A Romano-British Polygonal Enclosure and ditches at Plot 2, Ann Suckling Road, Haverhill



Excavation Report



January 2015

Client: Mr & Mrs Coppieters

OA East Report No: 1558 OASIS No: oxfordar3-164438

NGR: TL 6757 4659



A Romano-British Polygonal Enclosure and ditches at Plot 2, Ann Suckling Road, Haverhill

Archaeological Excavation

By Helen Stocks-Morgan BSc

With contributions by Rachel Fosberry HNC (Cert Ed) AifA and Stephen Wadeson

Editor: Paul Spoerry BTech PhD MlfA

Illustrator: Séverine Bézie BA MA

Report Date: January 2015

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Report Number: 1558

Site Name: Plot 2, Land Adj. Boyton Hall, Ann Suckling Road, Haverhill

HER Event No: HVH 083

Date of Works: November 2013

Client Name: Mr & Mrs Coppieters

Planning Ref: SE/12/1329/OUT

Grid Ref: TL 6757 4659

Site Code: HVH 083

Finance Code: XSF BOY 213

Receiving Body: Suffolk County Council Stores, Bury St Edmunds

Accession No: HVH 083

Prepared by: Helen Stocks-Morgan

Position: Supervisor Date: 9/1/14

Checked by: Paul Spoerry

Position: Regional Manager, OA East

Date: 9/1/14

Signed:

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Oxford Archaeology East,

15 Trafalgar Way, Bar Hill, Cambridge, CB23 8SQ

t: 01223 850500 f: 01223 850599

e: oaeast@thehumanjourney.net w: http://thehumanjourney.net/oaeast

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Summary

OA East conducted an archaeological excavation at Plot 2, land adjacent, Boyton Hall, Haverhill (TL 6757 4659) between the 19th and 22nd November 2013.

The excavation revealed Roman activity, comprising part of a polygonal enclosure, two parallel ditches, thought to be a possible droveway and a small boundary ditch.

The only other activity within the site were three medieval boundary ditches believed to be part of a field system.

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1 Introduction

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological excavation was conducted on Plot 2 of 'land adjacent to Boyton Hall', Haverhill (Centred on TL 6757 4659). The site is a single housing plot with the excavation area comprising the footprint of this dwelling, its garage and access/drive. This work follows on from a previous evaluation and adjacent excavation which found a curvilinear enclosure and two ditches which were thought to be of Roman date. Further medieval ditches were recorded to the east of the site (Atkins, 2013 & Craven 2007a; Fig. 2).
- 1.1.2 This archaeological excavation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Dr Jess Tipper dated 5th August 2013 (Tipper 2013) of Suffolk County Council (SCC; Planning Application SE/13/0454/RM), supplemented by a written scheme of investigation prepared by OA East (see appendix D).
- 1.1.3 The work was designed to define and record any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government March 2012) through their 'preservation by record'.
- 1.1.4 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The British Geological Survey (BGS 2002) records that the Drift Geology for the site is Till comprising chalky, sandy and stony clay of the Lowestoft Formation.
- 1.2.2 The site is on a level plateau at *c*.103m OD, at the top of a south-west facing slope overlooking the River Stour and modern Haverhill.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The proposed new development lies within a known area of archaeological interest:

Iron Age/Roman settlement found in evaluation trenches

- 1.3.2 Adjacent to the site, two Iron Age/Roman ditches (0002 and 0008) were recorded during the 2007 trial trench evaluation (Fig. 2; Craven 2007a, 13 (trenches 9 and 11)). Ditch 0002 was 0.4m wide and 0.25m deep with steep sides and a flat base and produced 63 small sherds from a single locally made Late Iron Age/Early Roman (up to late 1st century AD) cordoned jar. Ditch 008 was curvilinear, 0.7m wide and 0.25m deep from which two sherds (0.004kg) of possible Iron Age pottery were recovered, although an Early Saxon date for the pottery was also thought a possibility but less likely.
- 1.3.3 The extent of this putative settlement was thought uncertain, but scattered prehistoric and Roman features (pits and ditches) of this period were seen in the two areas of archaeological evaluation (HVH 064 and WTL 008); more than 60m to the east/northeast and c.100m to the north respectively (Fig. 1; Craven 2007b). The excavator thought the results from these three evaluations (HVH 064 and 065 and WTL 008) suggested that all were part of the same Iron Age/Roman field system, but any domestic area had not been found within these areas. Craven noted that the site was

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on clay ground, relatively high and located away from the River Stour. He stated that few contemporary settlements in similar topographical locations have been found nearby, which was in contrast to the large quantity of settlements located adjacent to the River Stour on alluvium soils (*Ibid*, 19).

- 1.3.4 It is worth noting the site lies directly to the north of the route of the projected major Roman road, the Via Devana, which had been built following the Boudiccan revolt and is thought to have run from Leicester to Colchester (e.g. Jones and Mattingly 1990, maps 4.24 and 4.27; Atkins forthcoming). The route has been located at Cambridge in a recent excavation and was seen to have been established in the mid/third quarter of the 1st century AD (Evans and Harkel 2010, 35 and 54-56). The Suffolk HER has tentatively located the Via Devana, c.3km to the west of the site, to the north of Haverhill, at Withersfield (SHER WTH007) calling it "possible Roman road - Margary's route 24 (R1) Colchester to Cambridge via Wixoe (S1)". This routeway has been traced from this Suffolk HER reference onto the Essex HER map (Fig. 1). The route has been projected eastwards, just to the south of the present excavation at HVH065, it then aligned south to south-eastwards, keeping/skirting to the south-west of the River Stour through part of Wixoe Roman town (along the western bank of the Stour on the Essex side) and continuing through to Sible Hedingham before turning towards Halstead and then on to Colchester.
- 1.3.5 The site is c.4km to the north-west of Wixoe town. It is likely that Wixoe's economic pull (i.e. its hinterland) would have been a c.8-10km radius around the town (Atkins forthcoming). This would have been the main area of its influence and within this area it is likely that farmsteads such as at HVH 065/WTL 008 would have utilised Wixoe as a primary centre/market.

