Archaeology South-East

ASE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION

LAND TO THE WEST OF STOWMARKET ROAD, GREAT BLAKENHAM, SUFFOLK

FINAL REPORT

ASE Project No: 180488
Site Code: BLG037

ASE Report No: 2019084

June 2019

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Abstract

This report presents the results of an archaeological excavation carried out by Archaeology South-East on land to the west of Stowmarket Road, Great Blakenham, Suffolk, in October 2018. The fieldwork was commissioned by CgMs Ltd, on behalf of their client Persimmon Homes, in advance of residential development.

Previous site evaluation by trial trenching established the presence of archaeological remains of Late Saxon/early medieval and Roman date, concentrated in Trenches 41–44, alongside Stowmarket Road. An excavation area, totalling 1,683sq m, was subsequently targeted upon these remains in the east of the site in order to mitigate the impact of the forthcoming development.

The recovery of residual worked flint and occasional pottery fragments of Mesolithic to Early Iron Age date provides limited evidence for a transitory presence in the landscape at this time. Two pits have been tentatively assigned a more specific Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age date.

Limited evidence for Roman agricultural activity was encountered on site, as demonstrated by the remains of a large boundary ditch, a lesser boundary ditch and several small pits. The large ditch, NW/SE aligned, ran parallel to Stowmarket Road (itself on the line of the Colchester to Caistor Roman road), with a smaller perpendicular ditch meeting it. The ditches together delineated three areas of Roman land use likely for agricultural purposes. The small pottery assemblage recovered was suggestive of a possible earlier Roman (c.1st- to mid 2nd-century AD) date for this land use, whilst charred plant remains were suggestive of a mixed agrarian economy.

The majority of features were indicative of earlier medieval (11th–early 13th century) land use activity, possibly representing part of a small farmstead, that comprised three buildings, only one of which was fully uncovered, and a possible field system. The general paucity of diagnostic artefactual material from features of this period made establishing precise dates for the construction and use of the buildings and field system difficult. The fragmentary pottery assemblage, together with parallels in building styles that can be drawn from other sites, perhaps even suggests their pre-Conquest origin. Environmental plant remains were indicative of a mixed arable economy, with the buildings perhaps partly being used for the storage of crops as well as a dwelling.

No remains of land use post-dating the medieval period were identified within the excavation area, though field boundary ditches recorded beyond it to the northwest and southeast during the evaluation are indicative of a continued agricultural land use.

This report is written and structured to conform to the standards required of post-excavation analysis work as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012) and older document Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE), Project Planning Notes 3 (PPN3): Archaeological Excavation (Historic England 2008). Analysis of the stratigraphic, finds and environmental material has indicated a chronology and assessed the potential of the site archive to address the original research agenda, as well as assessing the significance of those findings.

The recorded prehistoric and Roman period remains are judged to be of no more than minor local significance. The medieval farmstead remains have limited local to regional significance. It is proposed that a short publication article is prepared for the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East (ASE), the contracting division of UCL's Institute of Archaeology Centre for Applied Archaeology, was commissioned by CgMs Ltd, on behalf of their client Persimmon Homes, to conduct an archaeological excavation on land to the west of Stowmarket Road, Great Blakenham, Suffolk, in fulfilment of a condition attached to planning consent.

1.1.2 Prior site evaluation had established the presence of potentially significant archaeological remains in the east of the site, adjacent to Stowmarket Road (ASE 2016). Excavation, targeted on this area, was required in order to mitigate the impact of forthcoming residential development.

1.2 Location, Topography and Geology

1.2.1 The village of Great Blakenham is situated in the Mid Suffolk District, on the B1113 road *c*.4 miles/6.5km northwest of Ipswich and *c*.6 miles/10km southeast of Stowmarket (NGR TM 11550 51010; Fig. 1). The development site is located to the west of Stowmarket Road on the northern edge of the village and comprises an irregular piece of land measuring 4.6ha. The site is bound to the north and west by allotments, open fields and woodland, to the south by residential properties along Chequers Rise and to the east by Stowmarket Road and residential properties.

1.2.2 The site currently comprises two fields under arable cultivation. A bisecting belt of trees runs diagonally across its approximate middle and a narrow area on the northern boundary is in use as allotments.

1.2.3 The site is located on a pronounced west to east slope, also sloping gently from south to north. Heights recorded in the evaluation ranged from 15.46m AOD to 25.95m AOD. The excavation area is situated at the bottom of a slope, where elevation ranged from 16.57m AOD in the east to 18.25m AOD in the west.

1.2.4 The British Geological Survey (BGS 2018) identifies the underlying solid geology as Chalk (Newhaven Chalk Formation), with the superficial geology across the site recorded as River Terrace Deposits laid in the Quaternary Period.

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 A 2016 planning application was given outline permission (Ref. 2022/16) by Mid Suffolk District Council for the construction of 130 houses on the 4.6ha site. Subsequent to this, as part of the approval of reserved matters (DC/18/01487) Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service (SCCAS), in their capacity as Archaeological Advisor to the Local Planning Authority, recommended that an archaeological condition be placed on the planning consent. Conditions 3 and 4 of this approval state that:

3. ACTION REQUIRED PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF SPECIFC PLOTS - ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS
No development shall take place in respect of plots 72-88 on the approved plans until the implementation of a programme of further archaeological works has been secured, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been

submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme of investigation may need to include an assessment of significance and research questions; and:
a. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording.
b. The programme for post investigation assessment.
c. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording.
d. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation.
e. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation.
f. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.
g. Timetable for the site investigation to be completed prior to development, or in such other phased arrangement, as agreed and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason - To safeguard archaeological assets from impacts relating to any groundworks associated with the development scheme and to ensure the proper and timely investigation, recording, reporting and presentation of archaeological assets affected by this development.

4. ACTION REQUIRED PRIOR TO THE FIRST OCCUPATION OF PLOTS - ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS
Plots 72 to 88 shall not be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation assessment for the area occupied by the related plot has been completed, submitted to and approved, in writing, by the Local Planning Authority, in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation as may be agreed by the Local Planning Authority. Provision shall be made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition.

Reason - To safeguard archaeological assets within the approved development boundary from impacts relating to any groundworks associated with the development scheme and to ensure the proper and timely investigation, recording, reporting and presentation of archaeological assets affected by this development.

1.3.2 An archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) was prepared for the site (Feldkamp 2015) in support of this application and a geophysical survey (Pre-Construct Geophysics Ltd 2016) was subsequently carried out.

1.3.3 In accordance with recommendations made by the SCCAS Conservation Team (SCCAS/CT), ASE was commissioned by CgMs Ltd to undertake archaeological investigations on site. This consisted of a trial-trench evaluation, undertaken in August 2016, which revealed potentially significant remains of Late Saxon/early medieval date in the east of the site (ASE 2016).

1.3.4 As the proposed development was judged to have a considerable impact on the archaeological resource, further archaeological work was recommended by the SCCAS/CT Monitoring Officer. The specified work entailed targeted excavation of the area with archaeological potential. A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)(ASE 2018a) set out the methodology and programme for these works and was approved by the SSCAS/CT prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

1.4 Circumstances and Dates of Work

1.4.1 Evaluation of the site was carried out by ASE in August 2016 (ASE 2016). Subsequent area excavation was undertaken by ASE in October 2018. The site was staffed by ASE archaeologists, project managed by Andy Leonard and directed in the field by Rob Cullum. Post-excavation project management was undertaken by Mark Atkinson.

1.5 Scope of the Report

1.5.1 This final excavation report has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines laid out in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* and *Project Planning Notes 3 (PPN3): Archaeological Excavation* (Historic England 2008).

1.5.2 The report seeks to quantify and describe the results, to place the recorded remains from the site within the local archaeological and historical setting, to interpret them and to discuss their significance.

1.5.3 Following on from the previous archaeological evaluation conducted by ASE (ASE 2016), work at the site ran as a single excavation, with the finds and environmental archives all recorded under a single site code: BLG037.

1.5.4 Where pertinent, the results from the evaluation have been integrated and assessed with the results from the main excavation.

2.0 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The historical and archaeological background to the site is covered in detail in the desk-based assessment (DBA) completed for the site (Feldkamp 2015), based on evidence held in the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER) and other readily available documentary and cartographic sources and excavation reports. The following is a summary of the DBA and of previous archaeological investigations carried out on site. The locations of the most pertinent sites and finds spots are indicated on Figure 1.

2.1.2 Multi-period finds have been located within the vicinity of the site, the situation of which within the Gipping Valley is considered a topographically favourable one for occupation of all periods.

2.2 Prehistoric

2.2.1 Flint artefacts of Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic date have been recovered from quarry sites to the east of the River Gipping (SHER BRH 001, BRH 003, BRH 012).

2.2.2 The cropmarks of a ring-ditch of probable Bronze Age date are recorded in a field *c*.700m northwest of the site, as well as field boundaries and an enclosure of unknown date (SHER BAY034). A Late Bronze Age field system has been identified at Hill Farm, Baylham, *c*.500m west of the site (SHER BAY 056).

2.2.3 A number of Iron Age artefacts have been recovered in fields nearby. These include two Trinovantian coins in a field to the west (SHER BLG004), Iron Age pottery from a quarry pit to the east (SHER BRH 005) and further Iron Age pottery in hillwash deposits at Tollgate Farm (SHER BLG 013), *c*.350m to the southeast.

2.3 Roman

2.3.1 Stowmarket Road, immediately to the east of the site, is presumed to perpetuate the line of the Colchester to Caistor Roman road (SHER BAY 014). A number of sites and find spots in the vicinity of the road suggest Roman occupation alongside it (SHER BAY 015, BAY 018, BLG Misc).

2.3.2 The presence of a Roman temple site has been speculated in the field to the west of the site following the discovery of a significant finds scatter (SHER BLG 004). A Roman field system was identified in fields further to the west at Hill Farm (SHER BAY 056) and other Roman artefact scatters have also been identified in the vicinity (SHER BLG 007, BLG 008).

2.4 Anglo-Saxon and Medieval

2.4.1 No Saxon remains have been identified in the vicinity of the site, although metalwork from the period has been recovered from the wider landscape (SHER BLG 004, BLG 007, BLG 008 and BLG 011).

2.4.2 To the south of the site, two medieval ditches were excavated at Tollgate Farm (SHER BLG 013), and quarry pits of Roman and/or medieval date were investigated

at Kingfisher Drive (SHER BLG 035). Medieval coins were recovered from the site of a housing development east of Stowmarket Road (SHER BLG 006).

2.4.3 St Mary's Church, to the southeast of the site on the opposite side of Stowmarket Road, is of 11th-/12th-century date (SHER BLG 005). Great Wood, to the west of the site, is recorded as ancient woodland (SHER BLG 012).

2.5 Post-Medieval

2.5.1 Historic mapping indicates that the site has comprised agricultural land since at least the early 17th century. The 1840 Blakenham Tithe Map shows the site comprised three fields, bound by Great Wood to the west and Stowmarket Road to the east. By the 1889 Ordnance Survey (OS) map, an 'Old Chalk Pit' is recorded alongside Great Wood in the southernmost field. The 1926 OS map depicts the site as a single field and the chalk pit is still evident into the 1970s.

2.5.2 A row of houses in the northeast corner of the site, known as 'Broomfields', was built sometime prior to 1945, and allotments were subsequently created along the northern boundary.

2.6 Previous Archaeological Investigations

2.6.1 No archaeological investigations had taken place on the site prior to the 2016 geophysical survey and trial trenching as part of the current scheme of works.

Geophysical Survey

2.6.2 The 2016 geophysical survey identified limited evidence of remains of potential archaeological significance (Pre-Construct Geophysics Ltd 2016), comprising a small number of discrete and linear anomalies and possible linear cultivation features (ridge and furrow). An anomaly likely associated with the 'Old Chalk Pit' was also detected.

Archaeological Evaluation

2.6.3 The 2016 evaluation (ASE 2016) consisted of forty-nine trial trenches spread across the 4.6ha development area, some targeted on anomalies identified by the preceding geophysical survey. Archaeological remains, comprising ditches, pits and postholes, were encountered in the north and east of the site. The majority of these features were of Late Saxon/early medieval (11th/12th century AD) date and concentrated in the east of the site. These remains were interpreted to be indicative of occupation activity, perhaps constituting a farmstead alongside the former Roman road.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY & RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

3.1 Archaeological methodology

3.1.1 As specified in the WSI (ASE 2018a), a single rectangular area measuring *c.*3,000sq m was initially planned, targeting the concentration of Late Saxon/early-medieval remains identified in evaluation Trenches 41–44. Upon arrival on site, however, it became clear that Health and Safety considerations with regard to overhead cables and a medium-pressure gas main remained in force. Consequently, the excavation area was reduced to an area of 1,683sq m to allow for statutory easements (Fig. 2).

3.1.2 The excavation area was stripped using a tracked mechanical 360° excavator with a flat-bladed ditching bucket. Overburden layers, comprising topsoil and subsoil, were carefully removed under direct archaeological supervision in shallow spits until the top of the natural deposit or tops of archaeological features/deposits were exposed. Machine stripping began in the south of the excavation area, working in strips from east to west, away from the eastern overhead cables, and proceeding until the northern site boundary was reached.

3.1.3 The removed overburden was transported by dumper away from the excavation area and stockpiled. There was no requirement for re-instatement of the ground at the completion of the fieldwork.

3.1.4 A metal detector was used throughout, with machine stripping being stopped at frequent intervals to allow for the detecting of topsoil and subsoil deposits. All exposed archaeological features and deposits were also metal detected.

3.1.5 Once the site was stripped, a pre-excavation plan was created using Global Positioning System (GPS) planning technology, which was made available through digital AutoCAD files and printed at a suitable scale for onsite use. The plan was updated during regular visits by ASE surveyors.

3.1.6 All work was carried out in accordance with Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a) and CIfA standards and guidelines (CIfA 2014b, c), and in compliance with *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

3.1.7 Subsequent hand excavation and recording of the site was carried out using standard ASE methodologies and in accordance with the WSI (ASE 2018a). Specific feature sampling strategies were employed, including:

- Approximately 10% of the length of the exposed linear features was initially excavated to determine their character over their entire course.
- A minimum of 50% of discrete features was excavated. Further investigation was a matter of onsite judgment, but as a minimum their extent, date and function were sought. Selected pits and postholes were 100% excavated in order to facilitate the collection of environmental samples and/or artefact recovery.
- Interventions were excavated, where necessary, in order to establish the stratigraphic relationship of intercutting linear and discrete features.

- Following the implementation of this methodology, 100% of all features deemed on site to represent structural remains were excavated in order to expose any further structural remains (such as postholes).

3.1.8 Soil horizons, archaeological deposits and cut features were numbered using a unique sequence of context numbers in the range 1000-1179 and recorded on standard ASE context record sheets.

3.1.9 The excavated features and final site boundaries were planned by GPS. Sections (at a scale of 1:10) were hand drawn on sheets of gridded drawing film and subsequently digitised.

3.1.10 A full digital photographic record of all features was compiled, which also included working shots to represent more generally the nature of the site and fieldwork. Aerial shots of the site were taken by Go Pro camera following 100% excavation of structures.

3.1.11 All artefacts recovered from excavated contexts were collected and retained for specialist identification and study, in line with the ASE artefact collection policy and CIfA guidelines (CIfA 2014d).

3.1.12 Bulk soil samples were collected from suitable excavated contexts, such as well-sealed slowly silted features and sealed features containing carbonised plant remains. The sampling aimed to recover spatial and temporal information concerning the occupation of the site. A standard bulk sample size of 40 litres (or 100% of small features) was taken from dated/datable sealed contexts to recover environmental remains, such as fish, small mammals, molluscs and botanicals, and finds. A small number of appropriate deposits were identified on site.

3.1.13 Environmental soil sampling methodology, processing and recording was undertaken within current Historic England guidelines (Historic England 2011). Samples were processed through tank flotation unless considered detrimental to the samples or recovery rate. Flots and residues were air-dried prior to analysis.

3.2 Project Aims and Research Objectives

3.2.1 The research aims and objectives for the project were set out in the WSI prepared for the excavation (ASE 2018a) and took account of the results of the preceding evaluation.

3.2.2 The general aims of the archaeological excavation were as follows:

- Excavate and record all archaeological deposits and features within the proposed excavation area

- Produce relative and absolute dating and phasing for deposits and features recorded on the site

- Establish the character of these deposits in attempt to define functional areas on the site such as industrial, domestic, etc.

- Produce information on the economy and local environment and compare and contrast this with the results of other excavations in the region

3.2.3 With reference to the East of England research framework (Medlycott 2011), the excavation aimed to address the following project-specific regional research objectives (RO's), posed as statements and/or questions:

RO1: What is the nature of the Late Saxon/early medieval activity on the site, revealed during the evaluation, and what is its extent?

RO2: Can the relationship between the Late Saxon/early medieval remains and the former Roman road (Stowmarket Road) be further understood?

RO3: The evaluation report (ASE 2016) suggested the Late Saxon/early medieval remains on site could represent a roadside occupation site, such as a farmstead. Can further excavation aid in the interpretation of the site?

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1 Summary

4.1.1 Subsequent to the 2016 evaluation (ASE 2016), archaeological excavation was undertaken across an area of 1,683sq m, targeted upon Trenches 41–44. The location of the excavation area in relation to the evaluation trenches is shown in Figures 2 and 3.

4.1.2 Archaeological remains uncovered are herein discussed under date-phased headings determined through assessment of the dateable artefacts, predominantly the pottery, and secondarily through the creation of relative chronologies where stratigraphic and spatial relationships exist.

4.1.3 As part of the stratigraphic analysis of the excavated remains, individual context numbers, referred to thus: [0000], have been sub-grouped and grouped together and are generally referred to by their group label (G0). In this way, linear features, such as ditches that may have numerous individual excavated segments/slots and associated context numbers, are discussed as single entities. Other cut features, such as pits or postholes, may have been grouped together by structure, common date and/or type and proximity. Environmental samples are listed within triangular brackets <00> and registered finds thus: RF <00>. Evaluation contexts are identified by the format: [0/000] (trench number/context number). References to text sections within this report are referred to thus: (3.7).

4.1.4 Where possible, these groups have been assigned to past land use entities (as opposed to modern imposed excavation areas). Land use entities can encompass many different features and are used to characterise the function of the site for each given period. Land use entities were not assigned to undated groups. The following land use categories have been used and have been labelled on Figures 4–6:

- D = Boundary Ditch
- B = Building
- FS = Field System

4.1.5 Archaeological remains were present across the excavation area, being concentrated in its central portion. Three broad periods of activity have been identified largely based on the dating of the recovered pottery. A large proportion of remains are undated due to the paucity and the fragmentary and unreliable nature of recovered finds. Therefore, where possible, remains have also been phased based on their stratigraphic and/or spatial association with other dated remains. Undated and unphased features have been grouped as Period 0, although some are likely to be associated with the prehistoric, Roman and early medieval land use activity identified.

- Period 1: Late Neolithic – Early Bronze Age
- Period 2: Roman
- Period 3: Early Medieval

4.1.6 The recorded archaeological remains are described and discussed in detail under these three period headings in sections 4.5–4.8. Additional context data are presented in Appendix 1 and a list of designated groups and their contents in

Appendix 2. All recorded features are shown on a multi-phase excavation plan (Fig. 3), with context numbers labelled and excavation extents indicated. Group numbers and land use entities are marked on subsequent period and phase plans for the excavation area (Figs 4–8). Selected sections and photographs from each period are incorporated into the various plan figures, as appropriate.

4.2 Period Summaries

Earlier Prehistoric

4.2.1 This location in the landscape appears to have been occupied during the earlier prehistoric period, as suggested by a small amount of residual finds in later or otherwise undated features, comprising worked flint of broadly Mesolithic and Neolithic to Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date. These finds are suggestive of a limited, and presumably transient, presence in the landscape during much of this time.

Period 1: Late Neolithic – Early Bronze Age

4.2.2 The first tangible evidence of land use at the site is dated to the Late Neolithic–Early Bronze Age. This is represented by two pits in the centre and north of the excavation area. This limited evidence for activity in the prehistoric period is congruent with that recorded within the wider landscape, as outlined in section 2.2.

Period 2: Roman

4.2.3 Increased land use activity during the Roman period is evidenced by the presence of a large ditch, a smaller segmented ditch and several small pits. The exact nature and date range of the activity in this period is not clear, given the paucity of diagnostic finds, but it was likely agricultural in nature – perhaps a field system alongside the Colchester to Caistor Roman road.

Period 3: Early Medieval

4.2.4 An increased intensity of land use is demonstrated in the 11th to 12th centuries. Evidence for this early medieval occupation comprises the structural remains of three buildings, generally of post-in-trench construction: a main building, with an annexe that was later replaced with an outbuilding, and a second building that was only partially uncovered. The margins of a potential field system associated with this occupation were also uncovered, extending beyond on the site's eastern boundary. As with other periods, artefactual material recovered was too fragmentary to provide a more specific date range for these remains and phases of the buildings.

Period 0: Undated

4.2.5 A number of recorded features generally concentrated in the centre of the excavation area were not dated by artefacts and had no clear morphological or spatial characteristics by which they could be assigned to a period. Nevertheless, some undated features were likely to have been associated with the prehistoric, Roman and medieval use of the landscape.

4.3 Topography and Deposit Sequence

4.3.1 The topography of the excavation area comprises gently sloping ground, from 16.57m AOD in the east to 18.25m AOD in the west

4.3.2 The deposit sequence encountered was uniform across the excavation area comprising topsoil and subsoil overlying natural deposits, though a high degree of variation in subsoil thickness was observed, dependent upon the slope occupied by the site.

4.3.3 Natural deposits were consistent with those recorded by the BGS (2018); they consisted of white bedrock chalk, with mid orange-brown silty sand intrusions of probable glacial origin present in both small localised pockets and as bands up to 5m wide and crossing the site at irregular intervals on a NE/SW alignment (downslope). A mid orange sandy natural was recorded in the area immediately within the northeast excavation limit.

4.3.4 Subsoil consisted of mid brown sandy silt with occasional gravel and varied in depth from 0.25-0.90m. Overlying topsoil and turf consisted of 0.30-0.36m of dark brown sandy silt with occasional gravel.

4.3.5 No archaeological features were visible in the topsoil or subsoil during the closely monitored machine stripping. Features were generally clearly visible once the overburden was removed, though the extents of some features were less clearly distinguished in the sandy natural deposits. All recorded archaeological features were found below the subsoil and were cut directly into the natural deposits

4.3.6 A modest density and range of archaeological remains were uncovered across the excavation area, with recorded features including ditches, beam slots/foundation trenches, pits and postholes. Encountered fill types varied slightly but mostly consisted of single fills of light to mid brown, greyish brown, brownish grey and orange brown sandy silts, silty sands and occasionally clay silts. Any notable exceptions are described in more detail below in the discussion of specific features and/or groups, particularly where pertinent to the understanding of the nature/function of a deposit or feature.

4.3.7 No significant intrusions or truncations, such as modern land drains, were apparent within the excavation area, though evidence of modern ploughing activities impacting on the natural and archaeological horizon was observed in some areas of the wider site during the previous evaluation.

4.4 Residual Earlier Prehistoric Material

4.4.1 No archaeological features or deposits of demonstrably pre-Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date were identified within the excavation area. A small quantity of earlier prehistoric material, consisting of worked flint of broadly Mesolithic to Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date, was recovered from across the area and found to be residual within later or otherwise undated features.

4.4.2 This general paucity of earlier prehistoric remains encountered during the excavation corresponds with the limited evidence identified during the previous 2016 evaluation of the site, which comprised a similarly small quantity of residual worked flint pre-dating the Middle Bronze Age.

4.5 Period 1: Late Neolithic – Early Bronze Age (Fig. 4)

4.5.1 There is limited tangible evidence for land use activity across the excavation area during the Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age periods. Archaeological remains from this time span were limited to two pits located in the centre and north of the excavation area. The pottery assemblage was limited in size but contained a number of fabrics indicative of a broad Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age date, as well as a number of decorated sherds suggestive of a more specific Late Neolithic date. An abraded sherd of possible Beaker (c.2450–1810 BC) pottery, residual within a later ditch, is suggestive of an Early Bronze Age date. It is possible that a number of undated features were associated with this period of land use.

4.5.2 In the absence of any ditches or gullies denoting land division during the Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age periods, the site is regarded as being located within a single unenclosed landscape.

4.5.3 Pits [1012] and [1176] (G12) were located in the centre and north of the excavation area, respectively, and both were roughly circular in shape. Pit [1012], partially exposed during the 2016 evaluation and recorded as [42/033], measured 0.80m x 0.85m wide and 0.24m deep and had moderately steep sloping concave sides, with no discernible break of slope to a concave and rounded base. Pit [1176] measured 0.93m x 0.91m wide and 0.38m deep and had moderately steep sloping sides with a gradual break of slope to a concave and rounded base. Both pits contained a single mottled fill of dark brown and mid orange brown silty sands with occasional small chalk and charcoal flecks; a fill type not seen elsewhere on site. Seven small sherds (62g) of probable Late Neolithic Grooved Ware (*c*.2900–2100 BC) and a single undiagnostic flint flake (15g) were recovered from pit [1012], adding to the three worked flints (3g), including a Mesolithic/Early Neolithic bladelet, recovered from this feature ([42/033]) during the preceding evaluation. The fragment of hammerscale also recovered during the evaluation was clearly intrusive. Whilst no finds were recovered from pit [1172], its similar form and fill indicate its probable contemporaneity. Bulk soil sample <4>, collected from fill [1011] of pit [1012], contained a small fragment of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age pottery and a small quantity of charred plant remains comprising wheat and indeterminate cereal caryopses, and wild weed and grass seeds.

