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Frogs Loke Solar Park North Walsham, Norfolk

Archaeological Evaluation Report



Site code: ENF138818
WA ref: 109281.02
October 2015



**Frogs Loke Solar Park
North Walsham, Norfolk**

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Solarcentury to carry out an archaeological evaluation at Frogs Loke, North Walsham, Norfolk (NGR 629190 327550). The fieldwork was carried out over five days (14th to 18th September 2015). A total of 15 trial trenches were excavated, a 2% sample of the proposed development area, in order to investigate buried features of possible archaeological potential, identified from a preceding geophysical survey (Wessex Archaeology 2015b).

Only two features, a shallow circular pit and a deeper pit or ditch terminus in Trench 4 were dated by pottery to the Early–Middle Bronze Age period. It is of note that a quantity of pottery of the same period was also recovered from the machined subsoil of Trench 4. The Bronze Age dated pits in Trench 4 may be associated with a relatively substantial V-shaped undated ditch located at the west end of Trench 4. This ditch corresponds well with the geophysical anomaly of a small enclosure. Although the enclosure ditch itself was undated, it is postulated that it is likely to be of the same period as the dated pits excavated within the enclosure.

It is possible that the archaeological remains in Trench 4 could all be related to a farmstead of Early–Middle Bronze Age date. It is also perhaps of note that the enclosure ditch is similarly aligned to traces of a rectilinear field system with a main north-east to south-west axis that is clearly shown on the geophysical survey interpretation and confirmed by the discovery of ditches in Trenches 1, 11, 13 and 14; this system continues into the adjacent Bunn's Wood Hill site (WA 2015d). These field boundary ditches were not dated during this evaluation, burnt and worked flint retrieved from a ditch in Trench 1 were the only recovered artefacts, and therefore it cannot be concluded that the enclosure and the field system are associated with each other.

The majority of the undated ditches uncovered during this evaluation follow a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment, although these were all undated during this evaluation, some further interpretation can be suggested by re-assessing the geophysical survey and historic maps. One ditch identified in Trenches 2, 10 and 13 is shown on historic maps and so although undated by retrieved artefacts, is considered to be post-medieval. Ditches identified in Trenches 3, 5, 7, 8, 9 and probably also Trenches 1, 11 and 12, follow a very similar alignment to the former. The spatial alignment would suggest that these are likely to represent a medieval strip field system. The post-medieval field system clearly has vestiges of the medieval strip fields, and so some of these boundaries may have been retained from the medieval period into the post-medieval period.

The main area of archaeological significance is the dated Bronze Age pits, and the potentially associated undated enclosure ditch in the locality of Trench 4. A mitigation strategy has been prepared outlining engineering measures to be implemented in order to preserve these significant remains *in situ* (WA 2015e).



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Acknowledgements

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The fieldwork was carried out by Steve Thompson assisted by Mark Stewart, Rachel Williams, Peter Capps, and Peter Wilson. This report was compiled by Gail Wakeham. The finds were reported on by Matt Leivers. The report illustrations were prepared by Kitty Foster. The project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Andy Crockett.



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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology (WA) was commissioned by Solarcentury to carry out an archaeological evaluation on land at Frogs Loke, North Walsham, Norfolk (centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 629250 327695), hereafter referred to as 'the Site' (**Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 This archaeological field evaluation has been undertaken in order to inform the planning application for the installation of a photovoltaic (PV) solar array within the Site. In consultation with the Senior Historic Environment Officer for Norfolk County Council (NCC) it was agreed that a total of 15 trial trenches (each measuring 50 m by 2 m), a 2% sample of the proposed Development Area, would be excavated to investigate buried features of possible archaeological potential identified from a preceding historic environment assessment and geophysical survey (WA 2015a and b).
- 1.1.3 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was produced and set out in detail the methodologies and standards to be employed during the archaeological evaluation (WA 2015c). This was submitted to and approved by the Senior Historic Environment Officer (NCC) prior to fieldwork commencing.
- 1.1.4 The trial trench evaluation was carried out over a five day period (14th to 18th September 2015). This report presents the results of the archaeological evaluation, in order to inform any further mitigation work that may or may not be required.

1.2 Site location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The Site is located approximately 2.5 km south of North Walsham town centre. The Site occupies a total area of 9 hectares (ha), contained within the western half of a single, larger agricultural field, which is currently under arable cultivation. Within this an area, around 7.2 ha is anticipated to form the core of the development (the 'Development Area', **Figure 1**).
- 1.2.2 The Norwich to Sheringham 'Bittern Line' railway corresponds with the western boundary of the Site. The northern and southern boundaries of the Site are bounded by existing land divisions, defined by hedgerows. The eastern boundary of the Site is demarcated by an arbitrary division of the single large field; the remainder of this field to the east is the subject of a separate proposal for a solar park known as the Bunn's Hill Solar Park (site code ENF138819/ Wessex Archaeology 2015d).
- 1.2.3 Agricultural land surrounds the Site in all directions, except to the north-east which is occupied by the Sandy Hills Poultry Farm, and to the south-east which contains a copse named Bunn's Hill Wood.



- 1.2.4 The Site is situated within a relatively flat area of land at an elevation of approximately 35 m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).
- 1.2.5 The underlying bedrock geology throughout the Site is mapped as Crag Group – Sand and Gravel, laid down in the Quaternary and Neogene Periods, overlain by the Briton's Lane Sand and Gravel Member, formed in the Quaternary period (British Geological Survey on-line viewer).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background was assessed in detail within the Historic Environment Assessment (WA 2015a) which considered the recorded historic environment resource within a 1 km Study Area around the Site in order to place the Site within its historical and archaeological context. The results of this assessment and relevant Norfolk Historic Environmental Records (NHER) and entries from the National Heritage List for England (NHLE) are summarised below.

2.2 Archaeological and historical background

Prehistoric (900,000 BC – AD 43) and Romano-British (AD 43 – 410)

- 2.2.1 There is presently very little recorded evidence of prehistoric activity within the Study Area with the only record relating to the finding of a Neolithic flaked flint axehead (NHER no. MNF65540) by a metal detectorist on land to the north of the Site in 2013.
- 2.2.2 Evidence for Romano-British activity is also sparse, solely consisting of findspots reported by metal detectorists.
- 2.2.3 The apparent paucity of evidence for activity during the prehistoric and Romano-British periods may be a reflection of the limited scale of previous archaeological investigation within the Study Area and, therefore, should be treated with a degree of caution when considering the potential for buried archaeological remains of these periods.

Saxon and medieval (AD 410 – 1500)

- 2.2.4 The nearest known settlements mentioned in the Domesday were at the presently existing villages of North Walsham, Worstead and Westwick, and it is likely that the Site was agricultural land between. However, scattered farmsteads are likely within the agricultural hinterland of settlements, as suggested by the chance discovery in 2009 of Late Saxon/medieval pottery (NHER no. MNF58640) in the garden of Hill Farmhouse, located to the east of the Site.
- 2.2.5 Other evidence for medieval activity is represented by a variety of finds discovered by metal detectorists. The types of finds reported include coins and less closely dateable artefactual material such as dress accessories, seal matrices, lead spindle whorls and brooches.

