

Anglian Water Belstead Sewerage Scheme, Belstead, Suffolk

*Archaeological Evaluation and
Continuous Archaeological Monitoring and Recording*



for:
Anglian Water Limited

CA Project: SU0468
CA Report: SU0468_1
OASIS ID: Cotswold2-509419
HER Ref: BSD 037

December 2022



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SUMMARY

Project name:	Anglian Water Belstead Sewerage Scheme
Location:	Belstead, Suffolk
NGR:	613228 241134
Type:	Evaluation and Monitoring
Date:	11th to 21st October 2022
Planning reference:	n/a
OASIS ID:	Cotswold2-509419
Location of Archive:	To be deposited with Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS), the digital archive will also be deposited with the Archaeological Data Service (ADS)
Site Code:	BSD 037

In October 2022, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation in and around the village of Belstead, Suffolk, in association with an Anglian Water Sewerage Scheme. Seven trenches were excavated, five of which contained archaeological features. A probable post-medieval field boundary was recorded in two trenches at the southern end of the project area. In three trenches at the north end of the project area a series of features dated to the Late Iron Age/early Roman and later Roman periods were recorded. Three test pits excavated by Anglian Water were continuously monitored but these did not expose any archaeological deposits or artefacts.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. In October 2022, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological trenched evaluation and programme of continuous archaeological monitoring in and around the Suffolk village of Belstead (centred at NGR: 613228 241134; Fig. 1). in advance of an Anglian Water Sewerage Scheme. These works were undertaken for Anglian Water Limited.
- 1.2. The Planning Authority were advised by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS), the Archaeological Advisors to the Local Planning Authority (LPA), that any consent for the proposed scheme should be conditional upon an agreed programme of archaeological work taking place before development begins in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (MHCLG 2021).
- 1.3. A SCCAS Brief (dated 14th September 2022) outlining a required programme of archaeological work was produced by Hannah Cutler, the SCCAS Archaeological Advisor (Cutler 2022a). It called for an archaeological evaluation to be carried out in the proposed compound area, pumping stations A and B, and a section of the pipe route to the east of Holly Lane, to the north of Belstead village. The location of pumping station B was subsequently moved. Consequently, the evaluation targeted an adjacent lay down area rather the station site itself.
- 1.4. A second SCCAS Brief (Cutler 2022b) required a programme of continuous archaeological monitoring be carried out on three of eleven planned trial pits, the six rising main launch pits and an area of open strip pipe trench, which could not be trenched due to the presence of extant services, all within the bounds of Belstead village.
- 1.5. The archaeological works were carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by CA (2022) and approved by the Archaeological Advisor. The WSI covered the trenched evaluation and monitoring works only. Any further stages of archaeological work that might be required as a consequence of the results of these works will be subject to new documentation.
- 1.6. The evaluation was also undertaken in line with *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (ClfA 2020), *SCC Requirements for Trenched Evaluation* (SCCAS 2021), *EAA Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003), *Management of Research Projects in the Historic*

Environment (MoRPHE) PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation (Historic England 2015a) and *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (Historic England 2015b).

The site

- 1.7. The archaeological works were to take place at various locations close to the village of Belstead, in the Civil Parish of Belstead, in the Babergh District of Suffolk (Fig. 1). All archaeological works were located within agricultural fields located to the north, south and west of the village. The proposed development area to the north of the village lies at approximately 30m AOD, with the proposed development area to the south of village at c.40m AOD.
- 1.8. The surface geology is mapped as Lowestoft Formation – sand and gravels, superficial deposits associated with glacial and inter-glacial periods during the Quaternary Period in a local environment previously dominated by ice age conditions. These sedimentary deposits are glacial 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 inter-glacial periods during the Quaternary. The underlying bedrock geology of this area comprises Red Crag Formation formed of sedimentary rocks in a local environment previously dominated by shallow seas (BGS 2022).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1. A search of the Suffolk Historic Environment Records (SHER) within a 1km study area around the proposed development site was undertaken as part of the evaluation (search commissioned 11th November 2022).
- 2.2. The search produced a total of thirty-seven entries pertinent to this project (see Fig. 2 for the recorded locations). These are summarised by historic period in the table overleaf:

HER ref.	Summary
Prehistoric	
BSD 001	Surface scatter of Mesolithic flint instruments
WHR 017	Neolithic polished flint axe, tip missing, length 5 3/4 inches, found near Pannington Hall
Iron Age/Roman	
BSD 002	C1 'Belgic' pottery, including imported handle with applied twist. Found in gravel pit NW of Belstead Church. Pit now overgrown in meadow
BSD 003	Bronze coin of Constantine I (AD 307-337), found in garden of 4 Holly Lane
BSD 009	Possible Iron Age pottery. Dark brown sherd with red-brown outer surface, burnt flint gritting. Found near Belstead Brook
BSD 028	Excavation revealed features potentially dated to the earlier/middle Iron Age, marking the beginning of a continuous phase of activity that extended into the 2nd century AD. The deposits were initially limited to ditches/gullies, relating to landscape management, probably for arable fields and stock control, and pits. A group of small Iron Age features located at the northern end of the site were recorded as a possible roundhouse, although the evidence for this was not compelling. Given that no definite structural evidence was recorded, but the artefactual assemblage was reasonably large, the site has been interpreted as lying within the area of a wider Roman farmstead, but marginally away from the main focus of occupation. A background scatter of potentially Neolithic or Bronze Age flint also recorded
IPS 989	Roman coin findspot, Follis of Constantine the Great. SOLI INVICO COMITI, Lyons mint (306 AD to 337 AD)
WHR 010	Dense concentration of Roman pottery sherds, west of Thorrington Hall, covering top and SE facing slope of hill
WHR 036	Scatter of coins, range Trajan (AD 98-117) - Constantinian (AD 335-341) found metal detecting Close to Rom pottery scatter (WHR 010) and cropmark complex (WHR 024).
Saxon	
WHR 118	fieldwalking survey of Pannington Hall area located single ? Ipswich ware body sherd
medieval	
BSD 004	Bronze seal matrix of Greyfriars of Ipswich. Pointed oval shape with impression of ecclesiastic surrounded by words "FRATR' MINOR' GYPEWIC"
BSD 007	Tower/Gateway incorporated into present house, circa late C13/early C14. Two centred arch, bricks could be late C13. Interpreted as an entrance in the corner of an enclosed space to the SW
BSD 010	Church of St Mary and churchyard, medieval
BSD 013	Archaeological monitoring identified a possible moat or ditch associated with Belstead Hall
BSD 019	Belstead Hall farmstead has origins in the 14th century. It has a complex history of development. Whilst parts of the original 14th century structure survive, including a medieval tower, numerous phases of alteration and re-building can be identified. Changes to the hall were carried out during all preceding centuries, with a new range constructed in c.1800, which is likely to have been built on the site of the original great hall (see also BSD 013 and 019)
BSD 025	Late medieval or early post-medieval gilded copper alloy ?cross shaped ?mount or fitting

Post medieval	
BSD 015	The bakehouse, an historically important brick building of the 17th C. The structure retains a clasped-purlin roof with wind-braces of c. 1640, apparently contemporary with parlour of adjacent building, added to a 15th C open Hall
BSD 017	WW2 Auxiliary unit operation base within Old Hall Wood
BSD 032	Street Farm is a farmstead visible on the 1st Ed Os map, ?post-medieval origin
BSD 033	Charity Farm is a farmstead visible on the 1st Ed Os map. The farmstead is laid out in a dispersed plan. The farmhouse is detached and set away from the yard. The farmstead sits alongside a public road in an isolated location. Only the farmhouse remains
Undated	
BSD 005	Cropmarks of a large rectilinear enclosure, field system, trackway and ditches of possible prehistoric date
BSD 006	Extensive cropmarks of field boundaries, trackway, enclosures, a round barrow and a wood boundary of a multi-period date. The round barrow is 17m in diameter, with no entrances or internal features. The enclosure is incomplete and is on a different orientation to the surrounding field boundaries and is crossed by a narrow trackway which runs on a south-west - north-east orientation
BSD 008	Cropmarks of a possible enclosure, trackway and field boundaries of an unknown date
BSD 012	Cropmarks of possible ring ditch(es?). Within former parkland of Belstead Hall - possibly remnants of landscape features
BSD 016	Cropmarks of field boundaries, an enclosure, extractive pits and ditches of an unknown date. There are two large extraction pits close to the enclosure and a series of short ditches
BSD 020	Cropmarks of field boundaries of unknown date on a similar orientation to existing field system, although they are not marked on the 1st edition OS mapping.
BSD 021	Cropmarks of a ring-ditch, which may represent a ploughed out round barrow, is 24m in diameter and was destroyed by road construction
BTY 023	Old Hall Wood. Ancient woodland as recorded by Nature Conservancy Council. June 1992. Suffolk Inventory of Ancient Woodland
PIN 010	Geophysics survey recorded a number of linear/curvilinear trends in the western part of the site. Some exhibited limited potential as buried ditches
WHR 006	Cropmark of a semi-circular remains of ring ditch or small circular enclosure, circa 40m diameter, against a modern field boundary
WHR 007	Cropmark of a ring ditch, 28m in diameter, which may represent a ploughed out Bronze Age round barrow, partially removed on SE side by road
WHR 023	Circular ditch, circa 15m diameter mapped by AP assessment. Possible Bronze Age round barrow
WHR 024	Cropmarks of a rectilinear field system with trackways
WHR 046	Spinney/Wherstead Woods. Ancient woodland as recorded by Nature Conservancy Council. June 1992. Suffolk Inventory of Ancient Woodland
WHR 047	Spring Wood. Ancient woodland as recorded by Nature Conservancy Council. June 1992. Suffolk Inventory of Ancient Woodland
WHR 048	Possible ring ditch cropmark reported as seen on slope near road whilst travelling along A14. Said to be "12-14 feet across"
WHR 136	Common, visible on 1880s OS mapping as uncultivated land

Table 1. Summaries of HER entries within a 1km search area

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- 2.3. Prehistoric evidence is limited to a scatter of Mesolithic flints (BSD 001) and a fragment of a Neolithic polished axe (WHR 017), recorded c.500m and 750m, respectively, from the project area.
- 2.4. A number of undated cropmarks are recorded within the study area. Some of these lie close to the project area and have the potential to be the result of prehistoric activity. Of greatest potential are the sites of possible burial mounds (BSD 006, BSD 012, BSD 021, WHR 006, WHR 007, WHR 023 and WHR 048), although it is stated that the ring ditches at BSD 012 may in fact be post-medieval landscape features within the grounds of Belstead Hall. Also potentially prehistoric, but for which a later date cannot be ruled out, are the cropmarks relating to field systems and trackways (BSD 005, BSD 006, BSD 008, BSD 016, BSD 020 and WHR 024). Three of the proposed evaluation trenches (Trenches 5, 6 and 7) lie within the area defined by BSD 006 although they did not coincide with any features visible in aerial photographs, as recorded by the National Mapping Programme.
- 2.5. There are a few entries relating to the finding of occasional Roman coins, probably simply chance losses rather than indications of actual Roman activity. Of greater interest is the Iron Age and Roman site recorded at BSD 028, which is suggestive of significant settlement activity that is situated close the northern part of the project area. This activity could also be potentially related to the cropmarks recorded within BSD 008. The scatter of Roman pottery and coins to the east (WHR 010 and WHR 036) could suggest a continuation of the settlement or a separate focus of activity.
- 2.6. Saxon evidence is restricted to a single body sherd of Ipswich ware found over 900m to the southeast of the project area.
- 2.7. The presence of the medieval church of St Mary and the medieval evidence recorded at nearby Belstead Hall are testimony to activity in the area during this period. It is likely the present village of Belstead is medieval in origin although no evidence for this is recorded in the HER but a number of 16th century Listed Buildings present within the village.
- 2.8. Post-medieval sites generally comprise extant buildings, such as farmhouses and the 17th century bakehouse at Blacksmith's Corner (BSD 015), and the distant site of a WW2 base in Old Hall Wood.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Archaeological Evaluation

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. This information is to enable SCCAS to identify and assess the particular significance of any archaeological heritage assets within the site, consider the impact of any future 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 2021). A further objective of the project is to compile a stable, ordered, accessible project archive.

3.1. The SCCAS Brief (Section 4.2) states the specific aims of the evaluation are 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 order of costs.

3.2. Any archaeological remains that are identified will be put into their local and regional context with reference to the East Anglian Regional Research Agenda (Medlycott 2011) and the more recent updated version (<https://researchframeworks.org/eoe/>).

Continuous Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

3.3. The SCCAS Monitoring Brief (Section 4.2) states the specific aims of the evaluation are that all ground works, and also the upcast soil, for the areas of the rising main launch pits (to the north of the village only) and trial pits (off the road) and the open strip at c.TM133414, which cannot be trenched due to services, were to be closely monitored during and after excavation by the archaeological contractor (and subject to metal-detecting survey) in order to ensure no damage occurs to any heritage assets. Adequate time was to be allowed for cleaning of the archaeological horizon

(where encountered), archaeological recording of archaeological deposits during excavation, and of soil sections following excavation.