Medieval

- 1.3.6 The site lies 100m to the south-east of the former medieval settlement of the recorded Haverhill Chapel (HVH 046). This settlement was shown on the very small scale 1783 Hodkinson map as surviving as only three structures with the name 'Haverhill Chapel' recorded adjacent (Craven 2007a including fig. 2). These three structures had gone soon afterwards with only empty fields shown in this location on the 1886 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map (not illustrated).
- 1.3.7 Archaeological work near to these former structures have found Late Saxon to medieval remains, which demonstrated that the original settlement had been larger in size. In 2007 a trenched evaluation found an undated ditch (0006; in trench 9 located partly within the site) aligned north-east to south-west, which was thought likely to be of medieval date (Fig. 2; Craven 2007a). This ditch was on the same alignment as two medieval ditches (0004 and 0010) c.30m to the north-east and c.10m to the east of the site respectively (*ibid*). As part of the same evaluation, but within a different field located between 100m and 200m to the north-west of the site, Late Saxon/early medieval to 14th century occupation evidence was found within the south-eastern corner of this evaluation (WTL 009; Craven 2007a). A similar dense spread of medieval (late 12th to 14th century) features were recorded in the adjacent evaluation at HVH 064 and WTL 008, more than 60m to the east/north-east and 100m to the north respectively of the present site (Craven 2007b).
- 1.3.8 By the 15th century most of this medieval settlement had been abandoned and the land reverted to open farmland belonging to Chapel Farm (Craven 2007a, 20).

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Post-medieval to modern

1.3.9 The 1783 Hodkinson map showed the site as being empty (not illustrated). Boyton Hall, directly to the north-west of the site, was built between 1886 and 1904, when it was recorded on the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey Map (Craven 2007a, 1). All maps from the 1886 1st Edition Ordnance Survey (1:2500) to the 1981 Ordnance Survey map (1:10,000) have the site within a large open field (none illustrated). Large changes then took place within and adjacent to the site as the 1983 Ordnance Survey map (1:2,500) records that Ann Suckling Road had been built and an estate had been finished directly to the south of the site (not illustrated).

1.4 Acknowledgements

1.4.1 The author would like to thank Mr and Mrs Coppieters who commissioned and funded the work. Thanks are also extended to Stephen Morgan who helped with the fieldwork. Rachel Clarke carried out all on-site survey and Severine Bezie produced the illustrations. The project was managed by Paul Spoerry and monitored by Jess Tipper of Suffolk County Council.

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2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The original aims of the project were set out in the Brief (Tipper, 2013) and Written Scheme of Investigation (Spoerry & Atkins, 2013).
- 2.1.2 The main aims of this excavation were
 - To mitigate the impact of the development on the surviving archaeological remains. The development would have severely impacted upon these remains and as a result a full excavation was required, targeting the areas of archaeological interest highlighted by the previous phases of evaluation.
 - To preserve the archaeological evidence contained within the excavation area by record and to attempt a reconstruction of the history and use of the site.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 The methodology used followed that outlined in the Brief (Tipper 2013) and detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Spoerry & Atkins 2013). The Brief stipulated that there would be a controlled strip, map and excavation of the footprint of the new dwelling, garage and access/drive in advance of the development commencing (in accordance with the planning condition).
- 2.2.2 The area was slightly affected by a service pipe which runs parallel with, and directly to the north of, Ann Suckling Road and leads to a manhole in the verge next to the road. For health and safety reasons a *c*.3m distance was left between this service pipe and the excavation area with the access road not extended to Ann Suckling Road itself (Fig. 1).
- 2.2.3 Machine excavation was carried out by a 360° type excavator using a 2m wide flat bladed ditching bucket. under constant supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist. The 360° excavator largely removed spoil off site to the east of the excavation area.
- 2.2.4 The site survey was carried out by Rachel Clarke using a Leica 1200 series GPS. In the excavation area all features were hand drawn at 1:50 scale. Sections were drawn at 1:10 and 1:20.
- 2.2.5 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets.
- 2.2.6 Digital and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 2.2.7 Five bulk environmental samples, each of 20L, were taken, these were selected to provide coverage of all ditches and the enclosure.
- 2.2.8 The weather conditions experienced were heavy rain, resulting in surface water. This did not hamper excavation but effected the photography.

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3 Results

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The results of the excavation have been integrated with the previous Suffolk evaluation and the excavation carried out by OA East adjacent to the site (Fig. 2). There were Early Roman features within this area which probably represented two or more phases of activity. There was also a post-medieval, probable boundary, ditch and an undated ditch which is also likely to date to this period. The context list appears in Appendix A.

3.2 Late Iron Age / Roman

- 3.2.1 A curvilinear ditch was seen in both the excavation (9, 19, 26, 28, 30) and previous phases of archaeological work (HVH 065, 8, 22). When this ditch was more fully exposed, observation of its shape in plan revealed that it formed three sides of a polygonal enclosure, however the plan drawn does not accurately reflect this. This ditch was part of the northern arm of the enclosure and had straight sides with gradually curving corners. Its visible diameter was 12m and continued beyond the site's baulks. At its western end, the enclosure had been exposed by three separate archaeological investigations, therefore its exact morphology could have been altered slightly by this disturbance.
- 3.2.2 The excavated sections were on average 0.8m wide and 0.27m deep (e.g. Fig. 3, S.14). The ditch had steep sides and a flat base and was filled with a mid orange brown silty clay. No pottery was recovered during the excavation, however nine sherds of Late Iron Age pottery were found in the previous archaeological works. One small sherd of undated roof tile was recovered for the top of the ditch fill, however is is thought to be intrusive, largely the result of previous archaeological interventions. No internal features were seen within the excavated area.
- 3.2.3 To the north-west of the polygonal enclosure were two parallel ditches, 4.5m apart. These were aligned north-east to to south-west and carried on beyond the limits of excavation. Two slots were excavated through the north-western ditch. The excavation sections (13, 15) were 0.9m to 0.75m wide and 0.4m to 0.45m deep, respectively. The ditch had a steep sides and a concave base and was filled by a mid greyish brown silty clay (14,16). The curvilinear ditch seen in the previous excavation (HVH 065, 33), if projected straight would be in line with this ditch and is therefore likely to be the same feature.
- 3.2.4 The south-western ditch (**5**, **11**, **17**) had three slots placed equidistantly apart. The ditch had steep sides and a concave base and had a maximum width of 0.7m, and was 0.34m deep. It was filled by a mid greyish brown silty clay (6, 12, 18) which contained two sherds of Roman pottery. This ditch was encountered during the previous excavation and its fill (HVH 065, 23) contained a large assemblage of 1st century AD pottery (Atkins, 2013).

3.3 Post-Roman

3.3.1 Towards the western trench edge a north north-east to south south-west aligned ditch (3, 7, 21) was seen extending beyond the excavation area. The ditch was seen to truncate the polygonal enclosure. Three slots were placed within the ditch, which had steep sides and a concave base, and measured an average of 0.75m wide and 0.35m deep. The ditch contained a primary fill of light greyish brown silty clay (23,33,34) and a final, tertiary fill of dark greyish brown silty clay (4,7,21).



