

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

Whitton Church Lane (Recreation Ground) WHI 014

A REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION, 2008
(Planning app. no. 1362/05/FUL)



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HER information

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Summary

Whitton, Whitton Church Lane Recreation Ground (TM/1448; WHI 014). During November and December 2008 a trenched evaluation at the site of a proposed new recreation ground revealed two main concentrations of archaeological features.

The most significant of these was concealed beneath a thick hillwash layer within a pronounced headland between the two existing fields of the site. Here archaeological features of mainly Iron Age to Roman date were encountered. Ditches on a variety of alignments, Iron Age and Roman pits and undated post-holes were revealed. Nearby probable Bronze Age remains consisting of a spread of burnt flint were deeply buried under colluvial deposits filling in an ancient channel or hollow. Down slope from the main concentration of features were undated waterlogged deposits, probably associated with a spring line running along the slope of the hill; these could represent earlier ponds.

In a second area of interest ditches and other features were uncovered. Some of these were undated but a group of ditches, pits and a finds spread over a deep hillwash layer indicate a Late Iron Age / Early Roman date.

A previous fieldwalking and metal detector survey (September 2008) revealed a general scatter of prehistoric worked flint, Roman pottery in the vicinity of the first main area of features and a thin spread of medieval and later finds across the whole area, probably associated with manuring of fields. Two metal finds of particular note include a possible Roman drinking bowl (*patera*) handle made of bronze coated with a white metal and a gold guinea of George III dated 1782. (Jezz Meredith, S.C.C.A.S, for Merchant Projects; report no. 2009/076)

Acknowledgements

This project was commissioned by Merchant Projects, managed by Dr. Rhodri Gardner and monitored by Dr. Jess Tipper. The initial metal detector and fieldwalking survey was led by Roy Damant with the help of Alan Smith and Terry Marsh. The field evaluation was supervised by Jezz Meredith and the following field staff were present at various times: Duncan Alan, Tim Browne, Phil Camps, Roy Damant and Holly Stacey. Sabra Hennessey conducted the GPS survey of trenches and features, with final mapping achieved with the help of Andy Beverton and Liz Muldowney. Finds were processed by Gemma Adams and Rebekah Pressler and the Finds report was compiled by Cathy Tester with additional specialist identification and advice from Andrew Brown, Edward Martin and Colin Pendleton. Richenda Goffin and Val Fryer produced specialist sections within the finds report. Richenda Goffin also commented on an earlier draft of this report.

Dates and terminology used in text and appendices

Prehistoric	Before the Roman conquest, e.g. before AD 43
Later Prehistoric	Neolithic to Iron Age, e.g. 4500 BC to AD 43
Mesolithic	8,000 – 4,500 BC
Neolithic	4,500 – 2,500 BC
Bronze Age	2,500 – 800 BC
Early Bronze Age	2,500 – 1,500 BC
Late Bronze Age	1,500 – 800 BC
Iron Age	800 BC – AD 43
Early Iron Age	800 – 500 BC
Middle Iron Age	500 – 100 BC
Late Iron Age	100 BC – AD 43
Roman	AD 43 – 410
Saxon	AD 410 – 1066
Medieval	AD 1066 – 1550
Post-medieval	AD 1550 – 1900
Modern	AD 1900 – present

1. Introduction

The Planning Authority (Mid Suffolk District Council) was advised by the Conservation Team of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS) that the archaeological potential of the site should be assessed as a condition of planning consent. The site has been proposed for the construction of new football pitches and associated facilities to the north of Whitton Sports Centre, Whitton Church Lane, Whitton, Suffolk (TM 1450 4804).

Two initial phases of archaeological investigation were proposed. During the first phase, September 2008, metal detector and field walking surveys were undertaken. This was followed in November and December by an evaluation of the c.6.75 ha area and a 5% sample by trial trenching (c.1,875m) as required in the Brief and Specification issued by Dr Jess Tipper of the SCCAS Conservation Team (Appendix 1).



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Figure 1. Location of site WHI 014

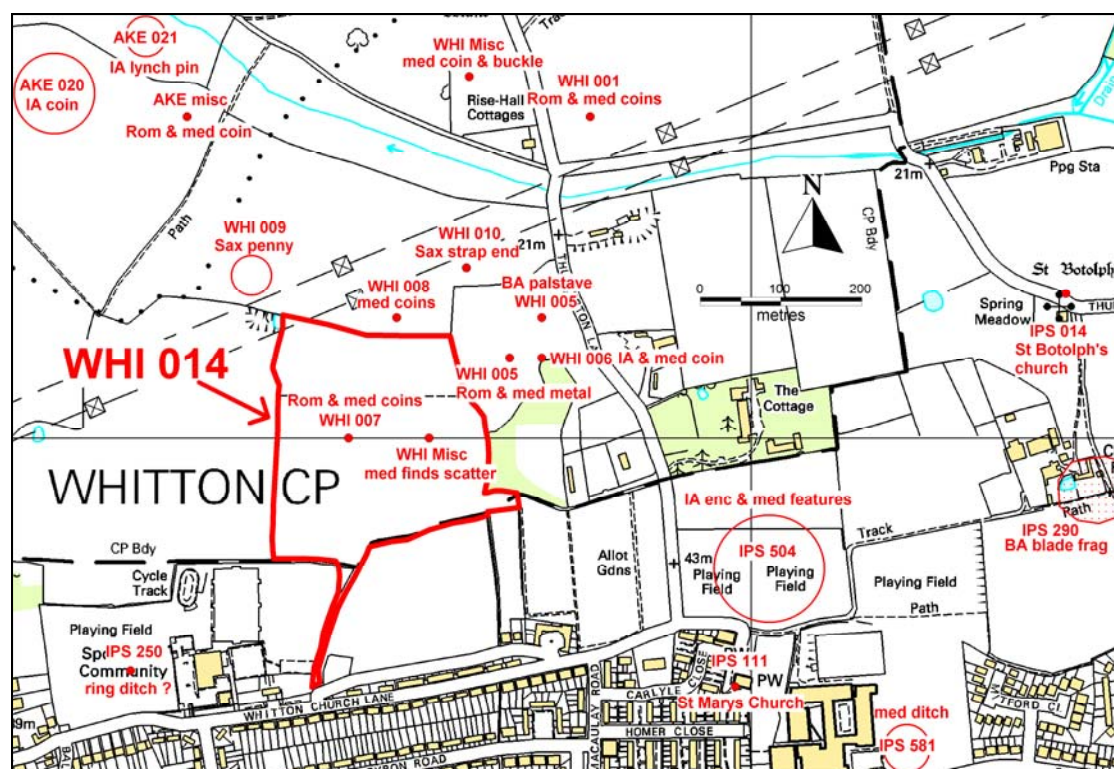
1.1 Location, topography and geology

The site occupies two fields to the north of Whitton Church Lane on the northern edge of Ipswich (Figs.1 & 2). The more southerly of the two fields was larger and was generally flat with a slight north-facing slope (between c.42 and c.38m O.D.). This field has been ploughed and the field walking survey was conducted here. The smaller field to the north had been left fallow, was very wet in places and had a much steeper north-facing gradient (between c.38 and c.29m O.D.).

Interestingly, towards the west of the site, there was a very pronounced drop between the south and the north fields; in some places this was nearly 1.5m. This feature was probably due partly to the accumulation of ploughsoil downslope resulting in a prominent headland between the two fields, but other processes might have been involved and would benefit from investigation.

The obvious north-facing slope of the north field led down towards the valley of an east to west flowing stream; a tributary of the River Gipping. From the elevated position of the site there were uninterrupted views north-westwards along the Gipping Valley towards Great Blakenham.

Subsequent trenching of the site revealed a considerable diversity in the drift geology of the underlying natural deposits (hereafter referred to as the 'natural'). Except for an east to west strip across the north, the majority of the southern field was over heavy mixed sandy clay deposits. Along the boundary between the north and south fields were well-drained sand and gravel deposits. To the north of this area, running down the steep slope, the heavier sandy clay deposits were encountered again. It was within this area that the ground was very wet, in some places waterlogged, and it is likely that a spring line exists here.



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Figure 2. Site WHI 014 with surrounding areas of archaeological interest as recorded in the Historic Environment Record (HER) for Suffolk

1.2 Archaeological and historical background

The site is surrounded by a dense concentration of archaeological sites and finds spots (Fig. 2). Many of these are also located on prominent locations close to the 40m contour. A ring ditch (IPS 250), of probable Early Bronze Age date, is located c.250m to the south-west and Bronze Age metal fragments are known from c.100m to the north-east (WHI 005) and c.700m to the east (IPS 290). A large Iron Age enclosure has been excavated c.300m to the south-east (IPS 504), an Iron Age coin recovered c.100m to the east (WHI 006) and a coin and a lynch pin of similar age were found c.400m to the north-west (AKE 020 and 021 respectively).

Roman finds have also been found in the area. Roman coins have been recovered from within the site area itself (WHI 007), c.60m to the east (WHI 005), c.350m to the north-east (WHI 001) and c.300m to the north-west (AKE misc).

Some Saxon findspots have been located to the north of the site with a Saxon penny (WHI 009) c.70m to the north-west and a strap end (WHI 010) c.100m to the north. With probable Saxon origins, two medieval churches are in the vicinity. Saint Mary's of Whitton is c.400m to the south-east and the ruined church of Saint Botolph is c.800m to the east.

Other medieval finds include coins and a finds scatter on the site itself (WHI 007 and WHI misc respectively), nearby metalwork found c.70m to the east and a coin c.100m also to the east (WHI 005 and 006). Other medieval coins were found c.20m to the north (WHI 008) and further medieval findspots were found in an arc of c.300m to the north of the site (WHI 001, WHI misc and AKE misc). Medieval features were encountered during excavations c.400m and c.600m to the south-east (IPS 504 and 581 respectively). Post built structures and other probable settlement evidence were uncovered at IPS 504.

The density of find spots within the vicinity indicates the high degree of reporting of finds by metal detectorists and fieldwalking enthusiasts within the area. It is a great benefit to the archaeological community that so many of these finds have been reported to the Suffolk Historical Environment Record.

2. Method

2.1 Fieldwalking and metal detector survey

During the 18th and 19th of September 2008 the site was fieldwalked and metal detected. Only the larger southern field could be walked as this had been ploughed, the northern field was under grass and thus could not be walked and metal detecting was very limited. The southern field had recently been ploughed, had been rained on and weather conditions were good for optimal finds recovery.

The larger southern field was divided into approximately 50m squares and numbered 0001-0019 (Fig. 3a). The field was walked and metal detected across north to south transects at 5m intervals. Bulk finds were collected and assigned to their 50m square whereas metal finds had their location recorded and were given a Small Find number (1001-1006). The location of squares and metal finds are recorded on Figure 3a.

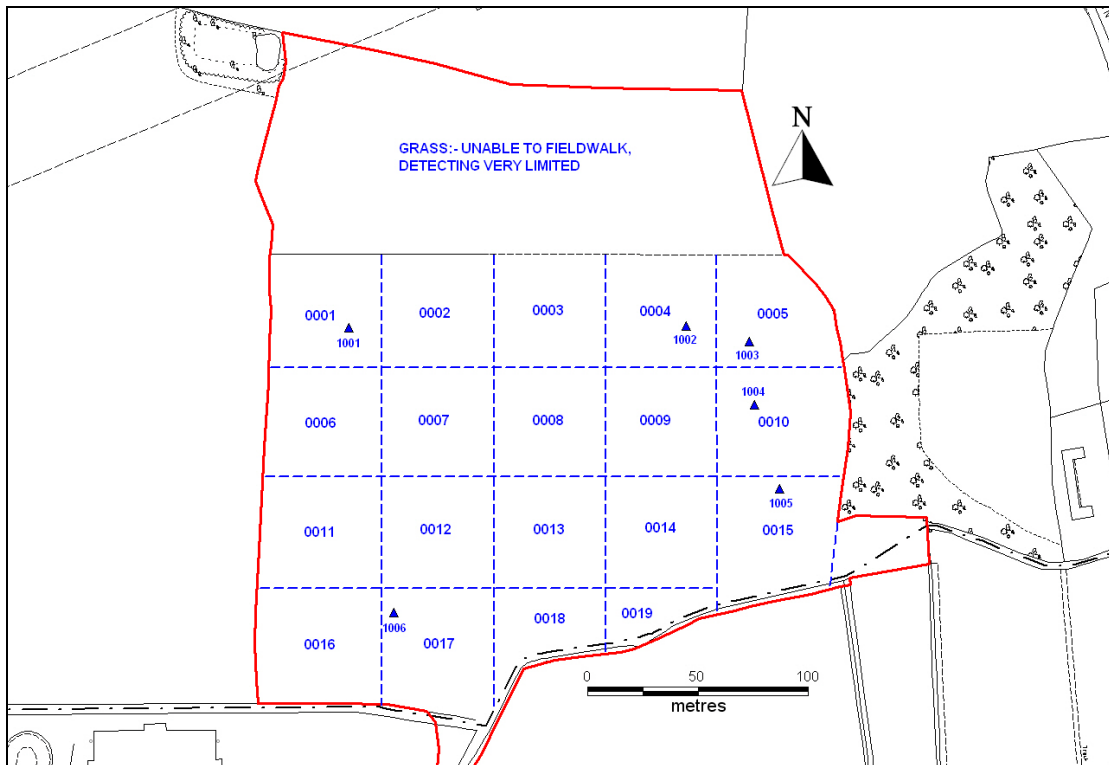
2.2 Trial trench evaluation

Trenching was undertaken using a 360° mechanical digger equipped with a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket. In total 58 trenches were positioned across the site to sample all areas of the proposed new sports ground (Fig. 3b), equivalent to 1,838m of trench or 3,308m² of excavation area.

Care was taken to avoid trenching across footpaths (e.g. a path crossed the southern field diagonally), known services (a water main ran within the boundary between the two fields and a gas main crossed the northern field) and overhead cables (the south-eastern corner of the site could not be accessed due to low wires).

During the evaluation, all machining was observed by an archaeologist standing adjacent to or within the trench. The upcast soil was checked visually for any archaeological finds. Features of archaeological significance observed in the base of the trench were planned and levelled using GPS survey equipment. Trenches of particular complexity were planned at 1:50 or 1:20. All features had their deposits described and sampled for finds and drawn in section and plan at a scale of 1:20. Pits and post-holes were half-sectioned, linear features had a minimum 1m wide slot taken through their fills. A digital photographic record was made of features and trenches in JPG format (at 72dpi resolution). Records were made of the position, length and depth of trenches. Observations were made of the depth of any overlying layers encountered and of the underlying natural geological deposits. Such trench information was recorded on 'Trial Trench Record' sheets.

Prior to this fieldwork being undertaken there had been a period of very heavy rainfall. This had led to the clay-rich soils of the site being very highly saturated resulting in frequent collapsing of the sides of the deeper trenches. As the site was open to the public with footpaths crossing the southern field, deep trenches without archaeological features were backfilled as soon as possible.



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Figure 3a. Location of fieldwalked squares 0001-0019 and of metal detector finds (blue triangles 1001-1006)



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Figure 3b. Location of all evaluation trenches, trenches indicated by a single red line were empty of archaeological features

The site is identified by the site code WHI 014, as assigned by the Suffolk Historic Environment Record. The stratigraphic components of all features were allocated 'observable phenomena' (OP) numbers (referred to as context numbers hereafter) within a continuous numbering system starting at 0101 (numbers 0001 – 0019 were allocated during the preceding metal detector survey). Usually the cut number allocated to a feature has been used as the feature number for descriptive purposes. Small finds were given a separate sequence of numbers between 1101 and 1104.

Bulk samples were taken from the fills of undisturbed pits and post-holes. Fills of ditches with obvious burnt material present were also sampled. Bulk samples were processed by flotation and analysed by Val Fryer. Finds were collected by context and examined by SCCAS finds staff under the direction of Richenda Goffin. Cathy Tester wrote and compiled the finds section in this report (section 4).

The archive will be located within the offices of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service. The finds archive will be kept in Bury St Edmunds and the rest of the site archive will be deposited in Ipswich. The site code WHI 014 will be used to identify all elements of the archive associated with this project.



Plate 2. The Iron Age pit 0204 in Trench 6; looking east; scale = 300mm

3. Results

3.1 Fieldwalking and metal detector surveys

Fieldwalking (Fig. 3a)

In total 25 bulk find artefacts were recovered (Appendix 3.1). Worked flint was the largest group with 16 items recorded. All fieldwalking squares (Fig. 3a), except 0003, 0012 and 0017, revealed at least one flint artefact. Squares 0008 and 0014 yielded two flints and 0010 had three examples of worked flint. No real concentrations of flint could be detected but a low level and sparse prehistoric presence was likely; also indicated by single pieces of burnt flint found in squares 0003 and 0005.

Single sherds of Roman pottery were found in squares 0002 and 0003. Roman features were subsequently found in the vicinity of these finds during trial trenching.

Medieval or post-medieval tile was found in square 0001 and a single sherd of post-medieval pottery came from square 0002. It is likely that the small amount of post-Roman material recovered from the topsoil probably originated from manuring.

Metal detecting (Fig. 3a)

Six metal items (SF 1001-1006) were recovered and their positions are plotted on Fig. 3a. A detailed description of each artefact is given in section 4.5 of the finds report.

3.2 Trial trench evaluation

Features encountered will be discussed below by trench. A full context description for all deposits is in Appendix 2. Trench locations are shown on Fig. 3b and feature sections on Figs. 9 and 10.

Unstratified finds from across the site were allocated the number 0101. Topsoil deposits across the whole site were given the single number 0102 and 'subsoil' layers between topsoil and natural were given the generic number 0103, although variation in character (often dependent on whether it was derived from underlying sand or clay) was recorded in the Trial-Trenching Record sheets. Other layers, associated finds or unstratified finds allocated to a particular trench were given numbers 0104 to 0130. Numbers 0200 to 0311 were used mainly for features.

Table 1 summarises information on trench orientation, length, height, thickness of topsoil and subsoil, characterisation of underlying natural deposits and notes on features and other deposits of interest. For many of the trenches 'heights' (given as metres above Ordnance Datum) have been recorded for the top of 'natural' (e.g. undisturbed geological deposits) and/or the level at which archaeologically interesting features or deposits have been encountered.

Many trenches revealed nothing of archaeological interest; only those containing archaeological features will be discussed in any detail in the following section. Two main areas of archaeological activity have been identified. Area 1, located slightly north of centre across the site, straddles the north and south fields and has Trenches 2 to 4 at its centre (Fig. 4). Area 2 is located towards the south-east corner of the site between Trenches 22 and 24 (Fig. 8a).

Trench no.	Orient-ation	Length (m)	Height of nat. (m OD)	Topsoil (mm)	Subsoil (mm)	Natural	Features & notes
1	E-W	30	E: 37.3 W: 37.9	E: 450 W: 300	200	CS	Roman ditch
2	E-W	42	E: 37.6 W: 37.0	400	150-200	CS	Ditches & Roman pit. Layers under subsoil
3	E-W	33	E: 36.8 W: 36.2	300-350	350	S	Ditches & pit
4	E-W	35	E: 35.9 W: 36.6	300-350	300-350	S	Ditches, pit and Bronze Age deposits
5	E-W	35	E: 36.9 W: n/a	550	none	S	Ditch & pit
6	E-W	32	E: 37.2 W: 36.0	450	none	S	Iron Age pits, post-holes & ditches
7	E-W	35	E: 34.9 W: 34.3	550	none	S	Dark wet layers at both ends
8	E-W	35	n/a	600	E: none W: 200	S	Dark layer, peaty to E
9	N-S	35	n/a	350	350	S	Layer S end
10	N-S	30	n/a	350	none	S	
11	E-W	20	n/a	350	none	CS	
12	NW-SE	35	n/a	300	none	SC	
13	E-W	35	n/a	300-350	E: 100 W: none	SC	
14	E-W	30	n/a	400	200	S	
15	N-S	30	N: 33.0 S: 34.9	350-400	200	S	Pit
16	NE-SW	25	n/a	300-350	300	S	
17	NE-SW	46	n/a	350	100	N: SC S: S	
18	N-S	30	n/a	N: 300 S: 400	N: none S: 100	N: C S: S	Dark peaty layer S end
19	N-S	30	n/a	N: 300 S: 400	none	N: SC S: CS	Dark peaty layer S end
20	N-S	30	n/a	300-400	100	N: C S: S	
21	N-S	30	n/a	400-450	none	S	
22	NW-SE	33	NW: 35.5 SE: 37.1	300-350	150-200	S	Ditches at NW end

Trench no.	Orient-ation	Length (m)	Height of nat. (m OD)	Topsoil (mm)	Subsoil (mm)	Natural	Features & notes
23	N-S	37	N: 37.1 S: 37.8	300	250	S	
24	NE-SW	37	NE: 38.0 SW: 38.7	400	200	CS	Ditches & pit, darker hillwash layer to SW end. IA - Rom finds
25	NE-SW	34	NE: 39.5 SW: 41	N: 400 S: 350	N: 200 S: 50	SC	
26	E-W	33	n/a	250-300	100-150	C	
27	NE-SW	29	NE: 36.7 SW: 37.8	300	150	S	
28	E-W	30	E: 37.5 W: 38.6	300	100	S	Ditch at E end
29	NE-SW	28	NE: 39.0 SW: 39.5	300	100	SC	
30	E-W	30	E: 38.2 W: 39.4	300-350	100	SC	Two ditches with prehistoric and LIA / Rom finds
31	NW-SE	35	n/a	400	100-150	SC	Deep hillwash layer at SE end
32	NE-SW	30	n/a	350	none	SC	
33	NE-SW	25	n/a	300	50-100	SC	
34	NE-SW	40	n/a	300	50-100	SC	
35	E-W	32	E: 40.3 W: 40.7	300	100	C	Unstrat IA finds
36	NE-SW	28	NE: 37.3 SW: 38.4	300-350	200	N: S S: CS	
37	N-S	28	N: 38.2 S: 38.9	350	150	SC	
38	NE-SW	30	NE: 39.2 SW: 39.9	400	200	CS	
39	E-W	32	E: 38.9 W: 28.8	350	100-150	C	
40	N-S	31	N: 37.3 S: 38.6	N: 350 S: 300	N: 200 S: 100	N: S S: SC	Layer under subsoil at N end
41	E-W	32	E: 39.3 W: 39.0	350-400	none	SC	Post med ditch
42	N-S	30	N: 39.5 S: 40.5	300	100	CS	Two ditches on different alignments, one Roman
43	E-W	33	n/a	400	150-200	CS	
44	N-S	30	n/a	300	100-150	CS	
45	E-W	28	n/a	300	150	CS	
46	N-S	33	n/a	300	50	SC	
47	E-W	32	n/a	300	100	SC	
48	E-W	35	n/a	300	100	SC	
49	E-W	31	E: 41.6 W: 41.7	300	100	SC	

Trench no.	Orient-ation	Length (m)	Height of nat. (m OD)	Topsoil (mm)	Subsoil (mm)	Natural	Features & notes
50	N-S	28	N: 41.7 S: 41.9	300	100	SC	
51	N-S	31	N: 40.7 S: n/a	350	none	SC	
52	E-W	29	E: 40.5 W: 40.5	300	150	SC	
53	N-S	29	N: 40.7 S: 41.4	300	50-100	SC	
54	N-S	31	N: 37.0 S: 38.5	N:450 S: 400	100	N: S S: SC	
55	N-S	31	N: 39.2 S: 40.1	400	100-150	SC	Prehistoric pit at N end.
56	E-W	30	n/a	350	100	SC	
57	N-S	30	N: 36.4 S: 38.0	400	200	SC	Series of hillwash layers at N end cut by LIA/Rom ditch
58	N-S	30	n/a	350	100-150	SC	

Table 1. Summary of trench descriptions.

