SUFFOLK ARCHAEOLOGY

• A HISTORY OF EXPERTISE •

Main Road (WN018-0124),
Darsham, Suffolk

Client:
Essex & Suffolk Water

Date:
July 2018

DAR 040
Archaeological Evaluation Report
SACIC Report No. 2018/066
Author: Jezz Meredith

Main Road (WN018-0124)

Darsham, Suffolk

DAR 040

Archaeological Evaluation Report

SACIC Report No. 2018/066

Author: Jezz Meredith

Contributions By: Mike Green, Ioannis Smyrnaios, Anna West

Illustrator: Rui Santo

Editor: Stuart Boulter

Report Date: July 2018

HER Information

Site Code:	**DAR 040**
Site Name:	**Main Rd pipeline**
Report Number	**2018/066**
Planning Application No:	**n/a**
Date of Fieldwork:	**18/20 June 2018**
Grid Reference:	**TM 4051 6959**
Oasis Reference:	**suffolka1-317859**
Curatorial Officer:	**Rachael Abraham**
Project Officer:	**Jezz Meredith**
Client/Funding Body:	**Essex & Suffolk Water**
Client Reference:	**WN018-0124**
HER Invoice No:	**9215838**

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

Disclaimer

Any opinions expressed in this report about the need for further archaeological work are those of Suffolk Archaeology CIC. Ultimately the need for further work will be determined by the Local Planning Authority and its Archaeological Advisors when a planning application is registered. Suffolk Archaeology CIC cannot accept responsibility for inconvenience caused to the clients should the Planning Authority take a different view to that expressed in the report.

Prepared By:	Jezz Meredith
Date:	20th July 2018
Approved By:	Stuart Boulter
Position:	Senior Project Officer
Date:	20th July 2018
Signed:	

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Summary

Trenching was conducted along the route of a planned new watermain pipe. Twelve archaeological trenches were cut, representing a 5% sample of the area disturbed by the pipe trench. Near the northern end of the route two features were revealed in a single trench. These include a ditch containing pottery fragments of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date and a small black pit with a charcoal-rich fill with struck flint of probable later Bronze Age date. Both features were protected under a thick layer of colluvium (hillwash). No other trenches revealed archaeological features or deposits of significance and severe plough truncation was witnessed in many trenches. A single unstratified pottery sherd of late medieval glazed pottery was recovered as an isolated find from the trench at the extreme western end of the pipe route.

Plate 1. View of Trench 10 looking south-west

Drawing Conventions

Plans

Limit of Excavation

Features

Break of Slope

Features - Conjectured

Natural Features

Sondages/Machine Strip

Intrusion/Truncation

Illustrated Section S.14

Cut Number **0008**

Archaeological Feature

Sections

Limit of Excavation

Cut

Modern Cut

Cut - Uncertain

Deposit Horizon

Deposit Horizon - Uncertain

Intrusion/Truncation

Break in Section

Cut Number **0088**

Deposit Number 0089

Ordnance Datum S 55.27 N

1. Introduction

The proposed pipeline area (hereafter referred to as 'the site') runs across the east of Darsham parish, close to Yoxford village (Fig. 1). The pipeline starts from near the junction of the A12 with the Westleton turn-off (TM 4015 6918), runs eastwards close to the northern edge of Westleton Road, crosses the railway at the road bridge, before heading north on the east side of the tracks, crossing a tributary of the Minsmere River before finishing close to Darsham Nursery (TM 4051 6968).

A 'Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation' produced by the Suffolk County Council planning archaeologist Rachael Abraham proposed that the site be investigated for its archaeological potential. The brief asked for a 5% sample by trial trenching to test for surviving archaeological deposits.

A 'Written Scheme of Investigation' produced by Stuart Boulter (Appendix 1) specified how the trenches would be positioned. In total twelve trenches of *c.*15m were proposed, arranged along the route of the pipeline (Fig. 3).

The trial trenching was conducted between the 18th and 20th of June 2018.

The site has been given the Darsham reference DAR 040 within the Historic Environment Record (HER) for Suffolk. The national OASIS record for this site is Suffolka1-317859.

2. Geology and topography

According to the British Geological Survey (BGS) the bedrock of the area of the site is Crag Group sands, formed within the last 5 million years as a sedimentary deposit in the base of shallow seas (BGS 2018). There is no current BGS information on superficial deposits for much of the site but the central area is recorded as Lowestoft Formation Diamicton: a sediment resulting from dry-land erosion which can range in size from fine clays to coarse-grained material (BSG 2018). Field observations suggest these comprise of a mix of deposits of clay, sand and gravel.

The site spreads across two large arable fields, either side of the railway tracks, before entering a wildflower meadow at Darsham Nursery to the north (Fig. 1). The route of the pipeline crosses a gradually undulating landscape, with its highest point towards the south-east corner of the site (adjacent to where Westleton Road bridge crosses the railway), just above the 20m contour. As the route heads north it slopes down, crossing a small culverted tributary of the Minsmere River (at the 15m contour) before rising again steadily towards Darsham Nursery.

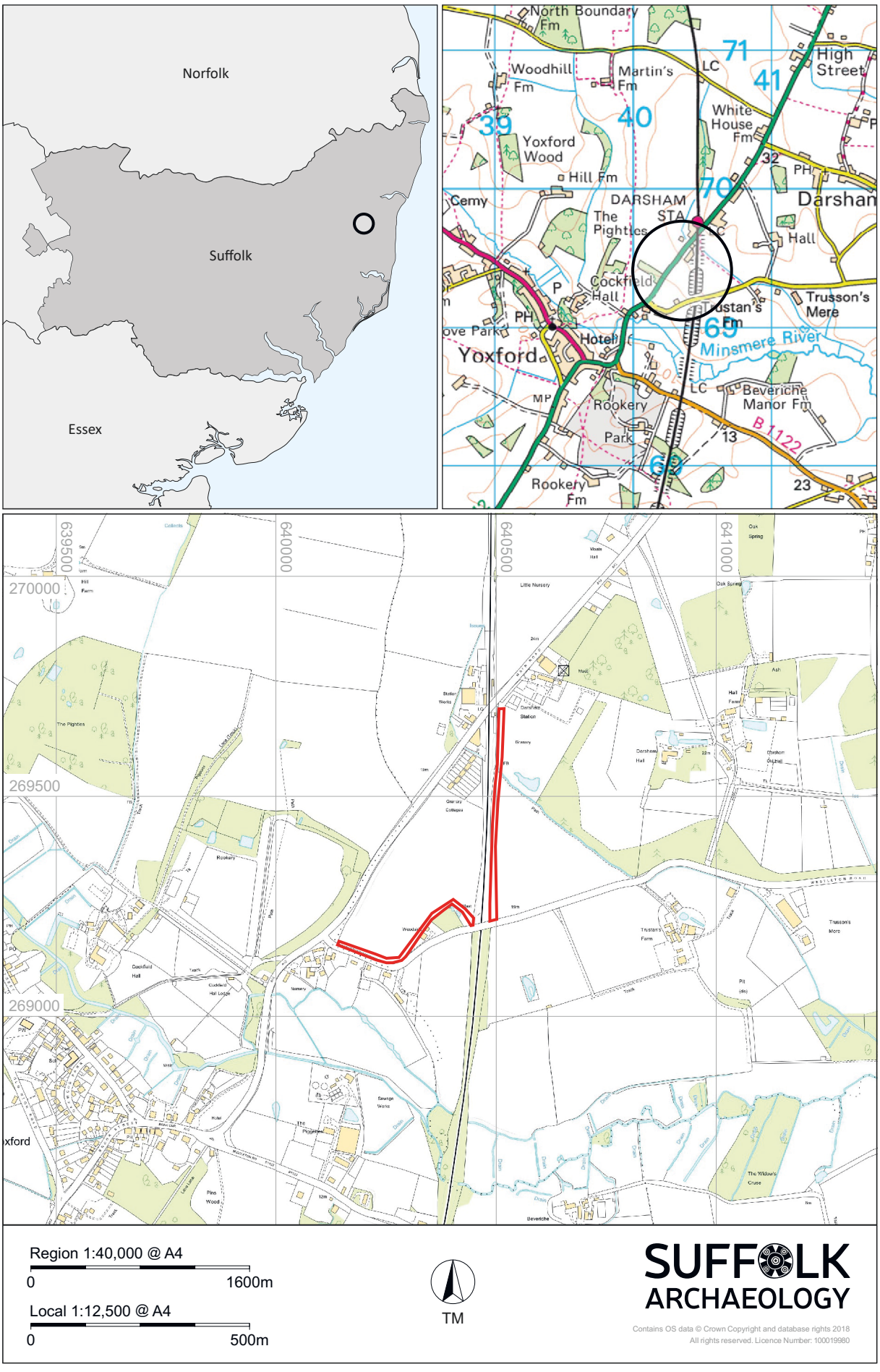

Figure 1. Site location (red)

3. Archaeology and historical background

The following archaeological and historic information has been provided by the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER invoice no. 9215838). Sites within a 1km radius are shown on Figure 2, which include sites from both Darsham and Yoxford parishes.

