

Archaeological Evaluation

Land East of Aldeburgh Road, Aldringham, Suffolk, IP16 4PX

> ASE Project No: 171168 Site Code: ARG104

ASE Report No: 2018053



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NGR: TM 44612 61182

Planning Ref: n/a (pre-planning)

ASE Project No: 171168 Site Code: ARG104

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Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation carried out by Archaeology South-East at land east of Aldeburgh Road, Aldringham, Suffolk, IP16 4PX, between 15th and 19th January 2018. The fieldwork was commissioned by CgMs Consulting, on behalf of their client, in advance of a planning application.

Ten trenches were excavated across the 1.5ha site consisting of arable fields and an equestrian paddock. Eight trenches contained archaeological remains comprising ditches and pits, with Trench 1 in the south-west and Trench 10 in the east being devoid of features.

Two ditches and a pit of Early Iron Age date were found in the west of the site.

A single medieval pit was present in the south-central part of the site. Other undated or poorly-dated remains could have been of similar date, though no cohesive patterning was apparent.

A single demonstrably post-medieval ditch was identified.

The majority of the recorded pits and ditches within the site were undated. A number of the ditches conformed to various parallel alignments, some perpendicular to one another, and may constitute multiphase rectilinear field systems, most likely of earlier post-medieval, and/or possibly medieval, date.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

- 1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of The Centre for Applied Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, have been commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land to the east of Aldeburgh Road, Aldringham, Suffolk, IP16 4PX.
- 1.1.2 The evaluation was commissioned in advance of a planning application to Suffolk Coastal District Council (SCDC).

1.2 Location, Geology and Topography

- 1.2.1 The village of Aldringham is located 1.5km south of Leiston and 4.5km northwest of Aldeburgh, in Suffolk. The site comprises a 1.5ha irregular shaped parcel of land centred on NGR TM 44612 61182, south-west of Aldringham House and north-west of Elm Tree Farm (Fig. 1). It is bounded to the north by the access road leading to Aldringham House, to the east and south by arable farmland, and by Aldeburgh Road to the west.
- 1.2.2 The site mainly consists of arable farmland except for a small parcel to the west, which is currently used as an equestrian paddock. There is a moderate slope running across site from 17.92mAOD in the northeast, falling 5.89m down towards the southwest at 12.03mAOD.
- 1.2.3 The British Geological Survey (BSG 2017) identified a natural bedrock of Crag Group sand. Superficial deposits are recorded as Lowestoft Formation comprising glacigenic deposits of clay, silt, sand, gravel and diamicton, with no superficial deposits recorded to the south-west of the site.

1.3 Planning Background

- 1.3.1 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared for an archaeological trench-trench evaluation by ASE (ASE 2017a), and was submitted to and approved by Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (SCCAS/CT) prior to commencement of the work.
- 1.3.2 All work was carried out in accordance with this document and with the SCCAS/CT *Brief for an Archaeological Evaluation and Requirements for Archaeological Evaluation* (2012, Version 1.3), as well as with the appropriate standards and guidance documents of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA 2014a, b, c).
- 1.3.3 In the event that further mitigation work was required, this was to be subject to a separate WSI; any decisions regarding the requirement for further work were to be made by the Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service based on the results of the archaeological evaluation.

1.4 Scope of Report

- 1.4.1 This report describes, discusses and assesses the results of the archaeological evaluation of land east of Aldeburgh Road, Aldringham, Suffolk, carried out between 15th and 19th January 2018.
- 1.4.2 The fieldwork was supervised by Craig Carvey and followed the methodology set out in the WSI (ASE 2017a) and the *Risk Assessment Method Statement* (RAMS) (ASE 2017b). Andy Leonard project managed the fieldwork and Mark Atkinson the post-excavation process.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The following archaeological background is summarised from the WSI previously prepared for the site (ASE 2017a) and the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER). The locations of pertinent sites are shown on Figure 1.

2.2 Prehistoric

- 2.2.1 An isolated, unstratified Bronze Age socketed and looped chisel has been recorded north-west of the site (SHER: LCS 007). Some further prehistoric remains, including a flint scatter and isolated finds have been identified within the vicinity of Aldringham village (SHER: ARG 009).
- 2.2.2 Remains of later prehistoric funerary monuments are also present in the local area. Three bowl barrows (SHER: ARG 001, 012, 013) are located on Aldringham Green, to the south of the site. Bronze Age cremation burials have been found on the north side of Leiston (SHER: LCS 004).
- 2.2.3 Evaluation and area excavation conducted 500m to the north of site, on the edge of Leiston along Aldeburgh Road recorded prehistoric landscape remains (SHER: LCS 128; ASE 2017c). Residual Mesolithic/Early Neolithic flints were recovered from later features and deposits. Two clusters of Early Neolithic pits contained worked flint, pottery and animal bone. A Middle to Late Bronze trackway defined later land use, with a coaxial field system to one side and unenclosed land containing the remains of a possible burial mound to the other. Iron Age activity within this landscape was sparse.
- 2.2.4 Archaeological evaluation was undertaken across a c.8.5ha area of agricultural land to the immediate east of the above site in 2015. Middle/Late Bronze Age to Earlier Iron Age settlement activity was found in the northwest of the site (SHER: LCS 178; PCA 2016). The recorded remains included a single urned cremation of Middle Bronze Age date, several ditches representing field boundaries, two possible roundhouses in a ditched enclosure and three pits.

2.3 Roman

- 2.3.1 Remains of an extensive Roman rectilinear field system was recorded at the Aldeburgh Road site to the north (ESF25304; ASE 2017c). Only a single Roman pit was found and it has been conjectured to have been wholly agricultural in function.
- 2.3.2 The cropmarks of a rectangular enclosure of possible prehistoric or Roman date lie to the north-west of the site (SHER: LCS 019).
- 2.3.3 The site of a possible Roman villa is recorded *c*. 2.8km north-west of the site. Pottery, roof tile, tesserae and a fragment of puddingstone quern were found on the surface of a ploughed field (SHER: KND 004).

2.4 Saxon/Medieval

- 2.4.1 There are no known Saxon/early medieval sites recorded within 1.5km of the site. However, Aldringham clearly has its origins in this period. Aldringham appears in the Domesday Book as part of the manor of Leiston, within the Bishop's Hundred. It contained nine households and had a taxable value of 0.9 geld units.
- 2.4.2 The village of Aldringham lies 1.5km to the south of the larger settlement of Leiston, which was a much larger settlement with a marketplace (SHER: LCS 143) that contained several medieval religious buildings including: Leiston Abbey (a 14th-century structure) (SHER: LCS 001) and the Grade II* Listed church of St Margaret (List No. 1287648).

2.5 Post-Medieval/Modern

- 2.5.1 Based on evidence for the western side of the settlement of Leiston, as well as the current rural character of Aldringham, it seems likely that the post-medieval character of Aldringham was also that of a rural settlement.
- 2.5.2 It is evident from late 19th- to late 20th-century OS maps that the land east of Aldeburgh Road changed little during this period.

2.6 Project Aims and Objectives

- 2.6.1 The general aims of this phase of archaeological investigation were:
 - To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the site
 - To determine the extent, condition, character, date and significance of any archaeological remains encountered
 - To determine the extent of any previous truncations of the archaeological deposits
- 2.6.2 Furthermore, the specific research aims, taking into account the Research and Archaeology Framework for the Eastern Counties (Brown and Glazebrook 2000) and the Revised Framework for the East of England (Medlycott 2011), were to:
 - Determine the presence/absence and significance of any evidence of prehistoric, Roman and Saxon activity within this location
 - Determine the presence/absence and significance of any later activity on the site

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 The evaluation took place in accordance with the RAMS and WSI (ASE 2017a, b) and the appropriate ClfA guidance and standards (ClfA 2014a, b).
- 3.1.2 Ten evaluation trenches were plotted using a Leica GPS (Fig. 2), each measuring 40m by 1.8m. A CAT scan was used by a trained and competent member of staff to scan the trench locations to avoid any live services.
- 3.1.3 The trenches were excavated by a 20 tonne 360° mechanical digger, equipped with a 2.05m toothless ditching bucket, and under the supervision of a trained member of ASE staff. Topsoil and colluvial deposits were removed down to the top of archaeological remains or else the top of the natural horizon and were bunded around the side of the trenches.
- 3.1.4 Trenches and features were cleaned and photographed, and standard ASE Trench Evaluation Record sheets were used to record depths, descriptions and a sketch plan of the trench.
- 3.1.5 All discrete features were excavated by half section and linear features with a 1m-wide segment. All investigated remains were recorded by means of digital photography, section drawings (scale 1:10) and context record sheets.
- 3.1.6 A full photographic record comprising colour digital images was made and all trenches and all excavated contexts were photographed. In addition, a number of representative photographs of the general work on site were taken.
- 3.1.7 All finds were recovered from excavated deposits and features and retained for specialist identification and study, in accordance with ASE and CIfA standards (CIfA 2014c).
- 3.1.8 Bulk soil samples were collected from suitable contexts for the recovery of environmental remains (e.g. carbonised or waterlogged plant macrofossils) and/or small artefacts and faunal remains.
- 3.1.9 A metal detector was used to scan all features prior to excavation, and all topsoil and colluvium that was removed during mechanical excavation.
- 3.1.10 After excavation and recording all trenches were backfilled with the approval of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services.

3.3 Archive

- 3.3.1 Guidelines contained in the ClfA Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives (ClfA 2014d) will be followed for the preparation of the archive for deposition.
- 3.3.2 The site archive is currently held at the offices of ASE and permission will be sought from the landowner to deposit the finds and paper archive with the SCCAS in due course. The contents of the archive are tabulated below.

Context sheets	87
Section sheets	5
Plans sheets	0
Colour photographs	0
B&W photos	0
Digital photos	114
Context register	0
Drawing register	2
Watching brief forms	0
Trench Record forms	10

Table 1: Quantification of site paper archive

Bulk finds (quantity e.g. 1 bag, 1 box, 0.5	1 box
box 0.5 of a box)	
Registered finds (number of)	0
Flots and environmental remains from	2
bulk samples	
Palaeoenvironmental specialists sample	0
samples (e.g. columns, prepared slides)	
Waterlogged wood	0
Wet sieved environmental remains from	0
bulk samples	

Table 2: Quantification of artefact and environmental samples

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 A total of ten evaluation trenches, broadly measuring 40m by 1.8m, were excavated (Fig. 2). Of these, eight trenches (Trenches 2-9) contained archaeological features, comprising ditches and pits, which are discussed in sections 4.2-4.8. The majority of these features were found below the topsoil and, where present, colluvium deposits cutting into the natural deposits, although in Trench 3 it appeared that the archaeological features cut the colluvium.
- 4.1.2 Trenches 1 and 10 were devoid of archaeological features and are briefly discussed in section 4.9 and further details on the deposit sequences are tabulated in Appendix 3.
- 4.1.3 Excavation of the evaluation trenches revealed a straightforward sequence of topsoil, and where present, colluvium deposits, overlying the natural geological deposit. The overlying deposits were formed of a topsoil of a dark greyish-brown arable soil 0.17m-0.50m thick covering the entire site and, where present, mid greyish brown colluvium deposits 0.15m-0.82m thick. The natural deposits generally consisted of mottled mid-yellow and brown sand.
- 4.1.4 No modern intrusions were observed in Trenches 2 to 10. However, a number of elevated taps along the northern boundary of site indicate the presence of a minor water service of unknown extent.
- 4.1.5 The metal-detecting of trench spoil heaps did not recover any metal artefacts.

4.2 Trench 2 (Fig. 3)

Context	Туре	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
2/001	Layer	Topsoil	-	-	0.28- 0.45	14.36- 15.43
2/002	Layer	Colluvium	-	-	0.15- 0.64	13.93- 14.76
2/003	Layer	Natural	-	-	0.09- 0.12	13.85- 14.80
2/004	Fill	Fill	1.98	1.60+	0.48	14.63
2/005	Cut	Pit	1.98	1.60+	0.48	14.63
2/006	Fill	Fill	2.00+	1.84	0.64	14.07
2/007	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	1.84	0.64	14.07
2/008	Fill	Fill	1.25	0.40	0.35	14.08
2/009	Cut	Pit	1.25	0.40	0.35	13.93
2/010	Fill	Fill	2.00+	0.90	0.46	13.93
2/011	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	0.90	0.46	14.08

Table 3: Trench 2 list of recorded contexts

4.2.1 Trench 2 was located in the west of site and measured 39.6m in length along an ENE/WSW axis. It was 2.05m in width and cut to a maximum depth of 0.76m. The natural deposit [2/003] was a light yellow/orange sand above which

was a layer of mid grevish-brown colluvium [2/002] ranging between 0.15-0.64m in thickness. Topsoil [2/001] consisted of a dark greyish-brown arable soil which covered the entire site, with the exception of Trench 1, and will only be discussed hereafter in terms of thickness. All the archaeological features had unclear relationships to the colluvial deposit, though it appears the ditch may be underlying the layer.

- 4.2.2 Pit [2/005] was located at the eastern end of the trench, extending beyond its south-east limit. It was ovoid in shape, with straight, gentle sides, a gentle break of slope and a flat base. Its single fill, [2/004], was a friable, light orangey brown silty sand and contained no archaeological finds.
- Ditch [2/007]/[2/011] crossed the middle of the trench on a WNW/ESE alignment. It was unclear and slightly irregular in plan, with steep, straight sides. The base was only partially observed in both excavated slots but is likely to be rounded. The ditch fill [2/006]/[2/010] consisted of friable, mid greyish brown slightly silty sand. Three pottery sherds were recovered from the feature. two early and one later Iron Age in date. An undiagnostic, post-medieval tile fragment similar to those observed strewn across the field surface was recovered from [2/010], though this is more likely to be intrusive.
- Sub-circular pit [2/009] was found toward the western end of the trench, 4.2.4 extending beyond the northern trench limit. It had steep, straight sides, a sharp break of slope and a flat base. The fill [2/008] was a friable, mid grevish brown silty sand, with a patchy charcoal lens approximately 0.04m thick at its base. No finds were recovered from it.
- 4.2.5 The near identical fills of the three features suggest they all may be of broadly Iron Age date.

4.3 Trench 3 (Fig. 4)

Context	Туре	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
3/001	Layer	Topsoil	_	_	0.30-	13.04-
3/001	Layer	Торзоп	_	_	0.40	14.50
3/002	Layer	Colluvium			0.22-	12.74-
3/002	Layer	Collaviani	_	_	0.82	14.10
3/003	Lavor	Natural			0.01+	12.12-
3/003	Layer	INaturai	_	_	0.01+	13.89
3/004	Fill	Fill	0.73	0.67	0.21	13.37
3/005	Cut	Pit	0.73	0.67	0.21	13.37
3/006	Fill	Fill	2.00+	0.81	0.28	13.44
3/007	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	0.81	0.28	13.44
3/008	Fill	Fill	2.00+	0.94	0.37	13.57
3/009	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	0.94	0.37	13.57
3/010	Fill	Fill	2.00+	1.28	0.27	13.77
3/011	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	1.28	0.27	13.77

Table 4: Trench 3 list of recorded contexts

Trench 3 was positioned on a NNW/SSE axis and measured 40.76m by 2.05m and 1.12m at its deepest point. The natural geology [3/003] consisted of a

mottled brown and yellow sand with occasional small stones. Above the natural was a layer of colluvium [3/002] that covered the entire length of the trench, starting at 0.23m in the north-west and increased as ground level dropped towards the south-east to a maximum thickness of 0.82m. Topsoil ranged in thickness between 0.30m to 0.40m. Four archaeological features were uncovered in Trench 3 and appeared to cut the colluvial deposit.

- 4.3.2 Located towards the centre of the trench was pit [3/005]. It was sub-oval in plan shape and had steep sides with a moderate break of slope and a rounded base. Fill [3/004] was a firm and friable, dark brown sand with occasional angular flint inclusions. No archaeological finds were recovered from this pit.
- 4.3.3 Three evenly spaced ditches of approximately the same width (0.81-1.28m) and depth (0.28-0.37m) and following a broadly NNW/SSE axis were recorded at the north-west end of the trench. It is suspected these are the continuation of ditches [5/009] and [5/005] / [5/007] located to the south-east in Trench 5.
- 4.3.4 Ditch [3/007] was the most southerly of the three and had straight, parallel sides with a moderate, concave profile and a rounded base. It was slightly closer to an east/west alignment than the two adjacent ditches.
- 4.3.5 Ditch [3/009] was more diffuse in form. It had moderate sides and a rounded base, whilst ditch [3/011] had a much more defined straight and moderate profile, with a moderate break of slope and a rounded base.
- 4.3.6 All three ditches had the same firm and friable, dark brown sand fills, none of which contained any dating material.

