 & 1:20,000 at A4



29/06/16 JS_r1

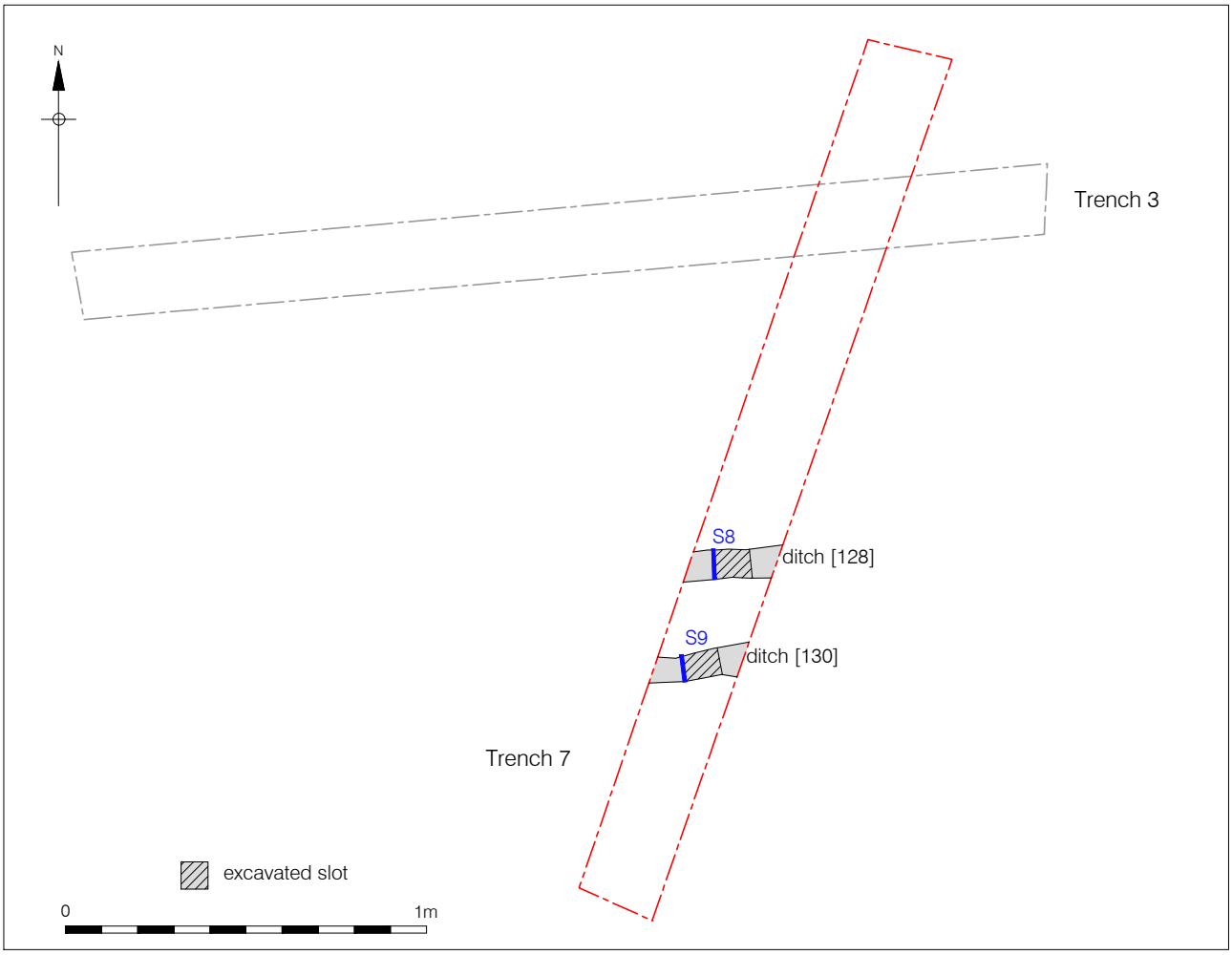
Figure 2
Trench Locations
1:750 at A4

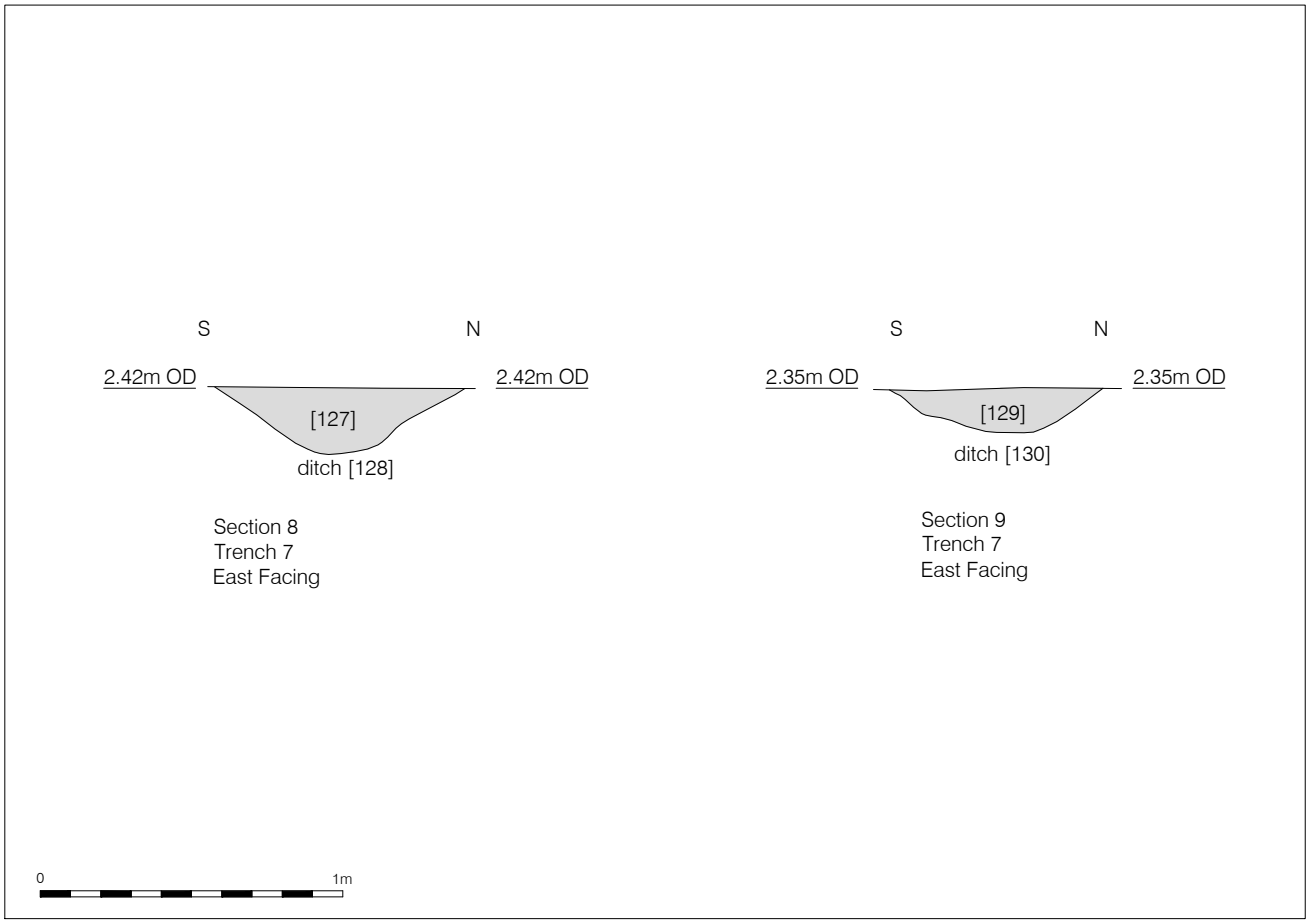




 13/06/16 JS_revision 1

Figure 3
Trench 1 Plan and Sections
Plan 1:200; Sections 1:25 at A4





13/06/16 JS_revision 1

Figure 4
Trench 7 Plan and Sections
Plan 1:200; Sections 1:25 at A4

10 APPENDIX 1: PLATES

Plate 1: Trench 1, view east

Plate 2: Trench 1, view south-west showing Posthole [106] pre-excavation with pot.

