

B1113 Stowmarket to Great Blakenham underground cabling

BRK 136

Archaeological Post-excavation Assessment

SCCAS Report No. 2014/011

Client: Carillion Utility Services

Author: Kieron Heard
March 2014

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Archaeological Post-Excavation Assessment
& Updated Project Design

SCCAS Report No. 2014/011

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Disclaimer

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
1.1 Site location	1
1.2 The scope of this report	1
1.3 Circumstances and dates of fieldwork	2
2. Geological, topographic and archaeological background	5
2.1 Geology and topography	5
2.2 Archaeology	5
3. Original Research Aims	8
4. Site sequence: preliminary results of the fieldwork	9
4.1 Introduction	9
4.2 Natural strata	9
4.3 Prehistoric / Roman (800 BC – AD 410)	10
4.4 Late Anglo-Saxon (AD 850–1066)	10
4.5 Medieval (1066–1500)	10
4.6 Post-medieval (1500–1900)	13
4.7 Unknown date	13
5. Quantification and assessment	22
5.1 Post-excavation review	22
5.2 Quantification of the stratigraphic archive	23
5.3 Quantification and assessment of the finds archive	23
Introduction	23
Pottery	23
Fired clay	27
Worked flint	28
Stone	29
Small finds	29
5.4 Quantification and assessment of the environmental archive	30
Animal bone	30

Shell	30
Plant macrofossils and other remains	31
6. Potential of the data	34
6.1 Realisation of the Original Research Aims	34
6.2 General discussion of potential	35
Potential of the stratigraphic archive	35
Potential of the finds archive	35
Potential of the environmental archive	36
7. Significance of the data	37
7.1 Local significance	37
7.2 Regional significance	38
8. Conclusions and recommendations	39
9. Acknowledgements	39
10. Bibliography	40

List of Figures

Figure 1. Location of Sites 1 and 2	4
Figure 2. HER entries mentioned in the text	7
Figure 3. Plan of all archaeological features, Site 1	14
Figure 4. Plan and sections for pit 0003, Site 2	15
Figure 5. Site 1, sections S.1 to S.11	16
Figure 6. Site 1, sections S.12 to S.16	17

List of Tables

Table 1. Quantification of the stratigraphic archive	23
Table 2. Bulk finds quantities	23
Table 3. Pottery quantification by fabric	24
Table 4. Pottery types present by feature/context	26
Table 5. Catalogue of worked flint	28
Table 6. Small finds by material type	29
Table 7. Animal bone by context	30
Table 8. Plant macrofossils and other remains	32

List of Plates

Plate 1. Topsoil stripping of the easement	18
Plate 2. Section S.15 of prehistoric/Roman ditch 0048, looking east (0.5m scale)	18
Plate 3. Section S.8 of segment 0032 (medieval ditch 0063), looking SW (0.5m scale)	19
Plate 4. Section S.9 of medieval ditch 0035, looking northwest (0.5m scale)	19
Plate 5. Section S.14 of medieval ditch 0055, looking southeast (0.3m scale)	20
Plate 6. Section S.2 of segment 0014 (medieval ditch 0062), looking northeast (1m scale)	20
Plate 7. Medieval pit 0041, looking west (0.5m scale)	21
Plate 8. Undated pit 0003 (Site 2) looking southwest (0.3m scale)	21

List of Appendices

Appendix 1. Local Planning Authority Brief	41
Appendix 2. Context summary table	47
Appendix 3. Catalogue of images	51
Appendix 4. Pottery catalogue	53
Appendix 5. Small finds catalogue	57
Appendix 6. OASIS form	59

Summary

This report presents the results of archaeological fieldwork on part of the route of the B1113 Stowmarket to Great Blakenham underground cabling. It provides a quantification and assessment of the project archive and considers the potential of that archive to answer specific research questions. The significance of the data is assessed and recommendations for dissemination of the results of the fieldwork are made.

Two sites of archaeological interest were identified, both on relatively high ground in the vicinity of the Saxon Park and Brick Kiln Caravan Parks, Barrett's Lane, Barking.

At Site 1, part of a prehistoric or Roman field system was represented by four shallow, parallel ditches spaced about 4–5m apart. These contained occasional small and abraded sherds of black, hand-made prehistoric pottery in fine sandy and flint-tempered fabrics.











The prehistoric/Roman ditches were overlaid by a rectilinear ditch system and associated pitting with two clear phases of use dating to the 13th–14th century. Although the function of the ditch system is unclear the presence of moderate amounts of relatively unabraded pottery and an environmental assemblage that included charred cereals and peas suggest that there was a settlement in the immediate vicinity. The ditches also contained residual Anglo-Saxon and earlier medieval pottery, indicating earlier phases of activity at this site.

Site 2, located approximately 200m southeast of Site 1, contained only an undated pit.












The results of the fieldwork are of local significance and have been described adequately in this report; no further work on the site archive is recommended. This report will be disseminated as 'grey literature' via the OASIS online archaeological database. A summary of the results will be submitted for inclusion in a regional journal such as the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History.

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 
- Archaeological Features 

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 
- Deposit Number 0007
- Ordnance Datum $\frac{18.45\text{m OD}}{\times}$

1. Introduction

1.1 Site location

An underground electricity cable was laid between Stowmarket (TM 0660 5680) and Great Blakenham (TM 1220 4970) – a distance of approximately 9.5 km. The trenching for the cable was carried out mainly in the B1113 roadside verge and generally was not subject to an archaeological planning condition. An exception was part of the roadside route (TM 1042 5337 to TM 1103 5231) that was in an area of known prehistoric barrows. This section was monitored archaeologically with negative results; only modern made-ground deposits were seen to depths of about 1.2m.

In order to bypass Needham Market part of the route (TM 0801 5591 to TM 0873 5377; approximately 3.4 km) crossed agricultural land to the southwest of the town (Fig. 1). This section of the route was also subject to an archaeological planning condition, and the results of subsequent fieldwork are described in this report.

Most of this section of the route was located in Barking parish and therefore the archaeological project has been given the Historic Environment Record (HER) number BRK 136. At its northwest end (where it ran parallel with the River Bat) the route was in Badley parish, but it is included under the Barking HER number on the advice of the county HER Officer.

1.2 The scope of this report

This report was commissioned by Carillion Utility Services on behalf of UK Power Networks and was produced by the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS), Field Team. It has been prepared in accordance with the relevant Brief (Tipper, 2013) and Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; Gardner, 2013). The report is consistent with the principles of Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE), notably Project Planning Note 3 Archaeological Excavations (English Heritage, 2008). The principal aims of the project are as follows:

- Summarise the results of the archaeological fieldwork
- Quantify the site archive and review the post-excavation work that has been undertaken to date
- Assess the potential of the site archive to answer research aims defined in the Brief and Specification
- Assess the significance of the data in relation to the regional research framework (Medlycott & Brown, 2011)
- Make recommendations for further analysis (if appropriate) and dissemination of the results of the fieldwork

1.3 Circumstances and dates of fieldwork

The fieldwork took place in two phases. The first phase (08–17 January 2014) covered the south-eastern part of the route from Saxon Park and Brick Kiln Caravan Parks at the south end of Barrett's Lane (TM 0781 5456) to the B1078 Barking Road (TM 0873 5377). The second phase (03–20 February) covered the north-western part of the route extending from the caravan parks (TM 0781 5456) to the B1113 Badley Hill, near Badley Bridge Farm (TM 0801 5591).

The temporary easement for the installation of the proposed cabling was a corridor measuring 7–8m wide. Within this area the topsoil/ploughsoil was excavated using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a 2m wide, toothless ditching bucket (Pl. 1). This was done under the direct control and constant supervision of the attending archaeologist. Generally, mechanical excavation continued to the surface of the underlying natural stratum. This 'controlled strip' was carried out in accordance with the WSI (Gardner, 2013).

An additional area of topsoil stripping (not mentioned in the WSI) was carried out towards the southeast end of the route, where a temporary haulage track was created (Fig. 1). At this location the natural stratum was not exposed because down-slope erosion had caused a considerable build-up (over 0.60m) of subsoil or former ploughsoil against a field boundary bank. Although this buried soil was not excavated it was

comprehensively metal-detected, resulting in a number of finds. This variation to the WSI was approved verbally by the curatorial officer Dr. Tipper.

All mechanically excavated soil was scanned with a metal detector, either before or after stripping. All pre-modern, non-ferrous finds were retained.

Archaeological deposits and features were recorded using a single-context system, based on a unique sequence of context numbers in the range 0001–0064. Intrusive features were drawn in plan (at 1:10 or 1:50, as appropriate) and selected sections were drawn (at 1:10) on gridded drawing film. Written records (context descriptions, etc) were made on the drawings and are reproduced in full in this report.

A digital photographic record was made, consisting of high-resolution .jpg images and selected deposits were sampled for environmental analysis.

The primary (paper) archive for the fieldwork is located currently at the SCCAS Bury St Edmunds office. The finds and environmental residues are stored at the SCCAS Bury St Edmunds office. All records and materials are archived under the HER number BRK 136.

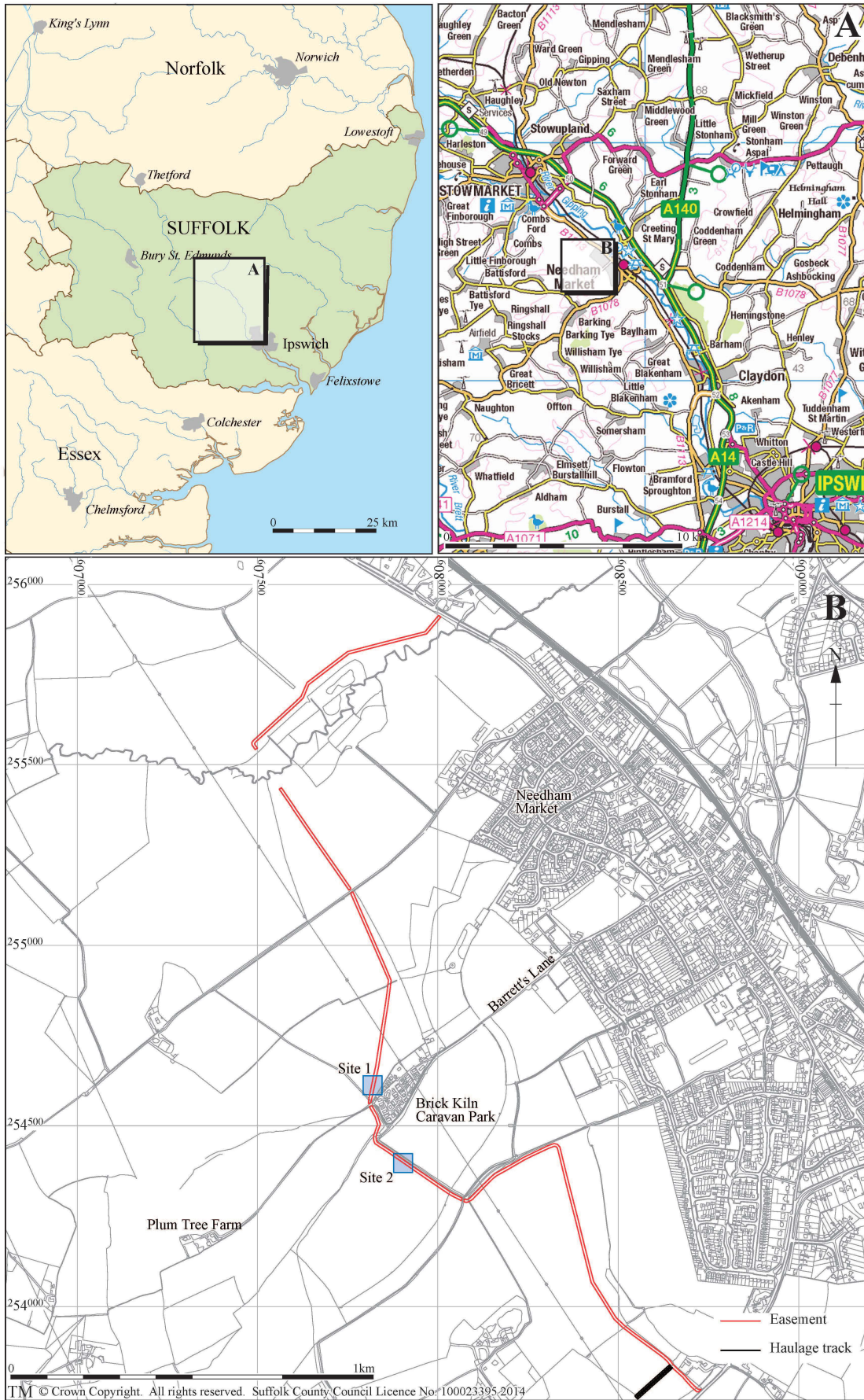


Figure 1. Location of Sites 1 and 2.

2. Geological, topographic and archaeological background

2.1 Geology and topography

The British Geological Survey records the Newhaven Chalk Formation in this area of Suffolk (BGS, 2012). This is generally overlaid by superficial deposits of chalky till (part of the Lowestoft Formation) with localised deposits of glaciofluvial sand/gravel, Head material and recent alluvium in stream valleys and on lower slopes.