Prehistoric sites in the vicinity include DAR 021, which produced Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery, and DAR 033 where a scatter of worked flints were recorded. A Late Iron Age gold stater was recovered from site DAR 038 and an Iron Age antler weaving comb came from YOX 002. A Roman coin was found at DAR 017, which was a sestertius of Maximus I. From the same location came an Anglo-Saxon brooch.

The historic core of Yoxford to the west (site YOX 034) was of likely Saxon origin and continued through the medieval period. Within this area, an unoccupied moat (YOX 001) and the church of St Peter (YOX 007) are located. The possible deserted medieval village (DMV) of Hopton (YOX 026) was located to the south of the area. A single piece of medieval pottery was recovered to the east (DAR 033). Closer to the route of the pipeline is Darsham Old Hall (DAR 012), a series of medieval ditches (DAR 021) and a small rectangular moat (DAR 001), all of probable medieval origin.

Sites belonging to the post-medieval period include a scatter of Tudor metalwork (DAR 026), a small collection of features (DAR 027) and a fieldsystem (DAR 035). Several large, prestigious houses and their associated buildings are located around Yoxford. These include Cockfield Hall (YOX 006), Grove Park (YOX 008) and The Rookery (YOX 013). A post-medieval road, part of the ‘Erlesway’, was closed in 1793 (YOX 018). The nearby Darsham Station (DAR 019) was established in the nineteenth century as part of the East Suffolk railway line (SUF 067).

A multi-period metalwork scatter in Yoxford (YOX 041) included Roman, medieval and post-medieval material. An undated oval enclosure was recognised as a cropmark to the north of Yoxford village (YOX 014).

As their location are confidential, two findspots recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme are not shown on Figure 2. These include a Mesolithic flints axehead and a medieval pottery vessel.

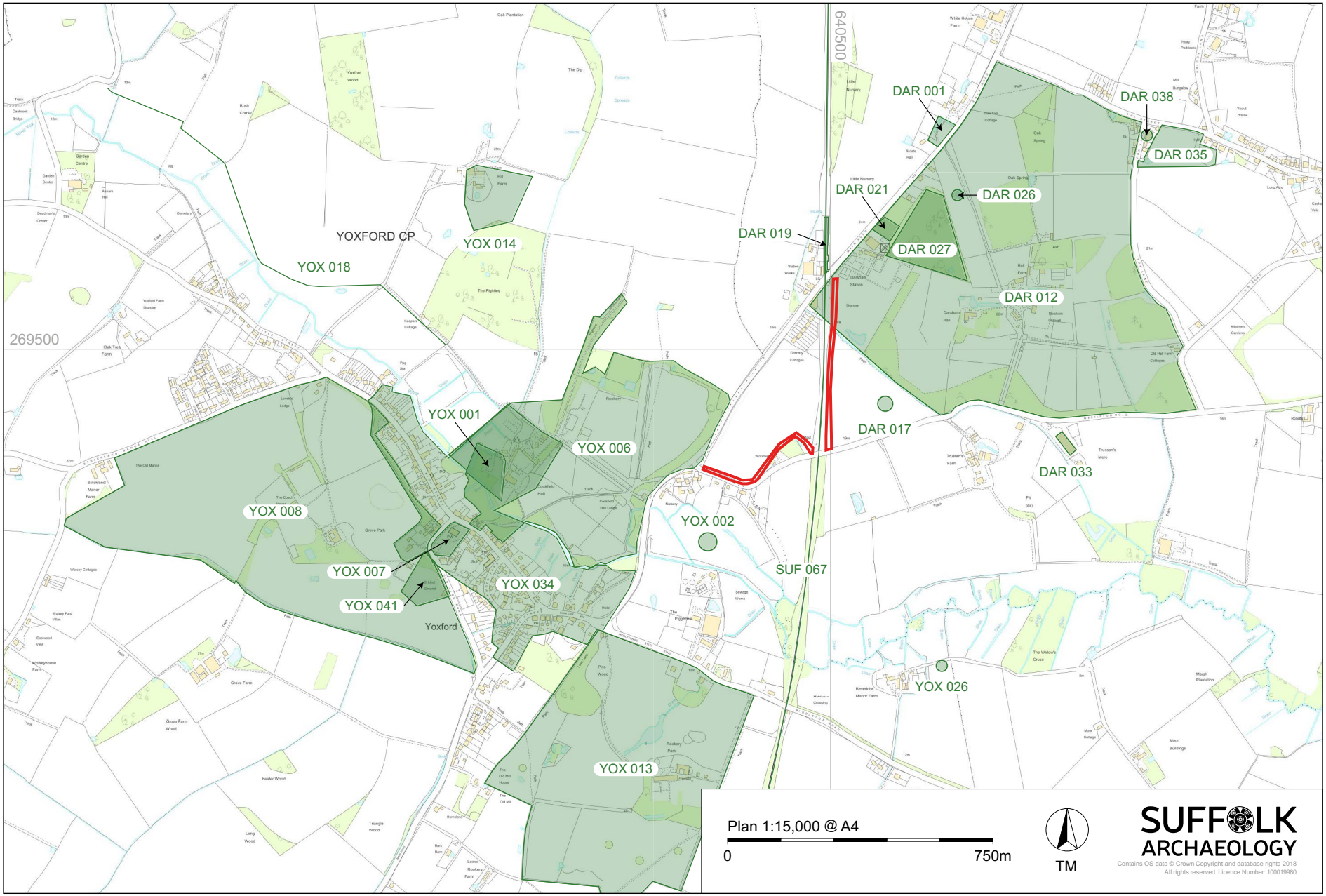

Figure 2. Site location (red) and HER data (green)

4. Methodology

Trial trenches were dug in accordance with the WSI (Appendix 1). The trenches were laid out using a RTK GPS survey unit. After stake-out trenches were moved slightly closer to the hedge line than shown in the WSI to correspond more accurately to where the pipeline was to be dug. The pipeline route was moved slightly to minimise damage to the standing crop in the southern fields and to the wild flower meadow in the north, and to avoid disturbance of field drainage in the south-western field. Trenches were numbered in the order they were cut (Fig. 3).

Trenching was conducted using a 5-tonne, 360° tracked digger equipped with a 1.5m wide toothless ditching bucket. The WSI had specified that the trenches be of 1.8m width so trenches were extended in length to 17m to account for the shortfall in trench area. All machining was carried out under direct archaeological observation with the topsoil and other overburden removed to reveal natural geology (hereafter the 'natural') or archaeological features or deposits.

The base of each trench was examined for features and finds of archaeological interest. The upcast soil was checked visually for any archaeological finds. Records were made of the position and length of trenches and the depths of deposit encountered. A metal-detector search was conducted of trench bases and of the spoil from trenches with archaeological deposits.

Archaeological features were hand excavated and feature cuts, fills and deposits were given separate context numbers within the range 0001 to 0008. Features were drawn at a scale of 1:20, photographed and finds collected with the relevant context information. Trench plans were drawn at the scale of 1:50 of the trenches containing features. All features and trench locations were recorded using a RTK GPS survey unit.

All elements of the site archive have been identified with the HER code DAR 040. An OASIS record (for the Archaeological Data Service) has been undertaken and the reference code Suffolka1-317859 has been used for this project.