Plate 3: Trench 1, Ditch [108], view north

Plate 4: Trench 2, view east

Plate 5: Trench 3, view east

Plate 6: Trench 4 showing depth of trench and in particular the hard-core, view south-west

Plate 7: Trench 6, view west, pit feature nearest the north end of the trench

Plate 8: Trench 6, view west, pit feature at southern end of trench

Plate 9: Trench 7, view west, ditch [128]

Plate 10: Trench 7, view north-east, ditches [128] and [130] during excavation

11 APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT INDEX

Context List					
Context Number	Trench	Cut	Type	Category	Section
100	0	0	Layer	Topsoil	0
101	0	0	Layer	Subsoil	0
102	0	0	Layer	Natural	0
103	0	0	Layer	Hard-core crush	0
104	0	0	VOID	VOID	0
105	1	106	Fill	Posthole	0
106	1	106	Fill	Posthole	0
107	1	108	Cut	Ditch	1
108	1	108	Fill	Ditch	1
109	1	106	Cut	Posthole	0
110	1	112	Fill	Ditch	2
111	1	126	Fill	Pit	2
112	1	112	Cut	Ditch	2
113	1	114	Fill	Ditch	3
114	1	114	Cut	Ditch	3
115	1	117	Cut	Posthole	4
116	1	117	Fill	Posthole	4
117	1	117	Fill	Posthole	4
118	1	120	Fill	Posthole	5
119	1	120	Fill	Posthole	5
120	1	120	Cut	Posthole	5
121	1	112	Fill	Ditch	2
122	1	123	Cut	Posthole	6
123	1	123	Fill	Posthole	6
124	1	125	Cut	Posthole	7
125	1	125	Cut	Posthole	7
126	1	126	Cut	Pit	2
127	7	128	Cut	Ditch	8
128	7	128	Cut	Ditch	8
129	7	130	Cut	Ditch	9
130	7	130	Fill	Ditch	9

12 APPENDIX 3: PREHISTORIC POTTERY CATALOGUE

Sherd No	Vessel No	Suggested Period	Weight (g)	Thickness (cm)	Fabric Type	Form	Adjoins With?	Abrasion	Colour	Decoration	Mitigation Phase	Fill No	Cut No	Notes
1	1	EN	119	0.8	F1	Rim	SH02+03+04	Moderately Abraded	Medium reddish brown external surface. Medium grey brown internal surface	None	Eval	109	106	Short externally roled rim, no neck section, above a globular body, Neutral or closed bowl. Fresh breaks probably during recovery. Edges and sections of the external surface subject to abrasion with the surface visibly denuded. Uncertain, is this E Neo or a later prehistoric simple bowl. Diameter > 20cm
2	1	EN	4	0.8	F1	Body	SH01+03	Slightly Abraded	Medium reddish brown external surface. Medium grey brown internal surface	None	Eval	109	106	Conjoins with SH01 above and SH03 to right
3	1	EN	55	0.7	F1	Body	SH01+02	Moderately Abraded	Medium reddish brown external surface. Medium grey brown internal surface	None	Eval	109	106	Conjoins with SH01 top left and SH02 bottom left. External surface denuded in places
4	1	EN	29	0.7	F1	Rim	SH01	Moderately Abraded	Medium reddish brown external surface. Medium grey brown internal surface	None	Eval	109	106	Short externally rolled rim, no neck, over a globular body of a neutral or closed bowl. Unclear if this is E Neo or a simple later prehistoric vessel.

														Conjoins with SH01 to the right.
5	1	EN	31	0.8	F1	Body	SH06	Moderately Abraded	Medium reddish brown external surface. Medium grey brown internal surface	None	Eval	109	106	Conjoins with SH06 below. External surface heavily denuded
6	1	EN	78	0.8	F1	Body	SH05	Moderately Abraded	Medium reddish brown external surface. Medium grey brown internal surface	None	Eval	109	106	Conjoins with SH07 above. External surface heavily denuded
7	1	EN	80	0.7	F1	Body	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium reddish brown external surface. Medium grey brown internal surface	None	Eval	109	106	
8	1	EN	11	0.7	F1	Body	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium reddish brown external surface. Medium grey brown internal surface	None	Eval	109	106	
9	1	EN	9.5	0.7	F1	Body	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium reddish brown external surface. Medium grey brown internal surface	None	Eval	109	106	
10	1	EN	20	0.8	F1	Body	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium reddish brown external surface. Medium grey brown internal surface	None	Eval	109	106	

