

Cherry Tree Inn, Debenham DBN 132

Archaeological Excavation Report

SCCAS Report No. 2012/047

Client: Hollins Architects (on behalf of their client Highland Ltd)

Author: Simon Cass

September 2012

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Author: Simon Cass

Contributions By: Andrew Fawcett, Sue Anderson, Sarah Bates, Mike Fieder, Val Fryer,
Sue Holden, Sarah Percival and Ian Ridder

Illustrator: Gemma Adams

Editor: Jo Caruth

Report Date: September 2012

HER Information

Report Number: 2012/047
Site Name: Cherrytree Inn, Debenham
Planning Application No: 2780/10
Date of Fieldwork: 12/09/2011-13/02/2012
Grid Reference: TM 1752 6289
Client/Funding Body: Highland Ltd
Client Reference: -
Curatorial Officer: Edward Martin
Project Officer: Simon Cass
Oasis Reference: suffolkc1-122675
Site Code: DBN 132

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

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Prepared By: Simon Cass
Date: 13/09/2012
Approved By: Rhodri Gardner
Position: Contracts Manager
Date:
Signed:

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(*expected proportions from McKinley 1994, 6)	34
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Summary

Archaeological monitoring of ground disturbance in advance of the construction of new housing at Cherrytree Inn, Debenham revealed the presence of several urned and unurned cremations of middle Bronze Age date, as well as domestic hearth debris pits of early Anglo-Saxon date. The liminal nature of the topography of the site suggests that the burials fit in with a wider noted trend in Bronze Age burial practices for cemeteries to be located on the edges of landscape features, and often in relation to rivers and/or bodies of water. The presence of defined features of Anglo-Saxon date is the first time that stratified remains have been identified of this period in/around Debenham and may point to further Anglo-Saxon deposits being located to the south of the present town. Further work on the recovered materials from this site may be able to identify trends in differentiation between cremation practices for the Bronze Age remains, though the Anglo-Saxon finds will require further discoveries in the area before they can be significantly re-assessed.

Drawing Conventions

Plans

Limit of Excavation	-----
Features	—————
Break of Slope
Features - Conjectured	-----
Natural Features
Sondages/Machine Strip	-----
Intrusion/Truncation	-----
Illustrated Section	————— S.14
Cut Number	0008
Archaeological Features	■ ■ ■
Modern	■

Sections

Limit of Excavation	-----
Cut	—————
Modern Cut	—————
Cut - Conjectured	-----
Deposit Horizon	—————
Deposit Horizon - Conjectured	-----
Intrusion/Truncation	-----
Top of Natural	—————
Top Surface	—————
Break in Section	-----
Cut Number	0008
Deposit Number	0007
Ordnance Datum	18.45m OD X

1. Introduction

Archaeological monitoring of invasive ground works was undertaken on land at the old Cherrytree Inn, at the junction of Cherrytree Lane and the B1077 on the southern edge of Debenham in 2011 and 2012. This was as a result of a condition placed on planning permission 2780/10 from Mid Suffolk District Council requiring an appropriate scheme of archaeological mitigation to be undertaken on the proposed redevelopment of the site into four new dwellings as well as retail properties and associated ancillary works. This report concerns the area of the new dwellings, towards the southern part of the site on the old bowling green. The northern part of the site, including a new car-park to the west of the Inn building will be reported on separately at a later date.

An archaeological evaluation had previously been carried out on this site, in November 2010, by SCCAS. Five trenches, with a total length of 110m, were excavated across the proposed development site. Two ditches, a small number of indistinct features, which may have been postholes but were at too great a depth to safely examine, and two Bronze Age cremation burials, one of which was urned, were identified and recorded. As a consequence of this, further mitigation was required of the development and a brief for monitoring of the ground works was produced by Edward Martin of SCCAS Conservation Team (Appendix 1).

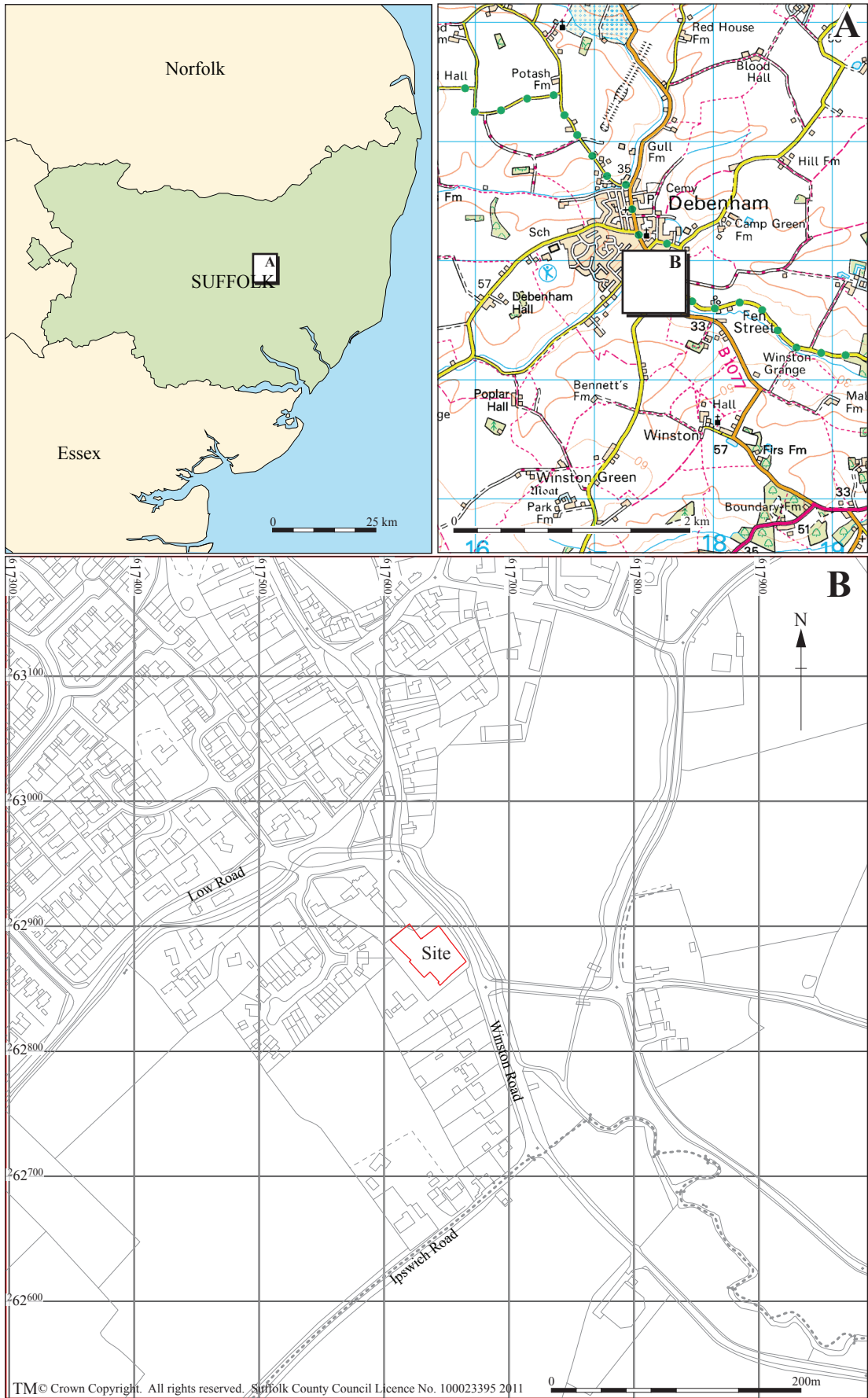


Figure 1. Location of site

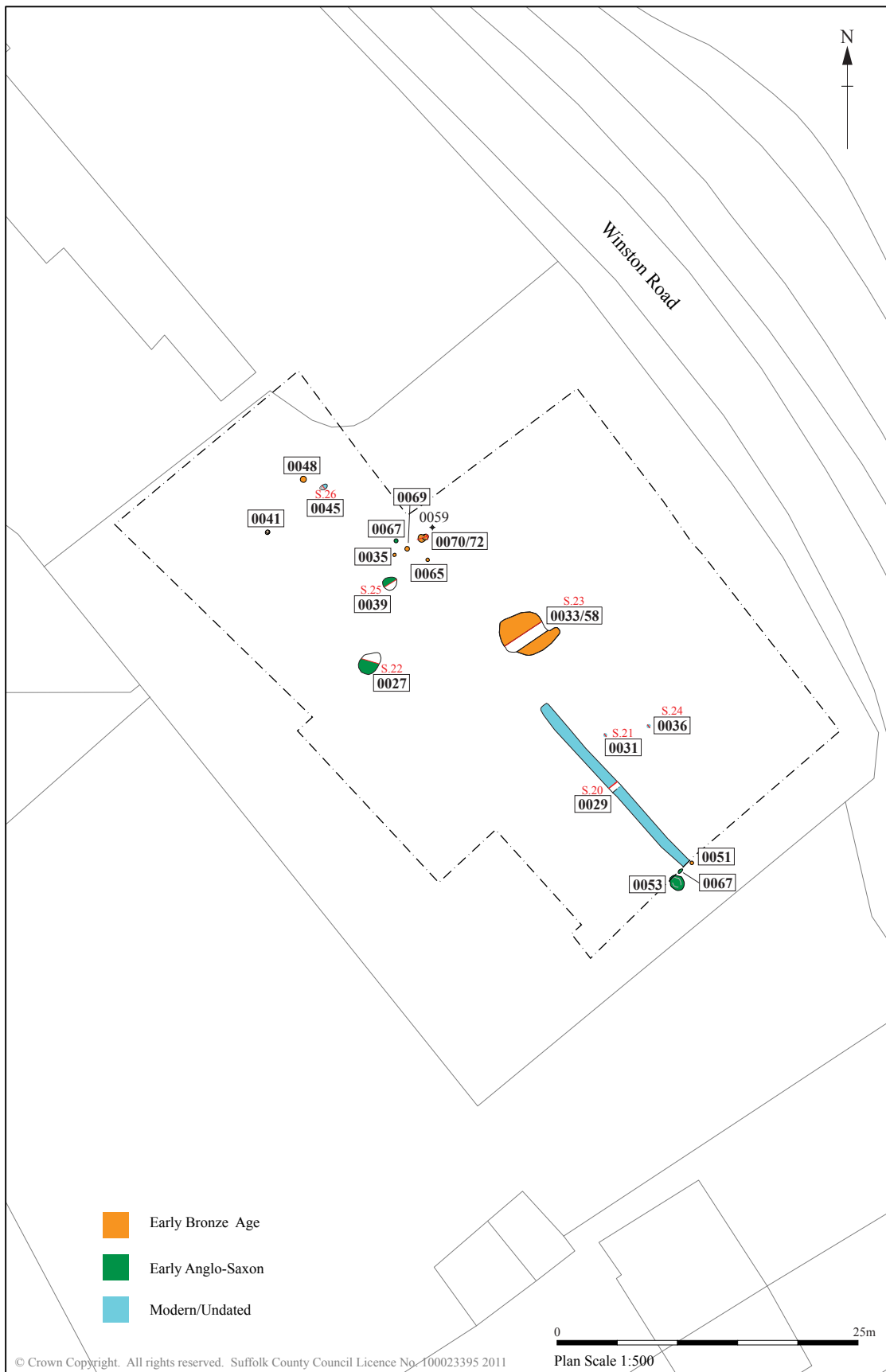


Figure 2. Phased feature plan

2. The Excavation

2.1 Site location

The site is located on the southern side of the town of Debenham, adjacent to the B1077 and Cherrytree Lane to the east and north respectively on land formerly occupied by a Bowling Green (the southern end of the site) and the Cherrytree Inn itself. The River Deben passes some 120m to the east of the Inn buildings, with water-meadows between it and the B1077.

2.2 Geology and topography

The development site is situated on the north east facing slope of a shallow valley and comprises three terraces; the area of the existing public house and car park at c. 34.1m OD; the former bowling green at c. 35.1m OD and the rear garden area to the south west of the public house at c. 35.4m OD. The bowling green is built on an artificially created level terrace which is partially cut into the valley slope. The other two terraces are generally even but with gentle slopes down towards the east. The natural geology as encountered on site consists of mid-orangey brown sands and mixed gravels, although the Geological Survey for the site indicates deep clays and chalky till deposits.

The valley is drained by a tributary to the River Deben which runs across the north end of the site and along the eastern edge on the other side of the adjacent roadways. The site is located on the bottom edge of the high ground as it descends into the floodplain of the Deben, which is bounded by the tributary and the main channel of the Deben some 120m to the east.

Valleys such as this have been cut through the central clay plateau by water draining off the relatively impermeable soil into the main river channels. Most of the soils in these valleys are the better drained and more workable clays of the Hanslope series although in some areas there are more mixed soils and occasional sand and gravel terraces.

2.3 Archaeological and historical background

Until the earlier archaeological evaluation there were no known sites of archaeological interest within the excavation area, but it is located within the area of medieval Debenham, as defined in the County Historic Environment Record (HER), and close to

the site of a human burial of unknown age discovered in 1839 in the garden of house being built in the meadow to the rear of the Cherry Tree (HER ref. DBN 085).

The site is also situated in a valley on the edge of high ground close to a source of water, a location which is topographically favourable to earlier settlement.

The site was therefore considered to have a very high potential for archaeological deposits to be present and that the proposed development would entail significant disturbance to the existing land surface which could result in damage and/or destruction of any archaeological remains that may have been present. The previous phase of archaeological evaluation confirmed the presence of archaeological deposits related to both urned and un-urned cremations of Middle Bronze Age date, and identified pottery dating to the Anglo-Saxon period within the site boundary. A small number of sites in the vicinity (mainly to the east and southeast) have also produced remains of (Anglo) Saxon origin.

3. Methodology

The site was stripped with an 8-tonne mechanical tracked excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Archaeological monitoring of the excavation was arranged prior to starting to dig due to uncertainty over the precise levels required by the construction of the new dwellings. The later parts of the ground works were monitored intermittently, after it was ascertained that they were highly unlikely to penetrate to archaeologically relevant layers due to shallower excavation depths required and the sloping nature of the natural geological layers (and therefore the archaeological horizon).

All deposits were recorded using SCCAS pro forma sheets and plans and sections were hand-drawn at 1:50 and 1:20. Individual context numbers were allocated to each definable context, continuing the sequence from the previous evaluation phase (therefore using context numbers 0027 to 0074). A full photographic record was made using a high resolution digital camera (6.2 megapixels) and a Leica 1200 GPS surveying unit was used to geolocate the individual features, providing spot-heights and horizontal positioning to an accuracy of less than 0.02m. The unedited and post-processed survey data has been included with the digital site archive.

The area was not scanned with a metal detector prior to commencing the stripping – scattered modern metallic objects and fragments were assessed as being likely to have caused too much interference, although a metal detector was on site for scanning of individual features.

A digital copy of the report will be submitted for inclusion on the Archaeology Data Service database (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>) upon completion of the project and an online OASIS record has been completed already.

4. Results

Introduction

The features encountered during this monitoring exercise mainly fall into one of three categories – urned cremations, un-urned cremations and hearth debris pits. Nothing indicative of in-situ burning, such as partial firing or scorching of the natural, was observed around any of these features so they are discounted as actual hearths at the present time. Additionally, these features appear to belong to two main time periods – the Middle Bronze Age and the Anglo-Saxon period, with some undated/probable modern features as well.

Middle Bronze Age features

Pit 0033/0058

This pit was situated towards the centre of the site and measured c. 3.8m by 3.7m with an irregular squareish shape. It was up to 0.5m deep and had a steep concave western edge but a much shallower eastern edge/slope and a flattish base. It contained three distinct fills, 0055, 0056 and 0057/0034. The lowest deposit was a dark greyish brown firm silty sand (0057/0034) up to 0.38m thick with occasional small-medium angular and rounded flints, heat-altered clay, charcoal flecks, burnt flint, flint flakes and very occasional degraded bone fragments which was concentrated against the southwest edge and base of the feature, sealed by a mid grey silty clay (0056) c. 0.22m thick with frequent mid-large angular and rounded flints, daub fragments and charcoal flecking. The final fill of this feature (0055) was a very dark greyish black silty clay c. 0.11m thick and an item believed to be a hone stone was found within this fill.

Urn 0035

This urn consisted of the fragmentary remains of the southeastern edge of the base an urn (the rest of the urn having been destroyed or lost during stripping. No part of the fill of the urn remained, but its location was noted on the site plan, and the remains of the vessel were determined to be similar to the other urns nearby of middle Bronze Age date.

Cremation 0041

This small pit was c.0.4m in diameter, and approx 0.13m deep when found, with a circular shape in plan. It contained Cremation Urn 0043 and was backfilled after the urn was deposited with a mid-dark yellowish brown silty sand (0042) which contained very occasional charcoal flecks and small stones. Urn 0043 was 0.28m in diameter and has been identified as a middle Bronze Age urn of the Ardleigh type, and was filled with a very dark grey/black silty sand (0044) with cremated human skeletal remains (HSR) and occasional charcoal flecks. A radiocarbon age BP (before AD 1950) of 3060 + 35, which calibrated at 92.8% probability is between 1417 and 1257 BC, was obtained from burnt skeletal material selected from this deposit (Appendix 11).

Cremation 0048

This small pit was c.0.38m in diameter, and approximately 0.23m deep when found, with a circular shape in plan and contained a dark blackish grey friable silty sand (0049) interpreted as cremation pyre debris with very frequent small to medium HSR fragments and pieces. A radiocarbon age BP (before AD 1950) of 3075 + 35, which calibrated at 95.4% probability is between 1425 and 1263 BC, was obtained from burnt skeletal material selected from this deposit (Appendix 10).

Cremation Urn 0051

This cremation urn was found in the southeast edge of the site and was partially sectioned by the sloped batter of the site limit. Its diameter was approximately 0.35m, and it survived to a height of 0.15m. It was filled with 0052, a dark brown/black sandy silt with moderate burnt bone inclusions. The urn has been dated to the middle Bronze Age.

Cremation Urn 0059

This was a semi-circle of truncated urn base apparently left in situ by earlier disturbance on the site. No visible evidence of a cut survived and the remains were heavily disturbed; some burnt bone flecks were found outside the urn in the surrounding soil but are believed to have originated inside the urn. The remains of the urn fill (0060) were a mid/dark brownish grey firm clayey silt with occasional small stones and common charcoal flecks and burnt bone fragments and were heavily mixed with natural and subsoil (the urn sat within the natural/subsoil interface). The urn was not planned other than as a spot-find due to its truncated nature.



