

Part of Land South of Fairview Farm, Norwich Road, Halesworth **Archaeological Evaluation Report**

May 2019

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Part of Land South of Fairview Farm, Norwich Road, Halesworth

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Summary

Between the 7th and 9th of May 2019 Oxford Archaeology East undertook an archaeological evaluation on land south of Fairview Farm, Norwich Road, Halesworth (centred on TM 3919 78652).

A total of six trenches measuring 20m in length were excavated, revealing a single ditch spanning three trenches. It seems likely that this was an earlier roadside ditch that was allowed to infill naturally, probably when the course of Norwich Road (the A144) moved further to the west

Degraded animal bone was observed within one intervention in the ditch but it was too fragmented to recover.



Acknowledgements

Oxford Archaeology East (OA East) would like to thank Chris Clarke of CgMs Heritage for commissioning this project. Thank you to James Rolfe who monitored the work on behalf of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS).

The project was managed for Oxford Archaeology by Louise Moan. The fieldwork was directed by Adele Lord, who was supported by Rory Coduri. Survey and digitising was carried out by Tom Houghton and Séverine Bézie. The report was edited by Lawrence Billington and prepared for archive by Katherine Hamilton.



1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of work

- 1.1.1 OA East was commissioned by CgMs Heritage to undertake a trial trench evaluation on part of land to the south of Fairview Farm, Norwich Road, Halesworth (centred on TM 3919 7865)
- 1.1.2 The work was undertaken as a condition of Planning Permission (planning ref. DC/17/1012/OUT). A brief was set by James Rolfe of SCCAS outlining the Local Authority's requirements for work necessary to inform the planning process. A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was produced by CgMs Heritage (Clarke 2019; Appendix D) detailing the methods by which OA East proposed to meet the requirements of the brief.

1.2 Location, topography and geology

- 1.2.1 The site lies to the east of the current A144 (Norwich Road), is bounded to the south by a new housing development and to the east is a small stream.
- 1.2.2 The area of proposed development consists of 0.43ha situated at 37m OD.
- 1.2.3 The geology of the area is mapped by the British Geological Survey as Crag Group gravels with overlying deposits of Lowestoft Formation Diamicton (British Geological Survey online viewer: http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain3d/index.html, Accessed 13/05/2019).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 A full search of the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER) of a 1km radius centred on the evaluation site was commissioned from SCCAS (under licence 9226082). The following is a summary based on the results of the SHER search, with pertinent records shown on Fig. 2.

Iron Age and Roman

- 1.3.2 Extensive archaeological excavations at Sparrowhawk Road, approximately 500m to the north-east of the site identified extensive evidence of Iron Age and Roman settlement (HLN 009), comprising evidence of enclosures, field boundaries, numerous waste pits, and several roundhouses.
- 1.3.3 The potential alignment of the Roman road, Stone Street, between Ilketshall St John and Spexhall (ISL 007) is thought to follow the alignment of the modern Norwich Road, which bounds the site to the west.

Anglo-Saxon and Medieval

1.3.4 The Anglo-Saxon and medieval settlement at Halesworth (HWT 015) is thought to be focused in the vicinity of the current historic core of the town, located approximately 1km to the south of the site.



1.3.5 The settlement of Halesworth to the south, is recorded by the Domesday Survey of 1086 as a medium to large settlement comprising of 34 households (Open Domesday, 2019).



2 EVALUATION AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

- 2.1.1 This evaluation sought to establish the character, date, state of preservation of archaeological remains within the proposed development area. The scheme of works detailed below aimed to:
 - establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains on the site, characterise where they were found (location, depth and extent), and establish the quality of preservation of any archaeology and environmental remains;
 - ii. provide sufficient coverage to establish the character, condition, date and purpose of any archaeological deposits;
 - iii. provide sufficient coverage to evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking deposits; and
 - iv. provide in the event that archaeological remains are found sufficient information to construct an archaeological mitigation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables, and orders of cost.
- 2.1.2 Within the above parameters, the evaluation of this site presented an opportunity to address the following site-specific objectives as defined by (Clarke 2019):
 - i. To determine the presence of any prehistoric activity within the site:
 - ii. To determine the presence of any Iron Age and Roman activity within the site. Could this evidence be related to the postulated course of Stone Street or contemporary settlement activity identified at Sparrowhawk Road?
 - iii. To determine the presence of any Anglo-Saxon or late medieval activity within the site;
 - iv. Evaluate the likely impact of past land use and development; and
 - v. Provide sufficient information to, if appropriate, construct an archaeological mitigation strategy.

2.2 Research frameworks

- 2.2.1 This excavation took place within, and will contribute to the goals of Regional Research Frameworks relevant to this area:
 - Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for the East of England (Medlycott 2011, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24);
 - ii. Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern counties:1. Resource Assessment (Glazebrook 1997, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 3); and



iii. Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern counties:2. Research Agenda and Strategy (Brown & Glazebrook 2000, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 8)

2.3 Methodology

- 2.3.1 A total of six trenches were opened providing a 5% sample of the development area. Trench 3 was moved 1.5m to the east due to a positive signal when scanned with the CAT and genny.
- 2.3.2 All machine excavation took place under the constant supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist.
- 2.3.3 Trial trenches were excavated by a mechanical excavator to the depth of geological horizons, or to the upper interface of archaeological features or deposits, whichever was encountered first. A toothless ditching bucket with a bucket width of 2m was used to excavate the trenches. Overburden was excavated in spits not greater than 0.1m thick.
- 2.3.4 Spoil was stored alongside trenches. Topsoil, subsoil, and archaeological deposits were kept separate during excavation, to allow for sequential backfilling of excavations. Trenches were backfilled once approved by SCCAS.
- 2.3.5 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector.
- 2.3.6 All archaeological features were recorded using OA East pro-forma sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 2.3.7 A register was kept of the trenches, features and photographs. All features have been issued with unique context numbers.
- 2.3.8 Sections of features were drawn at scales of 1:10 or 1:20. All sections were tied in to Ordnance Datum and the site plan was surveyed into the Ordnance Survey National Grid.
- 2.3.9 All site drawings include the following information: site code, scale, section number, orientation, date and initial of the archaeologist who prepared the drawing.
- 2.3.10 Site survey was carried out using a survey-grade differential GPS (Lecia GS08) fitted with "Smartnet" technology with and accuracy of 5mm horizontal and 10mm vertical.



