

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT

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## LAND AT BROOM HILL AND FOX'S CARR, NACTON, SUFFOLK Phase 4 (NAC 052)

A REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION AND  
MONITORING, 2005  
(Planning application number C97/0568)



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Suffolk C.C. Archaeological Service

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## Acknowledgements

This project was commissioned and funded by RMC Aggregates Ltd. and was monitored by Edward Martin (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team (SCCASCT)).

Project assistants Rob Atfield, Roy Damant, Phil Camps, Tony Fisher and Tim Browne and Project Officer Clare Good, all from Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service Field Team, carried out the excavation.

Clare Good directed the project which was managed by John Newman, who also provided advice during the production of the report.

Finds processing was carried out by Gemma Adams, and Cathy Tester compiled the specialist finds report, with contributions from Sarah Percival, Colin Pendleton and Val Fryer.

## Summary

*Nacton*. Phase 4. Land at Broom Hill and Fox's Carr, Nacton. (TM 1986 4090, NAC 052)

Archaeological monitoring was carried out during the fourth phase of works at Nacton Quarry, Nacton, Ipswich in order to observe and record any surviving archaeological deposits. Three previous phases had produced fairly negative results: Phases 1 and 2 had been subjected to considerable quarrying in the past and the third area had evidence of tree holes over the whole site, suggesting it had been a wood for some time. A few ditches and modern fog lifters were seen scattered over the area of Phase 3 and were dated as prehistoric through to modern. Also a large area of hillwash was seen which contained sherds of mainly Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age pottery. One ditch was dated as probably Middle Saxon and was likely to have been an enclosure ditch.

The fourth phase produced more features and finds than the previous archaeological works at the quarry. There was no obvious structural evidence revealed as the majority of features were ditches, either undated or prehistoric in date. The features revealed comprised mainly ditches and possible enclosures, the likely scant remains of field systems from an extensive date range of between 3500BC and 300BC. A single pit appeared to have been deliberately excavated to receive a deposit of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery. This pottery consisted of three different vessels, broken before being placed in the pit. These latest features are close to probable prehistoric features identified from aerial photographs in adjacent fields. It is unclear if they directly relate, but certainly reflect a focus of prehistoric activity in this area.

Clare Good, for S.C.C.A.S. and Cemex (formerly RMC) Aggregates Ltd., 2005/138

## HER information

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# 1. Introduction

Planning consent for the fourth phase of mineral extraction at Nacton Quarry (Fig. 3) required a programme of archaeological monitoring to be undertaken. Two earlier phases were carried out in August 2000 and July 2003, monitored by Linzi Everett of the Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service (SCCAS) Field Team (SCCAS report number 2003/134). This produced limited results as it was clear that the area had been subject to considerable disturbance as a result of quarrying activity in the past. A third phase of monitoring was undertaken in May 2004 by Clare McLannahan (SCCAS) Field Team (SCCAS report number 2004/75) where scattered features were revealed, including a ditch probably mid Saxon in date. The fourth phase was to the north-west of the previous phases, centered on TM 1986 4090.

The extraction area covers c.7700 square metres and lies at approximately 36m OD. The plot is flat with an underlying drift geology of sand. It is surrounded by previous quarrying to the south, open future quarrying ground to the east and farmland and woods to the north and west. The A14 runs some 110m to the north.

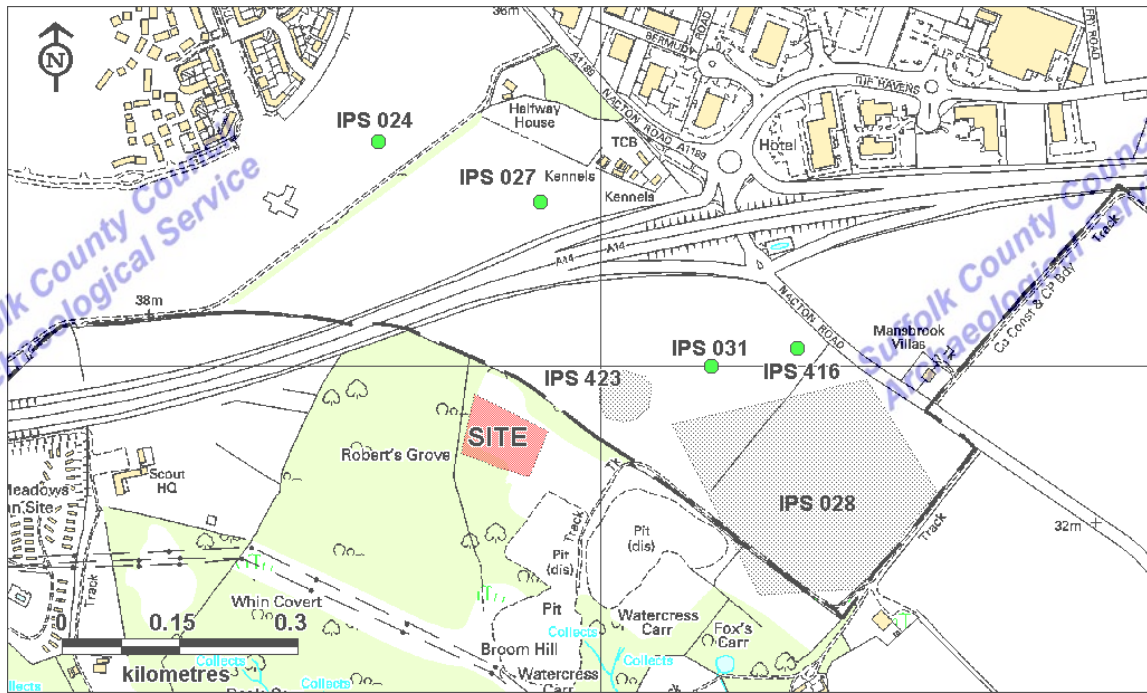
The site lies immediately to the north of the features recovered in Phase 3 (Fig. 3) and just to the south of a number of probable prehistoric features recorded on the county Historic Environment Record (HER) (Fig. 2). These include a possible prehistoric enclosure and a group of round barrows and ring ditches, probable prehistoric burial monuments.

Considering the location of this site in relation to these prehistoric features and due to the results from Phase 3, a further archaeological condition on Phase 4 was deemed necessary. A Brief and Specification for the archaeological work (Appendix 1) was produced by Edward Martin of SCCAS Conservation Team. A series of monitoring visits was made while soil stripping operations were in progress, followed by a small scale excavation once the site was completely stripped. The work was directed by Clare Good of the SCCAS Field Team, and was funded by Cemex (previously RMC) Aggregates Ltd.



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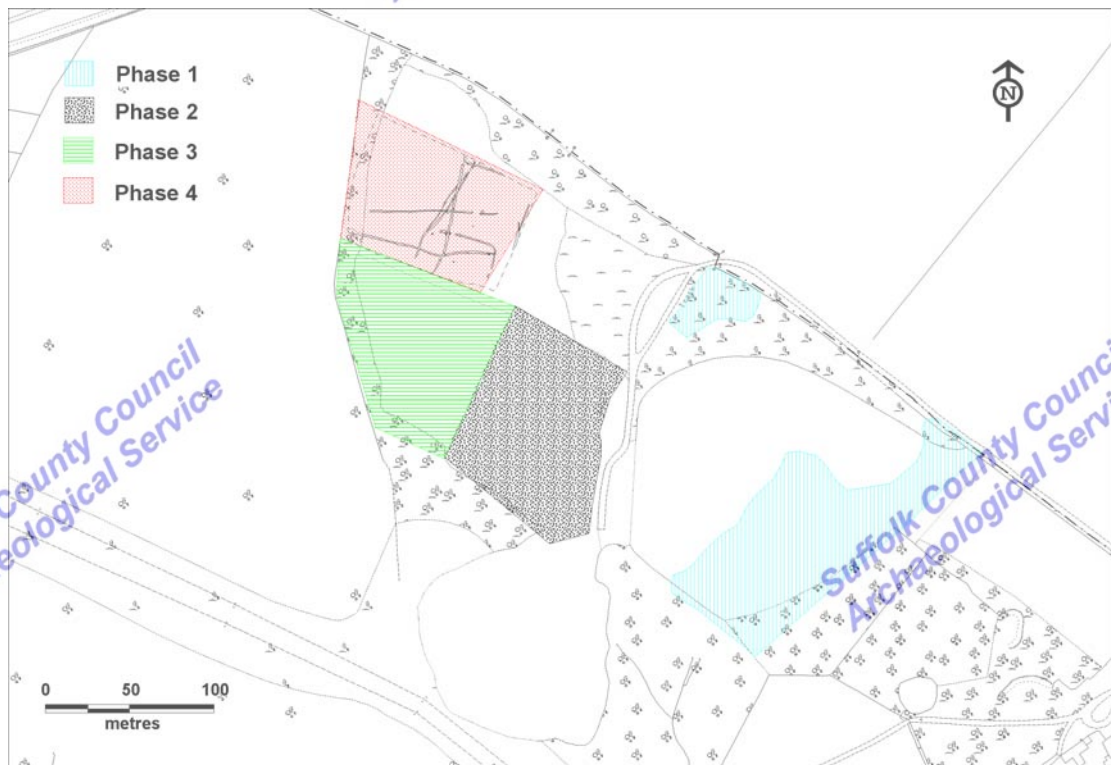
Figure 1. Site Location



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Figure 2. Site location and position of known archaeological sites

- IPS 024 – Bronze Age double ring ditch
- IPS 027 – Probable Bronze Age round barrow
- IPS 028 – Possible late prehistoric or Roman rectilinear enclosure and associated field system
- IPS 031 – Probable Bronze Age round barrow
- IPS 416 – Round mound (barrow?) marked on Hodskinsons Map of 1783
- IPS 423 – Possible Prehistoric enclosure



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Figure 3. Phases of work in the Quarry, showing the location of Phase 4 to the north.

## 2. Methodology

The area of proposed extraction (Fig. 3) was stripped to the level of the natural subsoil in September 2005, by a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. The removal of the topsoil was monitored intermittently by the observing archaeologist.

