West Farm Barnham Suffolk



Archaeological Evaluation Report



April 2014

Client: CgMs Consulting

OA East Report No: 1611 OASIS No: oxfordar3-174065

NGR: TL 8445 7732



West Farm, Barnham, Suffolk

Archaeological Evaluation

By Anthony Haskins MSc BSc PIfA

With contributions by Sarah Percival BA MA MIFA, Rachel Fosberry HNC AIFA

Editor: Aileen Connor BA AIFA

Illustrator: Severine Bezie MA

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Report Number: 1611

Site Name: West Farm, Barnham

HER Event No: BNH 105

Date of Works: March 2014

Client Name: CgMs Consulting

Client Ref:

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Grid Ref: TL 8445 7732

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Prepared by: Anthony Haskins
Position: Fieldwork Supervisor

Date:

Checked by: Aileen Connor

Position: Senior Project Manager

Date: Signed: A.A. Como.

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Oxford Archaeology East,

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

t: 01223 850500 f: 01223 850599

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

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Summary

During March 2014 Oxford Archaeology East carried out trenching at West Farm, Barnham. Three areas of potential interest had been previously identified by geophysical survey and the trenching was targeted on these. A large (approximately 40m x 40m) square enclosure with possible entrance on its north-east side was located at the western end of the site (Western Enclosure), and three trenches (1-3) were excavated to investigate it. At the eastern end of the site a small complex small sub-square enclosure (Eastern Enclosure) was investigated by two trenches (5 and 6), whilst a pair of parallel ditches (Possible Trackway) were investigated by a single trench (4). With the exception of Trench 2, all of the trenches were 25m long, Trench 2 was extended to encompass a ditch terminus.

A single enclosure (Western Enclosure) identified in the geophysical survey was targeted by Trenches 1-3. Trench 1 was located on the north-west arm of the enclosure and revealed a single ditch (15), which had a V-shaped profile and a flat base, 2.1m wide and 0.64m deep. No finds were present. Trench 2 was excavated on the north-east arm of the enclosure and revealed a ditch terminus (31) indicating an entrance into the enclosure. The ditch here was 2.4m wide and 1.05m deep and it contained three fills. A small number of lithics (struck flints) were recovered from all three fills along with two cattle bones. Trench 3 was located at the southern corner of the enclosure, here the ditch (5) was 2.3m wide and 0.85m deep with a V shaped profile and flat base. No finds were recovered from its fills.

The geophysical survey showed the Eastern Enclosure to be a sub-square feature under 20m across and comprising discontinuous outer and inner ditches surrounding internal features. Two trenches were located across the enclosure to investigate it. In Trench 5, positioned over the western side of the enclosure, the inner ditch (25) was 0.9m wide and 0.38m deep. It contained a single fill of loose dark greyish-black sand that produced an assemblage of 976 lithics and 36 sherds of Neolithic Pottery. The outer ditch (27) also contained worked flints and pottery in its fills but in much smaller quantities. Trench 6 was positioned over the eastern side of the enclosure and two ditches (9 and 13) were revealed, here the inner ditch (13) was filled with a mid brown silty sand which differed greatly from that found in trench 5, although it too contained large quantities of worked flint, there was no pottery present. The outer ditch (9) was very similar in character to that revealed in Trench 5 and again contained worked flints, although only one tiny sherd of pottery was found. Located within the enclosure was a spread of dark greyish-black sand within a shallow depression beneath which was a small circular pit or post-hole (23) filled with the same dark greyish-black sand, and from which 496 worked flints and 18 sherds of Neolithic pottery were recovered.

A possible trackway was also identified by the geophysics, the single trench investigating the ditches revealed two archaeological features; a tree bole (20) that produced an assemblage of ten struck flints and a shallow, narrow ditch (18) that appears to point directly towards the Eastern Enclosure. No finds were recovered from the ditch that might help to date it but its position in relation to the Eastern Enclosure would seem to be more than coincidental and it too may have formed part of a wider "ritual" landscape.



1 Introduction

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted at West Farm, Barnham (TL 8445 7732) by Oxford Archaeology East (OA East).
- 1.1.2 This archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS; Antrobus 2014), supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East (Connor and Stocks-Moragn 2014).
- 1.1.3 The work was designed 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 A geophysical survey (REF) was undertaken over the area of the proposed development. The survey identified two potential archaeological enclosures, one within the western field (Field 1, Fig. 1/2) and one within the south-east field of the proposed development (Field 2, Fig. 1/3). A further small fragmented linear anomaly was also identified in Field 2. The trenching carried out during this phase of works targeted these geophysical anomalies.
- 1.1.5 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 lies on a bedrock geology of Lewes Nodular Chalk formation with overlying patches of river terrace sands and gravels (Geology of Britain viewer, British Geological Survey; http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html accessed on 24/3/2014).
- 1.2.2 The site lies at the end of a ridge of high land that falls from the south-west, at 52m AOD, to the north-east, at 28m AOD. The remnants of two old tributary channels, that fed into the Little Ouse, are visible on the ground.

