1.1 LAND TO THE REAR OF 52 HIGH STREET, BILDESTON, SUFFOLK:

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER:

DC/20/03176

SITE CODE: BIL 057

OASIS REF: PRECONST1-411882

PCA REPORT NO. 15069

AUGUST 2022

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

Land to the Rear of 52 High Street, Bildeston, Suffolk: An Archaeological Evaluation.

Local Planning Authority:	**Babergh District Council**
Planning Reference:	**DC/20/03176**
Central National Grid Reference:	**NGR TL 9936 4924**
Site Code:	**BIL 057**
Oasis No.	**preconst1-411882**
Report No.	**R15069**
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ABSTRACT

Between 4th and 5th July 2022 Pre-Construct Archaeology carried out a trenched archaeological evaluation of land to the rear of 52 High Street, Bildeston, Suffolk, in advance of redevelopment of the site for two storage/ workshop buildings. The trenches found that the ground in this 'backyard' plot to the rear of the street frontage has been disturbed to a considerable depth by c. 20th-century outbuildings, demolition and landscaping. Nevertheless, a disturbed subsoil in Trench 1 sealed a preserved later prehistoric soil horizon/ land surface, present at a depth of about 0.88m below existing ground level, which contained a moderate-sized assemblage of later Bronze Age to Iron Age struck flints. At the same stratigraphic level in the base of the trench was a small pit containing struck flint and a sherd of flint-and-sand-tempered Late Bronze Age–Early Iron Age pottery. The results of the evaluation are of some significance, this being the first evidence of later Bronze Age/ earlier Iron Age activity recorded in Bildeston. However, the wider landscape context of the site, on relatively light soil in the valley of the river Brett, just 160m from the river, is in keeping with known patterns of settlement and land use during later prehistory.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 A programme of archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. (PCA) on land to the rear of 52 High Street, Bildeston, Suffolk, IP7 7EA (centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 9936 4924; Figure 1; Plate 1) between the 4th and 5th July 2022.

1.2 The archaeological work was commissioned by Matt Higgins in response to an archaeological planning condition attached to the erection of 2no. workshop/storage shed buildings (Use Class B1, B8) and erection of a boundary fence and gate, following demolition of the existing building (Babergh District Council Planning Ref. DC/20/03176, conditions 8 and 9). The condition was requested by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS) owing to the high archaeological potential of the site's location. This was in accordance with National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2019, updated July 2021) Section 16: 'Conserving and enhancing the historic environment', paras 189 to 208.

1.3 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Tom Woolhouse of PCA (Woolhouse 2022; Appendix 5) in response to a Brief for archaeological evaluation issued by Gemma Stewart of SCCAS (Stewart 2020). All work relating to the project was also carried out in accordance with the SCCAS (2020, updated December 2021) *Requirements for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation*, the *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a, revised October 2021) and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (CIfA 2014b, revised October 2020). The project was managed in accordance with the Historic England (formerly English Heritage) procedural document *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (HE 2015).

1.4 The broad aims of the evaluation were to determine the location, date, extent, character, condition and quality of any archaeological remains on the site, to

assess the significance of any such remains in a local, regional, or national context, as appropriate, and to assess the potential impact of the development proposals on the site's archaeology.

1.5 In view of the site's location in an area with known high archaeological potential, particularly for the later prehistoric, Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods, specific objectives of the evaluation were to identify:

-any evidence of prehistoric activity on the lower slopes of the Brett valley, perhaps associated with the Middle to Late Iron Age settlement and funerary remains identified a short distance to the east of the site (Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER) BIL 046; White and Hodges 2019).

-any evidence of Roman occupation, agriculture or other activity. Roman field boundary ditches and materials deriving from a large masonry building were found in recent trial trenching 150m east of the site (SHER BIL 046; White and Hodges 2019).

-any evidence of medieval occupation to the rear of the High Street frontage, in particular any evidence for a planned layout following the relocation of the settlement at Bildeston to its present position from the later 13th century.

-any evidence of post-medieval occupation, industry or other 'backyard' activity, perhaps associated with Bildeston's role in textile manufacture.

1.6 A total of two evaluation trenches, totalling 18m of trenching, were excavated and recorded (Figure 2).

1.7 This report describes the results of the evaluation and aims to inform the design of an appropriate archaeological mitigation strategy for the site's redevelopment. Following Transfer of Title from the landowner, the site physical and paper archives will be compiled in accordance with the SCCAS *Guidelines for Archive Preparation and Deposition* (Minter and Rigden 2022) and deposited with the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Archives Service. The site digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS).

2 SITE LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

2.1 Site Location (Figure 1)

2.1.1 Bildeston is a village in south Suffolk, 15km west of Ipswich and 10km south-west of Stowmarket. The modern settlement is compact and broadly linear in overall form, extending north-west to south-east along the line of the High Street, with modern housing development also extending north-eastwards along Wattisham Road.

2.1.2 No. 52 is on the east side of the High Street, opposite the Red Lion public house and Bildeston Health Centre. The site is currently a scrub/ yard area to the rear of the buildings along the street frontage, previously occupied by a single-storey outbuilding used for storage (recently demolished) and accessed via a carriage entrance. The site area, including access from the High Street, is 396m².

2.2 Geology

2.2.1 The site is located on Newhaven Chalk formation bedrock geology with Lowestoft formation superficial deposits, consisting of glacio-fluvial silts, sands, clays and gravels (BGS 2020). A short distance to the west is a narrow band of alluvial deposits associated with the course of the river Brett and its tributaries.

2.3 Topography

2.3.1 The site is at an elevation of approximately 39–40m above Ordnance Datum (AOD) and is relatively level.

2.3.2 The main settlement at Bildeston is located on the floor of the valley of a tributary of the river Brett, which flows southwards to join the main river 1.5km away between Nedging and Chelsworth. The land rises fairly steeply on all sides of the village, to *c*. 60–80m OD. The earlier medieval settlement at Bildeston was focused around the now-isolated parish church of St Mary Magdelene, on a hilltop half a mile west of the High Street, where there are also surviving medieval earthworks.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 General

3.1.1 The site is located within the presumed extent of the medieval town of Bildeston, defined from historic maps (particularly Hodskinson's map of 1783) and the locations of listed buildings (Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER) BIL 022). Notably, the rear boundary of the site corresponds with a boundary shown on the mid-19th-century Bildeston tithe map, which forms the rear boundary of a number of properties on the east side of the High Street, and which corresponds with the projected south-eastern limit of the medieval settlement. This boundary could potentially be associated with a medieval planned layout of properties along the southern part of the High Street.

3.2 Prehistoric (*c*. 800,000 BC–AD 42)

3.2.1 A possible Acheulean (*c*. 531,000–298,000 BC) pointed handaxe was recovered from the surface of a ploughed field on Church Farm, 800m west of the site (SHER BIL 040).

3.2.2 A Mesolithic (*c*. 9000–4000 BC) flint scatter, including a tranchet axe, micro-burin, microlith and several blades, is recorded 370m south-west of the site, close to the river, near the junction of the High Street and Bildeston Road (SHER BIL 002). A further Mesolithic tranchet axe has been found in a garden at 106 High Street, 150m north of the site (SHER BIL 012).

3.2.3 Recent archaeological evaluation of land 150m east of the present site found postholes and a pit of Middle to Late Iron Age date, in addition to a heavily-truncated cremation of possible later prehistoric date. A series of ditches dating to the Romano-British period might indicate some agricultural use of the area around the 2nd century AD. Large quantities of ceramic building materials recovered from these ditches indicate a well-built Roman building in the vicinity (SHER BIL 046; White and Hodges 2019).

3.3 Roman (*c*. AD 43–410)

3.3.1 A scatter of (predominantly late) Roman pottery and ceramic building material was recorded in the 1970s, 250m west of the site, in the field on the opposite

bank of the river Brett. There may also be soil-marks of field boundaries extending downslope to the river here (SHER BIL 004; Google Maps 2020). First- and second-century Roman coins (of Titus and Septimus Severus) have been found during building work on Chapel Street, 250m north-west of the site (SHER BIL 003). A sherd from a Late Iron Age 'Belgic' jar is recorded from the back garden of no. 17 Duke Street, slightly further to the north (SHER BIL 033). A Roman road (Margary 34a; 1973, 265) is likely to have extended past Bildeston, to the north of the modern village, although its suggested alignment is mainly based on extrapolation from better-known stretches of the route (SHER BIL 008, HTC 019). However, one stretch, to the north-east of the village and heading towards the Roman 'small town' at Coddenham, is preserved in the course of Needham Lane and the parish boundary with Wattisham (SHER BIL 009).

3.4 Anglo-Saxon and Medieval (*c*. AD 411–1540)

3.4.1 Before the Norman Conquest, an estate of six carucates in Bildeston was held by Queen Edith, wife of Edward the Confessor. The estate had passed to Walter the Deacon by 1086. Domesday Book records 20 households, with three plough-teams belonging to the villagers, three to the lord and another to the priest.

3.4.2 The parish church of St Mary Magdelene (SHER BIL 007) stands in an isolated position on high ground half a mile west of the modern village. To the west of the church, a circular moat 75m in diameter marked the site of the medieval manor of Bildeston Hall (SHER BIL 014) until it was bulldozed and partly built over in 1974 (SHER BIL 001). A sub-rectangular marshy depression to the south may have been a fishpond, while linear depressions to the south and east are the possible hollow-ways and building platforms of a deserted medieval village, all now heavily ploughed and levelled. Thirteenth-century pottery has been ploughed up in this field. When the 14th-century church tower partially collapsed in 1975, numerous fragments of limestone with oblique Norman tooling-marks were found amongst the rubble, suggesting reuse from a 12th-century church on the site (Sue Andrews 2020).

3.4.3 The Loveyn/Lovaine family were lords in the 13th and first half of the 14th

centuries. Matthew de Loveyne, then lord of the manor, was granted a charter for a market on the Stowmarket to Hadleigh Road in 1264. This may have precipitated the relocation of the settlement at Bildeston from the hilltop to a new site ('Nubury') in the valley bottom, although the move may have been a gradual one and connected more with easy access to the water which helped to fuel Bildeston's flourishing broadcloth industry in the 15th and 16th centuries. When the Revett family took over the manor in 1603, only the manor house and the church remained on the comparatively bleak hill, although houses on the road to the church are still shown on early-19th-century maps (Andrews 2020).

3.4.4 Bildeston became famous for blue broadcloth, and buildings housing dyers, weavers, shearmen, spinners and clothiers were erected to form Chapel Street and Duke Street during the 15th and 16th centuries. Also constructed was a wool hall where the commerce of the wool trade was conducted; this survives but is now split into two private residences on the corner of High Street and Ipswich Road. Early enclosure of agricultural land had created a landless population for enterprising landlords to profit by (Andrews 2020).