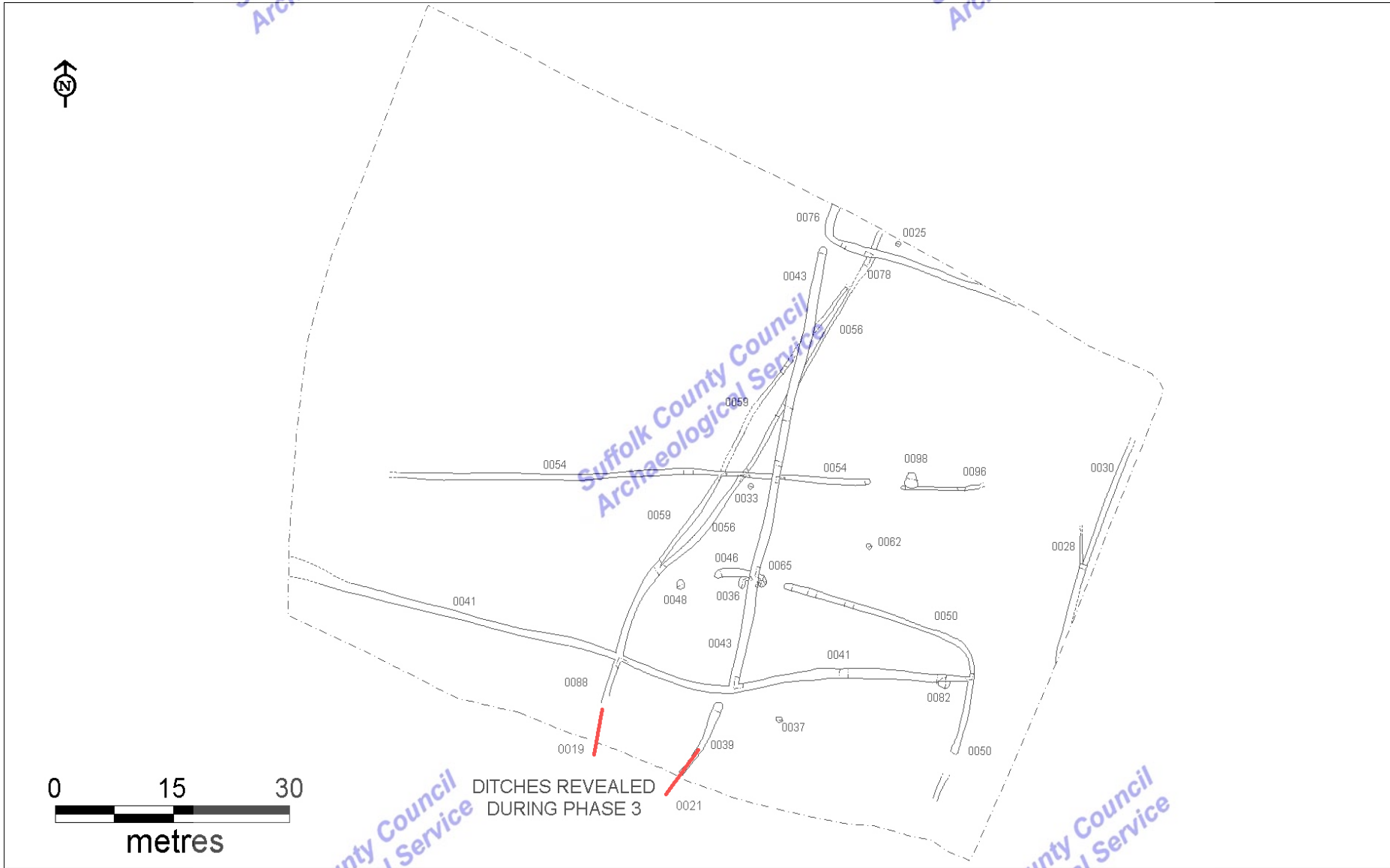
Both the excavated topsoil and the exposed surface of the trenches were examined visually for finds and features. Where features were revealed, they were cleaned manually for definition and each allocated 'observed phenomena' (OP) numbers within a unique continuous numbering system under the SMR code NAC 052, then partially excavated in order to recover dating evidence, as well as to observe their form and possibly determine any function. Features were metal detected by a competent operative. They were drawn on site at a scale of 1:20, and recorded photographically using a digital and SLR camera with a black and white film. The area was planned at a scale of 1:50. The site archive will be deposited in the County SMR at Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds.

All finds were washed and marked before being quantified, identified and dated by the finds staff of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (see section 4. Finds and Environmental Evidence).

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Figure 4. Plan of features, including ditches revealed during Phase 3



### 3. Results

Approximately 7700m<sup>2</sup> was stripped down to the level of the natural sand and gravel subsoil. The topsoil removed was a greyish brown sand some 200mm thick on average. No finds were recovered from the topsoil.

Subsoil layer 0027 was seen over the majority of the site and consisted of a mid/dark orange brown soft sand with frequent stones. Nine sherds of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery and a late prehistoric flint flake were recovered from this layer.

Figure 4 shows the features identified in the stripped area, and ditches 0019 and 0021, revealed during Phase 3.

#### Phase I – Earlier Neolithic Evidence

These features are coloured green in Figure 5.

##### *Ditches*

Ditch 0056 was a narrow and shallow ditch cut, running NE-SW. It appeared to butt end on the S side of 0054 but then continued to the north but was much shallower. If there was a relationship between these two, 0054 cut this ditch. This feature is also numbered 0078 at the north edge of the site and is cut by 0076 near to this. It is also cut by 0043. This feature, and ditch 0059, seemed to form ditch 0088. Ditch 0088 was N-S aligned, and some 10m north of the junction with 0041, 0088 split to form 0056 and 0059. No relationship between these two was evident, and they were thought to be contemporaneous. The ditch was c.0.6m wide by between c.0.1m and c.0.2m deep, and was filled by 0057, 0074 and 0092 which consisted of a mid grey orange brown silty sand with frequent stones. This fill was very compacted and hard in all the sections. A single late prehistoric flint flake was recovered from fill 0092. Although no specific dating evidence was recovered from this ditch, it is dated as Early Neolithic due to its relationship with ditch 0059.

Ditch 0059 was a very shallow and narrow possible ditch cut. It was c.0.6m wide by a maximum of c.0.16m deep. It was aligned SW-NE and appeared to be formed from ditch 0088. 0088 was N-S aligned and appeared to split into 0056 and 0059 some 10m to the north of the its junction with 0041. No relationship between 0056 and 0059 was evident at this junction, and they are thought to be contemporaneous. Its relationship with ditch 0054 is also unclear as it was too shallow at this juncture to determine. The ditch appears to continue northwards after the junction with 0054 but only in places due to its shallow nature. It did appear genuine and to be the same feature across site. It had gently sloping sides and a flat base. It was filled by 0060, 0073 and 0095 which consisted of light to mid grey brown silty sand with frequent stones, particularly in fills 0073 and 0095. 0095 contained two Early Neolithic pottery sherds.

Ditch 0078 was a shallow round bottomed feature, aligned NNE-SSW. It was thought to be the same feature as 0056 to the south. It was c.0.9m wide by c.0.12m deep and was cut by 0076. It was filled by 0079, a very light brown silty sand with frequent small stones. Although no finds came from this section, it is dated Early Neolithic due to it being the same feature as ditch 0056, which was dated as the same.

Ditch 0088 was a N-S aligned feature. It had no clear relationship with ditch 0041 and ran through either side of it. These two ditches had similar fills at this point and may be contemporary, although the continuation of this ditch into feature 0059, which is dated as Early Neolithic, also suggests a date of this time. At some 10m north of the junction with ditch 0041,

ditch 0088 appeared to split into ditches 0056 and 0059. These had no clear relationship and had similar fills to 0088, and so were thought to be the same feature. Ditch 0088 petered out to the south of the site, some 5m from the edge of site. Ditch 0019, seen in Phase 3, aligns with this feature and was loosely dated to the Roman period. Ditch 0088 was filled by 0089, a light orange brown silty sand. No finds were recovered from this fill.

### *Pits*

Pit 0062 was a moderately sized circular pit cut with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It was c.0.6m wide by c.0.25m and was filled by 0063, a dark blackish brown silty sand with occasional stones. The fill had a slightly burnt appearance and a moderate amount of charcoal flecks. Three sherds of Early Neolithic pottery were recovered from the fill, as well as two Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flint flakes, and four prehistoric flint flakes.

Pit 0098 was a very irregularly shaped feature with a very uneven base and no distinct cut. It was probably a tree pit. It cut ditch 0096 and was roughly 1.7m wide by 0.8m deep. It was filled by 0099, a chocolate brown silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks. Three sherds of early Neolithic pottery were recovered from the surface.

## **Phase II – Later Bronze Age/earlier Iron Age Evidence**

These features are coloured yellow on Figure 5.

### *Ditches*

Linear feature 0028 was a very narrow and shallow possible ditch, barely visible in places. It was steep sided with a 'V' shaped base and was aligned N-S. It was c.0.3m wide by c.0.1m deep and filled by 0029, a loosely compacted pale grey brown soft sand. Two flint flakes of late prehistoric date were recovered from the fill. This feature was difficult to see and only obvious where it met ditch 0030. 0030 cut 0028 at this point.

Ditch 0030 was again a shallow ditch cut with a gentle slope to the sides and a flat base. It was aligned NE-SW and was difficult to see at the north end of the site due to the presence of tree pits and disturbance. It was unclear if the ditch continued through here. It clearly ran off the east side of the site, and cut ditch 0028 near to this point. It was roughly c.0.6m wide by c.0.16m deep and was filled by 0031, a tightly compacted mid grey brown soft sand with occasional stones. Three sherds of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery and a late prehistoric flint were recovered from the fill.

Ditch 0050 was aligned E-W, turning to N-S close to the western edge of site. Ditch 0041 ends at the junction with 0050, just after it turns N-S, but no relationship was evident between these two. It was c.0.9m wide by c.0.4m deep in the E-W part, but only c.0.7m wide and c.0.2m deep in the N-S part, where the surface level lowered slightly. The ditch peters out some 8m south from its junction with 0041. It had a V shaped section in the E-W part, but a flat base in the N-S part. It was filled by 0051, 0072, 0080 and 0086 in four sections. This fill ranged from light to dark orange brown silty sand with occasional stones and charcoal flecks. A large quantity of pottery was recovered from fill 0072 including 84 sherds of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery and 78 sherds of undiagnostic prehistoric pottery as well as two late prehistoric flint flakes. Three Neolithic or Early Bronze Age flints were also recovered from this section, which may have been residual. Two late prehistoric flint flakes were also recovered from fill 0080, and three sherds of undiagnostic prehistoric pottery from fill 0086.

### *Pits*

Pit 0025 was a small oval feature, relatively deep comparative to its size. It had a flat base, moderately sloping sides and was c.0.7m wide by c.0.3m deep. It was filled by 0026, a mid grey brown soft sand with a moderate amount of large stones. Six sherds of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery were recovered from the fill.

Pit 0033 was oval in shape with gently sloping sides and a flat base. It was c.0.5m wide by c.0.1m deep. It was filled by 0034, a dark brown/blackish silty sand with occasional stones. This feature appeared to have been deliberately excavated to receive a pottery deposit, which virtually filled it. Pot 0032 was seemingly placed in the pit once broken and consisted of three different types of pot, all Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age in date. This feature was 100% excavated in order to recover the pottery contained within it.



Plate 1. Pit 0033, containing pot 0032

Pit 0035 was immediately adjacent to the junction of ditches 0043 and 0046, making interpretation difficult. This pit was an elongated oval shape with steeply sloping sides and an undulating base. It was cut by both 0043 and 0046. It was c.1.5m N-S by c.0.8m E-W and c.0.3m deep. It was filled by 0036, a loosely compacted blackened (burnt) mid brown silty sand with frequent charcoal and stone inclusions. This fill was sampled for environmental analysis (see Section 4. Finds and Environmental Evidence). 22 sherds of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery were recovered from this fill, as well as a late prehistoric flint flake.

Pit 0037 was a small oval pit with a moderate slope to the sides and a flat base. It was c.0.7m wide by c.0.16m deep. It was filled by 0038, a mid brown silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks and frequent small stones. A late prehistoric flint flake was recovered from the fill.

### **Phase I/II Indeterminate Prehistoric Evidence**

These features are coloured purple in Figure 5.

### *Ditches*

Ditch 0041 was an E-W aligned linear feature with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It was c.1.1m wide by c.0.38m deep at the west side of site, rising to c.0.2m deep at the east side, where

the surface level lowered slightly. It cut tree pit feature 0082. This ditch ran from the west edge of site to end at the junction with ditch 0050, and with no obvious relationship and similar fills, these may be contemporaneous, although ditch 0050 is dated firmly to the Late Bronze Age/earlier Iron Age. Ditch 0043 also appeared to be contemporaneous, with 0043 ending at the junction with 0041. No clear relationship between ditches 0041 and 0088 was evident, although 0088 has been loosely dated as Early Neolithic. 0041 and 0043 have similar fills. 0041 was filled by 0042, 0084, 0085, 0090 and 0093 in various sections. This fill consisted of a mid orange brown silty sand with frequent stones and had no finds in any of the sections.

