

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION REPORT

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SCCAS REPORT No. 2010/048

# Former CES Building, RAF Mildenhall MNL 610

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## HER Information

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**Consultation Reference:** Pre Car Park 2008

**Date of Fieldwork:** 15/10/2008 to 24/10/2008

**Grid Reference:** TL 6843 7760

**Funding Body:** MoD Defence Estates USF

**Curatorial Officer:** Judith Plouviez

**Project Officer:** Rob Brooks and Andrew Tester

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

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## Summary

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An archaeological investigation involving the recording and excavation (where possible), of three trenches and a small surface strip was carried out on the former site of the CES Building, RAF Mildenhall, Suffolk. This revealed evidence of several prehistoric or Roman ditches and pits, one of which produced 2nd century+ pottery. The other prominent features included large, sub-rectangular pits that are thought to be the result of post-medieval chalk extraction for agriculture or construction. These, as well as a disturbed deposit, produced Roman pottery sherds from the 1st to the 4th century and one sherd of Iron Age pottery, all of which appeared to be redeposited. Although sometimes truncated by modern activity, the features were generally well preserved below up to 0.7m of topsoil and overburden.

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## **1. Introduction**

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An archaeological excavation was carried out during the stripping of previous building footings and for new soak-away drains in advance of the construction of a new car park at RAF Mildenhall. The site had already been stripped and partially truncated by the building contractor prior to archaeological visits being carried out, damaging some of the archaeological deposits. The work was carried out in response to a recommendation issued by Judith Plouviez (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team) and was funded by MoD Defence Estates USF.

## **2. The excavation**

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### **2.1 Site location**

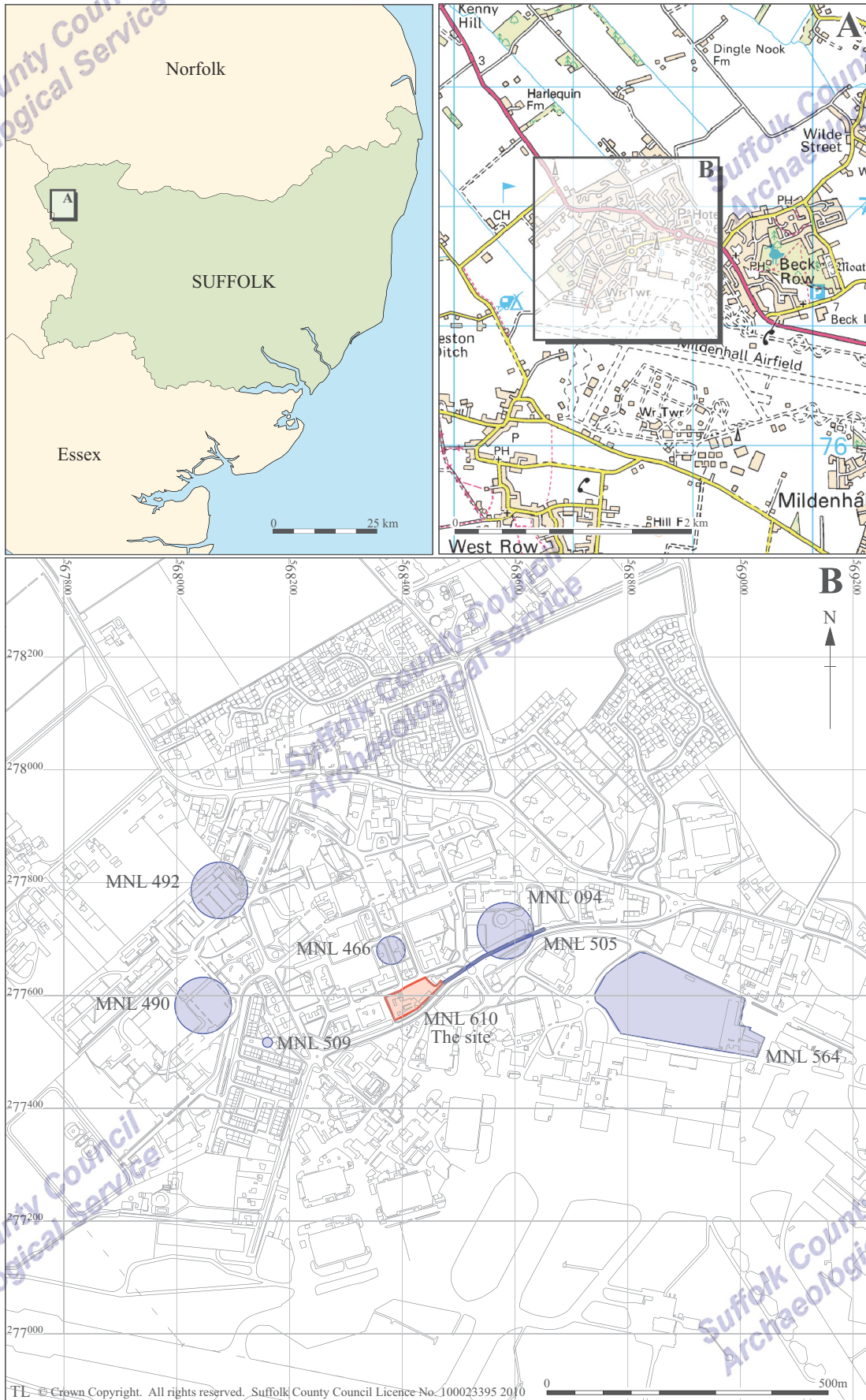
The excavation was located on the site of the Former CES Building, adjacent to Building 538, south-west of Canberra Close and north-east of the roundabout for Dakota Road and Lincoln Road, at grid reference TL 6843 7760 (Fig. 1).

### **2.2 Geology and topography**

The geology of this area is chalky drift and chalk, but this is overlain in the western half of the site by pale yellow-orange sand. Although the archaeological levels were in places quite disturbed the site itself was relatively level, with only a slight slope towards the north-western edge of the excavation. The site lies at c.5.5m above the Ordnance Datum, slightly overlooking the fen edge to the north and north-west.

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Figure 1. Location of the site (in red), together with Historic Environment Records mentioned in the text (in blue)

### 2.3 Archaeological and historical background

The site lies in an area of known archaeological importance with features and findspots suggestive of Roman and Bronze Age activity located nearby as shown on Figure 1 and in Table 1. As well as these sites, excavations on Mildenhall airbase and the surrounding area have revealed a complex and extensive network of prehistoric, Roman and Saxon archaeological remains. An excavation was required to investigate and record any occupation evidence prior to destruction by the development on the former CES Building site.

The area is predominantly chalkland, overlooking the nearby fenland to the north-west and west, and sandlands to the east. This would have been a very attractive landscape for early settlers, who could have easily managed the land without the need for the extensive drainage necessary on the fens. Evidence of some of this past occupation is well recorded, including the former Old Way, a cattle droveway that led from Mildenhall town, parallel to the airbase runway and out to the fen edge. Several manorial halls (or the remnants of) and their estates still exist, including Undley Hall, Aspal Hall and Wamill Hall. Various land management techniques have also affected the landscape as it appears today, such as the systematic field drainage systems, (which were most heavily implemented in the 18th century) and extensive ploughing (Various authors, 2008).

HER code	Description
MNL 094	Small group of Roman pottery sherds found.
MNL 466	Bronze brooch of the <i>Hod Hill</i> type without side lugs, 1st century Roman.
MNL 490	1 pit containing burnt flint, animal bones and Bronze Age pottery.
MNL 492	A single grey sand filled gully which was undated.
MNL 505	Features of Roman potential found along fence line.
MNL 509	Evidence of Roman occupation.
MNL 564	Fragmentary occupation from the Early Bronze Age to Roman periods.

Table 1. HER listings shown on Figure 1

### 3. Methodology

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The site was stripped using a mechanical digger. Much of this occurred prior to visits by a supervising archaeologist and as such in many places the archaeological levels were truncated. The site strip totalled 153.4sq metres. Various archaeological and disturbed layers overlaid the natural subsoil, which was found at depths of c.0.2-0.7m deep (Figs. 4 and 6). Three trenches were excavated to allow for service pipes and soak-away drains and a fourth area was stripped, revealing an archaeological layer. Trench 1 measured 46.5m (SW-NE) x 1-2.9m (SE-NW), Trench 2 was 18.4m (SW-NE) x 2-7.9m (SE-NW) and Trench 3 was 15.2m (SW-NE) x 2.3m (SE-NW). The rest of the site was only roughly stripped, only partially exposing archaeological layers and disturbed footing material. Overall the trenches were excavated to depths of up to c.0.9m, which completely truncated many of the archaeological features, leaving them only visible in section. Many other features were also partially truncated. The remaining contexts were then cleaned and excavated by hand where possible, with sample sections dug by hand to investigate isolated contexts or stratigraphic relationships. Where extensive areas of fill were encountered in Trench 2, arbitrary segments were inserted along the trench to define the archaeology. Certain contexts in Trench 1 could not be clearly interpreted as they were not hand excavated. As a result of this, the stratigraphy of some of the deposits in Section 1 was difficult to define.

All finds were retained and exposed areas were metal-detected. No environmental samples were taken for bulk flotation due to the levels of disturbance and the unsuitable nature of the features.

The site was recorded using a single context continuous numbering system (Appendix 1) and planned with a Total Station Theodolite, which was located from OS points. Feature sections were recorded at a scale of 1:20. Digital colour (72 x 72 dpi, JPEG format) and monochrome film photographs were taken of all stages of the fieldwork, and are included in the archive.

Site data has been input onto the MS Access database and recorded using the County Historic Environments Record code MNL 610. Bulk finds were

washed, marked and quantified, and the resultant data was also entered onto the database. Inked copies of section drawings have also been made.

An OASIS form has been completed (reference no. suffolkc1-56848) and a digital copy of the report submitted for inclusion on the Archaeology Data Service database (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>).

The site archive is kept in the main store of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service at Bury St Edmunds under HER No. MNL 610.

## **4. Results**

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### **4.1 Introduction**

The archaeological levels and natural subsoil lay below up to c.0.7m of topsoil and overburden. Across the site there were areas of truncation relating to the building that had recently been demolished, as well as to pipe trenches and other construction works. In much of Trench 1 and in the central area of the site, the natural subsoil was heavily disturbed with blueish-grey silty clay and mid brown sandy material. The stripping revealed up to 6 ditches, 7- 8 pits, four other feature cuts and several archaeological deposits and layers.

The archaeological features recorded in the excavation are thought to demonstrate 3 phases of occupation during the prehistoric, Roman and post-medieval periods. Most features could not be very clearly dated due to the lack of, or low quantities of the finds, and much of the pottery was in a heavily abraded condition, suggesting that it was probably redeposited. However many of the features, particularly those in Trench 1, are typical of the later prehistoric and Roman occupation seen locally. As such, this evidence combined with the datable material from the site has been used to infer that these features are from within this period. The low levels of finds may indicate that this was not an area that was intensively occupied, although this may be a result of the truncation caused by the building works and post-medieval activity.