Plate 1. Urn 0059, facing north-west (0.3m scale)

Cremation pyre debris pit 0061

Pit 0061 was the remains of a cremation pyre debris pit with near vertical sides to a flat base, 0.34m diameter and surviving to 0.1m in depth. The base of feature just reached the subsoil/natural sand interface, which suggests in part the reason for the truncated survival of the pit. It was filled with a dark brown/black silty sand (0062) with very frequent burnt bone flecks/fragments, moderate charcoal flecks and intermittent possible burnt clay.

Cremation Urn pit 0065

Context number 0065 was issued for the burial cut for Cremation Urn 0064. No cut was visible on the surface, though a slight colour difference around and under the urn suggested it was still in its depositional pit. But due to the light conditions it was not possible to be sure of the dimensions of the theoretical cut. Cremation urn 0064 was 0.3m in diameter and survived to 0.15m high and was lifted whole with the internal fill still present within the urn to allow for more controlled excavation later. The cremation pyre debris fill in the urn was a dark greyish black silty clay with burnt flint, burnt bone and charcoal fragments (assigned context number 0063)

Cremation pyre debris pit 0070

This feature was circular in plan with vertical sides and a shallow concave base (0.64m by 0.6m and 0.32m deep), filled with a dark grey/black firm silty clay with occasional small angular-rounded flints, moderate burnt flints and charcoal flecking and burnt bone, interpreted as cremation pyre debris (0069). This feature partially truncated pit 0072 to the east. Though no dateable finds were recovered from this feature, cremated bone remains selected from the deposit produced a radiocarbon age BP 3030+ 35, which calibrated at 94.1% probability is between 1405 and 1193 BC (Appendix 12).



Plate 2. Cremation debris pit 0070 and pit 0072, facing west (1m scale)

Pit 0072

This feature was a subcircular pit, partially truncated to the west by cremation pyre debris pit 0070, with steep slightly concave sides to a broad, shallow concave base and measuring 0.5m by 0.46m and 0.4m deep. It was filled with a dark greyish brown firm/compact silty clay with moderate/frequent medium/large angular and rounded flints, moderate charcoal flecks. Two pieces of burnt bone were found within this fill though they are suspected to be intrusive from deposit 0069.

Early Anglo-Saxon features

Hearth debris pit 0027

This feature was an irregular ovoid pit, aligned approximately northeast-southwest, 2m long and 1.6m wide with shallow sloped sides to a concave base. It was filled with a dark grey/blackish brown sandy silt (0028) with occasional small/medium flints, very frequent charcoal flecks and lumps, occasional burnt bone fragments, pottery, CBM fragments and heated clay lumps. The items recovered from this features were dated to the early Anglo-Saxon period (c. 6th century) and it is suggested that the pit is a more likely to be a debris pit from a domestic hearth rather than an *in situ* hearth due to the lack of any scorching or heating of the natural at the base of the pit.



Plate 3. Hearth debris pit 0027, facing south-west (0.3m scale)

Hearth debris pit 0039

This pit was circular, measuring c. 1.2m in diameter, with gradually sloping concave sides to a shallow concave base 0.27m deep. It was filled with a dark brownish grey firm silty sand (0040) with occasional small-medium angular-rounded flints, heat-altered flint flakes and clay fragments and occasional burnt bone fragments and moderate charcoal flecks. The finds from this feature suggest that it may have been domestic hearth refuse, rather than cremation pyre debris disposal, and part of an early Anglo-Saxon glass bead was found in the sample. The other finds recovered from this feature also date to the same period.



Plate 4. Hearth debris pit 0039, facing north (1m scale)

Hearth debris pit 0053

Hearth debris pit 0053 was located in the south-eastern limit of excavation, adjacent to cremation urn 0051 and partially sectioned by the sloped edge of the site strip. It was a large ovoid pit (measuring approximately 1.35 x 1.16m and 0.4m deep) with steep sloped sides to a shallow concave base and was filled with a pinky-red fired clay with dark grey/brown silty clay (0054) which also contained moderate small/medium angular and rounded flints and stones, occasional small chalk lumps, a significant quantity of pottery and fired clay lumps were also present. The majority of the fired clay artefacts recovered from this feature have been interpreted as potential kiln fabric, with pottery found within the feature being of 6th century date.



Plate 5. Kiln debris pit 0053, facing south-southeast (1m scale)

Pit 0067

This was an ovoid-shaped pit, aligned approximately east-west (northern edge truncated by machine) situated on the southern limit of excavation for the site (close to 0051 and 0053), measuring 0.5m by 0.26m and surviving to 0.1m deep. It had a shallow broad profile with dished concave sides to a flat base and was filled with a mid/dark grey brown firm silty clay with occasional small angular-rounded flints (0068). Pottery recovered from this feature dated to the Early Anglo-Saxon period.

Unstratified finds 0073

Context 0073 was issued to a small concentration of unstratified finds located adjacent to Urn 0064. It included pottery of both early Bronze Age and early Anglo-Saxon date.

Unstratified finds 0074

Context 0074 was issued to another small concentration of unstratified finds adjacent to cremation pit 0070. It consisted of pottery of early Anglo-Saxon date.

Undated/modern features

Ditch 0029

This feature was a linear ditch, orientated approximately northwest-southeast, entering the site from the south-eastern boundary and terminating after some 17.7m. It was 0.9m wide and up to c. 0.15m deep with medium sloped sides to a flat base. It was filled with a mid/pale greyish brown (sun-baked) firm but friable sandy silt (0030) which contained animal bone, flints and ferrous objects (such as an iron nail). The ditch is interpreted as probably a post-medieval field boundary ditch or drainage just on the edge of the floodplain.

Posthole 0031

This posthole was located towards the southern end of the site, to the east of ditch 0029. It was 0.35m in diameter and 0.3m deep, with steep/near vertical sides to a flat base with a step on the northern side at c. 0.2m depth. It was filled with a mid greyish brown (sun-baked) hard friable sandy silt (0032) with occasional small/medium flints and stones.

Posthole 0036

This posthole, slightly east of posthole 003 had vertical sides to a shallow/flattish base and was 0.3m in diameter and 0.25m deep. It was filled with a mid greyish brown (sun-baked) hard friable sandy silt (0037) with occasional small-medium flints and stone inclusions. No finds were associated with this feature and there is no further evidence to suggest that it formed part of a structure with posthole 0031.

Burnt bone remains 0038

This context was issued to a distinct scatter of burnt bone fragments identified towards the centre of the site within an area of root disturbance within the topsoil. It is not known if they are representative of a destroyed cremation, or dragged from one of the hearths during stripping and are considered to be unstratified finds.

Pit 0045

This pit was an elongated/ovoid pit aligned approximately east-west with steep sides and a concave base, 0.7m east-west by 0.4m north-south and surviving to 0.12m deep. It was filled with a friable mid greyish brown silty sand (0046) deposit with occasional small stones and charcoal flecks. A secondary fill in this pit (0047) consisted of dark grey/black silty sand with frequent charcoal flecks and burnt bone fragments. It is uncertain whether this also represents the truncated base of a cremation deposit, or what date this feature belongs to.

Fired clay 0066

This was a small squareish patch of fired clay, with some debris spread out from central concentration of fired clay, found within close proximity to several cremations. Whether this is the remnant of a pyre site, or is unrelated to the cremations is uncertain but the fired clay found was consistent in appearance with that found in hearth debris pit 0053.

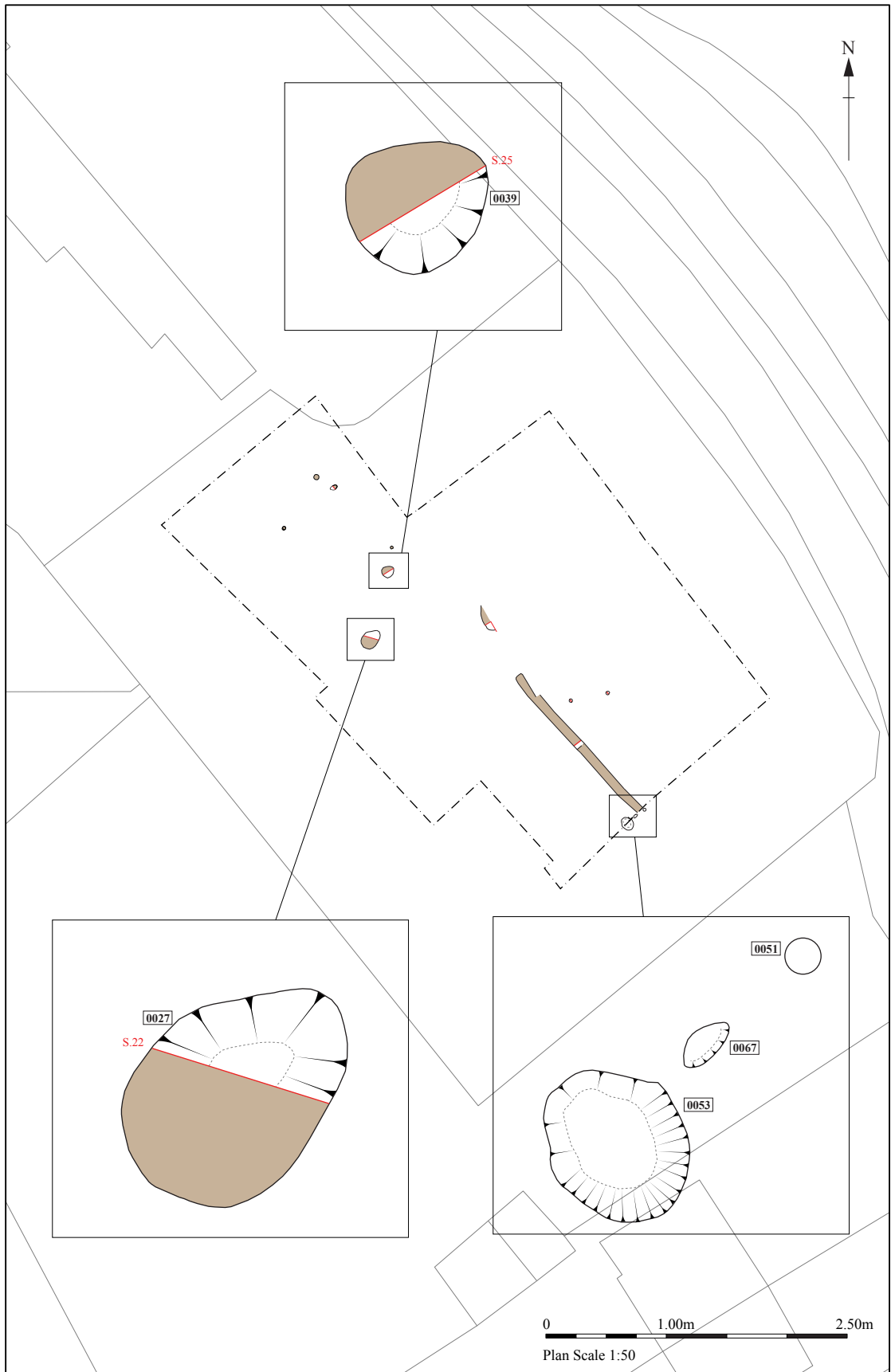


Figure 3. Anglo-Saxon pits

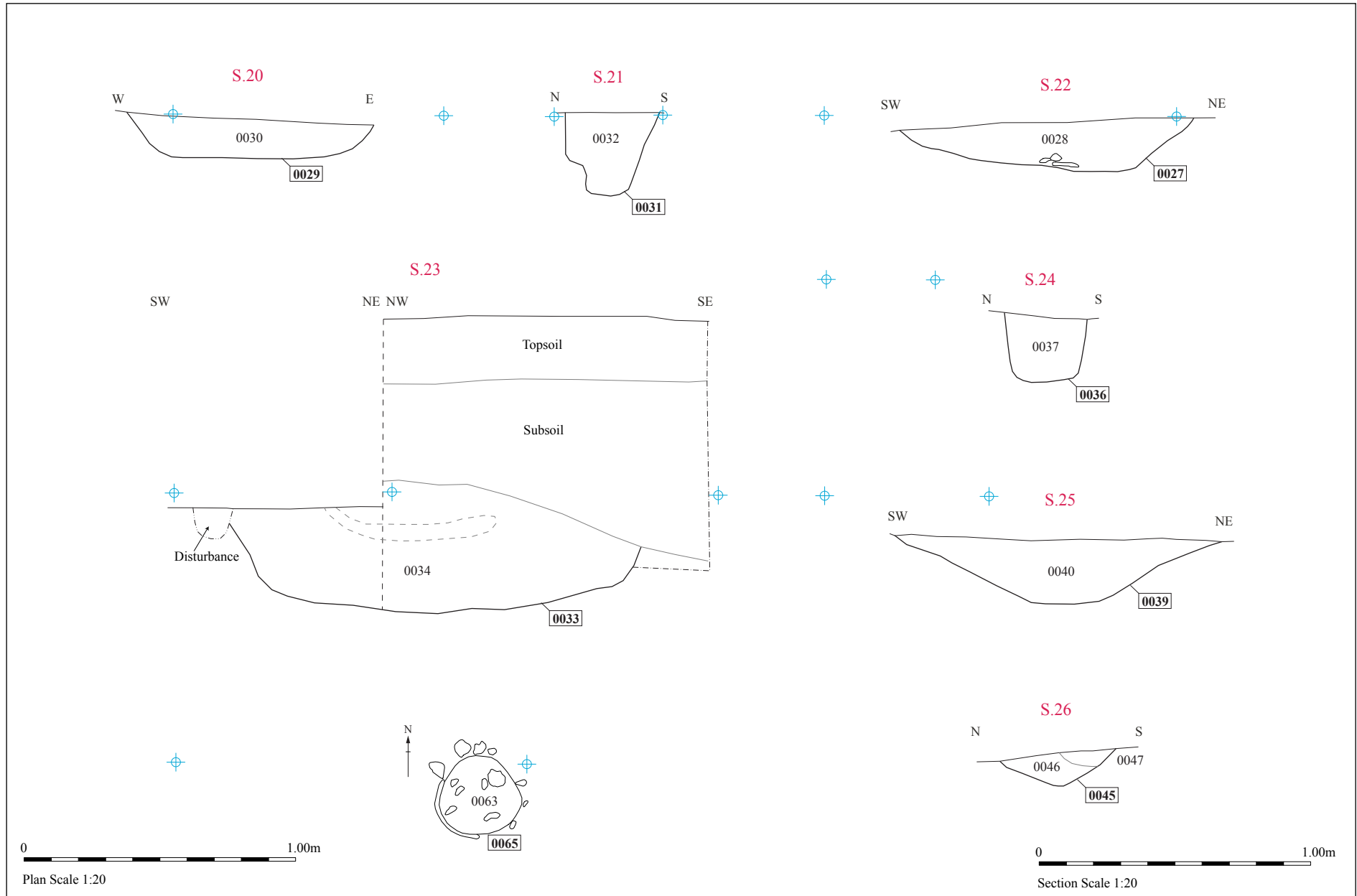


Figure 4. Sections

5. The finds evidence

Andy Fawcett

5.1 Introduction

Table 1 shows the quantities of finds collected from the archaeological monitoring. Finds were retrieved from twenty-eight fills, which include one ditch, post-hole and layer, as well as eight pits, fifteen cremation related fills and two unstratified contexts. A total of twelve samples taken from various fills also contained finds and where relevant, these are also included in Table 1. The finds collection also incorporates four small finds, microfossils and human cremated bone and these have all been recorded separately. A basic breakdown of the finds by context can be seen in Appendix 3 and a detailed catalogue forms part of the site archive.

Find type	No	Wt/g
Pottery	903	9733
CBM	3	53
Fired clay	1095	5737
Worked flint	46	356
Burnt flint/stone	435	3357
Worked stone	1	192
Glass	4	1
Iron	1	1
Animal bone	177	159
Charcoal	85	6
Total	2750	19595

Table 1: Finds quantities

5.2 Pottery

Prehistoric

Sarah Percival

Introduction

A total of 625 sherds weighing 6,160g and representing perhaps five vessels were collected from nine excavated contexts and from surface cleaning. The sherds are all from Middle Bronze Age Ardleigh Urns and were deposited with cremated human remains. The urns are heavily truncated with only the bases surviving.

Methodology

The assemblage was analysed in accordance with the Guidelines for analysis and publication laid down by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (PCRG 2010). The total assemblage was studied and a full catalogue was prepared. The sherds were examined using a binocular microscope (x10 magnification) and were divided into fabric groups defined on the basis of inclusion types. Fabric codes were prefixed by a letter code representing the main inclusion present (F representing flint, G grog and Q quartz). Vessel form was 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 SCCAS. A brief breakdown of the pottery by context can be seen in Appendix 4.

Fabric

Two fabrics were identified. Both contain blocky grog pieces in a sandy matrix (Plates 6 & 7). Fabric G1 has rare quartz pieces whilst G2 also contains moderate small angular flint. The fabrics are similar to those identified at contemporary sites for example Sproughton (Percival ref) and are consistent with the range of fabrics found at Ardleigh (Brown 1999, 76).



G1: Moderate blocky orange and black grog up to 6mm most c.2mm in sandy matrix. rare quartzitic rock

Plate 6: Fabric G1

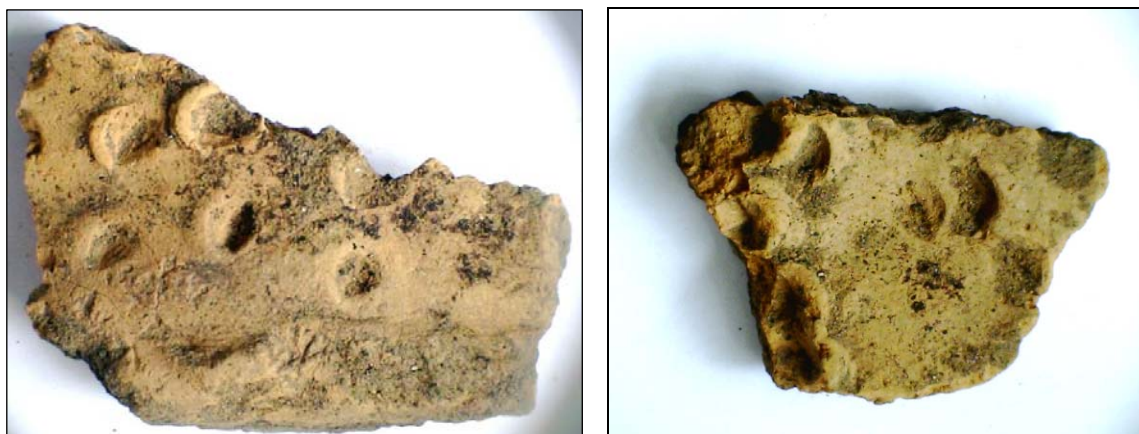


G2: Moderate blocky black grog up to 4mm in a sandy matrix, sparse to moderate small angular white flint

Plate 7: Fabric G2

Form and Decoration

The urns are barrel shaped. Bases are present from four vessels. Two bases are undecorated whilst two are decorated all over with fingertip-impressions (Plate 8 and 9). The use of finger tipping is highly characteristic of the tradition and is commonly found within the Ardleigh assemblage (Longworth 1960; Brown 1999). On one vessel the fingertip impressions are dense and deeply impressed into the clay (Plate 3). The second decorated vessel is less densely covered and the fingertip impressions are shallow (Brown 1999, fig69, 118). All are simple base angles and often have fingertip marks on the interior which represent accidental impressions made during the forming of the urn. Two rim sherds were recovered; both are from the same vessel however it is uncertain if they are from the same urn as any of the surviving bases. The rim is upright with a flattened terminal, decorated with fingertip impressions (Brown 1999, fig.74, 140, 141). No comb-impressed decoration, found at Ardleigh and Sproughton was present. The vessels appear to be slab-built and exhibit the large, square fracture patterns which characterise this potting technique.



