Sudbury Rugby Ground, Great Cornard
COG 028 and COG 030

Post-Excavation Assessment Report

SCCAS Report No. 2011/195

Client: Persimmon Homes (Anglia) Ltd

Authors: Abby Antrobus and Mo Muldowney

October/2012

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Authors: Abby Antrobus and Mo Muldowney

Contributions By: Sue Anderson, Sarah Bates, Stephen Benfield, Val Fryer, Sarah Percival, Alison Sheridan

Illustrator: Crane Begg

Editor: Richenda Goffin

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HER Information

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Curatorial Officer:	**Edward Martin**
Project Officer:	**Mo Muldowney**
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Prepared By:	Abby Antrobus
Date:	October 2012
Approved By:	Jo Caruth
Position:	Senior Project Officer
Date:	19th November 2012
Signed:	

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Summary

Between 20th July and 2nd December 2009, in advance of development for housing, an archaeological excavation of 0.66ha was carried out at Sudbury Rugby Ground, Great Cornard. The project focussed on two large ring ditches, known from aerial photography (County Historic Environment Record COG 004 and COG 005). These, with another Bronze Age ring ditch excavated to the south (COG 025) and a cropmark recorded to the east (COG 006), formed part of a prehistoric funerary group overlooking the Stour Valley. The cropmarks were excavated as sites COG 028 and COG 030, and are referred to as Monuments 1 and 2 respectively in the report. They were 63m apart and were visible as slight landscape features. Prior to excavation, they were further defined through topographic survey, geophysical survey and evaluation.

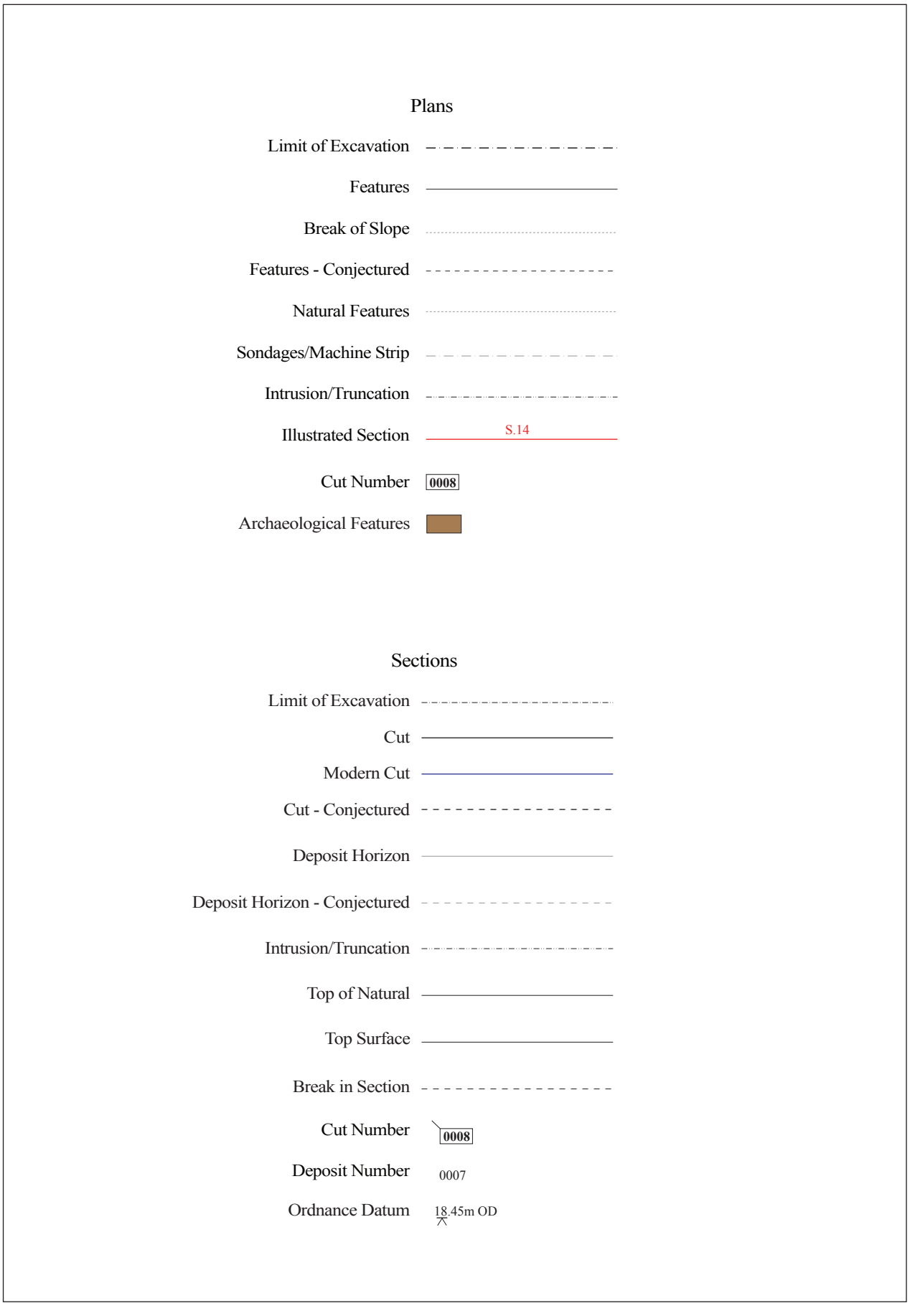
Grave goods and finds from ditch fills and surviving mound material date construction of the monuments to the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age (3200 – 1500 BC). A number of tree-throws may represent a forested landscape prior to clearance, with several hollows yielding broadly contemporary worked flint. Monument 1 was a single ring ditch 37m in diameter, up to 6.6m wide and 2.2m deep, and cremated human bone and a pair of Early Bronze Age bone tweezers were recovered from a small off-centre pit within it. The ditch showed phases of silting, followed by a deposit in the western side of what appears to be a substantial assemblage of Anglo-Saxon domestic waste, including over 900 sherds of 6th-7th century pottery. The more complex of the barrows, Monument 2, had an external diameter of 25m and comprised two unequally sized concentric ring ditches enclosing a large central grave that lay under vestiges of mound material up to 0.5m deep. Within the grave, which cut an earlier pit, was a crouched burial of a young adult female, furnished with a later Neolithic/earlier Bronze Age Beaker vessel and an unusual necklace of large amber pieces and *c*.400 tiny black jet and white shell beads. Preliminary assessment indicates that this monument is multiphased. A secondary, crouched, infant inhumation (undated) and a large feature that was interpreted on site as an aborted robber-pit had both been cut into the mound.

Also excavated was a smaller ring ditch enclosing a central pit that contained cremated remains and pyre debris, and an isolated pit containing cremated bone deposits. These are as yet undated but are likely to represent either longer term prehistoric use of the site or Anglo-Saxon funerary activity. Another pit containing burnt bone appears to be medieval in date, cutting into a subsoil that lay over the earlier features.

The evidence for prehistoric funerary and monumental landscape and the re-use of such sites during the Anglo-Saxon period is of regional significance, addressing regional research themes for both periods and adding to potential for comparison between northern and southern areas of East Anglia, where cultural differences have long been observed. However, the necklace found within the central burial of Monument 2 is of national significance. Although necklaces made up of tiny beads have been occasionally found in Beaker graves elsewhere in the country, the use of shell for the beads is unique. That the necklace was found *in situ* within a sealed context allows discussion of burial practices, society, trade and manufacture in the Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Ages.

This post-excavation assessment presents the preliminary site sequence, quantifies and reviews the potential of the finds and environmental archive, reviews research potential, and defines new aims, objectives and tasks. The excavation analysis provides details on the characterisation of the monument forms and dating, and provide information on the occupants of the monuments and their funerary assemblages. It has revealed associated features and the chronological depth of the site. Publication in the East Anglian Archaeology series, in conjunction with the results of excavations of comparable sites, in particular Aldham Mill in Hadleigh (Everett and Boulter 2010), is therefore proposed.

Drawing Conventions



1 Introduction

An archaeological evaluation and excavation were carried out at Sudbury Rugby Ground, Great Cornard, between 20th July and 2nd December 2009. The work was undertaken in accordance with two specifications issued by Edward Martin (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team). These documents form Appendix 1.

Both the evaluation and excavation, funded by Persimmon Homes (Anglia) Ltd, were required in order to mitigate for the impact of the residential development of the site (Planning Applications B/03/01504/FUL and B/09/00140/FUL). Although involving destruction of a barrow site, the principle of the development and preservation by record resonated with the research agenda for East Anglia, which acknowledges that the rich resource of cropmarks in the Stour Valley, an area of AONB, is in some ways offset by a lack of specific knowledge that can be gained through invasive investigation (Brown and Murphy 2000, 12). This site, where the extension of existing suburban development was proposed, presented a good case-study where the information-gain and the economic impetus for development could be offset against physical loss.

2 Geological, topographic and archaeological background

2.1 Geology, topography and recent land use

The development area lies in the parish of Great Cornard, on the southern edge of the larger town of Sudbury. This is situated on the northern bank of the River Stour, which is the county boundary between Suffolk and Essex. A small watercourse runs into the Stour from Abbas Hall to the east, *c*. 40m south of the site, and Cornard Mere is *c*. 70m further south. The site lies at TL 8580 9670 (Fig. 1), at a height of 26m OD, on flat land that overlooks a gentle southwards slope down to the floodplain of the river. It is bounded on the western and northern sides by houses on Bures Road and Rugby Road, and by Great Cornard Upper and Middle Schools to the east. The development area had been most recently used by Sudbury Rugby Club and had been formed into two grass rugby pitches. The underlying geology comprised sands and gravels overlying chalk, with the soils categorised by the British Geological Survey as of Ludford type: deep fine and coarse loamy or sandy soils with localised flint over glaciofluvial gravel deposits (BGS, 2012).

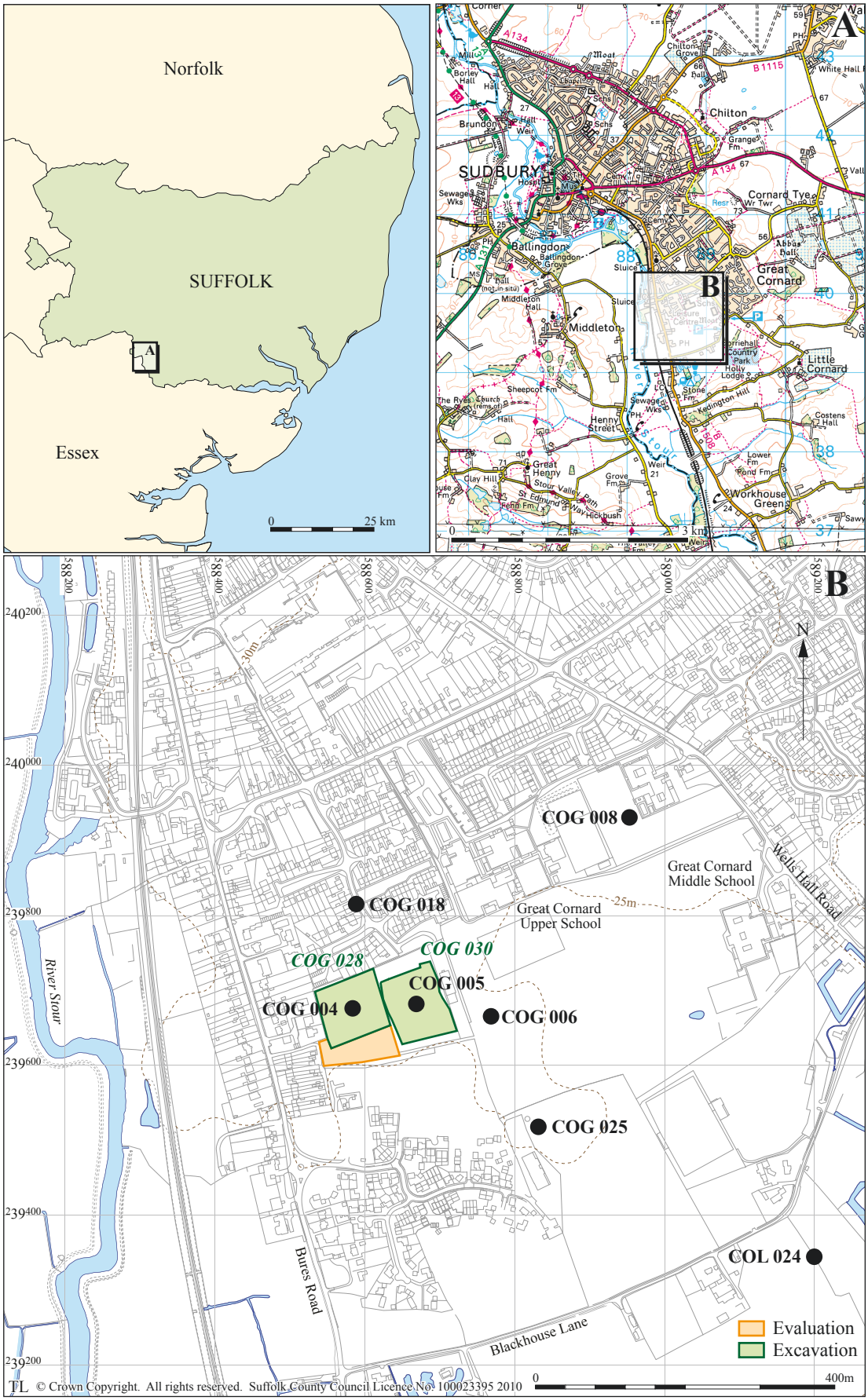


Figure 1. Site location with evaluation and excavation areas and selected HER references

2.2 Archaeological and historical background

The site at Great Cornard was historically separate from the urbanised historic centre of Sudbury, on land which has been under apparent continuous agricultural use until recent times (Newman 2000). There had been little development in the immediate surrounding area until the 20th century, with the older 18th and early 19th century housing located to the west along the main Sudbury to Bures road. This lack of historic development is reflected in the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER) (Fig. 1), which has very few records for the area in and around the rugby ground, but significantly does include COG 004 and COG 005 - the ring ditches that are the subject of this report – and COG 006, a third ring ditch or circular enclosure a few metres to the east in the grounds of Great Cornard Upper and Middle School. A small pale grey chert-flint cordate prehistoric hand-axe (COG 008), also found in the school grounds, constitutes the remaining evidence for known prehistoric activity in the immediate area.

The single remaining HER reference concerning the subject site is post-medieval in date and records that the land at the corner of Bures Road and Head Lane was named 'Mill Tye' on Hodskinson's 1783 map of Suffolk (COG 018). This presumably refers to a previous land use. A windmill is shown on the 1840 tithe map of Great Cornard some 220m to the north of Mill Tye (COG 015), which may be associated, although the origin of the name Mill Tye is at present unknown.

Two previous archaeological interventions (an evaluation in 2006 and subsequent excavation in 2007 - COG 025) were carried out to the south-east of the subject site on land also developed by Persimmon Homes (Anglia) Ltd. The excavation area of 0.26ha was located in the northwest part of the field where evaluation had identified the densest archaeological remains in the form of an Early Bronze Age ditch, north-south aligned ditches and a group of pits. In excavation, the ditch was revealed as an 11m diameter ring ditch, yielding worked flints, with a central pit. A series of three medieval/post-medieval ditches were also identified, as were a few scattered pits further to the south (Gill 2006). The date of the ring ditch indicated that it was also part of the group of monuments identified as cropmarks to the north-west (COG 004 to COG 006) (Craven 2010) which form the focus of this project.

Anglo-Saxon discoveries in the area consist of three Saxon sceattas (silver coins) (COL 024), found whilst metal-detecting to the south-east of the subject site, and an Anglo-Saxon cemetery recorded some 750m to the south (COL 001). Further, in the course of documentary research for the site, Tony Breen identified complex patterns of holding, with parochial islands relating to Little Cornard Parish included in subdivisions of the lands in the development area. He suggested that they may relate to early property ownership, perhaps predating parish formation in the 10th century (in Newman 2000, Appendix 2), indicating early land boundaries in the area.

3 Original research aims

The broad aims of the project to Post-Excavation Analysis stage have been to:

- provide a record of all archaeological deposits which would otherwise be damaged or removed by development, including services and landscaping permitted by any future detailed consent;
- assess the potential of the site, finds and environmental evidence for reconstruction of the history and use of the site, with particular reference to origins, date, development, phasing, spatial organization, character, function, status and significance as well as the nature of any social, economic and industrial activities taking place.
- disseminate the archaeological data recorded from the project in an appropriate manner.

The Specification stated that 'the academic objective will centre upon the high potential for this site to produce evidence for Bronze Age funerary activity and possible additional Anglo-Saxon funerary/settlement activity'. Presented below are themes that there was potential to address, drawn from the East Anglian Regional Research Framework (Brown and Glazebrook 2000; Medleycott 2011).

3.1 Prehistoric

- Dating Bronze Age cropmarks – via targeted excavation and through the collation of artefact assemblages (Brown and Murphy 2000, 10).
- Examining and describing the details of the monument, thus supporting a wider classification of Bronze Age monuments that is mainly achieved through synthesis of cropmark data (Brown and Murphy 2000, 10).

- Considering issues such as impact on landscape, manipulation of landscape, funerary practices and individual identities in the period which first saw widespread landscape clearance and monument construction, contributing to a broader regional analysis of social practices: 'the development and use of monuments, including burial mounds, as key elements in determining and understanding the landscape, may represent a key means by which the change from mobile settlement to a pattern of farms and fields was negotiated' (Brown and Murphy 2000, 10; Medleycott 2011, 13 and 20).

3.2 Anglo-Saxon

- The Anglo-Saxon re-use of prehistoric monuments is touched on in the research agenda (Medleycott 2011; 49, 59). Interpretation of deposits encountered can illuminate different ways in which this was carried out, leading into themes such as landscape appropriation and early medieval ideas about prehistoric monuments.
- In particular, Anglo-Saxon re-use of monuments is often funerary. Life expectancy, ethnic origin and other palaeo-demographic questions could be explored through the excavation and subsequent analysis of human remains from Anglo-Saxon cemeteries (Wade 2000; 25).

These themes were considered pertinent at the commencement of the project. The majority of dateable features identified in the excavation *were* of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age (c. 3000BC to 1500BC) or Anglo-Saxon (500AD to 1000AD) date.

4 Methodology

In May 2000, SCCAS commissioned Air Photo Services to undertake an aerial photographic survey of the development area. Both COG 004 and COG 005 were identified (with COG 006 in the school grounds to the east) and interpreted as probable Bronze Age burial sites. The cropmarks had also been mapped in 1999 (Palmer 2000), with later topographical survey carried out by SCCAS Field team. Before the current archaeological works started, a geophysical survey of both rugby pitches was undertaken between 5th and 7th May 2009 by GSB Prospection Ltd, using magnetometer and targeted resistance survey techniques. This established the location of the two ring ditches and also detected some possible internal features. No other

anomalies of any archaeological nature were detected (Tanner 2009). Geophysical survey results are included as Appendix 3.

For excavation, the development area was divided into two areas that were based on former rugby pitches, with COG 028 on the west and COG 030 on the east. COG 028 (over the area of cropmark 004, and referred to as Monument 1 in this report) was initially evaluated, followed by excavation. Informed by the previous site, COG 030 (including cropmark 005, referred to as Monument 2 in this report) was fully excavated from the outset. Although the excavation and recording methodology was largely the same for both areas, the stripping technique varied slightly, with the results of work on COG 028 influencing the strategy for COG 030.

Mechanical stripping for the COG 028 evaluation and excavation was carried out by a 21 ton, 360°, tracked mechanical excavator, fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Spoil from the excavation was stockpiled at the south end of site using two 10 ton dumpers. Stripping of COG 030 was carried out using an 18 ton, 360°, tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Spoil was removed and separated, with topsoil stockpiled at the north end of the COG 030 site and subsoil reinstated into the COG 028 excavation area by two 10 ton dumpers. All machining was constantly supervised by an experienced archaeologist.

4.1 COG 028 – Monument 1 and surroundings

4.1.1 Evaluation

Evaluation (to assess, for example, survival and depth of deposits) took place in the southern third of what was to be COG 028, covering 5% of an area of 0.34 ha. Five trenches were stripped to whichever was encountered first of the archaeological horizon or undisturbed underlying geology. The location of the trenches was established to a pre-designed plan using the GPS, but most had to be relocated due to the presence of dense scrub at the edges of the site and the encroachment of construction work into the evaluation area.

4.1.2 Excavation

The excavation stage took place immediately after the completion of the evaluation and involved an open area strip (0.66ha) centred on ring ditch cropmark COG 004, as located by the geophysical and topographical surveys. The full width of the area was

stripped in order to expose additional features not identified from non-intrusive survey, and/or any features that may have been associated with the ring ditch itself, such as satellite cremations and Anglo-Saxon burials. Before work commenced, a digital Autocad file was created denoting the location of two 0.5m wide baulks, based on Ordnance Survey co-ordinates, forming a cross aligned north to south and east to west. These baulks were laid out using a GPS before stripping started, and were left in place throughout the excavation to enable a full profile to be drawn of the stratified sequence of deposits.

Stripping started at the baulks and over the location of the ring ditch in order to determine the presence/absence of surviving mound material and to define the extent of the ring ditch. Potential mound material was cleaned, photographed, recorded etc. and excavated by hand (i.e. mattock). The location of all finds recovered from any mound material and the ring ditch was recorded in three dimensions either manually or with a Total Station Theodolite (TST), and they were allocated individual Small Find numbers.

A minimum of 30% of the ring ditch was excavated (sixteen slots), with an additional 10% (six slots) set aside as contingency.

4.2 COG 030 – Monument 2 and surroundings

The COG 030 open area excavation covered 1.3ha and included ring ditch COG 005, which lay at the south-west end of the area. Surviving mound material was anticipated, and the original methodology was designed to determine the presence/absence of archaeological features truncating the subsoil, particularly over the location of the ring ditch (COG 005), relating to ongoing and later use of the site. Initial stripping focused on removing the topsoil only over a 625 sq m strip over the site of ring ditch COG 005 located with the GPS. It was intended that any features identified were to be excavated accordingly (see below); if nothing was visible, the remaining overburden was to be carefully stripped by machine until the archaeological horizon was clearly identifiable. After stripping the area over the ring ditch, it was apparent that mound material survived directly below the topsoil and that further overburden lay over the ring ditch. In consultation with Edward Martin (SCCAS/CT) it was agreed that stripping was to proceed with machine slots dug through the overburden at the west and east edges of the exposed mound material to locate the ring ditch, and that overburden over the south-west quadrant of the ring ditch was to be hand-excavated. In addition, it was

agreed that the remainder of the excavation area would be stripped to the subsoil level, metal-detected and checked for archaeological features prior to its removal.

The methodology was revised when it was established via excavation in the south-west corner of the ring ditch and on-site consultation with Dr Richard Macphail (Institute of Archaeology, University College, London) that the overburden was loamy sand subsoil, derived from medieval agricultural practice (Macphail 2009, Appendix 4). This overlay and concealed the full extent of the mound material. With the subsoil characterised and dated, it was agreed that it could be removed by machine in order to fully expose the mound and ring ditch. Baulks were again left *in situ* so that full sections could be recorded.

All the excavated mound material was removed by hand and all finds were allocated an individual small find number and were three-dimensionally located using the TST. A minimum of twelve 1.6m wide slots (c.30%) were excavated through the ring ditch, with a further four slots (10%) set aside as contingency. This excavation methodology also applied to the outer ring ditch which was identified after the subsoil was machine-excavated.

4.3 Excavation and recording

For both sites, the following general recording methodology applied.

All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using SCCAS *pro-forma* sheets. Plans and sections were recorded at 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50 scales as appropriate, burials were recorded at a scale of 1:10, with associated small finds at 1:1. Monochrome photographs and digital images were taken of all relevant features and deposits. Levels were taken across the stripped area and for individual excavated features.

On completion of the excavation of the ring ditches a section drawing was produced at a scale of 1:20 of one side of each baulk, giving north to south and east to west profiles of the stratified layers and deposits.

Fifty-eight environmental samples of up to 40l were taken from relevant contexts to investigate possible survival of micro and macro-botanical remains, and twenty four of these were submitted for analysis (Appendices 6-8). A number of samples were suitable

for radiocarbon (C^{14}) dating, and will be submitted to the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC) for analysis. As noted above, site visits were made by soil micro morphologist Richard Macphail, and his reports are included as Appendix 4.

A home office licence was obtained for excavation of human remains. Burials, cremations and structural features were 100% excavated and other features such as pits were 50% excavated, unless it was demonstrated that they were structural elements, in which instance they were half-sectioned and then fully excavated. Between 30% and 100% of all linear features was excavated, with slots placed at representative intervals along their lengths.

Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal detected and hand collected finds were retained for inspection other than those that were obviously modern. As mentioned above, the location of small finds was recorded in three dimensions.

Aerial photography was carried out using a scaffold tower and a vehicle mounted mast system (http://www.higherview.co.uk) as appropriate.

Weather conditions were generally favourable for both phases of the project and the site itself was on free draining geology.

4.4 Post excavation review

The records generated by the excavation have all been cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. The context records and initial finds information have been entered on to an Access 2003 database (COG 028.mdb). Two phased context matrices have been produced in AutoCAD as a working tool and are included in the site archive. All records and finds from Stage 1 are kept under the site code COG 028, and from Stage 2 under COG 030. The physical archive is currently stored at Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service offices in Bury St Edmunds. The digital archive is located in the following folder:
R:\Environmental\Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\Current Recording Projects\Cornard Great\COG 028 and COG 030 Rugby Ground.

5 Site sequence: results of the fieldwork

5.1 Overview

Archaeological features, concentrated round the ring ditches, were encountered along an arc running north-west to south-east across the excavation area (Fig. 2). They were sealed by a medieval subsoil and later soil layers. Monument 1 was a single ring ditch 37m in diameter, up to 6.6m wide and 2.2m deep. Cremated human bone and a pair of Early Bronze Age bone tweezers were recovered from a small off-centre pit within it. The ditch showed phases of silting, followed by a deposit in its west side of a substantial assemblage of Anglo-Saxon material, apparently domestic waste, which included over 900 sherds of 6th-7th century pottery. To the northwest of Monument 1 a smaller ring ditch, 0512, enclosed a central pit that contained undated cremated remains and pyre debris. To the east of it, a pit containing burnt bone was recorded as cutting the subsoil on the northern side of the site, and it therefore appears to be medieval or later in date.