3.3.2 Throughout the evaluation and excavation only one small sherd of pottery dating to he medieval period was recovered from this ditch. Therefore the ditch can only tentatively be dated by means of the material culture. The ditch does truncate the polygonal enclosure suggesting that it occurred at a time when the enclosure had gone out of use and its placement in the landscape was no longer respected. The ditch was also seen to run parallel with medieval ditches observed to the west in the previous excavation and, it is suggested that they form part of the same agricultural field system.

3.4 Undated

3.4.1 At the eastern extent of the excavation area a ditch terminus (24) was recorded on a north to south alignment. Its true form and extent is unclear as very little of the feature lay inside the excavation area. The ditch was seen to terminate to the north-west and had steep sides and a flattish base. It measured 0.8m wide and 0.35m deep and was filled by a mid greyish brown silty sand (25)

3.5 Finds Summary

3.5.1 A very small assemblage of pottery and tile, comprising two sherds of Roman pottery and an undated tile fragment were found in the excavation. The assemblage was recovered from several ditches.

3.6 Environmental Summary

3.6.1 A single sheep/goat tooth fragment was also found (see Faine, Appendix C.1). Two charred barley grains was found from five bulk environmental samples taken (see Fosberry, Appendix *C.2*).

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4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The earliest phase of occupation on site dates to the Late Iron Age / Roman period, represented by a pair of parallel ditches and a polygonal enclosure.
- 4.1.2 No features or artefacts were found to date to before the Late Iron Age in the excavation or in the Suffolk County Council evaluation trenches within and adjacent to the site (Fig. 2; Craven 2007a). The lack of features or artefacts indicates that this area was utilised sparsely, and was certainly not occupied. The reason for this may be its location; on clay soil, relatively high (c. 103 AOD), and around 0.7km to the north of the River Stour. Work conducted elsewhere in East Anglia, e.g. around Thetford (Atkins and Connor 2010, 107) suggests that earlier prehistoric sites gravitated towards the lower lying ground close to rivers.

4.2 Late Iron Age / Roman

- 4.2.1 A pair of parallel ditches (**5** and **13**), set five metres apart and similar in profile and fill, ran along the length of the excavation. The eastern ditch can be dated to the Roman period. Given the uniform nature of the profiles and fills it is likely that the western ditch is of a similar date.
- 4.2.2 The presence of two parallel ditches in close proximity to one another might suggest that these represent a land division that was reworked in a slightly different position. A more likely possibility is that these ditches were open at the same time and form part of a droveway, with the two ditches acting as drainage channel on either side of the droveway.
- 4.2.3 To the east of these ditches lay a polygonal enclosure (9). There is little evidence to form a conclusive interpretation as to what function this enclosure took. Possibilities for this enclosure include a roundhouse or an enclosure for stock control.
- 4.2.4 The paucity of the material culture from this site means dating the enclosure is at best very tentative, however this may be the result of the limited nature of the excavation, with the majority of the polygonal enclosure lying underneath the modern road. Nine small sherds of pottery was recovered from the enclosure during all phases of the works, to which only a date of either the Late Iron Age or the Early Saxon period can be ascribed.
- 4.2.5 The lack of material culture suggests that this feature was not domestic in nature domestic refuse would usually be expected within the backfill of such features. Additionally ancillary features, such as rubbish pits, would normally be present adjacent to a domestic enclosure. The morphology of the feature is more polygonal in form than circular and given its diameter is 12.5m, which would make it a substantial structure, generally they have an 8m diameter, it is perhaps less likely to represent a roundhouse.
- 4.2.6 A curvilinear / polygonal form is not unknown for prehistoric stock enclosures, however, if this enclosure is of Late Iron Age / Early Roman date, stock enclosures had become more regular and rectilinear in shape by that time. Some irregular, curvilinear enclosures are known in Late Iron Age contexts, but these tend to be much larger in size. Also the enclosure was more polygonal in morphology, than curvilinear, for which there are few parallels.

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- 4.2.7 The enclosure's topographical position can also help provide an interpretation. The enclosure was located on a level plateau at 103m OD, on top of a south-west facing slope and overlooking a known Roman road (Via Devana), only 100m away. Further to this, the site's location is 0.7km from the river Stour, though the presence of a side tributary, unknown to us in the present day may be a closer source of water.
- 4.2.8 Later Iron Age to Roman habitation was more normally close to water. The site also is not in a sheltered position meaning that any domestic dwelling or stock enclosure would have been exposed to the elements. Its position in relation to access to water can be overcome by the digging of ponds to catch rainfall and use groundwater, however any such features are likely to lay outside of the excavation area.
- 4.2.9 The majority of the pottery assemblage results for one context within the possible droveway (HVH065: 23). These sherds are from two vessels and date to the Roman period. It is possible that these may have been part of a votive offering or derived from one act of rubbish disposal.
- 4.2.10 Thus interpretation as a domestic settlement can reasonably be discarded due to a lack of relevant material culture and through general consideration of morphology. The balance of evidence for the enclosure's function would suggest that it was for stock control.

4.3 Post-Roman

- 4.3.1 No definite medieval remains were found within the excavation area. (or probably from the adjacent evaluation trenches). The previous suggestion made during the evaluation (Craven 2007a), that there were features belonging to this period within the site, is now thought unlikely. The limits of the medieval settlement of Haverhill Chapel are therefore to the north of site. It had presumably been a linear settlement fronting the east to west road, c.100m to the north (Fig. 1).
- 4.3.2 Three probable post-medieval boundary ditches (HVH 065, 26,35 / HVH 083, **3**) were found on the site. Two were dated as *c*.17th/18th century whilst the other could not be closely dated.

4.4 Undated

4.4.1 A ditch terminus (24) on a north to south alignment was revealed at the very eastern edge of the excavation. This feature is on a different alignment to any other feature on site suggesting a different date or a previously unseen reorganisation of the landscape. As a very small portion of this feature was revealed within the limits of the excavation and it is undated, very little can be said about this feature at present.

4.5 Significance

- 4.5.1 The excavation has confirmed the presence of Late Iron Age to Roman activity within the site, but the very limited scope of the archaeological work means that the site is not very well understood. Part of the site has been destroyed during road and house building during the 1980s, although other areas remain presently undisturbed, directly to the east and north of the site.
- 4.5.2 Interpretation of the enclosure and the parallel ditches is putative at best, which limits assessing the site's significance. If the activity on site is part of a stock enclosure this would help show a significant expansion in settlement on to more marginal agricultural land. This is seen elsewhere in East Anglia where an increase in population is known during the Late Iron Age / Early Roman period.



