# rchaeological Evaluation Repor

# Land South of Worlington Road Mildenhall: Stage 2



Archaeological Evaluation Report



September 2015

Client: CgMs on behalf of Trumpington Land Ltd.

OA East Report No: OASIS No: oxfordar3-221296 NGR: TL 7064 7408



# Land South of Worlington Road, Mildenhall

Stage 2: Archaeological Evaluation

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Report Number: 1825

Site Name: Land South of Worlington Road, Mildenhall: Stage 2

**HER Event No:** MNL 710

Date of Works: August 2015

Client Name: CgMs on behalf of Trumpington Land Ltd.

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# Summary

Between 10th and 19th August 2015 Oxford Archaeology East carried out the second phase of an archaeological evaluation on land south of Worlington Road, Mildenhall. The first stage of the evaluation excavated seven 30m trenches in February 2014 (Moan 2014), targeting anomalies seen on the geophysical survey (Prestidge 2013). In the second stage, a further 16 trenches were added. Trenches were positioned to target the continuation of potential features identified in the first stage, and to further evaluate the archaeological potential of the development area by investigating blank areas between the earlier trenches.

A number of archaeological features were identified, including a series of Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age pits across Trenches 12, 16 and 17, and two Middle Iron Age ditches in Trench 20. Prehistoric finds were also recovered from a series of natural hollows across the site. Features yielded a number of pieces of worked flint including a Mesolithic bladelet and a Late Neolithic sub-circular, invasively retouched knife. Prehistoric pottery dating from the Late Neolithic to the Middle Iron Age was also recovered, including sherds of Grooved Ware, Beaker and Collared Urn.



# 1 Introduction

# 1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted at land south of Worlington Road, Mildenhall, Suffolk (TL 7064 7408) (Fig. 1), supplementing an earlier stage of evaluation carried out in February 2014 (Moan 2014). The work was required in advance of a small residential development.
- 1.1.2 This archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued in January 2014 by Matthew Brudenell, then of Suffolk County Council (SCC; Planning Application DC/13/0927/OUT), and updated for a second stage of evaluation. The Brief was supplemented by a Specification prepared by CgMs and OA East (Flitcroft and Mortimer 2015).
- 1.1.3 The work was designed to act on results from the earlier trenching phase and to assist in defining the character and extent of 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). The results will enable decisions to be made by SCC, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.
- 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 site is situated on a chalk geology of different ages, belonging variously to the Zig Zag Chalk Formation, the Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation, the New Pit Chalk Formation and the Melbourn Rock Member. This is overlain by sand and gravel river terrace deposits in the south-eastern half of the site. No superficial deposits are recorded in the north-western half of the development area (BGS 2010: http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html; accessed 20/08/15)
- 1.2.2 The site is located to the south-west of Mildenhall and to the south of the River Lark. It is also approximately 50m south of the historic core of the town. The land is relatively flat, with an elevation between 5 and 10mOD, and is currently in use as arable farmland. The evaluated area is bounded to the north by Worlington Road, to the east and west by residential housing, and by arable farmland to the south.

# 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 Thorough background research was undertaken by CgMs prior to commencement of the initial stage of work, and is replicated in parts below (Clark & Flitcroft 2013; Fig. 3).

# **Prehistoric**

- 1.3.2 Some Palaeolithic and Mesolithic findspots are located nearby, with four Lower Palaeolithic hand-axes (MSF 9234) recorded as being recovered from Mildenhall High Street and a single Mesolithic blade tool (MSF 9254) from Lark Close, approximately 800m north-east of the site.
- 1.3.3 Records of Neolithic finds are more prevalent, with a scatter of Early Neolithic struck flint (BTM 040) being recovered from the excavation at Bridge House Dairies, immediately east of the site. Two Late Neolithic Grooved Ware vessels were also recorded from the site.



- 1.3.4 A polished stone axe (BTM 002) was found 300m east of the study area, near Mildenhall Bridge; slightly further east a scatter of Neolithic flints and one sherd of pottery (MNL 499) were found during fieldwalking.
- 1.3.5 Two pits containing Early Bronze Age Beaker pottery, along with other pottery dating to the Bronze Age, were excavated at Bridge House Dairies directly to the east. Up to thirteen possible Late Bronze Age cremations were also identified, with one of the two distinct burial areas being located very close to the boundary of the current site.
- 1.3.6 Iron Age remains are extensive in the surrounding area, with the excavations at Bridge House Dairies (BTM040) revealing Iron Age boundary ditches demarcating parts of three rectilinear enclosures, with interconnecting tracks, which extended beyond the excavated area. Large numbers of pits were recorded, mostly in the eastern part of the excavation, but two clusters were located near to the western boundary. Pottery recovered suggests this settlement was occupied within the 3rd to 1st centuries BC. A single, female inhumation was recorded on the site and dated to this period. A further burial is recorded immediately south of the current site (BTM011) which is also thought to date to this period.
- 1.3.7 Further evidence of Iron Age settlement was identified 800m north-east at Recreation Way (MNL622).

# Roman

1.3.8 A single Roman coin and a small settlement site (MNL622) is recorded on the north side of the River Lark, and Roman metalwork is reported from fields east of Station Road, 400m east of the study site (MNL499). Further metalwork is known from the site itself through metal detected finds.

### Saxon

1.3.9 A single Saxon pit was identified on the Bridge House Dairies site, directly to the east of the evaluation. A possible inhumation (BTM009) is located 300m east of the site that may also be of this period.

# Medieval to modern

- 1.3.10 The evaluation area lies outside the historic core of Mildenhall and is assumed to have formed agricultural or pasture land through the medieval and post-medieval periods. No HER records for these dates are recorded.
- 1.3.11 The 1796 Barton Mills enclosure Map (Clark & Flitcroft 2013: Fig. 5) shows the evaluation area to consist of two fields, and these boundaries remained in place until after 1959, where they are seen on the Ordnance Survey map of that date. By 1970 the boundary separating the two fields had been removed (Clark & Flitcroft 2013: Fig. 9) to form the field that is in use today.

# Geophysical Survey

- 1.3.12 The archaeological potential of the site was assessed through a detailed gradiometry survey undertaken in October 2013 (Prestidge 2013). No obvious concentrations of archaeological anomalies were identified.
- 1.3.13 Possible archaeological anomalies were noted within the south and east of the survey area, consisting of a negative linear anomaly, a small, positive curvilinear anomaly and a number of small, roughly circular positive anomalies. The negative anomaly was thought possibly to relate to an historic field boundary; the positive features were interpreted as likely to be of natural origin.



# Stage 1 Evaluation

1.3.14 Seven trenches were excavated in February 2014, targeting anomalies seen on the geophysical survey. A post-medieval boundary ditch was present in two trenches and two undated ditches and a tree throw were found in another. A single sherd of Romano-British pottery, one flint and some animal bone were recovered from the features. No other features of archaeological interest were encountered.

# 1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 Thanks are extended to CgMs consulting and their client Trumpington Land Limited, who funded the work. The project was managed by Richard Mortimer and Matt Brudenell, and excavated by the author alongside Matt Brooks, Ashley Pooley and Toby Knight.
- 1.4.2 Rachel Abraham, of the Suffolk Archaeological Service Conservation Team, monitored the site. Site survey was carried out by David Brown and the figures and plates were produced by Severine Bezie.
- 1.4.3 Thanks also to Vida Rajkovača, Lawrence Billington, Sarah Percival and Matt Brudenell for writing the finds reports along with Rachel Fosberry who compiled the environmental report.



# 2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

# 2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 The objectives of this evaluation were, primarily, to determine as far as reasonably possible the location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the proposed development site.
- 2.1.2 Following on from the first stage of evaluation, a further aim was to check the alignments of, and attempt to date, the possible ditches found during Stage 1 of the evaluation; also to evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the potential for colluvial/alluvial deposits. The outcome of this work will aid formulation of further measures as necessary to mitigate impact of the proposed development on any surviving archaeological remains.

# 2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 In order to raise the total percentage of evaluated land to 5% of the proposed development area, the Specification called for fifteen 30m trenches to be excavated. This was in response to a Brief for the initial phase of the evaluation (Brudenell 2014). A further three contingency trenches were reserved, to be employed as appropriate during excavation. One such trench was excavated in the middle of the site, to ensure an even coverage of trenches, meaning that 16 trenches were excavated in total (Trenches 8-23, Fig. 2). In addition, Trench 8 required a short extension and was excavated to a total length of 39m, resulting in trenching totalling 489 metres.
- 2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a tracked 360 excavator using a toothless ditching bucket.
- 2.2.3 The site survey was carried out by David Brown using a Leica CS10/GS08 GPS. Trenches were labelled 8-23 following on from the Stage 1 of evaluation.
- 2.2.4 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 2.2.5 Environmental samples were taken from four archaeological features, comprising a representative sample of features encountered. A further sample was taken from the base of a colluvial deposit within a large, naturally formed solution hollow, to test the potential for environmental data within colluvial layers on site.
- 2.2.6 Conditions on site were predominantly warm and dry, with only short periods of light rain. Site conditions had no adverse impact on the process of excavation.



# 3 Results

# 3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The results are presented below with trenches containing archaeology (Trenches 8, 12-13, 16-17 and 20-21) discussed individually and a brief discussion of the empty trenches at the end; a full context inventory and description for each trench can be found in Appendix A.

# 3.2 Trench 8

- 3.2.1 Trench 8 was aligned perpendicular to the road in the north west corner of the site. At the north end of the trench, an irregularly shaped periglacial feature (37) was present which contained a single fill (36) consisting of light greyish brown silty sand. The feature was investigated with two test slots; the sides and base were irregular with sharp breaks of slope, and it was up to 0.3m deep. The fill contained a small amount of animal bone, burnt flints along with sherds of medieval pot and a piece of clay pipe stem. These finds were all relatively close to the surface and may represent intrusions from plough disturbance.
- 3.2.2 At the south end of the trench, a large natural solution hollow, 21.5m long and 0.78m deep was recorded (Fig. 3). The hollow was filled with colluvial deposit 38/42, which consisted of a light brownish grey silty sand with frequent dark brownish red oxidised patches and inclusions of chalk, flint and occasional charcoal flecks.
- 3.2.3 Two 1m by 1m hand-dug test pits were initially excavated to a depth of 0.50m through the colluvial deposit to characterise it. The test pits did not reach the base of the hollow, but recovered animal bone and 9 sherds of early prehistoric pottery, including three sherds of Beaker. A total of 11 pieces of struck flint and 29g of unworked burnt flint were also recovered, including a small discoidal core characteristic of the Late Neolithic and a small end scraper of Early Bronze Age date. A machine cut sondage was subsequently excavated at the northern edge of the deposit (Plate 1). This reached the base of the hollow, which was 0.78m deep.

