

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION REPORT

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SCCAS REPORT No. 2009/285

## Clare Primary School, Clare CLA 059

**S. Cass**  
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## HER Information

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**Planning Application No:** SE/09/0984

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**Grid Reference:** TL 7672 4556

**Funding Body:** Suffolk County Council Property Division

**Curatorial Officer:** Jess Tipper

**Project Officer:** Simon Cass

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## Summary

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An archaeological excavation was carried out on land at Clare Primary School in advance of the construction of a new all-weather sports surface (planning application no.: SE/09/0984). Features of probable Middle Iron Age date were revealed, consisting of a four post structure in the southeast corner of the site and a segmented curvilinear gully/ interrupted ring-ditch along the northern edge. A ditch crossing the site on the eastern side, visible on aerial photographs and early Ordnance Survey maps of the area, was confirmed as a late post-medieval/modern feature, backfilled some time after 1890.

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# 1. Introduction

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An archaeological excavation was undertaken prior to work commencing on the creation of a new all-weather play area at Clare Primary School. This is part of a program of development including two extensions to the school building and a new bus turning area.

An archaeological evaluation was carried out in August 2009 prior to determination of a full planning application in order to characterise the nature of any archaeological remains present so that an appropriate condition could be attached to the application. The evaluation recorded two features of Late Bronze Age - Iron Age date, with some residual finds possibly relating to earlier activity on the site in the Early Bronze Age.

The evaluation recommended that the area of the new play area be subject to excavation, with the possibility for a monitoring condition on the intrusive ground works relating to the new building extensions. A brief and specification produced by Dr Jess Tipper of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (dated 9th September 2009) set out the requirements for the area excavation, but any monitoring to be undertaken would require a new, separate brief to be produced.

## 2. The excavation

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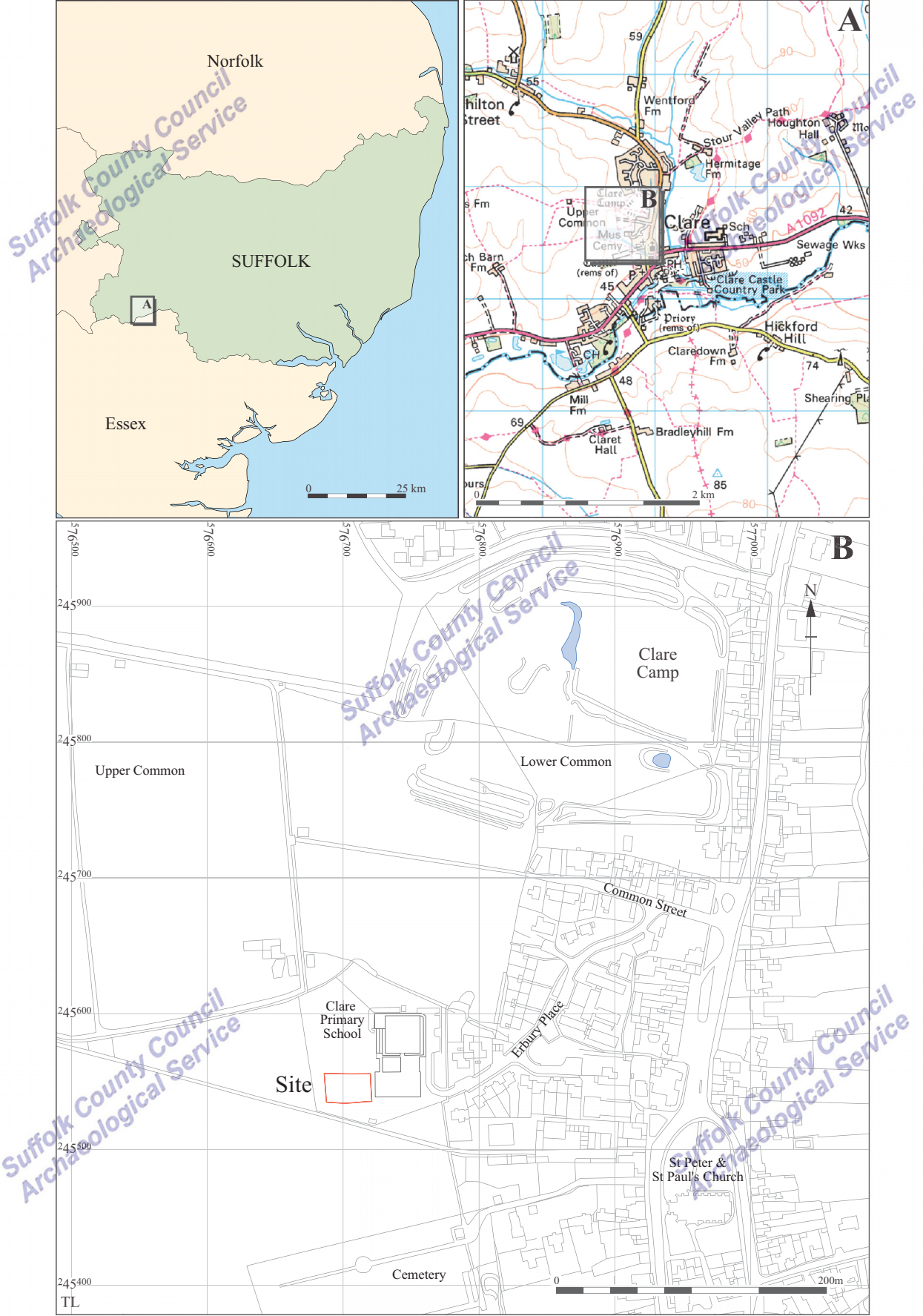
### 2.1 Site location

Clare Primary School is located to the north-west of the centre of the town, on the edge of a residential area, and south of the scheduled monument of Clare Camp.

### 2.2 Geology and topography

The site lies at a height of approximately 55m AOD on a slight slope up to the west from the town centre. The underlying geology of the site is listed as chalky tills, as was observed in the evaluation trench. To the east, the site is bounded by a residential area, with open fields to the west.





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Figure 1. Site location



### 2.3 Archaeological and historical background

The site lies just outside the western edge of the historic core of the medieval town and immediately south of the scheduled monument of Clare Camp (CLA 010). According to the Suffolk County Historic Environment Record (HER) this earthwork is approximately 250m E-W by 210m N-S, with a double bank and ditch construction.

While it has been suggested that this is an Iron Age earthwork site, concrete evidence to prove this has yet to be found. Despite the lack of direct evidence, the balance of the more circumstantial evidence does seem to make this a more likely proposition than a Roman or later origin for the site. The earlier name for this monument (recorded in the fourteenth century as 'Erbury') is likely to have been derived from the Old English 'earth-burh' meaning earth-fortification. The shape of the earthwork compares favourably with other known Iron Age sites such as that at Burgh, while disassociating Clare from otherwise similar sites of medieval date (the Royal Hunting Lodge at Feckenham, Hereford and Worcester and King's Court Palace at Gillingham, Dorset) and appears too irregular to be a Roman fortification. Although the site of Clare Camp, overlooked by a number of nearby hills, is not generally considered a typical site for a more 'conventional hillfort', Suffolk appears to have developed within a different regional tradition of enclosure development, similar to most of the east of England where the classic hillforts seen in the west and south of the country are much rarer (Amstutz *et al*, 2007; Martin, 1991; Oswald, 1993; SCC HER 5964).

Evidence can be found, however, for the re-use of the Camp as the manorial compound of the de Clare family and it is believed that most of the internal hummocks and platforms relate to this medieval re-use, or one of two pest houses constructed in the later post-medieval period (Oswald 1993).

It remains a possibility, however, that the original earthwork may have earlier, Bronze Age, origins as there are indications that there may have been multiple phases of construction prior to the medieval and later modifications to the site.

Two findspots of Bronze Age artefacts are located a short distance to the west and southwest of the site (CLA 014 and 022 respectively), with an extensive archaeological complex including finds dating to the Iron Age, Roman, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval periods in fields some 300m west and southwest of the school (CLA 018). The school falls within an area of landscape frequently utilised for occupation in all periods, lying as it does within the Stour valley, and possessing good views across the confluence of the River Stour and the Chilton Stream.

### **3. Methodology**

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After fencing was erected around the site, topsoil and subsoil deposits were removed carefully using a 180-degree JCB-type excavator under constant archaeological supervision. Where found, archaeological features were hand-cleaned and excavated, with full written, drawn and photographic records being made of the excavated features. Photographs were taken of all features using a digital camera with a 6.2 megapixel resolution. Other areas of potential interest were also hand-cleaned and investigated, including some natural geological features, in order to confirm their non-archaeological status. The site was metal-detected, although the only finds identified by this were modern, within the modern ditch crossing the site on the eastern side.

Samples were retained from most features, in order to attempt to identify any specific depositional patterns such as noticeable differences between the material present in the posthole structure and the curvilinear segmented ditch. They were processed and all artefacts and ecofacts recovered were assessed by appropriate specialists.

### **4. Results**

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#### **4.1 Introduction**

The features encountered during the excavation can be divided into three separate distinct areas of activity, a late post-medieval/modern boundary ditch along the eastern side of the evaluation area; a posthole structure towards the

east and southeast corner of the site (with some outlying pits/postholes) and a segmented curvilinear feature with a large pit, situated approximately centrally along the northern edge of the site. Of these groups, the posthole structure and the curvilinear feature both appear to be approximately contemporary and of Iron Age date. A small number of postholes/pits do not appear to be directly connected with the prehistoric activity, although they are likely to be of similar age. The features identified in the original evaluation are also included in this report, where appropriate.

## **4.2 Prehistoric**

### ***Posthole Structure 0139***

#### *Central posts*

The posthole structure in the south-eastern corner of the site consisted of 4 postholes in a square, with three possible outlying shallow pits or postholes. They have been assigned a group number 0139. In addition there were two pits nearby with similarly dated pottery and charcoal-rich fills which may also relate to this structure.

The four posts were between 0.45 and 0.75m diameter, and mostly steep-sided with shallow concave/flat bases apart from posthole 0120 which had a shallow shelf on the western side, descending to a near vertical-sided posthole against its eastern edge. The postholes were between 0.06 and 0.25m deep and generally filled with a mid brown silty clay with occasional/intermittent charcoal flecking, occasional small chalk flecks and small sub-rounded to angular flints and stones.