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

Previous archaeological work

1.3.1 The following background is largely drawn from a Desk based assessment (DBA) of the proposed development (Dicks 2013).

Prehistoric

- 1.3.2 Significant Palaeolothic archaeology has been identified to the north outside of the DBA study area, at Elveden and Barnham in isolated natural hollows.
- 1.3.3 A concentration of Early Neolithic to Early Bronze Age material was found in 1939 1.5km north of the site at Hunwell Spring (MSF7066). Further Neolithic material includes a polished stone axe (MSF10375) identified c.85m north of the site with a spread of undated pottery (MSF10658) and a second polished axe (MSF7054) located 50m to the south of the proposed development. A third polished axe was recovered c.2km to the west of the proposed development (MSF23434).
- 1.3.4 Prehistoric flint work was also found approximately 1.5km to the south of the proposed development in The King's Forest (MSF20647 for example).



- 1.3.5 Bronze Age material was also uncovered during the construction of the Thetford Aquaduct. In particular a possible round house was excavated 400m to the west of the proposed development (MSF12794/BNH041). Other Bronze Age material has been recovered c.1.75km south west of the proposed development. This includes two bronze age axes (MSF7094 and MSF10113) and a planoconvex copper ingot (MSF7067).
- 1.3.6 Little Iron Age occupation is known within the study area, with the nearest Iron Age remains located over 2km to the east of the site and a similar distance to the north along the route of the A11 at North Farm (Muldowney and Jones 2012).
- 1.3.7 The Icknield way which is thought to follow the line of a prehistoric per-cursor lies 650m to the west of the site (MSF11602).

1.3.8 Roman/Saxon/Medieval

- 1.3.9 The Icknield Way, thought to be a Roman track, lies 650m to the west of the site (MSF11602). Little other Romano-British activity has been identified in the study area. although sherds of Romano-British pottery have been recovered *c*.2km away in The Kings Forest (MSF22774 and 20654 for example).
- 1.3.10 The only known Saxon material from the study area is a Penannular Brooch (MSF 10374) recovered from West Calthorpe Heath *c.* 500m to the south-west of the proposed development.
- 1.3.11 The site lies outside known settlements during the medieval period and is most likely to have been heathland. However, medieval rabbit warrens have been identified *c.* 450km south-west of the proposed development area at Wordwell Lodge (MSF 17060) and *c.* 700m to the west on the other side of the Icknield way (MSF11751).

Post-Medieval and Modern

- 1.3.12 The DBA concluded that the site is likely to have been heathland or used for agricultural purposes until modern times.
- 1.3.13 A first world war and second world war chemical weapons factory (MSF22788) is located approximately 100m north of the proposed development and an old railway trackbed forms the eastern border of the site (MSF22771). Tank training occurred in the region and an extra railway siding was built to load and unload the tanks, it is believed to be located c.100m to the south-east of the proposed development (MSF25432).

1.3.14 Undated

1.3.15 An undated pottery scatter (MSF14804) and earthwork (MSF11601) have been identified *c.* 2km to the west of the proposed development.

1.4 Acknowledgements

- 1.4.1 The author would like to thank Aileen Connor of Oxford Archaeology East for managing the project, Sally Dicks of CgMS for commissioning the work and Rachel Monk of SCC for monitoring the works. Thanks should also be extended to Colin Pendleton for passing on his knowledge and time spent visiting the site.
- 1.4.2 Thanks is also given to Mike Green for his work on site. The author would also like to thank Serverine Bezie for the graphics in this report and Dave Brown for the site survey.

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2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The objective of this evaluation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits, identified by geophysical survey, within the development area.

2.2 Methodology

- 2.2.1 Six 25m long trenches were excavated, targeting anomalies identified by the geophysical survey.
- 2.2.2 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a 360° excavator using a toothless ditching bucket.
- 2.2.3 The site survey was carried out using a Leica 1200 DGPS fitted with *smartnet* technology..
- 2.2.4 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metaldetected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.
- 2.2.5 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 and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 2.2.6 All finds were retained.
- 2.2.7 Six environmental bulk samples were collected.
- 2.2.8 The site work was carried out in dry, windy weather.