APPENDIX A. CONTEXT INVENTORY

Ctxt	Category	Feature type	Cut	Same as	Function	Length(m)	Width(m)	Depth (m)
1	Layer	Topsoil				-	-	0.35
2	Layer	Natural				-	-	-
3	Cut	Ditch		7,21	Boundary	20	0.8	0.4
4	Fill	Ditch	3		Boundary	20	0.8	0.2
5	Cut	Ditch		11,17	Droveway	20.5	0.7	0.3
6	Fill	Ditch	5		Droveway	20.5	0.7	0.3
7	Cut	Ditch		3,21	Boundary	20	0.65	0.22
8	Fill	Ditch	7		Boundary	20	0.65	0.12
9	Cut	Ditch		19,26,28,30	Enclosure	12.5	0.55	0.27
10	Fill	Ditch	9		Enclosure	12.5	0.55	0.27
11	Cut	Ditch		5,17	Droveway	20.5	0.65	0.24
12	Fill	Ditch	11		Droveway	20.5	0.65	0.24
13	Cut	Ditch		15	Droveway	11	0.9	0.4
14	Fill	Ditch	13		Droveway	11	0.9	0.4
15	Cut	Ditch		13	Droveway	11	0.75	0.45
16	Fill	Ditch	15		Droveway	11	0.75	0.45
17	Cut	Ditch		5,11	Droveway	20.5	0.68	0.34
18	Fill	Ditch	17		Droveway	20.5	0.58	0.18
19	Cut	Ditch		9,26, 28,30	Enclosure	12.5	0.86	0.22
20	Fill	Ditch	19		Enclosure	12.5	0.86	0.22
21	Cut	Ditch		3,7	Boundary	20	0.8	0.4
22	Fill	Ditch	21		Boundary	20	0.8	0.3
23	Fill	Ditch	21		Boundary	20	0.8	0.1
24	Cut	Ditch			Boundary	0.75	0.8	0.34
25	Fill	Ditch	24		Boundary	0.75	0.8	0.34
26	Cut	Ditch		9,19, 28,30	Enclosure	12.5	0.83	0.25
27	Fill	Ditch	26		Enclosure	12.5	0.83	0.25
28	Cut	Ditch		9,19, 26,30	Enclosure	12.5	0.65	0.24
29	Fill	Ditch	28		Enclosure	12.5	0.65	0.24
30	Cut	Ditch		9,19, 26,28	Enclosure	12.5	0.7	0.31
31	Fill	Ditch	30		Enclosure	12.5	0.7	0.31
32	Fill	Ditch	17		Droveway	20.5	0.68	0.18
33	Fill	Ditch	3		Boundary	20	0.8	0.2
34	Fill	Ditch	7		Boundary	20	0.57	0.15

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APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Pottery

By Stephen Wadeson

Summary

- B.1.1 Two abraded fragments of Roman pottery were recovered from context 12, both sherds are sandy coarsewares typical of a utilitarian domestic assemblage. The sherds are a single Sandy Red ware (?Grog) lower wall and base fragment from a jar or flagon of unspecific type/form. The second sherd is a single Sandy Reduced ware base sherd fragment. The sherds are not closely datable due to their undiagnostic nature and only a broad date of c. mid/late 1st century to 4th century AD can be suggested.
- B.1.2 The material is domestic in origin and represents rubbish disposal, the abraded nature of the sherds indicate moderate levels of post-depositional disturbance possibly the result of middening and/or manuring as part of the waste management during the Roman period.

B.2 Ceramic Building Material

By Stephen Wadeson

Summary

B.2.1 A single small abraded fragment of ceramic building material was recorded from context 31. Most likely a part of a roofing tile the fragment can not be closely dated however a post-medieval date is suggested.

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APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Faunal Remains

By Chris Faine

C.1.1 A single fragment of sheep molar was recovered from context 12.

C.2 Environmental samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

C.2.1 Five bulk samples were taken from a number of late Iron Age/early Romano-British ditch fills within the excavated areas at plot 2, Boyton Hall, Suffolk. The purpose of this assessment is to determine whether plant remains are present, their mode of preservation and whether they are of interpretable value with regard to domestic, agricultural and industrial activities, diet, economy and rubbish disposal.

Methodology

C.2.2 The total volume (up to twenty litres) of each bulk sample was processed by water flotation (using a modified Siraff three-tank system) for the recovery of charred plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve. Both flot and residues were allowed to air dry. A magnet was dragged through each residue fraction prior to sorting for artefacts. Any artefacts present were noted and reintegrated with the hand-excavated finds. The dried flots were subsequently sorted using a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 60. Identification of plant remains is with reference to the *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands* and the authors' own reference collection. Nomenclature is according to Stace (1997).

Results

Sample No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Preservation	Flot contents	Residue comments
1	16	15	none	none	No finds
2	12	11	none	none	Sheep tooth fragment
3	22	21	none	none	No finds
4	27	26	charred	Single barley grain	No finds
5	20	19	charred	Single barley grain, hazelnut fragment.	No finds

Table 1: Environmental samples from HVH083

C.2.3 All of the samples taken from fills from linear ditches **11**, **15** and **21** were devoid of any preserved plant remains. Both of the samples (Sample 4, fill 26 and Sample 5, fill 20) taken from ditches **19** and **26** associated with polygonal enclosure contain a single charred barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) grain and Sample 5 also contains a small fragment of charred hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell.

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Discussion

C.2.4 Both barley and hazelnuts can represent culinary waste from food preparation at almost all time periods but are commonly found associated (and with the exclusion of other foodstuffs) in prehistoric deposits. The small quantities recovered are not indicative of deliberate deposition and preclude any further interpretation of the site.

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APPENDIX D. WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

Specification for Archaeological Excavation (Written Scheme of Investigation)

Site Name: Plot 2, Land adjacent, Boyton

Hall, Haverhill CB97TA

Site Code: tbc

County (Grid Ref): (TL 675 465)

Project No: 16241

Planning App. SE/12/1329/OUT

Client: Mr & Mrs Coppieters

Date: 11/11/2013

Author: Paul Spoerry & Rob Atkins

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Specification for Archaeological Excavation

(Written Scheme of Investigation)

Oxford Archaeology Ltd is an Institute of Field Archaeologists Registered Organisation and follows IFA By-Laws, Standards and Policy.

