

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION REPORT

New 120 bed dormitory adjacent to Building 941 ERL 140

A REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS, 2005
(Planning app. no. F/2004/0248/GOV)

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© October 2006

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Key to sections



Brown sand, density of dots indicates darkness (i.e. more dense = more dark)



Stones in the fill

Cut numbers are indicated by 12pt font and fills by 10pt font.

Levels are on the ground surface as indicated and relate to the 10m contour across the site.

List of Contributors

All Suffolk C.C. Archaeological Service unless otherwise stated.

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Cathy Tester Finds Officer
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Acknowledgements

This project was funded by MOD Defence Estates (USF) and managed for DE by Roy Stadden and Mike Fenn. The archaeological work was specified and monitored by Bob Carr (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team). The excavation works were facilitated by the support of the construction contractors Amec and project manager Ian Powell.

The excavation was carried out by James Haygreen, James Rolfe and Jonathan Van Jennians under the direction of Jo Caruth, all from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team.

Finds processing was carried out by Richenda Goffin, Cathy Tester and Gemma Adams, and the specialist finds and environmental assessment reports by Cathy Tester. Other specialist identification and advice was provided by Dr Colin Pendleton. Site illustrations are by Anna West.

Summary

Archaeological excavation in advance of the construction of a new 120 bed dormitory at RAF Lakenheath identified sequences of ditches, occasional pits and a possible hearth. However more than half the area had been destroyed by previous development which in conjunction with an absence of reliable dating evidence for the features, made it almost impossible to interpret the site.

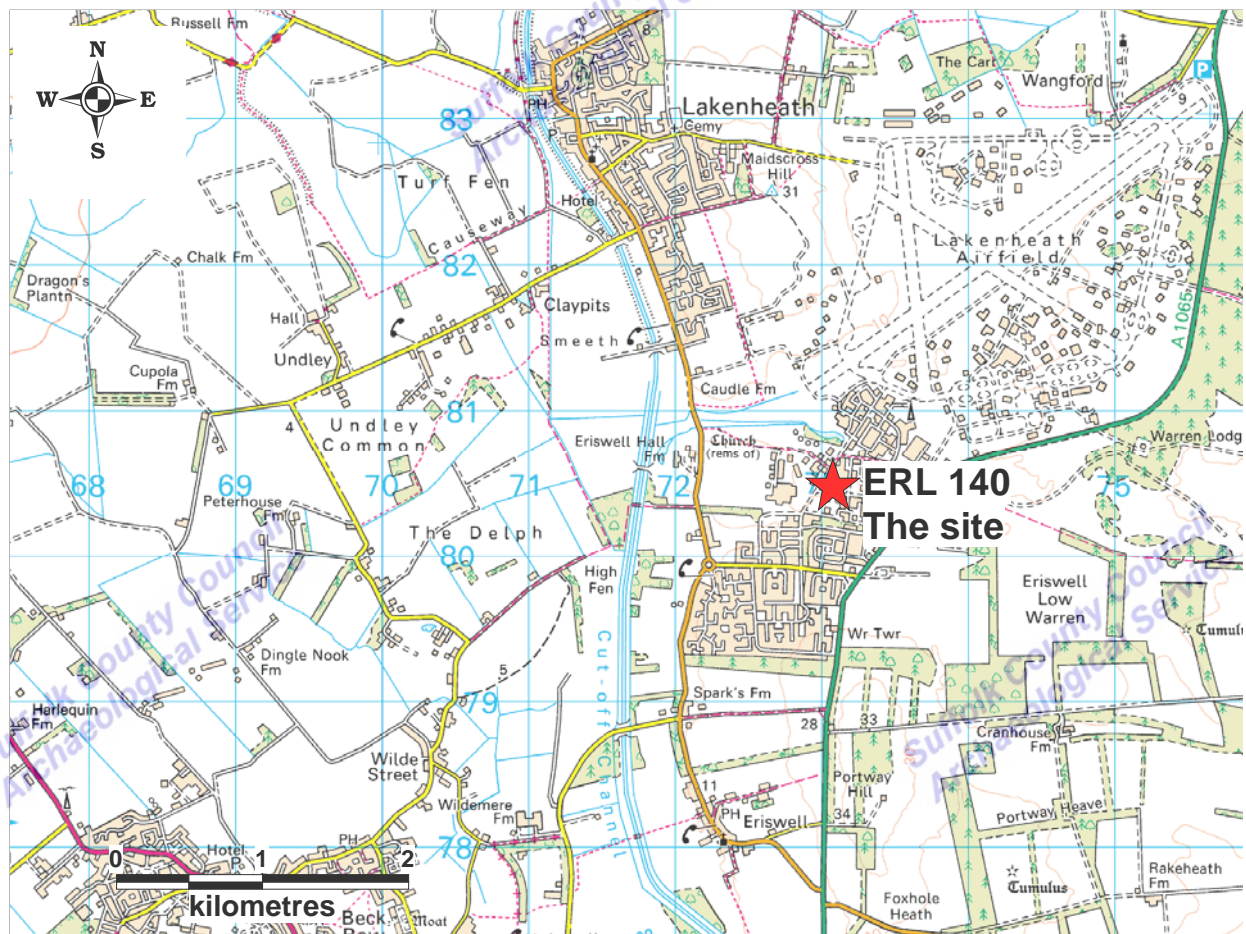
SMR information

Planning application no. F/2004/0248/GOV
Date of fieldwork: April 2005
Grid Reference: TL 73108048
Funding body: MOD Defence Estates (USF)
Oasis reference Suffolkc1-4923

1. Introduction

Archaeological excavation was undertaken in advance of the construction of a new 120 bed dormitory at RAF Lakenheath. The work was carried out to satisfy a condition of the planning consent (F/2004/0248/GOV), to a Brief and Specification issued by Mr R.D.Carr of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team (Appendix 1). The site covers an area of 2,040sq.m and lies at TL73108048 (Fig. 1) within an area of Early and Middle Saxon occupation. Archaeological excavations (Fig. 2) have identified multi-period features, but predominantly Middle Saxon ditches 60m to the west of the site, ERL107, and Early Saxon burials have been found 150m to the south, ERL 104, 046 and 114. Bronze Age burials and domestic activity were also found in ERL114 and all three sites contained evidence for prehistoric, Roman and Middle Saxon occupation. Evidence of Early Saxon settlement and a Roman field system has been found 150m to the north, ERL 101 and extensive Middle Saxon occupation 300m to the east, ERL 116 and 139. Archaeological monitoring c.250m to the west of the development area identified Roman ditches and soil layers, ERL 117, ERL 128.

The site lies north-south aligned on the west face of an east-west slope, at just below c.10m OD. The car park had been levelled but the grass verges either side of it showed a fall of c.0.6m between the east and west edges of the site. The southern end of the site was roughly level and lay on the 10m contour showing the ground rising slightly from north to south. The underlying geology was known from adjacent sites to be undulating chalk, sometimes at the surface and sometimes overlain by orange sands. The development area currently lay under carparking, but longstanding RAF Lakenheath staff remembered a building having previously stood on the site.



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Figure 1. Site location



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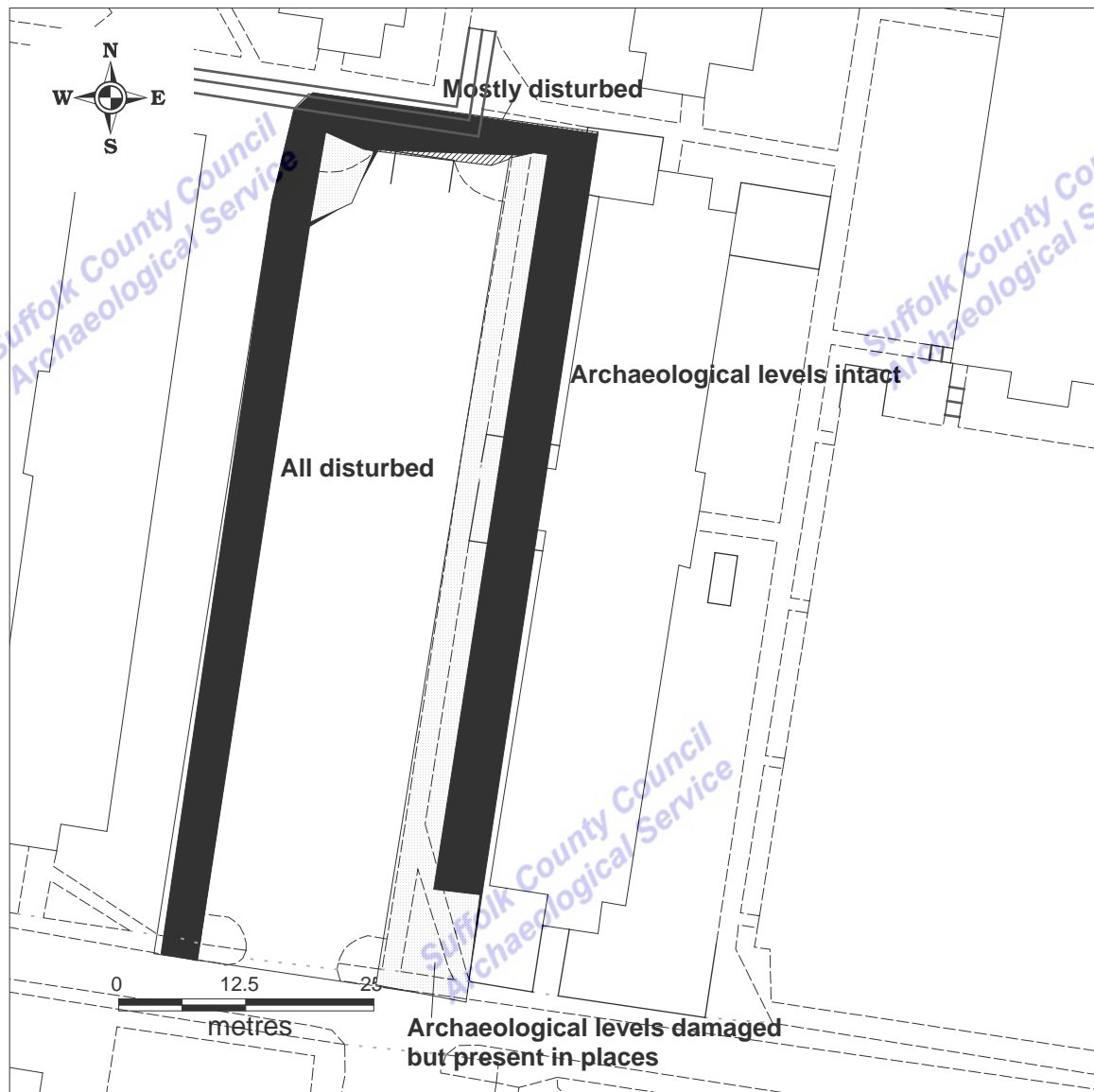
Figure 2. Location of nearby sites

2. Methodology

The car-park was stripped of concrete prior to the start of the archaeological work, but the sub-base was left in place for removal at the same time as the archaeological strip. An area of 2,107sq.m was stripped using a 360° tracked excavator. Archaeological levels were found c.0.3m below the car-park but it quickly became apparent that the whole of the centre of the site, c.1092sq.m (52%) (Fig. 3) had been disturbed to a depth of 0.8m prior to the car-park construction. In addition, an area at the north end of the site (108sq.m) had been repeatedly disturbed for services, and whilst some small areas here survived intact at the archaeological levels, no features were identified. The only areas with surviving archaeological deposits were a strip 3.4m wide which had lain under grass and path on the west side of the site and a similar strip 9.1m wide under grass on the east side. The base of a group of ditches survived for a length of 5m in the north-west corner of the site.

These areas were fully excavated to normal SCCAS standards and the requirements of the specification. All features were hand sampled, 50% of pit fills, a minimum of 20% of ditch fills and 100% of structural features. Sections were drawn at 1:20, plans at 1:20 and 1:50 and an overall site plan was recorded and tied into the National Grid using a Total Station Theodolite (TST). Black and white print and digital photographs were taken throughout the excavation. All pre-modern finds were kept. The areas with surviving archaeology were metal detected. Levels have been recorded on the sections. These figures are tied into the line of the 10m contour which crosses the site as no bench marks are available within this area of the Base. Levels can be expected to be within 0.25m of the real height and are accurate in relation to each other.