The topography is undulating, attaining a maximum height of approximately 50m OD in the vicinity of Saxon Park and Brick Kiln Caravan Parks at the south end of Barratt's Lane. From this high point the ground slopes down gradually to the northwest into the valley of the River Bat, which forms the southern boundary of Badley parish. To the southeast the land slopes down into the largely dry valley along which runs the B1078 Barking Road.

2.2 Archaeology

This section of the cable route is in an area of archaeological potential, as defined in the county Historic Environment Record (Fig. 2). Notably, a large number of finds (mostly metal detected) have been made in the vicinity of Parkwood House and Lakeview Lodge (Anglia Wildfowl). These include the following:

BRK 043

Bronze Age: Socketed object (knife?)

Roman: Forty-eight coins and a spoon

Medieval: Various objects

BRK 044

Roman: Pottery scatter

BRK 045

Roman: Pottery scatter

BRK 046

Iron Age: One Bronze coin and one silver coin

Roman: Pottery

BRK 086

Post-medieval: Lime kiln at Chalkpit Covert

BRK 088

Iron Age: Two coins and two brooches

Roman: 247 coins, twenty-two brooches, three rings, two bracelets, tweezers, pottery

Anglo-Saxon: Brooch

Medieval: Various metalwork including coins, a buckle and a pendant

BRK 105

Roman: Coin, box and ring

BRK 106

Roman: A pit below Lakeview Lodge contained much ceramic building material

There are fewer and more widespread sites recorded elsewhere along this part of the cabling route. A Neolithic flint axe was found near Kennels Farm (BRK 014), Roman pottery (NDM 004) and a Roman coin (NDM 005) have been found in the Quinton Road area of Needham Market, near some undated human remains (NDM 031). Medieval pottery surface scatters have been found near the north end of Brick Kiln Caravan Park (BRK 025 & NDM 006). The caravan park is built on a former brickworks, shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of the 1880s.

In the Badley Bridge area several crop marks to the north of the B1113 suggest the presence of prehistoric barrows (BAD 005, BAD 006, BAD 007, CRM 012, CRM 052, CRM 053) and there are records of Roman and Saxon metal-detected finds (BAD 016). Roman and Saxon vessels, one containing a Roman coin hoard, were found during the construction of the railway at one of two possible locations (BAD 002 / BAD 004).

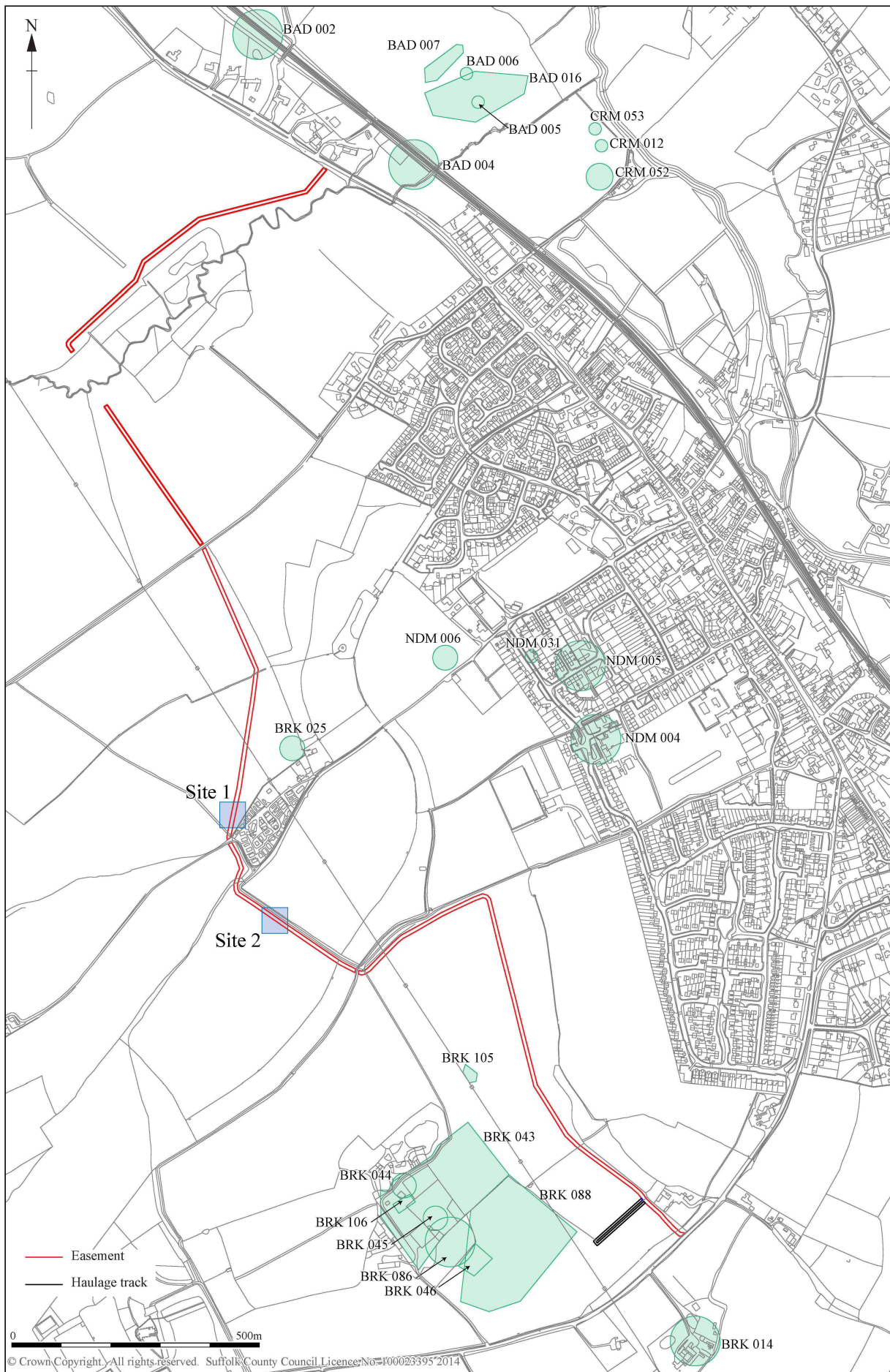


Figure 2. HER entries mentioned in the text

3. Original Research Aims

The Original Research Aims (academic objectives) for the project were defined in the WSI (Gardner, 2013) as follows:

ORA 1: Establish whether any archaeological deposit exists within the development area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation *in situ*.

ORA 2: Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the development area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.

ORA 3: Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.

ORA 4: Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.

4. Site sequence: preliminary results of the fieldwork

4.1 Introduction

Generally, the topsoil/ploughsoil (0001 & 0007) was 0.30m–0.40m thick and directly overlaid the natural stratum, indicating that modern agriculture had destroyed any evidence that might have existed for former land surfaces or natural soil profiles. This was confirmed by the frequent presence of plough marks or ‘subsoiler’ scars in the surface of the natural stratum. At most locations the topsoil was heavy clay loam that was often waterlogged due to an extended period of wet weather.

Several former field boundary ditches were recognised below the topsoil, but these were not recorded archaeologically since they contained obviously modern material and are all shown on maps and photographs of the second half of the 20th century.

Archaeological features were confined mainly to an area of high ground (approximately 48–49m OD) to the west of the Saxon Park and Brick Kiln Caravan Parks (Site 1; TM 0782 5460; Fig. 3). From this high point the ground sloped down towards the northeast, into the valley of a former tributary (now little more than a deep ditch) of the River Gipping. Site 1 was in an area of chalky clay with localised pockets and veins of the yellowish brown sandy clay (probable brickearth) that was seen more extensively in a neighbouring field to the south.

An isolated pit was recorded on a southeast facing slope to the south of the caravan parks, also in an area of chalky clay (Site 2; TM 07903 54397; Fig. 4).

4.2 Natural strata

Light yellowish brown chalky clay (glacial till) was encountered mostly frequently, especially in areas of higher ground. In the lower lying part of the route adjacent to the River Bat the natural stratum was mid yellowish brown clayey silt, interpreted as relatively recent alluvium. A similar deposit was noted in fields (now arable but former meadow land) adjacent to the B1078 Barking Road. These deposits were at least 0.5m thick.

In the field to the southwest of the Saxon Park and Brick Kiln Caravan Parks (TM 0783 5453) a localised deposit of mid yellowish brown slightly sandy clay (at least 0.5m thick) was presumably the material that was used for brick making on those sites in the 19th century.

4.3 Prehistoric / Roman (800 BC – AD 410)

Evidence for prehistoric or Roman activity was confined to Site 1 and consisted of four parallel ditches (0021, 0027/0048, 0037 & 0064), oriented southwest–northeast and spaced 4–5m apart (Fig. 3; Pl. 2). The ditches all extended beyond the limits of excavation to the northeast and at least two of them (0027 & 0064) had rounded terminals within the area of excavation. Ditch 0021 petered out to the southwest and ditch 0064 was removed by a later pit. They ranged from 0.47m to 0.68m wide and from 0.10m to 0.20m deep, with varying profiles (see sections on Figs. 5 & 6).

The ditches all contained single fills of brown or greyish brown silty clay with very few inclusions. Flecks or small fragments of black, hand-made pottery in fine sandy and flint-tempered fabrics were recovered from ditches 0021 (fill 0020), 0027 (fill 0026), 0048 (fill 0047) and 0064 (fills 0038 & 0059); the pottery is almost certainly prehistoric, and possibly of Iron Age date (800 BC – AD 43). Flecks and small fragments of fired clay and charcoal were also seen occasionally.

4.4 Late Anglo-Saxon (AD 850–1066)

No features of this date were found but some pottery fragments in Thetford-type ware and St Neot's ware occurred residually in medieval deposits at Site 1. The pottery includes relatively late forms of both wares, suggesting an 11th-century date for this material.

4.5 Medieval (1066–1500)

Medieval activity at Site 1 was represented by a sequence of ditches and pits that cut underlying prehistoric/Roman ditches (Fig. 3). Features in the northern half of the site were sealed only by modern topsoil/ploughsoil 0001. Some of the features in the southern half of the site were sealed by a thin (up to 50mm) and discontinuous subsoil

layer (0056) of firm, mid yellowish brown clayey silt. This deposit was not identified elsewhere within the easement.

Phase 1

Ditch 0063 (Pl. 3) was oriented approximately south-southwest–north-northeast and was at least 17.5m long (running beyond the limit of excavation to the northeast) x up to 1.13m wide x up to 0.43m deep. It is likely that ditch 0063 continued further south as ditch 0024, in which case its overall length was more than 28m. The sides of the ditch were mostly steep, sometimes slightly convex, breaking fairly sharply into a narrow, flat base that drained to the north-northeast.

At least two sides ditches (0035 & 0055; Pls. 4 & 5) drained into ditch 0063 on its west side. A third ditch 0019 might also have belonged to this phase of activity, although it was interpreted on site as being part of a later ditch system (Phase 2).

The Phase 1 ditches generally contained two distinct fills. Primary deposits of redeposited/slumped natural clay were sealed by compact deposits of mid brown or brownish greyish silty clay containing small amounts of medieval pottery (up to the 13th–14th century) and some residual Late Anglo-Saxon sherds (11th century).

Phase 2

After the Phase 1 ditch system had silted up part of ditch 0063 was re-dug on a much larger scale. Ditch 0062 (Pl. 6) was 12m long x up to 2.10m wide x 1.10m deep, with moderate to steep sides breaking gradually into a narrow, flat base. It had a rounded terminus to the south (segment 0010) and a more square-cut terminus to the north (segment 0044). It is possible that smaller ditch 0019 drained into ditch 0062 on its west side, and they were interpreted originally as having been contemporary. In retrospect it is possible that ditch 0019 belonged to the earliest ditch system (Phase 1).

Ditch 0062 contained a sequence of three distinct fills:

Lower fill 0013 was confined to the base and lower west side of the ditch in segment 0014 (Fig. 5, section S.2). It was firm, mottled light grey and light yellowish brown clay with frequent small to medium fragments of chalk and occasional flecks of charcoal and

fired clay or pottery (not collected). It was probably derived from the weathering of the side of the ditch or possibly the slumping of an associated bank.

Middle fill 0009/0012/0016/0043 (Fig. 5, sections S.1 & S.2). was generally firm, mid to dark grey or greyish brown clayey silt, up to 0.43m thick (in segment 0014). It contained moderate small to medium fragments of flint and chalk, moderate small to large fragments of pottery (spot-dated 13th–14th century but including Late Anglo-Saxon and earlier medieval material) and flecks to small fragments of charcoal, occasional (mostly small) fragments of bone and shell, and a small amount of fired clay. The nature of the finds assemblage, particularly the relative lack of abrasion on many of the pottery sherds, suggests that this was domestic refuse discarded directly into the ditch.

This deposit was sampled for environmental analysis at two locations (0009 in segment 0010 and 0012 in segment 0014). Both samples contained charred remains of wheat (*Triticum* sp.) and Barley (*Hordeum* sp.) in roughly equal quantities, with perhaps bread wheat type grains being slightly dominant. Charred peas (*Pisum sativum* L.) were also present in Sample 2 (0012) along with a number of legume fragments that were too small to identify.

Upper fill 0008/0011/0015/0042 (Fig. 5, sections S.1 & S. 2) was firm, mid greyish brown silty clay, up to 0.47m thick. Its inclusions were similar to those of the underlying fill although generally the pottery sherds (spot-dated 13th–14th century but including earlier medieval material) in the upper fill were smaller and more abraded suggesting that they were not thrown into the ditch as soon as they were broken.