Ditch 0043 ran N-S through site, butt ending just before its northern edge, immediately south of ditch 0076, and ending in the south at the junction with 0041. A relationship with 0041 was not evident and these ditches may be contemporary. Ditch 0039 continued on a similar alignment to the south of 0043, only a metre away. This ditch cut pit 0036 and ditches 0046, 0054, 0056 and 0059. It was c.1.1m wide by between c.0.25m and c.0.35m deep with an open 'U' shape section and a flat base. It was filled by 0044, 0045, 0052, 0053, 0064, 0069, 0071, 0075 and 0091 in various sections across site. The fill was mostly a mid orange brown silty sand, with occasional stones. Fill 0045 was a spit of fill running through 0044 where ditch 0043 meets 0041, consisting of a dark brown silty sand with frequent charcoal flecks. Two late prehistoric flint flakes were recovered from fills 0053 and 0091 and three small scraps of prehistoric pottery from 0069 and 0071.

Ditch 0076 was a linear feature situated adjacent to the NNE edge of the site. A short section ran N-S with it forming a right angle to an E-W section. Both ends ran off the edge of site. It was shallow with gently sloping sides and a flat base and cut ditch 0078. It was c.0.7m wide by c.0.1m deep and was filled by 0077 and 0081, a light brown silty sand with frequent small stones. A sherd of undiagnostic prehistoric pottery was recovered from the fill.

### ***Pits***

Probable tree pit 0082 was a feature with vague edges, steep sides and an irregular base. It was c.1.25m wide by c.0.65m deep and was cut by ditch 0041. It was filled by 0083, a mid orange brown silty soft sand. Four sherds of undiagnostic prehistoric pottery were recovered from the fill.

## **Phase 0– Undated Evidence**

These features are coloured blue in Figure 5.

### ***Ditches***

Ditch 0039 was a NE-SW aligned linear feature with an open 'V' shape section and gently sloping sides. It aligned with ditch 0021 from Phase 3, which produced no finds. 0039 was c.1.1m wide by c.0.38m deep. It was filled by 0040, a light brown silty sand with frequent large stones, especially though the centre, and occasional charcoal flecks. No finds were recovered from this fill. The ditch butt ended some 10m from the edge of site but 0043 continued on a similar alignment only a metre away.

Ditch 0046 was curved, but predominately E-W aligned. It was cut by ditch 0043 and pit 0065, but cut pit 0035. It was between c.0.2m and c.0.3m deep and c.0.9m wide. It had an open 'U' shaped section and a flat base. It was filled by 0047, 0067, 0068 and 0070 in four sections. This consisted of a mid orange brown silty sand with occasional stones, and contained no finds.

Ditch 0054 was aligned E-W and was between c.0.5m and c.0.7m wide. It was c.0.2m deep with a flat base and gently sloping sides and was cut by ditch 0043. It cut ditch 0056 but no

relationship was evident between it and ditch 0059. It was filled by 0055, 0058, 0061, 0087 and 0094 in five sections. This consisted of mid grey brown silty sand to mid orange brown silty sand. No finds were recovered from this fill.

Ditch 0096 was a small curvilinear feature aligned W-E. It was on the same alignment as ditch 0054 and may be a continuation of this feature. It was c.0.5m wide by c.0.15m deep at the west end, petering out to the east. It was round bottomed and cut by probable tree pit 0098. It was filled by 0097 and 0100, a mid brown silty sand with occasional small stones. There was considerable disturbance from the adjacent tree pit. No finds were recovered from this feature.

#### ***Pits***

Pit 0048 was a probable tree pit. It was a large 'D' shaped pit with steeply sloping sides and an uneven base. It was c.1.2m wide by c.0.4m deep and was filled by 0049, a mid orange brown silty sand with occasional stones. It contained no finds.

Pit 0065 was a circular pit with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It cut ditch 0046 and was immediately adjacent to ditch 0043. It was c.0.7m wide by c.0.3m deep and was filled by 0066, a mid brown silty sand with occasional stones and a charcoally spit at the base. No finds were recovered from this fill.

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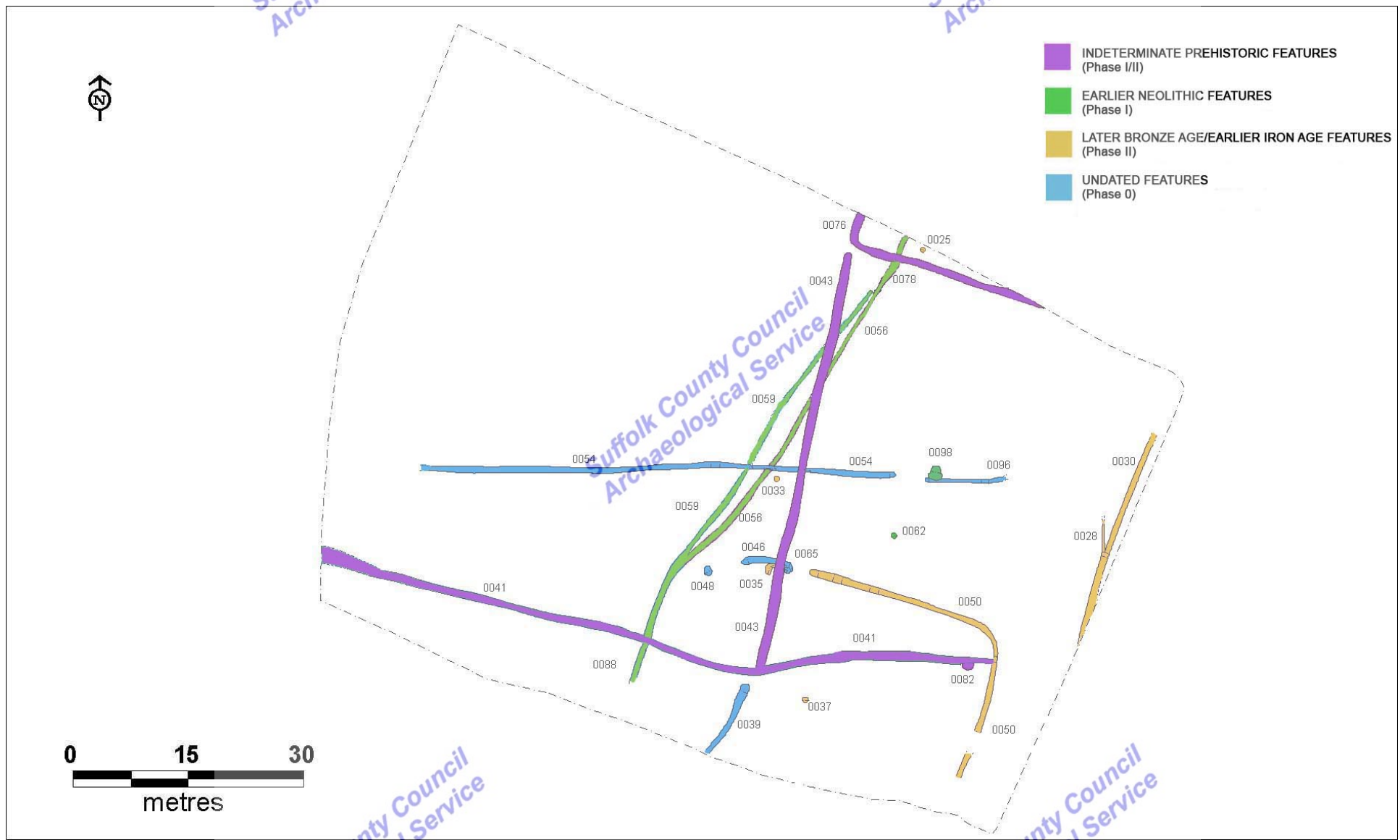


