

**FINAL REPORT  
ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS AT  
LAND AT HOPTON ROAD BARNINGHAM, SUFFOLK**

**NGR: 597100 276900  
(TL 97100 76900)**

**Planning Reference: SE/13/0210/FUL**

**ASE Project No: 8121  
Site Code: BNG 020**

**ASE Report No: 2014331  
OASIS ID: archaeol6-181163**

**By Ian Hogg  
With contributions from Gemma Ayton, Anna Doherty  
Karine Le Hégarat, Dawn Elise Mooney  
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## **Abstract**

*This report presents the results of archaeological investigations carried out by Archaeology South-East on land at Hopton Road, Barningham, Suffolk between January and February 2014. The fieldwork was commissioned by Hopkins Homes Ltd, in advance of the residential development of the site.*

*The excavations revealed evidence for multi-period activity from the Early Bronze Age onwards. Four archaeological periods have been identified along with a scattering of residual Mesolithic and Neolithic flintwork. The majority of the features were Early Bronze Age and Middle Iron Age in date, with Roman features also present. Many of the features recorded during an earlier evaluation of the site were proved to be the result of animal action and almost all of the features showed signs of disturbance from bioturbation*

*Early Bronze Age activity consisted of a scattering of pits dug across the site. These varied in size and form but uniformly contained dark fills, some of which contained charred cereal remains, charcoal and possible signs of in situ burning. The pits also contained worked flint, waste flakes and a core suggestive of flintworking on site. The presence of cereal remains is likely to relate to food waste. This activity may be the result of short term, transient occupation, possibly a small camp.*

*Middle Iron Age activity, was located in a tight cluster in the south of the site and consisted of intercutting pits and two parallel curvilinear gullies. Almost all of these contained pottery but little else, with environmental samples being almost sterile. While two pits of Early Roman date were recorded, the Late Roman Period was better represented. Probable clay extraction pits were recorded in the north of the site and two ditches forming the corner of a probable enclosure or field system were recorded in the east. These were on the same alignment as both the present field system and Hopton Road, to the west, suggesting a long continuation in use of the field alignment and probably the road itself.*

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Site Location**

- 1.1.1 The site (NGR TL 97100 76900) is on farmland on the east side of Barningham, which is located on the B1111, approximately 12 miles northeast of Bury St Edmunds (Figure 1).
- 1.1.2 The site is bounded to the north by the B1111 Hopton Road, to the east and south by agricultural land and to the west by residential development along Millfield Road.

### **1.2 Geology and Topography**

- 1.2.2 The British Geological Survey indicates that the superficial geology of the site comprises glacial tills of the Lowestoft Formation (Diamicton) overlying undifferentiated chalk of the Seaford Chalk Formation and the Newhaven Chalk Formation (BGS 2015). An archaeological evaluation undertaken in February 2013 (Smith 2013) indicated that the topsoil consisted of a dark brown-grey silt overlying a subsoil deposit comprising a reddish brown sandy silt that in turn sealed the superficial drift deposits.

### **1.3 Scope of the Project**

- 1.3.1 A planning application (SE/13/0210/FUL) was submitted to Suffolk Coastal District Council for the residential development of the site to provide 21 new dwellings together with car parking, open space, landscaping and access arrangements. The formal requirement for a programme of archaeological works was secured by means of a condition (No. 3) attached to the grant of planning consent. This process is in accordance with guidance contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012).

- 1.3.2 The condition stated that:

*'No development shall take place until a programme of archaeological work has been secured, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.'*

- 1.3.3 Initially a programme of evaluation trenching was commissioned following pre-application discussions between the developer and the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCCAS CT). The evaluation (Smith 2013) highlighted the presence of archaeological remains in the east of the development area (see Section 2 below).

- 1.3.4 Subsequently, Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology (CAA), Institute of Archaeology (IoA), University College London (UCL) was commissioned by Hopkins Homes Ltd to undertake the archaeological excavation of an area totalling 1680 sq m, in order to achieve the preservation by record of those remains likely to be damaged or destroyed by the development.

#### **1.4 Circumstances and Dates of Work**

- 1.4.1 The fieldwork was undertaken by ASE in January and February 2014. The site was staffed by ASE archaeologists, project managed by Adrian Scruby and directed by Ian Hogg.

#### **1.5 Archaeological Methodology**

- 1.5.1 All excavation areas were machine stripped using a tracked mechanical 360° excavator. All mechanical excavation was undertaken using toothless ditching buckets under the direct supervision of experienced archaeologists. Overburden deposits (e.g. topsoil and modern made ground) were first removed. Machine excavation was then carried out to the surface of natural geology whereupon archaeological features were exposed. Care was taken not to machine off seemingly homogenous layers that might have been the upper parts of archaeological features. The resultant surfaces were cleaned as necessary and a pre-excavation plan prepared using Global Positioning System (GPS) planning technology. This was made available to the project manager, the supervisor and the SCCAS Conservation Team.
- 1.5.2 The plan was updated by regular visits to site by Archaeology South-East surveyors who plotted excavated features and recorded levels in close consultation with the supervisor. Where necessary (for example complex intercutting features) features were hand planned at a scale of 1:20 and then digitised to be included on the overall plan.
- 1.5.3 All excavation work was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Archaeology South-East (Archaeology South-East 2014a), in partial fulfilment of Condition 3 of the planning permission above and in response to a Brief for Archaeological Excavation issued by SCCAS Conservation Team (SCCAS CT, 2013), and with the relevant standards and guidance for archaeological excavation of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014a), the standards for field archaeology in the east of England (Gurney 2003) and the SCCAS requirements for archaeological excavation (SCCAS CT, 2012).
- 1.5.4 After the cleaning and planning of the excavation areas the following sampling strategy was employed:
- ditches and gullies had all relationships defined, investigated and recorded. All terminals were excavated. Sufficient of the feature lengths were excavated to determine the character of the feature over its entire course; the possibility of recuts of parts, and not the whole, of the feature were considered
  - pits were initially half-sectioned and fully recorded. Samples of pits were subsequently excavated to facilitate further collection of artefacts
  - post and stake holes were fully excavated ensuring that all relationships were investigated

- for other types of feature such as working hollows, hedge lines, quarry pits etc., all relationships were ascertained. Further investigation was a matter of on-site judgement, but sought to establish as a minimum their extent, date and function
  - layers and colluvial deposits were carefully machine excavated
- 1.5.5 All excavated deposits and features were recorded according to current professional standards using the standard context record sheets used by ASE.
- 1.5.6 A full digital photographic record of all features was maintained. Black and white (35mm transparency) photographs were taken of notable features only. This illustrates the principal features both in detail and in a general context. The photographic record also includes working shots to represent more generally the nature of the fieldwork.
- 1.5.7 All finds recovered from excavated deposits were collected and retained in line with the ASE artefacts collection policy.
- 1.5.8 The site provided an opportunity to examine and process environmental material from a relatively large area within an environmentally sensitive grassland location. On-site sampling methodology, processing and recording was undertaken within the guidelines laid out by English Heritage (English Heritage 2011).
- 1.5.9 Samples were collected from suitable excavated contexts, including dated/datable postholes, well-sealed slowly silted features, features containing evident carbonised remains.
- 1.5.10 The sampling strategy aimed to recover spatial and temporal information concerning the activity the site. This was best achieved by sampling a range of feature types (pits, ditches, post-holes, cess pits) from across the site, the fills of which can be compared and contrasted.
- 1.5.11 A standard bulk sample size of 40litres (or 100% of small features) was taken from dated/datable sealed contexts to recover environmental remains such as fish, small mammals, molluscs and botanicals.

## **1.6 Organisation of the Report**

- 1.6.1 This final report has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines laid out in Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE), Project Planning Notes 3 (PPN3): Archaeological Excavation (English Heritage 2008).
- 1.6.2 The report seeks to place the results from the site within the local archaeological and historical setting; to quantify and set out the results; specify their significance, including any capacity to address the revised research aims.
- 1.6.3 Following on from previous archaeological evaluation conducted by Archaeological Solutions (Smith 2013) work at the site ran as a single excavation.
- 1.6.4 A subsequent Post-Excavation Assessment (Archaeology south-East 2014b) was produced which sought to place the results from the site within the local archaeological and historical setting; to quantify and summarise the results; specify their significance and potential, including any capacity to address the original research aims, listing any new research criteria; and to lay out what further analysis work was required to enable final dissemination.



## **2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 A search of the Suffolk Historic Environment Record revealed 19 entries within a 1000m search radius of the site (Figure 1) although many of these were not relevant to the site and so are not included here. Very little prehistoric activity has been found in the vicinity and consists of little more than a flint tranchet axe found at Coney Weston to the north-west of the site (BNG 009). No evidence of later prehistoric activity has been recorded close to the site.
- 2.2 Roman activity within the search radius is limited to a scatter of Roman pottery to the west of the site in Barningham (BNG 002). A centre of Roman pottery manufacture is known to have existed to the east of the site between Hepworth and Wattisfield (Moore, 1988).
- 2.3 Activity from the Saxon period is similarly sparse with only a single entry on the HER within the search radius; this consisted of an ornate copper alloy bowl (BNG 008). Barningham is thought to have its origins in the Saxon period and is mentioned in the Domesday Book. The historic core of Barningham (BNG 018) was located to the south of the site with the medieval church of St Andrew in the centre (BNG 005). Archaeological work close to the church (BNG 010) conducted by the Suffolk Archaeological Unit revealed evidence of medieval structural remains as well as land division.
- 2.4 A manor house known as Barningham Hall (BNG 015, BNG misc.) is known to have existed to the south, it was demolished around 1751.
- 2.5 Barningham appears to have remained a small village throughout the post-medieval period, with the site lying in undisturbed farmland until the current development.

### **Previous Work**

- 2.6 The trial trenching revealed the presence of archaeological remains in the south-eastern corner of the site, principally within Trench 3 and at the southern end of Trench 2. The features revealed predominantly comprised ditches and gullies, some of which are curvilinear in plan and may form small ring ditches, along with a scattering of pits. Flintwork recovered from the site, including unstratified material from the topsoil, spanned the later Neolithic to Early Bronze Age but only one piece was recovered from a feature, while the pottery assemblage, including 21 sherds from a single vessel recovered from a curving ditch in Trench 3, was Early Iron Age in date. Small quantities of Roman pottery were also found in three ditches located at the eastern end of Trench 3, suggesting at least two separate phases of activity on the site (Smith 2013.).

### **3.0 RESEARCH AIMS**

#### **3.1 Original Research Aims**

3.1.1 The general aim of the investigation was to excavate and record any archaeological remains present within the specified excavation area in order to ensure their preservation by record prior to destruction by the development.

