



BLX 039 Lime Tree Farm Tunstall Road, Blaxhall Suffolk



for Andrew Hawes

on behalf of Lime Tree Farm

CA Project: SU0079 CA Report: SU0079_1

June 2020



BLX 039 Lime Tree Farm Tunstall Road, Blaxhall Suffolk

Archaeological Excavation

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Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by
А	14/05/2020	S. Picard	S. Boulter	Internal review	Internal edit	S. Boulter
В	24/06/2020	S. Picard	S. Boulter	Review	Curatorial comment	S. Boulter

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SUMMARY

Project Name: Lime Tree Farm

Location: Tunstall Road, Blaxhall, Suffolk

NGR: 636130 256410

Type: Excavation

Date: 10 December 2019 to 17 January 2020

Planning Reference: DC/19/0225/AGO

Location of Archive: Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service

Site Code: BLX 039

An archaeological excavation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in December 2019 and January 2020. The excavation area represented a small part (0.19 hectares) of a previous evaluation (2.65 hectares) and was targeted on a concentration Late Bronze Age/Early Roman features.

The excavation identified four discrete phases of activity;

Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age activity was represented by an intermittent ring feature, probably a drip-gully external to a roundhouse, along with a small cluster of pits.

While poorly dated, a series of six shallow ditch-like features were interpreted as cultivation trenches that were probably Roman.

At least two other phases of boundary ditches were recorded; the first either representing a second Roman phase, or possibly medieval based on the very limited artefactual evidence, and the second of post-medieval date.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In December 2019 and January 2020, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological excavation at the request of Andrew Hawes and on behalf of Lime Tree Farm, at Lime Tree Farm, Tunstall Road, Blaxhall, Suffolk (centred at NGR: 636130 256410; Fig. 1).
- 1.2 Planning permission DC/19/0225/AGO for the construction of a new agricultural reservoir on land at Lime Tree Farm had been granted by East Suffolk Council conditional on a programme of archaeological work. Following an initial geophysical survey (Schofield 2019a, SACIC Rpt. No. 2019/026), a series of trial-trenches were opened in order that the archaeological potential of the site could be fully ascertained (Schofield 2019b; CA Rpt. 2019_037). The evaluation revealed evidence for activity two principal phases of activity dating to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age and the later post-medieval periods (Fig. 2). In addition, single sherds of Roman and medieval pottery, both thought at the time to represent residual finds in a later ditch, were considered to be evidence for activity relating to these periods in the wider landscape area, but not necessarily within the confines of the development area. Subsequently, Gemma Stewart of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS), the archaeological advisors to the local planning authority, specified that in order to fulfil the requirements of the planning condition, an archaeological excavation targeted upon features previously identified within the north-east corner of the proposed development area should be carried out.
- 1.3 The excavation was undertaken in accordance with a detailed *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) produced by CA (Craven 2019; presented as Appendix J) and approved by SCCAS. The fieldwork also followed *Standard and Guidance: Archaeological Excavation* (ClfA 2014); *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003), *Requirements for Archaeological Excavation* (SCCAS 2017) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* and accompanying *PPN3: Archaeological Excavation* (Historic England 2015). It was monitored by Gemma Stewart, including site visits on 17 December 2019 and 14 January 2020.

The site

1.4 The footprint of the reservoir as a whole covers 7.5ha, with the 'cut' area previously archaeologically evaluated covering 2.65ha; of this, 0.19ha was subject to full

excavation (Fig. 2). The site is located entirely within a single arable field and is bounded to the north and east by two large fields given over to cultivation and to the west by another field left as pasture. To the south west is a large stand of trees and to the south is another agricultural reservoir. In the wider landscape, the site lies on a gently undulating plateau of mostly agricultural land between the River Alde, *c*.1,500m to the north, and the River Deben, *c*.4,500m to the south-west, and is approximately 10k from the coast. Locally, the site is generally level at approximately 22m above ordnance datum.

The underlying geology is mapped as Chillesford Church Sand Member-Sand. These sedimentary deposits were formed approximately two million years ago in the Quaternary Period, they are shallow marine in origin and are detrital, ranging from coarse- to fine-grained (locally with some carbonate content) forming interbedded sequences. Its upper boundary passes through a gradational interbedded transition into the Chillesford Clay Member, which consists mainly of clays and silts. Overlying this are superficial deposits of Lowestoft Formation Diamicton, a chalky till together with outwash sands and gravels, silts and clays, formed up to two million years ago in the Quaternary Period under glacigenic conditions and characterised by its chalk and flint content (BGS April 2020). On site the geology presented as pale to mid brownish yellow and mid orange clay with flints with patches of mid grey chalky clay.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The following paragraphs provides a summary of the readily available archaeological and historical background to the development site and its environs. The site is situated in an area of archaeological and historical interest and had the potential to reveal evidence of past land use relating to a range of periods.
- 2.2 Two previous phases of archaeological investigation have taken place at the site, a geophysical survey and a trenched evaluation (Fig. 2). The geophysical survey covered the 2.65ha 'cut' area of the reservoir and identified nineteen discrete and seven linear positive anomalies potentially indicative of archaeological deposits (Schofield 2019a, SACIC Rpt. No. 2019/026). The subsequent archaeological evaluation involved the excavation of twenty 30m long trenches, eleven of which contained archaeological deposits (Schofield 2019b; CA Rpt. 2019_037). Two ditches identified in the geophysical survey were present in multiple trenches, one of which is

visible on historic mapping, the other contained single sherds of both Roman and medieval pottery, the latter possibly intrusive. A further two ditches contained Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age pottery whilst four were undated. Of the five pits recorded, two were undated and three were tentatively assigned a prehistoric date due to the presence of heat-altered flint.

Examination of the information held within the County Historic Environment Record (HER) (Fig. 1) reveals findspots of Roman pottery sherds *c*.350 to the north-east (BLX 004), an Anglo-Saxon bronze pinhead *c*.350m to the north-west (BLX 005), while further to the south-east, approximately 1km, a scatter of medieval pottery is recorded (TUN 059). Archaeological monitoring of groundworks (BLX 020) at the medieval church of St. Peter (BLX 009), *c*.700m to the north-west, identified a post-medieval rubble pit, possibly associated with repairs to the church tower. Three struck flints, probably later prehistoric in date, were found during fieldwalking adjacent to the church (BLX 027).

A geophysical survey undertaken at Lime Tree Farm approximately 600m to the east (BLX 028) in 2015, also prior to the construction of an agricultural reservoir. Rectangular sub-divided enclosures and anomalies indicative of pits were prospected over similar soils. Lime Tree Farm has also been subject to historic building recording which identified structural elements relating to the late eighteenth to early nineteenth century. A nineteenth century cartshed and a post medieval red brick stable are recorded at Stone Farm *c*.1km to the west (BLX 018 and 019 respectively).

The First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1883 shows an east west aligned field boundary ditch bisecting the site with a quarry pit or pond depicted to the south of the excavation area (Schofield 2019b, Fig. 2; see also Appendix J, WSI, Fig. 2, this report) and both were identified by the geophysical survey and the subsequent evaluation; neither are visible on the later 1975 edition OS map (Old Maps 2020). These features can also be seen as cropmarks in Google Earth images (2000 - 2011), along with further relic field boundaries and some large discrete cropmarks indicative of backfilled ponds or quarry pits.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The objectives of the archaeological mitigation were to:

- Excavate the specified area of 0.19ha focussed on known archaeological deposits identified by the previous evaluation
- record any evidence of past settlement or other land use
- recover artefactual evidence to date any evidence of past settlement that may be identified
- sample and analyse environmental remains to create a better understanding of past land use and economy
- 3.2 The specific aims of the work were to:
 - Record any evidence of past settlement or other land use
 - Recover artefactual evidence to date any evidence of past settlement that may be identified
 - Sample and analyse environmental remains to create a better understanding of past land use and economy
- 3.3 Research aims identified in the Regional Research Framework (Medlycott 2011, 20 21 and 29 32) which it was considered that the site had the potential to contribute include:
 - Bronze and Iron Age settlement and landscapes.
 - Typological identification of Bronze Age pottery, where possible crossreferenced with scientific dating.
 - Study of development, frequency and significance of flint-working in the Bronze Age.
 - Bronze Age/Iron Age transition.
 - Development of the agrarian economy in the Iron Age.

 Finds studies – development of regional pottery sequences and chronologies for the Iron Age.

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the CA WSI (Craven 2019; presented as Appendix J). The location of the excavation area was agreed with Gemma Stewart (SCCAS), informed by the results of the archaeological evaluation (CA 2019). An excavation area measuring 47m by 43m was set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and surveyed in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4: Survey Manual. The excavation area was scanned for live services by trained CA staff using CAT and Genny equipment in accordance with the CA Safe System of Work for avoiding underground services.
- 4.2 Fieldwork commenced with the removal of topsoil and subsoil from the excavation area using a mechanical excavator with a toothless grading bucket, under constant archaeological supervision. Conditions on site became very difficult due to heavy rainfall, saturated ploughsoil and poorly draining clay soils leading to extensive and prolonged flooding.
- 4.3 Metal detecting was undertaken at all stages of the project, including the upcast spoil, surface of the site and material excavated from features.
- 4.4 The archaeological features thus exposed were hand-excavated to the base of archaeological stratigraphy. All features were planned and recorded in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual.
- 4.5 Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential, resulting in the selection of five features considered to have potential for characterising the earlier phases of activity. These were sampled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites.
- 4.6 All artefacts recovered from the excavation were retained in accordance with CA Technical Manual 3: *Treatment of finds immediately after excavation*.

5. RESULTS

- 5.1 This section provides an overview of the excavation results; detailed summaries of the contexts, finds and environmental samples (biological evidence) are to be found in Appendices A H.
- 5.2 Finds recovery on site was limited with only the earliest phase of activity being securely dated by artefactual evidence. Stratigraphic relationships and spatial associations have been used to help phase the site, although some dating remains unclear, particularly for Phase 2. Four datable phases of activity have been distinguished (Fig. 3):
 - Phase 0: Geology
 - Phase 1: Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (Figs. 3 and 4)
 - Phase 2: Later Iron Age or Roman (Figs. 3 and 5)
 - Phase 3: Roman or medieval? (Figs. 3 and 7)
 - Phase 4: Post-medieval (Figs. 3 and 9)
 - Undated (Figs. 3 and 11)
- 5.3 A number of features could not be definitively assigned a phase based on stratigraphy or artefactual evidence and remain unphased.

Phase 0, Geology

The natural geological substrate, 0002, was a pale to mid brownish yellow and mid orange clay with flints with patches of mid grey chalky clay and was recorded directly below the agricultural ploughsoil, 0001, a dark to very dark brownish grey heavy, firm and wet silty clay with moderate mixed stones. Truncation of the naturally derived clay was evident with heavy plough scarring running both north to south and east to west, generally 0.1m deep, but did reach depths of up to 0.15m. Topsoil was heavily furrowed and was between 0.2m and 0.4m thick with the interface between it and the natural clay below very mixed with compression into the top of the clay substrate from furrows and tramlines visible.

Phase 1, Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age (Figs. 3, 4, 5 and 13)

5.5 The earliest phase of archaeological activity on site comprised a semi-circular ditch, in three segments, with an overall internal diameter of approximately 11.5m (overall

group number 0125). Enclosed by this ditch, and part of group 0125, were two small pits or possible postholes (0118 and 0135). In addition, three pits outside the ditch have also been assigned to this phase.

5.6 The majority of the ditch was excavated in a checkerboard pattern, with both the long section running through the middle recorded as well as each cross section prior to its full excavation. The longest segment of the ditch (0140) was 13.2m long, running from the west around to the north-east, forming approximately one third of a circle. It varied in width from 0.4m to 0.6m and in depth from 0.14m to 0.3m. Generally, it had steeply sloping rounded sides and a narrow concave base, but in places the sides became steeper and straighter or more gradually sloping with the base occasionally flatter. At two points the ditch deepened before rising up again, although it was thought that these were undulations rather than representing postholes or post settings. The ditch was filled with mid grey silty clay mottled with mid brown silty sandy clay with very occasional charcoal flecks and small stones which sometimes became darker and less mottled. Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery, fired clay fragments and two pieces of worked flint were recovered from the fill. At its eastern end, ditch 0140 had a genuine terminus with steeply sloping concave sides whereas, at its western end, the ditch became shallower and its sides became more gradually sloping making it less clear whether the ditch terminated or had been truncated by later agricultural activity. At an interval of approximately 0.4m from the eastern end of ditch 0140 was ditch 0160, the shortest segment of the ring-ditch, measuring approximately 2.1m long, from 0.35 to 0.6m wide and from 0.17 to 0.34m deep. It exhibited a similar profile to ditch 0140, with steeply sloping rounded sides and a concave base and both ends representing genuine termini. Its fill was also similar and again produced sherds of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery. The third segment of the ditch (0074 and 0098) was approximately 7.4m long and was generally 0.5m wide and up to 0.2m deep. It was approximately 3.75m to the south of ditch 0160 and formed most of the south-eastern quadrant of the circle having originally been identified and excavated during the evaluation. Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery was again recovered from a fill that was similar in character to that encountered in 0140 and 0160. All three segments of the ring-ditch were cut by ditches from Phase 2; 0140 and 0160 were both cut by ditch 0062, 0074 was cut by 0063 and 0098 by 0064. Two small pits or possible postholes, 0118 and 0135, were excavated close to the possible entrance formed by the gap between ditches 0160 and 0074. They were approximately 2.1m apart and also roughly 2.1m inside the circle formed by the ring-ditch. They were both small, c.0.35m across, shallow, 0.08m and 0.09m deep, and sub-circular with very

shallow rounded profiles and were both filled with mid to dark grey silty clay and, although neither feature produced any dateable artefactual evidence, their spatial relationship with the ring-ditch suggests they could have been related and contemporaneous in their use. Three further small pits have been included in this phase, each of which were cut by ditches assigned to Phase 2. Closest to the ringditch group 0125 was pit 0108. This was small and sub-circular with a diameter of approximately 0.45m, moderately steeply sloping concave sides, a rounded base and was up to 0.1m deep. It was cut by ditch 0064 and was also heavily disturbed by a north south orientated plough scar. Three sherds of pottery were recovered from its mid orangey grey firm mottled silty clay fill. While both prehistoric and medieval sherds were present, the latter must be intrusive and almost certainly derived from the plough scar. Pit 0070 was 3.7m to the south and was cut by ditch 0065. It was sub-circular, c.0.4m in diameter and 0.2m deep, with steeply sloping concave sides, a concave base and was filled with mid grey firm silty clay. It was also excavated during the evaluation with heat-altered flint recovered at both stages of work. Also excavated at evaluation stage, was pit 0009 which was located approximately 13.5m to the east of pit 0108 and was also cut by ditch 0064. It was sub-circular with a diameter of 0.58m, a depth of 0.1m and moderately steeply sloping concave sides to a generally flat base. As with pit 0070, heat-altered flint was collected from its mid brownish grey firm silty sandy clay fill. Although no dateable artefactual evidence was recovered from either 0009 or 0070, they have tentatively been assigned to this phase based on their juxtaposition to the ring feature, stratigraphic relationships with ditches 0064 and 0065 and the presence of heat-altered flint, which is frequently, but not exclusively, recovered from prehistoric features.

Phase 2, Late Iron Age to Roman (Figs. 3, 5, 6 and 14)

5.7 The second phase was represented by six generally evenly spaced (4.5 m for the northernmost two, 3.5m for the rest) east west orientated ditches (0060 – 0065). These were generally very clear in plan but, during excavation, were found to have very ill-defined edges. Although they are recorded as ditches, they present more like rows of linear disturbance, more akin to cultivation than drainage/boundary ditches. Their date was unclear; pottery of a similar to that recovered from the Phase 1 features was identified in two of the ditches, however, it was heavily abraded and almost certainly residual. Each ditch was given an overall number and is described below.

- 5.8 The northernmost of the six ditches (0060) had four sections excavated along its length (0126, 0128, 0130 and 0138). It was 25m long, between 0.52m and 0.72m wide and 0.14m to 0.21m deep with gradually sloping concave sides, a generally concave base and a fill of mid brown to mid brownish grey firm silty clay; no finds were recovered. The feature was fully within the excavation area, but it was unclear whether either of the termini were genuine or if it simply faded out.
- 5.9 To the south was ditch 0061, through which six sections were excavated (0058, 0082, 0116, 0120, 0161 and 0163). Which extended for 41m into the site from where it continued under the eastern limit of excavation. In the excavated sections it varied between 0.42m through to 0.7m in width, 0.1m to 0.22m in depth, although mostly between 0.14m and 0.16m deep, with gradually sloping concave sides, steeper where the ditch was deeper, and a generally concave base. The fill comprised mid to dark brown to brownish grey firm silty clay from which no finds were recovered.
- 5.10 Further to the south, six interventions were made in ditch 0062 (0054, 0080, 0084, 0154, 0156 and 0158), which also exhibited moderately steeply sloping concave sides and a concave base, varying in width between 0.4m to 0.55m, 0.16m to 0.25m deep and continued across the full width of the site. It was filled with mid brown to brownish grey firm silty clay and no artefactual evidence was recovered. This feature shared a stratigraphic relationship with three other ditches; it cut, and was therefore later than 0140 and 0160, two of the ring-ditch segments, and towards the western edge of the site, it was cut by, and therefore predated ditch 0067.
- 5.11 Further south again was ditch 0063, through which six sections were excavated (0036, 0048, 0056, 0076, 0078 and 0104). This ditch extended for 39m into the site from where it continued under eastern limit of excavation. It varied in width from 0.5m to 0.7m, generally between 0.18m and 0.2m deep, but reaching up to 0.34m locally. It was filled with mid to dark brown to brownish grey firm silty clay and had gradually sloping concave sides, which became steeper where the ditch was deeper, and a generally concave base. Finds were recovered from three of the excavated sections; single abraded sherds of prehistoric pot were recovered from two, while the third produced a fragment of fired clay. This ditch could be seen to cut, and therefore post-date ring-ditch segment 0074.
- 5.12 Southwards again, seven sections were excavated in ditch 0064 (0007, 0013, 0052, 0068, 0100, 0102 and 0110), which extended for 39m into the site from where it

continued under the eastern limit of excavation; this feature had already been recorded as 0007 during the evaluation. Generally, it was between 0.6m and 0.7m wide, but narrowing to 0.45m in one excavated section, and mostly between 0.2m and 0.24m deep, although shallower, 0.1m, in one section, with moderately steeply sloping concave sides and a concave base. It was filled with mid brown to brownish grey firm silty clay from which no artefactual evidence was recovered. Stratigraphically, this ditch was shown to be later than three other features; pits 0009 and 0108 and ring-ditch segment 0098.

5.13 Finally, the southernmost of the six ditches (0065), which extended across the site for 40m from where it continued under the eastern limit of excavation, had five excavated sections (0038, 0044, 0046, 0050 and 0072). Its width varied between 0.6m to 0.72m with a depth of 0.17m to 0.30m, generally with fairly steeply sloping concave sides and a concave base. It was filled with mid to dark brownish grey firm silty clay from which two sherds of abraded prehistoric pottery were recovered, one from each of two of the excavated sections. Stratigraphically, this ditch cut and therefore post-dated, pit 0070.

Phase 3, Roman or medieval? (Figs. 3, 7, 8 and 15)

5.14 The third phase was represented by a single north south aligned ditch (0067). Five sections were excavated, four of which showed its full profile (0040, 0091, 0094, 0112 and 0132). The ditch ran for 32m from the southern limit of the excavation, parallel to its western side before continuing under its northern edge. It was between 2.02m and 2.4m wide, from 0.68m to 0.85m deep with a fairly consistent profile; steeply sloping straight to slightly concave sides and a narrow slightly concave base. Generally, the ditch was recorded as having two filling deposits; a lower component of mid to dark yellowish brown firm silty clay, which was generally between 0.3m and 0.4m thick, with an overlying deposit of mid yellowish brown firm silty clay. Locally, an upper fill of dark yellowish brown firm silty clay was recorded in one excavated section. Worked flint was recovered from an environmental sample taken from the lower fill of one excavated section, but is considered to be residual, possibly derived from the prehistoric activity known to have taken place on the site. Two small sherds of Roman pottery were recovered from the principal fill of one of the excavated sections and this may be a more reliable date for the ditch. The feature had been identified in both the geophysical survey and the subsequent evaluation (Trench 10, 0023) where its profile and filling deposits were similar to those subsequently recorded in the excavation and

also producing two sherds of pottery, although one of these was medieval in date and possibly intrusive. The ditch was shown to cut, and therefore post-date ditch 0062 and to have been cut by, and was therefore earlier than, ditch 0066.

Phase 4, Post-medieval (Figs. 9, 10 and 15)

5.15 The most recent phase of archaeological activity on the site was a single east west aligned ditch (0066) that was recorded in the geophysical survey, trenched evaluation and is also present on historic mapping, including the First Edition OS map (Schofield 2019b, Fig. 2). As a result, it was only considered necessary to excavate two sections (0042 and 0122), with the latter providing a full profile. It was 0.72m wide and 0.5m deep with moderately steeply sloping straight sides, a concave base and was filled with dark greyish brown firm silty clay over mid greyish brown firm silty clay up to 0.2m thick and occasional large stones on the base; no artefactual evidence was recovered.

Undated (Figs. 3, 11, 12 and 15)

5.16 Four features, all small pits, remain undated (0011, 0034, 0086 and 0106). Pit 0011 was excavated during the evaluation and was adjacent to pit 0009. It was oval, northwest to south-east aligned, measuring 0.68m by 0.44m with a depth of 0.09m and gradually sloping concave sides to a flat base and filled with dark greyish brown firm silty clay. Pit 0034 was in the south-western corner of the site, oval in shape, east west aligned, measuring 0.59m by 0.38m wide, 0.08m deep with concave sides to a flat base and was filled with mid grey firm silty clay. Towards the eastern edge of the site, pit 0086 was small, sub-circular, c.0.34m in diameter, 0.06m deep with steep concave sides to a flat base and was filled with dark brownish grey firm clayey silt. Pit 0106 was located 10m to the south of 0086 and 5m to the south east of 0011. It was oval in shape, aligned north-west south-east, measuring 0.3m by 0.2m, 0.09m deep with a rounded profile and filled with mid grey silty clay that was heavily disturbed by a north south aligned plough scar.

6. THE FINDS

Report by Stephen Benfield with Anna West: Plant macrofossils

6.1 **Bulk finds introduction**

Broad categories of bulk finds and the quantity recovered during the excavation are listed in the table below. A similar range of finds was recovered during an earlier

archaeological evaluation of the site (Schofield 2019a). A full list of the types of finds by context from both the evaluation and excavation is provided as Appendix B.

Туре	Category	Count	Wt. (g)
Pottery	-Prehistoric (Late Bronze Age/Iron Age)	48	219
	-Roman	3	3
	Pottery total	51	222
Fired clay		21	29
Ceramic building material		1	22
Struck flint		12	31
Heat-altered stone		93	1,288
Animal bone		1	4

Summaries of the finds by period, together with environmental evidence, are presented below while details of the finds can be found in the specialist reports presented as Appendices C to H. Where appropriate, discussion of the finds from the evaluation has been incorporated in the specialist reports. The date range of the more closely dated finds spans the later prehistoric period (Late Bronze Age/Iron Age) and Roman period. A single sherd of pottery recovered during the evaluation was identified as medieval (Schofield 2019a, 6.2) but no medieval pottery was found to be present among the finds assemblage from the excavation.

6.2 Later prehistoric (Bronze Age-Iron Age)

Modest quantities of broken-up sherds of pottery, most of which contained flint-temper and often in conjunction with sand-temper or sand inclusions, was recovered from several ditches; notably ring-ditch segments 0140 and ditch 0160. Pottery of similar type and date range was recovered during the evaluation. Most of the pottery lacks any diagnostic features and individually the sherds are difficult to date closely within the period of the Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age (c.1100/1000 - 400/350 BC). However, the common presence of sand in the fabric alongside the crushed, burnt flint-temper, suggests an Early Iron Age date for much of the assemblage (c.800/700 - 400/350 BC). A few sand-tempered sherds with organic chaff-like inclusions could indicate that the overall date of the assemblage extends into the Middle Iron Age period after c.400/350 BC. The broken-up nature of the pottery suggests it was of some age or had experienced some period of depositional history prior to entering these contexts. Occupation or activity here during the earlier part of the period indicated by the pottery or just before, that is during the Later Bronze Age (c.1500-800/700 BC) and possibly also the Early Iron Age, is supported by a small assemblage of relatively crudely struck flints which includes a single modified piece that is probably a side scraper tool of later Bronze Age type.

Other finds include a quantity of heat-altered (burnt) flints from pit 0071 that is likely to belong to the prehistoric period, although is not otherwise dated by any other associated finds. This also suggests some definite episode of activity here with the stones being used to heat water, possibly for cooking, although the duration of any occupation on the site represented by this particular activity alone may have been quite short. This complements as similar but again undated pit (0009) which was recorded during the earlier evaluation. This also contained a quantity of heat-altered stones, but of types with thermal properties superior to flint and which must have been specially selected for that quality.

