

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT**

---

**SCCAS REPORT No. 2009/107**

# **Baylham Nickel Removal Scheme, Baylham BAY 036**

**S. Cass**  
© May 2009  
[www.suffolkcc.gov.uk/e-and-t/archaeology](http://www.suffolkcc.gov.uk/e-and-t/archaeology)

---

**Lucy Robinson, County Director of Environment and Transport**  
Endeavour House, Russell Road, Ipswich, IP1 2BX.



## HER Information

---

**Planning Application No:** None

**Date of Fieldwork:** 17th – 18th July 2006

**Grid Reference:** TM 1164 5221

**Funding Body:** Anglian Water

**Curatorial Officer:** Robert Carr

**Project Officer:** Robert Atfield

**Oasis Reference:** suffolkc1-55736

Digital report submitted to Archaeological Data Service:  
<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>



# Contents

---

	Page
<b>Summary</b>	
1. Introduction	1
2. Geology and topography	2
3. Archaeological and historical background	2
4. Methodology	3
5. Results	4
5.1 Introduction	4
5.2 Anglo-Saxon	4
6. Finds and environmental evidence	8
6.1 Introduction	8
6.2 Pottery	8
6.3 Ceramic Building Material	9
6.4 Small Finds	9
Roman	9
Medieval	9
Undated	10
6.5 Flint	10
6.6 Burnt Flint	11
6.7 Discussion of material evidence	11
7. Discussion	11
8. Conclusions and recommendations for further work	12
9. Archive deposition	12
10. List of contributors and acknowledgements	13

11. Bibliography	12
Disclaimer	12

### **List of Figures**

1. Site location	1
2. Site location detail	2
3. Stripped area detail	4
4. Archaeological features	7
5. Sections	7

### **List of Tables**

1. Finds quantities	8
2. Pottery by context	8
3. Flint by context	10

### **List of Plates**

1. Pit 0009, looking west	5
2. Pits 0006 and 0004, looking west	6

### **List of Appendices**

1. Brief and specification	15
2. Context list	17
3. Small Finds	19

## Summary

---

An archaeological monitoring was carried out on land to the north west of Baylham Pumping Station, in advance of a nickel removal scheme undertaken by Anglian Water. A single area strip, heading northwest from the pumping station, was opened and 3 features were observed. All three features date to the early Anglo-Saxon period, with residual finds from the Roman period possibly indicating some continuity of activity within the Roman settlement *Combretovium*, less than 200m to the north, into this period or as further examples of Anglo-Saxon 'curation' of Roman objects. The site also provides further evidence of Anglo-Saxon activity in the Gipping Valley area near to the Roman settlement.