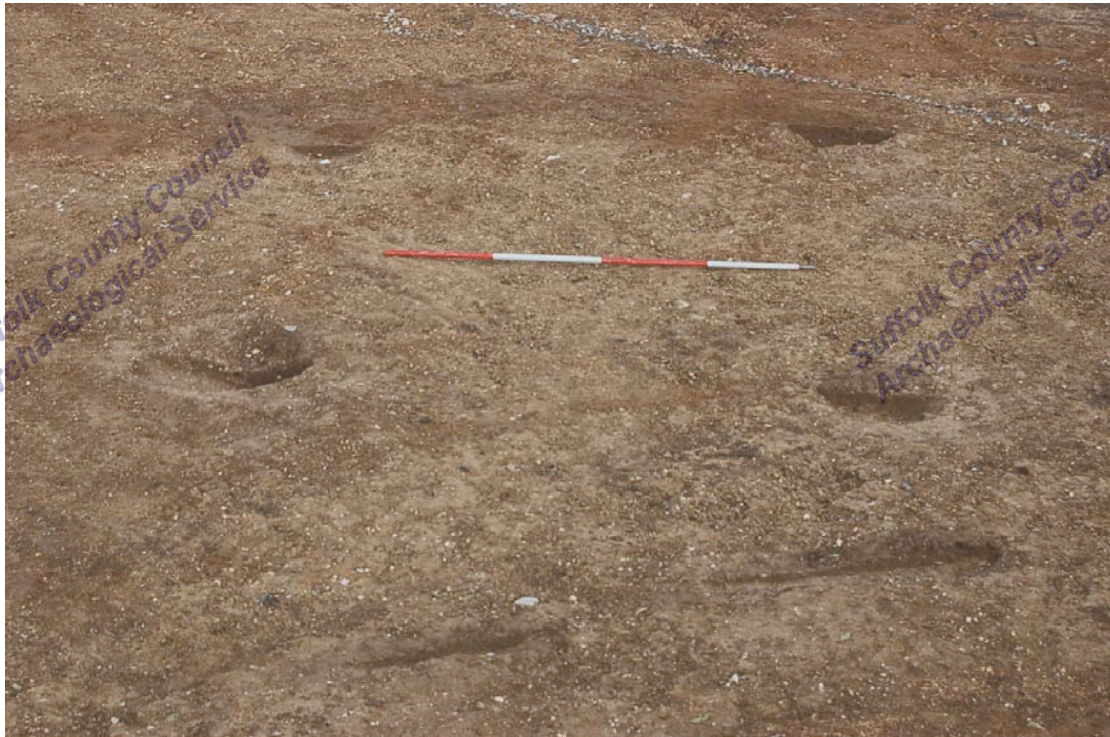


Plate 1. Posthole structure 0139, facing north-east (2m scale)

#### *Outlying features*

The outlying features related to the four-post structure consisted of the remains of a single posthole to the northeast of the central postholes, 0109, and two elongated 'tear-drop' features to the south, 0124 and 0126.

Posthole 01090 was 0.3m in diameter and 0.04m deep and appeared to have been significantly truncated. What little remained of the sides appeared to be very steep, and the base was shallow (nearly flat) with a very slight incline to the west. It was filled with a similar mid brown silty clay as in the four main postholes, though there was no charcoal present in this feature and no finds were located. It is possible that there were other postholes in this direction that may have been completely truncated, though there was no sign of anything during stripping.

The two tear-drop shaped features (0124 and 0126) to the south of the main postholes were mostly very shallow, though reaching 0.07m and 0.05m in depth near their respective eastern ends. It is not possible to be certain as to whether they are representative of further postholes or small shallow pits, but their position does seem to suggest a connection with the structure. Feature 0124 was 1.2m long by 0.5m wide and contained some small flecks of



possible pottery/fired clay. Feature 0126 was smaller, being 0.8m long and 0.22m wide.

### **Curvilinear Segmented Gully Feature 0140**

#### **Gully**

This gully feature was located on the northern boundary of the site, appearing to form a semicircular segmented gully extending out of the site bounds to the north. It has been assigned the group number 0140. The apparent/inferred diameter was approximately 12m. The gully was generally c. 0.3m wide and c. 0.2m deep, with steep/vertical sides and a shallow/flat base, with intermittent/occasional charcoal and chalk flecking although part of one gully length, numbered 0028 and identified during the evaluation of the site, was found to be c. 0.5m wide; no evidence was found of this being a separate feature.



Plate 2. Part of 0140, segments 0114, 0028 and 0107 with posthole 0122, facing north-east (2m scale)

The gully consisted of two lengths with a gap of c. 2m between them, comprising approximately 45% of the inferred circumference of the feature. The other half of the circumference that would have been within the site

boundary was not present. Whether this is due to the shallow nature of the feature and possible plough-destruction or the gully was never a complete circle is unclear.

The remains of two probable postholes were identified at the ends of the two gullies.

Posthole 0122 was very shallow, c. 0.23m diameter and 0.04m deep, abutting the end of 0114 with no visible relationship. It was filled with a light brown silty clay with moderate chalk flecks throughout. No stratigraphic relationship could be determined between the two features, although from the positioning, it seems highly likely that the two were contemporary.

Posthole 0130 was originally believed to be the terminus of gully 0135; however on excavation it appeared that it was in fact a separate but associated feature. Unfortunately, there was no visible relationship between the two, with a very similar fill and ephemeral edges to the posthole. A fired clay object (0131) was found deposited in the centre of the feature, interpreted as the fragmentary remains of a loom weight dating to the Middle Iron Age and appearing to be an intentionally placed object within the feature.





Plate 3. Loom weight fragment 0131, facing north (0.2m scale)

#### *Pit 0133*

Pit 0133 was a large ovoid feature within the supposed circumference of the gully. It was c. 1.75m in diameter, and 0.73m deep, with steep/near vertical sides with some shelving (to an angle of approximately 45°) and a sharp concave base, filled with a slightly mottled mid orangey brown silty clay with infrequent sub-angular flints and stones and occasional lenses of redeposited pale cream/brown chalky till clay. There were small flecks and fragments of pottery and charcoal throughout the fill with occasional bone fragments and one large animal long bone (visible on the right-hand side of the section in Plate 4).



Plate 4. Pit 0133, facing east (1m and 2m scales)

#### **Other features**

##### *Charcoal-rich pits 0024 and 0128*

Two charcoal-rich pits were identified during the archaeological works at the primary school, one in the initial evaluation trench and another on the southern boundary of the site during the excavation. While neither has a definite link with any other feature, they do seem to bracket posthole structure 0139 and are of similar date.

Pit 0024 was a slightly ovoid feature of 0.62m diameter and 0.23m depth, with near-vertical sides and a slightly concave base, excavated during the evaluation carried out prior to excavation. It was filled with a moderately compacted black/dark brown charcoal-rich silty clay (0023) and finds recovered included pottery, bone fragments and burnt flint. It was half-sectioned and then the profile and section were recorded, prior to full excavation.



Plate 5. Pit 024, facing south (0.2m scale)

Pit 0128 was a shallow circular feature, 0.03m deep and approximately 0.5m in diameter, with apparently gently curving sides and a concave/flat base, filled with a moderately compact mid brown silty clay with large amounts of charcoal flecking. Pottery retrieved from the fill was identified as being exclusively flint-tempered and potentially of Neolithic-Early/Middle Iron Age date though more likely to be within the Late Bronze Age-Middle Iron Age. Unfortunately the lack of any diagnostic sherds indicating forms has prevented a more specific date range being assigned.





Plate 6. Pit 0128, facing north-east (0.2m scale)

#### *Posthole 0105*

This posthole was 0.25m in diameter and 0.06m deep, steep-sided with a flat base and filled with a mid/dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks/fragments, small flint fragments and stones. It does not appear to correspond to any other features on the site.

A single stake-hole, 0104, was located just to the east of gully 0135 and was 0.08m in diameter at the surface and 0.3m deep. It was filled with a mid/dark greyish brown silty clay with very frequent small-medium sized charcoal flecks and fragments.



Plate 7. Stakehole 0104, facing north-west (0.2m scale)

#### 4.3 Post-medieval/modern

##### ***Boundary Ditch***

The large ditch 0100, partially investigated in the evaluation, passing through the site on the eastern side, had a single 2m wide section excavated in order to confirm its nature, the presence/absence of any re-cuts and obtain a full profile. The ditch was 1.8m wide and 0.86m deep, moderately steep-sided with a small gully in the centre of the flat base and contained two deposits. The upper fill was a mid brown silty clay with occasional small stones and frequent red/brown flecking throughout, approximately 0.5m thick. Modern pottery, iron fragments and animal bone were identified within this layer. The lower fill of the ditch was a pale brown silty clay c. 0.4m thick, again with small stones and red/brown flecking throughout, and large brick pieces and fragments were found within this layer. This ditch was still present on the first edition OS map for Clare, and the relatively modern finds in both fills, with no evidence of re-cutting or clearing out suggest that it was not an old boundary line.