Figure 5. Plan of features with suggested phasing dates

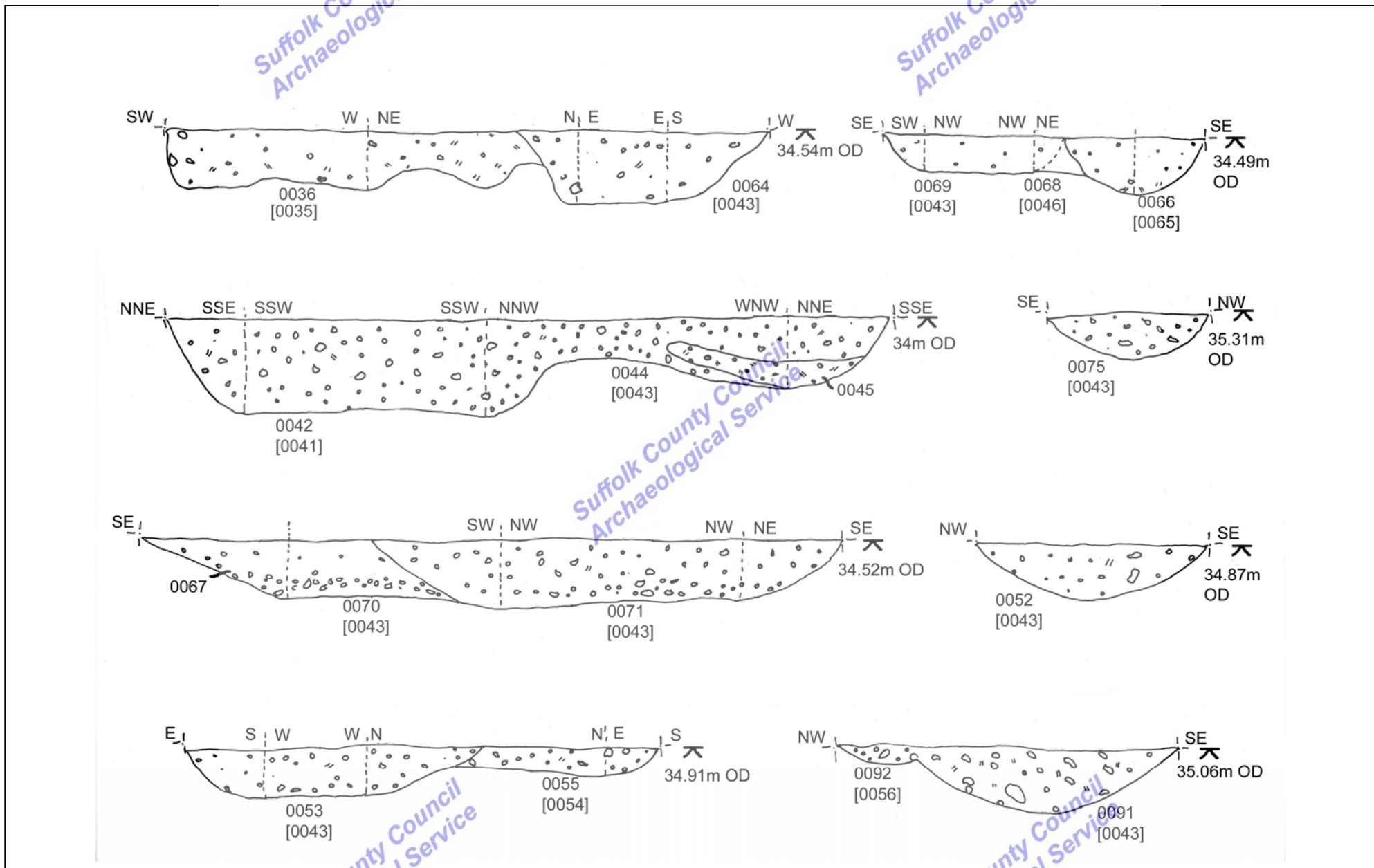


Figure 6. Sections of features dated as Prehistoric. Scale 1:20



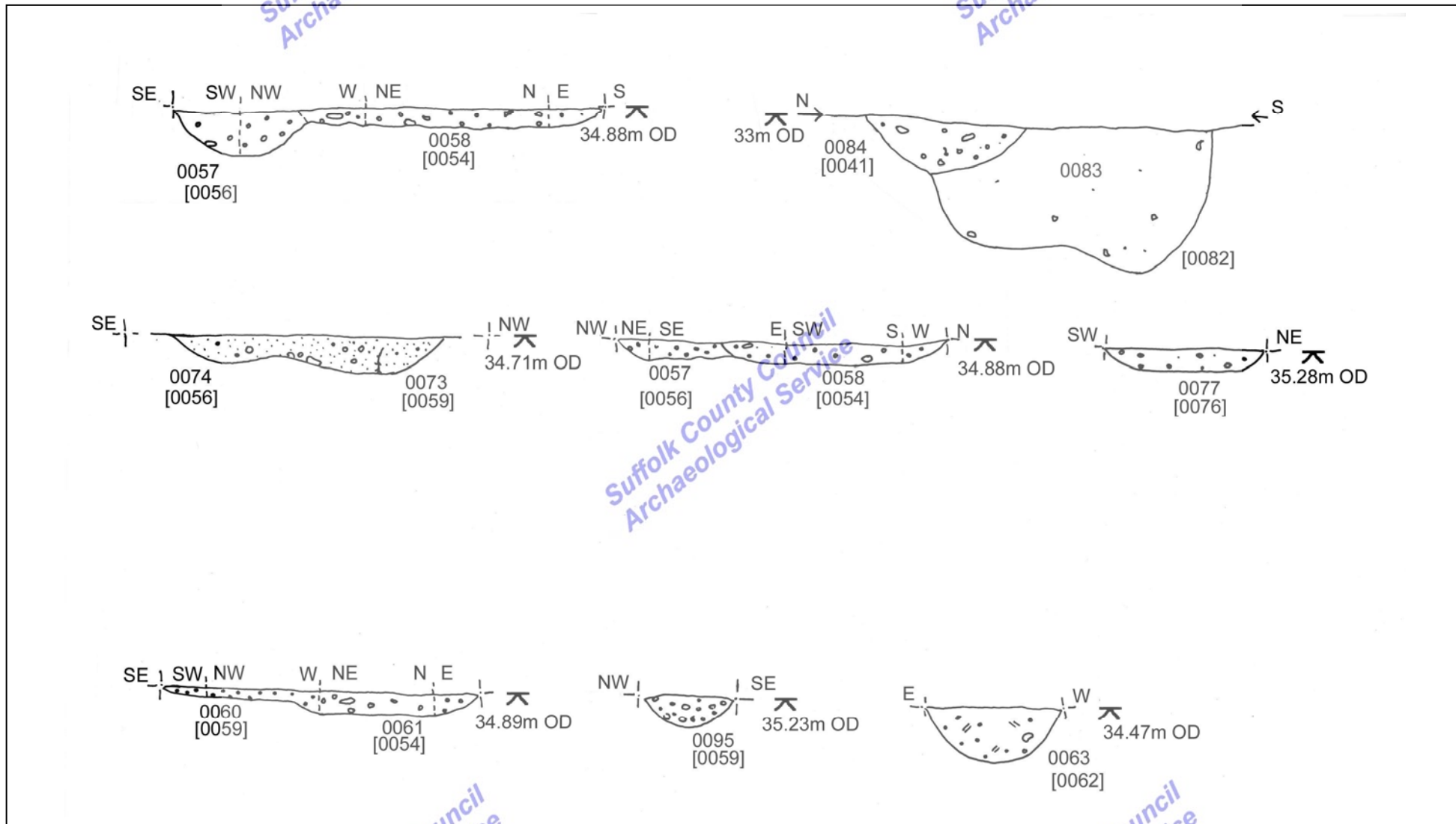


Figure 7. Sections of features dated as Prehistoric and Early Neolithic. Scale 1:20

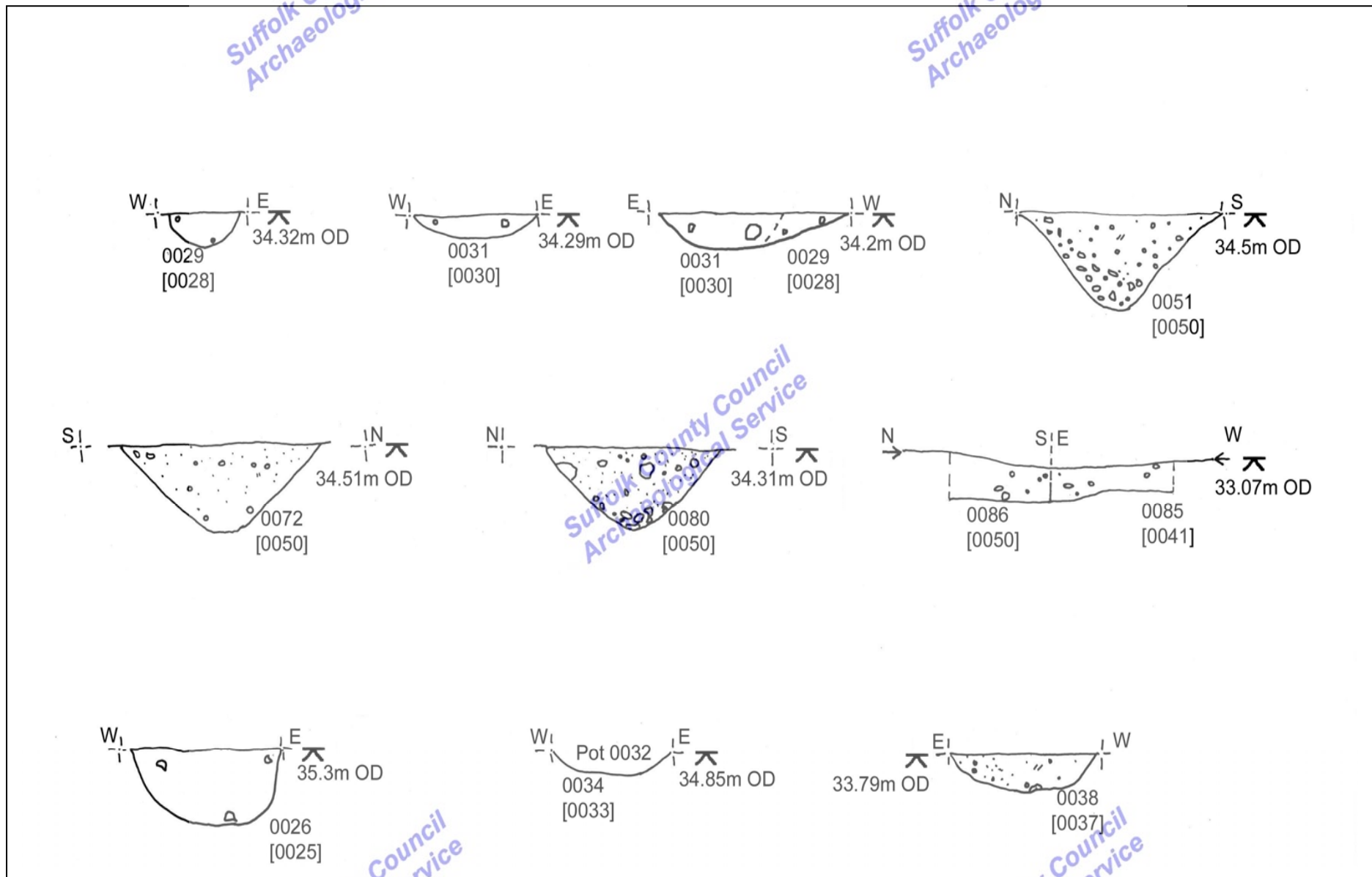


Figure 8. Sections of features dated as Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age. Scale 1:20

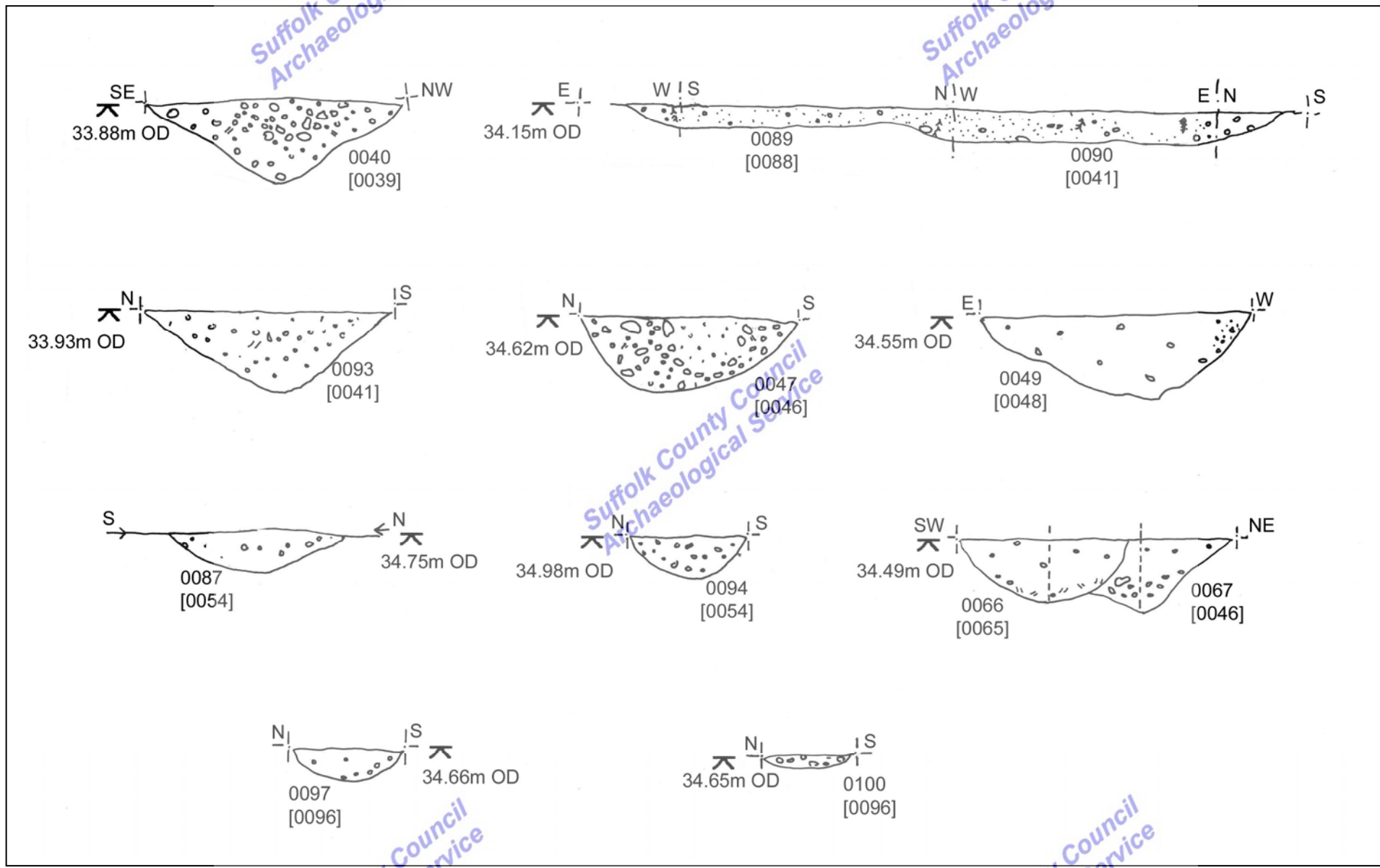


Figure 9. Sections of features dated as Undated. Scale 1:20

## 4. Finds and Environmental Evidence

Compiled by Cathy Tester, April 2007.