At its southern end ditch 0062 had an intercutting but uncertain relationship with pit 0041, which has been included in the same phase as the ditch because it clearly post-dated ditch 0024 (Phase 1), as shown on section S.5 (Fig. 5). The pit was oval, measuring >1m east–west x 1.0m north–south x 0.45m deep, with moderate to steep sides breaking gradually into a fairly flat base (Pl. 7). It contained a single fill of compact, mottled mid grey clayey silt and redeposited chalky clay natural (0040) with occasional small fragments of pottery spot-dated 13th–14th century. The function of pit 0041 is unknown.

Another pit (0052) has also been included in this phase of activity because it truncated ditch 0055 (Phase 1). Pit 0052 was oval or sub-circular, measuring 2.85m x >1.25m x

0.66m deep with moderate to steep sides breaking gradually into a fairly flat base. It contained a sequence of three fills (0049, 0050, 0051) that included what appeared in section to have been the fill of a large post pipe (Fig. 6, section S.13). A moderate amount of pottery was recovered from the upper part of fill 0050; it has been spot-dated 13th century but includes Late Anglo-Saxon and earlier medieval material.

4.6 Post-medieval (1500–1900)

Post-medieval activity was represented only by a small number of metal-detected finds (from topsoil 0001/0007 and buried soil 0002) and some 19th-century field boundary ditches (not recorded archaeologically) that were maintained until at least the 1970s.

4.7 Unknown date

Part of a small, undated pit (0003; Fig. 4; Pl. 8) was recorded on the southeast-facing slope to the south of the Brick Kiln Caravan Park (Site 2; TM 07903 54397). It measured >0.50m x 0.70m x 0.16m deep and had moderately steep sides breaking gradually into a flat base. The pit extended beyond the limit of excavation to the southwest. It contained a sequence of three fills, as follows:

Lower fill 0006 was compact, light yellowish brown clay that was probably derived from slumping/weathering of the surrounding natural stratum.

Middle fill 0005 was soft, mid grey clayey silt with frequent flecks and small fragments of charcoal and fired clay, but no datable artefacts.

Upper fill 0004 was compact, mid brownish grey clayey silt with occasional flecks of charcoal and fired clay, but no datable artefacts.