Plates 8 and 9: Decorated base and body sherd from vessel 0043

Deposition

The complete bases were recovered from the subsoil in small pits suggesting that the complete urns had been placed in the ground in small scoops dug with just enough room to accommodate them. The loss of the upper bodies of the vessels suggests that the urns were not inverted over cremations, as at Brantham (Gilmour 1975, 123) and some examples from Brightlingsea (Brown 2008, 10), but were instead buried upright in a manner similar to the urns found at Sproughton (Percival 2009) and Ardleigh (Brown 1999, pl. VIII). The rim sherds were recovered from sample 11 pit 0061, which is believed to have contained the redeposited remains of the cremation pyre.

Discussion

The urn group are an interesting addition to the corpus of Ardleigh urns in the region which shows its main distribution along the river Stour in north east Essex and south east Suffolk (Gilmour 1975) with a second group north of Bury St Edmunds at Barnham, Fakenham Magna, Wangford and Troston (info Suffolk HER) and a possible outlier along the Suffolk coast at Westleton (Martin and Wells 1985). Debenham is situated on the river Deben, further up river from the Ardleigh Urn group found at Sutton Hoo, where vessels were similarly deposited within shallow scoops in the subsoil (Hummler 2005 fig, 200). Ardleigh urns have also been found south west of Debenham at Creeting St Mary.

A series of radiocarbon determinations associated with urns from Ardleigh suggest a broad date range from the middle of the 2nd millennium BC to the beginning of the 1st millennium BC (Brown 1995, 128). Brown has suggested that the urns from Ardleigh may be divided into two phases, the earlier vessels being highly decorated with developed rim forms and grog tempered fabrics, whilst the later urns are plainer and flint tempered. Dating of the Debenham urns perhaps falls within the earlier date range suggested for Ardleigh of the first half of the 2nd millennium, around 2199-1510 BC (Brown 1999).

Post Roman

Sue Anderson

Introduction and methodology

A total of 278 sherds weighing 3573g was collected from seven contexts during the excavation. A full catalogue by context is included as Appendix 5.

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 archive. Early Saxon fabric groups have been characterised by major inclusions. Form terminology and dating for Early 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

Table 2 shows the quantities of Early Saxon pottery from site by fabric.

Description	Fabric	Code	No	Wt/g	eve	MNV
Early Saxon grass-tempered	ESO1	2.01	28	281	0.20	1
Early Saxon grass and sand-tempered	ESO2	2.02	6	15		1
Early Saxon fine sand	ESFS	2.04	92	431	0.52	5
Early Saxon grog and organic	ESGO	2.06	2	33		1
Early Saxon sparse shelly	ESSS	2.07	5	20	0.06	3
Early Saxon fine sand and mica	ESSM	2.08	1	8		1
Early Saxon medium sandy	ESMS	2.22	144	2785	0.90	10
Total			278	3573	1.68	22

Table 2. Early Saxon pottery quantification by fabric.

Seven generic 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 feldspar and ferrous pieces, were present in many of the fabrics. All 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.

Quartz tempered

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

ESFS: Fine sand tempering with few other inclusions.

ESSM: Very fine sand and abundant white mica.

Grog tempered

ESGO: Grog, sand and organic tempering. Grog was red and coarse.

Calcareous tempered

ESSS: Sparse to moderate fine shell and sand tempering, shell generally leached out.

Organic tempered

ESO1: Predominantly grass-tempered with few other inclusions.

ESO2: Sand-tempered with some grass.

Many sites in East Anglia and the Midlands have produced similar fabric groups, although they occur in different proportions. 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.

At this site, in terms of the MNV the quartz-tempered group dominated with sixteen vessels. Other fabrics are sparse and only three of the twenty-two vessels contain a high proportion of organic matter. A few calcareous fabrics are present, but this form of tempering is generally more common to the south-east of the county and in the East Midlands.

Within Suffolk, this pattern is closest to the assemblages from Flixton Quarry (FLN 061/062/068), Eye School (EYE 083) (Anderson 2011 and 2008), and Carlton Colville (Tipper 2009), at least in terms of the proportions of organic and sandy wares. Many of the cemetery sites in the county have produced much greater proportions of either granitic or organic fabrics (or both) at the expense of the sandy wares. Outside Suffolk, sandy wares appear to have dominated at the cemetery site of Morningthorpe in Norfolk (Friedenson and Friedenson 1987), and they are also the most common type in the settlement at Foulsham, Norfolk (Anderson forthcoming). At all these sites, organic-tempered vessels are slightly more frequent than they are at Debenham.

The estimated vessel equivalent of 1.68 is based on rim fragments from nine vessels; one other rimsherd is too small for measurement. As measurement of handmade vessel rims is always approximate unless a large proportion of the rim is present, the minimum number of vessels (MNV), based on sherd families, is estimated for each context; a total MNV of twenty-two vessels has been recorded.

Rim and base types were classified following Hamerow (1993, fig. 26). There are nine vessels with vertical ('upright') rims, one vessel with a flaring rim, one with an everted rim, and one with a slightly beaded rim. One vessel has a flat-rounded base.

Very few vessels are complete, but it is sometimes possible to suggest the vessel type on the basis of rim or base form, where enough of the body is present. Three vessels are identified as bowls (e.g. Fig.4.1), and seven as jars (e.g. Fig 4.2–3). Those for which more detailed form descriptions could be applied are shown in Table 3.

Form	MNV
globular jar with everted rim	1
?splayed bowl with flaring rim	1
wide-mouthed jar with vertical rim	1
straight-sided bowl	2

Table 3. Identifiable forms of Saxon vessels.

Surface treatment was recorded on eleven vessels. Most show some signs of smoothing, but sometimes the surface had worn away through use. One vessel is decorated with deeply incised horizontal lines on the rim. Two other vessels may have had incised lines, although the lines appear to have been made as a result of grass impressions and are probably accidental.

Three vessels in 0028 show signs of sooting and/or burnt food residues. Two small bowls (0028, 0054) and a near-complete large wide-mouthed jar (0054) show signs of spalling of the outer surfaces due to contact with heat. On the bowls, both of which are small, this spalling affected the whole of the outer surface up to the rim, whilst on the larger vessel it occurs on the lower half of the vessel (the base was missing). This may indicate that the vessels were subject to unusually high temperatures, although they contain no residues which might indicate their use in 'industrial' processes such as metalworking.

Illustrated vessels

1. ESFS splay-sided bowl with flaring rim and flat-rounded base, burnished. 0028.
2. ESO1 globular jar with everted rim, burnished externally, grass-wiped internally. 0028.
3. ESMS wide-mouthed jar, smoothed with slight traces of burnishing. 0054.

Discussion

The majority of vessels in this group are in quartz-tempered fabrics, with a variety of other fabrics present but represented by a few vessels each. The closest parallels to the pattern seen at Debenham can be found in the north of the county in the settlements at Flixton, Eye and Carlton Colville, and in Norfolk at Foulsham and Morning Thorpe.

The forms of five vessels were identified. Two are 'simple' types – plain straight-sided 'baggy' bowls. A splay-sided bowl is also present, but the flaring rim makes this an unusual form. One vessel is a globular jar and another is a wide-mouthed jar which is also essentially globular in form. This range, together with an overall lack of decoration, places the assemblage largely in the 6th century. This also accords with the small proportion of organic tempering in the group.

Whilst this appears likely to represent a domestic group of the period, the presence of some sherds which seem to have been subjected to higher than average temperatures may indicate that some of the vessels were used in activities other than cooking.

Pottery was collected from the fills of five pits and two unstratified contexts. The largest groups are from pits 0027 and 0058 at the centre of the site. Pit 0027 contained 113 sherds which represents four vessels, and pit 0058 contained 144 sherds from eight vessels, the majority from the large wide-mouthed jar. Pit 0027 was interpreted as a possible pyre or hearth on site, the latter appearing most likely due to the presence of a number of sherds showing signs of burning and thermal shock, together with burnt animal bone. Pit 0058 is likely to be a contemporary rubbish dump.

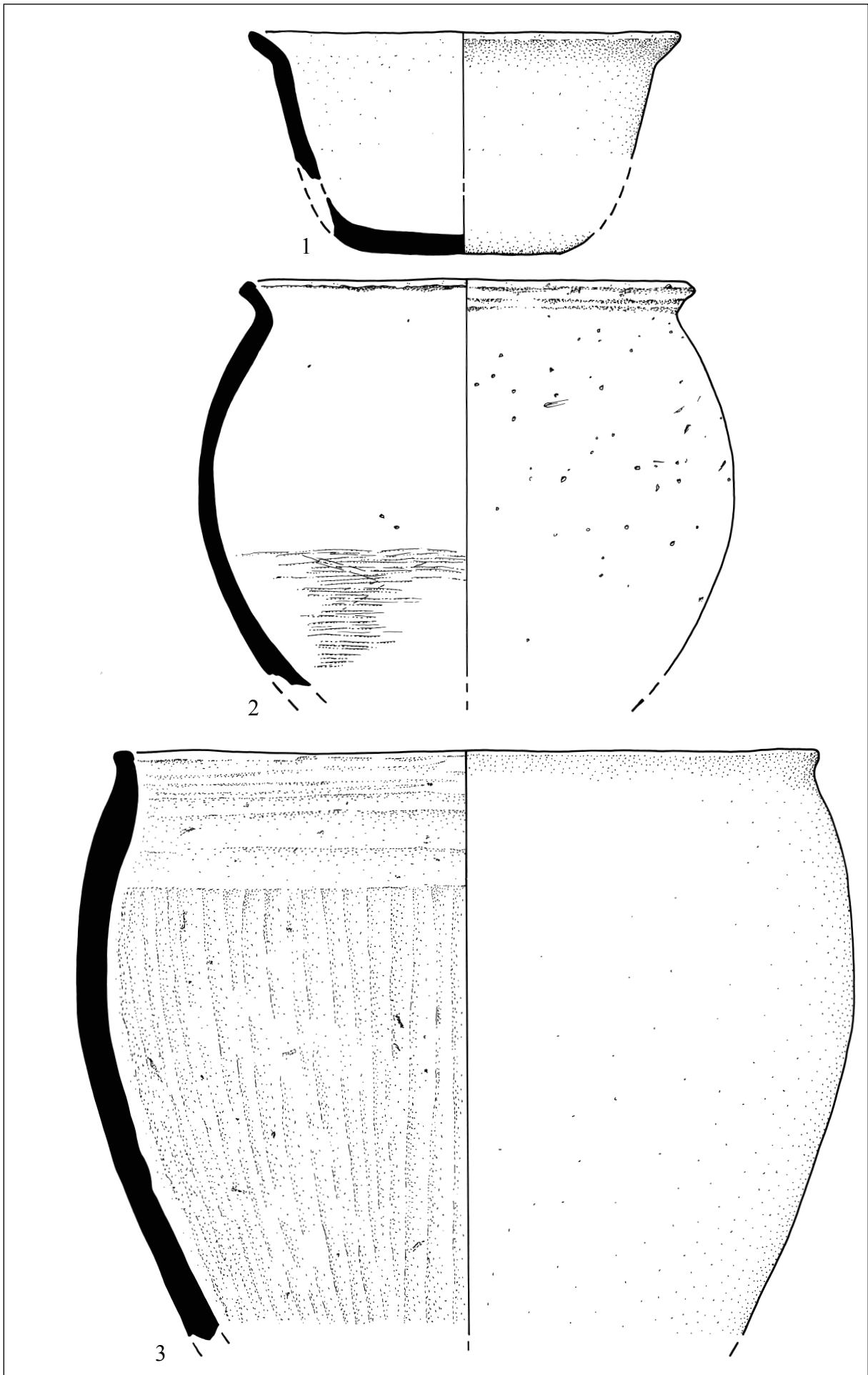


Figure 4. Illustrated vessels (shown at 1:2)

5.3 Ceramic building material (CBM)

Two contexts produced ceramic building material (CBM), pit fill 0055 and the un-urned cremation fill 0063. The first of these contains a single abraded fragment of early/late brick (39g). Although the piece has only one surviving surface (light brown/beige) it otherwise appears to be fully oxidised. The fabric is medium sandy with sparse chalk, alongside some red and black iron ores (msch). It is likely that the fragment is dated to the post-medieval period, although a later medieval date cannot be ruled out entirely. The fill contains pottery dated to the Early Saxon period.

Two intrusive fragments of late medieval/post-medieval roof tile are present in the Middle Bronze Age fill 0063 (14g). The roof tile is fully oxidised and is in a medium sandy fabric with black iron ore (msfe).

5.4 Fired clay

Introduction

Fired clay was recorded in eight contexts, of which six are pit fills (0028, 0034, 0040, 0054, 0068 and 069), the other two being a patch (0066) and unstratified (0074). A full breakdown by context of the fired clay can be seen in Appendix 3. The majority of the assemblage was recovered from pit fill 0054 (749 fragments @ 5133g). The collection from this context is of a variable size and displays only slight abrasion, whereas the fired clay from other contexts is of a smaller size, and considerably more abraded.

Only pit fill 0034 (which represents probable pyre debris) contains fired clay alongside Middle Bronze Age pottery. The pieces in this context are very small (an average weight of just over two grams). They are all oxidised and in a medium sandy fabric (ms) which also contains occasional large flint and red iron ore. A limited number display small areas of a flat/irregular surface.

With the exception of patch 0066, which is undated, the remainder of the assemblage (all from pit fills) is accompanied by Early Saxon pottery. The most significant of which was noted in pit fill 0054, and these appear to have been part of an oven or hearth. This collection has an average fragment weight of 7.5g and has been split into two groups. The first is in a medium sandy fabric with chalk (msch) which has a fairly soft feel. The pieces are variably oxidised (orange/red/pink) with some reduced areas too.

Few of these fragments exhibit surfaces but where present, they are irregular/flat. No impressions are present on these pieces. The second group is entirely different, being uniformly orange, with a hard feel and a fairly thin depth, although they are in the same medium sandy fabric as group one. These pieces have been exposed to higher temperatures than the group one examples. In general one side has a pitted and irregular feel whilst the other is flat/irregular. This latter side frequently displays finger marks and some constructional strip like raised areas. Many of these fragments are curved however, the size of the pieces means that the curves are generally not strong enough to definitively indicate the internal side. Nevertheless it seems likely, as several fragments hint, that the flatter side relates to the internal surface which was closest to the heat source. Furthermore the pitted surfaces sometimes exhibit small traces of the group one fabric. None of the fragments show signs of sooting or burning. A small number of pieces have a very thin buff surface on top of the orange fabric. These mostly occur on convex pieces of fired clay and are probably related to the outside surface of the structure.

The fired clay from fill 0054 is likely to characterize the remains of an oven or hearth. Group one (being less heat affected) probably represents the outer layer, whereas group two, being 'fired' completely is part of the internal walling. Due to fragmentation and the absence of identifiable constructional components, it is not possible to comment further on the shape or function of the structure. All of the fired clay was removed from the pit (S. Cass pers.comm), which appears to have been a dump for the discard of the material; the original site of the structure probably being in the immediate vicinity of the unexcavated area.

5.5 Flint

Sarah Bates

Introduction

Forty-six pieces of struck or shattered flint were recovered from the site. Most of the flint is mid to dark grey in colour. Cortex, where present, is dirty cream-coloured and of various thicknesses. A few flints are patinated light grey and one piece has a white patina. Most of the flint is quite sharp. The assemblage is summarised in Table 4 and listed by context in Appendix 6.

Methodology

Each piece of flint was examined and recorded by context 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. Additional descriptive comments were made as necessary.

Type	Number
core/tested piece	1
struck fragment	1
flake	13
blade	7
bladelet	1
spall	16
chip	1
microlith	1
notched flake	1
retouched flake	1
utilised blade	1
utilised flake	2
Total	46

Table 4: Summary of the flint

The assemblage

One quite small nodule type cortical fragment, in pit fill 0056, has been used as an irregular core or was 'tested' for use as a core. A few small squat flakes have been removed from one edge.

Thirteen flakes were found. These are mostly small irregular pieces. Most of them have been struck by hard hammer. One flake has a hinge fracture and another has cortex on its platform, both these aspects suggest a lack of care in the preparation and working of the material. Almost all of the flakes are sharp or quite sharp. Sixteen spalls and a small chip are present, most of them recovered from soil samples. Some of these are quite sharp and 'fresh' in nature.

Seven blades are present although none of them are complete (most have one end missing but there is one very small proximal fragment). Several are neat pieces and three (including the small fragment) have abraded platforms. It is notable that four of the blades are patinated, one of them heavily so. There is also a small burnt bladelet.

A small irregular flake, in pit fill 0034, which has its distal end missing has a notch in its left side, which appears to have been formed by deliberate retouch.

Part of a very small narrow bladelet, in pit fill 0034, broken at one end and with the other end damaged, has abrupt retouch along one side and is part of a microlith; probably a straight backed type of a later Mesolithic date.

A cortical flake, in pit fill 0028, with an irregular slightly shattered ventral surface and damage to its edges, has some slight retouch of its distal edge. A hard hammer struck flake from a multi platform core and a small cortical flake have utilised edges and a very neat blade with an abraded platform and its distal end missing, has slight utilisation of both sides. It is patinated pale grey

Flint by context

Fifteen flints were found in pit 0033 (several small pieces were recovered from a soil sample). There are two squat flakes, one of them slightly utilised, the other with cortex on its platform. There is also a small notched flake. All of these pieces, although not closely dateable, are probably later Neolithic, or of a later date. They are unpatinated. A few pieces from the pit are, however, almost certainly of earlier date. These include five blades (all of them incomplete, two with abraded platform edges and two of them patinated) and part of a probable microlith of Mesolithic date. The blades may date to the same period or be of earlier Neolithic date.

