# ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

# LAND WEST OF MILL HOUSE, THE STREET, DARSHAM, SUFFOLK

# AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION AND EXCAVATION: RESEARCH ARCHIVE REPORT

# SHER DAR 030

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District: Suffolk Coastal		Site Code: DAR 030		
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# OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details	T					
Project details Project name	Lond West	of Mill House The Str	act Daraham Suffalk			
Project name	Land West	of Mill House, The Stre	eel, Darsham, Sunok			
archaeological excavation on l was carried out in compliance	and to the we be with a pla gs and was p	est of Mill House, The anning condition attac receded by an archae	lutions Ltd (AS) undertook and Street, Darsham. The excavation ched to planning approval for the ological trial trench evaluation, also			
at least one enclosure and pos of a toft and croft-type peasa eastern part of the site. The possible pond was also presen The finds evidence hints at the was dominated by wheat-base century and was superseded, including possible structural ren	ssible field bo nt holding in latter include t and may ha presence of d agriculture. indirectly, by mains. The o of which was	undaries. The mediew cluding 'backyard' act ed refuse pits, a ?wei ve served as a domest a medieval building in The medieval site de limited evidence of po nly earlier evidence fro s radiocarbon dated ar	to 14 <sup>th</sup> century) landscape including val enclosure may have formed part ivity, chiefly confined to the north- ll and possible quarry features. A tic and/ or agricultural water source. the near vicinity, while the economy clined at some point during the 14 <sup>th</sup> pst-medieval/ early modern activity, om the site comprises two Romano- nd produced a calibrated date range infidence.			
Project dates (fieldwork)		- 26/03/2014 (Evalu cavation)	uation); 15/10/2014 – 14/11/2014			
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work	Ν			
P. number	5673	Site code	DAR 030			
Type of project		ical Trial Trench Evalu				
Site status	-					
Current land use	Pasture					
Planned development		n of 15 new dwellings				
Main features (+dates)	Medieval:	val/ early modern:	Pits; ditches; ?well; ?pond Ditches			
Significant finds (+dates)		thic/ Bronze Age:	Struck flint Cremated bone Cu alloy brooch; pottery			
Project location						
County/ District/ Parish	Suffolk	Suffolk Coasta	al Darsham			
HER/ SMR for area Suffolk Historic Environment Record						
	- Suiloik Hist	oric Environment Reco				
Post code (if known)	-	oric Environment Reco				
	- 0.8ha					
Post code (if known) Area of site NGR	- 0.8ha TM 41490 7					
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# LAND WEST OF MILL HOUSE, THE STREET, DARSHAM, SUFFOLK

### AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION AND EXCAVATION: RESEARCH ARCHIVE REPORT

### SUMMARY

Between October and November 2014, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) undertook an archaeological excavation on land to the west of Mill House, The Street, Darsham. The excavation was carried out in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of 15 new dwellings and was preceded by an archaeological trial trench evaluation, also conducted by AS (dated 19/03/2014 to 26/03/2014).

The village of Darsham has been subject to little systematic archaeological investigation, although its location on locally high ground overlooking a tributary of the Minsmere River is likely to have been attractive to early settlers. Finds and features recorded in the immediate area of the site include prehistoric artefacts, the site of a possible Romano-British villa and three medieval moated sites. The 2014 archaeological evaluation of the site revealed medieval features and two cremations, one of which was subsequently radiocarbon dated and produced a calibrated date range of 20-175 cal AD (93.4%) and 190-210 cal AD (2.0%) at 95.4% confidence.

In the event, the excavation encountered an enclosed medieval (12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century) landscape including at least one enclosure and possible field boundaries. The medieval enclosure may have formed part of a toft and croft-type peasant holding including 'backyard' activity, chiefly confined to the north-eastern part of the site. The latter included refuse pits, a ?well and possible quarry features. A possible pond was also present and may have served as a domestic and/ or agricultural water source. The finds evidence hints at the presence of a medieval building in the near vicinity, while the economy was dominated by wheat-based agriculture. The medieval site declined at some point during the 14<sup>th</sup> century and was superseded, indirectly, by limited evidence of post-medieval/ early modern activity, including possible structural remains.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Between the 15<sup>th</sup> of October and the 14<sup>th</sup> of November 2014, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) undertook and archaeological excavation on land to the west of Mill House, The Street, Darsham (NGR TM 41490 70170; Figs. 1-2). The excavation was carried out in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of 15 new dwellings and was preceded by an archaeological trial trench evaluation, also conducted by AS (dated 19/03/2014 to 26/03/2014). The fieldwork was required by Suffolk Coastal District Council, based on advice from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCC AS-CT; Planning Approval Reference: DC/13/2489/OUT).

1.2 The excavation was carried out in accordance with a brief issued by Dr Matthew Brudenell of SCC AS-CT (dated 25/02/2014) and a specification compiled by AS (dated 26/02/2014). The project conformed to the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (2013) and Gurney's (2003) *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*.

# 2 THE SITE

2.1 Darsham is a village in eastern Suffolk (Suffolk Coastal District) situated between the small market towns of Saxmundham, some 6.5km to the south-west, and Halesworth, approximately 7.7km to the north-west. The villages of Yoxford and Westleton are located some 2.5km to the south-west and south-east, respectively. Although relatively dispersed, the Darsham includes a cluster of houses and other buildings fronting The Street which follows a NW-SE course for *c*. 1km between the modern A12, to the north-west, and its opposing junction with Low Road and Wash Lane.

2.2 The current site comprises a sub-rectangular plot of pasture extending across two adjacent fields (*c*. 0.8ha), separated by a tree-lined hedge, to the west of Mill House (Fig. 2). The site is bounded to the south by The Street and to the north-east by Priory Lane. Further pasture is present to the west, while Mill Bungalow and arable fields adjoin the site's northern boundary.

# Topography, Geology and Soils

2.3 The site is situated at approximately 25-28m AOD on a gentle, east-facing slope. A stream valley, *c*. 630m to the east of the site meets with the Minsmere River (*c*. 1.7km to the south-east), which in turn flows into the North Sea some 6.2km to the east of Darsham. The sites' soils comprise those of the Beccles 1 Association, described as 'slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loamy over clayey soils, associated with similar clayey soils' (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983, 17). These soils are suitable for cultivation of 'winter cereals, some potatoes' and 'grassland' (*ibid*.). The underlying geology comprises chalky till above London Clay (British Geological Survey 1978).

2.4 The current project encountered a dark grey brown clayey silt topsoil (L1000=2000), some 0.24-0.41m deep, overlying a subsoil of dark yellow brown silty clay (L1001=2001). The natural clay (L1002=2002) was encountered at approximately 1.20 to 1.60m below the modern surface.

# 3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

# Prehistoric

3.1 The undeveloped, rural location of Darsham has resulted in a general lack of historic archaeological investigation. However, an increasing number of sites and find spots are now recorded in and around the village (Fig. 3). Darsham occupies a favourable location on locally high ground overlooking a tributary of the Minsmere

River, potentially attractive to prehistoric settlers. The earliest material recorded in the immediate area of the site comprises a fragment of Neolithic flint axe found at Priory Farm (SHER<sup>1</sup> DAR 002), some 370m to the north, and two flint flakes found *c*. 650m to the south (SHER DAR 005).

## **Romano-British**

3.2 Evidence of a significant Roman villa, including tessellated floor and hypocaust, is known from the area of Fairfields, some 800m to the south-east of the site (SHER DAR 003; Suffolk Coastal District Council 2012, 5). Other finds and features included evidence of burning and a pit containing fragments of lava quern and pottery (SHER DAR 003). Local finds of Roman tegula have also been recorded (SHER DAR 016), while a worn silver denarius dating to approximately 60 BC was found by metal detecting to the south of the village (SHER DAR 015). The large Romano-British settlement at Hacheston (Blagg *et al.* 2004) is located some 15km to the south-west.

# Medieval

3.3 Darsham parish is listed three times in the Domesday survey of AD 1086, with holdings by the King and two of his stalwarts: Roger Bigot and Robert Malet. The King's holding included 30 acres of land, a church with six acres and one acre of meadow (Suffolk Coastal District Council 2012). The existing Church of All Saints dates from the 12<sup>th</sup> century AD and is Grade I listed (SHER DAR 011). There are also several medieval moated sites in the area; the first, Cheney Moat (SHER DAR 010), is located *c*. 290m to the south-east of the site and is now infilled. A second moated site, enclosing a possible croft (SHER DAR 001), is located *c*. 480m to the south-west of the site. A third moated site is recorded just to the north of Darsham at Lymball's Farm (SHER WLN 002). The site of a possible medieval barn (SHER DAR 005) and further medieval remains (e.g. SHERs DAR 003 and 013) have also been recorded in near vicinity.

## Post-Medieval

3.5 Historically, Darsham has always been an agricultural settlement with 19<sup>th</sup> century records indicating that most of the population (numbering 513 in 1831) was employed on the land (Suffolk Coastal District Council 2012, 5). Traditional supporting trades including millers and blacksmiths are also noted (*ibid*). Inevitably, expansion of the western end of the village followed the opening of Darsham Station on the East Suffolk line from Ipswich to Lowestoft in 1859 (*ibid*, 4). Post-medieval development in the immediate vicinity of the site includes neighbouring Mill House, comprising a large post-medieval post mill with a two storey roundhouse (SHER DAR 007). Contemporary buildings include an 1873 Methodist chapel established on nearby Fox Lane (SHER DAR 028). The 1843 tithe map and first edition Ordnance Survey (OS) map (1904) show no development within the confines of the site (Figs. 4-5). The earlier map shows a field boundary in the far north-western corner of the site that is absent from the OS map.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Suffolk Historic Environment Record (locations are plotted on Fig. 3)

# The Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

3.6 The site was subject to an archaeological trial trench evaluation, carried out by AS between the 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of March 2014 (Fairclough 2014). The evaluation encountered a number archaeological features distributed across the site, the majority of which comprised ditches/ gullies (Table 1). Datable material – mostly comprising medieval (11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century) pottery – was present in the fills of eight features; a single post-medieval ditch was encountered in Trial Trench 4A, close to the site's northern boundary (Fig. 6). A piece of post-medieval copper alloy rowel spur was also recovered from the spoil in the area of Trial Trench 6.

3.7 The earliest material recovered by the evaluation comprises eight pieces of struck flint of mixed prehistoric (Neolithic/ Bronze Age) character. Two undated pits recorded in Trial Trench 1 contained cremated human bone. One of the cremation deposits was subsequently radiocarbon dated and produced a calibrated date range of 24-171 cal AD (93.4%) and 191-210 cal AD (2.0%) at 95.4% probability. The findings of the evaluation are fully incorporated within the following report.

Trench	Feature	Description	Date
1	F1003	Pit	Romano-British. Cremated bone.
	F1005	Pit	Romano-British. Cremated bone.
2	F1007	Ditch	Undated
4A	F1009	Ditch	Medieval (12 <sup>th</sup> to 14 <sup>th</sup> century)
	F1013	Ditch	Post-medieval (mid 17 <sup>th</sup> to 19 <sup>th</sup> century)
4B	F1015	Gully	Medieval (12 <sup>th</sup> to 14 <sup>th</sup> century)
5	F1017	Ditch	Undated
	F1020	Pit	Medieval (Late 12 <sup>th</sup> to 14 <sup>th</sup> century)
	F1026	Ditch	Medieval (11 <sup>th</sup> to 13 <sup>th</sup> century)
6	F1022	Pit	Medieval (11 <sup>th</sup> / 12 <sup>th</sup> to 14 <sup>th</sup> century)
	F1024	Pit	Medieval (11 <sup>th</sup> / 12 <sup>th</sup> to 14 <sup>th</sup> century)
	F1028	Ditch	Medieval (11 <sup>th</sup> to 14 <sup>th</sup> century)
8	F1011	Ditch	Undated

Table 1: Summary of the features recorded by the archaeological trial trench evaluation

# 4 EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

4.1 Topsoil and subsoil was mechanically stripped under close archaeological supervision using a 360° excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. All subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand. The exposed archaeological horizon was cleaned and examined for a features and finds. Encountered features and deposits were recorded using *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. Spoil heaps were examined for finds.

# 5 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

# **Chronological Phasing**

5.1 Based on the stratigraphic sequence and diagnostic pottery assemblage, three chronological phases of activity were interpreted (Table 2). The majority of activity represents medieval utilisation of the site, dated between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries AD (Phase 2); these dates represent a refinement of the dating evidence as previously reported (Mustchin 2015a), based on a full assessment of the

recovered pottery assemblage (see Thompson, below). A very small number of intrusive post-medieval and early modern sherds were present within the medieval features. Features of Romano-British (Phase 1) and post-medieval/ early modern (Phase 3) date were also recorded but were comparatively few in number. Some features that did not yield diagnostic material were phased based on their stratigraphic or spatial relationships with dated features. Several undated features were also encountered.

Phase	Period	Date
1	Romano-British	1 <sup>st</sup> to 2 <sup>nd</sup> century AD
2	Medieval	12 <sup>th</sup> to 14 <sup>th</sup> century AD
3	Post-medieval to early modern	16 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> century AD

Table 2: Chronological phasing

# Phase 1: Romano-British (1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> Century AD)

5.2 Two pits identified in Trial Trench 1 of the evaluation (F1003 and F1005) yielded cremated human bone. Based on their character and finds of residual struck flint from the site, these were tentatively assigned a prehistoric (possibly middle Bronze Age date; also see Curl, below). The pits were found in close proximity and, bearing in mind the similarity of their fills (Table 3), were probably contemporary. Both features also occupied the same stratigraphic level and were similar in plan and profile (Table 3; Figs. 6, 9 and 13; Plate 1). The deposits were unurned and were not accompanied by any grave goods. It is possible, however, that they were originally placed with/ within organic objects (e.g. textile bags) that did not survive in the burial environment (see Curl, below). The Darsham material, despite being unurned and isolated, was considered to most probably derive from one or more human individuals of unknown sex and age (ibid.). Radiocarbon dating of a cremated bone sample from Pit F1003 (L1004) produced a calibrated date range of 20-175 cal AD (93.4%) and 190-210 cal AD (2.0%) at 95.4% confidence (see Mustchin with Cussans, below). It appears likely, therefore, that the both of the deposits dated from the early Romano-British period (1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD).

Feature	Fill(s)/ context(s)	Plan/ profile (dimensions)	Fill description	Comments/ relationships	Finds
1003	1004	Sub-circular/ irregular sides, flattish base (0.30 x 0.11 x 0.09m)	Compact, dark orange brown clay with occasional small stones	Pit; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000	Cremated bone (320g)
1005	1006	Sub-circular/ steep sides, flattish base (0.22 x 0.10 x 0.05m)	Compact, dark orange brown clay with occasional small stones	Pit; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000	Cremated bone (31g)

Table 3: Summary of Phase 1 features and contexts

5.3 The cremation deposits from F1003 and F1005 were small, weighing just 320g and 31g respectively. These weights are low when compared to other archaeological examples and are well below the weights recorded for modern cremated remains (McKinley 2000). However, various factors and processes may serve to reduce the size of cremation burials. For example, in some instances only a 'token or *pars pro toto*' deposit may have been interred (Rebay-Salisbury 2010, 65). It is possible that the 'missing' remains were left at the pyre site or separated out for distribution/ 'curation' elsewhere (Brück 2006; Chapman and Gaydarska 2007; Rebay-Salisbury 2010).

5.4 The importance of cremation as a funerary rite increased across Europe from the middle Bronze Age onwards (Fontijn 2008, 92; Harding 2000), and was widespread across Roman Britain with numerous examples recorded (e.g. McKinley 2013). Regionally, Romano-British cremation burials have been excavated at a number of sites including the Hutchinson Site, Addenbrooke's (Cambridgeshire) and the cemeteries surrounding the Roman town of Great Chesterford, Essex (Evans *et al.* 2008, 49ff; Medlycott 2011a; 94ff). However, the Suffolk Historic Environment Record does not include Romano-British funerary remains within 5km of Darsham. A small number of Roman 'urns' were unearthed during 19<sup>th</sup> century building work in Thornington Parish (SHER TNG Misc.), some 4.3km to the north of Darsham (Fig. 1), although the exact nature of these vessels is not reported. As such, the evidence from the current site is of particular local interest.

# Phase 2: Medieval (12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century AD)

5.6 The majority of encountered features belonged to the medieval period, and dated between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries AD based on the recovered pottery assemblage. A large part of the assemblage comprises Hollesley-type wares, with some vessels almost certainly deriving from the Hollesley kilns (see Thompson, below). This industry is dated between the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries AD (*ibid*.). The CBM<sup>2</sup> assemblage also includes four fragments of possible medieval nibbed or shouldered peg tile of 12<sup>th</sup> to early 14<sup>th</sup> century date (see Peachey, below). Most of the Phase 2 features were ditches/ gullies and pits. The linear features were related to some form of ditched land enclosure, most evident in the north-eastern corner of the site.

# Medieval Enclosure

5.7 Phase 2 was characterised by a series of enclosure ditches/ gullies concentrated in the north-eastern corner of the site (Area A), close to its boundary with Priory Lane (Table 4; Fig. 6). A small number of ditch segments identified in the trial trenches, including one of two undated ?boundary features running along the western edge of the site (Figs. 6 and 9) may suggest a continuation of enclosure, albeit on a lesser scale, in this direction. The undated ?boundary ran parallel to a boundary depicted on the 1843 tithe map, however (Fig. 4). The boundary features were either linear or rectilinear in plan and aligned *c*. N-S or E-W, roughly mirroring the alignments of Priory Lane and The Street. An enclosure (Enclosure 1) measuring at least  $645m^2$  internally was identified in addition to a possible section of *c*. E-W aligned trackway.

5.8 Enclosure 1 was located in the north-eastern area of the site (Area A). The enclosure was defined on three sides by a single, rectilinear ditch partly identified in Trial Trench 5 of the evaluation (F1017=2020=2045) and was truncated to the east by Phase 3 Ditch F2005 (Figs. 6 and 8; Plate 2). The southern enclosure boundary did not continue to the east, beyond F2005 and it is possible that the eastern extent of Enclosure 1 originally lay in this area, having been destroyed by later, post-medieval/ early modern activity. An earlier, *c*. N-S aligned Ditch (F1026=2036) was cut by the western part of Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045) and may have represented an

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Ceramic building material

earlier boundary superseded by the cutting of the enclosure ditch. The northwestern corner of a second medieval enclosure may have been represented by curvilinear Ditch F2008 (Table 4), to the east of Phase 3 Ditch F2005 (Figs. 6 and 8). If genuine, the position of this second enclosure, closer to the line of Priory Lane, might suggest that it represented a toft-type holding including structural evidence. This interpretation remains tentative, however.

Feature	Fill(s)/ context(s)	Plan/ profile (dimensions)	Fill description	Comments/ relationships	Finds
1009=2003	1010=2004 (primary)	Linear/ gentle to steeply sloping sides, concave base (40.20+ x	Firm, mid to dark orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and small to medium rounded stones	Ditch; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1001=2001	Pot (18g); CBM (19g); animal bone (211g); shell (33g); struck flint (1g)
	2079 (upper)	1.85 x 0.45m)	Firm, mid orange brown sandy silt		-
1015	1016	Linear/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (1.80+ x 0.45 x 0.15m)	Firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional rounded stones	Gully; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1001=2001	Pot (14g); CBM (191g)
1017=2020=2045	1019 (primary)	Linear/ moderately sloping sides,	Compact, mid orange/ yellow brown clay with occasional rounded stones	Ditch; cut L2027 and L2055; cut by F2005	-
	1018=2021=2046 (upper)	concave base (54.00+ x 1.70 x 0.44m)	Firm, mid red/ orange brown mottled clay with occasional charcoal lumps and small angular stones/ flint		Pot (3566g); CBM (124g); animal bone (313g); shell (19g); Cu alloy brooch (SF1) (12g); quern fragments x3 (343g); Fe nails (28g)
1026=2036	2056 (primary)	Linear/ moderately sloping sides and a concave base (19.00+ x 0.75 x 0.34m)	Firm, light brown sandy clay	Ditch; cut L1002=2002; cut by F1017=2020=2045	-
	1027=2037		Firm, mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional small rounded chalk		Pot (202g); CBM (1471g); animal bone (43g); clinker (3g)
	2055 (upper)		Firm, mid yellow brown sandy clay		-
1028	1029 (primary)	Linear/ steep sides, V- shaped base (1.80+ x 1.21	Firm, light yellow grey clay with frequent chalk flecks/ pebbles	Ditch; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1001=2001	Pot (63g); animal bone (8g); struck flint (82g)
	1030 (upper)	x 0.62m)	Friable, mid grey brown clay with occasional small rounded stones		Pot (1218g); CBM (161g); animal bone (28g); shell (29g); fired clay (23g); struck flint (273g); clinker (128g)
2008	2009	Curvilinear/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (7.30+ x 1.50 x 0.53m)	Compact, mid to dark red brown mottled clay with occasional charcoal flecks, small angular stones and chalk flecks	Ditch; cut L2017; sealed by L1001=2001	
2022	2023	Linear/ gently sloping sides, concave base (4.20+ x 1.00 x 0.22m)	Compact, mid orange brown silty clay with occasional small to medium sub-rounded and sub-angular stones/ flint	Ditch; cut L2014; sealed by L1001=2001	Pot (2g)
2024	2025	Linear/ moderately sloping sides, concave base	Compact, mid red brown mottled clay with occasional flecks and small sub-angular stones	Ditch; cut L1002=2002; cut by F2026	Pot (16g)

		(24.00+ x 0.45 x 0.14m)			
2026	2027	Irregular/ gentle to steeply sloping sides, uneven base (1.82+ x 1.60 x 0.32m)	Compact, mid red brown mottled clay with occasional sub-angular and sub-rounded stones	Ditch; cut L2025; cut by F1017=2020=2045	Pot (985g); animal bone (6g); struck flint (3g); coal (2g)
2042	2043	Linear/ moderately sloping sides; concave base (36.50+ x 1.73 x 0.93m)	Firm, mid to dark orange brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and small to medium rounded stones	Ditch; cut L2062; cut by F2065 and F2067	Pot (322g); animal bone (483g); Fe nail (26g)

Table 4: Summary of Phase 2 ditches/ gullies

5.9 Rural medieval enclosures are relatively common across East Anglia and serve a number of functions including agricultural and horticultural plots/ fields (Amor 2006; Martin and Satchell 2006; Woolhouse forthcoming) and 'toft and croft-type' peasant holdings (Newton *et al.* 2013, 67; Woolhouse forthcoming). A section of late medieval ditch, thought to have been part of a rectilinear enclosure surrounding a church was excavated at Warboys in Cambridgeshire (Stocks-Morgan 2014). Rectilinear medieval enclosures akin to Enclosure 1 at Darsham have been excavated at Brandon in Suffolk (Stocks-Morgan 2013), while aerial photographs of Leziate, Cambridgeshire show cropmarks associated with medieval/ post-medieval enclosures thought to be part of a croft or yards (NHER<sup>3</sup> 50828). Evidence of medieval enclosure within the immediate area of the current site includes a number of moated sites, including a possible croft (SHER DAR 001). A section of medieval ditch was also excavated at neighbouring Blythburgh (SHER BLB 011).

5.10 The northernmost section of Enclosure Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045) – aligned *c*. E-W – was mirrored by Ditch F2042 some 6.20m to the north (Table 4; Figs. 6-8; Plate 3). The gap between these features may represent a short section (15.50m+) of trackway bounding Enclosure 1 and leading towards Priory Lane. The western continuation of Ditch F2042, which spanned the northern part of Area A, might suggest that this ?trackway originally extended further, or that Enclosure 1 was a discrete area within a larger enclosure or field. The bulk of datable pottery from Ditches F1017 (=2020=2045) and F2042 spanned the 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.

5.11 Ditched medieval trackways have been widely reported and include rural examples from Whatfield and Brettenham in Suffolk (Mustchin 2015b; Mustchin forthcoming a). In both instances, the trackways appeared to provide access to contemporary fields/ enclosures. A trackway of presumed medieval date was also excavated at Hadleigh in Suffolk and was thought to represent a woodland 'ride' and/ or access to common land (Meredith 2000).

5.12 An additional *c*. E-W aligned Phase 2 ?boundary was represented by Ditch F1009 (=2003) identified in Trial Trenches 4A and 9 (Fig. 6). The relationship of this possible boundary to Ditch F2042 was unclear, however, as their two alignments appeared 'staggered'. The profiles of these features varied considerably (Figs. 10-13) and it is not thought that they represented a single continuous boundary.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Norfolk Historic Environment Record

5.13 The remaining Phase 2 Ditches (Table 4) were shorter; some were only revealed within the confines of the trial trenches (e.g. F1028, Trial Trench 6) and may represent sections of elongated pits rather than linear features. However, their dating suggests some relationship with the boundaries described above. It is also possible, based on their alignments and/ or morphology, that undated Ditches F1007 (Trial Trench 2), F1011 (Trial Trench 8) and F2053 (Area B) formed part of the Phase 2 landscape. If projected *c.* northwards, the alignment of Ditch F1007 would meet a similarly projected course of Phase 2 Ditch F1009 (=2003) at approximately 90° somewhere close to the boundary of Grid Squares A7 and B7 (Fig. 6). The area 'enclosed' by these features, if genuine, would have been relatively large and hints at a more 'open' medieval landscape to the west of Enclosure 1. An open field such as this in close association with smaller enclosures might hint at an 'infield and outfield' agricultural system (cf. Oosthuizen 2006, 108), although the current evidence is too sparse to support any firm conclusions.

5.14 Notable finds from the Phase 2 ditches include a copper alloy brooch (SF1) and a significant pottery group (3566g) from the uppermost fill of F1017 (=2020=2045). The brooch is a  $12^{th}/13^{th}$  to  $14^{th}$  century AD dress accessory commonly used to fasten tunics and cloaks (see Cooper, below) while the pottery sherds are overwhelmingly Hollesley type glazed wares of a comparable date (see Thompson, below). Three small fragments of lava stone quern from this ditch also indicate small-scale crop processing in the vicinity and complement similar evidence from Phase 2 Pit F1020 (see below). Three iron carpentry or roofing nails from Ditches F1017 (=2020=2045) and F2024 probably represent construction or demolition in the vicinity. Overall, the finds from the medieval ditches are domestic in character and indicative of general discard. Incorporation via processes such as manuring is also a possibility in some instances, especially where numbers and densities of finds are low.

## The Medieval Pits

5.15 A total of 15 medieval pits, including one possible pond (F2059) were encountered (Table 5). All of these were located within Area A of the excavation or trial trenches in the eastern part of the site (Fig. 6). Excluding possible Pond F2059, the Phase 2 pits had a mean area (in plan) of  $2.70m^2$  (range =  $0.30m^2$  to  $11.61m^2$ )<sup>4</sup> and a mean depth of 0.44m (range = 0.10m to 1.00m). Only four examples, including Pit/ ?Pond F2059 contained multiple fills, which suggests that the majority were single use features. Finds from the Phase 2 pits generally comprise quantities of pottery and animal bone with lesser occurrences of CBM/ fired clay and ferrous nails/ fragments. Notable pottery groups were present within Pits F1020 (2669g) and F2040 (1200g), both of which were located within the confines of Enclosure 1. This concentration of domestic material suggests the presence of a nearby dwelling(s), perhaps precursors of neighbouring Mill House/ Mill Bungalow, or possibly domestic activity within the area of Enclosure 1. No contemporary structural remains were identified, however.

5.16 During the excavation, Pit F2051 (to the south of Enclosure 1; Table 5; Fig. 8; Plate 4) was identified as a possible well. Although comparatively deep (1.00m; Fig.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Including partially obscured features

10) and situated on slowly permeable clayey soils, F2051 did not display any evidence of a lining or other superstructure that one might associate with a well (cf. Rawcliffe 2004, 309). Nonetheless, similarly crude medieval examples have been excavated at Cedars Park, Stowmarket (Woolhouse forthcoming) and Chequers Court, Huntingdon (Mustchin forthcoming b). The Chequers court examples were dated between the  $12^{th}$  and  $14^{th}$ /  $15^{th}$  centuries AD and all but one lacked evidence of a lining. A 1.65m deep earth-cut well of *c*.  $11^{th}$  and  $13^{th}$  date was also encountered by recent excavation work at Brettenham in Suffolk (Mustchin forthcoming a). The basic form of these examples is not unusual. Johnston (2011, 713-14) notes that medieval wells were often little more than 'holes dug down to the water table', with rural examples often lacking walls or other accoutrements.