Site Name: Plot 2, Land adjacent, Boyton Hall, Haverhill

CB9 7TA

Site Code: tbc

County (Grid Ref): Suffolk TL 675 465

Project No.: 16241
Project Type: Excavation

Event No.: tbc

Planning App. No.: SE/12/1329/OUT Client: Mr & Mrs Coppieters

Date: 11/11/13

Author: Paul Spoerry & Rob Atkins

1 General Background

This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared on behalf of clients in response to a condition on planning application. It conforms to the outline in MoRPHE Project Planning Note 3: Archaeological Excavation.

The site is located at the far north-eastern corner of Haverhill on the northern side of Ann Suckling Road, adjacent to the south-east of Boyton Hall. The site comprises a single plot with the footprint of the the new dwelling, garage and and access/drive to be excavated by controlled strip map and excavation. Partly within the site a previous trench evaluation in 2007 found an undated ditch which was thought likely to be of medieval date, with Iron Age/Roman and medieval features just beyond further to the east (Craven 2007a Land at Boyton Hall, Haverhill, Suffolk HVH 065 and WLT 009 Suffolk CC Archaeological Service report 2007/144)

1.1 Circumstances of the Project

The site has been identified by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service

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Conservation Team (SCCAS/CT) as having potential for archaeological deposits that may be disturbed by the proposed development.

SCCAS/CT has advised the Local Planning Authority (LPA) that any planning consent should be conditional upon an agreed programme of work taking place before development begins in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (Paragraph 141), to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets (that might be present at this location) before they are damaged or destroyed.

A Brief for Archaeological Evaluation (Jess Tipper 16/10/13) has been issued by SCCAS/CT which outlines the requirements for the excavation, with a controlled strip map and excavation required prior to the development taking place.

This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) sets out the methodology that OAEast will use in order to meet the requirements of the Brief and to comply with the SCCAS/CT standard Requirements for Archaeological Excavation (2012 Ver 1.1).

This WSI is not a sufficient basis for the discharge of the planning condition relating to archaeological investigation in itself. Only the full implementation of the scheme, both completion of fieldwork and reporting, will enable SCCAS/CT to advise the LPA that the condition has been adequately fulfilled and can be discharged

1.2 The Geology of the Site

The British Geological Survey records that the Solid Geology for the site is on Till comprising chalky, sandy and stony clay of the Lowestoft Formation (BGS 2002 Saffron Walden sheet 205 Solid and Drift Edition 1:50 000 series).

The site is on a level plateau at *c*.105m OD, at the top of a south-west facing slope overlooking the Stour Brook and modern Haverhill.

1.3 The Proposed Development

The development involves the construction of a new dwelling, garage and access drive.

2 Archaeological and Historical Background

The proposed new development lies within a known area of archaeological interest:

Iron Age/Roman settlement

Adjacent and c.20m to the east of the site, two Iron Age/Roman ditches (0002 and

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0008) were recorded during the 2007 trial trench evaluation (Craven 2007a, 13 (trenches 9 and 11)). The extent of this putative settlement remained uncertain until the adjacent Plot 1 was excavated in September 2013 (Atkins 2013). Here the features seen in evaluation were confirmed as comprising part of a probable Late Iron Age round house, and enclosure and an Early Roman boundary ditch. These lie close to the boundary with the subject site and will doubtless extend into this area.

Aside from the adjacent plot, wo areas of archaeological evaluation (HVH 064 and WTL 008); more than 60m to the east/north-east and c.100m to the north respectively, found a scatter of features including two Roman ditches at HVH 064 (Craven 2007b Land north-west of Haverhill, Suffolk, HVH 064 and WTL 008 SCCAS report 2007/140).

The site is on higher clay ground away from the River Stour, unlike most Later Iron Age to Roman domestic sites locally,, which tend to lie adjacent to the Stour River (Ibid, 19).

Medieval-modern

The proposed new development lies under 100m to the south-east of the former medieval settlement of the recorded Haverhill Chapel (HVH 046). This settlement was shown on the very small scale 1783 Hodkinson map as surviving as only three structures with the name 'Haverhill Chapel' recorded adjacent (Craven 2007a including fig. 2). These three structures had gone soon afterwards as only empty fields were shown in this location on the 1886 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map.

Archaeological work near to these former structures has found Late Saxon to medieval remains, and shows that the original settlement had been larger in size. In 2007 a trenched evaluation found an undated ditch (0006; in trench 9 located partly within the site) aligned north-east to south-west, which was thought likely to be of medieval date (Craven 2007a). This ditch was on the same alignment as two medieval ditches (0004 and 0010) c.30m to the east of the site (ibid). As part of the same evaluation, but within a different field located between 100m and 200m to the north-west of the site, Late Saxon/early medieval (c.10th to 11th century) to 14th century occupation evidence was found within the south-eastern corner of this evaluation (WTL 009; Craven 2007a). A similar dense spread of medieval late 12th to 14th century features were recorded in the adjacent evaluation at HVH 064 and WTL 008, more than 60m to the east/north-east and c.100m to the north respectively of the present site (Craven 2007b).

By the 15th century most of this settlement had been abandoned and the land reverted to open farmland belonging to Chapel Farm (Craven 2007a, 20).

The site is directly to the north of an east to west road recorded on the 1st Edition Ordnance survey map, and this road seems to cut fields aligned north-east to south-west.

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Boyton Hall, directly to the north-west of the site, was built between 1886 and 1904 when it was recorded on the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey Map (Craven 2007a, 1).

3 Aims and Objectives

The main aim of the project will be to preserve the archaeological evidence contained within the excavation area by record and to attempt a reconstruction of the history and use of the site.

3.1 Prehistoric

Little potential is offered with no pre-Iron Age features recorded within adjacent evaluations.

3.2 Iron Age and Roman

The site is within an Iron Age/Roman settlement and it is likely that remains of this date are present. This project offers the opportunity to gain a larger sample of all types of evidence, artefactual, ecofactual and structural, from a later Iron Age to Roman settlement site lying in a topographically unexpected position. The extent of the individual buildings and enclosures seen in the evaluation and in Plot 1 will be more clearly defined.

3.3 Anglo-Saxon

The research themes identified as relevant for the medieval period below more usually have their genesis in earlier centuries; village/settlement formation is now recognised as having a key moment for some landscapes in the Late Saxon period for example.

In that sense it has features allied with for example The Whittlewood Forest which has been studied in great detail in recent years (Jones and Page 2006 *Medieval villages in an English landscape: beginnings and ends* (Windgather Press: Macclesfield)). Any evidence for Late Saxon settlement growth should be assessed in that context.

