

Land at County Farm, Church Field Road,
Chilton
CHT 021

Archaeological Excavation Report

SCCAS Report No. 2012/101

Client: NHS Suffolk

Author: Simon Cass

September 2012

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

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Contents

Summary

Drawing Conventions

1. Introduction	1
2. The Excavation	4
2.1 Site location, geology and topography	4
2.2 Archaeological and historical background	4
2.3 Aims of the project	5
3. Methodology	6
4. Results	7
4.1 Introduction	7
4.2 Prehistoric	7
4.3 Post-Roman	9
4.4 Medieval/post-medieval and undated	9
5. The finds evidence	13
5.1 Introduction	13
5.2 Pottery	13
Prehistoric pottery	13
Anglo-Saxon	17
Post-medieval pottery	17
5.3 Ceramic building material	18
Introduction	18
Discussion	18
5.4 Flint	19
Introduction	19

	Worked flint by feature	19
5.5	Burnt stone	20
5.6	Clay pipe	20
5.7	Faunal remains	20
5.8	Cremated bone	21
6.	The environmental evidence	22
6.1	Introduction and methods	22
6.2	Quantification	23
	Results	23
	Conclusions and recommendations for further work	24
7.	Discussion	24
7.1	Prehistoric	24
7.2	Anglo-Saxon	26
7.3	Post-medieval	27
7.4	Undated	27
8.	Updated Project Design	29
8.1	Realisation of Original Research Aims	29
8.2	Revised research aims	29
8.3	Further work	30
	Staff for analysis and publication stage	31
9.	Archive deposition	31
10.	Acknowledgements	32
11.	Bibliography	33

List of Figures

Figure 1.	Location of site showing Historic Environment Record entries as mentioned in the text (green) and the present site boundary and excavation area (red)	2
Figure 2.	Site and feature plans	3
Figure 3.	Sections	12
Figure 4.	Archaeological setting of the site in relation to CHT 009 and 015	28

List of Tables

Table 1. Finds quantities by context	13
Table 2. Prehistoric pottery fabrics	14
Table 3. Beaker pottery from pit 0053 by fabric	14
Table 4. Pottery from pit 0057 by fabric	16
Table 5. Types of struck flints by context (pieces described as flakes/blades have been counted as flakes)	19
Table 6. Percentages of identified fragments out of total identified by area of skeleton	21
Table 7. Flot contents by context	23
Table 8. Summary of costing for analysis and publication of finds	31

List of Plates

Plate 1. Pit 0053 facing southeast (2m scale)	8
Plate 2. Pit 0057 facing east (1m scale)	8
Plate 3. Pit 0010 facing east (0.3m scale)	9
Plate 4. Gully 0055, facing north-west (0.3m scale)	10
Plate 5. Ditch 0059 facing north (2 x 2m scales)	11

List of Appendices

Appendix 1.	Brief and specification
Appendix 2.	Context list
Appendix 3.	Pottery catalogue
Appendix 4.	Worked flint catalogue

Summary

An archaeological excavation was undertaken on land at County Farm, Chilton in June 2012 in advance of the construction of a new NHS Health Centre (Planning application no. B/11/00830/FUL). Initial trial trenching had confirmed the presence of landscape features of medieval date (ditches and a probable trackway), as well as encountering an isolated pit containing an unusual fragment of an early Anglo-Saxon possible crucible. A small area excavation was required in order to further investigate this feature and to check for any further features that may have been associated with it. Two additional pits were revealed during the excavation, one dating from the Late Neolithic to the Early Bronze Age and the other dating from the Late Bronze Age to the Early Iron Age. A single undated small gully was identified in the south-western part of the site, and the continuation of one of the medieval/post-medieval ditches was recorded in the north-western corner of the site.

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

Planning permission has been granted for the development of land at County Farm, Church Field Road, Chilton for the erection of a new community health centre including ancillary development for parking and landscaping. This permission contained a condition relating to archaeology requiring the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which had been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. This report documents the final stage of fieldwork carried out; previous work has included multiple desk-based assessments covering the site and its immediate environment and an initial field evaluation which are reported on separately (Abbott 1996a, Craven 2009, Thompson 2011 and Craven 2012 respectively).

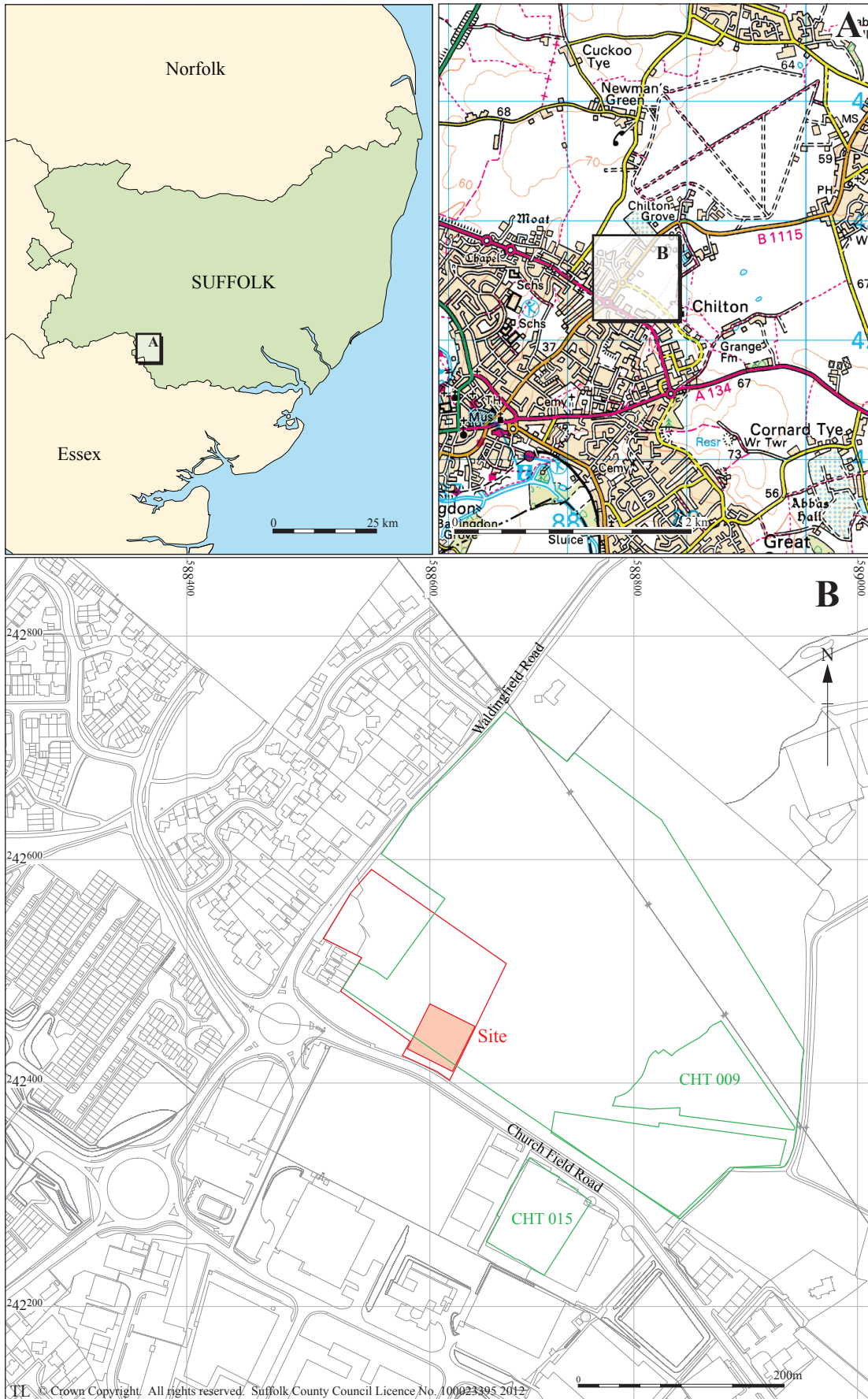


Figure 1. Location of site showing Historic Environment Record entries as mentioned in the text (green) and the present site boundary and excavation area (red)