The following abbreviations have been used to describe underlying natural geological deposits: sand / sand & gravel (**S**); clay sand (**CS**); sandy clay (**SC**); clay (**C**)

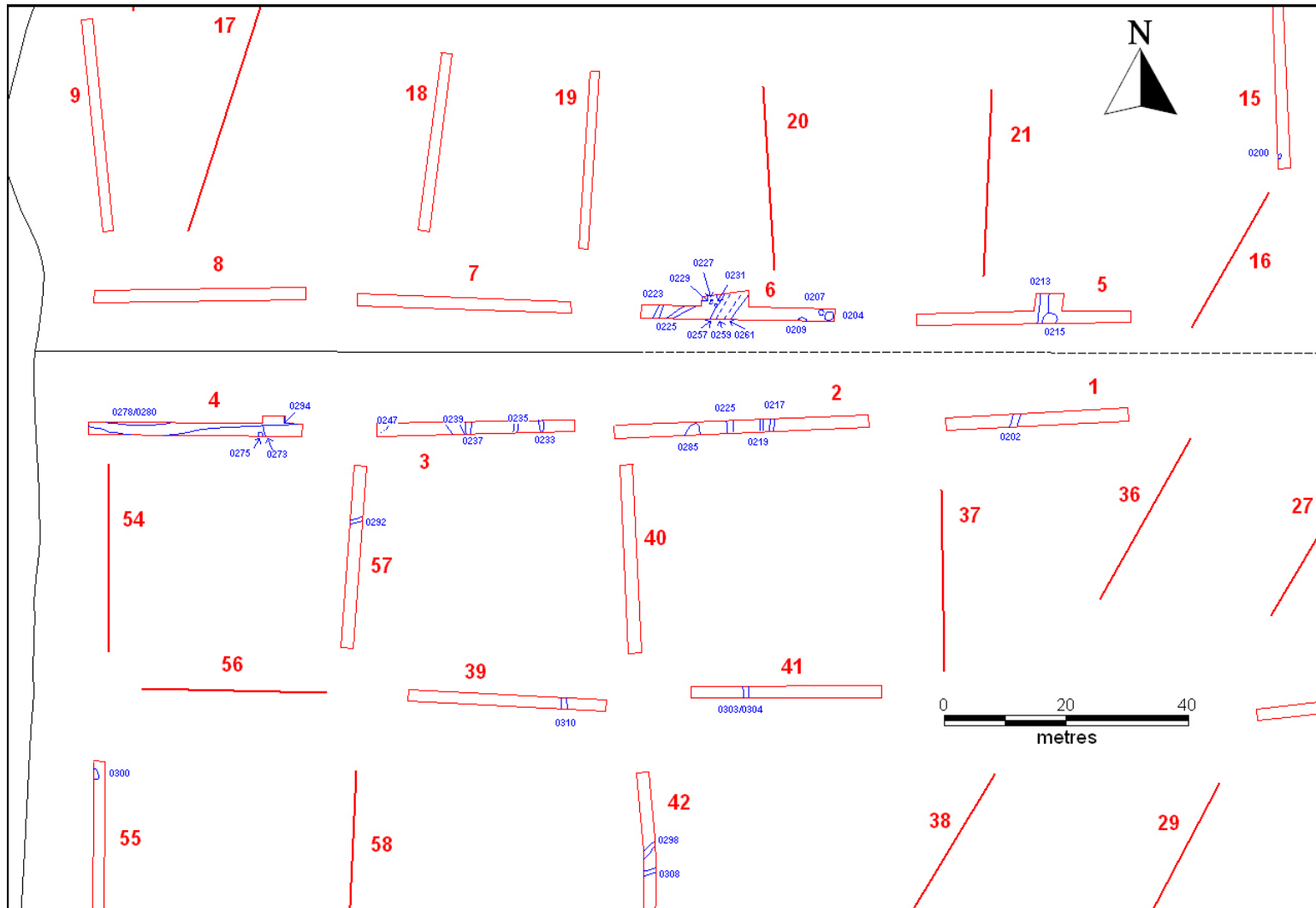


Figure 4. Area 1 plan of trenches showing cut features

3.3 Area 1

Trenches within this area will be described in groups (Figs. 5 to 7). Figure 4 should be consulted to locate trenches and features across the whole of Area 1.

3.3.1 Trenches 1, 2, 5, 6, 15 & 40 (Figs. 5a & 5b)

Trench 1 (Fig. 5a)

This trench had a thick deposit of both top and subsoil, covering north-north-east to south-south-west running ditch 0202, with an open v-shaped profile, a width of 1.2m and a depth of 350mm. Fill 0203 was mid brown silty and clay sand and contained Roman pottery (Fig. 9).

Trench 2 (Fig. 5b)

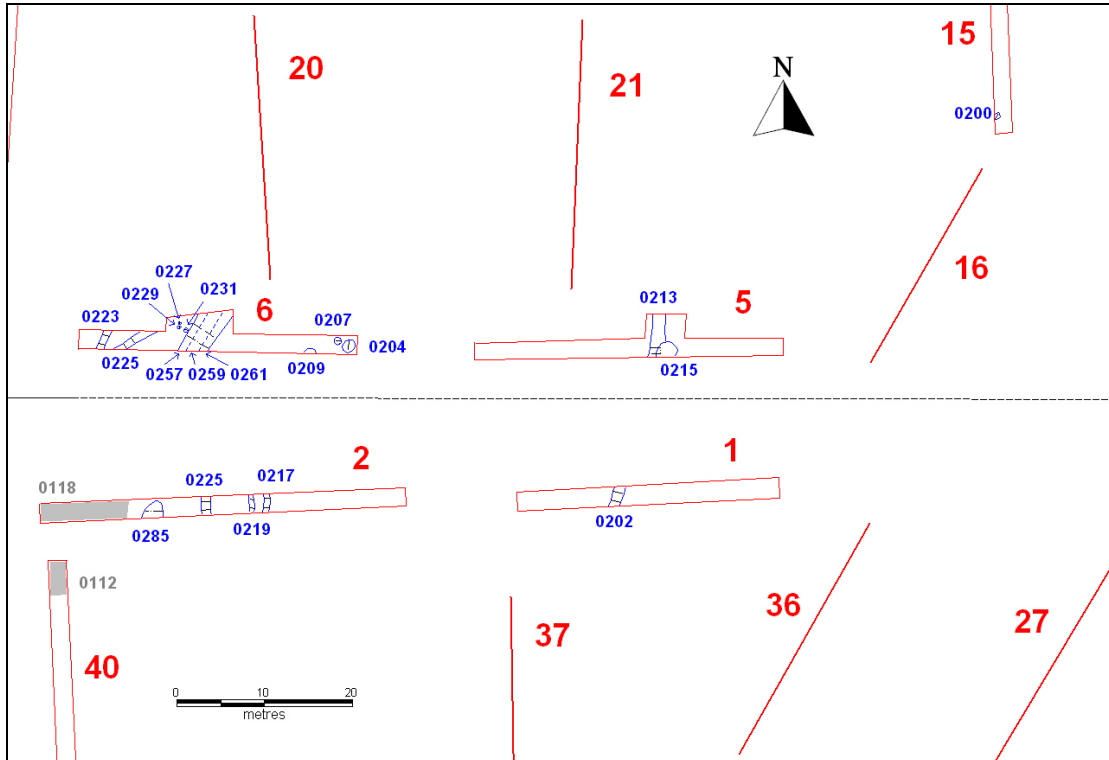
Trench 2 had deep layers under subsoil 0103 at its western end. Stretching for approximately 10m into the trench, the upper layer 0117 was 180mm thick and blended into the underlying 0118 which was 330mm in thickness. These layers appear to fill a possible north to south channel running towards Trenches 7 and 19. Small Find 1101, a small iron nail or stud of probable Roman date, was recovered from the lower layer 0118. Both layers consisted of silty fine sands and are likely to be of colluvial (hillwash) origin (see similar deposits in Trench 40).

Ditch 0217 ran north to south and was very slightly concave to the west. It had a shallow, open profile with a width of 600mm and a depth of 180mm. The fill 0218 was mid to dark brown silty sand without any finds (Fig. 9).

Ditch 0219 was located 1m to the west, with a similar orientation to 0217 and also with a slight curve to the west. With straight sides and a narrow rounded base, its width was 600mm and its depth 200mm. Fill 0220 was similar to fill 0218 and contained no finds (Fig.9).

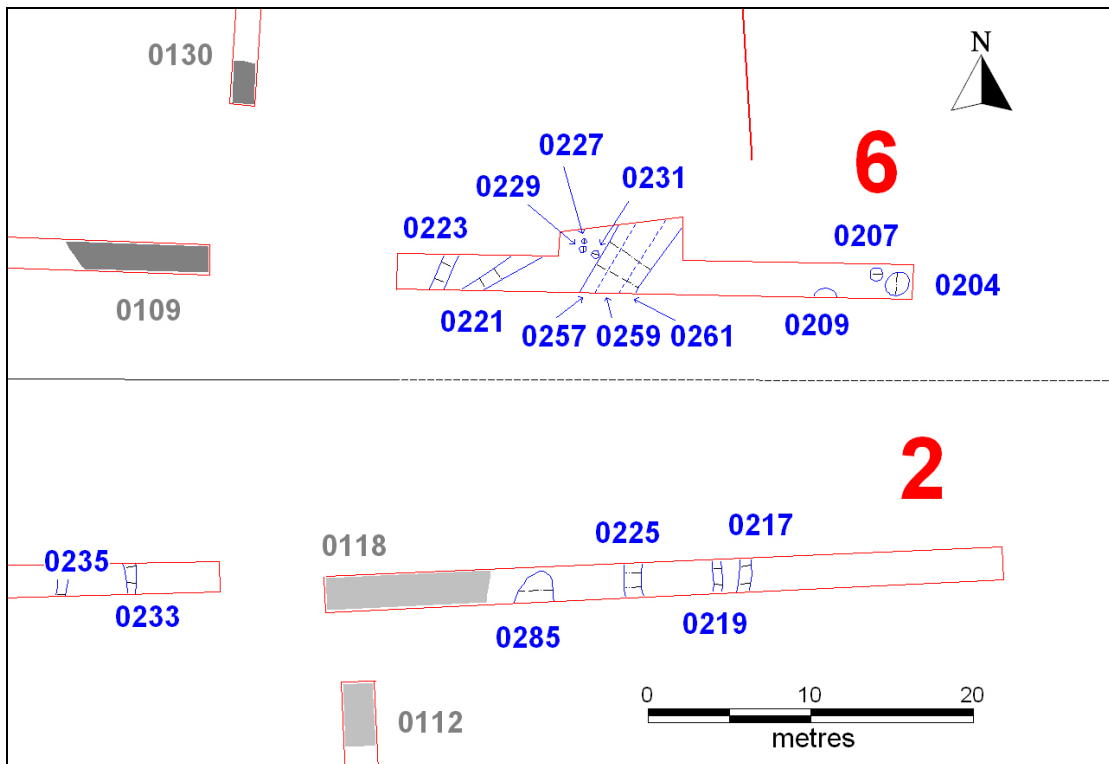
Ditch 0225 was located c.4.5m further to the west. This was also aligned north to south but with a slight eastern curve and had an open u-shaped profile and rounded base of 300mm width and 160mm depth. Fill 0226 was mottled mid brown grey silty sand (Fig.9).

A large pit (or possibly the terminal of a ditch) 0285 was partly revealed within the trench 4.5m to the west of ditch 0225 and c.3m to the east of layer 0118. Probably extending considerably to the south, where excavated it appeared to have steep, almost vertical sides in places (possibly indicating a revetment?), an undulating base and a width of at least 2m and a depth of 1.1m (Plate 3, Fig.10). It contained a series of mid to dark brown silty sand fills (0286 to 0289) with Roman pottery and an iron nail (Small Find 1102) from the slightly stonier top fill 0286. Small Find 1104, an iron fitting, came from basal fill 0289. Sample 9 from fill 0289 contained charred wheat grains, bone fragments and small pellets of fired clay.



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Figure 5a. Features and significant deposits in Trenches 1, 2, 40, 5, 6 & 15 (cut features – blue; deep deposits – pale grey; wet deposits – dark grey)



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Figure 5b. Detail of Trenches 2 & 6 (cut features – blue; deep deposits – pale grey; wet deposits – dark grey)

Trench 5 (Fig. 5a)

This east to west trench was extended to the north to reveal the relationship between features 0213 and 0215 and to see if either were the continuation of the Roman dated ditch 0202 from Trench 2.

Ditch 0213 was north to south running with 45° sides but the base profile was not seen due to it being cut by pit 0215. The minimum depth of ditch 0213 was c.350mm. Fill 0214 was mottled mid to light brown silty sand (Fig. 9).

Pit 0215 cut the ditch, appeared to be circular where seen in the trench with steep sides of c.60° and a flat base. Fill 0216 was composed of mid to dark brown silty sand with probable modern brick (Fig. 9).

Trench 6 (Fig. 5b)

At the eastern end of the trench, pit 0204 was circular in plan with curving c.45° sides sloping to an almost flat base with a width of 1.3m and a depth of 380mm. It contained two fills, the upper of which (0205) was mid brown silty sand. The lower fill (0206) was very dark brown silty sand with occasional patches of red / purple silty sand, heat affected pebbles and occasional fire-cracked flint and very occasional fragments of fired clay (Plate 2, Fig. 9). Both fills contained Iron Age pottery and samples taken from the lower fill revealed grains of barley, wheat and spelt wheat plus small fragments of unidentifiable bone, some of which was burnt (Sample 1).

The adjacent pit 0207 was roughly circular in plan with a width of 850mm, the curving sides were steeper on its western edge with a curving base at 240mm depth. Fill 0208 was mid brown silty sand and contained worked flint flakes (Fig. 9). Soil samples from this fill revealed the presence of charred unidentified cereals, hazel nut fragments and unidentifiable burnt bone (Sample 2).

Nearby pit 0209 was circular in plan with a width of 1.4m and a depth of 550mm. Upper fill 0210 was yellow brown silty sand, middle fill 0211 was mid brown silty sand and lower fill 0212 was grey brown silty sand (Fig. 9). Soil Sample 3 from this fill contained charred unidentified cereals and hazel nutshells.

Across the middle of the trench ran a series of ditches 0257, 0259 & 0261 all aligned north-east to south-west. Ditch 0259 was central and largest of the group (width 1.3m, depth 280mm) with 0257 to the west (width 850mm, depth 120mm) and 0261 to the east (width 600mm, depth 300mm). Much disturbance was noted in the vicinity of the ditch possibly caused by subsoil ploughing so that the cutting relationships between these features were not clear (Fig. 10).

Further to the west a small group of post-holes were uncovered by the expansion of the trench to the north (Fig. 9). Cut 0229 was the deepest, at 43mm, with a width of 350mm. Post-holes 0227 & 0231 had depths of 160mm and 140mm, and diameters of 300mm and 400mm respectively. All had grey /

brown to light brown silty sand. A soil sample from fill 0228 contained a small amount of bone (Sample 6). Fill 0230 had worked flint finds.

Towards the western end of the trench two ditches were encountered, both on slightly different alignments from ditches 0257 and 0261. Ditch 0221 was north-east to south-west running with 45° sides and a v-shaped profile. Fill 0222 was mid brown silty sand (Fig. 9).

Ditch 0223 was north-north-east to south-south-west running with a v-shaped profile, a width of 750mm and a depth of 170mm (Fig. 9). Fill 0224 was grey-brown silty sand.

Trench 15 (Fig. 5a)

A single pit at the southern end of this trench was revealed. Cut 0200 was a shallow oval pit running under the balk. The north-east end had a very shallow gradient, steeper to the south-west, with a maximum width of 800mm and a depth of 150mm. Fill 0201 was a pale to mid brown silt and clay sand (Fig. 9).

Trench 40 (Fig. 5b)

Extending southwards for c.3m from the northern end of Trench 40 was layer 0112. Under the subsoil 0103, this deposit was slightly darker than 0103 and consisted of stony silty sand of c.200mm thickness maximum. This layer is probably comparable to 0118 at the nearby western end of Trench 2.

3.3.2 Trenches 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 18, 19 & 57 (Figs. 6a & 6b)

Trench 3 (Fig. 6a)

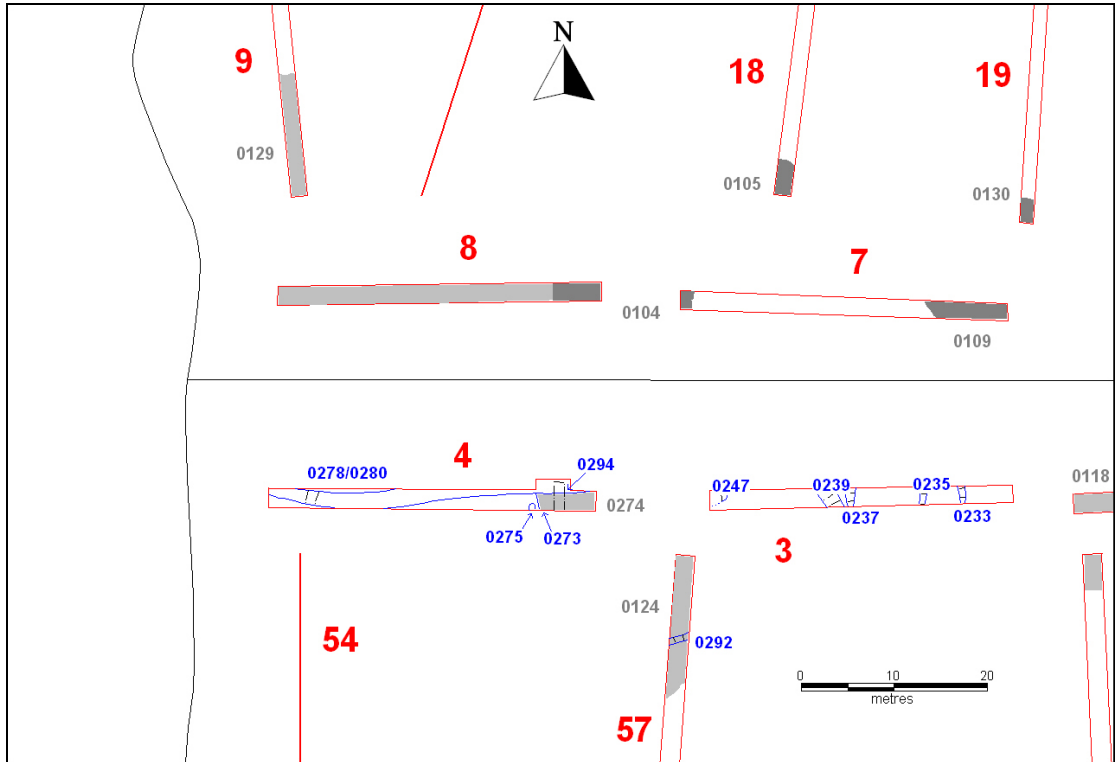
Unstratified prehistoric pottery (0111) was recovered from the spoil heap and was probably derived from one of the features from this trench.

At the eastern end of Trench 3, ditch 0233 was north to south running, u-shaped in section with a width of 500mm and a depth of 120mm. Fill 0233 was mid brown silty sand (Fig. 9).

Ditch 0235 was located c.3m further to the west. This was a north to south running feature with a width of 670mm and a depth of 200mm. Fill 0236 was mid brown silty sand (Fig. 9).