The more complex of the barrows, Monument 2, had an external diameter of 25m and comprised two unequally sized concentric ring ditches enclosing a large central grave that lay under vestiges of mound material up to 0.5m deep. Within the grave, which cut an earlier pit, was a crouched burial of a young adult female, furnished with a later Neolithic/earlier Bronze Age beaker vessel and an unusual necklace of large amber pieces and *c.*400 tiny black jet and white shell beads. Preliminary assessment indicates that this monument has at least two phases of construction. Other features included a secondary, crouched, infant inhumation (undated), and a large intrusive feature interpreted on site as an aborted robber-pit.

An isolated pit containing undated cremated remains and a possible marker post were excavated to the north of Monument 2.

Across the site, a number of tree-throws around the monuments may represent a forested landscape prior to clearance, with several hollows yielding worked flint that may predate or be contemporary to monument construction.

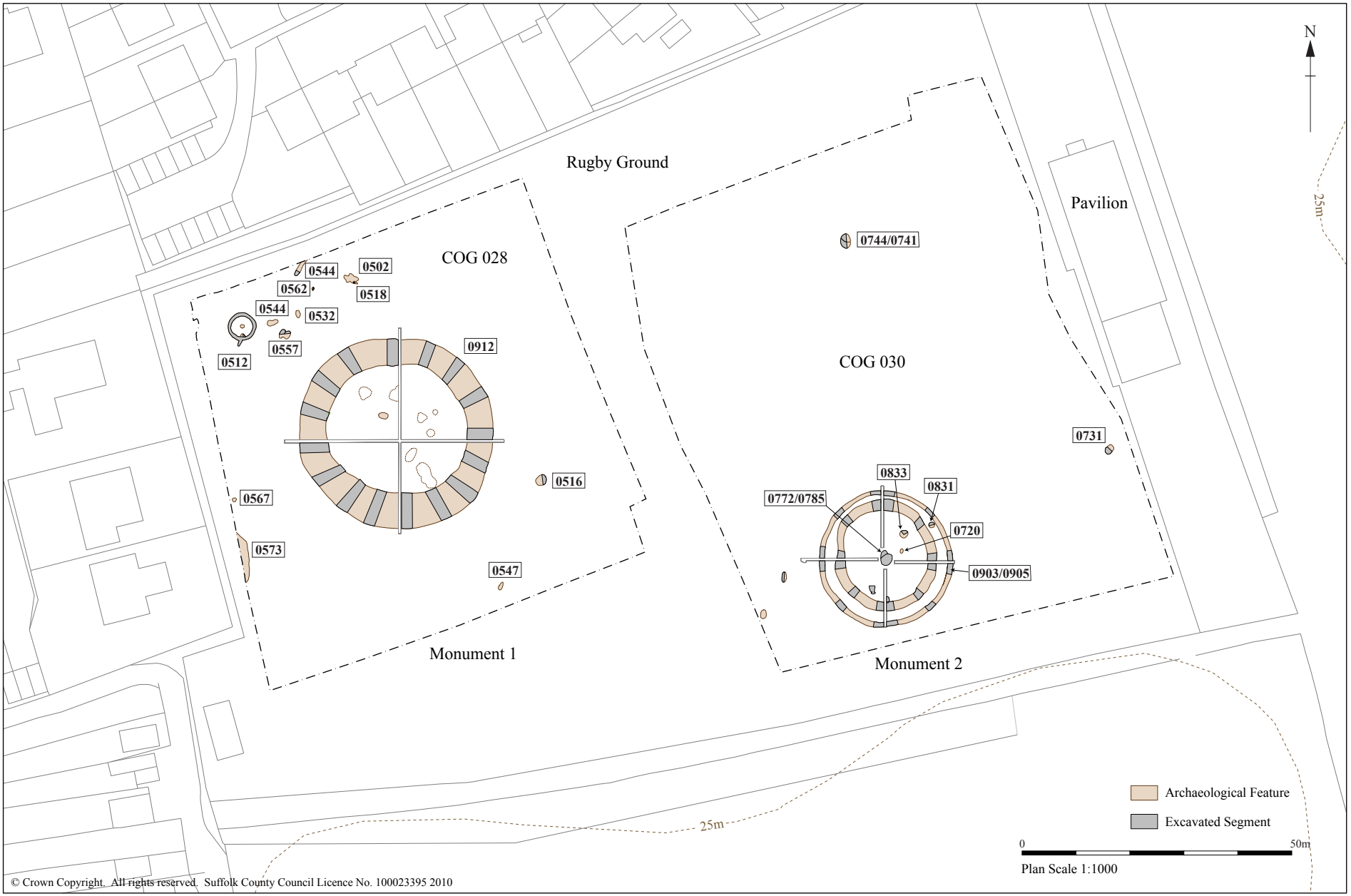


Figure 2. Excavated site plan

Indicative quantification of feature types is listed below:

Feature type	Number
Cremation pit	2
Hollows	10
Layers	3
Pits	5
Posthole	1
Ring ditches	4
Round barrows	2
Total	**27**

Table 1. COG 028 and COG 030 numbers of features by type

For ease of description, whilst separate context numbers from the segments will be essential for spatial analysis of the site, equivalent contexts in the ring ditches and barrows have been allocated group numbers at post-excavation stage. Full context descriptions are presented in Appendix 2. A table summarising each group and its associated small find numbers is presented in Appendix 11.

5.2 Tree throws and hollows (Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age)

The data shows that the area became a monumental funerary arena in the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age. Several features across the site are likely to relate to the pre-barrow landscape. Surviving underneath a more orange, up-cast barrow material (0784) from Monument 2 was a deposit of more clayey rich material over the natural (0788, not shown on section 7) which may represent relict subsoil. Numerous tree throws were identified across the excavation area. Although not well dated, there are examples that appear to have been cut by the outer of the double ditches of Monument 2 (0903), and some examples were cut by the ring ditch of Monument 1 (0912) (Figs. 3 and 5). A small sample of the tree throws was excavated (Table 2) but no finds were recovered. Tabulated here, they may not all have been of the same date:

Cut no.	Fill no(s).	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Sample no.
0542	0543	-	0.75	0.50	-
0547	0548	1.65	0.60	0.19	-
0552	0551	1.35	0.80	0.21	-
0554	0553	3.60	0.80	0.13	-
0561	0560	1.91	1.89	0.33	14
0731	0730	1.75	1.28	0.33	-
0733	0734	1.60	1.05	0.20	-

Table 2. Tree throws

Hollows across the site were probably in general of natural origin. A number were filled with mottled pale orange grey material and amorphous, and ten of these were excavated (Table 3). Some additional ones, however, contained worked flints, with fifty-

nine being retrieved from hollow 0544. These features were pale and leached. Hollow 0573, which was at least 1.45m wide by 9.35m long and 0.3m deep with gently sloping sides, extended beyond the western edge of the excavation area.. Twenty-four flints were recovered from its fill, 0574, a mid greyish brown sandy silt. These hollows may have been of natural origin, with worked flints accumulating in them through general taphonomic processes, or the depressions may have been used for or created by working. It might be hypothesised that this activity was contemporaneous with the construction/use of the barrows, and 0573, in proximity to Monument 1, may have been a flint working area. Two hollows which did not yield worked flint (0833 and 0835) were stratigraphically beneath Monument 1. These were sampled for the retrieval of macrofossils (see Appendix 13) but the environmental evidence was inconclusive. The presence of tree throws and hollows suggest pre-monument deforestation of a wooded landscape as well as general activity. Spatial analysis of worked flint may reveal further information on early phases of flintworking on the site.

Cut no.	Fill no(s).	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Finds	Sample no.
0538	0539	2.50	0.50	0.18	Worked flint	-
0544	0530; 0540	2.0	0.90	0.28	Worked flint	-
0557	0510	2.0	1.20	0.30	Worked flint	-
0562	0563	0.60	0.40	0.12	Worked flint	-
0726	0724; 0725	1.58	0.76	0.34	Worked flint	-
0739	0740	1.70	0.90	0.30	-	-
0833	-	1.20	0.90	0.12	-	52
0835	0834	3.20	1.07	0.17	-	53
0865	0866	1.10	0.50+	0.44	-	-

Table 3. Natural hollows

5.3 Monument 1 (COG 028, Ring ditch 0912) and associated features

Ring ditch 0912, on the mid-west side of the excavation area, produced the cropmark previously recorded as COG 004 (Fig 3). There was no observed trace of extant mound or bank material, and subsoil 0918 overlay the top of the ditch. Monument 1 was at the earliest of probable early Bronze Age date, and a well stratified finds sequence was recovered from the ditch fills, with the lower fills yielding four sherds of late-Neolithic/Early Bronze Age and upper fills yielding Anglo-Saxon finds. Cremation pit 0536 lay within its circuit.

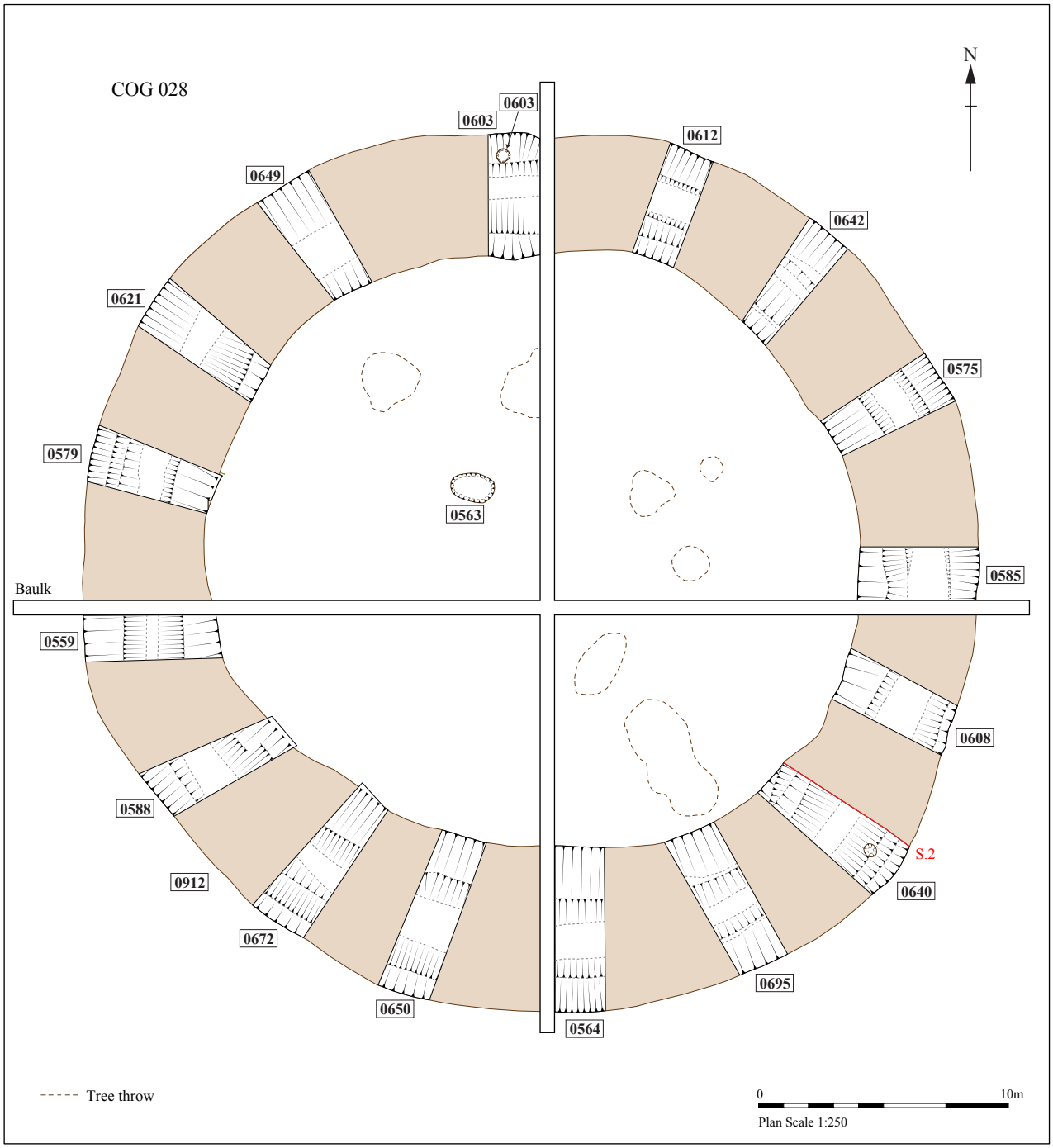


Figure 3. COG 028. Plan of Monument 1 and asssociated features

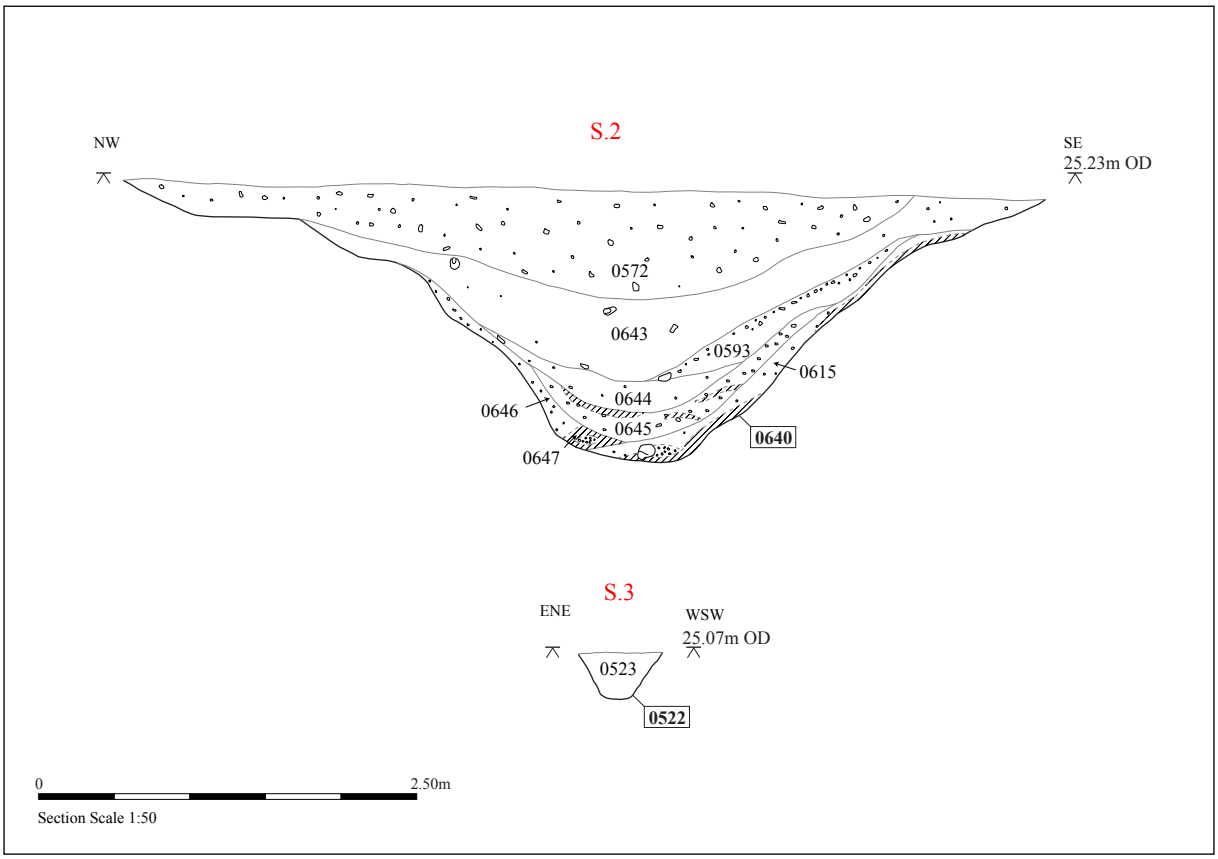


Figure 4. COG 028. Section of Monument 1 ditch (0912) and small ring ditch 0512

5.3.1 Cremation 0536

Cremation burial 0536 (Pl. 4) was not central to ditch 0912, lying in the north-west quadrant approximately 5m north-north-west of the centre. The use of monuments is complex, and with the loss of the upper levels it is not possible to certainly establish whether the cremation burial in the centre of the monument represents primary or secondary use. However, whilst its date and precise phasing in relation to the ditch are unknown, the features have spatial association and are broadly contemporary as far as is indicated by the current resolution of the finds evidence. The pit, 1.77m x 1.15m and 0.7m deep, was oval in plan, with steep, near vertical sides and a predominantly flat base. A rounded pile of cremated bone (0545) was recovered from the very base of the cut, in association with a pair of Early Bronze Age bone tweezers (SF1107). The burnt bone was of sufficient quantity and weight (c.2450g) to indicate that the grave more than likely contained the remains of an adult male. Fill 0541, a 0.26m thick deposit of mixed yellow, orange and brown sand, overlay the cremated bone and effectively lined the edge of the cut. The uppermost fill in the grave was mottled mid greyish brown silty sand (0537) 0.68m deep. Five flints were recovered, three of which were burnt, and environmental sampling yielded a quantity of black bindweed seeds.

5.3.2 Ring ditch 0912

Thirty per cent of the ring ditch was excavated in sixteeen slots and the location of all finds was three-dimensionally recorded using the TST. Overall, the ring ditch had an external diameter of 37m and an internal diameter of 25m, covering a maximum area of 1,074m^2, whilst the ditch itself was between 4.3m and 6.6m wide, varying in depth from 1.6m to 2.2m. It had a wide, slightly asymmetrical V-shape profile with an occasionally very gently sloping upper inside edge and a flat or slightly rounded base. Only the lowest fills seem to be of prehistoric date and primarily comprised weathered bands and lenses of mid brownish red gravels and reddish grey silts with an average depth of 0.37m. They are grouped together under the context number 0913 (represented by 0615 and 0645-7 on Fig. 4, section 2). This number covers between one and five separate and distinct episodes of erosion at the base of the cut of the ring ditch. In many instances, these weathered fills came near or right to the top of the cut. All ditch fill contexts are shown grouped in Table 4 below.

Context numbers	Group no.	Feature/deposit	
0597		Gravelly slump from outside edge.	
0675; 0622; 0651; 0589; 0664; 0648; 0617; 0550; 0630; 0572; 0571; 0580; 0549 (0556); 0576; 0685	0918	Subsoil slump into 0640	Saxon fills
0661; 0686; 0639; 0558; 0623; 0689; 0569; 0582	0917	Charcoal fill in west half of 0640	
0676; 0652; 0641; 0674; 0677; 0620; 0584; 0673; 0643; 0609; 0616; 0586; 0565 (got 0597 above this and below 0502); 0555; 0632; 0699	0914	Orange stoneless silty fill below 0610 (0917)	
0578; 0581; 0637; 0596;; 0618; 0593; 0680; 0633; 0682; 0669; 0653; 0683; 0701 & 0703	0916	Outer gravelly slump – bank material?	Prehistoric fills
0570; 0590; 0665; 0638; 0619; 0681; 0657; 0671; 0654; 0679; 0700; 0601; 0631	0921 and 0915	Dark grey silty below 0628 (0916)	
0694 & 0702; 0704 & 0705; 0670 & 0678; 0696, 0697 & 0698; 0658; 0688, 0687 & 0693; 0645, 0646, 0647 & 0615; 0626 & 0634; 0659; 0605; 0598 & 0599; 0662 & 0663; 0667; 0591, 0577, 0583, 0587 & 0592; 0692 (sandy lensed fill at base of [0649]	0913	Lowest gravelly erosion/weathered fills of 0640	
0559; 0564; 0575; 0579; 0585; 0588; 0603; 0608; 0621; 0629; 0642; 0649; 0650; 0672; 0684; 0695	0912	Cut for main ring ditch	

Table 4. Grouped contexts and fill sequence in ditch 0912

The next fill of the ditch was a dark greyish brown sandy silt 0921 (0644, section 2, Fig. 4). It overlay the prehistoric weathered gravels and silts in eleven of the sixteen fully-excavated slots. The fill varied in depth between 0.09m and 0.35m and mostly lay in the centre of the cut, although it occasionally spread up the sides to the top. One sherd of later Neolithic to earlier Bronze Age pottery, nineteen flints and an intrusive iron nail were recovered from this fill.

Ring ditch fill 0916 (represented by 0593 in section 2 (Fig. 4)) was mid orange brown silty sand with abundant gravels. It overlay 0921 and/or 0913. It was between 0.12m and 0.38m deep and present in all slots, with the exception of 0649, which contained sandy fills only. Only one slot (0672) contained evidence for more than one tip of material (0703 and 0701). It lay predominantly on the outside edge of the ditch cut and may have accumulated as a result of ploughing up to the edge of the cut. In some slots it was possible to see a small collection of rounded flint pebbles in the central and lowest part of the ditch. This tip of material could be interpreted as a change in land use from funerary to agricultural or abandonment, which caused the slippage of soil and the tumble of pebbles into the base of the ditch. One sherd of later Neolithic to earlier Bronze Age pottery was recovered.

A grey, humic-rich silty deposit then accumulated. Agricultural practices may account for the slow accumulation of relatively stone-free silt as the light soils became loose and easily eroded. On top of these, a band of fills containing Anglo-Saxon deposits with Roman finds represents both a further change in infill pattern of the ditches and a *terminus ante-quem* for the lower fills. The fills of the ditch are shown in Plate 3.

5.3.3 Anglo-Saxon deposit in ring ditch 0912

A significant deposit of Anglo-Saxon material in the upper fills of the ditch suggests that the monument remained a visible earthwork despite a period of hiatus and silting up of the ditches. Tip fill 0916 (represented by 0593 on section 2, Figure 4) was overlain by 0914, a widespread, largely stoneless mid orange brown sandy silt. It was up to 0.66m deep, containing sixty-two sherds of Anglo-Saxon domestic pottery, a few fragments of residual earlier pottery, 425 fragments of animal bone, flints (one burnt), pieces of CBM (Roman), fragments of fired clay and small finds including knife fragments. It was overlain by 0917 (represented by 0643 in Fig. 4), which seems to represent a deliberate infilling of the ditch and which comprised a very dark grey charcoal-rich deposit which extended from slot 0672 in the south-west quadrant, around the west half of the ring ditch to slot 0629, located just east of the northernmost slot. It was generally thinner towards its extents at no less than 0.11m and thickest (up to 0.45m) in the north-west slots and was visible on the surface at slot 0621 only. Another very large finds assemblage was recovered from this fill, including 804 sherds of Anglo-Saxon pottery, 1,406 fragments of animal bone and 143 flints (eighteen burnt). The Anglo-Saxon assemblage also contains residual Roman remains (with abrasion evident on some of the pottery), and it may be that the assemblage was derived from settlement or other activity in the vicinity, but not within the excavation area.

5.3.4 Anglo-Saxon pit

Although not directly related to Monument 1, a pit in the vicinity is the only further evidence of Anglo-Saxon occupation and may indicate a site exists beyond the excavation area. Sub-circular pit 0567 was located immediately adjacent to the west baulk. It was 0.72m in diameter by 0.17m deep and was filled by dark greyish brown silty clay (0566). A single sherd of Anglo-Saxon pottery (SF1174) was recovered.

5.3.5 Postholes associated with ring ditch 0912

Two postholes are spatially related to the ditch of Monument 1, although they are unphased. Circular posthole 0611, 0.5m in diameter, was located on the outside edge of the south-east quadrant of the ring ditch (0640), approximately halfway up the side of the ditch. It was 0.40m deep, u-shaped in profile and filled by a mid reddish brown sandy silt (0614) and a dark reddish brown silty sand (0615). The excavator noted that the upper fill was similar to the overlying ditch fill, and that the posthole may be broadly contemporary with the cut of the ditch. A second possible sub-circular posthole (0612) was identified in slot 0603, at the north edge of the ring ditch. It had vertical sides and a sloping base, was 0.62m wide and 0.25m deep. Fill 0613 was a dark reddish brown silty sand, similar in colour and composition to the anomalies in the natural. Both of these features were undated but given their position in the ring ditch cut are likely to be contemporary with its construction. Equally, the excavator also noted a similarity to natural solution hollows observed across the site. It is worth noting that there is a strong possibility that both these 'postholes' were actually of natural origin and were one of the many glacially derived dark orange gravel-filled crevices and spheres that were scattered across the development area and appeared in the light white fine gravels below the upper 0.30m to 0.40m of concreted gravelly silt natural. The postholes may or may not be representative of an aspect of the Monument.

5.4 Monument 2 COG 030 – double ditched barrow

Monument 2, represented by cropmark COG 005, was located near the south-west corner of the COG 030 excavation area (Fig 2). The monument, as surviving until excavation, comprised mound material underneath plough soil deposits and landscaping deposits for the rugby ground, a double ring ditch (0907 and 0903), and a central grave 0785 (containing inhumation 0874) that appeared to cut an earlier pit, 0864 (Figs. 5 - 7). Crouched burial 0713 had been placed in a later grave, cut into the mound (0720). General understanding is that these barrow monuments were long lived and saw continuing activity in the prehistoric period and beyond, and it is accepted that the enlargement or redefinition of monuments is likely to account for double ring ditches (see Lawson et al 1981, 23). Monument 2 does appear to be a compound feature. In this section, the disparate elements will be presented, followed by a comment on potential phasing.

5.4.1 Pit

A shallow pit, 0864, was observed at the bottom of the stratigraphic sequence, below mound material. It appeared to be located almost centrally to the inner of the ring ditches, 0907, and it was truncated by grave 0785. It had steep sides and a flat base and was 1.5m long by 1.25m wide by 0.15m deep. It was filled by 0863, a mid brownish orange sandy silt. The pit was cut by grave 0785, which may indicate two separate phases of central feature to the monument, although no finds were recovered from 0864.

5.4.2 Inhumation

Central grave (0785) contained the skeletal (but poorly preserved) remains of a crouched young adult female, whose head was oriented to the southwest (Fig. 6). A Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age Beaker vessel was found behind and slightly to the south of the skull, and a composite necklace was deposited on the other side of it. The beads are significant as they are of unusual composition, consisting of a large number of tiny jet and shell beads and a smaller number of larger amber beads – the latter in particular are unparalleled Early Bronze Age jewellery. These factors combine to furnish the necklace with national importance.

