

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION REPORT**

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**SCCAS REPORT No. 2010/046**

**Land off Bures Road, Great Cornard  
COG 025**

**J. A. Craven**

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## HER Information

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**Planning Application No:** B/03/01504/FUL

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**Curatorial Officer:** Edward Martin

**Project Officer:** J. A. Craven

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Digital report submitted to Archaeological Data Service:  
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## Summary

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An archaeological excavation was carried out on land off of Bures Road, Great Cornard in advance of the relocation of Sudbury Rugby club grounds in May 2007. The excavation has identified evidence of funerary activity in the Bronze Age period, with a possible earlier phase of occupation in the Mesolithic/Early Neolithic. Features identified consisted of a sparse scatter of pits lying adjacent to a small ring ditch with central pit. A small finds assemblage, predominantly consisting of struck flint, indicated that activity on the site was not domestic in nature.

Although no human burial was identified the ring ditch and pit are clearly related to the wider landscape of Bronze Age funerary activity that is known in the vicinity, with several ring ditches, originally identified by aerial photography, lying immediately to the north-west. Recent excavations by SCCAS in 2009 of two of these large ring ditches, on the former rugby pitch, also identified another example of a small ring ditch.

Following the prehistoric period there is no evidence of any activity on the site until the post-medieval period where three linear ditches probably represent former field boundaries.

A recommendation has been made for the site results to be considered in any future archaeological publication of these latter excavations.

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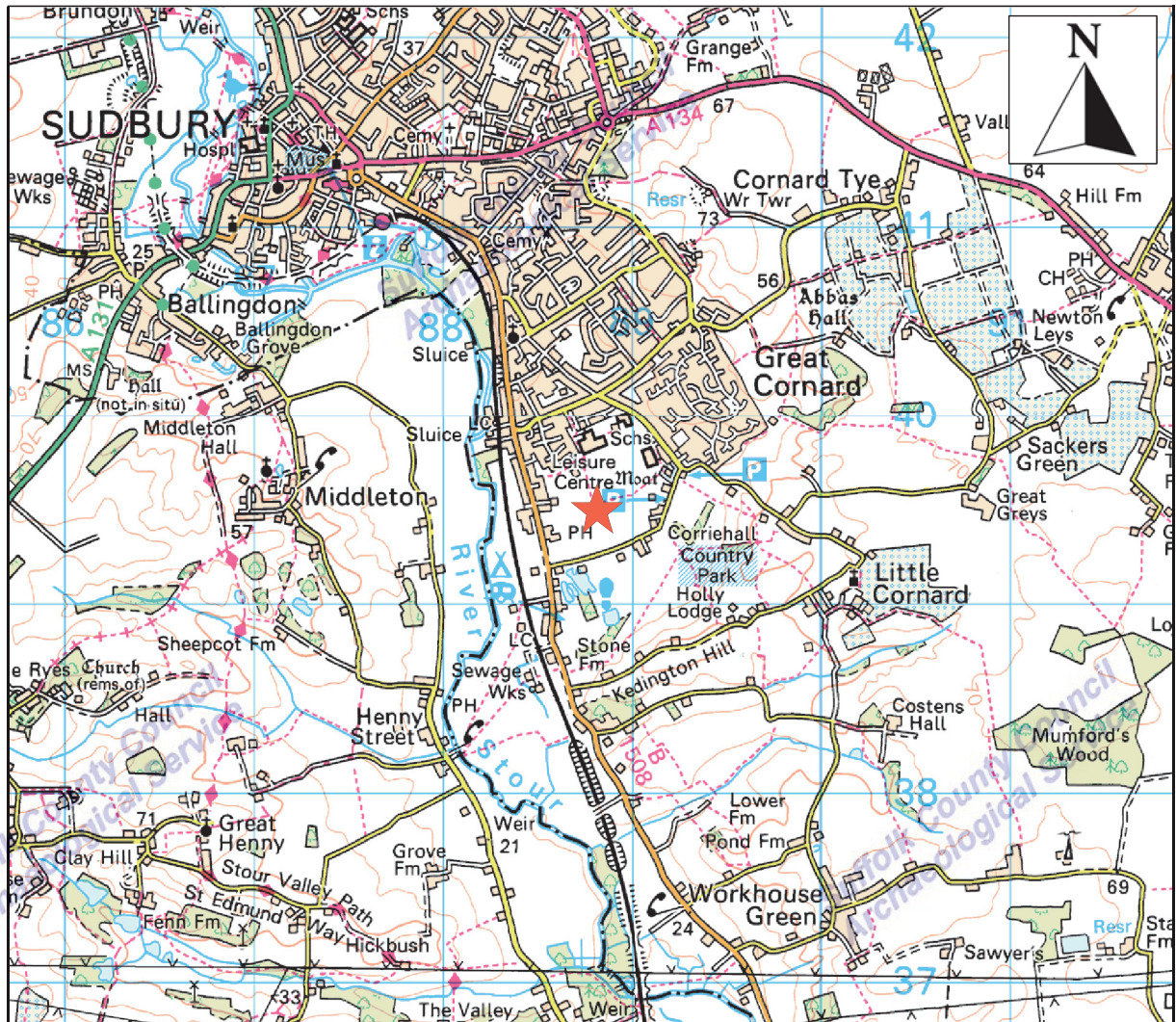
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# 1. Introduction

An archaeological excavation, was carried out in advance of the re-location of the rugby ground on land off of Bures Road, Great Cornard. The work was carried out to a Brief and Specification issued by Edward Martin (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team – Appendix 1), to fulfil a planning condition on application B/03/01504/FUL. The work was funded by the developer, Persimmon Homes (Anglia) Ltd.

The site is part of a wider development of c.16ha, consisting of new housing and the re-siting of the existing rugby club.



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Figure 1. Site location plan

## 2. Geology and topography

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The site lies in an open arable field on the southern fringe of Great Cornard/Sudbury. Situated towards the top of a south-facing slope, at a height of c.25m AOD, the site overlooks the River Stour which lies 500m to the west (Fig. 1).

The site geology consists of deep loamy clay soils overlying glaciofluvial drift (Ordnance Survey 1983).

## 3. Archaeological and historical background

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The whole of the proposed development area was the subject of an initial desktop assessment (Newman 2000), which identified three broad areas of current landuse and specified particular areas as being of archaeological potential.

Two ring ditches (COG 004 and 005) are recorded in the Sites and Monuments Record as lying within the northern area of the overall development under the former rugby ground (Fig. 2). Identified by aerial photography, observation of the site for the desktop assessment indicated that they still survived as slight visible earthworks. A third ring ditch, COG 006, is located to the east. This area was therefore of high archaeological potential, as it contained a possible Bronze Age barrow cemetery that could also be the focus for other prehistoric and later funerary activity. The ongoing development works has led to these two ring ditches being excavated by SCCAS/FT in late 2009 (Muldowney in prep).

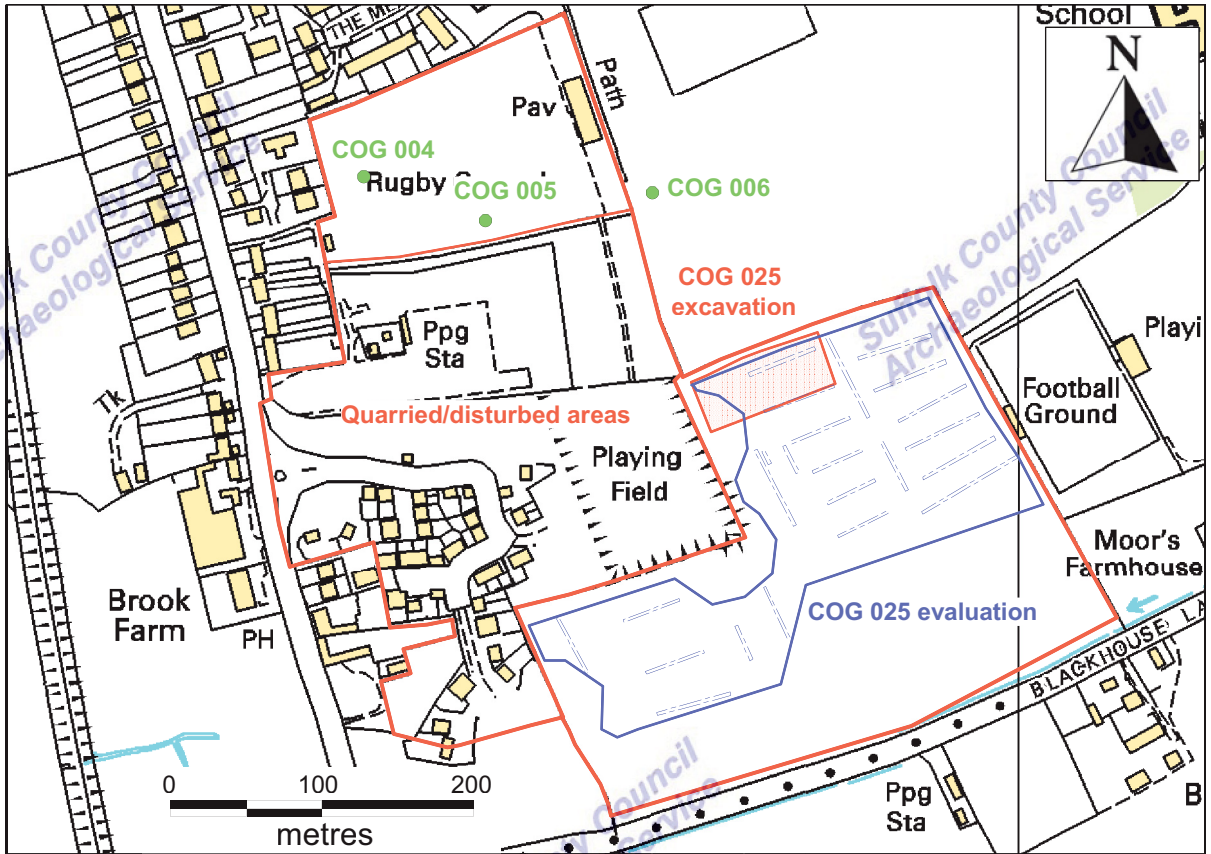
The central part of the site was heavily affected by previous gravel extraction and other workings including a large concrete yard and subsequently was deemed to be of little or no archaeological interest.

The southern and eastern parts of the development area consisted of open arable fields and were thought to be of moderate archaeological potential due to the proximity of the known ring ditches.

An archaeological evaluation of the development was subsequently carried out in the latter area of arable fields (Gill 2006), with trenching covering the areas to be directly affected by development (Fig. 2). The southern part of the field, which is to remain as open public space was excluded from the investigation, as were areas around the eastern edge of the field which had to be avoided due to the presence of badger setts.

A concentration of features, including the corner of a possible enclosure ditch, a linear ditch and a group of pits, was identified in Trench 09 in the north-west corner of the field (Fig. 3). The remaining trenches contained a low density spread of dispersed small pits and further sections of the north-south aligned linear ditch which ran down the natural slope. An assemblage of struck flint and two sherds of pottery suggested an Early Bronze Age date for the features and a presence on the site from the Palaeolithic period.

The results of the evaluation indicated that archaeological deposits, probably associated with the potential Bronze Age barrow cemetery to the north, extended into the north-west corner of the field, which the program of landscaping and construction for the proposed sports pitch and relocated rugby club was likely to damage or destroy. Therefore the SCCAS/CT archaeological officer, Edward Martin, specified a program of archaeological excavation to record the site prior to its development, in an area centred on Trench 09 and bounded by Trenches 08 and 10.



