

**Archaeological Evaluation
Land South of Featherbroom Gardens
Wickham Market, Suffolk**

NGR: TM 30300 55300

**ASE Project No: E8054
Site Code: WKM 037**

**ASE Report No: 2013306
OASIS ID: 156691**



November 2013

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Abstract

Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA), Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) undertook an archaeological evaluation on land south of Featherbroom Gardens, High Street, Wickham Market, in advance of a proposed residential development.

The trial trenching revealed the presence of a low density and complexity of significant below-ground archaeological remains across the site. A low level of prehistoric activity, in the form of scattered pitting was evidenced. The finding of a single, probably earlier Roman, cremation burial is of some significance. Although it was not established whether this was an isolated burial, or part of a small family group or cemetery, it may indicate that hitherto unknown Roman settlement remains are located in the near vicinity. A single Roman pit containing pottery tile and fire-cracked flint hints at such occupation activity.

Parts of various in-filled ditch features were revealed, of which one tentatively medieval and one post-medieval example are identified. However, most could not be dated or be traced across the site so no clear alignments or enclosure systems can be discerned.

The presence of colluvium deposits, particularly across the southern part of the site overlies or else contains the prehistoric and Roman remains and, in some instances, makes feature definition difficult. The dating and nature of this colluvium is not fully understood.

The recorded remains are of local significance and importance and provide some limited insights into the early land-use of this vicinity. A further range of archaeological features and deposits of similar date, nature, density and complexity are likely to be present within the development area. Given the relatively shallow burial of the recorded remains, site development is likely to have an adverse impact on any such further remains present.

CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction**
- 2.0 Archaeological Background**
- 3.0 Archaeological Methodology**
- 4.0 Results**
- 5.0 The Finds**
- 6.0 The Environmental Samples**
- 7.0 Discussion and Conclusions**

Acknowledgements

Bibliography

Appendix 1: HER Summary Sheet

Appendix 2: OASIS Form

FIGURES

Front Cover Image: off-site excavation of cremation [15/004]

Figure 1: Site location

Figure 2: Archaeological evaluation trenches (west)

Figure 3: Archaeological evaluation trenches (east)

Figure 4: Roman cremation [15/004]

Figure 5: Cremation deposit, mid excavation

Figure 6: Pit [22/005]

Figure 7: Pit [12/003]

Figure 8: Section 1, trench 28

TABLES

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

Table 2: Quantification of the finds

Table 3: Overview of Roman fabrics

Table 4: Overview of roof tile fabrics

Table 5: Summary of results from analysis of cremated bone

Table 6: Residue quantification

Table 7: Flot quantification

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 In August 2013, Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA), Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) were commissioned by Hopkins Homes Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land south of Featherbroom Gardens, High Street, Wickham Market, in advance of a proposed residential development.

1.2 Location, Topography and Geology

1.2.1 The 3.1ha site is located on arable farmland on the southern edge of Wickham Market, situated between High Street and Chapel Lane (NGR TM 30300 55300). The site is bounded to the north by the residential development of Featherbroom Gardens and to the south by further farmland.

1.2.2 It lies at the head of a minor valley which in turn overlooks the Deben valley (Figure 1). There is a gradual slope towards the south of the site where a dry valley runs roughly east to west.

1.2.3 The British Geological Survey (BGS) online viewer application indicates that the geology of the site comprises superficial deposits of sand and gravel of the Lowerstoft Formation overlying sand of the Crag Formation.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 A planning application (C12/2123) was submitted to Suffolk Coastal District Council in 2012 for the residential development of the site to provide 65 dwellings together with car parking, open space, landscaping and new access arrangements. The site is located in an area of some archaeological potential and, in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority, the Conservation Team of Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (SCCAS/CT) had advised the LPA that a programme of archaeological investigation was required to determine the presence or absence of any archaeological remains.

1.3.2 This recommendation was in accordance with guidance contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012). A condition requiring archaeological evaluation works was duly placed on the planning consent for the development.

1.3.3 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by ASE (dated July 2013) and approved by SCCAS/CT prior to the commencement of works.

1.3.4 The results of this work will be used to inform decisions as to the need for and extent of any further archaeological work that may be required in order to mitigate the impact of the development on any remains that are present where a design solution cannot be implemented to ensure their preservation in-situ.

1.4 Aims and Objectives

1.4.1 The initial aim of the archaeological work was to determine the location and significance of any surviving archaeological remains, providing information to be used by the SCCAS/CT to inform the necessity for any further work.

1.4.2 More specifically, the trial trenching was required:

- To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.
- To record and sample excavate any archaeological remains encountered.
- To assess the ecofactual and environmental potential of any archaeological features and deposits.
- To evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.

1.4.3 In the event that significant discoveries were made the subsequent report was to seek to identify appropriate research objectives for any future work, with reference to those laid out in *Research and Archaeology: a Framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. research agenda and strategy* (Brown and Glazebrook 2000) and *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England* (Medlycott 2011).

1.5 Scope of Report

1.5.1 This report details the results of archaeological evaluation of an area of land prior to its development. It presents the results of the archaeological evaluation and assesses the archaeological potential of the site. Fieldwork was carried out by Adam Dyson (Archaeologist) during the period 08-19 August 2013. The fieldwork was managed by Adrian Scruby.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The site is located in an area that would have been attractive to early settlers, at the head of a minor valley overlooking the Deben valley. Iron Age activity, comprising a ditch and several pits, has been recorded c.200m northeast of this site (HER no. WKM023; SCCAS 2009). Scattered finds also suggest Roman activity in the vicinity. Wickham Market was the site of the discovery of one of the largest hoards of Iron Age gold staters to be found since the mid-19th century, suggesting that a significant/important settlement or religious centre lies somewhere in the area. A large Roman hoard dating to the 3rd century, comprising 1587 coins placed in a pot, was also discovered in the parish in 1984 (WKM004), suggesting a degree of longevity to settlement in the area.

2.2 The site lies outside the historic core of Wickham Market and readily available historic mapping depicts the development area as an agricultural field, largely unchanged since the late 19th Century. The 1883 and 1905 Ordnance Survey maps show the field as extending approximately 50m further to the north, where it borders properties on the outskirts of the village. To the west is a school, the main building of which still survives within 'Old School Farm'; and to the north-east, the *Plomesgate Union Workhouse* is shown to the immediate rear of the *Independent Chapel*. A physical southern boundary is shown along the administrative boundary that defines the southern edge of the site. By the early 1950s the physical southern boundary had been removed and residential development has established the extant northern boundary. The site's eastern and western boundaries have remained unchanged since the 1883 survey, with no east to west subdivision of the field being shown.

2.3 No systematic archaeological work had previously been undertaken in the development area, or in its immediate vicinity.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork

- 3.1.1 The methodology comprised the machine excavation under archaeological supervision of a c.5% sample of the site area. This amounted to 30 trial trenches, each measuring 30m long by 2.1m wide, arranged systematically across the site (Figure. 1). Trench 30 was excavated in addition to the proposed 29 in the WSI. The trenches were accurately located using a Digital Global Positioning System (DGPS).
- 3.1.2 All trenches were mechanically excavated using a toothless ditching bucket and under constant archaeological supervision. Spoil was separated into topsoil and subsoil and banded around the edges of the trenches to provide a physical and visible barrier. Excavation was generally undertaken to the surface of natural geology, or to the first archaeological horizon, although in some locations areas were left higher in order to preserve functioning field drains. Backfilling and compaction were undertaken by the machine on completion of the work, and subsequent to the agreement of the SCCAS/CT monitoring officer.
- 3.1.3 Standard ASE methodologies were employed during the fieldwork. All stratigraphy was recorded using the ASE context recording system. With the exception of modern disturbances, up to 50% of all discrete features, and 20% of non-structural linear features was excavated. Due regard was paid to the stratigraphic relationships between features and deposits during excavation and recording. Soil samples were collected from suitable excavated contexts; bulk soil samples (of 40 litres where possible or 50% of the context if smaller) were taken to target the recovery of plant remains (including wood charcoal and macrobotanicals), fish, bird, small mammal and amphibian bone, and small artefacts.
- 3.1.4 Finds were identified, by context number to a specific deposit or in the case of topsoil and subsoil finds, to a specific area of the site. All finds and environmental samples were properly processed according to ASE and IFA guidelines. The cremation burial was excavated in order to assess its condition and preservation. It was bulk lifted and removed for careful off-site excavation and recording (5.6).

3.2 The site archive

The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and will be deposited with the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below (Table 1).