Plate 8. Ditch 0100, facing south-east (2m scale)

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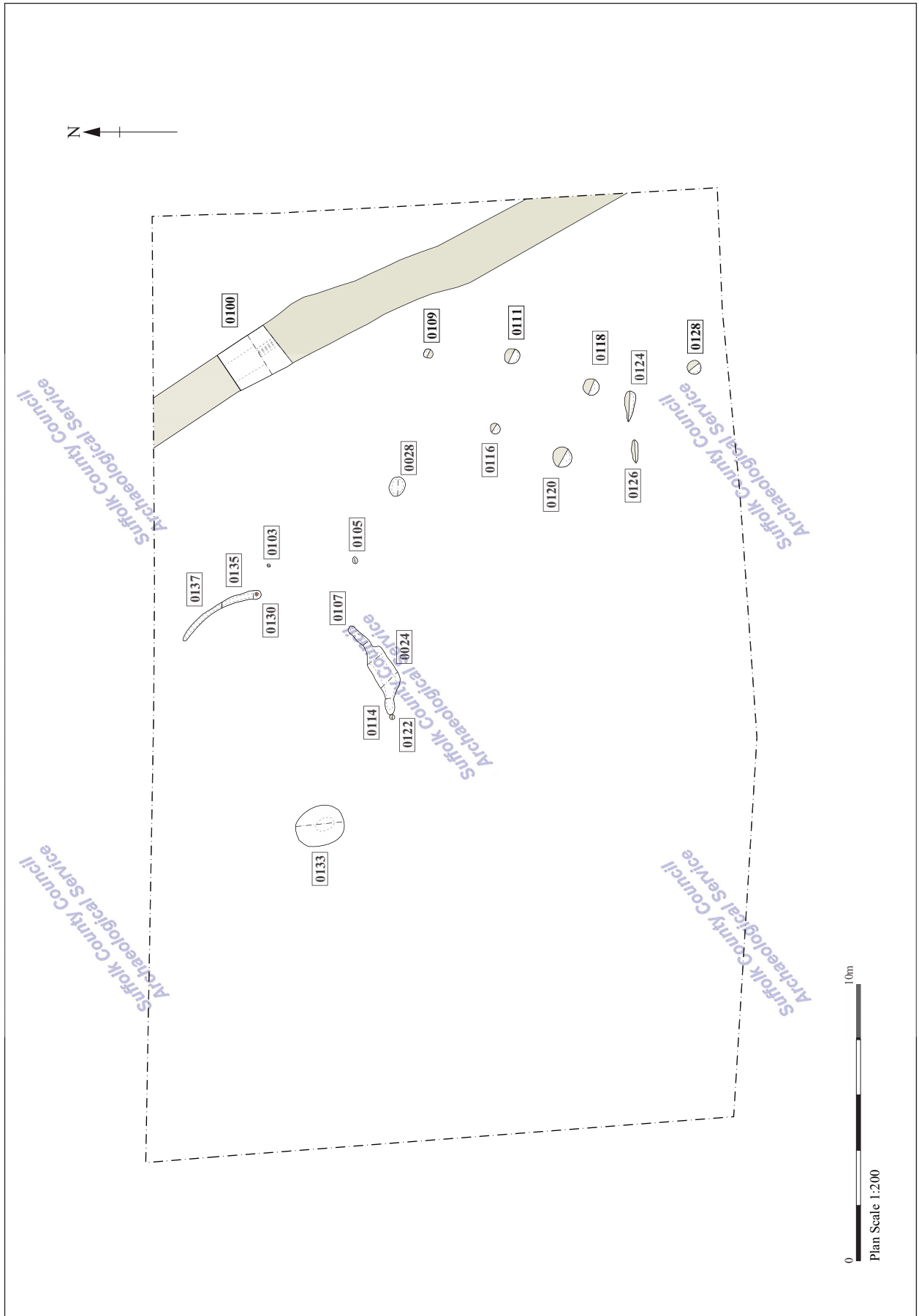


