# LAND AT NUN'S WALK GREAT YELDHAM, ESSEX

## AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION



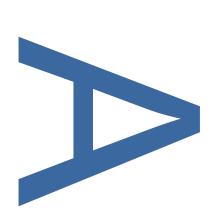
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PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

## Land at Nun's Walk, Great Yeldham Essex: An Archaeological Evaluation

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### Land at Nun's Walk, Great Yeldham Essex: An Archaeological Evaluation

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#### **CONTENTS**

1	INTRODUCTION	3
2	SITE BACKGROUND	4
3	AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	7
4	METHODOLOGY	8
5	QUANTIFICATION OF ARCHIVE	. 10
6	EVALUATION RESULTS	. 11
7	THE FINDS	. 16
8	ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE	.30
9	DISCUSSION	. 35
10	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	. 37
	REFERENCES	
FIG	URES	. 41
PLA	TES	. 44
APF	PENDIX 1: TRENCH AND CONTEXT DATA	. 49
APF	PENDIX 2: FLINT	. 53
APF	PENDIX 3: ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE	.54
APF	PENDIX 4: OASIS FORM	. 55

#### **FIGURES**

- Fig. 1 Site location, 1:25,000
- Fig. 2 Detailed trench location, 1:800
- Fig. 3 Selected sections, 1:40

#### **PLATES**

- Plate 1: General view of the site, looking north
- Plate 2: Trench 1, extraction pit [105], looking east
- Plate 3: Trench 10, pit [1005], looking south
- Plate 4: Trench 11, pit [1105], looking south-west
- Plate 5: Trench 11, sondage into extraction pit [1109], looking north-east
- Plate 6: Trench 14, ditch [1409], looking north
- Plate 7: Trench 15, extraction pit [1305], looking north-east
- Plate 8: Trench 16, ditch [1605], looking west
- Plate 9: Trench 18, probable tree feature [1806], looking south-east
- Plate 10: Trench 19, pit [1910], looking east

#### **ABSTRACT**

In March 2021, an archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd on land at Nun's Walk, Great Yeldham, Essex. The work, which was commissioned by RPS Group on behalf of Rose Builders (Properties) Ltd, was carried out to meet the requirements of a condition that was attached to planning consent for the residential development of the site by Braintree District Council.

The earliest dated archaeological features encountered by the evaluation were a shallow pit in Trench 10, from which was recovered a flint bladelet core and flint working debitage that probably dates the Early Neolithic period, and two pits in Trench 19 that contained an Early Neolithic flint blade and a sherd of pottery of a broadly similar date. There was also evidence for later Iron Age activity on the site in the form of two undated ditches in Trenches 19 and 20 that possibly pre-date a later Roman ditch system, and as residual artefacts in Roman features, including a flint core of probable Bronze Age/Iron Age date and a sherd of later Iron Age pottery.

The main period for activity on the site, which was identified in its south-western half, dates to the mid-1st to later 2nd centuries AD. It consisted of part of a rectilinear ditch system on a north-south/east-west axis, forming a number of paddocks or enclosures. Several of the ditches contained relatively sizeable assemblages of Roman pottery, and a small Roman knife was recovered from one feature, suggesting that the ditch system lay adjacent to an area of occupation, probably to the south or west of the site. There was little evidence for occupation within the site, there being few pits and only three postholes in the trial trenches. In the western corner of the site two large Roman extraction pits were identified (probably dug for clay), which were up to 30m in diameter and 2.4m deep.

The only feature in the north-eastern half of the site, other than the prehistoric pit in Trench 10, was another large extraction pit in Trenches 1 and 2, this probably being dug for gravel. The upper fill of this feature, which was up to 2.4m deep, contained medieval pottery and post-medieval peg-tile, suggesting that it is more recent in date, but Roman pottery was also recovered from beneath an ash deposit at a depth of 1.3m, suggesting that it may have been a Roman extraction pit that was left open at the end of the Roman period and gradually filled up in later years.

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In March 2021, an archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd (PCA) on land at Nun's Walk, Great Yeldham, Essex (site centred on NGR TL 7586 3833; Fig. 1). The work, which was commissioned by RPS Group (RPS) on behalf of Rose Builders (Properties) Ltd, was carried out to meet the requirements of a condition that was attached to planning consent for the residential development of the site by Braintree District Council (BDC planning ref. 18/00312/FUL, Condition 3). This is in accordance with National Planning Policy Framework paragraphs 128 and 129 (DCLG 2012, revised 2018).
- 1.2 The scope of the evaluation was agreed following discussions between RPS and Place Services at Essex County Council (PSECC). It consisted of the excavation of 20no. 30m trial trenches (a total of 600 linear metres at 1.8m wide, equivalent to 4% of the proposed development area), the locations of which are shown in Figure 2.
- 1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) that was prepared by RPS and approved by PSECC prior to the commencement of fieldwork (RPS 2021). It also abided by Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (Gurney 2003) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct (CIfA 2019) and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation (CIfA 2020).
- 1.4 The project was managed in accordance with the Historic England procedural document *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE):*Project Manager's Guide (HE 2015).
- 1.5 The site archive will be deposited with Colchester & Ipswich Museum on completion of the project.

#### 2 SITE BACKGROUND

#### 2.1 Site location, topography and geology

- 2.1.1 The site, which covers an area of *c*. 2.1ha, is located at the western edge of Great Yeldham, a village that lies *c*. 9km to the north-west of Halstead, Essex. It comprises the greater part of an irregular-shaped arable field bounded by Nun's Walk to the northwest, Church Road (A1017) to the north-east, residential properties to the south-east and arable land to the south-west (Fig. 1; Plate 1). The south-western boundary of the field is a tree-lined track, formerly the route of a railway line. The narrow strip of farmland that extends to the north of the main part of the field is not included within the planning redline boundary.
- 2.1.2 Topographically, the site is situated on a gradual north-east facing slope that overlooks the valley of the River Colne, which is located approximately 75m to the east of the site. Ground level descends from *c.* 58m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) at the southwestern edge of the site to *c.* 52m aOD on Church Road, to the north-east.
- 2.1.3 The solid geology within the site comprises undifferentiated Cretaceous rocks of the Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation, Newhaven Chalk Formation and Culver Chalk Formation. This is overlain by glacigenic sand and gravel deposits of the Lowestoft Formation (BGS 2021).

#### 2.2 Archaeological and historical background

2.2.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site has been presented in detail in the *Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment* prepared by Archaeology South-East (ASE 2017). This concluded that there were no known heritage assets within the site, but it had the potential to contain archaeological remains (*ibid.*, 20).

#### Prehistoric (pre-AD43)

2.2.2 In the 1990s, an archaeological evaluation undertaken immediately to the south of the site, prior to development of the Whitlocks Estate, identified a pit containing two pieces of worked flint that were thought to be prehistoric in date.

#### Roman (AD43-AD410)

2.2.3 It has been postulated that parts of the A1017 (formerly A604) follow the route of a Roman road, although this has not been confirmed by excavation and its route through Great Yeldham is unknown (Corder-Birch 1994).

#### Anglo-Saxon (AD410 to 1066)

2.2.4 The only record of Anglo-Saxon activity near the site relates to the discovery of a 'caterpillar' type brooch at an unknown location within the village.

#### Medieval (1066 to 1485)

- 2.2.5 Prior to the Norman conquest the manor of Geldham (Great Yeldham) was held by '..eight sokemen [freemen] under Wisgar' and '..a freeman as a manor'.
- 2.2.6 There are few records of medieval remains having been found near the site, although there are a number of Listed buildings within the village that date to the medieval period.
- 2.2.7 Great Yeldham Hall, which lies *c*. 220m to the north of the site, is 13th-14th century in date and further buildings, comprising a byre and dovecote, were added in the 16th century. The site is likely to have formed part of the manor of Yeldham Hall, which belonged to the Fitz-Jeffery (or Fitz-Geoffrey) family in 1203 then the Fitz-Humphrey family. In 1327 it was in the hands of Henry Darcy, who was for a time Sheriff of London, and subsequently his son, Thomas. In the 15th century the manor was in the hands of the Doreward family of Bocking.
- 2.2.8 The medieval parish church of St Andrew lies *c.* 290m to the north of the site. The chancel was rebuilt in 1350 and the south tower added in *c.* 1400. Its accompanying churchyard extended to the west of its current boundary, with a group of eight inhumations having been found in the grounds of the adjacent Old Rectory. This lies *c.* 300m north of the site and is of 15th-century date. To the east of the church and rectory lies 'Applegates', a late 14th/early 15th-century timber-framed house.
- 2.2.9 To the south of the site, on High Street, a group of medieval buildings survive comprising 'Old Post Office Cottages', which was a two-bay hall with an outbuilding to its rear. The cottages date to c. 1400 and the outbuilding to c.1500. Excavation in the interior of the latter identified medieval activity pre-dating the extant building. The earlier remains included an earthen floor, postholes and hearth whilst those associated with the extant building included floors, pits and hearths. The buildings are thought to have been a detached kitchen serving the hall.

#### Post-medieval and modern (1485 to present)

2.2.10 The junction of Church Road and Bridge Street, the site of the 'Old Oak' tree and its 19th-century replacement, lies to the east of the site. The main village area lies on the

- other side of the River Colne, which Bridge Street crosses. There are extant late medieval (15th/16th century) buildings in the village, including 'The Limes'.
- 2.2.11 The former route of the Colne Valley and Halstead Railway lies to the west of the site, part of its length forming the south-western boundary of the site. The line initially linked Chappel and Wakes Colne station to Halstead (opening in 1860) and then extended through to Castle Hedingham and Yeldham (1862), then to Haverhill (1863). The line closed in 1965 but a short section in Castle Hedingham has been restored and is run as the Colne Valley Railway.

#### Cartographic evidence

2.2.12 A review of available historic cartographic sources indicates the site has remained agricultural land up to the present.

#### 3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The main aim of the investigation, as stated in the WSI (RPS 2021, para. 2.4), were to:
  - 'mitigate the effect of development on any surviving buried archaeological remains within the site through initial stage trial trenching and where appropriate, preservation in situ or the implementation of any further archaeological investigation and recording, analysis of the excavated data, publication of the results, and deposition of an ordered project archive with an appropriate local museum for its long-term curation'.
- 3.2 Soil samples were taken for assessment, primarily to establish the palaeoenvironmental potential of the site but also to gain an insight into the range of activities (i.e. domestic, industrial, agricultural) that were undertaken at the site in the past. The results of the evaluation will assist PSECC in determining the nature and extent of any mitigation works that may be required.
- 3.3 To determine the significance of the results of the evaluation in a local, regional and national context (as appropriate), reference has been made to the East Anglian regional research agendas:
  - Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties: 1.
     Resource Assessment (Glazebrook 1997);
  - Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties: 2.
     Research Agenda and Strategy (Brown and Glazebrook 2000);
  - Regional Research Framework for the Eastern Region (Medlycott and Brown 2008);
  - Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England (Medlycott 2011).

#### 4 METHODOLOGY

#### 4.1 General

4.1.1 The evaluation consisted of the excavation of 20no. 30m trial trenches (a total of 600 linear metres at 1.8m wide, equivalent to 4% of the proposed development area), the locations of which are shown in Figure 2. An exclusion corridor was set up along the route of an overhead powerline that passed through the site from north to south.

#### 4.2 Survey and machine excavation

- 4.2.1 The trenches were set out in accordance with the approved trench plan using a Leica Global Positioning System (GPS). Prior to machine excavation, the locations of each trench were scanned with a CAT (Cable Avoidance Tool) to check for services.
- 4.2.2 Using a 14-tonne tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket, the overburden was removed in level spits down to the surface of the geological substrate or first significant archaeological horizon, whichever was encountered first. Topsoil and subsoil were kept separate and stored in temporary bunds adjacent to each trench.
- 4.2.3 Exposed archaeological features and deposits were cleaned using hand tools to define their boundaries and extent within the trenches. Limits and locations of all trenches, pre-excavation and post-excavation plans of archaeological features and heights above Ordnance Datum were recorded using Leica GPS.
- 4.2.4 The trenches were backfilled following a monitoring inspection by Teresa O'Connor, PSECC on 17th March 2021. The trenches were simply backfilled, topsoil uppermost, and tracked in by the machine.

#### 4.3 Recording and sampling

- 4.3.1 Field excavation techniques and recording methods are detailed in the PCA Operations Manual I: Fieldwork Induction Manual (Taylor and Brown 2009). Archaeological features and deposits were sufficiently excavated to fulfil the project aims stated in Section 3 above.
- 4.3.2 Drawn records were in the form of survey plans, drawn plans and section drawings of all excavated archaeological features at an appropriate scale (1:10, 1:20, 1:50), while all individual deposits and cuts were recorded as written records on PCA *pro forma* context sheets. Appropriate photographs of the archaeological remains encountered

by the evaluation, supported by general photographs of the site, its setting and working shots, were taken using high resolution digital cameras with APS-C sensors (or larger), minimum 10 megapixels. Digital images for archiving purposes were high quality non-proprietary raw files (DNG) or TIFF images.