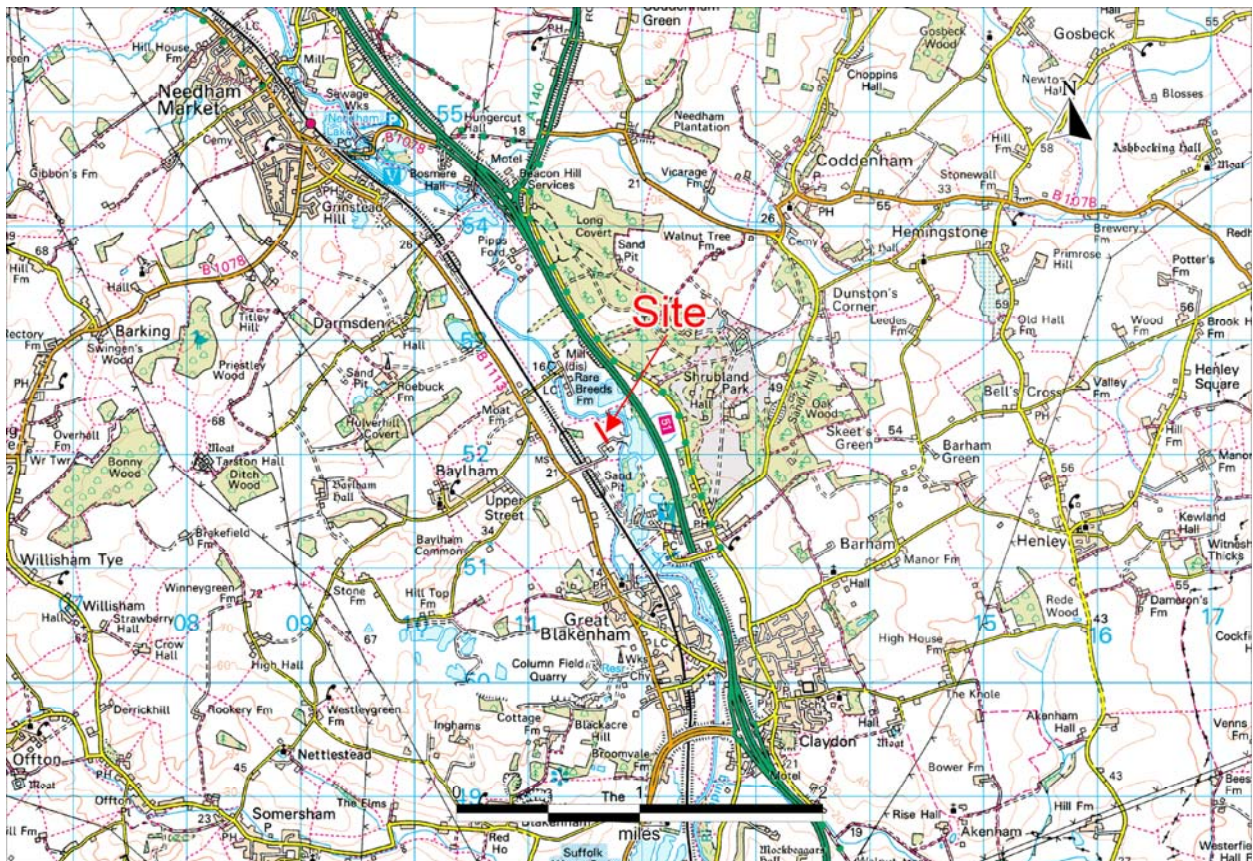




# 1. Introduction

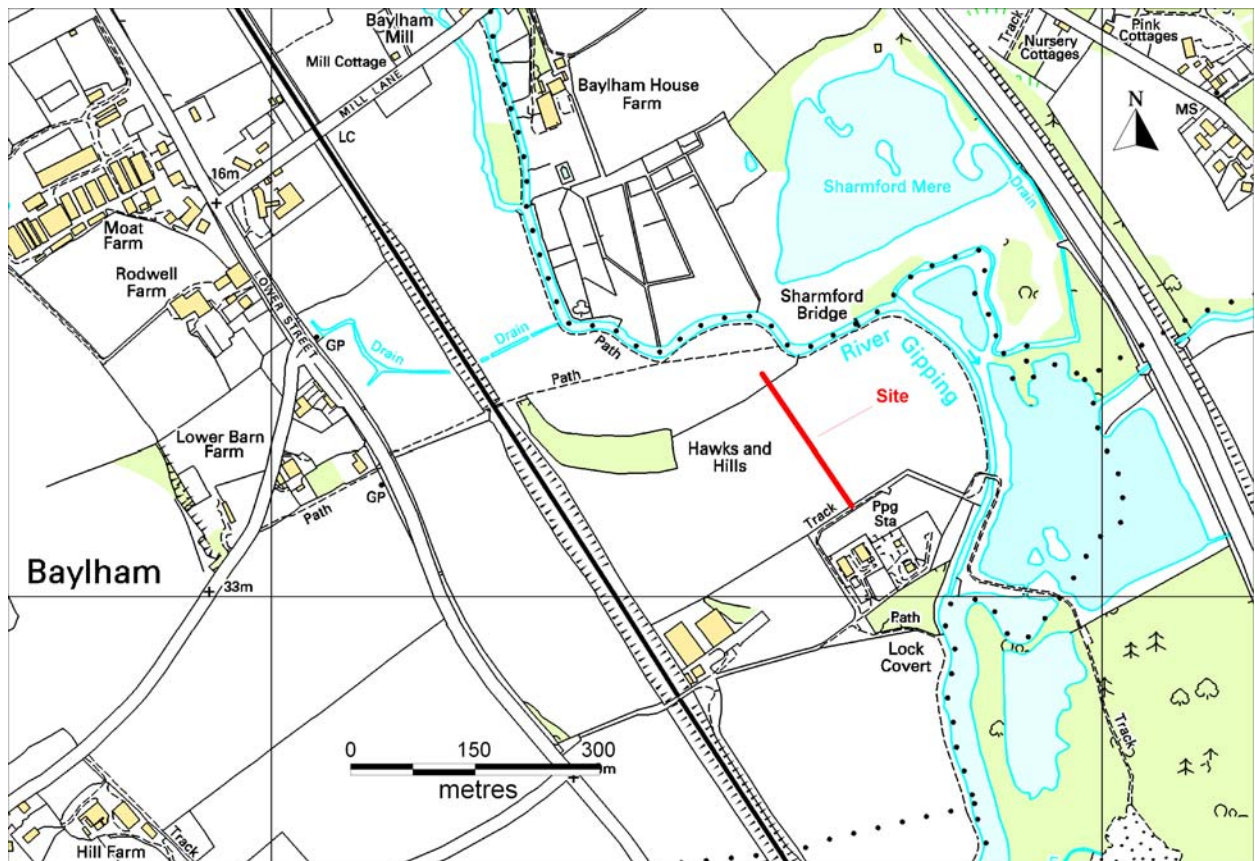
---

This report concerns an archaeological strip and record action along the route of a proposed new underground pipeline running northwest out of the existing Baylham pumping station (TM 1171 5205). Two new pipelines had been proposed as part of a scheme by Anglian Water to remove nickel from the water supply in the area. After a desk-based assessment (Atfield *et al*, 2006) a mitigation strategy was designed in which the pipeline route to the northwest of the station would be monitored and subject to a strip and record methodology, while the longer pipeline to the west would be in previously disturbed ground along the edge of an existing road, thus having a minimal impact on the known archaeology along its route.



© Crown Copyright, all rights reserved, Suffolk County Council Licence No. 100023395 2009

Figure 1. Site location



© Crown Copyright, all rights reserved, Suffolk County Council Licence No. 100023395 2009

Figure 2. Site location detail

## 2. Geology and topography

The geology of the site, in the river valley along the River Gipping, consists of chalky till and boulder clay under a variable depth of glaciofluvial drift. The centre of the land parcel involved in this development lies at approximately 19m AOD, with a slight slope down towards the River Gipping to the east. Deposits of chalk, sand, clay and gravel have all been commercially extracted within 1.5km of the site.