The grave was elliptical in plan. It had vertical sides and a flat base, and was 2.40m long by 1.85m wide by 1.52m deep (Fig. 7). Four fills were identified, the lowest of which, 0873, could have been produced as a result of the decomposition of burial 0874, although it may also represent some sort of wrapping or covering over the body. It was concreted by a very dark greyish brown sandy silt which had caused the overlying gravels to adhere to the skeleton, which contributed to their poor state of preservation. At the edge of this deposit was a thin band of what appeared to be charcoal, a sample of which was taken. A single tiny fragment of copper alloy (SF6312) was recovered from this fill. Fill 0870 was a white-ish grey gravel with lenses of dark brown silt. It partially overlay the skeleton. It was the first backfill of the grave and included some slumped material from the edge of the cut. Fill 0869 was mid greyish-brown silty sand and contained lenses of orange sand. It lay on the south-west side of the grave and was one of two large backfills which covered the later Neolithic to earlier Bronze Age beaker vessel (SF 3609) and bead necklace (SF 3611). The apparent rapidity with which this fill had slumped in and overlain the necklace provides a secure context for it

as a primary inclusion in the grave – it had not, for example, been impacted upon by later intrusions. Fill 0868 was the second backfill, lying on the north-east side of the grave and overlying 0870. The relationship between fills 0868 and 0869 was removed by the later pit 0772. The grave goods are the subject of Plate 1.

Layers 0867 and 0872 lay within grave 0785, at the top of the cut, but were not fills. Instead, both could be interpreted as dark, silty elements of mound material 0896 that had sagged into the grave as its contents settled, which may indicate that the grave was dug and backfilled before the mound was constructed. The lower, lighter part of the silty mound material (0737 and 0784) had also sagged into the top of the grave.

5.4.3 Mound

The mound of Monument 2 was broadly composed of two layers, the lower of which was silty (0900) and the upper gravelly (0902). Layer 0900 was mixed mid brown sandy silt with areas of orange gravels and mid to dark grey silts. Although cut by medieval and modern activity, it survived to a height of 0.50m above the undisturbed natural geology (0509). Overlying this was 0902, a very gravelly deposit within a mid brown sandy silt matrix. It was a maximum of 0.20m thick and formed the uppermost surviving mound deposit. Like 0900 it had been impacted upon by medieval and modern activity, and was directly overlain by a modern imported subsoil and topsoil (0728), which formed the playing surface of the former Sudbury Rugby Club. Below the level of truncation the mound was protected by an accumulation of subsoil (0901) that preserved its positive morphology.

A moderate quantity of finds was recovered from both mound layers and included twenty-seven sherds of prehistoric pottery, one hundred and four pieces of worked flint, one burnt flint, one burnt stone and one fragment of animal bone. As noted below, there are also later intrusive features. Later factors therefore complicate the stratigraphy of the monument, which may explain the presence of the CBM in context 0815. Whilst the mound material has been grouped into two broad layers, Figure 7 shows that there was variation within them which may represent a compound development (see below).

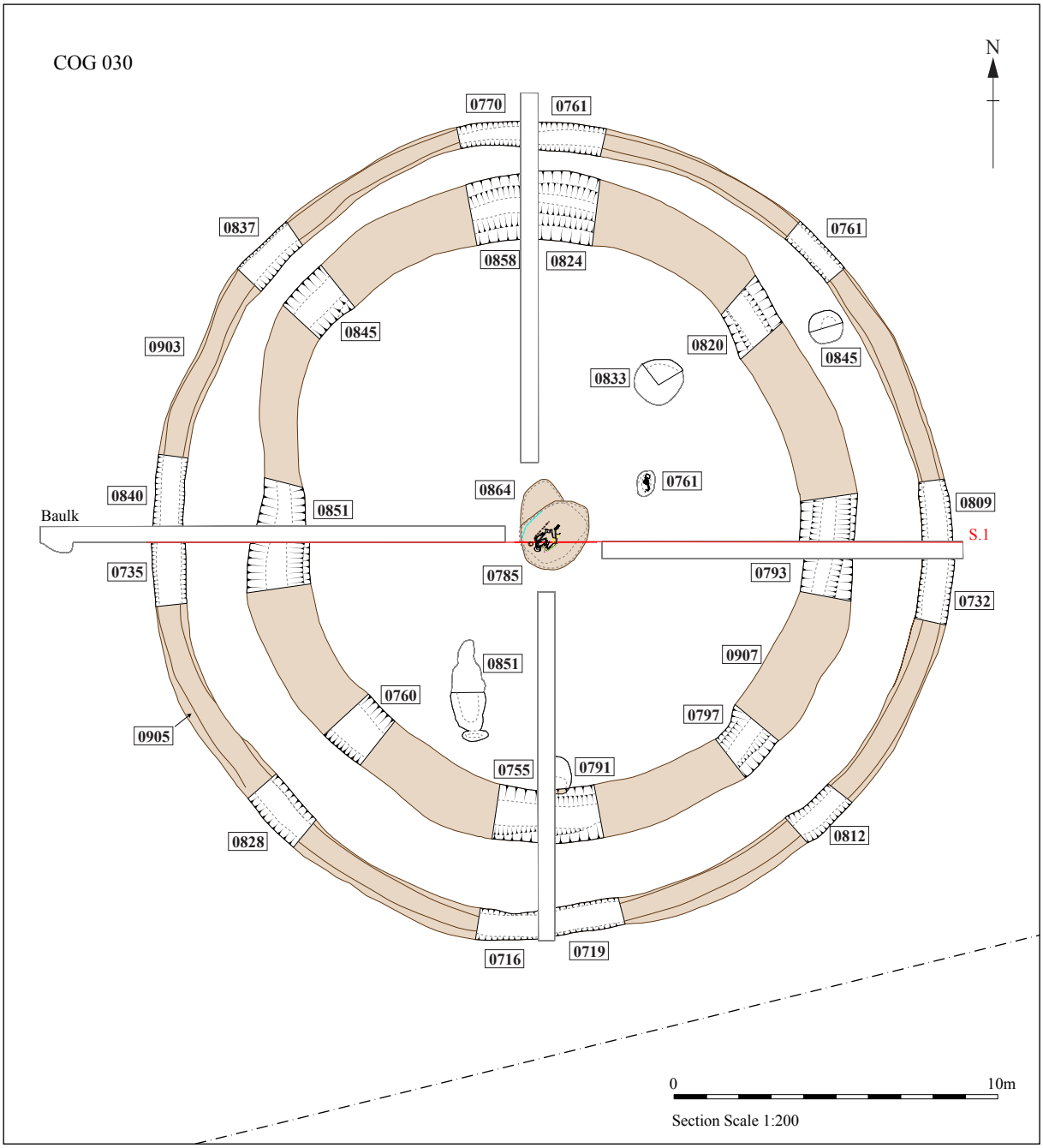


Figure 5. COG 030. Plan of Monument 2 and associated features

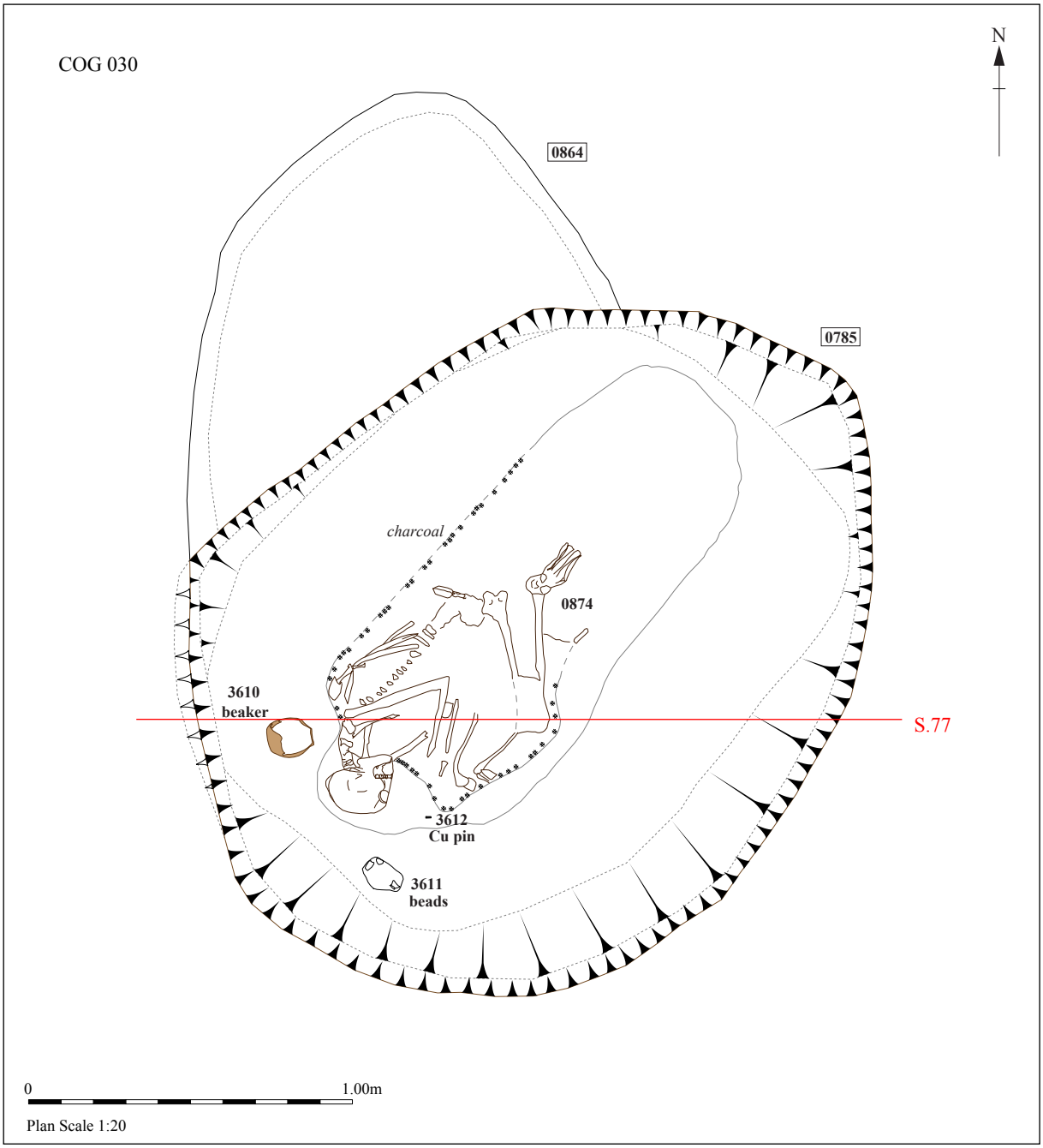


Figure 6. COG 030. Grave 0785 in Monument 2 with skeleton 0874 and grave goods

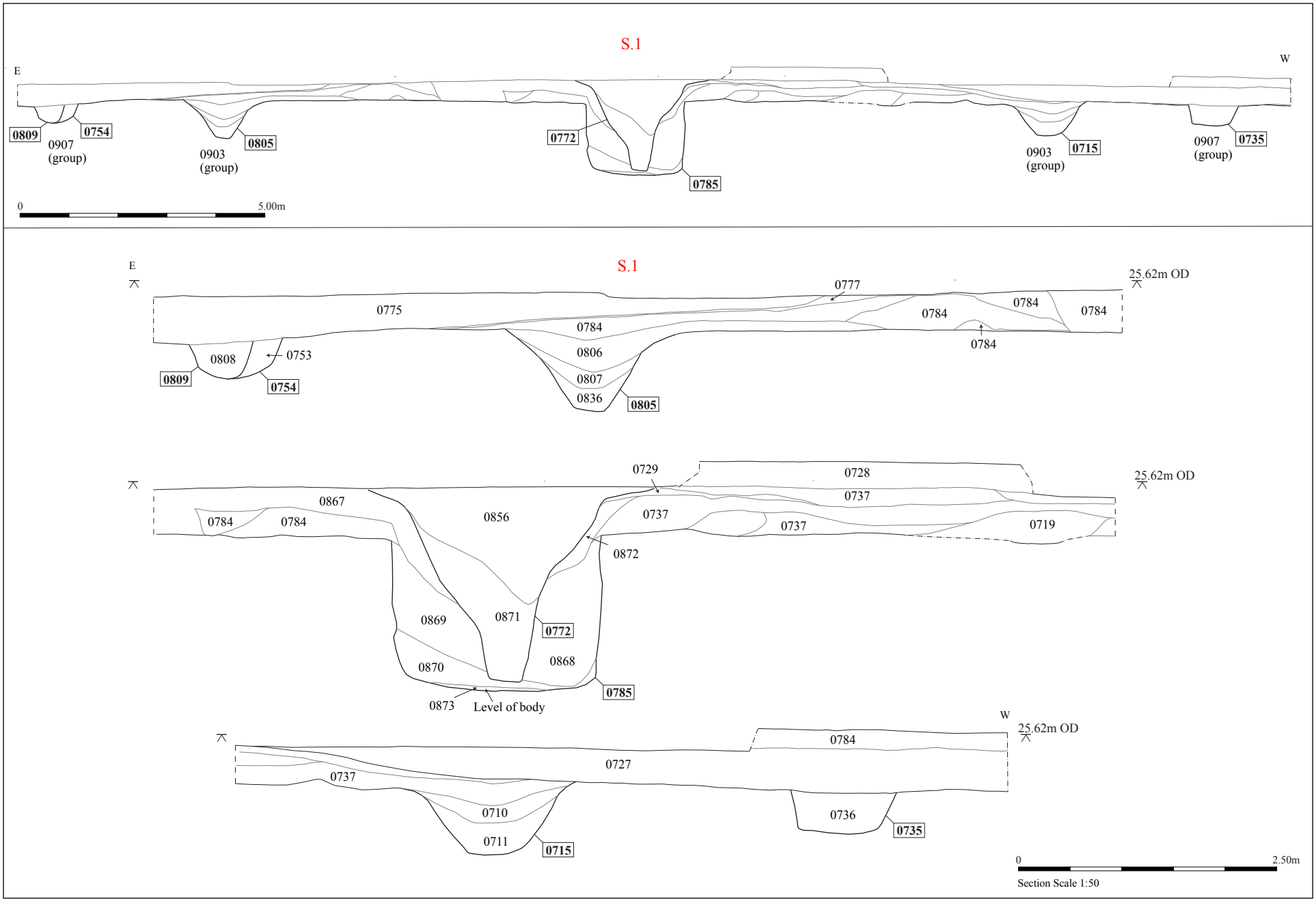


Figure 7. COG 030 Section of Monunment 2

It is proposed in this report that further stratigraphic analysis and modelling of the mound will add to understanding of its later history. For example, examine a 'ring' of soft, dark material had an apparent entrance in the south-west side, where the ring 'bulged' (0789) and from which two fragments of animal bone were recovered. One hypothesis is that this represents rabbit damage, but it will merit further consideration with the dated stratigraphic sequence.

	Group Number	SW Quadrant	SE Quadrant	NW Quadrant	NE Quadrant
Subsoil	0901	0727	0776	0857	0775
Gravelly mound material	0902	0709	0778	0815	0777
Silty mound material	0900	0737 (including 0792 and 0763)	0787 (incl: 0804, where fill is in ditch)	0816 (incl: 0859, where fill is in ditch))	0784

Table 5. Grouped contexts in Monument 2 mound

5.4.4 Ring ditches

The inner ring ditch (0907) had an external diameter of 20m, an internal diameter of 16m and covered a maximum area of 314m^2. The ditch varied in width from 1.54m to 2m and had a maximum depth of 1m. It had steep sides like those of a 'V' and a flat-base, and was filled by between two and four fills, the earliest of which was 0893, a dark orange/greyish brown silty sand. Overlying fill 0848 was present in slot 0845 only, and was a mid orange gravelly slump of the exposed sides. Fill 0892 was mid orange grey lensed silt denoting the rapid in-washing of silts and sands (from the mound). The uppermost fill was 0891 mid orange brown sandy silt. Very few finds were recovered from inner ring ditch 0715, but the assemblage included ten sherds of earlier Neolithic and later Neolithic/earlier Bronze Age pottery, and twenty-one worked flints. The inner ditch is shown in Plate 2. The layered fills may be the result of washed material from a mound, but Section 7 shows that mound material also seals the fills of this ditch. This could indicate: a contemporary ditch and mound with a late slump of mound material once the ditch had been filled in; or that the ditch had in fact silted up prior to construction or the mound; or that the mound had been enlarged over it, with fills derived from mound slump both within and over the ditch.

Context Nos	Group No	Deposit
0710, 0756, 0766, 0799, 0794, 0798, 0806, 0822, 0825, 0846, 0852, 0860	0911	Stoneless upper silty fill
0795, 0802, 0807, 0765, 0826, 0847, 0853, 0861, 0711, 0767, 0765, 0800	0910	Orange/grey lensed
0848	-	Orange gravel slump
0768, 0801, 0796, 0803, 0836, 0820, 0827, 0849, 0854, 0862	0909	Earliest gravel/silt fill
0715, 0755, 0760, 0791, 0793, 0797, 0805, 0814, 0824, 0845, 0851, 0858	0907	Cut

Table 6. Grouped context numbers and fill sequence for Monument 2 inner ring ditch (0907)

The outer ring ditch, 0903, was situated 1m to 2m outside of ring ditch 0907 and had been re-cut on the same alignment by ring ditch 0905. These ring ditches had an approximate external diameter of 25m and enclosed an area of 415m^2. Ring ditch 0903 appears to have had a regular flat-based profile with sloping sides like those of a 'v'. It was on average 0.8m wide (although over 1m wide and 0.46m deep in places). The single fill (0904) was mid-orange/grey-brown silty sand from which one worked flint and eight burnt flints were recovered. Re-cut 0905 had a similar profile to ring ditch 0903 and was 0.6m-0.9m wide, and up to 0.45m deep. The fill (0906) was mid greyish brown sandy silt from which sixteen worked flints, nineteen burnt flints and 38g of slag were recovered. In slot 0735/0736, only one cut was observed and it was not clear whether this was the original ditch or the re-cut.

The inner and outer ditches are different in profile and fill character, and whilst the inner was filled by a series of slumped deposits, the outer showed a more simple fill pattern. This difference may arise simply from the fact that the ditches had different spatial relationships to both the mound and the effects of farming and other activities outside the monument, but it could also indicate that they are of different dates. Environmental samples from the outer ditch, 41 and 48, showed evidence of a higher level of grassland plants that stood out from other assemblages (Appendix 14). This suggests a different origin for material in the deposits in the ditch, or a change in environment.

Context Nos	Group No	Deposit
0751, 0753, 0758, 0817, 0762, 0774, 0783, 0813, 0838, 0841, 0843.	0904	Fill
0752, 0754, 0759, 0761, 0769, 0780, 0781, 0812, 0837, 0840, 0842	0903	Cut

Table 7. Grouped context numbers and fill sequence for outer ring ditch 0903

Context Nos	Group No	Deposit
0750, 0779, 0719, 0782, 0844, 0839, 0823, 0808, 0811, 0757, 0830	0906	Fill
0716, 0717, 0718, 0732, 0770, 0786, 0790, 0809, 0810, 0828, 0829	0905	Cut

Table 8. Grouped context numbers and fill sequence for outer ring ditch 0905

5.4.5 Pit 0831

Pit 0831 was located between the circuits of ring ditches 0903 and 0907, approximately 9m north-east of grave 0785. It was sub-circular in plan and had an uneven, u-shaped profile. It was filled by dark greyish brown silty sand (0832). It is unphased, although likely to be prehistoric.

5.4.6 Secondary interment 0720

Grave 0720 was located on the north-east side of Monument 2, cut into mound material (Pl. 6). It was 0.8m long by 0.6m wide and no more than 0.08m deep. It contained skeleton 0713, a 'crouched' juvenile of c.4 years of age, lying on its right side, facing west. There were no grave goods with the burial, although the elbows were supported/resting on a flint nodule. Grave fill 0721 was mid dark brown sandy silt, very similar to that of the underlying mound material. Because of the similarity between fill 0721 and the underlying mound material (0737) it was difficult to determine the extent of the grave cut. A very small quantity of animal bone (part of a sheep/goat tibia) was recovered from the sample (no. 35), but this may have simply been redeposited with the up-cast material from excavation of the grave (i.e. mound material).

5.4.7 Pit 0772

A feature interpreted during excavation as a robber pit, 0772, was located at the approximate centre of Monument 2, cutting the fills of grave (0785). The pit was oval in plan and had a steep-sided, flat-based, tapering profile. It was 2.74m wide by 1.90m deep and filled by mid orange brown silty sand (0871) and greyish brown silty sand (0856). Two flints and some fragments of Beaker pottery (SF4279) were recovered, although the fragments may have been dislodged during excavation from fill 0873 of the underlying grave. Although undated, the upper fills of the pit were distinctly different in character from the mound material and grave fills. Later 'robber pits' are frequently encountered at barrow sites, particularly due to the activities of early antiquarians. An interesting feature of this pit, though, is that it seems to have been terminated close to the human remains within the dark grave fill. The feature is worthy of further research and consideration – for example, certain aspects of the pit – particularly its profile – may

indicate that it could have been a large posthole. A charcoal sample was retrieved from the lower fill, 0871, which may indicate the presence of timber, or may indicate disturbance of the grave fill beneath. The pit cut feature 0712, and is therefore likely to be medieval or later.

5.4.8 Feature 0712

A feature interpreted as a tree throw, 0712, was located near the centre of the mound of barrow 0895 and disturbed its gravel and silt layers. It was at least 0.57m deep and was approximately 3.00m long. It was overlain by the modern topsoil only and located at the point where the mound had been levelled to prepare the rugby pitches. Three sherds of medieval pottery, four fragments of CBM and seven worked flints were recovered. It was observed to be cut by pit 0772.

5.4.9 Note on phasing of Monument 2

The monument seems to show compound development (Fig. 5). The central grave cuts an earlier pit, there is a stratigraphic relationship where mound material lies over the fill of the inner ditch, and the ditches may be of different phases. The ditches are slightly offset in relation to each other, which may indicate that they were cut at different times rather than as part of one overall initial design concept. It may also be possible to make out a buried bank within the mound material on section 7 (0719) which may suggest that an earlier upstanding monument consisting of a circular bank rather than a mound was enlarged (consistant with the addition of another ditch that would have generated more spoil). The potentially earlier features could, then, be ‘paired’ to create a hypothetical two-stage development of the monument, with a new central burial mound and outer, later ditch added to the earlier pit and inner ring ditch. Spatially, earlier pit 0864 is apparently more central to the inner ring ditch (0907), whilst grave 0785 is perhaps in the centre of the outer ditch, 0903, which lends support to this hypothesis. The truncation of the mound makes it difficult to model its formation process. There may be more than two phases of addition and re-use, with disparate elements added at different times, and further stratigraphic assessment, which includes spatial finds and environmental data, is needed. Dispersed Beaker sherds (from a second pot, in context 0737) and human remains could support an interpretation of re-modelling of the site, but may also relate to secondary or satellite burials - it should be anticipated that use and deposition at the site (perhaps of cremations, and not necessarily buried) would add extra considerations to spatial analysis. These observations are based on an

assumption that the development of the site is largely prehistoric, but there is also a need to consider all the finds evidence and potential developments in subsequent centuries.

5.5 Other features across the site

Other features across the site are indicative of the wider and/or perhaps repeated use of this area as a funerary landscape. They, with one exception, predate medieval subsoil layers but are as yet undated.

5.5.1 Pit

Pit 0722 was located in the south-east corner of the COG 030 excavation area. It was oval in plan and had a wide, shallow, u-shaped profile. It was filled by 0723, a dark orange brown sandy silt, from which a single blade-like worked flint was recovered. Although undated the pit is likely to be prehistoric.

5.5.2 Small ring ditch and cremation

Ring ditch 0920 and its central pit 0503 (Fig. 8) were located in the north-west corner of the site (Pl. 5). Overall the feature was 5.45m in diameter, covering an area of 24m^2, with the ditch itself measuring between 0.45m and 0.60m wide and varying in depth between 0.21m and 0.35m. Central pit 0503 was 0.66m in diameter by 0.35m deep. The ring ditch had a round-based, v-shaped profile, except on the south-east side, where the sides of the cut were near vertical and gave a regular-shaped profile. The single fill 0513 was light brown silty sand from which fifteen flints, including a scraper (SF1070), were recovered. The fill was stonier down the outer edge. Fifty per cent of ring ditch 0920 was sampled for the retrieval of micro- and macrofossil remains, the results of which can be seen in Appendix 12. Whilst the general appearance of the fills is suggestive of a prehistoric feature, in contrast to the other ring ditch fills which contained finds of prehistoric pottery and worked flints, no pottery was recovered from the fills of this feature. This may be a reflection of differences in activity across the site but, mindful of Anglo-Saxon activity on the site, it may also be a reflection of the date of the feature, which may well prove to be later.