Figure 2. Site plan

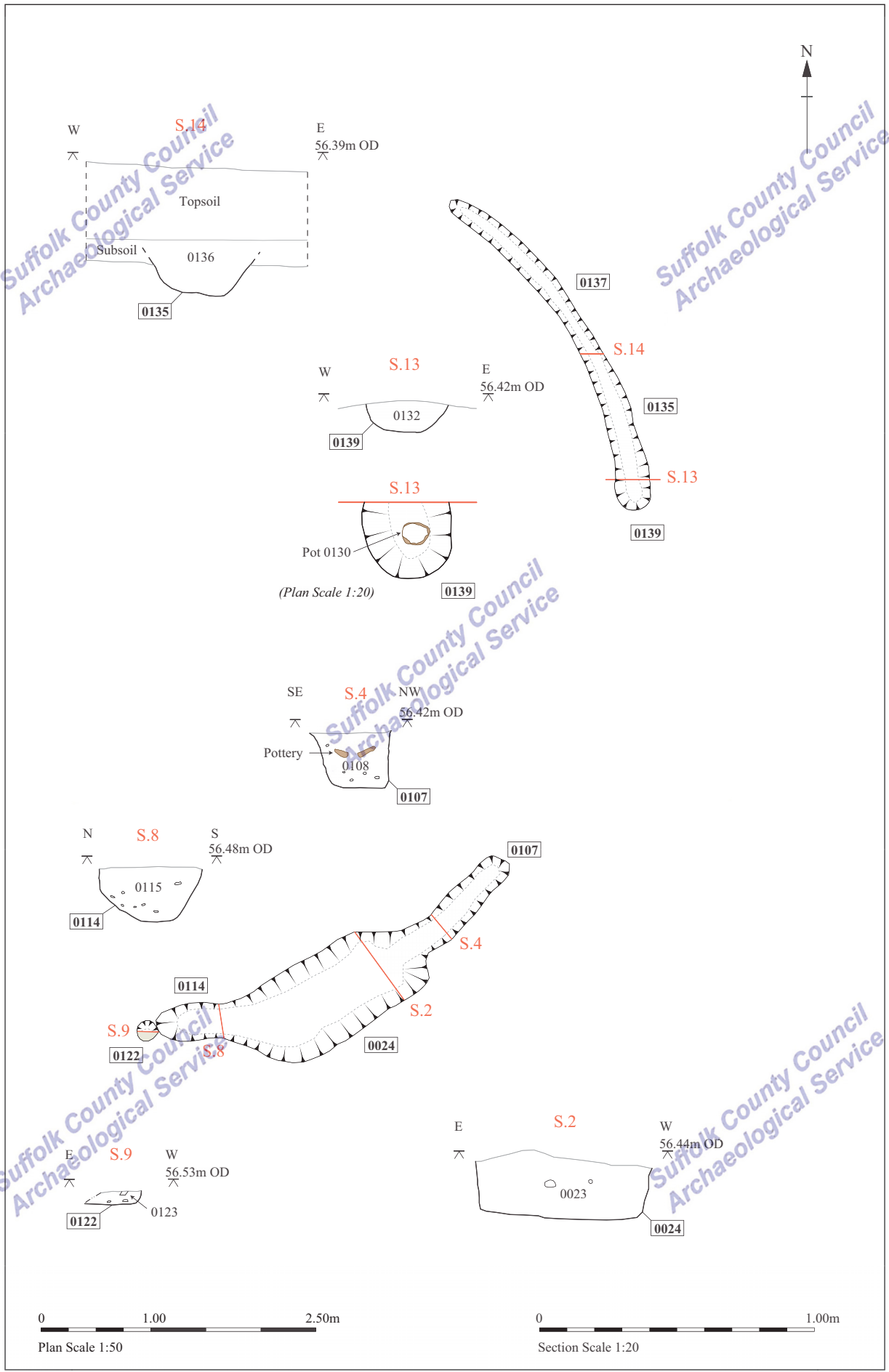


Figure 3. Detailed plan and sections of Group 0140

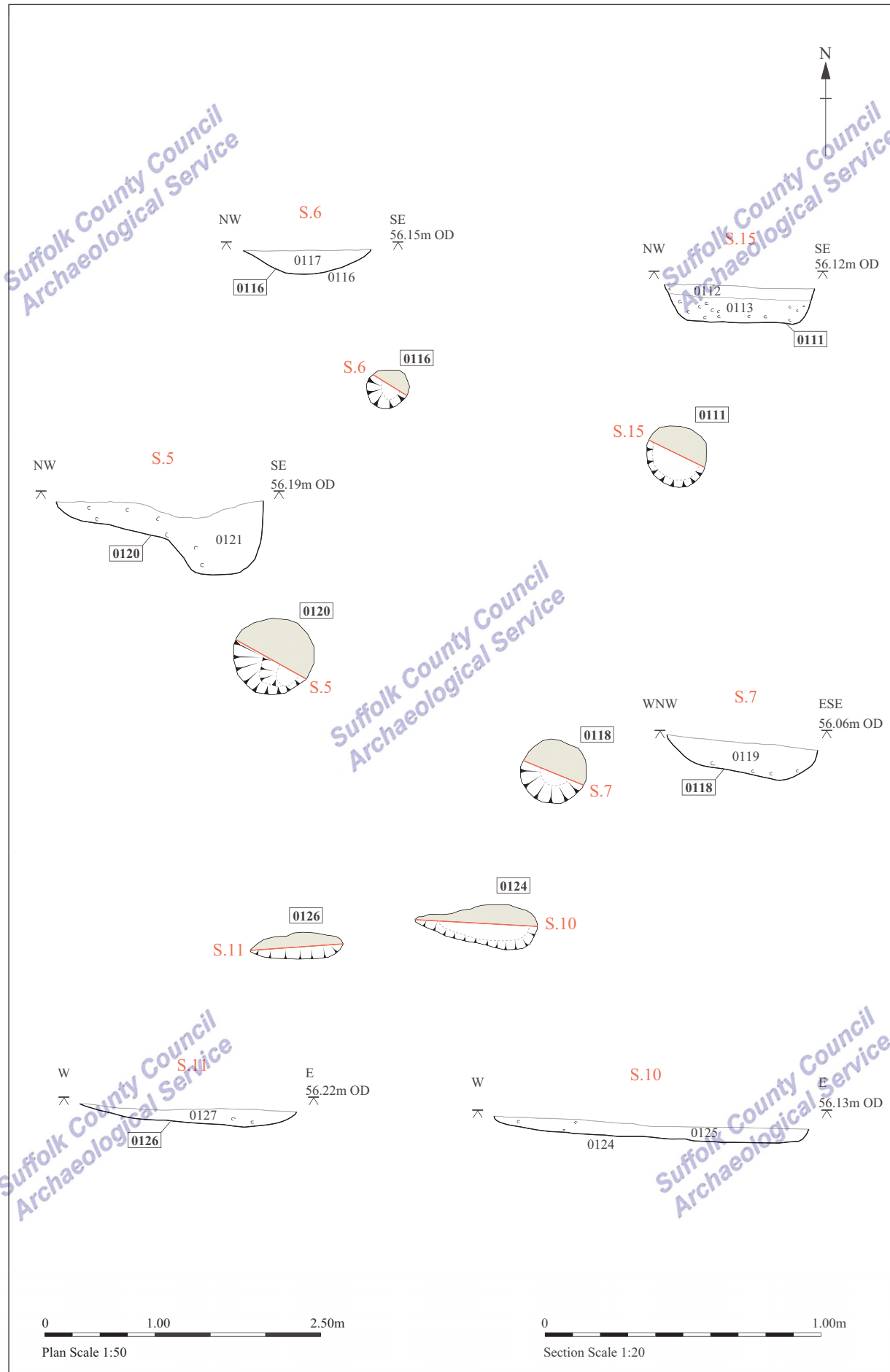


Figure 4. Detailed plan and sections of Group 0139

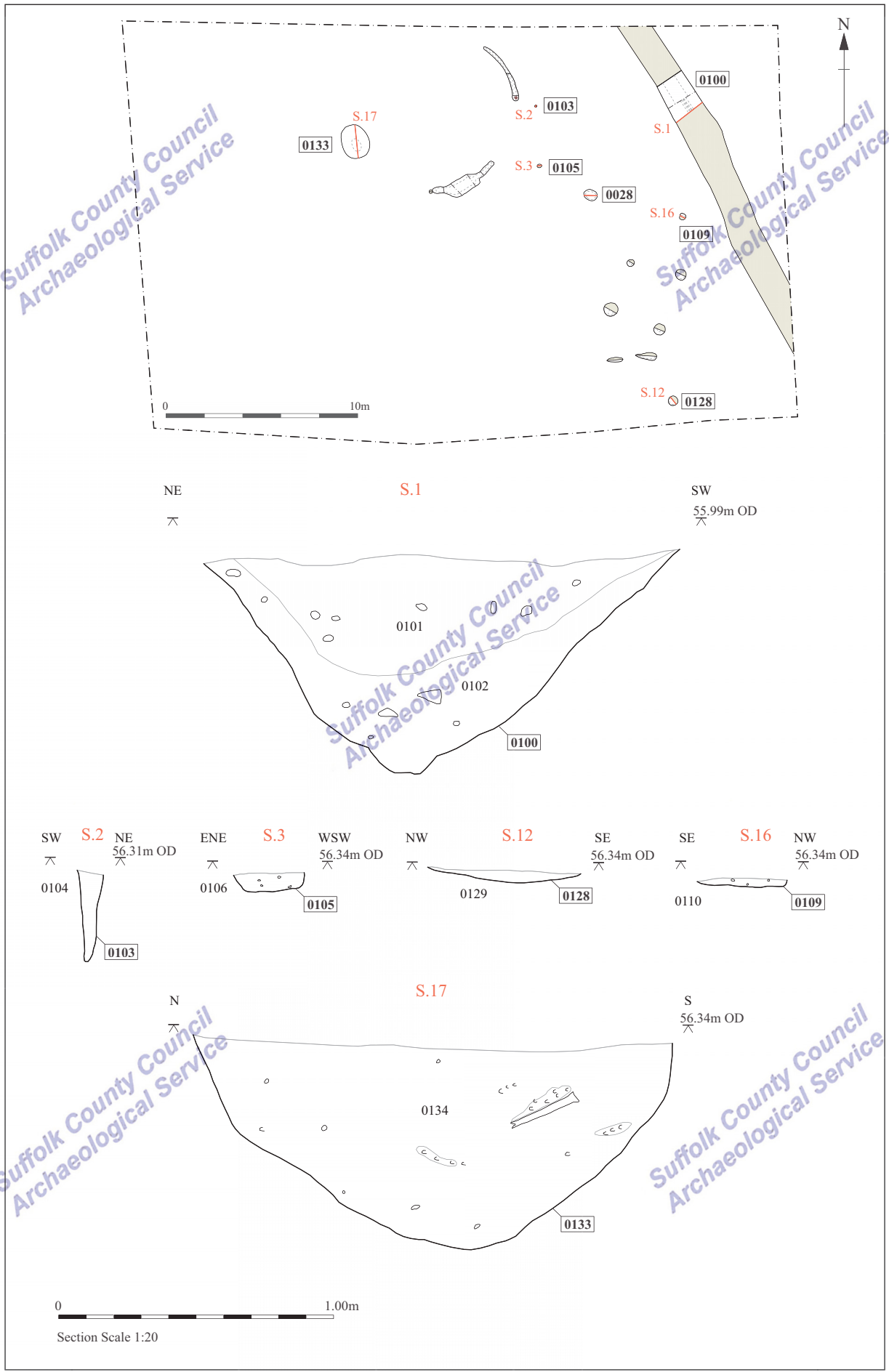


Figure 5. Ungrouped features

## 5. The finds and environmental evidence

Stephen Benfield

### 5.1 Introduction

Table 1 shows the quantities of finds types collected from the second stage of the evaluation. The finds from the first stage have been reported previously (Benfield 2009). The prehistoric pottery recovered indicates that the significant archaeology on the site dates to the late prehistoric period; here this refers to the period of the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age-Middle Iron Age. The other, less closely dated finds of prehistoric material are broadly in agreement with this dating. In addition a small quantity of finds of post-medieval and modern date was also recovered.

Ctxt	Pottery		Fired clay		W flint		Burnt flint		Animal bone		Miscellaneous	Spot date
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt		
0101	12	41									2 glass @ 189g	Post-med.
0108	44	137	13	54	12	78	1	14	24	30	2 charcoal @ 1g; 2 shell @ 1g	Later preh.
0110											1 ?heated stone @ 8g	Later preh.
0112	1	1	2	1	2	8						Later preh.
0113	0	0	1	1	4	11	1	1				Later preh.
0115	3	22	1	1	8	35			12	2	1 shell @ 1g, 1 flint @ 90g	Later preh.
0117	1	6	1	1								Later preh.
0119	1	1										Later preh.
0121	2	13										Later preh.
0125	1	2					1	4	1	90		Later preh.
0129	6	6										Later preh.
0131	10	22	20	188							2 charcoal @ 1g	Later preh.
0132	1	1	5	13			2	7				Later preh.
0134	5	6	16	66					57	149	3 Stone @ 2381g	Later preh.
0136	2	1										Later preh.
Totals	89	259	59	325	26	132	5	26	94	271		

Table 1. Bulk finds quantities

### 5.2 The pottery

A total of 88 sherds and fragments (230g) of prehistoric pottery was recovered during the evaluation and this is discussed below. There is also a single sherd of modern pottery (29g) recovered from the ditch 0100 (0101), which is not reported on further. The pottery has been fully catalogued (see Appendix 3 for details).

#### *Prehistoric pottery*

Prehistoric pottery was recovered from fourteen contexts associated with eight features (Table 2). These are the gully terminals or ends 0107 (0108), 0114



(0115) & 0130 (0131 and 0132), the gully 0135 (0136), the linear feature 0124 (0125), the pits 0128 (1029), 0133 (0134) and the post-holes 0111 (0112), 0116 (0117) and 0120 (0121). All of these contexts appear to be of prehistoric date. A small quantity was also recovered as residual material from the modern ditch 0100 (0101).

The pottery consists of hand-made sherds. These are tempered either with flint, a mixture of sand and flint, or are predominantly sand-tempered – the latter usually including some fragments of organic matter and occasional rare flint fragments (Table 2). There are also two small hand-made sherds, which have some soft, whitish temper or inclusions in the fabric that appear to be fragments of shell. The average sherd weight is quite small at 2.6g. There are however, a number of small fragments among the pottery, which if discounted would increase the average sherd weight to about 3.8g.

None of the sherds are decorated and no vessel rims are present. Base sherds were recovered from 0108 and 0131, that from 0108 having a distinct foot. Also, most or all of the sand-tempered sherds in several contexts (including the two contexts with base sherds) appear possibly to be from single vessels (0108, 0115 and 0131).

Ctxt	Flint-temper		Sand & flint-temper		Sand- temper		Other, ?shell-temper	
	No.	Wt. g	No.	Wt. g	No.	Wt. g	No.	Wt. g
0101					11	12		
0108			1	4	43	133		
0112	1	1						
0115			1	1	2	21		
0117	1	6						
0119	1	1						
0121	1	12	1	1				
0125							1	2
0129	6	6						
0131					9	21	1	1
0132					1	1		
0134	2	3	2	1	1	2		
0136	2	1						
<b>totals</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>

Table 2. Prehistoric pottery grouped by fabric-temper types showing sherd numbers and weight for each context

In the absence of diagnostic sherds indicating vessel forms, the dating relies on the fabrics. The majority of the pottery recovered is sand-tempered or contains some sand-temper mixed with flint (Table 3) and can be dated to the Iron Age. There is an increasing use of sand as a tempering agent in the

eastern region from the Late Bronze Age into the Early and Middle Iron Age (Sealey 1999, 50). The sherds with a mix of flint and sand-temper can be dated to the period of the Early-Middle Iron Age, while the exclusively sand-tempered sherds can be dated to the period of the Middle Iron Age - including the Late (pre-Belgic) Iron Age. The small number of exclusively flint-tempered sherds could, at their widest range, date from the Neolithic to the Early/Middle Iron Age. A number of the exclusively flint-tempered sherds were recovered from contexts which contained no other pottery fabric types (0112, 0117 and 0129). This might indicate an earlier phase of activity altogether, or activity beginning in the Late Bronze Age - Early Iron Age. Overall a dating bracket of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age and Middle Iron Age would seem appropriate, with the majority of the pottery recovered dating to the Middle Iron Age.

temper type	sherds	%sherds	weight	% weight
flint	14	15.9	30	13.0
flint & sand	5	5.7	7	3.0
sand	67	76.1	190	82.6
other ?shell	2	2.3	3	1.3
<b>totals</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>99.9</b>

Table 3. Quantity and proportions of fabric types recorded

It can be noted that most of the sand-tempered sherds also have some small fragments of organic matter visible in their surfaces. It is not clear to what extent the organic material is a deliberate tempering agent as it is mostly only visible as small voids burnt-out on the surface. Pottery tempered with sand and organic material has been recorded among other Early and Middle Iron Age assemblages in the eastern region (Sealey 1999, 48-9; West 1989, 60).