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Figure 2. Development area plan



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Figure 3. Evaluation plan

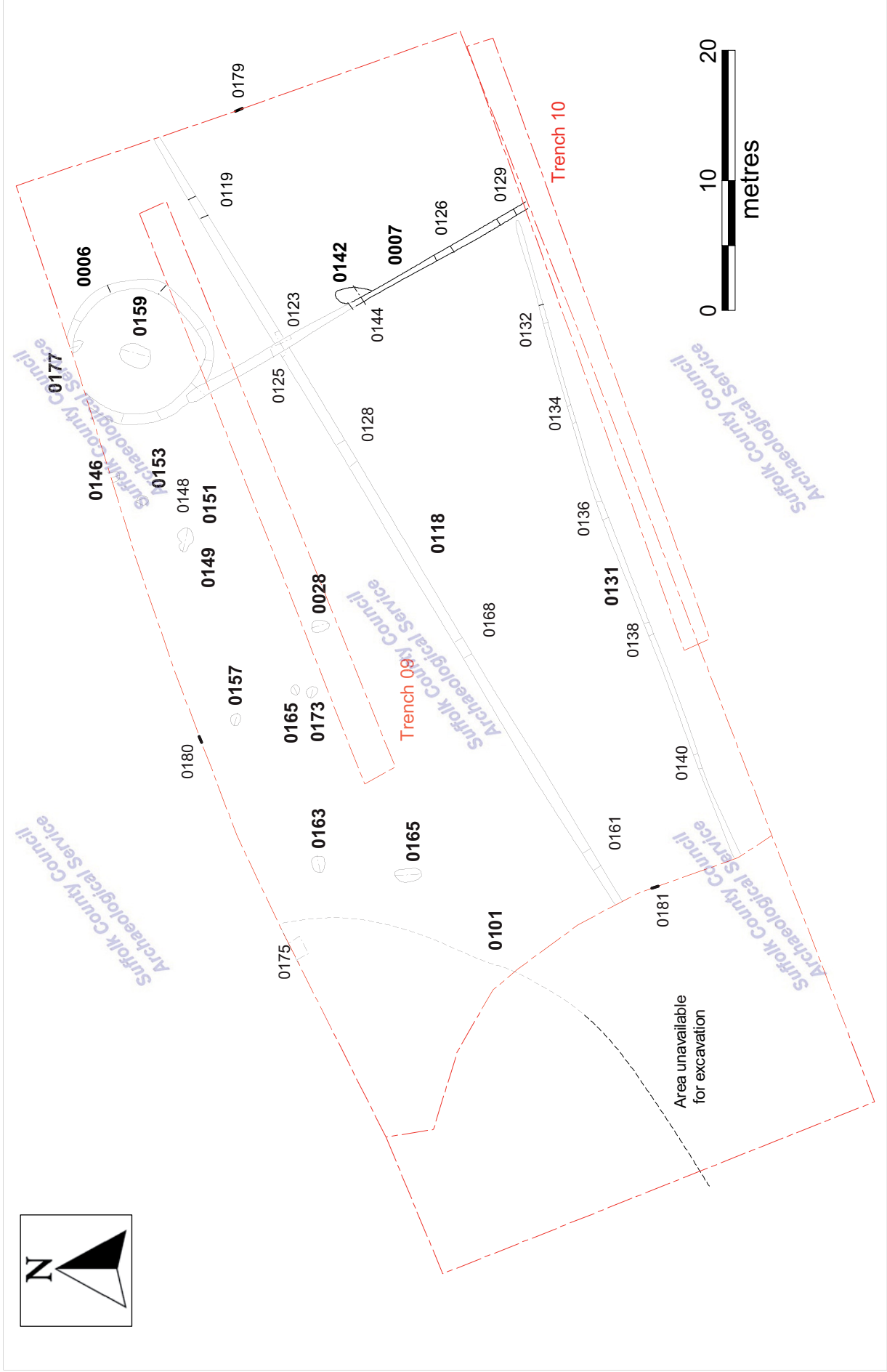


Figure 4. Site plan

## 4. Methodology

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The site, a total area of 2612sqm (Fig. 4), was stripped by a mechanical digger, equipped with a ditching bucket, to the top of the archaeological levels, under the supervision of an archaeologist. This involved the removal of c.0.3m of ploughsoil and a layer, varying from 0.2m to 0.5m thick, of mid brown homogenous silt, recorded in baulk sections 0179, 0180 and 0181 (Fig. 8). Unstratified finds were collected during the machining and recorded as 0100. The western edge of the site was unavailable for stripping due to the continuing presence of a badger sett but was fieldwalked with finds being collected as 0102.

Archaeological features were then clearly visible, cutting the natural subsoil of gravel sands, and were individually cleaned and excavated by hand. All pits were originally 50% excavated and recorded, before being 100% excavated with the second halves often being sieved, as was ring ditch 0006. A series of sections, totalling 10% of the overall length, were excavated of the remaining ditches. Bulk soil samples were taken from a selection of contexts.

The site was recorded using a single context continuous numbering system, starting at 0100 with previous numbers relating to the evaluation, and planned with a Total Station Theodolite. Features were then individually planned, and sections recorded, at a scale of 1:20. Digital colour and black and white print photographs were taken of all stages of the fieldwork, and are included in the archive.

Site data has been input onto an MS Access database and recorded using the County Sites and Monuments code COG 025. Bulk finds were washed, marked and quantified, and the resultant data was also entered onto a database. Inked copies of section and drawings have also been made.

An OASIS form has been completed for the project (reference no. suffolkc1-26816) and a digital copy of the report submitted for inclusion on the Archaeology Data Service database (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>).

The site archive is kept in the main store of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service at Bury St Edmunds under HER No. COG 025.

## 5. Results

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### 5.1 Introduction

The site strip revealed a sparse scatter of features, broadly in the northern half of the site, consisting of a series of small pits, three linear ditches and a small ring ditch with central pit. Most of these identified features, both those with and without finds assemblages, probably relate to a broad phase of activity in the Bronze Age period with two ditches relating to medieval or post-medieval field systems.

### 5.2 Phase I: Prehistoric

The unstratified finds recovered across the site during machining, 0100, consist of struck flint, some of which is likely to be of Bronze Age date but also includes Mesolithic or Early Neolithic material. Further surface finds from the unexcavated area to the west, 0102, also consisted of a variety of struck flint and a few pieces of burnt flint.

The curving ditch identified in the evaluation as a possible prehistoric enclosure, 0006, proved to be part of a ring ditch that measured 11m in diameter (Fig. 4). Two sections, 0009 and 0011, had previously been excavated during the evaluation. The northern part of the ring ditch lay under the site baulk and could not be fully exposed due to the presence of a public footpath. Following an initial surface clean, during which seven struck flints were collected as 0103, the ditch was divided into eight sections and 50% excavated.

The sections, 0104, 0105, 0109, 0110, 0112, 0114 and 0115 showed the ditch to have a broadly consistent profile, measuring c.0.7m-0.9m wide and 0.15m-0.2m deep, with moderate sloping sides and a concave base. Section 0015 also showed that the ring ditch was cut by ditch 0007. The fills of the four excavated sections, 0106, 0107, 0111 and 0116 were a similar mix of compact, mid brown, orange or grey silt/sands with scattered gravels and contained, in total, a further eleven struck flints and a small quantity of burnt flint.

Two further sections, 0113 and 0171, were recorded of where the ring ditch met the site baulk in an attempt to establish the ditches relationship with the 0.5m thick layer of brown silt that overlaid the subsoil across the site. There was no indication of the ditch cutting through this layer, implying that the feature predated it although, as there was also no variation between the ditch fill and the layer, this is uncertain.

A single feature, 0159, lay within the ring ditch, a large sub-rectangular pit at its centre. Aligned north-east to south-west, it measured 2.23m long, 1.88m wide and 0.76m deep. The cut had moderate to steep sloping sides and a base that sloped down to the south-west. Initial 50% excavation showed it to have a single fill, 0160, of homogenous mid grey/brown silt/sand with occasional scattered gravel. After recording the pit was 100% excavated, with the second half being sieved and bulk sampled. A small assemblage of thirty-seven pieces of worked flint was collected. The working assumption was that this was a grave cut associated with the ring ditch and possible barrow but there was no sign of any burial or related deposits.

After recording the ring ditch was 100% excavated, with the remaining four stretches being sieved and numbered as 0108, 0169, 0170 and 0172. These contained, in total, a further fourteen worked flints and a small quantity of burnt flint.

0146 was an oval pit or ditch terminus, partially under the northern site edge. Measuring 0.9m+ long, 0.4m wide and 0.14m deep it had moderate sloping sides and a flat base. Its fill, 0147, was a compact mid brown silt/sand. It was 100% excavated, with the second half being sieved, which recovered six worked flints and two pieces of burnt flint.

0149 was a circular pit, measuring 0.75m in diameter and 0.38m deep, with steep sloping sides and a concave base. Recorded in section 0148 it cut the adjacent pit 0151. Its fill, 0150 was a dark brown/black silt/sand containing charcoal, two worked flints and a moderate amount of burnt flint. It was 100% excavated.

0151 was a circular pit, measuring 1.2m diameter and 0.18m deep, with irregular sides and base. Recorded in section 0148 it was cut by pit 0149. Its fill, 0152, was a mid orange/brown silt/sand with gravel. It was 100% excavated, with the second half



being sieved, which collected two Early Neolithic worked flints and a moderate amount of burnt flint.

0177 was an oval pit, possibly a natural feature, partially underlying ring ditch 0006 and the site edge. Measuring c.1m+ by 0.6m and 0.4m deep it was excavated after the removal of 0006. This showed it to have an irregular base and sides with a fill, 0178, of compact pale brown silt/loam.