Post-medieval, 19th century and modern (AD 1500 – present day)

- 2.2.6 Wickhouse Park (NHER no. MNF30528), a large historic parkland lies almost 1km to the south of the Site. The park was probably laid out during the mid to late 18th century around Westwick House, a Grade II Listed Building (NHLE no. 1152404).
- 2.2.7 Post-medieval metal objects and small quantities of pottery and clay pipe were recovered during a watching brief undertaken in 2001 during the excavation of a cable trench c.800m



to the north-west of the Site (NHER no. MNF40433 and MNF65667) post-medieval pottery was also reported as a chance find from the Garden of Hill Farmhouse (NHER no. MNF58640) to the east of the Site.

- 2.2.8 The 1827 Worstead Enclosure Map depicts the Site as agricultural fields; three narrow rectangular fields of varying size may indicate the vestiges of medieval strip field cultivation. One of the internal land divisions depicted within the eastern half of the Site exhibits a pronounced kink, which could indicate that the boundary respected an earlier feature, possibly another land division that had been removed by the time of the enclosure survey. The enclosure map also depicts an east–west aligned private trackway along the northern boundary of the Site, which corresponds with the existing footpath known as Frogs Lane. The route appears to have linked a number of scattered farmsteads to the east, with the Lake Plantation to the west. The origins of the trackway may be of greater antiquity. An isolated farmstead is depicted approximately 500m north-west of the Site, beyond a public road (Norfolk County Council historic map viewer).
- 2.2.9 The 1844 Worstead Parish Tithe Map depicts the Site as essentially unchanged since the Enclosure survey although a new approximately east–west boundary is depicted subdividing the three rectangular fields, traversing across the previously described ‘kink’ heading towards the north–south aligned trackway immediately east of Bunn’s Hill Wood site and a similarly aligned field boundary further east. The accompanying tithe apportionment indicating that the fields which coincided with the Site were predominantly under arable cultivation.
- 2.2.10 The First Edition Ordnance Survey (OS) map of 1886 shows little change within the Site; although the east–west field boundary shown on the Tithe map has disappeared and the Site is once more three fields. The map also depicts a number of ‘sand pits’ at Sandy Hill to the north-east and to the south-east of the Site, signalling the presence of presumably small-scale extractive works in the local area road (Norfolk County Council historic map viewer).
- 2.2.11 The 1886 OS map also shows the Midland and Great Northern Joint Railway to the north-east of the Site which opened from 1864 and closed in 1959, and the East Norfolk Railway immediately to the west of the Site which was constructed from 1867 and continues to operate today as the Bittern Line.
- 2.2.12 The 1928 OS map shows little change, although the two western fields have now been incorporated into one large square field, with the narrow rectangular field in the east remaining unchanged.
- 2.2.13 The 1946 aerial survey of Norfolk shows that by this time the previous fields have been amalgamated into one large field incorporating the Site and the adjacent Bunn’s Hill Wood site, to the immediate east. The embanked circular enclosures described below are also visible to the north-east of the Site (Norfolk County Council historic map viewer).
- 2.2.14 Two embanked circular structures (NHER no. MNF38503), identified from aerial photographs were once located within the footprint of the modern poultry farm immediately to the north-east of the Site. These features are thought to represent the site of World War II gun emplacements situated in a prominent position overlooking the valley of the River Ant.

Undated

- 2.2.15 A series of undated cropmarks (NHER no. MNF40791) have been identified approximately 200m to the east of the Site. The corresponding NHER entry describes the



cropmarks as forming an enclosure with a wide entrance to the south-east, surrounded by sinuous linear features representing part of a field system. The proximity of these cropmarks to the Site suggests the possibility that associated archaeological features could extend into the proposed Development Area.

2.3 Geophysical survey

2.3.1 The Site was subject to a detailed gradiometer survey (WA 2015b). This demonstrated the presence of anomalies of likely and possible archaeological interest within the Site along with a number of linear responses which are thought most probably to relate to former field boundaries (**Figure 1**).

3 AIMS

3.1 Specific aims and objectives

3.1.1 The specific aims of the archaeological evaluation, as defined in the WSI (WA 2015c), are to:

- *Examine the archaeological resource within the Site, including clarifying the presence/absence and extent of any buried archaeological remains;*
- *Identify, within the constraints of the works, the date, character and condition of any surviving remains within the Site;*
- *Assess the degree of existing impacts to sub-surface horizons and to document the extent of archaeological survival of buried deposits;*
- *Analyse and interpret the results; and*
- *Produce a report which will present the results of the works in sufficient detail, including the information to allow an informed decision to be made concerning further mitigation strategies.*

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the methodology set out within the WSI (WA 2015c) and in compliance with the standards outlined in the ClfA's *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2014a) excepting where they are superseded by statements made below.

4.2 Health and safety

4.2.1 Health and safety considerations were of paramount importance in conducting all fieldwork. Safe working practices will override archaeological considerations at all times.

4.2.2 All work was carried out in accordance with the *Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974* and the *Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992*, and all other relevant Health and Safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice in force at the time.

4.2.3 WA supplied a copy of their Health and Safety Policy and a Risk Assessment to the Client before the commencement of any fieldwork. The Risk Assessment was read and understood by all staff attending the Site before any groundwork commenced.

4.2.4 All evaluation trenches were scanned before and during excavation with a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) in order to verify the absence of any live underground services.



4.3 Trial trenching methodology

- 4.3.1 The trench locations were laid out using GPS in general accordance with the pattern given in the WSI, as shown in **Figure 1**, although minor adjustments to the layout may have been required to take account of any on-site constraints such as vegetation, located services and to allow for manoeuvring.
- 4.3.2 A total of 15 trial trenches, each measuring 50 m in length and 2 m wide were excavated using a 360° excavator equipped with a toothless bucket under the constant supervision of a suitably experienced Archaeologist.
- 4.3.3 Machine excavation continued in spits to the top of archaeological levels, or the top of natural deposits were exposed, whichever was the higher. All excavated spoil was visually scanned for archaeological artefacts and metal-detected as appropriate by trained archaeological personnel for the purposes of finds retrieval.
- 4.3.4 Where appropriate the base of the trenches/surface of archaeological deposits will be cleaned by hand. All trenches and any archaeological features they contained were surveyed by GPS/Total Station to produce a Site plan that is related to Ordnance Survey National Grid and Datum (Newlyn).
- 4.3.5 Appropriate sampling of any potential archaeological features and deposits identified in the evaluation trenches was undertaken by hand, in order to address the aims of the evaluation, and were recorded to professionally accepted standards.
- 4.3.6 Once the archaeological investigation was completed to the satisfaction of the Senior Historic Environment Officer (NCC), trenches were backfilled by machine using the excavated material in the approximate stratigraphic sequence in which they were excavated. They were left level on completion and no other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken.

4.4 Recording

- 4.4.1 All trenches and any exposed archaeological features/deposits within them were recorded using the WA's *pro forma* recording system.
- 4.4.2 A complete drawn record of any archaeological features and deposits was compiled. This includes both plans and sections, drawn to appropriate scales (1:20 for plans, 1:10 for sections), and with reference to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD) height of all principal features and levels will be calculated and plans/sections will be annotated with OD heights.
- 4.4.3 A photographic record was maintained during the evaluation using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. Digital images were subject to managed quality control and curation processes which embed appropriate metadata within the image and ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

4.5 Finds and environmental sampling

Finds

- 4.5.1 All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained, except those from features or deposits of obviously modern date. All retained artefacts were, as a minimum, washed, weighed, counted and identified.