4.6 Period 2: Roman (Figs 5 and 9)

4.6.1 No evidence of land use after the Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age period was evident within the excavation area until the Roman period. However, three sherds of flint-tempered Middle/Late Bronze Age pottery were recovered during the 2016 evaluation (Trench 1) and the excavation (Period 3 beam slot [1078]) of the site. Although considered residual, this material may hint at some form of land use in the intervening period.

4.6.2 Roman period land use consists of a low frequency of small pits (G11) and two perpendicular ditches (D1 and D2) that constitute the earliest demonstrable division of the landscape. Ditch D1 was parallel with the Colchester to Caistor Roman road and, together with perpendicular ditch D2, likely constituted parts of a rectilinear field system that divided the landscape for agricultural purposes. As with other periods, the paucity and fragmentary nature of recovered finds has made specific

dating difficult. It is also possible that a number of undated features were associated with this period of land use.

Ditch D1

4.6.3 Ditch D1 entered the south of the excavation area on a NW/SE alignment and continued beyond the northern site boundary; however, its continuation was not observed in evaluation Trench 45 located immediately adjacent to the north excavation limit. Ditch D1 was excavated within segments [41/009 / 42/008 / 1008 / 1014 / 1038 / 1073 / 1156 / 1172] (G1) and varied in width from 1.25m to 1.86m and in depth from 0.47m to 0.85m, with a general increase from the southeast to the northwest. At its widest point, in segment [1172], a re-cut [1170] was clearly visible. Segments [1036 / 1075] may also indicate another modification to the ditch. Its sides ranged from moderately steep and straight in the southernmost excavated segment [1008] to steep and concave in the northernmost segment [1170 / 1172]. Its base was uniformly concave and rounded. All segments contained a single fill of sandy silt varying in colour from light to mid brown, light greyish brown, light brownish grey and mid yellowish brown, with occasional small charcoal and chalk flecks, which probably accumulated naturally following neglect of the ditch. There was a general paucity of dateable finds retrieved from the excavated segments, with the exception of two small sherds of pottery (3g) from segment [1038], three small pottery sherds (4g) from segment [1170] and a single pottery sherd (6g) from segment [42/008]. These sherds were broadly characteristic of the earlier Roman period (*c*.1st to mid 2nd century AD), with the single sherd from [42/008] being assigned a more specific 1st-century AD date. A single fragment of post-medieval ceramic building material (CBM) recovered from segment [1156] and a much-abraded sherd of medieval (12th- to 13th-century) pottery from [1170] are considered intrusive within the ditch. Bulk soil sample <3>, collected from fill [1037] of segment [1038], contained small amounts of fire-cracked flint, animal bone fragments and fishbone/microfauna, and small quantities of charred plant remains of wheat, oat and other indeterminate cereal caryopses, as well as weed seeds.

Ditch D2

4.6.4 Less substantial, segmented ditch D2 entered the west of the excavation area on a NE/SW alignment, though its southwestward continuation was not observed in evaluation Trench 24. It was excavated within segments [1047 / 1055 / 1067 / 1084 / 1090 / 1118 / 1168] (G3). It comprised two lengths of ditch, one extending for 18.59m from the western excavation limit and the second measuring 6.74m, terminating 1.4m from D1. A 1.57m gap was located 10.23m from the western limit where the adjacent termini were excavated as segments [1168] and [1084]. The two gaps may have provided access between the areas north and south of D2. Its width varied from 0.33m to 0.81m and its depth from 0.06m to 0.28m. All excavated segments contained a single fill consistent with the site, indicative of natural silting. A single, highly abraded sherd (6g) of Early Bronze Age, probably Beaker, pottery recovered from segment [1047] is assumed to be residual. Small quantities of broadly-prehistoric worked flint also recovered from these excavated segments are considered residual. A single fragment of undiagnostic fired clay was also recovered from D2 ditch segment [1118]. The Roman date of ditch D2 has been inferred by its respecting of and being perpendicular to ditch D1.

Pits

4.6.5 Roughly circular pits [1027], [1051] and [1162] (G11) occurred singly in each of the three land entities defined by ditches D1 and D2. Pit [1162] was likely cut by Period 3 Building 1 foundation trench G2, though this was not clear during excavation. They varied in width from 0.83m to 1.07m and in depth from 0.08m to 0.12m, all with shallow sloping concave sides. Pits [1027] and [1162] had flat, irregular bases, whilst pit [1051] had a concave and slightly rounded base. Each contained single mid brown sandy silt fills indicative of gradual silting following disuse. Recovered from pit [1162] were two small (16g) pottery sherds of probable earlier Roman date and a fragment of fired clay. Pit [1051] contained a single sherd of medieval (11th- to 13th-century) pottery that is considered intrusive, perhaps having derived from adjacent later building B3. Two fragments of fired clay and two pieces of broadly prehistoric worked flint were retrieved from pit [1027] and were likely to have been residual. Both pits have been dated to Period 2 based on their similar forms and fills to pit [1162]. Bulk soil sample <5> was collected from fill [1050] of pit [1051]; it contained an iron hobnail (1g), as well as charred plant remains, including wheat, barley, rye, oat, legume and pea. Soil sample <13>, collected from fill [1161] of pit [1162], also contained small quantities of charred and mineralised wheat, barley and oat caryopses, including cereal chaff, cultivated legumes and weed seeds, as well as small quantities of charcoal and fired clay.

4.6.5 The distribution of the three G11 pits, with [1051] to the east of D1, [1027] to the west of D1 and south of D2, and [1162] to the west of D1 and north of D2, provides no insight into the uses of the three land entities delineated by ditches D1 and D2. It is possible that these either shared a similar function throughout the period or that their respective functions left no tangible below ground remains. Given the general lack of features and material evidence assigned to Period 2, it is likely that the landscape was used for agricultural purposes during the Roman period, presumably being fields located alongside the Colchester to Caistor road.

4.7 Period 3: Medieval (Figs 6–8)

4.7.1 Evidence of continued land use between the earlier Roman and medieval periods, was not identified during the excavation; however a single sherd of 3rd-/4th-century Roman pottery was recovered from the wider site during the 2016 evaluation, suggesting that there may have been some form of land use in the intervening period.

4.7.2 Archaeological remains of earlier medieval date (*c*.11th to early 13th century) were generally concentrated in the centre of the excavation area, perhaps constituting part of a small settlement, such as a farmstead. The majority of recorded features constituted the remains of three timber buildings: a large rectangular building with annexe (B1) in the centre of the site, a small outbuilding or latrine (B2) immediately south of B1 that appeared to replace its annexe, and a partially uncovered building (B3) adjacent to and extending beyond the excavation eastern boundary. The periphery of a possible field system (FS1) was partially exposed at the eastern excavation limit and a cluster of non-descript features dated to the period was recorded in 2016 evaluation Trench 42 (G16), just beyond the excavation area. There was a paucity of dateable finds from features assigned to this period, with phasing generally assigned through the establishment of spatial and stratigraphic relationships with other dated features on site and through their comparison with dated features of similar form from other sites.

Building 1 (B1) (Figs 7 and 8)

4.7.3 B1 was a rectangular building of post-in-trench construction on a NE/SW orientation, extending beyond the eastern excavation limit. It comprised a main building (G2) with exposed maximum dimensions of 5.01m wide by 17.75m+ long, with annexe (G13) immediately to its south measuring 5.49m by 5.17m square.

4.7.4 The main building (G2) was rectangular in shape and measured 4.18m and 17.75mm+ long internally. The westernmost end was apparently open and measured 4.44m wide internally. At roughly 8.5m from this end, the width of the building increased to 4.97m. Its walls were defined by beam slots/foundation trenches into which cill-beams supporting upright posts would have been placed.

4.7.5 The north side of G2 was defined by interrupted, NE/SW orientated, external wall foundation trench [1138, 1140 / 1150 / 1160, 1146 / 1152, 1148, 1154, and 1164], with the individual segments measuring 1.70–4.10m long (totalling 16.30m) by 0.30–0.40m wide by 0.07–0.18m deep. A short, slightly curved length of seemingly integral foundation trench [1160] extended to the northwest for *c*.1.40m from the terminal of foundation trench segment [1140 / 1150] – the function of which is unclear. The gaps between the foundation segments measured no more than 0.30m wide and do not denote entrances to the building; above ground, a continuous wall line is assumed, albeit with NW/SE orientated [1138] marking a dog-leg.

4.7.6 The southern side of G2 was defined by a single, more substantial and continuous, NE/SW orientated external wall foundation trench [44/009 / 1071 / 1078 / 1116 / 1120]. This measured 16.30m+ long by 0.22–0.46m wide by 0.09–0.44m deep.

4.7.7 Two internal walls on a NW/SE orientation, [1144 / 1158] and [1122 / 1136], measured 3.43-4.05m long by 0.30–0.34m wide by 0.04–0.24m deep.

4.7.8 All G2 wall foundation trenches exhibited steep or straight sides with a sharp break of slope to a flat base. Fill types were fairly uniform and consisted of mid greyish brown sandy silts; occasional to moderately frequent chalk and flint inclusions in some segments indicated intentional backfilling following disuse/demolition of the building and removal of the horizontal timber foundation; but this was not always the case. Where the foundation trenches were particularly deep (e.g. [1120]), a basal fill of compacted chalk was observed, perhaps indicating that a packing or levelling-up deposit was used after the trench was initially overdug. Finds retrieved from G2 foundation trenches were limited, comprising small quantities of fired clay from segments [1116] (three pieces), [1122] (one piece with a possible wattle impression), [1150] (eight pieces) and [1160] (eight pieces), and 12th- to 13th-century medieval pottery from segments [1136] (one sherd) and [1071] (ten sherds, 16g). Single residual sherds of earlier Roman pottery were recovered from segments [1071], [1136] and [1150], a residual sherd of Middle/Late Bronze Age pottery from segment [1078] and an intrusive fragment of post-medieval CBM from [1136]. Bulk soil samples <9>, <10>, <12>, <14> and <15> were collected from the single fills of segments [1116], [1140], [1144], [1136] and [1078], respectively, and yielded moderate quantities of charcoal and small quantities of fired clay, fire-cracked flint, unidentified burnt animal bone and fishbone/microfauna, as well as small to moderate quantities of charred plant remains, including mixed cereal caryopses, legumes and wild weed and grass seeds.

4.7.9 A single sub-circular posthole, [44/011] (G2), was truncated by/in the base of B1 foundation segment [44/009], recorded during the 2016 evaluation in Trench 44. Its exposed extent measured 0.20m by 0.24m by 0.29m deep and had steep sides and a rounded base. Its single fill of reddish brown sandy silt was devoid of finds. While it is not clear whether this posthole relates to the building, the absence of others in its foundation slots might suggest that it in fact predates B1.

4.7.10 The main internal space of B1 as defined by the G2 foundations was divided into three rooms; the western most of these measured 3.5m wide x 4.19m long internally and was open at its western side, the central room measured 3.5m wide x 4.16m long internally, and the easternmost room measured 4.18m wide internally and was not fully uncovered at 7.1m+ long. No internal features gave any indication of functions of these rooms.

4.7.11 An annexe (G13) is identified attached to the south wall the main B1 building (G2). This was roughly square in plan shape and defined by NE/SW foundation trench [1093], NW/SE foundation trench [1086 / 1107] and postholes [1059], [1095] and [1109]. It measured 5.12m x 3.85m internally and was seemingly open along its western side. A gap of 2.2m between postholes [1109] and [1059] indicates a possible point of access. The foundation trenches defining the annexe were generally less substantial than those of the main building (G2), at 1.65-2.68m long, a maximum of 0.40m wide and 0.15m deep. Postholes [1109] and [1059] were roughly circular in shape, whereas [1095] was ovoid. They measured 0.26-0.57m long by 0.24-0.42m wide by 0.17-0.27m deep, though the full extent of posthole [1095] was obscured by later, truncating features. Posthole [1109] was notably deeper at a depth of 0.48m. The G13 features generally contained single fills consistent with the site, though a packing fill of compacted chalk was recorded in the base of wall trench [1086]. Three undiagnostic sherds (8g) of probable earlier Roman pottery are considered residual within foundation trench [1098], whilst a residual broadly prehistoric worked flint was collected from [1086]. Four pieces of fired clay were also retrieved from posthole [1059]. Bulk soil sample <6>, collected from the fill of segment [1093], contained small quantities of charred wheat, barley, rye, oat, pea and weed seeds. Soil sample <8> was collected from fill [1108] of posthole [1109]; it contained a tiny fragment of fired clay (1g) and a small quantity of charred cereal caryopses of wheat, oat and rye. No medieval features were identified to occupy the annexe interior.

4.7.12 Despite the limited dating evidence and range of finds types recovered from B1 , it has been assigned a broad earlier medieval date in consideration of its clear truncation of Roman ditches D1 and D2, the recovery of 12th- to 13th-century pottery from its fills and its resemblance to timber buildings excavated elsewhere that have been assigned a Late Anglo-Saxon/early medieval date (see section 7). The presence of residual pottery and worked flint is not surprising given the remains of prehistoric and Roman activity encountered on site.

Building 2 (B2) (Figs 7 and 8)

4.7.13 B2 was a small, square structure of post-in-trench construction, located immediately to the south of B1. It is recorded to have truncated foundation trench [1086 / 1107] and posthole [1096] and so is interpreted to have replaced annexe G13. This building comprised a single continuous foundation trench [1065 / 1088 / 1097] (G4) that defined three of its sides. It measured 2.18m by 2.12m internally and was open on its southern side. The foundation trench varied in width from 0.29m to 0.56m and

in depth from 0.05m to 0.16m. Its sides were steep or straight with a sharp break of slope to a flat or slightly concave and rounded base. Its fill was uniformly a mid greyish brown sandy silt; no dateable finds were recovered. Bulk soil sample <7> collected from fill [1096] of foundation trench segment [1097] contained small quantities of charcoal and charred remains of wheat, barley, rye and sweat pea. B2 has been assigned a broad earlier medieval date based on its morphological, stratigraphic and spatial relationships with B1 and its similarities with dated features recorded on comparable sites. No internal features were found within B2 and its function is unknown, though its positioning adjacent to and alignment with the main part of B1 suggests that it was associated with the later use of B1.

Building 3 (B3) (Figs 7 and 8)

4.7.14 B3, like B1 and B2, was of post-in-trench construction and was partially uncovered at the eastern boundary of the excavation area. It was excavated within segments [44/005 / 44/007 / 1040 / 1053] (G5). It consisted of a continuous foundation trench entering the east of the excavation area on a broadly NE/SW orientation and extending for 3.41m before turning *c*.90° to the southeast and continuing for 9.64m on a NW/SE orientation. A second and possibly later foundation trench, [1049], ran adjacent to this for 4.82m and had a rounded northern terminal. The foundation trenches of B3 were shallower and wider than those recorded in B1, with a width of 0.21-0.73m and depth of 0.08-0.19m. They generally had steep sloping sides with no discernible break of slope to a concave base. This greater width is probably a result of a higher degree of bioturbation and root disturbance in an area of the site with soft sandy geology. Foundation trenches G5 contained single fills typical of the site. No dateable finds were recovered from B3, though six fragments of fired clay were recovered from terminal of ?replacement wall foundation trench [1049]. Despite the paucity of dating evidence, B3 has been assigned a broadly earlier medieval date due to its truncation of Roman D1 and spatial location in relation to B1. No medieval features were identified to occupy its interior.

4.7.15 Although provisionally identified as a building, the B3 foundation trench seems more ditch-like – particularly along its northern part, parallel to B1. The curvature of its western wall line might also suggest that an interpretation as a ditch might be more likely, perhaps instead defining an enclosure or garden area alongside Building B1.

Field System 1 (FS1)

4.7.16 It is tentatively suggested that ditches G14 and G15 represent the margins of a field system (FS1) extending beyond the eastern excavation limit, perhaps delineating agricultural land to the north and south of the settlement focus represented by Buildings B1–3. Both ditches G14 ([1016] / [1025] / [1032]) and G15 ([1174 / 43/023]) were on a NE/SW orientation, measuring a maximum of 1.3m wide and generally 0.21-0.30m deep with moderately steep sloping concave sides and concave, rounded bases. Ditch G14 extended from the eastern excavation limit for 7.30m, narrowing to 0.39m wide and ending in a rounded terminal [1025] 0.11m deep. Ditch G15 extended for only 2.08m into the excavation area at which point it was recorded as being truncated by Roman ditch D1; however, this is not likely to have been the case and it perhaps instead terminated on top of ditch D1. This is perhaps confirmed by the presence of an intrusive much-abraded sherd of 12th- to 13th-century pottery in Roman D1 ditch segment [1170]. The single fills of ditches G14 and G15 were consistent with the site and contained few inclusions, indicative of a gradual accumulation of sediment following disuse. Ditch G15 contained two

fragments of fired clay and two broadly prehistoric worked flints, whilst two medieval (11th- to 13th-century) pottery sherds and ten fragments of fired clay were collected from G14.

Miscellaneous

4.7.17 Two fairly non-descript features (G16) were uncovered in the northeast end of evaluation Trench 42, falling just outside the eastern excavation limit. Feature [42/021] was a wide fairly shallow cut continuing beyond the eastern end of the trench. It was in excess of 3.7m wide but only 0.4m deep and had an irregular but gently sloping western side. It constituted the remains of either a ditch or large pit. Thirteen sherds of Late Saxon and medieval (11th- to 13th-century) pottery, as well as small quantities of animal bone, daub, oyster shell fragments and charred cereal grains, were recovered from its single fill [42/020]. Underlying [42/021], and possibly truncated by it, were pits [42/015] and [42/023]. The latter was over 1.5m long by 0.72m deep and was filled with dark brown silty sand [42/022], which contained further sherds of medieval (11th- to 13th-century) pottery, small fragments of quern stone, a hand-forged nail and charred cereal grains and a pea-size legume. The exposed extents of pit [42/015] measured 0.50m long by 0.30m wide and 0.24m deep, exhibiting steep sides and a flat base. Its single dark brown sandy silt fill was devoid of finds but contained numerous flint inclusions. Because of the constraints upon the excavation area extent, due to the presence of overhead cables, the nature and extent of these features was not fully defined.

4.8 Undated and Unphased Features (Figs 4–6)

4.8.1 A number of undated features were scattered across the excavation area and have been grouped together based on either shared physical characteristics or their location. They comprised a row of postholes (G6) within B1, postholes in the vicinity of B1 (G7), posthole cluster (G8), scattered undated pits and posthole (G9) and a group of discontinuous linear features (G10). These features have not been allocated to a specific period, as they contained no diagnostic artefacts and/or shared no clear stratigraphic or spatial relationships with other dated features. Nevertheless, it is likely that the majority of these features were related to land use activity during Period 2, Period 3 and, perhaps less likely, Period 1.

4.8.2 G6 comprised a row of ten, sometimes intercutting, postholes forming a rough NE/SW alignment within the footprint of B1. Postholes [1099], [1101], [1103], [1105], [1111], [1124], [1126], [1128], [1130] and [1132] ranged in shape from roughly circular to ovoid. Their dimensions ranged from 0.21m long by 0.30m wide and 0.14m deep ([1130]) to 0.50m long by 0.30m wide and 0.17m deep (1126]), with the exception of [1132], which was 0.59m deep. They exhibited either steep/near vertical or moderately steep sides with a sharp break of slope to a slightly concave or flat base. Their single fills were consistent with the site and contained a fairly high frequency of chalk inclusions; no artefactual material was recovered from any of the postholes. No packing/structural fills were observed, indicating that any posts were removed prior to backfilling. Sample <11> was collected from fill [1131] of [1132] and contained a small quantity of charcoal and charred plant remains, including wheat, oat and indeterminate cereal caryopses and weed seeds. The G6 postholes are of unknown date and, whilst there are some instances of intercutting ([1124]/[1126] and [1128]/[1130]), they are probably broadly contemporary given their alignment. None of the postholes were cut by B1; however, it is suggested that they probably predate it.

4.8.3 Four further postholes, [1113], [1134], [1142] and [1166] (G7) were recorded in the vicinity of building B1 but lacked any spatial patterning. They were all roughly circular in plan shape and ranged in size from 0.20m long by 0.25m wide and 0.17m deep ([1134)] to 0.37m long by 0.40m wide and 0.25m deep ([1113]); posthole [1142] was the shallowest at 0.06m deep. They had steep/near vertical sides with a sharp or moderately sharp break of slope to a flat or concave base. Their single fills were a mid greyish to reddish brown sandy silt with occasional to moderately frequent chalk inclusions, from which no finds were recovered. Although lacking artefact dating, postholes [1113], [1134] and [1166] were all demonstrably truncated by B1 foundation trenches (G2), indicating their stratigraphically earlier date than the Period 3 building; however, whether these features were associated with B1 or an earlier period of land use is unclear. Posthole [1142] was positioned in line with the wider portion of B1's northernmost NE/SW foundation trench and was possibly related to its construction, and it therefore may have been of similar date.

4.8.4 A group of three postholes, [1061], [1063] and [1069] (G8), were recorded in the vicinity of the east side of the G13 annexe of B1. They were roughly circular in plan shape and measured between 0.27m and 0.36m wide and up to 0.39m deep. Posthole [1061] had steep and straight sides tapering to a pointed and concave base, whilst posthole [1069] had almost vertical sides with a sharp break of slope to a flat base. Both had single mid orange brown sandy silt fills. Posthole [1063] had moderately steep and concave sides and an irregular base with a single light brownish grey fill. Again, no packing/structural fills were observed, indicating that any posts had been removed prior to backfilling. No dateable remains were recovered from the G8 postholes and they exhibited no spatial or intercut relationships with other dated features. It is possible, though, that they were related to and contemporary with the construction of the annexe off B1 given their proximity to it.

4.8.5 A number of undated and discontinuous linear features (G10) were recorded in the area to the south of both Period 2 ditch D2 and Period 3 building B1. They were all positioned on a NW/SE orientation. Two narrow and ephemeral gullies, excavated as segments [1010 / 1018] and [1023], were parallel and spaced 0.86m apart. Short gully [1023] was 0.35m wide and 0.03m deep; it had a terminus at its southeast end and extended northwest for 2.45m before stopping with no visible terminus. Longer gully [1010 / 1018] was 0.32m wide and up to 0.10m deep; it had a terminus at its northwest end and was traced southwards for 11.95m to a point alongside [1023]. Both had light greyish brown sandy silt fills. Bulk soil sample <1>, collected from fill [1017] of gully [1018], yielded a piece of unidentified animal bone, a small quantity of charcoal and a single charred black horehound seed indicative of shrubby environs.

Ditch [42/005], excavated in evaluation Trench 42, was located adjacent to gully [1010 / 1018] and on a similar alignment to gully [1023]; however, it was recorded as measuring 1.77m wide and 0.30m deep. Whilst a single sherd of 12th-century pottery was recovered from this ditch, its continuation was not observed during the excavation, with only gully [1023] recorded to its southeast.

A larger ditch to the south of these was excavated within segments [1006 / 41/006]. It measured 0.97m wide and 0.41m deep and had a terminus at its northwest end; however, it was only traced for a distance of 3.78m. Undiagnostic flint flakes and a single Mesolithic to Neolithic bladelet recovered from [1006 / 41/006] are probably residual.

Two small, non-descript gullies, [1042] and [1045 / 42/011 / 42/013], entered the east of the excavation area, crossing each other and terminating after 2.8m. They measured 0.26-0.36m wide and 0.08-0.10m deep, and contained single fills consistent with the site.
It is possible that the original further extents of these linear features either did not survive subsequent agricultural activity on the site or that they were lost to more recent truncation (perhaps during stripping of the site). It is however perhaps noteworthy that posthole line G6 and most of these ditches/gullies could be construed to all conform to the same orthogonal alignments that are slightly different to the orientation of the identified Period 3 features.

4.8.6 Miscellaneous undated pits and postholes generally concentrated in the centre of the excavation have been grouped together as G9 given their lack of morphological and stratigraphic relationships with other dated features. The group includes postholes [1021], [1029], [42/015], [42/025], [42/027], [42/029] and [42/031], and pits [1034] and [44/021]. With the exception of elongated pit [44/021], which was located in the northeast of the site, the G9 pits/postholes were all roughly circular in plan shape. The postholes ranged in size from 0.23m to 0.52m wide and from 0.07m to 0.29m deep; all were filled with brown or mid orange brown sandy silt. Finds consisted of one small fragment of undiagnostic brick/tile ([42/027]) and a few pieces of fire-cracked flint ([42/027], [42/030]), but no dateable material was recovered. Bulk soils sample <2>, collected from fill [1028] of posthole [1029], produced small quantities of fire-cracked flint and charcoal but no charred plant macrofossils. Elongated pit [44/021] measured 0.48m by 0.34m wide and 0.32m deep and contained a mid grey sandy silt, from which no finds were recovered. It is likely that some of these pits and/or postholes are of medieval origin, given the predominance of evidence for activity of this date on site. However, the concentration of postholes in evaluation Trench 42 is conspicuous and perhaps hints that not all were real archaeological features.

4.8.7 Three undated and intercutting features were found alongside the north of B1, but only recorded within the confines of evaluation Trench 44. Gully 44/015 appears to have run parallel to the north wall of B1 and could conceivably have been another foundation trench; however, it was possibly truncated by Roman ditch D1 and did not continue beyond it, so could alternatively have been significantly earlier. Posthole [44/019] had an uncertain relationship with the gully, as did an apparently square pit, [44/017], to the east.

5.0 FINDS

5.1 Summary

5.1.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the excavation on land west of Stowmarket Road, Great Blakenham, Suffolk. All finds were washed and dried, or air-dried, as appropriate. They were subsequently quantified by count and weight, and bagged by material and context. The hand-collected bulk finds are quantified in Appendix 3; material recovered from the residues of environmental samples is quantified in Appendix 5a. Seven finds were assigned unique registered finds numbers, detailed in section 5.12 and Table 8. Material from the evaluation has previously been reported in full elsewhere (ASE 2016). Where pertinent, evaluation finds have been incorporated into the specialist reports below. All finds have been packed and stored following CIfA guidelines (2014d).