Small quantities of fragmented and abraded fired clay were also recovered. Where associated with closely dated finds (ditch 0140), was found with pottery dated to the later prehistoric period.

6.3 Roman

Evidence of Roman activity on the site is very sparse in terms of finds. Three small, abraded greyware sherds augment a single greyware sherd from the evaluation. These finds come from evaluation ditch 0023, and the same feature, 0112 (collectively 0067), during the excavation along with pit 0108. In addition, a small piece of what is probably abraded ceramic building material (CBM) that is more likely to be of Roman date than later was recovered from fill (0105) in ditch 0140, which otherwise produced pottery of later prehistoric date, and is almost certainly intrusive. This small quantity of finds may have been derived from manuring the land here as part of an agricultural regime.

6.4 Post-Roman

Just a single small sherd of coarseware pottery, which was recovered from during the evaluation from the fill of ditch 0023, has been dated as medieval and of a general fabric type (medieval coarseware) current during the period of the Late 12th-14th century and maybe intrusive. No further finds dated to the medieval period or later date were recovered or collected from the site.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

7.1 The biological evidence from the excavation is very limited, consisting of a very few, small pieces of animal bone and charred plant material recovered from bulk soil

samples. Overall, a total of seventeen bulk samples were taken from archaeological features during the evaluation and excavation. However, they did not to contain any identifiable material of archaeological significance and the plant material recovered was too sparse to draw any conclusions beyond the fact that it probably reflects occupation or settlement activities in the vicinity. Other finds show that the main period of activity here appears to have been in the later prehistoric period.

8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1 The excavation confirmed the results of the geophysical survey and evaluation, that evidence for Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age activity survived on the site which was essentially situated within an historic agricultural landscape. While the weather conditions encountered during the course of the excavation were constantly challenging, the aims and objectives for the excavation (see sections 3.1 and 3.2) were fully met.
- 8.2 In addition, a number of research aims detailed in the Regional Research Framework (Medlycott 2011, 20 21 and 209 32) had been identified which it was hoped that the subsequent excavation would help to address;
 - Bronze Age Settlements and landscapes; while only one structure was
 recorded, its location on heavy clay soil is additional evidence to confirm that
 activity of this date was not mostly confined to river valleys and other areas of
 lighter sandy soils. While not worthy of further analysis, its location is now
 recorded on the county HER and is available for inclusion in any future
 synthetic academic study that might be undertaken.
 - Typological identification of Bronze Age pottery, where possible crossreferenced with scientific dating; unfortunately, the pottery assemblage was not large or particularly diagnostic. In addition, the lack of organic residues on sherds, or the presence of associated charred remains made scientific dating techniques such as radiocarbon dating redundant.
 - Study of development, frequency sand significance of flint-working in the Bronze Age; the worked flint assemblage was small and undiagnostic and could not be used meaningfully for any further study.
 - Bronze Age/Iron transition; while there was clearly activity broadly of this date taking place on the site, the undiagnostic character of the finds assemblage

and lack of potential for absolute dating mean that no further information can be gleaned other than adding a spatial location for occupation of this period.

- Development of the agrarian economy in the Iron Age; no evidence was recovered which could be used in relation to this topic.
- Finds studies development of regional pottery sequence and chronologies for the Iron Age; the lack of diagnostic pottery and other material that could be scientifically dated mean that there no potential for further study in this area of research.
- 8.3 As far as identifying additional research aims, the presence of possible agricultural or cultivation features relating to the Roman period, could be considered in any future synthetic academic study as further evidence for a particular type of rural landscape utilisation, an area which has been earmarked for further study (Medlycott 2011, 47).
- 8.4 The natural geological substrate was consistent across the site and showed evidence of vertical truncation by continued agricultural processes. The interface between the relatively shallow ploughsoil and the underlying natural substrate was very mixed with evidence of mechanical interaction with the natural clay evident through heavy plough scarring. The disturbance caused by these scars to the archaeological horizon, particularly the shallower features in Phases 1 and 2 was evident and it must be assumed that the archaeological horizon has been reduced by later land use.
- The earliest phase of activity, later Bronze Age or more likely Earlier Iron Age, relates primarily to the semi-circular segmented ring-ditch 0125, the function of which is not entirely clear. A segmented or causewayed ditch could suggest a funerary or monumental purpose, and this would seem plausible given the site's position overlooking a gentle undulation in the landscape. The lack of a south-western segment could be accounted for by the vertical truncation of the site, it may simply have been ploughed away. However, several factors can be weighed against the likelihood of this feature serving a monumental purpose. Despite the difficult conditions on site, the area enclosed by the ditch was thoroughly cleaned and investigated and no central focus could be discerned. While this in itself is not reason enough to discount monumental status, when the disordered approach to the segmentation of the ditch, the uneven nature of the ditch and its size (c.11.5m in diameter) is taken into account, along with the presence of pottery within the fill, a more utilitarian/domestic purpose would seem more plausible, possibly relating to a

structure such as a roundhouse. Although there were undulations and variations in the depth and width of the ditch segments, no individual post settings, postholes or stakeholes could be identified and it is likely that it represented a drip-gully rather than a foundation trench or setting for a wall in its own right. This could explain why the features are uneven and apparently segmented, as a drip-gully is not necessarily a formally excavated feature, but often represents the only surviving evidence when other shallow lain structural features have been truncated. This area of the site had clearly been subject to truncation as attested by the small pits associated with the ring-ditch, particularly the two within the area enclosed by the ditch segments. While these could represent the bases of postholes, they were also similar to all but one of the other small pits considered to be broadly contemporary. However, while the presence of pottery within the ditch is suggestive of domestic activity, the structure itself may have had a more pastoral use, possibly related to animal husbandry or protecting a working area. The inclusion of the artefactually sterile features in the phase was based almost entirely on their juxtaposition to the structure, although the presence of heat-altered flint, recovered from pits 0009 and 0070, a category of find frequently associated with prehistoric activity, as well as their being cut by one of the Phase 2 ditches, helps place them in the earlier phase of activity.

8.6 The second phase of activity (Phase 2) was represented by six parallel ditches/gullies, their inclusion based principally on the similarities between their profiles, fills and the uniformity of their spatial relationships. As mentioned above, these features were visible in plan, but during excavation their edges were difficult to define and, while this would be expected on heavily bioturbated sandy soils, it is more unusual on the heavier clay that forms the natural stratum on the site. This, along with their even spacing and shallow nature, makes it unlikely that these ditches represented demarcation features, rather that they were agricultural/cultivational activity. Indeed, rather than ditches, or gullies, as they have been described it is perhaps more accurate to call them cultivation trenches or furrows in which crops have been grown. The ditches or furrows were consistently around 3.5m apart, except for the northernmost two which were separated by a distance of 4.5m with these intervals suggesting that they were not intended for cereal crops. This may represent evidence for viticulture, although the heavy nature of the soil and the lack of drainage, as witnessed during the excavation, would likely have led to poor grape growing conditions. This could also represent an orchard, but it is worth noting the shallow depth of the ditches perhaps discount the likelihood of such deep rooting plants and suggest some other type of more low-lying fruit plantation, perhaps berries,

but this is speculative. Environmental samples taken from these ditches, or cultivational furrows, unfortunately offer little insight into what may or may not have been grown here. The absolute dating for Phase 2 is also problematic. Although they contained small amounts of pottery these sherds were small and very heavily abraded and had clearly been moving around in the soil for some time before they were deposited as residual finds. While the stratigraphic relationships that these ditches share with the Phase 1 ring-ditch, dated to the later Bronze Age/earlier Iron Age, and the later north south aligned boundary Phase 3 ditch are secure, the uncertainty with regards to the dating of the Phase 3 feature (either Roman with an intrusive medieval pottery sherd, or medieval) result in a temporal window that could be as much as two millennia. Where similar parallel features have been attributed an agricultural function they are usually Roman in date, for example Capel St. Mary where it was suggested they were associated with a known villa (Cass and Craven 2018), and this is the favoured interpretation here and does not totally contradict the dating evidence for Phase 3 which could represent a second Roman phase or a later, medieval feature.

- 8.7 Phases 3 and 4, both represented by single field boundary ditches, show the continued agricultural basis for past land use on the site. Although unrelated in terms of date, they do share the same axes and when considered in relation to extant field boundaries, they offer some insight into the dynamic character of agricultural landscapes with temporally divorced features repeatably imposed on similar orientations.
- 8.8 The four small undated pits are most likely to relate to Phase 1, the later Bronze Age/earlier Iron Age activity. They are similar in character in terms of their morphology and fill with other features more positively assigned to Phase 1, which is also the only phase of activity on the site not represented solely by ditches.
- 8.7 The excavation has added to the body of work relating to the prehistoric settlement of heavier clay soils in East Anglia, where evidence of occupation of lighter sandier land predominates. The paucity of the artefactual assemblage, particularly ceramics and lithics, makes drawing any conclusions relating to the transition from the Bronze to the Iron Age and the development and significance of flint working at that time very difficult. While poorly dated, the six ditches or gullies forming Phase 2, do offer the tantalising possibility that they represent formalised cultivation trenches that may be of Roman date and adding to the increasing corpus of evidence relating to the horticultural activity during that period.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

9.1 Fieldwork was undertaken by Simon Picard, assisted by Rhiannon Gardiner, Alice Crush, Nigel Byram, Nathan Griggs, James Sinclair, Meagan Mangum, Alex Capon, Sharon Martin, Tara Schug and Georgina Palmer. The report was written by Simon Picard. The pottery and other bulk finds reports were prepared by Stephen Benfield, and the plant microfossils and charcoal report by Anna West. The illustrations were prepared by Rosanna Price. The archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Ruth Beveridge. The fieldwork was managed for CA by Rhodri Gardner and the post-excavation was managed by Joanna Caruth with report editing undertaken by Stuart Boulter.

10. STORAGE AND CURATION

10.1 The basic quantification of the combined evaluation and excavation archive is as follows:

Resource Type	Format	No.
Context Register	A4 Paper	4
Section Register	A4 Paper	2
Plan Register	A4 Paper	1
Photograph Register	A4 Paper	3
Sample Register	A4 Paper	2
Context Sheets	A4 Paper	95
Drawing Sheets	A3 Permatrace	14
Photographs	18mp.jpeg	276

Quantification of the stratigraphic archive

Finds Type	No.		Wt. (g)
Pottery		69	234
Fired clay/CBM		15	66
Struck flint		4	16
Heat-altered flint and stone		54	3,734
Animal bone		230	633

Bulk finds quantities

10.2 The archive is currently held at CA offices in Needham Market whilst post-excavation work proceeds. Upon completion of the project, and with the agreement of the legal

landowners, the entire site archive and artefactual collection will be deposited with Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service. In addition, a digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). A summary of information from this project has been entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain; a summary of this record is presented in Appendix I.

10.3 A summary report has been prepared, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History.

11. REFERENCES

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context No.	Feature No.	Group No.	Tr.	Feature Type	Cat.	Description	Interpretation	L.	W.	D.	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Date
0001	0001	0001		Topsoil	Deposit	Dark grey-brown clayey- silt with moderate flint inclusions	Topsoil deposit				0002, 0004, 0006, 0008, 0012, 0014, 0016, 0020, 0022, 0025, 0027, 0031, 0033, 0029	0001			-
0002	0002	0002		Natural	Deposit	Natural consists of mixed orange and grey clay with frequent small chalk inclusions	Natural					0001, 0003, 0005, 0009, 0011, 0013, 0017, 0019, 0021, 0023, 0026, 0030, 0032, 0028			-
0003	0003	0003	1	Ditch	Cut	Linear in plan orientated E-W. It has a reasonably stepped, straight profile with a gradual Break of slope leading to a flat base.	Boundary ditch which bisects the field, present on the 1886 OS survey map, contained a partially articulated animal skeleton.	0.9+	1	0.44	0002	0004			P4 - PMed
0004	0003	0003	1	Ditch	Fill	Single fill consisted of a mid to dark brownish-grey silty-clay with a firm, plastic compaction that is slightly friable. It has moderate flint and chalk fleck inclusions, with a clear horizon.	Silting accumulation fill of boundary ditch	0.9+	1	0.44	0003	0001			P4 - PMed
0005	0005	0005	7	Natural Feature	Cut	Irregular shaped feature which is elongated to the south. Both the profile and the base are irregular.	Irregular feature, most likely natural, a possible tree hollow.	0.9	1.5	0.38	0002	0006			Undated
0006	0005	0005	7	Natural Feature	Fill	Single fill consisting of dark brownish-grey silty-clay with patches of orange-brown clay. Firm compaction with occasional small subrounded stone inclusions. Clear clarity.	Accumulation fill of natural feature	0.9	1.5	0.38	0005	0001			Undated

Lime Tree Farm, Blaxhall, Suffolk: Archaeological Excavation

Context No.	Feature No.	Group No.	Tr.	Feature Type	Cat.	Description	Interpretation	L.	w.	D.	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Date
0007	0007	0064	17	Ditch	Cut	E-W aligned linear with gradually sloping sides to a concave base. Truncates earlier pit 0009	probable boundary ditch, prehistoric?	1+	0.62	0.12	0010	0008		0010, 0009	P2 – LIA – ROM
0008	0007	0064	17	Ditch	Fill	Single fill consisting of mid brownish-grey silty-clay of moderate compaction. Occasional small to mid-sized sub-rounded stone inclusions, diffuse clarity.	Accumulation fill of probable prehistoric boundary ditch.	1+	0.62	0.12	0007	0001			P2 – LIA – ROM
0009	0009		17	Pit	Cut	Semi-circular in plan, most likely due to truncation by later feature 0007, with gentle sloping side with a moderately flat base.	Pit of unknown function, filled with burnt material but no evidence of in situ burning.	0.38	0.58	0.1	0002	0010	0007		P1 – LBA/EIA
0010	0009		17	Pit	Fill	Single fill consisting of a mid brownish-grey silty-sandy-clay with small-large sub-rounded stone inclusions, Diffuse horizon, truncated buy later feature 0007	Accumulation fill of possible pit, contains burnt material.	0.38	0.58	0.1	0009	0007	0007		P1 – LBA/EIA
0011	0011	0011	17	Pit	Cut	Sub-oval in plan orientated roughly NW-SE, although very slightly obscured by the LOE, with gently sloping sides leading to a flat base.	A possible hearth feature in trench 17 with a large quantity of burnt material within fill. There doesn't appear to be any signs of scorching on the natural clay indicating that it is very unlikely to have had insitu burning, perhaps a dump of material	0.44	0.68	0.09	0002	0012			Undated
0012	0011	0011	17	Pit	Fill	Single fill consisting of a dark greyish-brown firm silty-clay, with occasional small-large stone inclusions and common charcoal flecks with a very clear clarity.	Possible dumping deposit consisting of burnt material. No finds recovered, for further interpretation see 0011	0.44	0.68	0.09	0011	0001			Undated
0013	0013	0064	13	Ditch	Cut	Linear feature with an alignment of E-W, the profile is steep sides to a flattish base. Possible the same as 0007 in trench 17?	Probable field boundary ditch which may be linked to 0007 in trench 17.	1+	0.48	0.20	0002	0014			P2 – LIA – ROM

Lime Tree Farm, Blaxhall, Suffolk: Archaeological Excavation

Context No.	Feature No.	Group No.	Tr.	Feature Type	Cat.	Description	Interpretation	L.	W.	D.	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Date
0014	0013	0064	13	Ditch	Fill	Single fill consisting of a grey silt with occasional brown mottling.	Accumulation fill of probable field boundary.	1+	0.48	0.2	0013	0001			P2 – LIA – ROM
0015	0015		13	Pit	Cut	Elongated oval shaped cut in plan with steep sides down to a flattish base.	Pit of unknown function. No datable evidence recovered,	0.4+	0.28	0.18	0018	0016		0018, 0017	
0016	0015		13	Pit	Fill	Single fill consisting of a greyish-brown silt with occasional orange clay mottling. Very clear clarity.	Accumulation fill of pit	0.4+	0.28	0.18	0015	0001			
0017	0017		13	Pit	Cut	Feature partially obscured by LOE, but the shape is most likely circular with steep sides down to a flat base. Truncated by 0015	Pit containing burnt material and charcoal, possibly a hearth? Although the depth of this feature makes this unlikely.	0.3+	0.3+	0.12	0002	0018	0015		
0018	0017		13	Pit	Fill	Single fill consisting of dark brown-black silt with dark charcoal and frequent heat altered flints and stones. Very clear clarity.	Possibly a dumped deposit of burnt material?	0.3+	0.3+	0.12	0017	0015	0015		
0019	0019		20	Ditch	Cut	Linear feature orientated N-S with a moderately steep straight sides to a flattish base. Also seen in trench 20 as 0032 and on the geophysics survey	probable field boundary, most likely forms a field system with ditches 0023 in trench 10 and 0030 in trench 15.	1+	1.64	0.42	0002	0020			
0020	0019		20	Ditch	Fill	Single fill consisting of a mid blueish-grey and orange mottled silty-clay with firm compaction. With occasional small-large sub-rounded flints and pebbles with a clear horizon.	Accumulation fill of probable boundary ditch.	1+	1.64	0.42	0019	0001			
0021	0021	0125	13	Ditch	Cut	Linear orientated NE- SW, with gently sloping sides down to a flattish base	Section in S segment of ring-ditch	1+	0.45	0.06	0002	0022			
0022	0021	0125	13	Ditch	Fill	Single fill consisting of a grey silty occasionally mottled with brown silt,	Accumulation fill of ring- ditch	1+	0.45	0.06	0021	0001			

Lime Tree Farm, Blaxhall, Suffolk: Archaeological Excavation

Context No.	Feature No.	Group No.	Tr.	Feature Type	Cat.	Description	Interpretation	L.	w.	D.	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Date
0023	0023	0067	10	Ditch	Cut	Linear orientated N-S. The profile is very steep with the west side straight, and the east side slightly stepped. It has a gradual break of slope leading to a flat base.	Cut of probable boundary ditch. Same as 0030 See 0019	0.9+	2.08	0.78	0002	0024			P3 – Rom or Med
0024	0023	0067	10	Ditch	Fill	Basal fill consisting of a mid yellow-grey-brown silty-clay, with firm compaction which is slightly friable. Occasional flints and chalk inclusions. Clear horizons.	Basal silting accumulation fill of probable field boundary	0.9+	2.08	0.68	0023	0025			P3 – Rom or Med
0025	0023	0067	10	Ditch	Fill	Top fill consisting of a mid grey-yellow silty-sand of loose compaction. With occasional flint inclusions, clear horizon.	Top silting accumulation deposit within boundary ditch, possibly a windblown deposit?	0.9+	0.138	0.10	0024	0001			P3 – Rom or Med
0026	0026		13	Ditch	Cut	Linear cut orientated E- W, with steep sides to a flat base.	Probable field boundary	1+	0.5	0.17	0002	0027			
0027	0026		13	Ditch	Fill	Single fill consisting of grey silt with occasional brown mottling	Accumulation fill of probable field boundary	1+	0.5	0.17	0026	0001			
0028	0028	0028	19	Pit	Cut	Sub-oval shaped feature, with very gradual sides down to a flattish base.	interpreted on site as a possible hearth feature, very shallow "scoop" filled with "burnt" material, but no real evidence for insitu burning, no scorched natural or even much charcoal within the fill. More likely to be a dump of fired material.	0.75	0.54	0.07	0002	0029			
0029	0028	0028	19	Pit	Fill	Mid brown silty-clay with orange mottling, containing lots of heat altered stone.	Possible dump of heated material? See 0028 for further interpretation.	0.75	0.54	0.07	0028	0001			
0030	0030	0067	15	Ditch	Cut	Linear orientated E-W with sloping sides down to a flat base. Same as 0023 in trench 10	Probable field boundary, part of a field system with 0019 etc? See 0019 for further interpretation.	1+	1.4	0.64	0002	0031			
0031	0030	0067	15	Ditch	Fill	Single fill consisting of a dense grey-brown clayey silt with very infrequent stones.	Accumulation fill in ditch 0030	1+	1.4	0.64	0030	0001			

Context No.	Feature No.	Group No.	Tr.	Feature Type	Cat.	Description	Interpretation	L.	W.	D.	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Date
0032	0032		19	Ditch	Cut	Linear with a N-S alignment. Very steep profile which is slightly more concave to the west and almost vertical to the east. The break of slope to the base is gradual, down to a flattish base which is slightly concave in the very centre.	Probable prehistoric boundary ditch. Same as 0019 in trench 20, may create a field system with 0023 in trench 10, see 0019 for further interpretation.	1+	2	0.7	0002	0033			
0033	0032		19	Ditch	Fill	Single fill consisting of a mid blueish-grey and orange iron panning silty-clay with a firm compaction, but slightly friable, mostly plastic. There are moderate flint inclusions, with some very large nodules of flint, and occasional chalk and charcoal f	single accumulation fill of probable boundary ditch.	1+	2	0.7	0032	0001			
0034	0034	0034		Pit	Cut	Oval in plan, aligned east-west, with fairly steeply sloping sides and a broad flat base.	Shallow possible pit with plough scar disturbance, the fill of the pit is more convincing than the form.	0.59	0.38	0.08		0035			Undated
0035	0034	0034		Pit	Fill	Mid grey firm silty slightly sandy clay mottled with mid orangey brown silty sand, with occasional small charcoal and red fired clay flecks.	Single fill of pit				0034				Undated
0036	0036	0063		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with fairly steeply sloping rounded sides and a gently rounded base. Edges are unclear and conditions poor, a little overdug.	Ditch with unclear edges, one of six similar looking ditches		0.61	0.25		0037			P2 – LIA – ROM
0037	0036	0063		Ditch	Fill	Mid grey firm silty clay mottled with mid orangey brown silty slightly sandy clay with very occasional small stones. One small, very abraded, sherd of prehistoric pot recovered.	Single fill of ditch				0036				P2 – LIA – ROM

Context No.	Feature No.	Group No.	Tr.	Feature Type	Cat.	Description	Interpretation	L.	W.	D.	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Date
0038	0038	0065		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch terminus with steep sides down to a narrow concave base, the ditch is shallow and the terminus has rounded corners.	Undated ditch terminus		0.62	0.18		0039			P2 – LIA – ROM
0039	0038	0065		Ditch	Fill	Mid brownish grey firm clayey silt with occasional small to medium sized sub rounded stones	Fill of ditch terminus				0038				P2 – LIA – ROM
0040	0040	0067		Ditch	Cut	North south aligned with moderately sloping slightly concave sides and a rounded base. Section excavated to show the relationship with east west aligned ditch 0042, cut by ditch 0042.	Field boundary ditch		0.94	0.3		0041			P3 – Rom or Med
0041	0040	0067		Ditch	Fill	Mid orangey brown compact clay with occasional chalk flecks and small sub angular flints.	Single fill of ditch				0040	0042	0042		P3 – Rom or Med
0042	0042	0066		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with moderate to steeply sloping sides and a rounded base. Cuts ditch 0040.	Post medieval boundary ditch.		0.6	0.28	0041	0043		0041	P4 - PMed
0043	0042	0066		Ditch	Fill	Dark greyish brown firm silty clay with occasional small sub angular flints and stones.	Single fill of ditch				0042				P4 - PMed
0044	0044	0065		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with moderately sloping sides and a concave base.	Ditch with unclear edges, one of six similar looking ditches		0.72	0.26		0045			P2 – LIA – ROM
0045	0044	0065		Ditch	Fill	Mid to dark greyish brown firm clay with occasional chalk flecks.	Single fill of ditch				0044				P2 – LIA – ROM
0046	0046	0065		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with steeply sloping fairly straight sides, southern edge slightly convex, and a concave base.	Ditch, one of six similar looking ditches		0.68	0.3		0047			P2 – LIA – ROM
0047	0046	0065		Ditch	Fill	Mid to dark greyish brown firm clayey silt with occasional small stones.	Single fill of ditch				0046				P2 – LIA – ROM

Context No.	Feature No.	Group No.	Tr.	Feature Type	Cat.	Description	Interpretation	L.	W.	D.	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Date
0048	0048	0063		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with a rounded profile, moderately sloping concave sides and a concave base.	Ditch with unclear edges, one of six small ditches		0.6	0.18		0049			P2 – LIA – ROM
0049	0048	0063		Ditch	Fill	Mid to dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional small stones.	Single fill of ditch				0048				P2 – LIA – ROM
0050	0050	0065		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with moderately sloping sides, slightly concave on the southern edge and slightly convex to the north, and a concave base.	Ditch		0.6	0.17		0051			P2 – LIA – ROM
0051	0050	0065		Ditch	Fill	Dark greyish brown firm clayey silt with occasional small stones.	Single fill of ditch				0050				P2 – LIA – ROM
0052	0052	0064		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with a fairly steep northern edge, a stepped southern side and a concave base.	Ditch, one of six similar ditches		0.68	0.24		0053			P2 – LIA – ROM
0053	0052	0064		Ditch	Fill	Dark greyish brown firm silty clay with moderate orange clay lenses and occasional small stones.	Single fill of ditch				0052				P2 – LIA – ROM
0054	0054	0062		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with moderately sloping concave sides and a concave base.	Ditch with unclear edges, one of six small ditches		0.4	0.25		0055			P2 – LIA – ROM
0055	0054	0062		Ditch	Fill	Mid brownish grey firm clayey silt with occasional stones.	Single fill of ditch				0054				P2 – LIA – ROM
0056	0056	0063		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with moderately sloping sides, steeper southern edge, and a concave base.	Ditch, one of six similar ditches		0.5	0.2		0057			P2 – LIA – ROM
0057	0056	0063		Ditch	Fill	Mid greyish brown firm clayey silt with occasional orangey brown clay lenses and small stones.	Single fill of ditch				0056				P2 – LIA – ROM
0058	0058	0061		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with steeply sloping, fairly straight sides and a narrow concave base.	Ditch, one of six similar ditches, a little unclear		0.54	0.22		0059			P2 – LIA – ROM