Number of Contexts	134
No. of files/paper record	1
No. of plan and sections sheets	2
Photographs	89 (digital)
Bulk finds	Pottery (1582g)
	CBM (1937g)
	Flint (78g)
	Glass (50g)
	Cremated bone (513g)
Environmental flots/residue	2 x residues and flots

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Summary

- 4.1.1 The trenches measured 30m in length and 2.1m in width; with depths that varied significantly over the site, the variations being consistent with the site's topography; the most notable feature of which is a gradual slope towards the south of the site where a dry valley runs roughly east to west.
- 4.1.2 Loose mid greyish brown silty sand topsoil was present in all trenches. Its thickness varied between 0.25 and 0.5m. On the higher ground natural silty sand and gravel was present directly beneath the topsoil.
- 4.1.3 Over the majority of the site, a subsoil/colluvium was present beneath the topsoil. It had a thickness varying from 0.1m on high ground to 0.66m further down the slopes; it was a compact mid orange brown silty sand. Colluvium is defined here as sediment carried by gravity down hill slopes.
- 4.1.4 Along the southern edge of the site, located along the base of the valley, trenches 29, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 20, 21 and 22 also revealed the presence of a lower colluvium; a compact mid reddish brown silty sand that varied in thickness between 0.15 and 0.38m. An environmental sample <2> of this deposit [26/003] was taken from test-pit 2, located in trench 26). In general, archaeological features were sealed by the colluvial deposits, although a pit containing a Roman cremation vessel was apparent within the upper colluvium in trench 15. The depths and relative thicknesses of the colluvial deposits can be appreciated from a sample section recorded in trench 28 (Fig. 8); this was at approximately the lowest part of the site.
- 4.1.5 A total of 14 trenches (trenches 4,5,7,9,11,13,14,20,21,24,26,27,28,29) did not contain any archaeological finds or features and are not further described. The results for the remaining trenches are presented below.
- 4.1.6 The recorded archaeological remains can be tentatively phased into the following: *Prehistoric, Roman, Medieval, Post-Medieval/Modern* and *Undated*. A total of 15 features were fully recorded, and modern activity in trenches 18 and 30 was investigated but only partially recorded.
- 4.1.7 All ditches recorded on site contained only a relatively clean and homogenous single fill. Therefore it has been assumed that these fills represent natural silting events rather than deliberate backfills. Consequently any dating evidence recovered is likely to represent the period of their use.

4.2 Trench 1

- 4.2.1 Trench 1 was oriented east to west and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.8m. A single ditch, cut into the natural geology, was revealed approximately 10m from the western end (Fig. 2).

Height AOD at top of trench: 27.02m (W), 27.30m (E)

Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)	Period
1/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.25-0.4 thick	Modern
1/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.25-0.3 thick	-
1/003	Cut	Ditch/natural feature	2.1+ x 1.76 x 0.29	Unknown
1/004	Fill	Fill of [1/004]	2.1+ x 1.76 x 0.29	
1/005	Layer	Natural geology	0.2+ thick	-

- 4.2.2 Oriented roughly N-S, ditch [1/003] had shallow sides and an irregular base. Its single fill was a light grey brown, loose silty sand which did not contain any finds. Its continuation was not located in any other trenches to the south of trench 1.

4.3 Trench 2

- 4.3.1 Trench 2 was oriented north to south and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.5m. A single ditch, cut into the natural geology, was revealed approximately 5m from the southern end (Fig. 3).

Height AOD at top of trench: 27.92m (N), 26.96m (S)

Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)	Period
2/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.3 thick	Modern
2/002	Layer	Subsoil/colluvium	0.1-0.2 thick	-
2/003	Layer	Natural geology	-	-
2/004	Cut	Ditch	7.7+ x 0.57 x 0.16	Medieval
2/005	Fill	Fill of [2/004]	7.7+ x 0.57 x 0.16	

- 4.3.2 Oriented roughly NW-SE, ditch [2/004] had moderately steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill was a light grey brown compact silty sand which contained a single fragment of probable medieval roof tile, although given that only a single (8g) fragment was found, this could be residual. It was not located in any other trenches to the south of trench 2.

4.4 Trench 3

- 4.4.1 Trench 3 was oriented east to west and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.6m. A single ditch, cut into the natural geology, was revealed approximately 1m from the western end (Fig. 3).

Height AOD at top of trench: 27.47m (W), 27.42m (E)

Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)	Period
3/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.25-0.35 thick	Modern
3/002	Layer	Subsoil	0.05-0.15 thick	-
3/003	Layer	Colluvium (E end only)	0.25 thick	-
3/004	Layer	Natural geology	-	-
3/005	Cut	Ditch	2.1+ x 1.03 x 0.38	Post-Med / Modern
3/006	Fill	Fill of [3/005]	2.1+ x 1.03 x 0.38	

- 4.4.2 Oriented roughly N-S, ditch [3/005] had fairly steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill was a mid-brown, compact silty sand which contained fragments of glass and 18th to 19th century brick. Its continuation was not located in any other trenches to the south of trench 3.

4.5 Trench 6

- 4.5.1 Trench 6 was oriented north to south and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.9m. The northern half of the trench was left high in order to preserve a functioning field drain. A test-pit was excavated beside the field drain in order to reveal the natural geological deposit (Fig. 2).

Height AOD at top of trench: 26.55m (N), 25.71m (S)

Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)	Period
6/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.35 thick	Modern
6/002	Layer	Colluvium	0.05-0.15 thick	-
6/003	Layer	Natural geology	-	-

- 4.5.2 Test-pit 1, measuring approximately 2.0 x 1.0 x 0.25m, was dug through the upper colluvial at the location of a surface find of prehistoric pottery. No features or further finds were revealed here. The small fragment of pottery is likely to have been residual within the deposit and was broadly dated as Late Bronze Age to Iron Age (c.800BC- AD60).

4.6 Trench 8

- 4.6.1 Trench 8 was oriented north to south and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.6m. A seemingly natural depression, c.6m wide and filled with colluvium was revealed approximately 5m from the north end of the trench (Fig. 3). Surface finds of pottery dated to the later 15th to 16th century and a fragment of probable medieval peg tile were found within the colluvium.

Height AOD at top of trench: 26.89m (N), 25.60m (S)

Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)	Period
8/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.34-0.4 thick	Modern
8/002	Layer	Colluvium in E-W natural depression	0.2+ thick	Medieval?
8/003	Layer	Natural geology	-	-

4.7 Trench 10

- 4.7.1 Trench 10 was oriented north to south and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.52m. A single ditch, cut into the natural geology, was revealed approximately 5m from the southern end (Fig. 3).

Height AOD at top of trench: 27.18m (N), 26.0m (S)

Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)	Period
10/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.34-0.38 thick	Modern
10/002	Layer	Colluvium	0.06-0.14 thick	-
10/003	Layer	Natural geology	-	-
10/004	Cut	Ditch	2.1 x 2.0 x 0.25	Unknown
10/005	Fill	Fill of [6/004]	2.1 x 2.0 x 0.25	

- 4.7.2 Oriented roughly E-W, ditch [10/004] had shallow sides and a flat base. Its single fill was a mid-orange brown, loose silty sand which did not contain any finds. Its continuation was not located in any other trenches.

4.8 Trench 12

- 4.8.1 Trench 12 was oriented north to south and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.36m. A single pit, cut into the natural geology, was revealed towards the centre of the trench (Fig. 3).

Height AOD at top of trench: c.25.2m (N), 24.47m (S)

Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)	Period
12/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.32-0.36 thick	Modern
12/002	Layer	Natural geology	-	-
12/003	Cut	Pit	4.6 x 2.1 x 0.86	Roman
12/004	Fill	Fill of [12/003]		

- 4.8.2 Oval shaped in plan, large pit [12/003] had shallow sides becoming irregular towards an irregular base (Fig. 7). Its single fill was a mid yellow brown, compact sandy silt which contained fire-cracked flint along with pottery and ceramic building material dating to the Roman period.

4.9 Trench 15

- 4.9.1 Trench 15 was oriented east to west and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.78m. A cremation burial sealed within the colluvium was revealed approximately 9m from the eastern end and a ditch cut into the natural geology was c.7m from the eastern end (Fig. 2).