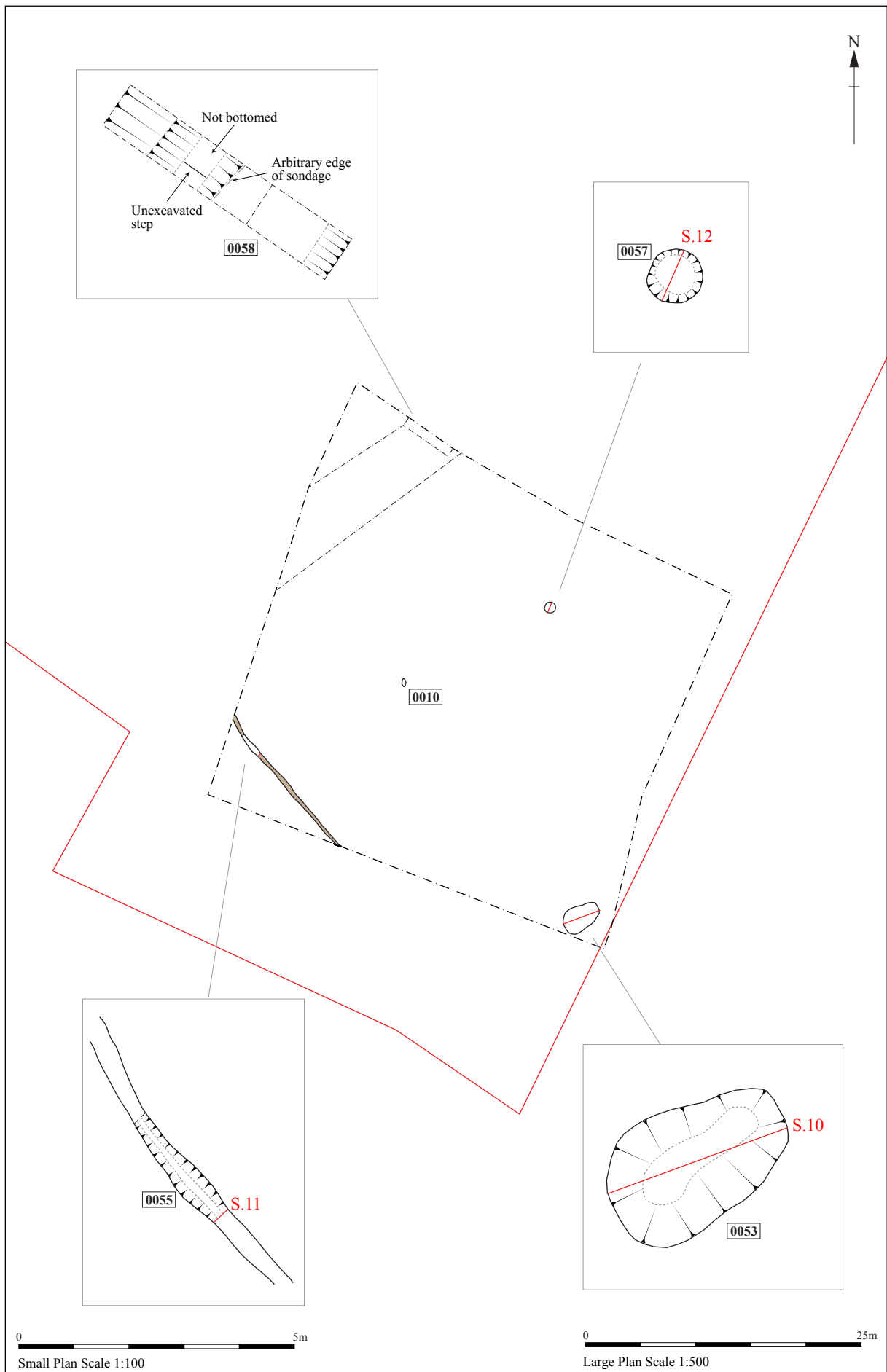


Figure 2. Site and feature plans

2. The Excavation

2.1 Site location, geology and topography

The site lies in the parish of Chilton at grid ref. TL 8862 4243, on the outskirts of modern Sudbury, at a height of 63m AOD, and consists of the western corner of a former arable field, now semi-managed grassland or scrub. The site is relatively flat, on an area of high ground overlooking the valley of the River Stour which lies 1.5km to south and west. Approximately 80m to the east ground-levels descend into a shallow valley aligned SW-NE. The site geology consists of deep, well drained, fine loam/ clay soils over chalky till (Ordnance Survey 1983).

2.2 Archaeological and historical background

The archaeological condition was placed as the site lies in an area of archaeological interest recorded in the Suffolk HER. Extensive archaeological work has previously been carried out to the east of the site (Fig. 1) and the potential of the area has been highlighted in both a recent desk-based assessment (DBA) for the site itself (Thompson 2011) and two DBA's for the field as a whole (Abbott 1996a), and the part of the field immediately to the east (Craven 2009).

In summary a fieldwalking and auger survey of the majority of the field, which partially overlapped the current site, identified a scatter of burnt and worked flints, two sherds of prehistoric pottery, a thin scatter of abraded medieval pottery and assorted metalwork (Abbot 1996b). Trial trench evaluation (CHT 009, Abbott 1996c and 1996d), one of which extended into the site, then identified a series of field boundary/drainage ditches containing medieval pottery, several of which related to a potential trackway and field ditches, CHT 010, previously identified in aerial photography, running north-west to south-east across the field towards St Mary's Church and Chilton Grange (Fig. 4). The western end of this trackway runs across the north part of the current site and one of the three single linear features which extend south-west from the trackway also crosses the current site.

Approximately 200m to the south-east of the site, an evaluation and two subsequent phases of excavation, CHT 009 (Abbot 1998) and CHT 015 (Craven in prep), identified a substantial Late Bronze/Early Iron Age ditched enclosure measuring c.250m by 120m. Two entrances were seen through the north-western arm of the ditch with a trackway,

complete with wheel ruts, running through the northern of the two and then heading towards the current site. A range of postholes indicated distinct linear structures, including up to four round houses, other rectangular structures, eight possible four-poster buildings and other miscellaneous post-alignments. Other features consisted of possible rubbish or grain drying and storage pits. Of particular interest were three further four-poster buildings lying outside of the enclosure ditch, demonstrating that settlement activity was not confined to within the enclosure itself.

The medieval trackway, CHT 010, was clearly identified running across the enclosure with the southern of the ditches likely to have survived into the 19th century where it was noted on the 1840 tithe map as a field boundary (Craven 2009).

The site's recent history has seen it as an open field to the north of modern Sudbury, 1.5km from the historic town core. The DBA (Thomson 2011) highlighted that the north and west part of the site was occupied by the buildings of County Farm in the early/mid 20th century. With the expansion of Sudbury in the late 20th century and the development of a modern industrial estate and Church Field Road immediately to the south of the site, the general area has been allocated for development and the whole field, including the CHT 009 site, has not been under cultivation for at least the past decade, perhaps since the demolition of County Farm.

The previous phase of archaeological evaluation on the site confirmed the position of three medieval/post-medieval ditches, previously known from aerial photography and earlier programmes of evaluation and excavation in the adjacent fields. A single pit containing fragments of an early Anglo-Saxon ceramic vessel, possibly a crucible, was an isolated feature which was believed to suggest a phase of industrial activity in the vicinity, and which formed the centre of the excavation area. During the evaluation there was no indication for any activity extending this far westward from the substantial Late Bronze/Early Iron Age ditched enclosure (CHT 009/015) c.200m to the east.

2.3 Aims of the project

The initial specific research aim of this small excavation was to investigate the context and surrounding area of pit 0010, a significant feature due to its age and its content, thought to be related to either funerary practices or potential small-scale industrial

activity. The possibility existed for there to be further features of Anglo-Saxon date in close proximity, which would shed further light on the archaeological resource in this area of Chilton.

3. Methodology

The site was stripped for excavation with a 13-tonne tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless 'ditching' bucket under constant archaeological supervision, and spoil stockpiled at the northeast edge of the site using a 7-tonne dumper. The area to be stripped consisted of an area of approximately 0.2ha. All works were undertaken in accordance with SCCAS/CT guidelines for Archaeological Excavation 2011 and Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (Gurney 2003).

All features were hand excavated, with linear ditches being sampled at approximately 10%, equating to a section of 1m length being dug every 10m. Discrete pits and postholes were all half-sectioned (50% excavated) and recorded, then fully excavated to maximise artefact recovery and soil sample retention. All features were scanned with a metal detector and periodic area scans were undertaken in order to attempt to recover any stray finds not within identified features.

Environmental samples were taken for processing and analysis from appropriate features, with at least one section sampled from each feature with multiple excavated sections. These samples were processed in-house and the recovered ecofacts sent to appropriate specialists while any significant bulk finds recovered from this source were included in the main finds reporting process.

Site plans and sections were all hand-drawn on permatrace sheets in accordance with SCCAS standard guidelines, and the site was surveyed using a Leica GPS survey instrument to an accuracy of c. 0.02m or less.

4. Results

4.1 Introduction

Four features, in addition to pit 0010 identified in the evaluation were found during the excavation. These were two pits dated to the prehistoric period and two ditches, one of which was a continuation of a medieval/post-medieval boundary seen in adjacent excavations.

A full description of the contexts is included in Appendix 2.

4.2 Prehistoric

Pit 0053 was a large ovoid pit 2.6m long, 1.2m wide and up to 0.76m deep, aligned approx northeast/southwest with an irregular profile and two shallow depressions in the base, one to the NE and one to the SW of the centre of the pit. The lowest fill (0052) was 0.34m thick and consisted of a mid greyish orange/brown compacted silty clay with rare chalk flecks, occasional/moderate charcoal flecks and some heavily patinated struck/worked flint flakes. This was sealed by layer 0051, a mid red/greyish brown compact silty clay with moderate small charcoal flecks and fragments that was 0.18m thick. It is suggested that the reddish colour of this fill may be due to exposure of the soil to heat, though not sufficient to suggest direct firing – possibly a redeposited soil that had been exposed to heat elsewhere. The upper fill of this pit was 0050, a mid/dark greenish/greyish brown compact silty clay with frequent small charcoal flecks and chunks, moderate worked flint flakes (some heavily patinated) and occasional small prehistoric pottery sherds. It has been suggested that this deposit may have been derived from hearth debris or other similar domestic deposits. Pottery from this feature has been identified as belonging to the Beaker tradition, dating from the Neolithic to the Early Bronze Age.



Plate 1. Pit 0053 facing southeast (2m scale)

Pit 0057 was a sub-circular pit feature with a broad shallow profile, 1.0m by 0.95m in plan and up to 0.23m deep with steep sloping sides to a shallow slightly concave base. It was filled with a mid-dark greyish brown compact silty clay (0056) with occasional small-medium sized rounded-angular flints, moderate-frequent medium-large pottery sherds and occasional worked flints, heat-altered stone and rare bone pieces. The pottery from this feature has been identified as being of later Bronze Age- Early Iron Age date. Again, the pottery and deposit make-up is suggestive of a domestic origin, rather than small-scale cottage-industry or ritual deposition.



Plate 2. Pit 0057 facing east (1m scale)

4.3 Post-Roman

A single oval pit, 0010, was identified in Trench 9 during the evaluation phase of works on the site (Pl. 3). Aligned approximately north/south it had a vertical southern side and a possibly disturbed or irregular/stepped northern side together with an irregular base. Its fill (0011) was a firm mid/dark brown/grey clay becoming darker/black at the base with abundant charcoal fragments. Occasional flecks of burnt clay, and rare chalk nodules and flecks were also present. During fieldwork twenty-four sherds of pottery from a single early Anglo-Saxon vessel were collected from the fill, which was 100% excavated during the evaluation, all of which was kept for environmental analysis. Processing of the sample retrieved a further fifty-eight sherds of the vessel as well as further charcoal fragments and environmental remains and the partial cremated remains of an infant. No further features were found in association with this feature, either chronologically or physically.



Plate 3. Pit 0010 facing east (0.3m scale)

4.4 Medieval/post-medieval and undated

Gully 0055 was 15m long, 0.38m wide and up to 0.16m deep; it was aligned approximately northwest/southeast with steep concave sides and had a slightly irregular concave base (Pl. 4). It was filled with a mid orange/greyish brown compact silty clay (0054) with occasional small angular to sub-angular flints. No artefacts were recovered from this feature.