4. METHODOLOGY

Archaeological Evaluation

4.1. The evaluation fieldwork comprised the excavation of seven trenches (Figs. 3 and 4), each 1.8m in width. The trenches were located to randomly sample the following aspects of the proposed scheme:

- Two 25m long x 1.8m wide trenches in the location of Gravity sewer to the east of Holly Lane (Trenches 1 and 2).
- A single 25m long x 1.8m wide trench in the location of Pumping station A (Trench 3),
- A single 25m long x 1.8m wide trench in the location of a laydown area in the vicinity of Pumping station B (Trench 4),
- Two 25m long x 1.8m wide trenches and one 19m long x 1.8m wide trench in the Compound Area (Trenches 5, 6 and 7).

4.2. Trenches were set out on OS National Grid co-ordinates using Leica GPS.

4.3. The overburden was stripped from the trenches using a 13-tonne mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket. All machining was conducted under archaeological supervision to the top of the natural substrate, which was the level at which archaeological features were first encountered.

4.4. Archaeological features/deposits were investigated, planned and recorded in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 1: Fieldwork Recording Manual*.

4.5. Deposits were assessed for their palaeoenvironmental potential in accordance with *CA Technical Manual 2: The Taking and Processing of Environmental and Other Samples from Archaeological Sites*. No deposits were identified that required sampling.

Continuous Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

4.6. The monitoring comprised the continuous observation and recording by a competent archaeologist of the excavation of three of the eleven test pits that were excavated by Anglian Water (Test Pits 3, 4 and 9, see Figs. 3 and 4). Test Pit 3 was excavated by

hand. Test Pits 4 and 9 were excavated through using a combination of hand excavation and the extraction of material with a vacuum excavator. The pits were excavated in order to confirm the location of an existing water main.

- 4.7. The resultant pits were photographically recorded and located using Leica GPS.
- 4.8. The excavation of the six rising main launch pits and an area of open strip pipe trench were not monitored at this time. This work will not be undertaken until later in 2023 and the results of the monitoring will be either be appended to this report or described in a separate report depending on the level of the results.

Archiving

- 4.9. CA will make arrangements with SCCAS for the deposition of the project archive. A digital archive will also be prepared and deposited with CBC and the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). The archives (museum and digital) will be prepared and deposited in accordance with *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (CIfA 2020).
- 4.10. A summary of information from this project, as set out in Appendix E, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

5. RESULTS

- 5.1. This section provides an overview of the evaluation results. Detailed summaries of the recorded contexts are given in Appendix A. Details of the artefactual material recovered from the site are given in Section 6 and Appendix B. Details of the environmental samples (palaeoenvironmental evidence) are given in Section 7 and Appendix C. Relative heights of the principal deposits expressed as metres Above Ordnance Datum (m AOD) are given in Appendix D.
- 5.2. Trenches 1, 2 and 3 were located within a grassed pasture whilst Trenches 4 to 7 were within arable fields. Archaeological features were present in five of the trenches excavated, namely Trenches 1, 2, 3, 6 and 7. The trenches are described below:

Trench 1 (Figs. 3 and 5)

- 5.3. The natural subsoil encountered comprised an orange to pale brown silty sand with frequent inclusions of sub angular and sub rounded stones, which lay at a depth of c.0.6m below an overburden of topsoil which, in turn, overlay a subsoil of dark grey-brown silty sand.

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- 5.4. Within this trench, an area of dark grey-brown silty sand with occasional patches of pale silt was present (layer 103) which contained occasional sherds of pottery and fragments of ceramic building material (CBM), dating to the Roman period. The layer encompassed the full width of the trench and extended for a length of c.9m. It was presumed to be a possible occupation layer or the upper fill of a large feature or possibly multiple features. Given that its full extent was not present within the trench it was agreed with the Curatorial Officer that the investigation of this deposit would be the subject of future mitigation.

Metal detecting of the resultant spoil from the trench identified multiple fragments of metalwork all of which are probably post-medieval in date, although for some pieces a possible medieval date cannot be ruled out.

Trench 2 (Figs. 3 and 6)

- 5.5. The natural subsoil and overburden were similar to that seen in Trench 1. The trench contained a single feature, 203, interpreted as a ditch aligned roughly northwest-southeast. It measured 3m in width and 0.31m deep and contained a single fill (204) of greyish brown silty sand mottled with yellow/orange sand. The fill also contained frequent chalk flecks and occasional charcoal flecks. Finds recovered comprised two sherds of early Roman pottery and a single fragment of Roman roof tile.

Trench 3 (Figs. 3 and 7)

- 5.6. The natural subsoil of orangey yellow sand silty clay lay at a depth of c.0.5m below topsoil and a subsoil of mid greyish brown sandy silt. Three features were present within the trench.
- 5.7. Ditch 303, located towards in the southeastern half of the trench and aligned southwest-northeast. It measured 0.8m in width and 0.15m deep with a single fill (304) of pale brown sandy silt from which a single sherd of early Roman pottery was recovered.
- 5.8. A roughly circular pit, 305, was located towards the northwest end of the trench. It measured c.0.96m in diameter and was 0.56 deep. The fill (306) comprised a dark grey sandy silt with frequent charcoal and ash from which ten sherds of possible Late Iron Age or early Roman pottery and occasional fragments of Roman CBM were recovered. A bulk soil sample was taken from this fill (Sample 1), analysis of which indicates the fill contains debris suggestive of domestic occupation.

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- 5.9. The pit was cut by a ditch, 307, on a southwest-northeast alignment. It measured 1.7m in width and 0.22m deep and had a single fill of grey sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks. Finds comprised fourteen sherds of 1st - 2nd century AD pottery, including a large sherd of samian pottery, although the possibility of this, and the other finds recovered, having originated from Pit 305 cannot be ruled out.

Trenches 4 and 5 (Figs. 4 and 10)

- 5.10. No archaeological features were present within either of these trenches.
- 5.11. Trench 4 was excavated across a laydown area in the vicinity of the proposed location of Pumping Station B. It measured just short of 25m in length and 0.35m deep, at which point a natural subsoil of orangey red sandy silt/clay with frequent sub angular stones and occasional grey silt patches was encountered beneath an overburden of modern plough soil.
- 5.12. Trench 5 was located in the southern compound area. It measured 26m in length and was cut to a depth of 0.34m. The overburden comprised a modern plough soil which directly overlay a natural subsoil of orangey brown firm silty clay mixed with a firm gravel.

Trench 6 (Figs. 4 and 8)

- 5.13. The natural subsoil within this trench comprised orangey firm silty clay with frequent stones and chalk flecks that was directly overlain by modern ploughsoil. This trench contained a single ditch, 602, aligned east-west. It measured 1.8m in width and was 0.44m deep with a single fill (603) of brownish grey silty clay, mottled with orange silt, with occasional chalk flecks and charcoal flecks. Two sherds of post-medieval pottery, part of a clay pipe and a number of fragments of medieval/post-medieval roof tile were recovered from the ditch fill, along with an iron door stud or timber spike of probable post-medieval date.

Trench 7 (Figs. 4 and 9)

- 5.14. This trench exposed a similar natural subsoil and overburden and contained a continuation of the ditch seen in Trench 6, which ran the length of the trench on a similar alignment.

Test Pit 3 (Figs. 3, 4 and 11)

- 5.15. A narrow linear trench excavated by Anglian Water using hand tools within an arable field to the north of Chapel Lane. It measured c.5m in length and was 0.6m wide. The

exposed soil profile comprised topsoil directly over a natural subsoil of orange clay at a depth of 0.3m. The southeastern end was cut in the toe of an earthwork bank that ran along the north edge of the adjacent Chapel Lane. The trench revealed it to be formed of topsoil. No archaeological features were identified and no finds recovered.

Test Pit 4 (Figs. 3, 4 and 11)

- 5.16. A narrow linear trench excavated by Anglian Water using hand tools and a suction excavator within an arable field to the north of Chapel Lane. It measured 25m in length and 0.65m wide and revealed a natural subsoil of orange silty clay directly below the overlying topsoil at a depth of 0.3m. Modern disturbance was noted towards the northern end of the pit, but no significant archaeological features were identified and no finds recovered.

Test Pit 9 (Figs. 4 and 11)

- 5.17. A narrow linear trench excavated by Anglian Water using hand tools and a suction excavator within an area of lawn in front of the village hall on Grove Hill. It measured 2.7m in length and 0.75m wide and revealed a natural subsoil of orange silty clay directly below the overlying topsoil at a depth of 0.3m. No archaeological features were identified and no finds recovered.

6. THE FINDS

Stephen Benfield with Alex Bliss: *metalwork*

Introduction

- 6.1. A modest assemblage of finds dating to the prehistoric, Roman, medieval/post-medieval and post-medieval period was recovered. The assemblage is dominated by pottery and ceramic building material (CBM) of Roman date, the pottery spanning the whole Roman period of the 1st-4th century, with possible origins in the Late Iron Age including a sherd from a pre-Flavian Gallo-Belgic fine ware import. A small assemblage of metalwork, recovered by metal detecting, is poorly dated but is entirely of medieval/post-medieval and post-medieval date.
- 6.2. All the finds have been cleaned and recorded in accordance with ClfA guidelines (ClfA 2021, Type 2 assemblage). Quantification was principally by count and weight by material type in each context and this information was entered into the Access database for the project. The finds have been briefly summarised with quantities and spot dates in Appendix B (Table 1).

Pottery

- 6.3. In total forty-four sherds (975g) of pottery were recovered, with a combined weight of 975g. Almost all of this is Late Iron Age and Roman with a just a single sherd of prehistoric and two sherds of post-medieval pottery. The sherds were catalogued by fabric using a hand lens (x8 magnification) and to a lesser extent using a binocular microscope (x8.75 magnification). The pottery fabrics were recorded using the Suffolk fabric series (see Lyons and Tester 2014); these are listed and quantified in Appendix B (Table 2).

Prehistoric pottery

- 6.4. A single, small sherd of abraded, prehistoric flint-tempered pottery (4g) was recovered from ditch 307 (context 308) in Trench 3. The sherd is residual in this context which also contained Roman pottery and brick/tile. It is difficult to confidently date within the prehistoric period, but the nature of the flint temper suggests a Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age date is most likely.

Late Iron Age and Roman pottery

- 6.5. A small assemblage of Roman pottery and grog-tempered pottery of Late Iron Age tradition was recovered, consisting of a total of forty-one sherds (945g). The pottery comes from a soil layer (context 103) in Trench 1, ditch 203 in Trench 2 and from pit 305 and ditches 303 and 307 in Trench 3. Most of the pottery comes from the soil layer (103) and from pit 305 and ditch 307, with only one or two sherds from each of the other two ditches.
- 6.6. The assemblage can be divided between early groups from pit 305 and ditch 307 which includes grog-tempered pottery of Late Iron Age tradition and among which the latest closely dated pottery is a Les Martres-de-Veyre samian dish, current as an import into Britain in the early 2nd century and the pottery from the soil layer in trench 1 which includes types of fabrics and vessel forms that span the Roman period from the 1st-4th century.
- 6.7. The pottery from pit 305 consists of a total of ten sherds (248g). This includes grog-tempered sherds (GTW), one of which is from a grog-tempered large storage jar (STORG) and one, probably two, examples of the jar form Cam 266. One is a significant section from the upper part of the pot in Black surface ware (BSW), the other is a rim in Roman greyware (GX). The form Cam 266 is a relatively simple and common form of necked jar with a bead rim which appears in the early 1st century

AD in Britain. It is possibly of continental background as it, or a similar parallel form, is common on Early Roman military sites at Haltern (established by c.7-8 BC) and Nijmegen (established by c.9 AD) (Hawkes and Hull 1947, 271; Wells 1972, 168 and 119 respectively). However, this form was also produced in large numbers in both Iron Age 'native technique' and in Romanising wares at *Camulodunum* (Colchester) (*ibid.*) established c.5 AD (Niblett 1985, Table 1) and Roman greyware examples from the later (pre-Flavian) Colonia there may represent an import of the continental form alongside other Gallo-Roman pottery types (Symonds and Wade 1999, 479). Of the two pots here, one and probably both post-date AD 43 and the greyware example might possibly be Flavian or later. The form is not current beyond the late 1st or early 2nd century.

- 6.8. Ditch 307 produced fourteen sherds (298g). There are two sherds of grog-tempered pottery of Iron Age background (GTW), both possibly wheelmade and probably dating to the period of the early-mid 1st century, although one has a heavily combed surface and is almost certainly Iron Age. Also of early date is a small sherd of imported Gaulish *terra rubra* (TR) (see Tyers 1996, 161) which is from a closed mouth pot, probably most likely a beaker form. In terms of dating this pottery is part of a group of fabrics and vessel forms broadly termed Gallo-Belgic wares which first appear on Early Roman (Augustan) military sites in the Rhineland. These are imported into Britain the pre-conquest period from the late 1st BC or early 1st century AD and *terra rubra* remains current into the pre-Flavian period.
- 6.9. The group from ditch 307 also contains pottery of early 2nd century date. This includes part of a samian dish from Les Martres-de-Veyre (SAMV) and the peak of import from this central Gaulish source only lasted for a short period at the beginning of the 2nd century c.AD 100/110-120. The dish, which is represented by several joining sherds, has been cut down to the base of the wall making the form difficult to identify, although it is probably either Dr. 18 or possibly Dr. 18/31 (Webster 1996, 32-33). There is no trace of an off-set at the outside join of the base and wall often present on Dr. 18 (*ibid.*, fig 20) but overall the form, as it remains, seems likely to have been Dr. 18. There is the beginning of the cartouche of a potter's name stamp on one sherd, but this is certainly not sufficient to identify the potter.
- 6.10. The surviving cut-down edge has been smoothed-off so that the pot was carefully cut-down for reuse, possibly as a lid. This could suggest that it had some age when

deposited in the ditch, although the surfaces of the dish are not particularly abraded, and it seems likely it was deposited in the first or second quarter of the 2nd century.

