

Assessment Report & Updated Project Design for an Archaeological Programme of Works at Plot No.14A Winston Drive, South Creake, Norfolk.



Prepared on behalf of Craig Yarham

Giles Emery
September 2012

Report No: 25


NHES Event No: ENF128383

Job Ref: NVC/2012/GE71

OASIS ID: norvicar1-134158

NORVIC archaeology

 www.norvicarchaeology.com

 07759016372

 giles.emery@norvicarchaeology.com

Contents

1.0	Introduction	2
2.0	Preliminary Summary of Results	2
3.0	Geology and Topography	4
4.0	Brief Archaeological and Historical Background	4
5.0	On Site Methodology	5
6.0	Immediate Post-excavation Methodology	6
<i>Part 1: Assessment</i>		
7.0	Stratigraphic Archive	6
8.0	Preliminary Results & General Statement of Potential	7
9.0	Assessment of the Artefactual Material	10
<i>Part 2: Updated Project Design</i>		
10.0	Introduction	22
11.0	General Aims	22
12.0	Revised Research Objectives	22
13.0	Publication Proposal	23
14.0	Contextual and Stratigraphic Analysis	24
15.0	Artefactual Analysis	24
16.0	Post-excavation Resources	26
17.0	Long Term Storage, Curation and Conservation	28
18.0	Acknowledgements	28
19.0	Bibliography	28

Figures

Figure 1	General site location plan	3
Figure 2	Basic Excavation Plan	30
Figure 3	Main Excavation Area	31

Plates

Plate 1	General shot of the site looking north* <i>*4th century Roman coin in foreground</i>	Cover
---------	--	-------

Archaeological Mitigation of land off No.14 Winston Drive, South Creake, Norfolk.

Location:	South Creake
Grid Ref:	TF 8614 3537
NHES Event Nos:	ENF128383 (NB: Evaluation No. ENF126756)
Date of fieldwork:	6 th to 12 th June 2012

1.0 Introduction

Norvic Archaeology was commissioned by the landowner Craig Yarham, to undertake a Programme of Archaeological Work (PoAW) at plot 14A Winston Drive, South Creake (land off No.14 Winston Drive). The fieldwork focused on the development plot of a single residential dwelling which includes part of the former garden of No.14 (Figure 1, below). The development site is located adjacent to where a number of Roman coins and a Roman bronze figurine have previously been found. This stage of mitigatory work follows an archaeological evaluation of the site by Norvic Archaeology in June 2011, which confirmed the presence of Romano-British features at the site (Norvic Archaeology Report No.17).

Planning permission was granted for the development of a single residential house with garage (Ref: 11/00701/F) subject to a condition for a programme of archaeological work. An archaeological excavation was required as part of the PoAW to replace by record archaeological features, deposits and structures which could not be preserved *in situ*, and which may have been damaged or destroyed by the proposed development. The archaeological excavation was undertaken in accordance with a brief issued by James Albone of the Historic Environment Service (HES Ref: CNF43520 EXCAVbrf) on behalf of the Borough Council of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk.

This report summarises the stratigraphic, artefactual and environmental evidence recovered during the excavation and assesses the potential of the information to address the original research aims of the project. It also seeks to identify areas where these results can contribute to wider research agendas. The secondary part of this report takes the form of an Updated Project Design (UPD) which is intended to steer the project to a successful conclusion. The UPD summarises the revised research objectives suggested by the assessment of the evidence and presents a proposal for how the results of the project can best be broadcast to a wider audience through publication.

On completion of the project, the site archive will be offered for long term deposition with Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service, following the relevant policy on archiving standards.

2.0 Preliminary Summary of Results

The excavation revealed the north-east corner of a large enclosure ditch for a previously unknown Romano-British occupation site. The upper fills comprised of a series of dumped deposits containing relatively large quantities of butchered animal bone and possible waste from metalworking in the form of fired clay fragments, perhaps daub from a deconstructed hearth. Pottery and coins collected from the ditch currently suggest a late 3rd to 4th century date for occupation. The enclosure ditch truncated two earlier ditches, at least one of which may relate to earlier Romano-British activity at the site.

A surprise discovery was made of prehistoric activity in the form of a small number of features, including the base of a shallow pit and the terminus of a ditch. Worked flints collected from the site include a transverse 'chisel-shaped' arrow head and two scrapers of likely Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age date. Most significantly, an assemblage of Late Neolithic pottery was recovered, mainly from a cluster of finds in the lower subsoil. The majority of the assemblage is Later Neolithic Peterborough Ware which is rare in Norfolk, with this assemblage representing one of the largest yet found in the county.

A single ditch of medieval date was also revealed, along with a small number of postholes of uncertain date.

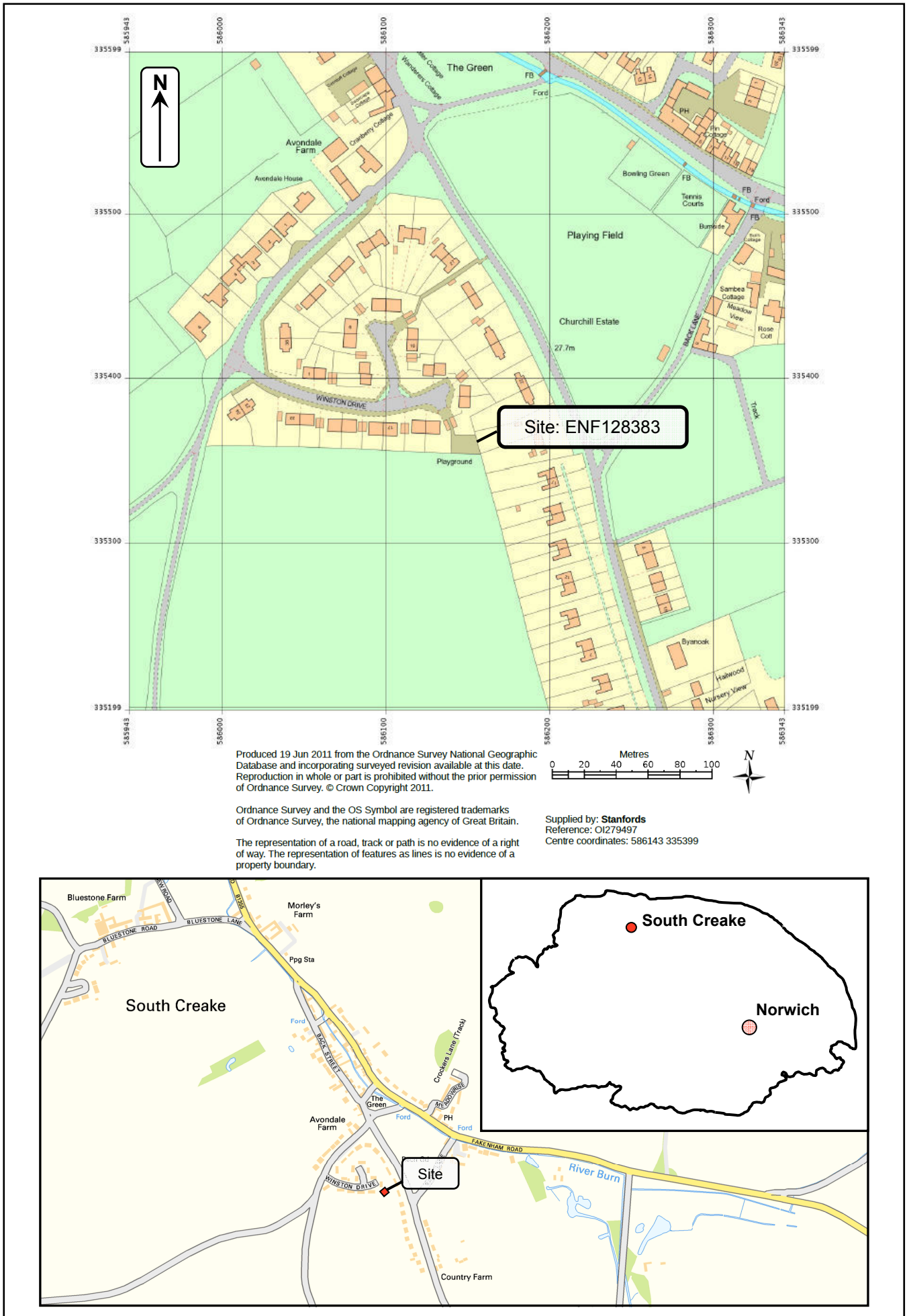


Figure 1. General Site Location Plan

3.0 Geology and Topography

The site is located on the southern slopes of the River Burn valley; c.200m southwest from its southern bank on an area of slightly raised ground which forms the Winston Drive estate at c.30m OD.

The underlying geology is Upper Chalk, overlain by gravels with alluvium deposits further to the north in the area of the river channel. Superficial deposits comprise of poorly sorted gravel and sands, with clay lenses, formed mostly by solifluction and/or hillwash and soil creep - Geology of Britain Viewer at a scale of 1:50 000 (http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html).

The sub-surface geology of the site encountered during the fieldwork can be characterised as medium grained, pale yellow sands with frost-fractured flints and occasional lenses of mid orange sandy-clays.

4.0 Brief Archaeological and Historical Background

A parish summary of the large amount of information held for South Creake's Historic Environment can be viewed on the Norfolk Heritage Explorer website. The parish has generated over 100 records which give evidence of human occupation and activity of most periods in the form of find scatters, cropmarks, listed buildings and excavated sites.

The development site is located adjacent to a garden where several Roman coins and a Roman bronze figurine have previously been found at No. 26 Churchill Estate (NHER 15172). Other rear gardens of the Churchill Estate have also produced Roman coins (NHER 52866, 12569, 1950 & 21468).

The following extract from the online parish summary was compiled by Thomas Sunley (NLA) 6 June 2007 and summarises evidence for Roman activity found in the parish:

Two Roman roads run through South Creake (NHER 1791 and 1922). The first of these was discovered by probing in the River Burn which located a metalled surface (NHER 1922). The road has since been traced and it is metalled throughout. It runs across several parishes and originally went over the site of Barwick Hall. A long section of the other road (NHER 1791) runs through South Creake on its way to an unknown destination. It is a hollow way in some parts and in others it is only visible on aerial photographs. Some sections are still used as farm track, and parts of this road are now accessible through the National Cycle network.