11	1	EN	22	1.2	F1	Body	None	Heavily Abraded	Medium grey brown throughout	None	Eval	109	106	Sherd may be from vessel 1, appears to have been burnt after breakage
12	1	EN	5	0.8	F1	Body	None	Heavily Abraded	Medium grey brown, with a medium reddish brown surface	None	Eval	109	106	Sherd may have been burnt after breakage
13	1	EN	4	0.7	F1	Body	None	Heavily Abraded	Medium grey brown, with a medium reddish brown surface	None	Eval	109	106	Sherd may have been burnt after breakage
14	1	EN	4	0.7	F1	Body	None	Heavily Abraded	Medium grey brown, with a medium reddish brown surface	None	Eval	109	106	Sherd may have been burnt after breakage
15	1	EN	4	0.6	F1	Body	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium reddish brown external surface. Medium grey brown internal surface	None	Eval	109	106	
16	1?	EN	7.5	1	F1	Body	None	Slightly Abraded	Light yellow brown throughout	None	Eval	109	106	May be from V1 despite colour difference although could also as easily be from a second vessel
17		Uncertain	2	0.7	N	Body	None	Heavily Abraded	Light yellowish grey throughout	None	Eval	109	106	Uncertain if a pottery fragment, may just be a piece of burnt clay or even daub
18		Uncertain	0.5	0.6	N	Body	None	Heavily Abraded	Light yellowish grey throughout	None	Eval	109	106	Uncertain if a pottery fragment, may just be a piece of burnt clay or even daub
19		Uncertain	0.5	0	N	Crumbs	None	Heavily Abraded	Mixed	None	Eval	109	106	A selection of small crumbs with no visible inclusions, may

														simply be burnt clay
20	2	EN-MN	4	0.8	Q1	Rim	None	Fresh	Dark grey brown throughout	Smoothed surface	Eval	107	108	Small section of a probable externally angled rim with an internally rolled lip. Very difficult to be sure given size but may be Ebbsfleet Ware
21	2	EN-MN	0.5	0.6	Q1	Body	None	Fresh	Dark grey brown throughout	Smoothed surface	Eval	107	108	Probably part of V2
22		EN-MN	4.5	0.8	QSSt1	Body	None	Moderately Abraded	Dark grey brown throughout	None	Eval	107	108	
23		EN-MN	4.5	1.1	N	Body	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium reddish brown throughout	None	Eval	107	108	
24		EN-MN	0.5	0.8	N	Body	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium reddish brown throughout	None	Eval	107	108	
25		EN-MN	7.5	0.9	F1	Body	None	Slightly Abraded	Medium reddish brown surface, medium grey brown opposing surface	None	Eval	107	108	
26		EN-MN	6.5	0.8	F1	Body	None	Slightly Abraded	Medium reddish brown surface, medium grey brown opposing surface	None	Eval	107	108	
27		EN-MN	5	1	F1	Body	None	Slightly Abraded	Medium reddish brown surface, medium grey brown opposing surface	None	Eval	107	108	
28		EN-MN	3	0.7	F1	Body	None	Slightly Abraded	Medium reddish brown surface, medium grey	None	Eval	107	108	

									brown opposing surface					
29		EN-MN	4	0.7	F2	Body	None	Fresh	Medium grey brown throughout	None	Eval	107	108	
30		EN-MN	2	0.7	F2	Body	None	Slightly Abraded	Medium reddish brown throughout	None	Eval	107	108	
31		EN-MN	1.5	0.8	F2	Body	None	Slightly Abraded	Medium reddish brown throughout	None	Eval	107	108	
32		EN-MN	2	0.9	F2	Body	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium reddish brown throughout	None	Eval	107	108	
33		EN-MN	1	0.6	F2	Body	None	Slightly Abraded	Medium reddish brown throughout	None	Eval	107	108	
34		EN-MN	1.5	0.8	F2	Body	None	Slightly Abraded	Medium reddish brown throughout	None	Eval	107	108	
35		EN-MN	0.5	0.5	F2	Body	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium grey brown throughout	None	Eval	107	108	
36		EN-MN	0.5	0.5	F2	Body	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium grey brown throughout	None	Eval	107	108	
37		EN-MN	0.5	0.4	F2	Body	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium grey brown throughout	None	Eval	107	108	
38	3	EN-MN	16	0.6	F2	Base	None	Fresh	Dark grey brown throughout	Smoothed surface	Eval	113	114	Angle suggestive of a flat base, although this probably derives from the natural sag of the vessel prior to firing rather than production of an intentional flat bottom.
39		EN-MN	2	0.5	N	Body	None	Slightly Abraded	Dark grey brown throughout	None	Eval	113	114	
40		EN-MN	3	1	N	Body	None	Slightly Abraded	Dark grey brown throughout	None	Eval	113	114	