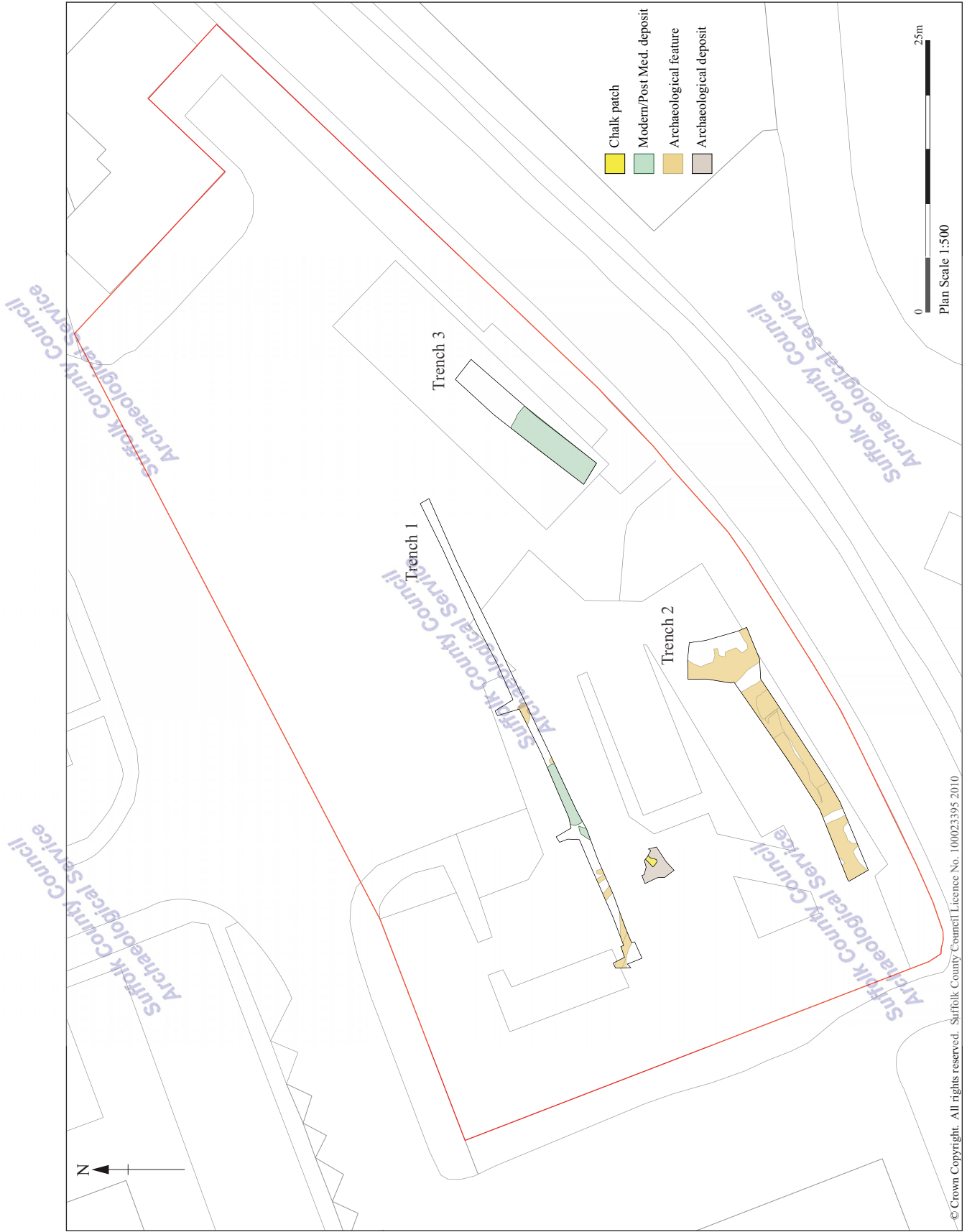


Figure 2. Trench plan

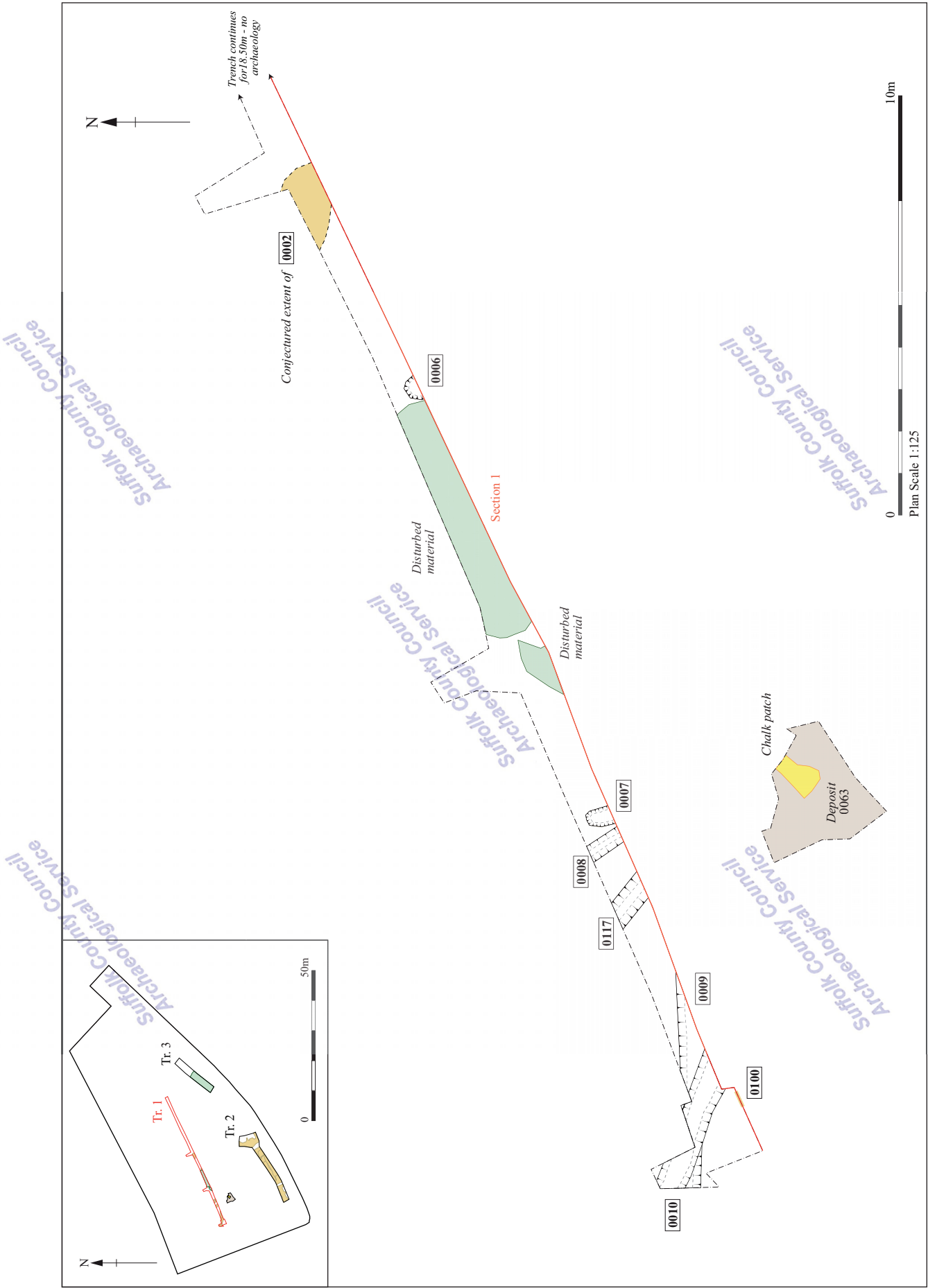


Figure 3. Trench 1 plan

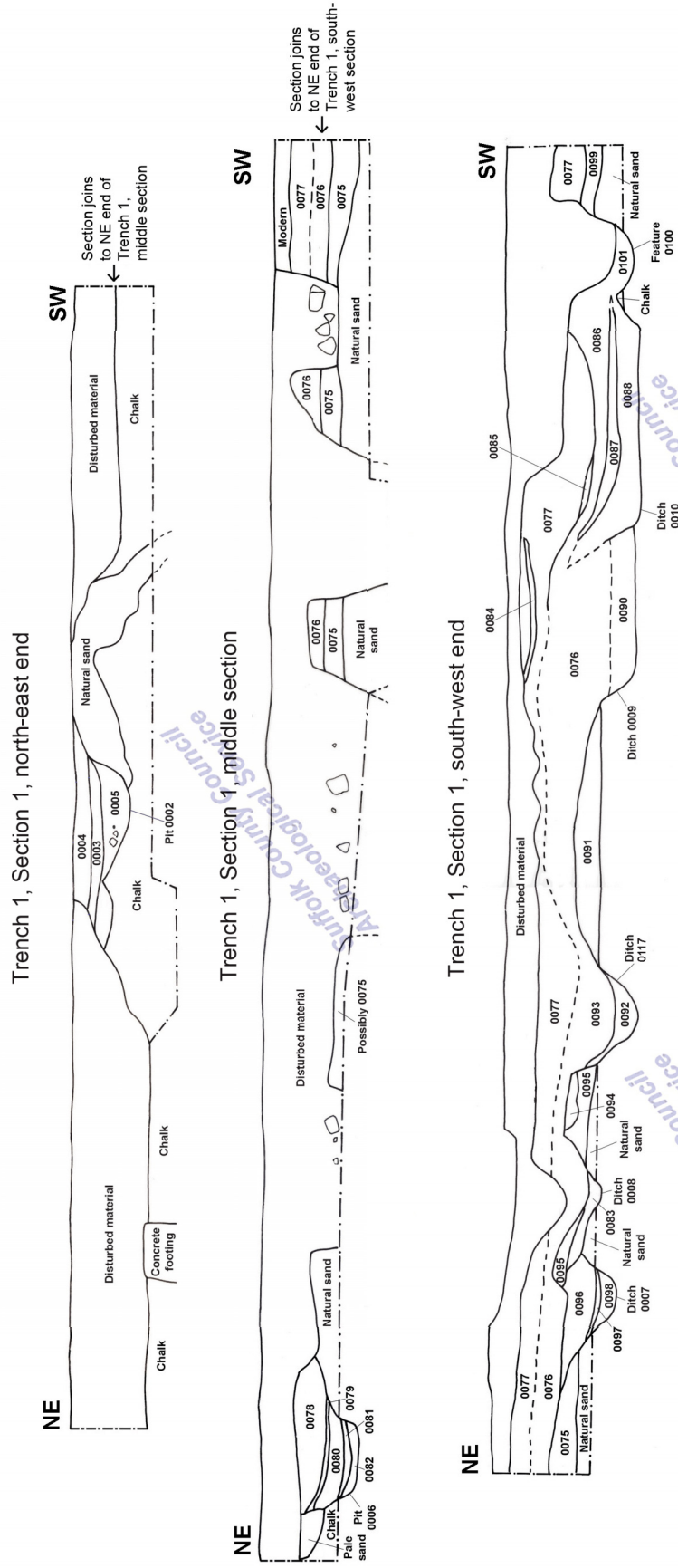


Figure 4. Trench 1 section



#### 4.2 Undated contexts – probably prehistoric or Roman

All of the features and their associated fills in Trench 1, excluding pit 0002, were machine excavated prior to archaeological investigation and as such produced no finds, although they are likely to be late prehistoric or Roman. These include features 0006, 0007, 0008, 0009, 0010, 0100 and 0117, and deposits 0075, 0076, 0077, 0091, 0094, 0095 and 0099. Apart from these features, several other contexts, notably in Trench 2, produced prehistoric, Roman finds and occasional Saxon finds, and these are discussed in the Finds Discussion.

Pit 0006 was a largely truncated feature, seen partially in plan and also in Section 1. It had steep, c.65°, uneven sides that curved abruptly to a flat base. It measured 1.2m (SW-NE) x 0.35m (NW-SE) x c.0.5m deep. Five fills (0078-0082) are associated with the feature. It was surrounded in section by natural subsoil and disturbed material and could not be linked to the other features by its stratigraphy.

Ditch 0007 was only partially visible in Trench 1, emerging from south-eastern Section 1 to the north-east of ditch 0008 and terminating in the middle of the trench. The sides were slightly convex, sloped at 40-45° and curved gradually to an almost flat base. It measured 0.46m (SW-NE) x c.0.4m deep. The three fills within the cut, 0096-0098, produced no finds. The section revealed that this ditch cut deposit 0075, but was in turn cut by ditch 0008.