3 Results

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 The site can be divided into two areas of interest. The western field (Field 1) and the eastern field (Field 2). Trenches 1-3 (App. A) were excavated in Field 1 through a layer of topsoil 0.3-0.4m thick and a subsoil layer 0.05-0.10m thick. The natural in Field 1 was a mix of chalk and sand and flint gravels. Trenches 4-6 (App. A) were excavated in Field 2 through a similar topsoil and subsoil, 0.3-0.4m and 0.1-0.4m thick respectively onto a natural of chalk and sand and gravel (See Fig. 1). All trenches except where stated were 25m long and 2.1m wide.
- 3.1.2 The majority of the finds assemblage of flint, animal bone and pottery, was recovered from Field 2, specifically from trenches 5 and 6 (App. B.1, B.2 and C.1).

3.2 Field 1/Western Enclosure (Fig. 2)

3.2.1 A single square enclosure identified by the geophysical survey was targeted by Trenches 1-3. The ditches **5**, **15** and **31** (See Fig. 4 sections 1, 2 and 8 & plates 7 and 8) found within the trenches correspond to the enclosure identified in the geophysical survey. All three ditches **5**, **15** and **31** contained a similar fill pattern although ditch **15** only contained the primary and secondary ditch fills.

Trench 1 (Plate 1)

3.2.2 Trench 1 was excavated on a north-west to south-east alignment across the north-western arm of the enclosure (ditch **15**; Plate 8 and Fig. 4 Section 2). Here the ditch had a broad V-shaped profile, 2.1m wide and 0.64m deep. It contained two fills; the basal fill (16) was a light white-yellow silty sand, 0.2m thick. The secondary fill (17) was a mid orange-brown silty sand, 0.44m thick. No finds were present.

Trench 2 (Plate 2)

3.2.3 Trench 2 was excavated on a north-east to south-west alignment across the north-east arm of the enclosure and extended to the south to encompass a ditch terminus (31; See Plate 7 and Fig. 4 Section 8) marking a possible entrance (see Fig. 2). The ditch terminus was 2.4m wide and 1.05m deep with a flat-based V-shaped profile, very similar to that observed in Trench 3. It contained three fills: the primary fill (32) was a 0.24m thick coarse mid orange sand, which produced a single struck flints; the secondary fill (33) was a mid orange-brown sand, 0.9m thick and produced two struck flints and animal bone (App. B.1 & C.1); the tertiary fill was a 0.3m thick light orange brown sand, which produced two struck flints (App. B.1).

Trench 3 (Plate 3)

3.2.4 Trench 3 was aligned north-north-west to south-south-east across the southern corner (5) of the enclosure. A single linear ditch (5) was excavated (See Fig. 4 Section 1). The ditch here was 2.3m wide and 0.85m deep with a very similar profile to that observed in Trench 2. It contained three fills: the primary fill (6) was a mid orange brown sand 0.05m thick; the secondary fill (7) was a light orange-brown sand 0.18m thick; and the tertiary fill (8) was a mid orange-brown silty sand 0.66m thick. No finds were present.

3.3 Field 2/Eastern Enclosure (Fig. 3)

3.3.1 The three trenches excavated in Field 2 were targeted upon a small linear feature at the northern end of the field (Trench 4) and a small sub rectangular enclosure to the south of the field (Trenches 5 and 6). All the trenches were excavated through a similar



topsoil and subsoil to that found in Field 1. The natural geology was a mix of gravels, sands and chalk.

Trench 4 (Plate 4)

3.3.2 Trench 4 was 36m long and excavated on a north-west to south-east alignment. Two archaeological features were identified cutting the natural deposits. Tree bole (20) was an irregular feature 2m long by 1.5m wide and 0.22m deep, which contained a single fill (21; see Fig. 4 Section 5). Fill 21 was a soft light yellow sand that produced an assemblage of ten struck flints (App. B.1). The tree bole was sealed by a 0.3m thick colluvial layer (22) of mid orange coarse sand, which maybe the same as the colluvium (35) in Trench 5. To the south-east of the colluvium as the natural started to rise up the valley side a small linear gully (18; See Fig. 4 Section 4), 0.42m wide and 0.15m deep, was found approximately half-way along the trench. The gully contained a single fill (19) of light orange brown sand.

Trench 5 (Plate 5)