Seven pieces of flint were recovered from a sample from the fill of pit 0039. They include a small primary flake and a neat blade which has one end missing and is patinated white. The other flints are all very small spalls and fragments; one is the patinated proximal end (with abraded platform edge) of what appears to be a neat blade. There is also a small broken bladelet which is burnt. The blade type pieces occur alongside Early Saxon pottery and are residual.

A very neat utilised blade with an abraded platform was found in ditch fill 0030 and, again, is almost certainly a residual early Neolithic (or Mesolithic) piece.

Flint was also found in small amounts (1-4 pieces) in several other pits, two cremations and unstratified contexts. The flint is undiagnostic.

Conclusions

Flint was recovered in small amounts from a number of excavated features. It appears to date to more than one period. Part of a microlith is of Mesolithic date and some neat blades, several of them with abraded platforms and many of them patinated, are likely to be of Mesolithic or an earlier Neolithic date. These flints are residual pieces representing activity in the vicinity of the site during those periods. The incomplete and patinated nature of these is therefore unsurprising.

The rest of the flint is quite irregular in nature. An irregular cortical lump has been used as a core and most flakes have been hard hammer struck and exhibit no evidence for careful core preparation. These characteristics all suggest that it is of later prehistoric date. There are no diagnostic tools or closely dateable pieces. It seems likely, however, that this flint is contemporary with the Bronze Age pottery recovered from the site. The unpatinated nature of most of this flint contrasts with the (several) patinated blades. The sharp condition of much of the material, including a number of small spalls, suggests that the flint was deposited in the features soon after being struck and, therefore, supports its suggested Bronze Age date.

A small quantity of the prehistoric flint has been redeposited in Saxon features (contexts 0028, 0055, 0073 and 0074).

5.6 Burnt flint/stone

Twelve contexts contained burnt flint, nine of which are associated with cremations fills. The flint is of a varying size, although most of the collection is at the smaller end of the scale with many examples being shattered too. Another trait of the collection is inconsistency in colour, each context containing flints which are both in the ranges of orange to red and white to grey. The burnt flint is likely to be contemporary with the cremation event, either directly or indirectly involved in that process. For instance, the flint may have been on the periphery of the cremation process, subsequently heat affected and thereafter removed with the actual cremation debris. Eight of the contexts with burnt flint also contained worked flint. Residual burnt flint is also present in three contexts dated to the Early Saxon period (0028, 0054 and 0055).

5.7 Worked stone

A hone of probable schist stone was recorded in pit fill 0055. One side of the hone is significantly smoother and worn, indicating a working surface. The hone may have been used in the smoothing of leather or sharpening of knives for instance. This type of hone is not closely datable, although pottery within the fill is dated to the Early Saxon period.

5.8 Glass

Four modern and intrusive glass fragments were recorded in three contexts, cremation debris fills 0049 (Middle Bronze Age) and 0069 (undated), as well as in the un-urned fill 0063 (Middle Bronze Age). The fragments are extremely small and considerably abraded. As a whole the pieces weigh less than a quarter of a gram.

5.9 Iron nail

The undated ditch fill 0030 contained a single iron nail fragment (<1g). Only a small and corroded section of the shaft survives.

5.10 The small finds

In total four small finds are present within the finds assemblage, three of which are iron and one glass. A full description and commentary on the glass bead fragment is provided by Ian Riddler, which is followed by a brief review and description of the iron objects. A further illustrated record forms part of the site archive.

Early Anglo-Saxon

Ian Riddler

1. A fragment of roughly one third of a bead has been produced from opaque red, terracotta-coloured glass, and decorated with white wavy marvered trails and prominent oval dots of a yellow colour (Pl. 10). It can be identified as a wound polychrome Koch 34 glass bead and is closest to her subgroup 50, although it includes yellow dots, which are missing with that specific sub-type (Koch 1977, 207; 2001, 163 and Farbtafel 6). Under Brugmann's system for Early Anglo-Saxon England, the bead can be defined as a Dot 34 (Brugmann 2004, 39, 81 and fig 163) but with yellow dots on red, rather than red dots on white. There are considerable variations of colour and decoration within the Koch 34 series (Koch 2001, Farbtafel 6) and there is no doubt that this bead belongs in that sequence, even if it is difficult to parallel precisely. Koch 34 beads are thought to have been imported into Anglo-Saxon England, with the majority of examples found in cemetery contexts occurring in Kent and East Anglia (Brugmann 2004, 38–9 and fig 62). Within East Anglia the sample of Dot 34 beads is dominated by the large quantity from the Hadleigh Road cemetery at Ipswich (West 1998, 58–67 and figs 82–95) and includes also smaller quantities from cemeteries in the western part of East Anglia, mainly in Cambridgeshire, including Edix Hill and Great Chesterford. Most of the Dot 34

beads from Hadleigh Road at Ipswich have dots of the same colour as the trails, either in yellow or white on red, and this tends to be the common situation. It is comparatively rare for the dots to be of a different colour to the trails.

Koch 34 beads were placed in Brugmann's phase B2, of c AD 580–650, corresponding with Koch's phases SD 7–8 and Siegmund's bead Kombinationsgruppe F, which occurred within Rheinland phases 6–8 (Brugmann 2004, fig 173; Koch 2001, 79; Siegmund 1998, 58). Within a subsequent project on East Anglian cemeteries, these beads were placed in Bead Group B and given the same phase B2 dating (Penn and Brugmann 2007, 27, 58 and 71; Brugmann forthcoming). One example came from a Middle Saxon settlement context at St Mary's Stadium in *Hamwic*, but this may have been dispersed from a grave nearby, and is not necessarily later than c 650 (Every *et al* 2005, 113). The same can be said for the five beads of this type retrieved from Wharram Percy (Riddler 2012, 140).

Koch 34 Dot is therefore a Continental bead form, found in cemetery contexts of c AD 580–650. This particular example was found in a pit, however, and not in a grave. Beads of this type are also known from contemporary settlement contexts. At West Stow they occur in the two principal colour combinations, of white with blue trails and red with white or yellow trails (Evison and Cooper 1985, 72). The beads from the settlement include only the white and blue form, however (*ibid* 73–4) and come from SFBs 39 and 47, phased to the mid to late 5th century and 6th century (West 1985, 149), emphasising the need for the West Stow phasing to be critically re-examined (Riddler forthcoming). Five beads of this type from Manston Road at Ramsgate include three of opaque red with yellow or white trails and one of red with yellow trails and white dots (Hutcheson and Andrews 2009, 221 and fig 4.16). Five examples are known from Wharram Percy, occurring once again in the two principal colour combinations (Riddler 2012, 140 and pl 15). Thus current evidence suggests that the dating applied to these beads from cemetery studies is pertinent also for contemporary settlements, and their distribution is also substantially the same.

Fragment of approximately one third of a glass bead, opaque red glass with sinuous white trails and large yellow oval dots.

Height:	11.3mm
Diameter:	
Weight:	1.0g
Context 40	Sample 6



Plate 10. Glass bead from hearth debris pit 0039.

Unknown

2. Eight fragments of corroded iron. One of the pieces is burnt and has a slightly cylindrical shape too and is tapered towards one end. The remainder, several of which join, are flat and blade like in appearance. It is not certain if all

eight fragments belong to the same object. Pottery dated to the Early Saxon period is also present within the context. SF1002 (0028).

3. A single corroded piece of iron. It is bent and snapped at both ends. Pottery dated to the Middle Bronze Age period is also present within the context. SF1003 (0034).

4. A snapped and corroded iron fragment. It is slightly rounded in shape, partially hollow with a possible curved lip. The context also contains pottery dated to the Early Saxon period. SF1004 (0054).

6. The environmental evidence

6.1 Cremated human bone

Sue Anderson

Introduction

Groups of cremated or calcined bone from five urned burials, five unurned burials and seven other contexts were analysed. The urned burials are of Bronze Age date and it is likely that the unurned remains were contemporary. Two further burials were identified in previous work on the site (Anderson 2010).

Methodology

Bone was collected as bulk samples and flotation-sieved, the entire residue being retained as a single group for each context with the exception of pit 0048 which was excavated in spits. The residues were divided into >4mm, <4mm and <2mm fractions. The bone from each of the two larger fractions was sorted into five categories: skull, axial, upper limb, lower limb, and unidentified. All fragment groups were weighed to the nearest tenth of a gram. Measurements of maximum skull and long bone fragment sizes were also recorded. Observations were made, where possible, concerning bone colour, age, sex, dental remains and pathology. Identifiable fragments were noted. Methods used follow the Workshop of European Anthropologists (WEA 1980) and McKinley (1994 and 2004).

Quantification, identification, collection and survival

Table 5 shows the bone weights, percentages of identified bone from the ten features containing human remains, and the proportions of bone identified from the four areas of the skeleton (skull, axial, upper limb, lower limb). Expected proportions are provided in

the first row. A detailed catalogue of the quantification and measurements can be seen in Appendix 7.

Context	Total wt(g)	% ident	% skull	% axial	% upper limb	% lower limb
Expected*			18.2	20.6	23.1	38.1
0048	2277.0	34.9	27.2	13.9	13.6	45.2
0070	2185.8	32.1	39.8	21.4	14.8	24.0
0065	342.8	31.2	40.8	4.9	9.2	45.0
0041	223.2	40.6	19.0	12.0	35.8	33.2
0045	91.6	60.8	32.7	29.4	4.8	33.0
0061	71.9	38.7	36.7	5.4	29.9	28.1
0059	62.2	67.0	30.9	42.7	5.3	21.1
0051	57.8	65.6	38.0	2.4	54.1	5.5
0072	4.4	88.6	0.0	0.0	64.1	35.9
0035	0.5	0.0	-	-	-	-

Table 5. Percentages of identified fragments out of total identified to area of skeleton (*expected proportions from McKinley 1994, 6)

The burials are shown in order of weight. Surprisingly, the two largest groups are unurned burials. The urns generally contained very little bone as most are heavily truncated.

This shows that in all but the two smallest groups, skull fragments are considerably over-represented amongst the identifiable material, and that other areas of the skeleton are generally under-represented with the exception of the axial skeleton in three and the lower limb in two. There is always some bias in the identification of elements, with cranial vault fragments being particularly easy to identify, as are most axial fragments. Separation of arm and leg bones is not always possible, particularly in burials where more than one individual is present. Most of the larger unidentified material in this assemblage are pieces of long bone of an uncertain type. These figures therefore provide only a rough guide to what was originally collected following the cremation process.

Mays (1998, Table 11.2) notes that the combusted weight of an adult skeleton has a mean of around 1500g for females and 2300g for males. Only two burials reach anything like the quantity expected for a large adult and, as described below, both contain several individuals. The quantity of bone in this assemblage therefore represents only a small proportion of the combusted weight of an average adult skeleton.

The majority of bone in this group is fully oxidised and cream to white in colour, although a few inner fragments of thicker long bones, particularly the femur, were grey-blue in colour. The presence of a high proportion of white bone indicates firing temperatures in excess of c.600°C (McKinley 2004, 11).

The cremation burials

The urned cremations

The urned burials are summarised in Table 6 and a detailed catalogue can be seen in Appendix 8.

Burial	Age	Sex	Notes
0035	?	?	Only 0.5g of bone collected – base of vessel only survived.
0041	older juvenile	-	Fair condition but mostly small fragments. Bone size suggests juvenile.
0051	adult	F??	Fair, a few large fragments, but only a small quantity of bone due to truncation. Bones, particularly cranial vault, appear gracile. Possible fracture of ?humerus.
0059	i) adult ii) adult iii) juv	M F?? -	Fair condition but very little surviving. Fragments of gracile and robust adults, juvenile cranium.
0065	?young	F?	Fair condition but very incomplete. Lambdoid suture open, suggesting young adult. Supra-orbital gracile, suggesting female.

Table 6. Summary of urned cremation burials

All five urned burials are very incomplete. The surviving evidence suggests that three urns contained individual burials representing an older juvenile (c.8–12 years?) and two adult females. A fourth urn contains the remains of two adults and a child. The fifth produced so little bone that the age and sex were impossible to determine. The minimum number of individuals represented by this group is therefore six.

All five groups are highly fragmented, the majority of pieces being under 10mm in length. The presence of some larger fragments, including joining pieces of up to 88mm in length (0051), indicates that the burials were probably relatively well preserved prior to truncation. The survival of large fragments in urned burials is typical of the Bronze Age cremation rite. The inclusion of small pieces such as tooth roots and finger phalanges indicates that collection from the pyre site was thorough.

Only one possible pathological fragment was identified, a piece of ?humerus in 0051 which appears to show callus formation and is probably evidence of a fracture which had healed well before the time of death.

The unurned cremation burials/deposits

Table 7 presents the deposits of cremated bone which were recovered from pits with no associated pottery containers. A detailed catalogue can be seen in Appendix 8.

Burial	Age	Sex	Notes
0045	young	M	Small quantity of bone recovered from secondary fill of pit. Large occipital crest suggests male, fusion of cranial sutures suggests young.
0048	i) adult ii) adult iii) infant iv) c.5-6 v) sub-adult	M F	Large quantity of bone including adult and infant/juvenile skull fragments, unfused epiphyses of a sub-adult, teeth of a c.5-6-year old. The female is represented by a smooth occipital crest and gracile supra-orbital, and a wide sciatic notch fragment. The male is identified from a large supra-orbital and an ulna with robust muscle markings. Degenerative changes suggest that one of the adults was probably middle-aged: osteophytes were present on a lumbar vertebra and a distal humerus.
0061	adult	-	Small quantity of bone identified as 'pyre debris' on site. Size of bones suggests adult.
0070	i) adult ii) adult iii) infant iv) c.4 v) c.14-16	M F	Large quantity of bone containing fragments of adult and infant/juvenile cranial vault, deciduous teeth, permanent teeth, unfused epiphyses of sub-adult, adult and sub-adult finger phalanges. Adult sexing based on two right zygoma, one large and one smaller. Some vertebral fragments show signs of degeneration, suggesting at least one mature adult.
0072	?adult	-	Small quantity of bone which may be intrusive from 0070.

Table 7. Summary of unurned cremation burials

These five burials contain the remains of as many as twelve individuals, although the two smallest groups could potentially represent discarded 'pyre debris' and might therefore be part of some of the other burials on the site or in the vicinity. Also, given the very similar make-up of the two largest groups (0048, 0070), there is potential for these burials to represent the same five individuals. No definite duplication was observed between the two groups. The minimum number of individuals may therefore be only five.

Very little pathology was observed in this group, the only type being degenerative. A few fragments of cervical and lumbar vertebrae and one piece of distal humerus showed evidence for the formation of osteophytes.

One burial was excavated in spits. Data collected in this way can be used to compare the relative proportions of the four main skeletal areas throughout the container (usually an urn, but in this case presumably a perishable container was used), and perhaps gain some insight into the collection techniques following cremation. The distribution of elements within the four spits of 0048 is shown in Table.8. This shows no particular pattern, other than a decrease in the quantity of axial material from spit 1 to spit 4 and a corresponding slight increase in upper limb (i.e. the middle third of the body).

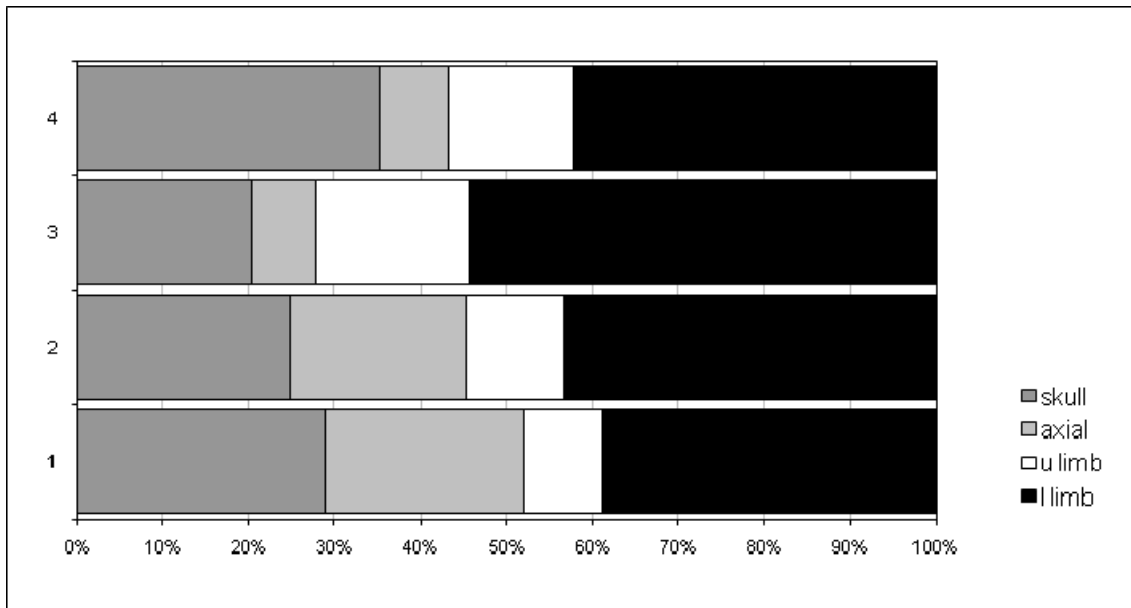


Table 8. Distribution of bones from the four main skeletal areas through 0048

The two large burials are both heavily fragmented, which is reflected in the relatively low identification rates of around a third. However, large fragments are common with the maximum lengths being 50mm in 0048 and 65mm in 0070. Large fragments of the spinal column were particularly frequent in both, and most of the cervical vertebral bodies of one adult were intact in 0070.

Burnt and unburnt ?animal bone

Table 9 lists the features containing bone of animal or uncertain origin. This material was recovered from features of prehistoric and Early Saxon date and is likely to represent food waste.

Feature	Fill	Sample	Wt/g	Notes
0027	0028	4	78	calcined, mostly white, some grey, includes skull, tooth root, rib, long bone, all identifiable fragments are animal
0033	0034	5	20	unburnt teeth and bone fragments, ?pig and cattle
-	0038		2	generally unburnt, a couple of calcined fragments, animal
			2	1 fragment of tooth root, long bone fragments, probably animal, white calcined
0039	0040	6	29	calcined, mostly grey, some white, includes skull, tooth root, rib, long bone, phalanges (sheep), all identifiable fragments are animal
			7	unburnt teeth and bone frags, ?pig and cattle
0053	0054	13	4	unburnt, animal
-	0066		1	rib, animal
0067	0068	14	<1	4 tiny frags calcined, unident

Table 9. Summary of other deposits

Radiocarbon dating

Three samples of bone from burials 0043, 0048 and 0070 were submitted to SUERC for AMS dating. They show that all three are of Middle Bronze Age date, though from the later part of that period (Appendices 10-12).