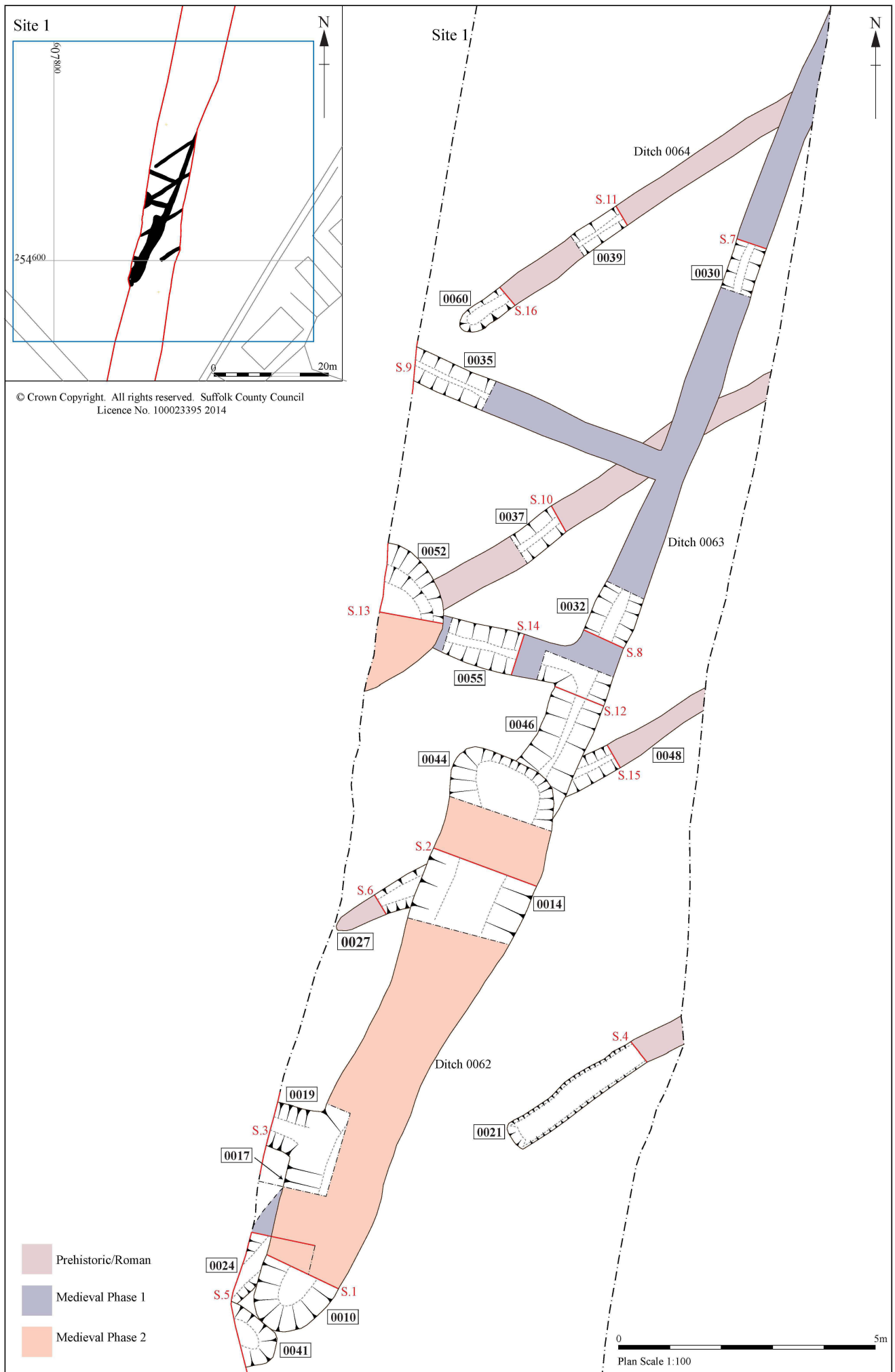


Figure 3. Plan of all archaeological features, Site 1

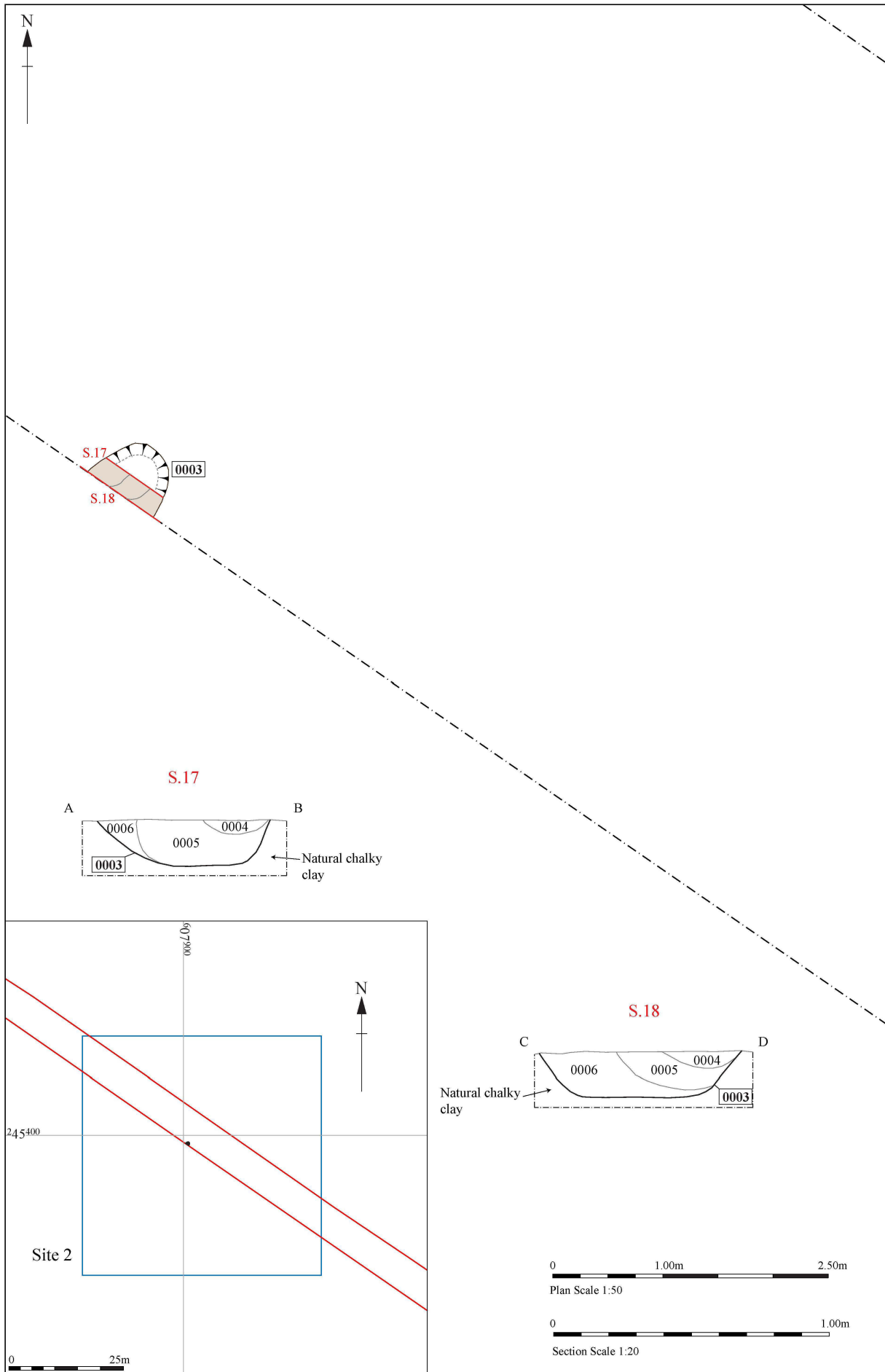


Figure 4. Plan and sections for pit 0003, Site 2

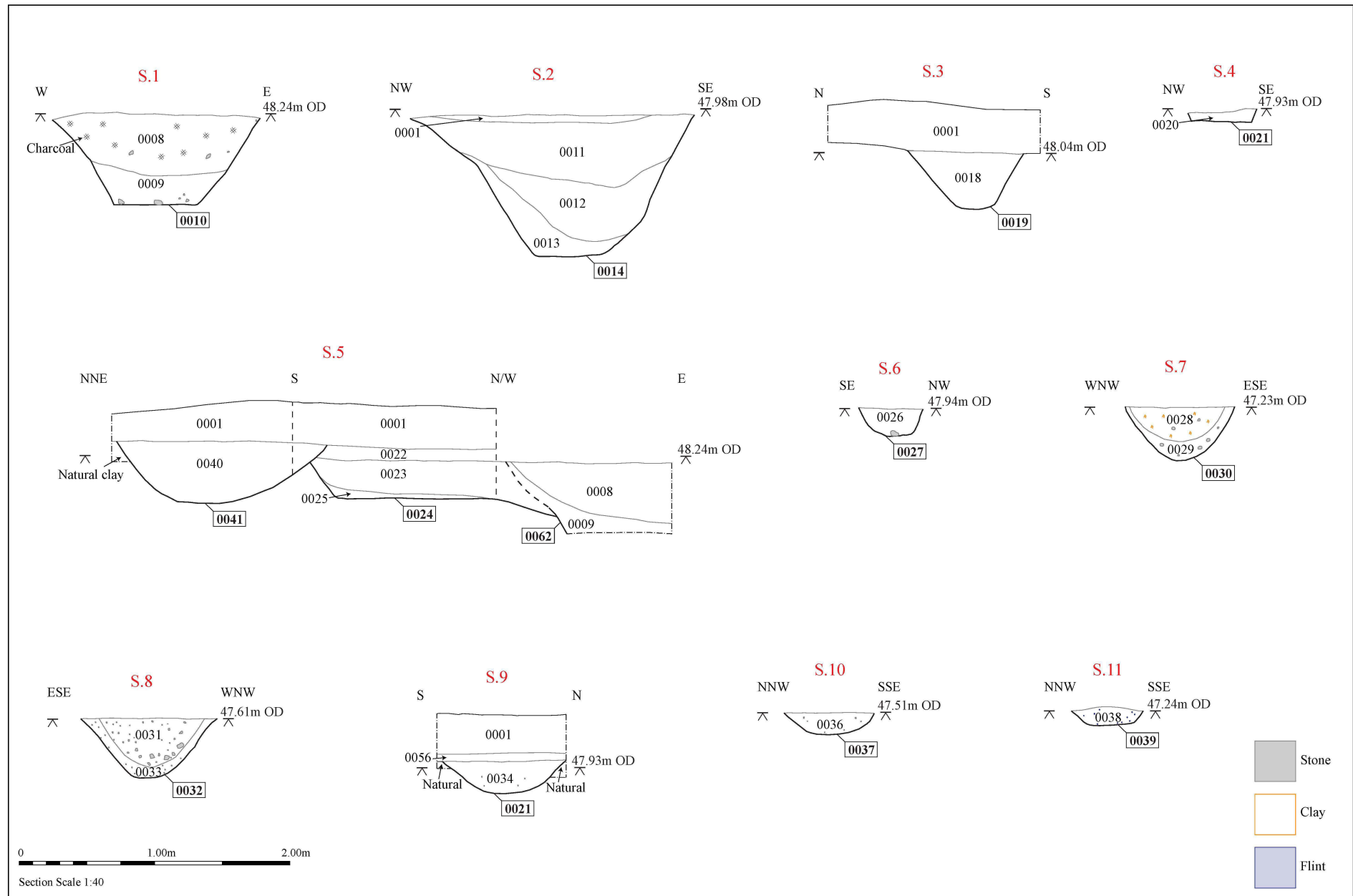


Figure 5. Site 1, sections S.1 to S.11

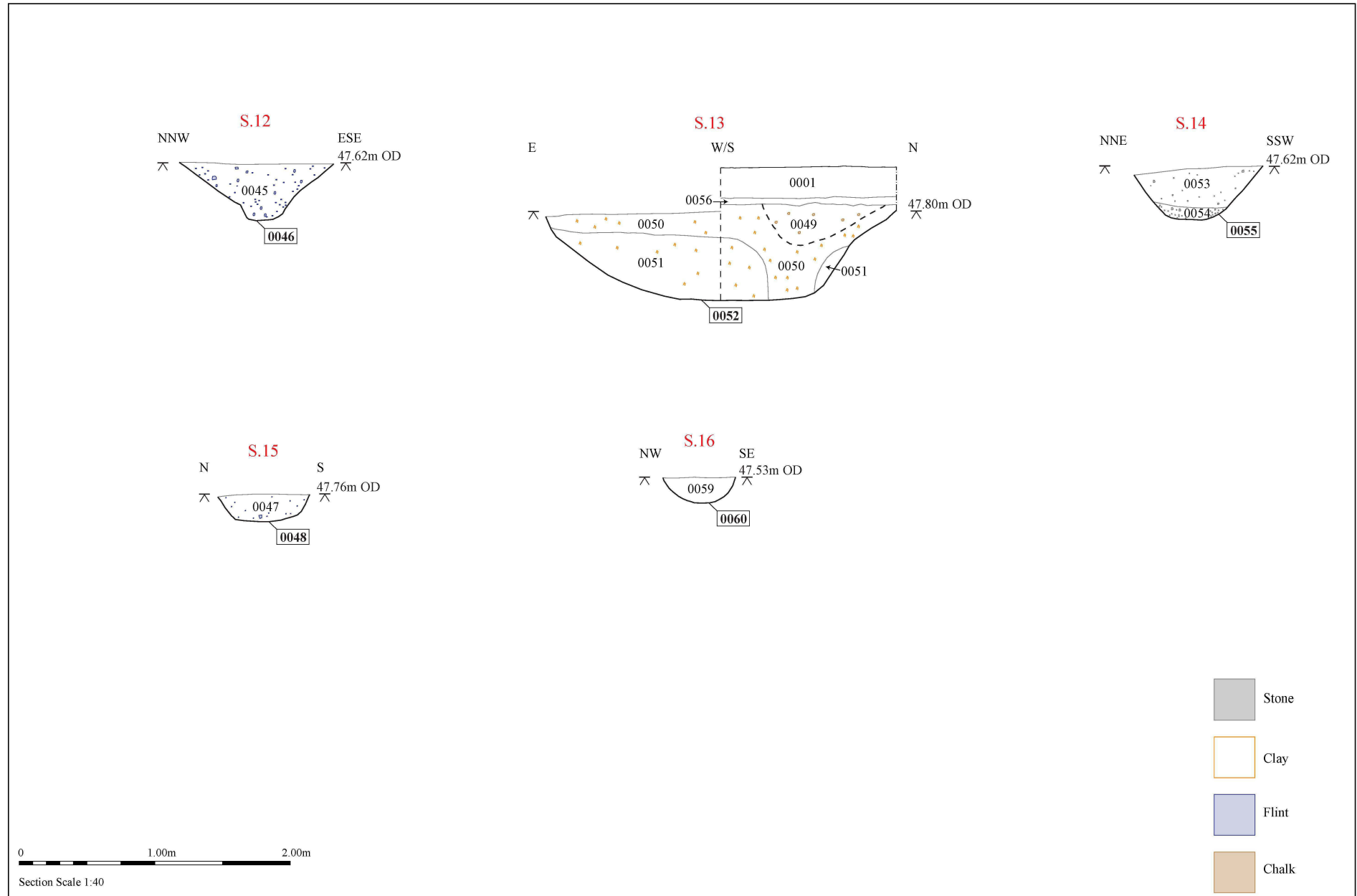


Figure 6. Site 1, sections S.12 to S.16



Plate 1. Topsoil stripping of the easement



Plate 2. Section S.15 of prehistoric/Roman ditch 0048, looking east (0.5m scale)



Plate 3. Section S.8 of segment 0032 (medieval ditch 0063), looking SW (0.5m scale)



Plate 4. Section S.9 of medieval ditch 0035, looking northwest (0.5m scale)



Plate 5. Section S.14 of medieval ditch 0055, looking southeast (0.3m scale)

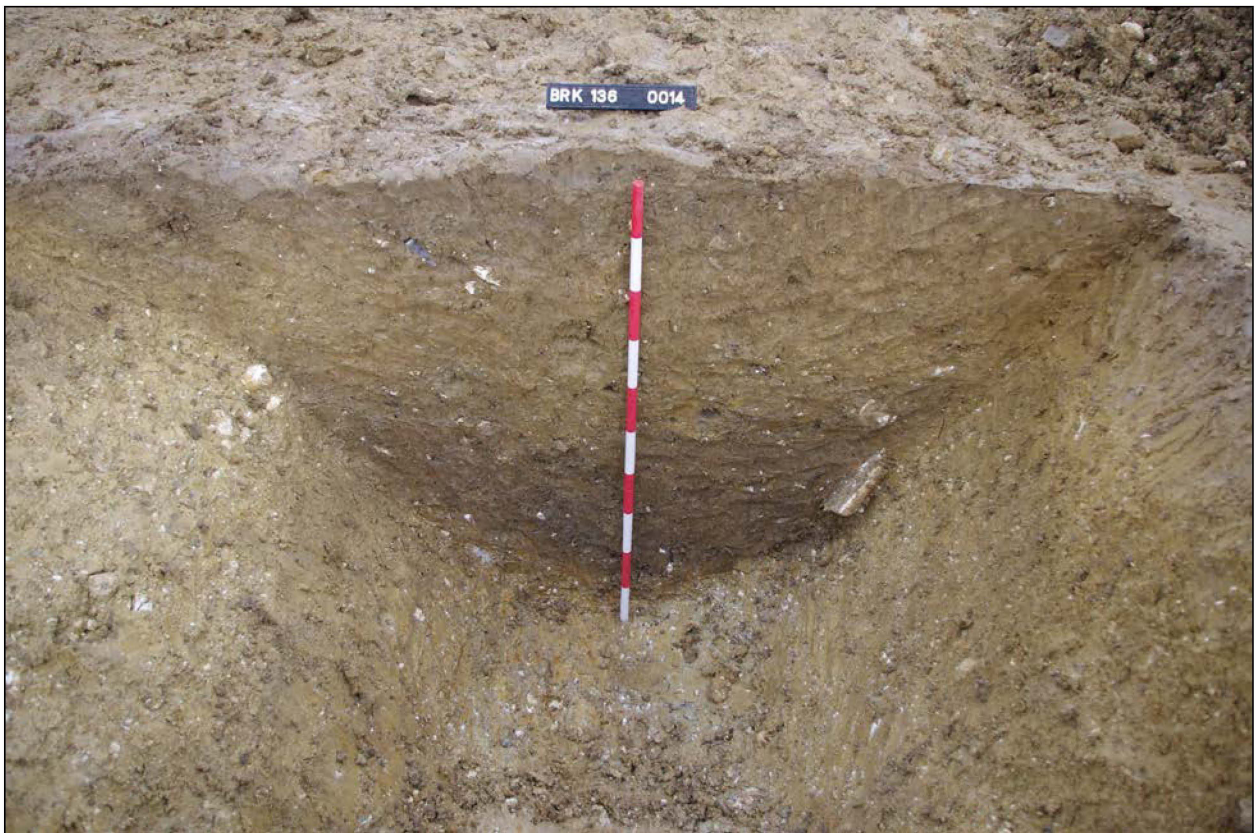


Plate 6. Section S.2 of segment 0014 (medieval ditch 0062), looking northeast (1m scale)



Plate 7. Medieval pit 0041, looking west (0.5m scale)



Plate 8. Undated pit 0003 (Site 2) looking southwest (0.3m scale)

5. Quantification and assessment

5.1 Post-excavation review

The following post-excavation tasks have been completed for the stratigraphic, finds and environmental archives:

Task 01: Completion and checking of the primary (paper and digital) archive

Task 02: Microsoft Access database of the stratigraphic archive

Task 03: Microsoft Access database of the finds archive

Task 04: Microsoft Access database of the environmental archive

Task 05: Catalogue and archiving of digital images

Task 06: GPS survey data converted to MapInfo tables

Task 07: Scanning (security copy) of plans and sections

Task 08: Plans digitised and integrated with GPS survey data

Task 09: Processing, dating and assessment of finds

Task 10: Processing and assessment of environmental samples

5.2 Quantification of the stratigraphic archive

The stratigraphic archive is quantified in Table 1.

Type	Quantity	Format
Environmental sample register	1	A4 paper
Plan/section drawing sheets	4	420 x 300mm drawing film
Section drawing sheets (numbered 1–13)	2	320 x 290mm drawing film
Digital images (HWU 031–074)	44	3008 x 2000 pixel JPGs
Assessment report (SCCAS report no. 2014/011)	1	A4 wire-bound

Table 1. Quantification of the stratigraphic archive

5.3 Quantification and assessment of the finds archive

Richenda Goffin (with contributions by Sue Anderson (pottery and fired clay), Ruth Beveridge (small finds), Dr Colin Pendleton (worked flint) and Anna West (plant macrofossils and other remains)

Introduction

Table 2 shows the quantities of finds and environmental material recovered from the excavation.

Finds Type	No	Wt (g)
Pottery	235	2793
Fired clay	14	59
Worked flint	2	10
Stone	2	36
Animal bone	15	449
Shell	10	104

Table 2. Bulk finds quantities

Pottery

Sue Anderson

Introduction

Two-hundred and thirty-five sherds of pottery weighing 2793g were collected from twenty-two contexts. This includes a number of sherds recovered from the environmental samples. Table 3 shows the quantification by fabric; a summary catalogue by context is included as Appendix 4.

Description	Fabric	Code	No	Wt(g)	Eve	MNV
Unidentified Handmade	UNHM	0.002	11	13	0.05	4
Unidentified Flint Tempered	UNFT	0.02	5	8		3
Total prehistoric			16	21	0.05	7
Thetford-type ware	THET	2.50	26	201	0.24	7
St. Neot's Ware	STNE	2.70	4	15	0.07	2
Total Late Saxon			30	216	0.31	9
Medieval Coarseware	MCW	3.20	16	5		16
Medieval Coarseware 1	MCW1	3.201	40	588	0.33	30
Medieval Coarseware 2	MCW2	3.202	61	995	0.92	40
Medieval Coarseware 3	MCW3	3.203	18	178	0.14	18
Medieval Coarseware 4	MCW4	3.204	3	103		3
Medieval Coarseware 5	MCW5	3.205	25	298	0.10	22
Medieval Coarseware 6	MCW6	3.206	7	77	0.04	7
Medieval Coarseware gritty	MCWG	3.21	2	50		2
Hollesley-type coarseware	HOLL	3.42	2	99	0.05	2
Unprovenanced glazed	UPG	4.00	11	137	0.15	11
Hedingham Ware	HFW1	4.23	4	26	0.08	2
Total medieval			189	2556	1.81	153
Total			235	2793	2.17	169

Table 3. Pottery quantification by fabric

Methodology

Quantification was carried out using sherd count, weight and estimated vessel equivalent (eve). A full quantification by fabric, context and feature is available in the archive. All fabric codes were assigned from the author's fabric series, which includes East Anglian and Midlands fabrics, as well as imported wares. Form terminology follows MPRG (1998). Recording uses a system of letters for fabric codes together with number codes for ease of sorting in database format. The results were input directly onto a Microsoft Access database.

Pottery by period

Prehistoric

Small fragments of black handmade pottery in fine sandy and flint-tempered fabrics are probably of prehistoric date. Two small pieces of rim were present in ditch fill 0026, a beaded form and an upright thickened form with thumbing or finger-tipping on the broad, squared top. Two other possible fragments which had no surfaces were recorded as fired clay.

Late Anglo-Saxon

The Thetford-type ware from this site is in a relatively soft, very fine micaceous fabric with occasional soft brown ferrous inclusions. It may be a local product; similar fabrics have been identified as Late Saxon elsewhere in the region and can be difficult to distinguish from Roman material. However, in this case, fifteen fragments were from a

spouted pitcher with an applied thumbed strip below the rim, typical of Thetford-type wares. The other sherds, representing six vessels, are all body fragments. Four sherds of St Neot's Ware vessels include a jar rim fragment. All Late Saxon pottery is residual in medieval contexts.

