WYAS Archaeological Services

St James' Business Park
Great Blakenham
Suffolk

Archaeological Mitigation:

Strip, Map, and Record Excavation

Archive Report

Report no. 3679
November 2021

Client: Blackacre Ltd

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Suffolk

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Summary

An archaeological excavation was undertaken on land at St James' Business Park in Great Blakenham, Suffolk, following an earlier archaeological evaluation. Two areas were opened and archaeologically significant features were identified in both. A large enclosure and a ring ditch were recorded in the eastern area, likely dated to the late Neolithic/early Bronze Age periods with evidence of possible Iron-Age re-use. A series of ditches, along with a four-post structure and a beam-slot structure, were identified in the western area, probably of Iron Age/Roman date.

It is unlikely that further excavation in this field will expand on the information gathered during this excavation, but there is a high potential for surviving archaeological remains in adjacent fields, particularly to the south of Area 1 and west of Area 2.

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Report Information

Client:	Blackacre Ltd
Address:	Orion Business Park, Blackacre Hill, Great Blakenham
Report Type:	Archaeological Excavation
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County:	Suffolk
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OASIS ID:	archaeol11-307926
Date of fieldwork:	July – August 2019
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1 Introduction

Archaeological Services WYAS (ASWYAS) was commissioned by Blackacre Ltd to undertake the excavation of 1.4 hectares of land, across two areas at St James' Business Park, Great Blakenham, Suffolk. The work was undertaken between the 8th July and the 23rd August 2019 and was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by ASWYAS in consultation with Suffolk County Council Advisory Service (Appendix 1).

The work was undertaken in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and with accepted professional standards and guidelines, including Historic England (2008), the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014) and other current and relevant best practice standards and guidance, including the ASWYAS site recording manual (2011).

Site location and topography and land use

The site comprises approximately 9.6ha of overgrown scrubland situated to the south of the Magnus Group building, on the southern edge of Great Blakenham, Suffolk (TM 11892 49571; Fig. 1). The site is bounded to the east by the B1113, and to the south and west by woodland (Fig. 2).

The ground within the site sits on a gentle easterly slope, with heights of around 35m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) in the west and 25m aOD in the east.

Soils and geology

The localised bedrock geology comprises chalk of the Newhaven Chalk formation, with overlying deposits of sands and gravels of the Lowestoft formation (BGS 2019). The soils are composed of slowly permeable, calcareous clayey material of the Handslope association (SSEW 1983).

2 Archaeological and Historical Background

Following the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by ASWYAS in 2016, the site was known to contain two areas of potential archaeological interest, particularly in relation to a number of ditches yielding a substantial amount of Romano-British pottery in the west, and a number of potentially prehistoric ditches identified in the east. These areas were targeted in the subsequent area excavations.

The evaluation report broadly defined the history and archaeological background of the area immediately surrounding the development site. The following paragraphs are taken from that report (Moon 2016) and are included here as background information for the site. An updated HER search was also carried out and the results listed in Appendix 2 (see also Fig. 3).

The site has high potential for the discovery of important unknown heritage assets of archaeological interest due to its location close to a number of sites recorded in the county's Historic Environment Record. At least one ring ditch has been identified in the south of the

site via air photography which are probably the remains of a Bronze Age barrow (HER no. BLG 001). Prehistoric features, along with a medieval settlement, have been identified through excavation immediately north of the site (BLG 017 and BLG 024), where industrial buildings now lie.

Furthermore, the site has the potential for the discovery of important heritage assets, as it is located close to the edge of a flood plain for the river Gipping, making it topographically favourable for early occupation. The area, however, has not been the subject of previous systematic investigation, but the high potential to encounter important archaeological deposits at this location is acknowledged.

A desk-based assessment (DBA) of the site was undertaken in January 2014 (Parker 2014). This concluded that the development would not have a significant impact on nearby built heritage assets but confirmed that the site occupies a position of high archaeological interest.

A geophysical (magnetometer) survey of the site was conducted in January 2016 (Brunning 2016). It revealed large areas of magnetic disturbance along with two service pipes. Some responses were identified within the vicinity of the known ring ditch, but the western part of the site was largely unsurveyable due to vegetation and dumped material. Consequently, based upon the geophysical dataset, the archaeological potential of the site was deemed to be medium to low.

A full search of the HER of sites within 1km of the PDA was commissioned (February 2020), the results of which are presented in Fig. 3 with a full catalogue of the sites given in Appendix 2. The relevant information for the prehistoric and Roman periods from both this and the DBA are presented below.

Prehistoric up to 42 AD

A find spot of Palaeolithic remains (MSF4492) was found in pits approximately 950m to the southwest of the PDA. An archaeological evaluation and excavation identified two Early Bronze Age inhumations and a number of pits dating from the Early Neolithic through to the Iron Age (ESF22193/MSF26653). Further evaluation at the same site, also included ditches thought to be contemporary (ESF21730). This excavation was located approximately 1km south-south-west of the PDA, at Blood Hill.

An evaluation followed by archaeological monitoring of ground works at the Orion Business Park, immediately to the north of the PDA (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services 1999), revealed a series of ditches, pits and post-holes, with associated Neolithic flint, and pottery dated to the Neolithic and Iron Age periods (MSF18640).

An archaeological evaluation consisting of trial trenching at Tollgate Farm, approximately 850m to the north of the PDA, uncovered a scatter of Iron Age pottery within hill-wash deposits (MSF16225). There were no features associated with the pottery, suggesting secondary deposition.

Late Iron Age settlement material was found during the construction of the Claydon Bypass, approximately 650m to the east of the PDA (MSF4452). This consisted of an artefact scatter including coins, pottery, brooches, animal bone, loom weights and spindle whorls, and other domestic artefacts.

Overall these features and finds are indicative of settlement continuity along the slopes of the river Gipping valley during the prehistoric periods. The results of the evaluation and excavation at the Orion Business Park (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services, 1999) are particularly significant due to their proximity to the site.

There are also a number of undated features, or monuments, some of which are likely to be of prehistoric date. These include a cropmark of a ring ditch observed in aerial photography of the site (MSF4465), but it is worth noting that this feature was not visible on the ground.

Two similar cropmarks have been observed between the river Gipping and Papermill Lane (MSF4451), approximately 650m to the east of the site, and the second one at a playing field approximately 400m to the north of the site (MSF4466). Additionally, there were also two round barrows (MSF4501 and MSF4509) on the terrace to the west of the river Gipping (east of Lower Dairy Farm, now submerged by the Suffolk Water Park, approximately 900m to the south of the site), and one concentric (double) ring ditch (MSF4479), approximately 450m to the south of the site, all of which also identified from aerial photography. Recent survey work and excavations (Egan 2014) have targeted the ring ditch MSF4479 and have confirmed the presence of two concentric ring ditches with a diameter of 15m and 24m. The ditches contained a small amount of worked flint with a late Neolithic or Bronze Age date.

Roman (43 AD to 409 AD)

A length of Roman road (Pye Road, Margary 3c) is identified in the HER running along the course of Bramford Road to the south of the site (MSF4510).

Monitoring of the soil strip in advance of gravel extraction on Blood Hill, approximately 1km southsouth-east of the site, revealed a number of archaeological features comprising pits, ditches and at least five graves containing a total of seven inhumations. The ditches are believed to relate to the late prehistoric/Roman periods (MSF27478). The Roman burials comprised three graves in a tight group, which have been dated to the late 4th century.

The above mentioned evaluation at Blackacre Hill (Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services 1999), immediately to the north of the site, also uncovered a crouched inhumation dated to the Roman period by the assemblage of artefacts which accompanied it (MSF18641). This assemblage included pottery and jewellery. The same evaluation also uncovered an oven, ditches and pits, also dated by the artefacts to the Roman period. Again, the results of the evaluation at Blackacre Hill are particularly significant when assessing the potential for the site due to their proximity.

Roman material was found during the construction of the Claydon Bypass, approximately 650m to the east of the site (MSF4453). The assemblage has been interpreted as evidence of a

Roman settlement and industrial site. Two additional contemporary find spots are also mapped in the HER in the vicinity, as a result of metal detecting (MSF15400 and MSF22613).

Excavations directly to the south of the site (Egan 2015) in advance of the construction of greenhouses also identified a large sub-rectangular enclosure with 1st-century pottery. This enclosure was located approximately 200m to the south. The evaluation also identified field systems or a trackway that were also thought to be either late Iron Age or Roman in date.

Several other sites have yielded evidence of Roman occupation, namely:

1) a small scatter of metal work, found by metal detecting approximately 500m to the north of the site (MSF1169);
2) a thin scatter of pottery and metal work, also found by metal detecting approximately 900m to the north of the site (MSF1172);
3) a coin dated to the early second century, found in a ploughed field approximately 850m to the north of the site (MSF4467); and
4) early Roman pottery sherds, found at a (now disused) quarry, approximately 800m to the south-west of the site (MSF4480).

This spread of evidence of Roman occupation along the known course of a Roman road and the valley of the river Gipping is consistent with continuing occupation from the prehistoric period onwards. It is also worth noting the proximity to *Combretovium* (Baylham Roman site), which included two Roman army forts of different sizes built at different times on the same site. The Roman road which ran from *Camulodunum* (Colchester) to *Venta* (Caistor by Norwich) ran through the middle of the smaller fort. The civilian settlement which developed around the fort covered a large area, and traces of occupation in the Roman period are found for several miles around Baylham House.

3 Aims and Objectives

The aim of the works was to advance our understanding of the significance of any archaeological remains present within the excavation area and to expand upon the results of the previous archaeological evaluation.

More specifically these aims are to:

- Establish the extent, date, character, condition and significance of the archaeological activity in the proposed excavation areas;
- Recover information relating to the nature and function of past human activity represented by the surviving archaeological remains;
- Interpret the nature of human activity at the site and to place the site within its local, regional and national context;

- Assess the site formation processes and the effects that these may have had on the survival and integrity of the archaeological features and deposits;
- Undertake sufficient post-excavation assessment to confidently interpret identified archaeological features;
- Report and publish the results of the excavation and post-excavation analysis and place them within their local and regional context;
- Compile and deposit a site archive at a suitable repository and to provide information for the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER) to ensure the long-term survival of the recorded data.

The objective of the work was to monitor the removal of top and subsoil horizons and assess the resultant areas for their archaeological potential. Any remains were then subject to archaeological excavation. Recovered artefacts were subject to analysis and environmental data were sampled.

4 Methodology

All investigations were undertaken in accordance with the Standards and Guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014), the methods detailed in the WSI (Appendix 1) and in accordance with the ASWYAS site recording manual (ASWYAS 2011).

The works consisted of two stripped areas: Area 1 in the east, measuring 1.05 hectares and Area 2 in the west, measuring 0.38 hectares. Area 1 was split down the approximate centre by a north to south oriented medium-pressure gas main. A 5m standoff was left unexcavated on either side of the gas main. The areas were positioned in order to target areas of archaeological potential identified in the results of the trial trench evaluation.

Both areas were set out and the limits resurveyed using a Trimble VRS differential GPS accurate to +/-0.01cm. The trenches were opened in a controlled manner using a mechanical excavator with a flat-bladed ditching bucket under the direct supervision of an archaeologist. Topsoil deposits were removed in level spits with the topsoil and subsoil being separated to allow for re-instating in reverse order. Machine excavation stopped at the first archaeological horizon or natural deposits, depending on which was encountered first.

An appropriate sample was excavated through all archaeological features with at least a 10% sample through linear features (with a minimum sample of 1m) and a 50% sample through discrete features, structural features and ring ditches. These were undertaken to investigate the full depth, profile and depositions, where possible, and to recover dating evidence from the deposits.

All features were accurately recorded in plan using a GPS and individual features were drawn at a scale of 1:20 or 1:50 where appropriate. Feature sections were drawn at a scale of 1:10 or

1:20. All hand drawn plans and sections included spot heights which related to Ordnance Datum.

A soil sampling programme was undertaken consisting of bulk soil samples for the identification of plant macro-fossils, small animal bones and other small artefacts. Bulk samples, consisting of up to 40 litre sample bags/tubs, were taken from all archaeological deposits, in accordance with the WSI and Historic England guidelines.

A full written, drawn and photographic record was made of all archaeological work undertaken. An inventory of the primary archive is presented in Appendix 3 and ASWYAS currently hold the site archive in a stable and secure location.

5 Results

The following results are presented by area, followed by a brief summary of the archaeological significance of each area. A concordance of all contexts can be found in Appendix 4.

Area 1 (Fig. 4; Plate 1)

Area 1 was centred on previous Trenches 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 29, where a number of potential prehistoric ditches were identified during the evaluation, as well as the location of a potential ring ditch identified by aerial photography (MSF4465).

The natural geology (1002) consisted of changeable bands of sand, clay and flint/chalk gravels. It was encountered at an average depth of 0.40m, with a maximum depth of 0.50m and a minimum depth of 0.25m below current ground level. It was overlain by a light grey-brown, silty clay subsoil (1001) which was in turn sealed by a mid-grey/brown sandy loam topsoil (1000).

During the previous evaluation, two shallow ditches were identified at the south end of Trench 26. These ditches were found to form the north and south sides of a ring ditch which had been truncated on its western side (Feature 4; Fig. 5; Plate 2-3). The ring ditch measured approximately 11.10m in diameter, and had an average width of 0.70m and an average depth of 0.20m (Fig. 6, S. 110-120). The fill generally consisted of a regular mid-yellow-brown silty sand, from which a moderate amount of flint was recovered, as well as a small amount of prehistoric pottery (see below). No features were recorded in the immediate vicinity of Feature 4, but two internal features, pits 1056 and 1081, were excavated.

Pit 1056 (Plate 4; Fig. 6, S. 108) was a sub-oval, flat-based feature with a steep western edge and a sloping eastern edge, measuring 1.44m long, 0.93m wide and 0.33m deep. The basal fill (1057) was a compact, brown-black, extremely charcoal rich sandy silt, from which late Neolithic worked flint and a single sherd of 1st-century BC pottery was recovered. The upper deposit (1058) was a sterile, light grey-brown silty sand, yielding no finds. Despite the large amount of oak charcoal in this feature, no evidence of *in situ* burning was observed, suggesting this was an intentional deposit of burnt material.

Pit 1081 (Plate 5; Fig. 6, S. 122) was a small sub-ovular feature located within the eastern half of Feature 4. It had near vertical sides and a flat base, with a single fill (1082) that was clearly differentiated from the natural, but otherwise completely sterile.

Although not in the precise location identified by the aerial photography, Feature 4 likely represents the remains of the barrow. The limited quantity of pottery recovered from the feature places it broadly in the prehistoric period.

In the western part of Area 1, a 65m long curvilinear ditch (Feature 5; Figs 7 and 8; Plates 6-7) was excavated. It ran from the southern limits of the excavation on a north-west to south-east orientation, before turning to the north-east. It measured an average of 1.50m wide and between 0.30m and 0.60m deep (Figs 7 and 8). Feature 5 becomes more staggered and diffuse towards the north-east and no evidence of a terminus was observed at intervention 1018, rather the remains of the ditch become shallow and broken before tapering out entirely. Pottery was recovered from a number of sections of the ditch (1043, 1034, 1026, 1009 and 1011) which dated largely to the Iron Age although some could be considerably earlier, possibly indicating that this enclosed area was in use for an extended period of time. A small amount of animal bone was also recovered from this feature.

A second, much smaller ditch (1047, Fig. 4; Plate 9) was identified in the south-east of the area, running on a north-east to south-west orientation from the southern limit of excavation. It measured 5m long, 0.94m wide and between 0.26m and 0.50m deep (Fig. 9, S. 105). It contained a single mid-grey-brown silty sand deposit (1048) from which a small amount of prehistoric pottery, animal bone and a large amount of worked flints were recovered. The ditch runs parallel to the north-eastern boundary of Feature 5 and may represent a continuation of the ditch, forming a southern boundary to a possible enclosure.

A small pit (1083; Plate 8; Fig. 4) was excavated approximately 40m to the south-east of Feature 4. It was a sub-circular in shape and measured 0.40m wide and 0.13m deep, with a steep, concave profile (Fig. 9, S. 123). It contained a single charcoal rich fill (1084) from which 1st-century BC pottery and a small amount of cremated animal bone fragments were recovered. No evidence of *in-situ* burning was observed. Radiocarbon dating was undertaken on a hazelnut shell recovered from this fill (1084) and shows that the pit dates to 791-644 cal BC (SUERC-100886).

Two further discrete features were excavated in Area 1; pit 1032 to the north-west and pit 1085 towards the east (Fig. 4). Pit 1032 measured 0.57m in diameter and 0.37m deep (Fig. 9, S. 91). It contained a single light brown sandy-clay deposit (1033) which was clearly differentiated from the natural but was sterile and remains undated. Pit 1085 was a sub-ovular feature with a slightly irregular concave base. It measured 2.10m in length, 1.18m wide and 0.28m deep (Fig. 9, S. 126). It contained a single light yellow-brown silty sand which was similar, but distinguishable from the natural. Prehistoric pottery was recovered from the fill (1086).

A large circular feature, likely be a pond, (1050; Fig. 4; Plate 10) was excavated against the northern limit of excavation. It measured 16.16m across and 1.80m deep (Fig. 9, S. 106). It contained five fills (1051 to 1055) which all showed evidence of a high degree of water saturation. A small amount of animal bone was recovered from the earliest deposits (1051 and 1052). A column sample (Section 7 below) taken from this feature identified no dateable material, but indicated that the gradual deposition of sediment was consistent with a pond-like feature.

The remains investigated in Area 1 largely demonstrate evidence of late Neolithic/early Bronze Age funerary monuments based on flint tools and feature morphology. Much of the remains suffered from truncation by ploughing, particularly towards the north of the area where the soil cover was thinner. This may be the reason that few discrete features were encountered, which may have provided more contextual evidence for the surviving remains.

Area 2 (Fig. 10; Plate 11)

Area 2 was centred on previous Trenches 1, 2 and 3, where a number of ditches containing a large quantity of Romano-British pottery were excavated during the evaluation phase. The presence of a raised newt pond in the south-west corner of site, however, reduced the intended size of Area 2 by approximately 25m from the west, meaning the area immediately around Trench 1 was not excavated.

The natural geology (2002) was reached at an average depth of 0.30m, where it consisted of a light reddish brown sand with bands of flint gravels. This was overlain by a 0.14m thick, light grey brown silty sand subsoil (2001), which was sealed by a 0.16m thick dark grey-brown silty sand topsoil (2000).

The majority of the archaeological features were focused in the northern part of the area, immediately surrounding Trench 2. At the centre of Trench 2, a feature identified as a possible tree-throw was recorded, but wider excavation revealed that this feature was in fact the north-east corner of a beam slot structure (Feature 1; Figs 11, 12 and 13; Plate 12). The south-west corner of Feature 1 had been mostly removed by ploughing, but a faint, albeit broken line was observed in the natural geology, suggesting the feature once formed a complete square. The building measured approximately 9m by 9m along its external edge and enclosed an area of approximately 60m^2. The beam-slots measured approximately 0.70m wide and 0.15m deep. No post-pipes were observed in section. Sherds of pottery dating from the prehistoric and Roman periods were recovered from multiple sections (2023, 2025, 2033 and 2057).

Feature 2 (Plate 13) was observed within the area enclosed by Feature 1, close to its western boundary, and comprised four post-holes (2009, 2011, 2013 and 2015; Fig. 13, S. 10, S. 11, S. 12 and S. 14) positioned in a square approximately 1.5m apart. The post-holes were fairly consistent, measuring around 0.40m wide and 0.20m deep with light grey-brown sand fills containing trace amounts of charcoal. Pottery recovered from post-hole 2011 dates to a

similar period to the pottery recovered from the beamslot, suggesting the features were broadly contemporary. Post-hole 2009 was truncated by ditch 2017 (Feature 8).

A series of ditches, possibly forming part of a wider field system were also identified in the northern part of Area 2, comprising ditch 2077 running along the western edge of the site (Fig. 13, S. 38; Plate 14), Feature 6, and perpendicular Features 7 and 8 (Fig. 10; Fig. 13, S. 7; Plate 15). Together these ditches formed a number of roughly north to south oriented enclosures. Although Feature 7 appears to terminate approximately 9m to the east of Feature 6, excavation of the terminus (2005) revealed no clear break of slope. This suggests that the ditch may not have terminated, but its continuation has since been removed by ploughing. Feature 8 was observed to truncate both Feature 6 and ditch 2077, suggesting it was a later addition, constructed as the other ditches had already begun to fill-in. Pottery recovered from Features 6 (2003 and 2099), 7 (2005 and 2007) and 8 (2101) predominantly dates from the 1st and 2nd centuries, which suggests they were broadly contemporary with each other and the adjacent structures (Features 1 and 2).

The southern part of Area 2 was relatively sterile, containing only a single ditch (2069, 2071 and 2073) and a handful of small pits (2075, 2093, 2095, 2097 and 2103). The ditch ran on an approximate north to south orientation, roughly 1m from the western limit of excavation (Fig. 10). It measured an average of 0.70m wide and 0.20m deep (Fig. 13, S. 31), with an irregular base and a dark, silty, heavily rooted fill (2070/2072/2074). No finds were recovered, but the feature likely represents root disturbance, possibly resulting from a hedgerow.

Four small pits were also excavated in the southern part of Area 2. Pit 2103 was larger than than the others, measuring 0.98m by 0.91m and 0.25m deep, whereas pits 2075 (Plate 16), 2095, 2093 and 2097 measured between 0.53m and 0.93m in diameter and between 0.06m and 0.26m deep with similar wide, shallow profiles. Pottery was recovered from pits 2075 and 2103 dating to the prehistoric period, but the others remain undated.

The archaeological remains in Area 2 represent agricultural features, probably field boundaries, with two adjacent structures, possibly representing storage features.

6 Artefact Record

Pottery by Alice Lyons

A total of 171 sherds, weighing 3689g (Estimated Vessel Equivalent (EVE) 1.69) of prehistoric and Late Iron Age to Early Roman pottery was recovered. The pottery was recovered from a range of features, but the majority of prehistoric pottery was recovered from pits while the Late Iron Age-Early Roman pottery was primarily found within ditches (Table 1).

Table 1. The pottery by ceramic period and feature-type (most common in BOLD)

Ceramic Era	Feature-type	Count	Weight (g)	EVE	Weight (%)
Prehistoric: PRE	Beam-slot, ditch, **pit**, ring-ditch	23	118	0.05	3.20
Late Iron Age to Early Roman: LIA/ER	Beam-slot, **ditch**, pit, post-hole, sub-soil, ring-ditch	148	3571	1.64	96.80
Total		171	3689	1.69	100.00

The pottery was analysed following the national guidelines (Barclay *et al.* 2016) and has been recorded by fabric and form, and also quantified by sherd count and weight. Decoration, residues and abrasion were also noted.

Prehistoric: Early Neolithic to Early Iron Age (4000-800BC)

A small part of the assemblage totalling 23 sherds, weighing 118g and representing only 3% of the assemblage (by weight) was identified as prehistoric. This material comprises handmade low fired undiagnostic plain coarse ware bowl fragments, tempered with common burnt flint inclusions. Dating this material is particularly difficult as the pieces are small (*c.* 5g average sherd weight (ASW)), undecorated and undiagnostic (no rim pieces were found). Pottery of this general type was made from the Early Neolithic, through the Late Neolithic-Early Bronze Age and into the post-Deverel-Rimby Late Bronze to Early Iron Age period (Sarah Percival pers. comm.).