- 4.3.3 Linear features were investigated by means of slots excavated across their width and measuring at least 1m long, positioned to avoid areas of intercutting/disturbance in order to provide uncontaminated finds assemblages. A minimum of 10% of each linear was excavated. If stratigraphic relationships between features were not visible in plan, slots were positioned to determine inter-feature relationships, although care was taken not to compromise the integrity of the archaeological record by excavating complex features or groups of features that would be better understood if they were investigated at the mitigation stage.
- 4.3.4 Discrete features such as pits and postholes were at least 50% excavated and when considered appropriate 100% excavated.
- 4.3.5 A total of five bulk soil samples were taken in order to recover micro- and macro-botanical environmental remains. The sampling strategy and subsequent assessment of the samples was carried out in accordance with Historic England guidelines, as set out in *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011).

#### 4.4 Metal detecting

4.4.1 The spoil heaps and all archaeological remains revealed in the evaluation trenches were scanned with a metal detector to maximise the recovery of metal objects. The metal detector was not set to discriminate against iron.

#### 5 QUANTIFICATION OF ARCHIVE

#### 5.1 Paper archive

Context register sheets	3
Context sheets	35
Section register sheets	2
Sections at 1:10 & 1:20	26
Trench record sheets	20
Photo register sheets	2
Environmental register sheets	1

## 5.2 **Digital archive**

Digital photos (raw and jpeg)	322
GPS survey files	3
Digital plans	1
GIS project	1
Access database	1

## 5.3 **Physical archive**

Worked flint	53 (-)
Burnt flint	8 (18g)
Prehistoric pottery	3 (26g)
Roman pottery	533 (8,942g)
Medieval pottery	53 (362g)
Ceramic building material (CBM)	42 (586g)
Metalwork	6 (-)
Animal bone	55 (-)
Environmental bulk samples	5 (13no. 10-litre tubs)

#### **6 EVALUATION RESULTS**

#### 6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 The evaluation consisted of the excavation of 20no. 30m trial trenches (a total of 600 linear metres at 1.8m wide), the locations of which are shown in Figure 2. Archaeological features were largely encountered in trenches in the south-western half of the site (Trenches 10 to 20); in the north-eastern half, Trenches 3 to 9 were blank and archaeology was only encountered in Trenches 1 and 2. The features were overlain by the subsoil (102), unless otherwise stated. Full trench and context details are presented in Appendix 1.
- 6.1.2 The principal result of the fieldwork was the identification of early Roman ditches and extraction pits, with limited evidence for prehistoric activity, in the south-western half of the site. The features were not densely concentrated and there were few features which provided direct evidence for settlement on site (three undated postholes were recorded). A significant quantity of Roman pottery was recovered from two interventions in the same ditch, which is taken to indicate the presence of a Roman settlement on or very near to the proposed development site, possibly to the south where the Whitlock Factory was located (now a housing estate) or to the west (an area of farmland).

#### General stratigraphy

6.1.3 The geological substrate (103) predominately consisted of mixed orange and yellow glacial clays, sands and gravels. The subsoil (102) consisted of mid orangey brown sandy silt with occasional fine to medium-sized pebbles and varied in thickness between 0.10m and 0.69m. The ploughsoil, which had an average thickness of *c*. 0.27m, consisted of dark greyish-brown sandy silt (101).

#### 6.2 **Trench 1 and 2**

- 6.2.1 Extraction pit [105] was encountered in Trenches 1 and 2, which were situated at the northern edge of the site, adjacent to Nun's Walk and Church Road (Fig. 2 and Fig. 3, Section 5; Plate 2). This large pit was evidently for removing gravel, the substrate into which it cut.
- 6.2.2 The pit was at least 13.5m across and 2.4m deep, where it was tested with a machine-dug sondage. A deposit of ashy material (108) was observed at a depth of 1.3m in the sondage and some sign of *in situ* burning was observed below this deposit, although

it was not closely inspected for safety reasons. This deposit was sampled (sample <4>) and found to contain charcoal, a few charred cereal grains and a single piece of charred chaff, suggesting that crop processing was being undertaken nearby and the burnt waste deposited in the pit. A single sherd (1g) of 1st-century AD Roman pottery and fragments of animal bone were also recovered from this deposit.

6.2.3 The upper fill (104) contained fragments of post-medieval peg-tile, along with residual sherds of Roman and medieval pottery (5 sherds, 53g and 53 sherds, 362g respectively). Post-medieval tile and brick, a sherd (4g) of Roman pottery and fragments of a medieval sickle were recovered from topsoil overlying the pit.

#### 6.3 **Trench 10**

- 6.3.1 At the south-east end of the trench, a shallow subcircular pit [1005], c. 1.3m in diameter and 0.05m deep, contained a sizeable assemblage of prehistoric worked flint (Plate 3). There were 45 pieces of flint showing evidence of having been worked, including a bladelet core of Mesolithic or early Neolithic date. The pit also contained fragments of animal bone and a soil sample (sample <1>) taken from its fill (1004) yielded a small amount of charcoal and a few charred cereal grains.
- 6.3.2 A crescent-shaped feature near the north-west end of the trench was recorded as a treethrow [1007]. No finds were recovered from this feature.

#### 6.4 **Trench 11**

- 6.4.1 A small pit [1105], measuring 0.76m long by at least 0.70m wide by 0.14m deep, was identified towards the south-eastern end of the trench (Plate 4). The fill of the pit (1104) contained seven sherds (46g) of Roman pottery.
- 6.4.2 Approximately 1.5m to the north of pit [1105] was a circular posthole [1107] with a diameter of 0.3m wide and depth of 0.20m. Its fill (1106) contained pieces of burnt daub.
- 6.4.3 A large extraction pit [1109] with a diameter of *c*. 30m occupied most of Trenches 11 and 12 and extended into the northern end of Trench 13. A machine-dug sondage excavated in the extraction pit in Trench 11 established that it had a depth of 2.4m (Plate 5). Roman pottery (5 sherds, 20g) dating to the mid-1st to mid-2nd century, an iron staple and fragments of animal bone were recovered from the surface of this feature and from a machine dug slot to recover finds. A soil sample taken from this deposit (sample <5>) contained a small amount of charcoal.

#### 6.5 **Trench 12**

6.5.1 As mentioned above, Trench 12 contained the western extent of extraction pit [1109].

#### 6.6 **Trench 13**

6.6.1 Extraction pit [1109] extended into the northern end of this trench. Another extraction pit [1305], which extended into Trench 15 and measured approximately 22m long by 12m wide, was recorded at the southern end of the trench (Plate 7). This contained nine sherds (69g) of 1st/2nd-century AD Roman pottery.

#### 6.7 **Trench 14**

- 6.7.1 Two roughly parallel ditches, which were on a north to south alignment and spaced *c*. 3m apart, were located near the centre of the trench (Fig. 2). Ditch [1405], the more westerly ditch, measured 0.9m wide by 0.15m deep and its fill (1404) contained 15 sherds (128g) of 1st to mid-2nd-century AD Roman pottery. Ditch [1407] measured 0.78m wide by 0.22m deep and its fill (1406) contained seven sherds (50g) of Roman pottery dated to AD70-AD150 and residual worked flint.
- 6.7.2 Ditch [1409], which was also investigated in Trench 16, was aligned north-north-west to south-south-east and measured 1.0m wide by 0.43m deep (Fig. 2 and Fig. 3, Section 11; Plate 6). Sherds of a large Roman storage vessel and a further three coarseware jars (77 sherds, 4,389g) dated to the mid-1st to mid-2nd century AD were recovered from the ditch and a soil sample from this deposit (sample <2>) yielded charcoal and a few charred cereal grains.

#### 6.8 **Trench 15**

- 6.8.1 The extraction pit [1305] encountered in Trench 13 occupied most of Trench 15. A short extension to the trench was machine excavated to establish its southern extent. The base of this feature was encountered at a depth of 1.22m.
- 6.8.2 At the eastern end of the trench and apparently truncated by extraction pit [1305] was ditch [1505], which was aligned east to west and measured 1.0m wide by 0.32m deep (Fig. 2 and Fig. 3, Section 19). Sherds of Roman pottery (4 sherds, 43g) were recovered from its fill (1504).

#### 6.9 **Trench 16**

6.9.1 Located at the south-west end of the trench, ditch [1605] was aligned east to west and measured 0.75m wide by 0.30m deep (Fig. 2 and Fig. 3, Section 26; Plate 8). This

ditch continued to the west as ditch [2012] in Trench 20. The fill of the ditch contained 2nd-century AD Roman pottery (14 sherds, 242g) and residual worked flint, mostly flakes but including a core of probable Bronze Age or Iron Age date.

6.9.2 Near the centre of the trench was ditch [1607], the southern continuation of ditch [1409] in Trench 14. Its fill (1606) contained mid-1st to mid-2nd century AD Roman pottery (388 sherds, 3,897g), fragments of early Roman tile, a Roman knife, a nail and residual worked flint.

#### 6.10 **Trench 17**

- 6.10.1 Two undated postholes, [1705] and [1707], were investigated at the southern end of Trench 17. These features had diameters of *c*. 0.3m and depths of 0.20m.
- 6.10.2 Ditch [1709] was recorded near the centre of Trench 17. On site this feature was assumed to be the same ditch as [1605] in Trench 16 and was not excavated. On plan, it seems less likely that [1605] and [1709] are the same ditch.
- 6.10.3 Feature [1715] was recorded as a possible ditch terminus. It had a very clean, sandy fill and contained no finds, suggesting that it may in fact be a natural feature (e.g., a treethrow).

#### 6.11 **Trench 18**

- 6.11.1 Feature [1806] was located at the north-eastern end of the trench (Fig. 2). It measured 4.3m wide by 0.28m deep and had a roughly flat but uneven base, suggesting that it may have been formed by tree throw (Plate 9). This interpretation is supported by the occurrence of a thin layer of redeposited natural gravel (1804) over its dark grey silty fill (1805) on one side of the feature. The dark fill contained two sherds (18g) of Late Iron Age pottery, fragments of early Roman tile and fragments of animal bone. A soil sample taken from this deposit (sample <3>) contained charcoal and a few charred cereal grains.
- 6.11.2 At the south-western end of the trench was feature [1808], a roughly linear though irregular feature that was probably formed by natural glacial/periglacial processes.

#### 6.12 Trench 19

6.12.1 Located near the centre of the trench, pit [1905] was *c.* 0.7m wide and 0.17m deep (Fig. 2). Its fill (1904) contained an Early Neolithic flint blade.

- 6.12.2 Approximately 4m to the south of the pit was treethrow [1908], a large sub-circular feature measuring *c.* 1.5m in diameter, the fill of which contained no finds.
- 6.12.3 Pit [1910] was located *c*. 2m to the south of the treethrow. It was *c*. 0.7m in diameter and 0.24m deep (Plate 10). Its fill (1909) contained a sherd (8g) of Early Prehistoric pottery and worked flint flakes.
- 6.12.4 At the southern end of the trench and aligned north-west to south-east, ditch [1912] was 1.08m wide and 0.36m deep. The edge of this ditch was recorded in Trench 20 (see [2005]).

#### 6.13 Trench 20

- 6.13.1 Ditch [2005], a continuation of ditch [1912] in Trench 19, was recorded at the southern end of Trench 20.
- 6.13.2 To the north of ditch [2005], ditch [2008] was aligned north to south and measured 1.01m wide by 0.29m deep. It contained two fills, the upper fill (2006) containing fragments of burnt brick or tile and worked flint flakes.
- 6.13.3 Near the centre of the trench, ditch [2010] was 0.33m wide and 0.08m deep and appeared to have been largely truncated. No finds were recovered from this feature.
- 6.13.4 Ditch [2012] is the same feature as [1605] in Trench 16. It measured 0.86m wide by 0.16m deep and contained two sherds (11g) of Roman pottery.

#### 7 THE FINDS

#### 7.1 Worked flint by Sarah Bates

7.1.1 Fifty-four pieces of struck flint were recovered from the site. Eight small fragments of burnt flint weighing 18g (including some tiny pieces) were also found. The flint is summarised by type in Table 1 below and listed by context in Appendix 2, Table 1.

Table 1: Summary of worked flint assemblage by type

Туре	Number
single platform blade core	1
multi platform blade core	1
core fragment	1
crested blade	1
core trimming flake	2
flake	16
blade-like flake	1
blade	1
spall	14
core/tool	1
?scraper	1
retouched flake	1
utilised flake	10
utilised blade	3
Total	54
burnt fragment	8

7.1.2 Part of a blade or bladelet core is present; it comprises most of the platform and upper part of the core with a small part missing at one side [1005]. There are regular narrow blade scars with no evidence, on the surviving fragment, that the core was also struck from the opposite end. The platform edge has been abraded around the surviving circumference suggesting that further use was intended so, perhaps, the core broke during use. The very neat nature and small size of the removals suggests a Mesolithic date but it could be earlier Neolithic (cf. Butler 2005, 85, fig. 30, Beadsmoore 2006, 55, fig 2.39). Another core is much more irregular, struck from various angles resulting in an irregular roughly pyramid-shaped piece which was probably exhausted and not suitable for further use (1604)/[1605]. It may date from the Bronze Age or Iron Age. A cortical piece has been struck from one edge and is a fragment from an irregular core or tested piece [2008]. It is not closely datable.