Medieval

Medieval pottery of broadly 11th–14th-century date forms the bulk of this assemblage. A number of fabrics were identified as follows:

MCW	Generic fabric code for small fragments from sample sieving.
MCW1	Medium sandy, well-sorted, with sparse mica and very fine soft red/brown ferrous or clay particles. Black surfaces, red-brown margins and dark core, sometimes fully reduced. Probably handmade and early medieval. 11th-13th c.
MCW2	Fine sandy, occasional mica, common red/brown soft inclusions (larger than those in MCW1) and sparse large clay lenses. Buff/orange to grey. Generally wheelmade. 12th-14th c.
MCW3	Fine sandy micaceous, smoothed surfaces. Generally black but occasionally with oxidised surfaces. Forms suggest mainly 13th/14th c.
MCW4	Fine sandy micaceous with occasional black burnt-out organics and white clay lenses. Pale grey/white. 12th-14th c.
MCW5	Abundant well-sorted medium quartz sand and varying amounts of mica. Buff and grey. Coarse Hollesley-type. Mainly 13th/14th c.?
MCW6	Fine/medium sandy with sparse very fine brown/red soft inclusions and moderate large white clay lenses. Pale grey/buff. Similar to MCW1 but with less of the red inclusions. Similar to 'Hollesley-type' ware from Stowmarket. Mainly 13th/14th c.?
MCWG	Medieval coarseware gritty. Common coarse rounded quartz, few other inclusions. 12th–13th c.
HOLL	Hollesley-type coarseware. Fine to medium sandy fabric with abundant sand, sparse to moderate mica, occasional 'local' inclusions such as chalk and ferrous fragments. Usually pale grey but may be oxidised to a buff or orange. 13th-14th c.
UPG	Probably local products with similarities to MCW2, MCW6 and Hollesley glazed wares.
HFW1	Hedingham Fine Ware. As described by Walker (2011).

MCW1 appears to be mainly handmade and is probably a local early medieval ware. It has similarities to Essex early medieval wares. No 'standard' fine sandy thin-walled early medieval wares or shelly wares are present on this site. Rims of three jars and two bowls are present and are generally in 12th-13th-century forms. The jars have tapered, upright everted and square beaded rims, and the bowls has flat-topped bead and thickened everted (wedged) types. The latter is decorated with thumbing along the top. A large fragment of bowl from 0023 is knife-trimmed across the lower half of the body. The other coarsewares are probably all local products and are all quite similar in their range of inclusions, the main differences being related to the quantity and size of those inclusions. They generally appear to be wheelmade. No medieval kilns have been identified in the area to date, but these fabrics are similar to pottery recovered from sites in Stowmarket (e.g. Anderson 2004 and forthcoming) and along the Gipping Valley.

Rims of thirteen vessels are present amongst the wheel-made coarsewares. Seven jars were identified, with upright thickened, flat-topped everted, upright beaded and square-beaded rims. Four bowls also have square-beaded rims and one is upright everted. One jug rim is upright thickened. All of these forms are developed types of 13th/14th-century date. Two bases are thumbled and are probably also from jugs. Several sherds with finger-tip decoration at the shoulders are probably from bowls.

The medieval glazed wares are in relatively soft fabrics and are generally oxidised with partial external glaze. Those recorded as 'unprovenanced' are highly likely to be local products as they contain similar inclusions to the medieval coarsewares and in some cases are made of the same fabrics. Most sherds are simply body fragments with partial light green glaze, and two of these have white slip line decoration. Two rims are present, one a jug with a flat-topped everted form and the other a small piece of ?lid. Another jug was identified from a fragment of the rod handle. Two Hedingham ware vessels were also identified (although they could be parts of a single jug) comprising small pieces of an upright thickened rim, and a body sherd decorated with applied red pellets and clear glaze.

Pottery by context

A summary of the pottery by context is provided in Table 4.

Feature	Context	Type	Fabric	Spotdate
-	0058	U/S Finds	HFW1	M.12th-M.13th c.
0010	0008	Ditch	MCW1-5, MCWG, UPG	13th-14th c.
0010	0009	Ditch	THET, MCW1-3, MCW5, UPG	13th-14th c.
0014	0011	Ditch	MCW1-3, MCW5, UPG	13th-14th c.
0014	0012	Ditch	MCW2, MCW4, MCW6, HFW1, UPG	13th-14th c.
0017	0015	Ditch	MCW1, MCW3, MCW5, HOLL, UPG	13th-14th c.
0019	0018	Ditch	MCW1-2, MCW5-6	13th-14th c.
0021	0020	Ditch	UNFT	Prehistoric
0024	0023	Ditch	MCW1-2, MCW5-6	13th-14th c.
0027	0026	Ditch	UNHM	Prehistoric (IA?)
0030	0028	Ditch	MCW1-2	12th-13th c.?
0032	0031	Ditch	MCW1-3, MCW5	13th-14th c.
0035	0034	Ditch	MCW3	12th-14th c.
0039	0038	Ditch	UNFT, UNHM	Prehistoric (IA?)
0041	0040	Pit	MCW2, MCW5-6	13th-14th c.
0044	0043	Ditch	STNE, MCW1-6, HOLL, UPG	13th-14th c.
0048	0047	Ditch	UNHM	Prehistoric (IA?)
0052	0050	Pit	STNE, THET, MCW1-2, MCWG, UPG	13th c.?
0055/63	0061	Ditch/Finds	THET, MCW1, MCW5	12th-14th c.
0063	0046	Ditch	UNFT, THET, MCW2	12th-14th c.

Table 4. Pottery types present by feature/context

The largest group of pottery was from ditch 0014, comprising fifty-one sherds. Ditch 0010 contained thirty-seven sherds, twenty-one were from ditch 0032, and thirty-four were collected from pit 0052. All other features contained eleven sherds or fewer. Most of the features contained at least one sherd which suggested a 13th/14th-century date, but there was clearly activity on the site before this, both in the prehistoric/Roman and the earlier medieval/Saxon periods.

Discussion

There are a few prehistoric sherds, some of which were the only finds in their respective contexts, but these are generally abraded and probably residual.

Late Saxon wares were also residual. The Thetford-type wares are in fabrics more typical of rural production sites and the single identifiable form was a late type. The St Neot's Ware rim is also a late form and together they suggest an 11th-century date for this material, potentially contemporary with some of the earliest medieval coarsewares from the site.

The majority of sherds are of early and high medieval date and the range of wares is typical of the Gipping Valley, with some similarities to pottery from Stowmarket and north Essex. Most of the vessels represented by these sherds, both coarse and glazed wares, were probably produced in as-yet unidentified local kilns. Identifiable forms were jars, bowls and jugs. The high proportion of bowls in relation to jars may indicate a dairying economy. The range of fabrics and forms suggests continuous activity from the 11th to the 13th/14th centuries, but no late medieval or post-medieval wares were found, suggesting that any occupation in the vicinity had ceased by the mid 14th century.

Fired clay

Sue Anderson

Introduction

Fourteen fragments (59g) of fired clay were recovered from six contexts during the excavation. The fired clay was fully catalogued and quantified by context, fabric and type, using fragment count and weight in grams. The presence and form of surface fragments and impressions were recorded, and wattle dimensions measured where

possible. Data was input into an MS Access database and a catalogue is included in the Appendix.

All fragments are small rounded or amorphous pieces, and several are abraded. They are in three main fabrics. Four fragments from ditch fills 0008 and 0009 are in a medium sandy and chalk fabric, and one of the pieces is smoothed with a reduced surface. Two pieces from ditch fills 0009 and 0031 are in a medium sandy black fabric and may be small pieces of handmade ?prehistoric pottery. A third piece in a medium sandy fabric from ditch fill 0012 is red and has a flat surface; it may be a piece of a post-medieval roof tile. Six rounded pink and orange fragments in a very fine 'fabric' from ditch fills 0009, 0012 and 0028 may be pieces of natural clay or chalk which had been accidentally fired. A single fragment of fired clay made in a hard sandy reddish brown fabric was found in ditch fill 0047.

Clay would have been prepared and used for a number of functions in the medieval period, including making pottery and other ceramic objects, and application to structural and fire-related features. Unfortunately none of these fragments is diagnostic, although the reduction of the surface of one of the chalk-tempered pieces may indicate that it was part of the inner surface of an oven dome.

Worked flint

Identifications by Dr Colin Pendleton

Two worked flints were recovered from the excavation weighing 10g in total. These are catalogued below:

Cont ext	Flint description	Date
0009	Unpatinated long flake with long flake scars on dorsal face, c. 30% cortex	Later prehistoric, possibly Neolithic or Early Bronze Age
0026	Partly patinated blade snapped at either end. Blade scars on dorsal face. Limited edge retouch/use-wear	Possibly Mesolithic, probably Neolithic

Table 5. Catalogue of worked flint

The flake was recovered from the fill 0009 of ditch segment 0010 (ditch 0062), which also contained Late Saxon and medieval pottery, as well as charcoal and chalk fragments. The snapped blade was found in the fill 0026 of prehistoric gully/ditch 0027. This feature also contained eight small fragments of prehistoric pottery.

Stone

Two fragments of unworked stone were retained. One is a fragment of burnt flint from 0026, the prehistoric/Roman gully/ditch fill that contained the snapped flint blade. The second is a fragment of a black stone with sparkling inclusions retained from fill 0012 of ditch segment 0014 (medieval ditch 0062).

Small finds

Richenda Goffin with identifications by Ruth Beveridge

Introduction

A total of thirteen objects were assigned small finds numbers. Only one is fully stratified with the remainder being metal detected, mostly from the compact grey loam 0002. A breakdown of the small finds by material type is shown below:

Material type	No
Iron	1
Copper alloy	5
Lead	7
Total	13

Table 6. Small finds by material type

Methodology

The small finds were identified and assigned a broad date where possible and recorded on the database (Appendix 5). Iron and non-ferrous artefacts were selected for radiography. The small finds are briefly described by period.

Small finds by period

Roman

A biconical lead weight with fragmentary iron shank may be Roman (SF1010) 0002.

Medieval

The fragmentary remains of an iron horseshoe was found in the fill 0050 of pit 0052.

The shoe has three rectangular nail holes spaced at irregular intervals. SF1001.

Post-medieval

Five small finds are post-medieval. These are a lead spent musket ball (SF1002), a copper alloy domed stud (SF1003), a discoidal copper alloy button (SF1008), a cast copper alloy trapezoidal shaped buckle (SF1012) and a copper alloy coin, very worn but probably a penny (diameter = 27mm).

Undated

The remaining six small finds are undated. They include part of a cast copper alloy bell with perforated suspension tab with missing clapper (SF1011), a possible copper alloy weight (SF1009), and four fragments of lead waste or scrap (SF1004, SF1005, SF1006, SF1013). A single fragment from the head of an iron nail was recovered from 0057, a number given to metal detected finds found at the junction of ditches 0063 and 0035. It was not assigned a small finds number.

Discussion of the small finds

The small finds assemblage consists mainly of metal detected objects that date mainly to the post-medieval period or are undated. The one stratified small find is a fragment of a medieval horseshoe.

5.4 Quantification and assessment of the environmental archive

Animal bone

Fifteen fragments of animal bone were collected from seven contexts, weighing 449g (Table 7). The assemblage was fragmentary and some small fragments were not closely diagnostic.

Context	Animal bone description	Feature
0008 & 0009	3 small rib fragments from medium mammal and limb bone fragment split longitudinally	Fills of ditch 0010
0012	Distal end of horse femur, large mammal rib	Fill of ditch 0014
0040	Heavily stained small frag of ?mandible	Fill of pit 0041
0043	Vertebra of small mammal	Fill of ditch 0044
0050	Horse metatarsus frags	Fill of pit 0052
0061	Undiagnostic small frag	Unstratified finds

Table 7. Animal bone by context

All the animal bone was recovered from features which contained medieval pottery, in some cases accompanied by Late Anglo-Saxon sherds.

Shell

Ten shells were recovered from the site overall, weighing 104g. Quantification was recorded on the database. Oyster shell was present in eight contexts, mainly the fills of medieval ditch 0062, whilst a terrestrial snail was retained from ditch fill 0012 (segment 0014). The oyster shell was discarded after quantification.

Plant macrofossils and other remains

Anna West

Introduction and methods

Two bulk samples were taken from archaeological features from the excavation. The samples were processed in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful insight into to utilisation of local plant resources, agricultural activity and economic evidence for this site.

The samples were processed using manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. Once dried the flots were scanned using a binocular microscope at x16 magnification and the presence of any plant macro remains or artefacts were recorded in Table *7. Identification of plant remains is with reference to New Flora of the British Isles (Stace 2010).

The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh and sorted when dry. All artefacts/ecofacts were retained for inclusion in the finds total.

Quantification

For this initial assessment, macrofossil remains such as seeds, cereal grains and small animal bones were scanned and their quantities recorded according to the following categories:

= 1-10, ## = 11-50, ### = 51+ specimens

Remains that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal, magnetic residues and fragmented bone have been scored for abundance.

+ = rare, ++ = moderate, +++ = abundant

Results

Table 8 shows the macrofossils and other remains from the two features sampled.

Sample Number	Context Number	Feature Number	Feature type	Approx period	Flot contents
1	0009	0010	Ditch	Medieval	Charred cereal grains ##, Charred weed seeds #, Charcoal ++, Grass stem fragments +, Rootlets +, Snails +
2	0012	0014	Ditch	Medieval	Charred cereal grains ###, Charred legumes ##, Charred weed seeds #, Charcoal fragments ++, Un-charred weed seeds #, Grass stem fragments ++, Rootlets +, Snail shells +

Table 8. Plant macrofossils and other remains

The preservation of the macrofossils within both samples was through charring and is generally good to fair. Both samples contain wood charcoal fragments in small quantities. Fibrous rootlets and grass stem fragments were also common within the samples and are modern contaminants.