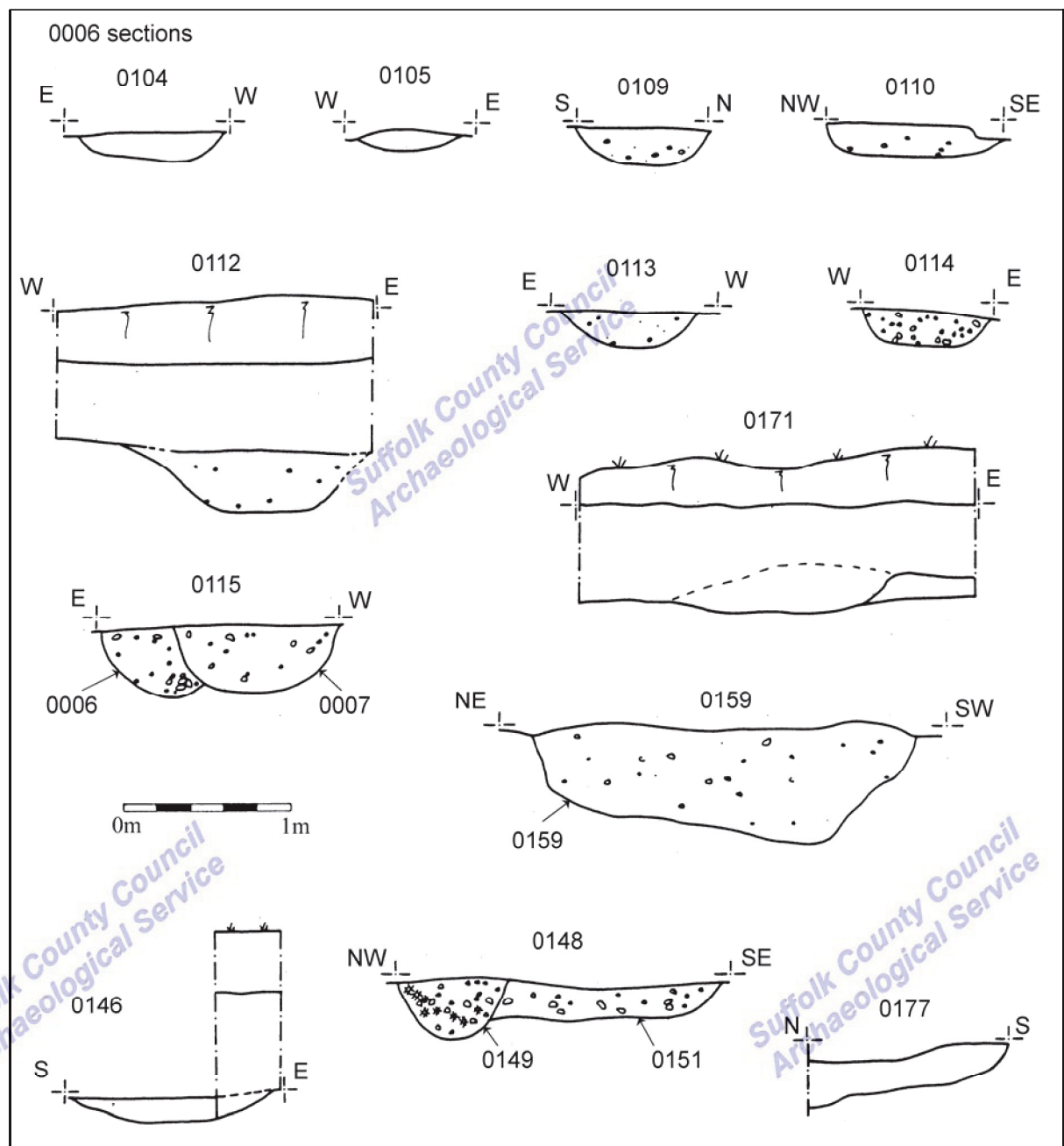


Figure 5. Phase I sections

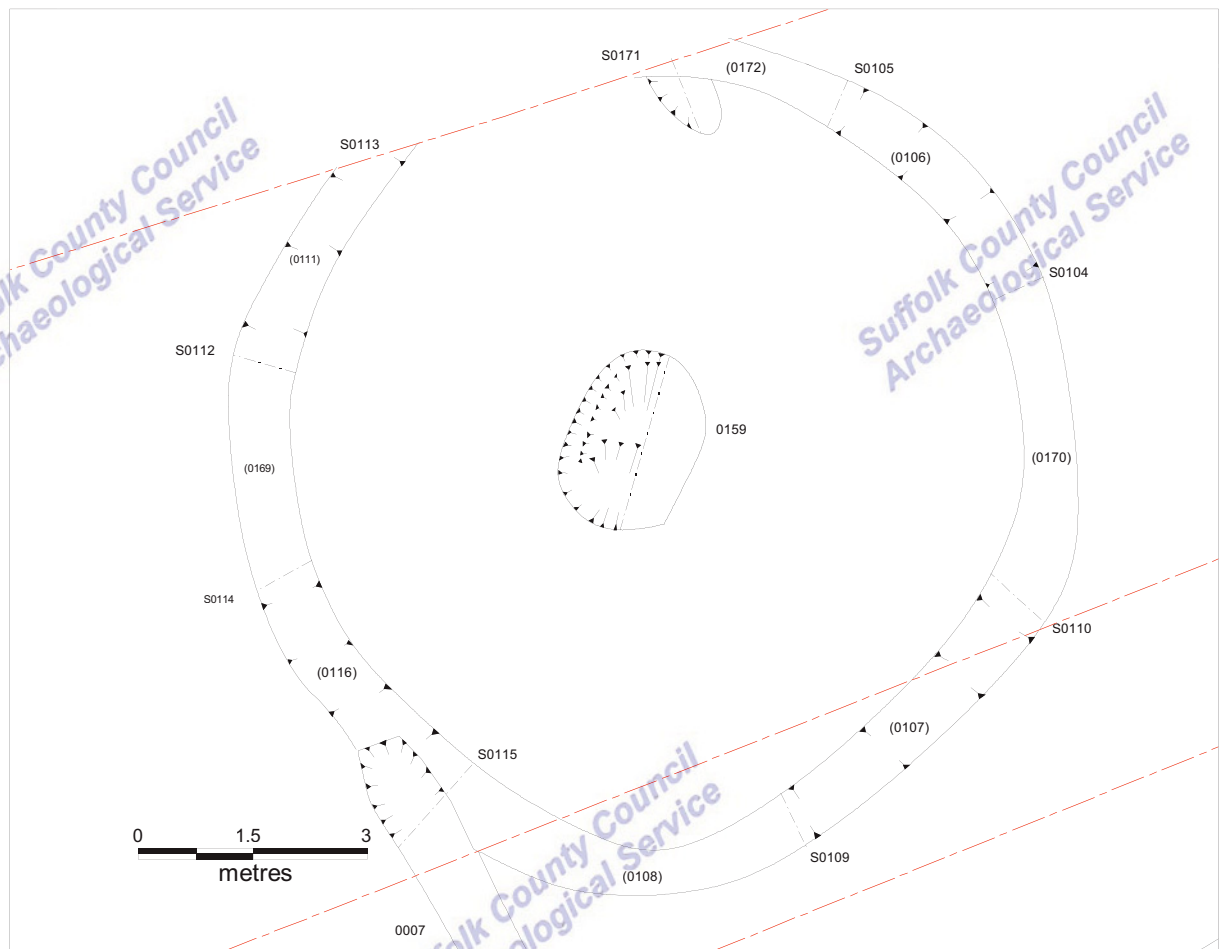


Figure 6. 0006 plan

### 5.3 Phase II: Medieval/post-medieval

0007 was a linear ditch, aligned north-west to south-east, which had originally been identified in Trench 09. To the north it cut, and terminated above, ring ditch 0006, the relationship being shown in section 0115 where it had a fill, 0117, of mid orange/brown silt/sand with gravel. To the south three further sections were excavated, 0126, 0129 and 0144, showing it to be 0.6m-0.9m wide and 0.25m deep with moderate sloping sides and a concave base. The respective fills of these sections, 0124, 0130 and 0145, were a mid brown silt with gravel. A probable natural irregular hollow, 0142, lay adjacent to the ditch in section 0144 with its fill, 0143, of mid brown silt being indistinguishable from 0145.

0118 was a linear ditch, aligned north-east to south-west, running across the length of the site to the south of ring ditch 0006. Excavated in sections 0119, 0128, 0161 and 0168 it was seen to be generally 0.6m-0.8m wide and 0.2m-0.3m deep, with

moderate sloping sides and a concave base. The respective fills of each section, 0120, 0127, 0162 and 0167, were a mix of mid brown/orange silts and gravels.

Opposing quadrant sections 0123 and 0125 were placed across the intersection of ditches 0007 and 0118, which showed that 0007 cut 0118. The fills of both ditches in these sections, 0121 and 0122 respectively, were of very similar mid orange/brown silt/sands with occasional gravel. Six residual worked flints, a piece of clay pipe and a fragment of ceramic building material were recovered from 0121.

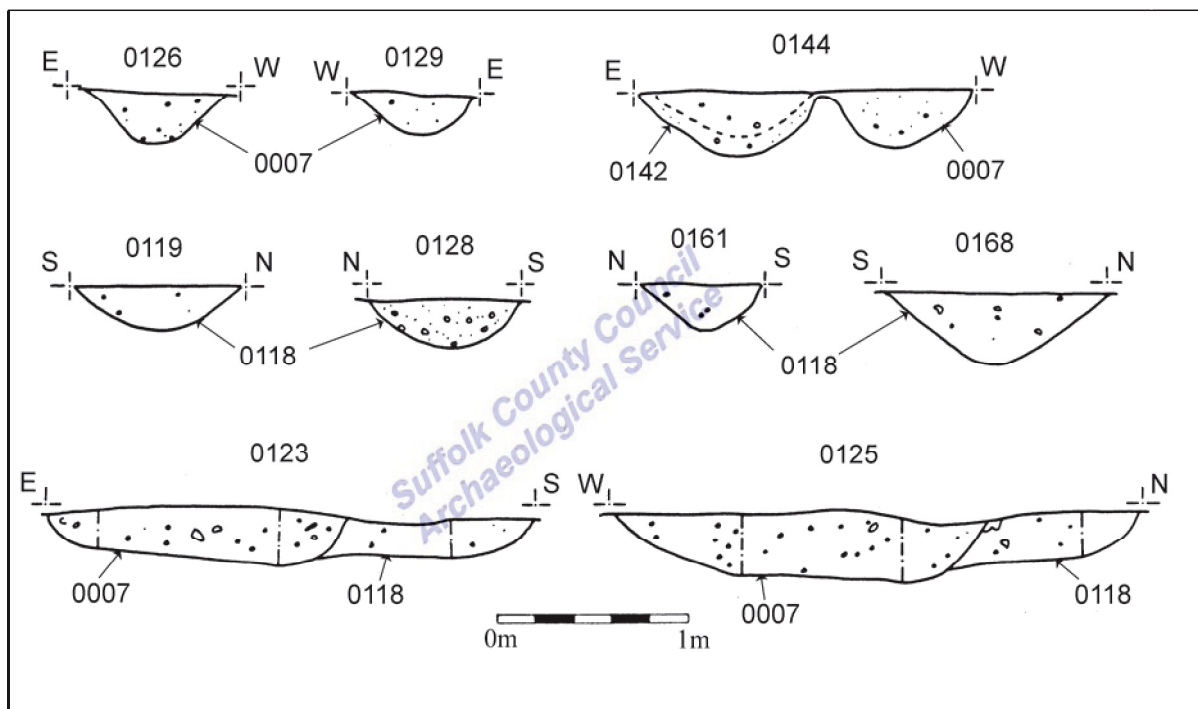


Figure 7. Phase II sections

## 5.4 Unphased

The remainder of the features on the site, mainly a dispersed scatter of pits, are unphased as no datable finds material was collected and there are no stratigraphic relationships with other features.

0028 was an oval pit, originally 50% excavated during the evaluation, measuring 1.5m long and 0.5m deep with a fill, 0029, of mid brown silt/sand. After re-excavation the second half was then removed and sieved.

0131 was a linear narrow ditch or gully, aligned east-west, crossing the southern part of the site. To the east it terminated, or simply faded away due to truncation, shortly before it would have intersected with ditch 0007. Five sections of the ditch were excavated, 0132, 0134, 0136, 0138 and 0140 which showed it to measure c.0.3m-0.35m wide and 0.04m-0.08m deep, with moderate sides and a concave base. The respective fills of each section, 0133, 0135, 0137, 0139 and 0141 were a uniform mid brown silt. No finds were recovered from any of the sections.

0153 was an oval pit, measuring 1m by 1.4m and 0.3m deep, with moderate sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, 0154, was a light-mid grey/brown sand/silt with gravel.

0155 was a circular pit, measuring 0.8m by 0.8m and 0.22m deep, with gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, 0156, was a dark brown/black silt/sand with charcoal and burnt flint. It was 100% excavated, with the second half being sieved.

0157 was a circular pit, measuring 1m diameter and 0.13m deep, with gently sloping sides and concave base. Its fill, 0158, was a dark brown/black silt/sand with charcoal and burnt flint. It was 100% excavated, with the second half being sieved.

0163 was a circular pit, measuring 1.2m by 1.4m and 0.24m deep, with gently sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, 0164, was a dark brown/black silt/sand with charcoal and burnt flint. A large area of animal disturbance crossed through its centre. It was 100% excavated, with the second half being sieved.

0165 was an oval pit, probably a natural feature or disturbance, measuring 2m by 1m and 0.42m deep, with irregular, moderate sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, 0166, was a mid grey/brown silt/sand with occasional gravel. It was 100% excavated, with the second half being sieved.

0173 was a small oval pit, measuring 1m by 0.7m and 0.3m deep, with moderate sloping sides and a concave base. Its fill, 0174, was a mid brown/black silt which was 100% excavated and sieved.

The north-east corner of the site was occupied by part of a large hollow, which was visible as a noticeable depression in the ploughed field. The edge of the hollow was well defined, with section 0175 showing a sharp break of slope and then a near vertical cut to a depth of at least 1.6m+ below ground level, indicating that the hollow was most likely a manmade feature. The entire feature was infilled with a uniform deposit of fine yellow/brown gravel, 0176.