No other Roman sites have been recorded for the parish but a few Roman finds merit discussion here. A huge hoard of 1300-2000 silver Roman coins (NHER 1948) was found in South Creake in 1799. No further information is available about this fantastic discovery but it is possible that some of the coins were acquired by Norwich Castle Museum in 1840. Of course, many other Roman coins have been found in isolation or smaller groupings (e.g. NHER 15732 and 28400). Other intriguing finds include a female figurine (NHER 15172) and a razor (NHER 28962).

ENF126756: The archaeological evaluation carried out by Norvic Archaeology in June 2011 confirmed the presence of sub-surface deposits of archaeological significance (summary extract follows):

A single evaluation trench measuring c.10m by 1.8m revealed two Romano-British ditches at 90° orientation to one another. The smaller ditch may be a former boundary ditch and was associated with two small postholes. It contained a few sherds of pottery which appear to indicate a 3rd to 4th century deposition date.

The larger ditch is estimated to measure c. 2m wide and has survived to a depth of 0.85m. It contained dark grey deposits flecked by charcoal from which a well-preserved assemblage

of finds was collected. These include a coin of the emperor Gratian (367-383 AD), butchered animal bone, pottery sherds of fine non-local table wares, as well as more utilitarian, locally-produced wares of 3rd to 4th century date and clay fragments from a hearth. Environmental evidence gained from the primary fill suggests localised activity, with possible areas of grassland or agricultural land close by. It is possible that this ditch may form part of an enclosure associated with a fairly affluent Roman settlement.

All features were sealed below a horizon of upper subsoil, from which a few sherds of Romano-British pottery were collected. During the course of the work the owners of an adjacent property brought forward several Roman pottery sherds collected from their garden. The evidence for a previously unrecognised focus of Roman activity in the immediate area of the site is compelling.

A small number of burnt flints and two small struck flakes were collected from the lower subsoil and may indicate minor prehistoric activity in the area.

Sites in the immediate proximity or of particular relevance or interest which fall in close proximity to the site include (*The following information has been sourced from the Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER)*):

NHER 1950: Roman Coin. In 1972 a Roman sestertius of Severus Alexander was recovered from the rear garden of **No.16 Churchill Estate**.

NHER 1950: Roman Coin. In 1977 a Roman coin of Faustina Senior was found in this area. It is believed to have come from a garden of the **Churchill Estate**.

NHER 15172: Roman figurine and coins. During the period 1977-1984 a number of Roman coins and a female bronze figurine were recovered from the garden of **No. 26 Churchill Estate**. The coins include examples from the reigns of Tetricus I, Constantine II and Victorinus.

NHER 21468: Roman coin. In 1985 a bronze coin of Constantius II (AD348-60) was found in the garden of **No. 22 Churchill Estate**.

NHER 52866: Roman coin. A Roman coin was found in the back garden of **No.9 Churchill Estate** in 2009.

NHER 15532: Medieval stone fragments. In 1979 a fragment of a medieval arch made from Caen or Barnack stone was found in the garden of Sambea Cottage (c.180m to the north-east of the site).

NHER 39711: Find Spot. Sometime before 2003 a number of medieval and post medieval pottery sherds were recovered from the garden of Avondale Farmhouse garden c. 200m to the north-north-west of the site.

NHER 1791: Roman Road. Approximately 2km to the east of the site is a long section of a major Roman road running north-south that passes through several parishes. Its terminus is unknown. This road is important because it may have influenced the pattern of Roman settlement around it. It is a hollow way in some parts and in others it is only visible on aerial photographs. Some sections are still used as farm tracks, and there are fragments of a 1.5m high agger still surviving. Parish and field boundaries often follow the route of the road. Parts of this road are now accessible through the National Cycle network.

NHER 1922: Roman Road. Approximately 1.5km to the north of the site is a Roman road which runs c. east-west. It was first discovered by probing in the River Burn which located a metalled surface. The road has since been traced and it is metalled throughout. It has wide verges but does not run particularly straight. It runs across several parishes and originally went over the site of Barwick Hall. The western end of the road may have a medieval rather than Roman origin and is recorded in 1294 as 'Kingsway'.

5.0 On-Site Methodology (Figure 2)

The objective of the archaeological excavation was to record any archaeological evidence revealed during the excavation of the footprint for the house, garage and any associated groundworks. The main footprint for the house and garage was excavated as a single block, with overlying deposits reduced by machine under the control of an experienced archaeologist using both a wheeled 'JCB'-type and a tracked 360° machine. All spoil was stockpiled briefly at the street frontage for removal from site with the assistance of both a dumper and flat-bed lorry. It should be noted that a baulk was retained over a live, sub-surface high-voltage power cable running from the garden of No.21 Churchill Estate across development plot in a north-westerly direction.

Additional monitoring work was undertaken of both a new soakway pit for plot 14A and a replacement soakway pit to serve No.14.

Conditions during the work were variable, with heavy showers in the middle stages of the work and bright sunshine in the latter part.

Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector (Minelab XTerra 705). All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.

All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using Norvic Archaeology *pro forma* sheets. The trench location, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and photographic images were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

All levels were taken using a temporary benchmark of 30.62m OD located on a service cover on the corner by No.11 Winston Drive, tied to an OS Spot Height of 27.7m OD located on the roadside opposite No.22 Churchill Estate.

6.0 Immediate Post-Excavation Methodology

Initial post-excavation work was carried out to check the drawn and written record and to prepare the archive for further assessment and analysis. Site plans were digitised in a primary format using AutoCad and a photographic archive was compiled. An initial working matrix was also compiled and all finds were catalogued in a comprehensive Excel table.

Assessment comprised of brief examination of the stratigraphic relationships and evaluation of the potential of the archaeological material.

All artefacts were cleaned as appropriate and catalogued to allow for specialist assessment. Finds were submitted to appropriate specialists in order that assessment of their potential could be made.

Part 1: Assessment

7.0 Stratigraphic Archive

The following table presents the material that forms the main subject of the assessment.

Category	Evaluation	Excavation	Total
Contexts	16	88	104
Sections	5	24	29
Plans	1	6	7
B&W Film (36 exp.)	-	1	1
Digital Images	17	75	92
Index Book	1	1	2
Bulk Samples	1	8	9
CAD Plan	Combined	Combined	1

7.1 Historic Periods

Three main periods have currently been identified from the artefactual and stratigraphic assemblage:

Period	Name	Dates
1	Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age	2800BC to 1600BC
2	Romano-British	43AD to 410AD
3	Medieval	11 th to 14 th Century

8.0 Preliminary Results & General Statement of Potential (Figures 2 & 3)

This section briefly summarises the main types of archaeological features and deposits recorded during the excavation with summary provisional interpretation, ahead of a more detailed analysis. The results of the archaeological evaluation are discussed in detail in the Norvic Archaeology Report No.13 (Emery 2011); however any significant features may be included here where they fall within the excavation area. Archaeological contexts are described below. *NB: Numbers in brackets are the context numbers or feature 'Master' numbers.*

- **'Natural deposits'**

Natural sand with occasional patches of clay-sand was revealed at a depth of between 0.5m and 0.8m.

- **Prehistoric Activity**

The terminus of a probable prehistoric ditch (M:147) with a U-shaped profile was recorded in close proximity to the Late Neolithic pottery fragment cluster RF:113. The ditch measured c. 0.6m deep. The general nature of the fills was notably more leached and of a different character to the fills of other ditches across the site. A single sherd of Late Neolithic Peterborough ware was recovered from its primary fill.

A small number of features of possible prehistoric date were recorded in close proximity to the Late Neolithic pottery fragment cluster RF:113. These included two possible postholes (126 & 129) and the shallow base of a possible pit ([128]) which showed signs of later animal disturbance. The 'pit-like' feature contained a small assemblage of burnt flints, including a large anvil stone (SF:09).

Two clusters of Late Neolithic pottery were identified at the site. The largest of these was collected from a lower subsoil as RF:113, which includes 43 sherds of Peterborough and Fengate ware weighing 938g. The smaller was RF:132, resting as a more tightly packed cluster of ten sherds, weighing 333g, within the edge of Ditch M:202. The majority of the sherds are decorated and all are abraded, indicating some form of post-depositional dispersal. Twenty-two struck flints were recovered as part of the same finds cluster as RF:113, which includes a tool in the form an end-scraper (SF:08).

The overall assemblage of struck-flint collected as residual pieces from later ditches crossing the site, lower subsoils and other features amounts to forty-six pieces, this includes a 'horseshoe'-shaped end scraper and a transverse 'chisel arrowhead'. The flint assemblage is generally indicative of Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age activity at the site.

- **?Prehistoric/Romano-British ditches**

Three ditches clearly predate the Romano-British enclosure; M:202, M:203 & M:204.

The shallow ditch M:203 was the only ditch on a NW to SE orientation. It had a U-shaped profile and is currently thought to predate the others. It contained a relatively sterile fill, from which a small number of burnt flints and worked flints were collected.

Ditch M:202 was aligned on an ENE-WSE orientation, with a wide V-shaped profile which measured c.1.8m wide and c.0.5m deep. It contained a fairly homogenous silty-sand fill from which assemblages of prehistoric finds were collected. This includes the Late Neolithic pot cluster RF:132 described above, plus a further four sherds of Late Neolithic Peterborough ware along with three struck flints. Although this ditch could be granted a prehistoric date based upon the finds alone, it bore some comparisons with the Romano-British Ditch M:204 discussed below. It remains a possibility that the finds collected from this feature may all be residual and further analysis and scrutiny is required to consider the likely historic period for this feature.

Ditch M:204 was aligned NW-SW with a wide U-shaped profile, measuring c. 0.85m wide, and c.0.3m deep. Finds collected include a small number of burnt flints, a large Roman iron-nail and four sherds of Romano-British pottery in the form of West Norfolk Grey ware, including a single sherd from a carinated bowl which may be dated from the early to mid-2nd century AD. This sherd is only slightly abraded and may assist in granting a possible early to mid-Romano-British date for the ditch

- ***Romano-British Enclosure Ditch (M:201) (?3rd to 4th century AD)***

The north-east corner of a Romano-British enclosure ditch (M:201) with a wide, V-shape profile was revealed, which was originally identified in the northern end of the evaluation trench. The very corner of the ditch had been disturbed by the base of a former ornamental fish pond.

