

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION REPORT

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

7, The Highlands, Exning EXG 082

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service

A REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION, 2006
(Planning app. no. F/2005/0892/OUT)

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Field Team
Suffolk C.C. Archaeological Service

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Acknowledgements

This project was funded by Mr T. Peak and the archaeological work was specified and monitored by Mr R.D. Carr (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team).

The fieldwork was carried out by Jo Caruth, Michael Green and John Duffy from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team. Metal detecting was undertaken by Alan Smith.

Finds processing was carried out by Anna West and the finds report produced by Cathy Tester. Other specialist identification and advice was provided by Edward Martin and Dr Colin Pendleton SCCAS Conservation Team.

Summary

Archaeological evaluation at The Highlands, Exning identified a substantial Iron Age ditch containing a large assemblage of finds, which may be part of a hill-top enclosure. Other features may be Roman in date but their function cannot be interpreted.

SMR information

Planning application no. F/2005/0892/OUT
Date of fieldwork: 14th February 2006
Grid Reference: TL 6267 6584
Funding body: Mr T. Peak
Oasis reference Suffolkc1-12897

1. Introduction

An archaeological evaluation was carried out at 7, The Highlands, Exning as a response to a condition on the planning application F/2005/0892/OUT. The work was carried out by members of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS), Field Team to the requirements of a Brief and Specification by Mr R.D. Carr of SCCAS, Conservation Team. The site lies at TL6267 6584 in a cul-de-sac of modern houses just off Windmill Hill on the east side of Exning (Figure 1). Early Saxon burials were found in c.1900 during quarry workings approximately 500m to the north-west of the site and two Early Saxon burials were found during the construction of the adjacent house to the north in 1981 (Figure 2). Exning is reputed to have been a stronghold of Boudica in the 1st century AD and later the site of the palace of King Anna in the 7th century AD.

The aim of the evaluation was to establish the nature of any archaeological deposits, specifically to establish the presence or absence of Anglo-Saxon burials, and to provide sufficient information to enable the production of a mitigation strategy for any deposits threatened with damage by the development.



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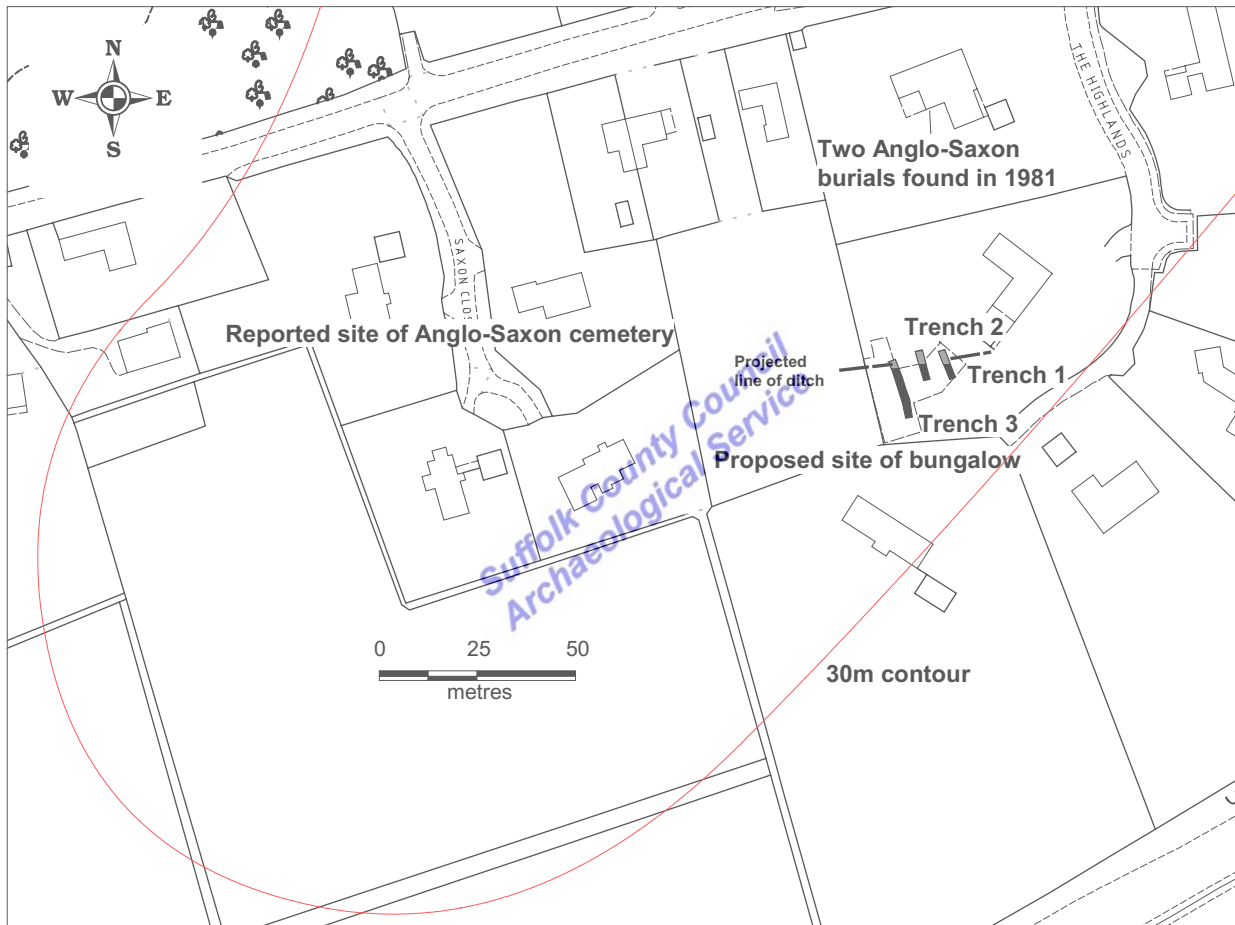
Figure 1. Site location