Height AOD at top of trench: 25.90m (W), 25.35m (E)

Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)	Period
15/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.32-0.38 thick	Modern
15/002	Layer	Colluvium	0.30-0.45 thick	-
15/003	Layer	Natural geology	-	-
15/004	Cut	Cremation burial pit	c.0.25 x 0.25?	Roman
15/005	Fill	Primary vessel	-	Roman
15/006	Cut	Ditch terminus	1.6 x 0.8 x 0.28	Unknown
15/007	Fill	Fill of [15/006]		
15/008	Fill	Fill in vessel [15/005]		Roman
15/009	Fill	Fill in vessel [15/010]		Roman
15/010	Fill	Ancillary vessel in fill [15/008]		Roman
15/011	Fill	Backfill of pit [15/004]		Roman

- 4.9.2 The truncated remains of an urned cremation burial were present toward the east end of trench 15. Although it could not be discerned during excavation, the cut of pit [15/004] evidently sat within colluvial layer [15/002] (Fig.4). It is assumed that the pit was cut in order to closely accommodate the cremation vessel. The burial comprised a large greyware jar [15/005] with a deposit of cremated bone in its fill [15/008] (Fig.5). This fill also contained a smaller ancillary vessel [15/10], the fill of which was accorded its own context number [15/009]. The nominal backfill of the cut, around the primary vessel, was recorded as context [15/011], though in reality this could not be discerned from the surrounding colluvial deposit [15/002]. The burial assemblage was block-lifted and removed from site for careful excavation and recording in spits. This burial can only be broadly dated as Roman, due to the diagnostic features of the vessels having been lost through plough truncation.
- 4.9.3 The SE terminus of roughly NW-SE oriented ditch [15006] lay immediately to the east of the cremation burial. It had steep sides and an irregular base. Its single fill was a mid-orange brown, loose silty sand which did not contain any finds. Its continuation was not located in any other trenches to the north of trench 15.

4.10 Trench 16

4.10.1 Trench 16 was oriented north to south and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.8m. A single pit, cut into the natural geology, was revealed approximately 2m from the northern end (Fig. 3).

Height AOD at top of trench: 25.71m (N), 24.98m (S)

Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)	Period
16/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.3-0.35 thick	Modern
16/002	Layer	Colluvium	0.2-0.45 thick	-
16/003	Layer	Natural geology	-	-
16/004	Cut	Pit	1.06 x 0.75 x 0.24	Unknown
16/005	Fill	Fill of [16/004]	1.06 x 0.75 x 0.24	

4.10.2 Oval pit [16/004] had steep sides and a flat base. Its single fill was a light grey brown, loose silty sand which did not contain any finds.

4.11 Trench 17

4.11.1 Trench 17 was oriented east to west and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.78m. A single pit, cut into the natural geology, was revealed approximately 6m from the western end (Fig. 3).

Height AOD at top of trench: 25.11m (W), 24.89m (E)

Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)	Period
17/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.3-0.35 thick	Modern
17/002	Layer	Colluvium	0.2-0.45 thick	-
17/003	Layer	Natural geology	-	-
17/004	Cut	Pit / tree hole	0.8 x 0.72 x 0.2	Mesolithic/Early
17/005	Fill	Fill of [17/004]	0.8 x 0.72 x 0.2	Neolithic

4.11.2 Irregularly shaped pit [17/004] had irregular sides and an irregular base. Its single fill was a mid-dark grey brown, loose silty sand which contained struck flint. The flint appears to be a blade-like flake of Mesolithic / Early Neolithic date. Its irregular shape and profile suggests it may be a tree hole rather than a cut feature.

4.12 Trench 18

4.12.1 Trench 18 was oriented north to south and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.7m. A cluster of seemingly modern disturbances, cut into the natural geology, were revealed towards the northern end; one of which was excavated and recorded, the remainder being surveyed only (Fig. 3).

Height AOD at top of trench: 25.48m (N), 24.40m (S)

Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)	Period
18/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.33-0.39 thick	Modern
18/002	Layer	Colluvium	0.1-0.33 thick	-
18/003	Layer	Natural geology	-	-
18/004	Cut	Pit	5.5 x 1.4+ x 0.3	Modern
18/005	Fill	Fill of [18/004]	5.5 x 1.4+ x 0.3	

4.12.2 Elongated oval pit [18/004] had shallow sides and an irregular base. Its single fill was a dark grey brown, very compact sandy silt which contained fragments of probable

medieval peg tile. The general appearance of this shallow pit and the cluster of irregular features surrounding it suggested modern activity. However, the fragments of probable medieval peg tile suggest this could in fact represent earlier activity; although the tile being residual material remains a strong possibility.

4.13 Trench 19

4.13.1 Trench 19 was oriented east to west and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.95m. Two pits, cut into the natural geology, were revealed approximately 4m from the eastern end (Fig. 3).

Height AOD at top of trench: 24.79m (W), 24.35m (E)

Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)	Period
19/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.33-0.39 thick	Modern
19/002	Layer	Colluvium	0.1-0.33 thick	-
19/003	Layer	Natural geology	-	-
19/004	Cut	Pit	0.22 x 0.11 x 0.1	Prehistoric?
19/005	Fill	Fill of [19/004]	0.22 x 0.11 x 0.1	
19/006	Cut	Pit / tree hole	0.65 x 0.23 x 0.13	Mesolithic/Early Neolithic
19/007	Fill	Fill of [19/006]	0.65 x 0.23 x 0.13	

4.13.2 Circular pit [19/004] had steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill was a charcoal rich mid grey brown, loose silty sand. No finds were recovered, although an apparent association with adjacent pit [19/006] suggests a prehistoric date.

4.13.3 An irregular-shaped pit or tree hole, [19/006] had moderately steep sides and an irregular base. Its single fill was a charcoal rich mid grey brown, loose silty sand which contained a struck flint blade likely to be of Mesolithic / Early Neolithic date.

4.14 Trench 22

4.14.1 Trench 22 was oriented north to south and excavated to a maximum depth of 1.02m. A pit and a ditch, cut into the natural geology, were revealed towards the centre of the trench (Fig. 3).

Height AOD at top of trench: 23.94m (N), 22.75m (S)

Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)	Period
22/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.34-0.38 thick	Modern
22/002	Layer	Colluvium (thicker at S end)	0.09-0.38 thick	-
22/003	Layer	Lower colluvium (S end only)	0.26 thick	-
22/004	Layer	Natural geology	-	-
22/005	Cut	Pit	2.1 x 0.94+ x 0.14	Prehistoric?
22/006	Fill	Fill of [22/005]	2.1 x 0.94+ x 0.14	
22/007	Cut	Ditch	2.2+ x 1.26 x 0.38	Unknown
22/008	Fill	Fill of [22/007]	2.2+ x 1.26 x 0.38	

4.14.2 Oval pit [22/005] had shallow sides and a flat base (Fig. 6). Its single fill was a very charcoal rich, dark brown black, loose silty sand which contained large quantities of burnt flint fragments. An environmental soil sample was taken, <1> , and 100% of its exposed extent was excavated.

4.14.3 ENE-WSW orientated ditch [22/007] had quite steep sides and a flat base. Its single fill was a mid grey brown, loose silty sand which did not contain any finds. Its proximity to pit [22/006] suggests a possible association. Its continuation was not

located in any other trenches south-west of trench 22 although, given its orientation, it was unlikely to be.

4.15 Trench 23

4.15.1 Trench 23 was oriented north to south and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.45m. A single ditch, cut into the natural geology, was revealed at the far northern end (Fig. 2).

Height AOD at top of trench: 27.32m (N), 26.78m (S)

Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)	Period
23/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.23-0.31 thick	Modern
23/002	Layer	Colluvium	0.09-0.18 thick	-
23/003	Layer	Natural geology	-	-
23/004	Cut	Ditch	2.3 x 0.86 x 0.29	Unknown
23/005	Fill	Fill of [23/004]	2.3 x 0.86 x 0.29	

4.15.2 Ditch [23/004] was oriented roughly NE-SW, and had steep sides and a concave base. Its single fill was a mid orange brown, compact silty clay which did not contain any finds. Its continuation was not located in any other trenches north-east of trench 23.

4.16 Trench 25

4.16.1 Trench 25 was oriented north to south and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.9m. A single pit, cut into the natural geology, was revealed at the far northern end. The pit was sealed by the lower colluvium (Fig. 2).

Height AOD at top of trench: 25.39m (N), 25.45m (S)

Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)	Period
25/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.23-0.31 thick	Modern
25/002	Layer	Colluvium	0.09-0.18 thick	-
25/003	Layer	Lower colluvium	0.15-0.24 thick	-
25/004	Layer	Natural geology	-	-
25/005	Cut	Pit	1.52 x 0.68 x 0.45	Prehistoric (LBA-IA)
25/006	Fill	Fill of [25/005]	1.52 x 0.68 x 0.45	

4.16.2 An irregular elongated oval shape in plan, with only the western edge revealed, pit [25/005] had steep sides and an irregular base featuring a linear channel possibly resulting from animal burrowing. Its single fill was a mid orange brown, loose silty sand which contained small fragments of prehistoric pottery broadly dated as late Bronze Age to Iron Age (c.800BC-AD60). As the only feature to be sealed by the lower colluvium, it provides a tentative Iron Age date for its accumulation. Although few features were recorded as being cut directly into the lower colluvium, the Roman cremation [15/004] was cut at some point during the formation of the later upper colluvium.