3.1.2 The specific excavation and research aims of the investigation were to:

- OR1: To determine whether there is any further evidence for prehistoric activity within the site and what the nature and date of such activity is;
- OR2: To further define the nature, form and date range of the various ditches and gullies encountered during the evaluation. With regard to regional research objectives for the Iron Age, the site has the potential to contribute information to the study of field systems and enclosures, to further understanding of Iron Age agricultural practices and the development of the agrarian economy and to understanding the relationship between settlements and their hinterlands (Medlycott 2011. 29);
- OR3: To obtain further evidence for Roman activity within the site and what the nature and date of such activity is;
- OR4: By using appropriate palaeoenvironmental techniques, attempt to model the landscape and its transformation as brought about by natural events and human action.

#### **3.2 Revised Research Agenda**

3.2.1 Following completion of the fieldwork and the subsequent preparation of a post-excavation assessment and updated project design on the results of the investigation (ASE 2014b) a further series of revised research aims were defined, as follows:

- RRA 1: (OR1) Is it possible to say more about the function of the Early Bronze Age pits and the deposition of finds within them?
- RRA 2: (OR1) Can the study of other local sites help to put these features into a wider context?
- RRA 3: (OR1) Can the features help to inform on the Early Bronze Age landscape?
- RRA 4: (OR 2) What evidence is there for segmented enclosure ditches in the local area?
- RRA 5: Can other sites in the area help to inform on the nature of the Middle Iron Age activity on site?

- RRA 6: (OR 2 and 3) What are the origins of Hopton Road and the current field alignment?
- RRA 7: (OR 2 and 3) Do the Late Roman features actually reflect a continued use of field alignments?
- RRA 8: (OR3) Can other sites in the area help to confirm the possibility of clay extraction on site?

## 4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Archaeological features and deposits referred to thus [\*\*\*], have been arranged into subgroups (SGs) and groups (GPs) in order to aid interpretation and description of the sequence. Land use designations have been applied to readily identifiable enclosures (E) and pit groups (P) only, again chiefly as an aid to the description of the sequence. For full context descriptions and dimensions please refer to Appendix 1.

4.1.2 Environmental samples are listed within triangular brackets <\*>, and registered finds thus: RF<\*>. References to sections within this report are referred to thus (4.7.1).

Type	Description	Quantity
Context sheets	Individual context sheets	73
Section sheets	A1 Multi-context permatrace sheets 1:10	2
Plans	Multi-context DWG plans A1 permatrace sheets 1:20 or 1: 50	1
Photos	Black and white transparency films Digital images	1 36
Environmental sample sheets	Individual sample sheets	8
Context register	Context register sheets	3
Environmental sample register	Environmental sample register sheets	1
Photographic register	Photograph register sheets	2
Drawing register	Section register sheets	1

Table 1: Site archive quantification table

### 4.2 Summary

4.2.1 The excavations revealed evidence for multi-period activity on the site from the Bronze Age to the Late Roman period. Four archaeological periods have been identified, with the majority of the activity dated to the Middle Iron Age.

4.2.2 The archaeology is discussed under date-phased headings determined primarily through assessment of the dateable artefacts and secondarily through the creation of relative chronologies where stratigraphic relationships exist.

4.2.3 There was a very small amount of earlier prehistoric residual finds of probable Mesolithic to Neolithic date which suggests that some occupation in the area, albeit transient, occurred during these periods.

4.2.4 Early Bronze Age pits were recorded in the middle of the site, most of these contained Beaker pottery, worked flint and some small amount of burnt bone. These features varied in size and shape but possessed similar fills.

4.2.5 The Middle Iron Age activity was focused on the south-west of the site. The features consisted of intercutting pits and ditches. These features, despite

their intercutting relationships appear to all be of Middle Iron Age date and possessed similar fills.

- 4.2.6 The Roman remains consisted of features dated to both the Early and Late Roman periods. The Early Roman remains comprised two large pits in the south-west of the site. The late Roman features comprised ditches from a possible enclosure as well as probable quarry pits.

### **4.3 Natural Deposits**

- 4.3.1 Excavations in all parts of the site revealed a typical stratigraphic sequence of 0.25m - 0.45m of ploughsoil overlying 0.10m to 0.15m of subsoil sealing Lowestoft Formation diamicton of mixed clay-silt, sand and clay. A small spread of probable subsoil [004] (GP 2) contained a variety of finds including Roman pottery and a Mesolithic/Early Neolithic flint blade.

- 4.3.2 No archaeological features were visible in the ploughsoil or subsoil during the closely monitored machining.

- 4.3.3 Most of the 'features' recorded in the evaluation were found to actually be the result of extensive bioturbation across the site. Animal burrowing had disturbed most of the archaeological features recorded during the subsequent excavation as well.

### **4.4 Period 1: Early Bronze Age 2500-1700BC (Figure 3)**

- 4.4.1 A group of pits of varying proportions were located in the centre of the site (pit group P1). Generally, the group of pits had steep sides and possessed similarly dark silty fills showing some signs of burning. Two of the pits cut others within the groups, but given the similarity of the fills they have been assigned to the same group.

- 4.4.2 Some of the pits contained more extensive signs of burning, notably the fills of pits [052], [055] and [061], two of which (pits [055] and [061]) contained slightly larger charcoal assemblages, as well as some signs of in situ burning such as reddened natural in the basal fills.

- 4.4.3 Only a single sherd of Beaker pottery was retrieved from the entire group of pits, however, over 80% of the worked flint (56 pieces) also came from this pit group. The pot sherd and 50 of the worked flints came from the same feature, pit [048].

- 4.4.4 While the flintwork could not be closely dated, it consists mainly of fresh flakes as well as waste pieces, a core and chips. The freshness suggests that the flintworking took place close to the pits before deposition. The flint did not show signs of heat damage.

### **4.5 Period 2: Middle Iron Age 400-50BC (Figure 4)**

- 4.5.1 The Middle Iron Age activity was concentrated in a small area in the south of the site and comprised intercutting pits and gullies. Although three phases of feature could be discerned the finds from all of these features were of similar Middle Iron Age date.

### *Earlier Pits*

- 4.5.2 Stratigraphically, the earliest Middle Iron Age features were three pits (Group 7; pits [010], [014] and [016]). Of these features, two (pits [010] and [016]) comprised small subcircular features with steep sides, while the remaining pit (pit [014]) was larger in plan, shallow with a flat base. The function of these pits is uncertain but the presence of the pottery suggests that they may have lain close to an area of occupation.
- 4.5.3 Two of the three features, pits [014] and [016] contained quartz rich Middle Iron Age pottery but no other finds. A total of five sherds were retrieved from these two features, though none were diagnostic.

### *Gullies*

- 4.5.4 The earlier pits were cut by a pair of parallel, curvilinear gullies (GPs 5 and 6). During the evaluation these features were initially thought to be roundhouse drip gullies but when the area was cleaned they were shown to simply be short stretches of gully.
- 4.5.5 The gullies themselves were fairly uniform in size, running parallel throughout their length and being truncated by Early Roman pits and bioturbation at the north-eastern ends. Both gullies contained Middle Iron Age pottery and worked flint. These features may be the remnant of a segmented boundary or enclosure. Given the shallowness of these gullies it is possible that the remainder of the features have been lost to ploughing and animal action. One of the gullies (GP 6) contained four sherds of quartz rich pottery; both contained worked flint.

### *Later Pits*

- 4.5.6 The gullies were cut by a pair of small circular pits, including [006] and [018]. These features were very similar to the earlier pits and once again contained Middle Iron Age pottery. In particular, pit [018] contained a fragmented but partially complete jar the 30 sherds of which make up the largest part of the Middle Iron Age pottery assemblage. The pit group also contained two fragments of worked flint and a single unidentifiable piece of animal bone.
- 4.5.6 A third, undated, pit [038] was also assigned to this group due to similarity of shape and fill.

## **4.6 Period 3: Early Roman AD 10-120**

### *Pits*

- 4.6.1 The Early Roman remains were located adjacent to the Middle Iron Age features, with one of the Roman features (pit [040=042] cutting one of the earlier gullies. The Early Roman features [Pit Group P5] comprised two large, sub-circular pits with sterile mid brown fills.
- 4.6.2 Only a single sherd of pottery was retrieved from these pits, consisting of a shoulder fragment from a Braughing-style jar from pit [045].

#### **4.7 Period 4: Late Roman AD 270-400 (Figure 5)**

- 4.7.1 Late Roman activity is limited to the north and east of the site, some distance from the earlier features, and comprised a possible enclosure in the east and evidence of quarrying activity in the north-west.

##### *Possible Enclosure*

- 4.7.2 Two small, broadly perpendicular gullies (GPs 11 and 12) formed a corner of a possible enclosure (E6). A further small pit or posthole [024] (GP10) was located at the north-western end of the GP11 gully. The features contained two sherds of highly fired decorated greyware but no other finds.
- 4.7.3 The shallowness of the features suggests that they are severely truncated and much of the possible enclosure has been lost. The alignment of the gullies is mirrored by both Hopton Road and the current field boundary suggesting that this alignment may have existed for some time.

##### *Pits*

- 4.7.4 A series of intercutting pits (P7) were located in the north of the site. The two earliest and largest of these pits (GP 13) were elliptical in shape, with steep sides and flat bases. The southernmost of these pits, pits [065], contained 14 fragments of large mammal bone. The features abutted one another and are likely to have been open simultaneously; they may represent clay extraction pits as they lie in an area of heavier clay.
- 4.7.5 The quarry pits were cut by two smaller pits [063] and [069] (GP 14), one of which (pit [069] yielded a single sherd of Late Roman Oxford ware imitating a samian bowl.

## **5.0 FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS**

### **5.1 Introduction**

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the excavations (Appendix 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 ClfA guidelines (ClfA 2014b). No further conservation is required.

### **5.2 Prehistoric and Roman Pottery by Anna Doherty**

#### Introduction

5.2.1 A small assemblage of prehistoric and Roman pottery from was recovered 11 separate contexts. The material, totalling 48 sherds, weighing 686g, is mostly of Middle Iron Age date and quite a large proportion comes from a single fragmented but partially complete vessel. A few Beaker, earlier Roman and later Roman sherds were also recorded.