Feature	Fill(s)/ context(s)	Plan/ profile (dimensions)	Fill description	Comments/ relationships	Finds
1020	1021	Oval/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (0.70+ x 0.70 x 0.31m)	Firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional rounded stones	Pit; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000	Pot (2669g); quern fragment (632g); shell (319g)
1022	1023	Sub-circular/ gently sloping sides, flattish base (0.70+ x 0.51 x 0.41m)	Firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional CBM flecks and rounded stones	Pit; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1001=2001	Pot (16g)
1024	1025	Sub-circular/ gently sloping sides, concave base (0.81 x 0.60+ x 0.13m)	Firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional CBM flecks and rounded stones	Pit; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1001=2001	Pot (18g); Fe nail (5g)
2010 2011 (primary	2011 (primary)	Sub-oval/ near vertical sides, irregular base (3.40+ x 0.77	Compact, mid red brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and small sub-angular to sub- rounded stones	Pit; cut L2035; sealed by L1001=2001	Pot (98g); animal bone (2g); fired clay (10g)
	2012 (upper)	x 0.40m)	Compact, mid red brown silty clay occasional charcoal flecks and small sub-angular to sub- rounded stones		
2013	2015 (primary)	Oval/ steep sides, concave base (1.95 x 1.80+ x 0.75m)	Compact, mid orange brown clay with occasional small to large sub-angular to sub-rounded stones/ flint and moderate chalk	Pit; cut L1002=2002; cut by F2022	Pot (480g); CBM (19g); animal bone (6g)
	2014 (upper)		Compact, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional small to large sub-angular to rounded stones/ flint		Pot (213g); animal bone (6g)
2032	2033	Circular/ steep sides, concave base (0.60 x 0.50+ x 0.35m)	Firm, dark brown grey clay silt with occasional small rounded stones	Pit; cut L1002=2002; cut by F2034	-
2034	2035	Oval/ moderately sloping to steep sides and a flat base (0.75 x 0.50 x 0.33m)	Firm, dark yellow grey silty sand	Pit; cut L2033; cut by F2010	Pot (7g)
2038	2039	Oval/ near- vertical sides, flat base (1.80 x 0.92 x 0.70m)	Firm, mid orange brown silty clay with moderate small rounded stones/ flint	Pit; cut 1002=2001; sealed by L1000=2000	Pot (12g); animal bone (420g); struck flint (8g)

2040	2041 (primary)	Sub-circular/ moderately sloping sides,	Firm, mid grey brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks and flint	Pit; cut L1002=2002; sealed by	-
	2044 (upper)	irregular base (4.30 x 2.70 x 0.44m)	Firm, mid yellow brown sandy silt with moderate charcoal flecks and occasional flint	L1000=2000	Pot (1200g); CBM (140g); animal bone (14g)
2047	2048	Oval/ gently sloping sides, irregular base (1.52 x 0.92 x 0.10m)	Compact/ friable, mid to dark brown clay silt with frequent charcoal flecks	Pit; cut L1002=2002; cut by F2049	Pot (65g)
2049	2050	Oval/ moderately sloping sides, irregular base (1.32 x 0.69 x 0.24m)	Compact/ friable, mid to dark brown clay silt with occasional charcoal flecks and medium sub-angular and rounded stones	Pit; cut L2049; cut by F2051	Pot (8g)
2051	2052	Circular/ near-vertical sides, irregular base (2.30 x 2.30 x 1.00m)	Compact/ friable, very dark brown sandy silt with frequent small to medium sub-angular and rounded stones	Pit; cut L2050; sealed by L1000=2000	Pot (272g); fired clay (171g)
2059	2060 (primary)	Linear/ moderately sloping sides, irregular base	Compact, mid to dark blue grey clay with occasional charcoal flecks and moderate chalk	Pit/ ?pond; cut L1002=2002; cut by F2042, F2063 and F2069	Animal bone (116g)
	2061	(22.00+ x 4.30 x 0.72m)	Firm, mid orange brown sandy silt with frequent small angular flint		Pot (83g); animal bone (313g); Fe nail (8g)
	2062 (upper)		Firm, dark red brown sandy silt with moderate angular flint and chalk		Pot (776g); animal bone (244g); Fe fragment (45g)
2069	2070	Sub-circular/ moderately sloping to vertical sides, concave base (2.65+ x 2.00 x 0.53m)	Compact, very dark brown sandy silt with occasional small sub-angular stones and one large flint nodule	Pit; cut L2062; cut by F2071	Pot (134g); animal bone (128g); Fe fragment (23g)
2075	2076	Sub-oval/ moderately sloping to near vertical sides, irregular base (2.00+ x 1.71 x 0.52m)	Compact, very dark brown sandy silt with occasional medium sub-angular stones	Pit; 1002=2002; sealed by L1001=2001	Pot (298g); animal bone (20g)

Table 5: Summary of Phase 2 pits

## Pit/ ?Pond F2059

5.17 Medieval Pit/?Pond F2059 appeared stratigraphically early within the phase 2 sequence (Figs. 6-7 and 11-12; Plate 3). The uppermost fill of this feature was truncated to the north by Pit F2069 and to the south by Ditch F2042. F2059 was elongated in plan and comparatively deep (measuring 22.00+ x 4.30 x 0.72m), and contained three consecutive fills (Figs. 6-7 and 10; Table 5). The blue/ grey colour of primary clay Fill L2060 suggests a gleyic soil formed under conditions of at least intermittent or seasonal waterlogging (Ashman and Puri 2002; Lindbo *et al.* 2008), in keeping with the site's slowly permeable geology (see above). Historically, ponds can serve a variety of functions (Upex 2004, 125) and it is possible that F2059 represented a fish pond or dew pond for watering livestock. A possible medieval fish pond is recorded at Cockfield Hall, Yoxford (SHER YOX 001; Sillwood 2012, 9), some 1.3km to the south-west, while other Suffolk examples are known at Barnham,

Exning, Little Bradley and Brettenham (SHERs BNH 022, EXG 040, BRL 001 and BTT 027). Finds from the fills of F2059 include moderate quantities of medieval and post-medieval/ modern pottery (the latter comprising intrusive material from upper Fill L2062) and animal bone. Three nail fragments from this feature match examples recovered from Phase 2 Ditches F1017 (=2020=2045) and F2042 (see above) and are indicative of the construction or demolition of a wooden structure.

# Phase 3: Post-Medieval to Early Modern (16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century AD)

5.18 Four ditches were post-medieval/ early modern in date (Table 6). The largest of these (F2005) ran *c*. N-S across Area A, and truncated the eastern edge of medieval Enclosure 1 (Fig. 6; Plate 5). The alignment of this feature was roughly parallel to Priory Lane, a short distance to the east, and it may have represented an early boundary feature.

5.19 Two parallel Phase 3 ditches (F2065 and F2067) truncated the fill of Phase 2 Ditch F2042 (L2043) (Figs. 6-7 and 11; Plate 3). During the excavation these were interpreted as possible construction cuts, although neither contained obvious foundation or packing material (Table 6). It remains possible, however, that these features – both similar in plan and profile – represented beam slots or similar at the base of an earth-fast structure. It is also possible that the *c*. 1.5m gap between F2065 and F2067 served to contain or channel livestock. Earth-fast construction, although more prevalent prior to the introduction of cruck construction and the blanket availability of bricks in the late medieval/ post-medieval periods (Crabtree 2000, 77), persisted in use in Britain – particularly in poorer dwellings and outbuildings – well into the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Meeson and Welch 1993). A substantial late 18<sup>th</sup> century cart shed at Hall Farm, Loxley (Warwikshire) was found to include earth-fast posts in its construction (Alcock and Harris 1987).

Feature	Fill(s)/ context(s)	Plan/ profile (dimensions)	Fill description	Comments/ relationships	Finds
1013	1014	Linear/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (1.80+ x 1.00 x 0.25m)	Firm, dark grey brown silty clay with occasional rounded stones	Ditch; cut L1002=2002; cut by F2022	Pot (11g); CBM (17g); animal bone (33g)
2005	2006 (primary) 2007 (upper)	Linear/ moderate to steep sides, concave base (38.00+ x	Compact, mid red brown sandy clay with occasional sub-angular and sub- rounded stones Compact, mid red brown	Ditch; Cut L1018=2021=2046; sealed by L1001=2001	- Pot (134g);
		3.05 x 1.01m)	silty clay with occasional sub-angular and sub- rounded stones and chalk		CBM (1006g); animal bone (171g); shell (34g)
2065	2066	Linear/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (12.95 x 0.57 x 0.40m)	Firm, dark red brown sandy silt	Ditch; cut L2043; sealed by L1001=2001	-
2067	2068	Linear/ gently to moderately sloping sides, concave base (13.00 x 1.00 x 0.41m)	Firm, dark brown sandy silt with moderate small rounded flint	Ditch; cut L2043 and L2078; sealed by L1001=2001	Pot (152g); animal bone (20g)

Table 6: Summary of Phase 3 features and contexts

5.20 A short section of post-medieval/ early modern ditch (F1013) was identified running *c.* N-S across Trial Trench 4A (Table 6; Fig. 6). The excavated segment of this feature yielded just one sherd of mid  $17^{th}$  to  $19^{th}$  century pottery.

# **Undated Features**

5.21 Ten undated features were encountered (Table 7; Fig. 6). Five of these were ditches which, despite lacking datable material, may have formed part of the medieval (Phase 2) enclosed landscape. Ditches F1007 (Trial Trench 2) and F2053 (Area B), for example, ran at right angles to Phase 2 Ditch F1009 (=2003) *c*. 23m to the north-east (Figs. 6 and 9), and may have formed part of the same field boundary (see above). The large distance between these features makes such an assertion difficult to prove, however.

Feature	Fill(s)/ context(s)	Plan/ profile (dimensions)	Fill description	Comments/ relationships	Finds
1007	1008	Linear/ steep sides, concave base (8.00+ x 0.49 x 0.33m)	Firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional angular flint	Ditch; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000	-
1011	1012	Linear/ gently sloping sides, flattish base (1.80+ x 0.80 x 0.13m)	Firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional rounded stones	Ditch; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000	-
2016	2017	Linear/ steep sides, irregular base (0.40+ x 1.50 x 0.77m)	Compact, dark grey/ black red mottled silty clay with frequent charcoal flecks	Ditch; cut L2019; cut by F2008	-
2018	2019	Sub-circular/ steep sides, flat base (0.40+ x 1.50+ x 0.77m)	Compact, mid yellow brown mottled clay with occasional charcoal flecks and small angular stones	Pit; cut L1002=2002; cut by F2016	-
2028	2031 (primary)	Sub-oval/ near vertical sides, concave base (0.40 x 0.35 x	Compact, dark grey/ black humic silt	Posthole; cut L1002=2002:	-
	2029 (upper)	0.17m)	Friable, dark grey brown silty sand with occasional small to medium angular flint	sealed by L1001=2001	-
2053	2054	Linear/ near-vertical sides, flat base (14.00+ x 0.60 x 0.69m)	Firm, mid to dark brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and medium stones	Ditch; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000	CBM (130g)
2057	2058	Sub-circular/ moderately sloping sides, flat base (1.90 x 2.80 x 0.08m)	Firm, dark brown/ black silty clay	Pit; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000	Worked stone (undiagnostic) (359g)
2063	2064	Sub-oval/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (2.40 x 1.79 x 0.30m)	Firm, dark red brown sandy silt	Pit; cut L2062; sealed by L1001=2001	-
2071	2074 (primary)	Circular/ steep sides, concave base (0.70 x 0.70 x	Firm, very dark grey humic sandy silt	Posthole; cut L2070; sealed by	-
	2072 (upper)	0.47m)	Compact, yellow clay	L1001=2001	-
2077	2078	Linear/ moderately sloping sides; flat base (1.00+ x 0.91+ x 0.28m)	Firm, dark brown sandy silt	Ditch; cut 1002=2002; cut by F2067	-

Table 7: Summary of undated features

5.22 Three pits (F2018, F2057 and F2063) and two postholes (F2028 and F2071) were also undated. The pits, although problematic to date on stratigraphic grounds, were all located in the eastern area of the site and may have been medieval or later in date. Pit F2063, for example, truncated Fill L2062 of Phase 2 Pit/ ?Pond F2059. The undated postholes were similarly difficult to date and did not comprise elements of any identifiable structures. Both displayed well-defined post pipes in section,

however, and appear to have held upright timbers; the primary fills of both were darkly coloured and humic, most likely representing the remnants of posts that had degraded *in situ*.

# 6 SPECIALIST REPORTS

## The Pottery

Peter Thompson

## Introduction

The archaeological evaluation recovered 465 sherds weighing 4.420 kg and the succeeding excavation produced a further 1002 sherds weighing 8776g. The combined pottery total is 1,467 sherds (13196g) of which all bar 20 sherds (534g and 1.4% of the sherd total) are of high medieval date, the remaining 20 sherds are late medieval and transitional or later. The assemblage was in mixed condition ranging from light to heavy abrasion, and varied in size from more numerous small sherds, to larger fragments some of which could be re-constructed to produce whole or partial profiles of several vessels.

# Methodology

The pottery was examined under x35 binocular microscope and recorded by context into an Excel spreadsheet which will be deposited as part of the digital archive. Recording followed the Medieval Pottery Research Group guidelines (MPRG 1998; Slowikowski *et al.* 2001), and fabric codes followed those in the Suffolk post-Roman fabric series. Details including sherd number and weight, fabric type, vessel or rim type, decoration, diameter (rim and base) were recorded where possible.

## The Fabrics

The pottery has been tabulated by fabric group below (Table 8). The medieval assemblage is a homogenous group of sand tempered fabrics which usually contain a small number of other inclusions such as clay pellets, ferruginous fragments, or calcareous material. Most of the wares can be classed as Hollesley-type wares, with some vessels almost certainly deriving from the Hollesley kilns (Sue Anderson *pers. comm.*). The Hollesley type wares (1,127 sherds) amounted to 76.8% of the sherd total, and out of these 153 sherds (10.4%) showed evidence of glaze. The Hollesley coarse wares were predominantly pale grey, pale brown or buff in colour with grey cores, but occasionally sherds were oxidized orange on one surface or throughout, or had one surface reduced to dark grey or black.

The majority of the MCWa and MCWb medieval coarseware sherds (316 sherds/21.5%), were generally in darker grey and sometimes more micaceous fabrics, but otherwise were quite similar to the Hollesely type wares. In addition, a micaceous Hedingham fineware sherd was recovered from Pit F2010 (L2011), however, although unglazed it is likely to have derived from a vessel that was patially glazed. A gritty buff to pink unglazed body sherd came from Ditch F2059 (L2062 B), which contained moderate to common, sub-rounded to rounded medium to coarse

grey quartz (MCWG). It is possible that it was also a Hedingham ware (Walker 2012, 33 code hedcwem), but the fabric appears a little too coarse. Only two glazed sherds were not of Hollesley-type, one was a Hedingham fine ware from Pit F2010 (L2011). The other was a fragment of Grimston ware from Pit F2069 (L2070).

Fabric	Code	Name	Date	Sherd No.	Fabric Weight (g)	Fabric Description/Reference
MCWa	?3.201	Medieval coarse ware a	12 <sup>th</sup> - 13 <sup>th</sup> /14 <sup>th</sup>	306	2060	Generally dark grey throughout, abundant fine to medium quartz, occasional other inclusions, calcareous, clay pellets, burnt organics, varying amounts of mica
MCWb	?3.203	Medieval coarse ware b	12 <sup>th</sup> - 13 <sup>th</sup> /14 <sup>th</sup>	10	59	Usually grey or brown; fine sandy fabric with occasional mica but few other inclusions
MCWG	?3.21	Medieval gritty coarse ware	12 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> /14 <sup>th</sup>	1	12	Buff/pink fabric moderate to common sub-rounded to rounded medium to coarse grey quartz
HFW	4.23	Hedingham glazed fine ware	Mid 12 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup>	2	6	Fine, often soft, orange to buff and micaceous fabric. Green or orange glaze, sometimes with white or red slip (see Walker 2012)
HOLL1	3.421	Hollesley 1 type ware	13 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	47	510	Fine soft fabric with abundant fine sand, sparse to moderate mica, occasional self-coloured clay lenses and occasional 'local' inclusions such as chalk and ferrous fragments. Usually pale grey or buff, occasionally orange or brown (Anderson and Thompson forthcoming)
HOLL2	3.422	Hollesley 2 type ware	13 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	927	8102	As Hollesely 1 but with abundant medium or coarser sand. Usually pale grey or buff (Anderson and Thompson forthcoming).
HOLLG	4.32	Hollesley type glazed ware	13 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup>	153	1888	Fine or medium Hollesley type fabrics with glaze and occasionally slip and applied clay pellets. Often oxidized externally (Anderson and Thompson forthcoming)
GRIMG	4.10	Grimston glazed ware	Late 12 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup>	1	25	Dark blue-grey, medium sandy fabric, occasionally oxidised on one or both surfaces, with occasional coarse ferrous inclusions. Olive green glaze (see Little 1994)
LMT	5.10	Late medieval and Transitional ware	15 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup>	2	112	Pale redware with partial green glaze (see Jennings 1981)
RAER	7.13	Raeren stoneware	Mid 15 <sup>th</sup> - 16 <sup>th</sup>	2	28	(see Jennings 1981)
FRECH	7.14	Frechen type stoneware	Mid 16 <sup>th</sup> - early18 <sup>th</sup>	2	122	(see Jennings 1981)
GRE	6.12	Glazed red earthenware	16 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup>	13	270	(see Jennings 1981)
REFW	8.03	Refined factory made white earthenwares	Late 18 <sup>th</sup> +	1	2	(see Jennings 1981)
Total		I		1467	13,089	

Table 8: Summary of pottery by fabric group

## Forms

Out of a total of 88 identifiable rims 42 (48%) were from cooking pots or jars (Figs. 14.1, 2 and 6), 36 (41%) from bowls (Figs. 14.4, 7, 8 and 9), and 10 (11%) from jugs (Figs. 14.3 and 5; Table 9). The commonest rim form was the developed E4 rim found mainly on bowls (Fig. 14.7). Six strap handles were recorded including a stab decorated example from a jug (Fig. 14.10). There were also scars of several more strap handles on glazed and unglazed body sherds indicating the presence of more jugs, and sooting to coarseware body sherds showing their function as cooking vessels. The Hollesley type cooking pot rims measured between 14cm and 26cm diameter, with the majority between 18cm and 24cm. Bowls were mainly between 26cm and 40cm width, although there were two smaller examples. These were of

similar diameters to those from Hollesley (Anderson n.d). The non-Hollesley type medieval coarse wares contained similar forms with similar rim diameters to their Hollesley type counterparts, but there were additional forms such as an upright bowl rim with a slight collar beneath from Pond F2059 (L2062B), and a large round shouldered jar with a short neck from Pit F1020 (L1021) (Fig. 14.2). Bases overall were gently rounded although there were also some examples of both flat ones and more deeply rounded ones.

Rim category	Vessel	HOLL2 type	HOLL1 type	HOLLG	Other medieval coarse wares (MCWa & MCWb)
A – Simple upright	Bowls		1		1
	Cooking pots	9	3		
	Jugs	4	1	4	
B – Beaded upright	Cooking pots	12			3
	Jugs				1
C- Beaded	Bowls	1			
D – Simple everted	Bowls	3			3
	Cooking pots	2			
E – Thickened	Bowls	12			7
everted	Cooking pots	8			2
F – Flat topped	Bowls	5	2		2
everted	Cooking pots	1	1		
	Jug				
Total	1	57	8	4	19

Table 9: measurable rim types by fabric

## Decoration

Decoration was relatively sparse with the most common comprising thumb impressed clay strips applied to cooking pots and jugs (Fig. 14.2 and 5), and thumb impressions to bases (Table 10). The applied clays strips on three glazed jug sherds were roulette decorated. One hundred and fifty-five of the medieval sherds were glazed (10.7%). One Hollesley Glazed sherd from Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045; L2020B) contained green glaze in the break suggesting there was originally a crack in the pot which the glaze ran into, which possibly then sealed itself during firing, making the pot usable.

Decoration	Frequency
Applied clay strips with thumb decoration	HOLLG x5, HOLL1 x1, HOLL2 x3, MCW x5
Applied iron stained clay strips with rouletting	HOLLG x3
Bases with single or groups of thumb decoration in body/base angle	HOLLG x1, HOLL1 x1, HOLL2 x4, LMT x1
Jug necks with girth grooves	HOLLG x1, HOLL2 x1, HOLLG x1
Seated rims (slight groove along top)	HOLL2 x3, MCWa x2
Rilling to cooking pot shoulder	HOLL2 x2
Finger impressions below rim	HOLL2 x2, MCW x1
Finger decoration to shoulder	HOLL2 x1
Incised lines to rim	HOLL2 x2
Rims with cordon below neck	HOLL1 x1, MCW x1
Handle with stab decoration	HOLL2 x1

Table 10: Decorated sherds

# The Main Pottery Groups by Feature

Seven features contained relatively large amounts of pottery in excess of 100 sherds, which accounted for 84% of all sherds from the site (83.6% by weight) (Table 11). Five of these features (F1020, F1028, F2040, F2026 and F2013) contained between 5 and 12 sherds of Hollesley glazed ware and a similar range of forms including developed E type thickened rims, and fit a 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century date range. Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045) contained the largest number of sherds (279) including 95 Hollesley type glazed sherds, which broadly matches the date range of the features above. However, one segment L2046 also contained a rim and body sherd of post-medieval red earthenware with internal brown glaze, indicating a later date between the late 15<sup>th</sup>/early 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> centuries. Likewise Pond F2059 produced a sherd of post-medieval red earthenware and base sherds each from an imported Raeren stoneware jug and a Frechen stoneware jug, from L2062 B and L2062 C. These sherds indicate a 16<sup>th</sup>- 17<sup>th</sup> centuries date for the feature, unless they were intrusive. Only two features contained pottery of high medieval date that were not Hollesley type wares or local medieval coarse wares. Pit F2010 (L2011) contained two body sherds of Hedingham fine ware including one with remnants of faded green glaze. Pit F2069 (L2070) contained a sherd from a green glazed Grimston ware jug with a scar from where a strap handle had been attached.

Feature & Context	Sherd No.	Sherd Weight (g)	Mean sherd weight	% of site assemblage
Ditch F1017=2020=2045 (L2021, L2021B, L2021C, L2046D)	279	3217*	11.6	19
Pit F1020 (L1020, L1021)	262	3,003	11.5	17.9
Pit F2040 (L2044)	170	1145	6.7	11.6
Ditch F1028 (L1029, L1030)	156	1179	7.6	10.5
Pit F2026 (L2027)	144	934	6.5	9.8
Pit F2013 (L2014, L2015)	114	685	6	7.8
Pond F2059 (L2061B, 2061D, 2062, 2062 B)	108	881*	8.2	7.4
Total	1233	11,044		

Table 11: Features containing the most pottery\*includes small amount of early post-medieval pottery

## The Later Pottery

Two base sherds of later Late Medieval and Transitional ware were recovered. One of these was unstratified, the other which contained splashes of green glaze and dispersed groups of finger decoration at the base/body angle came from Pit F2075 (L2076). A number of sources for an LMT industry, are known along the Waveney Valley which forms the border between Suffolk and Norfolk, although LMT was almost certainly also manufactured at other unknown locations. Ditch F2067 (L2068) contained five conjoining sherds from a yellow-brown glazed early post-medieval red earthenware dish. It is possible that this is a Dutch import, but the form matches examples that were made in England from the early 16<sup>th</sup> century, and continued in production to the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century (Jennings 1981, 157-160). In addition to Features F1017 (=2020=2045), F2059 and F2067 already mentioned, Ditches F1013 (L1014) and F2005 (L2007) also contained sherds of early post-medieval red

earthenware. Ditch F2005 also yielded a fragment of Frechen stoneware containing the edge of a medallion stamp from a Bartmann or Bellarmine drinking jug.

## Discussion

The bulk of the Darsham medieval assemblage is made up of Hollesley type wares (67.3% coarse wares and 10.6% glazed wares), which are named after the type site located 25km to the south-east, to the east of Ipswich. Two kiln sites were excavated at Hollesley in 1971, and 812kg of pottery was recovered. There is documentary evidence for pottery manufacture at Hollesley in the later 13<sup>th</sup> century, and thermoluminescence dating of the kilns indicated they were in use in the late 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. The Hollesley wares proved to be high quality pottery showing a high standard of potting technique and a wide range of forms including cooking pots, storage jars, jugs, pans (bowls) and dishes. The commonest forms were cooking pots (49.2%), pans (35.3%) and jugs (10.4%) (Anderson n.d.) It is likely therefore, that the Darsham Hollesley type assemblage derived from Hollesley itself, but does not preclude the possibility that a proportion of the vessels could have been produced more locally, in a similar fabric and style. The remaining medieval coarsewares were also in fairly similar sandy fabrics, but sometimes with some differences in form.

Hollesley type ware was found in abundance at the Cedar's Park settlement and a medieval moated site at Cedar's Field, both in Stowmarket, located 32km north-west of Hollesley. At Cedar's Field the medieval assemblage which was of a similar size to Darsham (1,345 sherds) included 28.7% Hollesley coarse wares and 4.6% Hollesley glazed wares. The number of non Hollesley glazed sherds made up 1.7% of the Cedar's Park assemblage, (as opposed to 0.14% at Darsham), and included Hedingham and Grimston wares which were both present at Darsham. The Hedingham kilns in Essex are situated in an area approximately 72km south-west of Darsham while Grimston ware was produced 85km to the north-west, near King's Lynn. The Darsham pottery is an assemblage of local and some regional importance that will help to define the distribution patterns of Hollesley type ware.

#### List of Figures

- Fig. 14.1: Pit F1020 (L1021) Hollesley cooking pot rim. Pale grey throughout
- Fig. 14.2: Pit F1020 (L1021) Medieval coarseware jar rim with applied clay strips. Dark grey throughout
- Fig. 14.3: Pit F1020 (L2021) Medieval coarseware jug rim. Mid grey surfaces, light grey core
- Fig. 14.4: Ditch F2042 (L2043) Hollesley type bowl rim with internal incised wavy line decoration. Pale orange-brown inner surface, dark grey outer surface, mid grey core
- Fig. 14.5: Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045) (L2021B) Hollesley Glazed jug body with applied iron stained clay strips. External green glaze with pale grey internal surface and core
- Fig. 14.6: Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045) (L2021B) Hollesley Glazed jar rim. Patchy internal green glaze with pinky-orange surface. External surface orange with splashes of clear or green glaze. Orange core.
- Fig. 14.7: Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045) (L2021B) Hollesley bowl rim with finger decoration to the shoulder and base. Pale brown/buff both surfaces
- Fig. 14.8: Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045) (L2021B) Hollesley type handled bowl. Pale brown surfaces. Mid grey core
- Fig. 14.9: Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045) (L2021C) Hollesley bowl with external incised decoration. Pale brown/buff inner surface, dark grey outer surface, with core of corresponding colours

Fig. 14.10: Pit F2026 (L2027). Hollesley jug handle with stab decoration. Pale brown/ buff with occasional dark grey mottling. Mid grey core

# The Small Finds

Nicholas J. Cooper

### Introduction

A total of eleven metal finds and three of stone were recovered. Most of the finds came from the fill of Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045) and the middle and upper fills of ?Pond F2059. The finds were identified and catalogued as follows.

### Catalogue

### Object of Copper Alloy

1 SF1 (L2046D). Copper alloy annular brooch with a copper alloy pin. Complete cast undecorated flat ring of rectangular section, with tapering square-sectioned pin *in situ*, hinged on a constriction in the ring. Diameter of ring 43mm, thickness 1.5mm.

### Objects of Iron

- 2 (L2021C). Complete nail, with tapering square-sectioned shaft and flat round head. Length 74mm, diameter of head 19mm.
- 3 (L2043B). Complete nail, with tapering square-sectioned shaft and flat round head. Length 82mm, diameter of head 16mm.
- 4 (L2046). Complete nail, with tapering square-sectioned shaft and flat round head. Length 62mm, diameter of head 14mm.
- 5 (L2061D). One near-complete nail, with tapering square-sectioned shaft and flat round head. Length 47mm, diameter of head 11mm. One the lower shaft fragment.
- 6 (L2062B). Complete nail, with tapering square-sectioned shaft and flat round head. Length 72mm, diameter of head 17mm. One other head fragment.
- 7 (L2062B). Broken length of iron strip, probably from a hinge or reinforcing band, bent over at one end part of perforation at the other. Broken length 105mm, width 23mm.
- 8 Unstratified (Area A). Near-complete nail, with tapering square-sectioned shaft and flat round head. Tip of shaft missing. Length 59mm, diameter of head 18mm.

### **Objects of Stone**

- 9 (L2021C). A total of three small fragments (two joining) of Mayen lava rotary quern, possibly all from the same flat stone came from this context (the single piece from segment C). All have a single worn face but are otherwise undiagnostic. Length of joining frags 100mm.
- 10 (L2058). Amorphous fragment of a dark grey basalt quern (Hearne *pers. comm.*) with one smooth face and other edges worn. Length of fragment 94mm. The worn surfaces show signs of the vesicular structure but the rock is much denser than that normally seen in lava querns from Mayen.

### Discussion

The annular brooch (SF1) came from the upper fill of Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045) which contained pottery of late 15<sup>th</sup> century date and so is probably residual in this context, although the main fill contained 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century pottery, which would be broadly contemporary. Brooches of this kind were worn at the neck to close the top of a tunic or on the shoulder or neck to fasten a cloak. There are a number of broad parallels for the brooch from excavations in London (Egan and Pritchard 1991, 248, figs. 160.1305, 1307 and 1313) and Colchester (Crummy 1988, 9, fig. 6.1389), the last, of 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century date, being rather small by comparison. The upper surface of these brooches is usually decorated or sometimes gilded, and it may be that mechanical cleaning reveals some incised decoration which is not apparent at the moment, but it does not appear to be the case. The corrosion on the ring currently makes the identification of it as copper alloy tentative; the pin certainly is but the ring may be of iron. An x-ray or cleaning would confirm this. An iron ring would be unparalleled in any of the examples from London or Colchester. The two closest parallels from London came from deposits dating from c. 1270 to c.1350, coinciding with the dating of the main fill of the ditch but not the upper fill.

The iron objects, comprising six complete or near-complete carpentry or roofing nails and a length of iron strip, perhaps from a door hinge, probably relate to constructional activity or represent demolition debris in the vicinity that has become incorporated into the fills of the ditches and pond during the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries and later. The iron nails are all similar in proportions, and when complete, varying in length from 62-82mm, and may suggest they come from a single structure.

The rotary quern from Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045) and possibly that from Pit F2057 are products of the Eifel Mountains in Germany where lava querns continued to be produced throughout the Roman period and into the medieval period, particularly at Mayen, up until the 15<sup>th</sup> century. They were the most common type of quern at Winchester (70%) between the 9<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries (Biddle and Smith 1990, 881-3, table 89) and comprised all the querns from post-Roman Colchester (Buckley and Major 1988, 36). The exact source of the quern from Pit F2057 is uncertain and alternatives would include the Massif Central in France.

## The Ceramic Building Materials

Andrew Peachey MCIfA

Excavations recovered a total of 24 fragments (4091g) of CBM in a highly fragmented and abraded condition. The bulk of the assemblage comprises post-medieval (late 17<sup>th</sup> century or later) brick and tile, but also present are sparse fragments of roof tile that are potentially of medieval date (Table 12).