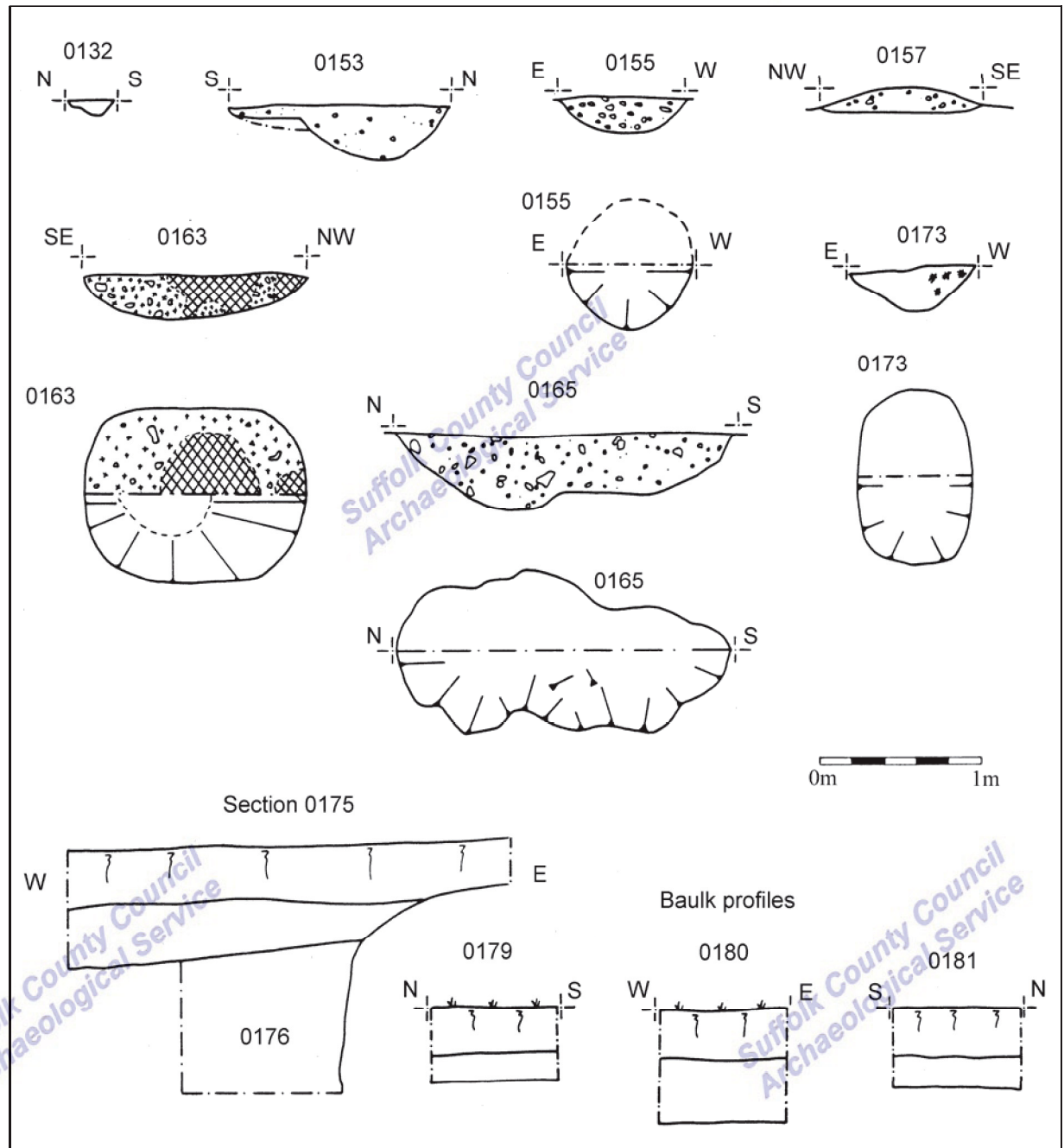


Figure 8. Unphased sections

## 6. The finds evidence

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Stephen Benfield

### 6.1 Introduction

Table 1 shows the quantities of particular finds types collected during the excavation. The finds consist almost exclusively of worked flint and burnt flint, including some other burnt or heated stone. The majority of the flint can be dated to the Bronze Age, with some Early Neolithic flint and possibly some Mesolithic pieces present, most of which appear to be residual in later dated groups of flint. Although not closely datable of itself, the burnt flint and stone can be associated with the worked flint, being either of Early Neolithic or Bronze Age date. The distribution of the burnt flint suggests that most, if not all, is probably Bronze Age. There is also a very small number of incidental finds of post-medieval, or probable post-medieval and modern date.

<b>Find type</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Wt/g</b>
Worked flint	102	1362
Burnt flint/stone	73	1117
CBM	1	124
Clay pipe	1	8
Slate	1	1

Table 1. Bulk finds quantities.

### 6.2 Worked flint

by Sarah Bates

#### **Introduction**

A total of 102 pieces of flint were recovered from fills of a ring ditch and its associated central pit, from three other pits, from a ditch of post-medieval date and from unstratified contexts. Some of the material is likely to be contemporary with the ring ditch while some pieces appear to be of earlier (Mesolithic or early Neolithic) date.

#### **Methodology**

Each piece of flint was examined and recorded by context in an ACCESS database table. The material was classified by *category* and *type* (see archive) with numbers of pieces and numbers of complete, corticated, patinated and hinge fractured pieces

being recorded and the condition of the flint being commented on. Additional descriptive comments were made as necessary. Non-struck flint was included in a separate column (*Non struck*) in the database but has now been discarded. It is not included below. Retouched and utilised flints and pieces suggested for illustration have been bagged separately within the main bags. The flint and archive are curated by SCCAS. A full description of individual flints by context is contained in Appendix 3. A full catalogue is included as part of the archive.

### **The assemblage**

The flint ranges from dark to pale grey with some irregular flawed and mottled patches. Cortex includes cream to dark orange cortex, some of it quite thick, thinner quite smooth grey cortex and some patinated cortex or patinated former flint surfaces. The flint is summarised by type in Table 2.

<b>Type</b>	<b>Number</b>
single platform flake core	2
single platform blade core	1
multi platform blade core	1
multi platform flake core	1
bipolar core	1
core fragment	1
struck fragment	2
core/tool	1
core tablet	1
crested blade	1
shatter	3
flake	41
blade	16
blade-like flake	2
spall	8
scraper	2
end/side scraper	1
piercer	2
retouched flake	3
utilised blade	4
utilised flake	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>102</b>

Table 2. Summary of the flint by type

A neat and fairly large bipolar flake core was found (0121) (Fig 9. 01). It is made of a smooth slightly patinated mid grey good quality flint. Some cortex survives on one side but the piece has been trimmed and worked with some care with small blades struck from each end and both platform edges being abraded. The core is of Mesolithic or earlier Neolithic date. Another piece with blade type removals from one

platform may have been part of another quite neat blade core although it is fractured on one side (0170). Another multi platform core has had blades removed from two ends but is irregular (0100).

A fairly large and irregular multi platform flake core has been struck quite neatly, with some blade-like removals (0100) and two single platform flake cores are present; a small squat chunky fragment with whitish grey cortex has had irregular small flakes struck from parts of its broad platform (0103) and another slightly larger piece has thick dark cream cortex on one side with flakes struck quite neatly from one end although the core face is fractured just below the platform edge (0116).

A small fragment is probably from a core (0160) and a quite small very thick elongate flake with steep flaking of both its sides and its distal end could be a core or have been used as a crude scraper (0169) (Fig 9. 02).

Two core trimming pieces are present. A thick slightly curving blade has a battered dorsal ridge and is classified as a crested blade (0100) (Fig 9. 03). The platform is also battered (faceted across its surface); further evidence of the preparation of the core. A core tablet was also found (0102) (Fig 9. 04); this was struck from the platform of a core to rejuvenate its edge so that it could still be used. Both of these pieces are likely to be of Mesolithic or, possibly earlier Neolithic date (Butler 2005, 84,121).

Forty-one flakes are present. Most of them are quite small and they are mostly sharp or quite sharp although a few have slight edge damage. There are some quite neat thin flakes, at least one (a small blade like fragment) with an abraded platform from a prepared core. However, other pieces are more irregular hard hammer struck flakes; two or three have a pronounced curved profile and are likely to be from unprepared cores. Two small blade-like flakes were found, one of them is a thick hard hammer struck piece.

Sixteen blades are present; an unusually large number for so small an assemblage. They are all quite small and most are neat. At least four blades have abraded platform where they have been struck from prepared blade cores.



Three shatter pieces and eight spalls are also present.

Three scrapers were found. A thickish blade-like flake has its proximal end missing and this end, and part of its right side, retouched (0107) (Fig 9. 05), a thick subcircular flake has retouch of its right and distal sides and some flaking, possibly damage, to its ventral face (0100) and a small squat flake has crude retouch around its sides and distal edge to form an almost 'thumbnail' type scraper (0121).

A small pointed flake (0160) and a quite thick cortical blade (0100), may both have been used as piercers. The latter has a tiny point at its proximal end, the former may have had its distal point utilised.

Three other flakes are probably slightly retouched (two of them have other edge damage) and eight flakes and four blades are probably utilised; some pieces with very slight chips or wear of their edges.

### ***Flint by context***

The flint is summarised by context in Table 3.

Twenty-five flints came from fills of ring ditch 0006. They include a flake core and an irregular blade core, both single platform, thirteen flakes, one of them blade-like, four blades, a small thick flaked piece – possibly a core or scraper, an end/side scraper, an utilised flake, a shatter piece, a spall and a struck fragment. It is notable the one blade had an abraded platform and the other was a neat piece with a glossy pale grey patina. Additionally, a single platform flake core, two small blade fragments, a blade-like flake and three flakes, two of them utilised were found during surface cleaning of ring ditch 0006 (0103).

Thirty-seven flints were found in pit 0159 within the centre of the ring ditch. There is a small fragment, probably from a core; nineteen flakes, generally quite small and neat, seven small blades or blade fragments, one with an abraded platform; five spalls and a shatter piece. A possible piercer and three probably utilised flakes are also present.

Two neat thin blades, both with abraded platforms and of similar size although not refitting, came from pit 0151. Two quite smooth neat flakes were found in pit 0149

which cut 0151. Six small flints; a very small blade, three flakes and two spalls were found in pit 0146. The neat blades and thinnish flakes could suggest a relatively early date for these features but, apart from the two blades, they are not really diagnostic.

Context	Type	Quantity
0100	multi platform blade core	1
0100	multi platform flake core	1
0100	crested blade	1
0100	(flake) shatter	1
0100	piercer	1
0100	retouched flake	3
0100	scraper	1
0100	struck fragment	1
0100	utilised blade	1
0102	core tablet	1
0102	flake	2
0102	utilised blade	2
0103	blade	2
0103	single platform flake core	1
0103	blade-like flake	1
0103	flake	1
0103	utilised flake	2
0106	blade	2
0107	blade-like flake	1
0107	flake	1
0107	end/side scraper	1
0116	single platform flake core	1
0116	flake	4
0116	spall	1
0121	bipolar core	1
0121	flake	2
0121	scraper	1
0121	utilised flake	2
0147	blade	1
0147	flake	3
0147	spall	2
0150	flake	2

Table 3: Summary of the flint by context

A bipolar blade core, a small scraper and four flakes, two of them utilised were found in post-medieval ditch 0007.

Twelve flints were unstratified (0100). They include a multi platform flake core and irregular blade core, single shattered and struck fragments, a crested flake, a thick subcircular scraper, a piercer with utilised proximal end, three probable retouched flakes and two utilised blades.

A further five flints were collected during fieldwalking of an unexcavated area (0102). They include a core tablet, two flakes and two utilised blades.

### **Discussion**

Most of the flint from the site was found in deposits associated with the ring ditch and some of this material is likely to relate to activity associated with it and the other Bronze Age ring ditches to the north of the site. The irregular flake cores and some of the small hard hammer struck unpatinated flakes are likely to be of this date as is the small chunky end scraper and core/scraper which were both found in fills of the ring ditch.

There are, however, a notably large number of blades from the site (16% of the entire assemblage). This would be unexpected in an assemblage of Bronze Age date. The numbers of small quite neat blades, some with abraded platforms as well as the presence of the bipolar core, crested blade and core tablet, are all consistent with an early Neolithic or, possibly, Mesolithic date. When compared with other assemblages examined by the writer, similar numbers of blades have almost always been found with some or all of the types of pieces listed above and have been interpreted as representing Mesolithic or earlier Neolithic activity (for example; Suffolk RGH 044, where blades form 11% of the assemblage; LAK 207, 11% THS 011, 21% and Wimbotsham, Norfolk, NHER 48964 15% (unpublished)). One pit 0151 contained only two neat blades and could conceivably be of relatively early date. Most of the context assemblages, however, seem to be mixed. It seems highly likely that some of the flint at Bures Road represents an earlier phase of activity at the site and that at least some of the material was residual in the Bronze Age contexts. In this respect it is notable that one small neat blade from the fill of the ring ditch has a distinctive pale grey slightly glossy patina unlike the other debitage found there. Although patina is not always an indicator of greater age its presence on residual Mesolithic pieces has been noted (Healy 1988, 45; Bates 2008, 75). It is also notable that the bipolar core, the crested piece and many of the neat blade types are all of a similar dull grey, slightly patinated, smooth flint.

Some of the flint was found residually in a post-medieval ditch (this included the bipolar core) and some was from unstratified contexts (including the crested piece and the core tablet).