- 7.1.3 One other piece may be a core [2008] (or might have been used as a scraper); it has very regular narrow removals extending from one side of the convex edge of an acute-angled ridge formed with its opposite, abraded/cortical face. It seems unusual that such neat blade type removals would have been deliberately produced from such a platform, and from such an irregular, possibly thermal, fragment although this could be compared to some 'flat' keeled type cores first identified at the earlier Neolithic site at Hurst Fen (Clark 1960, 217, Butler, 2005, 136).
- 7.1.4 A thick slightly curving small blade has its proximal end missing and cortex along part of one side. Its dorsal ridge is unifacially battered; probable 'cresting' which would have occurred during preparation of a blade core and may suggests a Mesolithic date (Butler 2005, 84). Another tiny bladelet or 'spall' has a very battered dorsal ridge and may also be from 'trimming' a core although it is probably more informal [2008].
- 7.1.5 A blade-like flake has part of a former platform edge forming one side (1406)/[1407] (similar to a core tablet/core rejuvenation flake). However, the presence/position of cortex along the other side of the flake suggests this more likely to be from a rotated core. The piece is patinated bluish light grey.
- 7.1.6 One very regular blade from a prepared core (1904)/[1905] and one blade-like flake [1004] were found. Sixteen other flakes are generally quite irregular in nature. They range from a very large thick cortical 'flake' [1001] which must represent the initial testing or knapping of a nodule, to small flakes and flake fragments most of which have some cortex. There are also fourteen spalls, most of them from soil sample <1> (1004)/[1005].
- 7.1.7 There are no formal/diagnostic tools but one irregular flake has semi abrupt retouch forming a slightly denticulated edge (1004)/[1005], and a small thick and heavily abraded piece may be a scraper [2008]. Two blades are utilised both [1004], they could be Mesolithic or earlier Neolithic; one of them is hard hammer struck with cortex along one side forming 'backing' to the opposite cutting edge. The other is on a blade from a very regular core. Its proximal end is missing and both lateral edges have slight edge use damage from that end to about halfway along. The thick distal end is abraded at its surface, from the ventral edge thus postdating the original production of the blade. It appears that, subsequently, a blade-like removal was made from each side and struck from that end i.e. opposed in direction to the original blade. At the left side this has resulted in a step fracture. Possibly the modifications at the distal end were an attempt to produce bladelets from the straight, and quite thick piece. Since the proximal

end is missing it is unknown as to whether use damage or retouch may have continued along the edges there.

7.1.8 Ten flakes show signs of use, Mostly, these are very small irregular flakes or fragments with slight retouch or use damage to part of an edge. Two quite small longish flakes have one lateral edge slightly utilised [1408] and 1606]. Two flakes from [1604] are similar hard hammer struck squat pieces (although one is a fragment). Both have irregular ventral fractures. The latter two seem likely to be of later Bronze Age or, possibly, Iron Age date but the rest are not closely datable.

#### Flint by context

#### Trench 10

7.1.9 Forty-five flints came from Trench 10, all but one of them from pit [1005]. Included are part of a blade or bladelet core, a crested blade and two utilised blades (one of these from a very regular blade core. Although these pieces could be earlier Neolithic, the former two pieces are more characteristic of Mesolithic working, the core is very neat and appears to have produced small blades and the 'crested' piece, although incomplete does seem be a deliberate core preparation piece. However, the rest of the flint from the pit is not closely datable with more irregular pieces and many very small spalls/fragments recovered from a sample (hence the high number of flints). There is a retouched (irregular) flake with a slightly denticulated edge are also several very small irregular flakes and fragments which have been utilised, some possibly with slight retouch. Although they are not datable it is of some interest that all these pieces, varying in nature, but with similar degrees of edge use, were found in the same feature. A few small fragments of burnt flint were also found in this pit.

#### Trench 14

7.1.10 A patinated core trimming flake, and a small irregular flake with slightly abraded platform edge came from ditch [1407], and a flake fragment and a small utilised flake 'backed' by cortex were found in ditch [1409].

#### Trench 16

7.1.11 A flake core and two irregularly fractured flakes were found in ditch [1605]. They were of a similar irregular nature and seem likely to be of Bronze Age, or possibly Iron Age date. A small blade-like flake from ditch [1607] is not closely datable.

#### Trench 19

7.1.12 A very regular blade from a prepared core of likely earlier Neolithic date was found in

pit [1905] and two flakes came from pit [1910].

#### Trench 20

7.1.13 Irregular struck fragments, from a core or tested piece, a small irregular flake and a tiny blade-like spall from a battered ridge (possibly a core trimming piece) were found in ditch [2008], An abraded possible scraper and a flaked piece, possibly a keeled type core, were also found in the ditch. None of these pieces are closely datable. A small thick flake fragment, possibly from a blade-like flake, came from ditch [2012].

#### Conclusions

- 7.1.14 Most flint was found in a pit in Trench 10. It included several pieces of earlier Neolithic or, possibly, Mesolithic date although most of the material comprised small quite irregular sharp flakes and fragments most of which could be of any date. The presence of a number of spalls and the condition of most of the flint suggests knapping occurred near to the pit and a number of small irregular pieces are slightly edge utilised. It is uncertain as to whether the blade types and the more irregular pieces are contemporary.
- 7.1.15 A very neat blade from a pit in Trench 19 is likely to be earlier Neolithic. Two flakes from another pit in the same trench are not closely datable.
- 7.1.16 Apart from a large thick cortical flake from subsoil (1002), the rest of the flint was from ditch fills. It is noted that two small flakes of similar size and shape, one utilised, came from different parts of the same ditch excavated in Trenches 14 and 16, the pieces are not closely datable but are probable later Neolithic or Bronze Age.

#### 7.2 **Prehistoric pottery** by Lawrence Morgan-Shelbourne

#### Introduction

7.2.1 A very small assemblage comprising three sherds (26g) of handmade prehistoric pottery was recovered from the evaluation, displaying a mean sherd weight (MSW) of 11.5g. The pottery derived from three contexts, relating to a threethrow and a pit. The assemblage can be assigned to two broad periods, The Early Prehistoric (EPH) period and the Later Iron Age (LaIA) (Table 2). The ceramics are in a stable condition. This report provides a quantified description of the assemblage with a brief discussion.

Table 2: Pottery by context

Context	Cut	Feature type	Trench	No. of sherds	Wt(g)	Overall context spot date	Fabrics	Reason for date
1805	1806	Treethrow	18	2	18	LalA	VE1	Fabric
1909	1910	Pit	19	1	8	EPH	FL1	Fabric

Table 3: Fabric codes

SSFabric code	Fabric type	Description
FL1	FL-rs-fvc	Rare to sparse, fine to very coarse, calcined flint
VE1	VE-rs-mvc	Rare to sparse, moderate to very coarse, vegetable

#### Methodology

7.2.2 All the pottery has been fully recorded following the recommendations laid out by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (2009). After a full inspection of the assemblage, fabric groups were devised on the basis of dominant inclusion types, their density and modal size. Fabric groups are designated based on abbreviated codes, recorded as INCLUSIONTYPE-frequency-size (Table 3). Sherds from all contexts were counted, weighed (to the nearest whole gram) and assigned to a fabric type (sherds broken in excavation were refitted and counted as a single sherd). Sherd type was recorded, along with technology (all sherds in the assemblage were handmade), evidence for surface treatment, decoration, and the presence of soot and/or residue. All pottery was subject to sherd size analysis. Sherds less than 4cm in diameter were classified as 'small' (all three sherds comprising the assemblage); sherds measuring 4-8cm were classified as 'medium' and sherds over 8cm in diameter were classified as 'large'.

#### Earlier Prehistoric

7.2.3 The single Earlier Prehistoric pottery sherd was recovered from pit [1910]. Diagnostic sherds were absent and as such dating could only be assigned on the basis of fabric. The sherd recovered was composed of a coarse calcined flint fabric (FL1), which can be found throughout various earlier prehistoric pottery traditions, and as such a closer date than this broad period cannot be assigned.

#### Later Iron Age

7.2.4 The two Later Iron Age sherds were recovered from treethrow [1906]. Both sherds were composed of a vegetable fabric, where the inclusions had been burnt out of the matrix of the sherds during the initial firing. As is the case with the previous sherd, this

fabric composition can be found as a minor part of assemblages, in this case throughout later prehistory, although it is most commonly found as part of Later Iron Age assemblages. The presence of a single slack shoulder sherd in the period assemblage also tenuously supports a date in this range, as slack shouldered jars form the dominant part of assemblages comprised of Middle Iron Age pottery traditions in the region and still form a significant part of Late Iron Age assemblages.

#### Summary and discussion

7.2.5 The assemblage can be assigned to two broad periods, the Early Prehistoric and the later Iron Age periods. Due to the extremely small size of the site assemblage, dating could only be tenuously assigned based on fabric compositions and should not be seen as conclusive.

#### 7.3 The Roman pottery by Katie Anderson

#### Introduction

- 7.3.1 The evaluation yielded an assemblage of Roman pottery totalling 535 sherds (9,046g) and representing 6.65 EVEs (estimated vessel equivalent) and an estimated 58 vessels (ENV). All of the pottery was examined and recorded in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Perrin 2011) and using the standard terminology and codes advocated by the Museum of London Archaeology Service (Symonds 2002) in combination with local fabric codes.
- 7.3.2 The assemblage is predominately earlier to mid-Roman in date (*c.* AD50-150/200, Table 4), although some contexts could only be broadly dated as Romano-British, due to the non-diagnostic nature of the fabrics and/or forms. The assemblage comprises primarily small to medium-sized sherds, reflected in the mean weight of 16.9g; however, there were some exceptions to this, most notably from ditch slot (1408)/[1409], deriving from a very large storage jar with a folded, beaded rim (19 sherds, 3,632g), suggesting that the material had been deposited soon after breakage. There were several other examples of refitting sherds within the assemblage, although these occur exclusively within the same contexts, with no examples of any crosscontext refits.
- 7.3.3 A limited variety of vessel fabrics were identified (Table 5), and the assemblage is dominated by unsourced coarsewares (97.4% by count), with sandy greywares and black-slipped wares the most common. This includes finer and coarser sandy wares, as well as fabrics with and without silver mica. Two grog-tempered sherds were

identified (fabrics QG1 and QGM1), dating to the earlier Roman period (AD50-100). A further 1.9% of the assemblage (by sherd count) comprises Romano-British finewares, including three sherds from two imitation Gallo-Belgic platters (one Cam12 and one Cam14), both of which derive from ditch (1606)/[1607], Trench 16 and date AD50-100. Two small sherds from a fine sandy oxidised ware beaded rim (vessel form uncertain) were recovered from pit (1304)/[1305], Trench 13. The remaining fineware sherds comprise body sherds.

7.3.4 Imported wares represent the final 0.7% of the assemblage. These comprise two South Gaulish samian sherds, one from a Dragendorff 36 dish, from ditch (1406/[1407], Trench 14 and one base sherd from (1608), Trench 16 and two body sherds from an early Baetican Dr20 amphora from pit (1304)/[1305], Trench 13.

#### Assemblage composition

- 7.3.5 The assemblage is predominately earlier to mid-Roman in date (*c.* AD50-150/200,
- 7.3.6 ), although some contexts could only be broadly dated as Romano-British, due to the non-diagnostic nature of the fabrics and/or forms. A minimum of 58 vessels were identified based on the number of unique rims present (Table 6). Jars dominate, which is typical of coarseware dominated assemblages, occurring in a range of sizes, from small vessels (rim diameter 12cm) to very large storage jars (up to 32cm in rim diameter). A total of 35% of the jars are decorated (by sherd count), with fingernail decoration occurring on three vessels, impressed dots on two and diagonal tooling on one further vessel. Two of the jars were also noted as having exterior sooting indicative of being used over a fire. Other vessel forms were poorly represented and comprise the two platters described above, two dishes; the samian Dr36 and a black-slipped beaded rim dish from ditch (1406)/[1407], Trench 14. A further two vessels were from beakers/jars although there is not enough of the vessel remaining to determine which. Finally, a sherd from coarse sandy greyware lid with a triangular beaded rim was recovered from (1606), Trench 16.