4.4 Trench 4 (Fig. 5)

Context	Туре	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
4/001	Layer	Topsoil	-	-	0.28- 0.30	14.88- 16.32
4/002	Layer	Colluvium	-	-	0.05- 0.24	14.60- 16.03
4/003	Layer	Natural	-	-	0.01+	14.45- 16.01
4/004	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	0.62	0.26	14.46
4/005	Fill	Fill	2.00+	0.62	0.26	14.46
4/006	Cut	Pit	0.80	0.50	0.20	14.53
4/007	Fill	Fill	0.80	0.50	0.20	14.53
4/008	Cut	Pit	0.90+	1.32	0.36	14.78
4/009	Fill	Fill	0.90+	1.32	0.36	14.78
4/010	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	0.95	0.30	15.11
4/011	Fill	Fill	2.00+	0.95	0.30	15.11
4/012	Cut	Pit	0.40	0.38	0.15	15.80
4/013	Fill	Fill	0.40	0.38	0.15	15.80
4/014	Cut	Pit	0.32	0.29	0.12	15.90
4/015	Fill	Fill	0.32	0.29	0.12	15.90

Table 5: Trench 4 list of recorded contexts

- 4.4.1 Trench 4 was NNW/SSE aligned and measured 37.67m in length, 2.05m in width and 0.51m in depth at its maximum. The natural deposit [4/003] consisted of a mottled light yellow and brown sand, over which mid greyish-brown colluvium [4/002] ranged between 0.05m and 0.24m deep. Topsoil was a fairly consistent 0.27m to 0.29m thick. Five archaeological features, comprising two ditches and three pits, were found below the colluvium deposit, with one further pit [4/012] appearing broadly contemporary, or slightly predating it.
- 4.4.2 Ditch [4/004] was located at the southern end of Trench 4, running along a WNW/ESE alignment. It measured 0.62m in width and 0.26 in depth, and had moderate, straight sides and a rounded base, forming a near V-shaped profile. Its single fill, [4/005], was a soft, mid greyish brown fine sand, with occasional sub-angular flint and flecks of charcoal. A single Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age flint was recovered from the context, though this may have been a residual artefact.
- 4.4.3 Located to the north of ditch [4/004] was pit [4/006]. It was sub-circular in plan, measuring 0.80m x 0.50m x 0.20m, with sharp to moderate straight sides and a concave base. Fill [4/007] was a very mottled greyish red greyish yellow fine sand from which no finds were recovered. The ill-defined and irregular shape of the feature suggests it may be geological or botanical in origin, rather than archaeological.
- 4.4.4 Further north was pit [4/008], extending beyond the western trench limit. The exposed extent of the pit measured 0.90m x 1.32m x 0.36m and had one clear, steep, straight side, with the other side being unperceivable due to excessive mottling. It was sub-oval in shape and had a concave base. Its fill [4/009] was a mid-greyish brown fine sand with occasional round stones. No finds were retrieved from this fill.
- 4.4.5 Ditch [4/010] crossed the centre of the trench on a WNW/ESE alignment. It was 0.95m and 0.30m deep and the sides were moderate and rounded breaking into a concave base. Its single fill, [4/011], comprised a soft, mottled yellow and orangey brown fine sand with occasional small rounded flint and flecks of charcoal. Although it is wider, [4/010] has a corresponding alignment with [7/007] and is postulated to be a north-westward continuation of the same ditch.
- 4.4.6 Located in the north of the trench, small pit [4/012] was not obviously visible in plan and was initially identified due to a cluster of pottery breaking the surface of its fill. The pit was circular in plan shape, measuring 0.40m x 0.38m and 0.15m deep. Its sides were similarly diffuse, with only one edge and partial base apparent due to a concentrated deposit of charcoal within the fill. Fill [4/013] was similar in appearance to the natural deposit, consisting of a mid orangey brown fine sand, but it contained a small charcoal deposit, fire-cracked and a piece of struck flint and a modest pottery assemblage comprising eighteen sherds of flint-tempered wares typical of the decorated post-Deveral-Rimbury Tradition, which dates to the earliest Iron Age (c. 800-500 BC). Environmental sample <1> collected from this fill yielded a small assemblage of charred cereal remains, including probable spelt/emmer glume wheat, hulled barley and possibly oat, as well as small wood charcoal fragments, fire-cracked flint, CBM, magnetic material and pottery fragments consistent with the early

Iron Age pottery hand collected from the feature.

4.4.7 Small pit [4/014] was found in close proximity to [4/012], located in the northwest of the trench. It had an oval shape in plan, measuring 0.32m x 0.29m x 0.12m, and had irregular sides and a concave base. Its fill [4/015] was only fractionally darker than the natural, consisting of a soft, mid greyish brown fine sand with very occasional flecks of charcoal. It contained no finds.

4.5 Trench **5** (Fig. 6)

Context	Typo	Interpretation	Length	Width	Depth	Height
Context	Type	interpretation	m	m	m	m AOD
5/001	Lavor	Topsoil			0.31-	13.88-
3/001	Layer	Торѕоп	_	-	0.41	14.98
5/002	Layer	Natural		_	0.01-	13.35-
	_		_	_	0.02	14.54
5/003	VOID	VOID	-	-	-	-
5/004	Fill	Fill	2.00+	0.89	0.23	14.08
5/005	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	0.89	0.23	14.08
5/006	Fill	Fill	2.00+	0.70	0.28	14.12
5/007	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	0.70	0.28	14.12
5/008	Fill	Fill	2.00+	1.52	0.10+	13.94
5/009	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	1.52	0.10+	13.94
5/010	Fill	Fill	2.00+	0.98	0.28	13.90
5/011	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	0.98	0.28	13.90
5/012	Fill	Fill	15.90+	0.98	0.45	13.77
5/013	Cut	Ditch	15.90+	0.98	0.45	13.77
5/014	Fill	Fill	0.48	0.47+	0.10	14.17
5/015	Cut	Pit	0.48	0.47+	0.10	14.17
5/016	Fill	Fill	0.58	0.42	0.26	14.20
5/017	Cut	Pit	0.58	0.42	0.26	14.20
5/018	Fill	Fill	1.46	0.85	0.17	14.51
5/019	Cut	Pit	1.46	0.85	0.17	14.51
5/020	Fill	Fill	0.89(?)	0.63	0.27	14.33
5/021	Cut	Pit	0.89(?)	0.63	0.27	14.33
5/022	Fill	Fill	2.00+	0.94	0.19	14.28
5/023	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	0.94	0.19	14.28

Table 6: Trench 5 list of recorded contexts

- 4.5.1 Trench 5 measured 39.50m in length along a ENE/WSW alignment, and was 2.05m wide and cut to a maximum depth of 0.59m. The natural deposit, [5/002], was formed of a mottled mid yellow and brown sand, becoming darker towards the south-west end, possibly the edge of the colluvial deposit. The topsoil [5/001] ranged in thickness between 0.31m and 0.41m. A total of nine archaeological features, comprising pits and ditches, were encountered within this trench.
- 4.5.2 Crossing the centre of the trench were two adjoining parallel ditches, [5/005] and [5/007], running along a WNW/ESE alignment, containing near identical fills. Ditch [5/005] was 0.89m wide and 0.23m deep, and had moderately straight sides, a gentle rounded break of slope and a concave base. Ditch [5/007], measuring 0.70m wide and 0.28m deep, had moderate to steep

straight sides, a moderately rounded break of slope and a concave base. The fills, [5/004] and [5/006] respectively, were a soft sand with occasional rounded stones, slightly mottled mid greyish brown in colour, with [5/004] being fractionally darker. No finds were recovered from these two ditches. No relationship between the two was observed though, in all likelihood, the ditches were contemporary.

- 4.5.3 West of ditch [5/005], ditch [5/009] had a similar alignment, WNW/ESE, and measured 1.52m wide and 0.10m+ deep. Although not fully excavated, it appeared to have shallow gentle to moderate sides and a flat base, with its fill [5/008] a soft, mottled grey and black sand containing moderate charcoal fragments, a single residual struck flint and a piece of undiagnostic, post-medieval tile. Its relationship with ditch [5/013]/[5/011] was very indistinct, with [5/009] potentially cutting [5/011].
- 4.5.4 Ditch [5/013] / [5/011] was ENE/WSW aligned and ran through the trench for 15,90m. Its eastward continuation was not identified beyond ditch [5/009]. It measured 0.98m wide and 0.45m deep, and had steep, slightly convex sides with an abrupt break of slope and a rounded base. Its single fill, [5/012], was a soft sand, dark greyish brown in colour with brownish yellow mottling nearer the surface, containing occasional rounded stone inclusions. The mottled nature of the upper portion of the fill along with the darkening natural made the exact course and extent of [5/013] difficult to determine in the western end of the trench. While it was thought to extend beyond the south-western limit, its continuation was not recorded in Trench 3. One Early Iron Age pottery sherd was recovered, together with a tiny fragment of potentially Saxo-Norman (10thto 12th-century AD) pottery and four undiagnostic pieces of fired clay. The medieval sherd is speculated to be intrusive. Environmental sample <2> collected from this fill contained only a small amount of charred plant remains. including probable spelt/emmer glume wheat and oat/brome grass, and wood charcoal fragments, as well as animal bone, fire-cracked flint, slag, stone and magnetic material.
- 4.5.5 East of ditch [5/007] was pit [5/015], extending beyond the southern trench limit. It was roughly circular in plan, with its exposed extent measuring 0.48m x 0.47m x 0.10m, and had shallow gentle sides and a relatively flat base. Fill [5/014] was a soft, mottled mid greyish brown and yellow sand containing very occasional small angular stones. No archaeological finds were retrieved from it
- 4.5.6 Pit [5/017] was located north-west of and in close proximity to [5/015]. It was sub-oval in plan, measuring 0.58m x 0.42m and 0.26m deep, with very steep, irregular sides and a rounded base. The soft mid greyish brown sand fill [5/016] contained moderate angular stones and charcoal flecks, but no artefacts.
- 4.5.7 Located in the east of the trench, features [5/019] and [5/021] were very indistinct in plan and only slightly less so in section. Originally observed as ditches and reinterpreted as pits during excavation, the form and extent of the two are unclear, though it is possible that [5/021] corresponds with ditches [7/005] and [6/006], and [5/019] more tentatively with ditches [4/004] and [7/011] as they share similar alignments.

- 4.5.8 Cut [5/019] measured 1.46m x 0.85m x 0.17m and appeared to have moderately rounded sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill, [5/018], consisting of a mottled mid greyish brown and yellow soft sand. The feature contained four sherds of pottery of 11th- to 12th-century AD date and six pieces of fired clay, including two adjoining pieces of structural daub. The animal bone recovered from the whole site comprised an assemblage of twelve fragments of cattle bone most likely representing a partially fragmented cattle mandible and it was retrieved from the fill of this feature.
- 4.5.9 Pit [5/021] may have been a diffuse pit truncating a ditch visible in plan but only a few centimetres deep. The very shallow profile and mottled fill makes it unclear if it is an archaeological or geological feature. Pit [5/021] appeared to measure 0.89(?)m x 0.63m and 0.27m deep, and may have had steep straight sides and a slightly concave base. Its single fill [5/020] had an appearance similar to the natural deposits: soft, mottled brown and yellow sand, with occasional rounded stones. No archaeological finds were retrieved from this feature.
- 4.5.10 Ditch [5/023] crossed the east of the trench on a NNW/SSE alignment. It measured 0.94m wide and 0.19m deep, and had gentle sides and a gentle, rounded base. Its single fill [5/022] was a soft and friable, mottled mid greyish brown and yellow sand. No finds were recovered from the feature.
- 4.5.11 All features of Trench 5 contained broadly identical fills in colour, consistency and composition, with the possible exception of [5/020].

4.6 Trench 6 (Fig. 7)

Context	Туре	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
6/001	Layer	Topsoil	-	-	0.29- 0.35	17.30- 17.37
6/002	Layer	Natural	-	-	0.02- 0.06	16.03- 16.88
6/003	Fill	Fill	2.00+	0.52	0.16	16.73
6/004	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	0.52	0.16	16.38
6/005	Fill	Fill	2.00+	0.82	0.26	16.73
6/006	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	0.82	0.26	16.73

Table 7: Trench 6 list of recorded contexts

- 4.6.1 Trench 6 was positioned on the slightly elevated northern edge of site on a ENE/WSW orientation. It measured 39.42m long by 2.05m wide, was cut to a maximum depth of 0.38m, and it contained two linear features. The natural deposit [6/002] was a mottled orange, yellow and brown sand with occasional rounded stone, which was overlain by topsoil ranging from 0.29m to 0.35m thick. Two ditches were uncovered in this trench.
- 4.6.2 Narrow ditch [6/004] ran broadly north/south across the centre-west of the trench. It measured 0.52m wide and 0.16m deep, and had moderately sloping sides and a curved base. It contained a single, firm, dark brown sand fill [6/003] with occasional flint inclusions, from which no finds were recovered.

4.6.3 Further east, ditch [6/006] had an identical profile to [6/004] but was more substantial and orientated along a NE/SW alignment. Its single fill [6/005] was a firm mid greyish brown sand with occasional stone and contained no archaeological finds. Ditch [6/006] was most likely a north-eastward continuation of [7/005], and potentially [5/021].

4.7 Trench 7 (Fig. 8)

Context	Туре	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
7/001	Layer	Topsoil	-	-	0.17-	14.52-
	,	'			0.33	16.36
7/002	Layer	Colluvium	-	-	0.24- 0.41	-
7/003	Layer	Natural	-	-	0.02+	14.04-
7/004	- ::::	E.II	0.00.	0.04	0.07	16.06
7/004	Fill	Fill	2.00+	0.81	0.27	15.58
7/005	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	0.81	0.27	15.58
7/006	Fill	Fill	2.00+	0.75	0.32	14.97
7/007	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	0.75	0.32	14.97
7/008	Fill	Fill	0.98	0.62	0.19	14.73
7/009	Cut	Pit	0.98	0.62	0.19	14.73
7/010	Fill	Fill	2.00+	1.28	0.28	14.36
7/011	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	1.28	0.28	14.36
7/012	Fill	Fill	1.76	1.75	0.34	14.44
7/013	Cut	Ditch	1.76	1.75	0.34	14.44
7/014	Fill	Fill	2.00+	0.60	-	14.10
7/015	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	0.60	-	14.10

Table 8: Trench 7 list of recorded contexts

- 4.7.1 Trench 7 was positioned towards the centre of the site on a NNW/SSE and measured 39.79m long, with a width of 2.05m and depth of 0.61m. The natural [7/003] was an orangey brown and yellow sand with occasional stone inclusions, over which was a mid greyish brown colluvium [7/002], sealed by topsoil 0.17-0.33m in thickness. Four ditches and three pits were investigated within the trench, from which no archaeological finds were recovered. Where observed, all features within the trench were cut into the colluvial deposit.
- 4.7.2 Ditch [7/005] was located in the north of the trench and ran NNW/SSW at near right angles to all other linear features in the trench. The ditch was 0.81m wide and 0.27m deep, and had moderately straight sides, a moderately angled break of slope and a near flat base. Its fill [7/004] consisted of a firm, dark grey sand with occasional small stones. No finds were recovered from it. The ditch is most likely a continuation of [6/006] to the north-east and potentially [5/021] to the south-west.
- 4.7.3 Ditch [7/007] crossed the middle of the trench on a WNW/ESE alignment. It measured 0.75m wide and 0.32m deep, and had a near V-shaped profile, with steep, straight sloping sides and a narrow rounded base. The fill, [7/006], was a firm, dark brown sand with occasional small stone inclusions. It is likely that this was the continuation of ditch [4/010].