The site was recorded under the Suffolk Sites and Monument Record number ERL 140 and context numbers were issued in a single sequence starting at 0001. Site records and catalogues have been input into a Microsoft Access database, and security copies of the drawings made. The archive report is stored as a PDF file on the SCC computer network and copy lodged with the OASIS on-line database, ref. Suffolkc1-4923.



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Figure 3. Summary of modern disturbance

3. Results

3.1. Introduction

Although ditches were found on each side of the site the 20m gap between them has made it difficult to confidently link the ditches across the site (Fig. 4). There are a number of intercutting features and variety of alignments which suggests activity over several periods of occupation. Unfortunately the dearth of datable finds, only two small abraded pottery sherds of different dates, makes it impossible to tie the occupation down to any specific periods.

The dominant feature of the site was a broad band of intercutting ditches on a NE-SW alignment at the north end of the site. A minimum of nine ditches was identified, and it is assumed that these represent a longstanding boundary being frequently maintained. These all had similar fills but the individual features were often defined by either a band of iron pan, or dense silt at the cuts. Other features are ditches on E-W and N-S alignments, five pits, 0022, 0024, 0098, 0109 and 0132 and a possible hearth or pit containing hearth debris, 0079.

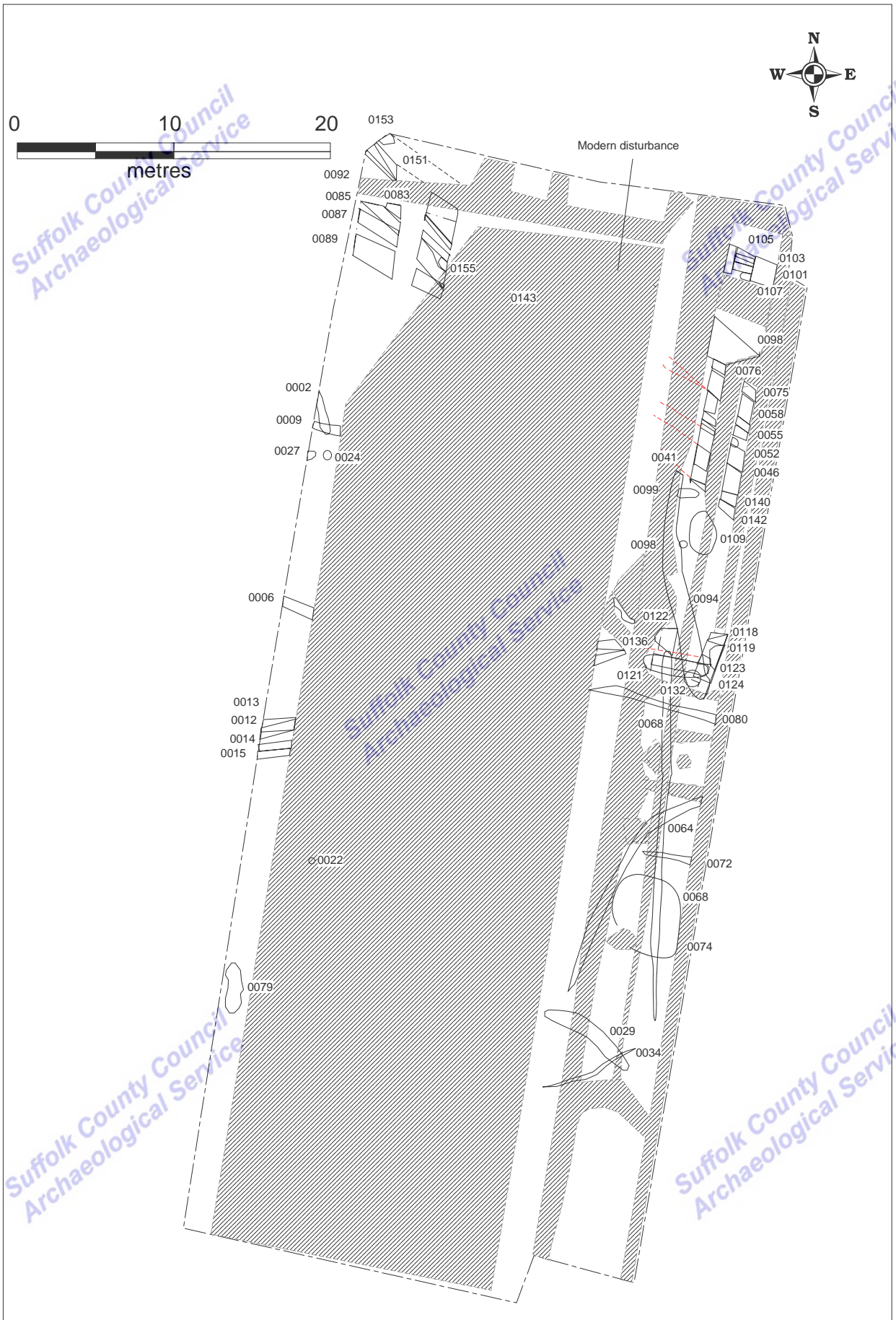


Figure 4. Site plan

3.2. Summary of phasing

Six periods of activity were identified from the stratigraphic and spatial information. As the only two sherds of pottery were dated as one Roman and one Iron Age or Early Saxon and were both abraded, this has proved of no use in the dating and phasing of the site. It is assumed, that like other sites in this area features could date from the Iron Age to Middle Saxon periods. No date has been attached to any of the features or phases. Where possible, links between the features on either side of the site have been indicated on the phase plans.

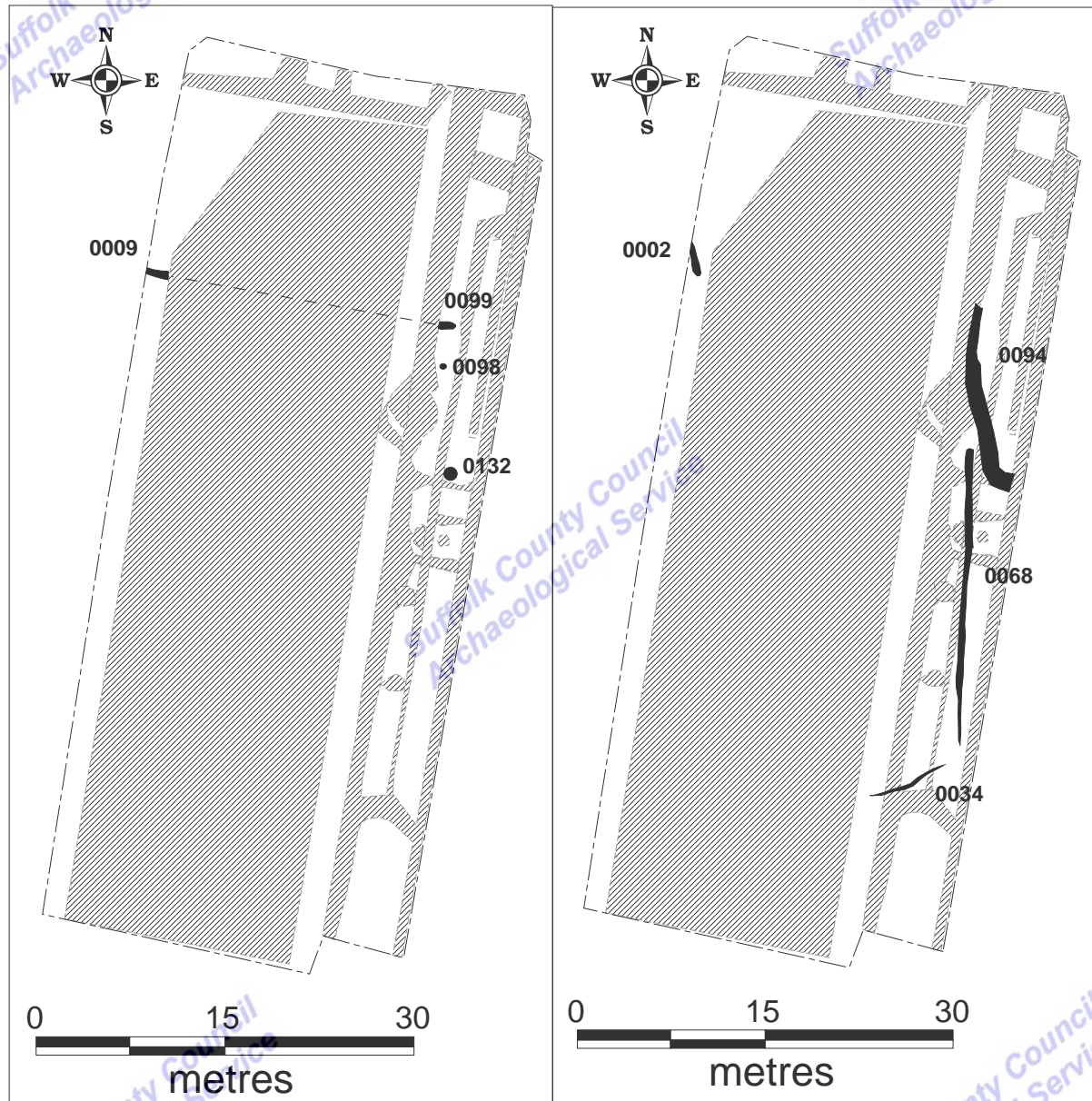


Figure 5. Phase plans, 1 and 2

Phase 1. (Fig. 5). This covers the earliest features: ditches 0009 and butt end 0099 which may be the same feature, pits 0098 and 0132.

Phase 2. (Fig. 5). This includes four ditches, butt end 0002, E-W gully 0034, N-S ditch 0068 and cornering ditch 0094.

Phase 3. (Fig. 9). An ENE-WSW aligned ditch, nos 0013, 0118 and a curving slot 0109.

Phase 4. (Fig. 9). E-W aligned ditches 0072, 0080, 0103 and 0136.

Phase 5. (Fig. 11). Pit 0119 and ditch 0121.

Phase 6. (Fig. 13). Phase 6 mainly covers the ditches at the north end of the site and these have been divided into 5 sub-phases. In addition to these ditches, ditch 0122 has been allocated to this phase.

There are also a number of unphased features (Fig. 11), ditches 0014, 0015, 0027, 0064 and 0101, pits 0022, 0024 and 0109 and oven/hearth 0079. A single natural feature, 0074, was sampled.

3.3. Feature descriptions

Phase 1

- 0009 A shallow ditch, 0.5m wide x 0.1m deep, running approx E-W and visible for only 1.6 meters in the narrow strip along the western site edge. This was filled with pale brown sand containing no finds and cut by 0002. (Fig. 6).
- 0098 A shallow scoop, 0.4m wide and 0.3m deep filled with grey sand and containing one piece of animal bone. There was animal disturbance underneath this but the upper spread was a fairly even pale brown sand, so this was probably the base of a feature. It was cut by ditch 0094. No section.
- 0099 An oval pit, 0.5m x 1.08m x 0.38m deep with a basin profile. The fill was mixed grey and pale brown sand with a few stones and some grit. It was cut by 0094. (Fig. 6).
- 0132 A deep pit cut to the south and west by modern trenches, 0.6m wide x 1m deep. The main fill was fine grey-brown sand with few stones but through the centre of this was a band of very coarse sand with frequent stones up to 4cm across. There were no finds. (Fig. 6).

