Cotswold Archaeology

Phase 1
Land Adjacent to Clarice House, Bramford Road, Bramford Suffolk

Archaeological Evaluation

for:
Artisan Planning & Property Services

on behalf of:
Helmingham Holdings Ltd.

CA Project: SU0254
CA Report: SU0254_1
OASIS ID: cotswold2 - 417543
HER Ref: BRF 181

May 2021

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SUMMARY

Project name:	Phase 1 Land Adjacent to Clarice House, Bramford Road
Location:	Bramford, Suffolk
NGR:	613120, 246120
Type:	Evaluation
Date:	26–29 April 2021
Planning reference:	DC/19/00870
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Site Code:	BRF 181
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In April 2021, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation of land adjacent to Clarice House, Bramford Road, Bramford, Suffolk. A total of 10 trenches were excavated across the development area targeting the footprint of the proposed houses and garages and to provide a representative sample of the remainder of the area.

A 11th-12th century focus of activity was identified in the area of Trenches 7-9, close to the junction between Bramford Lane and Bramford Road, with an assemblage of forty-three sherds of early medieval pottery, a small assemblage of fired clay and fifty five fragments of shellfish recovered from a ditches in Trenches 7 and 8, a pit in Trench 8 and a quarry pit in Trench 9.

A post medieval field boundary was identified across two trenches (Trenches 1 and 3) and modern truncations relating to the construction of a tennis court were noted in Trenches 1-4. A single undated ditch was identified in Trench 1 and most likely relates to land drainage in the medieval period.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. In April 2021, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological evaluation of Land Adjacent to Clarice House, Bramford Road, Bramford, Suffolk (centred at NGR: 613120, 246120; Fig. 1). This evaluation was undertaken for Artisan Planning & Property Services, who were acting on behalf of Helmingham Holdings Ltd.

1.2. The evaluation was required under the terms of the National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2019), as a condition of planning permission for the development of the site. The relevant planning application reference is DC/19/00870. The proposed development consists of the construction of seven houses along with associated outbuildings and access.

1.3. The evaluation was carried out according to a Brief (dated 03/03/2021) produced by the Archaeological Advisor (AA) to the Local Planning Authority (LPA), Matthew Baker of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS) and then addressed by a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), prepared by CA (Sommers 2021, Appendix F) and approved by SCCAS. This report covers PHASE 1 of the development only.

1.4. The fieldwork also followed Standard and guidance: Archaeological field evaluation (CIfA 2014, updated October 2020), the Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (Gurney 2003), the SCC Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation (SCCAS 2021), the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Planning Note 3* (English Heritage 2008), the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (EH 2006). It was monitored by Matthew Baker of SCCAS and included a single site visit on the 27th of April 2021.

The site

1.5. The *c*.0.72-hectare site lies on a northwest facing slope which runs down from approximately 20m AOD, close to its eastern edge, to approximately 15m AOD in the northwest corner. It is located on the eastern side of the Gipping Valley and overlooks the river which runs in a channel approximately 200m to the southwest. The site is bounded by Bramford Road/River Hill to the west, the remnant of Bramford Lane to the north with open pasture beyond, and the Clarice House leisure complex to the south and east. The Clarice House site is surrounded by a belt of mature trees and established hedgerows.

1.6. The underlying bedrock geology of the site, as mapped by the British Geological Survey (BGS 2021), comprises chalk of the Newhaven Chalk Formation, a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 72 to 86 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period. This is overlain by superficial deposits of Lowestoft Formation - Diamicton, formed up to two million years ago in the Quaternary Period in a local environment previously dominated by ice age conditions. These sedimentary deposits are glacigenic in origin, detrital, created by the action of ice and meltwater. They can form a wide range of deposits and geomorphologies associated with glacial and interglacial periods during the Quaternary.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1. The following section provides a summary of the readily available archaeological and historical background to the development site and its environs. The site lies within an area of archaeological and historical interest and has the potential to reveal evidence of a range of periods. This section has been compiled with information obtained through a 1km radius search of the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER) as well as from other readily available sources (Fig. 1).

The evaluation Brief states that the proposed development lies in an area of archaeological potential on the County Historic Environment Record (HER). It highlights the fact that the site lies on a sloping valley side in an area that is generally of high archaeological sensitivity and topographically favourable for early occupation.

Prehistoric

2.2. Evidence for Early Prehistoric activity in the area is limited to a few findspots. Flint implements dating between the Palaeolithic to Late Bronze Age (IPS 018) were recovered 880m southeast of the site, and Neolithic finds (BRF 013) were identified 830m WNW of the site.

Later Prehistoric activity includes Middle Iron Age settlement evidence in the form of ditches and pits only 170m east of the site identified during an archaeological evaluation (IPS 283). Two ring ditches likely representing the remnant of a Bronze Age burial mounds have been recorded 960m southwest of the site (BRF 065). A single findspot of two flint flakes recovered 450m southwest of the site (SPT 012) is also recorded on the HER.

Roman

2.3. Evidence for Roman activity in the vicinity of the site is also limited to a few findspots. A Brooch was recovered (IPS 233) along with four or five Roman coins (IPS 242) 200m to the east of the site, whilst 900m WSW of the site (BRF 107) a scatter of Romano pottery was recovered.

Anglo Saxon and Medieval

2.4. The present settlement of Bramford likely originated during the Early Medieval period. It was first referred to in AD1040 as *Bromford* and later within the Domesday survey (1086) as *Branfort* (Williams 2003), translated as “Ford where broom grows” (Mills 2003, 71). Bramford was in the Hundred of Bosmere and was listed under two owners

with a recorded population of 94 households in 1086, putting it in the largest 20% of settlements (opendomesday.org).

The village at the time of the Domesday Survey had two churches, one of which is the current parish church of St. Marys (BRF 024), believed to be a Domesday Minster, with the second church thought to be located in the parish of Sproughton.

It is likely the early medieval settlement was located close to the parish church of St. Marys (300m west of the site), and the historic village core that extends along Ship Lane and The Street.

Several artefact scatters of Saxon and Medieval pottery have been found throughout the area. Those closest to the site include Saxon pottery and a brooch fragment (BRF 036) 280m west of the site and a medieval pottery scatter (BRF 005) 560m northwest of the site on the northern edge of the village. Finds slightly further afield include a Saxon brooch 860m to the north (BRF 030), Anglo Saxon and medieval pottery scatters (BRF 041) 850m WSW, 690m west (BRF 037) and 700m WNW (BRF 040) of the site.

Close to the location of the Roman brooch (Sec 2.3), just to the east of the site, three inhumations, laid east to west, were recorded (IPS 543). The discovery occurred during building works although further dating evidence is not known.

A community test pitting project that took place in the village between 2012 and 2015 recovered a small assemblage of late Anglo Saxon pottery along with a larger Medieval assemblage indicating settlement activity near the church, Vicarage Lane and The Street, with a second medieval focus at the north of the village near to Bullen Lane (Collins 2019).

Post-medieval and modern

2.5. The HER records the possible location of post-medieval bridge 200m to the west of the site (BRF 049). The proposed location aligns with Vicarage lane (within the village) and a footpath that leads towards the northern boundary of the site where the remnant of a sunken lane, that was once part of Bramford Lane, is located. Bramford Lane is visible on early OS mapping (old-maps.co.uk) and seems to be in use up until the construction of the A14 by-pass in the 1980s which intersects it. Bramford Lane could form an earlier routeway that leads from Ipswich to Bramford although it does not appear on Joseph Hodskinson's map of Suffolk, published in 1783 where as Bramford Road and the current village road layout does.

Early OS mapping (1882) indicates the site lies in the grounds of Bramford Lodge with Bramford Lane forming the northern boundary and Bramford Road the western boundary (old-maps.co.uk). A field boundary runs north-south through the eastern half of the site forming the eastern property boundary to Bramford Lodge. By 1904 a second north-south field boundary has been established just to the east of the aforementioned, forming the current eastern boundary to the site and the current parish boundary (ibid). Both field boundaries continue in existence until sometime before 1965 when the western of the two field boundaries falls out of use. In the latter part of the 20th century Bramford Lodge is a hotel before its name change to Clarice House and its establishment as a health spa in 1996. A second name change occurs in 2016 to Riverhills Spa, the name referred to today.

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3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1. The general objective of the evaluation was to provide further information on the likely archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date and state of preservation. The information obtained will enable Mid Suffolk District Council to identify and assess the particular significance of any archaeological heritage assets within the site, consider the impact of the proposed development upon that significance and, if appropriate, develop strategies to avoid or minimise conflict between heritage asset conservation and the development proposal, in line with the National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2019). A further objective of the project was to compile a stable, ordered, accessible project archive.

3.2. Specific objectives of the evaluation, as outlined in the WSI, were to:

- Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence
- Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost

3.3. If significant archaeological remains were identified, this report will refer to the research framework for the East of England (Medlycott 2011) so that the remains can, if possible, be placed within their local and regional contexts.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1. The evaluation fieldwork comprised the excavation of ten trenches measuring *c*.20m long by 1.8m wide (Fig. 2):

4.2. The trenches were located to provide a representative sample of the site. Trench 4 was moved north and shortened by 8.5m due to on-site constraints, Trench 5 and 7 were stepped at their centres due to a live sewerage pipe whilst Trench 7 was shortened by 2.5m at its northern end due to a live electricity cable. Trench 9 was shortened by 7m at its southern end due to a large modern pit.

4.3. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid co-ordinates using Leica GPS. Overburden was stripped using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket. All machining was conducted under archaeological supervision to the top of the natural substrate, which was the level at which archaeological features were predominately first encountered.

4.4. Archaeological features/deposits were investigated, planned and recorded in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*. The plough soil within the line of the trenches was metal detected prior to and during machine excavation and the spoil heaps were visually scanned and metal detected for the presence of archaeological artefacts.

4.5. Deposits were assessed for their palaeo-environmental potential and samples were taken in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*.

4.6. Artefacts were processed in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*.

4.7. Site data has been added onto a database and recorded using the County HER code BRF 181. An OASIS form has been completed for the project (Ref: cotswold2-417543; Appendix E) and a digital copy of the report submitted for inclusion on the Archaeology Data Service database (http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit). A summary note will be produced, suitable for inclusion within the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*.

4.8. The archive from the evaluation is currently held by CA at their office in Suffolk. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the site archive will be deposited with the SCC Archaeological Archive. The archive will be prepared and deposited in accordance with *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (CIfA 2014; updated October 2020) and the *Archaeological Archives in Suffolk* guidelines (SCCAS 2019).

5. RESULTS

5.1. This section provides an overview of the evaluation results. Full descriptions of the trenches are provided in Appendix A and detailed summaries of the recorded contexts are given in Appendix B. Details of the artefactual material recovered from the site are presented in Section 6 and Appendix C. Details of the biological evidence are given in Section 7 and Appendix D.

Soil conditions

5.2. Soil conditions across the site varied. Trenches 1-4 were located in existing tennis courts and it was clear at ground level that the area incorporating the southern end of Trenches 2, 3 and Trench 4 had been terraced. Here the made ground deposits (0.15m thick) associated with the tennis courts directly overlay the natural geology and no natural soil profile survived. Within the northern end of Trench 2 and 3 and the entirety of Trench 1 a topsoil and subsoil deposit were evident, gradually increasing in depth the further north being deepest within Trench 1. Here a topsoil of dark brown silty clay (0.60m thick) overlay the subsoil of orange brown sandy clay (0.2m thick) with occasional chalk flecks. The natural geology within these trenches also varied between a yellow sand and a grey sandy clay with frequent chalk nodules.

Away from the tennis courts a topsoil (0.35m-0.55m thick) and subsoil deposit (0.20-0.40m thick) was evident in Trenches 5-7 above the natural geology which comprised a pale-yellow sand with occasional patches of orange sand with frequent gravel inclusions. At the eastern end of Trench 6 the topsoil deposit was particularly thick (1.2m) and likely relates to the tennis court construction.

At the western end of Trench 8 and 9 the natural geology dropped significantly to a depth of between 1.25m-1.65m. Above the natural geology a colluvium deposit (max 0.70m thick) comprising a soft orange silty sand was evident that in turn was covered by the topsoil (0.25-0.55m thick). Within Trench 9 this topsoil deposit was covered by a modern made ground deposit and turf (0.70m thick) likely laid down following the construction of the access road to Clarice House.

Within Trench 10 a thick deposit of topsoil (0.50-0.70m) that contained modern detritus and brick rubble overlay the subsoil deposit (0.40m), seen in Trenches 5-7.

Site results

5.3. Ten trenches were excavated across the development area (Fig. 2). Results are presented below in trench number order.

Trench 1 (Figs 2 and 3)

5.4. Trench 1 measured *c*.0.90m deep and was orientated WNW-ESE. A single undated ditch (108) and a post-medieval field boundary ditch (105) were identified within the trench.

Ditch 105

Ditch 105 was orientated NNW-SSE with gradual sloping sides leading to a sharp concave base and measured 1.54m wide and 0.55m deep. The ditch contained two fills in which a single sherd of post-medieval pottery, and a piece of iron wire (not retained) were recovered from the upper fill.

Ditch 108

Ditch 108 was orientated NNE-SSW with very gradual sides to a shallow flat base and measured 0.56m wide and 0.08m deep. No finds were recovered from the ditch's single fill.

Trench 2 (Fig. 2)

5.5. Trench 2 measured *c*.0.30m deep and was orientated NNW-SSE. The trench was devoid of archaeological finds or features. A variation in the natural geology was evident at the trenches northern end.