5.2.2 The pottery was examined using a x20 binocular microscope and quantified by sherd, count, weight and Estimated Vessel Number on pro forma record sheets and in an Excel spreadsheet (Appendix 3). The prehistoric pottery was recorded according to a site specific fabric type-series, following the guidelines of the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG 2010). In the absence of a regional Roman type-series in Suffolk, Roman fabrics and forms were recorded using codes developed in the adjacent region of Essex (Biddulph et al in prep, incorporating form codes from Going 1987)

#### Site-specific fabric codes

FLIN1 Moderate flint of 0.5-1.5/2mm in with moderate to common rounded quartz of 0.3-0.5mm

FLIN2 Moderate flint 0.5-2.5mm; there are rare large quartz grains up to 0.5m but generally this is much less quartz rich than other fabrics

GROG1 Moderate fine rounded grog (most c. 1mm and light in colour) in a matrix with moderate fine quartz of c.0.1-0.2mm and rare flint of up to 2mm

QUAR1 Common coarse rounded quartz of 0.3-0.5mm

QUFL1 Common coarse rounded quartz of 0.3-0.5mm with rare or sparse flint of 0.5-1.5mm

QUGL1 Common coarse rounded quartz of 0.3-0.5mm with sparse glauconite of up to 0.3mm



*Period 1 Early Bronze Age*

5.2.3 The earliest pottery from the site comprises a single grog-tempered bodysherd, weighing 8g, (fabric GROG1) from fill [049] of pit [048], featuring a column of paired fingernail impressions. The fabric and decorative style are fairly typical of Beakers from Clarke's East Anglian Group, more recently reclassified by Case as the East Anglian and south-eastern England group E (Clarke 1970, 146-152; Case 1993, 263-5).

*Period 2 Middle Iron Age*

5.2.4 Iron Age pottery was recovered from ditches [012] and [036], pits [016] and [018], feature [014] and layer [004]. The assemblage is quantified by fabric type in Table 2. Although most of these groups contained fewer than five bodysherds, the range of fabric types, including purely quartz-rich fabrics (QUAR1), and quartz-rich wares with relatively sparse or moderate flint (QUFL1; FLIN1) or glauconite (QUGL1) are broadly typical of the Middle Iron Age. A single flint-tempered sherd (fabric FLIN2) was slightly coarser and less quartz-rich: traits which might be seen as more typical of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age assemblages; however it was stratified with other quartz-rich fabric types and there is no clear evidence that it is of earlier date.

5.2.5 As a general rule in central East Anglia, flint-tempered fabrics predominate in the Early to Middle Iron Age but tend to be outnumbered by non-flint-tempered quartz-rich fabrics after c.300BC. Flint-tempered wares are for example, poorly represented in the largely later Middle Iron Age assemblage from Hurst Lane, Ely (Percival 2007) whereas they are in the majority in a largely Early/Middle Iron Age assemblage from RAF Mildenhall (Doherty in prep). A similar broad trend towards a greater proportion of sandier fabrics later in the Iron Age was also noted at Fison way, Thetford (Gregory 1991, 158).

<b>Fabric</b>	<b>Sherds</b>	<b>Weight (g)</b>	<b>ENV</b>
FLIN1	2	20	2
FLIN2	1	4	1
GRS (intrusive Roman grey ware)	1	6	1
QUAR1	31	410	2
QUFL1	4	110	3
QUGL1	4	18	2
Total	43	568	11

Table 2: Quantification of pottery fabrics in deposits of Period 2

5.2.6 The only diagnostic pottery from this phase is made up by 30 sherds, weighing 406g from a fragmented, partially-complete jar found in fill [017] of pit [018] (Figure 6). The jar, in quartz-rich fabric QUAR1, has a well-defined neck and shoulder. The fabric QUAR1 is broadly consistent with a Middle Iron Age date and the well-defined neck and shoulder of this vessel find good parallels with typical Middle Iron Age forms from Suffolk presented by Martin (1999) in his overview of prehistoric pottery from the region (e.g. Fig 3.17, no.

25). The vessel from Barningham also shows some evidence of very light finger impressions around the rim and long finger smears on the neck. These are possibly related to forming technique rather than representing deliberate decoration, although they may suggest some continuity with Early Iron Age decorated pottery styles. If this is the case, it might hint at a relatively early date within the Middle Iron Age. At Hurst Lane Ely, decoration was shown to have disappeared by c.300BC (Percival 2007, 56). A recent review of dating evidence in Norfolk also places decorated assemblages perhaps as late as c.350BC, though probably not much later (Brudenell 2011, 19-22). Having said this some vessels from Suffolk characterised as Middle/Late Iron Age by Martin (1999) do display finger-tip decoration (e.g. Fig. 3.18, 33 & 38) although no detailed rationale is given for assigning them to this later phase.

- 5.2.7 The partially-complete nature of this jar is of interest and suggests fairly direct deposition of pottery being used in the vicinity and perhaps even deliberate structured deposition. Having said this, this vessel is not associated with any other notable finds and there are few published parallels for 'special deposits' of pottery in pits from the immediate vicinity of Barningham.

*Prehistoric pottery catalogue (Figure 6)*

Shouldered, necked jar with prominent finger marks on neck area (possibly the result of forming technique rather than deliberate decoration); Fabric coarse quartz-rich ware (QUAR1) Catalogue context [017], fill of pit [018].

*Period 3 Early Roman*

- 5.2.8 A single sherd of earlier Roman pottery, weighing 16g was recovered from fill [045] of pit [045]. It is a shoulder from a Braughing style jar with horizontal rilled decoration, in an unsourced black-surfaced sandy fabric of probable mid 1<sup>st</sup> to early 2<sup>nd</sup> century date.

*Period 4 Late Roman*

- 5.2.9 Three sherds of later Roman pottery, weighing 94g were recovered from ditch [026] and pit [069]. The former produced two high-fired grey ware sherds, one with burnished loop decoration and the other with burnished wavy lines. Although these are not very closely datable, they are fairly typical of fabrics and decorative styles produced by later Roman coarseware industries.
- 5.2.10 A sherd of Oxfordshire red-slipped ware from a bowl imitating samian Dragendorff 38 flanged bowls was found in pit [069]. The Oxfordshire industry underwent a marked expansion from the late 3<sup>rd</sup> century although some sources have suggested that it was not widely marketed in East Anglia until the 4<sup>th</sup> century (Arthur 2004, 162).

### 5.3 Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

- 5.3.1 A small assemblage comprising 65 pieces of struck flint weighing 531g was recovered through hand collection and from bulk environmental samples during the archaeological work at the site. The pieces of struck flint were retrieved from nine archaeological features (seven pits and two ditches) and a layer. The majority came from four pits ([48], [55], [61] and [52]) dated to the Early Bronze Age (Period 1). A breakdown of the composition of the assemblage is presented in Table 3.
- 5.3.2 The artefacts were manufactured from a fine grained dark grey flint with a buff cortex of varying thickness. The majority exhibit moderate edge modification indicating limited movement within the soil matrix. Seven pieces were broken, and one piece was almost entirely re-corticated milky blue. The latter came from layer [04] and consists of a blade, the distal end of which is absent. The artefact exhibits minimal direct retouch on the left side towards the distal end. It strongly suggests a Mesolithic/Early Neolithic date.

#### *Pit [48]*

- 5.3.3 Pit [48] is associated with Beaker ceramics (Period 1). It produced a total of 50 pieces of struck flint. The assemblage consists entirely of unmodified pieces, including 26 flakes, six waste pieces, a core and 17 chips. The flakes include primary, secondary as well as tertiary flakes. The majority display plain or cortical platforms and butts with incipient cones of percussion. Although no refits were found, several flakes could originate from the same nodule. They are relatively fresh suggesting minimal movement. The unclassifiable core has only been minimally used. Despite the absence of chronological pieces, the material is likely to be contemporary with the pit feature.

#### *The remaining material*

- 5.3.4 With the exception of the minimally retouched pieces from layer [04], the remaining material consists entirely of flakes. None of the flakes could be closely dated on technological grounds.

Period	Flakes	Irregular waste	Chip	Cores	Retouched form	Total
1.1	32	6	17	1	-	56
2.1	7	-	-	-	1	8
3.2	1	-	-	-	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>65</b>

Table 3: The flintwork from Hopton Road, Barningham

#### **5.4 Animal Bone**\_by Gemma Ayton

- 5.4.1 A small assemblage of animal bone containing 22 fragments was recovered from three contexts including [005], [054] and [064]. Context [005] contains small, poorly preserved, unidentifiable fragments. A single caprine metatarsal was recovered from context [054] which displays evidence of butchery in the form of small chop marks on the shaft. The majority of the assemblage was recovered from context [64] which contains 14 fragments of large-mammal, long bone. No evidence of burning, gnawing or pathology was noted.

#### **5.5 Environmental Samples** Lucy Allott & Dawn Elise Mooney

##### *Introduction*

- 5.5.1 A total of eight bulk environmental samples were taken during the archaeological works. Although a previous evaluation at the site revealed very few charred macro plant remains (Summers 2013) samples were taken to recover environmental remains such as wood charcoal, charred macrobotanical remains, fauna and mollusca and to assist artefact recovery. Deposits sampled include pit features dating to Periods 1, 2 and 3.

##### *Methods*

- 5.5.2 Samples were processed in their entirety in a flotation tank with the residues and flots retained on 500µm and 250µm meshes and air dried prior to sorting. The residues were passed through graded sieves (8, 4 and 2mm) and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefact remains (Appendices 4 and 5). Artefacts have been incorporated into the relevant finds reports.
- 5.5.3 The flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at x7-45 magnifications and their contents recorded (Appendix 4). Taxonomic identifications were made by comparing the macrobotanical remains with modern specimens and with those documented in reference manuals (Cappers *et al.* 2006, Jacomet 2006, and NIAB 2004). Nomenclature used follows Stace (1997).
- 5.5.4 Charcoal fragments recovered from the heavy residue of the samples 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), and by comparison with modern reference material held at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London. 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 Appendices 4 and 5.

## Results

### *Period 1 Early Bronze Age 2500-1700BC*

Samples <2> [53] and <3> [54] from pit [55] and samples <1> [49], <4> [52] and <5> [61] from pit features [48], [52] and [61] respectively

- 5.5.5 Pit features dating to this occupation produced variable assemblages of charred macrobotanical remains such as cereal caryopses and weed/wild seeds. These remains were recovered from both the residues and flots and are therefore recorded in Appendices 4 and 5. Preliminary taxonomic identifications of cereal crops include wheat (*Triticum* sp.), spelt/emmer glume wheat (*Triticum spelta/dicoccum*), barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and oat (*Avena* sp.). Although weed seeds and remains from wild plants were less abundant in these deposits a greater range of taxa are represented. Hazel (*Corylus avallana*) nut shell fragments were recorded in sample <1>, sedge (*Carex* sp.), rushes (*Juncus* sp.) and grasses (Poaceae) were present in sample <2>, while sample <3> contained dock/knotgrass (*Rumex/Polygonum* sp.), clover/medick (*Trifolium/Medicago* sp.), grasses and possible hemp-nettle (cf. *Galeopsis* sp.). Most samples produced only small quantities of charred wood remains, although moderate assemblages were recorded in samples <4> and <5>. Charcoal fragments from both samples were identified as oak (*Quercus* sp.). Sample <1> also contained two undiagnostic calcined/burnt bone fragments, measuring <4mm in size.