Summary and discussion

The ten deposits of human bone represent a minimum of eleven individuals and a maximum of eighteen. Infant, juvenile, sub-adult and young and mature adults of both sexes are represented. Very little pathology was recorded in this group. Two or three individuals have signs of degenerative joint disease and one has a possible fracture.

None of the burials can be considered complete in terms of bone weight; even combining the two largest, produces a total well below the average weight expected for five individuals. In the case of the urned burials it is clear from the site evidence that the low weights can be accounted for by plough truncation, and the pit burials may also be truncated.

Three of the burials contain multiple individuals. Sometimes this may be explained by the re-use of pyre sites and the potential accidental collection of bone remaining in the pyre pit from previous burnings. This seems unlikely here as each of the individuals appears to make up a high proportion of the total. Other Bronze Age sites in the region commonly produce multiple adult/child burials. For example, at St. Osyth, Essex (Anderson 2007), the remains of a child were found in a small urn deposited inside a larger one containing an adult female, and Birch Pit, Colchester, also produced an urned burial containing the remains of a young adult and an infant (Anderson 2004).

Groups of two or three children and sub-adults were identified in three of the six Early Bronze Age cremations at Flixton Quarry (Anderson 2011).

Most of the bone from this site is white or cream-coloured, and indicates that firing probably reached the high temperatures normally associated with cremation. Although there is evidence for a high degree of fragmentation, particularly in the larger unurned groups, there are also many large fragments and the breakage could simply be the result of post-depositional changes.

6.2 Faunal remains

Mike Feider

Introduction

177 fragments of animal bone were recovered from pit fills dated to the Middle Bronze Age and Saxon periods, as well as an undated ditch fill that contained a relatively modern cat skeleton.

Methodology

The remains from each context were recorded with each element (where possible) identified to a species or as unidentified. The number of fragments and any associated butchery, ageing, and taphonomic information were recorded using the zoning system of Dobney and Rielly (1988) in a Microsoft Access database which will accompany the site archive.

Preservation

The remains from ditch fill 0030 are in quite good condition, but the rest showed a significant amount of weathering and fragmentation. Those from pit fills 0055 and 0056 in particular are in very poor condition, with a high degree of fragmentation and erosion of bone surfaces.

Summary

A total of seventy-one fragments (40%), of the assemblage as a whole, are identifiable to species. A breakdown of these can be seen in Table 10. However, the majority of these are from a partial cat skeleton from the undated ditch fill 0030. The rest of the remains are much more fragmented and largely unidentifiable to element or species. Of

the identifiable remains, seven of nine are fragments of loose teeth, and the others being distal cow metapodial joints, which also tend to survive quite well.

Ctxt	Feature	Cow	Sheep/ goat	Cat	Horse	Unidentified Large Mammal	Unidentified Small Mammal	Unidentified	Total
0028	0027	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
0030	0029	0	0	62	0	0	19	0	81
0034	0033	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4
0055	0058	2	0	0	1	41	0	0	44
0056	0058	4	0	0	0	42	0	0	46
0073	0072	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
		7	1	62	1	83	19	4	177

Table 10. Summary of contexts with fragment count

Very little additional information was available due to the poor preservation of the animal bone. The loose teeth provide some limited ageing information, with the horse and sheep/goat showing moderate wear and the cow being somewhat younger, displaying almost no wear on a mandibular m1 or m2. The cat remains are fully fused and represent an adult animal.

The only evidence of butchery are a pair of very fine cut marks, exhibited on the lateral joint surface of a badly damaged cow metapodial in pit fill 0055. These may have been created during the skinning process.

A very badly eroded large mammal radius from pit fill 0056 had a small lesion on the joint surface. It displays an area of bone loss some 10-15mm in diameter, which could be from trauma or a degenerative condition.

Conclusion

The small size and generally poor condition of the assemblage limit the conclusions that can be made. The high percentage of loose teeth in the identified remains is a typical signature of such poor preservation. The species present are common domesticates, the cat probably representing the burial of a fairly modern pet. There are not enough identifiable fragments present to form any real impression of husbandry strategies.

6.3 Plant macrofossils and other remains

Val Fryer

Introduction and method statement

Excavations at Debenham recorded a number of both urned and un-urned cremation deposits, along with pits containing possible pyre or hearth debris and other discrete deposits. Samples for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from across the excavated area, and sixteen were submitted for assessment, including four from spits within un-urned cremation 0048 (Sample 8). One hearth debris pit was known to have contained a bead of Early Saxon date, but otherwise the deposits were undated at the time of writing this assessment although they have since been dated to the Middle Bronze Age and early Anglo-Saxon period with some undated/modern features..

The samples were bulk floated by SCCAS and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x16, and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Appendix 9. Nomenclature within the appendix follows Stace (1997). All plant remains were charred. Fibrous roots, seeds and arthropod remains were also recorded within most of the assemblages studied.

Results

Cereal grains and seeds of common weeds and wetland plants were recorded at a low density within all but Sample 16. Preservation is moderately good, although some grains and seeds are puffed and distorted, probably as a result of combustion at very high temperatures.

Oat (*Avena* sp.), barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains are recorded along with a number of cereals which are too poorly preserved or fragmentary for close identification. Cereal chaff is entirely absent. A single cotyledon fragment of an indeterminate large pulse (*Fabaceae*) is noted within the assemblage from pit 0039 (Sample 6).

Although seeds are recorded within all but five of the samples studied, most are present as single specimens within an assemblage. Segetal and grassland herbs are

predominant, with taxa noted including orache (*Atriplex* sp.), brome (*Bromus* sp.), fat hen (*Chenopodium album*), knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*), dock (*Rumex* sp.) and vetch/vetchling (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp.). Onion-couch (*Arrhenatherum* sp.) tubers are noted within the assemblages from cremations 0048 (Spits 1, 2 and 3) and 0043 (Sample 9). Individual seeds of sedge (*Carex* sp.) and blinks (*Montia fontana*) are recorded within the assemblages from Samples 8 (Spit 4) and 14 (Pit 0067), and Samples 4 (Pit 0027) and 6 both contained fragments of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell. Charcoal/charred wood fragments, including some larger pieces, are common or abundant throughout. Other plant macrofossils occur less frequently, but did include pieces of charred root or stem and indeterminate culm nodes, fruit/nut fragments and tubers.

The fragments of black porous and tarry material, which are present throughout, are all either residues of the combustion of organic remains at very high temperatures or products of the cremation process. Bone fragments, many of which are burnt, are present within all but two assemblages, and other remains include small fragments of burnt or fired clay, ferrous globules and vitreous concretions. The pieces of coal, which are present within most of the assemblages studied, are probably all later contaminants within the features from which the samples were taken.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In summary, although cereals and seeds are present throughout, most are probably accidental inclusions within the deposits, and there is nothing to suggest that any represent deliberate offerings to the deceased. The presence of onion-couch tubers and segetal weed seeds almost certainly indicates that the pyres were constructed on ground which had previously been ploughed or, at the very least, disturbed, with the plant remains being derived from materials which were accidentally charred when the pyres were ignited. As cereal grains are frequently present on the surface of agricultural land, this may also explain their presence within the assemblages. The pyres themselves were almost certainly primarily constructed of wood, although some dried plant material may have been utilised as kindling or an additional source of fuel. As none of the current assemblages contain a sufficient density of material for quantification (i.e. 100+ specimens), no further analysis is recommended. However, a summary of this assessment should be included within any publication of data from the site.

Where materials suitable for C14/AMS dating were noted within the assemblages, these were separated out and stored within individual glass vials.

6.4 Charcoal

Charcoal fragments were noted in three fills. Cremation contexts 0044 and 0063 both contained small collections of charcoal although neither of these groups weighed more than three grams. These fills are associated with pottery dated to the Middle Bronze Age and both also contain cremated human bone.

Pit fill 0028 (dated to the 6th century) contains two small pieces of charcoal.

6.5 Radiocarbon analysis

Three samples of cremated bone from burials 0043, 0048 and 0070 were submitted to the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC) for accelerator mass spectrometry (AMS) dating (Appendices 10-12).

The cremated bone from cremation fill 0044 (Laboratory code SUERC-40867/GU27613) produced a radiocarbon age BP (before AD 1950) of 3060 + 35, which calibrated at 92.8% probability is between 1417 and 1257 BC.

The cremated bone from cremation debris pit fill 0049 (Laboratory code SUERC-40866/GU27612) produced a radiocarbon age BP (before AD 1950) of 3075 + 35, which calibrated at 95.4% probability is between 1425 and 1263 BC.

The cremated bone from cremation debris pit fill 0069 (Laboratory code SUERC-40871/GU27614) produced a radiocarbon age BP 3030+ 35, which calibrated at 94.1% probability is between 1405 and 1193 BC.

7. Discussion

The remains encountered as part of this monitoring of groundwork at Cherrytree Inn suggest the earliest use of the site was as a burial ground for middle Bronze Age cremations. The Middle Bronze is represented by at least five cremation vessels (which are both fragmentary and truncated) and four un-urned cremations debris deposits although analysis of the cremated bone indicates the presence of between eleven and

eighteen individuals. This discrepancy however is probably due to the presence of multiple burials, with two un-urned cremations containing elements from up to five individuals each. This is balanced by the possibility that these remains are of the same five individuals, split between two debris pits – a search for parallels in the archaeological literature may be worthwhile when looking to categorise these features. The three radiocarbon dates are entirely consistent with the pottery dating evidence and the majority of the worked flint is also considered to be contemporary.

The urns and their remnants are focused principally around the central and south-eastern area of the site. The presence of both urned and un-urned cremations is interesting, and perhaps identifies an area for potential future research in order to ascertain if there was any detectable difference in these two practices such as the selection of person buried in each manner or the selection of particular skeletal fragments for urned as opposed to un-urned burials. There is no particular evidence of any separation in the spatial distribution of urned and un-urned cremations at this stage, though future work may uncover a greater extent to the cemetery and a deposition pattern may become clearer.

The scattered nature of the cremations suggests that it is likely that there are further burials in the vicinity, possibly stretching into the gardens of the properties to the west and south of the site. It is likely that the site was selected as a burial area due to its liminal nature on the edge of both the higher ground (and presumably domestic occupation) in the valley slopes and the seasonally inundated low ground of the valley floor with the river. Bronze Age funerary practices are frequently associated, or appear to be associated, with rivers and water; using similar topographical areas as this for burial and ceremony.

There is currently no evidence proving that the cremation of remains occurred on this site, and future work in and around south Debenham should be alert to the possibility of cremation pyre sites as opposed to in-situ domestic hearths. Prior work in the area has recorded prehistoric activity in the Low Road, Ipswich Road and Winston Road areas of Debenham, however the current cremations (urned and un-urned) represent a new and significant group of features which will have implications for future work in the area.

The identification of early Anglo-Saxon hearth debris pits is also important since it goes some way to locating a specific area of habitation within the valley. Previously, several small quantities of early Anglo-Saxon pottery have been found by fieldwalking or as stray finds within other sites but no defined features have been identified as dating to this period. Locating defined features, especially ones likely to be closely linked to habitation such as hearths or rubbish pits, will allow more targeted field work and research to be undertaken to throw light on this stage of the development of the town of Debenham.

Nine contexts contained Early Saxon pottery and the four principle features dated to this period are distributed from the south-east edge of the site to its centre. Of note are a potential hearth debris pit (0027) and oven/hearth remains in pit 0053 which both contain assemblages of pottery and fired clay. Some of the pottery in 0027 exhibited signs of burning and thermal shock however, the fired clay group within this feature is small, fragmentary and does not display traces of burning. None of the sherds in 0053 are burnt, however the fired clay, contains some large unabraded fragments and clearly represents the debris from a hearth/oven that had been dumped, away from the original site of the structure itself (which remains un-located). Rubbish disposal is thought to be frequently a secondary use for pits on Saxon sites, and it is possible that there was another use for these pits prior to their filling with hearth debris, though no definitive evidence was observed.

Of individual interest is the Koch 34 bead dated AD580-650 recorded in pit 0039 (the pit also contains Early Saxon pottery). Beads of this type are associated with both cemeteries and settlements. While there is no other evidence of Anglo-Saxon burial at this site it should be noted that burial grounds from this period are frequently found focussed on Bronze Age burial sites (although this is generally more common in areas where Bronze Age burial mounds are believed to have survived into the Anglo-Saxon period).

The Early Saxon features suggest the presence of some type of domestic or small-scale craft activity within the immediate vicinity of the current site. Evidence from Low Road, Ipswich Road and in particular the Winston Road area of Debenham have also provided further evidence of Saxon utilisation of the landscape nearby though little in the way of defined features. To the east of the excavated area at Hall/Hill Farm (DBN 105) a large

Late Saxon pottery assemblage was recorded. Nevertheless, despite the numerous instances of Saxon find spots around the southern and eastern area of Debenham, the extent and nature of Saxon activity remains unclear. It is quite possible that the pits encountered on this site were originally dug for another purpose and were only used for rubbish disposal after their original purpose had been fulfilled, this is common for Anglo-Saxon sites, but it is not clear what that original purpose may have been.

8. Conclusions

This site has provided evidence of an important focus of attention onto an area of south Debenham, identifying habitation-related deposits of early Anglo-Saxon date, as well as funerary deposits of middle Bronze Age date. Future work deriving from the materials recovered may involve more detailed analysis of the human skeletal remains and additional scientific dating of some of the ceramic artefacts (such as optical thermoluminescence dating) in order to refine the typology dating for this period and accord with the recently updated Regional Research Agenda (Medlycott, 2011) where it is noted that typological identification of Bronze Age pottery, linked to close radiocarbon dating, is needed and “Patterns of burial practice need further exploration. This should include the relationship between settlement sites and burial, and the development and use of monuments, including burial mounds as key elements in determining and understanding the landscape”. This would include looking at any variations in the selection of different people for either type of burial rite, as well as looking in more detail at the topographic/geospatial relationships between the two styles of burial on the site. Further recovery of new cremations would give a better understanding of the layout of this burial ground, and it is likely that more remains will be encountered elsewhere within the proposed development area.

Areas of future research identified with regard to Anglo-Saxon remains include looking at the economic function of sites – in this case it is perhaps worth looking at the presence of a primarily mainland continental glass bead in a rural site in central Suffolk, how it might have arrived, and what trade may have been involved. There is also the potential for further work to seek to identify landscape variations in settlement type and form, although this would require identification of more elements of Anglo-Saxon occupation in close proximity to this site.

9. Archive deposition

Paper and photographic archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds

Digital archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\Archive\Debenham\DBN 132 Monitoring

Digital photographic archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\Catalogues\Photos\HLA-HLZ\HLO 1-19 and HPA-HPZ\HPA 52-83

Finds and environmental archive: Bury St Edmunds **H / 88 / 1**

10. Acknowledgements

The excavation was carried out by a number of archaeological staff, (Andrew Beverton, Rob Brooks, Simon Cass, Steve Manthorpe, Simon Picard and John Simms) all from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team.

The project was managed and directed by Rhodri Gardner, who also provided advice during the production of the report.

The post-excavation was managed by Richenda Goffin. Finds processing and the production of site plans and sections were carried out by Jonathan Van Jennians and Gemma Adams and the specialist finds report by Andrew Fawcett. Other specialist identification and advice was provided by Sue Anderson, Sarah Bates, Mike Fieder, Val Fryer, Sue Holden, Sarah Percival and Ian Ridder. The report was checked by Richenda Goffin.

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The Archaeological Service
9-10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk
IP33 2AR

Appendix 1. Brief and Specification

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

THE CHERRY TREE INN, CHERRY TREE LANE, DEBENHAM TM 174 628 (planning application 2780/10)

Although this document sets out the work that will need to be done by an archaeological contractor, the developer should be aware that some of its provisions may impinge upon the general working practices of the development and may have financial implications. The commissioning body may also have Health & Safety responsibilities, see para. 1.7

1. Background

- 1.1 A planning application has been submitted for a residential and retail development at the Cherry Tree Inn (2780/10). A recommendation has been made that any consent for the development should be subject to a condition requiring the prior implementation of a programme of archaeological works.
- 1.2 An archaeological evaluation of the site was carried out by the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council in 2010 (SCCAS report no. 2010/228). This located two cremation burials: one associated with fragments of a Middle Bronze Age urn was found in the Phase 3 area, the other was found in a small pit in the Phase 3 area. These finds suggest the presence of a Bronze Age cemetery of uncertain size. A fragment of probable Anglo-Saxon pottery was also found in the Phase 1 area. The evaluation suggests that archaeological deposits in the Phase 1 area may be at a depth of 0.3 (SW end) to 1.1m (NE end); in the Phase 2 area they may be at a depth of 1.1m; and in the phase 3 area at a depth of 0.3m.
- 1.3 The evaluation suggests that the top-soil-stripping operations for the development are likely to impinge on buried archaeological deposits and/or features and therefore there is a need for archaeological monitoring of these operations.
- 1.4 In accordance with the standards and guidance produced by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA), a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) based upon this brief and specification must be produced by the developers, their agents or archaeological contractors. This must be submitted for scrutiny by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (SCCAS/CT) at 9-10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR; telephone/fax: 01284 352443. The WSI will provide the basis for measurable standards and will be used to establish whether the requirements of the planning condition will be adequately met. The WSI should be compiled with a knowledge of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology* Occasional Paper 3, 1997, 'Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties, 1. resource assessment'; Occasional Paper 8, 2000, 'Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. research

agenda and strategy'; and the *Revised Research Framework for the Eastern Region*, 2008, available online at <http://www.eaareports.org.uk/>).