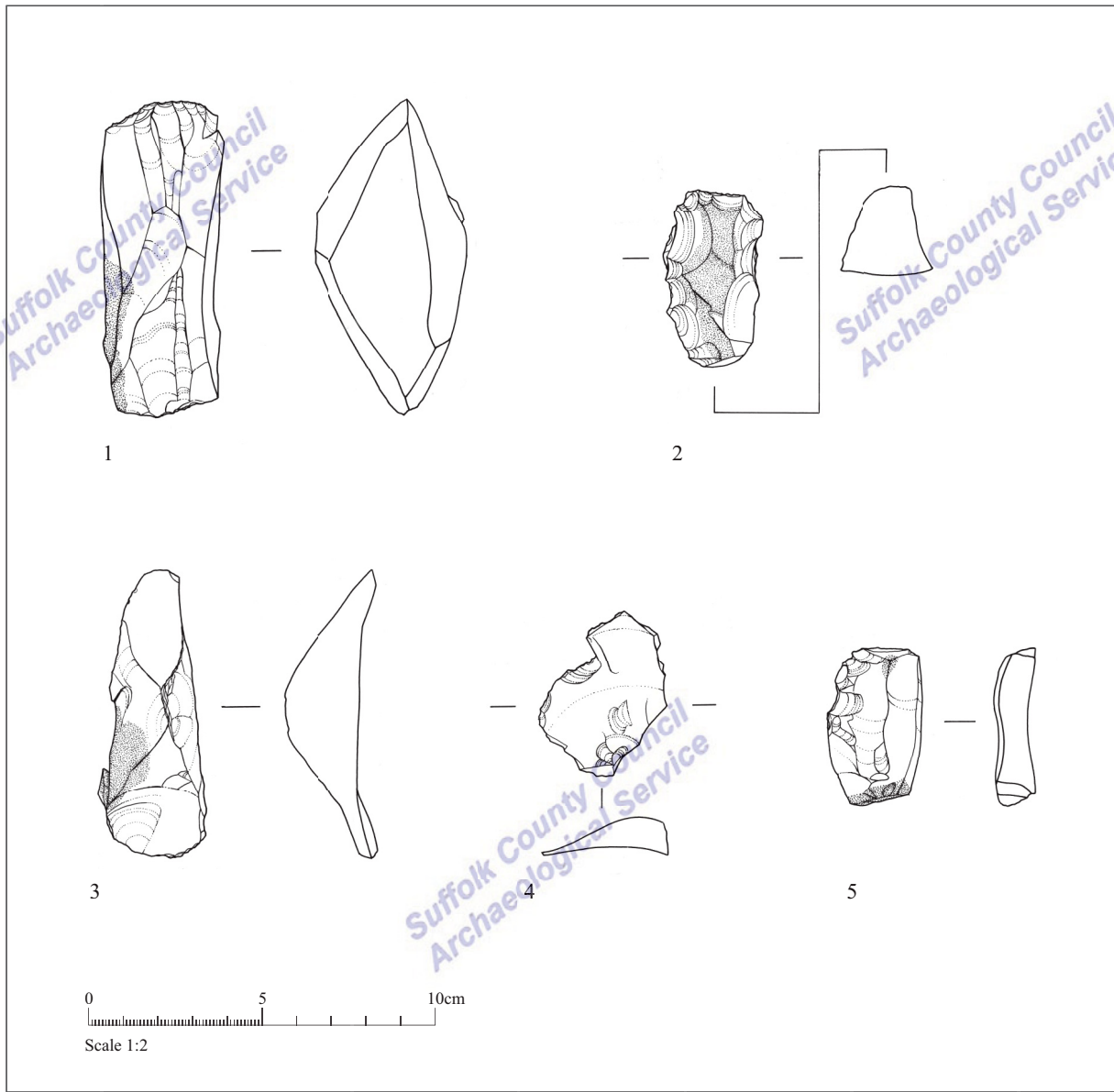


Figure 9. Illustrated flint

Suffolk County Council  
Archaeological Service

Suffolk County Council  
Archaeological Service

### 6.3 Burnt flint and other heated stone

In total some 73 pieces (1117g) of burnt flint and other heated stone were recovered. Almost all of this consists of burnt flints (69 pieces weighing 1063g) with only a very small quantity of other heated stone present (4 pieces weighing 54g). With the exception of 3 pieces of burnt flint (54g) which were recovered from plough soil (0102), all is from stratified contexts. The burnt flint and the other heated stone is quantified by context in Appendix 4.

The largest quantities of burnt flint were associated with two pits 0149 and 0163, located west of the ring ditch 0600. It was from these two features that the small quantity of heated stone was also recovered. The pit 0163 (0164) produced 29 burnt flints (469g) and three small pieces of heated stone. The pit 0149 (0150) produced 22 burnt flints (340g) and single piece of heated stone. Another pit, 0146 (0147), close to the west side of the ring ditch produced two pieces of burnt flint (14g). In total 53 pieces of burnt flint (823g) came from these pits.

Of the remaining pieces of burnt flint, almost all was recovered from the fill of the ring ditch 0006, with one piece from the pit/grave 0159 located at the centre of the ring ditch feature. In total 15 pieces (227g) was recovered from the ring ditch (contexts 0116, 0107, 1069 & 1070). Most of these contexts produced two-three pieces, with a total of between 54g – 64g by weight for each context. The largest amount from any one of these contexts (0170) is eight pieces (91g). The pit/grave 0159 (0160) produced just a single piece (13g).

#### ***Discussion***

While the burnt flint cannot be closely dated from a visual appraisal, it can be associated with the other prehistoric activity on the site. This activity is dated by the worked flints recovered to the Early Neolithic and to the Bronze Age. The burnt flint could belong to either, or to both of these periods. An emphasis on activity in the Bronze Age appears to be indicated by the flint assemblage (most of the earlier dated pieces appearing to be residual among mixed groups containing later dated flints) and by the ring ditch. This suggests much, possibly all, of the burnt flint could be of Bronze Age date. This is supported by the limited number of contexts from which the burnt flint was recovered, being concentrated in two pits, 0149 & 0163. These two pits

are located in the area to the west of the ring ditch. A smaller quantity of burnt flint is associated with the ring ditch itself, which, given its size in relation to the pits indicates a much lower concentration in the ditch fill. Also, only one or two pieces were associated with individual features close to the ring ditch, or within it. Overall, this suggests that the activity involving the burnt flint took place away from the area occupied by the ring ditch.

The very small quantity of other heated stone recovered suggests that this probably represents incidental material which has become accidentally heated.

## 6.4 Other finds

There are a very small number of other finds recovered from the site which are, or are likely to be, of post-medieval or modern date.

A piece from a clay pipe stem (8g) and a piece of ceramic building material (CBM) (124g), probably peg tile, were recovered from the ditch 0007 (0121). Also a small fragment of slate (1g) was recovered from the fill of the pit/grave feature 0159 (0160).

## 6.5 Plant macrofossils and other remains

By Val Fryer

### ***Introduction and method statement***

Excavations at Great Cornard, undertaken by the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, recorded a small number of features of possible Bronze Age date. The lack of pottery from the excavated contexts possibly indicated that the site was non-domestic in nature and there was some evidence for *in situ* burning within some features. Samples for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from pit and ring ditch fills and nine were submitted for assessment.

The samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains

noted are listed in Table 4. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (1997). All plant remains were charred. Modern contaminants were scarce, although some fibrous roots were recorded.

### **Results**

The recovered flots were all very small (considerably less than 0.1 litres in volume) and plant macrofossils were exceedingly scarce. Charcoal/charred wood fragments were present at a low to moderate density throughout, but the only other macrofossils recorded were a fragmentary cereal grain from ring ditch 0006 (Sample 7) and a piece of possible hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell from pit 159 (Sample 6). All plant remains were coated with fine red/brown silt particles and most showed evidence of having been burnt at extremely high temperatures. Five assemblages contained a number of splinters of burnt stone, possibly indicative of *in situ* burning. These were particularly common within the assemblage from pit 0163 (Sample 4), which also contained burnt soil concretions and pellets of burnt or fired clay. Fragments of black porous material, most of which were probable residues of the combustion of organic remains at very high temperatures, were present within all but two assemblages. The small pieces of coal were almost certainly intrusive within the contexts from which the samples were taken.

### **Conclusions and recommendations for further work**

The few plant remains recorded are almost certainly either accidental inclusions within the contexts or possible residues from fuels used on or near the site. It would appear that one or more episodes of intense burning occurred within or adjacent to the pits and ring ditches recorded during excavation, although the significance of this activity is not currently understood.

As none of the assemblages contain a sufficient density of material for quantification (i.e. 100+ specimens), no further analysis is recommended.

Sample No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Context No.	0150	0156	0158	0025	0169	0160	0170	0008	0024
Feature No.	0149	0155	0155	0163	0006	0159	0006		
Feature type	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit	R.ditch	Pit	R.ditch		
<b>Plant macrofossils</b>									
Cereal indet. (grain frag.)							x		
Corylus avellana L.						xcf			
Charcoal <2mm	xxx	x	xxx	xxx	xx	x	x	xx	x
Charcoal >2mm	xx	x	xx	xx	xx	x	x	x	x
Charred root/stem					x		x		x
<b>Other remains</b>									
Black porous 'cokey' material	xx	x	xx		x		x		x
Black tarry material		x		x			x	x	
Burnt/fired clay	xx	x		x					
Burnt stone		x	x	xx	x		x		
Burnt soil concretions				xx					
Small coal frags.	x			x	x	x	x	x	x
Sample volume (litres)	15ss	15ss	15ss	15ss	15ss	15ss	15ss	15ss	10
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
% flot sorted	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 4. Plant macrofossils and other remains

Key: x = 1-10 specimens, xx = 11-50 specimens, xxx = 51-100 specimens. cf = compare, ss = sub-sample

## 6.6 Overall summary and discussion of the finds

The archaeologically significant finds consist of quantities of worked flints and burnt flints of prehistoric date. Some of the worked flint can be dated as Bronze Age and can be associated with activity relating to the ring ditch. There are some earlier dated worked flints present, indicating an earlier phase of activity in the Early Neolithic and possibly in the Mesolithic period, but these appear to be mostly residual among mixed groups containing later dated flints. The burnt flint could be associated with both the Neolithic and Bronze Age activity, although there appears to be a greater emphasis on that of the Bronze Age in terms of the flint assemblage and the ring ditch. Also, the burnt flint was recovered from a limited number of contexts, which include the ring ditch itself, so that much, possibly all might be of Bronze Age date. However, most of the burnt flint is not directly associated with the area of the ring ditch but with two pits located to the west of it.

It is notable that no prehistoric pottery of either Neolithic or Bronze Age date was recovered. At a broad interpretation this would seem to indicate an absence of domestic activity in the area, certainly in the Bronze Age, and an emphasis in that period on the funerary aspect of the site represented by the ring ditch.



The few other finds recovered are of post-medieval or probable post-medieval or modern date and are incidental to the significant archaeology on the site.

## **6.7 The requirement for further work**

The requirement for further work to achieve a finished finds report is considered to be limited. The finds consist of a large quantity of prehistoric worked flint of Neolithic and Bronze Age date, burnt flint, together with some other heated stones, which can be dated to the same prehistoric period as the worked flint and a very few other finds that are, or are likely to be, of post-medieval or modern date.

The worked flint has a full report which, of itself, needs no further additional work. The burnt flint and heated stone have a short report which probably does not require further work as almost all is simply burnt flint, the date and distribution (limited to a few features) of which has been briefly discussed. There appears probably little merit in pursuing identifications of the few other heated stone fragments as their small number suggests they probably represent incidental pieces which were heated along with the flint.

The other, relatively recent, finds are few and incidental to the prehistoric archaeology so that they also probably do not merit further attention.

## 7. Discussion

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The excavation has identified possible evidence of Mesolithic or Neolithic activity, in the form of a small finds assemblage, being present as residual deposits in later features.

The main phase of activity on the site occurred in the Bronze Age period with the sparse scatter of pits probably being focused upon the small ring ditch 0006. Although no burial was identified in the central pit 0159 these two features are thought to be evidence of a barrow. The lack of domestic material in the finds assemblage also supports the interpretation that activity on the site was of a funerary nature.

This prehistoric activity, particularly in regard to its apparent funerary nature, is clearly related to the contemporary evidence seen in the recent excavations by SCCAS of the two ring ditches, COG 004 and 0005, on the former rugby pitch to the north-west (Muldowney in prep). In addition to the two main ring ditches, a smaller example of very similar size and appearance to 0006 was identified adjacent to COG 004. Evidence of human skeletal remains was also absent in these excavations, although one of the burial pits contained grave goods, and this lack would seem due to the acidic nature of the natural subsoils.