# 3.3 Trench 12

- 3.3.1 Trench 12 was positioned perpendicular to the road, in the south west quarter of the site. Five features were recorded in the trenches, included three pits, a pit/hollow and a posthole/pit (Fig. 4).
- 3.3.2 At the south end of the trench, a small, shallow squarish pit (49) was excavated. The pit was 0.70m wide, displaying slightly irregular sides with a gradual break of slope to a broad, concave base 0.16m deep. The pit was filled with a dark greyish brown silty sand with flint gravel inclusions (fill 50), and yielded two Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age worked flints, burnt stone and several pieces of animal bone.
- 3.3.3 A larger irregular pit or hollow **51** was excavated towards the centre of the trench. This feature was 2.3m wide and 0.64m deep. It extended beyond the limits of the trench to both the east and west, but the edges were beginning to curve inwards, suggesting a broadly sub-circular shape. The sides sloped down gently from the surface, becoming slightly steeper towards the concave base. The basal fill (53) was a mid yellowish brown silty sand with patches of clean yellow natural, representing the initial silting of the feature. The main, upper fill (52) was a mid greyish brown silty sand with flint gravel inclusions; this was a secondary deposit containing worked and burnt flints.



- 3.3.4 To the north of pit **51**, three small features were excavated, two of which have been classified as pits, the third a posthole or pit. The smallest feature, posthole/pit **54**, was 0.3m in diameter and 0.1m deep with steep sides and a sharp break of slope to a narrow concave base. The single disuse fill (55) was light greyish brown in colour and contained no finds. Pit **56** was larger at 0.5m in diameter and 0.14m deep; again the sides were steep with a narrow concave base. The fill (57) was a dark greyish brown silty sand and contained a worked flint core.
- 3.3.5 Pit **74** was sub-circular, measuring 0.7m long, 0.55m wide and 0.3m deep. The sides were near-vertical, whilst the base was flattish and irregular. The main fill (76) was a dark greyish brown loose silty sand yielding four sherds of Early Bronze Age Collared Urn. In addition, 1g of burnt flint and eight worked flints were recovered; two fine end scrapers, hard hammer struck flakes and an irregular flake core typical of the Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age. Animal bone fragments including a pig's tooth. Fill 76 was environmentally sampled and yielded fragments of charred hazelnut. The upper fill (75) comprised a light yellowish brown loose silty sand containing no finds.

# 3.4 Trench 13

- 3.4.1 Trench 13 was positioned near the centre of the southern extent of the site. A shallow pit or hollow (31) was recorded at the south end of the trench. The feature was subcircular, measuring 0.9m long, 0.6m wide and 0.14m deep, with gentle sloping sides and a fairly irregular, concave base. The single fill (32) was a dark greyish brown loose sandy silt with gravel inclusions. The feature contained no finds.
- 3.4.2 A shallow ditch (33) ran east to west through the trench to the north of pit/hollow 31. The ditch was 0.8m wide and 0.18m deep with gently sloping sides and a shallow concave base. The basal fill (35) was a mid yellowish brown loose silty sand. The upper fill (34) was a light greyish brown loose silty sand; neither fill contained finds. The alignment of the ditch followed that of the road and current field boundaries and it was sealed by the subsoil. Similar ditches (61 & 63) were recorded in Trench 16.

# 3.5 Trench 16

- 3.5.1 Trench 16 was positioned east of Trench 13 near the southern extent of the site. Two undated ditches running east to west and one running north to south were recorded. A prehistoric buried soil layer was present, as well as a pit containing significant amounts of Neolithic worked flint (Fig. 5).
- 3.5.2 Ditch **59** ran east to west towards the south-western end of the trench, cutting buried soil layer 72 (discussed below). It was 1m wide and 0.15m deep, with gentle sloping sides and a broad concave base. Its single fill (58) was a mid greyish brown soft sandy silt from which a single burnt flint was recovered.
- 3.5.3 A parallel ditch (61) was located around 5m north of 59. It was 0.7m wide and 0.15m deep, with gentle sloping sides and a broad concave base. Its single fill (60) contained no finds; this was a light brownish grey friable silty sand with frequent flint gravel inclusions and occasional charcoal flecks.
- 3.5.4 A ditch aligned north to south (63) truncated ditch 61. It was 0.6m wide and 0.1m deep, with gentle sloping sides and a broad concave base. Its single fill (62) was identical to fill 60, with the exception of some dark brownish red oxidised sand inclusions. Altough ditch 63 appeared to cut 60, their fills were very similar.
- 3.5.5 The two east to west ditches (**59** & **61**) were parallel with the current field boundary to the south and also with ditch **33** in Trench 13; ditch **63** ran at right angles to them. It is likely that they are roughly contemporary with each other and date from after the



alignment of the current field boundaries and road were established. Frequent plough scarring was observed along the same alignments. The subsoil in this part of site was extremely shallow, and the fill of the ditches was similar in colour and composition to the subsoil, meaning that it was hard to determine whether the subsoil sealed or was cut by these ditches.

- 3.5.6 Pit **65** was situated towards the north-eastern end of the trench. The pit was subcircular in plan measuring 1.05m in diameter and 0.28m in depth, and displayed gentle sloping sides and a shallow concave base (Plate 2). Its single fill (64) comprised a dark brownish grey soft sandy silt with occasional flint gravel inclusions and moderate amounts of charcoal. This fill was environmentally sampled and yielded a single fragment of charred hazelnut shell. A total of 39 pieces of worked flint were recovered, including retouched flakes and a scraper alongside an invasively retouched knife measuring 48mm long. Several burnt sandstones were also recovered. The pit cut buried soil horizon 73.
- 3.5.7 Two patches of buried soil were present at each end of the trench; 72 was observed at the south-western end and 73 at the north-eastern end. 72 was a light reddish grey friable silty sand, cut by ditch **59**, containing a fine bladelet of probable Mesolithic date and 1 sherd of pottery dating to the Middle Iron Age. 73 was a light brownish red friable silty sand, cut by pit **65**, containing four flakes and one narrow flake. Both layers could possibly be defined as colluvial in nature, filling slight dips in the level of the natural sand.

# 3.6 Trench 17

- 3.6.1 Trench 17 was positioned parallel to the road at the northern edge of the site. It contained a broad, shallow linear feature (68) at the western end; possibly a ditch but more likely a natural solution hollow. It was aligned north-east to south-west (Fig. 6) but was not present in Trench 2 (from the first evaluation stage), sited to the south-west of Trench 17 (Fig.2). The feature was 1.7m wide and 0.14m deep, with gently sloping sides and a broad, shallow concave base. The fill (69) was a mid greyish brown soft silty sand with occasional small chalk and flint inclusions. It contained a small amount of animal bone, very fragmentary Middle Iron Age pottery and Late Neolithic flakes.
- 3.6.2 A Neolithic pit (**70**) was cut into deposit 69. It was circular in plan with a diameter of 0.78m and a depth of 0.18m (Plate. 3). The sides were gently sloped and the base fairly flat. The fill (71) comprised a dark blackish grey silty sand with moderate quantities of small flint inclusions.
- 3.6.3 The pit also yielded a quantity of pig bone (30 fragments), including some long bone elements that may have been articulated. The bone displayed evidence of butchery and burning, with the remains of a minimum of three individuals represented (see Appendix B.3). The bone was found beneath three sherds of Late Neolithic Grooved Ware pottery, found at the top of the pit. Two worked flint flakes typical of the Late Neolithic were also recovered alongside 48g of burnt flint. Due to the shallow nature of the feature, the loose fill, and the possibility of damage during backfilling, the pit was fully excavated.
- 3.6.4 A second possible pit (**79**) was identified to the east of pit **70**; this contained no finds but had a fairly regular profile and a notably dark fill, fairly similar to 71. The pit was oval in shape, 0.75m long and 0.6m wide, with a depth of 0.22m. The sides were steep with a distinct break of slope curving to a narrow concave base. Its fill (80) was a dark blackish grey silty sand with moderate amounts of small chalk inclusions (up to 20mm) and rare small flint inclusions.



3.6.5 At the eastern end of the trench a north to south linear feature (77) was identified. It was 1.95m wide and up to 0.26m deep; the sides and base formed a broadly shallow concave shape but were irregular with occasional sharp breaks of slope. The fill (78) was a mixed brownish grey and brownish orange soft silty sand which contained no finds. The mixed nature of the fill and irregularity of the cut suggest rooting disturbance, while the linear shape in plan and the north to south alignment suggest that this could perhaps have been a hedge-line functioning as a boundary. However, it was not present in Trench 18 to the south.

# 3.7 Trench 20

- 3.7.1 Trench 20 was positioned parallel to the eastern field boundary, closest to the neighbouring Bridge House Dairies site. Two ditches running at right angles to each other were exposed (Fig.7). Ditch **44** ran north-west to south-east. It was 0.8m wide and 0.2m deep, with gently sloping sides and a shallow concave base and contained a single fill (45) which consisted of dark brownish grey soft silty sand with frequent orange sandy patches. Middle Iron Age pottery and three struck flints were recovered from this fill.
- 3.7.2 Ditch **46** ran north-east to south-west and probably formed the corner of an enclosure with **44**. It was 0.98m wide and 0.24m deep, with gently sloping sides and a shallow concave base. The fill (47) was very similar to 45: a dark greyish brown soft silty sand with patches of clean orange sand. Again, Middle Iron Age pottery was recovered as well as several struck flints which include two fresh hard hammer flakes. This fill yielded four charred grains, two of which can be tentatively identified as spelt/emner wheat in addition to a pea sized legume.
- 3.7.3 Both **44** and **46** cut buried soil deposit 48. This deposit measured a maximum of 0.14m in depth, and filled a shallow hollow approximately 21m in length north of ditch **44**. The deposit consisted of mid orangey brown soft silty sand, with frequent orange sandy patches (Plate. 4). The patchy nature of this layer and of both ditch fills made the ditches indistinct in plan, so the layer was cleaned by hand to look for other archaeological features. Several pieces of Middle Iron Age pottery along with a single sherd of Late Neolithic Grooved Ware pottery were recovered. A moderate quantity of worked flint dating to the Bronze Age was also recovered from the surface of the deposit. A test pit was excavated at the edge of 48, producing more of the same finds.
- 3.7.4 The features and buried soil deposit 48 in Trench 20 were sealed by a sterile lower subsoil/buried soil layer 43, also seen in Trenches 21 and 18.

# 3.8 Trench 21

- 3.8.1 Trench 21 was positioned running east to west at the eastern edge of the site, close to the Bridge House Dairies site. The only potential archaeological feature in the trench was possible posthole **66**. This was oval in shape, measuring 0.45m by 0.3m and with a depth of 0.1m. It was situated within an area of probable root disturbance, but had a regular shape in plan and profile with gentle curving sides and a concave base. The fill (67) was a light brownish grey soft silty sand with occasional gritty flint inclusions. No finds were present.
- 3.8.2 The subsoil in Trench 21 sealed a pale grey sterile lower subsoil/buried soil layer (43), also present in Trenches 18 and 20.