Period	CBM type	Frequency	Weight (g)
Medieval?	Roof tile	4	253
Post-medieval	Floor Brick	2	920
	Red Brick	12	2778
	Peg tile	4	105
	Pantile	2	35
Total		24	4091

Table 12: Quantification of CBM

### Methodology

The CBM was quantified by fragment count and weight with fabrics examined at x20 magnification and all data entered into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that will be deposited as part of the archive.

### Discussion

The four pieces (253g) of potentially medieval tile was contained as moderatelysized fragments of flat tile in Pit F2040 and Ditch F2053 (Seg. A), with a further small fragment contained in Pit F2013. The fragments were approximately 16mm thick with a slightly laminar fracture, and occurred in a homogenous fabric with mid-dark orange surfaces fading to a slightly redder core; and with inclusions of common quartz (0.1-0.5mm), sparse red iron rich grains, cream/ buff clay pellets (0.1-2mm) and flint (<5mm). This comprises limited diagnostic evidence for the form of the tile, which may have been a nibbed or shouldered peg tile of 12<sup>th</sup> to early 14<sup>th</sup> century date, a medieval type superseded by more common types of smaller peg tile in the early 14<sup>th</sup> century (Drury 1981, 131); however it cannot be discounted without further diagnostic fragments that these were not residual Roman tegula roof tiles.

The remaining CBM comprises form and fabric types that were manufactured from the late 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, in particular fragments of red bricks with partial dimensions of ? x 110 x 50mm, regular faces/ arrises and a smooth base, which were contained in Ditches F1017 (=2020=2045), F2005, F2036 and F2067. In addition to these, Ditch F2036 also contained two fragments of 'Dutch Clinker-type' flooring brick, a buff/cream 40mm thick flagstone produced in the same period. Ditches F1017 (=2020=2045) and F2005 also contained very small fragments of post-medieval peg tile and pantile in a similar fabric to the red brick (thus distinct from medieval fabrics), whose small size and poor condition suggests they have been repeatedly re-deposited through agricultural processes.

# The Struck Flint

Andrew Peachey MCIfA

Excavations recovered two debitage flakes (11g) of struck flint contained in Pits F2026 and F2038 as residual material in medieval features. Both flakes are unpatinated and comprise blade-like tertiary flakes manufactured using dark grey flint with a thin white/ off-white, slightly powdery cortex. The technological traits of the debitage are characteristic of the core reduction techniques of the earlier Neolithic, with the butt end of the flake in Pit F2038 (L2039) a classic example of the remnant of a striking platform of a heavily reduced or small blade core with associated parallel dorsal scars.

## The Cremated Bone

Julie Curl

## Methodology

Two bags of cremated bone were submitted for recording and analysis (Table 13). The cremations were recovered as bulk samples and wet-sieved through a 1mm mesh, leaving mostly larger fragments (>5mm) and little dust or tiny fragments. The contents were dry-sieved through a 10mm and 5mm mesh to separate fragments into those greater than 10mm and those of 5-9mm for analysis. Fragments measuring below 5mm were not sorted and examined in greater depth.

Feature	Context	Sample	Total Quantity	Total Weight	Level	>10mm	5-9mm	<5mm	Animal Remains?	Comments
1003	1004	1	Min 589	320g	W	279	280	30+	?	GI: 51mm. Included fragments of limb, skull, pelvis and ?rib. Warped and cracked.
1005	1006	2	139	31g	w	29	96	14	?	Gl:35mm. Included fragments of limb. Warped and cracked.

Table 13: Catalogue of the cremated bone

Key: >10mm/5-9mm/<5mm – count of the fragments in that size range; Level – level of burning: w = white (fully oxidised), b-g = blue-grey, pu = part unburnt; Comments – GL = greatest length

## Quantification, Provenance and Preservation

The assemblage for analysis consists of at least 728 pieces of bone, weighing 351g. The remains were produced from 100% bulk samples from two pits, F1003 (L1004; sample <1>) and F1005 (L1006; sample <2>). A total of 31g of bone (139 pieces) was recovered from Pit F1005. Pit F1003 produced 320g of bone, numbering at least 589 fragments.

Pits F1003 and F1005 were small and shallow. The burnt bone was not associated with finds, which might have provided dating evidence. The pits were found in close proximity and their surfaces were on the same level (stratigraphically), suggesting they were probably contemporary.

The assemblage is highly fragmented, warped and cracked, which is typical of cremated material that has been exposed to high temperatures and a degree of pyre

maintenance, including raking. However, given that the bone fragments were buried in isolation (unurned), the preservation is quite good and many fragments over 10mm are present.

### Analysis, Results and Discussion

### Size of Cremation

The material from these pits weighs a total of 31g and 320g, respectively. The size of a cremation depends on the individual (age, sex, body mass and bone density), the extent of bone recovery from the pyre site and during excavation, as well as on the rate of bone preservation (McKinley 1993).

Compared to other archaeological examples (range: 57g to 3000g; McKinley 2000), the weight of F1005 is below average, while F1003 is at the lower end of the weight range. Both are substantially incomplete in comparison to modern cremations (range: 1000g to 3600g; *ibid.*). Cremations in containers are normally larger than cremations in pits and finely crushed cremations tend to be smaller due to poor preservation. The Darsham examples are in the low to below average range. The smaller size of these cremations may be due to a range of factors including loss of the volatile portion of bone before burial as well as post-depositional bone decay, possibly due to the remains being unurned. Furthermore, the collection of the bone for burial might not have been thorough.

### Fragmentation

The fragmentation of bone resulting from the cremation process may be increased by funerary practices such as raking and tending of the pyre, collection of bone at the pyre site, deliberate crushing prior to burial, as well as resulting from postdepositional processes, excavation and processing (McKinley 1989).

Overall, the number of fragments from Darsham measuring more than 10mm is high, with the largest fragment from F1005 measuring 35mm and the longest fragment from F1003 measuring 51mm; several fragments are of a similar size. The degree of bone fragmentation is similar to that generally seen in archaeological cremations, where some 50% of fragments are over 10mm (McKinley 1994).

#### <u>Colour</u>

The colour of cremated bone depends on a range of factors including the maximum temperature reached, the length of the cremation process, the type and amount of fuel, the quantity of oxygen, the amount of body fat and the degree of uniformity of exposure to the heat across the body. A correlation has been found between the temperature attained and colour changes. Cremated bone can exhibit a large range of heat-induced colour variation from normal coloured (unburnt), to black (charred: *c*.  $300^{\circ}$ C), through hues of blue and grey (incompletely incinerated: up to *c*.  $600^{\circ}$ C) to fully oxidised white (> *c*.  $600^{\circ}$ C; McKinley 2004).

The majority of bone from Darsham is fully oxidised, *i.e.* exposed to temperatures in excess of *c*. 600°C.

## Surface Changes

Surface changes such as warping, cracking and fissuring were noted on the bone from both pits. These are characteristics of cremated bone and are produced during the process of dehydration through exposure to heat. The pattern of heat-induced bone changes (in colour and texture) can be exploited to infer the technological aspects of the ritual, the condition of the body at the time of cremation and the nature of post-depositional disturbance (Shipman *et al.* 1984).

### Elements and Species Identified

Most identifiable fragments from Pit F1005 (L1006; Sample <2>) are from limb bones, while those from F1003 (L1004; Sample <1>) are from limbs, the pelvis and the skull, with some comparing well to human remains. No teeth or skull fragments with sutures – which might have allowed ageing – are present. No NISP<sup>5</sup> counts were possible.

All of the identifiable elements are likely to be human and no diagnostic elements from animal remains are present in this assemblage, although it is possible that animal bone may be included as smaller fragments.

None of the fragments showed clear fusion states or sutures that could have allowed age estimation. The sex of the individuals could not be determined and no pathologies are present.

#### Scientific Dating

A single sample of cremated bone from F1003 (L1004) was submitted for radiocarbon dating (see Mustchin with Cussans, below). A calibrated age range of 20-175 cal AD (93.4%) and 190-210 cal AD (2.0%) was produced at 95.4% confidence levels (uncalibrated age 1907±29BP). Based on their obvious association, it is thought that both deposits are similar in date.

## Conclusion

The remains from Pits F1003 and F1005 are likely to comprise cremated human remains of Romano-British date. The cremated groups were both buried in similar, small pits and without any artefact remains or recognisable animal elements, strongly suggesting they are not simply from domestic cooking waste. Given the small size of the assemblage, compared to the average sizes of archaeological cremations (McKinley 2000), the remains are not thought to represent the complete remains of one individual. However, unurned cremation deposits do not generally survive so well.

The size of most of the fragments was average and none of the smaller fragments could be identified further. It is, therefore, not possible to say whether the majority of the smaller fragments of bone are human, animal or a mixture of the two. The poorer preservation of these fragments may, at least in part, be due to the cremated

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Number of Identified Specimens

bone not being buried in a vessel, which would have offered some level of protection.

It is possible that the remains from the Darsham pits represent bone cleared from a pyre area that has undergone raking and disturbance, hence burial without an urn. The remains may well represent residual bone from one or more cremation events.

The amount of bone is small and the pits also small, with the larger deposit deriving from the larger of the two pits and *vice versa*, indicating that the pits were dug according to the amount of bone to be buried. Some space would have been left around the bone and it might be possible that the size of the pits allowed for a cloth, which might have been used to collect, as well as wrap and hold the bone for burial.

### The Animal Bone

Dr Julia E.M. Cussans

#### Introduction

A small assemblage of domestic mammals including two animal bone groups is described and discussed in light of general trends for the medieval period in the south of England.

#### Method

Following assessment a small number of the animal bone contexts were deemed unsuitable for detailed recording due to their lack of bones identifiable to species, these were L1027 (Ditch F1026), L2011 (Pit F2010), L2027 (Pit F2026), L2037 B (Pit F2036) and L2076 (Pit F2075), giving a total of 18 unidentifiable bone fragments excluded from the final analysis. During detailed recording individual bones were identified to element, species, part and body side and recorded in an MS Access database using codes provided by NABONE (NABO 2008). Data on bone zone, fragment size, fusion state, butchery, burning, gnawing, sex, pathology (including non-metric traits), biometrics and tooth wear were also gathered where possible. Bone identifications were made using the in house reference collection at Archaeological Solutions Ltd and with the aid of reference manuals (e.g. Schmid 1972, Pales and Lambert 1971 a and b, Pales and Garcia 1981 a and b, Hillson 1992). Bone fusion, butchery, burning and gnawing were recorded following the NABONE guidelines. Mandibular tooth eruption and wear stages were recorded following the fusion (1982) for cattle, sheep/ goat and pig.

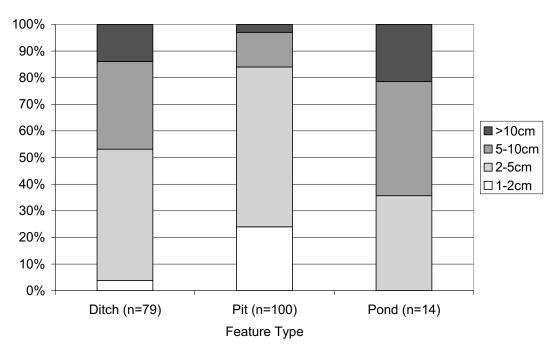
Following data collection the data were sorted and analysed by phase and species. Tooth eruption and wear age stages were assigned following the methods of Halstead (1985) for cattle, Payne (1973) for sheep/ goat and Hambleton (1999) for pig. The occurrence of burning, gnawing and fragmented bone was assessed by phase and feature type as a percentage of NISP. Butchery was quantified by type, species and phase, again as a percentage of NISP to highlight differences between phases in the uses and treatment of the different species. No sex, pathological or biometrical data were available.

### Results

### Taphonomy

Bone preservation was rated as ok for the majority of contexts on a five point scale from very poor to excellent, with a substantial number being rated as good and one as poor. Details of fragment size by feature type for Phase 2 are given in Chart 1. For Phase 3 the majority of fragments fell into the 2-5cm and 5-10cm categories, only two fragments were found to be larger than 10cm and none were smaller than 2cm. Distribution of fragment sizes for Phase 2 shows some variation between the feature types. This shows ditch and pond deposits to contain relatively large bone fragments compared to the pit deposits which are dominated by bones of under 5cm in their greatest dimension. Ditch and pond deposits whilst having high proportions of bone in the 2-5cm category also have much higher representation of bones over 5cm than were seen in the pit deposits. This may relate to different methods of refuse disposal within different features or to different representation of species in different feature types.

Dog gnawing (Chart 2) also shows a differential dispersal between feature types, being most prevalent in ditch and pond fills and having a very low presence in pit fills indicating bone from within the pits was likely buried much more swiftly than that recovered from ditch or pond fills. A single bone from Phase 3 showed evidence of dog gnawing. No burnt or scorched bones were noted in any part of the animal bone assemblage.



Fragment Size

Chart 1: Phase 2 animal bone fragment size by feature type



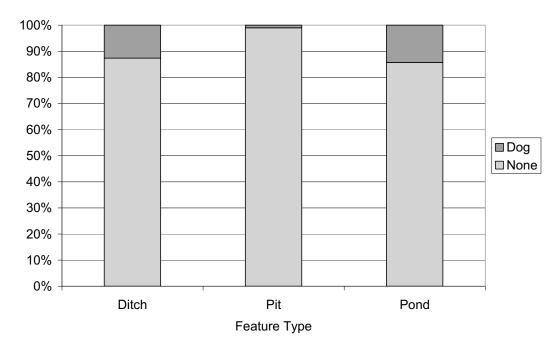


Chart 2: Gnawed animal bone for Phase 2 by feature type

## Species Present and Quantification

The Darsham animal bone assemblage is, as far as can be seen, entirely made up of domestic mammal species. Approximately 60% of the assemblage is made up of fragments that could not be identified to species the majority of which were determined as large (cattle or horse sized) or medium (sheep or pig sized) mammal. Of the identifiable remains cattle are the most abundant (according to NISP; Table 14) followed by pig then sheep/ goat and finally horse. Sheep were positively identified from the fragmented remains of a horn core; no goats were positively identified. No birds, fish or wild mammals were identified in the assemblage.

Taxon	Latin name	Phase 2	Phase 3	Total
Cattle	Bos taurus	40	1	41
Sheep/ goat	Ovis/ Capra	5	1	6
Sheep	Ovia aries	1		1
Pig	Sus scrofa	29	2	31
Horse	Equus sp.	4	1	5
Large mammal		43	4	47
Medium mammal		46	1	47
Unid. Mammal		25		25
Total		193	10	203

Table 14: Number of identified specimens (NISP) by phase

The high representation of pig appears unusual and can be largely accounted for by the presence of a partial pig burial/ animal bone group (ABG) in Pit F2038 (L2039), discussed more fully below. In order to counterbalance this over representation of pig in the NISP figures two other quantification methods were employed: minimum number of individuals (MNI; Table 15) and percentage presence or ubiquity (Table 16). MNI was calculated using the most frequently repeated element taking into account bone zone and body side, and ubiquity was determined from the number of

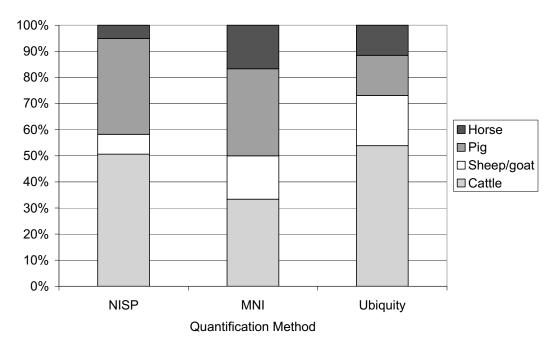
individual deposits a particular species appeared in. Ubiquity shows the representation of pig much reduced compared to NISP and MNI (Chart 3) but interestingly the quantity of sheep/ goat bones remains small no matter what quantification method is used. The quantification data show cattle are represented by a high number of bones spread across a high number of contexts, whereas pig are represented by a high number of bones spread across a low number of contexts. Sheep/ goat and horse are both represented by a small number of bones spread across a small number of contexts. The most interesting feature of this quantification, compared to other medieval assemblages in the low representation of sheep/goat (see Discussion below). It is also interesting to note the variation in species representation between feature types (Chart 4), although this is somewhat skewed by the presence of the ABGs.

Taxon	Phase 2	Phase 3
Cattle	2	1
Sheep/ goat	1	1
Pig	2	1
Horse	1	1

Table 15. Minimum number of individuals (MNI)

_	Pha	ise 2 (23)	Phase 3 (2)		
Taxon	No. of contexts	% of total contexts	No. of contexts	% of total contexts	
Cattle	14	60.9%	1	50.0%	
Sheep/ goat	5	21.7%	1	50.0%	
Pig	4	17.4%	1	50.0%	
Horse	3	13.0%	1	50.0%	

Table 16: Percentage presence or ubiquity of identified animal taxa



#### % Representation

Chart 3: Percentage representation of taxa by different quantification methods



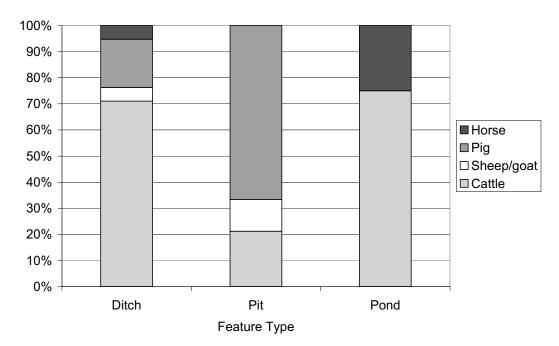


Chart 4: Phase 2 NISP by feature type

### Animal Age

A small quantity of data was available for assessing animal age. A summary of tooth wear data is given in Table 4. This shows that cattle of a variety of ages were present including prime meat age and older animals. The youngest cattle mandible comes from ABG L2043 C, which is discussed further below. The only ageable pig mandible also came from an ABG (L2039) and does not necessarily reflect the economic activities carried out at the site. Age data for sheep/ goat shows the presence of adult and older animals, note the older sheep/goat comes from Phase 3; all other tooth wear data comes from Phase 2.

Species	Phase	Туре	Age Stage	Suggested Age
Cattle	2	Mandible	С	8-18 months
Cattle	2	Mandible frag	E-G	30-36 mths/ young adult /adult
Cattle	2	LM3	G	adult
Cattle	2	LM3	I	senile
Pig	2	Mandible	В	2-7 months
Sheep/ goat	2	LM3	F	3-4 years
Sheep/ goat	3	Mandible	I	8-10 years

Table 17: Summary of tooth eruption and wear data, age stages and suggested ages come from Halstead (1985) for cattle, Hambleton (1999) for pig and Payne (1973) for sheep/ goat

Limited bone fusion data were available. Where fusion could be recorded all cattle post-cranial bones were fused including proximal femur, a late fusing bone (O'Connor 1989, 162) indicating the presence of adult animals. The cattle skull bones from L2043 C are all unfused indicating a young animal, as also determined from tooth eruption and wear of the associated mandibles (Table 17). Where fusion could be recorded for pig the majority of bones were unfused. The only fused bones

present were those belonging to the early fusion group (O'Connor 1989, 181) including two pieces of distal humerus (Silver (1969) quotes pig distal humerus as fusing at one year), or those that fuse at or before birth, for example proximal metatarsal and distal 1<sup>st</sup> phalanx (*ibid*.). With the exception of those that fuse before birth all of the pig bones present in L2039 were unfused. In addition to this the medium mammal vertebral bodies from the same context, most likely belonging to the same pig, were all unfused. Silver (1969) lists the vertebral bodies of pigs fusing to the vertebral arches at 3-6 months indicating that the pig from L2039 was less than 6 months old.

Where fusion could be determined all horse bones were fused, with the exception of a fragment of frontal bones from Phase 3. No post cranial sheep/ goat bones were available for the assessment of epiphyseal fusion.

### Butchery and Body Part Representation

A small quantity of butchered bones was present in the assemblage. Cattle, pig and horse bones all displayed evidence of butchery and these are quantified in Table 18 for Phase 2. In addition to these a single butchered pig bone was present in Phase 3. No butchery was observed on sheep/ goat bones or any of the bones designated as large or medium mammal. Small knife cuts (KN) were found on all three butchered species and heavy blade chop marks (CH) were found only on cattle bones. The butchered horse bone was a radio-ulna that had a short diagonal cut on the anterior surface of the mid-shaft of the radius; this cut may well have been caused by skinning the animal. Both examples of pig butchery were found on the humerus. The Phase 2 example was described as a small diagonal cut in zone 7 (lateral half of the distal shaft, Dobney and Rielly 1985, fig. 9) and that for Phase 3 as fine horizontal cuts on the medial mid shaft; both of these marks may have been related to the filleting of meat from the bone.

	NISP	СН	%СН	KN	%KN
Cattle	40	4	10.0%	4	10.0%
Pig	29		0.0%	1	3.4%
Horse	4		0.0%	1	25.0%

 Table 18: Quantification of butchery marks from Phase 2

Details of the observed cattle butchery are given in Table 19. Half of the butchered bones come from a single context and the majority of the chop marked bones come from this context, Ditch Fill L2046 D; these bones may represent a single butchering event. Overall the bones appear to represent a mix of dismemberment and filleting activities. The majority of butchered elements were meat bearing bones but non-meaty elements were also represented in the butchery assemblage indicating that both primary and secondary butchery was taking place at the site.

Body part representation for Phase 2 is shown as a basic count of bones present in Table 20. Cattle and pig have all major body parts represented indicating the likely presence of whole animals at the site. Even when one excludes bones that form part of ABGs (\*) all major body areas are represented for these species. Sheep/ goats were only represented by elements of the head and horse was only represented by foot and forelimb elements. This may suggest that these two species

were not present on site as whole animals, or that certain elements were exported off the site; however these body part distributions may also be a result of the very small sample sizes present for these two species.

Context No.	Element	Zones	Butchery Type	Butchery Location	Suggested Process
1010	Radioulna	1,2,5, E	СН	chopped through mid-shaft	dismemberment
2062	Mandible		KN	very fine vertical cuts on lingual, below M1/2	tongue removal
2043 B	Metatarsal		KN	cut on anterior edge of proximal articulation	dismemberment
2046 D	Calcaneus	2,5	СН	vertical chops into zone 2, medial side	dismemberment
	Pelvis	1,2,3	СН	light chop into underside of acetabulum	?
	Scapula	1,2,3	СН	diagonal chops through neck of scapula	dismemberment
	Humerus	7	KN	horizontal cuts on lateral	filleting
2062 B	Femur	6,7,8	KN	feint horizontal cuts on lateral and anterior shaft	filleting

Table 19: Details of observed cattle butchery

Area	Element	Cattle	Sheep/ goat	Pig	Horse
Head	Skull			2*	
	Horn core		1		
	Premaxilla	2*			
	Maxilla	3*			
	Occipital	1*		1*	
	Petrous	2*			
	Zygomatic	1*			
	Mandible	5 (2*)		2*	
	Incisor	3	1	1	
	Premolar	3		1*	
	Molar	7	4		
Neck	Atlas			1*	
	Axis				
Forelimb	Scapula	2		2*	
	Humerus	1		5 (2*)	
	Radius				
	Radio-ulna	1			1
	Ulna				
Hindlimb	Pelvis	2		5*	
	Sacrum				
	Femur	2		3 (2*)	
	Patella			1*	
	Tibia			1	
Feet	Carpal				
	Tarsal				
	Astragalus				
	Calcaneus	1			
	Naviculocuboid	1			
	Metacarpal			2*	1
	Metatarsal	2		1	
	Phalanx 1	1		1*	
	Phalanx 2				1
	Phalanx 3				1

Table 20: Body part representation for Phase 2

## Animal Bone Groups (ABGs)

## Partial pig skeleton from L2039 (Pit F2038)

The contents of pit fill L2039 were almost entirely made up of the partial remains of a young pig. Although following excavation this deposit was noted as a possible animal burial by excavators the bones were not recognised as articulated during excavation and hence only half of the pit was excavated. Tooth eruption and wear data (Table 17) indicated an animal of between 2-7 months and bone fusion data indicated that the animal was less than 3-6 months of age. Overall this would suggest an age between 2-6 months. Body parts represented in this deposit (see \* in Table 20) are the mandibles and parts of the skull, a large portion of the vertebral column (vertebra recorded as medium mammal) a small number of ribs (medium mammal), upper elements of the fore and hind limbs, a 3<sup>rd</sup> metacarpal (MC3) and a 1<sup>st</sup> phalanx (PH1). Further to these bones were an MC3 of an older pig and a largely complete (although fragmented) cattle scapula. With the exception of the MC3 and PH1 the lower limbs of the animal are not represented and may have been largely removed prior to burial, or have been contained within the unexcavated portion of the pit. It is unclear if the parts that are represented were fully articulated when entering the pit; although small quantities of pot and flint were also found within the pit it does not appear to have been used for general rubbish disposal. No butchery evidence was observed on pig bones from this deposit and it is possible that this is simply the burial of an animal that died prematurely due to poor health.

Juvenile cattle skull from L2043 C (Ditch F2042)

This cattle skull, from the mid-section of Ditch F2042, included several of the bones of the cranium and the mandible (see \* Table 20); the frontal and nasal bones were notable by their absence. The tooth eruption and wear of the mandibles indicated an animal of age 8-18 months. All of the bones of the cranium were unfused, again indicating a young animal. In addition to the identified skull bones a small number of large mammal skull fragments were present as well as a long bone fragment and two rib fragments. A piece of cattle pelvis, possibly belonging to a second individual, was also present. No butchery marks were found on any of the bones from this deposit.

#### Summary and Discussion

This small assemblage is dominated by cattle with pig, sheep/ goat and horse also being represented. Cattle and pig numbers are bolstered by the presence of two ABGs and sheep/ goat and horse are only represented by a small number of bones. No wild species were present in the assemblage. The presence of dog is attested to by a small quantity of dog gnawed bone.

While medieval animal bone deposits are largely dominated by domestic mammals, for example at Thuxton in Norfolk the four main domesticates (cattle, sheep/ goat, pig and horse) made up 96% of the assemblage (Cartledge 1989), a selection of other species are usually present in small numbers. At Stebbingford in Essex a fairly small assemblage of only 168 identifiable bones included dog, cat and deer plus a selection of wild and domestic birds, fish and small mammals in addition to the usual

domestic mammal species (Wade 1996). The lack of some of these bones here is likely to be due to the hand collected nature of this assemblage; small mammal and fish bone fragments are noted as being present in the sieved samples (Summers this volume).

The dominance of cattle in the assemblage is not unusual for medieval sites, the low representation of sheep however is. Sykes (2006) notes that following the mid 11<sup>th</sup> century sheep increase in number at medieval sites and were often the dominant species, with cattle and sheep usually making up 75-85% of the total (identified) assemblage. At this time there was an increase in wool production and trade which was at its height between the late 12<sup>th</sup> and mid 14<sup>th</sup> centuries (Ryder 1983, 457). Following this however the sheep population was dramatically reduced by disease and wool prices greatly increased (Sykes 2006) as a result sheep tended to be kept to much more advanced ages and the presence of young animals is rare on rural The quantity of sheep present at Darsham is therefore lower than sites (*ibid*.). expected with only the ubiquity figures indicating anything close to the 75% combined representation of cattle and sheep in the assemblage (Chart 3). The adult age of the animals is however in accordance with them having been primarily used for wool production. One possible reason for the under representation of sheep/ goat is that large parts of their carcasses may have been exported off the site in the form of meat joints for consumption elsewhere. Proportionally sheep/ goat was much better represented by MNI than NISP indicating the absence of some body parts. This was borne out in the body part representation showing only elements of the head were present, indicating that meatier parts may have been removed from the site. On the other side of this Sykes (2006) notes that high proportions of meat bearing elements are found at high status sites from the late 11<sup>th</sup> century onwards indicating the buying in of meat joints at these sites.

Medieval ABGs, while not unknown for southern England, are much less common in comparison to the number of sites yielding animal bones than their Roman and prehistoric predecessors (Morris 2011). Domestic mammal ABGs are most common and pits are the most likely feature of deposition, with ditches being second most likely (*ibid*.). The juvenile cattle skull from L2043 C, described here as an ABG does not officially fit with Morris's (2011) definition as he does not count deposited skulls (including mandibles) as ABGs unless they are deposited with other elements. The cattle skull was included here due to the unfused nature of the skull bones and the fact that they were likely to have been deposited as a single unit prior to the removal of flesh, although given the absence of the frontal bones the top of the skull may have been removed prior to burial, or may not have been recovered during excavation. An unusual aspect of the pig ABG from L2039 is that it includes both axial and appendicular parts of the skeleton, only one other such example was noted by Morris (2011) for southern England, which was Manor Farm, Dorset (Sykes 2003, cited in Morris 2011); however Morris points out that body part data were not available for all ABGs examined and hence this conformation may be less unusual than is apparent. It is also possible that this animal was buried complete and that the missing elements remained in the unexcavated part of the pit.

In summary cattle and pig seem certain to have been used for meat at the site and sheep most likely for wool although mutton joints may have been traded away from the site. The presence of older cattle indicates that they may also have been used for traction or dairying. Horses were most likely used as pack animals (Grant 1984) but their skins may also have been utilised.

# The Marine Shell

Dr Julia E.M. Cussans

### Introduction

A small marine mollusc assemblage is analysed and compared with other assemblages of similar date. The majority of shells come from a single deposit and are dominated by oysters. Location and nature of oyster beds and methods of opening are discussed.

# Method

Shells were examined on a context by context basis and identified and counted. Countable shells (umbone present) were determined as upper or lower or right or left valves and any pieces where the umbone was not present were counted as fragments. Any signs of human modification or parasitic attack or infestation were noted, as was the presence of any measurable shells. Observations were made on overall shell condition and any further points of interest, such as malformations, and the presence of chalky deposits were noted. Shell data were entered onto an Excel spreadsheet and quantified. The number of identified specimens (NISP) is a count of all identified pieces of shell and the minimum number of individuals (MNI) is the greatest number of upper or lower valves; no valve pairing was attempted. Where only fragments of shell were present the MNI for that context was one. Causes of shell modification were determined following Winder (2011). A further, more detailed examination was made of context L1021, this included the measurement of the length of the upper valves where possible; measurements were taken to the nearest millimetre on a standard ruler following the method of Winder (2011).