3.4.5 There are records of a *c*. 14th-/15th-century chapel dedicated to St Leonard (SHER BIL 005) at Chapel Street, 250m north-west of the site. A watching brief during building work between Chapel Street and Duke Street recorded post-medieval pits and one pit containing some medieval pottery (SHER BIL 041). Other archaeological watching briefs during groundworks at properties on Duke Street have recorded a layer containing 14th- to 16th-century pottery (SHER BIL 019), and a possible medieval pit containing oyster shell (SHER BIL 026). Three medieval and post-medieval silver coins, including a Long Cross penny of Edward I, have been found close to the Bildeston Road, 500m south-west of the site (SHER BIL 031).

3.5 Post-Medieval (AD 1540–Present)

3.5.1 By the reign of Queen Mary (1553–58) scarcity and high prices led to reports 'whereby this town of Bilstone hath decayed'. Changes in fashion and foreign policy that interrupted trade meant that the main employment became the supplying of yarn to Norwich instead of quality cloth to London. By 1674 two thirds of households were living in poverty, and many were taken into the village

workhouse. The Crown Inn became a centre for the casual hiring of farm labourers and domestic servants.

3.5.2 The weekly Wednesday market failed in 1764 and traveller John Kirby described Bildeston as 'a town in a bottom, meanly built and the streets are dirty'. The manor house was demolished, following the death of Bartholomew Beale, the last lord of the manor, 40 years before. The Cooke family of Polstead ostensibly took over the rents and the profits of the fair but took little interest in the village. The last fair was held in 1872, with just one stall.

3.5.3 Evaluation trenching at Redwick House, a short distance south of the site, in 2016, recorded distinct layers containing medieval and post-medieval finds, suggesting occupation and/ or other activity in the near vicinity during these periods (SHER BIL 034).

3.5.4 At the corner of Duke Street, 300m north-west of the present site, the timber-framed Bildeston Hall dates to the 16th–17th centuries (SHER BIL 020); it probably replaced the medieval manorial curia adjacent to the church (SHER BIL 001, BIL 014).

3.5.5 'Tudor Cottage', no. 44 High Street, just south of the present site, is a well-preserved medieval open hall dating to the first half of the 15th century, with later additions (SHER BIL 043). No. 78–80 High Street, 100m north-west of the site, is a Grade II listed early-19th-century brick building with an earlier-16th- to 17th-century timber-framed detached outbuilding (SHER BIL 035).

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 General

4.1.1 The archaeological evaluation was intended to comprise two 12m x 1.8m trial trenches, totalling 24m, positioned to sample each of the two proposed new building footprints.

4.1.2 In the event, constraints on space for spoil storage and the nature of the site access (via a narrow/ low carriage entrance) meant that a 1-tonne 'mini-digger' had to be used for machining the trenches, and that their widths were limited to *c*. 1.5m. In addition, Trench 2 was shortened to 6m because it was found to be deep and heavily disturbed by previous building(s): non-archaeologically-significant overburden, full of demolition rubble, was present to a depth of 1.1m+ below existing ground level. In any case, the proposed new single-storey building in this part of the site is to have a relatively shallow foundation. Despite these constraints the footprints of both new buildings were investigated, and the trenches provided an overall sample of approximately 7% of the 396m² site or 18% of the 150m² footprint of the proposed new buildings (Figure 2).

4.2 Excavation Methodology

4.2.1 Ground reduction during the evaluation was carried out using a 1-tonne mini digger (Plate 1). Topsoil and other overburden of low archaeological value were removed in spits down to the level of the first significant archaeological horizon, or the natural geological horizon, whichever was encountered first.

4.2.2 In the case of Trench 1, mechanical excavation ceased at the surface of a buried soil layer (108). This was investigated by means of hand-dug test pits in order to characterise the deposit, retrieve any artefactual evidence and to ascertain its depth and any internal stratigraphy. It was found to be a shallow (10cm deep) deposit, containing struck flints, which directly overlaid the natural glacio-fluvial sandy clay.

4.2.3 In Trench 2, mechanical excavation was terminated at a depth of 1.1m below existing ground level due to a combination of safety constraints, the heavily disturbed nature of the deposits present in the trench, and the limited impact

depth of the proposed construction. The natural geological deposits were not encountered.

4.2.4 Exposed surfaces were cleaned by trowel and hoe as appropriate, and all further excavation was undertaken manually using hand tools.

4.3 Recording and Finds Recovery

4.3.1 The limits of excavations, heights above Ordnance Datum (m OD) and the locations of archaeological features and interventions were recorded using a Geomax GPS rover unit with RTK differential correction, giving three-dimensional accuracy of 20mm or better.

4.3.2 Deposits or the removal of deposits judged by the excavating archaeologist to constitute individual events were each assigned a unique record number (often referred to within British archaeology as 'context numbers') and recorded on individual pre-printed forms (Taylor and Brown 2009). Archaeological processes recognised by the deposition of material are signified in this report by round brackets (thus), while events constituting the removal of deposits are referred to here as 'cuts' and signified by square brackets [thus]. Where more than one slot was excavated through an individual feature, each intervention was assigned additional numbers for the cutting event and for the deposits it contained (these deposits within cut features being referred to here as 'fills'). The record numbers assigned to cuts, deposits and groups are entirely arbitrary and in no way reflect the chronological order in which events took place. All features and deposits excavated during the evaluation and excavation are listed in Appendix 2. Artefacts recovered during excavation were assigned to the record number of the deposit from which they were retrieved.

4.3.3 Metal-detecting was carried out during the topsoil and subsoil stripping and throughout the excavation process. Archaeological features and spoil heaps were scanned by metal-detector periodically. Only objects of modern date were found and were not retained for accession.

4.3.4 High-resolution digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits and were used to keep a record of the excavation process.

4.4 Sampling Strategy

4.4.1 Discrete features were half-sectioned, photographed and recorded by a cross-section scaled drawing at an appropriate scale (either 1:10 or 1:20).

4.5 Environmental Sampling

4.5.1 None of the archaeological deposits identified on the site were considered suitable for environmental sampling.

5 QUANTIFICATION OF THE ARCHIVE

5.1 Paper Archive

Context register sheets	1
Context sheets	4 (12 Contexts)
Plan registers	0
Plans at 1:50	0
Plans at 1:20	0
Plans at 1:10	0
Plans at 1:5	0
Section register sheets	0
Sections at 1:10 & 1:20	6
Trench record sheets	0
Photo register sheets	1
Small finds register sheets	0
Environmental register sheets	0

5.2 Digital Archive

Digital photos	103
GPS survey files	1
Digital plans	1
GIS project	0
Access database	1

5.3 Physical Archive

Struck flint	20
Burnt flint	0
Pottery	20/470g
Ceramic building material (CBM)	0
Glass	0
Briquetage	0
Small Finds	0
Slag	0
Animal bone	0
Shell	0
Environmental bulk samples	0
Environmental bulk samples (10 litre buckets)	0
Monolith samples	0
Other samples (specify)	0

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

6.1 Trench 1 (Figure 3; Plate 2)

6.1.1 The trench showed evidence for recent made ground overlying a quite deep, but disturbed, post-medieval garden soil accumulation. Underneath this, at the base of the trench and overlying the natural geology, was a buried soil layer that appears from the associated struck flints to be a preserved later prehistoric soil or land surface. Revealed at the same stratigraphic level, in the base of the trench, was a small pit containing two struck flint flakes and a sherd of Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery.

6.1.2 A thin layer of turf (100) was present in the trench, forming an organic horizon above a 0.15m-deep layer of redeposited clay (101) made ground (Figure 3, Section 3). The layer beneath this (102) was a 0.45m-deep deposit of mixed material, a dark brownish-grey clayey silt containing *c*. 18th–19th-century potsherds (see Jarrett, Section 7.3), clay pipe stem fragments (not retained), and a single residual medieval coarseware bowl/ jar sherd (7g), these finds intermixed with more recent garden waste, including plastic fragments. This layer was probably a former garden soil; there was no observable stratification in the layer, suggesting that it had been disturbed or re-worked, perhaps by cultivation or by an episode of ground clearance/ levelling in this part of the site.

6.1.3 The disturbed garden soil overlaid a subsoil (103), a firm mid-greyish-brown silty clay up to 0.24m deep. Occasional small fragments of ceramic building material, possibly intrusive from the overlying layer, were present throughout (not retained).

6.1.4 Three test pits were hand-dug to test the exposed mid-yellowy-brown silty clay deposit in the base of the trench (108), which appeared quite 'clean' and sterile but was of uncertain natural or anthropogenic origin (Plate 6). It was found to be a thin layer, about 10cm deep, which overlaid the natural geology (112). It was recorded (from south-east to north-west) as (109), (110) and (111) in the different test pits (Figure 3, Sections 4, 5 and 6; Plates 5 and 6). In total, deposit (108)=(109)=(110)=(111) contained 18 pieces of predominantly later prehistoric (later Bronze Age to Iron Age) struck flint, including a number of 'squat' flakes

and two flake cores (see Bishop, Section 7.1). The layer appears from the associated artefacts to be a later prehistoric deposit, possibly either a buried soil horizon/ ground surface or hill-wash deposited from up the slight slope to the east of the site.

6.1.5 A small pit (0.5m wide x 0.19m deep) was sealed below layer (103) (Figure 3, Section 2; Plate 4). The pit [106] extended beyond the eastern edge of the trench but appeared to be circular in plan with a rounded profile. It had a fill of compact mid-yellowy-brown silty clay (107), which contained a 'squat' later prehistoric flint flake, a well-struck narrow flake, and a single sherd (4g) of handmade, flint-and-sand-tempered pottery with fingertip-impressed decoration, likely to be of Late Bronze Age–Early Iron Age date (Morgan-Shelbourne, Section 7.2). The narrow flint flake may be earlier than the pottery (Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age; Bishop, Section 7.1) and therefore possibly residual in the context; the 'squat' flake is probably broadly contemporary with the potsherd. A CBM fragment in the pit fill is considered to be intrusive; its presence suggests some disturbance to the context.

6.2 Trench 2 (Figure 3; Plate 3)

6.2.1 The trench was excavated below an area of concrete slab. It appeared that the ground had been greatly disturbed in the past, presumably during construction of the outbuilding that formerly occupied this part of the site. Some evidence could be seen for a previously demolished concrete slab in the same location. The disturbed mixed ground (104), a mid-brownish-grey sandy silt, was seen to extend to a depth of 0.72m below existing ground level (Figure 3, Section 1). It contained modern plastic and abundant modern demolition material. A subsoil horizon (105) was present below; this layer was similar in appearance to Layer (103) in Trench 1 and was at least 0.35m deep, but it also contained similar rubble fragments to the layer above, suggesting that it had also been disturbed. This deposit was not bottomed due to the depth of the trench.

6.2.2 Due to the high level of disturbance within the trench and the low-impact nature of the proposed foundation design in the area of Trench 2, the trench was stopped at a depth of 1.1m and only excavated to 6m in length, as the observed disturbance appeared to continue along the full intended length.