- 1.5 Provision should be included in the WSI for outreach activities, for example (and where appropriate), in the form of open days/guided tours for the general public, local schools, local councillors, local archaeological and historical societies and for local public lectures and/or activities within local schools. Provision should be included for local press releases (newspapers/radio/TV). Where appropriate, information boards should be also provided during the fieldwork stage of investigation. Archaeological Contractors should ascertain whether their clients will seek to impose restrictions on public access to the site and for what reasons and these should be detailed in the WSI
- 1.6 Following receipt of the WSI, SCCAS/CT will advise if it is an acceptable scheme of work. Work must not commence until the WSI has been approved. Neither this specification nor the WSI is, however, a sufficient basis for the immediate discharge of a planning condition relating to archaeological works, should one be imposed. Only the full implementation of the approved scheme – that is the completion of the fieldwork, a post-excavation assessment and final reporting – will enable SCCAS/CT to advise the LPA that the condition has been adequately fulfilled and can be discharged.
- 1.7 There is a presumption that all archaeological work specified for the whole area will be undertaken by the same body, whether the fieldwork takes place in phases or not. There is similarly a presumption that further analysis and post-excavation work to final report stage will be carried through by the excavating body. Any variation from this principle would require justification.
- 1.8 All arrangements for the excavation of the site, the timing of the work, and access to the site, are to be negotiated with the commissioning body.
- 1.9 Before any archaeological site work can commence it is the responsibility of the developer to provide the archaeological contractor with either the contaminated land report for the site or a written statement that there is no contamination. The developer should be aware that investigative sampling to test for contamination is likely to have an impact on any archaeological deposit which exists; proposals for sampling should be discussed with this office before execution.
- 1.10 Before commencing work the project manager must carry also out a risk assessment and liaise with the site owner, client and the SCCAS/CT in ensuring that all potential risks are minimised.
- 1.11 The responsibility for identifying any restraints on field-work (e.g. Scheduled Monument status, Listed Building status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites &c.) rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor. The existence and content of the archaeological brief does not over-ride such restraints or imply that the target area is freely available.
- 1.12 It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility to ensure that adequate resources are available to fulfil the Brief.

2. Brief for the Archaeological Project

- 2.1 In all areas where there will disturbance at subsoil level, archaeological monitoring, as specified in Section 3, is to be carried out prior to any extraction of minerals or other development works.
- 2.2 The objective of the monitoring will be :
 - a) to enable the identification and evaluation of potentially significant archaeological features or deposits (see Section 3);

- b) to identify, excavate and record features and deposits of lesser archaeological significance (see Section 4).
- 2.3 The academic objective will centre upon the high potential for this site to produce evidence for Bronze Age funerary activity and possibly Anglo-saxon settlement.
- 2.4 This project will be carried through in a manner consistent with English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (MAP2). Excavation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential for analysis. Analysis and final report preparation will follow assessment and will be the subject of a further brief and updated project design.
- 2.5 No contract sums should be agreed for assessment, analysis, archive or publication until all fieldwork has been completed or, prior to that, only by agreement with SCCAS Curatorial service.
- 2.6 Developers are advised to set aside sufficient sums (bearing in mind the effects of inflation) for all post-excavation tasks (advice on the size of such sums can be provided by the archaeological contractor or the developers archaeological consultant but must be seen as approximate).
- 2.5 The developer or his archaeologist will give the Conservation Team of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service five working days notice of the commencement of ground works on the site, in order that the work of the archaeological contractor may be monitored. The method and form of development will also be monitored to ensure that it conforms to previously agreed locations and techniques upon which this brief is based.
- 2.6 The project manager must consult the County HER Officer (Dr Colin Pendleton) to obtain a HER number for the work. This number will be unique for each project or site and must be clearly marked on any documentation relating to the work.

3. Brief for Archaeological Monitoring of Topsoil-Stripping

- 3.1 To carry out the monitoring work the developer will appoint an archaeologist (the archaeological contractor) who must be approved by the Conservation Team of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service.
- 3.2 The developer will give the appointed archaeological contractor three weeks notice (or any other mutually agreed period of notice) of the commencement of site works.
- 3.3 The topsoil-stripping operations (by the developer or the archaeological contractor) will be carried out using a back-acting machine with a toothless bucket. The depth and method of stripping will need to be agreed in advance with the Conservation Team of SCCAS. Machinery will not cross the stripped area until any possible archaeology has been assessed and fully recorded. Any variation from this will need to be agreed with the Conservation Team.
- 3.4 As areas are stripped to the level required by the development, they will be assessed for further archaeological work. The options will include:
- a). Evaluation of potentially very significant archaeological features or deposits. The scope of this work is to be agreed between the Conservation Team of SCCAS and the developer (or his consultant).

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

- b). Moderate scale archaeological excavation to clear features and deposits of lesser significance (e.g. isolated features or small clusters of features).

The minimum standards for this work are set out below in Section 4.

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

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

4. Specification for Moderate-scale Archaeological Excavation (See Section 3.4.c)

The excavation methodology is to be agreed in detail before the project commences, certain minimum criteria are to be met or exceeded.

- 4.1 Fully excavate all features that are, or could be interpreted as, structural. Post-holes, and pits that may be interpreted as post-holes, must be examined in section and then fully excavated. Fabricated surfaces within the excavation area (e.g. yards & floors) must be fully exposed and cleaned.
Any variation from this practice will need to be agreed with the Conservation Team of SCCAS and confirmed in writing.
- 4.2 All other features must be sufficiently examined to establish, where possible, their date and function. For guidance:
- a). A minimum of 50% of the fills of the general features is to be excavated. Note that it is likely that prehistoric features e.g. especially pits, are likely to require full excavation.
 - b). Between 20% and 30% of the fills of funerary ring-ditches and between 10% and 20% of the fills of substantial linear features (ditches etc) are to be excavated, the samples must be representative of the available length of the feature and must take into account any variations in the shape or fill of the feature and any concentrations of artefacts.
- Any variations from these practices will need to be agreed with the Conservation Team of SCCAS and confirmed in writing.
- 4.3 Collect and prepare environmental samples (by sieving or flotation as appropriate). The Project Design must provide details of the sampling strategies for retrieving artefacts, biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations), and samples of sediments and/or soils (for micromorphological and other pedological/sedimentological analyses. Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from the English Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy and Wiltshire 1994) is available from the Conservation Team of SCCAS.
- 4.4 A finds recovery policy is to be agreed before the project commences and should form part of the Project Design. The use of a metal detector will form an essential part of the finds recovery strategy. The sieving of occupation levels and building fills will be expected.
- 4.5 All finds will be collected and processed. No discard policy will be considered until the whole body of finds has been evaluated.
- 4.6 All ceramic, bone and stone artefacts are to be cleaned and processed concurrently with the excavation, so that the results can inform decision-making on the excavation.
- 4.7 Metal artefacts must be stored and managed in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines* and evaluated for significant dating and cultural implications before despatch to a conservation laboratory within 4 weeks of excavation.
- 4.8 Human remains are to be treated at all stages with care and respect, and are to be dealt with in accordance with the law. They must be recorded *in situ* and subsequently

lifted, packed and marked to standards compatible with those described in the Institute for Archaeologists' Technical Paper 13 *Excavation and post-excavation treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Human Remains*, by McKinley & Roberts. Proposals for the final disposition of remains following study and analysis will be required in the Project Design.

- 4.9 Plans of the archaeological features on the site should normally be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50, depending on the complexity of the data to be recorded. Sections should be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 again depending on the complexity to be recorded. Any variations from this must be agreed with the Conservation Team of SCCAS.
- 4.10 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of high definition digital images.
- 4.11 Excavation record keeping is to be consistent with the requirements of Suffolk County Council's Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and be compatible with its archive. Methods must be agreed with the Conservation Team of SCCAS.

5. General Management

- 5.1 A timetable for all stages of the project must be agreed before the first stage of work commences.
- 5.2 Monitoring of the archaeological work will be undertaken by the Conservation Team of SCCAS.
Where projects require an unusual amount of monitoring, the Conservation Team reserve the right to make an 'at-cost' charge for monitoring (currently at a daily rate of £150). A decision on the monitoring required will be made by the Conservation Team on submission of the accepted Project Design and will be reviewed during the course of the project. Any decision to charge for monitoring will be notified to the developer or his agent(s).
- 5.3 The composition of the project staff must be detailed and agreed (this is to include any subcontractors). For the site director and other staff likely to have a major responsibility for the post-excavation processing of this site there must be a statement of their responsibilities for post-excavation work on other archaeological sites.
- 5.4 A general Health and Safety Policy must be provided, with a detailed risk assessment and management strategy for this particular site.
- 5.5 The Project Design must include proposed security measures to protect the site and both excavated and unexcavated finds from vandalism and theft.
- 5.6 Provision for the reinstatement of the ground and the filling of dangerous holes must be detailed in the Project Design.
- 5.7 The Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* and for *Excavations* should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in the drawing up of the report.

6. Archive Requirements

- 6.1 Within four weeks of the end of field-work a timetable for post-excavation work must be produced. Following this a written statement of progress on post -excavation work whether archive, assessment, analysis or final report writing will be required at three monthly intervals.
- 6.2 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared consistent with the principles of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (*MAP2*), particularly Appendix 3. However, the detail of the archive is to be fuller than that implied in

MAP2 Appendix 3.2.1. The archive is to be sufficiently detailed to allow comprehension and further interpretation of the site should the project not proceed to detailed analysis and final report preparation. It must be adequate to perform the function of a final archive for lodgement in the County SMR or museum.

- 6.3 A clear statement of the form, intended content, and standards of the archive is to be submitted for approval as an essential requirement of the Project Design (see 2.5).
- 6.4 The site archive quoted at MAP2 Appendix 3, must satisfy the standard set by the *Guideline for the preparation of site archives and assessments of all finds other than fired clay vessels* of the Roman Finds Group and the Finds Research Group AD700-1700 (1993).
- 6.5 Pottery should be recorded and archived to a standard comparable with 6.3 above, i.e. *The Study of Later Prehistoric Pottery: General Policies and Guidelines for Analysis and Publication*, Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group Occasional Paper 1 (1991, rev 1997), the *Guidelines for the archiving of Roman Pottery*, Study Group for Roman Pottery (ed. M G Darling 1994) and the *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2 (2001).
- 6.6 All coins must be identified and listed as a minimum archive requirement.
- 6.7 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County SMR. All record drawings of excavated evidence are to be presented in drawn up form, with overall site plans. All records must be on an archivally stable and suitable base.
- 6.8 A complete copy of the site record archive must be deposited with the County SMR within twelve months of the completion of fieldwork. It will then become publicly accessible.
- 6.9 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with the UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines.
- 6.10 Every effort must be made to get the agreement of the landowner/developer to the deposition of the finds with the County SMR or a museum in Suffolk which satisfies Museum and Galleries Commission requirements, as an indissoluble part of the full site archive. If this is not achievable for all or parts of the finds archive then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate. If the County SMR is the repository for finds there will be a charge made for storage, and it is presumed that this will also be true for storage of the archive in a museum.
A statement regarding the final destination of the finds must be included in the Project Design.

7. Report Requirements

- 7.1 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines. The finds, as an indissoluble part of the site archive, should be deposited with the County HER Officer if the landowner can be persuaded to agree to this. If this is not possible for all or any part of the finds archive, then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate.
- 7.2 The project manager should consult the SCC Archive Guidelines 2008 and also the County HER Officer regarding the requirements for the deposition of the archive (conservation, ordering, organisation, labelling, marking and storage) of excavated material and the archive.

- 7.3 The WSI should state proposals for the deposition of the digital archive relating to this project with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), and allowance should be made for costs incurred to ensure proper deposition (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/policy.html>).
- 7.4 A report on the fieldwork and archive, consistent with the principles of MAP2, particularly Appendix 4, must be provided. The report must summarise the methodology employed, the stratigraphic sequence, and give a period by period description of the contexts recorded, and an inventory of finds. The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its interpretation. The report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence, including palaeoenvironmental remains recovered from palaeosols and cut features. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological value of the results, and their significance in the context of the *Regional Research Framework* (East Anglian Archaeology, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000) and the *Revised Research Framework for the Eastern Region* (2008; available online at <http://www.eaareports.org.uk/>).
- 7.5 A copy of the report, clearly marked DRAFT, must be presented to SCCAS/CT for approval within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated with the project sponsor and SCCAS/CT. Following approval, two hard copies, as well as a digital copy, of the report must be presented to SCCAS/CT
- 7.6 A summary report, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*, must be prepared and included in the project report or submitted to the Conservation Team by the end of the calendar year in which the work takes place, whichever is the sooner.
- 7.7 County HER sheets must be completed, as per the County HER manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.
- 7.8 Where appropriate, a digital vector trench plan should be included with the report, which must be compatible with MapInfo GIS software, for integration in the County HER. AutoCAD files should be also exported and saved into a format that can be imported into MapInfo (for example, as a Drawing Interchange File or .dxf) or already transferred to .TAB files.
- 7.9 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.
- 7.10 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the County HER. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

Specification by: Edward Martin

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service Conservation Team
Shire Hall
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk IP33 2AR

Tel: 01284 741229

Email: edward.martin@suffolk.gov.uk

Date: 12 May 2011

Reference: SpecCMon(EM)_CherryTree_Debenham_2780_10

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

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

Appendix 2. Context database

Context Number	Feature Number	Feature Type	Category	Description	Period
0027	0027	Pit	Cut	Irregular ovoid pit (approx E-W aligned) with shallow sloped sides to a concave base. C. 0.9 x 1.4m diameter and 0.15m deep. Filled with cremation pyre debris.	
				Interpretation Cremation pyre debris pit - does not appear to be a 'cremation' itself though - feature too irregular and spread out. Frequent pottery throughout fill as well - could alternatively be hearth waste	
0028	0028	Pit	Fill	Dark grey/blackish brown sandy silt with occasional small/medium flints and very frequent charcoal flecks and fragments, occasional burnt bone fragments, occasional pottery pieces and CBM/heated clay flecks and fragments.	
				Interpretation Cremation pyre (or possibly domestic hearth) debris.	
0029	0029	Ditch	Cut	Linear ditch feature - N-S orientated with medium sloped sides to a flat base.	
				Interpretation Modern/post-med ditch	
0030	0029	Ditch	Fill	Mid/pale greyish brown (sun-baked) firm/friable sandy silt. Occasional small flints/stones	
				Interpretation Fill of post-med/modern ditch	
0031	0031	Posthole	Cut	Circular posthole, vertical sides to a flat base, stepped on the norhtenr side approximately 0.2m down.	
				Interpretation Posthole	
0032	0031	Posthole	Fill	Fill of posthole - mid greyish brown (sun-baked) ahrd friable sandy silt with occasional small/medium flints and stones - some small charcoal flecks.	
				Interpretation Fill of Posthole 0031	
0033	0033	Pit	Cut	Pit - Oval shaped (only half within stripped area) pit adjacent to eastern edge of stipped area. Fairly steep sloped sides with a sharp BOS to a flat base.	
				Interpretation Pit	
0034	0033	Pit	Fill	Dark greyish bronw silty sand (firm and dry) with occasinoal small/medium angular and roudned flints, ocaseinoal heat-altered clay and very occasional degraded bone fragments, occasional charcoal flecks, burnt flint and flint flakes.	
				Interpretation Fill of pit - possible pyre debris again, but mush less bone.	

Context Number	Feature Number	Feature Type	Category	Description	Period
0035	0035		Other	Remains of base of Urn(?) removed almost entirely during stripping - only remnant of base of urn in situ. No fill remaining -planned and photographed, then removed.	
			Interpretation	Remains of probable cremation urn.	
0036	0036	Posthole	Cut	Circular posthole with vertical side to a shallow/flattish base	
			Interpretation	Posthole	
0037	0036	Posthole	Fill	Mid greyish brown (sun-baked) hard friable sandy silt with occasional small/medium flints and stones.	
			Interpretation	Fill of posthole 0036	
0038	0038		Other	Burnt bone fragments from root disturbed soil - possibly remant of cremation pyre debris pit or dragged during stripping. Recorded as findspot since no visible feature present.	
			Interpretation	Cremation debris	
0039	0039	Pit	Cut	Circular pit feature, gradually sloping concave sides to a concave base.	
			Interpretation	Possible pyre debris pit.	
0040	0039	Pit	Fill	Dark brownish grey silty sand (firm and dry - sunbaked) with occasional small/medium angular and rounded flints, occasional heat-altered flint and clay fragments, occasional burnt bone fragments and occasional/moderate charcoal flecks and fragments.	
			Interpretation	Possible cremation pyre debris pit.	
0041	0041	Pit	Cut	Cut for cremation urn - 0.37m N-S by 0.38m E-W, depth c. 0.15m (remaining height of urn)	
			Interpretation	Cremation urn pit	
0042	0041	Pit	Fill	Mid/dark yellowish brown silty sand with very occasional charcoal flecks and small flints - hard to distinguish from natural due to sun-bleaching.	
			Interpretation	Fill around cremation urn in pit 0041.	
0043	0041		Other	Cremation Urn	
			Interpretation	Cremation Urn	

Context Number	Feature Number	Feature Type	Category	Description	Period
0044	0041		Fill	Fill of Cremation Urn, dark/black fill of cremation urn - visible burnt bone fragments present.	
				Interpretation	
0045	0045	Pit	Cut	Ovoid/oblongated pit, E-W aligned with steep sloped sides to a concave base. Extends out of LOE to the east (but probably not by much).	
				Interpretation	Pit, possibly remnant of an un-urned cremation.
0046	0045	Pit	Fill	Friable mid greyish brown silty sand with occasional small stones and very occasional charcoal flecks.	
				Interpretation	Primary fill of possible remnant of un-urned cremation pit.
0047	0045	Pit	Fill	Dark grey/black silty sand with frequent charcoal flecks and fragments and burnt bone fragments.	
				Interpretation	Secondary fill of pit 0045, Cremation or pyre debris?
0048	0048	Pit	Cut	Circular pit with vertical sides and a shallow dished base - cremation pit.	
				Interpretation	Cremation deposition pit.
0049	0048	Pit	Fill	Dark blackish grey friable silty sand cremation debris. Very frequent small to medium bone fragments and pieces.	
				Interpretation	Cremation pyre debris - cremation.
0050	0035		Fill	Partial remnants of internal fill of Urn 0035 - burnt bone noticed on some of the fragments of pottery.	
				Interpretation	Remnants of Urn fill containing cremated bone
0051	0051		Other	Urn, found in SE. LOE. Partially sectioned by sloped batter of LOE. Diameter c. 0.35m, surviving height C 0.15m. Filled with 0052.	
				Interpretation	Cremation Urn.
0052	0051		Fill	Fill of Cremation Urn 0051. Dark brown/black sandy silt with moderate burnt bone inclusions.	
				Interpretation	Fill of cremation urn 0051.
0053	0053	Pit	Cut	Hearth Debris pit/possible in situ hearth(?). Large ovoid pit with steep sides to a shallow concave base.	
				Interpretation	Hearth debris pit.