It should be noted that a further 12 fragments (14g) of prehistoric pottery of similar type were recovered from the bulk samples from several of these contexts.

### 5.3 Worked flint

Identifications and comments by Colin Pendleton

In all, a total of 26 pieces of flint from five contexts was examined. This is listed and described in Table 4. Of these pieces eight are probably natural flakes. There is also a large, roughly square block of flint, from the pit 0133 (0134), which has three tabular parallel fractures and which are probably the

result of natural breakage. This has been discarded. The remainder of the flint, 18 pieces, is struck or worked.

The worked flint was recovered from four contexts associated with three features. These are the gully terminals or ends 0107 (0108) and 0114 (0115) and the post-hole 0111 (0112 and 0113). Overall, the flint working associated with all of these features is relatively crude, with characteristics of a Late Bronze Age or Iron Age group. One snapped small blade from the gully terminus 0114 (0115) may date earlier and is possibly of Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date.

Ctxt	Type	No	Patination	Notes	Date
0108	natural?	6	pat	thin, but probably natural flakes	
	spall	1		small	
	flake	1	pat	thin flake or blade, snapped in two, parallel flake/blade scars on dorsal face	
	flake	1	lightly pat	squat flake with broad obtuse striking platform	Later preh.
	flake	1	lightly pat	thick flake with hinge fracture, 80% cortex on dorsal face, retouch/use wear on one edge	Later preh.
	flake	1		shatter piece	
0112		1		crude thick flake with limited edge retouch	
	flake	1	pat	small shatter piece	
0113	flake	1	pat	irregular squat flake	
	flake	1		squat irregular flake, thick striking platform	Later preh.
		1		small squat flake with hinge fracture	
		1		small shatter/natural piece	
0115		1		small shatter piece	
	natural?	2		probably natural flakes	
	blade	1	pat	snapped small blade, parallel scars on dorsal face	NEO or EBA?
	flake	1	pat	flake with hinge fracture, crude edge retouch/use wear	Later preh.
	flake	1	pat	squat flake with natural striking platform	Later preh.
	flake	1	pat	small squat irregular flake with obtuse striking angle	Later preh.
0134	flake	1	pat	squat irregular flake	Later preh.
	natural	3		large square block, with 3 parallel tabular fractures (discarded.)	

Table 4. Worked flint and probable natural flint flakes

#### 5.4 Fired clay

Fired clay pieces or fragments were recovered from eight contexts (Table 1).

These are the gully terminals or ends 0107 (0108) 0114 (0115) and 0130 (0131, 0132), the pit 0133 (0134) and the post-holes 0111 (0112, 0113), 0116 (0117) and 0120 (0121). Prehistoric pottery, mostly dated to the Early-Middle and Middle Iron Age, was also recovered from all of these features. Almost all of the pieces of fired clay contain white chalk fragments, up to about 4 mm

across, but commonly between 1 mm-2 mm. These vary as densities of inclusions from sparse/moderate to common.

Closely associated finds recovered from the gully terminal 0130 (0131) were noted during excavation as possibly representing a placed deposit. The deposit contains both fired clay and some small sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery. The fired clay includes a number of pieces which have flat surfaces, the largest of which is a rounded corner piece with parts of three surfaces surviving for up to about 40 mm length. Together, the fired clay from this context appears to represent part of a single object, most probably a triangular loomweight – although the identification is not certain and no suspension holes appear to be present among the surviving pieces. Triangular loomweights originate in the Middle Iron Age and did not die out until after the Roman conquest (Crummy et al 2007, 43).

Other pieces of fired clay with parts of two adjacent faces at right-angles to each other, representing edges from fired clay objects, were recovered from the gully terminal 0107 (0108) and the pit 0133 (0134). These may also be parts of loomweights.

### **5.5 Animal bone**

There is a small but significant quantity of animal bone (94 fragments @ 271g). This was recovered from four contexts: the gully terminals or ends 0107 (0108) and 0114 (0115), the linear feature 0124 (0125) and the pit 0133 (0134). Prehistoric pottery, primarily dated to the Early-Middle and Middle Iron Age, was also recovered from all of these features apart from 0124 (0125). The bone assemblage is fragmentary and is made up of mostly the post-cranial skeletal parts of medium-large mammals, but some teeth are also present.

### **5.6 Other finds**

A small number of other finds was recovered. Some of these (none of which are directly datable) are from contexts that also contain prehistoric pottery. There are five small pieces of flint (26g) which had been burnt or are discoloured by heating (burnt flint). These came from the gully terminal or

ends 0107 (0108) and 0130 (0132), the linear feature 0124 (0125) and 0130 (0132) and the post-hole 0111 (0113). A small piece of sandstone/quartzite (8g) from the post-hole 0109 (0110) has also probably been heated. Most of this material was recovered from bulk sample residue. Some small fragments of oyster shell were recovered from the terminals of two of the gullies - two pieces from 0107 (0108) and one from 0114 (0115). Pieces of oyster shell were also recovered from bulk sample residue in 0134 and 0125, together with a small land snail shell from 0121. There is also an unmodified natural small round flint cobble which was recovered from the gully terminal 0114 (0115). Such stones, when they exhibit signs of deliberated heating and are recovered from prehistoric contexts, are commonly referred to as 'pot-boilers'.

In addition to these finds there are two pieces of post-med/modern bottle glass (190g) from the fill of the ditch 0100 (0101).

## **5.7 Plant Macrofossils and other remains**

Val Fryer

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

Samples for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from gully, post-hole, pit and stake-hole fills, of probable Late Bronze Age to Iron Age date and seventeen were submitted for assessment.

The samples were bulk floated by SCCAS and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Appendices 4 and 5. Nomenclature within the tables follows Stace (1997). All plant remains were charred. Modern contaminants, including fibrous roots, seeds and arthropod remains, were present throughout.

### ***Results***

With the exception of charcoal/charred wood fragments, which were present throughout, plant macrofossils were exceedingly scarce. Preservation was generally very poor, with even the charcoal being extremely comminuted. Barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains were recorded as single



specimens within three assemblages, and six assemblages contained cereal grains which were either too fragmentary or too poorly preserved to be closely identified. A single abraded spelt wheat (*T. spelta*) glume base was recovered from Sample 12 (gully 0107). Only three fragmentary weed seeds were noted. All were of common grassland plants, namely goosegrass (*Galium aparine*), a large grass (Poaceae) and dock (*Rumex* sp.).

Other remains were equally scarce. The pieces of black porous and tarry material appeared to be mostly derived from the combustion of organic remains at very high temperatures. Heavily abraded fragments of bone were recorded within two assemblages and a small pellet of burnt or fired clay was noted within Sample 12. Minute pieces of coal were present within eight assemblages, although it is considered most likely that these were intrusive within the contexts from which the samples were taken.

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

The assemblages are all extremely small (considerably less than 0.1 litres in volume) and sparse, with most containing little more than charcoal flecks. Both the paucity of the assemblages and the generally heavily abraded state of the remains probably indicates that much of the recovered material is derived from scattered or wind-dispersed midden waste, which was accidentally included within the feature fills.

As none of the assemblages contain a sufficient density of material for quantification (i.e. 100+ specimens), no further analysis is recommended. It is also very unlikely that any of the recovered material is suitable for either AMS or C14 dating purposes.

#### **5.8 The significance of the assemblage and potential for further work**

The assemblage of finds, although small, is significant in terms of dating and in relation to activity carried out on the site. They can also be viewed in relation to the small assemblage recovered in the first stage of the evaluation which could be dated over the period of the Mid-Late Bronze Age and Iron Age (Benfield 2009).

In contrast to the first stage of the evaluation, some of the finds from the second stage can be closely dated to the Early-Middle and Middle Iron Age. The quantities of pottery are quite small with no diagnostic pieces but there is a separation between features based on the fabric types recovered from them, i.e. between features with probable Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age (flint-tempered) sherds and features with Middle Iron Age (sand-tempered) sherds. The finds provide some evidence that domestic industry, in the form of weaving, was being carried out on the site, or nearby, during the Middle Iron Age. It can also be noted that less heated stone was recovered during this stage of the project. The dating of the prehistoric occupation here and the nature of that occupation are of wider significance as part of a settlement pattern, but also provide background information in relation to the poorly understood earthworks known as Clare Camp (Erbury). These earthworks have been thought to possibly define a fortified Iron Age site, but may be of medieval date (Martin 1999, 62; Moore 1988, 16) although no medieval finds were located during this excavation to support this interpretation of the earthworks.

The finds from the evaluation have been fully catalogued and discussed above. However, further work could be undertaken on the small animal bone assemblage such as full identification of species, and the recording of age, butchery marks and pathologies from the bone which is mainly associated with the Early and Middle Iron Age period.

## **6. Discussion**

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The identification of prehistoric features at shallow depths in this area, adjacent to the earthwork monument of Clare Camp, is potentially very significant. Whilst the majority of the dateable artefacts/features appear to belong to the Middle Iron Age, the presence of small amounts of potentially Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery could indicate that the occupation identified here was both spatially and temporally contiguous with the believed initial development of the earthworks as well as during its functional lifespan, potentially even a domestic area for people working on or within the

monument (the identification of a loom weight and two probable hearth debris pits would support such a domestic function for the site).

The posthole structure found in the south-east corner of the site could easily have been for storage, while the segmented curvilinear ring-gully could be the remains of a shallow round-house or similar feature. It is worth noting that the posthole structure seems to relate to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age on the site while the ring gully appears to have been a Middle Iron Age feature.

As the site of Clare Camp is a scheduled monument, there is likely to be little opportunity for direct archaeological investigation within its bounds. Due to this, sites nearby such as the present excavation at the primary school are the best opportunity to gather evidence to support or disprove current ideas of its date, possible original nature and function.

## **7. Conclusions and significance of the fieldwork**

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The presence of surviving prehistoric archaeology at a relatively shallow depth in an area that was, until quite recently, arable farmland indicates the potential for good preservation of further archaeological deposits elsewhere nearby. While modern housing development may have adversely affected much of the land to the east of the school, it may still be worth considering the potential for isolated deposits to have survived, in undisturbed garden areas for example. The fields to the west and northwest, however, have a high potential to preserve further remains that could shed more light on the initial construction period of Clare Camp, and any support infrastructure that was put in place for the works (such as seasonal housing or food storage structures).