### Introduction

Finds were collected from twenty contexts, as shown in the table below.

OP	Pottery		Flint		Burnt Flint		Spotdate
	No.	Wt/kg	No.	Wt/kg	No.	Wt/kg	
0026	6	0.019					LBA-EIA
0027	9	0.012	1	0.003			LBA-EIA
0029			2	0.005			
0031	3	0.007	1	0.004			LBA-EIA
0032	154	1.272					LBA-EIA
0036	22	0.164	1	0.014			LBA-EIA
0038			1	0.007			
0053			1	0.008			
0063	3	0.008	6	0.037			E NEO
0069	2	0.002					PMed, Preh
0071	2	0.001					Preh
0072	162	1.098	5	0.024			LBA-EIA
0077	1	0.005			1	8	Preh
0080			2	0.004			
0083	4	0.006					Preh
0086	3	0.001					Preh
0091			1	0.001			
0092			1	0.003			
0093	2	0.015			1	33	E NEO
0099	3	0.006					E NEO
<b>Total</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>2616</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>0.110</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0.041</b>	

Table 1. Finds quantities

(key: LBA-EIA = later Bronze Age-earlier Iron Age; ENEO = Earlier Neolithic.)

### Pottery

The excavation produced 376 sherds of pottery weighing 2616g and all but one sherd is prehistoric.

#### Prehistoric pottery

By Sarah Percival

A total of 375 sherds of prehistoric pottery weighing 2615g was recovered from fourteen excavated contexts. The earliest pottery found at the site is earlier Neolithic Mildenhall Ware dating to around 3500BC. The majority of the sherds are Earlier Iron Age (600-300BC). A small number of sherds are prehistoric but are not closely datable. The assemblage is fragmentary and in moderate condition. The quantities by ceramic period are shown in Table 2.

Pottery spot date	No	Wt./g
Earlier Neolithic	8	29
Earlier Iron Age	355	2568
Not closely datable	12	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>2615</b>

Table 2. Prehistoric pottery quantities by period

#### Earlier Neolithic

Eight sherds of earlier Neolithic pottery weighing 29g were recovered from three contexts. One sherd has distinctive channelled and impressed decoration characteristic of Mildenhall Ware.

### *Fabric*

Two flint tempered fabrics were identified. Flint tempered fabrics are highly characteristic of earlier Neolithic pottery (Cleal 1995, 187). The quantities are shown in Table 3.

<b>Fabric</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Wt/g</b>
F1	Common, medium, ill sorted angular burnt flint	5	23
F2	Common, medium, ill sorted angular burnt flint. Moderate, fine, ill sorted sub-rounded quartz sand	3	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>29</b>

Table 3. Earlier Neolithic fabric quantities

### *Form and decoration*

One rolled rim (Healy 1988, fig.57) was recovered from the fill of ditch 0059 (0095). The rim form is commonly associated with plain bowl pottery (Healy 1988 fig.66, P72).

One highly decorated sherd of Mildenhall Ware was found in pit 0062 (0063), which also contained sherds from a plain bowl. The Mildenhall Ware sherd has shallow incised channels forming a herringbone motif with a triple row of dots below. The sherd is similar to examples from Hurst Fen, Mildenhall Suffolk (Clark et al 1960) and Spong Hill, North Elmham (Healy 1988, fig.70, P130).

### *Distribution*

The earlier Neolithic sherds were recovered from three features. Pit 0062 (0063) produced three sherds including a single sherd of Mildenhall Ware. Possible tree pit 0098 (0099) contained three small abraded sherds weighing 6g. A rim and one undecorated body sherd were recovered from the fill of ditch 0059 (0095).

### *Discussion*

The earlier Neolithic assemblage is small, containing only eight sherds. The mix of plain, round based bowl and decorated Mildenhall Ware is found at several sites in East Anglia, including at Hurst Fen, Mildenhall the site for which the pottery type was named (Clark *et al.* 1960). Pit 0062 which produced earlier Neolithic pottery is typical of many contemporary features as they were filled with a single dark, charcoal-rich fill which also contained flint soon after they were dug. Such fills have been suggested to represent deliberate infill deposited in freshly dug pits and derived from a midden or other pre pit context (Healy 1995; 174; Thomas 1999, 64; Garrow 2006, 52). The digging and filling of such pits has been interpreted as a deliberate action, with the pits perhaps intended to be commemorative markers on intermittently occupied sites (Garrow 2006, 59). The deposition of earlier Neolithic within tree pits has been noted on several other earlier Neolithic sites and may represent deliberate filling or levelling from pre pit contexts (Healy 1988).

### **Earlier Iron Age**

Three hundred and fifty-five sherds of pottery weighing 2568g were identified as being of later Bronze Age/ earlier Iron Age date. The sherds, which were collected from five excavated features and from surface cleaning date to around the 6th century BC.

### *Fabric*

Five fabrics were identified in two fabric groups representing a mix of coarse and fine wares. The majority of the assemblage is flint tempered (95% 2465g), the remainder is in quartz sand tempered fabric (5% 103g). The Class I and Class II vessels are in coarse flint and sand tempered fabrics whilst the small, fine Class V cups are only made in fine quartz sand tempered fabrics. Fabric quantities are shown in Table 4.

<b>Fabric</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Wt/g</b>
F10	Common, fine, ill sorted angular burnt flint, Orange brown exterior and interior brown to grey core. Burnished. Dense speckled.	26	102
F12	Moderate, medium to small, burnt angular flint; moderate, small quartz-sand, Orange brown exterior and interior brown to grey core. Occasional vacuoles	234	1839
F13	Coarse flint tempered. Common, coarse, burnt angular flint; moderate, small quartz-sand, Orange brown exterior and interior brown to grey core	57	524
Q10	Hard fired medium. Ext. orange, int. orange brown, core brown. Common course mixed size and colour quartz sand, sparse fresh flint, and sparse rounded voids. Smoothed surface. Coarse	37	97
Q12	Hard fired, course. Ext. orange, int. orange brown, core brown. Common course mixed size and colour quartz sand, sparse fresh flint, and sparse rounded voids. Smoothed surface. Fine	1	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>355</b>	<b>2568</b>

Table 4. Earlier Iron Age fabric descriptions and quantities

### *Form*

The assemblage contains a minimum of seven vessels (based on rim count). These include four Class I and IV jars (Barrett 1980) with angular shoulders either combined with long straight upright necks (Martin 1993, fig.37, 21) or sharply angled neck and short flattened everted rims (Barrett 1980 fig.6), a small fine bowl (pit 35) and one small, finely made burnished cup, Barrett's Class V (Barrett 1980, fig.14, 18 from pit 34). The larger Class I jars are decorated, fingernail impressions on the shoulder (Clark and Fell 1953, fig.11) and on the rim top (Clark and Fell, 1953 fig.10, 4). One rim, from a Class IV closed jar (from ditch 0050), has a row of coarse impressed dots below the rim. The dating of the jar is uncertain as impressed dots of this kind are more commonly found in the earlier Neolithic.

### *Distribution*

The pottery was recovered from the fills of two ditches and three pits (Table 5). A small fine semi-complete cup (Class V) and sherds from a small fine jar (Class VI) and a coarse Class I jar were found in the fill of pit 0033 (0032), which appeared to have been deliberately excavated to receive the pottery deposit.

The remains of four vessels (1098g) were found in the fill of ditch 0050 (0072).

<b>Feature type</b>	<b>Feature</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Wt /g</b>
Ditch Fill	0030	3	7
	0050	162	1098
	0025	6	19
Pit Fill	0035	22	164
	0033	154	1272
Subsoil layer	0027	8	8
<b>Total</b>		<b>355</b>	<b>2568</b>

Table 5. Earlier Iron Age pottery by feature

### *Discussion*

The earlier Iron Age pottery from Nacton falls within the post Deverel-Rimbury decorated tradition defined by Barrett (1980). The angular tripartite forms and the use of fingertip and fingernail impressions on the rim and shoulder, are found within the Darmsden-Linton style group, (Cunliffe 2005, fig. A: 13) and West Harling Fengate group (Cunliffe 2005, fig. A: 5). Hill notes that admixture of styles occurs on several earlier Iron Age sites in northern East Anglia, suggesting that the diversity of pottery types present may have resulted from exchange or trade of vessels between regional groups (Hill 1999, 25). Within Suffolk a contemporary assemblage also containing vessels with a mix of Darmsden fine wares and coarse wares with West Harling style traits has been found at Barham BRH 017 tentatively dated the 8th to 7th

centuries BC (Martin 1993, 38).

### Post-Roman pottery

A single small fragment (1g) of Black stoneware (BLSW) which belongs to the late 18th to 20th centuries was collected from ditch 0043 (0069).

### Flint (identified by Colin Pendleton)

A total of twenty-two pieces of struck flint was recovered from eleven contexts. The assemblage is summarised in Table 6.

Type	No
blade	1
blade-like flake	2
flake	13
notched flake	1
retouched blade	1
retouched flake	4
Total	22

Table 6. Flint types

Details by context are shown below.

OP	Type	No	Notes	Date
0027	flake	1	Small thick flake	L Preh
0029	flake	1	Squat flake	L Preh
	flake	1	Squat flake w hinge fracture. Limited retouch in form of notch	L Preh
0031	flake	1	Thin long flake w hinge fracture. Limited edge retouch	L Preh
0036	flake	1	Squat flake w obtuse striking platform. Distal end = cortex	L Preh
0038	flake	1	Flake w limited edge retouch/use-wear.	L Preh
0053	flake	1	Long flake w limited edge retouch/use-wear. Cortex forms distal end	L Preh
0063	blade	1	Blade with parallel flake scars on dorsal face. Some cortex	NEO or EBA
	flake	1	Small flake	L Preh
	flake	1	Largish flake w hinge fracture. Burnt on dorsal face	L Preh
	flake	1	Flake, mainly cortex on dorsal face	
	flake	1	Squat flake	L Preh
	flake	1	Small flake Parallel flake scars on dorsal face. Prob Neo-BA	NEO or EBA
0072	flake/blade	1	Snapped long flake or blade. 1 edge has serrated retouch. Parallel flake scars on dorsal face. Natural striking platform	NEO or EBA
	flake/blade	1	Long flake-short blade. Parallel flake scars on dorsal face	NEO or EBA
	flake	1	Slightly irregular thick flake	L Preh
	blade	1	Blade w limited retouch/use-wear along 1 edge. Parallel flake scars on dorsal face	NEO or EBA
	flake	1	Thick flake w limited edge retouch/use-wear.	L Preh
0080	flake	1	Small flake	L Preh
	flake	1	Small flake	L Preh
0091	flake	1	Small flake w natural striking platform	L Preh
0092	flake	1	Small flake, relatively thick w limited edge retouch	L Preh

Table 7. Flint by context.

(Key: L Preh = Later Prehistoric; NEO-EBA = Neolithic or Early Bronze Age)

The flint is dark grey or black and none of it is patinated. The cortex where present is creamy or off-white. More than half of the assemblage consists of unmodified flakes. Generally, these are small, sometimes squat or irregular and several have natural or obtuse striking platforms and two flakes have hinge fractures of their distal ends.

Retouched flakes, all with limited edge retouch or use-wear are also present. One of them is notched (0029). Two blades, one of them retouched (0072), and two blade-like flakes, one with serrated edge retouch (0072) are present. All have parallel flake scars on their dorsal faces.

Five pieces including the blades from pit 0062 (0063) and ditch 0050 (0072) and the blade-like flakes from ditch 0050 (0072) belong to the Neolithic or Early Bronze Age. The rest of the pieces are less certainly datable but exhibit features such as hinge fractures, natural and obtuse striking platforms and cortical flakes which are characteristic of later assemblages where less care was taken in the preparation of cores and production of flakes. They are probably mid Bronze Age or later.