# 3.9 Trenches 9-11, 14, 15 and 19

- 3.9.1 In these trenches, mainly in the western half of site, the natural consisted of weathered chalk at a depth of no more than 0.6m below the surface, typically with a relatively thin layer of subsoil. Only Trench 19 had no subsoil present at all; this trench was positioned at a rise in the natural chalk between much deeper trenches 17 and 22.
- 3.9.2 No archaeological features were present in these trenches. Several test slots were excavated through silt patches, identified as the natural infilling of solution hollows and containing no finds.

# 3.10 Trenches 18, 22 and 23

- 3.10.1 The subsoil was notably thicker in these trenches, situated in the eastern part of site. Consequently the natural in these trenches was encountered at 0.6m below the surface or deeper.
- 3.10.2 Trench 23 contained the dark fill of a post medieval field boundary ditch at its southern end. This boundary is visible on site maps and was excavated in the previous evaluation phase; as such it was recorded in plan only. No further archaeological features were present, but more natural solution hollows were present in Trenches 22 and 23.

# 3.11 Finds Summary (see Appendix B)

- 3.11.1 A total of 17 sherds of early prehistoric pottery were recovered from five excavated contexts across four trenches. These include later Neolithic Grooved Ware, Later Neolithic to Early Bronze Age Beaker and Early Bronze Age Collared Urn. Grooved Ware is a particularly unusual find for this area.
- 3.11.2 A small assemblage of later prehistoric pottery was also recovered comprising 15 sherds weighing 70g. This pottery derived from six contexts and can be dated to the Middle Iron Age (350-50BC). The pottery recovered is fragmentary and typical of this period with parallels to the material from the adjacent site Bridge House Dairies.
- 3.11.3 A small number of medieval sherds were recovered from periglacial feature **37** and are dated 1080-1250AD (C. Fletcher *pers. comm*).
- 3.11.4 The worked flint assemblage is relatively small but includes some significant individual assemblages from sealed contexts. Mesolithic and Early Neolithic flint is sparse, but material from the Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age is well represented with notable Late Neolithic assemblages from pits 65, 76 and 70. The material from these features attest to varying activities including flint working, tool manufacture and tool use. The buried soils and colluvial deposits also contained widespread Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age worked flint.

# 3.12 Environmental Summary (Appendix C)

- 3.12.1 The charred plant remains are quite typical of both the Neolithic and Iron Age periods. Hazelnuts were found within Late Neolithic pits **65** and **74** and were an important food source during this period. Charred grains, most likely spelt/emner wheat and a pea size legume, were also recovered from Iron Age Ditch **46**. Charcoal was also noted in all of the samples.
- 3.12.2 A small, variably preserved faunal assemblage was recovered, comprised 79 assessable fragments from seven context across three trenches. Aside from a small amount of bone recovered from Iron Age and medieval or later contexts, the majority of the remains derived from Late Neolithic pits associated with Grooved Ware pottery as



well as two Early Bronze Age contexts. Of particular note was an assemblage of pig bone recovered from Late Neolithic pit **71** which displayed evidence of butchery and burning, with the remains of a minimum of three individuals represented. This may be waste from a single meal or feasting event.



# 4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

# 4.1 Neolithic and Early Bronze Age activity

- 4.1.1 The earliest dated features at the site were a series of Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age pits in Trenches 12, 16 and 17, associated with fragments of Grooved Ware or Collard Urn pottery and/or an assortment of worked flint, pig bone, and the occasional hazelnut fragment. The pits were typically small shallow features, sub-circular in plan, with one or two dark silty fills. Those securely dated to the Late Neolithic included pit 70 in Trench 17, which yielded fragments of Grooved Ware, and pit 65 in Trench 16, which contained a relatively large assemblage of diagnostic worked flint. The former was notable for also yielding a quantity of pig bone, including elements that may have been articulated. The bone displayed evidence of butchery and burning, and was possibly waste from a single episode of consumption mixed with other domestic refuse.
- 4.1.2 The only securely dated Early Bronze Age feature was pit **74** in Trench 12, which yielded fragments of Collard Urn and a series of worked flints. It is likely, however, that pit **49** and hollow **51** from this trench are broadly contemporary with pit **74**, as Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age worked flints were also recovered from their fills. Indeed, based on more general similarities in form and fill, all the features in the trench may be contemporary, together with pit **79** in Trench 17.
- 4.1.3 Across the rest of the site, worked flint and the occasional fragment of Grooved Ware and Beaker pottery were recovered from pockets of buried soil/colluvium caught in natural hollows, particularly in Trenches 8, 16 and 20. Residual worked flints of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age origin were also recovered from Iron Age ditches in Trench 20. Such stray finds and low density scatters of material are common to sites in landscape settings close to watercourses (whether or not *in situ*), and attest to the extensive utilisation of the region's river valleys throughout earlier prehistory. In these locations, Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age pits are typically dispersed, and the results of this evaluation probably reflect this common pattern, matching that at the adjacent site of Bridge House Dairies (Woolhouse 2010). That being said, the pits in Trenches 12 and 17 could belong to localised clusters, perhaps being indicative of areas that witnessed more sustained occupation/repeated returns by groups in this period.

# 4.2 Iron Age activity

- 4.2.1 Features dating to the Iron Age comprised two shallow ditches (**44** and **46**) in Trench 20. The ditches, which both yielded small sherds of Middle Iron Age pottery, ran at right angles to one another and possibly formed the sides of a small enclosure. The lack of any further features of this period suggests that the ditches may demarcate the far westernmost edge of the extensive Iron Age settlement excavated at the Bridge House Dairies site immediately to the east (Woolhouse 2010). Any Iron Age activity at the current site is therefore likely to be localised, and confined to the area around Trench 20.
- 4.2.2 Although two possible ditches in Trench 2 were tentatively assigned to the Iron Age in the Stage 1 evaluation (Moan 2014), they were not traced in the surrounding trenches (Trench 15, 17 and 18) during the current phase. It is therefore possible that these features may have been narrow, elongated hollows as opposed to ditches, and in the absence of finds they are no longer considered to be Iron Age in date.

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4.2.3 The only other Iron Age finds recovered the site were fragments of pottery deriving from pockets of buried soil/colluvium in Trenches 16, 17 and 20, all on the eastern side of the site. The sherds were small and abraded.

# 4.3 Medieval and post-medieval activity

4.3.1 With the exception of four sherds of medieval pottery recovered from a periglacial hollow in Trench 8, there was no evidence of a medieval presence at the site. Later agricultural activity is indicated by post-medieval field ditches, notably those from the Stage 1 evaluation in Trenches 5 and 7, which align on the boundary depicted on the Barton Mills Inclosure Map of 1796 (see Clark & Flitcroft 2013; Fig. 5), and persisted until some point after 1959 (see Fig. 2). The line of this ditch was also recorded at the southern end of Trench 23 during the Stage 2 evaluation, and would have skirted the edge of the large hollow in Trench 8. Other shallow ditches aligned broadly east-west or north-south in Trenches 13, 16, 17 (33, 59, 61, 63, 77) are also thought to be field related boundaries.

# 4.4 Recommendations

4.4.1 Recommendations for any future work based upon this report will be made by the County Archaeology Office.

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# APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 8							
General de	scription				Orientation		NNW-SSE
Consists of	soil and s	ubsoil ove	erlying a n	atural of weathered chalk	Avg. depth (m)		0.65
and glacial a silty depo			Width (m)		2.10		
pottery and trench cont	clay pipe.	A thick co	Length (m)		39		
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	da	ate
39	Layer	-	0.4	Topsoil	-		-
40	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-		-
36	Fill	12.1+	0.2	Fill of natural feature 37	Bone, pot, burnt flints, clay pipe		ieval, nedieval
37	Cut	12.1+	0.2	Periglacial feature	-		-
38	Layer	21.5	0.78	Colluvium =42	Pot, struck and burnt flints		lithic/Early ze Age
42	Layer	21.5	0.78	Colluvium =38	Pot, bone, struck and burnt flints		lithic/Early ze Age
Trench 9							
General de	escription				Orientation	l	NW-SE
					Avg. depth	(m)	0.45
				of soil and subsoil overlying glacial sand deposits.	Width (m)		2.1
				9 com a cop contact	Length (m)		30
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	da	ate
39	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-		-
40	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-		-
Trench 10							
General de	escription				Orientation		ENE-WSW
_					Avg. depth	(m)	0.4
				of soil and subsoil overlying glacial gravel deposits.	Width (m)		2.1
			parony	g.m.s.a. g.a.c. doposito.	Length (m)		30
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	da	ate
39	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	_		_

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40	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-		-
Trench 11		1					
General de	escription				Orientation	1	NE-SW
					Avg. depth (m)		0.6
			of soil and subsoil overlying glacial sand deposits.	Width (m)		2.1	
a natural of	weathere	a criain wi	Length (m)		30		
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	da	ate
39	Layer	-	0.4	Topsoil	-		-
40	Layer	-	0.2	Subsoil	-		-
Trench 12							_
General de	escription				Orientation	l	NNW-SSE
Consists of	soil and s	ubsoil ove	erlving a n	atural of weathered chalk	Avg. depth	(m)	0.5
and glacial	sand. Sev	eral possi	ble pits w	ere present containing	Width (m)		2.1
struck and	burnt flints	s, anımaı b	one and I	Neolithic pot fragments.	Length (m)		30
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	da	ate
39	Layer	-	0.4	Topsoil	-		-
40	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-		-
49	Cut	0.7	0.16	Pit	-		-
50	Fill	0.7	0.16	Fill of pit <b>49</b>	Burnt sandstone, struck flint, bone		-
51	Cut	2.3	0.64	Pit/hollow	-		-
52	Fill	2.3	0.5	Upper fill of pit/hollow 51	Struck and burnt flints	Late N	leolithic
53	Fill	1.26	0.14	Lower fill of pit/hollow 51	-		-
54	Cut	0.28	0.10	Posthole/pit	-		-
55	Fill	0.28	0.10	Fill of posthole/pit 54	-		-
56	Cut	0.48	0.14	Pit	-		-
57	Fill	0.48	0.14	Fill of pit <b>56</b>	Struck flint		lithic/Early ze Age
74	Cut	0.55	0.3	Pit	-		-
75	Fill	0.55	0.06	Upper fill of pit 74	-		_
76	Fill	0.5	0.24	Lower fill of pit 74	Pot, struck flints	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age	
Trench 13							
General de	escription				Orientation		NNE-SSW



					Avg. depth	(m) 0.4
				of soil and subsoil overlying	Width (m)	2.1
a natural of	weamere	u criaik ai	iu giaciai	Sanu.	Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
39	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
40	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
31	Cut	0.6	0.14	Pit/natural hollow	-	-
32	Fill	0.6	0.14	Fill of Pit/natural hollow	-	-
33	Cut	0.8	0.18	Ditch	-	-
34	Fill	0.3	0.14	Fill of ditch	-	-
35	Fill	0.8	0.04	Fill of ditch	-	-
Trench 14						
General de	scription				Orientation	NE-SW
Trench deve	nid of arch	naeology	Consists (	of soil and subsoil overlying	Avg. depth	(m) 0.45
				sand with frequent plough	Width (m)	2.1
scars and n	atural solu	ution hollo	WS.		Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
39	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
40	Layer	-	0.15	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 15						
General de	scription				Orientation	NW-SE
Tronch dov	oid of arch	nacology	Consists	of soil and subsoil overlying	Avg. depth	(m) 0.4
				sand with natural solution	Width (m)	2.1
hollows.			_		Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
39	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
40	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 16						
General de	scription				Orientation	NE-SW
				atural of glacial sand and	Avg. depth	(m) 0.4
				odern field boundaries but vated, as well as a Neolithic	Width (m)	2.1
	ng a large	quantity o		ints. Prehistoric buried soil	Length (m)	30
-					T.	l .