- 3.3.3 Trench 5 was located toward the south of Field 2 over the same geophysical feature as Trench 6. The natural geology in the trench was largely built up of colluvium (35) and flint gravels and sand.
- 3.3.4 The geophysical anomaly was identified as two linear ditches (25 & 27;see Fig. 5 section 7), a further internal feature/layer was also identified. The inner ditch (25) was 0.9m wide and 0.38m deep. It contained a single fill (26) of loose dark greyish-black sand with occasional sub-angular flint and produced an assemblage of 976 lithics and 36 sherds of Neolithic Pottery (App. B.1 & B.2). The fill (26) was partially sealed by the upper fill (30) of the outer ditch (27). Ditch 27 was 2.1m wide and 1m deep. It contained three fills; the primary fill (28) was a light greyish-yellow sand with occasional small flints, 0.4m thick, which produced a small assemblage of struck flints (App. B.1). It was sealed by the secondary ditch fill (29), which was a mid brownish-grey sand, 0.3m thick that produced prehistoric pottery and flint (App. B.1 & B.2). This in turn was sealed by the tertiary fill (30), which was a mid reddish-brown colluvial derived sand that also produced prehistoric pottery and flint (App. B.1 & B.2). Both ditches 25 and 27 are likely to be contiguous. Although the upper fill of the outer ditch 27 partially sealed the fill of the inner ditch this is more likely to be due to post-depositional process (i.e. ploughing).
- 3.3.5 A further deposit of anthropomorphic origin was located inside the enclosure. This deposit (24) was sat within a slight hollow/natural feature. It seems that a post-hole (23) may have been present within/underlying this spread (see Fig. 5 section 6 & Plate 10). The possible post-hole 23 was a circular feature 0.3m wide and 0.4m in depth. It was filled by deposit (24) which was a dark greyish-black sand, which produced 496 lithics and 18 sherds of Neolithic pottery (App. B.1 & B.2). The mix of material contained in the spread and it's humic nature suggests it is an occupational deposit. The environmental samples taken from it were, however, largely devoid of identifiable remains due to poor preservation (App. C.2).

Trench 6 (Plate 6)

3.3.6 This trench was excavated onto chalk bedrock. It contained two ditches (9 and 13; see Fig. 4 section 3 & Plate. 9), which are likely to be the same features as ditches 27 and 25 in trench 5. The outer ditch 9 again had three fills. The primary fill (10) was a 0.08m thick mid orange-brown sand similar to fill (28) that produced struck flints (App. B.1). The secondary fill (11) was a 0.48m thick dark brown sand similar to fill (29) that produced prehistoric pottery and struck flints (App. B.1 & B.2) and the tertiary fill was a light orange-brown sand similar to fill (30) 0.31m thick that produced an assemblage of



163 struck lithics (App. B.1). The inner ditch **13** was 0.76m wide and 0.3m deep and again, as with the inner ditch **25** in Trench 5, contained a single fill (14). Fill 14 was mid brown silty sand that produced 169 flints (App. B.1). The fill was significantly different from ditch fill 26 in trench 5 suggesting different formation processes occurred.

3.4 Finds Summary

Lithics (App. B.1)

3.4.1 2164 worked lithics were recovered from the site. The vast majority were found in the ditches located in trenches 5 and 6, especially ditch fill 26, which contained 976 lithics. Most of the struck material was worked in a structured way, generally on single platform cores using soft hammer and indirect percussion removing narrow flakes and blades. This method of working is likely to be Neolithic in date. The only specifically identifiable tool form is an end scraper formed on a long flake typical of Early Neolithic working.

Pottery (App. B.2)

3.4.2 An assemblage of Early Neolithic pottery was recovered from within Trenches 5 and 6 from the enclosure ditches **9**, **25** and **27**

3.5 Environmental Summary

Animal bone (App. C.1)

3.5.1 Animal bone was recovered from ditch terminus **31** in Trench 2. The recovered remains included a radio-ulna and rib fragments from Cattle (*Bos*). No further animal remains were recovered.

Bulk Environmental Samples (App. C.2)

3.5.2 The environmental bulk samples produced little in the way of identifiable remains, most likely due to post-depositional taphonomic processes.



4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Western Enclosure

- 4.1.1 The geophysical survey showed Western Enclosure to be approximately 40m x40m on a north-east to south-west orientation with a possible entrance on its north-eastern arm. Excavation of the enclosure ditch in three trial trenches ditch produced little datable material but showed the ditch to be a substantial V-shaped feature with a clearly defined entrance. A small number of poorly struck flints from within it's fill would suggest a later prehistoric date but this is not conclusive.
- 4.1.2 This enclosure ditch has similarities in size and form to Iron Age mortuary enclosures such as the one found at the Genome Campus, Hinxton (Lyons forthcoming). Although no human skeletal remains were recovered during the evaluation there is clearly a possibility that such remains could be present within the enclosure.

4.2 Eastern Enclosure

- 4.2.1 The geophysical survey showed that there is an approximately 18m square double ditched enclosure in Field 2, apparently segmented and associated with interior features. It is aligned north to south and located near the bottom of a dry valley. Gaps at the north-east and south-west corners may be deliberate entrances and align almost exactly with a north-east to south-west orientated shallow gully approximately 100m to the north-east.
- 4.2.2 The enclosure produced a significant assemblage of Early Neolithic flint work and Early Neolithic pottery from within the ditches and a possible occupation layer in the interior. Currently, no features with similar characteristics have been identified in the Eastern region. From the limited information presently available the enclosure and associated gully is likely to be a monumental structure within a Neolithic landscape and as such suggests a monument of regional importance. It is difficult to identify a purpose for the enclosure due to the limited information available at this time, and also due to its unusual form for a structure of this date.



APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

Trench 1							
General de	scription				Orientation		NW-SE
					Avg. depth	(m)	0.40
Trench congravels. As				natural of chalk, sand and	Width (m)		2
graveis. At	single ulto	ii was ioca		UCHOI	Length (m)		25
Contexts							1
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	da	ate
1	layer		0.3	topsoil	-		-
2	layer		0.1	subsoil	-		_
15	cut	2.1	0.64	ditch	-		_
16	fill	1.2	0.2	Fill of 15	-		_
17	fill	2.1	0.44	Fill of 15	-		_
Trench 2							
General de	scription				Orientation		NE-SW
_					Avg. depth	(m)	0.40
Trench congravels. As				natural of chalk, sand and	Width (m)		2
gravois. 7	sirigic dito	11 Was 1000	itod iii tiilo	tionon	Length (m)		25
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	da	nte
1	layer		0.3	topsoil	-		-
2	layer		0.1	subsoil	-		-
31	cut	2.4	1.05	ditch	-		
32	fill	0.68	0.24	Fill of 31	Flint	Later Pi	ehistory
33	fill	1.94	0.9	Fill of 31	Flint	Later Pi	ehistory
34	fill	2.4	0.3	Fill of 31	Flint	Later Pi	ehistory
Trench 3							
General de	scription				Orientation		NNW-SSE
_					Avg. depth	(m)	0.4
Trench congravels. As				natural of chalk, sand and	Width (m)		2
gravois. 7	sirigic dito	11 Was 1000	itod iii tiilo	t delion	Length (m)		25
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	da	nte
1	layer		0.3	topsoil	-		-
2	layer		0.1	subsoil	-		=



6	fill	0.34	0.05	Fill of 5	_		-
7		0.49		Fill of 5	_		-
-	fill	2.3		Fill of 5	_		-
Trench 4	1	2.0	0.00	T III			
General de	scription				Orientation	1	NW-SE
					Avg. depth		0.4
				natural of chalk, sand and	Width (m)	()	2
gravels. As	single gully	y and a tre	e throw w	ere located in this trench	Length (m)		36
Contexts					,		
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	da	ite
3	layer		0.4	topsoil	-		-
4	layer		0.1	subsoil	-		
18	cut	0.42	0.15	gully	-		-
19	fill	0.42	0.15	gully	-		-
20	cut	1.5	0.22	tree throw	-		-
21	fill	1.5	0.22	tree throw	Flint	Early N	leolithic
22	layer	2.1	0.3	colluvium	-		-
Trench 5							
General de	scription				Orientation	1	E-W
Trench cons	sists of so	il and subs	soil onto a	natural of chalk, sand and	Avg. depth	(m)	0.4
gravels. A d		ch and a p	otentially	occupational deposit were	Width (m)		2
located in tr	nis trench.				Length (m)		25
Contexts		I	I				
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	da	ite
3	layer		0.4	topsoil	-		-
4	layer		0.1	subsoil	-		-
23	cut	1	0.4	natural feature?/post-hole	-	Early N	leolithic
24	fill	1	0.4	Fill of 23	Flint, Pottery	Early N	leolithic
25	cut	0.9	0.38	ditch	-		
26	fill		U 38	Fill of 25	Flint,	Early N	-
		0.9	0.30		Pottery		- leolithic
	cut	0.9 2.1	1	ditch	-		leolithic
27						Early N	leolithic
27 28	cut	2.1	1	ditch	-		-
27 28 29	cut	2.1	1 1 0.3	ditch Fill of 27	- Flint Flint,	Early N	- leolithic



Trench 6							
General de	scription				Orientation	1	N-S
					Avg. depth	(m)	0.4
Trench cons gravels. A				natural of chalk, sand and	Width (m)		2
gravois. At	JOUDIC GIR	311 Was 100	atou iii tiii	3 (1011011	Length (m)		25
Contexts							
context no	type	Width (m)	Depth (m)	comment	finds	da	ate
3	layer		0.4	topsoil	-		-
4	layer		0.1	subsoil	-		-
9	cut	1.6	0.85	ditch	-		-
10	fill	0.46	0.08	Fill of 9	Flint	Early N	leolithic
11	fill	1.04	0.48	Fill of 9	Flint, Pottery	Early N	leolithic
12	fill	1.6	0.31	Fill of 9	Flint	Early N	leolithic
13	cut	0.76	0.3	ditch	-		-
14	fill	0.76	0.3	Fill of 14	Flint	Early N	leolithic



APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Flint

By Anthony Haskins

Introduction

B.1.1 An assemblage of 2164 flints was recovered from the evaluation. The majority of which was derived from a double ditched square enclosure excavated in trenches 5 and 6.