- 4.5.2 Artefacts were suitably bagged and boxed in accordance with the guidance given by the relevant museum and generally in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's *Standards and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014a) and the Museums and Galleries Commissions *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections* (1992). On completion of the archaeological post-excavation programme and with the permission of the landowner it is anticipated that any artefacts will be deposited with the relevant museum.
- 4.5.3 Any artefacts requiring conservation or specific storage conditions were dealt with immediately in line with *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson and Neal 1998). Any ironwork from stratified contexts has been X-rayed and stored in a stable environment along with other fragile and delicate material.

Environmental sampling

- 4.5.4 Bulk environmental soil samples for the recovery of plant macro fossils, wood charcoal, small animal bones and other small artefacts were taken as appropriate from well-sealed and dateable contexts or features. The samples were of an appropriate size, for charred material typically from 20-40 litres, reduced to between 10-20 litres from waterlogged deposits.
- 4.5.5 Bulk environmental soil samples were processed by standard flotation methods and scanned to assess the environmental potential of deposits, but will not be fully analysed. The flot has been retained on a 0.25/0.5 mm mesh, with residues fractionated into 5.6/4 mm, 2 mm, 1 mm and 0.5 mm and dried as appropriate. Coarse fraction (>5.6/4 mm) was sorted, weighed and discarded, with any finds recovered given to the appropriate specialist. Finer residues will be retained until after analysis.

5 RESULTS

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 All of the 15 excavated trenches contained archaeological features predominantly consisting of undated ditches, which correspond well with features identified by the geophysical survey. In addition, four pits were investigated in **Trenches 4** and **10**; only two of these features within **Trench 4** were securely dated by pottery to the Early–Middle Bronze Age. All features are discussed below and illustrated in **Figure 1**.
- 5.1.2 Many of the fills within archaeological features were heavily bioturbated (a result of worm/animal burrowing and root disturbance). Many sides of cut features also showed some irregularity because of this post-depositional action and the easily eroded soft sandy underlying geology.
- 5.1.3 Detailed trench descriptions are tabulated in **Appendix 1**.
- 5.1.4 The geophysical interpretation shown in **Figure 1** is re-interpreted from that illustrated in the original geophysics report (WA 2015b) based on re-assessment of historic mapping in light of the results from this evaluation. The definition of 'former field boundary' is those that directly correspond to boundaries identified on historic maps; only one within the Site and that forming the eastern boundary can be definitely allocated to this category. Others within the Site form a similar alignment to those on historic maps but are not precisely the same.

5.2 Natural deposits and soil sequence

- 5.2.1 The soil sequence was broadly similar across Site. The underlying natural was mottled light–mid yellowish brown sand with occasional sub-angular and sub-rounded flint nodules and some concentrations of small sub-rounded flint gravel.
- 5.2.2 Above the natural, there was a subsoil deposit of mid brown silty sand or sandy loam (approximately 0.1–0.2 m deep). The overlying ploughsoil consisted of a mid–dark greyish brown sandy loam with rare sub-angular and sub-rounded flint (approximately 0.3–0.4 m deep).
- 5.2.3 The only finds recovered from the machined overburden of the trenches was 10 sherds of Early–Middle Bronze Age pottery from the subsoil (**402**) of Trench 4, and this is significant given other features of this date discovered within this trench (detailed below).

5.3 Archaeological features

- 5.3.1 **Trench 1** contained a north-east to south-west aligned undated ditch measuring 0.66 m wide and 0.23 m deep (**104**; **Plate 1**). It was filled with a single deposit (**105**) from which two pieces each of burnt and worked flint was recovered. Two parallel north-north-west to south-south-east aligned ditches (**106** and **108**; **Plate 2**) were also recorded in Trench 1. Ditch **106** was V-shaped and was slightly deeper than adjacent ditch **108**. It was recorded that ditch **108** was stratigraphically later than ditch **106**; however this relationship is not thought to be secure as the ditches only just intersected. These features all correspond with linear geophysical anomalies.
- 5.3.2 **Trench 2** contained an undated north-north-west to south-south-east aligned ditch (**204**), measuring 1.3 m wide. This ditch corresponds to a linear feature identified from the geophysical survey, and the same feature was also surveyed in Trench 10 (**1010**) and possibly in Trench 13 (**1304**). It is known from historic maps that this feature corresponds to a post-medieval field boundary.
- 5.3.3 **Trench 3** also contained a north-north-west to south-south-east aligned ditch (**304**) measuring c.1.3 m wide and although it was undated, it corresponds to a linear anomaly identified in the geophysical survey and is likely a field boundary. North-west to south-east orientated undated ditch **306** had moderate concave sides and a concave base and measured c.1 m wide and 0.16 m deep. It does not directly correspond to a geophysics anomaly, although 'a trend' follows this alignment just to the north, and it could be related to a similarly aligned ditch in Trench 5 to the east (**504**). A treethrow was also surveyed in Trench 3.
- 5.3.4 **Trench 4** contained a shallow pit (**404**; **Plate 3**); 10 sherds of Early–Middle Bronze Age pottery were recovered from its single fill (**405**), possibly deliberate backfill. There was also another possible pit or ditch terminus (**406**) and 18 sherds of Early–Middle Bronze Age pottery, three struck flints and one piece of burnt flint were recovered from its upper fill (**408**).
- 5.3.5 At the western end of Trench 4 an approximately north–south aligned ditch was located. It was well defined and had a steep V-shaped profile (**415**) measuring 2.1 m wide and 0.81 m deep (**Plate 4**). Occasional flecks of charcoal were noted but no artefacts were retrieved from its primary and secondary fills. This feature corresponds well with the geophysical anomaly of a small enclosure. Although the enclosure ditch itself was undated, it is postulated that it is likely to be of the same period as the internal features excavated within the enclosure (described above).