3.4 Medieval

The regional research agenda and strategy document identified the following

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generic research theme for rural archaeology in East Anglia, regardless of period, but which in this instance can be applied effectively to remains expected on this site:

Settlement patterns and field systems.

The region's distinctive patterns of fields, farms, hamlets and villages are vital to an understanding of past social organisation and economy, and form the matrix of the historic environment. (Brown and Glazebrook 2000, 57 Research and : a Framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. Research Agenda and Strategy. EAA Occ paper no. 8).

"The origins and development of the different rural settlement types need further research, also the dynamics of medieval settlement. Much of the region has primarily a dispersed pattern, not nucleated, and more small hamlets are being discovered all the time. More data will add to our understanding of the way places appear, grow, shift and disappear" (Medlycott 2011, 70 Research and archaeology revisited: a revised framework for the East of England E. Anglian Archaeol. Occ pap no. 24 (ALGAO))

The particular circumstances here are of a village largely abandoned in the 14th century but a core area around a church, formerly c.100m to the north-west, continuing into the 19th century.

At this site there is clear evidence to suggest that information regarding the evolution of village form, particularly in respect of the establishment, growth and utilisation may be potentially recoverable but the development area at up to 250 sq m is very small and this potential is uncertain. Any remains of this period can be compared with the results of the two adjacent large trial trench evaluations (Craven 2007a and b).

3.5 Post-Medieval

This site is likely to have been within open fields from the late medieval into post-medieval periods and there is low potential for remains.

4 Timetable of Excavation

It is estimated that the fieldwork will take approximately up to 1 working week to complete following machining. These figures do not allow for delays caused by bad weather or any additional works beyond the current agreed limits of the excavation area. Working days are based on a 5-day working week, Monday to Friday.

5 Methods

The open area will be opened using a 360° excavator with a toothless ditching

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bucket, exposing the footprint of house, drive and garage. All mechanical excavation will take place under supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist.

All excavation areas will be cleaned as necessary to facilitate the identification of archaeological features and buried soils. All features will be mapped onto a base plan either by hand (1:50 or 1:100) or using a Total Station Theodolite, as appropriate. The survey data will be made available in digital format for transfer to the Heritage Environment Record (HER) GIS system. A plan showing all significant features will be located on the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

Established excavation and recording methodology will be used as has been generally employed on rural sites in Eastern England, a system closely based upon the DUA manuals of London Museum, and utilising single-context recording where appropriate. A Project Manager will monitor the work of the site director (Project Officer). Experienced excavators will be used to ensure accuracy of excavation and recording. Regular communication between PM/PO will ensure that the work programme and research direction is kept to, and that the recording strategy develops in the light of excavation results and input from finds, environmental and other specialists. On-site records checking and matrix creation will be kept up to date and will be carried out by key site personnel. Photographic records and hand-drawn sections will be completed to recognised standards.

A minimum 50% of each discrete feature will be excavated unless it is unsafe to do so. 100% of features forming part of structures will normally be excavated. Where linear features are not directly related to settlement they will be excavated sufficient to provide evidence for an informed interpretation of their date and function (minimum of 10%). Where linear features are directly related to settlement, a minimum of 25% of each feature will be excavated.

Each feature will be individually documented on context sheets and hand drawn in section and plan at an appropriate scale (1:10 or 1:20).

Strategy for finds recovery: A standard policy of hand-recovery of all finds encountered during feature excavation will be adopted. Finds will be processed during the fieldwork phase to enable interpretation and decision-making. All finds will be retained until assessment is conducted. Spoil will be scanned visually and with a metal detector to aid recovery of artefacts. Where large deposits are encountered, consideration will be given to sampling strategies for finds recovery. This will be a matter for proposal and discussion with SCCAS and relevant specialists

Monochrome and digital photographs will form the photographic archive.

Bulk samples will be taken by the excavator and in consultation with the English Heritage Regional Scientific Advisor and the project's environmental specialists (coordinated by Rachel Fosberry) where practicable, to test for the presence and potential of micro- and macro-botanical environmental indicators. If buried soils

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are encountered a soil micromorphology specialist will be consulted. The results of any analysis will be included in the excavation report. If occupation levels and building fills are encountered an appropriate sampling scheme for artefacts and ecofacts will be devised in consultation with SCCAS and the relevant specialists. The general environmental sampling strategy will include the following:-

- 40 litre samples will normally be taken from all relevant excavated contexts.
- Usually only a proportion only of these samples will be floated and sorted for assessment, before final analysis strategy is adopted.
- In the case of small, discrete features and low volume deposits 100% sampling will be adopted. In these cases a strategic decision will be taken in relation to the need to retrieve dating evidence which may result in early flotation and/or hand-recovery of artefacts in laboratory conditions during the ongoing field programme.
- In all cases potential for soil sample analysis for other datasets will be determined before all bulk sample volume is floated or otherwise disposed of.

If Human remains are encountered, SCCAS?CT and the client will be informed. No further excavation will take place until removal becomes necessary, this will only be carried out in accordance with all appropriate Environmental Health regulations and will only occur after a Ministry of Justice licence has been obtained. Due to the wide range of variables costs of excavation, removal and analysis of human remains are **not included** in any statement of costs accompanying or associated with this specification.

6 Report, Oasis record and Archive

A suitable level of documentary research will be undertaken in order to determine the expected archaeological character of the site. The Suffolk HER will be consulted and existing information from historical sources and previous archaeological finds and investigations in the vicinity will be collated. The likely archaeological potential of the site will then be assessed with regard to current regional and national research issues and preservation criteria.

Post-excavation tasks and report writing will take around 4 weeks following the end of fieldwork, unless there are exceptional discoveries requiring more lengthy analysis. The limited size of the excavation means a full report will be written. A copy marked DRAFT will be presented to SCCAS/CT for approval (a summary statement of results, however, can be produced more quickly if required). A single hard copy of the report as well as a digital copy will be deposited with the SHER.

An Oasis record has been initiated for this project (oxfordar3-158835). The OASIS record will be submitted on completion of the report.

All artefactual material recovered will be held in storage by OA East and ownership of all such archaeological finds will be given over to Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service to facilitate future study and ensure proper preservation of all artefacts. In the unlikely event that artefacts of significant monetary value are discovered, and if they are not subject to Treasure Act

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legislation separate ownership arrangements may be negotiated. It is Oxford Archaeology Ltd's policy, in line with accepted practice, to keep site archives (paper and artefactual) together wherever possible. All archives will comply in format with MAP 2 recommendations and will comply with SCCAS/CT Archive Guidelines 2010.