The full width, depth and general character of the ditch was able to be investigated and recorded with environmental samples taken throughout the deposit sequence. The ditch measured c. 2.5 to 2.8m wide, c. 0.85m to c. 1.10m deep, from which a well stratified assemblage of cultural material was collected - including significant volumes of pottery, animal bone, metalworking debris and daub. Currently the ditch appears to exhibit several recuts following a primary phase of silting followed by slumped bank material. The upper fills of the ditch are notable in that they appear to comprise of a series of dumped infill deposits rich in butchered animal bone and debris that may be associated with localised metalworking.

The wide ditch and any former bank can be projected in scale and appears to have demarcated quite a large area, enough for a complex of buildings and workshops. It is thought that the enclosure formed a secure boundary around a Romano-British settlement, such as a small villa or busy farmstead.

- ***Medieval activity (L12th to 14th century)***

A single feature was identified that clearly post-dates the Romano-British enclosure ditch. This took the form of a shallow linear ditch revealed at the southern end of the trench (M:200), which clearly cut across the enclosure ditch. Although a small residual assemblage of Romano-British pottery sherds were collected from its fill a few sherds of medieval green-glazed Grimston ware were also recovered. Many of the Romano-British sherds show signs of abrasion, whereas the medieval fragments are much fresher with no signs of post-depositional wear. Part of this same ditch was encountered by the evaluation trench and was originally suggested to be of Romano-British date.

- ***'Postholes/Small Pits'***

A small number of discrete features were recorded which include three possible postholes at the southern end of the trench, a 'post-pair' and slot in the north-east area and a few possible shallow pits/postholes in the general area of RF:113 (a cluster of Late Neolithic pottery fragments). None of these features can be clearly interpreted as forming part of a

structure and further stratigraphic analysis is required to suggest possible date ranges and interpretations of these features.

8.1 General Statement of Potential

For the relative size of the investigated area, the site revealed a large set of multi-period data which offers the potential to address a wide range of research objectives.

The presence of even such a small number of relatively poorly defined prehistoric features is significant as they provide evidence for a previously unknown focus of Neolithic to Early Bronze Age activity. The regionally significant assemblage of Late Neolithic finds, including Peterborough Ware, has the potential to contribute to our understanding of the chronological and spatial distribution of Neolithic pottery in the Norfolk. The deposition history of the assemblage is also of interest and allows for some comment on the possible depositional practices and social context relating to Peterborough Ware.

The large Romano-British enclosure ditch allows for some discussion on the relative size and significance of any associated occupation while offering a well preserved assemblage of cultural material. This allows for more detailed examination of localised activities, including status, diet, industry and settlement chronology. The presence of earlier ditches relating to earlier phases of Romano-British activity provides evidence for a possible change in land use and/or spatial organisation.

The most limited information relates to the medieval activity – represented currently by a single ditch, although this does allow for some discussion of medieval land use at the site.

9.0 Assessment of the Artefactual Material

The table below summarises the finds that form the majority of the artefactual assemblage recovered from the Evaluation and subsequent Excavation.

Assemblage Type	Evaluation			Excavation			Combined		
	Quantity	Weight (g)	No. of Contexts	Quantity	Weight (g)	No. of Contexts	Total Quantity	Total Weight (g)	Total No. of Contexts
Animal Bone	22	439	3	140	5253	8	162	5692	11
Ceramic Building Materials (inc. shaped piece SF: 20)	2	117	1	5	257	5	7	374	6
Coin – Roman (SF:10 to 19)	1	2.31	1	10	-	7	11	-	8
Fired Clay	6	162	3	44	2774	5	50	2936	8
Flint – worked (inc. SF:06, 07 & 08)	2	2	1	46	279	20	48	281	21
Flint- burnt	5	66	4	21	955	6	26	1021	10
Flint – burnt ‘anvil stone’ (SF:09)	-	-	-	1	3478	1	-	-	-
Lead	1	16	1	5	29	3	6	45	4
Metal working waste	-	-	-	8	945	4	-	-	-
Nails – Iron	2	12	2	8	106	5	10	118	7
Nail – hobnail (SF:10)	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	-
Pottery – medieval	-	-	-	3	26	3	-	-	-
Pottery – prehistoric	-	-	-	75	1667	10	-	-	-
Pottery – Romano-British	27	290	5	92	1854	17	119	2144	22
Shell – oyster	2	19	1	7	148	2	9	167	3
Stone (unworked)	1	60	1	2	178	2	3	238	3
SF:03 - Copper-alloy sheet				1	15.68	1			
SF:04 – Copper-alloy spoked disc brooch				1	31.01	1			
SF:05 – Composite object (Fe rod with CuAl sheath)				1	5.91	1			

* provisional counts based on rapid assessment – not including fragments recovered from bulk samples

** provisional before X-ray check of uncertain examples

The intended recipient museum for the artefactual material is the Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service. Immediate conservation requirements were undertaken directly following fieldwork with repackaging undertaken as necessary during the assessment. All finds are packaged according to standard museum specifications, in general following the guidelines laid down in Environmental Standards for the Permanent Storage of Excavated Material from Archaeological Sites (UKIC 1984) and Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage (Walker 1990).

The finds from the Excavation phase of work are discussed below in the form of assessment reports. Full analysis of the finds collected during the previous Evaluation

phase of work was presented in Norvic Archaeology Report 17 (Emery 2011). Where appropriate, the finds information from the Evaluation phase may be integrated into the finalised specialist reports in the post-assessment phase of works.

The significance of each assemblage is assessed below both in relation to the site itself and any wider importance. All reference to context spot dates is provisional and subject to revision following more detailed stratigraphic analysis. Details of any appropriate further analysis required to meet the aims of the project are also presented in this section.

- **Animal Bone**

By Julie Curl

Methodology

The assessment was carried out following a modified version of guidelines by English Heritage (Davis, 1992). All of the bone was examined to determine range of species and elements present with individual counts for the number of elements for each individual species present (NISP). A note was also made of butchering and any indications of skinning, hornworking and other modifications. When possible a record was made of ages and any other relevant information, such as pathologies. Counts and weights were noted for each context. The data will form the basis for a table in the final report and the full data-set will form part of the final archive.

The assemblage – initial quantification, provenance and preservation

A total of 5,253kg of faunal remains, consisting of 140 elements, was recovered from the excavation. The remains were produced from just eight contexts, which were all within the master cut [201], a Romano-British enclosure ditch. Quantification by weight, cut and context number can be seen in Table 1. Quantification by species, number of pieces and context is presented in Table 2.

Ditch slot	Deposit								Total
	111	115	116	118	121	122	123	157	
114		2350g	600g	10g					2960g
120	1400g				425g	365g	90g		2280g
159								13g	13g

Table 1. Quantification of the bone assemblage by weight (g), context and feature

The assemblage is in good condition. Although there is butchering throughout the assemblage, a good deal of reasonably complete elements survive and a relatively high percentage of the bone is identifiable to species. There is little wear evident, suggesting the bone was buried quickly and has suffered little or no disturbance. A small amount of burnt bone was seen in (120), which may represent fire or cooking debris. No gnawed bone was seen, which would indicate scavenger activity was minimal or that smaller elements were taken away and gnawed elsewhere.

Species, modifications and comments

At least six species were identified during the assessment; this includes both domestic stock and wild species. Quantification of the assemblage by species count (NISP) and context number can be seen in Table 2.

Species	Context and species count (NISP)								Species Total
	111	115	116	118	121	122	123	157	
<i>Bird</i>	1					2	1		4
<i>Cattle</i>	14	29	4		4	2	2		55
<i>Equid</i>			2						2
<i>Pig/boar</i>		2		1		2		1	6
<i>Sheep/goat</i>	11	1	4			8			24
<i>Small Mammal</i>							1		1
<i>Mammal</i>	27	2	1			17	1		48
Feature Total	53	34	11	1	4	31	5	1	140

Table 2. Quantification of the faunal remains by context, species and species fragment count (NISP).

Cattle are the most frequent species. The spine and several limb bones from a young cow were seen in (115), which do not appear to be butchered, possibly suggesting a diseased animal or carcass from ritual activity. A cattle skull was found in (121) which has had the horncore removed and shows skinning cuts.

Ovicaprid and porcine bones were seen throughout and a small breed of equid was noted in (116). Bird bones were seen in three fills, a small mammal (?Hare) seen in one fill, and the remains include wild species, which have been butchered.

Initial observations show pathologies with two of the main domestic food animals, which should provide some information on the diet, health and husbandry of the animals at this site.

Conclusions

The majority of deposits contain butchering and food waste and include the utilisation of wild species, suggesting a good, varied diet. One deposit contains remains of a young cow that does not show any obvious butchering and might suggest a ritual deposit; such deposits of whole or parts of animals have been seen on a range of Roman sites locally and nationally. The assemblage is in good condition with numerous reasonably complete bones that would allow metrical data to be obtained to determine ages, stature and breeds.

Recommendations for further work

This is a site that has produced evidence for a previously unrecognised focus of Roman activity in the immediate area (Emery, 2011) and should therefore be analysed fully to provide additional information on the diet, economy and status of those living here. There appears to be unbutchered remains of cattle in one ditch fill, which might suggest ritual activity, these bones need to be examined in more detail and compared with other sites. The butchered bird remains should provide both dietary and environmental evidence.

The material should be fully catalogued and recorded, along with the assemblage from the evaluation, making full species identifications where possible, taking measurements where appropriate for estimation of age, stature and breed. Pathologies need to be examined for further information on the diet, health and husbandry of the stock at this site. Any faunal material from samples should also be analysed as it may provide additional dietary and environmental evidence.

- **Ceramic Building Material**

By Alice Lyons & the author

A total of five fragments of ceramic building material were collected during the excavation, weighing a total of 257g. One fragment of possible Tegula was collected from the fill of Ditch [200], while the remainder were collected from various fills of the Romano-British ditch enclosure [201]. They include three pieces of probable Imbrex tile and a possible brick fragment.

The form and fabrics of the pieces will be described and catalogued in detail alongside the pieces collected during the evaluation.

- **Roman Coins**

By Andy Barnett

A total of ten coins were recovered during excavations (Small Find nos. 10 to 19. All are of copper alloy. One is very worn and another is a fragment and in two pieces. The remainder are in good condition.

One of the coins is possibly 2nd or early 3rd century another is mid-late 3rd century but the remainder of the assemblage, are all dateable to the mid-late 4th century.