3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction and presentation of results

3.1.1 The results of the evaluation are presented below, and include a stratigraphic description of the trenches which contained archaeological remains. Trench plans and selected sections illustrating the findings can be found in Figures 3 and 4. Trench photographs and excavated features can be seen in Plates 1 to 7. The full details of all trenches with dimensions and depths of all deposits form the content of Appendix A.

3.2 General soils and ground conditions

- 3.2.1 The soil sequence between all trenches was fairly uniform. The natural geology of yellowish brown or blue grey clay was overlain by a mid-brownish grey subsoil between 0.07m and 0.1m thick, which in turn was overlain by between 0.18m and 0.3m of a dark greyish brown topsoil.
- 3.2.2 Ground conditions throughout the evaluation were generally poor, and the trenches and features soon contained standing water due to inclement weather. Nonetheless, archaeological features, where present, were easy to identify against the underlying natural geology.

3.3 General distribution of archaeological deposits

3.3.1 Archaeological features were present in Trenches 1, 2 and 3; these are described below and appear to be a single ditch that continues across all three trenches. Trenches 4, 5 and 6 were devoid of any archaeology and will not be discussed further (Fig. 3, Plates 5, 6 and 7).

3.4 Trench 1

- 3.4.1 Trench 1 (Fig. 3, Plate 1) measured 20m in length and was located in the south-western corner of the development area. A single ditch was partially exposed in the north-west corner of the trench. This trench had a large amount of root disturbance, particularly at the southern end.
- 3.4.2 Ditch **8** (Figs 3 and 4, Section 3) was on a north to south alignment. It measured at least 0.41m wide and 0.44m deep with steeply sloping sides and a slightly concave base. A single deposit (9) of mid orange brown silty clay with rare medium angular flint was excavated. No finds were recovered.

3.5 Trench 2

- 3.5.1 Trench 2 (Fig. 3, Plate 2) was located to the north of Trench 1, along the western side of the development area on a north to south alignment.
- 3.5.2 Ditch **4** (Figs 3 and 4, Section 2; Plate 3) was the only feature uncovered within the trench and was aligned north to south. It was 1.3m wide with stepped but steep sides and a concave base. A single deposit (5) of mid orange brown silty clay with occasional small to medium sub-rounded stones and flint was excavated, from which no artefacts were recovered.



3.6 Trench **3**

- 3.6.1 Trench 3 (Fig. 3, Plate 4) was located in the north-west corner of the development area aligned east to west, and measured 20m in length by 1.8m wide.
- 3.6.2 Ditch **6** (Figs 3 and 4, Section 1) was the only feature identified and extended along the entire length of the western edge of the trench. It was characterised as having stepped sides with a concave base and was found to be at least 0.73m wide and 0.32m deep. A single deposit (7) of mid orange brown silty clay with frequent small to medium subrounded stones were excavated, some animal bone fragments were observed, however, these were highly degraded and proved impossible to collect.

3.7 Finds summary

3.7.1 No artefacts were recovered from any section through this ditch of from topsoil and subsoil horizons across the site.



4 DISCUSSION

4.1 Reliability of field investigation

4.1.1 The extremely wet ground and flooding did not impact on the investigation, as trenches were opened under good weather conditions. This allowed for archaeological features, distinguished by their mid brown colours, and clearly visible against the orangey yellow of the natural clay, to be investigated.

4.2 Evaluation objectives and results

- 4.2.1 The aim of this investigation was to establish the character, date and state of preservation of any archaeological remains within the proposed area of development as described in Section 2 (above) and the Written Scheme of Investigation (Clarke 2019).
- 4.2.2 The trenches revealed a single linear ditch that appears to run parallel to the current route of the A144 (Norwich Road) to the west.

4.3 Interpretation

- 4.3.1 A single ditch was identified in Trench 1-3. Ditch 4 within Trench 2, provided the only full section through the feature but it clearly appears to continue to the north in Trench 3 (ditch 6) as well as the south in Trench 1 (ditch 8). In both Trench 1 and Trench 3 the ditch extends to the west under the baulk section. Similar characteristics were seen in both the profile of the feature as well as in the excavated deposits in all three trenches.
- 4.3.2 It is probable that this ditch, which runs parallel but not immediately adjacent to the current route of the A144 (Norwich Road), was at one time a roadside ditch that aided in drainage. Subsequently, the roadway moved further west and a new roadside ditch was created, after which its forerunner was allowed to silt up.
- 4.3.3 The date of this feature is unclear due to a lack of dateable artefactual evidence, but due to the highly rooted and homogenous nature of the deposits within the ditch it is unlikely to be of any considerable age.

4.4 Significance

4.4.1 It is probable that the ditch is either medieval or post-medieval in date and relates to an earlier version of the current A144 (Norwich Road). Therefore, this feature holds little archaeological value within either the local or regional context.