4.17 Trench 30

4.17.1 Trench 30 was oriented north-west to south-east and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.57m. A single modern pit, cut into the natural geology, was revealed towards the centre of the trench (Fig. 3).

Height AOD at top of trench: 25.78m (NW), c.24.5m (SE)

Context	Type	Description	Dimensions (m)	Period
30/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.45-0.57 thick	Modern
30/002	Layer	Natural geology	-	-
30/005	Cut	Pit	6.6 x 2.1 x 0.3+	Modern
30/006	Fill	Fill of [25/005]	6.6 x 2.1 x 0.3+	

4.17.2 Pit [30/005]

An irregular shape in plan, pit [30/005] also had irregular sides. It was part excavated in order to determine its date. Its only recorded fill was a dark grey brown, compact sandy silt which contained late 18th to early 19th century pottery.

5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the evaluation (Table 2). They were all washed and dried or air dried as appropriate. Finds were subsequently quantified by count and weight and were bagged by material and context. All finds have been packed and stored following IFA guidelines (2008). No further conservation is required.

Context	Pottery		CBM		Struck Flint		FCF		Glass		Cremated Bone	
	Ct	Wt	Ct	Wt	Ct	Wt	Ct	Wt	Ct	Wt	Ct	Wt
2/005			1	8								
3/006			2	592					5	50		
6/002	1	<2										
8/002	3	59	1	56								
12/004	4	32	5	1231	1	29						
15/005	72	1290										
15/008							8	47			400+	513
15/010	90	188										
17/005					1	>2						
18/005			4	50								
19/007					1	2						
25/006	2	2										
30/004	1	11										
6/002 TP1	1	>2										
TOTAL	173	1582	13	1937	3	31	8	47	5	50	400+	513

Table 2: Quantification of the finds (CBM = ceramic building material / FCF = fire cracked flint), all weights in grams

5.2 Prehistoric and Roman Pottery by Anna Doherty

5.2.1 Two vessels deriving from cremation burial [15/004] make up the vast majority of the pottery assemblage from the site. A few small sherds of prehistoric and Roman date were also recovered from other features.

5.2.2 Context [25/006] produced a moderately fine (c.0.5-2mm) and moderately well-sorted flint-tempered sherd with a fine silty background matrix alongside a non-flint-

tempered sherd with moderate coarser quartz sand of up to 0.4mm. A similar sandy ware was recovered in context [6/002]. Although these sherds are too small to provide a certain spot-date, the fabric types encountered would probably be most consistent with a broad latest Bronze Age to Iron Age date range (c.800BC-AD60). However, the size and abraded condition of these sherds suggest that they may have been redeposited.

- 5.2.3 Cremation [15/004] was interred in an unsourced grey ware jar which has been truncated at around the mid body. An accompanying accessory vessel placed within it, a white ware flagon possibly of Colchester origin, was even more heavily truncated. Unfortunately, as no diagnostic features from the upper vessel bodies have been preserved, the cremation cannot be dated with much certainty. In general, cremation burial is more common in the 1st to mid 3rd centuries although this burial practice is also known in East Anglia in the late Roman period (Philpott 1991, 50). On balance the burial is likely to be earlier Roman, with cremation passing out of common practice by the mid 2nd century AD. A further four similarly undiagnostic Roman grey ware sherds were also recovered from context [12/004].
- 5.2.4 It is common for Roman cremation burials to be urned in local grey ware vessels and to be accompanied by table ware forms associated with dining and drinking practices (Biddulph 2005, 27 and Philpott 1991, 35). These vessels may have been involved in the funerary rites but also probably had a symbolic purpose linked to the idea of providing sustenance in the afterlife (Willis 2004, 9.8). The vessels selected in cremation [15/004] conform to this pattern but truncation means that the specific vessel forms, beyond the broad vessel class, cannot be ascertained.

5.3 Post-Roman Pottery by Luke Barber

- 5.3.1 Only two evaluation contexts produced post-Roman pottery at the site. Context [8/002] contained three fresh conjoining base sherds from a jar/cistern in an oxidised hard-fired earthenware with deliberately reduced exterior surface. The vessel, which has unintentional spots of glaze on the underside of its base, is likely to be of the later 15th to 16th century.
- 5.3.2 Context [30/004] produced a slightly abraded 11g fragment from a transfer-printed pearlware plate with Chinese landscape design. A date between 1780 and 1820 is likely for the vessel.

5.4 Ceramic Building Material by Elke Raemen

- 5.4.1 A small assemblage comprising 13 fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) weighing 1922g was recovered from five individually numbered contexts. Material is overall in poor condition, abraded and lacking complete dimensions or diagnostic features. The assemblage is of mixed date, comprising Roman, medieval and post-medieval material.
- 5.4.2 Fabric descriptions were compiled with the aid of a x10 binocular microscope. Ceramic building material was all recorded on *pro forma* records for archive and data was transferred onto an Excel datasheet.
- 5.4.3 *Roman building material*
Context [12/004] contained four Roman brick fragments as well as a piece of tegula or box flue. Three different fabrics were encountered, summarized in Table 3. A severely abraded brick fragment from [3/006] may be of Roman date too. The fragment is in fabric B1 which has an orange, sandy matrix with abundant medium to coarse quartz.

Fabric	Description
R1	Orange matrix with common fine black and white specks as well as rare coarse quartz
R2	Orange matrix with common medium quartz and rare coarse quartz (poorly sorted)
R3	Orange matrix with common fine quartz; common fine red and black specks

Table 3: Overview of Roman fabrics.

5.4.4 Roof tiles

Seven roof tile fragments were recovered. Although probably representing peg tiles, none retain any diagnostic features. Most are of medieval date. However, a fragment from [3/006] dates to c.1700-1900. Fabrics are summarised in Table 4.

Fabric	Description
T1	Orange matrix with common fine sand, rare iron-rich red inclusions to 1mm and rare white specks
T2	Orange sandy matrix with abundant medium quartz
T3	Orange matrix with common medium and moderate fine quartz

Table 4: Overview of roof tile fabrics.

5.5 **Glass** by Elke Raemen

5.5.1 Five green glass wine bottle fragments were recovered from [3/006]. They all derive from a single vessel and date to the 19th century.

5.6 **Cremated Bone** by Elissa Menzel

5.6.1 A total of 513g of burnt human bone was recovered from a single context, fill [15/008] of urned cremation burial [15/004], dated to the Roman period.

5.6.2 The cremation vessel was removed from the field and subjected to careful recording and excavation in spits. Bone fragments were collected per spit and accurate plans drawn at each stage of excavation. The excavated fill underwent wet sieving and all additional bone fragments recovered were included in the analysis. The bone fragments were presented for analysis in fractions of <4mm, 4-8mm, and >8mm. Recording and analysis of the bone followed the procedures outlined by McKinley (2004.) Age estimations were carried out with reference to White and Folkens (2005) and Buikstra and Ubelaker (1994.) Fragmentation of cremated bone can make age estimation difficult thus age estimates were separated in to four categories: infant (I), juvenile (J), adult (A), and older adult (OA.) Sex was estimated from the sexually dimorphic traits of the skeleton (Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994.)

5.6.3 The results of analysis are tabulated below (Table 5). Further details are in the archive.

5.6.4 Demographic and pathological data

Burial fill [15/008] appears to have contained the remains of a single, adult individual. The presence of the apex region of the left auricular surface would suggest an age range of 30-44 years old at death (Buikstra and Ubelaker 1994, 25.) The assemblage did not contain sexually diagnostic features and consequently, sex estimation has not been possible. No pathological lesions were noted on any of the skeletal material.