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context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date	
39	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-		-
40	Layer	-	0.05	Subsoil	-		-
58	Fill	1.0	0.15	Fill of ditch 59	Burnt flint		-
59	Cut	1.0	0.15	Ditch	-		-
60	Fill	0.7	0.15	Fill of ditch 61	-		-
61	Cut	0.7	0.15	Ditch	-		-
62	Fill	0.6	0.1	Fill of ditch 63	-		-
63	Cut	0.6	0.1	Ditch	-		-
64	Fill	1.05	0.28	Fill of pit <b>65</b>	Struck flints, burnt sandstones		Neolithic
65	Cut	1.05	0.28	Pit	-		-
72	Layer	2.95	0.1	Buried soil (similar to 73)	Struck flints, pot	Neolithic/E	thic, Late Early Bronze dle Iron Age
73	Layer	7.75	0.1	Buried soil (similar to 72)	Struck flints	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age	
Trench 17	<b>'</b>						
	, lescription				Orientation		ENE-WSW
General d	lescription of soil and s	ubsoil ove		natural of weathered chalk	Avg. depth	(m)	0.75
General de Consists of with natura (possible hasolution has	description of soil and soil solution hedge-line)	ubsoil ove nollows. C , and one similar pits	one undate possible s were als	natural of weathered chalk ed N-S linear was present shallow ditch or linear o present; one contained a thic pottery, the other was		(m)	
General d Consists of with natura (possible his solution hos large amounts)	description of soil and soil solution hedge-line)	ubsoil ove nollows. C , and one similar pits	one undate possible s were als	ed N-S linear was present shallow ditch or linear o present; one contained a	Avg. depth (Width (m)	(m)	0.75
General d Consists of with natura (possible if solution ho large amoundated.	description of soil and soil solution hedge-line)	ubsoil ove nollows. C , and one similar pits	one undate possible s were als	ed N-S linear was present shallow ditch or linear o present; one contained a	Avg. depth (Width (m)		0.75
General d Consists of with natura (possible it solution ho large amoundated. Contexts context	description of soil and solution hedge-line) ollow. Two solution	ubsoil over nollows. C , and one similar pits al bones a	pne undate possible s were als and Neolit	ed N-S linear was present shallow ditch or linear o present; one contained a thic pottery, the other was	Avg. depth (Width (m)  Length (m)		0.75 2.1 30
General d Consists of with natura (possible his solution holarge amoundated. Contexts context no	description of soil and solution to the soluti	wbsoil over nollows. Conditions, and one similar pits al bones a Width (m)	possible so were also and Neolif	ed N-S linear was present shallow ditch or linear o present; one contained a thic pottery, the other was	Avg. depth (Width (m)  Length (m)  finds		0.75 2.1 30
General d Consists of with natura (possible is solution he large amoundated. Contexts context no	description of soil and solution hedge-line) ollow. Two solution unt of anim	widsoil over nollows. Conditions, and one similar pits al bones and widshift Width (m)	Depth (m)	ed N-S linear was present shallow ditch or linear o present; one contained a thic pottery, the other was  comment  Topsoil	Avg. depth (Width (m)  Length (m)  finds		0.75 2.1 30
General d Consists of with natura (possible is solution holarge amoundated. Contexts context no 39	description of soil and solution hedge-line) ollow. Two solution type  Layer  Layer	widsoil over nollows. Conditions, and one similar pits al bones and width (m)	Depth (m)  0.38 0.37	ed N-S linear was present shallow ditch or linear o present; one contained a thic pottery, the other was  comment  Topsoil Subsoil Possible ditch/natural	Avg. depth (Width (m)  Length (m)  finds	da	0.75 2.1 30
General d Consists of with natura (possible is solution holarge amoundated. Contexts context no 39 40	type  Layer  Layer  Cut	width (m)  - 1.7	Depth (m)  0.38  0.14	ed N-S linear was present shallow ditch or linear o present; one contained a thic pottery, the other was  comment  Topsoil  Subsoil  Possible ditch/natural hollow	Avg. depth (Width (m)  Length (m)  finds  bone, pot,	da	0.75 2.1 30 ate ithic/Middle
General d Consists of with natura (possible is solution he large amoundated. Contexts context no 39 40 68	type  Layer  Layer  Cut  Fill	width (m)  - 1.7	Depth (m)  0.38  0.14	comment Topsoil Subsoil Possible ditch/natural hollow Fill of hollow 68	Avg. depth (Width (m)  Length (m)  finds  bone, pot, struck flint	da Late Neoli	0.75 2.1 30 ate ithic/Middle
General d Consists of with natura (possible is solution holarge amoundated. Contexts context no 39 40 68 69 70	type  Layer  Layer  Cut  Fill  Cut	width (m)  - 1.7  1.7  0.76	Depth (m)  0.38  0.14  0.14  0.18	ed N-S linear was present shallow ditch or linear o present; one contained a thic pottery, the other was  comment  Topsoil Subsoil Possible ditch/natural hollow  Fill of hollow 68  Pit	Avg. depth (Width (m)  Length (m)  finds  bone, pot, struck flint - Pot, bone, struck and	da Late Neoli	0.75 2.1 30 ate ithic/Middle Age -
General d Consists of with natura (possible in solution hot large amoundated.  Contexts context no 39 40 68 69 70 71	type  Layer  Layer  Cut  Fill  Cut	width (m)  - 1.7  1.7  0.76	Depth (m)  0.38  0.14  0.18	ed N-S linear was present shallow ditch or linear o present; one contained a thic pottery, the other was  comment  Topsoil Subsoil Possible ditch/natural hollow  Fill of hollow 68  Pit  Fill of pit 70	Avg. depth (Width (m)  Length (m)  finds  bone, pot, struck flint - Pot, bone, struck and burnt flints	da Late Neoli	0.75 2.1 30 ate ithic/Middle Age -
General d Consists of with natura (possible his solution holarge amoundated.  Contexts context no 39 40 68 69 70 71	type  Layer  Layer  Cut  Fill  Cut	widsoil over nollows. Co., and one similar pits all bones at the control of the c	Depth (m)  0.38  0.14  0.14  0.18  0.26	comment Topsoil Subsoil Possible ditch/natural hollow Fill of poit 70 Possible hedge-line	Avg. depth (Width (m)  Length (m)  finds  bone, pot, struck flint - Pot, bone, struck and burnt flints	da Late Neoli	0.75 2.1 30 ate ithic/Middle Age -



Trench 18							
General de	scription				Orientation	l	NNW-SSE
Trench deve	oid of arch	naeology (	Avg. depth	(m)	0.6		
				of soil and subsoil overlying weathered chalk and	Width (m)		2.1
glacial sand	d.				Length (m)		30
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	finds da	
39	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-		-
40	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-		-
43	Layer	-	0.2	Buried soil	-		-
Trench 19							
General de	scription				Orientation		NE-SW
Trench dev	oid of arch	naeology (	Consists o	of soil overlying a natural of	Avg. depth	(m)	0.38
weathered	chalk and	glacial sa	nd with fre	equent plough scarring. No	Width (m)		2.1
subsoil was	present ii	n this tren	ch.		Length (m)		30
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds date		ate
39	Layer	-	0.38	Topsoil	-		-
Trench 20							
General de	scription				Orientation	1	N-S
				atural of soft yellow glacial	Avg. depth	(m)	0.84
				t beneath the subsoil; the ut by archaeological	Width (m) 2		2.1
features, bu	it the uppe y. Two Iror	er layer 43 n Age ditcl	was a stenes were p	erile layer sealing present, likely to form the	Length (m)		30
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	d	ate
39	Layer	-	0.36	Topsoil	-		-
40	Layer	-	0.34	Subsoil	-		-
43	Layer	-	0.14	Buried soil	-		-
44	Cut	0.8	0.2	Ditch (NW-SE)	-		-
45	Fill	0.8	0.2	Fill of ditch 44	Pot, struck flints	Middle	Iron Age
46	Cut	0.98	0.24	Ditch (NE-SW)	-		-
47	Fill	0.98	0.24	Fill of ditch 46	Pot, bone, struck flints	Middle	Iron Age
48	Layer	-	0.14	Buried soil	Pot, struck flints	Middle	Iron Age



Trench 21						
General de	escription				Orientation	E-W
Consists of	Feoil and s	ubeoil ov	Avg. depth (m	0.68		
natural of s			Width (m)	2.1		
was preser	nt.		Length (m)	30		
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
39	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
40	Layer	-	0.24	Subsoil	-	-
43	Layer	-	0.14	Buried soil	-	-
66	Cut	0.3	0.1	Possible posthole	-	-
67	Fill	0.3	0.1	Fill of posthole 66	-	-
Trench 22						
General de	escription				Orientation	N-S
					Avg. depth (m	0.6
				of soil and subsoil overlying solution hollows.	Width (m)	2.1
a riatarar o	Wedinere	a orialik w	itii iidtaidi	ooldtion nollows.	Length (m)	30
Contexts						
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
39	Layer	-	0.35	Topsoil	-	-
40	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-
Trench 23						
General de	escription				Orientation	N-S
				atural of weathered chalk	Avg. depth (m	0.55
				ral solution hollows. A post- aps and was excavated in	Width (m)	2.1
				n plan only.	Length (m)	30
Contexts					1	1
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	date
39	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-
40	Layer	-	0.25	Subsoil	-	-



# APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

# **B.1 Early Prehistoric Pottery**

By Sarah Percival

# Introduction

B.1.1 A total of 17 sherds weighing 267g were collected from five excavated contexts in four trenches. The assemblage comprises Later Neolithic Grooved Ware, Later Neolithic to Early Bronze Age Beaker and Early Bronze Age Collared Urn (Table 1). Most of the sherds are small and crumbly with the exception of a large Grooved Ware rim from pit 70.