7 THE FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

7.1 Lithics

By Barry Bishop

Introduction

7.1.1 The archaeological evaluation resulted in the recovery of an assemblage of struck flint. Each piece has been comprehensively catalogued and this includes further descriptive details (Appendix 3). This report summarises the data in the catalogue; it quantifies and describes the material and presents a preliminary assessment and outline of its significance. The assemblage was recorded following standard technological and typological classifications and largely follows the methodology of Inizan *et al.* (1999), with modifications and additions as indicated in the text by the author. Retouched tools were classified following standard British works, such as Healy (1988) and Bamford (1985). Measurements were taken following the methodology of Saville (1980).

Quantification

Context	Decortication Flake	Flake	Blade: Non-Prismatic	Flake Fragment >10mm	Core: Flake	Conchoidal Chunk	Retouched
107		1					1
108		5				1	
109	1	2		1	2		
110		1	1				
111	1	1				1	1

Table 1: Quantification of the struck flint

7.1.2 A total of 20 pieces of struck flint were recovered from during the evaluation. They were recovered from six separate contexts, which produced between two and six pieces each (Table 1).

The Struck Flint Assemblage

7.1.3 With the exception of a small number of pieces, the material from all contexts

is technologically similar and comprises an unstructured flake- and core-based industry that can be dated to the later second or first millennia (cal.) BC (e.g. Herne 1991; Young and Humphrey 1999; Humphrey 2003). Most of the pieces are in a good or only slightly chipped condition and although the material is apparently not *in-situ*, it is unlikely to have moved far from where it was originally discarded. The assemblages were made using a 'glassy', good-knapping-quality dark grey/ black flint with a variably thick, rough but weathered cortex and occasional thermal (frost) fractured scars. The only exception is a single flake made from a coarser-grained opaque grey flint. It is likely that all of the raw materials were gathered from the local glacial tills.

7.1.4 The flakes are predominantly thick, short and have wide and markedly obtuse striking platform/ core face angles. They are comparable to Martingell's 'squat' flakes that typify Middle Bronze Age through to Late Iron Age industries (Martingell 1990; 2003). Two of the flakes have been retouched. These include a 'squat' flake with fine but irregular edge-trimming along one side, although most of the potentially retouched edge has broken off. The other has similar retouch along its distal end and also has a small stretch of inverse invasive retouching on one side. This latter piece utilised a flake that had previously recorticated and evidently had been detached long before the retouch was executed; the reuse of much earlier struck flint is also a recurring feature of later prehistoric lithic assemblages. Some of the other flakes show very light traces of possible use, although this can be difficult to distinguish from post-depositional damage. The two cores are similar, both comprising thermally (frost) fractured chunks that have had a few broad flakes removed at one end, but which show little evidence for any attempts at core shaping, preparation or maintenance.

7.1.5 A few pieces are possibly earlier in date. In addition to the reused, retouched flake mentioned above, they include a wide but thin flake from Pit [106] fill (107), a small but well-struck flake from context (109), and a thick but well-struck flake from context (110). None are closely dateable, but their technological attributes are most typical of Mesolithic through to Early Bronze Age industries.

Significance and Recommendations

7.1.6 The main significance of the struck flint assemblage is that it demonstrates later prehistoric flint-working activity at the site which is likely to be related to close-by settlements or agricultural activity. A few pieces may also indicate earlier activity at the site, although these are not closely datable.

7.1.7 Due to the size of the struck flint assemblage, this report and accompanying catalogue is all that is required for the purposes of archiving, and no further analytical work is warranted. The assemblage does, however, provide evidence for later prehistoric activity at the site and can contribute to wider appreciations of prehistoric landscape use in the area. It is therefore recommended that it is recorded in the Suffolk Historic Environment Record and a brief description and discussion of its significance included in any account of the fieldwork.

7.1.8 Any future fieldwork in this area of Bildeston, particularly any opportunities for open area excavation afforded by larger-scale development, should be mindful of the high potential for evidence of later prehistoric activity, and designed with this in mind. From the point of view of lithic material, any further fieldwork should focus on obtaining as large and closely contextually defined a lithic assemblage as possible, in order to attempt to understand the nature, extent and chronology of any prehistoric lithic-based activities. Should sufficient quantities of lithic artefacts be procured from any future work, full metrical, typological and technological analysis might be warranted.

7.2 Prehistoric Pottery

By Lawrence Morgan-Shelbourne

Introduction

7.2.1 A single sherd (4) of handmade prehistoric pottery was recovered from the evaluation. The pottery derived from a small pit [106] (Table 2). The sherd can be assigned to a broad period, the Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age (LBA–EIA). The ceramics are in a stable condition. This note provides a quantified description of the assemblage with a brief discussion.

Context	Cut	Feature Type	Trench	No. of Sherds	Wt.(g)	Overall Context Spot Date	Fabrics	Reason for Date
107	106	Pit	1	1	4	LBA–EIA	FLQU1	Fabric, decoration

Table 2: Pottery by Context

SSFabric Code	Fabric Type	Description
FLQU1	FL-rs-fcQU-r-f	Rare to sparse, fine to coarse calcined flint, rare, fine sand.

Table 3: Fabric code breakdown

Methodology

7.2.2 The pottery has been fully recorded following the recommendations laid out by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (2009). After a full inspection of the assemblage, fabric groups were devised on the basis of dominant inclusion types, their density and modal size. Fabric groups are designated based on abbreviated codes, recorded as INCLUSIONTYPE-frequency-size in the catalogue. These groups were then given site-specific codes, i.e. 'FL1', 'QUFL2' in this report (Table 3). Sherds from all contexts were counted, weighed (to the nearest whole gram) and assigned to a fabric group (sherds broken in excavation were refitted and counted as single entities). Sherd type was recorded, along with technology (all sherds within the assemblage are handmade), evidence for surface treatment, decoration, and the presence of soot and/ or residue.

Assemblage Characteristics – Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age

7.2.3 The single sherd recovered is composed of a relatively coarse, calcined flint-and-sand-tempered fabric (FLQU1). Although fabrics of these types can be found in various prehistoric pottery traditions, the relatively thin and hard-fired nature of the sherds suggests a Post-Deverel-Rimbury (PDR) (Barret 1980; Brudenell 2012) classification is the most plausible. Similarly, the conservative

decoration the sherd exhibits (impressed fingertip decoration) is common to various pottery traditions, including PDR, where decoration is found throughout the currency of the tradition but is more common in assemblages belonging to the latter half of the tradition's chronological range.

Discussion

7.2.4 The sherd recovered can be assigned to a single broad period, the Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age (LBA–EIA, 1150–400/350 BC).

7.3 Post-Roman Pottery

By Chris Jarrett

Introduction

7.3.1 A small assemblage of post-Roman pottery (19 sherds/18 estimated number of vessels (ENV)/466g) was recovered from the site and dates solely to the post-medieval period, except for a single sherd of residual medieval pottery. The pottery was all recovered by hand from a single context, layer (102) in Trench 1, and consists of mostly sherd material, except for a single vessel with a complete profile. All of the pottery is in a good condition, except for one sherd with a laminated surface, and the finds were probably mostly deposited under secondary circumstances. The pottery was catalogued according to the Suffolk Ceramic Type Series, quantified using sherd counts (SC), ENV and weight and the information was entered into a *Microsoft Access* database that forms part of the site archive: 'BIL057 PRPOT CDJ'.

7.3.2 The pottery recovered from context (102) consists of a single sherd (7g) from a medieval cooking pot or jar base, made in medieval coarseware (MCW), and dated to the late 12th to 14th century. Eighteen sherds (459g) of late post-medieval pottery are also present, comprising either 19th-century stonewares or twice-fired factory-made earthenwares. The range of pottery types and the forms that occur in those wares are shown in Table 4. The latest pottery type recorded consists of English stoneware with an internal Bristol-glaze, dated from *c*. 1830, while a transfer-printed possible domed tureen lid is possibly decorated with the Asiatic Pheasant design also dated from 1830 onwards, but which remained popular until the *c*. 1910s. A suggested deposition date for the

pottery recovered from layer (102) is *c*. 1830–1900.

7.3.3 The pottery is of little significance, except to suggest possible medieval activity in the vicinity of the site. The only potential of the pottery is to date the deposit it was recovered from and to possibly suggest medieval activity nearby. There are no recommendations for further work on the finds.

Pottery Type	Code	Date Range	SC	ENV	Wt (g)	Forms (and Comments)
Medieval						
Medieval coarseware	MCW	Late 12th–14th century	1	1	7	Cooking pot/jar
Post-medieval						
English Stoneware	ESW	17th–19th century	5	4	162	Cylindrical bottle (x2 ENV salt-glazed, x1 ENV externally salt-glazed and internally Bristol-glazed), Medium rounded jar (externally salt-glazed and internally Bristol-glazed)
Late post-medieval unglazed earthenwares	LPME	18th–20th century	1	1	12	Flowerpot
Porcelain	PORC	18th–20th century	1	1	18	Unidentified (thick-walled pale yellow European porcelaneous fabric with a bright white glaze on both surfaces)
Refined white earthenwares	REFW	Late 18th–20th century	2	2	50	Dessert plate (complete profile with decorated with discrete mauve six point stars with a central dot) Unidentified (possible chamber pot decorated with a band of dark blue diamond sponge decoration)
Transfer-printed earthenwares	TPE	18th–20th century	8	8	143	Medium rounded bowl (decorated with a blue Middle Eastern/Sub-continent landscape) Tea cup(burnt handle) Dinner plate (x6 ENV examples decorated with the Willow pattern) Unidentified (possible domed tureen lid decorated possibly with the Asiatic Pheasants

						design
Yellow Ware	YELW	Late 18th–19th century	1	1	74	Medium rounded bowl (Food mixing bowl with external moulded decoration consisting of a rope border below the squared rim above oval panels, containing a diamond motif, separated by a pin-headed fluting)

Table 4: Quantification of the pottery types recovered from Layer (102) and the forms that occur in those wares

8 DISCUSSION

8.1 The evaluation found surviving remains of prehistoric activity on the site, at least in the vicinity of Trench 1. The buried soil layer exposed in the base of the trench (108)=(109)=(110)=(111) appears to be a preserved later prehistoric soil horizon, possibly the later prehistoric ground surface. The quantity (no. 20) of later Bronze Age–Iron Age struck flints from this relatively small area certainly indicates occupation or other activity of this period close by. Pit [106], which contained both worked flint and a Late Bronze Age–Early Iron Age potsherd, reinforces the dating of this activity, and suggests that the finds are *in-situ* here rather than having been redeposited, for example, by colluvial/ downslope movement from up the slight rise to the east of the site. This is reinforced by the good condition of most of the flints, which suggests that they have not moved far from where they were originally deposited.

8.2 Recent archaeological evaluation of land 150m east of the site found postholes and a pit of Middle to Late Iron Age date, in addition to a heavily truncated cremation of possible later prehistoric date (SHER BIL 046; White and Hodges 2019). Although slightly later than the activity identified at 52 High Street, these results demonstrate a wider backdrop of later prehistoric activity in the part of the Brett valley now occupied by the village of Bildeston.