Table 2. Prehistoric pottery by feature type (BOLD = feature total)

Feature type and cut number	Sherd Count	Weight (g)
BEAMSLOT	**2**	**10**
2033	1	5
2057	1	5
DITCH	**5**	**34**
1026	2	12
1043	1	4
1047	1	15
2007	1	3
PIT	**14**	**61**
1030	6	34
1085	5	15
2075	1	11
2103	2	1
RING-DITCH	**2**	**13**
1070	1	10
1079	1	3
Total	**23**	**118**

The pottery was recovered from a range of features, but most commonly from pits (Table 2). The small abraded nature of this pottery suggests it was subject to significant post-depositional disturbance and is therefore mostly residual. The slightly larger sherd numbers

in fills 1031 and 1086 (pits 1030 and 1085), however, suggests these features are indeed prehistoric in date.

Late Iron Age to Early Roman (100BC-AD150)

The largest part of this assemblage totalling 148 sherds, weighing 3571g (1.64 EVE), representing *c.* 97% of the assemblage (by weight), was identified as Late Iron Age to Early Roman. The pottery was recovered from a range of features but mostly from ditches (Table 3). It is worthy of note that fill 2006 (ditch 2005, Feature 7) alone contained 66% (by weight) of this period group and is the focus for ceramic deposition during this time. The pottery is only moderately abraded with an ASW of *c.* 24g.

Table 3. Late Iron Age and Early Roman pottery by feature type (BOLD = feature total)

Feature type and cut number	Sherd Count	Weight (g)
BEAMSLOT	**2**	**47**
2023	1	43
2025	1	4
DITCH	**135**	**2758**
1009	1	31
1011	2	3
1026	10	102
1034	4	31
1047	1	6
2003	2	5
2005	75	2360
2007	27	140
2045	7	38
2067	2	21
2099	3	13
2101	1	8
PIT	3	6
1056	1	3
1083	2	3
POST-HOLE	**1**	**4**
2011	1	4
RING-DITCH	**1**	**1**
1070	1	1
SUBSOIL	**3**	**730**
U/S	**3**	**25**
Total	**148**	**3571**

The Late Iron Age to Early Roman Pottery Fabrics

Five broadly contemporary fabrics were identified (Table 4).

Coarse Wares

Chronologically the earliest pottery is a small number of Late Iron Age handmade reduced (black) sand and grog tempered undiagnostic jar/bowl sherds. Most common, however, are Early Roman wheelmade Sandy reduced (grey) wares. Where forms could be recognised, two examples of a carinated reeded rim bowl were found. Globular jars with rolled or everted rims are common and undiagnostic storage jar body sherds are also well represented. Beaker, dish and lid fragments are present as single examples or in small quantities only. The majority of this material is undecorated, although several of the jars have girth grooves, while a single example of a stabbed motif and burnished cross hatch was recorded. Several of the Sandy grey ware jars retain a soot residue on their exterior where they have been exposed to an open flame, possibly when used to heat food.

Sandy oxidised (white to red) fabrics were found in smaller numbers in a range of vessels including flagons, also a bowl, dish and jar. The source of this material is not certain, but Colchester was manufacturing similar fabrics in the early-to-mid Roman era (Tyers 1996, 119-220).

Table 4. Late Iron Age and Early Roman pottery listed in chronological order, then by descending order of weight (%)

Fabric: abbreviation ***Published reference***	**Vessel type**	**Count**	**Weight (g)**	**EVE**	**Weight (%)**
Late Iron Age Reduced ware, sand and/or grog tempered: RW(Q); RW(GROG) *Biddulph et al. 2015, MICW*	Jar/bowl, storage jar	22	176	0.0	4.94
Late Iron Age to early Roman Spanish coarse ware: BAT AM 1 *Tomber and Dore 1998, 84; Tyers 1996, 87-89*	Amphora	1	634	0.00	17.75
Early Roman Sandy grey ware: SGW *Biddulph et al. 2015, GRS*	Beaker, bowl, dish, jar, lid, storage jar	101	2523	1.54	70.65
Early Roman Sandy oxidised ware: SOW; SREDW *Biddulph et al. 2015, UWW*	Flagon, bowl, dish, jar	23	195	0.07	5.46
Early Roman Verulamium white ware: VER WH *Tomber and Dore 1998, 154; Tyers 1996, 132-134*	Mortaria	1	43	0.03	1.20
Total		**148**	**3571**	**1.64**	**100.00**

Fine wares

No fine wares, either imported or domestic, were found within this assemblage.

Specialist wares

A single large piece from a Spanish olive oil amphora was recovered from the subsoil (layer 2001). Amphora of this type were imported into south-east Britain from the Late Iron Age

until the 3rd century AD with supply peaking in the 2nd century. This example retains a scar where a handle would originally have been attached.

A single fragment from a Verulamium (St Albans) bead and flanged mortarium was recovered. These vessels started to be made in the mid-1st century with production continuing until the end of the 2nd century AD.

Discussion

Great Blakenham is located in a landscape of prehistoric, Late Iron Age to Early Roman activity. The pottery assemblage recovered during these excavations is small in size but adds to that recovered during evaluation (Moon 2016) to form a growing corpus of ceramic data which reflects the daily lives of the local communities. The nature of the pottery is primarily locally made and utilitarian (no fine table wares were found), although the presence of a mortarium traded from St Albans and an imported Spanish olive oil amphora suggests the links to the wider Roman Empire were being exploited.

No further work is required but the assemblage should be retained as part of the site archive.

Iron objects by Gail Drinkall

Two metal objects were recovered during the works. A complete hand forged iron nail was recovered from the subsoil (1001) in Area 1. It is 63mm in length, with a tapered rectangular sectioned shank, 7mm by 6mm at its widest point. The head has been formed by striking a hand-held mould or 'bore' over the end of the shank to produce a shaped end, a simple four sided pyramid shape often referred to as a rose head. These hand forged nails were expensive to produce and were used sparingly. They pre-date the cheaper cut nails of the late 16th century which became common from the late 17th to early 19th century.

A fragmentary, non-diagnostic iron strip with one folded edge was found in beam slot 2025 (fill 2026). It measures 32mm in length, 8mm in width and has a maximum thickness of 3mm at the folded edge and 1mm where it is flat. Its function and date could not be determined.

No further work is required but the assemblage should be retained as part of the site archive.

Slag by Gerry McDonnell

The slags were visually examined and the classification is based solely on morphology. The debris associated with metalworking, or submitted in the understanding that they are associated with metalworking, can be divided into two broad groups; residues diagnostic of a particular metallurgical process or non-diagnostic residues that may have derived from any pyrotechnological process (McDonnell 2001). The diagnostic ferrous debris can be attributed to a particular ironworking process; these comprise ores and the ironworking slags, i.e. the macro, hand recovered smelting and smithing slags and the micro-residues such as hammerscale and slag fragments recovered from sieving programmes. The second group, are the diagnostic non-ferrous metalworking debris, e.g. crucibles and moulds. Thirdly, there are the non-diagnostic slags, which could have been generated by a number of different processes but show no diagnostic characteristic that can identify the process. In many cases

the non-diagnostic residues, e.g. hearth or furnace lining, may be ascribed to a particular process through archaeological association. The residue classifications used in the report are defined below.

Diagnostic Ferrous Slags and Residues

Ore - Iron rich natural mineral, may be identifiable to a particular type e.g. Goethite or hematite.

Results

Table 5 lists the count and weight of the slag types present on the site. All the pieces are iron ore, but they vary a little in morphology, with one fragment having a metallic lustre whereas the other are dull. They are all hard and do not leave a streak on a streak-plate indicating a Mho hardness of greater than 6. They do not respond to a magnet and are probably a form of pyrite which occurs naturally in chalk. Weathered pyrite loses the sulphur and is a viable ore or pigment source (Tylecote and Clough 1983).

Table 5. Slag

Context	Sample Number	Ore Count	Ore Weight (g)
2012	5	1	9
2046	11	1	8
2062	13	5	6
2110	23	2	7
Total		9	30

The assemblage is not significant and there is no evidence for metalworking. The ore fragments naturally occur in the glacial deposits. No further work is required on the assemblage. For archiving purposes, the assemblage should be retained.

Flint by Ann Clarke

A total of 186 pieces of flint and one flake of a white material, possibly chalk was recovered (Table 6).

The worked flint in the form of flakes, blades, scrapers and cores bears evidence of Late Neolithic flint working, specifically broad flakes; multi-platform cores; flakes and blades with deep flat platforms; and a possible Levallois-like flake.

The worked flint is scattered across the site, in the area of the ring-ditch and other ditch sections. Pits, specifically Pit 1056, contained numerous flakes and cores, dating to the Late Neolithic.

The flaked lithics demonstrate the existence of a Late Neolithic occupation(s) disturbed by later activity across the site, and Pit 1056 which is likely to date to the Late Neolithic.

No further work is required but the assemblage should be retained.

Table 6. Flint

Context type	Flake	Blade	Core	Scraper	Chunk	Spall	Burnt flint	Other
Ditch	21	8	1	2	6	4	13	
Ring-ditch	10	2	1		2			
Pit	56	6	2		2	10	23	
Subsoil	2	1			1			
Cremation	1						11	
Slot	1							Flake of white chalk?
Total	91	17	4	2	11	14	47	1

7 Environmental Record

Animal bone by Jane Richardson

A small assemblage of animal bone was recovered from both hand-excavated contexts and from subsequent soil sampling. These are catalogued by context in Table 7 below. Cattle and sheep bones are represented and one cattle bone was noted as having been butchered and later gnawed. Many small undiagnostic fragments of cremated bone were recovered. These have the appearance of animal bone, and certainly no fragments likely to be human were noted.

The assemblage requires no further analysis, but it should be retained as part of the site archive. No material suitable for C14 dating was noted.

Table 7. Animal bone by context

Context	Sample	Feature	Description	Quantity
1010	-	Ditch 1009	Fragments of cattle teeth	28
1012	-	Ditch 1011	Tiny undiagnostic fragments	17
1027	-	Ditch 1026	Fragments of cattle-size long bone fragments	7
1027	33	Ditch 1026	Fragments of sheep teeth	3
1048	-	Ditch 1047	Cattle distal humerus (fused) – gnawed and butchered	1
1051	-	Pond 1050	Cattle metatarsal (fused) – many fragments but all one bone	1
1052	-	Pond 1050	Cattle scapula	1
			Cattle-sized long bone fragments	61
			Sheep distal femur (not fused)	1
			Sheep-sized vertebra fragments	2
1084	-	Pit 1083	Tiny undiagnostic fragments – cremated, likely sheep-sized	19
1084	50	Pit 1083	Tiny undiagnostic fragments – cremated, likely sheep-sized	96
2006	2	Ditch 2005	Tiny undiagnostic fragment – cremated	1

Context	Sample	Feature	Description	Quantity
2008	3	Ditch 2007	Tiny undiagnostic fragment – cremated	1
Total				**239**

Carbonised plant macrofossils and charcoal by Diane Alldritt

A total of 52 environmental sample flots were examined for carbonised plant macrofossils and charcoal (from soil samples as listed in Appendix 4). Carbonised material sorted from two of the sample retents was also analysed for identifiable remains. The environmental samples were largely found to be sterile although two of the pits produced concentrated deposits of carbonised remains, mainly charcoal, suggesting possibly early prehistoric fire pits, whilst a small amount of identifiable charcoal was present in one of the post-holes.

The bulk environmental samples were processed by ASWYAS using a Siraf-style water flotation system (French 1971). The samples were 10 litres to 120 litres in volume. The flots were dried before examination under a low power binocular microscope typically at x10 magnification. All identified plant remains including charcoal were removed and bagged separately by type.

Wood charcoal was examined using a high powered Vickers M10 metallurgical microscope at magnifications up to x200. The reference photographs of Schweingruber (1990) were consulted for charcoal identification. Plant nomenclature utilised in the text follows Stace (1997) for all vascular plants apart from cereals, which follow Zohary and Hopf (2000).

The environmental samples produced small volumes of carbonised remains <2.5ml up to 35ml consisting mainly of wood charcoal, but the majority of samples were sterile. Modern plant remains were recorded in amounts from 5ml up to 80ml consisting mostly of root detritus with a few finds of modern seeds suggesting potential for bioturbation through the deposits. Snail shell was present and included burrowing and non-burrowing types indicating further potential for mixing and intrusion, particularly in the ditches.

Only the results for flots containing identifiable charred material are given in Tables 8 and 9 and discussed below.

Area 1

Twenty eight samples were examined from Area 1 with two of the pit features containing discrete deposits of charcoal and other carbonised remains (Table 8).

Two of the pits contained discrete concentrations of charcoal with pit 1056 (fill 1057) producing a cache of crushed and 10mm *Quercus* (oak) charcoal fragments probably a deposit of fuel waste or a large fire pit with material burnt *in situ*. Pit 1083 (fill 1084) contained oak charcoal identified together with a single 5mm fragment of *Corylus avellana* (hazel) nutshell in fairly good condition, either an offering to the funeral pyre or a stray inclusion. These two features were probably prehistoric fire/cremation pits.

Ring ditch segments 1059 (fill 1060) and 1079 (fill 1080) produced trace charred remains, perhaps wind-blown or swept charred detritus relating to occupation activity, but none were identifiable.

Table 8. Area 1 environmental results

	Context	1057	1084
	Sample	42	50
	Feature	pit 1056	pit 1083
	Area	1	1
	Sample Volume (litres)	120	30
	Total CV	25ml	35ml
	Modern	50ml	30ml
Charcoal	**Common Name**		
Quercus	oak	10 (1.38g)	5 (2.25g)
Carbonised Wild Resources			
Corylus avellana nutshell	hazel nutshell		1 (0.03g)
Other Remains			
Non-marine mollusc (snail) shell			5+
Modern seeds			
Clinker			
Earthworm egg capsules		1	

Area 2

A total of 24 samples were examined from Area 2 but only one post-hole produced identifiable material (Table 9). Post-hole 2011 (fill 2012) contained a small discrete deposit of crushed and 10mm fragments of oak charcoal, possibly remains of a post burnt *in situ* or fuel waste sweepings from a hearth place. Post-hole 2013 (fill 2014) also contained some crushed slivers of charcoal, possibly oak, but too small to identify fully.

Table 9. Area 2 environmental results

	Context	2012	2014
	Sample	5	6
	Feature	Post-hole 2011	Post-hole 2013
	Area	2	2
	Sample Volume (litres)	40	40
	Total CV	10ml	<2.5ml
	Modern	20ml	15ml
Charcoal	**Common Name**		
Quercus	oak	2 (0.10g)	

Carbonised Wild Resources			
Corylus avellana nutshell	hazel nutshell		
Other Remains			
Non-marine mollusc (snail) shell		10+	30+
Modern seeds		5+	2

The environmental samples produced three discrete deposits of carbonised material recovered from pits 1056 (fill 1057) and 1083 (fill 1084) in Area 1 and post-hole 2011 (fill 2012) in Area 2, mostly consisting of fragments of oak charcoal. P

Pit 1083 (fill 1084) also contained a fragment of hazel nutshell, perhaps food waste or an offering on a funeral pyre. Both pits 1056 and 1083 were probably prehistoric in origin. The nutshell was sent for radiocarbon dating and dated to 791-644 cal BC (SUERC-100886). The ditches in both Areas 1 and 2 were largely sterile.

Column sample by John Carrott

A 1.76m deposit sequence (sampled via two overlapped column samples) within an undated probable former pond (1050) was submitted for an assessment of its bioarchaeological potential. Five fills were recorded, 1051-1055 (lowermost first), with a small amount of animal bone (recorded separately) recovered from the two earliest deposits (contexts 1051 and 1052).

The sediment sequence through the possible pond was primarily inorganic and almost devoid of microfossil and macrofossil remains. The only macroscopic organic remains present were fine rootlets which were present throughout the two uppermost deposits and also noted in the upper half of the middle (tertiary) fill and in one part of the secondary fill. Microfossils were restricted to small numbers of fragments of fungal hyphae recorded in nine of the twelve subsamples examined – absent from the two from the primary fill, and from the lowermost subsample from the secondary fill. These remains were of no interpretative value and provided no material suitable for submission for radiocarbon dating of the deposits to be attempted.

The only observations made that were potentially of some interpretative value related to the mineral composition of the deposits. All of the represented contexts were essentially 'fine-grained' in nature grading from basal clays (the primary and secondary fills) to silty fine sands (the two uppermost fills) through the tertiary fill which was predominantly clay but with fine sand inclusions. These lithologies would certainly be consistent with low-energy deposition (becoming slightly higher with decreasing depth) initially in a pond or similar body of still water presumably with slight increase in flow indicated in the two upper deposits and perhaps intermittently in the tertiary fill (and as a specific event by a sand inclusion within the secondary fill)). All of the larger mineral inclusions recorded were of flint from the fourth fill which appear anomalous given the preceding observations.

Two column samples (monolith samples *sensu* Historic England Heritage 2011), taken through the deposits within possible pond 1050, were submitted to Palaeoecology Research Services Ltd, for an assessment of their bioarchaeological potential.

1. The sequence of deposits in the column samples was recorded by visual inspection following a standard *pro forma*, together with notes on any inclusions present; Sample 41 represented the lower fills revealed, Contexts 1051-1054, and Column Sample 40 the two upper deposits, Contexts 1054 and 1055 (the lower of which was also represented as the upper 210mm of Column Sample 41).

A series of 12 microfossil 'squash' subsamples (of ~1ml) was taken through the deposit sequence from the approximate centre of the columns. These were examined using the 'squash' technique of Dainton (1992), originally designed specifically to assess the content of eggs of intestinal parasitic nematodes; however, this method routinely reveals the presence of other microfossils, such as pollen and diatoms, which were the focus of the investigations here. The assessment slides were scanned at x150 magnification and at x600 where necessary. The abundances of microfossil remains were recorded on a five-point semi-quantitative scale: 1 – few/rare, up to 3 individuals/items; 2 – some/present, 4 to 20 items; 3 – frequent/common, 21 to 50; 4 –many/abundant, 51 to 200; and 5 – very many/super-abundant, over 200 items/individuals.

Processing for the recovery of macrofossil remains was not undertaken (in order that the column samples could be retained relatively undisturbed against the possibility of a requirement for further narrow interval subsampling for microfossil analysis). However, brief notes regarding macrofossil content would have been made from the material being prepared for the microfossil slides but, in the event, no macrofossils were present.

A consideration during recording was the identification of suitable remains (if present) for possible submission for radiocarbon dating by standard radiometric technique or accelerator mass spectrometry (AMS).

The results of the investigation of the column samples are presented below.

The description of the 1.76m of deposit sequence (the combined length of the two column samples was 1.97m but there was 210 mm of overlap of Context 1054) represented within Column Samples 41 (Contexts 1051-1054) and 40 (Contexts 1054 and 1055) was as follows:

Column Sample 41 – total 1150mm

Context 1051 (0 to 110mm from base): Dry, varicoloured (jumbled shades of brown, grey-brown and grey from light to mid/dark), brittle to crumbly (working stiff then more or less plastic when wetted), clay – in brittle lumps and rather loose in column. No obvious inclusions.

Context 1051 (110 to 150mm from base): A more or less equal mix of sediments as described immediately below (0 to 110mm from base) and above (150 to 280mm).

Context 1051 (150 to 280mm from base): Just moist, mid grey-brown, very stiff (working plastic), clay. No obvious inclusions.

Context 1052 (280 to 655mm from base): Just moist, light brown to light/mid grey-brown (mottled at a mm-scale), very stiff (working plastic), clay. Inclusion of more or less dry, light brown, unconsolidated, fine sand at 530-550mm from base (approximately central within column and enclosed by main clay matrix). Fine rootlet present at 550-655mm from base.

Context 1053 (655 to 940mm from base): Just moist, mostly light/mid grey-brown (mottled with light and light/mid browns at a mm-scale), very stiff (working plastic), clay. Inclusion of more or less dry, light to light/mid brown, unconsolidated, sand at 770-800mm from base (approximately central within column and enclosed by main clay matrix) – also some sand content as per this inclusion intermixed with main clay matrix, together with fine rootlet at 780-940mm from base.

Context 1054 (940 to 1020mm from base): Dry, varicoloured (jumbled shades of brown and grey-brown from very light to mid), crumbly to unconsolidated, silty fine sand, Fine rootlet present throughout and a flint (to 29mm) at 1005-1015mm from base.

Context 1054 (1020 to 1150mm from base): As immediately below (940-1020mm from base) but collapsed and in loose lumps within column.

Column Sample 40 – total 820mm

Context 1054 (0 to 50mm from base): As uppermost 130 mm of Sample 41 (1020-1150mm from base) – see above.

Context 1054 (50 to 510mm from base): Dry, varicoloured (jumbled shades of brown and grey-brown from very light to mid), crumbly to unconsolidated, silty fine sand. Fine rootlet and flint (to 80mm) were present throughout – the latter particularly at 80-135mm and 480-510mm from base were they were common to abundant.

Context 1055 (510 to 680mm from base): Dry, varicoloured (jumbled shades of brown and grey-brown from very light to light/mid), crumbly to unconsolidated, silty fine sand (more silty in places). Fine rootlet was present throughout.

Context 1055 (680 to 820mm from base): As immediately below (510-680mm from base) but collapsed and in loose lumps within column.

Eight of the sequence of 12 microfossil 'squash' subsamples examined were extracted from Column Sample 41 through Context 1051 (at 60 and 200mm from the base of the column), Context 1052 (at 350, 500 and 600mm), Context 1053 (at 750 and 850mm) and Context 1054 (at 975mm). The four remaining subsamples were extracted from Column Sample 40 through Context 1054 (at 200, 400 and 500mm from the base of the column) and from a single sampling point within Context 1055 (at 600mm from base). The results are presented below.

Subsample at 60mm from base of Column Sample 41, Context 1051: The 'squash' was almost entirely inorganic, with the barest trace of organic detritus (<1%). No microfossils were present and no macrofossil remains were recorded during preparation of the slide.

Subsample at 200mm from base of Column Sample 41, Context 1051: The 'squash' was almost entirely inorganic, with the barest trace of organic detritus (<1%). No microfossils were present and no macrofossil remains were recorded during preparation of the slide.

Subsample at 350mm from base of Column Sample 41, Context 1052: The 'squash' was almost entirely inorganic, with the barest trace of organic detritus (<1%). No microfossils were present and no macrofossil remains were recorded during preparation of the slide.

Subsample at 500mm from base of Column Sample 41, Context 1052: The 'squash' was almost entirely inorganic, with the barest trace of organic detritus (<1%). Microfossils present were restricted to a small number of fragments of fungal hyphae (abundance score 2) and no macrofossil remains were recorded during preparation of the slide.

Subsample at 600mm from base of Column Sample 41, Context 1052: The 'squash' was almost entirely inorganic, with the barest trace of organic detritus (<1%). Microfossils present were restricted to a few fragments of fungal hyphae (score 1) and no macrofossil remains were recorded during preparation of the slide. Subjectively, there were occasional somewhat larger mineral grains within the inorganic component than seen in the subsamples from lower in the sequence (Context 1051 and the lower subsamples from Context 1052).

Subsample at 750mm from base of Column Sample 41, Context 1053: The 'squash' was almost identical in character to that from the subsample at 600 mm from the base of Column Sample 41 (see above) the only difference being a slightly greater number of fragments of fungal hyphae (score 2).

Subsample at 850mm from base of Column Sample 41, Context 1053: The 'squash' was identical in character to that from the subsample immediately below at 750 mm from the base of Column Sample 41 (see above).