Both samples contained charred cereal caryopsis. Wheat (*Triticum* sp.) and Barley (*Hordeum* sp.) were both present, in roughly equal quantities, with perhaps bread wheat type grains being slightly dominant. Many of the cereal grains were however puffed and fragmented making them difficult to identify in any detail. Not chaff elements, which would have suggested grain processing on site, were observed within the portions scanned.

Charred peas (*Pisum sativum* L.) were also present in Sample 2, fill 0012 from ditch 0014, along with a number of legume fragments which were too small to be positively identified at this point. Legumes were commonly used during the medieval period as both an important source of carbohydrates and protein for humans as well as a fodder for livestock. As pulses do not need to be processed using heat in the same way as cereals, they are less likely to be exposed to chance preservation through charring and so are often under represented within archaeological deposits.

Charred weed seeds were observed within both samples in small numbers from common weeds such as Goosefoots (*Chenopodium* sp.), Cleavers (*Galium aparine* L.) and Mustards (*Brassica* sp.). These species are common arable weeds and may well have been accidentally harvested along with the grain. There were also a small number of charred seeds that were too charred and fragmented for precise identification.

Conclusions

In general the samples were fair to good in terms of identifiable material.

The grains recovered are representative of the cereals grown during the medieval period, with bread wheat and barley being the dominant crops. A rich source of protein and carbohydrate within the diet is provided by peas and beans; the small number of pulses recovered from these samples may not be representative of their importance within the diet. The presence of legumes could indicate that either small scale garden-type production of food crops or larger crop rotation was taking place nearby.

It is likely that the material present represents chance loss in a domestic hearth or fire during food preparation, which was later discarded into the ditch.

6. Potential of the data

6.1 Realisation of the Original Research Aims

ORA 1: *Establish whether any archaeological deposit exists within the development area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation in situ.*

Realisation: Archaeological deposits were identified at two locations (Sites 1 & 2) in the vicinity of Saxon Park and Brick Kiln Caravan Parks. These were not of sufficient importance to merit preservation *in situ*.

ORA 2: *Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the development area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.*

Realisation: Four parallel and evenly spaced linear ditches at Site 1 produced a few sherds of highly abraded prehistoric (probable Iron Age) pottery but this is insufficient to provide a firm date for this phase of activity. It is more likely that the ditches were dug in the Roman period (Jess Tipper, *pers comm*). They were shallow (having been truncated by modern ploughing) and continued beyond the limit of excavation so that their full extents are unknown. They are assumed to have had an agricultural/drainage function.

At Site 1, residual Late Anglo-Saxon pottery indicates activity in the area from the 11th century. A multi-phase rectilinear ditch system (and associated pits) dating to the 13th–14th century indicates an arrangement of medieval field/enclosure boundaries, or possibly house platforms. The ditch system continued beyond the limits of excavation in all directions so that its full extent is unknown.

ORA 3: *Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.*

Realisation: Post-medieval and modern agriculture has truncated and reworked all deposits to the level of the natural stratum. Masking deposits of colluvium/hillwash were noted in the area of the temporary haulage track, where a considerable depth of ploughsoil had accumulated against the north side of a field bank. Alluvial strata (potentially masking underlying archaeology) were seen along the valley of the River Bat and in the field adjacent to the B1078 Barking Road.

ORA 4: Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.

Realisation: Environmental samples from medieval ditch 0062 show fair to good preservation of organic remains through charring.

6.2 General discussion of potential

The site archive has the potential to contribute to research objectives dependant on land use, settlement, and artefact studies, with particular relevance to the Late Anglo-Saxon and medieval periods.

Potential of the stratigraphic archive

The site sequence has been described fully in this report and it is unlikely that further analysis of the stratigraphic archive would lead to a fuller understanding of the site sequence and its local and regional significance.

Potential of the finds archive

Pottery

The pottery has been fully quantified and recorded by context, and a summary report has been completed. There are no recommendations for illustrations.

This assemblage is one of several recently excavated rural medieval groups in Suffolk. In addition to contributing to the dating and phasing of the site, the group has provided information on pottery use, consumption, trading patterns and the economic status of the occupants. Although no further work is required on the assemblage, it should be included in any future synthetic work on the medieval pottery of Suffolk.

Fired clay, Worked flint and Stone

Only small assemblages were found and these have been described fully in this report. No further work is required on these categories of finds.

Small finds

The small finds assemblage was mostly metal detected from a single loam deposit (0002). A lead weight of possible Roman date was recovered, but a fragment of a horseshoe collected from the fill 0050 of pit 0052 is the only medieval small find. Apart from radiography, no further work is required on this assemblage.

Potential of the environmental archive

Animal bone and shell

These assemblages are small and have been catalogued and described fully. No further work is required.

Plant macrofossils and other remains

The macrofossils from the samples from two medieval ditch fills were scanned and recorded, providing evidence of the cereals and pulses which may have been cooked nearby during the medieval period. No further work is required.

7. Significance of the data

In this section the significance of the results of the fieldwork is considered locally and with reference to the regional research framework (Medlycott & Brown, 2011).

7.1 Local significance

Prehistoric/Roman

Agricultural/drainage ditches of prehistoric or Roman date were found. The dating of these features is insecure and this aspect of the site sequence is considered therefore to have local significance only. Similar patterns of closely spaced parallel ditches have been recorded at a number of sites in East Anglia (notably at Westerfield Road, Ipswich; Holloway & Brooks, 2011) although their dating can be uncertain (*ibid* 153).

There have been occasional metal-detected finds of Bronze Age and Iron Age metalwork and coinage in the general area (BRK 043, BRK 046, BRK 088) but these were found up to 1km to the south of Site 1 in an area that subsequently became a focus of activity in the Roman period. The discovery of the agricultural/drainage ditches at Site 1 suggests that there was later prehistoric or Roman occupation nearby – this is not surprising given that Site 1 was on relatively high ground commanding good views over surrounding valleys and within easy reach of a variety of habitats.

There are no finds of definite Roman date. A biconical lead weight with fragmentary iron shank (SF1010) might be Roman; this was found in post-medieval soil horizon 0002 in the area of the haulage track, less than 100m from fields where a considerable amount of Romano-British metalwork has been recovered by metal detectorists (BRK 088 etc). The fact that more Roman material was not found in deposit 0002 suggests that activity during that period was confined to the higher ground in the vicinity of Lakeview Lodge/Anglia Wildfowl.

Medieval

The discovery of a rectilinear ditch system at Site 1 has considerable local significance, indicating the location of a previously unknown medieval settlement; prior to this

fieldwork medieval activity in this area was represented only by a scatter of pottery recovered during field walking approximately 150m northeast of Site 1 (BRK 025). Only part of the ditch system could be investigated and its full extent and form are unknown. It is not clear therefore if the ditches defined cultivated fields, stock enclosures or house platforms. It is also not obvious if there was continuity of land use between Phase 1 and Phase 2. Ditch 0062 was dug on the same alignment as earlier ditch 0063 and ostensibly this suggests continuity. However, the later ditch was considerably deeper than its predecessor and would have acted as a sump for surface water rather than helping to convey that water downhill, which was presumably the function of the original ditch.

Both phases of activity have been dated to the 13th–14th century and the absence of later medieval wares suggests that occupation at this site did not continue beyond the middle of the 14th century. This would have coincided with the peak of the Black Death in Europe, which led to massive depopulation and might account for the apparent abandonment of this settlement.

The pottery from Phase 2 ditch 0062 was of a domestic nature and relatively unabraded, suggesting that it came from a nearby focus of occupation. The presence of at least two pits that were apparently contemporary with the Phase 2 ditches also suggests that there were dwellings in the immediate vicinity.

7.2 Regional significance

Medieval

The evidence for medieval settlement at Site 1 might contribute in a minor way to the research topic 'Rural Settlement', as follows:

The origins and development of the different rural settlement types need further research, also the dynamics of medieval settlement. Much of the region has primarily a dispersed pattern, not nucleated, and more small hamlets are being discovered all the time. More data will add to our understanding of the way places appear, grow, shift and disappear.

(Medlycott & Brown 2011, 70)

8. Conclusions and recommendations

The project has had significant results, leading to the identification of a prehistoric or Roman field system and a previously unknown medieval settlement. The archaeological sequence was relatively straightforward and has been described adequately in this report; no further analysis of the archive or reporting of the results is recommended. In order to disseminate the results it is intended that this document will be made available as a 'grey literature' report *via* the OASIS on-line archaeological database, and that a summary will be submitted for inclusion in the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History.

9. Acknowledgements

The project was commissioned and funded by Carillion Utility Services on behalf of UK Power Networks. Miles Drainage Limited carried out the topsoil stripping and provided much assistance during the archaeological fieldwork.

Dr. Jess Tipper provided the Brief and monitored the fieldwork (SCCAS, Conservation Team). Dr. Rhodri Gardner (SCCAS, Field Team) managed the project.

Kieron Heard directed the fieldwork and was assisted by Preston Boyles, Rob Brooks, Phil Camps, Tim Carter, Simon Picard and Felix Reeves-Whymark (SCCAS, Field Team).

Jonathan Van Jennians processed the finds and environmental samples. Richenda Goffin (SCCAS, Finds Manager) assessed and reported on the finds, with contributions by Sue Anderson (pottery and fired clay), Ruth Beveridge (small finds), Dr Colin Pendleton (worked flint) and Anna West (plant macrofossils and other remains). The graphics are by Crane Begg and Ellie Hillen.

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Appendix 1. Local Planning Authority Brief

Brief for Continuous Archaeological Recording

AT

B1113 Stowmarket to Great Blakenham, Suffolk

PLANNING AUTHORITY:	n/a
PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER:	pre cable Stowmarket Blakenham
SHER NO. FOR THIS PROJECT:	To be arranged
GRID REFERENCE:	TM 065568 – TM 122497
DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL:	Undergrounding of cables
AREA:	9.5 km length open cut trench, 0.5 -0.75m diameter, with 3m wide easement across arable fields
CURRENT LAND USE:	Arable and in road / verge
THIS BRIEF ISSUED BY:	Jess Tipper Tel. : 01284 741225 E-mail: jess.tipper@suffolk.gov.uk
Date:	7 October 2013

Summary

- 1.1 The Freedom Group/UK Power Networks have been advised by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service/Conservation Team (SSCAS/CT) that this development will require a scheme of archaeological work to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets that might be present along the route before they are damaged or destroyed.
- 1.2 To implement this work the developer will have to appoint a competent person or organisation to undertake the works. 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.

- 1.3 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.
- 1.4 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.

Archaeological Background

- 2.1 This route passes through areas of archaeological potential as recorded on the County Historic Environment Record. The route passes across arable land to the south of Needham Market in the vicinity of Iron Age – Medieval artefact scatters (HER ref. BRK 008) and medieval pottery scatters (NDM 006). Furthermore the south-eastern stretch of the route passes in proximity to a number of prehistoric barrows along the south-eastern stretch of the route (HER refs BRK 007 and BRK 006). There is potential for encountering early occupation deposits in these locations, given the proximity of known remains. The proposed works would cause ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.

Fieldwork Requirements for Archaeological Investigation

- 3.1 Archaeological investigation is to be carried out prior to development:
Controlled strip, map and excavation of the stripped easement, 3,400m long x 10.00m wide.

In areas where there is a sufficient subsoil buffer (250-300mm minimum) between the base of the easement strip and the uppermost archaeological horizon, it may be possible to preserve any underlying archaeological features (that might be present) *in situ*. In these areas, only the cut for the pipe trench will need to be monitored.

In areas where there is less subsoil, the contractor will have to strip deeper, to the required archaeological horizon. If there is any doubt, a decision will be made during the easement stripping by the curatorial archaeologist in consultation with the archaeological contractor.

Arrangements for Archaeological Investigation

- 4.1 The project manager must consult the Suffolk HER Officer to obtain an event number for the work before fieldwork commences. 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. If the archaeological investigation is scheduled to be undertaken immediately before construction, the developer should be aware that there could be a time delay for excavation and recording, if unexpected and complex archaeological remains are defined.