8.3 There are also hints of low-level earlier prehistoric activity in the area, indicated by two well-made flint flakes and a blade, which cannot be closely dated but are more in keeping with Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age flint-working techniques. Mesolithic flints have previously been found in Bildeston, fairly nearby (e.g. SHER BIL 002, BIL 012). The landscape context of the site, on fairly light soil, close to a river, is in keeping with the general tendency for prehistoric occupation to be focused on light, well-drained land with easy access to water and other resources.

8.4 The date of overlying subsoil layer (103), which sealed the later prehistoric horizon, is not known, but in view of its stratigraphic position it might perhaps represent a buried Roman or medieval soil. The garden soil (102) above this could represent a gradual soil build up in the area behind the street-front

buildings during the medieval and post-medieval periods. However, it has evidently been heavily disturbed and reworked, possibly through cultivation but also through recent ground levelling (indicated by plastic found at some depth), leaving no surviving evidence of stratification or any cut features. This deep garden soil and subsoil have afforded a degree of protection to the underlying deposits, and it may be that remains of prehistoric occupation survive underneath similar medieval to post-medieval 'back-plot' soil accumulations behind buildings elsewhere along the High Street.

8.5 The area of Trench 2 had been heavily disturbed to a depth of at least 1m in places. This disturbance appeared to be the result of the presence of former outbuildings in this corner of the site. One such building was on the site until recently and had only just been taken down, leaving its concrete ground slab remaining, but evidence for an earlier ground slab could be seen underneath this, and the disturbance seen in the trench would appear to relate to either the construction or demolition of that earlier building. As excavation ceased at 1.1m below existing ground level, it is not clear whether the surviving prehistoric deposits seen in Trench 1 might continue into this part of the site. However, the depth of construction impact in this part of the site is likely to be low, as the new single-storey building is to be built on a shallow concrete slab.

9 CONCLUSIONS

9.1 The recording of surviving remains of later Bronze Age to Early Iron Age activity on the site is significant, constituting the first evidence of this period from Bildeston. However, in light of the later prehistoric/ Middle to Late Iron Age remains discovered by evaluation 150m to the east, and the general landscape context of the site on fairly light soil and in a river valley setting, the presence of Late Bronze Age–Early Iron Age occupation in this part of the Brett valley is not entirely unexpected, and is in keeping with current understanding of patterns of settlement distribution and landscape use.

9.2 No evidence of medieval or earlier post-medieval activity was identified apart from the single residual 12th- to 14th-century pottery sherd. In view of the small size of the site and the evaluation trenches, and the high levels of modern disturbance to the post-medieval (and medieval?) soils here, no wider conclusions about the chronology and layout of the medieval village/ town at Bildeston can be drawn from this absence.

9.3 The development involves construction of two new buildings. It is understood from the client that the building in the vicinity of Trench 2 (80m²) is to be single-storey and constructed on a shallow concrete slab foundation requiring minimal ground disturbance. The new building in the vicinity of Trench 1 (70m²) will have a basement storage area requiring deeper ground reduction and thus impacting on the identified prehistoric archaeology. However, when considering the need for any further archaeological mitigation, it should be noted that Trench 1 has already covered approximately 18m² of the 50m² basement footprint.

9.4 The current state of archaeological knowledge regarding the later Bronze Age to earlier Iron Age in the east of England has recently been reassessed by Matthew Brudenell (2021). Key questions and topics for further research are summarised in the *Late Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age Research Agenda* (East of England Research Framework 2022). Research topics include, for example, refining understanding of the period's chronology through application of a range of scientific dating techniques (LBA-MIA 01), and the need to better understand

the Early to Middle Iron Age transition (LBA-MIA 04) — which is of potential relevance here given the identification of Late Bronze Age–Early Iron Age remains close to previously recorded Middle Iron Age activity just to the east.

10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

10.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. would like to thank Matt Higgins for commissioning and funding the work. PCA are also grateful to Gemma Stewart and Abby Antrobus of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service for monitoring the work on behalf of the Local Planning Authority. The project was managed for PCA by Tom Woolhouse and was supervised by Jonathan House. Finds processing was coordinated by Sîan O'Neill. Figures accompanying this report were prepared by Joanna Nastaszyc of PCA's Graphics Department.

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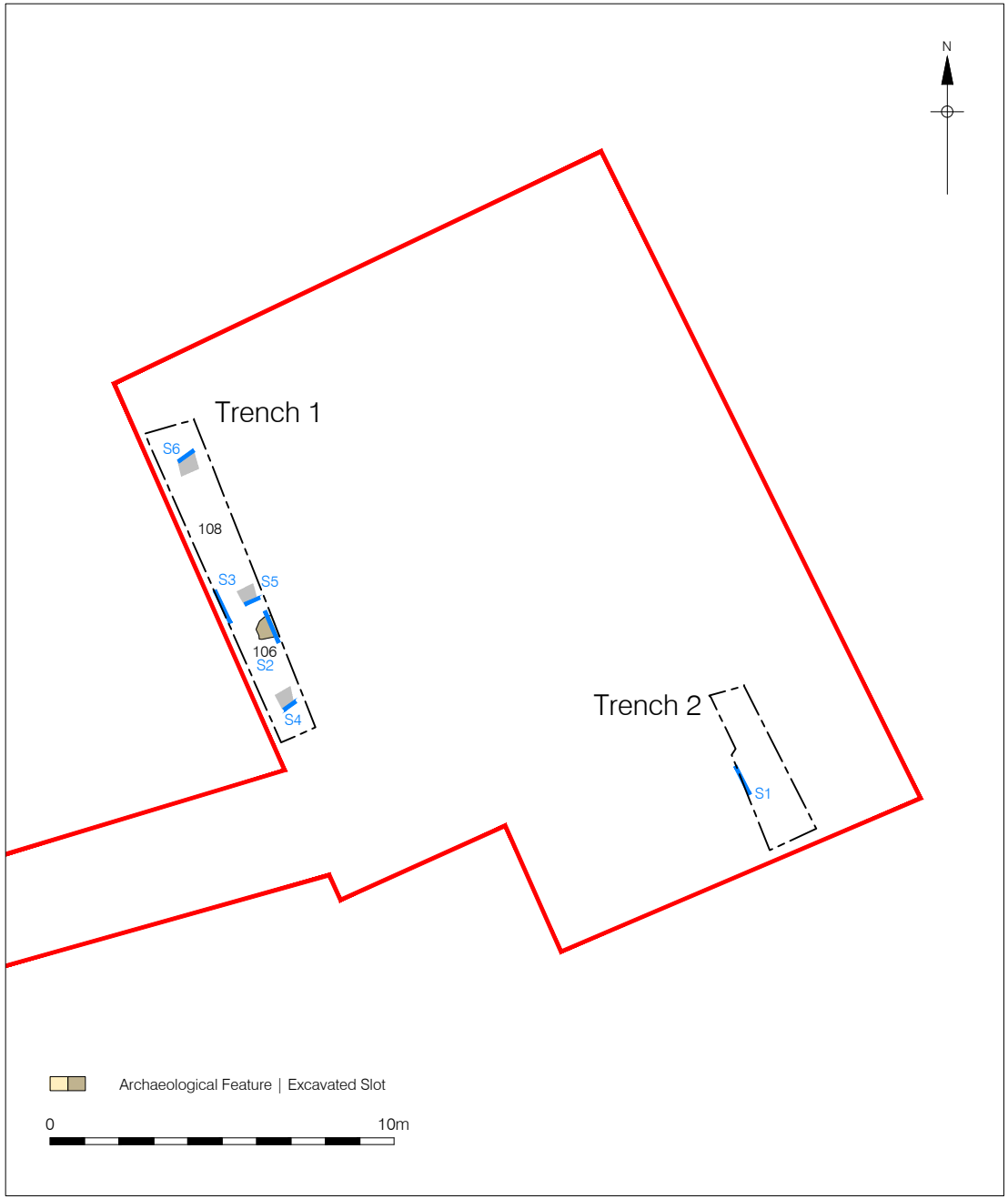
06/01/2021 RS

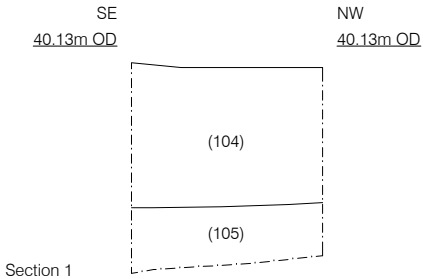
Figure 1
Site Location
1:2,000,000, 1:250,000, 1:5,000 at A4