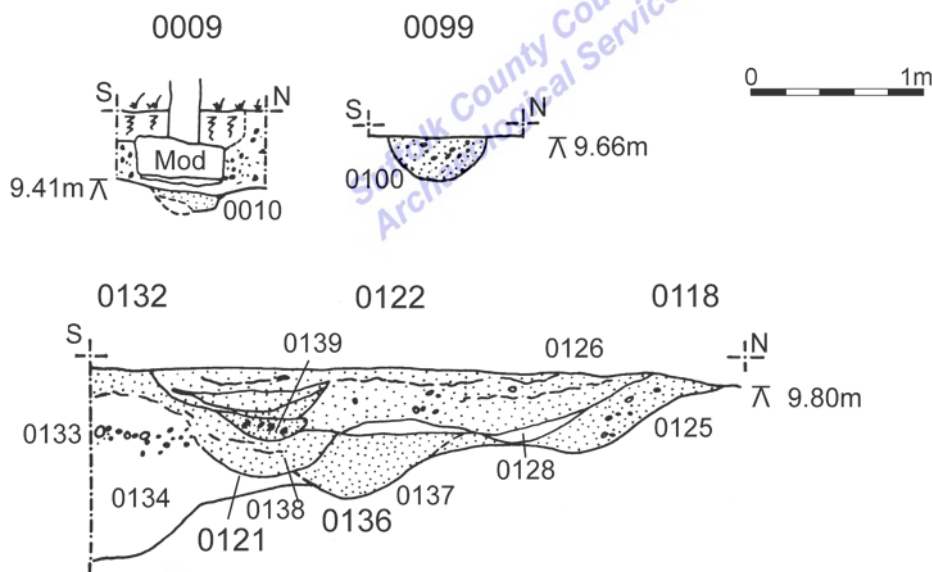


Figure 6. Phase 1 sections

Phase 2

- 0002 A ditch, 0.8m wide x 0.22m deep. This was visible in a narrow strip along the western site edge and appears to be running NW/SE and butts at the SE end. The upper fill is very pale brown sand, probably wind blown and the lower fill a mid brown sand which might be natural. No finds were recovered. 0002 probably cuts 0009 (Fig. 7).
- 0034 A SW-NE gully, 0.3m wide and 0.6m deep, filled with mid/pale brown sand and cut by 0029 (Fig. 7).
- 0068 A N-S aligned ditch, 0.5m wide x 0.2m deep, filled with a shallow basin profile. It had a grey sand fill and was cut by ditches 0072 and 0080 and modern trenches. The relationship with ditch 0063 was obscured. This was cut by modern disturbance to the south beyond which it does not appear, however it was becoming narrow and shallower to the south and may be truncated as the natural subsoil rises to the SE. At the north end it butts where it was cut by ditch 0121 (Fig. 7).

- 0094 A cornering ditch, 1.2m wide x 0.4m deep, with sloped sides and a narrow central cut. This ran along the centre of the eastern side of the site and was difficult to trace to N as cut by modern. This was filled with coarse pale brown sand with some iron pan bands near the base. There were no finds. This was cut by 0041 and 0136 and cut 0098 and 0099 (Fig. 7).
- 0124 A possible pit, 1.1m wide x 0.75m deep, only partially visible, cut to the east and south by modern trenches. This may be a corner in ditch 0094, although it is deeper than 0094 at the last section. It was filled with pale grey-brown sand with iron pan bands which was slightly darker, coarse and more brown at the top. There were occasional stones throughout, but no finds. This was cut by ditch 0123 (Fig. 7).

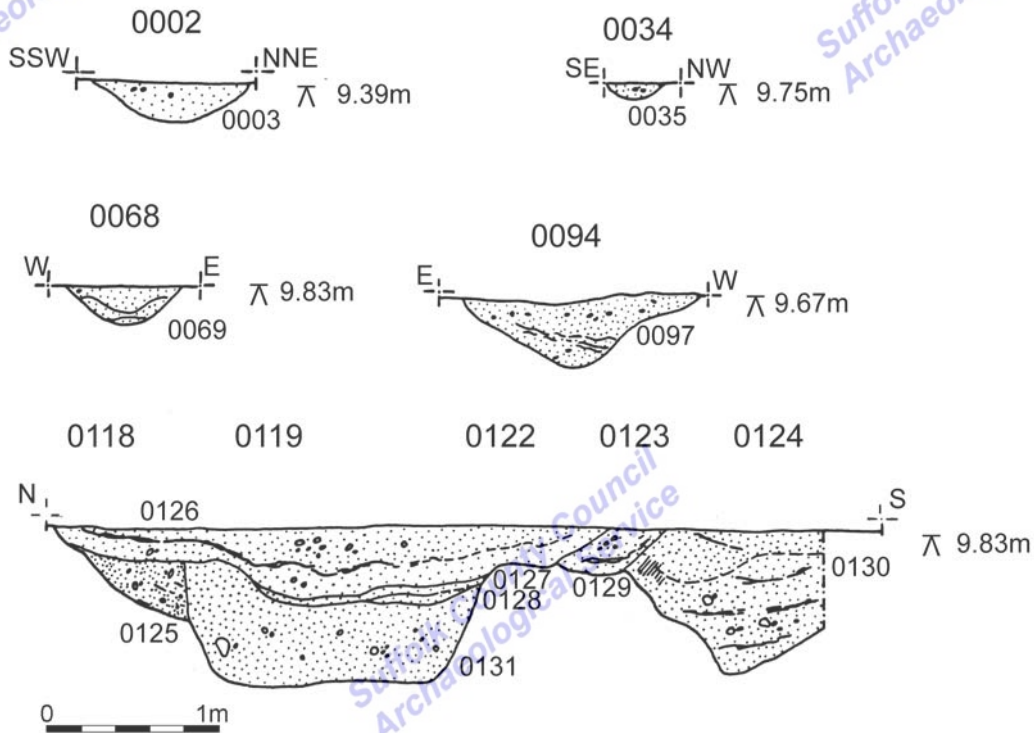


Figure 7. Phase 2 sections.

Phase 3

- 0013 An E-W aligned ditch, 0.5m wide x 0.2m deep, lying on the S edge of and cut by 0012. The fill was even grey brown compacted sand which was well sorted, slightly less coarse than that of 0012. There were occasional stones, but no finds. This is possibly the same as 0118 (Fig. 8).
- 0029 A double butt ended curving, broad shallow ditch, 7m long x 0.8m wide x 0.34m deep. This was cut by several modern disturbances and cuts narrow shallow gully 0034. There were two main fills, an upper dark brown fine sand with frequent stones and from which animal bone was recovered and the lower a fine, soft chalky sand with occasional chalk nodules up to 3cm across and which contained some bone and a single sherd of Roman pottery (Fig. 8).
- 0118 An E-W aligned ditch, 1.2m wide x 0.4m deep and filled with mottled grey-brown sand with some stones and coarse patches. There were no finds. This was cut by 0119 and 0122 but the relationship with 0094 was obscured by ditch 0122. This could be the same as 0013 (Figs. 6 and 7).

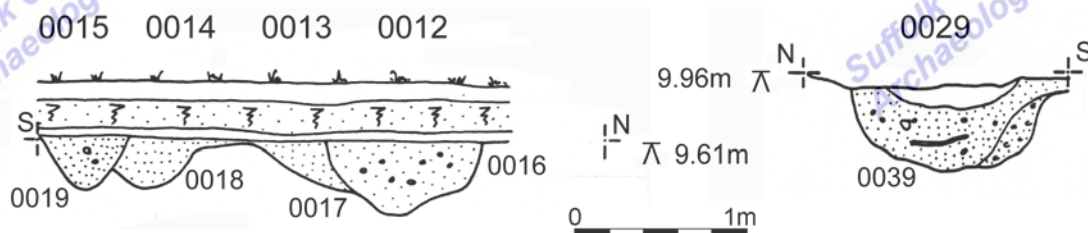


Figure 8. Phase 3 sections.

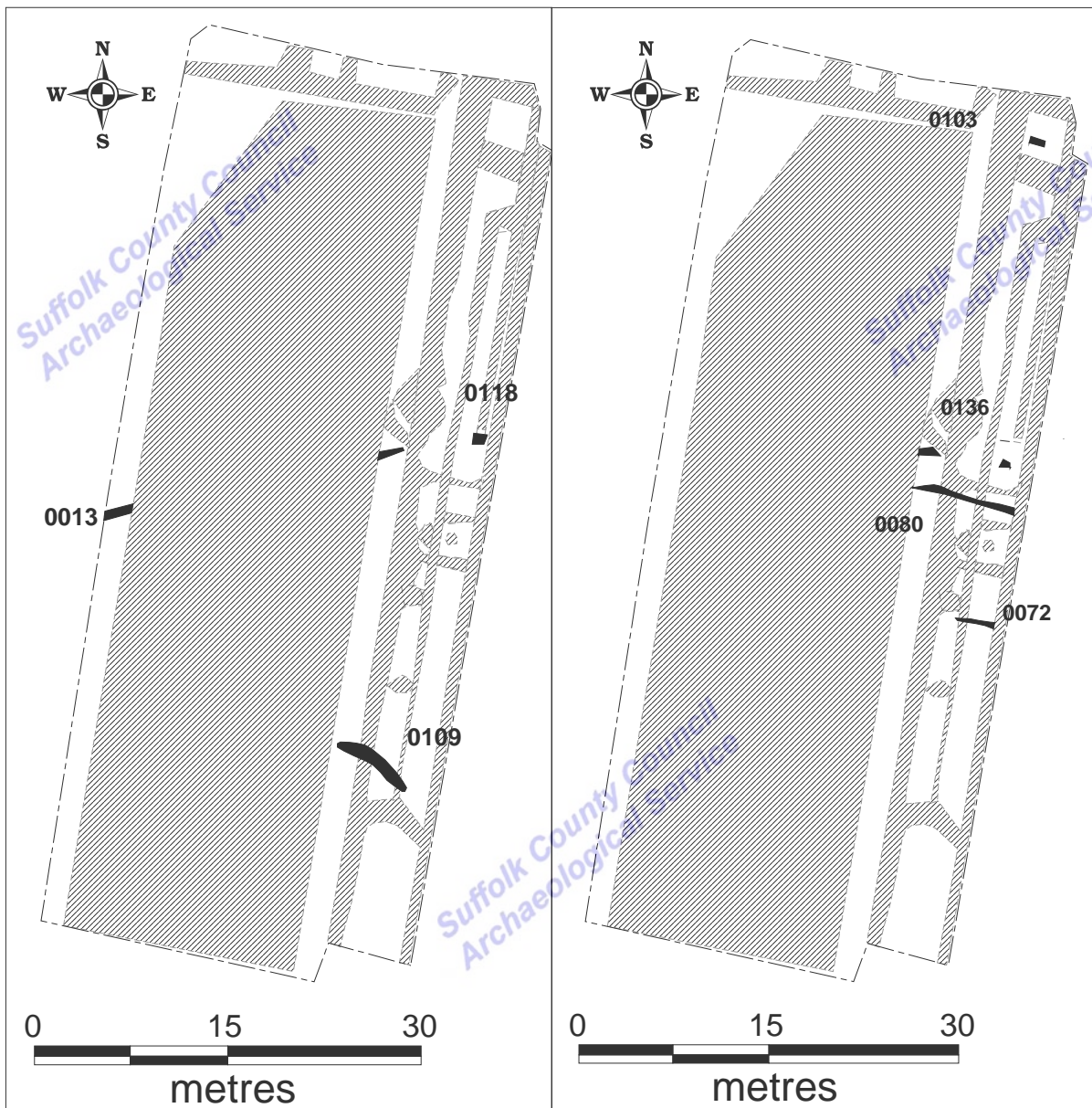


Figure 9. Phase plans, 3 and 4

Phase 4

- 0012 An E-W aligned ditch, 1.1m wide x 0.3m deep which was steep sided with a shallow slot in the base. It was filled with a slightly coarse, pale yellow -brown sand with very occasional iron pan flecks. There were no finds (Fig. 8).
- 0072 A very shallow narrow gully, 0.3m wide x 0.08m deep with a basin profile and a pale brown sand fill with some iron pan bands. This cuts 0068 but faded out before 0063 (Fig. 10).
- 0080 An E-W aligned ditch, 0.55m wide x 0.08m deep with gentle sloping sides, and a flat base. The fill was pale brown sand and no finds were recovered. This probably cuts ditch 0068 and could be the same as ditch 0006 on the west side of the site (Fig. 10).
- 0103 An E-W aligned ditch, 0.45m wide x 0.25m deep, with sloped sides and a flat base. This was filled with mid grey-brown sand and was cut by 0101 and 0105 (Fig. 10).
- 0136 An E-W ditch, 0.8m wide x 0.6m deep, with a 'V' shaped profile and filled with even brown sand. This was cut by 0121 and 0122 and cut ditch 0194 (Fig. 6).

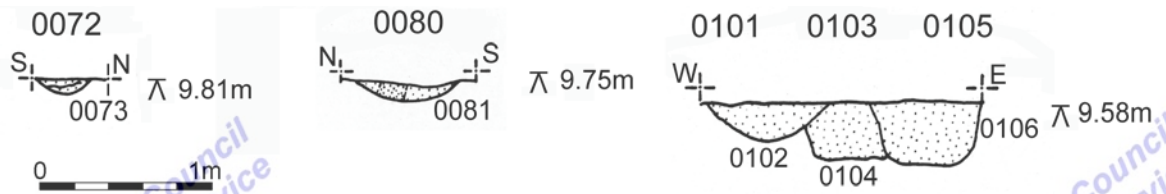


Figure 10. Phase 4 sections.