2. Methodology

Three trenches 1.6m wide and totalling 29.5m in length (8.5% of the development area) were inserted into the proposed location of the new building using a wheeled excavator with toothless bucket. All trenches identified archaeological deposits within 20cm of the ground surface. Trench 3 was longer and included the southern end of

the site which sloped downwards, from which end deeper soil deposits were removed. A ditch containing prehistoric pottery was identified in the north end of all three trenches, and Trench 2 was extended beyond the projected line of the new building to establish the northern edge of this ditch. The section and base of Trench 3 was cleaned by hand and sample sections through the ditch and other possible features were excavated within all trenches. The spoil heaps, trench bases and features were metal detected. Sections were recorded at 1:10 and 1:20 and plans of the trenches at 1:50. The site was plotted using a Total Station Theodolite (TST). Black and white print and digital photographs were taken of selected sections and trenches. All finds were kept. The natural was a bright yellow and orange fine gravel mixed with coarse sand. The site sloped downwards from north to south, 33m OD to 32.05m OD, rising only gently north of the trenches but dropping steeply at the south end of the site.

The site was recorded under the Suffolk County Council Sites and Monuments Parish number EXG082 and a copy of the report lodged with the OASIS on-line database under the reference number Suffolk1-12897. The archive is kept in the Archaeological Service stores at Bury St Edmunds



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Figure 2. Trench locations

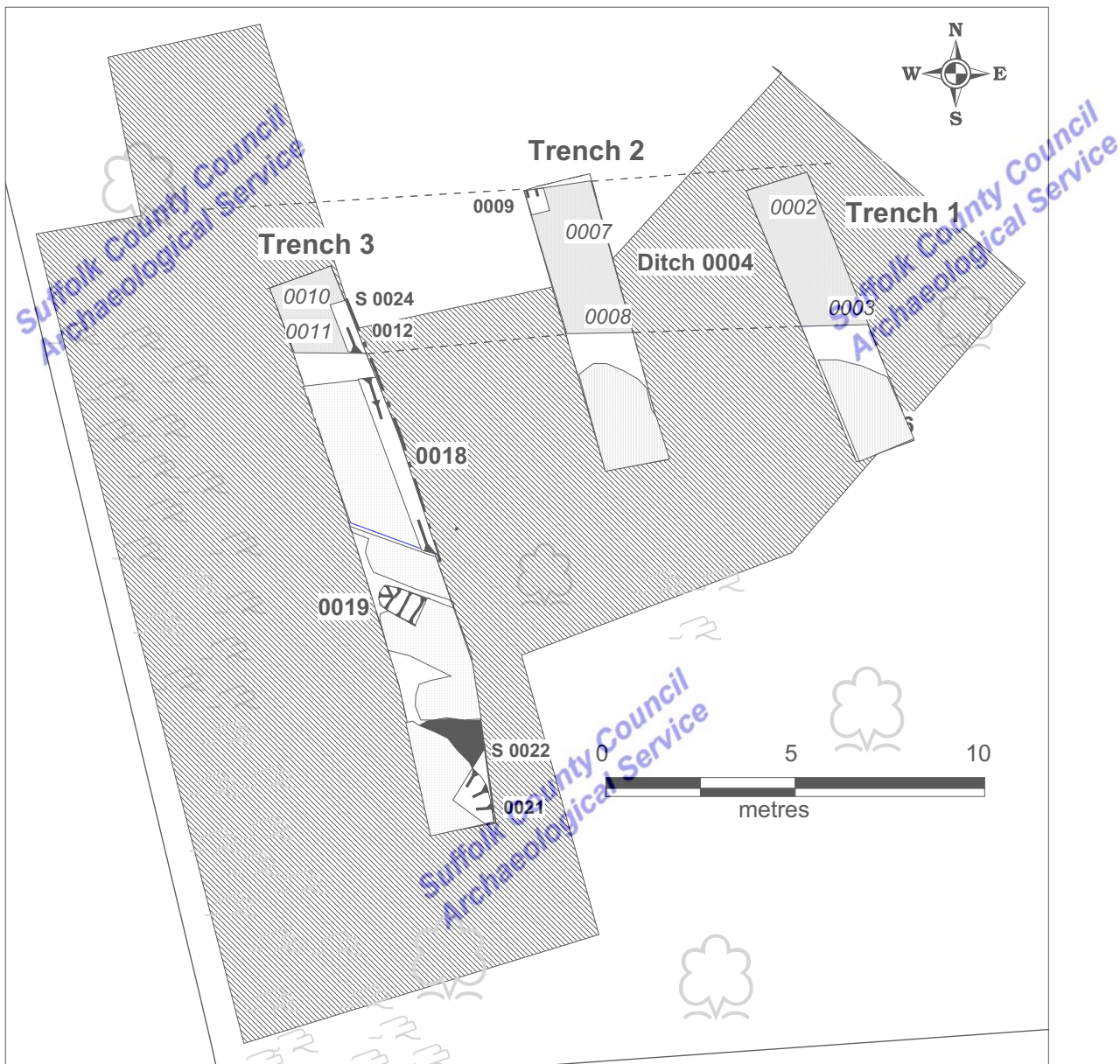
3. Results

All three trenches showed similar characteristics. All contained a dark sand-filled ditch (cut 0004 and fill 0005), at the north end of the trench from which frequent large unabraded sherds of Early Iron Age pottery were recovered (Appendix 2). Sample sections through this and examination of the plan showed this to be E-W aligned, up to 4m wide and at least 80cm deep (Figure 3). The finds were largely recovered from the upper fill, but one sherd of Early Iron Age pottery was found in a lower fill, 0014, that looked to be mixed redeposited natural (Figure 4); it was not certain that this feature was bottomed. The site was level at this point and the ditch fill was identified within 20cm of the current ground level. To the north of this all three trenches contained features, some with regular and some irregular shapes, filled with an orange-brown gravelly sand. The fill was generally sterile and uniform although in one feature 0018 a thin lens