# Results

A total of 51 shells were present the vast majority coming from a single deposit (L1021, Pit F1020). All except one of the shells came from Phase 2 deposits; a single oyster valve came from L2007 (Ditch F2005, Phase 3), no shells derived from Phase 1 deposits. Three mollusc species were identified (Table 21), the vast majority of the assemblage were oyster shells with mussel and cockle being minimally represented; there were no features of interest regarding the latter two species and they will not be discussed further.

Oysters were relatively evenly represented by upper and lower valves and both showed signs of modification. Further details of the shells from L1021, where the majority of the assemblage came from, are given in Table 22. For this context upper and lower valves were evenly represented and both show signs of human modification. Opening notches were present on upper and lower valves in equal numbers indicating that opening possibly left a mark on both valves simultaneously, although no valve pairing was attempted. Opening notches were quite varied in their appearance with both 'V' and 'W' type notches (Winder 2011) being present as well as less well defined notches. The majority of shells displayed notches with only a

small number definitely being without (Table 22). A single upper valve, which had ventral notches also had notches on the posterior edge.

Very few signs of parasitic attack were present; a small number of shells were minorly affected by worm burrows and one shell had sponge borings on its outer surface. The majority of shells were not affected by parasites and none of those affected were likely to have suffered any detriment to their growth as a result.

		Phase 2	Phase 3
Oyster ( <i>Ostrea edulis</i> )	Lower	22	1
	Upper	20	
	Frag	4	
	NISP	46	1
	MNI	22	1
Cockle (Cerastoderma edule)	Left	1	
	Right	1	
	Frag		
	NISP	2	
	MNI	1	
Mussle ( <i>Mytilus edulis</i> )	Left		
	Right		
	Frag	2	
	NISP	2	
	MNI	1	
Total	NISP	50	1
	MNI	24	1

Table 21: Quantification of marine molluscs by phase

L1021	Upper valves	Lower valves
Total	20	20
Opening notches (ventral)	13	13
No opening notch	3	4
Ventral edge missing	4	3
Worm burrows	5	2
Sponge borings	0	1
No parasites	15	17
Clumped shells	0	7
Malformed	0	1
Chalky deposits	0	11

Table 22: Modifications to oyster shells from L1021

Other features of interest recorded on the shells and quantified in Table 22 were the attachment of young oysters to the outer surface of lower valves (clumped oysters), the malformation of a lower valve and the presence of chambers with chalky deposits in lower valves. The clumping together of oysters is taken to indicate that the shells most likely derived from natural oyster beds where spat oysters are most likely to settle where older oysters are already present (Winder 2009). Where oysters are grown in managed beds, they are given more space to grow and even where young oysters are collected from natural beds and relocated to managed beds, if they are found to be adhering to each other they would likely be separated out before being re-laid (*ibid*.). The malformation of one of the valves also indicates

crowding of the oysters associated with growth in natural rather than managed beds. The presence of chambers and chalky deposits, found in over 50% of lower valves, is associated with rapid weight loss which occurs during spawning and in response to changes in salinity (Winder and Reidy 1996) suggesting the shells derive from inter-tidal beds rather than deep water.

Measurements of the upper valves from L1021 are summarised in Table 23. These indicates shell of a small size which are similar in size to those found at medieval Brettenham (Cussans 2015) and at the smaller end of the range of those recovered from medieval Stowmarket (Cussans and Philips forthcoming, plate 8). These are considerably smaller than oysters recovered from medieval Poole where mean measurements of lower (note not upper) valves have mean values in the region of 80 or 90 mm (Winder 1992). Although lower valves are naturally larger than their upper counterparts this shows a dramatic difference in size and likely relates to considerably different growth conditions between the Dorset and Suffolk coastlines. Major (1992) notes shells from the medieval site of Chighall St James in Essex as largely being between 5 and 7cm in length putting them into a larger size bracket than those found at Darsham but generally smaller than those found in Poole (Winder 1992).

Upper Valve length L1021								
Ν	15							
Min (mm)	35							
Max (mm)	50							
Mean (mm)	43.07							
Stand. dev	3.86							

Table 23: Summary data for upper valve length measurements from L1021

#### Discussion

This shell assemblage likely represents occasional shellfish consumption taking place at the site, largely but not exclusively focussed on oysters, which appears to be typical for marine mollusc exploitation in the medieval period in the east of England (e.g. Major 1992, Winder and Reidy 1996, Murphy 2004). The majority of the shells derive from a single deposit and likely represent a single meal, possibly of a single person given the small size of the oysters concerned. These oysters appear similar in size to others found in medieval Suffolk but are considerably smaller than those from medieval Poole, Dorset.

The shells appear to derive from natural beds that have been somewhat overcrowded, likely contributing to the limited growth of the oysters. Modern oysters collected from natural oyster beds at Poole were smaller than those collected from re-laid (managed) beds close by where the oysters had more space to grow (Winder 1992). The oyster beds represented at Darsham seem most likely to have been located in estuarine inter-tidal water where changes in salinity are more likely to occur. Although Darsham is only a few miles from the coast, current oyster distributions (NBN 2015) indicate no oysters are currently present along the stretch of coast nearest to the site. The nearest modern day oyster beds are located in the Stour and Orwell estuary c. 30 miles to the south. While oyster distributions may have changed since the medieval period, given the likely estuarine habitat of the

oysters the Stour and Orwell estuary still seems the most likely candidate for the source of the oysters. Interestingly Jackson and Wilding (2009) specify that oysters are unlikely to spawn until they are over 50mm in length indicating that the majority of specimens here are likely to be only just of reproductive size taking into account that the measurements presented here are of the smaller, upper valves and may have only spawned once or not at all. Continued harvesting at this size is unlikely to have been sustainable.

Opening notches found on the oysters are of interest as their occurrence differs to that seen in a similar deposit at medieval Stowmarket. The oysters from GL2039 (Pit GF2038) (Cussans and Philips forthcoming, plate 8) show very specific opening marks that only occurred on the upper valves and were thought, as for the Darsham oysters from L1021, likely to be the remains of a single meal event with all of the oysters opened by a single person. The opening method employed to open the Darsham oysters appears to have caused notches on the upper and lower valves simultaneously, although this cannot be ascertained with any certainty without determining definite valve pairs, a laborious and inexact process. This would indicate that different opening methods were employed by different people or in different areas resulting in varied occurrences of opening notches. The state of the shell itself may also have been a factor, as softer shells are more likely to succumb to notching on opening (Nicholson pers. comm.). Further, broader studies of medieval oyster exploitation in the east of England are likely to be beneficial in determining oyster source, harvesting methods, opening methods and trading networks.

# The Environmental Samples

Dr John Summers

#### Introduction

This report presents the results from the analysis of bulk sample light fractions from two phases of excavation work at Mill House, Darsham. The sampled deposits include two Romano-British cremations (F1003 and F1005) and a number of pit and ditch features attributable to Phase 2 (12<sup>th</sup> to 14th century). Although recovery of carbonised remains was not extensive, some identifications were made which have relevance for understanding cremation activities (i.e. fuel wood selection) and medieval diet at the site.

# Methods

Samples were processed at the Archaeological Solutions Ltd facilities in Bury St. Edmunds using standard flotation methods. The light fractions were washed onto a mesh of 500µm (microns), while the heavy fractions were sieved to 1mm. The dried light fractions were sorted under a low power stereomicroscope (x10-x30 magnification). Botanical and molluscan remains were identified and recorded reference literature (Cappers *et al.* 2006; Jacomet 2006; Kerney and Cameron 1979; Kerney 1999) and a reference collection of modern seeds. Potential contaminants, such as modern roots, seeds and invertebrate fauna were also recorded in order to gain an insight into possible disturbance of the deposits.

All samples over 10 litres were initially 50% processed and assessed (see Summers 2014a and Summers 2015). Full processing was restricted to those considered suitably rich to produce a full assemblage of 30 or more identifiable items. This was the case for samples 1.6 (L1021), 1.9 (L1027), 2.1 (L2012), 2.8 (L2048) and 2.9 (L2052).

Charcoal remains from cremation L1006 were fractured on three planes (transverse, tangential and radial) for microscopic analysis. Transverse sections were characterised using a low-power stereomicroscope (x10-x30 magnification) and the microscopic features in the tangential and radial planes were examined using a metallurgical microscope with magnification up to x400. Identifications were made using reference literature (Schweingruber 1978; Schoch *et al.* 2004). Identifiable charcoal fragments over 2mm were recorded by fragment count and by weight (to the nearest 0.001g).

#### Results and Discussion

# Phase 1: Romano-British (1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> Century AD)

The two samples from the Romano-British cremations contained a small concentration of charcoal but no identifiable plant macrofossils (Table 24). A small number of fungal sclerotia were present in L1006, which are often found in soil. These may have become charred in the soil beneath the pyre and subsequently gathered unintentionally with other remains for final burial.

#### Charcoal

Sample 1 of L1004 contained no identifiable charcoal (Table 25). Sample 2 of L1006 was richer, with three fragments from the light fraction and nine from the heavy fraction. The majority of the charcoal (6 fragments; 0.605g) was of mature oak (*Quercus* sp.), showing weak ring curvature and tyloses in the vessels of three fragments. In addition, a single piece of oak roundwood was identified and a single fragment of hazel (*Corylus* sp.) was recorded from the light fraction. The concentration of charcoal is rather small to make an accurate interpretation of the pyre material, although the evidence available indicates that it was composed predominantly of mature oak timber. Such a choice of fuel is common for cremations due to the excellent fuel properties of oak (e.g. Huntley 1992; Thompson 1998; Hall and Carrott 2003; Summers 2012; 2014b). It is likely that oak and hazel were both locally available during the Romano-British period.

# Phase 2: Medieval (12 to 14<sup>th</sup> century)

#### Plant macrofossils

Fully quantified data from the richest bulk samples are presented in Table 26. Overall, carbonised plant remains, predominantly in the form of cereal grains, were present in nine of the 18 Phase 2 samples. This indicates the regular use of cereals at the site, resulting in their frequent carbonisation and deposition.

In the richer samples, free-threshing type wheat grains (*Triticum aestivum/ turgidum* type) were the most common material, along with other indeterminate wheat grain. Free threshing type wheat was the dominant cultivar in England during the medieval period (e.g. Straker *et al.* 2007), particularly in areas on heavy, clay-rich soils (e.g. Moffett 2006, 48) like those just outside the present settlement of Darsham (Soilscapes 2015). Heavy clay soils at Stowmarket are also known to have supported a wheat-based economy during this period (Fryer and Summers forthcoming).

In addition to free-threshing type wheat, there was also a single grain and glume base of emmer/ spelt wheat (*T. dicoccum/ spelta*) in sample 1.9 of ditch fill L1027. Glume wheat is not a commonly recognised crop during the medieval period, with a change to the primary cultivation of free-threshing type wheat during the Anglo-Saxon period. However, there is evidence of continued cultivation or the reintroduction of glume wheats in some areas, including Eastern England, throughout the Anglo-Saxon period (e.g. Murphy 1985; 2005; Carruthers 2008; Pelling and Robinson 2000). At West Fen Road, Ely, glume wheat from deposits dating to the 12<sup>th</sup> to 13th century have been recovered (Ballantyne 2005). It is possible that the glume wheat remains are residual, although there is little evidence of later prehistoric or Roman occupation at the site. If considered to have a medieval origin, the low concentration of glume wheat remains may indicate is presence as a persistent weed of other crops, rather than a cultivar in its own right.

Other cereal remains included hulled barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and oat (*Avena* sp.). Barley is likely to have been grown as another significant crop and may have had an additional role as fodder. Oats are another common fodder crop but the occurrence of only a single grain in L1027 may simply indicate its presence as a weed of other cereals. The free draining soils to the south of Darsham (Soilscapes 2015) would have been well suited to the cultivation of both barley and oats.

In addition to cereals were numerous pulses (large Fabaceae), which could be either peas or beans. Preservation was insufficient for more precise identification. Pulses formed a significant component of the medieval diet (e.g. Moffett 2006; Straker *et al.* 2007) providing both variety and protein.

The common occurrence of pulses and the limited number of chaff elements in the samples indicates that much of the material recorded is from the day-to-day processing and use of cereals and other plant foods as part of food preparation activities. The density of the remains is generally low (no more than 4.9 items per litre), which is indicative of build ups of mixed carbonised material through routine refuse deposition, which is likely to have included the rake-out of domestic hearths. Culm nodes (straw) in Pit Fill L2052 could represent local crop processing or could have been present as straw thatch, animal bedding, floor coverings or other domestic uses.

A small number of non-cereal taxa were recorded, most of which are likely to have been present as arable weeds. These included dock (*Rumex* sp.), medium legumes (Fabaceae), eyebright/ bartsia (*Euphrasia/ Odontites* sp.), stinking chamomile (*Anthemis cotula*) and oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*). Stinking chamomile is characteristic of heavy fertile soils and is likely to reflect wheat cultivation on local

clay soils. Great Fen sedge was an important thatching material and fuel from at least the later medieval period onwards (cf. Rowell 1986, 142-143), which is a likely origin of these remains.

### Charcoal

Charcoal occurred in relatively low concentrations, with oak (*Quercus* sp.) and indeterminate diffuse-porous wood types recognised from transverse sections. The volume of charcoal is insufficient for further investigation.

#### Terrestrial molluscs

Terrestrial molluscs were widely recorded but not abundant. The majority of taxa were either catholic (e.g. *Trichia hispida* group and *Cochlicopa* sp.) or characteristic of grassland habitats (e.g. *Vallonia* sp.). A small number of aquatic snails were present, including *Anisus leucostoma* and *Lymnaea truncatula*, which indicate standing water at the bottom of some features during the medieval period, at least on a seasonal basis. Introduced species *Potamopyrgus antipodarum* could be intrusive from post-medieval deposits.

#### **Contaminants**

Modern rootlets, seeds and burrowing molluscs (*Cecilioides acicula*) were common in the samples but not in substantial concentrations. It is unlikely that they reflect significant biological disturbance of the deposits.

# Conclusions

The site at Mill House, Darsham, has provided insights into both prehistoric and medieval activity. The charcoal remains from Romano-British Cremation F1005 (L1006) indicates that a predominantly oak fuel was used for the pyre, which included both mature timber and smaller branches.

The Phase 2, medieval remains are characteristic of domestic activity on or close to the site. The remains are most likely from the routine processing and preparation of cereal and pulse crops, probably resulting from food preparation activities and being deposited with hearth ash and domestic refuse. The mainstay of the cereal economy in the local area appears to have been free-threshing type wheat, probably bread wheat (*T. aestivum*), cultivated on the heavy soils north of Darsham. Cereal chaff and great fen sedge from the site may have played a role as thatching, bedding, floor covering or other domestic roles. Whether fen sedge was gathered locally or imported to the site is unclear from the present evidence.

									Cerea	als	No	on-cereal taxa		C	Charcoal	м	olluscs		Con	tamin	ants		
Sample number	Context	Feature	Feature type	Phase	Volume taken (litres)	Volume processed (litres)	% processed	Cereal grains	Cereal chaff	Notes	Seeds	Notes	Hazelnut shell	Charcoal>2mm	Notes	Molluscs	Notes	Roots	Molluscs	Modern seeds	Insects	Earthworm capsules	Other remains
1.1	1004	1003	Cremation	1	10	10	100%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Х	-	-	-	-	-
1.2	1006	1005	Cremation	1	10	10	100%	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	Quercus sp., Corylus sp.	-	-	x	-	-	-	-	Calcined bone (X), Fungal sclertotia (X)

Table 24: Phase 1 Bulk sample light fractions

Sai				<b>v</b>			Qu	ercus	Quer	cus RW	Co	rylus	Ir	ndet.	To
mple number	Context	Feature	Feature type	Volume (litres)	Phase	Fraction	COUNT	WEIGHT (g)	tal weight (g)						
						LF	1	0.077	-	-	1	0.027	1	0.001	0.105
2	1006	1005	Cremation	10	1	HF	5	0.528	1	0.128	-	-	3	0.186	0.842
						Tot	6	0.605	1	0.128	1	0.027	4	0.187	0.947

Table 25: Charcoal from cremation L1006 (F1005)

	[				
Site Code	DAR030	DAR030	DAR030	DAR030	DAR030
Sample number	1.6	1.9	2.1	2.8	2.9
Context number	1021	1027	2012	2048	2052
Feature number	1020	1026	2010	2047	2051
Feature type	Pit	Ditch	Pit	Pit	Pit
Phase	2	2	2	2	2
Volume (litres)	30	40	40	40	40
Cereal grains:					
Cereal NFI	45	6	4	6	14
(Cereal NFI - tail grain)	(1)	-	-	-	-
(Cereal NFI - germinated grain)	(2)	-	-	-	-
Hordeum sp Barley	18	1	1	3	3
Hordeum sp Hulled barley	8	2	-	1	1
Triticum sp Wheat	16	3	2	5	11
( <i>Triticum</i> sp tail grain)	(1)	-	-	-	-
Triticum dicoccum/spelta - Emmer/spelt wheat	-	1	-	-	-
Triticum aestivum/ turgidum type - Free-threshing type wheat	46	1	1	4	7
Avena sp Oat	-	1	_	-	-
	1		•		•
Cereal chaff:					
Triticum dicoccum/spelta - Emmer/spelt wheat glume base	_	1	-	-	-
Triticum sp Free-threshing type wheat rachis		-	_	-	- 1
Cereal indet. culm					2
Cerear indet. cum		-	-	-	2
Other cultivars:					
	7	c.	0	0	0
Fabaceae indet. (large) - Pea/ bean	7	5	2	3	6
Wild taxa:					
Rumex sp. L Dock	-	-	1	-	-
Polygonaceae indet Knotweed family	-	-	-	-	-
Fabaceae indet Pea family (medium)	4	-	1	1	2
Euphrasia/ Odontites sp. L Eyebright/ bartsia	1	-	-	-	-
Anthemis cotula L Stinking chamomile	1	-	1	-	-
Leucanthemum vulgare Lam Oxeye daisy	-	-	-	-	1
Cladium mariscus (L.) Pohl - Great fen-sedge	-	-	-	3	3
Seeds indet.	-	-	2	-	-
Charcoal:		1	1	1	1
Charcoal >2mm	Х	-	х	х	XX
Other carbonised:					
cf. fungal sclertotia	-	-	х	-	-
Other:					
Small mammal bone	-	х	-	-	-
Small mammal bone (burnt)	-	-	-	-	х
Fish bone	х	х	-	-	-
Fuel ash slag	-	-	x	x	x
, uo, uo, oug	I		^	~	
Molluscs:					
	~				
Anisus sp.	X	-	-	-	-
Carychium sp.	-	Х	-	-	Х
Cochlicopa sp.	-	-	Х	Х	-
Discus rotundatus	-	Х	-	-	Х
Lymnaea truncatula	-	Х	-	-	-
Oxychilus sp.	-	Х	Х	-	-
Trichia hispida group	-	х	-	-	-

Contaminants:					
Modern roots	XX	XX	XXX	XX	XX
Modern mollusc	х	х	х	-	-
Modern seeds	-	-	-	-	-
Modern insect	-	-	-	-	-
Earthworm egg capsules	-	-	-	-	-

X = present

XX = common

XXX = abundant

Table 26: Fully quantified Phase 2 bulk sample light fractions

#### **Radiocarbon Dating Determinations**

Antony R.R. Mustchin with Dr Julia E.M. Cussans

#### Introduction

Based on the advice of Dr Julia Cussans (Project Officer (Osteoarchaeology), Archaeological Solutions Ltd) and following the approval of Dr Matthew Brudenell (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team), a single radiocarbon dating sample was submitted to the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC; University of Glasgow). The sample comprised a single fragment of cremated human bone from Pit Fill L1004 (F1003). The availability and suitability of material for scientific dating was determined by Dr Cussans based on the advice of Dr Zoe Outram (Historic England Science Advisor, East of England) (see below).

#### Research questions

Two cremation deposits (F1003 (L1004) and F1005 (L1006)) were encountered during excavations at Darsham. Based on their morphology, these were tentatively assigned a possible middle Bronze Age date. Similar local evidence includes an urned Bronze Age cremation from Westleton (Martin and Wells 1985), approximately 2.7km to the south-east. Struck flint of mixed prehistoric (early Neolithic/ Bronze Age) character was also recovered from the current site. The cremation deposits were 100 per cent bulk sampled, sieved and fully reported (see Curl, above). After processing and reporting, material suitable for radiocarbon dating was identified and isolated (see below). Proposals for scientific dating were developed with reference to the regional research agenda (Medlycott 2011b) and through consultation with Dr Outram.

The further investigation of 'patterns of burial practice' in the Bronze Age has been highlighted as an important regional research topic (Medlycott 2011b, 20), and the scientific dating of the Darsham deposits had the potential to make a valuable addition to the known corpus of Bronze Age cremation burials from Suffolk. Funerary practice has also been highlighted as a significant area of study in later periods. For example, Medlycott (2011b, 48) also states the need for a regional synthesis of Romano-British cemeteries and burial practice. The radiocarbon dating of cremated bone is also a subject that has received a great deal of recent academic attention (e.g. Olsen *et al.* 2013; Zazzo *et al.* 2009), and a calibrated date from Darsham has the potential to make a useful contribution to this broader field of study.

Sample Availability (Table 27)

Cremated bone for dating was selected from Deposit L1004. Following the advice of Dr Outram, only dense, calcined bone weighing between 2 and 5g (minimum) was considered for radiocarbon dating. No charcoal was present within the L1004 bulk sample from which a 'paired' date might have been obtained.

Phase	Feature	Datable Context	Dating Rationale
1	1003	1004	Potential to provide a date for the unaccompanied cremation deposit. Potential to enhance period specific research priorities concerning burial practices in the East of England. Potential to contribute to academic studies concerning the practicalities of radiocarbon dating cremated bone.

Table 27: Features suitable for radiocarbon dating

# Results

The results of the radiocarbon dating programme are presented in Table 28 and Chart 5. <sup>14</sup>C ages are displayed in conventional years BP (before present (1950)). Calibrated age ranges were determined from the University of Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program (OxCal4 (Bronk Ramsey 2010)) and IntCal13, the current atmospheric calibration dataset for the northern hemisphere (Reimer *et al.* 2013). Conventional ages and calibrated age ranges were calculated by Dr Elaine Dunbar (SUERC).

Phase	Feature	Context	Sample Type	Lab. No. (SUERC-)	Date BP	δ <sup>13</sup> C value	Calibrated Date/ Date Range (95.4% Confidence Levels)
1	1003	1004	Cremated bone: human	60243 (GU37384)	1907±29	-24.1 ‰	20-175 cal AD (93.4%); 190-210 cal AD (2.0%)

Table 28: Radiocarbon determinations (calibrated using OxCal4 (Bronk Ramsey 2010)). Key: BP = before present (AD 1950)

For Phase 1 Cremation Deposit L1004 (Pit F1003), a calibrated age range of 20-175 cal AD (93.4%) and 190-210 cal AD (2.0%) was produced at 95.4% confidence levels for sample SUERC-60243 (uncalibrated age 1907±29BP). The results of the radiocarbon dating programme are cited and discussed within the archaeological narrative and subsequent *Discussion* section.

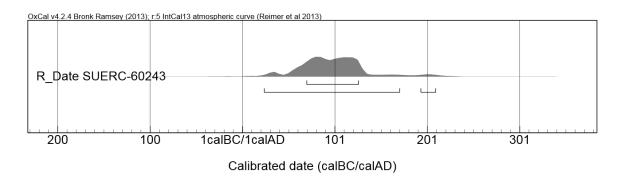


Chart 5: Radiocarbon probability distribution

# 7 DISCUSSION

# Phase 1: Romano-British (1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> Century AD)

Two pits in the south-western corner of the site (F1003 and F1005) yielded 7.1 cremated human bone. Radiocarbon dating of Cremation Deposit L1004 (F1003) produced a calibrated age range of 20-175 cal AD (93.4%) and 190-210 cal AD (2.0%) at 95.4% confidence (uncalibrated age 1907±29BP) (see Mustchin with Cussans, above). Based on their composition and location (Fig. 6), it is highly likely that the two deposits were similar in date. These unaccompanied burials, representing the partial remains of one or more individuals of unknown sex and age were consistent unurned Romano-British cremation burials elsewhere (e.g. Pre-Construct Archaeology 2003; www.thecolchesterarchaeologist.co.uk ). Regionally, two urned and five unurned cremations were dated to the late Iron Age/ early Roman period at Baldock, Hertfordshire (McKinley 2009, 81). The small size of the Darsham deposits was thought to indicate incomplete collection of bone from the pyre site or, possibly, the separating out of remains for distribution/ 'curation' elsewhere (Brück 2006; Chapman and Gaydarska 2007; Rebay-Salisbury 2010). It may be that only 'token or pars pro toto' deposits were required for internment (Rebay-Salisbury 2010, 65). The unurned nature of the deposits may also account, at least in part, for their modest size.

7.2 The Darsham cremations are a notable find in an area were such evidence is relatively scarce. Although local settlement evidence includes a significant villa site (SHER DAR 003; Suffolk Coastal District Council 2012, 5) and a small number of find spots, no other Romano-British funerary deposits are known within 5km of the Mill House site.

# Phase 2: Medieval (12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century AD)

7.3 The medieval period was the main phase of past activity at the site and was characterised by a system of uniformly aligned field/ plot boundaries, including a rectilinear enclosure (Enclosure 1) in Area A (Fig. 6). The landscape at this time appears to have supported a wheat-based economy, reflecting the site's location on the heavy, fertile clay soils of the Beccles 1 Association. The environmental assemblage is dominated by free-threshing type wheat with lesser quantities of oat, barley and pulses (peas or beans) also present (see Summers, above). Pulses formed an important part of the medieval diet, while oat and barley may have been cultivated as fodder crops (*ibid.*). A similar wheat-based medieval economy was recorded at Stowmarket (Fryer and Summers forthcoming), also located on heavy clavs. Other plant remains from the Phase 2 site include arable weeds and Great Fen sedge, a common thatching material and fuel (Bailey 2007; Rowell 1986). Straw from Pit F2051, directly south of Enclosure 1, may also have derived from thatch, floor coverings or animal bedding. Overall, the recovered plant remains are typical of day-to-day processing as part of food preparation (see Summers, above) and suggest a domestic character in keeping with the site's village location. The dearth of primary crop processing waste (e.g. chaff) suggests that such activities were not occurring at/ near the site.

7.4 The modest animal bone assemblage attests to a local pastoral economy dominated by cattle with lesser numbers of pig, sheep/ goat and horse also present. Although the dominance of cattle is not unusual for the medieval period, it is rare for sheep to be present in such low numbers; sheep/ goat comprised less than ten per cent of the assemblage (NISP; Chart 3). Numbers of cattle and pigs were bolstered, however, by the presence of two ABG's. Although no wild species were identified in the assemblage, probably reflecting its hand collected nature, small mammal and fish bones were noted from environmental samples. The presence of dog was also attested by canid gnawing on several elements. The keeping of dogs is typical of the period (Crabtree 2000), with other regional examples including remains from Duxford and Water Newton in Cambridgeshire (Baxter 2011; Newton *et al.* 2013).

7.5 Cattle and pig appear to have been utilised for meat while sheep were raised for wool, although the butchering of sheep and the trading of mutton joints away from the site may also have occurred. Meat was an important regional trade item throughout the medieval period; in late medieval Ipswich, for example, butchers were present in considerable numbers (Amor 2011, 202). The presence of older cattle in the assemblage might also suggest a traction-based role, while horses were most probably used as pack animals. Skins might also have been utilised.

7.6 The dominance of cattle in the animal bone assemblage is of potential interest, especially considering their possible use for traction. Cattle, particularly plough oxen, were a valuable commodity in medieval Europe, in some cases costing the equivalent of a family holding (Duby 1998, 115). It would be unwise, however, given the modest size of the Darsham assemblage, to attach too much significance to this point. It is possible, for instance, that plough teams were a shared commodity amongst a group of local farms. The attraction of oxen to the peasant farmer must not be overlooked, however. Oxen had a three-fold value made up of their hide, meat and draught potential, and were also cheaper to maintain and work than horses (Langdon 2002, 251); oxen could work more effectively on a diet of grass and hay alone (*ibid*.).

7.7 The marine mollusc assemblage from the site was dominated by oysters, most probably from natural beds in the Stour and Orwell estuary, some 37km to the south-south-west. The domestic consumption of oysters is typical of the medieval period and, in this instance, infers relatively long-distance trade.

7.8 The medieval site's agricultural character complements later records regarding the post-medieval economy of Darsham (Suffolk Coastal District Council 2012, 5) and reflects the broader, regional pattern of medieval land use, characterised in part by 'open fields' (Williamson 2005, 11, 19). This 'enclosed' landscape predominated in southern areas of Suffolk (Rippon 2012, 97), forming part of a zone of 'planned countryside' as defined by Rackham (1986). Other excavated examples of medieval ditched enclosures/ fields include a 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century gridded system of boundaries at Cedars Park, Stowmarket (Woolhouse forthcoming) and a similarly dated system at Kilverstone in Norfolk (Garrow *et al.* 2006, 203-5, fig. 6.2). A dispersed pattern of early medieval settlement within open fields has also been identified at North Shoebury, Essex (Wymer and Brown 1995). Delineated boundaries of this date are not restricted to wholly agricultural landscapes, however. Numerous toft and croft boundaries, marked by extant earthworks, have been

reported from Thuxton in Norfolk (Butler and Wade-Martins 1989), while an enduring pattern of medieval (8<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century) settlement within ditched property boundaries was more recently reported from the Ashwell Site in Ely, Cambridgeshire (Mortimer *et al.* 2005). Other excavated examples of toft and croft-type holdings include Water Newton in Cambridgeshire (Newton *et al.* 2013) and Anstey in Leicestershire (Browning and Higgins 2003). At Pott Row in Norfolk, medieval ditches were also recorded partially enclosing an industrial site associated with the Grimston ware pottery industry (Mustchin and Thompson forthcoming). The archaeological evidence from Darsham may well fit a toft and croft-type arrangement, associated with a nearby habitation, perhaps fronting the line of The Street or Priory Lane.