5.2 **Flintwork** by Karine Le Hégarat

5.2.1 A small assemblage of forty-four pieces of struck flint, weighing 820g, was recovered through hand collection and sorting of three bulk soil samples. A further 12,444g of unworked burnt flint fragments were also found during the evaluation and subsequent excavation. The pieces of struck flint were quantified by piece count and weight, and were individually classified using standard set of codes and morphological descriptions (Butler 2005; Inizan *et al.* 1999). They were directly catalogued into an Excel spreadsheet, and the assemblage is summarised in Table 1.

Category	**Pieces**
Flake	32
Blade	1
Bladelet	3
Blade-like-flake	3
Fragmentary core	2
Notched piece	1
Core tool	1
Retouched flake	1
Total	*44*

Table 1: Flintwork assemblage

5.2.2 The worked flint assemblage consists mostly of unmodified pieces of flint débitage (Table 1), and no chronologically distinctive types were present. Although flakes dominate (thirty-two pieces), a blade, three bladelets and three blade-like flakes were also present. The bladelet fragments from fill [42/032] of pit [42/033] (G12) and fill [1004] of ditch [1006] (G10) both display parallel edges and parallel ridges on the dorsal surface. They are the result of a blade-orientated industry and indicate a Mesolithic or Early Neolithic date. Based on technological traits, the remaining blade, bladelets and blade-like flakes are likely to pre-date the Middle Bronze Age. Some could be the result of knapping accidents. The flakes are irregular. They have been struck using a mixed hammer mode, but the use of a hard percussor seems to dominate. While most platforms are plain and unprepared, a few flakes are more carefully worked. The majority are difficult to date precisely, but examples from fill

[41/004] of ditch [41/006] (G10), fill [41/008] of D1 ditch [41/009] (G1), fill [42/004] of ditch [42/005] (G10), subsoil [1002] and fill [1022] of gully [1023] (G10) could pre-date the Middle Bronze Age.

5.2.3 Two fragmentary cores were recovered. The core from fill [42/020] of medieval ditch [42/021] (G16) was used to remove flakes, but it is too fragmented to examine the reduction methodology and to date. The core from subsoil [1002] (42g) is likely to pre-date the Middle Bronze Age. Three modified pieces were recovered: a burnt core tool fragment from context [6/004], a retouched flake from context [1/009] and a notched piece from fill [42/012] of gully [42/013] (G10). The notched piece, made on a flake, displays a 15mm wide by 5mm deep notch on the proximal left side. None can be dated with certainty.

5.2.4 The burnt material came from 19 numbered contexts. Overall, the fragments were thinly spread; but fill [42/032] of pit [42/033] (sample <05>) and fill [1011] of pit [1012] (both assigned to G12, Period 1) produced 9156g and 1425g respectively. The burnt flint fragments from these pits were mainly small, measuring up to 55mm. Several fragments were highly calcined to a light or mid grey colour. The majority display only a reddish tinge suggesting that they were only slightly burnt. This indicates that they were subject to different levels of heat.

5.2.5 The archaeological work has produced a small quantity of struck flints and unworked burnt flint fragments that provide limited evidence for prehistoric presence. No diagnostic pieces were found, and for most pieces, no conclusive dates could be securely given based on technological grounds. Saying that, two bladelets are likely to belong to the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic period. No concentrations were found, with the 44 pieces deriving from 26 numbered contexts; most pieces are likely to be residual in later contexts.

5.3 Prehistoric and Roman Pottery by Anna Doherty

5.3.1 A small assemblage of prehistoric and Roman pottery was recovered from the site, totalling thirty sherds, weighing 162g. This includes small *in situ* groups of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age and earlier Roman date. The pottery was examined using a x20 binocular microscope and quantified by sherd count, weight, estimated vessel number (ENV) on *pro forma* records and in an Excel spreadsheet. Prehistoric fabrics were recorded according to a site-specific fabric type-series formulated in accordance with the guidelines of the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG 2010; Table 2). Roman fabrics were recorded using codes from an unpublished fabric type-series developed at the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (Table 3). The assemblage is quantified by context in Appendix 4.

Fabric	Description
GRFL1	Rare/sparse rounded grog up to 2.5mm (difficult to distinguish from the background matrix) and rare flint in a similar size range. Matrix is silty with rare larger quartz grains up to 0.5mm and slightly vesicular
GRQF1	Rare/sparse rounded grog up to 2.5mm (difficult to distinguish from the background matrix) and rare flint in a similar size range. Matrix also contains common quartz grains up to 0.5mm.
GRQF2	Rare/sparse rounded grog up to 2.5mm (difficult to distinguish from the background matrix) and sparse flint of 1-5mm.Common quartz grains of 0.5-0.7mm.
FLIN1	Moderate ill-sorted flint 1-4mm in a silty matrix with rare quartz up to 0.4mm
FLIN2	Common, well-sorted flint of 0.5-1.5mm in a silty background matrix

Table 2: Prehistoric pottery fabric definitions

5.3.2 In total, eleven sherds, weighing 81g, were associated with grog-and-flint-tempered fabrics GRFL1, GRQF1 and GRQF2, of which seven were considered *in situ* in Period 1 pit [1012] (G12). The fabrics, together with the presence of linear incised decoration on several sherds, are indicative of a broad Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age date. It is difficult to assign the sherds to a specific ceramic tradition with confidence; however, the combination of predominantly moderately thick-walled vessel profiles and parallel incised lines, and in one case a possible chevron, suggests that a Late Neolithic Grooved Ware attribution may be most likely (*c*.2900–2100 BC). A single abraded thinner-walled sherd, which was residual in Roman ditch [1047] (G3), possibly features linear impressed decoration, such as comb-stabbing or all-over-cord decoration, which is more suggestive of Beaker (*c*.2450–1810 BC).

5.3.3 Three sherds, weighing 18g, were associated with flint-tempered fabrics FLIN1 and FLIN2. These are considered more likely to belong the later prehistoric period. The former, FLIN1, is relatively coarse and broadly typical of Middle/Late Bronze Age assemblages of the later 2nd millennium BC. The latter, FLIN2, is much finer and more characteristic of the 1st millennium BC. One of sherd in fabric FLIN1 was found in an otherwise undated ditch, [1/010], during the evaluation; the others were demonstrably residual (in Period 3 B1 foundation trench [1078] (G2)) or unstratified (subsoil [1/004]).

5.3.4 A small assemblage of Roman pottery was recovered from the site, quantified by fabric type in Table 3. Aside from a single partial rim of uncertain overall form, the assemblage is made up by bodysherds, including black-surfaced wares, Colchester buff wares and unsourced coarse grey and fine grey micaceous wares. Collectively, the range of fabrics is broadly characteristic of the earlier Roman period (*c*.1st to mid 2nd century AD), though individually most unsourced wares could be later. Just nine sherds, weighing 34g, were considered *in situ* in Period 2 ditches G1 and G3 and pit [1162] (G11). A single sherd in a broadly later Roman (*c*.3rd-/4th-century) fabric, Nene Valley colour-coated ware, was recovered from subsoil [41/002].

Fabric	Description	Sherds	Weight	ENV
BSW	Black-surfaced wares	6	31	4
COLB	Colchester buff wares	3	2	2
GMG	Grey micaceous wares (grey-surfaced)	3	11	2
GX	Miscellaneous sandy grey wares	3	15	3
NVC	Nene Valley colour-coated wares	1	4	1
Total		*16*	*63*	*12*

Table 3: Quantification of Roman pottery fabrics

5.4 **Post-Roman Pottery** by Helen Walker

5.4.1 A small amount of pottery totalling forty-eight sherds, weighing 222g, was collected from eleven evaluation and excavation contexts and is summarised by ware below in Table 4. It has been catalogued according to Cunningham's typology of post-Roman pottery in Essex (Cunningham 1985, 1-16, expanded by Drury *et al*. 1993 and Cotter 2000) and recorded onto an Excel spreadsheet. The assemblage is quantified by context in Appendix 4.

Pottery by ware	Sherd Nos	Wt (g)
St Neots-type ware	3	12
Shell-tempered ware	2	3
Sand-with-shell-tempered ware	16	24
Early Medieval coarse ware	17	131
Medieval coarseware	1	2
Post-medieval red earthenware	1	6
Total	*48*	*222*

Table 4: Post-Roman pottery by ware, sherd count and weight in approximate chronological order

5.4.2 Possible Late Saxon pottery from the site comprises sherds of St Neots and Thetford-type wares. Thetford-type ware, in spite the name, was actually made at several production centres in East Anglia, and the smooth surfaces, sometimes reduced to a dark grey, found on the examples present here suggest this is Ipswich Thetford ware, made at Ipswich, further along the River Gipping. Thetford-type ware spans the period AD 850 to AD 1150, while St Neots-type ware is a type of Late Saxon pottery made in Cambridgeshire and elsewhere in the East Midlands from the later 9th to 12th centuries (Hurst 1976, 320-3; Spoerry 2016, 103-4). It is made from clay naturally containing fossil shell, the most distinctive of which are flat, perforated shell fragments from fossil brachiopods. A type of Roman pottery, however, was produced using the same clay source and so is very difficult to distinguish from St Neots-type ware (Cotter 2000, 32). Therefore, it is possible that some of these sherds are in fact Roman in date. Both Thetford and St Neots type wares were perhaps most frequent during the 11th century and, in the current assemblage, were mostly found with other fabrics of 11th- to early 13th-century date, for example in fill [42/020] of ditch [42/021] (G16) and fill [42/022] of pit [42/023] (G16). A single body sherd of St Neots-type ware from the fill [1050] of pit [1051] (G11) was not accompanied by any other pottery.

5.4.3 Two small sherds of what appears to be early medieval shell-tempered ware were excavated from the single fill [1024] of gully [1025] (G14), which are likely to date between the 11th and early 13th centuries, although a Roman origin cannot be entirely ruled out. Other early medieval fabrics comprise shell-and-sand-tempered ware and coarse, sand-tempered, early medieval ware. Some sherds of the latter show sparse superficial inclusions of shell and are classified as sand-with-shell-tempered ware. All these early medieval wares date from around the 11th century and are therefore probably contemporary with the Late Saxon pottery, but continue into the earlier 13th century. Present in ditch [42/021] (G16) are the remains of two early medieval vessels, an externally bevelled rim perhaps from a cooking pot and part of a bowl with a simple upright rim; both types are typologically early and could be contemporary with the Late Saxon sherds also present in this feature, although a later date cannot be precluded. Pit [42/023] (G16) contained a similar mixture of Late Saxon and early medieval pottery, but a rim sherd in early medieval ware shows thumbing around the top of the rim, which is characteristic of the 12th century. An early medieval ware bowl rim in ditch [42/005] (G10) also shows a thumbed rim again indicating a 12th-century date.

5.4.4 Sherds of early medieval sand-with-shell-tempered ware were found in B1 foundation trenches [1071] and [1136] (both from G2), from upper fill [1070] and single fill [1135], respectively. These would normally be dated to the 11th to early 13th centuries, but as the fabrics are borderline with the later medieval coarseware, a 12th- to 13th-century date is suggested. A much-abraded sherd of medieval coarseware was the sole find in Roman ditch [1170] (G1, from single fill [1169]). The sherd shows a number of vesicles, perhaps where shell has leached out, and so may be of the same type of pottery as that from foundation trenches [1071] and [1136].

5.4.5 The only later pottery is a sherd of post-medieval red earthenware from layer [42/006]; it has an all-over glaze and shows a slip-trailed pattern on its external surface, possibly in the form of a wheatsheaf; however, the trailing is too fine to be Metropolitan slipware and this sherd may be of more local origin. A 17th- to earlier 18th-century date is suggested.

5.5 Ceramic Building Material by Isa Benedetti-Whitton

5.5.1 Two pieces of roof tile, respectively weighing 4g and 15g, were hand collected from fill [1135] of B1 foundation trench [1136] (G2, Period 3) and fill [1155] of ditch [1156] (G1, Period 2). The fragment from [1135] was no more than a piece of spall with remnants of lime mortar on the surviving edge; the tile piece from [1155] was larger but cannot be dated any closer than broadly to the post-medieval period.

5.5.2 Due to the fragmentary and non-dateable nature of the CBM assemblage, it has no further archaeological potential and it has been discarded.

5.6 **Fired Clay** by Elke Raemen

5.6.1 A small assemblage of fired clay, comprising fifty-four fragments with a combined weight of 139g, was recovered from fifteen different contexts. The majority derives from features dated to Period 3.

Fabrics

5.6.2 Four different fabrics were noted. Fabric 1 was only encountered in an isolated piece found in fill [1011] of pit [1012] (G12), the only fragment from Period 1. It is possible that the fragment, which is amorphous, represents a natural concretion. Fabric 2 was the most commonly encountered one, followed by Fabric 3. The only fragments in Fabric 4 were found in fill [1159] of B1 foundation trench [1160] (G2), which dates to Period 3.

Fabric	Description
F1	Silty pale orange fabric with common medium quartz, rare very coarse quartz and rare voids
F2	Moderate to common medium quartz, rare very coarse quartz to 1.85mm, moderate coarse chalk and rare very coarse chalk to 2.2mm
F3	As F2 but with moderate to common organic temper
F4	Greyish yellow clay with common fine quartz and rare medium/coarse quartz

Table 5: Overview of fired clay fabrics

Forms

5.6.3 A total of forty-three amorphous fragments were recovered, as well as ten pieces with one flat surface. Just one fragment is potentially diagnostic: a possible wattle impression was noted on a piece from fill [1149] of B1 foundation trench [1150] (G2).

5.7 **Geological Material** by Luke Barber

5.7.1 The excavation produced a single piece of stone (fill [1011] of pit [1012], G12, Period 1). This consists of a 26g cobble fragment in a light grey non-calcareous fine/medium-grained sandstone. Although probably originally from the Midlands/Yorkshire area, the type would undoubtedly have been naturally present in the local glacial till deposits. Although the surviving surfaces of the original cobble show a fine even polish, there is not enough left to ascertain if this is simply natural or the result of the piece being used for polishing. Overall, the former is considered more likely as the even polish is all over, including the rounded edges of the cobble.

5.7.2 In addition, fragments of German lava, undoubtedly from querns, were recovered from two evaluation contexts: 2g from fill [42/022] of medieval pit [42/023] (G16) and post-medieval layer [42/006] (which produced two fragments, weighing 624g). Although the latter pieces are much larger and derive from stones 37-52mm thick, they do not have any features of note.

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

5.8 **Metallurgical Remains** by Luke Barber

5.8.1 The evaluation and subsequent excavation recovered a very small quantity of material initially classified as slag. All of this was recovered from the magnetic fractions of twenty environmental residues (x5 from the evaluation, the remainder from the excavation). No slag was recovered by hand on site. All magnetic fractions were carefully scanned under x10 magnification to establish the presence/absence of micro slags. The material has been listed in an Excel spreadsheet as part of the digital archive.

5.8.2 The majority of the material consists of well-rounded (and indeed sometimes polished) granules of ferruginous siltstone and sandstone (magnetic fines). Some of these are so rounded as to be easily confused with spherical hammerscale, and indeed a number of deposits have iron-stained spherical ooliths within them, presumably weathered out of limestones in the Lincolnshire area and naturally transported south. Magnetic fines were recovered from contexts [6/004], [14/004], [42/020], [42/022], [42/032], [1011], [1017], [1028], [1037], [1050], [1077], [1092], [1096], [1108], [1114], [1131], [1135], [1139], [1143] and [1161]. With the exception of context [6/004] (2g), all magnetic fractions contained 1g or less of this material. These magnetic fines have been subjected to some heating that has enhanced their magnetic properties; however, this could have been the result of any high temperature event, including domestic hearths and bonfires. Very little true slag was recovered and most of that was recovered from the evaluation stage of the project. This material is summarised in Table 6.

Period	Context	Feature	Sample	Weight	Comments
1	42/032	Pit 42/033 (G12)	<5>	<1g	Flakes <10; spheres 10-25
3	42/020	Ditch 42/021 (G16)	<3>	<1g	Flakes <10; spheres 10-25
3	1114	Beamslot 1116 (G2)	<9>	<1g	Flakes (to 3mm) x3
0	6/004	Pit 6/005	<2>	<1g	Flakes 10-25; spheres 10-25
0	1028	Posthole 1029 (G9)	<2>	<1g	Flake (2mm across) x1

Table 6: Slag assemblage

5.8.3 The tiny quantities of hammerscale present show that iron smithing occurred in the general area but not in the immediate vicinity of the excavated features. As the quantities are so low and there is an absence of larger pieces of slag, it is possible that it all consists of intrusive material. The hammerscale is clearly intrusive in Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age pit [42/033] (G12).

5.9 **Bulk Metalwork** by Elke Raemen

5.9.1 A small assemblage of metalwork, comprising twenty-eight fragments with a combined weight of 70g, was recovered from three individually numbered contexts. The majority was recovered from subsoil [1002] and includes a small copper-alloy hinge fragment, probably from a box, and a copper-alloy stud, both dating to the 19th to early 20th century. A fired 12-gauge sporting shotgun case base was also found, with headstamp 'ELEY-KYNOCH 12 ICI 12'. The latter dates between *c*.1927 and 1963 (Justin Russell, *pers. comm*.). None of the remaining finds are intrinsically

dateable. They include several nail fragments, as well as a copper-alloy sheet fragment, four pieces of melted copper alloy and sixteen fragments of lead waste.

5.9.2 An iron general-purpose nail shank fragment was recovered from fill [1017] of undated gully [1018] (G10). Finally, fill [1114], of B1 foundation trench [1116] (G2), which has been dated to Period 3, contained a fragment of lead waste.

5.10 Animal Bone by Hayley Forsyth-Magee

5.10.1 A small assemblage of animal bone, containing sixty-two fragments weighing 50g, was recovered from the excavation. The assemblage was retrieved through hand collection and bulk soil samples, and is in a moderate to good state of preservation, showing some signs of surface erosion and fragmentation. Domestic and wild fauna are present within the assemblage.

Method

5.10.2 The assemblage has been recorded onto an Excel spreadsheet in accordance with the zoning system outlined by Serjeantson (1996). Wherever possible, the fragments have been identified to species and the skeletal element represented (Schmid 1972). Elements that could not be confidently identified to species, such as long bone and vertebrae fragments, have been recorded according to their size and categorised as large, medium or small mammal. Mammalian age at death data has been collected for each specimen, where observable; the state of epiphyseal bone fusion has been recorded as fused, unfused and fusing. The assemblage contains no measurable bones and no ageable mandibles. Specimens have been studied for signs of butchery, burning, gnawing, non-metric traits and pathology.

Assemblage

5.10.3 A limited range of taxa have been identified (Table 7). The assemblage is dominated by fragments of medium mammal bone due to the levels of preservation and taphonomic processes.

Taxa	**NISP**
Cattle	1
Pig	1
Medium mammal	39
Domestic fowl	1
Rodent	18
Mole	1
Anuran	1
Total	*62*

Table 7: Animal Bone: Number of Identifiable Specimens (NISP) count

Period 2: Roman

5.10.4 Sample <3>, from fill [1037] of ditch segment [1038] (G1), contained medium mammal long bone fragments, as well as rodent long bones and dentition.

Period 3: Earlier medieval

5.10.5 A single domestic fowl tarsometatarsus was recovered from fill [1048] of B3 foundation trench [1049] (G5). Medium mammal rib fragments and a pig metapodial fragment were recovered from fill [1135] of B1 foundation trench [1136] (G2). Bulk soil sample <9>, collected from fill [1114] of B1 foundation trench [1116] (G2), produced medium mammal long bone fragments and a mole skull fragment. Sample <12>, collected from fill [1143] of B1 foundation trench [1144] (G2), contained medium mammal long bone fragments and a single anuran humerus fragment. Sample <15>, from fill [1077] of B1 foundation trench [1078] (G2), produced the largest quantity of bone consisting of a cattle mandibular premolar fragment, medium mammal bone fragments, medium mammal long bone fragments and a single rodent long bone fragment.

Undated/Unstratified

5.10.6 Subsoil [1002] contained a single medium mammal ulna fragment. Medium mammal rib fragments were recovered from fill [1068] of undated posthole [1069] (G8) and from fill [1112] of undated posthole [1113] (G7). Bulk soil sample <1>, collected from fill [1017] of undated gully [1018] (G10), produced a single medium mammal bone fragment. Sample <14>, collected from fill [1133] of undated posthole [1134] (G7), contained a collection of rodent long bone fragments.

Discussion

5.10.7 The good preservation of the rodent and mole remains recovered from the samples in comparison to the hand-collected bone suggests that these fauna could be intrusive, likely the result of bioturbation. No evidence of butchery, burning, gnawing, non-metric traits or pathology was observed. No measureable bones or ageable mandibles were recorded. The animal bone assemblage suggests that domestic refuse disposal was undertaken in this area.

5.11 **Shell** by Elke Raemen

5.11.1 Just two oyster shell (*Ostrea edulis*) fragments were found. Fill [1037] of Roman ditch [1038] (G1) contained an abraded, mature right valve. The second fragment derives from a lower valve, found in fill [1121] of Period 3 B1 foundation trench [1122] (G2).

5.12 Registered Finds

5.12.1 A total of seven finds were assigned registered finds numbers (RF <1>–<7>; Table 8). Most are not closely dateable. Those recovered from the evaluation have been reported on already (ASE 2016), but are included in Figure 8.

5.12.2 The excavation produced two buttons recovered from the subsoil [1002]. RF <6> comprises a large (diam 31mm) decorated button dating to the 18th century. A second button (RF <7>), possibly in gunmetal, is plain and flat (diam 21mm) and dates to the mid 18th to early 19th century.

Cxt	RF No	OBJECT	MATERIAL	Wt (g)	PERIOD
42/001	1	HORSESHOE	IRON	200	MED/PMED
42/006	2	QUERN	STON	624	
3/004	3	UNDIAGNOSTIC	COPP		MED/PMED
45/001	4	WASTE	LEAD	9	MED/PMED
3/001	5	WALL ANCHOR	IRON	54	MED/PMED
1002	6	BUTTON	COPPER	10	PMED
1002	7	BUTTON	COPPER	5	PMED

Table 8: Summary of the Registered Finds

6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES by Stacey Adams

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Fifteen bulk soil samples were collected during excavation at Great Blakenham for the recovery of environmental remains, such as plant macrofossils, wood charcoal, faunal remains and Mollusca, as well as to assist finds recovery. Samples were taken from a Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age pit (Period 1), Roman pits and ditches (Period 2) and an earlier medieval post-in-trench building (B1; Period 3), as well as undated/unphased postholes and a gully. The following report discusses the preservation of the charred and mineralised plant macrofossils and their contribution to understanding the nature of the site, as well as to inform on the arable economy and the local environment.

6.2 Methodology

6.2.1 The bulk samples, ranging from 5L to 40L in volume, were processed by flotation, in their entirety, using a 500µm mesh for the heavy residue and a 250µm mesh for the retention of the flot, before being air-dried. The residues were passed through 8mm, 4mm and 2mm sieves, and each fraction sorted for environmental and artefactual remains (Appendix 5a). Artefacts recovered from the samples were distributed to specialists and are incorporated in the relevant sections of this volume where they add further information to the existing finds assemblage. Charcoal was not present in sufficient quantities to be submitted for analysis.

6.2.2 The flots were sorted, in their entirety, under a stereozoom microscope at 7-45x magnifications for charred plant macrofossils, and their contents recorded in Appendix 5b. The charred plant macrofossils extracted from the residues are also included in Appendix 5b. Identification of the charred remains was based on observations of gross morphology and surface cell structure, and relevant identification manuals were consulted, where necessary (Jacomet 2007; Cappers *et al.* 2006). Quantification was based on the minimum number of individuals. Nomenclature follows Stace (1997) for wild plants and Zohary and Hopf (1994) for cereals.

6.3 Results

6.3.1 Charred plant macrofossils were present in all sampled features, excluding that of undated posthole [1029] (G9). They were rare (1-10 individuals) in Late Neolithic/ Early Bronze Age pit [1012] (G12), medieval posthole [1109] (G13), undated gully [1018] (G10) and undated posthole [1132] (G6). Roman ditch [1038] and medieval foundation trenches [1093] (G13, B1), [1097] (G4, B2), [1116] (G2, B1) and [1136] (G2, B1) contained occasional charred plant remains (11-50 individuals), whilst those in the remaining features were frequent (51-250 individuals). Preservation of the charred plant macrofossils was largely poor, with many of the remains indeterminate. Preservation was better, at a moderate level, in medieval foundation trenches [1097] (G4, B2) and [1116] (G2, B1). Well-preserved mineralised plant macrofossils were identified in Roman pit [1162] (G11). Mineralisation is where the organic plant material is replaced by calcium phosphate; it often occurs in deposits that are highly organic and contain high concentrations of minerals (Hall and Huntley 2007; Carruthers 1995).

Period 1: Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age

Sample <4> (1011) [1012]

6.3.2 The heavy residue from pit [1012] (G12) contained pottery fragments, fire-cracked flint and magnetic material. The flot contained 60% uncharred material of modern roots and frequent land snail shells, including burrowing molluscs (*Ceciloides*). Charcoal fragments were occasional in the flot.

Charred Plant Macrofossils

6.3.3 G12 pit [1012] contained two cereal caryopses, one of which was identified as wheat (*Triticum* sp.). An ivy-leaved speedwell (*Veronica hederifolia*) seed and a large wild grass (Poaceae) caryopsis were also identified. Preservation of the charred plant macrofossils was poor.

Period 2: Roman

Samples <3> (1037) [1038], <5> (1050) [1051] and <13> (1161) [1162]

6.3.4 The heavy residues from the Roman features each contained magnetic material. Animal bone, including small fish/microfauna and land snail shells were extracted from ditch [1038] (G1, D1), along with pottery fragments and fire-cracked flint. An iron hobnail was present in pit [1051] (G11), whilst pit [1162] (G11) contained charcoal fragments and fired clay.