Lime Tree Farm, Blaxhall, Suffolk: Archaeological Excavation

Context No.	Feature No.	Group No.	Tr.	Feature Type	Cat.	Description	Interpretation	L.	w.	D.	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Date
0059	0058	0061		Ditch	Fill	Mid brownish grey firm clayey silt with occasional medium to small sub rounded stones.	Single fill of ditch				0058				P2 – LIA – ROM
0060	0060	0060		Ditch	Other	Group number for northernmost of six similar east west aligned ditches. Ditch extends for approximately 25m within the site confines, towards its northwestern corner. Clear in, plan the edges and base were difficult to discern during excavation.	Although described as a ditch this was more like a linear disturbance. Probably agricultural.	25							P2 – LIA - ROM
0061	0061	0061		Ditch	Other	Group number for second northernmost of six similar east west aligned ditches. Ditch extends for approximately 40m into the site from under the eastern limit of excavation. Clear in plan, the edges and base were difficult to discern during excavation.	Although described as a ditch this was more like a linear disturbance. Probably agricultural.								P2 – LIA – ROM
0062	0062	0062		Ditch	Other	Group number for one of six similar east west aligned ditches. This is the only one of the ditches which extends all the way across the site from under the eastern limit of excavation to where it is being cut by ditch 0067 in the west. Cuts ring ditch segment 0160 in the west of the site. Clear in plan, the edges and base were difficult to discern during the excavation	Although described as a ditch this was more like a linear disturbance. Probably agricultural.						0067	0160	P2 – LIA - ROM

Context No.	Feature No.	Group No.	Tr.	Feature Type	Cat.	Description	Interpretation	L.	w.	D.	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Date
0063	0063	0063		Ditch	Other	Group number for one of six similar east west aligned ditches. Ditch extends for approximately 40m into the site from under the eastern limit of excavation. Cuts segment of ring ditch 0074. Clear in plan the edges and base were difficult to discern during the excavation.	Although described as a ditch this was more like a linear disturbance. Probably agricultural.								P2 – LIA – ROM
0064	0064	0064		Ditch	Other	Group number for one of six similar east west aligned ditches. Ditch extends for approximately 40m into the site from under the eastern limit of excavation. Cuts segment of ring ditch 0098. Clear in plan the edges and base were difficult to discern during the excavation.	Although described as a ditch this was more like a linear disturbance. Probably agricultural.								P2 – LIA – ROM
0065	0065	0065		Ditch	Other	Group number for one of six similar east west aligned ditches. Ditch extends for approximately 40m into the site from under the eastern limit of excavation. Cuts pit 0070. Clear in plan the edges and base were difficult to discern during theexcavation.	Although described as a ditch this was more like a linear disturbance. Probably agricultural.							0070	P2 – LIA – ROM

Context No.	Feature No.	Group No.	Tr.	Feature Type	Cat.	Description	Interpretation	L.	w.	D.	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Date
0066	0066	0066		Ditch	Other	Post medieval field boundary ditch running east to west across the site and shown on the first edition os map.	Post-medieval boundary ditch							0067	P4 - PMed
0067	0067	0067		Ditch	Other	Cuts ditch 0067. North south aligned ditch running just inside the western limit of excavation. Cut by ditch 0066 and cuts ditch 0062.	Field boundary ditch						0066	0062	P3 – Rom or Med
0068	0068	0064		Ditch	Cut	Western butt end of east west aligned ditch which was shallow with gradually sloping concave sides breaking gently to a broad concave base.	Butt end of ditch, one of six similar ditches		0.7	0.1		0069			P2 – LIA – ROM
0069	0068	0064		Ditch	Fill	Mid greyish brown firm silty clay with occasional small stones. Edges are not very clear.	Fill of ditch butt end				0068				P2 – LIA – ROM
0070	0070	0070		Pit	Cut	Small circular pit with steeply sloping concave sides with a sharp break of slope to a slightly concave base. Cut by ditch 0072.	Small pit with unknown function	0.4	0.2	0.2		0071	0072, 0065		P1 – LBA/EIA
0071	0070	0070		Pit	Fill	Mid grey firm silty clay with moderate sub angular and sub rounded stone and heat altered stone and occasional charcoal flecks.	Single fill of ditch				0070	0072			P1 – LBA/EIA
0072	0072	0065		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with steeply sloping sides which break sharply to a generally flat base.	Ditch, one of six similar ditches				0071	0073		0070	P2 – LIA – ROM
0073	0072	0065		Ditch	Fill	Cuts pit 0070 Mid orangey brown firm silty clay with very occasional sub angular and sub rounded stones.	Single fill of ditch				0072				P2 – LIA – ROM

Context No.	Feature No.	Group No.	Tr.	Feature Type	Cat.	Description	Interpretation	L.	W.	D.	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Date
						Southwest northeast aligned ditch with very gradually sloping sides and a flat base.									
0074	0074	0125		Ditch	Cut	Although not completely clear this ditch appeared to be cut by east west ditch 0076 and other stratigraphic relationships on the site support this assertion.	Segment of ring ditch, approximately 7m long.		0.44	0.12		0075	0076		P1 – LBA/EIA
0075	0074	0125		Ditch	Fill	Mid greyish brown firm silty clay with moderate amounts of small sub angular stones.	Single fill of ring ditch				0074	0076			P1 – LBA/EIA
0076	0076	0063		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. Cuts ditch 0076.	Ditch, one of six similar ditches		0.5	0.18	0075	0077		0074	P2 – LIA – ROM
0077	0076	0063		Ditch	Fill	Dark grey brown firm silty clay with moderate amounts of small sub angular stones.	Single fill of ditch				0076				P2 – LIA – ROM
0078	0078	0063		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with steeply sloping sides and a concave base.	One of six small ditches		0.62	0.34		0079			P2 – LIA – ROM
0079	0078	0063		Ditch	Fill	Mid brownish firm grey clayey silt with occasional small to medium sub rounded stones.	Single fill of ditch				0078				P2 – LIA – ROM
0080	0080	0062		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with steeply sloping sides and a narrow concave base.	One of six similar ditches		0.54	0.22		0081			P2 – LIA – ROM
0081	0080	0062		Ditch	Fill	Mid brownish grey firm clayey silt with occasional small to medium sub rounded stones.	Ditch fill				0080				P2 – LIA – ROM
0082	0082	0061		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with steeply sloping sides and a concave base.	One of six similar ditches		0.42	0.14		0083			P2 – LIA – ROM
0083	0082	0061		Ditch	Fill	Mid greyish brown firm clayey silt with occasional small to medium sub rounded stones.	Ditch fill, unclear edges				0082				P2 – LIA – ROM

Context No.	Feature No.	Group No.	Tr.	Feature Type	Cat.	Description	Interpretation	L.	W.	D.	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Date
0084	0084	0062		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with a steeply sloping southern edge down to a narrow concave base and a more gradually sloping northern edge.	One of six small ditches		0.5	0.16		0085			P2 – LIA - ROM
0085	0084	0062		Ditch	Fill	Mid brownish grey firm clayey silt with occasional small to medium sub rounded stones.	Single fill of ditch				0084				P2 – LIA – ROM
0086	0086	0086		Pit	Cut	Small circular shallow pit with steep sides which break sharply to a generally flat base.	Undated shallow pit with dark organic fill.	0.32	0.34	0.06		0087			Undated
0087	0086	0086		Pit	Fill	Dark brownish grey firm clayey silt with occasional small sub rounded stones.	Pit fill				0086				Undated
8800						Number not used									
0089						Number not used									
0090						Number not used									
0091	0091	0067		Ditch	Cut	North south aligned ditch with steeply sloping concave sides and a fairly narrow slightly concave base.	Large ditch, probably field boundary. One small sherd of possibly medieval pot recovered.		2.08	0.85		0092			P3 – Rom or Med
0092	0091	0067		Ditch	Fill	Mid reddish brown firm silty clay with occasional small pebbles, its main fill of the ditch and is up to 0.52m thick.	Main fill of boundary ditch				0091	0093			P3 – Rom or Med
0093	0091	0067		Ditch	Fill	Dark reddish brown firm sandy clay with occasional small pebbles, upper fill of the ditch, 1.65m wide and up to 0.38m.	Upper fill in boundary ditch				0092				P3 – Rom or Med
0094	0094	0067		Ditch	Cut	North south aligned ditch with a steeply sloping western edge which becomes very steep towards the narrow concave base. The eastern edge is less steep, concave and is slightly stepped. Cuts ditch 0158.	Large boundary ditch, same as 0091		2.1	0.68	0159	0095		0158	P3 – Rom or Med

Context No.	Feature No.	Group No.	Tr.	Feature Type	Cat.	Description	Interpretation	L.	w.	D.	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Date
0095	0094	0067		Ditch	Fill	Mid to dark yellowish brown firm silty clay with very occasional medium sized sub angular stones. Lower fill of the ditch, up to 1.1m wide and 0.3m thick.	Formed naturally rather than deliberate deposition.				0094	0096			P3 – Rom or Med
0096	0094	0067		Ditch	Fill	Mid yellowish brown firm sandy clay with occasional small to medium stones and very occasional charcoal flecks, upper fill of the ditch, up to 2.1m wide and 0.42m thick.	Upper fill of ditch				0095				P3 – Rom or Med
0097						Number not used									
0098	0098	0125		Ditch	Cut	Curvilinear ditch, aligned northeast southwest with fairly steep concave sides and a narrow concave base. Cut by ditch 0100.	Southernmost segment of ring ditch 0125, butt ended where it was cut by 0100, butt end visible in plan immediately to the south of 0100.		0.52	0.16		0099	0100		P1 – LBA/EIA
0099	0098	0125		Ditch	Fill	Mid brownish grey firm silty clay mottled with mid brown silty sandy clay flecks.	Ring ditch fill				0098	0100			P1 – LBA/EIA
0100	0100	0064		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with fairly steeply sloping slightly rounded sides and a concave base.	One of six small ditches, south of ring ditch		0.45	0.2	0099	0101		0098	P2 – LIA – ROM
0101	0100	0064		Ditoh	Fill	Cuts ditch 0098. Mid brownish grey firm	Ditab fill		+		0100				P2 – LIA
0101	0100	0064		Ditch	Cut	silty clay. East west aligned ditch with moderately steeply sloping sides which steepen lower down before the concave base. Appears to cut pit 0108	One of six similar ditches		0.7	0.24	0100	0103		0108	P2 – LIA – ROM
						but the relationship is unclear.									
0103	0102	0064		Ditch	Fill	Orangey grey mottled firm silty sandy clay with small to medium stones.	Ditch fill				0102				P2 – LIA – ROM

Context No.	Feature No.	Group No.	Tr.	Feature Type	Cat.	Description	Interpretation	L.	w.	D.	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Date
0104	0104	0063		Ditch	Cut	Terminus of east west aligned ditch with moderately steeply sloping sides with a gradual break of slope to a slightly rounded base.	Western terminus of one of six small ditches		0.7	0.2		0105			P2 – LIA – ROM
0105	0104	0063		Ditch	Fill	Mid greyish brown compact silty clay with occasional sub angular flints and chalk flecks.	Fill of ditch terminus				0104				P2 – LIA – ROM
0106	0106	0106		Pit	Cut	Small shallow oval pit, aligned southeast northwest, with a rounded profile, concave sides, gradually sloping to the north and steeper to the south, and a concave base. Heavily disturbed on its eastern edge by a north south plough scar.	Not entirely convincing.	0.3	0.2	0.09		0107			Undated
0107	0106	0106		Pit	Fill	Mid grey silty clay with very occasional charcoal flecks.	Fill of unconvincing pit				0106				Undated
0108	0108	0108		Pit	Cut	Sub circular with moderately sloping sides and a concave base. Appears to be cut by ditch 0102 but the relationship is not entirely clear.	Not entirely convincing as a feature and quite disturbed by a north south aligned plough scar.					0109	0102		P1 – LBA/EIA
0109	0108	0108		Pit	Fill	Orangey grey firm mottled sandy clay with occasional small stones.		0.25	0.25	0.1	0108	0102			P1 – LBA/EIA
0110	0110	0064		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with moderately sloping sides down to a concave base.	One of six small ditches		0.6	0.2		0111			P2 – LIA – ROM
0111	0110	0064		Ditch	Fill	Orangey grey firm mottled sandy clay with occasional small stones.					0110				P2 – LIA – ROM
0112	0112	0067		Ditch	Cut	North south aligned ditch with moderately sloping generally straight sides which break gradually to a narrow concave base.	Likely field boundary ditch, possibly medieval.		2.4	0.8		0113			P3 – Rom or Med

Context No.	Feature No.	Group No.	Tr.	Feature Type	Cat.	Description	Interpretation	L.	W.	D.	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Date
0113	0112	0067		Ditch	Fill	Mid greyish brown firm silty clay with very occasional small sub angular and sub rounded stones, lower ditch fill, up to 0.7m wide and 0.4m thick.	Natural infilling of the ditch				0112	0114			P3 – Rom or Med
0114	0112	0067		Ditch	Fill	Mid yellowish grey firm silty clay with occasional small sub angular and sub rounded stones, central fill, up to 1.4m wide and 0.4m thick.	Natural infilling of the ditch				0113	0115			P3 – Rom or Med
0115	0112	0067		Ditch	Fill	Dark yellowish brown firm sandy clay with very occasional sub angular and sub rounded stones and chalk flecks, upper fill, up to 1.8m wide and 0.4m.	Natural infilling of the ditch				0114				P3 – Rom or Med
0116	0116	0061		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with moderately sloping sides down to a concave base.	Ditch with unclear edges, one of six		0.66	0.16		0117			P2 – LIA – ROM
0117	0116	0061		Ditch	Fill	Mid orangey brown firm silty clay with occasional small to medium stones.	Ditch fill, similar to natural				0116				P2 – LIA – ROM
0118	0118	0118		Pit	Cut	Small shallow oval pit, aligned southwest northeast, with moderately sloping sides and a flat base.	Small pit inside ring ditch 0125, possibly associated with the ring ditch and close to, approx. 1.75m, similar small pit 0135. Slightly overdug.	0.4	0.36	0.08		0119			P1 – LBA/EIA
0119	0118	0118		Pit	Fill	Dark mottled grey firm sandy clay with very occasional small stones.	Fill of pit				0118				P1 – LBA/EIA
0120	0120	0061		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with moderately sloping sides down to a flat base.	Ditch, one of six similar ditches, section near eastern site edge		0.7	0.16		0121			P2 – LIA – ROM
0121	0120	0061		Ditch	Fill	Mid yellowish grey mottled firm sandy clay with occasional small to medium stones.	Ditch fill similar to natural				0120				P2 – LIA – ROM
0122	0122	0066		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with a steep northern edge with a more gradually sloping, and slightly convex, southern edge and a concave base.	Post medieval ditch, shown on first edition os map.		0.72	0.5		0123			P4 – Pmed

Context No.	Feature No.	Group No.	Tr.	Feature Type	Cat.	Description	Interpretation	L.	w.	D.	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Date
0123	0122	0066		Ditch	Fill	Mid greyish brown silty clay with occasional large stones at the base of the ditch, lower fill, up to 0.68m wide and 0.2m thick.	Ditch fill, naturally formed				0122	0124			P4 – Pmed
0124	0122	0066		Ditch	Fill	Dark greyish brown firm sandy clay with frequent root disturbance higher up, upper fill, up to 0.72m wide and 0.32m thick.	Ditch fill				0123				P4 – Pmed
0125	0125	0125		Ditch	Other	Group number for ring ditch, including 0074, 0098, 0140 and 0160 and also two small pits inside the ring which may be associated; 0118 and 0135. Made up of three segments, one approximately 2.1m long, one around 7m long and the third 13.2m long, the ring	Likely building, doesn't make a full circle with an entrance. Appears to be genuinely segmented and incomplete however there is heavy plough disturbance across the site with only approximately 0.3m of topsoil so it is possible that any shallower stretch would have been truncated.								P1 – LBA/EIA
0126	0126	0060		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with gradually sloping sides and a narrow concave base.	Most northerly of six similar ditches, not very clear		0.52	0.18		0127			P2 – LIA – ROM
0127	0126	0060		Ditch	Fill	Mid brown firm silty clay with very occasional small stones.	Ditch fill				0126				P2 – LIA – ROM
0128	0128	0060		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned shallow ditch with a gently rounded profile.	Most northerly of six similar ditches, unclear edges		0.62	0.14		0129			P2 – LIA – ROM
0129	0128	0060		Ditch	Fill	Mid brownish grey firm silty clay with very occasional small stones.	Ditch fill				0128				P2 – LIA – ROM
0130	0130	0060		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with gradually sloping concave sides and a concave base. Western butt end of northernmost ditch.	One of six small ditches		0.59	0.14		0131			P2 – LIA – ROM
0131	0130	0060		Ditch	Fill	Mid yellowish brown silty clay with very occasional small stones and chalk flecks.	Ditch fill				0130				P2 – LIA – ROM

Context No.	Feature No.	Group No.	Tr.	Feature Type	Cat.	Description	Interpretation	L.	w.	D.	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Date
0132	0132	0067		Ditch	Cut	North south aligned ditch with fairly steep slightly convex sides and a concave base.	Field boundary ditch, possibly medieval		2.02	0.7		0133			P3 – Rom or Med
0133	0132	0067		Ditch	Fill	Mid yellowish brown firm silty clay with occasional small stones and chalk flecks, lower fill, up to 1.12m wide and 0.3m thick.	Naturally formed ditch fill				0132	0134			P3 – Rom or Med
0134	0132	0067		Ditch	Fill	Mid greyish brown firm silty clay with very occasional chalk flecks and small sub angular and sub rounded stones, upper fill, up to 2.02m wide and 0.54m thick.	Upper ditch fill				0133				P3 – Rom or Med
0135	0135	0125		Pit	Cut	Small and shallow sub circular pit with a rounded profile.	Small pit or possible posthole inside the ring ditch and near to similar small pit or possible posthole 0118.	0.35	0.34	0.09		0136			P1 – LBA/EIA
0136	0135	0125		Pit	Fill	Mid brownish grey firm silty clay with few inclusions.					0135				P1 – LBA/EIA
0138	0138	0060		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch terminus with gradually sloping fairly straight sides and a slightly uneven but generally slightly concave base.	Eastern butt end of most northerly of the six similar east west aligned ditches.		0.72	0.21		0139			P2 – LIA – ROM
0139	0138	0060		Ditch	Fill	Mid yellowish brown slightly silty clay with lenses of mid brownish grey silty clay a very occasional small stones.	Fill of ditch				0138				P2 – LIA – ROM
0140	0140	0125		Ditch	Cut	Long segment of ring ditch 0125, forms approximately one third of a circle and measures around 13.2m long and varies in width from 0.4 to 0.6m and in depth from 0.14 to 0.3m. It generally has steeply sloping concave sides and a fairly narrow concave base	Drip-gully associated with a structure.	13.2	0.4 to 0.6	0.14 to 0.3					P1 – LBA/EIA

Context No.	Feature No.	Group No.	Tr.	Feature Type	Cat.	Description	Interpretation	L.	w.	D.	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Date
0141	0160	0125		Ditch	Fill	Mid grey silty clay mottled with mid brown silty sandy clay with very occasional charcoal flecks and occasional small stones. Plough scar disturbance can be seen along the length of the ditch showing in section as mid brownish yellow clay.	Quite organic fill of possible drip gully/ring ditch, naturally formed				0160	0154			P1 – LBA/EIA
0142	0160	0125		Ditch	Fill	Fill at south Mid grey silty clay mottled with mid brown silty sandy clay with very occasional charcoal flecks and occasional small stones. Plough scar disturbance can be seen along the length of the ditch showing in section as mid brownish yellow clay.	Quite organic fill of possible drip gully/ring ditch, naturally formed				0160				P1 – LBA/EIA
0143	0140	0125		Ditch	Fill	Mid grey silty clay mottled with mid brown silty sandy clay with very occasional charcoal flecks and occasional small stones. Plough scar disturbance can be seen along the length of the ditch showing in section as mid brownish yellow clay. Fill at the northeastern butt-end of the ditch	Quite organic fill of possible drip gully/ring ditch, naturally formed				0140				P1 – LBA/EIA
0144	0140	0125		Ditch	Fill	Mid grey silty clay mottled with mid brown silty sandy clay with very occasional charcoal flecks and occasional small stones. Plough scar disturbance can be seen along the length of the ditch showing in section as mid brownish yellow clay.	Quite organic fill of possible drip gully/ring ditch, naturally formed				0140				P1 – LBA/EIA

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Context No.	Feature No.	Group No.	Tr.	Feature Type	Cat.	Description	Interpretation	L.	w.	D.	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Date
0145	0140	0125		Ditch	Fill	Mid grey silty clay mottled with mid brown silty sandy clay with very occasional charcoal flecks and occasional small stones. Plough scar disturbance can be seen along the length of the ditch showing in section as mid brownish yellow clay.	Quite organic fill of possible drip gully/ring ditch, naturally formed				0140				P1 – LBA/EIA
0146	0140	0125		Ditch	Fill	Mid grey silty clay mottled with mid brown silty sandy clay with very occasional charcoal flecks and occasional small stones. Plough scar disturbance can be seen along the length of the ditch showing in section as mid brownish yellow clay.	Quite organic fill of possible drip gully/ring ditch, naturally formed				0140				P1 – LBA/EIA
0147	0140	0125		Ditch	Fill	Mid grey silty clay mottled with mid brown silty sandy clay with very occasional charcoal flecks and occasional small stones. Plough scar disturbance can be seen along the length of the ditch showing in section as mid brownish yellow clay.	Quite organic fill of possible drip gully/ring ditch, naturally formed				0140				P1 – LBA/EIA
0148	0140	0125		Ditch	Fill	Mid grey silty clay mottled with mid brown silty sandy clay with very occasional charcoal flecks and occasional small stones. Plough scar disturbance can be seen along the length of the ditch showing in section as mid brownish yellow clay.	Quite organic fill of possible drip gully/ring ditch, naturally formed				0140				P1 – LBA/EIA

Context No.	Feature No.	Group No.	Tr.	Feature Type	Cat.	Description	Interpretation	L.	w.	D.	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Date
0149	0140	0125		Ditch	Fill	Mid grey silty clay mottled with mid brown silty sandy clay with very occasional charcoal flecks and occasional small stones. Plough scar disturbance can be seen along the length of the ditch showing in section as mid brownish yellow clay.	Quite organic fill of possible drip gully/ring ditch, naturally formed				0140				P1 – LBA/EIA
0150	0140	0125		Ditch	Fill	Mid to dark grey silty clay mottled with mid brown silty sandy clay with very occasional charcoal flecks and occasional small stones. Plough scar disturbance can be seen along the length of the ditch showing in section as mid brownish yellow clay.	Quite organic fill of possible drip gully/ring ditch, naturally formed				0140				P1 – LBA/EIA
0151	0140	0125		Ditch	Fill	Mid grey silty clay mottled with mid brown silty sandy clay with very occasional charcoal flecks and occasional small stones. Plough scar disturbance can be seen along the length of the ditch showing in section as mid brownish yellow clay.	Quite organic fill of possible drip gully/ring ditch, naturally formed				0140				P1 – LBA/EIA
0152	0140	0125		Ditch	Fill	Mid grey silty clay mottled with mid brown silty sandy clay with very occasional charcoal flecks and occasional small stones. Plough scar disturbance can be seen along the length of the ditch showing in section as mid brownish yellow clay.	Quite organic fill of possible drip gully/ring ditch, naturally formed				0140				P1 – LBA/EIA