APPENDIX A TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1								
General o	description	n	Orientation	N-S				
Trench 1	ench 1 was found to contain a single North to South running Length (m) 20				20			
ditch. Co	nsists of to	Width (m)	1.8					
silty sand		Avg. depth (m)	0.37					
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date		
No.		(m)	(m)					
1	Layer	-	0.25	Topsoil	-	-		
2	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-		
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-		
6	Cut	0.41	0.44	Ditch	-	-		
7	Fill	0.41	0.44	Ditch	None			

Trench 2								
General o	description	n		Orientation	E-W			
Trench 2	was foun	d to con	tain a sir	ngle North to South running	Length (m) 20			
ditch. Co	nsists of to	Width (m)	1.8					
silty clay.		Avg. depth (m)	0.37					
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date		
No.		(m)	(m)					
1	Layer	-	0.28	Topsoil	-	-		
2	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil	-	-		
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-		
4	Cut	1.3	0.4	Ditch	-	-		
5	Fill	1.3	0.4	Ditch	None	-		

Trench 3								
General o	description	n	Orientation	N-S				
Trench w	as found t	o contain	a single	North to South running ditch.	Length (m)	20		
Consists	of topsoil	and subs	soil overl	ying natural geology of silty	Width (m)	1.8		
clay.					Avg. depth (m)	0.38		
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date		
No.		(m)	(m)					
1	Layer	-	0.3	Topsoil	-	-		
2	Layer	-	0.08	Subsoil	-	-		
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-		
8	Cut	0.73	0.32	Ditch	-	-		
9	Fill	0.73	0.32	Ditch	Very degraded	-		
					faunal bone			



Trench 4	Trench 4								
General o	description	n			Orientation E-W				
Trench d	evoid of	Length (m)	20						
overlying	natural ge	eology of	Width (m)	1.8					
					Avg. depth (m)	0.37			
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date			
No.		(m)	(m)						
1	Layer	-	0. 25	Topsoil	-	-			
2	Layer	-	0.1	Subsoil	-	-			
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-			

Trench 5									
General o	eneral description Orientation N-S				N-S				
Trench d	evoid of	archaeol	ogy. Con	sists of topsoil and subsoil	Length (m) 20				
overlying	natural ge	eology of	Width (m)	1.8					
					Avg. depth (m)	0.27			
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date			
No.		(m)	(m)						
1	Layer	-	0.2	Topsoil	-	-			
2	Layer - 007 Subsoil				-	-			
3	Layer	-	Natural	-	-				

Trench 6								
General o	description	n	Orientation E-W					
Trench d	evoid of	archaeol	sists of topsoil and subsoil	osoil and subsoil Length (m) 20				
overlying	natural ge	eology of	Width (m)	1.8				
					Avg. depth (m)	0.36		
Context	Туре	Width	Depth	Description	Finds	Date		
No.		(m)	(m)					
1	Layer	-	0.18	Topsoil	-	-		
2	Layer	-	0.07	-	-			
3	Layer	-	-	Natural	-	-		



APPENDIX B BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Rolfe, J., 2017, Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation at part Land South of Fairview Farm, Norwich Road, Halesworth. SCCAS (Unpublished)

Electronic Sources:

British Geological Survey Online viewer:

http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain3d/index.html (Accessed 13/05/2019)

Open Domesday: https://opendomesday.org/



APPENDIX C OASIS REPORT FORM

_	ect Details								
	SIS Number	dar3-347348							
Proj	ect Name	Part o	Land So	uth of Fai	rvie	ew Farm	, Norwich Ro	oad,	Halesworth, Suffolk
Star	t of Fieldwork	07/05	/2019			T End c	of Fieldwork	(09/05/2019
	vious Work	N/A	72013				e Work	-	ГВС
110	vious Work	14/74					CVVOIR	L	TDC .
Proje	ect Reference	Codes							
Site	Code	XSFNR	H19			Plann	ing App. No.	. [DC/17/1012/FUL
HER	Number	HWT0	70			Relat	ed Numbers	_	
D			NDDE						
Pro	•		NPPF						
	elopment Type		Resid			/			,
Plac	e in Planning Pr	ocess	After	full deter	mır	nation (e	g. As a cond	itior	1)
Toch	niques used (tick all	that ann	sty)					
	Aerial Photograph interpretation			Grab-samp	oling	5		Re	mote Operated Vehicle Survey
	Aerial Photograph	y - new		Gravity-co	re		\boxtimes		Sample Trenches
	Annotated Sketch			☐ Laser Scanning					Survey/Recording of
									bric/Structure
☐ Augering				Measured					rgeted Trenches
	Dendrochonologic								st Pits
□ Documentary Search☑ Environmental Sampling				☐ Phosphate Survey☐ Photogrammetric Surv			v 🗆		pographic Survey pro-core
	Fieldwalking	IIIbiiiig		☐ Photographic Survey			•		sual Inspection (Initial Site Visit
	Geophysical Surve	ey .		Rectified P		-			•
D.4 -		D-				Ohion			David
Ditc	nument		riod certain		ĺ	Objec	τ		Period None
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		CH	oose an it	tem.	ļ				Choose an item.
roje	ect Location								
Cou	•	Suffoll	<						ling Postcode)
Dist	rict	Waver	ney						outh of Fairview Farm,
Pari	sh	Halesv	vorth				Norwich R		d,
HER	office	Suffoll	<				Haleswort		X-0
Size of Study Area 0.43ha						Suffolk IP	19 8	315	
National Grid Ref TM 391			191 7865	91 78652					
)roi:	act Originator	•							
_	ect Originators		Outside	Archasal	0.7	, East			
_	anisation	-+		Oxford Archaeology East James Rolfe SCCAS					
-	ect Brief Origina		-						
-	ect Design Orig	inator		larke CgN			5		
-	ect Manager		-	Louise Moan OA East					
Proj	ect Supervisor	Adele L	ord OA E	as	t				