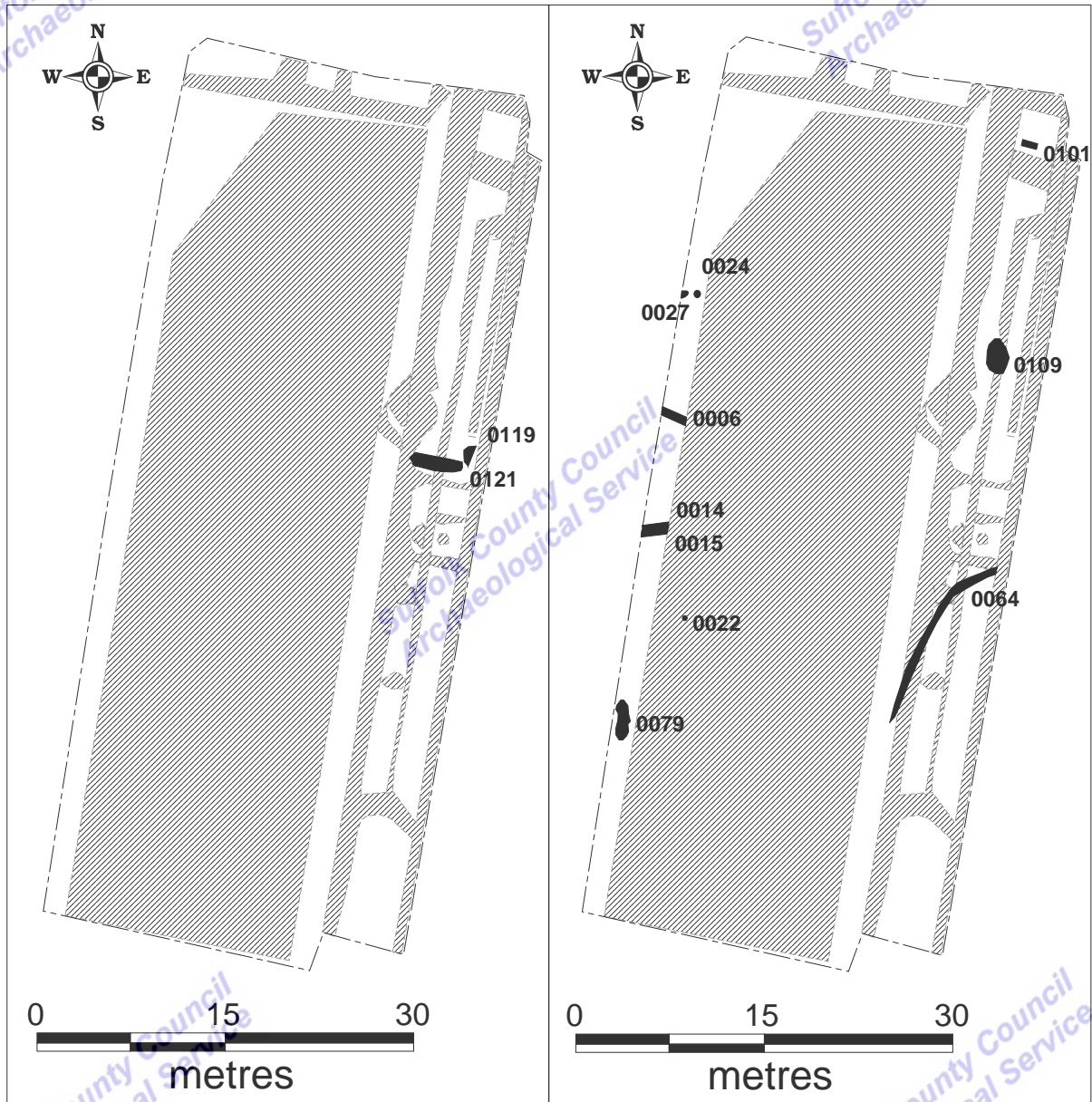


Figure 11. Phase plans 5 and Unphased

Phase 5

- 0119 A deep, vertical sided, probably sub-square pit, 1.5m wide x 0.85m deep. This was cut by ditch 0122 and cut ditch 0118. The relationship with ditch 0136 was obscured by ditch 0122. It was filled with a single fill of even brown sand with occasional iron pan and stones. There were no finds (Fig. 12).
- 0121 An E-W aligned ditch, 0.8m wide and 0.6m deep, terminating south-west of pit 0119. This had a basin profile and was cut by ditch 0122 and cut pit 0132 and ditch 0136. It was filled with streaky grey-brown sand from which no finds were recovered.

0123 An E-W aligned ditch, 0.7m wide x 0.28m deep with a basin profile and filled with pale grey-brown sand with iron pan bands. This was cut by 0122 and it cut 0124. It was not visible in the east facing section and may have become completely cut by 0122 as it seemed to follow a similar alignment and may be an earlier cut of 0122 (Fig. 12).

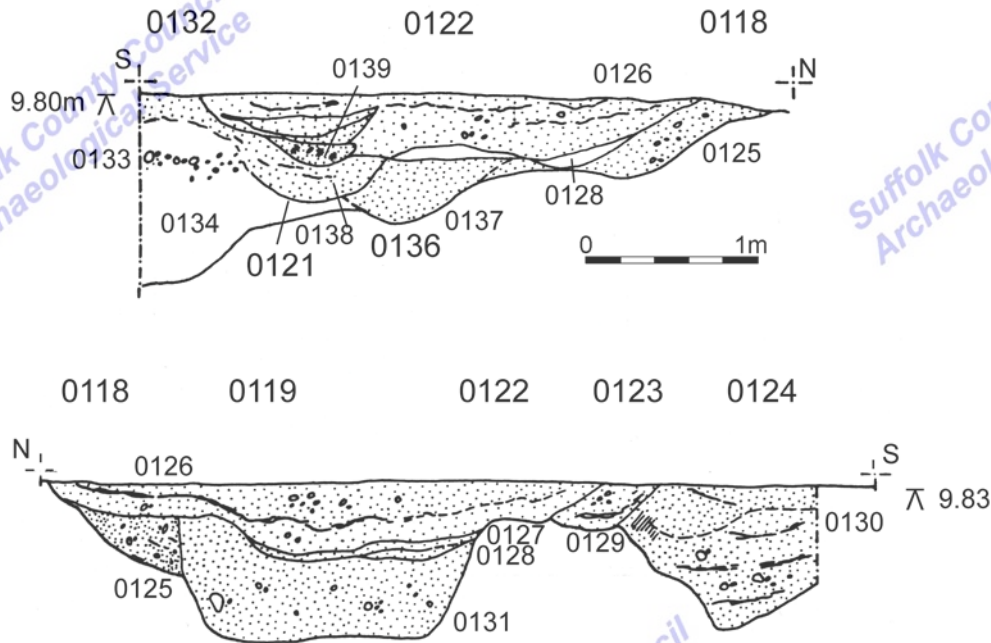


Figure 12. Phase 5 sections

Phase 6

		Subphase
0078	A layer of mid brown grey sand, 2.2m wide and 0.1m deep, located on the N edge of ditch section 0145, NE of ditch 0076. There were no finds (Fig. 14).	6
0105	A WNW-ESE aligned ditch, 0.6m wide x 0.38m deep with sloped sides and a flat base. This was filled with mid grey-brown sand and cut ditch 0103 (Fig. 14).	6
0107	The northern terminus of an E-W aligned ditch, 0.45m wide x 0.24m deep, filled with mid grey-brown sand with no find (Fig. 14).	6
0122	A broad, roughly flat based NE-SW aligned ditch, 2.9m wide x 0.4m deep. This probably has two cuts but defining them is difficult so only a single cut number has been used. Ditch 0123 may be an earlier version of 0122. There are three main fills, the upper a mid grey-brown sand with iron pan, over a band of dense grey-brown sand and another of brown sand (Fig. 12).	6
0153	A very shallow possible ditch butt end or feature, 0.7m wide x 0.1m deep, north of 0151 and filled with beige-pink coarse sand. This seems to mark the northern edge of the group of ditches and an edge extending from 0153, aligning with the edge of 0078 on the opposite side of the site was visible on the surface, but disappeared when cleaned (no section).	6
0052	A NW-SE aligned ditch, 0.6m wide x 0.4m deep, with slightly concave sloped sides and a flat base. It was filled with mid brown grey sand and contained no finds. This was cut by 0055 and 0046 and may be the same as 0087 and 0155 at the west side of the site (Fig. 14).	6A
0087	A broad flat based ditch, 1.1m wide x 0.35m deep and filled with grey sand with some bands of iron pan. This was cut by 0085 and may be the same as butt end 0155 on this side of the site and 0052 on the eastern side. 0087 disappears at the point where it is cut by 0085, but ditch terminus 0155 aligns with it suggesting that these may represent a break in the same ditch. There were no finds (Fig. 14).	6A
0155	The butt end of a ditch, 0.7m wide x 0.2m deep, filled with grey sand with some iron pan and which aligns with 0087 and may be part of it. This could be the same as 0152 on the eastern side of the site (Fig. 14).	6A
0085	A triangular profiled, NE-SW aligned ditch, 0.7m wide and 0.22m deep, which cuts 0087 and may be the same as 0140 on the western side. This is filled with grey sand with some bands of iron pan and no finds (Fig. 14).	6B
0092	A steep sided ditch, 0.7m wide x 0.78m deep, on a SSE-NNW alignment and with a triangular profile. This was filled with grey-brown sand and may be the same as 0142 on the eastern side of the site (no section).	6B
0140	A NW-SE aligned ditch, 0.8m wide x 0.25m deep filled with even grey-brown sand with some iron pan. It was cut by ditch 0041 and may be the same as ditch 0085 on the west side of the site (Fig. 14).	6B

- 0142 A NW-SE aligned ditch, 0.6m wide x 0.22m deep, filled with mid grey-brown sand and cut by ditch 6B
0041. This may be the same as ditch 0092 on the west side of the site (Fig. 14).
- 0055 A NW-SE aligned ditch, 0.9m wide x 0.32m deep with sloped sides and a slightly concave base. It had 6C
two fills, the upper a pale yellow-brown fine sand and the lower a mid yellow coarse sand. There were
no finds. This was cut by 0046 and 0058 and cut 0052. Either 0055 or 0058 may be the same as 0083
on the west side of the site (Fig. 14).
- 0058 A NW-SE aligned ditch, 1.7m wide x 0.4m deep with sloped sides and a flat base. There were several 6C
fills of fine and coarse grey-brown and yellow sand. No finds were recovered. This cut 0055 and was
cut by 0075 and either 0055 or 0058 may be the same as 0083 on the western side of the site. There
were no finds (Fig. 14).
- 0083 A shallow, flat based ditch, c.1.2m wide x 0.3m deep, in the north-west corner of the site. This was cut 6C
to the north by a modern trench so the northern edge couldn't be defined. It was filled with grey-brown
sand with some bands of iron pan. This may be the same as 0055 and/or 0058 on the eastern side (Fig.
14).
- 0041 A NW-SE ditch, part of the group of ditches at the north end of the site, on the east side. This is 2.4m 6D
wide x 0.6m deep, with slightly stepped, sloped sides and a slightly concave base. There were several
fills of fine brown and grey brown sands with coarser yellow brown sands towards the base. There
were no finds. This cut ditch 0140 and was cut by 0046. 0041 is not identifiable on the west side of
the site (Fig. 14).
- 0046 A WNW-ESE aligned ditch, 2.1m wide x 0.5m deep with regularly sloped sides and a flat base. There 6E
were several fills of fine grey, brown and yellow sands and no finds. This cut ditches 0041, 0052, and
0055 and may be the same as ditch 0089 on the west side of the site. A shallow scoop, 0149, in the top
of the fill, may be a later cutting ditch (Fig. 14)..
- 0089 A broad flat based, NW-SE aligned ditch, 1.8m wide x 0.25m deep on the S edge of the ditches in the 6E
north-western corner of the site. This was filled with grey brown sand with some iron pan near the
base. There were no finds (Fig. 14).
- 0075 A shallow wide linear NW-SE aligned ditch 2.3m wide x 0.2m deep with sloped sides and a flat base 6F
and filled with mid brown-yellow sand. This cuts 0058. There were no finds (Fig. 14)..
- 0076 A NW-SE aligned ditch, 0.6m wide x 0.2m deep and filled with mid grey sand from which no finds 6F
were recovered. This was not identified on the western side of the site (Fig. 14).
- 0151 A shallow ditch, 1m wide x 0.08m deep, filled with grey sand, on the north edge of the ditches in the 6F
north-west corner of the site. Both sides were visible at the western end but the southern edge fades
out as it travels east. This may be the same as 0075 (no section).
- 0149 A shallow feature, possibly a ditch, seen cutting 0075 in section, 1m wide x 0.2m deep and filled with 6G
mid grey sand. This was not traced in other sections (Fig. 14).