### *Period 2 Middle Iron Age 400-50BC*

Sample <8> [17] pit [18]

- 5.5.6 No charred macro plant remains were present in this sample. The flot contained a large proportion of uncharred modern vegetation and land snail shells all of which may also be intrusive within this deposit. This sample produced only a small quantity of wood charcoal, mostly comprised of small fragments <4mm. A few fragments of calcined/burnt bone fragments were present, none of which are considered diagnostically human (Forsythe pers. comm.).

### *Period 4 Late Roman AD 270-400*

Sample <6> [64] pit [65] and sample <7> [72] pit [73]

- 5.5.7 Small assemblages of charred cereal caryopses were present in both samples. Taxa noted include wheat and spelt or emmer glume wheat (*Triticum spelta/dicoccum*). Both samples from this period contained only small amounts of charred wood fragments, mostly <4mm. Modern uncharred vegetation dominated both flots and land snail shells which may also be intrusive were also present.

## 6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

### 6.1 Discussion

#### *Introduction*

- 6.1.1 A large number of features identified during the evaluation as being of archaeological origin were further investigated during the excavation, with the vast majority shown to be the result of bioturbation/animal action, containing only residual prehistoric pottery.
- 6.1.2 However, further evidence of prehistoric and Roman activity was found. The earliest features on site were a series of pits dated to the Early Bronze Age (2500-1700 BC). Middle Iron Age, Early and Late Roman features were also recorded.

#### *Period 1 Early Bronze Age*

- 6.1.3 The earliest features on site were a series of pits dated to the Early Bronze Age (2500-1700 BC). As well as Beaker pottery and burnt bone these pits contained worked flint, one pit containing a core and flakes which appear to have been knapped close to the feature.
- 6.1.4 Two of these pits also show some possible signs of *in situ* burning or at least still-hot material being deposited. They also contained charred plant remains, unlike the later prehistoric features, which had become incorporated in pit fills as either wind-blown detritus, most likely from crop processing nearby, or deposited as food waste.
- 6.1.5 The signs of *in situ* burning within some of the features, as well as the presence of burnt bone and charred plant remains suggests food processing and consumption on site. Either these pits could have housed a cooking fire and were later used as rubbish pits for the food waste or the still hot waste was dumped within the purpose dug rubbish pits. The size and number of Early Bronze Age features suggests fairly small scale transient activity. Given the lack of activity in the surrounding area it seems more likely the charred plant remains are the result of food waste rather than crop processing. The probable flint working on site may have been some *ad hoc* repairs to damaged implements.
- 6.1.6 The site lies within a relatively sparse Early Bronze Age landscape with the only scatters of Bronze Flint flakes and pottery recorded in the local landscape. Despite research of the local area no local parallels have been found for the excavated features. The most notable site active in the Early Bronze in the wider vicinity is the flint extraction site at Grimes Graves to the north-west of the site. This nationally important site would have provided much of the worked flint found in the local area and possibly that found on the site.

#### *Period 2 Middle Iron Age*

- 6.1.7 A series of Middle Iron Age pits and gullies were recorded in the south of the site; some of these features were previously recorded during the evaluation.

These intercutting features almost all contained pottery but very little other cultural material apart from occasional flint flakes and tiny fragments of unidentified burnt bone. The pitting, despite taking place in two separate events, was homogenous and consisted of mainly small pits with dark silty fills. They may have been focused on a now-lost, more ephemeral feature or element in the landscape, given how tightly clustered they are and the lack of any other Middle Iron Age pits elsewhere in the excavation area.

- 6.1.8 The two gullies were not part of a ring ditch or drip gully as previously suggested but short parallel lengths, possibly originally part of a segmented enclosure, which has been largely lost to ploughing and bioturbation. The HER search yielded no sites of Iron Age date within 1km of the site. A wider search of the area has also yielded very few comparable sites. This is typical of Iron Age Suffolk and Norfolk where the concentration of activity and mainly limited to the lighter, sandier soil areas (Medleycott, 2011). Possible Iron Age settlement sites are known at Hopton to the north-east and around Hepworth to the south-east. However segmented boundary ditches were not recorded on these sites.
- 6.1.10 Given the extremely limited resource of comparative sites in the area it is difficult to draw conclusions about the nature of the Iron Age activity on the site. The intense pitting focussed on such a limited area suggests some now lost topographical feature to attract such activity. The amount of pottery found within some of the pits does suggest that a settlement lay nearby. Currently the nearest known settlement activity of Iron Age date is at Hopton to the north-east and particularly around Hepworth to the south-east. However given the significant distance between these locations and the site it is possible that there is a more local settlement which has so far remained undiscovered.

*Period 3 Early Roman*

- 6.1.11 The Early Roman activity (AD 10-120) comprised a pair of large, circular pits. These contained very few finds and were located very close to the Middle Iron Age features and may suggest some continuation of use in this area, although it is worth noting the absence of Late Iron Age features.

*Period 4 Late Roman*

- 6.1.12 The Late Roman period (AD 270-400) was better represented on site with two gullies forming the corner of a possible enclosure. Samples from other features from this period contained the remains of cereals, suggesting probable agriculture. The ditches are mirrored by the current field system as well as Hopton Road itself suggesting that the field alignments and possibly the road may have originated in the Roman period or before.
- 6.1.13 Certainly, the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1837 shows Hopton Road and the current field alignment already established, though earlier maps are not sufficiently detailed to show the road or fields. Despite this lack of positive cartographic evidence for the earlier inception of road and field system, the alignments of Mill Road to the south of Hopton Road, and of Bardwell Road (Figure 1) do seem to form a single relatively straight road through the centre of Barningham. This lies on the approximate line of the Roman road to Caistor (*Venta Icenorum*) as identified by Margary (Margary,

1973), although this was not highlighted during the HER search. The continued use of this Roman road alignment would suggest that Hopton Road or an earlier variant was in use as a byway by the time of the foundation of Barningham, probably during the Saxon period. The field boundaries perpendicular to Hopton Road could also therefore feasibly be of a similar date.

6.1.14 The settlement of Barningham was already established by the Domesday Book of 1086 and so is likely to have originated in the Saxon period. The site has lain on the edge of the settlement since this time and has remained relatively undisturbed for that period. The location of the site on the edge of the settlement would suggest that it would have been utilised for farming and it is therefore likely that some form of land division would have been necessary. The lack of evidence for other boundary alignments on site may again suggest that the field alignment has remained relatively unchanged since the Roman period.

6.1.15 A cluster of intercutting pits were also of Late Roman date. The earlier and larger two pits are likely to have been for clay extraction. The smaller two pits are of uncertain function. The pits contained very few finds while the samples produced small assemblages of cereal remains but little charcoal. The wider area provides very few parallels for the possible clay extraction pits on site. However, a number of Roman pottery kilns have been recorded within the area including examples at Hillside Farm to the north-east of the site, at Hepworth particularly towards Hepworth and Wattisfield to the east where a known centre of pottery manufacture was located (Moore, 1988). The manufacture of pottery would require nearby sources of charcoal as well as clay for the kiln and for the pottery itself. The extraction of clay on site could not only have helped to meet this demand but the proximity to a putative road at this time would have facilitated movement of the clay to nearby production sites.



## **6.2 Conclusions**

- 6.2.1 The site had been severely disturbed by bioturbation with the majority of features recorded during the evaluation were conclusively proven to be animal burrows which in some cases contained residual pottery. The features recorded ranged in date from the Early Bronze Age to the Late Roman period.
- 6.2.2 The Early Bronze Age activity comprised a series of pits some of which showed signs of in situ burning and contained burnt plant remains and bone as well as pottery. One of the pits contained a significant amount of worked flint suggestive of flint working in close proximity. The nature of these pits and their location some distance from other known Early Bronze Age sites suggests they may be related to transient occupation only, possibly a short term camp where food was consumed and dumped within pits which may have also been used for cooking.
- 6.2.3 The Iron Age activity was focussed on a single part of the site and comprised possible boundary ditches and a number of intercutting pits. Most of the features contained little material although one pit did contain a partially complete pot. The features appear to be clustered around a now absent topographical feature and, like the Bronze Age features, sit in relative isolation within the landscape.
- 6.2.4 Two early Roman pits were recorded on site. However, the majority of Roman activity was late in date and comprised probable clay extraction pits and boundary or enclosure ditches. The ditches ran on the same alignment as the current field system and Hopton Road to the north-west. Given that Hopton road is likely to run on the alignment of a known Roman road it seems likely that the current field system can be seen as the continued use of land division that originated in the Roman period.
- 6.2.5 The clay extraction pits would have been ideally placed to utilise the road to transport material. A known centre of pottery manufacture lay to the east near Wattisfield and Hepworth, an industry which would have required significant amounts of clay.
- 6.2.6 Overall, the lack of comparative sites in the local area makes conclusions difficult. However, the presence of multi-phase activity on this site does indicate that was isolated pockets of activity were present during the later prehistoric with the landscape being more effectively utilised during the Roman period.

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**Appendix 1: Context Register**

(Type- F=fill, C=cut, L=layer)  
(Land use- E=Enclosure, P=Pit cluster)

<b>Code</b>	<b>Feature Type</b>
D	ditch, gully, drain, sewer, culvert etc
EC	external cultivation
N	natural strata
NS	natural soil (unspecified)
OC	occupation debris
P	pit (unspecified)