## 3. Archaeological and historical background

The archaeological background to the site is varied, although the most significant known sites relate to the Roman settlement of *Combretvium* a short distance to the north in the parish of Coddendam. This settlement, along with two early Roman forts is known to exist adjacent to the far side of the current river, although its southern extent has yet to be ascertained. While the river may have contained the main settlement, specialised riverside development may be present on either bank, such as landing stages and or

warehousing. This site is a designated Scheduled Ancient Monument (Suffolk SAM No.89 and 17901) although the designation ceases on the northern bank of the river. The area near the north-western pipeline has produced numerous finds of early Roman date, including coins, brooches and a dispersed bronze coin hoard (BAY 018).

The site lies on the inside of a prominent meander in the River Gipping, opposite the Roman fort and town, in an area favourable for occupation during the Anglo-Saxon period though so far activity in the vicinity is sparse on the western side of the River Gipping. Greater numbers of findspots have been located east of the river however, predominantly due to fieldwalking/metal detecting and stray finds being reported. Saxon features have been identified in Needham Market and at Gallows Hill Quarry, Barking to the northwest and close to Barham Church to the southeast, although little has been found closer to this site.

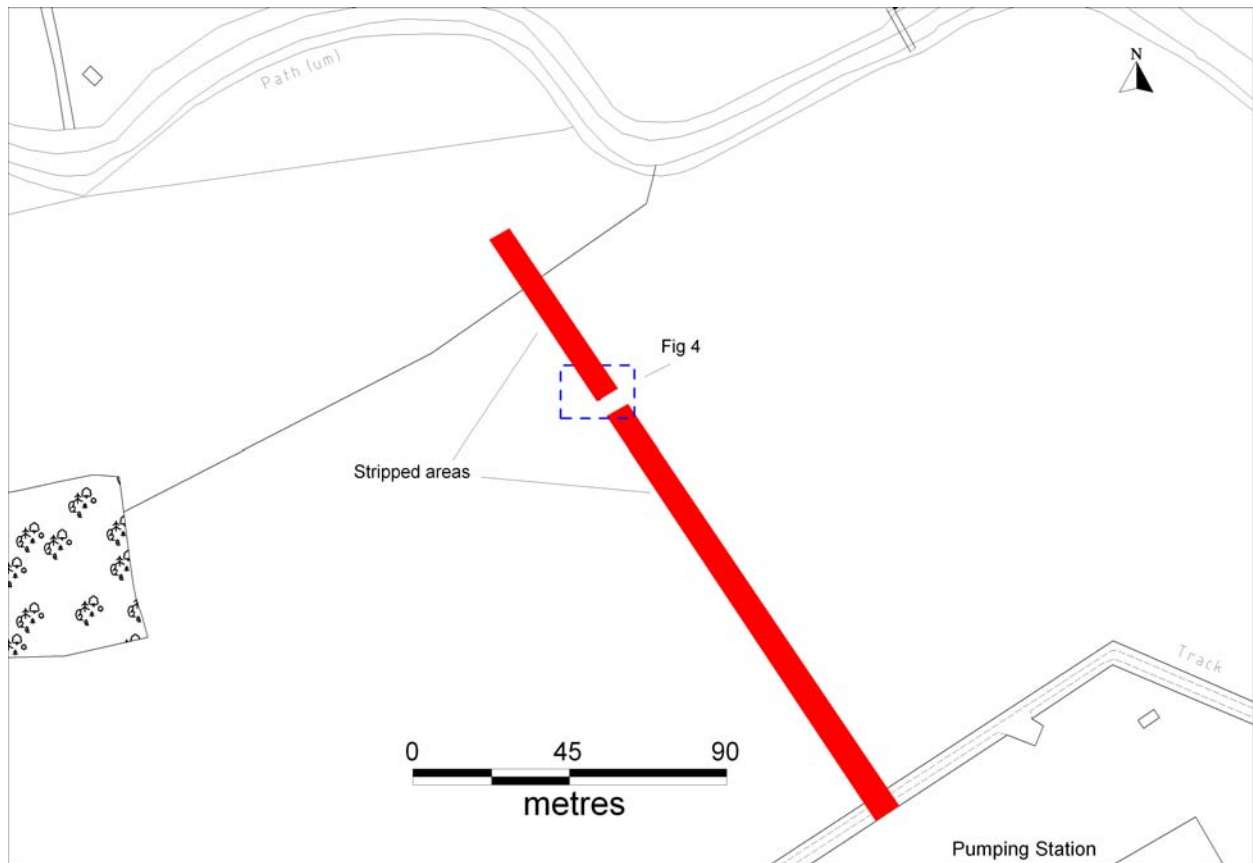
There was also thought to be a possibility that the furthest extent of the pipeline may encounter a more recent occupation site. Sharmford Hall is recorded on the first edition OS map as lying on the southern bank of the river above Sharmford Bridge, and survived at least until the surveying for the 1920's edition, although it has now gone.