- 4.7.4 Further south, pit [7/009] was sub-oval in plan, measuring 0.98m x 0.62m x 0.19m, with moderately rounded sides and base. It contained fill [7/008]: a firm, mid brown sand. No finds were recovered from it.
- 4.7.5 Towards the south of the trench, pit [7/011] was heavily truncated by ditch [7/013] and extended beyond the trench limit. It appeared to have an oval shape in plan, with its exposed extent measuring 2.00m+ x 1.28m x 0.28m. It had very shallow, gentle sides and a slightly concave base. The fill [7/010], similar to fill [7/012] of ditch [7/013], comprised a firm, dark brown sand with occasional flecks of charcoal, but no finds.
- 4.7.6 Ditch [7/013] was found on a parallel alignment with [7/007] further to its north. It was 1.28m wide and 0.28m deep, and had moderately rounded sides and a slightly rounded base. Its single fill [7/012] was very similar to fill [7/010], consisting of a firm, dark brown sand with occasional flecks of charcoal. Although this fill was similar to that of pit [7/011], their intercut relationship was discerned in section.
- 4.7.7 It is possible that pit [7/011] is in fact a ditch terminus, and with [7/013] form a double parallel ditch in the same fashion as [5/005] and [5/007], which are similarly aligned.
- 4.7.8 In the south end of the trench, narrow ditch [7/015] was only partially investigated and not recorded, as it was considered in the field to be a change in the natural geological deposit. However, post-excavation analysis demonstrates its possible alignment with ditch [4/004] and suggests it was in fact an archaeological feature.

4.8 Trench 8 (Fig. 9)

Context	Туре	Interpretation	Length m	Width m	Depth m	Height m AOD
8/001	Layer	Topsoil	-	-	0.36- 0.38	16.30- 17.92
8/002	Layer	Natural	-	-	0.01+	16.00- 17.58
8/003	Fill	Fill	2.00+	0.87	0.28	17.49
8/004	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	0.87	0.28	17.49
8/005	Fill	Fill	4.90+	0.86	0.26	17.31
8/006	Cut	Ditch	4.90+	0.86	0.26	17.31
8/007	Fill	Fill	2.00+	1.01	0.27	16.94
8/008	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	1.01	0.27	16.94
8/009	Fill	Fill	2.00+	0.71	0.19	16.14
8/010	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	0.71	0.19	16.14

Table 9: Trench 8 list of recorded contexts

4.8.1 Trench 8 was positioned towards the east of the site on a NNW/SSE alignment and measured 37.63m in length, by 2.05m wide and 0.40m deep. The natural deposit, [8/002], consisted of a mid brownish orange silty sand with moderate amount of flint inclusions. The topsoil was a consistent 0.36-0.38m thick, below which four ditches were found cutting into the natural deposit.

- 4.8.2 Located in the north of the trench was ditch [8/004] on a NE/SW alignment. It measured 0.87m wide and 0.28m deep, and had gentle sides and a slightly rounded base. Its single fill [8/003] was a soft, friable, mid greyish brown slightly silty sand with frequent flint/gravel, and occasional charcoal and burnt clay flecks. No archaeological finds were recovered from the fill and root action/disturbance was noted at the base of the feature. Its south-westward continuation was not identified in Trench 6.
- 4.8.3 South of ditch [8/006], apparent curvilinear ditch [8/006] had a broadly north-north-east to south-west alignment. It measured 4.90m+ x 0.86m wide and 0.26m deep, and had moderately round sides and a rounded base. Its fill [8/005] was a soft and friable, mid brownish grey silty sand and contained seven pieces of very low-fired clay or ceramic building material (CBM) that may possibly be medieval in date.
- 4.8.4 Towards the centre of the trench was ditch [8/008], on a NNE/SSW alignment. Its exposed extent measured 4.44m x 1.01m x 0.27m and had moderately straight sides, a moderate break of slope and a slightly rounded base. Its fill [8/007] was a firm, mid greyish brown silty sand with very occasional stones and roots; no archaeological finds were recovered from this fill. If the ditch continued along the same course, it would run parallel to [6/006] 22m to the north-west. However, its SSW continuation was not found in the western end of Trench 10.
- 4.8.5 In the south end of the trench, ditch [8/010] was broadly north/south aligned and close to perpendicular with [9/017] to the east, though this may have been coincidental. It extended across the trench for *c*. 7.80m and was 0.71m wide and 0.19m deep. Its profile was similar to other linear features investigated across the site; it had moderate, slightly rounded sides with a slightly concave base. its single fill, [8/009] comprised a firm, mid greyish brown silty sand with occasional stones, but no finds. The southward continuation of this linear feature was not identified in Trench 10.

4.9 Trench 9 (Fig. 10)

Context	Туре	Interpretation	Length Width		Depth	Height	
	- 7 6 -		m	m	m	m AOD	
9/001	Lavor	Topsoil	0.41-		0.41-	17.49-	
9/001	Layer	Τομεσιι	-	_	0.50	17.91	
9/002	1	National			0.04	16.98-	
9/002	Layer	Natural	_	_	0.01+	17.49	
9/003	Fill	Fill	2.00+	0.50	0.16	17.5	
9/004	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	0.50	0.16	17.5	
9/005	Fill	Fill	1.20	1.05	0.14	17.47	
9/006	Cut	Pit	1.20	1.05	0.14	17.47	
9/007	Fill	Fill	0.31	0.34	0.06	17.30	
9/008	Cut	Pit	0.31	0.34	0.06	17.30	
9/009	Fill	Fill	2.00+	0.58	0.19	17.27	
9/010	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	0.58	0.19	17.27	
9/011	Fill	Fill	2.00+	1.05	0.22	17.10	
9/012	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	1.05	0.22	17.10	
9/013	VOID	VOID	-	_	-	_	
9/014	Fill	Fill	2.00+	1.75	0.23	17.42	

9/015	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	1.75	0.23	17.42
9/016	Fill	Fill	2.00+	0.80	0.19	17.03
9/017	Cut	Ditch	2.00+	0.80	0.19	17.03
9/018	Fill	Fill	2.00+	0.32	0.23	17.02
9/019	Cut	Gully	2.00+	0.32	0.23	17.02

Table 10: Trench 9 list of recorded contexts

- Trench 9 was located in the east of the site and measured 39.65m along a NW/SE alignment, was 2.05m in width and cut to a maximum depth of 0.50m. The natural deposit [9/002] was a mottled, light greyish yellow and grey silty sand, which was overlain by topsoil [9/001] 0.41m to 0.50m thick. Encountered below the topsoil and cutting into the natural were five ditches, a gully and two pits, none of which contained archaeological finds.
- 4.9.2 Located in the north-west of the trench, irregular ditch [9/004] was roughly curvilinear in plan, with a rounded 90-degree corner oriented north/south and east/west. It measured 0.50m wide and 0.16m deep, and had steep, straight sides, a sharp angled break of slope and a flat base. The single fill [9/003] was a friable, mid greyish brown silty sand with moderately frequent, large subangular stones.
- 4.9.3 East of ditch [9/004], pit [9/006] was sub-oval in plan and extended beyond the trench limit, measuring 1.20m x 1.05m x 0.14m. It had moderately steep concave sides and a gradual break of slope into a near flat base. Its moderately friable fill [9/005] was mid grevish brown in colour and consisted of a silty sand. with fairly frequent medium sub-angular stones.
- Located towards the centre of the trench was small sub-circular pit [9/008]. It measured 0.31m x 0.34m and 0.06m deep, and had steep concave sides, with a gradual break of slope to a flat base. Its single fill [9/007] was a firm, mottled dark brownish grey and light brown silty sand, containing small to medium subangular and rounded stone inclusions.
- 4.9.5 Further south-east, ditch [9/010] crossed the trench on a broadly NNE/SSW alignment. It was an irregular linear, measuring 0.30-0.78m wide and 0.19m deep, with slightly irregular sides with a gradual break of slope and a concave base. Its single fill [9/009] was a friable, mid greyish brown silty sand.
- 4.9.6 Ditch [9/012] was NE/SW aligned, measuring 1.05m wide and 0.22m deep, and had steep, slightly stepped sides with a flat base. It contained a single fill [9/011] of friable, mid brownish grey silty sand with infrequent small rounded stones.
- Towards the north of the trench, south-east of pit [9/006], was broadly north/south aligned ditch [9/015]. It was 1.75m wide and 0.23m deep, and had moderately concave sides, slightly stepped along one edge, with a mostly flat base. The fill [9/014] was a moderately friable, mid orangey brown silty sand. The southward continuation of this feature was not recorded in Trench 10.
- Linear ditch [9/017] was located in the south-east of the trench on a broadly 4.9.8 east/west alignment. Measuring 0.80m wide and 0.19m deep, it had a

- moderately steep profile and a concave base. Its fill [9/016] was a friable, mid greyish brown silty sand.
- 4.9.9 Also in the south of the trench, irregular, possibly curving, gully [9/019] extended roughly north-east to southwards, where it was truncated by ditch [9/017]. It was irregular in width (0.27-0.65m), and 0.23m deep, and had near vertical sides with a sharp break of slope to a flat base. The gully fill, [9/018], was a moderately friable, silty sand, light brownish grey in colour with light grey mottling, and inclusions of small angular stones.

4.10 Archaeologically Negative Trenches

- 4.10.1 Two of the ten trenches (Trenches 1 and 10) contained no archaeological remains.
- 4.10.2 Trench 1 was the only trench located outside the agricultural field, in a small equestrian paddock along the edge of Aldeburgh road, in the south-west of the site. It was 40m in length, 2.05m wide and 0.46m deep. The natural deposit [1/002] contrasted with the rest of site being a dark brownish orange coarse sand with frequent rooting and moderate amounts of rounded stone. The topsoil, [1/001], was soft, dark brown to black silt with frequent rooting and varied in thickness between 0.24m and 0.26m. Further details are presented in Appendix 3.
- 4.10.3 Two suspected modern linear features were noted but not excavated in Trench 1. A third linear feature upon excavation appeared to be the remains of a modern hedgerow, which was very shallow and irregular, with frequent roots and stone.
- 4.10.4 Trench 10 was positioned on a ENE/WSW alignment towards the east end of site, slightly below the crest of the hill. It was 39.65m in length by 2.05m wide, and cut to a depth of 0.37m at its maximum. Natural deposit [10/002] consisted of a mid orange, yellow and brown sand with moderate stone. Topsoil varied 0.25m and 0.36m. Further details are presented in Appendix 3.
- 4.10.5 It is noted that the absence of archaeological remains within Trench 10 may be due to excessive groundwater saturating the natural deposits and masking potential features. No modern impacts were observed in this trench.

5.0 FINDS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the evaluation on land to the east of Aldeburgh Road. All finds were washed and dried or air-dried as appropriate. They were subsequently quantified by count and weight and were bagged by material and context. Hand-collected finds are quantified in Table 11 and a small amount of additional material, recovered from the residues of environmental samples, is quantified separately in Appendix 4. All finds have been packed and stored following CIfA guidelines (2014c).

Context	Lithics	Weight (g)	Pottery	Weight (g)	CBM	Weight (g)	Stone	Weight (g)	Bone	Weight (g)	Fire Cracked Flint	Weight (g)	Fired Clay	Weight (g)
2/006			3	16										
2/010	1	2			1	14								
4/005	1	<2												
4/013	1	6	18	214			3	172			7	272		
5/008	1	<2			1	20								
5/012	1	43	2	4									4	4
5/018			4	24					12	22			6	234
8/005					7	184								
Total	5	51	27	258	9	218	3	172	12	22	7	272	10	238

Table 11: Quantification of hand-collected bulk

5.2 Flintwork by Karine Le Hégarat

- 5.2.1 The evaluation produced just five pieces of struck flint, weighing 51g. The pieces were hand-collected from Trenches 2, 4 and 5. The small assemblage comprises four flakes and a fragmentary core (43g). They are made from a mid-brown and mid to dark grey flint. Where present, the stained cortex is thin (<2mm). They display fair edge condition. Based on technological grounds, they are likely to be early prehistoric (Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age) in date.
- 5.2.2 A small amount of unworked burnt flint (354g) was also recovered. Fragments were hand collected from [4/013] and retrieved from bulk soil sample <01> [4/013] and <02> [5/012].
- 5.2.3 The assemblage provides limited evidence for prehistoric presence. It should be retained for consideration alongside any material recovered from future excavations at the site.

5.3 Prehistoric Pottery by Anna Doherty

5.3.1 A small assemblage of probable earlier Iron Age pottery, totalling 22 sherds, weighing 234g, was hand-collected from three evaluation contexts. Some

additional fragmentary bodysherds, amounting to 20g in weight, were also recovered from the residue of environmental sample <1>, taken from context [4/013] which produced the largest hand-collected assemblage. At present, this material has been examined with a x20 binocular microscope for the purposes of spot-dating and characterisation but not fully recorded according to a fabric and form type-series. It is recommended that the pottery should be retained for possible integration with any material recovered in the event of further archaeological work at the site.

- 5.3.2 Only one small- to moderate-sized group of pottery was recovered, from context [4/013]. All of the sherds in this group comprise flint-tempered wares with sparse to moderate, fairly fine flint inclusions of 1-2mm, in background matrixes containing coarse quartz sand. Pottery groups dominated by fabrics of this type are very typical of the later 'decorated' phase of the post-Deverel-Rimbury (PDR) tradition, dating to the earliest Iron Age (c. 800-500 BC). The only diagnostic element in the group is a base with concentrated flint gritting, a characteristic element of PDR assemblages.
- Two sherds in similar sandy flint-tempered wares were noted in context [2/006] alongside a single sherd in a coarse sandy fabric lacking other added temper. This small group of three pottery sherds could be broadly contemporary with that from [4/013], though the presence of at least one non-flint-tempered sherd also suggests the possibility that it could date slightly later, into the latter half of the 1st millennium BC.
- 5.3.4 Another similar sandy flint-tempered sherd of probable earlier Iron Age date was noted in context [5/012], though this may be residual as it was found alongside a tiny fragment of possible Saxo-Norman date (see 5.4).

5.4 Post-Roman Pottery by Paul Blinkhorn

- 5.4.1 The post-Roman pottery assemblage comprised five sherds with a total weight of 25g. Four sherds (24g) occurred in context [5/018]. They are all in a similar fabric, an unglazed grey ware with oxidized surfaces and moderate to dense sub-rounded, iron-rich quartz up to 0.5mm, and rare voids probably resulting from the leaching out of calcareous inclusions. Such pottery is fairly common in the region in the earlier medieval period (e.g. Cotter 2000), and typically of the 11th-12th century.
- Context [5/012] produced a single sherd of post-Roman pottery weighing 1g. 5.4.2 The fabric contains fairly large quantities of fine degraded shell and sparse quartz. The poor condition of the sherd makes exact identification difficult, but it appears most likely to be a fragment of late Anglo-Saxo or Saxo-Norman (10th-12th century) St Neots Ware, which is often found in small quantities at sites of the period in the region (Cotter 2000)

5.5 Ceramic Building Material by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

5.5.1 Six pieces of ceramic building material (CBM) comprising two broken pieces of flat tile and several shattered pieces of the same brick, weighing a total of 213g. were recovered from three contexts. All the material was quantified by form, weight and fabric, and recorded on standard recording forms. This information was then entered into a digital Excel database. Fabric descriptions were developed with the aid of a x20 binocular and fabric descriptions are provided in Table 12.

- 5.5.2 Both the flat tile pieces were made from the same fabric, T1, and were recovered respectively from contexts [2/010] and [5/008]. There were no dateable features present and therefore only a broad post-medieval date can be suggested.
- 5.5.3 The brick pieces collected from [8/005] were made from a very low-fired fabric and there was only one potential true surface remaining. The level of firing was such that it is possible this represents a shattered brick, although equally it could be a broken block of fired clay. As such, it is difficult to date although a medieval date is possible.

Fabric	Description
B1	Fine, soft pinkish fabric with irregular cream silty inclusions up to 6mm.
T1	Orange-red fabric with abundant medium-coarse quartz.

Table 12: Fabric descriptions for ceramic building material

5.6 Fired Clay by Trista Clifford

5.6.1 The evaluation produced ten fragments of fired clay from two separate contexts, weighing a total of 238g. Context [5/012] contained four small undiagnostic fragments in a moderately sandy fabric. Two conjoining fragments with a smoothed, slightly concave surface from context [5/018] probably derive from structural daub with a thickness of 91cm+. The fabric is moderately sandy with grassy voids and sparse chalk inclusions. The remaining fragments from this context are of the same fabric but are undiagnostic of form.