Following the prehistoric period there is no evidence of any activity on the site until the post-medieval period. Ditches 0007, 0118 and probably 0131 are most likely of this date and, lying in open agricultural land, probably mark former field boundaries.

## 8. Conclusions and significance of the fieldwork

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The excavation has identified evidence of funerary activity in the Bronze Age period, with a possible earlier phase of occupation in the Mesolithic/Early Neolithic. The evidence on the site, particularly ring ditch 0006, is part of a wider landscape of Bronze Age funerary activity, with several other known ring ditches lying immediately to the north-west.

Although the material evidence from this site requires no further analysis on its own the results should be included within any future archaeological publication of the excavations of the COG 004 and 005 ring ditches that were carried out by SCCAS in 2009, for which an assessment of the results for these sites is currently in preparation. In particular this publication should include a comparison of the 0006 ring ditch to the other known example, and a reanalysis of the finds assemblage in conjunction with the material collected in the other excavations.

## **9. Archive deposition**

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Paper and photographic archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds

Digital archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds T:\arc\archive field proj\Great Cornard\COG 025

Finds and environmental archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds

## **10. List of contributors and acknowledgements**

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The excavation was carried out by a number of archaeological staff, (Andrew Beverton, John Craven, Thomas Cutler, Jennifer Hoang, Daniel McConnell, John Sims and Jonathan Van Jennians) all from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team.

The project was directed by John Craven, and managed by David Gill, who also provided advice during the production of the report.

The post-excavation was managed by Richenda Goffin. Finds processing and the production of site plans and sections was carried out by Gemma Adams, and the specialist finds report by Stephen Benfield, Sarah Bates (NAU Archaeology) and Val Fryer (freelance).

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# Appendix 1

## SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

### *Brief and Specification for an Archaeological Excavation*

#### LAND OFF BURES ROAD, GREAT CORNARD

*Although this document is fundamental to the work of the specialist archaeological contractor the developer should be aware that certain of its requirements are likely to impinge upon the working practices of a general building contractor and may have financial implications, for example see paragraphs 2.1 & 4.11. The commissioning body may also have Health & Safety and other responsibilities, see paragraphs 1.7 & 1.8*

### 1. Background

- 1.1 Consent has been granted for development (B/03/01504/FUL). The planning authority have applied a PPG 16, paragraph 30 condition to the consent.
- 1.2 The development area has been archaeologically evaluated and the report adequately describes the archaeology of the site (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Report No. 2006/037; Suffolk Sites and Monuments Record no. COG 025)
- 1.3 In order to comply with the planning condition the prospective developer has requested a brief and specification for the archaeological recording of archaeological deposits which will be affected by development.
- 1.4 There is a presumption that all archaeological work specified for the whole area will be undertaken by the same body, whether the fieldwork takes place in phases or not. There is similarly a presumption that further analysis and post-excavation work to final report stage will be carried through by the excavating body. Any variation from this principle would require a justification which would show benefit to the archaeological process.
- 1.5 Detailed standards, information and advice to supplement this brief are to be found in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, Occasional Papers 14, East Anglian Archaeology, 2003.
- 1.6 All arrangements for field excavation of the site, the timing of the work, and access to the site, are to be negotiated with the commissioning body.

1.7 Before any archaeological site work can commence it is the responsibility of the developer to provide the archaeological contractor with either the contaminated land report for the site or a written statement that there is no contamination. **The developer should be aware that investigative sampling to test for contamination is likely to have an impact on any archaeological deposits that exist; proposals for sampling should be discussed with this office before execution.**

1.8 The responsibility for identifying any restraints on field-work (e.g. Scheduled Monument status, Listed Building status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites &c.) rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor. The existence and content of the archaeological brief does not over-ride such restraints or imply that the target area is freely available.

## 2. Brief for the Archaeological Project

2.1 In the area defined in red on Figure 1, archaeological excavation, as specified in Section 3, is to be carried out prior to development. The precise location of the area is relative to the recorded positions of the evaluation trenches. Figure 1 is purely indicative. The exact definition of the excavation area is to be agreed on site with the Conservation Team of SCCAS.

2.2 The excavation objective will be to provide a record of all archaeological deposits which would otherwise be damaged or removed by development, including services and landscaping permitted by any future detailed consent.

2.3 The academic objective will centre upon the high potential for this site to produce evidence for prehistoric settlement.

2.4 In addition to the formal archaeological excavation there will be a programme of systematic archaeological monitoring of selected development works where the evaluation has shown the presence of archaeological features. This work is specified in Section 4. [The precise areas for the work cannot be defined until detailed planning application is made and approved. For costing purposes an indicative estimate of works is made.]

2.5 This project will be carried through in a manner broadly consistent with English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (MAP2). Excavation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential for analysis and publication. Analysis and final report preparation will follow assessment and will be the subject of a further brief and updated project design.

2.6 In accordance with the standards and guidance produced by the Institute of Field Archaeologists this brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the total execution of the project. A Project Design or Written Scheme of Investigation (PD/WSI) based upon this brief and the accompanying outline specification of minimum requirements, is an essential requirement. This must be submitted by the developers, or their agent, to the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR; telephone/fax: 01284 352443) for approval. The work must not commence until this office has

approved both the archaeological contractor as suitable to undertake the work, and the PD/WSI as satisfactory. The PD/WSI will *provide the basis for measurable standards* and will be used to establish whether the requirements of the planning condition will be adequately met. An important aspect of the PD/WSI will be an assessment of the project in relation to the Regional Research Framework (*Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties, 1. resource assessment*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 3, 1997; *Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. research agenda and strategy*, E.A.A. Occasional Paper 8, 2000).

- 2.7 The developer or his archaeologist will give the Conservation Team of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (SCCAS) five working days notice of the commencement of ground works on the site, in order that the work of the archaeological contractor may be monitored. The method and form of development will also be monitored to ensure that it conforms to previously agreed locations and techniques upon which this brief is based.

### 3. **Specification for the Archaeological Excavation**

The excavation methodology will form part of the Project Design and is to be agreed in detail before the project commences; defined minimum criteria in this outline are to be met or exceeded:

- 3.1 The area marked in red on the attached map (subject to the provisos set out in para. 2.1) is to be archaeologically excavated.
- 3.2 Plough soil and hillwash deposits can be removed by machine with a toothless bucket to the top of the first archaeological level.
- 3.3 Fully excavate all features that are, or could be interpreted as, structural. Post-holes, and pits that may be interpreted as post-holes, must be examined in section and then fully excavated. Fabricated surfaces within the excavation area (e.g. paths, yards, hearths & floors) must be fully exposed and cleaned. Any variation from this process can only be made by agreement with a member of the Conservation Team of SCCAS, and must be confirmed in writing.
- 3.4 All other features must be sufficiently examined to establish, where possible, their date and function. For guidance:
- a) A minimum of 50% of the fills of the general features is to be excavated. Note that it is likely that prehistoric features e.g. especially pits, are likely to require full excavation.
  - b) Between 10% and 20% of the fills of substantial linear features (ditches etc) are to be excavated, the samples must be representative of the available length of the feature and must take into account any variations in the shape or fill of the feature and any concentrations of artefacts. Any variations from this practice are to be agreed [ if necessary on site ] with the Conservation Team.

Any variation from this process can only be made by agreement with a member of the Conservation Team of SCCAS, and must be confirmed in writing.

- 3.5 Collect and prepare environmental samples (by sieving or flotation as appropriate). The Project Design must provide details of the sampling strategies for retrieving artefacts, biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations), and samples of sediments and/or soils (for micromorphological and other pedological/sedimentological analyses. Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from P Murphy, English Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy and Wiltshire 1994) is available from the Conservation Team of SCCAS.
- 3.6 A finds recovery policy is to be agreed before the project commences. It should be addressed by the Project Design. Use of a metal detector will form an essential part of finds recovery. Sieving of occupation levels and building fills will be expected.
- 3.7 All finds will be collected and processed. No discard policy will be considered until the whole body of finds has been evaluated.
- 3.8 All ceramic, bone and stone artefacts to be cleaned and processed concurrently with the excavation to allow immediate evaluation and input into decision making.
- 3.9 Metal artefacts must be stored and managed on site in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines* and evaluated for significant dating and cultural implications before despatch to a conservation laboratory within 4 weeks of excavation.
- 3.10 Human remains are to be treated at all stages with care and respect, and are to be dealt with in accordance with the law. They must be recorded *in situ* and subsequently lifted, packed and marked to standards compatible with those described in the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Technical Paper 13: Excavation and post-excavation treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Human Remains*, by McKinley & Roberts. Proposals for the final disposition of remains following study and analysis will be required in the Project Design.
- 3.11 Plans of the archaeological features on the site should normally be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50, depending on the complexity of the data to be recorded. Sections should be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 again depending on the complexity to be recorded. Any variations from this must be agreed with the Conservation Team.
- 3.12 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies.
- 3.13 Excavation record keeping is to be consistent with the requirements Suffolk County Council's Sites and Monuments Record and compatible with its archive. Methods must be agreed with the Conservation Team of SCCAS.

#### 4. **Brief for Archaeological Monitoring**



- 4.1 To provide a record of archaeological deposits which are not to be archaeologically excavated prior to development but which will be damaged or removed by any development [including services and landscaping] permitted by the current planning consent.
- 4.2 To carry out the monitoring work the developer will appoint an archaeologist (the observing archaeologist) who must be approved by the Conservation Team of SCCAS.
- 4.3 The developer or his archaeologist will give the Conservation Team of SCCAS 48-hours notice of the commencement of site works.
- 4.4 A contingency allowance must be made to cover archaeological costs incurred in monitoring the development works. The size of the contingency should be estimated by the approved archaeological observer, on the basis of the work specified below and the contractor's timetable and working practices.
- 4.5 The developer shall afford access at all reasonable times to both Conservation Team of SCCAS and an 'observing archaeologist' to allow archaeological observation of building and engineering operations which disturb the ground.
- 4.6 Opportunity must be given to the 'observing archaeologist' to hand excavate any discrete archaeological features, which appear during earth moving operations, retrieve finds and make measured records as necessary.
- 4.7 The 'observing archaeologist' will not be entitled to enforce specific delays and hold ups to the work of the contractor other than those previously agreed and set out in the Project Design. If delays prove desirable to the archaeological recording process they should be arranged by mutual agreement with the contractor.
- 4.8 All archaeological features must be planned at a minimum scale of 1:50 on a plan showing the proposed layout of the development.
- 4.9 All contexts must be numbered and finds recorded by context.
- 4.10 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Sites and Monument Record.
- 4.11 The precise monitoring works required cannot be specified until detailed development plans are formulated. The principal aim will be to trace the line and extent of ditches or other features that are encountered the main excavation, as well as the investigation of features that are revealed by chance. Working practices are to be defined in the Project Design. For the purposes of providing an indication of the scale of work and comparable quotations for this work it is suggested that for this application area a minimum of attendances on site will be:  
2 attendances of one day each
- 4.12 The results of this monitoring must be recorded in a manner consistent with the main excavated areas and incorporated into the archive record.