of natural sand and gravel could be seen. The only find from this material, a single sherd of Roman Horningsea ware pottery was recovered from this feature. These had no relationship with the ditch. In Trenches 1 and 2 this deposit was identified 20cm below ground level as these both lay on flat ground, however the southern end of Trench 3 ran into sloping ground and additional deposits were identified at the south end. A layer of brown loam, 0029, c.20cm deep lay under 20cm of topsoil and this lay over a uniform deposit of the same orange-brown gravelly sand, 0028, that filled the majority of the features, however no feature edges were easily defined. Some of this was removed by machine and a hand-dug section inserted into the base of it. Some natural was seen in this section at between 70 and 90cm below ground level (Figure 4) but the feature was still ill-defined and produced no finds.

Trench no.	Description	Depth to subsoil	Topography
1	7.25m long x 1.6m wide. Topsoil 20cm deep, removed to reveal dark fill of linear feature > 3.75m wide at the north end of the trench. Large unabraded sherds of pottery dislodged by machine at this 20cm level. Rounded edge of a second feature at the south end. This had no finds and a gravelly orange-brown sand fill with no finds. The shape was a little irregular and this was investigated by machine in the light of the results of hand-digging in Trench 3.	20cm	South end c. 40cm lower than north
2	7.5m long x 1.6m wide. Topsoil 20cm deep, removed to reveal a dark sandy linear feature 4m wide at the north end of the trench. Small section excavated through the north edge which recovered numerous sherds of pottery. Irregularly shaped orange-brown gravelly sand-filled feature at the south end of the trench. Not sampled.	20cm	South end c. 40cm lower than north
3	14.5m long x 1.6m wide. Topsoil was 20cm deep and overlay feature fill and natural at the north end and a 20cm thick layer of brown loam over feature fill at the south end. Natural was found 20cm below the ground surface at the north end, 68cm in the centre of the trench and 70cm at the south end of the trench. This is partially due to the natural topography which falls to the south, but also reflects the presence of numerous features – the soil under the brown loam at the south end is the same as the fill of 0019 and 0021 and may well be upper feature fill rather than a redeposited layer.	20cm at north end to 70cm at the south end.	Sloped from north to south by c.95cm

Table 1. Trench descriptions



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Figure 3. Site plan

Context	Feature	Trench no.	Identifier	Description
0001			Unstratified finds	Unstratified finds from whole site
0002	0004 0005	T1	Surface finds	Surface finds from north side of ditch fill 0005 in Trench 1. Pottery recovered
0003	0004 0005	T1	Surface finds	Surface finds from discrete spot at south edge of fill 0005 in Trench 1. Pottery and bone recovered.
0004			Ditch cut	Cut of east-west aligned ditch seen in the north end of all three trenches.
0005	0004 0005		Ditch fill	Mixed brown sand-loam with frequent stones up to 4cm across. Plenty of pottery recovered from each section/length exposed. Slightly mottled appearance particularly in Trench 2 where dark charcoal-like mottles are apparent.
0006	0006	T1	Feature cut	Feature at south end of Trench 1. Ill defined shape, c. 70cm deep at deepest point. Similar to and with same fill as features seen in the south ends of the other trenches. This one sampled by machine to get the depth - c. 70cm at the deepest point. No finds.

Context	Feature	Trench no.	Identifier	Description
0007	0004 0005	T2	Surface finds	From surface of 0005 on the north side in Trench 2. Pottery recovered.
0008	0004 0005	T2	Surface finds	From surface of 0005 on the south side in Trench 2. Pottery recovered.
0009	0004	T2	Ditch section	Small section through the north edge of ditch 0004 in Trench 2. Lots of pottery recovered.
0010	0004 0005	T3	Surface finds	Surface finds from north edge of 0005, in Trench 3. Pottery.
0011	0004 0005	T3	Surface finds	Surface finds from south edge of 0005, in trench 3. Pottery.
0012		T3	Ditch section	Slot section through southern edge of ditch 0004 in Trench 3. Pottery.
0013	0004 0005	T3	Ditch fill	Upper fill in 0012. Brown sand with occasional small stones, sandier at the top and denser at the base. Some charcoal flecks at the base. Pottery, bone, flint.
0014	0004	T3	Ditch fill	Lower fill in 0012. Pale beige-brown sandy silt with some small chalk nodules and fine gravel inclusions. A few finds. Pottery, bone and burnt stone.
0015	0004	T3	Unstratified finds	From spoil heap by 0004 in Trench 3.
0016		T3	Unstratified finds	From Trench 3.
0017	0018	T3	Feature fill	Orange-brown gravelly sand-silt. Generally an even homogeneous fill but with a thin lens of bright orange coarse sand/fine gravel through the middle at the north end. One Roman pot sherd recovered.
0018	0018	T3	Feature cut	Ill defined feature just south of 0004 in trench 3. Steep sides and undulating base but irregular shape.
0019	0019	T3	Pit cut	Oval pit. In plan this looked to be one of three aligned rectangular cuts which looked to be graves but on the excavation of this pit no bone or finds were found and the profile was rounded with sloped side.
0020	0019	T3	Pit fill	Single homogeneous gravelly orange-brown sand fill of 0019. Similar to 0017, 0006 and 0023. No finds.
0021	0021	T3	Feature cut	Ill defined feature with irregular base and shape. Found in south end of Trench 3. Section through it = 0022.
0022	0021	T3	Feature section	Section through 0021. Steep sided edge on one side.
0023	0021	T3	Feature fill	Fill of 0021 in section 0022. Same homogeneous gravelly fill as 0006, 0017 and 0020. No finds.
0024		T3	Section drawing	Section through 0004 and 0018 in trench 3. West facing.
0025		T3	Section drawing	Trench section at north end of Trench 3.
0026		T1	Feature fill	Fill of 0006 in Trench 1. Uniform orange-brown gravelly sand.
0027	0004	T3	Ditch fill	Outer fill of 0004, under 0014. Similar to 0014, pale beige-brown sandy silt with chalk inclusions but less gravel.
0028	0030	T3	Feature fill	Orange-brown gravelly sand, the same as elsewhere but the feature here was more difficult to define and initially this looked like a layer deposit, but machine and hand excavation suggest that it was probably the fill of a substantial feature.
0029		T3	Layer	Brown loam lying under topsoil in the north end of Trench 3
0030	0030	T3	Feature cut	Cut edge visible in Trench 3, probably the northern edge of a substantial feature filled with 0028.