- 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 Provision should be included in the WSI for public benefit in the form of communication and outreach activities.
- 4.9 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 approval of the report by SCCAS/CT, a single hard copy of the report as well as a digital copy of the approved report should be marked for the attention of the archaeological officer, who will deposit it with the HER.
- 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 summary table

Context Number	Feature Type	Feature Number	Description	Interpretation
0001	Deposit		Soft, mid greyish brown clay/loam, generally 0.30m to 0.40m thick.	Modern topsoil/ploughsoil
0002	Deposit		Compact, mid greyish brown clay/loam, at least 0.40m thick, in area of temporary haulage track. Comprehensively metal-detected.	Buried topsoil/colluvium accumulated against field bank at foot of slope
0003	Pit	0003	Oval cut, >0.50m x 0.70m x 0.16m deep. TSHA (truncated), sides moderately steep, breaking gradually into a flat base. Extended beyond LOE to W.	Shallow pit containing much charcoal and fired clay but no finds
0004	Pit	0003	Compact, mid brownish grey clayey silt with occasional flecks of charcoal and fired clay	Upper fill of pit 0003
0005	Pit	0003	Soft, mid grey clayey silt with frequent flecks/ small fragments of charcoal and fired clay.	Middle and principal fill of pit 0003
0006	Pit	0003	Compact, light yellowish brown clay (similar to surrounding natural). No finds.	Lower fill of pit 0003
0007	Finds		Number for metal detected finds from second phase of fieldwork	
0008	Ditch	0010	Compact, mid brown silty clay. Moderate small fragments of chalk & pebbles, occasional small to medium fragments of pot and flecks of charcoal, very occasional oyster. Up to 0.56m thick.	Upper fill of ditch segment 0010, at S end of ditch 0062
0009	Ditch	0010	Firm, dark greyish brown clayey silt. Occasional small fragments of pot & flecks of charcoal, moderate small-large fragments chalk. Up to 0.30m thick. Sample 1.	Lower fill of ditch segment 0010, at S end of ditch 0062
0010	Ditch	0062	See 0062.	Segment at S terminus of ditch 0062
0011	Ditch	0014	Firm, mid greyish brown silty clay. Moderate small to medium flints (angular to rounded) and small to medium chalk fragments. Moderate flecks to small fragments of charcoal, small fragments of pot, occasional shell, small fragments bone, stone cobbles and flecks to small fragments of fired clay. Up to 0.47m thick.	Upper fill of ditch segment 0014, near N end of ditch 0062
0012	Ditch	0014	Firm, mid-dark grey clayey silt with pockets of 0010. Inclusions similar to 0010, but pot ranges small-large, plus one large fragment bone. Sample 2. Up to 0.43m thick.	Middle fill of ditch segment 0014, near N end of ditch 0062
0013	Ditch	0014	Firm, mottled light grey and light yellowish brown clay, frequent small to medium fragments of chalk & occasional flecks-small fragments of charcoal and flecks of pot. Up to 0.25m thick.	Lower fill in base and against W side of ditch segment 0014, near N end of ditch 0062.
0014	Ditch	0062	See 0062	Segment of ditch 0062, near its N end.
0015	Ditch	0017	Same soil description as 0011. Finds uncertain.	Upper fill of ditch segment 0017, where ditch 0062 relations to ditch 0019
0016	Ditch	0017	Same soil description as 0012. Finds uncertain.	Lower fill of ditch segment 0017, where ditch 0062 relations to ditch 0019
0017	Ditch	0062	See 0062	Ditch segment, where ditch 0062 meets ditch 0019. The relationship could not be determined due to the similarity of fills 0016 and 0018.

Context Number	Feature Type	Feature Number	Description	Interpretation
0018	Ditch	0019	Firm, mid to dark grey clayey silt with moderate flecks to small fragments of charcoal, occasional small fragments of pot and shell, occasional small to medium fragments of flint and chalk. Could not be distinguished from fill 0016 of ditch segment 0017	Single fill of ditch 0019
0019	Ditch	0019	Linear, oriented approximately WNW-ESE. TSHA (truncated), sides moderate to steep, breaking gradually into a rounded base. >0.75m long (running beyond LOE) x 0.85m wide x 0.43m deep. Uncertain relationship with ditch 0062 - may be contemporary.	Drainage or field boundary feature?
0020	Ditch	0021	Compact, mottled, mid brown and orangey brown silty clay with occasional flecks and small fragments of pot and fired clay, occasional pebbles and moderate small fragments of chalk. Up to 0.10m thick.	Single fill of ditch/gully 0021
0021	Ditch	0021	Linear, oriented approx SW-NE. >4m long (extending beyond LOE) x 0.50m wide x 0.10m deep. TSHA (truncated), sides moderate to steep, breaking sharply into a flat base. Possible terminus to SW, although this area was disturbed.	Shallow ditch/gully, possibly contemporary with 0027 etc.
0022	Ditch	0024	Compact, light yellowish brown chalky clay mixed with grey silty clay. Occasional pebbles but no finds. Up to 0.10m thick.	Upper fill of probable ditch 0024
0023	Ditch	0024	Firm, mid to dark grey clayey silt with moderate flecks to small fragments of charcoal, occasional small to large fragments of pot and small to medium fragments of flint and chalk. Could not be distinguished from fill 0009 of ditch 0062	Middle fill of probable ditch 0024
0024	Ditch	0024	Linear, oriented approximately S-N. >1.5m long x estimated 0.75m wide x 0.40m deep, with moderate to steep sides breaking gradually into as flat, narrow base. Removed by pit 0041 to S and by ditch 0062 to E.	Small ditch, possibly the continuation of ditch 0046 etc
0025	Ditch	0024	Firm, light yellowish brown chalky clay, up to 70mm thick, in base of ditch 0024. No finds.	Primary fill (weathering/slump) of probable ditch 0024
0026	Ditch	0027	Compact, dark brown silty clay with occasional small fragments of pot, occasional flint pebbles and small to medium chalk fragments.	Single fill of ditch/gully 0027
0027	Ditch	0027	Linear, oriented approximately SW-NE. >2m long x 0.47m wide x 0.21m deep, with a bowl-shaped profile. Rounded terminus to SW. Removed by ditch 0062 to NE.	Small ditch/gully that continues to NE as 0048. Assumed contemporary with 0021 etc
0028	Ditch	0030	Compact, mid brown clayey silt with occasional pebbles and chalk fragments, occasional charcoal flecks and pottery. Up to 0.25m thick.	Upper fill of ditch segment 0030, in ditch 0063.
0029	Ditch	0030	Compact, light yellowish brown silty clay with small fragments of chalk & small stones. Up to 0.13m thick.	Basal fill (weathering/slump) in sides and base of ditch segment 0030, in ditch 0063.
0030	Ditch	0063	See 0063	Segment of ditch 0063
0031	Ditch	0032	Compact, mid brown clayey silt with occasional pebbles and chalk fragments, occasional charcoal flecks and pottery. Up to 0.36m thick.	Upper fill of ditch segment 0032, in ditch 0063.
0033	Ditch	0032	Compact, light yellowish brown silty clay with small fragments of chalk and small stones. Up to 0.10m thick.	Basal fill (weathering/slump) in sides and base of ditch segment 0032, in ditch 0063.
0032	Ditch	0063	See 0063	Segment of ditch 0063
0034	Ditch	0035	Compact, mid brown clayey silt with occasional stones, small fragments of chalk, occasional charcoal flecks and x1 fragment of pot. Up to 0.24m thick.	Single fill of ditch 0035

Context Number	Feature Type	Feature Number	Description	Interpretation
0035	Ditch	0035	Linear, oriented approximately WNW-ESE. TSHA (truncated), sides moderately steep breaking gradually into a fairly flat base. >5m long (extending beyond LOE to W) x 0.90m wide x 0.25m deep. Meets ditch 0063 at a right angle (contemporary).	Field boundary/drainage feature
0036	Ditch	0037	Firm, light to mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional flecks and small fragments of chalk, occasional stones and charcoal flecks. Up to 0.16m thick.	Single fill of shallow ditch/gully 0037
0037	Ditch	0037	Linear, oriented approximately SW-NE. >7.75m long (extending beyond LOE to NE) x 0.68m wide x 0.16m deep, with moderately steep sides breaking gradually into a slightly concave base. Removed to SW by pit 0052. Cut by ditches 0035 and 0063.	Small ditch/gully, one of four parallel features.
0038	Ditch	0039	Firm, light to mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional small fragments of pot, flecks and small fragments of chalk, occasional stones and charcoal flecks. Up to 0.13m thick.	Single fill of ditch segment 0039, in ditch 0064
0039	Ditch	0064	See 0064	Segment of ditch 0064
0040	Pit	0041	Compact, mottled mid grey clayey silt and redeposited chalky clay natural. Occasional small fragments of pot.	Single fill of pit 0041
0041	Pit	0041	Oval, >1m EW x 1.0m NS x 0.45m deep, with moderate to steep sides breaking gradually into a fairly flat base. Runs beyond LOE to W. Cuts ditch 0024 to N. Uncertain relationship with ditch 0062 to N.	Probable pit (or ditch terminus?).
0042	Ditch	0044	Same as 0011 in ditch segment 0014	Upper fill of ditch segment 0044, at the N terminus of ditch 0062
0043	Ditch	0044	Same as 0012 (not really excavated). Finds uncertain	Second fill down, in ditch segment 0044 at the N terminus of ditch 0062
0044	Ditch	0062	See 0062	Terminus at the N end of ditch 0062
0045	Ditch	0046	Firm, mid brownish grey silty clay with moderate small to medium pebbles and chalk fragments, and occasional small fragments of pot. 0.42m thick.	Single fill of ditch segment 0046, in ditch 0063
0046	Ditch	0063	See 0063	Segment of ditch 0063, at its S end where it is removed by 0062
0047	Ditch	0048	Firm, mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional pebble and rare flecks to small fragments of charcoal and pot.	Single fill of ditch/gully 0048
0048	Ditch	0048	Linear, oriented approximately SW-NE. >3.5m long (runs beyond LOE to NE) x 0.68m wide x 0.20m deep, with moderately steep sides breaking fairly sharply into a flattish base.	Almost certainly equates to ditch/gully 0027 to SW. One of four parallel features (with 0021 etc).
0049	Pit	0052	Firm, light yellowish brown clayey silt, occasional small fragments of chalk but no finds.	Upper fill of pit 0052
0050	Pit	0052	Firm, dark brown clayey silt with frequent charcoal flecks and occasional chalk fragments. Moderate small fragments of pot.	Middle fill of pit 0052
0051	Pit	0052	Firm, light to mid yellowish brown clayey silt with occasional charcoal flecks and chalk fragments but no finds.	Primary fill of pit 0052
0052	Pit	0052	Oval or sub-circular pit, 2.85m NS x >1.25m EW x 0.66m deep. Moderate to steep sides breaking gradually into a fairly flat base. Extends beyond LOE to W. Cuts ditches 0037 & 0055.	Part of a large pit, function unknown. Possible quarry?

Context Number	Feature Type	Feature Number	Description	Interpretation
0053	Ditch	0055	Firm, dark greyish brown silty clay. Occasional to moderate flint and chalk fragments. No finds. Up to 0.30m thick.	Upper fill of ditch 0055, equates to 0031 in segment 0032
0054	Ditch	0055	Firm, light to mid greyish brown silty clay with frequent flecks to small fragments of chalk and moderate flint fragments. No finds.	Weathered/slumped natural in base of ditch 0055
0055	Ditch	0055	Linear, oriented approximately WNW-ESE. >2.5m long (removed by pit 0052 to W) x 0.96m wide x 0.38m deep. Sides moderate to steep breaking fairly sharply into a flat base that slopes down to the E. Has a right-angled junction with ditch 0063, with which it is contemporary.	Field boundary/drainage feature.
0056	Deposit		Firm, mid yellowish brown clayey silt, 50mm thick, that overlies all features in the N half of the site (as shown on sheet 3). No finds.	Layer of subsoil below topsoil 0001. Only noted at this location.
0057	Finds		Number given to metal-detected find at junction of ditches 0063 and 0035.	
0058	Finds		Unstratified pottery	
0059	Ditch	0060	Firm, light to mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional small fragments of pot, flecks and small fragments of chalk, occasional stones and charcoal flecks. Up to 0.18m thick.	Single fill of ditch segment 0060 (terminus of ditch 0064)
0060	Ditch	0064	See 0064	Segment at terminus of ditch 0064
0061	Finds		Finds from un-numbered segment at junction of ditches 0055 and 0063	
0062	Ditch	0062	Linear ditch, oriented approximately SSW-NNE. 12m long x up to 2.10m wide x 1.10m deep. TSHA (truncated), sides moderate to steep, breaking gradually into a narrow, flat base. Rounded terminus to south (segment 0010) and more square-cut terminus to north (segment 0044). Also included segments 0014 and 0017 At the N end ditch 0062 cuts earlier ditch 0046. At the S end it has an uncertain relationship with pit 0041. Also cuts ditch 0024.	Probable re-cut of ditch 0046 (and possibly 0024).
0063	Ditch	0063	Linear ditch oriented approximately SSW-NNE. >17.5m long (runs beyond LOE) x up to 1.13m wide x up to 0.43m deep. Sides mostly steep, sometimes slightly convex, breaking fairly sharply into a narrow, flat base.	Part of an extensive field boundary or drainage ditch that was probably partially re-cut as 0062. May have continued to the S as 0024.
0064	Ditch	0064	Linear, oriented approximately SW-NE. >8m long x 0.54m wide x up to 0.18m deep. Sides moderately steep, breaking gradually into a concave or flat base. Rounded terminus to SW (segment 0060). Removed by ditch 0063 to NE.	Ditch/gully, probably associated with three other parallel features (0037 etc)