Project Archives

Physical Archive (Finds) Digital Archive Paper Archive

Location	ID
N/A	N/A
OA East	XSFNRH19
Suffolk County Council Store	HWT 070

Physical Contents	Present?	Digital files associated with Finds	Paperwork associated w Finds	rith
Animal Bones Ceramics Environmental Glass Human Remains Industrial Leather Metal Stratigraphic Survey Textiles Wood Worked Bone Worked Stone/Lithic None Other				
Digital Media Database GIS Geophysics Images (Digital photos) Illustrations (Figures/Plat Moving Image Spreadsheets Survey Text Virtual Reality	es)	Paper Media Aerial Photos Context Sheets Correspondence Diary Drawing Manuscript Map Matrices Microfiche Miscellaneous Research/Notes Photos (negatives/prints, Plans Report Sections Survey	/slides)	

Further Comments



APPENDIX D

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 It is proposed to develop land south of Fairview Farm, Norwich Road, Halesworth, Suffolk (NGR TM 3920 7864) (Figs. 1 & 2). This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) is being produced to address conditions 3 & 4 associated with the planning consent DC/17/1012/OUT:
 - 3. No development shall take place within the area relating to either the AH and/or the GMH (as identified on ABP Dwg. No. PH01 rev A) until the implementation of a programme of archaeological work has been secured, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme of investigation shall include an assessment of significance and research questions; and:
 - a. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording
 - b. The programme for post investigation assessment
 - c. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording
 - d. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation
 - e. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation
 - f. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.
 - g. The site investigation shall be completed prior to development, or in such other phased arrangement, as agreed and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
 - 4. No building within either the AH or GMH (as identified on ABP Dwg. No. PH01 rev A) shall be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed reflective of the relevant phase, submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under Condition 1 and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition.
- 1.2 The geological, topographical, archaeological and historical background to the site is summarised in Sections 2 and 3 below. The archaeological potential of the site primarily derives from the site's proximity to known Iron Age and Roman settlement activity, in addition to the alignment of a possible Roman road.
- 1.3 The proposed development could affect archaeological remains which might be present. For this reason, and because of the site's perceived archaeological potential, a programme of archaeological evaluation has been deemed appropriate in this particular instance.
- 1.4 This document therefore forms the WSI required to support the proposed evaluation. It has been prepared in accordance with all relevant guidelines, including those set down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), Historic England (HE), Suffolk

Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation Part of land south of Fairview Farm, Norwich Road, Halesworth, Suffolk

County Council (SCC 2017a), and for the East of England (Gurney 2003) to which the evaluation exercise will adhere (see Sources Consulted).

1.5 Dependant upon the results of the evaluation trenching, further work may be required to progress the discharge of the archaeological condition, for which a supplementary WSI will be prepared.

2.0 **GEOLOGY & TOPOGRAPHY**

- 2.1 The British Geological Survey (2019) indicates that the solid geology of the site consists of Crag Group Gravel, with overlying superficial deposits comprising Lowestoft Formation.
- 2.2 Geotechnical investigations undertaken in March 2018 record topsoil deposits measuring up to 0.25m in depth, overlying undisturbed clay deposits (NPL 2018).
- 2.3 The ground surface within the site is roughly level at approximately 37m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD).
- 2.4 A small stream is located approximately 400m to the east of the site, while the course of the River Blyth in located c1km to the south.

3.0 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Extensive archaeological excavations at Sparrowhawk Road, approximately 500m to the northeast of the site identified extensive evidence of Iron Age and Roman settlement (KLN 009), comprising evidence of enclosures, field boundaries, numerous waste pits, and several roundhouses.
- 3.2 The potential alignment of the Roman road, Stone Street, between Ilketshall St John and Spexhall (ILS 007) is thought to follow the alignment of the modern Norwich Road, which bounds the site to the west.
- 3.3 The Anglo-Saxon and Medieval settlement at Halesworth (HWT 015) is thought to be focused in the vicinity of the current historic core of the town, located approximately 1km to the south of the site.
- 3.4 The settlement of Halesworth to the south, is recorded by the Domesday Survey of 1086 as a medium to large settlement comprising of 34 households (Open Domesday 2019).
- 3.5 A review of the historic Ordnance Survey map sequence identifies that the site has remained undeveloped up to the present day.

4.0 **EVALUATION TRENCHING**

- 4.1 A trial trench plan has been prepared following discussions with the Suffolk Archaeological Officer, consisting of six evaluation trenches measuring 20m x 1.8m (Fig. 2). The trial trenches have been located to target the footprint of the proposed development.
- 4.2 The fieldwork is envisaged to take up to four working days to complete, after which a report will be prepared.
- 4.3 The locations of the trench may be fined tuned but will not be altered significantly without prior consultation with CgMs Heritage and the Suffolk Archaeological Officer.

5.0 OBJECTIVES AND RATIONALE OF THE FIELD EVALUATION

- 5.1 To establish whether any archaeological evidence survives on the site.
- The evaluation should aim to determine, as far as is reasonably possible, the location, form, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains, irrespective of period, liable to be threatened by the proposed redevelopment.
- 5.3 The evaluation should also seek to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusions and hence assess the degree of archaeological survival of buried deposits and any surviving structures of archaeological significance.
- 5.4 Within these parameters, the evaluation of this site presents an opportunity to address the following objectives:
 - 1) To determine the presence of any prehistoric activity within the site.
 - 2) To determine the presence of any Iron Age and Roman activity within the site. Can this evidence be related to the postulated course of Stone Street or contemporary settlement activity identified at Sparrowhawk Road?
 - 3) To determine the presence of any Anglo-Saxon or Late Medieval activity within the site.
 - 4) Evaluate the likely impact of past land use and development.
 - 5) Provide sufficient information to, if appropriate, construct an archaeological mitigation strategy.
- 5.5 In addition, the following research aims have been drawn from the Eastern Region Archaeological Frameworks (Medlycott 2011):

Roman

How far can the size and shape of fields be related to the agricultural regimes identified, and what is the relationship between rural and urban sites? (Medlycott 2011, p47)

6.0 FIELD EVALUATION - DETAILED SPECIFICATION

- 6.1 The overall objectives of this field evaluation are set out in Section 5. This section details the on site methodologies, report format and other related details.
- 6.2 Six trial trenches measuring 20m long by 1.8m wide will be excavated to evaluate the site as set out in Figure 2.
- 6.3 All features encountered will be located and assessed. The results of this preliminary survey will provide the basis for considering any further mitigation measures.