- 6.11. Also of probably Early Roman date is a rim sherd from a necked jar in black-surfaced, finely micaceous fabric (GMB). Although some fine mica is not uncommon in Roman pots in East Anglia the sherd here is sufficiently micaceous to suggest it might be a product of the Wattisfield potteries, located in the Waveney Valley (Moore et al 1988, 60). However, the mica in the sherd is quite fine. Distinctly micaceous pottery, albeit greyware, is present at Colchester from the mid-late 1st century onwards (Symonds and Wade 1999, Fabric WA 418-427) and the site here is on the probable edge of the general distribution of Wattisfield pottery (Rippon 2018, fig 188) so that a more local source than Wattisfield for the piece here may be possible. The necked jar form itself suggests a mid 1st-early 2nd century date for this sherd.
- 6.12. The pottery from soil layer 103 in Trench 1 is of a different order to the early pottery from the pit and ditch in Trench 3. There are fourteen sherds (339g) of pottery from this layer. The date range of this pottery spans the early-mid 1st century to late 4th century and clearly this is an accumulation of material extending into the Late Roman period.
- 6.13. The earliest pottery is a single grog-tempered sherd, dating to the early-mid 1st century. There is also a single sherd in Black surface ware (BSW) with vertical, comb impressed rows that appears to be from a beaker of form Cam 108, dating to the mid-1st-early 2nd century. Although similar decoration continues to be used on the developed Butt Beaker form Cam 119 it seems it belongs to this long-lived form rather than the early rounded beaker.
- 6.14. The pottery from this layer also includes two spalls from the surface of what appears to be amphora (AA) which are likely to be from a Dressel 20 oil amphora, from southern Spain, current from the mid-1st century to the 3rd century.
- 6.15. Otherwise, the more closely dated of the pottery from the soil layer is 2nd century and later. Sherds that can be closely dated are a single piece of Central Gaulish samian (SACG) probably from a bowl of form Dr. 31, dating to the second half of the 2nd century and a sherd from a bead rim dish of form Cam 37A in Black surface ware, the relatively pointed bead indicating a 2nd century rather than a 3rd century date. With these is a large sherd from a white ware mortarium with a rounded flange which

also preserves the spout which has flattened rounded lobes. This seems almost certain to be a Colchester product (COLM) of 2nd-early 3rd century date, although it can be noted that somewhat similar mortaria were also produced at Ellingham in southeast Norfolk (Bates and Lyons, 2003).

- 6.16. The latest closely dated pottery from this layer is an abraded sherd from an Oxford red colour coated (OXRC) carinated bowl with rouletted decoration. The shape of the pot wall corresponds with Young's types C81-C85 (1977) broadly dated to the 4th and late 4th century; Oxford red colour-coated ware is typically 4th century or even later 4th century in Suffolk (Plouviez 1976, 88-89) corresponding with similar evidence for a late date in Essex (Going 1987, 115-116; Symonds and Wade 1999, 304).

Discussion

- 6.17. Much of the discussion of the pottery is included in the summary below and only a few points are discussed in this section.
- 6.18. The pottery would appear to relate to settlement either on or immediately adjacent to the site.
- 6.19. The most significant of the pottery recovered is that of the Late Iron Age-Early Roman period encompassing the early-mid and later 1st century AD. Although just one sherd, the Gallo-Belgic *terra rubra* import is significant in that it suggests some status to the site in the early-mid 1st century AD. It indicates some level of integration into the social exchange and the display of social achievement and aspiration within the Trinovantian tribal area and wider southeast of England that incorporates the importation of items related to Romano-Belgic style cuisine and social habits. A similar interpretation is placed on a very small quantity of *terra rubra* among a relatively modest assemblage from Holly Mount, Billericay in Essex (Tester 2010), although sherds of Dressel 1 amphora were also present there. Also, it should be born in mind that the remainder of the more closely dated of the early pottery consists exclusively of coarsewares.
- 6.20. The later Roman pottery includes material dating from the 2nd-4th century and includes a range of vessels again indicating a certain level of Romanisation, with plain samian vessels, a mortarium, large storage jars and a probable amphora.

Post-Roman (post-medieval) pottery

- 6.21. Two sherds of post-medieval glazed pottery (26g), both from the same pot, were recovered from ditch 602. These are post-medieval Glazed red earthenware (GRE) current from the 16th-18th century and come from an open bowl or bowl-like form as there is glaze on both the internal and external surface.

Ceramic building material

- 6.22. Nineteen pieces (1,150g) of ceramic building material (CBM) were recovered. These come from a layer (context 103) in Trench 1, ditch 204 in Trench 2, ditch 307 in Trench 3 and ditch 602 in Trench 6. Almost all of this is pieces of Roman roofing tile, although those recovered from ditch 602 are medieval or post-medieval roofing tile.

Roman CBM

- 6.23. The CBM that can be dated to the Roman period consists of pieces from *tegula* (TEG) roofing tiles with a few pieces that are not closely identified but are probably Roman, either brick or tile. Together these total ten pieces (960g). This material comes from a soil layer, context 103, in Trench 1 and from ditches 203 (Trench 2) and 307 (Trench 3). The CBM from layer 103 is associated with Roman pottery with a potential date range spanning the whole the Roman period, The CBM from the ditches is associated with small groups pottery typical of 1st century-early 2nd century.
- 6.24. The Roman CBM is all in relatively fine, orange-coloured fabrics with inclusions of fine (fs) and fine-medium (f-ms) sand. This might suggest a single source of production.
- 6.25. The pieces from layer 103 include parts of two front edge (lower) cut-aways. One is near complete and can be identified as Warry's type D16 (2006, fig 1.3) which he suggests can be dated to the 3rd-4th century (*ibid* 63). However, there are acknowledged problems with this proposed dating scheme (*ibid.*, 63 footnote 42) but a general later Roman date appears probably more likely than one in the Early Roman period for this particular tile.
- 6.26. The pieces from ditch 307 are of a slightly different nature. Although there is some dark staining in the break the fabric appears similar to that of the typologically identifiable pieces of Roman CBM from the other contexts, but the surface is buff rather than the orange of the fabric and the surviving edge is slightly rounded. That this was recovered with a modest but significant quantity of Roman pottery, the latest

of which can be dated to the period of the early 2nd century, indicates it is almost undoubtedly Roman.

Post-Roman CBM

- 6.27. The post-Roman CBM consists of a small group of nineteen pieces (234g) of thin roofing tile (RT) from the fill of ditch 602 (context 603) in Trench 6. The pieces are approximately 13mm thick. One has a square peg hole and this, together with the other pieces, can be identified as peg tile (PT). They are in a fine-medium sand fabric, but unlike the Roman CBM (above) the fabric has a harsh feel, probably containing some greater quantity of sand and harder fired than the Roman.
- 6.28. This type of roofing tile is generally difficult to closely date. It is current from the 13th century but probably not in common use on many domestic buildings in East Anglia until the 14th century (Egan 1998, 28; Ryan and Andrews 1993, 97) after which it remains a common roofing material into the 19th and 20th century. The pieces here are almost certainly post-medieval as they were recovered alongside post-medieval pottery sherds dated to the 16th-18th century and a piece of clay pipe stem which certainly dates to after the late 16th or early 17th century.

Other finds

- 6.29. A single, small piece of clay tobacco pipe stem (weight 1g) was recovered from the fill of ditch 602 (context 603) in Trench 6. This certainly dates to after the late 16th or early 17th century and is almost certainly no later than the late 19th or early 20th century.

Metalwork

- 6.30. Twenty metal objects (223g) were recovered; all were found by metal detecting. One object is of lead/lead alloy and the remainder iron. All except one were recovered unstratified from the site's topsoil in the vicinity of Trench 1.
- 6.31. The artefacts have been catalogued directly onto an MS Access database and recorded in accordance with guidelines set out in the ClfA Toolkit for Specialist Recording (ClfA 2021). They have been visually examined with the assistance of low powered magnification, but without the assistance of radiography. A summary catalogue listing is included in Appendix B, Table 1.

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- 6.32. The overall condition of the objects is generally poor, most being heavily corroded an/or broken – evidencing their spending much time in the turbated topsoil. All have been packed in perforated bags and stored in an airtight box with silica gel.

Medieval or post medieval

- 6.33. An iron jointed-link or mouthpiece (Ra 2) originating from a snaffle bit utilised as a component of horse harness was metal detected from topsoil 100 (trench 1). Snaffle bits and their related attachments changed relatively little in form from the medieval to modern periods and as such it is hard to assign a closer date – especially since this example is unstratified. Ward-Perkins (1940, 80-82) notes similar mouthpieces from the medieval period and classifies them as his type II, while a broadly identical example on the PAS database survives attached to both another jointed-link and its original accompanying cheekpieces (Gilmore 2008). The latter has been assigned a Roman date, but a post medieval date is considered more likely.

Post-medieval

- 6.34. An iron door stud or timber spike (Ra 3) was discovered in fill 603 of ditch 602 (trench 6), demonstrating a thin shank and a large, slightly domed head of c.28mm diameter. The latter feature suggests it is a door stud or alternatively a large timber spike used as a fixture in conjunction with large beams. Based its form and the post-medieval pottery originating from the feature, it is probably of broad post-medieval date (c.1500-1800).

Uncertain date

- 6.35. The singular non-ferrous item of metalwork (Ra 1) was recovered from topsoil 100 (Trench 1) but it cannot be securely identified nor assigned a date. The object consists of a small, circular piece of lead that may be a fortuitously shaped piece of melted structural lead or possibly constitute a heavily worn lead token.
- 6.36. A group of seventeen iron nails and nail fragments was also collected from topsoil 100. All are generic carpentry nails of various forms widely utilised from the Roman to post-medieval periods, practically undatable when encountered unstratified. Head types visible within this group include rectangular, round, oval and offset examples.

Discussion

- 6.37. This small assemblage of metalwork is of very limited value in understanding the dating or function of the site. The nails and timber spike/stud are all highly generic

objects, while the snaffle bit fragment only serves to suggest the presence of horses on and around the site – which could hint at past agricultural practices, though is otherwise uninformative.

- 6.38. The metal objects suggest a general background of human activity in the area – though their undiagnostic nature does not really inform when this is likely to have taken place. It is likely that the majority of them entered the archaeological record as either casual losses or discarded debris.
- 6.39. All the artefacts have been fully recorded to archive standards however it is recommended that the metalwork undergo radiography.

Summary

- 6.40. There is a single sherd of residual, flint-tempered prehistoric pottery, most probably of Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age date. Otherwise, all the finds are Late Iron Age to Early Roman or Roman and post-medieval.
- 6.41. Late Iron Age to Early Roman and Roman finds of pottery and CBM make up the great majority of the finds recovered. These come from Trenches 1, 2 and 3 with Late Iron Age and Early Roman pottery associated with a pit in Trench 2 and ditches in Trenches 2 and 3 and pottery potentially spanning the Roman period including one sherd of 4th century, probably late 4th century, coming from a soil layer in Trench 1.
- 6.42. The Late Iron Age to Early Roman and Roman pottery assemblage is small and the modest number of sherds makes detailed comment difficult, but certain of the pottery finds indicate some significant aspects to the site.
- 6.43. It is not clear if the activity represented by the pottery includes a definite Late Iron Age, pre-conquest, element but the presence of several sherds of grog-tempered pottery indicates this is certainly possible or likely.
- 6.44. Although located in what is accepted as a northern area of Trinovantian territory in the Late Iron Age the pottery certainly shows a strong association with the area to the south, rather than that typical of the Iceni tribal culture group to the north. This is most clearly seen in the Late Iron Age and Early Roman pottery, but also appears among the later Roman pottery.
- 6.45. The most striking aspect is the presence of a sherd of imported Gallo-Belgic *terra rubra* which sets the finds apart from many other assemblages of the period from

rural sites. Gallo-Belgic pottery, including *terra rubra*, was imported into the southeast of England from the late Augustan period. This pottery is broadly current in the pre-Flavian period in Britain; although while *terra rubra* continues to be imported into the Claudio-Neronian period its currency may not extend quite as late some other of the Gallo-Belgic suite of imports such as the dark surface *terra nigra*. In London, possibly occupied as early as c.AD 48 but probably with the beginnings of a street grid laid c.AD 52 (Perring 2022, 64-65 and 73) *terra nigra* is present in small quantities but *terra rubra* is all but absent (Davies et al 1994, 166), also, at Colchester *terra rubra* is very scarce among the pottery from the fortress and early *Colonia* (founded c.AD 43 and 49 respectively) while *terra nigra* is better represented (Bidwell 1999, 489). Other factors may affect this as *terra rubra* may never have been as common as *terra nigra* and more Romanised centres certainly preferred samian to Gallo-Belgic wares. But despite this, there appears possibly to be a significant drop in *terra rubra* imports by or during the early conquest period, samian possibly quickly replacing this red coloured table ware.