Subsample at 975mm from base of Column Sample 41, Context 1054: The 'squash' was almost entirely inorganic, with the barest trace of organic detritus (<1%). Microfossils present were restricted to a few fragments of fungal hyphae (score 1) and no macrofossil remains were recorded during preparation of the slide. Subjectively, mineral grains within the inorganic component were predominantly larger than those seen in the subsamples from lower in the deposit sequence (Contexts 1051 and 1052, in particular).

Subsample at 200mm from base of Column Sample 40, Context 1054: The 'squash' was identical in character to that from the uppermost subsample taken from Column Sample 41 (at 975mm from the base; Context 1054 – see above).

Subsample at 400mm from base of Column Sample 40, Context 1054: The 'squash' was identical in character to that from the subsample immediately below at 200mm from the base of Column Sample 40 (see above).

Subsample at 500 mm from base of Column Sample 40, Context 1054: The 'squash' was almost identical in character to that from the subsample at 400mm from the base of Column Sample 40 (see above) the only difference being a slightly greater number of fragments of fungal hyphae (score 2).

Subsample at 600mm from base of Column Sample 40, Context 1055: The 'squash' was identical in character to those from the two lowermost from Column Sample 40 (at 200 and 400mm from base; both Context 1054; see above).

The sediment sequence through the undated, former possible pond 1050, as represented in Column Samples 41 and 40 (Contexts 1051-1055 – lowermost first), was primarily inorganic and almost devoid of microfossil and macrofossil remains.

The only macroscopic organic remains present were fine rootlets which were present throughout the two uppermost deposits (Contexts 1054 and 1055) and also noted in the upper half of Context 1053 and in one part of Context 1052 (at 550-655mm from the base of Column Sample 41). Microfossils were restricted to small numbers of fragments of fungal hyphae recorded in nine of the 12 subsamples examined – absent from the two from the primary fill, Context 1051, and from the lowermost subsample (at 350mm from the base of Column Sample 41) from the secondary fill, Context 1052.

These remains were of no interpretative value and provided no material suitable for submission for radiocarbon dating of the deposits to be attempted.

The only observations made during this assessment that were potentially of some interpretative value related to the mineral composition of the deposits. All of the represented contexts were essentially 'fine-grained' in nature grading from basal clays (Contexts 1051 and 1052) to silty fine sands (Contexts 1054 and 1055) through Context 1053 which was predominantly clay but with fine sand inclusions. These lithologies would certainly be consistent with low-energy deposition (becoming slightly higher with decreasing depth) initially in a pond or similar body of still water presumably with slight increase in flow indicated in the two upper deposits and perhaps intermittently in Context 1053 (and as a specific event by the sand inclusion within Context 1052). All of the larger mineral inclusions recorded were of flint from Context 1054 (to 80mm) which appear anomalous given the preceding observations.

No further study of the extremely sparse biological remains from the deposits reported here is warranted.

8 Radiocarbon Dating

A single sample was submitted to the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre for radiocarbon dating (Table 10). The calibrated age ranges were determined from the Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program (OxCal 4). The high probability density range method was also applied (Intercal20). Full details of each radiocarbon

measurement, including contextual information, material dated, the conventional age BP, the calibration program and the sample isotopic fractionation are presented in Table 10. The full report is attached as Appendix 6. Feature-specific dates have been cited as calibrated age ranges at the two sigma level of confidence (68.3% to 95.4% respectively). Material dated was a hazelnut from the pit 1083.

Table 10. Radiocarbon dating results

Lab. Code	Context	Feature/ Group	Material	Radiocarbon Age BP	Calibrated Age Range ∂1	Calibrated Age Range ∂2	Delta 13C rel. to VPBD (‰)
SUERC-100886	1084	1083	Hazelnut	2534 ± 21	781-614 calBC	791-644 calBC	-23.3

9 Discussion

Neolithic and other prehistoric remains

There is a broad date range for the material recovered from Area 1, ranging from the late Neolithic period through to the end of the 1st century BC. Artefacts from both ends of the date range have been recovered from the same deposits (ring ditch 1069 in Feature 4 and ditch 1034 in Feature 5 for example). This broad date range is likely to be indicative of an extended, but perhaps not intense period of use of the site, as few recuts of features were noted.

Feature 5 appears to be a heavily truncated enclosure with much of the eastern end removed. It may represent a late Neolithic mortuary enclosure, such as the one observed at Feering, Essex (HER 1017230) and photographed at Levington (LVT 055) and Mettingham (MTT 029), Suffolk.

Mortuary enclosures are characterised as oblong shaped enclosures with an internal bank and generally straight ditches. There are few examples nationally, but the highest concentration has been observed in Suffolk and Essex. They are generally thought to have been used to expose human remains for excarnation, possibly on raised platforms, prior to secondary burial (Barrett *et al.* 1991).

At Feering, a possible round barrow was observed alongside the mortuary enclosure and it has been proposed that the barrow was a potential location for secondary burial, following preparation in the enclosure (Historic England 1999). Features 4 and 5 bear a clear resemblance to the Feering site; Feature 4 was situated only 30m east of Feature 5 and material evidence has demonstrated a broadly contemporary use period. Unfortunately, no human remains were found to support this theory. Pit 1083 (further to the east) was determined to contain the cremated remains of an animal. Pottery recovered from the fill (1084) was dated to the Late Iron Age to early Romano-British period. Radiocarbon dating

undertaken on a Hazelnut from this same deposit (1084) is dated to 791-644 cal BC which would be firmly within the Early Iron Age (SUERC-100886). This is largely consentient with some of the range of pottery that also has a potential Early Iron Age date.

Although pit 1056 is likely contemporary with the ring ditch, no bone was recovered and no clear purpose beyond the intentional deposition of burnt material was established. It is possible that a combination of intensive ploughing and acidic soils have removed any evidence of human remains, but without physical evidence all that can be said for certain is that Features 4 and 5 are broadly contemporary features, in use somewhere between the Late Neolithic and Late Iron Age periods.

Prehistoric pits (2103 and 2075) were also present in Area 2 along with a small quantity of, presumably residual, prehistoric pottery recovered from Feature 2. These do not form part of any clear structure or appear to be enclosed by or related to the surrounding ditches, but they do give an indication that low level prehistoric activity extended for a considerable distance across the site.

Iron Age/Roman remains

The series of ditches and structures recorded in Area 2 typify the landscape associated with Iron Age and Roman Suffolk. Four-post structures, such as Feature 2 are commonly observed throughout East Anglia and are generally thought to represent raised storage features or 'granaries,' typically used for the storage of plant-based foods, and tend to date from the late Bronze Age through the Iron Age (Brück 2019). These features are closely associated with agriculture and are often seen alongside field systems. A local example is Cedars Park in Stowmarket, a large Iron-Age/Romano British farmstead where four-post structures were observed away from settlements on the borders of agricultural land (Nicholson and Woolhouse 2016). Although the larger beam-slot structure, Feature 1, encloses Feature 2, it is unclear if they were contemporary. Finds from Features 1 and 2 date them broadly to the Roman period, although a small quantity of earlier pottery, likely to be residual, was also recovered. Perhaps Feature 1 served a similar purpose to Feature 2, but providing a larger storage area, conceivably to support a growing population or a greater yield.

These structures sat adjacent to a small network of field boundaries, formed of two north to south oriented ditches and two east to west oriented ditches. Pottery recovered from these ditches indicate a Roman date, which is supported by the apparent coaxial pattern the ditches formed in plan. Coaxial field systems are common throughout East Anglia during the Roman period, often reflecting the 'brickwork' pattern field systems observed along the magnesium limestone ridge in South Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire (Medleycott 2011). Feature 8 was also observed to truncate Feature 1 suggesting the structure fell into disuse during this period, perhaps due to the expansion of a growing network of field systems, or a change in use from crops to animal husbandry. These finds broadly align with recent finds at excavations such as Stansted Airport and the A120 expansion, showing a much more populated landscape of

agriculture and small farmsteads than was previously believed of Suffolk during this period (Rippon 2018).

10 Conclusions

This archaeological excavation was successful in confirming and expanding upon the results of the 2016 trial trench evaluation. A ring ditch and enclosure, used in the prehistoric period was excavated, which may have similarities with mortuary enclosure type features found throughout Suffolk and Essex. Unfortunately no human remains were encountered to confirm this. Broadly prehistoric dating for the site has been confirmed with some evidence for an extended but albeit not intense period of use of the site. The Early Iron age dating for pit 1083 using radiocarbon dating additionally suggests at some level of continuation of the Bronze Age use of the site associated with the ring ditch.

Evidence of Romano-British agriculture was investigated through a series of ditches and structures excavated at the west end of site. These finds correlate with recent finds throughout Suffolk and contribute to the growing understanding of Roman period agricultural activity in the area.

The site demonstrates a change in use observed throughout Suffolk from a funerary landscape in the prehistoric period to a largely agricultural one in the Late Iron Age and Roman periods, reflecting recent discoveries on sites such as the A120 expansion. It is likely that Suffolk was more permanently settled in the Iron Age and Romano-British periods than was previously supposed.

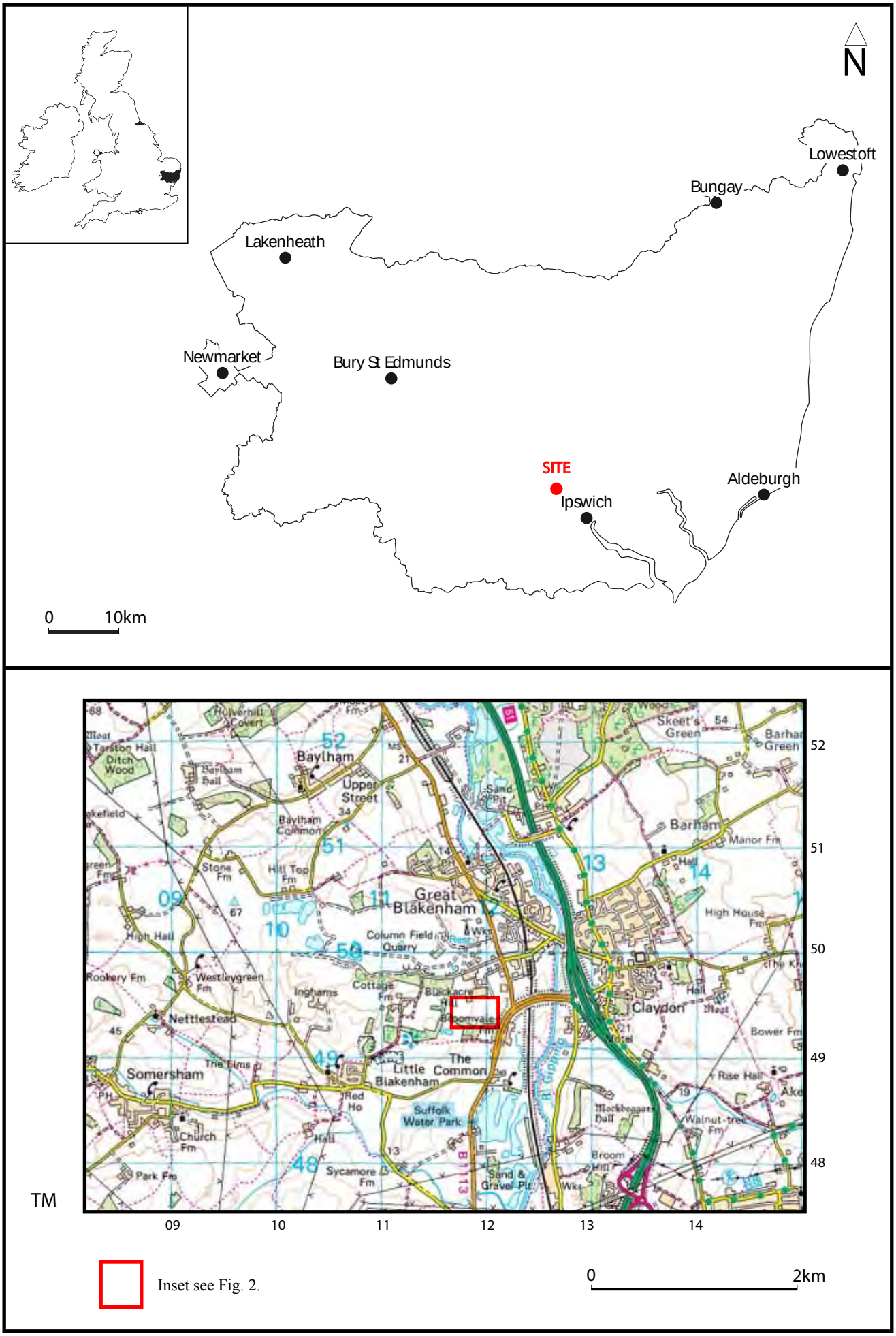


Fig. 1. Site location

	SITE BOUNDARY
	TRIAL TRENCH
	ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURE

TYPE OF ANOMALY		INTERPRETATION
	DIPOLAR ISOLATED	FERROUS MATERIAL
	DIPOLAR LINEAR	SERVICE PIPE
	MAGNETIC DISTURBANCE	FERROUS MATERIAL
	LINEAR TREND	FIELD DRAIN
	LINEAR TREND	RIDGE AND FURROW
	LINEAR TREND	AGRICULTURAL
	LINEAR TREND	GEOLOGY
	MAGNETIC ENHANCEMENT	GEOLOGY
	MAGNETIC ENHANCEMENT	ARCHAEOLOGY?
	MAGNETIC ENHANCEMENT	ARCHAEOLOGY
	MAGNETIC ENHANCEMENT	ARCHAEOLOGY - DITCH

N

Area 2

Area 1

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 29

2495 00

2493 00

6118 00

6120 00

Archaeological Services W Y A S
Nepshaw Lane South, Morley, LS27 7JQ
Tel: 0113 535 0163

0 50m

Fig. 2. Site plan (1:1250 @ A3)

SITE BOUNDARY
TRIAL TRENCH
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURE

N

22
25
27
26
28
29
23
24

S. 106
1050
S. 91
1032
1085
S. 126
1083
S. 123
S. 105
1047

Fig. 4
Fig. 7

2494 00

6120 00

0 50m

Archaeological Services W Y A S
Nepshaw Lane South, Morley, LS27 7JQ
Tel: 0113 535 0163

Fig. 3. Plan of Area 1 (1:500 @ A3)