7 Staffing and Support

The following staff will form the project team:

- 1 x Project Manager (supervisory only, not based on site)
- 1 x Project Officer/Supervisor (full time)
- 1-2 x Site Assistant (part time, as required)
- 1 x Finds Assistant (part time, as required)
- 1 x Illustrator for post-excavation work (part time)

The Project Manager will be Paul Spoerry and Project Officer/Supervisor will be Helen Stocks-Morgan. Names, qualifications and experience of other key project personnel will be communicated to SCCAS before the commencement of fieldwork. All Site Assistants will be drawn from a pool of qualified and experienced staff. The Contractor will not employ volunteer amateur or student staff, whether paid or unpaid, to fulfil any of the above tasks except as an addition to the stated team

Specialists will be employed for consultation and analysis as necessary. It is anticipated that the site at Plot 2, Land adjacent, Boyton Hall, Haverhill may produce Iron Age, Roman, Late Saxon-medieval remains and there will be sampling of environmental remains. Sarah Percival/Alice Lyons/Steve Wadeson will be asked to comment on Iron Age pottery and Roman pottery and Dr Paul Spoerry and Carole Fletcher will be asked to assess any Saxon/medieval pottery. Environmental analysis will be carried out by OA East staff in consultation with Liz Huckerby and the results will be conveyed to the English Heritage Regional Scientific Advisor (Helen Chappell). Faunal remains will be examined by Chris Faine. Conservation will be undertaken by Colchester Museums. In the event that these specialists are unable to undertake the work within the time constraints of the project or if other remains are found specialists from the list at Appendix 1 will be approached to carry out analysis.

8 Further Considerations

8.1 Insurance

OA East is covered by Public and Employer's Liability Insurance. The underwriting company is Allianz Cornhill Insurance plc, policy number SZ/14939479/06. Details of the policy can be seen at the OA East office.

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8.2 Services, Public Rights of Way, Tree Preservation Orders etc.

The client will inform the project manager of any live or disused cables, gas pipes, water pipes or other services that may be affected by the proposed excavations before the commencement of fieldwork. Hidden cables/services should be clearly identified and marked where necessary. The client will likewise inform the project manager of any public rights of way or permissive paths on or near the land which might affect or be affected by the work. The client will also inform the project manager of any trees subject to Tree Preservation Orders within the subject site or on its boundaries

8.3 Site Security

Unless previously agreed with the Project Manager in writing, this specification and any associated statement of costs is based on the assumption that the site will be sufficiently secure for archaeological work to commence. All security requirements, including fencing, padlocks for gates etc. are the responsibility of the client.

8.4 Access

The client will secure access to the site for archaeological personnel and plant, and obtain the necessary permissions from owners and tenants to place a mobile office and portable toilet on or near to the site. Any costs incurred to secure access, or incurred as a result of withholding of access will not be OA East's responsibility. The costs of any delays as a result of withheld access will be passed on to the client in addition to the project costs already specified.

8.5 Site Preparation

The client is responsible for clearing the site and preparing it so as to allow archaeological work to take place without further preparatory works, and any cost statement accompanying or associated with this specification is offered on this basis. Unless previously agreed in writing, the costs of any preparatory work required, including tree felling and removal, scrub or undergrowth clearance, removal of concrete or hard standing, demolition of buildings or sheds, or removal of excessive overburden, refuse or dumped material, will be charged to the client, in addition to any costs for archaeological evaluation already agreed.

8.6 Backfilling/Reinstatement

Backfilling of the trenches will probably be carried out by the client but only after SCCAS/CT are satisfied that the area has been sufficiently recorded and investigated.

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8.7 Monitoring

SCCAS/CT will be informed appropriately of dates and arrangements to allow for adequate monitoring of the works.

8.8 Health and Safety, Risk Assessment

A risk assessment covering all activities carried out during the lifetime of the project will be drawn up prior to fieldwork. This draws on OA East's activity-specific risk assessment literature and conforms with CDM requirements.

All aspects of the project, both in the field and in the office will be conducted according to OA East's Health and Safety Policy, Oxford Archaeology Ltd's Health and Safety Policy, and *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology* (J.L. Allen and A. St John-Holt, 1997). A copy of OA East's Health and Safety Policy can be supplied on request.

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APPENDIX 1: CONSULTANT SPECIALISTS

SPECIALISM ORGANISATION NAME Bishop, Barry Lithics Freelance Booth, Paul Roman pottery and coins Oxford Archaeology Boreham, Steve Pollen and soils/ geology Cambridge University Brown, Lisa Prehistoric Pottery Oxford Archaeology Brundell, Matt Bronze Age& Iron Age pottery Freelance illustration & reconstruction Cane, Jon Freelance Small Find Assemblages Crummy, Nina Freelance Dodwell, Natasha **Human Bone** Freelance Evans, Jerry Roman pottery Freelance Faine, Chris Animal bone Oxford Archaeology Fletcher, Carole Medieval pot Oxford Archaeology French, Charlie Soil micromorphology Cambridge University Fryer, Val Molluscs/environmental Freelance Lyons, Alice Late Iron Age/Roman pottery Oxford Archaeology Knight, Mark Neolithic pottery Freelance Macaulay, Stephen Roman pottery Oxford Archaeology Masters, Pete geophysics Cranfield University Aerial photographs Air Photo Services Palmer, Rog Percival, Sarah Prehistoric pottery Freelance Popescu, Adrian Roman coins Fitzwilliam Museum Powell, Kelly Roman small finds Oxford Archaeology Robinson, Mark Insects Freelance Sealey, Paul Iron Age pottery Freelance Shafrey, Ruth Worked stone, cbm Oxford Archaeology Smith, Wendy Plant remains Oxford Archaeology Oxford Archaeology Spoerry, Paul Medieval pottery

Radiocarbon dating is normally undertaken for OA East by SUERC.