#### *Burnt flint*

Single fragments of fire-cracked flint pot-boilers were found in ditches 0041 (0093) and 0076 (0077). Both were found in association with pottery of prehistoric date and are probably prehistoric as well.

## **Environmental evidence**

### **Assessment of the plant macrofossils and other remains**

Val Fryer

#### *Introduction and method statement*

Excavations at Nacton Quarry revealed features of later Bronze Age or earlier Iron Age date. A sample for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblage was taken from the blackened fill of pit 0035 (0036), the only excavated feature to show such distinct discoloration.

The sample was processed by manual water flotation/washover, and the flot was collected in a 500 micron mesh sieve. The dried flot was scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16, and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed below on Table 8. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (1997). All plant remains were charred.

<b>Sample No.</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>OP Number</b>	<b>0036</b>
<b>Feature No.</b>	<b>0035</b>
<b>Feature type</b>	<b>pit.</b>
<b>Spotdate</b>	<b>EIA</b>
<b>Plant macrofossils</b>	
Charcoal <2mm	xxxx
Charcoal >2mm	xx
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	xx
<b>Other materials</b>	
Black porous 'cokey' material	x
<b>Sample volume (litres)</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Volume of flot (litres)</b>	<b>&lt;0.1</b>
<b>% flot sorted</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 8. Charred plant macrofossils and other remains  
(Key: x = 1 – 10 specimens; xx = 10 – 50 specimens; xxxx = 100+ specimens)

#### *Results*

The small flot (circa 0.1 litres in volume) consisted almost entirely of charcoal/charred wood fragments. However a moderate density of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell fragments were also recorded, along with rare pieces of black porous material, the latter possibly being a residue of the combustion of organic remains at a very high temperature.



### *Conclusions and recommendations for further work*

The moderate density of nutshell fragments recorded within the sample would be a little unusual for a context of Iron Age date, being more consistent with Neolithic or Bronze Age features. However, given the difficulty of interpreting a single assemblage in isolation, it is probably reasonable to assume that the material is derived from a small quantity of burnt refuse and/or hearth waste.

Nutshell fragments can be removed from the assemblage if they are required for C14/AMS dating, and some of the larger charcoal fragments may be suitable for identification. Otherwise, no further analysis is recommended.

### **Discussion of the finds and environmental evidence**

The Phase 4 excavation area produced more finds from more features than the previous three phases. A modest group of prehistoric finds was collected from twenty contexts in fifteen features or feature groups, seven ditches, seven pits and the subsoil layer. The range of find types is limited and consists mainly of pottery and flint which range in date from the Neolithic to the earlier Iron Age.

The pottery includes a small amount of Early Neolithic plain bowl and decorated Mildenhall Ware fragments similar to that from other East Anglian sites such as Hurst Fen, Mildenhall. The majority of the pottery is Early Iron Age (600-300BC) in date and falls within the post Deverel-Rimbury decorated tradition. The form and decoration types are found within the Darmsden-Linton style group. It has been suggested that this mixture of pottery types may be the result of exchange or trade between regional groups.

The flint displays features that are characteristic of later prehistoric assemblages. Most of it is probably Mid Bronze Age or later because it has no diagnostic Neolithic features but a few pieces are Neolithic or Early Bronze Age.

The single macrofossil assemblage is assumed to derive from burnt refuse or hearth waste and contains material that is suitable for AMS /C14 dating or species identification if required.

A single late 18th to 20th century pottery sherd is small enough to be intrusive from the topsoil.

## **5. Discussion**

This phase produced more features and finds than the previous works at the quarry. There was no obvious structural evidence revealed as the majority of features were ditches, either undated or prehistoric in date.

The features revealed are likely to be scant remains of field systems from an extensive date range of between 3500BC and 300BC. Ditches 0050 and 0076 are probable enclosure ditches as both turn at right angles from their original alignments. It is not possible to know what they are enclosing but this field pattern, along with the straight ditches, is consistent with the field plans expected of this period. Feature 0046 may be a continuation of ditch 0050, as it follows a similar alignment. The small gap between these two features, with posthole 0065 to one side, may form an entrance into this enclosure with the posthole being for a gatepost or similar.

Pit 0033 appeared to have been deliberately excavated to receive the deposit of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age ceramics (0032). The pottery consisted of three different vessels which were broken before being placed in this pit. It is unknown what the significance of this deposit

was but the positioning of the pit between the junctions of four ditches may be important, perhaps reflecting deliberate positioning at this important intersection.

It is probable that ditch 0088 was a continuation of ditch 0019, seen in Phase 3. 0088 was undated, whilst 0019 was loosely dated to the Roman period. No finds of this date were found during the excavation of Phase 4.

The extensive area of hillwash revealed during Phase 3 had frequent sherds of Neolithic/Early Bronze Age pottery. Phase 3 is situated downhill from the fourth phase, and much of this hillwash is likely to have originated from within the most recent excavations and beyond, due to increased ploughing and cultivation from the Iron Age period onwards.

It is not possible to say how the features revealed during the latest works relate to the known sites recorded on the county SMR but they do reflect a focus of prehistoric activity in this area. IPS 423, a possible prehistoric enclosure noted on aerial photographs is just to the north of the site, and may be a continuation of the enclosure seen close to the north edge, in ditch 0076. Further monitoring work is to be undertaken to the east of this site, during Phase 5, and it is hoped further prehistoric evidence will be revealed.

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# Appendix 1

## SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

### *Brief and Specification for Archaeological Monitoring (continuous observation of soil-stripping operations)*

#### *LAND AT BROOM HILL AND FOX'S CARR, NACTON*

*Although this document sets out the work that will need to be done by an archaeological contractor, the developer should be aware that some of its provisions may impinge upon the general working practices of the development and may have financial implications.*

#### **1. Background**

- 1.1 Planning consent (C97/0568) has been granted for mineral extraction at the above site. The planning authority has applied a condition (no. 8) to the consent requiring a programme of prior archaeological investigation.
- 1.2 The site lies within 100m of a disused pit where Iron Age material was discovered in 1969 (County Sites and Monuments Record no. NAC 019). The area also adjoins (on its north side) an undated cropmark complex, from which finds of Neolithic and Roman date have been recorded (County SMR site IPS 028).
- 1.3 As the first stage in complying with the planning condition the prospective developer has requested a brief and specification for the archaeological monitoring of the soil-stripping operations.
- 1.4 There is a presumption that all archaeological work specified for the whole area will be undertaken by the same body, whether the fieldwork takes place in phases or not. There is similarly a presumption that further analysis and post-excavation work to final report stage will be carried through by the excavating body. Any variation from this principle would require justification.
- 1.5 All arrangements for field excavation of the site, the timing of the work, and access to the site, are to be negotiated with the commissioning body.

#### **2. Brief for the Archaeological Project**

- 2.1 Archaeological monitoring, as specified in Section 3, is to be carried out prior to any extraction of minerals or other development works.
- 2.2 The objective of the monitoring will be :
  - a) to enable the identification and evaluation of potentially significant archaeological features or deposits (see Section 3);
  - b) to identify, excavate and record features and deposits of lesser archaeological significance (see Section 4).
- 2.3 The academic objective will centre upon the high potential for this site to produce evidence for prehistoric settlement.

2.4 This project will be carried through in a manner broadly consistent with the *Management of Archaeological Projects* English Heritage 1991.

2.5 The submission of a Project Design based upon this brief and the accompanying outline specification of minimum requirements, is an essential requirement. Final selection of an archaeological contractor should not take place until the Project Design has been approved.

### 3. **Brief for Archaeological Monitoring of Topsoil-Stripping**

3.1 To carry out the monitoring work the developer will appoint an archaeologist (the archaeological contractor) who must be approved by the Planning Authority's archaeological adviser—the Conservation Team of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR. Telephone/Fax: 01284 352443. The work of the archaeological contractor and the development itself will be monitored by the Conservation Team to ensure that they conform to previously agreed locations and to the content of this Brief and Specification.

3.2 The developer will give Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (hereafter SCCAS) and the appointed archaeological contractor three weeks notice (or any other mutually agreed period of notice) of the commencement of site works.

3.3 The topsoil-stripping operations (by the developer or the archaeological contractor) will be carried out using a back-acting machine with a toothless bucket. The depth and method of stripping will need to be agreed in advance with the Conservation Team of SCCAS. Machinery will not cross the stripped area until any possible archaeology has been assessed and fully recorded. Any variation from this will need to be agreed with the Conservation Team.

3.4 As areas are stripped, they will be assessed for further archaeological work. The options will include:

1. A need for further stripping of subsoil layers such hill-wash or other masking deposits.
2. Evaluation of potentially significant archaeological features or deposits. The scope of this work is to be agreed between the Conservation Team of SCCAS and the developer (or his consultant).

**N.B. Further archaeological work arising from this evaluation may require a new Brief and Specification from the Conservation Team of SCCAS.**

3. Small-scale archaeological excavation to clear features and deposits of lesser significance (e.g. isolated features or small clusters of features). **The minimum standards for this work are set out below in Section 4.**

4. Consideration by the developer of a redesign of the development to avoid major archaeological features.

**The decision regarding further work will need to be approved by the Conservation Team of SCCAS.**

### 4. **Specification for Small-scale Archaeological Excavation** (See Section 3.4.3)

The excavation methodology is to be agreed in detail before the project commences, certain minimum criteria will be required

- 4.1 Fully excavate all features that are, or could be interpreted as, structural. Post-holes, and pits that may be interpreted as post-holes, must be examined in section and then fully excavated. Fabricated surfaces within the excavation area (e.g. yards & floors) must be fully exposed and cleaned.  
Any variation from this practice will need to be agreed with the Conservation Team of SCCAS.
- 4.2 All other features must be sufficiently examined to establish, where possible, their date and function. For guidance:
- a) A minimum of 50% of the fills of the general features is to be excavated.
  - b) Between 10% and 20% of the fills of substantial linear features (ditches etc) are to be excavated, the samples must be representative of the available length of the feature and must take into account any variations in the shape or fill of the feature and any concentrations of artefacts.
- Any variations from these practices will need to be agreed with the Conservation Team of SCCAS.
- 4.3 Collect and prepare environmental samples (by sieving or flotation as appropriate). A general policy on environmental remains, including sampling strategy and processing, is to be agreed with the English Heritage Adviser in Archaeological Science (East of England) before the commencement of site work, and should be contained in the Project Design.
- 4.4 A finds recovery policy is to be agreed before the project commences and should form part of the Project Design. The use of a metal detector will form an essential part of the finds recovery strategy. The sieving of occupation levels and building fills will be expected.
- 4.5 All finds will be collected and processed. No discard policy will be considered until the whole body of finds has been evaluated.
- 4.6 All artefacts to be cleaned and processed concurrently with the excavation, so that the results can inform decision-making on the excavation.
- 4.7 Metal artefacts must be stored and managed in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines* and evaluated for significant dating and cultural implications before despatch to a conservation laboratory within 4 weeks of excavation.
- 4.8 Human remains are to be treated at all stages with care and respect, and are to be dealt with in accordance with the law. They must be recorded *in situ* and subsequently lifted, packed and marked to standards compatible with those described in the Institute of Field Archaeologists' Technical Paper 13 *Excavation and post-excavation treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Human Remains*, by McKinley & Roberts. Proposals for the final disposition of remains following study and analysis will be required in the Project Design.
- 4.9 Plans of the archaeological features on the site should normally be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50, depending on the complexity of the data to be recorded. Sections should be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 again depending on the complexity to be recorded. Any variations from this must be agreed with the Conservation Team of SCCAS.
- 4.10 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies.