Table 2. Context descriptions

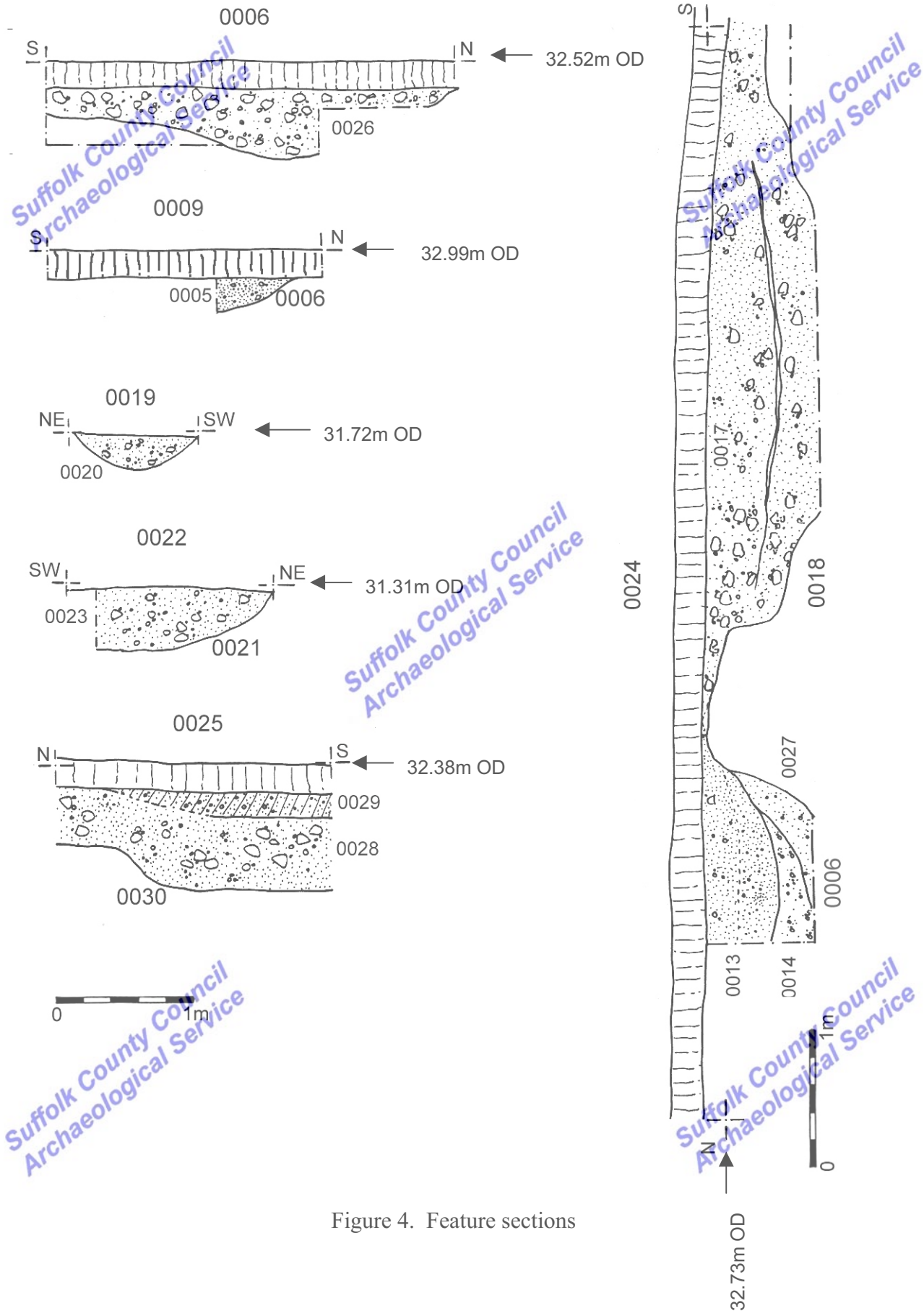


Figure 4. Feature sections

4. Finds and environmental evidence by Cathy Tester

4.1. Introduction

Finds were collected from fourteen contexts during the evaluation and the quantities are shown in the table below.