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Context No.	Feature No.	Group No.	Tr.	Feature Type	Cat.	Description	Interpretation	L.	w.	D.	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Date
0153	0140	0125		Ditch	Fill	Mid grey silty clay mottled with mid brown silty sandy clay with very occasional charcoal flecks and occasional small stones. Plough scar disturbance can be seen along the length of the ditch showing in section as mid brownish yellow clay.	Quite organic fill of possible drip gully/ring ditch, naturally formed				0140	0156			P1 – LBA/EIA
0154	0154	0062		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned shallow ditch with gradually sloping concave sides and a concave base.	Ditch section where it cuts ring ditch on its eastern edge. One of six ditches		0.55	0.17	0141	0155		0160	P2 – LIA – ROM
						Cuts ring ditch 0160. Mid grey firm silty clay									
0155	0154	0062		Ditch	Fill	with occasional small stones.	Fill of ditch				0154				P2 – LIA – ROM
0156	0156	0062		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned shallow ditch with gradually rounded sides and a concave base.	Same as 0154 but to the west of the ring ditch		0.55	0.12	0153	0157		0140	P2 – LIA – ROM
						Cuts ring ditch 0140.									
0157	0156	0062		Ditch	Fill	Mid grey silty clay with very occasional small stones.	Fill of ditch				0156				P2 – LIA – ROM
0158	0158	0062		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with gradually sloping concave sides and a concave base.	Section through ditch where its cut by north south boundary. Unusual amongst six similar ditches because it does		0.4	0.16		0159	0094		P2 – LIA – ROM
						Cut by ditch 0094. Mid brownish grey firm	not butt end in the site								
0159	0158	0062		Ditch	Fill	silty clay with occasional small stones.	Ditch fill				0158	0094			P2 – LIA – ROM
0160	0160	0125		Ditch	Cut	Shortest segment of ring ditch measuring approximately 2.1m long, from 0.35 to 0.6m wide and from 0.17 to 0.34m deep. Has steep rounded sides and a concave base. Cut by ditch 0154.	Ring ditch segment	2.1	0.35 to 0.6	0.17 to 0.34		0141, 0142	0062, 0154		P1 – LBA/EIA

Lime Tree Farm, Blaxhall, Suffolk: Archaeological Excavation

Context No.	Feature No.	Group No.	Tr.	Feature Type	Cat.	Description	Interpretation	L.	W.	D.	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Date
0161	0161	0061		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned shallow ditch with gradually sloping sides and a concave base, overdug.	Western butt end of second most northerly east west aligned ditch.		0.42	0.1		0162			P2 – LIA – ROM
0162	0161	0061		Ditch	Fill	Mid to dark brownish grey firm silty clay with very occasional small stones.	Ditch butt end fill				0161				P2 – LIA – ROM
0163	0163	0061		Ditch	Cut	East west aligned ditch with gradually sloping concave sides and a concave base.	One of six ditches		0.52	0.15		0164			P2 – LIA – ROM
0164	0163	0061		Ditch	Fill	Mid brownish grey firm silty clay with occasional small stones.	Ditch fill				0163				P2 – LIA – ROM
0165	0160	0125		Ditch	Fill	Mid grey silty clay mottled with mid brown silty sandy clay with very occasional charcoal flecks and occasional small stones. Fill of the northwest butt end.	Ring ditch fill				0160				P1 – LBA/EIA
0166	0140	0125		Ditch	Fill	Mid to dark grey silty clay mottled with mid brown silty sandy clay with very occasional charcoal flecks and occasional small stones. Fill at southern butt end of ditch.	Ring ditch fill				0140				P1 – LBA/EIA

APPENDIX B: CATALOGUE OF TYPES OF FINDS BY CONTEXT

Context	Pot	tery	Fired	d clay/ BM	Struc	k flint	Heat-alte	ered flint one	Anima	I bone	Sample no.	Sample finds
	No.	Wt. (g)	No.	Wt. (g)	No.	Wt. (g)	No.	Wt. (g)	No.	Wt. (g)		
0004									227	628		
0006							4	67				
0008	1	1										
0010							46	1,892	2	1		
0012	1	3	8	18				552			1	
0018								320			2	Heat-altered stone
0022	4	6										
0024	2	2	1	1			3	78				
0029			2	8				554			3	
0033	7	16					1	30				
0037	1	1										
0043	1	2										
0047	1	5										
0057	1	1										
0071								123			5	Heat-altered Flint, Heat-altered Stone
0073	1	6									7	Pottery, Heat-altered Flint
0087											4	Pottery, Heat-altered Flint
0090	3	2			2	11			1	4		
0095											6	Worked Flint
0099	1	4										
0105			1	22								
0109	3	6										
0114	2	1										
0119											17	Fired Clay
0129											12	Worked Flint

Context	Pot	tery		d clay/ BM	Struc	k flint		ered flint one	Anima	l bone	Sample no.	Sample finds
	No.	Wt. (g)	No.	Wt. (g)	No.	Wt. (g)	No.	Wt. (g)	No.	Wt. (g)		
0141	2	1										
0142	8	32									16	Worked Flint
0144					2	5		118				
0145	1	6									13	Worked Flint, Heat-altered Stone
0148	9	29										
0149	3	11										
0150	7	66									15	Pottery, Fired Clay
0151	4	17										
0152	5	12										
0153	1	4			<u> </u>				·			
0166			3	17								

APPENDIX C: POTTERY

By Stephen Benfield

Prehistoric pottery

Introduction

The excavation produced a total of forty-eight sherds (219g) of hand-made prehistoric pottery. The assemblage is quite broken-up which is reflected in the low average sherd weight of 4.5g. Almost all of the pottery was recovered from ditch fills, notable ring-ditch segment 0140 (31 sherds, wt. 162 g) with a lesser quantity from ring-ditch segment 0160 (8 sherds, wt. 33g). A single prehistoric sherd from a pit (0108) was associated with a sherd of Roman pottery, the latter considered to be intrusive.

The nature of the pottery fabrics and the few more diagnostic sherds recovered indicate a Late Bronze Age or Iron Age date and the significance of sand-temper, both mixed with flint-temper and as an exclusive tempering material indicates a likely Iron Age date for most if not all of the assemblage. This pottery compliments and refines the dating indicated by the small assemblage recovered during the evaluation phase (eleven sherds) the nature of which indicated a probable Bronze or Iron Age date (Schofield 2019b, 6.2). The pottery fabrics and quantity of pottery by fabric is listed in Table 1 and the full assemblage from both the evaluation and excavation is listed and described by context in the prehistoric pottery catalogue (below).

Table 1 Prehistoric pottery fabrics and quantity of pottery by fabric

Fabric	Description	No.	Wt. (g)	EVE
F1	Common ill-sorted small-large flint	1	5	
F2	Moderate-common small-medium flint with occasional large flint	8	47	80.0
F3C	Moderate-common small-medium flint, possibly with an oxidised surface coating	2	10	
FQ2	Moderate-common small-medium flint with occasional large flint and medium quartz sand	12	41	0.12
QF1	Common medium-coarse sand, sparse-moderated small-medium white/opaque quartz and flint sand/crushed burnt flint	6	55	
QF2	Sand with sparse small-medium flint	6	17	
QF2V	Sand with sparse small-medium flint with some organic (vegetable) grass/chaff temper	1	4	
Q1	Common medium quartz sand	1	1	
Q2	Fine-medium sand	9	24	
Q2V	Sand with sparse small-medium flint with some organic (vegetable) grass/chaff temper	1	9	
Q3	Coarse sand	1	6	
Totals		48	219	0.20

Fabrics

The pottery from the excavation can be divided between eleven fabrics (Table 1) of which approximately 47% of sherds (both by count and weight) are exclusively flint-tempered (F), while 27% by count and 34% by weight contain

flint mixed with sand (FQ and QF) and 25% by count and 18% by weight are sand-tempered (Q) (percentages total 99% by count and weight). In some instances, the 'burnt' flint-temper recorded may have been part of a natural coarse sand-temper that only become burnt during the firing process, notable fabric QF1. Sherds from one pot (0150) may have an applied, oxidised surface coating (F3C) but the pot is flint-tempered and the impression of an applied surface is possibly illusory in this case. A few sherds have inclusions of chopped grass/chaff, most visible in the sherd surfaces (QF2V and Q2V). The types of fabrics recorded from the evaluation fall within this same range of fabrics (Schofield 2019b, 6.5).

Decoration

Arranged or patterned decoration made on the pottery is limited to finger indentation on the tops and side of rims, giving a pie-crust effect (0148), (0151) and what is certainly part of a row of angles stab decoration on the shoulder of a pot (0148). Otherwise there are sherds from pots with a smoothed or burnished surface (0148), (0149 and 0150) and the sherds from a pot which may have an applied surface (oxidised) coating (0150).

Discussion

The prehistoric pottery assemblage is relatively small and the pottery itself quite broken up with no large sherds and few diagnostic elements, for example rim and shoulder sherds. The nature of the material and its depositional context, essentially ditch fill, albeit mostly from a possibly structural feature, that can allow for an accumulation of material over a protracted period of time means, that tight dating is difficult achieve. It is unclear if the pottery represents a relatively homogeneous assemblage in terms of a particular period or a stylistic grouping, such as the Early Iron Age, or a collection with elements possibly spanning the period from the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age (c.1100/1000 - 400/350 BC) to the Middle Iron Age or even Middle - Late Iron Age period (c.400/350 BC - AD 0/50). However, given most of the assemblage is from a ring-ditch feature, possibly a roundhouse drip-gully, then the currency is likely to be relatively restricted, albeit hard to define from the pottery.

The lack of diagnostic pieces means that dating within that broad period (Late Bronze Age-Iron Age) relies on the proportions of fabric types and context. The pottery fabrics recorded (flint-tempered, sand with flint and just sand-tempered) are all found among assemblages dating to the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age in East Anglia. Flint-tempered pottery tends to dominate among assemblages of Late Bronze Age date, for example at Days Road, Capel St Mary, Suffolk (Brudenell 2014a) and at Mildenhall, Suffolk (Brudenell 2019), while fabrics with mixed flint and sand-temper and exclusively sand-tempered fabrics are typical of the Iron Age. The use of flint as a pottery temper also tends to diminish rapidly over the course of the Iron Age, so that fabrics that included some flint-temper made up only *c*.30% of the Middle Iron Age assemblage from Days Road (Brudenell 2014a, 190) and just *c*.5% from a site at Moorland Road, Ipswich, Suffolk (Brudenell 2014b, table 2). The quantity of Early Iron Age pottery from the Mildenhall site is small but is dominated by mixed sand and flint-tempered fabrics, while exclusively sand fabrics and sand with vegetable-temper fabrics dominate the Middle Iron Age pottery there (Brudenell 2019, 67).

That most of the pottery comes from contexts in the fill of just two ditches (1040 and 1060), both segments of a ring feature, suggest it is broadly contemporary (for example Late Bronze Age - Early Iron Age or Early Iron Age); although quite possibly with residual elements or some later dated material. Overall, approximately 59% of the pottery recovered is sand and flint-tempered or is just sand-tempered, which suggests an Early Iron Age date for much of the assemblage. This is supported by the presence of several decorated pieces among what is otherwise a small amount of pottery. However, the presence of a few sherds that have sand and organic (vegetable) temper and a couple of sandy sherds that have a smoothed or burnished surface suggest that pottery may have been accumulating in these features into the Middle Iron Age.

Roman

There are just three small sherds of Roman pottery; both unsourced greyware (Fabric GX) and both heavily abraded. These are listed and described in the Roman pottery catalogue (below). They were recovered from pit 0108, context (0109) and ditch 0112, context (0114). None are closely dated within the Roman period, although one (0109) retains what appears to be part of a cordon which could indicate an early date, *c*.mid 1st - early 2nd century, but this is rather speculative. This complements a single greyware sherd dated as Roman from the evaluation which was recovered from ditch 0023 which is the same feature as 0112 in the excavation (Schofield 2019b, 6.2). The very low level of Roman pottery from the site would appear to reflect an area marginal to the sites of settlements but possibly exploited for agricultural use.

Prehistoric pottery catalogue

Tr.	Ctxt	F/L	F/L type	Find type	Period	Fabric	Form	Sherd type	No	Wt. (g)	EVE	Abr	Comments	Note	Finds spot date
17	0008	0007	ditch	pot	pre	F1			1	1		**	Small sherd, dark fabric, brownish surface, some moderate (burnt out) organic content (wt. <1g)		LBA
13	0022	0021	ditch	pot	preh	F1			4	6		**	Small sherd, one may be a base sherd with slightly sandy surface		LBA
19	0033	0032	ditch	pot	preh	FS1			2	7		**	Small sherds, dark fabric, brown oxidised surface		LBA – EIA/EIA
19	0033	0032	ditch	pot	preh	FS2			4	7		**	Small sherds, dark fabric, mostly brownish surfaces, some moderate (burnt out) organic content to one very small sherd		EIA
19	0033	0032	ditch	pot	preh	Fs3			1	2		**	Dark fabric		LBA/EIA
	0037	0036	ditch	pot	preh	FQ2			1	1		*	Small sherd		LBA/IA
	0043	0042	ditch	pot	preh	Q1			1	1		**	Small sherd		IA
	0047	0046	ditch	pot	preh	QF1			1	6					LBA/EIA
	0057	0056	ditch	pot	preh	Q2			1	1		**	Small sherd		IA
	0073	0072	ditch	pot	preh	Q3			1	6			Probably IA		IA
	0073	0072	ditch	pot	preh							**	Sample <7>: 3 pottery fragments (2g) 1 flint-tempered, 2 sand-tempered		LBA-EIA/IA
	0087	0086	ditch	pot	preh							***	Sample <4>: 9 pottery fragments, sand-temper – appear prehistoric		IA?
	0090	0089	ditch	pot		QF2			2	2			Small pieces		IA?
	0099	0098	ditch	pot	preh	F2			1	4					LBA/EIA

Tr.	Ctxt	F/L	F/L type	Find type	Period	Fabric	Form	Sherd type	No	Wt. (g)	EVE	Abr	Comments	Note	Finds spot date
	0109	0108	pit	pot	preh	F2			1	3					LBA-EIA
	0141	0160	ditch	Sandy concretion					1	1		***	Very small sandy concretion, less likely possible fired clay fragment but not clear - discarded		
	0142	0160	ditch	pot	preh	FQ2		R	1	6	0.05	*	Small rim sherd, simple, slightly flaring		LBA/EIA
	0142	0160	ditch	pot	preh	FQ2		R	1	6	0.07	*	Small rim sherd, simple, slightly flaring, rim dia c. 120mm, possibly part of same pot as the other rim sherd here		LBA/EIA
	0142	0160	ditch	pot	preh	FQ2			6	21					LBA/EIA
	0145	0140	ditch	pot	preh	Q2			1	5			Moderately hard sandy fabric, but probably prehistoric rather than later		IA
	0148	0140	ditch	pot	preh	F2		R	1	9	0.04		Flaring flat-topped rim, decorated with angled finger indentation on rim top		
	0148	0140	ditch	pot	preh	QF2			1	3			Smoothed dark surface		IA?
	0148	0140	ditch	pot	preh	Q2			1	1		*			IA?
	0148	0140	ditch	pot	preh	F1			1	5			Row of stab decoration on edge of sherd		LBA-EIA
	0148	0140	ditch	pot	preh	FQ2			3	7					LBA-EIA
	0149	0140	ditch	pot	preh	QF2V			1	4			_		EIA?
	0149	0140	ditch	pot	preh	QF2			2	8			Smoothed/burnished surfaces		IA
	0150	0140	ditch	pot	preh	QF1			3	27					IA
	0150	0140	ditch	pot	preh	QF1			1	10			Smooth dark surface		
	0150	0140	ditch	pot	preh	QF1		B?	1	12			Possible base sherd, one more heavily gritted surface, underside?		LBA-EIA

Tr.	Ctxt	F/L	F/L type	Find type	Period	Fabric	Form	Sherd type	No	Wt. (g)	EVE	Abr	Comments	Note	Finds spot date
	0150	0140	ditch	pot	preh	Q2		B?	1	12		*	Base edge?		IA
	0150	0140	ditch	pot	preh	F2			1	13					LBA-EIA
	0150	0140	ditch	pot	preh	Q2			1	1					IA
	0150	0140	ditch	pot	preh				18	36		**	Note: Pottery from Sample <15>: sand fabrics, some flint- temper, two sherds (10g) have an oxidised slip? coating (listed separately)		IA
	0150	0140	ditch	pot	preh	F3C			2	10		*	two sherds with a brownish-red oxidised possible slip coating		LBA-IA
	0151	0140	ditch	pot	preh	F2		R	1	8	0.04		Thickish upright rim, flattened top with angle pie-crust effect decoration rim edge (rim EVE c. 0.04)		LBA-EIA
	0151	0140	ditch	pot	preh	F2			3	10					LBA-EIA
	0152	0140	ditch	pot	preh	Q2V			1	9			Chaff visible on interior		IA
	0152	0140	ditch	pot	preh	Q2			4	4		*	Small sherds/pieces		IA
	0153	0140	ditch	pot	preh	QF2			1	4		*			IA?

Roman pottery catalogue

Tr.	Ctxt	F/L no	F/L type	Find type	Period	Fabric	Form	Sherd type	No	Wt/g	EVE	Abr	Comments	Note	Finds spot date
10	0024	0023	ditch	Pot	Rom	GX			1	1			Abraded		Rom
	0109	0108	pit	pot	Rom	GX			1	2		***	Abraded sherd, part of cordon? Possibly early Roman?		Rom, (?M1- E2C)
	0114	0112	ditch	pot	Rom?	GX			2	1		***	Abraded small sandy greyware sherds/ fragments – probably Roman		Rom

APPENDIX D: FIRED CLAY AND CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

By Stephen Benfield

Fired clay

Small pieces of fired clay were recovered from two features: pit 0118 (0119) and ditch 0140 (0150 and 0166). The majority comes from processing bulk soil samples: Sample 15 (0150) which produced fifteen pieces (8g) and Sample 17 (0119) which produced three pieces (4g). Three pieces (weight 17g) were recovered during the excavation from context (0166). The pieces from ditch 0104 are associated with pottery dated to the later prehistoric period, most of which is probably Early Iron Age. The entire fired clay assemblage from both the evaluation and excavation is listed and described by context in the catalogue (below).

The pieces from the samples are mostly very small and abraded and in a fine sand fabric (fs) ranging in colour from grey to orange. The three hand recovered pieces are in a hard, orange coloured, medium sand (ms) fabric. While relatively hard, these three pieces can be broken by pressure applied through a fingernail and appear to be definitely classifiable as fired clay rather than ceramic building material (CBM). The broken and mostly very small pieces carry no information as to their original form, whether part of a clay-built structure or objects such as loomweights, clay bricks or tiles.

Ceramic building material (CBM)

A single piece of hard fired, sandy ceramic material (22g) appears to be brick or tile (CBM) rather than fired clay (see CBM catalogue below). This came from context (0105) in ditch 0104 and is in an orange coloured, medium sand fabric with some ferrous inclusions (msfe). It is not closely dated, but as CBM is of Roman or later date and a Roman date is more likely. The context itself (0150) is associated with pottery dated to the later prehistoric period, probably mostly of Early Iron Age date. The CBM appears possibly to be intrusive and some disturbance from plough damage to this context was noted.

Fired clay catalogue

Tr. no.	Ctxt no.	Feature/ layer no.	F/L type	Find type	Fabric	Type (if known)	Original surface present	No.	Wt/g	Abr	Description/ comments	Date/ associated dating
17	0012 <1>	0011	pit	FC				8	18	*	Evaluation; Sample 1	Prehistoric (Iron Age)
10	0024	0023	ditch	FC				1	<1		Evaluation	
19	0029	0028	pit	FC				2	8	*	Evaluation; Sample 3	prehistoric?
	0119 <17>	0118	pit	FC	fs			15	8	***	All from Sample 17: Misc abraded small pieces/fragments, grey and orange coloured	
	0150 <15>	0140	ditch	FC	fs			3	4	*	All from Sample 15: small pieces/fragments, dark grey and orange coloured	Later prehistoric
	0166	0140	ditch	FC	ms			3	17	*	Hard orange coloured sandy fired clay	Later prehistoric

Ceramic building material catalogue

Tr. no.	Ctxt no.	Feature/ layer no.	F/L type	Find type	Fabric	Type (if known)	Original surface present	No.	Wt/g	Abr	Description/ comments	Date/ associated dating
	0105	0104	ditch	CBM	msfe		?	1	22	**	Orange sandy fabric, moderately	Rom or
											hard, possibly retains part of an	?m
											original surface, possibly most	ed
											likely Roman brick/tile	+

APPENDIX E: STRUCK FLINT

By Stephen Benfield

Introduction

Twelve pieces of struck flint (31g) were recovered during the excavation. In terms of size this is a very similar assemblage to that from the evaluation phase which produced eleven struck flints (62g) (Schofield 2019b, 6.3). The flints from both the evaluation and the excavation are listed and described in the struck flint catalogue (below).

Approximately half of the flints were recovered on site, the remainder during the processing of bulk soil samples. All came from ditches (0089, 0094, 0128, 0160 and 0140). Most of these features are associated with pottery dated to the earlier Iron Age, notably ditches 0160 and 0140, both ring-ditch segments. There was no particular concentration of flints in any one ditch, each of which produced between one and three pieces.

The flints mostly consist of undistinguished flakes and some small flakes/flint spalls predominantly recovered from the bulk samples. None of the pieces are patinated. Most of the flakes are hard hammer struck with relative broad striking platforms, some with plunge fractures at their distal ends and often with some cortex on the flake. One flake from ditch 0104, context (0144), which was thinner than most, had been damaged by exposure to heat (burnt). The general, relatively crude, style of working is consistent with a later prehistoric date either later Bronze Age or possibly Iron Age. Secondary working or deliberate modification was only seen on one flake, from ditch 0089, context (0090). This has abrupt (steep) retouch around a broad shallow depression and some slightly less abrupt retouch continuing along the side edge; the other (opposite) side being thicker and covered in cortex. This scraper tool is possibly classifiable as a hollow scraper (Butler 2005, 182 - 183) typically of later Bronze Age date.

Struck flint catalogue

Tr. No.	Ctxt. No.	F/L No.	F/L Type	Туре	No.	Wt. (g)	Description	Secondary working	Hammer strike	Patinated	Cortex	Date
1	0004	0003	ditch	shatter	1	12			hard			BA/IA
7	0006	0005	nat.	flake	1	4	Small		hard			BA/IA
10	0024	0023	ditch	flake	6	13	Small and thick		hard			BA/IA
10	0024	0023	ditch	shatter	3	33			hard			BA/IA
	0090	0089	ditch	flake	1	6	Broad squat flake with plunge fracture, broad striking platform		Soft? (lipped edge)		One side of striking platform and part of dorsal surface	Preh (later preh?)
	0090	0089	ditch	flake (side scraper)	1	5	Broad striking platform	Retouch (abrupt and semi abrupt) on one edge around shallow indentation notch, continuing along edge	hard		On one edge (opposite retouch edge)	LBA/EIA
	0095	0094	ditch	flake	1	8	Broad squat flake with plunge fracture, broad striking platform, some edge damage		hard		On striking platform and down one edge	Preh (later preh?)
	0095	0094	ditch	flake/ spall	2	1	Two very small flakes/ spall pieces					Preh?
	0129	0128	ditch	flake	1	1	Blade-like primary flake, small previous strike/mis- strike on edge of striking platform		hard		Covering dorsal surface	preh
	0129	0128	ditch	flake/ spall	2	1	Two very small flakes/ spall pieces					Preh?

Tr. No.	Ctxt. No.	F/L No.	F/L Type	Туре	No.	Wt. (g)	Description	Secondary working	Hammer strike	Patinated	Cortex	Date
	0142	0160	ditch	flake	1	2	Previous flake removals on dorsal surface, plunge fracture at distal end		hard			preh
	0144	0140	ditch	flake	1	5	Relatively thin flake, heat affected/burnt especially along one edge, previous flake removals on dorsal surface (broad ripples on ventral surface)		hard			preh
	0144	0140	ditch	flake	1	1	Small snapped piece (wt. <1g)					preh
	0145	0140	ditch	flake/ spall	1	1	small flake/ spall piece		hard			Preh?

APPENDIX F: HEAT-ALTERED STONE

By Stephen Benfield

Introduction

The excavation produced a total of ninety-three pieces (1,288g) of heat-altered stone. Apart from a few pieces of sandstone/quartzite, all of this material consists of flints, the great majority coming from a single pit and the larger proportion of this being recovered during processing a bulk soil sample from the fill. The heat-altered stone from both the evaluation and the excavation is listed and described by context in the catalogue (below). In addition there is a single struck flint that has been heat-affected (Appendix E). A further fifty-four pieces (2,067g,) of heat-altered flint and stone had previously been recovered (mostly by hand excavation) from a number of features and contexts during the evaluation phase (Schofield 2019b, 6.4).

The assemblage

Almost all of the heat-altered stones, eighty-one pieces (1,141g), come from the fill (0071) of pit 0070. Much of this was recovered from a bulk soil sample: Sample 5. The great majority of the stones are heat shattered, calcinated, crazed flints, but include six pieces (363g) of heat fractured sandstone/quartzite. No other bulk finds were recovered from this feature.

A few pieces of heat-altered flint which had variously been discoloured, crazed or exhibited lamina fracturing/flaking were recovered from pit 0086 context (0087) and ditch 0140 contexts (0244) and (0145). These contexts were associated with pottery dating to the later prehistoric period, probably of Early Iron Age date.

Discussion

The group of heat-altered (burnt) flints and other stones from pit 0070 had been subjected to a relatively high temperature in close contact with a fire. Although no datable finds were recovered in association with this material, the heat-altered flint and stone is probably prehistoric. Thermo-lithic technology was in common use in prehistory while later activity here, as represented by the other finds from the site, appears to have been very limited. The stones themselves were used primarily to indirectly transfer the heat from a fire to heat water, most commonly it is presumed for cooking. The stone from the pit here probably represents discarded waste from such activity.