5.7 Geological Material by Luke Barber

- 5.7.1 Stone was recovered from just two deposits. Context [4/013] produced five fragments (174g) from a mid grey quartzite cobble that had clearly been shattered through heat. However, none of the fragments exhibited any signs of having been utilised as a tool prior to burning. The other stone (1/4g) was recovered from environmental residue of sample <2> collected from [5/012]. This consisted of another fragment of burnt quartzite cobble.
- 5.7.2 The stone is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis and has been discarded.

5.8 Slag by Luke Barber

5.8.1 The environmental residues from samples <1> and <2> produced slag. The magnetic fraction from context [4/013] was mainly composed of granules of ferruginous siltstone and one or two iron-impregnated ooliths, undoubtedly weathered out of oolitic limestones. However, two hammerscale flakes were present, measuring up to 2mm across, suggesting some iron smithing in the

vicinity. The pieces, however, are so small they could easily be residual or intrusive. The magnetic residue from context [5/012] was once again dominated by granules of ferruginous stone; however, from the 4-8mm fraction, four tiny pieces of matt black aerated clinker were extracted. Although related to coal burning, and almost certainly of post-medieval date, the pieces are so small they could easily be intrusive in this deposit.

5.8.2 The slag is not considered to hold any potential for further analysis and has been discarded.

5.9 Animal Bone by Emily Johnson

5.9.1 An assemblage of twelve animal bones, weighing approximately 22g in total, was hand collected from context [5/018]. The material likely represented a partially fragmented cattle mandible, based on eleven fragments of 'large mammal' mandible and one fragment of cattle mandibular molar. The bone was poorly preserved with erosive action affecting all fragments. No evidence of butchery, burning, gnawing or pathology was noted.

6.0 Environmental Samples by Lucy Allott

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Two bulk environmental samples were collected during the evaluation, from pit [4/012] and ditch [5/013], for the recovery of environmental remains, including wood charcoal, plant macrofossils, fauna and Mollusca. The following discusses the contents of the samples and their contribution to furthering our interpretation of the features, providing information regarding the agricultural economy, fuel procurement and the local vegetation environment.

6.2 Methods

6.2.1 The samples were processed in their entirety in a flotation tank with a 250µm mesh for retention of the flot and a 500µm mesh for the heavy residue, before being air dried. The heavy residues were passed through graded sieves of 8mm, 4mm and 2mm and each fraction sorted (Appendix 4, Table 13). Artefacts recovered from the samples are incorporated in the relevant sections of this volume where they add further information to the existing finds assemblage. The flots were scanned under a stereozoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications and their contents recorded (Appendix 4, Table 14). Identifications of macrobotanical remains were made with reference to modern comparative material and published reference atlases (Cappers *et al.* 2006; Jacomet 2006).

6.3 Results

Sample <1> [4/013] pit/hearth? [4/012]

6.3.1 The small flot (5ml) from this sample consisted of 20% uncharred modern, intrusive vegetation including twigs, bark, seeds and pine needles. It also produced a small assemblage of charred cereal caryopses, including probable spelt/emmer glume wheat (*Triticum* cf. spelta/dicoccum), hulled barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and a possible oat (*Avena* sp.) that could be of wild or cultivated origin. With the exception of a single oat awn, no elements of chaff were recorded and the cereal identifications could not be further refined. Goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp.) seeds were the only secure indication of wild/weed taxa. Small wood charcoal fragments, measuring <2mm, were moderately common; however, the assemblage of larger fragments was too small to merit further identification work. The residue also produced fire-cracked flint, pottery, CBM and magnetic material. The pottery fragments are characteristic of the post-Deverel-Rimbury (PDR) tradition and provide an early Iron Age (*c.* 800-500 BC) date (see 5.3).

Sample <2> [5/012] ditch [5/013]

6.3.2 The flot measured approximately 30ml and contained only a small amount of fine uncharred rootlets that are of modern origin. Charred plant macrofossils were scarce with only a few caryopses of probable spelt/emmer glume wheat, an oat/brome grass (*Avena/Bromus* sp.), a goosefoot seed and a possible charred fruit. Wood charcoal fragments were also scarce and the majority were small, measuring <2mm. No identification work was undertaken for the small

assemblage. A single bone (small mammal?) and land snail shells, including some consistent with the burrowing variety, *Cecilioides acicula*, were noted in the flot. The residue produced an array of objects including fire-cracked flint, slag, iron, CBM, stone and magnetic material.

6.4 Discussion

- 6.4.1 The small quantities of charcoal, charred cereal caryopses and other charred plant remains support the evidence for prehistoric activities in the site vicinity. Glume wheat types and barley consistent with agriculture of this date and future work at the site may reveal larger assemblages with more diagnostic elements that could help determine the taxa present. Sampling aimed to help inform whether feature [4/013] was a hearth; however, the wood charcoal assemblage is too small to provide conclusive evidence for this.
- 6.4.2 On the whole, the current assemblages are too limited to further characterise the prehistoric activities and provide evidence for fuel wood procurement or to characterise the local vegetation and agriculture. They do indicate the potential for preservation of charred botanicals and any future work at the site should include a sampling strategy that targets recovery of larger assemblages with emphasis on deposits associated with primary activities. The current assemblages should be retained for integration with material arising from any future archaeological interventions.

7.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Overview of Stratigraphic Sequence

- 7.1.1 The natural bedrock geology across the ten trenches comprised a mottled orange, yellow and brown sand, with a slightly siltier consistency in Trenches 8 and 9, which crested a small rise in ground level. The natural level varied across the site, ranging from 12.12m AOD in Trench 3 in the southwest to 17.58m AOD in Trench 8 to the northeast.
- 7.1.2 Above the natural horizon, colluvium deposits were recorded in Trenches 2, 3, 4 and 7, and at least partially in Trench 5. Exact extents of the colluvium are difficult to determine at present, though generally the deposit inhabits the lower south and west portions of site. It consisted of a greyish brown silt/sand, which ranged in thickness to a maximum of 0.64m and was encountered at 16.03m AOD at its highest point. An agricultural silty topsoil covered Trenches 2 to 10 measuring 0.24m to 0.50m thick, whilst Trench 1 had topsoil and turf of 0.24m to 0.26m.
- 7.1.3 A quantity of ditches and pits were more or less evenly distributed over eight of the ten trenches, with Trenches 1 and 10 containing no archaeological features. Twelve excavated ditch sections covering the centre of site are interpreted to be boundaries most likely belonging to a single coaxial field system of medieval date (fig.11) which, when encountered, truncated colluvial deposits.
- 7.3.4 The three identified Iron Age features, ditches [2/007]/[2/011], [5/011]/[5/013] and pit [4/012], were dispersed over the western half of site. Outlines were vague and difficult to define in plan, excavated sections revealed clearer profiles when features reached natural deposit with upper edges becoming very diffuse through the colluvium.
- 7.1.5 It appears the Early Iron Age features either slightly pre-date or more likely are contemporary with the colluvium, while medieval/post-medieval deposits clearly post-date it.

7.2 Deposit Survival and Existing Impacts

- 7.2.1 Deposit survival across site can be considered fair to good. Archaeological deposits appear to have been mostly protected and preserved from modern ploughing by thick layers of colluvium and topsoil typically totalling 0.50-0.90m thickness across the lower portion of site.
- 7.2.2 The absence of colluvium deposits in areas of higher ground, however, has left the archaeological remains more at risk to ploughing, as attested to by the presence of generally shallower features in Trenches 6 and 9. Deposit survival here is not as good as elsewhere on site, though is still considered fair.
- 7.2.3 No other modern impacts, such as land drains, were observed during the evaluation.

7.3 Discussion of Archaeological Remains by Period

7.3.1 The majority of the archaeological features excavated at this site did not contain dating evidence. The artefacts that were recovered were limited in both number and type, making it difficult to accurately interpret and date the features; only four trenches yielded datable material from eight features, most of which contained only a single find. Nevertheless, where possible, the recorded archaeological features have been dated on the basis of their diagnostic artefact content and alignments. These are discussed below, by broad period and their location shown on Figure 11.

Residual

- 7.3.2 Five Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age pieces of struck flint were recovered from four ditch segments [2/011], [4/004], [5/009], [5/013] and pit [4/012]. Their distribution within the western half of site, especially around the southern end of Trench 4 and west of Trench 5, may be the result of land use activity of this date higher up the hillslope to the northeast.
- 7.3.3 The presence of pre-Iron Age artefacts onsite is not surprising given the noted/known prehistoric activity in the wider vicinity; Mesolithic/Early Neolithic and Early Bronze Age flint and pottery have been recovered as residual and in-situ finds during archaeological investigation approximately 500m to the north (SHER: LCS 128).

Early Iron Age

- 7.3.4 Only one feature can be confidently assigned to the Early Iron Age period. Pit [4/012] contained eighteen fragments of pottery characteristic of the decorated post-Deverel-Rimbury tradition and predominately Early Iron Age in date, as well as seven fragments of burnt flint.
- 7.3.5 Two ditch segments, in Trenches 2 and 5, in the west of the site contained four pottery sherds dating to the Early Iron Age, though in the case of [5/012] these were found together with a possible Saxo-Norman pottery sherd. The east/west alignment of ditch [5/011]/[5/012] suggests undated ditches [8/010] and [9/017] on similar alignments may also be of similar date.
- 7.3.6 The limited number and recorded extents of dated Early Iron Age boundary features encountered by the evaluation makes it difficult to infer the nature of the land use in this period. It is perhaps likely that that at least some of the undated pits within the site are of similar Early Iron Age origin.

Medieval and/or Post-medieval

- 7.3.7 The only demonstrably medieval feature is pit/ditch [5/018], which contained four sherds of 11th/12th-century St Neots Ware pottery.
- 7.3.8 Curving ditch [8/006] contained fragments of brick of either late medieval or post-medieval date and is therefore more ambiguous.
- 7.3.9 Ditch [3/009 / 5/005 or 5/009], yielded evidence, albeit tentative, for a probable

post-medieval date – a single tile fragment. While this cannot be entirely discounted as being intrusive or being of medieval date, it would seem more likely that this probable agricultural boundary was indeed of post-medieval date.

7.3.10 It is possible that some of the undated pits and ditches elsewhere within the site could also be of a similarly medieval date, though the distribution of these features and their lack of intercut relationships with one another and with dated remains is uninformative.

Undated

- 7.3.10 The vast majority of features encountered on site contained no dating material in their investigated parts.
- 7.3.11 Various prevailing alignments are tentatively apparent amongst the undated linear features (Figure 11):
 - NW/SE: parallel ditches [3/011 / 5/009], [4/004 / 7/015], [4/010 / 7/007]
 - NNE/SSW: [6/006 / 7/005], [8/008], [9/012]
 - N/S: [5/023], [6/004], [9/015]

It is likely that many of the ditches uncovered in Trenches 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 constitute parts of two or more rectilinear arrangements of field boundaries and/or drains. The dating of these is undetermined, but given that ditch [3/009 / 5/005 or 5/009] is conjectured to be post-medieval it is likely that most, if not all of these various linear ditches are also of post-medieval, or perhaps some of medieval, date.

- 7.3.11 Twelve undated pits were widely dispersed across the site. While some may have been of Early Iron Age date and contemporary with the dated Iron Age ditches in the west of the site, others are likely to have been medieval and/or post-medieval.
- 7.3.12 Interpretation of land use within the site is constrained by the lack of dating evidence and diagnostic artefacts indicative of function. However, the sparsity and limited range of finds would seem to suggest pastoral or agricultural activity, rather than indication any tangible occupation.

7.5 **Consideration of Research Aims**

- The evaluation has been successful in addressing the stated general project specific research aims (section 2.6), by determining the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the site.
- 7.5.2 Other than residual later prehistoric flint artefacts, prehistoric remains are restricted to a small quantity of ditches and a pit of Early Iron Age date. These lack any cohesion and patterning and have not yielded substantial artefact or environmental assemblages. As such, these remains have little potential to contribute to the understanding of land use activity through the prehistoric era.
- 7.5.3 No Roman or Saxon remains, other than a single possible Saxo-Norman

pottery sherd residual in a Late Iron Age ditch, have been identified within the site.

- 7.5.4 Only a single feature of demonstrably medieval date has been found. While it is possible that some of the other undated ditches and pits might be of this period, no cohesive patterning is evident and the incidence of further features is perhaps likely to be low elsewhere in the site. It appears that the potential for studying and understanding medieval period land use at this site is low.
- 7.5.5 Very few post-medieval features have been identified, and only tentatively so. However, it is probable that some, if not the majority, of the undated ditches and pits are of probable post-medieval date and constitute the remains of multiphase land enclosure and drainage systems of agricultural function. From the analysis of historic OS mapping, it is evident that the site has not changed significantly from the late 19th century and that if indeed post-medieval these undated features predate the late 19th century. Given the general paucity of artefacts within these evaluated features, definitive dating of these remains within the wider site may not necessarily be possible.

7.6 Conclusions

- 7.6.1 The evaluation has identified the presence of the archaeological remains across the site, ditches and pits being recorded in eight of the ten trenches investigated.
- 7.6.2 Two ditches and a pit of Early Iron Age date have been found in the west of the site.
- 7.6.3 A single medieval pit is present in the south-central part of the site. Other undated or poorly-dated remains could be of similar date.
- 7.6.4 A single demonstrably post-medieval ditch has been identified. The majority of the recorded pits and ditches within the site are undated. A number of the ditches conform to various parallel and perpendicular alignments and may constitute multiphase rectilinear field systems, most likely of earlier postmedieval, and/or possibly medieval, date.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ASE would like to thank CgMs Consulting, on behalf of the client, for commissioning the work and for their assistance throughout the project, and Hannah Cutler of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services, for her guidance and monitoring. The evaluation was directed by Craig Carvey. The author would like to thank all archaeologists who worked on the fieldwork. Andrew Lewsey produced the figures for this report, Andrew Leonard project managed the fieldwork and Mark Atkinson managed the post-excavation process.

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Appendix 1: HER Summary

Site name/Address: Land to the East of Aldeburgh Road, Aldringham, Suffolk, IP16 4PX					
Parish: Aldringham cum Thorpe	District: Suffolk Coastal				
NGR: TM 44612 61182	Site code: ARG104				
Type of Work: Evaluation	Site Director/Group:				
	Craig Carvey, Archaeology South-East				
Date of Work:15th to 19th January 2018	Size of Area Investigated: 1.5ha				
Location of Finds/Curating Museum:	Funding source: Landowner/Developer				
Suffolk County Council Archive Store					
Further Seasons Anticipated?: Not known	Related HER Nos: None				
Final Report: ADS Grey lit	OASIS No: 308972				
Periods Represented: Early Iron Age, Medieval, Post-Medieval					

SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:

Ten trenches were excavated across the 1.5ha site, eight of which contained archaeological remains comprising ditches and pits.

Two ditches and a pit of Early Iron Age date were found in the west of the site.

A single medieval pit was present in the south-central part of the site. Other undated or poorly-dated remains could have been of similar date, though no cohesive patterning was apparent.

A single demonstrably post-medieval ditch was identified.

The majority of the recorded pits and ditches within the site were undated. A number of the ditches conformed to various alignments, some perpendicular to one another, and may constitute multiphase rectilinear field systems, most likely of earlier post-medieval, and/or possibly medieval, date.

Previous Summaries/Reports: None					
Authors of Summary:	Date of Summary: 12/02/2018				
Craig Carvey	12/02/2010				

Appendix 2: OASIS Form

OASIS ID: 308972

Project details

Project name Land East of Aldeburgh Road, Aldringham, Suffolk

> Ten trenches were excavated across the 1.5ha site. Eight of these contained archaeological remains, comprising ditches and pits. Twenty-five linear features were recorded, probably forming a system of field boundaries of indeterminate date, with fifteen interspersed pits, one of which was positively dated

Short description of the

project

to the Early Iron Age. A small assemblage of Iron Age and 10th- to 12th-century pottery was recovered from the field system, as well as fire-cracked flint, animal bone and post-

medieval ceramic building material.

Project dates Start: 15-01-2018 End: 19-01-2018

Previous/future work No / Not known

Any associated project

reference codes

171168 - Contracting Unit No.