#### **4. Methodology**

---

A single strip was excavated by 360 degree mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision, down to the top of undisturbed natural deposits or any archaeologically relevant deposits if present. It was c. 200m long and 8m wide, with a short break (of c. 5m) to allow livestock passage across the field. Both the top- and subsoil were scanned for stray finds during the stripping process, with a metal detector being used to enhance recovery of any metallic objects. No environmental samples were taken from the encountered features.

The site was allocated the HER number BAY 036. All observed deposits were allocated unique context numbers and recorded on *pro forma* recording sheets. All drawn recording was carried out in a series of 1:50 or 1:20 scale plans and 1:20 or 1:10 scale section drawings. Due to the minimal nature of the findings, the illustrations have been rendered simply using MapInfo mapping software.



© Crown Copyright, all rights reserved, Suffolk County Council Licence No. 100023395 2009

Figure 3. Stripped area detail

## 5. Results

### 5.1 Introduction

Approximately 0.35m of topsoil was removed along the length of the strip down to the top of naturally occurring deposits and three features were observed. They consisted of two relatively deep intercutting pits and a single isolated shallow pit. A number of clay pockets were noted towards the northwestern end of the trench, although they were interpreted as naturally occurring (probably water-lain) features.

### 5.2 Anglo-Saxon

Pit 0009 was an isolated shallow irregular circular feature, approximately 1.0m in diameter and 0.2m deep, with steep sides and an irregular shallow concave base. It was filled with a very stoney mid brown silty sand/gravel deposit (0010).



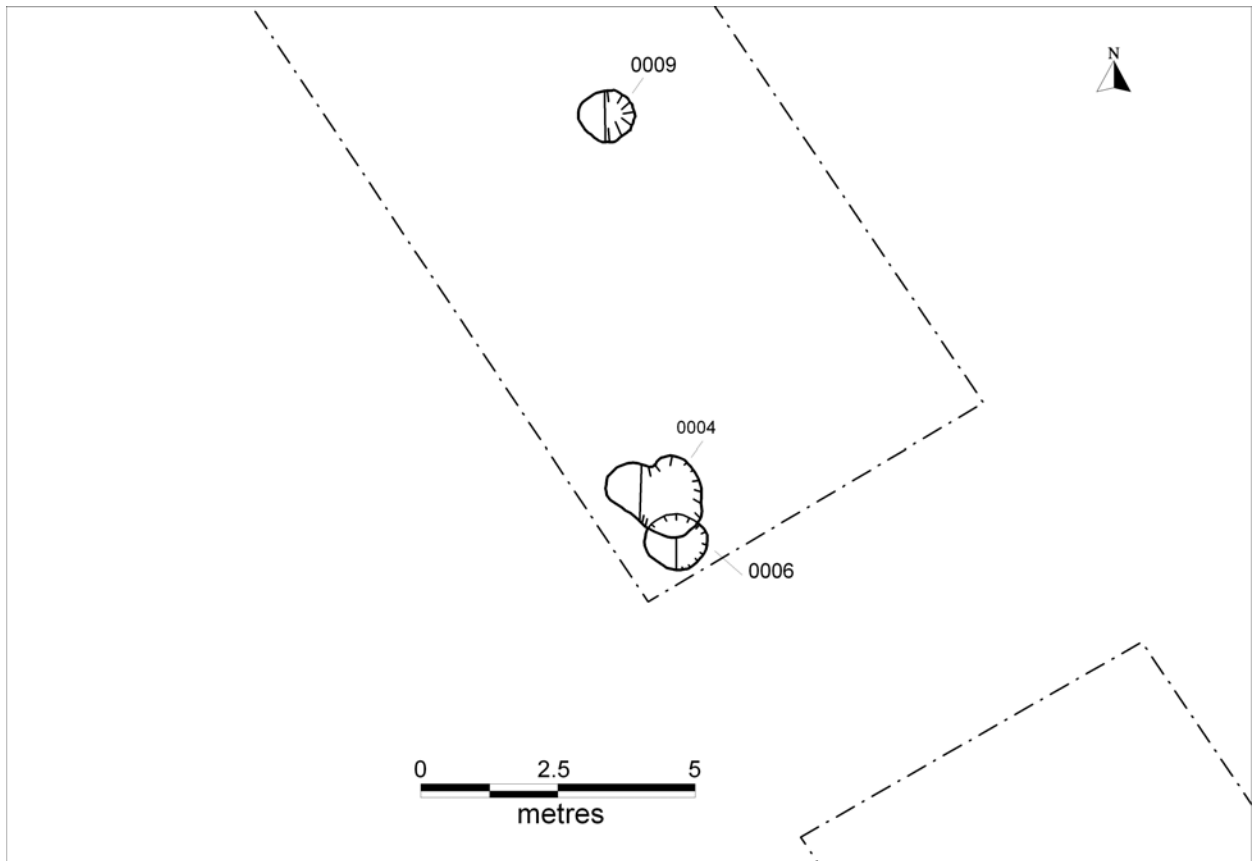
Plate 1. Pit 0009, looking west

Pit 0004 was cut by pit 0006, although on the surface only one feature was visible due to poor definition. Pit 0004 was an irregular ovoid with steep sides and a flat base c.0.34m deep, measuring approximately 1.1m by 1.6m and filled with 0005 (a mid-pale silty sand and gravel deposit with occasional charcoal fragments).