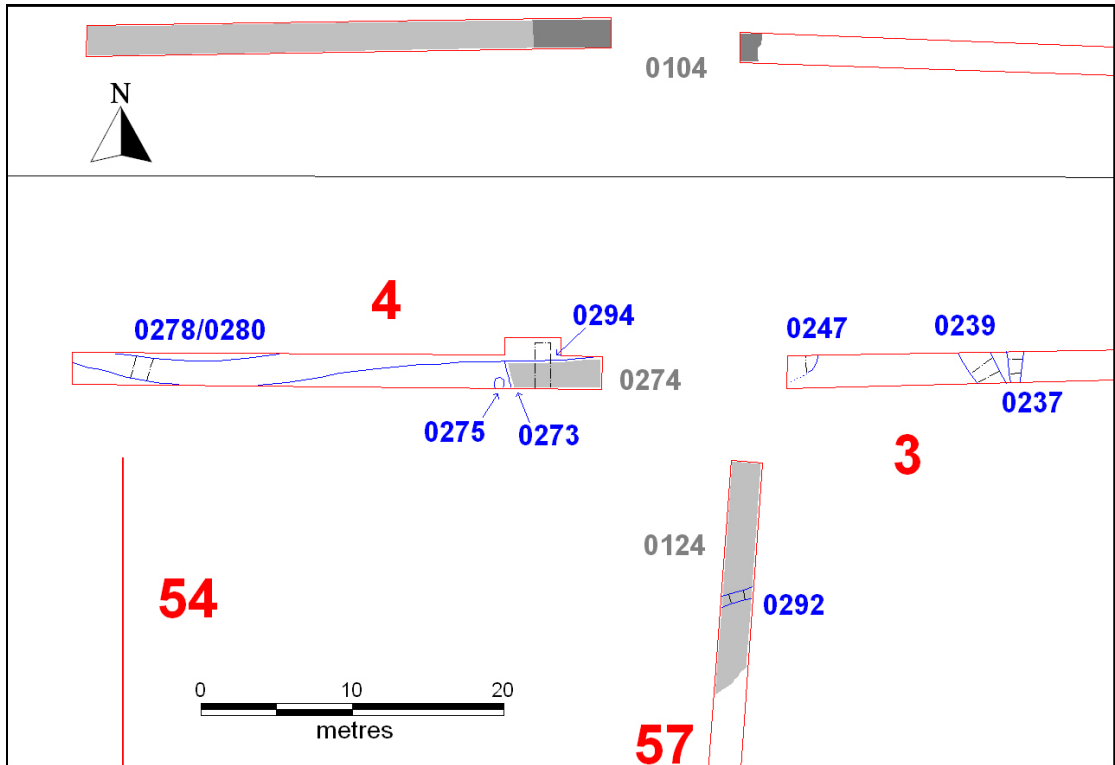
Approximately 7m further to the west, ditch 0237 was also - like the two previous ditches – running north to south. This cut had an open profile with shallow sloping sides and a rounded base and appeared to narrow towards the south. Its maximum width was 700mm and its depth 180mm. The mid brown silty sand fill 0238 contained a piece of post-medieval clay pipe stem.

Immediately adjacent to this last feature was the large ditch 0239, running north-west to south-east. This feature was 1.75m wide with convex edges and a rounded base with a depth of 380mm (Fig. 9). Fill 0240 was mid brown silty sand and contained no finds.



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Figure 6a. Features and significant deposits in Trenches 3, 4, 57, 7, 8, 9, 18 & 19 (cut features – blue; deep deposits – pale grey; wet deposits – dark grey)



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Figure 6b. Detail of Trenches 3 (W end only), 4 & 57 (cut features – blue; deep deposits – pale grey; wet deposits – dark grey)

At the western end of the trench was the partly revealed pit/possible ditch butt end 0247. With a sloping base and a fairly steep side in the excavated part of this feature, the total width was not revealed within the trench but was more than 1m with depth of 230mm. Fill 0248 was mid brown silty sand (Fig. 9).

Trench 4 (Fig. 6b)

At the eastern end of Trench 4 deposit 0274 was located within a hollow or shallow pit 0273 encountered at c.1m depth from the present ground surface and of c.200-300mm thickness (see section Fig. 10). This deposit varied from mid brown at its fringes to dark brown / black silty sand with occasional stones, some of these being fire-cracked. Finds 0114 were recovered from the machined surface of this deposit with a fragment of pottery suggesting a Bronze Age date for this feature. Layer 0290 seen in section (Fig. 10) and cut by pit 0275 was probably the western paler extension of the dark layer 0274.

Cutting deposit 0274 to the west was the steep-sided pit 0275. This was a sub-circular pit with a narrow southern extension ('flue'?) with very steep to vertical sides and a depth of 500mm and a maximum width of 600mm. This feature contained four separate fills (0276, 0277, 0283 & 0284) all containing heat effected stones and there was clear evidence that burning had taken place either within or nearby to the pit, confirmed by soil Sample 8 (0276) which contained charcoal, burnt stone and fired clay pellets. Layer 0282, under subsoil 0103, sealed both the fills of pit 0275 and deposits 0274 and 0290 (Fig. 10). This last deposit was mottled mid to light brown silty sand.

Cutting deposit 0274 along its northern side was the east to west running ditch 0294, probably the same as the cut 0278 encountered further to the west. At the eastern end of the trench this was a substantial feature with only the southern half exposed (1.3m width; Fig. 10). This feature contained three silty sand fills (0295-0297) with the basal fill 0297 containing darker deposits and fire-cracked flints probably derived from 0274. This ditch was sampled further westwards where a recut ditch 0278 was identified. Here the ditch was 1.2m in width and 300mm deep. Another cut running along the edge of the balk and truncated by the recut is presumed to be the earlier ditch 0280.

Trench 57 (Fig. 6b)

At the northern end of Trench 57 deep deposits of a total depth of 1.5m were revealed (see section, Fig. 10). A thick topsoil (430mm) over subsoil (200mm) was laid over a thick layer (0123) of mid to dark grey brown silty fine sand of 300mm thickness. Finds 0121 collected during machining and probably derived from 0123 were of Roman date. It is likely that this is a colluvial deposit, the result of Roman or later cultivation. Such deep deposits appear to have accumulated within a north to south running channel.

Almost indistinguishable from layer 0123, but completely sterile of finds, was the slightly darker deposit 0124 below, which was of 250mm thickness. Ditch 0292 (see below) was cut into this layer and sealed by 0123. Below this was the lighter grey 0125 (100mm), then the darker 0126 (170mm) and finally above natural was the pale and mottled 0127 (160mm).

Under layer 0123 was the straight-sided south-west to north-east running ditch 0292 with a u-shaped profile, a width of 800mm and a depth of 260mm – although, as this feature was cut into layer 0124, the edges were difficult to follow (Fig. 10). Fill 0293 was mid to dark grey clay silty sand and contained pottery of Late Iron Age / Early Roman date.

Trenches 7-9, 18 & 19 (Fig. 6a)

Several trenches to the north of the main concentration of features in Trenches 3 and 4 had deep deposits, some of them waterlogged. Trench 7 had a dark sandy clay peat deposit (0109) extending 8m into the trench from the eastern end. Under subsoil 0103, this deposit was bottomed at 1.1m depth along the southern edge of the trench but could not be bottomed before filling with water along the northern edge, where it seemed to be deeper. Soil Sample 4 from 0109 contained hazel nutshells and charcoal.

At the western end of Trench 7 another dark waterlogged deposit of dark grey to black peaty sand (0104) appeared to extend westwards into Trench 8. Here the dark waterlogged deposits extended for c.5m, at a depth of 1m from the surface but was not bottomed at this depth.

Deep deposits were encountered all along Trench 8 with a 600mm thick topsoil (0102), a c.200mm deep subsoil (0103). The underlying 0104 became paler, less peaty and more sandy to the west of the deeper waterlogged deposits, and continued to the end of the trench at 300mm thickness. A possibly related deposit continued under the subsoil within the southern half of Trench 9. Here layer 0129 consisted of mid grey brown sand and was of 300mm thickness.

Dark peaty deposits at the extreme southern ends of Trenches 18 and 19 (layers 0105 and 0130 respectively) could relate to the waterlogged deposits encountered at either end of Trench 7 (deposits 0104 and 0109).

The deep deposits of waterlogged material, particularly those in Trenches 7 and 8, are of great potential interest and require further investigation.

3.3.3 Trenches 39, 41, 42 & 55 (Fig. 7)

Trench 39 (Fig. 7)

Ditch 0310 was a north to south running straight-sided feature with an open v-shaped profile with a narrow rounded base, a width of 1.05m and a depth of 300mm. Fill 0311 was mid to dark brown sandy clay (Fig. 10).

Trench 41 (Fig. 7)

This trench revealed two shallow north to south running ditches, 0304 being the recut of 0303. The original 0303 had a depth of 200mm but its width could not be seen due to truncation by 0304, which had a width of 1.05m and a depth of 120mm. Both had similar medium brown clay fills with Roman *tegula* tile (0113) recovered from the surface of 0306 which also contained mixed Roman and post-medieval finds including an iron nail (SF 1103).

Trench 42 (Fig. 7)

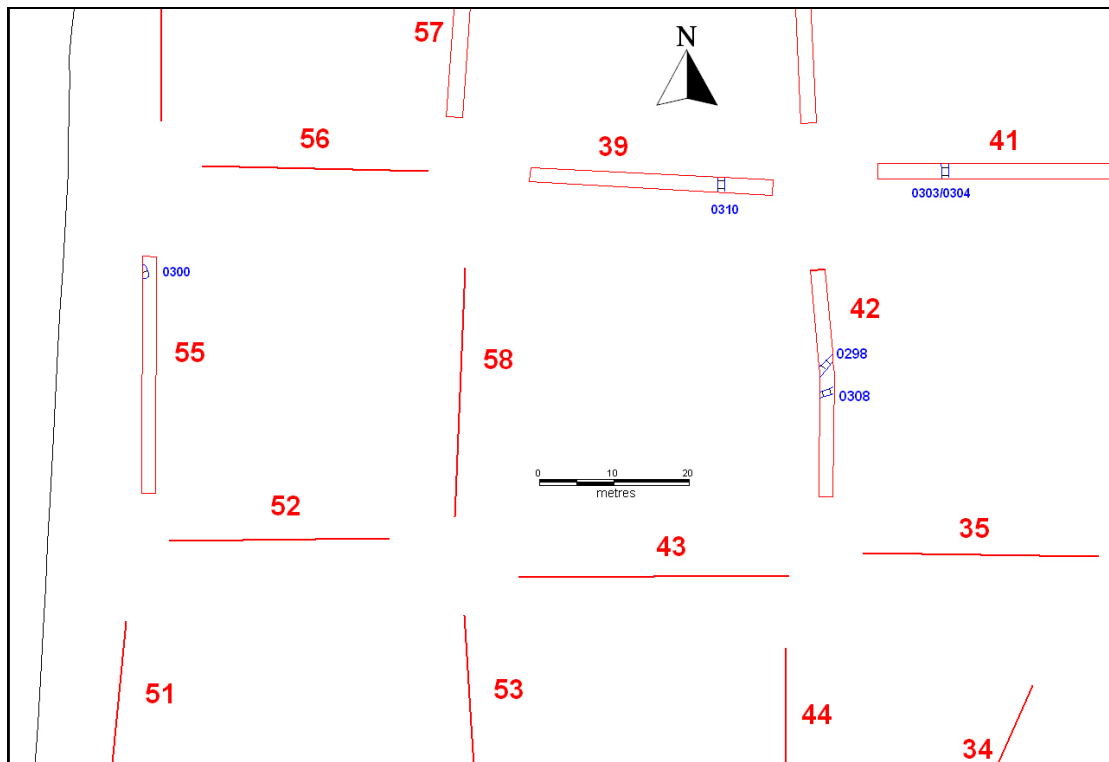
Two ditches were recorded in this trench. The more northerly 0298 was north-east to south-west running cut with fairly steep sides and a flat base, with a width of 700mm and a depth of 250mm. The fill 0299 was medium brown clay and contained a sherd of Roman pottery (Fig. 10).

Ditch 0308 was approximately east to west running, with 45° sloping sides merging with a flat base, with a width of 750mm and a depth of 200mm. Fill 0309 was mid to dark brown sandy clay (Fig. 10).

Trench 55 (Fig. 7)

Unstratified pottery 0120 was recovered from subsoil 0103 and was of unspecified prehistoric date.

The pit 0300, unusually lying so far away from the main concentration of other prehistoric features, was only partly revealed in the base of the trench. This feature was up to 1.9m in length and 320mm deep. The upper fill 0302 was mid to dark grey brown clay sand and revealed non-diagnostic prehistoric pottery. The flint assemblage recovered from fill 0302 did, however, exhibit many characteristics of the Neolithic or Early Bronze Age, although this was mixed with flintwork of a likely later date. The middle fill 0301 was a stiff yellow brown sandy clay over 0308 at the base of the pit, very similar in composition to 0302.



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Figure 7. Features in Trenches 39, 41, 42 & 55

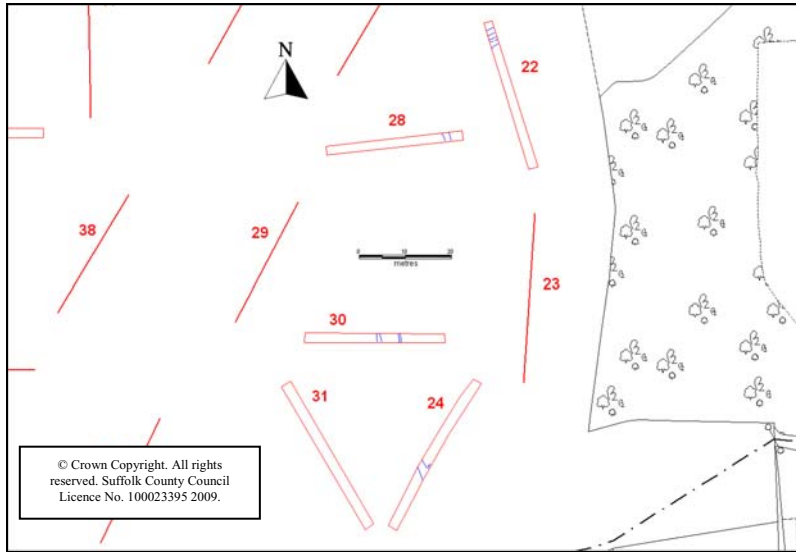


Figure 8a. Area 2 plan of trenches showing cut features

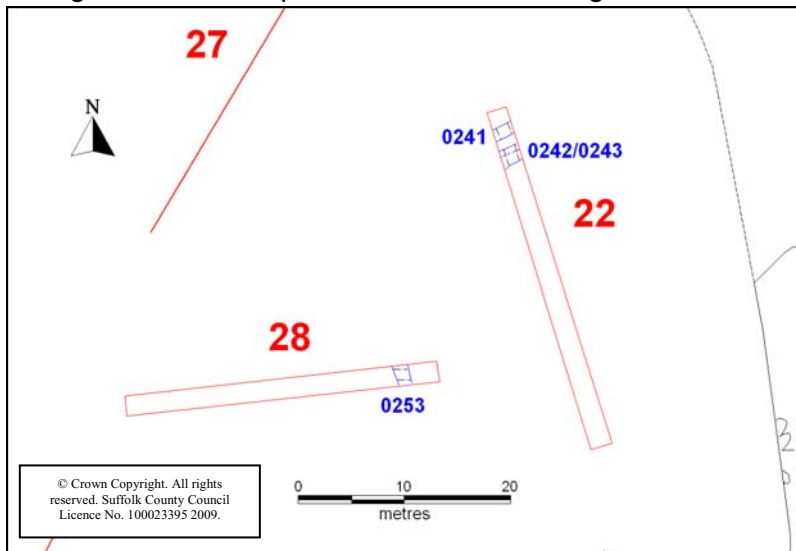


Figure 8b. Features in Trenches 22 & 28

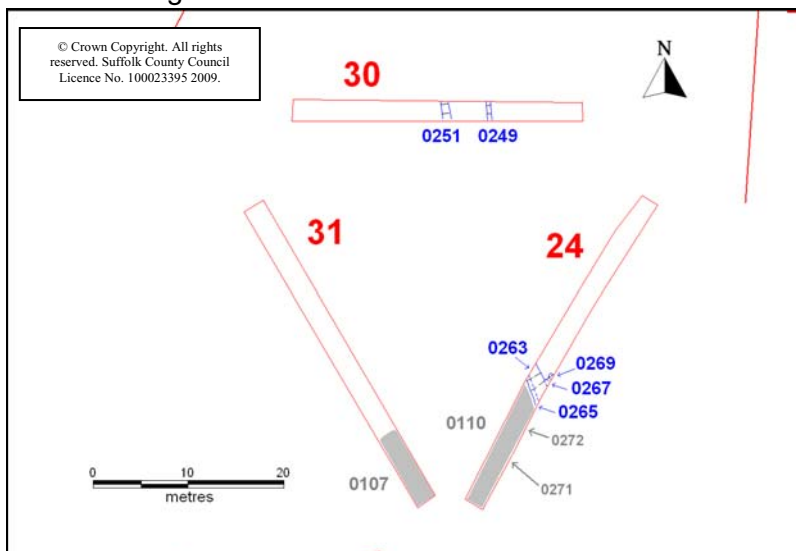


Figure 8c. Features and deposits in Trenches 24, 30 & 31

3.4 Area 2 (Fig. 8a)

Towards the east and south-east of the site another group of features and deep deposits were encountered.

3.4.1 Trenches 22 & 28

Trench 22 (Fig. 8b)

At the northern end of this trench three ditches on a similar alignment were revealed. At the northern end, ditch 0241 was an east-north-east to west-south-west running feature with a width of 1.27m and a depth of 300mm. Fill 0244 was medium brown sand.

Close by, c.1m to the south of 0241, was the ditch 0242 and its recut 0243. Cut 0242 had a depth of 500mm and a minimum width of 840mm before being truncated along its northern edge by 0243. This ditch had curving sides and base with a width of 720mm and a depth of 32mm. Both ditch fills (0245 and 0246 respectively) were medium brown silty sand, with the earlier 0245 slightly darker. Soil Sample 5 from fill 0245 contained charred rye grains, hazel nuts and unidentified bone, some of which was burnt.

Trench 28 (Fig. 8b)

Ditch 0253 was north-north-west to south-south-east running with gently sloping sides at top, becoming steeper and with a u-shaped profile. Its width was 1m and it had a depth of 600mm. The upper fill 0254 was medium brown sand, the middle fill 0255 was stonier and primary fill 0256 was darker brown (Fig. 10).

3.4.2 Trenches 24, 30 & 31

Trench 24 (Fig. 8c)

Several features were revealed in this trench on the edge of a deep deposit at the south-west end. Primary ditch 0265 was on a north-west to south-east alignment with an almost v-shaped profile, a depth of 560mm and a minimum width of c.1.22m - but the north-eastern edge was obscured by feature 0267 (Fig. 10). Its fill 0266 contained pottery of Late Iron Age / Early Roman date.

The ditch 0263 clearly cut the fill of 0265 and appears to be a recut, although the u-shaped profile and the dimensions (width 850mm, depth 250mm) are very different from the earlier feature (Fig. 10). Fill 0264 of the recutting ditch 0263 was paler than fill 0266 of the underlying 0265.

To the north-eastern side of the ditches were two possible pits. Feature 0267 was poorly defined and its fill, 0268, was indistinguishable from the fill of ditch 0265 adjacent (Fig. 10). Fill 0268 contained Roman pottery. This feature might have been a butt-ending ditch. The shallow pit adjacent, feature 0269, was c.600mm in diameter and was only 80mm deep. The fill of this feature 0270 contained a single sherd of Iron Age pottery.

Immediately to the south-west of these features was the deep layer 0110, which consisted of mid to dark brown grey silty fine sand. Late Iron Age / Early Roman pottery was recovered from the machined surface of this deposit. Two test holes (0271 and 0272) were positioned to examine this layer which

showed that it was getting deeper to the south-west and at 0271 was bottomed at 1.55m below the present ground surface. No further finds were recovered from within this deposit and appeared sterile of any cultural material.

Trench 30 (Fig. 8c)

Two north to south ditches were revealed in this trench. The more easterly 0249 was a narrow, shallow cut with a width of 480mm and a depth of 80mm (Fig. 10). The medium brown sandy clay fill 0250 contained finds of prehistoric date. To the west, ditch 0251 had a width of 800mm and a depth of 180mm and the medium brown sandy clay fill 0252 contained finds of Late Iron Age / Roman date. An unstratified sherd of pottery 0106 was recovered from the subsoil spoil heap and was of Late Iron Age / Roman date.

Trench 31 (Fig. 8c)

Deep deposits were encountered at the south-eastern end of the trench. Layer 0107 extended for c.8m into the trench. Of up to c.700mm thickness, this deposit consisted of pale grey brown silty sand and was probably the extension of the colluvial derived deposits seen in Trench 24. No finds were associated with this layer.