Background map kindly provided by the client

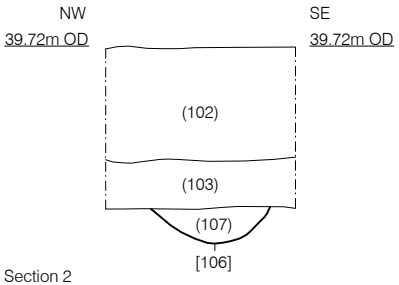
06/07/2022 JN

Figure 2
Trench Location Plan
1:200 at A4

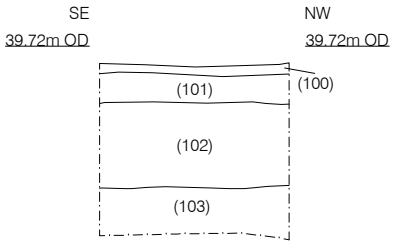




Section 1
Trench 2
Northeast Facing

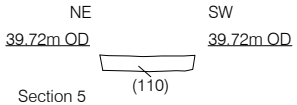


Section 2
Trench 1
Southwest Facing

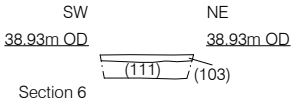


Section 3
Trench 1
Northeast Facing

Section 4
Trench 1
Northeast Facing



Section 5
Trench 1
Northwest Facing



Section 6
Trench 1
Southeast Facing

29/07/2022 JN

Figure 3
Detailed Trench Plan and Sections
Plan 1:200, Sections 1:40 at A4

13 APPENDIX 1: PLATES

Plate 1: The site, Trench 1 in foreground, view south-east

Plate 2: Trench 1, view north-west

Plate 3: Trench 2, view to the south

Plate 4: Trench 1, Pit [106], view to the east

Plate 5: Trench 1, Test Pit (111), Layer (108), view to the south

Plate 6: Trench 1, Test Pits (109), (110) and (111), view to the SE

APPENDIX 2: CONTEXT LIST

Site Code	Context No.	Cut	Trench	Type	Category	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description	Cuts	Cut by	Fill Sequence	Flint	Pottery	Period Name	Sub-Period Name	Interpretation
BIL057	100	100		Layer	Topsoil	0	0	0.04	Loose, mid-greyish-brown, sandy silt						modern		Turf/topsoil
BIL057	101	101	1	Layer	Made Ground	12	1.5	0.15	Moderately compact, light brownish-yellow silty clay, occ. Flints						modern		Made ground/levelling layer
BIL057	102	102	1	Layer	Made Ground	12	1.5	0.45	Moderately compact, dark brownish-grey, clayey silt					Yes	post-medieval		Disturbed garden soil build-up
BIL057	103	103	1	Layer	Subsoil	12	1.5	0.24	Compact, mid-greyish-brown, silty clay, with flints and chalk						medieval		Buried soil. Medieval or Roman?
BIL057	104	104	2	Layer	Made Ground	6	1.5	0.72	Loose, mid-brownish-grey sandy silt						modern		Disturbed ground
BIL057	105	105	2	Layer	Subsoil	6	1.5	0.35	Compact, mid-greyish-brown silty clay, with occ. flints and freq. chalk								Disturbed subsoil
BIL057	106	106	1	Cut	Pit	0.5	0.5	0.19	Circular, moderately steep sides, concave base	108					Bronze Age	Late Bronze Age	Late Bronze Age-Early Iron Age pit
BIL057	107	106	1	Fill	Pit	0.5	0.5	0.19	Compact, mid-yellowy-brown silty clay, with chalk and flints			1/1	Yes	Yes	Bronze Age	Late Bronze Age	Occupation residues?
BIL057	108	108	1	Layer	Buried Soil	12	1.5	0.1	Compact, mid-yellowy-brown silty clay, occ. Flints		106		Yes		Bronze Age	Late Bronze Age	Later prehistoric ground surface/ buried soil
BIL057	109	109	1	Layer	Buried Soil	1	1	0.1	Compact, mid-yellowy-brown silty clay, occ. Flints				Yes		Bronze Age	Late Bronze Age	Later prehistoric ground surface/ buried soil
BIL057	110	110	1	Layer	Buried Soil	1	1	0.1	Compact, mid-yellowy-brown silty clay, occ. Flints				Yes		Bronze Age	Late Bronze Age	Later prehistoric ground surface
BIL057	111	111	1	Layer	Buried Soil	1	1	0.1	Compact, mid-yellowy-brown silty clay, occ. Flints				Yes		Bronze Age	Late Bronze Age	Later prehistoric ground surface
BIL057	112	112	1	Layer	Natural	12	1.5		Compact, mid- to dark orangey-brown sandy clay								Natural glacio-fluvial deposits

APPENDIX 3: FLINT CATALOGUE

Context		Decortication flake	Flake	Blade: non-prismatic	Flake fragment >10mm	Core: flake	Conchoidal chunk	Retouched	Colour	Cortex	Condition	Recortication	Suggested date range	Comments
107								1	Translucent dark grey	Thermal scar	Slightly chipped	None	BA-IA	Edge-retouched 'squat' flake with slightly irregular, fine, steep retouch on right margin towards distal end. Distal end missing. Light wear. >28x28x10mm
107			1						Translucent dark grey	None	Slightly chipped	Blue-white	Meso-EBA	Wide but very thin, proximal end missing
108			1						Translucent dark grey	None	Good	None	?BA-IA	Very small, but very 'squat'
108			1						Translucent dark grey	Rough, thin	Slightly chipped	None	?BA-IA	Janus' flake
108							1		Translucent dark grey	Thermal scar	Slightly chipped	None	?BA-IA	Disintegrated core fragment or fragment of poorly
108			1						Translucent dark grey	Recorticated thermal scar	Slightly chipped	None	BA-IA	Typical 'squat' flake
108			1						Translucent dark grey	Rough, thick, slightly weathered	Slightly chipped	None	BA-IA	Quite 'squat',
108			1						Translucent dark grey	Thermal scar	Slightly chipped	None	Preh.	Small
109						1			Translucent dark grey	Rough, thin	Slightly chipped	None	BA-IA	Minimally reduced angular thermal chunk with a few broad flakes removed from one end. 64g
109						1			Translucent dark grey	Rough, thin	Slightly chipped	Incipient	BA-IA	Minimally reduced angular thermal chunk with a few broad flakes removed keel style' rom one end. 46g
109		1							Translucent dark grey	Rough, thin	Slightly chipped	None	BA-IA	Narrow but thick with an obtuse platform
109			1						Translucent dark grey	Rough, thin	Chipped	None	BA-IA	Narrow but not well struck,
109			1						Semi-opaque mid grey	Recorticated thermal scar	Slightly chipped	None	Meso-EBA	Small, relatively well struck
109					1				Translucent dark grey	Rough, thin	Chipped	Incipient	Preh.	Rather battered fragment of a large flake
110			1						Translucent dark grey	None	Good	None	BA-IA	Small but quite 'squat'
110				1					Translucent dark grey	None	Slightly chipped	Blue-white	Meso-EBA	Quite thick but well struck
111							1		Translucent dark grey	Rough, thin	Slightly chipped	None	?BA-IA	Disintegrated core or flake fragment
111		1							Translucent dark grey	Recorticated thermal scar	Good	None	BA-IA	Primary flake, not well detached
111								1	Translucent dark grey	Rough, thin	Good	None / blue-white	BA-IA	flake with fine retouch along angled distal and inverse, slightly denticulated invasive retouch along straight left margin. Light wear. 34x33x10mm
111			1						Translucent dark grey	None	Good	None	BA-IA	Small but quite 'squat'

16 APPENDIX 4: OASIS SUMMARY

Summary for preconst1-411882

OASIS ID (UID)	preconst1-411882
Project Name	Land to the Rear of 52 High St, Bildeston
Sitename	Land to the Rear of 52 High Street, Bildeston, Suffolk
Activity type	TRIAL TRENCH
Project Identifier(s)	BIL 057
Planning Id	DC/20/03176
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	PCA
Project Dates	04-Jul-2022 - 05-Jul-2022
Location	Land to the Rear of 52 High Street, Bildeston, Suffolk NGR : TL 99360 49240 LL : 52.1055501563411, 0.909639764565597 12 Fig : 599360,249240
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Suffolk District : Babergh Parish : Bildeston
Project Methodology	Between 4th and 5th July 2022 Pre-Construct Archaeology carried out a trenched archaeological evaluation of land to the rear of 52 High Street, Bildeston, Suffolk. Two trial trenches, totalling 18m of trenching, were excavated and recorded.
Project Results	The trenches found that the ground in this ‘backyard’ plot to the rear of the street frontage has been disturbed to a considerable depth by c. 20th-century outbuildings, demolition and landscaping. Nevertheless, a disturbed subsoil in Trench 1 sealed a preserved later prehistoric soil horizon/ land surface, present at a depth of about 0.88m below existing ground level, which contained a moderate-sized assemblage of later Bronze Age to Iron Age struck flints. At the same stratigraphic level in the base of the trench was a small pit containing struck flint and a sherd of flint-and-sand-tempered Late Bronze Age–Early Iron Age pottery. The results of the evaluation are of some significance, this being the first evidence of later Bronze Age/ earlier Iron Age activity recorded in Bildeston. However, the wider landscape context of the site, on relatively light soil in the valley of the river Brett, just 160m from the river, is in keeping with known patterns of settlement and land use during later prehistory.
Keywords	Buried Soil Horizon - LATE BRONZE AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Lithic Implement - LATE BRONZE AGE - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Body Sherd - LATE BRONZE AGE - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus
Funder	
HER	Suffolk HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	J, House, T, Woolhouse
HER Identifiers	HER Monument No - BIL 057

Archives	Physical Archive, Documentary Archive - to be deposited with Suffolk Archaeological Service;

17 APPENDIX 5: WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

LAND TO THE REAR OF 52 HIGH STREET, BILDESTON, SUFFOLK:

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR A PROGRAMME OF TRENCHED ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER:

DC/20/03176

SITE CODE: BIL 057

JANUARY 2021

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

Written Scheme of Investigation for a Programme of Trenched Archaeological Evaluation to the Rear of 52 High Street, Bildeston, Suffolk

Local Planning Authority:	**Babergh District Council**
Planning Reference:	**DC/20/03176**
Central National Grid Reference:	**NGR TL 9936 4924**
Site Code:	**BIL 057**
Oasis reference no:	**preconst1-411882**
Written and researched by:	**Tom Woolhouse**
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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology (PCA) has been commissioned by Matt Higgins to undertake a programme of trenched archaeological evaluation on land to the rear of 52 High Street, Bildeston, Suffolk, IP7 7EA (Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (NGR) TL 9936 4924; Figure 1), in response to an archaeological Brief written by Gemma Stewart of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS; Stewart 2020).

1.2 The development for which planning permission has been granted is the erection of 2no. workshop/storage shed buildings (Use Class B1, B8) and erection of a boundary fence and gate, following demolition of the existing building (Babergh District Council Planning Ref. DC/20/03176).

1.3 Due to the high archaeological potential of the site and surrounding area, and in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework 2019 (MHCLG 2019, Section 16: 'Conserving and enhancing the historic environment', paras 189 and 190), SCCAS recommended that conditions (8 and 9) be placed on DC/20/03176 requiring that a programme of archaeological investigation and reporting be undertaken at the site. The first phase of this work is a programme of trenched archaeological evaluation to assess the nature and archaeological potential of the site.

1.4 Depending on the results of the evaluation, the local planning authority, in consultation with SCCAS, may require further stages of archaeological investigation and/ or mitigation prior to development. Any such work would be the subject of a separate Brief and Written Scheme of Investigation, and a separate set of costs.

1.5 This document comprises the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the trenched archaeological evaluation. This WSI is not a sufficient basis for the discharge of the planning conditions relating to archaeological investigation. Only the full implementation of the scheme, both completion of fieldwork and reporting (including the need for any further work following this evaluation), will enable SCCAS to advise the Local Planning Authority that a condition has

been adequately fulfilled and can be discharged.

1.6 Once approved by SCCAS, all work relating to the project will be carried out in accordance with this WSI, as well as the SCCAS (2020) *Requirements for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation*, the *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2014a (revised 2019)) and *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (CIfA 2014b (revised 2020)). The project will be managed in accordance with the Historic England (formerly English Heritage) procedural document *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (HE 2015).

1.7 Pre-Construct Archaeology has been commissioned by Matt Higgins to prepare this Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Land to the Rear of 52 High Street, Bildeston, Suffolk, referred to hereafter as 'the site'. This WSI has been prepared for the benefit of Matt Higgins and the contents should not be relied upon by others without the express written authority of PCA. If any unauthorised third party makes use of this report they do so at their own risk and PCA owes them no duty of care or skill.

2 SITE LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

2.1 Site Location (Figure 1)

2.1.1 Bildeston is a village in south Suffolk, 15km west of Ipswich and 10km south-west of Stowmarket. The modern settlement is compact and broadly linear in overall form, extending north-west to south-east along the line of the High Street, with modern housing development also extending north-eastwards along Wattisham Road.

2.1.2 No. 52 is on the east side of the High Street, opposite the Red Lion public house and Bildeston Health Centre. The site is currently a scrub/ yard area to the rear of the buildings along the street frontage, occupied by a single-storey outbuilding used for storage (to be demolished) and accessed via a carriage entrance. The site area, including access from the High Street, is 396m².