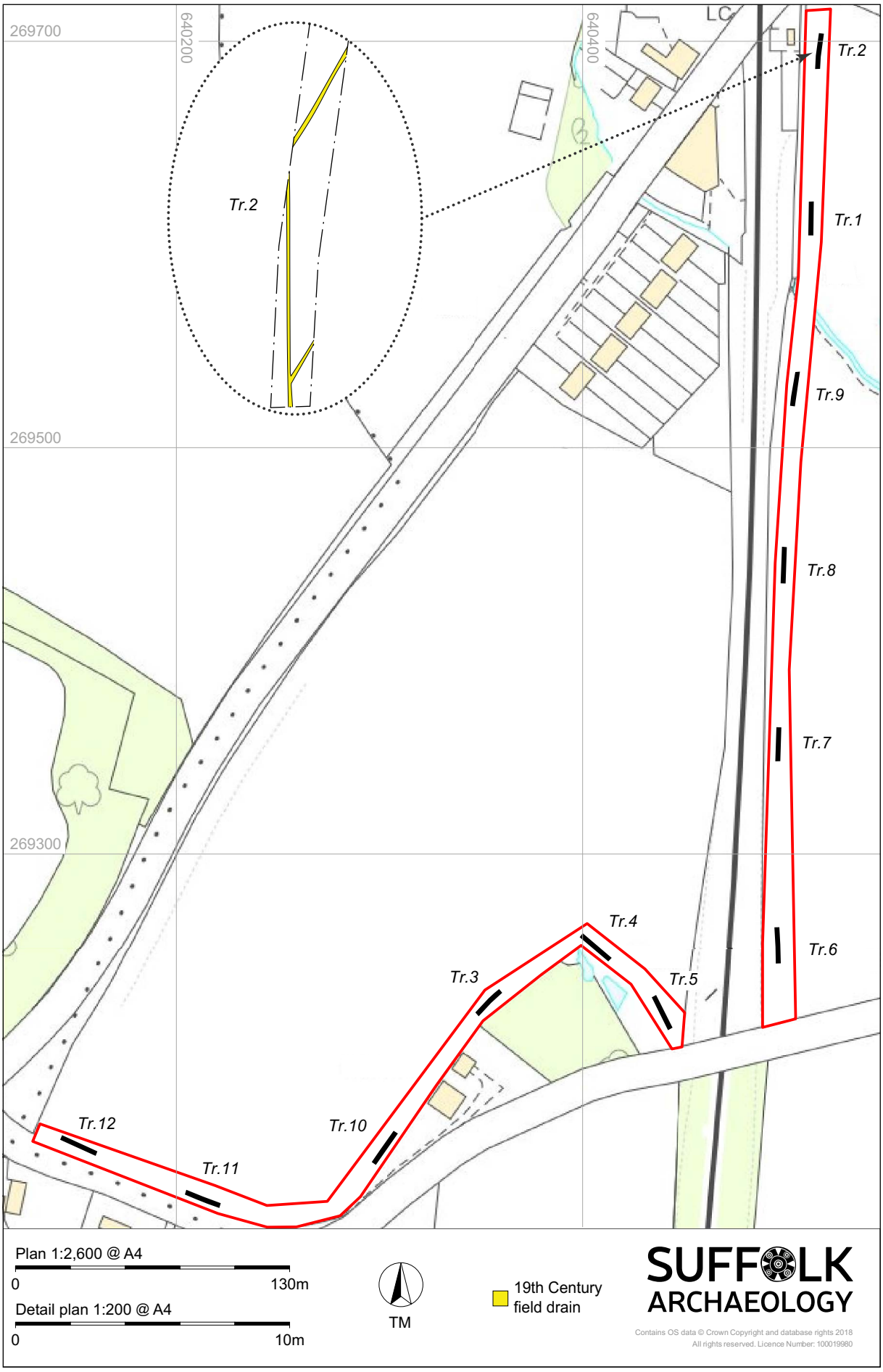

Figure 3. Trench location

5. Results

5.1 Introduction

Twelve trenches were dug along the route of the pipeline (Fig. 3). Trenches were of 17m length and were 1.5m wide. Trench numbers, orientation, depth of soil, depth to natural, type of natural and other details are listed in Table 1 below:

Trench no.	Orientation	Depth of topsoil	Depth to Nat	Details
1	N-S	0.3m	0.8m	Layer 0003 Ditch 0004 Pit 0006 Nat: clay sand
2	N-S	0.3m	0.3m	Nat: clay
3	NE-SW	0.2m	0.2m	Nat: clay
4	NW-SE	0.2m	0.2m	Nat: clay
5	NW-SE	0.2m	0.2m	Nat: clay
6	N-S	0.3m	0.3m	Nat: clay
7	N-S	0.35m	0.35m	Nat: clay sand
8	N-S	0.4m	0.4m	Nat: clay sand
9	N-S	0.4m	0.4m	Nat: clay sand
10	NE-SW	0.3m	0.3m	Nat: clay sand
11	E-W	0.3m	0.3m	Nat: sand
12	E-W	0.35m	0.35m	Unstrat pot 0001 Nat: clay sand

Table 1. Summary of trench information

Only Trench 1 revealed archaeological features. At the southern end, ditch 0004 and pit 0006 were buried under a thick hillwash (colluvium) layer 0003 (Fig. 4). This trench and features 0004 and 0006 will be discussed in more detail in section 5.2 below.

Elsewhere an unstratified pottery sherd was recovered from spoil in Trench 12. Ceramic field drains of likely nineteenth or early twentieth century date were revealed in Trench 2 (Fig. 3; insert). All other trenches were archaeologically blank. Natural deposits were predominantly of clay (Trenches 2-6) or clay sand (Trenches 1, 7-10 and 12) with only Trench 11 revealing pure sand natural. All the trenches across the two large arable fields (Trenches 3-12) showed a sharp contact between topsoil and natural, suggesting truncation (Pl. 2) and many of these trenches also showed evidence for severe plough scarring across the base of the trench. Most topsoil deposits (layer 0003) were fairly thin (from *c.*0.2-0.3m), with slightly thicker deposits of *c.*0.35-0.4m in the trenches positioned on the north-facing slope down to the tributary of the Minsmere River (Trenches 7-9). Trench 12 at the west end of pipeline also had a slightly deeper topsoil (0.35m).

Plate 2. Soil profiles from Trench 6, 8 and 12 showing sharp contact between topsoil 0002 and natural geological deposits (1m, 0.5m and 0.4m scales)

5.2 Trench results

Trench 1

This was the first trench to be cut and was positioned on the slope down to the tributary of the Minsmere River, within the lower meadow of Darsham Nursery. With minimal cultivation and near the base of the slope, it is perhaps unsurprising that this trench had a deep, undisturbed soil profile (Fig.4; Sec 03). Here topsoil 0002 was of *c.*0.3m depth and this was over layer 0003 which at its deepest, at the southern end of the trench, was of *c.*0.5m thickness (*c.*0.2m at the north end of the trench). Layer 0003 was mid grey brown clay silt with moderate flint pebbles and occasional charcoal flecks. This layer sealed the fills of ditch 0004 and pit 0006.

Plate 3. Ditch 0004 section looking north-east (0.5m scale)

Ditch 0004

Running north-east to south-west across the south end of the trench, this possible ditch was rather poorly defined and suffered from a degree of animal/root disturbance, which obscured its profile (Fig.4; Sect 02). The SE edge was uncertain due to disturbance but the NW side was fairly steep and slightly convex to a narrow, rounded base. It had a width of *c.*0.7m and a depth of 0.42m. Top fill 0005 was mid to pale yellow grey silty sand with occasional flint pebbles and small charcoal flecks. This fill contained two small fragments of prehistoric pottery and a small number of heat-altered flints. The basal fill 0008 was mid grey silty sand with occasional flint pebbles and small charcoal flecks.