Evaluation Techniques

- 1) The trenches will be opened by mechanical excavator, with removal of all undifferentiated topsoil down to the first significant horizon. The machine should remove a level spit of no more than 0.10m depth moving along the length of the trench. Successive spits may be similarly removed until the first significant archaeological horizon is reached. That level should be cleaned in plan using a wide blade, ditching bucket or similar, with no teeth. If the machine has to reenter the trench care should be taken to ensure that it does not damage underlying remains, particularly in soft conditions. The machine must not be used to cut arbitrary trial trenches down to natural deposits, without regard to the archaeological stratification and leaving a section record only. All machine work must be under archaeological supervision and should cease immediately if significant evidence is revealed.
- 2) The machine used should be powerful enough for a clean job of work and able to mound spoil neatly, a safe distance from trench edges. Mini garden excavators or bulldozers are not suitable.
- 3) Sampling should follow the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS) guideline, but in general should comprise initially examination of all archaeological deposits should be by hand with cleaning, examination and recording both in plan and section. The objective is to define remains rather than totally remove them. Full excavation should be confined to the least significant remains (e.g. dumped layers) which may allow underlying stratigraphy and features to be exposed and recorded. Within significant levels partial excavation, half-sectioning, the recovery of dating evidence, sampling and the cleaning and recording of structures is preferable to full excavation. Depending on the stratigraphy

revealed sieving of fills (at the appropriate mesh level) should be undertaken to recover small flint flakes/metalwork (i.e. a control sample of artefacts). The trenches must characterise the full archaeological sequence down to undisturbed deposits.

- 4) Archaeological excavation may require work by pick and shovel or occasionally further use of the machine. Such techniques are only appropriate for the removal of homogeneous or low-grade deposits which may give a 'window' into underlying levels. They must not be used on complex stratigraphy and the deposits to be removed must have been properly recorded first. Casual "mattock testing" of features of uncertain archaeological value must not be undertaken without the prior approval of the Local Planning Authority. The depth and nature of all colluvial or other masking deposits must be established across the site. The use of plant to assist in the investigation of features will be agreed beforehand with SCCAS.
- Particular care should be taken not to damage any areas containing significant remains which might merit preservation in situ. Such evidence would normally include deep or complex stratification settlement evidence and structures. The Local Planning Authority and the Suffolk Archaeological Officer must be informed immediately if remains likely to be of national significance are encountered. Such areas should be protected and not left open to the weather, or other forms of deterioration whilst investigation will not be at the expense of any structures, features or finds which might reasonably be considered to merit preservation, it is important that a sufficient sample is studied.
- 6) Any human remains must also be left *in situ*, covered and protected. If removal is essential it can only take place under appropriate Ministry of Justice and environmental health regulations. Such removal must be in compliance with the Disused Burial Grounds Amendment Act 1981. Prior written notice is also to be given to the Local Planning Authority.
- 7) Metal detector should be used, where appropriate, during the course of the evaluation. Metal finds will have their locations recorded via GPS. The metal detecting will be undertaken by specialist, Tom Lucking.
- 8) Topsoil/subsoil is to be kept separate during the evaluation to allow sequential backfilling using these arising only.

Access and Safety

- 9) Reasonable access to the site is to be arranged for representatives of the Local Planning Authority and the Suffolk Archaeological Officer who may wish to make site inspections to ensure that the archaeological investigations are progressing satisfactorily.
- 10) All relevant health and safety regulations must be followed. A general health and safety policy must be provided by the Archaeological Contractor and a detailed risk assessment and management strategy for this site prepared. In particular staff should be kept away from unsupported trench edges and public access routes should be supervised and controlled. Barriers, hoardings and warning notices should be installed as appropriate. Safety helmets are to be used by all personnel as necessary. Appropriate toilet and washing facilities for site staff will be provided by the Archaeological Contractor.
- 11) All trenches will be scanned both visually and by CAT detector prior to excavation to identify any services within the immediate vicinity of the trench.
- 12) No personnel are to work in deep unsupported excavations. Trenches will not exceed a depth of more than 1.2m unless the sides of the trench are stepped.
- 13) Where there is reason to believe from previous uses that the ground may be contaminated, the Archaeological Contractor must include arrangements for pollution sampling and testing *before* any site work takes place. A search for public utility or other services will also be undertaken by the Archaeological Contractor prior to commencement.
- 14) The archaeological organisation must be satisfied that the applicant or developer has provided all information reasonably obtainable on contamination and the location of live services before any site work takes place.
- 15) All archaeological trenches should be backfilled upon completion following receipt of approval from SCCAS.

Recording Systems

16) The recording system must be fully compatible with that most widely used elsewhere in Suffolk. Context sheets should include all relevant stratigraphic relationships and for complex stratigraphy a separate matrix diagram should be employed. This matrix should be fully checked during the course of the

evaluation. If there is any doubt over recording techniques the guidance of the Suffolk Archaeological Officer will be sought.