Table 4: Quantification of Roman pottery by context

Context	Cut	Trench	Category	No.	Wt(g)	ENV	EVE	Date
101	101	1	Topsoil	1	4	0	0	AD50-400
104	105	1	Pit	5	53	0	0	AD50-400
108	105	1	Pit	1	1	0	0	AD50-100
1104	1105	11	Pit	7	46	0	0	AD50-400
1108	1109	11	Pit	5	20	0	0	AD50-150

Context	Cut	Trench	Category	No.	Wt(g)	ENV	EVE	Date
1304	1305	13	Pit	9	69	1	0	AD50-200
1404	1405	14	Ditch	15	128	1	0.2	AD50-150
1406	1407	14	Ditch	7	50	1	0	AD70-150
1408	1409	14	Ditch	77	4389	4	0.67	AD50-150
1504	1505	15	Ditch	4	43	0	0	AD50-400
1604	1605	16	Ditch	14	242	2	0.21	AD120-200
1606	1607	16	Ditch	388	3897	49	5.57	AD70-150
2011	2012	20	Ditch	2	11	0	0	AD50-400

Table 5: Quantification of Roman pottery by fabric

Fabric	Fabric Code	No.	Wt(g)	ENV	EVE
BAETE	Baetican Amphora (early)	2	104	0	0
BLKSL	Black-slipped ware (unsourced)	19	112	3	0.1
BLKSLM	Black-slipped ware - micaceous (unsourced)	114	754	13	1.16
BUFF	Buff sandy ware (unsourced)	1	6	0	0
CSGW	Coarse sandy greyware (unsourced)	91	1461	2	0.66
CSMGW	Coarse sandy micaceous greyware (unsourced)	221	5732	24	3.29
CSOX	Coarse sandy oxidised ware (unsourced)	1	5	0	0
CSRDU	Coarse sandy reduced ware (unsourced)	2	11	0	0
FSGW	Fine sandy greyware (unsourced)	4	16	0	0
FSMGW	Fine sandy micaceous oxidised ware (unsourced)	67	408	13	1.24
FSMOX	Fine sandy micaceous oxidised ware (unsourced)	2	12	1	0
FSOX	Fine sandy oxidised ware (unsourced)	2	12	0	0
HORNGW	Horningsea greyware	3	180	0	0
	Moderately coarse sandy ware with moderate to common				
QG2	small grog	1	174	1	0.2
QGM1	AS QG1 but with common silver mica	1	22	0	0
SAMSG	Samian South Gaulish	2	16	1	0
WW	Whiteware (unsourced)	2	21	0	0

Table 6: Roman pottery by vessel form

Form	No.	Wt(g)	ENV	EVE
Beaker/jar	2	10	2	0.1
Closed	22	338	1	0.3
Dish	2	23	2	0
Jar	83	5570	46	5.14
Lid	1	46	1	0.18
Platter	3	60	2	0.09
Unknown	420	2895	4	0.84
TOTAL	533	8942	58	6.65

#### Contextual analysis

7.3.7 Roman pottery was collected from 13 contexts, including the topsoil, representing eleven interventions within seven of the evaluation trenches (Table 7), with Trenches 14 and 16 producing the most significant assemblages, suggesting features around these trenches were a focus for activity (although it may be a focus for refuse rather than settlement). The majority of the assemblage derived from ditches (94.4% by sherd count), within Trenches 14, 15, 16 and 20. The single largest assemblage derives from ditch slot (1606)/[1607], Trench 16, which contained a total of 388 sherds weighing 3,897g, dating AD70-150. Also of note is ditch slot (1408)/[1409], Trench 14, which contained 77 sherds weighing 4,389g and dating AD50-150, which includes the 19 sherds from the very large storage jar as well as a further three coarseware jars.

Trench No. ENV EVE Wt (g) 58 1 7 0 11 12 0 66 0 1 13 11 173 0 14 99 4567 6 0.87 15 4 43 0 0 16 402 4139 51 5.78 TOTAL 535 9046 58 6.65

Table 7: Roman pottery by trench

#### **Discussion**

7.3.8 The Roman assemblage from the evaluation demonstrates Roman activity between the mid-1st and later 2nd century AD. The size and condition of elements of the assemblage indicate that much of the pottery was deposited soon after breakage and thus also implying a core of activity may lie within the confines of the site. The fabrics and forms identified are indicative of rural, domestic settlement, dominated by locally made coarseware vessels.

### 7.4 Medieval pottery by Helen Walker

#### Introduction

7.4.1 The evaluation yielded medieval pottery from a single context, totalling 53 sherds (362g). The pottery has been catalogued according to Cunningham's typology of post-Roman pottery in Essex (Cunningham 1985, 1-16, expanded by Drury *et al.* 1993 and Cotter 2000).

#### Assemblage chronology and composition

7.4.2 The wares present are shown below in Table 8. The only context to produce pottery was (104), a fill of extraction pit [105], which lay in Trench 1 to the north of the site. The earliest pottery comprises two sherds of early medieval Sand-with-Shell-Tempered Ware spanning the 11th to early 13th centuries. One is a rim sherd with a rim-type corresponding to Cunningham's sub-form B2, which is datable to *c.* 1200 (Drury *et al.* 1993, 81, fig. 38.30–6).

Table 8: The pottery by ware, total sherd count and total weight

Fabric	No.	Wt (g)
Sand-with-Shell-Tempered Ware	2	31
Hedingham Coarseware	51	331
Total	53	362

7.4.3 Otherwise, all the pottery present comprises Hedingham Coarseware, which spans the later 12th to early 14th centuries. No rim sherds are present, but the bulk of the material comprises body and sagging base sherds belonging to the same vessel. Most sherds show external fire-blackening and sooting indicating the vessel has been heated. The sherds are most likely to be from a cooking-pot, always the most frequent vessel type, or perhaps a bowl. In addition, there are a small number of sherds of Hedingham Coarseware from other vessels.

#### **Discussion**

- 7.4.4 Assuming all the pottery was deposited during the same episode then a date of later 12th to earlier 13th century is likely. The preponderance of Hedingham Coarseware is to be expected as Great Yeldham lies only 7km to the north of a cluster of Hedingham Ware production sites at Sible Hedingham. In addition, both villages lie on the same road (the present day A1017). However, the material from the site at Great Yeldham cannot be from an outlying production site as it shows evidence of sooting and has therefore been used. There are no finewares in the assemblage indicating the pottery is from a service area rather than a living area, otherwise there is no evidence as to function or status of the site.
- 7.4.5 The assemblage helps to shed light on the origin and development of Great Yeldham in the medieval period and may be of value for any future research in looking at consumer sites that are close to Hedingham Ware production sites. Otherwise, the assemblage itself is not of intrinsic interest.

#### 7.5 Ceramic building material by Amparo Valcarcel

#### Introduction and methodology

- 7.5.1 The application of a 1kg mason's hammer and sharp chisel to each example ensured that a small fresh fabric surface was exposed. The fabric was examined at x20 magnification using a long arm stereomicroscope or hand lens (Gowland x10).
- 7.5.2 As there was no ceramic building material fabric reference collection housed at PCA, consultation of the relevant 1:50,000 geological maps for this area provided the local geological background (BGS 2021). New tile was prefixed by GYN followed by 1.
- 7.5.3 This small-sized assemblage (42 fragments, 586g) is characterised by fired clay, and Roman and post-medieval fragments. The distribution of the material by context is presented in Table 9 below.

Table 9: Distribution of CBM by context

Context	Cut	Fabric	Fabric	No.	Date range of L		Lates	t dated	Spot date
Context					mater	ial	material		
		GYN3,	Post-medieval peg						
101		GYN4	tile and brick	2	1450	1900	1450	1900	1450-1900
			Post-medieval peg						
104	105	GYN5	tile	1	1450	1900	1450	1900	1450-1900
1106	1107	3102	Abraded daub	34	1500BC	1700	1500BC	1700	1500BC-1700
1608	1607	GYN1	Early Roman tile	1	55	160	55	160	55-160
		GYN1;	Early Roman tile and						
1805	1806	GYN2	brick	2	50	160	55	160	55-160
			Burnt ceramic						
2006	2008	UNK	building material	2	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK	UNK

#### Roman (3 fragments, 340g)

7.5.4 The Roman material consists of two flat tiles and one brick. The material was collected from fill (1608) of ditch [1607] and fill (1805) of treethrow [1806]. The fabrics recorded were GYN1, a very fine sandy fabric with varying amounts of quartz, occasional limestone, siltstone and iron oxide; and fabric GYN2, a sandy fabric with abundant quartz, fine black iron oxide and silty inclusions.

#### Post-medieval (3 fragments, 143g)

7.5.5 The post-medieval assemblage is poorly represented, with the presence of two peg tiles from layer (101) and fill (104) of pit (105). The fabrics documented were: GYN3, a fine clay matrix with moderate quartz inclusions and occasional red and black iron oxide; and fabric GYN5, a well-fired fine textured fabric with few visible inclusions and occasional quartz and calcium carbonate. A single fragment of brick, made of fabric GYN3 (a sandy fabric with frequent coarse quartz and sandy clay matrix) was collected in a very abraded condition in layer (101).

#### Daub (34 fragments, 92g)

7.5.6 A small amount of abraded daub was found in fill (1106) of posthole (1107). The fabric is made of a very course clay with abundant chalky and white quartz inclusions.

#### Summary

- 7.5.7 The assemblage is poorly represented by a small amount of fired clay/daub and fragments of Roman and post-medieval tile/brick, and merely represents dumped material.
  - 7.6 **Metalwork** by Thomas Lucking

#### Introduction and methodology

7.6.1 A total of six metal objects were recovered from three contexts of Roman and medieval date from the evaluation (Table 10). All of the objects consist of poorly-preserved and heavily encrusted iron artefacts.

Table 10: Summary of metal artefacts by context

Trench no	Context	Cut	Material	Condition	Description	Spot date
1	104	105	Fe	Incomplete	Sickle	Medieval
1	104	105	Fe	Incomplete	Sickle	Medieval
11	1108	1109	Fe	Complete	Staple	Undated
16	1606	1607	Fe	Incomplete	Knife	Roman
16	1606	1607	Fe	Complete	Uncertain	Undated
16	1606	1607	Fe	Complete	Nail	Undated

#### The assemblage by trench

#### Trench 1

7.6.2 Two objects were recovered from (104) of [105], which appear to be part of the same medieval sickle blade. They do not re-join, but have broadly the same curving profile, triangular section, width, and thickness. One of the recovered objects consists of the end section and tip of the sickle, with the blade gradually tapering to a point. It measures 97.75mm in length, 16.63mm in width, 7.11mm in thickness and weighs 14.6g. The other section forms part of the main body of the sickle. It measures 81.67mm in length, 19.20mm in width, 5.93mm in thickness and weighs 39.5g. This object is similar to examples from Norwich (Margeson, 1993, 194-195, nos. 1521-1526).

#### Trench 11

7.6.3 A single large iron staple was recovered from (1108) of [1109]. It is U-shaped in plan, circular in section, with both ends tapering to pointed terminals. It measures 126.30mm in total length, 9.13mm in diameter and weighs 27.7g. Objects such as this are unchanged over long periods of time and are therefore not readily datable as single artefacts. Dating may be provided through association with other finds in the same context.

#### Trench 16

- 7.6.4 Three iron objects were recovered from (1606) of [1607].
- 7.6.5 An iron knife (in two re-joining fragments) of possible Roman date is of an unusual shape, having a short, curving blade which tapers to a point. A short section of the iron tang survives. The shape of this knife suggests that it probably had a specialist function, possibly for leatherworking or similar. It measures 76.07mm in length, 34.63mm at its widest, 8.50mm in thickness and weighs 30.5g.
- 7.6.6 A large iron object of uncertain function consists of a heavily encrusted iron bar, possibly of cylindrical section. It is possibly a tool or handle, or may be a large structural nail. It measures 126mm in length, 20.12mm in diameter, and weighs 98.4g.
- 7.6.7 An iron nail was also recovered. It is heavily encrusted and appears to have a flattened head. It measures 66.09mm in length, 14.60mm in width, 13.28mm in thickness and weighs 30.2g.

#### **Discussion**

7.6.8 A small assemblage such as this provides limited insight into activities on site during the Roman and medieval periods. Objects from possible Roman contexts appear to be domestic and/or agricultural in character, suggesting there may be rural settlement somewhere nearby. The sickle blade recovered from (104) of [105] in Trench 1 is suggestive or arable farming occurring in the area in the medieval period.

#### 8 ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

#### 8.1 Animal bone by Kevin Rielly

#### Introduction

8.1.1 Animal bones were recovered (by hand and from the bulk samples) principally from Roman features in the south-western area of the site, except for those taken from a large medieval extraction pit situated in Trench 1 in the north-eastern area.

#### Methodology

8.1.2 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. The sample collections were washed through a modified Siraf tank using a 1mm mesh and the subsequent residues were air dried and sorted. The assemblage is quantified in Table 11 below.

Table 11: Distribution of hand-collected and sieved (in brackets) animal bones by trench, feature type, potential date and species,

Key: P is pit, D is ditch and TT is tree throw; while PreH is prehistoric (probably Late Iron Age), Rom is Roman (mainly AD50-150) and med is medieval

Trench:	1	11	14	15	16	18	Total
Feature type:	Р	Р	D	D	D	TT	
Date:	Med	Rom	Rom	Rom	Rom	PreH	
Species							
Cattle			(1)	1	2	(2)	3(3)
Equid						1	1
Cattle-size		1(4)			1	(2)	2(6)
Sheep/Goat		1				2(2)	3(2)
Pig	1					3(1)	4(1)
Sheep-size						(26)	(26)
Hedgehog	1						1
Chicken	1					(1)	1(1)
Chicken-size						(1)	(1)
Grand total	3	2(4)	(1)	1	2	6(35)	15(40)

#### Description of faunal assemblage

8.1.3 The animal bone assemblage amounted to 34 hand collected and 64 fragments taken from the bulk samples. These totals reduce to 15 and 40 respectively following refitting.

Apart from a small collection of bones from Trench 16, this assemblage was in good condition and moderately fragmented. The distribution of the bones favoured the trenches in the south-western half of the site, with the greater part taken from the fill (1805) of a tree throw [1806] in Trench 18, including six of the hand-collected and 34 of the sieved bones; the other bones in this part of the site derived from two pits and three ditches. Otherwise, a small collection was retrieved from the sample taken from a large medieval pit [105] in Trench 1.