At the time of writing, Clare Primary School are seeking funding to enable them to commission an outreach project from SCCAS for the construction of a replica roundhouse on the site, in a location yet to be determined but likely to be towards the northern boundary of the site. While this will have negligible ground penetration, there remains the possibility of some archaeological monitoring during its construction, if only to search for unstratified artefacts in subsoil deposits encountered while digging postholes. As the roundhouse



construction will be supervised by SCCAS staff, it is envisaged that this can be undertaken in tandem with the outreach project at no additional cost.

## **8. Archive deposition**

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Paper and photographic archive: SCCAS Ipswich T:\ENV\ARC\PARISH\Clare  
Finds and environmental archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds. Store Location:  
L/142/3

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

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The excavation was carried out by a number of archaeological staff, (William Brooks, Tim Browne, Phil Camps, Simon Cass and Tony Fisher) all from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team.

The project was managed and directed by Andrew Tester, who also provided advice during the production of the report.

The post-excavation was managed by Richenda Goffin. Finds and environmental processing and the production of site plans and sections were carried out by Jonathan Van Jennians, Anna West and Crane Begg respectively, and the specialist finds reports by Stephen Benfield. Other specialist identification and advice was provided by Colin Pendleton and Val Fryer. The report was checked by Richenda Goffin.

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## Appendix 1. Brief and Specification

### Brief and Specification for Excavation

#### CLARE PRIMARY SCHOOL, CLARE, SUFFOLK

*Although this document is fundamental to the work of the specialist archaeological contractor the developer should be aware that certain of its requirements are likely to impinge upon the working practices of a general building contractor and may have financial implications*

#### 1. The nature of the development and archaeological requirements

- 1.1 Planning permission has been sought by Suffolk County Council for development/remodelling to meet the needs of the Schools Organisational Review programme at Clare Primary School, Erbury Place, Clare (TL 7672 4556). Please contact the developer for an accurate plan of the site.
- 1.1 The area of the proposed MUGA pitch, which measures 37.00 x 22.00m, is located principally on the south and west side of Clare Primary School. The soils are deep clay of the Hanslope series, derived from the underlying chalky till at c. 55.00m AOD.
- 1.2 This school lies in an area of national archaeological importance, adjacent to the earthwork enclosure Clare Camp (HER no. CLA 010) that is statutorily protected (Scheduled Monument 5963). Aerial photographs show that these archaeological remains continue across the site of the primary school. In addition, there is an extensive archaeological complex to the south-west, with finds dating to the Iron Age, Roman and Anglo-Saxon periods (CLA 018), and several Bronze Age find spots are also recorded to the west (CLA 014) and south-west (CLA 022). The landscape setting of this school, within the valley of the River Stour, is a typical location for early occupation of all periods. There is high potential for archaeological deposits to be disturbed by this development. The proposed works would cause significant ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.
- 1.3 A trenched evaluation was undertaken by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service/Field Team in June 2009 (HER No. CLA 059; SCCAS Report No. 2009/214, August 2009). The evaluation revealed important archaeological features and finds dating to the Iron Age period.
- 1.4 In order to comply with the planning condition, the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (SCCAS/CT) has been requested to provide a brief and specification for the archaeological recording of archaeological deposits that will be affected by development – archaeological mitigation in the form of preservation by record. An outline specification, which defines certain minimum criteria, is set out below.

#### 2. Brief for Archaeological Investigation

- 2.1 An archaeological excavation, as specified in Section 3, is to be carried out prior to development. The area for archaeological excavation measures 37.00 x 22.00m – the area of the new MUGA pitch.

In addition, all other works associated with the proposed development/remodelling of the School will need to be recorded during all groundworks. A separate Specification will be issued for this work.

- 2.2 The excavation objective will be to provide a record of all archaeological deposits which would otherwise be damaged or removed by development, including services and landscaping permitted by the consent. Adequate time is to be allowed for archaeological recording of archaeological deposits during excavation.
- 2.3 This project will be carried through in a manner broadly consistent with English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (MAP2). Excavation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential for analysis and publication. Analysis and final report preparation will follow assessment and will be the subject of a further brief and updated project design.
- 2.4 In accordance with the standards and guidance produced by the Institute of Field Archaeologists this brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the total execution of the project. A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) based upon this brief and the accompanying outline specification of minimum requirements, is an essential requirement. This must be submitted by the developers, or their agent, to SCCAS/CT (Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR; telephone/fax: 01284 352443) for approval. The work must not commence until this office has approved both the archaeological contractor as suitable to undertake the work, and the WSI as satisfactory.
- 2.5 The WSI will *provide the basis for measurable standards* and will be used to establish whether the requirements of the planning condition will be adequately met; an important aspect of the WSI will be an assessment of the project in relation to the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers* 3, 1997, 'Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties, 1. resource assessment', and 8, 2000, 'Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. research agenda and strategy').
- 2.7 Before any archaeological site work can commence it is the responsibility of the developer to provide the archaeological contractor with either the contaminated land report for the site or a written statement that there is no contamination. The developer should be aware that investigative sampling to test for contamination is likely to have an impact on any archaeological deposit which exists; proposals for sampling should be discussed with SCCAS/CT before execution.
- 2.8 The responsibility for identifying any restraints on archaeological field-work (e.g. Scheduled Monument status, Listed Building status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites &c.) rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor. The existence and content of the archaeological brief does not over-ride such restraints or imply that the target area is freely available.
- 2.9 All arrangements for the excavation of the site, the timing of the work, access to the site, the definition of the precise area of landholding and area for proposed development are to be defined and negotiated with the commissioning body.
- 2.10 The developer or his archaeologist will give SCCAS/CT ten working days notice of the commencement of ground works on the site, in order that the work of the archaeological contractor may be monitored. The method and form of development will also be monitored to ensure that it conforms to previously agreed locations and techniques upon which this brief is based.

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

The excavation methodology is to be agreed in detail before the project commences. Certain minimum criteria will be required:



- 3.1 Topsoil and subsoil deposits must be removed to the top of the first archaeological level by an appropriate machine with a back-acting arm fitted with a toothless bucket. All machine excavation is to be under the direct control and supervision of an archaeologist.
- 3.2 If the machine stripping is to be undertaken by the main contractor, all machinery must keep off the stripped areas until they have been fully excavated and recorded, in accordance with this specification. Full construction work must not begin until excavation has been completed and formally confirmed by SCCAS/CT.
- 3.3 The top of the first archaeological deposit may be cleared by machine, but must then be cleaned off by hand. There is a presumption that excavation of all archaeological deposits will be done by hand unless it can be shown there will not be a loss of evidence by using a machine. The decision as to the proper method of further excavation will be made by the senior project archaeologist with regard to the nature of the deposit.
- 3.4 All features which are, or could be interpreted as, structural must be fully excavated. Post-holes and pits must be examined in section and then fully excavated. Fabricated surfaces within the excavation area (e.g. yards and floors) must be fully exposed and cleaned. Any variation from this process can only be made by agreement with SCCAS/CT, and must be confirmed in writing.
- 3.5 All other features must be sufficiently examined to establish, where possible, their date and function. For guidance:
- a) A minimum of 50% of the fills of the general features is to be excavated (in some instances 100% may be requested).
  - b) 10% of the fills of substantial linear features (ditches, etc) are to be excavated (min.). The samples must be representative of the available length of the feature and must take into account any variations in the shape or fill of the feature and any concentrations of artefacts. For linear features, 1.00m wide slots (min.) should be excavated across their width.
- 3.6 Any variation from this process can only be made by agreement [if necessary on site] with a member of SCCAS/CT, and must be confirmed in writing.
- 3.7 Collect and prepare environmental bulk samples (for flotation and analysis by an environmental specialist). The fills of all archaeological features should be bulk sampled for palaeoenvironmental remains and assessed by an appropriate specialist. The WSI must provide details of a comprehensive sampling strategy for retrieving and processing biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations and also for absolute dating), and samples of sediments and/or soils (for micromorphological and other pedological/sedimentological analyses. All samples should be retained until their potential has been assessed. Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from Rachel Ballantyne, English Heritage Regional Adviser in Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy, P.L. and Wiltshire, P.E.J., 1994, *A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis*) is available for viewing from SCCAS.
- 3.8 A finds recovery policy is to be agreed before the project commences. It should be addressed by the WSI. Sieving of occupation levels and building fills will be expected.
- 3.9 Use of a metal detector will form an essential part of finds recovery. Metal detector searches must take place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced metal detector user.

- 3.10 All finds will be collected and processed. No discard policy will be considered until the whole body of finds has been evaluated.
- 3.11 All ceramic, bone and stone artefacts to be cleaned and processed concurrently with the excavation to allow immediate evaluation and input into decision making.
- 3.12 Metal artefacts must be stored and managed on site in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines* and evaluated for significant dating and cultural implications before despatch to a conservation laboratory within four weeks of excavation.
- 3.13 Human remains are to be treated at all stages with care and respect, and are to be dealt with in accordance with the law. They must be recorded *in situ* and subsequently lifted, packed and marked to standards compatible with those described in the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Technical Paper 13: Excavation and post-excavation treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Human Remains*, by McKinley & Roberts. Proposals for the final disposition of remains following study and analysis will be required in the WSI.
- 3.14 Plans of the archaeological features on the site should normally be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50, depending on the complexity of the data to be recorded. Sections should be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 again depending on the complexity to be recorded. All levels should relate to Ordnance Datum. Any variations from this must be agreed with SCCAS/CT.
- 3.15 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies/high resolution digital images, and documented in a photographic archive.
- 3.16 Excavation record keeping is to be consistent with the requirements the County Historic Environment Record and compatible with its archive. Methods must be agreed with SCCAS/CT.