7.9 Features encountered within/ around Enclosure 1, although relatively few, seem to represent backyard activity. Similar activity associated with a toft boundary was excavated at Bletchley in Buckinghamshire (Newton and Sparrow 2009). Most of the Phase 2 pits contained only single fills and the vast majority yielded domestic refuse including pottery and animal bone. In the case of the smaller features, some of which yielded notable quantities of material (e.g. Pit F2038), it is reasonable to suggest that they were intentionally dug for the disposal of refuse. Such rubbish pits are a common medieval feature type in both rural and urban contexts (cf. Chapelot and Fossier 1985, 209; Rawcliffe 2012, 191). It is likely, however, that the larger Phase 2 pits had different primary functions, and were only backfilled with waste and other material at the end of their useful lives. One such feature was possible Well F2051. Although crude, this feature is similar to other regional examples of medieval wells (e.g. Woolhouse forthcoming) and such a function should not be discounted. Another example of a crude medieval well has also recently been excavated at Brettenham in Suffolk (SHER BTT 027; Mustchin forthcoming a), while urban examples include a group at Chequers Court, Huntingdon (Mustchin in preparation). The presence of a well would certainly complement the interpretation of the site, particularly Area A, as part of a toft and croft.

Rather than a well, it is possible that F2051 comprised a small guarry-type 7.10 feature. A similar interpretation might be suggested for Pit F2013, close to the eastern edge of Area A. Unlike the majority of Phase 2 features, F2013 contained two fills, perhaps suggesting that it was something more than a single-use rubbish pit. Regional examples of medieval quarrying include large, late medieval to early post-medieval sand/ gravel extraction pits at Eye, Suffolk (Brooks 2012) and late 12<sup>th</sup> century chalk guarry pits at Burwell in Cambridgeshire (Muldowney 2007). It is possible that the current examples were intended for the extraction of clay, possibly for local small-scale brickmaking. The earliest medieval brick industry was located in East Anglia and the required material, a mixture of sand and clay known as brickearth, was guarried from small pits (Pankhurst 1999, 146). The village of Darsham is potentially well situated for brickmaking, at the confluence of the East Anglian Boulder Clays with the sands and gravels of the Suffolk Sandlings; deposits of glaciofluvial sands and gravels are present a short distance to the south/ southeast of the current site (Henney et al. 2003). By the post-medieval period, numerous small brickworks were present across the county (Pankhurst 1999, 146-7), including examples at Westleton/ Dunwich (SHER WLN Misc.), some 3.5km to the north-east of Darsham.

7.11 Medieval ?Pond F2059 comprised another significant feature. Unlike ?Well F2051, the basal fill of this feature exhibited signs of having formed under at least intermittently waterlogged conditions. Although the ponds can serve a wide variety of functions (Upex 2004, 125), it is possible, based on the character of the finds and environmental assemblages, that F2059 comprised a fish pond or dew pond for watering livestock. It may also have served as a convenient, domestic water source. Various regional examples of medieval ponds are known including a fish pond at nearby Yoxford (SHER YOX 001; Sillwood 2012, 9).

7.12 The layout of the Phase 2 site, with boundaries broadly mirroring the alignments of The Street and Priory Lane, suggests a general continuity of land use/ layout between the medieval and post-medieval periods. Certainly, the routes marked by the modern roads are likely to have been in use by the medieval period and both appear on the tithe map of 1843 (Fig. 4). The roads would have no doubt provided a key point of reference when creating/ adapting subsequent land divisions. The tithe map also depicts a *c*. N-S field boundary cutting across the far northwestern corner of the site, parallel to the undated ?boundary marked by Ditches F1007 and F2053; this may suggest some level of contemporaneity. The depicted boundary is absent from the 1904 OS map (Fig. 5). At this time, the site is depicted as forming the south-eastern corner of a single, large field to the north of The Street.

# Phase 3: Post-medieval to early modern (16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century AD)

7.13 The Phase 3 evidence was extremely sparse and relates little regarding the layout of the site at this time. The alignments of the post-medieval/ early modern ditches appeared to loosely mirror those of the medieval boundaries and may have been a conscious development of the earlier system. Alternatively, this apparent continuity may be fortuitous, with the later features simply reflecting the alignments of the nearby roads. The Phase 3 boundaries are not depicted on the early cartographic sources and appear, therefore, to have been backfilled at some point prior to the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century.

# 8 CONCLUSIONS

8.1 The need for a regional synthesis of Romano-British cemeteries and burial practice has been highlighted by Medlycott (2011b, 48). In light of this, the Phase 1 cremation deposits from Darsham make a valuable contribution to the known corpus of Romano-British burials from Suffolk, especially as they represent the first such evidence from the local area. The practicalities of radiocarbon dating cremated remains is also a topic that has received particular academic attention (e.g. Olsen *et al.* 2013; Zazzo *et al.* 2009), and the results from Darsham have the potential to contribute to this broader field of study. The cremation deposits also add usefully to our current knowledge of Roman settlement around Darsham, which includes a notable villa site some 800m to the south-east of Mill House.

8.2 The excavation has also provided a good insight into the historical development of Darsham. Regional research priorities for the medieval period include investigation of how rural settlements 'appear, grow, shift and disappear' and the relationship between field size and agricultural regimes (Medlycott 2011b, 70). In

this case the evidence attests to the establishment of at least one enclosure and a larger ?field to the north of The Street by the high medieval period. The smaller enclosed area (Enclosure 1) and a second, potential enclosure to the immediate south-east may have been part of a toft and croft-type peasant holding associated with 'backyard' activity in Area A of the site. Any dwelling associated with this arrangement is likely to have fronted The Street or Priory Lane, possibly in the area of neighbouring Mill House/ Mill Bungalow. Although medieval structural features were not identified by the excavation, the finds assemblage, including possible thatching/ flooring material and carpentry/ roofing nails does hint at the presence of a building somewhere in the near vicinity. It is conceivable that the post-medieval mill that stood on the Mill House site (SHER DAR 007) replaced an earlier, medieval example. Other medieval settlements in the area – removed from the probably core of the village (see below) – include a moated site some 480m to the south-west of Mill House (SHER DAR 001).

The clear similarities in alignment between Phase 2 boundaries and the 8.3 nearby roads suggest that the latter were already established by the medieval period, with subsequent activity being focussed along the line of The Street and other roads. The probable core of medieval settlement is located to the south-east of the site and includes the 12<sup>th</sup> century church of All Saint's (Sher DAR 011), a moated site (SHER DAR 010) and other contemporary remains (SHER DAR 003). It might be postulated, therefore, that the site – situated on the periphery of the village - was developed as part of an outward expansion of settlement along an established At Long Melford in Suffolk the 'ribbon development' of the medieval route. settlement occurred along the main road from its early, nucleated core (Beresford and St Joseph 1979, 139). A similar outward spread is noted at the market town of Debenham (Bailey 2007) and the village of Peasenhall (Gardner 2004). Indeed, by the 13<sup>th</sup> century the focus of medieval settlements across England had shown a marked shift from local power bases to major roads and other trade routes (Schofield and Vince 2003, 34 and 37).

8.4 The intercutting of some Phase 2 ditches suggests the development of the local medieval landscape over time. Enclosure 1, for instance, superseded a significant N-S boundary in Area A of the site (Ditch F1026=2036), and may represent the creation of a croft or yard in this area. However, the overall alignment of medieval features was similar over time, and may imply a broadly consistent pattern of land use. This 'enclosed' landscape was part of a wheat-based agricultural regime which was also characterised by the raising of domestic livestock, consistent with evidence from other sites and the regional medieval economy as a whole. Possible quarrying activity, perhaps linked to small-scale brick making or similar, was also apparent.

8.5 The 14<sup>th</sup> century 'disappearance' of the medieval site may be due to a number of factors. Firstly, patterns of discard between Phases 2 and 3 may have altered, resulting in the absence of 15<sup>th</sup> century material. Secondly, a shift in land use at the site, possibly indicated by the lower number of Phase 3 features, may have begun at some point during the high medieval period. Such a shift could reflect local, regional or even national social and/ or economic trends. The mid-14<sup>th</sup> century arrival of the Black Death in England, for example, resulted in huge population decline (Platt

1997) and has been cited as the possible cause of economic changes at a number of medieval sites (e.g. Newton and Sparrow 2009).

# 9 DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

9.1 Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited at the Suffolk County Store. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. In addition to the overall site summary, it will be necessary to produce a summary of the artefactual and ecofactual data.

# 10 PUBLICATION PROPOSAL

10.1 The excavation of the Darsham site coincided with the excavation of two other medieval village sites in Suffolk by Archaeological Solutions Ltd, namely Church Farm, Brettenham (SHER BTT 027) and Semer Road, Whatfield (SHER WHA 018). These three sites share some common traits in terms of their topographical and geological locations and the date and general character of the archaeology encountered. In terms of their publication it is proposed to submit a joint, synthetic report to the county journal, *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*.

10.2 The concept of this publication is driven by several key regional research priorities regarding medieval sites in the East of England, specifically rural settlements and farmsteads. Medlycott (2011) states the need to better understand the origins and development of different settlement types and their dynamics. This includes how rural settlements 'appear, grow, shift and disappear', the form and function of medieval buildings and any links between field size and specific agricultural regimes.

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# APPENDIX 1 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

# The Evaluation

Feature	Context	Segment	Trench	Description	Spot Date	Pottery	CBM (g)	A.Bone (g)	Other
	L1000		6			-		,	Cu. Frag. Cu. Spur
1009	1010		4A	Fill of Ditch	12th-14th C	(1) 12g	19	211	Snail Shell - 33g
									Str. Flint (1) - 2g
1013	1014		4A	Fill of Ditch	Mid 17th-19th C	(1) 11g	17	33	
1015	1016		4B	Fill of Gully	12th-14th C	(3) 14g	191		
1020	1021		5	Fill of Pit	Late 12th-14th C	(208) 2669g			Cockle Shell - 10g Oyster Shell - 309g Quern Frag - 632g
1022	1023		6	Fill of Pit	11th/12th-14th C	(2) 16g			
1024	1025		6	Fill of Pit	11th/12th-14th C	(4) 18g	61		Fe. Frag (1) - 5g
1026	1027		5	Fill of Ditch	11th-13th C	(23) 92g		34	Clinker - 3g
1028	1029 1030		6	Basal Fill of Ditch Upper Fill of Ditch	11th-13th C 13th-14th C	(8) 63g (156) 1218g	161	8 28	Str. Flint (3) 82g Clinker - 128g F. Clay - 23g O. Shell - 3g
									Snail Shell - 26g Str. Flint (4) - 273g
			6	Modern layer	Modern	(6) 40g	248	8	Clay Pipe Stem (1) - 5g
			1	Modern Drainage Ditch			18		

# The Excavation

Feature	Context	Segment	Area	Description	Spot Date	Pottery	CBM (g)	A.Bone (g)	Other
2001			В	Subsoil	12th-15th C	(3) 36g			
2003	2004			Fill of Ditch	12th-15th C	(1) 6g			
2005	2007			Upper Fill of Ditch	16th-early 18th C	(7) 134g	1006	171	O. Shell - 34g
2008	2009			Fill of Ditch	12th-15th C	(3) 24g		17	
2010	2011			Lower Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-14th C	(11) 98g		2	F. Clay - 10g
2013	2014			Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-14th C	(38) 213g		6	
	2015			Lower Fill of Pit	12th-14th C	(76) 480g	19	6	
2020	2021			Fill of Ditch	Mid 12th-14th/15th C	(21) 129g	26	8	Lava Stone - 222g
		В			13th-14th C	(242) 3220g			Mussel Shell - 1g
									O. Shell - 18g
		С			13th-14th C	(16) 162g			Fe. Nail - 19g

									Lava Stone - 121g
	2046	D		Fill of Ditch	15th-17th C	(8) 55g	98	305	SF1 Cu. Alloy Brooch - 12g
									Fe. Nail (1) - 9g
2022	2023			Fill of Gully	12th-15th C	(1) 2g			
2024	2025			Fill of Gully	12th-15th C	(4) 16g			
2026	2027			Fill of Pit	13th-14th C	(143) 985g		6	Coal - 2g Str. Flint (1) - 3g
2034	2035			Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-15th C	(1) 7g			
2036	2037			Fill of Ditch	Late 12th-14th C	(7) 54g			
		В			12th-15th C	(4) 56g	1471	9	
2038	2039			Fill of Pit	12th-15th C	(2) 12g		420	Str. Flint (1) - 8g
2040	2044			Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-14th /15th C	(172) 1200g	104	14	
2042	2043			Fill of Ditch	12th-15th C	(1) 26g		113	
		В			12th-15th C	(15) 69g		339	Fe. Nail (1) - 26g
		С			Mid 12th-14th C	(23) 227g		31	
2047	2048			Fill of Pit	12th /13th-14th C	(2) 65g			
2049	2050			Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-15th C	(2) 8g			
2051	2052			Fill of Well	Mid 12th-15th C	(26) 272g			F. Clay - 171g
2053	2054	А		Fill of Ditch			130		
2057	2058			Fill of Pit					W. Stone - 359g
2059	2060			Lower Fill of Pond				75	
		С						41	
	2061	В		Middle Fill of Pond	12th-15th C	(1) 4g			
		D			13th-15th C	(5) 79g		313	Fe. Nail (1) - 8g
	2062			Upper Fill of Pond	12th-15th C	(40) 269g		86	
		В			15th-early 17th C	(54) 411g		138	Fe. Frag (3) - 45g
		С			Mid 16th-early 18th C	(1) 96g			
2067	2068			Fill of Ditch	16th-18th C	(10) 152g	1150	46	
2069	2070			Fill of Pit	Late 12th-15th C	(18) 134g		128	Fe. Frag (1) - 23g
2075	2076			Fill of Pit	Mid 12th-14th /15th C	(22) 298g		20	
	U/S		А	Unstratified	Mid 12th-14th C	(21) 292g			Fe. Nail (1) - 13g

# APPENDIX 2 CONTEXT LIST

Feature	context(s)	Plan/ profile (dimensions)	description	Comments/ relationships
-	1000=2000	-	Firm, dark grey brown clayey silt with moderate small to medium angular flint	Topsoil
-	1001=2001	-	Firm to friable, dark yellow brown silty clay	Subsoil
-	1002=2002	-	Firm, yellow brown clay	Natural
1003	1004	Irregular/ steep sides, concave base (0.30 x 0.11 x 0.09m)	Compact dark orange brown clay with occasional small stone	Pit; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000
1005	1006	Irregular/ moderately sloping to steep sides, concave base (0.22 x 0.10 x 0.05m)	Compact dark orange brown clay with occasional small stone	Pit; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000
1007	1008	Linear/ steep sides, concave base (8.00+ x 0.49 x 0.33m)	Firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional small angular flint	Ditch; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000
1011	1012	Linear/ gently sloping sides, flattish base (1.80+ x 0.80 x 0.13m)	Firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional small rounded stone	Ditch; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000
1013	1014	Linear/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (1.80+ x 1.00 x 0.25m)	Firm, dark grey brown silty clay with occasional small rounded stone	Ditch; cut L1010=2004 =2043; sealed by L1000=2000
1015	1016	Linear/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (1.80+ x 0.45 x 0.15m)	Firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional small rounded stone	Gully; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1001=2001
1020	1021	Oval/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (0.70+ x 0.70 x 0.31m)	Firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional small rounded stone	Pit; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000
1022	1023	Sub-circular/ gently sloping sides, flattish base (0.70+ x 0.51 x 0.41m)	Firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional small rounded stone and CBM flecks	Pit; cut L1002=2001; sealed by L1000=2000
1024	1025	Sub-circular/ gently sloping sides, concave base	Firm, mid grey brown silty clay with occasional small rounded stone and CBM flecks	Pit; cut L1002=2001; sealed by L1000=2000
1026	1027	Linear/ steep sides, concave base (1.80 x 0.70 x 0.27m)	Compact, dark yellow brown clay with occasional small rounded stone	Ditch; cut L1002=2001; sealed by L1000=2000
1028	1029 (primary) 1030 (secondary)	Linear/ steep sides, V-shaped base (1.80+ x 1.21 x 0.62m)	Firm, light yellow grey clay with frequent chalk flecks and small rounded flint Friable, mid grey brown clay	Ditch; cut L1002=2001; sealed by L1000=2000
	(secondary)		with frequent small rounded flint	21000-2000
1009=2003=2042	1010=2004=2043 (primary) 2079 (uppermost)	Linear/ gently sloping sides, concave base (c. 80.00+ x 1.85 x 0.45m)	Firm, mid orange brown silty clay Firm, mid orange brown sandy silt	Ditch; cut L2062; cut by F1013, F2065 and F2067
2005	2006 (primary)	Linear/ moderately sloping to steep sides, concave base (18.20+ x 3.05 x 1.01m)	Compact, mid red brown silty clay with occasional sub- rounded and sub-angular stone	Ditch; cut L1018=2021= 2046; sealed by L1000=2000
	2007 (uppermost)		Compact, mid red brown silty clay with occasional sub- rounded and sub-angular stone and chalk	
2008	2009	Curvilinear/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (c. 4.00+ x 1.50 x 0.53m)	Compact, mid to dark red brown clay with occasional charcoal flecks, small angular stone and chalk flecks	Ditch; cut L2017; sealed by L1000=2000

2010	2011 (primary)	Sub-oval/ near-vertical sides, irregular base (3.40 x 0.77 x 0.40m)	Compact, mid red brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and sub-rounded and sub-angular stone	Pit; cut L2035; sealed by L1001=2001
	2012 (uppermost)		Compact, mid red brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and sub-rounded and sub-angular stone	
2013	2015 (primary)	Oval/ steep sides, concave base (1.95 x 1.80+ x 0.75m)	Compact, mid orange brown clay	Pit; cut L1002=2002; cut
	2014 (uppermost)		Compact, mid grey brown silty clay with moderate small rounded and sub-angular stone and medium to large sub-rounded flint	by F2022
2016	2017	?Linear/ steep sides, irregular base (0.40+ x 1.50 x 0.77m)	Compact, dark grey brown/ red mottled silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks	Ditch; cut L2019; cut by F2008
2018	2019	Sub-circular/ steep sides, flat base (1.05 x 0.40+ x 0.77m)	Compact, mid yellow brown clay with occasional charcoal flecks and small angular stone	Pit; cut L1002=2002; cut by F2016
1017=2020=2045	1019 (primary)	Rectilinear/ moderately sloping sides; concave base (54.00+ x 0.90 x 0.43m)	Compact, mid orange/ yellow brown clay with occasional small rounded stone	Ditch; cut L2027 and L2055; cut by F2005
	1018=2021=2046 (uppermost)		Firm to friable, mid red brown silty/ sandy clay with occasional charcoal pieces, small irregular stone and medium sub-angular flint	
2022	2023	Linear/ gently sloping sides, concave base (4.20+ x 1.00 x 0.22m)	Compact, mid orange brown silty clay with occasional small to medium sub-rounded and sub-angular stone and moderate small to medium sub-angular flint	Gully; cut L2014; sealed by L1000=2000
2024	2025	Linear/ moderately sloping sides, irregular base (24.00+ x 0.45 x 0.14m)	Compact, mid red brown clay with occasional charcoal flecks and small sub-angular stone	Gully; cut L1002=2002; cut by F2026
2026	2027	Irregular/ steep sides, irregular base (2.55+ x 1.60 x 0.32m)	Compact, mid red brown clay with occasional sub-rounded and sub-angular stone	Pit; cut L2025; cut by L1017=2020 =2045
2028	2031 (primary)	Rectangular/ steep sides, concave base (0.40 x 0.35 x	Compact, dark grey/ black humic silt Friable, dark grey brown silty	Posthole; cut L1002=2002; sealed by
	(uppermost)	0.17m)	sand with occasional small to medium angular flint	L1000=2000
2032	2033	Sub-circular/ steep sides, concave base (c. 0.60 x 0.50 x 0.35m)	Firm, dark brown grey clay silt with occasional small rounded stone	Pit; cut L1002=2002; cut by F2034
2034	2035	Oval/ steep sides, flat base (0.75 x 0.50 x 0.33m)	Firm, dark brown grey silty sand	Pit; cut L2033; cut by F2010
2036	2056 (primary)	Linear/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (19.00+ x	Firm, light brown sandy clay with occasional chalk flecks	Ditch; cut L1002=2002; cut
	2037	0.75 x 0.34m)	Compact, mid brown sandy clay with occasional chalk flecks	by F1017= 2020=2045
	2055 (uppermost)		Firm, mid yellow brown silty clay with occasional chalk flecks	
2038	2039	Oval/ near-vertical sides, flat base (1.80 x 0.92 x 0.70m)	Firm, mid orange brown silty clay with moderate rounded stone/ flint	Pit; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000
2040	2041 (primary)	Sub-oval/ moderately sloping sides, irregular base (4.30 x 2.70 x 0.44m)	Firm, mid yellow brown sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks and small sub-angular flint	Pit; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000
	2044 (uppermost)		Firm, mid yellow brown sandy silt with moderate charcoal flecks and occasional small sub-angular flint	
2047	2048	Oval/ gently sloping sides,	Friable, mid to dark brown	Pit; cut

		concave base (1.52 x 0.92 x 0.10m)	clay silt with frequent charcoal flecks and occasional medium rounded	L1002=2002; cut by F2049
2049	2050	Oval/ moderately sloping sides, irregular base (1.32 x 0.69 x 0.24m)	and sub-angular stone Friable, mid to dark brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and medium rounded and sub-angular stone	Pit; Cut L2048; cut by F2051
2051	2052	Sub-circular/ near-vertical sides, irregular base (2.30 x 2.30 x 0.50+m)	Friable, dark brown sandy silt with frequent small to medium rounded and sub- angular stone	Pit; cut L2050; sealed by L1000=2000
2053	2054	Linear/ near-vertical sides, flat base (14.00+ x 0.60 x 0.69m)	Firm, mid to dark grey brown silty clay with occasional charcoal flecks and medium sub-angular stone	Ditch; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000
2057	2058	Sub-circular, moderately sloping sides, flat base (0.28 x 0.19 x 0.08m)	Firm, dark brown/ black silty clay	Posthole; cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1000=2000
2059	2060 (primary)	Linear/ moderately sloping sides, irregular base (22.00+ x 4.30 x 0.72m)	Compact, mid blue grey clay with occasional charcoal flecks and moderate chalk flecks	Ditch; cut L1002=2002; cut by F2042, F2063 and F2069
	2061		Firm, mid orange brown sandy silt with frequent small angular flint	
	2062 (uppermost)		Firm, dark red brown sandy silt with moderate small angular flint and chalk flecks	
2063	2064	Sub-oval/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (2.40 x 1.79 x 0.30m)	Firm, dark red brown sandy silt	Pit; cut L2062; sealed by L1001=2001
2065	2066	Linear/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (12.95 x 0.57 x 0.40m)	Firm, dark red brown sandy silt	Ditch; cut L1010=2004= 2043; sealed by L1001=2001
2067	2068	Linear/ moderately sloping sides, concave base (13.00 x 1.00 x 0.23m)	Firm, dark brown sandy silt with moderate small rounded flint	Ditch; cut L1010=2004= 2043; sealed by L1001=2001
2069	2070	Sub-rectangular/ moderately sloping to vertical sides, concave base (2.65+ x 2.00 x 0.53m)	Compact, dark brown sandy silt with occasional medium to large sub-angular stone/ flint	Pit; cut L2062; cut by F2071
2071	2074 (primary) 2072 (uppermost)	Circular/ steep sides, concave base (0.70 x 0.70 x 0.47m)	Firm, dark grey humic sandy silt Compact, yellow clay	Posthole; cut L2070; sealed by L1001=2001
2075	2076	Sub-oval/ moderately sloping sides, irregular base (2.39+ x 1.71 x 0.52m)	Compact, dark brown sandy silt with occasional medium sub-angular stone	Pit, cut L1002=2002; sealed by L1001=2001
2077	2078	?Linear/ moderately sloping sides, flat base (1.00+ x 1.00 x 0.28m)	Firm, dark brown sandy silt	?Ditch; cut L1002=2002; cut by F2067

#### APPENDIX 3 WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

#### MILL HOUSE, DARSHAM, SUFFOLK

#### WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION

16<sup>th</sup> April 2014

#### MILL HOUSE, DARSHAM

#### SPECIFICATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation has been prepared in response to advice issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Conservation Team (SCC AS-CT) (dated 14<sup>th</sup> April 2014). It provides for a programme of archaeological investigation on land at Mill House, Darsham, Suffolk (NGR TM 414 701). The investigation is required to be undertaken to comply with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the residential development of the site (Planning Approval Ref: DC/13/2489/OUT). The requirement follows a trial trench evaluation of the site (Fairclough 2014).

#### 2 COMPLIANCE

2.1 The terms and conditions contained in the SCC AS-CT advice have been read, understood and are accepted. The project will adhere also to the *Code of Conduct* of the Institute for Archaeologists. The investigation will adhere to the IfA's *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation (revised 2008);* the SCC AS-CT document *Requirements for Archaeological Excavation 2012 Ver 1.1* and *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003).

#### 3 SITE DESCRIPTION NATURE OF THE DEVELOPMENT & ARCHAEOLOGICAL REQUIREMENTS

3.1 An archaeological evaluation of the site was carried out by AS (Fairclough 2014). In summary:

The majority of the features were located in approximately the north-eastern quadrant of the site, and the medieval  $(11^{th} - 14^{th} \text{ century})$  features were wholly within this quadrant.

Principally the features were ditches, and the medieval ditches were roughly perpendicular to each other. Four pits were recorded. Those within Trench 1 (F1003 and F1005) were slight and undated. Those within Trenches 5 (F1020) and 6 (F1022 and F1024) contained medieval pottery.

The medieval pottery occurred in small numbers (1 - 4 sherds), but three features (Pit F1020 and Ditch F1026 (Tr.5), and Ditch F1028 (Tr.6) contained 208, 23 and 164 sherds respectively. CBM, animal bone and shell were also present within the medieval assemblages. Sparse struck flint was also found.

#### 4 REQUIREMENTS MITIGATION STRATEGY COMPRISING EXCAVATION

4.1 All stages of the excavation will be carried out in accordance with the procedures and guidance contained within *Management of Archaeological Projects 2*, English Heritage (1991) and MoRPHE (2006).

#### 5 MITIGATION STRATEGY DETAILS

#### 5.1 Aims and Objectives

5.1.1 The primary objective is to preserve the archaeological evidence contained within the site by record and to attempt a reconstruction of the history and use of the site.

#### 5.2 Research Priorities

5.2.1 Principally:

- Place the medieval activity in context with the known activity of these dates in the surrounding area
- Characterise the activity present within the site
- Identify topographical/geological/geographical influences on the layout and development of the activity present within the current site and in the surrounding area.
- Environmental reconstruction

#### 6 PROGRAMME OF WORKS

#### Archaeological Excavation

- 6.1 The brief requires:
  - a) controlled strip, map and excavation of two areas (labelled A and B). Area A revealed traces of medieval settlement, probably roadside occupation along Priory Lane. Area B revealed a possible cremation; and
  - b) the excavation of two trenches (labelled 9 and 10). Trench 9 seeks to trace the ditches recorded in Trenches 2 and 4a; they may form part of a medieval field boundary. Trench 10 seeks to trace the ditch recorded in Trench 8.
- 6.2 The strip will be carried out under archaeological supervision.
- 6.3 Details of proposed work are presented below.

6.4 All of the above stages and operations will be carried out in accordance with MAP2 (EH 1991), MORPHE and the IFA *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* and *Excavations* (revised 2008), as well as the documents listed in

Section 2 (above). A Method Statement for dealing with archaeological remains, if present, is presented below (Appendix B).

#### 7 EXCAVATION METHODOLOGY

- 7.1 As set out in the brief. A Method Statement is presented (Appendix A).
- 7.2 The research design and details of proposed work amplify the methodology.

#### 8 SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

8.1 As set out in the brief.

8.2 The SCC AS attaches considerable importance to the public archaeology associated with the work. AS also has a commitment to educational work, and will arrange for outreach as required as part of the project.

8.3 A programme of environmental sampling will be undertaken according to guidelines of the document *Environmental Archaeology; A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation,* Centre for Archaeology Guidelines, English Heritage, 2011. The results of the project will be made known to the English Heritage Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science. A method statement for sampling and scientific analysis is presented (Appendix A).

#### 9 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

#### 9.1 STAFF

#### 9.1.1 Archaeological Team

As to be set out in the brief. Details, including the name, qualifications and experience of the site director and all other key project personnel are provided (as required) (Appendix B).

Senior Project Manager	Claire Halpin MIfA
Project Manager	Jon Murray MIfA
Project Officer	TBC

All have extensive experience of the archaeology of the local area.

All senior AS Field Staff have experience of the use of metal detectors during excavation projects.

AS is recognised as an Investor in People, a Registered Organisation of the Institute of Field Archaeologists and is certified to BSI ISO: 9001 & 14001.

#### 9.2 RESEARCH DESIGN

9.2.1 The site lies within an area of archaeological potential, within an area that has seen little in the way of previous archaeological investigation. The topographic location of the site, on high ground above a tributary stream of the Minsmere River, would have been favourable for early occupation. The site of a post-medieval post mill lies nearby, and a Neolithic flint axe has been found in the village. A medieval moated site also lies nearby. Few archaeological investigations have been undertaken and therefore the archaeological potential of the site was uncertain. In the event medieval archaeology was recorded, and sparse prehistoric struck flint.

9.2.2 The recovery of struck flint of Neolithic date indicates that the site has the potential to contribute to the overall corpus of information regarding prehistoric activity in the county. This material indicates Neolithic activity in this area and demonstrates that predictions made regarding the area's suitability for early occupation were accurate. Although the evidence is limited it has the potential to contribute to artefact studies; identifying sources of flint for particular types of tools and examining the possibility that different raw material was used for different purposes are considered important research subjects for this period in the counties of East Anglia (Medlycott 2011, 14).