Plate 2. Pits 0006 and 0004, looking west

Pit 0006 was an ovoid feature, with steep sides and a flat base, cut into the southern edge of pit 0004. It measured approximately 1m wide by 1.15m long, and was 0.45m deep. The primary fill (0007) of this feature was a dark brown 'organic' silty sand with frequent gravels and occasional charcoal fragments, up to 0.28m thick. The secondary fill (0008) was a mid reddish brown silty sand and gravel deposit, up to 0.17m thick.



© Crown Copyright, all rights reserved, Suffolk County Council Licence No. 100023395 2009

Figure 4. Archaeological features

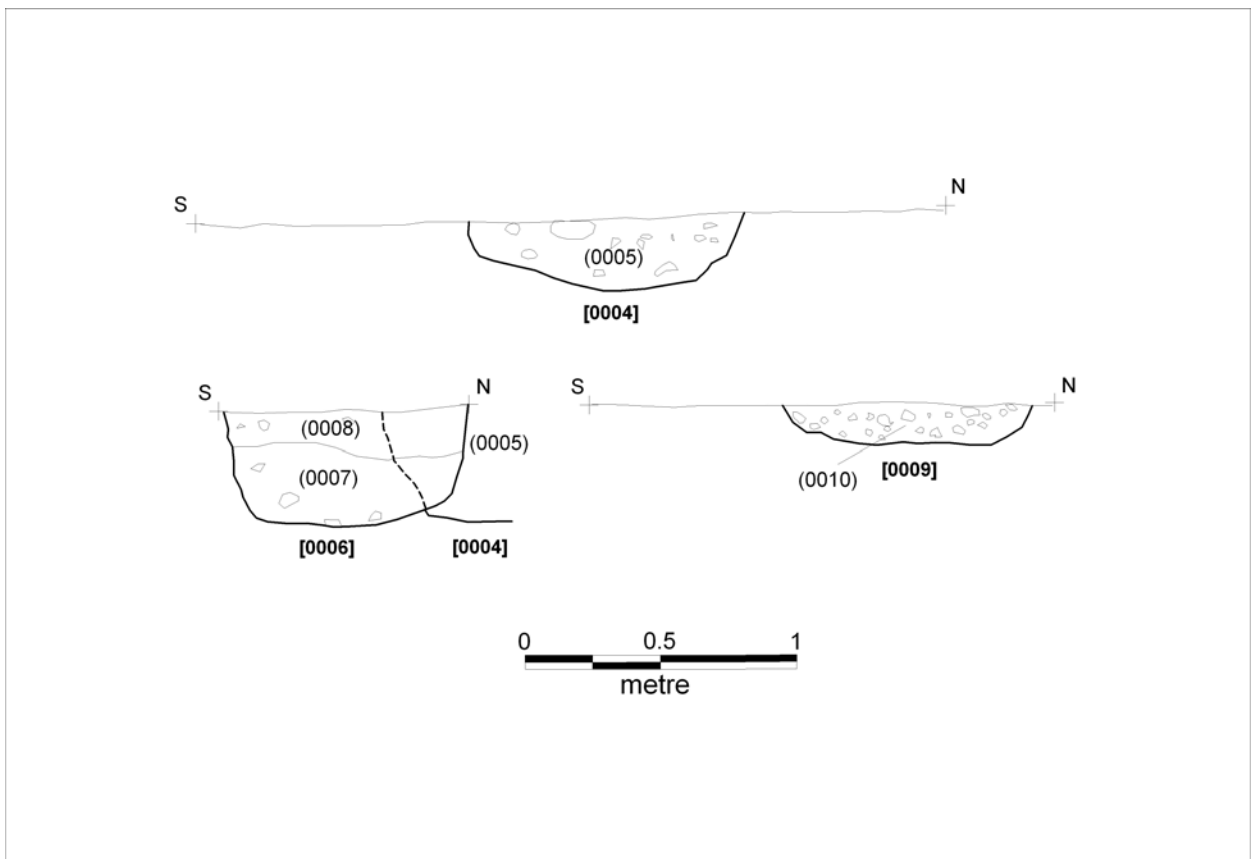


Figure 5. Sections

## 6. Finds and environmental evidence by Cathy Tester

### 6.1 Introduction

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

Ctxt	Pottery		CBM		Flint		Burnt Flint		Miscell	Spotdates
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g		
0001	1	58	7	220	2	16				PMed Med Rom
0005	3	11			1	8	4	232		ESax
0007	3	22			3	37				ESax Rom
0010	1	3			1	1				ESax
Total	8	94	7	220	7	62	4	232		

Table 1. Finds quantities

### 6.2 Pottery

Eight sherds of pottery were recovered. Two are Roman and six are hand-made Early Anglo-Saxon of 5th to 7th century date (Sue Anderson, pers. comm). Details by context are shown below.

Ctxt	Fabric	No	Wt/g	Notes	Spotdate
0001	GX	1	58	Beaker base (50mm, 100%) grey coarseware	Rom
0005	ESSS	1	8	Bodysherd, black surface and core. Sandy w abund angular clear quartz sand voids and organic impressions .	ESax
	ESCQ	1	3	Bodysherd. Brown exterior surface, orange margins, black core, abundant medium-coarse quartz sand	ESax
0007	ESCQ	1	4	Bodysherd, medium coarse sand and occasional voids	ESax
	ESSS	1	14	Bodysherd, smoothed dark brown surface, black core. Sand and occasional rounded clear quartz and plate-like voids and organic impressions. Visible mica	ESax
	GX	1	4	Abraded bodysherd	Rom
0010	ESSS	1	3	Bodysherd, smoothed black exterior surface, black core and interior surface. Medium coarse sand and voids	ESax

Table 2. Pottery by context

The Roman sherds are both sandy greywares (GX). The first is a complete base, possibly from a pedestal beaker with a restricted base which was unstratified. The second is a non-diagnostic bodysherd.