Context Number	Feature Number	Feature Type	Category	Description	Period
0054	0053	Pit	Fill	Pinky-red fired clay with dark grey/brown silty clay fill of pit 0053. Moderate small/medium angular and rounded flints and stones, occasional small chalk lumps, lots of pottery and fired clay lumps present.	
				Interpretation	
0055	0058	Pit	Fill	Very dark greyish black silty clay. Possible hone found in fill.	
				Interpretation	Fill of pit 0058
0056	0058	Pit	Fill	Mid grey silty clay with frequent medium-large angular/rounded flints/stones and charcoal flecks and daub fragments.	
				Interpretation	Fill of pit 0058.
0057	0058	Pit	Fill	Mid grey silty clay with moderate small/medium angular/rounded flints. Basal fill of pit 0058.	
				Interpretation	Fill of pit 0058.
0058	0058	Pit	Cut	Large irregular circular pit feature, roughly E-W aligned with along shallow profile on the NE edge to a gradual BOS to the base of the feature. SW side has a sharp BOS and an irregular steep convex side (recorded earlier as cut 0033)	
				Interpretation	Pit.
0059	0059	Urn	Other	Semi-circle of truncated Urn base left in situ. No visible evidence of a cut survives, heavily disturbed - some burnt bone flecks found outside the urn in the surrounding soil.	
				Interpretation	Cremation urn remnant.
0060	0059		Fill	Mid/dark brownish grey firm clayey silt with occasional small stones and common charcoal flecks and burnt bone fragments.	
				Interpretation	Heavily disturbed deposit associated with cremation pot 0059, on northeast edge of 0059. Heavily mixed with natural and subsoil (deposit sits within the natural/subsoil interface). Not planned or drawn due to lack of definition of any edges.
0061	0061	Pit	Cut	Remains of cremation pyre debris pit. Near vertical sides to a flat base, 0.34m diameter and surviving to 0.1m in depth. Base of feature just reaches the subsoil/natural sand interface.	
				Interpretation	Cremation pyre debris pit.

Context Number	Feature Number	Feature Type	Category	Description	Period
0062	0061	Pit	Fill	Dark brown/black silty sand with very frequent burnt bone flecks/fragments, moderate charcoal flecks and intermittent possible burnt clay.	
				Interpretation	
0063	0065	Urned Cremation	Fill	Dark greyish black silty clay with burnt flint, burnt bone and charcoal fragments - fill of Urn 0064 in cut 0065.	
				Interpretation	Cremation debris.
0064	0065	Urned Cremation	Other	Cremation Urn, circular in plan (0.3m in diameter and c. 0.15m high). Lifted whole with internal fill still present.	
				Interpretation	Cremation Urn
0065	0065	Urned cremation	Cut	Cut for Cremation Urn 0064. Not visible on surface, possibly visible under rim of urn (but light fading), theoretical cut.	
				Interpretation	Cut for Cremation Urn 0064.
0066	0066		Other	Squareish patch of fired clay, some debris spread out from central area.	
				Interpretation	Patch of fired clay amongst several cremations.
0067	0067	Pit	Cut	Ovoid-shaped pit, aligned approximately E-W (northern edge truncated by machine) situated on the southern LOE for the site. Shallow and broad concave sides to a flat base.	
				Interpretation	Small pit.
0068	0067	Pit	Fill	Mid/dark grey brown firm silty clay with occasional small angular-rounded flints.	
				Interpretation	Fill of small pit.
0069	0070	Pit	Fill	Dark grey/black firm silty clay with occasional small angular-rounded flints, moderate burnt flints and charcoal flecking and burnt bone.	
				Interpretation	Fill of cremation pit.
0070	0070	Pit	Cut	Circular in plan, U-Shaped profile with vertical sides and a shallow concave base. Filled with Cremation pyre debris (0069) and cuts pit 0072 to east.	
				Interpretation	Cremation.

Context Number	Feature Number	Feature Type	Category	Description	Period
0071	0072	Pit	Fill	Dark greyish brown firm/compact silty clay with moderate/frequent medium/large angular and rounded flints, moderate charcoal flecks. 2 pieces of burnt bone were found within this fill though are suspected to be intrusive from 0069.	
				Interpretation Fill of pit 0072	
0072	0072	Pit	Cut	Subcircular pit, truncated to west by cremation pyre debris pit 0070, steep slightly concave sides to a broad, shallow concave base.	
				Interpretation Cut of pit, predating cremation pit 0070.	
0073				Unstratified finds adjacent to Urn 0064	
				Interpretation	
0074				Unstratified finds adjacent to cremation pit 0070	
				Interpretation	

Appendix 4. Prehistoric pottery catalogue

Context	Sample	Fabric	F2	DSC	Quantity	Weight	Illustration	Spot Date
34		G1	G	U	1	3		MBA
35		G1	G	B	65	192		MBA
43		G1	G	B + D	119	1821	y	MBA
49	8 spit 2	G1	G	U	13	26		MBA
49	8 spit 3	G	G	U	16	10		MBA
49	8 spit 4	G	G	U	15	12		MBA
51		G1	G	B + D	107	1217		MBA
59		G2	G	B	16	404		MBA
62	11	G1	G		60	90		MBA
62	11	G1	G	R	2	16	y	MBA
63		G	G	U	1	3		MBA
63	sieved	G	G	U	60	11		MBA
63	sieved	G	G	U	44	18		MBA
64		G2	G	B + U	103	2292		MBA
73					3	45		MBA

Appendix 5. Post Roman pottery catalogue

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	No	Wt/g	Date
0028	ESGO			2	33	ESax
0028	ESO1	globular jar	everted	28	281	6th c.
0028	ESMS	straight-sided bowl	vertical	3	31	ESax
0028	ESFS	splay-sided bowl?	flaring	80	378	ESax
0040	ESFS	jar?	vertical?	7	10	ESax
0040	ESSS	jar?	vertical?	1	4	ESax
0054	ESMS	straight-sided bowl	slight bead	1	37	ESax
0054	ESO2			6	15	ESax
0054	ESMS	wide-mouthed jar	vertical	125	2618	6th c.
0054	ESMS	jar?	vertical	1	5	ESax
0054	ESMS	jar?	vertical flat-top	1	8	ESax
0054	ESMS			3	15	ESax
0054	ESMS			6	12	ESax
0054	ESMS			1	35	ESax
0055	ESSS	jar	vertical	1	14	ESax
0068	ESFS			2	5	ESax
0068	ESSS			3	2	ESax
0073	ESSM			1	8	ESax
0074	ESMS			1	10	ESax
0074	ESFS			1	15	ESax
0074	ESMS			1	12	ESax
0074	ESFS			2	23	ESax
0074	ESMS	jar?	vertical flat-top	1	2	ESax

Appendix 6. Worked flint catalogue

Context	Type	Quantity
0028	flake	1
0028	spall	2
0028	retouched flake	1
0030	utilised blade	1
0032	flake	1
0034	blade	1
0034	blade	4
0034	flake	1
0034	flake	2
0034	spall	4
0034	microlith	1
0034	notched flake	1
0034	utilised flake	1
0040	blade	2
0040	bladelet	1
0040	chip	1
0040	flake	1
0040	spall	2
0054	flake	1
0054	spall	3
0055	flake	1
0056	tested piece	1
0062	flake	2
0063	spall	4
0063	non-struck fragment	0
0073	flake	2
0073	spall	1
0073	struck fragment	1
0074	flake	1
0074	utilised flake	1

Appendix 7. Cremated bone quantification and measurements

Burial	Fill	Spit	Mesh	Skull			Axial			Upper limb			Lower limb			Unident Wt/g	Totals Wt/g	max skull	max l.b.
				No.	Wt/g	Av. wt	No.	Wt/g	Av. wt	No.	Wt/g	Av. wt	No.	Wt/g	Av. wt				
0035	0050														0.5	0.5			
0041	0044 <9>		>4mm	95	16.7	0.2	48	10.9	0.2	37	32.4	0.9	37	30.1	0.8	73.1	163.2	18	39
			>2mm	13	0.5	0.0										52.7	53.2		
			<2mm													6.8	6.8		
Totals				108	17.2	0.2	48	10.9	0.2	37	32.4	0.9	37	30.1	0.8	132.6	223.2		
0045	0047 <7>		>4mm	31	17.9	0.6	17	16.4	1.0	8	2.7	0.3	35	18.4	0.5	17.8	73.2	26	30
			>2mm	6	0.3	0.1										15.1	15.4		
			<2mm													3	3		
Totals				37	18.2	0.5	17	16.4	1.0	8	2.7	0.3	35	18.4	0.5	35.9	91.6		
0048	0049 <8>	1	>4mm	88	43.4	0.5	73	34.4	0.5	30	13.6	0.5	60	57.9	1.0	123.1	272.4	35	50
			>2mm													66.8	66.8		
			<2mm													12.9	12.9		
		2	>4mm	84	50.6	0.6	53	42.1	0.8	31	23.4	0.8	104	88.2	0.8	173.7	378	36	45
			>2mm													107.5	107.5		
			<2mm													22.7	22.7		
		3	>4mm	153	46.2	0.3	37	17.1	0.5	40	40.2	1.0	122	123.2	1.0	231.1	457.8	21	40
			>2mm	1	0.1	0.1										120.7	120.8		
			<2mm	1	0.2	0.2										27.8	28		
		4	>4mm	216	75.7	0.4	41	17.2	0.4	35	31	0.9	80	90.5	1.1	401	615.4	30	40
			>2mm	2	0.1	0.1				1	0.1	0.1				155.5	155.7		
			<2mm													39	39		
Totals				545	216	0.4	204	111	0.5	137	108	0.8	366	360	1.0	1481.8	2277		
0051	0052		>4mm	45	14.4	0.3	4	0.9	0.2	21	20.5	1.0	4	2.1	0.5	16.6	54.5	17	36
			<4mm													3.3	3.3		
Totals				45	14.4	0.3	4	0.9	0.2	21	20.5	1.0	4	2.1	0.5	19.9	57.8		
0059	0060 <10>		>4mm	26	12.9	0.5	7	17.8	2.5	4	2.2	0.6	16	8.8	0.6	11	52.7	32	18
			<4mm													9.5	9.5		
Totals				26	12.9	0.5	7	17.8	2.5	4	2.2	0.6	16	8.8	0.6	20.5	62.2		

Burial	Fill	Spit	Mesh	Skull			Axial			Upper limb			Lower limb			Unident	Totals	max skull	max l.b.
				No.	Wt/g	Av. wt	No.	Wt/g	Av. wt	No.	Wt/g	Av. wt	No.	Wt/g	Av. wt				
0061	0062		>4mm	38	10.2	0.3	9	1.5	0.2	12	8.3	0.7	9	7.8	0.9	28.7	56.5	34	34
	<11>		<4mm													15.4	15.4		
Totals				38	10.2	0.3	9	1.5	0.2	12	8.3	0.7	9	7.8	0.9	44.1	71.9		
0065	0063		>4mm	170	43.7	0.3	25	5.3	0.2	17	9.9	0.6	64	48.2	0.8	158.1	265.2	32	44
			<4mm													67.1	67.1		
below urn			<4mm												10.5	10.5			
Totals				170	43.7	0.3	25	5.3	0.2	17	9.9	0.6	64	48.2	0.8	235.7	342.8		
0070	0069		>4mm	381	211.1	0.6	284	144	0.5	91	103.6	1.1	115	154.6	1.3	1074	1687.3	41	65
	<12>		>4mm	317	67.9	0.2	28	6	0.2	2	0.6	0.3	15	13.7	0.9	34.9	123.1	19	42
			>2mm	12	0.6	0.1										300	300.6		
			<2mm													74.8	74.8		
Totals				710	280	0.4	312	150	0.5	93	104	1.1	130	168	1.3	1483.7	2185.8		
0072	0071									1	2.5	2.5	1	1.4	1.4	0.5	4.4		40

Appendix 8. Cremation catalogue

Urned cremation burials

Cremation burial 0035 (0050): unaged, unsexed

Quantification:	Total weight 0.5g: unidentified (0.5g).
Description:	Urned cremation burial – base only in situ.
Condition:	Poor, tiny fragments.
Determination of age:	-
Determination of sex:	-
Identified elements:	None.
Measurements:	-
Colours:	White.
Teeth:	-
Pathology:	-

Cremation burial 0041 (0044): older juvenile

Quantification:	Total weight 223.2g: Skull 108 (17.2g), axial 48 (10.9g), upper limb 37 (32.4g), lower limb 37 (30.1g), unidentified (132.6g).
Description:	Urned cremation burial.
Condition:	Fair, mostly small fragments.
Determination of age:	Size of bones.
Determination of sex:	-
Identified elements:	Fragments of cranial vault, incus, mandible, scapula, vertebral facets, humerus, radius, femur, tibia, metatarsal.
Measurements:	Max skull frag size 18mm, max long bone frag size 39mm.
Colours:	White/grey.
Teeth:	7 root frags, unidentified.
Pathology:	-

Cremation burial 0051 (0052): adult ??female

Quantification:	Total weight 57.8g: Skull 45 (14.4g), axial 4 (0.9g), upper limb 21 (20.5g), lower limb 4 (2.1g), unidentified (19.9g).
Description:	Urned cremation burial, partial.
Condition:	Fair, a few large fragments.
Determination of age:	Size of bones.
Determination of sex:	Appears gracile.
Identified elements:	Fragments of cranial vault (thin), maxilla, mandible, ilium, rib, humerus, ulna, femur shaft.
Measurements:	Max skull frag size 17mm, max long bone frag size 36mm (5 joining frags humerus 88mm).
Colours:	White and grey.
Teeth:	3 small frags tooth root.
Pathology:	One fragment of ?humerus appears to have callus formation, poss fracture?

Cremation burial 0059 (0060): adult male, adult ??female and juvenile

Quantification:	Total weight 62.2g: Skull 28 (23.1g), axial 3 (14.1g), upper limb 4 (4.7g), lower limb 30 (49.6g), unidentified long bone 10 (3.6g), unidentified (14.1g).
Description:	Urned cremation burial, base only in situ.
Condition:	Fair, mostly large fragments including half of the right acetabulum as a complete piece.
Determination of age:	Size of bones.
Determination of sex:	One gracile adult, one robust adult?
Identified elements:	Fragments of cranial vault (occipital), large fragment of lumbar vertebra, finger phal, humerus, ulna, femur, tibia, fibula, metatarsal. Some fragments appear similar to 0049 and 0052?
Measurements:	Max skull frag size 32mm (2 joining frags occipital 40mm), max long bone frag size 18mm.
Colours:	White.
Teeth:	-
Pathology:	-

Cremation burial 0065 (0063): ?young adult ?female

Quantification:	Total weight 342.8g: Skull 170 (43.7g), axial 25 (5.3g), upper limb 17 (9.9g), lower limb 64 (48.2g), unidentified (235.7g).
Description:	Urned cremation burial.
Condition:	Fair, a few large fragments, some abraded.
Determination of age:	Size of bones, lambdoid suture open.
Determination of sex:	Gracile supra-orbital.
Identified elements:	Fragments of cranial vault (R supra-orbital, occipital), mandibular condyle, vertebrae, ribs, humerus, ulna, finger phals, femur, tibia, fibula.
Measurements:	Max skull frag size 32mm, max long bone frag size 44mm (2 joining tib 59mm)
Colours:	White and cream/buff, some abraded white.
Teeth:	7 root frags, unidentified.
Pathology:	-

Unurned cremation burials/deposits

Cremation burial 0045 (0047): young adult male

Quantification:	Total weight 91.6g: Skull 37 (18.2g), axial 17 (16.4g), upper limb 8 (2.7g), lower limb 35 (18.4g), unidentified (35.9g).
Description:	Unurned cremation burial? Secondary fill of pit.
Condition:	Fair, some large fragments. Tibia mainly white, abraded.
Determination of age:	Size of bones, fusion of cranial sutures.
Determination of sex:	Large occipital crest.
Identified elements:	Fragments of cranial vault (glabella, occipital crest, zygomatic process, petrous temporal), C vertebrae, ribs, S1, ulna, carpal, femur, tibia.
Measurements:	Max skull frag size 26mm, max long bone frag size 30mm.
Colours:	White/grey.
Teeth:	2 root frags, unidentified.
Pathology:	-

Cremation burial 0048 (0049): adult male, adult female, infant, juvenile, sub-adult

Quantification:	Total weight 2277.0g: Skull 545 (216.3g), axial 204 (110.8g), upper limb 137 (108.3g), lower limb 366 (359.8g), unidentified (1481.8g).
Description:	Unurned cremation burial, excavated in four spits.
Condition:	Good, some large and very large pieces.
Determination of age:	Size of bones (infant cranial frags), fusion of epiphyses (1 large, 1 small unfused), teeth (juv c.5-6 years), cranial sutures open (one adult prob young), possible degeneration (one adult middle-aged?), pubis of sub-adult or young adult.
Determination of sex:	Female: occipital crest and supra-orbital gracile, ?wide sciatic notch; Male: ulna with large muscle markings, large supra-orbital.
Identified elements:	<i>Spit 1:</i> Cranial vault (cranial sutures open/closed but patent), axis, C and upper T verts, ribs, iliac jt, pubis, hum shaft, ulna shaft, carpals, fingers, femoral linea aspera and shaft, tibia and fibula shafts, talus, toe phals. <i>Spit 2:</i> Cranial vault (incl some ?infant), occipital with smooth crest, C verts, L vert, ilium/acetabulum (?wide sciatic notch), ribs, hum shaft and distal, ulna, carpal navicular, MC1 head, distal tibia (could be full-sized epiph), 1 small sesamoid, juvenile MT (unfused prox), unfused fibula end of inf/juv, long bone shafts of all main bones. <i>Spit 3:</i> Adult & juv cranial vault, L glabella frag (large), C and upper T verts, ribs, hum head and shaft, ulna shaft, finger phals including 2 juv & proximal epiphysis, 2 small sesamoids, talus, toe distal phals. <i>Spit 4:</i> Cranial vault (ad & juv), mand/max, L glabella frag (gracile), ilium, ?ischium, vertebral facets, ribs, carpals, ulna, humerus, radius, finger phals, femur, tibia, fibula, distal femoral epiphysis, toe phals, some white frags poss juv legs? (15.9g in unident), 2 frags with unfused epiph (1 large, 1 small).
Measurements:	Max skull frag size 36mm, max long bone frag size 50mm.
Colours:	Mostly white/grey, occasionally pale brown (especially ribs).
Teeth:	<i>Spit 1:</i> 1 ?lower incisor tooth root <i>Spit 2:</i> 6 tooth frags <i>Spit 3:</i> 20 tooth root frags (4 single root, 6 molars, rest uncertain) <i>Spit 4:</i> 15 tooth root frags, 2 crowns (lower M3 & PM - 5-6yrs?)
Pathology:	Osteophytes of one lumbar vertebra and distal humerus.