Recommendations for further work

These coins should be fully identified, catalogued in detail and a full report written in association with any relevant contextual data.

- **Fired Clay**

Introduction

A total of forty-four pieces of fired clay, weighing 2774g were collected exclusively from the fills of the Romano-British enclosure ditch (M:201). The largest collection was made from an ashy and charcoal-laden deposit (122) within the upper fill of the ditch, amounting to 2199g. This may represent waste dumped into the ditch from a single source, such as a deconstructed hearth.

The assemblage will be examined in more detail and categorised by fabric type. The majority of the fragments are undiagnostic, however a small number do exhibit smooth surfaces which may grant some information on their original purpose. Bulk environmental samples were collected from the fired clay rich deposit which may also elucidate further on the nature of the activity from which the material derives.

- **Flint**

Introduction

A total of forty-six pieces of worked flint were collected along with twenty-two pieces of burnt flint. The assemblage was collected both as residual pieces from later ditches crossing the site and possible prehistoric lower subsoils and features. Some of the pieces were also collected in close proximity to a concentration of prehistoric pottery fragments (RF:113). The flint has been catalogued by type and scanned for diagnostic pieces and tools.

A detailed catalogue and description of each flint will be carried out as part of the full analysis work, along with a discussion of the overall assemblage in relation to prehistoric activity at the site. A small number of flints will be illustrated, to include all tools and a selection of other pieces to characterise the overall assemblage.

Struck Flint (Table 1)

Overall the struck flint assemblage is characteristic of a Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age industry. It contains both soft and hard hammer struck pieces, although the majority of the pieces are soft hammer removals and are in fresh condition. The fabric is almost exclusively a semi-translucent yellowish-grey (with a pale golden yellow hue when viewed against a strong white light) with fairly common interclasts and flaws. Much of the flint is relatively 'fresh' and quite sharp. Where present, the yellowish cortex is a fairly thin but hard skin and may indicate that weathered gravel cobbles or thermally fractured flakes from the same source were utilised, an activity sometimes attributed to later activity but in this case may simply reflect the ready availability of such material.

The assemblage includes a transverse 'chisel arrowhead', a Horseshoe style scraper, and an end-scraper with only a small number of utilised flakes.

The 'horseshoe'-shaped end-scraper has wear around all of its edges. The other end-scraper is a modified primary flake with a neatly retouched proximal end, the large area of cortex retained at the distal end would have facilitated handling. The form of both scrapers also indicate Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age activity; scrapers are often the most common type of tool to be found on sites of this period. The arrowhead is typical of Late Neolithic period technology, a type known to have a distinct association with later Neolithic Grooved Ware pottery (Butler 2005, 158).

SF	Context	Type	Qty	Weight (g)	Comment	Context Type
	101	Blade	1	4		Ditch Fill (M:203)
	108	Utilised Flake	1	6	Unifacial wear/retouch	Lower Subsoil
	110	Fragment	1	9	Glossy, poss. use wear	Upper Subsoil
	111	Flake	1	3	Thin, soft hammer, hinge flake	Ditch Fill (M:201)
SF:06	112	Arrowhead – transverse type	1	2	A 'chisel-shaped' transverse arrowhead, slightly glossy, neat bilateral retouch	Subsoil – NE corner of site
SF:07	112	Horseshoe style scraper	1	17	Glossy, extensively worn edge	
	112	Blade-like flake	1	3	Neat, thin, fresh, soft hammer	
SF:08	113	End-scraper	1	11	Modified primary hinge-flake, neat semi-abrupt retouch	Lower subsoil (finds cluster)
	113	Blade-like flake	1	3	V.thin, soft hammer. Fresh	
		Flake	9	39	Majority tertiary flakes	
		Shatter	4	37	Irregular secondary fragments of	
		Spall	3	1		
		Chip	3	3		
		Fragment	1	2		
	115	Utilised flake	1	5	Small unifacial notch	Ditch Fill (M:201)
	125	Core (multi-platform flake core)	1	44	Ad-hoc utilisation of a poss. shatter fragment	Fill of Pit [124]
	127	Shatter	1	9		Fill of PH [126]
	127	Chip	1	2		
	129	Flake	1	4	Thin, fresh, soft hammer	Fill of ?Pit [128]

SF	Context	Type	Qty	Weight (g)	Comment	Context Type
	129	Flake	1	4	Highly patinated (?reuse of thermal flake?), soft hammer	
	131	Flake	1	18	Notched bilaterally	Ditch fill (M:200)
	131	Chip	1	4		
	134	Chip	1	2		Ditch Fill (M:202)
	134	Flake	1	7	Soft hammer, poss utilised edge	
	134	Shatter	1	15	Fresh, opposing scars showing rotation of piece	
	136	Chip	1	2		Ditch Fill (M:203)
	148	Fragment	1	10	Poss. shatter piece	Ditch Fill of [147]
	181	Blade-like flake	1	7	Minor unifacial retouch/wear limited to proximal end	
	181	Flake	1	2	Secondary flake	
	181	Flake	1	1	Pressure flake	
	182	Flake	1	3	Soft hammer	?fill of Ditch [147]
Total			46	279		

Table 1: Struck Flint

Burnt Flint (Table 2)

The burnt flint ranges in colour from heat reddened to fully calcined white with some more heavily fire crazed examples. Whilst some pieces may simply represent local burning attributed to Romano-British activity others may be attributed to features of possible prehistoric date. These include the larger stones and the anvil stone present in feature [128] along with a large and 'heavy' heat roasted cobble of chert (Small Find 09). It weighs 4789g and measures c. 150mm by c. 95mm thick. The surfaces of the piece are extremely 'battered' and pitted from repeated crushing and percussion damage, the stone has also been subject to heat roasting and ranges in colour from mid purple to pink. The stone appears to have been a well utilised anvil stone prior to either burning as a possible hearth stone or it may have served a functional purpose such as a 'hot-rock' used in the process of either heating water directly or radiating heat indirectly as a buried warming stone.

SF	Context	Type	Qty	Weight (g)	Comment	Context Type
	103	Burnt flake	1	11	Secondary flake, platform present	Fill of Pit/?PH [102]
	125	Burnt frag.	1	7		Fill of Pit [124]
	129	Burnt frag.	9	881	Inc. x3 cobble frags.	Fill of ?Pit [128]
SF:09	129	Anvil stone	1	3478	Burnt anvil stone	
	136	Burnt frag.	1	17		Ditch Fill (M:203)
	140	Burnt frag.	2	14		Fill of Posthole [139]
	142	Burnt frag.	1	7		Fill of Posthole [141]
	144	Burnt frag.	1	5		Ditch Fill (M:204)
	148	Burnt frag.	2	13		Ditch Fill of [147]
Total			21	4433		

Table 2: Burnt Flint

Further Analysis

A detailed catalogue and description of each flint will be carried out as part of the full analysis work, along with a discussion of the overall assemblage in relation to prehistoric activity at the site which also includes a regionally significant assemblage of Late Neolithic pottery. A small number of flints will be illustrated, to include all tools and a selection of other pieces to characterise the overall assemblage.

- **Lead**

Five pieces of lead were collected from the Romano-British enclosure ditch, which include an irregular piece which may be part of a casting sprue, a small droplet and a fragment in the form of a narrow channel which may also be evidence of casting. In addition, an amorphous puddled lump of lead was collected during the evaluation phase of works from the same ditch. Although a very small assemblage these pieces appear to indicate that lead working and casting took place at this site, although the scale appears limited with no melting dross or offcuts found. No further work is recommended.

- **Metal Working Waste (Ferrous)**

Eight pieces of metal working debris were collected from the site, weighing a total of 945g. Aside from two pieces collected from the upper subsoil, the remainder were collected from the fills of the Romano-British enclosure ditch (M:201). All eight pieces are of the same type – very dense, irregular agglomeration waste fragments of smithing hearth bottoms with negligible magnetic qualities. The pieces are fairly large with only slight plano-convex characteristics, generally more typical of forging hearth cake fragments produced during primary rather than secondary smithing (Jones (ed.) 2001, 15).

Evidence for metalworking on Roman sites is a relatively commonplace occurrence, with iron smithing slags routinely discovered on many Norfolk sites. No further detailed work is recommended for the assemblage, although this evidence will be assessed and reviewed in consultation with a specialist in light of more detailed analysis of the fired clay assemblage and the results of associated bulk sample residues – all of which have the potential to elucidate further on the type and relative scale of metal working activities taking place in the immediate vicinity.

- **Nails**

Eight iron nails were collected from the excavation phase of work, all of which are recommended for X-ray to be more certain of their type and form prior to final description and cataloguing, which will be based on Manning's typology of Roman nails (Manning 1985). Overall the nails have limited potential but as all but one came from the Romano-British enclosure ditch (M:200) this may allow for some comment on structural materials utilised in the vicinity of the site.

- **Pottery – Medieval**

Three body sherds of relatively unabraded green-glazed Grimston ware grant a possible spot-date of 12th to 14th century for the linear ditch M:200, a feature that also contains residual Romano-British pottery and was originally suggested to be of Romano-British date in the Evaluation phase of work. One of the sherds may be from a jug while another has traces of a brown iron oxide strip decoration, typical of the industry. The fragments will be fully catalogued in the final report but require no further work.

- **Pottery - Prehistoric**

By Sarah Percival

Introduction

A total of 75 prehistoric sherds weighing 1667g were recovered from ten contexts, predominantly within the subsoil and from cleaning over the subsoil, with smaller quantities being found in the fills of a later ditch. The majority of the assemblage is Later Neolithic Peterborough Ware with one small flint-tempered sherd being of indeterminate prehistoric

date. Peterborough Ware dates to c. 3400-2500 cal BC (Gibson and Kinnes 1997) and is rare in Norfolk (Healy 1995, 41). This Peterborough assemblage represents one of the largest to be found in the county and is therefore of particular regional significance.

Peterborough Ware

The Peterborough Ware assemblage comprises 74 sherds weighing 1666g and includes rims from eight vessels. Two forms of Peterborough Ware are present. Sherds from seven vessels have distinctive collars suggesting that they belong to Fengate style vessels which feature heavy collars, tapering bodies and narrow, flat bases (Gibson 1995, 23). Two thick, narrow bases characteristic of the style were also found. The collars and bodies of the Fengate vessels are decorated with a variety of techniques including twisted cord impressed lines and twisted cord maggots, fingernail-impressions, incised slashes finger pinching and deep finger impressed stabs on the cavetto zone below the collar. The remaining vessel has a heavy in-turned rim and globular body suggesting a Mortlake style bowl decorated with paired fingertip-impressions on the exterior and incised diagonal line on the interior.