Central pit 0503 contained two fills. The lower, 0505, was mid orange brown sandy silt and the upper, 0504, was very dark brownish grey sandy silt. Cremated adult human

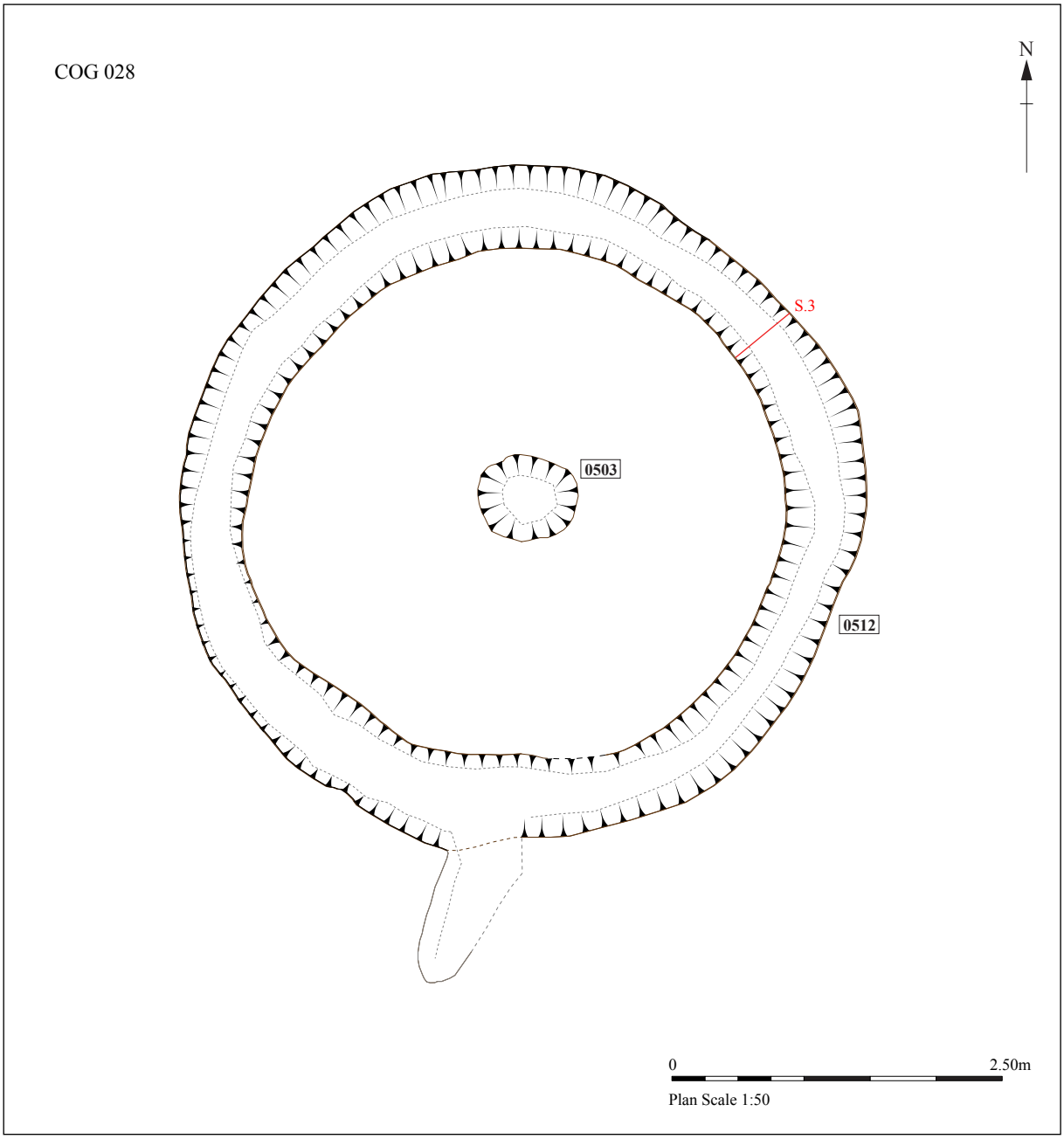


Figure 8. COG 030. Small ring ditch 0512

bone was recovered from 0504, suggesting that either a cremation or pyre deposit was placed in the pit.

Context Nos.	Group No.	
0506, 0514, 0516, 0520, 0522, 0524, 0526, 0528, 0530, 0532, 0534	0920	Cut
0507, 0515, 0517, 0521, 0523,0525, 0527, 0529, 0531, 0533, 0535	0919	Fills

Table 9. Group context numbers for small ring ditch 0920

5.5.3 Cremation pit and possible marker post

Cremation pit 0741 was located 45m north of Monument 2, near the north-east corner of the excavation area. It was sub-circular in plan with a flat-based u-shaped profile, truncated on the north side by posthole 0744. Pit 0741 survived to 0.78m long by 0.74m wide and was 0.38m deep. It was filled by 0742 dark grey brown sandy silt and 0743 mid brownish grey sandy silt, from which approximately 500g of cremated adult human skeletal remains only was recovered. Marker posthole 0744 was oval in plan with a u-shaped profile. It was 0.72m long by 0.56m wide and 0.36m deep. It was filled by 0747 mid orangey grey brown silt and 0745 light brownish grey silty sand, the latter of which showed evidence for a post-pipe. Post-pipe 0749 was circular in plan and was located almost centrally within posthole 0744. It had a flat-based, u-shaped profile and was filled by 0746 light yellowish grey sand. No finds were recovered. The small quantity of bone present suggests that perhaps the full skeleton was not present.

5.5.4 Pit 0518

Undated burnt pit 0518 was recorded during machining as cutting subsoil and it may well be medieval or later. However, it contained a large quantity of burnt bone. It was observed by the excavator that the base of the pit, which was encountered at the level of natural geology, had been subject to heat and it was suggested that the deposit was still hot when placed in the pit. It was located near the northern limit of excavation and was sub-circular in plan with a wide, u-shaped profile. It was just under 0.40m in diameter by 0.14m deep and was filled by mid grey sandy silt (0519). No other finds were recovered, but the fill did contained frequent flecks of burnt bone. At the time of excavation, it was not clear whether the bone was human or animal, and sample 3 needs processing so that the deposit can be further analysed and, potentially, radiocarbon dated.

5.6 Subsoil build up

Subsoil overlay almost all the archaeological features and consisted of two distinctly coloured but texturally similar layers, the lower of which was 0568 and the uppermost was 0502/0727. Layer 0568 was dark grey brown loam and was located at (and extended beyond) the south edge of excavation area. The darker colour of 0568 – in comparison with 0502/0727 – is due to leaching and down-profile clay translocation into this subsoil layer (Macphail 2009) (Appendix 4). The depth of this layer varied between 0.05m and 0.30m deep and filled two large depressions at the point where the land sloped away to the south from the plateau on which ring ditch 0912 stood. Three small flints were recovered. The overlying, lighter subsoil (0502/0727) was present across the development area and was mid greyish brown loam. Overall, it was no more than 0.50m deep, except over ring ditch 0912 where it had sagged in to the cut as the earlier fills settled. Its greatest recorded depth over the ring ditch was 0.85m.

Two slight variations in the subsoil were seen in ring ditch 0912 and also overlying the ring ditch of Monument 2. In ring ditch 912, light greyish brown gravel 0597 was present in slot 0564 only. It was very similar to the overlying slumped subsoil (0502), but contained a higher proportion of gravels. Layer 0771 was mid brown sandy silt with slightly higher (than 0727) flint gravel content, and was identified over slot 0755 (ring ditch 0715) only. No finds were recovered from either deposit.

A varied finds assemblage was recovered, which included a large quantity of worked flint, CBM, fired clay and a fragment of clay tobacco pipe, as well as a number of metal-detected small finds of medieval, post-medieval and unknown date, including iron nails and the tip of a possible post-medieval knife scabbard. The loamy subsoil accumulated as a result of medieval agricultural practice (Macphail 2009) (Appendix 4).

Towards the end of the modern period, probably in the either late 19th or early 20th century, the development area was acquired for use as what became Sudbury Rugby Club. From the archaeological record it is apparent that the land was levelled, which resulted in the loss of the top section of round barrow 0895, and new, imported topsoil was instated. Modern topsoil 0501/0728 overlay the subsoil(s) (Section 1). It was 0.25m deep mid greyish brown sandy silt and contained abundant small particles of chalk and CBM. It was very compact and displayed broad platy structures, the product of machine

rolling (Macphail 2009) (Appendix 4) for preparation of the former rugby pitches. Over COG 030, a thin modern subsoil of similar composition to the topsoil was also present (but not separately numbered). A number of post-medieval metal fragments including coins, tokens and rugby boot studs were recovered by metal-detecting throughout topsoil stripping. The almost continuous use of the site for agriculture since the Anglo-Saxon period has ensured that the land remained open and undeveloped until the 20th century.

6 Quantification and Assessment of Finds and Environmental Data

6.1 Introduction

Preliminary assessment of the finds has informed the stratigraphic analysis and phasing of the site. This section presents specialist reports that quantify and assess the potential of the assemblages. The majority of the finds recovered span the prehistoric (Neolithic-Iron Age), Roman and Anglo-Saxon periods, with small quantities of medieval and post-medieval finds. The bead necklace accompanying the burial in 0785 at the centre of the double ring ditch is unusual, if not unique, and is of national importance. Also of significance is a pair of bone tweezers (SF 1107) which came from the cremation burial/pit with pyre debris 0536 inside ring ditch 0640.

6.2 Quantification and assessment of the bulk finds archive

Stephen Benfield

6.2.1 Introduction

Table 10 shows the quantities of particular finds types recovered and processed from the excavation. Full quantification of the bulk finds categories by context is included as Appendix 5 (COG 028) and Appendix 6 (COG 0308). Individual items (small finds) are listed in Appendices 8 and 9. In addition to the finds listed in Table 10 and the small finds, quantities of human skeletal remains were recovered as cremated bone (2555g) and as inhumed skeletal remains.

Find type	No.	Wt (g)
Pottery	1129	7744
Ceramic building material (CBM)	65	3511
Fired clay	101	426
Worked flint	1697	1851*
Burnt flint	98	2116
Other heated/burnt stone	11	1659
Animal bone	66	22
Slag	1	124
Clay pipe	1	5
Coal	1	2

Table 10. Bulk finds quantities for COG 028 & COG 030

6.2.2 Prehistoric pottery

Sarah Percival

Introduction

Prehistoric pottery was recovered from several ring ditches and other contexts excavated on two site areas, COG 028 & COG 030 (Tables 11 and 12). In total ninety-two sherds were recovered, together weighing 973g, and these are listed in Appendix 7. The assemblage includes a complete Beaker, deposited as an accessory vessel with a crouched inhumation plus fragmentary sherds redeposited within the ring ditches and mound material. The majority of the pottery is of later Neolithic to earlier Bronze Age and earlier Bronze Age date. Small quantities of earlier Neolithic pottery were also recovered.

Spot Date	Quantity	Weight (g)
Earlier Neolithic	4	20
Later Neolithic To Earlier Bronze Age	13	99
Earlier Bronze Age	15	100
Iron Age	3	18
Not Closely Datable	3	5
Total	**38**	**242**

Table 11. Pottery from site area COG 028

Spot Date	Quantity	Weight (g)
Earlier Neolithic	13	27
Later Neolithic To Earlier Bronze Age	33	694
Earlier Bronze Age	2	7
Not Closely Datable	6	3
Total	**54**	**731**

Table 12. Pottery from site area COG 030

Methodology

The assemblage was analysed using the pottery recording system described in the Norfolk Archaeological Unit Pottery Recording Manual and in accordance with the Guidelines for analysis and publication laid down by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (PCRG 1992; 1997). The total assemblage was studied and a full catalogue was prepared (Appendix 7). The sherds were examined using a binocular microscope (x10 magnification) and were divided into fabric groups defined on the basis of inclusion types present. Fabric codes were prefixed by a letter code representing the main inclusion type: F representing flint, G grog and Q quartz). Vessel form was also recorded: R representing rim sherds, B base sherds, D decorated sherds and U undecorated body sherds. The sherds were counted and weighed to the nearest whole

gram. Decoration and abrasion were also noted. The pottery and archive are curated by Suffolk County Council.

Site Area COG 028: Earlier Neolithic

Four undecorated flint-tempered body sherds were recovered from ring ditch 640 fills (0690 and 610). The sherds have been given a tentative earlier Neolithic date and appear to have been residual within material which was back-filled or weathered into the ring ditches. The sherds are not closely datable within the earlier Neolithic period.

Site Area COG 028: Later Neolithic To Earlier Bronze Age

Sherds of later Neolithic to earlier Bronze Age and earlier Bronze Age type have been catalogued separately based on diagnostic fabric but are considered here together as it is likely that they are, at least broadly, contemporary.

The assemblage from COG 028 contains few diagnostic sherds with only two decorated pieces and the no rims or bases. Examination of the fabrics suggests two broad groups are present, sherds made of flint and grog-tempered fabrics are similar to later Neolithic to earlier Bronze Age Beaker from the region whilst those with numerous medium to large, sub-angular grog inclusions are more like the earlier Bronze Age urns. The decorated sherds have fingertip-impressed and impressed decoration and are likely to be from Beakers.

All of the later Neolithic to earlier Bronze Age and earlier Bronze Age pottery was found in the backfill of the ring ditches. Beakers and urns were utilised in both domestic and funerary roles. Given the re-deposited and fragmentary nature of the pottery the origin of the present assemblage is uncertain.

Site Area COG 028: Iron Age

The three pieces of possible Iron Age pottery in smooth, sandy fabric with small flints and mica are also small, undecorated body sherds. A tentative Iron Age date has been assigned to these sherds although the presence of mica within the fabric might suggest that they are Saxon.

Site Area COG 028: Not Closely Datable

Six small scraps of pottery weighing 5g are prehistoric but are otherwise not closely datable.

Site Area COG 030: Earlier Neolithic

A total of thirteen sherds weighing 27g have been identified as being earlier Neolithic (Table 13, see also Appendix 7). The assemblage contains rims from two vessels, a Mildenhall Ware bowl and a Peterborough Ware vessel, plus a further ten body sherds from unidentified forms.

Vessel Type	Quantity	Weight (g)	Pottery Date
Mildenhall Ware	2	7	Earlier Neolithic c 3600-2900 BC
Peterborough Ware	1	11	Earlier Neolithic c 3400-2500 BC
Uncertain	10	9	
Total	**13**	**27**	

Table 13. Quantity and weight of earlier Neolithic pottery by type

All of the earlier Neolithic pottery is made of flint-tempered fabric. The Mildenhall Ware vessel has an externally thickened rim with an incised herringbone motif to the rim top similar to examples from Kilverstone (Garrow et al 2006). The Peterborough Ware rim is in-turned with cord-impressed herringbone on rim top and the outer and inner rim edge.

Site Area COG 030: Later Neolithic To Earlier Bronze Age

A total of thirty-five sherds weighing 701g have been identified as being later Neolithic or earlier Bronze Age (Table 14).

A complete Beaker, (0871), had been deposited as an accessory vessel accompanying a crouched inhumation. The small sinuous vessel is finely made of granular sandy fabric with common, small, orange grog and occasional small, angular flints. The Beaker has elaborate, but poorly executed comb-impressed bands running horizontally around the body of the vessel. The upper three bands, situated below the rim, on the neck and on the girth of the vessel, each comprise parallel triple bands of impressed decoration in-filled with comb-impressed herringbone motif. The forth and lowest band is plain. The decorative bands all run at an angle around the vessel giving a lopsided appearance and the potter has had to change the herringbone motif on the central band to accommodate an error.

Sherds from a second Beaker decorated with impressed lines and circles were recovered from deposit (0737), which perhaps represents ploughed out mound material infilling the top of the ring ditch.

Vessel Type	Quantity	Weight (g)	Spot Date
Beaker	25	658	Later Neolithic-Earlier Bronze Age c 2600-1800 BC
Grooved Ware	5	26	Later Neolithic-Earlier Bronze Age c 3000-2000 BC
Uncertain	3	10	
Uncertain	2	7	Earlier Bronze Age
Total	**35**	**701**	

Table 14. Quantity and weight of later Neolithic to Early Bronze Age pottery by type

Five sherds of Grooved Ware were recovered from three contexts from the mound and infilling of ring ditch (0752). The sherds have characteristic shallow incised channels and are made of granular fabric containing dark grog and sand. The remainder of the sherds have later Neolithic to earlier Bronze Age or earlier Bronze Age fabrics but are not identifiable to a particular form.

Site Area COG 030: not closely datable

A total of six sherds weighing 3g are prehistoric but are otherwise not closely datable.

Significance of the prehistoric pottery assemblage

The assemblage from the site area COG 028 represents a small and entirely redeposited collection of sherds of earlier Neolithic to Iron Age date. The bulk of the pottery is of later Neolithic to earlier Bronze Age date and comprises vessels which could either be residual debris from domestic use predating the construction of the ring ditches, or may equally be from ploughed out accessory vessels from secondary burials. The pottery is of interest in providing background data and dating within the context of the site but is not a significant assemblage in its own right.

Site area COG 030 produced a more substantial assemblage including earlier Neolithic and later Neolithic to earlier Bronze Age forms. The mix of Beaker and Grooved Ware is similar to that from pits and funerary monuments excavated at Flixton (Percival 1998) which would provide a useful regional parallel, as would other Stour Valley comparisons. The association of the Beaker with surviving human bone provides an opportunity for a useful radiocarbon date for the vessel.

6.2.3 Roman pottery

Stephen Benfield

Introduction

In total there are forty sherds of Roman pottery, together weighing 250g and with a total EVE (estimated vessel equivalence) of 0.34. The average weight of the sherds is approximately 6.4g. The pottery is listed by fabric in Table 15 and is listed by context in Table 16. The pottery fabric codes refer to the Suffolk Roman fabric series and the form types refer to the Pakenham (Suffolk) types series (unpublished).

Fabric	Code	No	Wt/g	Eve
Central Gaulish samian	SACG	1	1	
Black surface ware	BSW	7	28	
Grey micaceous wares, black-surfaced	GMB	5	23	0.12
Miscellaneous red coarse wares	RX	2	5	
Miscellaneous sandy grey wares	GX	23	180	0.22
Storage jar fabrics	STOR	2	13	
Total		**40**	**250**	**0.34**

Table 15. Roman pottery fabric quantities

Context	Fabric	type	Form	No	Wt(g)	Eve	Abr	Comments	Spot date
0500	RX	lid	8.1	2	5			sandy oxid., joining sherds (Eve 0.07)	?E Rom
0500	GMB	b		1	5		*		Rom
0550	SACG	b		1	1		*	surface flake	2C
0550	BSW	b		1	6		*		Rom
0555	GX	b		2	4		*		Rom
0558	GX	b		2	43			hard fired	Rom
0569	GX	r	6.18.31	1	7	5	**	poss v abraded rim from the bowl	M2-M3C
0569	GX	r	6.18.31	1	5	5	*	same pot as 0586	M2-M3C
0569	GX	ba		13	99		*	SV bowl	Rom
0576	BSW	b		2	9		*		Rom
0586	GX	b		2	10		*		Rom
0586	GX	r	6.18.31	2	12	12	*	same pot as 0569	M2-M3C
0609	BSW	b		3	3		*		Rom
0661	GMB	r	6.3	2	9	12		bowl, joining sherds	1-2C
0677	GMB	b		2	9				Rom
0685	BSW	b		1	10		**		Rom
0686	STOR	b		1	13		*	grog-tempered	LIA/E Rom

Table 16. Roman pottery fabric quantities

Discussion and significance of the Roman pottery assemblage

The pottery was recovered from twelve numbered contexts (fills) in the ring ditch 0640. Small numbers of Roman sherds were recovered from several context groups (Table

16). These are as follows: three sherds (weighing 10g) recovered while machining the surface of the ring ditch (0500); five sherds (weighing 26g) from 0502 (0550, 0576, 0685); eleven sherds (weighing 38g) from 0690 (0555, 0586, 0609, 0677); twenty-one sherds (weighing 176g) from 0610 (0558, 0569, 0661, 0686).

Almost all of the pottery is abraded, so it appears that it was not freshly broken when it entered these contexts. However, soil conditions may also be a factor affecting the condition of the pottery. This is indicated by a small number of sherds which probably represent a section, or large sherd from single pot, which was probably further broken in or close to the ring ditch and these are similarly abraded. It can be noted that overall, the small size of the sherds in relation to their thickness suggests that they have reached a point at which further breakage, under normal circumstances, would probably not occur.

While much of the pottery cannot be closely dated, a number of sherds can be dated to the period of the 1st-3rd century and no clear late Roman pottery is present. The earliest dated of the pottery consists of two sherds from a storage jar 0610 (0686) which have grog-temper in the fabric. The inclusion of grog-temper indicates that it dates to the Late Iron Age or early Roman period and given the absence of any other Late Iron Age pottery among the assemblage an early Roman date is most likely. The other closely dated pottery is of 2nd century or 2nd-3rd century date. This consists of a sherd of Central Gaulish samian 0502 (0550) dated to the 2nd century and sherds from bead rim bowls with triangular, slightly undercut rims (Pakenham form 6.18.31) which can be dated to the mid 2nd-mid 3rd century. There are also two joining sherds (probably recently broken apart) from a coarse ware lid, recovered while machining the surface of the ring ditch (0500). Coarse ware lids, as a broad type, are generally more common in the earlier Roman period (1st-2nd/3rd century) than later.

The sherds from the identified bowl forms (above) probably represent parts of two or three pots. Almost all of the sherds come from one context 0610 (0569). Most are lower body sherds from a bowl with a chamfered base and at least two of these sherds can be joined together. This group appears to represent a small section of the pot which was further broken up in the ring ditch, or when it entered the fill. There are also four rim sherds, two from 0610 (0569) and two from 0690 (0586). Two of the rims sherds from one context (0586) join together (although the abraded edges do not fit well) and they

are clearly from the same pot. Of the rim sherds from the other context (0569), one is sufficiently similar to these two as to suggest that it might also be from this same pot. The other is thicker in section and although of similar form, is almost certainly from another vessel. It is not clear if any of the rim sherds are from the bowl (0569) represented by the group of body sherds.

6.2.4 Post-Roman pottery

Sue Anderson

Introduction

A total of 997 sherds of post-Roman pottery, weighing 6521g, was collected during the excavation. Table 17 provides a summary of the quantification. A more detailed list by context is available in Appendix 10.

Description	Fabric	Code	No	Wt (g)	MNV	Eve
Early Saxon grass-tempered	ESO1	2.01	304	2640	64	1.20
Early Saxon grass and sand-tempered	ESO2	2.02	204	1587	40	1.35
Early Saxon fine sand	ESFS	2.04	332	890	21	0.67
Early Saxon grog	ESGS	2.05	3	27	2	
Early Saxon grog and organic	ESGO	2.06	29	619	6	0.08
Early Saxon granitic	ESCF	2.10	2	8	2	
Early Saxon medium sandy	ESMS	2.22	118	719	24	0.47
Total Early Saxon			**992**	**6490**	**159**	**3.77**
Thetford-type ware	THET	2.50	1	7	1	
Medieval coarse ware	MCW	3.20	1	13	1	
Medieval coarse ware gritty	MCWG	3.21	2	6	1	
Unprovenanced glazed	UPG	4.00	1	5	1	
Total post-Saxon			**5**	**31**	**4**	
Totals			**997**	**6521**	**163**	**3.77**

Table 17. Summary of post-Roman pottery quantification

The post-Roman assemblage is dominated by Early Anglo-Saxon material, although a few sherds of medieval date were also collected.

Methodology

Quantification was carried out using sherd count, weight and estimated vessel equivalent (eve). The minimum number of vessels (MNV) within each context was also recorded, but cross-fitting was not attempted unless particularly distinctive vessels were observed in more than one context. A full quantification by fabric, context and feature is available in the archive (Appendix 10). Early Anglo-Saxon fabric groups have been characterised by major inclusions. Form terminology and dating for Early Anglo-Saxon pottery follows Myres (1977) and Hamerow (1993). Recording uses a system of letters for fabric codes together with number codes for ease of sorting in database format, and the results were input directly onto an MS Access table.

Early Saxon Wares

Seven basic fabric groups were distinguished on the basis of major inclusions. However, it should be noted that, as with all handmade pottery, fabrics were extremely variable even within single vessels and categorisation was often difficult. Background scatters of calcareous material, unburnt flint, grog, white mica and other less common inclusions, such as felspar and ferrous pieces, were present in many of the fabrics. All Anglo-Saxon wares were handmade, and colours varied throughout from black through grey, buff and brown to red, often within single vessels. General fabric descriptions are listed below.

Early Anglo-Saxon pottery fabrics:

Organic tempered:

ESO1: Heavily grass tempered with few other inclusions. In this assemblage many sherds had a fine clay matrix with fine silver mica inclusions.

ESO2: Grass tempered but containing a much greater proportion of sand than ESO1.

ESGO: Abundant organic tempering in association with grog inclusions.

Quartz tempered:

ESMS: Medium sand tempering with few other inclusions, sand grains generally well-sorted.

ESFS: Fine sand tempering with few other inclusions.

Grog tempered:

ESGS: Grog and sand tempering. Grog was usually red and very coarse, but may also be grey.

ESGO: See ‘organic’ above.

Granitic tempered:

ESCF: ‘Charnwood Forest’ type, containing granitic tempering (dark mica, feldspar).

Many sites in East Anglia and the Midlands have produced similar fabric groups, although they occur in different proportions. There is scope for comparison with a number of recently excavated assemblages from Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex and Cambridgeshire, all studied by the author using the same generic fabric groupings.

In general, fine, medium and coarse quartz-tempered pottery tend to be the most common fabric groups at sites in East Anglia, although in the later Early Saxon period

these appear to have been replaced to some extent by grass-tempered pottery. Organic-tempering is thought to be a late Early Saxon development in Essex (Hamerow 1993, 31) and Suffolk (K. Wade, pers. comm.).

At this site, organic-tempered fabrics dominated, but there were also fairly high proportions of fine and medium sandy fabrics. All other fabric types produced less than 30 sherds each.

The estimated vessel equivalent of 3.77 is based on thirty-four measurable rims, but there were a further five rims which could not be measured. Measurements of handmade vessels are always approximate unless a large proportion of the rim is present. For this reason, the minimum number of vessels (MNV), based on sherd families, was estimated for each context, producing a total MNV of 159 vessels.

Rim and base types were classified following Hamerow (1993, Fig. 26). This produced a total of nine vessels with flaring rims, seventeen vessels with vertical ('upright') rims, nine with everted rims (including one classified as cavetto), and one beaded rim. Four vessels had flat-rounded bases, three had rounded or saggy bases, and two had footring bases.

No vessels were complete, but it was sometimes possible to suggest the vessel type on the basis of rim or base form, where enough of the body was present. It was also possible to get an idea of shape from some of the larger body sherds. Four vessels were identified as bowls, two as small hanging vessels with lugs, and twenty-three as jars and three possible jars. Those for which more detailed shape descriptions could be applied are shown in Table 18.

Form	MNV
baggy	4
baggy, slight shoulder	2
slightly globular/baggy jar	1
globular jar	6
globular bowl	2
small globular jar	5
hemispherical bowl	1
small lugged vessel or lamp	2
slightly shouldered	2
sloping profile	1
pierced jar	1

Table 18. Identifiable forms/shapes of Anglo-Saxon vessels

No decoration was noted in this group, but most of the vessels had smoothed surfaces, either internally, externally or both. Some vessels were worn on one or both surfaces and any surface treatment was lost.

Whilst many pots showed signs of sooting and/or burnt food residues, there was no evidence that any of the vessels had been used for anything other than normal domestic activities processes. One unusual form was the pierced vessel from 0648 (sf 2068), and the function of this is currently unknown. The piercings were around the neck and shoulders of the vessel, rather than close to the base as might be expected of a colander or cheese-press.