6.3.5 The flots contained between 30% and 95% uncharred material of modern roots and recent seeds of goosefoots (Chenopodiaceae) and elder (*Sambucus nigra*). Charcoal fragments and land snail shell, including burrowing mollsucs, were frequent within the flots. Burnt bone fragments were identified in G11 pits [1162] and [1051]. The latter also contained modern insect remains.

Charred Plant Macrofossils

6.3.6 Cereal caryopses were the most abundant charred plant macrofossil in the Roman features, many of which were indeterminate due to poor preservation. Wheat and possible oat (cf. *Avena* sp.) were recorded in D1 ditch [1038] (G1). G11 pits [1051] and [1162] also contained wheat and oat, in addition to rye (*Secale cereale*) and barley (*Hordeum vulgare*). Several of the wheat caryopses were rounded in shape, suggesting that they may be of the free-threshing variety. Cereal chaff was absent from the Roman features, excluding three charred cereal culm nodes in pit [1162]. Cultivated legumes (Fabaceae) were recorded in G11 pits [1051] and [1162]. The seed coat of the legumes, the testa, had been removed during charring, making further identification difficult; however, morphological features of several of the legumes indicates that they are of the vetch/pea (*Vicia/Pisum*) variety.

6.3.7 Weed seeds were rare in D1 ditch [1038] (G1), with only single oraches (*Atriplex* sp.) and ivy-leaved speedwell seeds present, along with several brome/fescue (*Bromus/ Festuca*) caryopses. G11 pits [1051] and [1162] contained seeds of light sandy acidic soils, including fat hen (*Chenopodium album*), sheep's sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*) and ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), and seeds capsules of wild radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum*). Seeds associated with calcareous soils are represented by stinking chamomile (*Anthemis cotula*) and ribwort plantain. Weed

seeds of goosefoots, small wild legumes, ivy-leaved speedwell, bedstraw (*Galium* sp.), knapweed (*Centaurea* sp.) and wild grasses were also present in the Roman features, along with seeds of the daisy (Asteraceae) and mint (Lamiaceae) families.

Mineralised Plant Macrofossils

6.3.8 Mineralised plant macrofossils were present in G11 pit [1162]. The remains were identified as a barley caryopsis and an indeterminate cereal grain. Mineralised wild/ weed seeds of black-bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*), hemp-nettle (*Galeopsis* sp.), bedstraw and mugwort (*Artemisia* sp.) were identified, as well as two indeterminate seeds.

Period 3: Earlier Medieval

Samples <6> (1092) [1093], <7> (1096) [1097], <8> (1108) [1109], <9> (1114) [1116], <10> (1139) [1140], <12> (1143) [1144], <14> (1135) [1136] and <15> (1077) [1078]

6.3.9 The heavy residues from the medieval features each contained magnetic material. Pottery fragments and fire-cracked flint were extracted from B1 foundation trenches [1078] and [1136] (G2). Fired clay was present in the latter feature, as well as B1 foundation trench [1144] (G2) and G13 posthole [1109]. Charcoal fragments were extracted from foundation trenches [1078] and [1136], along with animal bone, including fishbone and microfauna. The latter ecofact was also present in B1 foundation trenches [1093] (G13) and [1144] (G2). B1 Foundation trenches [1078] (G2), [1136] (G2) and [1093] (G13) contained land snail shells. Marine mollusc shells were also extracted from the latter features.

6.3.10 The flots contained between 40% and 80% uncharred material of modern roots and recent seeds of goosefoots and wild legumes. Charcoal fragments and land snail shells, including burrowing molluscs, were frequent and small mammal bones were present in the majority of flots. Slag/hammerscale was recorded in the flot from B1 foundation trenches [1136] and [1144] (both G2). The latter feature also contained burnt bone fragments.

Charred Plant Macrofossils

6.3.11 Charred cereal caryopses of wheat, rye and oat were present in all the medieval features sampled. Barley grains were also identified in the features, excluding that of G13 posthole [1109]. The majority of the cereal remains from building B1 were indeterminate due to poor preservation. A single charred cereal straw fragment was present in B2 foundation trench [1097] (G4). Cultivated legumes, including vetches, were identified in all the medieval features, excluding that of G13 posthole [1109] and B1 foundation trench [1116] (G2).

6.3.12 The weed seeds from the medieval features comprised fat hen, common knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*), field gromwell (*Thlaspi arvense*) and wild radish, and are mostly indicative of sandy acidic soils. Stinking mayweed, recovered from B2 foundation trench [1097] (G4) and B1 foundation trench [1140] (G2), is associated with calcareous soils. Seeds of red campion (*Silene dioica*), mallow (*Malva* sp.), small wild legumes, bedstraw, knapweed and wild grasses, including bromes were also present.

Undated/unphased

Samples <1> (1017) [1018], <2> (1028) [1029] and <11> (1131) [1132]

6.3.13 The heavy residues from the undated features each contained magnetic material. Fire-cracked flint was extracted from G9 posthole [1029], along with charcoal fragments. Small quantities of animal bone was present in G10 gully [1018]. The flots from the undated flots contained between 5% and 95% uncharred material of modern roots, as well as frequent charcoal fragments and land snail shells.

Charred Plant Macrofossils

6.3.14 Charred plant macrofossils were absent from G9 posthole [1029]. An indeterminate cereal caryopsis, a wheat caryopsis and two oat grains were present in G6 posthole [1132], along with a single goosefoot seed. A single charred black horehound (*Ballota nigra*) seed, representative of shrubby environs, was identified in G10 gully [1018].

6.4 Discussion

6.4.1 The charred plant macrofossils from the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age period may represent small-scale crop processing, although it is likely that the remains are intrusive from later activity. This is confirmed by the presence of frequent burrowing molluscs that would allow for the plant remains to work their way through the matrix. The charred plant macrofossils from the undated features likely worked their way naturally into the features from surrounding processing activities.

<u>The Mixed Cereal Economy at Great Blakenham</u>

6.4.2 The charred plant assemblage from the Roman (Period 2) and earlier medieval (Period 3) features indicate the presence of a mixed cereal economy of wheat, barley, rye, oat and legumes. The paucity of chaff and low number of weed seeds suggest that the cereals were largely clean and at the end of processing. The weed signature, indicating the cultivation of light, sandy, acidic soils, suggests that cultivation took place to the east or west of the site on the Thanet soil formation. The seeds from calcareous environs would have been local on the chalk banks of the River Gripping, suggesting local agriculture. The cereals were likely grown and partially processed away from the site and brought back as clean grain for final processing. The corresponding Roman and earlier medieval agricultural signatures at Great Blakenham indicate a certain level of continuation in agricultural practices at the site throughout its occupation.

6.4.3 The signature of mixed wheat, barley, rye, oat and legumes is more often associated with Saxon and medieval agricultural practices. Its recovery from Roman features is significant and suggests an early transition to a mixed cereal economy. A combination of possible oat and legumes was identified at Melton (ASE 2018b), although the majority of contemporary sites in East Anglia were dominated by spelt cultivation (Lodwick 2017, 16). Rye is notoriously grown on the sandy soils of the London Basin and Bracklands (Lodwick 2017, 16; Smith and Fulford 2016, 399-400), and it is likely that this tradition spread further east to Great Blakenham to their similarly sandy soils. The medieval cultivators at the site are comparable to those locally at Wolsey Grange, Ipswich (ASE in prep), where mixed cereals and

legumes were grown. The weed seeds identified also correspond to the local cultivation of sandy, acidic soils and calcareous riverine soils.

Mineralised Plant Macrofossils in Roman Pit [1162]

6.4.4 Calcium phosphate mineralisation occurs in deposits that are highly organic and contain high concentrations of minerals, for example cess pits and middens, particularly in calcareous areas (Carruthers, 1995, 6; Green 1979). The presence of mineralised material in Roman pit [1162] (G11) may indicate that the intended use of the pit was for discarding spoiled cereal remains and potentially other organic material that has not survived. The calcareous nature of the surrounding soils may also have played a role in the mineralisation.

Medieval Building (B1)

6.4.5 The charred plant macrofossils from medieval building B1 may indicate that the structure was used for the storage of clean, processed grain that was subsequently burnt. Alternatively, the charred remains may have become incorporated into the structure after they were spoilt by burning.

7.0 DISCUSSION

7.1 Discussion

7.1.1 The excavation on land to the west of Stowmarket Road, Great Blakenham, has largely fulfilled the general aims of the archaeological investigation by excavating and recording all archaeological deposits and features within the proposed excavation area. The majority of deposits and features have been dated/phased through the establishment of stratigraphic relationships and through the grouping of undated features with other similar and dated features; three periods of land use activity on site were established. Unfortunately, a paucity of diagnostic artefactual material made the application of specific date ranges unfeasible. These results are discussed below, by broad period, taking into consideration the significance of the results in terms of the wider context of the site.

Late Neolithic – Early Bronze Age

7.1.2 The few pieces of residual worked flint of broadly Mesolithic to Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date recovered from the excavation provide evidence of a limited and probably transitory presence in the landscape at this time.

7.1.3 The earliest features encountered on site comprised two pits (G12) assigned a Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age date, though they provide no further insight into the more specific nature of the land use at this time. In the absence of any ditches or gullies denoting land division during this period, this land use activity is assumed to have taken place within a single unenclosed landscape. Finds recovered from these two features were limited to a small assemblage of pottery, fired clay and worked flint. The charred plant macrofossils recovered may be representative of small-scale crop processing, although it is possible that these plant remains were intrusive, deriving from later land use activity.

7.1.4 The immediate wider landscape would appear to have been similarly under-utilised in the prehistoric period, with only a small quantity of residual Mesolithic to Early Neolithic worked flints found during the 2016 evaluation and a small number of earlier prehistoric flint finds (SHER BRH 001, BRH 003, BRH 012) found in the wider vicinity. A possible Bronze Age ring-ditch (SHER BAY034) and a Late Bronze Age field system (SHER BAY 056) have also been recorded within the wider landscape, indicating more intense land use during the later prehistoric period.

Roman

7.1.5 Limited evidence for Roman land use activity was encountered on site, as demonstrated by the remains of a large boundary ditch, a smaller perpendicular boundary ditch and several small pits. The large ditch, NW/SE aligned, ran parallel to Stowmarket Road (on the line of the Colchester to Caistor Roman road), and the smaller ditch was perpendicular to this. The ditches together delineated parts of three Roman land use entities – presumably fields; pits scattered across the site provide no insight into the individual functions of these areas, though an agricultural purpose is most likely.

7.1.6 The ditches and pits contained a small quantity of pottery, with some residual prehistoric fragments. These sherds were generally dated to the earlier Roman period (*c*.1st to mid 2nd century AD), though a later date cannot be ruled out, with

a single sherd being assigned more specifically to the 1st century AD and a sherd recovered during the 2016 evaluation dated to the 3rd/4th century AD. Given this paucity of dateable remains, little can be understood regarding the dating of the Roman land use, except that the ditches were completely infilled by the time of the construction of the earlier medieval buildings. Arable farming was likely taking place, with a mixed agrarian economy of wheat, barley, rye, oat and legumes demonstrated by the remains from the environmental samples and a paucity of animal bone, though the latter may also be due to poor preservation. This environmental evidence recovered from the Roman features is perhaps significant, suggesting an early transition to a mixed cereal economy.

7.1.7 The larger Roman boundary ditch was not recorded in Trench 45 of the evaluation, immediately north of the excavation area. It is possible that it was either missed here or that it terminates before reaching Trench 45. The latter seems unlikely given the proximity of the trench to the excavation area.

7.1.8 This limited evidence for Roman activity is in keeping with the low level of evidence of agricultural activity recorded in the wider vicinity. Given the lack of Roman building evidence encountered in the excavation area, and in the wider evaluation site, it is probable that the Roman features represent the remains of an agricultural landscape adjacent to the Roman road, perhaps with a settlement located nearby, as suggested by finds indicative of Roman occupation (SHER BAY 015, BAY 018, BLG Misc, BLG 007, BLG 008) and a possible temple site (BLG 004).

Earlier medieval

7.1.9 Evidence for earlier medieval activity was encountered on site in the form of three post-in-trench buildings (B1, B2, B3), only one of which was fully uncovered, and the fringes of a possible field system (FS1). These remains likely represent part of a small-scale settlement, such as a farmstead, adjacent to the Roman road, associated with agricultural activity. Given their proximity to the medieval church (this or its precursor is recorded in Domesday), this Late Saxon and early medieval road frontage activity is not particularly unexpected here.

7.1.10 Only a handful of medieval pottery sherds (11th to 13th century) were recovered, rendering precise dating of this medieval activity difficult. Given its small quantity and small sherd size, it could have been intrusive (or indeed residual) and not necessarily a true reflection of settlement date within the medieval period. When considering the date of the buildings, parallels can be drawn from dated sites within East Anglia and further afield with building styles of a similar type (Cook *et al.* 2008, 180-226; Medlycott 1996, 102-182). Building 98 at Boreham Airfield, Essex (Clarke 2003, 7-16), tentatively given a 12th-century date, bears some similarity to Building 1 both in its size (*c*.5m wide by 14m long internally) and form, with a less substantially constructed annexe. Closer parallels, however, can perhaps be found in Middle to Late Saxon buildings, for example at the Late Saxon settlements at Springfield Lyons, Essex (Tyler and Major 2005), North Elmham, Norfolk (Wade-Martins 1980), Bishopstone, Sussex (Thomas 2010) and Goltho, Lincolnshire (Beresford 1987). At Wicken Bonhunt, Essex, structures bearing close resemblance to those uncovered at Great Blakenham were dated to AD830 +/- through the carbon dating of extant timbers from associated wells (Wade 1980, 96). The scarcity of finds encountered on such sites is argued to be in itself more indicative of an Anglo-Saxon date (Hamerow 2012, 3). It was noted during the current excavation that the quantity of chalk pieces and flints in some of the foundation trench fills was

indicative of an intentional backfill following the removal of timbers. Even if this was not the case, and the timbers were left to decay *in situ*, eventually naturally accumulating silt, it is feasible that the 11th- to 13th-century pottery recovered dates the disuse/removal of the buildings, rather than their construction and use. There is also some evidence of similar settlements being continuously occupied through the medieval period (Medlycott 2011, 49-59). With this uncertainty in mind, a Late Saxon date is postulated for this settlement activity, though a broader earlier medieval body of evidence is drawn upon in the following discussion.

Building B1

7.1.11 Building B1 is of a type for which the generally accepted terminology for the earlier medieval period is hall or barn (Timby *et al.* 2007, 153-5; Hamerow 2012, 17-66), although this should not be used to infer any particular usage of the building. Little evidence for its function, such as a floor surface/occupation layer or a hearth as seen at Springfield Lyons, Essex (Tyler and Major 2005, 129-130), was uncovered. This paucity of functional evidence is a feature of buildings of the period and may in itself indicate an agricultural rather than domestic use (Hamerow 2012, 17-66), perhaps for storage of crops and/or animals. The latter seems less likely given the small dimensions of individual rooms (each measuring no more than 4.18m wide and 7.1m+ long), but since the building was not fully uncovered, this cannot be said with certainty. The charred plant remains recovered from B1 foundation trenches may indicate that the structure was used for the storage of clean, processed crops that was subsequently burnt, although they may have become incorporated into the structure at a later date. Nevertheless, these plant remains provide evidence of a mixed cereal economy, which is in keeping with the rural setting of the site. This said, it is entirely possible that the building had a mixed use – the larger east end perhaps being a dwelling and the western end being storage/processing and/or livestock byres. The tentative interpretation of building B2 as a latrine (see 7.1.14) would support this.

7.1.12 B1 was of post-in-trench construction, whereby horizontal foundation timbers were used to support upright posts, and was divided internally into three rooms (G2). A less substantially constructed annexe (G13) projected to the south from the central room. Whilst only a single posthole [44/011] has been interpreted to have been directly associated with the building, this does not mean that they were not present. At Springfield Lyons (Tyler and Major 2005, 129), Building 2 postholes were recorded in section but were not deep enough to cut the bottom of the foundation trenches. B1 had no internal postholes, so it is unclear how a roof was supported. A Middle Saxon hall at Takeley (Timby *et al.* 2007, 153-4) had very shallow central posts, from which an unsubstantial roof was postulated. If this was the case at Great Blakenham, it is possible that the western end of B1 was not open and that any central postholes either did not survive subsequent agricultural activity on the site. There are no obvious points of access either between rooms or into the main building. It seems likely that entrances transcended the horizontal timbers, with access being gained by stepping over cill-beams.

7.1.13 The rebuilding and modification of earlier medieval buildings is evidenced elsewhere and can be postulated in the case of B1. Two to three phases of rebuilding/extending on the same plot are evident at Springfield Lyons (Tyler and Major 2005, 131) and at Structural Complex O, Bishopstone (Thomas 2010, 51-4). Structural Complex O and B1 are alike in both their size and their layout, with Structural Complex O measuring *c*.18m long by 7m wide with a square annexe

measuring *c*.6m by 5m. Like B1, Structural Complex O was narrower at one end, widening slightly after 6m. It also had a less substantially constructed annexe projecting from its centre. Several phases of building have been proposed based on the layout of the foundation trenches, rather than the presence of stratigraphic relationships; the same can done for B1. It is possible that an initial phase of the building existed comprising only the easternmost room, extending only as far as the short NW/SE foundation trench excavated as [1138], before being extended westwards and divided into three rooms. The annexe may also represent a later addition. The dating of distinct phases of building construction and use, however, remains difficult due to the lack of interrelated foundation trenches and secure dating evidence.

Building B2

7.1.14 Building B2 was significantly smaller than B1, measuring only 2.18m by 2.12m internally. It was of similar post-in-trench construction and appeared to be open at its southern side. There was no evidence for the presence of associated postholes; as above, this does not mean that they were not used but rather that they did not reach beyond its horizontal timbers. It was stratigraphically later than B1's annexe, probably replacing it and existing alongside the main structure of B1. Given the small size of B2, it is likely that it functioned as either an outhouse or latrine. A parallel can be found in latrine Structure S, at Bishopstone (Thomas 2010, 54-6). Like B2, Structure S was defined by a continuous wall-trench forming a square, open at its side. The structure enclosed a large cess pit, from which faecal matter was identified. The lack of an internal cess pit need not rule out the functioning of B2 as a latrine; it is possible that an above-ground toilet facility was used, with waste was transported away from the buildings and deposited elsewhere. If indeed a latrine, this would suggest a domestic occupation function for at least part of adjacent Building B1.

Building B3

7.1.15 It is difficult to provide any meaningful discussion regarding the form or function of Building B3. It was only very partially uncovered, extending beyond the excavation limit, and was of not very substantial construction; no finds were recovered from its fills. It was of apparent post-in-trench construction with some evidence of possible rebuilding in the form of a second, parallel foundation trench. As an aligned building of similar construction, it is presumed to be contemporary with B1 and B2. However, its identification as a building is not entirely satisfactory, particularly given the curvature of its west wall line and somewhat ditch-like nature of its north 'wall'. It is possible that this was instead a simple boundary feature, perhaps defining an enclosure such as an animal stockade or garden area.

Field system 1

7.1.16 The margins of a possible field system were uncovered in the form of two ditches on a NE/SW orientation, to the north and south of the buildings. Both contained 11th to 13th century pottery. Medieval buildings uncovered on the periphery of field systems elsewhere, as part of large hall and church complexes (Christie and Stamper 2012, 230-4), provide a potential insight into the nature of the relationship between the buildings and field system. The presence of charred grains of wheat, barley and rye in environmental samples collected from the Period 3 buildings are perhaps indicative of what was produced in the wider area.

It is, however, unclear as to how these ditches related to the adjacent Roman road that is assumed to have survived into the medieval period, only a short distance east of the excavation area. Instead of being part of a more extensive field system, they could possibly have defined the north and south extents of a farmstead enclosure alongside the road.

7.1.17 There is little evidence for medieval settlement in the surrounding vicinity, with only two ditches of late medieval date recorded to the south of the site (SHER BLG 013). It is possible that further settlement was located under what is now the existing settlement or was more focused on the church, as at nearby Barham (R. Abraham pers. com.), with the site being peripheral to this. The general scarcity of Saxon and medieval remains and findspots perhaps indicates that the excavated farmstead existed in relative isolation. The location of the site in the topographically favourable Gipping Valley, however, is at odds with this characterisation, and it is possible that the tendency for sites of earlier medieval date to lack substance, with regard to the recovery of artefactual material, has led to a mischaracterisation/underestimation of activity in the period (Hamerow 2012, 2). A discussion of comparative medieval buildings in Essex has noted that they tended to exist within self-contained units of several buildings, including kitchens, barns, byres and granaries (Medlycott 1996, 176), such as the barn and granary excavated at Boreham Airfield, Essex (Clarke 2003). Furthermore, Saxon hall and church complexes exist in the vicinity of the site, at Wattisham and the Whitehouse Industrial Estate site in Ipswich (Christie and Stamper 2012, 230-4). At Wattisham, a 7.2 acre enclosure contained barns and a church. At Raunds Furnells, Northamptonshire, a 2 acre Late Saxon enclosure containing a timber hall complex, a cemetery and a church was divided by lengths of ditch not dissimilar to those partially uncovered at Great Blakenham (Christie and Stamper 2012, 230-4). Whilst the 2016 evaluation of the wider site uncovered no medieval remains to the north and west of the excavation area, the possibility that the buildings at Great Blakenham represent part of a wider complex extending to the east is not unfeasible.

Undated

7.1.18 A number of undated features were uncovered that could not be assigned to any of the above periods, as they lacked diagnostic finds, morphological similarities and stratigraphic relationships with other dated features. These features included clusters of undated pits/postholes and various of undated and fragmentary linear features. Nevertheless, it is likely that the majority were associated with the medieval use of the landscape, with some perhaps related to the prehistoric and Roman periods.

7.2 Realisation of Research Aims and Objectives

7.2.1 The results of the excavation have largely fulfilled the general aims of the archaeological monitoring by excavating and recording all archaeological deposits and features within the excavation area and through the production of relative dates and phases. The character and nature of the majority of archaeological deposits encountered has been established and the findings have been considered alongside a body of period-specific evidence.

RO1: What is the nature of the Late Saxon/early medieval activity on the site, revealed during the evaluation, and what is its extent?

RO3: The evaluation report (ASE 2016) suggested the Late Saxon/early medieval remains on site could represent a roadside occupation site, such as a farmstead. Can further excavation aid in the interpretation of the site?

7.2.2 The full extent and nature of medieval activity on the site has not been wholly established, though the remains likely constitute part of a probable roadside farmstead within a wider agricultural landscape. The buildings demonstrably extended beyond the eastern boundary of the excavation area, so it cannot be said for certain whether they existed in relative isolation or as part of a more substantial complex extending to the east, as has been evidenced elsewhere in the region. In addition, the paucity and fragmentary nature of the artefactual material recovered limits interpretation and understanding of site function. Nevertheless, based on the limited pottery assemblage, occasional other artefacts such as quernstone and animal bone, and charred plant remains, it is probable that the buildings were used for a mix of domestic habitation and agricultural purposes.

7.2.3 The presence of a range of cereal grains from environmental samples collected from features of the period and the paucity of animal bone from the site, as a whole, would suggest that agricultural practices in the area were predominantly arable in nature, with the buildings being used to store crops. The lack of any internal features in the buildings, whilst a feature of buildings of the period (Hamerow 2012, 16-67), is perhaps indicative of a non-domestic function. However, interpretation of Building B3 as a latrine would seem to counter this argument.

RO2: Can the relationship between the Late Saxon/early medieval remains and the former Roman road (Stowmarket Road) be further understood?

7.2.4 The presence of earlier medieval activity alongside the Colchester to Caistor Roman road (now Stowmarket Road) provides evidence for the importance of pre-existing infrastructure in shaping later land use and communications (Medlycott 2011, 58). The buildings align with the NW/SE road, which was probably still in use at the time, and its presence would likely have been a factor in the location of the settlement and in facilitating the transporting of goods/produce. The ditches of the possible field system or farmstead enclosure extend beyond the eastern site boundary and are presumed to terminate at the roadside. This was not demonstrated; a *c*.10m-wide swathe of the site being left unexcavated between the excavation area and the modern Stowmarket Road.

7.2.5 The Regional Research Frameworks for the east of England (Wade 2000; Medlycott 2011) identify Saxon and Medieval rural settlement as a topic requiring further research, in particular:

'The principal research requirement is for definition of the actual medieval settlement patterns across the region; the dating of each element in the settlement patterns (nucleation/dispersion, moated sites, isolated farms/halls, field systems, greens, Ends, Tyes, isolated cottages, hamlets, etc.); and the relationship of the medieval pattern to any earlier pattern'.(Wade 2000, 24)
and
'What forms do farms take, what range of building-types are present and how far can functions be attributed to them? Are there regional or landscape variations in settlement location, density or type? How far can the size and shape of fields be related to agricultural regimes?' (Medlycott 2011, 70)

The site provides a further example of dispersed settlement in the form of an apparent isolated farmstead complex, albeit a partial one, contributing building plans that can be usefully compared to others recorded across the region. Their functions are unclear but a joint dwelling/byre/store configuration for Building 1 and latrine for Building 2 is offered for consideration. The positioning of this farmstead alongside the Roman road, presumed to continue to function as a communication route, is of significance to the study of settlement location within the landscape, though insufficient of its surrounding fields have been exposed and investigated to offer any meaningful insights into their size/shape and agricultural regime practised in them, other than this likely being arable in nature.

7.2.6 The relationship of the medieval settlement with the underlying Roman field system may also merit some further consideration with a view to establishing whether or not this is likely to have been deliberate. Wade has commented that there appears to be a link between dispersed settlement and Ancient Countryside (2000, 24).