Plate 4. Gully 0055, facing north-west (0.3m scale)

Ditch 0059 was orientated approximately northeast/southwest; it passed across the north-western corner of the site with initially shallow gentle sloped sides with a significant break of slope to a steep sloped edge leading to the base of the feature (Pl. 5). It was filled with a mid/dull greyish red-brown firm silty clay (0058) with occasional chalk flecks, flints, ceramic building material and brick fragments. The ditch edges were obscured by a soil layer that was either a depression in the natural filled up with a similar deposit to the ditch fill or derived from a post-medieval plough/buried soil. This was a continuation of the feature identified during evaluation and known to lead towards Chilton Hall to the north of the site, and is believed to be a medieval or post-medieval boundary ditch (Craven 2012). The primary purpose of excavating this ditch was to confirm its location and orientation as well as to retrieve any additional dateable finds, since it had already been plotted from aerial photographs of the area and had been previously investigated during the recent evaluation in addition to earlier investigations in 1996 (SCCAS report no 96/63).

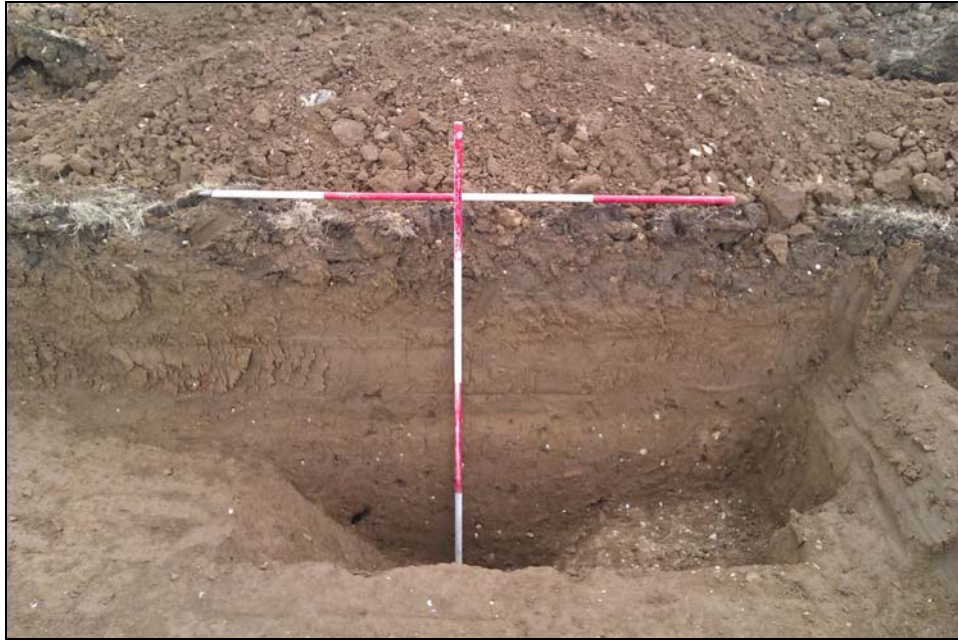


Plate 5. Ditch 0059 facing north (2 x 2m scales)

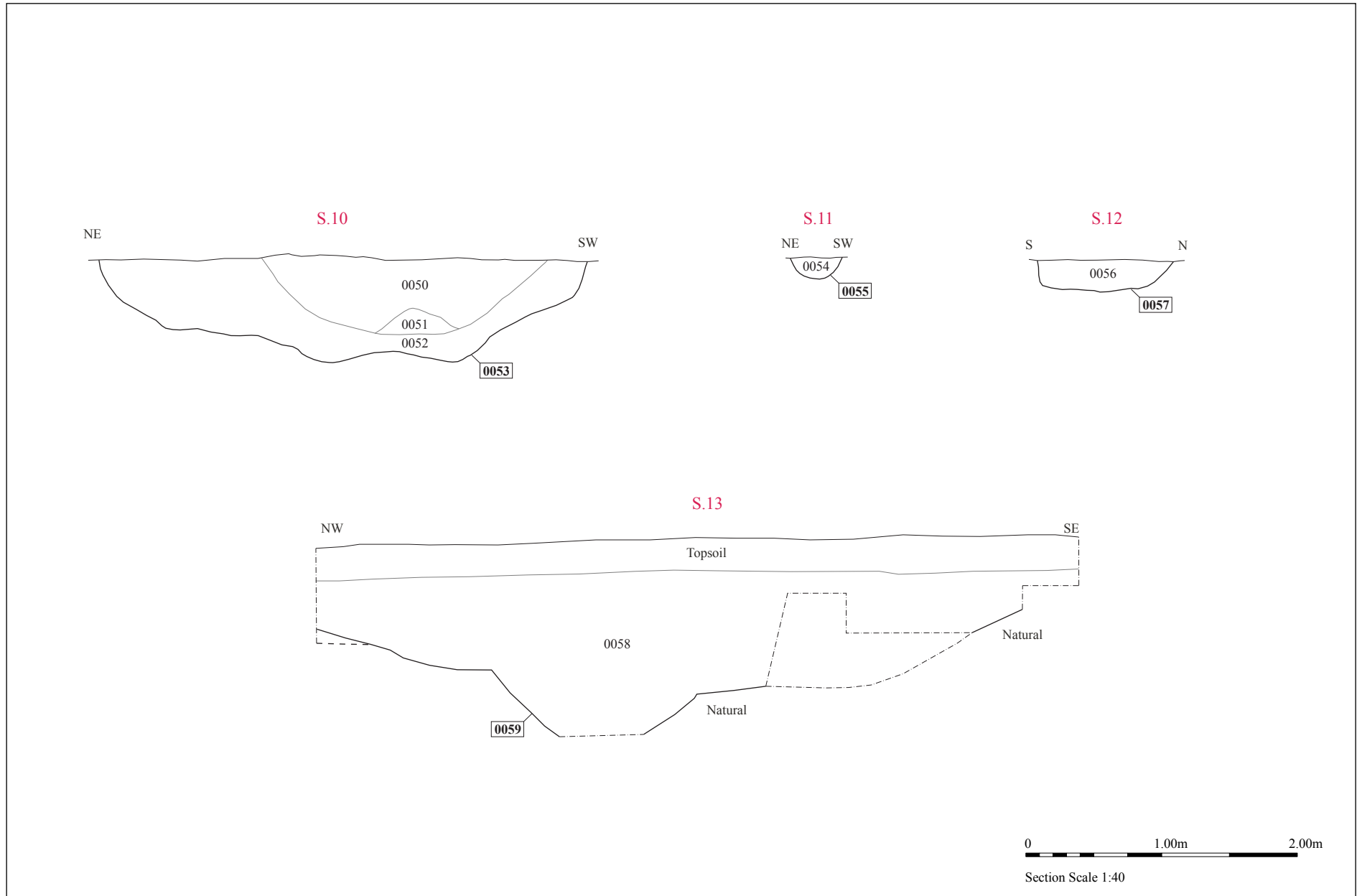


Figure 3. Sections

5. The finds evidence

Steve Benfield

5.1 Introduction

The quantities of bulk finds recovered are listed by find type and context in Table 1. Most of the finds can be dated to the prehistoric period; specifically to the Neolithic, Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age and later Bronze Age to early Iron Age. The prehistoric finds were recovered from two pits, 0053 (fills 0050, 0052) and 0057 (fill 0056). There is also a small quantity of finds of post-medieval/modern date from a ditch, 0059 (fill 0058).

A small quantity of finds of Roman, Anglo-Saxon and medieval date was recovered during an earlier archaeological evaluation on the site (Fawcett 2012). An Anglo-Saxon vessel found in pit 0010 during the evaluation is a significant find and is discussed below. A small quantity of burnt (calcinated) bone from the same feature is also included. The remainder of the finds from the evaluation have been included in the general discussion.

Context	Pottery		CBM		Flint		Burnt stone		Animal bone		Misc.	Date Range
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g		
0050	28	175			31	386	9	303				Neo-EBA
0052					25	459						Neo-EBA
0056	73	1185			9	4390	1	50	9	53		LBA-IA
0058	1	7	13	1043							Clay pipe 1@2g	P-med/ mod
Total	102	1367	14	1043	65	5235	10	353	9	53		

Table 1. Finds quantities by context

5.2 Pottery

Prehistoric pottery

(with Edward Martin)

Introduction

In total there are 102 sherds of prehistoric pottery, with a combined weight of 1360g.

This pottery was recovered from two pits 0053 (0050) and 0057 (0056). All the sherds

are in handmade flint-tempered fabrics (HMF). The different fabrics are listed and described in Table 2 and all of the pottery is listed in Appendix 3.

Fabric code	Description
HMF1	Hand made flint-tempered, common small-medium size flint
HMF2	Hand made flint-tempered, sparse small-medium size flint
HMF3	Hand made flint-tempered, abundant small-medium with some large size flint
HMF4	Hand made flint-tempered, common small-medium with some large size flint

Table 2. Prehistoric pottery fabrics

Prehistoric pottery by feature

Pit 0053 (0050)

All of the pottery from pit 0053 can be identified as being in the Beaker style, dating to the period of the Late Neolithic-Early Bronze Age.

In total there are twenty-eight sherds with an overall weight of 175g. All of the pottery is flint-tempered and the quantity by fabric is listed in Table 3. The fabrics are slightly sandy, with small-medium flint inclusions which are mostly relatively sparse. They are oxidised orange-brown to brownish-red in colour, although some (a base with impressed comb decoration and body sherds decorated with finger nail impressions) have a dark-grey core within the fabric.

Fabric code	Count	Wt/g
HMF1	3	30
HMF2	25	145

Table 3. Beaker pottery from pit 0053 by fabric

The fabric and decoration clearly represents more than one Beaker pot and the sherds can be grouped as set out below, although only two base sherds could be joined together.