- 4.11 Excavation record keeping is to be consistent with the requirements of Suffolk County Council's Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and be compatible with its archive. Methods must be agreed with the Conservation Team of SCCAS.

## 5. General Management

- 5.1 A timetable for all stages of the project must be agreed before the first stage of work commences.

- 5.2 Monitoring of the archaeological work will be undertaken by the Conservation Team of SCCAS.

Where projects require an unusual amount of monitoring, the Conservation Team reserve the right to make an 'at-cost' charge for monitoring. A decision on the monitoring required will be made by the Conservation Team on submission of the accepted Project Design and will be reviewed during the course of the project. Any decision to charge for monitoring will be notified to the developer or his agent(s).

- 5.3 The composition of the project staff must be detailed and agreed (this is to include any subcontractors). For the site director and other staff likely to have a major responsibility for the post-excavation processing of this site there must be a statement of their responsibilities for post-excavation work on other archaeological sites.

- 5.4 A general Health and Safety Policy must be provided, with a detailed risk assessment and management strategy for this particular site.

- 5.5 The Project Design must include proposed security measures to protect the site and both excavated and unexcavated finds from vandalism and theft.

- 5.6 Provision for the reinstatement of the ground and the filling of dangerous holes must be detailed in the Project Design.

- 5.7 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.

- 5.8 The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* and for *Excavations* should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in the drawing up of the report.

## 6. Archive Requirements

- 6.1 Within four weeks of the end of field-work a timetable for post-excavation work must be produced. Following this a written statement of progress on post-excavation work whether archive, assessment, analysis or final report writing will be required at three monthly intervals.

- 6.2 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared consistent with the principle of *Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2)*, particularly Appendix 3. However, the detail of the archive is to be fuller than that implied in *MAP2* Appendix 3.2.1. The archive is to be sufficiently detailed to allow comprehension and further interpretation of the site should the project not proceed to detailed analysis and final report preparation. It must be adequate to perform the function of a final archive for lodgement in the County SMR or museum.

- 6.3 A clear statement of the form, intended content, and standards of the archive is to be submitted for approval as an essential requirement of the Project Design (see 2.5).
- 6.4 The site archive quoted at *MAP2* Appendix 3, must satisfy the standard set by the *Guideline for the preparation of site archives and assessments of all finds other than fired clay vessels* of the Roman Finds Group and the Finds Research Group AD700-1700 (1993).
- 6.5 Pottery should be recorded and archived to a standard comparable with 6.4 above, i.e. *The Study of Later Prehistoric Pottery: General Policies and Guidelines for Analysis and Publication*, Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group Occ. Paper 1 (1991, rev. 1997), the *Guidelines for the archiving of Roman Pottery*, Study Group for Roman Pottery (ed M G Darling 1994) and the *Guidelines of the Medieval Pottery Group* (in draft).
- 6.6 All coins must be identified and listed as a minimum archive requirement.
- 6.7 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County SMR. All record drawings of excavated evidence are to be presented in drawn up form, with overall site plans. All records must be on an archivally stable and suitable base.
- 6.8 A complete copy of the site record archive must be deposited with the County SMR within twelve months of the completion of fieldwork. It will then become publicly accessible.
- 6.9 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with the UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines.
- 6.10 The finds, as an indissoluble part of the full site archive, should be deposited with the County SMR or a museum in Suffolk which satisfies the requirements of the Museum and Galleries Commission. If this is not achievable for all or parts of the finds archive, then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration and analysis) as appropriate. If the County SMR is the repository for finds there will be a charge made for storage, and it is presumed that this will also be true for storage of the archive in a museum.  
A statement regarding the final destination of the finds must be included in the Project Design.
- 6.11 Where positive conclusions are drawn from a project, a summary report in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute for Archaeology* must be prepared and included in the project report, or submitted to the Conservation Team by the end of the calendar year in which the evaluation work takes place, whichever is the sooner.

## 7. Report Requirements

- 7.1 A report on the fieldwork and archive must be provided consistent with the principle of *MAP2*, particularly Appendix 4. The report must be integrated with the archive.
- 7.2 The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its archaeological interpretation.



- 7.3 An important element of the report will be a description of the methodology.
- 7.4 The report will give an opinion as to the potential and necessity for further analysis of the excavation data beyond the archive stage, and the suggested requirement for publication. Further analysis will not be embarked upon until the primary fieldwork results are assessed and the need for further work is established. Analysis and publication can be neither developed in detail nor costed in detail until this brief and specification is satisfied.
- 7.5 The assessment report must be presented within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated with the project sponsor and the Conservation Team of SCCAS.

Specification by: Edward Martin

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Tel: 01284 352442

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> February 2000

Reference: Em/spec/Nacton

**This brief and specification remains valid for 12 months from the above date. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse; the authority should be notified and a revised brief and specification may be issued.**

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

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## Appendix 2: List of Contexts

### OPNO FEATURE IDENTIFIER DESCRIPTION

0025	0025	Pit Cut	Small oval pit cut. Relatively deep comparative to size. U shape section with flat base.
0026	0025	Pit Fill	Fill of pit 0025. Mid grey brown soft sand with moderate large stones. Moderate compaction.
0027	0027	Subsoil	Subsoil layer for phase 4. Same as subsoil in phase 3 - dark/mid orange brown soft sand with frequent stones.
0028	0028	Ditch Cut	Very narrow and shallow possible ditch, aligned N-S. Steep sided with v shape base. Cut by ditch 0030 (ends within this ditch somewhere) - clear on surface but not in section.
0010	0010	Ditch Cut	Round bottomed medium sized ditch, aligned NE-SW and turning at right angles to continue NW-SE. Situated at SW edge of site.
0011	0010	Ditch Fill	Light brown silty sand fill of ditch 0010. Frequent small/medium stones.
0012	0012	Ditch Cut	N-S aligned ditch cut. Narrow and quite shallow, at SW edge of site, near 0010. 'V' shaped. Probably same as 0019 although not possible to see whether these 'join up' over hillwash.
0013	0012	Ditch Fill	Mid orange brown silty sand fill of ditch 0012 with frequent stones throughout. Also root disturbance.
0014	0014	Ditch Cut	Possible butt end of ditch or pit cut seen in section only. Not at all clear on surface - machine excavated 'scoop' revealed clear open 'V' shaped ditch or pit in section. Under subsoil and apparently just under edge of hillwash 0016. Not seen on other edge of 'scoop'. c.1.2m wide.
0015	0014	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch or pit 0015. Mid brown silty sand with frequent stones throughout.
0016	0016	Hillwash	Hillwash layer in 'dip' within stripped area. Covers approx. 4000m2 within this area. Mid grey brown sandy silt. 2 trenches put through it once area had been stripped. Maximum depth of c.2.5m at centre of 'dip'. Some finds within hillwash but no obvious features under it - very clean natural. Although ditches 0012/0019 and 0021 cut this hillwash, any further information could not be seen because of nature of hillwash.
0017	0017	Foglifter Cut	Approx. 8 foglifters recorded in area. Circular, shallow with gentle slope to sides, filled with burnt material. Proximity of area to old Ipswich Airport means these are likely to be foglifters.
0018	0017	Foglifter Fill	Fill of foglifters 0017 - charcoal rich black silty sand with frequent burnt stones throughout (not retained).
0019	0019	Ditch Cut	N-S aligned ditch cut seen at NE edge of site. Meanders slightly in section seen but probably same as 0012 - roughly same size, in same alignment with similar pottery found within. Cuts hillwash but not possible to see whether it does 'join up' with 0012. Also relationship with 0021 unknown as this occurs in hillwash. Same as 0088 in phase 4?
0020	0019	Ditch Fill	Mid orange brown silty sand fill of ditch 0019 with frequent stones throughout. Also root disturbance.
0021	0021	Ditch Cut	Medium sized ditch, round bottomed, running NE-SW. Situated at NE edge of site. Relationship with ditch 0012/0019 unknown because of hillwash. Same as 0039?

**OPNO FEATURE IDENTIFIER DESCRIPTION**

0022	0021	Ditch Fill	Mid brown silty sand fill of ditch 0021 with occasional small stones.
0029	0028	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0030 - loosely compacted pale/mid grey brown soft sand. Looks 'old'. Ditch hard to see - only obvious where it meets 0030
0030	0030	Ditch Cut	Very shallow ditch cut, aligned NE-SW. Gentle slope to sides with flat base. Open U shape section. Difficult to see its N end due to tree pits. Cuts 0028 - clear relationship on surface but not in section.
0031	0030	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0030 - tightly compacted mid grey brown soft sand with occasional stones.
0032	0032	Pot	Pot within pit 0033 - pieces of broken pot placed in pit. I.e. wasn't whole pot when buried as doesn't form shape of pot. Probably 2 different pots. Pit exactly pot sized - dug deliberately for it?
0033	0033	Pit Cut	Oval pit cut. Gentle slope to sides with flat base. Pot found throughout fill.
0034	0033	Pit Fill	Fill of pit 0033 - dark brown/blackish silty sand with occasional stones. Pot 0032 found throughout fill.
0035	0035	Pit Cut	Pit cut. Immediately adjacent to ditch 0043 (0064). Cut by this ditch. Elongated oval in shape with steeply sloping sides and undulating bottom.
0036	0035	Pit Fill	Fill of pit 0035 - blackened (burnt) mid brown silty sand with frequent charcoal and occasional stones. Fairly loosely compacted. Fill was sampled.
0037	0037	Pit Cut	Small oval pit - moderate slope to sides with flattish base.
0038	0037	Pit Fill	Fill of pit 0038 - mid brown silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks and frequent small stones.
0039	0039	Ditch Cut	NE-SW linear feature. Only c.10m seen - rest runs into phase 3. Probably same as ditch 0021 in phase 3. Open v shape with gentle slope to sides. On same alignment as 0043 but distinct butt end of 0039 so probably not same ditch.
0040	0039	Ditch Fill	Fill of 0039 - light brown silty sand with frequent large stones in central area only. Occasional charcoal flecks.
0041	0041	Ditch Cut	E-W aligned ditch cut. Steeply sloping sides. Contemporaneous with 0043. 0043 ends to S at junction with 0041. Deep with flattish base. 0041 ends to E at junction with 0050.
0042	0041	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0041 - mid brown silty sand with moderate/frequent stones. Same as 0044.
0043	0043	Ditch Cut	NNE-SSW aligned ditch cut. Contemporaneous with 0041. Ends at junction with 0041 though on similar alignment as 0039 but 0039 has distinct butt end so probably not same feature. 0043 appears to end at junction with 0041. Moderate slope to sides with flattish base.
0044	0043	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0043 - mid brown silty sand with moderate/frequent stones. Same as 0042.
0045	0043	Ditch Fill	Fill within ditch 0043 near where it meets ditch 0041. Dark brown silty sand with frequent charcoal flecks. Spit of fill through 0044.
0046	0046	Ditch Cut	E-W ditch, turning to SE-NW at its junction with 0043. Gentle slope to sides.