Tr No	OP	Pottery		Animal bone		B flint/stone		Miscellaneous	Spotdate
		No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g		
1	0002	2	14	1	2				EIA
	0003	8	62	19	59				EIA
2	0007	4	65			1	25		EIA
	0008	3	59	2	34				EIA
	0009	19	244	6	7			Flint: 1-15g	EIA
3	0010	5	155	5	22				EIA
	0011	4	113	1	9				EIA
	0013	31	663	19	91	5	313	Flint: 1-5g	EIA
	0014	1	7	2	7	1	57		EIA
	0015	11	128	1	9				EIA
	0016	1	6						EIA
	0017	1	42						EIA
	0023	4	31	1	6				MC2+
	0028							Iron: 1-14g	EIA
Total		94	1589	57	246	7	395		

Table 3. Finds quantities

4.2. Pottery

Prehistoric pottery

Ninety-three sherds (1547g) of hand-made prehistoric pottery were collected during the evaluation. More than 95% of them came from contexts which were surface collections or excavated segments of ditch 0004 which ran through all three evaluation trenches. The pottery includes Early Iron Age finewares and coarsewares which were probably contemporary in use and deposition. Three broad fabric groups were identified and they are summarised in Table 4. The full list by context is in Appendix 2.

Fabric	No	% No	Wt/g	% Wt	Av wt/g
Flint tempered wares	78	83.9	1267	81.9	16.2
Sand tempered wares	14	15.1	271	17.5	19.4
Shell tempered wares	1	1.1	9	0.6	9.0
Total	93	100.0	1547	100.0	16.6

Table 4. Prehistoric fabric quantities

Methodology

The prehistoric pottery was quantified by count and weight and catalogued using the recording system recommended by the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (1992). The sherds were divided into fabric groups which were defined on the basis of their main inclusions and a set of site-specific alpha-numeric fabric codes were used. A x 10 binocular microscope was used to identify the fabrics and details of rim and base forms, decoration or surface treatment and other diagnostic features were noted. SCCAS pottery recording forms were used and the results were input onto an Access 97 database table.

The wares

Table 2 shows that flint tempered wares account for the majority of the assemblage. Three flint tempered fabrics were distinguished. F1 has fine to medium (1-3mm), crushed, burnt, grey and white flint inclusions, F2 has medium to coarse flint (2-5mm) and fabric F3 has mixed flint and other inclusions such as sand, quartz and iron. Sand tempered fabrics are much less common. The fabric group QS was not subdivided and the sherds contain abundant medium to coarse sand

and can also have coarser rounded grains and sub-angular white opaque quartz inclusions. A single shell tempered bodysherd was also found. Surfaces on all of the pottery can be smoothed, burnished or untreated and decoration consists of fingertip and fingernail impressions on the top of the rims or on the shoulders.

Forms identified include the distinctive Darmsden-type finewares in flint-tempered and sand-tempered fabrics. Seven vessels are represented and the most diagnostic sherds are from carinated bowls with flaring rims. The sherds are black, and apart from very fine external and internal burnishing, the bowls are undecorated. One has an omphalos base (0013). Although in the past these wares were dated from the 5th to 3rd century, they are now thought to be current from as early as the 9th century BC (Martin 1999).

Coarseware forms include bowls and jars including some that are quite large. The vessels have upright and flat-topped rims which are square, slightly splayed and bevelled. One rim is rounded. Several are decorated with fingertip and fingernail impressions on the tops of rims and shoulders.

Roman pottery

A single rim sherd of a Horningsea ware storage jar was found in feature 0018 in Trench 3. A local product from kilns six miles away, Horningsea wares were widely distributed throughout the region from the mid 2nd century onwards.

4.3. Flint

Identified by Colin Pendleton

A thin, well-struck secondary flake with a hinge fracture and parallel flake scars on its dorsal face which are also hinge fractured, was collected from segment 0009 of ditch 0004 in Trench 2. A thin, squat secondary flake with some probable use-wear damage on its edges was collected from segment 0012 (0013) of ditch 0004 in Trench 3. Both pieces belong to the later Prehistoric period and the flint is good quality, black and unpatinated.

4.4. Burnt flint and stone

Seven fragments of burnt flint and stone were collected from three contexts (0007, 0013, 0014). The piece from 0007 is a classic pot boiler, blue-grey and crackled but the flint and sandstone fragments from 0013 and 0014 are merely fire-reddened from proximity to high heat that was not deliberate.

4.5. Iron

A rectangular fragment of iron bar (SF 1000) was found in feature fill 0028. The piece is broken, 35mm long, 14mm wide, c. 4mm thick and its function is unknown.

4.6. Animal bone

A total of 57 fragments of animal bone (246g) was collected from ten contexts, almost all components of ditch 0004. The assemblage includes small amounts from surface collections of ditch 0004 in Trenches 1-3 and still modest, but larger amounts from excavated segments of the ditch in Trenches 2 and 3. Single fragments were also found in feature 0021 (0023) and unstratified (0015) in Trench 3.

The bone is in good condition but the group itself is too small for any conclusions regarding its composition to be made. Two of the main meat-producing species, cow and sheep, are present and other large, medium and small mammal bones were found.