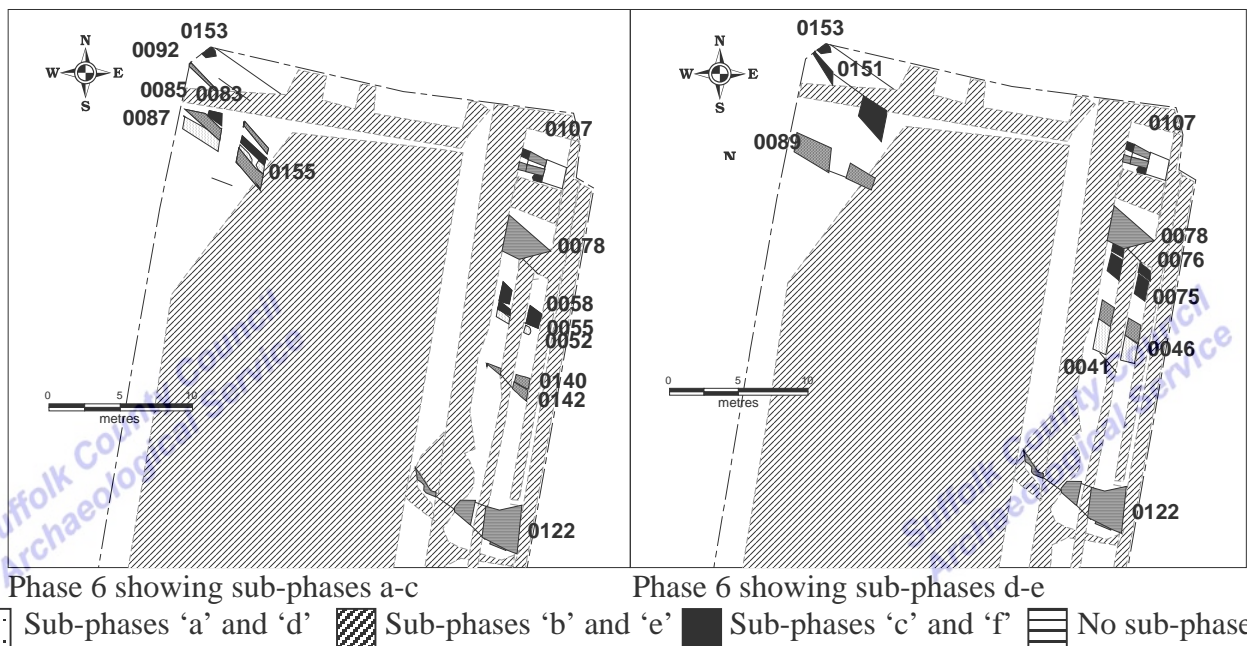


Figure 13. Phase 6 plan

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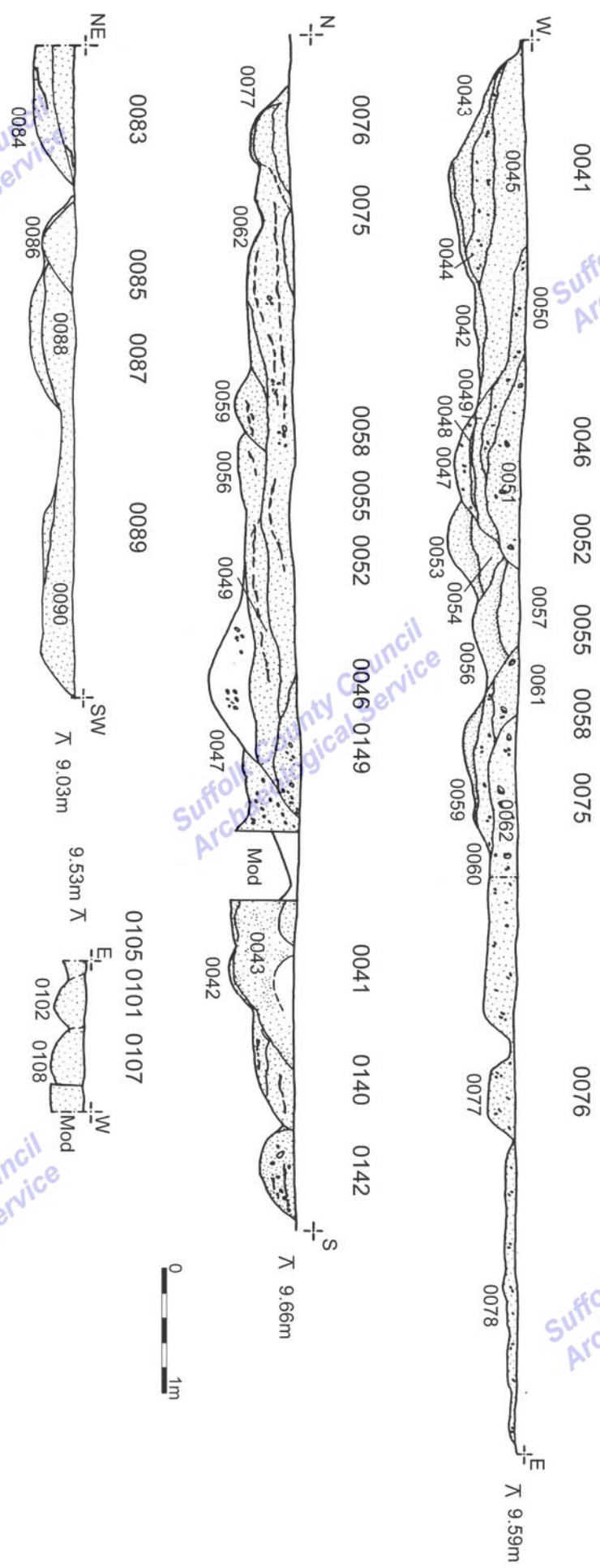


Figure 14. Phase 6 sections

Unphased features

- 0006 A triangular profiled E-W aligned ditch, 0.6m wide x 0.34m deep. This was seen under the path at the west side of site and was truncated to the east. The fill was a mottled, fine, compacted pale grey-brown sand with some slight animal disturbance in places and very occasional stones. There were no finds. This is possibly the same as 0099 (Fig. 15).
- 0014 A very shallow, E-W aligned ditch, 0.45m wide x 0.18m deep, parallel and adjacent to 0015. The fill was fine, compacted orange-brown sand with few stones and no finds (Fig. 15).
- 0015 A steep, rounded profile ditch, 0.37m wide x 0.28m deep, S of and parallel to 0014. It was filled with fine compacted orange-brown sand which was slightly greyer than 0018. One fragmentary pot sherd, either Iron Age or Early Saxon, was recovered from the fill (Fig. 15).
- 0022 A very small, circular, pit 0.33m in diameter x 0.17m deep, with a triangular profile. The fill was a single deposits of coarse black sand which faded to brown at the edges and contained no finds (Fig. 15).
- 0024 A small circular pit, 0.6m in diameter x 0.15m deep with steep sides and a flat base, found in the narrow strip along the western site edge. The fill was mid brown sand and there were no finds (Fig. 15).
- 0027 An oval feature slightly to the west of 0024, lying partly under the western site edge, 0.6m wide and 0.2m deep, getting deeper towards the site edge and filled with pale to mid brown sand. This could be a ditch butt end. There were no finds (Fig. 15).
- 0063 A NE-SW aligned ditch, 0.6m wide and 0.27m deep which curves to the east towards the east edge of the site. It was filled with mid grey-brown sand and contained no finds (Fig. 15).
- 0079 An oval possible hearth or pit. There seemed to be a cut with sloped sides and a two stage concave base. The fill was a fire-reddened sand and patches of dark brown /black sand with grey sand mixed in. This looked redeposited rather than burnt in situ (Fig. 15).
- 0101 An E-W aligned ditch, 0.7m wide x 0.2m deep filled with grey-brown sand and seen in the north-east corner of the site. This cut 0103 (Fig. 14).
- 0109 An oval pit, 1.7m x 3.1m x 0.6m deep which was cut through the centre by a modern trench and at either end by other modern features. This had a number of fills including an upper banded fill of iron pan, sand and chalk from which animal bone was recovered which overlay grey, brown and yellow fine sands and with a dense orange silt at the base (Fig. 15).

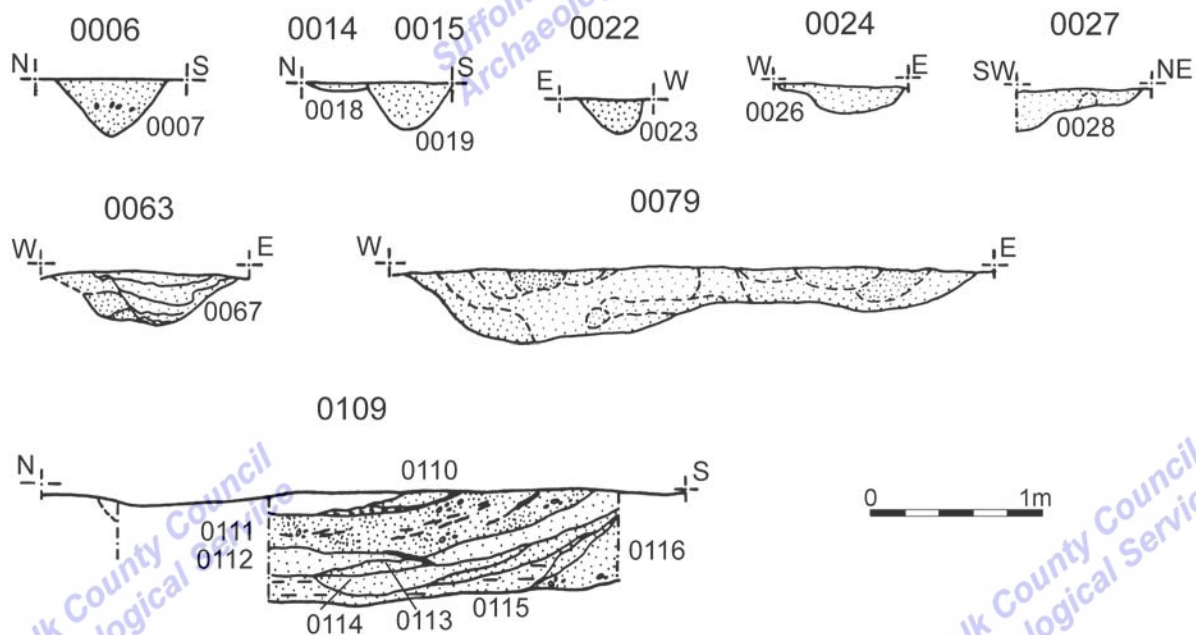


Figure 15. Unphased sections

Natural feature

- 0074 A deposit of grey brown sand, c.3m x c.3.5m lying in a natural low spot. Sample excavation showed this to be a maximum of 8cm deep. No finds were recovered.

4. Finds and environmental evidence by Cathy Tester, with flint identification by Dr Colin Pendleton

4.1. Introduction

Finds were collected from fourteen contexts, as shown in the table below.

OP No	Pottery		Animal bone		Flint		Burnt flint		Spotdate
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	
0019	1	1							IA or ESax
0030			2	10	1	2			Prehistoric
0031			8	19					
0032			3	10					
0033	1	5							Roman
0039			13	113					
0079							5	45	
0098			1	8					
0102			2	43					
0106			2	7	3	16			Neolithic
0110			9	29					
0113			10	31					
0126			5	9					
0139			8	15					
Total	2	5	63	294	4	18	5	45	

Table 1. Finds quantities

4.2. Pottery

Two small sherds of pottery were found. The first is a hand-made bodysherd found in ditch 0015 (fill 0019). It is sand and organic tempered and cannot be certainly identified as Iron Age or Early Saxon. The second is wheel-made Roman greyware, also small and abraded, found in ditch 0029 (fill 0033).