- 5.3.6 A smaller undated ditch (**418**; **Plate 5**) in Trench 4 followed a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment and measured 0.55 m wide and 0.15 m deep. This could be related to an elongated geophysical anomaly. It is presently unknown whether this feature represents a sub-division of the internal space within the enclosure, or whether it is from an unrelated separate phase of activity.
- 5.3.7 It is also significant that 18 sherds of Early–Middle Bronze Age pottery were recovered from the subsoil (**402**) of Trench 4, given the features of the same date within this trench.
- 5.3.8 A small L-shaped geophysical anomaly appears to have been confirmed by two ditches in **Trench 5** (**504** and **506**). Both were undated during this evaluation, however given the proximity to the enclosure identified in Trench 4 may be significant. It is also possible that ditch **504** continues into Trench 3 (**306**). A north-north-west to south-south-east aligned undated ditch (**508**) was also surveyed at the western end of Trench 5. This corresponds to a linear geophysical anomaly that likely continues into Trench 7 (**704**) and is a probable field boundary.
- 5.3.9 **Trench 6** contained an undated ditch (**604**) measuring 0.6 m wide, with an east-north-east to west-south-west alignment. This feature is not related to any geophysical anomaly.
- 5.3.10 **Trench 7** contained an undated north-north-west to south-south-east aligned ditch (**704**), measuring 1.3 m wide. It corresponds to a linear geophysical anomaly and is a likely continuation of that identified in Trench 5 (**508**) and represents a probable field boundary.
- 5.3.11 An approximately east–west aligned undated ditch (**804**; **Plate 6**) was investigated in **Trench 8**. It measured 1.3 m wide and 0.47 m deep and had V-shaped profile and its similarity to the enclosure ditch (**415**) in Trench 4 was recorded; it too contained both a primary and secondary fill from which no artefacts were recovered. This ditch does not correspond well with a discrete geophysical anomaly in this location, however it is parallel to a geophysical ‘trend’ which follows a similar alignment just to the north of the ditch.
- 5.3.12 A north-north-west to south-south-east aligned undated ditch (**807**), 1.1 m wide, was also surveyed in Trench 8; this would appear to correspond with a linear geophysical anomaly and may represent a field boundary that continued into **Trench 9**, as ditch **904** had a similar width and orientation.
- 5.3.13 **Trench 10** contained four archaeological features. A small circular pit (**1004**) measuring approximately 0.9 m in diameter and 0.23 m deep was undated; no finds were recovered from its single fill. Another possible pit (**1008**) was located nearby but was unexcavated. A north-west to south-east aligned ditch (**1006**; **Plate 7**) had moderate-steep concave sides and a concave base, measuring 0.8 m wide and 0.25 m deep. It contained no artefacts and so is also undated; however it likely corresponds to a linear geophysical anomaly in this locality and was of a similar size and profile to ditch **104** in Trench 1, suggesting they could be components of the same field system. A north-north-west to south-south-east aligned undated ditch (**1010**), 1.6 m wide, was also surveyed in Trench 8 and this likely corresponds with a linear geophysical anomaly that is known from historic maps to be a former field boundary which was also identified in trenches 2 and 13.
- 5.3.14 **Trench 11** contained a pair of parallel ditches (**1104** and **1106**) that followed a north-north-west to south-south-east orientation. They were not excavated in this trench as they were thought to be associated with those investigated in Trench 1 (**106** and **108**). Another undated ditch (**1108**; **Plate 8**) was aligned north-west to south-east and measured 1.35 m wide and 0.68 m deep. It contained both a primary and secondary fill; one piece of burnt flint was retrieved from secondary fill (**1110**) and charcoal flecks were also noted. It likely



relates to a linear geophysical anomaly with the same orientation in this locality and may be a component of an undated field system.

- 5.3.15 **Trench 12** also contained a pair of parallel undated ditches (**1203** and **1205**) that followed a north-north-west to south-south-east orientation, located less than a metre apart. The geophysical survey indicates that they are likely associated with the same re-cut field boundary identified in Trench 11 (**1104** and **1106**) and Trench 1 (**106** and **108**).
- 5.3.16 **Trench 13** contained a single undated north-north-west to south-south-east aligned ditch, measuring c.2 m in width, its orientation suggests it may be a continuation of that surveyed in Trench 10 (**1010**) which corresponds to a linear geophysical anomaly and is a likely field boundary.
- 5.3.17 Two parallel undated ditches (**1404** and **1406**) following a north-east to south-west orientation were surveyed in **Trench 14**. Another ditch (**1405**) with a north-west to south-east alignment was also recorded, and may be a continuation of that investigated in Trench 10 (**1006**). These all correlate well with linear geophysical anomalies and the geophysical survey indicates they are likely part of the same undated field system.
- 5.3.18 One east–west aligned ditch (**1504**) with moderate to steep straight sides and a concave base measuring c.1 m wide and 0.35 m deep was excavated in **Trench 15**. It was filled with two deposits; a single (2 g) sherd of Bronze Age pottery was recovered from the uppermost fill (**1506**). This is not considered a sufficient quantity of pottery to securely date the feature as the sherd could be residual. The feature would seem to correspond to a geophysical ‘trend’ anomaly, and it is therefore been ascertained that this is an archaeological feature.

6 ARTEFACTUAL EVIDENCE

- 6.1.1 The evaluation produced a very small assemblage of finds, dating predominantly to the Bronze Age; the quantification by context and by material type is presented in **Table 1**.

Table 1: All finds by context (number / weight in grammes)

Context	Burnt Flint	Flint	Pottery
105	2/67	2/23	
402			10/815
405			10/82
408	1/41	3/71	18/528
1110	1/11		
1506			1/2
Total	4/119	5/94	39/1427

6.1 Pottery

- 6.1.1 Pottery provides the only close dating evidence for the Site. All 39 sherds recovered are Bronze Age.
- 6.1.2 The 28 sherds from subsoil **402** (18 sherds) and pit/ditch terminus **406** (upper fill **408** – 10 sherds) are from a single vessel, and some conjoin to form parts of the base and shoulder of a large thick-walled biconical urn. The pot is in a detrital grog-tempered fabric, with oxidised surfaces and an unoxidised core. One sherd is shouldered, with two broad vertical finger flutes above the angle. Otherwise the vessel is plain. Biconical urns



generally date from the end of the Early Bronze Age into the beginning of the Middle Bronze Age.

6.1.3 The sherds from pit **404** (single fill / possible deliberate backfill **405**) are of the same date, and include parts of three vessels. One is a single sherd from a small cup, preserving the entire wall from base to rim; there is a single irregular horizontal line tooled below the rim. Three other sherds probably belong to this vessel. Five belong to a similarly small pot, with a line of vertical finger nail impressions below the rim and a line of fingertip impressions below those. Both of these vessels are grog tempered. A single flint-tempered rim sherd appears to be a Middle Bronze Age fabric, but need not be later than the other ceramics. A single featureless sherd in a similar fabric came from ditch **1504** (upper fill **1506**).

6.1.4 **Flint and burnt flint**

6.1.5 Struck flint was recovered in small quantities from ditch 104 (secondary fill **105** – two pieces) and **408** (three pieces). All are flakes or struck nodules and what indications there are suggest that they are contemporary with the ceramics.

6.1.6 Burnt flint came from contexts **105** (two pieces), **1110** (one piece) and pit/ditch terminus **406** (upper fill **408** – one piece). Burnt flint is usually of human origin, and often considered to derive from prehistoric activity. The association with Bronze Age ceramics make this likely in this case.

6.2 **Recommendation**

6.2.1 The ceramics are unusual, belonging to types not frequently encountered. Their intrinsic value means that they should be fully analysed and published.

7 **PALAEO-ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE**

7.1.1 No bulk samples were taken during this evaluation.

8 **DISCUSSION**

8.1 **Introduction**

8.1.1 This evaluation identified archaeological features within all of the 15 excavated trenches, predominantly consisting of undated ditches and occasional pits; two pits in Trench 4 were the only features dated by pottery to the Early–Middle Bronze Age. The archaeological features were spread relatively evenly across the Site (**Figure 1**). The uncovered archaeological features generally show a very good correlation with anomalies identified in the preceding geophysical survey (WA 2015b).

8.2 **Dated remains**

8.2.1 Only two features, a shallow circular pit and a deeper pit or ditch terminus in Trench 4 were dated by pottery to the Early–Middle Bronze Age period. It is of note that a quantity of pottery of the same period was also recovered from the machined subsoil of Trench 4.

8.2.2 One other feature, a ditch in Trench 15 contained a single small sherd of Bronze Age pottery. However, this was found in the upper fill of the ditch and is not considered enough to securely date this feature, as it could be residual.