8.0 DISSEMINATION AND ARCHIVING

7.1 Publication need/rationale

7.1.1 It is judged that the preceding description and discussion of this excavation data set demonstrates that the recorded prehistoric (Period 1) and Roman (Period 2) features are of minor local significance at most. Their very small finds and environmental assemblages are similarly of low significance and potential. The medieval (Period 3) farmstead remains have greater local to regional significance, but this is still constrained by the partial exposure of the complex and the small and limited range of recovered medieval artefacts and ecofacts.

7.1.2 It is not considered that further analysis, other that of further comparative research into medieval rural settlements in the region, is required beyond that already carried out for this Final Report. The digital version of the final report will be made available via the ADS 'grey literature' library and a hard copy will be deposited with the Suffolk HER.

7.1.3 Additionally, as an example of an earlier medieval farmstead from the East Anglian region, this site is judged merit a modest level of dissemination by means of publication.

7.2 Preliminary Publication Synopsis

7.2.1 It is proposed that a summary of the main results of the archaeological work are presented as a 'shorter note' for publication in the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*. In essence, the article will present a concise account of the medieval land use activity, with only minor reference to the earlier phases of site use.

7.2.2 Site context will primarily comprise a summary of the stratigraphic sequence and supporting dating evidence. A short medieval pottery report will be included. All other finds will only be alluded to where pertinent. The medieval remains will be appropriately illustrated and discussed with reference to regional and comparanda.

7.2.4 It is estimated that the article will total approximately 5 print pages; *c*.3000 words plus figures.

7.3 Publication tasks

7.3.1 Little further analytical work is required for any of the stratigraphic, artefactual or environmental data sets beyond that already undertaken for the final report.

7.3.2 The tasks and resourcing required to complete research and reporting for publication are identified below and listed in Table 8.

Stratigraphic Method Statement

7.3.3 The stratigraphic sequence, its chronology and interpretation will be checked and refined where possible. A summary account of the site sequence will be written, largely drawn from the Final Report, and supplemented by additional research into regional/national comparanda for medieval rural settlements and their buildings.

Medieval pottery

7.3.4 The medieval pottery assemblage merits a short publication, quantifying the wares found and overviewing the vessel forms present and their dating, function, supply and status. This will be drawn from the Final Report text. No pieces merit illustration.

Other finds

7.3.6 The other finds pertinent to the description and discussion of the medieval phases of site use (CBM, fired clay, ironwork, stone, animal bone and oyster shell) will be briefly summarised, drawn from the Final Report texts, with any information useful to site interpretation and dating being subsumed into the site narrative.

Environmental remains

7.3.7 All required analysis and research on the environmental remains extracted from bulk soil samples has been undertaken for the Final Report. This will be summarised in its own specialist contribution and/or subsumed into the site narrative, providing information on the arable cultivation being practised within the vicinity of the site in the medieval period.

Illustration

7.3.8 The publication article will provisionally require the following illustration figures:

- Site location, including pertinent local sites mentioned in text
- Site plan, showing locations of trial-trenches, excavation area, etc.
- Area excavation plan, with features shaded/coloured according to phase
- Selected finds?

Task	**Estimate**
Stratigraphic analysis/checking	1 day
Regional parallels research	1 day
Site narrative reporting	1.5 days
Medieval pottery analysis & reporting	1 day
Other finds summary reporting	0.5 days
Illustration	1.5 days
Internal editing and amendment (text & figures)	1 day
PSIAH editor / readers' comments amendment	0.5 days
Project management	1 day
EAH page cost (approx. 5 pages)	cost
Total	*9 days*

Table 9: Resource summary for completion of analysis and reporting tasks

8.4 Archive Deposition

8.4.1 Guidelines contained in the CIfA Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives (2014e) and the SCCAS *Archives in Suffolk: Guidelines for Preparation and Deposition* (SCCAS 2017) will be followed for the preparation of the archive for deposition.

8.4.2 The site archive is currently held at the ASE Witham office. Following completion of post-excavation work, permission will be sought from the landowner to deposit the finds and paper archive with the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services. The contents of the primary archive are tabulated below (Tables 10 and 11).

Description	Type	Quantity
Evaluation		
Trench recording sheets	A4 paper	49
Context sheets	A4 paper	102
Drawing register	A4 paper	2
Section and Plan sheets	Permatrace sheets 1:10, 1:20	13
Photos	Digital images	90
Environmental sample register	A4 paper	1
Environmental sample sheets	A4 paper	5
Excavation		
Context register	A4 paper	6
Context sheets	A4 paper	179
Drawing register	A4 paper	2
Section and Plan sheets	Permatrace sheets 1:10	5
Photos	Digital images	156
Environmental sample register	A4 paper	1
Environmental sample sheets	A4 paper	15
Photographic register	A4 paper	6

Table 10: Site archive quantification

Bulk finds (quantity e.g. 1 bag, 1 box, 0.5 box, 0.5 bag)	5 boxes
Registered finds (number of)	7
Flots and environmental remains from bulk samples	15
Palaeoenvironmental specialists sample samples (e.g. columns, prepared slides)	0
Waterlogged wood	0
Wet sieved environmental remains from bulk samples	0

Table 11: Quantification of artefact and environmental samples

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Appendix 1: Context Register

Context	Type	Parent	Interpretation	Comments	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Group	Land Use	Period
1001	Layer	1001	Topsoil	Dark brown sandy silt, occ. gravel	Site-wide	Site-wide	0.30-0.36	-	-	-
1002	Layer	1002	Subsoil	Mid brown sandy silt with occasional gravel	Site-wide	Site-wide	0.25-0.90	-	-	-
1003	Layer	1003	Natural	White bedrock chalk with mid orange brown silty sand intrusions	Site-wide	Site-wide	-	-	-	-
1004	Fill	1006	Fill, upper	Light greyish brown silty sand, occ. flint and chalk	1.00	0.80	0.29	10		0
1005	Fill	1006	Fill, basal	Mid orange-brown silty sand, occ. small chalk	1.00	0.92	0.17	10		0
1006	Cut	1006	Ditch	No continuation visible in either direction, same as context [41/006], natural feature	1.00	0.97	0.41	10		0
1007	Fill	1008	Fill, single	Light brown sandy silt, occ. small charcoal and CBM	1.00	1.80	0.55	1	D1	2
1008	Cut	1008	Ditch	Same as [1038]/[41/009]/[1014]/[42/008]/[1073]/[1156]/[44/017]	1.00	1.80	0.55	1	D1	2
1009	Fill	1010	Fill, single	Light greyish brown sandy silt, occ. small FCF and chalk	1.00	0.32	0.10	10		0
1010	Cut	1010	Gully	Possibly the same as evaluation context [42/005] only truncated. terminus at [1018]	1.00	0.32	0.10	10		0
1011	Fill	1012	Fill, single	Mottled fill of dark browns and mid orange brown silty sands, chalk and charcoal flecks	0.80	0.85	0.24	12		1
1012	Cut	1012	Pit	Same as evaluation context [42/033]	0.80	0.85	0.24	12		1
1013	Fill	1014	Fill, single	Light brown silty sand, occ. small chalk and charcoal	0.90	0.60	0.38	1	D1	2
1014	Cut	1014	Ditch	Same as [1008]/[41/009]/[42/008]/[1073]/[1156]/[44/017]	0.90	0.60	0.38	1	D1	2
1015	Fill	1016	Fill, single	Mid brownish grey silty sand, occ small chalk	1.20	0.42	0.23	14	FS1	
1016	Cut	1016	Gully	Terminus at [1025], same as [1032]	1.20	0.42	0.23	14	FS1	
1017	Fill	1018	Fill, single	Light greyish brown sandy silt, mod freq small - medium chalk	1.00	0.29	0.03	10		0
1018	Cut	1018	Gully	Terminus, same as [1010]	1.00	0.29	0.03	10		0

Context	Type	Parent	Interpretation	Comments	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Group	Land Use	Period
1019	Void	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1020	Fill	1021	Fill, single	Dark reddish brown sandy silt, occ. flints	0.52	0.40	0.23	9		0
1021	Cut	1021	Posthole	-	0.52	0.40	0.23	9		0
1022	Fill	1023	Fill, single	Light greyish brown sandy silt, mod. small chalk	1.00	0.35	0.03	10		0
1023	Cut	1023	Gully	Terminus, no cont. to NW, possible machine truncation?	1.00	0.35	0.03	10		0
1024	Fill	1025	Fill, single	Light brown sandy silt, occ. chalk, CBM and charcoal	0.30	0.46	0.11	14	FS1	3
1025	Cut	1025	Gully	Terminus, same as [1016] and [1032]	0.30	0.46	0.11	14	FS1	3
1026	Fill	1027	Fill, single	Mid brown silty sand, occ. CBM and charcoal	1.26	1.08	0.08	11		2
1027	Cut	1027	Pit	-	1.26	1.08	0.08	11		2
1028	Fill	1029	Fill, single	Dark greyish brown sandy silt, freq. FCF and occ. charcoal	0.31	0.21	0.07	9		0
1029	Cut	1029	Posthole	-	0.31	0.21	0.07	9		0
1030	Fill	1032	Fill, upper	Mid brown silty sand, occ. small chalk and charcoal	0.68	1.05	0.27	14	FS1	3
1031	Fill	1032	Fill, basal	Light brown silty sand, occ. chalk and charcoal flecks	0.68	0.24	0.08	14	FS1	3
1032	Cut	1032	Ditch	Same as [1016], terminus at [1025]	0.68	1.05	0.30	14	FS1	3
1033	Fill	1034	Fill, single	Dark orange-brown sandy silt, occ. small flints	0.51	0.23	0.29	9		0
1034	Cut	1034	Pit	-	0.51	0.23	0.29	9		0
1035	Fill	1036	Fill, single	Dark greyish brown sandy silt, occ. gravel	1.00	0.33	0.09	1	D1	2
1036	Cut	1036	Gully	Same as [1075]	1.00	0.33	0.09	1	D1	2
1037	Fill	1038	Fill, single	Light greyish brown sandy silt	1.00	1.25	0.54	1	D1	2
1038	Cut	1038	Ditch	Same as [1008]/[41/009]/[1014]/[42/008]/[1073]/[1156]/[44/017]	1.00	1.25	0.54	1	D1	2
1039	Fill	1040	Fill, single	Light greyish brown sandy silt, mod freq. small chalk	1.00	0.33	0.11	5	B3	3
1040	Cut	1040	Gully	Cont. to NE as [1053]	1.00	0.33	0.11	5	B3	3

Context	Type	Parent	Interpretation	Comments	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Group	Land Use	Period
1041	Fill	1042	Fill, single	Light brown sandy silt, occ. CBM flecks	0.72	0.26	0.10	10		0
1042	Cut	1042	Gully	Extends beyond L.O.E to east.	0.72	0.26	0.10	10		0
1043	Fill	1045	Fill, upper	Mid brown silty sand, occ. small chalk	0.70	0.36	0.17	10		0
1044	Fill	1045	Fill, basal	Light brown sandy silt, occ. charcoal flecks	0.70	0.29	0.06	10		0
1045	Cut	1045	Gully	Extends beyond L.O.E to east.	0.70	0.29	0.17	10		0
1046	Fill	1047	Fill, single	Dark orange-brown sandy silt	1.00	0.74	0.13	3	D2	2
1047	Cut	1047	Ditch	Same as [1055] and term. [1168]	1.00	0.74	0.13	3	D2	2
1048	Fill	1049	Fill, single	Light greyish brown sandy silt, occ. gravel	1.00	0.58	0.13	5	B3	3
1049	Cut	1049	Gully	-	1.00	0.58	0.13	5	B3	3
1050	Fill	1051	Fill, single	Mid greyish brown sandy silt, occ. gravel and small angular flints, occ. pot	1.04	0.85	0.12	11		2
1051	Cut	1051	Pit	-	1.04	0.85	0.12	11		2
1052	Fill	1053	Fill, single	Light yellowish brown silty sand, freq. gravel	1.00	0.25	0.08	5	B3	3
1053	Cut	1053	Beam slot	Same as [1036]	1.00	0.25	0.08	5	B3	3
1054	Fill	1055	Fill, single	Mid reddish brown sandy silt, mod freq. small flints and FCF	1.00	0.64	0.10	3	D2	2
1055	Cut	1055	Ditch	Same as [1047] and term. [1168]. Overdug on N edge.	1.00	0.64	0.10	3	D2	2
1056	Void	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1057	Void	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1058	Fill	1059	Fill, single	Mid brown silty sand, occ. small CBM and charcoal flecks	0.57	0.42	0.27	13	B1	3
1059	Cut	1059	Pit	-	0.57	0.42	0.27	13	B1	3
1060	Fill	1061	Single	Mid brownish orange silty sand, occ. CBM and charcoal flecks	0.31	0.27	0.39	8		
1061	Cut	1061	Posthole	-	0.31	0.27	0.39	8		

Context	Type	Parent	Interpretation	Comments	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Group	Land Use	Period
1062	Fill	1063	Fill, single	mid brownish grey sandy silt, occ. small CBM and charcoal flecks	0.36	0.34	0.17	8		0
1063	Cut	1063	Posthole	-	0.36	0.34	0.17	8		0
1064	Fill	1065	Fill, single	Light brownish grey silty sand, occ. chalk, charcoal and fired clay flecks	1.40	0.56	0.16	4	B2	3
1065	Cut	1065	Beam slot	Possible beam slot? Same as [1088]	1.40	0.56	0.16	4	B2	3
1066	Fill	1067	Fill, single	Mid orange-brown sandy silt, occ. small flints	1.00	0.81	0.28	3	D2	2
1067	Cut	1067	Ditch terminus	Same as [1084]	1.00	0.81	0.28	3	D2	2
1068	Fill	1069	Fill, single	Mid orange-brown sandy silt, occ. small A.bone	0.36	0.27	0.12	8		0
1069	Cut	1069	Posthole	-	0.36	0.27	0.12	8		0
1070	Fill	1071	Fill, upper	Mid greyish brown sandy silt, freq chalk pieces, occ. charcoal flecks, occ. pot	1.00	0.44	0.35	2	B1	3
1071	Cut	1071	Beam slot	Beam slot	1.00	0.44	0.44	2	B1	3
1072	Fill	1073	Fill, single	Light greyish brown sandy silt, occ. chalk and charcoal flecks	1.00	0.50	0.15	1	D1	2
1073	Cut	1073	Ditch	Partial exc. to establish r.ship. Same as [1038] and [1156] to north and south	1.00	1.25	0.15	1	D1	2
1074	Fill	1075	Fill, single	Light greyish brown	1.00	0.36	0.07	1	D1	2
1075	Cut	1075	Gully	Same as [1036]	1.00	0.36	0.07	1	D1	2
1076	Fill	1071	Fill, basal	Light grey-white silty chalk construction backfill levelling base of beam slot	1.00	0.33	0.13	2	B1	3
1077	Fill	1078	Fill, single	Mid brown silty sand, occ. small chalk and charcoal flecks	1.00	0.42	0.18	2	B1	3
1078	Cut	1078	Beam slot	Term. cont. to NE as [1078]	1.00	0.42	0.18	2	B1	3
1079	Void	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1080	Void	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1081	Void	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1082	Void	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Context	Type	Parent	Interpretation	Comments	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Group	Land Use	Period
1083	Fill	1084	Fill, single	Mid brown-orange silty sand, occ. small angular flints, CBM and charcoal flecks	1.00	0.70	0.13	3	D2	2
1084	Cut	1084	Ditch terminus	Same as [1067]	1.00	0.70	0.13	3	D2	2
1085	Fill	1086	Fill, upper	Mid greyish brown sandy silt, occ. small charcoal and chalk flecks	1.00	0.40	0.11	13	B1	3
1086	Cut	1086	Beam slot	Same as [1107]. 100% exc.	1.00	0.40	0.15	13	B1	3
1087	Fill	1088	Fill, single	Mid greyish brown sandy silt, very occ. small charcoal and chalk flecks.	1.00	0.41	0.10	4	B2	3
1088	Cut	1088	Beam slot	Same as [1065]	1.00	0.41	0.10	4	B2	3
1089	Fill	1090	Fill, single	Mid orange-brown sandy silt, occ. snail shells and small sub angular – sub rnd flints	1.00	1.10	0.35	3	D2	2
1090	Cut	1090	Ditch	Same as [1084] and [1067]	1.00	1.10	0.35	3	D2	2
1091	Fill	1086	Fill, basal	Packing fill at base of beam slot	1.00	0.38	0.08	13	B1	3
1092	Fill	1093	Fill, single	Mid brown silty sand with occ. chalk and charcoal	1.65	0.25	0.08	13	B1	3
1093	Cut	1093	Beam slot	100% exc.	1.65	0.25	0.08	13	B1	3
1094	Fill	1095	Fill, single	light greyish brown sandy silt, occ. small chalk and charcoal flecks	0.40	0.37	0.17	13	B1	3
1095	Cut	1095	Posthole	100% exc, mostly lost to truncation	0.40	0.37	0.17	13	B1	3
1096	Fill	1097	Fill, single	Mid brown silty sand, occ. chalk and charcoal flecks	1.95	0.29	0.05	4	B2	3
1097	Cut	1097	Beam slot	Same as [1065] and [1088]	1.95	0.29	0.05	4	B2	3
1098	Fill	1099	Fill, single	Light greyish brown sandy silty, occ. small flints	0.41	0.36	0.09	6		0
1099	Cut	1099	Posthole	-	0.41	0.36	0.09	6		0
1100	Fill	1101	Fill, single	Light yellowish brown silty sand, occ. small flints	0.38	0.31	0.16	6		0
1101	Cut	1101	Posthole	-	0.38	0.31	0.16	6		0
1102	Fill	1103	Fill, single	Light yellowish brown silty sand, freq. chalk pieces and occ. flints	0.26	0.16	0.13	6		0
1103	Cut	1103	Posthole	-	0.26	0.16	0.13	6		0

Context	Type	Parent	Interpretation	Comments	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Group	Land Use	Period
1104	Fill	1105	Fill, single	Mid reddish brown sandy silt, occ. small flints/gravel	0.37	0.37	0.15	6		0
1105	Cut	1105	Posthole	-	0.37	0.37	0.15	6		0
1106	Fill	1107	Fill, single	Light brown, occ chalk, fired clay flecks	1.00	0.18	0.11	13	B1	3
1107	Cut	1107	Beam slot	-	1.00	0.18	0.11	13	B1	3
1108	Fill	1109	Fill, single	Light greyish brown sandy silt, occ. small charcoal and chalk flecks	0.26	0.24	0.48	13	B1	3
1109	Cut	1109	Posthole	100% exc.	0.26	0.24	0.48	13	B1	3
1110	Fill	1111	Fill, single	Light greyish brown silty sand, mod freq small-med chalk	0.30	0.21	0.06	6		0
1111	Cut	1111	Posthole	-	0.30	0.21	0.06	6		0
1112	Fill	1113	Fill, single	Mid reddish brown, occ. small flints/gravel and chalk flecks	0.40	0.37	0.25	7		0
1113	Cut	1113	Posthole	-	0.40	0.37	0.25	7		0
1114	Fill	1116	Fill, upper	Light brownish grey sandy silt, occ chalk and charcoal flecks	1.00	0.19	0.05	2	B1	3
1115	Fill	1116	Fill, basal	Light grey silty chalk packing at base of beam slot, very occ. charcoal flecks	1.00	0.22	0.07	2	B1	3
1116	Cut	1116	Beam slot	Beam slot with packing at base, same as [1120] and [1071]	1.00	0.22	0.09	2	B1	3
1117	Fill	1118	Fill, single	Mid orange-brown sandy silt, occ. chalk and charcoal flecks	1.00	1.10	0.35	3	D2	2
1118	Cut	1118	Ditch	Partially exc. for r.ship. Same as [1067], [1084] and [1090]	1.00	1.10	0.35	3	D2	2
1119	Fill	1120	Fill, single	Mid greyish brown sandy silt, occ. small chalk and small angular flints	1.00	0.35	0.18	2	B1	3
1120	Cut	1120	Beam slot	Same as [1071] and [1116]	1.00	0.35	0.18	2	B1	3
1121	Fill	1122	Fill, single	Light greyish brown sandy silt, freq. chalk	1.00	0.44	0.24	2	B1	3
1122	Cut	1122	Beam slot	-	1.00	0.44	0.24	2	B1	3
1123	Fill	1124	Fill, single	Mid reddish brown sandy silt, occ. small gravel/flints	0.34	0.25	0.10	6		0

Context	Type	Parent	Interpretation	Comments	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Group	Land Use	Period
1124	Cut	1124	Posthole	-	0.34	0.25	0.10	6		0
1125	Fill	1126	Fill, single	Dark reddish brown sandy silt, occ. small gravel/flints	0.50	0.30	0.17	6		0
1126	Cut	1126	Posthole	-	0.50	0.30	0.17	6		0
1127	Fill	1128	Fill, single	Dark reddish brown silty sand, occ. small flints/gravel	0.37	0.36	0.14	6		0
1128	Cut	1128	Posthole	-	0.37	0.36	0.14	6		0
1129	Fill	1130	Fill, single	Mid reddish brown sandy silt, occ. small flints/gravel	0.30	0.21	0.14	6		0
1130	Cut	1130	Posthole	-	0.30	0.21	0.14	6		0
1131	Fill	1132	Fill, single	Dark reddish brown sandy silt, occ. gravel/small flints	0.29	0.31	0.59	6		0
1132	Cut	1132	Posthole	-	0.29	0.31	0.59	6		0
1133	Fill	1134	Fill	Mid reddish brown sandy silt, occ. small chalk and charcoal flecks	0.25	0.20	0.17	7		0
1134	Cut	1134	Posthole	-	0.25	0.20	0.17	7		0
1135	Fill	1136	Fill, single	Light greyish brown sandy silt, occ. small chalk	1.00	0.37	0.13	2	B1	3
1136	Cut	1136	Beam slot	-	1.00	0.37	0.13	2	B1	3
1137	Fill	1138	Fill, single	Light greyish brown sandy silt, v. occ. small charcoal and flecks	1.00	0.30	0.04	2	B1	3
1138	Cut	1138	Beam slot	-	1.00	0.30	0.04	2	B1	3
1139	Fill	1140	Fill, single	Mid greyish brown sandy silt, mod. small-medium chalk and occ. small charcoal	1.00	0.32	0.07	2	B1	3
1140	Cut	1140	Beam slot	-	1.00	0.32	0.07	2	B1	3
1141	Fill	1142	Fill, single	Light greyish brown sandy silt, occ. charcoal flecks and mod. small chalk	0.38	0.21	0.06	7		0
1142	Cut	1142	Posthole	-	0.38	0.21	0.06	7		0
1143	Fill	1144	Fill, single	Mid brownish grey sandy silt, occ. chalk, charcoal and fired clay flecks	1.84	0.24	0.12	2	B1	3
1144	Cut	1144	Beam slot	-	1.84	0.24	0.12	2	B1	3

Context	Type	Parent	Interpretation	Comments	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Group	Land Use	Period
1145	Fill	1146	Fill, single	Mid orange-brown sandy silt, occ. small gravel/flints	1.00	0.38	0.09	2	B1	3
1146	Cut	1146	Beam slot	-	1.00	0.38	0.09	2	B1	3
1147	Fill	1148	Fill, single	Mid orange-brown sandy silt, occ. gravel/flints	1.00	0.40	0.06	2	B1	3
1148	Cut	1148	Beam slot	-	1.00	0.40	0.06	2	B1	3
1149	Fill	1150	Fill, single	Mid orange-brown sandy silt, occ. small charcoal, chalk and pot	1.00	0.40	0.20	2	B1	3
1150	Cut	1150	Beam slot	-	1.00	0.40	0.20	2	B1	3
1151	Fill	1152	Fill, single	Light greyish brown sandy silt, freq. small-medium chalk pieces	1.00	0.30	0.11	2	B1	3
1152	Cut	1152	Beam slot	-	1.00	0.30	0.11	2	B1	3
1153	Fill	1154	Fill, single	Mid greyish brown sandy silt, occ. small charcoal flecks	1.00	0.32	0.18	2	B1	3
1154	Cut	1154	Beam slot	-	1.00	0.32	0.18	2	B1	3
1155	Fill	1156	Fill, single	Mid orange-brown sandy silt, occ. small chalk pieces and pot/CBM frags	1.00	1.32	0.62	1	D1	2
1156	Cut	1156	Ditch	-	1.00	1.32	0.62	1	D1	2
1157	Fill	1158	Fill, single	Mid brown sandy silt, occ. small charcoal and chalk flecks	1.00	0.34	0.24	2	B1	3
1158	Cut	1158	Beam slot	-	1.00	0.34	0.24	2	B1	3
1159	Fill	1160	Fill, single	Mid greyish brown sandy silt, occ. chalk and charcoal flecks	1.00	0.33	0.07	2	B1	3
1160	Cut	1160	Beam slot	-	1.00	0.33	0.07	2	B1	3
1161	Fill	1162	Fill, single	Light greyish brown silty sand, occ. small flint/gravels	1.48	1.07	0.10	11		2
1162	Cut	1162	Pit	R.ship with [1164] lost to machine	1.48	1.07	0.10	11		2
1163	Fill	1164	Fill, single	Light orange-brown sandy silt, occ. small chalk and gravel	1.00	0.34	0.17	2	B1	3
1164	Cut	1164	Beam slot	-	1.00	0.34	0.17	2	B1	3
1165	Fill	1166	Fill, single	Light greyish brown, occ. small-medium chalk	0.36	0.20	0.13	7		0