- 6.46. Gallo-Belgic wares are most common among assemblages in Essex and Hertfordshire, for example the Trinovantian oppidum at *Camulodunum* (Colchester) (Rigby 1981; Hawkes and Hull 1947) but this pottery is essentially absent in northern East Anglia (Tyers 1996, fig 201). This sherd and the presence of grog-tempered wheelmade pottery certainly indicate that the site fell with the Trinovantian area, either of the tribal group itself or its wider area of influence and cultural connection or control.
- 6.47. Possibly the closest comparable pottery is that from the early (pre-Flavian) phase at Burgh, Suffolk, northeast of Ipswich, which produced a significant assemblage of Gallo-Belgic pottery, including *terra rubra* and Late Iron Age grog-tempered pottery (Martin 1988) and can certainly be associated with the wider Trinovantian tribal group, but is one of, if not the most northerly of its members in East Anglia.
- 6.48. The pottery from the pits and ditches does not indicate any deposition of material after the early 2nd or early-mid 2nd century associated with these features. However, continued activity here or adjacent to the site, presumably settlement, is indicated by a range of pottery of 2nd -3rd century and 4th century date from the soil layer in Trench 1. A mortarium of probable Colchester manufacture indicates that the area was within the market zone supplying specialist products from that source in the 2nd or early 3rd century, as was Burgh in the same mid Roman period.

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- 6.49. The pottery assemblage overall indicates some level of status and Romanisation to the site. It was evidently connected at some level into the social networks that distributed imported fineware in the Trinovantian area in the Late Iron Age and early post-conquest period. The later assemblage also indicates a level of Romanisation through the presence of samian, the use of mortaria and the presence of amphora sherds.
- 6.50. However, it should be noted that there are no finds of metalwork dated to this period or any glass of this date among the assemblage. While the small number of finds recovered may not be particularly representative of the undoubtedly larger assemblage that presumably would have been in use on the site, the absence of metalwork, especially coins of mid and later Roman date, possibly indicates a relatively ordinary agricultural settlement during that period.
- 6.51. Post-Roman activity appears likely to be limited mostly or entirely to the post-medieval period and to the modern era. Apart from a few metal-detected finds, some of which are not closely dated, there are just the finds of pottery, CBM and a clay tobacco pipe stem from ditch 602. The pottery must have been deposited after the 16th century and the pipe stem after the late 16th or more likely the early 17th century.
- 6.52. Overall, the later (post-medieval) finds are of limited archaeological significance and suggest some possible rubbish disposal, casual loss and possible incidental material deposited as part of agricultural spread waste.

Significance of the finds

- 6.53. The main significance of the finds is in revealing a site on or immediately adjacent to a settlement occupied in the Late Iron Age to Early Roman period and Roman period during the 1st century-4th century AD. There is no indication of previous settlement here prior to the 1st century AD and no indication that any significant settlement here following it up to the present day.
- 6.54. Imported pre-Flavian Gallo-Belgic pottery indicates the settlement may have had some status in the early-mid 1st century AD and later Roman finds indicate a level of Romanisation in the following centuries. However, the absence of metalwork, notable coins and items such as brooches, does not (at present) suggest any great wealth; although the relatively small size of the assemblage of finds itself should be born in mind. A greater sample of finds from further archaeological work and understanding of their associated contexts would undoubtedly help to clarify the nature of the site.

7. THE BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

by Charlotte L. Molloy

- 7.1. On this evaluation project, a single bulk sample (20 L) was taken from Roman pit 305 in Trench 3. It was taken to evaluate the preservation and range of paleoenvironmental remains in this area, and with the intention of recovering environmental evidence of industrial or domestic activity on the site. It was also hoped that the sample would assist in confirming the date for this activity.
- 7.2. The sample was 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 charred plant remains or ecofacts are noted in Table 1. Appendix C. Identification of plant remains is with reference to *New Flora of the British Isles*, (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.
- 7.3. Sample 1 was taken from fill 306 of Roman pit 305. This flot was small and contained a very small quantity of fibrous root material. This suggests that the likelihood of post depositional movement of material is very low. This flot contained a moderate quantity of charred cereal grains. These included barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), oat (*Avena*), free threshing wheat (*Triticum turgidum/aestivum* type), and hulled wheat (emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/spelta*)). Moreover, it also contained a small number of other charred plant remains, such as oat/brome grass (*Avena/Bromus*) and vetch/wild pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus*). Both of those commonly grow on cultivated land and were probably accidentally harvested alongside cereal crops. It contained a moderate quantity of charcoal pieces, the majority of the charcoal in this flot was poorly preserved and comminuted.
- 7.4. Due to its volume, the charred plants present, and the charcoal present, this material appears to represent an accumulation of domestic waste. This suggests that there may have been settlement activity in the vicinity of this trench. Due to the fact that a range of edible cereals dominate the charred plant assemblage, it is possible that that this material represents sweepings from a domestic hearth, therefore, suggesting that the settlement activity in the vicinity of this trench may have been domestic. Moreover, due to the range of charred plants present, the assemblage would be compatible with the Roman date for this pit suggested by the pottery. During the

prehistoric and Roman period, the hulled wheats, emmer and spelt, were the dominant cereal crops in southern Britain (Godwin 1975).

Summary

- 7.5. The paleoenvironmental evidence suggests late Roman domestic settlement in the vicinity of Trench 3.

8. DISCUSSION

- 8.1. The evaluation has produced evidence of Roman activity in Trenches 1, 2 and 3, at the northern end of the project area. The ditches and a pit in Trenches 2 and 3 produced pottery of early Roman date along with fragments of CBM, probably roof tile, which along with the results of the bulk sample analysis, suggest domestic occupation.
- 8.2. The layer noted in Trench 1 has produced Roman pottery and fragments of roof tile, much of which has been dated to the 1st and 2nd centuries AD although a single sherd of pottery of possibly 4th century AD pottery was also recovered. Although abraded and therefore possible a coincidental intrusive find, the probability that multiple features are actually present cannot be discounted.
- 8.3. Together the evidence within Trenches 1, 2 and 3 clearly points towards the presence of a Late Iron Age/early Roman area of settlement in the immediate vicinity. The presence of roof tile would indicate the probable existence of a relatively high status structure. It is highly likely this activity is a continuation of the activity recorded to the south and dated to Iron Age to 2nd century AD (HER ref. BSD 028).
- 8.4. With a view to future research topics, as outlined in Medlycott (2011), evidence from this site, in conjunction with the results of the work undertaken at the nearby settlement site (BSD 028), has the potential to aid research into the Iron Age/Roman transition with reference to the possible changes in land use, agricultural practices and building types. The presence of imported pottery, albeit in very small quantities, may also shed some light on research into tribal politics and regional differences through the transition period and into the later Roman period.
- 8.5. The ditch recorded in Trenches 6 and 7 is likely to be a late post-medieval field boundary. It is not marked on the 19th century Ordnance Survey maps indicating it

had been filled prior to these map surveys. The finds can only be broadly dated to between the 16th to 18th century AD.

9. CA PROJECT TEAM

- 9.1. The evaluation was undertaken by Mark Sommers, assisted by Jandre Wolmarens and Thomas Hodkinson. The monitoring was by Liliana Serrano and Mark Sommers. This report was written by Mark Sommers. The report illustrations were prepared by Ken Lymer. The finds report was by Stephen Benfield with Alex Bliss, and the biological evidence report was by Charlotte L. Molloy. The project archive has been compiled by Aimee McManus and Clare Woolton and prepared for deposition by Zoe Emery. The project was managed for CA by Martin Cuthbert who, along with Stuart Boulter, also edited the report.

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APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Tr.	Context No.	Feature No.	Feature Category	Description <i>Interpretation</i>	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Small Finds
1	100		Layer	Topsoil - Mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional 1-5% inclusions of small sub rounded stones. <i>Modern topsoil</i>			0.29	101				N1, 1, 2
1	101		Layer	Subsoil - Mid greyish brown sandy silt of light compaction with occasional inclusions of sub rounded and sub angular stones. <i>Former topsoil leached of organic content</i>			0.24	102	100			
1	102		Layer	Natural subsoil - Orange to pale brown silty sand with frequent inclusions of sub angular and sub rounded stones.				103	101			
1	103		Occupation Layer	Area of dark fill extending for approximately 9m along the base of the trench. Multiple sherds of ?Roman pottery and CBM recovered from surface. Interpretation uncertain, possibly an occupation layer or a single large feature or group of features Occupies the width of the trench for a length of c.9m. Not excavated. <i>Possible occupation layer or upper fills of a feature or features</i>	9				101			
2	200		Layer	Topsoil - Mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional 1-5% inclusions of small sub rounded stones. <i>Modern topsoil</i>			0.29	201				
2	201		Layer	Subsoil - Mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional 1-5% inclusions of small sub rounded stones. <i>Former topsoil leached of organic content</i>			0.5	202	200			
2	202		Layer	Natural subsoil - Orange to pale brown silty sand with frequent inclusions of sub angular and sub rounded stones.					201	203		
2	203	203	Ditch Cut	Linear cut, wide and flat bottomed. Not certain if base was reached. Excavation stopped due to depth. <i>Ditch?</i>		3.4	0.26				202	

Tr.	Context No.	Feature No.	Feature Category	Description <i>Interpretation</i>	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Small Finds
2	204	203	Ditch Fill	Fill of 203 - Greyish brown silty sand mottled with yellow/orange sand with frequent chalk flecks and occasional charcoal flecks			0.26					
3	300		Layer	Topsoil - Mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional sub rounded and sub angular stones. <i>Modern topsoil</i>			0.31	301				
3	301		Layer	Subsoil - Mid greyish brown sandy silt with occasional sub angular and sub rounded stones. <i>Former topsoil leached of organic content</i>			0.34	302	300			
3	302		Layer	Natural subsoil - Orangey yellow sand silt/clay. Lightly compact with infrequent chalk flecks.					301			
3	303	303	Ditch Cut	Linear feature, shallow with gently sloping sides down to a wide 'V' shaped base.		0.75	0.2					
3	304	303	Ditch Fill	Single fill of 303, pale brown sandy silt from which a single sherd of pottery was recovered.			0.2					
3	305	305	Pit Cut	Roughly circular pit with steeply sloping sides down to a rounded base. Thought to be under Ditch 307 <i>Pit - purpose unknown</i>		0.9	0.45					
3	306	305	Pit Fill	Single fill within Pit 305. Dark grey sandy silt with frequent charcoal and ash (Bulk Sample taken), Occasional large sherds of ?Rom pottery recovered. <i>Probable deliberate fill with refuse</i>			0.45					
3	307	307	Ditch Cut	Linear feature, sloping sides down to a concave base. Possibly cuts Pit 305 although relationship not entirely clear		1.5	0.24					
3	308	307	Ditch Fill	Grey sandy silt with occasional charcoal flecks. Finds include a large sherd of Samian pottery although the possibility of this, and the other finds recovered, having originated from Pit 305 cannot be ruled out.		1.5	0.24					

Tr.	Context No.	Feature No.	Feature Category	Description <i>Interpretation</i>	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Small Finds
4	400		Layer	Topsoil - Greyish brown friable silty sand with frequent sub angular and sub rounded stones. <i>Modern ploughsoil</i>			0.38	401				
4	401		Layer	Natural subsoil - Orangey red sandy silt/clay. Frequent sub angular stones. Occasional grey silt patches.					400			
5	500		Layer	Topsoil - Mid greyish brown clayey silt with high hardness and moderate subangular stones. <i>Modern ploughsoil</i>			0.34	501				
5	501		Layer	Natural subsoil - Orangey brown firm silty clay Mixed with a firm gravel.					500			
6	600		Layer	Topsoil - Mid greyish brown, loose, clayey silt, moderate (25%) small sub angular stones <i>Modern ploughsoil</i>			0.35	601				
6	601		Layer	Natural subsoil - Orangey, reddish in places, firm silty clay, frequent (75%) small sub angular stones and chalk flecks.					600			
6	602	602	Ditch Cut	Linear feature (same as 702), Sloping sides, not steep, down to a rounded concave base. <i>Ditch - probable field boundary. Appears to be late post-med in date</i>		1.5	0.44					
6	603	602	Ditch Fill	Single fill comprising a brownish grey silty clay, mottled with orange silt, with occasional chalk flecks and infrequent charcoal flecks. Finds (pot, CBM, animal bone) suggest a post-medieval date.			0.44					3
7	700		Layer	Topsoil - Mid greyish brown, loose, clayey silt, moderate (50%) small sub angular stones <i>Modern ploughsoil</i>			0.33	701, 702				
7	701		Layer	Natural subsoil - Orangey-brown, reddish in places, firm silty clay with frequent small sub angular stones and chalk flecks					700			