# Methodology

B.1.2 The assemblage was analysed incordance with the Guidelines for analysis and publication laid down by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (PCRG 2010). The total assemblage was studied and a full catalogue was prepared. The sherds were examined using a binocular microscope (x10 magnification) and were divided into fabric groups defined on the basis of inclusion types. Fabric codes were prefixed by a letter code representing the main inclusion present (F representing flint, G grog and Q quartz). Vessel form was recorded; R representing rim sherds, B base sherds, D decorated sherds and U undecorated body sherds. The sherds were counted and weighed to the nearest whole gram. Decoration and abrasion were also noted. The pottery and archive are curated by OAE

# Trench 8

- B.1.3 Trench 8 produced a total of nine sherds weighing 18g, all from colluvial deposits 38 and 42.
- B.1.4 Two scraps of Beaker in sandy fabric with sparse, pale, rounded grog and rare small flint were recovered from deposit 38. The sherds which weigh just 2g are very abraded but retain faint fingertip-impressed decoration to the exterior surfaces.
- B.1.5 Colluvial layer 42 produced seven sherds including a probable Beaker sherd with square-tooth combed decoration. The sherds are made of fine, silty clay with moderate small, rounded, dark-grog inclusions. A further four sherds, also probably from a Beaker, have large, pale rounded-grog inclusions and fingernail impressed decoration. A further grog tempered sherd in undecorated and a small scrap of pottery in sandy fabric is undiagnostic.

# Trench 12

B.1.6 Four sherds from the rim and upper body of a small Collared Urn were recovered from the fill of posthole 74. The sherds include a simple rounded rim decorated on the exterior with horizontal bands of twisted cord impressions. A second sherd, from the collar of the urn is also decorated with cord impressions forming diagonal and horizontal filled panels. Two further sherds from the same vessel were also found, one plain and one with similar cord-impressed decoration. The sherds are made of sandy clay with moderate, medium sized angular grog producing a blocky fabric.

# Trench 17

B.1.7 Pit **71**, trench 17, produced three large and well preserved sherds of Grooved Ware. The largest is from the rim and upper body of a barrel-shaped vessel with complex,



incised geometric decoration. Below the rim a wide band defined above and below by triple incised lines is filled with panels formed of multiple diagonal lines. Below a second wider band is filled with triangles formed of double incised bands slashed across with fingernail impressions. The rim of the vessel is flat with a deep internal concave ridge. The vessel is made of sandy clay with sparse flint and moderate fine shell or chalk pieces. The closed, barrel-like shape of the vessel suggests that it falls within the Durrington Walls substyle (Longworth 1971).

B.1.8 A second sherd in similar fabric has multiple, vertical comb-impressed lines below a pinched cordon itself decorated with fingernail slashes. A chunky base sherd was also recovered from the same feature.

# Trench 20

B.1.9 A single sherd in fine sandy fabric with sparse mica flecks has multiple cord-impressed maggots on one surface. A sherd in similar fabric with cord-impressed maggot decoration was found at Over, Cambridgeshire where it was identified as being Grooved Ware (Garrow 2006, fig.6.23, P8).

# **Discussion**

- B.1.10 The Grooved Ware sherds, found in trench 17, represent perhaps two vessels of the Durrington Walls substyle (Longworth 1971). The deposition of the sherds, with several large distinctively decorated pieces placed together in a pit, is characteristic of some Grooved Ware pits found elsewhere in Suffolk, for example at Flixton Quarry (Percival 2012) and defined by Garrow as characteristic of 'selective' deposition, a trait which became more prevalent in later Neolithic Grooved Ware pits in East Anglia (2006, 114).
- B.1.11 Grooved Ware of the Durrington Walls substyle was fairly common within the Flixton Quarry assemblage, where it was found alongside Grooved Ware of other substyles and in close association with Beaker pits.
- B.1.12 The small cord-maggot impressed sherd may also be Grooved Ware. Buried soils have also produced Grooved Ware at sites such as Over (Garrow 2006, 112). Grooved Ware is believed to have been in use from around 3000-2000BC (Garwood 1999).
- B.1.13 The Beaker sherds feature a mix of fingertip-impressed rusticated decoration alongside comb-impressed sherds typical of non-funerary vessels found around the fen-edge. Similar Beaker has been found on several sites around Mildenhall, for example at MNL556, College Heath Road to the north east of the village, and represents activity in the area in the period from around 2490/2340BC until *c*.1800/1620 (Healy 2012).
- B.1.14 The Collared Urn found in posthole **74**, trench 12 is probably also of utilitarian origin, comparable with the domestic Collared Urn found nearby at West Row Fen (Martin and Murphy 1988) believed to date to around 2200-1200BC (Gibson 2002).

# Statement of Research Potential

B.1.15 The Grooved Ware and Collared Urn are of particular interest. With the exception of the prolific site at Flixton Quarry in the Waveney Valley, Grooved Ware is an unusual find in the area being much less commonly found than its ubiquitous near contemporary Beaker. Domestic Collared Urn is also rare and it would be important to investigate the full context of deposition for both these pottery types should further excavation take place at the site. In this event it would also be extremely interesting to radiocarbon date suitable residues or associated short life samples to gain a date range for both the occupation and the related pottery.



Trench	Feature	Context	Feature Type	Vessel Type	Spot Date	Quantity	Weight (g)
8	38	38	Colluvium	Beaker	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age	2	4
8	42	42	Colluvium	Beaker	Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age	1	3
8	42	42	Colluvium		Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age	6	11
12	74	76	Pit	Collared Urn	EarlyBronze Age	4	28
17	70	71	Pit	Grooved Ware	Late Neolithic	3	216
20	48	48	Buried Soil	Grooved Ware	Late Neolithic	1	5
Total						17	267

Table 1: Quantity and weight of earlier prehistoric pottery by Trench.

# **B.2 Later Prehistoric Pottery and Medieval Pottery**

By Matt Brudenell

# Introduction

B.2.1 A small assemblage comprising 15 sherds (70g) of pottery was recovered from the evaluation, displaying a mean sherd weight (MSW) of 4.7g. The pottery derived from six contexts in Trenches 8, 16, 17 and 20 (Table 1). These related to ditches, hollows and buried soil horizons. With the exception of small group of medieval pottery from periglacial feature 37, all the material is handmade Middle Iron Age-type pottery dated c. 350-50 BC. The ceramics are in a stable condition, but sherds are small and moderately abraded. This report provides a quantified description of the assemblage.

Iron Age pottery fabrics:

- Quartz sand
- Q1: Moderate to common quartz sand
- Quartz sand and flint
- QF1: Moderate to common quartz sand sparse fine to medium burnt flint (mainly 1-2mm in size).
- QF2: Moderate to common quartz sand sparse medium to coarse burnt flint (mainly 2-4mm in size).

# Methodology

B.2.2 All the pottery was fully recorded following the recommendations laid out by the Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (2009). All sherds were counted, weighed (to the nearest whole gram) and assigned to fabric (sherds broken in excavation were refitted and counted as single entities). Sherd type was recorded, along with evidence for surface treatment, decoration, and the presence of soot and/or residue. Rim forms have been described using a codified system recorded in the catalogue, and are assigned vessel numbers. All pottery has been subject to sherd size analysis. Sherds less than

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4cm in diameter have been classified as 'small' (13 sherds); sherds measuring 4-8cm are classified as 'medium' (2 sherds), and sherds over 8cm in diameter 'large' (0 sherd).

# Assemblage characteristics

- B.2.3 With the exception of a small group of medieval sherds from periglacial feature 37 in Trench 8, all the material comprised body sherds of handmade Middle Iron Age-type pottery dating c. 350-50 BC. The Iron Age pottery occurred in three fabrics typical the period, with sherds displaying quartz sand (Q fabric, 5 sherds, 18g) or a combination of quartz sand and crushed burnt flint (QF fabrics, 6 sherds, 31g) in the clay matrix. These were tempering agents readily available in the local landscape, and were commonly added to Middle/later Iron Age ceramics in Suffolk. The sherds were all plain, though two from context 72 and 84 displayed carefully smoothed or burnished exterior surfaces. Sherd sizes were small, and most were moderately abraded. None of the context yielded more than five sherds.
- B.2.4 Three of the four sherds of Medieval pottery from periglacial feature 37 probably derived from the same vessel, and included a flat-topped rim from a pot with a concave neck, most likely a small cooking vessel. All were in a hard, dense sandy fabric, and are dated c. 1080-1350 (C. Fletcher *pers. comm.*)

# **Discussion**

B.2.5 The handmade pottery is of Middle Iron Age-type and can be dated c. 350-50 BC. The fabrics are typical of the period and can be paralleled in the much larger assemblage of Middle Iron Age pottery from the adjacent site at Bridge House Daries (BTM 040, Woolhouse 2010). A small number of Medieval sherds were also recovered from periglacial feature 37, and are dated 1080 -1350 (C. Fletcher pers. comm.)

Context	Cut	Feature type		\ <b>-</b>	Fabrics (no./wt(g) sherds)	Date & comment
36	37	Periglacial feature/hollow	8	4/21	NA	Medieval (c.1080-1350, C. Fletcher <i>pers. comm.</i> )
45	44	Ditch	20	2/6	QF1 (2/6)	Middle Iron Age-type, c. 350- 50 BC
47	46	Ditch	20	1/7	Q1 (1/7)	Middle Iron Age-type, c. 350- 50 BC
48	NA	Buried soil layer	20	5/23	Q1 (2/9), QF1 (3/14)	Middle Iron Age-type, c. 350- 50 BC
69	68	Hollow	17	2/2	Q1 (2/2)	Middle Iron Age-type, c. 350- 50 BC
72	NA	Buried soil layer	16	1/11	QF2 (1/11)	Middle Iron Age-type, c. 350- 50 BC
-	-	-	-	15/70	-	-

Table 2: Pottery quantification by context

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# **B.3 Lithic remains**

By Lawrence Billington

# Introduction and Quantification

B.3.1 The excavations recovered a total of 104 worked flints together with 82 (1053g) fragments of unworked burnt flint. The assemblage is quantified by type and context in table 1. This report discusses the raw material and condition of the assemblage as a whole before considering the lithic assemblages from the various contexts in more detail. This is followed by a brief discussion of the significance and potential of the assemblage.

# Raw Materials

B.3.2 The entire assemblage is made up of flint, generally fine grained and of good quality. There is considerable variability in the flint recovered from the site; whilst the majority is a dark grey/black translucent flint, there is a range of colours from opaque grey through to translucent orange/yellows. Surviving cortical surfaces are generally relatively fresh and unweathered but there are examples of thin abraded cortex suggestive of a source from alluvial gravels. The proliferation of sources of good quality flint from both primary and secondary sources in the Breckland is well attested (see Healy 1991; Bishop 2012, 184-5) and it seems likely that the flint assemblage from the site includes material derived from a variety of, probably fairly local, geological deposits. There is no unambiguous evidence for the use of the mined flint that was extracted in huge quantities from the complex of mines at Grime's Graves during the later Neolithic (see Healy et al 2014).