9.2.3 Medlycott (2011, 70), identifies the landscape of the medieval period as an important area of research. The identification of medieval features at this site has the potential to yield information relating to the way in which the landscape of this part of Suffolk was utilised and divided up at this time. As a predominantly rural area, medieval archaeology within Darsham has the potential to provide detail regarding the way in which the settlement grew and developed. Identifying how different settlement types developed from the medieval period onwards is an important research subject for the eastern counties (Medlycott 2011, 70). Also of importance are questions regarding the form taken by medieval farms (*ibid*.). As much of the evidence from this site might be interpreted as boundaries, it might be possible to recreate enclosure systems and other forms of land control. Further understanding of these elements of the site might contribute to developing a clearer picture of social organisation within this settlement and of the medieval agricultural regimes that were practised here (Medlycott 2011, 69)

#### References

Fairclough, J., 2014. *Mill House, Darsham, Suffolk. An Archaeological Evaluation.* AS Report No. 4535.

Medlycott, M. (ed.) 2011, *Research and Archaeology revisited: a revised framework for the East of England*, ALGAO East of England Region, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24

#### 10 DETAILS OF PROPOSED WORK

#### **10.1** Areas of Excavation

The brief requires formal archaeological excavation of two areas (labelled A and B, described above) and two additional trenches (labelled 9 and 10).

The excavation will address the research priorities listed above

#### **10.2 Excavation Methodology**

Methodology for the excavation is contained in Appendix A.

It is understood that the excavation should comprise the following stages:

- Mechanical stripping of topsoil and overburden within the two defined areas and trenches
- Cleaning/base planning of archaeological features
- Review with SCCAS. This will be an ongoing part of management of the project at regular intervals. Monitoring visits will include all phases of the excavation and will be essential at key points e.g. decisions to vary requirements in the brief or this WSI, any proposal for supplementary machine stripping of layers or features, before any area is treated as completed and backfilled or otherwise degraded
- Full excavation and recording of the archaeological deposits as specified in the brief and Appendix A

The above will be carried out according the requirements of the document Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment. The MoRPHE Project Managers Guide (English Heritage 2006).

#### **10.3 Arrangements for Access**

Access is to be arranged by the client.

#### 10.4 Security

Throughout all site works care will be taken to maintain all existing security arrangements and to minimise disruption to landowners and local residents.

#### 10.5 Reinstatement

No provision has been made for reinstatement of the excavation areas, not even backfilling.

#### 10.6 TIMETABLE FOR THE PROPOSED WORK

#### 10.6.1 As required

Excavation Duration c. 3 weeks

#### Composition of the excavation team:

Project Officer, 4 Archaeological Excavators (to be deployed as necessary after the site has been stripped and planned).

#### 10.7 DETAILS OF ALL SPECIALISTS

10.7.1 Details of all specialists are presented (Appendix B) as required

#### 10.8 METHOD OF RECORDING

10.8.1 Details of the method of recording are presented (Appendix A) as required.

#### 10.9 LEVELS AND GRADES OF ALL KEY PROJECT STAFF

10.9.1 The levels and grades of all key project staff are presented (Appendix B) as required. AS is a recognised Investor in People.

#### **10.10 POST-EXCAVATION ANALYSIS & PUBLICATION**

10.10.1 This specification includes provision for the post-excavation assessment, analysis and final publication of the project results, to the requirements and timescales set out in the SCC AS brief, and to be agreed with SCC AS following the results of the excavation and assessment. An interim report will be prepared immediately on conclusion of the site works, followed by a Post-Excavation Assessment. This will follow the guidelines and format outlined in MAP2 (English Heritage 1991) and MoRPHE (English Heritage 2006).

10.10.2 Publication of the project results will be made in the appropriate county journal or the relevant national period-specific journal, depending on the results of the project.

#### 11 CONSTRAINTS

11.1 All constraints will be identified prior to the start of works.

#### 12 HUMAN REMAINS

12.1 As set out in the brief and also Appendix A.

#### 13 RISK ASSESSMENT & INSURANCES

13.1 A risk assessment will be prepared prior to the commencement of the field work.

13.2 AS is a member of FAME, formerly the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (SCAUM) and operates under the 'Health & Safety in Field Archaeology Manual'.

13.3 AS is a member of the Council for British Archaeology and is insured under their policy for members.

## 14 ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE LONG TERM STORAGE AND DEPOSITION OF ALL ARTEFACTS

14.1 As set out in the brief and Method Statement (Appendix A). Any necessary conservation of items will be carried out by the specialists listed in Appendix B. Long-term storage and deposition of all artefacts will be at the SCC County Store and in accordance with *Deposition of Archaeological Archives in Suffolk*.

#### 14 **PROJECT ARCHIVE**

14.1 The SCC County Store, Suffolk, will be the depository for the resulting project archive. The deposition of the archive will be agreed prior to the commencement of the fieldwork. A unique reference number will be obtained.

#### 15 MONITORING

15.1 As set out in the brief

#### 16 CHANGES TO THE SPECIFICATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SCCAS

16.1 As set out in the brief

#### 17 OASIS REPORTING

17.1 The results of the project will be communicated to the OASIS project.

#### APPENDIX A

#### METHOD STATEMENT

The archaeological excavations will be conducted in accordance with the project brief, and the code and guidelines of the Institute for Archaeologists

#### 1 Topsoil Stripping

1.1 A mechanical excavator with a 1.8-2 m wide toothless bucket will be used to remove the topsoil. The machine will be powerful enough for a clean job of work and be able to mound spoil neatly, at a safe distance from the trench edges.

1.3 Removal of overburden will be controlled, under the full-time supervision of an experienced archaeologist.

#### 2 Grid and Bench Marks

2.1 Following the stripping the temporary bench marks (with corrected levels) and an accurate site grid (pegs at 5-10 m intervals) will be surveyed.

#### 3 Site Location Plan

3.1 On conclusion of the site stripping, a `site location plan', based on the current Ordnance Survey 1:1250 map and indicating site north, will be prepared. This will be supplemented by an `area plan' at 1:200 (or 1:100) which will show the location of the area(s) investigated in relationship to the development area, OS grid and site grid. The location of the OS bench marks used and site TBMs will also be indicated.

#### 4 Manual Cleaning & Base Planning of Archaeological Features

4.1 As set out in the brief.

4.2 Ahead of any excavation a complete site plan will be composed. The principal purpose will be to quantify the composition of the site from the outset in order to agree a detailed excavation strategy.

#### 5 Archaeological Excavation

The archaeological features will be excavated according to the requirements of the SCCAS brief

#### Archaeological Excavation Strategy

Negative features will be half-sectioned and box sections may be excavated through more homogeneous layers as appropriate. These may provide a window into any underlying deposits present on the site. Where archaeological features are encountered at a 'high' level; e.g. cutting earlier horizons, they will be base planned, cleaned, hand excavated and recorded prior to excavation proceeding to the underlying archaeological horizons.

100% excavation will be undertaken of:

- **structural features;** (including post holes unless clearly not part of a recognisable structure)
- surviving internal floors; e.g. within ring gullies, or buildings, will be fully exposed, carefully cleaned, planned (at 1:50 or 1:20) and photographed, prior to being hand excavated to reveal possible underlying features. Where appropriate these surfaces will be excavated in a grid of 1m<sup>2</sup> test pits, in 5cm spits in order to assess artefact density and distribution.
- **positive features obscuring earlier features;** will be cleaned, photographed and planned (at 1:50 or 1:20) prior to being excavated stratigraphically and in phase. Component deposits or structural elements will be recorded on *proforma* recording (Context) sheets and in section if appropriate prior to 100% excavation.
- **hearths;** will be hand cleaned and planned, hand excavation of 50% of the feature will be carried out stratigraphically and in phase in order for a profile to be drawn and a full assessment the component deposits be made. Additional environmental and specialist sampling will be carried out on specialist advice, prior to 100% hand excavation of the feature.
- **graves or animal burials;** each grave cut will be cleaned, fully defined and planned. The grave fill(s) will be hand excavated in phase and any skeletal remains carefully cleaned and exposed; environmental bulk samples will be taken from the grave fill(s) and abdominal cavity (for stomach contents, kidney stones etc) as appropriate. The exposed skeletal remains will be recorded using *pro forma* recording (Skeleton) sheets photographed and planned at 1:20 or 1:10 dependant on size and complexity. Small finds such as grave goods, shroud pins or coffin fittings will be will be three dimensionally recorded.
- **industrial features**; (pottery kilns, furnaces etc) will be excavated stratigraphically and in phase. Sections will be recorded through the length of each feature (large features such as a limekiln may be quadranted) incorporating any surviving flue or stoke hole allowing a full assessment the component deposits be made and any industrial waste, or structural components (e.g. kiln furniture, tuyeres) to be identified. These features will photographed and planned at 1:20. All industrial features will be sampled for appropriate scientific analysis (e.g. archaeometallurgical, artefactual and environmental analysis). The document Archaeomaetallurgy (English Heritage Centre for Archaeology Guidelines 2001) will be used to give guidance to the project. Advice on archaeomagnetic dating will be obtained from the relevant specialists (e.g. Dr Cathy Batt, University of Bradford) as necessary.

• wells; will be hand excavated stratigraphically and in phase. The backfills of the well shaft will be 'half-sectioned' to a maximum depth of 1.2m. The deposits revealed will be recorded using *pro-forma* recording (Context) sheets, photographed and drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 as appropriate, any lining or structure will be cleaned and recorded prior to 100% excavation and investigation of any possible construction cut. Excavation will only continue beyond a depth of 1.2m once the area of excavation has been made safe either by 'stepping' or shoring. Specialist advice (such as Maisie Taylor) will be sought if a preserved wooden lining or water-logged remains are encountered.

#### 50% excavation will be undertaken of

 discrete features, pits, post and stake holes (the latter which are clearly not part of a structure). Pits with a suggestion of 'placed' deposits or which contain significant artefactual/ecofactual assemblages will be 100% excavated as required

#### 10% excavation will be undertaken of

 simple linear features not directly associated with core settlement, with more detailed investigation of intersections/terminals/re-cuts/specialised deposits etc.

A minimum of 25% excavation will be undertaken of linear features associated with settlement in hand excavated slots up to 2m in length.

#### **Building remains**

Building remains may be encountered. These structures are likely to comprise stake holes, post holes, beam slots, gullies and, more rarely masonry foundations or low masonry walls. Associated features may be represented e.g. stone, tile floors, cobbled yard surfaces and hearths.

These features will be fully excavated in plan/phase.

Where encountered the structural remains of early buildings will be hand cleaned to reveal their full extent and then planned at 1:50 or 1:20 as appropriate.

The internal areas will be stratigraphically excavated and recorded by quadrants where appropriate to establish the sequence of post-use deposition and abandonment and to identify any *in situ* occupation or floor surfaces.

Any surviving walls or foundations of structures will be cleaned and recorded using *pro forma* recording (Masonry) sheets. Elevations will be drawn of external and internal wall faces as appropriate. Sections will be excavated and recorded through the fabric of the walls in order to fully understand their construction.

Samples of worked stone, early tile and any bonding or render material will be taken for specialist analysis.

#### Waterlogged Deposits/Remains

Should deposits such as the above be encountered, provision has been made for controlled hand excavation and sampling. Appropriate specialists will be on hand to advise as necessary.

All industrial features will be sampled for appropriate scientific analysis (eg archaeometallurgical, artefactual and environmental analysis). The document Archaeomaetallurgy (English Heritage Centre for Archaeology Guidelines 2001) will be used to give guidance to the project.

#### Sieving Strategy

Dry-sieving of onsite deposits will be carried out to enhance finds recovery.

#### 6 Written Record

6.1 All archaeological deposits and artefacts encountered during the course of the excavation will be fully recorded on the appropriate context, finds and sample forms.

6.2 The site will be recorded using AS's excavation manual which is directly comparable to those used by other professional archaeological organisations, including English Heritage's own Central Archaeological Service. Information contained on the site record forms will be entered into a database programme to enable computerised manipulation of the data. The data entry will be undertaken in tandem with the fieldwork.

#### 7 Photographic Record

7.1 An adequate photographic record of the investigations will be made. It will include black and white prints and colour transparencies (on 35mm) illustrating in both detail and general context the principal features and finds discovered. It will also include 'working and promotional shots' to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operations. The black and white negatives and contacts will be filed, and the colour transparencies will be mounted using appropriate cases. All photographs will be listed and indexed.

#### 8 Drawn Record

8.1 A record of the full extent, in plan, of all archaeological deposits encountered will be drawn on A1 permatrace. The plans will be related to the site, or OS, grid and be drawn at a scale of 1:50. Where appropriate, e.g. recording an inhumation, additional plans at 1:10 will be produced. The sections of all archaeological contexts will be drawn at a scale of 1:10 or, where appropriate, 1:20. The OD height of all principal strata and features will be calculated and indicated on the appropriate plans and sections.

#### 9 Recovery of Finds

#### GENERAL

The principal aim is to ensure that adequate provision is made for the recovery of finds from all archaeological deposits.

The Small Finds, e.g. complete pots or metalwork, from all excavations will be 3-Dimensionally recorded.

A metal detector will be used to enhance finds recovery. The metal detector survey will be conducted on conclusion of the topsoil stripping, and thereafter during the course of the excavation. The spoil tips will also be surveyed. Regular metal detector surveys of the excavation area and spoil tips will reduce the loss of finds to unscrupulous users of metal detectors (treasure hunters). All non-archaeological staff working on the site should be informed that the use of metal detectors is forbidden.

#### WORKED FLINT

When flint knapping debris is encountered large-scale bulk samples will be taken for sieving.

#### POTTERY

It is important that the excavators are aware of the importance of pottery studies and therefore the recovery of good ceramic assemblages. A Roman ceramic specialist will visit during the excavations as required, to provide on-site advice.

The pottery assemblages are likely to provide important evidence to be able to date the structural history and development of the site.

The most important assemblages will come from 'sealed' deposits which are representative of the nature of the occupation at various dates, and indicate a range of pottery types and forms available at different periods.

'Primary' deposits are those which contain sherds contemporary with the soil fill and in simple terms this often means large sherds with unabraded edges. The sherds have usually been deposited shortly after being broken and have remained undisturbed. Such sherds are more reliable in indicating a more precise date at which the feature was 'in use'. Conversely, 'secondary' deposits are those which often have small, heavily abraded sherds lacking obvious conjoins. The sherds are derived from earlier deposits.

The pottery specialist is likely to seek important or key groups which will be studied in detail.

If several sherds from a single pot are found, the other half of the feature will be dug to obtain conjoins and a more complete pottery profile.

#### METALWORKING

The excavation team will be made fully aware of the potential presence of any early metalworking evidence. It is envisaged that where there is evidence for industrial activity, large technological residues will be collected by hand. Separate smaller samples will be collected for micro-slags, as detailed in the EH/HMS *Archaeometallurgy in Archaeological Projects*, Centre for Archaeology Guidelines 2001. Appropriate specialists (e.g. Jane Cowgill/Oxford University Research Laboratory for Archaeology) will be invited to visit the site if significant deposits (e.g. slag) are encountered.

The requirements of the Treasure Act 1996 (with subsequent amendments) will be adhered to, in the event of significant items of metalwork being recovered.

#### HUMAN BONE

If human remains are encountered, AS will obtain an exhumation licence for human remains from the Ministry of Justice.

Post-excavation analysis will follow the guidelines outlined in the English Heritage document *Human Bones from Archaeological Sites, Guidelines for producing assessment documents and analytical reports*, Centre for Archaeology Guidelines 2002.

#### ANIMAL BONE

Animal bone is one of the principal indicators of diet. As with pottery the excavators will be alert to the distinction of primary and secondary deposits. It will also be important that the bone assemblages are derived from dateable contexts.

#### SAMPLING

Provision will be made for the sampling of appropriate materials for specialist and/or scientific analysis (e.g. radiocarbon dating, environmental analysis). The location of samples will be 3-dimensionally recorded and they will also be shown on an appropriate plan. AS has its own environmental sampling equipment (including a pump and transformer) and, if practical, provision will be made to process the soil samples during the fieldwork stage of the project.

The programme of environmental sampling will adhere to the guidelines, in particular, it will accord with *Model clauses on Archaeological Science for Briefs and Specifications* (EH Advisors for Archaeological Science from all 9 regions), December 2000 and the document *Environmental Archaeology; a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*, English Heritage, Centre for Archaeology Guidelines 2011.

If waterlogged remains are found advice on sampling will be obtained on site from Dr Rob Scaife. Dr Rob Scaife and AS will seek advice from the EH Regional Scientific Advisor if significant environmental remains are found. The study of environmental archaeology seeks to understand the local and nearlocal environment of the site in relation to phases of human activity and as such is an important and integral part of any archaeological study. The evaluation report notes the potential of deposits within the site for the preservation of charred plant remains.

Environmental remains, both faunal and botanical, along with pedological and sedimentological analyses may be used to understand the environment and the impact of human activity.

There may be a potential for the recovery of a range of environmental remains (ecofacts) from which data pertaining to past environments, land use and agricultural economy should be forthcoming.

To realise the potential of the environmental material encountered, a range of specialists from different disciplines is likely to be required. The ultimate goal will be the production of an interdisciplinary environmental study which can be of value to an understanding of, and integrated with, the archaeology.

Organic remains may allow study of the contemporary landscape (Romano-British occupation/industrial/agricultural impact and land use) and also changes after the abandonment of the site.

The nature of the environmental evidence

Aspects of sampling and analysis may be divided into four broad categories; faunal remains, botanical remains, soils/sediments and radiocarbon dating measurements.

**a) Faunal remains:** These comprise bones of macro and microfauna, birds, molluscs and insects.

**a.i) Bones:** The study of the animal bone remains, in particular domestic mammals, domestic birds and marine fish will enhance understanding of the development of the settlement in terms of the local economy and also its wider influence through trade. The study of the small animal bones will provide insight into the immediate habitat of any settlement.

The areas of study covered may include all of the domestic mammal and bird species, wild and harvested mammal, birds, marine and fresh water fish in addition to the small mammals, non-harvest birds, reptiles and amphibia.

#### Domestic mammalian stock, domestic birds and harvest fish

The domestic animal bone will provide insight into the different phases of development of any occupation and how the population dealt with the everyday aspect of managing and utilising all aspects of the animal resource.

#### Small animal bones

Archaeological excavation has a wide role in understanding humans' effect on the countryside, the modifications to which have in turn affected and continue to affect

their own existence. Small animals provide information about changing habitats and thereby about human impact on the local environment.

**a.ii) Molluscs:** Freshwater and terrestrial molluscs may be present in ditch and pit contexts which are encountered. Sampling and examination of molluscan assemblages if found will provide information on the local site environment including environment of deposition.

**a.iii) Insects:** If suitable waterlogged contexts (pit, pond and ditch fills) are encountered (which can potentially be expected to be encountered on the project), sampling and assessment will be carried out in conjunction with the analysis of waterlogged plant remains (primarily seeds) and molluscs. Insect data may provide information on local site environment (cleanliness etc.) as well as proxies for climate and vegetation communities.

**b)** Botanical remains: Sampling for seeds, wood, pollen and seeds are the essential elements which will be considered. The former are most likely to be charred but possibly also waterlogged should any wells/ponds be encountered.

**b.i) Pollen analysis:** Sampling and analysis of the primary fills and any stabilisation horizons in ditch and pit contexts which may provide information on the immediate vegetation environment including aspects of agriculture, food and subsistence. These data will be integrated with seed analysis.

**b.ii) Seeds:** It is anticipated that evidence of cultivated crops, crop processing debris and associated weed floras will be present in ditches and pits. If waterlogged features/sediments are encountered (for example, wells/ponds) these will be sampled in relation to other environmental elements where appropriate (particularly pollen, molluscs and possibly insects).

c) Soils and Sediments: Characterisation of the range of sediments, soils and the archaeological deposits are regarded as crucial to and an integral part of all other aspects of environmental sampling. This is to afford primary information on the nature and possible origins of the material sampled. It is anticipated that a range of 'on-site' descriptions will be made and subsequent detailed description and analysis of the principal monolith and bulk samples obtained for other aspects of the environmental investigation. Where considered necessary, laboratory analyses such as loss on ignition and particle size may also be undertaken. A geoarchaeologist will be invited to visit the site as necessary to advise on sampling.

**d) Radiocarbon dating:** Archaeological/artifactual dating may be possible for most of the contexts examined, but radiocarbon dating should not be ruled out

#### Sampling strategies

Provision will be made by the environmental co-ordinator that suitable material for analysis will be obtained. Samples will be obtained which as far as possible will meet the requirements of the assessment and any subsequent analysis. a) Soil and Sediments: Samples taken will be examined in detail in the laboratory. An overall assessment of potential will be carried out. Analysis of particle size and loss on ignition, if required would be undertaken as part of full analysis if assessment demonstrates that such studies would be of value.

**b) Pollen Analysis:** Contexts which require sampling may include stabilisation horizons and the primary fills of the pits and ditches, and possibly organic well/pond fills. It is anticipated that in some cases this will be carried out in conjunction with sampling for other environmental elements, such as plant macrofossils, where these are also felt to be of potential.

Plant Macrofossils: Principal contexts will be sampled directly from the c) excavation for seeds and associated plant remains. It is anticipated that primarily charred remains will be recovered, although provision for any waterlogged sequences will also be made (see below). Sampling for the former will, where possible (that is, avoiding contamination) comprise samples of an average of 40-60 litres which will be floated in the AS facilities for extraction of charred plant remains. Both the flot and residues will be kept for assessment of potential and stored for any subsequent detailed analysis. The residues will also be examined for artifactual remains and also for any faunal remains present (cf. molluscs). Where pit, ditch, well or pond sediments are found to contain waterlogged sediments, principal contexts will be sampled for seeds and insect remains. Standard 5 litre+ samples will be taken which may be sub-sampled in the laboratory for seed remains if the material is found to be especially rich. The full sample will provide sufficient material for insect assessment and analysis. Where wood is found, representative material will be sampled during the excavation and stored wet/moist to facilitate later identification.

d) Bones: Predicting exactly how much of what will be yielded by the excavation is clearly very difficult prior to excavation and it is proposed that in order to efficiently target animal bone recovery there should be a system of direct feedback from the archaeozoologist to the site staff during the excavation, allowing fine tuning of the excavation strategy to concentrate on the recovery of animal bones from features which have the highest potential. This will also allow the faunal remains to materially add to the interpretation as the excavation proceeds. Liaison with other environmental specialists will need to take place in order to produce a complete interdisciplinary study during this phase of activity. In addition, this feedback will aid effective targeting of the post-excavation analysis.

e) Insects: If contexts having potential for insect preservation are found, samples will be taken in conjunction with waterlogged plant macrofossils. Samples of 5 litres will suffice for analysis and will be sampled adjacent to waterlogged seed samples and pollen; or where insufficient context material is available provision will be made for exchange of material between specialists.

**f) Molluscs:** Terrestrial and freshwater molluscs. Samples will be taken from a column from suitable ditches. Pits may be sampled, based on the advice of the Environmental Consultant and / or English Heritage Regional Advisor. Provision will also be made for molluscs obtained from other sampling aspects (seeds) to be examined and/or kept for future requirements.

**g) Archiving:** Environmental remains obtained should be stored in conditions appropriate for analysis in the short to medium term, that is giving the ability for full analysis at a later date without any degradation of samples being analysed. The results will be maintained as an archive at AS and supplied to the EH regional co-ordinator as requested.

#### Waterlogged Deposits/Remains

Should waterlogged deposits (such as wells/deep ditches) be encountered, provision has been made for controlled hand excavation and sampling. Dr Rob Scaife will visit to advise of sampling as required, and AS will take monolith samples as necessary for the recovery of palaeoenvironmental information and dating evidence.

#### Scientific/Absolute Dating

• Samples will be obtained for potential scientific/absolute dating as appropriate (eg Carbon-14).

#### FINDS PROCESSING

The Project Manager (and Project Officer) will have overall responsibility for the finds and will liaise with AS's own finds personnel and the relevant specialists. A person with particular responsibility for finds on site will be appointed for the excavation. The person will ensure that the finds are properly labelled and packaged on site for transportation to AS's field base. The finds processing will take place in tandem with the excavations and will be under the supervision of AS's Finds Officer.

The finds processing will entail first aid conservation, cleaning (if appropriate), marking (if appropriate), categorising, bagging, labelling, boxing and basic cataloguing (the compilation of a Small Finds Catalogue and quantification of bulk finds), i.e., such that the finds are ready to be made available to the specialists.

The Finds Officer, having been advised by the Project Officer and relevant specialists, will select material for conservation. AS's Finds Officer, in conjunction with the Project Officer, will arrange for the specialists to view the finds for the purpose of report writing.

#### APPENDIX B **ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS: PROFILES OF KEY STAFF & SPECIALISTS**

#### DIRECTOR

Qualifications: Archaeology & History BA Hons (1974-77).

Oxford University Dept for External Studies In-Service Course (1979-1980). Member of Institute of Archaeologists since 1985: IFA Council member (1989-1993) Experience: Claire has 25 years' experience in field archaeology, working with the Oxford Archaeological Unit and English Heritage's Central Excavation Unit (now the Centre for Archaeology). She has directed several major excavations (e.g. Barrow Hills, Oxfordshire, and Irthlingborough Barrow Cemetery, Northants), and is the author of many excavation reports e.g. St Ebbe's, Oxford: Oxoniensia 49 (1984) and 54 (1989). Claire moved into the senior management of field archaeological projects with Hertfordshire Archaeological Trust (HAT) in 1990, and she was appointed Manager of HAT in 1996. From the mid 90s HAT has enlarged its staff complement and extended its range of skills. In July 2003 HAT was wound up and Archaeological Solutions was formed. The latter maintains the same staff complement and services as before. AS undertakes the full range of archaeological services nationwide.

#### DIRECTOR

Qualifications: Member of the IfA

Experience: Tom has twenty years' experience in field archaeology, working for the North-Eastern Archaeological Unit (1984-1985), Buckinghamshire County Museum (1985), English Heritage (Stanwick Roman villa (1985-87) and Irthlingborough barrow excavations, Northamptonshire (1987)), and the Museum of London on the Royal Mint excavations (1986-7)., and as a Senior Archaeologist with the latter (1987-Dec 1990). Tom joined HAT at the start of 1991, directing several major multiperiod excavations, including excavations in advance of the A41 Kings Langley and Berkhamsted bypasses, the A414 Cole Green bypass, and a substantial residential development at Thorley, Bishop's Stortford. He is the author of many excavation reports, exhibitions etc. Tom is AS's Health and Safety Officer and is responsible for site management, IT and CAD. He specialises in prehistoric and urban archaeology, and is a Lithics Specialist.

#### **OFFICE MANAGER**

*Experience:* Rose has a very wide range of book-keeping skills developed over many years of employment with a range of companies, principally Rosier Distribution Ltd, Harlow (now part of Securicor) where she managed eight accounts staff. She has a good working knowledge of both accounting software and Microsoft Office.

#### SENIOR PROJECTS MANAGER

Qualifications: History with Landscape Archaeology BA Hons (1985-1988). Experience: Jon has been employed by HAT (now AS) continually since 1989, attaining the position of Senior Projects Manager. Jon has conducted numerous

#### Claire Halpin BA MIfA

Tom McDonald MIfA

#### **Rose Flowers**

Jon Murray BA MIfA

archaeological investigations in a variety of situations, dealing with remains from all periods, throughout London and the South East, East Anglia, the South and Midlands. He is fluent in the execution of (and now project-manages) desk-based assessments/EIAs, historic building surveys (for instance the recording of the Royal Gunpowder Mills at Waltham Abbey prior to its rebirth as a visitor facility), earthwork and landscape surveys, all types of evaluations/excavations (urban and rural) and environmental archaeological investigation (working closely with Dr Rob Scaife), preparing many hundreds of archaeological reports dating back to 1992. Jon has also prepared numerous publications; in particular the nationally-important Saxon site at Gamlingay, Cambridgeshire (Anglo-Saxon Studies in Archaeology & History). Other projects published include Dean's Yard, Westminster (Medieval Archaeology), Brackley (Northamptonshire Archaeology), and a medieval cemetery in Haverhill he excavated in 1997 (Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology). Jon is a senior management principally member of the team. preparing specifications/tenders, co-ordinating and managing the field teams. He also has extensive experience in preparing and supporting applications for Scheduled Monument Consent/Listed Building Consent

#### PROJECTS MANAGER (FIELD & ARCHIVES)

# *Qualifications:* University of Leicester BA (Hons) Archaeology (2003 -2006) *Experience:* Martin worked on archaeological excavations throughout his university career in and around Leicester including two seasons excavating a medieval abbey kitchen at Abbey Park, Leicester with ULAS. He specialised in Iron Age funeral traditions and grave goods for his 3<sup>rd</sup> year dissertation advancing his skills in museum research, database use and academic correspondence. He joined AS in September 2006 as an excavator involved in projects such as Earsham Bronze Age Barrow and cremation site. From May 2007, Martin has moved across to the Post-Excavation team to become Assistant Archives Officer, and thereafter Martin has returned to fieldwork as a Supervisor before being promoted to project management in 2009

#### **PROJECT OFFICER**

*Qualifications:* University of Wroclaw, Poland, Archaeology (1995-2000, MA 2003) *Experience*: Zbigniew has archaeological experience dating from 1995 when as a student he joined an academic group of excavators. He was involved in numerous archaeological projects throughout the Lower Silesia region in southwest Poland and a number of projects in old town of Wroclaw. During his university years he specialized in medieval urban archaeology. He had his own research project working on an early/high medieval stronghold in Pietrzykow. He was a member of a University team which located and excavated an unknown high medieval castle in Wierzbna, Poland. Zbigniew has worked for archaeological contractors in Poland on several projects as a supervisor where he gained experience in all types of evaluations and excavations in urban and rural areas. Recently he worked in Ireland where he completed two large long-term projects for Headland Archaeology Ltd. He joined AS in January 2008 as a Project Officer.