Methodology

B.1.2 For the purposes of this report individual artefacts were scanned and then assigned to a category within a simple lithic classification system (Table 1). Unmodified flakes were assigned to an arbitrary size scale in order to identify the range of debitage present within the assemblage. Edge retouched and utilised pieces were also characterised. Beyond this no detailed metrical or technological recording was undertaken during the preliminary analysis. The results of this report are therefore based on a rapid assessment of the assemblage and could change if further work is undertaken.

Quantification

- B.1.3 Table 1 shows the complete flint catalogue. Within this assemblage one natural piece of flint and fifty-nine pieces of burnt flint were recovered. These will be ignored for the purposes of this report.
- B.1.4 The assemblage of 2164 flints was recovered primarily from trenches 5 and 6. A large proportion (45%) of the material was recovered from a single ditch fill (26) and 23% of the assemblage recovered from deposit 24. The vast majority of the material was flakes between 10mm and 25mm in greatest dimension (36%).

Results

Raw material

B.1.5 The majority of the material recovered from the excavation was either a light greyish-blue or whitish-blue material undergoing recortification especially in the southern arm of the enclosure (ditch cuts **9** and **13**) or a dark greyish-blue semi-translucent flint from the western arm of the enclosure (ditch cuts **25** and **27**) and deposit 24. The material from these features is likely to be contiguous and the difference in patination is most likely due to slightly differing soil chemistry as demonstrated by the difference in the fills in ditch **13** and **25**. Most of the flint is similar in form to unmodified nodules collected from the area of the enclosure in Trenches 5 and 6 and is therefore likely to have originated from local gravel deposits.

Core technology

B.1.6 The core technology present shows a mix of large tested nodules, some well constructed cores and some more amorphous cores. The choice of core seems to be based around what workable flint was recovered locally with many of the tested pieces showing unpredictable fractures. The well constructed structured cores generally have either a single or opposed platform(s) and have been worked to exhaustion or failure of the core as demonstrated by the thirty-seven core fragments. The single overshoot blade is also characteristic of Early Prehistoric working.



Debitage

B.1.7 The debitage present within the assemblage is largely formed of narrow flakes between 10 and 25mm in greatest dimension. The mix of debitage would suggest that most phases of core reduction were recovered with larger primary and secondary flakes and blades through to smaller tertiary flakes and blades as well as small microdebitage suggesting that at least the part of the assemblage recovered from trenches 5 and 6 is evidence for *in-situ* knapping.

Tools

B.1.8 Of the twenty-two lithics identified as tools the majority (14/64%) represent flakes showing signs of use through either edge wear or gloss and miscellanious retouched pieces that don't conform to a specific form, these can be attributed to tools of expedience. Of the remaining eight tools, four have been identified as scrapers, two are hammer stones, one is a notched flake and the final is a micro-burin. The most closely datable is the Early Neolithic end scraper from the fill of the outer western enclosure ditch (26).

Discussion

- B.1.9 The method of reduction of the cores with well structured and prepared platforms, the style of working with narrow flakes and blades combined with the presence of isolated striking points, soft hammer percussion and evidence for indirect percussion would suggest an early prehistoric date. The scrapers and micro-burin recovered from the square enclosure in Trenches 5 and 6 would give an Early Neolithic date.
- B.1.10 The exception is the small assemblage of flakes from the large western square enclosure ditch terminus (31) that show signs of poor platform preparation and are generally hard hammer struck suggesting a later prehistoric date (Bronze Age or Early Iron Age). The large amount of angular shatter and tested pieces that would normally be associated with a later prehistoric assemblage is probably in part due to the poor quality of the locally available flint, which had many freeze thaw created flaws and generally fractured unpredictably when knapped.



Context			10	11	12	14	21	24	24	24	26	26	26	28	28	28	29	30	30	30	32	33	34	Total
Sample number								2			3	3		4	4			6	6					
TYPE	SUB TYPE	CLASSIFICATION																						
Core technology		core fragment			1	8				4			19							4		1		37
		core trimming								1														1
		Amorphous core											3											3
		Overshoot blade		1		1																		2
		Tested Piece		2	1	6							6				3			4				22
	Single platform	Blade			2	1				4			1											8
		Flake			5	6							5										1	17
		Blade/Flake				1							8							3				12
	Platform at Right Angles	t Blade/Flake								1														1
		Blade			1																			1
	Opposed Platform	Blade			1																			1
		Flake			1	1																		2
		Blade/Flake																		1				1
flakes (>50mm)	Primary			4		2				1	1		4							1				13
	secondary		3	13	8	15				22			31				1			9	1	1		104
	tertiary			1						2			3											6
flakes (>25mm	Primary			6	2	5				5	4		17							3				42
<50mm)	secondary		8	24	51	44	4	6	9	60	7	10	158	9		2	12		1	43				448
	tertiary			5	15	25	1	3		22	4	4	56	1			2			13				151
flakes (>10mm	Primary								1	5			11											17
<25mm)	secondary			10	17	10	1	2	36	28	73	3	104	9	1		2	2	1	19				318
	tertiary			5	19	15	1		59	38	86	3	154	1	2	1	4		2	46				436
Small flakes <10mm					2	3			83		35		25						2	5				155