## 5. General Management

- 5.1 A timetable for all stages of the project must be agreed before the first stage of work commences.
- 5.2 Monitoring of the archaeological work will be undertaken by the Conservation Team of SCCAS. Where projects require more than a total of two man-days on site monitoring and two man-days post-excavation monitoring, a contribution may be requested to assist with the expenses of carrying out the monitoring (currently expected to be in the region of £150 per day, but to be agreed at the time that the project takes place), it would be helpful if provision could be made for this in all costings. [A decision on the monitoring required will be made by the Conservation Team on submission of the accepted Project Design.]
- 5.3 The composition of the project staff must be detailed and agreed (this is to include any subcontractors). For the site director and other staff likely to have a major responsibility for the post-excavation processing of this site there must be a statement of their responsibilities for post-excavation work on other archaeological sites.
- 5.4 A general Health and Safety Policy must be provided, with detailed risk assessment and management strategy for this particular site.
- 5.5 The Project Design must include proposed security measures to protect the site and both excavated and unexcavated finds from vandalism and theft.
- 5.6 Provision for the reinstatement of the ground and filling of dangerous holes must be detailed in the Project Design.
- 5.7 Developers should be aware of the possibility of human burials being found. If this eventuality occurs they must comply with the provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857; and the archaeologist should be informed by '*Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England*' (English Heritage & the Church of England 2005) which includes sensible baseline standards which are likely to apply whatever the location, age or denomination of a burial.
- 5.8 The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessments* and for *Field Evaluations* should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

## 6. Archive Requirements

- 6.1 Within four weeks of the end of field-work a timetable for post-excavation work must be produced. Following this a written statement of progress on post -excavation work whether archive, assessment, analysis or final report writing will be required at three monthly intervals.
- 6.2 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared consistent with the principle of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (*MAP2*), particularly Appendix 3. However, the detail of the archive is to be fuller than that implied in *MAP2* Appendix 3.2.1. The archive is to be sufficiently detailed to allow

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

- 6.3 A clear statement of the form, intended content, and standards of the archive is to be submitted for approval as an essential requirement of the Project Design (see 2.5).
- 6.4 The site archive quoted at *MAP2* Appendix 3, must satisfy the standard set by the “Guideline for the preparation of site archives and assessments of all finds other than fired clay vessels” of the Roman Finds Group and the Finds Research Group AD700-1700 (1993).
- 6.5 Pottery should be recorded and archived to a standard comparable with 6.3 above, i.e. *The Study of Later Prehistoric Pottery: General Policies and Guidelines for Analysis and Publication*, Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group Occasional Paper 1 (1991, rev 1997), the *Guidelines for the archiving of Roman Pottery*, Study Group for Roman Pottery (ed. M G Darling 1994) and the *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2 (2001).
- 6.6 All coins must be identified and listed as a minimum archive requirement.
- 6.7 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Sites and Monuments Record. All record drawings of excavated evidence are to be presented in drawn up form, with overall site plans. All records must be on an archivally stable and suitable base.
- 6.8 A complete copy of the site record archive must be deposited with the County Sites and Monuments Record within 12 months of the completion of fieldwork. It will then become publicly accessible.
- 6.9 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with UK Institute Conservators Guidelines.
- 6.10 Every effort must be made to get the agreement of the landowner/developer to the deposition of the finds with the County SMR or a museum in Suffolk which satisfies Museum and Galleries Commission requirements, as an indissoluble part of the full site archive. If this is not achievable for all or parts of the finds archive then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate. If the County SMR is the repository for finds there will be a charge made for storage, and it is presumed that this will also be true for storage of the archive in a museum.
- 6.11 Where positive conclusions are drawn from a project, a summary report in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual ‘Archaeology in Suffolk’ section of the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute for Archaeology journal, must be prepared and included in the project report, or submitted to the Conservation Team by the end of the calendar year in which the evaluation work takes place, whichever is the sooner.

## 7. Report Requirements

- 7.1 A report on the fieldwork and archive must be provided consistent with the principle of *MAP2*, particularly Appendix 4. The report must be integrated with the archive.
- 7.2 The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its archaeological interpretation.
- 7.3 An important element of the report will be a description of the methodology.
- 7.4 Reports on specific areas of specialist study must include sufficient detail to permit assessment of potential for analysis, including tabulation of data by context, and must include non-technical summaries.
- 7.5 The report will give an opinion as to the potential and necessity for further analysis of the excavation data beyond the archive stage, and the suggested requirement for publication; it will refer to the Regional Research Framework (see above, 2.5). Further analysis will not be embarked upon until the primary fieldwork results are assessed and the need for further work is established. Analysis and publication can be neither developed in detail or costed in detail until this brief and specification is satisfied, however, the developer should be aware that there may be a responsibility to provide a publication of the results of the programme of work.
- 7.6 The assessment report must be presented within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated with the project sponsor and the Conservation Team of SCCAS
- 7.7 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.
- 7.8 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the SMR. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

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Tel: 01284 352442

Date: 13 October 2006

Reference: Cornard Bures Rd 06

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

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

## Appendix 2. Context list

Context	Feature	Ditch seg	Identifier	Description	Finds	Cuts	Cutby
0006	0006		ring ditch	Ring ditch, 11m in diameter, partially under north edge of site. Originally identified in evaluation as a possible curving enclosure ditch.			0007
0007	0007		ditch	L linear ditch, aligned nw-se, cuts 0118 and cuts and terminates above 0006.		0006 0	
0028	0028		Pit cut	Oval pit, 50% excavated in evaluation trench 09. Re-emptied and 100% excavated.			
0029	0028		Pit fill	Fill of pit 0028. Second half was removed and sieved. Mid brown silt/sand.			
0100	0100		unstrat Finds	Unstratified finds recovered during machining.	Y		
0101	0101		Hollow	Large hollow in the north-west corner of the site. Infilled with 0176. See section 0175.			
0102	0100		Finds	Finds recovered from fieldwalking of ploughsoil at west end of site where machining was not possible due to presence of badger sett.			
0103	0006		unstrat Finds	Unstratified finds recovered during initial surface clean of ring ditch 0006.			
0104	0006	0104	ditch Section	Section of ring ditch 0006. 0.83m wide, 0.17m deep. Moderate sides, flat base.			
0105	0006	0105	Section	Section of ring ditch 0006. 0.67m wide, 0.12m deep. Moderate sides, flat base.			
0106	0006	0104 0105	Ditch fill	Fill of ring ditch 0006 between sections 0104 and 0105. Compact light grey/brown silt, occasional gravel.	Y		
0107	0006	0109 0110	Ditch fill	Fill of ring ditch 0006 between sections 0109 and 0110. Mid brown/orange silt/sand, occasional gravel.	Y		
0108	0006		Ditch fill	Fill of ring ditch 0006 between sections 0109 and 0115. Mid brown/orange silt/sand, occasional gravel.			
0109	0006	0109	Section	Section of ring ditch 0006. 0.8m wide, 0.21m deep. Moderate sides, concave base.			
0110	0006	0110	Section	Section of ring ditch 0006. 0.95m wide, 0.19m deep. Moderate sides, concave base. Slightly truncated by evaluation trench 09.			
0111	0006	0112 0113	Ditch fill	Fill of ring ditch 0006 between sections 0112 and 0113. Compact mid brown silt/sand, occasional gravel. No visible distinction between this fill and above homogenous brown silt layer.			
0112	0006	0112	Section	Section of ring ditch 0006. 0.8m wide, 0.22m deep. Moderate sides, concave base.			
0113	0006	0113	Section	Section of ring ditch 0006 against edge of site. C.0.8m wide, 0.3m deep. Moderate sides, flat base. Not clear whether ditch cuts through or underlies the c. 0.5m thick layer of brown silt above it.			
0114	0006	0114	Section	Section of ring ditch 0006. 0.8m wide, 0.25m deep. Moderate sides, concave base.			

Context	Feature	Ditch seg	Identifier	Description	Findings	Cuts	Cutby
0115	0006 0007	0115	Section	Section across junction of ring ditch 0006 and ditch 0007. Shows 0007 cutting 0006.			
0116	0006	0114 0115	Ditch fill	Fill of ring ditch 0006 between sections 0114 and 0115. Loose mid brown/grey silt/sand, occasional gravel.	Y		0007
0117	0007	0115	Ditch fill	Fill of ditch 0007 in section 0115. Mid orange/brown silt/sand with gravel.			
0118	0118		Ditch cut	Narrow linear ditch, aligned east-west, running across site to south of ring ditch 0006. See sections.			
0119	0118	0119	Section	Section of ditch 0118. 0.8m wide and 0.2m deep. Moderate sides and concave base.			
0120	0118	0119	Ditch fill	Fill of 0119 section of ditch 0118. Dense mid brown homogenous silt with occasional gravel.			
0121	0007	0123 0125	Ditch fill	Fill of ditch 0007 in quadrant sections 0123 and 0125. Mid orange/brown silt/sand with occasional gravel.	Y		
0122	0118	0123 0125	Ditch fill	Fill of ditch 0118 in quadrant sections 0123 and 0125. Mid orange/brown silt/sand with occasional gravel.			0007
0123	0007 0118	0123	Section	One of two quadrant sections of junction of ditches 0007 and 0118. Shows 0007 cutting 0118.			
0124	0007	0126	Ditch fill	Fill of ditch 0007 in section 0126. Mid brown silt/sand with occasional gravel.			
0125	0007 0118	0125	Section	One of two quadrant sections of junction of ditches 0007 and 0118. Shows 0007 cutting 0118.			
0126	0007	0126	Section	Section of ditch 0007. 0.9m wide, 0.24m with moderate-steep sides and concave base.			
0127	0118	0128	Ditch fill	Fill of ditch 0118 in section 0128. Light-mid yellow/brown silt/sand with occasional gravel.			
0128	0118	0128	Section	Section of ditch 0118. Moderate sides, concave base. 0.8m wide and 0.2m deep.			
0129	0007	0129	Section	Section of ditch 0007. Moderate sides, concave base. 0.6m wide and 0.25m deep.			
0130	0007	0129	Ditch fill	Fill of ditch 0118 in section 0128. Mid brown silt.			
0131	0131		Ditch cut	Linear ditch or gully, east-west aligned but slightly irregular. Narrow and possibly truncated by machining. Fades away or butts to east, just short of ditch 0007.			
0132	0131	0132	Section	Section of ditch 0131. Moderate sides, concave base. 0.35m wide and 0.08m deep.			
0133	0131	0132	Ditch fill	Fill of section 0132 of ditch 0131. Mid brown silt.			
0134	0131	0134	Section	Section of ditch 0131. Moderate sides, concave base. 0.2m wide and 0.04m deep.			
0135	0131	0134	Ditch fill	Fill of section 0134 of ditch 0131. Mid brown silt.			
0136	0131	0136	Section	Section of ditch 0131. Moderate sides, concave base. 0.35m wide and 0.06m deep.			

Context	Feature	Ditch seg	Identifier	Description	Findings	Cuts	Cutby
0137	0131	0136	Ditch fill	Fill of section 0136 of ditch 0131. Mid brown silt.			
0138	0131	0138	Section	Section of ditch 0131. Moderate sides, concave base. 0.3m wide and 0.06m deep.			
0139	0131	0138	Ditch fill	Fill of section 0138 of ditch 0131. Mid brown silt.			
0140	0131	0140	Section	Section of ditch 0131. Moderate sides, concave base. 0.3m wide and 0.06m deep.			
0141	0131	0140	Ditch fill	Fill of section 0140 of ditch 0131. Mid brown silt.			
0142	0142	0144	Feature cut	Probable natural feature on edge of ditch 0007. Excavated in section 0144. Steep sides, concave base. 0.95m by 0.14m and 0.27m deep.			
0143	0142	0144	Feature fill	Fill of 0142 in section 0144. Mid brown silt.			
0144	0007 0142	0144	Section	Section across 0007 and 0142.			
0145	0007	0144	Ditch fill	Fill of ditch 0007 in section 0144. Mid brown silt and gravel.			
0146	0146		Pit cut	Oval pit or ditch terminus, partially under north site baulk. 0.9m+ long, 0.4m wide and 0.14m deep. Moderate sides, flat base.			
0147	0146		Pit fill	Fill of 0146. Compact mid brown silt/sand. 100% excavated, second half sieved.			
0148	0149 0151	0148	Section	Section across intercutting pits 0149 and 0151. Shows that 0149 cuts 0151.			
0149	0149	0148	Pit cut	Circular pit, 0.75m diameter and 0.38m deep with steep sides and a concave base.		0151	
0150	0149	0148	Pit fill	Fill of pit 0149. Dark brown/black silt/sand with charcoal and burnt flint. 100% excavated, second half sieved.			
0151	0151	0148	Pit cut	Circular pit, irregular sides and base, measuring 1.2m diameter and 0.18m deep.			0149
0152	0151	0148	Pit fill	Mid orange/brown silt/sand with gravel. 100% excavated, second half sieved.			
0153	0153		Pit cut	Oval pit, measuring 1m by 1.4m and 0.3m deep. Moderate sides and a concave base.			
0154	0153		Pit fill	Fill of pit 0153. Light-mid grey/brown sand/silt with gravel. 100% excavated, second half sieved.			
0155	0155		Pit cut	Circular pit, measuring 0.8m by 0.8m and 0.22m deep. Gentle sides and a concave base.			
0156	0155		Pit fill	Fill of pit 0155. Dark brown/black silt/sand with charcoal and burnt flint. 100% excavated, second half sieved.			
0157	0157		Pit cut	Circular pit, 1m diameter and 0.13m deep. Gentle sides and concave base.			