Trench 3 (Fig. 2)

5.6. Trench 3 measured *c*.0.55m deep and was orientated NNE-SSW. An un-excavated ditch that aligns with the post-medieval field boundary ditch within Trench 1 was identified along with three small sub-circular bioturbations located just to the east of the ditch. A number of modern scrapes and three unexcavated modern pits were also identified and recorded in plan only.

Trench 4 (Fig. 2)

5.7. Trench 4 measured *c*.0.15m deep and was orientated E-W. An unexcavated modern pit was identified and recorded in plan only.

Trench 5 (Fig. 2)

5.8. Trench 5 measured *c*.0.80m deep and was orientated NNW-SSE. The trench was devoid of archaeological finds or features. A modern sewerage pipe was identified at the trench centre.

Trench 6 (Fig. 2)

5.9. Trench 6 measured between 0.60m and 1.2m deep and was orientated ENE-WSW. A single sherd (3g) of St Neots ware pottery (850-1150AD), a fragment of animal bone and two worked flints were recovered from the subsoil layer (602). An animal burrow was identified at the trench's western end however the trench was devoid of archaeological features.

Trench 7 (Figs 2 and 4)

5.10. Trench 7 measured *c.*0.75m deep and was orientated NNW-SSE. An undated ditch terminus (704) and a medieval ditch (706) along with a modern sewerage pipe were identified within the trench. Two sherds of 12-13th century pottery and two sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered from the subsoil layer (702).

Ditch terminus 704

Ditch 704 was orientated E-W with moderate sloping sides to a shallow flat base and measured 0.26m wide and 0.09 deep. It terminated within the trench and extended beyond the trench's western limit of excavation. No finds were recovered from the ditch's single fill.

Ditch 706

Ditch 706 was orientated E-W with sharp sloping sides to a flat base and measured 0.70m wide and 0.39 deep. Seven sherds of 11-13th century medieval pottery (45g), for pieces of animal bone and three small fragments of fired clay (5g) were recovered from its single fill.

An environmental sample (Sample 2) was taken from the ditch fill to examine the environmental potential and recover artefacts. Low numbers of free-threshing wheat and barley grains along with low numbers of peas and hazel nutshell fragments suggests domestic activities, such as food preparation, were taking place in the vicinity.

Trench 8 (Figs 2, 5 and 6)

5.11. Trench 8 measured between 0.55m and 1.25m deep and was orientated WSW-ENE. Three ditches (804, 808 and 810) and a pit (806) dated to the medieval period were identified within the trench.

Ditch 804

Ditch 804 was orientated N-S with steep sides leading to a sharp concave base and measured 0.65m wide and 0.35m deep. Five sherds of 11-12th century pottery (57g),

a single fragment of fired clay, nine pieces of animal bone and three shellfish were recovered from its single fill. The ditch was cut at its southern end by Pit 806.

An environmental sample (Sample 5) was taken from the ditch fill to examine the environmental potential and recover artefacts. Frequent numbers of free-threshing wheat and barley grains along with small quantities of fish and small mammal/bird bone fragments were recovered and may originate from domestic food waste or midden material.

Pit 806

Pit 806 was sub-oval in plan with steep sides leading to a flat base and measured 1.5m by >0.57m and 0.40m deep. The pit extended beyond the trench's southern limit of excavation and cut ditch 804 along the pits northern edge. Six sherds of 12-14th century pottery (120g), one shellfish and one fragment of animal bone were recovered from its single fill.

An environmental sample (Sample 4) was taken from the pit fill to examine the environmental potential and recover artefacts. Frequent numbers of free-threshing wheat and barley grains along with low numbers of peas and hazel nutshell fragments suggests domestic activities, such as food preparation, were taking place in the vicinity.

Ditch 808

Ditch 808 was orientated N-S with steep sides leading to a sharp v shaped base and measured 1.52m wide and 0.77m deep. The ditch cut the thin colluvial deposit that was evident in the trench edge. A single sherd of 11-12th century pottery (10g), four pieces of animal bone, a small worked flint flake and thirty-eight shellfish were recovered from its single fill.

An environmental sample (Sample 3) was taken from the ditch fill to examine the environmental potential and recover artefacts. Frequent numbers of barley grains and occasional oats along with small quantities of fish and small mammal/bird bone fragments were recovered and may originate from domestic food waste or midden material.

Ditch 810

Ditch 810 was orientated NNE-SSW with gradual sides to a shallow flat base and measured 1.18m wide and 0.40m deep. The ditch cut the thin colluvial deposit that was evident in the trench edge. Five sherds of 11-14th century pottery (39g), three

pieces of animal bone, two small worked flints and one shellfish were recovered from its single fill.

An environmental sample (Sample 6) was taken from the ditch fill to examine the environmental potential and recover artefacts. Frequent numbers of barley grains along with small quantities of fish and small mammal/bird bone fragments were recovered and may originate from domestic food waste or midden material.

Trench 9 (Figs 2 and 7)

5.12. Trench 9 measured between 1.50m and 1.65m deep and was orientated NW-SE. A large medieval quarry pit (906) and a large modern pit were identified within the trench. A single fragment of fired clay, a large piece of heat-altered flint and a large fragment of post-medieval pantile were recovered from the colluvium deposit (904).

Quarry pit 906

Pit 906 extended beyond the northern and southern trench limits. The pit was sub-circular in plan with gradual sloping sides to an irregular base. Along the exposed edge and base there were further excavated scopes filled with the same infill material. The pit measured 6.05m by >1.8m and 0.42m deep and contained two fills. Thirteen sherds of 11-13th century pottery (175g), two pieces of animal bone, one piece of heat-altered flint, one fragment of fired clay, seven shellfish and a small worked flint core were recovered from its upper fill (908) and eight sherds of 11-12th century pottery (199g) were recovered from its lower fill (907). The pit was cut by a modern pit along its eastern edge. The modern pit was infilled with plastic and concrete.

An environmental sample (Sample 1) was taken from the pits upper fill to examine the environmental potential and recover artefacts. Low numbers of free-threshing wheat, barley, rye and oats were recovered. A possible barley/rye rachis fragment was present as a single specimen along with a single culm fragment suggesting that small scale cereal processing may have been taking place in the vicinity of the site.

Trench 10 (Fig. 2)

5.13. Trench 10 measured between 0.90m and 1.1m deep and was orientated NNE-SSW. A single modern pit that contained brick fragments and plastic was identified along the trench's western edge and was recorded in plan only. A variation in the natural geology was also evident at the trenches northern end.

6. THE FINDS

6.1. The finds assemblage includes a small but significant assemblage of medieval pottery, which spans the period of the 11th through to the 13th century. Small amounts of chalk-tempered fired clay which are likely to be from medieval ovens were also identified. The finds were recovered from the fills of four ditches, a pit and a quarry pit, suggesting redeposition of artefactual material from occupation nearby.

6.2. There is some slight evidence of background prehistoric activity in the form of the lithics and heat-altered flint, but this material is undiagnostic and cannot be attributed to any particular period with certainty.

6.3. A few post-medieval artefacts were identified, but there is little in the ceramic assemblage dating to the 15th century or beyond, apart from a fragment of German stoneware from one of the ditches. This may provide some indication of the duration of the medieval occupation in this part of Bramford. A full catalogue of finds is shown in Appendix C table 1.

Pottery

By Richenda Goffin

6.4. A small assemblage of post-Roman pottery was recovered, consisting of 51 sherds weighing 767g. Most of the ceramics date to the medieval period, and within this to the earlier part of the medieval period (11th-13th century). The group is made up mostly of hand-made jars and body sherds, but a single sherd of a glazed medieval jug from Hedingham in Essex was identified. The post-medieval wares are made up of two fragments of late post-medieval earthenware and the base of a Frechen stoneware bottle or jug. A full catalogue is shown in Appendix C, Table 2.

6.5. The ceramics were quantified using the recording methods recommended in the MPRG Occasional Paper No 2, Minimum standards for the processing, recording, analysis and publication of Post-Roman ceramics (Slowikowski et al 2001). The quantity and weight of sherds by fabric and where possible by form was recorded by context, together with the estimated number of vessels represented, rim diameters and EVE's (estimated vessel equivalent). Other characteristics such as decoration and condition were recorded, with fabric date ranges and an overall date range for the pottery in each context. The ceramics including material collected from the environmental samples were fully recorded and the information was inputted into the site database.

6.6. The codes used are based mainly on broad fabric types established by the Suffolk Archaeological Unit which has been recently updated and enlarged by Sue Anderson (S Anderson, unpublished fabric list), as well as broad fabric and form types identified in Eighteen centuries of pottery from Norwich (Jennings 1981). Rim forms for the early medieval wares were recorded using the typology for Essex fabrics (Cotter 2000, 50).

6.7. Potentially the earliest sherd of pottery is a single fragment of St Neots-type ware in the subsoil 0602 in Trench 6. It is abraded and the fabric has a wide date range, so it could be contemporary with the remainder of the medieval pottery rather than being Saxon in date.

6.8. Almost the entire remainder of the assemblage dates to the medieval period, with much of it being restricted within the early medieval period (11th-12th century). The group mostly consists of a range of hand-made coarsewares, sandy/ sand and shelly fabrics which are typically found in this part of East Anglia. Most are body or base sherds, but there are examples of jar forms which are almost certainly cooking pots; diagnostic rims indicate dates mainly in the 12th-13th century. A single sherd of medieval glazed ware was present in fill 0707 of ditch 0706. It is a Hedingham ware from Essex dating from the mid 12th-mid 13th century, a date range which could be used to describe most of the assemblage. A few sherds of medieval coarseware were also identified, but these could also date to the 12th-13th century and be contemporary with many of the earlier coarsewares.

6.9. One fragment of the base of a bottle or *bartmann* from Frechen in the Rhineland was present in fill 0107, the upper fill of ditch 0105. It may belong to a bottle or a jug and dates from the middle of the sixteenth century through to the end of the end of the seventeenth century. It is the only ceramic import, but Frechen stoneware is a common find in East Anglia. Two sherds of Late post-medieval red earthenware found in subsoil layer 0702 may be from plant pots.

6.10. The pottery assemblage was recovered from four ditches, a pit and a quarry pit in Trenches 7, 8 and 9. It is likely to represent refuse from a rural medieval settlement in the vicinity.

Lithics

By Stephen Benfield

6.11. A very small quantity of struck flint was recovered from the evaluation, as shown in Appendix C, Table 3. The flint was found in the fills of two ditches and in the upper fill of quarry pit 0906, as well as subsoil and consisted mainly of shatter pieces and flakes which could not be dated beyond the later prehistoric period. It is most likely that the material represents background finds from prehistoric activity in the area.

Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

By Richenda Goffin

6.12. A single post-medieval pantile was found in colluvium layer 0904, dating to the post-medieval period. The fabric is catalogued as fine sandy with occasional ferrous inclusions (fsfe). It is likely to date to the seventeenth century or later.

Fired clay

By Richenda Goffin

6.13. Fifteen fragments of fired clay weighing 48g were collected from the evaluation, including nine pieces present in the environmental samples. All are small and have no diagnostic features such as lathe impressions.

6.14. The fired clay assemblage was made in a single fabric, fine sandy with moderate chalk inclusions (fsc). This type of fabric is often associated with the construction of oven domes during the medieval period. The material was recovered from the fills of ditches, a single pit (0906) and a colluvium layer in Trench 9.

Heat-affected flint

6.15. Two fragments of heat-affected flint were recovered from the evaluation. The largest piece from colluvium layer 0904 (189g) was partially burnt, whilst the second fragment from the fill 0908 Sample 1 of quarry pit 0906 was a small sliver (2g). The small quantity of burnt flint is likely to have been heat-altered due to close proximity to a fire or heating event which could have taken place in the prehistoric period or later.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

7.1. The environmental material recovered consists of animal bone together with some charred cereal grains, wood charcoal, Marine Shell and snail shells. All the recovered material is from securely dated medieval contexts.

Animal Bone

By Andrew Clarke

7.2. Animal bone amounting to 25 fragments (698g) was recovered via hand excavation and the processing of bulk soil samples, from one layer and six ditch a pit fill deposits. Artefactual material dating to the medieval period were also recovered from these features (See Table 4, Appendix D). The material was highly fragmented but well preserved enough to identify the remains of cattle (Bos taurus), sheep/goat (*Ovis aries/Capra hircus*), horse (*Equus callabus*) and domestic fowl (*Gallus gallus*).

7.3. These species were recovered in amounts that are normally too low to provide any useful information other than a species identification. However, each was a commonly exploited domestic animal in this period, so their presence is to be expected and, repeated chops marks on a partial cattle radius from layer 602 do suggest a possible origin in butchery waste.

Plant macrofossils and other remains

By Anna West

Introduction and Methods

7.4. Six bulk samples (190 litres of soil) were taken from ditches and pits during the evaluation. The samples were processed in full to assess the quality of preservation of any plant remains present, and their potential to provide useful data is part of any further archaeological investigations.

7.5. 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 and the presence of any ecofacts or artefacts are noted in Table 5, Appendix D. Identification of plant remains is with reference to Stace (1997) for wild plants and Zohary *et al* (2012) for cereals. The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh and sorted when dry. All artefacts/ecofacts were retained for inclusion in the finds total.

7.6. Mollusc shells were noted in these samples and nomenclature for the mollusc assemblages follows Anderson (2005) and details of the ecological preferences of the species follow Evans (1972), Kerney (1999) and Davies (2008).