The six sherds of early Anglo-Saxon pottery are all non-diagnostic bodysherds and were found in three pits. All are hand-made and two basic fabric groups are distinguished based on their major inclusions. The first is coarse quartz sand tempered (ESCQ) containing moderate or abundant large grains of angular quartz in a finer sandy matrix. The second fabric is sand and shell tempered (ESSS) with medium coarse sand



and moderate shell which is mostly leached out leaving plate-like voids. No forms were identified in either fabric and surface treatment of most of the sherds consists of simple smoothing or possible burnishing of the exterior.

### **6.3 Ceramic building material**

Six fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing 220g were unstratified (0001). Four pieces are Roman and include one *tegula* roof tile flange, the other pieces are not identifiable to type and have no complete measureable thicknesses. All are made in a dense red-orange sandy fabric with ferrous inclusions.

The other two pieces are fragments of post-medieval roof tile made in a red-orange medium sandy fabric with ferrous inclusions

### **6.4 Small finds**

Nine metal items were collected as small finds. All were unstratified (0001) and found by metal detecting in the topsoil. Three are Roman, one is medieval or later and the rest are undatable but probably medieval or post-medieval and not Roman. These finds were found as individual objects scattered along the line of the pipeline. Details are listed in Appendix 3 and catalogue entries are as follows:

#### **Roman by Jude Plouviez**

Two copper alloy coins were recovered. The first is a very worn and corroded *as* or *dupondius* (SF 1004), diameter 25mm, and probably 2nd century. The second is a *nummus* (SF 1006), diameter 27mm, of Constantine I as Caesar, AD 306-307. The obverse inscription reads FLVALCONSTANTINVSNC and the reverse reads GENIOPOP VLIROMANI (standing left) with a mint mark ?M/?A/?A-. The coin is neatly pierced for suspension with two holes 1.8mm in diameter, 3mm apart and 1mm from edge below the design (both sides). Many pierced Roman coins are found in early Anglo-Saxon contexts.

A copper alloy brooch fragment (SF 1005), lower bow and foot only, has a narrow D-section bow with probable centre groove at the top. The large catchplate has a single triangular hole and a pin groove and the surviving length is 40mm, the bow width 4mm. It is most likely from a Colchester-derivative type with double-pierced lug spring attachment, similar to Gestingthorpe (Draper 1985, 27-28, No. 7), date c.43-65.

#### **Medieval**

A copper alloy 'sheet bell' (SF 1009) is made in two hemispheres soldered together and has a strap loop for suspension. The lower half of the bottom hemisphere is broken off and missing. The piece is identical to one from Norwich (Margeson 1993, fig. 162, No. 1759) and can date from the early medieval period onwards.

## Undated

A narrow flat fitting made of copper alloy sheet (SF 1001) is 35mm long, 7mm wide and has rivet holes at either end. One hole is damaged and part of an iron rivet survives in the other. A copper alloy stud (SF 1008) has a domed head, diameter 11mm, with the remains of a square-section iron shaft broken off in the centre on the underside.

A flat circular copper alloy item (SF 1003), diameter 17mm has a small irregular protuberance on the outer edge and a central hole containing a fragment of iron which appears to be the remains of a shaft.

A plain flat lead disc (SF 1002) has a diameter of 20mm and is 3mm thick with one edge damaged. Another flat lead disc (SF 1007), with a diameter of 55mm and 7mm thick has a 6mm diameter hole pierced through its centre. The piece is broken or cut in half with approximately 50% of its circumference present.

## 6.5 Flint by Colin Pendleton

Seven fragments of struck flint weighing 62g were collected from four contexts. All but one piece is dark grey or black, and cortex where present is off-white to cream coloured and all of it is unpatinated. Details by context are shown below.

Ctxt	Type	No	Notes	Date
0001	flake	1	Large thin but irregular flake w limited edge retouch/use-wear. Small amount of cortex	Later Preh
	flake	1	Small snapped flake w limited edge retouch	Later Preh
0005	flake	1	Flake with limited edge retouch, cortical striking platform	Later Preh
0007	notched flake	1	Large-ish thin flake w limited edge retouch including Notch. Flake scars from different angles on dorsal face	Later Preh
	blade-like flake	1	Small long flake/blade w limited edge retouch and parallel flake scars on dorsal face	Neo or EBA
	blade	1	Snapped blade w thick platform x-section. Small amount of edge retouch/use-wear. grey flint	Neolithic
0010	flake	1	Small thin flake	Later Preh

Table 3. Flint by context

The flint assemblage consists of one blade, a blade-like flake and five flakes, all but one with limited retouch or use-wear.

All of the flint is residual and the sample is small but if it is a group of contemporary flint, there is at least one definite Neolithic piece and the whole group *could* be Neolithic but it can only be said with certainty that it is later prehistoric - Neolithic or Bronze Age.