Any associated project

reference codes

ARG104 - Sitecode

Type of project Field evaluation

Site status None

Current Land use Cultivated Land 2 - Operations to a depth less than 0.25m

Monument type **DITCH Uncertain** PIT Uncertain Monument type

Monument type PIT Early Iron Age POTTERY Iron Age Significant Finds **POTTERY Medieval** Significant Finds Significant Finds **CBM Post Medieval** FLINT Late Prehistoric Significant Finds Methods & techniques "Sample Trenches"

Development type Not recorded

Prompt National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Position in the planning

process

Pre-application

Project location

Country England

SUFFOLK SUFFOLK COASTAL ALDRINGHAM CUM Site location

THORPE Land to the East of Aldeburgh Road

Postcode **IP16 4PX** Study area 1.5 Hectares

Site coordinates TM 44612 61182 52.19390821927 1.579571723963 52 11 38 N 001 34 46 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 12.12m Max: 17.58m

Project creators

Project brief originator CgMs Consulting
Project design originator CgMs Consulting
Project director/manager Andy Leonard
Project supervisor Craig Carvey

Type of sponsor/funding

body

Client

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Suffolk County Council Archive Store

Physical Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Worked

stone/lithics"

Digital Archive recipient Suffolk County Council Archive Store

"Animal

Digital Contents Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Stratigraphic", "Worked

stone/lithics"

Digital Media available "Database", "Images raster / digital

photography","Spreadsheets","Survey"

Paper Archive recipient Suffolk County Council Archive Store

"Animal

Paper Contents Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Stratigraphic","Worked

stone/lithics"

Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Drawing", "Report", "Section"

Project bibliography

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Evaluation at Land to the East of Aldeburgh Road, Aldringham,

Suffolk

Author(s)/Editor(s) Carvey, C.

Other bibliographic details ASE Report No. 2018053

Date 2018 Issuer or publisher ASE

Place of issue or

publication

Witham, Essex

Description A4 report of approximately 55 pages including figures and

appendices

URL archaeologydataservice.ac.uk

Appendix 3: Archaeologically Negative Trenches

Trench	Context	Type	Interpretation	Depth m	Height m AOD
1	1/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.24-0.26	12.03-13.00
1	1/002	Layer	Natural	0.16-0.20	11.65-12.54
10	10/001	Layer	Topsoil	0.25-0.36	15.52-16.43
10	10/002	Laver	Natural	0.01-0.10	15.20-15.99

Appendix 4: Environmental Data

Table 13: Residue quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams.

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Sample Volume litres	Sub-Sample Volume litres	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal <4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal Identifications	Other (eg ind, pot, cbm)
1	4/013	Pit	10		*	<1	***	<1		FCF * 11g/ Pot * 12g/ CBM * 4g/ Mag Mat >2mm * <1g/
	4/013	ΓIL	10			-		<u>'</u>		Mag Mat <2m *** <1g
										FCF * 59g / Slag * <1g/ Fe * <1g/ CBM * <1g/ Stone * 6g/
2	5/012	Ditch	20		*	<1	***	<1		Mag Mat >2mm * <1g/ Mag Mat <2mm *** <1g

Table 14: Flot quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250).

Sample Number	Context	Context / deposit type	Weight g	Flot volume mI	Volume scanned	Uncharred %	Sediment %	Uncharred Botanical Modern	Charcoal >4mm	Charcoal <4mm	Charcoal <2mm	Crop seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	Weed seeds charred	Identifications	Preservation	Other botanical charred	Identifications	Preservation	Fish, amphibian, small mammal bone	and Snail
1	4/013	Pit	1.5	5	5	20	5	Raphanus raphanistrum, Chenopodiu m sp., Twigs, bark, needles	1	*	***	**	Triticum spelta/ dicoccum, Hordeum sp., cerealia indet., cf. Avena sp.	+/++	*	Chenopodium sp.	++	*	indet. cpr	+		
2	5/012	Ditch	30	30	30	<5	40	occasional rootlets	*	**	***	*	Triticum spelta/ dicoccum, cerealia indet.	+/++	*	Avena/Bromus sp.	++	*	indet. cpr/frui t?	+	*	**

Appendix 5: Written Scheme of Investigation



Written Scheme of Investigation For Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching

NGR: TM 44612 61182

Suffolk Coastal District Council

ASE Project no. 171168

HER Parish (Site) Code: ARG 104

December 2017

Archaeology South-East
27 Eastways
Witham
Essex
CM8 3YQ

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Written Scheme of Investigation For Archaeological Evaluation by Trial Trenching At Land to the east of Aldeburgh Road, Aldeburgh Road, Aldringham, Suffolk

NGR: TM 44612 61182

IP16 4PX

HER Parish (Site) Code: ARG 104

ASE Project no: 171168

December 2017

Prepared by:	Steve White	Archaeologist	
Reviewed and approved by:	Gemma Stevenson	Project Manager	
Date of Issue:	18/12/2017		
Revision 1:			

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of The Centre for Applied Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, have been commissioned by CgMs Consulting to undertake a phase of archaeological evaluation trenching on land to the east of Aldeburgh Road, Aldeburgh Road, Aldringham, Suffolk, IP16 4PX. The Site is centred on National Grid Reference TM 44612 61182 and its location is shown in Figure 1.
- 1.2 The site comprises two irregular parcels of land roughly 1.5ha in total. It is bound to the west by Aldeburgh Road; to the north by the access road to Aldringham House; to the east by Aldringham House; and to the south by arable fields. The site falls within Suffolk Coastal District Council jurisdiction. The site is bisected north-west to south-east by a row of trees.
- 1.3 The evaluation exercise has been commissioned prior to a planning application being made.
- 1.4 This is the *Written Scheme of Investigation* for the archaeological trenched evaluation, prepared by ASE, and will be submitted to SCCAS/CT for approval prior to commencement of the work. All work will be carried out in accordance with this document and with the SCCAS/CT *Brief for an Archaeological Evaluation* and Requirements *for Archaeological Evaluation* (2012, Version 1.3), as well as with the appropriate *Standards and Guidance* documents of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) and Historic England's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE) (Historic England 2015).
- 1.5 In the event that a phase of mitigation work is required this would be subject to a separate Written Scheme of Investigation; any decisions regarding the requirement for further work will be made by the Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service based on the results of the archaeological evaluation.

2.0 Geology and Topography

2.1 The solid geology of the area comprises Crag Group – sand, a sedimentary bedrock. Superficial deposits are recorded as Lowestoft Formation clay & silt to the north-east of site, with no superficial deposits recorded to the south-west. The site is located to the centre of Aldringham, on the eastern side of Aldeburgh Road.

3.0 Archaeological Background

- 3.1 An isolated, unstratified Bronze Age socketed and looped chisel is recorded on the HER north-west of the site (MSF8082). Some further Prehistoric remains, including a flint scatter and isolated finds have been identified within the vicinity of site.
- 3.2 The site of a possible Roman villa is recorded north-west of the site. Pottery, roof tile, tesserae and a fragment of puddingstone quern were found on the surface of a ploughed field (MSF2326).
- 3.3 There are no records relating to Saxon/early medieval activity recorded within 1.5km of the site. Aldringham does appear in the Domesday book as part of the manor of Leiston, within the Bishop's Hundred. It contained 9 households and was a taxable value of 0.9 geld units..
- 3.4 The village of Aldringham lies to the south of the larger settlement of Leiston, which was a much larger settlement and contained several medieval religious buildings including: Leiston Abbey (a 14th century structure); the grade II* listed church of St. Margaret; and the church of St Lawrence (MSF13992).
- 3.5 No map regression exercise has yet been undertaken for the site, but based on evidence for the western side of the settlement of Leiston, as well as the ongoing rural character of the current village of Aldringham, it seem likely that the post-medieval character of Aldringham was also that of a rural settlement.

4.0 Research Aims and Objectives

- 4.1 The general aims of this phase of archaeological investigation are:
 - To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the site.
 - To determine the extent, condition, character, date and significance of any archaeological remains encountered.
 - To determine the extent of any previous truncations of the archaeological deposits.

- To "ground truth" the results of the geophysical survey
- To enable the Senior Archaeological Officer at SCCAS/CT to make an informed decision regarding any possible requirements for further work.
- To make the results of the investigation publicly accessible through submission of a report to the Suffolk County Council Historic Environment Record and of the project archive to the local museum.
- 4.2 Specific research aims, taking into account the Research and Archaeology Framework for the Eastern Counties (Parts 1 and 2) and the Revised Framework for the East of England, are to:
 - Determine the presence/absence and significance of any evidence of prehistoric, Roman and Saxon activity within this location
 - Determine the presence/absence and significance of any later activity on the site

5.0 Methodology

- 5.1 Ten trenches 40m long by 2m wide will be opened in the locations shown (Figures 2 & 3) comprising a 5% sample of the site. A Risk Assessment and Method Statement (RAMS) will be prepared prior to commencement of the work.
- 5.2 ASE will use ARG 104 to mark all primary records, both physical and paper and all reports relating to the project.
- 5.3 The trenches will be accurately located using offsets from known positions or a Digital Global Positioning System (DGPS) and DGPS Total Station (Leica 1205 R100 Total Station, Leica System 1200 GPS).
- 5.4 Spoil will be bunded around the edges of the trenches to provide a physical and visible barrier.
- 5.5 All trenches will be scanned prior to excavation using a CAT scanner. Removal of topsoil (and subsoil if present and devoid of archaeological features) will be undertaken using a tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket at least 1.8m wide, under the direct supervision of an ASE archaeologist. Deposits will be removed in spits no greater than 250mm in thickness and all deposits will be examined for finds. Topsoil and subsoil will be stored separately and replaced in sequence.
- 5.6 Machine excavation will be carried down on to the top of archaeological deposits or the surface of natural deposits, whichever is uppermost.

Care will be taken not to machine off seemingly homogenous layers that may include the upper parts of archaeological features. The resultant surfaces will be cleaned as necessary to expose any archaeological remains.

- 5.7 A metal detector will be used throughout the programme of work. Specific requirements for the metal detecting will be (as a minimum):
 - Prior to the excavation of trenches
 - Throughout the excavation of trenches
 - Trench bases and spoil heaps will be scanned
 - · Feature fills will be scanned
- 5.8 Any features identified will be hand-excavated and planned using GPS by an ASE Surveyor. The Surveyor will plot excavated features and record levels in close consultation with the site Supervisor and/or the excavators. Where it is deemed necessary (for example in the event of detailed structural features or burials), features will be hand planned at a scale of 1:20 and then digitised.
- 5.9 All features will be excavated sufficiently to understand their character, but demonstrably modern disturbances will only be excavated as necessary in order to properly define and evaluate any features that they may cut. Slots across linear features will be at least 1m in width, if achievable and discrete features will be half-sectioned wherever possible. Hand excavation of features will be carefully undertaken and will follow the stratigraphy of any encountered archaeological layers, features and/or deposits. In certain circumstances hand excavation by pick and/or mattock and shovel may be undertaken but will only be utilised in respect of homogenous low-grade deposits. Such techniques will not be used in situations where careful hand excavation is required such as burials.
- 5.10 Should any human burials or remains be encountered, CgMs, SCCAS/CT and the Coroner's Office will be immediately informed and excavation will cease until the relevant Ministry of Justice licence has been obtained. Should approval be granted for excavation of the human remains, it will be carried out in accordance with ClfA Professional Practice Paper 7: Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains (Brickley and McKinley 2004) and ClfA Technical Paper 13: Excavation and post-excavation treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Human Remains (McKinley & Roberts 1993).
- 5.11 The provisions of the *Treasure Act* of 1996, amended 2003, will be observed. Should finds of precious metals such as gold and silver and other finds as defined under the Act be made, they will be reported to the Suffolk Finds Liaison Officer who will in turn inform the local Coroner. Should the removal of such objects be unable to be made during the same working day, suitable and appropriate security arrangement will be made to deposit them with the local Coroner's Office.

- 5.12 The site work will be directed by a member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) with experience of prehistoric landscapes.
- 5.13 CgMs shall be informed at the earliest opportunity of any archaeological features or deposits worthy of preservation. CgMs will liaise directly with SCCAS/CT to arrange visits to review fieldwork. No trenches will be backfilled without prior authorisation.
- 5.14 An OASIS online record will be compiled for the project.

6.0 Recording Methodology

- 6.1 All work will be carried out in line with Suffolk County Council's Requirements for Archaeological Evaluation (SCCAS 2012, Version 1.3) and in line with relevant ClfA guidance documents (ClfA 2014).
- 6.2 All exposed features will be recorded according to current professional standards using the standard context record sheets and masonry sheets used by ASE employing a single context recording system.
- 6.3 All structural and other relationships will be recorded and a structural matrix created.
- 6.4 A full photographic record will be made of all significant archaeological features comprising colour digital images. In addition working shots and elements of interest (individual features and group shots) will be taken. All photographs will include a board that will detail: the site code, date, context number, section number, a scale and a north arrow. All photographs will be fully indexed and cross-referenced on ASE context sheets and photographic registers. The photographic register will include: film number, shot number, location of shot, direction of shot and a brief description of the subject photographed.
- 6.5 Detailed elevation and/or section drawings will be hand-drawn at 1:10 on plastic draughting film (permatrace).
- 6.6 If deposits suitable for environmental sampling are encountered (such as dated excavated contexts of buried soils, well-sealed slowly silting features, sealed hearths, sealed features containing evident carbonised remains, peats, water-logged or cess deposits), bulk soil samples (40 litres or 100% of smaller features) will be taken for environmental analysis. Bulk samples will be processed using tank flotation unless considered detrimental to the samples or recovery rate (such as for waterlogged samples). Bulk samples will target recovery of plant remains (charcoal and macrobotanicals), fish, bird, small mammal and amphibian bone, and small artefacts. Waterlogged samples will be wet sieved through nested sieves and stored in wet, cool conditions or dried if considered an appropriate form of conservation for the remains.

Specialist samples may also be taken from dry or waterlogged contexts. Such samples will target recovery of pollen (using monolith tins), molluscs, foraminifera, parasites and insects. Larger samples (80-100 litres) will be extracted wholesale from deposits rich in marine molluscs and large mammal bones. As a general rule waterlogged wood specimens will be recorded in detail in their original location. If removed they will be cleaned, photographed and a thin section sample will be taken for identification. Specimens will either be stored in wet cool conditions or dried if considered appropriate for the material. In all instances deposits with clear intrusive material shall be avoided.

6.7 The exact level and detail of recording will meet the standards defined above, but will remain flexible and will be reviewed regularly on site with CgMs and SCCAS/CT.

7.0 Post-Excavation Methodology and Reporting

- 7.1 All finds will be cleaned, labelled, sorted and analysed in accordance with the practices and standards outlined in the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation's Conservation Guidelines No.2: Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage UKIC 1990). Most ceramic and other building material and burnt flint will be identified, counted, weighed and discarded. Samples will be retained as appropriate. Finds will be bagged in polythene bags according to type and context.
- 7.2 Suitable arrangements will be made for the conservation of artefacts where appropriate in consultation and with the agreement of the Archaeological Service. All finds in an unstable condition will be stabilised using passive conservation techniques where appropriate before being deposited with the Archaeological Service.
- 7.3 The majority of finds will be identified by in-house specialists within Archaeology South-East (see Appendix 1). Any external specialists utilised work regularly with ASE and are regional specialists in their field. All material will be examined with particular attention to datable artefacts, such as lithics, pottery, building material, coins and other metalwork.
- 7.4 Upon completion of the fieldwork, the site archive will be assembled, and will contain all the data collected during the excavation including records, finds and environmental samples. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent.
- 7.5 An evaluation report including plans, digital photographs and drawings will be prepared within four weeks of completion of the site work, subject to the production of any necessary specialist reports. It will include a record of all materials recovered and all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent. It will also contain

a site summary and brief written observations on the artefactual and environmental data. The report will include the results of an updated SHER search (the SHER Invoice Search Reference will be quoted in the report).