Zbigniew is qualified in the Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) and is a qualified in First Aid at Work (St Johns Ambulance).

#### Martin Brook BA

Zbigniew Pozorski MA

#### SUPERVISOR

#### Gareth Barlow MSc

Qualifications:

University of Sheffield, MSc Environmental Archaeology & Palaeoeconomy (2002-2003)

King Alfred's College, Winchester, Archaeology BA (Hons) (1999-2002)

*Experience:* Gareth worked on a number of excavations in Cambridgeshire before pursuing his degree studies, and worked on many archaeological projects across the UK during his university days. Gareth joined AS in 2003 and has worked on numerous archaeological projects throughout the South East and East Anglia with AS. Gareth was promoted to Supervisor in the Summer 2007.

Gareth is qualified in the Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) and is a qualified in First Aid at Work (St Johns Ambulance).

#### **PROJECT OFFICER**

#### Kamil Orzechowski BA, MA

Kamil Orzechowski joined AS in 2012, as an experienced field archaeologist after spending five years in various commercial archaeology units working on large-scale construction projects including railways and pipelines. Before becoming a field archaeologist, Kamil graduated from the Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan, Poland.

Kamil is qualified in the Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS).

#### Supervisor

#### Julie Walker BSc MA PlfA

*Qualifications:* Queens University Belfast: BSc Archaeology (2007-2010) University of Southampton: MA Osteoarchaeology (2010-2011) *Experience:* Julie is a member of the Institute for Archaeologists and the British Association for Biological Anthropology and Osteoarchaeology. Professionally, Julie has worked for organisations including Albion Archaeology (2014) and Oxford Archaeology East (2014). Through her education, professional employment and voluntary work with organisations such as Wessex Archaeology (2011) and the Centre for Archaeological Fieldwork (Belfast; 2008), Julie has gained a thorough knowledge and experience of archaeological fieldwork and post-excavation practice. Julie's personal research interests include congenital and developmental defects in the Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon periods and she has made several conference presentations on this subject.

#### Supervisor

#### Matthew Baker BA MA

Qualifications:

Cardiff University: BA Archaeology (2008-2011) Cardiff University: MA Archaeology (2012-2013)

*Experience:* Since concluding his higher education, Matthew has worked for a number of archaeological projects and organisations including GeoArch (Cardiff), the Damerham Archaeology Project and Cambridge University. He has a gained a varied experience of archaeological fieldwork and post-excavation practice including geophysical survey/ interpretation and isotopic analysis.

Vincent Monahan BA

Kate Higgs MA (Oxon)

Andrew Newton MPhil PIFA

#### Supervisor

#### *Qualifications:* University College Dublin: BA Archaeology (2007-2012)

*Experience:* Professionally, Vincent has worked for various archaeological groups and projects including the Stonehenge Riverside Project (2008), University College Dublin Archaeological Society (2009-2010) and the Castanheiro do Vento Research Project (2009-2010 (seasonal)). Through his higher education and posts hled, Vincent has gained good experience of archaeological fieldwork including excavation, various sampling techniques and no-site recording.

#### Supervisor

### Kerrie Bull BSc

*Qualifications:* University of Reading: BSc Archaeology (2008-2011) *Experience:* During her undergraduate degree at the University of Reading Kerrie was part of the Lyminge Archaeological Project (2008), the Silchester 'Town Life' Project (2009) and the Ecology of Crusading Research Programme (2011). Through her academic and professional career, Kerrie has gained good experience of archaeological fieldwork/ post-excavation techniques including excavation, on-site recording and environmental sample processing.

## PROJECT OFFICER

Qualifications:

#### (DESK-BASED ASSESSMENTS)

University of Oxford, St Hilda's College Archaeology & Anthropology MA (Oxon) (2001-2004)

*Experience:* Kate has archaeological experience dating from 1999, having taken part in clearance, surveying and recording of stone circles in the Penwith area of Cornwall. During the same period, she also assisted in compiling a database of archaeological and anthropological artefacts from Papua New Guinea, which were held in Scottish museums. Kate has varied archaeological experience from her years at Oxford University, including participating in excavations at a Roman amphitheatre and an early church at Marcham/ Frilford in Oxfordshire, with the Bamburgh Castle Research Project in Northumberland, which also entailed the excavation of human remains at a Saxon cemetery, and also excavating, recording and drawing a Neolithic chambered tomb at Prissé, France. Kate has also worked in the environmental laboratory at the Museum of Natural History in Oxford, and as a finds processor for Oxford's Institute of Archaeology. Since joining AS in November 2004, Kate has researched and authored a variety of reports, concentrating on desk-based assessments in advance of archaeological work and historic building recording.

#### ASSISTANT PROJECTS MANAGER

(POST-EXCAVATION) Qualifications: University

University of Bradford, MPhil (2002-04) University of Bradford, BSc (Hons) Archaeology (1998-2002) University of Bradford, Dip Professional Archaeological Studies (2002)

*Experience:* Andrew has carried out geophysical surveys for GeoQuest Associates on sites throughout the UK and has worked as a site assistant with BUFAU. During 2001 he worked as a researcher for the Yorkshire Dales Hunter-Gatherer Research Project, a University of Bradford and Michigan State University joint research

programme, and has carried out voluntary work with the curatorial staff at Beamish Museum in County Durham. Andrew is a member of the Society of Antiguaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne and a Practitioner Member of the Institute for Archaeologists. Since joining AS in early Summer 2005, as a Project Officer writing desk-based assessments, Andrew has gained considerable experience in post-excavation work. His principal role with AS is conducting post-excavation research and authoring site reports for publication. Significant post-excavation projects Andrew has been responsible for include the Ingham Quarry Extension, Fornham St. Genevieve, Suffolk – a site with large Iron Age pit clusters arranged around a possible wetland area; the late Bronze Age to early Iron Age enclosure and early Saxon cremation cemetery at the Chalet Site, Heybridge, Essex; and, Church Street, St Neots, Cambridgeshire, an excavation which identified the continuation of the Saxon settlement previously investigated by Peter Addyman in the 1960s. Andrew also writes and co-ordinates Environmental Impact Assessments and has worked on a variety of such projects across southern and eastern England. In addition to his research responsibilities Andrew undertakes outreach and publicity work and carries out some fieldwork.

#### PROJECT OFFICER (POST-EXCAVATION)

## Antony Mustchin BSc MSc DipPAS

Qualifications:

University of Bradford BSc (Hons) Bioarchaeology (1999-2003) University of Bradford MSc Biological Archaeology (2004-2005) University of Bradford Diploma in Professional Archaeological Studies (2003)

Experience: Antony has 11 years' experience in field archaeology, gained during his higher education and in the professional sector. Commercially in the UK, Antony has worked for Archaeology South East (2003), York Archaeological Trust (2004) and Special Archaeological Services (2003). He has also undertaken a six-month professional placement as Assistant SMR Officer/ Development Control Officer with Kent County Council (2001-2002). Antony is part-way through writing up a PhD on Viking Age demographics, a long-term academic interest that has led to his gaining considerable research excavation experience across the North Atlantic. He has worked for projects and organisations including the Old Scatness & Jarlshof Environs Project, Shetland (2000-2003), the Viking Unst Project, Shetland (2006-2007), the Heart of the Atlantic Project/ Føroya Fornminnissavn, Faroe Islands (2006-2008) and City University New York/ National Museum of Denmark/ Greenland National Museum and Archives, Greenland (2006 & 2010). Shortly before Joining Archaeological Solutions in November 2011, Antony spent three years working for the Independent Commission for the Location of Victims Remains, assisting in the search for and forensic recovery of "the remains of victims of paramilitary violence ("The Disappeared") who were murdered and buried in secret arising from the conflict in Northern Ireland". Antony has a broad experience of fieldwork and post-excavation practice including specialist (archaeofauna), teaching, supervisory and directing-level posts.

#### POTTERY, LITHICS AND CBM RESEARCHER

#### Andrew Peachey BA MIfA

*Qualifications:* University of Reading BA Hons, Archaeology and History (1998-2001) *Experience:* Andrew joined AS (formerly HAT) in 2002 as a pottery researcher, and rapidly expanded into researching CBM and lithics. Andrew specialises in prehistoric and Roman pottery and has worked on numerous substantial assemblages, principally from across East Anglia but also from southern England. Recent projects have included a Neolithic site at Coxford, Norfolk, an early Bronze Age domestic site at Shropham, Norfolk, late Bronze Age material from Panshanger, Hertfordshire, middle Iron Age pit clusters at Ingham, Suffolk and an Iron Age and early Roman riverside site at Dernford, Cambridgshire. Andrew has worked on important Roman kiln assemblages, including a Nar Valley ware production site at East Winch Norfolk, a face-pot producing kiln at Hadham, Hertfordshire and is currently researching early Roman Horningsea ware kilns at Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire. Andrew is an enthusiastic member of the Study Group for Roman Pottery, and also undertakes pottery and lithics analysis as an 'external' specialist for a range of archaeological units and local societies in the south of England.

#### POTTERY RESEARCHER

Qualifications:

RCHER Peter Thompson MA University of Bristol BA (Hons), Archaeology (1995-1998)

University of Bristol MA; Landscape Archaeology (1998-1999) *Experience:* As a student, Peter participated in a number of projects, including the excavation of a Cistercian monastery cemetery in Gascony and surveying an Iron Age promontory hillfort in Somerset. Peter has two years excavation experience with the Bath Archaeological Trust and Bristol and Region Archaeological Services which includes working on a medieval manor house and a post-medieval glass furnace site of national importance. Peter joined HAT (now AS) in 2002 to specialise in Iron Age, Saxon and Medieval pottery research and has also produced desk-based assessments. Pottery reports include an early Iron pit assemblage and three complete Early Anglo-Saxon accessory vessels from a cemetery in Dartford, Kent.

#### PROJECT OFFICER (OSTEOARCHAEOLOGY)

Qualifications:

University of Bradford, PhD (2002-2010) University of Bradford, BSc (Hons) Bioarchaeology (1997-2001) University of Bradford, Dip. Professional Archaeological Studies (2001)

Julia Cussans PhD

*Experience*: Julia has c. 12 years of archaeozoological experience. Whilst undertaking her part time PhD she also worked as a specialist on a variety of projects in northern Britain including Old Scatness (Shetland), Broxmouth Iron Age Hillfort and Binchester Roman Fort. Additionally Julia has extensive field experience and has held lead roles in excavations in Shetland and the Faroe Islands including, Old Scatness, a large multi-period settlement centred on an Iron Age Broch; the Viking Unst Project, an examination of Viking and Norse houses on Britain's most northerly isle; the Laggan Tormore Pipeline (Firths Voe), a Neolithic house site in Shetland; the Heart of the Atlantic Project, an examination of Viking settlement in the Faroes and Við Kirkjugarð, an early Viking site on Sanday, Faroe Islands. Early on in her career Julia also excavated at Sedgeford, Norfolk as part of SHARP and in

Pompeii, Italy as part of the Anglo-American Project in Pompeii. Since joining AS in October 2011 Julia has worked on animal bone assemblages from Beck Row, a Roman villa site at Mildenhall, Suffolk and Sawtry, an Iron Age, fen edge site in Cambridgeshire. Julia is a full and active member of the International Council for Archaeozoology, the Professional Zooarchaeology Group and the Association for Environmental Archaeology.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGIST

Qualifications:

**Dr John Summers** 

2006-2010: PhD "The Architecture of Food" (University of Bradford)

2005-2006: MSc Biological Archaeology (University of Bradford) 2001-2005: BSc Hons. Bioarchaeology (University of Bradford)

Experience: John is an archaeobotanist with a primary specialism in the analysis of carbonised plant macrofossils and charcoal. Prior to joining Archaeological Solutions, John worked primarily in Atlantic Scotland. His research interests involve using archaeobotanical data in combination with other archaeological and palaeoeconomic information to address cultural and economic research questions. John has made contributions to a number of large research projects in Atlantic Scotland, including the Old Scatness and Jarlshof Environs Project (University of Bradford), the Viking Unst Project (University of Bradford) and publication work for Bornais Mound 1 and Mound 2 (Cardiff University). He has also worked with plant remains from Thruxton Roman Villa, Hampshire, as part of the Danebury Roman Environs Project (Oxford University/ English Heritage). John's role at AS is to analyse and report on assemblages of plant macro-remains from environmental samples and provide support and advice regarding environmental sampling regimes and sample processing. John is a member of the Association for Environmental Archaeology.

#### **SENIOR GRAPHICS OFFICER**

Experience: Kathren has twenty-five years' experience in archaeology, working as a planning supervisor on sites from prehistoric to late medieval date, including urban sites in London and rural sites in France/Italy, working for the Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit, Passmore Edwards Museum, DGLA and Central Excavation Unit of English Heritage (at Stanwick and Irthlingborough, Northamptonshire). She has worked with AS (formerly HAT) since 1992, becoming Senior Graphics Officer. Kathren is AS's principal photographer, specializing in historic building survey, and she manages AS's photographic equipment and dark room. She is in charge of AS's Graphics Department, managing computerised artwork and report production. Kathren is also the principal historic building surveyor/illustrator, producing on-site and off-site plans, elevations and sections.

#### HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING

**Tansy Collins BSc** University of Sheffield, Archaeological Sciences BSc (Hons) Qualifications: (1999-2002)

Experience: Tansy's archaeological experience has been gained on diverse sites throughout England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Tansy joined AS in 2004 where she developed skills in graphics, backed by her grasp of archaeological

#### Kathren Henry

interpretation and on-site experience, to produce hand drawn illustrations of pottery, and digital illustrations using a variety of packages such as AutoCAD, Corel Draw and Adobe Illustrator. She joined the historic buildings team in 2005 in order to carry out both drawn and photographic surveys of historic buildings before combining these skills with authoring historic building reports in 2006. Since then Tansy has authored numerous such reports for a wide range of building types; from vernacular to domestic architecture, both timber-framed and brick built with date ranges varying from the medieval period to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. These projects include a number of regionally and nationally significant buildings, for example a previously unrecognised medieval aisled barn belonging to a small group of nationally important agricultural buildings, one of the earliest surviving domestic timber-framed houses in Hertfordshire, and a Cambridgeshire house retaining formerly hidden 17<sup>th</sup> century decorative paint schemes. Larger projects include The King Edward VII Sanatorium in Sussex, RAF Bentley Priory in London as well as the Grade I Listed Balls Park mansion in Hertfordshire.

#### ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS: PRINCIPAL SPECIALISTS

GEOPHYSICAL SURVEYS AIR PHOTOGRAPHIC ASSESSMENTS PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEYS PREHISTORIC POTTERY ROMAN POTTERY SAXON & MEDIEVAL POTTERY POST-MEDIEVAL POTTERY FLINT GLASS COINS

METALWORK & LEATHER SLAG ANIMAL BONE HUMAN BONE: ENVIRONMENTAL CO-ORDINATOR POLLEN AND SEEDS: CHARCOAL/WOOD SOIL MICROMORPHOLOGY CARBON-14 DATING: Stratascan Ltd Air Photo Services

Ms K Henry Mr A Peachey Mr A Peachey Mr P Thompson Mr P Thompson Mr A Peachey H Cool British Museum, Dept of Coins & Medals Ms Q Mould, Ms N Crummy Ms J Cowgill Dr J Cussans Ms J Curl Dr R Scaife

Dr R Scaife Dr J Summers Dr R MacPhail, Dr C French English Heritage Ancient Monuments Laboratory (for advice). University of Leicester

CONSERVATION

#### APPENDIX 4 OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM

# **OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England**

List of Projects | Manage Projects | Search Projects | New project | Change your details | HER coverage | Change country | Log out

#### **Printable version**

#### OASIS ID: archaeol7-212660

#### **Project details**

Project name	Land West of Mill House, The Street, Darsham, Suffolk
Short description of the project	Between October and November 2014, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) undertook and archaeological excavation on land to the west of Mill House, The Street, Darsham. The excavation was carried out in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning approval for the construction of 15 new dwellings and was preceded by an archaeological trial trench evaluation, also conducted by AS (dated 19/03/2014 to 26/03/2014). In the event, the project encountered an enclosed medieval (12th to 14th century) landscape including at least one enclosure and possible field boundaries. The medieval enclosure may have formed part of a toft and croft-type peasant holding including 'backyard' activity, chiefly confined to the north-eastern part of the site. The latter included refuse pits, a ?well and possible quarry features. A possible pond was also present and may have served as a domestic and/ or agricultural water source. The finds evidence hints at the presence of a medieval building in the near vicinity, while the economy was dominated by wheat-based agriculture. The medieval site declined at some point during the 14th century and was superseded, indirectly, by limited evidence of post-medieval/ early modern activity, including possible structural remains. The only earlier evidence from the site comprises two Romano-British cremation deposits, one of which was radiocarbon dated and produced a calibrated date range of 20-175 cal AD (93.4%) and 190-210 cal AD (2.0%) at 95.4% confidence.
Project dates	Start: 19-03-2014 End: 14-11-2014
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	P5673 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	DAR 030 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 15 - Other
Monument type	PITS Medieval
Monument type	DITCHES Medieval
Monument type	?WELL Medieval
Monument type	?POND Medieval
Monument type	DITCHES Post Medieval
Significant Finds	STRUCK FLINT Early Neolithic

Significant Finds	CREMATED BONE Roman
Significant Finds	CU ALLOY BROACH Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Investigation type	"Full excavation"
Prompt	Planning condition

#### **Project location**

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK SUFFOLK COASTAL DARSHAM Land West of Mill House, The Street, Darsham, Suffolk
Study area	0.80 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 41490 70170 52.2759528985 1.54040007161 52 16 33 N 001 32 25 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 25.00m Max: 28.00m

#### **Project creators**

Name of Organisation	Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Project brief originator	SCC AS Conservation Team
Project design originator	Jon Murray
Project director/manager	Jon Murray
Project supervisor	Jim Fairclough
Project supervisor	Kamil Orzechowski
Type of sponsor/funding body	Hopkins Homes

#### **Project archives**

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County Archaeological Store
Physical Contents	"Ceramics", "Worked stone/lithics", "other"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County Archaeological Store
Digital Contents	"Survey"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County Archaeological Store
Paper Contents	"Survey"
Paper Media available	"Drawing","Photograph","Plan","Report","Survey "

Project bibliography 1

	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Publication type	
Title	Land West of Mill House, The Street, Darsham, Suffolk
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Mustchin, A
Other bibliographic details	Archaeological Solutions Report No. 4864
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	Archaeological Solutions Ltd
Place of issue or publication	Bury St Edmunds
Entered by	Sarah Powell (info@ascontracts.co.uk)
Entered on	2 June 2015

## **OASIS:**

#### Please e-mail Historic England for OASIS help and advice

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#### PLATES



Plate 1: Phase 1 Pits F1003 (L1004; L) and F1005 (L1006; R) (50 per cent excavated), looking N



Plate 2: Phase 2 Enclosure Ditch F1017 (=2020=2045 (Seg.E)) (post-excavation), looking S



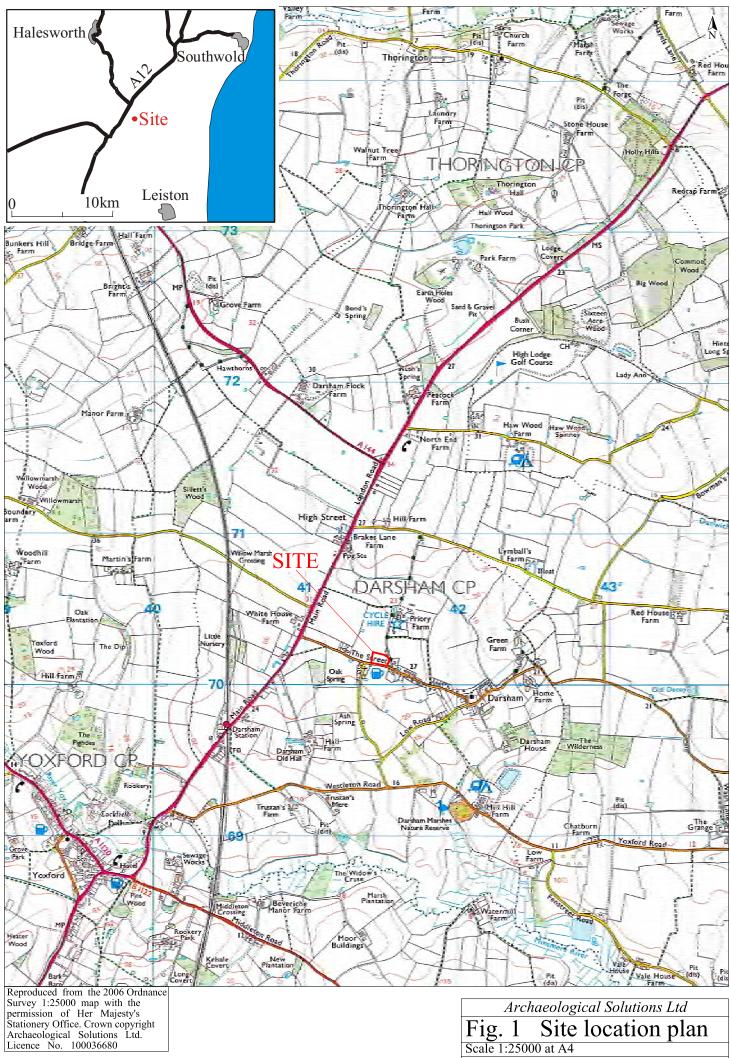
Plate 3: Phase 2 Ditch F2042 (Seg.C), ?Pond F2059 (Seg. B; L) and Phase 3 Ditch F2065 (Seg.B; R) (post-excavation), looking E



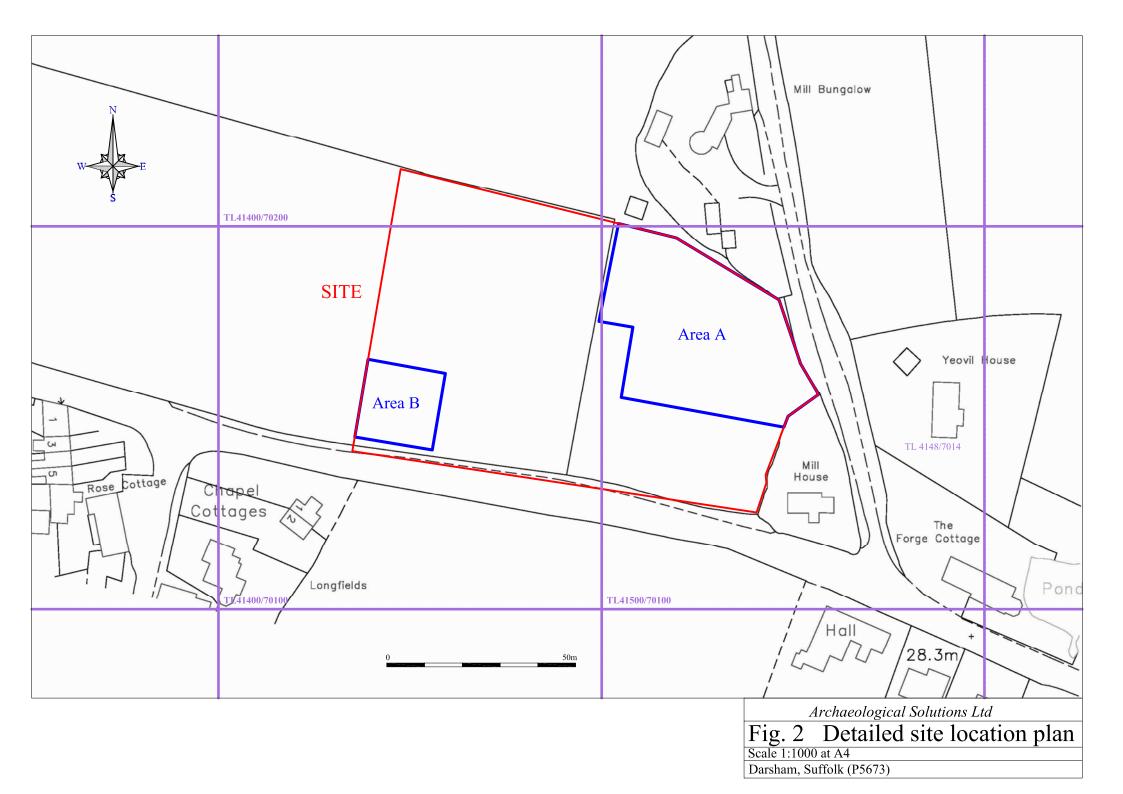
Plate 4: Phase 2 Pit F2051 (post-excavation), looking N

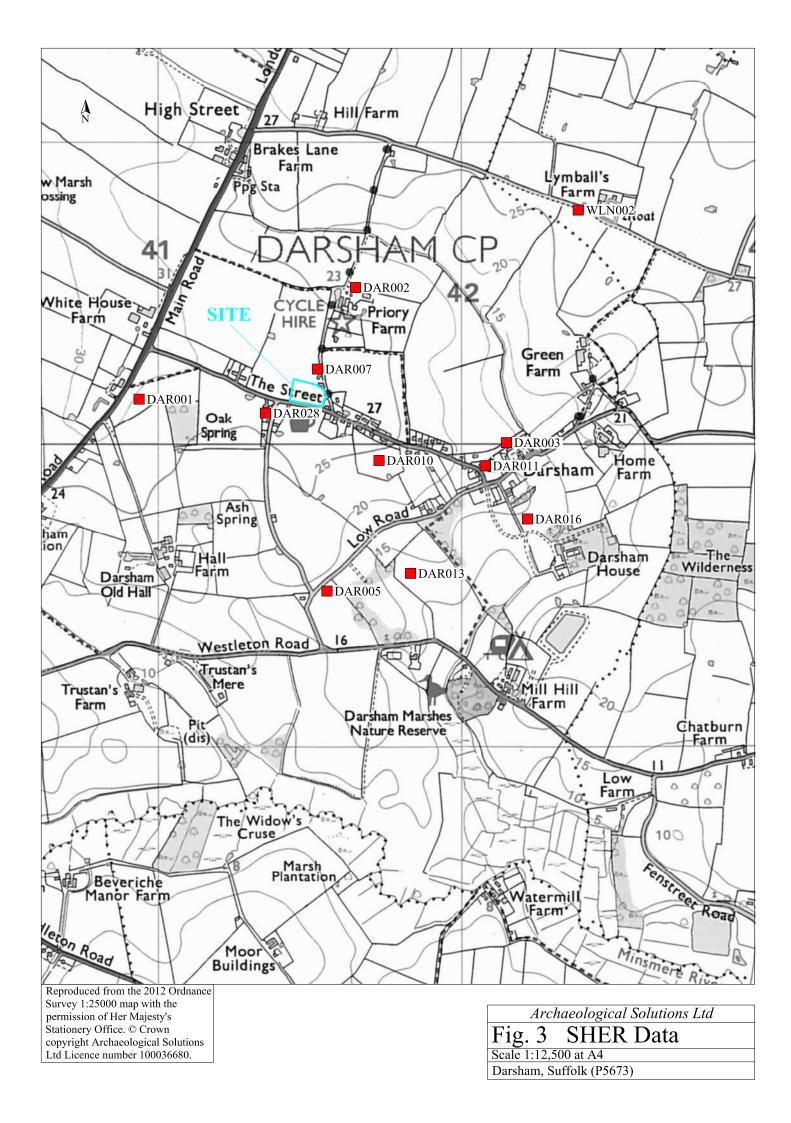


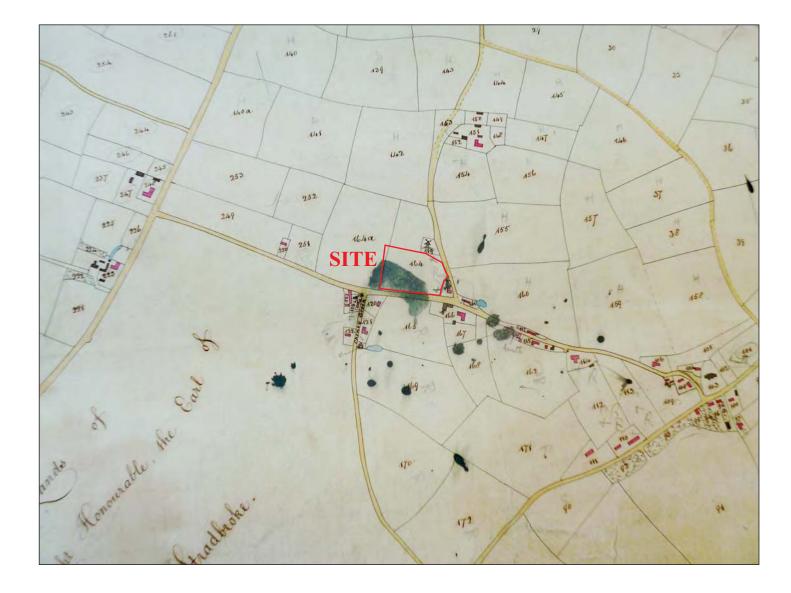
Plate 5: Phase 3 Ditch F2005 (post-excavation), looking N



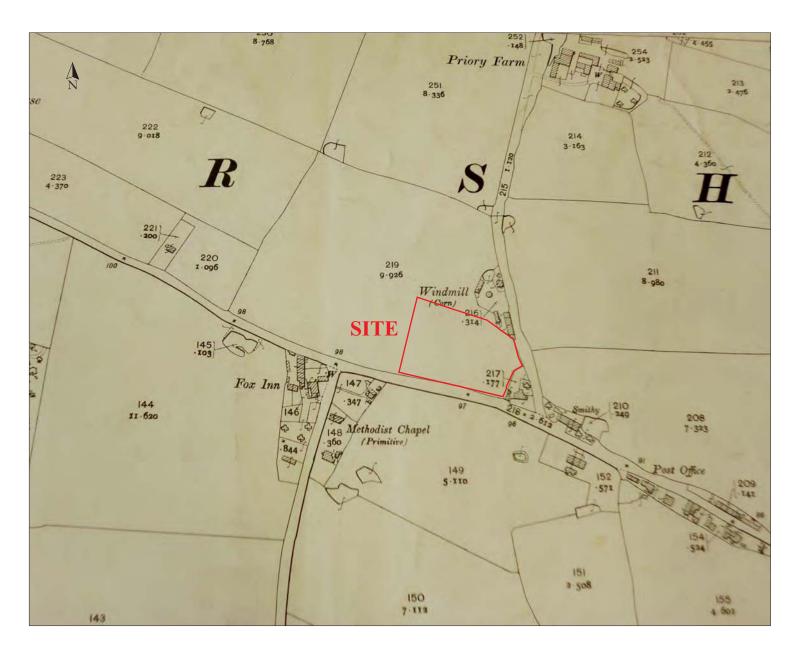
Darsham, Suffolk (P5673)