Appendix 3. Catalogue of images

Number	Description
HWU 031	Working shot, topsoil stripping near Barking Road
HWU 032	Working shot, topsoil stripping near feature 0003
HWU 033	Pit 0003, unexcavated, looking SW (0.3m scale)
HWU 034	Pit 0003, half-sectioned, looking SW (0.3m scale)
HWU 035	Pit 0003, excavated fully, looking SW (0.3m scale)
HWU 036	General view of easement after rain, looking uphill towards caravan park
HWU 037	Terminus 0010 of ditch 0062, looking NNE (0.5m scale)
HWU 038	Terminus 0010 of ditch 0062, looking NNE (0.5m scale)
HWU 039	Terminus 0010 of ditch 0062, looking NNE, wider view (0.5m scale)
HWU 040	Terminus 0010 of ditch 0062, looking NE (no scale)
HWU 041	Segment 0014, section S.2, of ditch 0062, looking NNE (1m scale)
HWU 042	Segment 0014, section S.2, of ditch 0062, looking NNE (1m scale)
HWU 043	Segment 0014, section S.2, of ditch 0062, looking NNE, wider view (1m scale)
HWU 044	Ditch 0019 looking NW (0.5m scale)
HWU 045	Ditch 0019 looking NW (0.5m scale)
HWU 046	Ditch 0019 and segment 0017 of ditch 0062, looking NW (0.5m scale)
HWU 047	Ditch/gully 0021, looking NE (0.4m scale)
HWU 048	Ditch/gully 0021, looking NE (0.4m scale)
HWU 049	Ditch 0024, looking SW (0.4m scale)
HWU 050	Ditch 0024, looking SW (0.4m scale)
HWU 051	Ditch 0024, looking SW (0.4m scale)
HWU 052	Ditch 0027, looking SW (0.4m scale)
HWU 053	Ditch 0027, looking SW (0.4m scale)
HWU 054	Ditch segment 0030 of ditch 0063, looking NNE (0.3m scale)
HWU 055	Ditch segment 0030 of ditch 0063, looking NNE (0.3m scale)
HWU 056	Ditch segment 0032 of ditch 0063, looking SSW (0.5m scale)
HWU 057	Ditch segment 0032 of ditch 0063, looking SSW (0.5m scale)
HWU 058	Ditch 0035 looking NW (0.5m scale)
HWU 059	Ditch 0035 looking NW (0.5m scale)
HWU 060	Ditch 0035, section S.9, looking NW (0.5m scale)
HWU 061	Ditch 0037, section S.10, looking NE (0.5m scale)
HWU 062	Ditch 0037, section S.10, looking NE (0.5m scale)
HWU 063	Pit 0041 looking SW (0.5m scale)
HWU 064	Pit 0041 looking SW (0.5m scale)
HWU 065	Terminus 0044 of ditch 0062, cutting ditch 0063, looking NNE (0.5m scale)
HWU 066	Terminus 0044 of ditch 0062, cutting ditch 0063, looking NNE (0.5m scale)
HWU 067	Terminus 0044 of ditch 0062, cutting ditch 0063, looking NNE, wider view (0.5m scale)
HWU 068	Terminus 0044 of ditch 0062, cutting ditch 0063, looking NNE, wider view (0.5m scale)
HWU 069	Ditch 0055 looking ESE (0.3m scale)
HWU 070	Ditch 0055 looking ESE (0.3m scale)
HWU 071	Pit 0052, half-sectioned, looking SW (1m scale)
HWU 072	Pit 0052, half-sectioned, looking SW (1m scale)
HWU 073	Ditch/gully 0048 looking NE (0.5m scale)
HWU 074	Ditch/gully 0048 looking NE (0.5m scale)

Appendix 4. Pottery catalogue

Context	Fabric	Form name	Rim	No	Wt/g	MNV	Spotdate
0008	MCW1			5	19	3	12th-14th c.
0008	MCW1	bowl	FTBD	1	15	1	12th-13th c.
0008	MCW1	jar?	TAP	1	17	1	12th-13th c.
0008	MCW1	jar?	UPEV	2	13	1	13th c.
0008	MCW2			3	21	3	12th-14th c.
0008	MCW2	jar	SQBD	3	83	1	13th-14th c.
0008	MCW3			2	16	2	12th-14th c.
0008	MCW4			1	11	1	12th-14th c.
0008	MCW5			4	52	4	12th-14th c.
0008	MCW5	bowl	SQBD	1	49	1	13th-14th c.
0008	MCWG			1	31	1	L.11th-13th c?
0008	UPG			3	19	3	L.12th-14th c.
0009	MCW1			3	18	3	12th-14th c.
0009	MCW2			2	20	2	12th-14th c.
0009	MCW2	jar	FTEV	1	6	1	13th-14th c.
0009	MCW3			2	33	2	12th-14th c.
0009	MCW5			1	21	1	12th-14th c.
0009	THET	spouted pitcher	FLAR	1	14	1	10th-11th c.
0009 <1>	MCW			16	5	16	L.12th-14th c.
0009 <1>	MCW2			5	10	5	12th-14th c.
0009 <1>	MCW3			2	4	2	12th-14th c.
0009 <1>	UPG			1	1	1	L.12th-14th c.
0011	MCW1			9	26	9	12th-14th c.
0011	MCW2			4	38	4	12th-14th c.
0011	MCW2	bowl	SQBD	1	24	1	14th c.
0011	MCW2	jar	UPBD	2	21	1	12th-13th c.
0011	MCW3			5	12	5	12th-14th c.
0011	MCW3	bowl	SQBD	1	20	1	14th c.
0011	MCW5			6	59	5	12th-14th c.
0011	UPG			3	16	3	L.12th-14th c.
0012	MCW2			4	27	2	12th-14th c.
0012	MCW2	jar	UPTH	10	308	1	12th-14th c.
0012	MCW2	jug	UPTH	1	38	1	12th-14th c.
0012	MCW2	jug?		2	137	1	12th-14th c.
0012	MCW6			1	15	1	12th-14th c.
0012	MCW6	jar	SQBD	1	20	1	12th-14th c.
0012	UPG	jug		1	84	1	L.12th-14th c.
0012 <2>	HFW1	jug	UPTH	3	9	1	M.12th-M.13th c.
0012 <2>	MCW4			1	25	1	12th-14th c.
0015	HOLL			1	83	1	L.13th-14th c.
0015	MCW1			3	30	2	12th-14th c.
0015	MCW3			1	12	1	12th-14th c.
0015	MCW3	bowl	UPEV	1	27	1	12th-14th c.
0015	MCW5			1	5	1	12th-14th c.
0015	MCW5	bowl	SQBD	1	27	1	12th-14th c.
0015	UPG			1	10	1	L.12th-14th c.

Context	Fabric	Form name	Rim	No	Wt/g	MNV	Spotdate
0018	MCW1			1	28	1	12th-14th c.
0018	MCW2			1	9	1	12th-14th c.
0018	MCW5			1	14	1	12th-14th c.
0018	MCW6			1	11	1	12th-14th c.
0020	UNFT			1	1	1	Prehistoric
0023	MCW1	bowl	THEV	1	180	1	12th-14th c.
0023	MCW2			2	18	2	12th-14th c.
0023	MCW5			2	10	1	12th-14th c.
0023	MCW6			2	14	2	12th-14th c.
0026	UNHM	?	BD?	7	7	1	IA?
0026	UNHM	?	UPTH	1	1	1	IA?
0028	MCW1			1	3	1	12th-14th c.
0028	MCW2			3	26	3	12th-14th c.
0031	MCW1			5	73	2	12th-14th c.
0031	MCW1	jar	SQBD	3	58	1	12th-14th c.
0031	MCW2			7	44	3	12th-14th c.
0031	MCW3			2	16	2	12th-14th c.
0031	MCW5			4	34	3	12th-14th c.
0034	MCW3			1	8	1	12th-14th c.
0038	UNFT			3	4	1	IA?
0038	UNHM			2	3	1	IA?
0040	MCW2			1	12	1	12th-14th c.
0040	MCW5			1	6	1	12th-14th c.
0040	MCW6			1	13	1	12th-14th c.
0043	HOLL	jar	SQBD	1	16	1	L.13th-14th c.
0043	MCW1			2	18	2	12th-14th c.
0043	MCW2			2	15	2	12th-14th c.
0043	MCW3	jar	SQBD	1	30	1	12th-14th c.
0043	MCW4			1	67	1	12th-14th c.
0043	MCW5			1	2	1	12th-14th c.
0043	MCW6			1	4	1	12th-14th c.
0043	STNE	jar	6	1	8	1	850-1150
0043	UPG	lid?	PL	1	2	1	L.12th-14th c.
0046	MCW2			2	98	1	12th-14th c.
0046	THET			2	4	2	10th-11th c.
0046	UNFT			1	3	1	IA?
0047	UNHM			1	2	1	prehistoric
0050	MCW1			2	22	1	12th-14th c.
0050	MCW2			5	40	4	12th-14th c.
0050	MCWG			1	19	1	L.11th-13th c?
0050	STNE			3	7	1	850-1150
0050	THET			8	38	3	10th-11th c.
0050	THET	spouted pitcher	1	14	141		10th-11th c.
0050	UPG	jug	FTEV	1	5	1	L.12th-14th c.
0058	HFW1	jug		1	17	1	M.12th-M.13th c.
0061	MCW1			1	68	1	12th-14th c.
0061	MCW5			2	19	2	12th-14th c.
0061	THET			1	4	1	10th-11th c.

Notes

Rim forms: BD – beaded; FLAR – flaring; FTBD – flat-topped beaded; FTEV – flat-topped everted; PL – plain; SQBD – square-beaded; TAP – tapered everted; THEV – thickened everted; UPBD – upright beaded; UPEV – upright everted; UPTH – upright thickened.

Appendix 5. Small finds catalogue

S Find No	Context No	Object	Material	Description	Period
1001	0050	Horseshoe	Iron	Curved part of horseshoe with three rectangular nail holes, one of which is infilled with corrosion - possibly due to the remnants of a nail.	?Medieval
1002	0007	Musket ball	Lead	Complete cast musket ball. It has a band around the circumference caused by the barrel of the weapon when fired. It is also flattened due to impact.	Post-med
1003	0007	Stud	Copper alloy	Complete cast stud with domed head and shaft of pin curled and flattened beneath head. Possibly type of stud used for furnishings.	Post-med
1004	0002	Binding/waste?	Lead	Strip of lead folded over on itself - possibly a piece of binding or waste.	
1005	0002	Sheet	?Lead	Piece of sheet metal - probably lead. Has two possible rivet holes. Possibly a piece of sheet fitting?	
1006	0002	?Waste	Lead	Rectangular piece of lead, curved in profile. Possibly the remnants of a pot mend or seal?	
1007	0002	Coin	Copper alloy	Complete coin - very corroded and worn on both faces, unidentifiable.	Post-med
1008	0002	Button	Copper alloy	Cast discoidal button with integral loop that is damaged. Probably 17th century in date.	Post-med
1009	0002	?Weight	Lead	'Pyramid' shaped piece of lead with smoothed and pitted outer surface from use. Traces of copper alloy on the outer surface also. Possibly a weight of some type.	
1010	0002	Weight	Lead	A solid biconical steelyard lead weight with incomplete iron shank through the centre.	Roman
1011	0002	Bell	Copper alloy	Upper section of a cast copper alloy bell. It has an integral rectangular suspension loop with a circular hole through it, the top of the bell beneath the suspension loop, is flat. The remainder of the bell is missing.	?Med
1012	0002	Buckle	Copper alloy	Cast trapezoidal shaped buckle frame with internal facing point. Frame is rectangular in section.	Post-med
1013	0002	?Waste	Lead	Piece of sheet lead alloy? Possibly an offcut/waste.	

Appendix 6. OASIS form

OASIS ID: suffolkc1-167898

Project details

Project name	BRK 136: B1113 Stowmarket to Great Blakenham Underground Cabling
Short description of the project	Fieldwork was carried out on part of the route of the B1113 Stowmarket to Great Blakenham underground cabling. Two sites of archaeological interest were identified, both on relatively high ground in the vicinity of the Saxon Park and Brick Kiln Caravan Parks, Barrett's Lane, Barking. At Site 1, part of a prehistoric or Roman field system was represented by four shallow, parallel ditches spaced about 4-5m apart. These contained occasional small and abraded sherds of black, hand-made pottery in fine sandy and flint-tempered fabrics. The prehistoric/Roman ditches were overlaid by a rectilinear ditch system and associated pitting with two clear phases of use dating to the 13th-14th century. Although the function of the ditch system is unclear the presence of moderate amounts of relatively unabraded pottery and an environmental assemblage that included charred cereals and peas suggest that there was a settlement in the immediate vicinity. The ditches also contained residual Anglo-Saxon and earlier medieval pottery, indicating earlier phases of activity at this site. Site 2, located approximately 200m southeast of Site 1, contained only an undated pit.
Project dates	Start: 08-01-2014 End: 20-02-2014
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	BRK 136 - HER event no.
Type of project	Recording project
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	PIT Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Investigation type	""Open-area excavation""
Prompt	Water Act 1989 and subsequent code of practice

Project location

Country England

Site location	SUFFOLK MID SUFFOLK BARKING BRK 136: B1113 Stowmarket to Great Blakenham Underground Cabling
Study area	250.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TM 0799 5588 52.1614308105 1.04129560505 52 09 41 N 001 02 28 E Line
Site coordinates	TM 0873 5377 52.1422050992 1.05080307417 52 08 31 N 001 03 02 E Line

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Jess Tipper
Project director/manager	Rhod Gardner
Project supervisor	Kieron Heard
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Carillion Utilities Services

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County SMR
Physical Archive ID	BRK 136
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Metal", "Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County SMR
Digital Archive ID	BRK 136
Digital Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Metal", "Stratigraphic", "Survey", "Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Media available	"Database", "Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County SMR
Paper Archive ID	BRK 136
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Plan", "Report", "Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	B1113 Stowmarket to Great Blakenham underground cabling, BRK 136: Post-excavation Assessment
Author(s)/Editor (s)	Heard, K
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