CONTEXT	TYPE	FEATURE TYPE	COMMENT	DESCRIPTION	LENGTH (M)	WIDTH (M)	DEPTH/THICKNESS (M)	SUBGROUP	GROUP	LAND USE	PERIOD
1	Layer	EC	Ploughsoil	Dark, grey brown silty clay	50.00	40.00	0.25-0.45	33	1		
2	Layer	NS	Subsoil	Mid brown clay sand	50.00	40.00	0.05-0.15	34	2		
3	Layer	N	Natural	Mid brown to pale yellow clay silt	50.00	40.00	-	35	3		
4	Layer	NS	Spread	Mid grey brown sandy silt	3.50	2.10	0.25	36	2		2
5	Fill	P	Pit fill	Dark brown grey sandy silt	0.84	0.62	0.36	1	8	P4	2
6	Cut	P	Pit cut	Subcircular, steep sided, flat base	0.84	0.62	0.36	1	8	P4	2
7	Fill	D	Gully fill	Mid brown grey sandy silt	5.10	0.40	0.20	2	5	E3	2
8	Cut	D	Gully cut	Curvilinear, gently sloping sides, flat base	5.10	0.40	0.20	2	5	E3	2
9	Fill	P	Pit fill	Dark Grey brown silty clay	0.60	0.30	0.10	3	7	P2	2
10	Cut	P	Pit cut	Subcircular, steep sides, concave base	0.60	0.30	0.10	3	7	P2	2
11	Fill	D	Gully fill	Mid grey brown sandy silt	5.40	0.38	0.12	4	6	E3	2
12	Cut	D	Gully cut	Curvilinear, steep sides, flat base	5.40	0.38	0.12	4	6	E3	2
13	Fill	P	Feature fill	Mid grey brown sandy clay	2.75	1.70	0.30	5	7	P2	2
14	Cut	P	Feature Cut	Oval, gently sloping sides, flat base	2.75	1.70	0.30	5	7	P2	2
15	Fill	P	Pit fill	Dark brownish grey sandy silt	0.70	0.65	0.38	6	7	P2	2
16	Cut	P	Pit cut	Circular, vertical sides, concave base	0.70	0.65	0.38	6	7	P2	2
17	Fill	P	Pit fill	Dark brownish grey sandy silt	0.80	0.55	0.35	7	8	P4	2
18	Cut	P	Pit cut	Subcircular, steep sides, concave base	0.80	0.55	0.35	7	8	P4	2
19	Fill	D	Gully fill	Mid grey brown sandy silt	5.40	0.57	0.16	8	6	E3	2
20	Cut	P	Feature fill	Mid grey brown sandy clay	2.75	1.88	0.24	5	7	P2	2
21	Fill	D	Gully fill	Mid brown grey sandy silt	5.10	0.73	0.22	33	5	E3	2

CONTEXT	TYPE	FEATURE TYPE	COMMENT	DESCRIPTION	LENGTH (M)	WIDTH (M)	DEPTH/THICKNESS (M)	SUBGROUP	GROUP	LAND USE	PERIOD
22	Fill	D	Gully fill	Mid grey brown sandy silt	5.40	0.56	0.18	34	6	E3	2
23	Fill	D	Gully fill	Mid brown grey sandy silt	5.10	0.62	0.13	35	5	E3	2
24	Cut	P	Pit cut	Oval, gently sloping sides, concave base	0.57	0.52	0.14	9	10	E6	4
25	Fill	P	Pit fill	Pale brown grey sandy sily	0.57	0.52	0.14	9	10	E6	4
26	Cut	D	Ditch cut	Linear, gently sloping sides, flat base	5.92	0.70	0.12	10	11	E6	4
27	Fill	D	Ditch fill	Dark grey black sandy silt	5.92	0.70	0.12	10	11	E6	4
28	Cut	D	Ditch cut	Linear, gently sloping sides, flat base	5.92	0.70	0.16	11	11	E6	4
29	Fill	D	Ditch fill	Dark grey black sandy silt	5.92	0.70	0.16	11	11	E6	4
30	Cut	D	Ditch cut	Linear, gently sloping sides, flat base	4.24	0.29	0.18	12	12	E6	4
31	Fill	D	Ditch fill	Mid brown sandy silt	4.24	0.29	0.18	12	12	E6	4
32	Cut	D	Ditch cut	Linear, gently sloping sides, flat base	5.92	0.88	0.18	13	11	E6	4
33	Fill	D	Ditch fill	Mid grey brown sandy silt	5.92	0.88	0.18	13	11	E6	4
34	Cut	D	Ditch cut	Linear, gently sloping sides, flat base	4.24	0.67	0.11	14	12	E6	4
35	Fill	D	Ditch fill	Mid brown sandy silt	4.24	0.67	0.11	14	12	E6	4
36	Cut	D	Gully cut	Curvilinear, gently sloping sides, flat base	5.10	0.67	0.12	15	5	E3	2
37	Fill	D	Gully fill	Mid brown grey sandy silt	5.10	0.67	0.12	15	5	E3	2
38	Cut	P	Pit cut	Cicular, steep sides, concave base		0.74	0.18	16	8	P4	2
39	Fill	P	Pit fill	Pale grey brown sandy clay		0.74	0.18	16	8	P4	2
40	Cut	P	Pit cut	Subcircular, steep sides, concave base	2.45	1.61	0.33	17	9	P5	3
41	Fill	P	Pit fill	Mid brown sandy clay	2.45	1.61	0.33	17	9	P5	3
42	Cut	P	Pit cut	Subcircular, steep sides, concave base	2.45	1.61	0.48	17	9	P5	3



CONTEXT	TYPE	FEATURE TYPE	COMMENT	DESCRIPTION	LENGTH (M)	WIDTH (M)	DEPTH/THICKNESS (M)	SUBGROUP	GROUP	LAND USE	PERIOD
43	Fill	P	Pit fill	Mid brown sandy clay	2.45	1.61	0.48	17	9	P5	3
44	Cut	P	Pit cut	Subcircular, steep sides, concave base	2.30	1.81	0.51	19	9	P5	3
45	Fill	P	Pit fill	Mid brown sandy clay	2.30	1.81	0.51	19	9	P5	3
46	Cut	P	Pit cut	Subcircular, steep sides, concave base	2.30	0.83	0.34	19	9	P5	3
47	Fill	P	Pit fill	Mid brown sandy clay	2.30	0.83	0.34	19	9	P5	3
48	Cut	P	Pit cut	Subcircular, vertical sides, concave base	0.60	0.59	0.32	21	4	P1	1
49	Fill	P	Pit fill	Dark brown silty sand	0.60	0.49	0.16	21	4	P1	1
50	Fill	P	Pit fill	Pale brown grey silty clay	0.60	0.59	0.22	21	4	P1	1
51	Fill	P	Pit fill	Dark grey brown silty clay	0.85	0.76	0.31	22	4	P1	1
52	Cut	P	Pit cut	Oval, steep sides, concave base	0.85	0.76	0.31	22	4	P1	1
53	Fill	P	Pit fill	Brown grey sandy silt	0.71	0.47	0.26	23	4	P1	1
54	Fill	P	Pit fill	Black-red clay	0.71	0.47	0.06	23	4	P1	1
55	Cut	P	Pit cut	Oval, steep sided, concave base	0.71	0.47	0.32	23	4	P1	1
56	Fill	P	Pit fill	Mid grey sand silt	1.00	0.44	0.11	24	4	P1	1
57	Cut	P	Pit cut	Oval, gently sloping sides, concave base	1.00	0.44	0.11	24	4	P1	1
58	Fill	P	Pit fill	Mid brownish grey sand silt	1.80	1.18	0.40	25	4	P1	1
59	Cut	P	Pit cut	Oval, steep sides. Concave base	1.80	1.18	0.40	25	4	P1	1
60	Fill	P	Pit fill	Pale grey sandy silt	0.83	0.60	0.24	26	4	P7	1
61	Cut	P	Pit cut	Oval, steep sides, concave base	0.83	0.60	0.24	26	4	P7	1
62	Fill	P	Pit fill	Dark grey sandy silt	1.10	1.05	0.52	27	14	P7	4
63	Cut	P	Pit cut	Subcircular, steep sides concave base	1.10	1.05	0.52	27	14	P7	4

CONTEXT	TYPE	FEATURE TYPE	COMMENT	DESCRIPTION	LENGTH (M)	WIDTH (M)	DEPTH/THICKNESS (M)	SUBGROUP	GROUP	LAND USE	PERIOD
64	Fill	P	Pit fill	Mid brown grey sandy silt	5.95	2.20	0.80	28	13	P7	4
65	Cut	P	Pit cut	Oval, steep sides, concave base	5.95	2.20	0.80	28	13	P7	4
66	Fill	D	Pit fill	Mid brownish grey sand silt	6.18	0.90	0.42	29	13	P7	4
67	Cut	D	Pit cut	Elliptical, steep sides, concave base	6.18	0.90	0.42	29	13	P7	4
68	Fill	P	Pit fill	Dark grey sandy silt	1.10	1.05	0.50	30	14	P7	4
69	Cut	P	Pit cut	Subcircular, steep sides concave base	1.10	1.05	0.50	30	14	P7	4
70	Fill	D	Pit fill	Mid brownish grey sand silt	6.18	0.90	0.42	31	13	P7	4
71	Cut	D	Pit cut	Elliptical, steep sides, concave base	6.18	0.90	0.42	31	13	P7	4
72	Fill	D	Pit fill	Mid brownish grey sand silt	6.18	0.90	0.42	32	13	P7	4
73	Cut	D	Pit cut	Elliptical, steep sides, concave base	6.18	0.90	0.42	32	13	P7	4

## Appendix 2: Finds and Environmental Quantifications

### Bulk Finds Quantification

Context	Pottery	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Bone	Wt (g)	Flint	Wt (g)	FCF	Wt (g)	Stone	Wt (g)	F. clay	Wt (g)
0004	2	8	1	20			1	10						
0005					7	<2	2	26						
0007							2	12	1	52	1	64		
0011	4	110					1	4	3	172				
0013	4	12												
0015	3	14												
0017	31	408												
0020	1	4												
0027	2	40											1	6
0037	1	16												
0045	1	14												
0049	1	8					1	20	30	632				
0054					1	8							7	132
64					14	52	1	12						
68	1	52												
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>138</b>

### Appendix 3: Pottery Quantification

Feature type	Fabric	Form	Dec	Sh	Smp	ENV	Comments	RimD	EVE	Wt (g)
NS	GRS			1		1	Looks like a reasonably early Roman fabric			6
NS	FLIN1			1		1	Moderate flint 0.5-1.5/2mm mod/common rounded quartz 0.3-0.5mm			4
D	QUFL1			4		3	On a continuum with FLIN1 but more common quartz and only rare/sparse flint			110
0	QUGL1		DCOR	1		1	Fine applied cordon with fine impressed dashes. Looks IA in character although quite an unusual decorative style. As other quartz rich fabrics but with sparse glauconite up to 0.3mm			4
0	QUAR1			1		1	As QUFL1 but flint free			4
P	QUGL1			3		1				14
P	QUAR1	Jar : necked	FND	30		1	c. half complete- well defined neck and shoulder. Very light fingernail impressions on rim and long finger impressions on neck which might result from forming technique. The dec probably suggests some continuity with EIA pot styles although overall fabric and form sit more comfortably in the MIA	140	0.15	406
0	FLIN2			1		1	This example is much less sandy than the others flint 0.5-2.5mm; occasional large quartz grains. Quite thin-walled. Not very certainly dated but more typical of LBA fabrics			4
D	GRS		WL	1		1	High fired burnished wavy line			22
D	GRS		BUD	1		1	High fired burnished squiggle - kind of reminds me of some of the late Roman Lincolnshire fabrics			18
D	FLIN1			1		1	slight pedestal base			16
P	BSW1		RLD	1		1	Shoulder from a braughing style jar- looks like a post-conquest fabric			16
P	GROG1		FND	1		1	Mod fine rounded grog most c. 1mm and light in colour. Mod fine quartz of c.0.1-0.2mm rare flint up to 2mm. Paired "crows feet" fingernail impressions.			8
P	OXRC	C81		1		1	Drag 38 style bowl	190	0.03	54