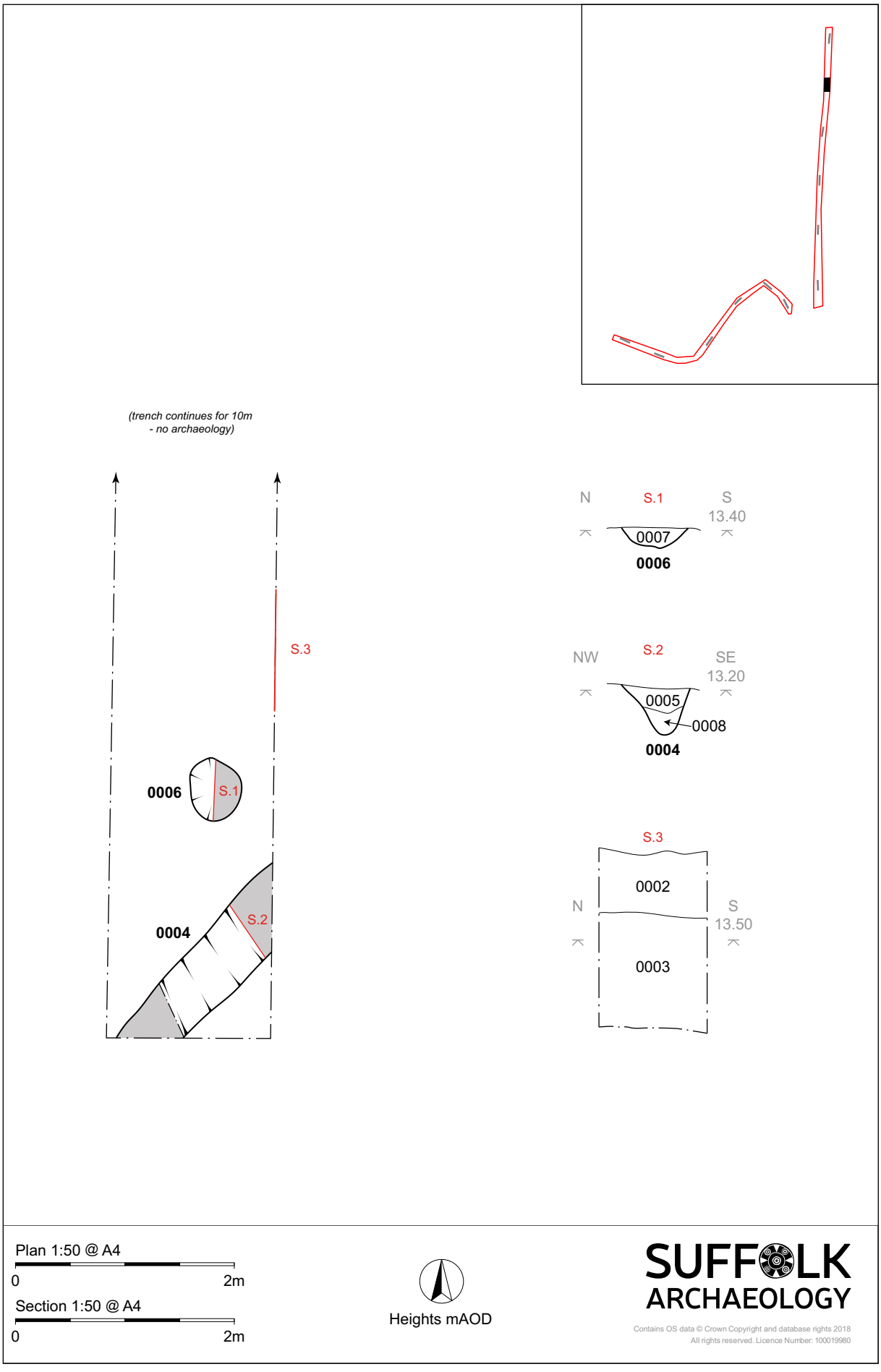

Figure 4. Plan and sections from trench 1

Pit 0006

This small pit with its very distinctive dark fill was vividly revealed after the removal of layer 0003. It was circular in plan and had a shallow profile with gently sloping sides to a rounded base (Fig.4; Sec 01). It had a diameter 0.6m and a depth of 0.18m. The single fill 0007 was dark grey/black, containing abundant quantities of charcoal flecks and occasional flint pebbles. There were occasional flecks and pieces of fired clay/burnt natural but there did not seem to be any evidence for in situ burning.

Plate 4. Pit 0006 section looking east (0.4m scale)

6. Finds and environmental evidence

Ioannis Smyrnaios (unless stated differently)

6.1 Introduction

The hand-collected bulk finds from the site are presented in Table 2 below. The table does not include any material from soil samples. Sampled finds are discussed together with hand-collected finds in the following sections of this report.

Context	Pottery		Heat-altered flint		Spotdate
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	
0001	1	5			Med
0005	2	2	5	127	Pre
Total	**3**	**7**	**5**	**127**	

Table 2. Finds quantities

6.2 Pottery

The site produced three sherds weighing 7g in total. The fragments derived from two contexts.

Prehistoric pottery

Ditch fill 0005 in Trench 1 produced two heavily abraded and fragmentary pieces of prehistoric pottery dating to the LBA-EIA. They derived from the same vessel, which was made in a silty fabric with medium coarse flint and sand (FQ)

Medieval pottery

A single fragment from a late medieval-transitional ware (LMT) weighing 5g, with interior lead glazed decoration, was recovered as unstratified find 0001 in Trench 12.

6.3 Fired clay

Sample 1 from pit fill 0007 produced a small fragment of fired clay weighing a gram. The fragment is brownish red and is made from a fine sandy fabric (fs).

6.4 Worked flint

Michael Green

Methodology

Each piece of flint was examined and recorded in Table 3 below. The material was classified by type with numbers of pieces, corticated and patinated pieces being recorded; the condition of the flint is commented on in the discussion.

Introduction

A total of four struck flints were recovered during the evaluation from a single sample. The flint was struck from a light blue grey glassy stone. No edge damage was present and a single piece showed heat-alteration.

Context Number	Type	Patination	Cortex %	Number	Weight (g)
0007 (Sample 1)	Blade	None	0	2	3
0007 (Sample 1)	Blade (broken)	None	0	1	2
0007 (Sample 1)	Blade (broken and HA)	None	0	1	4
	Total			**4**	**9**

Table 3. Flint summarised by type

Discussion

Pit 0006, fill 0007, Trench 1

Four struck flints were found within Sample 1 of this feature. Two small blades and two broken larger blade fragments were recovered, with one of the larger broken blade fragments showing heat-alteration after removal. All flints were struck using hard hammer techniques from crudely prepared blade cores. No patination or edge damage was present making them likely to originate from this deposit. Due to the knapping techniques used in flake removal and core preparation these flints likely date to the later prehistoric period (?Late Bronze Age). They also date this feature to that period.

Conclusion

The four blades found in Sample 1 shows that some utilisation of the landscape was occurring within the Bronze Age. No re-fits were present, showing that knapping debris was not disposed of into this feature deliberately and the struck flint was likely mixed

into the deposit through natural infilling or mixed into the material before it was deposited. The lack of patination or edge damage does, however, show that these struck flints were sealed within the fill soon after creation, likely dating the feature to the later prehistoric period.

6.5 Heat-altered flint

Ditch fill 0005 in Trench 1 produced five fragments of heat-altered flint. The flint is high-fired and heavily cracked, and preserves no cortex. It is likely to come from pot-boilers and it could be contemporary with the LBA-EIA pottery from the same fill. Furthermore, Sample 1 from pit fill 0007 produced another five fragments of moderately heat-altered flint weighing 22g. The sampled material is of poor condition and highly unlikely to associate with pot boilers; by contrast, it is probably pieces that came accidently to contact with fire.

6.6 Plant macrofossils

Anna West

Introduction and Methods

A single 40-litre bulk sample was taken from pit fill 0007. Struck flint recovered from the non-floating residue of Sample 1 probably dates to the later prehistoric period. The sample was processed in order to assess the quality of preservation of any plant remains present and their potential to provide useful data as part of the archaeological investigations.

The sample was processed using manual water flotation/washover and the flot was collected in a 300-micron mesh sieve. The dried flot was scanned using a binocular microscope at x16 magnification. The non-floating residue was collected in a 1mm mesh and sorted when dry.

Results

Fibrous rootlets were present within the flot; this material has been disregarded as modern and intrusive within the archaeological context. The flot was relatively small in volume at 40ml with wood charcoal fragments making up this entire volume. The charcoal

was generally highly comminuted, with fragments suitable for species identification or radiocarbon dating being rare.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

It is not recommended that any further work is carried out on the material from this sample as it contained no identifiable material, beyond wood charcoal.

6.7 Discussion of material evidence

The material evidence from the site suggest some activities dating to the LBA-EIA. Such material derived from ditch 0004 in Trench 1 and included small fragments of undecorated LBA-EIA pottery and heat-altered flint, possibly associated with pot-boilers. Pit 0006 in the same trench produced four crudely struck blades of later prehistoric date. A single unstratified fragment of glazed pottery suggests that some activities in the area date to the late medieval or transitional post-medieval period. The analysis of plant macrofossils from the site revealed no evidence that could associate with the utilisation of local plant resources, agricultural or other economic activities.