Tr.	Context No.	Feature No.	Feature Category	Description <i>Interpretation</i>	L(m)	W(m)	D(m)	Over	Under	Cut by	Cuts	Small Finds
7	702	702	Ditch Cut	Ditch, runs the length of the trench on a similar alignment. Not excavated (excavated in Trench 6). <i>Boundary ditch</i>					700			
7	703	702	Ditch Fill	Fill of cut 702, not excavated in this trench (see Ditch 602 in Trench 6)								
TP3	3000		Layer	Topsoil - Mid brownish grey silt with occasional inclusions of small sub-rounded stones, loose compaction <i>Modern topsoil</i>			0.3	3001				
TP3	3001		Layer	Subsoil - Mid greyish yellow silty clay with very occasional inclusions of small sub-rounded stones <i>Weathered surface of natural subsoil</i>				3002	3000			
TP3	3002		Layer	Natural subsoil - Mid orangey brown silty clay very compact with frequent inclusions of small sub-rounded stones					3001			
TP4	4000		Layer	Topsoil - Mid brownish grey silt with occasional inclusions of small sub-rounded stones, loose compaction			0.3					
TP4	4001		Layer	Natural subsoil - Mid orangey brown silty clay very compact with frequent inclusions of small sub-rounded stones								
TP9	9000		Layer	Topsoil - Mid brownish grey silt with occasional inclusions of small sub-rounded stones, loose compaction			0.3	9001				
TP9	9001		Layer	Natural subsoil - Mid orangey brown silty clay very compact with frequent inclusions of small sub-rounded stones					9000			

APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Table 1. Finds concordance

Trench	Feature/ layer	Context	Sample (includes finds from)	Material	Finds description fabrics/forms	Ct.	Wt. (g)	Overall finds spot- date
1	Topsoil	100		Lead/lead alloy	Ra 1. Unidentified	1	1.59	Medieval- post- medieval and post- medieval
				Iron	Ra 2. Mouthpiece link from snaffle bit Nails	1 17	36.74 103.7	
	Layer (occupation)	103		Pottery Roman	SACG AA (D. 20) BSW (Cam 37A, Cam 108) COLM GTW GX OXRC	14	339	Roman 4C/ L4C (Residual earlier Roman)
				CBM	Roman: Fs (Teg) f-ms (Teg)	4	586	Roman
2	Ditch 203	204		Pottery Roman	BSW GTW	2	21	Roman E Rom?
				CBM	Roman: f-ms (TEG)	1	224	Roman
3	Pit 305	306	1	Pottery Roman	BSW (Cam 266) GTW GX (Cam 266) RCW1 STORG	11	287	Roman M1-E2C
				Pottery Prehistoric	F1	1	4	Prehistoric LBA-EIA?
	Ditch 307	308		Pottery Roman	SAMV (Dr 18) BSW GMB GTW GX STORG TR (beaker)	14	298	Roman E 2C (residual E- M1C)
				CBM	Roman f-ms (brick/tile)	5	106	Roman?
6	Ditch 602	603		Pottery post- medieval	GRE	2	26	Post- medieval 16-18C
				CBM	Ned-p-med: f-ms (roof tile-peg tile)	9	234	Medieval- post- medieval
				Clay tobacco pipe	Stem piece	1	1	Post- medieval
				Iron	Ra 3 ; Timber spike/door stud	1	82.03	Post- medieval

Table 2. Pottery quantification by fabric

Fabric Code	Description	Ct.	Wt (g)	EVE
<i>Prehistoric:</i>				
F1	Common small-medium size flint	1	4	
<i>LIA-Roman:</i>				
SAMV	Les Martres-de-Veyre samian	6	74	
SACG	Central Gaulish samian	1	7	0.02
AA	Amphora	2	33	
BSW	Black surface wares	14	318	0.61
COLM	Colchester White ware mortaria	1	138	0.30
GMB	Micaceous black surface wares	1	10	0.15
GTW	Grog-tempered wares	5	130	
GX	Unsorted reduced coarsewares, principally greywares	5	57	0.23
OXRC	Oxford red colour-coat	1	18	
RCW1	Romanising coarse ware (with fine white calcareous material ?chalk and some grog)	2	16	
STORG	Coarse storage jar fabrics either grog-tempered or with grog-temper	2	143	0.11
TR	Terra Rubra	1	1	
	Sub-total	41	945	1.42
<i>Post-medieval</i>				
GRE	Glazed red earthenware	2	26	
Total		44	975	1.42

APPENDIX C: THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

Table 1 Assessment table of the paleoenvironmental remains

Feature	Context	Sample	Vol (L)	Flot size (ml)	Roots %	Grain	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Charred Other Notes	Charcoal > 4/2mm
Trench 3, Pit 305 (fill 306)										
305	306	1	20	5	5	**	Barley; FT wheat; Hulled wheat; Oat grains	*	<i>Avena/Bromus; Vicial/Lathyrus</i>	**/**

Key: * = 1–4 items; ** = 5-19 items; *** = 20–49 items; **** = 50–99 items; ***** = >100 items

APPENDIX D: LEVELS OF PRINCIPAL DEPOSITS

Levels are expressed as metres Above Ordnance Datum (AOD), as calculated by the GPS equipment (heights in italics are calculated from depth below ground level as measured by steel tape).

	Trench 1		Trench 2		Trench 3	
	NE end	SW end	NE end	SW end	NW end	SE end
Ground level	34.75m	34.33m	32.12m	31.54m	29.58m	31.68m
Top of Natural Subsoil	34.04m	33.70m	<i>31.30m</i>	<i>30.72m</i>	29.10m	<i>31.05m</i>

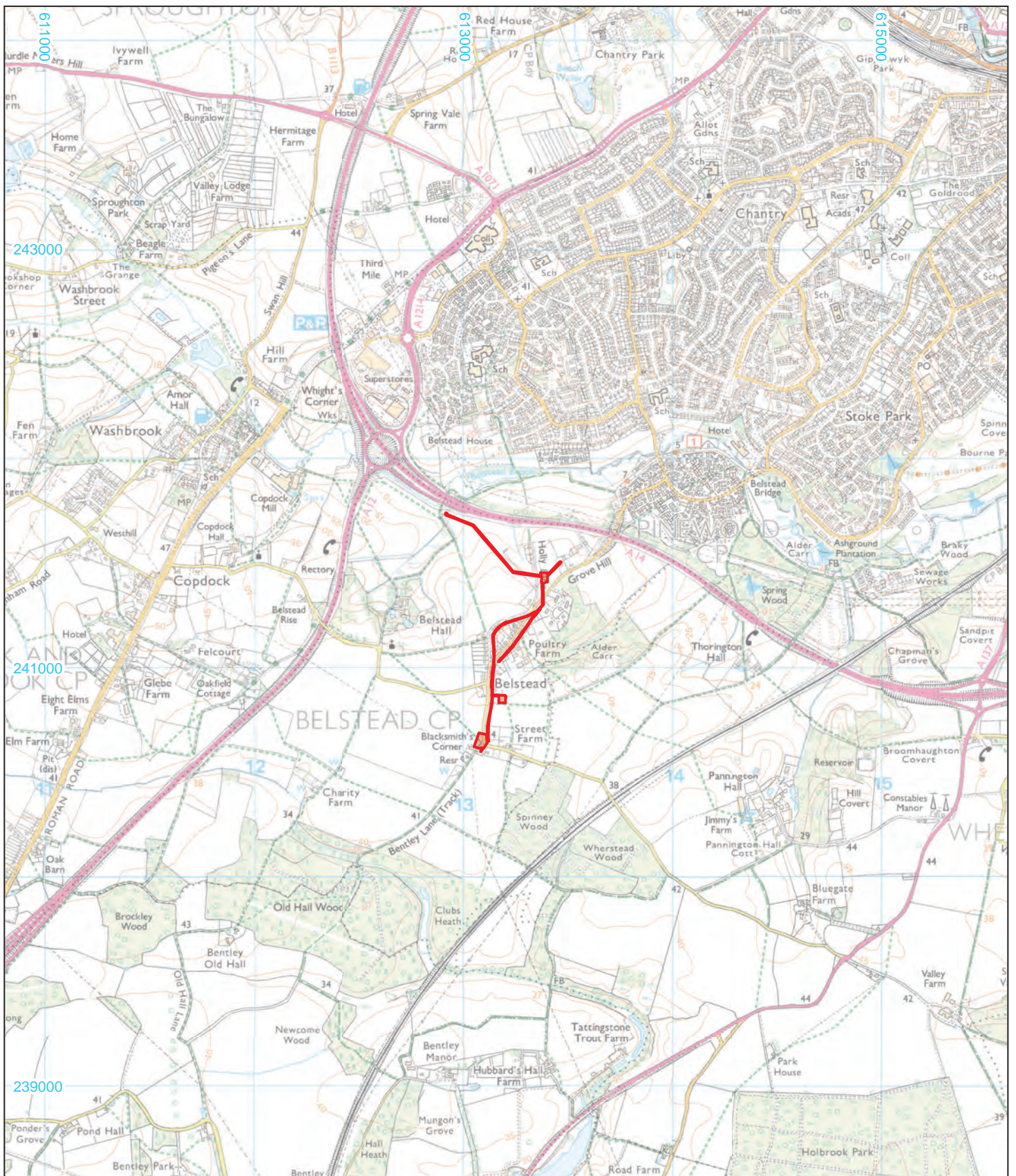
	Trench 4		Trench 5		Trench 6	
	NE end	SW end	NW end	SE end	NE end	SW end
Ground level	41.89m	42.63m	45.75m	45.94m	45.65m	45.71m
Top of Natural Subsoil	41.55m	42.25m	45.42m	45.62m	45.30m	45.36m

	Trench 7		TP3	TP4	TP9
	NE end	SW end			
Ground level	45.72m	45.60m	37.09m	38.90m	38.95m
Top of Natural Subsoil	45.40m	45.25m	<i>36.79m</i>	<i>38.65m</i>	<i>38.60m</i>

APPENDIX E: OASIS REPORT FORM

Summary for cotswold2-509419

OASIS ID (UID)	cotswold2-509419
Project Name	Evaluation, Watching Brief at Anglian Water Sewerage Scheme, Belstead, Babergh, Suffolk, England, United Kingdom
Sitename	Site name: Anglian Water Sewerage Scheme, Belstead, Babergh, Suffolk, England, United Kingdom
Activity type	Evaluation, Watching Brief
Project Identifier(s)	Anglian Water Sewerage Scheme, Belstead, Suffolk
Planning Id	
Reason For Investigation	Statutory requirement
Organisation Responsible for work	Cotswold Archaeology
Project Dates	11-Oct-2022 - 21-Oct-2022
Location	Site name: Anglian Water Sewerage Scheme, Belstead, Babergh, Suffolk, England, United Kingdom NGR : TM 13228 41134 LL : 52.0276126267353, 1.10676971872959 12 Fig : 613228,241134
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Suffolk District : Babergh Parish : Belstead
Project Methodology	Evaluation - Seven trenches were excavated. A probable post-medieval field boundary was recorded in two trenches at the southern end of the project area. In three trenches at the north end of the project area a series of features dated to the Late Iron Age/early Roman and later Roman. Three test pits excavated by the client were continuously monitored but these did not expose any archaeological deposits or artefacts.
Project Results	
Keywords	Ditch - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Boundary Ditch - POST MEDIEVAL - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Rubbish Pit - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
Funder	
HER	Suffolk HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	M, Sommers
HER Identifiers	HER Monument No - BSD 037
Archives	Physical Archive, Documentary Archive, Digital Archive - to be deposited with Suffolk Archaeological Service;