Context	Type	Parent	Interpretation	Comments	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Group	Land Use	Period
1166	Cut	1166	Posthole	-	0.36	0.20	0.13	7		0
1167	Fill	1168	Fill, single	Light orange-brown silty sand, occ. small flints	1.00	0.33	0.06	3	D2	2
1168	Cut	1168	Ditch terminus	-	1.00	0.33	0.06	3	D2	2
1169	Fill	1170	Fill, single	Mid brownish grey sandy silt, occ. small CBM, chalk, charcoal. CBM likely Roman?	1.00	1.40	0.72	1	D1	2
1170	Cut	1170	Ditch	Re-cut of [1172]. Cont. to south as [1156]	1.00	1.40	0.72	1	D1	2
1171	Fill	1172	Fill, single	Light brownish grey sandy silt, occ. small charcoal, chalk and CBM	1.00	0.80	0.82	1	D1	2
1172	Cut	1172	Ditch	Cont. to south as [1156]	1.00	0.80	0.82	1	D1	2
1173	Fill	1174	Fill, single	Mid brownish orange sandy silt with occ. small charcoal and fired clay flecks	1.00	0.21	0.15	15	FS1	3
1174	Cut	1174	Ditch	Same as evaluation context [44/023]	1.00	0.21	0.12	15	FS1	3
1175	Fill	1176	Fill, single	Mottled fill of dark browns/mid orange brown silty sands, occ. chalk and charcoal flecks	0.93	0.91	0.38	12		1
1176	Cut	1176	Pit	-	0.93	0.91	0.38	12		1
1177	Fill	1021	Fill, primary	Packing in posthole, assigned during PX				9		0
1178	Fill	1136	Fill	Beam slot packing, light grey silty chalk				2	B1	3
1179	Fill	1122	Fill	Beam slot packing, light grey silty chalk				2	B1	3
33/001	Layer	33/001	Topsoil	Dark greyish brown clay silt	30.00	2.10	0.30-0.35			
33/002	Layer	33/002	Subsoil	Brown clay silt	30.00	2.10	0.15-0.25			
33/003	Layer	33/003	Natural	Pale brown buff/sandy silt	30.00	2.10				
33/004	Fill	33/005	Fill	Dark greyish brown sandy silt	2.10	1.50				
33/005	Cut	33/005	Ditch	-	2.10	1.50				
34/001	Layer	34/001	Topsoil	Dark greyish brown sandy silt	30.00	2.10	0.30			
34/002	Layer	34/002	Subsoil	Brown sandy silt	30.00	2.10	0.03-0.20			

Context	Type	Parent	Interpretation	Comments	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Group	Land Use	Period
34/003	Layer	34/003	Natural	Mixed sandy silt with chalk patches	30.00	2.10				
34/004	Fill	34/005	Fill	Dark grey clay silt	2.10	1.00				
34/005	Cut	34/005	Ditch	-	2.10	1.00				
39/001	Layer	39/001	Topsoil	Dark brown sandy silt	30.00	2.10	0.15-0.26			
39/002	Layer	39/002	Subsoil	Mid brown sandy silt	30.00	2.10	0.22-0.43			
39/003	Layer	39/003	Natural	Chalk and reddish brown sand	30.00	2.10	0.03-0.05			
39/004	Fill	39/005	Fill, single	Compacted greyish brown sandy silt, occ. small chalk and flint inclusions	2.10	1.96	0.83			
39/005	Cut	39/005	Ditch	-	2.10	1.96	0.83			
40/001	Layer	40/001	Topsoil	Dark greyish brown sandy silt	30.00	2.10	0.30-0.35			
40/002	Layer	40/002	Subsoil	Mid greyish brown sandy silt	30.00	2.10	0.40-0.83			
40/003	Layer	40/003	Natural	Yellow sandy gravel	30.00	2.10				
40/004	Fill	40/005	Fill	Dark grey clay silt	2.10	2.00				
40/005	Cut	40/005	Ditch	-	2.10	2.00				
40/001	Layer	40/001	Topsoil	Mid brownish grey silty sand	30.00	2.10	0.44-0.46			
40/002	Layer	40/002	Subsoil	Brown sand	30.00	2.10	0.20-0.22			
40/003	Layer	40/003	Natural	Chalk and sandy gravel	30.00	2.10				
41/004	Fill	41/006	Fill, upper	Mid grey sandy gravel	2.10	0.88	0.38	10		0
41/005	Fill	41/006	Fill, basal	Light brown silty sand	2.10	0.15	0.33	10		0
41/006	Cut	41/006	Ditch	As excavation context [1006]	2.10	1.03	0.41	10		0
41/007	Fill	41/009	Fill, upper	Mid brown sandy silt	2.10	1.68	0.44	1	D1	2

Context	Type	Parent	Interpretation	Comments	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Group	Land Use	Period
41/008	Fill	41/009	Fill, basal	Mid yellowish brown sandy silt	2.10	0.55	0.06			
41/009	Cut	41/009	Ditch	-	2.10	1.68	0.47			
40/001	Layer	40/001	Topsoil	Dark grey silty sand	30.00	2.10	0.45-0.48			
40/002	Layer	40/002	Subsoil	Light brown sand, occ. Small chalk and gravel	30.00	2.10	0.22-0.25			
40/003	Layer	40/003	Natural	Light yellowish grey chalk/clay	30.00	2.10				
42/004	Fill	42/005	Fill, single	Mid brown sandy silt, occ. large flints sub-angular to angular, occ. small pot	1.00	1.77	0.30	10		0
42/005	Cut	42/005	Ditch	Same as (?) [1010] excavation context	1.00	1.77	0.30	10		0
42/006	Layer	42/006		Mid greyish brown sandy gravel	10.00	2.10	0.30			
42/007	Fill	42/008	Fill	Mid brown silty sand	2.10	1.75	0.85	1	D1	2
42/008	Cut	42/008	Ditch	-	2.10	1.75	0.85	1	D1	2
42/009	Fill	42/011	Fill	Mid greyish brown sandy silty	0.50	0.80	0.41	10		0
42/010	Fill	42/011	Fill	Mid greyish brown sandy silt	0.50	0.53	0.24	10		0
42/011	Cut	42/011	Gully	No r.ship with [42/008] recorded in evaluation	0.50	0.80	0.41	10		0
42/012	Fill	42/013	Fill, single	Mid grey sandy silt	0.50	0.60	0.17			
42/013	Cut	42/013	Posthole	-	0.50	0.60	0.17			
42/014	Fill	42/015	Fill, single	Dark greyish brown silty sand, freq. gravel	0.40	0.30	0.28	9		
42/015	Cut	42/015	Posthole	-	0.40	0.30	0.28	9		
42/016	Fill	42/017	Fill, single	Light brown silty sand	2.10	0.35	0.30			
42/017	Cut	42/017	Ditch	-	2.10	0.35	0.30			
42/018	Fill	42/019	Fill, single	Light brown silty sand	2.10	0.35	0.30			
42/019	Cut	42/019	Ditch	-	2.10	0.35	0.30			
42/020	Fill	42/021	Fill	Dark greyish brown silty sand, occ. small pot frags	2.10	3.40	0.70	16		3

Context	Type	Parent	Interpretation	Comments	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Group	Land Use	Period
42/021	Cut	42/021	Ditch	-	2.10	3.40	0.70	16		3
42/022	Fill	42/023	Fill	Dark greyish brown silty sand, occ. small pot frags	1.65	0.50	0.74	16		3
42/023	Cut	42/023	Pit	-	1.65	0.50	0.74	16		3
42/024	Fill	42/025	Fill, single	Light brown sandy silt, occ. small flints	0.31		0.16	9		0
42/025	Cut	42/025	Posthole	-	0.31		0.16	9		0
42/026	Fill	42/027	Fill, single	Light brown sandy silt, occ. small sub-angular to angular flints	0.32		0.15	9		0
42/027	Cut	42/027	Posthole	-	0.32		0.15	9		0
42/028	Fill	42/029	Fill, single	Light brown sandy silt, occ. small flints sub-angular to angular	0.38		0.13	9		0
42/029	Cut	42/029	Posthole	-	0.38		0.13	9		0
42/030	Fill	42/031	Fill, single	Light brown sandy silt, occ. small flints sub-ang. to angular	0.28		0.11	9		0
42/031	Cut	42/031	Posthole	-	0.28		0.11	9		0
42/032	Fill	42/033	Fill, single	Dark brown sandy silt, mod. FCF and small charcoal flecks	1.36	0.70	0.35	12		1
42/033	Cut	42/033	Pit	-	1.36	0.70	0.35			
44/001	Layer	44/001	Topsoil	Dark brown sandy silt, occ. small flint pieces	30.00	2.10	0.21-0.31			
44/002	Layer	44/002	Subsoil	Brown sandy silt, occ. small flint pieces	30.00	2.10	0.33-0.41			
44/003	Layer	44/003	Natural	Orange brown sand	30.00	2.10	0.15-0.19			
44/004	Fill	44/005	Fill, single	Mid reddish brown sandy silt	0.74	0.21	0.19	5	B3	3
44/005	Cut	44/005	Ditch	-	0.74	0.21	0.19	5	B3	3
44/006	Fill	44/007	Fill, single	Mid brown sandy silt, occ. chalk flecks	1.34	0.73	0.11	5	B3	3
44/007	Cut	44/007	Ditch	-	1.34	0.73	0.11	5	B3	3

Context	Type	Parent	Interpretation	Comments	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Group	Land Use	Period
44/008	Fill	44/009	Fill, single	Mid greyish brown sandy silt, occ. small sub-ang. flints	1.67	0.46	0.19	2	B1	3
44/009	Cut	44/009	Gully	Beam slot, cont. as [1071]	1.67	0.46	0.19	2	B1	3
44/010	Fill	44/011	Fill, single	Mid reddish brown sandy silt	0.24	0.22	0.29	2	B1	3
44/011	Cut	44/011	Posthole	-	0.24	0.22	0.29	2	B1	3
44/012	Fill	44/013	Fill, single	Mid grey sandy silt, occ. small flint frags	0.97	0.41	0.18	2	B1	3
44/013	Cut	44/013	Gully	Same as [1154] excavation context	0.97	0.41	0.18	2	B1	3
44/014	Fill	44/015	Fill, single	Mid grey sandy silt, occ. small flint frags	0.97	0.40	0.16	2		
44/015	Cut	44/015	Gully	R.ship with ditch [1156] lost to evaluation slot	0.97	0.40	0.16	2		
44/016	Fill	44/017	Fill, single	Mid grey sandy silt, occ. small flints	0.87	0.28	0.13	2		
44/017	Cut	44/017	Pit	-	0.87	0.28	0.13	2		
44/018	Fill	44/019	Fill, single	Mid grey sandy silt	0.24	0.26	0.20	2		
44/019	Cut	44/019	Posthole	-	0.24	0.26	0.20	2		
44/020	Fill	44/021	Fill, single	Mid grey sandy silt	0.48	0.34	0.32	9		0
44/021	Cut	44/021	Pit	-	0.48	0.34	0.32	9		0
44/022	Fill	44/023	Fill, single	Mid grey sandy silt, occ. small flints	1.00	0.40	0.21	15	FS1	3
44/023	Cut	44/023	Ditch	-	1.00	0.40	0.21	15	FS1	3

Appendix 2: Group List

Group	Group Description	Contents	Land Use	Land Use Description	Period	Period Description
1	NW/SE boundary Ditch	1008, 1014, 1036, 1038, 1073, 1075, 1156, 1170, 1172, 41/009, 42/008	D1	NW/SE boundary ditch	2	Roman
2	Beam-slot building	1071, 1078, 1116, 1120, 1122, 1136, 1138, 1140, 1144, 1146, 1148, 1150, 1152, 1154, 1158, 1160, 1164, 44/009, 44/011, 44/013	B1	Beam-slot building with annexe	3	Earlier medieval
3	NE/SW ditch	1047, 1055, 1067, 1084, 1090, 1118, 1168	D2	NE/SW boundary ditch	2	Roman
4	Small beam-slot building	1065, 1088, 1097	B2	Small beam-slot building	3	Earlier medieval
5	Beam-slot building	1040, 1049, 1053, 44/005, 44/007	B3	Beam-slot building	3	Earlier medieval
6	Row of 10 undated postholes	1099, 1101, 1103, 1105, 1111, 1124, 1126, 1128, 1130, 1132	-	-	0	Undated
7	4 undated postholes in B1 vicinity	1113, 1134, 1142, 1166	-	-	0	Undated
8	Undated postholes in B2/B1 vicinity	1061, 1063, 1069	-	-	0	Undated
9	Undated postholes/pits	1021, 1029, 1034, 42.015, 42/025, 42/027, 42/029, 42/031, 44/021	-	-	0	Undated
10	Undated/discontinuous MW/SE ditches and gullies	1006, 1010, 1018, 1023, 1042, 1045, 41/006, 42/005, 42/011, 42/013	-	-	0	Undated
11	2 Roman pits	1027, 1051, 1162	-	-	2	Roman
12	2 Prehistoric pits	1012, 1176, 42/033	-	-	1	Late Neolithic – Early Bronze Age
13	Beam-slot/posthole annexe off B1	1059, 1086, 1093, 1095, 1107, 1109	-	-	3	Earlier medieval
14	NE/SW ditch	1016, 1025, 1032	FS1	NE/SW field system	3	Earlier medieval
15	NE/SW ditch	1174, 44/023	FS1	NE/SW field system	3	Earlier medieval
16	Misc. early medieval features in Trench 42	42/015, 42/021, 42/023	-	-	3	Earlier medieval
17	Misc undated features in Trench 44	44/015, 44/017, 44/019	-	-	0	Undated

Appendix 3: Quantification of hand-collected bulk finds

Context	Lithics	Weight (g)	Pottery	Weight (g)	CBM	Weight (g)	Stone	Weight (g)	Slag	Weight (g)	Iron	Weight (g)	Metal	Weight (g)	Bone	Weight (g)	Burnt Flint	Weight (g)	Fired Clay	Weight (g)	Shell	Weight (g)
1002	8	88	3	8							2	4	26	80	1	2	2	16				
1004	1	2																				
1007	1	2																				
1009																	1	100				
1011			7	67					0	<2							111	1440	1	6		
1017											1	2										
1022	1	8															11	770				
1024			2	2															4	4		
1026	1	1															1	20	2	2		
1028	1	1															99	542				
1030																			7	6		
1033	4	36																				
1037																					1	26
1046	10	272	1	6																		
1048															1	1			6	6		
1050			1	6																		
1054	2	26																				
1056																	6	10				
1058																			4	10		
1062	1	2																	4	8		
1068															3	2						
1070			10	16																		
1077	6	58																				
1083	1	2																				
1085	1	2																				
1092			4	8																		
1112															2	2			3	2		
1114	1	2											1	2					3	6		
1117																			1	2		
1121																			1	4	1	2
1133	2	4																				
1135			1	2	1	4									2	6						
1149			1	4													3	50	9	12		
1155					1	15																
1159																			8	76		
1161			2	16															1	2		
1169			4	4																		
1173	2	14																	2	8		
1/001	1	12									2	440										
1/004	2	12	1	6																		
1/005															3	32						
1/008															4	20						

Context	Lithics	Weight (g)	Pottery	Weight (g)	CBM	Weight (g)	Stone	Weight (g)	Slag	Weight (g)	Iron	Weight (g)	Metal	Weight (g)	Bone	Weight (g)	Burnt Flint	Weight (g)	Fired Clay	Weight (g)	Shell	Weight (g)
1/009	1	12	1	2											5	8						
3/004													1	10								
3/006	1	6																				
4/001											1	18										
4/006					1	22											1	4				
5/001											1	12										
6/001											2	6										
6/004	1	14																				
7/001											6	136										
8/001											3	10										
8/003											1	4										
9/001											2	22										
10/001											1	110										
11/001											3	30										
12/001											1	4										
13/004			1	8							1	9			1	2						
14/004																	7	526				
15/005	2	8																				
16/001											7	54										
18/001											2	16										
19/001											6	554										
20/001											8	68										
21/001											2	8										
22/001											4	50										
23/001											3	160										
25/001											9	864										
26/001											4	34										
28/001											3	12										
29/001											1	6										
30/001											2	84										
31/001											6	178										
32/001											5	34										
33/001											4	88										
34/001											6	87										
35/001											12	418										
36/001											5	115										
37/001											6	78										
38/001											3	28										
39/001											3	10										
39/004					4	1072	1	380							4	4	1	12	1	8		
40/001											3	36										
41/001											4	12										
41/002			1	4																		
41/004	3	12	0	<2	1	14																

Context	Lithics	Weight (g)	Pottery	Weight (g)	CBM	Weight (g)	Stone	Weight (g)	Slag	Weight (g)	Iron	Weight (g)	Metal	Weight (g)	Bone	Weight (g)	Burnt Flint	Weight (g)	Fired Clay	Weight (g)	Shell	Weight (g)
41/007	4	112					1	2													2	12
41/008	3	8																				
42/001											3	12										
42/004	2	12	1	28											4	24						
42/006			1	6																		
42/007	3	106	1	6											1	10			1	6	5	22
42/012	6	128																				
42/020			8	66							1	18			8	38			2	6	8	18
42/022	2	26	12	72			2	2							1	4					135	338
42/026					1	2											1	4				
42/030																	5	40				
42/032	1	10															12	210				
43/001											3	82										
44/001											5	82										
44/004															2	4			2	16	2	52
44/006																	1	8	4	36		
44/022			2	8											4	12					2	50
45/001											3	20										
46/001											5	82										
47/001											4	26										
49/001											3	114										
Total	*75*	*998*	*65*	*345*	*9*	*1129*	*4*	*384*	*0*	*0*	*162*	*4237*	*28*	*92*	*46*	*171*	*262*	*3752*	*66*	*226*	*156*	*520*

Appendix 4: Pottery identification and dating

Context	Feature	Sherd count	Wt (g)	Fabric/Ware ID & Comments	Pot date
1/004	-	1	6	FLIN1	MBA-LBA?
1/009	1/010	1	2	FLIN2	EIAMIA?
13/004	13/005	1	8	GMG. Partial rim B2 bowl or necked jar?	Roman
41/002	-	1	4	NVC	Roman
42/004	42/005	1	28	Early medieval ware: thumbed beaded bowl rim	12th C
42/006	-	1	6	Post-medieval red earthenware: slip-trailed ?wheatsheaf pattern on external surface. Not metropolitan slipware as trailing is too fine, all over glaze	17th – e 18th C
42/007	42/008	1	6	BSW	Roman
42/020	42/021	4	19	Thetford-type ware: body sherds, one decorated with thumbed applied strip, smooth fabric, probably Ipswich Thetford ware	11th C
1002	1002	3	8	GRFL1. Wide parallel grooved lines of small bodysherds; wall thickness c.12mm; could be larger Grooved Ware vessel or EBA urn	EBA
1011	1012	2	13	GRQF1. Parallel grooved line	LNeo-EBA
		3	33	GRQF2. Possible trace of grooved chevro	LNeo-EBA
		1	13	GRQF1. Firing makes this look almost like Roman storage jar fabric, but prob just v. heavily burnt Lneo?EBA	LNeo-EBA
		1	8	GRFL1. Possibly same as vessel above	LNeo-EBA
1024	1025	2	3	Shell-tempered ware. Small body sherds	11th - e 13th C
1037	1038	2	3	GMG. Could be a TN imitation fabric. From sample <3>	Roman
1046	1047	1	6	GRQF2. Oxid, mod thick-walled, v. abraded; poss trace of linear impressed dec – perhaps comb-stab or TWCI but v. abraded - assume probably Beaker	Roman
1050	1051	1	6	St Neots-type ware: abraded body sherd	11th C
1070	1071	10	8	Sand-with-shell-tempered ware. Small friable sherds probably all from the same vessel, borderline medieval coarseware	12th - 13th C
1077	1078	1	10	FLIN1, From sample <15>	MBA-LBA
1092	1093	3	8	BSW	Medieval
1135	1136	1	1	Sand-with-shell-tempered ware: small body sherd, borderline medieval coarseware,	12th - 13th C
1149	1150	1	4	GX. Form G24, partial rim	Medieval

1161	1162	2	17	BSW	Roman
1169	1170	3	2	COLB	Roman
		1	2	Medieval coarseware: abraded body sherd	12th - 13th C
42/020	42/021	4	19	Thetford-type ware: body sherds, one decorated with thumbed applied strip, smooth fabric, probably Ipswich Thetford ware	11th C
		1	11	Early medieval ware: externally bevelled rim	11th - e 13th C
		3	36	Early medieval ware: upright bowl rims, externally burnished surfaces + body sherd, 1-2 vessels represented	11th - e 13th C
		2	2	Early medieval ware: body sherds from soil sample <3>	11th – e 13th C
		1	3	St Neots-type ware: body sherd from soil sample <3>	11th C
		2	2	Shell-and-sand-tempered ware: body sherds from soil-sample <3>	11th - e 13th C
42/022	42/023	3	14	Thetford-type ware: joining body sherds in smooth pale grey fabric, probably Ipswich Thetford ware	11th C
		1	11	Thetford-type ware: thick-walled body sherd, smooth fabric with dark grey surfaces	11th C
		1	8	Early medieval ware: thickened everted thumbed rim, most likely from a cooking-pot	12th C
		7	39	Early medieval ware: body sherds	11th - e 13th C
		1	3	St Neots-type ware: body sherd from soil sample <4>	11th C
		3	13	Sand-and-shell-tempered ware: thickened everted rim, most likely from a cooking-pot, plus body sherds, superficial shell from soil sample <4>	11th - e 13th C
44/022	44/023	1	6	Early medieval ware: small fragment of thickened everted rim	11th - e 13th C

Appendix 5: Environmental Data

5a: Residue quantification (* = 1-10, ** = 11-50, *** = 51-250, **** = >250) and weights in grams

Phase	Sample Number	Context	Context / Deposit Type and Parent Context	Sample Volume (L)	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Animal Bone	Weight (g)	Fishbone/ Microfauna	Weight (g)	Marine Molluscs	Weight (g)	Land Snail Shells	Weight (g)	Other (eg pot, CBM, flint) (presence/ weight)
1	4	1011	Pit [1012]	15													Pot (*/8g) FCF (***/283g) Mag.Mat. >2mm (**/1g) Mag.Mat. <2mm (***/1g)
2	3	1037	Ditch [1038]	40					*	2	*	1			*	4	Pot (*/3g) FCF (*/14g) Mag.Mat. >2mm (**/1g) Mag.Mat. <2mm (**/1g)
	5	1050	Pit [1051]	20													Iron hobnail (*/1g) Mag.Mat. >2mm (*/1g) Mag.Mat. <2mm (**/1g)
	13	1161	Pit [1162]	40	*	1											F.Clay (*/7g) Mag.Mat. >2mm (**/1g) Mag.Mat. <2mm (***/1g)
3	6	1092	Beam Slot [1093]	40													Mag.Mat. >2mm (**/1g) Mag.Mat. <2mm (**/1g)
	7	1096	Beam Slot [1097]	35													Mag.Mat. >2mm (**/1g) Mag.Mat. <2mm (***/1g)
	8	1108	Posthole [1109]	20													F.Clay (*/1g) Mag.Mat. >2mm (**/1g) Mag.Mat. <2mm (**/1g)
	9	1114	Beam Slot [1093]	40							*	1	*	1	*	1	Mag.Mat. >2mm (**/1g) Mag.Mat. <2mm (***/1g)
	10	1139	Beam Slot [1140]	40													Mag.Mat. >2mm (**/1g) Mag.Mat. <2mm (***/1g)
	12	1143	Beam Slot [1144]	40							*	1					F.Clay >8mm (*/2g) Mag.Mat. >2mm (**/2g) Mag.Mat. <2mm (***/1g)

Phase	Sample Number	Context	Context / Deposit Type and Parent Context	Sample Volume (L)	Charcoal >4mm	Weight (g)	Charcoal 2-4mm	Weight (g)	Animal Bone	Weight (g)	Fishbone/ Microfauna	Weight (g)	Marine Molluscs	Weight (g)	Land Snail Shells	Weight (g)	Other (eg pot, CBM, flint) (presence/ weight)
	14	1135	Beam Slot [1136]	35			*	1			**	1			*	1	Pot (*/11g) F.Clay (*/2g) FCF (*/19g) Mag.Mat. >2mm (**/1g) Mag.Mat. <2mm (**/1g)
	15	1077	Beam Slot [1078]	40			*	1	**	2	*	1			*	1	Pot (*/10g) FCF (*/35g) Mag.Mat. >2mm (**/1g) Mag.Mat. <2mm (***/1g)
Unphased	1	1017	Gully [1017]	10					*	<1							Mag.Mat. >2mm (*/1g) Mag.Mat. <2mm (*/1g)
	2	1028	Posthole [1029]	5	*	<1	*	<1									FCF (**/60g) Mag.Mat. >2mm (*/1g) Mag.Mat. <2mm (*/1g)
	11	1131	Posthole [1132]	30													Mag.Mat. >2mm (**/1g) Mag.Mat. <2mm (***/1g)

5b: Charred and mineralised plant macrofossils from Great Blakenham. m = mineralised
(Abundance: * = 1-10, ** = 11-50, * = 51-250, **** = >250). (Preservation: + = poor, ++ = moderate, +++)**