This assemblage shows elements which place it almost entirely within the later 6th or 7th century. A predominance of organic-tempered pottery in ‘baggy’ forms is typical of the later part of the period. The lack of decoration may also be used as tentative evidence of a late date, together with the near-absence of granitic-tempered wares (although this may in part be due to the southerly location of the site within the county). Fifth-century characteristics such as Schlickung and sharply-carinated biconical vessels are also absent, and only one vessel had a sloping profile which may be indicative of an earlier sub-biconical form.

Medieval and later pottery

The post-Anglo-Saxon part of this assemblage comprised only five sherds. These were two small base sherds (MCWG) and a glazed redware body sherd from 0712, a fragment of a small redware MCW jug from 0632, and a sherd of probable Thetford-type ware with rouletted decoration from 0661. A few sherds of greyware which could be Thetford-type ware have been extracted for assessment by the Roman pottery specialist.

Significance of the Post-Roman pottery Assemblage

The post-Roman pottery assemblage as a whole is in good condition with little abrasion, and all Saxon pottery was collected from stratified features. Although no intact vessels are present, there is enough information in the assemblage to add to existing information on the types of pottery vessels favoured for use in this community during the later 6th and 7th century.

One of the Regional Research Aims for this period (Wade 2000) involves the study of rural artefact assemblages, to feed into settlement studies. The Early Anglo-Saxon pottery assemblage from Great Cornard is one of several large groups to have been recovered from rural settlement sites in recent years, a number of which have been studied by the current author. This makes potential for comparison very high, as there is less chance of inter-observer error in terms of fabric and form descriptions.

In the region as a whole, medium to large Early Anglo-Saxon pottery assemblages have recently been studied from Eye (Anderson 2008), Flixton cemetery and settlement (Anderson 2005a and forthcoming a), Carlton Colville (Tipper forthcoming), Bromeswell (Anderson 2000a), Handford Road, Ipswich (Anderson 2005b), Eriswell cemeteries and settlement (Anderson 2005c; 2005d), Lackford (study of fabrics only, Anderson, unpub.), Godmanchester, Cambridgeshire (Anderson 2000b), Gamlingay, Cambridgeshire (Anderson 1998), Witham, Essex (Anderson 2003), Tittleshall and Foulsham, Norfolk (Anderson forthcoming b). Although some of these sites have only reached assessment level, nevertheless basic catalogues of fabrics and forms are available for comparison, which will help to place the site in context with regard to regional pottery studies for the period.

Large groups of pottery were recovered from the ring ditch fills, and analysis of these individual groups may provide evidence for patterns of disposal, potentially by individual households or within phases.

A full quantification by fabric, context and feature has already been completed, and a catalogue of this data will be prepared for the archive. Spot dates have been provided for the small assemblage of later material, and no further work is required on this small assemblage.

6.2.5 Ceramic building material

Sue Anderson

Introduction

Sixty-five fragments (3511g) of ceramic building material (CBM) were recovered from excavations at the two sites, fifty-four fragments (3295g) from COG 028 and eleven (216g) from COG 030.

Methodology

The assemblage was quantified (count and weight) by fabric and form. Fabrics were identified on the basis of macroscopic appearance and main inclusions. The width, length and thickness of bricks and floor tiles were measured, but roof tile thicknesses were only measured when another dimension was available. Roman forms were identified with the aid of Brodribb (1987). The presence of burning, combing, finger marks and other surface treatments was recorded. Roman tile thicknesses were measured and for flanged tegulae, the form of flange was noted and its width and external height were measured. Post-Roman forms were identified from work in Norwich (Drury 1993), based on measurements; other form terminology follows Brunskill's glossary (1990).

The assemblage

Table 19 shows the quantification by type and form and Table 20 the quantities and types of tile by context.

Type	Form	Code	No	Wt(g)	No	Wt(g)
			COG 028		COG 030	
Roman	Roman tile	RBT	51	3252		
	Imbrex?	IMB?	1	6		
Roofing	Plain roof tile	RT	2	37	8	62
	Plain roof tile?	RT?			1	5
	Pantile	PAN			1	29
Walling	Late brick	LB			1	120

Table 19. CBM by type and form

Most of the COG 028 assemblage comprised material of Roman date. The material was recovered from eleven contexts and represented a maximum of eighteen tiles, with one tile being heavily fragmented through post-depositional lamination. Most pieces were unidentifiable to specific form (RBT), but there was at least one possible imbrex (IMB). Thickness measurements were recorded for twelve tiles and it may be possible to suggest functions for some of these at the analysis stage. They varied between 17–41mm and probably included further imbrices, flanged tegulae and some wall or floor bricks. Fabrics were generally moderately sandy in a fine clay matrix with few other visible inclusions, although a few had clay pellets. Firing was variable, with both soft and hard examples present. Most Suffolk Roman tile assemblages include fine and medium sandy fabrics which may be either soft or hard, and most sites generally produce a range of these.

Context	SF No	Fabric	Form	No	Wt(g)	W	T	burnt	abr	Notes	Date
COG 028											
U/S		fsg	RT	1	25						med/p med
0500	1031	ms	RBT	1	97		17		+	poss IMB	Rom
0569	1409	ms	RBT	1	75		21			reduced base	Rom
0569	1485	fs	RBT	27	482					=1 tile? laminated	Rom
0572	1399	ms	RT	1	12				+		med/p med
0576	1620	fsv	RBT	1	98		18	1			Rom
0610	1959	ms	RBT	3	109		30			=1 tile, reduced surfaces	Rom
0622	2159	ms	RBT	1	426		36			hard, brick-like fabric	Rom
0622	2177	ms	RBT	1	46		25			reduced core	Rom
0639	2185	mscq	RBT	1	1014	180+	41				Rom
0639	2508	mscq	IMB?	1	8				+		
0661	2721, 2877, 2908	fscp	RBT	3	342		24			=1 tile	Rom
0674	2568	mscp	RBT	2	23					=1 tile, soft	Rom
0675	2849	un	RBT	4	117					=1 tile, heavily vitrified	Rom
0675	2866	ms	RBT	1	275		35		+		Rom
0686	3086, 3293	ms	RBT	2	33		23		+	=1 tile, soft	Rom
0686	3125	fscp	RBT	1	43		24			same as 0661?	Rom
0686	3226	mscq	RBT	1	6				++		
0689	2806	fs	RBT	1	64		23			reduced core	Rom
COG 030											
0712		cs	RT	2	19					=1 tile	med
0712		fsfe	RT	1	18						p med?
0712		fsfe	PAN	1	29				+		p med
0727		msc	RT	3	15					=1 tile	p med?
0775		fsfe	RT	1	3				+		p med?
0788	3574	fs	RT	1	7						med?
0815	3586	msfe	LB	1	120						p med
0815	3592	fsg	RT?	1	5					could be Rom?	p med?

Table 20. CBM by context and tile type

Plain roofing tile made up a large proportion of the COG 030 assemblage, and two fragments were also recovered from COG 030. No nibs or peg holes were identified. Three fragments (two tiles) from 0712 and 0788 may be medieval roof tiles in fine to coarse sandy fabrics. Five fragments were probably post-medieval, whilst those from COG 028 may be either medieval or post-medieval, based on their fabrics. There is a possibility that the uncertain roof tile from COG 030 may be Roman. One fragment of a pantile was also recovered.

Only one fragment of ‘late brick’ in a medium sandy fabric with ferrous tempering was present in 0815. This type has a broad date range of 16th-19th centuries (Drury 1993).

Provenance

The site is well stratified and much of the material is derived from sealed contexts. Pottery and other dating evidence may prove useful in suggesting dates for particular CBM fabrics and forms. No phasing was available at the time of assessment. The majority of fragments from COG 028 were collected from the fills of the ring ditch in association with a few Roman sherds and larger quantities of Early Anglo-Saxon pottery, whilst most of those from COG 030 were from subsoil layers.

Significance of the ceramic building material (CBM) assemblage

Further work will be required to complete the CBM analysis once final phasing information is available. However the assemblage is small and, it can provide little information about nearby structures. It's main potential is to provide information on the range of fabrics and forms available in the various periods in this parish, and to aid in site taphonomy and dating.

6.2.6 Fired clay

Sue Anderson

Introduction

One hundred and one fragments (426g) of fired clay were recovered from ten contexts at the two sites, ninety-nine fragments (450g) from COG 028 and two (6g) from COG 030. The fired clay is listed by fabric for each context in Table 21.

Context	Sf no	Fabric	Type	Colour	no	wt/g	abr	Surface	Notes
COG 028									
0558	1173, 1306	fsv		buff/orange	4	28	+		
0558	1170	fsv		buff/orange	1	46	+	smoothed, concave	
0589	1760, 1773	fs		orange	2	1	+	convex	=1 piece, short irreg cylinder
0622	2144	fsv		orange/red	3	3	+		
0622	2166	msf	LW?	brown	2	10	+	convex	
0623	2345, 2348	fsv		orange	11	38	+		1 large lump, all amorphous
0630	2231	fsv?		orange	3	1	++		tiny
0639	1689, 2195, 2208, 2493, 2523	fsv		buff/orange	13	26	+		
0639	1709	msf		black/grey	2	10	+		
0639	1717	fs		brown	2	9	+		
0639	1717, 2501, 2504	fsc		cream/pink	15	37	+	roughly smoothed, convex	
0661	2707, 2715, 2876	fsv		buff/orange	25	153	+	some convex	
0661	2700	msf		pale buff	3	20	+	flat	
0661	1667	fsg		grey	1	3	++		poss v abraded

Context	Sf no	Fabric	Type	Colour	no	wt/g	abr	Surface	Notes
									Rom grog-tempered pot
0661	2912	fscq		black	2	11	+		
0675	2865	fscq	LW?	red/black	3	6	+	convex	
0686	3111, 3119, 3205, 3294, 3310, 3329	fsvf		buff/orange	6	46	+	2 roughly smoothed	
0686	3124	fsc		cream	1	2	+		
COG 030									
0727	fsx			orange	1	3	+		
0775	fsx			orange	1	3	+		

Table 21. Fired clay by context and fabric type

Methodology

The fired clay was quantified by context, fabric and type, using fragment count and weight in grams. The presence and form of surface fragments and impressions were recorded. Data was input into an MS Access database and a summary catalogue by context is appended to this report.

The assemblage

All fragments were abraded and in no case was it possible to identify a definite function for this material. Fabrics were generally fine with occasional voids suggestive of grass-tempering. A few pieces were tempered with chalk or flint. Colours varied from orange to buff (the latter generally forming the outer surface). Some fragments had roughly smoothed convex surfaces and may be pieces of Anglo-Saxon loomweight (in 0589, 0622, 0639, 0661, 0675). There were no wattle impressions or any other suggestions that this material represented daub, and it is more likely that fragments were derived from simple ceramic objects (such as loomweights) or from dome structures related to hearths or ovens.

Provenance

The site is well stratified and much of the material is derived from sealed contexts. No phasing was available at the time of assessment. All fragments from COG 028 were collected from the fills of the ring ditch, whilst both those from COG 030 were from subsoil layers.

Significance of fired clay assemblage and potential and methodology for analysis

Further work will be required to complete the fired analysis once final phasing information is available. However the assemblage is small and generally undiagnostic for function. It main potential is to provide information on the range of clay fabrics in use in the Anglo-Saxon period in this part of Suffolk.

6.2.7 Worked flint

Sarah Bates

Introduction

A total of 1697 pieces of struck or shattered flint was recovered from 125 contexts from excavation areas COG 028 and COG 030 (Table 22). Flint was recovered from the fills of three ring ditches and from other contexts.

SITE	No
COG 028	1352
COG 030	345

Table 22. Struck flint quantities by site

Methodology

Each piece of flint was examined and recorded by context and, for the majority of the flints, by small find number, in an ACCESS database table. The material was classified by category and type (see archive) with numbers of pieces and numbers of complete, corticated, patinated and hinge fractured pieces being recorded and the condition of the flint being commented on. Numbers and weights of burnt flint were also recorded with material then being discarded. Additional descriptive comments were made as necessary.

Pieces which were identified as of potential further interest or for possible illustration are highlighted in the database and have been bagged separately. For ease of retrieval, where these are mentioned below, the SF or context number is asterisked.

Non-struck flint was included in a separate column (Non struck) in the database but has now been discarded and is not included below.

The flint assemblage

The flint is generally mid to dark grey with some paler-coloured pieces. Cortex, where present, shows that a range of range of gravel lumps and nodule fragments was utilised. It mostly ranges from white to dark cream with abraded and/or patinated surfaces being quite common, demonstrating the use of weathered flint. A fair number of pieces have a dark orangey brown cortex which is often quite abraded and smooth and a few pieces with a very dark greyish brown cortex are also present in a small number of contexts.

Worked flint from COG 028

According to the information provided at assessment, flints were recovered mainly from the fills of two ring ditches (0512 & 0640), with some material recovered from other excavated fills of pits, hollows and layers The struck flint from COG 028 is summarised in Table 23.

Type	Number
multi platform flake core	20
single platform flake core	15
single platform blade core	2
bipolar core	2
core on flake	2
keeled core	1
core fragment	19
tested piece	28
struck fragment	49
Shatter	45
flaked piece	2
core/tool	9
core trimming flake	10
crested blade	1
Flake	758
blade-like flake	74
Blade	50
Bladelet	10
Spall	113
Chip	18
Scraper	5
side scraper	3
end scraper	2
subcircular scraper	1
Piercer	17
Awl	1
spurred piece	1
Knife	3
Denticulate	6
serrated blade	3
notched flake	7
notched blade	2
combination tool	1
oblique arrowhead	1
Microlith	2
truncated blade	1
retouched flake	26
retouched polished flake	1
retouched blade	3
retouched fragment	6
utilised flake	20
utilised blade	9
utilised fragment	2
hammerstone	1
Total	**1352**

Table 23. Summary of COG 028 struck flint by type

Twenty multi platform flakes cores are present. Mostly these are irregular in nature and in one instance a core fragment has been reused as a core – with its fractured edge used as a new platform. Three or four neater cores are included, one of them with some blade–like scars from several faces. There is one irregular keeled type core. Fifteen

single platform flake cores were found. They are mostly quite irregular and two (SF 1517 & SF 2133) have jagged 'overhangs' to their platform edge showing that the platforms were not prepared or rejuvenated (Butler 2005, 181). One small neat piece (SF 2766) has broad blade-like flakes struck from it.

Two bipolar cores have blades or blade-like flakes struck from either end. One (SF 1027) is an irregular asymmetrical piece and the other (SF 1099) is very small. Another very neat core fragment (SF 2309) may also be from a bipolar core. It is possible that these pieces might be of Mesolithic date (Butler, 2005, 85, fig. 30) although such two platform blade cores also occur in the earlier Neolithic period (Beadsmoore 2006, 55, fig 2.39 and 56, 2.40). Two single platform blade cores were found. One (SF 1529) is quite irregular but has some very small blade scars and may be of Mesolithic date. The other is probably a utilised thermal fragment but has some neat blade scars.

Two pieces are classified as cores on flakes. One is on a thick irregular flake. The other has flakes struck from the sides and one end of the cortical face of a patinated primary (possibly thermal) flake. A flaked piece has been struck or tested as a core along one edge of an irregular primary fragment.

Eighteen other probable core fragments were found. Many are small and undiagnostic; a few are from regular flake or blade cores.

Twenty-eight tested pieces are present. They include angular and more chunky fragments with a few rounded knob-like cortical pieces from nodules. Forty-nine miscellaneous struck fragments are present. They are mostly cortical fragments and although most are irregular thick pieces there are quite a few which are thinnish with one face being a cortical or thermal surface and the other face repeatedly struck from a single 'platform'. They seem an unusual choice for use as cores - but must also represent the deliberate 'testing' of fragments. A small number of the struck fragments (SF 1910 & SF 3139) may have been utilised as tools. Forty-five irregular shatter pieces were also found.

Nine pieces have been classified as core/tools. These have flakes struck from parts of their edges and might have been tested or used as cores or, alternatively - or perhaps additionally - might have been used as tools, mostly crude scraper type tools, although

two pieces have blunt 'points' and two have very irregular slightly notched or denticular edges.

A triangular sectioned primary blade (SF 1352) has batter of its dorsal ridge which might be deliberate 'cresting' - although it seems unlikely that such preparation would have been carried out on a cortical surface.

Ten pieces are classified as core trimming flakes. They include a few flakes from across the platform edges of cores, one which is from across the top of a core and several which have been struck form the sides of cores. One long blade-like flake (SF 3259) has a steeply flaked or battered edge and may be a deliberate core rejuvenation piece.

The unmodified debitage from the site consists mostly of flakes with much smaller numbers of blade-like pieces being present (Table 24). The material is generally sharp or quite sharp although some/slight edge damage occurs.

Flake type	Percentage
flakes	56
blade-like flakes	5
blades	4

Table 24. Flake type (as % of COG 028 flint assemblage count)

A total of 754 unmodified flakes were recovered. These are predominantly quite small or irregular pieces with a general tendency to a squat shape. Some more regular flakes are also present and thick and thin flakes occur. The flakes are predominantly complete cortical pieces, but with a relatively quite small number of primary (entirely cortical) flakes. Many have clear evidence for hard hammer working and a small number of flakes exhibit hinge terminations. A total of 108 flakes have cortical platforms showing that they are unlikely to be from carefully prepared cores and only a small number of pieces show evidence for platform preparation; a few have true abraded platform edges, others have more irregular battered edges or abrasion of their platform surface - which may represent a former platform edge.

Seventy-four blade-like flakes were found. They range from irregular to thin neat pieces. Relative to the flakes, there are fewer complete and cortical pieces. This might be expected due, respectively, to their narrower form being more susceptible to damage

and the fact that they are more likely to have been struck later in the reduction process. There are roughly equal numbers of cortical and prepared platforms.

Fifty blades and ten bladelets were found. Many of these are small neat pieces and, relatively again, more of these are incomplete and many fewer have cortex. There are no primary pieces. Few pieces have cortex on their platform but, unsurprisingly, relatively larger numbers have prepared platforms.

Totals of 113 spalls and eighteen chips were also recovered.

Unusually, piercers (rather than scrapers) are the most common tool type. Seventeen pieces have been broadly classified as such. They are mostly small flakes or blade-like pieces with utilised, distal points, some with slight retouch which sometimes extends along one side (SF 1036, SF 1119, SF 1194, SF 1414, SF 1687). An irregular flake with a protruding flat point at its distal end (SF 2040) was possibly used as a crude borer type tool and two probably thermally shattered fragments (SF 1337, SF 2532) appear to have been used as piercers. An unusual long rod-like cortical fragment (SF 2110) is retouched to a very blunt point. An awl (SF 2059) has retouch of opposite faces at the distal tip of an irregular small flake and a primary flake with abraded cortex (SF 1041) has slight retouched of part of its slightly spurred distal edge.

Eleven scrapers were found. Three side scrapers include a quite neat small flake with retouched convex left side and its cortical right side acting as natural backing (SF 2802), a flake which has probably been struck from across the top of a core and has part of the former platform edge but also has one side retouched as a scraper (SF 1079) and a small thick blade-like flake with possible utilisation of a scraper-like side (SF 1037). There are also two end scrapers; one a long cortical flake with steeply retouched distal end (SF 1566) and the other a small ovate flake with very slight retouch of its cortical distal end (SF 1606). A subcircular flake (SF 1070) has steep retouch around all but its proximal edge. Five other miscellaneous scrapers are present, three of them (SF 1456, SF 1907, SF 3152) on irregular fragments and one (SF 2423) of them a neat thick ovate flake, neatly retouched around both ends and left side.

Six pieces are classified as denticulates. They are mostly quite irregular and in some cases the edge modification may have occurred during use. One hard hammer struck

thick primary flake (SF 1845).has retouch forming crude indentations around most of its edges. Two serrated blades and another possible one are present; one quite large blade (SF 1078) with facetted, or abraded, platform has some very fine serrations on its left side and some slight retouch of the other side. Another blade (SF 1583) has an abraded platform and serrated right side. Seven flakes and two blades have possible notches in their sides.

A small thin and neat blade (SF 3332) has been truncated by abrupt retouch across its distal end.

A roughly D-shaped flake or flake fragment (SF1564) is irregularly fractured along its straight edge and utilised or worn around its other convex side so that it may be a broken knife. A thin tapering flake (SF 1384) has its straight right side slightly retouched or utilised and an irregular subcircular hard hammer struck flake (SF 2554) has slight retouch and wear of its edges and was also probably used as a knife.

An irregular blade-like piece with blunted retouched point at its distal end and some possible slight notches in its side has been classified as a combination tool (SF 1282).

An oblique arrowhead (SF 1344) has one point missing and a possible hollow base. Retouch extends over one face and most of the other face. It is likely to be of later Neolithic early Bronze Age date.

Two microliths of Mesolithic date were found. There is a rod like backed bladelet (SF 1766) and another very small retouched bladelet (SF 1079) which is in two pieces.

Twenty-six retouched flakes were found, most are irregular. One piece with retouched edges (SF 2123) is the medial part of a polished flake from an ?axe which has been reused. The retouch post-dates patination and possible slight burning. Three retouched blades; are all small neat pieces, one has an abraded platform and one could possibly be classed as a microlith (SF 2061). Six other fragments are probably retouched; one is of thermal origin.

Twenty flakes, nine blades and two fragments have probably been utilised, almost all on their edges. One fragment (SF 2809) has a wide squarish thermal surface which tapers,

in an irregular pyramidal shape, to a point which is damaged and may have been used as a sturdy piercer type tool.

A large irregular cortical lump or gravel nodule (SF 1945) is broken at one end and, there, is battered and may have been used a hammerstone.

Worked flint from COG 030

According to information at assessment, struck flints were recovered from various deposits including two concentric ring ditches around a barrow. Quantities of flint were also found in surviving mound material and a number of flints were recovered from pits (which, apparently, are undated at assessment). The struck flint from COG 030 is summarised in Table 25.

Type	No.
single platform flake core	4
multi platform flake core	3
single platform blade core	4
multi platform blade core	2
bipolar core	1
core fragment	6
tested piece	2
struck fragment	15
shatter	21
core trimming flake	2
flake	165
blade-like flake	17
?polished flake	1
blade	24
bladelet	1
spall	29
chip	2
piercer	6
spurred piece	1
end scraper	3
backed knife	1
notched flake	1
retouched flake	12
utilised flake	13
utilised blade	6
utilised fragment	3
Total	**345**

Table 25. Summary of COG 030 struck flint by type

A bipolar core has blades struck neatly from one platform at one side. It has been struck, more slightly from the other end and its other side is irregularly fractured. As with the cores from COG 028, it could be of Mesolithic or earlier Neolithic date. Two cores have blades struck from more than a one platform and four single platform blade core or fragments from such, were found.

Three multi platform flake cores were found. These latter include a small squat sub-spherical core, an irregular but quite chunky piece which appears to have produced some quite regular flakes and a small irregular more jagged piece. Four single platform flake cores are present. Three of these have surviving area of patinated or abraded surfaces. Two are irregular and a third is a thin fragment with one face patinated and flakes from one side of the other face.

Six core fragments are also present. Three of these have blade type scars; one is probably from a neat blade core.

There are two tested pieces; one an irregular fragment from an abraded cortical lump and the other quite thin with one cortical face and flakes from the other face.
Fifteen struck fragments are present, two have regular flake scars which suggest that the fragments might be from cores. Twenty-one irregular shatter pieces were found a few of which might be of thermal origin.

As from COG 028, the unmodified debitage from the site consists mostly of flakes with much smaller numbers of blade-like pieces being present (Table 26). Most pieces are sharp or quite sharp although some slight edge damage occurs.

Flake type	Percentage
flakes	48
blade-like flakes	5
blades	7

Table 26. COG 030 flake types (as % of flint assemblage count)

A total of 165 unmodified flakes were recovered. They are similar in nature to those from COG 028 being predominantly quite small or irregular pieces but with some more regular flakes are also present. Complete cortical flakes are most common with some primary flakes and a small number of hinge terminations. Only one flake has an abraded platform edge while twenty-two flakes have cortex on their platforms.

Seventeen blade-like flakes were found. Most are small and the pieces are often quite thick or otherwise slightly irregular.

Twenty-four blades and a very small bladelet are present. Most of the blades are small and (as with the COG 028 blades) relative to the flakes, there are more incomplete, and

fewer cortical, pieces. Four blades have abraded platforms but several are somewhat irregular. One small neat slightly curving blade is patinated and abraded.

Twenty-nine spalls and two chips were also recovered.

Six piercers were found. They include a small blade-like piece (SF 3520) which it has a retouched/utilised distal point and may be of earlier Neolithic date (cf. Butler 2005, 129, fig. 54, 2). There is another, more irregular blade-like piercer (SF 0725) and three others pieces with retouch or utilisation of their distal points. A very thick irregular flake with wide platform and retouch of both steep sides to its distal point (SF 0775) could be of later Bronze Age date.

A small flake with irregular slight retouch (SF 0727) has a slight spur on its right side and is classified as a spurred piece.

Only three scrapers came from this site. They are all end scrapers and include a retouched ovate primary flake (0813), A small squat flake (SF 3492) and a broad thick flake (SF 3570). They are likely to date to the later Neolithic or Bronze Age.

An ovate/D-shaped primary fl with partly patinated whitish cortex, has crude retouch or use of its convex cortical edge. It may represent the use, as a knife, of a suitably shaped flake (0727).

A small blade-like flake (SF 3489) has a possible notch (although perhaps an accidental nick) in one side.

Twelve flakes have slight or irregular retouch of their edges – and in one case, possibly, a point. Twelve flakes have utilised edges and the distal tip of one small pointed flake may have been utilised. Six utilised blades were also found. These are mostly neat thin blades with utilised edges. They are likely to be of earlier Neolithic or, perhaps, Mesolithic date. One is relatively large with an abraded platform (SF 3495). This tapers to a narrower distal end and its left edge seems to have been used as a knife *.

Three irregular fragments may also have been utilised; two of them (SF 3502 & SF 3571) are thin pieces of tabular flint with battered edges some of which may have been

due to use. A long thin and narrow rod-like piece (0756) may be of thermal origin has battered or worn edges and might have been used for some purpose.