1. Body sherds all from same pot decorated with incised lines, some of which form a loose grid pattern (8 sherds, 57g), Fabric HMF2. Similar decoration can be seen on Beaker pots from the Wissey Embayment (Healy 1996, p 310) and from Lodge Farm, St Osyth in Essex (Germany 2007, fig. 49 nos. 57 & 68).
2. Body sherds decorated with patterns made from finger nail impressions, some arranged in single and double rows and probably representing one pot (13 sherds, 67g) Fabric HMF2.
3. Body sherd decorated with deep finger nail/finger tip impressions (1 sherd, 8g) Fabric HMF2.

4. Base sherd and lower pot wall, decorated with incised horizontal lines/bands around base and vertical incised panels of lines higher on the body (1 sherd, 25g) Fabric HMF1.
5. Base sherds (joining) with impressed comb line decoration (2 sherds, 12g) Fabric HMF2.
6. Rim sherd decorated with incised horizontal lines (1 sherd, 4g) Fabric HMF1.

The number of pots represented is not clear. Grouping the sherds in this way indicates a minimum of three pots represented by the three body sherd groups (1-3), although the base sherd decorated with incised lines (4) is not easy to associate with these groups and probably at least four different pots are present. However, as each of these groups of sherds could be a part of an individual vessel they could represent at least six pots.

Beaker pottery is current over the period c. 2400-1750 BC, although Beaker culture appears to have become more widespread in society about c 2250 BC (Darvill 2010, 169) and the pots here probably belong the period of the late 3rd millennium-early 2nd millennium BC.

The occurrence of sherds from several Beaker pots together in one pit, with only a small part of any one of the vessels represented (which can be demonstrated as the pit was completely excavated) suggests a domestic or ritual deposit. There is some abrasion to some sherd edges, but this appears to be slight to moderate and does not suggest that these relatively fragile sherds had been long exposed before entering the pit. The slight abrasion could suggest that they are collected or accumulated material, possibly from a midden deposit, rather than freshly broken pots relating to a single event, such as a feast. That the several pots are represented by groups of non-joining sherds also suggests that they do not represent breakage relating to a single event contemporary with the creation of the pit. It can be noted that at St Osyth, in Essex, Beaker and Grooved Ware pottery which appear to be unstructured deposits in pits are interpreted as the informal deposition of domestic rubbish in a ritual context (Germany 2007, 108).

Pit 0057 (0056)

All of the pottery from the pit is handmade and flint-tempered. In total there are seventy-three sherds with a combined weight of 1185g. The quantity by fabric is listed in Table 4. There are no rim sherds, although there are several sherds from a flat base associated with one pot. None of the sherds are decorated. One sherd has a small quantity of internal burnt residue.

Fabric code	Count	Wt/g
HMF1	5	27
HMF3	60	1048
HMF4	8	110

Table 4. Pottery from pit 0057 by fabric

Several pots are represented by these sherds. The majority (53 sherds, 967g) appear to be from one, large, thick-walled pot with a flat base. The fabric is heavily flint-tempered (Fabric HMF3) and three of the sherds join together. This appears to be part of a large jar or bucket-like pot, probably a large storage jar.

It appears that a minimum of four other pots are present. There are a few body sherds from another heavily flint-tempered pot (Fabric HMF3) but with a reduced, dark surface interior. A thick base sherd can probably also be associated with these and together they indicate another storage jar with a flat base. Another pair of thick walled sherds with moderate flint-temper (Fabric HMF4) and smoothed internal surfaces possibly represent a large bowl or jar. There is also a small group of thinner walled sherds with a moderate flint-temper (Fabric HMF4) possibly also belong to one pot, possibly a jar or bowl. Two other sherds with a moderate-sparse flint-temper in a brownish coloured fabric indicate they are from yet another pot.

Overall this indicates that the sherds recovered from the pit represent a minimum of five vessels. Close dating for this pottery is difficult. The exclusive use of flint-temper, the presence the flat bases and the absence of decoration indicates a Bronze Age or early Iron Age date. Overall a date in the later Bronze Age or early Iron Age is probably most likely. This dating is supported by the flint recovered from the pit.

The presence of the sherds from large jars, possibly storage pots, including what appears to be a significant part of one of these vessels, together with sherds from several other pots indicates a domestic assemblage. These could represent simple rubbish disposal, but probably reflect domestic rubbish informally deposited within a broad context of socially constructed ritual behaviour.

Anglo-Saxon

Sue Anderson

Twenty-four sherds of pottery weighing 218g were collected from pit fill 0011 during the evaluation. A further 145 sherds (161g) of pottery were retrieved from Sample 1, after completion of the pottery report .

Eighty-two sherds appear to form part of a shallow bowl in a coarsely tempered reduced fabric which contains large lumps of granite and possibly schist. The vessel appears to have been subjected to higher temperatures than would normally be expected in preliminary firing, but it is not vitrified and there are no traces of an internal deposit which might indicate its use as a metal crucible. The granite-tempered fabric indicates a date in the 5th–7th centuries, although the form is unusual for this period.

Eighty-seven small, abraded sherds (71g) from the sample belong to at least one other vessel, but specialist analysis has not yet been carried out on these, or the other sherds from the sample which are attributed to the more complete vessel.

Further work

It is recommended that the vessel should be drawn. A search for parallels in Saxon and other pottery assemblages may aid in identifying the function of the vessel.

If funding allows, a thin-section and/or ICP-MS analysis of the fabric may aid in identifying a possible source for the inclusions. Dating of the pottery using the new rehydroxylation method may also be of value, if there is not enough carbon for a conventional radiocarbon date.

Post-medieval pottery

A single sherd (7g) of Glazed red earthenware (Fabric GRE), dated to the 16th-18th century, was recovered from the ditch 0059 (0058).

5.3 Ceramic building material

Introduction

Only one feature produced CBM. This is the ditch 0059 (0058). Thirteen fragments of CBM weighing 1002g in total were recovered from this context and are catalogued as follows:

1. One end of a brick (unfrogged) measuring 110mm by 48mm; the fabric is a fine-medium sand with a dull orange-red core and reddish-brown exterior. There is thick, white mortar on one face which extends over the edge of the break suggesting possible reuse. Weight 723g.
2. Five pieces of red brick in a fine-medium sand fabric. Three pieces have white mortar on parts of the original brick surface. Abraded. Weight 138g.
3. Three pieces of brick, all in a red, fine sandy fabric. Abraded. Weight 77g.
4. One piece of tile (14mm thick) in a hard, red, fine sandy fabric. Weight 21g.
5. One piece of tile (14mm thick), corner piece in an orange, fine sandy fabric. Abraded. Weight 25g.
6. Two pieces of tile (13mm thick) in an orange-red, fine sandy fabric. Weight 18g.

Discussion

The four pieces of tile (5-6) are most probably pieces of peg tile. Peg tiles appear in the medieval period and continue in use into the modern era and may not be closely dated. They are relatively small pieces (average weight 16g) and one is abraded suggesting that this piece at least may have been old when it entered the ditch.

Only one of the bricks has surfaces where dimensions can be measured (1). The thickness of this brick (48mm) suggests a date in the 17th-18th century. A number of the other brick pieces are relatively small, with an average weight 27g (excluding the part brick) and some are abraded suggesting they may have been old when they entered this context.

Other finds associated with the ditch (pottery and clay pipe) indicate a post-medieval date for the context.

5.4 Flint

Identifications and comments by Colin Pendleton

Introduction

In total there are sixty-four pieces of worked flint recovered from two pits, 0053 (0050, 0053) and 0057 (0056). The assemblage also included one unworked natural piece (0050) which has been discarded. All of the flints are listed in Appendix 4. The types of struck flint are listed by context in Table 5.

Context	Blades	Flakes	Cores	Other pieces
0050	6	19	4	1
0052	4	17	2	2
0056		5	4	
Total	10	41	10	3

Table 5. Types of struck flints by context (pieces described as flakes/blades have been counted as flakes)

Worked flint by feature

Pit 0053 (0050, 0052)

The flint assemblage consists of three groups, patinated, lightly patinated and unpatinated. All of the patinated flints are probably of Mesolithic or Neolithic date. The unpatinated flints, together with the fact that some of the patinated flints have areas of unpatinated retouch, suggest that the patinated flints in the assemblage are largely residual or are reused. The unpatinated flints are a flake assemblage, consisting of relatively thin flakes which suggest an Early Bronze Age date.

Pit 0057 (0056)

Some of the patinated flints are Mesolithic or later, but are difficult to date. Some show areas of unpatinated retouch and are reused. The unpatinated pieces are crude in nature and suggest a later Bronze Age or Iron Age date.

Discussion

The flint assemblage from the site includes a residual Neolithic element. This can be recognised from a number of patinated blades, several of which have areas of unpatinated retouch from later reuse and which occur with the unpatinated flint flakes of later date. The unpatinated flint from one pit, 0053, includes relatively thin flakes suggesting an Early Bronze Age date and it was associated with Beaker pottery. The

unpatinated flint from another pit, 0057, is probably of later Bronze Age or Iron Age date.

5.5 Burnt stone

There are ten pieces of burnt (heat altered) stone with a combined weight of 354g. All are flint, dated to the prehistoric period by other finds from the contexts from which they were recovered. They are listed by context in Table 1.

Almost all of the burnt stone (nine pieces, weighing, 303g) comes from the pit 0053 (0050) which also contained sherds from several Beaker pots dated to the period of the Late Neolithic-Early Bronze Age. A number of residual worked flints dated as Neolithic were also recovered from this pit. However, these appear to have been reused. It seems less likely that the burnt flints are residual from this earlier (Neolithic) activity and that they are most probably contemporary with the Beaker pottery.

The other piece of burnt stone (50g) was recovered from the pit 0057 (0056) together with sherds from several flint-tempered prehistoric pots which, although not closely dated, are probably of later Bronze Age or early Iron Age date.

One worked flint flake or blade (0052) is also fire crazed.

Burnt stones are often recovered from prehistoric sites and probably most commonly result from use as pot-boilers for heating water and cooking. Burnt flints were also crushed and used as a tempering agent added to pottery, most extensively in the Neolithic, Bronze Age and early Iron Age periods, but continued to be used into the later Iron Age.

5.6 Clay pipe

There is a single piece of post-medieval clay pipe stem (2g) from ditch 0059 (0058). The pipe bore is approximately 2mm in diameter.