To the south-west of 0007 ran ditch 0008, on a NW-SE alignment, in Section 1. It contained mottled pale brown silty-sand fill 0083. It measured 0.42m (SW-NE) x 0.3m deep. In profile the sides sloped unevenly at 20-25°, before curving gradually to a flat base. This cut 0007, whilst deposit 0095 overlaid it.

Running east-west through the south-west end of Trench 1 was ditch 0009. It was recorded twice in section, on both occasions showing that it was cut by ditch 0010. It had a gradual break of slope at the surface, 45-60° slightly concave sides and a gradual break of slope to the concave base. It measured 1m (N-S) x 0.5m deep and was filled with dark grey sandy-silt. It was overlain by deposit 0076.

Cutting ditch 0009 in Trench 1 was ditch 0010. This ran on a WNW-ESE alignment, contained fills 0085-0088 and 0102, and was recorded in Sections 001 and 004. It measured 0.8m wide (NE-SW) x c.0.52m deep. The sides sloped at c.40° and were slightly concave, curving round imperceptibly to a gently concave base. It was overlain by deposit 0077 and cut deposit 0076.

Directly to the south-west of 0010 was ditch 0100. It was not visible in plan due to disturbance within the trench, but it could be seen partially cutting through the base of Section 1. The stratigraphic relationships to other contexts were unclear. The sides sloped at c.35° and were slightly concave, curving gradually to a rounded, concave base. Although only partially visible it measured 0.54m (NE-SW) x 0.13m deep.

The final ditch in Trench 1 is 0117, in Section 1 which measured 0.64m (SW-NE) x c.0.48m deep. The sides were somewhat uneven, but generally concave, sloping at c.50°, before curving rapidly to a concave base. It ran on a NW-SE alignment and was located just to the south-west of ditch 0008. It was overlain by deposit 0076, but cut through deposits 0091 and 0095.

Throughout Trench 1 a series of undated deposits were recorded in Section 1. Some of these appeared to be deposits of possible buried occupation soils or feature fills which had been truncated beyond clear interpretation. However others were probably natural deposits, possibly as a result of wind-blown or alluvial action. Deposit 0075 was pale grey-brown sand that overlaid the natural subsoil, but was under ditch 0007. Although cut by this ditch and modern disturbances, it was seen running in the section for 5m (NE-SW) and was c.0.2m deep.

Directly above deposit 0094 and features 0009 and 0117 was deposit 0076. It was made up of pale grey sand and measured 10.7m (NE-SW) x up to 0.45m deep, although its diffuse horizon clarity made these dimensions rather unclear.

The uppermost surviving deposit in Trench 1 was 0077. This overlaid ditch 0010, feature 0100 and deposit 0099 and was made up of brown-grey sand with iron staining. Measuring 10.9m (NE-SW) x c.0.44m deep, it was one of the most substantial deposits. Lens 0084 ran through 0077 towards the south-west end of Section 1. This was felt to represent one of the fills of a feature cutting into 0077 which could not be defined in section apart from by 0084. This layer measured 1.1m (NE-SW) x 0.05m deep.

Deposit 0091 was one of the earliest contexts found within Trench 1. It was cut by ditch 0117 and possibly by ditch 0009. It consisted of pale brown sand and measured 2.1m (NE-SW) x c.0.2m deep.

A small deposit, 0094, was located above deposit 0095 and below 0076 in Trench 1 and was a mottled grey sand measuring 0.46m (NE-SW) x 0.1m deep. The shape of the context in section and the colour of the fill suggest it may have been part of a cut feature, although the diffuse interface with 0076 and 0095 meant that this was uncertain.

A layer of probably wind-blown white sand, 0095, was found beneath 0094. It seemed to have formed on top of the final fills of ditches 0007 and 0008, whilst being cut into by possible undefined later features and deposits as shown in Section 1. It was also cut by ditch 0117 and measured 1.75m (NE-SW) x 0.19m deep.

Deposit 0099 was found at the south-west end of Trench 1. Consisting of white sand, it was very similar to deposit 0095 and may represent the same phase of activity. Only a small area was recorded as surviving in section and measured 0.53m (NE-SW) x 0.16m deep. deposit 0077 overlaid it.

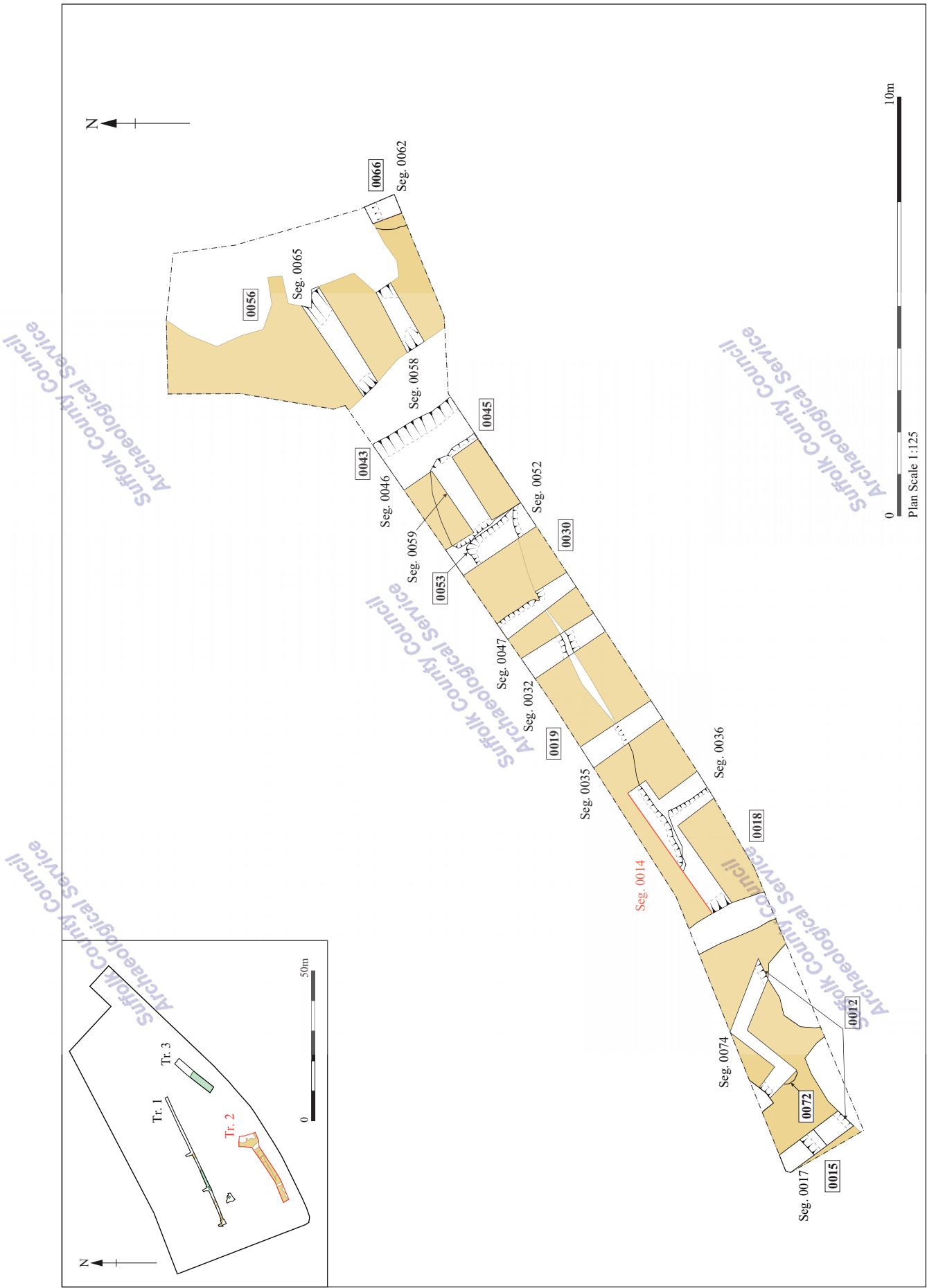


Figure 5. Trench 2 plan

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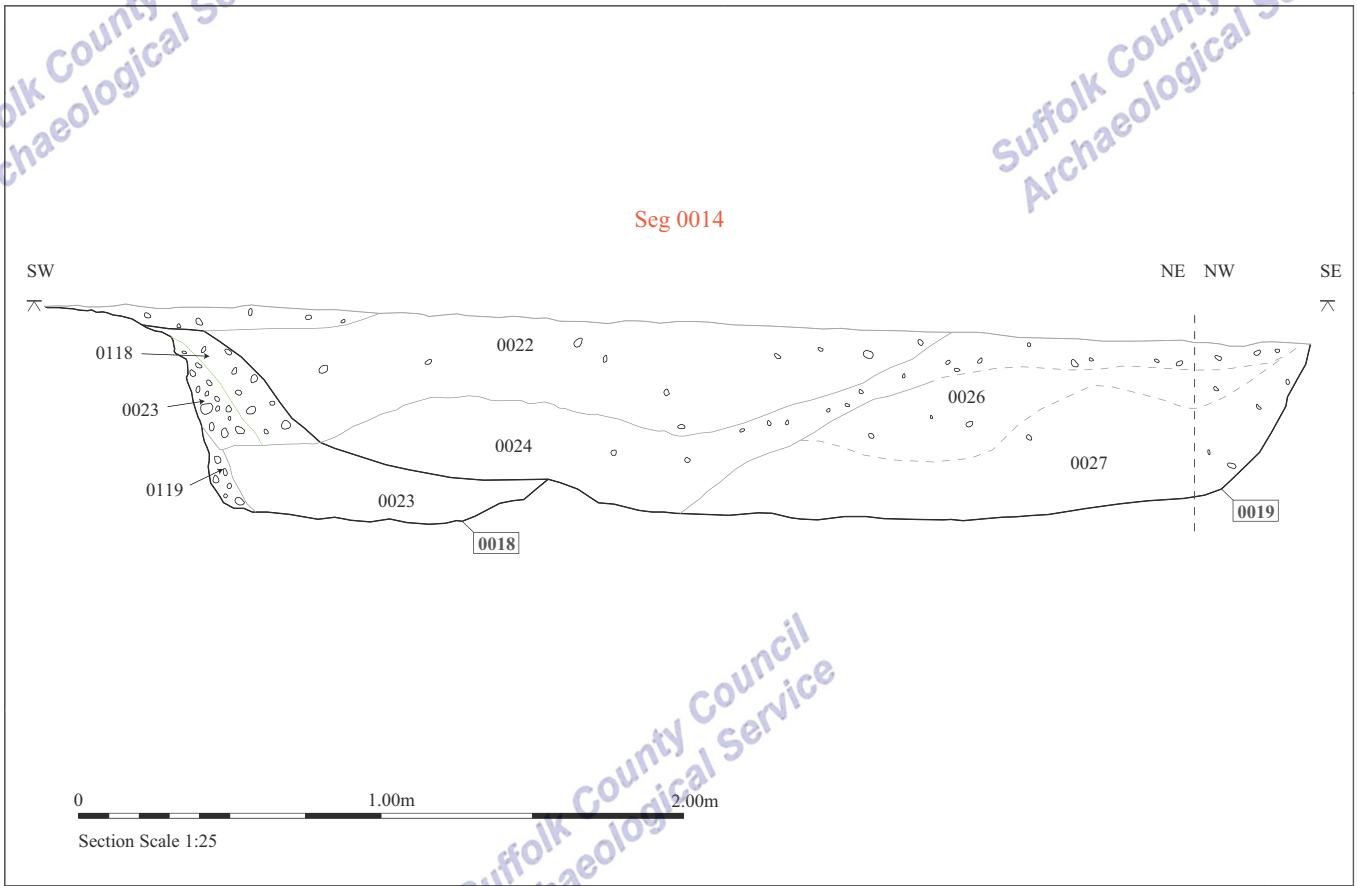


Figure 6. Trench 2 Segment 0014

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### 4.3 Roman

Various contexts produced Roman pottery, notably 2nd – 3rd century material. However, in some cases this was heavily abraded and is thus thought to be redeposited. Only pit 0002 in Trench 1 is thought to be securely dated to the Roman period, specifically to the late 2nd century or later, although even this produced a fragment of modern wood. It was visible in both sides of the trench, suggesting an oval/sub-circular shape in plan, aligned NW-SE and it measured 2.18m (SW-NE) x >1m (SE-NW) x 0.56m deep. Three fills were recorded within the pit. The basal fill was 0005, a mid grey silty-chalk mix, whilst directly above it, 0003 was a mixture of reddish-brown silty-sand that appeared to have been somewhat heated. This context produced the four sherds of datable pottery. The uppermost fill was 0004, a brown silt-sand mix with charcoal flecks.