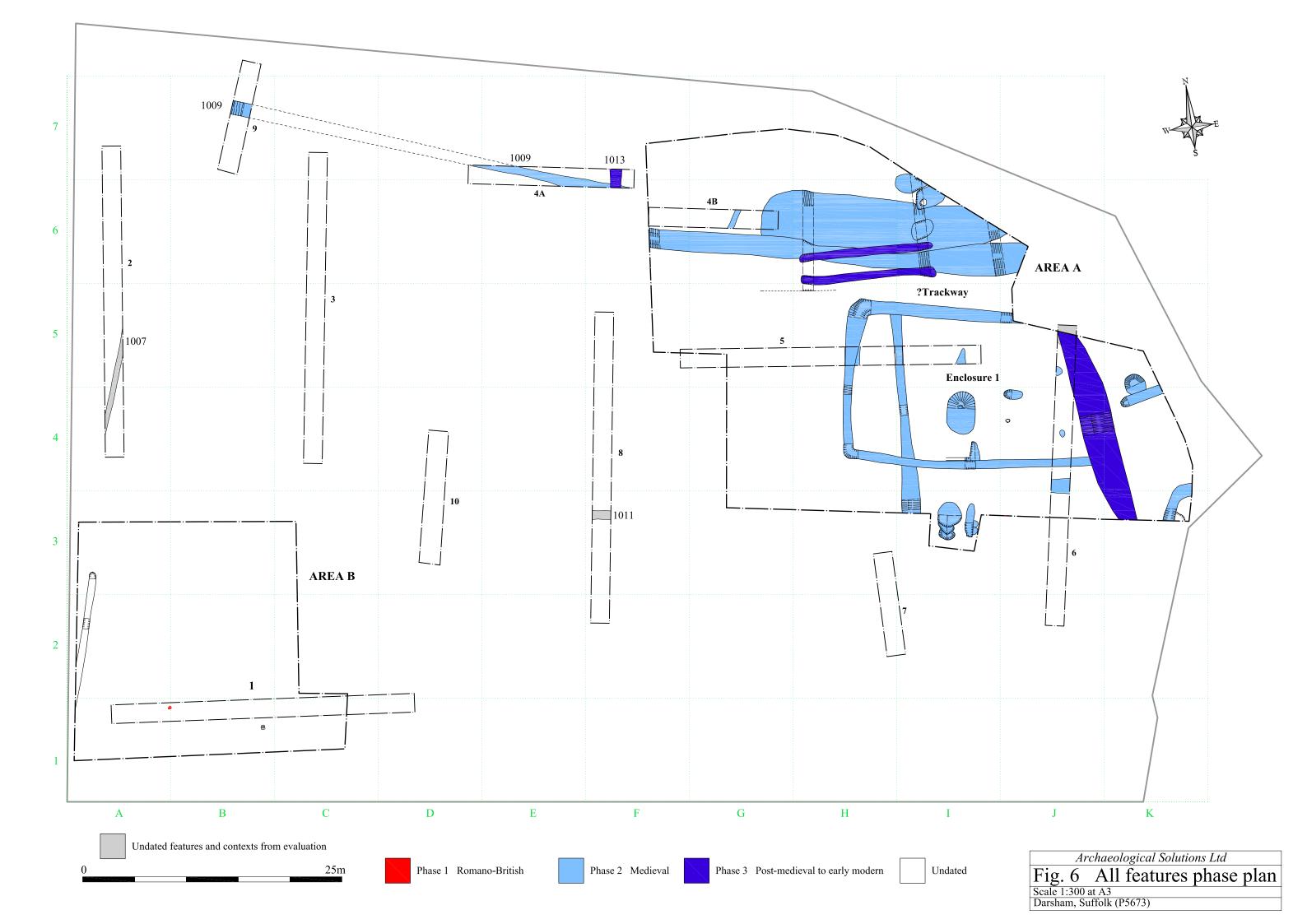


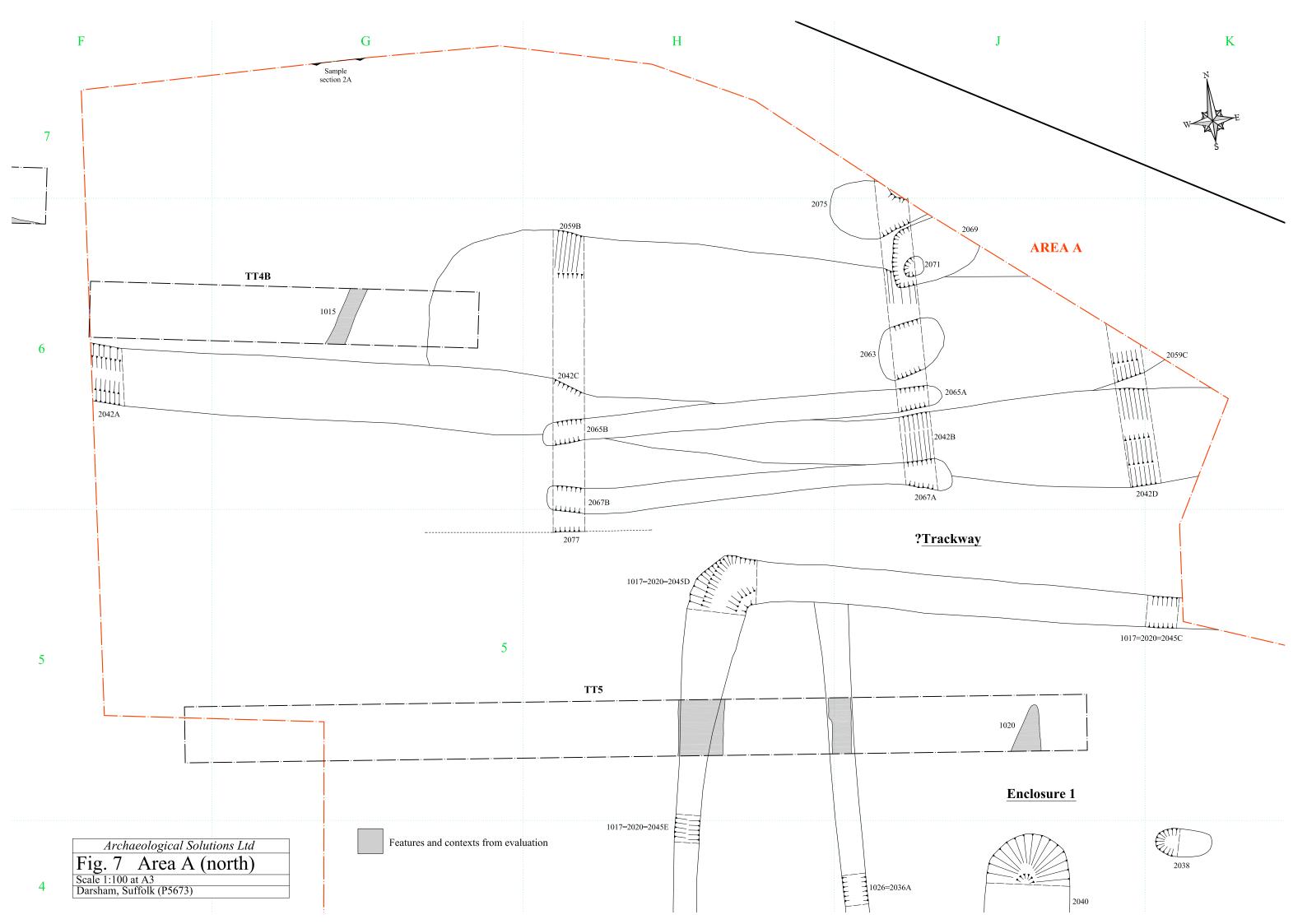


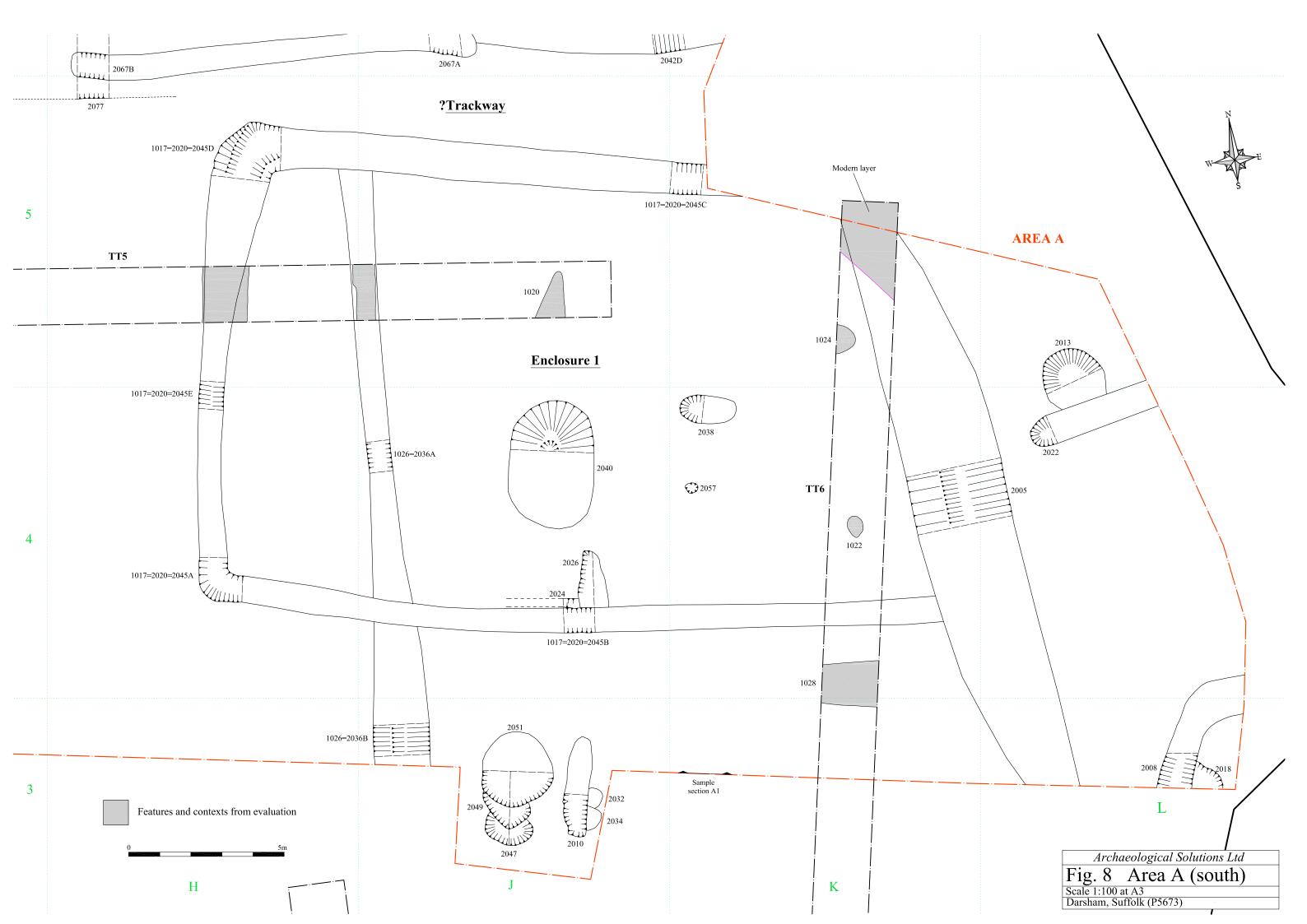
Arch	aeological Solutions Ltd	
	Tithe map, 1843	
Not to scale		
Darsham, Su	ffolk (P5673)	

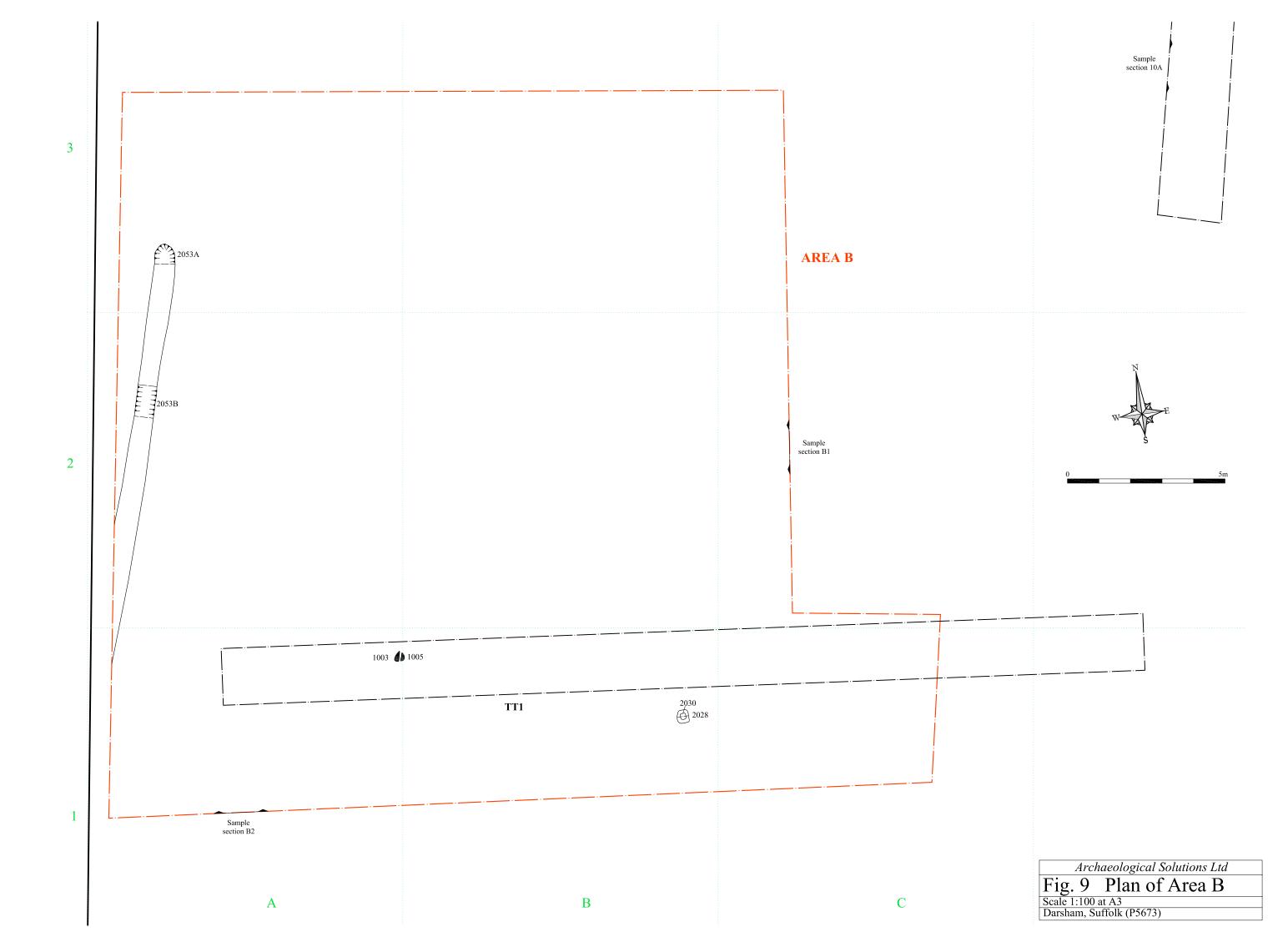


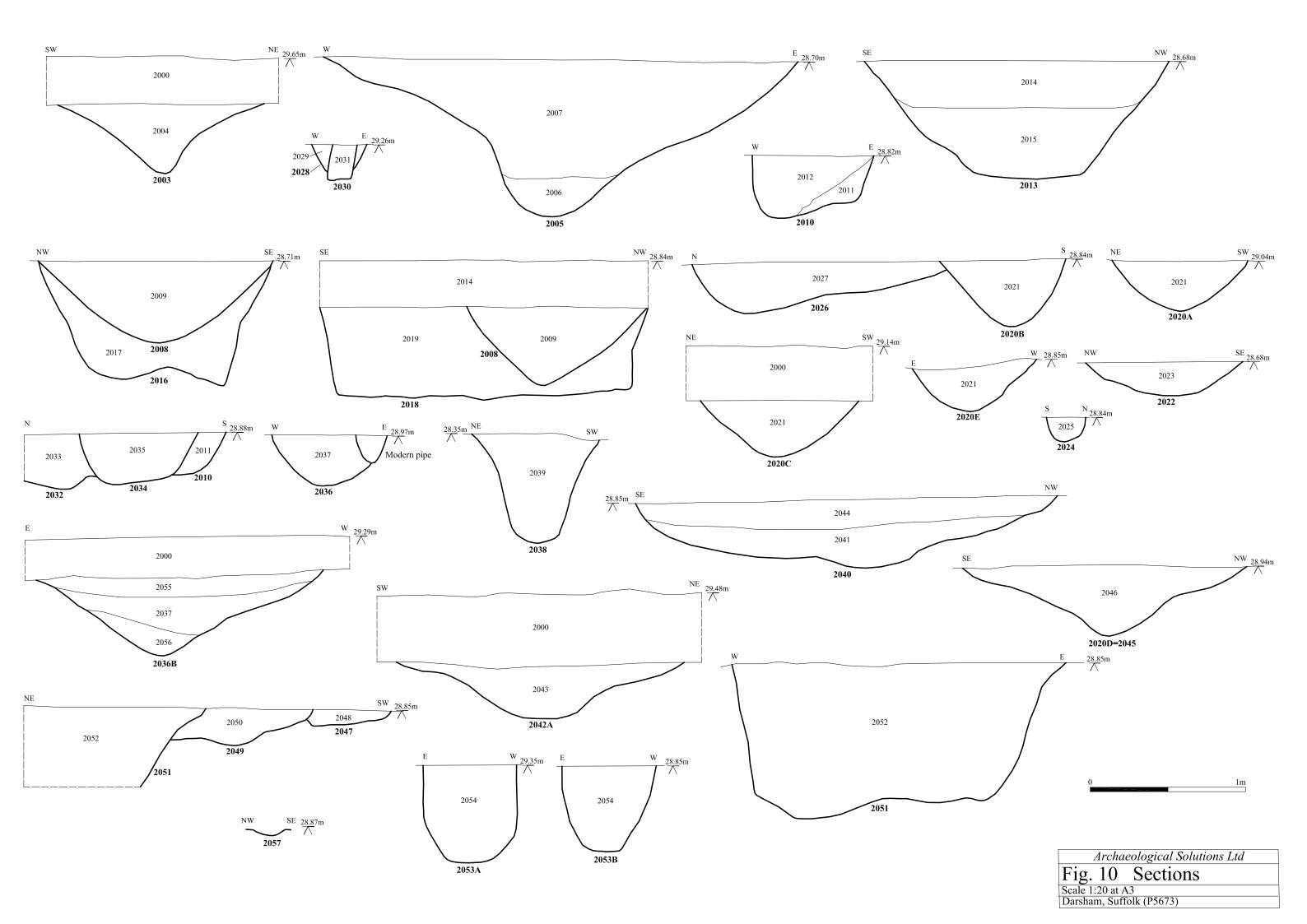
Archaeolo	gical S	olutions Lt	d
Fig5	OS	map,	1904
Not to scale			
Darsham, <b>Sof</b> k	(P567	'3)	

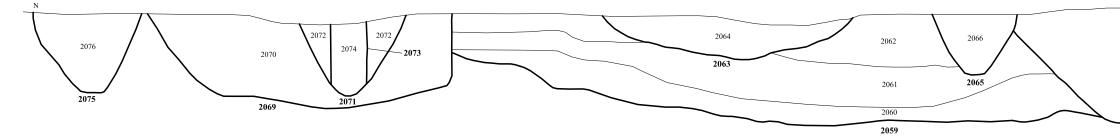


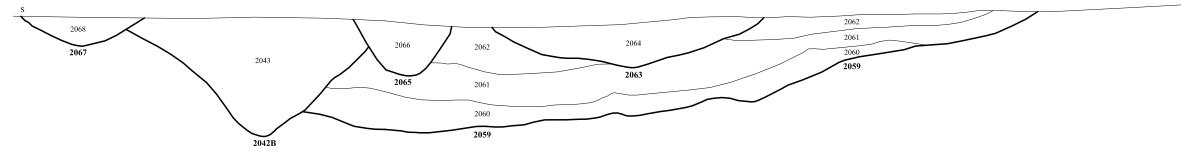


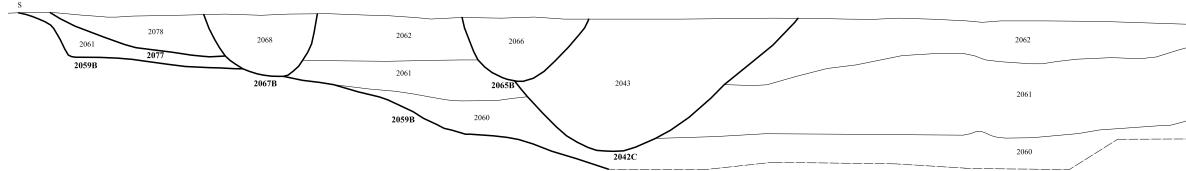


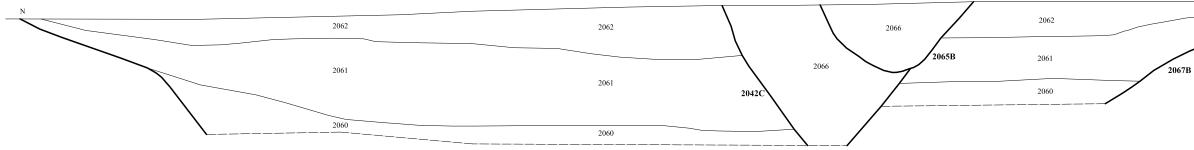




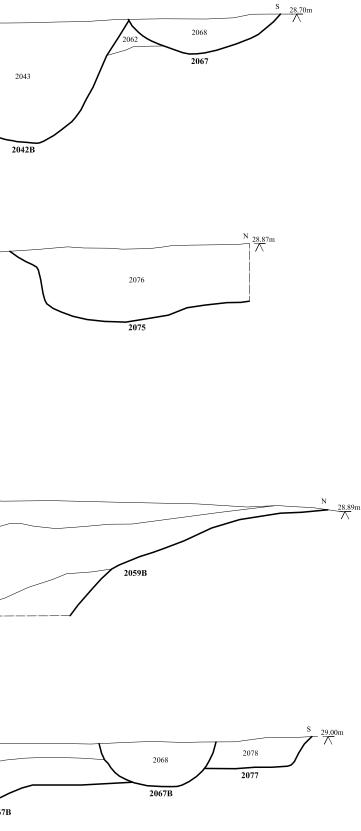


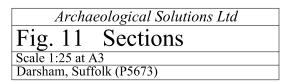


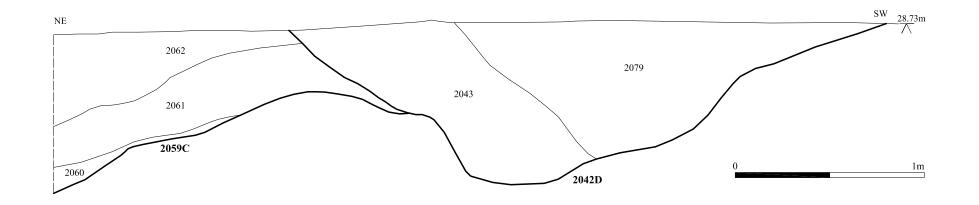


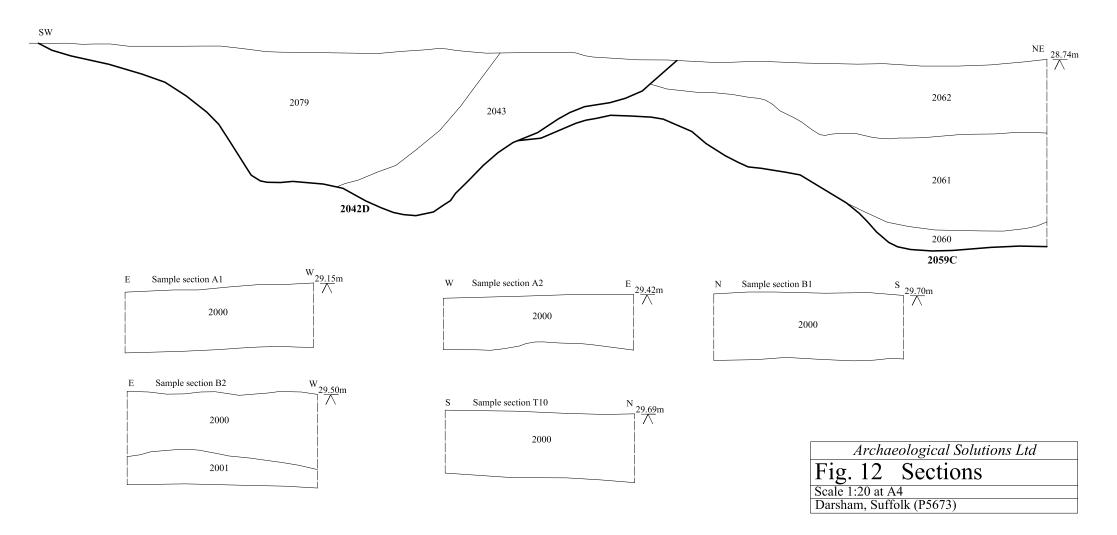


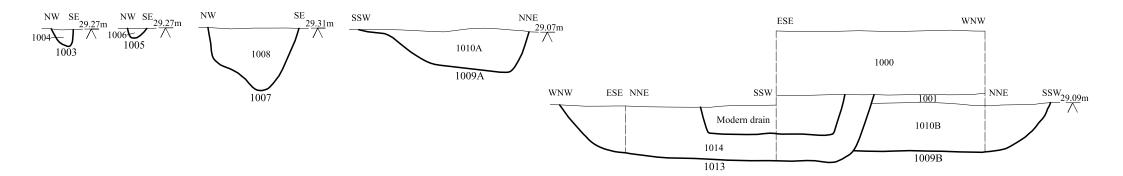
2m

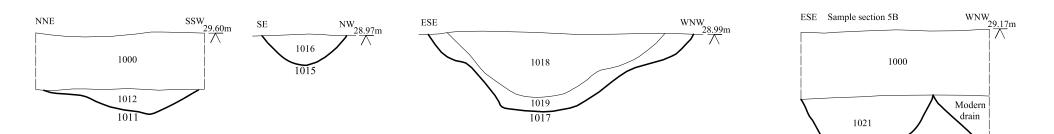


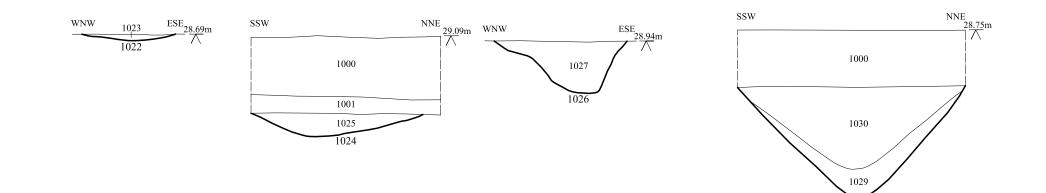






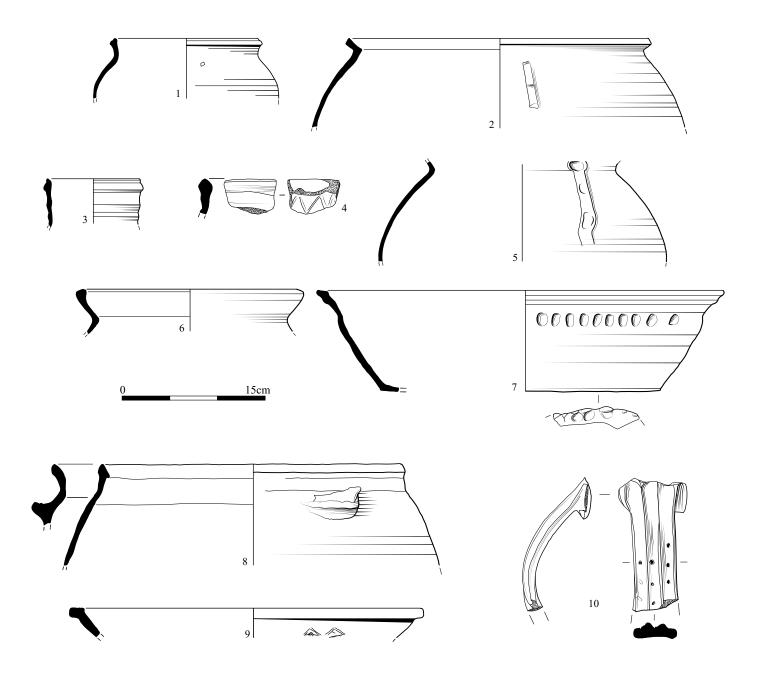






lm

Arch	aeological Solutions Ltd
	Trial trench sections
Scale 1:20 at A	
Darsham, Suf	folk (P5673)



Archaeological Solutions Ltd	
Fig. 14 Pottery illustrations	
Scale 1:4 at A4	
Darsham, Suffolk (P5673)	