Quantification

7.7. For the purposes of this report items such as seeds, cereal grains and small animal bones have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories # = 1-10, ## = 11-50, ### = 51+ specimens. Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal, magnetic residues and fragmented bone have been scored for abundance *x = rare, xx = moderate, xxx = abundant.*

Results

7.8. The flots produced by all samples were small, generally being around 15ml each, with only a single sample producing 40ml. Fibrous rootlet fragments were common in all the samples and made up the majority of the volume recovered. This material is considered to be modern contaminants and as much as practicable were removed prior to scanning of the flots.

7.9. Wood charcoal fragments were relatively sparse within samples and were present was, generally, highly comminuted. However, a small quantity of fragments within some of the samples were large enough to be suitable for species identification should it be required.

Discussion

Trench 7: ditch fill 707 (sample 2)

7.10. Free-threshing wheat (*Triticum turgidum/aestivum*) and barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) grains were recovered from ditch fill 707 (sample 2) in low numbers. Some of the grains present were abraded and fragmented making identification difficult or impossible. Small legumes, possibly peas (*Pisum* sp.) were present in low numbers, as were hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell fragments. This material suggests domestic activities, such as food preparation were taking place in the vicinity.

7.11. *Vallonia* sp, *Helicella itala*, *Trochulus* sp, and *Pupilla muscorum* snail shells were common within this flot and may indicate dry, calcareous grasslands within the local vicinity. Whilst a small number of *Discus rotundatus* suggest woodlands nearby.

Trench 8: pit fill 807 (sample 4), ditch fills 809 (sample 3) and 805 (sample 5) and 811 (sample 6)

Pit 806

7.12. Charred cereal remains were frequent within pit fill 807 (sample 4). Both free-threshing wheat (*Triticum turgidum/aestivum*) and barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) were present in relatively equal quantities. Chaff elements were rare with only a single possible rye/barley (*Secale cereale/Hordeum vulgare*) rachis fragment being observed. A low number of small legumes, most likely peas (*Pisum* sp.) were also present, as were a small quantity of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell fragments. These remains are indicative of waste from domestic activities such as food preparation. Charred seeds were rare, with field gromwell (*Lithospermum arvense*) and mustard family (Brassicaeae) only being present as single specimens. These are most likely segetal weeds and indicate the utilisation of lighter, well drained soils in the area.

Ditches:

7.13. Charred cereal grains were frequent within all three ditch fills sampled within Trench 8. The rounded grains of a free-threshing wheat were dominant over barley within ditch fill 805 (sample 5). However, barley was most common within fills 809 (sample 3) and 811 (sample 6) with wheat being rare or absent. Oats (*Avena* sp.) were also present within fill 809, but in much lower numbers.

7.14. The segetal weed seed assemblage from the ditch samples include cornflower (*Centaurea cyanus*) and cleavers (*Galium aparine*) which indicate the utilisation of dry loams and clays. These species germinate in the autumn and therefore may suggest the autumn sowing of winter crops. Grasses (Poaceae) such as ryegrass (*Lolium* sp.), mustard family (Brassicaeae) and knotgrass (Polygonaceae) were present in low numbers or as single specimens and may indicate grasslands within the local area. However, they most likely represent weeds of the arable fields that have been accidently harvested along with the crop.

7.15. Small quantities of fish and small mammal/bird bone fragments were recovered from the ditch fill within Trench 8. These remains may originate from domestic food waste or midden material. These remains were observed during scanning under magnification, and although their presence is recorded here, they are either too sparse or too fragmented to require further work by the relevant specialist as part of this report.

7.16. Terrestrial snails were common within all the flots from Trench 8; *Trochulus* sp, *Vallonia* sp, and *Hellicella itala* and *Pupilla muscorum* were most frequent with *Discus rotundatus*, *Cochlicopa* sp. and *Clausilia* sp. being present in low numbers. These species suggest the presence of dry, calcareous grasslands and open woodland within the local area.

Trench 9: pit fill 908 (sample 1)

7.17. Charred cereal grains were less frequent in pit fill 908, however, free-threshing wheat, barley, rye (*Secale cereale*) and oats (*Avena* sp.) were all present in low numbers, with wheat being dominant. A possible barley/rye rachis fragment was present as a single specimen along with a single culm fragment. This material was abraded and fragmented making further identification difficult, but its presence suggests that small scale cereal processing may have been taking place in the vicinity of the site.

7.18. Snails of open country, *Vallonia* sp, *Pupilla muscorum* and *Helicella itala* were recovered from this sample in moderate numbers, with intermediate *Trochulus* sp. also being common. Shade loving *Oxychilus cellarius* may suggest woodland or litter, possibly midden material in the vicinity. A single *Succinea* sp. a species of damp ground or marshland, may have been imported on to the site attached to material, such as reeds or rushes, gathered from local waterways or wet areas.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

7.19. The samples taken from this evaluation were generally fair to good in terms of identifiable material. Free-threshing wheat was the dominant cereal grown during the Medieval period (Greig, 1991) and barley, rye and oats are all represented within these samples. Although free-threshing wheats were popular for bread making during this period, producing a lighter, whiter loaf. Oats, barley and rye may be utilised in mixed grain, heavier breads, potages, brewing or as fodder for animals (Woolgar, Serjeantson, Waldron (eds), 2011). Mixed crops such as maslin, dredge or mixtil are often referred to in medieval documents and were perhaps a way of ensuring a harvest even in poor years, but these are difficult or impossible to identify from archaeobotanical material (Moffett, 2006). The low quantities of chaff recovered from the samples, suggest it is unlikely cereal processing was taking place in the immediate vicinity, an activity that would most likely have taken place in a designated area of the farmyard/field edge by this period, rather than on a domestic level.

7.20. Charred cereal grains, pulses, nutshell and bone fragments are indicative of domestic waste, from activities such as food preparation. Wood charcoal and charred food

waste may be cleaned from a domestic hearth or fire and disposed of, along with other settlement refuse, possibly on a midden. The less fragmented nature of some of the remains recovered from the evaluation, may suggest that domestic waste or midden material was deliberately deposited within the open features. The more fragmented remains, within a small number of samples, may represent general settlement detritus that has been subject to movement through the actions of wind, water or trample prior to becoming incorporated within the backfill of the sampled features.

7.21. The charred plant and animal bone remains recovered from this evaluation indicated that domestic, horticultural and agricultural activities were taking place in the vicinity of the site during the Medieval period. The nutshell fragments represent the exploitation of deciduous woodlands for gathered food resources. The mollusc assemblage suggests the utilisation of open ground, calcareous grasslands, woodlands and mashes/waterways within the local area.

7.22. It is not recommended that any further work is carried out on the material recovered from the bulk samples from this evaluation at this point. However, if further interventions are carried out on this site it is recommended that bulk samples should be taken from any well sealed and well dated context, in order to further investigate the nature of the activities taking place in the vicinity. Any additional plant material recovered may provide an insight into to utilisation of local plant resources, agricultural activity and economic evidence from this site.

Marine shell

By Anna West

Introduction and Methods

7.23. A total of twenty-five fragments, weighing a total 421g, of oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) were collected by hand and from bulk soil samples during the evaluation (See Table 6, Appendix D). Both right-hand and left-hand valves was present but were relatively complete, with only a low number of smaller more abraded fragments. The shell fragments were all examined for signs of infesting or encrusting organisms, as well as notches or cut marks created when the shell was prised open and the oyster consumed, but none were observed other than a low number of shells that had smaller, young shells adhering to them. This may be indicative of natural oyster beds being exploited in the area.

7.24. Twenty fragments of common mussel (*Mytilus edulis*) weighing 53g in total, and ten common whelk (*Buccinum undatum*) shells weighing 35g were also recovered (See Table 6, Appendix D). Shellfish would have been collected from the inter-tidal zone along the coast and imported inland. Oysters if stored correctly they can survive for up to two weeks. Shellfish and fish formed an important part of the medieval diet and were religiously consumed on Fridays and during lent (Serjeantson and Woolgar, 2006). It is likely that oysters, mussels and whelks were collected along the coast, river estuaries and creeks in the area and transported to the site.

Conclusions

7.25. Even though the remains are sparse, they suggest that shellfish formed part of the diet, in the vicinity of the site during the medieval period. It is likely the empty shells were discarded, along with other food preparation and domestic waste, before becoming incorporated within the backfills of the sampled features.

8. DISCUSSION

Deposit model

8.1. The natural geology was encountered at a depth of between 0.15-1.65m across the site. Trenches 1-4 were located in existing tennis courts and it was clear at ground level that the area incorporating the southern end of Trenches 2, 3 and Trench 4 had been terraced and no natural soil profile survived. Within the northern end of Trench 2 and 3 and the entirety of Trench 1 a topsoil and subsoil deposit were evident, gradually increasing in depth the further north being deepest within Trench 1. At the eastern end of Trench 6 the topsoil deposit was particularly thick (1.2m) and also likely relates to the tennis court construction.

Away from the tennis courts a natural soil profile of topsoil and subsoil was evident in Trenches 5-7 and the eastern end of Trench 8. At the western end of Trenches 8 and 9 the natural geology dropped significantly to a depth of between 1.25m-1.65m. Above the natural geology a colluvium deposit was evident covered by the topsoil. Within Trench 9 this topsoil deposit was covered by a modern made ground deposit and turf likely laid down following the construction of the access road to Clarice House. Within Trench 10 a thick deposit of topsoil that contained modern detritus and brick rubble overlay the subsoil deposit seen in Trenches 5-8. Medieval features were noted in Trenches 7 and 8 cutting the subsoil deposit, whilst in Trench 9 the medieval quarry pit was sealed by the thick colluvium deposit indicating that the colluvium was laid down in the latter part of the medieval period or post-medieval period.

Prehistoric

8.2. The six fragments of worked flint and the two fragments of heat-affected flint that were recovered during the evaluation were either residual within medieval features or were recovered from subsoil or colluvium deposits suggesting a very low level of utilisation of the site in the prehistoric periods.

Medieval (1066–1539)

8.3. The site is located on the junction between Bramford Road and a sunken lane that once formed part of Bramford Lane. The location of a possible crossing place across the River Gipping is included in the HER and located just west of the site in-line with the projected route of Bramford Lane and may have once formed an earlier or second crossing point accessing the village of Bramford (Sec. 2.5). Bramford Lane does not appear on Hodskinson's Map of Suffolk (1783) but it does in part appear to follow the

boundary between historic hundreds. Bramford Road however does appear on Hodskinson's Map and likely has medieval origins.

A 11th-12th century focus of activity was identified in the area of Trenches 7-9, close to the junction between Bramford Lane and Bramford Road, with an assemblage of forty-three sherds of early medieval pottery, a small assemblage of fired clay and fifty five fragments of shellfish were recovered from ditches in Trenches 7 and 8, a pit in Trench 8 and a quarry pit in Trench 9. Results from environmental samples taken from features in this area indicate that domestic, horticultural and agricultural activities were taking place in the vicinity of the site during the medieval period.

The quarry pit identified in Trench 9 was located close to a significant drop in height of the natural geology and suggests the topography was taken advantage of and the quarry pit was excavated into the side of the valley slope.

The location of archaeological features within Trench 7 and 8 were to the east of this significant drop in height of the natural geology on a relatively gradual incline that was likely more favourable for settlement activity.

The three ditches identified in Trench 8 were all on the same alignment running across the slope of the valley towards Bramford Lane and parallel with Bramford Road. The orientation and location of the ditches suggest either a focus of roadside settlement activity off Bramford Lane or the ditches may represent the re-cutting of rear boundary ditches of activity fronting onto Bramford Road.

Ditch 804 was cut by a Pit 806 that contained six sherds of 12-14th pottery indicating a possible continuity of use of the site into the later medieval period, but perhaps on a smaller scale.

The lack of contemporary features within Trenches 1-6 and Trench 10 suggests the settlement activity does not extend in this direction however the post-medieval and modern truncations, in part caused by the construction of the tennis courts, may have masked or removed evidence of medieval activity in these areas.

The finds and features within Trenches 7-9 suggest settlement activity in the medieval period was taking place in the area close to the junction between Bramford Road and Bramford Lane with a focus in the 11th-12th century, continuing, but perhaps on a smaller scale, into the 13th and 14th centuries. The finds and features are heritage

assets of local significance and have a moderate-high potential to address regional research aims for the period, including Rural Settlement Types (Medlycott 2011, 70).

Post-medieval (1540–1800) and modern (1800–present)

8.4. A feature in the location of a former NNW-SSE orientated field boundary, indicated on the 1st Ed. OS map (old-maps.co.uk) and infilled sometime between 1957 and 1965 (see sec 2.5) was identified within Trenches 1 and 3. Finds from the excavated upper fill of the single excavated slot within the ditch indicate that the feature had been backfilled in the recent past.

8.5. The modern truncations and terracing within Trenches 1-4 and Trench 6 likely relate to the construction of the tennis courts in the latter part of the 20th century.

8.6. The post-medieval ditch is a heritage asset of local significance and the site is thought to have minimal potential to address regional research aims for this period.

Undated features

8.7. The only undated feature on the site was an NNE-SSW orientated shallow ditch within Trench 1. The ditch was on a slightly different alignment to the medieval ditches identified within Trench 8 however it is at this point that Bramford Lane, located to the north, gradually bends to head on a more WNW-ESE orientation, with the ditch perhaps corresponding to this change of direction. The function of the ditch likely relates to drainage or a field division of medieval date set away from the settlement activity identified in Trenches 7-9.

Confidence Rating

8.8. The evaluation took place in dry and overcast weather conditions and a medium - high degree of confidence is attached to the results of the evaluation.

9. CONCLUSION

9.1. The evaluation trenching has defined the character, significance and deposit model of the heritage assets present within the development site.