- 17) It will be the responsibility of the archaeological contractor to obtain a site code from the appropriate source, which will subsequently used as the site identifier on all documents.
- 18) The site archive will be so organised as to be compatible with other archaeological archives produced in the County. Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated or exposed will be entered onto prepared pro-forma recording sheets. Sample recording sheets, sample registers, finds recording sheets, access catalogues, and photo record cards will also be used. This requirement for archival compatibility extends to the use of computerised database.
- 19) The following sampling strategy will be adhered to, unless otherwise agreed with SCCAS:
 - 50% of each intrusive feature (pits, postholes).
 - 25% of each linear feature, including all terminals and intersections.
 - 50% of earth-cut structural features (beamslots, ring ditches).
 - Surviving structural elements (walls, collapse/debris fields) and domestic/industrial features (hearths, ovens), will be exposed, cleaned and left in-situ.
- 20) Site location plan required; general plan (e.g. OS 1:1250) showing investigation area and development site in relation to surrounding locality and street pattern.
- 21) This will be supplemented by trench plans at 1:500 (or 1:200), which will show the location of the areas investigated in relationship to the investigation area, OS grid and site grid (if any). The locations of the OS bench marks used and site TBMs will also be identified.
- 22) Archaeological plans; some record of the full extent in plan of all archaeological deposits must be made. All significant deposits that significantly affect the interpretation of the site and relate to the evaluation objectives should be formally planned in relation to the trench and OS grid and be at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20. Single context planning is required on deeply stratified sites.

- 23) Sections containing significant deposits, including half sections, should be drawn as appropriate. Upon completion of the trench at least one long section is to be drawn, including a profile of the top of natural deposits. In addition to the excavation of man made deposits some assessment of "naturally deposited" levels will be necessary, especially when these are organically preserved and laid down within archaeological timescales.
- 24) All archaeological plans and sections should be on drawing film at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20 and should include context numbers and OD spot heights for all principal strata and features.
- 25) An adequate photographic record of any significant archaeological remains is required, in both plan and section, illustrating in both detail and general context the principal features and finds discovered. This will consist of and white prints and colour transparencies (on 35mm film) supported by standard digital photography. The photographic record will also include working shots to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted. The transparencies will be mounted in suitable frames. Where appropriate a photogrammetric record will be made of complex structures, features and horizons liable to be damaged in the course of the evaluation.
- 26) A Harris Matrix stratification diagram will be compiled and fully checked during the course of the excavations.

Finds and Samples

- 27) A high priority should be given to dating any remains and so all artefacts and finds are to be retained. Consideration should also be given to the recovery of specialist samples for scientific analysis, particularly samples for absolute dating, structural materials and cultural/environmental evidence. Different sampling strategies may be employed according to established research targets and the perceived importance of the strata under investigation. Minimum levels of data acquisition should be defined according to the "information recovery levels" summarised by Carver (1987). The default data acquisition level for all premodern assemblages is level D. Close attention will be given to sampling for date, structure and environment.
- 28) The strategy for sampling archaeological and environmental deposits and structures (which can include soils timbers, animal bone and human burials) will be developed in consultation with the Suffolk Archaeological Officer and the

Historic England Scientific Advisor for the region. This will be sought at the project planning stage and a visit arranged to determine the importance and sampling requirements for all deposits exposed during the investigation. Consideration will be given to bulk samples of material for C14 dating, as appropriate, and samples of any other inclusions such as wood should also be taken. 40Ll bulk samples must be taken as a minimum (or full context if this is less), with all features considered to have environmental potential to be sampled.

- 29) A high priority will be given to the sampling of river and other anaerobic deposits (such as peat) where organic materials may be preserved.
- 30) Organic samples will be subject to appropriate specialist analysis. There may be a requirement to submit timbers to dendrochronological analysis and to process some samples to provide C14 dating. Other forms of specialist analysis may also be appropriate.
- 31) The finds retrieval policies of the Historic England archaeological guidance papers will be adopted. All identified finds and artefacts will be retained, although certain classes of building material can sometimes be discarded after recording if an appropriate sample is retained. No finds will, however, be discarded without the prior approval of the Suffolk Archaeological Officer.
- 32) All finds and samples will be treated in a proper manner and to the standards of the UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines. They will be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and boxed in accordance with the guidelines set out in the UK Institute for Conservation "Conservation Guideline No 2". Appropriate guidelines set out in the Museums and Galleries Commissions "Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections (1991)" will also be followed.
- 33) Any finds covered by the provisions of the Treasure Act (1996, amended 2003) and Treasure (Designation) Order 2002, including gold and silver, will be moved to a safe place and reported to the coroner's office according to the procedures determined by the Act. They will also be reported to the local finds liaison officer from the Portable Antiquities Scheme. Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures will be taken to protect the artefacts from theft or damage.
- 34) The pottery specialist employed by the archaeological contractor will be familiar with local wares with a record of publications in the region.

Reports and Archives

Evaluation Report

35) Within four weeks of completion of the work the archaeological contractor will produce a report, copies of which are to be provided to CgMs Heritage for circulation to the Developer, Suffolk Coastal & Waveney District Council and the Suffolk Archaeological Officer. Initially a draft of the report will be submitted to SCCAS for review.

The report is to include, as a minimum, the following:

- a site location plan at an appropriate scale; a copy of the trench location plan at 1:1250 together with a plan of the main archaeological features at 1:100 and more detailed plans and relevant section drawings as appropriate.
 Particular note should be made of any variations in the depth of overburden covering any archaeological deposits revealed;
- b. a descriptive summary and interpretation of the archaeology of the site;
- c. a table showing, per trench, the features, classes and numbers of artefacts located and their interpretation;
- d. a consideration of the methodology used, including a confidence rating;
- e. A summary report to be included in the PISAH archaeological annual round up where archaeological remains are encountered.

The archaeological contractor is to allow the site records to be inspected and examined at any reasonable time, during or after the evaluation, by the Developer, the Suffolk Archaeological Officer or any designated representative of Suffolk Coastal & Waveney District Council.

Archives and Published Reports

36) The integrity of the site archive should be maintained. The archive of all records and finds must be prepared consistent with the principles set out in the Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage 1991), particularly

Appendix 3.1 and Appendix 4.1, together with subsequent MoRPHE guidance (see Sources Consulted).