In relation to the heated stone from 0070, it can be noted that a large amount of heat-altered stone together with some heat-altered flints (forty-four pieces, 1,748g) was also recovered from the fill of a pit recorded during the evaluation: pit 0009 (Schofield 2019b, 6.4). It was noted that the large proportion of sandstones/quartzite in relation to flints indicated a deliberate selection of stones that have better thermal properties than flint, but are generally much less common among the parent gravels; a selection also noted for Iron Age pit deposits of heat altered stones at Stanway in Essex (Crummy et al 2007, 18 - 21) and at Flixton and Shrubland Park quarries in Suffolk (Boulter 2006; Meredith 2018). Like the pit here (pit 0070) the pit encountered during the evaluation produced no other finds that could be directly dated, only a piece of animal bone. However, pit 0070 shows no such selection of stone, only that some sandstone/quartzite was apparently readily to hand and possibly the selection or choice of different stones in some pits might be related to specific circumstances or events. However, the reasons why deliberately selected of stones with better thermal properties dominate some groups of 'burnt' stones is not properly understood.

The remaining flints heat-altered/burnt flint from the other features (pit 0086 and ditch 0140) by their nature mostly indicate exposure to a lower heat, possibly from in-direct heating of naturally occurring flint within soil layers surrounding fires or part of fire surrounds. These pieces are, of themselves, not closely dated but (as noted above) were found in contexts associated with prehistoric, Late Bronze Age or more probably Iron Age pottery.

Heat-altered flint and other stone catalogue

Tr. No.	Ctxt. No.	F/L No.	F/L Type	Stone type	Description	No.	Wt. (g)	Associated dating
7	0006	0005	Nat.	flint	High temperature heat-altered flint	4	67	
17	0010	0009	pit	flint	Low temperature heat-altered flint	2	144	
17	0010	0009	pit	Sandstone/ quartzite	Heat-altered stone	44	1,748	
13	0018 <2>	0017	pit	Sandstone/ quartzite			320	Prehistoric ?
10	0024	0023	ditch	flint	High temperature heat-altered flint	3	78	
19	0033	0032	ditch	Sandstone/ quartzite	Heat-altered stone	1	30	
	0071	0070	pit	flint	Heat shattered calcinated and crazed flint	5	122	
	0071 <5>	0070	pit	flint	Heat shattered calcinated and crazed flint (c. 70 pieces and small fragments)	70	656	
	0071 <5>	0070	pit	Sandstone/ quartzite	Parts of rounded/ oval stones, discoloured	6	363	
	0073 <7>	0072	ditch	flint	Pieces and small fragments, variously discoloured and laminating/crazing	5	8	
	0087	0086	ditch	flint	small fragments, variously discoloured and laminating/crazing	3	1	Later prehistoric - IA
	0144	0140	ditch	flint	Discoloured and laminating	2	118	Later prehistoric - IA
				Discoloured, structure affected	2	20	Later prehistoric - IA	

APPENDIX G: ANIMAL BONE

By Stephen Benfield

A single piece (4g) of animal bone was the only bone recovered from the excavation. The earlier evaluation was slightly more productive with material recovered from three contexts; two pieces (1g) from a pit and 227 pieces (628g) from a post-medieval ditch, all but one piece from a single animal, probably a sheep (Schofield 2019b, 7.2). This emphasises the poor survival of bone on the site; presumably due to the local soil conditions. The piece from the excavation, which came from the fill (0090) of ditch 0089, is in only moderately good condition and has a degraded, pitted surface. It can only be loosely identified as probably part of the proximal end of a calcaneus (heel) bone from a medium size mammal. The bone from both the evaluation and excavation is listed and described in the catalogue table (below).

Animal bone catalogue

Tr. no.	Ctxt no.	Feature/ layer no.	F/L type	Find type	No.	Wt/g	Butchery marks	Abr	Description/ comments	Associated context dating
1	0004	0003	ditch	Animal bone	226	627			Sheep: most appear to be from one animal, although only a part is animal represented. Summary of major bones represented: Femur (2) Tibia (2) Raduis (1) Metapodial (3, two are near complete) Vertebrae (9) Rib (30 pieces) Pelvis (5 pieces) astragalus (3) complete Phalanges (7). Bone condition fair-good, pitted/root pitted surfaces, no obvious cut-marks although most of the long bones are broken, being represented by medium size pieces, this may be marrow extraction, but the breaks appear relatively sharp and fresh	P-Med
1	0004	0003	ditch	Animal bone	1	1			Bird, single small piece of a long bone	
17	0010	0009	pit	Animal bone	2	1			Very small pieces of bone, presumed animal bone (wt. <1g)	
	0090	0089	ditch	Animal bone	1	4		***	Medium size mammal: bone piece, probably part of the proximal end of a calcaneus (heel) bone; pitted bone surface, bone condition moderate	Later prehistoric IA?

APPENDIX H: PLANT MACROFOSSILS

By Anna West

Introduction and method

Seventeen bulk samples, of between 10 - 40 litres, were taken from archaeological features recorded during the evaluation (Schofield 2019b, 7.3) and excavation. The three samples taken during the evaluation were processed in full in order to assess the quality of preservation of any plant remains present and their potential to provide useful data as part of the archaeological investigations. Eleven of the samples from the excavation were likewise processed in full. The remaining three samples from the excavation, remain unprocessed.

The samples were processed using manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 300µm mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned using a binocular microscope at x10 magnification. The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh and sorted when dry, any artefacts recovered were retained for inclusion with the bulk finds material.

Results

The flots were small at 5ml or less. Of this, fibrous rootlets made up nearly the entire volume of each sample flot and this material has been disregarded as it is clearly modern and intrusive within the archaeological context. Other uncharred plant remains were present in low numbers within many of the sample flots and consisted solely of goosefoots (Chenopodium sp.) and knotweeds (Persicaria sp.). As they are uncharred and unabraded they are considered be modern and intrusive within the archaeological contexts.

Wood charcoal fragments were rare and generally those observed were too small to be suitable for species identification or for radiocarbon dating. Larger fragments of charcoal were, however, recovered from the non-floating residues of seven contexts: 0012, 0018, 0071, 0087, 0136, 0145, 0150. This material may represent settlement detritus that has become incorporated within the backfill of the archaeological features; perhaps through the actions of wind, water or trample.

The material recovered from flot and non-floating residues are set out in the table below with items such as charcoal fragments recorded quantitatively according to the following categories #=1-10, ##=11-50, ##=51+ specimens. Items that cannot be easily quantified have been scored for abundance x=rare, xx=moderate, xxx=abundant

Sample No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Context No.	0012	0018	0029	0087	0071	0095	0073	0127	0129	0145	0136	0150	0142	0119
Cut No.	0011	0017	0028	0086	0070	0094	0072	0126	0128	0140	0135	0140	0160	0118
Feature type	pit	pit	pit	pit	pit	ditch	pit							
Other plant macrofossils														
Charcoal 0-5mm	#	#	#	#	##	#	##	#	#	##	#	###	#	
Charcoal 5-10mm		#												
Charcoal >10mm														
Other material														
Snails						#								
Non-floating residue														
Charcoal frags	х	xx		#	х						#	###		
Snails						#								
Sample volume (litres)	10	15	10	10	5	40	40	40	40	40	10	40	40	10
Volume of flot (ml)	< 5	5	<5	<5	5	<2	5	<2	<5	5	<2	8	<5	<2
Flot sorted %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
C14 suitable material	Yw	Yw	N	Yw	Yw	2	Ν	N	N	Yw	Yw	Yw	N	N
Species id	Υ	Υ	N	Υ	Υ	N	N	N	N	Υ	Υ	Υ	N	N
Further work	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

Quantification of the material recovered from flot and non-floating residues

Conclusions

The material recovered from the bulk environmental samples taken from the site during both the evaluation and the excavation is too sparse to draw any conclusions beyond the fact that it probably reflects occupation or settlement activities in the vicinity. Overall, the samples contained no identifiable material of archaeological significance and offer no information of value to the results from the excavation. It is recommended that the remaining (unprocessed) bulk samples are discarded.

APPENDIX I: OASIS REPORT FORM

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: ENGLAND

OASIS ID: cotswold2-371411

Project details

Project name BLX 039, Lime Tree Farm, Tunstall Road, Blaxhall Excavation

Report

Short description of the

project

Archaeology in December 2019 and January 2020. The excavation area represented a small part (0.19 hectares) of a previous evaluation (2.65 hectares) and was targeted on a concentration Late Bronze Age/Early Roman features. The excavation identified four discrete phases of activity; Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age activity was represented by an intermittent ring feature, probably a drip-gully external to a roundhouse, along with a small cluster of pits. While poorly dated, a series of six shallow ditch-like features were interpreted as cultivation trenches that were probably Roman. At least two other phases of boundary ditches were recorded; the first either representing a second Roman phase, or possibly medieval based on the very limited artefactual evidence, and the second of

An archaeological excavation was undertaken by Cotswold

post-medieval date.

Start: 10-12-2019 End: 17-01-2020 Project dates

Yes / No Previous/future work

Any associated project

reference codes

Any associated project reference codes

Any associated project

BLX 039 - Sitecode

346542 - OASIS form ID

SU0079_1 - Contracting Unit No. reference codes

Type of project Recording project

Site status None

Current Land use Cultivated Land 3 - Operations to a depth more than 0.25m

Monument type ROUNDHOUSE Early Iron Age

Monument type PITS Early Iron Age Monument type **DITCHES Roman DITCHES Medieval** Monument type

DITCHES Post Medieval Monument type

PITS Uncertain Monument type

Significant Finds POTTERY Early Iron Age

Significant Finds **POTTERY Roman** POTTERY Medieval Significant Finds

Significant Finds WORKED FLINT Late Prehistoric

Significant Finds FIRED CLAY Uncertain Significant Finds HEAT-ALTERED FLINT Uncertain

Significant Finds ANIMAL BONE Uncertain

Significant Finds CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Uncertain

Investigation type "Full excavation"

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPS

Project location

Country England

Site location SUFFOLK SUFFOLK COASTAL BLAXHALL

BLX 039, Lime Tree Farm, Tunstall Road, Blaxhall

Postcode IP12 2DD

Study area 0.19 Hectares

Site coordinates TM 36130 56410

52.154803134058 1.452376166823 52 09 17 N 001 27 08 E Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 22m Max: 22m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Cotswold Archaeology

Project brief originator Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services

Project design originator Gemma Stewart

Project director/manager Rhodri Gardner

Project supervisor Simon Picard

Type of sponsor/funding

body

Landowner

Name of sponsor/funding Lime Tree Farm

oodv

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Suffolk HER

Physical Archive ID BLX 039

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

"Worked stone/lithics"

Digital Archive recipient Suffolk HER

Digital Archive ID BLX 039

Digital Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Metal", "Stratigraphic"

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

"Survey",,"Text"

Paper Archive recipient Suffolk HER

Paper Archive ID BLX 039

Paper Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Metal", "Stratigraphic",

"Worked stone/lithics"

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

"Survey ","Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title BLX 039, Lime Tree Farm, Tunstall Road, Blaxhall, Suffolk

Archaeological Excavation Report

Author(s)/Editor(s) Picard, S.
Other bibliographic details SU0079_1

Date 2020

Issuer or publisher Cotswold Archaeology

Place of issue or

publication

Needham Market

Description A4, comb bound, card covers, in colour

Entered by Simon Picard (simon.picard@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk)

Entered on 2 September 2020

OASIS:

Please e-mail <u>Historic England</u> for OASIS help and advice © ADS 1996-2012 Created by <u>Jo Gilham and Jen Mitcham, email</u> Last modified Wednesday 9 May 2012 Cite only: http://www.oasis.ac.uk/form/print.cfm for this page

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APPENDIX J: WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION (WSI)





Lime Tree Farm Tunstall Road, Blaxhall Suffolk

Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Excavation



Mr Andrew Hawes



CA Project: SU0079 OASIS ID: 371411 HER Ref: BLX 039 October 2019

Lime Tree Farm Tunstall Road, Blaxhall Suffolk

Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Excavation

CA Project: SU0079 OASIS ID: 371411 HER reference: BLX 039









Constructionline







DOCUMENT CONTROL GRID								
REVISION	DATE	Author	CHECKED BY	STATUS	REASONS FOR REVISION	APPROVED BY		
Α	23/10/19	J. CRAVEN		DRAFT		J. CRAVEN		
В	19/11/19	J. CRAVEN		FINAL	CURATOR COMMENTS	J. CRAVEN		

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- FIGURE 1. SITE LOCATION PLAN
- FIGURE 2. EXCAVATION AREA IN RELATION TO EVALUATION TRENCHING AND FIRST EDITION ORDNANCE SURVEY

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This document sets out details of a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) by Cotswold Archaeology (CA) for an archaeological excavation of the proposed site of an agricultural reservoir on land at Lime Tree Farm, Blaxhall, Suffolk (centred at NGR: 63617 25647), at the request of the client Andrew Hawes.
- 1.2 Following earlier stages of geophysical survey (Schofield 2019) and trial trench evaluation (Schofield & Gardiner 2019) the archaeological excavation is required by two conditions on planning application DC/19/0225/AGO. The work required is detailed in a Brief (dated 04/011/2019) produced by Gemma Stewart of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS), the archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority (LPA).
- 1.3 This WSI has been guided in its composition by Standard and guidance: Archaeological excavation (ClfA 2014), Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (Gurney 2003), Requirements for Archaeological Excavation (SCCAS 2018), the Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide and the accompanying PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation (Historic England 2015) and any other relevant standards or guidance contained within Appendix B.
- 1.4 It should be noted that, following the excavation fieldwork, the assessment report will establish the further analysis required to publish the site in an updated project design (UPD). If approved by SCCAS the work outlined in the UPD will need to be completed to allow final discharge of planning conditions. The client is advised to consult with SCCAS as to their obligations following receipt of the excavation assessment report.

The site

1.5 The proposed footprint of the reservoir covers an area of 7.5ha; of which the cut line investigated by previous works (Figs. 1 and 2) measured 2.65ha and was located within a single field given over to agriculture. The site is fairly level, sloping gently from 26m Above Ordnance Datum in the southwest to 21m in the northwest of the field. The excavation area is located within the northeast part of the proposed reservoir cut and measures 0.18ha (Fig. 2).

1.6 The underlying bedrock geology of the area is mapped as Chillesford Church sand of the Quaternary Period overlain by superficial deposits of Lowestoft Formation Diamicton (BGS 2019).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The following background information is extracted from the site's evaluation report (Schofield & Gardiner 2019):

'Information held within the County Historic Environment Record (HER) reveals that the site has a high archaeological potential, with Roman, Saxon and medieval find scatters (BLX 004, 005, TUN 019, 059) recorded around the periphery of the proposed reservoir (Fig. 1). A detailed geophysical survey undertaken in 2015 (BLX 028), 630m to the east at Lime Tree Farm, prospected anomalies indicative of archaeological ditches and pits over similar soils.'

'An examination of historic mapping held by CA Suffolk has been made. The Ordnance Survey (OS) maps from 1883 (Fig. 2) reveal that the site was bisected through its centre by a relic field boundary running west to east and a quarry pit or pond is depicted within the southern half of the field. Both features are no longer recorded on the 1975 OS map (Old Maps 2019). These features can also be seen on cropmarks recorded on Google Earth images (2000-2011), along with further relic field boundary cropmarks and some large discrete cropmarks indicative of backfilled ponds or quarry pits.'

A previous geophysical survey undertaken by SACIC (Schofield 2019) identified a narrow range of geophysical anomalies, indicative of relic field boundary ditches, archaeological pits, backfilled quarry pits and agricultural furrows. A selection of these would subsequently be targeted in the evaluation to establish whether they are genuine features.

'Geophysical analysis (BLX 028) was also undertaken at Lime Tree Farm in 2015 prior to the construction of a previous reservoir, rectangular sub-divided enclosures and possible rubbish pits were identified. Historic building recording has taken place at both Lime Tree farm (BLX 038) and nearby Stone Farm (BLX 019 and BLX 018), and

continuous archaeological recording has been conducted St Peters Church in Blaxhall (BLX 020) where adjacent field walking (BLX 027) recovered three struck flints.'

- 2.2 The evaluation identified a uniform stratigraphic sequence with a 0.32m-0.45m thick ploughsoil overlying the natural geology. Eleven out of the twenty trenches contained cut archaeological features, suggesting the survival of an archaeological horizon representing two main phases of activity on the site; a Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age phase followed by later post-medieval/modern activity. Roman and medieval finds, while not dating features, also showed indicated some activity in these periods within the vicinity of the site.
- 2.3 A concentration of features (three ditches and four pits) of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age were noted in Trenches 13 and 17 in the northeast part of the evaluation area.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The objectives of the archaeological mitigation are to:
 - excavate the specified area of 0.18ha which is centred upon the archaeological deposits known in Trenches 13 and 17 (Fig. 2)
 - record the nature of the main stratigraphic units encountered
 - assess the overall presence, survival and potential of structural and industrial remains
 - assess the overall presence, survival, condition, and potential of artefactual and ecofactual remains
- 3.2 The specific aims of the work are to:
 - record any evidence of past settlement or other land use
 - recover artefactual evidence to date any evidence of past settlement that may be identified
 - sample and analyse environmental remains to create a better understanding of past land use and economy
- 3.3 Research aims identified from the Regional Research Framework (Medlycott 2011, 20-21 & 29-32) include:
 - Bronze and Iron Age settlement and landscapes.

- Typological identification of Bronze Age pottery, cross-referenced with scientific dating.
- Study of development, frequency and significance of flint-working in the Bronze Age.
- Bronze Age/Iron Age transition.
- Development of the agrarian economy in the Iron Age.
- Finds studies development of regional pottery sequences and chronologies for the Iron Age.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 The Suffolk HER officer has confirmed that the project will continue to use site code BLX 039 and this will be included on all future project documentation. An OASIS online record (371411) has been initiated and key fields in details, location and creator forms have been completed.

Excavation and recording

- The archaeological excavation will be undertaken throughout the areas shown on the attached plan and will adhere to *Requirements for Archaeological Excavation* (SCCAS 2018). These total c.1800m² in area. Excavation areas will be set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using a Leica GPS, and scanned for live services by trained staff using CAT and Genny equipment in accordance with the Cotswold Archaeology *Safe System of Work for avoiding underground services*. The position and size of excavation areas may be adjusted on site to account for services and other constraints, with the approval of the archaeological advisor to the LPA. The final 'as dug' areas will be recorded with GPS.
- 4.3 Provision has been made to extend the excavation area, should significant archaeological remains be shown to continue beyond the initial excavation strip, until a 10m archaeology free buffer zone is achieved.
- 4.4 Initially works will comprise the mechanical removal of non-archaeologically significant soils, under constant archaeological supervision, using a toothless ditching bucket. All machining will cease when the first archaeological horizon or natural substrate is revealed (whichever is encountered first). No machinery will be allowed

to track over excavated areas until they have been signed off by SCCAS. No parts of the excavation area shall be released for development without SCCAS approval.

- 4.5 Metal detector searches (non-discriminating against iron) will take place throughout the project, by an experienced CA metal-detectorist (Steve Hunt, Mike Green) or freelancer (Steve Clarkson). Metal detecting will be carried out before and during the stripping of the excavation area (including the scanning of spoil), then over the stripped surface and then at regular intervals as features are excavated. Metal finds will have their locations recorded via Leica GPS.
- 4.6 Hand-cleaning of the stripped surface, to better define any identified archaeological deposits/features and record the distribution of unstratified/surface artefacts, will be undertaken as appropriate. All archaeological features will be recorded in plan using Leica GPS. All features will be investigated and recorded to provide an accurate assessment of their character and contents. All relationships between features or deposits will be investigated and recorded. Excavation will characterise the full archaeological sequence down to undisturbed natural deposits. Apparently natural features (such as tree throws) will be sampled sufficiently to establish their character.
- 4.7 Examination of features will concentrate on recovering the plan and any structural sequences. Particular emphasis will be placed upon gaining a secure understanding of the stratigraphic and chronological development of the site, including the recovery of samples suitable for radiocarbon dating where appropriate, and on upon obtaining details of the phasing of the site.
- All funerary/ritual activity and domestic/industrial deposits will be 100% excavated. All discrete features (post holes, pits) will be sampled by hand excavation (average sample unlikely to exceed 50%) unless their common/repetitious nature suggests they are unlikely to yield significant new information. All linear features (ditches, pathways etc) will be sampled to a maximum of 10%. Bulk horizontal deposits will as a minimum be 10% by area hand excavated, after which a decision may be taken (in conjunction with the archaeological advisor to the LPA) to remove the remainder with machinery. Priority will be attached to features which yield sealed assemblages which can be related to the chronological sequence of the site. Under no circumstances will the percentage of sampling of archaeological features be determined solely by resource limitations.

All archaeological features revealed will be planned and recorded in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1 *Fieldwork Recording Manual*. Each context will be recorded on a pro-forma context sheet by written and measured description; principal deposits will be recorded by drawn plans (scale 1:20 or 1:50, or electronically using Leica GPS or Total Station (TST) as appropriate) and drawn sections (scale 1:10 or 1:20 as appropriate). Where detailed feature planning is undertaken using GPS/TST this will be carried out in accordance with CA Technical Manual 4 *Survey Manual*. Photographs (digital colour – 18mp, 5184x3456 pixels in raw and .jpg format) will be taken as appropriate. All finds and samples will be bagged separately and related to the context record. All artefacts will be recovered and retained for processing and analysis in accordance with CA Technical Manual 3 *Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.

Artefact retention and discard

4.10 Artefacts from topsoil and subsoil and un-stratified contexts will normally be noted but not retained unless they are of intrinsic interest (e.g. worked flint or flint debitage, featured pottery sherds, and other potential 'registered artefacts'). All artefacts will be collected from stratified excavated contexts except for large assemblages of post-medieval or modern material. Such material may be noted and not retained, or, if appropriate, a representative sample may be collected and retained.

Human remains

4.11 If human remains are encountered, the client and the archaeological advisor to the LPA will be informed immediately. Where excavation of human remains is undertaken, this will be conducted following the provisions of the Coroners Unit in the Ministry of Justice.

Environmental remains

4.12 Due care will be taken to identify deposits which may have environmental potential, and where appropriate, a programme of environmental sampling will be initiated. This will follow the Historic England environmental sampling guidelines outlined in Environmental Archaeology, A guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (Campbell et al 2011), and CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites. The sampling strategy will be adapted for the specific circumstances of this site, in close consultation with the CA Environmental Officer, but will follow the general selection parameters set out in the following paragraphs.

- 4.13 Secure and phased deposits, especially those related to settlement activity and/or structures will be considered for sampling for the recovery of charred plant remains, charcoal and mineralised remains. Any cremation-related deposits will be sampled appropriately for the recovery of cremated human bone and charred remains. If any evidence of *in situ* metal working is found, suitable samples for the recovery of slag and hammer scale will be taken. Bulk environmental samples will be 40l minimum or 100% of context where less than 40l is available.
- 4.14 Where sealed waterlogged deposits are encountered, samples for the recovery of waterlogged remains, insects, molluscs and pollen, as well as any charred remains, will be considered. The taking of sequences of samples for the recovery of molluscs and/or waterlogged remains will be considered through any suitable deposits such as deep enclosure ditches, barrow ditches, palaeo-channels, or buried soils. Monolith samples will also be taken from this kind of deposit as appropriate to allow soil and sediment description/interpretation as well as sub-sampling for pollen and other micro/macrofossils such as diatoms, foraminifera and ostracods.
- 4.15 The need for any more specialist samples, such as OSL, archaeomagnetic dating and dendrochronology will be evaluated and will be taken under the direction of the relevant specialist.
- 4.16 The processing of the samples will be done in conjunction with the relevant specialist following the Historic England general environmental processing guidelines (Campbell *et al* 2011). Flotation or wet sieve samples will be processed to 0.25mm. Other more specialist samples such as those for pollen will be prepared by the relevant specialist. Further details of the general sampling policy and the methods of taking and processing specific sample types are contained within *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*.

Treasure

4.17 CA will comply fully with the provisions of the Treasure Act 1996 and the Code of Practice referred to therein. If an object qualifies as Treasure it will be reported to the Suffolk Finds Liaison Officer (who then reports to the Coroner) within 14 days of the object's discovery and identification, the client will further be informed. Treasure objects will immediately be removed to secure storage, with appropriate on-site security measures taken if required. Employees of CA, their subcontractors, or any volunteers under their control will not be eligible for any share of a treasure reward.

5. STAFF AND TIMETABLE

- 5.1 This project will be under the management of John Craven MCIfA, Project Manager, CA.
- 5.2 The staffing structure will be organised thus: the Project Manager will direct the overall conduct of the excavation as required during the period of fieldwork. Day to day responsibility however will rest with the Project Leader who will be on-site throughout the project.
- 5.3 The field team will consist of a maximum of 3 staff (eg 1 Project Officer and 2 Archaeologists).
- 5.4 It is envisaged that the project will require approximately 10 days fieldwork.