	Period	**1**	**2**			**3**								**Unphased**		
	Sample Number	**4**	**3**	**5**	**13**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**	**12**	**14**	**15**	**1**	**2**	**11**
	Context Number	1011	1037	1050	1161	1092	1096	1108	1114	1139	1143	1135	1077	1017	1028	1131
	Parent Context	[1012]	[1038]	[1051]	[1162]	[1093]	[1097]	[1109]	[1116]	[1140]	[1144]	[1136]	[1078]	[1018]	[1029]	[1132]
	Feature Type	Pit	Ditch	Pit	Pit	Beam Slot	Beam Slot	Post-hole	Beam Slot	Beam Slot	Beam Slot	Beam Slot	Beam Slot	Gully	Post-hole	Post-hole
	Flot Volume (ml)	35	30	50	120	45	50	20	90	45	50	25	55	20	5	15
	Flot Weight (g)	8	10	20	30	11	10	7	18	12	22	11	16	5	2	6
	Preservation	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Taxonomic Identification	**English Name**															
Cereals																
Triticum sp.	Wheat caryopsis	1	3	4	9	2	1		2	9	3	6	4			1
	Free-threshing wheat caryopsis		2	13	15	3	2	1	5	12	8	7	4			
Hordeum vulgare	Barley caryopsis			9	20 m1	4	3		3	4	4	4	4			
Hordeum/Avena sp.	cf. Barley			2	2					1						
Hordeum/Secale sp.	Barley/ rye caryopsis				1											
Triticum/Hordeum sp.	Wheat/ barley caryopsis			1	2	1	2	1		4	1		2			
Triticum/Secale sp.	Wheat/ rye caryopsis			2	5	1			1	1	2					
Secale cereale	Rye caryopsis			9	8	2	2	1	3	9	1	1	9			
cf. Secale cereale	cf. Rye caryopsis									2	1					
Avena sp.	Oat caryopsis			11	16	6	3	1	3	10	6	5	2			2
cf. Avena sp.	cf. Oat caryopsis		2	8	1	1					4					
Cerealia indet.	Indeterminate cereal caryopsis	1	27	39	48 m1	5	4		4	27	33	15	18			1

	Period	1	2			3								Unphased		
	Sample Number	4	3	5	13	6	7	8	9	10	12	14	15	1	2	11
	Context Number	1011	1037	1050	1161	1092	1096	1108	1114	1139	1143	1135	1077	1017	1028	1131
	Parent Context	[1012]	[1038]	[1051]	[1162]	[1093]	[1097]	[1109]	[1116]	[1140]	[1144]	[1136]	[1078]	[1018]	[1029]	[1132]
	Feature Type	Pit	Ditch	Pit	Pit	Beam Slot	Beam Slot	Post-hole	Beam Slot	Beam Slot	Beam Slot	Beam Slot	Beam Slot	Gully	Post-hole	Post-hole
	Cereal straw fragments				3		1									
Legumes																
Fabaceae	Large cultivated legume			3	1					1	5	2	1			
Vicia sp.	Vetch				2						1					
Vicia/ Pisum	Vetch/ Pea			3		2	1			2		5				
Weed Seeds																
Chenopodiaceae	Goosefoot				2											
Chenopodium album	Fat hen			4		1	1				2					1
Atriplex sp.	Oraches		1													
Silene dioica	Red campion												4			
Polygonum aviculare	Common knotgrass										4					
Fallopia convolvulus	Black bindweed				1m											
Rumex acetosella	Sheep's sorrel				1											
Malva sp.	Mallow									1						
Thlaspi arvense	Field gromwell										1					
Raphanus raphanistrum	Wild radish seed capsule			1						1						
Fabaceae (small)	Small wild legume			2		2				3						
Lamiaceae	Mint family				1											
Ballota nigra	Black horehound													1		
Galeopsis sp.	Hemp-nettles				1m											
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort plantain			1	1											

	Period	**1**	**2**			**3**								**Unphased**		
	Sample Number	**4**	**3**	**5**	**13**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**	**12**	**14**	**15**	**1**	**2**	**11**
	Context Number	1011	1037	1050	1161	1092	1096	1108	1114	1139	1143	1135	1077	1017	1028	1131
	Parent Context	[1012]	[1038]	[1051]	[1162]	[1093]	[1097]	[1109]	[1116]	[1140]	[1144]	[1136]	[1078]	[1018]	[1029]	[1132]
	Feature Type	Pit	Ditch	Pit	Pit	Beam Slot	Beam Slot	Post-hole	Beam Slot	Beam Slot	Beam Slot	Beam Slot	Beam Slot	Gully	Post-hole	Post-hole
Veronica hederifolia	Ivy-leaved speedwell	1	1	13	1											
Galium sp.	Bedstraw			1	3m					1						
Asteraceae	Daisy family				6											
Centaurea sp.	Knapweed			1		1				1	1					
Artemisia sp.	Mugwort				1m											
Anthemis cotula	Stinking chamomile				5		1			2						
Poaceae	Wild grass caryopsis (large)	1		2	3				1	5			3			
Bromus sp.	Brome			2	1	2										
Bromus/ Festuca	Brome/ Fescue		7			2										
Indet.	Wild indet.				2 m2								1	1		
	Charcoal >4mm			**	**	*	*		**	**	**	*	*			*
	Charcoal 2-4mm	**	*	***	***	**	**	*	***	****	***	**	**	*	***	**
	Charcoal <2mm	****	**	****	****	****	****	***	****	****	****	****	***	***	***	***
	Land Snail Shells	**	****	**	**	***	***	**	**	*	**	**	**	**	*	**
	Ceciloides	***	**	***	***	***	****	****	****	****	***	***	***	***	**	***
	Small mammal bone					*		*	*	*	**	*				
	Burnt Bone			*	*						*					
	Slag/ Hammerscale										*	*				

Appendix 6: HER Summary

<table>
<tr><td colspan="2">Site name/Address: Land to the West of Stowmarket Road, Great Blakenham, Suffolk</td></tr>
<tr><td>Parish: Great Blakenham</td><td>District: Mid Suffolk</td></tr>
<tr><td>NGR: TM 11550 51010</td><td>Site Code: BLG037</td></tr>
<tr><td>Type of Work: Archaeological excavation</td><td>Site Director/Group: R. Cullum, Archaeology South-East</td></tr>
<tr><td>Date of Work: October 2018</td><td>Size of Area Investigated: 1,683sq m</td></tr>
<tr><td>Location of Finds/Curating Museum: SCCAS depository</td><td>Funding source: Client / developer</td></tr>
<tr><td>Further Seasons Anticipated?: No</td><td>Related HER No’s: None</td></tr>
<tr><td>Final Report: ADS grey lit rep & publication article</td><td>OASIS No: 328603</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Summary of Fieldwork Results:

Previous site evaluation by trial trenching established the presence of archaeological remains of prehistoric, Roman and Late Saxon/early medieval date concentrated in Trenches 41–44, alongside Stowmarket Road. An excavation area, totalling 1,683sq m, was subsequently targeted upon these remains in the east of the site.

Residual worked flint of Mesolithic to Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age date found in later features and two pits of a more specific Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date provide evidence for a limited and perhaps transitory presence in the landscape during the prehistoric period.

Limited evidence for Roman agricultural activity comprised two boundary ditches and several small pits possibly dating to the earlier Roman period (c.1st to mid 2nd century AD). The large ditch, NW/SE aligned, ran parallel to Stowmarket Road (on the line of the Colchester to Caistor Roman road), with a smaller perpendicular ditch meeting it, delineating three areas of Roman land use likely for agricultural purposes. Environmental plant remains recovered were suggestive of a mixed agrarian economy.

Evidence for earlier medieval (11th to early 13th century) activity comprised three buildings and the fringes of a possible field system. There are identified to comprise a probable farmstead alongside the surviving Roman road. The fragmentary pottery assemblage, together with parallels in building styles that can be drawn from other sites, suggests their possible Late Saxon origin. Environmental plant remains were indicative of a mixed arable economy, with the buildings perhaps being used for the storage of crops.

No remains of land use post-dating the medieval period were identified within the excavation area, though post-medieval field boundary ditches recorded during the wider evaluation are indicative of a continued agricultural land use.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Previous Summaries/Reports:
ASE 2016 Archaeological Evaluation Report: Land to the West of Stowmarket Road, Great Blakenham, Suffolk. Report No. 2016334

Pre-Construct Geophysics Ltd. 2016, Archaeological Geophysical Survey: Land to the west of Stowmarket Road, Great Blakenham, Suffolk</td></tr>
<tr><td>Author of Summary:
Rob Cullum</td><td>Date of Summary:
April 2019</td></tr>
</table>

Appendix 7: OASIS Form

OASIS ID: 328603

Project details

Project name	Land West of Stowmarket Road, Great Blakenham
Short description of the project	A 1683sq m excavation area targeted remains found during preceding evaluation in the east of the site. Two pits of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date provide evidence for a limited and perhaps transitory early presence in the landscape. Limited evidence for earlier Roman agricultural activity comprised two boundary ditches, parallel to and perpendicular with Stowmarket Road (on the line of the Colchester to Caistor Roman road), and several small pits. Medieval activity comprised three buildings and the fringes of a possible field system, possibly representing part of a farmstead. Post-medieval field boundary ditches recorded during the evaluation are indicative of a continued agricultural land use.
Project dates	Start: 24-09-2018 End: 26-09-2018
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Associated project reference codes	180488 - Contracting Unit No. BLG 037 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 1 - Heathland
Monument type	DITCH Roman PIT Roman BUILDING Early Medieval BUILDING Medieval POSTHOLE Early Medieval POSTHOLE Medieval PIT Late Neolithic DITCH Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Roman POTTERY Early Medieval POTTERY Medieval POTTERY Late Neolithic FLINT Late Prehistoric
Investigation type	""Open-area excavation""
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK MID SUFFOLK GREAT BLAKENHAM Land to the west of Stowmarket Road
Postcode	IP6 0LU
Study area	1683 Square metres
Site coordinates	TM 11550 51010 52.11634645395 1.090239337158 52 06 58 N 001 05 24 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Project design originator	CgMs Consulting
Project director/manager	Andy Leonard

Project supervisor	Rob Cullum
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Metal","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Digital Contents	"Metal","Stratigraphic","Worked stone/lithics","Animal Bones", "Ceramics","Environmental"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography", "Spreadsheets", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archive Store
Paper Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Metal","Stratigraphic", "Worked stone/lithics"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Miscellaneous Material","Photograph", "Plan","Report","Section","Survey "

Project bibliography

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Excavation, Land to the west of Stowmarket Road, Great Blakenham, Suffolk: Final Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Cullum, R.
Other bibliographic details	ASE Rep. No. 2019084
Date	2019
Issuer or publisher	ASE
Place of issue or publication	Witham
Description	A4 report approx. 100 pages, including figures and appendices

Appendix 8: Written Scheme of Investigation

Archaeology South-East

ASE

Written Scheme of Investigation
Archaeological Excavation

Land to the West of Stowmarket Road,
Great Blakenham,
Suffolk

NGR: TM 1155 5101

Planning Application Ref. No.: 2022/16
RM Application Ref No.: DC/18/01487
Local Planning Authority: Mid Suffolk District Council

ASE Project no: 180488
Event No: BLG 037
OASIS ref: archaeol6-321719

July 2018

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Written Scheme of Investigation
Archaeological Excavation

Land to the west of Stowmarket Road,
Great Blakenham,
Suffolk
NGR: TM 1155 5101

Planning Application Ref. No.: 2022/16
RM Application Ref No.: DC/18/01487
Local Planning Authority: Mid Suffolk District Council

ASE Project no: 180488
Event No: BLG 037
OASIS ref: archaeol6-321719

July 2018

Prepared by:	Sarah Ritchie	Senior Archaeologist	
Reviewed and approved by:	Andy Leonard	Project Manager	
Date of Issue:	9th July 2018		
Revision 1:	20th July 2018		

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared by Archaeology South-East (ASE) on behalf of CgMs Consulting for an archaeological excavation at land to the west of Stowmarket Road, Great Blakenham, Suffolk (Figure 1; TM 1155 5101).

1.2 The development area (hereafter 'the site') is located on the northern edge of the village of Great Blakenham, in Mid Suffolk District, c. 4 miles/6.5 km northwest of Ipswich.

2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

2.1 Site Description and Location

2.1.1 The 4.6ha site is irregular in outline, consisting of open land bound to the north and west by open fields and woodland, to the east by Stowmarket Road, by some housing and retail properties to the north-east; and to the south by residential housing along Chequers Rise. The excavation area comprises a 4,000m^2 area located around evaluation trenches 37-47 in the east of the site, along Stowmarket Road.

2.1.2 The site occupies a pronounced west to east slope, also falling from south to north, from its boundary with Chequers Rise to the allotment gardens at the north. A mean spot height of 21m AOD was recorded in the central region.

1.2.2 The site currently comprises two fields under arable cultivation. A bisecting belt of young trees runs diagonally across its approximate middle.

2.1.2 According to the British Geological Survey 1:50,000 scale geological mapping (BGS 2018), the solid geology of the site is Chalk (Newhaven Chalk Formation). The superficial geology of the site comprises River Terrace Deposits laid down in the Quaternary Period.

2.1.3 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken (ASE 2016) which described the topsoil in Trenches 37-47 as a dark greyish-brown sandy-silt (up to c.0.48m thick) over a subsoil of brown sandy-silt (up to 0.56m thick).

2.2 Reasons for Project

2.2.1 A planning applications has been granted (No. 2022/16) by Mid Suffolk District Council for the construction of 130 dwellings over 4.6 ha.

2.2.2 Condition 3 of the planning decision notice (dated 6 April 2018) states that:

No development shall take place in respect of plots 72-88 on the approved plans until the implementation of a programme of further archaeological works has been secured, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme of investigation may need to include an assessment of significance and research questions; and: a. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording. b. The programme for post investigation assessment. c. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording. d. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the

analysis and records of the site investigation. e. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation. f. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation. g. Timetable for the site investigation to be completed prior to development, or in such other phased arrangement, as agreed and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason - To safeguard archaeological assets from impacts relating to any groundworks associated with the development scheme and to ensure the proper and timely investigation, recording, reporting and presentation of archaeological assets affected by this development.

2.2.4 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been produced by ASE to be submitted to CgMs Consulting for onward submission to the SCCAS for approval. All work will be carried out in accordance with these documents, as well as with the SCCAS Requirements for Archaeological Excavation 2017, the Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (Gurney 2003) and the Standards and Guidance of the Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists (CIfA 2014a-c), other codes and relevant documents of the CIfA.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 General

3.1.1 A Desk-Based Assessment was prepared for the site in 2015 (Feldkamp 2015) and a geophysical survey (Pre-Construct Geophysics Ltd 2016) subsequently carried out on the site. The following background summarises these more detailed documents and cites references from the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER).

3.1.2 Multi-period finds have been located within the general vicinity of the site, the situation of which within the Gipping Valley is considered topographically favourable location for occupation of all periods.

3.1.3 Prehistoric flint artefacts of Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic date have been recovered from quarry sites to the east of the River Gipping (BRH001, BRH003 and BRH012).

3.1.4 Cropmarks of a circular ring ditch of probable Bronze Age date are recorded in a field c.600m to the north-west of the site along with field boundaries and an enclosure of unknown date (BAY034). To the west, a Late Bronze Age field system has been identified at Hill Farm, Baylham (BAY056).

3.1.5 Iron Age artefacts including two Trinovantian coins were recovered in a field to the west of the site (BLG004). Iron Age pottery was recovered from a quarry pit to the east (BRH005) and further Iron Age sherds were present in apparent hillwash deposits at Tollgate Farm c.250m south-east of the site (BLG 013).

3.1.3 Stowmarket Road, which defines the east edge of the site, is presumed to perpetuate the presumed line of the Colchester to Caistor Roman road (MSF2276, 27238). A number of sites and artefact scatters in its near vicinity, including one (MSF22523) adjacent to the site, suggest Roman occupation alongside it.

3.1.4 The field to the west of the site (BLG004) also contained a significant Roman finds scatter and the presence of a Roman temple site has been speculated. A Roman field system was identified in fields further west at Hill Farm (BAY056). Other Roman artefact scatters have been found in the area, for example, at BLG007 and BLG008 to the south.

3.1.5 No Saxon remains have been identified in the area although Saxon metalwork has been recovered from several sites, for example BLG004, BLG007, BLG008 and BLG011. Two medieval ditches were excavated at Tollgate Farm (BLG 013) and quarry pits of Roman and/or medieval date were investigated at Kingfisher Drive (BLG035), both to the south of the present site. Medieval coins were recovered from a housing development east of Stowmarket Road (BLG006) and further artefacts were found at sites BLG007 and BLG008.

3.1.6 St Mary's church, located to the southeast on the opposite side of Stowmarket Road, is of 11th/12th century date (BLG 005). Great Wood to the west of the site is recorded as ancient woodland (BLG 012). Post-medieval ditches and field systems have been identified at Kingfisher Drive (BLG035) and Hill Farm (BAY056). A bridge over the River Gipping is depicted on a map of 1783 (BLG014).

3.1.7 Historic mapping indicates that the site has largely comprised open agricultural land since at least the early 17th century. The Blakenham Tithe Map of 1840 shows the site as comprising three fields, bounded to the west by Great Wood and to the east by Stowmarket Road. The 1889 OS map additionally depicts an 'Old Chalk Pit' alongside Great Wood in the southernmost field. The OS mapping from 1926 onwards shows the site as a single field, with remains of the chalk pit still evident into the 1970s.

3.1.8 The row of houses on the road frontage in the northeast corner of the site, known as 'Broomfields', is built prior to 1945. Allotments along the north edge of the site are subsequently created.

3.2 Summary of Results of Previous Trial Trenching

3.2.1 A total of 49 evaluation trenches were excavated across the 4.6ha development area (ASE 2016), some targeted on anomalies identified by the preceding geophysical survey (Pre-Construct Geophysics, 2016). Eighteen of the trenches were established to contain below-ground archaeological remains.

3.2.2 The majority of recorded features were of Late Saxon/Early Medieval date (11th-12th century AD) and formed a clear concentration in the east of the site alongside Stowmarket Road. Comprising ditches, pits and possible structural remains, these may constitute occupation, such as a farmstead, alongside the former Roman road. These Late Saxon/early medieval features were overlain by 0.6-0.8m of subsoil, presumably a hillwash accumulation at the foot of the slope.

3.2.3 Recorded post-medieval remains were confined to three field boundary ditches, two of which are shown on 19th and earlier 20th century OS mapping. The third ditch was previously unknown and, although roughly parallel with the mapped ditches, is suspected to have predated them.

4 RESEARCH AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

4.1 General Objectives

4.1.1 The general aims of the project are to:

- Excavate and record all archaeological deposits and features within the proposed excavation areas.
- Produce relative and absolute dating and phasing for deposits and features recorded on the site.
- Establish the character of these deposits in attempt to define functional areas on the site such as industrial, domestic, etc.
- Produce information on the economy and local environment and compare and contrast this with the results of other excavations in the region.
- Understanding how the site fits into the local and wider HER context and adds to our understanding of activity in different periods in the Suffolk. An updated HER search will be undertaken to inform the PXA of recent local discoveries.

4.2 Site specific objectives

4.2.1 The excavation and post-excavation project will:

- Set out the archaeological background to the site, drawing together the results of previous archaeological work in the vicinity of the site.
- Complete a site archive of all project records, artefacts, ecofacts, any other sample residues and summaries of the context, artefact and environmental records.
- Complete an assessment report on the site archive and its potential to answer the research questions and for further analysis.
- Disseminate the results of the project to the public realm.

4.3 Research Questions

4.3.1 The project will aim to address the following research questions:

- What is the nature of the late Saxon and early medieval activity on the site, revealed during the evaluation, and what is its extent?
- Can the relationship between late Saxon/early medieval remains and the former Roman road (Stowmarket Road) be further understood?
- The evaluation report (ASE 2016) suggested the late Saxon/early medieval remains on site could represent a roadside occupation site, such as a farmstead. Can further excavation aid in the interpretation of the site?
- Can the information revealed during the excavation be used to answer any research questions raised in the most recent framework for the region (Medlycott 2011)?

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 Archaeological Excavation and Recording

5.1.1 The archaeological excavation will comprise the full excavation of an area measuring 2,990m^2 (Figures 2 & 3). In the event that Health & Safety considerations with regard to overhead cables and a Medium Pressure gas main remain in force the excavation area will be reduced to a maximum

1,950m² to allow for statutory easements. If the power lines and gas main are to be removed, and SCCAS still require clarification of archaeological remains within these areas a further stage of works comprising archaeological monitoring of groundworks may be implemented. The excavation area will be clearly marked out and no tracking within it will take place until formally signed off by SCCAS.

5.1.2 An OASIS record has been initiated for the project and the previous Event Code (**BLG 037**) has been confirmed as acceptable to use for this phase of work by SCCAS HER. This code will be the unique site identifier for all finds and reports relating to the excavation. Care will be taken to avoid duplication of context numbers.

5.1.3 ASE will adhere to the CIfA Standard and Guidance, and Code of Conduct and the *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003) throughout the project. ASE is a Registered Organisation with the CIfA. All work will be undertaken in line with SCCAS 2012, updated 2017 *Requirements for Archaeological Excavation.*

5.1.4 The areas will be excavated using a large tracked back-acting mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under the constant supervision of an experienced archaeologist. The areas will be excavated through undifferentiated topsoil and modern made ground in spits of no more than 0.20m with artefact recovery taking place every scrape until archaeological deposits are encountered or the top of the underlying natural sediments reached. The excavator will be fitted with a smooth grading bucket and care will be taken that archaeological deposits are not damaged due to over machining. All machining will stop if significant archaeological deposits are encountered.

5.1.5 All exposed archaeological features and deposits will be recorded and excavated, except obviously modern features of no intrinsic interest and disturbances.

5.1.6 A full pre-excavation plan will be prepared as the stripping progresses using Global Positioning System (GPS) planning technology in combination with Total Station surveying. This pre-excavation plan will be available in Autocad or PDF format and will be printed at a suitable scale (1:20 or 1:50) for on-site use. The plan will be updated by regular visits to site by the Archaeology South-East Surveyor who will plot excavated features and record levels in close consultation with the Supervisor and/or the excavators. Where it is deemed necessary (for example detailed structural features or burials) features will be hand planned at a scale of 1:20 from the grid and then digitised to be included on the overall plan.

5.1.7 Datum levels will be taken where appropriate. Sufficient levels will be taken to ensure that the relative height of the archaeological/subsoil horizon can be extrapolated across the whole of the development area.

5.1.8 A metal detector will be used throughout the programme of topsoil/subsoil removal and again during any subsequent hand excavation. A log of its use will be kept. Roy Damant will undertake regular metal detecting visits on behalf of ASE. Any metal or small finds will have their location recorded by GPS.

5.1.9 Archaeological features and deposits will be excavated using hand tools, unless they cannot be accessed safety or unless a machine-excavated trench is the only practical method of excavation. Any machine-excavation of archaeologically significant features will be agreed with SCCAS and CgMs.

5.1.10 With the exception of modern disturbances, normally a minimum 50% of all discrete features (e.g. non-structural pits) will be excavated. Normally 10% of non-structural linear features will be excavated. Structural features, including pits, postholes, beam slots, foundation trenches etc.) will be excavated in full. Modern disturbances will only be excavated as necessary in order to properly define and evaluate any features that they may cut. Details of the precise excavation strategy and any alterations to it will be discussed with the monitoring officer if particularly significant archaeology is revealed as a result of topsoil stripping. Further discussion and agreement on the approach to the excavation of complex areas may also be requested during the project.

5.1.11 Any articulated human remains, graves and cremation vessels/deposits encountered will be fully excavated. The coroner will be informed and a licence from the Ministry of Justice will be sought immediately – CgMs will also be informed, who will inform the client and SCC as appropriate. In the event of any unexpected or unusual discoveries of cremation or inhumation burials specialist advice will be sought from an appropriate specialist (Dr Lucy Sibun – ASE Senior Forensic Archaeologist). Where burials are encountered standard excavation and recording techniques for dealing with human skeletal remains will be employed. Inhumation burials will be recorded in situ and then lifted, packed and marked to standards compatible with those set out in the *Excavation and post-excavation treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Human Remains* (McKinley & Roberts 1993). Any human bone that is recovered will be assessed and recorded in accordance with the above and *Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains* (BABAO/IFA 2004), *Human Bones from Archaeological Sites* (English Heritage 2004) and *Science and the Dead* (English Heritage 2013).

5.1.12 Human remains are to be treated at all stages with care and respect, and are to be dealt with in accordance with the law. Proposals for the final deposition of any human remains that are recovered during the archaeological work will be made in the post-excavation assessment report, following specialist study and analysis.

5.1.13 A full photographic record comprising colour digital images will be made. The photographic record will aim to provide an overview of the excavation and the surrounding area. A representative sample of individual feature shots and sections will be taken, in addition to working shots and elements of interest (individual features and group shots). The photographic register will include: film number, shot number, location of shot, direction of shot and a brief description of the subject photographed.

Finds/Environmental Remains

5.1.14 In general, all finds from all features will be collected. Where large quantities of 19th century and later finds are present and the feature is not of intrinsic or group interest, a sample of the finds will normally be collected sufficient to date and characterise the feature.

5.1.15 Finds will be identified, by context number, to a specific deposit or, in the case of topsoil finds, to a specific area of the site.

5.1.16 All finds will be properly processed according to ASE guidelines and the CIfA Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (2014c) All pottery and other finds, where appropriate, will be marked with the site code and context number.

5.1.17 Environmental samples will be taken from deposits that are deemed to have potential for the preservation/survival of environmental material. There will be an assumption that samples will be taken from all contexts within pits, postholes and structural deposits as a minimum. Linear features will also be sampled initially although the scale and scope of this may be reviewed in consultation with SCCAS. Where appropriate monolith samples will be taken from suitable features. Bulk soil samples (40 litres or 100% of context) will be taken for wet sieving and flotation, and for finds recovery. All recovered artefacts and ecofacts, including pollen, will be assessed as part of the first stage of post excavation work and recommendations made as to the benefit for further analysis. If necessary, the English Heritage regional scientific advisor will be consulted. In all instances deposits with clear intrusive material will be avoided. Provision has been made for scientific dating such as radiocarbon-dating or OSL, for example, where appropriate.

5.1.18 Any finds believed to fall potentially within the statutory definition of Treasure, as defined by the Treasure Act 1996, amended 2003, shall be reported to CgMs (who will be responsible for informing the landowner) and the Suffolk County Council Finds Liaison Officer. Should the find's status as potential treasure be confirmed the Coroner will also be informed. A record shall be provided to all parties of the date and circumstances of discovery, the identity of the finder, and the exact location of the find(s) (OS map reference to within 1 metre, and find spot(s) marked onto the site plan).