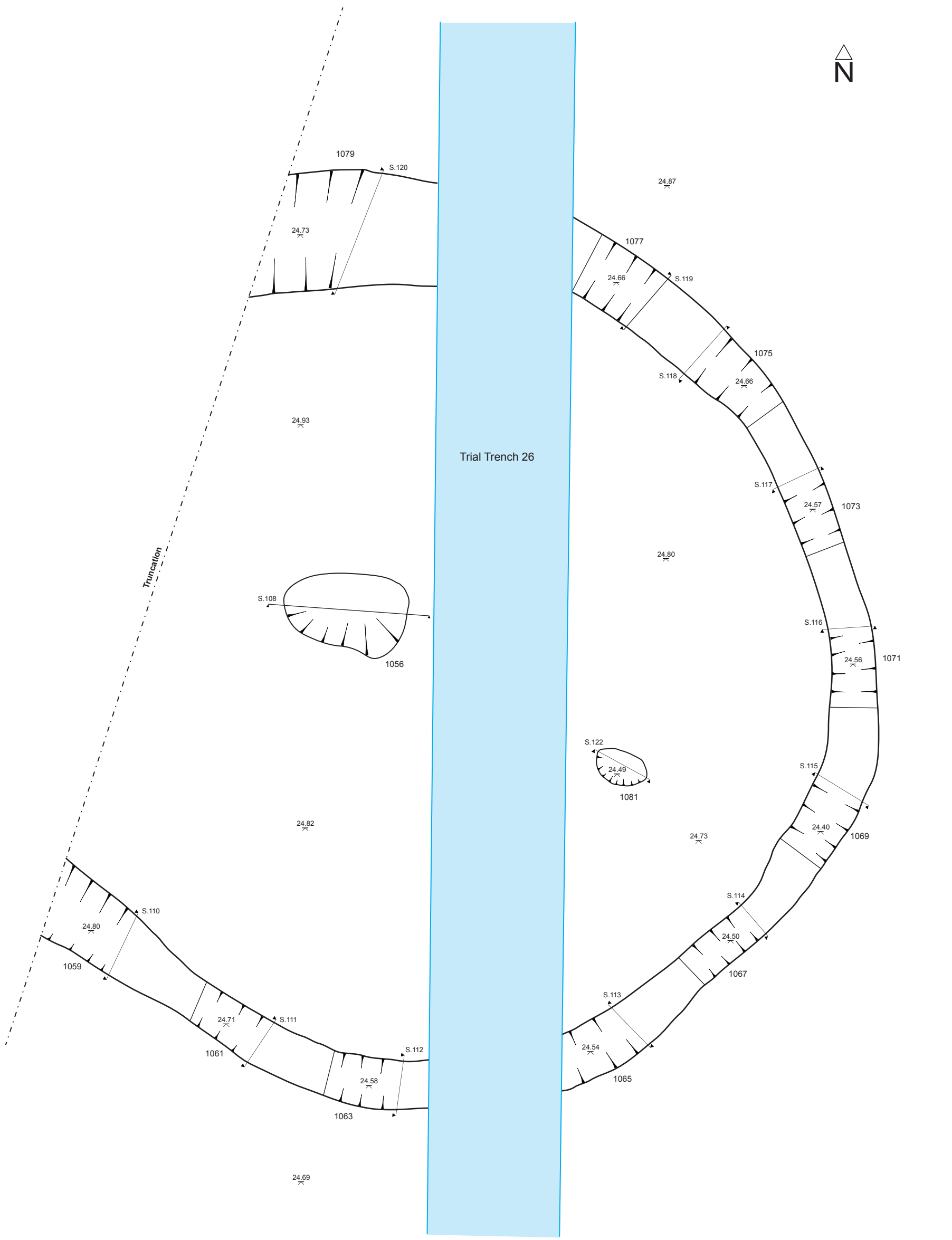


Fig. 4. Plan of Feature 4

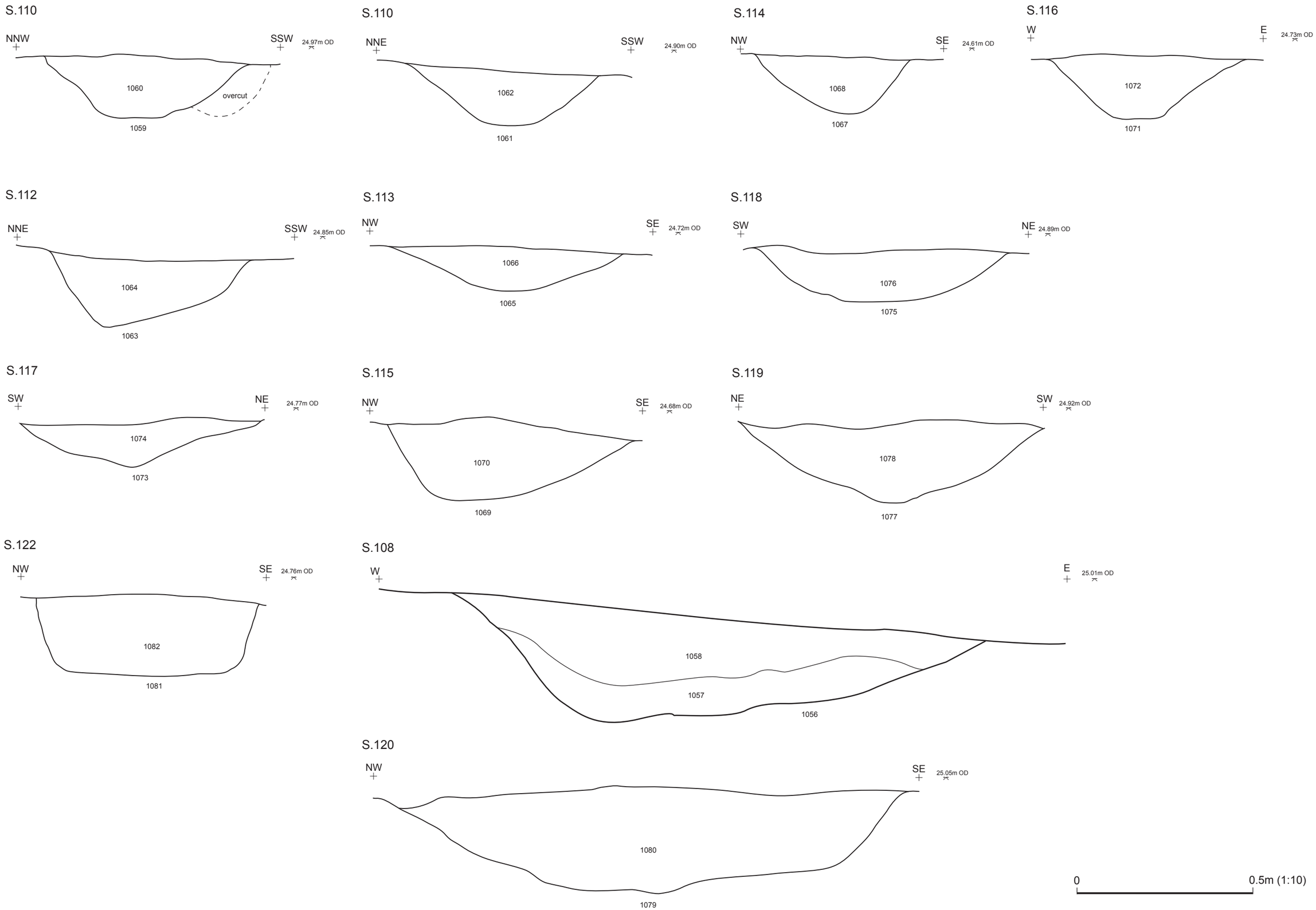


Fig. 5. Sections of Feature 4

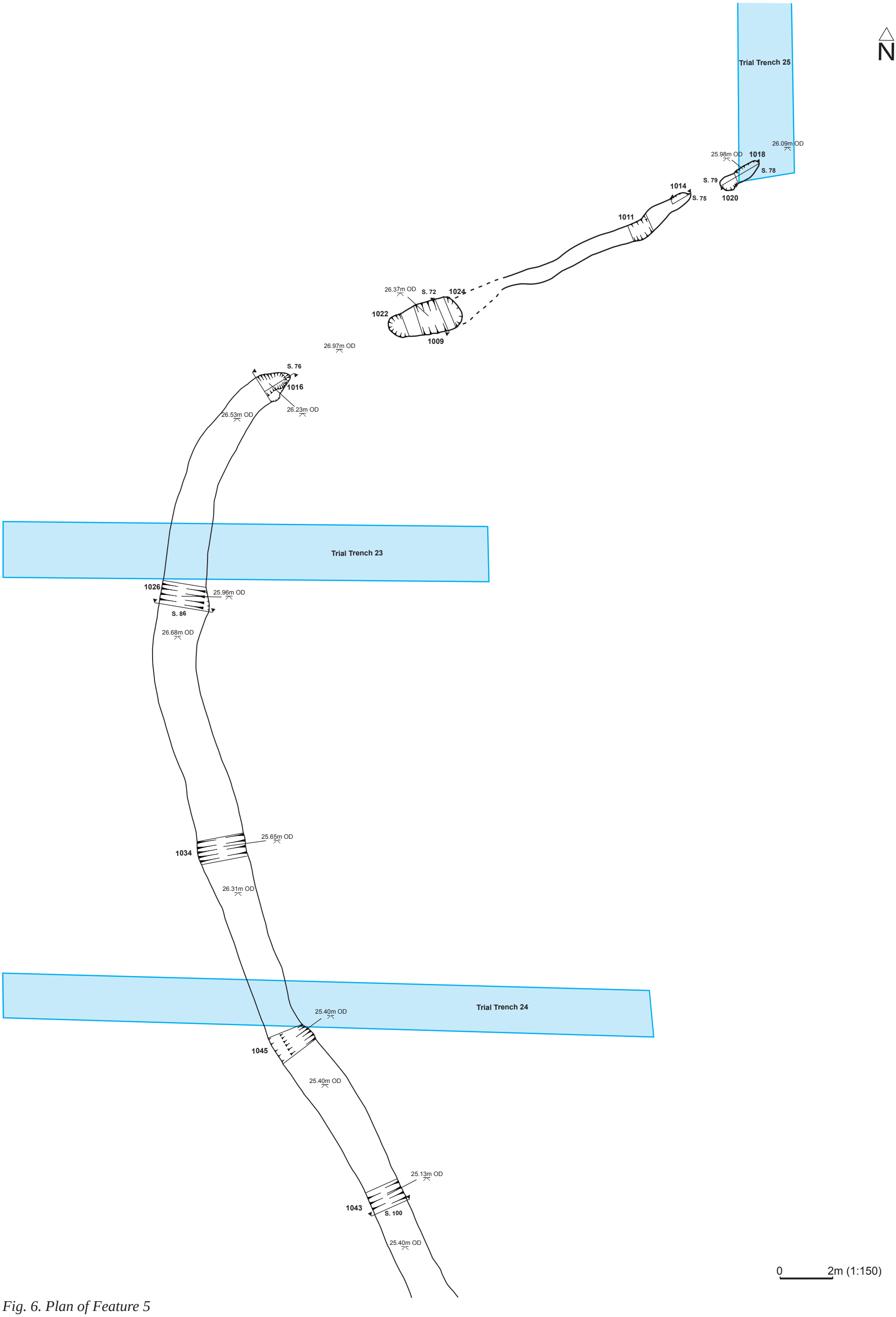


Fig. 6. Plan of Feature 5

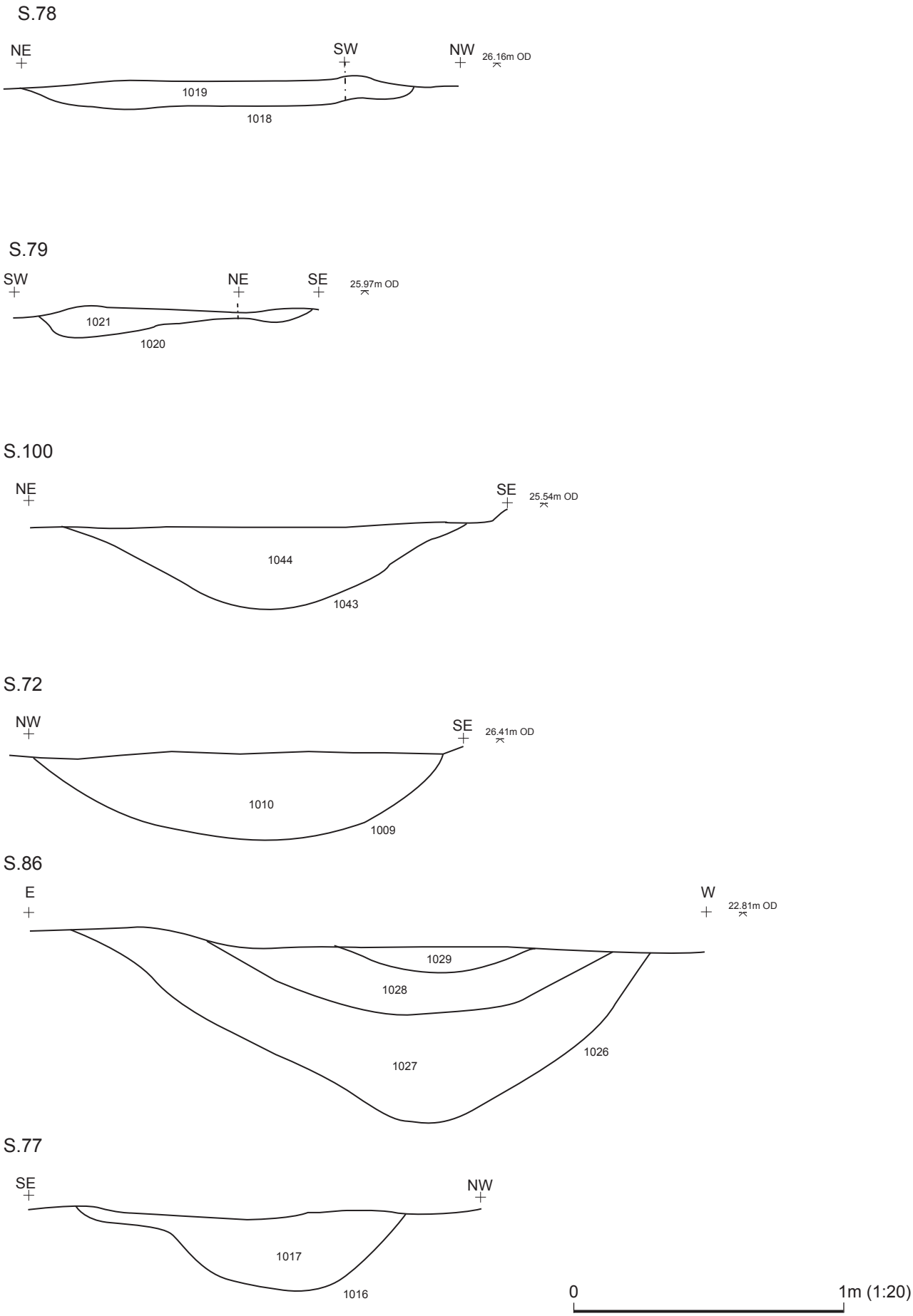
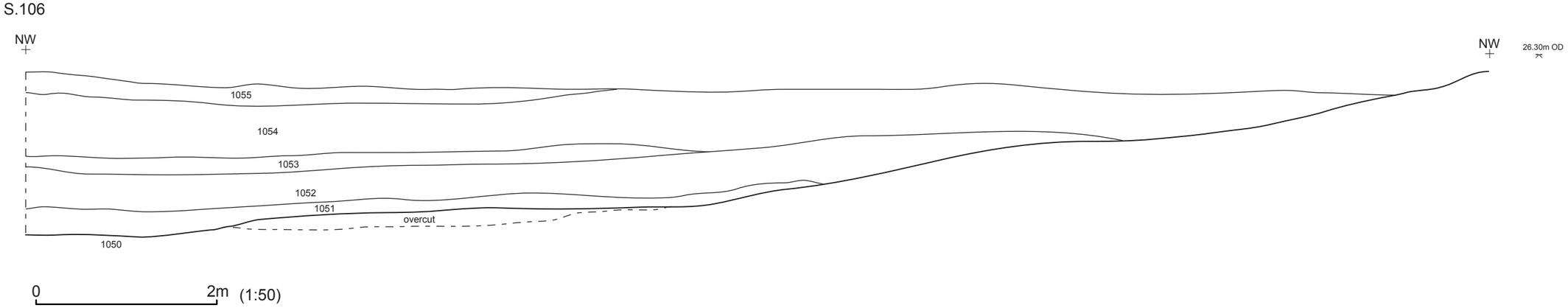
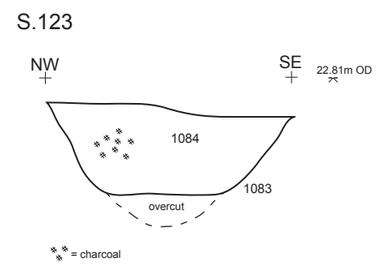
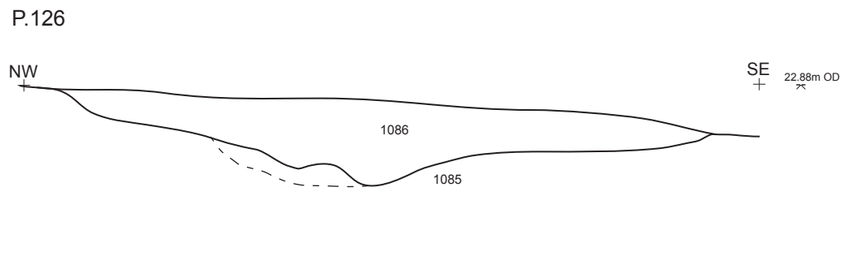


Fig. 7. Feature 5 sections







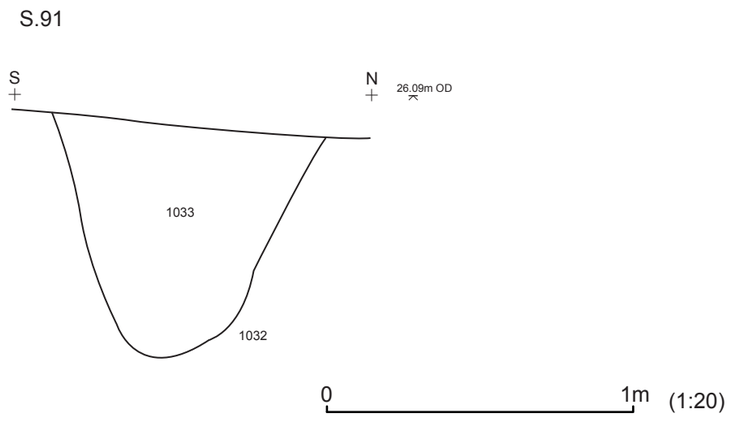


Fig. 8. Area 1 sections

SITE BOUNDARY
TRIAL TRENCH
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURE

N

249500

S.2
2003
FEATURE 6
FEATURE 7
2005
2007
S.7
FEATURE 8
2099
2091
S.45
S.38
2077
2089
2099
2101
2117
2105
Fig. 11
2103
2097
2093
S.60
2069
2111
2095
S.31
2073
2071
S.36
2075

1
2
3

249450

611650

Archaeological Services W Y A S
Nepshaw Lane South, Morley, LS27 7JQ
Tel: 0113 535 0163

0 10m

Fig. 9. Plan of Area 2 (1:250 @ A3)

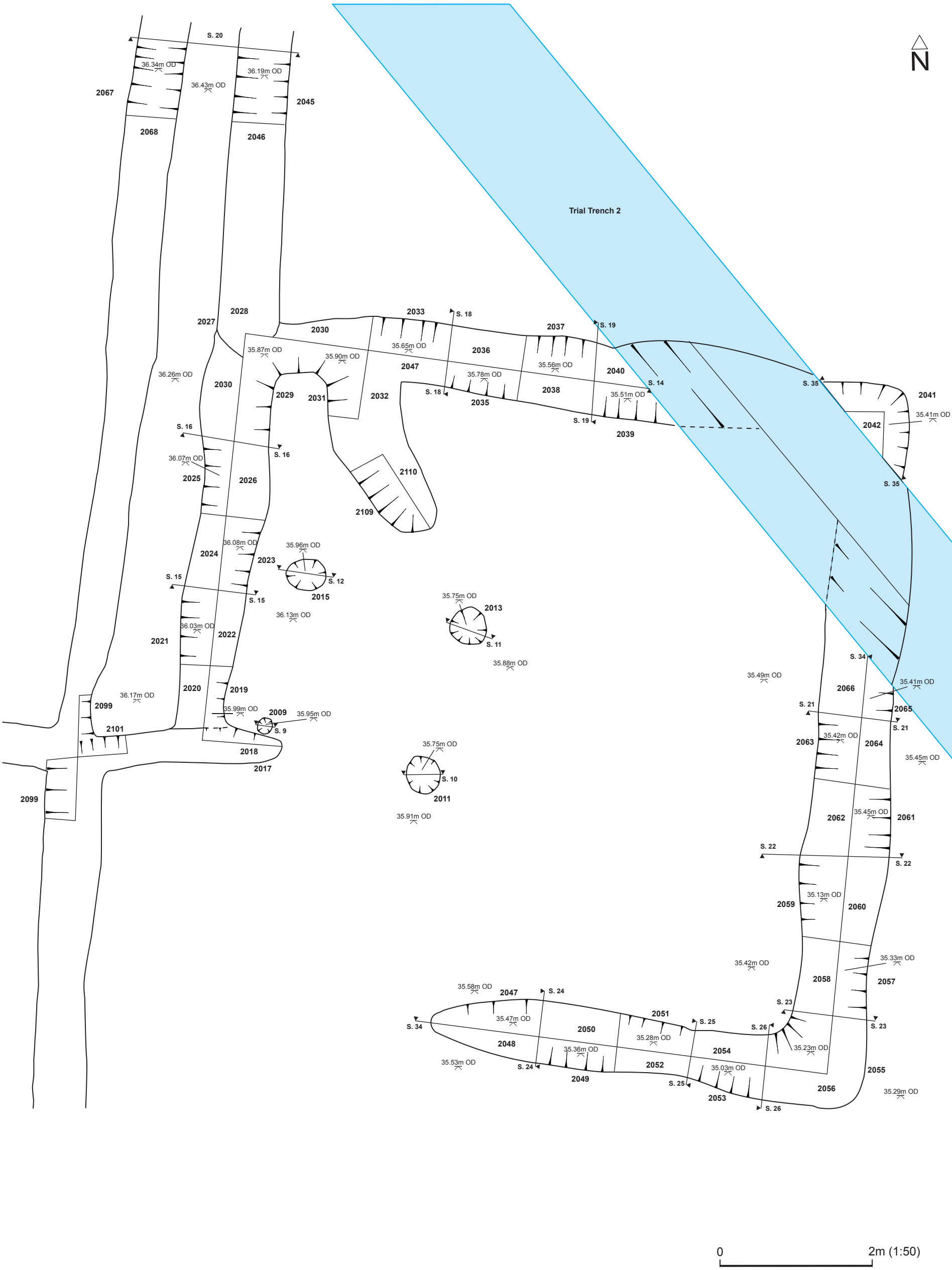


Fig. 10. Plan of Features 1 and 2

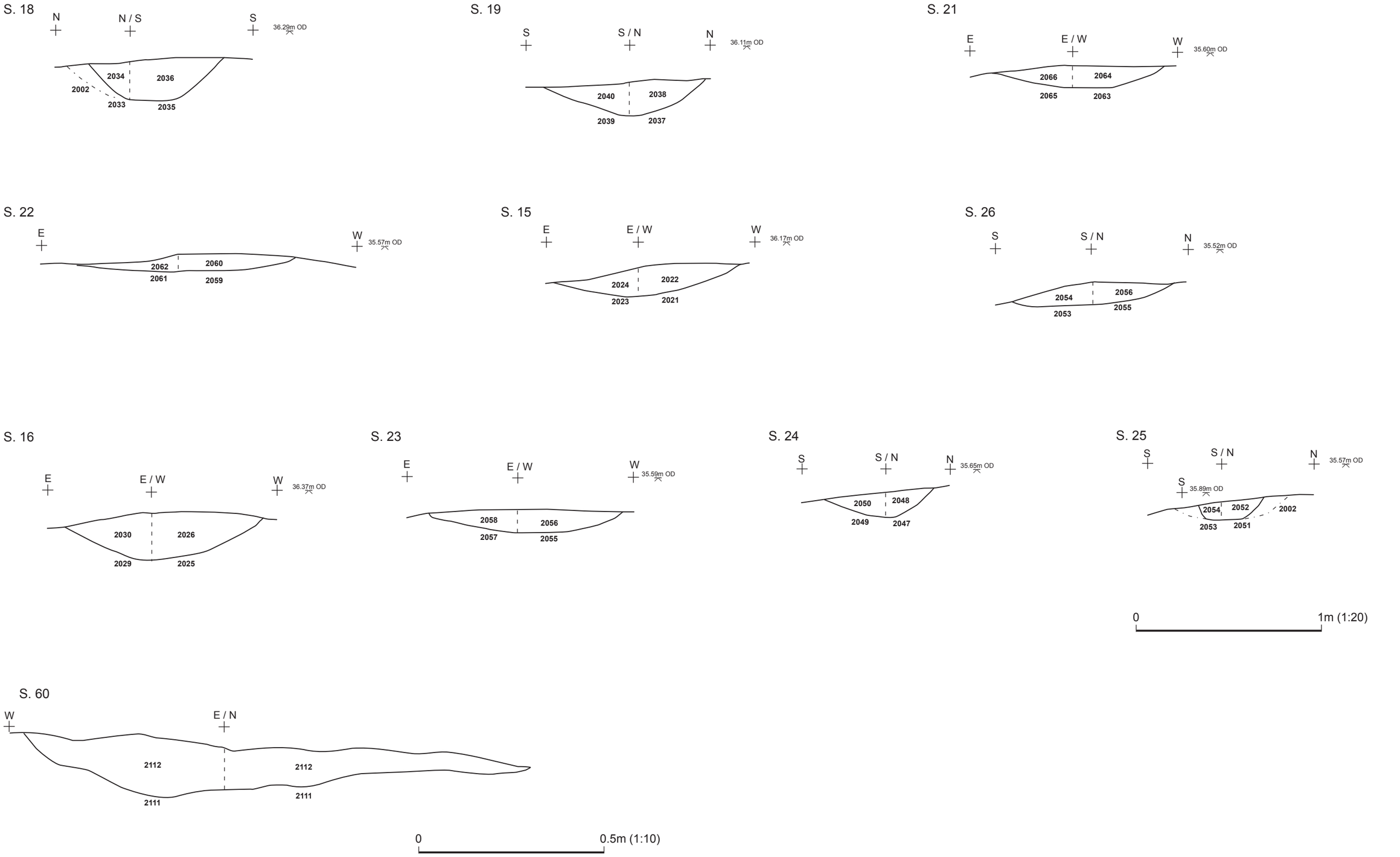
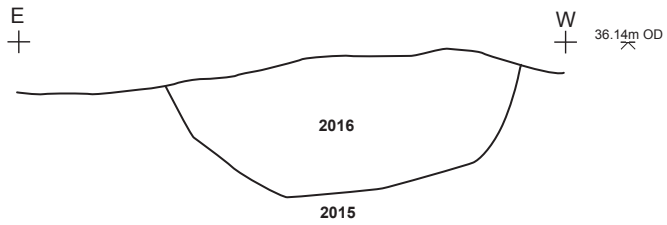
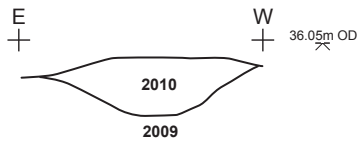


Fig. 11. Feature 1 sections

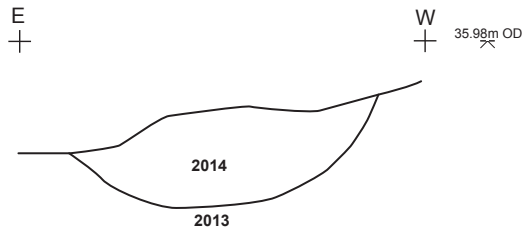
S. 12



S. 9



S. 11



S. 10

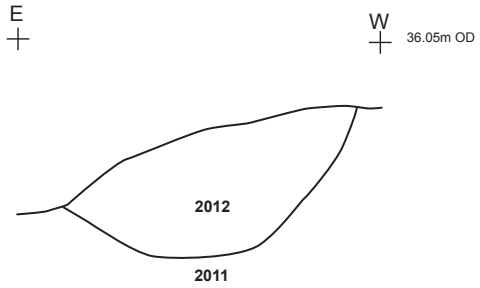


Fig. 12. Feature 2 sections

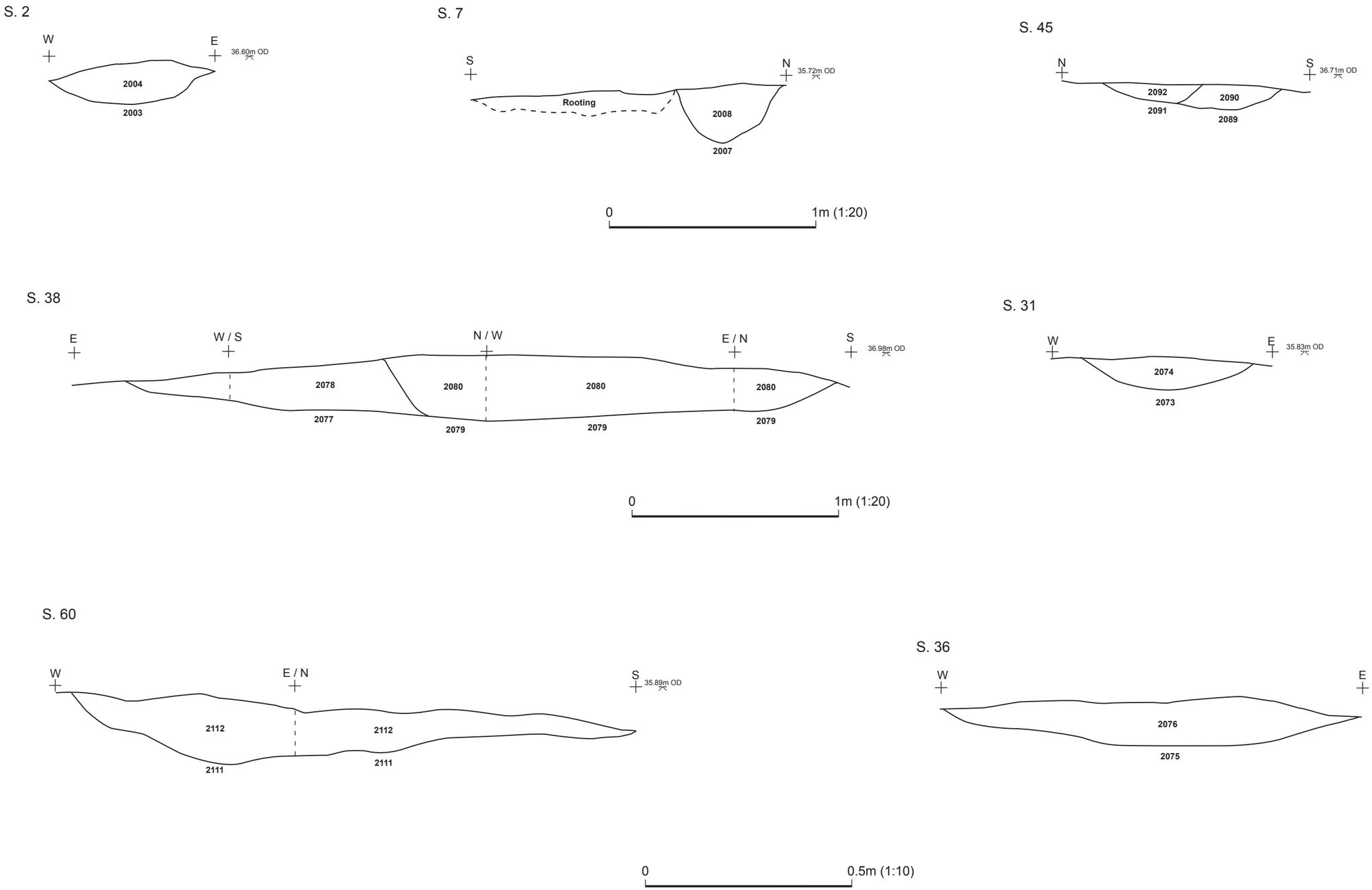


Fig. 13. Area 2 sections

PROJECT ID: 8783_STJ20	
14	MONUMENTS
11	EVENTS

N

250000

249000

248000

611000

612000

0 200m

Fig. 14. HER data showing monuments and events within a 1km radius (1:8000 @ A3)