# Condition

B.3.3 The condition of the assemblage is varied and generally corresponds very closely, and predictably, to its depositional context. The assemblages recovered from demonstrably Neolithic and Early Bronze Age features are in very good condition, with minimal edge damage. Material recovered from colluvial and buried soil deposits include comparably fresh material but also have a component of pieces which exhibit light edge damage and rounding of thin edges. Such edge damage is notably more common in the material recovered as a residual element from later cut features.

# Pits

B.3.4 Over half of the total worked flint assemblage was recovered from pits. The most substantial individual assemblage came from pit 65 and comprises 39 worked flints. Technologically the flintwork from this feature is characterised by flake based material which includes material derived from the working of discoidal and levallois-like cores. Chips and small flakes are poorly represented but otherwise pieces derived from all stages of core reduction are well represented. The flakes include large decortication/trimming flakes as well as fine non cortical, potentially usable, removals. Direct hard hammer percussion appears to have been used almost exclusively, whilst striking platform remnants frequently bear the fine faceting characteristic of removals made from levallois-like cores. Two cores are present in the assemblage; one is an irregular flake core whilst the other is a large centripetally worked discoidal core. This latter piece retains several small areas of ground/polished surfaces and appears to be a reworked polished flint axe head. Two flakes can be refitted to this core. The reworking of polished axe heads is well attested in Neolithic flint assemblages in the region,



including relatively local examples from sites at Honington, Suffolk (Fell 1951, 38) and Isleham, Cambridgeshire (Gdaniec et al 2007, 22-25).

### Results

- B.3.5 Five retouched pieces are present in the assemblage from pit 65. These include a side scraper and two flakes with somewhat expediently executed edge retouch. The most distinctive retouched piece is a fine sub-circular invasively retouched knife. This piece is partly cortical and appears to have been made on a small nodule (perhaps a previously reduced discoidal/levallois-like core) rather than on a flake blank and measures 48mm long by 32mm wide. Although bifacial in the sense of bearing extensive flaking on both surfaces, the finishing, invasive, edge retouch is confined to one face of the implement. The retouch extends around most of the perimeter of the piece except where an area of cortex remains which may have served to provide natural backing to the tool. Whilst not quite fulfilling the criteria for classification as a true discoidal knife (e.g. Healy 1996, 76) it is clearly closely allied to these implements, as opposed to other forms of invasively retouched and plano-convex knife forms.
- B.3.6 Further evidence of tool use or manufacture is present in the form of the proximal end of a large robust flake with some marginal edge retouch which has a distal fracture with wedge shaped fracture lines and a pronounced lip suggestive of intentional breakage (see Bergman et al 1987; Anderson-Whymark 2011). A further unretouched flake also bears similar traits indicative of intentional breakage. The deliberate breakage of flake blanks and tools, as part of tool manufacture/modification (and perhaps for less prosaic purposes) is increasingly recognised as a distinctive element of Later Neolithic technologies in East Anglia and elsewhere in southern Britain (Saville 1981, 10; Beadmoore 2009; Billington 2010; Anderson-Whymark 2011).
- B.3.7 Whilst the presence of refitting pieces suggests the assemblage represents material deriving from a single episode of activity, the lack of small chips and flake fragments and diversity of raw material suggests the material was ultimately drawn from a much larger assemblage of flintwork and does not represent *in situ* flint working or the en masse dumping of knapping waste and discarded tools. In terms of dating, the use of levallois-like technologies (see Ballin 2011), and the form of the retouched pieces strongly suggests a Later Neolithic date for this assemblage. Such material is most familiar from Grooved Ware associated contexts in Eastern England (e.g. Fell 1951; Healy 1985; Bishop 2008) and is distinct from later, Beaker associated, flintwork.
- B.3.8 Eight worked flints were recovered from pit 74. This small assemblage is distinctive in including two fine end scrapers alongside hard hammer struck flakes and an irregular flake core. None of this material is strongly diagnostic but the scrapers are typical of Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age examples.
- B.3.9 The remainder of the flintwork from pits and postholes includes very small assemblages from Pits 49, 51 and 56. Additionally, two worked flints were recovered from pit 70. Both of these appear to be derived from levallois-like cores (one with a finely faceted striking platform) and, as such, are likely to be of later Neolithic date. These were found in association with a large quantity (48 fragments, 625g) of unworked, heavily burnt, flint. Burnt flint concentrations are a ubiquitous element of the prolific Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age surface scatters in the Breckland and along the eastern and southern Fen edge (see Silvester 1991; Hall 1996; Healy 1996), including the relatively discrete and dense accumulations known as burnt mounds. The purposes of heating flint and other stones remains a matter of debate/uncertainty but food preparation and craft

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activities are perhaps most commonly invoked for the smaller assemblages and scatters of this material (see, e.g. Crowson 2004, 3, 35; Edmonds et al 1999).

# Colluvial deposits and buried soils

- B.3.10 A total of 11 worked flints were recovered from colluvial deposits encountered during the excavations. These deposits also contained a relatively large assemblage of unworked burnt flint (see table 1). The worked flint was varied in terms of condition and raw material and is clearly chronologically mixed. This said, the technological traits of the material, with hard hammer struck flakes of varied morphology suggest this material relates largely to Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age activity. More specifically a small discoidal core from context 42 is more characteristic of Later Neolithic technologies whilst a very small end scraper with semi invasive retouch from the same deposit is comparable to the small thumbnail/button scrapers that are a distinctive feature of Early Bronze Age (mostly Beaker associated) assemblages from the region (e.g. Healy 1986; Bamford 1982). The burnt flint from the colluvial deposits is closely comparable in terms of degree of fragmentation and character to the material from pit 70 discussed above.
- B.3.11 The assemblage from the buried soil deposits is made up exclusively on unretouched material. As with the material from colluvial deposits, the condition and character of this material suggests a multi-period assemblage, albeit overwhelmingly dominated by material characteristic of Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age technologies. The absence of evidence for levallois-like core reduction might suggest that Early Bronze Age activity is better represented in the buried soil assemblages. Some of this material, especially that from context 48 was very fresh and appeared to have suffered from very limited post depositional disturbance. A fine bladelet of probable Mesolithic date was recovered from buried soil 72.

# Other contexts

B.3.12 The remainder of the lithic assemblage was derived from ditches 44, 46, 59 and 68; natural feature 37 and from top soil deposits. Most of these contexts contained small quantities of undiagnostic worked flint which is broadly comparable to the material derived from the buried soils and colluvial deposits. There is no unambiguous evidence for the use of flint in the later prehistoric (Iron Age) phases of the site with the majority of the material recovered from Iron Age features is in a condition consistent with having been redeposited as a residual element from surface scatters of flintwork. Possible exceptions to this are two very fresh hard hammer flakes recovered from ditch 47. It is notable that the five flakes from ditch 68 include three flakes probably deriving from levallois-like cores and it seems possible that this feature may have incorporated material deriving from a coherent surface scatter of Later Neolithic flint work.

# Summary and discussion

- B.3.13 Although the worked flint assemblage recovered from the excavations is relatively small it does include several coherent and significant individual assemblages derived from sealed contexts as well as material from sub surface colluvial deposits and buried soils.
- B.3.14 Mesolithic and Early Neolithic flintwork is very poorly represented, with a single bladelet of probable Mesolithic date being recovered. Nonetheless, given the very rich record of Mesolithic and Early Neolithic archaeology in the Lark Valley (e.g. Clark et al 1960; Pkisema and Gardiner 1990; Jacobi 1984; Caruth 1995, Bales 2006) it seems likely that this might be a product of the small size of the assemblage rather than indicating a lack of activity during these periods, and it is notable that some Mesolithic and Early Neolithic material was identified amongst the flintwork derived from Archaeological Solutions' recent excavations adjacent to the site (Peachey 2010).



- B.3.15 Later Neolithic and Early Bronze activity is far better represented and includes coherent assemblages from cut features including the relatively large Late Neolithic assemblage from pit 65, the assemblage from pit 74 and the worked flints and large burnt flint assemblage from pit 70. The assemblages from pit 65 and 74 appear to attest to varied activities including flint working, tool manufacture and tool use and it seems likely these relate to episodes of settlement, however fleeting these may have been. The volume of burnt stone from pit 65 might indicate similar 'domestic' type activity. Widespread Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age activity is also indicated by the assemblage derived from colluvial deposits and from buried soils as well as being present as a residual element in later features. Although other Iron Age sites in the region have produced substantial, apparently contemporary, assemblages of worked flint (notably at Micklemoor Hill, West Harling; Clark and Fell 1954) there is very little evidence for flint working or use at any scale during the Iron Age phases of the site use.
- B.3.16 Whilst the Breckland and the south eastern Fen edge have long been renowned for an abundance of surface scatters of Later Neolithic and Early Bronze Age flintwork (see Healy 1984, 1996, 1998), assemblages from sealed/relatively undisturbed contexts such as pits and buried soils remain relatively rare. Consequently any such assemblages are a significant addition to the regional record.

Feature Type	Cut no.	Context	Trench	chip	irregular waster	flake	narrow flake	blade	bladelet	end scraper	side scraper	retouched flake	knife	irregular core	discoidal core	core fragment	core on polished implement	total worked	unworked burnt (g)	unworked burnt (no.)
Pit	49	50	12			2												2		
	51	52	12	1														1	1	18.6
	65	64	16	2	1	26		2	1		1	3	1	1			1	39		
	70	71	17			2												2	48	624.7
	74	76	12			5				2				1				8	1	14.8
	56	57	12													1		1		
Buried soil		48	20		2	9		1										12		
		72	16			3			1									4	1	4.6
		73	16			4	1											5		
Colluvium		38	8			3												3	8	53.3
		42	8			5				1		1			1			8	21	216.9
Ditch	44	45	20		2			1										3		
	46	47	20			4	1							1		1		7		
	59	58	16																1	8.6
	68	69	17		1	3	1											5		
Nat' feature	37	36	8	1		1												2	1	111.4
Top soil		39				1				1								2		
Totals				4	6	68	3	4	2	4	1	4	1	3	1	2	1	104	82	1053

Table 4. Quantification of Lithic Remains

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# APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

# C.1 Environmental samples

By Rachel Fosberry

# Introduction

C.1.1 Five bulk environmental samples were taken from features within five trenches in the evaluation of Worlington Road, Mildenhall, Suffolk in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations. Features sampled include Neolithic pits and an Iron Age ditch and spread

# Methodology

C.1.2 The total volume (up to 20 litres) of the Neolithic samples (3, 4 and 6) and one bucket (approximately ten litres) of the Iron Age samples (5 and 7) 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 0.25mm 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 and a complete list of the recorded remains are presented in Table xxx. 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 Zohary and Hopf (2000) for cereals and Stace (1997) for other plants. Carbonized seeds and grains, by the process of burning and burial, become blackened and often distort and fragment leading to difficulty in identification. Plant remains have been identified to species where possible. The identification of cereals has been based on the characteristic morphology of the grains and chaff as described by Jacomet (2006).