Context Number	Fragment size (mm)	Weight per skeletal element (g)					% of whole assemblage	Total (g)	Age	Sex
		Skull	Axial	Upper Limb	Lower Limb	Unident				
15/008	0-4					47.4	9.2	513	A	n/a
	5-8		8.2	27	16.7	68.7	23.5			
	9-20		27	60.9	32.2	16.5	26.6			
	21-30		9.6	31.1	46.3		17			
	>30		9.8	9.7	101.9		23.7			
% of identifiable material			14.4	33.8	51.8					

Table 5: Summary of results from analysis of cremated bone

5.6.5 Spatial distribution

Cremation vessel [15/005] was micro-excavated in spits with plans drawn and photographs taken at each stage, enabling the spatial distribution of bone within the burial to be examined. Burnt bone was found throughout the vessel with increasing concentrations towards the bottom of the vessel (approximately 6% recovered from the two highest spits and 64% recovered from the lowest spit.) All represented skeletal areas were present throughout the vessel but with the largest fragments recovered from the lowest spits. No other dispersal patterns were evident.

5.6.6 Pyre technology and cremation ritual

The majority of bone fragments were white in colour with occasional bluish colouring. This colouring is indicative of high oxidation and an efficient cremation process with pyre temperatures reaching a minimum of 800°C (Holden et al 1995a and b.)

At 513g, the weight of this bone assemblage represents approximately 32% of the expected weight of cremated bone produced by an adult (McKinley 1993.) It is possible that truncation of the pit and cremation vessel may have adversely affected the quantity of bone recovered; however, the spatial distribution of bone suggests that very little bone would have been present in the upper layers of the burial. The majority of the bone recovered, 26.6%, came from the 9-20mm fraction followed closely by the >30mm (23.7%) and 5-8mm (23.5%) fractions, indicating little post-deposition fragmentation. The maximum fragment size is 57.73mm and from the lower limb area. All skeletal areas were present except for elements of the skull. This may reflect selective recovery methods or the absence of the cranium during cremation. The lower limb was the most abundantly represented area forming 51.8% of the assemblage. While decapitation was a fairly common mortuary practice in Roman Britain (Watts 1998), the absence of cranial elements as well as the smaller skeletal elements such as tooth roots and bones of the hand and feet may rather be suggestive of a hand-picked selection process (McKinley 2006) rather than decapitation. No finds were recovered from the assemblage.

5.7 **Flintwork** by Karine le Hégarat

A small assemblage of just three pieces of struck flint weighing 32g and eight fragments of burnt unworked flint (47g) were found during the evaluation at the site. The three pieces of flint debitage were recovered from three individual contexts in trenches 12, 17 and 19. They display moderate post-depositional edge damage, but one artefact is burnt and two exhibit traces of white re-cortication. No diagnostic pieces are present, but both the blade from [19/007] and the blade-like flake fragment from [17/005] are likely to be of a Mesolithic / Early Neolithic date.

6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES by Dawn Elise Mooney

6.1 Introduction & Methodology

6.1.1 During evaluation work at the site, two bulk soil samples were taken to recover environmental remains such as charred plant macrofossils, wood charcoal, fauna and mollusca, and to assist finds recovery. Sample <1> was taken from the fill [22/006] of pit [22/005] and measured 40 litres in volume. Sample <2> measured 20 litres in volume and was recovered from colluvial deposit [26/003].

6.1.2 The samples were processed by flotation at the Archaeology South-East office, Braintree. Flots and residues were retained on 500µm and 300µm meshes respectively, and air dried. The dried residues were passed through graded sieves of 8mm, 4mm and 2mm and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefactual remains (Table 6). The dry flots and the wet sieved fractions were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications and their contents recorded (Table 7). Identifications of macrobotanical remains have been made through comparison with published reference atlases (Cappers *et al.* 2006, Jacomet 2006, NIAB 2004), and nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).

6.1.3 Charred wood remains were fractured along three planes (transverse, radial and tangential) according to standardised procedures (Gale & Cutler 2000). Specimens were viewed under a stereozoom microscope for initial grouping, and an incident light microscope at magnifications up to 400x to facilitate identification of the woody taxa present. Taxonomic identifications were assigned by comparing suites of anatomical characteristics visible with those documented in reference atlases (Hather 2000, Schoch *et al.* 2004). Identifications have been given to species where possible, however genera, family or group names have been given where anatomical differences between taxa are not significant enough to permit satisfactory identification. Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997), and taxonomic identifications of charcoal are recorded in Table 6.

6.2 Results

6.2.1 Sample <1>, fill [22/006] of pit [22/005]

This sample produced a relatively large volume of charred plant macrofossils. These mostly consisted of wood charcoal <4mm in size, although some larger pieces >10mm were observed. The charred wood remains were mostly identified as oak (*Quercus* sp.), however ivy (*Hedera helix*) was also present, along with wood of the Maloideae family which includes hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), rowan, service and whitebeam (*Sorbus* sp.), apple (*Malus* sp.) and pear (*Pyrus* sp.). Other charred plant remains consisted mostly of seeds of cleavers (*Galium aparine*), however knotgrass/dock (*Polygonum/Rumex*) seeds were also present. A small number of charred cereal grains were also observed. These were poorly preserved and badly distorted by charring, however two were identified as wheat (*Triticum* sp.).

The sample also contained a significant proportion of uncharred modern plant material including fine rootlets and grass leaves and stems, along with seeds of chickweed (*Stellaria media*), goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.), rush (*Juncus* sp.), cinquefoil (*Potentilla* sp.), campion (*Silene* sp.) and field gromwell (*Lithospermum arvense*). Modern beetle elytra (wing-cases) were also observed, along with a small quantity of land snail shells.

The residue of the sample produced a very large quantity of burnt flint, along with small quantities of burnt bone, fired clay, industrial debris and magnetised material.

6.2.2 *Sample <2>, colluvial deposit [26/003]*

Charred macrobotanical remains in this sample were limited to small number of cleavers and grass (*Poaceae* indet.) seeds, and a small quantity of charcoal. The sample was dominated by uncharred modern rootlets and grass remains, and a single uncharred knotgrass/dock seed was also recorded. The residue contained very little charcoal, along with small quantities of burnt flint, coal and magnetised material.

6.3 Discussion

- 6.3.1 The presence of significant quantities of charcoal along with burnt flint and bone, industrial debris and magnetised material in pit fill [22/006] suggests that this deposit is likely to derive from the secondary deposition of waste from domestic and industrial burning events. The material recorded in colluvial deposit [26/003] is also likely to derive from secondary deposition.
- 6.3.2 Two poorly-preserved charred wheat grains were the only evidence of diet recorded in the samples. Both knotgrass/dock and cleavers are common weeds of a variety of environments including hedgerows, waste ground and arable land, and as such can contribute little to the discussion of local vegetation and environment.
- 6.3.3 The dominance of oak in the charcoal assemblage indicates that this taxon was widespread in the local landscape, and may have been specifically selected for fuel. Fuel wood is likely to have been primarily acquired from oak-dominated deciduous woodland, although the presence of ivy and *Maloideae* charcoal indicates that woodland margin and hedgerow environments were also exploited for firewood acquisition.
- 6.3.4 Both samples contained uncharred modern plant material along with modern rootlets, which may indicate the contamination of the samples through bioturbation. However, the relatively large quantity of charred plant remains recovered from sample <1> suggests that bulk samples for environmental analysis should continue to be taken from promising deposits during any future archaeological work at the site.

Sample Number	Context	Spit (if relevant eg. cremation)	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume litres	Sub-Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Mineralised Botanicals	Weight (g)	Burnt bone >8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt Bone 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1	22/006		P	40	40	*	6	**	<2	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (17), <i>Hedera helix</i> (1), cf. Maloideae (2)							*	<2	FCF ****/19892g - Fired clay */2g - Industrial debris */<2g - Magnetised material ***/6g
2	26/003		N S	20	20			*	<2		*	<2							FCF */4g - Coal */<2g - Magnetised material **/<2g - Bead */<2g

Table 6: Residue quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams

Sample Number	Context	Weight g	Flot volume ml	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Seeds uncharred	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Crop seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	Weed seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	Land Snail Shells
1	22/006	26	150	150	40	1	** <i>Stellaria media</i> , <i>Chenopodium</i> sp., <i>Juncus</i> sp., <i>Potentilla</i> sp., <i>Silene gallica</i> , <i>Lithospermum arvense</i>	**	***	****	*	cf. <i>Triticum</i> sp. (2), Indet. Cerealia (1)	+	**	<i>Galium aparine</i> (15), <i>Polygonum/Rumex</i> (1)	++	*
2	26/003	<2	<5	<5	90	1	* <i>Polygonum/Rumex</i>		*	**				*	<i>Galium aparine</i> (6), Indet, Poaceae (1)	+	

Table 7: Flot quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and preservation (+ = poor, ++ = moderate, +++ = good)