**Appendix 4: Environmental Residue Quantification (\* = 1-10, \*\* = 11-50, \*\*\* = 51-250, \*\*\*\* = >250) and weights in grams**

Period/Phase	Sample Number	Context	Parent Context	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume litres	Sub-sample volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Charred botanicals (other than charcoal)	Weight (g)	Charred botanical Identifications	Burnt bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt Bone 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1.1	1	49	48	P	40	40	*	<2	***	4		*	<2	<i>Corylus avellana</i> nut shell frags (4)			*	<2	Flint **/ 405g - stone */ 248g - FCF ***/ 3412g - Mag. Mat. **/ 2g - burnt bone <2mm */ <2g
1.1	2	53	55	P	40	40	*	<2	**	<2		*** (79)	<2	Cerealia indet., <i>Triticum</i> sp., <i>Triticum spelta/dicoccum</i> , cf. <i>Hordeum</i> sp.					Flint */ 23g - Mag. Mat. **/ 4g - pottery */ <2g - FCF **/ 190g - coal */ <2g
1.1	3	54	55	P	10	10	*	<2	**	<2		** (55)	2	Cerealia indet., <i>Triticum</i> sp., <i>Triticum spelta/dicoccum</i> , cf. <i>Hordeum</i> sp.					Mag. Mat **/ 4g - FCF */ 8g - burnt mat. **/ 18g - burnt clay */ 6g
1.1	4	51	52	P	40	40	***	10	****	24	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (10)								Mag. Mat ***/ 6g - pottery */ <2g - FCF **/ 484g
1.1	5	60	61	P	40	40	**	4	***	8	<i>Quercus</i> sp. (10)								Mag. Mat. ***/ 10g - flint */ 4g - FCF ***/ 1236g

Period/Phase	Sample Number	Context	Parent Context	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume litres	Sub-sample volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Charred botanicals (other than charcoal)	Weight (g)	Charred botanical Identifications	Burnt bone 4-8mm	Weight (g)	Burnt Bone 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
2.1	8	17	18	P	40	40	*	<2	**	<2					*	<2	*	<2	Mag. Mat. **/ 2g - burnt clay */ 6g - stone */ 34g - flint */ 11g - pottery */ 16g - FCF **/ 110g
3.2	6	64	65	P	40	40	*	<2	**	<2		** (12)	<2	Cerealia indet., <i>Hordeum</i> sp.					Pottery */ 16g - Mag. Mat. **/ 2g - FCF **/ 110g
3.2	7	72	73	D	40	40	*	<2	*	<2									Pottery */ 6g - Mag. Mat. **/ 2g - FCF **/ 62g

**Appendix 5: Environmental Flot Quantification (\* = 1-10, \*\* = 11-50, \*\*\* = 51-250, \*\*\*\* = >250) and preservation (+ = poor, ++ = moderate and +++ = good)**

PARENT_CON	SUBGROUP	PERIOD/PHASE	Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	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
48	21	1.1	1	49	Pit	<2	5	5	50	<2	*			***							** 30%
55	23	1.1	2	53	Pit	<2	10	10	40	<2	*			***	** (<20)	<i>Triticum spelta/dicoccum</i> , <i>Hordeum</i> sp.	++	*	<i>Carex</i> sp., cf. <i>Juncus</i> sp., cf Poaceae small	++	*** 15%
55	23	1.1	3	54	Pit	<2	5	5	10	<2			*	****	** (<20)	<i>Triticum spelta/dicoccum</i> , <i>Triticum</i> sp., <i>Hordeum</i> sp.	++	** (<20)	<i>Rumex/Polygonum</i> sp., Poaceae small, <i>Trifolium/Medicago</i> sp., <i>Galeopsis</i> sp.	++/+ ++	** 5%
52	22	1.1	4	51	Pit	4	10	10	70	<2	*		* (1)	****	* (1)	cf. <i>Avena</i> sp.	+				** 10%
61	26	1.1	5	60	Pit	<2	5	5	80	<2	*			***				*	indet. Cpr		*** 15%
18	7	2.1	8	17	Pit	<2	10	10	80	<2	*			*							*** 18%
65	28	3.2	6	64	Pit	<2	10	10	75	<2	*			**	*	<i>Triticum spelta/dicoccum</i> , <i>Triticum</i> sp., <i>Cerealia</i> indet.	+				*** 20%
73	32	3.2	7	72	Ditch	2	10	10	90	5	*			**	*(1)	<i>Cerealia</i> indet.	+				** 2%

### Appendix 6: HER Summary

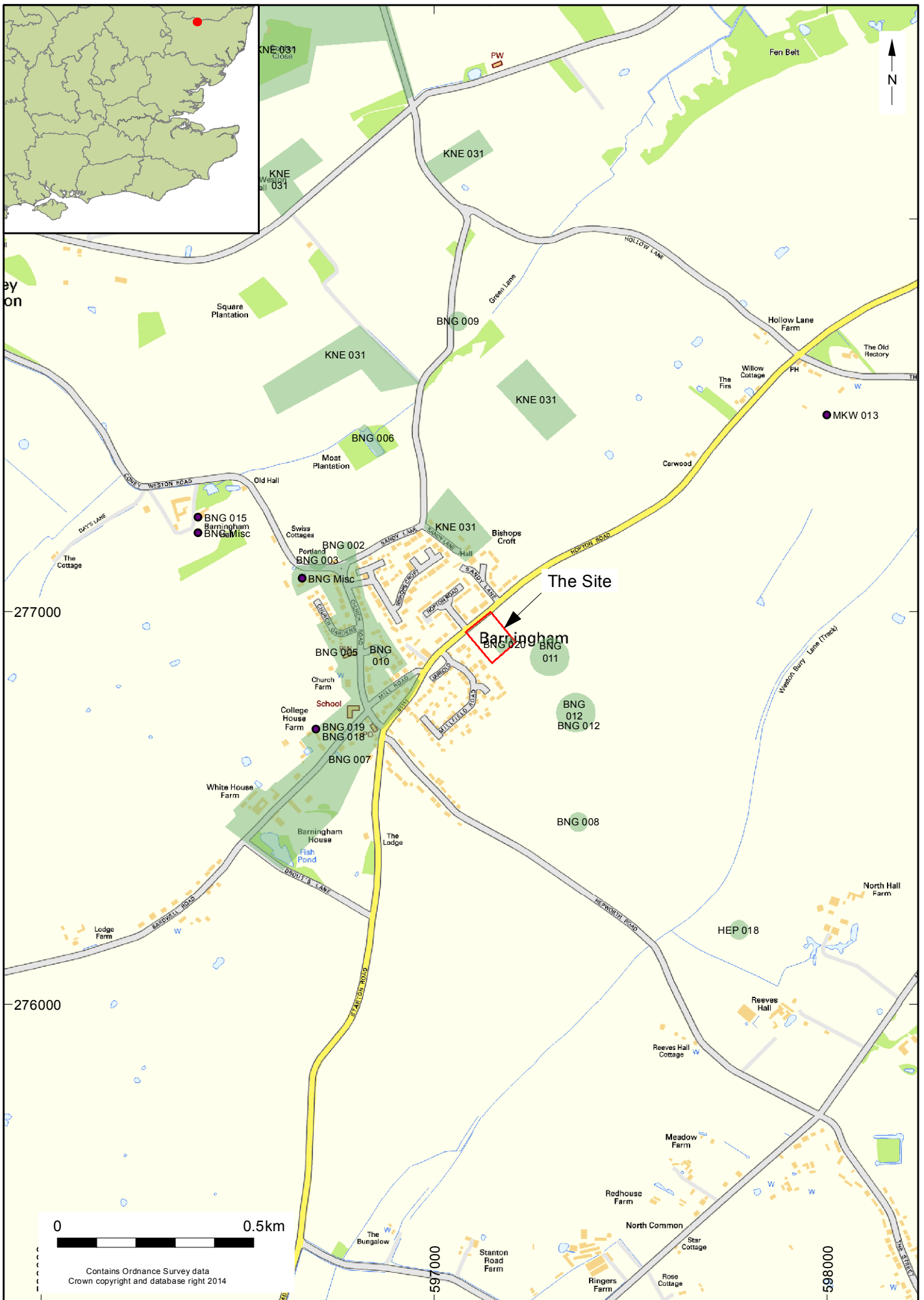
Site Code	BNG 020					
Identification Name and Address	Land at Hopton Road, Barningham					
County, District &/or Borough	Suffolk					
OS Grid Refs.	TL 97100 76900					
Geology	Lowestoft Till					
Arch. South-East Project Number	8121					
Type of Fieldwork	<b>Eval.</b>	<b>Excav.</b>				
Type of Site	<b>Green Field</b>					
Dates of Fieldwork		Excav. 27-01-2014 to 13-02-2014				
Sponsor/Client	Hopkins Homes					
Project Manager	Adrian Scruby/Jim Stevenson					
Project Supervisor	Ian Hogg					
Period Summary				<b>BA</b>	<b>IA</b>	<b>RB</b>
<p>Summary</p> <p>The excavations revealed evidence for multi-period activity on the site from the Early Bronze Age onwards. Four major archaeological periods were identified, with the majority of the activity dated to the prehistoric, specifically the Early Bronze Age and Middle Iron Age. The Early Bronze Age activity consisted of pits containing signs of on-site flint-working and burnt material. The Iron Age activity included parts of a possible segmented enclosure as well as more pitting. There was also evidence of Roman clay extraction and possible field systems.</p>						