4.7. Discussion of the Finds Evidence

The finds assemblage indicates activity on this site during the Iron Age. Of particular interest is the high density of hand-made Early Iron Age pottery which includes the distinctive Darmsden-type finewares as well as associated coarseware jars which were probably contemporary in use and deposition. These wares were distributed throughout the eastern region but this is the first time a group such as this has been found in the west of the county (E Martin pers. comm.) Until now, the best groups had been found at sites in the east of the county such as Little Bealings and Barham (Martin 1993) as well as Darmsden. Cunliffe (1991) calls the pottery "Darmsden-Linton" wares in recognition of another major source / type site for these wares at Linton (Cams.) 11 miles south of Exning.

The majority of the pottery is flint-tempered but a few sherds, including some of the Darmsden-type wares are sand-tempered. Sand-tempered fabrics, although present throughout the Iron Age, were increasingly frequent in the later Iron Age and their relative absence in this group is another indicator of its earliness.

5. Discussion

This evaluation did not identify Anglo-Saxon burials, however much of the area of the trenches was filled with archaeological features. The ditch at the north end of the site was substantial and contained a surprising amount of Early Iron Age pottery, much of which was in large pieces and unabraded. Although these were recovered from immediately below the topsoil, the condition of the finds suggests that they have not been previously vulnerable to exposure and damage, which implies that the surface of the feature was probably truncated during the building works in the early 1980's. However the section showed that at least 50cm of finds rich deposit, 0005, still survives. The fill below this contained fewer finds and was paler and more sterile, 0014 and 0027, and is probably the result of primary silting originating from a bank on the edge of the ditch. However it was difficult to be sure of the depth or nature of this material in a small section. Although only a small length of this feature was identified, its location at the top of the hill (Figure 2) may suggest that it forms part of an Iron Age enclosure.

The other features were difficult to define, the shapes were variable and the fill uniform. However all features were filled with the same material which suggests that they are contemporary and the absence of occupation material that they are not the same date as the ditch. The only find was a sherd of Roman pottery, but this could be intrusive or residual. These features cannot be confidently interpreted but may indicate small scale mineral extraction perhaps dating from the medieval period or earlier.

6. Conclusion and Recommendations

Although Anglo-Saxon burials were not found the presence of a large ditch dating to the Early Iron Age and containing considerable amounts of pottery is significant as it demonstrates a period and intensity of activity in this area not previously indicated by other archaeological works. Its location along the edge of the hill-top is probably also significant.

Further work to establish the line of this feature and to retrieve a more complete finds assemblage is necessary to establish its date and function. In addition some further sections of the other features may shed some light on their interpretation. It is recommended that the area of the footprint of the building is stripped and some full feature sections excavated. This will enable an exact plot of the line of the ditch as well as complete sections and soil profiles to be

recorded. If a significant proportion of the ditch fill is likely to be destroyed by building works then this should also be archaeologically excavated and finds retrieved.

Jo Caruth
February 2006

References

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- Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group, 1992, *Guidelines for the Analysis and Publication*, PCRG, Occasional Paper 2.

Disclaimer

Any opinions expressed in this report about the need for further archaeological work are those of the Field Projects Division alone. The need for further work will be determined by the Local Planning Authority and its archaeological advisors when a planning application is registered. Suffolk County Council's archaeological contracting service cannot accept responsibility for inconvenience caused to clients should the Planning Authority take a different view to that expressed in the report.

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

Brief and Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation

7, THE HIGHLANDS, EXNING

This is the brief for the first part of a programme of archaeological work. There is likely to be a requirement for additional work, this will be the subject of another brief.

The commissioning body should be aware that it may have Health & Safety and other responsibilities, see paragraphs 1.7 & 1.8.

1. Background

- 1.1 An application to build a dwelling adjacent to the existing is expected.
- 1.2 In order to establish the full archaeological implications of this application the planning authority has been advised that an archaeological evaluation of the application area should be required of the applicant, before determination.
- 1.3 The development area is within the zone of a known Saxon cemetery, 35m from inhumations from the adjacent property to the north. A cemetery of this type has at least regional importance, preservation *in situ* may be an issue.
- 1.4 All arrangements for the field evaluation of the site, the timing of the work, access to the site, the definition of the precise area of landholding and area for proposed development are to be defined and negotiated with the commissioning body.
- 1.5 Detailed standards, information and advice to supplement this brief are to be found in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003.
- 1.6 A project design has been discussed with Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Contract Team and has been accepted.
- 1.7 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.
- 1.8 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.

2. Brief for the Archaeological Evaluation

- 2.1 Establish whether any archaeological deposit exists in the area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation *in situ*.
- 2.2 Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the application area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- 2.3 The evaluation is designed to identify Saxon burials (probably inhumations). The intention at this evaluation stage is to leave burials and any associated artefacts intact and in the ground. Decisions on any subsequent excavation are unlikely to be made on site.
- 2.4 Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses and natural soil processes. Define the potential for existing damage to archaeological deposits. Define the potential for colluvial/alluvial deposits, their impact and potential to mask any archaeological deposit. Define the potential for artificial soil deposits and their impact on any archaeological deposit.
- 2.5 Establish the potential for waterlogged organic deposits in the proposal area. Define the location and level of such deposits and their vulnerability to damage by development where this is defined.
- 2.6 Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.
- 2.7 This project will be carried through in a manner broadly consistent with English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (*MAP2*), all stages will follow a process of assessment and justification before proceeding to the next phase of the project. Field evaluation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential. Any further excavation required as mitigation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential, analysis and final report preparation may follow. Each stage will be the subject of a further brief and updated project design, this document covers only the evaluation stage.
- 2.8 The developer or his archaeologist will give the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (address as above) 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.
- 2.9 If the approved evaluation design is not carried through in its entirety (particularly in the instance of trenching being incomplete) the evaluation report may be rejected. Alternatively the presence of an archaeological deposit may be presumed, and untested areas included on this basis when defining the final mitigation strategy.