4.3. Flint

(identified by Colin Pendleton)

Worked flint was collected from two contexts. Ditch 0029 (fill 0030) produced an unpatinated later prehistoric flake which has a retouched notch and a hinged fracture at the distal end. Ditch 0105 (fill 0106) produced a small unpatinated flake or spall and two flakes which are both patinated on one face and unpatinated on the opposite. It is not clear whether this is because the flakes were reworked or because of the way they were lying in the ground. Both have subsequently snapped. One is a long flake or blade with three flake removal scars. The patination might suggest a Mesolithic or Neolithic date but the mode of flaking on the long flake suggests that it is Neolithic.

Five fragments of fire-cracked flint were recovered from an area of burning (0045).

4.4. Animal bone

Sixty-three fragments of animal bone were collected from eleven contexts—four ditches, two pits and two layers. In most instances they were not found in association with other datable finds. The animal bone is in good condition but the group is too small for any conclusions regarding its composition to be made. The main meat-producing species, cow, pig and sheep are represented and charring on the group from pit 0109 (fill 0110) also suggests that they are the remains of food waste.

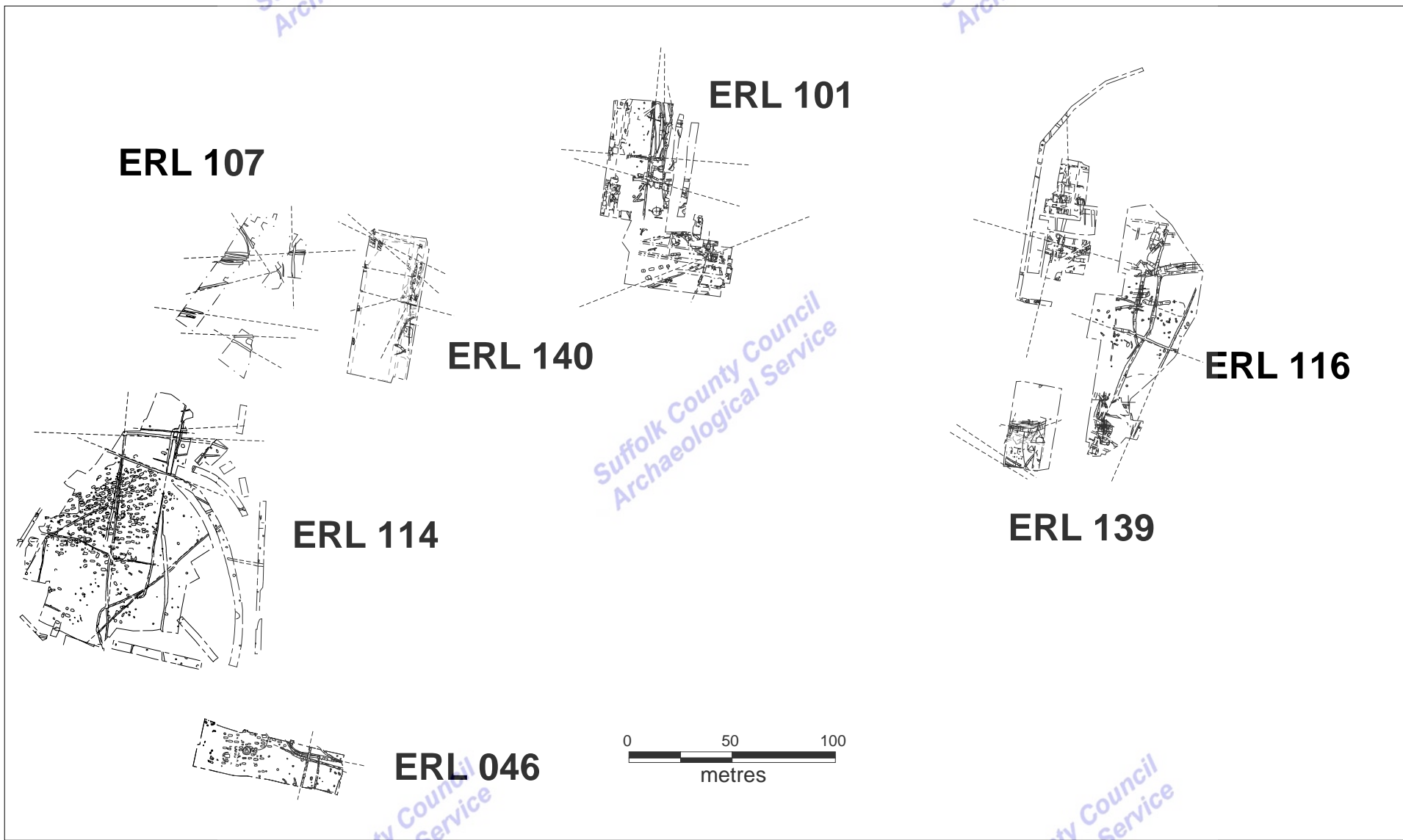


Figure 16. Features in adjacent sites

4.5. Discussion of the finds evidence

The finds assemblage is small and indicates only limited prehistoric, Roman and possible post-Roman activity on this site. The earliest finds are the worked flints which are Mesolithic or Neolithic. The pottery suggests Iron Age or Early Saxon and Roman activity. The animal bone is in good condition, but undatable.

5. Discussion

There is little interpretative discussion possible for this site. The degree of modern disturbance which truncated the entire centre of the site has destroyed most of the potential spatial links between the features, and has left little opportunity to interpret the nature of the activity. Finds from the short surviving lengths are few and largely undated. The number of features suggests quite a high level of activity, possibly increasing to the east, which is highly suggestive of settlement and the number of intercutting features indicates that this activity probably spans more than one period. The band of multi-cut ditches is similar in size and number of re-cuts to a band of ditches seen on the north side of the Roman settlement 500m to the north of the site, and suggests a long-standing feature, marking a fixed boundary. However the Roman ditches tend to conform to a strong east-west alignment which those here do not correspond to, and which may suggest that this boundary is post-Roman. Examination of the results of previous excavations around this area does not contribute much to the interpretation of this site (Fig. 16). Although of similar size and appearance to ditches from adjacent sites interpreted largely as field systems, none of the ditches found here can be seen to line up with those from the other sites, and the range of ditch alignments on both this site and those around it make it difficult to draw any firm conclusions about them. All the adjacent sites have features and finds dating from the prehistoric to Middle Saxon periods, so it is likely that features here also cover a wide range of dates. If further evidence is recovered from new excavations it may be possible to revisit the evidence from here and to add to its interpretation.

6. Conclusions

This excavation uncovered evidence for intense occupation probably spanning several periods which is indicative of settlement, however the truncation caused by the very high degree of modern disturbance and the resultant loss of spatial and finds evidence has destroyed any opportunity to establish the function and date of the site with any certainty. It is clear that the results from this excavation reflect those from surrounding sites and represent a continuity of occupation but it is not possible to link the sites or features more closely.

Jo Caruth
October 2006

References

SCCAS unpublished reports for sites mentioned in the text

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- Caruth, J., 2003 *Archaeological Excavation Report, ERL 107*, 2003/11
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- Caruth, J., in prep *Archaeological Excavation Report, RAF Lakenheath, New Consolidated Support Complex ERL 116 and New Family Support Complex ERL 139*,. In prep
- Gill, D., 2003 *Archaeological Monitoring Report, RAF Lakenheath, Vehicle wash racks, ERL 128* 2003/94
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Appendix 1.

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE - CONSERVATION TEAM

Brief and Specification for an Archaeological Excavation

ADJACENT BUILDING 941, RAF LAKENHEATH

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.

1. Background

- 1.1 Consent (F/2004/0248/GOV) has been granted for erection of a 120 bed dormitory (DE/LAK92-3005). The planning authority have applied a PPG 16, paragraph 30 condition to the consent.
- 1.2 The development areas lies immediately adjacent to areas previously archaeologically excavated (dormitory buildings 920 and 917). There is known extensive archaeological occupation in the Roman and Saxon periods.
- 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. In view of the known archaeology adjacent, there is not considered to be any need for evaluation, and mitigation can proceed straight to excavation of areas which will be disturbed by development. Because of the fragile nature of the archaeological deposit, the poor quality of the subsoil, and the shallow topsoil cover, it is considered that preservation *in situ* may only be achievable where existing topsoil remains undisturbed. Unless it is demonstrated that areas exist where no soil disturbance will take place, it is assumed that the entire development area, including areas of landscaping, will require archaeological excavation.

Because of the potential for damage to be caused to surrounding archaeological levels by the demolition process, it is strongly recommended that excavation of the development area should take place before the existing building is taken down.

- 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.

2. Brief for Archaeological Project

2.1 In the areas defined 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 planning application proposed site plan (FSB 92522A/A006). Figure 1 is purely indicative.

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.

2.3 The academic objective will centre upon the high potential for this site to produce evidence for Roman and Saxon settlement. There is also likely to be a level of background prehistoric occupation. Particular significance is placed upon the potential for evidence which will contribute to the understanding of the context for the major Saxon cemetery, ERL 104.

2.4 In addition to the formal archaeological excavation there will be a programme of systematic archaeological monitoring of the building footprint following demolition and during the removal of the footings. This work is specified in Section 4.

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. 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 (*East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 3, 1997, 'Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties, 1. resource assessment'. Occasional Pap. 8, 2000, 'Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. research agenda and strategy'*).

- 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 In the areas marked in Figure 1, all land which will be disturbed by development (see 1.3) is to be archaeologically excavated [other than that under the existing buildings]. The precise excavation area is to be agreed with the Conservation Team of SCCAS.
- 3.2 Topsoil overburden and hard surfaces 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 possible 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 may survive within the footprint of the existing building and be exposed during demolition of the footings and subsequent development.
- 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; [the developer's architect may be approached as an arbitrator.](#)
- 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 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, an 'at-cost' charge will be made for monitoring (currently at a daily rate of £150, but to be fixed at the time that the project takes place), provision should 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 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.
- 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.

- 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).

Specification by: R D Carr

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service Conservation Team
Environment and Transport Department
Shire Hall
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk IP33 2AR

Tel: 01284 352441

Date: 20 July 2004

Reference: /RAFLaken-Bdg941

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

ERL 140, Adjacent building 941., List of Contexts

context	feat	group	ditch segment	grsq	identifier	description	pl no	sheet no	sect. no	cuts	cutby	over	under	photos	ss	fi	small finds	spotdate	phase	period
0001					unstratified finds	Unstratified finds from whole site														
0002	0002		ditch			Ditch visible in narrow strip along western site edge. Only visible for approx 2m. Appears to be running NW/SE. Butt ends at SE end. Probably cuts 0009.	22	2	3,4	0009			0003							
0003	0002		ditch			Upper fill of ditch 0002. Very pale brown sand, probably wind blown. No finds.		2	3,4	0009		0002								
0004	0002		ditch			Lower fill of ditch 0002. Mid brown sand.(might be natural) No finds. Not drawn.														
0005	0002	0005	section			Transverse section across butt end of ditch 0002 (oblique angle)		2	3											
0006	0006		ditch			Triangular profiled E-W aligned ditch . Seen under path at west side of site. Truncated to east.		2	1,2				0007.							
0007	0006		ditch			Mottled fine compacted pale grey -brown sand fill of 0006. Same slight animal disturbance in places very occasional stones . No finds.		2	1,2											
0008	0006		section			Baulk section at Western edge of site at ditch 0006.	6	2	2											
0009	0009		ditch			Ditch running approx E-W . Visible for only 1.6 meters in narrow strip along western site edge. Cut by 0002.	22	2	4,5											
0010	0009		ditch			Fill of ditch 0009 . Pale brown sand . No finds.		2	4,5											
0011	0002/0009		section			SW-NE section through ditches 0002,0009. Shows 0002 cutting 0009.		2	4											
0012	0012		ditch			E-W aligned ditch. Steep sided ,rounded base , shallow slot in base.	7	2	8,9	0013, 0017			0016							
0013	0013		ditch			E-W aligned ditch on S edge of 0012.Cut by 0012					0012		0017							
0014	0014		ditch			Very shallow E-W aligned ditch . Parallel and adjacent to 0015.	7	2	8,10		0015		0018							
0015	0015		ditch			Steep, rounded profile ditch cut ,S of and parallel to 0014.	7	2	8,10	0014, 0018			0019							
0016	0012		ditch			Slightly coarse pale yellow -brown sand with very occasional iron pan flecks.Well sorted, even fill. No finds.		2	8,9			0017, 0012								
0017	0013		ditch			Even grey brown compacted sand.Well sorted, slightly less coarse than 0016.Occasional stones.No finds.		2	8											
0018	0014		ditch			Fine, compacted orange -brown sand.Few stones		2	8,10											
0019	0015		ditch			Fine compacted orange-brown sand.Slightly greyer than 0018. One fragmentary pot sherd ,tiny soft,probably prehistoric.		2	8/10			0015, 0018								
0020	0012/0015		section			Baulk section through ditches 0012,0013,0014,0015		2	8											
0021	0009		section			Section of Western site edge, shows ditch 0009 and modern disturbances.		2	5											
0022	0022		pit			Very small pit , circular, triangular profile.														
0023	0022		pit			Coarse black sand fill of 0022.Fades to brown at edges ,but single deposit. No finds.														
0024	0024		pit			Cut of small rounded pit in narrow strip along Western site edge. Just South of ditch 0002 , steep sided ,flat base.	22	2	13											
0025		0143	section			Number used for photo through ditches 0041,0046,0052,0055,0058,0075														