8.3 Conclusion

- 8.3.1 The Early–Middle Bronze Age dated pits in Trench 4 may be associated with a relatively substantial V-shaped undated ditch located at the west end of Trench 4. This ditch corresponds well with the geophysical anomaly of a small enclosure. Although the enclosure ditch itself was undated, it is postulated that it is likely to be of the same period as the dated pits excavated within the enclosure. This locality is considered to be the main area of archaeological significance within the Site.
- 8.3.2 It is possible that the archaeological remains in Trench 4 could all be related to a farmstead of Early–Middle Bronze Age date. It is also perhaps of note that this enclosure is similarly aligned to traces of a rectilinear field system with a main north-east to south-west axis that is clearly shown on the geophysical survey interpretation and confirmed by the discovery of ditches in Trenches 1, 11, 13 and 14; this system continues into the Bunn’s Wood Hill site (WA 2015d). These field boundary ditches were not dated during this evaluation, burnt and worked flint retrieved from a ditch in Trench 1 were the only recovered artefacts, and therefore it cannot be concluded that the enclosure and the field system are associated with each other.
- 8.3.3 Despite the lack of dated features, some further interpretation can be suggested by re-assessing the geophysical survey and historic maps in combination with the results of this evaluation and the results from the evaluation of an adjacent site, Bunn’s Hill Wood (WA 2015d).
- 8.3.4 As well as the undated rectilinear field system described above, it is probable that two further phases of field system are represented on the Site:
- *One ditch identified in Trenches 2, 10 and 13 with a north-north-west to south-south-east orientation is shown on the Tithe and Enclosure maps and so although undated, as no artefacts were recovered during this evaluation, is considered to be post-medieval.*
 - *The majority of the remaining ditches follow a very similar alignment to the former, as identified in the geophysical survey and identified in Trenches 3, 5, 7, 8, 9 and probably also Trenches 1, 11 and 12. Although no dating evidence was recovered from this evaluation, the spatial alignment would suggest that these are likely to represent a medieval strip field system. The post-medieval field system clearly has vestiges of the medieval strip field boundaries, and so some of these boundaries may have been retained from the medieval period into the post-medieval period.*

8.4 Recommendations

- 8.4.1 The Senior Historic Environment Officer (NCC) has indicated that the remains in Trench 4 are of sufficient significance to warrant either preservation *in situ* or detailed investigation. In accordance with this requirement, Wessex Archaeology has been commissioned to prepare a *Mitigation Strategy* (WA 2015e) which outlines how the area of the dated Early–Middle Bronze Age archaeological remains and the potentially associated undated enclosure in the locality of Trench 4 will be preserved *in situ* through the re-design of the supporting framework for the solar array, thereby eliminating the need for any ground disturbance in this archaeologically significant area of the Site.



9 STORAGE AND CURATION

9.1 Museum

9.1.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the evaluation be deposited with Norfolk Museums Service, though it should be noted that this is currently a closed repository, not accepting archaeological archives. Deposition of any finds with the Museum will only be carried out with the full agreement of the landowner.

9.2 Preparation of archive

9.2.1 On completion of the report a cross-referenced and internally consistent archive will be produced, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics, artefacts, ecofacts and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Norfolk Museums Service, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; CifA 2014b; Brown 2011; ADS 2013). All archive elements will be marked with the Norfolk HER site code (**ENF138819**), and a full index will be prepared.

9.2.2 An OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/projects/oasis/> will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators Forms. All appropriate parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to the Norfolk HER. This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included with the archive).

9.3 Discard Policy

9.3.1 WA follows the guidelines set out in *Selection, Retention and Dispersal* (Society of Museum Archaeologists (SMA 1993), which allows for the discard of selected artefact and ecofact categories which are not considered to warrant any future analysis. In this instance, the ceramic brick and iron horseshoe object have been discarded on these grounds. All finds discard has been documented in the project archive.

9.3.2 The discard of environmental remains and samples follows nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1993; 1995; English Heritage 2011).

9.4 Security Copy

9.4.1 In line with current best practice (e.g. Brown 2011); on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

9.5 Storage of materials and archives

9.5.1 No charge will be made for the temporary storage of finds or archives during the period when Wessex Archaeology are undertaking analysis or report preparation.

9.5.2 However, if, after completion and submission of the report, finds and archives cannot be deposited with the relevant museum due to circumstances beyond Wessex Archaeology's control, a charge will be made for storage.

9.5.3 A charge for storage may also be made where a delay is caused by a lack of confirmation of post-fieldwork analyses and report, if the delay exceeds three months.



9.6 Copyright

- 9.6.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the site will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-profitmaking, and conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*.

10 REFERENCES

10.1 Printed

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- Wessex Archaeology, 2015a, Frogs Loke Solar Park, North Walsham, Norfolk: Historic Environment Assessment, unpublished client report, ref. 109280.02
- Wessex Archaeology, 2015b, Frogs Loke Solar Farm and Bunn's Wood Hill Solar Park, North Walsham, Norfolk: Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report, unpublished client report, ref. 109290.02
- Wessex Archaeology, 2015c, Frogs Loke Solar Park, North Walsham, Norfolk: Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Works, unpublished client report ref. 109281.01
- Wessex Archaeology, 2015d, Bunn's Wood Hill Solar Park, North Walsham, Norfolk: Archaeological Evaluation Report, unpublished client report ref. 109291.02



Wessex Archaeology, 2015e, Frogs Loke Solar Park, North Walsham, Norfolk: Written Scheme of Mitigation, unpublished client report ref. 109281.03

10.2 Online resources

British Geological Survey on-line viewer, <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/> [accessed September 2015]

Norfolk County Council historic map viewer, <http://www.historic-maps.norfolk.gov.uk/mapexplorer/> [accessed September 2015]



11 APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix 1: Trench summary tables

TRENCH 1			
Dimensions: 46.6x2.1m		Max. depth: 0.50m	Ground level: 36.9m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 629031.62 Y = 327595.03 (centre)	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
101	Ploughsoil	Mid-dark greyish brown sandy loam with rare sub-angular and sub-rounded flint and coarse gravel poorly sorted. Clear horizon with below 102.	0–0.30
102	Subsoil	Mid greyish brown sandy loam with rare sub-angular flint and coarse gravel. Diffuse horizon with below natural 103.	0.30–0.50
103	Natural	Mid reddish brown sandy clay with sparse sub-angular flint and coarse gravel inclusions.	0.50+
104	Cut	Cut of NE–SW ditch. 0.66m wide. Steep concave sides and concave base.	0.23
105	Fill	Secondary fill of ditch 104. Mid greyish brown slightly clayey sand with fairly common angular to rounded flint <0.10m	0.23
106	Cut	Cut of NW–SE ditch. V-shaped. Steep straight sides and narrow concave base. 0.97m wide.	0.66
107	Fill	Secondary fill of ditch 106. Mid brown slightly clayey sand with rare flint <0.06m. Recorded to be cut by parallel ditch 108, but relationship not very convincing in section.	0.66
108	Cut	Cut of NW–SE ditch. 1.12m wide. Moderate concave sides and concave base. Recorded to cut fill 107 of parallel ditch 106.	0.33
109	Fill	Secondary fill of ditch 108. Mid greyish brown slightly clayey sand with common sub-angular and rounded flint <0.20m. Distinct fill from other ditch fill 107.	0.33