Plate 3. The large Roman pit 0285 in Trench 2, not fully excavated; looking south; scale = 2m

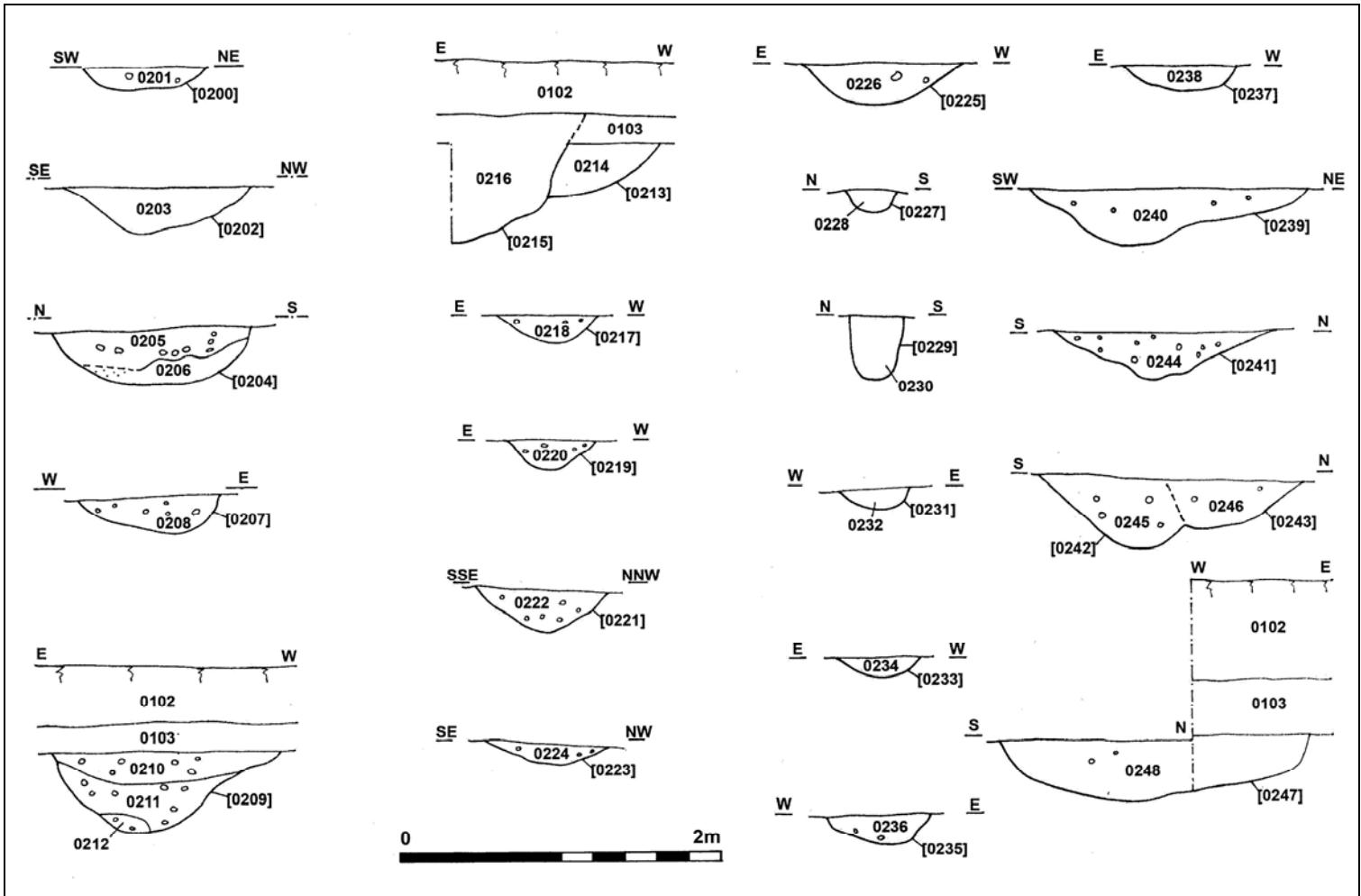


Figure 9. Sections of features 0200 to 0247:

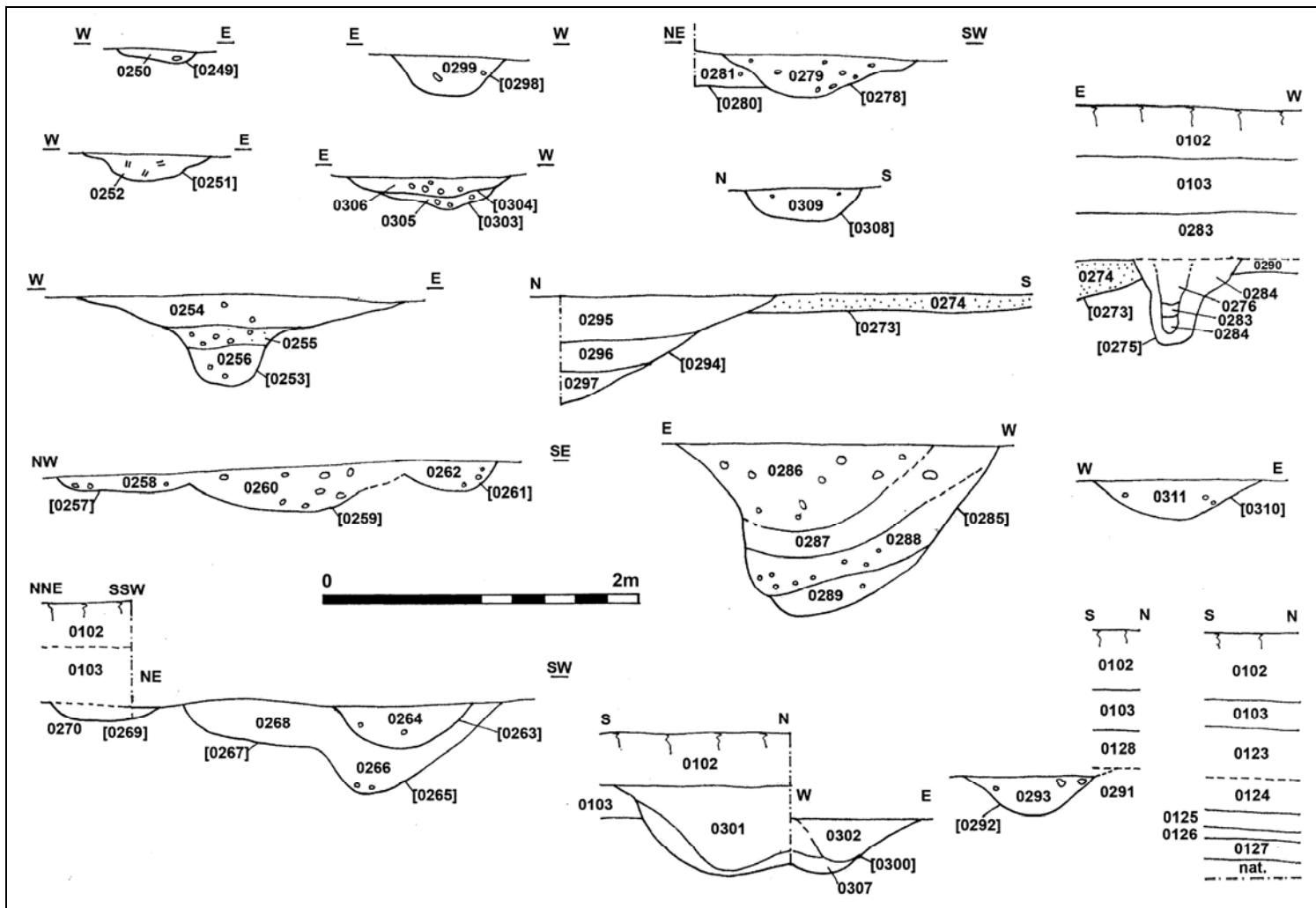


Figure 10. Sections of features 0249 to 0310 plus layers 0102 to 0128 and 0291:

4. Finds and Environmental evidence

Cathy Tester

4.1 Introduction

Table 2 shows the quantities of finds collected during the fieldwalking and evaluation. A full quantification by context is included as Appendix 3.1.

Find type	No.	Wt/g
Pottery	69	693
CBM	10	1618
Fired clay	1	4
Clay pipe	24	90
Worked flint	74	1158
Burnt flint	65	1339
Iron*	4	28
Copper alloy*	4	16
Gold*	1	8
Lead*	1	5

Table 2. Finds quantities. (* = small finds)

4.2 Pottery

4.2.1 Introduction and methodology

Sixty-nine sherds of pottery weighing 693g and with an estimated vessel equivalent (EVE) of 0.61 based on six measureable rims were recovered from 25 contexts in twelve evaluation trenches and two 50m gridded fieldwalking squares. Sixteen contexts were from excavated features and nine were unstratified or from surface collections. The assemblage includes prehistoric, Roman and post-medieval wares. The fabric quantities by period are summarised in Table 3 and detailed quantification by context is in Appendix 3.2.

Fabric name	Code	No.	Wt./g	% Wt.	Eve
Hand-made flint tempered	HMF	30	170	24.5	
Hand-made grog tempered	HMG	1	7	1.0	
Hand-made sand tempered	HMS	5	27	3.9	
Hand-made sand/organic tempered	HMSO	1	3	0.4	
<i>Total prehistoric wares</i>		<i>37</i>	<i>207</i>	<i>29.9</i>	<i>0</i>
Black-surfaced wares	BSW	9	65	9.4	13
Grey micaceous wares (black-surfaced)	GMB	4	35	5.1	9
Grey micaceous wares (grey-surfaced)	GMG	4	48	6.9	14
Grog-tempered wares (Belgic)	GROG	2	76	11.0	
Miscellaneous buff wares	BUF	1	11	1.6	
Miscellaneous red coarse wares	RX	1	3	0.4	
Miscellaneous sandy grey wares	GX	7	63	9.1	6
Storage jar fabrics	STOR	1	138	19.9	
<i>Total Late Iron Age-Roman wares</i>		<i>29</i>	<i>439</i>	<i>63.3</i>	<i>42</i>
English Stoneware	ESW	1	32	4.6	19
Glazed red earthenware	GRE	1	7	1.0	
Porcelain	PORC	1	8	1.2	
<i>Total post-medieval wares</i>		<i>3</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>6.8</i>	<i>19</i>
Total		69	693	100.0	61

Table 3. Pottery fabric quantities by period

The pottery was quantified by count, weight and Eve. Hand-made prehistoric wares were divided into broad fabric groups defined by their main visible inclusions. Roman and post-Roman fabric codes were assigned from the

Suffolk Roman and post-Roman fabric series. A x 10 binocular microscope was used to identify the fabrics. Details of fabric, form and form element were recorded and decoration and surface treatment were also noted. Each 'sherd family' was given a separate entry on the database table and an individual spotdate when possible. SCCAS pottery recording forms were used and the data has been input onto an Access database table.

4.2.2 Prehistoric pottery

Thirty-seven sherds of hand-made prehistoric pottery weighing 207g were recovered from twelve contexts in eight evaluation trenches. Thirty-two sherds were from eight excavated features, three pits and four ditches and five sherds were from four surface or unstratified collections. The prehistoric pottery was only notable in two features, pit 0204 (0205 and 0206) in Trench 6 and pit 0300 (0302) in Trench 55 (150m apart). Elsewhere, it occurred as isolated sherds in five contexts and was found in association with later-dated Roman pottery in three other features, pit 0251 (0252), ditch 0265 (0266) and ditch 0292 (0293) in Trenches 30, 24 and 6 respectively.

Bronze Age

A single abraded grog-tempered (HMG) bodysherd, a surface find in Trench 4 (0114), is Bronze Age but not closely datable.

Iron Age

Thirty-three sherds of Iron Age pottery (200g) were recovered. Flint-tempered fabrics (HMF) make up just over 85% of the Iron Age pottery assemblage weight. Sand-tempered fabrics (HMS and HMSO) account for 15%.

More than half of the Iron Age pottery, eleven HMF sherds weighing 107g, came from the upper and lower fills of pit 0204 in Trench 6. The sherds represent a maximum of eight vessels and include coarsewares and finewares with very fine burnishing which could possibly be earlier Iron Age Darmsden fineware but unfortunately, none of the sherds are diagnostic enough to be certain (E. Martin, pers. comm.) There are no rim or base sherds and no sherds from the upper part of the vessel above the carination point that would most usefully show the concave wall or distinctive flaring neck which distinguish these wares. Apart from fine burnishing, all are undecorated.

Not closely datable

Three small and abraded flint-tempered bodysherds are prehistoric but not closely datable.

4.2.3 Roman pottery

Twenty-nine sherds (439g) of wheel-made late Iron Age and Roman pottery were collected from 16 contexts in seven evaluation trenches and two fieldwalking squares. It accounts for 63% of the total pottery assemblage weight.

Eight fabrics were identified and all of them are local or regional coarsewares which range in date from the first half of the 1st century AD to possibly the 2nd century or later.

The earliest wares are 'Belgic' grog-tempered wares (GROG) which belong to the first half of the 1st century AD. Two bodysherds, both from jars, were recovered from layer 0110 and ditch 0265 (0266) both in Trench 24.

Also early, are Black-surfaced wares (BSW) which contain much fine black grog and burnt organic material and are regarded as transitional or 'romanising' fabrics which are thought to have their origins in the hand-made potting traditions of the Late Iron Age. One unstratified sherd (0122, Trench 57) appears to have been hand-made and wheel-finished. Most of the sherds have oxidised cores or margins which are also characteristic of early assemblages. Four jars were identified, one of which is cordoned.

Fully-romanised wares include micaceous wares, four sherds each in the black and grey-surfaced variants (GMB and GMG). Two jars were identified and the rest are small undiagnostic bodysherds.

Miscellaneous sandy grey wares (GX) are represented by seven sherds which include one dish or bowl rim from fieldwalking square 0003. The rest are small undiagnostic bodysherds.

Oxidised wares include a buffware (BUF) flagon sherd from pit 0285 (0286) in Trench 2 and a red coarseware (RX) bodysherd, possibly a flagon or beaker from ditch 0202 (0203) in Trench 1.

A large abraded thick storage jar (STOR) body sherd was found in layer 0123 (0121) in Trench 57.

4.2.4 Post-medieval pottery

Four sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered from three contexts. An abraded Glazed red earthenware (GRE) bodysherd of 16th-18th century date was unstratified (0101). A porcelain teapot spout with Chinese-style decoration of 17th-19th century date was found in ditch 0304 (0306) in Trench 41. A rim from an English stoneware (ESW) jar, 17th-19th century, came from the topsoil in fieldwalking square 0002.

4.3 Ceramic building material (CBM) and fired clay

Six fragments of CBM (1618g) were collected from six features.

Five pieces are Roman, all made in a similar dense orange-red sandy fabric with few other inclusions. The pieces which are surface or unstratified finds are quite battered. The most diagnostic piece is a flanged roof tile or *tegula* found on the surface of ditch 0304 (0113). The others are not identifiable to specific types but two other fragments which are 18-19mm thick and burnt from pit 0215 (0216) in Trench 5 and pit 0285 (0286) in Trench 2 are possible flue tiles. Two other pieces, both 34mm thick, from fieldwalking square 0001 and unstratified (0119) in Trench 6 can only be classified as Roman brick or tile.

A fragment (44g) of post-medieval brick made in an red-brown medium sandy fabric with few other inclusions was found in ditch 0304 (0306) Trench 41 in association with other post-medieval finds.

A small (4g) and abraded fragment of fired clay recovered from the lower fill of pit 0204 (0206) in Trench 24 is undiagnostic.

4.4 Clay tobacco pipe

Fragments of post-medieval clay tobacco pipes were recovered from two contexts. Four stem fragments (9g) are from ditch 0298 (0299) in Trench 42. Twenty fragments (81g) from ditch 0304 (0306) Trench 41 include sixteen stem fragments, three bowls and one stem and part of a bowl.

4.5 Small finds and metalwork

Ten items of Roman, medieval or post-medieval date were collected as small finds. Six of them were recovered by metal-detecting in the fieldwalking squares (FW) and the others, which are all made of iron, were from the fills of excavated evaluation features in Trench 2. Details are listed in Appendix 3.5.

4.5.1 Roman

A flat fragment of copper alloy coated with white metal is fan-shaped at one end (23mm wide) and straight-sided at the other (10mm wide). The upper surface has single grooves down each side of the shaft which is broken off. The function of this object is uncertain, but it may be a handle fragment from a *patera*, a small handled pan (SF 1006, FW 0012).

An iron fitting, bent at right angles and tapering to a point at one end (SF 1104) was recovered from pit 0285 fill 0288 in Trench 2. An iron nail fragment (SF 1102) is also from pit 0285 fill 0286. Both are probably Roman.

4.5.2 Medieval or post-medieval

A copper alloy circular mount (SF 1002, FW 0004) with four ornamental knobs around the edge has a smooth undecorated face and two integral rivets, one broken. It is similar in shape to a decorated mount of medieval date found in London (Egan and Pritchard 1991, No. 815).

A copper alloy decorative fitting has a cordate element 14mm high with two irregular holes and a groove between that is resting on a horizontal bar 8mm wide. The piece has no parallels (SF 1003, FW 0005).

A copper alloy vessel rim is bent and the diameter is not measureable (SF 1001, FW 0001).

4.5.3 Post-medieval

Part of a lead cloth seal (SF 1004, FW 0010) stamped with a letter M or W is similar to cloth seals from Augsburg, Germany dating from the 16th or 17th century (Egan 1995, Fig. 41 nos.308-310).

A gold guinea of George III dated 1782, Fourth head, Seaby No. 3728 (Mitchell and Reeds 1990) is in fair condition. (SF 1005, FW 0010).

4.5.4 Undated

A small iron nail or tack (SF 1101) 15mm long with an oval head is a single find from layer 0118 in Trench 2 and undatable. An iron nail (SF 1103) found with Roman and post-medieval dated finds in ditch 0304 (fill 0306) could be either date.

4.6 Flint

4.6.1 Worked flint (identified by Colin Pendleton)

Introduction and methodology

Seventy-four fragments of struck or shattered flint representing at least different three periods of prehistoric activity were recovered from 30 contexts during fieldwalking and evaluation. The flint is mostly dark grey or black but a few light grey and brown pieces were seen. Cortex where present is usually in an off-white to cream colour and all but two pieces are unpatinated. Each piece of flint was examined and recorded by context in an Access database. The material was classified by type and other descriptive comments about appearance, condition and technology were noted and a date suggested. The flint types are summarised in the table below and listed by context in Appendix 3.3.

Type	No.
core	1
multi platform core	2
single platform core	1
shatter	8
flake	19
blade-like flake	8
blade	1
bladelet	2
rod	1
scraper	1
end scraper	1
knife	1
notched flake	1
retouched flake	25
retouched blade-like flake	1
utilised flake	1
Total	74

Table 4. Summary of flint types

Mesolithic or Neolithic

Two small bladelets from pit 0209 (0211) in Trench 6 are Mesolithic or Neolithic.

Neolithic or Early Bronze Age

Eight 'blade-like' flakes are present, seven of them have parallel flake scars on their dorsal faces which indicates relatively well-controlled knapping that is characteristic of Early Bronze Age workmanship. Five of the pieces were from pit 0300 (0302) in Trench 55, two from ditch 0278 (0279) in Trench 4 and one from pit 0208 (0207) in Trench 6.

A small blade from fieldwalking square 0010 is also present.

A snapped blade with fine edge retouch on one edge from fieldwalking square 0005 is probably a knife.

Later prehistoric

The majority of the flint assemblage can only be classified as later prehistoric, probably of mid Bronze Age or Iron Age date.

Two multi-platform flake cores were found. One from pit 0300 (0302) Trench 55 is regular with three striking platforms and the other from pit 0285 (0286) Trench 2 is irregular with relatively well-controlled flakes removed. A blade or long flake core with two opposed striking platforms was present in ditch 0292 (0293) Trench 57. A snapped flake core with a single platform surviving was present in ditch 0223 (0224) Trench 6.

Eight shatter pieces are present. Five are from pit 0204 (0205 and 0206) and one from posthole 0229 (0230) in Trench 6. One is from pit 0300 (0302) in Trench 55. A fragment from ditch 0294 (0296) in Trench 4 has crude edge retouch.

Nineteen unmodified flakes are present. They are mostly small squat and irregular. Two have broad striking platforms and four are hinge-fractured. Two have cortical striking platforms and many have further areas of cortex on small to extensive areas which indicates the use of surface-collected raw material.

Two scrapers were recovered from the topsoil layer in two fieldwalking squares. The first is a squat flake with crude retouch to form an irregular simple scraper (0010) and the second is a long flake or blade made into an end scraper with additional edge retouch at the bulbar end (0008).

A rod made of low quality flint with a sub-triangular cross-section and crude retouch or use-wear was present in pit 0275 (0276) Trench 4.

Twenty-seven retouched flakes, all with limited edge retouch or use-wear are present. The flakes are small squat, irregular and several are hinge-fractured. One has an obtuse striking platform (0222). Several have natural or cortical striking platforms and more than three-quarters of them have further areas of cortex. Included are a notched flake from ditch 0221 (0222) Trench 6 and four longer 'blade-like' flakes, two with sub-triangular cross-sections (0014) and one with parallel flake scars on its dorsal face from pit 0300 (0302) Trench 55.

One utilised flake was also present in pit 0300 (0302) Trench 55.

Discussion

Two patinated bladelets from pit 0209 (0211) in Trench 6 appear to represent the earliest, Mesolithic or Neolithic, phase in the assemblage. There is also a small element within the assemblage, the blade and long flake/blades which are well-worked and likely to be Neolithic or Early Bronze Age, but the majority of the flint is later prehistoric, probably of mid Bronze Age to Iron Age date. The only concentration of flints occurs in pit 0300 (0302) in Trench 55,

otherwise, the flint is dispersed across the site with an average of one or two pieces per context.

It is notable that although the majority of the 20 flints in pit 0300 appear to be Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age, there are a few pieces which could be later, Late Bronze Age or Iron Age, suggesting that the pit could be a late Bronze Age-Iron Age feature with some earlier material that is residual.

4.6.2 *Burnt flint*

Sixty-four fragments of burnt flint pot-boiler (1039g) were collected from twelve contexts. All of the material is blue grey to white and fire-crackled and the fragments are mostly from pits, with concentrations in pits 0273 (0274) and 0275 (0276) in Trench 4 and pit 0209 (0211) in Trench 6. The rest of the material occurred singly and was dispersed in the topsoil.

4.7 Plant macrofossils and other remains

Val Fryer

4.7.1 *Introduction and method statement*

The evaluation excavation recorded features of probable later prehistoric (Bronze Age to Iron Age) and Roman date. Samples for the evaluation of the content and preservation of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken, and nine were submitted for assessment.

The samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains recorded are listed in the Appendix Table 3.4. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (1997). All recorded plant remains were charred, although Sample 4, from the fill of a possible pond or channel did contain some de-watered remains. However, these appeared very robust and were considered most likely to be later than the feature. The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and sorted when dry. All artefacts/ecofacts were retained for further specialist analysis.

4.7.2 *Results*

Cereal grains/chaff, seeds and nutshell fragments were recorded at a low density within all but three of the assemblages studied. Preservation was moderately good, although most grains were puffed and distorted, probably as a result of combustion at very high temperatures.

Barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains were recorded along with a possible specimen of rye (*Secale cereale*). A single spelt wheat (*T. spelta*) glume base was noted within the assemblage from Sample 1. Weed seeds were rare, occurring in only three assemblages. Small legumes (Fabaceae) and large grass (Poaceae) fruits were the only specimens noted. Small fragments of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell were recorded within the assemblages from Samples 2, 3, 4 and 5. Charcoal/charred wood fragments were present throughout at a low to moderate density.

Other remains were generally scarce. The fragments of black porous and tarry material were probable residues of the combustion of organic remains at very high temperatures. Bone fragments, including some burnt pieces, were noted from five samples along with small pellets of burnt or fired clay. Minute fragments of coal were also recorded, although most were probably intrusive within the contexts.

4.7.3 Conclusions and recommendations for further work

The density of macrofossils within the assemblages is generally low, and it is considered most likely that all are derived from scattered waste or wind-blown detritus, some of which may have been domestic in origin.

Although the assemblages are relatively sparse, the plant remains recovered clearly illustrate that reasonably well preserved macrofossils are present within the archaeological horizon at Whitton. As a result, it is strongly recommended that if further archaeological work is undertaken in the near vicinity, additional plant macrofossil samples of approximately 30 – 40 litres in volume should be taken from all well sealed and dated features. These samples should ideally be stored in cool, dark conditions and processed with a minimum of delay. All relevant paperwork must accompany the samples at all times.

4.8 Discussion of the finds and environmental evidence

Finds were collected from 56 contexts; sixteen were from the 50m gridded fieldwalking squares and 40 were from fourteen of the evaluation trenches. The finds assemblage is of modest size and the range of types present is also limited but indicates activity on this site or in the vicinity during the prehistoric, Roman and post-Roman periods.

The earliest finds are within the struck flint assemblage in which three different periods of activity are represented. The earliest phase in the assemblage is Mesolithic or Neolithic and represented by two patinated bladelets from pit 0209. There is also a small element within the assemblage made up of blades and long flake/blades which are well-worked and likely to be Neolithic or Early Bronze Age. The majority of the flint is later prehistoric, probably of mid Bronze Age or Iron Age date and displays features of poor workmanship that are typical during the later period and includes the use of surface-collected raw material.

The prehistoric pottery assemblage is small and consists entirely of undecorated bodysherds in a mix of flint and sand-tempered fabrics of which the flint predominates. The pottery was collected from twelve contexts which are dispersed across the site but is only noteworthy in two features, pit 0204 in Trench 6 and pit 0300 in Trench 55. The rest of the material is from unstratified or surface collections or redeposited in later dated features none with more than three sherds, and most often, only single sherds per context.

With the exception of a single Bronze Age sherd that was surface-collected in Trench 4, the pottery is Iron Age but not closely datable. Some of the material

from pit 0204 may possibly be earlier Iron Age Darmsden fineware, but no rims, bases or decorated sherds were present to confirm such identification.

The largest proportion by weight of the pottery assemblage is Roman (63%) and although diagnostic forms are few, the most datable fabrics (GROG and BSW) are early and include 'Romanising' material which probably belongs to the first half of the 1st century AD. Fully-romanised fabrics are also present but not closely datable. The assemblage consists entirely of local or regional coarsewares. No imports or finewares are present in this collection. This is probably due to the size of the sample but also would be expected on a rural site of this date. Apart from a few small and abraded sherds elsewhere, the earliest Roman pottery is mainly concentrated in features or unstratified in Trenches 24 and 30 which are located in the southeast corner of the site.

Later, more fully-romanised fabrics were identified in Trench 57 and were also sparsely distributed across the site with no real concentrations in any feature or trench. The condition of the sherds and small numbers indicate a long deposition cycle which does not suggest intense activity on this site during the Roman period.

The Roman CBM assemblage is very small and the fragments are battered and do not suggest the presence of a building in the immediate vicinity. Metalwork consists of iron nails from two Roman-dated features in Trench 2 and a copper alloy possible *patera* handle from the fieldwalking squares.

Later finds are few and restricted to the topsoil in the fieldwalking squares and two features. They include medieval and post-medieval metalwork from the topsoil in the fieldwalking squares and post-medieval pottery, claypipe and CBM from ditches in Trenches 41 and 42 in the centre of the site.

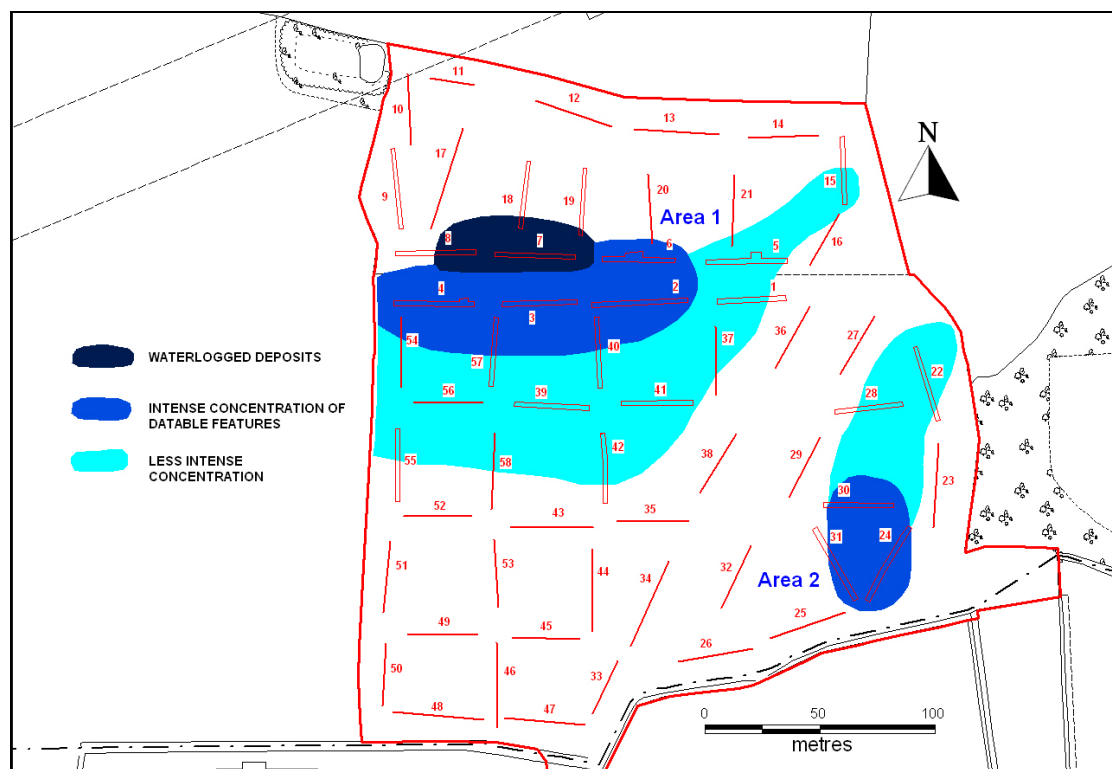
Environmental evidence is present. Bone remains, some of which are burnt, are too small for identification and, although sparse, the macrofossil assemblage demonstrates the potential for well-preserved material within the archaeological horizon.

An additional finds report and a catalogue of pottery are included in Appendices 4.1 and 4.2 which relate to a second phase of evaluation undertaken after the completion of this report.

5. Conclusions

At least two concentrations of archaeological features have been revealed across the site (Fig. 11). The first of these straddled the division between the southern and northern fields with the highest concentration of features in Trenches 2,3,4 and 6 (Area 1). The second smaller concentration of features was located across the eastern end of the southern field (Area 2). A phased plan of datable features across both areas has been produced (Fig. 12).

It is possible that both areas are continuous and that the gap in trenching between the two areas (due to a north-east to south-west running footpath) might have missed features. Indeed, a possible projection of the Late Iron Age to Roman field system (Fig. 13), suggests that one ditch might have run through this gap. Alternatively, the footpath runs along the ridge of a very slight rise so that archaeology has been removed by truncation due to ploughing



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Figure 11. Areas of archaeological interest across the site

In Area 1 (Fig. 4) the majority of the datable features appear to belong either to the Iron Age or Roman period. These include ditches on a number of different alignments in several of the trenches, a pit group of probable Iron Age date and a cluster of undated post-holes, both groups in Trench 6, and a large Roman pit in Trench 2. Soil samples taken from these features show good, if sparse, preservation of charred plant remains and include evidence for the cultivation of barley, wheat and rye. Evidence for some form of settlement of Iron Age and Roman date is likely in this area.

Earlier archaeology is also demonstrated from flint artefacts recovered from fieldwalking or, most commonly, residually from later contexts in Area 1. One of the pits in Trench 6 contained struck flint that could be of Mesolithic or Neolithic character. A pit in Trench 55 contained flintwork exhibiting a level of expertise normally associated with the Neolithic or Early Bronze Age.

At c.1m depth below the present ground surface, a considerable spread of dark material in Trench 4 associated with burnt flint and a possible fragment of Bronze Age pottery might represent the remains of a 'burnt mound' buried deeply under colluvial deposits. This deposit (0274) might be similar to spreads of burnt stone, often of Early Bronze Age or later date, which are often associated with water-tight troughs. Sometimes interpreted as feasting sites, or alternatively as sweat lodges or saunas, these features sometimes survive as 'burnt mounds' in the uplands of Britain and Ireland. Deposit 0274 could be the vestige of a 'burnt mound' buried at the bottom of a subsequently filled ancient channel.

The good preservation and considerable depth of archaeological features – particularly within Trenches 2, 3 and 4 – must in some part be due to the formation of the prominent headland across the northern edge of the southern field, particularly towards the north-west where there is a pronounced step of c.1.5m down to the northern field. It is also likely that episodes of hillwash and other colluvial processes have accounted for this depth of deposit, probably filling earlier hollows and possible north to south channels that are now invisible on the surface. Deep deposits of probable colluvial origin have been located in Trenches 2, 8, 9, 40 and 57 – in this last trench these deposits are cut by a ditch of Late Iron Age / Early Roman date, suggesting that some of this hillwash was due to prehistoric cultivation.

Downslope from the concentration of features found in Trenches 3 and 4 a number of waterlogged and peaty deposits were encountered. This is within a likely spring line against the hill edge and peaty, wet deposits in Trenches 7, 8, 18 and 19 could be the remains of earlier ponds fed by spring water. In Trenches 7 and 8 these deposits were excavated to a depth of over 1m but were not bottomed before they filled with water. Samples taken from these deposits indicate good preservation of charred hazelnuts and other charcoal (although wood fragments are likely to be intrusive). It is probable that settlement in the Iron Age and Roman periods used these springs as a water source and that these ponds could possibly date to this period.

In Area 2, along the eastern edge of the southern field (Fig. 8a), a number of undated ditches and features of Late Iron Age / Early Roman date were encountered. Across the north of this area three ditches on a north-east to south-west alignment were identified in Trench 22 and a possible return ditch on a north-west to south-east ditch was revealed in Trench 28. Some of the fills of these ditches contained flint flakes and burnt flint but these prehistoric finds could easily be residual in later features. Medieval and later material was recovered during metal-detecting in this area, possibly indicating a date for these ditches.

Ditches on a north-west to south-east alignment were also encountered in Trenches 24 and 30. Here pottery recovered from their fills and from nearby pits indicate a transitional date between the Late Iron Age / Early Roman period. In an interesting comparison with Area 1, the greatest concentration of features in Trench 24 was adjacent to deep colluvial deposits, from the top of which pottery of Late Iron Age / Early Roman period was recovered. It is possible that these deep colluvial deposits have helped bury and protect features.

Ditch alignments have been tentatively examined across the site (Fig. 13). In the south-east corner of the site, ditches on a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment, and those perpendicular to these, could be part of a Late Iron Age to Roman field system. North to south running ditches (mainly undated but at least two, in Trenches 3 and 41, of post-medieval date) are likely to be medieval or later and could be earlier subdivisions of the present field system. Other, more curvilinear ditches, such as that running between Trenches 1 and 5 or that snaking its way along Trench 5, could be Roman or earlier. Generally the ditches across Area 1 are on a variety of alignments and are probably of various periods.

To the south-east, the site is within 300m of a large prehistoric ditched enclosure of probable Iron Age date (IPS 504). Slightly further away, the extensive Roman Villa at Castle Hill (IPS 200) is 1.5km to the south. Both the Iron Age and the Roman periods, and transition between the two, are represented on the site. It could be postulated that the local seat of power moved from the large Iron Age enclosure to the villa site in the Roman period. Wherever the local power base was, it is likely that the presence of a spring line, the commanding views to the north and west, and access to the Gipping Valley made this site attractive during both periods.

The results of the fieldwalking and metal-detector survey across the site indicate a small but significant scatter of struck and burnt flint of prehistoric date across the whole of the large southern field. Roman pottery was found across the northern edge of the large field, reflecting the main concentration of features of this period; prehistoric pottery, even of Late Iron Age date, would not survive frequent ploughing. A significant find of possible Roman date, at some distance from the main concentration of features of this period was a possible bronze bowl (*patera*) handle, found towards the south-west corner of the field. Finds of medieval and post-medieval date were found across much of the surface of the site. As features of these periods are almost absent (except for a small number of ditches and a single pit of post-medieval date) it is likely that most of the finds of post-Roman date originated from manuring across the field. Of interest amongst this later group of finds was a golden guinea of George III dated 1782 – no doubt a tragic loss to the original owner!

After the completion of this report a second phase of evaluation was conducted by Simon Cass. A further sixteen trenches were positioned to clarify the extent of the spread of archaeological features and to more fully investigate the gap between the two main areas of interest. The report of this second phase of evaluation is included in Appendix 4.1.

6. Recommendations

It is recommended that any significant reduction in ground level that impacts on areas of archaeological interest be subject to archaeological mitigation in the form of excavation. Any proposed reduction of ground level, landscaping or soil stripping needs to be considered in view of possible damage to archaeological levels.

The Ordnance Datum levels of trenches and the depths of overburden encountered (see Table 1) should be closely examined in view of the proposed heights of the football pitches.

Much of the significant archaeology in Area 1 is at some depth below the present ground surface (e.g. 500-700mm). It might be possible to raise the ground level to protect the underlying sensitive deposits, but stripping this area of topsoil and subsequent machine tracking over the exposed surface will be damaging to the underlying archaeology.

Future open-area excavation in Area 1 should further investigate water-logged deposits encountered within the vicinity of Trenches 7 and 8. The pronounced headland or 'step' between the northern and southern fields should also be investigated and probably be examined in section by an archaeological soil specialist.

A second phase of evaluation was undertaken after the completion of this report. An extended summary of this phase is included in Appendix 4.1. Figure 2 of Appendix 4.1 shows in more detail the distribution of features of archaeological interest. In particular the full extents of Areas 1 and 2 have been defined and the archaeologically blank zone between the two areas has been clarified. Section 3, Appendix 4.1 gives further recommendations regarding future archaeological investigations at this site.

7. Disclaimer

Any opinions expressed in this report about the need for further archaeological work are those of the Field Projects Division alone. The need for further work will be determined by the Local Planning Authority and its archaeological advisors when a planning application is registered. Suffolk County Council's archaeological contracting service cannot accept responsibility for inconvenience caused to clients should the Planning Authority take a different view to that expressed in the report.

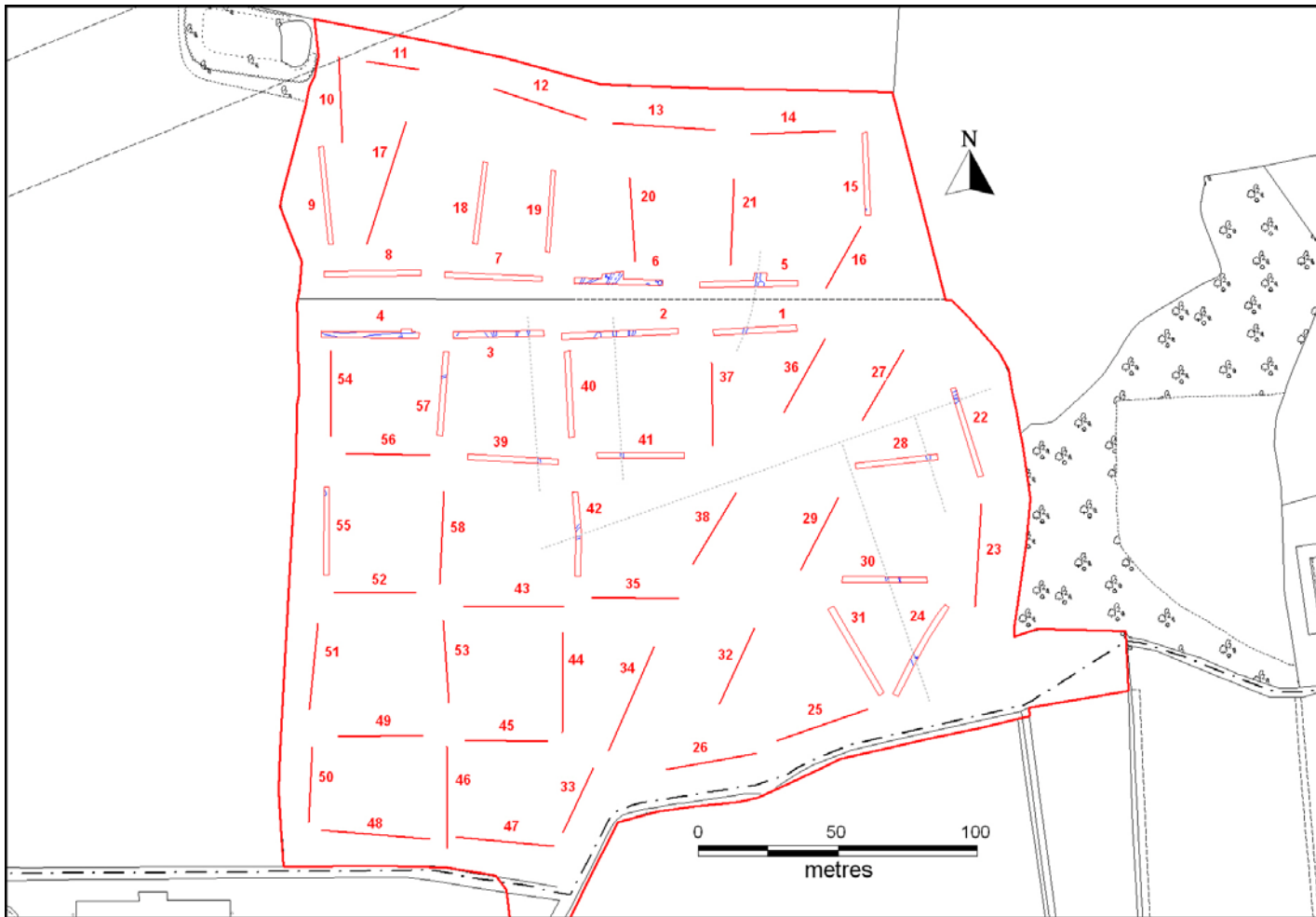
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Figure 12. Phased plan of trenches with datable features



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Figure 13. Whole site showing all trenches, cut features and possible ditch alignments

APPENDIX 1

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

Brief and Specification for Archaeological Evaluation

RECREATION GROUND, WHITTON CHURCH LANE, WHITTON, SUFFOLK

The commissioning body should be aware that it may have Health & Safety responsibilities.

1. **The nature of the development and archaeological requirements**
 - 1.1 Planning consent (application 1362/05) has been granted by Mid Suffolk District Council for the construction of football pitches, erection of changing facilities and access on Land at and north of Whitton Sports Centre, off Whitton Church Lane, Whitton, Suffolk (TM 145 479), with a PPG 16, paragraph 30 condition requiring an acceptable programme of archaeological work being carried out.
 - 1.2 The proposed application area measures c. 6.75 ha., on the northern side of Whitton Church Lane. The site is located at approximately 30.00 – 40.00m AOD, sloping down south to north towards a tributary of the River Gipping. The underlying glaciofluvial drift geology comprises fine and coarse loam and sandy soils, locally flinty and in places over gravel.
 - 1.3 The Planning Authority has been advised that any consent should be conditional upon securing the implementation of a programme of archaeological works before development begins (PPG 16, paragraph 30 condition). An archaeological evaluation of the application area will be required as the first part of a programme of archaeological mitigation; decisions on the need for, and scope of, any further work should there be any archaeological finds of significance will be based upon the results of the evaluation and will be the subject of an additional brief.
 - 1.4 This application lies within an area of archaeological importance, recorded in the County Historic Environment Record (HER). There are prehistoric flint scatters (WHI Misc), Roman and medieval finds scatters (WHI 007) within the development area that are indicative of further occupation deposits. There are Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman, Anglo-Saxon and medieval finds scatters within the immediate vicinity of the development, to the north (WHI 008), east (WHI 005 and WHI 006), north-east (WHI 010) and north-west (WHI 009). In addition, the development is located to the north-west of the site of a recent excavation that defined a late prehistoric enclosure and later medieval settlement features.
 - 1.5 There is high potential for important archaeological features to be located in this area. Aspects of the proposed works will cause significant ground disturbance with the potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.
 - 1.6 As a first stage, and in order to inform an impact assessment and subsequent mitigation, the following staged scheme of evaluation work is required:
 - non-intrusive field-walking and metal-detecting survey.
 - linear trial-trenching.
 - 1.7 In accordance with the standards and guidance produced by the Institute of Field Archaeologists this brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the total

execution of the project. A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) based upon this outline specification, is an essential requirement. This must be submitted by the developers, or their agent, to the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR; telephone/fax: 01284 352443) for approval. The work must not commence until this office has approved both the archaeological contractor as suitable to undertake the work, and the WSI as satisfactory. The WSI will *provide the basis for measurable standards* and will be used to establish whether the requirements of the planning condition will be adequately met.