Plate 1. General view of eastern part of Area 1, looking west

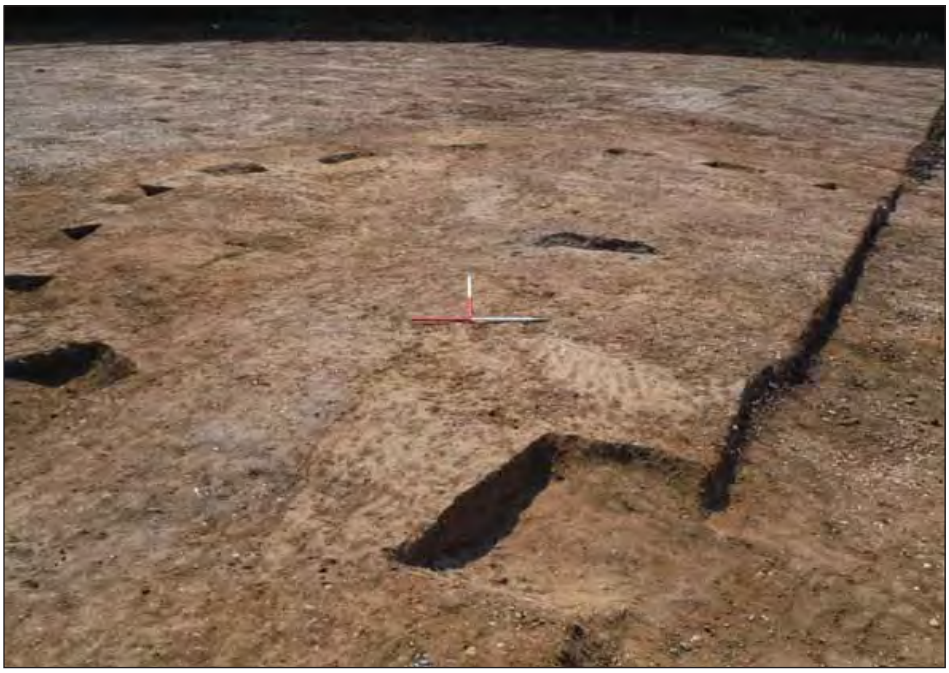


Plate 2. General view of Feature 4, looking south-east

Plate 3. Ring ditch 1069, looking north-east

Plate 4. Pit 1056, looking north

Plate 5. Pit 1081, looking north-east

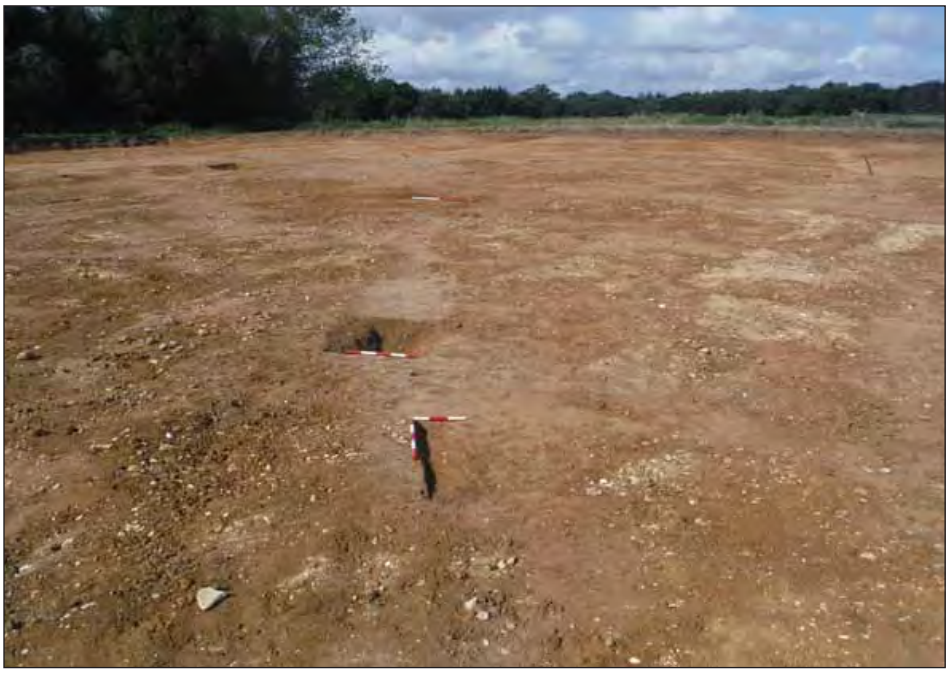


Plate 6. General view of Feature 5, showing western part of Area 1, looking south-west

Plate 7. Ditch 1026, looking south

Plate 8. Pit 1083, looking north-east

Plate 9. Ditch terminus 1047, looking west

Plate 10. Section through pond 1050, looking south-east

Plate 11. General view of Area 2, looking south

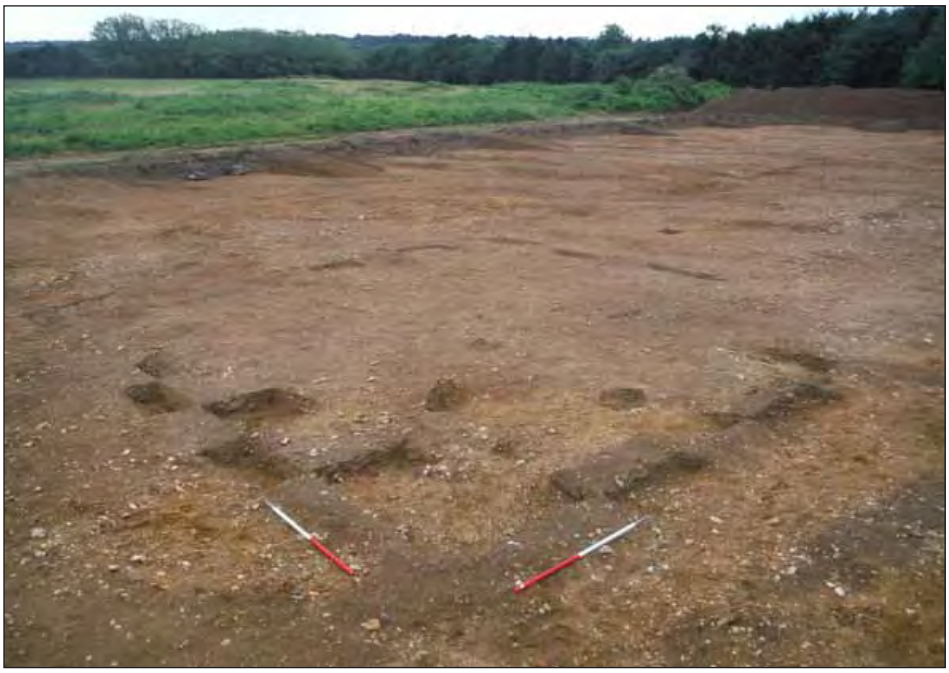


Plate 12. General view of beam slot building, looking south-east

Plate 13. General view of Feature 2, looking south-east

Plate 14. Ditches 2077 and 2079, looking north-west

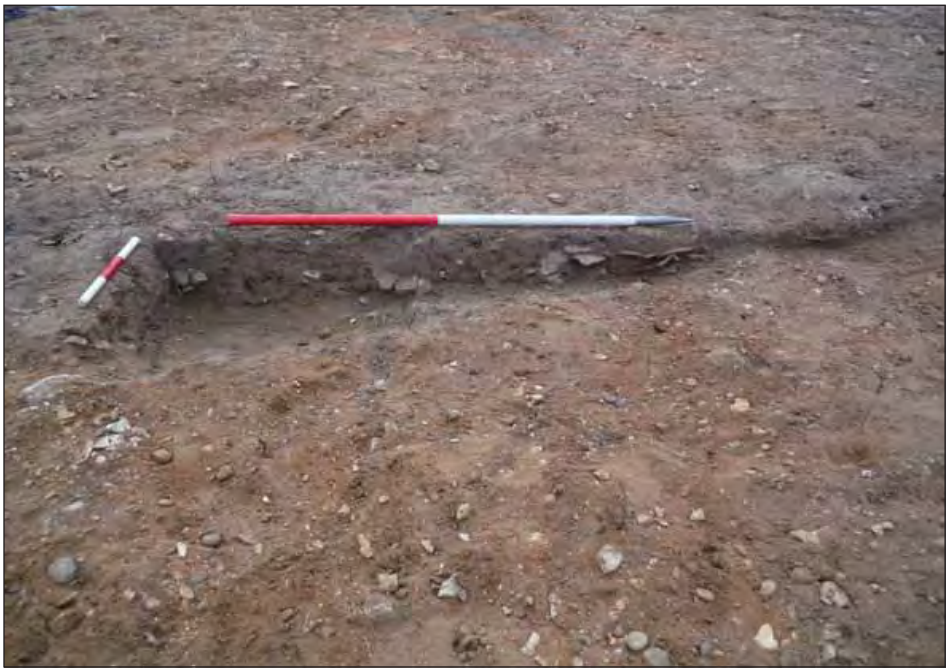


Plate 15. Ditch terminus 2005, looking south

Plate 16. Pit 2075, looking north

Appendix 1: Written Scheme of Investigation

Land at Blackacre Hill, Bramford Road

St James' Business Park,

Great Blakenham,

Suffolk

Planning Application Ref: 2351/16

HER No: To be assigned, Event No. To be assigned

OASIS No: archaeol11-307926

Grid Reference: TM 11892 49517

Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Excavation

Prepared by: Archaeological Services WYAS
Nepshaw Lane South
Morley
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS27 7JQ

January 2017

Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Excavation at St James' Business Park, Great Blakenham, Suffolk

1. Introduction

1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared by Archaeological Services WYAS (ASWYAS) for Blackacre (Great Blakenham) Ltd to carry out the excavation of two areas (see Fig.1) prior to the proposed development of the area. The two areas have been selected based upon the results of an earlier evaluation by geophysical survey and trenching. The archaeological work will be carried out to the standards laid down by Historic England (2006; 2008) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014a, 2014b) and ASWYAS own, methodologies. The work will also be undertaken in accordance with the Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service's Requirements for Excavation (2017) and the *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (Gurney 2003). The planning application reference is 2351/16.

1.2 This WSI and position of the excavation areas have been produced in consultation with Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service (SCCAS) and their Brief for archaeological excavation.

2. Site location, topography and land-use

2.1 The Proposed developed area PDA is located to the west of the B1113, and to the south of the Magnus Group building, located on Addison Way. Trees and fields bound the site to the west and south. The site comprises of two fields currently under scrubland. The site is centred at TM 11892 49517 (See Fig. 1)

3. Geology and soils

3.1 The underlying bedrock for this site is of the Newhaven Chalk Formation. The superficial geology of the survey area is of the Lowestoft Formation of sands and gravels. The soil formations are of the Handslope formation, characterised as slowly permeable calcareous clays. They are slowly permeable, and experience seasonal waterlogging (BGS 2017, Soil Survey of England 1983).

4. Planning background

4.1 An application for outline planning permission for the development of business and logistics park was submitted in 2016 (Planning application number: 2351/16), following pre-application advice given in 2013.

4.2 Suffolk County Council placed a condition of an appropriate scheme of archaeological works prior to the development.

5. Archaeological background

5.1 The site of the proposed development has high potential for the discovery of important hitherto unknown heritage assets of archaeological interest in view of its undeveloped nature, large size and location close to a number of sites recorded in the County Historic Environment Record (Suffolk County Council Brief 2013). A detailed historical background has been produced (Waterman 2014). This concluded the Site had a high archaeological potential for archaeology dating from the prehistoric, Roman, and medieval periods

5.2 Specifically there are known aerial photographs of the area identified a number of prehistoric features, including a probable Bronze Age barrow (HER no. BLG 001).

5.3 A scheme of archaeological trial trenching and excavation to the north of the site identified prehistoric and Roman features, including an oven and an inhumation (BLG 017) and a medieval settlement (BLG 024).

5.4 Further ring ditches and a late prehistoric or Roman enclosure have been identified to the south of the site.

5.5 A geophysical survey of the site was undertaken in 2016 (ASWYAS 2016a). This identified a number of potential archaeological features and was followed up by a scheme of archaeological trial trenching (ASWYAS 2016b). These works identified limited evidence of possible pre-historic activity in the form of a possible ring-ditch, along with Romano-British field systems or boundary ditches.

6. Aims and Objectives

6.1 The aim of the archaeological mitigation excavation is to record and advance our understanding of the significance of any archaeological remains within the site prior to the commencement of site construction works.

6.2 This will be realised through the achievement of the following objectives:

• To establish the spatial extent date, character, condition and significance of the archaeological activity in the proposed excavation area highlighted on Figure 1

• To recover information relating to the nature and function of past human activity represented by the surviving archaeological remains

• Excavate and record identified archaeological features and deposits to a level appropriate to their extent and significance

• Assess the potential for survival of environmental evidence

• To interpret the nature of human activity at the site and to place the site within its local, regional and national context as appropriate

• Assess the site formation processes and the effects that these may have had on the survival and integrity of the archaeological features and deposits

• Undertake sufficient post-excavation assessment to confidently interpret identified archaeological features

• Undertake sufficient post-excavation assessment and analysis of artefacts and environmental samples to interpret their significance

• Report and publish the results of the excavation and post-excavation analysis and place them within their local and regional context

• Compile and deposit a site archive at a suitable repository and to provide information for the Suffolk HER to ensure the long-term survival of the recorded data.

7 Research Framework

7.1 The programme of archaeological investigation will be conducted within the general research parameters and objectives defined by:

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

• Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern counties: 2. Research Agenda and Strategy (Glazebrook 2000)

• Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England (Medlycott 2011)

7.2 A number of specific research priorities will be addressed. Based on the results of the evaluation trenching (ASWYAS 2016b), these are likely to cover the Prehistoric and Roman periods, possibly informing the following research topics;

Prehistoric

- Cropmarks: Provide an accurate date to known cropmarks to Increase understanding within the region.

Roman

- Landscapes: The relationship of the Roman landscape to the preceding Prehistoric landscape.

7.3 The investigation will also take account of the national research programmes outlined in Historic England's Strategic Framework for historic Environment Activities and Programmes in Historic England (SHAPE) first published in 2008.

8. Methodology

8.1 All excavation will be undertaken in accordance with the relevant standards (CIfA 2014c; Historic England 2008). The locations of the excavation areas have been agreed with Racheal Abraham, Senior Archaeological Officer of SCCAS. Area 1 covers an area of 3844m² and Area 2 covers 10050m². The general strategy for Area 2, around the ring ditch will focus in the west and then extend to the east in a phased approach being reviewed as it progresses to see whether this full area is necessary, or if it can be reduced. Updates will be provided to SCCAS to establish the point at which this work can be curtailed. This is to ensure that there aren't any outlying burials associated with this feature and also that it isn't related to the ditches identified in Trench 26. Part of Area 2 is situated over a known service this will mean that the area will have to be broken into sub-phases in order to provide a standoff and unexcavated area over the service.

8.2 The area may be opened using an appropriate machine fitted with a wide toothless ditching bucket. The topsoil and recent overburden should be removed down to the first significant archaeological horizon in successive level spits of maximum 0.2m thickness. Under no circumstances will the machine be used to cut arbitrary trenches down to natural deposits. All machine work will be carried out under direct archaeological supervision and the machine halted if significant archaeological deposits are encountered. The top of the first significant archaeological horizon may be exposed by the machine, but must then be cleaned by hand and inspected for features. Excavation will then continue manually.

8.3 Mechanical excavators and other plant will not track or drive over an area that has been stripped until an archaeologist has confirmed that no archaeological remains are present. If required, areas of archaeological remains will be fenced off to prevent accidental damage.

8.4 On completion of the top soil removal, the excavated area and all exposed archaeological features will be cleaned by hand and surveyed using survey-grade (cm accurate) GPS equipment as required, to produce a pre-excavation plan.

8.5 The stripped surface will be kept clean and free of loose spoil. Wherever possible spoil arising during hand-cleaning and hand-excavation will be piled beyond the limits of excavation. Where those limits are too distant to make off-site storage practicable then spoil will be stored on spoil-heaps on areas of natural geology away from any archaeological features.

8.6 The top of the first archaeological deposit may be cleared by machine, but must then be cleaned off by hand. There is a presumption that excavation of all archaeological deposits will be done by hand unless it can be shown there will not be a loss of evidence by using a machine. The decision as to the proper method of excavation will be made by the senior project archaeologist with regard to the nature of the deposit.

8.7 During the excavation features will be sample excavated employing the following strategy as set out in the Guidance of Archaeological Excavation (SCCAS 2017), these may also be revised following site visits from SCAAS:

- A minimum of 50% of the fills of the general features is be excavated. In some instances 100% may be requested, depending on the nature of the feature/deposit.
- 50% of the fills of any ring ditches are to be excavated.
- 100% of the fills of any human burials are to be excavated.
- 10% of the fills of substantial linear features (ditches, etc) are to be excavated (min.). The samples must be representative of the available length of the feature and must take into account any variations in the shape or fill of the feature and any concentrations of artefacts. For linear features, 1.00m wide slots (min.) should be excavated across their width.
- All features which are, or could be interpreted as, structural must be fully excavated. Post-holes and pits must be examined in section and then fully excavated. Fabricated surfaces within the excavation area (e.g. yards and floors) must be fully exposed and cleaned.
- The detailed stratigraphy of each area, will be recorded whether archaeological remains are present or not. Provision should be made for hand excavation of any stratified layers (e.g. dark earth) in 2.50m or 1.00m systematic and gridded squares, to be agreed on the basis of the complexity/extent of such layers with SCCAS.

8.8 All archaeological features and deposits revealed will be excavated by hand in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner, in order to establish their extent, form, date, function and relationship to other features. All features will be investigated to understand the full stratigraphic sequence down to naturally occurring deposits.

8.9 Should the excavation of features reach the limit of safe working depth without natural geology being encountered, a sondage will be excavated in order to establish the depth of natural geology, provided this will have no detrimental

effects upon archaeological deposits. Where depth of excavation is required to be greater than 1m, suitable stepping will be employed.

8.10 Expansion of the excavation area outside of that agreed in this WSI will not be undertaken without consultation with the client and SCCAS. The exception to this will be where human remains are identified and cannot be preserved in situ, and where best practice is to maintain the integrity of an individual, or where Treasure artefacts would otherwise be at risk of theft.

8.11 Metal detector searches will undertake by trained ASWYAS staff prior to any mechanical excavation and throughout the excavation, with individual features surveyed prior to excavation and spoil from these subsequently scanned. Any metal finds will be located using survey-grade GPS and metal detectors will not be set to discriminate against iron.

8.12 All ASWYAS site staff are trained and experienced in the use of metal detectors, and the specific machines employed on site. This includes:

- correct holding potion of the detector
- correct sweeping motion and height above ground
- use of pinpointing mode
- adjustment of sensitivity and
- ground balancing the detector

8.13 The senior metal detectorist on site will be Phil Moore, who has undertaken numerous metal detecting surveys as part of archaeological projects, including the survey of a former airfield in East Anglia that located dog tags of former airmen and a battlefield near Musselbrough during evaluation work.

8.14 ASWYAS will scan the excavation area prior to the commencement of ground works, and subsequently the spoil heaps and the site after the topsoil strip, as well as all exposed features.

8.15 ASWYAS use Minelab X-Terra 50 and Minelab X-Terra 705 metal detectors, both fitted with a 9inch 7.5kHz Coil, capable of discriminating between ferrous and non-ferrous material, which are employed on all sites that ASWYAS excavate.

8.16 All artefacts are to be retained for processing and analysis except for unstratified 20th and 21st-century material, which may be noted and discarded. Finds will be stored in secure, appropriate conditions following the guidelines in First Aid for Finds (3rd edition). The excavation area will be subject to a metal detecting survey during the topsoil stripping.

8.17 ASWYAS use pro-forma sheets to maintain written records, giving details of location, composition, shape, dimensions, relationships, finds, samples, and cross-references to other elements of the record, in accordance with best practice. All contexts, small finds and samples will be given unique numbers. Bulk finds will be collected by context.

8.18 A full, indexed, written, drawn and photographic record of the evaluation will be maintained. The excavation trenches will be surveyed using industry standard electronic survey equipment with centimetre accuracy and a plan supplied to the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service as soon as practicable. Features will be planned and drawn at 1:20 or 1:50 as appropriate. Sections will be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20. All sections, plans and elevations will include spot-heights related to Ordnance Datum in metres as correct to two decimal places. A section or profile will be drawn of all trenches complete with levels. Control points will be surveyed during the course of the evaluation and will be fixed in relation to nearby permanent structures and roads to the National Grid.

8.19 The photographic archive will comprise digital photographs taken using cameras with a resolution of at least 10 megapixels. All photographs will include an appropriate scale.

8.20 Digital photography using cameras with a minimum resolution of 10 megapixels. Digital photography will follow the guidance given by Historic England (2015). If required this will be supplemented by 35mm black and white format photography. Film should be no faster than ISO400.

8.21 All artefacts will be removed from the site for assessment and analysis, and where it is appropriate, their find spots shall be recorded three dimensionally. Finds material will be stored in controlled environments, as appropriate. All artefacts to be retained will be, cleaned, labelled and stored as detailed in the guidelines laid out in the CIfA (2014b). Any conservation work will be undertaken by approved conservators working to UKIC guidelines. The contingency will make allowance for conservation as necessary, this includes artefacts of displayable quality and x-rays of metalwork and coinage from stratified contexts.

8.22 A soil-sampling programme shall be undertaken during the course of the investigation for the identification and recovery of carbonised and waterlogged remains, vertebrate remains, molluscs and small artefactual material. Metallurgical debris is a possibility on this site and samples will be processed accordingly (including scanning both flots and retents with a magnet for hammerscale). Historic England's Regional Science Advisor, Mark Ruddy will be notified prior to work starting and will be consulted during the course of the excavation if required. In the event of waterlogged deposits being found, an Environmental Strategy will make provision for the potential study of waterlogged plant material, insects and parasites. Provision will be made for

the removal of soil samples of a minimum 40 litres from deposits with clear potential or 100% if the sample is smaller, in line with Historic England Guidelines (HE 2011). Samples may also be taken from seemingly sterile deposits. Particular attention will be paid to the sampling of primary ditch fills and any surviving buried soils. Environmental material removed from site will be stored in appropriate controlled environments. The processing of environmental samples will only take place within facilities approved for such purposes by Historic England's Regional Science Advisor.

8.23 If unexpectedly significant or complex remains are encountered, beyond that covered by this WSI, the archaeological contractor will inform SCCAS as soon as possible. In the event of human remains being discovered they will, in the first instance, be left *in situ*, covered and protected. Excavation of human remains at this evaluation stage is to be avoided if possible. If removal is required, this will only take place in compliance with the Burial Act 1857 and after an exhumation licence has been obtained form the Ministry of Justice. Provision will be made for the specialist reporting of the remains by a recognised osteoarchaeologist.

8.24 All finds of gold and silver and associated objects shall be reported to HM Coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act 1997. Any treasure items should be reported to the Suffolk FLO, who in turn will inform the coroner within 14 days.

8.25 Provision will be made for specialist dating if required, in particular a suite of radiocarbon dates to be obtained as appropriate.

9 Monitoring

9.1 Access to the site will be arranged through Archaeological Services WYAS and Blackacre Ltd.

9.2 Archaeological Services WYAS will produce an initial Risk Assessment and review this in the light of any developing potential risks. They will ensure that Health and Safety requirements of the main contractor are adhered to.