Context	Feature	Ditch seg	Identifier	Description	Findings	Cuts	Cutby
0158	0157		Pit fill	Fill of pit 0155. Dark brown/black silt/sand with charcoal and burnt flint. 100% excavated, second half sieved.			
0159	0159		Pit/grave cut	Large oval pit lying at centre of ring ditch 0006 so a potential grave cut. Aligned NE-SW measuring 2.23m long, 1.88m wide and 0.76m deep. Moderate-steep sloping sides and a base sloping down to the SW.			
0160	0159		Pit/grave fill	Fill of 0159. Homogenous mid grey/brown silt/sand with occasional scattered gravel. 100% excavated, second half sieved.		Y	
0161	0118	0161	Section	Section of ditch 0118. 0.6m wide and 0.3m deep. Moderate sides and concave base.			
0162	0118	0161	Ditch fill	Fill of 0118. Mid brown silt and gravel.			
0163	0163		Pit cut	Circular pit measuring 1.2m by 1.4m and 0.24m deep. Gentle sides and concave base.			
0164	0163		Pit fill	Fill of pit 0163. Dark brown/black silt/sand with charcoal and burnt flint. Animal disturbance through centre. 100% excavated, second half sieved.			
0165	0165		Pit cut	Oval pit, measuring 2m by 1m and 0.42m deep. Irregular moderate sides and a concave base. Probably natural.			
0166	0165		Pit fill	Fill of pit 0165. Mid grey/brown silt/sand and occasional gravel. 100% excavated, second half sieved.			
0167	0118	0168	Ditch fill	Fill of 0118. Mid orange/brown silt and gravel.			
0168	0118	0168	Section	Section of ditch 0118. 0.8m wide and 0.3m deep. Moderate sides and concave base.			
0169	0006	0113 0114	Ditch fill	Fill of ring ditch 0006 from between sections 0113 and 0114. Mid orange/brown silt/sand and occasional gravel. Sieved.			
0170	0006		Ditch fill	Fill of ring ditch 0006 from between sections 0104 and 0110. Mid orange/brown silt/sand and occasional gravel. Sieved.		Y	
0171	0006	0171	Section	Section of ring ditch 0006 against edge of site. C.0.8m wide, 0.2m deep. Gentle sides, flat base. Not clear whether ditch cuts through or underlies the c. 0.4m-0.6m thick layer of brown silt above it.			
0172	0006	0105 0171	Ditch fill	Fill of ring ditch 0006 from between sections 0105 and 0171. Mid brown silt/sand and occasional gravel. Sieved.			
0173	0173		Pit cut	Small oval pit, measuring 1m by 0.7m and 0.3m deep. Moderate sides and concave base.			
0174	0173		Pit fill	Mid brown/black silt. 100% excavated and sieved.			
0175	0101	0175	Section	Box section against site baulk of eastern edge of hollow 0101. Showed a steep cut, probably manmade, indicating that hollow is probably former quarry pit. No sign of base at 1.6m depth.			
0176	0101		Hollow fill	Fine yellow/brown gravel, uniform fill of hollow.			

Context	Feature	Ditch seg	Identifier	Description	Findings	Cuts	Cutby
0177	0177		Pit cut	Oval pit, partially underlying ring ditch 0006 and partially under baulk. Measured c. 1m+ by 0.6m and 0.4m deep. Irregular sides and base, possibly natural tree hole etc.			
0178	0177		Pit fill	Fill of 0177. Compact pale brown silt/loam.			
0179		0179	Section	Baulk section of site edge. See plan.			
0180		0180	Section	Baulk section of site edge. See plan.			
0181		0181	Section	Baulk section of site edge. See plan.			

### Appendix 3: Worked flint

Ctxt Cat.	Type	s/b	No.	Wt(g)	Comp.	Cort.	Prim.	Pat.	Sharp	E.dam.	Hinge	Burnt	Non-str.	Date	Comment	illust
0100 core	multi platform flake core	s	1	175	1	1	0	0	0		0	0	0		qu large, irreg, fls from two edges on one side, struck qu neatly and some bl-like	
0100 stfr	struck fragment	s	1	48	0	1	0	0	0		0	0	0		sm chunk which is battered and poss struck - if so v sm fls	
0100 core	multi platform blade core	s	1	61	1	1	0	0	0		0	0	0		irreg with cort on side, bl like removals from two 'ends'	
0100 reff	retouched flake	s	3	0	3	1	0	1	1	some	0	0	0		1 -thick, with slight ret part of edge, others are irreg with slight poss ret and other edge damage	
0100 utbl	utilised blade	s	1	0	0	0	0	1	1		0	0	0	E Neo	qu sm - but rel v long narrow bl - both ends are missing, both edges are utilised this may be nat/nonstruck	Fig 9. 03
0100 flak	shatter	s	1	0	0	1	0	1	1		0	0	0		thick subcirc with ret of steep right and dist sides and surviving left side - some damage/flaking to ventral left edge	
0100 scpf	scraper	s	1	0	1	0	0	0	0		0	0	0		thick slightly curving bl with battered dorsal ridge- also has faceted plat - some type of core prep piece from multiplat core	
0100 corf	crested blade	s	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	some	0	0	0		qu thick cortical bl, neat bladelet previous removals from prox endwith tiny point at prox. end apparently used, also poss ret of part of right edge	
0100 pcr	piercer	s	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	some	0	0	0		thick irreg withsome batter of plat edge, at short straight dist end irreg poss hing fract and slight rev ret/out of right edeg - but what ctxt - cld be accidental damage??	
0100 utbl	utilised blade	s	1	0	1	0	0	1	quite		0	0	0		fl from plat edge	Fig 9.
0102 corf	core tablet	s	1	0	1	1	0	0	0		0	0	0	E Neo		

Ctxt Cat.	Type	s/b	No.	Wt(g)	Comp.	Cort.	Prim.	Pat. Sharp	E.dam.	Hinge	Burnt	Non-str.	Date	Comment	illust
0102	flak	s	2	0	1	0	0	1	slight		0	0		1 frag of prob sm bl/bl-like fl - also has abr plat	04
0102	utbl	s	2	0	2	1	0	0			0	0		both sm and rei broad with slight ut edge 1 ?ut/chipping	
0103	core	s	1	68	1	1	0	0			0	0		sm qu squat chunky cort frag- whitish grey cort, irreg sm fls from parts of broad plat area	
0103	flak	s	1	0	0	1	0	0	slight		0	0		frag	
0103	blad	s	2	0	0	1	0	0	quite		0	0		both qu sm and incomplete	
0103	flak	s	1	0	1	1	0	0	quite		0	0		hh, qu thick, qu sm	
0103	utfl	s	2	0	2	1	0	1	quite		0	0		1 v large fl - use of large core - pat'd, qu squat, VERY slight ut part one edge, 1 - small bl-like fl without right edge	
0106	blad	s	2	0	1	0	0	0	quite		0	0		v sm, 1 a frag, 1 with abr plat	
0107	flak	s	1	0	0	0	0	0	quite		0	0		broad frag	
0107	flak	s	1	0	1	1	0	0	quite		0	0		sm	
0107	scpf	s	1	0	1	1	0	0			0	0		thickish bl like fl with prox end missing and with slight ret of this steep end and round prox part of right side, dist end has a thick cortex	Fig 9. 05
0116	flak	s	4	0	3	3	1	1	some		0	0		all sm, 1 v abraded and glossy-poss nat,	
0116	flak	s	1	0	0	0	0	0			0	0			
0116	core	s	1	96	1	1	0	0			0	0		has thick dark cream cort one side, other side qu natly struck from one end and dorsal face, beneath platform edge is fractured	
0121	core	s	1	143	1	1	0	1			0	0		qu large and v neatly struck bipolar bl core - one side partly cortical and not used as	Fig 9. 01

Ctxt Cat.	Type	s/b	No.	Wt(g)	Comp.	Cort.	Prim.	Pat. Sharp	E.dam.	Hinge	Burnt	Non-str.	Date	Comment	illust
0121	scpf scraper	s	1	0	1	1	0	0			0	0		core, one side has neay blades from both ends and resulting face is qu smooth/convex	
0121	flak	s	2	0	2	2	0	0	slight		0	1	0	both qu sm, 1 fracture face thru burning	
0121	utfl	s	2	0	2	1	0	0			0	0	0	both v sm, 1 thick, both v slight ut edges	
0147	flak	s	2	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	0		
0147	flak	s	3	0	2	0	0	0	quite		0	0	0	1 thickish plat and slightly curving - unprepared, 1 v sm frag	
0147	blad	s	1	0	1	0	0	0	quite		1	0	0	v sm	
0150	flak	s	2	0	1	1	0	2	yes		0	0	0	both quite smooth and neat, 1 thin frag, 1 squat but qu thn fl, has cort plat	
0152	blad	s	2	0	2	0	0	0	yes		0	0	0	both neat thin with abr palis	
0160	flak	s	3	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	0		
0160	flak	s	4	0	4	1	0	2	quite		1	0	0	all sm and fairly neat thin fls	
0160	utfl	s	1	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	0	slight chips in edge - prob ut - sm prox part of prob bl-like piece	
0160	unsk non-struck fragment		0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	1	discarded	
0160	flak	s	15	0	9	6	1	4	quite		0	0	0	all qu sm, gen squat, 1 qu neat has battered and 'worn' almost smooth plat surface - from previous plat edge	
0160	flak	s	1	0	0	1	0	0			0	0	0		
0160	blad	s	4	0	2	1	0	1	quite		0	0	0	all sm, 2 are sm frags,	
0160	utfl	s	2	0	1	0	0	2	quite		0	0	0	both v pale grey 'dry' cherty looking, 1 with chipped poss ut edge and 1 with very slight ut edge	
0160	pecr piercer	s	1	0	1	0	0	0	yes		0	0	0	qu sm long pointed 'jagged' dist tip poss ut as piercer - v slight	

Ctxt Cat.	Type	s/b	No.	Wt(g)	Comp.	Cort.	Prim.	Pat. Sharp	E.dam.	Hinge	Burnt	Non-str.	Date	Comment	illust
0160 core	core fragment	s	1	0	0	1	0	0			0	0		sm frag, prob from core	
0160 blad	blade	s	3	0	1	1	0	0	yes		0	0	E Neo	1 medial frag v neat smooth qu sm bl, 1 pointed and slightly curving with pat plat, 1 neat with abr plat, dist missing	
0160 flak	spall	s	2	0	0	0	0	0			0	0			
0169 flak	flake	s	3	0	3	1	0	1	yes		1	0		all qu sm squat hh, pronounced bulbs, 1 cort plat, fresh looking	
0169 blad	blade	s	1	0	1	0	0	1	yes		0	0		sm neat curving - from bl core - unlike other flint from cxt - glossier grey pat	
0169 stfr	struck fragment	s	1	37	1	1	0	1			0	0	?BA	v thick sm frag, struck	
0169 core	core/tool	s	1	39	1	1	0	0			0	0	?BA	v thick elongate fl with steep flking from both long sides and dist end - could be sm core or crude scr type tool	Fig 9. 02
0170 flak	flake	s	4	0	3	2	1	0	quite		0	0		1 thin curving tert fl, 1 irreg prim pat/cort	
0170 blad	blade	s	1	0	0	0	0	1	quite		0	0			
0170 utfl	utilised flake	s	1	0	0	1	0	0			0	0		irreg, qu sm, dist missing, v slight ut edge	
0170 core	single platform blade core	s	1	0	0	1	0	0			0	0		irreg as shattered/fractured on one side, poss part of a qu neat bl-tpe core as qu neat scars from one plat	
0170 flak	shatter	s	1	0	0	1	0	1	yes		0	0		jagged	

## Appendix 4: Burnt flint and other heated stone

Context	Cut no.	context	Burnt flint No.	Burnt flint Wt. (g)	heated stone No.	heated stone Wt. (g)
0102		Plough soil	3	54		
0116	0006	Ring ditch	3	54		
0107	0006	Ring ditch	8	91		
0169	0006	Ring ditch	2	18		
1070	0006	Ring ditch	2	64		
0147	0146	Pit	2	14		
0150	0149	Pit	22	340	1	34
0160	0159	Pit/grave	1	13		
0164	0163	Pit	29	469	3	20
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>1063</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>54</b>