5.7 Faunal remains

Nine pieces of large mammal bone (53g), possibly all part of one broken scapula, were recovered from the pit 0057 (0056). The scapula is probably cow. The pit also contained pottery and flints dated as later Bronze Age-early Iron Age.

5.8 Cremated bone

Sue Anderson

This report examines the cremated bone collected from a pit of possible Early Anglo-Saxon date. Bone was recovered from a bulk sample <1> from context 0011.

Bone was collected as a bulk sample and sieved, the entire residue being retained as a single group. The bone from 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).

Table 6 shows the bone weights and percentages of identified bone from the burial, and the proportions of bone identified from the four areas of the skeleton (skull, axial, upper limb, lower limb). Expected proportions are provided based on McKinley (1994, 6).

Context	Total wt/g	% identified	% Skull	% Axial	% Upper limb	% Lower limb
Expected			18.2	20.6	23.1	38.1
0011	9.5	25.3	79.2	20.8	-	-

Table 6. Percentages of identified fragments out of total identified by area of skeleton

This shows that skull fragments were considerably over-represented amongst the identifiable material, and that other areas of the skeleton were under-represented. It has been suggested that 'it should be possible to recognise any bias in the collection of certain areas of the body after cremation' (McKinley 1994, 6). However there is also some bias inherent in the identification of elements, in this case particularly as the skull pieces were much better preserved than the other fragments. These figures therefore provide only a rough guide to what was originally collected.

The degree of fragmentation was very high, and the identification rate of 25.3% is low as a result, although it is comparable with other unurned cremation burials. The largest fragment of skull was 15mm long. Much of the unidentified fraction was less than 5mm in length.

Identifiable pieces in this group included cranial vault, a fragment of tooth crown, vertebral arch and rib. A few small fragments of long bone were present but not identifiable. The size of the cranial vault fragments, unfused vertebral arch and unerupted deciduous molar indicated that the individual was an infant, possibly perinatal. The total weight of the burial is very low and represents only a small proportion of the combusted weight of the skeleton.

The majority of bone in this group was fully oxidised and white in colour, although a few pieces 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). Due to their fragmentary nature and the small quantity of bone involved, it is not recommended that any further work is required of this material at this stage.

6. The environmental evidence

Anna West

6.1 Introduction and methods

Three samples were taken for the evaluation of the content and preservation of the plant macrofossil assemblages from two prehistoric pits and a single undated ditch.

The samples were processed in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data and the potential for radiocarbon dating of the features. A single sample was taken during the archaeological evaluation of this site (Fawcett 2012); the results from this sample are not discussed in this report.

The samples were processed using manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned using a binocular microscope at x16 magnification and the presence of any plant remains or other artefacts are noted in Table 7. Identification of plant remains has been made with reference to Butcher (1961).

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

6.2 Quantification

For the purpose of this initial assessment, items such as seeds, cereal grains and small animal bones have been scanned and recorded by quantity according to the following categories # = 1-10, ## = 11-50, ### = 51+ specimens. Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal, magnetic residues and fragmented bone have been scored for abundance (+ = rare, ++ = moderate, +++ = abundant).

Results

Sample	Context	Feature	Context spot date	Flot contents
10	0054	Ditch/gully 0055	undated	Charcoal ++, rootlets +++, charred cereal grains #, charred seeds, un-charred seeds #, insect remains #
11	0056	Pit 0057	LBA-EIA	Charcoal ++, rootlets +++, charred cereal grains #, charred seeds, un-charred seeds #
12	0050	Pit 0053	LN-EBA	Charcoal ++, rootlets +++, charred cereal grains #, charred seeds #, un-charred seeds #

Table 7. Flot contents by context

The presence of charred and uncharred seeds within these samples is very rare. The preservation of the cereal remains is by charring and is generally fair to poor. A small number of charred cereal caryopsis were present in each sample. Charred weed seeds were very rare but were present in all three samples. Uncharred weed seeds were equally rare and consisted of goosefoot (*Chenopodiaceae*) endocarps and Viola seeds. Charcoal was frequent at 0-5 mm and frequent at 5-15mm. A high density of modern fibrous rootlet material was present in all the flot material.

Sample 10 from ditch/gully 0055 (0054) contained three wheat grains (*Triticum sp. caryopsis*) tentatively identified as a bread wheat (*Triticum aestivum/durum*), along with a single fragment of cereal caryopsis that is too fragmented and degraded to identify at this stage. No chaff or processing elements were present within this flot. A small number of charred seeds in the form of goosefoot family (*Chenopodiaceae sp.*), mustard family (*Brassicaceae sp.*) and dock family (*Rumex sp.*) were present within Sample 10 along with a single uncharred Viola sp. seed which is likely to be intrusive. These are common arable or wasteland weeds that may have been tolerated within early crops.

Pit 0057 (0056) contained a small number of charred cereal grains (*caryopsis*), tentatively identified as emmer wheat (*Triticum dicoccum*). Some of these grains were puffed and twisted with the honeycomb appearance characteristic of combustion at high temperatures. No chaff or processing elements were present within the flot material.

Charred weed seeds in the form of a single fragmented grass families (*Poaceae* sp. caryopsis) and an abraded mallow family (*Malvaceae* sp.) nutlet were identified within the sample; both could represent arable or wayside weeds but were too fragmented and abraded to identify further at this stage.

Pit 0050 (0053) was very sparse in macrofossil remains. Two charred wheat grains (*Triticum* sp. caryopsis) were recovered and have again been tentatively identified as emmer wheat (*Triticum dicoccum*). No chaff or processing elements were present within this sample that would aid a more positive identification. There was a single legume (*Fabaceae* sp.) which was highly puffed and abraded but could possibly be a vetch (*Vicia*) legume which could either represent a food plant or a crop contaminant. Two uncharred *Viola* sp. seeds were identified and were most likely intrusive.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In general the quantity of plant macrofossils from the sample are very low. Charcoal is common in the sample and it may be possible in the future to obtain radiocarbon (C14) dates from charcoal for any deposits that remain undated. The cereal caryopsis recovered from the samples would also be suitable for C14 dating if it is required.

7. Discussion

7.1 Prehistoric

No Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age features have been specifically identified on other sites nearby, but scattered pottery does suggest that there is earlier background activity in the general area. Pit 0054 represents the earliest cut feature of this important archaeological landscape, dating to the Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age. The earliest closely dated finds are worked flints, which belong to the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic period, but taken all together a Neolithic date is considered most likely. It seems most probable that these flints represent activity in the Neolithic period on and around the site. However, as almost all were recovered from a later pit (as evinced by the Beaker pottery sherds) and some had clearly been reused, it might be possible that they represent a later collection, brought onto the site from elsewhere in the Late Neolithic- Early Bronze Age period. While the significant number of these flints present in the pit

appears to support a connection with the site itself it could also suggest prehistoric historic curation of flints (known to occur elsewhere in Suffolk) so they might represent earlier activity elsewhere in the wider landscape. A few charred cereal grains were also recovered from an environmental sample. While this could be debris from a single event, such as a feast, the pottery appears to represent sherds collected or recovered from elsewhere (one possibility would be from a midden) and later deposited in the pit. This suggests an informal deposit made within a context of ritual deposition.

Further prehistoric activity is represented by finds from a second pit, 0057, dated to the later Bronze Age-Early Iron Age. It is noted that there is a small quantity of burnt residue on one sherd from this feature which might be suitable for a radiocarbon date which should be able to more closely date this pottery and the feature. This may also be of interest in relation to helping to date the significant prehistoric settlement located to the east of the site – no scientific dating has been undertaken on material from that excavation at the present time. The identification of this feature suggests that there may be a wider landscape of activity in this period outside of the settlement boundary ditches recorded at CHT 009 and 015 to the south-east although this may be virtually invisible to currently accepted normal evaluation trench methodology (no traces of this activity were picked up by the 2012 evaluation on this site for example).

The finds from the excavation contrast with those from the earlier evaluation (Fawcett 2012) as, apart from two prehistoric worked flints and some burnt flints which are probably prehistoric, the finds from the evaluation were all of Roman or later date. However, when viewed within the wider landscape, the prehistoric finds can be seen in relation to extensive prehistoric activity in this area. There is significant prehistoric settlement just to the east of the site dated to the later Bronze Age and Iron Age (SCCAS HER codes CHT 009 and 015/MSF16918 & MSF23828) including an enclosure, trackway, round houses and pits, with some finds of metalwork, including a hoard (SCCAS HER, MSF16918 - FSF32981). However, finds equivalent to the Neolithic and Beaker finds from the site are less in evidence and more scattered. There is a small quantity of Neolithic (Grooved Ware) and Beaker pottery from Churchfields Road (Percival, unpublished) and a small number of finds from the earlier excavation at County Farm (CHT 009 - SCCAS HER, MSF16918) include a sherd which is possibly Beaker (Percival 1998, 19) and some flints dated as Neolithic (Bates 1998, 25). Other finds include a Neolithic leaf arrowhead (SCCAS HER, MSF16921 - FSF 19843). Figure

4 shows that the relative density of pits and other features is much greater within the Iron Age enclosure and to the south of the prehistoric trackway recorded at CHT 009 than here at CHT 0021, again supporting the more peripheral nature of the current site as opposed to the focus of habitation and occupation to the east.

7.2 Anglo-Saxon

A near complete, broken, granite-tempered Anglo-Saxon pot came from the pit 0010 (0011) during the evaluation (Fawcett 2012). This is dated to the 5th-7th century. Sue Anderson, who reported on the pot from the evaluation, commented that the use of granite-temper is a wholly Early Anglo-Saxon practice in East Anglia (Fawcett 2012). Charcoal or burnt residue on sherds of the pottery has been identified as potentially able to provide suitable material for a radiocarbon date which would help to confirm an Early Anglo-Saxon date for this vessel, especially in light of the use of granite temper in the fabric. Additional material suitable for radiocarbon dating might also be recovered from the bulk sample flots from the pit.

The ceramic vessel is an unusual find. Its construction and subsequent heat-affected nature all suggest some form of industrial activity on this area of the site but another possibility has been suggested (Anderson *pers comm.*): that the vitrification of some of the pottery from this feature may be because it was on a cremation pyre with the cremated human remains found in this feature – an unusual practice but possible. A possible second pot from this pit is represented by small, irregular, fragments recovered from a bulk sample (Fawcett 2012, Sample 1). These are in a different fabric both to the Anglo-Saxon pot and to the prehistoric pottery recovered during the excavation and some may be pieces of fired clay rather than pottery. However these have not been subject to specialist analysis yet.