2. Brief for the Archaeological Evaluation

- 2.1 The surveys should establish whether any archaeological deposit exists in the area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation *in situ*.
- 2.2 Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the application area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- 2.3 Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- 2.4 Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.
- 2.5 The evaluation should provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.
- 2.6 This project will be carried through in a manner broadly consistent with English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (MAP2), all stages will follow a process of assessment and justification before proceeding to the next phase of the project. Field evaluation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential. Each stage will be the subject of a further brief and updated project design; this document covers only the evaluation stage. The mitigation strategy will be the subject of a further archaeological brief, once the results of the evaluation have been reported.
- 2.7 Detailed standards, information and advice to supplement this specification are to be found in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003. The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Field Evaluations* (revised 2001) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project.
- 2.8 If the approved evaluation design is not carried through in its entirety the evaluation report may be rejected. Alternatively the presence of an archaeological deposit may be presumed, and untested areas included on this basis when defining the final mitigation strategy.
- 2.9 An outline specification for each stage of the evaluation, which defines certain minimum criteria, is set out below.

3. Specification for non-intrusive field-walking and metal-detecting survey

- 3.1 A systematic field-walking and non-ferrous metal-detecting survey is to be undertaken across the entire area marked on the accompanying plan (c. 6.75 ha. in extent). The strategy for assessing the artefact content of the topsoil must be presented in the WSI.

4. Specification for trenched evaluation

- 4.1 Trial trenches are to be excavated to cover a 5% by area, which is 3,375m² of the total area of disturbance (6.75 ha.). These shall be positioned to sample all parts of the site, and informed by the results of the non-intrusive evaluation surveys. Linear trenches are thought to be the most appropriate sampling method. Trenches are to be a minimum of 1.8m wide unless special circumstances can be demonstrated; this will result in a minimum of c. 1,875m of trenching at 1.80m in width. If excavation is mechanised a toothless 'ditching bucket' at least 1.20m wide must be used. A scale plan showing the proposed locations of the trial trenches should be included in the WSI and the detailed trench design must be approved by SCCAS/CT before field work begins.
- 4.2 The topsoil may be mechanically removed using an appropriate machine with a back-acting arm and fitted with a toothless bucket, down to the interface layer between topsoil and subsoil or other visible archaeological surface. All machine excavation is to be under the direct control and supervision of an archaeologist. The topsoil should be examined for archaeological material.
- 4.3 The top of the first archaeological deposit may be cleared by machine, but must then be cleaned off by hand. There is a presumption that excavation of all archaeological deposits will be done by hand unless it can be shown there will not be a loss of evidence by using a machine. The decision as to the proper method of excavation will be made by the senior project archaeologist with regard to the nature of the deposit.
- 4.4 In all evaluation excavation there is a presumption of the need to cause the minimum disturbance to the site consistent with adequate evaluation; that significant archaeological features, e.g. solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or post-holes, should be preserved intact even if fills are sampled.
- 4.5 There must be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit. The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits must be established across the site.
- 4.6 Archaeological contexts should, where possible, be sampled for palaeoenvironmental remains. Best practice should allow for sampling of interpretable and datable archaeological deposits and provision should be made for this. The contractor shall show what provision has been made for environmental assessment of the site and must provide details of the sampling strategies for retrieving artefacts, biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations), and samples of sediments and/or soils (for micromorphological and other pedological/sedimentological analyses. Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from J. Heathcote, English Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy, P.L. and Wiltshire, P.E.J., 1994, *A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis*) is available for viewing from SCCAS.
- 4.7 Any natural subsoil surface revealed should be hand cleaned and examined for archaeological deposits and artefacts. Sample excavation of any archaeological features revealed may be necessary in order to gauge their date and character.
- 4.8 Metal detector searches must take place at all stages of the trenched evaluation by an experienced metal detector user.
- 4.9 All finds will be collected and processed (unless variations are agreed with SCCAS/CT during the course of the evaluation).

- 4.10 Human remains must be left *in situ* except in those cases where damage or desecration are to be expected, or in the event that analysis of the remains is shown to be a requirement of satisfactory evaluation of the site. However, the excavator should be aware of, and comply with, the provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857.
- 4.11 Plans of any archaeological features on the site are to be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50, depending on the complexity of the data to be recorded. Sections should be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 again depending on the complexity to be recorded. All levels should relate to Ordnance Datum. Any variations from this must be agreed with SCCAS/CT.
- 4.12 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies and/or high resolution digital images.
- 4.13 Topsoil, subsoil and archaeological deposit to be kept separate during excavation to allow sequential backfilling of excavations.
- 4.14 Trenches should not be backfilled without the approval of SCCAS/CT.

5. General Management

- 5.1 All arrangements for the field survey, the timing of the work, access to the site, the definition of the precise area of landholding and area for proposed development are to be defined and negotiated with the commissioning body.
- 5.2 Careful consideration must be given to obtaining specialist advice and the appointment of an appropriate contractor.
- 5.3 A timetable for all stages of the project must be agreed before the first stage of work commences, including monitoring by SCCAS/CT. The developer or his archaeologist will give SCCAS/CT (address as above) five working days notice of the commencement of survey on the site, in order that the work of the archaeological contractor may be monitored.
- 5.4 The composition of the Archaeological investigation contractors staff must be detailed and agreed by this office, including any subcontractors/specialists. There must also be a statement of their responsibilities or a CV for work on other archaeological sites and publication record. Data collection must be undertaken under the supervision of an experienced project manager (three-plus years' experience). Data interpretation must be undertaken by experienced personnel (three-plus years' experience).
- 5.5 A detailed risk assessment must be provided for this particular site.
- 5.6 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.
- 5.7 Before any archaeological site work can commence it is the responsibility of the developer to provide the archaeological contractor with either the contaminated land report for the site or a written statement that there is no contamination. The developer should be aware that investigative sampling to test for contamination is likely to have an impact on any archaeological deposit which exists; proposals for sampling should be discussed with SCCAS/CT before execution.
- 5.8 The responsibility for identifying any constraints on field-work (e.g. Scheduled Monument status, Listed Building status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites &c., ecological considerations rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor. The existence and content of

the archaeological brief does not over-ride such constraints or imply that the target area is freely available.

- 5.9 Any changes to the WSI that the project archaeologist may wish to make after approval by this office should be communicated directly to SCCAS/CT and the client for approval.

6. Report Requirements

- 6.1 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared consistent with the principles of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects 1991 (MAP2)*, particularly Appendix 3. This must be deposited with the County HER within three months of the completion of work. It will then become publicly accessible.
- 6.2 There must be an analytical report with description and interpretation of the results. The objective record of the evidence must be clearly distinguished from its interpretation.
- 6.3 The report should reflect the aims of the WSI.
- 6.4 The methodology should be set out carefully, and explained as appropriate. It must include a non-technical summary to make the report intelligible to both specialists and non-specialists.
- 6.5 Reports on specific areas of specialist study must include sufficient detail to permit assessment of potential for analysis, including tabulation of data by context, and must include non-technical summaries.
- 6.6 The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence, including an assessment of palaeoenvironmental remains recovered from palaeosols and cut features. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological potential of the site, and the significance of that potential in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).
- 6.7 The project manager must consult the County HER Officer (Dr Colin Pendleton) to obtain an event number for the work. This number will be unique for each project or site and must be clearly marked on any documentation relating to the work.
- 6.8 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*. The finds, as an indissoluble part of the site archive, should be deposited with the County HER if the landowner can be persuaded to agree to this. If this is not possible for all or any part of the finds archive, then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate.
- 6.9 The project manager should consult the County HER Officer regarding the requirements for the deposition of the archive (conservation, ordering, organisation, labelling, marking and storage) of excavated material and the archive.
- 6.10 The results of the evaluation should be easily related to present-day landscape features and tied in to the OS Grid.
- 6.11 The results of the evaluation should be related to the relevant known archaeological information held in the County HER.
- 6.12 A copy of the Specification should be included as an appendix to the Report.

- 6.13 The Report must include a clear statement of the archaeological potential of the site, and the significance of that potential in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).
- 6.14 An opinion as to the necessity for archaeological mitigation and its scope may be given. No further site work should be embarked upon until the primary fieldwork results are assessed and the need for further work is established.
- 6.15 Three copies of the report must be sent to SCCAS/CT as well as one copy sent to the Developer.
- 6.16 A summary report, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute for Archaeology*, must be prepared. It should be included in the project report, or submitted to the Conservation Team, by the end of the calendar year in which the evaluation work takes place, whichever is the sooner.
- 6.17 County HER sheets must be completed, as per the County HER manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.
- 6.18 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.
- 6.19 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the County HER. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

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Date: 12 October 2007
 RecreationGround_Whitton2007

Reference: /

This Specification remains valid for six months from the above date. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse; the authority should be notified and a revised brief and specification may be issued.

If the work defined by this brief forms a part of a programme of archaeological work required by a Planning Condition, the results must be considered by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council, who have the responsibility for advising the appropriate Planning Authority.

Appendix 2: Context List

OP no.	Context no.	Trench no.	Identifier	Description
0101			finds	Unstratified finds, whole site evaluation Nov / Dec 2008
0102	0102		layer	Topsoil: whole site c.300-400mm. Mid / dark brown clay sand loam. More sandy / clay depending on underlying natural
0103	0103		layer	Subsoil: whole site, various depths, not present everywhere. Pale / mid orange brown clay sand / sand clay depending on underlying natural
0104	0104	T 07&8	layer	Dark wet deposit extending c. 2m from W end of T 7 to c.5m from E end of T 8. Dark grey to black peaty sand with moderate to frequent small to medium rounded and sub-angular flints (5-60mm). Under 0103, from 450mm down to at least 600mm but not bottomed
0105	0105	T 18	layer	Dark peaty layer under topsoil. S end of T 18, extends c.4m from end
0106	0103	T 30	finds	Unstrat finds from subsoil 0103, T 30
0107	0107	T 31	layer	Hillwash layer, S end of T 31 under 0103. Frm S end for 8m. Pale grey brown silty sand
0108		T 35	finds	Unstrat finds from 0103, E end of T 35
0109	0109	T 07	layer	Dark waterlogged deposit extending for c.8m from E end of T 7. Dark grey to black sandy clay peat with moderate to frequent small to medium rounded & sub-angular flints & occ larger rounded stones. Under 0103, to 1.1m depth S side but not bottomed N
0110	0110	T 24	layer	Deep hillwash layer with finds SW end of T 24, see also test pits 0271 & 0272. Machined to depth of c.0.9m, finds recoverd from this level
0111		T 03	finds	Unstratified finds from subsoil heap E end T 3
0112	0112	T 40	layer	Under 0103, darker stony silty sand deposit of 200mm thickness extending for c.3m at N end of T 40. Mid brown silty sand with frequent small to medium (5-50mm) rounded & angular flints
0113	0304	T 41	find	Tile from top of ditch [0304]
0114	0273	T 04	finds	Burnt flint & pot from top of deposit 0274 / [0273]
0115	0273?	T 04	finds	Burnt flint, to the W of main deposit of 0274 but probably from a vestige of this deposit
0116		T 02	finds	Unstrat pot from topsoil 0102 T 2, near ditches [0217] & [0219]
0117	0117	T 02	layer	Deposit under 0103 between 600mm & 780mm below surface, W end of T 2. Mid / pale grey brown slightly silty fine sand, blending into 0118 below
0118	0118	T 02	layer	Extending for c.9-10m into T 2 from W end and between 780 & 1.13m depth from surface (at W end). Mid grey brown silty coarser sand with occ rounded flints (10-40mm) becoming moderate to base
0119		T 06	find	Unstrat tile, topsoil T 6
0120		T 55	find	Unstrat pot, subsoil 0103, T 55
0121	0123?	T 57	finds	Finds, N end of T 57: probably from layer 0123
0122		T 57	finds	Unstrat finds from T 57

0123	0123	T 57	layer	Top layer of a series of deep darker deposits (0123-0127) that extend c12m from N end of T 57. Finds 0121 prob from this layer. Under 0102, between 600-900mm below surface: mid/dark grey fine silty sand oc small stones & voc small charcoal flecks. =0128?
0124	0124	T 57	layer	Under 0123, between 900mm-1.15m from surface. Very similar to 0123 but v slightly darker. Prob same as 0291 which is layer cut by ditch [0292]
0125	0125	T 57	layer	Under 0124, between 1.15-1.25m from surface. Mid to pale grey fine sand
0126	0126	T 57	layer	Under 0125, between 1.25-1.32m from surface. Mid to dark orange brown sand
0127	0127	T 57	layer	Under 0126, between 1.32-1.48m from surface, above sandy natural. Mottled pale grey & yellow sand, occasional stones
0128	0128	T 57	layer	Layer over fill of ditch [0292] and under sub 0103, between 650-900mm below surface. Very similar to and probably the same as 0123
0129	0129	T 09	layer	Under sub 0103, S third - mid grey brown sand with frequent small to large (5-70mm) flints
0130	0130	T 19	layer	Under topsoil, S end for 4m - dark grey black humic peaty loam; 250mm thick
0131				0131 - 0199 numbers not used
0200	0200	T 15	pit cut	Cut of shallow oval pit running under balk. NE end v shallow, SW slightly steeper slope with shallow concave base. Width (SW-NE) 800mm, length 660mm, depth 150mm
0201	0200	T 15	pit fill	Pale-mid brown sans with some silt & clay. Occasional rounded stone of small size (>40mm) and patches of chalk. Soft compaction
0202	0202	T 01	ditch cut	Cut of V shaped ditch, gently sloping sides into shallow curving concave base, running NNE-SSW; width 1.2m, depth 350mm
0203	0202	T 01	ditch fill	Mid briwn sand with silt and clay , occ rounded and sub-angular poorly sorted stones of small - large size (10-100mm); rare pot frags; soft compaction (wet)
0204	0204	T 06	pit cut	Circular in plan, curved 45degree sloping sides, flattish base: width 1.3m, 1.4m, depth 380mm
0205	0204	T 06	pit fill	Upper fill, mid brown silty sand, medium irregular flints mid fill, medium compaction
0206	0204	T 06	pit fill	Lower fill, v dark brown silty sand, slightly greasy feel, occ patches of red/purple silty sand, heat effected pebbles and occ cracked flint, v occ frags of burnt clay, small charc frags present
0207	0207	T 06	pit cut	Roughly circular in plan, curving sides steeper to W edge, slight curved base deeper to W edge; width 850mm, length 850mm, depth 240mm
0208	0207	T 06	pit fill	Mid brown silty sand, regular inclusions of small / medium irregular stones and pebbles, v occ charcoal flecks, medium compaction
0209	0209	T 06	pit cut	Roughly circular, curved sides at 45 deg to E side, break of slope and steepest angle 0.2m from base W side - shallow depression then curved 45 deg side to base, rounded base; width 1.4m, depth 550mm
0210	0209	T 06	pit fill	Yellow brown silty sand, very frequent med-small reg & irreg stones, med compaction
0211	0209	T 06	pit fill	Mid brown silty sand, v freq med-small irreg & reg stones, v occ charcoal flecks, med compaction
0212	0209	T 06	pit fill	Grey brown silty sand, occ small stones, med compaction
0213	0213	T 05	ditch cut	Ditch running N-S, almost straight sided at 45 deg, base not seen - cut by [0215]
0214	0213	T 05	ditch fill	Patchy mid/light brown silty sand, freq med/small reg & irreg stones, med compaction

0215	0215	T 05	pit cut	Large circular pit, steep side 60+deg sides to break of slope at 400mm, then 45 deg slope, base flattish
0216	0215	T 05	pit fill	Mid / dark brown silty sand, v similar to topsoil. Frequent large irregular flints, occ large 'fresh' looking charcoal, loosly compacted
0217	0217	T 02	ditch cut	N-S running ditch with shallow open U-shaped profile: concave sides & rounded base. Width 600mm, depth 180mm
0218	0217	T 02	ditch fill	Mid to dark grey brown silty sand with moderate small to medium (5-60mm) rounded & sub-angular flints. Becomes paler and more orange brown to base
0219	0219	T 02	ditch cut	N-S running straight-sided ditch with open almost V-shaped profile: straight edges at c.40 deg and narrow rounded base: width 600mm, depth 200mm
0220	0219	T 02	ditch fill	Mid to dark grey brown silty sand becoming mid orange brown to base. Moderate small to medium (5-50mm) rounded & sub angular stones
0221	0221	T 06	ditch cut	Linear NE-SW running, curving 45deg sides, V shaped but slightly curved base
0222	0221	T 06	ditch fill	Mid brown silty sand, reg small stones & pebbles, occ med stone, med compaction
0223	0223	T 06	ditch cut	Linear NNE-SSW running, V shaped, 30deg angle sides, almost V shaped base, Shallower to NNE end - running down slope. Width 750mm, depth 170mm
0224	0223	T 06	ditch fill	Grey-brown silty sand, frequent small stones & pebbles
0225	0225	T 02	ditch cut	N-S running ditch, slight E curve, open U-shaped profile, gently sloping sides, rounded base. Width 300mm, depth 160mm
0226	0225	T 02	ditch fill	Mid / pale mottled brown grey slightly silty sand, moderate / occ small-med 10-40mm rounded & sub angular flints
0227	0227	T 06	posthole cut	Circular in plan, U-shaped profile, rounded base: width 300mm, depth 160mm
0228	0227	T 06	posthole fill	Grey / brown silty sand, small / medium rounded & irregular stones - frequent, occ small charcoal flecks
0229	0229	T 06	posthole cut	Sub circular, almost vertical sides to flat base with rounded edges: width 350mm, length 43mm, depth 43mm
0230	0229	T 06	posthole fill	Light brown silty sand, paler to edges, frequent small stones with occ larger irregular & rounded, occ small charc flecks
0231	0231	T 06	posthole cut	Circular in plan, curved 45deg sides to rounded base: width 400mm, depth 140mm
0232	0231	T 06	posthole fill	Light grey / brown silty sand, occ small / med stones (rounded & irreg)
0233	0233	T 03	ditch cut	N-S running ditch, U shaped in section: width 500mm, depth 120mm
0234	0233	T 03	ditch fill	Mid brown silty sand, small amount of clay, hardly any stone, fairly loose compaction
0235	0235	T 03	ditch cut	N-S running ditch, U-shaped in section: width 670mm, depth 200mm
0236	0235	T 03	ditch fill	Mid brown silty sand, hardly any stone, fairly loose in compaction
0237	0237	T 03	ditch cut	N-S running, U-shaped in section, seems to narrow towards S: width 700mm, depth 180mm
0238	0237	T 03	ditch fill	Mid brown silty sand, hardly any stone, fairly loose in compaction. Contains pipe stem
0239	0239	T 03	ditch cut	NW-SE running ditch, U-shaped: width 1.75m, depth 380mm
0240	0239	T 03	ditch fill	Mid brown silty sand, hardly any stone, loose compaction

0241	0241	T 22	ditch cut	N end T 22, E-W running ditch: width 1.27m, depth 300mm
0242	0242	T 22	ditch cut	S of [0241] and cut by [0243], E-W running ditch. Steep, curved side to the S, truncated to N, flattish base: width 840mm, depth 500mm
0243	0243	T 22	ditch cut	Cuts fill of ditch [0242], E-W running ditch, curving sides and base: width 720mm, depth 32mm
0244	0241	T 22	ditch fill	Medium brown sand, moderate flints, light compaction
0245	0242	T 22	ditch fill	Medium-dark brown silty sand with frequent flints and pockets of burnt areas with fragments of charred bone - sampled. Cut by [0243]
0246	0243	T 22	ditch fill	Medium brown silty sand, regular inclusions of flint, loose (wet) compaction
0247	0247	T 03	pit? cut	Pit or ditch butt end cut artly revealed W end of trench. Concave base, fairly steep sided: complete width not revealed, depth 230mm
0248	0247	T 03	pit? fill	Mid brown silty sand, occ small stones
0249	0249	T 30	ditch cut	N-S running ditch, shallow and narrow cut with more depth to E: width 480mm, depth 80mm. E of ditch [0251] by 3.9m
0250	0249	T 30	ditch fill	Medium brown sandy clay (over natural clay), infrequent small flint inclusions, tight compaction
0251	0251	T 30	ditch cut	N-S running ditch, flat base with irregular sides: width 800mm, depth 180mm. Located W of [0249] by 3.9m
0252	0251	T 30	ditch fill	Medium brown sandy clay, some flint inclusions, tight compaction
0253	0253	T 28	ditch cut	N-S running ditch, gently sloped sides turning steep and a U-shaped section: width 1m, depth 600mm. Some disturbance at top of cut edge
0254	0253	T 28	ditch fill	Upper fill, medium brown, occasional flints, some disturbance
0255	0253	T 28	ditch fill	Middle fill, sand and pebble deposit, frequent flints, light compaction
0256	0253	T 28	ditch fill	Lower fill, dark brown, occasional flint, medium compaction
0257	0257	T 06	ditch cut	Linear running NE-SW, sides not clear - subsoiler / drainage damage, flat bottomed: width 850mm, depth 120mm
0258	0257	T 06	ditch fill	Pale brown silty sand, occ small stones - larger stones to NW edge (subsoiler - v cracked and broken in situ), med compaction
0259	0259	T 06	ditch cut	Linear running NE-SW, curving 45deg sides, almost flat base, slight curve: width 1.3m, depth 280mm
0260	0259	T 06	ditch fill	Mid brown silty sand - paler to base and mottled, frequent small - medium reg & irreg flints, medium compaction
0261	0261	T 06	ditch cut	Linear running NE-SW, curving 45deg sides, u-shaped base: width 600mm, depth 300mm. Unclear relationships - [0257, 0259 & 0261]
0262	0261	T 06	ditch fill	Mid brown silty sand, frequent small stones & occ med, subsoiler disturbance to SE edge - piece of plastic recovered from this area amongst large cracked and broken stones
0263	0263	T 24	ditch cut	Approx N-S running ditch with open u-shaped profile & flattish base: width 850mm, depth 250mm. Recut of ditch [0265 & ?0267]
0264	0263	T 24	ditch fill	Mid to pale grey brown slightly silty fine sand with moderate small to medium rounded & sub-angular flints (5-50mm)