 Assessment of the results will take up to a further 12-24 weeks.
- 5.5 Specialists who will be invited to advise and report on specific aspects of the project as necessary are:

Ceramics Sue Anderson M Phil, MCIFA, FSA (freelance)

Steve Benfield BA (CA)

Richenda Goffin BA MCIfA (CA)

Sarah Percival MA MCIFA (freelance)

Metalwork Dr Ruth Beveridge (CA)

Flint Michael Green (CA)

Sarah Bates BA (freelance)

Animal Bone Julie Curl (freelance))

Human Bone Sue Anderson M Phil, MCIFA, FSA (freelance)

Environmental Remains Anna West BSc (CA)

Depending upon the nature of the deposits and artefacts encountered it may be necessary to consult other specialists not listed here. A full list of specialists currently used by Cotswold Archaeology is contained within Appendix A.

6. POST-EXCAVATION, ARCHIVING AND REPORTING

- 6.1 Following completion of fieldwork, all artefacts and environmental samples will be processed, assessed, conserved and packaged in accordance with CA Technical Manuals and SCCAS guidelines (SCCAS 2018 and 2019).
- A post-excavation assessment will be undertaken following completion of all site works. In certain instances a full PXA might be unnecessary and the need for a full PXA or otherwise will be discussed and formally agreed with SCCAS within four weeks of the end of fieldwork. The post-excavation assessment report will include:
 - (i) an abstract containing the essential elements of the results preceding the main body of the report and a summary of the project's background;
 - (ii) description and illustration of the site location;
 - (iii) a methodology of the works undertaken;
 - (iv) include plans and reports of all documentary and other research undertaken;
 - (v) a description of the project's results;
 - (vi) an interpretation of the results in the appropriate context;
 - (vii) a summary of the contents of the project archive and its location (including summary catalogues of finds and samples);
 - (viii) a site location plan at an appropriate scale on an Ordnance Survey, or equivalent, base-map;
 - (ix) a plan showing the location of the site and exposed archaeological features and deposits in relation to the site boundaries;
 - (x) site plans at an appropriate scale to allow the nature of the features exposed to be shown and understood. Plans will show the orientation of the site in relation to north. Section drawing locations will be shown on these plans. Archaeologically sterile areas will not be illustrated unless this can provide information on the development of the site stratigraphy or show palaeoenvironmental deposits that have influenced the site stratigraphy;
 - (xi) appropriate section drawings of trenches and features will be included, with OD heights and at scales appropriate to the stratigraphic detail being represented. These will show the orientation of the drawing in relation to north/south/east/west. Archaeologically sterile trenches will not be illustrated unless they provide significant information on the development of the site stratigraphy or show palaeoenvironmental deposits that have influenced the site stratigraphy;
 - (xii) site matrices, if appropriate;

- (xiii) photographs showing significant features and deposits that are referred to in the text. All photographs will contain appropriate scales, the size of which will be noted in the illustration's caption;
- (xiv) a clear and concise assessment of the archaeological value and significance of the results, and identification of research potential, in within the context of the Regional Research Framework for the East of England (Medlycott 2011);
- (xv) a summary table and descriptive text showing the features, classes and numbers of artefacts recovered and soil profiles with interpretation;
- (xvi) specialist assessment or analysis reports where undertaken;
- (xvii) an evaluation of the methodology employed and the results obtained (i.e. a confidence rating);
- (xviii) a copy of the project OASIS form as an appendix;
- (xix) a copy of the project WSI as an appendix.
- 6.3 Specialist artefact and palaeoenvironmental assessment will take into account the wider local/regional context of the archaeology and will include:
 - (i) specialist aims and objectives
 - (ii) processing methodologies (where relevant)
 - (iii) any known biases in recovery, or problems of contamination/residuality
 - (iv) quantity of material; types of material present; distribution of material
 - (v) for environmental material, a statement on abundance, diversity and preservation
 - (vi) summary and discussion of the results to include significance in a local and regional context
 - (vii) statements of significance for retention of artefacts and recommendations regarding material deemed suitable for disposal/dispersal
- 6.4 Copies of the <u>draft post-excavation assessment report</u> will be distributed to the Client or their Representative and to the LPA's Archaeological Advisor thereafter for verification and approval. Thereafter, copies of the <u>approved report</u> will be issued to the Client, LPA's Archaeological Advisor and the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER). Reports will be issued in digital format (PDF/PDFA as appropriate) and a hard copy will be supplied to the HER along with shapefiles containing location data for the areas investigated, if required.

Academic dissemination

6.5 Should the post-excavation assessment identify the potential for further analysis, an

updated project design (UPD) will be prepared for agreement by the archaeological advisor to the LPA prior to the commencement of the detailed analysis and reporting. The UPD will include a timetable, for analysis, dissemination and archive deposition. Arrangements will be made for an appropriate level of academic publication of the results of the excavations. The PXA will provide the basis for measurable standards for SCCAS to monitor this work.

- A summary note will be produced, in the established format, for inclusion within the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History.
- 6.7 Copies of any reports arising from the fieldwork will be deposited with the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER). A summary of information from the project will also be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain, including the upload of a digital (PDF) copy of the final report, which will appear on the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) website once the OASIS record has been verified.

Public dissemination

In addition to the ADS website, a digital (PDF) copy of the final report will also be made available for public viewing via Cotswold Archaeology's *Archaeological Reports*Online web page, generally within 12 months of completion of the project (http://reports.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk/).

Archive preparation and deposition

- An ordered, indexed, and internally consistent site archive, consisting of the complete artefactual assemblage and all paper and digital records, will be held in the CA Archaeological Store at Needham Market, Suffolk, until deposition with the SCCAS Archive Store. The archive will be prepared and deposited in accordance with Archaeological Archives in Suffolk (SCCAS 2019), Archaeological Archives: A Guide to Best Practice in Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Curation (Archaeological Archives Forum 2007), MoRPHE (Historic England 2015) and United Kingdom Institute of Conservation (ICON) guidelines.
- 6.10 CA will make arrangements with SCCAS for the deposition of the site archive and, subject to agreement with the legal landowner(s), the artefact collection. SCCAS will

be consulted at this stage concerning their requirements and fees, and will be notified in advance of the expected time limits for deposition of the archive.

- 6.11 A form transferring ownership of the finds archive to SCCAS will be completed and included in the project archive.
- 6.12 An unbound copy of the report will be included with the project archive.

7. HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT

7.1 CA will conduct all works in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and all subsequent Health and Safety legislation, CA Health and Safety and Environmental policies and the CA Safety, Health and Environmental Management System (SHE), as well as any Principal Contractor's policies or procedures. A site-specific Construction Phase Plan (form SHE 017) will be formulated prior to commencement of fieldwork.

8. INSURANCES

8.1 CA holds Public Liability Insurance to a limit of £10,000,000 and Professional Indemnity Insurance to a limit of £10,000,000.

9. MONITORING

- 9.1 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 review the progress of reports and/or archive preparation.
- 9.2 SCCAS will be given 2 weeks notice and an initial monitoring visit will be booked prior to works commencing on site. The first monitoring meeting will be held after the initial site clean and presentation of the base plan but prior to major excavation work. Subsequent monitoring meetings will be held and will be arranged during the course of the project. SCCAS will be kept regularly informed about developments both during the site works and subsequent post-excavation work.

- 9.3 Any proposed changes to this WSI that may be requested as the project progresses will be communicated directly to SCCAS for approval.
- 9.4 If exceptional, complex or unexpected features or deposits are uncovered, SCCAS will be informed immediately and their advice sought so an investigation strategy can be agreed.
- 9.5 SCCAS will also monitor the method and form of development to ensure that it conforms to agreed locations and techniques in the WSI.

10. QUALITY ASSURANCE

- 10.1 CA is a Registered Organisation (RO) with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (RO Ref. No. 8). As a RO, CA endorses the *Code of Conduct* (ClfA 2014) and the *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology* (ClfA 2014). All CA Project Managers and Project Officers hold either full Member or Associate status within the ClfA.
- 10.2 CA operates an internal quality assurance system in the following manner. Projects are overseen by a Project Manager who is responsible for the quality of the project. The Project Manager reports to the Chief Executive who bears ultimate responsibility for the conduct of all CA operations. Matters of policy and corporate strategy are determined by the Board of Directors, and in cases of dispute recourse may be made to the Chairman of the Board.

11. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT, PARTICIPATION AND BENEFIT

11.1 It is not envisaged that this project will afford opportunities for public engagement or participation during the course of the fieldwork. due to its likely short duration and expected level of archaeological deposits. However, the results will be made publicly available on the ADS and Cotswold Archaeology websites, as set out in Section 6 above, in due course.

12. STAFF TRAINING AND CPD

- 12.1 CA has a fully documented mandatory Performance Management system for all staff which reviews personal performance, identifies areas for improvement, sets targets and ensures the provision of appropriate training within CA's adopted training policy. In addition, CA has developed an award-winning Career Development Programme for its staff, which ensures a consistent and high quality approach to the development of appropriate skills.
- 12.2 As part of the company's requirement for Continuing Professional Development, all members of staff are also required to maintain a Personal Development Plan and an associated log which is reviewed within the Performance Management system. All staff are subject to probationary periods on appointment, with monthly review; for site-based staff additional monthly Employee Performance Evaluations measure and record skills and identify training needs.

13. REFERENCES

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Websites

BGS (British Geological Survey) 2019 *Geology of Britain Viewer* http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html Accessed 23/10/2019.

APPENDIX A: COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY SPECIALISTS

Ceramics

Neolithic/Bronze Age Ed McSloy BA MCIFA (CA)

Emily Edwards (freelance)

Dr Elaine Morris BA PhD FSA MCIFA (University of Southampton)

Anna Doherty MA (Archaeology South-east) Sarah Percival MA MCIFA (freelance)

Steve Benfield BA (CA)

Iron Age/Roman Ed McSloy BA MCIFA (CA)

Kayt Marter Brown BA MSc MCIFA (freelance)

Steve Benfield BA (CA)

Gwladys Montell MA PhD (freelance) (Samian)

Steve Benfield BA (CA)

Dr David Williams PhD FSA (freelance) (Amphorae stamps)

Anglo-Saxon Paul Blinkhorn BTech (freelance)

> Dr Jane Timby BA PhD FSA MCIFA (freelance) Sue Anderson, M Phil, MCIFA, FSA (freelance)

Medieval/post-medieval Ed McSloy BA MCIFA (CA)

Kayt Marter Brown BA MSc MCIFA (freelance)

Stephanie Ratkai BA (freelance) Paul Blinkhorn BTech (freelance) John Allan BA MPhil FSA (freelance) Richenda Goffin BA MCIFA (CA)

Sue Anderson M Phil, MCIFA, FSA (freelance)

South West Henrietta Quinnell BA FSA MCIFA (University of Exeter)

Clay tobacco pipe Reg Jackson MLitt MCIFA (freelance)

> Marek Lewcun (freelance) Kieron Heard (freelance) Richenda Goffin BA MCIFA (CA)

Ceramic Building Material Ed McSloy MCIFA (CA)

Dr Peter Warry PhD (freelance)

Sue Anderson M Phil, MCIFA, FSA (freelance)

Richenda Goffin Roman painted wall plaster, CBM, BA MCIFA (CA)

Steve Benfield BA (CA)

Other Finds

Small Finds Ed McSloy BA MCIFA (CA)

Richenda Goffin, (non-metalwork) BA MCIFA (CA)

Steve Benfield CA Dr I Riddler (freelance)

Dr Alison Sheridan, National Museum of Scotland

Katie Marsden BSc (CA) Metal Artefacts

Dr Ruth Beveridge (CA)

Dr Jörn Schuster MA DPhil FSA MCIFA (freelance)

Dr Hilary Cool BA PhD FSA (freelance)

Dr I Riddler (freelance)

Lithics Ed McSloy BA MCIFA (CA)

Jacky Sommerville BSc MA PCIFA (CA)

Michael Green (CA) Sarah Bates BA (freelance)

(Palaeolithic) Dr Francis Wenban-Smith BA MA PhD (University of Southampton)

Dr Ruth Shaffrey BA PhD MCIFA (freelance) Worked Stone

Dr Kevin Hayward FSA BSc MSc PhD PCIFA (freelance)

Inscriptions Dr Roger Tomlin MA DPhil, FSA (Oxford)

Glass Ed McSloy MCIFA (CA)

Dr Hilary Cool BA PhD FSA (freelance)

Dr David Dungworth BA PhD (freelance; English Heritage)

Dr Sarah Paynter (Historic England)

Dr Rachel Tyson (freelance)

Dr Hugh Wilmott (University of Sheffield)

Coins Ed McSloy BA MCIFA (CA)

Dr Ruth Beveridge (CA)

Dr Peter Guest BA PhD FSA (Cardiff University) Dr Richard Reece BSc PhD FSA (freelance)

Jude Plouviez (freelance)

Dr Andrew Brown (British Museum) Dr Richard Kelleher (Fitzwilliam Museum) Dr Philip de Jersey (Ashmolean Museum)

Leather Quita Mould MA FSA (freelance)

Textiles Penelope Walton Rogers FSA Dip Acc. (freelance)

Sue Harrington (freelance)

Iron slag/metal technology Dr Tim Young MA PhD (Cardiff University)

Dr David Starley BSc PhD Lynne Keys (freelance)

Worked wood Michael Bamforth BSc MCIFA (freelance)

Biological Remains

Animal bone Dr Philip Armitage MSc PhD MCIFA (freelance)

Dr Matilda Holmes BSc MSc ACIFA (freelance)

Julie Curl (freelance)

Lorrain Higbee (Wessex Archaeology)

Human Bone Sharon Clough BA MSc MCIFA (CA)

Sue Anderson M Phil, MCIFA, FSA (freelance)

Environmental sampling Sarah Wyles BA PCIFA (CA)

Sarah Cobain BSc MSc ACIFA (CA) Dr Keith Wilkinson BSc PhD MCIFA (ARCA)

Anna West BSc (CA) Val Fryer (freelance)

Pollen Dr Michael Grant BSc MSc PhD (University of Southampton)

Dr Rob Batchelor BSc MSc PhD MCIFA (QUEST, University of Reading)

Diatoms Dr Tom Hill BSc PhD CPLHE (Natural History Museum)

Dr Nigel Cameron BSc MSc PhD (University College London)

Charred Plant Remains Sarah Wyles BA PCIFA (CA)

Sarah Cobain BSc MSc ACIFA (CA)

Wood/Charcoal Sarah Cobain BSc MSc ACIFA(CA)

Dana Challinor MA (freelance)
Dr Esther Cameron (freelance)

Insects Enid Allison BSc D.Phil (Canterbury Archaeological Trust)

Dr David Smith MA PhD (University of Birmingham)

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Mollusca Sarah Wyles BA PCIFA (CA)

Dr Keith Wilkinson BSc PhD MCIFA (ARCA)

Ostracods and Foraminifera Dr John Whittaker BSc PhD (freelance)

Fish bones Dr Philip Armitage MSc PhD MCIFA (freelance)

Geoarchaeology Dr Keith Wilkinson BSc PhD MCIFA (ARCA)

Soil micromorphology Dr Richard Macphail BSc MSc PhD (University College London)

Scientific Dating

Dendrochronology Robert Howard BA (NTRDL Nottingham)

Radiocarbon dating SUERC (East Kilbride, Scotland)

Beta Analytic (Florida, USA)

Archaeomagnetic dating Dr Cathy Batt BSc PhD (University of Bradford)

TL/OSL Dating Dr Phil Toms BSc PhD (University of Gloucestershire)

Conservation Karen Barker BSc (freelance)

Pieta Greaves BSc MSc ACR (Drakon Heritage and Conservation)

Julia Park-Newman (Conservation Services, freelance)

APPENDIX B: ARCHAEOLOGICAL STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

- AAF 2007 Archaeological Archives. A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation.

 Archaeological Archives Forum
- AAI&S 1988 The Illustration of Lithic Artifacts: A guide to drawing stone tools for specialist reports. Association of Archaeological Illustrators and Surveyors Paper 9
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 Association of Archaeological Illustrators and Surveyors Paper 11
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- EH 2008c Research and Conservation Framework for the British Palaeolithic. English Heritage/Prehistoric Society (Swindon)
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APPENDIX C: SCCAS BRIEF

The Archaeological Service

Growth, Highways and Infrastructure
Bury Resource Centre
Hollow Road
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk
IP32 7AY

Brief for Archaeological Mitigation

AT

Lime Tree Farm, Tunstall Road, Blaxhall

PLANNING AUTHORITY: Suffolk Coastal District Council

PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER: DC/19/0225/AGO

HER NO. FOR THIS PROJECT: To be arranged with the Suffolk HER

Officer (archaeology.her@suffolk.gov.uk)

GRID REFERENCE: TM 361 564

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL: Reservoir

AREA FOR INVESTIGATION: See mitigation and contingency areas on

attached plan

THIS BRIEF ISSUED BY: Gemma Stewart

Senior Archaeological Officer

Tel.: 01284 741242

E-mail: gemma.stewart@suffolk.gov.uk

Date: 4th November 2019

Summary

- 1.1 Planning permission has been granted with the following two-part condition relating to archaeological investigation:
 - 3. No development shall take place within the area indicated [the whole site] until the implementation of a programme of archaeological work has been secured, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

The scheme of investigation shall include an assessment of significance and research questions; and:

- a. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording
- b. The programme for post investigation assessment
- c. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording
- d. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation

- e. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation
- f. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.
- g. The site investigation shall be completed prior to development, or in such other phased arrangement, as agreed and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
- 4. No building shall be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed, submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under part 1 and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition.
- 1.2 This brief stipulates the minimum requirements for the archaeological investigation and should be used in conjunction with the Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service's (SCCAS) Requirements for Archaeological Excavation 2018. These should be used to form the basis of the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI).
- 1.3 The archaeological contractor, commissioned by the applicant, must submit a copy of their WSI to SCCAS for scrutiny, before seeking approval from the LPA.
- 1.4 Following acceptance by SCCAS, it is the commissioning body's responsibility to submit the WSI to the LPA for formal approval. No fieldwork should be undertaken on site without the written approval of the LPA. The WSI, however, is not a sufficient basis for the discharge of a planning condition relating to archaeological investigation. Only the full implementation of the scheme, both completion of fieldwork and reporting, will enable SCCAS to advise the LPA that a condition has been adequately fulfilled and can be discharged.
- 1.5 The WSI should be approved before costs are agreed with the commissioning client, in line with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' guidance. Failure to do so could result in additional and unanticipated costs.
- 1.6 The WSI will *provide the basis for measurable standards* and will be used to establish whether the requirements of the brief will be adequately met. If the approved WSI is not carried through in its entirety (unless a variation is agreed by SCCAS), the excavation report may be rejected.

Archaeological Background

- 2.1 The reservoir is situated archaeological potential as recorded by information held by the County Historic Environment Record (HER). Scatters of Roman, Saxon and medieval finds have been located around the proposed reservoir site (BLX 004, 005, TUN 019, 059). A geophysical survey carried out on another potential reservoir site, to the south of Limetree Farm, has detected a number of anomalies which are likely to be archaeological in nature and which are situated on the same soils as this application site.
- 2.2 In 2019 an archaeological trial trench evaluation conducted within the application area identified a concentration of Prehistoric features, including pits and linears in Trenches 13 and 17 (Cotswold Archaeology report number 2019_037).

Planning Background

- 3.1 The proposed works would cause significant ground disturbance that will damage or destroy archaeological deposits at this site.
- 3.2 The Planning Authority has been advised that any consent should be conditional upon an agreed programme of work taking place before development begins in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (Paragraph 199), to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets before they are damaged or destroyed.

Fieldwork Requirements for Archaeological Investigation

- 4.1 Archaeological investigation is to be carried out prior to development. A controlled strip and excavation is to be undertaken within the areas outlined on the attached plan, where areas of archaeological interest has been defined during the evaluation and significant groundworks are going to be carried out as part of the development. Provision should be made to extend these areas, should significant archaeological remains be shown to continue beyond the initial excavation strip, until a 10m archaeology free buffer zone has been achieved.
- 4.2 The archaeological investigation should provide a record of archaeological deposits which are damaged or removed by any development (including services and landscaping) permitted by the current planning consent. Opportunity must be given to the archaeological contractor to hand excavate and record any archaeological features which appear during earth moving operations, within safe parameters.
- 4.3 The excavation areas will be stripped by a mechanical excavator to the depth of geological horizons, or to the upper interface of archaeological features or deposits, whichever is encountered first.
- 4.4 All features will be investigated and recorded to provide an accurate assessment of their character and contents. All relationships between features or deposits will be investigated and recorded. Any natual suboil surface revealed will be hand cleaned and examined for archaeological deposits and artefacts. Excavation will chracterise the full archaeological sequence down to undisturbed natural deposits. Apparently natural features (such as tree throws) will be sampled sufficiently to establish their character.
- 4.5 All excavation off all archaeological deposits will be done by hand, unless agreed with SCCAS that there will be no loss of evidence using a machine. There will be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of each archaeological deposit.
- 4.6 A scale plan showing the proposed location of the excavation areas should also be included in the WSI and must be approved by SCCAS before fieldwork begins.
- 4.7 The SCCAS Requirements for Excavation 2018 should be adhered to. Under no circumstances is the percentage of sampling of archaeological features to be determined solely by resource limitations.

- 4.8 The method and form of development should be also monitored to ensure that it conforms to previously agreed locations and techniques upon which this brief is based.
- 4.9 If unexpected remains are encountered SCCAS must be informed immediately. Amendments to this brief may be required to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording.
- 4.10 Metal detector searches must take place at all stages of the excavation by a named, experienced metal detector user, including reference either to their contributions to the PAS database or to other published archaeological projects they have worked on. Metal detecting should be carried out before and after the excavation area is stripped and throughout the excavation process (including the scanning of spoil).

Arrangements for Archaeological Investigation

- 5.1 All arrangements for the excavation of the site, the timing of the work and access to the site, are to be defined and negotiated by the archaeological contractor with the commissioning body.
- 5.2 The project manager must consult the Suffolk HER Officer to obtain a parish code for the work. This number will be unique for each project and must be used on site and for all documentation and archives relating to the project.
- 5.3 The composition of the archaeological contractor's staff must be detailed and agreed by SCCAS, including any subcontractors/specialists. Ceramic specialists, in particular, must have relevant experience from this region, including knowledge of local ceramic sequences.
- 5.4 A timetable for fieldwork and assessment stages of the project must be presented in the WSI and agreed with SCCAS before the fieldwork commences.
- 5.5 All arrangements for the excavation, the timing of the work and access to the site, are to be defined and negotiated by the archaeological contractor with the commissioning body.
- 5.6 If the archaeological excavation is scheduled to be undertaken immediately before construction, the commissioning body should be aware that there may be a time delay for excavation and recording if unexpected and complex archaeological remains are defined. Adequate time is to be allowed for full archaeological recording of archaeological deposits before any construction work can commence on site (unless otherwise agreed by the LPA on the advice of SCCAS).
- 5.7 The project manager must also carry out a risk assessment and ensure that all potential risks are minimised, before commencing the fieldwork. The responsibility for identifying any constraints on fieldwork, e.g. designated status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites and other ecological considerations, and land contamination, rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor.

- 5.8 The WSI must state the security measures to protect the site from vandalism and theft, and to secure any deep holes.
- 5.9 Provision should be included in the WSI for public benefit in the form of communication and outreach activities.
- 5.10 The WSI must indicate where the analysed results will be published and provide an estimate in the proposed budget for the benefit of the client, indicating that this sum should be set aside for this specific purpose and that it will be revised following the completion of the PXA & UPD. Where positive results are drawn from a project, a summary report must be prepared for the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*. It should be included in the project report or submitted to SCCAS by the end of the calendar year in which the work takes place, whichever is sooner.
- 5.11 The first monitoring meeting will be held after the initial site clean and presentation of the base plan but prior to major excavation work. Subsequent monitoring meetings will be held and will be arranged during the course of the project.
- 5.12 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 review the progress of reports and/or archive preparation.
- 5.13 The archaeological contractor must give SCCAS ten working days' notice of the commencement of ground works on the site and a monitoring visit must be booked with SCCAS prior to works commencing on site. The method and form of development will also be monitored to ensure that it conforms to agreed locations and techniques in the WSI.
- 5.14 Any changes to the specifications that the project manager may wish to make after approval by this office should be communicated directly to SCCAS for approval.
- 5.15 If exceptional, complex or unexpected features or deposits are uncovered, SCCAS will be informed and their advice sought so an investigation strategy can be agreed.
- 5.16 SCCAS should be kept regularly informed about developments both during the site works and subsequent post-excavation work.

Post-Excavation Assessment and Archival Requirements

- 6.1 Within four weeks of the end of fieldwork a written timetable for post-excavation assessment, updated project design and/or reporting must be produced, which must be approved by SCCAS. Following this, a written statement of progress on post-excavation work whether assessment, analysis, report writing and publication or archiving will be required at six monthly intervals.
- 6.2 A post-excavation assessment (PXA) report on the fieldwork should be prepared in accordance with the principles of *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (English Heritage 2006). The PXA will act as a critically assessed audit of the archaeological evidence from the site; see East Anglian Archaeology *Draft Post Excavation Assessments: Notes on a New Guidance Document* (2012).