TRENCH 2			
Dimensions: 47.2x2.1m		Max. depth: 0.56m	Ground level: 37.3m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 629106.47 Y = 327599.08 (centre)	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
201	Ploughsoil	Mid-dark greyish brown sandy clay loam with rare sub-angular and sub-angular flint	0–0.44
202	Subsoil	Mid-light greyish brown silty sandy clay with moderate sub-rounded flints >0.06m	0.44–0.56
203	Natural	Mid-light reddish brown sand with poorly sorted sub-rounded flint and coarse gravels	0.56+
204	Cut	Cut of NNW–SSE ditch. 1.3m wide. Unexcavated.	-
205	Fill	Upperfill of ditch 204. 1.3m wide Unexcavated.	-



TRENCH 3			
Dimensions: 47.8x2.1m		Max. depth: 0.58m	Ground level: 37.4m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 629155.11 Y = 327645.20 (centre)	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
301	Ploughsoil	Mid-dark greyish brown sandy clay loam with occasional sub-angular flint and flint gravel. Clear horizon with 302 below.	0–0.37
302	Subsoil	Mid brown loamy sand with rare sub-angular coarse flint gravel	0.37–0.58
303	Natural	Mid reddish brown sand with patched of angular and sub-rounded flint gravel poorly sorted.	0.58+
304	Cut	Cut of NNW–SSE ditch. Unexcavated.	-
305	Fill	Upper fill of ditch 304. Unexcavated	-
306	Cut	Cut of NW–SE ditch. C.1.0m wide, Moderate concave sides and concave base.	0.16
307	Fill	Secondary fill of ditch 306. Mid greyish brown silty clayey sand occasional sub-rounded to sub-angular flint <0.04m	0.16
308	Cut	Cut of unexcavated treethrow	-
309	Fill	Fill of unexcavated treethrow	-



TRENCH 4			
Dimensions: : 47.1x2.1m		Max. depth: 0.43m	Ground level: 37.0m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 629191.53 Y = 327617.08 (centre)	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
401	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown sandy loam with moderate sub-angular and sub-rounded flint <0.08m	0–0.33
402	Subsoil	Mid-dark yellowish brown silty sand with moderate sub-angular and sub-rounded flint <0.05m	0.33–0.43
403	Natural	light reddish/yellowish brown sand with yellow with concentrations of poorly sorted flint gravel.	0.43+
404	Cut	Cut of pit, slightly sub-circular 0.9m diameter. Moderate –steep slightly convex sides and concave base.	0.27
405	Fill	Single fill of pit 404. Possibly deliberate backfill? Mottled mid yellowish brown silty sandy loam with occasional sub-rounded flint <0.03m. Occasional charcoal flecks.	0.27
406	Cut	Cut of pit/ditch terminus (N-S). c.1m wide. Steep straight sides and slightly concave base. Well defined.	0.47
407	Fill	Primary fill of pit/ditch terminus 406. Mottled light yellow and brown slightly silty sand	0.20
408	Fill	Upper fill of pit/ditch terminus 406. Could be natural derived secondary fill incorporating waste or deliberate dump.	0.27
409 to 414	VOID	Voided contexts 409 to 414 were thought to be a series of possible pits and pit fills near pit 404, they were investigated by hand and confirmed as mottling within natural, root or ploughing disturbance, so were not recorded further	-
415	Cut	Cut of enclosure ditch, approx N–S aligned. V-shaped with steep straight sides and pointed base. Well defined. 2.1m wide.	0.81
416	Fill	Primary fill of ditch 415. Mottled light yellowish brown silty sand rare sub-angular flint poorly sorted. Lenses of sand visible.	0.40
417	Fill	Secondary fill of ditch 415. Mid brown loamy sand with rare sub-angular and sub-rounded flint poorly sorted. Occasional flecks of charcoal but no other finds. Clear interface with 416 below.	0.41
418	Cut	Cut of NNW–SSE undated ditch. Well defined. 0.55m wide. Moderate-steep concave sides and concave base.	0.15
419	Fill	Probable primary fill of ditch 418. Mottled greyish brown /pale yellow silty sand with fairly common angular-rounded flint<0.05m. Rare charcoal flecks, no other finds.	0.15

TRENCH 5			
Dimensions: 47.1x2.1m		Max. depth: 0.44m	Ground level: 37.5m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 629221.91 Y = 327651.58 centre)	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
501	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown sandy loam with rare sub-angular and sub-rounded flint <0.02m poorly sorted.	0–0.35
502	Subsoil	Mid brown silty sand with occasional sub-rounded flint gravel and nodules <0.05m.	0.35–0.44
503	Natural	Light-mid yellowish brown sand. Mottled. Occasional silty patches and patches of flint	0.44+
504	Cut	Cut of ESE–WNW ditch. c.1m wide. Unexcavated.	-
505	Fill	Upper fill of ditch 504. Unexcavated	-
506	Cut	Cut of N–S ditch. 0.6m wide. Unexcavated.	-
507	Fill	Upper fill of ditch 506. Unexcavated	-
508	Cut	Cut of NNW–SSE ditch. Unexcavated.	-
509	fill	Upper fill of ditch 508. Unexcavated.	-



TRENCH 6			
Dimensions: 45.0x2.1m		Max. depth: 0.49m	Ground level: 37.2m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 629264.30 Y = 327645.60 (centre)	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
601	Ploughsoil	Mid-dark greyish brown sandy clay loam with occasional sub-angular flint	0–0.33
602	Subsoil	Mid brown sandy loam with rare sub-angular and sub-rounded flint.	0.33–0.49
603	Natural	Light yellowish brown sand. Rare sub-angular and sub-rounded flint.	0.49+
604	Cut	Cut of ENE–WSW ditch. 0.6m wide. Unexcavated.	-
605	Fill	Upper fill of ditch 606. Unexcavated.	-

TRENCH 7			
Dimensions: 47.1 x2.1m		Max. depth: 0.57m	Ground level: 36.3m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 629262.90 Y = 327566.55 (centre)	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
701	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty sandy loam with common sub-rounded to sub-angular flint.	0–0.4
702	Subsoil	Light-mid greyish brown silty sand with common sub-rounded to sub-angular flints.	0.4–0.57
703	Natural	Light brownish yellow sand mottled with patches of poorly sorted gravels.	0.57+
704	Cut	Cut of NNW–SSE ditch. 1.3m wide. Unexcavated. Likely continuation of ditch 508 in Tr5	-
705	Fill	Upper fill of ditch 704. Unexcavated.	-



TRENCH 8			
Dimensions: 48.7x2.1m		Max. depth: 0.47m	Ground level: 36.7m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 629216.97 Y = 327530.13 (centre)	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
801	Ploughsoil	Mid-dark greyish brown sandy loam with occasional sub-rounded to sub-angular flint	0–0.3
802	Subsoil	Mid brown silty sand with occasional small sub-rounded to sub-angular flints <0.08m	0.3–0.47
803	Natural	Light-mid reddish yellow brown sand mottled with patches of poorly sorted small flint gravel.	0.47+
804	Cut	Cut of E–W undated ditch. 1.3m wide. V-shaped Steep straight sides and narrow concave base.	0.47
805	Fill	Primary fill of ditch 804. Light-mid yellowish brown brown silty sand with clear sand lenses sparse sub-angular flitn <0.08m.	0.20
806	Fill	Secondary fill of ditch 804. Mid brown silty sandy clay moderate sub-rounded <0.03m	0.27
807	Fill	Cut of NNW–SSE ditch. 1.3m wide. Unexcavated. Possible continuation as ditch 904 in tr 9.	-
808	Cut	Upper fill of ditch 807. Unexcavated.	-