9.3 The project will be monitored by SCCAS to whom written documentation will be sent before the start of the work and will provide confirmation of a site code prior to the commencement of work. Notification will also be sent to the proposed archive repository giving the nature of the works and opportunity to monitor the works. No areas will be signed off without the approval of SCCAS.

9.4 If appropriate, the advice of the Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science (East of England) at Historic England will be called upon.

9.5 Archaeological Services WYAS will ensure that any unexpected and/or significant results are brought to the attention of SCCAS, the client and their

main contractor as soon as is practically possible. ASWYAS will also updated SCAAS regular especially during the strip of Area 2 so that the strategy can be revised if necessary.

10 Fieldwork and Staffing

10.1 The project manager will consult the Suffolk HER Officer to obtain an event number for the work before commencement. This number will be unique for each project or site and must be clearly marked on all documentation relating to the work. It is expected that the work will commence early 2018.

10.2 Archaeological Services WYAS (ASWYAS; a CIfA Registered Archaeological Organisation) will be responsible for undertaking the archaeological excavation and post-excavation assessment/analysis and reporting.

10.3 ASWYAS are a CIfA Registered Archaeological Organisation (RAO) who for over 30 years have been successfully supplying a commercial archaeology service. They are regularly employed by clients and their consultants in the preparation and execution of archaeological mitigation strategies and provide a range of services to the heritage industry.

10.4 ASWYAS have undertaken numerous projects across the UK including large open area excavations for major infrastructure and residential developments, down to small scale watching briefs and recording projects. Recent work has including evaluation trenching in advance of the construction of a proposed business park at Great Blakenham, Suffolk and at Old station Road in Halesworth.

10.5 Archaeological Contractor Key Staff CVs

10.6 David Williams BA MCIfA - Excavation Manager

10.7 Dave is responsible for the management of ASWYAS excavation team and has worked in commercial archaeology for over a decade, undertaking a variety of projects from large infrastructure schemes right down to small-scale investigations. Dave is IOSH trained in Managing Safely. David manages the production of project designs, risk assessments, trenching plans and mitigation strategies, as well as dealing with highly complex logistical issues. He is also responsible for the multi-faceted post-excavation programmes from assessment report through to publication. Notable projects that he has been involved with include the excavation and evaluation of residential development and linear projects such as the A165 Reighton Bypass, the A1(M) upgrading at Wetherby and the Westermost Rough Offshore Windfarm excavations. David has also been critical to the smooth-running of excavations of a post-medieval graveyard at Square Chapel, Halifax and was again involved in the production

of the mitigation strategy and developing a rapid method for recording and lifting the human remains.

10.8 Phil Moore BA - Project Manager

10.9 Phil has a wealth of experience and knowledge and attended the University of Newcastle and achieved a First Class honours degree in Archaeology. He is responsible for directing and managing excavations including recent archaeological works for the 2CC Tramworks in Manchester. These varied works included watching briefs and strip and map excavations, but also the exhumation of 270 individuals from a non-conformist graveyard. In 2011 he was the archaeological director for investigations that preceded the construction of the athletes' village for the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. This involved the supervision of plant during the uncovering of the complex and important industrial remains of Glasgow's industrial heritage and the excavations that followed. The remains included the nationally significant first water works in Glasgow. Phil also has extensive experience working on road schemes, the largest to date, was his supervision of an evaluations that took place before the construction of the Aberdeen bypass. Phil is CSCS accredited, is a site First Aider and holds Level 2 Confined Space certification.

10.10 Matt Wells MA - Site Supervisor

10.11 Matt graduated with a Bsc in Archaeology from the University of Bradford before gaining an MA in Medieval Archaeology in 2010. He has worked continuously in commercial archaeology since graduating, mainly in Lincolnshire and the East Midlands, and joined ASWYAS in April 2014. Matt has experience of working on a wide range of projects, of varying scales, most notably on complex urban sites in York and Lincoln and on a number of large, multi-period sites in advance of mineral extraction. Matt has supervised a wide range of projects, such as a prehistoric and Romano-British excavation on the outskirts near Leicester, a linear scheme near Scotton in North Yorkshire and, more recently, a number of large evaluation schemes in advance of residential development and civil engineering projects. Matt is CSCS accredited, has had Asbestos training and is first aid trained as well as being proficient in the use of Trimble survey equipment.

10.12 Archaeological Specialists

10.13 Details of specialists are provided below. However, the list is not exhaustive and should unusual or locally specific archaeological materials be discovered appropriate specialists will be sort on the advice of the SCCAS and the Historic England Regional Science Advisor. CVs and examples of work for all specialists can be supplied on request:

Prehistoric pottery Blaise Vyner

IA and RB pottery Ruth Leary

IA and RB Pottery Ian Rowlandson

Samian Margaret Ward

Mortaria Kay Hartley

Late Prehistoric / Post-Roman - Modern Pot Dr Chris Cumberpatch

Medieval Pottery Sue Anderson

Roman Glass, Iron and Copper alloy objects Dr Hilary Cool

Querns John Cruse

Flint Dr Ian Brooks

Coins Bryan Sitch

Slag Dr Gerry McDonnell

CBM specialist Dr Phil Mills

Clay Pipe Peter Hammond

Osteo-archaeologist Malin Holst

Archaeobotanical Dr Diane Alldritt

Animal Bone Dr Jane Richardson

Macrofossils, insects and snails John Carrott

Principal Conservator Ian Panter

Waterlogged wood and leather conservation Steve Allen

X-Rays and Conservation Karen Barker

11 Finds and Samples

11.1 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with guidelines from The Institute of Conservation (ICON).

11.2 Every effort must be made to get the agreement of the landowner to the deposition of the full site archive, and transfer of title, with the Archaeological Service or designated Suffolk museum before the fieldwork commences. The intended depository should be stated in the WSI, for approval. If this is not

achievable for all or parts of the finds archive then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, scientific analysis) as appropriate.

11.3 The project manager should consult the intended archive depository before the archive is prepared regarding the specific requirements for the archive deposition and curation, and regarding any specific cost implications of deposition. The intended depository must be prepared to accept the entire archive resulting from the project (both finds and written archive) in order to create a complete record of the project. A clear statement of the form, intended content, and standards of the archive is to be submitted for approval as an essential requirement of the WSI.

11.4 For deposition on the County Archaeological Store, the archive should comply with SCCAS Archive Guidelines 2017b. If the Archaeological Service's Store is not the intended depository, the project manager should ensure that a duplicate copy of the written archive is deposited with the Suffolk HER.

11.5 The WSI should state proposals for the deposition of the digital archive relating to this project with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), or similar digital archive repository, and allowance should be made for costs incurred to ensure proper deposition (http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/policy.html).

11.6 A report on the fieldwork and archive, consistent with the principles of *MoRPHE*, must be provided. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological value of the results, and their significance in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3, 8 and 24, 1997, 2000 and 2011).

11.7 On completion of the fieldwork, any samples taken shall be processed and any finds shall be cleaned, identified, assessed/analysed, dated (if possible), marked (if appropriate) and properly packed and stored in accordance with the requirements of national guidelines.

11.8 Samples should be processed for the recovery of artefactual material, animal/fish/human bones, industrial residues (including hammerscale), shell, molluscs, charcoal and mineralised plant remains as a minimum. 'Specialist' samples (e.g. monoliths, cores, plant/invertebrate macrofossils) should be processed separately as appropriate.

11.9 Material suitable for scientific dating (e.g. charcoal) should be identified to species and assessed for suitability by an environmental specialist prior to submission to a dating laboratory. Any human remains submitted for C14 dating should also have carbon (delta 13C) and nitrogen isotope analysis carried out by the radiocarbon laboratory. All finds and biological material must be analysed by a qualified and experienced specialist.

11.10 Following identification, finds of 20th century date should be noted, quantified and summarily described, but can then be discarded if appropriate. All finds which are of 19th century or earlier date should be retained and archived

12 Field Archive

12.1 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared, consistent with the principles of *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (Historic England 2006). It must be adequate to perform the function of a final archive for deposition in the Archaeological Service's Store or in a suitable museum in Suffolk (see Archaeological Archives Forum: a guide to best practice 2007).

12.2 A fully indexed field archive will be compiled consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections, photographic negatives and a complete set of labelled photographic prints/slides. Standards for archive compilation and transfer should conform to those outlined in *Archaeological Archives – a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (Archaeological Archives Forum, 2007). The contractor will take account of any additional requirements imposed by the recipient museum.

12.3 It is expected that the landowner will deposit the full site archive, and transfer title to, the Archaeological Service or the designated Suffolk museum, The intended depository is the Archaeological Service's Store. The archive will be prepared in accordance with the Guidelines for preparation and deposition. (https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/assets/suffolk.gov.uk/Libraries%20and%20Culture/Archaeology/2014-06-01_ArchiveGuidelines2014.pdf).

13 Report Format and Content

13.1 Upon completion of the fieldwork, the artefacts, soil samples and stratigraphic information will be assessed for their potential and significance for further analysis. An assessment report on the fieldwork will be produced within six months following the completion of the fieldwork, which will inform the production of an updated Project Design detailing a timetabled task list covering further analysis and reporting, if required. This update would also need to review research aims and identify any new research aims, giving particular consideration to priorities in the regional research framework.

13.2 Unless otherwise agreed with SCCAS, an assessment report detailing the findings of the archaeological excavation will be prepared, conforming to SCCAS requirements and to published regional standards.

13.3 The assessment report will present a clear and concise assessment of the archaeological value and significance of the results, and identify the research

potential, in the context of the Regional Research Framework (Glazebrook 1997 and 2000; Medlycott 2011).

13.4 ASWYAS will produce a report that will include background information on the need for the project, a description of the methodology employed, and a full description and interpretation of results produced. It is not envisaged that the report is likely to be published, but it should be produced with sufficient care and attention to detail to be of academic use to future researchers. The report on the fieldwork and archive will include within its conclusions a clear statement of the archaeological value of the results, and their significance. The results should be related to the relevant known archaeological information held in the Suffolk HER, and an HER search should be commissioned. In any instances where it is felt that an HER search is unnecessary, this must be discussed and agreed with the relevant Case Officer.

13.5 Location plans will be produced at a scale which enables easy site identification that depicts the full extent of the site investigated (a scale of 1:50,000 is not regarded as appropriate unless accompanied by a more detailed plan or plans). Site plans will be at an appropriate scale showing trench layout (as dug), features located and, where possible, predicted archaeological deposits. Upon completion of each evaluation trench all sections containing archaeological features will be drawn. Section drawings (at a minimum scale of 1:20) will include heights O.D. Plans (at a minimum scale of 1:50) will include O.D. spot heights for all principal strata and any features. Where no archaeological deposits are encountered at least one long section of each trench will be drawn.

13.6 The results should be related to the relevant known archaeological information held in the SHER. It should include examination of all readily available cartographic sources (e.g. those in the County Records Office) to record evidence for historic or archaeological sites and history of previous landuses. Where permitted, photographs, photocopies or traced copies should be presented in the report. It should also incorporate an assessment of the potential for documentary research that would contribute to the archaeological investigation of the site.

13.7 A copy of the WSI should be included as an appendix to the report

13.8 Artefact analysis will include the production of a descriptive catalogue, quantification by context and discussion/interpretation if warranted, with finds critical for dating and interpretation illustrated.

13.9 Environmental analysis will include identification of the remains, quantification by context, discussion/interpretation if warranted, and a description of the processing methodology. Radiocarbon results will be presented in full (laboratory sample number, conventional radiocarbon age, delta C13 value,

calibration programme). Copies of the laboratory-issued dating certificates will be included as an appendix to the report. The report will feature a full bibliography, a quantified index to the site archive, and as an appendix, a copy of this specification.

13.10 An unbound hardcopy of the report, clearly marked DRAFT, must be presented to SCCAS/CT for approval within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated. Following acceptance, a single copy of the report should be presented to the Suffolk HER as well as a digital copy of the approved report.

13.11 The report will be supplied on the understanding that it will be added to the Suffolk Historic Environment Record where it will be publicly accessible once deposited unless confidentiality is explicitly requested, in which case it will become publicly accessible six months after deposition.

13.12 By depositing this report, permission is given for the material presented within the document to be used by the SCCAS, in perpetuity, although The Contractor retains the right to be identified as the author of all project documentation and reports as specified in the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 (chapter IV, section 79). The permission will allow the SCCAS to reproduce material, including for commercial use by third parties, with the copyright owner suitably acknowledged.

13.13 The SCCAS supports the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. The overall aim of the OASIS project is to provide an online index to the mass of archaeological grey literature that has been produced as a result of the advent of large-scale developer funded fieldwork. The archaeological contractor will complete the online OASIS form at http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/. Contractors are advised to contact the Suffolk HER officer prior to completing the form. Once a report has become a public document by submission to or incorporation into the HER, the Suffolk HER may place the information on a web-site. The contractors will ensure, in writing that they and the client agree to this procedure as part of the process of submitting the report to the case officer at the Suffolk HER. A completed OASIS form will need to be included as an appendix

13.14 Where positive results are drawn from a project, a summary report must be prepared, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*. It should be included in the project report, or submitted to SCCAS/CT, by the end of the calendar year in which the work takes place, whichever is the sooner.

14 Post-Excavation Analysis

14.1 The assessment report will be used to inform the scope of an updated Project Design detailing the methodology for further analysis of artefacts, soil samples and stratigraphic information, to be agreed with the SCCAS. The analysis stage will also draw on the results of all previous archaeological investigations on the site, to produce a coherent and comprehensive record of the archaeological resource. Provision should also be made for a separate research archive and publication report.

14.2 If required, the results of the analysis stage will be used to produce a detailed report which will be submitted for publication in a relevant academic journal or other suitable format. The following is provided as a guide to the potential content of the analysis report, but will be reviewed within the updated Project Design as necessary. As a minimum the analysis report will contain:

• A title page, with the name of the project, the name of the author(s) of the report, the title of the report and date of the report

• A non-technical summary of the scope, methodology and results of the work

• Introduction which includes site code/project number, planning reference number, dates when the fieldwork took place, grid reference

• A description of, and a background to the works and its aims and objectives

• A description of the site location and the archaeological and historical context for the area

• An account of the methods and results of the fieldwork, describing both structural data and associated finds and/or environmental data recovered

• The results and interpretation of specialist analysis of stratigraphic records, artefacts, environmental and scientific samples, as necessary and based upon the requirements identified at the assessment stage and detailed in the updated Project Design

• An analysis of the archaeological significance of the deposits identified, in relation to other sites in the region. The report will also integrate the results of the geophysical survey and evaluation excavation undertaken for the scheme.

• Conclusions

• Details of archive location and destination with accession number, together with a catalogue of what is contained in that archive

• Appendices and figures, as appropriate, including a copy of the updated project design; and References and bibliography of all sources used Digital copies of the analysis report will be provided in draft form in MS Word and PDF

format to, the client and the SCCAS. Two iterations of the draft analysis report based on consultee and client comments will be allowed for.

14.3 A summary of the work will be prepared for the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History and submitted to the Suffolk HER.

14.4 Depending on the nature and complexity of the archaeological remains, a publication report will be produced following the results of the post-excavation analysis. The scope and form of this will be decided following consultation with the SCCAS as part of the strategy review following completion of the assessment stage.

14.5 If appropriate, a short report on the work will also be submitted to a local journal following agreement with SCCAS. A full publication may also be appropriate. If required talks to local societies on the findings and their significance would be undertaken.

14.6 Draft copies of the archive report and publication report will be sent to SCCAS for comment approval, with a hard and digital copies of the final report submitted to the HER, OASIS and ADS to allow the results of the work to be accessible on-line to the wider archaeological community and general public.

13 Health and Safety

13.1 Archaeological Services WYAS has its own Health and Safety policy which has been compiled using national guidelines. These guidelines conform to all relevant Health and Safety legislation.

13.2 In addition each project undergoes a 'Risk Assessment' which sets project specific Health and Safety requirements to which all members of staff are made aware of prior to on-site work commencing. Health and Safety will take priority over archaeological matters. Necessary precautions will be taken over underground services and overhead lines at the outset of the project.

13.3 Archaeological Services WYAS is covered by the insurance and indemnities of the City of Wakefield Metropolitan District Council. Insurance has been effected with: Zurich Municipal Insurance, Park House, 57–59 Well Street, Bradford, BD1 5SN (policy number RMP 03GO39–0143). Any further enquiries should be directed to: The Chief Financial Officer, Insurance Section, Wakefield MDC, PO Box 55, Newton Bar, Wakefield WF1 2TT.

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ISOQAR ISO 9001:2008
Cert. No. 125QM8003

EVALUATION AREA
TRIAL TRENCH
PROPOSED MITIGATION AREA

N

Magnus Building

Pond

Pond

AREA 2

AREA 1

Initial Development Area

BRAMFORD ROAD

nT

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249600

249400

611800

612200

612000

0 100m

Fig. 1. Trial trench locations and mitigation areas (1:2000 @ A3)

Appendix 2: HER data

Monuments

No	Name	Grid Ref	HER Ref. or Monument No.	Description
1	Hogfield Grove	TM 1080 4930	MSF27907	Woodland shown on the 1st edition OS map.
2	Roman artefact scatter of pottery sherds	TM 1089 4910	MSF4480	Early Roman pottery sherds.
3	Blakenham Chalk Pit	TM 1089 4908	MSF13792	Lime kilns surviving at Blakenham Chalk Pit consisting of a pair of well-preserved East Anglian lime kilns within a large chalk pit also containing extraction tunnels.
4	Cropmarks of rectangular enclosure	TM 1102 4858	MSF13679	Cropmark of a rectangular enclosure measuring approximately 60m by 70m with three sides evident. Smaller (40m by 15m) adjoining rectangular enclosure on south side with an entrance on the east side. East side of the whole site is possibly under the road or quarry.
5	Cropmarks of rectangular enclosure	TM 1102 4857	MSZ27258	Cropmarks of a rectilinear enclosure with annexe measuring 100m by 75m. The enclosure has been truncated by a road and is only visible on three sides. A smaller annexe is visible adjoining the main enclosure on the south side with entrance on the eastern side. The annex is 38m by 12m.
6	Cottage Farm	TM 1117 4945	MSF40513	Cottage Farm (Blakenham Cottage), a 19th century farmstead and farmhouse with converted buildings. Dispersed cluster plan formed by working agricultural buildings. The farmhouse is set away from the yard. The farmstead is extant. Located within an isolated position.
7	Chalk Pit on Blood Hill	TM 1109 4863	MSF4493	Medieval well, 3 feet in diameter and originally 49 foot deep.
8	Blood Hill	TM 1109 4841	MSF4505	Possible early Roman coarse ware sherds.

No	Name	Grid Ref	HER Ref. or Monument No.	Description
9	Former Chalk Pit, Blood Hill	TM 1115 4846	MSF4492	Palaeolithic remains found in the pits in 1972.
10	Blood Hill	TM 1127 4829	MSF4500	Dense concentration of pot-boilers, some 10-15m in diameter.
11	Roman Burials, Blood Hill	TM 1132 4835	MSF27478	Monitoring of the soil strip in advance of gravel extraction on Blood Hill, during 2006 revealed a number of archaeological features comprising pits, ditches and at least five graves containing a total of seven inhumations. The ditches are believed to relate to the late prehistoric/Roman periods. The Roman burials comprised three graves in a tight group, which have been dated to the Late 4th Century AD. Two of the graves contained single inhumations identified as mature males, one of which was accompanied but numerous iron nails suggesting the body had been placed in a coffin. Another grave contained three inhumations, an adult woman and two juveniles, with accompanying goods comprising numerous jet and glass beads, a complete pottery vessel, a finger ring, a bracelet and two anklets. Skeletal evidence indicated that the adult women and the older of the two juveniles had suffered a vicious attack that had led to their deaths as testified by a number of unhealed sword or knife cuts to the skull. A fourth probable grave was also excavated. No bone was present but comparison of soil samples revealed elevated phosphate levels within the cut suggesting the possible presence of a burial. See also MSF 26653, ESF21730 and ESF22193.

No	Name	Grid Ref	HER Ref. or Monument No.	Description
12	Prehistoric inhumation and features, Blood Hill	TM 1132 4841	MSF26653	Evaluation identified a Bronze Age pit and ditch which pottery and worked flints were recovered. In addition a probable medieval boundary ditch and a number of undated pits and ditch were identified. Monitoring of the soil strip in advance of gravel extraction on Blood Hill, during 2006 revealed a number of archaeological features comprising pits, ditches and at least five graves containing a total of seven inhumations. The ditches are believed to relate to the late prehistoric/Roman periods. The Roman burials comprised three graves in a tight group, which have been dated to the Late 4th Century AD. Two of the graves contained single inhumations identified as mature males, one of which was accompanied but numerous iron nails suggesting the body had been placed in a coffin. Another grave contained three inhumations, an adult woman and two juveniles, with accompanying goods comprising numerous jet and glass beads, a complete pottery vessel, a finger ring, a bracelet and two anklets. Skeletal evidence indicated that the adult women and the older of the two juveniles had suffered a vicious attack that had led to their deaths as testified by a number of unhealed sword or knife cuts to the skull. A fourth probable grave was also excavated. No bone was present but comparison of soil samples revealed elevated phosphate levels within the cut suggesting the possible presence of a burial. See also MSF 27478, ESF21730 and ESF22193.
13	Medieval artefact scatter	TM 1167 4894	MSF4481	Thirteenth century pottery sherds, oyster and mussel shells.
14	Port One, Great Blakenham	TM 1172 4925	MSF40966	Outline Record. Geophysical survey by ASWYAS. See also ESF27279.
15	East Anglia One Area 4	TM 1171 4830	MSF35577	Outline Record. Watching brief. See also ESF25159.
16	Cropmarks of a possible pit and a ditch	TM 1192 5001	MSZ27249	Cropmarks of a possible pit and a ditch of unknown date.

No	Name	Grid Ref	HER Ref. or Monument No.	Description
17	Cropmark of a ring ditch	TM 1203 5004	MSZ27245 MSF4466	Ring ditch approximately 25m diameter. Note concentration of modern circular structures and delineations related to cement works, football & cricket pitches. Cropmarks of a ring ditch, 26m in diameter, that is possibly a ploughed out Bronze Age round barrow. There are no visible internal features or entrances.
18	Roman features, Blackacre Hill	TM 1185 4980	MSF18641	Evaluation in 1999 identified a concentrated area of Roman features towards the northeast corner of the site, which included ditches/gullies, possible structural remains and burials. A layer of brown silt containing Roman pottery was seen. Several areas of burnt clay, or possible hearths, were observed bounded by another shallow ditch feature, which in turn cuts a clay layer, which also seemed to be part of a large, possibly timber built structural feature in this area. Further west was a pit feature with charcoal-rich material was seen and tentatively assigned a Roman Date. A series of shallow ditches running NWSE were seen, one of the ditches was cut by a shallow rectangular feature which seemed to represent a burial, as it contained a probable late 3rd/4th century burial finds group; two semi-complete Roman pots, one with decoration, and one copper-alloy rind with three jet jewellery rings, although the burial itself was not encountered, and has perhaps been ploughed out. Subsequent excavation further revealed Roman features dating from 1st and second centuries AD. The archaeology was mostly concentrated in the eastern part of the excavation where there was a greater depth of subsoil and thus better preservation, and included a complex of four ovens. These were closely clustered, three of them located at different levels within an area of imported clay layers filling one large pit or series of pits. Other features lay to the north of this, including a ditch which contained a burial. The skeleton was in a poor state of preservation but was east-west aligned and appeared to be crouched, with its skull resting on a large stone. Although the ceramics from the grave fill were from the late 1st-2nd century, it may be that these are residual since the inhumation is most likely to date from the 3rd-4th century. This burial was found around 2m to the south of the location of urns and jet rings discovered during the evaluation. See also ESF26186 and ESF26187.