## 6.6 Burnt flint

Four fragments of burnt flint pot-boiler weighing 232g were collected from pit 0004 (0005). The material is grey-white and fire-cracked and is undatable but was found in association with hand-made pottery of early Anglo-Saxon date.

## **6.7 Discussion of the material evidence**

The finds assemblage is very small and contains prehistoric, Roman and post-Roman material collected from three excavated features, unstratified or found by metal detecting in the topsoil. The site lies within the central Gipping Valley, in an area of high archaeological potential for all periods (J. Plouviez pers. comm.)

The earliest finds are struck flints which are later prehistoric, Neolithic or Bronze Age and all are redeposited in contexts with later-dated material. Roman finds include a brooch (43-65AD), two copper alloy coins of 2nd and early 4th century date, two sherds of 2nd or 3rd century greyware pottery and CBM. All are unstratified or redeposited. Six sherds of hand-made early Anglo-Saxon pottery of 5th-7th century date were recovered from three pits. Later finds are also few and consist of medieval and post-medieval metalwork and post-medieval roof tile fragments, all from the topsoil or unstratified.

Of possible interest are two Roman-dated items in the finds assemblage which may fit into the pattern of deliberate collection and re-use of Roman objects in Anglo-Saxon contexts. The pierced coin (SF 1006) and the complete circumference pottery beaker base (0001) may be Anglo-Saxon 'curated' artefacts. As noted above, Roman coins with holes are often found in Anglo-Saxon contexts and the whole beaker base may have been selected and used again as well.

## **7. Discussion**

---

While the nature of most of the finds are as residual items in later features, they do at least suggest that there may be occasional early prehistoric activity sites on the slopes of the valley or nearer the river on the valley floor. The presence of Roman artefacts in Anglo-Saxon features, especially this close to the Roman town, could either be residual fragments in the soil or evidence of intentional reuse of materials and objects into the early post-Roman/Anglo-Saxon period. Whether or not this is the case, the features located here correspond to pre-existing sites in the Gipping Valley which appear to show a sparsely occupied/utilised Anglo-Saxon landscape overlying a previous, Roman, pattern of land use.

## 8. Conclusions and recommendations for further work

---

The archaeology present likely relates to Anglo-Saxon re-use of an area of previous Roman activity. With such a small quantity of finds, from only 3 tightly spaced features, there is little further information to be extracted directly from the results of these works. While none of the identified features contain the more diagnostic features of a 'traditional' Sunken Featured Building, there remains the possibility that one (most likely feature 0009) reflects direct habitation on the site. More generally however they do reinforce the already known Anglo-Saxon presence in the river valley area and locate this activity more closely to the identified site of the Roman town. As many of the Anglo-Saxon artefacts have been located as stray finds or through metal-detecting the presence of definite features of Anglo-Saxon date suggests that this work has encountered an occupation site, but the scale of these works precludes certainty as to whether the features here are central to that site, or simply outlying activity.

In either case, should further development be undertaken in this vicinity it may prove useful to investigate the possibility for riverine activity along either side of the river carrying forward from the Roman into the Anglo-Saxon period. Given the small area examined and the limited number of features encountered no further work is recommended. Dissemination of the results of the investigation can be successfully gained through submission of the report to the OASIS online grey literature resource.

## 9. Archive deposition

---

Paper and photographic archive: SCCAS Ipswich T:\ENV\ARC\PARISH\Baylham  
Finds and environmental archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds. Store Location: **H/79/4**  
and Sensitive Store: **Miscellaneous 11/4**

## 10. List of contributors and acknowledgements

---

The monitoring was carried out by Robert Atfield from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team.

The project was directed by John Newman, who also provided advice during the production of the report.

The post-excavation was managed by Richenda Goffin. The production of site plans and sections was carried out by Simon Cass and the finds processing was by Anna West and Gemma Adams. The specialist finds report was by Cathy Tester with additional advice from Sue Anderson, Richenda Goffin, Colin Pendleton and Jude Plouviez. The report was checked by Richenda Goffin.

## **11. Bibliography**

---

Draper, J. 1985 *Excavations at Hill Farm, Gestingthorpe, Essex*, E. Anglian Archaeol. 25

Margeson, S. 1993 *Norwich Households: The Medieval and Post-Medieval Finds from Norwich Survey Excavations 1971-1978*, E. Anglian Archaeol. 58

### **Disclaimer**

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



## Appendix 1      Brief and specification

### 7. Specific Recommendations

- 7.1 Due to the moderate to high potential for encountering archaeological remains during pipeline trench digging, it is recommended that detailed monitoring of all groundworks takes place.
- 7.2 In order to attempt to locate the path of the north to south Roman road it is suggested that two 100metre trenches, coinciding with the proposed south-west pipeline route, are excavated by controlled machining. The location and extent of these trenches is detailed in Figure 8. As discussed in section 6, controlled machining would involve the gradual removal of soils in progressive spits under the direction of an archaeologist. In the event of the Roman road or other archaeological features being located, mechanical digging would cease while the feature is hand dug and recorded.
- 7.3 To minimise delays and development costs, it is recommended that the north-east pipeline route is subjected to a programme of pre-construction evaluation trenching. This will enable located features to be archaeologically excavated and recorded within an area of high archaeological potential. In addition, any need for preservation in situ and/or avoidance can be identified and acted upon prior to pipeline construction. The suggested evaluation trench locations are detailed in Figure 9.
- 7.4 It is suggested that all mechanical trench digging is carried out using a toothless 'ditching bucket' with a minimum width of 1.2metres in order to maximise archaeological visibility and lessen the damage to archaeological features if encountered.
- 7.5 It is recommended that all areas of ground disturbance and any archaeological features are systematically searched using a metal detector. This will facilitate both general and possibly feature specific dating to be subsequently interpreted.