TRENCH 9			
Dimensions: 48.9x2.1m		Max. depth: 0.52m	Ground level: 37.1m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 629184.72 Y = 327571.16 (centre)	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
901	Ploughsoil	Mid-dark brown sandy loam with rare sub-angular and sub-rounded flint <0.06m	0–0.33
902	Subsoil	Mid brown sandy loam with rare sub-angular and sub-rounded flint <0.06m	0.33-0.52
903	Natural	Light yellowish/reddish mottled brown sand with patches of flint gravels	0.52+
904	Cut	Cut of NNW–SSE ditch. 1.1m wide. Unexcavated. Likely continuation seen in Tr 8.	-
905	Fill	Upper fill of ditch 904. Unexcavated.	-



TRENCH 10			
Dimensions: 49.5x2.1m		Max. depth: 0.5m	Ground level: 36.5m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 629173.61 Y = 327477.98 (centre)	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
1001	Ploughsoil	Mid-dark brown sandy sand with moderate sub-angular and sub-rounded flint <0.10m. Clear horizon with 1002 below.	0–0.31
1002	Subsoil	Mid reddish brown sandy loam with rare sub-angular and sub-rounded flint <0.10m.	0.31–0.50
1003	Natural	Mottled reddish yellow sand with common sub-rounded and sub-angular flints <0.15m	0.50+
1004	Cut	Cut of undated pit. Slightly sub-circular, 0.9m by 0.8m .	0.23
1005	Fill	?Secondary fill of pit 1004. Mid brown sandy loam with sub-rounded flint <0.03m. No archaeological components.	0.23
1006	Cut	Cut of NW–SE undated ditch. 0.80m wide. Moderate-steep concave sides and concave base	0.25
1007	Fill	Possibly primary fill of ditch 1006. Slightly reddish brown silty sand with common angular to rounded flints <0.05m.	0.25
1008	Cut	Cut of possible pit. Sub-circular, approx 1m diameter. Unexcavated.	-
1009	Fill	Upper fill of 1008. Mid brown silty sand. Unexcavated.	-
1010	Cut	Cut of NNW–SSE ditch. c.1.6m wide. Unexcavated. Continuation of that surveyed in Tr 2 and 13.	-
1011	Fill	Upper fill of ditch 1008. Dark brown silty sand. Unexcavated	-

TRENCH 11			
Dimensions: 47.8x2.1m		Max. depth: 0.64m	Ground level: 36.7m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 629084.40 Y = 327499.03 (centre)	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
1101	Ploughsoil	Mid-dark greyish brown sandy loam with rare sub-angular and sub-rounded flint coarse gravel, poorly sorted. Clear horizon with 1102 below.	0–0.38
1102	Subsoil	And gravels	0.38–0.64
1103	Natural	Mid–light yellowish brown sand with rare flints poorly sorted	0.64+
1104	Cut	Cut of NNW–SSE ditch. Unexcavated as investigated in Trench 1.	-
1105	Fill	Upper fill of 1104. Unexcavated as investigated in Trench 1	-
1106	Cut	Cut of NNW–SSE ditch. Unexcavated as investigated in Trench 1	-
1107	Fill	Upper fill of 1104. Unexcavated as investigated in Trench 1	-
1108	Cut	Cut of NW–SE ditch. Steep straight sides and concave base, 1.35m wide. Well defined.	0.68
1109	Fill	Primary fill of 1108. Mid brown mottled with yellow/red. Rare sub-rounded to sub-angular small flint.	0.32
1110	Fill	Secondary fill of 1108. Mid brown sandy loam. Rare sub-rounded to sub-angular small flint. Rare charcoal flecking.	0.40



TRENCH 12			
Dimensions: 48.4x2.1m		Max. depth: 0.50m	Ground level: 36.2m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 629119.41 Y = 327405.35 (centre)	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
1201	Ploughsoil	Mid-dark brown sandy clay loam with sparse sub-angular and flints and coarse gravels poorly sorted. Clear horizon with 1202 below.	
1202	Natural	Mid yellowish brown sand with rare sub-rounded and sub-angular flints gravels becoming frequent at eastern end of trench.	
1203	Cut	Cut of NNW–SSE ditch. Unexcavated as investigated in Trench 1.	
1204	Fill	Upper fill of 1104. Unexcavated as investigated in Trench 1	
1205	Cut	Cut of NNW–SSE ditch. Unexcavated as investigated in Trench 1	
1206	Fill	Upper fill of 1104. Unexcavated as investigated in Trench 1	

TRENCH 13			
Dimensions: 45.8x2.1m		Max. depth: 0.52m	Ground level: 36.3m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 629190.17 Y = 327405.35 (centre)	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
1301	Ploughsoil	Mid-dark brown silty sandy loam with rare sub-angular and sub-rounded flint <0.06m.	
1302	Subsoil	Mid brown silty sandy loam with rare sub-rounded and sub-angular flint <0.06m.	
1303	Natural	Mid–light reddish brown sand with rare sub-angular flints poorly sorted	
1304	Cut	Cut of NW–SE ditch. Unexcavated	
1305	Fill	Upper fill of 1304. Unexcavated	

TRENCH 14			
Dimensions: 49 x2.1m		Max. depth: 0.55m	Ground level: 35.4m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 629243.31 Y = 327458.75 (centre)	
Context	Description	Depth (m)	
1401	Ploughsoil	Dark greyish brown silty sandy loam with occasional sub-angular and sub-rounded flint <0.05m	
1402	Subsoil	Mid greyish brown silty sand with occasional sub-rounded and sub-angular coarse flint gravels.	
1403	Natural	Yellow sand with greyish brown mottling and patches of red sand. Occasional patches of poorly sorted gravel.	
1404	Cut	Cut of NE–SW ditch. Unexcavated. c.1m wide.	
1405	Fill	Upper fill of 1404. Unexcavated	
1406	Cut	Cut of NE–SW ditch. Unexcavated. c.0.9m wide.	
1407	Fill	Upper fill of 1406. Unexcavated	
1408	Cut	Cut of NW–SE ditch. Unexcavated. c.0.6m wide.	
1409	Fill	Upper fill of 1408. Unexcavated	



TRENCH 15			
Dimensions: 48.8x2.1m		Max. depth: 0.5m	Ground level: 34.5m aOD
Coordinates (NGR)		X = 629326.16 Y = 327507.09 (centre)	
Context	Description		Depth (m)
1501	Ploughsoil	Mid- dark greyish brown sandy loam with rare sub-angular and sub-rounded flint coarse gravel	0–0.3
1502	Subsoil	Mid brown loamy sand with rare sub-angular and sub-rounded flint gravels. Diffuse interface below.	0.3–0.5
1503	Natural	Mid reddish brown sand with patches of poorly sorted flint gravel	0.5+
1504	Cut	Cut of E–W ditch. Moderate-steep straight sides concave base. 1.02m wide.	0.35
1505	Fill	Lower secondary fill of 1504. Mid brown sandy clay with lense of gravel near lower interface Clear horizon with cut below.	0.2
1506	Fill	Upper secondary fill of 1504, or possibly tertiary fill derived from ploughed in material?. Mid brown sandy clay with greyish lenses. Uncertain upper interface with subsoil 1502.	0.2