2.2 Geology

2.2.1 The site is located on Newhaven Chalk formation bedrock geology with Lowestoft formation superficial deposits, consisting of glacio-fluvial silts, sands, clays and gravels (BGS 2020). A short distance to the west is a narrow band of alluvial deposits associated with the course of the river Brett and its tributaries.

2.3 Topography

2.3.1 The site is at an elevation of approximately 37.2m above Ordnance Datum (OD) and is relatively level.

2.3.2 The main settlement at Bildeston is located on the floor of the valley of a tributary of the river Brett, which flows southwards to join the main river 1.5km away between Nedging and Chelsworth. The land rises fairly steeply on all sides of the village, to *c*. 60–80m OD. The earlier medieval settlement at Bildeston was focused around the now-isolated parish church of St Mary Magdelene, on a hilltop half a mile west of the High Street, where there are also surviving medieval earthworks.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 General

3.1.1 The site is located within the presumed extent of the medieval town of Bildeston, defined from historic maps (particularly Hodskinson's map of 1783) and the locations of listed buildings (Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER) BIL 022). Notably, the rear boundary of the site corresponds with a boundary shown on the mid-19th-century Bildeston tithe map, which forms the rear boundary of a number of properties on the east side of the High Street, and which corresponds with the projected south-eastern limit of the medieval settlement. This boundary could potentially be associated with a medieval planned layout of properties along the southern part of the High Street.

3.2 Prehistoric (*c*. 800,000 BC–AD 42)

3.2.1 A possible Acheulean (*c*. 531,000–298,000 BC) pointed handaxe was recovered from the surface of a ploughed field on Church Farm, 800m west of the site (SHER BIL 040).

3.2.2 A Mesolithic (*c*. 9000–4000 BC) flint scatter, including a tranchet axe, micro-burin, microlith and several blades, is recorded 370m south-west of the site, close to the river, near the junction of the High Street and Bildeston Road (SHER BIL 002). A further Mesolithic tranchet axe has been found in a garden at 106 High Street, 150m north of the site (SHER BIL 012).

3.2.3 Recent archaeological evaluation of land 150m east of the present site found postholes and a pit of Middle to Late Iron Age date, in addition to a heavily-truncated cremation of possible later prehistoric date. A series of ditches dating to the Romano-British period might indicate some agricultural use of the area around the 2nd century AD. Large quantities of ceramic building materials recovered from these ditches indicate a well-built Roman building in the vicinity (SHER BIL 046; White and Hodges 2019).

3.3 Roman (*c*. AD 43–410)

3.3.1 A scatter of (predominantly late) Roman pottery and ceramic building material was recorded in the 1970s, 250m west of the site, in the field on the opposite

bank of the river Brett. There may also be soil-marks of field boundaries extending downslope to the river here (SHER BIL 004; Google Maps 2020). First- and second-century Roman coins (of Titus and Septimus Severus) have been found during building work on Chapel Street, 250m north-west of the site (SHER BIL 003). A sherd from a Late Iron Age 'Belgic' jar is recorded from the back garden of no. 17 Duke Street, slightly further to the north (SHER BIL 033). A Roman road (Margary 34a; 1973, 265) is likely to have extended past Bildeston, to the north of the modern village, although its suggested alignment is mainly based on extrapolation from better-known stretches of the route (SHER BIL 008, HTC 019). However, one stretch, to the north-east of the village and heading towards the Roman 'small town' at Coddenham, is preserved in the course of Needham Lane and the parish boundary with Wattisham (SHER BIL 009).

3.4 Anglo-Saxon and Medieval (*c*. AD 411–1540)

3.4.1 Before the Norman Conquest, an estate of six carucates in Bildeston was held by Queen Edith, wife of Edward the Confessor. The estate had passed to Walter the Deacon by 1086. Domesday Book records twenty households, with three plough-teams belonging to the villagers; three to the lord and another to the priest.

3.4.2 The parish church of St Mary Magdelene (SHER BIL 007) stands in an isolated position on high ground half a mile west of the modern village. To the west of the church, a circular moat 75m in diameter marked the site of the medieval manor of Bildeston Hall (SHER BIL 014) until it was bulldozed and partly built over in 1974 (SHER BIL 001). A sub-rectangular marshy depression to the south may have been a fishpond, while linear depressions to the south and east are the possible hollow-ways and building platforms of a deserted medieval village, all now heavily ploughed and levelled. Thirteenth-century pottery has been ploughed up in this field. When the 14th-century church tower partially collapsed in 1975, numerous fragments of limestone with oblique Norman tooling-marks were found amongst the rubble, suggesting reuse from a 12th-century church on the site (Sue Andrews 2020).

3.4.3 The Loveyn/Lovaine family were lords in the 13th and first half of the 14th centuries. Matthew de Loveyne, then lord of the manor, was granted a charter for a market on the Stowmarket to Hadleigh Road in 1264. This may have precipitated the relocation of the settlement at Bildeston from the hilltop to a new site ('Nubury') in the valley bottom, although the move may have been a gradual one and connected more with easy access to the water which helped to fuel Bildeston's flourishing broadcloth industry in the 15th and 16th centuries. When the Revett family took over the manor in 1603, only the manor house and the church remained on the comparatively bleak hill, although houses on the road to the church are still shown on early-19th-century maps (Andrews 2020).

3.4.4 Bildeston became famous for blue broadcloth, and buildings housing dyers, weavers, shearmen, spinners and clothiers were erected to form Chapel Street and Duke Street during the 15th and 16th centuries. Also constructed was a wool hall where the commerce of the wool trade was conducted; this survives but is now split into two private residences on the corner of High Street and Ipswich Road. Early enclosure of agricultural land had created a landless population for enterprising landlords to profit by (Andrews 2020).

3.4.5 There are records of a *c*. 14th-/15th-century chapel dedicated to St Leonard (SHER BIL 005) at Chapel Street, 250m north-west of the site. A watching brief during building work between Chapel Street and Duke Street recorded post-medieval pits and one pit containing some medieval pottery (SHER BIL 041). Other archaeological watching briefs during groundworks at properties on Duke Street have recorded a layer containing 14th- to 16th-century pottery (SHER BIL 019), and a possible medieval pit containing oyster shell (SHER BIL 026). Three medieval and post-medieval silver coins, including a Long Cross penny of Edward I, have been found close to the Bildeston Road, 500m south-west of the site (SHER BIL 031).

3.5 Post-Medieval (AD 1540–Present)

3.5.1 By the reign of Queen Mary (1553–58) scarcity and high prices lead to reports 'whereby this town of Bilstone hath decayed'. Changes in fashion and foreign

policy that interrupted trade meant that the main employment became the supplying of yarn to Norwich instead of quality cloth to London. By 1674 two thirds of households were living in poverty and many were taken into the village workhouse. The Crown Inn became a centre for the casual hiring of farm labourers and domestic servants.

3.5.2 The weekly Wednesday market failed in 1764 and traveller John Kirby described Bildeston as 'a town in a bottom, meanly built and the streets are dirty'. The manor house was demolished, following the death of Bartholomew Beale, the last lord of the manor, 40 years before. The Cooke family of Polstead ostensibly took over the rents and the profits of the fair but took little interest in the village. The last fair was held in 1872, with just one stall.

3.5.3 Evaluation trenching at Redwick House, a short distance south of the site, in 2016, recorded distinct layers containing medieval and post-medieval finds, suggesting occupation and/ or other activity in the near vicinity during these periods (SHER BIL 034).

3.5.4 At the corner of Duke Street, 300m north-west of the present site, the timber-framed Bildeston Hall dates to the 16th–17th centuries (SHER BIL 020); it probably replaced the medieval manorial curia adjacent to the church (SHER BIL 001, BIL 014).

3.5.5 ‘Tudor Cottage’, no. 44 High Street, just south of the present site, is a well-preserved medieval open hall dating to the first half of the 15th century, with later additions (SHER BIL 043). No. 78–80 High Street, 100m north-west of the site, is a Grade II listed early-19th-century brick building with an earlier-16th- to 17th-century timber-framed detached outbuilding (SHER BIL 035).

4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

4.1 Broad Aims

4.1.1 The broad aims of the evaluation are to characterise the location, extent, date, character and state of preservation of any archaeological remains on the site which are likely to be threatened by the proposed development, and to identify their significance in a local, regional or national context, as appropriate, with reference to the East Anglian Regional Research Agendas:

-Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties: 1. Resource Assessment (Glazebrook 1997);

-Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties: 2. Research Agenda and Strategy (Brown and Glazebrook 2000);

-Regional Research Framework for the Eastern Region (Medlycott and Brown 2008);

-Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England (Medlycott 2011).

4.1.2 The evaluation will aim to provide sufficient information to enable the formulation of a suitable management/ investigation strategy for the site's heritage assets, in light of the current development proposals.

4.1.3 The evaluation will provide a predictive model of any archaeological remains likely to be present on the site and will characterise and include an appraisal of the remains' significance.

4.1.4 Particular attention will be paid to establishing the palaeo-environmental potential of the site, including identifying the presence/ absence of palaeo-sols or former land surfaces, the character of deposits and their contents within 'cut'/ negative features, the presence and environmental potential of any palaeo-channels, and to understanding site formation processes in general. Results of any palaeo-environmental investigations, industrial residue

assessments/ analyses and scientific analyses will be included in the evaluation report and sent to the Historic England Regional Science Advisor.

4.1.5 The trial trench evaluation will provide an adequate representative sample of the proposed development area in order to fully understand and characterise the site's archaeology and the potential impact of development on it.

4.2 Specific Objectives

4.2.1 In view of the site's location in an area with known high archaeological potential, particularly for the later prehistoric, Roman, medieval and post-medieval periods, the principal objectives of the evaluation will be to identify:

-any evidence of prehistoric activity on the lower slopes of the Brett valley, perhaps associated with the Middle to Late Iron Age settlement and funerary remains identified a short distance to the east of the site (SHER BIL 046; White and Hodges 2019).

-any evidence of Roman occupation, agriculture or other activity. Roman field boundary ditches and materials deriving from a large masonry building were found in recent trial-trenching 150m east of the site (SHER BIL 046; White and Hodges 2019).

-any evidence of medieval occupation to the rear of the High Street frontage, in particular any evidence for a planned layout following the relocation of the settlement at Bildeston to its present position from the later 13th century.

-any evidence of post-medieval occupation, industry or other 'backyard' activity, perhaps associated with Bildeston's role in textile manufacture.

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 General

5.1.1 All aspects of the investigation will be conducted in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) *Code of Conduct*, the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (CIfA 2014a and b (revised 2019 and 2020, respectively)), and the *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 14; Gurney 2003).

5.1.2 Any changes to this WSI that the Project Manager may wish to make after approval will first be communicated directly to SCCAS for approval.

5.2 Trenched Archaeological Evaluation

5.2.1 The evaluation will comprise 24m of linear trenches, 1.8m in width, providing an 11% sample of the 396m² site. Two 12m-long trenches will be positioned to sample each of the two proposed new building footprints (Figure 2).

5.2.2 There will be contingency for small-scale extension of trenches to fully reveal features or deposits partially revealed within the trenches, or to help characterise features where additional exposure would enhance understanding of them.