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Context			10	11	12	14	21	24	24	24	26	26	26	28	28	28	29	30	30	30	32	33	34	Total
Sample number								2	2		3	3		4	4			6	6					
Blades >20mm	Primary									2														2
	secondary			1						3										1				5
	tertiary					1	1			1			3							1				7
Blades >10mm	Primary									1														1
<20mm	secondary			1	1	4		3		7		1					1			1				19
	tertiary				1	1	2	1		7	1	3	17							1				34
Blades <10mm	secondary			1					2	4	1													8
	tertiary			2	1	1			1	7	6		10						1	1				30
chunks/angular shatter (>50mm)				9	23	13			1	11			33				7			10				107
chunks/angular shatter (<50mm)				3						30	2		16				1			8				72
retouched tools		Edge wear flake						1		2		1	5											9
		Gloss								1														1
		Misc. retouched blade								1														1
		Misc. retouched Flake						1					2											3
		Scraper								2			1							1				4
		Hammer stone/grinder			1					1														2
		Notched Flake											1											1
		Micro Burin											1											1
burnt flint (all types)						4				14	1		36							3			1	59
Natural flint																						1		1
Totals		·	11	88	163	169	10	17	192	287	221	25	730	20	3	3	33	2	7	178	1	2	2	2164

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B.2 Pottery

By Sarah Percival

Introduction

B.2.1 A total of 59 sherds weighing 272g was recovered from four excavated features in trenches 5 and 6. The assemblage is Earlier Neolithic and includes rims from three vessels, probably Carinated Bowl. The pottery is fragmentary and is poorly preserved with an average sherd weight of 5g.

Methodology

B.2.2 The assemblage was analysed in accordance 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 Oxford Archaeology East.

Fabrics

B.2.3 The pottery is all made from flint-tempered fabrics (Table 2). The fine to coarse flint-tempered fabrics form a continuum rather than distinct fabrics types (Healy 1988, 64). Flint fabrics are widely used throughout the earlier Neolithic in East Anglia and form the major component of assemblages from Hurst Fen, Broome Heath and Kilverstone (Longworth 1960, 228; Wainwright 1972; Garrow *et al.* 2006, 29)

Fabric Code	Description	Quantity	Weight (g)	% weight
F1	Sparse white angular flint pieces < 2mm	24	75	27.57%
F2	Moderate white angular flint pieces > 2mm	33	135	49.63%
F3	Common white angular flint pieces > 5mm	2	62	22.79%
Total		59	272	100.00%

Table 2: Earlier Neolithic Pottery by fabric

Forms

B.2.4 The assemblage contains rims from three vessels, two are simple and everted with rounded rim endings, the third is rolled or out-turned (Healy 1988, fig.57). Two body sherds have angular shoulders. All the sherds have, or had, smoothed of closed surfaces.

Deposition

B.2.5 Pottery was recovered from features associated with a small square enclosure. The majority of the assemblage came from the western arm of the enclosure (ditches **25** and **27**) and a deposit in hollow **23** in trench 5. A single sherd came from the soutehrn arm of the enclosure (ditch **9**, trench 6). This suggests that the pottery may have originally been deposited on the surface or within natural undulations analogous to a number of other sites including: deposits found at Spong Hill; material below the enclosure at Broome Heath, Ditchingham; and superficial deposits excavated at The Stumble, Essex (Healy 1988, Wainwright 1972; Brown 2012, 57).



Trench	Feature type	Feature	Context	Quantity	Weight (g)	% weight
5	Ditch	25	26	36	118	43.38%
		27	29	3	3	1.10%
			30	1	48	17.65%
	Hollow/layer	23	24	18	100	36.76%
6	Ditch	9	11	1	3	1.10%
Total			~	59	272	100.00%

Table 3: Early Neolithic Pottery by trench and feature

Discussion

B.2.6 The assemblage from West Farm is perhaps too small to assign to a particular bowl form, however the simple rolled and rounded everted rims and angular shoulders along with the absence of any decorated sherds suggest that it is Carinated Bowl (Herne 1988; Cleal 2004, fig.4 & 5). The bowl is broadly comparable to previous Early Neolithic pottery found in the parish (Martin 1993, fig.10, 1) but may be slightly earlier than the Plain Bowl assemblage from Broome Heath, Ditchingham (Wainwright 1972) being perhaps more similar to Neolithic bowl forms found at John Innes Institute, Colney near Norwich (Percival 2004). Recent work by Whittle *et al.* on Neolithic bowl chronologies suggests that most Carinated Bowl was in use in southern Britain from by 3800 cal. BC and continued until *c*.3715-3505 cal. BC (95% probability; Healy *et al.* 2013, 759).