**OPNO FEATURE IDENTIFIER DESCRIPTION**

0047	0046	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0046 - mid orange brown silty sand with very frequent stones and very occasional charcoal flecks. Central area with less stones slightly darker.
0048	0048	Pit Cut	Probable tree pit - D shaped pit with steeply sloping sides and an uneven base. Large.
0049	0048	Pit Fill	Fill of pit 0048. Mid orange brown silty sand with very occasional stones.
0050	0050	Ditch Cut	Ditch begins E-W, turning to N-S. 0041 ends at junction with 0050, just after it turns N-S. Moderate slope to sides with flattish bottom. Deep.
0051	0050	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0050. Dark orange brown silty sand with moderate stone, especially to N side. Very occasional charcoal flecks.
0052	0043	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0043. Dark/mid orange brown silty sand with occasional stones and occasional charcoal flecks. Round bottom and gentle slope to sides.
0053	0043	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0043 at junction between 0043 and 0054. Mid brown silty sand with occasional stones and occasional charcoal flecks.
0054	0054	Ditch Cut	E-W aligned ditch cut. Cut by 0043. Shallow with gentle/moderate slope to sides with flattish base.
0055	0054	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0054 - mid grey brown silty sand with occasional stones and charcoal flecks.
0056	0056	Ditch Cut	Narrow shallow ditch cut. NE-SW running. Appears to butt end on S side of 0054 but continues on other side (N) but much shallower. Very uneven base.
0057	0056	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0056 - mid orange brown silty sand with occasional stones.
0058	0054	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0054 at junction with 0056. Mid orange brown silty sand with occasional stones. Very uneven base with shallow, gently sloping sides.
0059	0059	Ditch Cut	Very shallow and narrow possible ditch cut. So small, could possibly be a gully or not even real. Relationship with 0054 unclear - too shallow to determine. NE-SW running with v gentle slope to sides and flat base. Ditch appears to continue N-wards after crossing 0054 but only in places due to shallow nature. Appears genuine on damp and sunless morning - can be seen 'hit and miss' across whole site.
0060	0059	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0059 - mid brown silty sand with very occasional small stones.
0061	0054	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0054 at junction with 0059. Mid brown silty sand with occasional stones. Moderate slope to sides with flattish base.
0062	0062	Pit Cut	Moderate/small circular pit cut. Moderately/steeply sloping sides with flat base. 100% excavated.
0063	0062	Pit Fill	Fill of pit 0062 - dark blackish brown silty sand with occasional stones. Slightly burnt appearance to fill with moderate charcoal flecks.
0064	0043	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0043 at junction with pit 0035. Mid brown silty sand with occasional stone inclusion. Steeply sloping sides and undulating bottom. Same as 0069 & 0071.
0065	0065	Posthole Cut	Circular posthole cut with steeply sloping sides and flattish base. Cuts ditch 0043, adjacent to 0043.

**OPNO FEATURE IDENTIFIER DESCRIPTION**

0066	0065	Posthole Fill	Fill of posthole 0065 - mid brown silty sand with occasional stones and a charcoaly spit at base.
0067	0046	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0046 at junction with pit 0065. Mid orange brown silty sand with occasional stones. Same as 0070 & 0068.
0068	0046	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0046 at junction with pit 0065 and ditch 0043. Mid brown silty sand with occasional/moderate stones. Same as 0067 & 0070.
0069	0043	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0043 at junction with 0046 & 0065. Mid orange brown silty sand with occasional stones. Same as 0071 & 0064.
0070	0046	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0046 at junction with 0043. Mid brown silty sand with occasional stones. Same as 0067 & 0068.
0071	0043	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0043 at junction with 0046. Mid orange brown silty sand with moderate stone inclusion, particularly to N side. Same as 0069 & 0064.
0072	0050	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0050 - light orange brown mottled silty sand. Fairly compacted with occasional charcoal flecks and stones.
0073	0059	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0059 at junction with 0056. Light brown/grey silty sand with frequent stone. Fairly compacted Relationship between 0056 & 0059 not clear.
0074	0056	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0056 at junction with 0059. Light brown/grey silty sand with frequent stone. Fairly compacted. Relationship between 0056 & 0059 not clear.
0075	0043	Ditch Fill	Fill of butt end of ditch 0043, towards NNE edge of site. Light orange brown silty sand with frequent stones.
0076	0076	Ditch Cut	Linear ditch situated adjacent to NNE edge of site. Forms a right angle and turns toward edge of site at north end and continues into edge at S end. Shallow with gently curving sides and a flat base.
0077	0076	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0076. Light brown silty sand with frequent small stones.
0078	0078	Ditch Cut	Shallow round bottomed ditch. Same as 0056 and aligned NNE-SSW. Feature runs into NE edge of site. Cut by 0076 near NE edge of site.
0079	0078	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0078. Very light brown silty sand with frequent small stones.
0080	0050	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0050. Mid brown/orange silty sand with stone throughout but mostly at very bottom of ditch. V shaped section at this point with concave bottom and steep sides.
0081	0076	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0076 at intersection with 0078. Light brown silty sand with frequent small stones.
0082	0082	Pit Cut	Probable tree hole cut. Steep sides with convex, irregular base. Edges vague. On side of ditch 0041 and later inspection (after initial excavation) revealed ditch cuts pit.
0083	0082	Pit Fill	Fill of tree hole 0082. Mid orange brown silty soft sand.
0084	0041	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0041 at section with tree hole 0082. Mid orange brown silty soft sand, stonier than adjacent 0083.
0085	0041	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0041 at junction with 0050. Mid orange brown silty soft sand.

**OPNO FEATURE IDENTIFIER DESCRIPTION**

0086	0050	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0050 at junction with 0041. Mid orange brown silty soft sand.
0087	0054	Ditch Fill	Fill of easterly butt end of ditch 0054. Mid orange brown sand.
0088	0088	Ditch Cut	Ditches 0056 and 0059 meet 10m north of this section. Only one ditch continues down, unclear if it is 0056, 0059 or a combination of both which continue. Therefore, 0088 either same as 0056, 0059 or a combination of both. N-S aligned, runs off edge of site. Same as ditch 0019 in phase
0089	0088	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0088. Light brown/orange silty sand.
0090	0041	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0041. Light brown/orange silty sand with moderate stone inclusion. Fairly compacted. U shape section at this point.
0091	0043	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0043 at junction with 0056. Dark red brown silty sand with moderate stone inclusion and moderate charcoal flecks. Moderate slope to sides with rounded base. 0043 cuts 0056 at this junction.
0092	0056	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0056 at junction with 0043. 0056 very shallow at this point and is cut by 0043. Mid brown silty sand with frequent stones. Very hard, compacted fill. Ditch shallow and flat bottomed with gentle slope to sides.
0093	0041	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0041. Mid orange brown silty sand with frequent small stones and very occasional charcoal flecks.
0094	0054	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0054. Mid orange brown soft silty sand with frequent small stones.
0095	0059	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0059. Mid orange brown silty sand, loosely compacted. Very stony fill in very stony natural.
0096	0096	Ditch Cut	Curvilinear ditch/gully aligned WNW-ESE. May be a butt ended, gapped continuation of 0054. Shallow, round bottomed at butt end, becoming shallower to E where it peters out. Is cut by probable tree pit near butt end.
0097	0096	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0096. Mid brown silty sand with occasional small stones. Considerable disturbance from adjacent tree pit.
0098	0098	Pit Cut	Very irregularly shaped feature with very uneven base. No distinct cut. Consistent with tree pit formation.
0099	0098	Pit Fill	Fill of probable tree pit 0098. Chocolate brown silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks. Pot sherds near surface. Not drawn and not fully excavated.
0100	0096	Ditch Fill	Fill of ditch 0096, towards its E end. Light brown silty sand with frequent stones.

## Appendix 3: Prehistoric Pottery catalogue

Context	Fabric	Sherd	No	Wt/g	Surf	Abr	Decoration	Rim type	Notes	Spot date
0026	F12	U	2	5						L BA / E IA
	F12	U	2	12		burnt				L BA / E IA
	Q10	U	1	1	S					L BA / E IA
	F12	R	1	1				flat		L BA / E IA
0027	F12	U	8	8					Scraps	L BA / E IA
	F	U	1	4		burnt				Preh
0031	F13	U	3	7			V			L BA / E IA
0032	F12	U	93	856					Barrett Class I	L BA / E IA
	F12	R	26	367			FTI on shoulder	Rounded rim long upright neck angular shoulder	Class V fine cup	L BA / E IA
	Q10	U	18	18		burnt			Class V fine cup	L BA / E IA
	Q10	R	3	6				Fine rounded	Class V fine cup	L BA / E IA
	Q10	U	3	6			Sharply angled shoulder		Class V fine cup	L BA / E IA
	Q10	U	9	14					Class V fine cup	L BA / E IA
	F12	R	2	5				Fine rounded	Small coarse jar	L BA / E IA
0036	Q10	U	2	14		burnt				L BA / E IA
	F12	U	13	64		burnt				L BA / E IA
	F12	U	5	42						L BA / E IA
	Q12	U	1	6	S			Rounded rim long upright neck angular shoulder	Small fine bowl	L BA / E IA
	Q10	U	1	38					Odd fabric	L BA / E IA
0063	F1	U	2	4						E NEO
	F1	D	1	4			Dots; herringbone channels		Mildenhall, Healy 1988 fig.70, P130	E NEO
0069	F12	U	1	1			V		Scrap	Preh
0071	F12	U	2	1			V		Scraps	Preh
0072	F12	U	78	455						Preh
	F13	U	50	444					Big rounded flint inclusions Flint coarse	L BA / E IA
	F10	U	15	62				Flat		L BA / E IA
	F10	R	11	40				Flat		L BA / E IA
	F13	R	3	45			Semi pierced when wet, FTI on rim top	Flat	Coarse closed bowl	
	F13	D	1	28			Semi pierced when wet			L BA / E IA
	F12	R	2	15				Flat	Barrett Class I	L BA / E IA
	F12	B	2	9						L BA / E IA
0077	F	U	1	5		burnt				Preh
0083	F12	U	4	6			V			Preh
0086	U	U	3	1			V			Preh
0095	F1	U	1	12						E NEO
	F1	R	1	3				Rolled		E NEO
0099	F2	U	3	6			Y			E NEO

(Key: R = rimsherd; D = decorated bodysherd; U = undecorated bodysherd; B = basesherd; FTI = finger tip impressed)



## Appendix 4. Flint catalogue

OP	Type	No	Notes	Date
0027	flake	1	Small thick flake	L Preh
0029	flake	1	Squat flake	L Preh
	flake	1	Squat flake w hinge fracture Limited retouch in form of notch	L Preh
0031	flake	1	Thin long flake w hinge fracture. Limited edge retouch	L Preh
0036	flake	1	Squat flake w obtuse striking platform. Distal end = cortex	L Preh
0038	flake	1	Flake w limited edge retouch/use-wear.	L Preh
0053	flake	1	Long flake w limited edge retouch/use-wear. Cortex forms distal end	L Preh
0063	blade	1	Blade with parallel flake scars on dorsal face. Some cortex	NEO or EBA
	flake	1	Small flake	L Preh
	flake	1	Largish flake w hinge fracture. Burnt on dorsal face	L Preh
	flake	1	Flake, mainly cortex on dorsal face	
	flake	1	Squat flake	L Preh
	flake	1	Small flake Parallel flake scars on dorsal face. Prob Neo-BA	NEO or EBA
0072	flake/blade	1	Snapped long flake or blade. 1 edge has serrated retouch. Parallel flake scars on dorsal face. Natural striking platform	NEO or EBA
	flake/blade	1	Long flake-short blade. Parallel flake scars on dorsal face	NEO or EBA
	flake	1	Slightly irregular thick flake	L Preh
	blade	1	Blade w limited retouch/use-wear along 1 edge. Parallel flake scars on dorsal face	NEO or EBA
	flake	1	Thick flake w limited edge retouch/use-wear.	L Preh
0080	flake	1	Small flake	L Preh
	flake	1	Small flake	L Preh
0091	flake	1	Small flake w natural striking platform	L Preh
0092	flake	1	Small flake, relatively thick w limited edge retouch	L Preh

(Key: L Preh = Later Prehistoric; NEO-EBA = Neolithic or Early Bronze Age)