- 6.3 In certain instances a full PXA might be unnecessary. The need for a full PXA or otherwise should be discussed and formally agreed with SCCAS within four weeks of the end of fieldwork.
- The PXA must present a clear and concise assessment of the archaeological value and significance of the results, and identifies the research potential, in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3, 8 and 24, 1997, 2000 and 2011). It must present an Updated Project Design, with a timetable, for analysis, dissemination and archive deposition. The PXA will *provide the basis for measurable standards* for SCCAS to monitor this work.
- 6.5 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared, consistent with the principles of *MoRPHE*. It must be adequate to perform the function of a final archive for deposition in the Archaeological Store of SCCAS or in a suitable museum in Suffolk (see Archaeological Archives Forum: a guide to best practice 2007).
- 6.6 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with guidelines from *The Institute of Conservation* (ICON).
- 6.7 The project manager should consult the intended archive depository before the archive is prepared regarding the specific requirements for the archive deposition and curation, and regarding any specific cost implications of deposition. The intended depository must be prepared to accept the entire archive resulting from the project (both finds and written archive) in order to create a complete record of the project. A clear statement of the form, intended content, and standards of the archive is to be submitted for approval as an essential requirement of the WSI.
- 6.8 The PXA should offer a statement of significance for retention, based on specialist advice, and where it is justified the UPD should propose a discard strategy. This should be agreed with the intended archive depository.
- 6.9 For deposition in the SCCAS Archaeological Store, the archive should comply with SCCAS Archive Guidelines 2019. If this is not the intended depository, the project manager should ensure that a duplicate copy of the written archive is deposited with the Suffolk HER.
- 6.10 The UPD should state proposals for the deposition of the digital archive relating to this project with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), or similar digital archive repository, and allowance should be made for costs incurred to ensure proper deposition (http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/policy.html).
- 6.11 An unbound hardcopy of the PXA and UPD (or grey literature report if otherwise agreed), clearly marked DRAFT, must be presented to SCCAS for approval within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated. Following acceptance, a single hard copy of the report should be presented to the Suffolk HER as well as a digital copy of the approved report.
- 6.12 On approval of an adequate PXA and UPD, and confirmation that provision has been made to deliver the UPD, SCCAS will advise the LPA that the scheme of investigation for post-excavation analysis, dissemination and archive deposition has been agreed.

- 6.13 Where appropriate, a copy of the approved PXA should be sent to the local archaeological museum, whether or not it is the intended archive depository. A list of local museum can be obtained from SCCAS.
- 6.14 SCCAS supports the OASIS project, to provide an online index to archaeological reports. At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/ must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. When the project is completed, all parts of the OASIS online form must be completed and a copy must be included in the final report and also with the site archive. A .pdf version of the entire report should be uploaded to the OASIS website.
- 6.15 Where positive results are drawn from a project, a summary report must be prepared, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*. It should be included in the project report, or submitted to SCCAS/CT, by the end of the calendar year in which the work takes place, whichever is the sooner.

Standards and Guidance

Detailed requirements are to be found in our Requirements for Archaeological Excavation 2018 and in SCCAS Archive Guidelines 2019.

Standards, information and advice to supplement this brief are to be found in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003.

The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for archaeological excavation* (revised 2014) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

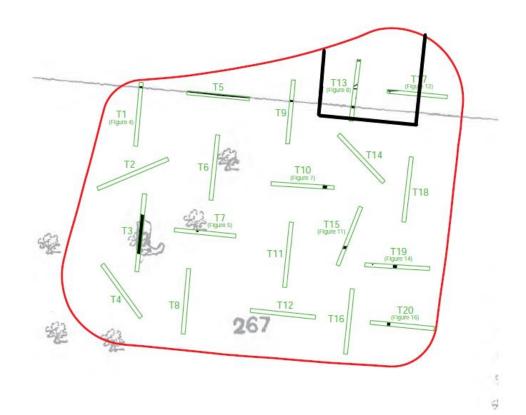
Notes

There are a number of archaeological contractors that regularly undertake work in the County and SCCAS will provide advice on request. SCCAS does not give advice on the costs of archaeological projects. The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists maintains a list of registered archaeological contractors (www.archaeologists.net or 0118 378 6446).

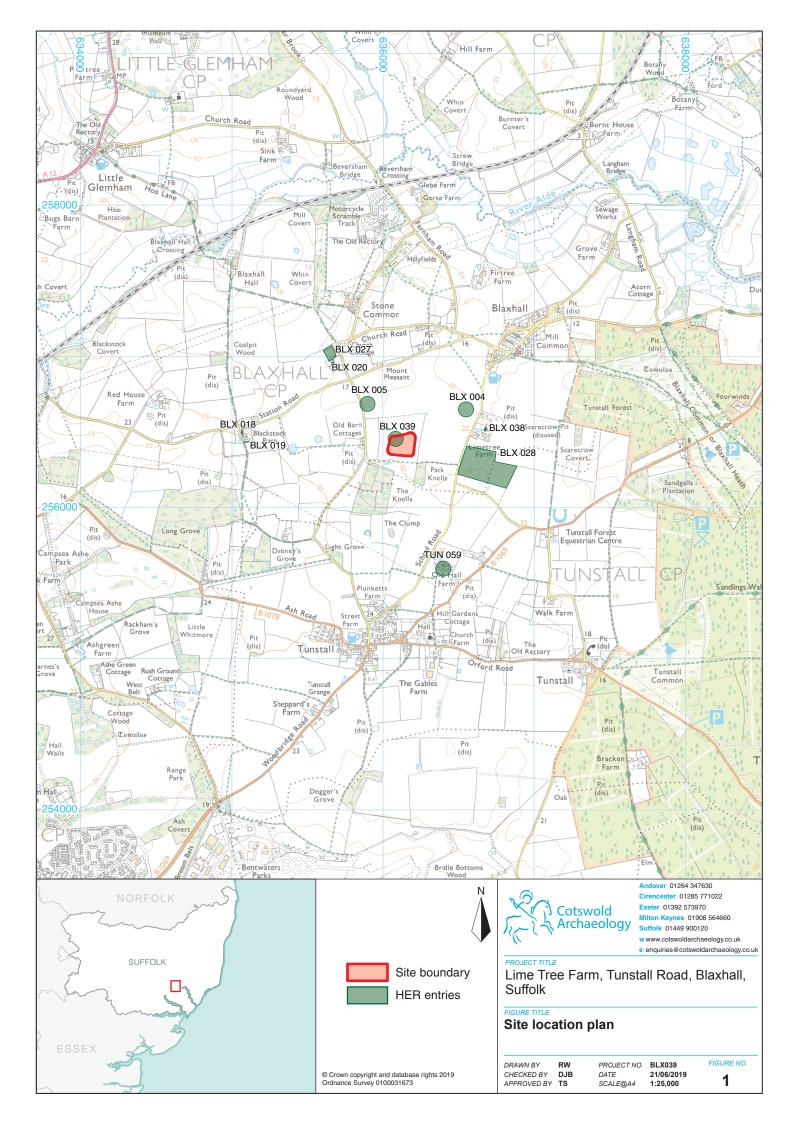
The Historic Environment Records Data available on the Heritage Gateway and Suffolk Heritage Explorer is **NOT** suitable to be used for planning purposes and will not be accepted in lieu of a full HER search.

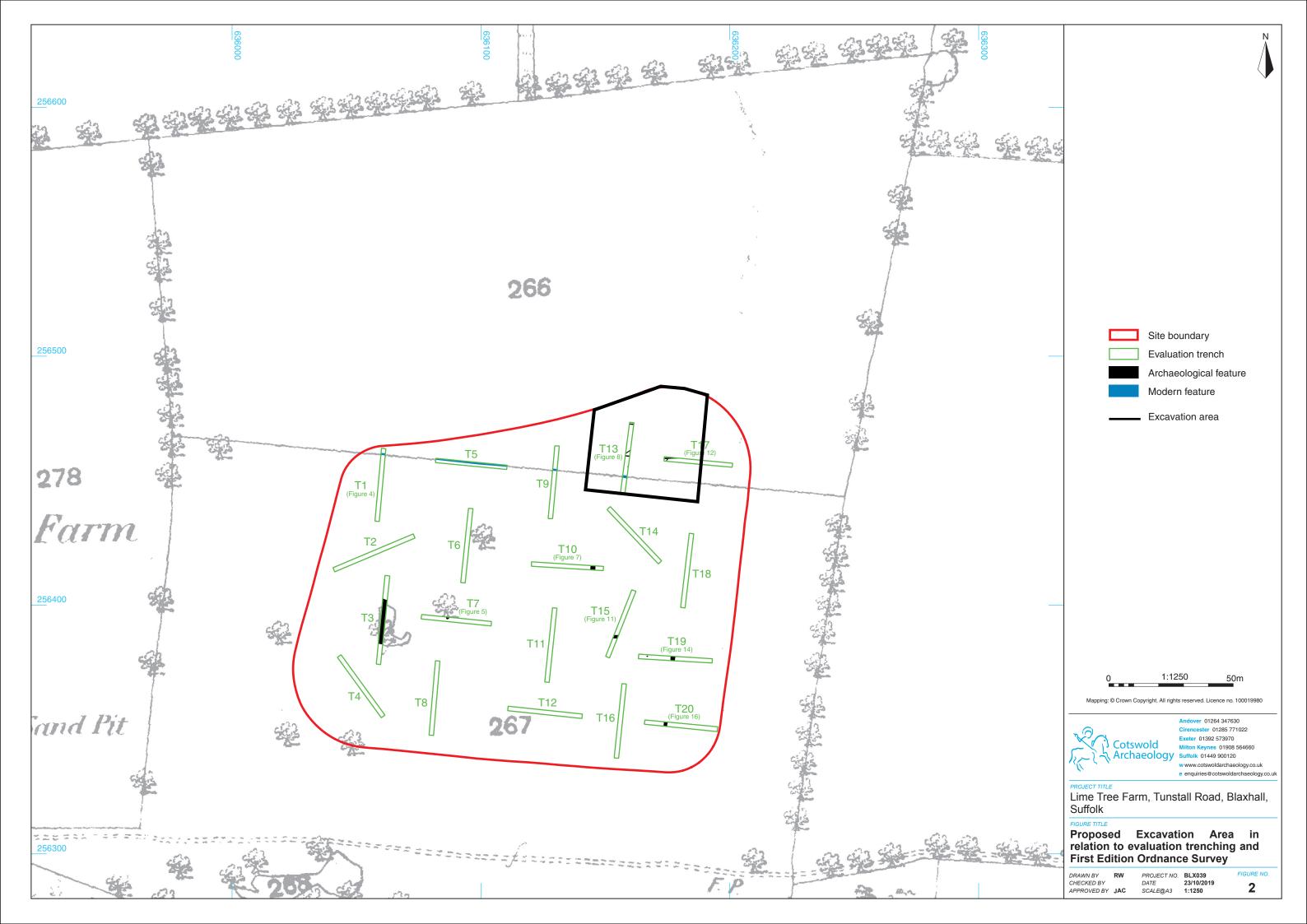
Any reference to HER records in any WSI's or reports should be made using the Parish Code (XXX 000) and **NOT** the MSF0000 number.

This brief remains valid for 12 months. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse; the brief may need to be revised and reissued to take account of new discoveries, changes in policy and techniques.



After Cotswold Archaeology report 2019_037, Figure 2







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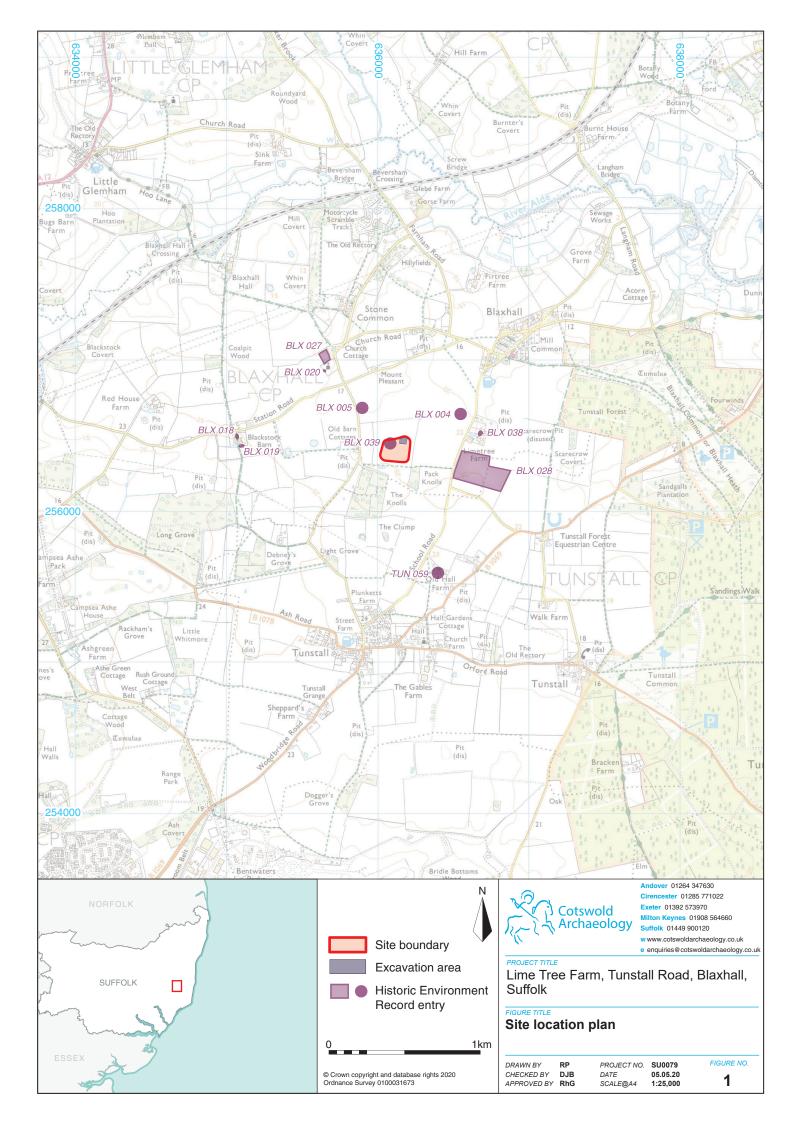
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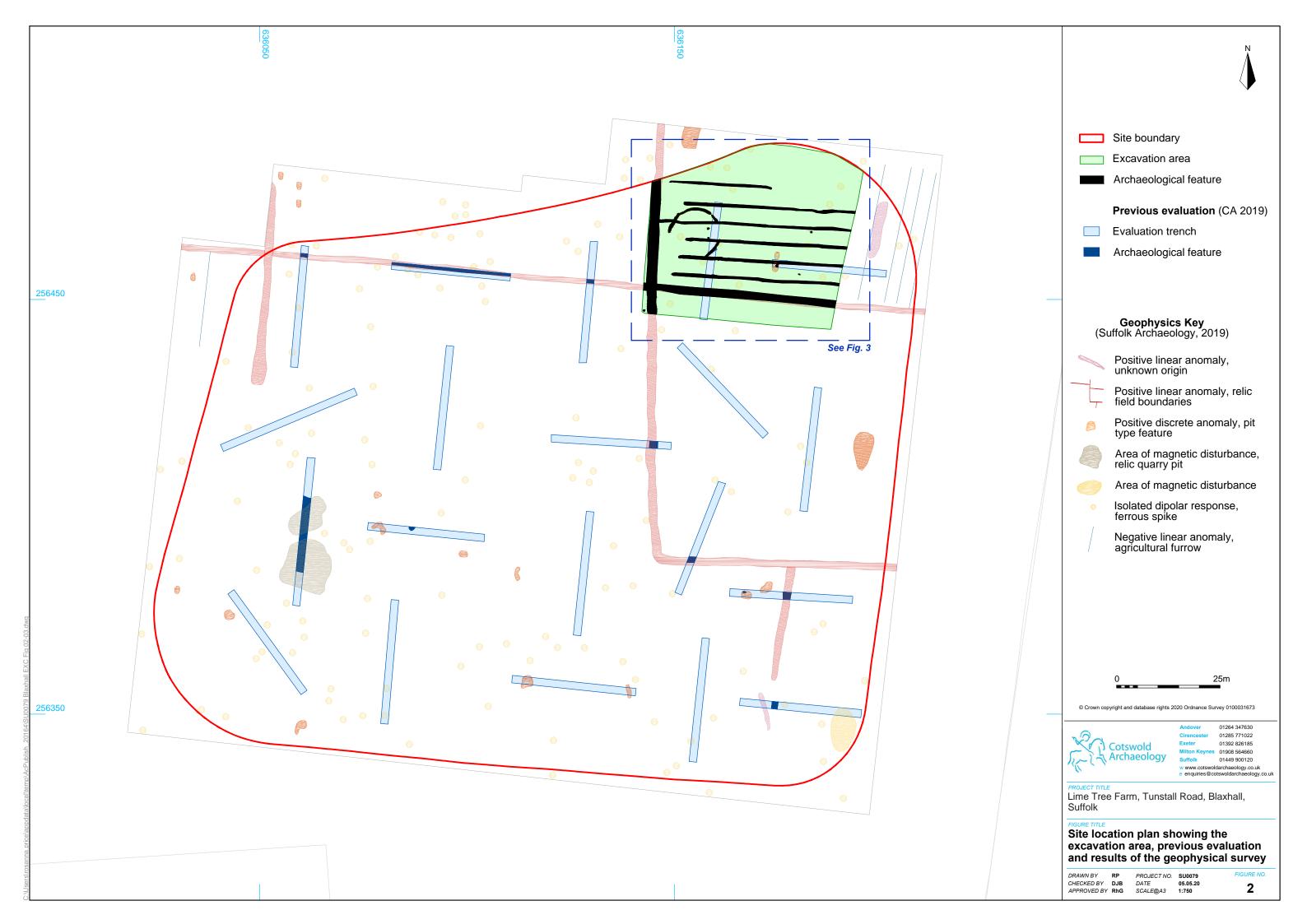
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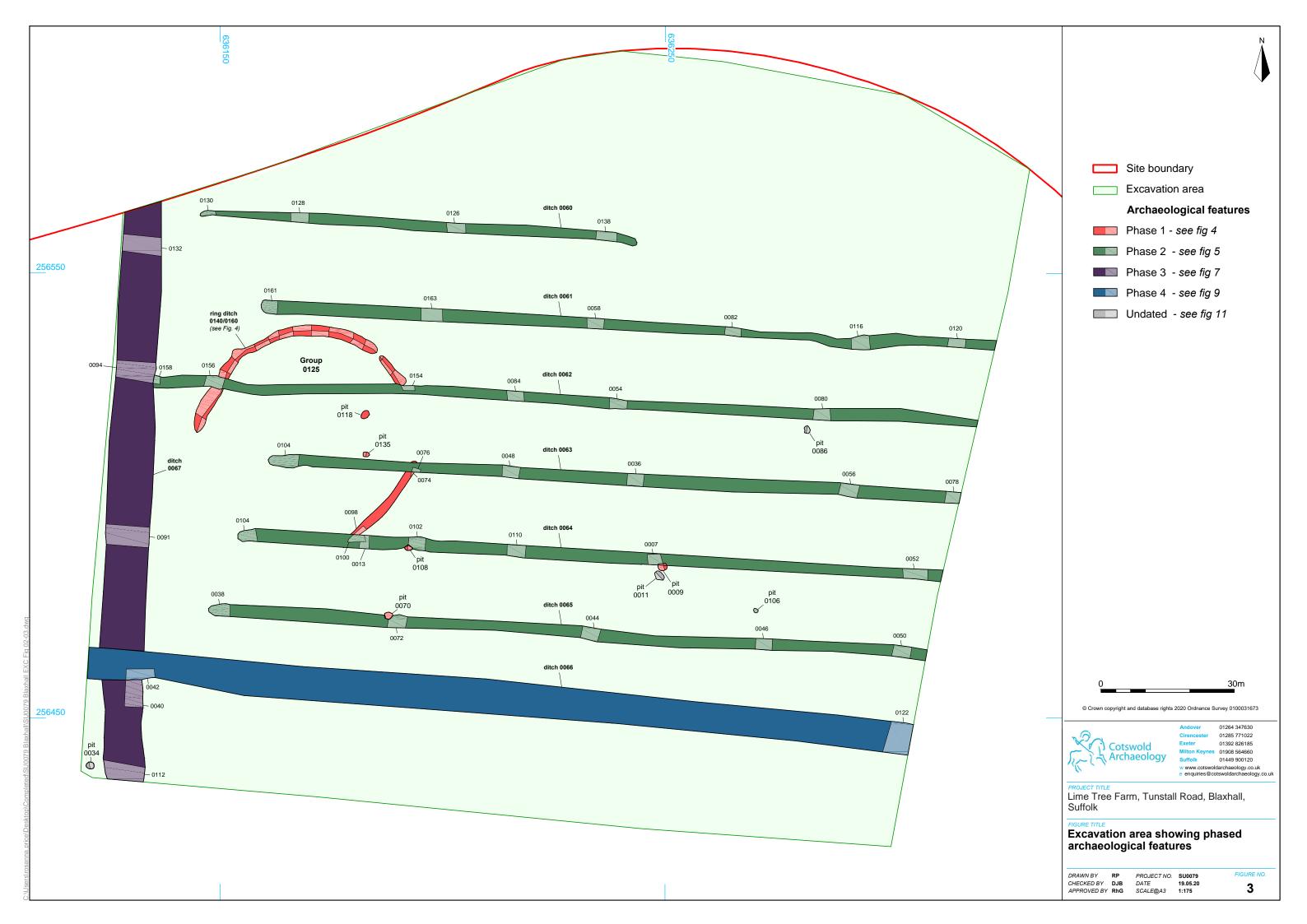
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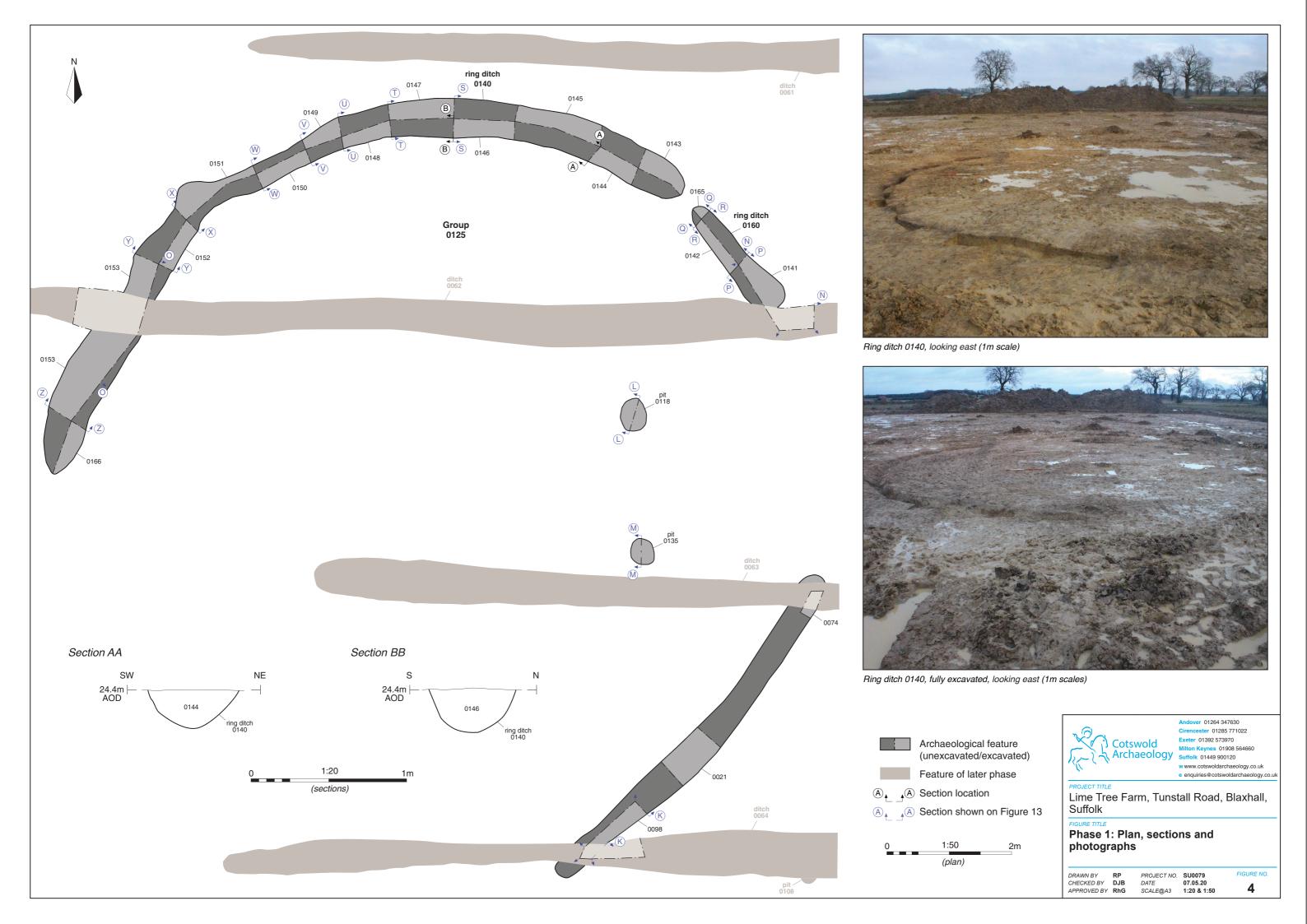
e: enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