A mix of fabrics is present, most commonly sandy clay with medium to large angular flints. Other fabrics have a laminated texture with plate-like voids suggesting that calcitic material such as shell had once been present (Gibson 1995, 24). Grog is also used in small quantities.

The pottery was recovered from subsoil and from the fills of later ditches. All the sherds are abraded, some significantly and no complete vessels were represented indicating that the assemblage was probably fragmented and dispersed before becoming incorporated in its final context of deposition.

Significance of the Assemblage

Within Norfolk, Peterborough Ware has only been found at a handful sites including Brancaster; Middle Harling; Yarmouth Road, Broome and Redgate Hill, Hunstanton (Hincliffe and Green 1985, Healy 1995, Percival 2003, Healy *et al.* 1993). Most recently Peterborough Ware was found at Kilverstone near Thetford where two pits contained the remains of three Fengate style vessels, residue from one producing a radiocarbon date of 3360 – 3090 cal. BC (Garrow *et al.* 2006, 88).

The present assemblage represents one of the largest recovered from East Anglia where the style is considerably under-represented when compared to other later Neolithic early Bronze Age pottery types (Garrow 2006). Garrow suggests that the relative scarcity of Peterborough Ware may be explained by a difference in use or depositional practice of this pottery type compared to subsequent forms such as Beaker. Agreeing with Thomas (1996, 166) Garrow proposes that pits, common both in the earlier Neolithic and later Neolithic early Bronze Age, were not 'the appropriate context for the vast majority of material to be deposited' (Garrow 2006, 78). It is of some interest therefore that this large and diverse assemblage of Peterborough Ware was not found within a pit context but appeared to have been incorporated in surface deposits. Garrow concludes that understanding of later Neolithic occupation and in particular the relationship between land use and Peterborough Ware deposition remains enigmatic and suggests that further work is required to clarify this relationship (2006, 150). Further research is therefore suggested on this assemblage both to fully characterise and catalogue the pottery itself and to further enhance understanding of its depositional and social context.

Other prehistoric pottery

A single sherd of fine flint-tempered pottery was found in subsoil context (151). The sherd may be of Earlier Neolithic date but is otherwise not closely datable.

Recommendations for further work

- The assemblage will be fully quantified and catalogued; further work should also include any new stratigraphic or contextual information produced by full analysis of the site data, including a discussion in relation to the prehistoric flint assemblage.
- A full pottery report is required which provides detailed descriptions of the fabric, form and decoration of the Peterborough Ware.
- The report should include a discussion of relevant regional parallels and a review of available absolute dating for Peterborough Ware
- A minimum of 10 sherds, including the rim/collar sherds from each vessel plus two further decorated sherds require illustration

- **Pottery – Romano-British**

By Alice Lyons

Introduction

In addition to the 27 sherds, weighing 290g, of Roman-British pottery recovered during the evaluation (Lyons 2011) a further 92 sherds, weighing 1854g, of Romano-British pottery were retrieved during the subsequent excavation. This material, which forms the subject of this assessment, was retrieved mostly from ditch fills, although some was also recovered from subsoil and unstratified deposits.

The pottery is generally in good condition but varies in how severely (from slight to moderate) it has been abraded during post-depositional processes. The assemblage has an average sherd weight of c. 20g.

This is a relatively small assemblage but it contains a high percentage of fine non-local table wares (Nene Valley and Hadham wares), as well as more utilitarian locally produced dish, jar and storage jar fragments (West Norfolk and other grey wares) typical of this region. Pottery types with typical date ranges from 2nd to 4th century are present, with a likely spot date for the majority of Romano-British deposits being 3rd to 4th century, although the large enclosure ditch appears to have received pottery granting a 4th century date for its upper fill.

Further Analysis

Pottery recovered from the evaluation should be integrated with that from the excavation. A detailed catalogue will be carried out as part of the full analysis work, along with a discussion of the overall assemblage in relation to the nature of Romano-British activity at the site. The assemblage will be analysed in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Webster 1976; Darling 1994; Willis 2004).

- **Shell - Oyster**

A total of seven oyster shells were collected during the excavation, all from the fills of the Romano-British enclosure ditch. The remains are in flaky but reasonable condition. The shells are all from the Edible Oyster (*Ostrea edulis*), a common species of marine oyster found all around the Norfolk coast and widely utilised from the Roman period onwards. The assemblage includes three top shell fragments with no evidence of modification or shucking damage.

Aside from commenting upon the sites use of this local food resource, seen here as residual waste mixed in with dumped deposits within the ditch, no further work is required.

- **Stone**

Introduction

A single fragment of heat affected stone was collected from the fill of an ENE to WSW orientated ditch (M:202), which predates the Romano-British enclosure (M:201) and contained prehistoric pottery. The cracked stone weighs 160g and is of a relatively fine grained quartzite with a smooth, heat reddened and scorched surface.

Caches of similar pebbles have been found on several sites known to have prehistoric activity and have been found in more direct association with Beaker pottery at the burnt flint mound at Northwold (Percival 2004, 19) and on Iron Age sites such as Fison Way (Gregory 1992, 84). It is likely that the water-rounded pebbles are erratics collected from the glacial till perhaps selected for their aesthetic or heat retaining properties. The author recovered an assemblage of similar heat cracked pebbles in association with later Neolithic to earlier Bronze Age pottery at the site of a prehistoric ring-ditch discovered on the top a high ridge of ground in Norwich at Ber Street (Emery 2009). Quartzite pieces were not widely used to temper prehistoric pottery in Norfolk and do not form a major component of burnt mounds, the widespread distribution of the heat affected pebbles in prehistoric contexts therefore suggests that they performed another function perhaps associated with cooking.

Following more detailed stratigraphic analysis and phasing of the site the possible dating of this feature may allow for the presence of the stone to be confidently assigned to prehistoric activity. A prehistoric interpretation is currently a cautious one as quartzite stones are known to have served a function on some Roman sites, for example a rubbing stone of quartzite is known from the Roman villa and associated religious complex of Littlecote Park in Wiltshire, where it is believed to have been used to clean a newly installed mosaic pavement of lime scale accumulated from the decoration of the room. Rubbing stones used in this way were used with water as a lubricant and sand as an abrasive (Johnson 2002, 9).

- **Small Finds**

A total of nineteen artefacts have currently been given a unique ‘Small Find’ number in order to catalogue and assess their potential in more detail. These include several Roman coins (discussed above) which can almost exclusively be attributed to fills of the Romano-British enclosure ditch (M:201). Other artefacts given Small Find numbers include: prehistoric flint tools; a fragment of copper-alloy sheet; a possible hobnail; a Romano-British disc-brooch and an iron rod with a copper sheath which may be a handle from a small tool.

The flint tools are included in the overall assessment of the flint assemblage above. Overall the flint tools have the potential to assist in characterising the prehistoric flint industry at the site.

Finds collected from the Romano-British ditch will assist in both dating any hiatus in activity and may provide minimum and maximum dates for activity associated with the Romano-British enclosure.

All metalwork collected in the excavation will be x-rayed prior to further analysis, detailed cataloguing and final interpretation. The brooch requires specialist cleaning and conservation and is discussed further below.

Small Finds	Context	Context Type	Material	Weight (g)	Comment
SF01	08	Ditch fill (M:201)	Coin – Roman	2.31	Found in the evaluation
SF02	106	Ditch fill (M:201)	Nail (hobnail) - iron	2	?Hobnail
SF03	106	Ditch fill (M:201)	Copper alloy sheet	15.68	Rivet holes present

Small Finds	Context	Context Type	Material	Weight (g)	Comment
SF04	122	Ditch fill (M:201)	Brooch	31.01	Spoked disc brooch
SF05	152	Ditch fill (M:200)	Composite object	5.91	Iron rod core, decorative copper sheath
SF06	112	Subsoil	Flint	2	Arrowhead (chisel type)
SF07	112	Subsoil	Flint	17	Horseshoe type scraper
SF08	113	Pottery cluster	Flint	11	End scraper
SF09	129	Fill of Pit [128]	Flint - burnt	3478	Anvil stone
SF10	106	Ditch fill (M:201)	Coin - roman	-	
SF11	109	Ditch fill (M:201)	Coin - roman	-	
SF12	109	Ditch fill (M:201)	Coin - roman	-	
SF13	111	Ditch fill (M:201)	Coin - roman	-	
SF14	112	Subsoil	Coin - roman	-	
SF15	115	Ditch fill (M:201)	Coin - roman	-	
SF16	115	Ditch fill (M:201)	Coin - roman	-	
SF17	115	Ditch fill (M:201)	Coin - roman	-	
SF18	116	Ditch fill (M:201)	Coin - roman	-	
SF19	122	Ditch fill (M:201)	Coin - roman	-	
SF20	08	Ditch fill (M:201)	CBM – modified	80	Tile modified into lid/stopper

SF 04: Romano-British Brooch

A large spoked disc brooch was collected from fill of the Romano-British enclosure ditch (M:201). The body of the brooch appears to be of three-part construction, comprising a circular backplate, six-spoked disc and central boss. The parts are held together by an integral rivet on the back of the centre boss. It may have an outer circumferential channel with a secondary annulus, both with signs of decoration. The reverse has a lug for the (missing) hinged pin, and a catchplate opposite. This style of brooch dates from the 2nd to 3rd centuries AD. Mackreth's study of Roman Brooches surmises that in terms of ordinary occurrence on sites, the period of use for brooches of this type would run from the latest second century to the middle of the third century, a few perhaps surviving later. This would suit what appears to have been the introduction of mercury gilding (Mackreth 2011, 162).

The brooch measures c. 37mm in diameter is 15mm thick and weighs c. 31.01g. It is missing its iron pin. It has six spokes and a central conical shaped boss in high relief with decorated rim. The spokes and rim appear to be gilded with silver tinning on its centre, boss and rear. The brooch is similar in form to the gilded spoked disc brooches illustrated by Hattatt presented in Fig 224 (Hattatt 2012, 365) and in Meckreth Fig 0947/Plate 110). (2011, Vol II, pp110).