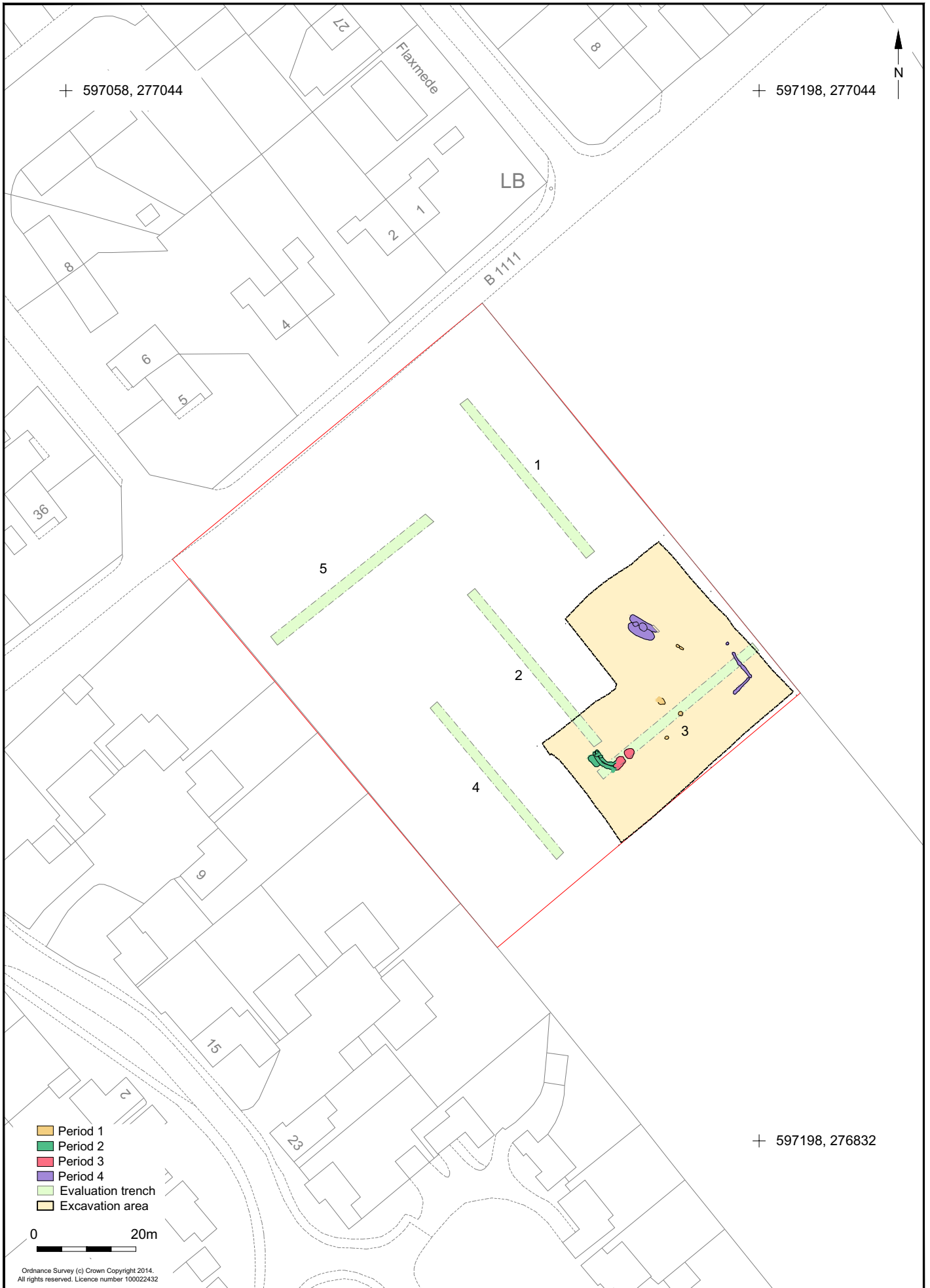
## Appendix 7: OASIS Summary

<b>OASIS ID:</b>	archaeol6-181163
<b>Project details</b>	
Project name	Land at Hopton Road, Barningham
Short description of the project	The excavations revealed evidence for multi-period activity on the site from the Early Bronze Age onwards. Four major archaeological periods were identified, with the majority of the activity dated to the prehistoric, specifically the Early Bronze Age and Middle Iron Age. The Early Bronze Age activity consisted of pits containing signs of on-site flint-working and burnt material. The Iron Age activity included parts of a possible segmented enclosure as well as more pitting. There was also evidence of Roman clay extraction and possible field systems
Project dates	Start: 27-01-2014 End: 13-02-2014
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	BNG 020 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	8121 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m
Monument type	GULLIES Middle Iron Age
Monument type	ENCLOSURE DITCHES? Roman
Monument type	QUARRY PITS Roman
Monument type	PITS Middle Iron Age
Monument type	PITS Early Bronze Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Middle Iron Age
Significant Finds	POTTERY Early Bronze Age
Significant Finds	WORKED FLINT Early Bronze Age
Investigation type	"Open-area excavation"
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
<b>Project location</b>	
Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK ST EDMUNDSBURY BARNINGHAM Land at Hopton Road, Barningham
Postcode	IP31 1BX
Study area	1700.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 9710 7690 52.3542025586 0.894556303252 52 21 15 N 000 53 40 E Point
<b>Project creators</b>	
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	Ian Hogg
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Hopkins Homes
<b>Project archives</b>	
Physical Archive	Suffolk County Council Archive Store

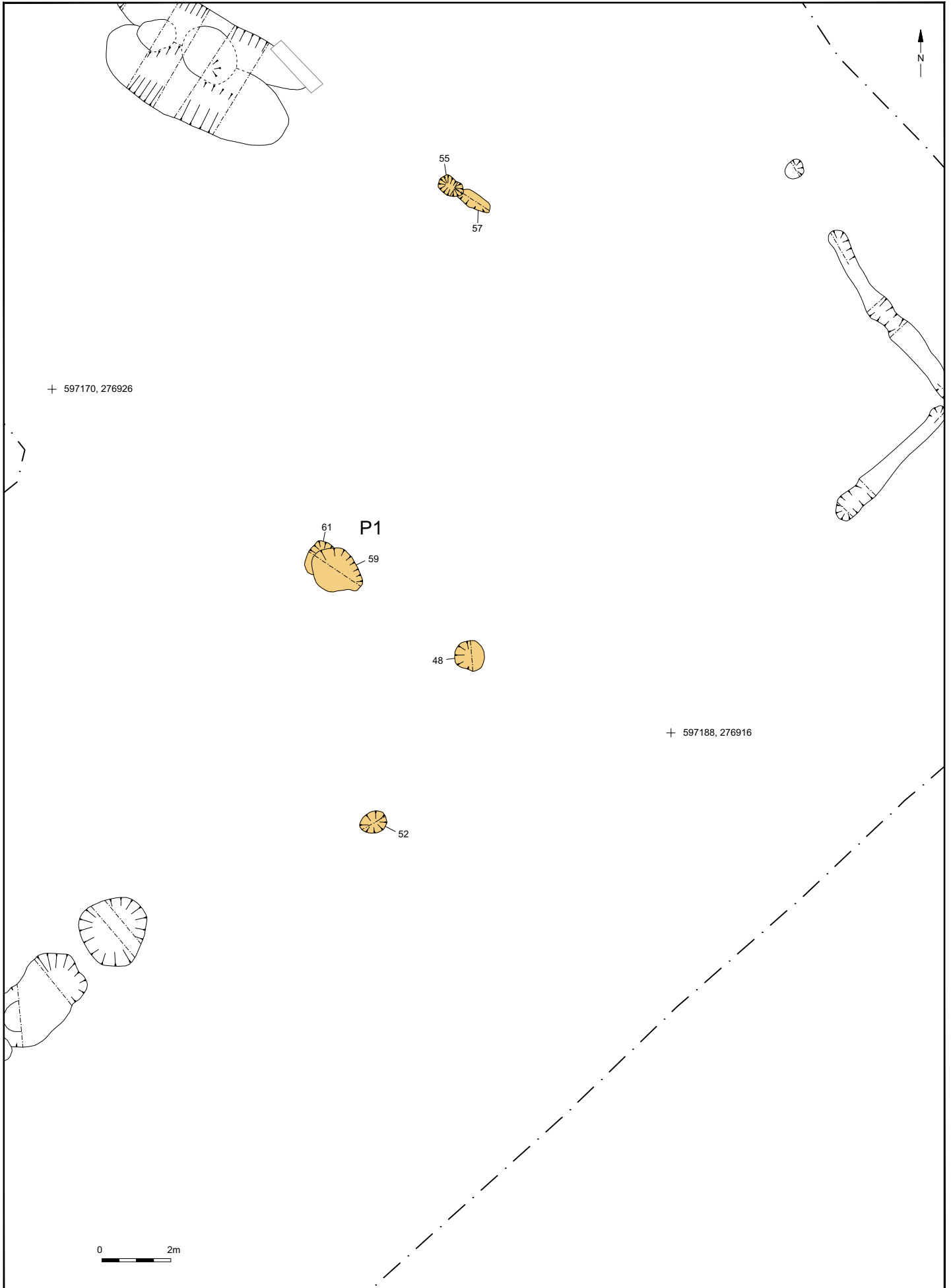
recipient	
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Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Plan","Report","Section","Survey","Unpublished Text"
Entered by	Ian Hogg (ian.hogg@ucl.ac.uk)
Entered on	10 June 2014