0265	0265	T 24	ditch cut	Under [0263], similar alignment with deep almost v-shaped profile, steeper on E side & narrow slightly curving base: width c1.22m (but difficult to see edge against 0268), depth 560mm
0266	0265	T 24	ditch fill	Mid / dark grey slightly silty sand, with occ to moderate small to medium (5-60mm) rounded & sub-angular flints
0267	0267	T 24	pit cut	Pit or ?ditch butt end adj to ditches [0263 & 0265]. Shallow ?circular feature on edge of trench, with fairly steep edge where seen (E side,W edge truncated by [0265]) and flat base: width c.700mm, depth 280mm
0268	0267	T 24	pit fill	Same as 0266 but with occ yellow sand horizontal lenses
0269	0269	T 24	pit cut	Shallow circular cut to E of [0267] on edge of trench baulk with gently sloping sides and flat base: width c.600mm (where seen), depth 80mm
0270	0269	T 24	pit fill	Mid grey brown slightly silty sand occ small to med flints
0271	0110	T 24	layer	Test square (0.6x1.2m) dug through hillwash layer 0110, c.7m from S end of trench. Banded layers of mid reddish brown sand alternating between loose to tight compaction, some compaction. Bottomed at 600mm (eg 1.55m from ground surface)
0272	0110	T 24	layer	Test square (1x1m) dug through hillwash layer 0110, c.1.8m N of test square 0271. Mid brown sand light compaction. Bottomed at 450mm (eg 1.35m from ground surface)
0273	0273	T 04	pit cut	A large shallow pit or hollow-type feature, extends for c.6m from E end of trench and cut by ditch [0294] along N edge. Where seen (see section [0275]) appears to have gently sloping sides and flat base.
0274	0273	T 04	pit fill	Mid to dark brown / black silty sand with evidence of bioturbation, loose compaction, occ stones 5-20mm - some of them fire-cracked. See also 0114 for surface finds from this deposit
0275	0275	T 04	pit cut	Sub circular pit with narrow 'flue' extending southwards under baulk cutting dark layer/fill 0274. Steep sloping sides with break of slope to almost vertical sides: width 600mm, depth 500mm. Possible cooking pit
0276	0275	T 04	pit fill	Upper central fill. Dark grey/black silty sand with greasy feel. Large quantity of fire cracked flint and heat effected pebbles
0277	0275	T 04	pit fill	Mid central fill. Light / mid grey silty sand with occ small / med heat effected pebbles
0278	0278	T 04	ditch cut	Linear running N-S, 45deg straight sided, u-shaped base
0279	0278	T 04	ditch fill	Mid brown silty sand. Frequent small - med reg & irreg stones. Medium compaction
0280	0280	T 04	ditch cut?	Probable ditch running N-S. Section shape not clear: S side cut by [0278] & N side not seen - edge of trench. Flat bottomed: width unknown, depth 240mm. Probably ditch but v. flat bottomed?
0281	0280	T 04	ditch fill?	Light / mid brown silty sand with mix of gravel / fine stone
0282	0282	T 04	layer	Layer sealing fill of pit [0275] and lying over top of deposit / fill 0274. Mottled silty sand below subsoil 0103. Mottling - mid brown to light brown. Animal and root disturbance. Occ small & v occ med irreg & reg stones
0283	0275	T 04	pit fill	Lower central fill. Dark grey silty sand with large pebbles to base - almost fully lining base of pit & continuing into fill 0284
0284	0275	T 04	pit fill	Outer and basal fill. Light grey silty sand with frequent heat effected small / med stones
0285	0285	T 02	pit cut	Large pit, partly revealed against S edge of T 2. Appears semi-circular where observed with steep

				sides, almost vertical in places (?revetment) and with undulating base: depth 1.1m, width (where sectioned) 2m.
0286	0285	T 02	pit fill	Top fill. Mid to dark brown slightly clay silty sand with moderate small to med flints (10-60mm), occ small charcoal flecks
0287	0285	T 02	pit fill	Under 0286, above 0288. Similar to 0286 but with lenses & mottles of pale / mid yellow sand.
0288	0285	T 02	pit fill	Under 0287, above 0289. V similar to 0286 but slightly darker & more frequent stones towards base of deposit
0289	0285	T 02	pit fill	Basal fill, under 0288. Mid brown slightly silty sand with occ small to medium (5-40mm) flints
0290	0273	T 04	pit fill	Apparent in side of trench (see section pit [0275]) probable continuation of deposit 0274 but paler grey not dark grey / black
0291	0291	T 57	layer	Layer cut by ditch [0292], at c.900mm depth from ground level but not bottomed: probably same as 0124. Mid slightly orange brown slightly silty sand. One of the deep dark deposits at N end of T 57
0292	0292	T 57	ditch cut	Straight-sided, approx SW-NE running ditch with u-shaped profile, concave sides & rounded base: width 800mm, depth 260mm. Cuts mid brown layer 0291 so edges vague
0293	0292	T 57	ditch fill	Mid to dark grey brown slightly clay & silty sand with occ small to med (10-40mm) rounded flints - larger ones at top of deposit, V occ small charc flecks
0294	0294	T 04	ditch cut	Straight-sided E-W running ditch, partly revealed along N edge of trench, cutting dark deposit 0274/[0273] - probably same as [0278 or ?0280]. Only S edge revealed, this fairly steep 40deg: width unknown, depth 700mm
0295	0294	T 04	ditch fill	Upper fill, mid brown slightly silty sand with mod small/med stones
0296	0294	T 04	ditch fill	Middle fill, mottled pale grey & brown sand with mod stones
0297	0294	T 04	ditch fill	Dark grey slightly silty sand with mod small to large stones - some of this material probably derived from deposit 0274
0298	0298	T 42	ditch cut	Ditch running NE-SW with fairly steep, straight sides with flat base: width 700mm, depth 250mm
0299	0298	T 42	ditch fill	Medium brown clay, occ flint & small charcoal flecks, hard compaction
0300	0300	T 55	pit cut	Partly revealed against W edge of T 55, approx sub-square cut with fairly steep sides and flattish base: length (N-S) 1.9m, width (E-W - where seen) 700+mm, depth 320mm
0301	0300	T 55	pit fill	Middle fill. Stiff mid/pale yellow brown sandy clay with mod medium (300-700mm) rounded flints. Redeposited natural?
0302	0300	T 55	pit fill	Upper fill, v similar to 0307. Mid / dark grey brown slightly silty clay sand with mod small to med (10-40mm) rounded & sub-angular flints & occ charc flecks & ?pot crumbs
0303	0303	T 41	ditch cut	Ditch N-S running with gently sloping sides: width 800+mm (but truncated by recut 0304), depth 200mm
0304	0304	T 41	ditch cut	Shallower recut of 0303 which it truncates on E edge. Gently sloping sides and flat base: width 1.05m, depth 120mm
0305	0303	T 41	ditch fill	Medium brown clay, occ charcoal flecks and 50-100mm flints, hard compaction
0306	0304	T 41	ditch fill	Medium brown clay with occ charc flecks and occ small flints, hard compaction
0307	0300	T 55	pit fill	Upper fill, v similar to 0302. Mid / dark grey brown slightly silty clay sand with mod small to med (10-40mm) rounded & sub-angular flints & occ charc flecks

0308	0308	T 42	ditch cut	Approx E-W running straight-sided ditch, the more S of the two ditches in T 42. Sides sloping at 45deg, slightly concave, gradually levelling out to flat base: width 750mm, depth 200mm
0309	0308	T 42	ditch fill	Mid to dark brown sandy clay with occ to moderate small to medium (10-40mm) rounded & sub-angular flints, occ small flecks of chalk (from surrounding natural)
0310	0310	T 39	ditch cut	Straight-sided, N-S running ditch. Open v-shaped profile with gently sloping sides slightly concave, narrow rounded base: width 1.05m, depth 300mm
0311	0310	T 39	ditch fill	Mid to dark brown sandy clay becoming slightly more orange brown towards W edge. Occ to mod small to med rounded flints, v.occ small charc flecks, occ small chalk flecks to base (chalky clay natural here)

APPENDIX 3.1 General finds

OP No	Pottery		CBM		Flint		Burnt flint		Miscellaneous	Spotdate
	No.	Wt.g	No.	Wt.g	No.	Wt.g	No.	Wt.g		
0001			1	218	1	22			SF1001 cu 1-7g	Med/PMed
0002	2	52			1	10				PMed Rom
0003	1	12					1	16		Rom
0004					1	10			SF1002 cu 1-4g	Med
0005					1	7	1	28	SF1003 cu 1-2g	Med/PMed
0007					1	1				
0008					2	27				
0009					1	5				
0010					3	19			SF1004 lead 1-5g SF1005 gold 1-8g	PMed
0011					1	14				
0012							1	15	SF1006 cu 1-3g	
0014					2	22				
0015					1	2				
0016					1	23				
0017							1	14		
0101	4	39								PMed, Rom
0106	1	12								LIA-ERom
0108	2	15								IA
0110	2	40								LIA-ERom
0111	1	17								Preh
0113			1	611						
0114	1	7					4	31		BA
0115										
0116	1	7								Rom
0118									SF1101 iron 1-1g	
0119			1	474						
0120	1	2								Preh
0121	4	173								Rom
0122	1	13			2	38				Rom
0203	2	10								Rom
0205	5	54			3	125	2	19		IA
0206	6	47			4	241	2	34	Fired clay 1-4g	IA
0208					2	2				
0211					3	14	12	219		
0216			1	165						
0222					4	27				
0224					2	36				
0230					2	28				
0244					1	2	1	337	Burnt stone 1-337g	
0245							1	57		
0246					2	6				
0250	1	2								Preh
0252	2	9								LIA-ERom, IA
0266	5	62			2	17				LIA-ERom, IA
0268	1	3								Rom
0270	1	3								IA
0274							9	103		
0276					1	40	24	414		
0279					3	18				
0286	4	46	1	107	2	165			SF1102 iron 1-14g	Rom
0289									SF1104 iron 1-11g	Rom
0293	4	15			1	50				Rom, Later IA
0296					3	46	6	89		
0299	1	7							Clay pipe 4-9g	Rom
0302	14	36			20	122				Preh
0306	2	10	5	44	1	19			SF1103 iron 1-2g, Clay pipe 20-81g	PMed, Rom

(Key: BA = Bronze Age, IA = Iron Age, Preh = prehistoric, LIA = late Iron Age, Rom = Roman, Med=medieval, PMed= post-medieval. Cu = copper alloy)

APPENDIX 3.2 Pottery catalogue

Ctxt	Fabric	Sherd	No	Wt/g	Form	Notes	Spotdate
0002	ESW	r	1	32	jar	Stoneware jar (130mm, 19%)	17th-19th c
	GX	ba	1	20	jar	Jar base, abraded.	Rom
0003	GX	r	1	12	dish?	Dish or lid (200mm, 6%)	Rom
0101	GRE	b	1	7		Abraded.	16th-18th c
0101	BSW	r	1	14	jar	Necked jar rim type 8 (220mm, 5%). Romanising fabric	ERom
	GMB	r	1	14	jar	Jar rim 5 (200mm, 9%) Abraded.	
	GX	b	1	4		Abraded.	Rom
0106	BSW	b	1	12	jar	Oxidised core. Hand-made/wheel-finished?	LIA-ERom
0108	HMS	b	2	15		Black (later IA?)	IA
0110	BSW	b	1	6		'Romanising' fabric, oxidised surface.	ERom
	GROG	b	1	34	jar	Bead cordon. abaded.	LIA-ERom
0111	HMF	b	1	17		Brown surface grey core black interior. Medium-coarse flint (up to 5mm) (prob. IA) Abraded.	IA
0114	HMG	b	1	7		V. abraded. (asc) Grog and sand. Orange surface, black core & interior.	BA
0116	GX	b	1	7		Very abraded	Rom
0120	HMF	b	1	2		Flint - black grog? Buff exterior, black core & interior.	Preh
0121	GMB	ba	1	13	dish	Dish? (C2+)	Rom
	GMG	b	1	10		Abraded.	Rom
	GX	ba	1	12		Base type 3. Abraded.	Rom
	STOR	b	1	138		Abraded. (grog)	Rom
0122	BSW	b	1	13		Abraded.	Rom
0203	GMG	b	1	7		Abraded.	Rom
	RX	b	1	3		Pale orange. (adverse soil cond)	Rom
0205	HMF	ba	1	18	jar	Jar. Med-fine flint & sand	IA
	HMF	b	1	11		Fine to coarse flint (up to 8mm) and sand	IA
	HMF	b	2	16		Fine to medium flint, smoothed surf.	IA
	HMF	b	1	9		Fineware vessel. SV as 0206 rounded car. pt. thin, v fine burnish (could be Darmsden fineware- EIA?)	IA
0206	HMF	b	1	8		Coarseware. Chunky coarse flint plain surface	IA
	HMF	b	1	7		Fineware, SV as 0205 (4) rounded carination pt. burnished	IA
	HMF	b	2	8		Fineware Fine flint burnished	IA
	HMF	b	1	20		Coarseware. Fine flint and sand	IA
	HMF	b	1	4		Fineware b/s, Chunky grey flint. surf smoothed/burnished? - slightly abr. pitted	IA
0250	HMF	b	1	2		Very abraded. Chunky flint. Orange-brown surface & margin, black interior & core	Preh
0252	BSW	b	1	3		Cordon. Abr. oxidised core	LIA-ERom
	HMS	b	1	6		Dark brown surf, dark grey core & interior. Worn & abraded.	later IA
0266	BSW	r	1	5	4 Jar	Straight-necked jar. Rim 5	MC1

Ctxt	Fabric	Sherd	No	Wt/g	Form	Notes	Spotdate
	GROG	b	1	42	jar	(180mm,8%). 'Romanising' fabric Dec. 2 bands of horiz. grooves	LIA-ERom
	HMF	b	1	7		Fine-med flint. Red-brown interior and ext surfs. grey core.	IA
	HMF	b	1	5		Perforation (for suspension?) Fine-med flint. V. abraded split.	IA
	HMS	b	1	3		Orange ext. grey-brown core V abr. Orange surf & margins, black core & int.	IA
0268	BSW	b	1	3		Oxidised core	ERom
0270	HMSO	b	1	3		V. abr. Orange exterior surface & margin, black core & interior surface.	IA
0286	BUF	b	1	11	1 flagon	Buff exterior/l.pink core, int. pitted abraded	Rom
	GMG	r	1	14	4 Jar	Jar rim 9, (140mm, 14%) Soot rim	Rom
	GMG	ba	1	17		Abr.	Rom
	GX	b	1	4			Rom
0293	GMB	b	2	8			Rom
	GX	b	1	4			Rom
	HMS	b	1	3		Dark brown-black throughout, burnished/smoothed? surface	later IA
0299	BSW	b	1	7		Abr. surface gone.	Rom
0302	HMF	b	12	32		Abr. medium flint brown-dark brown surface dark grey core	IA
	HMF	b	1	3		Fine flint black surface brown- grey core	Preh
	HMF	b	1	1		Small abr. b/s flint and organic brown surfs, black core	Preh
0306	PORC	sp	1	8	teapot	Teapot spout 'Chinese style' decoration	18th-19th c
	BSW	b	1	2		Abr.	Rom

(Key: b = bodysherd, ba = base, r = rim. BA = Bronze Age, IA = Iron Age, LIA = late Iron Age, IA =
ERom = early Roman (mid 1st-early 2nd c), ncd = prehistoric, not closely datable)

APPENDIX 3.3 Flint

OP No	Type	No.	Notes	Date
0001	flake	1	Flake w limited edge retouch. Sm amts of cortex on striking platform and distal end	Later Preh
0002	flake	1	Flake w limited edge retouch. Sm amt of cortex	Later Preh
0004	flake	1	Flake w limited edge retouch. Areas of cortex at distal end	Later Preh
0005	knife	1	Snapped blade. Probably a knife. Fine edge retouch on one edge.	NEO or EBA
0007	flake	1	Small flake w small amt of cortex on distal end	Later Preh
0008	end scraper	1	Long flake/blade made into an end scraper w add. edge retouch at bulbar end. Mainly cortex along one edge	Later Preh
	flake	1	Small flake w limited edge retouch	Later Preh
0009	flake	1	Squat flake, snapped. Small amt of cortex on 1 face	Later Preh
0010	blade	1	Small blade, small amt of cortex on distal end	
	flake	1	Flake w limited edge retouch, Cortical striking platform.	Later Preh
	scraper	1	Squat flake w crude retouch to form irregular simple scraper	
0011	flake	1	Large flake w limited edge retouch. Cortex along one edge	Later Preh
0014	long flake	1	Long flake w limited edge retouch. Sub-triangular x-sec. Cortex at distal end	Later Preh
	long flake	1	Long flake w limited crude edge retouch. sub-triangular x-section. Cortical striking platform & further cortex down one edge	
0015	flake	1	Snapped flake w limited edge retouch.	Later Preh
0016	flake	1	Thick flake prob from edge of core. w limited edge retouch. small amt of cortex. Incipient cone of percussion.	Later Preh
0122	flake	1	Large thin snapped flake. Cortical striking platform but no other cortex (poss Neo-EBA)	Later Preh
	flake	1	Small snapped flake. Cortical striking platform	Later Preh
0205	flake	1	Snapped flake w limited edge retouch or use-wear. Small amount of cortex	
	flake	1	Irregular thick flake, half cortex on one face.	Later Preh
	shatter	1	Possible natural or shatter, large and irregular	Later Preh
0206	shatter	1	Shatter piece, poor quality flint	Later Preh
	shatter	1	Shatter piece, irregular w cortex on one face	Later Preh
	shatter	1	Large irregular shatter piece w small amount of cortex	Later Preh
	shatter	1	Small fragment from a shatter piece	Later Preh
0208	flake	1	Small squat flake	Later Preh
	flake/blade	1	Double snapped flake or blade	Later Preh
0211	bladelet	1	Small long flake or blade. Partially patinated	Meso or Neo
	bladelet	1	Small bladelet. Partly patinated.	Meso or Neo
	flake	1	Squat flake w slight limited edge retouch. 1/3rd cortical on dorsal face	LBA or IA
0222	flake	1	Snapped flake w limited edge retouch 25% cortex on dorsal face	Later Preh
	flake	1	Flake frag w pronounced ripples and hinge fracture. Limited edge retouch	Later Preh
	flake	1	Squat flake w limited edge retouch. Obtuse striking platform. Cortex forms distal end.	Later Preh
	flake	1	Thick irregular flake w crude retouched notch	Later Preh
0224	flake	1	Squat hinge-fractured flake	LBA or IA
	single platform core	1	Snapped flake core. Single platform survives. 1 cortical face	Later Preh
0230	flake	1	Squat flake with hinge fracture. Limited edge retouch or use-wear	IA
	shatter	1	Possibly a shatter piece w limited edge retouch or use-damage (trowel damage?)	
0244	flake	1	Snapped flake w limited edge retouch or use-wear	Later Preh
0246	flake	1	Small squat flake	Later Preh
	long flake	1	Small irregular long flake w limited edge retouch. Cortex forms one edge	Later Preh

OP No	Type	No.	Notes	Date
0266	flake	1	Thick irregular flake w limited edge retouch, mainly cortices 1 face	Later Preh
	flake	1	Small irregular flake. Cortex forms distal end	LBA-IA
0276	rod	1	Rod made of lo-quality flint. Sub-triangular x-sec. Crude retouch or use-wear. (Rods from grimes graves cxts are MBA)	NEO or EBA
0279	flake	1	Squat thin flake with hinge fracture	NEO or EBA
	long flake	1	Small thin long flake w parallel flake scars on dorsal face	NEO or EBA
	long flake	1	Long flake parallel flake scars on dorsal face, cortical striking platform & more cortex forms distal end. (rel poor quality flint)	NEO or EBA
0286	flake	1	Large thin flake w some limited edge retouch damage. One edge is cortical. (well-controlled flaking)	Later Preh
	multiplatform flake core	1	Multi-platform flake core, irregular rel. well-controlled flake removal, no hf's	Later Preh
0293	blade/long flake core	1	Blade/long flake core. two opposed striking platforms. 1 face pat = surf but natural(prob Neo.)	NEO
0296	flake	1	Irregular squat flake w limited edge retouch. 1 face is cortical	Later Preh
	flake	1	Small irregular squat flake w limited edge retouch.	LBA/IA
	shatter	1	Shatter piece w limited crude edge retouch	Later Preh
0302	flake	1	Thin flake w limited probable use-wear on 1 edge. Prob Neo-EBA	NEO or EBA
	flake	1	Thin flake w limited edge retouch or use-wear	Later Preh
	flake	1	Large thin flake, snapped, hinge-fracture w slight retouch on hf	Later Preh
	flake	1	Large flake, thin parallel flake scars on dorsal face	Later Preh
	flake	1	Snapped flake, broad striking platform	Later Preh
	flake	3	Three very small flakes/spalls 1 w cortex	Later Preh
	flake	1	Thin flake w hinge fracture parallell flake scars on dorsal, some cortex on dorsal face	NEO or EBA
	flake	1	Small flake, irregular & thick. Cortex along 1 side	Later Preh
	flake	1	Small squat flake, broad striking platform	Later Preh
	flake	1	Small thin flake parallel flake scars on dorsal face, sm amt of cortex	Later Preh
	flake/blade	1	Snapped long flake or bladeparallel flake /blade scars on dorsal face. Some cortex at distal end (prob NEO-EBA)	NEO or EBA
	flake/blade	1	Snapped thin flake or blade, parallell flake /blade scars on dorsal face. Some cortex at distal end (prob NEO-EBA)	NEO or EBA
	flake/blade	1	Snapped small long flake or blade, Parallel flake scars on dorsal face. Limited edge retouch or use-wear, limited cortex on distal end.	NEO or EBA
	flake/blade	1	Double snapped long flake or blade (partly burnt) w parallel flake / blade scars on dorsal face	NEO or EBA
	flake/blade	1	Long flake/blade w parallel blade scars on dorsal face. Cortex forms distal end.	NEO-EBA
	flake/blade	1	Snapped long flake or blade parallell flake /blade scars on dorsal face	NEO or EBA
	multi platform flake/blade core	1	Multi platform flake/blade core. Regular, with 3 striking platforms	NEO-EBA
	shatter	1	Shatter piece. Relatively small w large piece of cortex	Later Preh
0306	flake	1	Squat flake hh struck, limited edge retouch/use-wear. Cortex forms 1 side & distal end (prob BA or IA)	Later Preh

(Key: Meso = Mesolithic, Neo = Neolithic, EBA = early Bronze Age, LBA= Later Bronze Age, IA = Iron Age.)