context	feat	group	ditch segment	grsq	identifier	description	pl no	sheet no	sect. no	cuts	cutby	over	under	photos	ss	fi	small finds	spotdate	phase	period
0026	0024				pit	Fill of pit 0024.Mid brown sand. No finds.	22	2	13											
0027	0027				feature	Oval feature slightly to the West of 0024.Partly under site edge.Thought to be a pit but it gets much deeper as it reaches the site edge.Could be a ditch butt ending .	22	2	14											
0028	0027				feature	Fill of feature 0027.Pale to mid brown sand. Becomes more brown toward site edge.No finds.		2	14											
0029	0029	0029			ditch	Double butt ended curving, broad shallow ditch. Cut by several modern disturbances. Cuts narrow shallow gully 0034.	20	2	17,18,19			Modern								
0030	0036	0029	0036		ditch	Upper fill of 0029 in segment 0036.Dark brown sand . One piece of bone. Quite fine,few stones.		2	17											0031
0031	0036	0029	0036		ditch	Lower fill of 0029 in segment 0036 .Fine, soft , very chalky sand ,mostly small soft mixed chalk with occasional nodules up to 3cm.across.Contains some bone.		2	17											0029 0030
0032	0036	0029	0036		ditch	Fill of 0036 where cut by modern trench. One piece of slag and bone.Possible mixing with trench fill? Brown sand probably same as 00301						Modern								0029
0033	0029	0029	0036		ditch	Fill of 0029 at East side of modern trench -opposite 0032.Soft chalky sand -same as 0031? Contained a sherd of Roman pottery.Possible mixing with trench (although I' m pretty sure it's ok) This probably represents a butt end as ditch cannot be seen further East.														0029
0034	0034				Gully	SW-NE gully filled with mid/pale brown sand.Cut by 0029.		2	28											
0035	0034				Gully	Soft pale/mid brown sand fill of 0034		2	28											
0036	0036	0029	0036		ditch	Main segment of 0029. Fills-0030,0031,0032,0033	20	2	17											
0037	0037	0029	0037		cleaning layer	Narrow section cut through 0029. Bone in fill.	20	2	18											
0038	0038	0029	0038		ditch	Possible butt end to West after corner.However in path area and truncated so possibly fading out .80% sure it is butt end.	20	2	19											
0039	0037	0029	0037		ditch	Fill of 0037/ditch 0029.Soft,mixed brown sand with occassional stones and frequent chalk,small nodules and flecks.One bone recovered. Cut by modern.		2	18			Modern								0029
0040	0038	0029	0038		ditch	Brown sand fill of possible butt end,very shallow.	20	2	19											
0041	0041	0143	0144		ditch	Linear NNE-SSW ditch.West side slopes 45 degrees slightly stepped and regular.East side slopes 25-35 degrees straight and regular Base slightly concave.Fills 0042,0043,0044,0045.	21	2	16											
0042	0041	0143	0144		ditch	Mid brown sand (fine) with a thin mid/dark brown sand band interface between this deposit and 0043 above.		2	16											0041 0043
0043	0041	0143	0144		ditch	Mid grey brown fine sand,with a thin 0.01m deep band of mid/dark brown sand at the interface between this fill 0043 and the fill above(0044)		2	16											0042 0044
0044	0041	0143	0144		ditch	Light yellow grey brown fine sand with 5% coarse sand 1% pea grit ,with a thin 0.01 deep band of mid/dark brown sand at the interface between this fill and the fill above(0045)		2	16											0043 0045
0045	0041	0143	0144		ditch	Light yellow brown fine sand. 10%coarse sand.		2	16			0046								0044
0046	0046	0143	0144		ditch	Linear N-S ditch cut.Sides slope 45 degrees straight and regular. Base flat.Fills 0047,0048,0049,0050,0051	21	2	16											0045/00 54 0047
0047	0046	0143	0144		ditch	Mid grey brown fine sand .10% coarse sand .1%pea grit.At the interface between the fill and the cut is a thin band of 0.01m deep mid/dark brown sand.		2	16											0046 0048

context	feat	group	ditch segment	grsq	identifier	description	pl no	ssheet no	sect. no	cuts	cutby	over	under	photos	ss	fi	small finds	spotdate	phase	period
0048	0046	0143	0144		ditch	Dark brown sand, fine. Very thin band.		2	16			0047	0049							
0049	0046	0143	0144		ditch	Light yellow brown fine sand .30% coarse sand.		2	16			0048	0050							
0050	0046	0143	0144		ditch	Mid/dark brown sand .2% pea grit		2	16			0049	0051							
0051	0046	0143	0144		ditch	Light mid brown fine sand .30% coarse sand .1% flint		2	16			0050								
0052	0052	0143	0144		ditch	Linear ditch running NNE-SSW. Sides slope at 35 degrees (where visible) slightly concave and regular. Base flat. Filled with 0053.	21	2	16											0053
0053	0052	0143	0144		ditch	Mid brown grey sand at interface between this fill and the cut and with the fill above (0054) there is a thin dark brown sand deposit.		2	16			0052	0054							
0054	0052	0143	0144		ditch	Mid brown grey sand		2				0055,0046	0053							
0055	0055	0143	0144		ditch	Linear ditch NNE-SSW. Sides slope at 30 degrees (where visible) straight and regular. Base slightly concave. Fills 0056, 0057.	21	2	16	0054										0056
0056	0055	0143	0144		ditch	Light yellow brown fine sand. At interface with cut there is a thin layer of dark brown sand 0.02 thick.		2	16			0055	0057							
0057	0055	0143	0144		ditch	Mid yellow coarse sand. No finds		2	16											
0058	0058	0143	0144		ditch	Linear ditch NNE-SSW. Sides slope 45 degrees straight and regular. Base flat. Fills 0059, 0060, 0061, 0062	21	2	16	0057										0059
0059	0058	0143	0144		ditch	Light -mid brown grey fine sand. At interface with cut and fill above a thin band of dark brown sand. No finds		2	16			0058	0060							
0060	0058	0143	0144		ditch	Fine light grey brown sand. 2% pea grit. No finds		2	16			0059	0061							
0061	0058	0143	0144		ditch	Light mid grey brown coarse sand. 1% flint.		2	16		0075	0061								
0062	0075	0143	0144		ditch	Mid brown yellow sand coarse. 5% pea grit. 1% flint. No finds		2				0075								
0063	0063	0063	0064,0066		ditch	Ditch running NE-SW. Curving to the East as it approaches building 941. Two segments excavated-0064, 0066														
0064	0064	0063	0064		ditch segment	1.4m segment through ditch 0063. Just West of building 941. Note; fill number used in photo of segment.		2	24											
0065	0064	0063	0064		ditch segment	Fill of ditch 0063 with in excavated segment 0064. Mid grey brown sand. No finds.		2	24											
0066	0066	0063	0066		ditch segment	1.4 M Segment through ditch 0063 SW of segment 0064		2	23											
0067	0066	0063	0066		ditch segment	Fill of ditch 0063 within segment 0066. Mid grey brown sand. No finds.		2	23											
0068	0068				ditch	N-S Aligned ditch. Shallow basin profile. Cut longitudinally by modern trench. Grey sand fill. Crosses 0063 at modern disturbance so not really visible. Cut by 0072. Cut by modern disturbance to South and does not appear beyond, it had become narrow and shallow by this point. Probably truncated as sub soil rises to SE. Butts to N where cut by E-W ditch.			26,27			0072								0069
0069	0068		0070,0071		ditch	Grey sand fill of 0068. No finds. This number for entire length. Almost stoneless, fine compacted sand with bands of iron pan.		2	26/27			0072	0068							
0070	0068		0070		ditch segment	North of two segments in S half of site. Photographed with number 0071.		2	26											
0071	0068		0071		ditch segment	South of two segments in South half of site.		2	27											
0072	0072				gully	Very shallow narrow gully. Basin profile. Cuts 0068 but fades out before 0063.		2	25	0068			0073							

context	feat	group	ditch segment	grsq	identifier	description	pl no	sheet no	sect. no	cuts	cutby	over	under	photos	ss	fi	small finds	spotdate	phase	period
0073	0072				gully	Pale brown sand, mainly fine but some coarser sand inclusions. No finds. Some iron pan banding.			2	25			0072							
0074	0074				layer	Grey brown sand lying in natural low spot. Sample excavation max. of 8cm. deep. Not a feature. Natural deposit. No finds. See TST and sketch plan. Cut by modern trenches.						0068								
0075	0075	0143	0145		ditch	Shallow wide linear N-S ditch. Sides slope 45 degrees straight and regular. Base flat.	33	2	29	0061										
0076	0076	0143	0145		ditch	Linear NNE-SSW. Sides slope 70 degrees straight and regular. Base flat.	33	2	29				0077							
0077	0076	0144	0145		ditch	Mid grey brown sand. 3% pea grit. No finds.	33	2	29				0076							
0078	0078		0145		layer	Mid brown grey sand. 1% pea grit. Located on N edge of ditch section 0145, NE of ditch 0076. No finds.		2												
0079	0079				Area of burning	Possible pit ovalar in plan. Sides slope 45 degrees straight and regular. Fill is a pink red (heated) sand with patches of dark brown /black sand with grey sand mixed in. Looks redeposited rather than burnt in situ, but is possible.	35	3	37											
0080	0080				ditch	Ditch running E-W visible in area next to building 941 (Eastern edge of site) for 4m. Gentle sloping sides, flat base. Probably cuts ditch 0068, see section 0082.	2		15	0068										
0081	0080				ditch	Pale brown sand fill of ditch 0080. No finds. Fill number for whole length including in section 0082.	2		15											
0082	0080 0068		0082		ditch section	Small L-shaped section at junction of ditches 0080 and 0068. Appears to show 0080 cutting 0068. But a little vague, cut based on direction of iron pan lines in section.														
0083	0083	0143	0148		ditch	Ditch cut in segment 0148. Cut to North by modern.	3		36				0084							
0084	0083	0143	0148		ditch	Grey brown sand fill of ditch 0083. Some bands of iron pan.	3		36			0083								
0085	0085	0143	0148		ditch	Adjacent to 0083. Cuts 0087. Triangular profile.	3		36	0087			0086							
0086	0085	0143	0148		ditch	Grey sand fill of 0085. Some iron pan banding.	3		36			0085								
0087	0087	0143	0148		ditch	Broad flat based ditch cut. Cut by 0085						0085								0088
0088	0087	0143	0148		ditch	Grey sand fill of 0087. Some iron pan banding.						0085	0087							
0089	0089	0143	0148		ditch	Broad flat based ditch on S edge of 0143 in segment 0148	3		36											
0090	0089	0143	0148		ditch	Fill of 0089. Grey brown sand with some iron pan near base	3		36											
0091	0083 0085 0087	0143	0148		section	West facing section through ditch group 0143. Cuts 0083, 0085, 0087, 0089	3		36											
0092	0092	0143			ditch	Steep sided ditch on N edge of 0143, triangular profile.	3		38											
0093	0092	0143			ditch	Grey/brown sand fill of ditch 0092.	3		38											
0094	0094				ditch	Cornering ditch with steep, deep central cut. Difficult to trace to N as cut by modern. Also cut by E-W ditches at corner.	2,3		34,43	0098,0099,0100			0097							
0095	0094 0118		0147		section	Section through corner of 0094 and others; 0118, 0119, 0136, 0121, 0132	3		41											
0096	0094		0096		ditch segment	Segment through N-S aligned part of 0094	2		34											
0097	0094		0096		ditch	Fill of 0094 in segment 0096. Coarse pale brown sand with some iron pan bands near base. No finds.	2		34											