Discussion

From both site areas (COG 028 and COG 030), most of the flints came from the fills of ring ditches and associated deposits. Smaller amounts of material were also found in a few other features and deposits. For COG 028, none of the flint-bearing contexts have ceramic spot dates at assessment and Early Anglo-Saxon pottery came from many deposits at the site. At COG 030, where ceramic spot-dates exist for many of the deposits with flint, they are mostly 'prehistoric' with a few flints being found with medieval pottery.

The flint assemblage appears to include material dating to more than one period. The presence of Mesolithic or earlier Neolithic material is demonstrated by the recovery of some quite neat blade cores and carefully struck blades, a probable core rejuvenation piece and two or three serrated blades. At least two microliths are of Mesolithic date. later Neolithic or later material makes up the larger part of both assemblages with far more irregular cores and flakes and a prevalence of hard hammer struck cortical material. The reuse of a flake from a polished tool may also represent activity during more than one period.

There are very few other closely datable tools. An oblique arrowhead of probable later Neolithic date was found, otherwise most of the tools (mainly piercer type pieces and scrapers) are likely to date to this period or later, with one or two being more characteristically Bronze Age in type (for example a thick irregular piercer).

One notable aspect of the assemblages is the relatively large number of irregular struck fragments or tested pieces, including many on quite thin cortical or thermal fragments and apparently unsuitable for the production of many useful flakes. They seem likely to be of later prehistoric date and demonstrate the opportunistic use of available flint. They probably represent flintworking at the site either contemporary with the construction of the barrows or with the infilling of their ditches.

Significance of the worked flint assemblage

The potential of the flint for further study lies mainly in its closer consideration by context. Most of the flint was recorded at assessment by individual small find number and although this enabled detailed description of the material it, and the context information available at assessment, has made it difficult to get a full picture of the context assemblages. Fuller consideration of the material by context and its distribution, spatially and stratigraphically, across the excavated sites and in relation to other excavated material has potential to contribute to the evidence for activity at the site during the prehistoric period and enable comparison with material from other similar sites.

6.2.8 Burnt flint and other heated stone

Stephen Benfield

In total there are eighty-nine pieces of burnt flint weighing 2116g. In addition there are eleven pieces of sandstone/quartzite, weighing 1659g, which appear to have been affected by heat.

Although the two sites (COG 028 & COG 030) produced a similar number of pieces of burnt flint, the pieces from COG 028 have a much larger average weight. In total forty-one pieces were recovered from COG 028 weighing 469g (average weight 11.4g) while the forty-eight pieces recovered from COG 030 weighed 1647g (average weight 34.3g).

Most of the burnt flint from COG 028 is associated with the fill of the large ring ditch 0640; although not all of the context numbers could be checked against a feature number. Pottery dated as Early Anglo-Saxon was recovered from most of these contexts. One small piece of burnt flint was recovered from the fill of the small ring ditch 0512 (0527)

All of the burnt flint from COG 030 is associated with the double ring ditch 0715/0712; although again not all of the contexts numbers could be checked against a feature. Prehistoric pottery dated to the Neolithic-Early Bronze Age is associated with this double ring ditch and sherds from a Beaker pot were recovered from the surviving mound material (0737). Most of the burnt flint came from the ditch fills; the largest single

concentration, nineteen pieces (178g), coming from a re-cut of the outer ring ditch (0811). One piece (12g) was recovered from the surviving mound material.

Almost all of the pieces of sandstone/quartzite which appear to have been modified by heating come from the ring ditch 0640 (0639, 0685). The exception is a single piece which comes from the surviving mound material of the double ring ditch 0715/0712 (0777). While it is not clear that all of these pieces have definitely been affected by heat, some clearly have and the nature of several of the remaining pieces, which are fractured from rounded cobbles, suggests they been heat affected.

Burnt or heated stones are not directly datable, but are commonly associated with prehistoric occupation or activity. When recovered as heat damaged or fragmented cobbles heated stones are usually referred to as ‘pot-boilers’ because of their supposed use in heating water for cooking.

Much of the burnt flint recovered consists of broken pieces; that is, irregular fragments of stones some of which may have been accidentally heated through contact with fires. However, four pieces, all from the ring ditch 0640 (0639, 0661, 0675, 0686), are clearly small cobbles or parts of small cobble stones. There are also two burnt worked flint flakes (0540, 0551) from COG 028 and a burnt fragment from a worked flint core (0662) from the fill of the ring ditch 0640.

The burnt flint from the double ring ditch 0715/0712 can be dated by the pottery recovered to the Neolithic-Early Bronze Age. The latest dated pottery from the ring ditch 0640 is of Early Anglo-Saxon date, but residual prehistoric and Roman sherds were also recovered from this feature. The low average weight of the burnt flint from 0640 compared with that from the double ring ditch (0715/0712) could indicate that it is residual from the earlier prehistoric activity on the site, although this is not necessarily so.

The one piece of heat modified sandstone/quartzite which came from the surviving mound of the double ring ditch 0715/0712, can be dated as prehistoric. Most of the pieces came from the fill of the ring ditch 0640. This ring ditch also contained Anglo-Saxon pottery and while the heat modified stones from this feature are probably most likely to be residual from the prehistoric occupation they may date later.

Sandstone/quartzite has superior thermal qualities to flint which can be shown to have been recognised in the prehistoric period. At Stanway in Essex, it was preferred as, while very much less common than flint in the surrounding gravels, most of the heated 'pot boilers' were of this stone type (Crummy et al, 2007, 19).

6.3 The small finds

Stephen Benfield with Alison Sheridan (necklace beads)

6.3.1 Introduction

The preliminary catalogues of small finds for COG 028 and COG 030 are presented in Appendices 8 and 9 respectively. The necklace beads from COG 030 are described separately by Alison Sheridan.

COG 028

There are twenty-seven small find objects from COG 028. Most of these small finds are provisionally dated as Anglo-Saxon (Appendix 8) and this dating is supported by the recovery of Anglo-Saxon pottery from many of these contexts. Among these are several iron knife blades, iron buckles, an iron pin, fired clay loomweight fragments and a fired clay spindle whorl. There is also a Roman coin, recovered unstratified from general site spoil, which has probably been deliberately defaced. This Roman coin is of interest, although unstratified it may indicate a more deliberate element to the deposition of some of the Roman finds on the site – perhaps in the Anglo-Saxon period. An unusually worn or defaced coin of Nero was associated with the Late Iron Age and early Roman elite burial site at Stanway in Essex and a few similar, unusually worn or deliberately rubbed 4th century coins are known from a Roman temple site at Sawbench, Hockwold cum Wilton in Norfolk (Davis 2007, 339).
An iron hasp/fastener is provisionally dated as medieval and a fragment, possibly from an iron piece of cutlery, is provisionally dated as post-medieval.

Of interest is a complete, although broken into two pieces, pair of bone tweezers (SF 1107). These came from the cremation burial/pit with pyre debris 0536 (0545) within the ring ditch 0640. They find close parallels among Early Bronze Age burials, although they appear to be relatively rare as a find type. There are parallels from Early Bronze Age 'Wessex Culture' grave groups at Aldbourne-Edmonton (Burgess 1980, fig 3.6) and Wilsford (G56) (Magaw & Simpson 1981, fig 5.17) and in association with a Collared

Urns at Handley Hill, Dorset (Burgess 1980, fig 7.9) and Bloxworth (Clarke et al 1985, illustration 4.97).

COG 030

There are fifteen small find objects from COG 030 in addition to the necklace beads. Provisional dates have been attributed to eight of these which are either medieval or post-medieval. A buckle, a possible piece of a cauldron leg and a ring, all of copper alloy, are dated as medieval. Finds dated as post-medieval include two coins and a token, all of copper alloy, also a possible chape for a copper alloy knife scabbard. There is also a possible lead round shot and several iron nails.

6.3.2 The necklace beads

Alison Sheridan

A composite necklace was found in grave 0785 within the double ring ditch (0903, 0907) placed (either loose, or in an organic container) beside the top of the head of an individual who had been buried on the right side in a crouched position; the grave had possibly been secondary to an earlier, shallower grave (0864). An S-profiled Beaker had been buried upright behind the neck (and will be dealt with in a separate specialist report). The presence of the necklace marks the individual out as having been accorded special status.

The necklace comprises around 412 tiny black and white disc beads (found on initial examination to be of jet and, after non-destructive analysis, shell respectively), in a ratio of 1:3 and 42 larger, irregularly-shaped beads of amber (with an additional bead of a different material, possibly shell or stone. The beads were submitted to the author after most had been cleaned and conserved; while the disc beads were sound, the amber had oxidised and become very fragile, necessitating the conservator to protect the beads from further surface loss.

Initial assessment consisted of a rapid visual examination, together with examination of several of the disc beads using an optical microscope; photo-microscopy of a small number of disc beads; X-raying of the amber beads; and SEM analysis of one white and one black disc bead. From this, the initial suspicion that the white beads are made of marine mammal tooth/tusk and that some, if not all of the black beads are of jet, was seemingly confirmed, leading to the observation that all the white beads could theoretically have been made from a single tooth if it had come from a sperm whale, for

instance. Since then, non-destructive analysis by Sonia O'Connor at Bradford University has since established that aragonite (?) and calcite is present in the white beads, indicating that they are made of shell. Furthermore, the X-ray images confirmed that some of the amber beads had been perforated in two directions. This, together with an excavation photograph of the necklace *in situ* and a plan based on excavation data, indicates that the necklace had probably been elaborately strung, with more than a single strand involved. A striking aspect of the necklace is that some of the disc beads had been arranged in a zebra-pattern arrangement of alternating white and black beads.

Significance of the necklace

If, as seems likely from the excavation results, the necklace is indeed contemporary with the Beaker and skeleton (for which a date range within the last quarter of the third millennium can be estimated), then it is of considerable interest and of super-regional or even national significance. While necklaces featuring tiny disc beads are known from Beaker graves elsewhere (e.g. Monkton, Kent: Sheridan 2009), and the use of such beads is known to have continued until the 15th century BC (at Amesbury Solstice Park, Wiltshire: Sheridan forthcoming), the use of shell is unique. Similarly, the amber beads are unparalleled among Early Bronze Age jewellery: they are not comparable with the amber spacer plates that have been found in Early Bronze Age spacer plate necklaces, either in Derbyshire (at Shaw Cairn, Mellor, dating to c 2150–1950 BC: Pitts 2009) or in Wiltshire (in Wessex series graves, dating to the 20th century and subsequently re-used in parts: Beck & Shennan 1991). The initial suspicion is that they represent amber that has been collected from the East Anglian coast, where amber is known to be washed up, and the pieces have received relatively minor shape modification other than perforation. As for the jet, while its origin is almost certain to be Whitby in Yorkshire, it is known that some jet has been found washed up along the East Anglian coast, and so one cannot rule out the possibility that all the raw materials for the necklace had been obtained from the coast nearby. Alternatively, the relations between East Anglia and Yorkshire that are known to have existed during the late third and early second millennia may be responsible for the importation of the jet (probably by sea) from Whitby to Suffolk.

Further work is proposed on the materials, provenance, manufacture and stringing of the necklace.

6.3.3 Miscellaneous

Stephen Benfield

There are a few finds types for which only a very small quantity, or individual pieces, were recovered. These are listed by context in Appendix 5 and Appendix 6.

COG 028

A piece of light slag, grey in colour and with numerous small internal holes from trapped gases within the material when molten, was recovered from the ring ditch 0640. The context (0639) contained pottery dated to the Anglo-Saxon period. There is also a lump of soft chalk or possibly lime from the same context. The small piece of slag from the large north ring ditch (0640) which will need to be identified.

COG 030

A single clay pipe stem piece was recovered from the ring ditch sub-soil 0727. This can be broadly dated to the 18th-19th century. A small piece of coal came from the same context.

In addition a small quantity of charcoal fragments (ten pieces weighing 1g or less) were recovered from the top of the pit 0741 (0743) which is described as a possible cremation or pit with pyre debris.

6.4 Human skeletal remains

Sue Anderson

6.4.1 Introduction

Two inhumation burials and four cremation deposits were collected during the excavation. These have been assessed by rapid scanning and preliminary results are presented here.

6.4.2 Cremated bone

A large, well-preserved cremation burial (0545) was recovered from a pit. The total weight of the bones is c.2450g, which is above the average expected weight for an adult male cremation (Mays 1998, Table 11.2). This may indicate that more than one individual was present, although Early Bronze Age cremations are often more completely collected than those of other periods, and it may simply represent a single well-built individual. The size of the humerus head certainly indicates that an adult male

was present in this assemblage. The fragments of bone are not heavily fragmented and much of this deposit should be identifiable to body area.

A less complete deposit (105g) was recovered from 0504, described as ‘pyre debris’. The fragments are largely pieces of adult long bones.

Further fragments of adult cremated bone were recovered from 0742 (c.460g) and 0743 (53g) but these clearly represent only a fraction of the full cremated skeleton.
At present it is impossible to determine how many individuals are represented by the four cremated bone deposits, but further study should elucidate whether there are areas of duplication amongst the four contexts.

6.4.3 Inhumation burials

The fragmentary remains of a child (0713) were recovered from grave 0720. The cranial vault was incomplete, although the face and dentition were present in fair condition. Fragments of the torso, arms and legs were also present. The preliminary age estimation, based on the state of eruption and calcification of the teeth, is c.4 years. There were no obvious pathological changes.

A fairly complete adult skeleton (0874) was found in grave 0873. The arms and legs were difficult to assess due to concreted soil deposits which still adhere to the remaining bone. It will not be possible to remove these without damaging the bone further. The cranial vault is intact and in good condition, although the face is fragmented. The torso is incomplete, but the pelvis and spine were both in fair condition. The individual was female and relatively young (based on tooth attrition and lack of any degenerative changes). There were no obvious signs of pathology.

6.4.4 Significance of the HSR and potential for analysis

Full analysis of these remains is necessary to confirm a minimum number of individuals included with the cremated remains, as well as to provide more certain assessments of age, sex and any pathology. Few Early Bronze Age inhumations have been studied in the region to date, due to the relatively poor preservation of prehistoric bone in the acidic soils of the area. These remains are therefore a valuable addition to the data on such burials in Suffolk and East Anglia, and they need to be placed in context with previously excavated contemporary groups

6.5 Quantification and assessment of the environmental evidence

6.5.1 The faunal remains

Julie Curl

Introduction and methodology

A total of 22g of bone, consisting of sixty-six fragments, was examined from four contexts. The bone is listed by species in Table 27 below, where NISP is the Number of Individual Species Elements present. Additional bone, originally thought to be of faunal origin, but later identified as human remains, was removed before this assessment.

The assessment was carried out following a modified version of guidelines by English Heritage (Davis 1992). All of the bone was examined to determine range of species and elements present. A note was also made of butchering and any indications of skinning and any other modifications. When possible a record was made of ages and any other relevant information, such as pathologies. Counts and weights were noted for each context. A note of condition and burning was also recorded. As this is a very small assemblage that requires no further work, a catalogue has been produced at this stage with the data directly input into the table in this report.

The assemblage

Faunal remains were recovered from four fills (0721, 0786, 0787 & 0789). These samples of bone were from fills with no other finds, therefore dating of these remains is uncertain. The bone in this assemblage is in poor condition and highly fragmentary, some remains are cracked and eroded. Bone from one context (0787) has been burnt to a high temperature or for a long period, resulting in bone of a grey to white colour.

Such fragmentary remains, most without diagnostic features, are difficult to identify further than simply ‘mammal bone’, which may of course include the possibility of human remains. Two contexts produced identifiable animal remains. Part of a sheep/goat tibia was seen in context 0721 and three pieces of a cattle thoracic vertebrae.in context 0787.

Conclusions

The identification of cattle and sheep remains indicates some butchering and food waste present in this assemblage. It is possible some of the mammal bone does include

small pieces of human remains, but they are too fragmentary and worn to determine further.

Some of the bone from 0787 was burnt to a high temperature and may be remains of a cremation or funeral pyre. Animal remains are often found associated with, or included amongst, human remains, such as with the burials at the Garrison Urban Village (Curl 2006) and at Spong Hill in Norfolk (Bond, 1994); with both sites cattle and sheep/goat were the most common species. Such cuts of meat may have been offerings for the 'afterlife'. It is possible too that animal bones had been included as fuel for cremations, their fat content when fresh makes them a useful addition to a fire (Therry-Parisot 2001), with fragments at the edge of a fire showing little or no burning.

Context	SF No	Quantities	Weight (g)	Species	NISP	Comments
0721	0035	51	5	Mammal	51	Fragmentary. Probable sheep tibia fragment included
0786	0044	1	2	Mammal	1	small fragment
0787	3580	4	3	Mammal	4	Fragile, burnt white/grey
	3581	8	8	Cattle	3	Thoracic vertebrae fragments
				Mammal	5	Small fragments
0789	3577	2	4	Mammal	2	Vertebrae fragments

Table 27. Catalogue of the faunal remains listed in context order

The significance and potential of the faunal remains

Further analysis, other than radiocarbon (C14) dating is unlikely to produce any further information and therefore no further work is required for this assemblage.

Other bone

There is a small collection of burnt bone from flots from the ring ditch 0640 which does not appear in the specialist reports for either human skeletal remains (HSR) or for the faunal remains. This bone consist of two pieces from context 0610, eight pieces from context 0639, two pieces from context 0661, six pieces from context 0686. All of these contexts contained pottery dated as Anglo-Saxon. Some of the bone is quite dense and likely to be animal. However, many of the pieces are quite small so that an animal or human identification is not clear.

It is suggested that, as some of the bone appears to be animal, this material should initially be sent to the faunal remains specialist to report on, but with the proviso that some may require to be seen by the human bone specialist.

6.5.2 The charred plant macrofossils and other remains

Val Fryer

Introduction and method statement

Samples for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from across the excavated areas, and a total of thirty-four were submitted for assessment, thirteen from site COG 028 (Appendix 12) and the remainder from site COG 030 (Appendices 13 & 14).

The samples from site COG 028 were processed by the author using manual water flotation/wash over, whilst those from site COG 030 were bulk floated by SCCAS. All flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve, dried and sorted under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16. The plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Appendices 6, 7 and 8, with nomenclature within the tables following Stace (1997). All plant remains were charred. Modern fibrous roots and seeds were present throughout, but were especially common within some assemblages from site COG 030.

The non-floating residues from site COG 028 were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and were sorted when dry. Any artefacts/ecofacts were retained for further specialist analysis.

Results

Cereal grains and seeds of common weeds/grassland herbs were very scarce, occurring mostly as single specimens within only seventeen of the assemblages studied. Preservation was generally quite poor, with many of the grains and seeds being puffed and distorted, possibly as a result of combustion at very high temperatures. Two assemblages (from site COG 028 samples 24 and 25) contained no flot whatsoever.

Grains of barley (*Hordeum sp.*) and wheat (*Triticum sp.*) were recorded within five assemblages, one from site COG 028 and the remainder from site COG 030. Indeterminate grains, which were too poorly preserved for close identification, were noted within a further four assemblages, and a single possible rye (*Secale cereale*) grain was recovered from sample 23 (an Anglo-Saxon ring ditch fill from site COG 028). Cereal chaff was entirely absent. Seeds of grasses (*Poaceae*) and grassland herbs

including ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), campion (*Silene sp.*) and dock (*Rumex sp.*) were recorded along with tubers of onion couch (*Arrhenatherum sp.*) and pignut (*Conopodium majus*). The remaining seeds (including specimens of brome (*Bromus sp.*), small legumes (*Fabaceae*), black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*) and goosegrass (*Galium aparine*) were all of species which were either growing on rough grassland or as segetal weeds within areas of cultivated land. A single fragment of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell was noted within the assemblage from sample 23, whilst sample 48 (from the Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age outer ring-ditch at site COG 030) contained a solitary sedge (*Carex sp*.) nutlet. Charcoal/charred wood fragments were present throughout, although rarely at a high density. Other plant macrofossils included pieces of charred root or stem and indeterminate tuber fragments.

Black porous and tarry residues were present within all but four of the assemblages studied. Although some were possibly derived from the high temperature combustion of organic remains, most were very hard and brittle and appeared most likely to be resides of the combustion of coal, fragments of which were also present within most samples. If this was the case, most were probably intrusive within the contexts from which the samples were taken, possibly being derived from the use of steam engines or ploughs on the land in the recent past. Other remains occurred infrequently, but did include small fragments of bone, ferrous residues and a possible minute fragment of amber (sample 61 from grave fill 0873 – site COG 030).

Discussion

Site COG 028

Thirteen samples were taken from features including a pit containing pyre debris and ring ditches containing both prehistoric and Anglo-Saxon remains. With the exception of charcoal/charred wood fragments, plant macrofossils are exceedingly scarce. Cereal grains are only recorded within one assemblage (from sample 23), and even here, it appears most likely that they are derived from material which was accidentally incorporated within the ditch fill. The assemblage from sample 1, from a possible deposit of pyre debris within pit 0503, is notably large (circa 0.4 litres in volume) and almost totally composed of charcoal/charred wood fragments, possibly indicating that wood was the preferred fuel for the pyre. Otherwise, charred black bindweed seeds are relatively common within the assemblage from sample 4 (pit 0536), although the reason for this is currently unknown. A sample of the seeds has been taken for possible

AMS/C14 dating. The remaining assemblages contain insufficient material for interpretation, and it should be noted that the level of modern contaminants within the features appears to be quite high.

Site COG 030

Modern contaminants are again present within most of the samples from site COG 030, and although it was hoped to find materials suitable for dating purposes, none are recommended, as their contemporaneity with the contexts from which the samples were taken cannot be adequately proved. As with site COG 028, the few seeds and cereals which are recorded are possibly mostly derived from scattered or wind-dispersed refuse, which accidentally accumulated within the feature fills, although the higher densities of material within two fills of the outer ring ditch (samples 41 and 48) are possibly of note. Both contain seeds of grassland plants and although their presence may be an enigma, it should be noted that such material was often used as kindling or fuel for cremation pyres. The higher densities of charcoal/charred wood within the cremation (sample 40) and the mound (sample 38) may also represent deliberate deposits of pyre debris or similar charred material.

Significance and potential of the plant macrofossil remains

In summary, the assemblages are largely typical of many contemporary samples from funerary monuments, containing moderate amounts of charcoal/charred wood, but few other remains. Although some of the cereals and seeds may be derived from materials used as kindling or fuel for the cremation pyres, there is no evidence for the deliberate inclusion of any votive materials as offerings to the deceased. Many remains may simply be derived from wind-dispersed refuse, which accumulated within any open features on the site.

As none of the assemblages contain a sufficient density of material for quantification (i.e. 100+ specimens), no further analysis is recommended. Similarly, as intrusive materials are present within most assemblages, only one small group of material is recommended for dating (Sample 4 from pit 0536), and even here the potential of the assemblage is considered to be low.

Note on samples processed

Abby Antrobus

All buckets from thirty-four samples were processed, providing a representative assessment from features across the site which includes all cremations/inhumations apart from sample 3, samples from all of the fills of the ring ditches (apart from 0644 in 0640), and a selection from tree throws/hollows (Appendix 12-14). Some samples are still outstanding, and further work on these is discussed below.

7 Potential of the data and assessment of significance

7.1 Realisation of the Original Research Aims

The original research aims (Section 3) recognised the potential for prehistoric and later archaeological remains to be found on the site. Given the two broad phases, the potential of the data will not be fully realised without a programme of radiocarbon assays to date the unphased features. However, the excavation has characterised cropmarks COG 004 and COG 005 as Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age funerary monuments which, with the small ring ditch identified to the south-east (Craven 2010), adds a small cemetery group to the corpus of excavated data from this part of the Stour Valley. The project has recorded evidence for the particular form of these monuments, and, in both cases, individual funerary assemblages have been recovered, including relatively rare Bronze Age bone tweezers that accompanied the cremation deposit in 0536, and the Beaker vessel and the particularly distinctive necklace in grave 0785 that accompanied the young female inhumation. Intervention has also revealed associated features and evidence for the longer term history of the site, including pre-monument clearance, and Anglo-Saxon re-use of the monument. The data allows expansion of the original research aims, informed by the specialist assessments, the East Anglian research framework and more general agendas for the relevant periods.

7.2 General discussion of potential

The excavation identified three funerary monuments as well as hollows, cremation burials, pits and features. Generally, these fit into four periods of activity, although some features are undated. The earliest monuments and funerary activity on the site date to the late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age. There are (as yet) no subsequent phases until the Anglo-Saxon period (with finds dating to the 6th/7th centuries). A general subsoil build up seems to date from the medieval period onwards (7th-17th century), with an apparent robber pit cutting a possible tree throw that yielded medieval finds. Modern soils lay at the top of the sequence.

In the regional research agenda, the particular changing patterns of burial practice in the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age are acknowledged as offering the potential to explore historical and social change (Brown and Murphy 2000, 10; Medleycott 2011, 13 and 20). They represent the first monumental manipulations of landscape occurring at

the same time as wider impacts such as landscape clearance, changing economic regimes that saw negotiation from mobile settlement to farming and fields, and incursions into new lands. These changes perhaps prompted a desire to express and lay claims to locales, sites and territories. The creation of barrows in the landscape has been framed as means by which landscapes were demarcated: monuments to the dead, often with primary individual burials, that brought the realms of the living and dead together and offered ancestral ties and legitimised claims to a place, and which were visible and dramatic deliberately placed expressions of cultural ties to a place that served to define landscapes (Bradley 2007; Brown and Murphy 2000; 10; Medleycott 2011, 13 and 20; Monk 2011). In line with the broad narrative for the period, as indicated by the presence of early hollows and tree throws, woods on a gravel terrace overlooking the River Stour (see also COG 025, Craven 2010,11) were cleared and sepulchral elements introduced. The flint evidence suggests that the area had been exploited in the Mesolithic and Early Neolithic: consideration of the landscape and what these changes represent can contribute to understanding activity, social organisation, settlement and monumentality in the Stour Valley and beyond, and it is proposed that the site should be studied in these wider contexts.