The presence of cremated human remains from this feature make it a high priority for scientific dating, and several outstanding issues relating to pit fill 0011 will also need to be addressed at a further stage of analysis with a view to establishing its date and function. It is also recommended that the vessel should be drawn.

In terms of Saxon settlement within the wider area it can be noted that a post-built structure, located to the east, has been identified as dating to the Late Saxon/Early

medieval period building although the finds from it and its structural form put this as being some four to five hundred years later than pit 0010 (Abbot 1998).

7.3 Post-medieval

The closely dated finds from the ditch 0059 are of post-medieval or possibly modern date. There is a small quantity of CBM (ceramic building material) consisting of larger pieces and small fragments from bricks and tiles, much of which is quite broken up. This debris suggests a building in the area in the post-medieval period which was either demolished or possibly was subject to renovation work. It is possible that this was connected to the farm to the west of the excavation site although early Ordnance Survey maps do not show any development in this area until between 1905 and 1920. This ditch appears to fit with a crop-mark ditch system observed in aerial photographs, which apparently respects a medieval trackway (encountered in excavations at CHT 009 - Fig 4.). The crop-marks may suggest that the field ditches were later than the trackway, although the trackway would seem to have still been present in the landscape as a property boundary if not a traversable route. This feature is expected to survive relatively well despite the planned development due to its size and depth, and should be noted as extending out of the development area both towards Chilton Hall to the north-east and central Sudbury to the south-west.

7.4 Undated

The small gully (0055) could relate to any of the three identified phases, but within this site it has no observable connection with any other features. However, it seems most possible that it forms part of an internal field ditch (an irrigation ditch or plough-line marker, etc) related to the post-medieval field system represented by 0059 above.

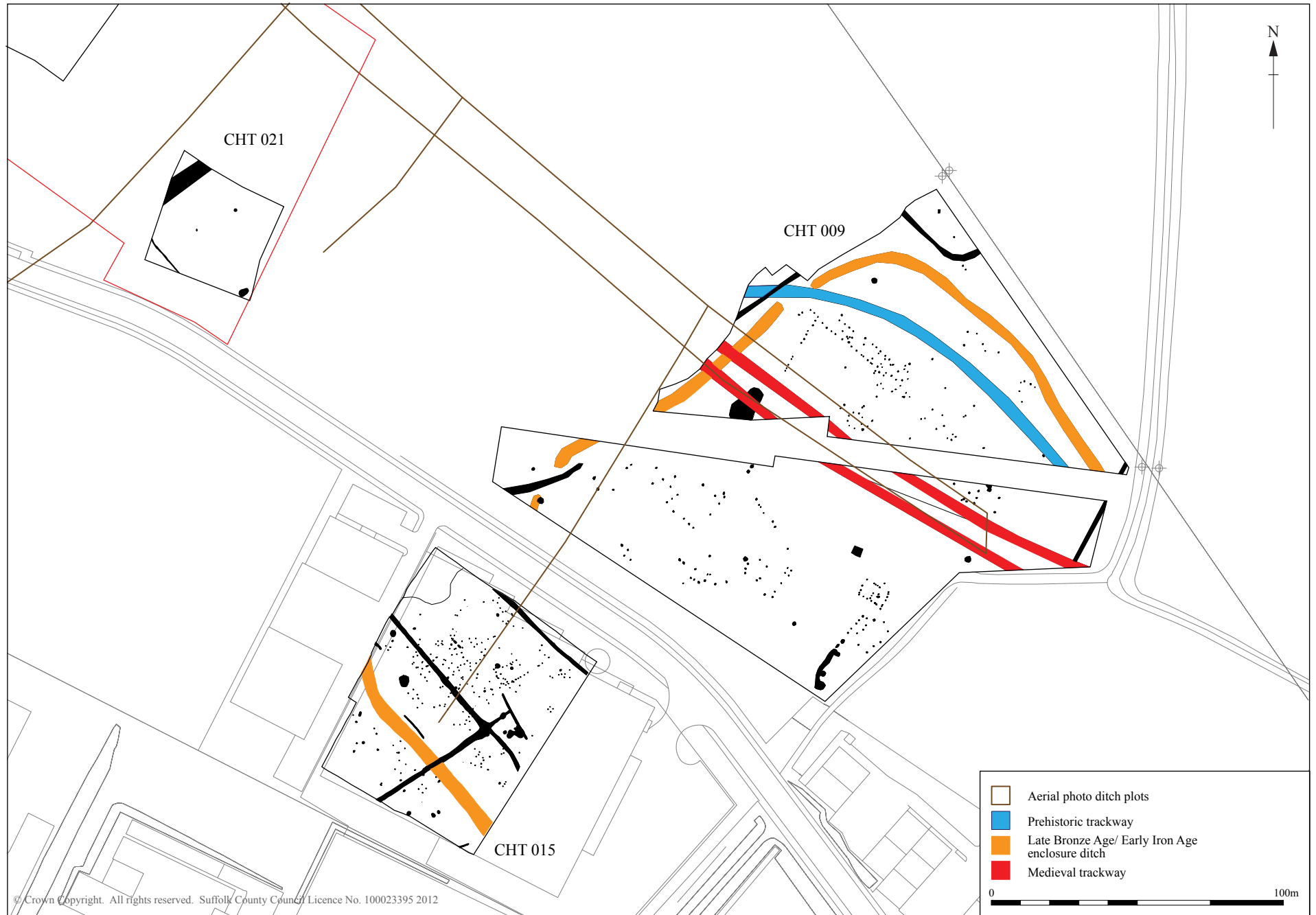


Figure 4. Archaeological setting of the site in relation to CHT 009 and 015

8. Updated Project Design

8.1 Realisation of Original Research Aims

The original research aim was to investigate the setting of the Anglo-Saxon pit found during evaluation, with the anticipated potential for further remains of this period to be uncovered. In the event, no further remains dating to this period were encountered, suggesting that the Anglo-Saxon activity in this area is isolated and/or ephemeral. It may well be that further Anglo-Saxon features will be identified up on this high ground outside of the Saxon burgh in the centre of Sudbury – presumably near a route between Sudbury and Great Waldingfield (both of which were occupied during the Anglo-Saxon period).

8.2 Revised research aims

The revised research aims for the site can now be said to revolve around scientific dating of the various pottery styles recovered from the site, in relation to specific areas of interest identified by the Revised Regional Research Agenda (EAA Occ. Pap. 24).

Typological identification of later Bronze Age pottery, linked to close radiocarbon dating has been identified as being badly needed. It is thought that the application of Bayesian theory to radiocarbon dates could help refine the absolute chronology for the region. In addition, the chronology of earlier Iron Age pottery is only vaguely known and the start date for middle Iron Age pottery needs establishing. In particular early Iron Age pottery chronologies are poorly understood. This is partially because of a lack of radiocarbon dates so far, but also because early Iron Age pottery may not fit straightforward chronological sequences (Medlycott, 2011). Achieving radiocarbon dates from pits 0053 and 0057 will help to refine the Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age and later Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age regional pottery typologies and provide absolute dates for comparison with the material to the east in CHT 009 and within the wider regional setting of East Anglia.

The partial vessel from pit 0010, which also contained an infant cremation, is unusual in that it shows signs of having been exposed to a high temperature after firing. It is in a fabric generally associated with the early Anglo-Saxon period in East Anglia, but the form is not typical. Therefore scientific dating is required to determine whether it is indeed of this date, and to provide a context for the cremation which it contained. Other pottery recovered during bulk sample sieving also requires specialist analysis to

determine whether it is contemporary with the main vessel, or residual and of possible prehistoric date.

8.3 Further work

Steve Benfield and Simon Cass

The following tasks are required to complete the project:

- 1 The remaining pottery from pit 0010 needs to be examined by an appropriate ceramic specialist
- 2 A search for parallels for the Anglo-Saxon vessel needs to be made
- 3 The Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age Beaker pottery needs to be photographed
- 4 The Anglo-Saxon vessel needs to be drawn
- 5 Three radiocarbon dates are needed, two to support the ceramic studies and one to establish potential links with the larger, regionally important activity to the south and east of the site.

The associated costs for the further work recommended are presented in tabular form below (Table 7).

In addition to the analyses and radiocarbon dates, a short report (suitable for inclusion in a regional journal such as the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*) will be required, summarising and publishing the results of this further work. That report will need to be combined with this document to form the Historic Environment Record archive record for this site.

Task no	Description	Specialist/ company	Time	Day/hour rate	cost
1	Analysis of Anglo-Saxon pottery from samples	S Anderson	0.25 days	£350	£87.5
2	Search for parallels for the Anglo-Saxon pottery	S Anderson	0.25 days	£350	£87.5
3	Photography of Beaker pottery	C. Begg	0.25 day	£236	£59
4	Illustration of Anglo-Saxon Pottery (incl. reconstruction)	C. Begg	1 day	£236	£236
5	Selection of samples and C14 dating of 3 contexts	SUERC		£390/sample	£1170
6	Finds management, liaising with specialists, updating archive	S Benfield	1 days	£204	£204
	Publication costs				
	Graphics for publication illustrations	C. Begg	0.5	£236	£118
	Creation of publication report for appropriate Journal (PSIAH?) including project management time	S Cass	1 day	£210	£210
	Publication costs @ £60 per page (2 pages)				£120
	Total				£2,292

Table 8. Summary of costing for analysis and publication of finds

Staff for analysis and publication stage

Simon Cass SCCAS Project Officer
Steve Benfield SCCAS Finds Officer
Crane Begg SCCAS Graphics Officer
Sue Anderson CFA Anglo-Saxon pottery specialist
SUERC Scottish Universities Environmental Research centre, radio-carbon dating

9. Archive deposition

Paper and photographic archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds

Digital archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\Archive\Chilton\CHT 021 Excavation

Digital photographic archive: SCCAS R:\Environmental Protection\Conservation\Archaeology\Catalogues\Photos\

Finds and environmental archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds
Store Location: **H / 87 / 3**

10. Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was carried out by Simon Cass and John Sims and project management was undertaken by John Craven.