Geophysical prospection is normally undertaken by Cranfield University or Bartlet Clark Consultancy

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APPENDIX E. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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APPENDIX F. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details								
OASIS Number								
Project Name								
Project Dates (fields	vork) Start			Finish				
Previous Work (by 0	DA East)			Future \	Work			
Project Reference (Codes							
Site Code	Planning App. No.							
HER No.	HER No.			HER/OASIS N	0.			
Type of Project/Tec Prompt Please select all								
Field Observation (pe	<u> </u>	Part Exc	avation		☐ Sal	Salvage Record		
Full Excavation (100%	%)	☐ Part Sur	vey		Systematic Field Walking			
☐ Full Survey		Recorde	Recorded Observation			tematic Metal Detector Survey		
Geophysical Survey		Remote	Remote Operated Vehicle Survey			☐ Test Pit Survey		
Open-Area Excavatio	n	Salvage Excavation			☐ Watching Brief			
Monument Types/S List feature types using to Thesaurus together w	he NMR Monu	ıment Type	Thesau features/f	Urus and significan		ng the MDA Object type "none". Period		
						- Oneu		
Project Location	n							
County			Site Address (including postcode if possible)			postcode if possible)		
District								
Parish								
HER								
Study Area			1	National Grid Re	eference			



Project Originators Organisation **Project Brief Originator** Project Design Originator Project Manager Supervisor **Project Archives Physical Archive** Paper Archive Digital Archive **Archive Contents/Media** Physical Digital Paper **Digital Media** Paper Media Contents Contents Contents **Animal Bones** П □ Database Aerial Photos Ceramics □GIS Context Sheet Environmental Geophysics ☐ Correspondence Glass ☐ Images ☐ Diary **Human Bones** ☐ Illustrations □ Drawing Industrial ☐ Manuscript Leather ☐ Spreadsheets □ Мар Metal Survey ☐ Matrices Stratigraphic ☐ Text Microfilm Survey ☐ Virtual Reality Misc. Textiles Research/Notes Wood ☐ Photos Worked Bone Plans Worked Stone/Lithic Report None П П ☐ Sections Other Survey Notes:

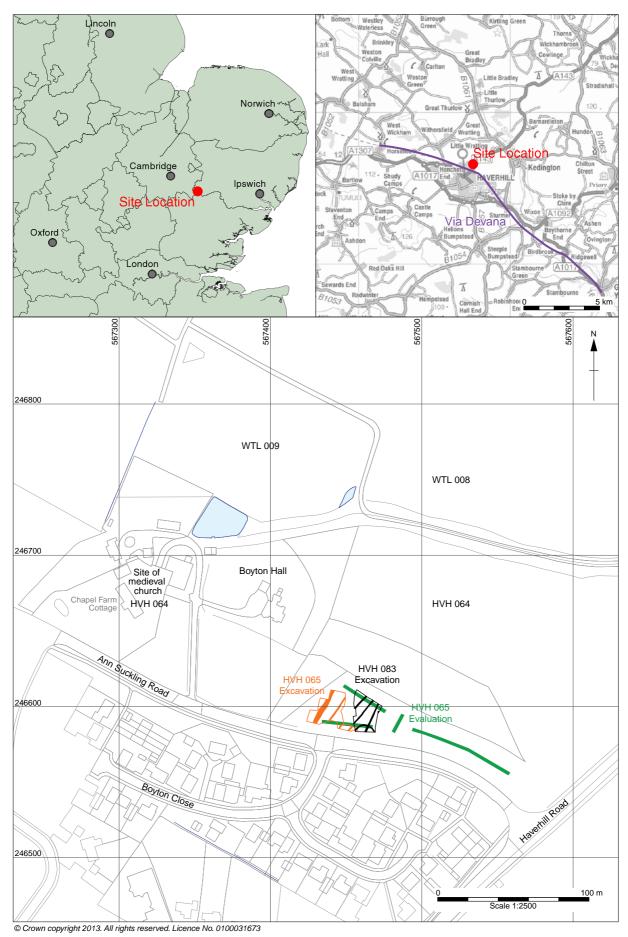


Figure 1: Site Location with excavation area, related 2007 evaluation trenches and adjacent SHER records





Figure 2: Excavation area overlaying Suffolk evaluation trenches at HVH 065 and the excavation HVH 065

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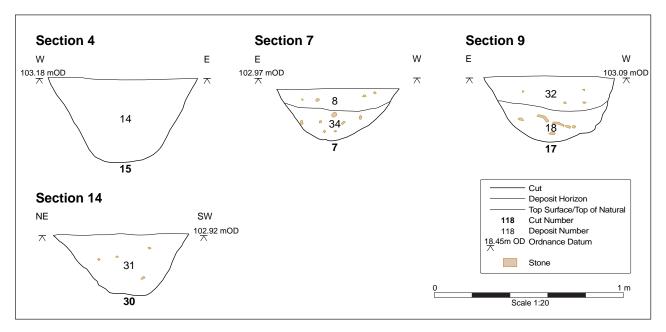


Figure 3: Selected sections

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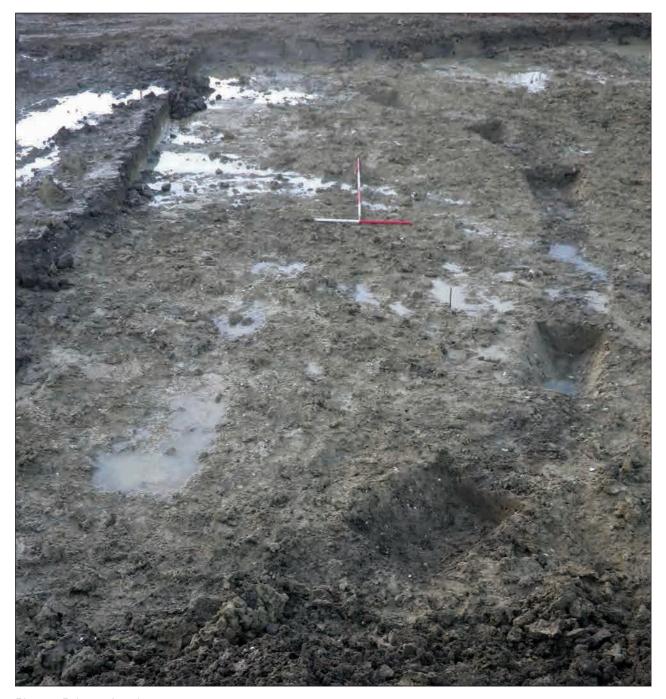


Plate 1: Polygonal enclosure 9

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Head Office/Registered Office/ OA South

Janus House Osney Mead Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44(0)1865 263800 f: +44(0)1865 793496

e:info@oxfordarchaeology.com w:http://oxfordarchaeology.com

OA North

Mill 3 Moor Lane Lancaster LA11GF

t:+44(0)1524 541000 f:+44(0)1524 848606 e:oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com w:http://oxfordarchaeology.com

OAEast

15 Trafalgar Way Bar Hill Cambridgeshire CB23 8SQ

t:+44(0)1223 850500 e:oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com w:http://oxfordarchaeology.com



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