9.2. The evidence suggests the survival of archaeological remains with the presence of three phases of past activity in the medieval, post medieval and modern periods.

9.3. The focus of medieval activity close to the junction of Bramford Road and Bramford Lane along the northern edge of the site focussed on Trenches 7-9 suggests settlement activity is taking place in this area. Therefore, there is a high archaeological potential for other features of this period focussed along Bramford Lane and Bramford Road in an area west of the modern tennis courts.

9.4. The post medieval and modern features and finds are of limited value in assisting with the dating or the understanding of the function of the site.

10. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was led by Martin Cuthbert BA (Hons) ACI*f*A, assisted by Cameron Bate. Project management was undertaken by Stuart Boulter BSc MCI*f*A.

Post-excavation management was provided by Phillipa Walton. The finds section was compiled by Richenda Goffin BA (Hons) PgDip MCI*f*A and the biological evidence section by Anna West. Finds processing was undertaken by Jonathan van Jennians. The specialist finds reports were produced by Stephen Benfield, Richenda Goffin and Anna West.

The report was written by Martin Cuthbert, the illustrations were prepared by Ryan Wilson and the report was edited by Stuart Boulter. The archive has been compiled and prepared for deposition by Clare Wootton.

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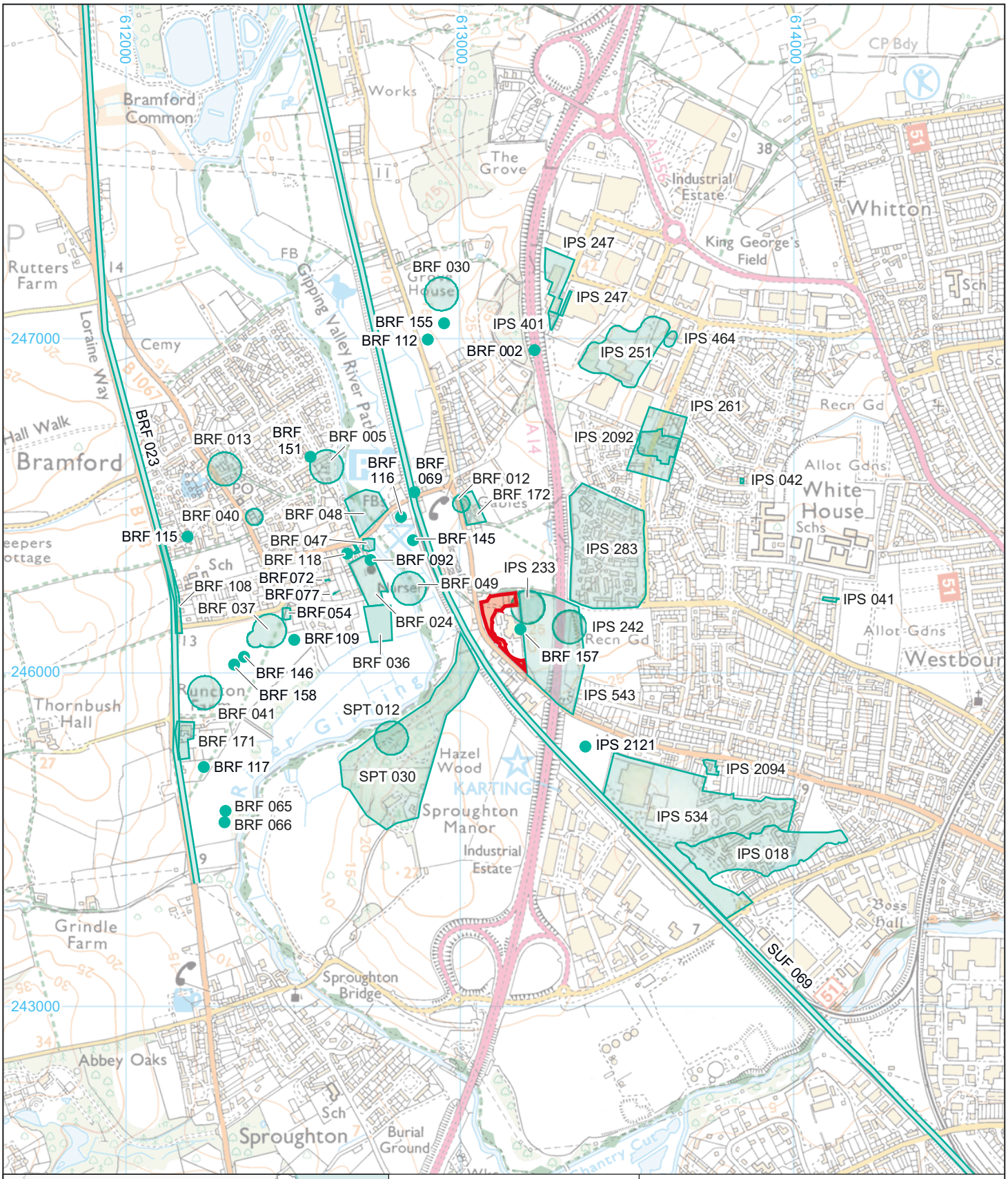

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PROJECT TITLE
Phase 1, Land Adjacent to Clarice House, Bramford Road, Bramford, Suffolk

FIGURE TITLE
Site location plan and HER data

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Phase 1, Land Adjacent to Clarice House, Bramford Road, Bramford, Suffolk

FIGURE TITLE

Trench location plan

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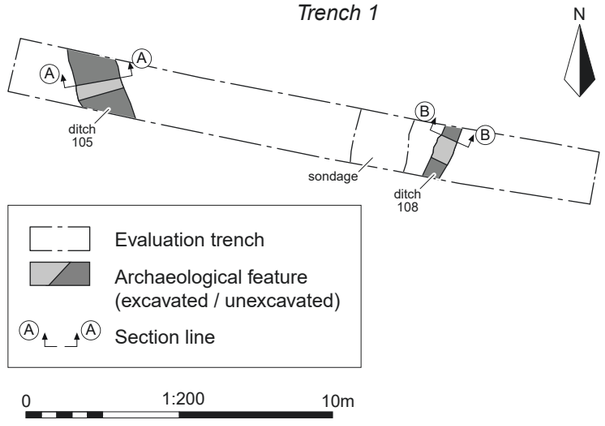
APPROVED BY	**MC**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:500**	

Trench 1



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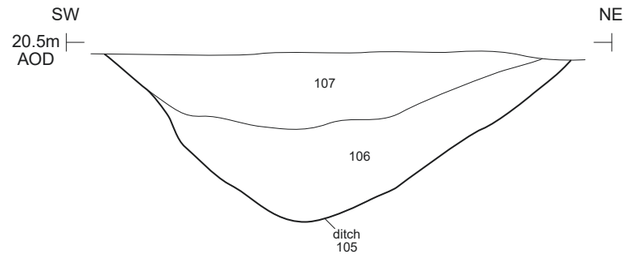

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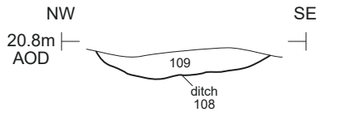
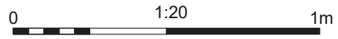
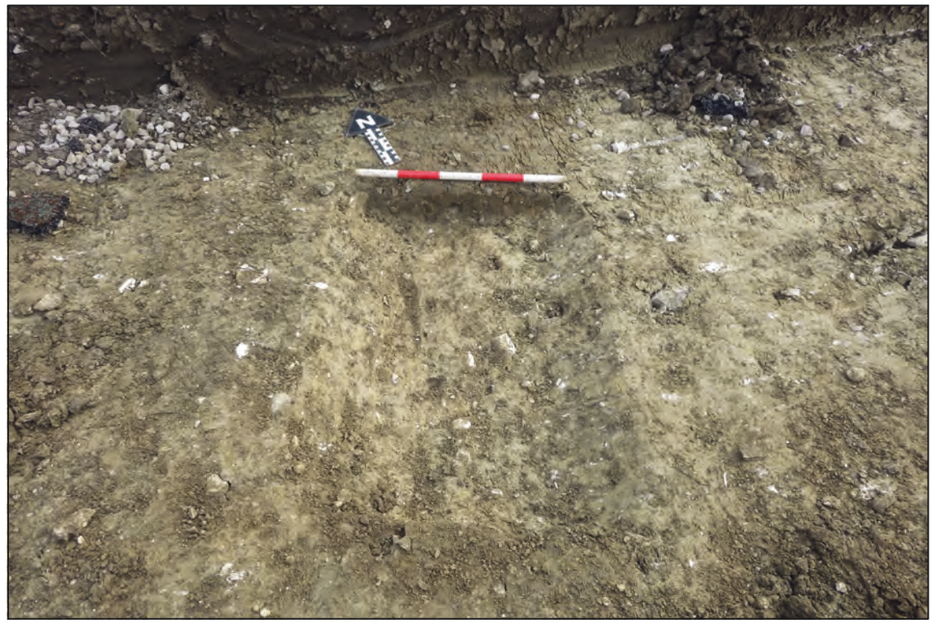




Ditch 105, looking north-west (1m scale)



Ditch 108, looking north-east (0.5m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE

Phase 1, Land Adjacent to Clarice House, Bramford Road, Bramford, Suffolk

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 1: plan, sections and photographs

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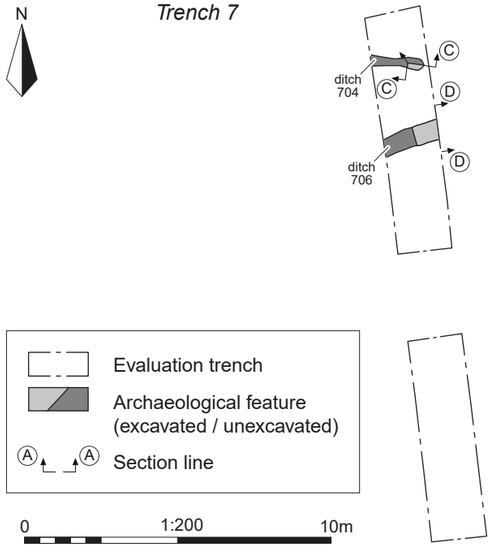

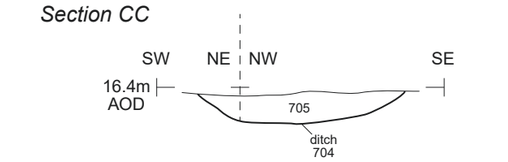

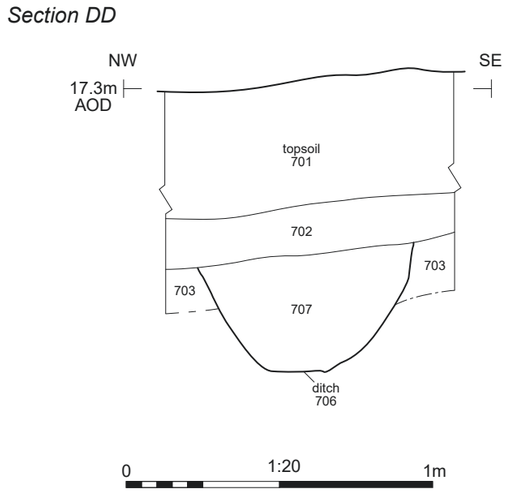

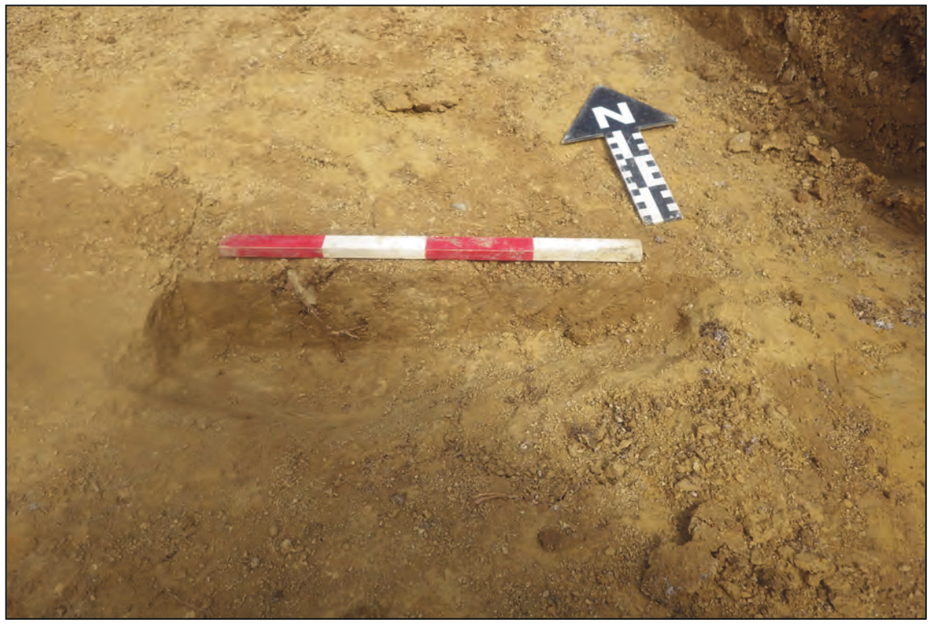

Ditch 704, looking north-east (0.4m scale)

Ditch 706, looking north-east (1m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE

Phase 1, Land Adjacent to Clarice House, Bramford Road, Bramford, Suffolk

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 7: plan, sections and photographs