5.3 Excavation and Site Planning

5.3.1 Within the trenches, topsoil, undifferentiated subsoil and/ or recent made ground deposits will be machine-stripped, under close archaeological supervision, using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, down to the first archaeological horizon or the geological horizon, whichever is encountered first. Machining will be in even, shallow spits of no more than 100mm at a time. Upon encountering any archaeological features or deposits the procedure followed is detailed below.

5.3.2 Exposed archaeological features and deposits will be cleaned as necessary to define them using hand tools (hoes, trowels, mattocks, shovels).

5.3.3 Metal-detecting will be carried out of any stripped deposits and all

archaeological features and spoil heaps will be surveyed by metal-detector as they are encountered/ produced. Metal-detecting will also be carried out during machining. The metal-detector will not be set to discriminate against iron. The metal-detectorist for the project will be David Curry or Tom Lucking, both experienced users with years of professional and hobbyist metal-detecting experience in Suffolk and across East Anglia.

5.3.4 Limits of excavation of all trenches, pre-excavation and post-excavation plans of archaeological features and heights above Ordnance Datum (m OD) will be recorded using a Leica 1200 or equivalent Global Positioning System (GPS) rover unit with RTK differential correction, giving three-dimensional accuracy of 20mm or better.

5.4 Recording and Sampling

5.4.1 Field excavation techniques and recording methods are detailed in the PCA *Fieldwork Induction Manual (Operations Manual I)* by Joanna Taylor and Gary Brown (2009).

5.4.2 All features will be investigated and recorded in order to properly understand the date and nature of the archaeological remains on the site and to recover sufficient finds assemblages to assess the chronological development and socio-economic character of the site over time.

5.4.3 Drawn records will be in the form of survey plans, drawn plans and section drawings of archaeological features at an appropriate scale (1:10, 1:20, 1:50), while deposits and cuts will be recorded as written records on PCA pro-forma context sheets.

5.4.4 Linear features will be investigated by means of slots excavated across their widths and measuring at least 1m in length, ideally positioned to avoid areas of intercutting/ disturbance in order to provide uncontaminated finds assemblages. Slots will also be positioned to determine inter-feature stratigraphic relationships; all relationships between features or deposits will be investigated and recorded.

5.4.5 Discrete features, such as pits and postholes, will be at least 50% excavated and, when considered appropriate, 100% excavated.

5.4.6 Significant features, such as structural remains (e.g. eaves-drip gullies, sunken-featured buildings and beam slots), industrial features (kilns, ovens, domestic hearths, metalworking furnaces) and burials (cremations and inhumations) will be planned and photographed, then ideally left *in-situ* pending further mitigation. Some limited sample excavation may be necessary to characterise and date such features. Any complex/ unexpected deposits will be discussed with SCCAS to agree an excavation strategy.

5.4.7 Subject to prior approval from SCCAS, it may be appropriate/ necessary to sample particularly large or deep features by machine excavation, operating under close archaeological supervision.

5.4.8 Digital photographs will be taken at all stages of the evaluation, and of all archaeological features and deposits. The photographic record will consist of high-quality digital uninterpolated images of at least 16.5 megapixels taken using a camera with an APS-C or larger sensor. Digital photographs intended for archive purposes will comply with best practice available at the current time *i.e*. high-quality non-proprietary raw files (DNG) or TIFF images.

5.4.9 Artefacts and ecofacts will be collected by hand and retained, receiving appropriate care prior to removal from site (CIfA 2014c; Walker 1990; Watkinson 1981).

5.4.10 A metal-detector will be used during the evaluation in order to enhance finds recovery and will not be set to discriminate against iron.

5.4.11 Bulk samples, 40 litres in volume where possible, will be taken by the excavator and in consultation with the project's environmental specialist where appropriate, in order to recover micro- and macro-botanical environmental remains. The broad aim of such sampling will be to recover evidence relating to the past environment and agricultural economy of the site, and how these changed over time under both natural and anthropogenic influences.

5.4.12 Buried soils and associated deposits (e.g. buried former land surfaces, peat layers, marine deposits, palaeo-channels) will be inspected on site by the PCA Project Manager, in consultation with the PCA geoarchaeologist or Historic England Regional Science Advisor, as appropriate, whose advice will be sought as to whether soil micromorphology or other analytical techniques will enhance understanding of depositional processes and transformations at the site.

5.4.13 Should waterlogged deposits and/ or artefacts be encountered, the guidance contained in the following documents will be adhered to in order to ensure that all available evidence relating to those deposits is recovered and that delicate organic artefacts are conserved for analysis and long-term storage:

-Historic England 2012. Waterlogged Organic Artefacts: Guidelines on Their Recovery, Analysis and Conservation;

-Historic England 2010. Waterlogged Wood: Guidelines on the Recovery, Sampling, Conservation and Curation of Waterlogged Wood;

-Historic England 2008. Investigative Conservation: Guidance on How the Detailed Examination of Artefacts from Archaeological Sites Can Shed Light on Their Manufacture and Use.

5.4.14 Environmental sampling will make reference to the following guideline documents:

-English Heritage 2011. Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods from Sampling and Recovery to Post-Excavation. 2nd Edition;

-Association for Environmental Archaeology 1995. Environmental Archaeology and Archaeological Evaluations. Recommendations Concerning the Environmental Archaeology Component of Archaeological Evaluations in England. Working Papers of the Association for Environmental Archaeology 2, 8 ff. York: Association for Environmental Archaeology;

-Dobney, K., Hall, A., Kenward, H. and Milles, A. 1992. 'A working classification of sample types for environmental archaeology', *Circaea* 9.1 (1992 for 1991), 24–26;

-Murphy, P.L. and Wiltshire, P.E.J. 1994. A Guide to Sampling Archaeological Deposits for Environmental Analysis.

5.5 Monitoring

5.5.1 SCCAS officers are responsible for monitoring all archaeological work within Suffolk and will need to inspect site works at an appropriate time during the fieldwork and will review the progress of excavation reports and/or archive preparation. A monitoring visit must be booked with SCCAS prior to works commencing on site.

5.5.2 PCA will notify SCCAS of the proposed start date for the trial trenching at least 10 working days in advance, allowing sufficient notice to arrange a monitoring meeting.

5.5.3 SCCAS and the client will be kept regularly informed about developments and any significant discoveries during both the fieldwork and subsequent post-excavation phase.

5.5.4 Further trenching or deposit testing may be a requirement of the site monitoring visit if unclear archaeological remains or geomorphological features present difficulties of interpretation, or to assist with the formulation of a mitigation strategy. Appropriate provision will be made by PCA and the client for this eventuality.

5.5.5 The trenches will not be backfilled without the approval of SCCAS.

5.5.6 Due to Suffolk County Council's safe working guidelines in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, it may be necessary for the SCCAS archaeologist to monitor the fieldwork remotely. PCA will endeavour to provide whatever assistance is necessary to enable this to take place, including, for example, providing high-resolution digital photos and full and accurate digital plans of

archaeological remains by email to assist with curatorial decision-making.

5.6 Treasure

5.6.1 All finds defined as Treasure will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner according to the procedures outlined in the Treasure Act 1996 (as amended by the Treasure Designation Order 2002 No. 2666). SCCAS and the client will also immediately be notified. Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from theft. Any finds that could be considered Treasure under the terms of the Act, made during the process of fieldwork, will be immediately reported to the Finds Liaison Officer and to the Coroner, within 14 days of discovery, in line with the Treasure Act.

5.7 Human Remains

5.7.1 Human remains must be left *in-situ* except in those cases where damage or desecration are to be expected, or in the event that analysis of the remains is shown to be a requirement of satisfactory evaluation of the site. Any excavation will comply with the provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857.

5.7.2 If human remains are encountered, SCCAS and the client will be informed. No excavation will take place without a Ministry of Justice Licence and will only be carried out in accordance with all appropriate Environmental Health regulations. Human remains will be preserved *in-situ* and only excavated if absolutely necessary. Due to the wide range of variables, costs of excavation, removal and analysis of human remains are not included in any statement of costs accompanying or associated with this WSI.

6 ACCESS AND SAFETY

6.1 Access to the site will be arranged by the client. The client will secure safe access to all areas of the site for archaeological personnel. The client will also ensure that all deep excavations are adequately shored, where necessary, conforming to current health and safety regulations, and that the archaeological investigations are enabled through the provision and operation of adequate water extraction/ pumping equipment should these be required by the ground conditions.

6.2 Any costs incurred to secure access, or incurred as a result of withholding of access, will not be PCA's responsibility. The costs of any delays as a result of withheld access will be passed on to the client in addition to the project costs already specified.

6.3 All relevant health and safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice will be respected. The Health and Safety policies will be those of Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. and in accordance with all statutory regulations. A Health and Safety Risk Assessment and Method Statement (RAMS) for the site will be produced and made available to all staff.

6.4 There is a duty of care for the client to provide all information reasonably obtainable on ground contamination, environmental constraints (e.g. Tree Protection Orders, controlled invasive species, nesting birds), the locations of live services, and potential unexploded ordnance (UXO) before site works commence.

7 TIMETABLE AND STAFFING

7.1 Timetable

7.1.1 It is anticipated that the duration of the trenched evaluation will be approximately 2–3 days on site.

7.1.2 Reporting on the trenched evaluation will take up to 4 weeks.

7.1.3 Working days are based on a 5-day working week, Monday to Friday.

7.2 Staffing and Support

7.2.1 The project will be managed and led by Tom Woolhouse, Project Manager with PCA Central, who will ensure that all staff are familiarised with the site, the archaeological background of the area and the ground conditions to maximise the effectiveness of the evaluation.

7.2.2 Key team members will include Tom Woolhouse, Mark Hinman, Regional Director of PCA Central, and a PCA Supervisor. Additional Site Assistants will be drawn from a pool of qualified and experienced staff as required.

7.2.3 The following staff will form the project team for the trial-trenching:

1x Project Manager

1x Supervisor

1–2x Site Assistant(s), as required

1x Survey Supervisor

1x Finds Supervisor (office-based)

1x Finds Assistant (office-based)

1x Illustrator for post-excavation work (office-based)

7.2.4 Specialists will be employed for consultation and analysis as necessary. It is anticipated that the site may produce prehistoric pottery, which will be analysed by Sarah Percival or Lawrence Morgan-Shelbourne, and Roman pottery, which will be analysed by Katie Anderson. Anglo-Saxon, medieval or post-medieval ceramics will be analysed by Berni Sudds, Sue Anderson or Chris Jarrett. Any ceramic building materials, daub or worked stone will be examined by Dr Kevin Hayward or Amparo Valcarcel. Struck and burnt flint will be analysed by Dr Barry Bishop. Small Finds will be examined by Dr Ruth Beveridge. Human remains will be analysed by James Langthorne or Petra Ivanova and faunal remains by Kevin Rielly or Karen Deighton. Plant macrofossils will be analysed by Kath Hunter. Conservation will be undertaken by Drakon Heritage and Conservation. Other specialists will be approached to carry out analysis as required from the list at Appendix 1.