7. Conclusions

The route of the pipeline crosses a rich archaeological landscape, within the watershed of the River Yox and the Minsmere River. This is a situation for high archaeological potential with Roman and Saxon findspots nearby and with complex medieval and post-medieval landscapes to the north-east and south-west (Fig. 2).

Significant archaeological remains were encountered in Trench 1 only. This was the more southerly of the two trenches cut in the wildflower meadow adjacent to Darsham Nursery. Trench 1 was positioned on a south-facing slope above a small south-east flowing stream; a tributary of the Minsmere River. Because of a thick layer of colluvial overburden (layer 0003), archaeological remains were protected within this trench (minimal cultivation in this area also probably helped preserve deposits).

Two later prehistoric features were recognised in Trench 1. At the extreme southern end of the trench was the north-east to south-west running ditch 0004, a fairly deep feature with pale leached fills containing fragments of Late Bronze/Early Iron Age pottery and heart-altered flint. The black, charcoal-rich fill of the small circular pit 0006 was dramatically revealed as layer 0003 was removed. Struck flint from this feature suggests it dated to the later prehistoric period.

Trench 2 (the most northerly trench) was cut through a thin topsoil to reveal heavy, stiff clay natural. Here post-medieval ceramic field drains were encountered (probably 19th/early 20th century).

Trenches 3 to 12, in the arable fields to the south, appeared to have suffered from heavy plough truncation. These trenches revealed a sharp transition from the topsoil to the natural (Pl. 2); several of the southern trenches showed evidence for deep plough scarring across the top on natural. No archaeological features or deposits were observed in these trenches; the only evidence of any consequence was a single sherd of late medieval glazed pottery which was an unstratified find from Trench 12 at the extreme western end of the pipeline route.

Noteworthy archaeological remains were only encountered where they were protected by a deep layer of colluvium in Trench 1. Trench 1 was also situated in a favourable

location on a south-facing slope of a slight valley with a stream. The features appear to be of later prehistoric date and settlement of this period is likely somewhere in the vicinity.

Despite the spread of archaeological sites and findspots in the immediate area, little evidence for past activity has been recorded beyond Trench 1. This is likely to be due in part to the unworkable heavy clay and clay-sand geology across most of the route of the pipeline; such soils were unlikely to be exploited much outside the Roman, medieval and later periods. Deep ploughing and modern farming practices have probably also taken their toll, with heavy degrees of truncation witnessed across the arable fields to the south.

8. Archive deposition

Paper, digital and finds archive will be submitted to the county HER, ref DAR 040.

9. Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was carried out by Jezz Meredith and Filipe Santos. Project management was provided by Stuart Boulter and John Craven. Stuart Boulter commented on an earlier draft of this report. The finds were processed by Clare Wooton and Ruth Beveridge, with Ioannis Smyrnaios producing the final finds report. The illustrations were prepared by Rui Santo. Thanks to Phil Weiss of T4 for organising plant, access and clearance of the site and to Aaaron Lucraft for operating the digger.

10. Bibliography

Websites

British Geological Survey, 2018, http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html

Appendix 1. Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)

SUFFOLK ARCHAEOLOGY

• A HISTORY OF EXPERTISE •

Main Road, Darsham, Suffolk

WN018-0124 (DAR 040)

Written Scheme of Investigation for a Programme of Archaeological Trenched Evaluation

Date: May 2018
Prepared by: Stuart Boulter
Issued to: Rachael Abraham (SCC Archaeological Service)

Summary Project Details

Site Name	Main Road, Darsham
Site Location/Parish	Darsham
Grid Reference	TM 401 691 to TM 743 707
Access	Wesleton Road
Planning Application No	N/A
HER code	DAR 040
OASIS ref.	suffolka1-317859
Type:	Trial-trenching evaluation
Proposal	Pipeline
Project start date	TBC
Fieldwork duration	1 – 2 days
Number of personnel on site	Projected as 2 SACIC staff

Personnel and contact numbers

SACIC Project Manager	Stuart Boulter	Office: 01449 900122 Mobile: 07885 223524
Project Officer (first point of on-site contact)	TBC	Office: Mobile:
SCCAS Curatorial Officer	Rachael Abraham	Office: 01284 741232 Mobile: 07595 089516
Consultant	N/A	-

Emergency contacts

Local Police	Ipswich Police Station, 10 Museum Street, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 1HT	101 or emergency 999
Site First Aider	TBC	Mobile:
Location of nearest A&E	Heath Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 5PD	01284 713000

Hire details

Plant:	N/A	N/A
Welfare	N/A	N/A
Tool hire:	N/A	N/A

Contents

Figures

Appendices

1. Background

1.1 Suffolk Archaeology Community Interest Company (hereafter SACIC) have been commissioned to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation at the site of a proposed pipeline in fields to the east of Main Road, Darsham, Suffolk (Figure 1). The first element of this work involves the preparation of a Written Scheme of Investigation (this document, hereafter WSI).

1.2 Essex and Suffolk Water were advised by Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (hereafter SCCAS) that pipeline scheme would require a programme of archaeological investigation before groundworks begin. The purpose of such work being the recording and advancement of understanding of any heritage assets present at the location before they are destroyed in the course of the development.

1.3 The evaluation will be conducted in adherence to a Brief prepared by Rachael Abraham of SCCAS (dated 20th March 2018) covering this specific planning condition. Any archaeological mitigation work that is required as a result of the evaluation will be subject to a new Brief and WSI.

1.4 The Brief states (section 2.1) that the high archaeological potential for the site is based both on its location, on light soils overlooking the river Yox, and the previously recorded archaeology listed for the immediate vicinity in the county Historic Environment Record (hereafter HER). Medieval archaeology has been identified to the north (DAR 021) while multi-period finds have been recovered from the immediate vicinity (DAR 017 and Misc.). In addition, Lidar data suggests that the majority of the routes lies outside the area previously disturbed by the construction of the railway. A full HER search will be commissioned from SCCAS as part of the archaeological evaluation.

1.5 As a result of 1.4 above, there is considered to be a high potential for archaeological remains to survive to survive along the pipeline route and the proposed works have the potential to damage and destroy any surviving below ground heritage assets.

1.6 The contents of the WSI comply with the SCCAS standard Requirements for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation (2017) and Requirements for Archaeological Excavation (2017), as well as the following national and regional guidance:

- *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF), Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) (March 2012);
- *Code of Conduct*, Chartered Institute for Field Archaeologists 2014;
- *Standard and Guidance Archaeological Excavation*, Chartered Institute for Field Archaeologists, 2014;
- *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The Morphe Project Managers' Guide,* Historic England, 2015;

- *Gurney, D 2003 Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, E. Anglian Archaeol. Occ. Paper No. 14, 2003 Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers East of England Region;

- *Archaeological Archives in Suffolk Guidelines for Preparation and Deposition*, Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service (revised 2017)

1.7 The research aims of the evaluation are as follows:

- *Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation;*

- *Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence masking colluvial/alluvial deposits;*