### 4.4 Post-Roman, possibly post-medieval

The majority of the features excavated on the site are thought to be post-Roman and probably post-medieval. These are mainly made up of irregular and sub-rectangular pits, poorly defined soil deposits and one small pit/posthole and were spread across all of Trench 2 and part of Trench 3. A single post-medieval clay pipe was found in one pit fill and small abraded sherds of Roman pottery were found throughout the fills.

Feature 0012 was near the south-west end of Trench 2. It was aligned WSW-ENE and two sample sections 0017 and 0074 were excavated through it. The profile showed c.40°, slightly irregular sides, curving gradually to a concave base. In segment 0017, 0012 cut 0015 and was filled with mid grey silty-sand with chalk inclusions, recorded as 0013. Although it was not entirely clear, it appeared in plan to be >5.29m (WSW-ENE) x 1.15m wide (NNW-SSE) x c.0.5m deep and it also ran ENE through segment 0074. Initially it was interpreted as a ditch, but in context with the rest of the features in Trench 2 it is probable that it could actually be one of the sub-rectangular pit-type features found nearby and on the same alignment.

Within segment 0074, 0012 was cut by small oval pit/posthole 0072. This measured 0.42m (NW-SE) x 0.23m (SW-NE) x c.0.15m deep. Its shape in section was unclear, although the sides were concave, sloped at c.45° and curved to a fairly flat base. Fill 0073 was very dark grey silty sand and charcoal, containing two sherds of Roman pottery. It is not clear whether this was a pit or posthole.

To the north-east of 0012, pit 0018 ran through segments 0014 and 0036. It had a slightly irregular sub-square plan and measured 2.83m (SW-NE) x >1.37m (SE-NW) x 0.68m deep. The profile in segment 0014 was slightly cut by 0019, but had a c.25° slightly concave slope, which curved rapidly to a c.70-80° straight slope, which again curved rapidly to the flat base. Although it was not entirely clear due to the similar colouration of the fills, it appeared that pit 0019 cut 0018 in this segment. It was filled with four deposits, demonstrating a more complex stratigraphy than was recorded in segments 0035, 0032 and 0047. Fill 0025 was brownish-grey sandy silt with occasional chalk inclusions, and 0023, 0118 and 0119 were mixtures of pale grey silty-sand and chalk nodules in differing ratios. The latter three were interpreted as being 'collapse' fills, which may have formed as a result of the sides of the feature falling in. Three sherds of Roman pottery, some of which were abraded, were attributed to 0018, from contexts from 0028 (segment 0014) and 0041 (segment 0036).

Although in plan pit 0019 appears to run into the NW edge of segment 0014, it is thought that it actually ran beyond this, cutting 0018 in section and extending to the SW end of the segment. As such its dimensions were c.8.38m (SW-NE) x >1.13m (SE-NW) x 0.62m deep, forming a slightly irregular sub-rectangular shape. In section the feature was irregular. The south-west profile had an imperceptible break of slope at the surface that ran at c.20°, before curving to a c.45° angle, which then gradually curved to the base. The south-east side, however, had an abrupt break of slope at the surface, a c.60° angle and was slightly concave, before curving more rapidly to the base, which was slightly uneven, but generally concave. Within segment 0014, 5 fills were recorded, with 0027 as the basal deposit, stratigraphically moving upwards through 0026 to 0024 to 0027. These were

all mixtures of light-mid grey sandy-silts with differing levels of chalk inclusions. At the south-west end of segment 0014, 0019's uppermost fill was lens 0021, consisting of chalk blocks and a small amount of grey sandy-silt.

Within segments 0035, 0032 and 0047, only single fills were recorded in pit 0019. Four contexts produced datable finds, a post-medieval clay pipe from 0034, 2 sherds of mid 2nd century+ pottery from 0029, 10 sherds of late 3rd – 4th century, somewhat abraded pottery from 0033 (which filled both 0019 and 0030) and 2 sherds of less closely dated Roman pottery from 0037

Running on an identical alignment to 0019 was pit 0030. It measured >6.12m (SW-NE) x >0.9m (SE-NW) x 0.52m deep, and although its shape in plan was only partially visible, it would appear to be similar to 0019. In section 0030 was also only visible to a certain extent, appearing to have a relatively flat base that curved gradually up to c.45° concave sides. Two associated contexts produced finds. Fill 0039 contained 1 sherd of Roman pottery, whilst 0033 (which filled both 0019 and 0030), produced 10 sherds of late 3rd – 4th century pottery. Four fills, recorded as 0031, 0039, 0049 and 0112, were excavated from the various segments and were often indistinguishable from those of other features, invariably being a mixture of mid grey sandy-silts with chalk inclusions.

In segment 0052 a possible additional large pit was uncovered and recorded as 0053. Only two sides were partially visible, but these suggested another sub-rectangular feature, aligned either SW-NE or SE-NW measuring >1.4m (SE-NW) x >0.64m (SW-NE) x 0.45m deep. In profile the feature broke abruptly at the surface, sloped at c.80° and was slightly concave, before curving gradually to the uneven base. Fills 0054 and 0055 were excavated from segment 0052. Light grey sandy-silt with frequent chalk nodules made up lens 0054, which may actually have been the fill of another small feature, but was poorly defined. The main fill, 0055, was mid brownish-grey sandy-silt which produced pottery from the 1st century AD, as well as the late 3rd – 4th centuries, some of which was abraded.

Also partially visible in segment 0052, as well as segments 0059 and 0046, was pit 0045. Again this was probably sub-rectangular in plan, having two



sides aligned SE-NW which ran parallel to each other and measuring 1.96m (SW-NE) x >1.95m (SE-NW) x 0.55m deep. In section its shape was not entirely clear, but it had a relatively flat base, which curved up gradually to 45-50° and slightly concave sides. The top of the profile was never seen. The fills were generally mid brownish-grey sandy-silts with chalk inclusions, and a sherd of 4th century pottery was recovered from near the base.

Running NW-SE across segment 0046 was 0043. It was recorded as a ditch during excavation, although it could also be a large pit as seen elsewhere in the trench. In plan only one smoothly cut edge of the feature was visible and its dimensions are approximate at >2.18m (NW-SE) x >1.38m (NE-SW) x 0.45m deep. The sections in segment 0046 were a little irregular, although the sides seemed to break gradually at the surface, slope irregularly at c.40-45° and curve gradually to the irregular/concave base. Fill 0044 and lens 0106 were recorded and consisted of greyish-brown silt, and chalk nodules and stones, respectively and contained no finds.

At the north-eastern end of Trench 2, two further features were excavated. Feature 0056 was a large and poorly defined cut, which may have been several cuts that could not be identified. In segments 0058 and 0065 the profile was highly irregular, with its sides breaking abruptly or gradually from the surface, sloping between 85-35°, before curving to the very uneven base. It measured up to 6.22m (NW-SE) x >2.65m (SW-NE) c.0.2m deep. Two similar fills, 0057 and 0064, were excavated of brownish-grey silty-sand with 0057 producing 1 abraded Roman pot sherd. The feature was largely on a NW-SE alignment although at its south-eastern end it curved round, where it was excavated in segment 0062 as feature 0066. This appeared to be aligned SW-NE and it was thought to measure 0.78m (SW-NE) x 0.78m (SE-NW) x 0.4m deep. It curved rapidly at the surface, and the sides were concave and sloped at c.50°, curving gradually to the slightly uneven base. The single fill, 0069, was light-mid grey clayey-sand which also produced one sherd of abraded Roman pottery.

In Trench 3 no actual feature cuts were identified, although two deposits (0071 and 0114) were excavated in segment 0070. The north-eastern half of

the trench was natural chalk and the southern-western half was made up almost entirely of deposit 0114, covered by the layer of chalk 0071. Deposit 0071 was c.0.32m deep and made up of mid grey clayey-sand, which contained post-medieval pottery and ceramic building material. Yellowish-white chalk 0114 covered 0071 sporadically and was up to 0.08m thick.

A final deposit, 0063, of dark greyish-brown silty-sand was revealed in a small area between Trenches 1 and 2. It was only partially uncovered but did not appear to be part of a cut feature. Although it produced 69 sherds of pottery, dating from the Late Iron Age throughout the Roman period into the 4th century, most of these pieces were small and highly abraded, indicating that they may have been redeposited, and therefore possibly post-Roman. However any well worked occupation layer could result in small abraded sherds, and therefore it is possible that this deposit is Roman.

## 5. The finds and environmental evidence

Cathy Tester

### 5.1 Introduction

Table 2 shows the quantities of finds collected during the excavation. A full quantification by context is included as Appendix 2.

Ctxt	Pottery		Animal bone		Oyster shell		Miscellaneous	Spotdate
	No.	Wt./g	No.	Wt./g	No.	Wt./g		
0003	4	45	1	8			Iron 1-4g, wood 1-2g	LC2+
0028	2	17	7	90				Rom
0029	2	170	6	36				MC2+
0033	10	235			4	66		LC3/4
0034			2	7			Clay pipe 1-4g; wood 1-5g	PMed
0037	2	23						Rom
0039	1	11	4	107			Slag 1-5g	Rom
0041	1	1	2	3				Rom
0048			1	2	1	22		
0049	3	12			2	14		LC2-MC3
0050	2	296	1	117				MC2+
0055	5	29					LQ 4-11g	LC3/4
0057	1	29	2	21	1	4		Rom
0061	1	33					Snail 2-5g	C4
0063	69	1062			2	43	Slag 2-24g ,Iron 2 -20g	LC3/4, IA
0064			13	435			Flint 1-153g, Snail 2-4g	
0069	1	33					Snail 1-2g	Rom
0071	1	1					CBM 1-8g, Snail 6-14g	PMed
0073	2	18						Rom
Total	107	2015	39	826	10	149		

Table 2. Finds quantities

## **5.2 Pottery**

### ***Introduction and methodology***

A total of 107 sherds of pottery weighing 2,017g was collected from 16 contexts and apart from two sherds, one Iron Age and one post-medieval, all of the pottery is Roman, dating from the 2nd to 4th centuries.

The pottery was quantified by count and weight and estimated vessel equivalent (Eve). The hand-made prehistoric ware was defined by its main visible inclusions and Roman fabric codes were assigned from the Suffolk Roman fabric series. A x10 binocular microscope was used to identify the fabrics. Roman wares were classified using the 'Pakenham' type series (unpublished) which is standard for all SCCAS excavations but is supplemented by Evans' (1991) notes on Horningsea pottery and Goings' (1987) Chelmsford typology. Details of fabric, form and form element were recorded and decoration and surface treatment were also noted. Each 'sherd family' was given a separate entry on an Access database table and an individual spotdate when possible. The full catalogue by context is in Appendix 2.

### ***Iron Age pottery***

A single hand-made bodysherd (14g) of probable later Iron Age date was recovered from layer 0063. It is made in a sandy micaceous fabric (HMS) with a burnished or smoothed surface and is not closely datable, but is more likely to be later Iron Age as sand-tempered fabrics were prevalent by that time.