- 8.1.4 These features provided relatively small quantities of cattle, sheep/goat, pig, equid, hedgehog and chicken, most of which were ageable. Notably one of the chicken bones (from Trench 1) was juvenile, this suggestive of a meat use rather than exploited initially for egg production. Measurable bones were restricted to a pig mandible and a relatively complete equid tibia, both from the Trench 18 tree throw. The latter has an approximate lateral length of 323mm which extrapolates (following von den Driesch and Boessneck 1974) to a shoulder height of 1408.3mm, a large pony. No butchered bones were observed.
- 8.1.5 This collection can be interpreted as deriving from general waste deposits, the single hedgehog bone from the medieval pit possibly suggesting a meat use although more likely representing an accidental inclusion. The chicken bones from the treethrow deposit are of interest, as this species, arriving towards the Later Iron Age period tends to be rather poorly represented or absent in most Iron Age sites (see for example the Danebury evidence in Grant 1984).

#### **Conclusions**

8.1.6 While rather small, this collection is nonetheless in good condition and not overly fragmented, this perhaps also shown by the range of species (including small mammals and birds), plus there is a good potential for ageable bones leading to information concerning exploitation trends. It is certainly likely that further excavation (including more bulk samples) will recover a greater assemblage, particularly if the excavation is concentrated in the north-eastern and western parts of the study area, although the quantity so far recovered does not bode well for anything more than a few 100s of fragments (a moderately sized collection). Of interest, is the presence of potentially Late Iron Age as well as Roman occupation, with the possibility therefore of comparing animal usage across this important period in British history/archaeology.

#### 8.2 Environmental remains by Tegan Abel

#### Introduction

8.2.1 This report summarises the findings from the assessment of five bulk environmental samples taken during the archaeological evaluation. The sample volumes ranged from 6 to 33 litres, with the samples being extracted from three ditches and a single pit (Table 12).

Table 12: Context information for environmental samples

Context No.	Feature No.	Environmental Sample No.	Context category	Feature Type
1004	1005	1	Fill	Pit
1408	1409	2	Fill	Ditch
1805	1806	3	Fill	Treethrow
108	105	4	Fill	Pit
1108	1109	5	Fill	Pit

#### **Aims**

8.2.2 The aims of the report are as follows: 1- To give an overview of the ecofacts and artefacts extracted from the bulk samples; 2- To evaluate the potential of the environmental remains and, 3- To make recommendations for additional analysis.

#### Methodology

- 8.2.3 Five samples were retrieved during this evaluation; prior to being processed, the sediment volume was measured and recorded, the data for which is presented in Appendix 3, Table 1. Samples were processed using a modified SIRAF floatation system; the flot residue was collected using a 300 μm mesh and the heavy residue, a 3mm mesh. After being left to dry naturally, the residue was sieved through 2mm, 5mm and 10mm sieves, and sorted to remove ecofacts and artefacts; material was recorded using a non-linear scale, as follows: 1- occasional (1-10), 2- fairly frequent (11-30), 3- frequent (31-100) and abundant (31-100).
- 8.2.4 The light residue was examined under a low-power binocular microscope and the contents recorded, with abundances being quantified as above.

#### Results

Sample <1> context (1004) cut [1005]

8.2.5 Sample <1>, was taken from a pit cut, [1005]. Charcoal was frequent in this sample, though no fragments were of a suitable size for species identification (>4mm all around). Alongside this, a small amount of charred cereal grain and charred seeds were present. A few whole terrestrial shells were also noted in the sample, as was less than ten pieces of vitrified material, which could indicate burning at very high temperatures. Additionally, low numbers of struck/burnt flint were present. Root material and modern plant remains were sparse in the sample, and small quantities of insect remains were also noted. These materials could suggest post depositional disturbance of this context.

Sample <2> context (1408) cut [1409]

8.2.6 Sample <2> was taken from the fill of a ditch [1409]. This sample contained occasional to moderate quantities of highly fragmented charcoal specimens, as well as a small number of identifiable charred seeds. Less than ten whole terrestrial molluscs were also present, as was a small amount of animal bone, and moderate amounts of pottery. The context may have suffered from bioturbation, as indicated through the presence of moderate levels of modern plant material and rooting.

Sample <3> context (1805) cut [1806]

8.2.7 The sample contained an abundance of identifiable charcoal pieces (>4mm), along with a number of more fragmented specimens. Less than 30 unidentifiable charred cereal grains were noted. A moderate quantity of animal bone was noted in the sample. Moderate to high levels of bioturbation to the context may be suggested by the presence of roots/tubers, modern plant material and small amounts of insect remains and uncharred seeds.

Sample <4> context (108) cut [105]

8.2.8 The sample contained moderate quantities of identifiable charcoal (>4mm in size), as well as many highly fragmented specimens. A small number of charred seeds were present. Moderate amounts of identifiable cereal grains were noted, as was an abundance of unidentifiable cereal grains, though the poor preservation meant that species could not be identified. Additionally, a single piece of charred cereal chaff was seen in the flot, which may suggest cereal processing on site. Terrestrial mollusc, both whole and fragmented, was moderately occurring in the sample. A small abundance

of pottery was noted. Low levels of post-depositional disturbance to the context may be suggested by the presence of a small number of roots/tubers, and moderate amounts of modern plant material and a small quantity of uncharred seeds.

Sample <5> context (1108) cut [1109]

8.2.9 The sample contained less than 30 identifiable charcoal fragments (>4mm), along with several fragmented pieces. A small amount of animal bone and pottery were present, and bioturbation of the context is likely to be low, as suggested by the small abundance of modern plant material and insect remains.

### **Conclusions**

- 8.2.10 An assessment of the environmental samples from the evaluation has provided evidence for the preservation of carbonised plant material at this site.
- 8.2.11 Sample <3>, produced over one-hundred identifiable charcoal fragments. None of the other samples contained sufficient archaeobotanical remains to warrant additional work, though carbonised ecofacts, such as grains and seeds, may provide the potential for radiocarbon dating of the individual features if required.
- 8.2.12 The degree of preservation of the uncharred seeds noted from the site indicates intrusive specimens; the presence of these seeds along with unburnt plant material, roots and insect remains, could indicate post depositional disturbance to the contexts.

# 9 DISCUSSION

9.1 The evaluation identified archaeological remains on the higher ground in the south-western half of the site (Trenches 11-20), where the ground starts to level off towards the top of the slope overlooking the valley of the River Colne. The remains predominately date to the mid-1st to later 2nd century AD and are characteristic of edge-of-settlement activity, consisting of paddocks and enclosures, with limited evidence for occupation. However, several ditches contained sizeable quantities of Roman pottery, suggesting that the focus of occupation was close-by. Two large Roman clay extraction pits were also encountered in this area. On the lower slope in the north-eastern half of the site there were few archaeological remains, other than a shallow prehistoric pit in Trench 10 and a large gravel extraction pit near the road, in Trenches 1 and 2.

### **Prehistoric**

- 9.2 The earliest dated archaeological features encountered by the evaluation were a shallow pit in Trench 10, from which was recovered a flint bladelet core and flint working debitage that probably dates the Early Neolithic period, and two pits in Trench 19 that contained an Early Neolithic flint blade and a sherd of pottery of a broadly similar date. As noted, trial trenching undertaken to the south of the site, on the Whitlocks Estate, identified a pit containing two pieces of worked flint which were thought to be prehistoric in date (ASE 2017).
- 9.3 There was also evidence for possible Iron Age activity on the site in the form of two undated ditches in Trenches 19 and 20 that possibly pre-date a later Roman ditch system, given their differing alignment, and as residual artefacts in Roman features, including a flint core of probable Bronze Age/Iron Age date and a sherd of later Iron Age pottery.

# Roman

9.4 The main period for activity on the site, which was identified in its south-western half, dates to the mid-1st to later 2nd centuries AD. It consisted of part of a rectilinear ditch system on a north-south/east-west axis, forming a number of paddocks or enclosures. Several of the ditches contained relatively sizeable assemblages of Roman pottery, and a small Roman knife was recovered from one feature, suggesting that the ditch system lay adjacent to an area of occupation, probably to the south or west of the site. There was little evidence for occupation within the site, there being few pits and only three postholes in the trial trenches.

- 9.5 In the western corner of the site two large Roman extraction pits were identified (probably dug for clay), which were up to 30m in diameter and 2.4m deep. The extent (where possible) and character of the quarry pits were investigated using the mechanical excavator to dig a number of sondages.
- 9.6 The large extraction pit in Trenches 1 and 2 was probably dug for the gravel into which it had been excavated. The upper fill of this feature, which was up to 2.4m deep, contained medieval pottery and post-medieval peg-tile, suggesting that it is more recent in date, but Roman pottery was also recovered from beneath an ash deposit at a depth of 1.3m, suggesting that it may have been a Roman extraction pit that was left open at the end of the Roman period and gradually filled up in later years. The postulated route of the Roman road through Great Yeldham has not been established, but the presence of the Roman remains as Nun's Walk and the gravel pit may hint at a Roman road, albeit a minor road, being located nearby.

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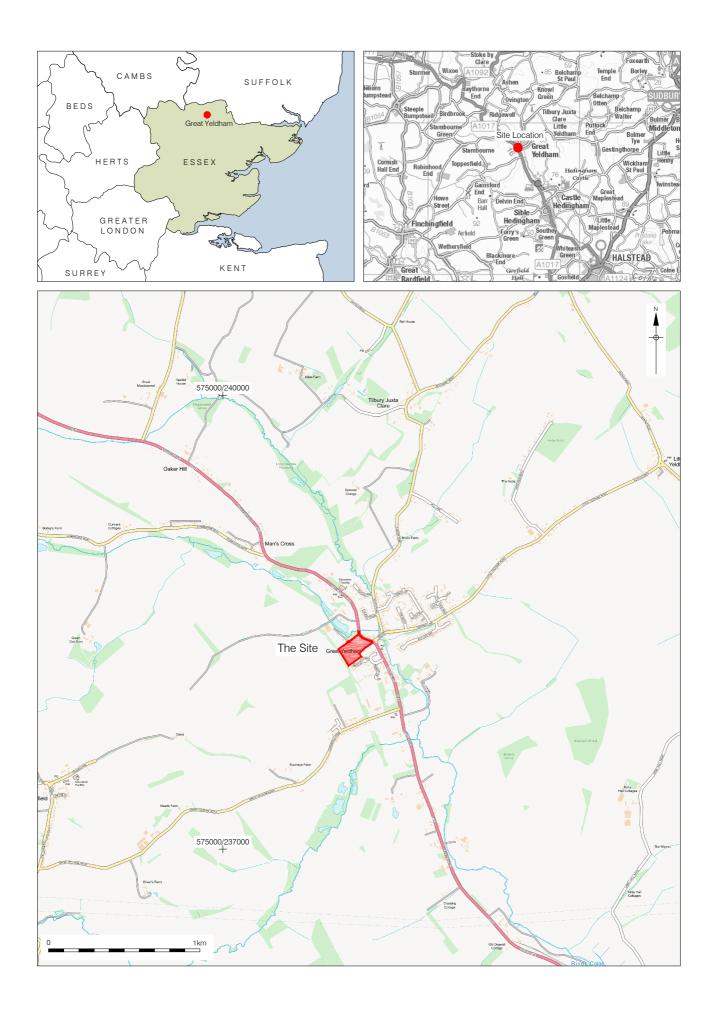
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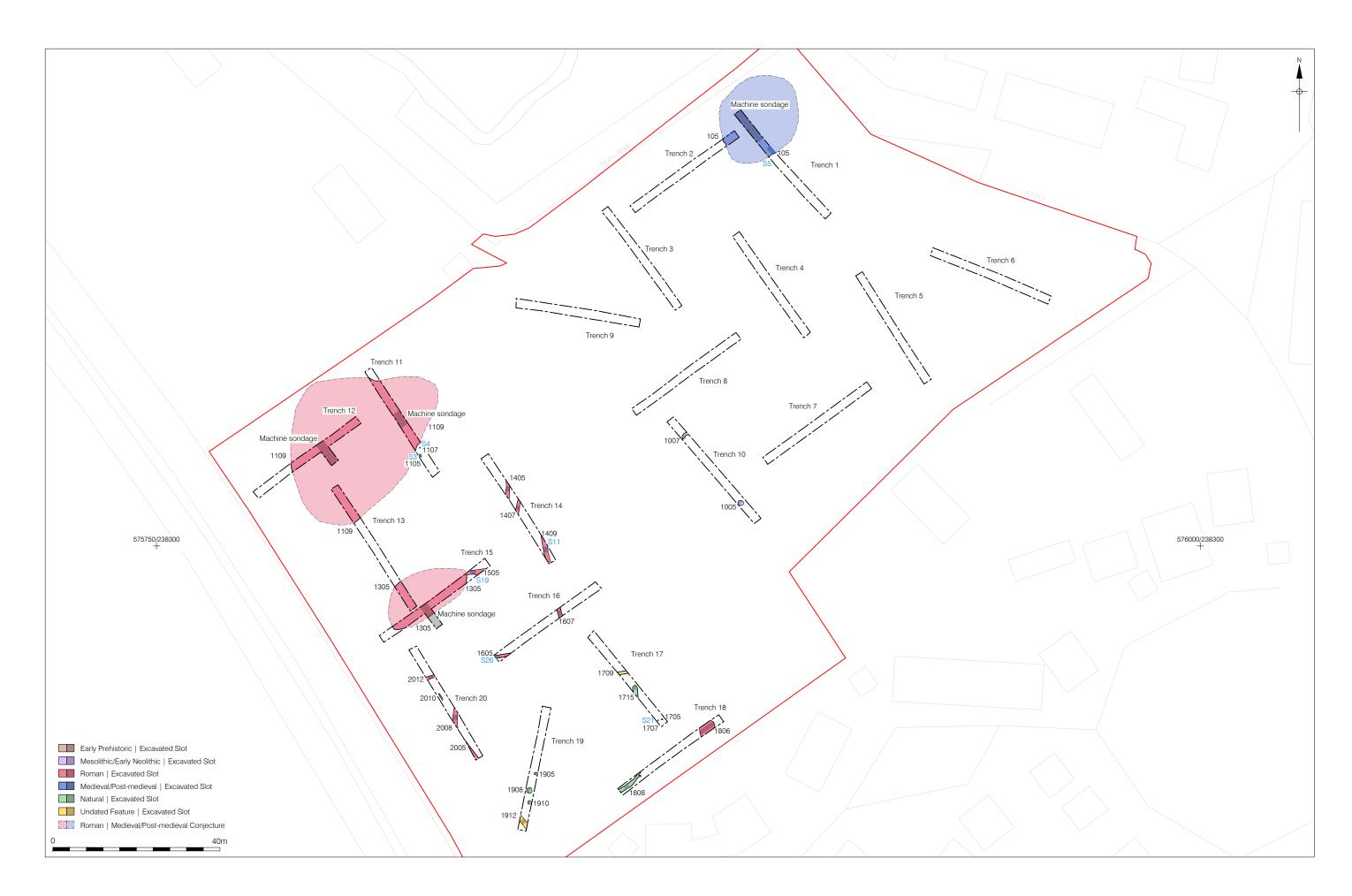
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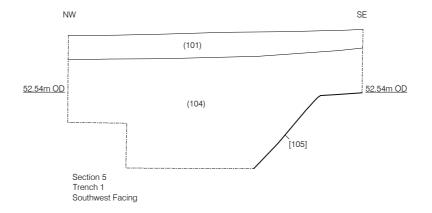
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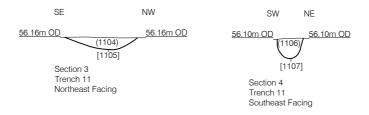
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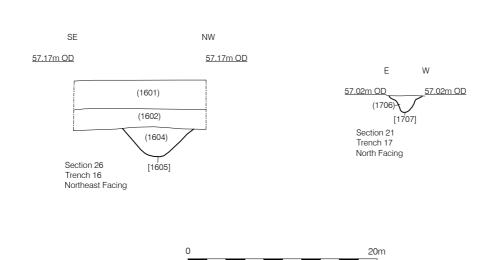