- *Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence;*

- *Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.*

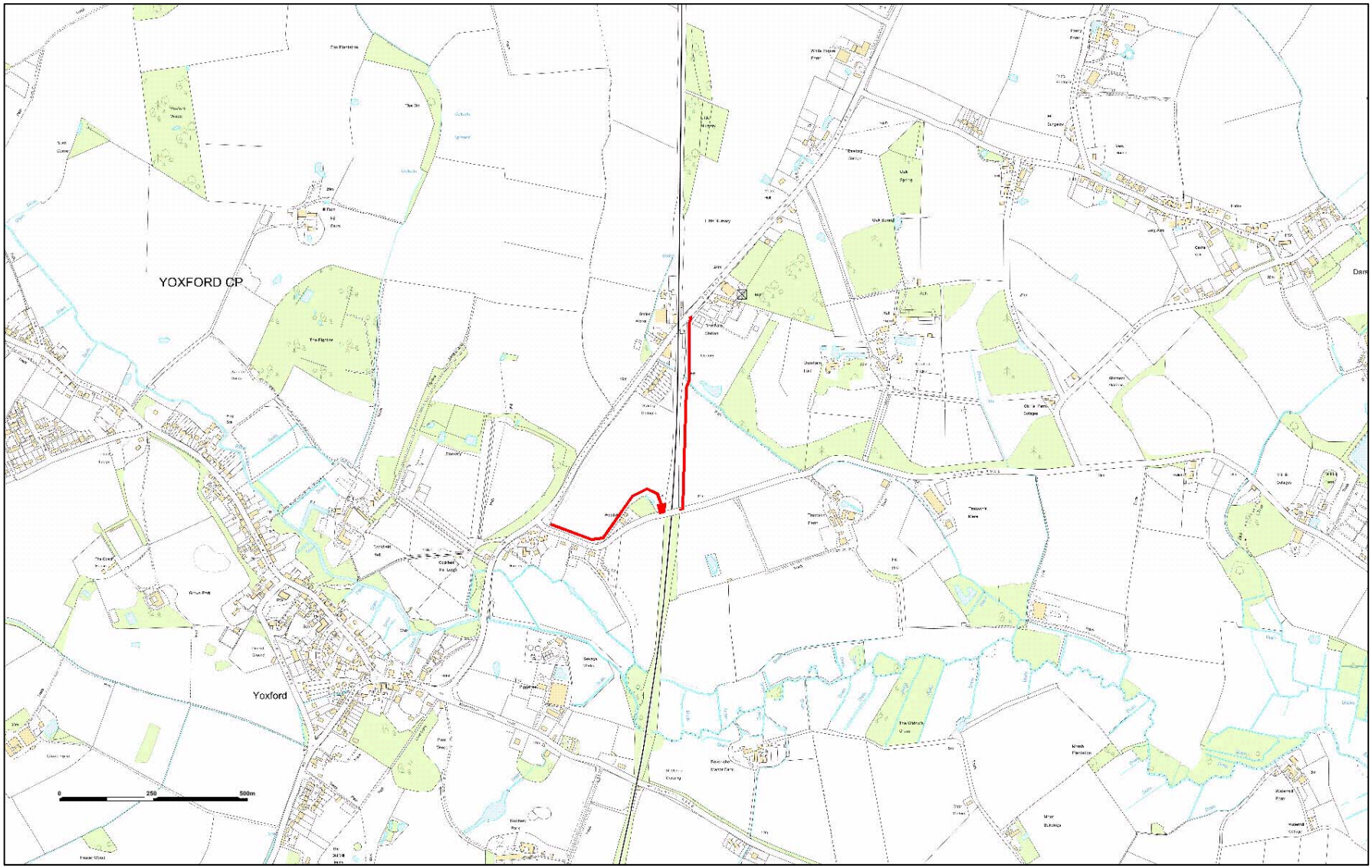

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Figure 1. Site Location

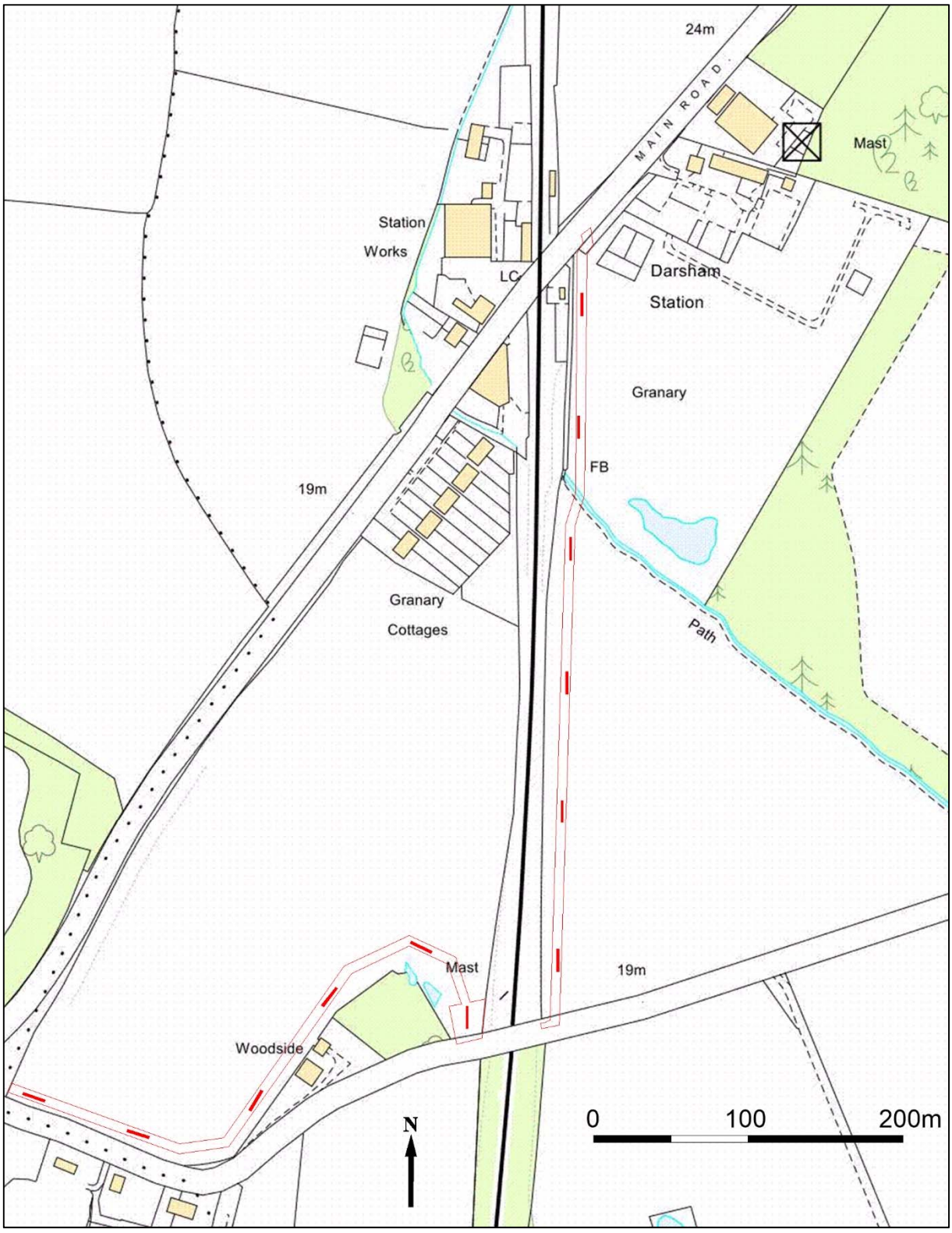

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Figure 2. Proposed Location of Evaluation Trenches

2 Fieldwork

2.1 The archaeological excavation fieldwork will be carried out by full-time professional employees of SACIC. The project team will be led in the field by an experienced member of staff of Project Officer grade/experience (TBC). The excavation team will comprise a Project Officer, and an experienced excavator as required. In addition, a surveyor and experienced metal detectorist (Steve Hunt) will be used as and when required.

2.2 It is proposed that the evaluation will involve the opening of twelve trenches, equating to 5% of the site by area and covering the compound. All will measure 1.8m x 15m and distributed evenly along the route of the pipeline and the area of the compound (Figure 2).

2.3 At this juncture no information has been received from the client regarding existing services. A CAT survey will be undertaken on the line of the proposed trenches prior to excavation, but damage to hitherto unknown services that are not identified during this survey will not be the responsibility of SACIC.

2.4 The following general principles will be applied for the excavation of the trial-trenches:

a) All mechanical excavation will be undertaken using a toothless ditching bucket for a good clean cut.

b) The overburden will be excavated down to the top of the first undisturbed archaeological horizon, or the upper surface of the naturally occurring subsoil.

c) Spoil will be removed and stockpiled adjacent to the evaluation trenches or in an area designated by the client.

d) Topsoil will be stored separately to any underlying colluvial material unless this is deemed unnecessary by the client.

e) All excavation will be under the direct supervision of an archaeologist.

2.5 Archaeological deposits and features will be sampled by hand excavation in order to satisfy the project aims (see section 1.7) and also comply with the SCCAS Requirements for Archaeological Evaluation (2017) and Excavation (2017). Where types of deposit are encountered that are suitable for mechanical excavation, this will only be undertaken following agreement with SCCAS.

2.6 No feature will be excavated to a depth in excess of 1.2m. If this depth is not sufficient to meet the archaeological requirements of the Brief it will be brought to the attention of the client or their agent and the Archaeological Advisor to the LPA (SCCAS). Deeper excavation can be undertaken provided suitable support is used. However, such a variation will incur further costs to the client and time must be allowed for this to be established and agreed.

2.7 While it is considered unlikely that there will be deep holes left open on site, where necessary high visibility safety fencing will be employed.