#### **4. General Management**

- 4.1 A timetable for all stages of the project must be agreed before the first stage of work commences.
- 4.2 Monitoring of the archaeological work will be undertaken by SCCAS/CT. A decision on the monitoring required will be made by SCCAS/CT on submission of the accepted WSI.
- 4.3 The composition of the project staff must be detailed and agreed (this is to include any subcontractors). For the site director and other staff likely to have a major responsibility for the post-excavation processing of this evaluation there must also be a statement of their responsibilities or a CV for post-excavation work on other archaeological sites and publication record. Ceramic specialists, in particular, must have relevant experience from this region, including knowledge of local ceramic sequences.
- 4.4 Provision should be included in the WSI for public engagement with the investigative works, in the form of outreach activities for the School, and also for local residents by making the excavation open and interpreted to the public. Coverage of the works should be sought in the local media.
- 4.5 It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility to ensure that adequate resources are available to fulfil the Specification.
- 4.6 A detailed risk assessment and management strategy must be presented for this particular site.

- 4.7 The WSI must include proposed security measures to protect the site and both excavated and unexcavated finds from vandalism and theft.
- 4.8 Provision for the reinstatement of the ground and filling of dangerous holes must be detailed in the WSI. However, trenches should not be backfilled without the approval of SCCAS/CT.
- 4.9 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.
- 4.10 Detailed standards, information and advice to supplement this specification are to be found in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003. The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (revised 2001) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

## 5. Archive Requirements

- 5.1 Within four weeks of the end of field-work a written timetable for post-excavation work must be produced, which must be approved by SCCAS/CT. Following this a written statement of progress on post-excavation work whether archive, assessment, analysis or final report writing will be required at three monthly intervals.
- 5.2 The project manager must consult the County Historic Environment Record Officer (Dr Colin Pendleton) to obtain a Historic Environment Record number for the work. This number will be unique for the site and must be clearly marked on any documentation relating to the work.
- 5.3 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared consistent with the principle of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (MAP2), particularly Appendix 3. However, the detail of the archive is to be fuller than that implied in MAP2 Appendix 3.2.1. The archive is to be sufficiently detailed to allow comprehension and further interpretation of the site should the project not proceed to detailed analysis and final report preparation. It must be adequate to perform the function of a final archive for lodgement in the County Historic Environment Record or museum.
- 5.4 A complete copy of the site record archive must be deposited with the County Historic Environment Record within 12 months of the completion of fieldwork. It will then become publicly accessible.
- 5.5 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Historic Environment Record. All record drawings of excavated evidence are to be presented in drawn up form, with overall site plans. All records must be on an archivally stable and suitable base.
- 5.6 The project manager should consult the SCCAS Archive Guidelines 2008 and also the County Historic Environment Record Officer regarding the requirements for the deposition of the archive (conservation, ordering, organisation, labelling, marking and storage) of excavated material and the archive. A clear statement of the form, intended content, and standards of the archive is to be submitted for approval as an essential requirement of the WSI.
- 5.7 The WSI should state proposals for the deposition of the digital archive relating to this project with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), and allowance should be made for costs incurred to ensure proper deposition (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/policy.html>).
- 5.8 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with UK Institute Conservators Guidelines.

- 5.9 The site archive quoted at MAP2 Appendix 3, must satisfy the standard set by the "Guideline for the preparation of site archives and assessments of all finds other than fired clay vessels" of the Roman Finds Group and the Finds Research Group AD700-1700 (1993).
- 5.10 Pottery should be recorded and archived to a standard comparable with 6.3 above, i.e. *The Study of Later Prehistoric Pottery: General Policies and Guidelines for Analysis and Publication*, Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group Occ Paper 1 (1991, rev 1997), the *Guidelines for the archiving of Roman Pottery*, Study Group Roman Pottery (ed M G Darling 1994) and the *Guidelines of the Medieval Pottery Group* (in draft).
- 5.11 All coins must be identified and listed as a minimum archive requirement.
- 5.12 Every effort must be made to get the agreement of the landowner/developer to the deposition of the finds with the County Historic Environment Record or a museum in Suffolk which satisfies Museum and Galleries Commission requirements, as an indissoluble part of the full site archive. If this is not achievable for all or parts of the finds archive then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate.
- 5.13 Where positive conclusions are drawn from a project, a summary report in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute for Archaeology journal, must be prepared and included in the project report, or submitted to SCCAS/CT by the end of the calendar year in which the evaluation work takes place, whichever is the sooner.
- 5.14 Where appropriate, a digital vector trench plan should be included with the report, which must be compatible with MapInfo GIS software, for integration in the County Historic Environment Record. AutoCAD files should be also exported and saved into a format that can be imported into MapInfo (for example, as a Drawing Interchange File or .dxf) or already transferred to .TAB files.
- 5.15 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.
- 5.16 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the County Historic Environment Record. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

## **6. Report Requirements**

- 6.1 An assessment report on the fieldwork and archive must be provided consistent with the principle of MAP2, particularly Appendix 4. The report must be integrated with the archive.
- 6.2 The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its archaeological interpretation.
- 6.3 An important element of the report will be a description of the methodology.
- 6.4 Reports on specific areas of specialist study must include sufficient detail to permit assessment of potential for analysis, including tabulation of data by context, and must include non-technical summaries.
- 6.5 Provision should be made to assess the potential of scientific dating techniques for establishing the date range of significant artefact or ecofact assemblages, features or structures.



- 6.6 The results should be related to the relevant known archaeological information held in the County Historic Environment Record.
- 6.7 The report will give an opinion as to the potential and necessity for further analysis of the excavation data beyond the archive stage, and the suggested requirement for publication; it will refer to the Regional Research Framework (see above, 2.5). Further analysis will not be embarked upon until the primary fieldwork results are assessed and the need for further work is established. Analysis and publication can be neither developed in detail nor costed in detail until this brief and specification is satisfied. However, the developer should be aware that there is a responsibility to provide a publication of the results of the programme of work.
- 6.8 The assessment report must be presented within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated with the project sponsor and SCCAS/CT.
- 6.9 The involvement of SCCAS/CT should be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

Specification by: Dr Jess Tipper

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Date: 9 September 2009

Reference: / ClarePrimarySchool\_Clare2009

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

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

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## Appendix 2. Context List

OPNO	FEATURE IDENTIFIER	DESCRIPTION	SAMPLE NO'S	PERIOD/PHASE
0023	0024	Pit fill	Black/dark brown charcoally silty clayey sand, moderately compacted. Small flint and chalk flecks present as well as large amounts of small-moderate charcoal fragments.	1
0024	0024	Pit	Slightly ovoid circular pit, steep (near vertical sides) to a slightly concave base, 0.62m diameter and 0.23m deep.	
0027	0028	Gully fill	Mid greyish brown/slightly orange, silty (slightly sandy) clay with occasional chalk nodules, mixed rounded/subangular flints and stones and occasional flecks and lumps of charcoal. Firmly compacted	
0028	0028	Gully	Curvilinear feature, steep-sided with a flat base 0.75m wide at section, 0.28m deep.	
0100	0100	Ditch	Post-med/Modern ditch, running NW/SE at eastern side of site. Approx 1.8m wide and 0.86m deep. Approximately V-shaped, with a shallow flat base with a shallow gully at the bottom c. 0.15m wide with vertical sides and a flat base.	Post-medieval/modern
0101	0100	Upper ditch fill	Mid brown silty clay with frequent red/brown flecking throughout, occasional small-medium stones and broken brick and small/fragmentary unidentifiable CBM flecks. Modern ceramics (plates), brickwork, iron fragments and bone present. Deposit c. 0.5m thick and 1.8m wide	Post-medieval/modern
0102	0100	Lower ditch fill	Mid/pale brown silty clay with frequent red/brown flecking throughout, occasional small-medium stones and broken brick and small/fragmentary unidentifiable CBM flecks. Modern, brickwork, iron fragments and bone present. Deposit c. 0.35m thick and 1m wide	Post-medieval/modern
0103	0103	Stakehole	Stakehole. Near vertical/vertical sides to sharp concave base. 0.08m diameter by 0.3m deep.	
0104	0103	Stakehole fill	Mid brown silty clay with very frequent charcoal fragment and staining. Very intermittent small flint inclusions. 0.08m diameter by 0.3m deep.	10
0105	0105	Posthole	Posthole. 0.25m diameter by 0.06m deep. Steep sides with sharp break of slope to flat base.	
0106	0105	Posthole fill	Mid/dark greyish brown silty clay. Occasional charcoal flecks/fragments, occasional small flint fragments and stones.	11
0107	0107	Gully terminus	Gully terminus, orientated NE/SW. Bowl-shaped section with near vertical sides and a flat base. 0.28m wide, and 0.2m deep. 0.84m long.	
0108	0107	Gully terminus fill	Mid brown silty clay with occasional chalk flecking and charcoal flecks. Finds include flints, pottery and bone fragments. Occasional large stones.	12

**OPNO FEATURE IDENTIFIER DESCRIPTION SAMPLE NO'S PERIOD/PHASE**

OPNO	FEATURE IDENTIFIER	DESCRIPTION	SAMPLE NO'S	PERIOD/PHASE
0109	Posthole	Posthole. 0.3m diameter by 0.04m deep. Steep side on western edge, eastern edge almost totally truncated.		
0109	Posthole fill	Fill of posthole 109. Mid brown silty clay with occasional small flints and stones. Feature heavily truncated.	14	Later Prehistoric
0111	Posthole	Posthole. Part of 4 post structure with 116, 118 and 120. 0.5m diameter and 0.25m deep with steep straight sides and a flat base with sharp break of slope.		
0112	Upper posthole fill	Upper fill of posthole 111. Dull mid brown silty clay deposit with intermittent charcoal flecking. c. 0.05m deep and 0.5m diameter.	13	Later Prehistoric
0113	Lower posthole fill	Mid/pale brown silty clay with moderate chalk flecking, occasional charcoal flecking 0.2m deep by 0.47m diameter.	23	Later Prehistoric
0114	Gully terminus	Gully Terminus. Orientated approx E/W. with near vertical sides and a prominent break of slope at c. 0.06m deep to an uneven concave base. 0.38m wide, 0.2m deep and 0.61m long.		
0114	Gully terminus fill	Mid brown silty clay with occasional chalk flecking and charcoal flecks. Finds include flints, pottery and bone fragments.	15	Later Prehistoric
0116	Posthole	Shallow circular posthole, flat/slightly concave base to gently sloping sides. 0.06m deep and 0.4m diameter.		
0116	Posthole fill	Mid brown silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks, occasional sub-angular small flints, fairly hard compaction	22	Later Prehistoric
0118	Posthole	Circular posthole, moderately sloping sides to a flattish base (sloping down to SE). 0.53m diameter and 0.1m deep.		
0118	Posthole fill	Mid brown clay silt, occasional charcoal flecks, occasional sub-angular small flints, fairly hard compaction	25	Later Prehistoric
0120	Posthole	Circular posthole, gently sloping in from NW edge to deepest point in SE against a vertical side. 0.66m NE/SW by 0.75m NW/SE diameter, 0.25m deep.		
0120	Posthole fill	Mid brown silty clay, frequent charcoal flecks, occasional sub-angular small flints, hard compaction	21	Later Prehistoric
0122	Posthole	Probable posthole, abutting 114 although relationship unclear. Concave profile - E side not discernible from cut of 114. W side steep. 0.2m E/W by 0.23m N/S and 0.04m deep.		
0122	Posthole fill	Light brown silty clay, frequent chalk flecks, firm compaction	26	
0124	Pit	Linear/teardrop shaped feature with semi-regular sides leading to a flat base. 1.2m NW/SE by 0.35m NE/SW and 0.07m deep. Similar feature to 126? Possibly relates to group XXXX?		