This example is far larger than many recorded examples and perhaps most similar to an example found by metal-detection in 2008 at East Lindsey in Lincolnshire recorded by the Portable Antiquity Scheme (Unique ID: NCL-D05155), which is a very similar size and form but with no gilding present. A similar style of brooch from Norfolk was recovered by metal detection in Carleton Rode, South Norfolk along with many other metalwork artefacts at the site of an as yet undefined Romano-British settlement (NHER 34589). The Carleton Rode example has been recorded by illustration and is of a five-spoke type without the apparent decorative details on the circumferential channel or inner annulus, although large at c. 3.2cm in diameter is also slightly smaller in size than the Winston Drive example.

The brooch is coated by surface accretion but an initial assessment by the Norfolk Museums Conservation department has determined that the metalwork and gilding are in

good condition and should be stabilised through surface cleaning and lacquering to allow for more detailed analysis, long term storage and safer-handling. Along with other metalwork from the site the brooch should also be x-rayed to assist in identification and recording.

The Winston Drive disc brooch is a particularly good example of its type and few similar brooches have been recorded regionally in such a good state of preservation from stratified, well dated archaeological deposits. Following conservation work on the brooch it will be photographed and illustrated with a finalised description and classification created. The brooch and illustrations will feature in any recommended publication of the site.

SF 05: Possible Roman Medical Instrument

No direct parallel has yet been identified for the handle or rod (SF05) which comprises of an iron core with a broken end and a copper-alloy sheath covered in raised bumps. The artefact is well preserved and is in a stable condition.

It is perhaps similar to handles of Roman medical instruments – complete examples of such surgical tools do feature slender bronze handles with decorative surface details to aid handling for a range of hooks, blades, needles, lancets and spatula shaped iron or bronze heads. The ‘knobby’ surface of this object is certainly reminiscent of the ‘Hercules’ club’ motif which is sometimes adapted for the handle of some Roman surgical instruments; however, the handle alone is not diagnostic and the ‘sheathed’ construction is rarely encountered on Roman medical instruments (Dr Ralph Jackson *pers comm* - Curator of Romano-British Collections at the British Museum). Lacking an operative end a putative medical application for this artefact remains a tentative identification.

This artefact will be further researched to seek a more direct parallel where possible and is currently recommended for illustration.

- **Environmental Samples**

By Val Fryer

Introduction and methodology

A single sample of material from the Roman enclosure ditch taken during the evaluation demonstrated that plant macrofossil remains were preserved at the site which have the potential to offer insight in to the nature of localised Romano-British activity. Additional samples were recommended to be taken from this and other features encountered during any further work.

A total of eight samples were taken during the excavation which are suitable for submission for processing and analysis:

Sample No.	Context	Context Type
10	118	Fill of enclosure ditch (waterlogged primary fill)
11	115	Fill of enclosure ditch (refuse laden upper fill)
12	154	Fill of enclosure ditch (charcoal laden dump)
13	116	Fill of enclosure ditch (fill of recut)
14	117	Fill of enclosure ditch (?slumped bank material)
15	122	Fill of enclosure ditch (daub and charcoal rich)
16	105	Fill of pre-enclosure ditch [104]
17	144	Fill of pre-enclosure ditch [143]

The submitted samples will be processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flots collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots will be scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains catalogued. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (1997). A discussion of the results will be included in the analysis, which will incorporate contextual and stratigraphic information to further elucidate on Romano-British activity at the site.

Part 2: Updated Project Design

10.0 Introduction

This Updated Project Design (UPD) is based on the results of the Assessment and details the general aims of the post-excavation programme and its revised research objectives. It also presents a proposal that details how and where the project can be more widely disseminated through publication commensurate with the significance of the results.

11.0 General Aims

The aims of the post-excavation programme can be summarised as follows:

- To undertake further analysis of specific data sets where this is required to meet either the initial aims and objectives of the project or any revised research objectives that have since arisen as a result of the assessment.
- To produce an interpretive synthesis drawing together all available datasets for dissemination in appropriate publication(s).
- To create an ordered and indexed research archive for deposition with an appropriate curatorial institution.

12.0 Revised Research Objectives

The broad research objectives of the archaeological work were presented in the Specification for Excavation (Emery 2011) with the aim of investigating the origins, date, development, phasing, spatial organisation, character, function, status, significance and the nature of social, economic and industrial activities of any archaeological information encountered through excavation. Period resource assessments set out in the document *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties* (Glazebrook 1997; Brown and Glazebrook 2000; Medleycott 2011) outline both general and specific research questions for periods ranging from the Palaeolithic to the Modern period to which this programme of work has the potential to contribute significant information regarding past settlement and occupation activity at South Creake.

Most significantly this project was designed to further elucidate on the Romano-British occupation activity now known to exist within the area of the development plot. With the addition of Prehistoric activity and limited evidence for Medieval land use the data set now has the potential to produce evidence that may further define and characterise multi-period activity in the area of the site.

The original aims of the archaeological work can be summarised as follows:

- *To determine the extent, condition, nature, quality and date of any archaeological remains occurring within the site.*

- *To ensure that any archaeological features discovered are identified, investigated and recorded.*
- *To establish, as far as is reasonably possible, the extent, character, stratigraphic sequence and date of archaeological features and deposits, and the nature of the activities which occurred at the site during the various periods or phases of its occupation.*
- *To explore any evidence for social, economic and industrial activity.*
- *To present the archaeological data recovered by the excavation in the form of an archive report that may provide the basis for a synthetic summary of the results to be published in a format appropriate to the significance of the results.*

Following an assessment of the nature and significance of the evidence recovered during this project it is possible to set out a small number of revised research objectives. These focus on specific areas where further analysis or additional research aims are required in order to fulfil the objectives of the project and are as follows:

- To place the evidence of prehistoric activity at the site, and in particular the discovery of Late Neolithic Peterborough Ware (which is rarely found in Norfolk), both in a local and wider regional context. This site will be a valuable contribution to a growing data set within the HER of previously 'invisible' Neolithic sites which are not readily identifiable from known monuments or surface evidence. The discovery of an additional site yielding Peterborough Ware is highly significant and has the potential to contribute to our understanding of the chronological and spatial distribution of Neolithic pottery in Norfolk, a valuable research topic as highlighted in Medley (2011, 13). The deposition history of the assemblage is also of interest and allows for some comment on the possible depositional and social practices relating to Peterborough Ware.
- To discuss and disseminate the evidence for a previously unrecognised Romano-British settlement at South Creake where there is a current dearth of excavated data. This is the first evidence in the parish for intensive Romano-British activity recognised through *in situ* archaeological deposits and will enhance our regional understanding of the distribution of Roman sites. Cultural material collected from the infill of the enclosure ditch has the potential to provide a wide range of information regarding the nature of such occupation.
- Where possible to examine available aerial photographic and cartographic resources which may further define the extent and character of the Romano-British settlement, which appears to be focused in agricultural land to the rear of the development plot.
- To comment on the overall preservation of the archaeological deposits encountered and to highlight the potential for similar archaeological deposits in the immediate area.

13.0 Publication Proposal

In order to fulfil the aims and objectives of the project the production of a minimum of two written bodies of work is proposed:

13.1 Excavation Report

This report will present detailed contextual information, fully integrated with the artefactual and environmental evidence. All specialist reports will be presented in full. Artefactual and environmental data will be included as tabular appendices. This report will also present an interpretive analysis of the results from which any future synthesis works intended for publication may be produced. The completed Excavation Report will be presented to the client and forms part of the final archive to be deposited with the Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service following the relevant policy on archiving standards. The report will

also be uploaded to as an accessible digital archive as part of the OASIS project (Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations).

The following illustrations will be included in the Excavation Report:

- Selected cartographic figures, if required, to more clearly illustrate the known development of the site.
- Location Plan of the site, including any relevant local NHER entries
- General site plan showing all excavated features revealed during the Excavation combined with the results of the Evaluation.
- Phased plans if required to more clearly illustrate different phases of activity on the site.
- Appropriate sections selected to demonstrate the character of features on the site.
- A selected range of photographic images, including general shots of the excavation and illustrative images of particularly significant features.
- Illustrations/images of any particularly significant artefacts as recommended by relevant specialists. Objects which have easily accessible published parallels will not, in general, be illustrated, although an exception will be made if a single contextual group produces a significant assemblage of artefacts.

13.2 Published Articles

It is proposed that selected results of this work be synthesised into a suitable article to be published in *Norfolk Archaeology*; the local journal of the Norfolk and Norwich Archaeological Society. The current editors have expressed a keen interest in receiving such an article; which will primarily serve to highlight the most significant results of the work and will signpost the full Excavation Report and the OASIS records.

The article will include:

- A discussion on the significance of the prehistoric finds assemblage, placing the discovery in a regional context.
- A discussion of the evidence for Romano-British occupation and activity on and near the site, highlighting the significance of the results in terms of their survival and preservation.
- A selection of suitable illustrations, photographs and figures will be utilised from the excavation report and the project archive.

14.0 Contextual and Stratigraphic Analysis

The data will be analysed with the aid of a comprehensive site matrix and a context database. Individual contexts will be grouped and appropriate group text produced. This will detail the nature of the features and deposits and outline the interpretation of each group. A group matrix may also be constructed if necessary to define any significant sub-periods of activity. The group text will form the basis for sub-period and period texts. All artefactual and environmental data will be synthesised with the contextual information and a detailed descriptive text produced for inclusion in the Excavation Report. This descriptive text will form the basis for a site summary to be presented in any published articles. A finalised Context Summary table will also be produced as part of the final archive.

15.0 Artefactual Analysis

Finalised specialist reports and catalogues suitable for archive purposes will be produced and included in the Excavation Report for each assemblage. Elements of the specialist reports and any appropriate finds illustrations may be included in the published material as appropriate to the discussions forming the focus of the piece. The analysis work for each finds type is defined further below:

15.1 Animal Remains

Any fragmentary remains collected during the processing of samples will be examined and included in this assemblage. Bones from the evaluation phase are to be amalgamated with those from the excavation as a single data set. The assemblage will be fully catalogued and recorded making full species identifications where possible, taking measurements where appropriate for estimation of age, stature and breed. Pathologies need to be examined for further information on the diet, health and husbandry of the stock at this site. Any faunal material from samples should also be analysed as it may provide additional dietary and environmental evidence.