The site has the potential to add generally to the corpus of excavated data which can shed light on funerary practices, material culture and the individuals buried within monuments of this date. The cemetery comprises a group of individuals treated in different ways in the funerary arena, and considering aspects of the identity of the young female and other individuals, such as gender, status and cultural contacts, can add to understanding of this broad process. The Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age saw increasing delineation of individual importance in the funerary domain, and it is generally acknowledged that people of status were buried in barrows rather than subject to other prevalent burial practices such as alternative depositions of cremation or the placing of bodies in watery contexts. Individuals buried in barrows were marked out in death by investment in the funerary sphere, and, as these sites were often the focus of later activity, discourse has centred particularly on kinship groups and ties to the ancestors (Bradley 2007, 176). In 1981, the evidence-base for exploring the gender, age and physique of occupants of barrows was described as ‘woefully inadequate’ (Paul Ashbee, foreword to Lawson et al 1981, xiv), and no inhumations had been recorded from barrows in the Stour Valley (Martin 1981, 69). Twenty years on, it was noted in the Regional Research Framework that the excavation of some examples in the Stour

Valley could fill a knowledge gap (Brown and Murphy 2000, 10): this project contributes to the corpus of excavated barrow cemeteries in the region.

It is also significant for the Stour Valley in particular. Throughout prehistory and into historic times, archaeological evidence suggests that there was a marked cultural divide between north-west and south-east Suffolk, separated by the wooded clayland plateau of high Suffolk (Martin 1981, 77 and 1999, 36; Monk 2011). This patterning is observed in the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age, and broad groups that have differing cultural biographies (as manifest in ceramic forms, burial practices and trade contacts, for example) are centred respectively on the Rivers Gipping in the south-east and Lark in the north-west. Whilst there is evidence for earlier incursions into the Stour Valley (for example, there is evidence for Mesolithic and Early Neolithic flints in the assemblage from the Rugby Ground site), it seems to have been an area of particular manipulation and monumentality in the Early Bronze Age, suggesting that it was perhaps an area of new colonisation (Martin 1981, 77; Monk 2011, 30). The cemetery may have been located to command views over the River Stour, a likely boundary and a resource. The cultural connections of the site have potential to shed light on this process of colonisation, and the material culture from the site has potential to explore cultural affinities, and trading and resource contacts.

The site also offers potential to consider the material culture and connections of Anglo-Saxon people in the Stour Valley. The pottery assemblage recovered from the site consists of at least 159 vessels, with residues and sooting apparently relating to domestic use – the pottery types will enable settlement to be explored in relation to other sites in the area. Although only one additional pit was found within the excavation area, the deposit does give a rare indication of settlement in the Stour Valley, where there are fewer known sites in comparison to, for example, the Lark and Gipping valleys in the northern part of the county (Jess Tipper pers. comm.). The deposit appears isolated, but it and the pit are on the western side of the site, and it might be that a settlement area lies to the west. At Radley Barrow Hills in Oxfordshire, for example, Anglo-Saxon settlement focussed on part of a Romano-British barrow cemetery, and midden deposits had gradually in-filled the monument ditches – this was interpreted as a practical way of disposing of material and filling inconvenient depressions (Chambers and McAdam 2007). Activity at the monument at Radley Barrow Hills is related to a settlement and it might be that at Cornard only a smaller part of a wider landscape like

this has been unearthed, with a settlement just out of the picture. Tony Breen's research suggests that there are archaic landholdings in the area.

In addition, the re-use of prehistoric funerary sites is a well attested phenomenon, touched upon in the regional research agenda (Medleycott 2011; 49, 59), and is a subject that has recently attracted scholarly interest both in terms of funerary, ideological, political and settlement activities (Crewe 2010, Semple 1998). The main evidence from the excavation consists of the substantial deposit in the ditch of Monument 1, and the assemblage from this site adds to a growing body of collected evidence on Anglo-Saxon activity at earlier sites. There may be pragmatic reasons for the deposit but consideration of landscapes of the dead, religious beliefs or political legitimisation of presence in the landscape through appropriation of earlier monuments may become more be relevant if some of the other funerary features are found to be Anglo Saxon. This is a significant possibility – local examples of funerary associations with earlier sites come from Barnham, Flixton, Ipswich, Mildenhall, Risby, Snape and Sutton Hoo (e.g. Martin 1988 1, 75; Semple 1998; Boulter and Everitt 2010, 58), and small ring ditches enclosing graves, similar to 0512, are also known from Anglo-Saxon cemeteries (Lawson 1981; 26), although that is not a firm indicator of date as small ring ditches are also recorded at barrow cemeteries in Essex and Suffolk (Everett and Boulter 2010, 57).

7.3 Assessment of significance

The potential of this site, as outlined above, to contribute to research agendas for two periods is of regional significance, in particular the potential to compare aspects of prehistoric funerary practice and the use of a monumental landscape either side of the 'Gipping divide'. However, the discovery and detail of the necklace is nationally significant. Complete necklaces from this period, whilst rare, are not unknown, but the use of shell in beads of this period is unique in the archaeological record. That the necklace was found on a fairly complete adult skeleton and accompanied by a Beaker pot allows discussion of context and dating alongside that of provenance and manufacture.

Also of regional significance is the potential to contribute to an examination of the re-use of monuments in the Anglo-Saxon period, and comparison with re-use in other parts of the region, and whether for funerary or domestic purposes.

8. Updated Project Design

8.1 Updated Research Aims and Questions

This section presents the Updated Project Design based on the results of the individual assessments. A set of revised research aims and questions are presented, followed by recommendations for analysis, research and illustration. These questions will enable specific aspects of the site to be addressed, and will enable the site to be understood in its wider context, which will both explain it and demonstrate where its unique contributions lie.

In brief, the updated research questions aim to address the following broad themes:

- Contributing to a better understanding of prehistoric chronology, monument classification, funerary practice, identity, status, cultural affinity and the politics and ideology of landscape manipulation, through description of the LNEBA burials and funerary assemblages, the long term use of the site, and consideration of it in a local, regional and broader context
- A detailed description and analysis of the necklace from grave 0785, and discussion of it and associated finds, e.g. Beaker pottery fully in terms of regional/national burials of this type and date. This can also contribute to wider debate on trading between communities and access to resources
- Understanding of Anglo-Saxon settlement in the Stour Valley and its cultural affiliations
- Understanding of the Anglo-Saxon re-use of prehistoric monuments

8.1.1 Prehistoric themes

Research Topic 1: Landscape patterns of prehistoric burial practice

Section 7.2 outlined the potential of the site to contribute to understanding social change in the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age, when there were major clearances, new settlement and associated construction of funerary monuments. Research topics 2 to 7 will also feed into these questions:

- How do the barrows fit topographically and chronologically into patterns relating to the wider archaeological landscape of the Stour Valley?

- What other sites are known in the area and can comment be made on the inter-relationship between them?

Research topic 2: Consideration of funerary practice and funerary identities

The site adds to the corpus of known cemetery sites, and the excavation of individuals and their mode of burial offers potential for wider comparison - the site can be compared to others in terms of the combination of features of burials, funerary tableau and the grouping of the monuments. For example, the individual interred in Monument 2 was a relatively young female, buried in a crouched position, on her right side, with her head to the southwest. In this respect, she may fit into a pattern - tentatively observed in the survey of 1981 - of gendered burial practice in the Early Bronze Age in Suffolk, where a higher proportion of males were observed to have been buried on their backs or left sides, with their heads to the north or north-west, and females buried on their right sides, with their heads oriented to the south (Martin 1981, 71). The cremation (most likely of an adult male) in Monument 1 was buried in the north-west quadrant of the barrow. Further consideration of gendered practice is desirable, as is comparison to a wider and up-to-date corpus of inhumations. As outlined by Sue Anderson, further assessment of the human remains to explore age, sex and pathology is also essential, in context of other assemblages – these are, however, relatively rare due to poor preservation, lack of excavation and the likely prevalence of other burial practices beyond inhumation. Status is also an issue that can be addressed: the necklace in Monument 2 is distinctive, made of perhaps valued materials and representing an investment of labour. Debates on the significance of colour/materials/gender association and artefact biographies which might offer a theoretical framework for consideration of the use and deposition of the item, particularly in relation to the social landscape. Specific questions, which range from small to broad, include:

- Are there similarities or differences between the cremations in terms of burning and deposition?
- Are there other recorded cremations with assemblages of black bindweed seeds, or was this incidental to the deposit? The seeds could have been accidental to the grave or pyre, being a common weed of wasteland. Such seeds are produced between July and October. Bindweed is also a medicinal plant, however, and if other assemblages are recorded it may have some significance.
- Are there any macrofossils in the fill of the Beaker (sample 62)?

- Are there residues on the Beaker? If outside the scope of the current project, samples could be advertised for students to research.
- How do the burials, the skeletons and the assemblages compare to those from other sites?
- Is there evidence of gendered practice from the limited assemblage?
- How do the burials contribute to understandings of broader social patterns in the contemporary landscape?

Research topic 3: Structure of funerary monuments

Funerary monuments were varied, complex and frequently enlarged and visited for secondary burial (Lawson 1984, 148), The excavated evidence has indicated that the two major monuments on the site would likely have been of different forms and appearance when constructed and the site data has potential for some degree of modelling of them, which contributes to general categorisation of monument form. Monument 1 had a large, deep ditch. No trace of upstanding material was seen, but the spoil generated by the ditch would have been of some volume. There is potential to consider in detail the deposition patterns in each slot to see whether there is any evidence of slumped banks or a mound. In particular, there is scope to assess the role of the two excavated postholes which, if real, were near contemporary to the cutting of the ditch. Posthole 0611 (slot 0640) was located in the middle of the south-west quadrant of the ring ditch and was the more convincing of the two features, perhaps acting as a marker post.

Monument 2 adds an example of a compound monument to the corpus of sites, and appears to consist of at least two phases of construction, with two ditches, one of which is overlain by slumped mound material, a possible buried circular bank, and a central grave which cuts an earlier pit. No finds were made from 0864, but empty central features have been noted on other sites, and interpretations have been suggested that include a suggestion that they marked the location of some kind of central object (even a tree, perhaps) from which a string or line was extended (Lawson et al 1981, 25). There is scope to consider further stratigraphic data in comparison with spatial analysis of finds and environmental samples to explore further the phases in the monument. Through researching features of comparative examples (e.g., double ditches, empty central pits, scattered finds through the mound, postholes in a ditch cut, pits between double ditches such as 0831), the contribution that these monuments make to regional

patterns will be better understood. Further spatial analysis, including of finds and environmental assemblages, may also provide evidence for patterns of activity across the monuments (for example, secondary depositions, which may provide indirect insight into their form and phasing). An in-depth, critical analysis of the site stratigraphy, sections, sketches and photographs, which takes into account the results of the proposed spatial analyses/phasing of the flint, pottery, environmental and burnt flint assemblages should aid interpretations of how monuments were constructed. Comparisons should be researched.

Research topic 4: regional chronology

Radiocarbon dates will situate the current site better into the regional chronology of expansion/regression and economic change in the region, as modelled particularly from environmental evidence (see papers in Barringer 1984 for background). A radiocarbon date could almost certainly be obtained from the inhumed bone in Monument 2, helping to provide a close date not only for the burial, but also, of national importance, of the accompanying Beaker pot and the necklace. This will support a general research aim of tying scientific dates (however broad) to ceramic typologies (Medleycott 2011, 13), particularly for this period where the pottery styles are particularly long lived (c. 2500BC to c. 1700BC).

Research topic 5: long term use of funerary sites

In addition to the two monuments, there is more general funerary activity across the site: longer term use (both funerary and of other types) should be anticipated at these sites, where re-use, revisiting, remodelling and continuous investment is well attested (Lawson et al 1981). Radiocarbon dates are needed, but the site has, potentially, secondary prehistoric inhumations and cremations. Small quantities of pottery, flint, human bone and possible pyre debris noted in environmental samples may indicate further longer term activity – perhaps later ploughed secondary depositions and accessories, or even from earlier features. Sherds from a second Beaker pot were recovered from probable mound material (0737) of Monument 2 and for both ring ditches a possible question is whether finds in the ditch fill could ultimately have come from deposits made into a mound at a higher level (Lawson et al 1981, 30). Sample 38, from within the mound of Monument 2 seemed to contain pyre material (context 0737), and burnt animal bone (sheep/goat) was retrieved from mound material 0727. The spatial distribution of burning and other deposits/assemblages (such as burnt flints) that may relate to feasting, funerals or other activities involving fire can also be considered.

- How does any patterning in the burials compare to other sites?
- Is the bone from pit 0518 human or animal?
- How many individuals are included with the cremated remains?
- What can more detailed analysis indicate about age, sex and any pathology?
- What is the bone from 0640?

Research topic 6: understanding colonisation, contact and cultural affinities

Why was the site chosen and what can it add to understanding of the development of East Anglia? Archaeological evidence suggests that throughout prehistory and into historic times, there was a marked cultural divide between north-west and south-east Suffolk, separated by the wooded clayland plateau of high Suffolk (Martin 1981, 77 and 1999, 36; Monk 2011). As noted in Section 5.7, the Stour Valley seems to have been an area of particular manipulation and monumentality in the Early Bronze Age, suggesting that it was perhaps an area of new colonisation (Martin 1981, 77; Monk 2011, 30). The cultural connections demonstrated by practices and material objects from the site have potential to shed light on cultural affinities, trading and resource contact and perhaps this process of colonisation. For example, the tweezers are most easily paralleled among Early Bronze Age burials of the 'Wessex Culture' and in association with Collared Urns in the southwest of England (Wiltshire & Dorset), although they appear to be relatively rare as a find type. The necklace materials may have come from Yorkshire, as trading connections with that region were known to exist (Lawson 1984 150-1 has a list of jet objects, for example). Comparison of the assemblages – particularly the flint and pottery - to others from East Anglia will be invaluable.

- Could isotopic analysis of the human bones contribute to understanding of the life of the individual?
- How do the flint and pottery assemblages fit with local and regional parallels and can cultural connections be inferred?

Research topic 7: The necklace

The necklace is unique. There is scope to explore the manufacture of the necklace and beads, the material they are made of, its provenance, wear patterns and age when deposited, and the way it was threaded. Initial research suggest that more than one type of shell has been used for the white beads. The X-rays of amber beads showed two perforations through them, suggesting that the necklace had been elaborately strung. These research questions will reveal information about an unusual piece of

jewellery of that date. Other excavated bead finds have been mentioned, and it is proposed that these will be considered for background information.

8.1.2 Anglo-Saxon themes

Research topic 8: Anglo-Saxon re-use of prehistoric sites

The significance of the Anglo-Saxon assemblage was assessed in Section 5.7. There are two large deposits of Anglo-Saxon material in the ring ditch of Monument 1, the upper of which was very charcoal-rich material, containing a large domestic assemblage of 6th-7th century pottery, Roman roof tile, animal bone and other small finds such as knives, pieces of undiagnostic fired clay, loom weights and the well-rubbed Roman coin. It is material that is out of context. There may have been ideological reasons for such a deposit at a prehistoric earthwork, or there may be more mundane reasons for its placement. There is scope to research parallel 'domestic' looking dumps of Anglo-Saxon material at other funerary/prehistoric/non-domestic sites as well as in settlement contexts. Is there, for example, any literature on house-clearance/end of life practices? The presence of Roman artefacts may indicate general use of a Roman site, or that materials and artefacts had been curated, re-used and perhaps selectively deposited: Stephen Benfield has noted that pottery in the deposit, including Roman (which is more abraded than the Anglo-Saxon sherds), appears to have been broken near to the point of deposition in either space or time, with refitting pieces. Once the pottery/fired clay/Roman cbm has been assessed, criticial consideration can be given to the Anglo-Saxon deposit. Another aspect is the Roman pottery – this has been fully quantified, but consideration of it can contribute to analysis of the Anglo-Saxon material. The small assemblage consists, in the main, of abraded coarse ware body sherds, the condition and nature of which is consistent with their residuality in contrast to the good condition noted for the post-Roman pottery (Sue Anderson - Post-Roman pottery assessment). It would be worth researching comparisons to explore selection, retention and curation of material – particularly if the deposit appears to be deliberately structured.

- What is the derivation of the deposit? Is there any evidence of structured deposition? Is there any evidence for curation of objects and if so is this for deposition or for daily use? Is there evidence for patterns of disposal in the material culture?
- What is the outstanding bone from 0640?

- Is this a domestic dump or does it have more ideological associations, or could it be both?
- What does the composition of the deposit indicate about consumption, trade, provisioning, contact and activity?

Research topic 9: Anglo- Saxon cultural affinities

One of the Regional Research Aims for the Anglo-Saxon period (Wade 2000) involves the study of rural artefact assemblages, particularly in relation to settlement studies. The Early Anglo-Saxon pottery assemblage from Great Cornard is one of several large groups to have been recovered from rural settlement sites in recent years. The deposit was sampled in slots, but statistical analysis of it is possible. The assemblage has the potential to, once again, address questions of cultural affiliation. The northwest/southeast Suffolk divide (along the Gipping), already mentioned, seems to have been a pervasive cultural and perhaps ethnic boundary into the Iron Age and Roman period, which aligns southwest Suffolk with north Essex. The identity of the Stour region in the Anglo-Saxon period is, however, not clearly understood. Edward Martin has considered the question of when the Stour became a political boundary, but it is not to date understood where a distinction between the East Anglian (north of the Gipping, Scandinavian influences) and the East Saxon kingdoms (south, linked to lands of the Earldom of Essex in south central Suffolk) lay, or whether, even, the Wuffings formed a separate group between them in South Suffolk (Martin 2008, 224). Any indications of cultural affinities and perhaps trade connections from the finds assemblage would therefore contribute to wider understanding of the region.

- How does the pottery fit with cultural and regional parallels?

8.1.3 Post-medieval remains

Research topic 11: Examining the possible robber pit

A research subject for the post-medieval period is pit 0772. If it is a robber pit, is it a typical one? What does it tell us about the methods of early amateur archaeologists?

8.2 Recommendations for further work

To realise the research potential, meet the research aims and answer the above questions, further work is particularly needed on the stratigraphic sequence, on spatial analysis of finds, and on comparison of the site data to regional datasets. This is required to understand the activity on the site, the form and construction of the

monuments, and the chronological development. A series of objectives is proposed, based on specialist recommendations. These will also secure completion of the archive and preparations for publication.

8.2.1 Dating the site

A major question is the date of some of features, in particular the small ring ditch 0512, cremation pits 0741/0744, the secondary inhumation to barrow 0896 (0720) and the burnt bone deposit in pit 0502. To fully understand the site, a programme of radiocarbon dating is essential. Table 28 presents potential samples of suitable material for carbon dating which may add to understanding of the site. There were other organic assemblages (pieces of bone, environmental flots) but assemblages were small or the integrity of the contexts had been questioned:

	Feature	Context	Date	Material	Rationale	Comment
1	0518, burnt bone in 0502	0518		Burnt bone	Undated funerary activity	Was observed to cut subsoil – may be medieval or later. Unprocessed in sample 3. Needs analysis – animal or human?
2	0503, cremation in 0512	0503	Undated (pre medieval)	Cremated bone	Undated funerary activity	
3	Secondary burial in mound 0796	0720	Undated (pre medieval)	Animal bone	Undated funerary activity	May have come from mound material and may not be directly related to burial
4	Secondary burial in mound 0796	0720	Undated (pre medieval)	Inhumation	Undated funerary activity	
5	Cremation in 0741	0741	Undated (pre medieval)	Cremated bone	Undated funerary activity	Is also charcoal in sample 40.
6	Cremation in 0744	0744	Undated (pre medieval)	Cremated bone	Undated funerary activity	Is also charcoal in sample 39
7	Cremation 0536 in ring ditch 0640	0536	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age (from finds assemblage)	Cremated bone	Cross dating of tweezers	
8	Black bindweed seeds from 0536	0536		Seeds		Perhaps preferable to dating the cremation. Although could provide complimentary dates.
9	Burial under 0896	0785	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age (from beaker)	Inhumation	Cross dating with beaker and necklace	
10	Burial under 0896	0785	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age (from beaker)		Cross dating with beaker and necklace	Sample 62 context 0875 – fill of beaker, as yet unprocessed – may not yield material.
11	Shell beads from burial under 0896	0785	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age	Shell bead	Cross dating with beaker	Will be dating the shell rather than manufacturing, and marine offset will be

			(from beaker)			considerable. Therefore unsuitable.
12	Animal bone from ditch 0770	0786	Undated			One very small fragment. Is the context secure enough? May help with seeing if ditch and burial are contemporary
13	Animal bones from mound deposits	0787				Small pieces. Is the context secure enough?
14	Charcoal from pit 0772/grave 0785	0871		charcoal	Resolving phases of mound	Dating for later structure or burial
15	Charcoal from 839, outer ditch of 0895	0839		charcoal	Terminus post-quem for the ditch	Needs processing – would be dating charcoal and not the ditch. But it might show if it is much later than Neolithic. May show if contemporary to the burial

Table 28. Potential radiocarbon samples

Subject to discussion on sample suitability and potential with the English Heritage Regional Science advisor (Helen Chappell) or a laboratory, it at least eleven dates are proposed, (from Table 28, options 1,2,4,5,6,7, 8?, 9, 10?, 14, 15?). It is likely that samples for dating will be sent to SUERC in Glasgow.

8.2.2 Further work on the finds and environmental data

Prehistoric pottery assemblage

The following further work is required:

- To integrate full context data and any stratigraphic phasing, and the results of the radiocarbon dating into the pottery catalogue. It would be of use to refer to a full plan of the site to visualize relationships between various contexts.
- To produce a short report detailing form and fabric and depositional practice for each period assemblage by site with particular emphasis on the earlier Neolithic and later Neolithic to earlier Bronze Age pottery from COG 030.
- To provide detailed comparisons with local and regional parallels
- To select seven sherds for illustration and produce a full illustrated sherd catalogue.
- To take radiocarbon dates on the HSR associated with Beaker (871) to provide secure absolute dating for the vessel.

Post Roman (Early Anglo-Saxon) assemblage

The following tasks will be carried out during the analysis stage although the majority of recording work for this assemblage has been carried out at the assessment stage.

- Further work is required on spatial and stratigraphic analysis once final phasing and more detailed site information are available.
- Up to eleven vessels are worthy of illustration. These will require more detailed fabric and form description for the published catalogue.
- Refinement of the dating of vessels where possible, based on forms and fabrics.
- Comparisons with other East Anglian sites will be required.
- A more detailed report on fabrics, forms and decoration will be prepared for publication.

Further work will involve spatial and temporal analysis, comparison with other sites, identification of parallels, preparation of report, illustrations

Fired clay Assemblage

Further work will be required to complete the fired clay analysis once final phasing information is available. This will inform understanding of the Anglo-Saxon assemblage. However the assemblage is small and generally undiagnostic for function. Its main potential is to provide information on the range of clay fabrics in use in the Anglo-Saxon period in this part of Suffolk. Are the fabrics the same as those use for the loom weights?

This report provides a summary of the fired clay assemblage, but the material has not yet been placed in context, either within the site itself or within the broader historic environment of the region.

- Comparison of the assemblage with other large groups of fired clay from the region will be possible.
- Further discussion of function may be possible if fired clay small finds are available for fabric analysis.
- A report suitable for archive and/or publication will be prepared.

Ceramic building material (CBM) assemblage

Further work will be required to complete the CBM analysis once final phasing information is available, to inform understanding of the nature of the Anglo-Saxon deposit. However the assemblage is small and can provide little information about nearby structures. Its main potential is to provide information on the range of fabrics and

forms available in the various periods in this parish, and to aid in site taphonomy and dating.

This report provides an outline of the CBM types present in the assemblage, but the material has not yet been placed in context, either within the site itself or within the broader historic environment of the region.

- Comparison of the assemblage with other large groups of CBM from the region will be possible.
- Three-dimensional spatial distribution of CBM fabrics and forms in features and structures will be important in studying the taphonomy of the site, and in providing information relevant to the study of social status and land use.
- A report suitable for archive and/or publication will be prepared.

The assemblage has been recorded in full and no further cataloguing is required. The CBM needs to be put into context with relation to site phasing and spatial distribution, and a more detailed publication report produced.

Worked flint

The potential of the flint for further study lies mainly in its closer consideration by context. Most of the flint was recorded at assessment by individual small find number and although this enabled detailed description of the material it, and the context information available at assessment, has made it difficult to get a full picture of the context assemblages. Fuller consideration of the material by context and its distribution, spatially and stratigraphically, across the excavated sites and in relation to other excavated material has potential to contribute to the evidence for activity at the site during the prehistoric period and enable comparison with material from other similar sites.

- Updated context information, a plan of the sites and the results of the radiocarbon dating should be provided by SCCAS, so that site and lithics date can be integrated to enable full analysis of the material by group and context.
- The flint should be considered and analysed by context and in relation to any ceramic and other dating evidence from the site.
- The distribution of the flint will be considered both spatially and stratigraphically.
- For some contexts a summary re-examination of the material by context (rather than as individual flints) will be worthwhile to see whether similar pieces occur

within context assemblages (for example similar raw material or types of debitage).

- The assemblage will be reviewed in comparison with material from other sites in the region and a report will be written for inclusion in the final site report.
- At assessment fifty-six flints have been highlighted in the database, and seprated our either for illustration or further study. These will be re-examined as necessary during analysis. It is unlikely that more than twenty flints will require illustration.

Small Finds

There are forty-two items, most provisionally dated to the Anglo-Saxon, medieval and post-medieval periods, but with one of possible Early Bronze Age and one of Roman date. These need to be reported on by a specialist. This will require the production of an accurate descriptive catalogue, examination of spatial distribution and consideration of other dated finds information and a written report. Almost certainly one or more illustrations will be required.

Assessment of slag from 0640 and from the outer ring ditch

Slag samples should be assessed to add to an understanding of the activities that lay behind the Anglo-Saxon assemblage. Characterising slag from the outer of the ring ditches of Monument 2 will aid phasing, if it can be broadly dated.

Further work on the beads.

The questions concerning the beads from the necklace that need to be resolved through post-excavation research are as follows:

1 To what marine species does the raw material for the white beads belong and is all the shell from the same species? This requires consultation with one or more specialists and may require further analysis. It is proposed to show specimen beads, the micro-photographs and the results of the SEM analysis to one such specialist in National Museums Scotland, who may be able to make an identification on this evidence.

If this approach does not produce definitive answers, then further specialists (such as Dr Terry O'Connor, York University) could be consulted; and if necessary, Zooms amino-acid racemisation-based analysis could be undertaken

on a small fragment from one of the fragmented beads by Professor Matthew Collins, University of York.