2.8 An 'overall features plan' and levels AOD will be recorded using RTK GPS survey equipment (or radio base station if required). Feature sections and plans will be recorded at a scale of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50 as appropriate. All recording conventions used will be compatible with the County HER.

2.9 The site will be recorded under a unique HER number acquired from the Suffolk HER Office (DAR 040) and archaeological contexts will be recorded in a '*unique continuous numbering sequence*' on pro forma Context Recording sheets and entered into an associated database.

2.10 A digital photographic record will be made throughout the excavation.

2.11 A metal detector search will be made at all stages of the evaluation works covering the following;

i) Ground surface prior to stripping
ii) The stripped surface
iii) The upcast spoil

The search will be undertaken by SACIC staff member Steve Hunt with the locations of all finds recorded using RTK GPS survey equipment.

2.12 All pre-modern finds (with the exception of unstratified animal bone) will be kept and no discard policy will be considered until all the finds have been processed and assessed.

2.13 All finds will be brought back to the SACIC premises for processing, preliminary assessment, conservation and packing. Most finds analysis work will be done in house, but in some circumstances, it may be necessary to send some categories of finds to external specialists.

2.14 Bulk soil samples will be collected from suitable features; these will be a maximum of 40 litres each and will be retained until an appropriate specialist has assessed their potential for palaeoenvironmental remains. Decisions can then be made on the need for further analysis following this assessment. A suitable feature will be deemed one that is sealed and stratigraphically secure, datable and exhibits potential for the survival of palaeoenvironmental material; usually at least two of these criteria will need to be met in order for it to merit taking a sample. If necessary advice will be sought from Historic England's (formerly English Heritage's) Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science on the need for specialist environmental sampling.

2.15 In the event of human remains being encountered on the site, guidelines from the Ministry of Justice will be followed and, if deemed necessary, a suitable licence obtained before their removal from the site. Human remains will be treated at all stages with care and respect, and will be dealt with in accordance with the law. They will be recorded *in-situ* and subsequently lifted, packed and marked to standards compatible with those described in the IFA's Technical Paper 13 Excavation and post-excavation

treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Human Remains, by McKinley & Roberts. Following full recording and analysis, the remains will either be stored in a suitable archive repository or reburied at an appropriate site.

3 Post-excavation

3.1 The unique project HER number (DAR 040) will be clearly marked on all documentation and material relating to the project.

3.2 The post-excavation finds work will be managed by SACIC's Post-excavation and Finds Manager, Richenda Goffin. Specialist finds staff whether in-house personnel or external specialists are experienced in local and regional types of material in their field.

3.3 Artefacts and ecofacts will be held by SACIC until analysis of the material is complete.

3.4 Site data will be entered on a computerised database compatible with the County HER. Site plans and sections will be digitised and will form part of the site archive. Ordnance Datum levels will be written on the section sheets. The photographic archive will be fully catalogued.

3.5 Finds will be processed, marked and bagged/boxed to County HER requirements. Where appropriate finds will be marked with a site code and a context number.

3.6 Bulk finds will be fully quantified on a computerised database compatible with the County HER. Quantification will fully cover weights and numbers of finds by context with a clear statement on the degree of apparent residuality observed.

3.7 Metal finds on site will be stored in accordance with ICON guidelines. After initial recording and assessment for their significance, sensitive items requiring immediate conservation will be sent to a suitable laboratory within four weeks of the end of the fieldwork. Corroded items will be x-rayed along with coins if necessary for identification. After conservation, sensitive finds and other metalwork will be subjected to good quality digital photography before being deposited in bags/boxes suitable for long term storage to ICON standards. All coins will be identified to a standard acceptable to normal numismatic research.

3.8 Pottery will be recorded and archived to a standard consistent with the Draft Guidelines of the Medieval Pottery Research Group and Guidelines for the archiving of Roman Pottery, SGRP (ed. M.G. Darling, 1994) and to The Study of Later Prehistoric Pottery: General Policies and Guidelines for analysis and Publications, Occasional Papers No.1 and No. 2, 3rd Edition (Revised 2010, Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group).

3.9 Environmental samples will be processed and assessed to standards set by the Historic England (formerly English Heritage) Regional Scientific Advisor with a clear statement of potential for further analysis and significance.

3.10 Animal and human bone will be quantified and assessed to a standard acceptable to national and regional Historic England specialists.

3.11 An industrial waste assessment will cover all relevant material (i.e. fired clay finds as well as slag).

3.12 Once the fieldwork phase of the project is completed, a full site archive and report, the latter presenting the results of the evaluation will be prepared.

3.13 The report will contain a stand-alone summary and a description of the evaluation methodology. It will also contain a clear separation of the objective account of the archaeological evidence from its archaeological interpretation and recommendations to assist SCCAS regarding the need for and scope of any further mitigation. It will contain sufficient information to stand as an archive report should further work not be required along with the results of a formally commissioned HER search evidenced by its invoice number.

3.14 The report will include a summary in the established format for inclusion in the annual "Archaeology of Suffolk" section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*.

3.15 The Suffolk County HER is registered with the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. SACIC will complete a suitable project-specific OASIS form at http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis. The completed form will be reproduced as an appendix to the final report.

3.16 A draft of the interim report will be submitted to SCCAS for approval.

3.17 On acknowledgement of approval of the report from SCCAS hard and digital copies will be sent to the Suffolk HER.

3.18 Upon completion of reporting works ownership of all archaeological finds will be given over to the relevant authority. There is a presumption that this will be SCCAS, who will hold the material in suitable storage to facilitate future study and ensure its proper preservation. If the client does not agree to transfer ownership to SCCAS, they will be required to nominate another suitable repository approved by SCCAS or provide funding for additional recording and analysis of the finds archive (such as, but not limited to, additional photography or illustration of objects).

3.19 The project archive shall be compiled in accordance with the guidelines issued by the SCCAS (revised 2017). The client is aware of the costs of archiving and provision will be made to cover these costs in our agreement with them. The archive will be deposited with the County Archaeology Store unless another suitable repository is agreed with SCCAS.

3.20 The law dictates that client can have no claim to the ownership of human remains. Any such remains will be at least temporally stored by SCCAS prior to their reburial or in accordance with the details of the site's Ministry of Justice licence.

3.21 In the rare event that artefacts of significant monetary value are discovered separate ownership arrangements may be negotiated with SCCAS, provided they are not subject to Treasure Act legislation.

3.22 If an object qualifies as Treasure, under the Treasure Act 1996. The client will be informed as soon as possible if this is the case and the find(s) will be reported to the Suffolk Finds Liaison Officer (who then reports to the Coroner) within fourteen days of the objects discovery and identification. Treasure objects will immediately be removed to secure storage, with appropriate on-site security measures taken if required.

3.23 Any object/s eventually declared as Treasure by a Coroner's Inquest will, if not acquired by a museum, will be returned to the site archive where it will be subject to the same transfer of ownership process as the rest of the archive. Employees of SACIC, their subcontractors or any volunteers under their control, will not be eligible for any share of a treasure reward.

4 Additional considerations

4.1 Health and Safety

4.1.1 The project will be carried out in accordance with SACIC's Health and Safety Policy at all times. A copy of this policy is provided in Appendix 1.

4.1.2 All SACIC staff are experienced in working on similar sites with similar conditions to those that will be encountered on the present site and are aware of SACIC H&S policies. All permanent SACIC staff are holders of CSCS cards.

4.1.3 A separate Risk Assessment and Method Statement (RAMS) document will be prepared for the site and provided to the client. Copies will be available to SCCAS on request.

4.1.4 All staff will be aware of the project's risk assessment and will receive a safety induction from the Project Officer.

4.1.5 It may be necessary for site visits to be made by external specialists or SCCAS. All such staff and visitors must abide by SACIC's H&S requirements and will be inducted as required and made aware of any relevant high-risk activities.

4.1.6 Site staff, official visitors and volunteers are all covered by SACIC's insurance policies. Policy details are shown in Appendix 2.

4.2 Environmental controls

4.2.1 SACIC is committed to following an EMS policy. All our preferred providers and subcontractors have been issued with environmental guidelines. On site the Project Officer will police environmental concerns. In the event of spillage or contamination reporting procedures will be carried out in accordance with SACIC's EMS policies.