### ***Roman pottery***

In total, 105 sherds of Roman pottery weighing 2,002g and with an estimated vessel equivalent (Eve) of 1.14 based on thirteen measurable rims were collected from 15 contexts in and between Trenches 1 and 2. The pottery was recovered from seven pits or possible pits (45%), a layer/deposit (53%) and four other features (2%). The largest group came from deposit 0063 which lay between Trenches 1 and 2. The assemblage appears to be the product of a long deposition cycle and the condition of the pottery is often abraded and broken with the result that few forms could be identified.

Seventeen fabrics or fabric groups were identified which include local, regional and imported wares, but the majority of the assemblage consists of local and regional coarsewares. The fabric quantities by category are summarised in Table 3.

<b>Fabric</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>% No</b>	<b>Wt./g</b>	<b>% Wt</b>	<b>Eve</b>
Central Gaulish samian (Lezoux)	SACG	3	2.9	15	0.7	
East Gaulish samian	SAEG	3	2.9	11	0.5	
<i>Total imported finewares</i>		<i>6</i>	<i>5.7</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>1.3</i>	
Amphora	AA	8	7.6	565	28.2	
<i>Total imported coarsewares</i>		<i>8</i>	<i>7.6</i>	<i>565</i>	<i>28.2</i>	
Black-surfaced wares	BSW	4	3.8	20	1.0	6
Miscellaneous buff wares	BUF	9	8.6	99	4.9	
Grey micaceous wares (black-surfaced)	GMB	10	9.5	137	6.8	23
Grey micaceous wares (grey-surfaced)	GMG	17	16.2	107	5.3	
Grog-tempered wares (Belgic)	GROG	1	1.0	12	0.6	
Miscellaneous sandy grey wares	GX	29	26.7	294	14.1	13
Horningsea grey wares	HOG	6	5.7	380	19.0	16
Horningsea grey wares (black-surfaced variant)	HOGB	6	5.7	260	13.0	31
Miscellaneous red coarse wares	RX	1	1.0	12	0.6	
Miscellaneous white wares	WX	1	1.0	3	0.1	
Unspecified colour-coated wares	UCC	1	1.0	3	0.1	
<i>Total local and regional wares</i>		<i>85</i>	<i>79.9</i>	<i>1327</i>	<i>66.2</i>	<i>89</i>
Late shell-tempered wares	LSH	2	1.9	31	1.5	7
Nene Valley colour-coated wares	NVC	3	2.9	18	0.9	9
Oxford red colour-coated mortaria	OXRCM	1	1.0	33	1.6	9
<i>Total late specialist wares</i>		<i>6</i>	<i>5.7</i>	<i>82</i>	<i>4.1</i>	<i>25</i>
Total pottery		105	100.0	2002	100.0	114

Table 3. Pottery fabric quantities

### Imports

Imported finewares consist of six sherds of samian from Central and East Gaulish factories. Three sherds of Central Gaulish samian (SACG) weighing 15g were recovered. The first is a Dr 33 cup from pit 0053 (0055) which is Antonine and the other two are tiny scraps from pit 0053 (0055) and layer 0063. Three sherds of East Gaulish samian (SAEG) of late 2nd to mid 3rd century date include a Dr 33 cup from pit 0002 (0003) in Trench 1 and two small abraded scraps from two feature fills (0041 and 0049).

Imported coarsewares are amphorae (AA) of probable South Spanish origin. Seven sherds (536g) probably from one vessel but very abraded and altered by adverse soil conditions and a long deposition cycle, were recovered from layer 0063. Another sherd (29g) came from pit 0056 in Trench 2 (0057).

### *Local and regional wares*

Local and regional coarsewares make up 79% of the sherds, 66% of the weight and 78% of the assemblage Eves and are characterised by several broad greyware fabric groups which are typically predominant in this part of the county.

The earliest piece is a single abraded bodysherd of 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware (GROG) which belongs to the first half of the 1st century AD. It was found in deposit 0063 with later-dated pottery.

Four sherds of Black-surfaced wares (BSW) from deposit 0063 include a jar, (diameter 140mm) and non-diagnostic bodysherds from three separate vessels.

Micaceous wares in the grey (GMG) and black-surfaced (GMB) variants account for 25.7% of the count and 12.1% of the assemblage weight. GMB forms identified are a Type 6.18 bead-rimmed dish and an uncertain dish base which are early or mid 2nd to mid 3rd century and an uncertain jar. GMG forms identified are a Type 6.15 curved rim dish but the rest of the sherds are non-diagnostic and often abraded bodysherds.

Miscellaneous sandy grey wares (GX) account for 26.7% of the sherd count and 14.1% of the weight. Rims from three uncertain jars and a body sherd from a globular beaker with barbotine dot panel decoration were identified but most of the sherds are abraded bodysherds.

Horningsea wares in the standard (HOG) and black-surfaced (HOGB) variants account for 11.5% sherds, nearly a third of the weight (32%) and 41% of the assemblage Eves. HOG forms identified are storage jars including an Evans Type 3 bifid-rimmed jar and two other less certain forms, one with bands of combing. HOGB forms identified include rims from three separate jars including two Evans Type 24-29 beaded everted rim jars with diameters of 160mm and 200mm.

The rest of the fabrics are oxidised. Nine miscellaneous buffware (BUF)

bodysherds from three separate vessels, possibly flagons, were recovered from pits 0019 or 0030 (0033) and layer 0063. All are abraded and very affected by adverse soil conditions. Single red coarseware (RX) and white coarseware (WX) bodysherds were also recovered from layer 0063.

#### *Late specialist wares*

Provincially-traded specialist wares which characterise the late and latest Roman period were recovered from four features and account for a small proportion of the pottery assemblage, 5.7% of the sherds, 4.1% of the weight and 21% of the assemblage Eves. They include three fabric groups, Late shell-tempered wares (LSH) and Nene Valley colour-coated wares (NVC) which both date broadly to the late 3rd or 4th century, and Oxfordshire red colour-coated ware mortaria (OXRCM) which belongs to the 4th century.

Late shell-tempered wares (LSH) are represented by a jar rim from 0033 and a very abraded bodysherd from layer 0063. Nene Valley colour-coated wares (NVC) include single sherds from three beakers, one an indented form from pit 0053 (0055) and two less certain forms from layer 0063. A single Oxfordshire red colour-coated mortarium (OXRCM) with a squared-off bead and flange rim (Going Type D7) was recovered from the basal fill of possible pit 0045 (0061).

#### ***Post medieval pottery***

A small sherd of tin-glazed earthenware (TGE) of 16th to 18th century date was collected from layer 0071 excavated in Trench 3.

### **5.3 Ceramic Building Material (CBM)**

A single small fragment (8g) of burnt post-medieval tile made in a medium sandy fabric with few other inclusions was recovered from layer 0071 in Trench 3.

## **5.4 Miscellaneous**

### **Clay tobacco pipe**

A fragment of clay tobacco pipe stem was recovered from the fill of pit 0019 in segment 0032 (0034).

### **Flint**

A semi-spherical flint nodule (153g) used as a hammerstone was collected from pit 0056 (0064). The piece is probably later prehistoric and has a band of cortex (c. 30%) surviving around the middle and is battered through use on the non-cortical surfaces.

### **Slag**

A small fragment (5g) of non-metallurgical fuel ash slag was collected from the fill of pit 0030 in segment 0035 (0039). Two non-diagnostic fragments (24g) of ferrous slag were recovered from layer 0063.

### **Lava quern**

Four small fragments (11g) of lava stone were collected from pit 0053 (0055). The stone is grey vesicular lava which is almost certainly of Rhenish origin although its exact source cannot be confirmed. Although the pieces are too small and fragmentary to have any distinguishing features, the material is presumed to come from a hand-operated rotary quern which by association could be Roman or later.

## **5.5 Small Finds and metalwork**

Two items were recorded as small finds. The first (SF 1001) is a copper alloy buckle frame measuring 21mm x 33mm with a central bar. The inside loop is rectangular and the larger outside one is oval. Although the frame is complete, it is quite corroded and details such as a possible notch for the pin are missing. The buckle is probably post-medieval and was recovered from pit 0019 segment 0032 (0034) which also contained clay pipe and modern wood. The second piece (SF 1002), a flat fragment of iron measuring 49mm x 14mm and of unknown date and function was recovered from the unexcavated surface of pit 0019 between segments 0032 and 0035.

Three iron nails, one from pit 0002 (0003) and two from layer 0063 are not closely datable but were found in association with Roman pottery.

## 5.6 Environmental evidence

### *Animal bone*

Thirty-nine fragments of animal bone weighing 826g were collected from ten contexts, mainly the fills of pits or linear features, most of them in Trench 2. Nearly all of the bone was found in association with Roman-dated finds and is probably Roman as well. One context (0034) was post-medieval. The overall preservation is only fair and almost all of the bone is heavily iron-stained, a 'rusty' red-brown colour and most of the remains are root-marked. Counts and weights were noted for each context, the bone was recorded by species and notes were made of the elements present, age and condition of the bone. The list by context with broad identifications of species and other notes is shown in Table 4.

<b>Ctxt</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Wt./g</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Notes</b>
0003	1	8	cattle	vertebra (juvenile)
0028	7	90	cattle	teeth (fe stained)
0029	6	36	unid	large mammal longbone, mandible (fe stained)
0034	2	7	sheep	tooth and lower limb
0039	4	107	sheep	tibia incomplete epiphyseal union
			cattle	astragalus
0041	2	3	unid	scraps
0048	1	2	unid	unidentified
0050	1	117	cattle	Metatarsal (fe stained) root marked deteriorating
0057	2	21	sheep	tibia and vertebra
0064	13	435	horse	metatarsal, ulna, vertebrae
			unid	large mammal long bones chopped
Total	39	826		

Table 4. Animal bone by context

Species identified include cattle, horse, and sheep, but cattle were most common. A cattle vertebra from pit 0003 and a sheep tibia from pit fill 0039 have incompletely fused epiphyseal unions indicating young individuals. The largest single group, with 13 pieces including a number of horse elements, came from the fill of pit 0056 (0064) which contained no datable finds. The assemblage is far too small for any meaningful analysis, but the range of species and elements present suggests that it most likely represents the dumping of domestic food waste.



## Shell

Ten fragments of oyster shell weighing 149g were collected from five contexts, four of them in Trench 2 and the rest from layer 0063 between Trenches 1 and 2.

Five snail shells identified as *cepaea nemoralis*, a land snail found in grassland, hedgerows and woodland, were collected from three contexts in Trench 2, possible pit feature 0045 (0061), pit 0056 (0064) and feature 0066 (0069). Six snail shells identified as land snail *helix aspersa* were recovered from layer 0071 excavated in Trench 3.

## Wood

Two small fragments (7g) of modern wood were collected from pit 0002 in Trench 1 (0003) and pit 0019 in Trench 2 (0034). Both were discarded.

### 5.7 Discussion of the finds and environmental evidence

The evaluation/excavation produced a modest group of finds from 19 contexts which represent activity on this site mainly during the Roman period and limited activity during the prehistoric and post-medieval periods. Finds were collected from single contexts in Trenches 1 and 3, 16 contexts in Trench 2 and from a layer or deposit (0063) between Trenches 1 and 2.

The earliest finds are a flint hammerstone which is later prehistoric and a single sherd of hand-made prehistoric pottery of probable Late Iron Age date. Both were found with later-dated material.

The majority of the finds date to the Roman period suggesting that occupation was more intensive during the 2nd to 4th centuries. The pottery supply includes a small amount of imported finewares and coarsewares from Central and East Gaul and southern Spain but is dominated by local or regional coarsewares which include the broad greyware fabric groups which are typically predominant in rural assemblages in this part of the county.

The assemblage appears to be the product of a long deposition cycle and the condition of the pottery is often abraded and broken with the result that fewer

forms could be identified. With a broad date range of 2nd to 4th century, the pottery assemblage includes only a few pieces that could be earlier and it also includes specialist wares that belong to the late and latest Roman period. It is notable that more than half of the pottery (64% of the sherds and 52% of the weight) came from deposit/layer 0063.