8 REPORTING

8.1 The site will use the unique SHER Site Code/ Parish Code BIL 057. This reference will be used to identify the relevant components of the project archive.

8.2 Post-excavation tasks and report writing will take approximately 4 weeks following the end of fieldwork. Specialists will be employed for consultation and analysis as necessary.

8.3 The evaluation report will conform to the format contained within the CIfA 2014 (revised 2020) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* Annex 2. Any changes to this specification that the Project Manager may wish to make after approval will first be communicated directly to SCCAS for approval.

8.4 The report will contextualise the results of the fieldwork in relation to the known archaeology and history of the area, including data in the Suffolk Historic Environment Record, and available historic maps. The report conclusions will include a clear statement of the archaeological value of the results, and their significance in the context of the regional research framework (Glazebrook 1997; Brown and Glazebrook 2000; Medlycott 2011).

8.5 A copy of the report, clearly marked ‘DRAFT’, will be sent to SCCAS and the client for comment and, following approval, final digital copies of the report will be submitted to SHER and uploaded to the Archaeology Data Service website via the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project (see Section 9.8).

8.6 If substantial remains are recorded during the project, it may be necessary to undertake a full programme of analysis and publication in accordance with the guidelines contained in Historic England's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE): Project Managers' Guide* (HE 2015). The archaeological advisory and planning role of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service will be acknowledged in any report or publication

generated by the project.

8.7 A hard copy of the approved final report will form part of the project archive; a hard copy will also be supplied to SHER upon request. Contingency will be made for publication of the project results. The minimum requirement will be for an appropriate note to be made available in the local archaeological journal, *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*.

9 OWNERSHIP OF FINDS, STORAGE AND CURATION OF ARCHIVE

9.1 To assist with the creation and curation of the project's archive, the Project Manager has contacted the SHER office to obtain a unique Site Code/ Parish Code (BIL 057) prior to commencement of the project. SHER use these numbers as unique identifiers linking all physical and digital components of the archive. The Site Code is clearly indicated on this WSI and will also be shown on all other paperwork created on site (context sheets and plans etc.) and during post-excavation analysis, and on relevant ensuing reports and the OASIS Data Collection Form.

9.2 Prior to the start of the investigations, PCA will seek to transfer title of ownership of the complete project archive to the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service County Store by issuing a 'Deeds of Transfer Agreement' form.

9.3 During post-excavation analysis, all artefactual material recovered will be held in storage by PCA Central. Arrangements for the long-term storage and deposition of all artefacts will be agreed with the landowner and SCCAS before or during the reporting stage. Transfer of title and the transfer of the ownership of the archive to the Suffolk County Store will be arranged at this time, and the arrangements indicated in the evaluation report.

9.4 PCA will recommend that ownership of all archaeological finds from the site will be given over to the relevant authority to facilitate future study and ensure proper preservation of all artefacts. In the unlikely event that artefacts of significant monetary value are discovered, and if they are not subject to Treasure Act legislation, separate ownership arrangements may be negotiated.

9.5 The project archive will be compiled in accordance with the guidelines contained in *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-Term Storage* (Walker 1990), *Standards and Guidance in the Care of Archaeological Collections* (Boyle and Rawden 2020) and *Archaeological Archives in Suffolk: Guidelines for Preparation and Deposition* (Minter and

Kennard 2019).

9.6 The project's digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service or another publicly accessible CoreTrustSeal certified repository on completion of the archaeological programme.

9.7 A copy of the evaluation report will accompany the project archive when it is deposited with the Suffolk County Store.

9.8 The Suffolk Historic Environment Record is registered with the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. PCA will provide appropriate details relating to this project by completing the OASIS form at http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis, in accordance with the guidelines provided by Historic England and the Archaeology Data Service. The OASIS ID and completed Data Collection Form will be included in the evaluation report. Following approval of the reports, final copies will be uploaded to the OASIS database. The OASIS reference for the project is: preconst1-411882.

10 FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

10.1 Insurance

10.1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. is covered by Public, Products and Employer's Liability Insurance and Professional Indemnity Insurance. Professional Indemnity: £5,000,000 (Hiscox Underwriting Limited), PL-PSC10002112906/00; Public & Products Liability: £5,000,000 (Aviva Insurance Limited and Zurich Insurance Plc.), 24765101CHC/000133 and PC007887; Employer's Liability: £10,000,000 (Aviva Insurance Limited), 24765101CHC/000133.

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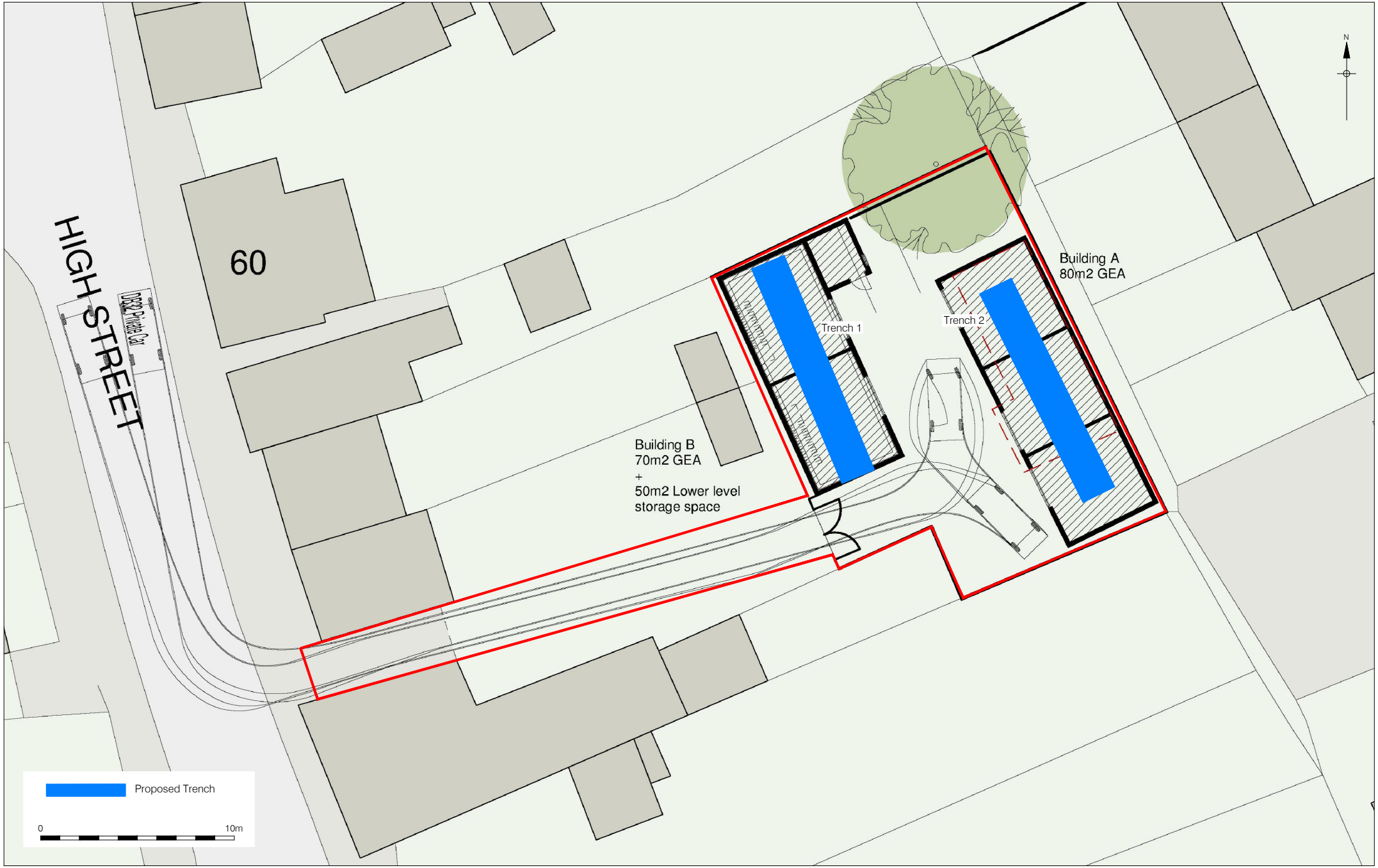
06/01/2021 RS

Figure 1
Site Location
1:2,000,000, 1:250,000, 1:5,000 at A4



06/01/2021 RS

Figure 2
Proposed Trench Location
1:250 at A4

APPENDIX 1: FINDS, ENVIRONMENTAL AND OTHER SPECIALIST SERVICES

Prehistoric Pottery: Matt Brudenell, Sarah Percival, Adam Tinsley, Louise Rayner, Jon Cotton, Mike Seager Thomas, Lawrence Morgan-Shelbourne (in-house)
Roman Pottery: Katie Anderson, Jo Mills (samian), Gwladys Monteil (samian), Joanna Bird (decorated samian), Margaret Darling (North), Brenda Dickinson (samian stamps), Kay Hartley (mortaria), Kayt Marta-Brown, David Williams (amphora)
Post-Roman Pottery: Chris Jarrett (in-house), Berni Sudds (in-house), Sue Anderson, Luke Barber (Sussex)
Clay Tobacco Pipe: Chris Jarrett (in-house)
CBM: Berni Sudds (in-house), Kevin Hayward (in-house), Su Pringle, Ian Betts
Stone & Petrological Analysis: Kevin Hayward (in-house), Mark Samuel (moulded stone)
Glass: John Shepherd (medieval and post-medieval glass), Hugh Wilmott (medieval window glass), Jill Channer
Coins: James Gerrard, Murray Andrews (in-house), Nina Crummy, Mike Hammerson
Inscriptions & Graffiti: Roger Tomlin
Animal Bone: Kevin Rielly (in-house), Philip Armitage, Robin Bendrey
Lithics (incl. Palaeolithic): Barry Bishop, Ella Egberts
Osteology: James Langthorne (in-house)
Timber: Damian Goodburn, Mike Bamforth, Nigel Nayling (Wales),
Leather: Quita Mould
Small Finds: Ruth Beveridge, Nina Crummy (prehistoric – post-Roman) Marit Gaimster (post-Roman; in-house), James Gerrard (Roman), Hilary Major (Roman), Ian Riddler (esp. worked bone)
Metal slag: Lynne Keys, David Starley
Textiles: Penelope Walton Rogers, Sue Hamilton
Conservation: Karen Barker, Drakon Heritage and Conservation
Dendrochronology: Ian Tyers
Archaeomagnetic dating: Mark Noel
Environmental: Kate Turner (in-house), Kath Hunter-Dowse, Val Fryer, QUEST,

University of Reading

Documentary Research: Guy Thompson (in-house), Chris Phillpotts, Frederick Hamond (NI), Gillian Draper, Jeremy Haslam, Roger Leech

Industrial Archaeology: David Cranstone

Finds Illustration: Cate Davies (in-house), Helen Davies (in-house), Mark Roughley (in-house), Vicki Herring

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