 Site boundary



0  1km

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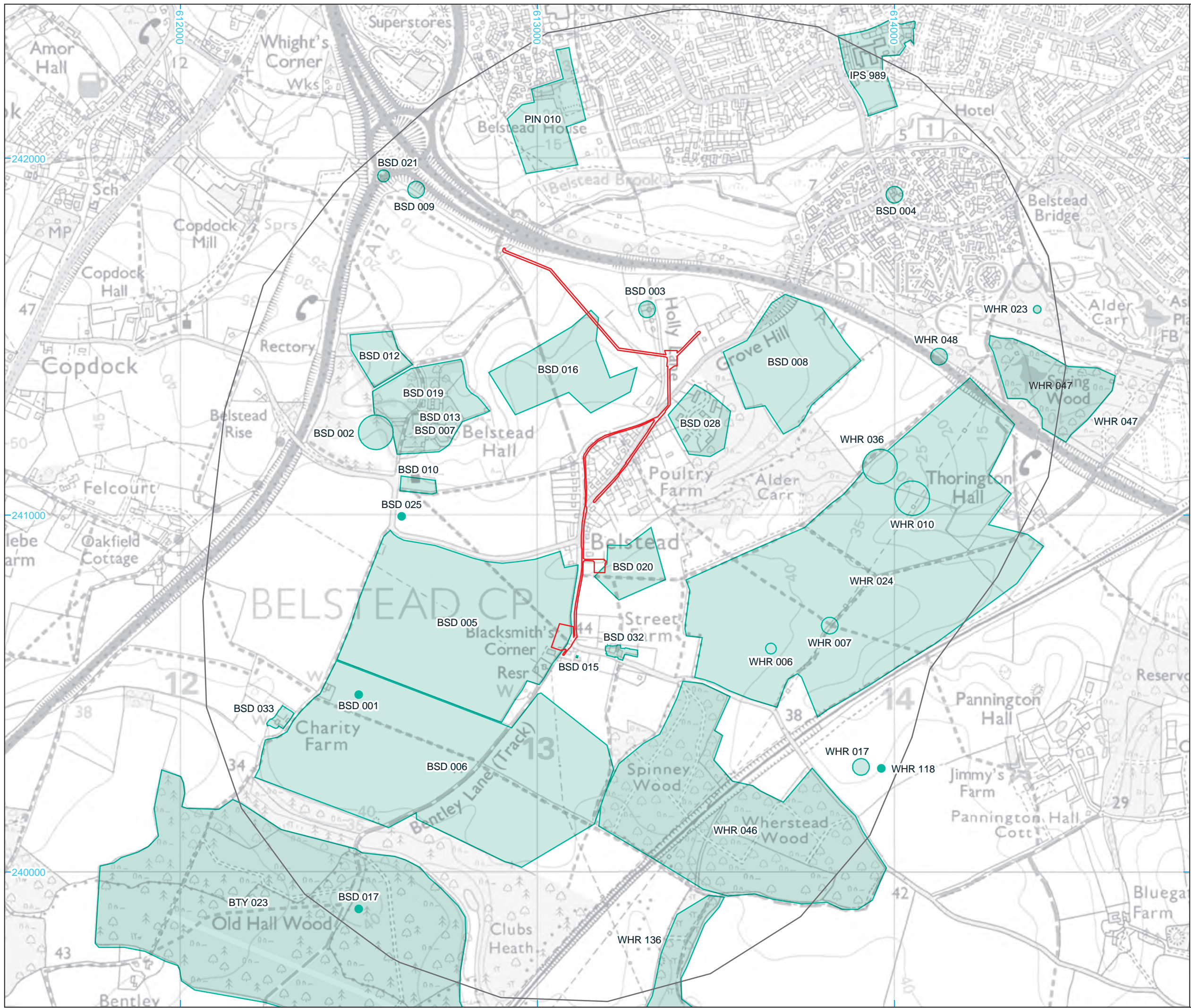
PROJECT TITLE

Anglian Water Belstead Sewerage Scheme, Belstead, Suffolk

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

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APPROVED BY	MC	SCALE@A4	1:25,000	



- Site boundary
- Study area
- HER monument



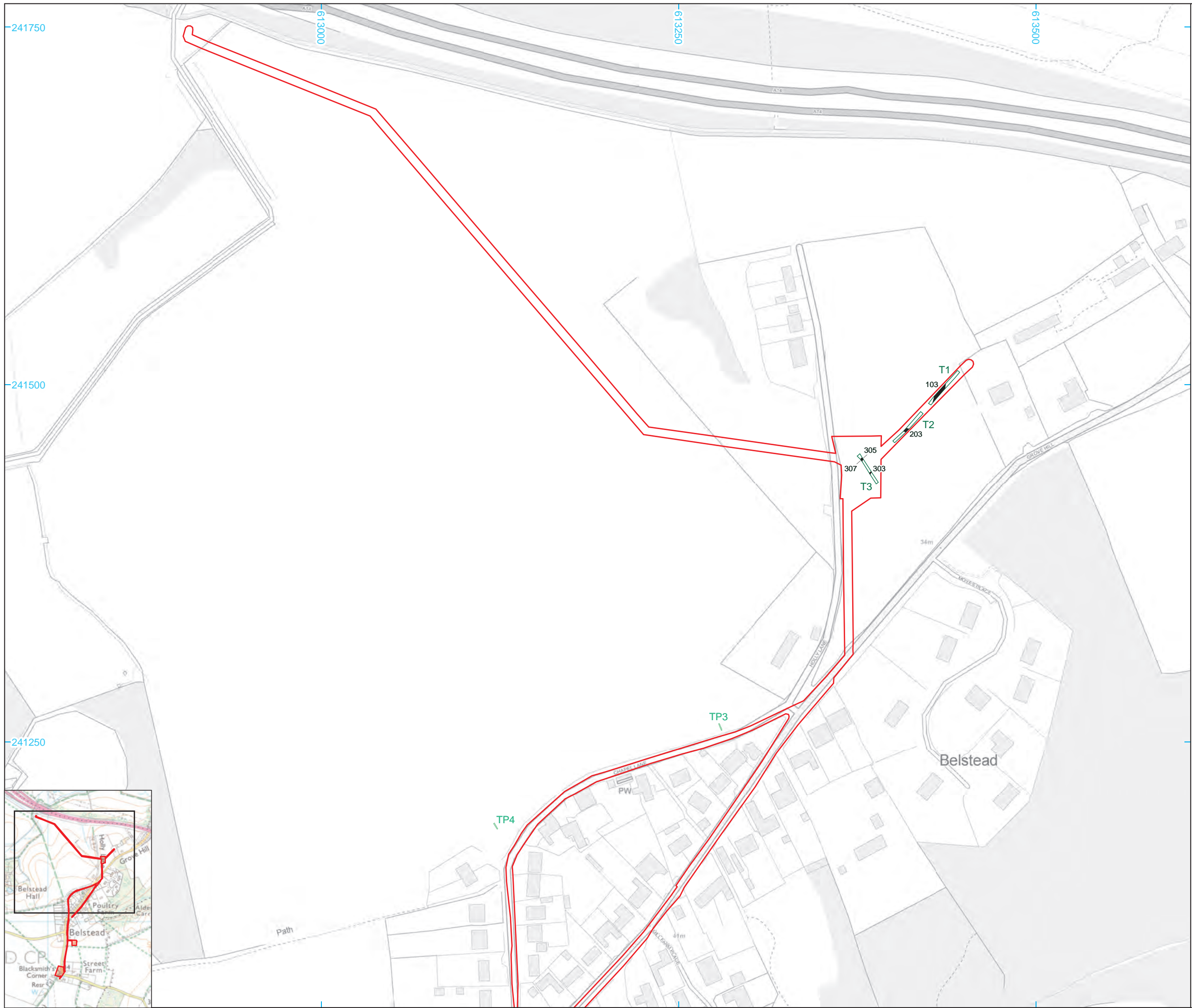
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PROJECT TITLE
 Anlgian Water Belstead Sewerage Scheme, Belstead, Suffolk

FIGURE TITLE
 HER data

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APPROVED BY MC	SCALE@A3 1:10,000	



- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Test pit
- Archaeological feature



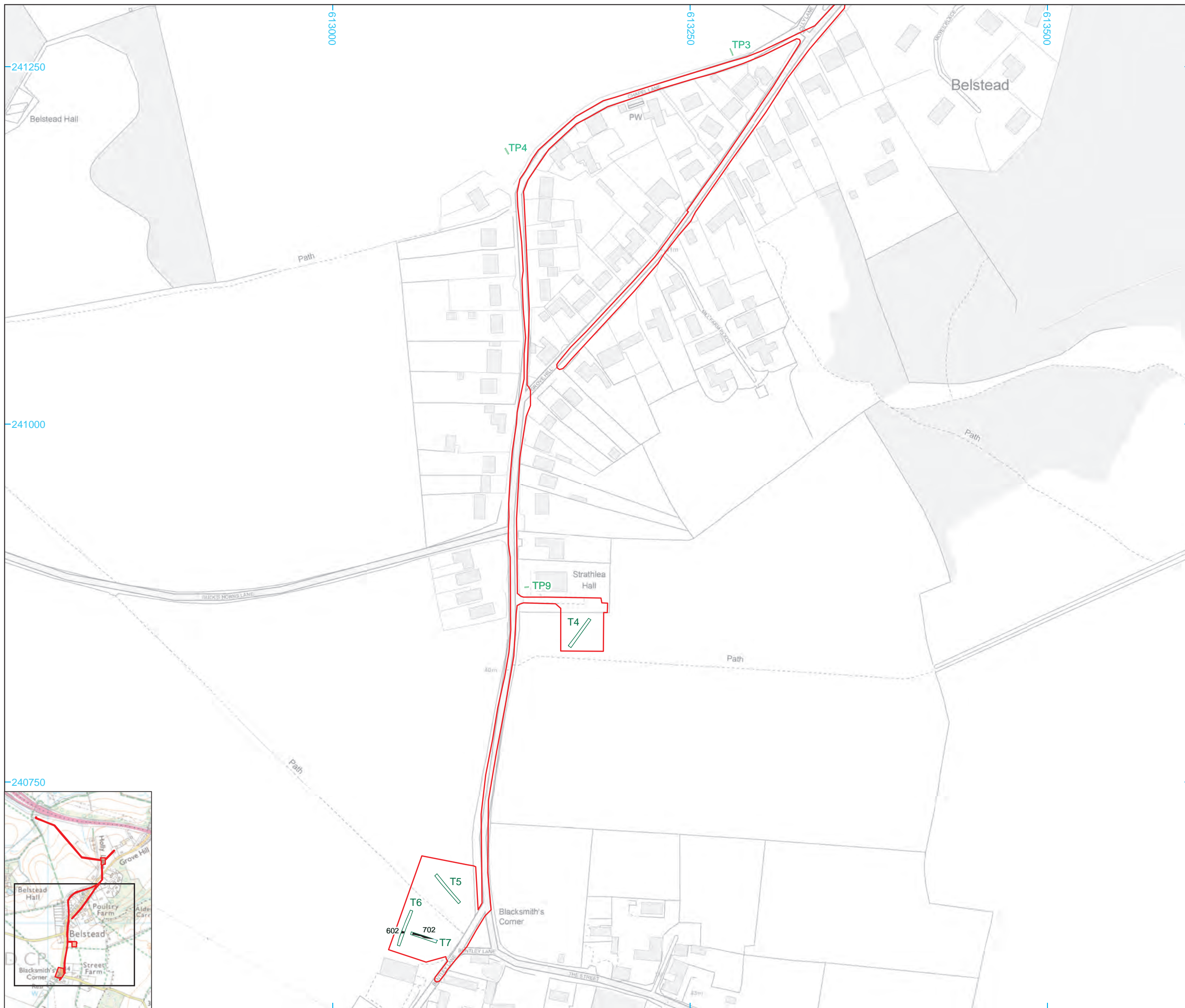
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PROJECT TITLE
 Anglian Water Belstead Sewerage Scheme, Belstead, Suffolk

FIGURE TITLE
 Site plan north

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<small>APPROVED BY</small> MC	<small>SCALE@A3</small> 1:2500	



- Site boundary
- Evaluation trench
- Test pit
- Archaeological feature



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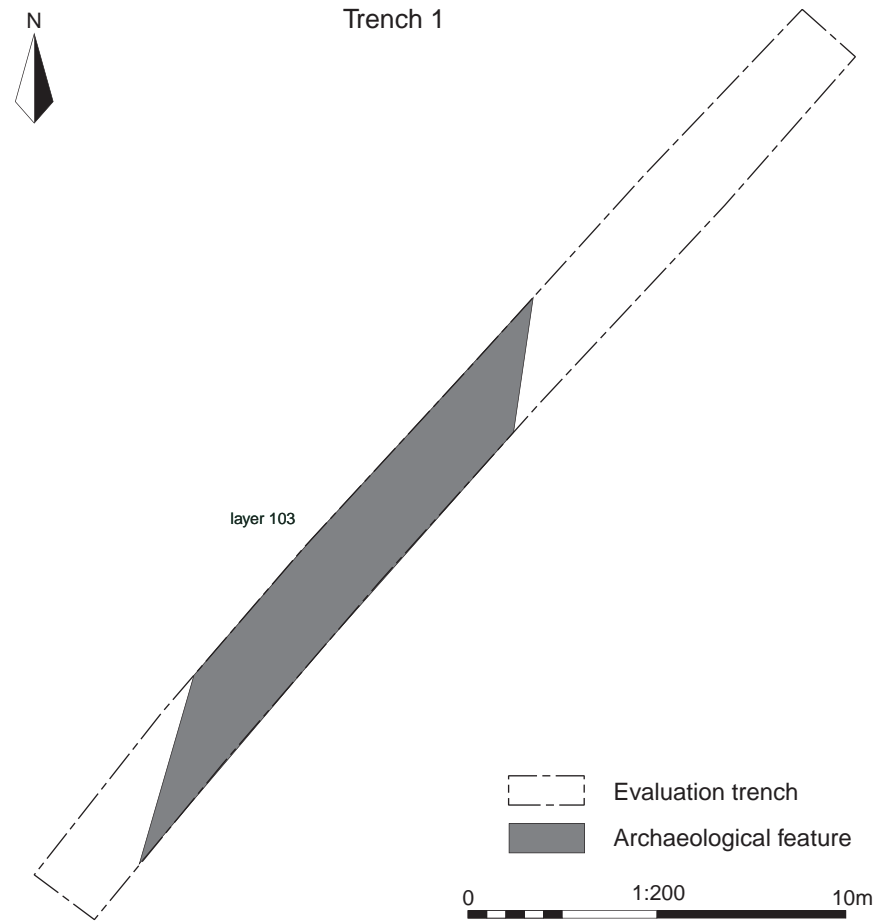