41		EN-MN	13	1	F2	Body	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium reddish brown external surface. Medium grey brown internal surface	None	Eval	113	114	
42		EN-MN	1	0.5	F2	Body	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium reddish brown throughout	None	Eval	113	114	
43		EN-MN	1.5	0.8	F3	Body	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium grey brown throughout	None	Eval	113	114	
44		EN-MN	1	0.7	F3	Body	None	Slightly Abraded	Medium grey brown throughout	None	Eval	113	114	
45		EN-MN	0.5	0.5	F3	Body	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium grey brown throughout	None	Eval	113	114	
46		EN-MN	0.5	0.5	F3	Body	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium grey brown throughout	None	Eval	113	114	
47		EN-MN	0.5	0.5	F3	Body	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium grey brown throughout	None	Eval	113	114	
48		EN-MN	0.5	0.5	F3	Body	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium grey brown throughout	None	Eval	113	114	
49		EN-MN	0.5	0.5	F3	Body	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium grey brown throughout	None	Eval	113	114	
50		EN-MN	0.5	0.5	F3	Body	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium grey brown throughout	None	Eval	113	114	
51		EN-MN	1	0.5	F3	Body	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium grey brown throughout	None	Eval	115	117	Actually 1 small sherd and a crumb
52	4	EN-MN	21	1.5	F1	Base	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium reddish brown external and internal surface. Medium grey brown core	None	Eval	122	123	Possibly from the base of a vessel, although a slight possibility it may be from a lug of a vessel
53		EN-MN	4	0.8	F2	Body	None	Slightly Abraded	Medium reddish brown external surface.	None	Eval	122	123	

									Medium grey brown internal surface					
54		EN-MN	2	0.8	F2	Body	None	Slightly Abraded	Medium reddish brown external surface. Medium grey brown internal surface	None	Eval	122	123	
55		EN-MN	1	0.7	F2	Body	None	Slightly Abraded	Medium reddish brown external surface. Medium grey brown internal surface	None	Eval	122	123	
56		EN-MN	0.5	0.6	F2	Body	None	Slightly Abraded	Medium reddish brown external surface. Medium grey brown internal surface	None	Eval	122	123	
57		EN-MN	1.5	0.7	F3	Body	None	Slightly Abraded	Medium reddish brown external surface. Medium grey brown internal surface	None	Eval	124	125	
58	5	MN-EBA	8	0.8	N	Base	None	Moderately Abraded	Medium reddish brown external surface. Medium grey brown internal surface	None	Eval	127	128	Base of a flat bottomed vessel. Uncertain typology but most likely BA although could be as early as the Middle Neolithic
59		MN-EBA	4	1	F3	Body	None	Heavily Abraded	Medium grey reddish brown throughout	None	Eval	127	128	
60	6	MN-EBA	3.5	0.4	N	Body	SH60	Heavily Abraded	Light grey external surface. Medium orange internal surface and	Multiple rows of faint oval impression, possibly comb decoration	Eval	129	130	Heavily abraded but possibly Middle Neolithic to BA, emphasis on the later and possibly Beaker ceramics

									core					
61	6	MN-EBA	1	0.4	N	Body	SH59	Heavily Abraded	Light grey external surface. Medium orange internal surface and core	Multiple rows of faint oval impression, possibly comb decoration	Eval	129	130	Heavily abraded but possibly Middle Neolithic to BA, emphasis on the later and possibly Beaker ceramics
62	7	MN-EBA	13	1.1	F3	Neck?	None	Slightly Abraded	Dark grey brown throughout	A single row of possible stab and drag marks	Eval	129	130	Decoration slightly uncertain but would suggest, together with the curvature of the profile, the sherd derives from the neck of a vessel of Middle Neolithic to BA origin

13 APPENDIX 4: METALWORK CATALOGUE

SF	Context	Material	Object	Type	Description	Object date	Width	Length	Diameter	Extent
1	125	Copper alloy	Socketed axe		Fragment from the outer edge of the hollow blade of a socketed axe. In plan it is rectangular, in section it is curved slightly. It is not a diagnostic piece.	1000 - 800BC	14mm	16 mm		Incomplete