- 2.10 An outline specification, which defines certain minimum criteria, is set out below.

3. **Specification: Field Evaluation**

- 3.1 Trial trenches are to be laid out along the lines of Figure 1. Linear trenches are thought to be the most appropriate sampling method. Trenches are to be a minimum of 1.8m wide unless special circumstances can be demonstrated. If excavation is mechanised a toothless ‘ditching bucket’ must be used. The trench design must be approved by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service before field work begins.

- 3.2 The topsoil may be mechanically removed using an appropriate machine fitted with toothless bucket and other equipment. All machine excavation is to be under the direct control and supervision of an archaeologist. The topsoil should be examined for archaeological material.

- 3.3 The top of the first archaeological deposit may be cleared by machine, but must then be cleaned off by hand. There is a presumption that excavation of all archaeological deposits will be done by hand unless it can be shown there will not be a loss of evidence by using a machine. The decision as to the proper method of further excavation will be made by the senior project archaeologist with regard to the nature of the deposit.

- 3.4 In all evaluation excavation there is a presumption of the need to cause the minimum disturbance to the site consistent with adequate evaluation; that significant archaeological features, e.g. solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or post-holes, should be preserved intact even if fills are sampled.

- 3.5 There must be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit. The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits must be established across the site.

- 3.6 The contractor shall 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 P Murphy, English Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy and Wiltshire 1994) is available.

- 3.7 Any natural subsoil surface revealed should be hand cleaned and examined for archaeological deposits and artefacts. Sample excavation of any archaeological features revealed may be necessary in order to gauge their date and character.

- 3.8 Metal detector searches must take place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced metal detector user.

- 3.9 All finds will be collected and processed (unless variations in this principle are agreed with the Conservation Team of SCC Archaeological Service during the course of the evaluation).
- 3.10 Human remains must be left *in situ* except in those cases where damage or desecration are to be expected, or in the event that analysis of the remains is shown to be a requirement of satisfactory evaluation of the site. However, the excavator should be aware of, and comply with, the provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857.
- 3.11 Plans of any archaeological features on the site are to 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.
- 3.12 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies.
- 3.13 Topsoil, subsoil and archaeological deposit to be kept separate during excavation to allow sequential backfilling of excavations.

4. **General Management**

- 4.1 A timetable for all stages of the project must be agreed before the first stage of work commences, including monitoring by the Conservation Team of SCC Archaeological Service.
- 4.2 The composition of the project staff must be detailed and agreed (this is to include any subcontractors).
- 4.3 A general Health and Safety Policy must be provided, with detailed risk assessment and management strategy for this particular site.
- 4.4 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.
- 4.5 The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessments* and for *Field Evaluations* should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

5. **Report Requirements**

- 5.1 An archive of all records and finds must be prepared consistent with the principles of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (particularly Appendix 3.1 and Appendix 4.1).
- 5.2 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Sites and Monuments Record.

- 5.3 The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its archaeological interpretation.
- 5.4 An opinion as to the necessity for further evaluation and its scope may be given. No further site work should be embarked upon until the primary fieldwork results are assessed and the need for further work is established
- 5.5 Reports on specific areas of specialist study must include sufficient detail to permit assessment of potential for analysis, including tabulation of data by context, and must include non-technical summaries.
- 5.6 The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological potential of the site, and the significance of that potential in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).
- 5.7 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 SMR 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.
- 5.8 The site archive is to be deposited with the County SMR within three months of the completion of fieldwork. It will then become publicly accessible.
- 5.9 Where positive conclusions are drawn from a project (whether it be evaluation or excavation) a summary report, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute for Archaeology*, must be prepared. It should be included in the project report, or submitted to the Conservation Team, by the end of the calendar year in which the evaluation work takes place, whichever is the sooner.
- 5.10 County SMR sheets must be completed, as per the county SMR manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.
- 5.11 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.
- 6.12 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the SMR. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

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Date: 13 February 2006

Reference: /Exning-The Highlands02

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

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

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Appendix 2. Pottery catalogue