- 37) The minimum acceptable standard for the archival report is defined in the "Management of Archaeological Projects" 5.4 and Appendix 3. It will include all materials recovered (or the comprehensive record of such materials) and all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent. It will also contain a site matrix, a site summary and brief written observations on the artefactual and environmental data.
- 38) United Kingdom Institute for Conservation guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage (1990) will be followed. Arrangements for the curation of the site archive will be agreed in writing with the recipient Museum and details of such arrangements will be made by the archaeological contractor.
- 39) The site archive is to be deposited with the SCCAS stores within 3 months of the completion of work, according to the Suffolk Archives Guidelines (SCC 2017b). It will then become publicly accessible.
- 40) Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER) Sheets should be completed for the site.
- 41) In addition, at the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/projects/oasis/ must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators Forms (see Appendix A). All appropriate parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for inclusion into the evaluation report and subsequent submission to the Suffolk HER. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive). The OASIS process will be completed by the appointed archaeological fieldwork contractor.

Archaeological Contractor

- 42) The field team deployed by Oxford Archaeology East will include only full time professional archaeological staff. All staff should be experienced on similar sites.
- 43) The composition of the project team must be detailed and agreed with the Suffolk Archaeological Officer (see Appendix B).

44) A timetable for all stages of the project must be agreed before the first stage of work commences, including monitoring by the Suffolk Archaeological Officer.

Notification of Start Date

45) The Suffolk Archaeological officer will be notified in advance of the commencement of fieldwork, and will be kept informed of progress on site with a view to arranging site monitoring meetings as appropriate.

SOURCES CONSULTED

National Guidance:

Department of Communities and Local Government *National Planning Policy Framework* 2018

Historic England (formerly English Heritage) Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment 2008

Historic England *Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning: 1 The Historic Environment in Local Plans* July 2015 unpublished document

Historic England *Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning: 2 Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment* July 2015 unpublished document

Historic England *Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning: 3 The Setting of Heritage Assets* July 2017 unpublished document

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Guidelines:

http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/code conduct.pdf http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/ifa code practice.pdf

Historic England Guidelines:

MAP2 Management of Archaeological Projects (Second Edition) 1991

MoRPHE Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide 2009

MoRPHE Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation January 2008

Regional Guidelines:

Gurney, D. Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003

Medlycott, M. Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 24 2011

Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service *Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation* 2017a

Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Archaeological Archives in Suffolk. Guidelines for Preparation and Deposition 2017b

Guidelines for archiving:

Archaeological Archives Forum (Duncan H. Brown), Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, completion, transfer and collection 2007

Museum and Galleries Commission *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections* 1992

Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation
Part of land south of Fairview Farm, Norwich Road, Halesworth, Suffolk
Society of Museum Archaeologists Selection and Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological
Collections draft 1992

Society of Museum Archaeologists *Towards an Accessible Archaeological Archive. The Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Museums: Guidelines for Use in England, Northern Ireland Scotland and Wales* 1995.

Site Specific

British Geological Survey Geology of Britain Viewer http://www.bgs.ac.uk/ 2019

Open Domesday http://opendomesday.org/ 2019

NPL Site Investigation Including Quantitative Risk Assessment Fairview Farm, Norwich Road Halesworth, Suffolk 2018

NAME	SPECIALISM	ORGANISATION
Allen, Leigh	Worked bone, CBM, medieval metalwork	Oxford Archaeology
Allen, Martin	Medieval coins	Fitzwilliam Museum
Allen, Martyn	Zooarchaeology	Oxford Archaeology
Anderson, Katie	Roman pottery	Freelance
Anderson, Sue	Medieval & post-medieval pottery (specifically from Norfolk & Suffolk), CBM and human remains	Freelance
Bamforth, Mike	Woodworking	York University
Barker, Karen	Small find conservation & X-Ray	Freelance
Bayliss, Alex	C14 advice	Historic England
Biddulph, Edward	Roman pottery	Oxford Archaeology
Billington, Lawrence	Lithics	Oxford Archaeology
Bishop, Barry	Lithics	Freelance
Blinkhorn, Paul	Iron Age, Anglo-Saxon and medieval pottery	Freelance
Booth, Paul	Roman pottery and coins	Oxford Archaeology
Boreham, Steve	Pollen and soils/ geology	Cambridge University
Broderick, Lee	Zooarchaeology	Oxford Archaeology
Brown, Lisa	Prehistoric pottery	Oxford Archaeology
Brudenell, Matt	Prehistoric pottery	Oxford Archaeology
Cane, Jon	Display & reconstruction artist	Freelance
Champness, Carl	Molluscs, geoarchaeology	Oxford Archaeology
Cotter, John	Medieval/post-medieval finds, pottery, CBM	Oxford Archaeology
Crummy, Nina	Small finds	Freelance
Cowgill, Jane	Slag/metalworking residues	Freelance
Dickson, Anthony	Worked Flint	Oxford Archaeology
Dodwell, Natasha	Osteology, including cremations	Oxford Archaeologist
Donelly, Mike	Lithics	Oxford Archaeology
Doonan, Roger	Slags, metallurgy	Freelance
Druce, Denise	Pollen, charred plants, charcoal/wood identification, sediment coring and interpretation	Oxford Archaeology
Drury, Paul	CBM (specialised)	Freelance
Fletcher, Carole	Medieval & post-medieval pottery, glass, shell & small finds	Oxford Archaeology
Fosberry, Rachel	Charred waterlogged and mineralised plant remains	Oxford Archaeology
Foster, Hayley	Zooarchaeologist	Oxford Archaeology
Fryer, Val	Molluscs/environmental	Freelance
Mark Gibson	Osteology	Oxford Archaeology
Gleed-Owen, Chris	Herpetologist (amphibians & reptiles)	CGO Ecology Ltd
Goffin, Richenda	Post-Roman pottery, building materials, painted wall plaster	Suffolk CC

Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation Part of land south of Fairview Farm, Norwich Road, Halesworth, Suffolk

NAME	SPECIALISM	ORGANISATION
Howard-Davis, Chris	Small finds, Mesolithic flint, leather, wooden objects and wood technology	Freelance
Locker, Alison	Fish bone	Freelance
Loe, Louise	Osteology	Oxford Archaeology
Lucking, Tom	Metal detecting	Oxford Archaeology
Lyons, Alice	Late Iron Age/Roman pottery	Freelance
Martin, Toby	Anglo-Saxon metalwork and artefacts	Oxford University
Masters, Pete	Geophysics	Cranfield University
McIntyre, Lauren	Osteology	Oxford Archaeology
Middleton, Paul	Phosphates/garden history	Peterborough Regional College
Mould, Quita	Ironwork, leather	freelance
Nicholson, Rebecca	Fish and small mammal and bird bones, shell	Oxford Archaeology
Palmer, Rog	Aerial photographs	Air Photo Services
Percival, Sarah	Prehistoric pottery, quern stones	Freelance
Poole, Cynthia	Multi-period finds, CBM, fired clay	Oxford Archaeology
Popescu, Adrian	Roman and later coins	Fitzwilliam Museum
Quinn, Patrick	Pottery thin section, ceramic petrology	UCL
Riddler, Ian	Worked bone objects & related artefact types	Freelance
Robinson, Mark	Insects	Oxford University
Rowland, Steve	Zooarchaeology & osteology	Oxford Archaeology
Rutherford, Mairead	Pollen, diatoms, etc	Oxford Archaeology
Samuels, Mark	Architectural stonework	Freelance
Scott, lan	Roman, medieval, post-medieval finds, metalwork, glass	Oxford Archaeology
Shaffrey, Ruth	Worked stone and Roman CBM	Oxford Archaeology
Smith, David	Insects	University of Birmingham
Smith, Ian	Zooarchaeology	Oxford Archaeology
Spoerry, Paul	Medieval pottery	Oxford Archaeology
Stafford, Liz	Molluscs and geoarchaeology	Oxford Archaeology
Timberlake, Simon	Archaeometallurgy & geoarchaeology	Freelance
Tyers, lan	Dendrochronology	Sheffield University
Ui Choileain, Zoe	Osteology & zooarchaeology	Oxford Archaeology
Vickers, Kim	Insects	Sheffield University
Walker, Helen	Medieval pottery (Essex)	Essex CC
Way, Twigs	Medieval landscape and garden history	Freelance
Webb, Helen	Osteology	Oxford Archaeology
Young, Jane	Medieval Pottery (Lincolnshire)	Freelance
Zant, John	Roman coins	Oxford Archaeology

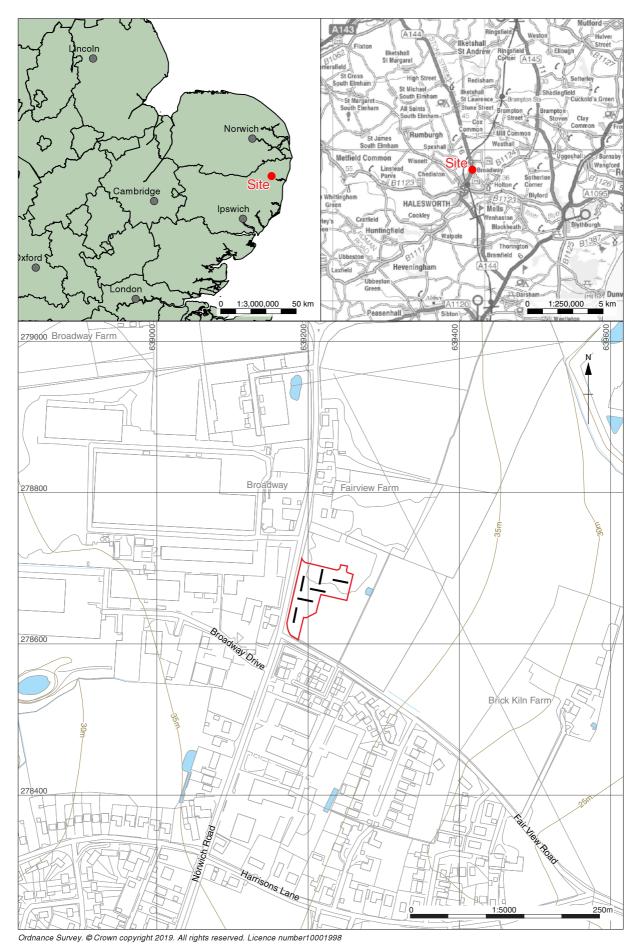


Figure 1: Site location showing development area outlined (red) and trenches (black)





Figure 2: Site location map with referenced HER Data

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- Development area - Evaluation trench

Projected feature Section

Archaeological feature

Cut number

Excavated slot

118

639240

Figure 3: Trench location plan showing all features



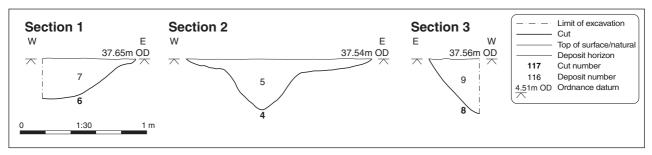


Figure 4: Selected sections

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Plate 1: Trench 1 viewed from the north, Ditch 8 in the foreground



Plate 2: Trench 2 viewed from the west, Ditch 4 in the foreground





Plate 3: Ditch 4 viewed from the south



Plate 4: Trench 3 viewed from the south, Ditch 6 visible beyond the scales





Plate 5: Trench 4 viewed from the east



Plate 6: Trench 5 viewed from the east





Plate 7: Trench 6 viewed from east

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