No	Name	Grid Ref	HER Ref. or Monument No.	Description
19	WWII pillbox	TM 1214 4990	MSZ27249	Evidence for a WWII pillbox at the junction of Bramford Road and Chapel Lane. The pillbox is clearly visible on 1944 and 1948 RAF photography, but had been destroyed during the 1960's when the surrounding site was redeveloped.
20	Prehistoric ditches and pits	TM 118 496	MSF18640	Evaluation trenches exposed a number of scattered prehistoric ditches and a pit, which contained Iron Age and Neoltihic pottery, spread around the centre of the site, as well as a relatively concentrated area of Roman period features towards the northeast corner of the site. Subsequent Monitoring of soil stripping in the area of the scattered prehistoric features revealed a number of possible post-holes and pits, only 6 of which contained datable evidence. A field boundary was also observed containing post-medieval material. It is possible that ploughing has led to the truncation or loss of features in this area. See also ESF26186 and ESF26187.
21	Medieval roadside settlement	TM 1218 4968	MSF23595	Evaluation and excavation identified evidence dated from the 11th to 14th centuries, the features being mainly ditches, postholes and pits. It is apparent that these features represent elements of a small low-mid status medieval rural settlement. A large amount of fired clay was recovered, the largest quantity from a single pit. There were some flatter surface fragments of fired clay which showed signs of sooting or were reduced, suggesting that they came from the inner surface of the oven dome. The ditches appear be land divisions probably to the rear of properties which fronted onto Bramford Road to the east. Within the four centuries of occupation a notable change within the field boundaries was identified, possibly occurring during the 13th century. During the 14th century the site was totally abandoned. There was no evidence for any later medieval or post-medieval activity in the vicinity. Evidence of prehistoric activity in the area was represented by a small assemblage of worked flint and the occasional sherd of pottery, although no features were dated to this period. Small quantities of pottery of a Saxon date were also recovered. See also ESF19461 and ESF21102.

No	Name	Grid Ref	HER Ref. or Monument No.	Description
22	Farmstead: Blakenham Lodge	TM 1224 4976	MSF40516	Blakenham Lodge, Great Blakenham. 19th century farmstead and farmhouse. Loose courtyard four-sided plan formed by working agricultural buildings. The farmhouse is set away from the yard. Total loss of the farmstead, Located within an isolated position.
23	SCC Highways Depot, Lodge Lane	TM 1224 4971	MSF25026	An archaeological evaluation identified features dating to the medieval period in just one trench. Two separate pits or butt ends of a ditch was seen which contained one sherd of 12th-14th century pottery. A ditch was revealed but no finds were recovered. Another linear feature was seen which contained four sherds of pottery. Ten sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from topsoil. See also ESF21764, ESF20806 and ESF21310.
24	Possible ring ditch and a Romano-British field system	TM 1192 4944	MSF34416	Archaeological trial trench evaluation identified limited prehistoric activity in the form of a possible ring-ditch along with Romano-British field systems or boundary ditches. Several boundary ditches of the site can be seen on historic mapping. A small quantity of Iron Age pottery was recovered from the possible ring-ditch and several of the ditches contained large quantities of Romano-British pottery. The Iron Age material recovered from some of the features may indicate that they form part of the wider landscape where other Iron Age material has been found such as the Orion Business Park. See also ESF23387, ESF26065 and ESF23527.
25	Cropmark of a ring ditch	TM 1200 4939	MSF4465	Cropmark of a ring ditch, single circle, size not determinable.
26	Farmstead: Broomvale Farm	TM 1217 4912	MSF40511	Broomvale Farm, Little Blakenham. 18th century farmstead and 16th century farmhouse with converted buildings. Loose courtyard two-sided plan formed by working agricultural buildings. The farmhouse is set away from the yard. The farmstead is extant. Located within an isolated position. See also ESF26675.
27	Cropmarks of a concentric ring ditch	TM 1191 4880	MSZ27257	Cropmarks of a concentric ring ditch, probably a ploughed out Bronze Age round barrow, 22m in diameter. The internal ring is off-centre. See also ESZ21999.

No	Name	Grid Ref	HER Ref. or Monument No.	Description
28	Loraine Way, Bramford	TM 1178 4868	MSF31504	2014 evaluation confirmed the presence of some of the anomalies found during the geophysical survey. Evidence included a double ring ditch monument of possible Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date, an Iron Age enclosure and Roman field system and an undated trackway. There were other undated features as well as two post-medieval field boundary ditches. 2016-17 evaluation revealed post-medieval ditches which corresponded with field boundaries marked on a late 18th century estate plan. Other undated ditches did not correspond with documented boundaries suggesting they relate to earlier, possibly prehistoric or Roman field systems. Of greater significance were three pits that contained quantities of prehistoric pottery along with flint tools and flakes. One has been dated to the Early Neolithic whilst the other two contained Early Iron Age pottery. See also ESF25238, ESF22489, ESF23361 and ESF24436.
29	East Anglia One Area 4	TM 1184 4851	MSF35578	Outline Record. Strip map and sample. See also ESF25160.
30	A1100, Loraine Way	TM 1192 4719	MSF4510	Length of Roman road, Pye Road, Margary 3c.
31	Medieval artefact scatter of pottery	TM 1200 4848	MSF4507	Concentration of 12th-14th century pottery. Most sherds unabraded.
32	Round barrow on terrace to the west of River Gipping	TM 1204 4832	MSF4501	Barrow on terrace to the west of River Gipping and to the east of Lower Dairy Farm. Destroyed.
33	Ipswich to Bury St Edmunds railway line	TM 0503 5909	MSF34993	The Ipswich and Bury Railway was built as an extension to the Eastern Union Railway. It was opened in November 1846 and formally merged with the Eastern Union Railway in July 1847. This stretch of track now comprises as part of the Great Eastern Main Line Service along with the Colchester to Ipswich line and the Haughley to Norwich line. It also comprises part of the Ipswich to Ely line along with the Bury St Edmunds to Newmarket line.

No	Name	Grid Ref	HER Ref. or Monument No.	Description
34	Earthworks of an enclosure and ditch system	TM 1257 4890	MSZ27270	Earthworks of an enclosure, with a low bank and ditch system of unknown date. The earthworks forming the enclosure and surrounding ditch are only visible on three sides on the available photography. The features are not visible on the 1st edition OS mapping and are not aligned with any visible field system, but the features are truncated by field boundaries so the enclosure may have been complete originally. The site is located close to the river and the banks may have protected the area from flooding. The earthworks had been destroyed by 1985.
35	East Anglia One Area 5	TM 1259 4894	MSF35579	Outline Record. Excavation. See also ESF25161.
36	Cropmark of a ring ditch	TM 1272 4918	MSZ27268	Cropmark of a ring ditch, probably representing a ploughed out Bronze Age round barrow, 28m in diameter, with no evidence for internal features, but is located 25m south-west from a further ring-ditch.

Table 2: Events

No	Name	Grid Ref	HER Ref. or Monument No.	Description
1	Monitoring and Evaluation – Land to the rear of Red House Cottages, Little Blakenham	TM 1085 4873	ESF20864	An archaeological evaluation was carried in advance of a proposed housing development. Three trenches with a total length of 47m were excavated but no archaeological features of any period were identified and no artefacts were recovered. In conjunction with the evaluation, the excavation of a linear filter drain was continuously monitored but no features or artefacts were identified. A 'Sunday School' of late 19th century date existed on the site prior to development.
2	Unknown event? Former Chalk Pit, Blood Hill	TM 1115 4846	ESF27072	None recorded.

No	Name	Grid Ref	HER Ref. or Monument No.	Description
3	Excavation, Blood Hill	TM 1138 4841	ESF22193	Monitoring of the soil strip in advance of gravel extraction on Blood Hill, Bramford, during April 2006 revealed a number of archaeological features comprising pits, ditches and at least five graves containing a total of seven inhumations. The pits were located on the east and south facing slopes of the hill. Pottery from these features indicated they dated from the Early Neolithic, Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age periods. No positive dating evidence was recovered from the ditches but they are believed to relate to the late prehistoric/Roman periods. The graves fell into two distinct phases, the earliest of which were two Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age burials. Both contained fragmentary remains of skeletons in crouched positions. A complete Beaker was recovered from one of the graves and the substantial remains of two more were recovered from the other. Similarities in style suggest they are broadly contemporary and perhaps related. A nearby pit type feature containing a large fragment of human skull is believed to be of a similar period. The second phase of burials comprised three graves in a tight group, which have been identified as Roman and dated to the late 4th Century AD. Two of the graves contained single inhumations identified as mature males, one of which was accompanied but numerous iron nails suggesting the body had been placed in a coffin. Another grave contained three inhumations, an adult woman and two juveniles, with accompanying goods comprising numerous jet and glass beads, a complete pottery vessel, a finger ring, a bracelet and two anklets. Skeletal evidence indicated that the adult women and the older of the two juveniles had suffered a vicious attack that had led to their deaths as testified by a number of unhealed sword or knife cuts to the skull. A fourth probable grave was also excavated. No bone was present but comparison of soil samples revealed elevated phosphate levels within the cut suggesting the possible presence of a burial.
4	Evaluation – Land at Blood Hill	TM 1138 4841	ESF21730	37 trenches measuring 0 x 1.8m were excavated. Additional trenching was undertaken to clarify areas of archaeological potential.
5	Desk Based Assessment, Land at Great Blakenham	TM 1216 5017	ESF20764	DBA identified moderate archaeological potential for material from the prehistoric through to the medieval period. The construction and the subsequent demolition of masons cement works will have removed archaeological potential from that site.

No	Name	Grid Ref	HER Ref. or Monument No.	Description
6	Evaluation – Orion Business Park, Blackacre Hill	TM 1186 4967	ESF26186	Evaluation was undertaken ahead of a proposed development on the 5.7ha site area. A series of linear trenches were mechanically excavated to the depth of the natural subsoil. The land designated for soil dumping would be undisturbed during development and therefore was not sampled. The machine removed a silty loam topsoil 0.3-0.35m deep to expose a series of archaeological features cutting into the sandy gravel and silty clay subsoil. The features occurred in two broad areas of the site; in relatively concentrated area in the north-east corner of the site, in trenches 7 and 8, and spread across the central part of the site, in trenches 3, 4 and 10. Over most of the field the topsoil lay directly over the subsoil with no evidence of occupational, or ancient buried soil levels. This absence may be partly due to plough damage, as ploughmarks were observed cutting the subsoil surface in some areas across the field.
7	Monitoring and excavation – Orion Business Park, Blackacre Hill	TM 1190 4971	ESF26187	Following the field evaluation of a proposed development site a programme of archaeological work was carried out. In the centre of the development area, some 11,730sqm in the vicinity of the prehistoric features identified during evaluation, were subject to monitored soil stripping. The second area of interest was opened for full excavation in order to assess and record the level of Roman features indicated by the evaluation. The area measured 2,229sqm and was machine excavated to the depth of the natural subsoil.
8	Geophysical survey, St James' Business Park, Great Blakenham	TM 1189 4951	ESF23387	Geophysical survey by ASWYAS in 2016. The western portion of the survey area was unsurveyable because of dumped material and overgrown areas. The survey was undertaken prior to the proposed development of the site. As a result, large areas of magnetic disturbance were present along with service pipes. There is the potential for archaeology within the survey area as responses have been identified which lie within the vicinity of a known ring ditch.
9	Evaluation – St James' Business Park, Great Blakenham	TM 1192 4944	ESF23527	35 evaluation trenches by ASWYAS in 2016, measuring 50m x 2m were excavated prior to development. Several areas of the site had been subject to high levels of truncation and disturbance. All features were sealed by a soft dark grey-brown silty sand topsoil.
10	Excavation – Land at Blackacre Hill, Great Blakenham	TM 1192 4944	ESF26065	Excavation by ASWYAS in 2018.

No	Name	Grid Ref	HER Ref. or Monument No.	Description
11	Geophysical survey – Port One, Great Blakenham	TM 1172 4924	ESF27279	This entry refers to this current geophysical survey.
12	Strip map and sample – Bramford and Blakenham Greenhouses	TM 1190 4898	ESF25238	None recorded.
13	Strip, map and excavate – Lower Dairy Farm, Bramford	TM 1174 4868	ESF24436	Excavation of two areas, one c.20m x 30m and another 20m square, around previously recorded features. A further 0.5ha was stripped from the site.
14	Evaluation, land at Bramford Dairy Farm	TM 1170 4860	ESF22489	Trial trench evaluation on a proposed development site following on from a geophysical survey. 70 trenches were excavated.
15	Strip, map and record – East Anglia One Area 4	TM 1184 4852	ESF25160	None recorded.
16	Evaluation – Land at Dairy Farm, Bramford	TM 1171 4840	ESF23361	144 trenches were excavated in advance of the construction of a large greenhouse. As a mitigation strategy two small areas were mechanically stripped.
17	Watching brief – East Anglia One Area 47	TM 1170 4830	ESF25159	None recorded.

No	Name	Grid Ref	HER Ref. or Monument No.	Description
18	Evaluation – Waste Transfer Site, Site 2, Land off Addison Way	TM 1216 4968	ESF19461	Archaeological evaluation of development, a total of nine evaluation trenches were excavated measuring a total of 320 linear metres representing 480sqm of area covered which is just under 5% of the 1.09ha development area. They were excavated to a depth of between 0.35m-0.8m. 16 archaeological features were revealed with the majority of features located within the trenches that lie closest to Bramford Road. The topsoil was pale to midbrown light silty sand with some variable clay content at an average depth of 0.36m. The subsoil was far more inconsistent and had probably been amalgamated with the topsoil to the south-west of the site possibly as a result of agricultural activity. The subsoil, where present, consisted of mixed and mottled pale to mid-brown silty sand with a depth of 0.15-0.32m. The characteristics of the subsoil suggest that the deposit had accumulated as ancient hill-wash. The underlying natural deposits consisted of very mixed and banded geological sand, gravel and clay, generally arranged in west to east striations.
19	Waste Transfer facility, Great Blakenham, Post-Excavation Assessment	TM 1218 4968	ESF21102	Excavation, following earlier evaluation, was undertaken on the site of a proposed Waste Transfer Facility encompassing an area of approximately 10,000sqm, located to the west of Bramford Road. The underlying natural across the site, into which the archaeological features were cut was made up of sand with some clayey sand patches. The clay content increased towards the southern part of the site. Early medieval to 14th century activity was recorded.
20	SITA Energy from Waste Facility Evaluation	TM 1230 4970	ESF21310	An archaeological evaluation was carried out on the former SCC Highways Depot, Lodge Lane, Great Blakenham in advance of development of the site. Three trenches were opened, focussed on an area where a thick subsoil layer with the potential to seal archaeological deposits had been identified in an earlier phase of evaluation. Whilst this layer was shown to continue south, no archaeological evidence was revealed.
21	SCC Highways Depot, Lodge Lane	TM 1230 4970	ESF20806	An archaeological evaluation was carried out on the former SCC Highways Depot, Lodge Lane, Great Blakenham in advance of the submission of a planning application to re-develop the site. A total of 13 trenches were opened, only one of which contained any archaeological evidence, in the form of features dating to the medieval period. This trench was located close to the sites north west perimeter where in contrast to much of the site, the ground level did not appear to be truncated. At the southern edge of the site, modern disturbance was identified to depths of up to 2.5m whilst Trench 7 in the north eastern part of the site contained a thick subsoil layer which could seal archaeological deposits.

No	Name	Grid Ref	HER Ref. or Monument No.	Description
22	Desk Based Assessment – Great Blakenham Residual Waste Treatment Facility	TM 1232 4963	ESF21764	Desk based assessment was undertaken, collating HER data, historic maps and aerial photographs for the site and surrounding area.
23	Monitoring Suffolk Water Park, Little Blakenham	TM 1231 4880	ESF23499	Monitoring was carried out during the excavation of the first four proposed fish ponds at Suffolk Water Park. Approximately 0.8m of heavy clay soil overlay c.0.2m of brown humic material, over 0.4m of homogenous dark grey clay/silt, with some inclusions of vegetation, which in turn overlay the naturally occurring sand subsoil. The water table was encountered approximately 0.3m above the level of the sandy subsoil. Only a modern pit was seen. No other archaeological features or finds were seen.
24	Excavation – East Anglia One Area 5	TM 1259 4894	ESF25161	None recorded.
25	Metal Detecting – Southgate T	TM 1269 4902	ESF19026	None recorded.

Appendix 3: Inventory of primary archive

Phase	File/Box No	Description	Quantity
Excavation	File no.1	Context register sheets	5
		Group context sheets	7
		Context cards	85
		Drawing register sheets	7
		Drawing sheet number record	1
		Permatrace sheets	29
		Levels sheets	17
		Sample register sheets	2
		Finds register sheets	2
		Photo register sheets	12
		B&W negative strips	1
Excavation	File no. 2	Context register sheets	5
		Context cards	114

Appendix 4: Concordance of contexts

Context	Area	Description	Artefacts and environmental samples
1000	1	Topsoil	
1001	1	Subsoil	Flint (1), metal (1)
1002	1	Natural	
1003	1	Cut of Pit/Tree-throw 1003	
1004	1	Fill of Pit 1003	
1005	1	Cut of post hole 1005	
1006	1	Primary Fill of post-hole 1005	
1007	1	Secondary Fill of post-hole 1005	GBA 25
1008	1	Geological channel water formed deposit	
1009	1	Cut of ditch 1009	
1010	1	Fill of ditch 1009	Pottery (1), animal bone (28), GBA 26
1011	1	Cut of ditch 1011	
1012	1	Fill of ditch 1011	Animal bone (17), GBA 27
1013	1	Band of Geology	
1014	1	Cut of ditch terminus	
1015	1	Fill of 1014	
1016	1	Cut of ditch terminus	
1017	1	Fill of ditch terminus 1016	GBA 29
1018	1	Cut of ditch 1018 Continuation of ditch 1014	
1019	1	Fill of 1018	GBA 28
1020	1	Cut of ditch 1020 Continuation of ditch base 1014	
1021	1	Fill of 1020	
1022	1	Cut of ditch 1022	
1023	1	Fill of ditch 1022	GBA 30
1024	1	Cut of ditch 1024	
1025	1	Fill of ditch 1024	GBA 31
1026	1	Cut of ditch 1026	
1027	1	Fill of ditch 1026	Flint (7), pottery (12), animal bone (10), GBA 33
1028	1	Fill of ditch 1026	
1029	1	Fill of ditch 1026	
1030	1	Cut of pit	
1031	1	Fill of pit 1030	Pottery (5), flint (2), GBA 32
1032	1	Cut of pit 1032	GBA 34
1033	1	Fill of pit 1032	
1034	1	Cut of ditch	
1035	1	Primary fill of ditch 1034	
1036	1	Secondary fill of ditch 1034	Flint (5), pottery (6), GBA 36
1037	1	Third fill of ditch 1034	GBA 37
1038	1	Fourth fill of ditch 1034	
1039	1	Cut of pit	

Context	Area	Description	Artefacts and environmental samples
1040	1	Fill of pit 1039	Flint (1), GBA 35
1041	1	Cut of possible water channel	
1042	1	Fill of water channel 1041	GBA 38
1043	1	Cut of ditch 1043	
1044	1	Fill of ditch 1043	Flint (2), pottery (2)
1045	1	Cut of ditch 1045	
1046	1	Fill of ditch 1045	
1047	1	Cut of ditch terminus 1047	
1048	1	Fill of ditch terminus 1047	Flint (18), pottery (2), animal bone (1), GBA 39
1049	1	Fill of tree-bowl	
1050	1	Cut of possible pond	
1051	1	Fill of 1050	Animal bone (9)
1052	1	Fill of 1050	Animal bone (65)
1053	1	Fill of 1050	
1054	1	Fill of 1050	
1055	1	Fill of 1050	
1056	1	Cut of pit 1056	
1057	1	Fill of pit 1056	Flint (93), pottery (1), GBA 42
1058	1	Fill of pit 1056	
1059	1	Cut of ring-ditch 1059	
1060	1	Fill of ring-ditch 1059	GBA 43
1061	1	Cut of ring-ditch 1061	
1062	1	fill of ring-ditch 1061	GBA 44
1063	1	Cut of ring ditch 1063	
1064	1	Fill of ring-ditch 1063	
1065	1	Cut of ring-ditch 1065	
1066	1	Fill of ring-ditch 1065	Flint (4), GBA 45
1067	1	Cut of ring-ditch 1067	
1068	1	Fill of ring-ditch 1067	
1069	1	Cut of ring-ditch 1069	
1070	1	Fill of ring-ditch 1069	Flint (3), pottery (2), GBA 46
1071	1	Cut of ring-ditch 1071	
1072	1	Fill of ring-ditch 1071	Flint (4)
1073	1	Cut of ring-ditch 1073	
1074	1	Fill of ring-ditch 1073	Flint (3), GBA 47
1075	1	Cut of ring-ditch 1075	
1076	1	Fill of ring-ditch 1075	
1077	1	Cut of ring-ditch 1077	
1078	1	Fill of ring-ditch 1077	Flint (2)
1079	1	Cut of ring-ditch 1079	
1080	1	Fill of ring-ditch 1079	Pottery (1), GBA 48
1081	1	Cut of pit 1081	
1082	1	Fill of pit 1081	GBA 49
1083	1	Cut of cremation pit 1083	

Context	Area	Description	Artefacts and environmental samples
1084	1	Fill of cremation pit 1083	Animal bone (115), flint (12), pottery (2), GBA 50
1085	1	Cut of pit 1085	
1086	1	Fill of pit 1085	Pottery (5), GBA 52
2000	2	Topsoil	
2001	2	Subsoil	Flint (2), pottery (1)
2002	2	Natural	
2003	2	Cut of ditch 2003	
2004	2	Fill of ditch 2003	Flint (3), GBA 1
2005	2	Cut of ditch terminus 2005	
2006	2	Fill of ditch terminus 2005	Pottery (74), animal bone (1), flint (3), GBA 2
2007	2	Cut of ditch 2007	
2008	2	Fill of ditch 2007	Pottery (29), flint (1), animal bone (1), GBA 3
2009	2	Cut of post-hole 2009	
2010	2	Fill of post-hole 2009	GBA 4
2011	2	Cut of post-hole 2011	
2012	2	Fill of post-hole 2011	Pottery (1), GBA 5
2013	2	Cut of post hole 2013	
2014	2	Fill of post-hole 2013	GBA 6
2015	2	Cut of post-hole 2015	
2016	2	Fill of post-hole 2015	GBA 7
2017	2	Cut of ditch 2017	
2018	2	Fill of ditch 2017	
2019	2	Cut of beam-slot 2019	
2020	2	Fill of beam-slot 2019	
2021	2	Cut of beam-slot 2021	
2022	2	Fill of beam-slot 2021	
2023	2	Cut of beam-slot 2023	
2024	2	Fill of beam-slot 2023	Pottery (1), GBA 8
2025	2	Cut of beam-slot 2025	
2026	2	Fill of beam-slot 2025	Metal (1), pottery (1)
2027	2	Cut of ditch 2027	
2028	2	Fill of ditch 2027	
2029	2	Cut of beam-slot 2029	
2030	2	Fill of beam-slot 2029	
2031	2	Cut of ditch 2031	
2032	2	Fill of ditch 2031	Flint (6), GBA 9
2033	2	Cut of beam-slot 2033	
2034	2	Fill of beam-slot 2033	Pottery (2), flint (1), GBA 10
2035	2	Cut of beam-slot 2035	
2036	2	Fill of beam-slot 2035	
2037	2	Cut of beam-slot 2037	
2038	2	Fill of beam-slot 2037	
2039	2	Cut of beam-slot 2039	