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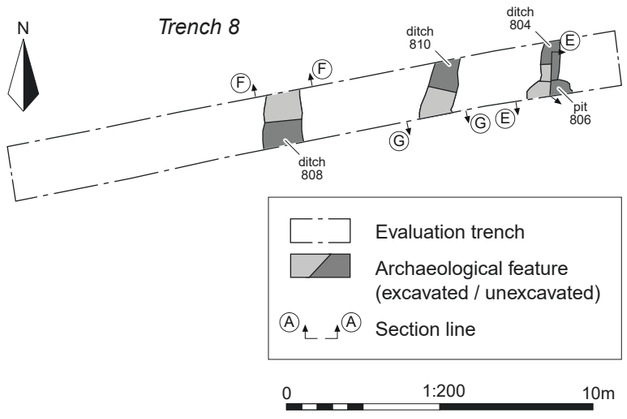

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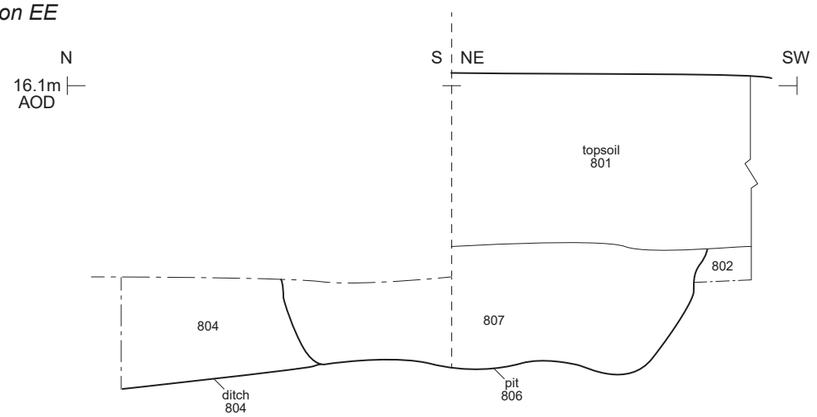
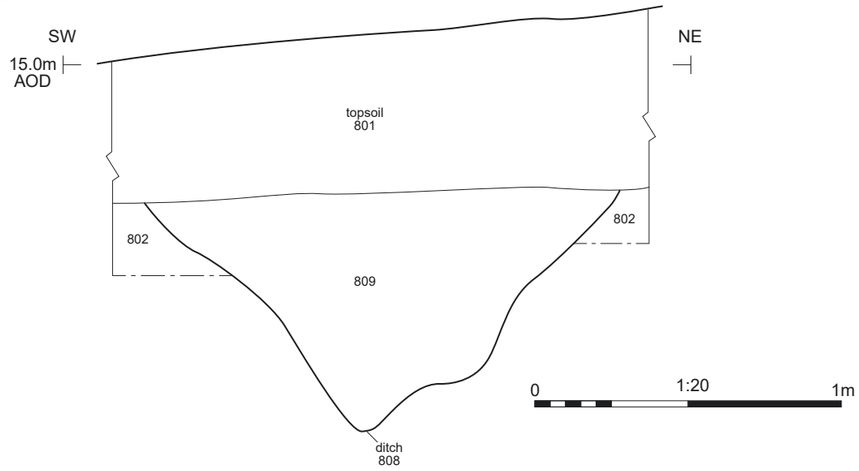


Section FF



Ditch 804 (left) and pit 806 (right), looking east (1m scale)

Ditch 808, looking north-east (1m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE

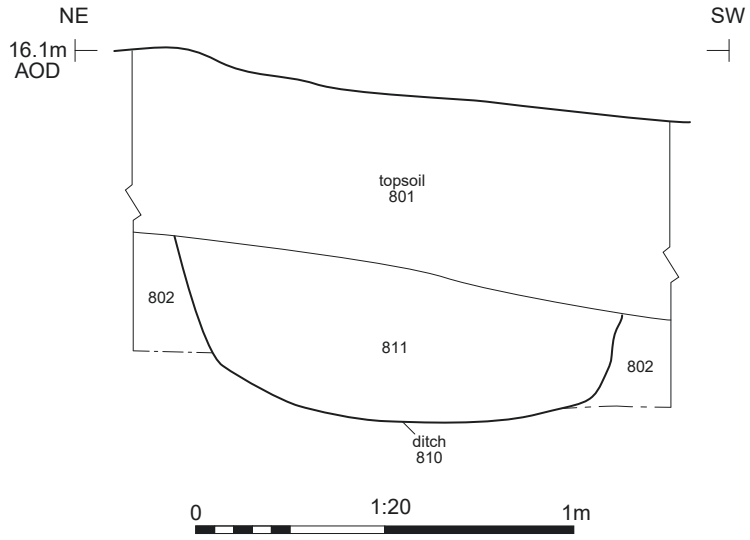
Phase 1, Land Adjacent to Clarice House, Bramford Road, Bramford, Suffolk

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 8: plan, sections and photographs

DRAWN BY	**RW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**SU0254**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**10/05/2021**	**5**
APPROVED BY	**MC**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:200, 1:20**	

Section GG



Ditch 810, looking south-west (1m scale)

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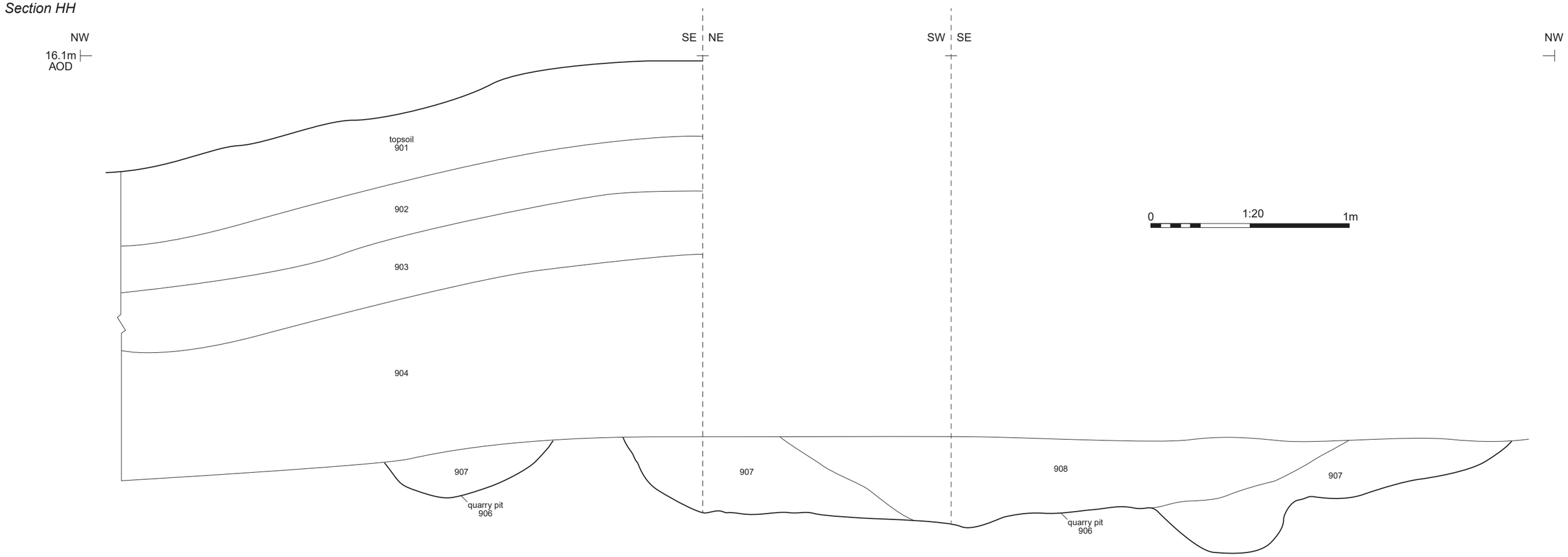
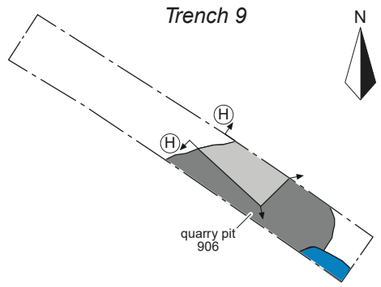
FIGURE TITLE

Trench 8: section and photograph

DRAWN BY	**RW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**SU0254**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**10/05/2021**	**6**
APPROVED BY	**MC**	*SCALE@A4*	**1:20**	

Section HH





Quarry pit 906, looking south-east (1m scales)

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PROJECT TITLE

Phase 1, Land Adjacent to Clarice House, Bramford Road, Bramford, Suffolk

FIGURE TITLE

Trench 9: plan, section and photograph

DRAWN BY	**RW**	*PROJECT NO.*	**SU0254**	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	**DJB**	*DATE*	**10/05/2021**	**7**
APPROVED BY	**MC**	*SCALE@A3*	**1:200, 1:20**	

APPENDIX A: TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS

Trench Number	Length	Orientation	Geology	Depth to Natural	Description	Comments	Summary	Associated Contexts
1	19.25	WNW-ESE	Orange, yellow sandy clay grey clay with chalk	0.90	tennis court made ground over topsoil and subsoil		1 post-med field boundary ditch 1 undated ditch	0101, 0102, 0103, 0104, 0105, 0106, 0107, 0108, 0109
2	17.67	NNW-SSE	Orange, yellow sandy clay grey clay with chalk	0.30	tennis court made ground over subsoil, no subsoil at southern end.		no archaeology	0201, 0202, 0203
3	18.08	NNE-SSW	Orange, yellow sandy clay with chalk and flint	0.55	tennis court made ground over topsoil and subsoil.		modern pits x 3 post-medieval field boundary ditch same as in Trench 1 3 x bioturbation along ditch	0301, 0302, 0303, 0304
4	11.65	E-W	Orange, yellow sand with chalk and flint	0.15	tennis court made ground over natural		2 modern pits	0401, 0402
5	18.31	NNW-SSE	Orange, yellow sand with flint	0.80	Topsoil over subsoil.		no archaeology	0501, 0502, 0503
6	17.05	WSW-ENE	Orange, yellow sand with flint	1.20	Topsoil over subsoil. Thick deposit of topsoil at east end close to tennis courts		no archaeology, burrow at west end	0601, 0602, 0603
7	17.43	N-S	Orange, yellow sand with flint	0.75	Topsoil over subsoil., shortened due to electric cable and stepped at the centre due to sewerage pipe		1 x medieval ditch 1 x undated ditch terminus	0701, 0702, 0703, 0704, 0705, 0706, 0707
8	20.18	WSW-ENE	pale yellow sand	0.55-1.25	Topsoil over colluvium., trench stepped at the centre due to sewerage pipe		3 x medieval ditches 1 x medieval pit pit 806 cut ditch 804	0801, 0802, 0803, 0804, 0805, 0806, 0807, 0808, 0809, 0810, 0811, 0812
9	13.12	NW-SE	pale yellow sand	1.50-1.65	Topsoil and turf over made ground that in turn covered a buried topsoil and colluvium. Trench shortened due to large modern pit at southern end		medieval quarry pit possibly sealed by colluvium but similarity in colour made it difficult to distinguish	0901, 0902, 0903, 0904, 0905, 0906, 0907, 0908
10	17.78	NNE-SSW	pale yellow sand	0.90-1.20	topsoil over subsoil		no archaeology, 1 modern pit	1001, 1002, 1003

APPENDIX B: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context Number	Feature Number	Trench	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length	Width	Depth	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Samples
0101		1		Deposit	tarmac and aggregate	tennis court surface			0.15	0102				
0102		1		Layer	dark grey brown grey silty clay occ. brick and modern pottery	topsoil			0.60	0103	0101			
0103		1		Layer	orange brown sandy clay occ. chalk	subsoil			0.10	0104	0102			
0104		1		Layer	orange sandy clay pale yellow clay with freq. chalk	natural					0103			
0105	0105	1	Ditch	Cut	NNW-SSE orientated ditch with a v shaped profile with gradual sloping sides and a sharp concave base	post-medieval field boundary ditch		1.54	0.55		0106			
0106	0105	1	Ditch	Fill	mid brown orange silty clay with occ. gravel	lower fill of ditch		1.35	0.30	0105	0107			
0107	0105	1	Ditch	Fill	dark brown silty clay occ. CBM fleck, brick, metal wire and single pot find	upper fill of ditch		1.35	0.24	0106				
0108	0108	1	Ditch	Cut	NNE-SSW orientated shallow ditch with very gradual sides to a flat base	undated ditch		0.56	0.08		0109			
0109	0108	1	Ditch	Fill	mid brown grey clayey silt with chalk fleck occ. small stone inclusions			0.56	0.08	0108				
0201		2		Deposit	Tarmac and aggregate	Tennis court surface			0.15	0202				
0202		2		Layer	mid orange brown silty clay	subsoil			0.10	0203	0201			
0203		2		Layer	orange sand freq. flint and pale-yellow brown sandy clay freq. chalk	natural					0202			
0301		3		Deposit	Tarmac and aggregate	Tennis court surface			0.15	0302				
0302		3		Layer	dark brown grey silty clay	topsoil			0.20	0303	0301			
0303		3		Layer	orange brown sandy clay occ. chalk fleck	subsoil			0.20	0304	0302			
0304		3		Layer	yellow and orange sandy clay rare chalk and flint	natural					0303			
0401		4		Deposit	Tarmac and aggregate	Tennis court surface			0.15	0402				