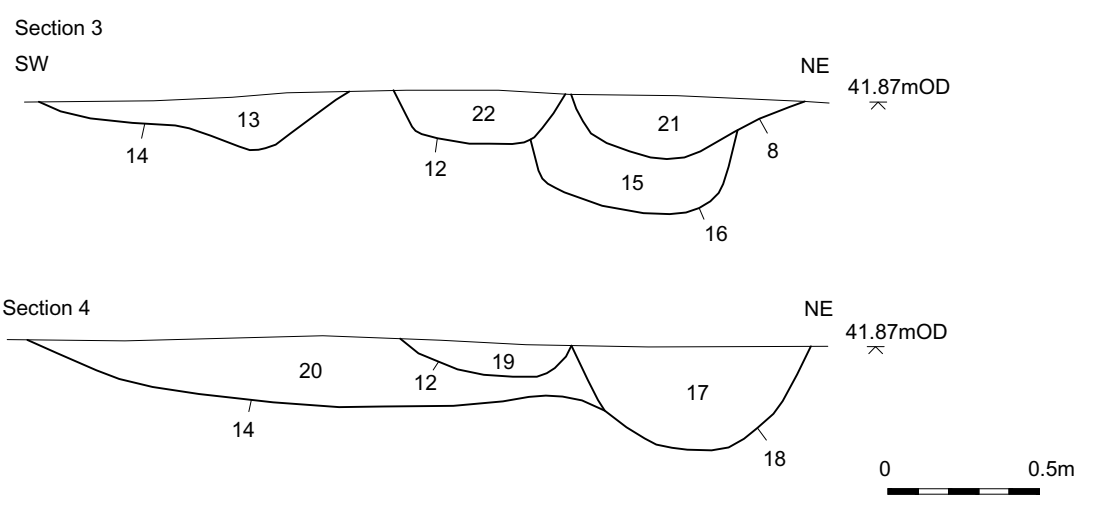
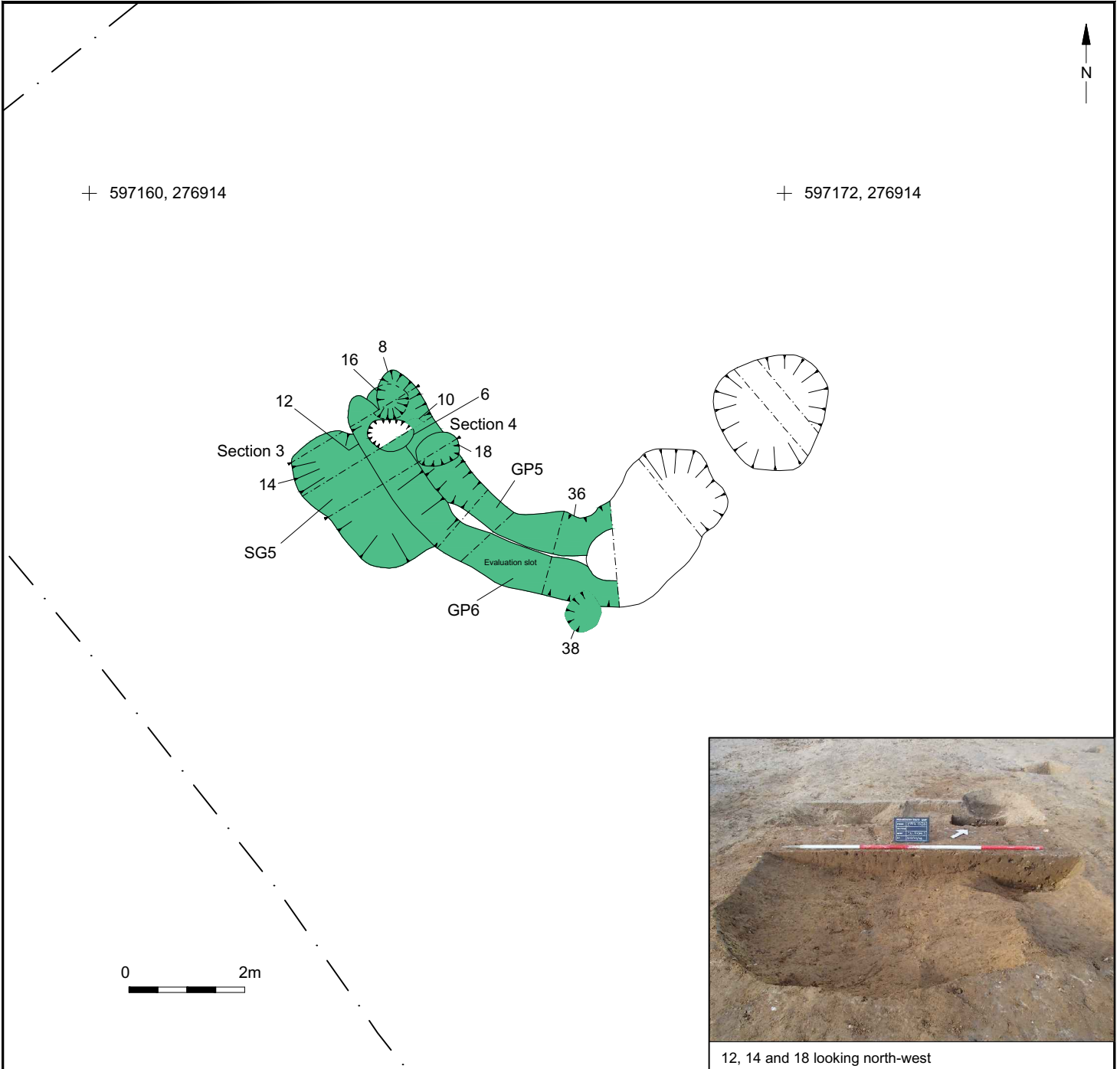
© Archaeology South-East		Hopton Road, Barningham	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 8121	Nov 2014	Site location and HER data	
Report Ref: 2014331	Drawn by: FEG		



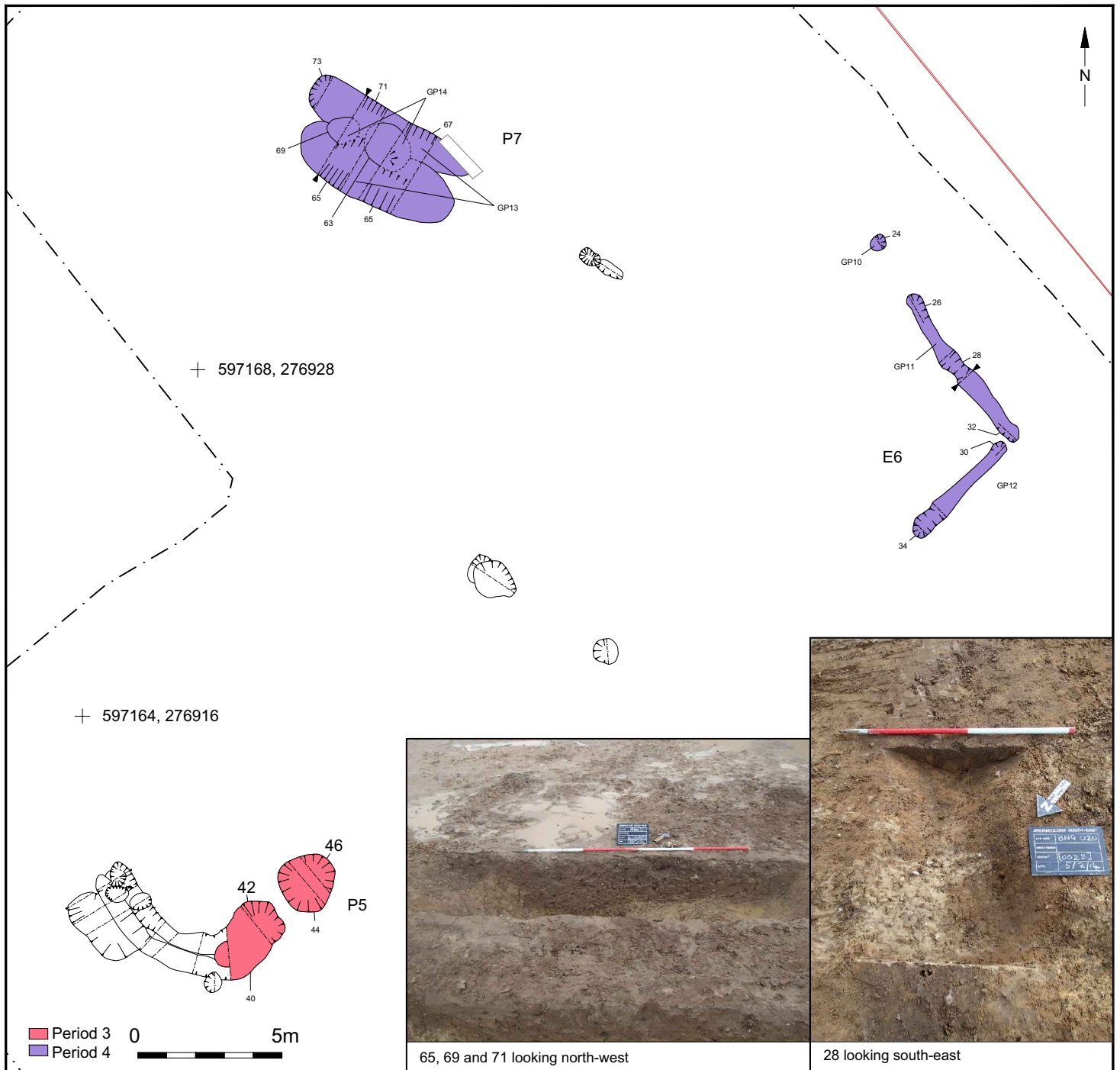
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Project Ref: 8121	Oct 2014	Site plan	
Report Ref: 2014331	Drawn by: AR		



© Archaeology South-East		Hopton Road, Barningham	Fig. 3
Project Ref: 8121	Oct 2014	Period 1, plan	
Report Ref: 2014331	Drawn by: AR		

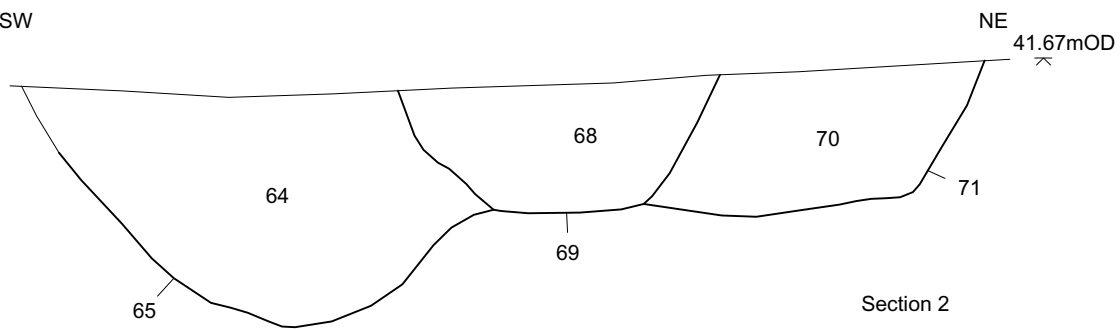


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Project Ref: 8121	Oct 2014	Period 2 plan, sections and photograph		
Report Ref: 2014331	Drawn by: AR			



Section 1

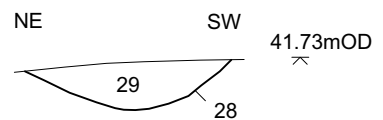
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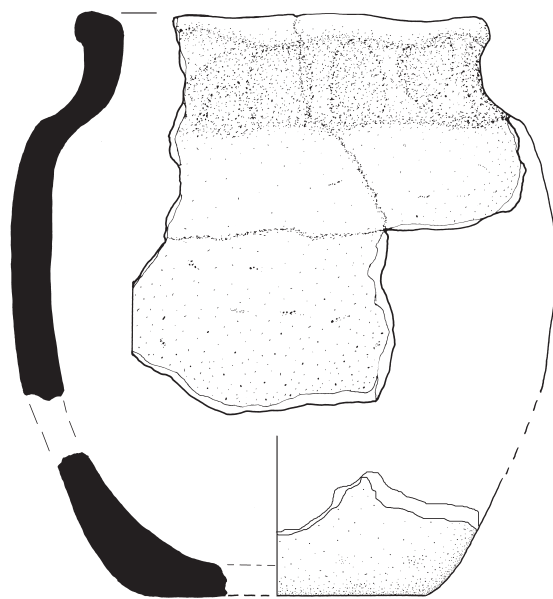
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Section 2

NE



© Archaeology South-East		Hopton Road, Barningham	Fig. 5
Project Ref: 8121	Oct 2014	Period 3 and 4, plan, sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2014331	Drawn by: AR		



0 5cm

17

© Archaeology South-East		Hopton Road, Barningham	Fig. 6
Project Ref: 8121	Jan 2015	Partially complete Middle Iron Age Shouldered, necked jar from context [017]	
Report Ref: 2014331	Drawn by: AR		



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