OP No	Fabric	Sherd	No.	Wt/g	Form	Notes
0002	F1	b	1	12		Brown surfaces (smoothed), black core. +organic
	F2	b	1	2		Abr. thin. Brown surf. dark core.
0003	F1	r	1	7	jar/bowl	Flat-topped square rim. fine-med white flint
	F1	b	2	17		2 sep vessels. Orange-brown surfaces (plain) & dark grey core surfs
	F3	r	1	12	bowl	Rim bevelled inwards. Brown surf (smoothed) black core & Int. Occ flint & clay pellets rounded sand, angular ls.
	F3	b	3	23		Sand and flint. SV. Ext. surf. brown (burnished), red margins, black core and internal surf (smoothed/burn) White flint & rounded medium sand
	QS	r	1	3	bowl	Darmsden type fineware bowl w flaring rim (160-180mm dia?) Brown surfaces, burnished ext. smoothed int. Dk grey core. medium sand, rounded grains
0007	F2	b	1	35		Grey surfs & dark grey/black core. One end burnt
	F2	b	1	8		Red-brown surfs (smoothed)
	F2	b	1	10		Coarse flint w angular grey grog?. V poorly mixed. Orange ext. surf, grey core & Int. surf. (10mm thick)
	F3	b	1	12		Sand and white flint (or opaque quartz?) Red-orange Ext. surf (plain), black core & Int. surf (burn/smoothed)
0008	F1	r	1	7	bowl	Darmsden-type fineware bowl. Bead rim curved sides. Surfaces smoothed/burn. Ext. brown, black core & int. surf (dia > 160mm)
	F1	b	1	6		Dark brown/purple throughout. Untreated surfaces(plain)
	QS	b	1	46		Orange-brown surf (smoothed), black core & int. surf (smoothed). Coarse sand w black & red fe & sparse nat flint.
0009	F1	r	1	3	bowl	Darmsden-type fineware bowl. Flaring rim. Grey (plain) surfs dk grey core. Sparse angular white flint
	F2	rb+	8	155		V. abund. crushed white & grey flint. Buff & grey patchy surfs (plain) & margins, dark grey/black core. large jar. v sloppy. Thickened rounded rim
	F2	b	1	13		Sparse but large flint. thick (15mm)
	F3	b	4	32		SV. Plain surfs, Ext. lt. orange-brown, black int. surf & margin. sparse to common white flint + misc. red bits & sand
	F3	b	2	7		Flint & mixed +org. Smoothed surfaces. Abraded
	QS	b	1	5		Grey-white surfs (post-firing), dk grey-black core
	QS	b	1	14		Med. sand Very hard, Ext. surf brown (smoothed), black core & int.
	QS	b	1	15		Fine-med sand w larger translucent rounded grains. Brown ext. surf (smoothed) & margins, black core & int.
0010	F2	b	2	91		SV V large vessel. Patchy (plain) surf, red-brown, grey
	F2	b	1	12	jar	Brown ext. surf and black core. Burnished int./ext.
	QS	r	1	45	jar	FTI cabled rim, FNI widely spaced around neck. Ext. surf brown (burn/smoothed) int. dark grey orange patchy. sharp shoulder
	QS	b	1	7		Fineware. Coarse rounded grains + 'grog'-looking. Black burnished int./ext.
0011	F1	b	1	5		Ext. surf (plain) brown-orange. Int. surf burnished black. Grey core
	F2	r	1	8	jar	FT/FNI cabled rim. Plain grey & orange brown. Thin
	QS	ba	1	96	jar	Flat base (13mm thick) Sand & white opaque quartz. plain surfs patchy colour - orange-brown on ext. walls, black basal ext. dark grey-brown core & int.
	QS	b	1	4		Brown surfs (plain), grey core & int.
0013	F1	b	1	22		Int. surf burnished, black. Ext. surf rough. buff grey. dec
	F1	b	3	20		Misc. bodysherds w brown surfs (smoothed) dark core

OP No	Fabric	Sherd	No.	Wt/g	Form	Notes
0013 (cont'd)	F1	b	1	17	jar	FTI dec on shoulder. Buff-orange grey ext. surf(plain)
	F1	b	1	8		Fine. burnished ext./int., black. white flint or opaque quartz
	F2	rb	3	125	jar	SV. Upright flat-topped rim. Sl. splayed. Grey surf(plain) & core, black int. surf.
	F2	r	1	16	jar	Fine. Flat-topped rim sl splayed. FTI on shoulder. Black (plain) surfs curved
	F2	r	1	12		Fineware. Square, out-turned rim (irreg so un measureable). Black surfs, ext. burnished, int. smoothed.
	F2	bba	8	288	jars	Misc. b/s from larger thick jars w (plain) patchy surfaces - grey brown orange
	F2	b	1	3		Fineware. Burnished ext. Brown
	F2	b	1	6		Brown (burnished) ext. / rough int., grey core
	F2	b	3	14		Dark brown-red ext. (smoothed) grey core & red int.
	F2	b	1	34	jar	Burnished int./ext. Ext. surf buff/tan grey black patchy. Black int. & core
	F2	b	3	53		SV. Red-brown (plain) surf, grey core & int. surf.
	F3	ba	1	26	bowl	Darmsden-type fineware, 'omphalos' base. White flint or opaque quartz & coarse sand. rounded grains. burnished
	QS	r	1	10	jar	FTI rim w FNI on neck (joins 0010). Dark grey & orange. burnished
	SH	b	1	9		Abundant shell. Lt grey/buff surface (smoothed) & black int. & core
0014	QS	b	1	7		Looks like clear angular quartz & opaque white quartz (up to 3mm) plain surfaces.
0015	F1	r	1	5		FT (inc. nail) impressed. Black surfs (plain)
	F1	b	1	14	jar	Joins 0013!, FTI around shoulder, plain buff-brown surf, grey core, black int.
	F1	b	1	13		Black surfs (plain)
	F1	b	1	16	jar	Light buff-orange ext. surf (smoothed), brown-orange core & grey int. (plain)
	F2	b	1	20		buff-brown ext., black int. surfs. Burnished int./ext.
	F2	b	2	16		Red-brown ext. (plain) brown int., grey core
	F2	b	2	31		Dark patchy grey-brown black surfs (plain)
	F3	b	1	9		Mainly sandy, v. sparse flint. Smoothed surfaces, black int., brown ext.
	QS	b	1	4		Black - burnished. Sand-organic
0016	QS	b	1	6		Sand, opaque white quartz. Orange surface & margins (plain) black core and int. surf.
0017	HOG	r	1	42	SJar	MC2+ Roman
0023	F1	b	1	7		Abr b/s orange-brown ext., dark core & interior. b. flint, white quartz, sand
	F1	b	1	9		Opaque white quartz or flint & sand. Abr. Plain surfs. brownish red ext., grey core & int.
	F2	ba	1	13	jar	Flat base. Orange (plain) ext. 7 dark grey int. FTI at ext. w/f junc.
	F3	b	1	2		Thin. sand & white flint or opaque quartz. Abr.