**OPNO FEATURE IDENTIFIER DESCRIPTION SAMPLE NO'S PERIOD/PHASE**

OPNO	FEATURE IDENTIFIER	DESCRIPTION	SAMPLE NO'S	PERIOD/PHASE	
0125	0124	Pit fill	Mid brown silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks, moderate compaction, possible pottery/fired clay flecks?	19	Later Prehistoric
0126	0126	Pit	Linear/teardrop shaped feature with semi-regular sides leading to a flat base. 0.8m NW/SE by 0.22m NE/SW and 0.05m deep. Similar feature to 124? Possibly relates to group XXXX?		
0127	0126	Pit fill	Mid brown silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks, moderate compaction	24	
0128	0128	Pit	Small pit(?), circular with very shallow sides and a concave base. 0.5m diameter and 0.03m deep. Possibly/probably heath debris material.		
0129	0128	Pit fill	Mid brown silty clay, with very frequent charcoal and moderate small chalk flecks, moderate compaction.	16	Later Prehistoric
0130	0130	Posthole cut	Feature at end of gully 107, appeared to be butt end of gully but after full excavation appears to be associated but different feature. 0.3m wide, 0.1m deep. Possible cremation urn found buried upright within feature.		
0131	0130	Fired clay object	Fired clay object found in feature 0130, fill 132. 0.08m diameter, appears to be in situ (?), possible cremation pot, though no bone visible.		Later Prehistoric
0132	0130	Posthole fill	Mid brown silty clay, occasional charcoal flecks, moderate compaction	17	Later Prehistoric
0133	0133	Large pit	Large Pit. Ovoid in plan, with steep/vertical sides, with noticeable break of slope around approx 2/3rds of feature to a moderately steep slope down to a steep concave base. 1.75m diameter and 0.73m deep.		
0134	0133	Pit fill	Slightly mottled mid orangey brown silty clay with infrequent small sub-angular stones/flints and occasional lenses of redeposited natural pale yellow/cream chalky till. Pottery fragments, few bone pieces	20	Later Prehistoric
0135	0135	Gully	Narrow curvilinear feature with U-shaped gently sloping sides and concave base (0.0.25m wide by 0.1m deep), orientated N/S. Probable posthole 0130 at southern end of feature.		
0136	0135	Gully fill	Mid brown/grey silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and small stones. Average compaction.	18	Later Prehistoric
0137	0137	Gully	Gully (continuation of 0135). Narrow, steep slightly concave sides and base, continues north from 0135 in a slightly curved direction.		
0138	0137	Gully fill	Mid brown/grey silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks, moderately compacted. No finds from this segment of the gully.		
0139	0139	Group	Posthole structure in south-east corner of site. Consists of 4 postholes, with 2 outlying possible pits and a single posthole that may also be related.		
0140	0140	Group	Curvilinear segmented gully. 2 separate segments of gully with two postholes at their respective south/south-western terminals.		

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## Appendix 3 Pottery catalogue by context

Context No	Fabric	Form	Sherd No	Weight (g)	State	Comments
0023	sand & organic			12		sherd 8 mm thick, oxidised surface, fabric: sand and burnt-out organic-temper fragments
0023	flint	R	7	14		7 sherds all probably part of one pot, jar or bowl, 2 join - rim & neck, simple everted rounded rim, dark-brown surfaces, fabric: fine-medium flint
0023	flint		1	5		oxidised surface, fabric: fine flint
0023	flint		1	4		cloudy oxidised & grey surface, fabric: fine-medium flint
0023	sand		1	1		thin oxidised sherd, fabric: heavily sand-tempered
0027	sand	R	5	19		5 sherds all probably from one pot, jar or bowl, rolled-over pitted rim, thickened internally, dark-brown surfaces, fabric: fine sand (eve ?0.07)
0027	flint		1	7		oxidised surface, slightly abraded, fabric: coarse flint temper
0027	sand	B	1	3		sherd flake from corner of base, flat base, oxidised surface, fabric: sand-temper
0027	sand		1	2		thin sherd (2-4 mm), fabric: sand-tempered
0027	flint		1	2		thin sherd, indentation/slash mark on surface - possible decoration but not clear, fabric: small flint-temper
0027	sand		8	3		very small fragments, all in sand-temperd fabric
0108	sand & flint		1	4		sherd 7 mm thick, oxidised surface, fine-medium flint-temper
0108	sand & veg	B	2	20		SV distinct foot to base, surface small burnt-out veg frags, slightly abraded
0108	sand & veg		41	145		SV? surface small burnt-out veg frags, rare flint frags, slightly abraded, poss mostly 1 pot, total includes 21 small frags (11g)
0112	flint		1	1		sherd flake, small-medium flint-temper
0115	sand & veg		2	21		SV surface small burnt-out veg frags, rare flint frags, burnished surface
0115	sand & flint		1	1		abraded, sherd flake

Context No	Fabric	Form	Sherd No	Weight (g)	State	Comments
0117	flint		1	6		sherd 9 mm thick, oxidised surface, fine-medium flint-temper
0121	flint		1	12		sherd 10 mm thick, oxidised surface, medium-coarse flint-temper
0121	sand & flint		1	1		thin sherd, 4 mm thick, small flint-temper
0129	flint		5	5		SV, sherd flake and sherds/frags.small-medium flint.
0129	flint		1	1		p medium-large flint, oxidised surface, abraded
0131	sand & veg		7	14		SV, some burnt-out veg-temper
0131	sand & veg	B	2	7		SV, some burnt-out veg-temper
0131	shell		1	1		frag. with sparse soft white ?shell frags
0132	sand		1	1		poss some burnt-out veg-temper in surface
0134	flint		2	3		abraded frags. Small-medium flint
0134	flint & sand		2	1		small flint-temper
0134	sand	B	1	2		abraded, probably from the edge of a base
0000			11	12		rare flint inclusion, slightly abraded, otal includes 9 small frags (5g), slightly abraded, poss 0132
0119	flint		1	1		sherd plus frags from sieving, small-medium flint
0125	shell?		1	2		small sherd with sparse soft white ?shell frags and voids in fabric
0136	flint		2	1		frags from sieving, small-medium flint



#### Appendix 4. Charred plant macrofossils and other remains from the Late Bronze Age to Iron Age contexts

Sample No.	12	15	18	13	23	14	21	22	25	16	19	20	24
Context No.	0108	0115	0136	0112	0113	0110	0121	0117	0119	0129	0125	0134	0127
Feature No.	0107	0114	0135	0111	0111	0109	0120	0116	0118	0128	0124	0133	0126
Feature type	Gully	Gully	Gully	ph	ph	ph	ph	ph	ph	Pit	Pit	Pit	Pit
Plant macrofossils													
<i>Hordeum</i> sp. (grains)			x										
<i>Triticum</i> sp. (grains) (spikelet base)	x								x			x	
<i>T. spelta</i> L. (glume base)	x												
Cereal indet. (grains)	x	x	x				xfg		x				
<i>Galium aparine</i> L.										x			
Large Poaceae indet.												x	
<i>Rumex</i> sp.													
Charcoal <2mm	xxxx	xxx	xxxx	xxx	xx	x	xxxx	xxx	xx	xxxx	xx	xxxx	xx
Charcoal >2mm	xx	x	xx	x			x	x	x	xx		xx	x
Charred root/stem	x		x	x			x	x					
Indet.seed						x							
<b>Other remains</b>													
Black porous 'cokey' material	x	x	x			x	x	x		x		x	x
Black tarry material	x		x			x							
Bone		xx										x	
Burnt/fired clay	x												
Small coal frags.		x			x		x	x			x		x
<b>Sample volume (litres)</b>													
<b>Volume of flot (litres)</b>	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
<b>% flot sorted</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

#### Key to Table

x = 1 – 10 specimens xx = 11 – 50 specimens xxx = 51 – 100 specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens  
 fg = fragment cf = compare ph = post-hole s.hole = stake-hole

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## Appendix 5. Charred plant macrofossils and other remains from Iron Age post hole 0130 and the undated features

Sample No.	17		10	11	26
Context No.	0132		0104	0106	0123
Feature No.	0130		0130	0105	0122
Feature type	ph		S.Hole	ph	ph
<b>Plant macrofossils</b>					
Cereal indet. (grains)	x				
Charcoal <2mm	xxxx		xxxx	xxx	x
Charcoal >2mm	xx		xx	x	
<b>Other remains</b>					
Black porous 'cokey' material			x		
Small coal frags.	x				
<b>Sample volume (litres)</b>					
<b>Volume of flot (litres)</b>	<0.1		<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
<b>% flot sorted</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Key to Table

x = 1 – 10 specimens    xx = 11 – 50 specimens    xxx = 51 – 100 specimens    xxxx = 100+ specimens  
 fg = fragment    cf = compare    ph = post-hole    s.hole = stake-hole