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PROJECT TITLE
 Anglian Water Belstead Sewerage Scheme, Belstead, Suffolk

FIGURE TITLE
 Site plan south

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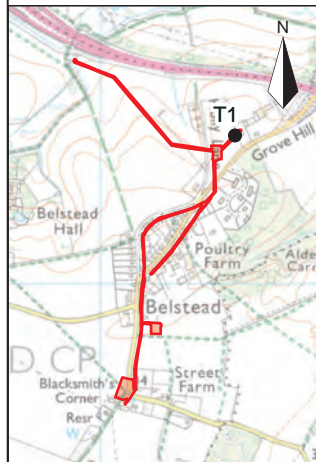


Trench 1, looking south-west (1m scales)



Trench 1 representative section, looking north-west (1m scale)

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PROJECT TITLE
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FIGURE TITLE
Trench 1: plan and photographs

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APPROVED BY	MC	SCALE@A3	1:200	



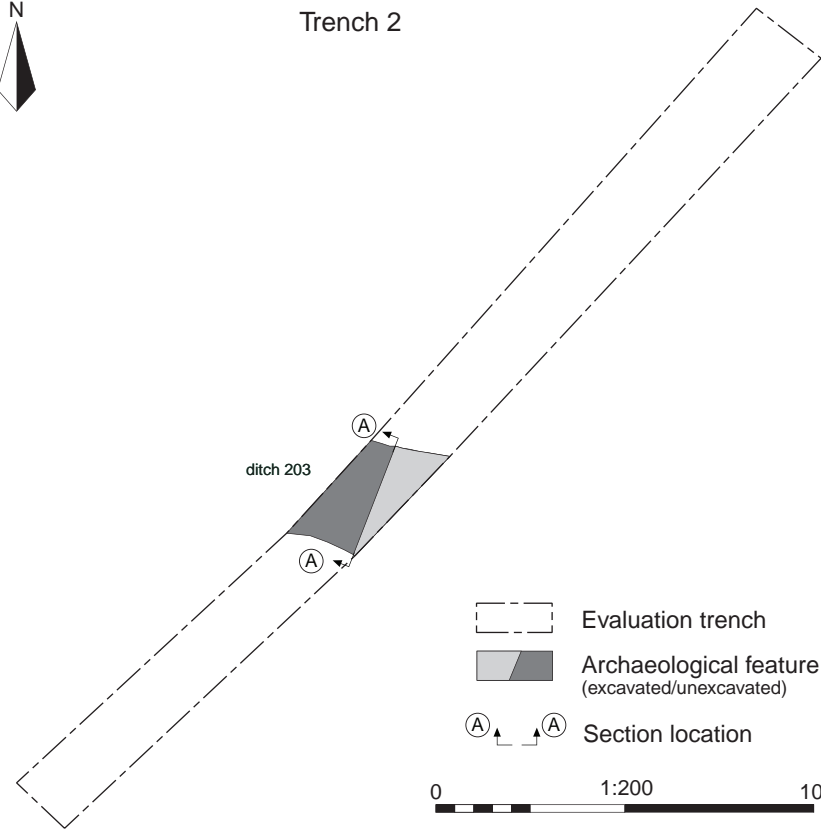
Trench 2, looking north-east (1m scales)



Trench 2 representative section, looking south-west (1m scale)



Trench 2



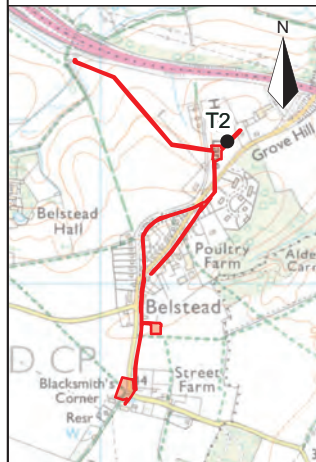
- Evaluation trench
- Archaeological feature (excavated/unexcavated)
- Section location

0 1:200 10m

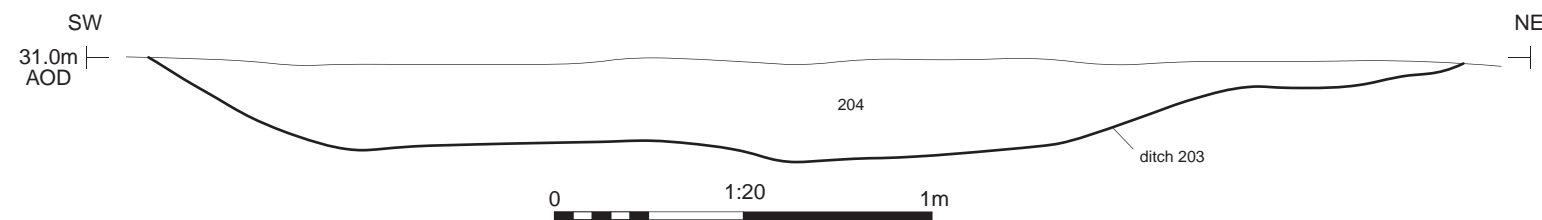


Ditch 203, looking south-west (2m scale)

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Section AA

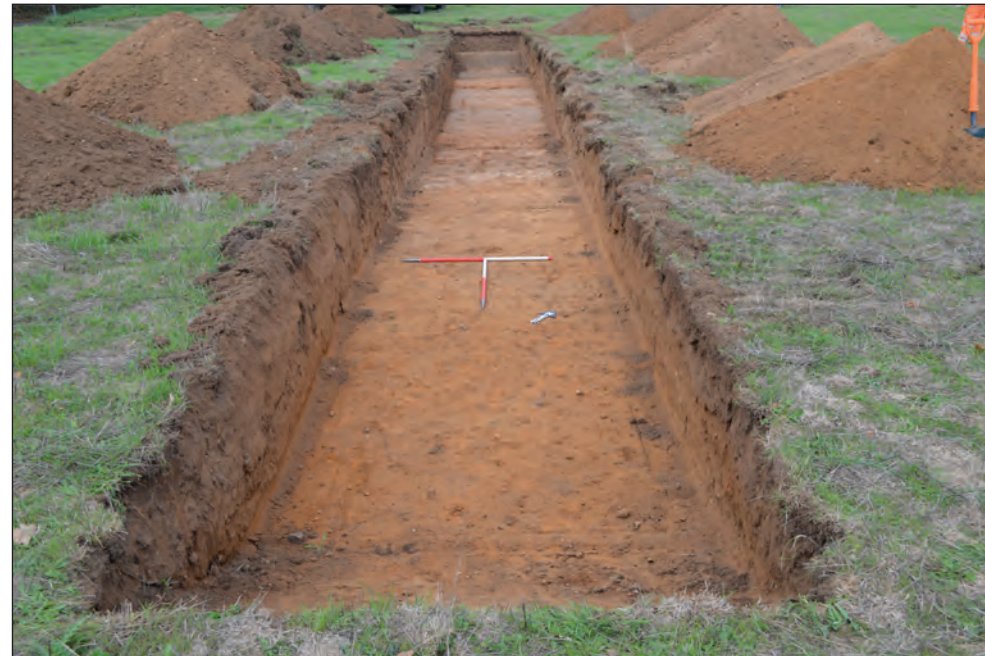
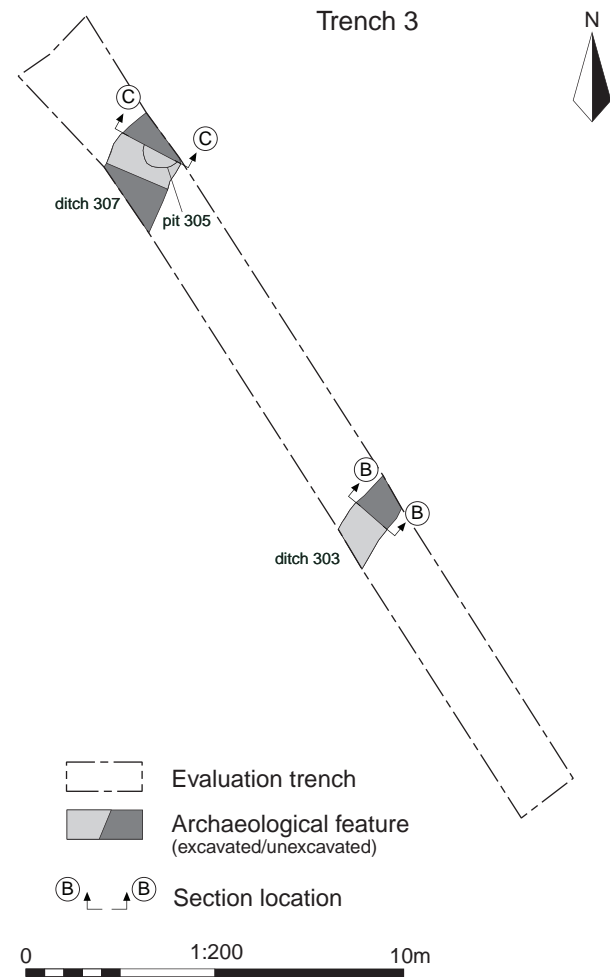


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FIGURE TITLE
 Trench 2: plan, section and photographs

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APPROVED BY	MC	SCALE@A3	1:200 & 1:20	



Trench 3, looking north-west (1m scales)



Trench 3 representative section, looking south-west (1m scale)

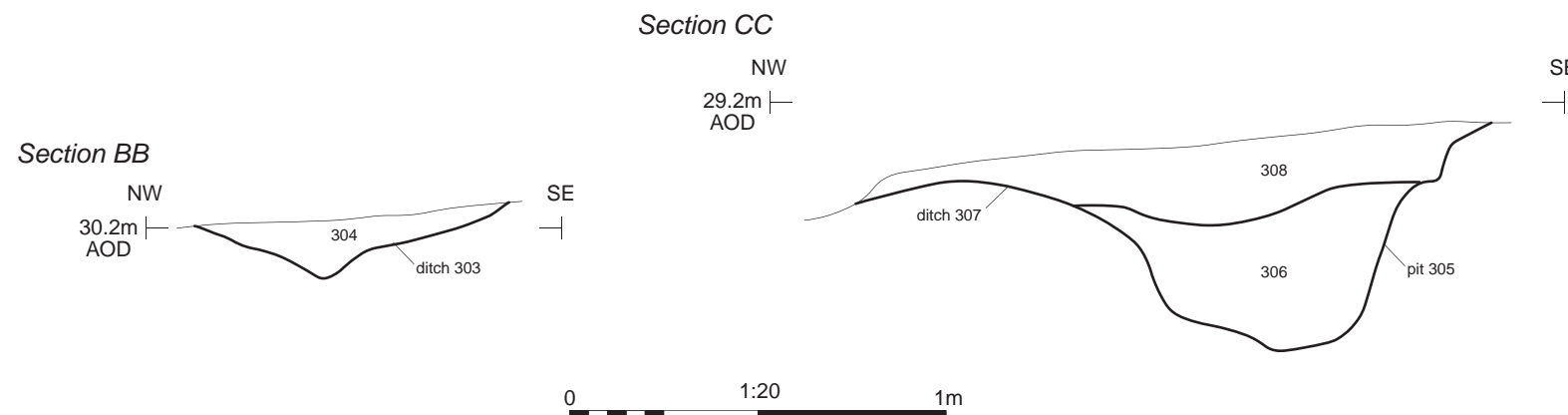
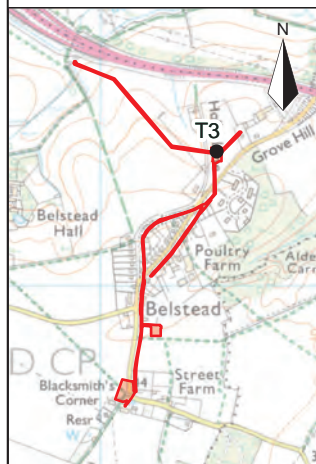


Ditch 303, looking north-east (0.5m scale)



Ditch 307 and pit 305, looking north-east (1m scale)