4.3 Plant machinery

4.3.1 A 360° tracked mechanical excavators of *c*.14 tonnes and equipped with a full range of buckets will be required to undertake the soil-stripping. Should the plant and its operators be provided by SACIC rather than the client, the sub-contracted plant machinery will be accompanied by a fully qualified operator who will hold an up-to-date Construction Plant Competence Scheme (CPCS) card (approved by the CITB).

4.4 Site security

4.4.1 Unless previously agreed with the client, this WSI (and the associated quotation) assumes that the site will be sufficiently secure for archaeological work to be undertaken.

4.4.2 In this instance, all security requirements including fencing, padlocks for gates etc. are the responsibility of the client.

4.5 Access

4.5.1 The client will secure access to the site for SACIC personnel and any subcontracted plant, and obtain all necessary permissions from any landowners and tenants. This includes the siting of any vehicles and other facilities required for the work.

4.5.2 Any costs incurred to secure access, or incurred as a result of access being withheld (for example by a tenant or landowner) will not be the responsibility of SACIC. Such costs or delays incurred will be charged to the client in addition to the archaeological project fees.

4.6 Site preparation

4.6.1 The client is responsible for clearing the site in a manner that enables the archaeological works to go ahead as described. Unless previously agreed the costs of any subsequent preparatory works will be charged to the client in addition to the archaeological project fees.

4.7 Backfilling

4.7.1 Full reinstatement has not been offered by SACIC for this project other than sequentially pushing the upcast material into the trench and compacting with the digger tracks.

4.8 Monitoring

4.8.1 Arrangements for monitoring visits by the LPA and its representatives (SCCAS) will be made promptly in order to comply with the requirements of the brief. The site will need to be formally signed off by SCCAS prior to any areas being handed back for construction work to begin.

5 Staffing

5.1 The following staff will comprise the Project Team:

1 x Project Manager (supervisory only, not based on site full-time)
1 x Project Officer (full time)
1 x Site Assistant/metal detectorist (as required)
1 x Site Surveyor (as required)
1 x Finds/Post-excavation manager (part time, as required)
1 x Finds Specialist (part time, as required)
1 x Environmental Supervisor (as required)
1 x Finds Assistant or Supervisor (part time, as required)
1 x Senior Graphics Assistant (part time, as required)

5.2 Project Management will be undertaken by Stuart Boulter and the Project Officer in charge on site is yet to be determined. Site Assistants will be drawn from SACIC's qualified and experienced staff. SACIC will not employ volunteer, amateur or student staff, whether paid or unpaid, to undertake any of the roles outlined in 5.1.

5.3 Post-excavation tasks, where possible, will be undertaken by SACIC staff (see below).

Name	Specialism
Ryan Wilson, Ellie Cox, Gemma Bowen, Rui Santos	Graphics and illustration
Richenda Goffin	Post Roman pottery and CBM
Dr Ioannis Smyrnaios	Prehistoric pottery, Roman Pottery and general finds
Dr Ruth Beveridge	Small Finds
Anna West	Environmental sample processing/assessment
Dr Ruth Beveridge, Clare Wootton	Finds quantification/assessment
Jonathan Van Jennians	Finds Processing
Dr Ruth Beveridge	Archiving

5.4 In some instances, it may be necessary to employ outside specialists (see below).

Name	Specialism	Organisation
Anderson, Sue	Human skeletal remains; Post Roman pottery	Freelance
Bates, Sarah	Flint	Freelance
Batt, Cathy	Archaeomagnetic dating	University of Bradford
Blades, Nigel	Metallurgy	Freelance
Bond, Julie	Cremated animal bone	University of Bradford
Boreham, Steve	Pollen	University of Cambridge
Breen, Anthony	Documentary Research	Freelance
Briscoe, Diana	Anglo-Saxon pottery stamps	Freelance
Brugmann, Birte	Beads	Freelance
Cameron, Esther	Mineral Preserved Organics	Freelance
Challinor, Dana	Wood and charcoal identification	Freelance
Cook, Gordon	Radiocarbon dating	SUERC
Curl, Julie	Faunal remains	Freelance
Damian Goodburn	Wood and woodworking	MOLA
Hamilton, Derek	Bayesian modelling	SUERC
Harrington, Sue	Textiles	Freelance
Hines, John	Saxon artefacts	University of Cardiff
Holden, Sue	Illustrator	Freelance
Keyes, Lynn	Metal working	Freelance
Macphail, Richard	Soil micromorphology	University College London
Metcalf, Michael	Saxon coins	Ashmolean Museum
Mould, Quita	Leather	Freelance
ark-Newman, Julia	Conservation	Freelance
Plouviez, Jude	Roman coins and brooches	Freelance
Riddler, Ian	Worked bone	Freelance
Scull, Christopher	Early Anglo-Saxon settlement & cemeteries	University of Cardiff

Appendix 2. Context List

Context no.	Feature no.	Category	Trench no.	Description
0001		finds	12	Unstratified pot sherd from Tr 12
0002		layer	all	Topsoil/ploughsoil all trenches
0003		layer	1	Deep deposit (up to c.0.5m thickness) of mid grey brown clay silt with moderate flint gravel, occ charc flecks. Thinner at N end of trench (c0.2m). Hillwash/colluvium layer
0004	0004	ditch cut	1	Possible ditch: linear in plan, running SE-NW, beneath LOE of Tr 1 on E & W sides. With steep diffuse sides and concave base. Disturbed by burrowing & rooting, esp on S side. Width 0.65m, depth 0.42m
0005	0004	ditch fill	1	Upper fill of ditch 0004: mid to pale yellow grey soft silty sand, contains occ small sub-ang & sub-rnd flints, & rare charc flecks. Finds incl h/a flint & pot
0006	0006	pit cut	1	Circular pit with gradual sloping sides & concave base; diam c.0.6m, depth 0.18m
0007	0006	pit fill	1	Single fill of 0006: dark grey black soft silty sand, containing adundant amounts of charc flecks, occ sub-rnd & sub-ang small flints, occ sml amount of bunt geology (but no in situ burning); no finds
0008	0004	ditch fill	1	Basal fill of ditch 0004: mid grey soft silty sand, contains oc small flints, v rare charc flecks; no finds

Appendix 3. Bulk finds catalogue

Context	Pottery		Heat-altered Flint		Spotdate	Sample No	Sample Finds
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g			
0001	1	5			Med		
0005	2	2		127	Pre		
0007						1	Fired clay, worked flint; heat-altered flint

Appendix 4. OASIS summary

OASIS ID: suffolka1-317859

Project details

Project name	DAR 040 Main Road, Darsham
Short description of the project	Trenching was conducted along the route of a planned new watermain pipe. Twelve archaeological trenches were cut, representing a 5% sample of the area disturbed by the pipe trench. Near the northern end of the route two features were revealed in a single trench. These include a ditch containing pottery fragments of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date and a small black pit with a charcoal-rich fill with struck flint of probable later Bronze Age date. Both features were protected under a thick layer of colluvium (hillwash). No other trenches revealed archaeological features or deposits of significance and severe plough truncation was witnessed in many trenches. A single unstratified pottery sherd of late medieval glazed pottery was recovered as an isolated find from the trench at the extreme western end of the pipe route
Project dates	Start: 18-06-2018 End: 20-06-2018
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	DAR 040 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	DITCH Late Prehistoric
Monument type	PIT Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Bronze Age
Significant Finds	STRUCK FLINT Late Bronze Age
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Pipelines/cables (e.g. gas, electric, telephone, TV cable, water, sewage, drainage etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK SUFFOLK COASTAL DARSHAM DAR 040 Main Road
Study area	0.5 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 4015 6918 52.267659546175 1.520090359438 52 16 03 N 001 31 12 E Point
Site coordinates	TM 4051 6968 52.271988186472 1.525712793899 52 16 19 N 001 31 32 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Suffolk Archaeology CIC
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Rachael Abraham
Project director/manager	Stuart Boulter

Project supervisor	Jezz Meredith
Type of sponsor/funding body	Water Authority/Company
Name of sponsor/funding body	Essex & Suffolk Water

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk HER
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk HER
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk HER
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Miscellaneous Material","Plan","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	DAR 040 evaluation report on Main Rd (WN018-0124), Darsham, Suffolk
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Meredith, J.
Other bibliographic details	SACIC rpt 2018/066
Date	2018
Issuer or publisher	Suffolk Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Needham Market
Description	Short eval report

Entered by	Jezz Meredith (jezz.meredith@suffolkarchaeology.co.uk)
Entered on	29 June 2018

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