- 7.6 The report will be in line with guidelines set out in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (Historic England 2015).
- 7.7 An Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) form will be completed at http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/ following the completion of the Assessment report and included as an appendix.
- 7.8 A draft copy of the report will be sent to both CgMs and SCCAS/CT, for their comments and approval. Once the report has been accepted further copies and one electronic copy in PDF format will be sent to the local planning authorities and the client as appropriate. A hard copy of the approved report will also be submitted to the HER.
- 7.9 A copy of the report will be supplied to the SHER on the understanding that it will become a public document after an appropriate period of time not exceeding six months.
- 7.10 Agreement shall be reached with CgMs and SCCAS/CT regarding the format and destination of any subsequent publication(s) arising from the investigations. Proposals for publication, if appropriate, will be detailed in the post-excavation assessment report and timescales and costs for a publication programme will be agreed at that stage. As a minimum, provision will be made for a summary of the evaluation results in the annual PSIAH round-up.
- 7.11 Upon completion of the final report for publication, the archive will be prepared for deposition in accordance with the *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage* (United Kingdom Institute for Conservation 1990) and *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections* (Museums and Galleries Commission 1994) and the SCCAS Archive Guidelines (SCCAS 2014).
- 7.12 Finds from the fieldwork will be kept with the archival material and permission will be sought from the landowner to deposit the finds and paper archive with the SCCAS.

8.0 Health and Safety

8.1 A Risk Assessment will be produced and agreed with CgMs prior to the commencement of the work. All relevant main contractor health and safety regulations will be adhered to.

9.0 Staffing and Equipment

- 9.1 The lead Archaeologist assigned to the project will be responsible for fieldwork, post-excavation reporting and archiving in liaison with the relevant specialists and under the overall direction of the fieldwork project manager (Gemma Stevenson) and the post-excavation project manager (Mark Atkinson). The fieldwork is expected to be completed within four working weeks and is likely to commence in the last week of August (subject to harvesting). On-site assistance will be provided by a Surveyor and Archaeological Assistants.
- 9.2 SCCAS/CT will be informed of the identity of the lead Archaeologist before the commencement of fieldwork and also will be notified should any subsequent change of personnel occur. CVs of all key staff are available on request.
- 9.3 Specialists who may be consulted are listed in Appendix 1.
- 9.4 Other specialists may be consulted if necessary. These will be made known to the monitoring officer for approval prior to consultation. Similarly, any changes in the specialist list will be made known to the monitoring officer for approval prior to consultation.

10.0 Insurance

10.1 Archaeology South-East is insured against claims for: public and products liability to the value of £50,000,000 any one event for all claims in the aggregate during any one period of insurance; employers' liability to the value of £50,000,000 any one event inclusive of costs; professional indemnity to the value of £15,000,000 any one claim / aggregate any one period of insurance.

11.0 Monitoring

11.1 Provision will be made at all stages of the project for CgMs and SCCAS/CT to monitor progress and standards. Provision will be made by CgMs (in liaison with ASE) for SCCAS/CT to make site monitoring visits at agreed and specified times.

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- CIfA 2014b Code of Conduct (revised). Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
- ClfA 2014a Standard and Guidance for archaeological excavation (revised).

 Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
- ClfA 2014c Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
- ClfA 2014d Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archive
- Medlycott, M. 2011 Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England, E. Anglian Archaeol. Occ. Paper 24
- SCCAS. 2012 Requirements for Archaeological Evaluation Version 1.3
- SCCAS. 2014 Archive Guidelines

APPENDIX 1

Metalwork

Specialists to be used as necessary:

Prehistoric and Roman pottery

Louise Rayner & Anna Doherty (ASE)

Nick Layender (outernal): Espay region

Prehistoric Nick Lavender (external: Essex region)
Post-Roman pottery Luke Barber (external: Sussex, Kent and

London)

Post-Roman pottery (Essex) Helen Walker (external: Essex)
CBM Sue Pringle & Luke Barber (external)

Fired Clay Elke Raemen & Trista Clifford (ASE)
Clay Tobacco Pipe Elke Raemen (ASE)

Glass Elke Raemen (ASE)

Slag Luke Barber, Lynne Keyes (external);

Trista Clifford (ASE)
Trista Clifford (ASE)

Worked Flint Karine Le Hégarat (ASE); Hugo Anderson-Whymark (external)

Geological material and worked stone
Human bone incl cremated bone
Animal bone incl fish

Luke Barber (external)
Lucy Sibun (ASE)
Hayley Forsyth (ASE)

Marine shell Elke Raemen (ASE); David Dunkin

(external)

Registered Finds Elke Raemen & Trista Clifford (ASE)

Coins Trista Clifford (ASE)
Treasure administration Trista Clifford (ASE)

Conservation and x-ray Fishbourne Roman Villa or UCL Institute

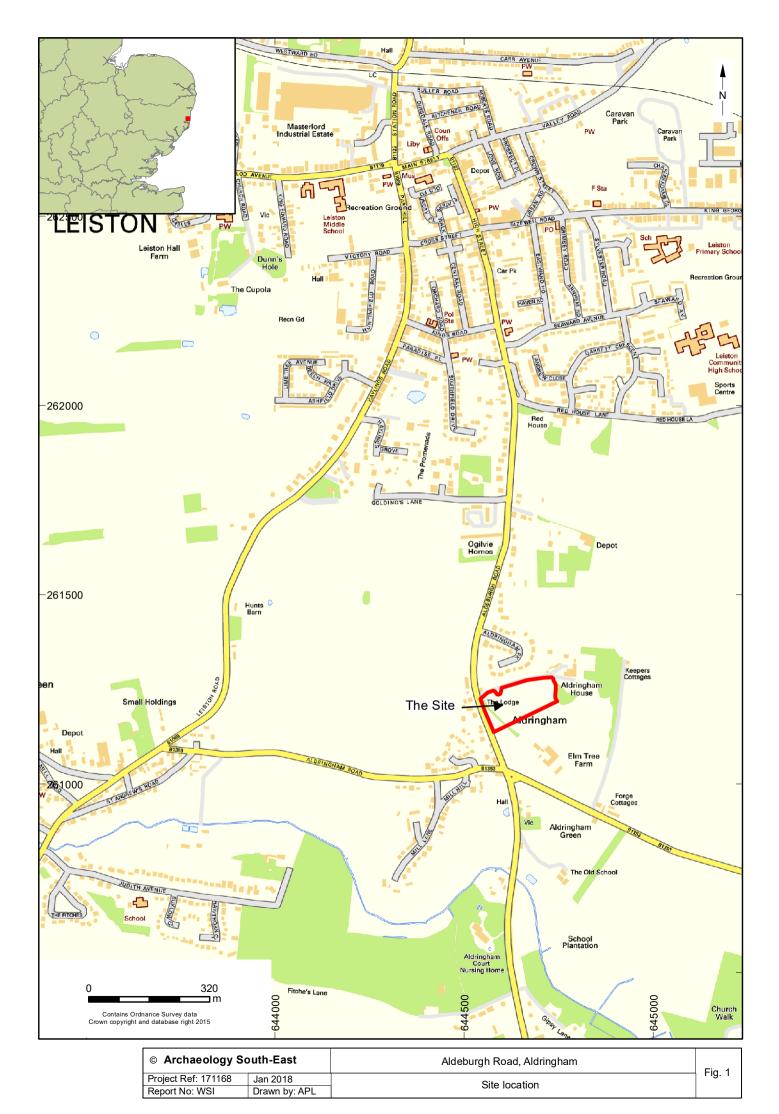
of Archaeology

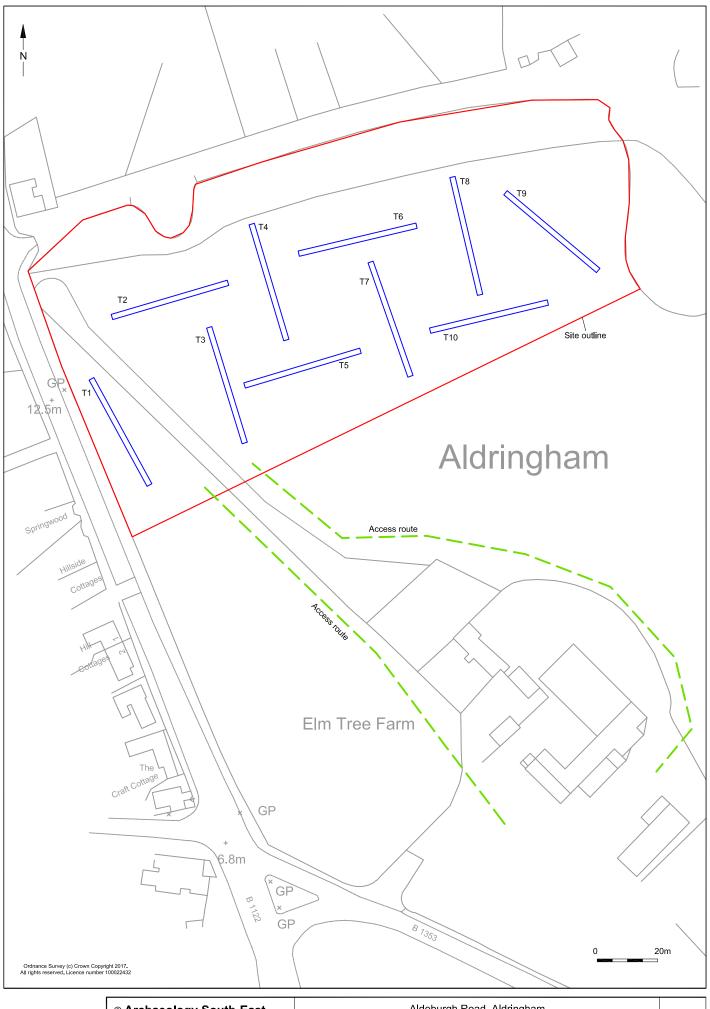
Geoarchaeology Dr Matt Pope (ASE)

Geoarchaeology (incl wetland environments) Kristina Krawiec (ASE)

Macro-plant remains Dr Lucy Allott & Karine Le Hégarat (ASE)

Charcoal & Waterlogged wood Dr Lucy Allott (ASE)





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Report Ref: WSI	Drawn by: APL		

email: fau@ucl.ac.uk web: www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeologyse web: www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeologyse web: www.ucl.ac.uk/caa

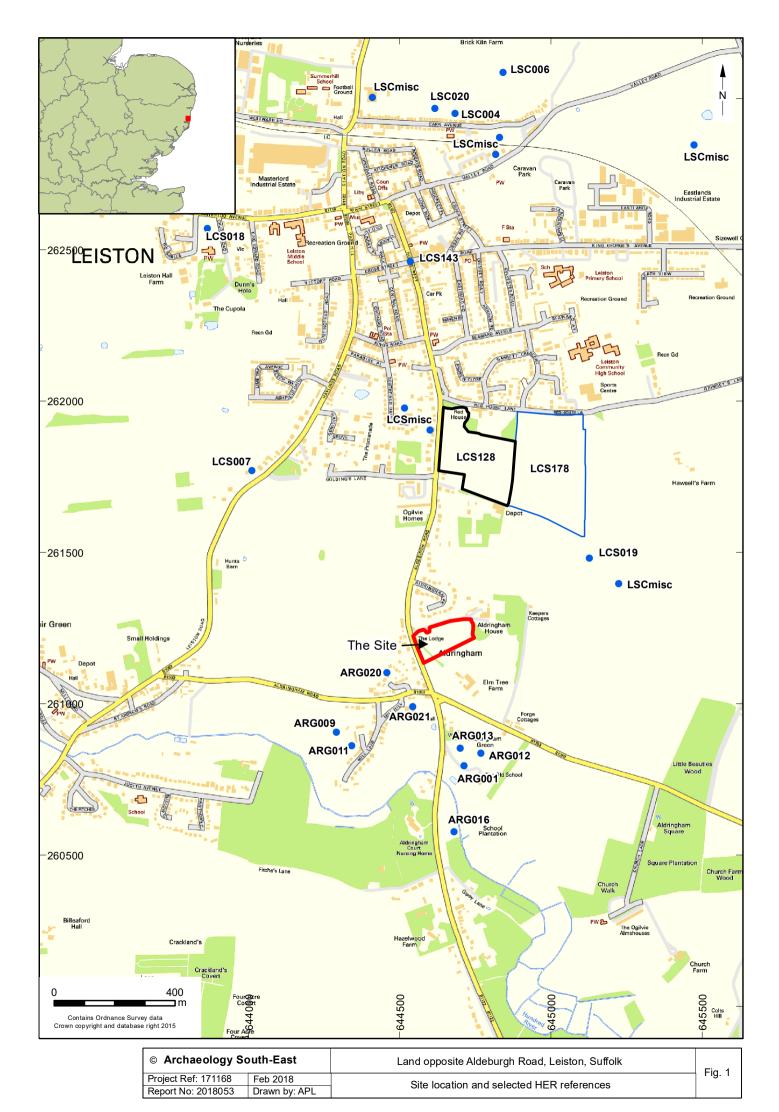
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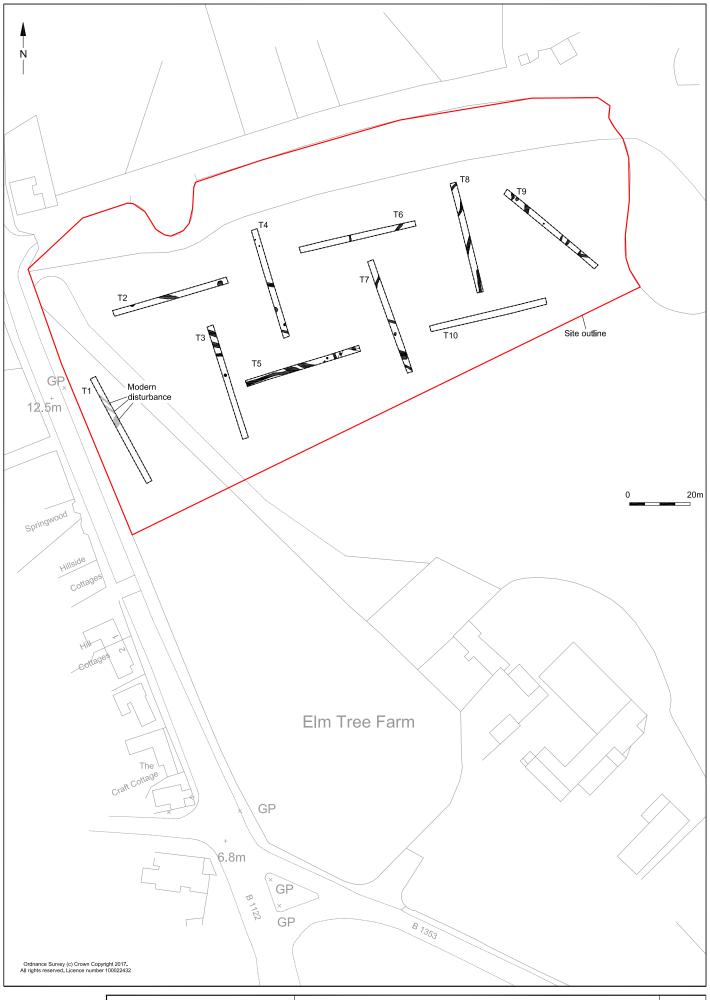
tel: +44(0)1376 331470 email: fau@ucl.ac.uk