15.2 Ceramic Building Material

This small assemblage will be recorded and catalogued in detail. A report suitable for inclusion on the Excavation Report will be finalised, together with the database of recorded information.

15.3 Roman Coins

The coins will be fully identified, catalogued in detail and a full report written in association with any relevant contextual data.

15.4 Fired Clay

The assemblage will be examined in more detail and categorised by fabric type. The majority of the fragments are undiagnostic, however a small number do exhibit smooth surfaces which may grant some information on their original purpose. Bulk environmental samples collected from the fired clay rich deposit may also elucidate further on the nature of the activity from which the material derives.

15.5 Worked Flint

A detailed catalogue and description of each flint will be carried out as part of the full analysis work, along with a discussion of the overall assemblage in relation to prehistoric activity at the site which also includes a regionally significant assemblage of Late Neolithic pottery. A small number of flints will be illustrated, to include all tools and a selection of other pieces to characterise the overall assemblage.

15.6 Lead

No further work is recommended.

15.7 Metal Working Waste

Currently minimal further work is recommended for the assemblage. This evidence will be reviewed and discussed further in consultation with a relevant specialist following more detailed analysis of the fired clay assemblage and the results of associated bulk sample residues – all of which have the potential to elucidate further on the type and relative scale of metal working activities taking place in the immediate vicinity.

15.8 Nails

Following X-ray the nails will be described and catalogued in more detail, Overall this small assemblage of nails have limited potential but as all bar one came from the Romano-British enclosure ditch (M:200) this may allow for some comment on structural materials utilised in the vicinity of the site.

15.9 Pottery – Medieval

The fragments will be fully catalogued in the final report but require no further work.

15.10 Pottery – Prehistoric

- The assemblage will be fully quantified and catalogued; further work should also include any new stratigraphic or contextual information produced by full analysis of the site data, including a discussion in relation to the prehistoric flint assemblage
- A full pottery report is required which provides detailed descriptions of the fabric, form and decoration of the Peterborough Ware.
- The report should include a discussion of relevant regional parallels and a review of available absolute dating for Peterborough Ware
- A minimum of 10 sherds, including the rim/collar sherds from each vessel plus two further decorated sherds require illustration

15.11 Pottery – Romano-British

Pottery recovered from the evaluation should be integrated with that from the excavation. A detailed catalogue will be carried out as part of the full analysis work, along with a discussion of the overall assemblage in relation to the nature of Romano-British activity at the site. The pottery will be cross referenced with other datable finds to allow for a possible chronology to be examined for the Romano-British features.

15.12 Shell - Oyster

Aside from commenting upon the sites use of this local food resource, seen here as residual waste mixed in with dumped deposits within the ditch, no further work is required unless additional examples of significance are recovered from sampled material.

15.13 Stone

No further work is recommended.

15.14 Small Finds

All metalwork collected in the excavation will be X-rayed prior to further analysis, cataloguing and final interpretation. The brooch requires specialist cleaning and conservation and is discussed further below.

- **Romano-British Brooch**

The Winston Drive spoked disc brooch is a particularly good example of its type and few similar brooches have been recorded regionally in such a good state of preservation from stratified, well dated archaeological deposits. Following conservation work to clean and stabilise the brooch it will be photographed and illustrated with a finalised description and classification created. The brooch and illustrations will feature in any recommended publication of the site.

- **Romano-British ?Medical Instrument**

This artefact will be further researched to seek a more direct parallel where possible and is currently recommended for illustration.

15.15 Environmental Samples

Samples will be submitted for processing and the recovery of macrofossils and ecofacts. The submitted samples will be processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flot collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flot will be scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains catalogue. A discussion of the results will be included in the analysis, which will incorporate contextual and stratigraphic information to further elucidate on Romano-British activity at the site.

16. Post-excavation Resources

The post-excavation programme will be undertaken and overseen by Giles Emery of Norvic Archaeology. The finds analysis works will make use of a number of experienced External Specialists:

Staff	Abbrev.	Role
Giles Emery	GE	Freelance Archaeologist
Alice Lyons	AL	Roman Ceramics Specialist
Andy Barnett	AB	Numismatics
Julie Curl	JC	Faunal Remains Specialist
Sarah Percival	SP	Prehistoric Pottery & Metalworking Waste Specialist
Val Fryer	VF	Baulk Sample Analysis
Norfolk Museums Service Conservation Department	NMS	X-Ray and finds conservation

Task No.	Task Description	Duration	Staff
Stratigraphic Analysis			
1	Complete comprehensive site matrix	1 day	GE
2	Define groups and phases		GE
3	Write provisional group and phase text		GE
Artefactual			
4	Animal Bone – complete analysis and report	1 day	JC
5	Romano-British Pottery	1 day	AL
6	Prehistoric Pottery - complete analysis, catalogue and report plus additional research	2 days	SP/GE
7	Lithics, final analysis /catalogue/reporting	1 day	GE
8	Metal Finds – X-ray selected pieces, conservation of Brooch and update report following re-examination	1 day	NMS
9	Roman coins - analysis /catalogue/reporting	1 day	AB
10	Baulk finds analysis /catalogue/reporting	2 days	GE
11	Finds Illustrations and digitising	2.5 days	GE
12	Environmental samples – processing/reporting	2.5 days	VF
13	Review of all metalworking waste – final catalogue/reporting	<1 day	GE/SP
Excavation Report			
13	Consult NHER + documentary/cartographic evidence	1 day	GE
14	Introduction and background information	4 days	GE
15	Write final group and phase text with interpretive summary by period		
16	Interpretive conclusions & discussion		
17	Edit and integrate updated specialist reports/tables		
18	Digitise selected sections		
19	Produce phased plans		
20	Production of figures		

21	Prepare illustrations and plates		
22	Edit		
Archiving			
23	Photo archiving	1 day	GE
24	Preparation of paper archive		
25	Preparation of artefactual archive		
26	Final archive collation & deposition		
Published Article			
27	Main text	2 .5 days	GE
28	Check and amend		
29	Production of figures		
30	Final Edit		

17.0 Long Term Storage, Curation and Conservation

The intended recipient for the artefactual assemblage is the Norfolk Museums and Archaeological Service. All finds will be packaged according to Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service's specifications, in general following the guidelines laid out in Environmental Standards for Permanent Storage from Archaeological Sites (UKIC 1984) and Guidelines for the Preparation for Excavation Archive for Long Term Storage (Walker 1990).

18.0 Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was carried out by the author assisted by Peter Watkins, Neil Moss and John Percival. Initial post-excavation and assessment work was carried out by the author with specialist contributions from Alice Lyons, Sarah Percival, Andy Barnett, Julie Curl and Val Fryer. Thanks to Dr Ralph Jackson for commenting on the possible Roman medieval instrument and Jason Gibbons for providing information regarding the Roman spoked-disc brooch.

Thanks in particular to Craig Yarham who commissioned Norvic Archaeology to carry out this work and for funding the project. The fieldwork team are also grateful to the family of No.14 for their kind assistance and genuine interest in all stages of the fieldwork.

19.0 Bibliography

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------|--|
| Adkins, L & R. | 1998 | <i>The Handbook of British Archaeology.</i> London. |
| Brown, N & Glazebrook, J. | 2000 | <i>Research and Archaeology: a Framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. research agenda and strategy.</i> East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper No.8 |
| Butler, C. | 2005 | <i>Prehistoric Flintwork.</i> Tempus. |
| Darling, M. J. | 2004 | 'Guidelines for the Archiving of Roman Pottery'. <i>Journal of Roman Pottery Studies Vol 11</i> |
| Davis, S. | 1992 | <i>A Rapid Method For Recording Information About Mammal Bones From Archaeological Sites.</i> English Heritage AML Report 71/92. |
| Emery, G. | 2011 | <i>An Archaeological Evaluation of Land off No.14 Winston Drive, South Creake, Norfolk.</i> Norvic Archaeology Report No. 17. (June 2011) |
| Emery, G. | 2011 | <i>Land off No.14 Winston Drive, South Creake, Norfolk - Specification for a programme of archaeological excavation (post-evaluation),</i> Norvic Archaeology Documentation, September 2011. |
| Garrow, D. | 2006 | <i>Pits, Settlement and Deposition during the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age in East Anglia.</i> BAR British Series 414. |
| Garrow, D., Lucy, S. & Gibson, D. | 2006 | <i>Excavations at Kilverstone, Norfolk: Neolithic pits, later prehistoric, Romano British and Anglo Saxon occupation and later activity.</i> East Anglian Archaeology 113. |