The animal bone assemblage was found in association with Roman-dated finds and is probably Roman as well. Preservation was only fair but the range of species and the elements identified are typical of a rural assemblages in this part of the county and suggest that this assemblage represents the disposal of domestic food waste.

Later finds are few and consist of post-medieval material. Single fragments of CBM, tin-glazed pottery, clay pipe and a copper alloy buckle are all likely to have reached the site through casual loss or non intensive activities such as manuring.

## **6. Discussion**

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Throughout the trenches varying levels of modern truncation relating to the former CES building, as well as the current construction activity, were present. However below this and in section, the archaeology was well preserved. This revealed different levels and types of occupation throughout the first two trenches.

The features uncovered in Trench 1 are typical of some aspects of the wider archaeological landscape often seen on the airbase and more widely within Mildenhall, Lakenheath and the fen edge. This is typified by Late Iron Age and Roman activity in the form of ditches and pits, which are usually interpreted as representing field systems, transient boundaries and general agricultural and occupation activities. The lack of finds associated with the features on this site makes it difficult to firmly date these features. However, pit 0002 was dated to the late 2nd century+ and the presence of high levels of abraded Roman pottery from Trench 2 suggests the presence of Roman features that had then

been truncated by later activity. The amount of pottery from deposit 0063, which is dated from the Late Iron Age to the 4th century AD, is also evidence of varying levels of occupation from prehistory and throughout the Roman period on, or near to, the site.

There is a notable lack of prehistoric pottery within the overall assemblage, with only one sherd being recovered from 0063. The significance of this in relation to the site as a whole is unclear, given the small size of the sample area, much of which was disturbed. However, if the material recovered is a representative sample, then this may indicate a lower intensity of prehistoric occupation on this site than seen nearby.

The features revealed in Trench 2 are unusual, being dug in a systematic manner that appeared to exploit as much of the area as possible. Although unconfirmed, it is thought that these features were almost certainly post-Roman and probably post-medieval, partly because a post-medieval clay pipe fragment and buckle frame (SF 1001) were found within fill 0034 of pit 0019. In addition it appears that these unusually-shaped pits were dug into the hard subsoil and in a highly intensive manner in order to quarry the chalk. Whilst quarrying did occur before the post-medieval period, notably in the Roman phase, the levels revealed here suggest unusually intensive behaviour, which could show that the material was being used in relatively large scale agriculture or for nearby construction.

It is unclear what the deposits in Trench 3 actually represent, although it is thought that they are post-medieval. They may represent further chalk pits that were not as clearly defined as those in Trench 2, but this is uncertain as no clear cut was determined in plan or section and the main deposit, 0071, seemed to be heavily disturbed.

## 7. Conclusions and significance of the fieldwork

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Excavation on the site has identified some well preserved archaeology in the general area, despite some truncation. In particular, the features in Trench 1 were important in indicating the extent and density of Roman and possibly prehistoric occupation in this part of the airbase, even under formerly built-up sites. As such, it seems likely that either the ditch boundaries often found around prehistoric and Roman settlements, or the rectilinear field systems from these periods were present on this site. It is also likely that Roman and probably Iron Age occupation extended across the base from the larger and more intensively excavated sites such as MNL 532 and MNL 479 (Brooks and Tester, in prep., and Caruth, 1996, respectively).

The pit digging in Trench 2 was quite distinctive, and appears to have been for chalk extraction, an aspect of the post-medieval economy that was particularly important to this local area. Chalk lump was used in the construction of buildings from the medieval period and internal vaulting in church building was often made of clunch rather than limestone as it was softer and easier to mine. From the post-medieval period clunch was exported from Lakenheath village via the fenland lodes and can still be seen in buildings at Lakenheath, Mildenhall and Thetford (Sussams, 1996). However, these pits were relatively shallow, and much of the extracted material would have been weathered, and not extractable in large blocks, and therefore not ideal for building construction. It is therefore more likely that in this case the chalk was being extracted for lime, either for agricultural use, or for burning for the production of mortar.

It is difficult to expand further on the archaeology due to its truncation by the building works that were occurring around the excavation, which also stopped a full investigative programme from being carried out. There is little doubt that had this not been the case, a much more extensive range of features and a more effective dating framework would have been established.

## 8. Archive deposition

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Paper and photographic archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds T:\arc\Archive field proj\Mildenhall\MNL 610 Former CES Building.

Finds and environmental archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds. Store Location: I/97/3, small finds: SS/11/5 Misc.

## 9. List of contributors and acknowledgements

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The excavation was carried out by a number of archaeological staff, (Andrew Tester, Rob Brooks and Jonathan Van Jennians) all from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team. The project was directed and managed by Andrew Tester, who also provided advice during the production of the report.

The post-excavation was managed by Richenda Goffin. Finds processing was carried out by Gemma Adams, who also worked on the production of site plans and sections with Crane Begg. The specialist finds report was written by Cathy Tester. The report was checked by Jo Caruth and Richenda Goffin.

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## Appendix 1. Context list

Context Feature	Segment	Trench	Identifier	Type	Description	Over	Under
0001	0001		Finds	Unstratified	Unstratified finds. None collected.		
0002	0002	1	Pit	Cut	Pit cut in Trench 1 that was machine excavated before archaeological investigation took place. Photographed.	0005	0005
0003	0002	1	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit 0002. Red/brown, burnt silt and sand mix. Excavated by machine.	0005	0004
0004	0002	1	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit 0002. Brown silt/sand mix, flecked with charcoal. No finds. Excavated by machine.	0003	
0005	0002	1	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit 0002. Mid grey silty/chalky mix. No finds. Excavated by machine.	0002	0003
0006	0006	1	Pit	Cut	Pit cut in Trench 1. Top of cut truncated by disturbance. Machine excavated before archaeological investigation took place. Sides slope at c.75°, before curving abruptly to a flat base. Fills = 0078-82. 1.2m (SW-NE) x 0.35m visible extent (NW-SE) x c.0.5m deep.		0082
0007	0007	1	Ditch	Cut	Ditch cut seen in south-east side of Trench 1, north-east of ditch 0008. Machine excavated before archaeological investigation took place. Sides are slightly convex and slope at 40-45°, before curving to an almost flat base. 0.46m (SW-NE) x c.0.4m deep.	0075	0098
0008	0008	1	Ditch	Cut	Ditch cut seen in north-west and south-east sides of Trench 1, south-west of 0007 and north-east of 0005. Machine excavated before archaeological investigation took place. Irregular sides which slope at c.30-40° and curve round to a concave, rounded base. The cut had preserved shovel marks still visible. 0.42m (SW-NE) x c.0.2m deep.	0096	0083
0009	0009	1	Ditch	Cut	Oblique ditch cut seen in north-west and south-east sides of Trench 1, south-west of 0005. Machine excavated before archaeological investigation took place. Only one side of feature visible in section, which sloped at c.50-55° and was slightly concave. It curved abruptly to a flat base. 1m (N-S) x c.0.5m deep.		0090 0103
0010	0010	1	Ditch	Cut	Oblique ditch cut seen in north-west and south-east sides of Trench 1, south-west of 0005. Machine excavated before archaeological investigation took place. Sides are convex and slope at c.35-50°, then curve abruptly to a flat base. 0.8m (NE-SW) x c.0.55m deep.	0076 0090 0102	0088

Context	Feature	Segment	Trench	Identifier	Type	Description	Over	Under
0012	0012	0017 0074	2	Ditch/Pit	Cut	Cut of west to east running ditch visible at extreme western end of Trench 2. Excavated in segment 0017. Moderate to steep sloping sides. Concave base. Cuts 0015. 1.15m wide (NNW-SSE), 0.78m deep from surface. Initially thought to be a ditch, but could also be one of the large pit-type features found in rest of trench.	0016	0013 0109
0013	0012	0017	2	Ditch/Pit	Fill	Fill of cut 0012 from segment 0017. Mid grey silty sand and some chalk. No finds. Excavated using trowel and shovel.	0012	0104
0014	0018 0019 0020	0014	2	Segment	Segment	Segment of features 0018, 0019 and 0020. 0018 cut by 0019. North-west side photographed and drawn. North-east side drawn. Whole segment hand planned. Segment 0036 comes off this segment at a right angle. 0.5m wide (SE-NW), 3.8m long (SW-NE).		
0015	0015	0012 0017 0074	2	Ditch/Pit	Cut	Cut of west to east running ditch at extreme western end of Trench 2, adjacent to and probably cut by ditch 0012. Excavated in segment 0017 with 0012. Moderately sloping side. Concave base. Width not fully visible; northern edge under trench side. 0.6m deep from surface. Initially thought to be a ditch, but could also be one of the large pit-type features found in rest of trench.		0016
0016	0015	0017	2	Ditch/Pit	Fill	Fill of pit 0015 in segment 0017. Mid to dark grey/brown silty sand. No finds. 0.5m excavated, using trowel and shovel.	0015	0012
0017	0012 0015	0017	2	Segment	Segment	North-north-west to south-south-east excavated segment across ditches 0012 and 0015 at extreme western end of Trench 2. 0.5m wide x 2.1m long (NNW-SSE) x 0.78m deep.		
0018	0018	0014 0036	2	Linear feature	Cut	North-west to south-east aligned feature. Only very partially seen in segments 0014 & 0036. 80° sides and fairly flat base. Appeared to be a ditch in segment 0014, but may have a sub-rectangular plan, aligned north-east to south-west after the excavation of segment 0036. Interpretation - pit, possibly at a 'T-junction' with 0019. 2.84m (SW-NE) x 1.5m(?) (NW-SE) x c.0.7m deep.		0119
0019	0019	0014 0032 0035	2	Linear feature	Cut	North-east to south-west aligned feature seen partially in segment 0014. 55-65° sloping, concave sides. Possibly cut by 0018 in segment 0014. Relationship to 0020 unknown. Interpretation - pit, possibly at 'T-junction' with 0018. >1.04m (NW-SE) x >7.3m (NE-SW) x c.0.63m deep.	0118	0027
0020	0020	0014 0036	2	Feature	Cut	Small feature cut. Only very partially seen in segment 0014. Concave sides and a flat base. Relationship to other features is unknown. Interpretation - probably a north-west to south-east aligned ditch, but could be a pit. After excavation of segment 0036, it was thought to probably not be a real/new feature, >0.6m wide (NW-SE) x >0.9m (NE-SE) x 0.15m deep. May be the same as/confused with feature 0030.		
0021	0018	0014	2	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit 0018 in segment 0014. Grey sandy silt with frequent chalk flecks. Lens runs into and under 0022. Finds - see 0028. Excavated using trowel and shovel. Interpretation - made up of two indistinguishable fills, hence confused relationship with 0022.	0022	
0022	0018	0014	2	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit 0018 in segment 0014. Mid grey/brown silty sand. Some chalk. Perhaps slumped or leached material from above, and perhaps wind-blown. Excavated using trowel and shovel. Finds- see 0028.	0024	0021



Context	Feature	Segment	Trench	Identifier	Type	Description	Over	Under
0023	0018	0014	2	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit 0018 in segment 0014. Made up of dense, slumped chalk. Finds - see 0028. Excavated using trowel and shovel.	0025	0118
0024	0018	0014	2	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit 0018 in segment 0014. Light grey sandy silt. Excavated using trowel and shovel. Finds - see 0028.	0026	0022
0025	0018	0014	2	Pit	Fill	Basal fill of pit 0018 in segment 0014. Grey/brown sandy silt. Frequent chalk nodules. Finds - see 0028. Excavated using trowel and shovel.	0119	0023
0026	0019	0014	2	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit 0019 in segment 0014. Light grey sandy silt. Less chalk than 0024, but still regular nodule inclusions. Finds - see 0029. Excavated using trowel and shovel.	0027	0024
0027	0019	0014	2	Pit	Fill	Basal fill of pit 0019 in segment 0014. Mid grey sandy silt. Occasional chalk flecks. Finds - see 0029. Excavated using trowel and shovel.	0019	0026
0028	0018	0014	2	Linear Feature	Finds	Finds from segment 0014. They were found in the south-west part of the segment and are probably from the fills of feature 0018 and include pottery and bone.		
0029	0019	0014	2		Finds	Finds from segment 0014. They were found in the north-east end of the segment and are probably from feature 0019. They consist of pottery and bone.		
0030	0030	0032 0035 0036 0047	2	Pit	Cut	Cut of pit south of 0019. Excavated in segment 0046 and 0032 along with [0019]. Base flat. Sides not fully visible. Relationship with 0019 is unclear, however in segment 0035 it appears that 0030 cuts 0019. >1.2m (NW-SE) x >7.7m (NE-SW) x c.0.32m deep. May be the same as/confused with feature 0020.	0038	0031 0039 0041 0115
0031	0030	0032	2	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit 0030 in segment 0032. Mid grey/brown sandy silt. Slightly more chalky at the top and browner at the base. Finds - see 0033.	0030	0112
0032	0019 0030	0032	2		Segment	Excavated segment of full width of trench. Through feature 0019 and Pit 0030. North-east of segment 0035. 0.6m wide x 2m long (NNW-SSE) x 0.4m deep. Photographed.		
0033	0019 0030	0032	2	Pit	finds	Mixed finds from pit fills 0034 and 0031 as excavated in segment 0032. Fills and features could not be differentiated during excavation. Finds consist of pottery, bone and other.		