14 APPENDIX 5: PLANT MACROFOSSILS

					Flot						
Sample number	Context number	Cut	Feature	Vol (ml)	Charcoal >1mm	Charcoal <1mm	Seeds (uncharred)	Seeds (charred)	Grain	Mollusca	Other
1	107	108	Ditch	0.1	1	2					Coal (1)
2	109	106	Posthole	10	2	2					Roots (3)
3	113	114	Ditch	15	1	2				Fragments (1)	Roots (3)
4	115	117	Posthole	5	2	3	Brassica spp. (1) Rumex/polygonum spp. (1)				Roots (2) Insect eggs (2)
5	118	120	Posthole	2	1						Roots (2)
6	122	123	Posthole	11	3	3	Chenopodium album (1)			Punctum pygmaeum (1)	Roots (2) Insect eggs (2)
7	124	125	Posthole	5	1	3					Roots (2)
8	127	128	Ditch	2	1	2			Triticum spp. (1)		Roots (1)
9	129	136	Ditch	1	1	2			Triticum spp. (1)		Insect eggs (1)
10		106	Posthole	3	2	3	Chenopodium album (1)				Roots (2)

15 APPENDIX 6: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-254756

Project details

Project name	Land at Martello Caravan Park, Walton on the Naze
Short description of the project	This report describes the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology on land at Martello Caravan Park, Walton on the Naze, Essex, CO14 8QB (NGR TM 2503 2182) between the 27th and the 29th April 2016 and the 6th June 2016. The archaeological work was commissioned by Aldi Stores Ltd in response to a planning condition attached to the construction of a food store together with associated parking and landscaping and regrading of levels. The evaluation recorded a number of features including ditches and postholes; dating indicated three phases of activity, Early-Mid Neolithic, Mid-Neolithic to Early Bronze Age and Late Bronze Age. Results from an excavation to the immediate north of the site suggest that the area was close to or part of a settlement site.
Project dates	Start: 27-04-2016 End: 06-06-2016
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	FWKR16 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 13 - Waste ground
Significant Finds	POTTERY Bronze Age
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Urban commercial (e.g. offices, shops, banks, etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG15
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	ESSEX TENDRING FRINTON AND WALTON Land at Martello Caravan Park, Walton on the Naze, Essex, CO14 8QB: Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation
Postcode	CO14 8QB
Study area	0.6 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 2503 2182 51.848958571744 1.267667273067 51 50 56 N 001 16 03 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 2.11m Max: 3.52m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
Project brief originator	Essex County Council
Project design originator	Adrian Gascoyne of Essex County Council Historic Environment Team
Project director/manager	Taleyna Fletcher
Project supervisor	Clare Jackson
Type of sponsor/funding body	Commercial Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Aldi Stores Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Metal"
Digital Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Digital Media	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"

available	
Paper Archive recipient	Colchester Museum
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land at Martello Caravan Park, Walton on the Naze, Essex, CO14 8QB: Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Jackson, C.
Date	2016
Issuer or publisher	PCA
Place of issue or publication	Cambridge
Description	A4 spiral bound

Entered by	Clare Jackson (cjackson@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	14 June 2016

16 APPENDIX 7: ESSEX HER FORM

Site name/Address: Land at Martello Caravan Park, Walton on the Naze, Essex, CO14 8QB	
Parish: Walton on the Naze	***District:*** Tendring
NGR: TM 2503 2182	***Site Code:*** FWKR16
Type of Work: Evaluation	***Site Director/Group:*** Clare Jackson
Date of Work: 04/2016-06/2016	***Size of Area Investigated:***
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Colchester Museum	***Funding source:*** Developer
Further Seasons Anticipated? Possibly	***Related HER Nos***
Final Report: Land at Martello Caravan Park, Walton on the Naze, Essex, CO14 8QB: Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation	
Periods Represented: Neolithic – Bronze Age	
SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS: The evaluation identified boundary ditches and postholes relating to activity during the Early-Mid Neolithic and the Late Bronze Age. Three phases of prehistoric activity can be tentatively suggested. An Early-Mid Neolithic phase with ditches on an east-west alignment and similarly dated postholes; an Early-Mid Neolithic phase with ditches on a north-south alignment and a later phase of a Late Bronze Age posthole, which contained a fragment of a Late Bronze Age copper alloy socketed axe.	
Previous Summaries/Reports: N/A	
Author of Summary: Clare Jackson	***Date of Summary:*** 29/06/2016

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