# **PLATES**



Plate 1: General view of the site, looking north



Plate 2: Trench 1, extraction pit [105], looking east



Plate 3: Trench 10, pit [1005], looking south



Plate 4: Trench 11, pit [1105], looking south-west



Plate 5: Trench 11, sondage into extraction pit [1109], looking north-east



Plate 6: Trench 14, ditch [1409], looking north



Plate 7: Trench 15, extraction pit [1305], looking north-east



Plate 8: Trench 16, ditch [1605], looking west



Plate 9: Trench 18, probable tree feature [1806], looking south-east



Plate 10: Trench 19, pit [1910], looking east

# **APPENDIX 1: TRENCH AND CONTEXT DATA**

Trench Number	Alignment	Length (m)	Max Machine depth (m)	Topsoil thickness End 1 (m)	Subsoil thickness End 1 (m)	Natural depth End 1 (mOD)	Topsoil thickness End 2 (m)	Subsoil thickness End 2 (m)	Natural depth End 2 (mOD)
1	NW-SE	30	2.4	0.4	0.3		0.2	0.24	53.66
2	NE-SW	30	0.6	0.2	0.2	52.3	0.3	0.28	54.4
3	NW-SE	30	0.4	0.2	0.2	54.47	0.2	0.2	55.42
4	NW-SE	30	0.3	0.2	0.1	54.47	0.2	0.1	55.15
5	NW-SE	30	0.3	0.2	0.1	54.38	0.2	0.1	54.52
6	NW-SE	30	0.5	0.25	0.25	53.46	0.25	0.25	52.48
7	NE-SW	30	0.35	0.25	0.1	55.1	0.25	0.1	55.44
8	NE-SW	30	0.4	0.2	0.2	55.53	0.2	0.2	55.82
9	E-W	30	0.4	0.2	0.2	55.82	0.2	0.2	55.69
10	NW-SE	30	1.1	0.3	0.6	55.72	0.35	0.6	56.31
11	NW-SE	30	2.4	0.39	0.69	55.97	0.38	0.53	56.45
12	NE-SW	30	1.2	0.4	0.5	56.16	0.2	0.2	57.5
13	NW-SE	30	0.5	0.2	0.3	56.4	0.2	0.3	56.76
14	NW-SE	30	0.5	0.25	0.25	56.64	0.25	0.25	56.64
15	NE-SW	30	1.2	0.2	0.2	56.58	0.2	0.2	57.28
16	NE-SW	30	0.5	0.25	0.25	57	0.25	0.25	56.7
17	NW-SE	30	0.6	0.4	0.2	56.81	0.4	0.2	57.05
18	NE-SW	30	0.6	0.32	0.28	57.51	0.32	0.28	56.95
19	N-S	30	0.5	0.3	0.2	57.65	0.3	0.2	57.02
20	NW-SE	30	0.95	0.3	0.5	57.06	0.4	0.55	57.45

# **CONTEXT INDEX**

104		1		1			1				
102   102   1   Layer   Subsoil   0   0   0   mid orangey brown sandy silt	Context No				•		Width (m)	Depth (m)	Section		
103	101	101	1	Layer	Topsoil	0	0				
Clays, sands and gravels	102	102	1	Layer	Subsoil	0	0			mid orangey brown sandy silt	
105   105   1   Cut   Pit   2   2   0.8   extraction pit	103	103	1	Layer	Natural	0	0			mixed orange and yellow glacial clays, sands and gravels	
106	104	105	1	Fill	Pit	2	2	0.8			
107	105	105	1	Cut	Pit	2	2	0.8		extraction pit	
108	106	105	1	Fill	Pit	2	2	0.2		mid orangey brown silty sands	
109	107	105	1	Fill	Pit	2	2	0.9			
1004   1005   10   Fill   Pit   1.22   0.7   0.05   1   light greyish brown silty sand   1005   1005   10   Cut   Pit   1.22   0.7   0.05   1   sub circular, gentle sides, concave base   1006   1007   10   Fill   Treethrow   1   0.9   0.2   2   yellowish brown sandy silt   1007   1007   10   Cut   Treethrow   1   0.9   0.2   2   irregular, irregular sides and base   1104   1105   11   Fill   Pit   0.76   0.7   0.14   3   mid greyish-brown sandy silt   1105   1105   11   Cut   Pit   0.76   0.7   0.14   3   sub circular moderate sides flat base   1106   1107   11   Fill   Posthole   0.35   0.3   0.21   4   mid-greyish-brown sandy silt   1107   1107   11   Cut   Posthole   0.35   0.3   0.21   4   circular, steep sides, concave base   1108   1109   11   Fill   Pit   20   2   2.4   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1109   1109   11   Cut   Pit   20   2   2.4   extraction pit   1304   1305   13   Fill   Pit   20   6   1.2   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1305   1305   13   Cut   Pit   20   6   1.2   extraction pit   1404   1405   14   Fill   Ditch   2   0.9   0.15   9   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1405   1405   14   Cut   Ditch   2   0.78   0.22   10   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1407   14   Cut   Ditch   2   0.78   0.22   10   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1409   14   Fill   Ditch   2   0.78   0.22   10   linear, moderate sides, flat base   1408   1409   14   Fill   Ditch   2   1   0.43   11   linear, moderate sides, flat base   1504   1505   15   Fill   Ditch   2   1   0.32   19   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1409   1409   14   Cut   Ditch   2   1   0.43   11   linear, moderate sides, flat base   1504   1505   15   Fill   Ditch   2   1   0.32   19   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1409   1409   14   Cut   Ditch   2   1   0.43   11   linear, moderate sides, flat base   1504   1505   15   Fill   Ditch   2   1   0.32   19   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1506   15   Fill   Ditch   2   1   0.32   19   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1506   15   Fill   Ditch   2   1   0.32   19   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   150	108	105	1	Fill	Pit	1	0.7	0.03		loose dark grey silty sand	
1005	109	109	1	Layer	Natural	0	0			' '	
1006	1004	1005	10	Fill	Pit	1.22	0.7	0.05	1	light greyish brown silty sand	
1007   1007   10   Cut   Treethrow   1   0.9   0.2   2   irregular, irregular sides and base   1104   1105   11   Fill   Pit   0.76   0.7   0.14   3   mid greyish-brown sandy silt   1105   1105   11   Cut   Pit   0.76   0.7   0.14   3   sub circular moderate sides flat base   1106   1107   11   Fill   Posthole   0.35   0.3   0.21   4   mid-greyish-brown sandy silt   1107   1107   11   Cut   Posthole   0.35   0.3   0.21   4   circular, steep sides, concave base   1108   1109   11   Fill   Pit   20   2   2.4   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1109   1109   11   Cut   Pit   20   2   2.4   extraction pit   1304   1305   13   Fill   Pit   20   6   1.2   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1305   1305   13   Cut   Pit   20   6   1.2   extraction pit   1404   1405   14   Fill   Ditch   2   0.9   0.15   9   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1405   1405   14   Cut   Ditch   2   0.78   0.22   10   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1407   1407   14   Cut   Ditch   2   0.78   0.22   10   linear, moderate sides, flat base   1408   1409   14   Fill   Ditch   2   1   0.43   11   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1409   1409   14   Cut   Ditch   2   1   0.43   11   linear, moderate sides, flat base   1504   1505   15   Fill   Ditch   2   1   0.32   19   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1504   1505   15   Fill   Ditch   2   1   0.32   19   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1504   1505   15   Fill   Ditch   2   1   0.32   19   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1504   1505   15   Fill   Ditch   2   1   0.32   19   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1504   1505   15   Fill   Ditch   2   1   0.32   19   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1504   1505   15   Fill   Ditch   2   1   0.32   19   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1504   1505   15   Fill   Ditch   2   1   0.32   19   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1504   1505   15   Fill   Ditch   2   1   0.32   19   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1505   15   Fill   Ditch   2   1   0.32   19   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1505   15   Fill   Ditch   2   1   0.32   19   mid-greyish brown sandy silt   1505   15   Fill   D	1005	1005	10	Cut	Pit	1.22	0.7	0.05	1	_	
1104         1105         11         Fill         Pit         0.76         0.7         0.14         3         mid greyish-brown sandy silt           1105         1105         11         Cut         Pit         0.76         0.7         0.14         3         sub circular moderate sides flat base           1106         1107         11         Fill         Posthole         0.35         0.3         0.21         4         mid-greyish-brown sandy silt           1107         1107         11         Cut         Posthole         0.35         0.3         0.21         4         circular, steep sides, concave base           1108         1109         11         Fill         Pit         20         2         2.4         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1109         1109         11         Cut         Pit         20         2         2.4         extraction pit           1304         1305         13         Fill         Pit         20         6         1.2         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1404         1405         14         Fill         Ditch         2         0.9         0.15         9         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1405         1406	1006	1007	10	Fill	Treethrow	1	0.9	0.2	2	yellowish brown sandy silt	
1105         110         Lut         Pit         0.76         0.7         0.14         3         sub circular moderate sides flat base           1106         1107         11         Fill         Posthole         0.35         0.3         0.21         4         mid-greyish-brown sandy silt           1107         1107         11         Cut         Posthole         0.35         0.3         0.21         4         circular, steep sides, concave base           1108         1109         11         Fill         Pit         20         2         2.4         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1109         1109         11         Cut         Pit         20         2         2.4         extraction pit           1304         1305         13         Fill         Pit         20         6         1.2         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1305         1305         13         Cut         Pit         20         6         1.2         extraction pit           1404         1405         14         Fill         Ditch         2         0.9         0.15         9         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1405         14         Cut         Ditch         2	1007	1007	10	Cut	Treethrow	1	0.9	0.2	2	irregular, irregular sides and base	
1106	1104	1105	11	Fill	Pit	0.76	0.7	0.14	3	mid greyish-brown sandy silt	
1107         1107         11         Cut         Posthole         0.35         0.3         0.21         4         circular, steep sides, concave base           1108         1109         11         Fill         Pit         20         2         2.4         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1109         1109         11         Cut         Pit         20         2         2.4         extraction pit           1304         1305         13         Fill         Pit         20         6         1.2         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1305         1305         13         Cut         Pit         20         6         1.2         extraction pit           1404         1405         14         Fill         Ditch         2         0.9         0.15         9         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1405         1405         14         Cut         Ditch         2         0.78         0.22         10         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1407         1407         14         Fill         Ditch         2         0.78         0.22         10         linear, moderate sides, flat base           1408         1409         14         Fill <td< td=""><td>1105</td><td>1105</td><td>11</td><td>Cut</td><td>Pit</td><td>0.76</td><td>0.7</td><td>0.14</td><td>3</td><td>sub circular moderate sides flat base</td></td<>	1105	1105	11	Cut	Pit	0.76	0.7	0.14	3	sub circular moderate sides flat base	
1108         1109         11         Fill         Pit         20         2         2.4         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1109         1109         11         Cut         Pit         20         2         2.4         extraction pit           1304         1305         13         Fill         Pit         20         6         1.2         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1305         1305         13         Cut         Pit         20         6         1.2         extraction pit           1404         1405         14         Fill         Ditch         2         0.9         0.15         9         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1405         1405         14         Cut         Ditch         2         0.9         0.15         9         linear, steep sides, flat base           1406         1407         14         Fill         Ditch         2         0.78         0.22         10         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1407         1407         14         Cut         Ditch         2         0.78         0.22         10         linear, moderate sides, flat base           1408         1409         14         Fill         Ditch	1106	1107	11	Fill	Posthole	0.35	0.3	0.21	4	mid-greyish-brown sandy silt	
1109         1109         11         Cut         Pit         20         2         2.4         extraction pit           1304         1305         13         Fill         Pit         20         6         1.2         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1305         1305         13         Cut         Pit         20         6         1.2         extraction pit           1404         1405         14         Fill         Ditch         2         0.9         0.15         9         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1405         1405         14         Cut         Ditch         2         0.78         0.22         10         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1406         1407         14         Fill         Ditch         2         0.78         0.22         10         linear, moderate sides, flat base           1408         1409         14         Fill         Ditch         2         1         0.43         11         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1409         1409         14         Cut         Ditch         2         1         0.43         11         linear, moderate sides, flat base           1504         1505         15         Fill <td>1107</td> <td>1107</td> <td>11</td> <td>Cut</td> <td>Posthole</td> <td>0.35</td> <td>0.3</td> <td>0.21</td> <td>4</td> <td>circular, steep sides, concave base</td>	1107	1107	11	Cut	Posthole	0.35	0.3	0.21	4	circular, steep sides, concave base	
1304         1305         13         Fill         Pit         20         6         1.2         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1305         1305         13         Cut         Pit         20         6         1.2         extraction pit           1404         1405         14         Fill         Ditch         2         0.9         0.15         9         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1405         1405         14         Cut         Ditch         2         0.9         0.15         9         linear, steep sides, flat base           1406         1407         14         Fill         Ditch         2         0.78         0.22         10         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1407         1407         14         Cut         Ditch         2         0.78         0.22         10         linear, moderate sides, flat base           1408         1409         14         Fill         Ditch         2         1         0.43         11         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1409         1409         14         Cut         Ditch         2         1         0.43         11         linear, moderate sides, flat base           1504         1505	1108	1109	11	Fill	Pit	20	2	2.4		mid-greyish brown sandy silt	
1305         1305         13         Cut         Pit         20         6         1.2         extraction pit           1404         1405         14         Fill         Ditch         2         0.9         0.15         9         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1405         1405         14         Cut         Ditch         2         0.9         0.15         9         linear, steep sides, flat base           1406         1407         14         Fill         Ditch         2         0.78         0.22         10         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1408         1409         14         Fill         Ditch         2         1         0.43         11         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1409         1409         14         Cut         Ditch         2         1         0.43         11         linear, moderate sides, flat base           1504         1505         15         Fill         Ditch         2         1         0.32         19         mid-greyish brown sandy silt	1109	1109	11	Cut	Pit	20	2	2.4		extraction pit	
1404         1405         14         Fill         Ditch         2         0.9         0.15         9         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1405         1405         14         Cut         Ditch         2         0.9         0.15         9         linear, steep sides, flat base           1406         1407         14         Fill         Ditch         2         0.78         0.22         10         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1407         1407         14         Cut         Ditch         2         0.78         0.22         10         linear, moderate sides, flat base           1408         1409         14         Fill         Ditch         2         1         0.43         11         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1409         1409         14         Cut         Ditch         2         1         0.43         11         linear, moderate sides, flat base           1504         1505         15         Fill         Ditch         2         1         0.32         19         mid-greyish brown sandy silt	1304	1305	13	Fill	Pit	20	6	1.2		mid-greyish brown sandy silt	
1405         1405         14         Cut         Ditch         2         0.9         0.15         9         linear, steep sides, flat base           1406         1407         14         Fill         Ditch         2         0.78         0.22         10         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1407         1407         14         Cut         Ditch         2         0.78         0.22         10         linear, moderate sides, flat base           1408         1409         14         Fill         Ditch         2         1         0.43         11         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1409         1409         14         Cut         Ditch         2         1         0.43         11         linear, moderate sides, flat base           1504         1505         15         Fill         Ditch         2         1         0.32         19         mid-greyish brown sandy silt	1305	1305	13	Cut	Pit	20	6	1.2		extraction pit	
1406         1407         14         Fill         Ditch         2         0.78         0.22         10         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1407         1407         14         Cut         Ditch         2         0.78         0.22         10         linear, moderate sides, flat base           1408         1409         14         Fill         Ditch         2         1         0.43         11         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1409         1409         14         Cut         Ditch         2         1         0.43         11         linear, moderate sides, flat base           1504         1505         15         Fill         Ditch         2         1         0.32         19         mid-greyish brown sandy silt	1404	1405	14	Fill	Ditch	2	0.9	0.15	9	mid-greyish brown sandy silt	
1407         1407         14         Cut         Ditch         2         0.78         0.22         10         linear, moderate sides, flat base           1408         1409         14         Fill         Ditch         2         1         0.43         11         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1409         1409         14         Cut         Ditch         2         1         0.43         11         linear, moderate sides, flat base           1504         1505         15         Fill         Ditch         2         1         0.32         19         mid-greyish brown sandy silt	1405	1405	14	Cut	Ditch	2	0.9	0.15	9	•	
1408         1409         14         Fill         Ditch         2         1         0.43         11         mid-greyish brown sandy silt           1409         1409         14         Cut         Ditch         2         1         0.43         11         linear, moderate sides, flat base           1504         1505         15         Fill         Ditch         2         1         0.32         19         mid-greyish brown sandy silt	1406	1407	14	Fill	Ditch	2	0.78	0.22	10	mid-greyish brown sandy silt	
1409         1409         14         Cut         Ditch         2         1         0.43         11         linear, moderate sides, flat base           1504         1505         15         Fill         Ditch         2         1         0.32         19         mid-greyish brown sandy silt	1407	1407	14		Ditch	2	0.78	0.22	10		
1504 1505 15 Fill Ditch 2 1 0.32 19 mid-greyish brown sandy silt	1408	1409	14		Ditch		1	0.43			
	1409	1409	14	Cut	Ditch		1	0.43	11	linear, moderate sides, flat base	
1505   1505   15   Cut   Ditch   2   1   0.32   19   linear moderate sides flat base			15								
1000 1000 10 Out Ditori	1505	1505	15	Cut	Ditch	2	1	0.32	19	linear, moderate sides, flat base	