Context	Feature	Segment	Trench	Identifier	Type	Description	Over	Under
0034	0019	0032	2	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit 0019 in segment 0032. Mid grey/brown silty sand. Slightly more brown in colour towards base of fill. Finds of bone and 'other'. Excavated using trowel and shovel. Small find 1001 found within this fill.	0111	0112
0035	0019 0030	0035	2		Segment	Excavated segment through feature 0019 and pit 0030. North-east of segment 0014. Both ditches with pronounced, wide, flat bottoms. 0030 was shallower and cutting 0019.		
0036	0018 0020 0030	0036	2		Segment	Segment of ditch/pit 0018, possible feature 0020 and pit 0030. No relationships visible. Tops of features filled with 0040- a layer like 0022 from segment 0014. Segment is made up of a 3-part section. The south-west to north-east section was photographed. All sections were drawn and planned at 1:20.		
0037	0019	0035	2	Linear feature	Fill	Lower fill of feature 0019 in segment 0035. Grey silt.	0019	0038
0038	0019	0035	2	Linear feature	Fill	Upper fill of 0019 in segment 0035. Grey/brown, fairly homogenous. silt.	0037	0030
0039	0030	0035	2	Pit	Fill	Fill of Pit 0030 in segment 0035. Grey brown silt.	0030	
0040		0036	2	Spread	Deposit	Top deposit in segment 0036. Similar/same as 0022 in segment 0014. Mid grey/brown sandy silt. Regular chalk nodules. Occasional stones. Excavated using trowel and shovel. Interpretation - possible wind-blown, leached and slumped material mix.	0041	0110
0041	0018 0020 0030	0036	2	Feature	Fill	Basal fill of 0018, 0020 and 0030 in segment 0036. Mid grey sandy silt. Some chalk lenses of yellow nodules in feature 0018. Regular chalk flecks throughout. Occasional stones. Finds - pot and bone, also see 0042. Excavated using trowel and shovel.	0018 0020 0030	0040
0042	0018	0036	2		Finds	Finds located within fill 0041, which could not be separated from within features 0018, 0020 and 0030. These finds however, were found well within the channel of ditch 0018. Excavated using trowel and shovel. Contained pottery and bone.		
0043	0043	0046	2	Pit	Cut	North-west to south-east cut. Only north-east side visible - very smooth line through chalk. Relationship with pit 0030 is uncertain - possibly this ditch continuing/turning. >1.2m (NE-SW) x >2.2m (NW-SE) x c.0.45m deep.	0050 0107	0044 0106
0044	0043	0046	2	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit 0043 in segment 0046. Fill cuts feature 0045. Grey/brown silt.	0043	0108

Context	Feature	Segment	Trench	Identifier	Type	Description	Over	Under
0045	0045	0046 0059	2	Pit	Cut	Possible pit cut in segments 0046 and 0059. Shape unclear as it can only be partially seen in segment 0046 though in 0059 it is very steep-sided with a flat base. One north-west to south-east edge visible. >2m (SW-NE) x >1.4m (SE-NW) x c.0.55m deep.	0050 0107	
0046	0043 0045	0046	2		Segment	Segment of pit 0043 and pit 0045. Appears to show 0043 cutting 0045 in section.		
0047	0019 0030	0047	2		Segment	Segment thought feature 0019 and ditch 0030. Shows terminus of 0019 and a continuation of 0030. Located north-east of segment 0032. Segment measures 0.55m wide (NE-SW) x 2m long (SE-NW) x 0.4m deep. Photographed.		
0048	0019	0047	2	Pit	Fill	Fill of feature 0019 as excavated in segment 0047. Mid grey/brown sandy silt. More chalky than the fill of 0019 excavated in segment 0032. Contained bone and 'other'. Excavated using trowel, shovek and fork.	0019	
0049	0030	0047	2	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit 0030 as excavated in segment 0047. Mid grey/brown silty sand. 0.4m deep. Excavated using trowel, shovel and fork. Contained pottery, bone and 'other'.	0030	
0050	0045	0046	2	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit 0045 in segment 0046. Fill spans whole width of trench. Mixture of grey and brown silt. Several layers included in this fill, but the interfaces were difficult to define during excavation.	0045	
0052	0053	0052	2		Segment	Segment of feature 0053. 2-part section drawn, including trench profile. Planned at 1:20. 0.7m wide. Digital photograph only.		
0053	0053	0052	2	Pit	Cut	Feature cut that was only partially seen in segment 0052. Looks sub-rectangular in plan, like 0018. Near-vertical sides in places, but only 40° slope on its north-east side. Sides curve round to a flat base. 1.38m (NW-SE) x >0.62m (NE-SW) x 0.45m deep.	0055	
0054	0053	0052	2	Pit	Fill	Lens fill within feature 0053. Unusual material for this site. Light grey sandy silt with frequent chalk nodules. May not be a fill of 0053 as it seems awkwardly positioned above it. Excavated using trowel and shovel.	0055	0110
0055	0053	0052	2	Pit	Fill	Fill of 0053, segment 0052. Mid grey sandy silt. Regular chalk flecks. Frequent Fe staining. Occasional stones. Contained pottery, bone and lava quern. Excavated using trowel and shovel.	0053	0054
0056	0056	0058	2	Pit	Cut	North-north-west to south-south-east running ditch in north-eastern end of Trench 2. Relationship to 0066 unclear. 2.6m (SW-NE) x c.0.2m deep.	0064 0113	

Context	Feature	Segment	Trench	Identifier	Type	Description	Over	Under
0057	0056	0058	2	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit 0056 as excavated in segment 0058. Mid greyish-brown silt. Contained pottery, bone and flint. Excavated using trowel and shovel. 0.2m deep.	0113	
0058	0056	0058	2		Segment	0.5m wide excavated segment through pit 0056, near south-east side of north-east end of Trench 2. 0.5m wide x 1.6m long x 0.2m deep. Photographed.		
0059	0045	0059	2		Segment	North-north-east to south-south-west aligned segment through 0045, linking segments 0046 and 0052. Shows no relationships. In this segment 0045 had approximately 70° concave sides, which curved to a fairly flat base. Drawn and planned at 1:20. 0.5m wide x 1.8m long (NNE-SSW). Photographed.		
0060	0045	0059	2	Pit	Fill	Top fill of 0045 in segment 0059. Mid grey/slightly brown clayey-silty-sand mix. Occasional chalk flecks, stones and Fe staining. Excavated using trowel and shovel.	0061	
0061	0045	0059	2	Pit	Fill	Basal fill of 0045 in segment 0059. Mid grey/slightly brown clayey sand. More clay and thus firmer than 0060. Occasional stones and chalk flecks. Frequent Fe staining. Contained pot and mollusc shell. Excavated using trowel and shovel.	0045	0060
0062	0066	0062	2	Pit	Segment	Segment of 0066. Also shows soil layers 0067 and 0068. 0.96m wide (NNW-SSE) x 0.5m long (ENE x WSW). Photographed.		
0063	0063			Layer		Layer seen in a machine strip for road. Finds collected from area between Trenches 1 and 2 and recorded on TST plan. Deeper area uncovered where concrete footing blocks were also removed- from south-west quadrant of site. Shows dense archaeology in western half of site. Layer could not be interpreted as only seen in limited area, and		
0064	0056	0065	2	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit 0056 in segment 0065. Grey brown silt/sand.	0056	
0065	0056	0065	2		Segment	Segment across 0056. Vaguely linear feature running NW-SE. Photographed.		
0066	0066	0062	2	Linear feature	Cut	Feature in east corner of Trench 2. Only partially seen as goes into bank. Possibly a linear feature aligned south-west to north-east. One side seen, which sloped at c.65°, was concave, and curved round to an uneven base. Cut into chalk. Only excavated in segment 0062. 0.72m (NW-SE) x 0.8m (NE-SW) x 0.4m deep. Interpretation -		0069
0067	0067	0062	2	Layer	Deposit	Top soil layer in segment 0062. Dark brown silt/sand/clay mix. Intermittent light brown sand lens running through. C.0.2m deep. Machine excavated. Interpretation - disturbed buried topsoil.	0068	Mod

Context	Feature	Segment	Trench	Identifier	Type	Description	Over	Under
0068	0068	0062	2	Layer	Deposit	Layer in segment 0062. Mid grey/brown silt/sand/clay mix. Lens of chalk nodules at base. Occasional other chalk nodules and stones. Machine excavated. Interpretation - buried topsoil or plough soil.	0069	0067 0105
0069	0066	0062	2	Feature	Fill	Fill of feature 0066 in segment 0062. Light-mid grey silt/sand/clay mix. Occasional chalk nodules and stones. Fe staining throughout. Contained pottery and mollusc shell. Excavated using trowel and shovel. Detected.	0066	0068
0070	0070	0070	3	Segment	Segment	Segment in Trench 3. Does not reveal whether the material being excavated - 0071 - is feature fill, a buried topsoil/rubbish deposit, or a natural accumulation. Also has a top lens of slightly yellow chalk nodules and chalk powder, which gets thicker further north-east along the trench and was initially thought to be the natural subsoil. 0.5m wide (NE-SW) x 2.0m long (NW-SE). Digital photograph only.		
0071	0071	0070	3	Layer	Fill/deposit	Mid grey silt/sand/clay found in segment 0070. Uncertain if this is a man made 'fill' or a natural accumulation. Contained post-medieval pottery and mollusc shell. Several fragments of modern looking wood were also found. Excavated using trowel and shovel. Detected.		0114
0072	0072	0074	2	Pit	Cut	Cut of rounded feature at western end of Trench 2 and east of segment 0017. The edge of the cut was very unclear. 0.42m (NW-SE) x 0.23m (NE-SW) x c.0.15m deep.	0109	0073
0073	0072	0074	2	Pit	Fill	Fill of feature 0072 in segment 0074. Very dark grey silty sand and charcoal. Contained pottery. Excavated using trowel and shovel.	0072	
0074	0012 0015 0072	0074	2	Segment	Segment	Zig-zag shaped segment of features 0012, 0015 & 0072. No difference in the fill, except where feature 0072 appears.		
0075	0075		1	Layer	Deposit	Layer seen in Trench 1. Truncated by modern disturbance. Above the natural sand and below archaeological layer 0076. Pale grey/brown sand. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation.		0007
0076	0076		1	Layer	Deposit	Deposit seen in Trench 1. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation. Truncated by modern disturbance. Mid grey sand. Interpretation - truncated archaeological soil layer.	0090 0093 0094 0102	0010
0077	0077		1	Layer	Deposit	Layer seen in Trench 1. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation. Truncated by modern disturbance. Brown-grey sand streaked with Fe staining.	0085 0099 0101	
0078	0006		1	Pit	Fill	Top fill of pit 0006. Mid grey silty sand with chalk. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation. 1.2m x 0.25m deep.	0079	