2 Are all the black beads of the same material?
This can be determined through microscopic analysis of all the black beads (which would be undertaken in any case to record features relating to manufacture and use-wear – see below), along with XRF compositional analysis of a selection.

3 Of what material is the large, non-amber bead?
This will require microscope examination and possibly compositional analysis using XRF and/or SEM, together with consultation with colleagues.

4 How were the beads made, and how old was the necklace when deposited?
This requires microscopic examination, with micro-photographic recording of key features. The time taken to examine the black disc beads has already been included under question 2; it is intended to examine a large sample of the white disc beads, rather than all 210, and to examine all of the amber beads.

5 How was the necklace strung?
Some clues already exist in the excavation documentation; possible arrangements, based on this and on the borehole patterning in the amber beads, can be suggested. (If plausible arrangements can be developed, it is recommended that these be recorded, either photographically or in a line drawing.)

Relevant sketches and photographs will need to be produced and comparisons researched, particularly of the tiny disc beads). Line drawings should include all of the amber beads, together with a small selection of the black and white beads (to encompass the largest, smallest, thickest and thinnest of each, plus any others that are noteworthy).

As an aside, digital reconstructions of the necklace in the ground and as reconstructed could form an interesting study for a computer-based Undergraduate or Masters-level dissertation on the object and its placement in the grave.

Human remains

Complete analysis needs to be undertaken of the human remains to confirm a minimum number of individuals included with the cremated remains, as well as to provide more certain assessments of age, sex and any pathology. Few Early Bronze Age inhumations have been studied in the region to date, due to the relatively poor preservation of prehistoric bone in the acidic soils of the area. These remains are therefore a valuable addition to the data on such burials in Suffolk and East Anglia, and they need to be placed in context with previously excavated contemporary groups.

Faunal remains

Assessment of the bone samples from pit 0518 and remaining bone from context 0640 is required.

Environmental processing

A representative assessment of samples from features across the site have been processed, but several are still outstanding and should be analysed. These include:

- Sample 3 from undated pit 0518 from which burnt bones were recovered
- Sample 28 from context 0644 in 0640, which would complete the series of samples down the ditch sequence (although the other produced low level assemblages)
- Sample from the fill of the Beaker from within the grave, sample 62 context 0875.
- Sample 15, from the only Anglo-Saxon feature
- Whilst the general presence of macrofossil remains in assemblages has been demonstrated as low, there may be some merit in further assessing these samples. The rest of the samples should be discarded (see Appendix 15 for summary table).
- The sample from the fill of the Beaker should be analysed (sample 62)
- Charcoal samples should be analysed (samples 54 and 60)

8.2.3 Further work on site analysis

Context and site plan information will need to be provided for specialists. The database will need updating after completion of the analysis. General stratigraphic and spatial analysis in the light of completed specialist work will need to be undertaken to consider the use of the site, particularly phases of or long term prehistoric use. Critical thought will need to be given to other finds category distributions not revisited by specialists – for example, burnt flint, small finds, environmental data, fired clay, animal bone. For all small finds (including all of the beads) location data exists in three dimensions, and detailed reconstruction of deposition by specialists should be possible, if significant patterns are revealed in initial by-context assessment of the assemblages. The research questions outlined above will need to be considered in the light of this data. An in-depth, critical analysis of the site stratigraphy, sections, sketches and photographs, which takes into account the results of the proposed spatial analyses/phasing of the flint, pottery, environmental and burnt flint assemblages should aid interpretations of how monuments were constructed.

Monument 2 specific questions

- The crouched burial in Monument 2 seemed to be covered by a dark deposit associated with charcoal, and there were mineralised deposits around the body - was the body covered with something, or was this the product of decay of the body? Further analysis of sample 60 (0871) is needed. How does the charcoal from sample 54, from 0839 in the outer ring ditch, compare?
- How did the grave infill and collapse? What is the relationship of the mound to the body? Further, detailed stratigraphic analysis is needed.
- Does the monument truly represent two phases of prehistoric investment? References to excavated double ditches (e.g. given in Lawson 1981 23) should be followed up and new examples sought e.g. Barnack (Cambs), Flempton (Suffolk), Little Cressingham and Witton (Norfolk), as well as possible superimposed barrows at Beaulieu Heath in Hampshire (Champion 2010).
- The potential for later re-use of the barrow for some other purpose should be considered. Is the outer ditch prehistoric? Radiocarbon of seeds from the outer assemblage (from sample 52) would be useful. What is the nature of the slag found within that ditch? If the invasive hole, 0772, is a robber pit, then it was terminated before the burial was reached, although a dark fill was encountered.

The pit, with steep sides and a flat base, if not a robber pit, is reminiscent of a large post hole –could it have served for a beacon, for example? By way of another avenue of enquiry, the use of prehistoric mounds for windmill bases is also a well attested practice where they were generally raised up to catch the wind and avoid turbulence (Lawson et al. 1981, 11; Watts 2002, 104, 204). In the majority of cases, the foundation superstructure was buried within the mill mound, ensuring stability, and a common foundation form was to mount the central post on cross trees, supported by struts. However, early examples of the 12th-13th centuries, when windmills first seem to have appeared in both England and the continent, seem to have relied on a deep setting of the central post as a foundation (Clarke 2003, 73-4, Holt 1988,140-2). To take the logic further, medieval windmills often had ditches – perhaps only as an incidental result of digging material for the mound, but also perhaps for drainage, or for keeping livestock from the sails, or even perhaps for the tail pole/wheel to run in (Holt 1998, Watts 2002, 108, Clarke 2003, 75). Pit 0772 is central to the outer ring ditch, supporting the suggestion that they may be related, and dimensions of comparative examples could be sought. At the western extreme of the outer ring ditch (slot 0735) only one ditch was visible in section. It was not clear during excavation whether this was because the ditch had not been re-cut at this point, whether it had not existed previously at this point, or whether the re-cut had completely truncated ditch 0752. Perhaps at some point there had been a causeway; this was a common feature of windmill ditches, intended to provide access, and was often situated with regards to the prevailing wind so that turning sails could be generally avoided (Watts 2002, 107). Pieces of iron and nails recorded over the mound may be related – nails and tools are often found over windmill sites. A further observation is that the survival of this barrow and not the other might be a result of preferential use rather than ploughing out in the medieval period. It is worth noting the mound of the monument had been truncated, and further evidence of foundations may have been lost. Charcoal deposits at the base of 0772 have the appearance of charred timbers (often found on windmill sites as fire was a common hazard (Watts 2002, 107, 109), and there is potential to radiocarbon date them. Although circumstantial with respect to the evidence, and there is apparent evidence for a buried bank within the mound that may give a valid explanation for it having two ditches from the

prehistoric period; the fact that this narrative can be constructed at all means that careful analysis is needed of the monument.

- Further work is needed on the composition and spatial analysis of the Anglo-Saxon deposit to establish its derivation and whether there is any evidence of structured deposition. Patterns of disposal may be noted. There is scope to assess the Roman ceramic building material and the fired clay, to contribute to the corpus of fabric types and forms available in the region, as well as to consider what was present on an Anglo-Saxon site, or at least in the deposit. However, it is material that is out of context. There may have been ideological reasons for such a deposit at a prehistoric earthwork, or there may be more mundane reasons for its placement. There is scope to research parallel 'domestic' looking dumps of Anglo-Saxon material at other funerary/prehistoric/non-domestic sites as well as in settlement contexts. Is there, for example, any literature on house-clearance/end of life practices? This site adds to a growing body of collected evidence on Anglo-Saxon activity at earlier sites.
- What is the outstanding bone from 0640?

General research

The archaeology of the landscape in the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age and the Anglo-Saxon period will need to be undertaken. Comparative examples of deposits and wider comparisons for the monuments will also need to be sought. Research on the immediate landscape and wider Stour Valley in the prehistoric and Anglo-Saxon period should encompass other Stour Valley and Great Cornard sites such as work carried out on land off Bures Road (COG 025) and Carson's Drive (COG 029), results of the Stour Valley project, which involved systematic cropmark survey (Brown 2002), and information from the Essex as well as Suffolk publications and HERs.

8.3 Recommendations for analysis and publication

It is intended that this funerary landscape will be published with comparable sites in the East Anglian Archaeology (EAA) Series with the theme of Late Neolithic/Bronze Age burial sites. Other sites scheduled for inclusion are the Aldham Mill barrow site at Hadleigh, HAD 059 (Everett and Boulter 2010), and Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age burials sites at Frith Cottage, Alderton, ADT 016, Blood Hill, Bramford, BRF 068 and South-west Ipswich and South Suffolk Sixth Form Centre, Pinewood, Ipswich SPT 035.

It is anticipated that the volume would present all of the data from the site, including edited versions of specialist reports, with general synthetic discussion. This single publication would promote the prehistoric and Anglo-Saxon finds and capture the sense of use and re-use of landscapes. Undertaking tasks suggested above will gather all the information for publication, and projected timescales and budgets are costed below. It is anticipated that publication illustrations will include maps, sections (of both monuments, of 0741 (section 55), plans (site, monuments, 0720?), plates and finds drawings and plan illustrating the spatial analysis of specific finds types. There is detailed contour data available from the site which means that a publication can include a figure showing the barrows in relation to its topography.

It is anticipated that this element of the EAA publication would require 27 pages and would include:

- Introductory paragraph, site location, topography, geology and archaeological and historical background - 2 pages (0.5 page of text and 2 figures)
- Description of monument 1 - 2 pages (0.25 page text and 2 figures)
- Description of monument 2 - 3 pages (0. 5 page of text and 3 figures)
- Bulk finds catalogue and description 2 pages (1 page text and 1 figure)
- Environmental data, including human remains catalogue and description - 2 pages (0.5 page text and 2 figures)
- Detailed description and discussion of the necklace - 3 pages (1 page text and 2 pages of figures)
- Other small finds 0.5 page (0.25 page of text and 1 figure)
- Discussion of the prehistoric evidence, analysis of the stratigraphic evidence and implications for monument use and construction, comparison with other sites - 3 pages (1 page text and 2 figures)
- Discussion of the re-use of the area in the Anglo-Saxon period - 0.5 page (all text)
- 8 pages of plates (2 per page)
- Total of a page for synthetic discussion in the volume.

8.4 Archive Report

The site archive and archive report is required to present relevant project information to standards outlined in MoRPHE. It is envisaged that this PXA, with a series of Additions created through achieving tasks outlined above, will form the ‘grey literature’ report for the project. These will include a report on the radiocarbon dating, finalised specialists

reports on pottery, post-roman pottery, flint, HSR, further environmental work, and a complete small finds catalogue that includes any conservation notes. A revised stratigraphic analysis and discussion may also be added, as a step towards publication.

The site has generated a finds, documentary and digital archive. The digital archive will continue to grow as analysis proceeds. The physical archive will be packed and prepared in accordance with SCCAS/CT guidelines, and costs of deposition are discussed below.

Site Code	Type	Number	Format
COG 028	Index sheets	18 + 45 = 63	A4 paper
	Context record sheets	185	A4 paper
	Photo record sheets	6	A4 paper
	25 pencil drawn plans	25 sheets	A3 plain permatrace
	45 pencil drawn sections	16 sheets	A3 plain permatrace
	Monochrome films		
	Digital images	181	Stored as jpeg files
	Context matrix	1	AutoCAD dwg file
COG 030	Index sheets	6, 1, 2, 13, 3, (25)	A4 paper
	Context record sheets	154	A4 paper
	Photo record sheets	6	A4 paper
	39 pencil drawn plans	25 sheets	A3 plain permatrace
	29 pencil drawn sections	6 sheets	A3 plain permatrace
	Monochrome films		
	Digital images	221	Stored as jpeg files
	Context matrix	1	AutoCAD dwg file

Table 29. Quantification of evaluation and excavation archive

It is worth noting that there may be conservation costs – these are noted in section 9. Specialist reports that have been synthesised in this report are individually included in the site archive.

9 Analysis and Publication: resources and programming

9.1 Staff for analysis and publication

The following staff and specialists have been allocated to this project.

Name	Initials	Organisation	Area of study
Jo Caruth	JCC	SCCAS	Project management, discussion and collation of publication text
Andrew Beverton	AB	SCCAS	Stratigraphic analysis, survey data
Richenda Goffin	RG	SCCAS	Finds and post-excavation manager
Steve Benfield	SB	SCCAS	Finds management
Anna West	AW	SCCAS	Environmental management
Crane Begg	CB	SCCAS	Graphics Manager
Gemma Adams	GA	SCCAS	Graphics Officer
Beata Wieczorek-Olesky	BWO	SCCAS	Graphics Officer
Sue Anderson	SA	CFA	HSR and post-roman ceramics
Sarah Bates	SBa	Freelance	Lithics
Dana Challinor	DC	Freelance	Charcoal
Nina Crummy	NC	Colchester Museums Service	Small finds
Julie Curl	JC	Freelance	Animal bone
Val Fryer	VF	Freelance	Environmental analysis
Emma Hogarth	EH	Colchester Museums Service	Finds conservation
Sue Holden	SH	Freelance	Finds illustration
Sarah Paynter	SPa	Freelance	Slag
Sarah Percival	SP	Freelance	Prehistoric pottery
Alison Sheridan	AS	National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh	Beads
Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre	SUERC	Glasgow University	Radiocarbon dating

Table 30. Staffing for analysis and publication

9.2 Task sequence

The following is a list of tasks proposed to complete the analyses and publication.

9.2.1 Initial preparation

1 Provision of information for specialists (AB)

2 Processing of remaining environmental samples (AW)

3 Sorting of cremations and selection of material for radiocarbon dating (SB)

9.2.2 Dating

4 Radiocarbon dates for 11 contexts (SUERC)

9.2.3 Stratigraphic analysis

5 Detailed examination of mound deposits of monument 2 and fills of all ring ditches and integration of dating evidence(AB)

6 Analysis of spatial distribution data for all finds groups (AB)

9.2.4 Bulk finds

7 Prehistoric pottery analysis, integration of phasing and dating information and report (SP)

8 Restoration of Beaker pot (EH)

9 Post-roman pottery analysis, integration of phasing and dating information, spatial analysis and report (SA)

10 Examination of the CBM with phasing information and comparison with other sites (SA)

11 Comparison of the fired clay with other groups, integration of the phasing information and report (SA)

12 Analysis of the worked flint by context and dating, examination of distribution, comparison with other sites and report (SBa)

13 Analysis of the Anglo-Saxon slag (SPa)

9.2.5 Small finds

14 Conservation, XRF and analysis of the bead necklace (AS and others)

15 Necklace reconstruction (AS)

16 Report on other small finds (NC)

9.2.6 Environmental data

17 Analysis and reporting of human skeletal remains, including the cremated human bone (SA)

18 Analysis and reporting of the animal bone (JC)

19 Assessment of additional flots and macrofossil analysis and reporting (VF)

20 Analysis of charcoal in samples 54 and 60 (DC)

9.2.7 Illustration

21 Illustration of eighteen prehistoric and post-roman pottery sherds (SH)

22 Illustration of twenty worked flints (BWO)

23 Illustration of small finds (SH)

24 Illustration of selected individual necklace beads of reconstructed necklace (SH)

25 Photography of selected finds and reconstructed necklace (GA)

26 Additional digitisation of site drawings (GA)

27 Production of topographic survey (AB)

28 Finds distribution plans (CB)

29 Creation of report figures (CB)

9.2.8 Archive report completion

30 Revision of stratigraphic text, to integrate finds and dating information and results of stratigraphic analysis (AB)

31 Editing of individual finds reports and collation into archive report (RG)

32 Production of pdf and hard copies (AB)

9.2.9 Publication

33 Research into comparable sites and parallels (AB)

34 Production of publication text (AB and specialists)

35 Collation of publication report and editing (RG/JCC)

36 Editing after peer review (RG/JCC)

9.2.10 Archive deposition

37 Preparation of digital data for archive submission

38 Packing of physical archive to SCCAS archive standards

9.2.11 Project management

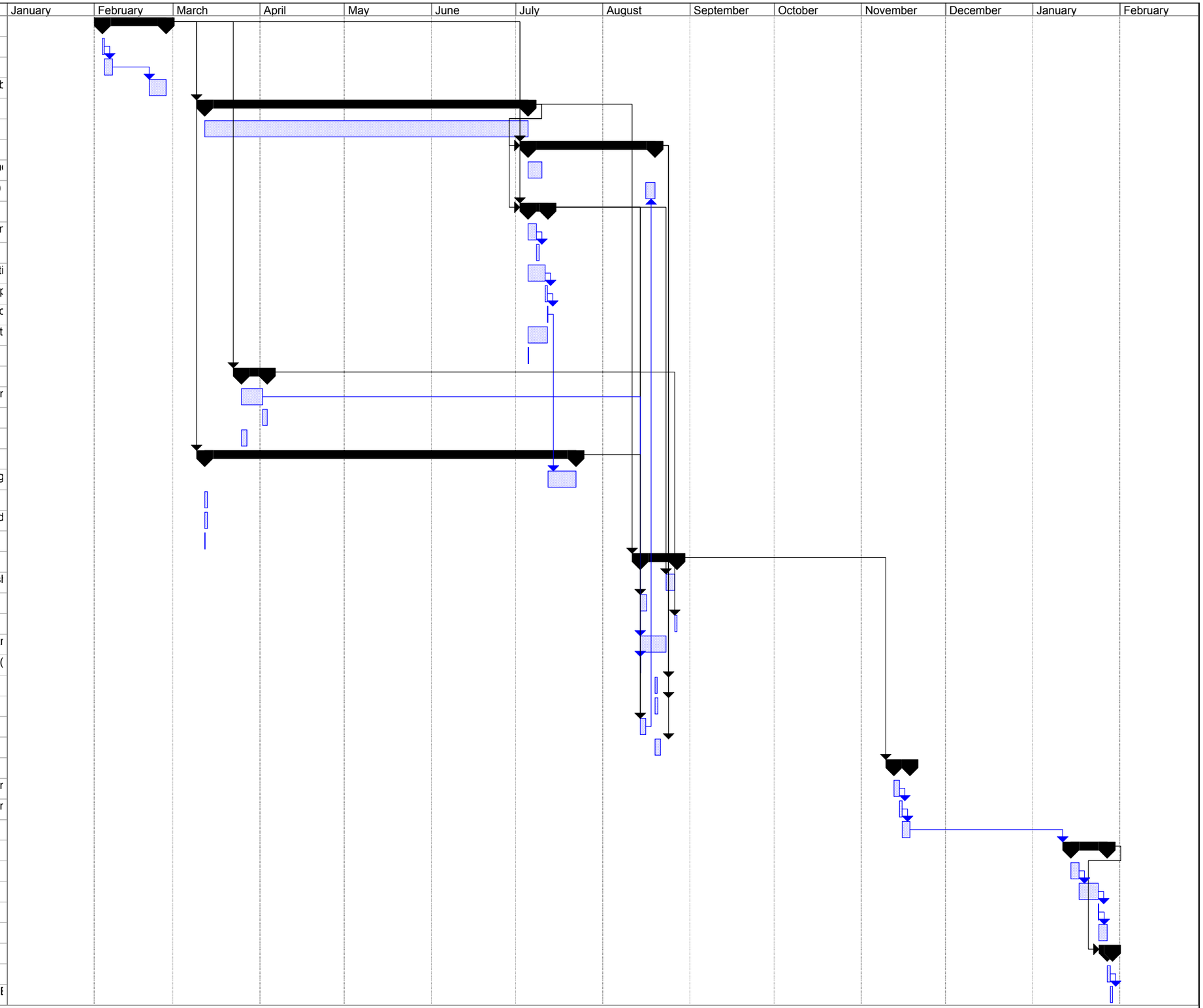
39 Finds management, liaison with specialists (SB)

40 Overall project management, liaison with publication bodies etc. (JCC)

9.3 Programming

A gantt chart for the analysis and publication is included at Figure 9. It is expected that a draft publication report would be prepared within 12 months of the start of the project. A start date of 1st February 2013 is suggested.

Task no	Task Name
	Initial preparation
1	Provision of information for specialists (AB)
2	Processing of remaining environmental samples (AW)
3	Sorting of cremations and selection of material for radiocart
	Dating
4	Radiocarbon dates for 11 contexts
	Stratigraphic analysis
5	Detailed examination of mound deposits of monument 1 an
6	Analysis of spatial distribution data for all finds groups (AB)
	Bulk finds
7	Prehistoric pottery analysis, integration of phasing and datir
8	Restoration of Beaker pot (EH)
9	Post-roman pottery analysis, integration of phasing and dati
10	Examination of the CBM with phasing information and comp
11	Comparison of the fired clay with other groups, integration c
12	Analysis of the worked flint by context and dating, examinat
13	Analysis of the Anglo-Saxon slag (SPa)
	Small finds
14	XRF identification and analysis of the bead necklace (AS ar
15	Necklace reconstruction
16	Report on other small finds (NC)
	Environmental data
17	Analysis and reporting of human skeletal remains, including
18	Analysis and reporting of the animal bone (JC)
19	Assessment of additional flots and macrofossil analysis and
20	Analysis of charcoal in samples 54 and 60 (DC)
	Illustration
21	Illustration of eighteen prehistoric and post-roman pottery sl
22	Illustration of twenty worked flints (BWO)
23	Illustration of small finds (SH)
24	Illustration of selected individual necklace beads of reconstr
25	Photography of selected finds and reconstructed necklace (
26	Additional digitisation of site drawings (GA)
27	Production of topographic survey (AB)
28	Production of finds distribution maps
29	Creation of report figures (CB)
	Archive report completion
30	Revision of stratigraphic text, to integrate finds and dating ir
31	Editing of individual finds reports and collation into archive r
32	Production of pdf and hard copies (AB)
	Publication
33	Research into comparable sites and parallels (AB)
34	Production of publication text (AB and specialists)
35	Collation of publication report and editing (RG/JC)
36	Editing after peer review (AB/RG/JC)
	Archive deposition
37	Preparation of digital data for archive submission AB
38	Packing of physical archive to SCCAS archive standards SE



Project: Gantt chart
Date: Mon 26/11/12

Task
Split
Progress
Milestone
Summary
Project Summary
External Tasks
External Milestone
Deadline

Figure 9. Gantt chart for Analysis and Publication Project

10 Acknowledgements

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The project was directed by Mo Muldowney, and managed by Jo Caruth, who also provided advice during the production of the report.

Post-excavation finds work was managed by Richenda Goffin. Finds processing was carried out by Jonathan Van Jennians, and the specialist finds and environmental assessment reports were undertaken by Stephen Benfield (SCCAS), Sue Anderson, Sarah Bates, Sarah Percival, Val Fryer (all independent) and Dr. Alison Sheridan (National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh). Environmental processing was done in-house by Anna West and the analysis was carried out by Val Fryer. Other specialist identification and advice was provided by Sue Anderson and Dr. Alison Sheridan. Graphics were produced by Crane Begg. Sonia O'Connor from the University of Bradford has carried out initial non-destructive materials analysis of the beads.

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Plate 1. COG 030, skeleton 0784, with grave goods (1m scale, facing south-west)

Plate 2. COG 030, ditch 0715 and mound material (2m scale, facing north)

Plate 3. COG 028, fills of ditch 0640 (2 x 2m scales, facing west)

Plate 4. COG 028, cremation 0536 (1m scale, facing north)

Plate 5. COG 028, ring ditch 0512 and pit 0503 under excavation

Plate 6. COG 030, crouched skeleton 0720 (1m scale facing west)

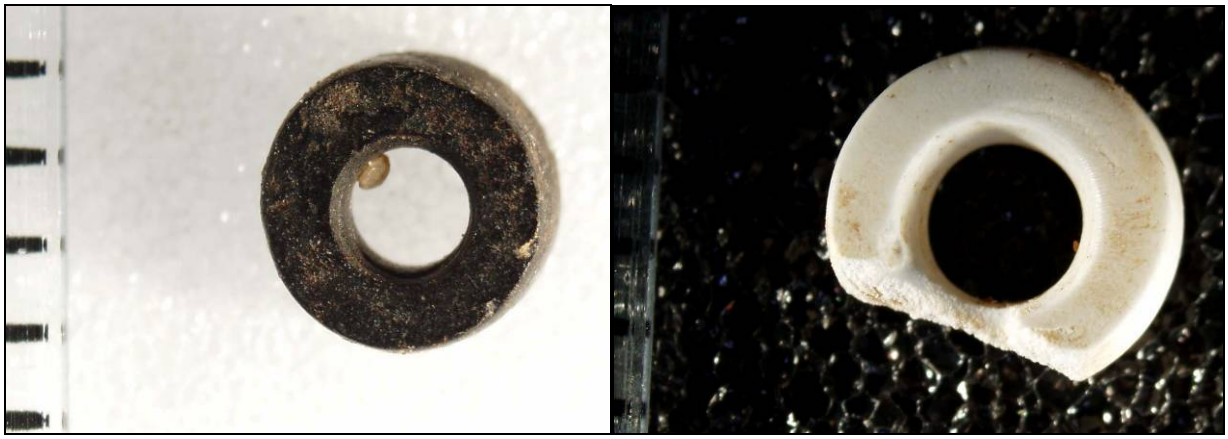

Plate 7. Jet and shale beads from necklace of skeleton in grave 0785 (scale intervals 1mm)

Plate 8. COG 028, ring ditch, 0640, Monument 1, pre-excavation, looking east

Site COG 030, monument 2 lies under the grass of the rugby pitch, middle right. Small ring ditch, 0512, COG 028, lies behind the tree bottom left. Photograph by Higher View

Plate 9. COG 028, ring ditch 0640, Monument 1, excavated, looking north-west

Ring Ditch, 0512, can be seen top right, and the Higher View van and the edge of the photographic pole, centre bottom. The deposit of Early Anglo-Saxon pottery was recovered from the sections near Ring Ditch 0512, where the upper fill between two segments has been excavated. Photograph by Higher View

Plate 10. COG 030, monument 2, under excavation, looking roughly north

The two concentric ditches can be seen in the bottom left hand quadrant. Mound material is being removed from the other three quadrants. Photograph by Higher View

Plate 11. COG 030, monument 2, excavated, looking south-west

Grave 0785 can be seen in the centre of the Ring Ditch, with construction work underway in the background. Photograph by Higher View

Plate 12. COG 028, backfilled and ready for construction, looking roughly west

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Tel: 01473 265879 Fax: 01284 741257

rhodri.gardner@suffolk.gov.uk

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