Context Number	Feature Number	Trench	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length	Width	Depth	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Samples
0402		4		Layer	orange sand large flints	natural					0401			
0501		5		Layer	dark brown silty clay	topsoil			0.40	0502				
0502		5		Layer	orange sandy silt yellow mottling	subsoil			0.40	0503	0501			
0503		5		Layer	yellow sand orange sand patches	natural					0502			
0601		6		Layer	dark brown silty clay	topsoil			0.40-1.20	0602				
0602		6		Layer	orange sandy silt	subsoil			0-0.20	0603	0601			
0603		6		Layer	yellow sand orange sand patches	natural					0602			
0701		7		Layer	see tr.6	topsoil			0.35	0702				
0702		7		Layer	see tr. 6	subsoil			0.40	0703	0701			
0703		7		Layer	see tr. 6	natural		0.26	0.09		0702			
0704	0704	7	Ditch	Cut	narrow E-W ditch terminus, extending beyond the western limit of excavation with moderate sloping sides to a flat base	undated ditch terminus		0.26	0.09		0705			
0705	0704	7	Ditch	Fill	mid grey brown sandy silt firm with rare small stones	fill of ditch		0.26	0.09	0704				
0706	0706	7	Ditch	Cut	E-W orientated ditch with sharp sloping sides to a flat base	medieval ditch		0.70	0.39		0707			
0707	0706	7	Ditch	Fill	light brown grey sandy silt occ. stones	fill of ditch		0.70	0.39	0706				2
0801		8		Layer	dark brown sandy clay	topsoil			0.35-0.55	0802				
0802		8		Layer	soft mixed brown and yellow sandy clay	subsoil			0-0.30	0803	0801			
0803		8		Layer	pale yellow sand	natural					0802			
0804	0804	8	Ditch	Cut	N-S orientated ditch with steep sides leading to a sharp concave base	medieval ditch cut by pit 0806		0.65	0.35		0805			5
0805	0804	8	Ditch	Fill	mid brown soft silty sand with pot, bone and shell	fill of ditch		0.65	0.35	0804	0806	0806		
0806	0806	8	Pit	Cut	sub-oval pit with steep sides to a flat base, continued out of southern limit of excavation	pit	1.5	0.57>	0.40	0805	0807		0805	

Context Number	Feature Number	Trench	Feature Type	Category	Description	Interpretation	Length	Width	Depth	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Samples
0807	0806	8	Pit	Fill	pale yellow and brown silty sand occ. flint chalk fired clay pot and bone	fill of pit	1.5	0.57>	0.40	0806				4
0808	0808	8	Ditch	Cut	N-S orientated ditch with steep sides to a sharp v shaped base	ditch		1.52	0.77		0809			
0809	0808	8	Ditch	Fill	mid brown yellow mottling soft silty sand frequent shells occ. chalk and infrequent charcoal	fill of ditch		1.52	0.77	0808				3
0810	0810	8	Ditch	Cut	N-S orientated ditch with gradual sides to a flat base	ditch		1.18	0.40		0811			
0811	0810	8	Ditch	Fill	mid brown soft silty sand occ. flint pot and bone	fill of ditch		1.18	0.40	0810				6
0812		8		Layer	soft orange brown silty sand occ. fired clay flecks	colluvium			0.3-0.70		0801			
0901		9		Layer	mid brown silty clay	modern topsoil and turf			0.35	0902				
0902		9		Deposit	yellow sand mixed with frequent modern rubble	modern made ground			0.20-0.35	0903	0901			
0903		9		Layer	dark brown silty clay	buried topsoil			0.25	0904	0902			
0904		9		Layer	soft orange brown silty sand occ. fired clay flecks	colluvium			0.70	0905	0903			
0905		9		Layer	yellow soft sand	natural					0904			
0906	0906	9	Pit	Cut	sub-circular quarry pit with gradual sloping sides to a flat base, occasional scopes along edge and base	large medieval quarry pit in edge of valley side	6.05	1.8>	0.42		0907			
0907	0906	9	Pit	Fill	pale yellow brown soft silty sand with rare flint inclusions and pot	lower fill of quarry pit, gradual accumulation		1.8>	0.30	0906	0908			
0908	0906	9	Pit	Fill	mid grey brown with yellow mottling soft silty sand occ. gravel and chalk flecks. Pot oyster shell and bone finds	upper fill of quarry pit deliberate dis-use deposit		1.6>	0.42	0907				1
1001		10		Layer	dark brown silty clay with freq. modern rubbish	topsoil and turf			0.50-0.70	1002				
1002		10		Layer	soft orange sandy clay	subsoil			0.40	1003	1001			
1003		10		Layer	soft yellow sand	natural					1002			

APPENDIX C: THE FINDS

Table 1: Finds concordance

Context	Pottery		CBM		Fired Clay		Worked flint		Heat altered flint		Animal bone		Shell		Spot date
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wtg	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	
107	1	110													Pmed
602	1	2					2	95			2	52			Med
702	4	8													Med, Pmed
707	3	33			3	5									Med
805	4	53			1	11					2	2	3	9	Med
807	6	120									1	13	1	3	Med
809	1	10									4	116	38	281	Med
811	3	35									2	136	1	10	Med
904			1	237	1	8			1	190					Pmed
907	8	199													Med
908	8	137			1	5	1	33	1	2	1	2	7	158	Med
Total	39	707	1	237	6	29	3	128	2	192	12	321	50	461	

*totals do not include finds from samples

Table 2: Post-Roman pottery catalogue

Context No	Count	Wt (g)	Period	Fabric	Form	Type	EVE	Abr	ENV	Rim dia (mm)	Condition	Comments	Fabric date range	Description	Overall date
0602	1	3	LS/ MED	STNE	BODY		0	A	1				850-1150		850-1150
0702	2	5	PM	LPME	BODY		0		1			2 joining, prob FLOP	18th-20th C		
0702	2	3	M	MSHW	BODY		0		1				12th-13th C	V fine fabric, sparse shell	12th-13th C?
0707	2	14	M	YAR	BODY/ BASE		0		1		S	Frags of sagging base	11th-12th C		
0707	1	20	M	YARN	BODY		0		1			Slightly sooted base	11th-12th C		
0707	2	6	M	YAR	BODY		0	A	2			From Samp 2	11th-12th C		
0707	1	2	M	HFW	BODY		0		2			From Samp 2	M12th-M13th C	Spots of pitted lead gl	M12th-M13th C
0707	1	3	M	EMWC	BODY		0		1		S	From Samp 2	11th-12th C		11th-12th C
0805	1	8	M	YAR	BODY		0		1				11th-12th C		
0805	1	16	M	EMWE	BODY		0		1				11th-12th C		
0805	1	13	M	EMWSS	BODY		0		1		S		11th-12th C		
0805	1	16	M	EMSC	BODY		0	A	1		S		11th-12th C		

Context No	Count	Wt (g)	Period	Fabric	Form	Type	EVE	Abr	ENV	Rim dia (mm)	Condition	Comments	Fabric date range	Description	Overall date
0805	1	4	M	YAR	BODY		0		1		S		11th-12th C		
0807	3	42	M	MCWG	JAR	B2	10	A	1	32		Thickened flat topped rim	12th-13th C	Buff, almost pimply surface	
0807	3	78	M	MCW	BODY		0	A	1		S	Internal sooting	L12th-14th C		12th-14th C
0809	1	10	M	EMW	BODY		0		1		S		11th-12th C		11th-12th C
0811	1	16	M	EMWE	JAR	B2	5	A	1	110		Incised wavy line internally	11th-12th C	Thickened flat topped	
0811	1	16	M	EMWS	JAR	B1b	4		1	100	S	Plain everted rim	11th-12th C		
0811	1	4	M	LMU	BODY		0		1				11th-14th C		11th-14th C
0811	1	1	M	EMWS	BODY		0		1			From Samp 6	11th-12th C		
0811	1	2	M	MCW	BODY		0		1			From Samp 6	L12th-14th C		
0907	1	25	M	EMW	BODY		0	A	1		S		11th-12th C		
0907	1	13	M	YAR	BODY		0	A	1		S		11th-12th C		
0907	1	70	M	EMWE	BOWL		5	A	1	110	S		11th-12th C	Flat-topped, almost lid-seating	11th-12th C
0907	1	26	M	EMW?	JAR		10		1	80		Fabric/ firing looks odd	11th-12th C	Plain external bevel	
0907	1	45	M	EMWE	BODY		0		1				11th-12th C	Large body sherd, poss jug as has handle scar	
0907	2	14	M	EMWC	BODY		0		2		S		11th-12th C		
0907	1	6	M	EMWE	BODY		0		1				11th-12th C		
0908	1	62	M	EMWE	BOWL		6		1	150	S		L12th-13th C	Larger club bead rim	12th-13th C?
0908	1	31	M	EMWL?	JAR		6	A	1	100			11th-12th C	Plain external bevel with incipient bead	
0908	2	11	M	EMWG	BODY		1		1		S		11th-12th C		
0908	1	13	M	EMWG	BODY		1		1		S		11th-12th C		
0908	1	7	M	EMWE	BODY		1		1			Oxidised margins	11th-12th C		
0908	1	8	M	EMW	BODY		1		1		S		11th-12th C		

Context No	Count	Wt (g)	Period	Fabric	Form	Type	EVE	Abr	ENV	Rim dia (mm)	Condition	Comments	Fabric date range	Description	Overall date
0908	1	5	M	EMWS	BODY		1		1				11th-12th C		
0908	4	37	M	EMWE	BODY		1		1			From Samp 1	11th-12th C		
0908	1	1	M	EMWSS	BODY		1		1			From Samp 1	11th-12th C		
0107	1	111	PM	FREC	BASE	BOTT/JUG	1		1				1550-1700	Base with cheese wire marks	1550-1700

Table 3: Catalogue of struck flint

Context	No	Wt (g)	Description
602	2	95	Possible irregular core or large shatter piece, some cortex and irregular flake removals, battered edges.
809	1	2	Small flake or shatter piece with 50% cortex on dorsal surface. From Sample 3.
811	1	2	Struck small flake, snapped proximal end, hard hammer strike, scars from previous flake removals on dorsal surface. From Sample 6.
811	1	1	Irregular shatter piece. From Sample 6
908	1	33	Small flint core, conical, some irregular flake removals.

APPENDIX D: THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

Table 4: Identified animal species by fragment count (NISP) and weight and context.

Cut	Fill	BOS	O/C	EQ	GAL	LM	MM	Ind	Total	Weight (g)
	602	1				1			2	52
706	707							4	4	10
804	805		1				8		9	13
806	807					1			1	14
808	809	1		1				2	4	116
810	811	1	2						3	150
906	908	1			1				2	13
Total		**4**	**3**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**8**	**6**	**25**	
Weight		**222**	**47**	**52**	**3**	**25**	**6**	**13**	**368**	

BOS = cattle; O/C = sheep/goat; EQ = horse; Gal = domestic fowl; LM = cattle size bone; mm = sheep size bone; Ind = indeterminate

Table 5: Plant macrofossil results

Sample No.	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**
Context No.	**908**	**707**	**809**	**807**	**805**	**811**
Cut No.	**906**	**706**	**808**	**806**	**804**	**810**
Feature type	**pit**	**ditch**	**ditch**	**pit**	**ditch**	**ditch**
Date	**Med**	**Med**	**Med**	**Med**	**Med**	**Med**
Cereals/other food plants						
Triticum turgidum/aestivum (grains)	##	#		x	xx	
Hordeum vulgare (grains)	#	#	xxx	x	x	xx
Secale cereale sp. (grains)	#					
Avena sp. (grains)			x			
Avena/Secale cereale sp. (grains)	#					
Indent. frags	##	##			xx	xx
Rachis frags (*Secale cereale*)	#			#		
Culm frags	#					
Small legume (*Pisum* sp.*?*)	#	#		#	#	
Tree/shrub charred						
Corylus avellana L. (nutshell frags)		#		#		
Weeds/other charred						
Poaceae seed					#	
Lolium						#
Lithospermum arvense (uncharred/mineralised)				#		
Galium aparine						#
Silene sp.		#				
Centarurea cyanus						#
Brassicaeae		#	#	#	#	
Polygonaceae						#
Other plant macrofossils						
Charcoal 0-5mm	xx	xx	xx	x	x	xx
Charcoal 5-10mm		#			#	##
Other material						
Snails	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Fish bones/scales			#		#	
Amphibian/small mammal bones		#	#		#	#

Rootlets	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xxx
Non-floating residue						
Sample volume (litres)	**40**	**40**	**30**	**30**	**30**	**20**
Volume of flot (ml)	**20**	**15**	**40**	**15**	**15**	**25**
Flot sorted %	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

= 1-10, ## = 11-50, ### = 51+ specimens. + = *rare,* ++ = *moderate,* +++ = *abundant*

Table 6: Marine Shell

Context	Feature	Sample	Type	Count	Wgt	L/A/M	*Species*	Common name	Left	Right	ENI	Condition	Habitat
707	706	2	ditch		<1	M	*Ostrea edulis*	Oyster				2 small indent frags	marine and brackish habitats
805	804		ditch	3	9	M	*Buccinum undatum*	Common whelk			3		marine and brackish habitats
805	804	5	ditch	6	24	M	*Buccinum undatum*	Common whelk			6		marine and brackish habitats
805	804	5	ditch	1	1	M	*Mytilus edulis*	Common mussel			1		marine and brackish habitats
807	806		pit	1	3	M	*Ostrea edulis*	Oyster		1	1	1 small fragment	marine and brackish habitats
807	806	4	pit	1	1	M	*Buccinum undatum*	Common whelk			1		marine and brackish habitats
809	808		ditch	9	31	M	*Mytilus edulis*	Common mussel			9		marine and brackish habitats
809	808	3	ditch	10	21	M	*Mytilus edulis*	Common mussel			10	Very fragmented	marine and brackish habitats
809	808	3	ditch		1	M	*Buccinum undatum*	Common whelk				2 small frags	marine and brackish habitats
809	808		ditch	19	249	M	*Ostrea edulis*	Oyster	9	10	10	3 with other shells adhering	marine and brackish habitats
811	810		ditch	1	10	M	*Ostrea edulis*	Oyster	1		1		marine and brackish habitats
908	906		pit	4	159	M	*Ostrea edulis*	Oyster	3	1	3	Large complete	marine and brackish habitats
908	906	1	pit		<1	M	*Ostrea edulis*	Oyster				1 small frag	marine and brackish habitats