APPENDIX 3.4 Plant macrofossils

Sample No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Context No.	0206	0208	0211	0109	0245	0228	0230	0276	0286
Feature No.	0204	0207	0209		0242				
Feature type	Fire pit	Pit	Pit	Layer	Ditch	ph	ph	Pit	Pit
Date									
Cereals									
<i>Hordeum</i> sp. (grains)	x								
<i>Secale cereale</i> L. (grain)					xcf				
<i>Triticum</i> sp. (grains)	xcf								xcf
<i>T. spelta</i> L. (glume bases)	x								
Cereal indet. (grains)	x	x	x		x				x
Herbs									
Fabaceae indet.	x				x				
Large Poaceae indet.	x								x
Tree/shrub macrofossils									
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.		x	x	xcf	x				
Other plant macrofossils									
Charcoal <2mm	xx	xx	x	x	xx	xxx	xx	xxx	xx
Charcoal >2mm	x	x	x	x	x	xxx	xx	xxx	x
Charred root/stem	x								
Other remains									
Black porous 'cokey' material		x					x		
Black tarry material	x	x	x		x		x		x
Bone	x xxb	xb			x xb	x			x
Burnt/fired clay	x				x			x	x
Burnt stone								x	
Glass							x		
Small coal frags.	x	x	x		x			x	
Vitrified material									x
Sample volume (litres)	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
% flot sorted	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

(Key to Appendix Table: x = 1 – 10 specimens, xx = 11-50 specimens, xxx = 51-100 specimens. cf = compare, b = burnt, ph = posthole)

APPENDIX 3.5 Small Finds

Small Find No.	Ctxt	Period	Material	Object name	No of frags.	Wt/g	Notes
1001	0001	MED/PMED	COPPER ALLOY	Vessel	1	7	Copper alloy vessel rim fragment.-bent most likely medieval
1002	0004	MED	COPPER ALLOY	Mount	1	4	Circular dress mount with 4 ornamental knobs around edge and 2 integral rivets (1 complete, 1 broken) Diam. 12mm. Similar to dec mount from London (Egan & Pritchard 1991 No. 815) but plain surface c. 14th-15th century
1003	0005	MED	COPPER ALLOY	fitting	1	2	Decorative fitting , heart-shaped w 2 irreg. holes - possibly either a belt buckle/strap end fragment. L. 18mm, W. 13mm
1004	0010	MED/PMED	LEAD	Cloth seal	1	5	Lead cloth seal stamped with an M or W - stamp may be off-centre. Similar to cloth seals from Augsburg dating c1500-1620 (Egan 1995 fig. 41 308-310)
1005	0010	PMED	GOLD	Coin	1	8	Gold guinea . George III, 4th head, 1782. Seaby No 3728. (Mitchell & Reeds 1990 p259)
1006	0012	ROM?	COPPER ALLOY	handle?	1	3	White metal coated. groove down each edge. Fan-shaped at one end (23mm wide) Narrow at other.(10mm wide). Patena handle?
1101	0118	UNK	IRON	nail	1	1	Small iron nail or tack - w flat oval head c.complete? 15mm long 7mm wide
1102	0286	ROM	IRON	Nail	1	14	Nearly complete nail, tip broken off. L. 55mm.
1103	0306	UNK	IRON	Nail	1	2	Nail, pointed end fragment only. L. 20mm
1104	0289	ROM	IRON	fitting	1	11	Bent at right angles and tapering to a point. Appears wider in middle of longer part but not certain very corroded

APPENDIX 4.1 Evaluation Phase 2

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

SCCAS REPORT No. 2009/154

Evaluation Phase 2, Recreation Ground, Whitton Church Lane, Whitton WHI 014

HER Information

Planning Application No: 1362/05/FUL

Date of Fieldwork: 28th April to 5th May 2009

Grid Reference: TM 1450 4804

Funding Body: Merchant Projects

Curatorial Officer: Jess Tipper

Project Officer: Simon Cass

Oasis Reference: Suffolkc1-56226

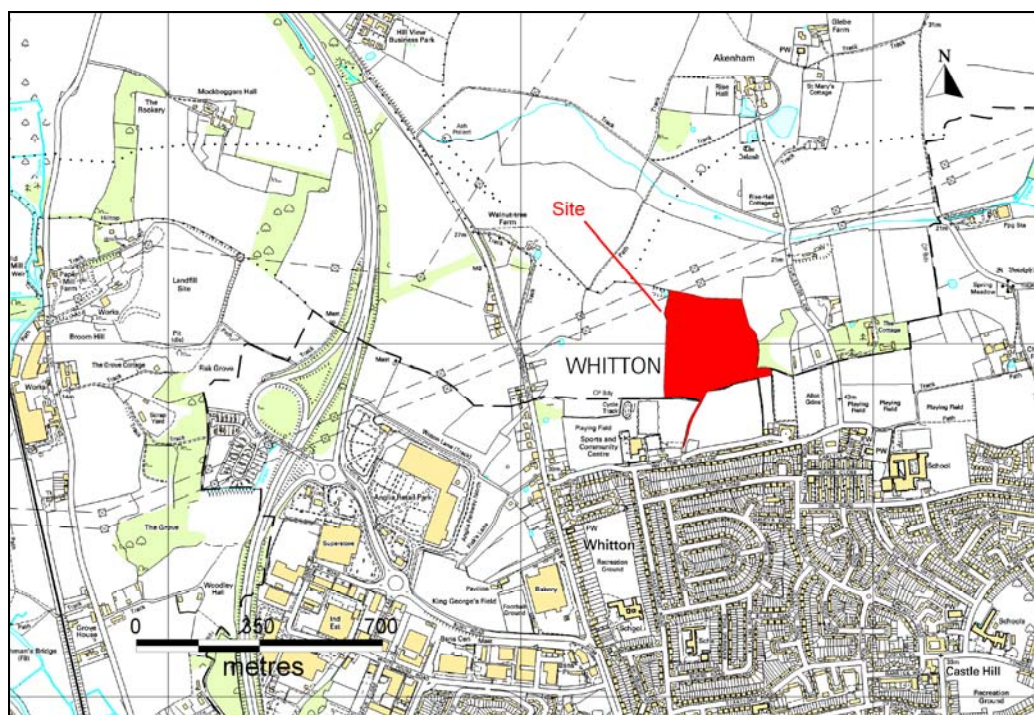
Digital report submitted to Archaeological Data Service:
<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>

Summary

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on land at Recreation Ground, Whitton Church Lane, Whitton from the 29th April to the 5th May 2009 as a second phase of evaluation in advance of a proposed development for sports pitches. The trenches excavated in this phase encountered pits and linear ditches generally of Late Iron Age/Early Roman date, similar to those identified previously (SCCAS report 2009/045) and clarified the nature and extent of the features already identified. This report forms a short summary of the works, with a full report anticipated to be integrated within any report of the likely further works.

1. Introduction and methodology

This report concerns the second phase of archaeological evaluation carried out on land to the rear of Whitton Church Lane, Whitton in advance of a prospective planning application to develop the land for sports pitches and ancillary works. The first phase of evaluation (SCCAS report 2009/045) identified a number of features of prehistoric and Roman date, and this second phase was commissioned in an attempt to clarify the nature of some of those features.



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Figure 1. Location map

16 trenches were positioned, with reference to the features found previously, in an attempt to clarify the nature of the archaeological activity noted earlier and better define the bounds within which that activity occurred. Specifically, this phase of trenching was to examine the layout of linear features encountered in the eastern portion of the site; to more accurately define the area of intense activity towards the northern side of the larger field and to examine an area near an existing public footpath which was not evaluated previously.

The trenches were all approximately 30m long and were opened with a 360-degree mechanical excavator under constant archaeological supervision. All spoilheaps were examined for finds and sufficient of the features exposed were excavated in order to date and clarify their nature.

2. Results

The majority of features encountered consisted of linear ditches and gullies, with some discrete pits and possible postholes. A spread in the western end of Trench 74 was noted, although no dating evidence was recovered. Many of the linear features appear to be continuations of those identified previously, although in several cases it is not possible to conclusively identify which features are connected as there are multiple possibilities (for example Trenches 3 and 69 or Trenches 42 and 72).

The features encountered on the eastern side of the site appear to comprise the corner of an early Roman field system (in trenches 22, 24, 28, 30, 59 and 60) with elements heading away further to the east. An isolated pit in Trench 59 is possibly a parallel to one found in Trench 24 to the south, both possibly indicative of further discrete features within this ditch system. The terminus found in Trench 65 is possibly part of a driveway or similar feature, with further elements present in trenches 59 and 66.

In the central and western portion of the site while there are more features, their nature is less distinct; the majority being undated and closely situated causing difficulties in linking linear features between trenches. Apart from the density of archaeological features in this area, points of particular interest consist of prehistoric activity (mostly discrete pits) in Trenches 4, 6, 55 and 68 and a single piece of

prehistoric pottery found in Trench 74 which may be residual in a post-medieval feature.

An undated linear ditch in Trench 68 may form part of an entranceway to an enclosure or drip-gully type feature, but no date can be suggested for it as there appear to be similarly aligned features of both undated and post-medieval date nearby.

Finds summary by Cathy Tester

Introduction

Finds were collected from 13 contexts in 7 evaluation trenches, as shown in the table below.

Tr No	Ctxt	Pottery No.	Wt/g	Burnt flint No.	Wt/g	Fired clay No.	Wt/g	Miscellaneous	Spotdate
59	0313	1	82						ERom
59	0315	10	250			1	4	A Bone 6-5g	E/MC1
59	0317	2	16	1	2			Flint 1-8g	E/MC1
60	0321	6	65			7	23		E/MC1, later IA
60	0323	3	14						M/LC1, Preh
65	0330	1	9						Preh
65	0329	2	33						IA?
68	0340	5	303					Slag 1-4g	LIA
67	0346							A Bone 8-45g	
67	0348	3	50	1	2			Burnt chalk 1	Med, Rom
72	0356	4	4						MC1
74	0364			2	127				(preh)
74	0365	1	2						16th-18th
Total		38	828	4	131	8	27		

Table 1. Finds quantities by context.

Pottery

38 sherds of pottery weighing 828g were collected from 11 contexts in 7 evaluation trenches. The assemblage includes hand-made Prehistoric, wheel-made Late Iron Age/Roman, medieval and post-medieval pottery but the majority of it is Late Iron Age/Roman. Quantities by ceramic period and trench are summarised in the table below and the pottery catalogue by context is in Appendix 1.

Trench No	No. of ctxts	No.	Wt/g	Dates
60	2	2	20	Later IA (residual)
65	2	3	42	Later IA
<i>Total Prehistoric</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>62</i>	
59	3	13	348	E/MC1, MC1, ERom
60	2	7	59	E/MC1, MC1, ERom
67	1	2	34	Rom (residual)
68	1	5	303	LIA-ERom
72	1	4	4	MC1
<i>Total LIA / Roman</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>748</i>	
67	1	1	16	12th-14th C
<i>Total medieval</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>16</i>	
74	1	1	2	16-18th C
<i>Total post-medieval</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	
Total		38	828	

Table 2. Pottery quantities by ceramic period and trench

Prehistoric pottery

5 sherds of hand-made prehistoric pottery recovered from 4 features in Trenches 60 and 65 were all sand tempered and of probable later IA date (300 BC+)

Late Iron Age and Roman pottery

Pottery dating to the Late Iron age and Roman periods was found in 8 contexts in 5 trenches. All of the pieces were local and regional coarsewares that could belong to the 1st half of the 1st century AD with no definite evidence of any activity later than mid 1st century. The fabrics encountered are very 'romanising'.

Post-Roman pottery

One sherd of MCW of 12th-14th century date was found in posthole 0347 (0348) in Tr 67 and a single sherd of glazed red earthenware (GRE) of 16th-18th century date.

Key to Pottery fabric codes:

Code	Fabric name	Period
BSW	Black-surfaced wares	LIA/ROM
GRE	Glazed red earthenware	PMed
GROG	Grog-tempered wares (Belgic)	LIA/Rom
GX	Miscellaneous sandy grey wares	Rom
HM?	Hand-made wares	Preh
HMS	Hand-made sand tempered	Preh
HMSO	Hand-made sand/organic tempered	Preh
MCW	Medieval coarseware	Med
NVC	Nene Valley colour-coated wares	Rom
RF	Miscellaneous red fineware	Rom

3. Conclusion

A number of new features were encountered, alongside known features that were further confirmed. The spread of features in the eastern portion of the site was discovered to be a part of a more intense field system (possibly more than one) than first thought, while greater resolution was gained with regards to the features along the boundary between the two fields. A plan of the features encountered, compiled with those located in the first phase of evaluation, is shown below (Figure 2) with suggested orientations and areas of likely archaeological interest. It is highly likely that further work will be required for this site, and open-area excavation is recommended for two zones within the site. It may prove necessary to further subdivide the site or conduct any excavation in phases to avoid overweathering of the features and disruption to the footpath crossing the site.

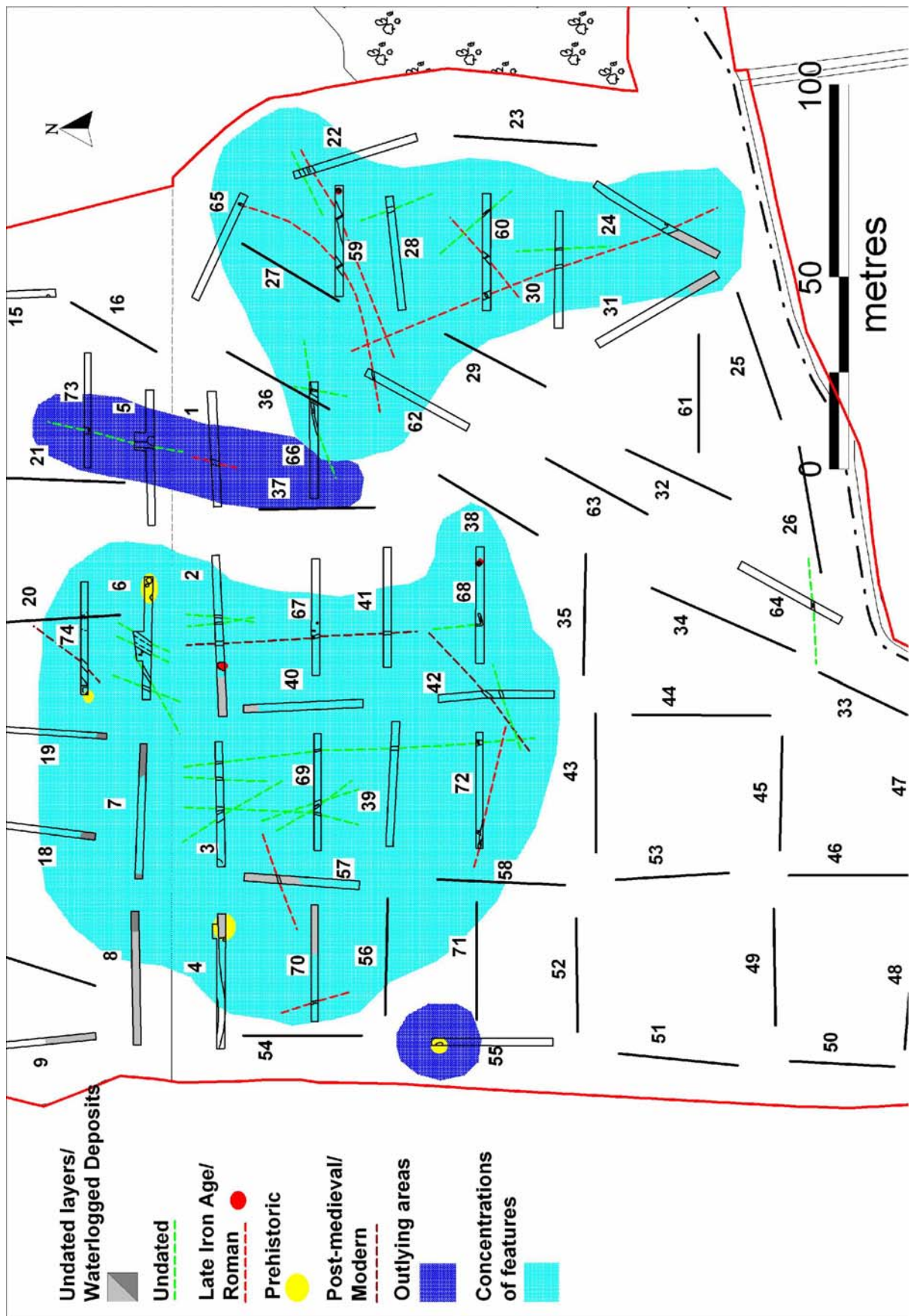
The central area of interest includes the dark organic layer in the vicinity of Trenches 4, 7, 8, 18 and 19, and allows for views of the possible terracing/levelling along the boundary of the two fields where it is most distinct (though care must be taken to avoid disturbance to a water main along the boundary), in addition to covering most of the features identified in this portion of the site and allowing for the potential for diffuse activity near already located pits and postholes such as in Trench 69.

The eastern area covers features as already discussed and could be extended northwards with a narrow corridor through Trenches 1, 5 and 73, to investigate the ditch(es?) located here, identifying if they are one or two ditches, and if any further relationships are present with other unidentified features.

The western area could be extended to cover the area around a prehistoric feature located in the northern part of Trench 55, where there may well be further diffuse activity.

S. Cass

June 2009



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Figure 2. Potential alignments and areas of interest

APPENDIX 4.1. Pottery catalogue

Tr No.	Ctxt	Feat	Fabric	Sherd	No	Wt/g	Form	Notes	Spotdate
59	0313	0312	BSW	r	1	82	4SJar	Rim 8 (280mm, 12%) Romanising fabric – w abundant grey grog. Abraded	ERom
			BSW	b	4	190	jar	Jar, sv oxy core, pocked surface	ERom
	0315	0314	BSW	b	1	23	jar	Jar shoulder with bead cordon at top (Cam 221b) oxy core, abraded	MC1
			BSW	b	1	19	jar	V. 'romanising' fabric, abundant grog. single groove, burnished, oxy margins	ERom
			GROG	b	3	16	Cam 218	SV Cam 218 cordoned shoulder	MC1
0317	0316	BSW	b	1	4		Fine, thin vessel, neck and shoulder. oxy core, 'romanising' fabric	MC1	
		BSW	b	1	12	jar	Jar, 'romanising' fabric	E/MC1	
60	0321	0320	BSW	b	1	10	jar	Necked jar, rim 9/13 (180mm,7%). 'romanising' fabricjar	E/MC1
			GROG	b	1	17	SJar	Vertical combing. Abraded. Black surf	ERom
			GROG	b	2	16	jar	Fine, thin. SV. GROG/BSW?	E/MC1
			GX	b	1	11	jar	High-shouldered jar with bead at base of neck(Cam 221b) GX or worn BSW?	E/MC1
			HMSO	b	1	11		V abr, worn surf. Lght orange surface & grey core. Later IA?	later IA
0323	0322	RF	b	2	5		Fine sandy, abraded. Wherstead prod? (MC1?)	MC1	
		HMS	b	1	9		Buff ext, orange int, coarse quartz sand. abraded (NCD)	preh	
65	0329	0328	HMSO	b	2	33		Buff/brown ext surf, dark grey/black core. Battered, abr (prob. IA)	preh
			HM?	b	1	9		Thick orange w buff clay pellets. (is it hm or wm - preh?)	preh
68	0340	0339	GROG	bba	5	303	SJar	Large sjar base & b/s w vert comb dec.Abraded. LIA	LIA-ERom
67	0348	0347	MCW	b	1	16		Ext surf flaked off	12-14thC
			GX	b	1	6		Abr.	Rom
			NVC	r	1	28	1	flagon	abr flagon square rim and handle. (60mm,46%) v abr. slag inc
72	0356	0353	BSW	r	4	4	3.7	Globular beaker, (120mm,8%)	MC1
74	0365	0365	GRE	b	1	2		Abr b/s	16-18th C