- Gibson, A. and Kinnes, I. 1997 *'On the urns of a dilemma: Radiocarbon and the Peterborough Problem'* *Oxford Journal of Archaeology* 16 (1), 65-72
- Gibson, A.M. 1995 *'First impressions: a review of Peterborough Ware in Wales'* in I.Kinnes and G.Varndell *'Unbaked Urns of Rudely Shape'* *Essays on British and Irish Pottery for Ian Longworth*.23-41. *Oxbow, Oxford*.
- Glazebrook, J. (ed.) 1997 *Research and Archaeology: A framework for the Eastern Counties. 1. Resource Assessment*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 3.
- Graham, T. 2004 *Wattle and Daub: Craft, Conservation and Wiltshire Case Stud*. Unpublished dissertation. University of Bath.
- Gregory, T. 1992 *Excavations in Thetford, 1980-1982*. East Anglian Archaeology 54.
- Gurney, D. 1995 *'The Roman Pottery' in Spong Hill Part VII: The Iron Age, Roman and Early Saxon Settlement on Spong Hill, North Elmham*, East Anglian Archaeology 73, 101
- Gurney, D. 1990 *'A Romano-British Pottery Kiln at Blackborough End, Middleton, Norfolk Archaeology* 41, 83-92
- Hattatt, R. 2012 *A visual Catalogue of Richard Hattatt's Ancient Brooches*, Oxbow
- Healy, F. 1995 Pottery' in Rogerson, A., *A Late Neolithic, Saxon and Medieval Site at Middle Harling, Norfolk*. East Anglian Archaeology 74, 40
- Healy, F., Cleal, R.M.J., & Kinnes, I. 1993 *'Excavations on Redgate Hill, Hunstanton, 1970 and 1971, in R.Bradley, P.Chowne, R.M.J. Cleal, F.Healy & I.Kinnes, Excavations at Redgate Hill, Hunstanton and at Tattershall Thorpe, Lincolnshire, East Anglian Archaeology* 57, 1-77.
- Hincliffe, J, and Green C.S. 1985 *Excavations at Brancaster 1974 and 1977*. East Anglian Archaeology 23.
- Jennings, S. 1981 *Eighteen centuries of pottery from Norwich*. East Anglian Archaeology 13.
- Johnson. P., 2002 *Romano-British Mosaics*. Shire Archaeology Book No.25.
- Jones, D.M. (ed.) 2001 *Archaeometallurgy*, Centre of Archaeology Guidelines. English Heritage
- Lyons, A.L. 2004 *Romano-British Industrial Activity at Snettisham, Norfolk*, East Anglian Occasional paper 18
- Mackreth, D.F. 2011 *Brooches in Late Iron Age and Roman Britain Vol.1 & II* . Oxbow Books
- Manning, W.H. 1985 *Catalogue of the Romano-British Iron Tools, Fittings and Weapons in the British Museum*. London: British Museum Publishing.
- Medleycott, M. (ed.) 2011 *Research and Archaeology Revisited: A revised framework for the east England*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional paper 24.
- Percival, S. 2003 *'Prehistoric Pottery' in Robertson, D., 'A Neolithic Enclosure and Early Saxon Settlement: excavation at Yarmouth Road Broome, 2001', Norfolk Archaeology. XLIV Part II, 222-250*.
- Percival, S. 2004 *The Pottery in - Crowson, A., Hot rocks in the Norfolk Fens: The excavation of a burnt flint mound at Northwold, 1994-5*. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 16.18-21.
- Perrin, J. R. 1999 *Roman Pottery from Excavations at and near to the Roman Small Town of Durobrivae, Water Newton, Cambridgeshire, 1956-58. Journal of Roman Pottery Studies* 8.
- Shopland, N. 2005 *Archaeological Finds, a guide to identification*. Tempus
- Stace, C 1997 *New Flora of the British Isles*. 2nd edition. Cambridge University Press
- Thomas, J. 1996 *Time, Culture and Identity*. Routledge, London.
- Tomber, R and Dore, J. 1998 *The National Roman Fabric reference collection, A Handbook*. MoLAS Monograph 2
- Tyers, P. 1996 *Roman Pottery in Britain*, Batsford
- Webster, G. (Ed) 1976 *Romano-British coarse pottery: a student's guide*. CBA Research Report No. 6
- Willis, S. 2004 *The Study Group For Roman Pottery Research Framework Document for the Study of Roman Pottery in Britain, 2003. Journal of Roman Pottery Studies Vol 11*

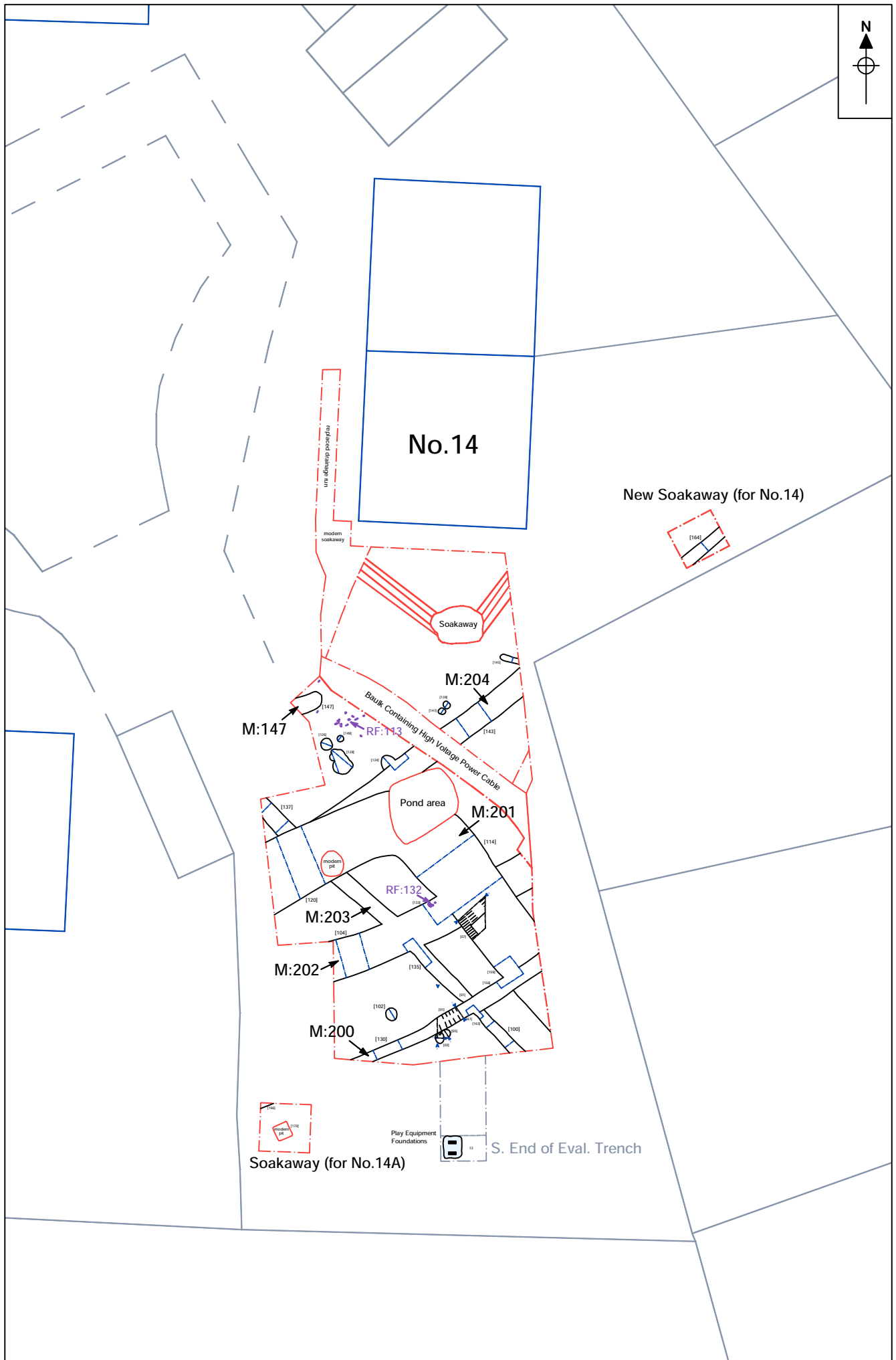


Figure 2. Basic Excavation Plan. Scale 1:200

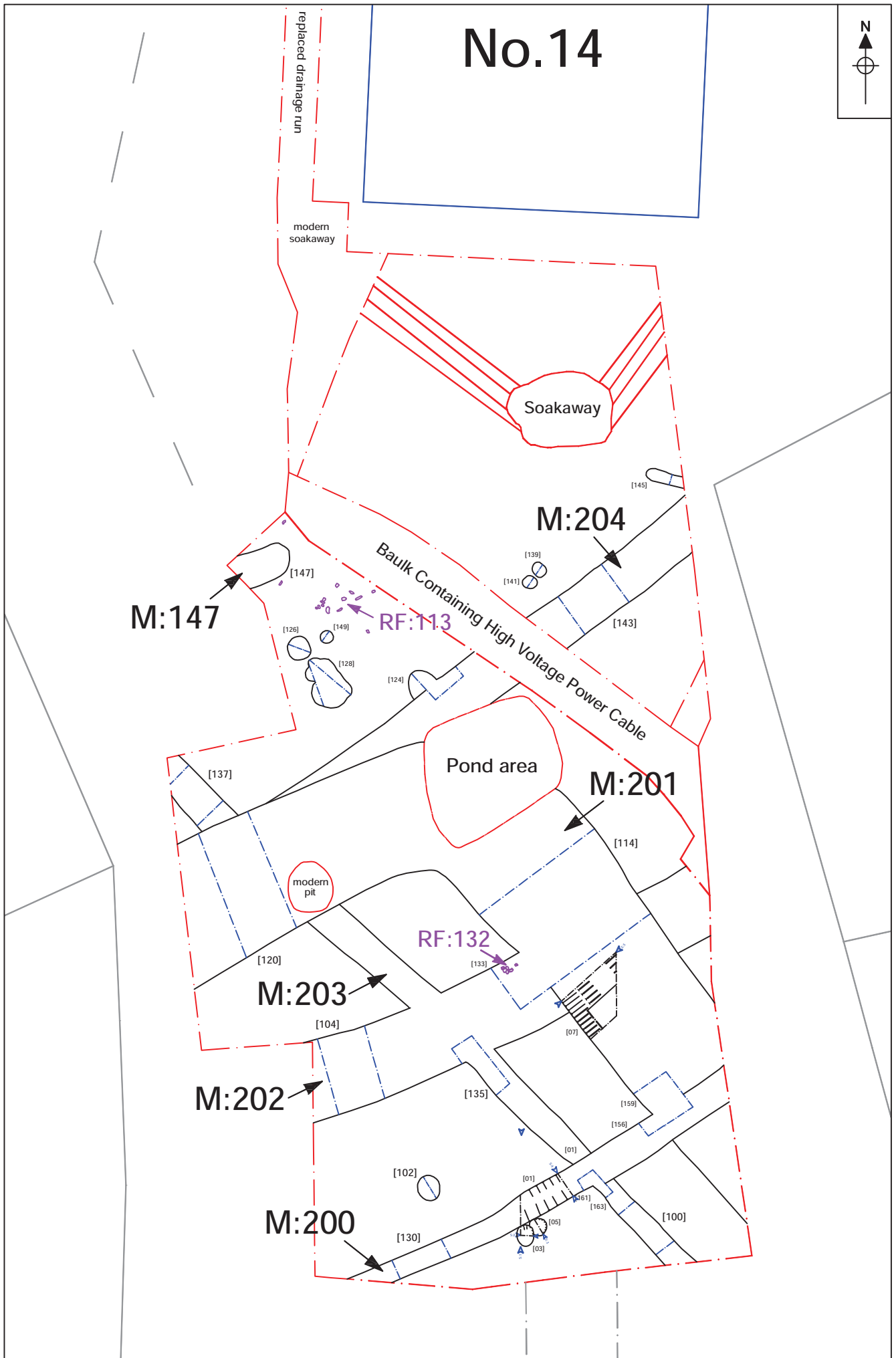


Figure 3. Main Excavation Area. Scale 1:100