APPENDIX E: OASIS REPORT FORM

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

OASIS ID: cotswold2-417543

Project details

Project name	Phase 1 Land Adjacent to Clarice House, Bramford Road, Bramford Suffolk
Short description of the project	In April 2021, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation of land adjacent to Clarice House, Bramford Road, Bramford, Suffolk. A total of 10 trenches were excavated across the development area targeting the footprint of the proposed houses and garages and to provide a representative sample of the remainder of the area. A 11th-12th century focus of activity was identified in the area of Trenches 7-9, close to the junction between Bramford Lane and Bramford Road, with an assemblage of forty-three sherds of early medieval pottery, a small assemblage of fired clay and fifty five fragments of shellfish recovered from a ditches in Trenches 7 and 8, a pit in Trench 8 and a quarry pit in Trench 9. A post medieval field boundary was identified across two trenches (Trenches 1 and 3) and modern truncations relating to the construction of a tennis court were noted in Trenches 1-4. A single undated ditch was identified in Trench 1 and most likely relates to land drainage in the medieval period.
Project dates	Start: 26-04-2021 End: 29-04-2021
Previous/future work	No / Yes
Any associated project reference codes	BRF181 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	DC/19/00870 - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	SU0254 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	417543 - OASIS form ID
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	PIT Medieval
Monument type	QUARRY PIT Medieval

Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Monument type	PITS Modern
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	ANIMAL BONE Medieval
Significant Finds	MARINE SHELL Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	FIRED CLAY Medieval
Significant Finds	HEAT-ALTERED FLINT Late Prehistoric
Significant Finds	WORKED FLINT Late Prehistoric
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK MID SUFFOLK BRAMFORD Phase 1 Land Adjacent to Clarice House
Postcode	IP8 4AZ
Study area	0.72 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 13120 46120 52.071836796232 1.110079397069 52 04 18 N 001 06 36 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 15m Max: 20m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Cotswold Archaeology
Project brief originator	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services
Project design originator	Cotswold Archaeology (Suffolk)
Project director/manager	Stuart Boulter
Project supervisor	Martin Cuthbert
Type of sponsor/funding body	Landowner
	Helmingham Holdings Ltd

Name of sponsor/funding body	

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Archive
Physical Archive ID	BRF181
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones","Ceramics","Environmental","Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Archive
Digital Archive ID	BRF181
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Database","GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Archive
Paper Archive ID	BRF181
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Photograph","Report","Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Phase 1 Land Adjacent to Clarice House, Bramford Road, Bramford, Suffolk - Archaeological Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor (s)	Cuthbert, M.
Other bibliographic details	SU0254_1
Date	2021
Issuer or publisher	Cotswold Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Needham Market
Description	A4 ring bound report with colour photos and figures

Entered by	martin cuthbert (martin.cuthbert@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk)
Entered on	25 May 2021

OASIS:

APPENDIX F: WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

Cotswold Archaeology

Phase 1 Land Adjacent to Clarice House, Bramford Road, Bramford Suffolk

Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation

for:
Artisan Planning & Property Services

on behalf of:
Helmingham Holdings Ltd.

CA Project: SU0254
OASIS ID: cotswold2-417543
HER Ref: BRF 181

March 2021

Phase 1 Land Adjacent to Clarice House, Bramford Road, Bramford Suffolk

Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation

CA Project: SU0254
OASIS ID: cotswold2-417543
HER reference: BRF 181

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A	17 March 21	M. Sommers	S. Boulter	Internal review		

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CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. This document is a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) by Cotswold Archaeology (CA) for an archaeological evaluation of land adjacent to Clarice House, Bramford Road, Bramford, Suffolk (centred at NGR: 613120,246120). This WSI has been prepared for Artisan Planning & Property Services on behalf of Helmingham Holdings Limited.

1.2. Planning Application DC/19/00870 attracted a planning condition requiring a programme of archaeological work, the first stage of which is to be a trenched evaluation. The scope of the required archaeological works is detailed in a Brief prepared by archaeologist Matthew Baker of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS), archaeological advisors to the Local Planning Authority (LPA), dated 3rd March 2021. This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) covers the trenched evaluation only. The Brief and this WSI are for the PHASE 1 development only. Any successive phases of the development will require separate briefs to be issued and separate WSIs to be produced.

1.3. The evaluation results will be used to define any archaeological mitigation requirements for the site. The evaluation should also determine whether there are any significant remains that may require preservation *in situ* within the proposed development area. Any further stages of archaeological work that might be required as a consequence of the evaluation results would be subject to a new Brief.

1.4. This WSI has been guided in its composition by the Brief (SCCAS 2021), *Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation* (SCCAS 2021)*, Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014; updated October 2020), *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation* (Historic England 2015) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (Historic England 2015).

The site

1.5. The *c.*0.72 hectare site lies on a northwest facing slope which runs down from approximately 20m AOD, close to its eastern edge, to approximately 15m AOD in the northwest corner. It is located on the eastern side of the Gipping Valley and overlooks the river which runs in a channel approximately 200m to the southwest. The site is bounded by Bramford Road/River Hill to the southwest, open pasture to the north and

the Clarice House leisure complex to the east. The Clarice House site is surrounded by a belt of mature trees and established hedgerows.

1.6. The underlying bedrock geology of the site, as mapped by the British Geological Survey (BGS 2021), comprises chalk of the Newhaven Chalk Formation, a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 72 to 86 million years ago in the Cretaceous Period. This is overlain by superficial deposits of Lowestoft Formation - Diamicton, formed up to two million years ago in the Quaternary Period in a local environment previously dominated by ice age conditions. These sedimentary deposits are glacigenic in origin, detrital, created by the action of ice and meltwater. They can form a wide range of deposits and geomorphologies associated with glacial and interglacial periods during the Quaternary.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1. The evaluation Brief states that the proposed development lies in an area of archaeological potential on the County Historic Environment Record (HER). It highlights the fact that the site lies on a sloping valley side in an area that is generally of high archaeological sensitivity and topographically favourable for early occupation. **NB: A full HER search of an area encompassing a *c.*1km radius of the site will be undertaken as part of the evaluation works and included in the subsequent report.**

2.2. The Brief also summarises the most significant HER records noted in the vicinity of the proposed development site, specifically; a record of three undated inhumation burials (IPS 543), a findspot of five Roman coins (IPS 242) and another findspot of a roman brooch IPS 233). Also, evaluation of an adjacent area identified an Iron Age settlement site (IPS 283). Consequently, there is high potential for the discovery of below-ground heritage assets of archaeological importance within this area, and ground works associated with the development have the potential to damage or destroy any archaeological remains which exist.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1. The general objective of the evaluation is to provide further information on the likely archaeological resource within the site, including its presence/absence, character, extent, date and state of preservation. This information will enable Mid Suffolk District Council to identify and assess the particular significance of any archaeological heritage assets within the site, consider the impact of the proposed development upon

that significance and, if appropriate, develop strategies to avoid or minimise conflict between heritage asset conservation and the development proposal, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (MHCLG 2019). A further objective of the project is to compile a stable, ordered, accessible project archive (see Section 7).

3.2. Specific objectives of the evaluation, as outlined in the SCCAS Brief, are:

- Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence
- Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost

3.3. If significant archaeological remains are identified, the evaluation report will make reference to the research framework for the East of England (Medlycott 2011) so that the remains can, if possible, be placed within their local and regional contexts.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1. The evaluation will comprise the excavation of Ten trenches (locations shown on the attached plan). Each trench will measure 20m in length and a width of at least 1.8m. This equates to approximately 5% of the site by area, as specified in the Brief (section 4.3).

4.2. Trenches will be set out on OS National Grid co-ordinates using Leica GPS. They will be 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*. The positions of the trenches may be adjusted on site to account for services or other constraints, with the approval of Curator.

4.3. Overburden will be stripped from the trenches by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. All machining will be conducted under archaeological supervision and will cease when the first significant archaeological horizon or natural

substrate is revealed (whichever is encountered first). Topsoil and subsoil will be stored separately adjacent to each trench.

4.4. Following machining, any archaeological features present will be investigated, planned and recorded in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*. All linear features will be sampled through the excavation of 1m wide slot and a minimum of 50% of each pit will be excavated (although, at the discretion of the curator, full excavation may be required). Each context will be recorded on a pro-forma context sheet by written and measured description. Hand-drawn sections of excavated archaeological features will be prepared (scale 1:10 or 1:20, as appropriate). Features/deposits will be recorded in plan using Leica GPS or Total Station (as appropriate), in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 4: Survey Manual*. Photographs (digital colour) will be taken as appropriate.

4.5. Sample excavation of archaeological deposits will be sufficient to achieve the aims and objectives identified in Section 3 (above). All features encountered will be sampled unless agreed otherwise with the curator. All excavation should be undertaken by hand unless an alternative method is agreed with the curator.

4.6. Excavation (where undertaken) will not compromise the integrity of the archaeological record and will be carried out in such a way as to allow for the subsequent protection of remains, either for conservation or to allow more detailed investigations to be conducted at a later date.

4.7. Metal detector searches (non-discriminating against iron), undertaken by an experienced metal-detectorist (CA staff Steve Hunt, Michael Green or Matt Stevens), will be carried out. This will include prior to the trenches being dug, during the machine excavation and the subsequent hand-excavation phase as well as scanning the upcast spoil. Metal finds recovered which are not from hand-excavated features will have their location recorded by GPS.

4.8. Upon completion of the evaluation, all trenches will be backfilled by a mechanical excavator once they have been approved and signed off by the curator.

Artefacts

4.9. Artefacts will be recovered and retained for processing and analysis in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 3: Treatment of Finds Immediately after Excavation*. Artefacts will be collected and bagged by context. Artefacts from topsoil, subsoil and

unstratified contexts will normally be noted but not retained unless they are of intrinsic interest. All artefacts from stratified excavated contexts will be collected, 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.

Environmental remains

4.10. The selection, collection and processing of environmental samples will follow the guidelines outlined in *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011) and *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*. Bulk samples will be a minimum of 40l (or the full context if smaller).

4.11. Due care will be taken to identify deposits which may have environmental potential and, where appropriate, a programme of environmental sampling will be initiated. The sampling strategy will be adapted for the specific circumstances of the site, in close consultation with the CA Environmental Officer and Curator, but will follow the general selection parameters set out in the following paragraphs.

4.12. Secure, 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 (where excavated; see *Human remains*, below) 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 will be taken for the recovery of slag and hammerscale.

4.13. Where sealed waterlogged deposits are encountered, samples will be considered for the recovery of waterlogged remains (including insects, molluscs and pollen) and any charred remains. 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, palaeochannels, or buried soils. Monolith samples may also be taken from suitable deposits 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.

4.14. The need for more specialist samples (such as OSL, archaeomagnetic dating and dendrochronology) will be evaluated on site. If required, any such samples will be taken in consultation with the relevant specialists.

4.15. Sample processing will be carried out in conjunction with the relevant specialists. Flotation or wet sieve samples will be processed to 0.25mm. More specialist samples, such as those for pollen, will be prepared by the relevant specialists.

Treasure

4.16. Upon discovery of treasure, CA will notify the client and the Curator immediately. CA will comply fully with the provisions of the Treasure Act 1996 and the Code of Practice referred to therein. Findings will be reported to the Coroner within 14 days.

Human remains

4.17. Any human remains (skeletal or cremated) will be treated with due decency and respect at all times.

4.18. Small slots will be hand-excavated across any suspected burial features (inhumations or cremated bone deposits) in order to confirm the presence and condition of any human bone. Once confirmed as human, the buried remains will not normally be disturbed through any further investigation at the evaluation stage, and will be left *in situ* where possible.

4.19. Where further disturbance is unavoidable, or where full exhumation of the remains is deemed necessary, exhumation will be conducted following the provisions of the Coroner's Unit in the Ministry of Justice. All excavation of human remains and associated post-excavation processes will be in accordance with the standards set out in *Updated Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains* (CIfA 2017).

5. PROGRAMME

5.1. It is anticipated that the project fieldwork will require two to four days.

5.2. It is anticipated that analysis of the results and subsequent reporting will take up to a further six weeks.

6. PROJECT STAFF

6.1. This project will be under the management of Stuart Boulter, MCIfA, Project Manager, CA. The Project Manager will direct the overall conduct of the evaluation during the period of fieldwork. Day-to-day responsibility will, however, rest with the Project Leader, who will be on-site throughout the project.

6.2. The field team will consist of a maximum of three staff (one Project Officer, and two Archaeologists).

6.3. Specialists who may be invited to advise and report on specific aspects of the project as necessary are:

- **Ceramics:** Stephen Benfield MCIfA (CA)*
- **Metalwork:** Ruth Beveridge MCIfA (CA)
- **Flint:** Mike Green PCIfA (CA)
- **Animal bone:** Andy Clarke BA (Hons) MA (CA)/Matty Holmes BSc MSc ACIfA (freelance)
- **Human bone:** Sharon Clough MCIfA (CA)
- **Environmental remains:** Anna West MCIfA (CA)
- **Conservation:** Pieta Greeves BSc MSc ACR (Drakon Heritage and Conservation)

*If required, a specialist familiar with the Suffolk post roman pot series, such as Sue Anderson (freelance, as referenced in Appendix A), will be engaged.