5.2 Post-Excavation, Analysis and Archive

Report

5.2.1 Within twelve months of the completion of fieldwork a post-excavation assessment report will be produced. The assessment will be undertaken in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation for the project and will also give due consideration to assessing the significance of any remains encountered in relation to the Regional Research Framework priorities and agendas. The assessment will contain the following information:

- SUMMARY: A concise non-technical summary
- INTRODUCTION: General introduction to project including reasons for work and funding, planning background.
- BACKGROUND: to include geology, topography, current site usage/description, and what is known of the history and archaeology of the surrounding area.
- AIMS AND OBJECTIVES: Summary of aims and objectives of the project
- METHOD: Methodology used to carry out the work.
- FIELDWORK RESULTS: Detailed description of results. In addition to archaeological results, the depth of the archaeological horizon and/or

subsoil across the site will be described. The nature, location, extent, date, significance and quality of any archaeological remains will be described.

- SPECIALIST REPORTS: Summary descriptions of artefactual and ecofactual remains recovered. Brief discussion of intrinsic value of assemblages and their more specific value to the understanding of the site. Recommendations for further assessment and publication.
- DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS: Overview to include assessment of value and significance of the archaeological deposits and artefacts, and consideration of the site in its wider context. Proposals for dissemination/ publication of results.
- APPENDICES: Context descriptions, finds catalogues, contents of archive and deposition details, HER summary sheet.
- FIGURES: to include a location plan of the archaeological works in relation to the proposed development (at an Ordnance Survey scale), specific plans of areas of archaeological interest (at 1:50), a section drawing to show present ground level and depth of deposits, section drawings of relevant features (at 1:20).
- PLATES: Colour photographs of the more significant archaeological features and general views of the site will be included where appropriate.
- TIMETABLE. A task list with assigned personnel and number of days allocated will be included in the PXA, as well as consideration of any updated research aims.

5.2.2 Copies of the report will be supplied to SCCAS and CgMs in both digital and hard copy. Following agreement with SCCAS and CgMs a digital copy of the report will be supplied to Suffolk Historic Environment Record.

5.2.3 A form will be completed for the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) at http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/UTH in accordance with the guidelines provided by English Heritage and the Archaeological Data Service.

Publication

5.2.4 Following completion of the post-excavation assessment, a review of the post-excavation programme will be held in consultation with CgMs and SCCAS. At the minimum a summary will be prepared for the PSIAH annual round up. In addition at the review stage a timetable and the aims of any further specialist research required will be presented in an Updated Project Design for agreement with CgMs and SCCAS. All specialist reports will be commissioned and the full post-excavation programme implemented through to full archive report and publication. A publication report will be submitted to a relevant journal or monograph series within two years of completion of the fieldwork. Further, detailed information on the publication programme will be presented in the post-excavation assessment and updated project design.

Archive

5.2.5 A full archive will be prepared for all work undertaken in accordance with the CIfA Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives (2014d) and in line with the requirements of the SCCAS (SCCAS Conservation Team 2015 (updated 2017) *Archaeological Archives in Suffolk. Guidelines for preparation and deposition).*

5.2.6 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.

5.3 Public Engagement

5.3.1 Consideration will be given to community access during the archaeological investigation in so far as health and safety permits. The scale of public communication will be dependent on the quality of the results of the archaeology and will be agreed between ASE, CgMs and their client and SCCAS.

5.3.2 Upon completion of the fieldwork, and once the initial results/finds assessment has been completed, arrangements will be made to give talks, should the results justify it, to local societies, schools etc.

6 HEALTH AND SAFETY

6.1 ASE's Risk Assessment and Method Statement (RAMS) system covers most aspects of excavation work and ensures that for most sites the risks are adequately controlled. Prior to and during fieldwork sites are subject to an ongoing assessment of risk. Site-specific risk assessments are kept under review and amended whenever circumstances change which materially affect the level of risk. Where significant risks have been identified in work to be carried out by ASE a written generic assessment will be made available to those affected by the work. A copy of the Risk Assessment is kept on site.

7 RESOURCES AND PROGRAMMING

7.1 The archaeological works will be undertaken by a professional team of archaeologists, comprising an Archaeologist with support from a team of Assistant Archaeologists and a surveyor as required.

7.2 The Archaeologist for the project will be determined once the programme has been agreed with CgMs and will be responsible for fieldwork, post-excavation reporting and archiving in liaison with the relevant specialists. The project will be managed by Andy Leonard (project manager, fieldwork) and Mark Atkinson (project manager, post-excavation).

7.3 CgMs will inform the SCCAS monitoring officer prior to start of works and should any subsequent change of personnel occur. CVs of all key staff are available on request.

7.4 Specialists who may be consulted are set out below:

Prehistoric and Roman pottery	Louise Rayner / Anna Doherty (ASE)
Prehistoric	Helen Walker (external: Essex region)
Post-Roman pottery	Luke Barber (external: Sussex, Kent and London)
Post-Roman pottery (Essex)	Helen Walker (external: Essex)
CBM	Isa Benedetti-Whitton (ASE)
Fired Clay	Elke Raemen and Trista Clifford (ASE)

Clay Tobacco Pipe	Elke Raemen (ASE)
Glass	Elke Raemen (ASE)
Slag	Luke Barber, Lynne Keyes (external); Trista Clifford (ASE)
Metalwork	Trista Clifford (ASE)
Worked Flint	Karine Le Hégarat (ASE); Hugo Anderson-Whymark (external)
Geological material / worked stone	Luke Barber (external)
Human bone inc cremated bone	Lucy Sibun (ASE)
Animal bone including fish	Gemma Ayton (ASE)
Marine shell	Elke Raemen (ASE); David Dunkin (external)
Registered Finds	Elke Raemen and 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)	Ed Blinkhorn / Alice Dowsett (ASE)
Macro-plant remains	Dr Lucy Allott and Karine Le Hégarat (ASE)
Charcoal and waterlogged wood	Dr Lucy Allott (ASE).
Historic Buildings	Dr Michael Shapland (ASE)
WW2 Archaeology	Justin Russell (ASE)

7.5 Other specialists may be consulted if necessary. More specifically, specialists who worked on the Phase 1 work will be consulted to ensure parity across the two phases of work. These will be made known to the monitoring office for approval prior to consultation. Similarly, any changes in the specialist list will be made known to the monitoring office for approval prior to consultation.

8 MONITORING

8.1 The SCCAS monitoring officer will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards on behalf of the LPA throughout the project. CgMs will liaise as appropriate to facilitate the monitoring process.

8.2 Any variations to the specification will be agreed with CgMs.

8.3 CgMs will keep SCCAS informed of progress throughout the project and will be contacted in the event that significant archaeological features are discovered. CgMs will arrange for the SCCAS monitoring officer to inspect the excavation areas and no areas will be returned to the Principal Contractor until signed off by SCCAS.

9 INSURANCE

9.1 Archaeology South-East is insured against claims for: public liability to the value of £50,000,000 any one occurrence and in the aggregate for products liability; professional indemnity to the value of £15,000,000 any one occurrence; employer's liability to the value of £50,000,000 each and every loss.

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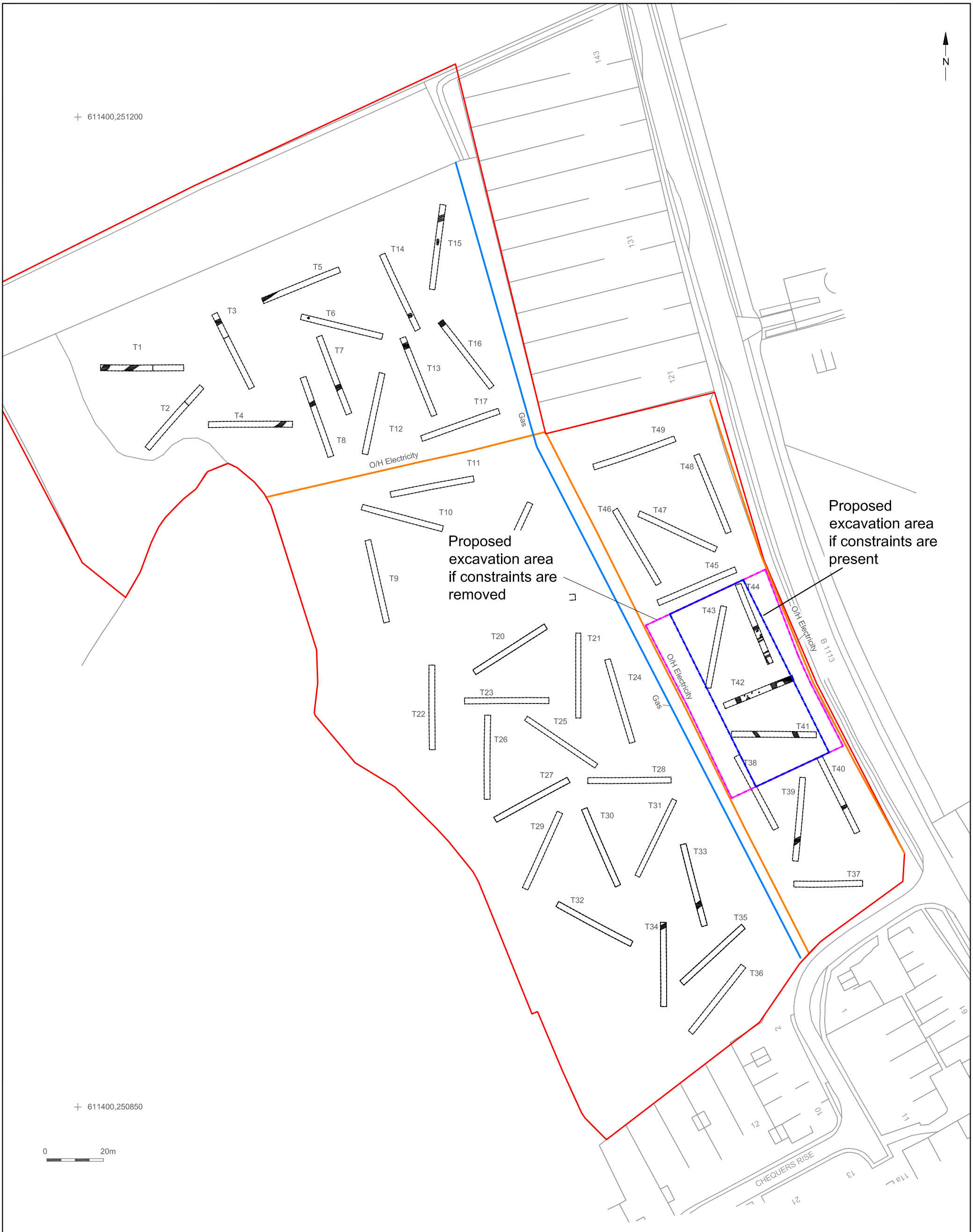
British Geological Survey http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html Accessed 0607/2018

© Archaeology South-East		Stowmarket Road, Great Blakenham	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 180488	July 2018	Site location	
Report No: WSI	Drawn by: APL		



© Archaeology South-East		Stowmarket Road, Great Blakenham	Fig.2
Project Ref: 180488	July 2018	Location of the proposed excavation area	
Report Ref: WSI	Drawn by: APL		

Roman
Early Medieval

N

T48

T46

T47

T45

T44

T43

Proposed excavation area if constraints are present

O/H Electricity

B 1113

T21

T24

Gas

T42

T41

T38

T40

T39

T28

T31

T30

T33

Proposed excavation area if constraints are removed

T37

T35

T34

Gully slots for possible timber building

© Archaeology South-East		Stowmarket Road, Great Blakenham	Fig.3
Project Ref: 180488	July 2018	The proposed excavation area with previous evalution features	
Report Ref: WSI	Drawn by: APL		

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

© Archaeology South-East		Stowmarket Road, Great Blakenham	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 180488	April 2019	Site location with HER information	
Report No: 2019084	Drawn by: SM		

N

Proposed
excavation area
if constraints had
been removed

Excavation area

131

121

B 1113

CHEQUERS RISE

0 50m

© Archaeology South-East		Stowmarket Road, Great Blakenham	Fig.2
Project Ref: 180488	March 2019	Location of previous evaluation trenches and excavation area with site constraints	
Report Ref: 2019084	Drawn by: SM		

T44

T43

611643,251030

N

1176

1174 44/023

1170

1172 44/021

44/017

44/019/ S25

44/015

S24 1154 44/013 1156

1146 1152

1148

44/009

1142 1138 1136

1140 1132 1130 1128

1166 1126 1105 1124

1160 1150 1103 1111 1122 1071 1075 1073 44/011

1162 1158 1101 44/007

1040 44/005

1099 1116 1113 1120 1067 1036

1164 1144 1134 1069 1038

1118 1086 1095

1088 1053 1051

1090 1065 1107 1049

1084 1061

1168 1059

1078 1063

1097 1109

1055 1093 42/023

42/015

42/021 42/013

42/011 1042

1045

1047 42/008

1018

1021

1034

42/029 42/031

T42

1010 42/025 42/027

42/033

42/005 1012

1023

1029

1032

1016

1014

1025

1027

T41

1006 41/006

41/009

41/011

611625,250980

T38

1008

0 5m

T39

© Archaeology South-East		Stowmarket Road, Great Blakenham	Fig.3
Project Ref: 180488	March 2019	Plan of excavation area with all features	
Report Ref: 2019084	Drawn by: SM		

611643,251030

N

Section 2

G12

G9

G6

Section 6

Section 11

G7

Section 7

Section 9

G8

G10

G9

Section 10

Section 1

G12

G10

Section 8

G9

Period 1: Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age

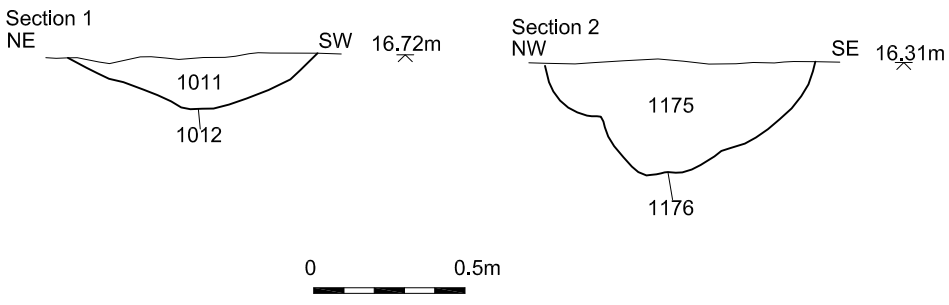
Undated features

G10

611625,250980

Section 1: Pit 1012, looking south

Section 2: Pit 1176, looking north-east



© Archaeology South-East		Stowmarket Road, Great Blakenham	Fig.4
Project Ref: 180488	March 2019	Period 1, undated features: sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2019084	Drawn by: SM		

N

611643,251030

Period 2: General Roman
Undated features

D1
D2
G1
G3
G6
G7
G8
G9
G10
G11
Section 3
Section 4
Section 5
Section 6
Section 7
Section 8
Section 10
Section 11

Ditch 1038, looking north-west

Pit 1051 & foundation trench 1164, looking north-east

Section 3
SW NE
1039 1040 1037 1035 1036 1038
15.84m

Section 4
NW SE
1161 1162 1163 1164
16.67m

Section 5
SW NE
1169 1171 1170 1172 1173 1174
0 0.5m

Ditches 1170,1172 and 1174, looking north-west

0 5m

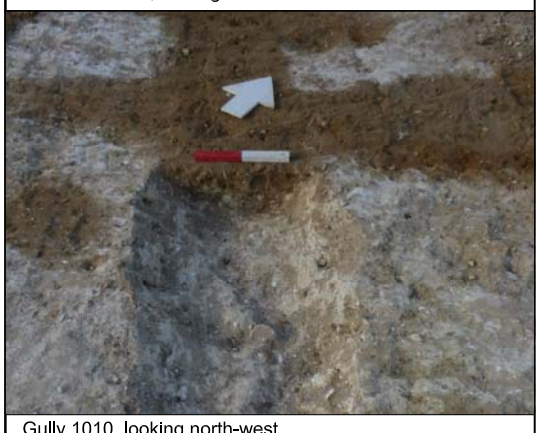
© Archaeology South-East		Stowmarket Road, Great Blakenham	Fig.5
Project Ref: 180488	March 2019	Period 2, undated features: sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2019084	Drawn by: SM		

Post-holes 1103 and 1105, looking south-east

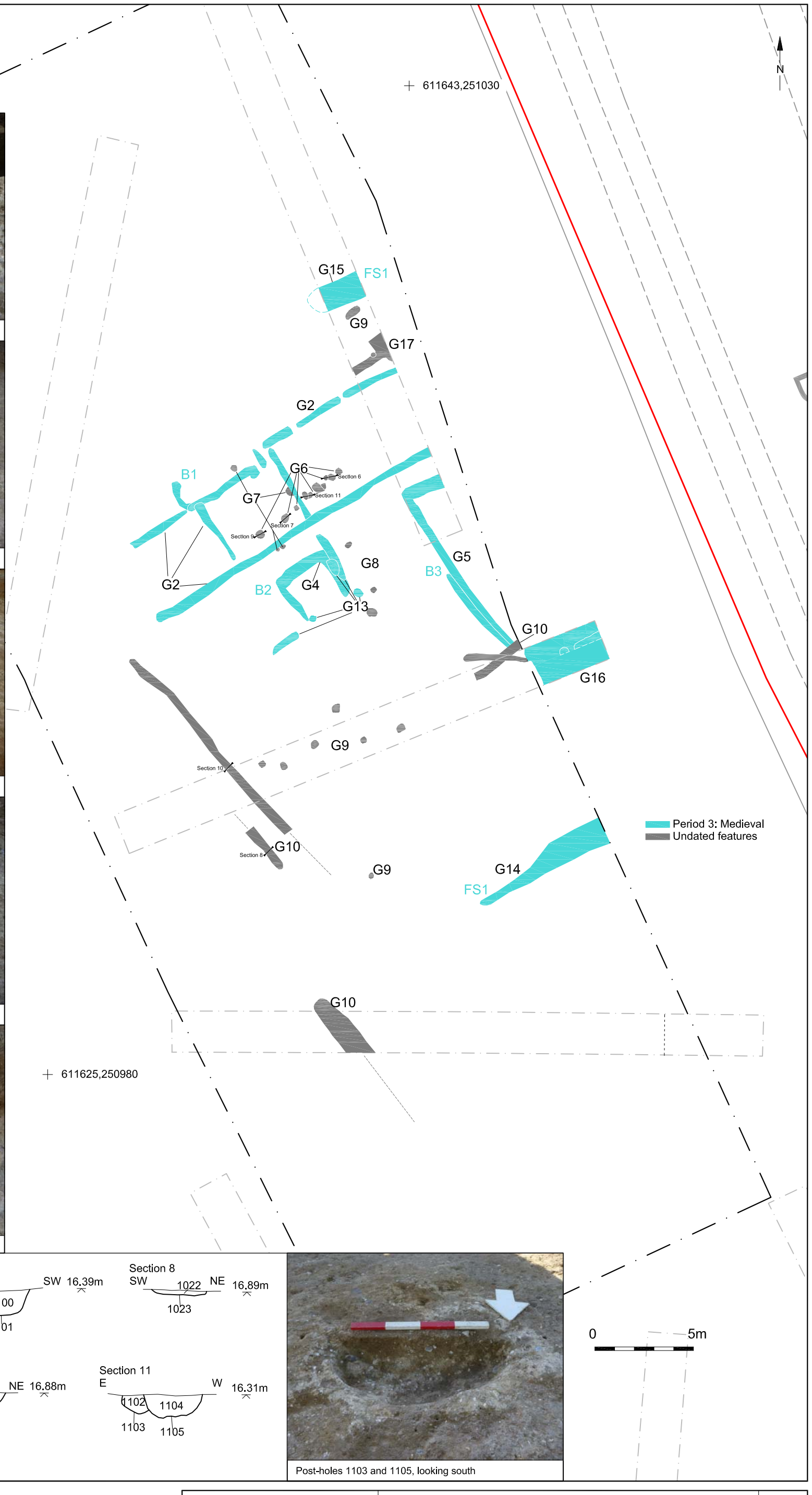
Post-hole 1101, looking south-east

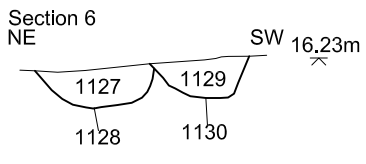
Terminus of gully 1023, looking north-west

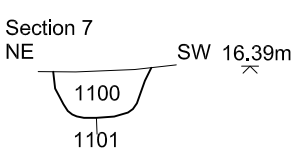
Post-hole 1099, looking south-west

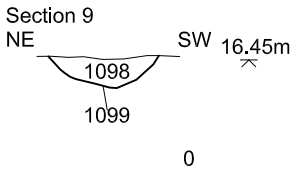


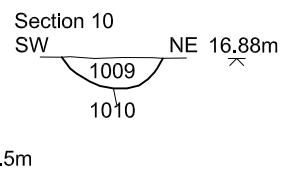
Gully 1010, looking north-west











Post-holes 1103 and 1105, looking south

© **Archaeology South-East**		Stowmarket Road, Great Blakenham	Fig.6
Project Ref: 180488	March 2019	Period 3, undated features: sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2019084	Drawn by: SM		

Section 12
SE NW 16.3m
1119 1121 1179 1120 1122

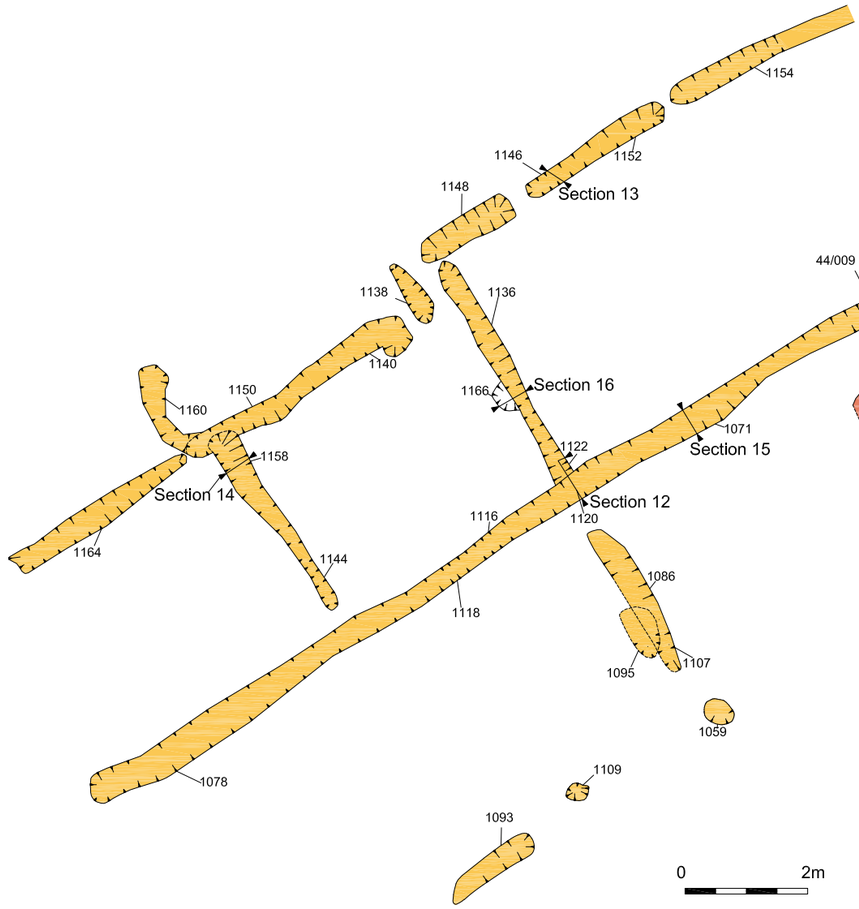
Section 13
NW SE 16.1m
1145 1146

Section 14
NE SW 16.52m
1157 1158

Section 15
SE NW 16.17m
1070 1076 1071

Section 16
SE NW 16.29m
1135 1165 1166 1136

0 0.5m




Foundation trench 1071, looking south-west


Building 1: Working shot looking south-west


Foundation trenches 1120 and 1122, looking west

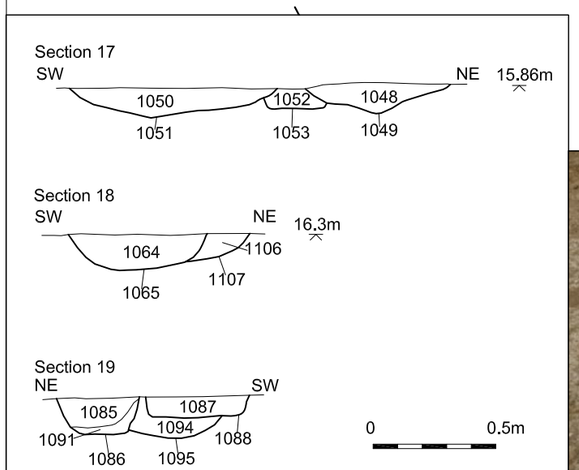

Foundation trench 1136 & post-hole 1166 looking north-west


Foundation trench 1158, looking south-east


Foundation trench 1146, looking north-east

© Archaeology South-East		Stowmarket Road, Great Blakenham	Fig.7
Project Ref: 180488	March 2019	Detailed plan of buildings 1 and 3 with sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2019084	Drawn by: SM		

Building 2: Working shot looking north-west



Foundation trenches 1065 & 1107, looking north-west

Pit 1051 and trenches 1053 and 1049, looking south-east

Found. trench 1088, pit 1095 & ditch 1086, looking south-east

© **Archaeology South-East**		Stowmarket Road, Great Blakenham	Fig.8
Project Ref: 180488	March 2019	Detailed plan of buildings 1, 2 and 3 with sections and photographs	
Report Ref: 2019084	Drawn by: SM		

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