7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Discussion

- 7.1.1 The trial-trench evaluation has revealed the presence of a low density and complexity of buried archaeological remains across the site. The range of feature types is limited and both the accumulation of colluvium and truncation by post-medieval / modern cultivation and land drains have affected legibility and survival to a seemingly moderate extent.
- 7.1.2 The presence of pits [17/004], [19/004], [19/006], [22/005] and [25/005] indicates a low level of prehistoric activity on the site although with no real concentration evident. The nature of the activity they represent remains undetermined. This prehistoric site component spans a late Mesolithic/Neolithic to Late Bronze Age/Iron Age date range. It is perhaps noteworthy that no remains of late Iron Age date were encountered, despite a ditch and pits of this date previously being found only c.200m to the northeast.
- 7.1.3 Roman burial [15/004] is likely to be earlier Roman, cremation passing out of common practice by the mid 2nd century AD. Although it was not established whether it was an isolated occurrence or part of a family group or small cemetery, its presence suggests that remains of an associated settlement may lie in the vicinity. Pit [12/003], containing Roman pottery and ceramic building material is the only contemporary feature identified by the evaluation. The large quantity of fire-cracked flint in this pit, perhaps deriving from a domestic or industrial hearth, also hints at Roman period settlement.
- 7.1.4 Other than the potentially medieval ditch revealed in Trench 2 and the post-medieval/modern ditch revealed in Trench 3, the various small fragments of ditches denoting linear boundary and/or drainage features could not be dated. Their lack of uniformity in size and alignment and non-continuance across multiple trenches has prevented the identification of meaningful enclosure system layouts.
- 7.1.5 Useful insights into the extent and nature of colluvial stratigraphy present on site have been gained. Two colluvium deposits, perhaps representing distinct phases of accumulation are identified. A lower colluvium is present towards the far south of the site, towards the bottom of the valley slope. Although undated by finds, it was recorded as sealing feature [25/005], which contained pottery dated as Late Bronze Age to Iron Age. Roman cremation [15/004] was sealed within the overlying upper colluvium, suggesting a tentative Iron Age date for the accumulation of the lower colluvium. Woodland clearance on the higher ground may have led to the colluviation, suggesting substantial human impact on the surrounding landscape at this time.
- 7.1.6 The upper colluvial deposits cannot be reliably dated from this investigation. Although the presence of the Roman cremation, and medieval finds recovered from the natural depression filled with colluvium in Trench 8, suggest a gradual accumulation stretching from the late Iron Age/Early Roman period. The onset of regular arable cultivation is a potential contributing factor to the process. Finds from the upper colluvium in Trench 6, being of Late Bronze Age to Iron Age date are likely to be residual.

7.1.7 While environmental remains from the colluvium are likely to be the product of secondary deposition, the significant quantity of charred plant remains from the fill of pit [22/005] demonstrates that some archaeological deposits have potential for addressing issues of general environment, cultivation and crop processing.

7.2 Significance and potential

7.2.1 Significant, albeit low-density, Prehistoric and Roman period remains have been found in the trial trenches. Further such remains are likely to be present elsewhere within the development area and have the potential to inform understanding of the early land-use of this location on the south side of Wickham Market. This may also provide some further insight into whether the cremation burial is indeed an isolated example or part of a wider funerary landscape.

7.2.2 Given the relatively shallow burial of the recorded remains, site development is likely to have an adverse impact on any further remains present. It is possible that colluvium overlies a least some of these potential remains and has prevented the disturbance and dispersal of material in their fills, thus producing the low level of residuality of artefacts demonstrated by the evaluation results. However, the precise date and relationship of the colluvium deposits with the archaeological remains are only partially understood.

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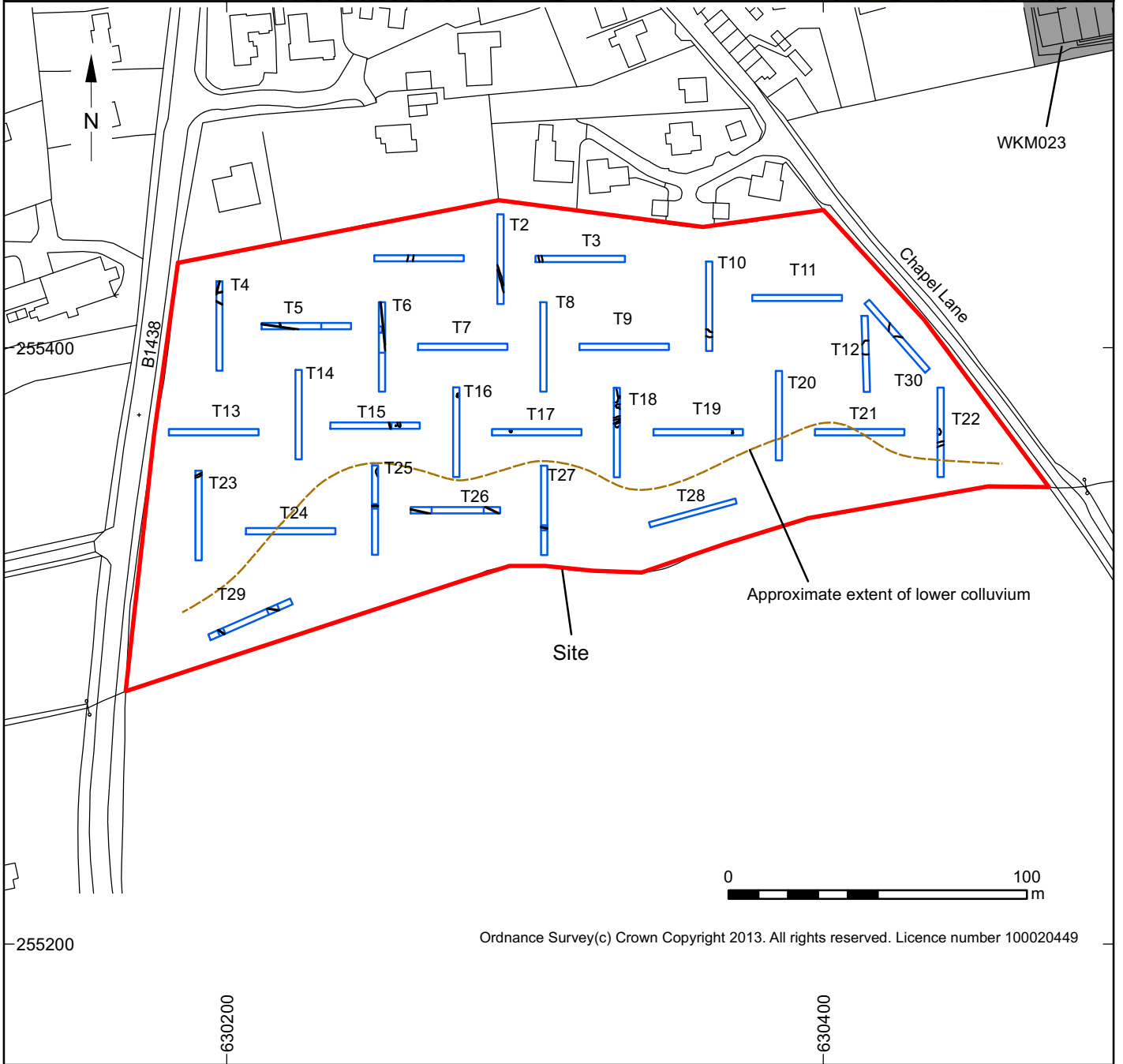
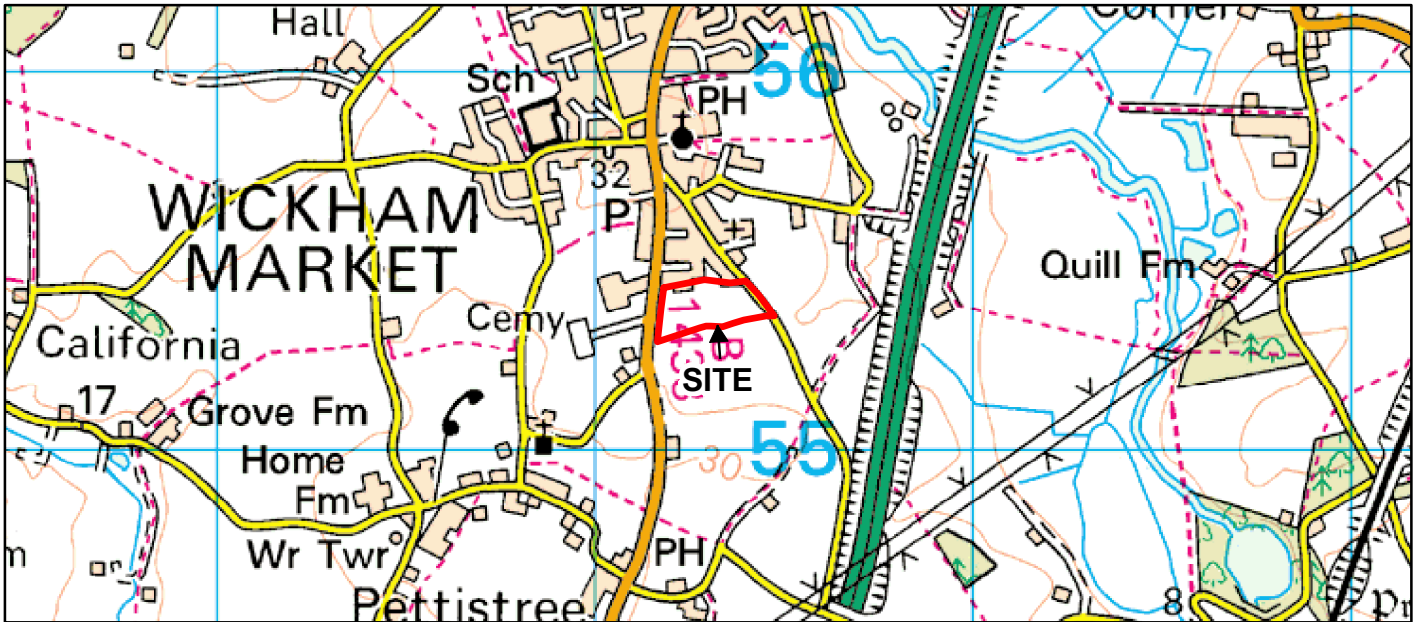
Appendix 1: HER Summary Form