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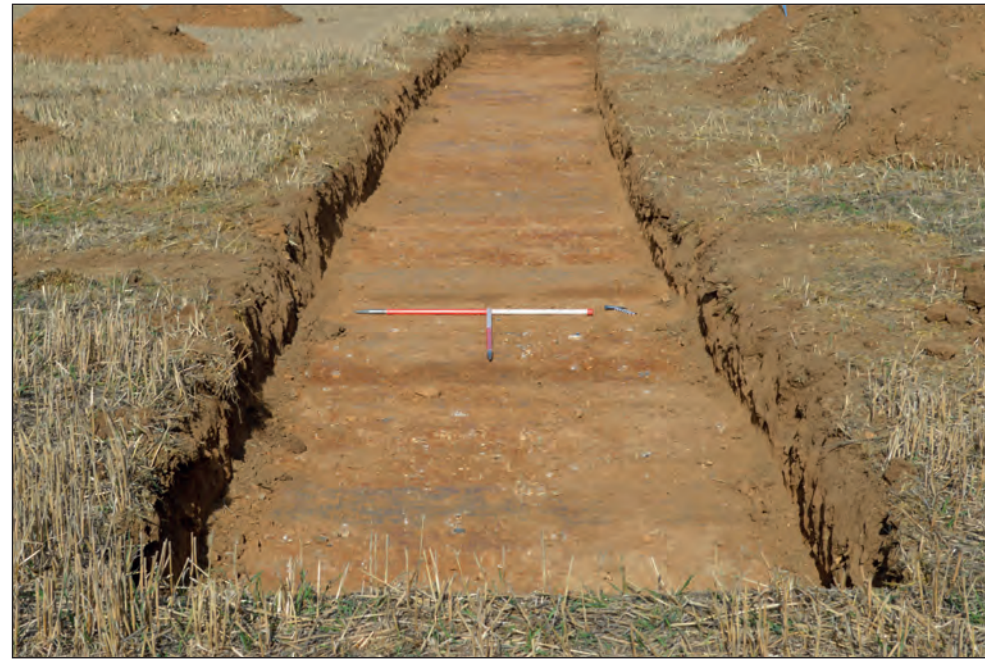
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FIGURE TITLE
Trench 3: plan, sections and photographs

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APPROVED BY	MC	SCALE@A3	1:200 & 1:20	



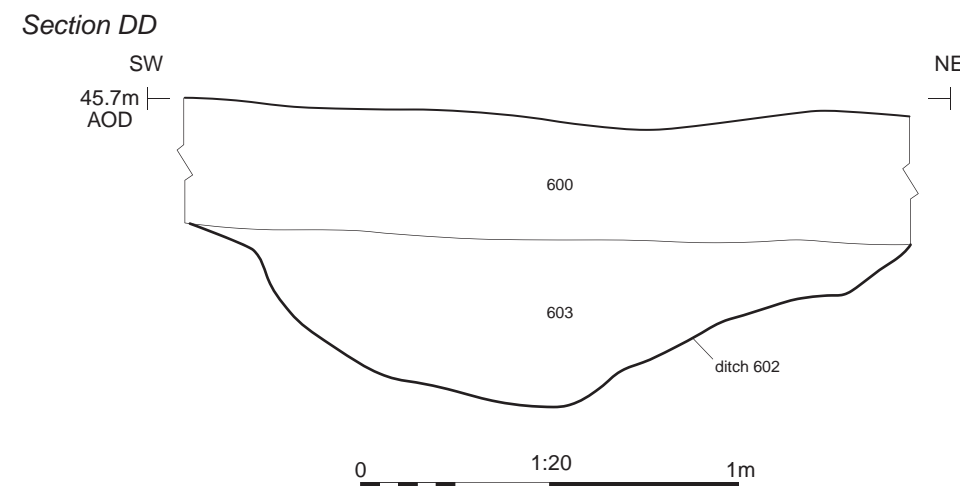
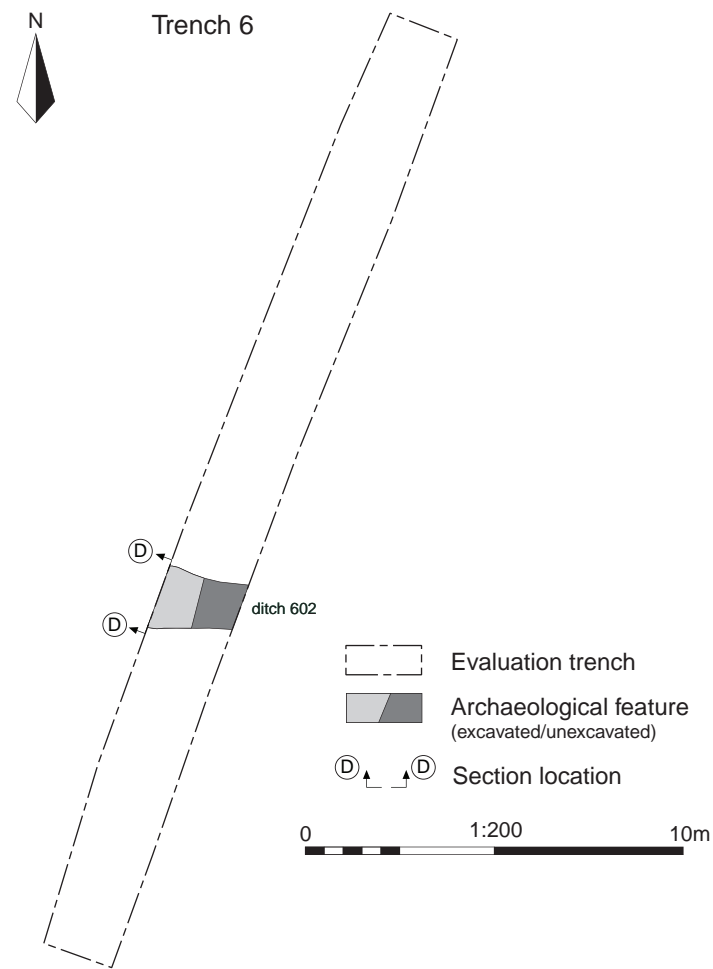
Trench 6, looking north-east (1m scales)



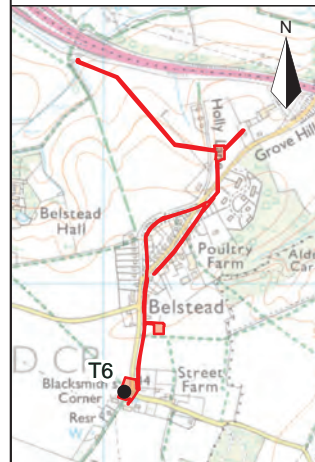
Trench 6 representative section, looking north-east (1m scale)



Ditch 602, looking north-west (1m scale)



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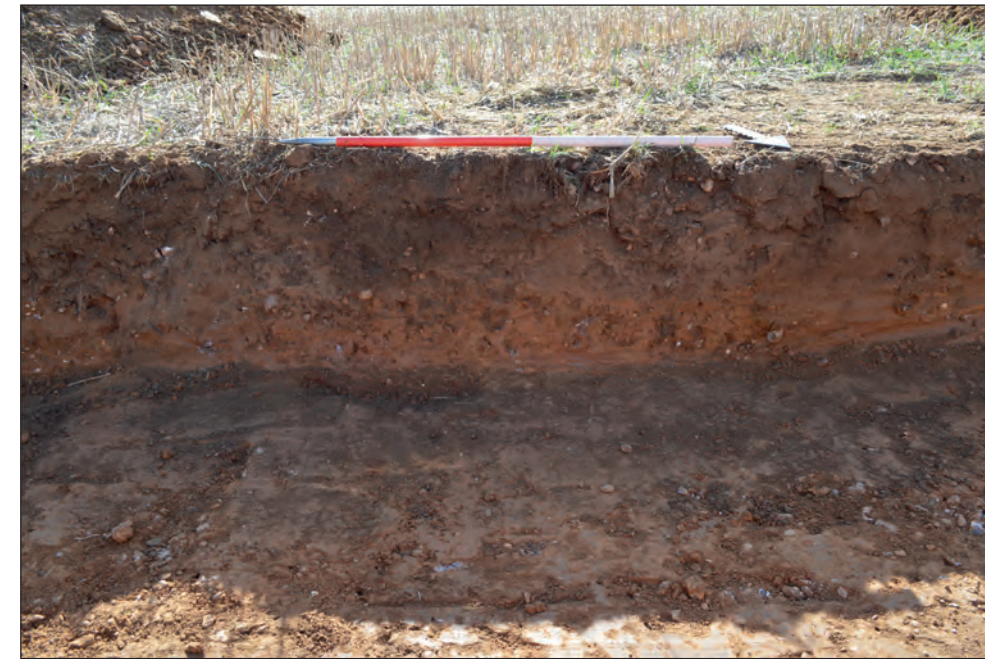
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Anglian Water Belstead Sewerage Scheme, Belstead, Suffolk

FIGURE TITLE
Trench 6: plan, section and photographs

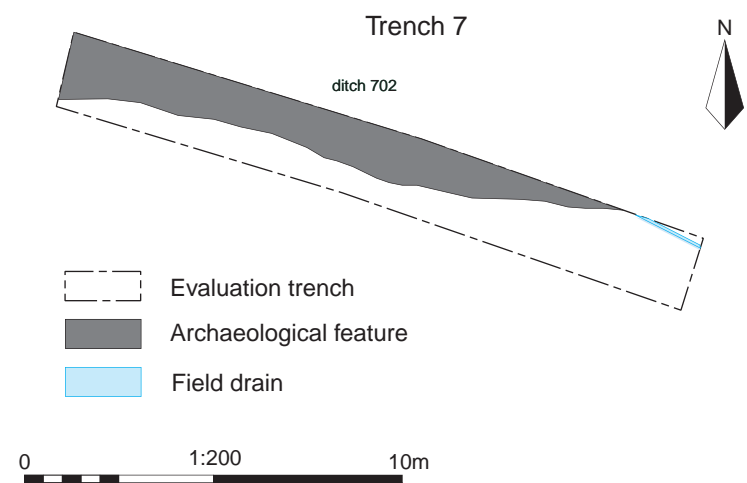
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CHECKED BY DB **DATE** 18/11/2022 **8**
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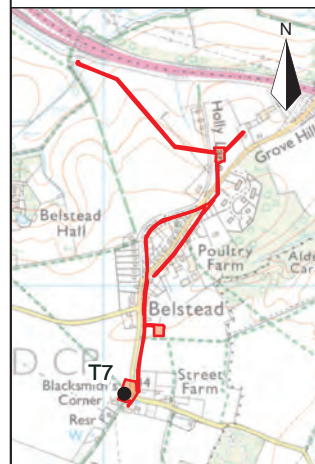
Trench 7, looking north-west (1m scales)



Trench 7 representative section, looking south-west (1m scale)



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FIGURE TITLE
Trench 7: plan and photographs

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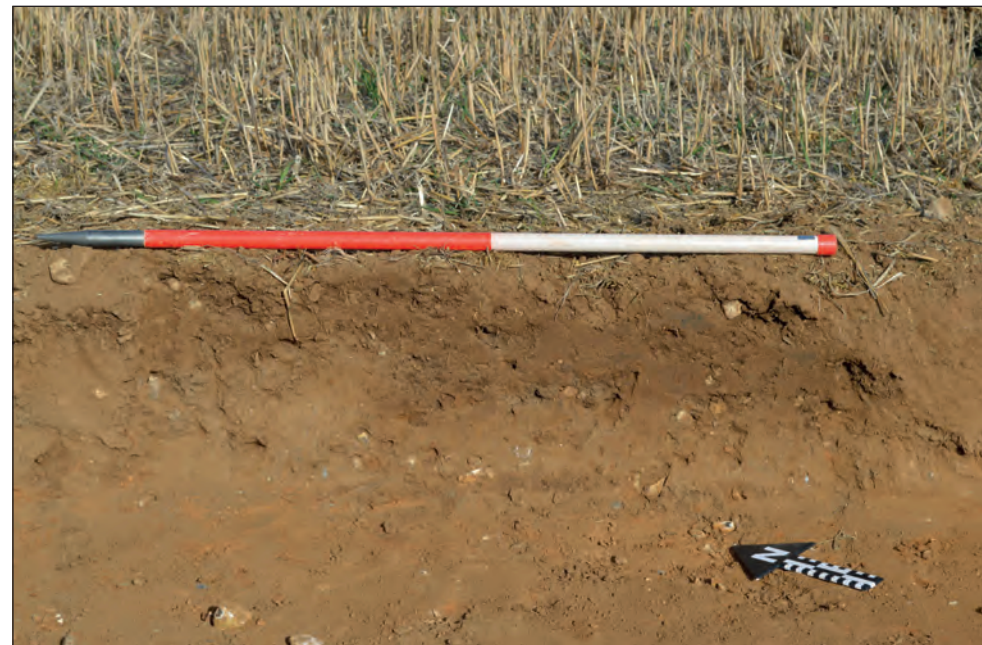
Trench 4, looking north-east (1m scales)



Trench 4 representative section, looking north-west (1m scale)



Trench 5, looking north-west (1m scales)



Trench 5 representative section, looking north-east (1m scale)


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PROJECT TITLE
Anglian Water Belstead Sewerage Scheme, Belstead, Suffolk

FIGURE TITLE
Trenches 4 and 5: photographs

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CHECKED BY	DB	DATE	18/11/2022	10
APPROVED BY	MC	SCALE	@A3 NA	



Test Pit 3, looking north-east (1m scales)



Test Pit 4, looking south-west (2m scale)



Test Pit 9, looking east (1.5m scale)



Test Pit 9 representative section, looking north-west (1.5m scale)


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PROJECT TITLE
Anglian Water Belstead Sewerage Scheme, Belstead, Suffolk

FIGURE TITLE
Test Pits 3, 4 and 9: photographs

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