6.4. Depending on 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 CA is given as Appendix A.

7. POST-EXCAVATION, REPORTING AND ARCHIVING

Reporting

7.1. An illustrated typescript report will be compiled on the evaluation results. This report will include:

- an abstract preceding the main body of the report, containing the essential elements of the results;
- a summary of the project's background;

- a description and illustration of the site location;
- a methodology of the works undertaken;
- integration of, or cross-reference to, appropriate cartographic and documentary evidence and the results of other research undertaken, where relevant to the interpretation of the evaluation results;
- a description of the evaluation results;
- an interpretation of the evaluation results, including a consideration of the results within their wider local/regional context;
- a site location plan at an appropriate scale on an Ordnance Survey (or equivalent) base-map;
- a plan showing the locations of the trenches in relation to the site boundaries;
- plans of each trench, or part of trench, in which archaeological features were recorded. These plans will be at an appropriate scale to allow the nature of the features to be shown and understood. Plans will show the orientation of trenches in relation to north. Section drawing locations will also be shown on these plans. Archaeologically sterile areas will not normally be illustrated;
- appropriate section drawings of trenches and archaeological features. These drawings will include OD heights and will be at scales appropriate to the stratigraphic detail being represented. Drawings will show orientation in relation to north/south/east/west;
- photographs showing significant archaeological 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 photograph captions;
- summary tables of the recorded contexts and recovered artefacts;
- a summary of the contents of the project archive and details of its location;
- specialist assessment or analysis reports (where undertaken). Specialist artefact and palaeoenvironmental assessments will take into account the wider local/regional contexts and will include:
    - specialist aims and objectives;
    - processing methodologies (where relevant);
    - any known biases in recovery, or problems of contamination/residuality;
    - quantities of material; types of material present; distribution of material;

- for environmental material, a statement on abundance, diversity and preservation;
- a summary and discussion of the results, to include significance in a local and regional context.

7.2. The draft evaluation report will be distributed to the client and the Curator for review prior to finalisation. All copies of the report (draft and final) will be issued in pdf format. A hard copy will be made available to the HER if so required.

7.3. A digital vector trench plan showing recorded archaeological features and excavated sections, compatible with QGIS software, will be submitted to the Suffolk HER.

Academic and public dissemination

7.4. It is anticipated that a short note on the evaluation results will be produced for inclusion within an appropriate local archaeological journal (i.e. the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology & History*).

7.5. Subject to any contractual constraints, a summary of information from the project will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain (ref. cotswold2-417543). This will include a digital (pdf) copy of the final report, which will also appear on the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) website once the OASIS record has been verified.

7.6. A digital (pdf) copy of the final report will also be made available for public viewing via CA's *Archaeological Reports Online* web page (http://reports.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk).

Archive deposition

7.7. All artefacts and environmental samples will be processed, assessed, conserved and packaged in accordance with CA technical manuals and the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Archive Guidelines (SCCAS 2020).

7.8. An ordered, indexed, and internally consistent site archive will be prepared in accordance with *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (CIfA 2014; updated October 2020), *Archaeological Archives: A Guide to Best Practice in Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Curation* (Archaeological Archives Forum 2007) and *Standard and Guide to Best Practice for Archaeological Archiving in Europe: EAC Guidelines 1* (Europae

Archaeologia Consilium 2019), as well as the relevant Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service guidelines.

7.9. Depending on the nature and scope of any subsequent programme of archaeological mitigation works at the site, the evaluation archive may be combined with that for any subsequent works and deposited as a single archive. Confirmation of this will be included in any forthcoming WSI.

7.10. CA will make arrangements with the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service for the deposition of the site archive and, subject to agreement with the legal landowner(s), the artefact collection.

Selection strategy

7.11. As noted in para. 4.9, artefacts from topsoil, subsoil and unstratified contexts will normally be noted but not retained unless they are of intrinsic interest. All artefacts from stratified excavated contexts will be collected, 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.

7.12. The site-selected material archive returned to the CA offices will be reviewed following analysis. Stakeholders will make selection decisions based on CA Finds Manager/Officer reports and selection recommendations. The selection will take place during archive compilation. After discussion with the relevant museum Curator and the CA Finds Managers/Officers, it is possible that no material postdating AD 1800 will be retained for inclusion in the preserved archive.

Digital archive

7.13. A digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). This archive will be compiled in accordance with the *ADS Guidelines for Depositors*.

Data management

7.14. All born-digital and digitally-transferred project data created during fieldwork and post-excavation (other than duplicated files) will be stored by CA. Upon project completion and deposition, the data will be transferred to a secure external server. Data will be selected for inclusion in the final digital archive, as detailed below. It is proposed that data selection will occur following completion of post-excavation work.

7.15. Selected digital files will be transferred to Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service with the documentary and material archive and to the ADS, in line with the relevant guidance and standards for both organisations. In adherence to CA's *Guidelines for essential archive tasks and the preparation of archives* (2017), it is proposed that the selected files will include final versions only. Digital photographs will be selected for inclusion in the archive in line with CA's *Guidelines for essential archive tasks and the preparation of archives* (2017) and *Digital Image Capture and File Storage: Guidelines for Best Practice* (Historic England 2015). Data produced by external specialists or sub-contractors will be granted under license to CA to allow inclusion in the digital archive as required.

8. HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT

8.1. CA will conduct all works in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and all subsequent health and safety legislation, as well as the CA Health and Safety and Environmental policies and the CA Safety, Health and Environmental Management System (SHE). Any client/developer/Principal Contractor policies and/or procedures will also be followed. A site-specific Construction Phase Plan (form SHE 017) will be formulated prior to commencement of fieldwork.

9. INSURANCES

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

10. MONITORING

10.1. Notification of the start of site works will be made to Curator so that there will be opportunities to visit the evaluation and check on the quality and progress of the work.

11. QUALITY ASSURANCE

11.1. 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 (CIfA 2019) and the *Standard and guidance for commissioning work or providing consultancy advice on archaeology and the historic environment* (CIfA 2014; updated October 2020). All CA Project Managers hold Member status within the CIfA.

11.2. CA operates an internal quality assurance system as follows: 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.

12. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT, PARTICIPATION AND BENEFIT

12.1. It is not anticipated that this evaluation will afford opportunities for public engagement or participation during the course of the fieldwork. However, the evaluation results will be made publicly available on the ADS and CA websites, as set out in Section 7.

13. STAFF TRAINING AND CPD

13.1. CA has a fully documented mandatory performance management system for all staff. This system 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. This ensures a consistent and high-quality approach to the development of appropriate skills.

13.2. As part of CA's requirement for continuing professional development, all members of staff are required to maintain a personal development plan and an associated log; these are reviewed within the performance management system.

14. REFERENCES

British Geological Survey 2021 *Geology of Britain Viewer* https://www.bgs.ac.uk/map-viewers/geology-of-britain-viewer/ Accessed 16 March 2021

Medlycott, M, (ed.) 2011 *Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England,* East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 24

SCCAS (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service) 2021, *Brief for an Archaeological Evaluation Phase 1 Land Adjacent To Clarice House, Bramford Road, Bramford*

SCCAS (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service) 2020, *Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation*

APPENDIX A: COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY SPECIALISTS

Ceramics

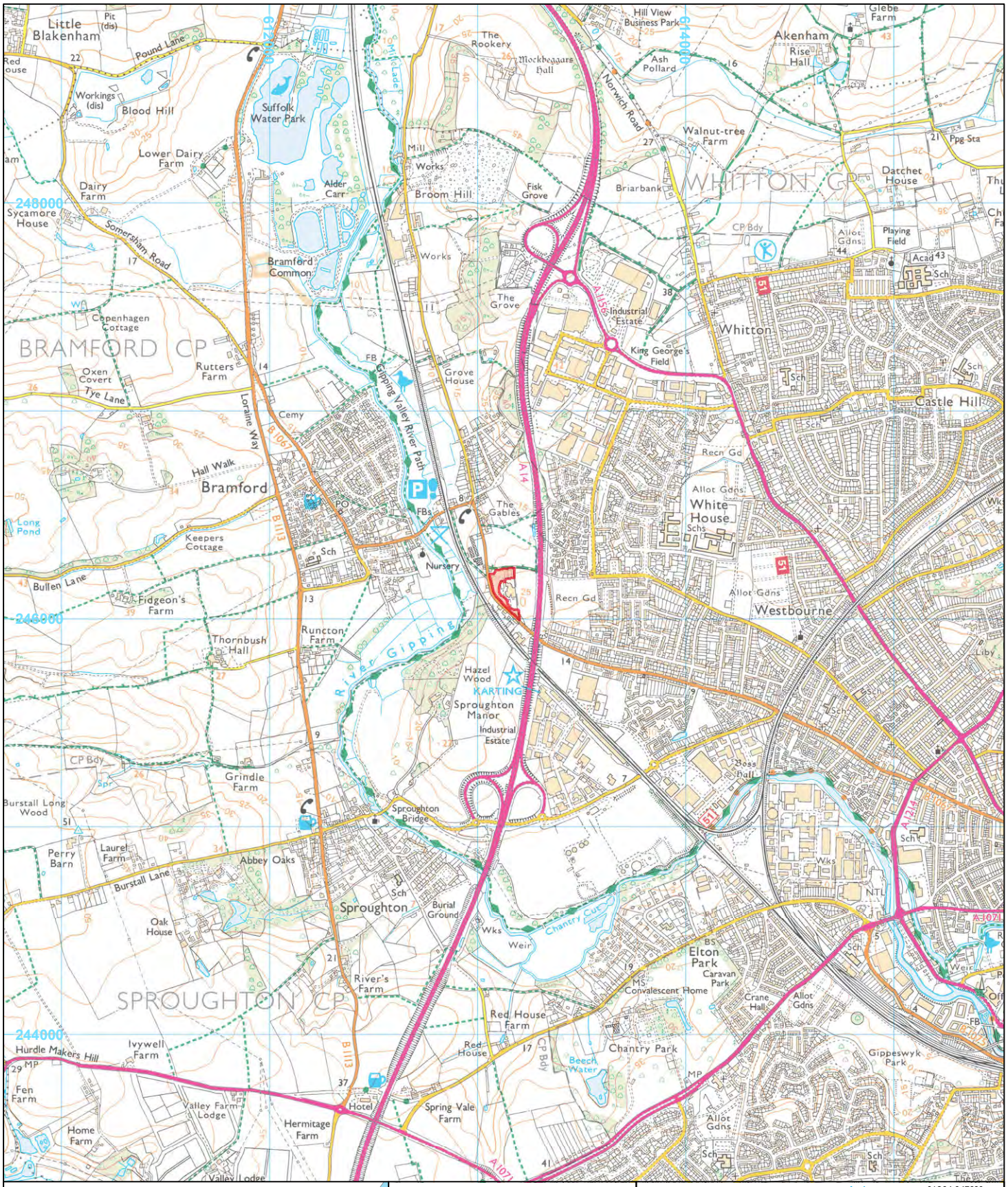
Neolithic/Bronze Age	Ed McSloy BA MCIFA (CA) Emily Edwards (freelance) Dr Elaine Morris BA PhD FSA MCIFA (University of Southampton) Anna Doherty MA (Archaeology South-East) Sarah Percival MA MCIFA (freelance) Steve Benfield BA (CA)
Iron Age/Roman	Ed McSloy BA MCIFA (CA) Kayt Marter Brown BA MSc MCIFA (freelance) Steve Benfield BA (CA)
(Samian)	Gwladys Montell MA PhD (freelance) Steve Benfield BA (CA)
(Amphorae stamps)	Dr David Williams PhD FSA (freelance)
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
Metal artefacts	Ed McSloy BA MCIFA (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)
Worked stone	Dr Ruth Shaffrey BA PhD MCIFA (freelance) 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) Dr 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 MCIFA (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 MCIFA (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)
Mollusca	Sarah Wyles BA MCIFA (CA) Dr Keith Wilkinson BSc PhD MCIFA (ARCA) Dr Mike Allen (Allen Environmental Archaeology)

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) Dr Mike Allen (Allen Environmental Archaeology)
Scientific dating	
Dendrochronology	Robert Howard BA (NTRDL Nottingham)
Radiocarbon dating	SUERC (East Kilbride, Scotland) Beta Analytic (Florida, USA)
Bayesian chronological modelling	Dr Derek Hamilton (SUERC) Professor John Hines (Cardiff University)
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)



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PROJECT TITLE
Clarice House
Bramford, Suffolk

FIGURE TITLE
Site location plan

DRAWN BY	KW	PROJECT NO.	SU0254	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	MS	DATE	17/03/2021	1
APPROVED BY	MS	SCALE @ A4	1:25,000	

Document Path: P:\SU0254 Clarice House, Bramford\GIS\CA_SU0254_Fig1.mxd

Legend

- Site boundary
- Proposed evaluation trench

N

0 40m

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PROJECT TITLE

Clarice House
Bramford, Suffolk

FIGURE TITLE

Trench location plan

DRAWN BY	KW	*PROJECT NO*	SU0254	*FIGURE NO.*
CHECKED BY	MS	*DATE*	18/03/2021	2
APPROVED BY	MS	*SCALE@A3*	1:1,000	

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