context	feat	group	ditch segment	grsq	identifier	description	pl no	ssheet no	sect. no	cuts	cutby	over	under	photos	ss	fi	small finds	spotdate	phase	period
0098	0098				spread	Shallow scoop containing grey sand and one piece of animal bone .Animal disturbance underneath but upper spread was fairly even pale brown sand ,so probably the base of a feature.Cut by 0094.No section.														
0099	0099				pit	Oval pit, basin profile. Cut by 0094		2	31											
0100	0099				pit	Mixed grey and pale brown sand .Few stones but some grit.		2	31											
0101	0101		0146		ditch	Linear in plan,runs N-S. Sides slope 45 degrees straight and regular.Base concave.Located at Nend of site.	42	3	39,40											
0102	0101		0146		ditch	Mid brown grey sand fill of 0101														
0103	0103		0146		ditch	Linear ditch cut N-S,sides slope 90degrees straight and regular .Base flat.	42	3	39											
0104	0103		0146		ditch	Mid grey brown sand fill of 0103.	42	3	42											
0105	0105		0146		ditch	Linear ditch NNE-SSW. Sides slope 70 degrees,straight and regular.Base flat.	42	3	39,40											
0106	0105		0146		ditch	Mid brown grey sand fill of 0105	42	3	39,40											
0107	0107		0146		ditch	Northern terminus of N-S ditch,linear,sides slope 45 degrees straight and regular.Base concave.	42	3	40											
0108	0107		0146		ditch	Mid grey brown sand fill of ditch 0107.No finds.	42	3	40											
0109	0109				pit	Oval pit, cut through the centre by modern trench and at either end by other modern.Lots of banded sand and chalk fills see 0110-0115.Steep sided,flat base		2	32											
0110	0109				pit	Upper banded fills of 0109.Iron pan ,sand and patches of chalk. Animal bone from this very top fill.		2	32											
0111	0109				pit	Main upper fill of 0109.Under 0110.Mottled grey and brown soft sand with occasional small stones,but otherwise quite fine.Occasional bands of iron pan.No finds.		2	32											
0112	0109				pit	Central fill of 0109.Soft,fine yellow brown sand,some iron pan bands.Occasional stones. No finds.		2	32											
0113	0109				pit	Pale brown sand with frequent chalk flecks and nodules.Thin small layer under 0112.This layer runs up the side of the feature immediately overlying natural chalk.See SNB for sketch.Animal bone recovered from it.		2	32											
0114	0109				pit	Soft, fine grey sand with iron pan banding.No finds.		2	32											
0115	0109				pit	Dense dark orange -brown silty sand overlying chalk and bright orange silt natural.No finds.		2	32											
0116	0109				pit	Soft even grey-brown sand only seen in S end of pit where natural is more sandy on sides although still chalk at the bottom. No finds.		2	32											
0117	0132 0136		0147		section	East-facing section through ditches 0121,0136 etc.Oppsite 0095.		3	43											
0118	0118		0147		ditch	In sections 0095and 0117.E-W aligned ditch. Northern most of group.Cut by 0122and 0119.Basin profile.Fill-0125		3	41,43											
0119	0119		0147		pit	Deep, steep-sided ?sub square pit.Cut by 0122and cutting ditch 0118.		3	41											
0120						NOT USED														
0121	0121		0147		ditch	E-W ditch butting in excavation section 0095.Basin profile.Cut by 0122and cutting 0132and 0136.		3	43											

context	feat	group	ditch segment	grsq	identifier	description	pl no	sheet no	sect. no	cuts	cutby	over	under	photos	ss	fi	small finds	spotdate	phase	period
0122	0122		0147		ditch	Broad, roughly flat based NE-SW aligned ditch in section 0095 and 0117. Probably has two cuts but defining them is difficult so currently under one cut number.	3		41,43	0119,0118,0123			0126							
0123	0123		0147		ditch	Cut of E-W aligned ditch. Basin profile. Cut by 0122 and cuts 0124.	3		41	0124	0122		0129							
0124	0124	0094	0147		pit	Pit? cut in section 0095. Could be corner in ditch 0094 if ditch getting deeper; Needs looking at in post excavation.	3		41		0123		0130							
0125	0118		0147		ditch	Mottled grey-brown sand fill of ditch 0118. Some stones and coarse patches. No finds.	3		41,43		0119,0122	0118	0126							
0126	0122		0147		ditch	Upper fill of 0122 (both cuts, if they exist) Mid grey-brown fine sand with iron pan bands. Very few stones.	3		41,43			0127								
0127	0122		0147		ditch	Lower fill of 0122. Dense grey-brown sand. No finds.	3		41,43			0128	0126							
0128	0122		0147		ditch	Basal fill of S side of 0122. Evidence of earlier cut?? Brown sand fill. No finds.	3		41,43			0122	0127							
0129	0123		0147		ditch	Pale grey-brown sand with iron pan bands. Fill of 0123. No finds.	3		41		0122	0123	0126							
0130	0124	0094?	0147		pit	Fill of 0124. Pale grey-brown sand with iron pan bands. Slightly darker and browner at the top. Coarser sand at the top. Occasional stones throughout. Could be corner of ditch 0094.	3		41											
0131	0119		0147		pit	Fill of 0119. Even brown sand with occasional iron pan and some stones. Coarse patches of sand throughout. Single fill for all of pit.	3		41			0119	0128							
0132	0132	0094?	0147		pit	Pit cut. Could be corner of 0094.	3		43		0121,0136?,0122									
0133	0132	0094?			ditch	Upper fill of 0132. Cut by 0122. Grey-brown sand.						0122	0134							
0134	0132	0094?	0147		pit	Band of very coarse sand with some medium (up to 4cm.) stones.	3		43		0121	0135	0126							
0135	0132		0147		pit	Lower fill of 0132. Even grey-brown sand. Few stones quite fine. No finds.	3		43		0121,0136?	0132	0134							
0136	0136		0147		ditch	Cut of E-W ditch seen in plan and in section 0117. V-shaped profile	3		43	0132?	0121									
0137	0136		0147		ditch	Fill of 0136. Even brown sand.	3		43											
0138	0121		0147		ditch	Slightly streaky grey-brown sand fill of 0121.	3		43											
0139	0122		0147		spread	Patch of dark brown sand in base of 0122.	3		43			0122	0126							
0140	0140	0143	0141		ditch	On S edge of 0041. May be just visible in section to West.	3		44											
0141	0141	0143	0141		section	Section through ditches; 0041,0046,0052,0056 etc.. East of original section.														
0142	0142				ditch	Ditch cut. Appears in section 0141 but not in section to West. Probably cut by 0041. Distinctive dark grey-brown fill.														
0143		0143			ditch	Group number for all E-W ditches at N end of the site. Dug by James H to West and James R to the East.														
0144		0143	0144		ditch segment	Section through 0041,0046,0052,0055,0058,0075														
0145		0143	0145		ditch segment	Section North of 0144, through ditches 0075,0076,0078.														
0146			0146		ditch segment	Through ditches 0101,0103,0105,0107														
0147			0147		ditch segment	Excavated segments through 0118,0119,0121,0122,0123,0124,0132,0136. Sections drawn as 0095 and 0117.														

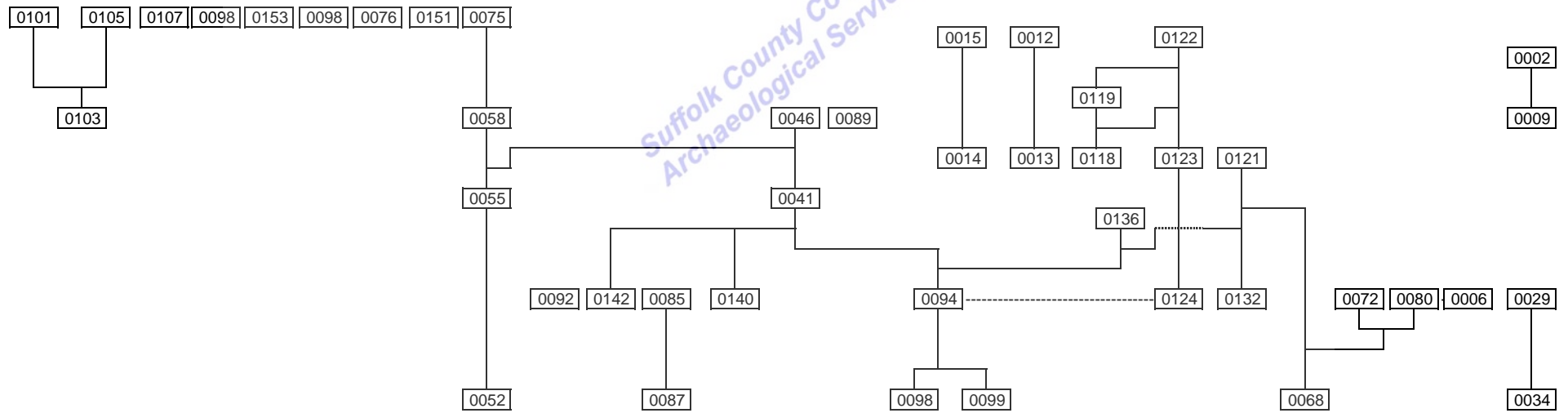
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context	feat	group	ditch segment	grsq	identifier	description	pl no	sheet no	sect. no	cuts	cutby	over	under	photos	ss	fi	small finds	spotdate	phase	period
0148		0143	0148		ditch segment	Excavated segments through 0083, 0085, 0087, 0089 and 0092.														
0149	0149	0143	0141		ditch	Shallow possible ditch cutting 0075 in section 0141.														
0150	0149	0143	0141		ditch	Mid grey sand														
0151	0151	0143	0148		ditch	Shallow ditch on north edge of 0148. Both sides visible at western edge but southern edge fades out.														
0152	0151	0143	0148		ditch	Grey sand														
0153	0152	0143	0148		feature	Very shallow possible ditch butt end/feature. Seems to mark northern edge of ditches, an edge extending from 0153, aligning with the edge of 0098 on the opposite side of the site was visible on the surface but disappeared when cleaned.														
0154	0152	0143	0148		feature	Beige-pink sand coarse sand														
0155	0155 0087	0143	0148		ditch	Butt end of ditch, suggest part of 0087.														
0156	0155 0087	0143	0148		ditch	Grey sand with some iron pan banding														



ARCHIVE INDEX		SITE: RAFL Adjacent building 941		SITE CODE: ERL 140	
<i>Excavation type:</i> Excavation		COMPUTER FOLDER T:\arc\archive field projects\RAF Lakenheath\ERL 140			
SITE PAPERWORK	✓	<i>Location</i>	<i>Computer files</i>	<i>Film codes</i>	
Context sheets	✓	Site file, archive store	Er1140.mdb		
Finds Catalogues	✓	Site file, archive store	Er1140.mdb		
Slides	✓	Archive store	26	FQU 12-37	
B&W negs/contacts	✓	Archive store	33	FQH 35-36, FQI 1-31	
X-Rays					
Fieldwalking Record					
Levelling Record					
Contour Survey					
Scientific Sample Record					
Conservation Record					
Correspondence Files	✓	Site file, archive store			
Other					
PLANS & SECTIONS		<i>Location</i>	<i>Number</i>		
Plan Originals pencil	✓	Archive store RAFL PC	2		
Plan Inked copies	✓	Archive store RAFL PC	1		
Photo Reductions					
Other Plans					
Section Originals pencil	✓	Archive store RAFL PC	1		
Section Inked copies	✓	Archive store RAFL PC	1		
FINDS		<i>Store Location</i>	<i>No. boxes/bags</i>		
Pottery	✓	H/80/2 (parish box)	1 bag all together		
Animal Bone	✓	H/80/2 (parish box)	1 bag all together		
CBM					
Metalwork and Small Finds		SS			
Misc Finds	✓	H/80/2 (parish box)	1 bag all together		
Soil Samples					
REPORTS/CATALOGUES		<i>Location</i>	<i>Computer files</i>	<i>Notes</i>	
Archive Report	✓	Site file, archive store	ERL 140		
Matrices/ other Phasing Data	✓	Site file, archive store	Er1 140 matrix		
Finds Reports/Catalogues	✓	Site file, archive store	ERL 140 finds		
Environmental Reports					
Documentary Report					
Other					
FINDS DRAWINGS		<i>Location</i>	<i>Number</i>		
Pottery					
Small Finds					
Other					
MISCELLANEOUS					

Notes: SS = small store; HF = hanging file