Post-excavation management was provided by Richenda Goffin. Finds processing and analysis was undertaken by Jonathan Van Jennians and Steve Benfield respectively. The specialist finds report was produced by Steve Benfield and additional specialist advice was provided by Colin Pendleton, Sue Anderson and Anna West. Analysis of the Anglo-Saxon pottery from the evaluation phase was provided by Sue Anderson and is re-used here.

The report illustrations were created by Gemma Adams and the report was edited by Richenda Goffin.

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Appendix 1. Brief and Specification

The Archaeological Service
9-10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk
IP33 1RX

Brief and Specification for an Archaeological Excavation
at
LAND AT COUNTY FARM, CHURCH FIELD ROAD, CHILTON

PLANNING AUTHORITY:	Babergh District Council
PLANNING CONSENT NUMBER:	B/11/00830/FUL
HER NO. FOR THIS PROJECT:	CHT 021
GRID REFERENCE:	TL 886 424
DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL:	Erection of a new community health centre
DEVELOPMENT AREA:	1.38 ha
CURRENT LAND USE:	Undeveloped semi managed grassland
THIS BRIEF ISSUED BY:	Edward Martin Archaeological Officer Conservation Team Tel. : 01284 741229 E-mail: edward.martin@suffolk.gov.uk
Date:	15 May 2012

Summary

- 1.1 Planning permission has been granted with the following condition (Condition 14) relating to archaeological investigation:

‘No development shall take place within the area indicated (the whole site) until the applicant or their agents or successors in title has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.’

- 1.2 The archaeological contractor must submit a copy of their Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) or Method Statement, based upon this brief of minimum requirements (and in conjunction with our standard Requirements for Archaeological Excavation 2012 Ver 1.1), to the Conservation Team of Suffolk County Council’s Archaeological Service (SCCAS/CT) for scrutiny; SCCAS/CT is the advisory body to the Local Planning Authority (LPA) on archaeological issues.

- 1.4 Following acceptance by SCCAS/CT, it is the commissioning body's responsibility to submit the LPA for formal approval. No fieldwork should be undertaken on site without the written approval of the LPA.
- 1.5 The WSI should be approved before costs are agreed with the commissioning client, in line with Institute for Archaeologists' guidance. Failure to do so could result in additional and unanticipated costs.
- 1.6 The WSI will *provide the basis for measurable standards* and will be used to establish whether the requirements of the brief will be adequately met. If the approved WSI is not carried through in its entirety (unless a variation is agreed by SCCAS/CT), SCCAS/CT will be unable to advise discharge of the condition.

Archaeological Background

- 2.1.1 An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment by Archaeological Solutions Ltd (dated June 2011) suggested that there was a high potential for prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval deposits and features in the development area. In particular, the site lies approximately 150m to the north-west of an important ditched enclosure of later Bronze Age/early Iron Age date (Suffolk Historic Environment Record no. CHT 009). A trackway from this enclosure heads in the direction of the development site. The site also lies approximately 400m to the west of the medieval and Tudor manorial complex of Chilton Hall (Suffolk HER no. CHT 001). A medieval trackway heads from this towards the development site.

Subsequently a trenched archaeological evaluation was undertaken by SCCAS Contracting Team in February 2012 (SCCAS report 2012/020; CHT 021). This did not locate any later Bronze/early Iron Age activity that might relate to the ditched enclosure (CHT 009). But it did confirm the position of three medieval/post-medieval ditches previously known from aerial photography and earlier programmes of evaluation and excavation in the adjacent fields. Trench 09 of the evaluation also located an isolated pit (0010) that contained fragments of a very unusual early Anglo-Saxon ceramic vessel, possibly a crucible. The pit also contained a high level of charcoal and a small quantity of cremated bone (possibly human), burnt flint as well as the fragmented remains of another pottery vessel. This feature could relate to either industrial or funerary activity in the vicinity.

Fieldwork Requirements for this Archaeological Investigation

- 3.1 **A controlled excavation of a square with sides of 40m, centred on Pit 0010, to investigate the context of this significant feature more fully.**
- 3.2 The suggested location of a square of this size is shown on Figure 9 of Report 2012/020. A scale plan showing the confirmed location of the excavation area should be included in the WSI and must be approved by SCCAS/CT before fieldwork begins.

Arrangements for Archaeological Investigation

- 4.1 The project manager must consult the Suffolk HER Officer to obtain a code number for the work before commencement (if it does not already have a code

from evaluation). This number will be unique for each project or site and must be clearly marked on all documentation relating to the work.

- 4.2 The composition of the archaeological contractor's staff must be detailed and agreed by SCCAS/CT, including any subcontractors/specialists. Ceramic specialists, in particular, must have relevant experience from this region, including knowledge of local ceramic sequences.
- 4.3 A timetable for fieldwork and assessment stages of the project must be presented in the WSI and agreed with SCCAS/CT before the fieldwork commences.
- 4.4 All arrangements for the excavation, the timing of the work and access to the site, are to be defined and negotiated by the archaeological contractor with the commissioning body.
- 4.5 If the archaeological excavation is scheduled to be undertaken immediately before construction, the commissioning body should be aware that there may be a time delay for excavation and recording if unexpected and complex archaeological remains are defined. Adequate time is to be allowed for full archaeological recording of archaeological deposits before any construction work can commence on site (unless otherwise agreed by the LPA on the advice of SCCAS/CT).
- 4.6 The project manager must also carry out a risk assessment and ensure that all potential risks are minimised, before commencing the fieldwork. The responsibility for identifying any constraints on fieldwork, e.g. designated status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites and other ecological considerations, and land contamination, rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor.
- 4.7 The WSI must state the security measures to protect the site from vandalism and theft, and to secure any deep holes.
- 4.8 The archaeological contractor will give SCCAS/CT ten 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 agreed locations and techniques in the WSI.

Post-Excavation Assessment and Archival Requirements

- 5.1 Within four weeks of the end of fieldwork a written timetable for post-excavation assessment, updated project design and/or reporting must be produced, which must be approved by SCCAS/CT. Following this, a written statement of progress on post-excavation work – whether assessment, analysis, report writing and publication or archiving – will be required at six monthly intervals.
- 5.2 A post-excavation assessment (PXA) report on the fieldwork should be prepared in accordance with the principles of *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (English Heritage 2006). The PXA will act as a critically assessed audit of the archaeological evidence from

the site; see East Anglian Archaeology *Draft Post Excavation Assessments: Notes on a New Guidance Document* (2012).

- 5.3 In certain instances a full PXA might be unnecessary. The need for a full PXA or otherwise should be discussed and formally agreed with SCCAS/CT within four weeks of the end of fieldwork.
- 5.4 The PXA must present a clear and concise assessment of the archaeological value and significance of the results, and identifies the research potential, in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3, 8 and 24, 1997, 2000 and 2011). It must present an Updated Project Design, with a timetable, for analysis, dissemination and archive deposition. The PXA will *provide the basis for measurable standards* for SCCAS/CT to monitor this work.
- 5.5 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared, consistent with the principles of *MoRPHE*. It must be adequate to perform the function of a final archive for deposition in the Archaeological Store of SCCAS/CT or in a suitable museum in Suffolk (see Archaeological Archives Forum: a guide to best practice 2007).
- 5.6 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with guidelines from *The Institute of Conservation* (ICON).
- 5.7 The project manager should consult the intended archive depository before the archive is prepared regarding the specific requirements for the archive deposition and curation, and regarding any specific cost implications of deposition. The intended depository must be prepared to accept the entire archive resulting from the project (both finds and written archive) in order to create a complete record of the project. 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 WSI.
- 5.8 The PXA should offer a statement of significance for retention, based on specialist advice, and - where it is justified – the UPD should propose a discard strategy. This should be agreed with the intended archive depository.
- 5.9 For deposition in the SCCAS/CT's Archaeological Store, the archive should comply with SCCAS Archive Guidelines 2010. If this is not the intended depository, the project manager should ensure that a duplicate copy of the written archive is deposited with the Suffolk HER.
- 5.10 The UPD should state proposals for the deposition of the digital archive relating to this project with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), or similar digital archive repository, and allowance should be made for costs incurred to ensure proper deposition (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/policy.html>).
- 5.11 An unbound hardcopy of the PXA and UPD (or grey literature report if otherwise agreed), clearly marked DRAFT, must be presented to SCCAS/CT for approval within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated. Following acceptance, a single hard copy of the report should be presented to the Suffolk HER as well as a digital copy of the approved report.

- 5.12 On approval of an adequate PXA and UPD, SCCAS/CT will advise the LPA that the scheme of investigation for post-excavation analysis, dissemination and archive deposition has been agreed.
- 5.13 Where appropriate, a copy of the approved PXA should be sent to the local archaeological museum, whether or not it is the intended archive depository. A list of local museum can be obtained from SCCAS/CT.
- 5.14 SCCAS/CT supports the OASIS project, to provide an online index to archaeological reports. 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. When the project is completed, all parts of the OASIS online form must be completed and a copy must be included in the final report and also with the site archive. A .pdf version of the entire report should be uploaded to the OASIS website.
- 5.15 Where positive results are drawn from a project, a summary report must be prepared, 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*. It should be included in the project report, or submitted to SCCAS/CT, by the end of the calendar year in which the work takes place, whichever is the sooner.

Standards and Guidance

Detailed requirements are to be found in our Requirements for Archaeological Excavation 2012 Ver 1.1 and in SCCAS Archive Guidelines 2010

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.

The Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for archaeological excavation* (revised 2008) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

Notes

There are a number of archaeological contractors that regularly undertake work in the County and SCCAS will provide advice on request. SCCAS/CT does not give advice on the costs of archaeological projects. The Institute for Archaeologists maintains a list of registered archaeological contractors (www.archaeologists.net or 0118 378 6446).

This brief remains valid for 6 months. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse; the brief may need to be revised and re-issued to take account of new discoveries, changes in policy and techniques.