Site Code	WKM 037					
Identification Name and Address	Archaeological Evaluation on Land South of Featherbroom Gardens, Wickham Market, Suffolk					
County, District &/or Borough	Suffolk, Suffolk Coastal District					
OS Grid Refs.	TM 30300 55300					
Geology	Superficial deposits of sand a gravel of the Lowerstoft Formation overlying sand of the Crag Formation					
Arch. South-East Project Number	E8054					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval.	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 8 th -19 th Aug 2013	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Hopkins Homes Ltd					
Project Manager	Adrian Scruby, ASE					
Project Supervisor	Adam Dyson, ASE					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM	Modern		
<p><i>Archaeology South-East (ASE) undertook an archaeological evaluation on land south of Featherbroom Gardens, High Street, Wickham Market, in advance of a proposed residential development.</i></p> <p><i>The trial trenching revealed the presence of a low density and complexity of significant below-ground archaeological remains across the site. A low level of prehistoric activity, in the form of scattered pitting was evidenced. The finding of a single earlier Roman cremation burial is of significance. Although it was not established whether this was an isolated burial, or part of a small family group or cemetery, it may indicate that hitherto unknown Roman settlement remains are located in the near vicinity. A single Roman pit containing pottery tile and fire-cracked flint also hints at such occupation activity.</i></p> <p><i>Parts of various in-filled ditch features were revealed, of which one tentatively medieval and one post-medieval example are identified. However, most could not be dated or be traced across the site so no clear alignments or enclosure systems can be discerned.</i></p> <p><i>Colluvium deposits, particularly across the southern part of the site, overlies or else contains the prehistoric and Roman remains and, in some instances, makes feature definition difficult. The dating and nature of this colluvium is not fully understood.</i></p> <p><i>The recorded remains are of local significance and importance and provide some limited insights into the early land-use of this vicinity. A further range of archaeological features and deposits of similar date, nature, density and complexity are likely to be present within the development area. Given the relatively shallow burial of the recorded remains, site development is likely to have an adverse impact on any such further remains present.</i></p>						

Appendix 2: OASIS Form

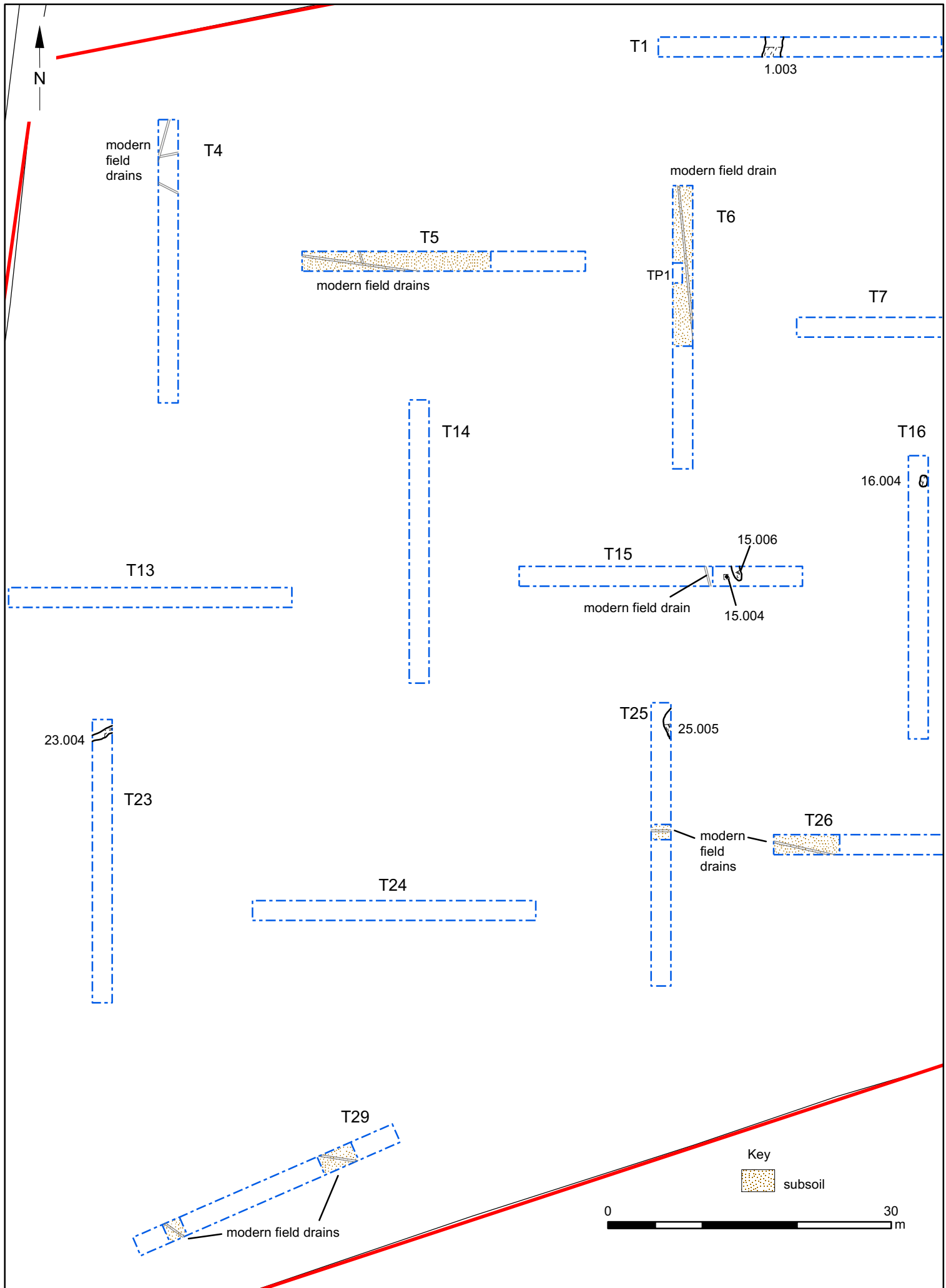
OASIS ID: 156691	
Project details	
Project name	Archaeological evaluation on land south of Featherbroom Gardens, High Street, Wickham Market, Suffolk
Short description of the project	Trial trenching evaluation revealed the presence of a low density and complexity of remains across the site. A low level scatter of prehistoric pits, a single Roman cremation burial and possibly contemporary pit were recorded. Parts of various in-filled ditch features were revealed, of which one tentatively medieval and one post-medieval example were identified, the remainder being undated.
Project dates	Start: 08-08-2013 End: 19-08-2013
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Associated project reference codes	8054 - Contracting Unit No. C12/2123 - Planning Application No. WKM037 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	PITS Late Prehistoric CREMATION BURIAL Roman DITCHES Uncertain
Significant Finds	BURIAL URN Roman POTTERY Late Prehistoric POTTERY Roman POTTERY Medieval POTTERY Post Medieval TILE Roman
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Housing estate
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	Pre-application
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK SUFFOLK COASTAL WICKHAM MARKET Land south of Featherbroom Gardens
Postcode	IP13 0JH
Study area	3.10 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 30300 55300 52 1 52 08 50 N 001 21 59 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 22.61m Max: 27.22m

Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Adrian Scruby
Project supervisor	Adam Dyson
sponsor/funding body	Developer
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Physical Contents	"Ceramics", "Environmental", "Human Bones", "Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Digital Contents	"Ceramics", "Environmental", "Human Bones", "Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Paper Contents	"Ceramics", "Environmental", "Human Bones", "Worked stone/lithics"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Miscellaneous Material", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section"
Project bibliog.	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Evaluation on Land South of Featherbroom Gardens, Wickham Market, Suffolk
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Dyson, A.
Other bibliographic details	ASE Report No: 2013306
Date	2013
Issuer or publisher	Archaeology South-East
Place of issue or publication	Braintree
Description	Evaluation report. A4, bound. 26 pages text, plus 8 figures
URL	http://www.oasis.ac.uk
Entered by	Mark Atkinson (mark.atkinson@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	2 December 2013

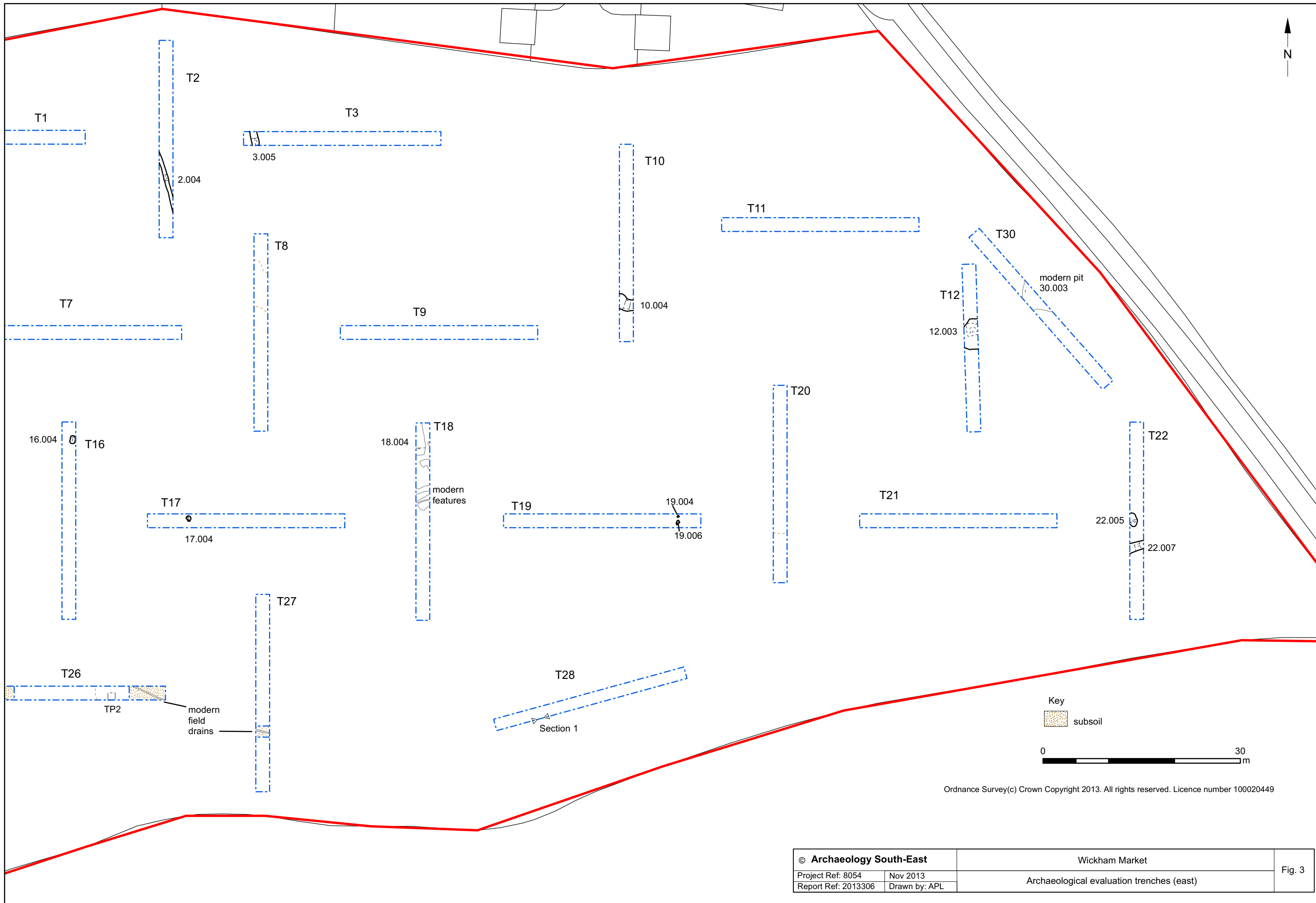


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© Archaeology South-East		Wickham Market	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 8054	Nov 2013	Site location	
Report Ref: 2013306	Drawn by: APL		



© Archaeology South-East		Wickham Market		Fig. 2
Project Ref: 8054	Nov 2013	Archaeological evaluation trenches (west)		
Report Ref: 2013306	Drawn by: APL			



© Archaeology South-East		Wickham Market		Fig. 3
Project Ref: 8054	Nov 2013	Archaeological evaluation trenches (east)		
Report Ref: 2013306	Drawn by: APL			



Fig.4. Roman cremation [15/004], looking NE (0.25m scale)



Fig.5. Cremation deposit [15/008] mid-excavation (0.05m scale)



Fig.6. Pit [22/005], looking N (0.5m scale)



Fig.7. Pit [12/003], looking E (2m scale)

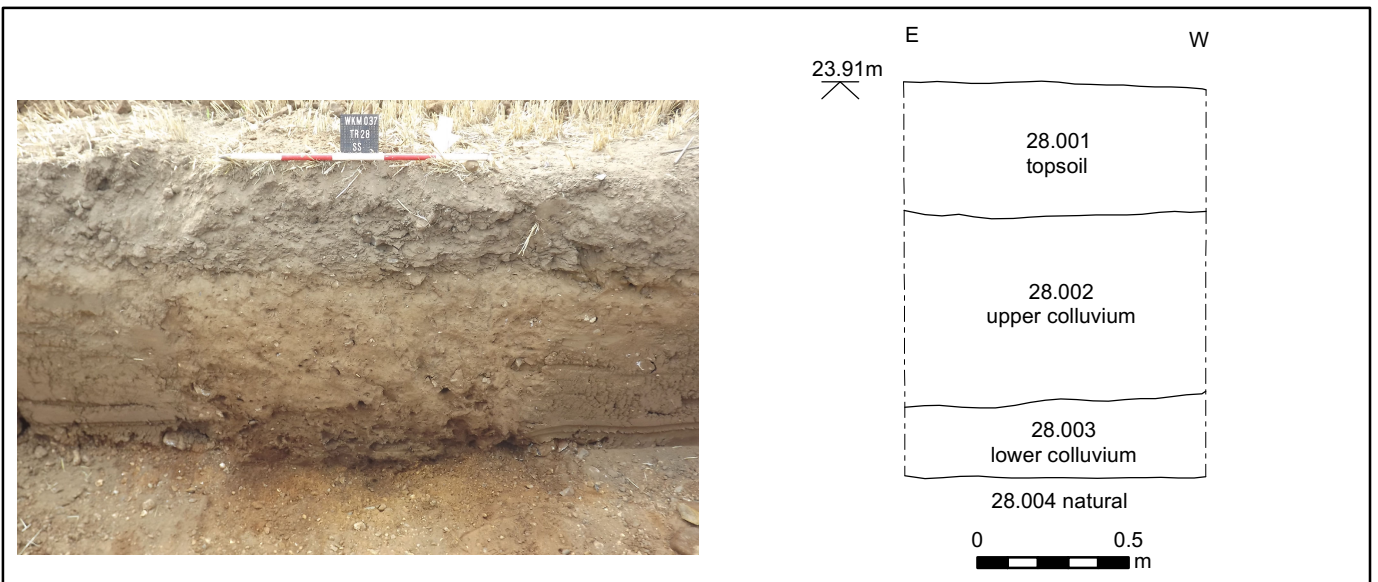


Fig.8. Section 1, trench 28, looking S (photo: 1m scale)

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