# Quantification

C.1.3 For the purpose of this initial assessment, items such as seeds, cereal grains and legumes have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories

```
# = 1-10, ## = 11-50, ### = 51+ specimens
```

Items that cannot be easily quantified such as charcoal and fragmented bone have been scored for abundance

```
+ = rare, ++ = moderate, +++ = abundant
```

# Results

- C.1.4 Preservation of plant remains is by carbonisation. The results are discussed by trench:
- C.1.5 Spread 38 (Sample 7) within Trench 8 contains only a fragment of charred cereal grain.
- C.1.6 Pit **74** within trench 12 contained two fills, its basal fill 76 (Sample 3) contains a single fragment of charred hazelnut shell (*Corylus avellana*).
- C.1.7 Pit **65** within trench 16 contained a single fill 64 (Sample 4) that contains occassional fragments of charred hazelnut shell.

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- C.1.8 Sample 6, fill 71 of Neolithic pit **70** contains numerous animal bone fragments but no preserved plant remains.
- C.1.9 Sample 5, fill 47 of Iron Age ditch **46** was the most productive sample in terms of preserved plant remains and contains four charred grains, two of which could be tentatively identified as spelt/emmer wheat (*Triticum spelta/dicoccum*) in addition to a pea-sized legume (*Pisum/Lathyrus* sp.).

Sample No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Feature Type	Trench No.	Volume processed (L)	Flot Volume (ml)	Cereals	Legumes	Hazelnut shell	Charcoal	Flot comments	Small animal bones	Large animal bones	Pottery	Burnt flint	Flint debitage
3	76	74	Pit	12	16	20	0	0	#	+	Single fragment of hazelnut shell	0	##	#	#	#
	64		Pit	16				0	#	++	Occasional fragments of hazelnut shell	0		0	0	#
5	47	46	Ditch	20	9	10	#	#	0	+	4 charred grains, 1 pea- sized legume	0	#	0	0	0
6	71	70	Pit	17	19	20	0	0	0	+	Sparse charcoal only	##	+++	#	#	0
7	38		Spread	8	9	15	#	0	0	+	Single fragment of grain	0	#	0	#	0

Table 5: Environmental samples from MNL710

# **Discussion**

C.1.10 The charred plant remains recovered from Worlington Road are quite typical for deposits of both Neolithic and Iron Age periods (Grieg 1991). Hazelnuts would have been an important wild food resource in the Neolithic period and their burnt shells are frequently recovered from Neolithic pits. The shells are the product of consumption that, if burnt, survive well in archaeological deposits which partly explains their frequent recovery (Jones 2000, 80). It is probable that the shells were discarded into a fire that had subsequently been swept up and deposited in the pit although the charcoal content of the samples is low. Charred cereal grains are commonly recovered from areas of human occupation in the Iron Age period and the presence of a pea is further evidence that there is the potential for the recovery of preserved plant remains from this site.



# C.2 Faunal Remains

By Vida Rajkovača

# Introduction

- C.2.1 The second stage evaluation resulted in the recovery of a small faunal assemblage, totalling some 79 assessable specimens, 43 of which were possible to identify to species (54.4%). Further 21 specimens were recovered as heavy residues following the processing of bulk soil environmental samples.
  - The preservation was varied throughout: bone surfaces were well preserved, allowing for finer knife marks to be observed, though fragmentation was quite high and root action was noted on a number of elements.
- C.2.2 The material came from three trenches and several features, all of different dates. Aside from a small amount of bone recovered from Iron Age and medieval or later contexts, the majority of bone came from late Neolithic pits associated with Grooved Ware pottery as well as two Early Bronze Age contexts.

# Methods: Identification, quantification and ageing

C.2.1 The zooarchaeological investigation followed the system implemented by Bournemouth University with all identifiable elements recorded (NISP: Number of Identifiable Specimens) and diagnostic zoning (amended from Dobney & Reilly 1988) used to calculate MNE (Minimum Number of Elements) from which MNI (Minimum Number of Individuals) was derived. Identification of the assemblage was undertaken with the aid of Schmid (1972), and reference material from the Cambridge Archaeological Unit. Where possible, the measurements have been taken (Von den Driesch 1976). Withers height calculations follow the conversion factors published by Von den Driesch and Boessneck 1974. Taphonomic criteria including indications of butchery, pathology, gnawing activity and surface modifications as a result of weathering were also recorded when evident.

# Occurrence of species

- C.2.1 Trench 8, positioned along the western edge of the investigated area, despite moderate levels of activity, contained very little in way of animal bone waste. A single sheep/ goat phalanx came from [36], and a number of horse elements were recovered from [42], all likely to be part of the same forelimb.
- C.2.2 Trench 12 generated a small amount of animal bone from three different contexts. The material was highly fragmented: the majority of positively identified elements were cattle teeth were found as enamel fragments.
- C.2.3 The most substantial deposit of animal bone came from Trench 17, a group of partially articulated pig elements, found accompanied by a large sherd of Grooved Ware pottery. Though quantified as 30 specimens, this deposit seems to represent waste from the minimum of three individuals, all visibly of different sizes. None of the long bones had fused epiphyses, suggesting the animals were slaughtered during their first year. A single male canine was recovered, perhaps belonging to the largest of the three animals. A fibula fragment was recorded with clear signs of charring. In addition to this, a series of fine cut marks were noted on one of the calcanei, consistent with skinning. Upon closer inspection, it was evident the marks were 'U' shaped in profile, suggesting they were made using stone, or rather flint blades.
- C.2.4 It was not possible to record any remains of microfauna, avio fauna or fish from the heavy residues. With the exception of a sheep tooth fragment from [46], (sample <3>),



the material was made up of unidentifiable crumbs of medium-sized mammal bone, the majority coming from deposit [71] and all most likely representing remains of pigs.

## **Discussion and Conclusion**

C.2.1 Significant changes in the depositional practices associated with pits and 'structured deposition' were first noted associated with the Grooved Ware pottery (Richards and Thomas 1984). The 'pig group' from the fill of **70** almost certainly represents a deposit commonly referred to as associated bone group (Hill 1995). Though Grooved Ware faunas are generally characterised by a relatively high percentage of cattle and pig bones, the abundance of pigs has been linked to 'feasting' (Rowley-Conwy and Owen 2011), and this deposit, with clear signs of charring, may indeed represent the remains of a single meal.

The assemblage is quantitatively insufficient for further considerations on animal use and economy, though it could hold potential when viewed against contemporaneous assemblages from the region. This would be especially valuable as East Anglia, unlike the rest of the country's monument-associated fauna, has some of the most substantial domestic Grooved Ware faunal assemblages (e.g. Evans *et al* in press).

#### Quantification

	Grooved Ware	Collared Urn/Early Bronze Age	Beaker/Early Bronze Age	Iron Age	Medieval	Undated	Undated	Total
Tr Number	Tr.17	Tr.12	Tr.8	Tr.17	Tr.8	Tr.12	Tr.12	
Cut number	(71)	(76)	(42)	(69)	(36)	(50)	(57)	
Cow	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	5
Sheep/Goat	-	-	-	1	1	-	_	2
Pig	30*	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Horse	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	6
Subtotal to species	30	1	6	1	1	4	-	43
Cattle sized	7	-	-	-	-	-	5	12
Sheep sized	14	6	-	2	-	2	-	24
Total	51	7	6	3	1	6	5	79

Table 3. Number of Identified Specimens for all species from all contexts; asterisk denotes the minimum number of 3 individuals were recorded

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# APPENDIX E. OASIS REPORT FORM

Project De	etails											
OASIS Number oxfordar3-22				-221296								
Project Name Evalua			tion at land south of Worlington Road, Mildenhall									
Project Dates (fieldwork)			Start 10-08-2015				Finish 19-08-2015			5		
Previous Wo	ast)	t) Yes			Future Work Unknown							
Project Reference Codes												
Site Code	MNL710				Planning App. No.				DC/13	3/0927/OUT		
HER No.	MNL710			Related HER/OASIS No			lo. [					
Type of Project/Techniques Used												
Prompt		Dir	ection from Local Planning Authority - PPS 5									
Developmen	Development Type Ho			using Estate								
Please select all techniques used:												
Aerial Photo	ography - i	interpre	etation	☐ Grab-Sai	mpling	g Ren			Remo	note Operated Vehicle Survey		
☐ Aerial Photo	ography - ı	new		☐ Gravity-Core			×	■ Sample Trenches				
Annotated Sketch				☐ Laser Scanning					☐ Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure			
☐ Augering				☐ Measured Survey					☐ Targeted Trenches			
☐ Dendrochro	nological	Survey	,	☐ Metal De	☐ Metal Detectors				☐ Test Pits			
☐ Documentary Search				☐ Phospha	☐ Phosphate Survey					Topographic Survey		
				☐ Photogrammetric Survey					☐ Vibro-core			
Fieldwalking				☐ Photographic Survey					☐ Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit)			
Geophysical Survey				Rectified Photography								
Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods  List feature types using the NMR Monument Type Thesaurus and significant finds using the MDA Object type  Thesaurus together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state "none".  Monument Period Object Period												
			Iron Age	ron Age -800 to 43		pottery			Iron Age -800 to 43			
			Neolithic	leolithic -4k to -2k			pottery			Neolithic -4k to -2k		
layers Late Preh			historic -4k to	43	lithics				Late Prehistoric -4k to 43			
Project Lo	ocatio	n										
County	Suffolk					Site Address (including postcode if possible)						
District	Forest Heath				Worlington Road,							
Parish	Barton Mills				Mildenhall, IP28 7DY							
HER	Suffolk HER											
Study Area	2.8ha					National Grid Reference TL 7064 7408				TL 7064 7408		
Project O	riginat	tors										



Organisation	OA EAST									
Project Brief Originator		Myk Flitcroft								
Project Design Originator Project Manager		Myk Flitcroft  Richard Mortimer								
										Supervisor
Project Archi	ves									
Physical Archive			Digital A	Archive		Paper Archive				
Suffolk County Stores			OA East	t Offices		Suffolk County Stores				
MNL710			XSFWRM15			MNL710				
Archive Content	s/Media									
	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents		Digital Me	dia	Paper Media			
Animal Bones	×	×	×		× Database		Aerial Photos			
Ceramics	×	×	×		—					
Environmental	×	×	×		Geophysic	cs	Correspondence			
Glass							Diary			
Human Bones					☐ Illustration	ns	Drawing			
Industrial					☐ Moving Im	nage	Manuscript			
Leather					Spreadsh	eets	□ Мар			
Metal			☐ X Survey			Matrices				
Stratigraphic		Ц			<b>▼</b> Text		Microfilm			
Survey			☐ Virtual F		☐ Virtual Re	ality	☐ Misc.			
Textiles							Research/Notes			
Nood U						Photos				
Worked Bone							× Plans			
Vorked Stone/Lithic X		$\boxtimes$				× Report				
None							× Sections			
Other	Ш	<u> </u>	Ш				Survey			
Notes:										