Cremation burial 0061 (0062): adult

Quantification:	Total weight 71.9g: Skull 38 (10.2g), axial 9 (1.5g), upper limb 12 (8.3g), lower limb 9 (7.8g), unidentified (44.1g).
Description:	Unurned cremation burial or pyre debris.
Condition:	Fair, mostly small fragments.
Determination of age:	Size of bones.
Determination of sex:	-
Identified elements:	Difficult to identify anything due to thick deposits of black soil, but skull vault, vertebral facets, humerus, femur, tibia all present
Measurements:	Max skull frag size 34mm, max long bone frag size 34mm.
Colours:	White and cream/buff.
Teeth:	-
Pathology:	-

Cremation burial 0070 (0069): adult male, adult female, infant, juvenile, sub-adult

Quantification:	Total weight 2185.8g: Skull 710 (279.6g), axial 312 (150.0g), upper limb 93 (104.2g), lower limb 130 (168.3g), unidentified (1483.7g).
Description:	Unurned cremation burial.
Condition:	Good, many large fragments.
Determination of age:	Size of bones, teeth (juvenile c.4 years), fusion of epiphyses (sub-adult c.14-16 yrs).
Determination of sex:	Three fragments of zygoma (adult male, adult female, sub-adult).
Identified elements:	<i>Adult/sub-adult:</i> Cranial vault, mand/max, petrous temporal, R & L temporal, R supra-orbital & zygoma, sub-ad R supra-orb frag, L zygoma frag, another R zygoma (adult); frags all 7 C verts, some T & L frags, ribs, S1, L acetabulum, iliac crest, ?sciatic notch (not enough for sex); hum, ulna prox & shaft, distal hum epiphysis, 7 adult distal phals, 7 adult prox/mid phals, 12 frags sub-ad phals incl 4 epiphyses, 3 carpals; fem, tib, tib, tarsals, MT1 head (1 adult, 1 recently fused), patella, epiphyses of prox fem, prox tib, post calc, dist femur. <i>Infant/juvenile:</i> cranial vault, mandible, petrous temporal x 3?, C1, ribs, verts, scapula, finger phal, patella, femur, tibia. Sizes of bones suggest at least 2 inds, most of unident material is long bone.
Measurements:	Max skull frag size 41mm, max long bone frag size 65mm.
Colours:	White and cream/buff, some grey. Juvenile bone mostly white.
Teeth:	51 adult root frags. 26 crown/deciduous root frags (4+ molars, canine, PM, mesial incisor).
Pathology:	Slight OP of some vertebral fragments.

Pit 0072 (0071): ?adult

Quantification:	Total weight 4.4g: Skull 0, axial 0, upper limb 1 (2.5g), lower limb 1 (1.4g), unidentified (0.5g).
Description:	Probably intrusive from 0070.
Condition:	Small fragments.
Determination of age:	Size of bones.
Determination of sex:	-
Identified elements:	?Radius and ?fibula.
Measurements:	Max long bone frag size 40mm.
Colours:	White.
Teeth:	-
Pathology:	-

Appendix 9. Plant macrofossils and other organic remains

Sample No.	4	5	6	7	8	8	8	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Context No.	0028	0034	0040	0047	0049	0049	0049	0049	0044	0060	0062	0069	0054	0068	0063	0063
Cut No.	0027	0033	0039	0045	0048	0048	0048	0048	0043		0061	0070	0053	0067	0064	0064
Spit No.					1	2	3	4								
Feature type	Pit/PD	Pit	Pit/PD	Crem	Crem/UU	Crem/UU	Crem/UU	Crem/UU	Crem/U	Crem	Crem/UU/PD	Crem/UU	Pit/Hearth	Pit/PD	Urn	Urn
Cereals and other food plants																
<i>Avena</i> sp. (grains)		xcf														
<i>Hordeum</i> sp. (grains)		x		x			xcf						xcf	x		
<i>Triticum</i> sp. (grains)	xcf					xcf					x		xcf			
Cereal indet. (grains)	xcffg	x	x	xfg									x	xfg	x	
Large Fabaceae indet.			x													
Herbs																
<i>Arrhenatherum</i> sp. (tubers)					x	x	x		x							
<i>Atriplex</i> sp.						x										
<i>Bromus</i> sp.		xcf											xcf	x		
<i>Chenopodium album</i> L.							x									
Chenopodiaceae indet.					xcf		x	x						x		
Fabaceae indet.			xcf													
Large Poaceae indet.									x				x			
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> L.												xcf				
<i>Rumex</i> sp.								x		x				x		

<i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> sp.		x					x		x							
Wetland plants																
<i>Carex</i> sp.								x								
<i>Montia fontana</i> L.								x						x		
Tree/shrub macrofossils																
<i>Corylus avellana</i> L.	x		x													
Other plant macrofossils																
Charcoal <2mm	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxx	xxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxx	xxxx	xxxx
Charcoal >2mm	xxxx	xxx	xxxx	x	xxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxx	xxx	xx	x	xxxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Charcoal >5mm	xxx	xx	xx	x	xx	xx	xx	xx	x	x	x	xx	x	x	x	x
Charcoal >10mm			x				x	x								
Charred root/stem		x		x	x	x	x	xx	xx			x		x	x	
Indet.culm nodes											x			x		
Indet.fruit/nut frag.	x		x													
Indet.seeds							x	x	x		x		x	x		
Indet.tuber						x	x	x		x		x				
Other remains																
Black porous 'cokey' material	x	x		x		x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	xx	x
Black tarry material	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x		x	
Bone	x	x	x	xb	xb	xb	xb	xb	xxb		x xb	xb		x	xb	x xb
Burnt/fired clay									x		xxx		x			
Ferrous globules									x							
Small coal frags.		xx	x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	xxx	xx
Vitreous material		x	x										x			
Sample volume (litres)	60	40	60	2					10	3	10	50	80	10	10	10

Volume of flot (litres)	0.7	0.1	0.3	<0.1	0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.2	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.5	0.3	<0.1	<0.1	0.2
% flot sorted	25%	100%	50%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%	100%	100%	25%	50%	100%	100%	50%

Key to Table

x = 1 – 10 specimens xx = 11 – 50 specimens xxx = 51 – 100 specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens

cf = compare fg = fragment b = burnt

PD = Pyre debris Crem = cremation UU = un-urned U = urned

Appendices 10-12. Radiocarbon dating certificates



Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre

Director: Professor A B MacKenzie Director of Research: Professor R M Ellam
Rankine Avenue, Scottish Enterprise Technology Park,
East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 0QF, Scotland, UK
Tel: +44 (0)1355 223332 Fax: +44 (0)1355 229898 www.glasgow.ac.uk/suerc

RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

13 July 2012

Laboratory Code SUERC-40866 (GU27612)

Submitter Sue Anderson
CFA Archaeology Ltd
Old Engine House
Eskmills Park
Musselburgh EH21 7PQ

Site Reference DBN 132

Context Reference 0049

Sample Reference <8>

Material Cremated Bone : Human

$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ relative to VPDB -25.8 ‰

Radiocarbon Age BP 3075 \pm 35

N.B. The above ^{14}C age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD). The error, which is expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standards, background standards and the random machine error.

The calibrated age ranges are determined using the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program OxCal 4.1 (Bronk Ramsey 2009). Terrestrial samples are calibrated using the IntCal09 curve while marine samples are calibrated using the Marine09 curve.

Samples with a SUERC coding are measured at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre AMS Facility and should be quoted as such in any reports within the scientific literature. Any questions directed to the Radiocarbon Laboratory should also quote the GU coding given in parentheses after the SUERC code. The contact details for the laboratory are email g.cook@suerc.gla.ac.uk or Telephone 01355 270136 direct line.

Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by :-

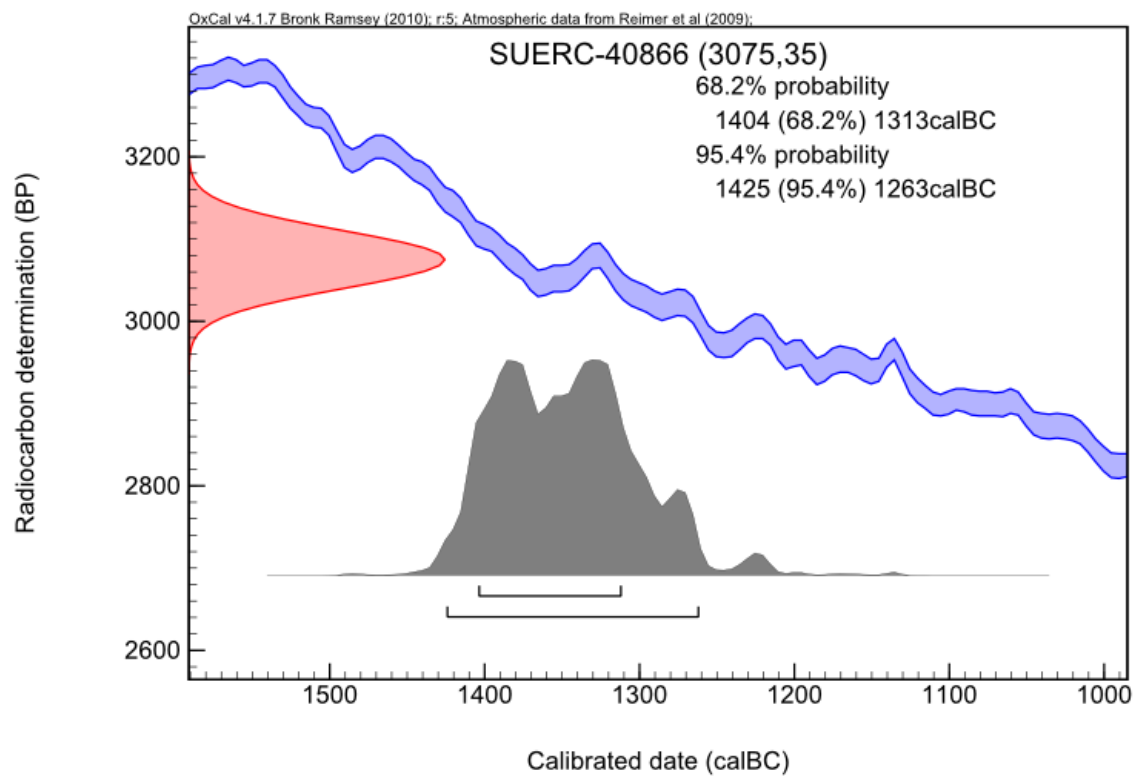
Date :-

Checked and signed off by :-

Date :-



Calibration Plot





Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre

Director: Professor A B MacKenzie Director of Research: Professor R M Ellam

Rankine Avenue, Scottish Enterprise Technology Park,
East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 0QF, Scotland, UK

Tel: +44 (0)1355 223332 Fax: +44 (0)1355 229898 www.glasgow.ac.uk/suerc

RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

13 July 2012

Laboratory Code SUERC-40867 (GU27613)

Submitter Sue Anderson
CFA Archaeology Ltd
Old Engine House
Eskmills Park
Musselburgh EH21 7PQ

Site Reference DBN 132

Context Reference 0044

Sample Reference <9>

Material Cremated Bone : Human

$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ relative to VPDB -25.6 ‰

Radiocarbon Age BP 3060 \pm 35

N.B. The above ^{14}C age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD). The error, which is expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standards, background standards and the random machine error.

The calibrated age ranges are determined using the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program OxCal 4.1 (Bronk Ramsey 2009). Terrestrial samples are calibrated using the IntCal09 curve while marine samples are calibrated using the Marine09 curve.

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Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by :-

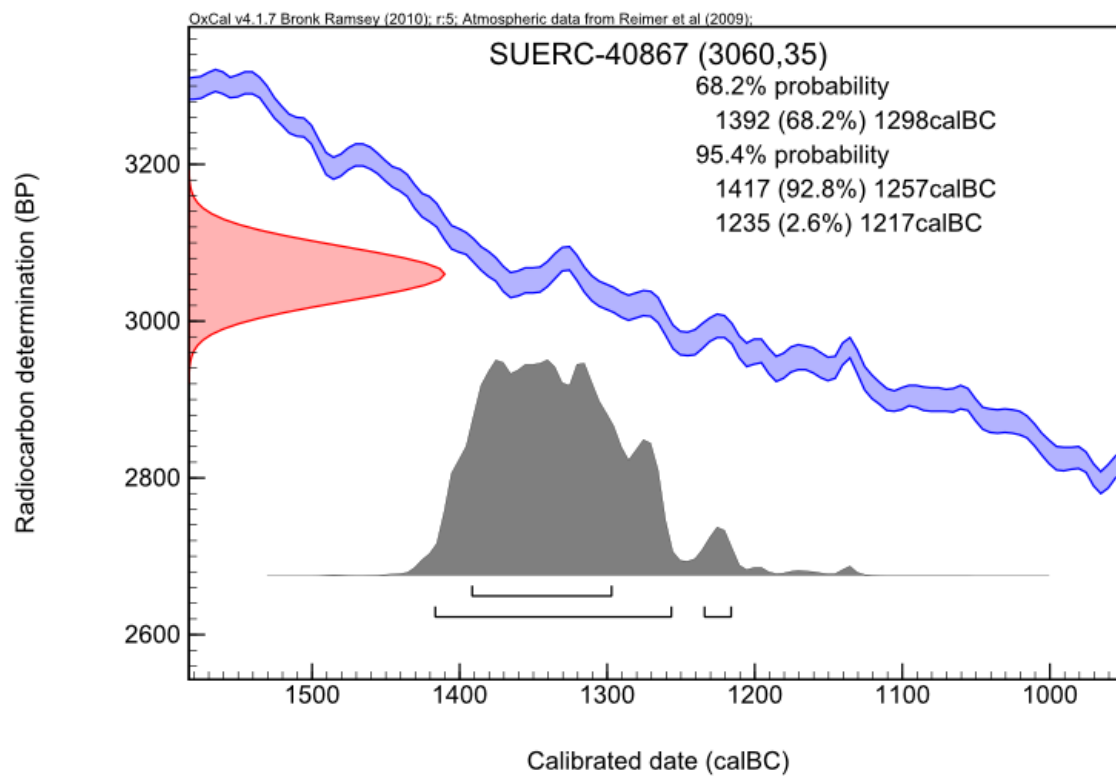
Date :-

Checked and signed off by :-

Date :-



Calibration Plot





Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre

Director: Professor A B MacKenzie Director of Research: Professor R M Ellam

Rankine Avenue, Scottish Enterprise Technology Park,
East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 0QF, Scotland, UK

Tel: +44 (0)1355 223332 Fax: +44 (0)1355 229898 www.glasgow.ac.uk/suerc

RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

13 July 2012

Laboratory Code SUERC-40871 (GU27614)

Submitter Sue Anderson
CFA Archaeology Ltd
Old Engine House
Eskmills Park
Musselburgh EH21 7PQ

Site Reference DBN 132
Context Reference 0069

Material Cremated Bone : Human

$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ relative to VPDB -21.1 ‰

Radiocarbon Age BP 3030 \pm 35

N.B. The above ^{14}C age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD). The error, which is expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standards, background standards and the random machine error.

The calibrated age ranges are determined using the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program OxCal 4.1 (Bronk Ramsey 2009). Terrestrial samples are calibrated using the IntCal09 curve while marine samples are calibrated using the Marine09 curve.

Samples with a SUERC coding are measured at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre AMS Facility and should be quoted as such in any reports within the scientific literature. Any questions directed to the Radiocarbon Laboratory should also quote the GU coding given in parentheses after the SUERC code. The contact details for the laboratory are email g.cook@suerc.gla.ac.uk or Telephone 01355 270136 direct line.

Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by :-

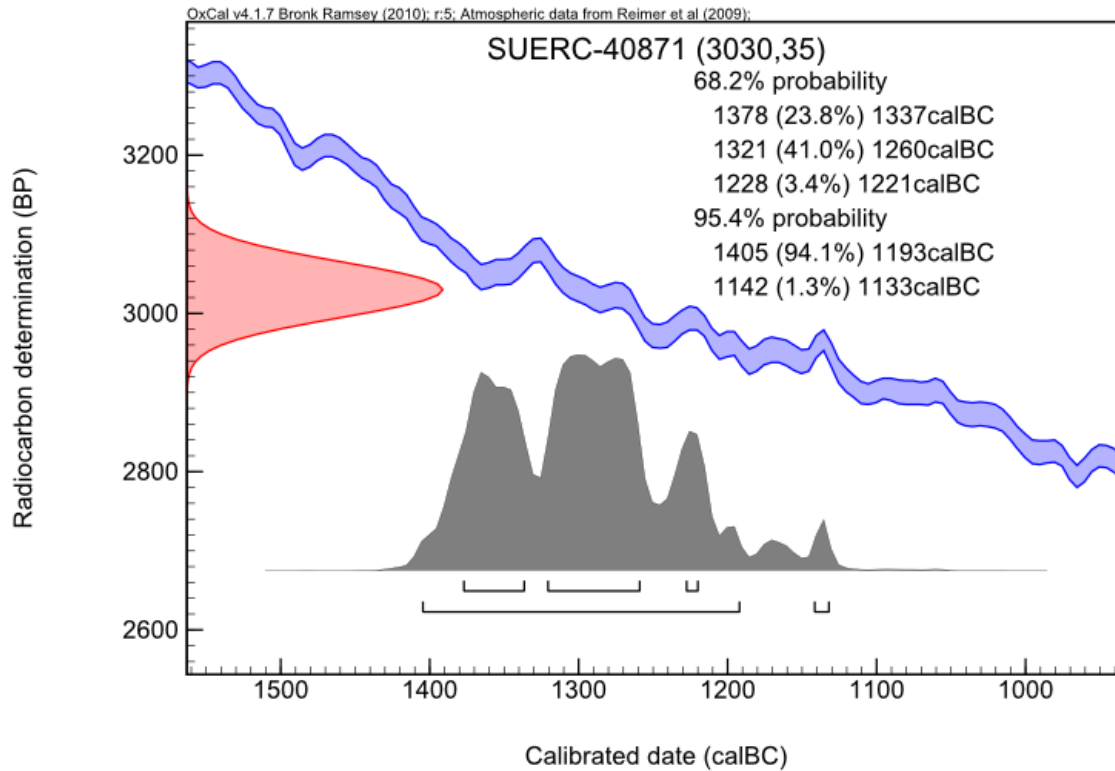
Date :-

Checked and signed off by :-

Date :-



Calibration Plot



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Contact:

Rhodri Gardner

Tel: 01473 581743 Fax: 01473 288221

rhodri.gardner@suffolk.gov.uk

www.suffolk.gov.uk/Environment/Archaeology/