London Office

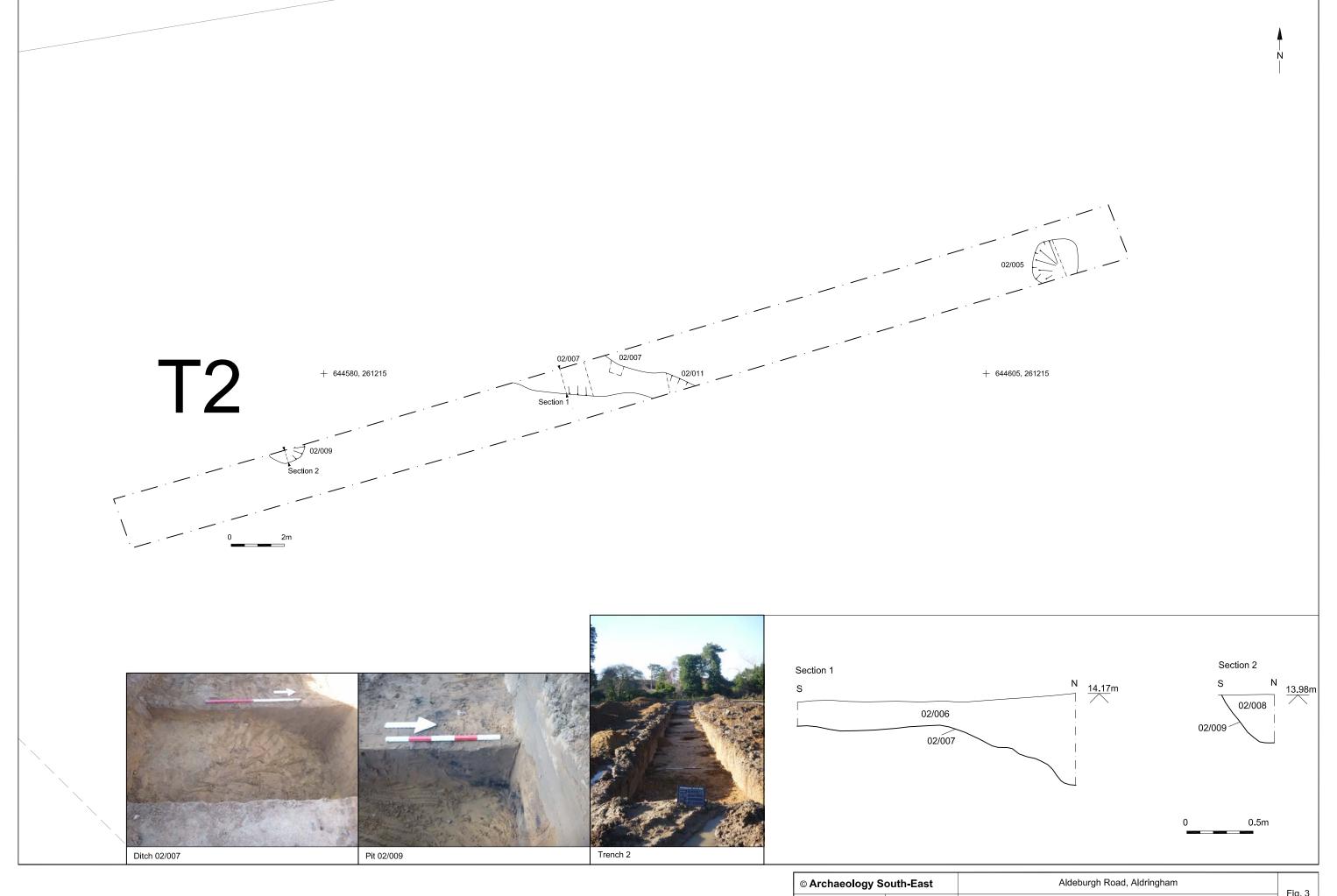
Centre for Applied Archaeology UCL Institute of Archaeology 31-34 Gordon Square London WC1H 0PY tel: +44(0)20 7679 4778 email: fau@ucl.ac.uk



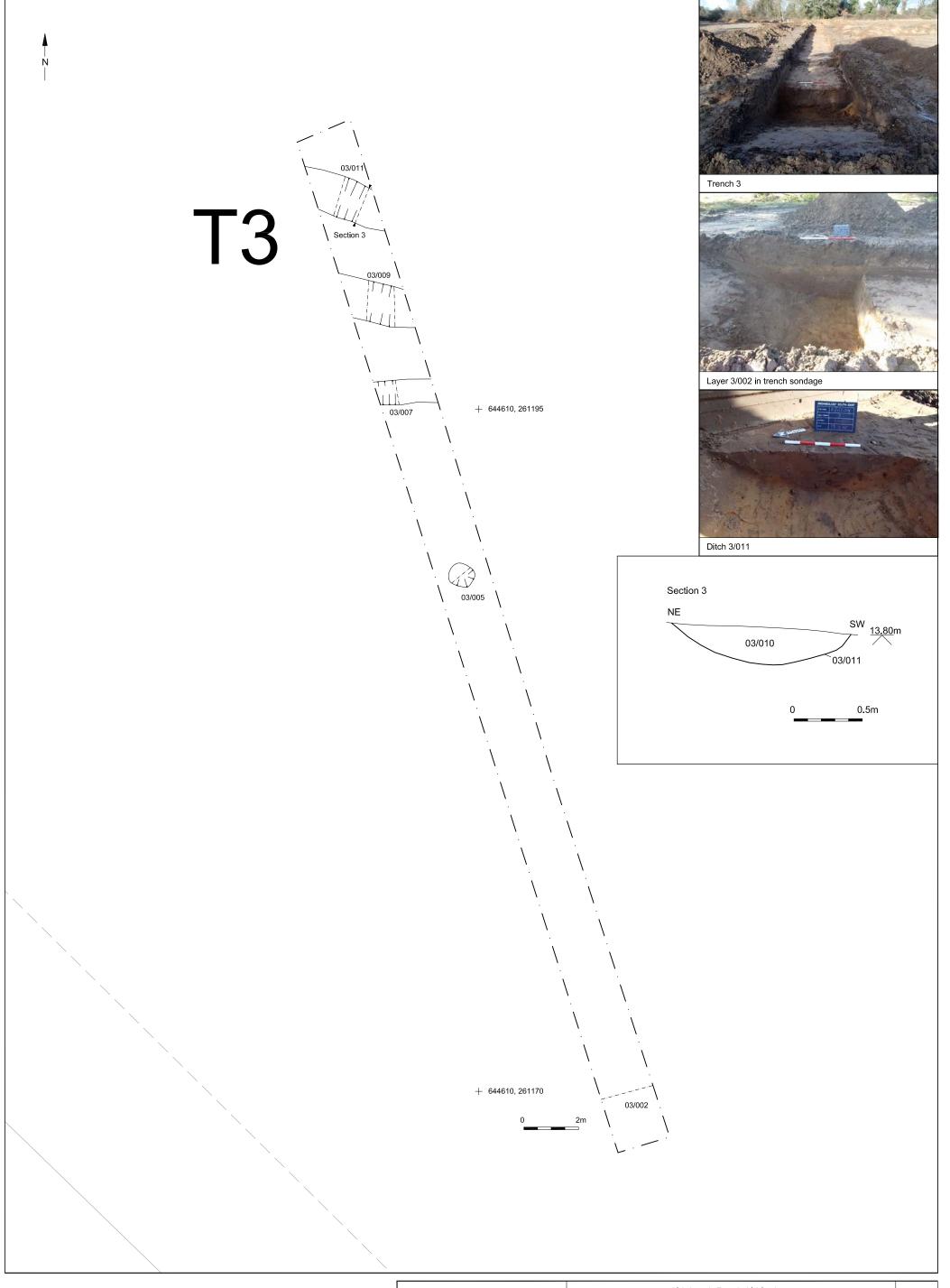




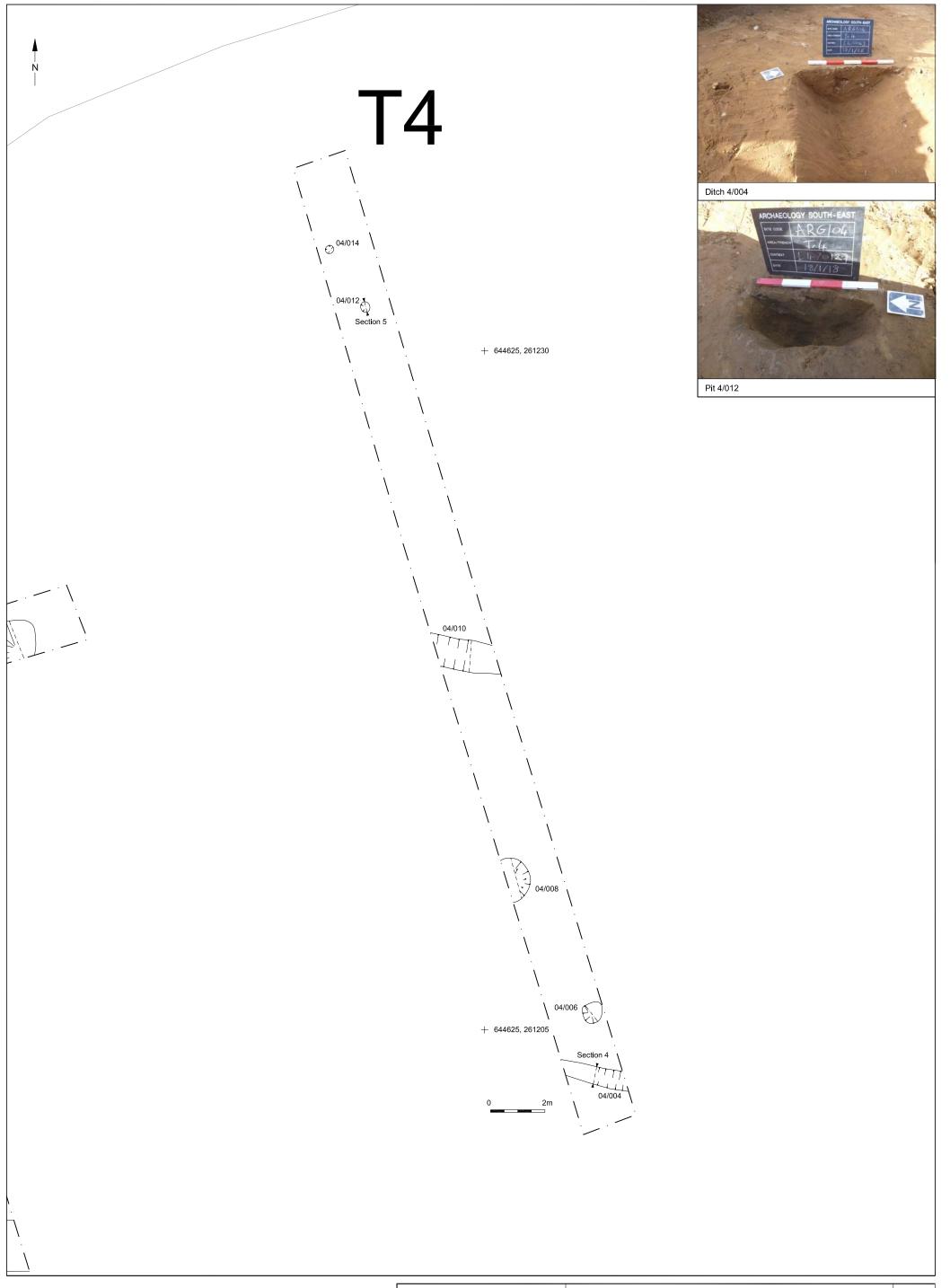
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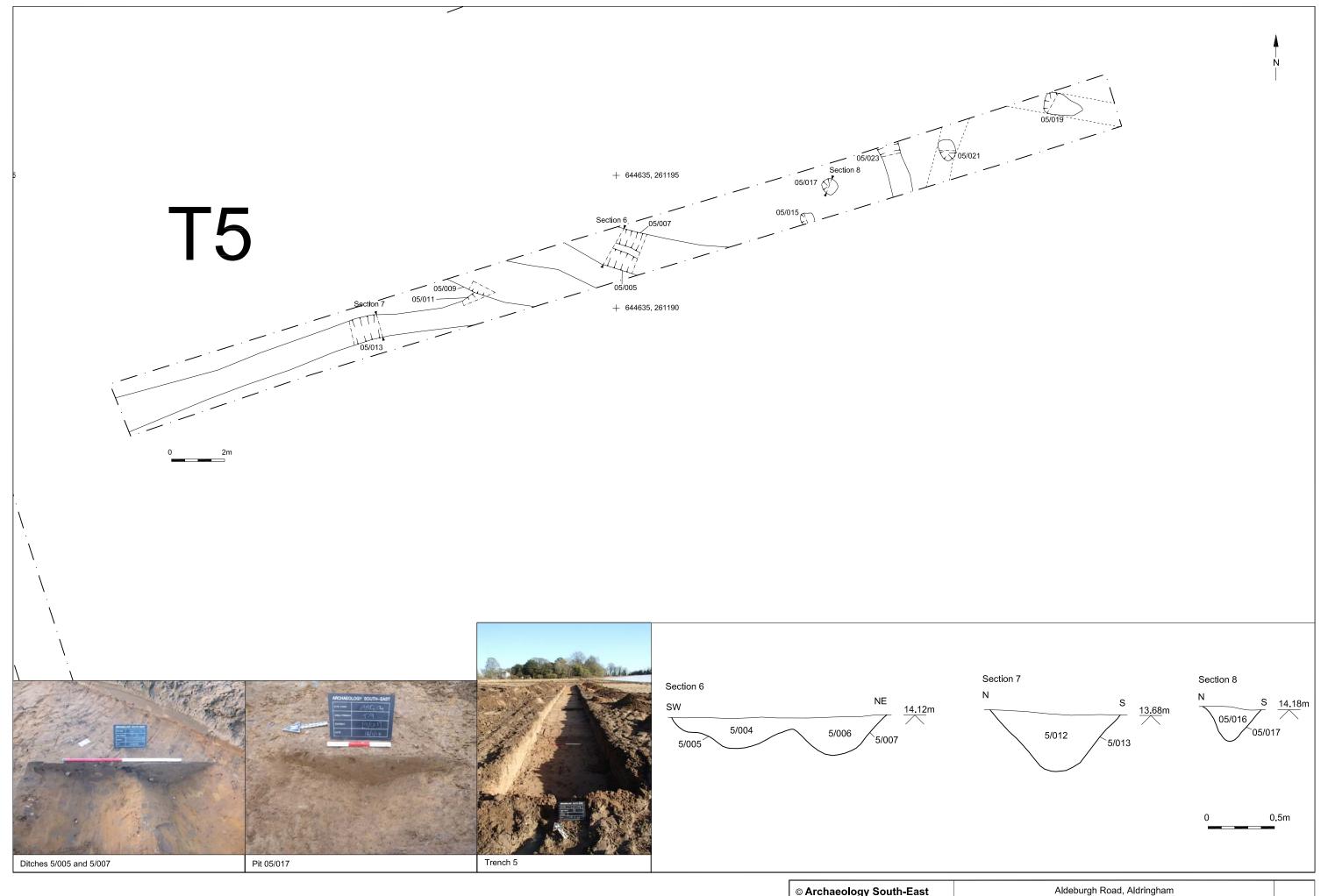
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Report Ref: 2018053	Drawn by: APL	Trench 2 plant, sections and photographs		



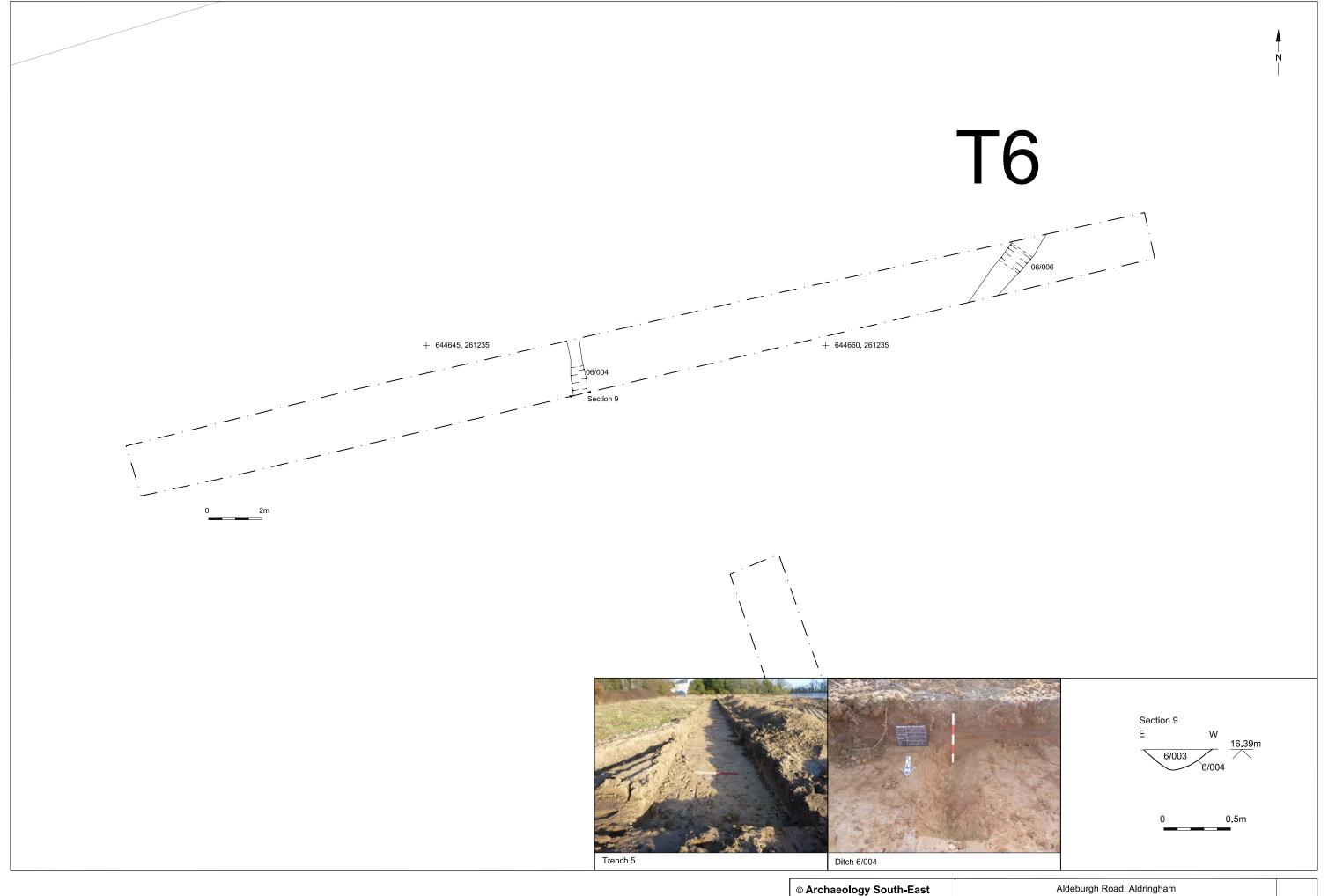
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Report Ref: 2018053	Drawn by: APL	Trench 3 plan, section and photographs		