Context	Area	Description	Artefacts and environmental samples
2040	2	Fill of beam-slot 2039	
2041	2	Cut of beam-slot 2041	
2042	2	Fill of beam-slot 2041	GBA 12
2043	2	VOID	
2044	2	VOID	
2045	2	Cut of ditch 2045	
2046	2	Fill of ditch 2045	Pottery (10), flint (2), GBA 11
2047	2	Cut of beam-slot 2047	
2048	2	Fill of beam-slot 2047	
2049	2	Cut of beam-slot 2049	
2050	2	Fill of beam slot 2049	
2051	2	Cut of beam-slot 2051	
2052	2	Fill of beam-slot 2051	Pottery (2)
2053	2	Cut of beam-slot 2053	
2054	2	Fill of beam-slot 2053	
2055	2	Cut of beam-slot 2055	
2056	2	Fill of beam-slot 2055	
2057	2	Cut of beam-slot 2057	
2058	2	Fill of beam-slot 2057	Pottery (2)
2059	2	Cut of beam-slot 2059	
2060	2	Fill of beam-slot 2059	
2061	2	Cut of beam-slot 2061	
2062	2	Fill of beam-slot 2061	Flint (1), industrial residue (5), GBA 13
2063	2	Cut of beam-slot 2063	
2064	2	Fill of beam-slot 2063	
2065	2	Cut of beam-slot 2065	
2066	2	Fill of beam-slot 2065	
2067	2	Cut of ditch 2067	
2068	2	Fill of ditch 2067	Pottery (2), flint (1), GBA 14
2069	2	Cut of terminus 2069	
2070	2	Fill of terminus 2069	
2071	2	Cut of terminus 2071	
2072	2	Fill of terminus 2071	
2073	2	Cut of ditch 2073	
2074	2	Fill of ditch 2073	Flint (2), GBA 15
2075	2	Cut of pit 2075	
2076	2	Fill of pit 2075	Flint (2), pottery (1), GBA 16
2077	2	Cut of ditch 2077	
2078	2	Fill of ditch 2077	
2079	2	Cut of ditch 2079	
2080	2	Fill of ditch 2079	
2081	2	Cut of natural feature 2081	
2082	2	Fill of 2081	
2083	2	Cut of natural feature 2083	
2084	2	Fill of natural feature 2083	

Context	Area	Description	Artefacts and environmental samples
2085	2	Cut of natural feature 2085	
2086	2	Fill of natural feature 2085	
2087	2	Cut of natural feature 2087	
2088	2	Fill of natural feature 2087	GBA 17
2089	2	Cut of pit 2089	
2090	2	Fill of pit 2089	
2091	2	Cut of ditch 2091	
2092	2	Fill of ditch 2091	
2093	2	Cut of pit 2093	
2094	2	Fill of pit 2093	GBA 18
2095	2	Cut of pit 2095	
2096	2	Fill of pit 2095	GBA 19
2097	2	Cut of pit 2097	
2098	2	Fill of pit 2097	Flint (1), GBA 20
2099	2	Cut of ditch 2099	
2100	2	Fill of ditch 2099	Pottery (3)
2101	2	Cut of ditch 2101	
2102	2	Fill of ditch 2101	Pottery (1)
2103	2	Cut of pit 2103	
2104	2	Fill of pit 2103	Pottery (2), GBA 21
2105	2	Cut of ditch 2105	
2106	2	Fill of ditch 2105	
2107	2	Cut of pit 2107	
2108	2	Fill of pit 2107	
2109	2	Cut of terminus 2109	
2110	2	Fill of terminus 2109	Metal (2), GBA 23
2111	2	Cut of terminus 2111	
2112	2	Fill of terminus 2111	Flint (4), GBA 22
2113	2	Cut of ditch 2113	
2114	2	Fill of ditch 2113	
2117	2	Cut of pit 2117	
2118	2	Fill of pit 2117	GBA 24

Appendix 5. Pottery catalogue

Cnxt	Area	Cut	feature type	Function	GBA	HM/WM	Era famly	ERA	Fabric Family	Fabric	Form	Type	Dsc	Quantity	Weight	Rim Diam	%	RESIDUE	AB	Decoration	Spot date	Context Date	Comment
1010	1	1009	ditch			HM	LIA/ ER	IA	RW(Q)	RW: COMMON GROG. OX EXTERNAL SURFACE.	SJAR		U	1	31						400-0BC	400-0BC	
1012	1	1011	ditch			HM	LIA/ ER	LIA	RW(Q)	RW(Q) OX SURFACE	JAR/BOWL		U	2	3						C2BC-AD0	C2BC-AD0	
1027	1	1026	ditch			HM	LIA/ ER	IA	RW(Q)	RW: COMMON SAND AND FINE FLINT	BOWL		UD	10	102						PRE	PRE	
1027	1	1026	ditch			HM	PRE	PRE	RW(FLINT)	RW: COMMON ANGULAR BURNT FLINT	BOWL		U	2	12						PRE	PRE	
1031	1	1030	pit			HM	PRE	PRE	RW(FLINT)	RW: COMMON ANGULAR BURNT FLINT	BOWL		B	6	34						PRE	PRE	SANDED BASE
1036	1	1034	ditch			HM	LIA/ ER	LIA	RW(GROG)	RW(GROG)	JAR/BOWL		D	1	6					COMB POINT STAB BING	C1BC-ADEC1	C1BC-ADEC1	
1036	1	1034	ditch			HM/ SW	LIA/ ER	LIA	RW(Q)	RW(Q)(OCC FLINT)(OX SURFACES)	BOWL		U	3	25						C1BC-ADEC1	C1BC-ADEC1	

1044	1	1043	ditch			HM	PRE	PRE	RW(FLINT)	RW: COMMON ANGULAR BURNT FLINT	BOWL		U	1	4						PRE	PRE	
1048	1	1047	ditch	Terminus		WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SOW	SOW:SMALL CALC FLECKS	FLAG		U	1	6						C1-C2	PRE/RB	
1048	1	1047	ditch	Terminus		HM	PRE	PRE	RW(FLINT)	RW: COMMON ANGULAR BURNT FLINT	BOWL	S'	R	1	15	16	5				PRE	PRE/RB	
1057	1	1056	pit		51	SW	LIA/ER	ERB	SREDW	SREDW: COARSE	JAR		D	1	3					BANDS OF INCISED HERRINGBONE MOTIF	MC1	MC1	
1070	1	1069	ring-ditch			HM	LIA/ER	IA	RW(Q)	RW: Q	JAR/BOWL		U	1	1						IA	PRE/IA	
1070	1	1069	ring-ditch			HM	PRE	PRE	RW(FLINT)	RW: COMMON ANGULAR BURNT FLINT. OX EXTERNAL SURFACE	BOWL		U	1	10						PRE	PRE/IA	
1080	1	1079	ring-ditch			HM	PRE	PRE	RW(FLINT)	RW: SPARSE BURNT FLINT	JAR/BOWL		U	1	3						PRE	PRE	
1084	1	1083	pit	CREMATION	50	HM	LIA/ER	LIA/ER	RW(Q)	RW(Q); OX SURFACES	JAR/BOWL		U	2	3						E/MC1	E/MC1	POSS POT OR FIRED CLAY
1086	1	1085	pit			HM	PRE	PRE	RW(FLINT)	RW: COMMON ANGULA	BOWL		UB	5	15						PRE	PRE	

										R BURNT FLINT													
2001	2		sub-soil			WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: BS, COMMON MICA (FINE)	JAR	5.3	RUD	1	20	18	7	SOOT UNDER RIM			E/MC1	MC1+	FINE EARLY LOCAL COPY OF GAULISH FORM
2001	2		sub-soil			WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: BS, COMMON MICA	JAR		U	1	76						MC1-C2	MC1+	
2001	2		sub-soil			HM	LIA/ER	LIA/ER	BAT AM	BAT AM	AMPH		U	1	634				SEVERE		C2BC-ADC3(C2)	MC1+	NICE HANDLE SCAR, SO UPPER PART OF VESSEL
2004	2	2003	ditch			SW/WM	LIA/ER	LIA/ER	RW(GROG)	RW(GROG)(VOIDS)	JAR/BOWL		U	1	1						LC1BC-ADE/MC1	LC1BC-ADE/MC1	
2004	2	2003	ditch			SW/WM	LIA/ER	LIA/ER	RW(Q)	RW(Q)	JAR/BOWL		U	1	4						LC1BC-ADE/MC1	LC1BC-ADE/MC1	
2006	2	2005	ditch	Terminus		WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW:BLUE	BOWL	6.3	R	1	135	24	15			DEEP SHALLOW GIRTH GROOVE	M/LC1-EC2	EC2	
2006	2	2005	ditch	Terminus		WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: BLUE, COMMON MICA	JAR	4.5	RU	6	39	16	10			FAINT NARROW GIRTH GROOVE	M/LC1-C2	EC2	
2006	2	2005	ditch	Terminus		WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW:BLUE	BOWL	6.3	R	1	37	24	9			GIRTH GROOVE	M/LC1-EC2	EC2	
2006	2	2005	ditch	Terminus		WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: COMMON	JAR	4.5.3	RD	2	68	15	33			RAISED	E/MC2	EC2	

										COARSE GROG, VOIDS, SOME MICA										SHOULDER CORDON OF BURNISHED CROSS-HATCH			
2006	2	2005	ditch	Terminus		WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: COMMON COARSE GROG, VOIDS, SOME MICA	SJAR		RUDB	29	1556					SINGLE LINE OF CIRCULAR STABBING ON SHOULDER	M/LC1-EC2	EC2	LARGE PART OF ONE VESSEL
2006	2	2005	ditch	Terminus		SW	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: BS, COMMON MICA	JAR/BOWL	4.5	RU	5	68	16	15				MC1	EC2	
2006	2	2005	ditch	Terminus		WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: BLUE, SOME QUITE GRITTY	JAR/BOWL		UB	15	245						M/LC1-E/MC2	EC2	VARIOUS VESSELS
2006	2	2005	ditch	Terminus		WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: BLUE, COMMON MICA	DISH	6.15	R	1	11	20	7				M/LC1-MC2	EC2	
2006	2	2005	ditch	Terminus		WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: BS, COMMON MICA	BEAK		UB	2	57						MC1-EC2	EC2	
2006	2	2005	ditch	Terminus		WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: SANDW	JAR/BEAK	3.14	RU	11	50	12	17				M/LC1-EC2	EC2	
2006	2	2005	ditch	Terminus		WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SOW	SOW: COMMON SILVER MICA	FLAG		U	1	69						MC1-C3	EC2	

2006	2	2005	ditch	Terminus		WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SOW	SOW: VOIDS - ?COLWW	FLAG		U	1	25						MC1-C2	EC2	
2008	2	2007	ditch			WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SREDW	SREDW: BSRW(COARSE)	JAR		UD	10	53					CORDON OF GROOVED WAVEY LINES	M/LC1-E/MC2	MC1-E/MC2	
2008	2	2007	ditch			WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SREDW	SREDW: BSRW(FINE)	JAR/BEAK	3.14	RU	2	12	12	7			GIRTH GROOVE	MC1-E/MC2	MC1-E/MC2	
2008	2	2007	ditch			WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: COMMON SILVER MICA	JAR	4.13	R	1	20	16	9	SOOTSOOTONBODY			M/LC1-EC2	MC1-E/MC2	
2008	2	2007	ditch			WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: BLUE, SOME QUITE GRITTY	JAR/BOWL		U	6	40						MC1-C2	MC1-E/MC2	
2008	2	2007	ditch			WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: BS, COMMON MICA	BEAK	3.14	RU	3	8	12	6				MC1-E/MC2	MC1-E/MC2	
2008	2	2007	ditch			WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SREDW	SREDW: SOFT	DISH		U	5	7				SEVERE		MC1-C2	MC1-E/MC2	POSSIBLE VERY ABRADED SAMIAN - BUT SO SOFT I DECIDED AGAINST A FIRM ID
2008	2	2007	ditch			HW	PRE	PRE	RW(FLINT)	RW: COMMON ANGULAR FLINT	BOWL		U	1	3						800-400BC	MC1-E/MC2	RESIDUAL

2012	2	2011	post-hole		5	WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW	JAR/BOWL		U	1	4						MC1-C2	MC1-C2	
2024	2	2023	beam slot			WM	LIA/ER	ERB	VER WH	VER WH	MORT	7.1	F	1	43	28	3				MC1-C2	MC1-C2	
2026	2	2025	beam slot			WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: COMMON SILVER MICA	JAR		U	1	4						LC1-C4	LC1-C4	
2034	2	2033	beam slot		10	HM	PRE	PRE	RW(FLINT)	RW: COMMON ANGULAR BURNT FLINT. OX EXTERNAL SURFACE	BOWL		U	1	5						PRE	PRE	
2046	2	2045	ditch		11	WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: GRITTY	LID	8.1	R	1	7	16	4				MC1-C3	MC1-C2	
2046	2	2045	ditch			WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: GRITTY	JAR/BOWL		U	3	8						MC1-C2	MC1-C2	
2046	2	2045	ditch			WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: BS, MICA (FINE)	JAR/BEAK		U	1	3						MC1-C2	MC1-C2	
2046	2	2045	ditch			WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SOW	SOW: SOFT	FLAG		U	1	1						MC1-C3	MC1-C2	
2046	2	2045	ditch			WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SREDW	SREDW: SOFT	BOWL/?MORT		U	1	19						MC1-C2	MC1-C2	
2058	2	2057	beam slot			HM	PRE	PRE	RW(FLINT)	RW: COMMON ANGULAR BURNT FLINT. OX EXTERNAL SURFACE	BOWL		U	1	5						PRE	PRE	
2068	2	2067	ditch			WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: SANDW(OVER FIRED)	JAR/BEAK		D	1	1					FAINT TRACES OF ROULETTING	MC1	MC1	

2068	2	2067	ditch			WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: COMMON MICA, THIN ORANGE MARGINS	JAR	5.3	R	1	20	12	18		WORN ON RIM		E/MC1	MC1	
2076	2	2075	pit		16	HM	PRE	PRE	RW(FLINT)	RW(FINE FLINT)	BEAK		D	1	11					BANDS OF INCISED HERRINGBONE MOTIF	PRE	PRE	POSSIBLY OLDER THAN THIS
2100	2	2099	ditch			WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: COMMON MICA	JAR		U	1	7						MC1-C2	MC1	
2100	2	2099	ditch			WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW:GROG, BS, VOIDS	JAR	4	RU	2	6	16	4				MC1	MC1	
2102	2	2101	ditch			WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: COMMON MICA, THIN ORANGE MARGINS	JAR/BEAK		U	1	8						M/LC1-C2	M/LC1-C2	
2104	2	2103	pit			HM	PRE	PRE	RW(FLINT)	RW: COMMON ANGULAR BURNT FLINT	BOWL		U	2	1						PRE	PRE	
U/S	2		u/s			WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: BSRW	JAR		D	1	2					GIRTH GROOVE	MC1-MC2	RB	
U/S	2		u/s			WM	LIA/ER	ERB	SGW	SGW: VERY SANDY	JAR		U	2	23						MC1-C4	RB	

Appendix 6: Radiocarbon dating analysis

Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre
Rankine Avenue, Scottish Enterprise Technology Park, East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 0QF, Scotland, UK
Director: Professor F M Stuart Tel: +44 (0)1355 223332 Fax: +44 (0)1355 229898 www.glasgow.ac.uk/suerc

RADIOCARBON DATING CERTIFICATE

15 November 2021

Laboratory Code	SUERC-100886 (GU58996)
Submitter	Zoe Horn Archaeological Services WYAS Nepshaw Lane South Morley Leeds LS27 7JQ
Site Reference	STJ19
Context Reference	1084
Sample Reference	1084
Material	Nutshell : hazel
$\delta^{13}C$ relative to VPDB	-23.3 ‰
Radiocarbon Age BP	2534 ± 21

N.B. The above ^{14}C age is quoted in conventional years BP (before 1950 AD) and requires calibration to the calendar timescale. The error, expressed at the one sigma level of confidence, includes components from the counting statistics on the sample, modern reference standard and blank and the random machine error.

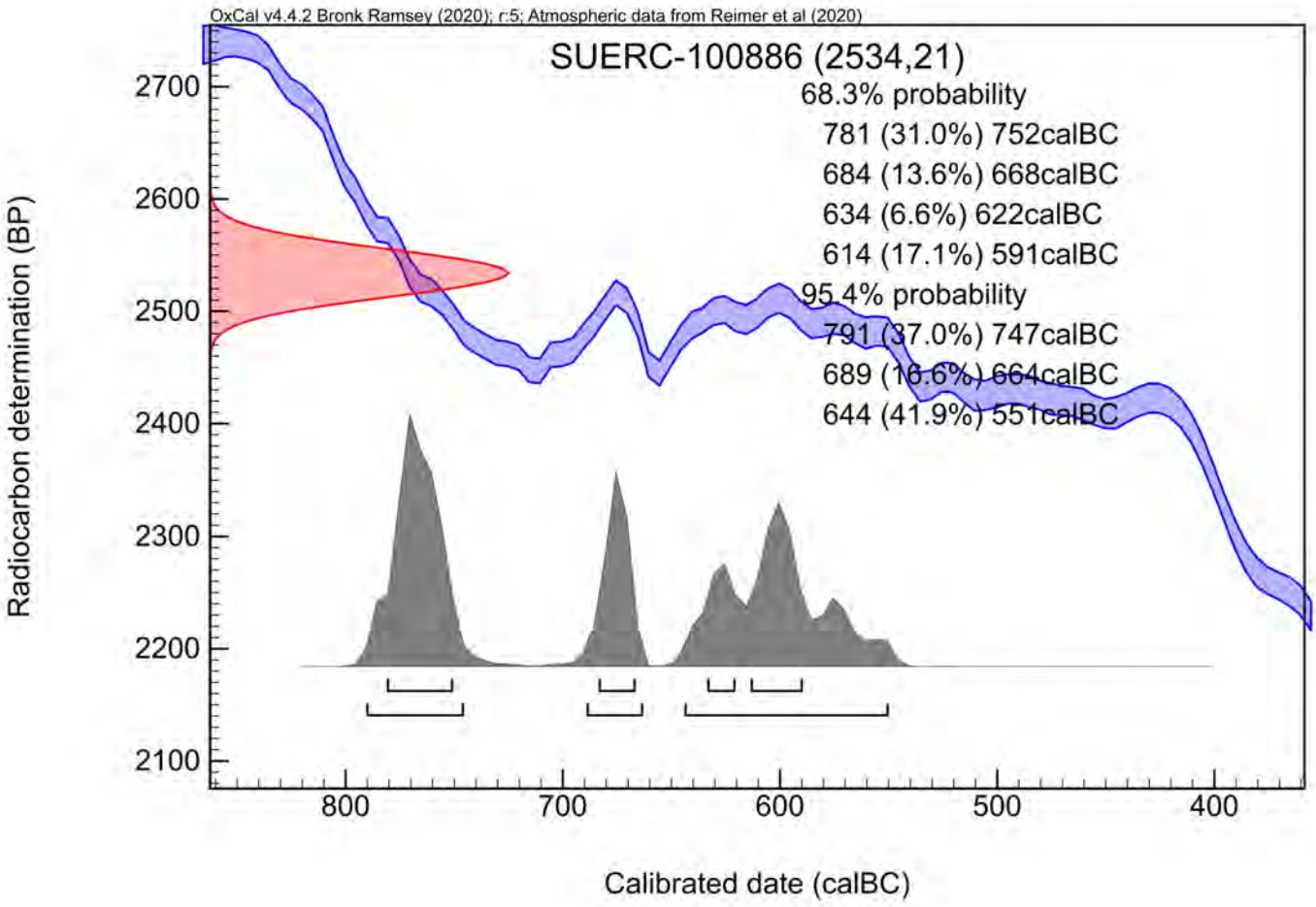
Samples with a SUERC coding are measured at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre AMS Laboratory and should be quoted as such in any reports within the scientific literature. The laboratory GU coding should also be given in parentheses after the SUERC code.

Detailed descriptions of the methods employed by the SUERC Radiocarbon Laboratory can be found in Dunbar et al. (2016) *Radiocarbon 58(1) pp.9-23.*

For any queries relating to this certificate, the laboratory can be contacted at suerc-c14lab@glasgow.ac.uk.

Conventional age and calibration age ranges calculated by : E. Dunbar

Checked and signed off by :



The radiocarbon age given overleaf is calibrated to the calendar timescale using the Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit calibration program OxCal 4.*

The above date ranges have been calibrated using the IntCal20 atmospheric calibration curve†

Please contact the laboratory if you wish to discuss this further.

* Bronk Ramsey (2009) *Radiocarbon 51(1) pp.337-60*

† Reimer et al. (2020) *Radiocarbon 62(4) pp.725-57*

Appendix 7: OASIS summary

Summary for archaeol11-307926

OASIS ID (UID)	archaeol11-307926
Project Name	Land at Blackacre Hill, Bramford Road St James' Business Park,
Activity type	TRIAL TRENCH
Project Identifier(s)	Site Code: STJ19, Project No: 8783
Planning Id	3191/13
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Archaeological Services WYAS
Project Dates	24-Feb-2018 - 05-Mar-2018
Location	Land at Blackacre Hill, Bramford Road NGR : TM 11883 49500 LL : 52.1032334556018, 1.09238248955241 12 Fig : 611883,249500
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Suffolk District : Mid Suffolk Parish : Great Blakenham
Project Methodology	Excavation of two areas
Project Results	This archaeological excavation was successful in confirming and expanding upon the results of the 2016 trial trench evaluation. A ring ditch and enclosure, used in the prehistoric period was excavated, which may have similarities with mortuary enclosure type features found throughout Suffolk and Essex. Unfortunately no human remains were encountered to confirm this. Broadly prehistoric dating for the site has been confirmed with some evidence for an extended but albeit not intense period of use of the site. The Early Iron age dating for pit 1083 using radiocarbon dating additionally suggests at some level of continuation of the Bronze Age use of the site associated with the ring ditch. Evidence of Romano-British agriculture was investigated through a series of ditches and structures excavated at the west end of site. These finds correlate with recent finds throughout Suffolk and contribute to the growing understanding of Roman period agricultural activity in the area. The site demonstrates a change in use observed throughout Suffolk from a funerary landscape in the prehistoric period to a largely agricultural one in the Late Iron Age and Roman periods, reflecting recent discoveries on sites such as the A120 expansion. It is likely that Suffolk was more permanently settled in the Iron Age and Romano-British periods than was previously supposed.

Keywords	RING DITCH - BRONZE AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Circular Enclosure - BRONZE AGE - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Beam Slot - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Jar - LATE IRON AGE - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Amphora - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Beaker - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Flagon - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Mortarium - ROMAN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Nail - UNCERTAIN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Lithic Implement - LATE NEOLITHIC - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Animal Remains - UNCERTAIN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Butchered Animal Remains - UNCERTAIN - FISH Archaeological Objects Thesaurus Post Hole - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Field System - ROMAN - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
HER	Suffolk HER - unRev - STANDARD
HER Identfiers	
Archives	Physical Archive, Documentary Archive, Digital Archive - to be deposited with Suffolk Archaeological Service

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