11.2 Appendix 2: OASIS form

OASIS ID: wessexar1-229274

Project details

Project name	Frogs Loke Solar Park, North Walsham, Norfolk
Short description of the project	<p>Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Solarcentury to carry out an archaeological evaluation at Frogs Loke, North Walsham, Norfolk (NGR 629190 327550). The fieldwork was carried out over five days (14th to 18th September 2015). Only two features, a shallow circular pit and a deeper pit or ditch terminus in Trench 4 were dated by pottery to the Early-Middle Bronze Age period. The Bronze Age dated pits in Trench 4 may be associated with a relatively substantial V-shaped undated ditch located at the west end of Trench 4. This ditch corresponds well with the geophysical anomaly of a small enclosure. The majority of the undated ditches uncovered during this evaluation follow a north-north-west to south-south-east alignment, although these were all undated during this evaluation, some further interpretation can be suggested by re-assessing the geophysical survey and historic maps. One ditch identified in Trenches 2, 10 and 13 is shown on historic maps and so although undated by retrieved artefacts, is considered to be post-medieval. The spatial alignment would suggest that these are likely to represent a medieval strip field system. The post-medieval field system clearly has vestiges of the medieval strip fields, and so some of these boundaries may have been retained from the medieval period into the post-medieval period.</p>
Project dates	Start: 14-09-2015 End: 18-09-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	109281 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	ENF138818 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 4 - Character Undetermined
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Monument type	PIT Bronze Age
Significant Finds	POT Bronze Age
Significant Finds	LITHIC IMPLEMENT Late Prehistoric
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Solar farm
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF



Position in the planning process Pre-application

Project location

Country England
Site location NORFOLK NORTH NORFOLK WORSTEAD Frogs Loke Solar Park, North Walsham, Norfolk
Postcode NR28 9LZ
Study area 9 Hectares
Site coordinates TG 29190 27550 52.796245468972 1.400018693057 52 47 46 N 001 24 00 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation Wessex Archaeology
Project brief originator with advice from County Archaeologist
Project design originator Wessex Archaeology
Project director/manager A Crockett
Project supervisor S Thompson
Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

Project archives

Physical Contents "Ceramics","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Contents "other"
Digital Media available "Database","Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Contents "other"
Paper Media available "Context sheet","Diary","Drawing"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title Frogs Loke Solar Park, North Walsham, Norfolk: Archaeological Evaluation Report



Author(s)/Editor(s) Wakenham, G.

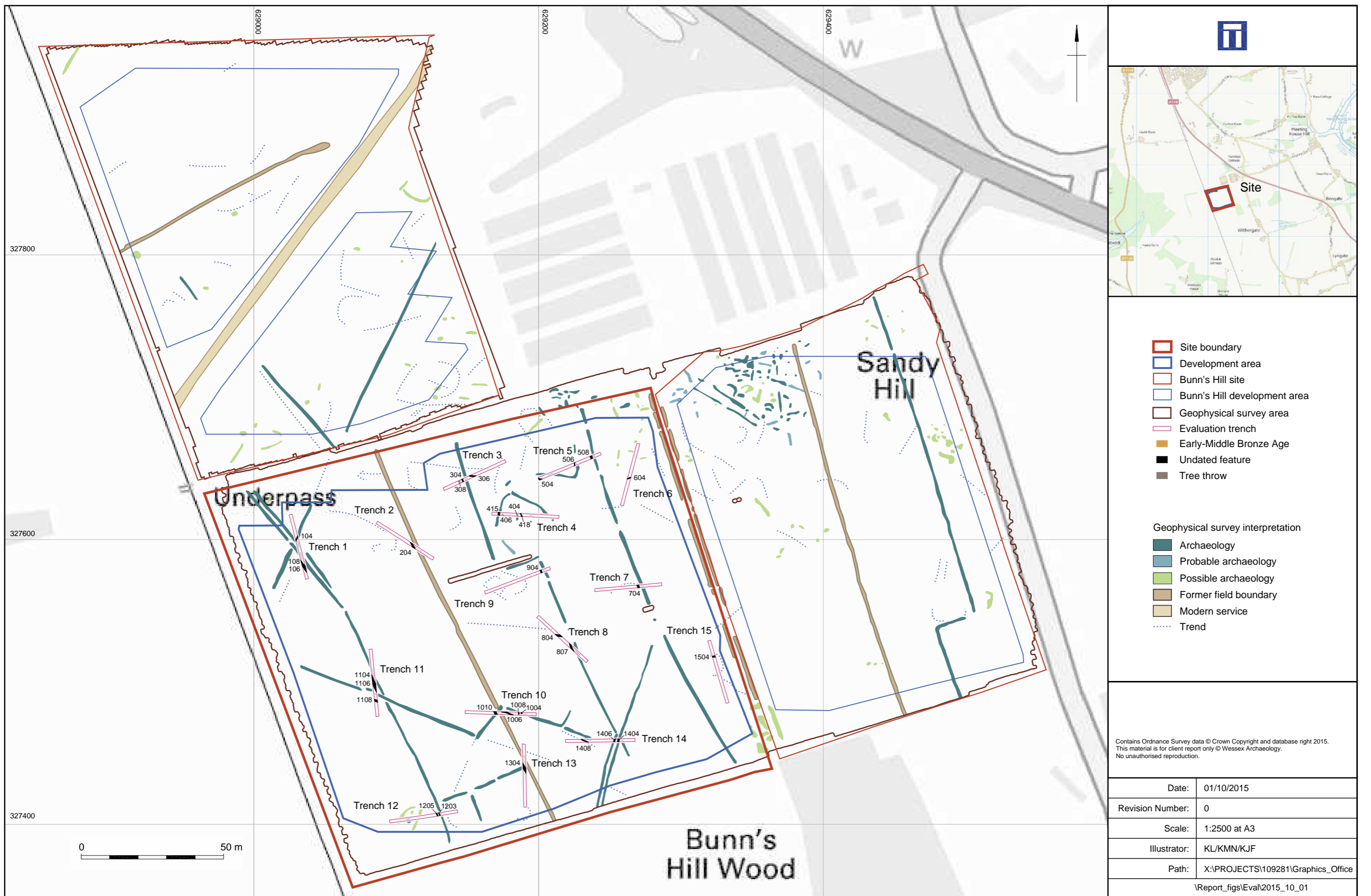
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Site and trench location with all archaeological features

Figure 1



Plate 1: NE facing section through undated ditch 104



Plate 2: SSE facing section through undated ditches 106 and 108


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Plate 3: West facing section through Early-Middle Bronze Age pit 404



Plate 4: South facing section through enclosure ditch 415


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Plate 5: SSE facing section through undated ditch 418



Plate 6: West facing section through undated ditch 804



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Plate 7: South-east facing section through undated ditch 1006



Plate 8: South-east facing section through undated ditch 1108

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