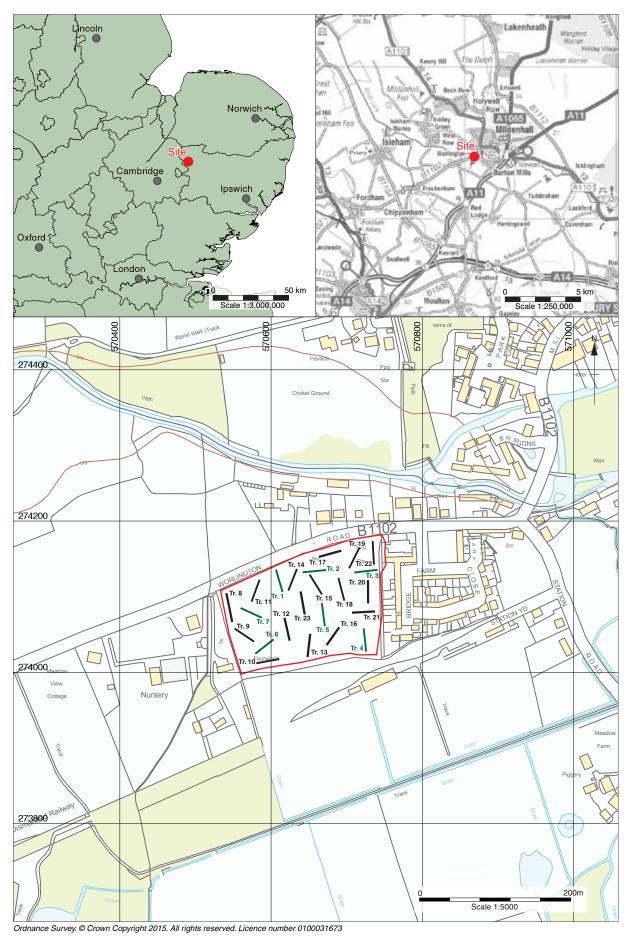


Figure 1: Site location map showing evaluation trenches stage 2 (black), evaluation trenches stage 1 (green) and the development area outlined (red)





Figure 2: Trenches overlain on 1904 Ordnance Survey, 2nd Edition

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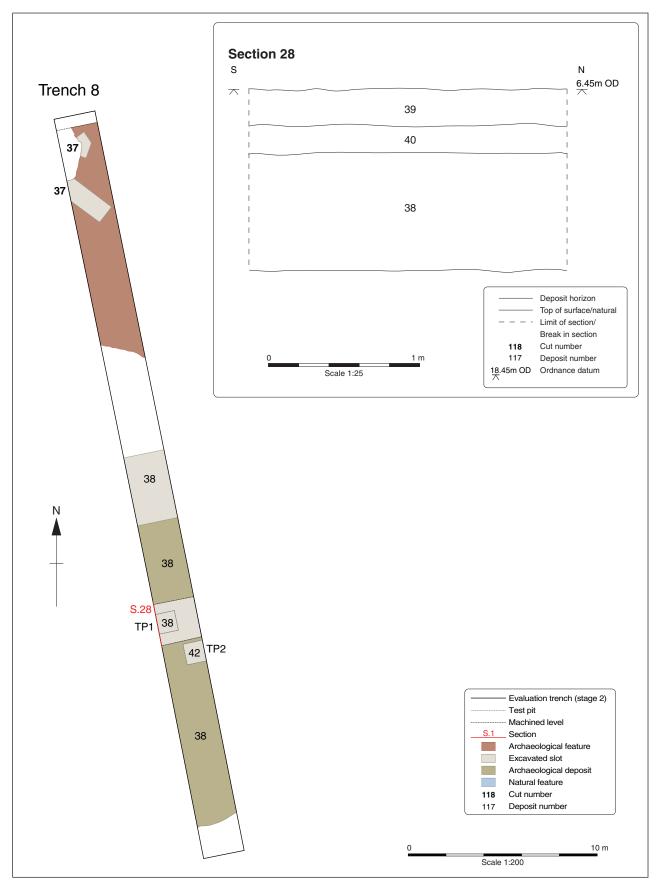


Figure 3: Detail plan of Trench 8 with associated section



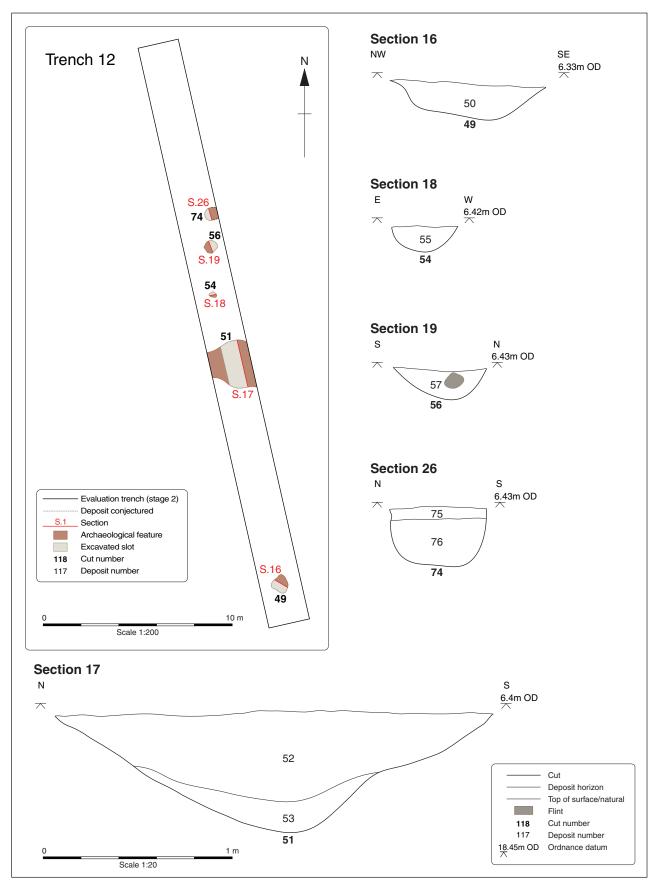


Figure 4: Detail plan of Trench 12 with associated sections



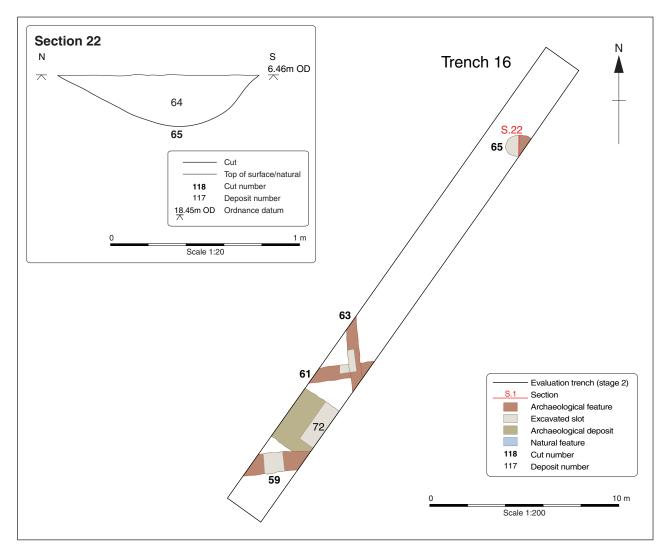


Figure 5: Detail plan of Trench 16 with associated section



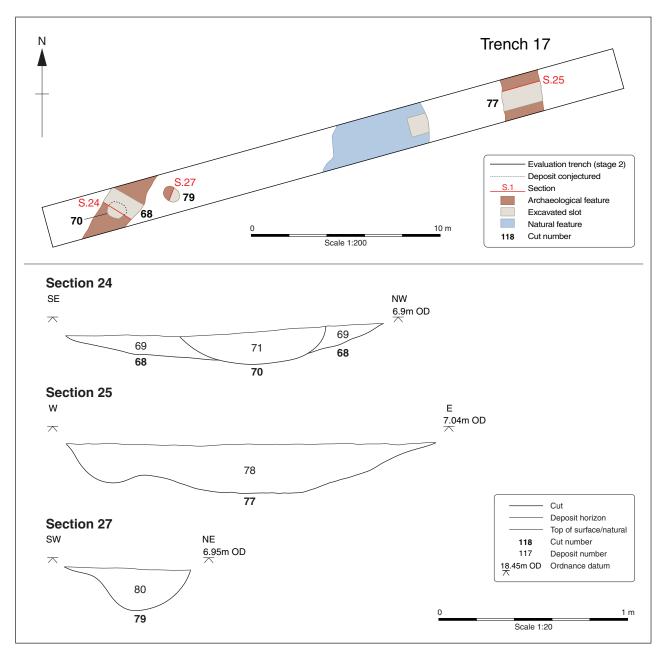


Figure 6: Detail plan of Trench 17 with associated sections



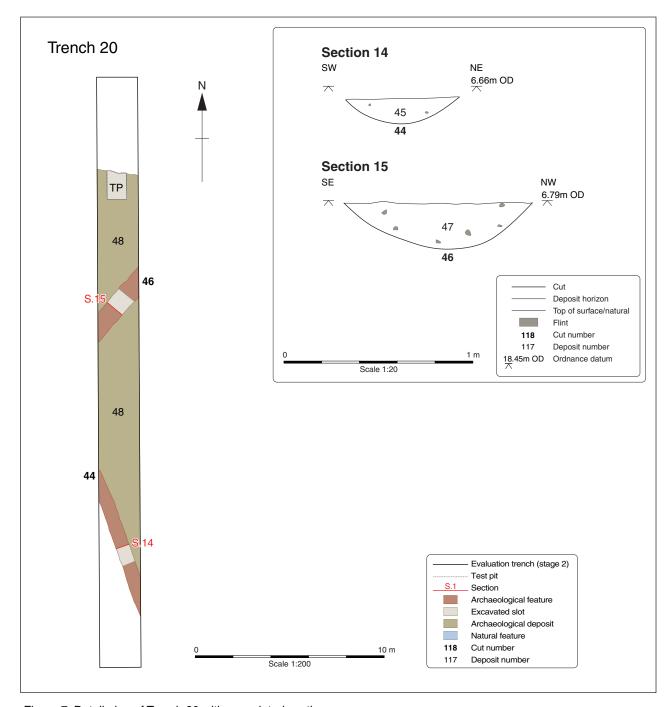


Figure 7: Detail plan of Trench 20 with associated sections





Plate 1: Trench 8 after extension, looking north, with layer 38 in foreground



Plate 2: Pit 65 (Trench 16), looking north east





Plate 3: Pit 70 within linear feature 68 (Trench 17), looking south west



Plate 4: Trench 20 post-excavation, looking south. Showing deposit 48 in foreground, with ditches **46** and **44** in background



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