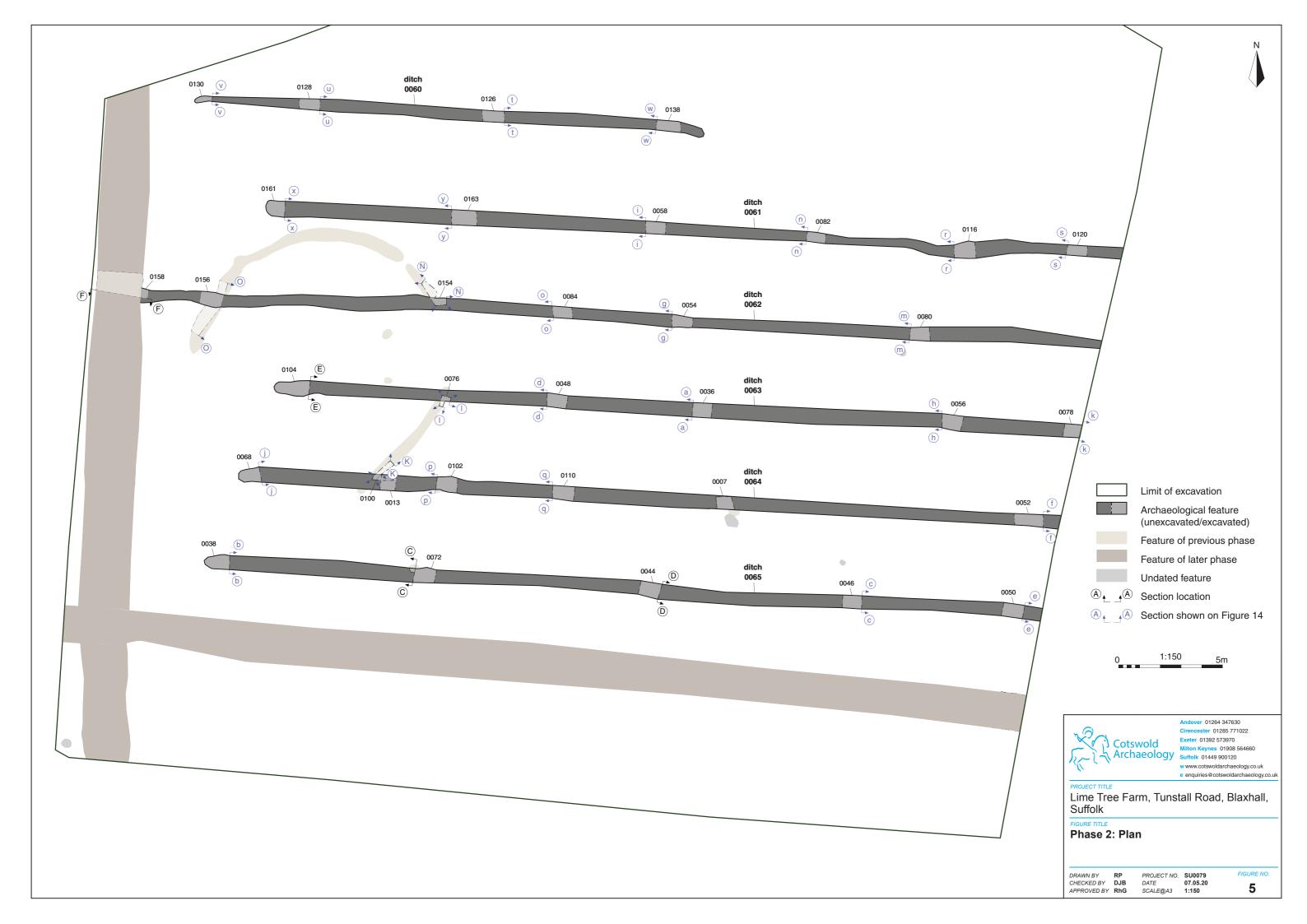






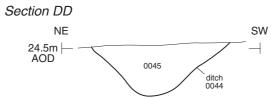


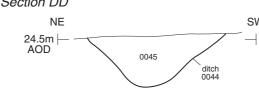






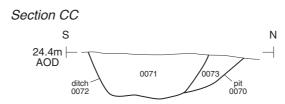
Ditch 0072 cutting pit 0070, looking west (0.4m scale)





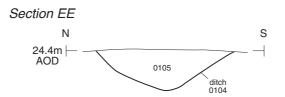


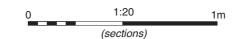
Ditch 0104, looking east (0.3m scale)





Ditch 0044, looking south-east (0.3m scale)







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Lime Tree Farm, Tunstall Road, Blaxhall, Suffolk

Phase 2: Sections and photographs

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CHECKED BY DJB
APPROVED BY RhG
 PROJECT NO.
 SU0079

 DATE
 12.05.20

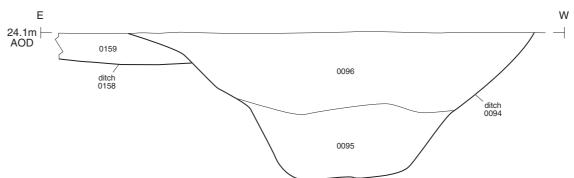
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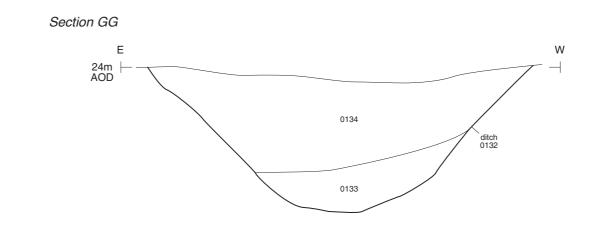
Ditch 0094 cutting ditch 0158, looking north (1m scale)

Section FF





Ditch 0132, looking north (1m scale)







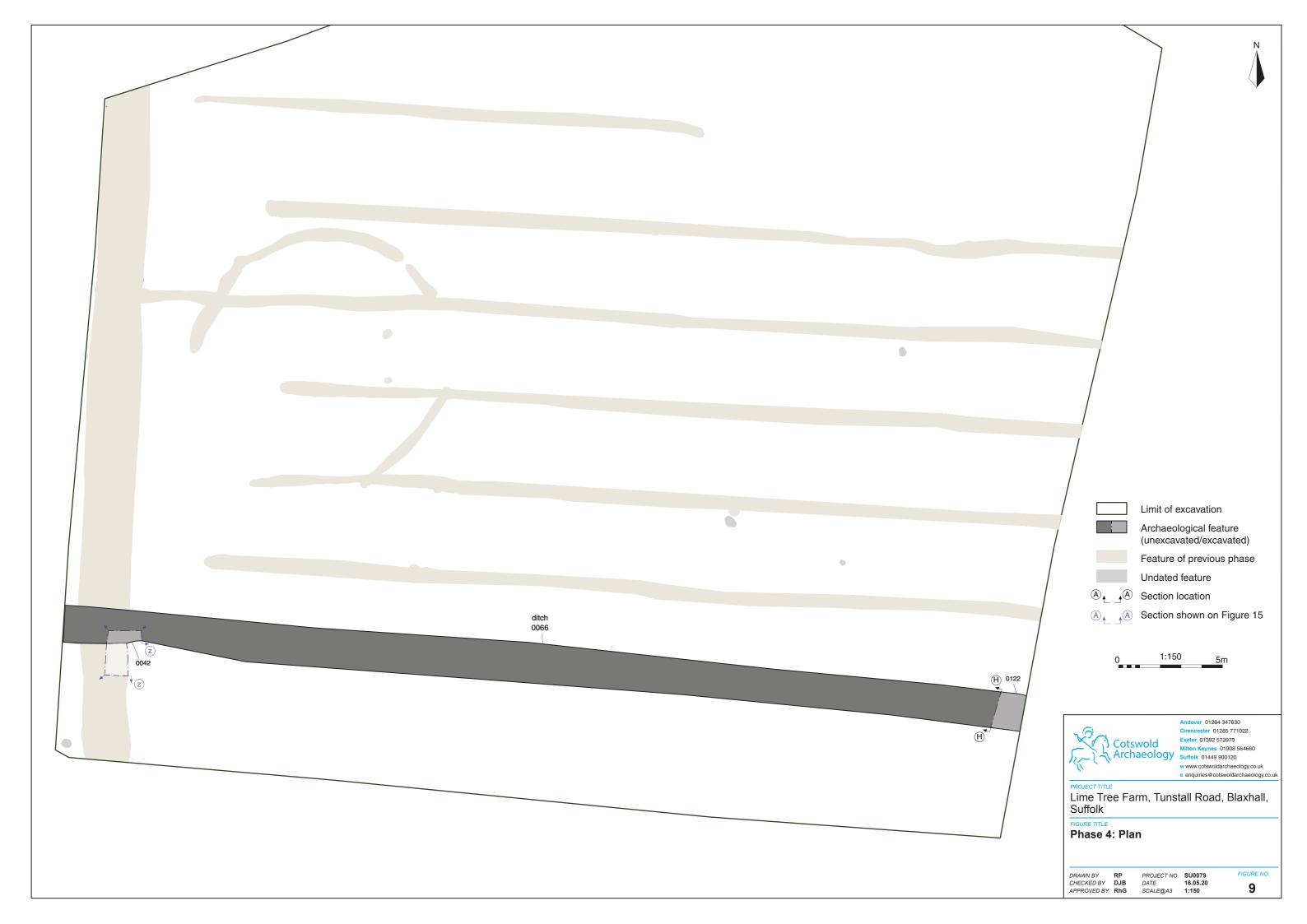
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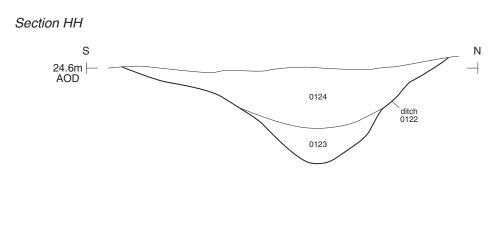
Phase 3: Sections and photographs

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DATE 12.05.20
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Ditch 0122, looking west (1m scale)







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Lime Tree Farm, Tunstall Road, Blaxhall, Suffolk

FIGURE TITLE

Phase 4: Section and photograph

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APPROVED BY RhG

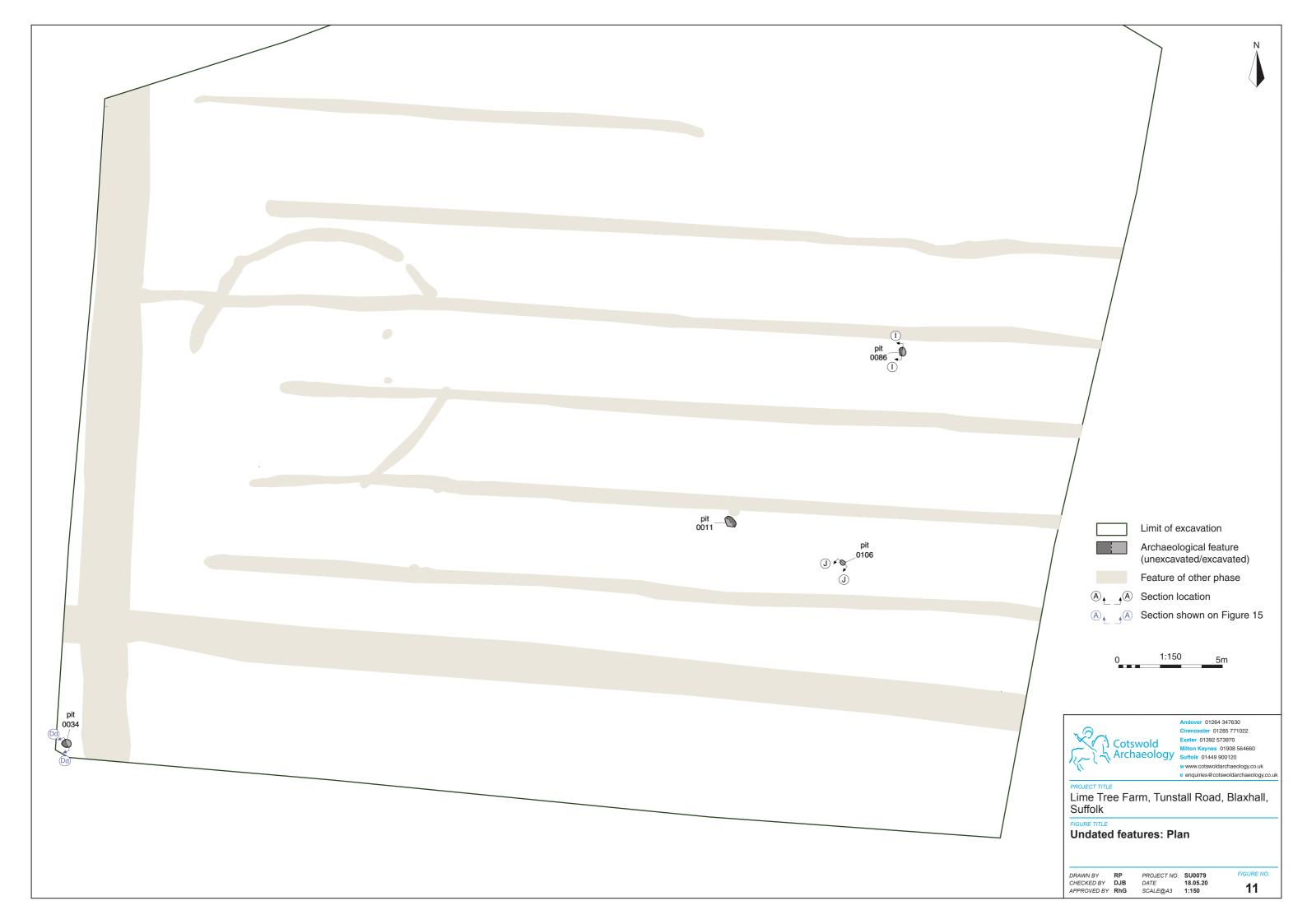
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 SU0079

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FIGURE NO.

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Pit 0086, looking west (0.3m scale)

Section II

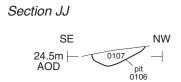
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Pit 0106, looking southwest (0.3m scale)







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PROJECT TITLE

Lime Tree Farm, Tunstall Road, Blaxhall, Suffolk

FIGURE TITLE

Undated features: Sections and photographs

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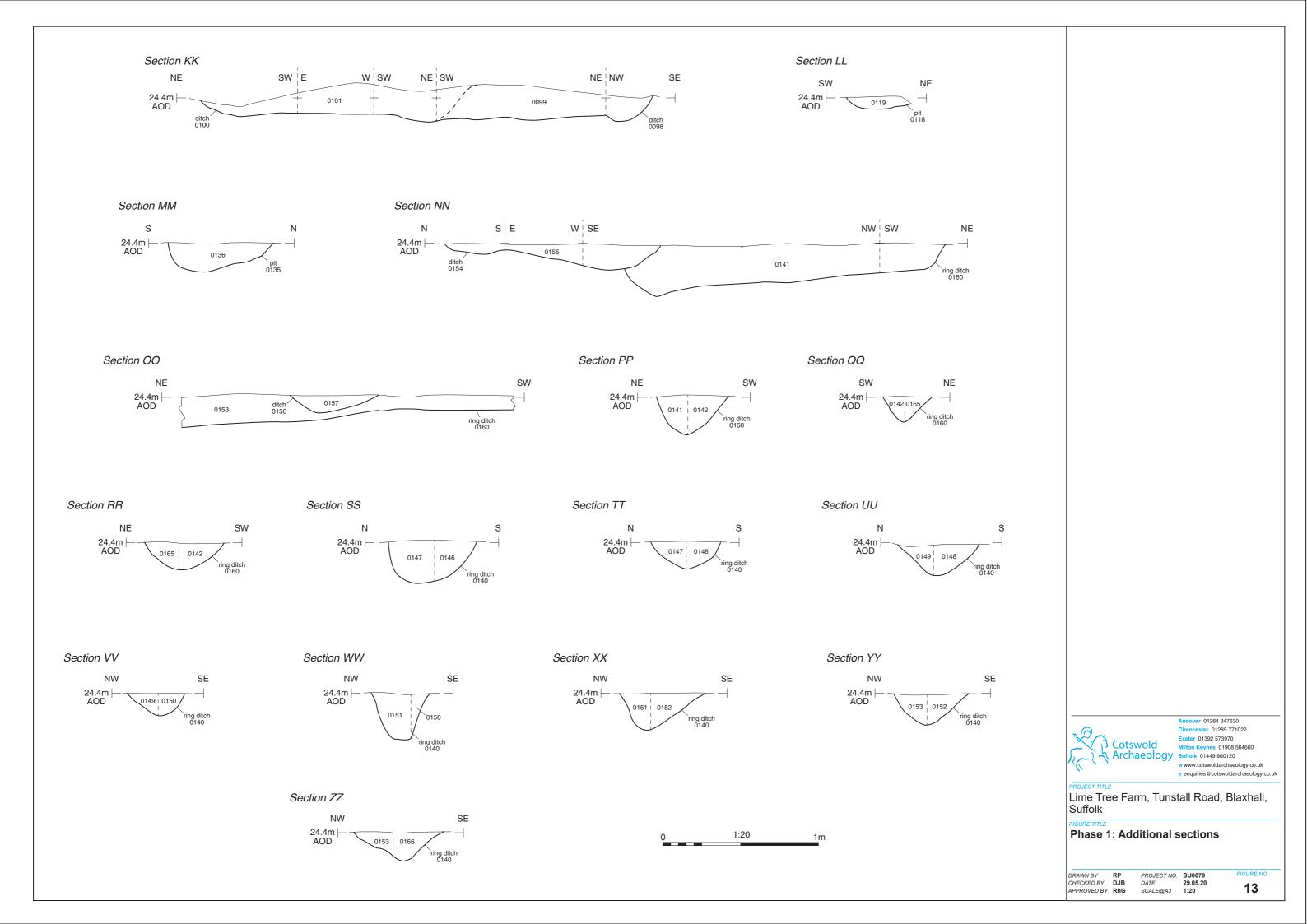
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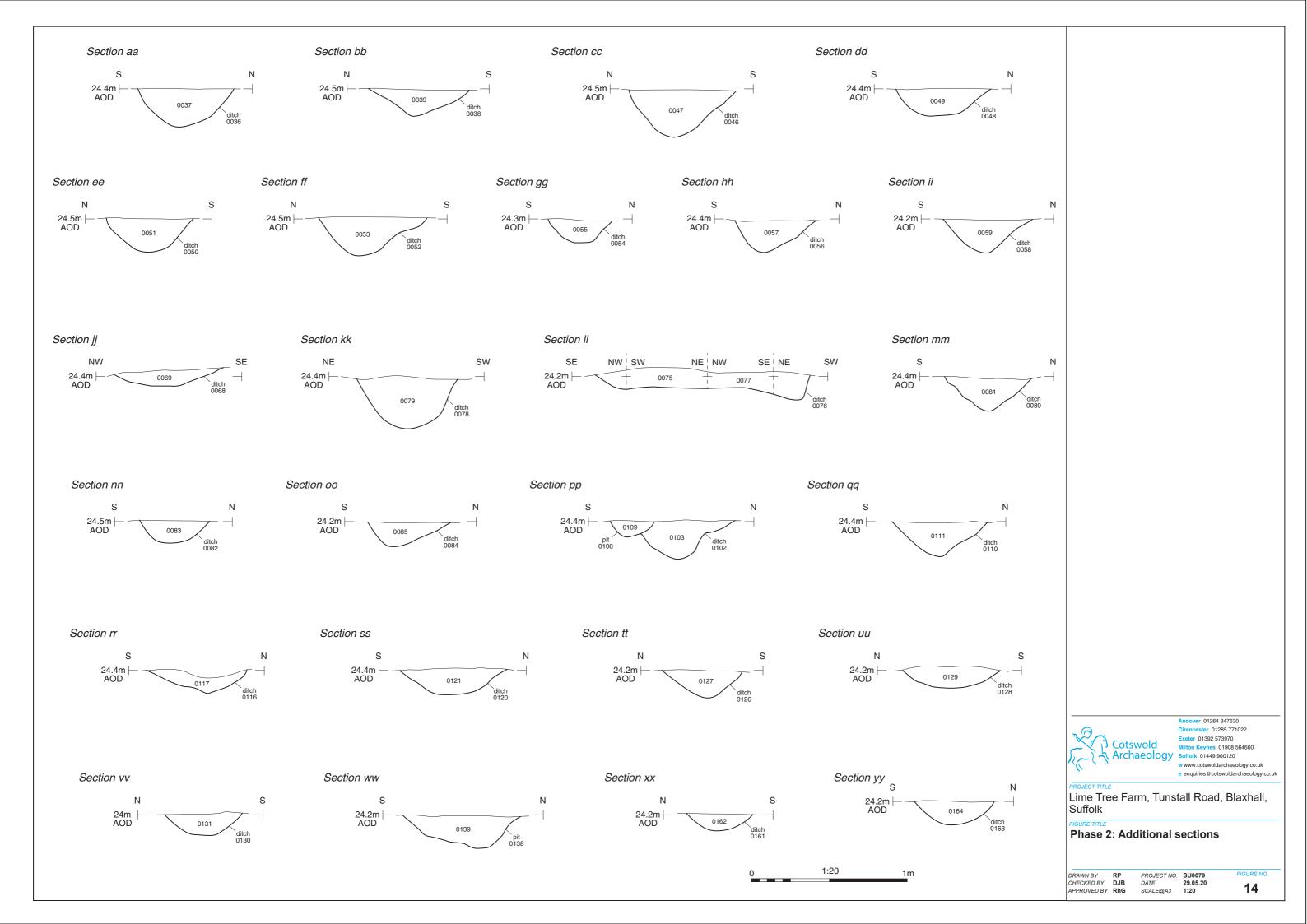
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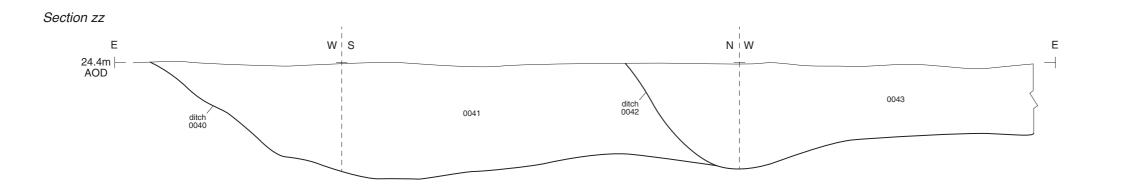
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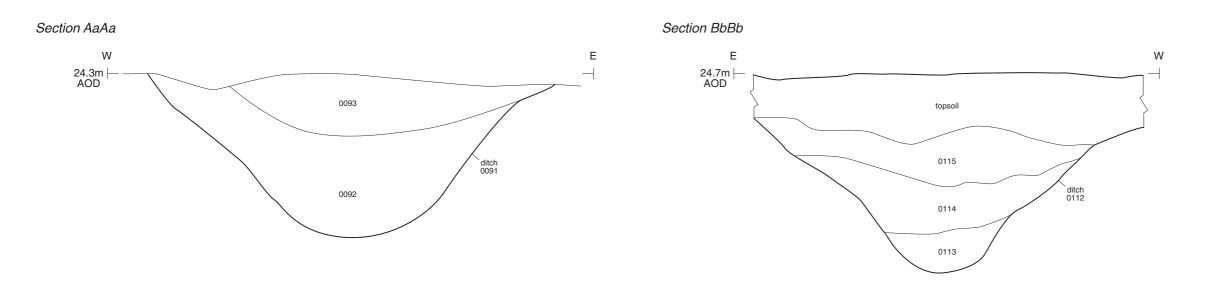
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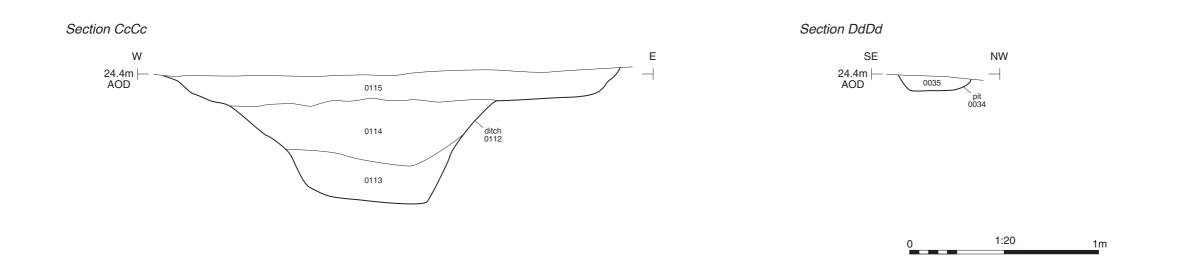
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Lime Tree Farm, Tunstall Road, Blaxhall, Suffolk

Phase 3, Phase 4 and undated features: Additional sections

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 DATE
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