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Context No	Cut	Trench	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	% Section	Description	
1604	1605	16	Fill	Ditch	1	0.75	0.3	26	mid-orangey brown sandy silt	
1605	1605	16	Cut	Ditch	1	0.75	0.3	26	linear, moderate sides, concave base	
1606	1607	16	Fill	Ditch	1.6	1.5			mid-greyish brown sandy silt	
1607	1607	16	Cut	Ditch	1.6	1.5			linear, moderate sides, flat base	
1704	1705	17	Fill	Posthole	0.4	0.3	0.08	20	dark-greyish brown sandy silt	
1705	1705	17	Cut	Posthole	0.4	0.3	0.08	20	sub-circular, sloping sides, uneven base	
1706	1707	17	Fill	Posthole	0.35	0.3	0.17	21	mid-greyish brown sandy silt	
1707	1707	17	Cut	Posthole	0.35	0.3	0.17	21	sub-circular, sloping sides, uneven base	
1708	1709	17	Fill	Ditch	0	0			mid-greyish brown silt	
1709	1709	17	Cut	Ditch	0	0			linear not excavated	
1714	1715	17	Fill	Ditch	1	1.15	0.22	25	mid-greyish brown sandy silt	
1715	1715	17	Cut	Ditch	1	1.15	0.22	25	linear, moderate sides, flat base	
1804	1806	18	Fill	Treethrow	2	4.3	0.13	17	mid orange/yellow brown clayey sand	
1805	1806	18	Fill	Treethrow	2	4.3	0.2	17	loose dark greyish brown sandy silt	
1806	1806	18	Cut	Treethrow	2	4.3	0.28	17	shallow irregular base	
1807	1808	18	Fill	Natural/Glacial	1	0.86	0.15	18	light greyish yellow silty sand	
1808	1808	18	Cut	Natural/Glacial	1	0.86	0.15	18	curvilinear loped sides uneven base	
1904	1905	19	Fill	Pit	0.7	0.6	0.17	12	mid greyish-brown sandy silt	
1905	1905	19	Cut	Pit	0.7	0.6	0.17	12	mid greyish-brown sandy silt	
1906	1908	19	Fill	Treethrow	1.5	1.37	0.43	13	light brownish grey sandy silt	
1907	1908	19	Fill	Treethrow	1.5	1.37	0.43	13	light orangey brown sandy silt	
1908	1908	19	Cut	Treethrow	1.5	1.37	0.43	13	subcircular	
1909	1910	19	Fill	Pit	0.6	0.8	0.24	14	mid greyish-brown sandy silt	
1910	1910	19	Cut	Pit	0.6	0.8	0.24	14	subcircular steep sides concave base	
1911	1912	19	Fill	Ditch	1	1.08	0.36	15	mid greyish-brown sandy silt	
1912	1912	19	Cut	Ditch	1	1.08	0.36	15	linear, steep sides, concave base	
2004	2005	20	Fill	Ditch	0	0			Not excavated	
2005	2005	20	Cut	Ditch	0	0			Not excavated	
2006	2008	20	Fill	Ditch	1	0.75	0.22	8	mid-greyish-brown sandy silt	
2007	2008	20	Fill	Ditch	1	0.7	0.2	8	mid-greyish-brown sandy silt	
2008	2008	20	Cut	Ditch	1	1.01	0.29	8	linear, steep sides, flat base	
2009	2010	20	Fill	Ditch	1	0.33	0.08	7	mid-greyish-brown sandy silt	

Context No	Cut	Trench	Туре	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Section	Description
2010	2010	20	Cut	Ditch	1	0.33	0.08	7	dark greyish-brown
2011	2012	20	Fill	Ditch	1	0.86	0.16	6	mid-greyish-brown sandy silt
2012	2012	20	Cut	Ditch	1	0.86	0.16	6	linear steep sides flat base

# **APPENDIX 2: FLINT**

Table 1: Summary of lint assemblage by context

Context	Sample	Cat.	Type	No.
1002		flak	flake	1
1004		flak	flake	3
1004		flak	spall	2
1004		stfr	flake	1
1004		utbl	utilised blade	1
1004		utbl	utilised blade	2
1004		utfl	utilised flake	6
1004	1	burn	burnt fragment	8
1004	1	core	crested blade	1
1004	1	core	single platform blade core	1
1004	1	flak	blade-like flake	1
1004	1	flak	flake	5
1004	1	flak	spall	12
1004	1	retf	retouched flake	1
1406		corf	core trimming flake	1
1406		flak	flake	1
1408		flak	flake	1
1408		utfl	utilised flake	1
1604		core	multi platform blade core	1
1604		utfl	utilised flake	2
1606		utfl	utilised flake	1
1904		blad	blade	1
1909		flak	flake	1
2008		core	core/tool	1
2008			?scraper	1
2008		corf	core trimming flake	1
2008		flak	flake	1
2008		stfr	core fragment	1
2011		flak	flake	1

# **APPENDIX 3: ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE**

Table 1: Context information for environmental samples

Sample Number	1	2	3	4	5
Context Number	1004	1408	1805	108	1108
Feature Number	1005	1409	1806	105	1109
Volume of flot (mililitres)	40	32	84	42	18
Volume of residue (litres)	33	31	31	6	29
	FLOT RE	SIDUE:	-		
Charcoal					
Charcoal >4mm			2	2	2
Charcoal 2-4mm	3	3	4	4	3
Charcoal <2mm	4	4	4	4	4
Seeds					
Un-charred seeds			1		
Charred seed	1	1		1	
Cereals					
Chaff				1	
Charred cereal	1			3	
Indeterminate	1		2	4	
Other plant macrofossils					
Modern plant material	1	2	2	1	1
Roots/ tubers	2	3	3	1	1
Molluscs					
Terrestrial molluscs	1	1		3	
Broken shell				2	
Other remains					
Insect remains	2		1		
Vitrified material	1				
	HEAVY RE	ESIDUE:			
Charcoal					
Charcoal >4mm			3		2
Charcoal 2-4mm			3		2
Finds					
Animal Bone		1	3		1
Pottery		3		1	1
Struck Flint	2				
Burnt Flint	1				

Key: 1- Occasional, 2- fairly frequent, 3- frequent, 4- abundant.