---

Robert Atfield  
Field Team  
Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service  
Ipswich  
May 2006

From: Baylham Nickel Removal Scheme Desk-based Assessment, SCCAS Report No. 2006/113, May 2006





## Appendix 2. Context List

OPNO	FEATURE	IDENTIFIER	DESCRIPTION	POT DATE
1		Unstratified finds	Unstratified finds over entire site	
2		Topsoil	Mid -Pale Brown silty sand with gravel inclusions (frequent 5-70mm in size). Light root disturbance evident (grassland plants). Depth c 0.35. MOE - Machined. 100% removed. Disturbed. deposit.	
3		Subsoil	Mid Orange sandy gravel with frequent stone inclusions 5-70mm size and frequent large flints 100-150mm size. Signs of animal; disturbance towards northwest end of trench. Only surface exposed, not excavated through. Disturbed deposit.	
4	4	Pit	Irregular ovoid pit, steep sides and near flat base. Dimensions c. 1.1m by 1.6m and 0.34m deep. Approx 70% excavated. Filled with 0005, and cut by 0006.	5-7th C
5	4	Pit Fill	Mid-pale Brown silty sand and garvel. Frequent stones of all sizes, occasinal charcoal lumps. Firm, disturbed/mixed.	5-7th C
6	6	Pit	Oval pit, Steep sides, near flat base. 1.0m by 1.15m diameter, 0.45m deep. Filled with 0007 and 0008, cuts 0005. Approx. 70% excavated.	5-7th C
7	6	Pit Fill	Primary fill of Pit 0006. Dark Brown 'organic' silty sand. Frequent medium stones (30-50mm size), occasional charcoal lumps. Firm mixed deposit, undisturbed.	5-7th C
8	6	Secondary Pit Fill	Secondary fill of Pit 0006. Mid reddish brown silty sand/gravel. Frequent medium (30-50mm size) stones. Firm deposit, moderately mixed. No finds. Hard to distinguish from 0005 on surface.	
9	9	Pit	Irregular circular pit. Slightly dished (moderately sloping) sides, shallow concave base. 0.92m N-S, c. 1.05m E-W and 0.2m deep. 50% excavated. Poss prehistoric pit?	5-7th C
10	9	Pit Fill	Mid Brown silty sand/gravel. Very stoney (all sizes) with large flints. Mixed deposit, and hard to distinguish on surface.	5-7th C



### Appendix 3. Small Finds (BAY 036)

Sm Find No.	Ctxt	Period	Material	Object Name	No.	Wt./g	Notes
1001	0001	UNK	COPPER	fitting	1	1.14	Narrow, flat strip of cu alloy sheet. L. 35mm W. 7mm Th 4mm. Rivet holes at either end. One hole damaged, iron rivet fragment survives in other. c. complete? (1.14g)
1002	0001	UNK	LEAD	disc	1	9	Flat plain lead disc. Diam 20mm, Th. 3mm. 1 edge damaged, abraded and patinated. ?counter
1003	0001	UNK	COPPER	disc	1	5	Circular flat item. Diam.17mm, Th. 4mm. Flat with central hole containing fragment of iron
1004	0003	ROM	COPPER	Coin	1	8.15	Coin, worn and corroded, as or dupondius. Diam 25mm. Probably 2nd century.
1005	0001	PRE	COPPER	Brooch	1	3.35	Brooch fragment, lower bow and foot only. Narrow D-section bow with probable centre groove at top. Large catchplate has single triangular hole and pin groove. Surviving L. 40mm, bow W. 4mm. Most likely a Colchester derivative type with double-pieced lug spring attachment, eg similar to Gestingthorpe No 7 (Draper 1985, 27-28). Date c.43-65. 3.35g
1006	0001	ROM	COPPER	Coin	1	7	Nummus, Diam 27mm. Constantine I as Caesar, AD 306-307 obv FLVALCONSTANTINVSNC rev GENIOPOP VLIROMANI standing left. Mint ?M/?A/-?A-. Neatly pierced for suspension with two holes 1.8mm Diam., 3mm apart, 1mm from edge below design (both sides).
1007	0001	UNK	LEAD	disc	1	61	SF 1007 Semi-circular flat disc. Diam.55mm(c.50%), Th. 7mm w hole (Diam 6mm) through centre. Broken or cut in half?
1008	0001	UNK	COPPER	stud	1	0.60	Domed/convex cu alloy stud. Head diam. 11mm. Remains of square section iron shaft. (0.6g)
1009	0001	EMED	COPPER	bell	3	13.25	Sheet bell. Made in 2 hemispheres soldered together, strap loop for suspension. Lower half of bottom hemi. broken off/missing EMed+ (Margeson, S. 1993 Norwich Households EAA 58 Fig.162 1759 )