Context	Feature	Segment	Trench	Identifier	Type	Description	Over	Under
0079	0006		1	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit 0006. Pale grey sand lens. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation. 0.9m x 0.09m deep.	0080	0078
0080	0006		1	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit 0006. Mottled grey silty sand with chalk. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation. 0.8m x 0.17m deep.	0081	0079
0081	0006		1	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit 0006. Dark grey silt lens. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation. 0.55m x 0.08m deep.	0082	0080
0082	0006		1	Pit	Fill	Basal fill of pit 0006. Pale grey/brown sand. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation. 0.6m x 0.1m deep.	0006	0081
0083	0008		1	Ditch	Fill	Only fill of ditch 0008. Mottled pale brown silty sand. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation.	0008	0095
0084	0084		1	Layer	Deposit	Deposit seen in Trench 1. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation. Chalk lens that runs through 0077. Interpretation - truncated fill representing a feature that could not be recognised clearly in section. Stratigraphy uncertain.		
0085	0010		1	Ditch	Fill	Fill of ditch 0010 in Trench 1, south-east section. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation. White sand lens. May be a wind-blown deposit or a ditch fill.	0086	0077
0086	0010		1	Ditch	Fill	Fill of ditch 0010 in Trench 1, south-east section. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation. Mottled pale grey and white sand.	0087	0085
0087	0010		1	Ditch	Fill	Fill of ditch 0010 in Trench 1, south-east section. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation. Pale grey/brown sand.	0088	0086
0088	0010		1	Ditch	Fill	Basal fill of ditch 0010 in Trench 1, south-east section. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation. Dark grey silty sand.	0010	0087
0090	0009		1	Ditch	Fill	Fill of ditch 0009 in Trench 1, south-east section. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation. Dark grey/brown sandy silt.	0009	0010 0076

Context	Feature	Segment	Trench	Identifier	Type	Description	Over	Under
0091	0091		1	Layer	Deposit	Layer seen in the base of Trench 1, south-east section. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation. Pale brown sand.		0094 0117
0092	0117		1	Ditch	Fill	Basal fill of ditch 0117 in Trench 1, south-east section. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation. Pale grey sandy silt.	0117	0093
0093	0117		1	Ditch	Fill	Fill of ditch 0117 in Trench 1, south-east section. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation. Mid grey sandy silt.	0092	0076
0094	0094		1	Layer	Deposit	Layer of mottled grey sand in Trench 1, south-east section. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation.	0095	0076
0095	0095		1	Layer	Deposit	Layer of white sand in Trench 1, south-east section. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation.	0083	0094 0117
0096	0007		1	Ditch	Fill	Top fill of ditch 0007, Trench 1, south-east section. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation. Grey and brown mottled silty sand. 1.05m x 0.23m deep.	0097	0008
0097	0007		1	Ditch	Fill	Fill of ditch 0007, Trench 1, south-east section. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation. Thin lens of dark grey/brown sand/silt.	0098	0096
0098	0007		1	Ditch	Fill	Basal fill of ditch 0007, Trench 1, south-east section. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation. Mottled pale grey/brown silty sand.	0007	0097
0099	0099		1	Layer	Deposit	Layer seen in Trench 1, south-east section. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation. White sand.		0077
0100	0100		1	Feature	Cut	Feature cut seen only in the south-east section of Trench 1 and not clear in plan. Approximately 30° slightly concave sides and a slightly rounded base. C.0.4m (NE-SW) x c.0.15m deep.		0101
0101	0100		1	Feature	Fill	Fill of 0087. Machine excavated prior to archaeological investigation. Mid grey sand.	0100	0077

Context	Feature	Segment	Trench	Identifier	Type	Description	Over	Under
0102	0010		1	Ditch	Fill	Fill of ditch 0010, Trench 1, west end section. Mottled grey/brown sand. Excavated by machine prior to archaeological investigation.	0103	0010 0076
0103	0009		1	Ditch	Fill	Fill of ditch 0009, Trench 1, west end section. Dark grey silt-sand mix, that is indistinguishable from the material that runs above it and ditch 0010. Machine excavated prior to archaeological investigation.	0009	0102
0104	0104		2	Layer	Deposit	Deposit running above features 0012 and 0015 in the south-west section of Trench 2. Dark grey/brown sandy silt. Some modern debris.	0013	
0105	0067	0062	2	Layer	Deposit	Very patchy lens of material that runs through fill 0067 in segment 0062. Light brown sand.	0068	Mod
0106	0043	0046	2	Pit	Fill	Lens in the middle of fill 0044 of ditch 0043, segment 0046. Made up of chalk nodules and stones.	0043	0108
0107	0045	0046	2	Pit	Fill	Lens in the middle of fill 0050 of pit 0045, segment 0046. Made up of grey sandy silt.	0045	0043
0108		0046	2	Layer	Deposit	Layer above pit 0043. Homogenous brown sandy silt. Machine excavated prior to archaeological investigation.	0044 0106	
0109	0012	0074	2	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit 0012 in segment 0074. Dark grey/brown sandy silt.	0012	0072
0110		0036	2	Layer	Deposit	Topsoil seen in segment 0036 and elsewhere. Often disturbed, but sometimes surviving as a mid grey/brown silty sand.	0040 0054	
0111	0019	0032	2	Feature	Fill	Basal fill of pit 0019 in segment 0032, Trench 2. Dense chalk lens with some grey/brown silty sand.	0019	0034
0112	0019 0030	0032	2	Feature	Fill	Fill that runs across the top of feature 0019 and pit 0030 in segment 0032. Cannot be distinguished between the features. Mid grey/slightly brown silty sand with occasional chalk fragments	0031 0034	



Context	Feature	Segment	Trench	Identifier	Type	Description	Over	Under
0113	0056	0058	2	Pit	Fill	Basal lens in pit 0056, segment 0058. Made up of small stones.	0056	0057
0114		0070	3	Layer	Deposit	Top layer seen in segment 0070. Made up of small yellow chalk nodules and chalk powder.	0071	
0117	0117		1	Ditch	Cut	Ditch located between 0008 and 0009 in Trench 1. Runs NW-SE. 0.64m (SW-NE) x c.0.5m deep.	0091 0095	0076
0118	0018	0014	2	Pit	Fill	Fill in segment 0014. Made up of dense, slumped chalk. Less dense than 0023. Finds - see 0028. Excavated using trowel and shovel. Interpretation - probably the uppermost surviving fill of 0018, that is cut by 0019.	0023	0019
0119	0018	0014	2	Pit	Fill	Fill of pit 0018 in segment 0014. Made up of dense, yellowish-white slumped chalk. Less dense chalk than 0032. Finds - see 0028. Excavated using trowel and shovel. Interpretation - collapse fill of 0018.	0018	0025

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## Appendix 2. Pottery (MNL 610)

Ctxt	Fabric	Sherd	Form	No.	Wt./g	Notes	Spotdate
0003	GMB	r	jar	1	15	(140mm, 12%)	Rom
	GX	b		1	7	Abraded	Rom
	HOG	r	jar	1	15	(300mm,6%) Abraded	Rom
	SAEG	b	Dr 33	1	8		LC2-MC3
0028	GX	r	jar	1	12	Jar rim (x,x) black surfaced?	Rom
	GX	b		1	5	Abraded	Rom
0029	GMB	b		1	1	Fine burnished	Rom
	HOGB	b	SJar	1	169		Rom
0033	BUF	b		1	5	Thin orange layer	Rom
	BUF	b		1	26	(too thin for aa , grainly asc v abr)	Rom
	GMB	b		1	14	Abraded	Rom
	GMG	ba		1	6	Base type 2	Rom
	GX	b		1	1	Abraded	Rom
	GX	b		1	53	Oxy core	Rom
	HOG	r	SJar	1	70	Abraded	MC2+
	HOGB	b		2	46	neck and b/s black slipped abr	Rom
	LSH	r	4 Jar	1	14	Jar rim (160mm, 7%)	LC3/4
0037	GX	b		2	23	Two sep vessels	Rom
0039	GMG	b		1	11	Residue on ext	Rom
0041	SAEG	b		1	1	Scrap v abr	LC2-MC3
0049	GMB	b		1	5	Abraded	Rom
	GMG	b		1	5	Abraded	Rom
	SAEG	b		1	2	V abraded	LC2-MC3
0050	GMB	r	6.18	1	68	Dish rim (200mm, 11%)	MC2-MC3
	HOG	r	4 SJar	1	228	Evans Type 3 SJar bifid rim (380mm, 10%)	MC2+
0055	GX	b		1	5	Abraded	Rom
	GX	r		1	4	Upright rim (180mm, 5%)	Rom
	NVC	b	3 bkr	1	6		LC3/4
	SACG	b	Dr 33	1	13	V abraded	Ant
	SACG	b		1	1	Scrap	Had-Ant
0057	AA	b	0 Amph	1	29	South Spanish amphora	Rom
0061	OXRCM	r	7 mort	1	33	Going type D7 (230mm, 9%) abraded	C4
0063	AA	b	0 Amph	7	536	V abraded and asc altered	Rom
	BSW	r	jar	1	4	Jar rim (140mm, 6%)	Rom
	BSW	b		3	16	Three sep vessels	Rom
	BUF	b		7	68	SV? asc abr	Rom
	GMB	ba	6 dish	1	7	Dish base	MC2+
	GMB	r		1	2	V abraded rim	Rom
	GMB	b		1	7	Abraded	Rom
	GMG	r	6.15	1	2	Curved dish	Rom
	GMG	b		13	83	Misc bodysherds	Rom
	GROG	b		1	12	V abraded	MC1
	GX	r	jar	1	5	Necked jar. Abraded	Rom
	GX	r	jar	1	8	Jar rim (160mm, 8%) abraded	Rom
	GX	b	3 bkr	1	5	Barbotine dot panel dec. abr	Rom
	GX	b		15	87	Misc bodysherds	Rom

Ctxt	Fabric	Sherd	Form	No.	Wt./g	Notes	Spotdate
0063	GX	b		1	19	Residue on ext, limescale on int. surf.	Rom
	GX	ba		1	60	Base type 1 (45mm, 100%)	Rom
	HOG	b	SJar	2	34	C7 dec	MC2+
	HOGB	r	jar	1	13	Jar rim (160mm, 9%)	MC2+
	HOGB	r	4 Jar	1	23	Evans 24-29 jar bead everted rim (160mm,17%)	MC2+
	HOGB	r	4 Jar	1	9	Evans 24-29 jar.Bead everted rim (200mm,5%)	MC2+
	LSH	b		1	17	V abraded	LC3/4
	NVC	r	3.3	1	7	Indented beaker (90mm,9%) Abraded	LC3/4
	NVC	b	3 beaker	1	5	Abraded	LC3/4
	RX	b		1	12	Orange-buff	Rom?
	SACG	b		1	1	<1g	Had-Ant
	UCC	b		1	3	Fine dense pinkish red fab barb. dashes horiz row	Rom
	WX	b		1	3	Abr NVC?	Rom
	HMS	b		1	14	Micaceous fabric (HM-WF?)	L. IA
0069	HOG	b		1	33	V abr and worn	Rom
0071	TGE	b		1	1		PMed
0073	GMB	b		2	18	2 sep vess.	Rom

Key: b = bodysherd, ba = base sherd, r = rim sherd