54

# **APPENDIX 4: OASIS FORM**

22nd March 2021. The evaluation comprised 20no 30m x 2m evaluation trenches. The northeastern half of the site contained a single large Roman extraction pit. The southwestern half of the site contained two further large extraction pits, ditches, a small pit and three postholes probably dating to the Roman period. One of the Roman ditches contained enough pottery to indicate that the proposed development area included or was very close to an area of Roman settlement located to the south or west of the proposed development site. A small number of prehistoric features were also recorded.  Project dates  Start: 15-03-2021 End: 22-03-2021  Previous/future work  Any associated project  GYNW21 - Sitecode  GYNW21 - Sitecode  GYNW21 - Sitecode  Field evaluation  Monument type  DITCH Roman  Monument type  DITCH Roman  Monument type  QUARRY PIT Roman  Significant Finds  POT Roman  Significant Finds  POT Late Prehistoric  Methods & techniques  "Targeted Trenches"  Development type  Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.)  Prompt  Planning condition  Position in the planning condition  Position in the planning condition  Country  England  Site location  ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area  1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates  TL 7586 38:33 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth  Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	OASIS ID: preconst1-41	8158
Short description of the project  Pre-Construct Archaeology undertook an archaeological trial trench evaluation at on land at Nun's Walk, Great Yeldham between the 15th and 22nd March 2021. The evaluation comprised 20no 30m x 2m evaluation trenches. The northeastern half of the site contained a single large Roman extraction pits, ditches, a small pit and three postholes probably dating to the Roman period. One of the Roman ditches contained enough pottery to indicate that the proposed development area included or was very close to an area of Roman settlement located to the south or west of the proposed development site. A small number of prehistoric features were also recorded.  Project dates  Start: 15-03-2021 End: 22-03-2021  Previous/future work  Any associated project reference codes  Type of project Field evaluation  Monument type  DITCH Roman  Monument type  DITCH Roman  Monument type  DITCH Roman  Monument type  QUARRY PIT Roman  Significant Finds  POT Late Prehistoric  Methods & techniques  "Targeted Trenches"  Development type  Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.)  Prompt  Planning condition  Position in the planning process  Project location  Country  England  Site location  ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area  1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates  TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth  Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	Project details	
evaluation at on land at Nun's Walk, Great Yeldham between the 15th and 22nd March 2021. The evaluation comprised 20no 30m x 2m evaluation trenches. The northeastern half of the site contained a single large Roman extraction pit. The southwestern half of the site contained two further large extraction pits, ditches, a small pit and three postholes probably dating to the Roman period. One of the Roman ditches contained enough pottery to indicate that the proposed development area included or was very close to an area of Roman settlement located to the south or west of the proposed development site. A small number of prehistoric features were also recorded.  Project dates  Start: 15-03-2021 End: 22-03-2021  Previous/future work  Any associated project reference codes  Type of project  Field evaluation  Monument type  DITCH Roman  Monument type  DITCH Roman  Monument type  QUARRY PIT Roman  Significant Finds  POT Late Prehistoric  Methods & techniques  "Targeted Trenches"  Development type  Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.)  Prompt  Position in the planning process  Project location  Country  England  Site location  ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area  1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates  TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth  Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	Project name	Land at Nun's Walk, Great Yeldham Essex: Archaeological Evaluation
22nd March 2021. The evaluation comprised 20no 30m x 2m evaluation trenches. The northeastern half of the site contained a single large Roman extraction pit. The southwestern half of the site contained two further large extraction pits, ditches, a small pit and three postholes probably dating to the Roman period. One of the Roman ditches contained enough pottery to indicate that the proposed development area included or was very close to an area of Roman settlement located to the south or west of the proposed development site. A small number of prehistoric features were also recorded.  Project dates  Start: 15-03-2021 End: 22-03-2021  Previous/future work  Any associated project  GYNW21 - Sitecode  GYNW21 - Sitecode  GYNW21 - Sitecode  Field evaluation  Monument type  DITCH Roman  Monument type  DITCH Roman  Monument type  QUARRY PIT Roman  Significant Finds  POT Roman  Significant Finds  POT Late Prehistoric  Methods & techniques  "Targeted Trenches"  Development type  Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.)  Prompt  Planning condition  Position in the planning condition  Position in the planning condition  Country  England  Site location  ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area  1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates  TL 7586 38:33 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth  Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	Short description of the	Pre-Construct Archaeology undertook an archaeological trial trench
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extraction pits, ditches, a small pit and three postholes probably dating to the Roman period. One of the Roman ditches contained enough pottery to indicate that the proposed development area included or was very close to an area of Roman settlement located to the south or west of the proposed development site. A small number of prehistoric features were also recorded.  Project dates  Start: 15-03-2021 End: 22-03-2021  Previous/future work  Not known / Not known  Any associated project reference codes  Type of project  Field evaluation  Monument type  DITCH Roman  Monument type  DITCH Roman  Monument type  QUARRY PIT Roman  Significant Finds  POT Roman  Significant Finds  POT Late Prehistoric  Methods & techniques  "Targeted Trenches"  Development type  Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.)  Prompt  Planning condition  Position in the planning process  Project location  Country  England  Site location  ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area  1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates  TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth  Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m		trenches. The northeastern half of the site contained a single large Roman
the Roman period. One of the Roman ditches contained enough pottery to indicate that the proposed development area included or was very close to an area of Roman settlement located to the south or west of the proposed development site. A small number of prehistoric features were also recorded.  Project dates  Start: 15-03-2021 End: 22-03-2021  Previous/future work  Any associated project reference codes  Type of project  Field evaluation  Monument type  DIT Late Prehistoric  Monument type  DITCH Roman  Monument type  QUARRY PIT Roman  Significant Finds  POT Roman  Significant Finds  POT Late Prehistoric  Methods & techniques  "Targeted Trenches"  Development type  Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.)  Prompt  Position in the Not known / Not recorded  Poject location  Country  England  Site location  ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area  1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates  TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth  Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m		extraction pit. The southwestern half of the site contained two further large
indicate that the proposed development area included or was very close to an area of Roman settlement located to the south or west of the proposed development site. A small number of prehistoric features were also recorded.  Project dates Start: 15-03-2021 End: 22-03-2021  Previous/future work Not known / Not known  Any associated project reference codes  Type of project Field evaluation  Monument type PIT Late Prehistoric  Monument type DITCH Roman  Monument type QUARRY PIT Roman  Significant Finds POT Roman  Significant Finds POT Late Prehistoric  Methods & techniques "Targeted Trenches"  Development type Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.)  Prompt Planning condition  Position in the Not known / Not recorded  Site location ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area 1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m		extraction pits, ditches, a small pit and three postholes probably dating to
an area of Roman settlement located to the south or west of the proposed development site. A small number of prehistoric features were also recorded.  Project dates Start: 15-03-2021 End: 22-03-2021  Previous/future work Not known / Not known  Any associated project reference codes  Type of project Field evaluation  Monument type PIT Late Prehistoric  Monument type QUARRY PIT Roman  Monument type QUARRY PIT Roman  Significant Finds POT Late Prehistoric  Methods & techniques "Targeted Trenches"  Development type Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.)  Prompt Planning condition  Position in the Not known / Not recorded  planning process  Project location  Country England  Site location ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area 1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m		the Roman period. One of the Roman ditches contained enough pottery to
development site. A small number of prehistoric features were also recorded.  Project dates Start: 15-03-2021 End: 22-03-2021  Previous/future work Not known / Not known Any associated project reference codes  Type of project Field evaluation  Monument type PIT Late Prehistoric  Monument type DITCH Roman Monument type QUARRY PIT Roman Significant Finds POT Roman  Significant Finds POT Late Prehistoric  Methods & techniques "Targeted Trenches"  Development type Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.)  Prompt Planning condition Position in the planning process  Project location  Country England Site location ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area 1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point Height OD / Depth Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m		indicate that the proposed development area included or was very close to
recorded.  Project dates Start: 15-03-2021 End: 22-03-2021  Previous/future work Not known / Not known  Any associated project reference codes  Type of project Field evaluation  Monument type PIT Late Prehistoric  Monument type DITCH Roman  Monument type QUARRY PIT Roman  Significant Finds POT Roman  Significant Finds POT Late Prehistoric  Methods & techniques "Targeted Trenches"  Development type Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.)  Prompt Planning condition  Position in the planning process  Project location  Country England  Site location ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area 1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m		an area of Roman settlement located to the south or west of the proposed
Project dates Start: 15-03-2021 End: 22-03-2021  Previous/future work Not known / Not known  Any associated project reference codes  Type of project Field evaluation  Monument type PIT Late Prehistoric  Monument type DITCH Roman  Monument type QUARRY PIT Roman  Significant Finds POT Roman  Significant Finds POT Late Prehistoric  Methods & techniques "Targeted Trenches"  Development type Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.)  Prompt Planning condition  Position in the planning process  Project location  Country England  Site location ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area 1.85 Hectares  TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m		development site. A small number of prehistoric features were also
Previous/future work Any associated project reference codes Type of project Field evaluation  Monument type PIT Late Prehistoric  Monument type DITCH Roman  Monument type QUARRY PIT Roman  Significant Finds POT Roman  Significant Finds POT Late Prehistoric  Methods & techniques "Targeted Trenches"  Development type Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.)  Prompt Planning condition  Position in the planning process  Project location  Country England  Site location ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area 1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates Tite 75.22m Max: 58.21m		recorded.
Any associated project reference codes  Type of project Field evaluation  Monument type PIT Late Prehistoric  Monument type DITCH Roman  Monument type QUARRY PIT Roman  Significant Finds POT Late Prehistoric  Methods & techniques "Targeted Trenches"  Development type Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.)  Prompt Planning condition  Position in the planning process  Project location  Country England  Site location ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area 1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	Project dates	Start: 15-03-2021 End: 22-03-2021
reference codes Type of project Field evaluation Monument type PIT Late Prehistoric Monument type DITCH Roman Monument type QUARRY PIT Roman Significant Finds POT Roman Significant Finds POT Late Prehistoric Methods & techniques "Targeted Trenches" Development type Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.) Prompt Planning condition Position in the planning process Project location Country England Site location ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk Study area 1.85 Hectares Site coordinates TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point Height OD / Depth Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Type of project Field evaluation  Monument type PIT Late Prehistoric  Monument type DITCH Roman  Monument type QUARRY PIT Roman  Significant Finds POT Roman  Significant Finds POT Late Prehistoric  Methods & techniques "Targeted Trenches"  Development type Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.)  Prompt Planning condition  Position in the planning process  Project location  Country England  Site location ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area 1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	Any associated project	GYNW21 - Sitecode
Monument type DITCH Roman  Monument type QUARRY PIT Roman  Significant Finds POT Roman  Significant Finds POT Late Prehistoric  Methods & techniques "Targeted Trenches"  Development type Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.)  Prompt Planning condition  Position in the planning process  Project location  Country England  Site location ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area 1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	reference codes	
Monument type DITCH Roman  Monument type QUARRY PIT Roman  Significant Finds POT Late Prehistoric  Methods & techniques "Targeted Trenches"  Development type Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.)  Prompt Planning condition  Position in the planning process  Project location  Country England  Site location ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area 1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	Type of project	Field evaluation
Monument type QUARRY PIT Roman  Significant Finds POT Roman  Significant Finds POT Late Prehistoric  Methods & techniques "Targeted Trenches"  Development type Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.)  Prompt Planning condition  Position in the planning process  Project location  Country England  Site location ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area 1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	Monument type	PIT Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds POT Roman  Significant Finds POT Late Prehistoric  Methods & techniques "Targeted Trenches"  Development type Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.)  Prompt Planning condition  Position in the planning process  Project location  Country England  Site location ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area 1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	Monument type	DITCH Roman
Significant Finds POT Late Prehistoric  Methods & techniques "Targeted Trenches"  Development type Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.)  Prompt Planning condition  Position in the planning process  Project location  Country England  Site location ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area 1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	Monument type	QUARRY PIT Roman
Methods & techniques "Targeted Trenches"  Development type Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.)  Prompt Planning condition  Position in the planning process  Project location  Country England  Site location ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area 1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	Significant Finds	POT Roman
Development type Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.)  Prompt Planning condition  Position in the planning process  Project location  Country England  Site location ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area 1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	Significant Finds	POT Late Prehistoric
Prompt Planning condition  Position in the planning process  Project location  Country England  Site location ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area 1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Position in the planning process  Project location  Country England  Site location ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area 1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	Development type	Urban residential (e.g., flats, houses, etc.)
Project location  Country England Site location ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area 1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	Prompt	Planning condition
Project location  Country England  Site location ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk  Study area 1.85 Hectares  Site coordinates TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point  Height OD / Depth Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	Position in the	Not known / Not recorded
Country         England           Site location         ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk           Study area         1.85 Hectares           Site coordinates         TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point           Height OD / Depth         Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	planning process	
Site location         ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk           Study area         1.85 Hectares           Site coordinates         TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point           Height OD / Depth         Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	Project location	
Study area       1.85 Hectares         Site coordinates       TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E Point         Height OD / Depth       Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	Country	England
Site coordinates       TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E         Point       Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	Site location	ESSEX BRAINTREE GREAT YELDHAM Nun's Walk
Point Height OD / Depth Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	Study area	1.85 Hectares
Height OD / Depth Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m	Site coordinates	TL 7586 3833 52.015011065529 0.562983859106 52 00 54 N 000 33 46 E
		Point
Desired exectors	Height OD / Depth	Min: 52.2m Max: 58.21m
Project creators	Project creators	

Name of Organisation	PCA
Project brief originator	Place Services
Project design	RPS
originator	
Project	Simon Carlyle
director/manager	
Project supervisor	Alexander Pullen
Type of	Developer
sponsor/funding body	
Project archives	
Physical Archive	Braintree District Museum
recipient	
Physical Contents	"Ceramics", "Environmental", "Animal Bones"
Digital Archive	Braintree District Museum
recipient	
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Database","GIS","Survey"
Paper Archive	Braintree District Museum
recipient	
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Photograph","Report","Section"
Project bibliography	
	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Publication type	
Title	Land at Nun's Walk, Great Yeldham, Essex: Archaeological Evaluation
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