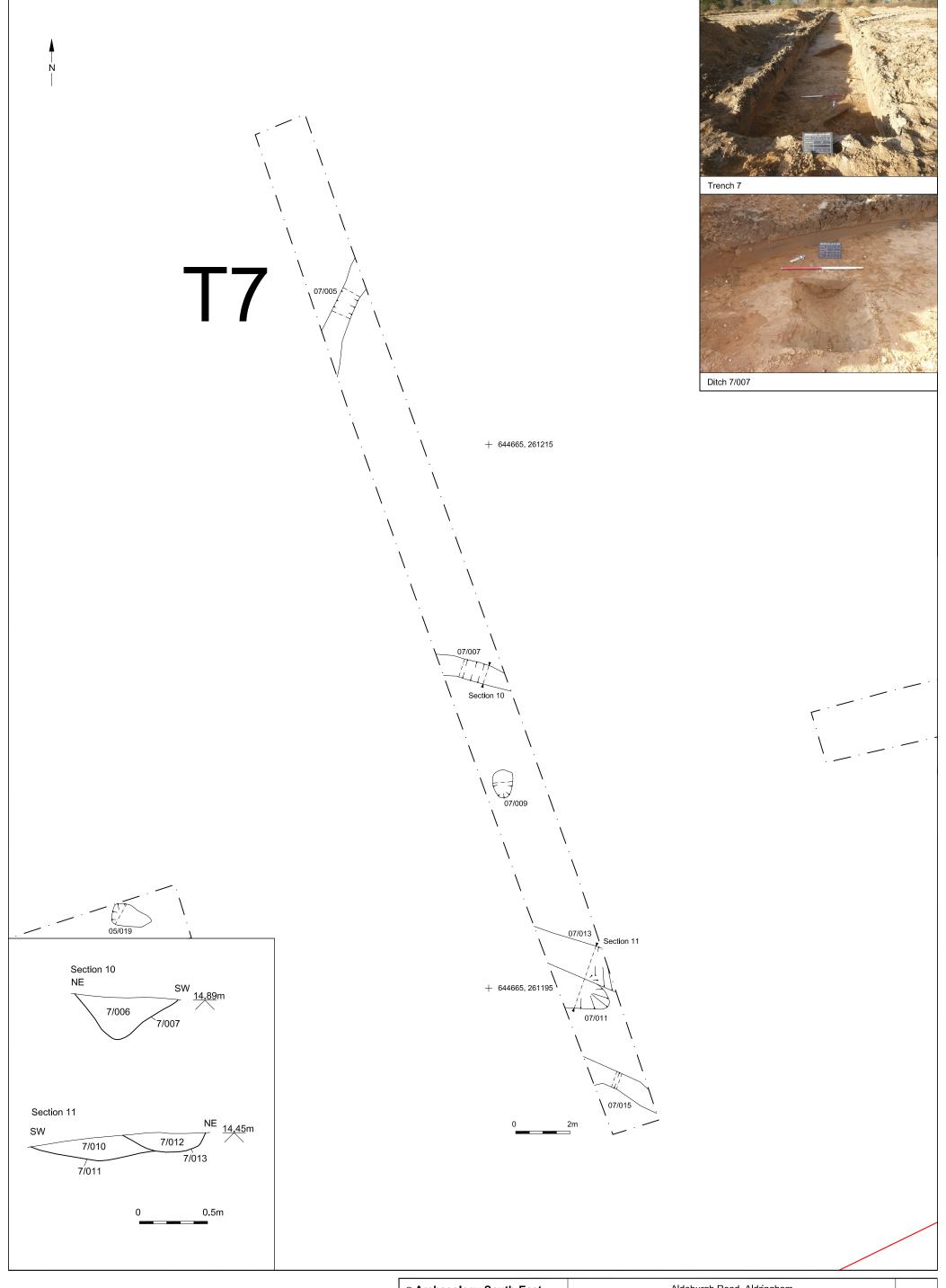
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Report Ref: 2018053	Drawn by APL	Trener 4 plan and sections		



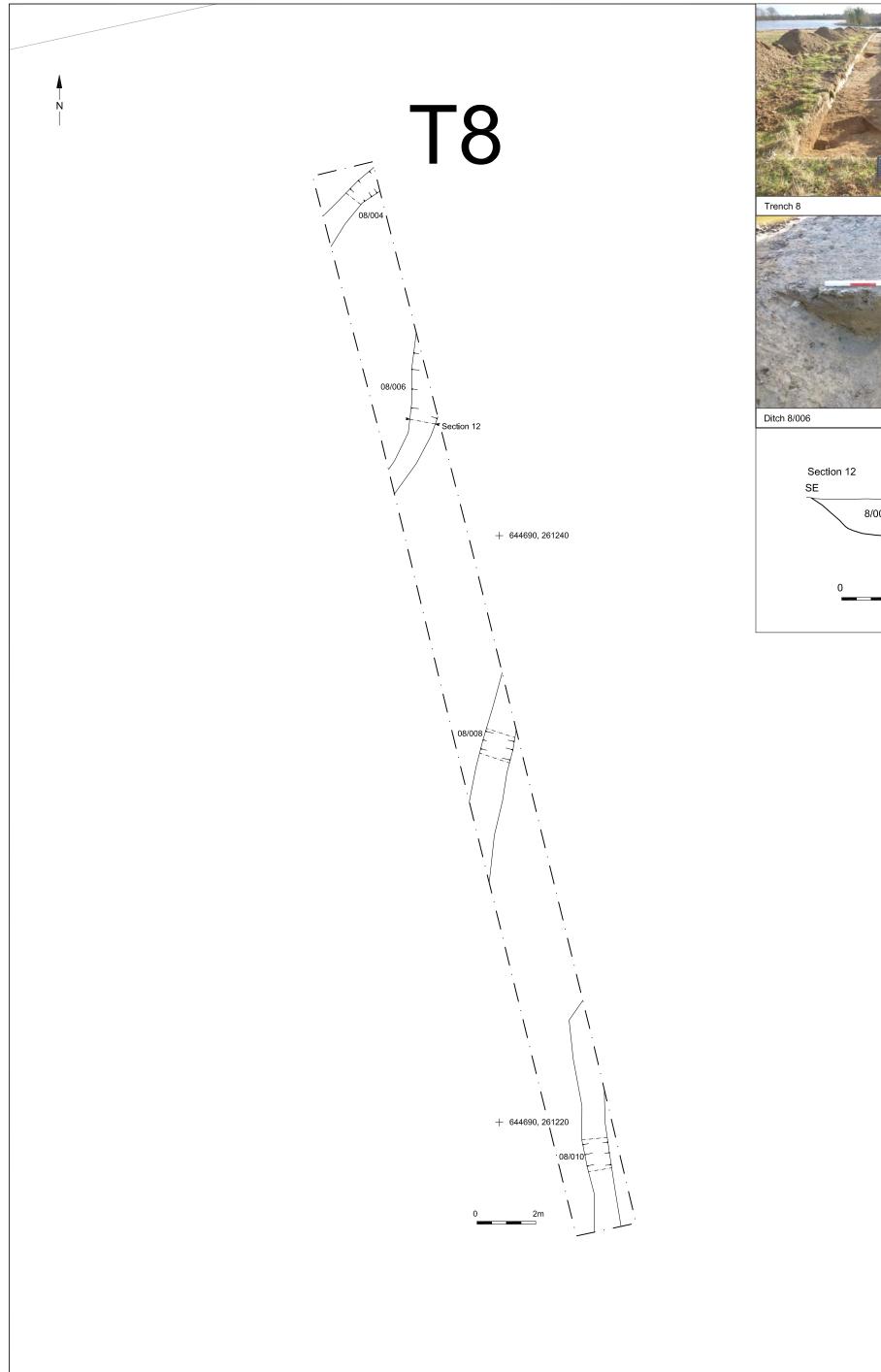
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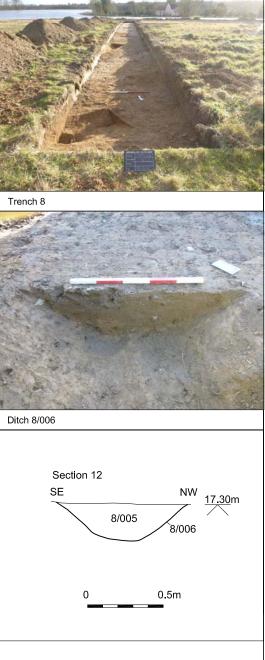


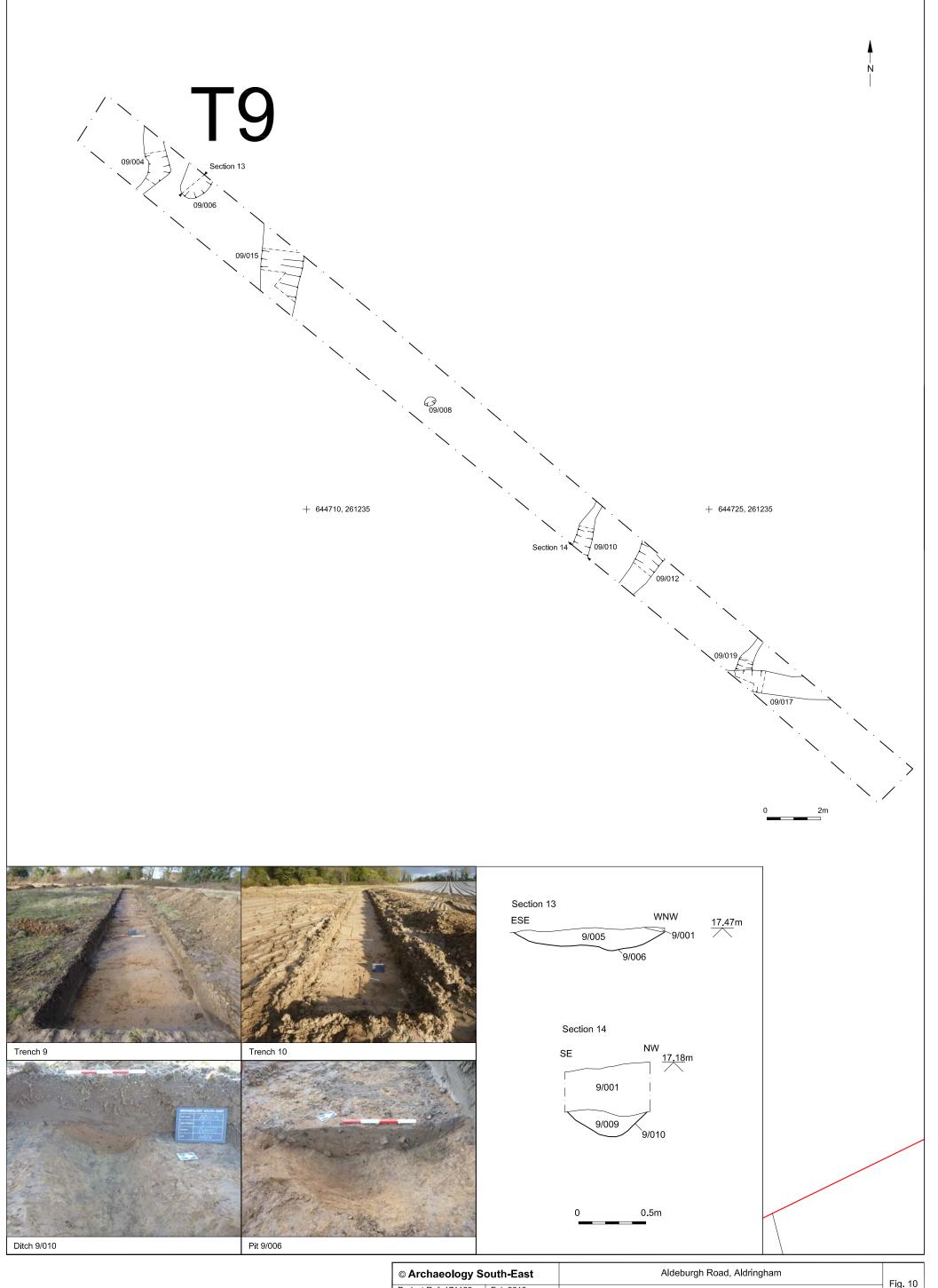
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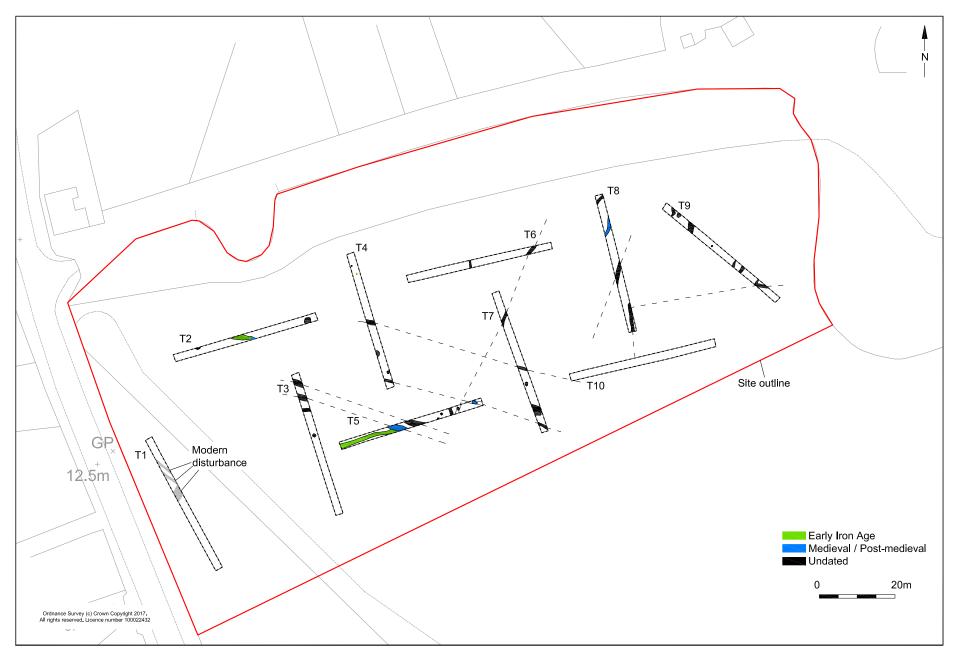
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Project Ref. 171168	Feb 2018	Site plan with dated features	i ig. i i
Report Ref: 2018053	Drawn by APL	Site plan with dated leatures	

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