Appendix 2 - Context List

Context No	Feature No	Grid Sq.	Feature Type	Description	Length	Width	Depth	Small Finds	Group No	Phase	Spotdate
0010	0010		Pit Cut	Oval pit, aligned north-south with vertical side to south (northern side possibly disturbed or irregular/stepped) with irregular flattish base. Pit	0.67	0.34	0.26				
0011	0010		Pit Fill	Mid/dark brown/grey firm clay, becoming darker/blacker towards base of feature. Abundant charcoal fragments, especially towards base. Occasional CBM/burnt clay, rare chalk nodules and flecks. Fill of Pit 0010. Possible domestic/cottage industry waste?	0.67	0.34	0.26				
0050	0053		Pit Fill	Mid/dark greenish/greyish brown compact silty clay with frequent small charcoal flecks and chunks, moderate worked flint flakes (some heavily patinated) and occasional small prehistoric pottery sherds. Upper fill of Pit 0053 - possible hearth debris?			0.52m				
0051	0053		Pit Fill	Mid red/greyish brown compact silty clay with moderate small charcoal flecks and fragments. Reddish colour may be due to exposure to heat, but not likely to be direct heat source - possibly layer 0050 was deposited above while still hot?			0.18				
0052	0053		Pit Fill	Mid greyish orange/brown compacted silty clay with rare chalk flecks, occasional/moderate charcoal flecks and heavily patinated struck/worked flint flakes. Basal fill of pit 0053, covers entire base of feature.			0.34				
0053	0053		Pit Cut	Large ovoid pit, aligned approx NE-SW with an irregular profile: sharp Break of slope at top of feature leading to steep slightly concave sides. The SW edge is steep but becomes shallower and slightly convex and the base has two depressions, one of the NE and one to the SW of the centre of the pit. Cut of prehistoric pit - possibly contains hearth debris in its upper fill.	2.6	1.2	0.76				
0054	0055		Gully Fill	Mid orange/greyish brown compact silty clay with occasional small angular/sub-angular flints. Fill of small gully.			0.16				
0055	0055		Gully Cut	Linear gully feature, aligned approximately NW-SE with a bowl-shaped profile - steep break of slope to concave sides and base. Shallow narrow gully in SW corner of excavation area.	15m+	0.38	0.16m				
0056	0057		Pit Fill	Mid-dark greyish brown compact silty clay with occasional small-medium sized rounded-angular flints, moderate-frequent medium-large pottery sherds and occasional worked flints and heat-altered stone, rare bone pieces. Single fill of pit 0057			0.23				
0057	0057		Pit Cut	Sub-circular pit feature with a broad shallow profile - "U"-shaped with steep sloping sides to a shallow slightly concave base. Pit. Contains large amount of apparent prehistoric (early Iron Age?) pottery.	1.0	0.95	0.23				
0058	0059		Ditch Fill	Mid/dull greysih reddy brown firm silty clay with occasional chalk flecks, flints, CBM and Brick fragments. Fill of ditch 0059.		1.0	1.2m+				
0059	0059		Ditch Cut	Linear ditch feature, orientated approximately north-south, passing across the north-western corner of the site. Shallow gentle sloped sides with a significant break of slope to a steep sloped edge. Obscured by either a depression in the natural filled up with a similar deposit or being overlain by a post-med plough/buried soil. Continuation of medieval ditch seen in trenching and heading north towards Chilton Hall.		1.0	1.5m+				

Appendix 3. Pottery catalogue

Ctxt	Period	Fabric	Sherd	Form	Dec.	No	Wt(g)	ENV	Abr	Comments	Spot date
0050	PREH	HMF1	rim	Beaker	*	1	4			rim with horizontal incised & impressed line decoration, common s-m flint, pale orange-brown	LN-EBA
0050	PREH	HMF2	body	Beaker	*	8	57	1	(*)	body sherds with incised line dec. forming loose grid see Healey 1996 P302 P310, sparse s-m flint, pale orange-brown	LN-EBA
0050	PREH	HMF2	base	Beaker	*	2	12	1		join, impressed comb line decoration, orange-brown with dark grey core	LN-EBA
0050	PREH	HMF1	base	Beaker	*	1	25		(*)	base/lower body, dec. with incised horizontal lines around base & vertical panels? higher on body, orange-brown, some slight edge abrasion	LN-EBA
0050	PREH	HMF2	body	Beaker	*	13	67	1	(*)	body sherds, dec. with finger nail impressions, prob SV but no joins, orange-brown	LN-EBA
0050	PREH	HMF2	body	Beaker	*	1	8			body sherd, dec. with deep finger nail impressions in pale orange-brown fabric	LN-EBA
0050	PREH	HMF1	body	Beaker		1	1			body sherd, pale orange-brown	LN-EBA
0050	PREH	HMF2	body			1	1		*	prob. Beaker sherd flake, dark fabric core	LN-EBA
0056	PREH	HMF3	base	jar/urn		53	967	1		thick sherds from base & body, poss. all from same pot, 3 join, oxidised surface, some part reduced on interior surfaces	LBA-EIA
0056	PREH	HMF4	body	jar/bowl		6	63	1		body sherds from bowl or jar, prob SV	LBA-EIA
0056	PREH	HMF1	body			2	14	1		body sherd SV	LBA-EIA
0056	PREH	HMF1	body			1	10			body sherd	LBA-EIA
0056	PREH	HMF3	body			7	81	1		oxidised surfaces, reduced interior, poss SV	LBA-EIA
0056	PREH	HMF4	body			1	43	1		SV, join, oxidised surfaces, reduced interior, more flint at surface	LBA-EIA
0056	ROM	HMF1	body			2	3			small sherds	LBA-EIA
0056	ROM	HMF4	body			1	4			small quantity of burnt residue on internal surface	LBA-EIA
0058	PMED	GRE	body			1	7				P-medieval

Appendix 4. Worked flint catalogue

Ctxt	Type	No	Pat	Notes	Spot date
0050	flake	1		unpatinated irregular flake with limited edge retouch in form of a shallow notch, sub-triangular cross section, some cortex	
0050	core	1		small, irregular multi-platform flake core 20% cortex, unpatinated	
0050	core	1		unpatinated single platform, irregular flake core with squat flakes removed, 30% cortex, unpatinated	
0050	core	1		fragment of irregular flake core, unpatinated	
0050	flake	2		two thin squat flakes, one with cortex, unpatinated	
0050	blade	1	*	long blade, triangular cross-section with steep irregular retouch along one edge, medium patination	Meso-Neo
0050	(core)	1	*	irregular shatter piece with a few squat flakes removed (patinated) also a few unpatinated flake scars, medium patination	Meso-Neo
0050		1	*	shatter piece with limited unpatinated edge retouch, medium patination	Meso-Neo
0050	blade	1	*	small blade, medium patination	Meso-Neo
0050	flake	1	*	small squat flake with hinge fracture, medium patination	Meso-Neo
0050	flake	1	*	thin snapped flake, medium patination	Meso-Neo
0050	flake	1	*	squat flake, medium patination	Meso-Neo
0050	flake	3	*	three flakes with cortex on dorsal face, medium patination	Meso-Neo
0050	blade	1	*	medium patination	Meso-Neo
0050	flake	1	*	thin irregular flake, unpatinated retouched small notch on one edge, patinated	Meso-Neo
0050	flake	1	*	crescent core rejuvenation flake, patinated	Meso-Neo
0050	blade	1	*	small blade or long flake with parallel blade scars on the dorsal face, patinated	Meso-Neo
0050	blade	2	*	two small blade, both with parallel flake scars on dorsal face, patinated	Meso-Neo
0050	flake	1	*	squat flake, thin with parallel flake scars on the dorsal face, patinated	Meso-Neo
0050	flake	1	*	squat flake with some cortex on dorsal face, patinated	Meso-Neo
0050	flake	1	*	thin snapped flake, patinated	Meso-Neo
0050	flake	1	*	thick snapped flake, patinated	Meso-Neo
0050	flake	4		four long flakes, one with hinge fracture, two with some cortex, unpatinated	Meso-Neo
0050		1	*	natural piece	
0052	flake	1	*	medium size bladed, patinated blade scar or dorsal face	Meso-Neo
0052	blade	1	*	small blade, patinated blade scar on dorsal face, snapped edge unpatinated	Meso-Neo
0052	flake	2	*	two irregular long flakes with patinated blade scars on dorsal face	Meso-Neo
0052	blade	2	*	two snapped blades or long flakes with patinated blade scars on dorsal face	Meso-Neo
0052	flake	1	*	snapped small blade or flake, fire crazed	
0052	flake	1	*	flake	
0052	flake	2	*	two small flakes, 1 snapped, lightly patinated	
0052	flake	1	*	squat flake	
0052	blade	1	*	small blade core, 10% cortex, one unpatinated flake scar	Meso-Neo
0052	core	1	*	flake core, 40% cortex	Meso-Neo
0052	flake	5	*	five irregular flakes, relatively thick	
0052	flake	1	*	snapped, unpatinated edge retouch, lightly patinated	
0052	flake	1		thick flake with hinge fracture	
0052		2	*	two small shatter pieces, one with an unpatinated flake scar, 20-30% cortex, lightly patinated	
0052	flake	1	*	snapped long flake or blade, lightly patinated, with unpatinated flake scar, broken (snapped) edge unpatinated	
0052	core	1	*	small irregular flake core, 25% cortex, light patination	
0052	flake	1		primary flake	
0056	(core)	1	*	lightly patinated shatter piece core with a few squat flakes removed, some cortex	

Ctxt	Type	No	Pat	Notes	Spot date
0056	core	1	*	large part patinated multi-platform core with later unpatinated occasional reuse as a flake core, some cortex	
0056	(flake)	1		shatter piece, flake, unpatinated, some cortex	
0056	flake	1	*	patinated squat flake, sub-triangular cross-section, some cortex	
0056	flake	1	*	patinated, irregular large flake with later unpatinated flake scar, some cortex	
0056	(core)	1	*	lightly patinated shatter piece core with a few squat flakes removed, some cortex	
0056	flake	1		unpatinated flake with triangular cross-section & thick cortex, some cortex	
0056	flake	1		unpatinated relatively thin flake with parallel flake scars on dorsal face, limited retouch & pointed end	Neo-EBA
0056	(core)	1	*	lightly patinated shatter piece core with a few squat flakes removed, some cortex	

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