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			_				W			_	Vessel	vessel			_		feature	
Context	Fabric	F2	Dsc	VESS #	Vessels	Y	Т	ERA	Spotdate	Comment	form	type	Surface	Ab	rim	feature	type	trench
11	F2	F	U			1	3	Earlier Prehistoric	Early Neolithic	Medium flint tempered						9	Ditch	6
24	F2	F	U			2	12	Earlier Prehistoric	Early Neolithic		Bowl	Carinated	Smoothed			23	Natural Feature	5
24	F2	F	R	1	1	1	3	Earlier Prehistoric	Early Neolithic		Bowl			Υ	rolled (incomplete)	23	Natural Feature	5
24	F2	F	U			9	54	Earlier Prehistoric	Early Neolithic				Smoothed			23	Natural Feature	5
24	F2	F	U			1	11	Earlier Prehistoric	Early Neolithic				sooted			23	Natural Feature	5
24	F3	F	U			1	14	Earlier Prehistoric	Early Neolithic	coarse flint			Smoothed			23	Natural Feature	5
24	F1	F	U			4	6	Earlier Prehistoric	Early Neolithic				Smoothed			23	Natural Feature	5
26	F1	F	R	2	1	2	9	Earlier Prehistoric	Early Neolithic		Bowl		Smoothed		Rounded everted	25	Ditch	5
26	F2	F	R	3	1	1	4	Earlier Prehistoric	Early Neolithic		Bowl		Smoothed		Rounded everted	25	Ditch	5
26	F1	F	U			17	56	Earlier Prehistoric	Early Neolithic				Smoothed			25	Ditch	5
26	F2	F	U			14	38	Earlier Prehistoric	Early Neolithic				Smoothed			25	Ditch	5
26	F2	F	U			1	7	Earlier Prehistoric	Early Neolithic		Bowl	Carinated	Smoothed			25	Ditch	5
26	F1	F	U			1	4	Earlier Prehistoric	Early Neolithic	incomplete rim	Bowl		Smoothed			25	Ditch	5
29	F2	F	U			3	3	Earlier Prehistoric	Early Neolithic				Smoothed			27	Ditch	5
30	F3	F	U			1	48	Earlier Prehistoric	Early Neolithic				Smoothed			27	Ditch	5
						59	27 2											

Table 4: Pottery Catalogue

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APPENDIX C. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

C.1 Animal Bone

By Anthony Haskins

C.1.1 Two animal bones were recovered from fill (33) in ditch terminus **31**. A single fragmented Cattle rib (*Bos.*) and a largely complete partially fused cattle radio-ulna.

C.2 Environmental samples

By Rachel Fosberry

Introduction

- C.2.1 Six bulk samples were taken from features within the evaluated areas at West farm Barnham, 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.
- C.2.2 Features sampled are provisionally dated to the Neolithic and include ditches, a gully and a hollow/layer.

Methodology

C.2.3 The total volume (up to 20 litres) of each bulk sample was processed by water flotation (using a modified Siraff three-tank system) for the recovery of charred plant remains, dating evidence and any other artefactual evidence that might be present. The floating component (flot) of the samples was collected in a 0.3mm nylon mesh and the residue was washed through 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and a 0.5mm sieve. Both flot and residues were allowed to air dry. 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 list of the recorded remains are presented in Table x.

Results

Sample No.	Context No.	Cut No.	Feature Type	Volume processed (L)	Cereals	Charcoal <2mm	Charcoal > 2mm	Pottery	Flint debitage
1	14	13	gully	17	0	0	0	0	0
2	24	23	?natural	20	#	+	0	+	+++
3	26	25	ditch	20	0	+	+	+	++++
4	28	27	ditch	17	#	+	0	0	++
5	29	27	ditch	20	0	+	+	0	++
6	30	27	ditch	20	0	+	0	0	+

Table 5: Environmental samples from BNH105

C.2.4 Only two of the six samples contain preserved plant remains other than charcoal. Sample 2, fill 24 of hollow 23 and Sample 4, fill 28 of ditch 27 both contain two abraded cereal grains. The poor preservation precludes identification to species.



C.2.5 Sample 1, fill 14 of gully **13** was devoid of any ecofacts or artefacts. Flint debitage was recovered from the residues of all of the other samples.

Discussion

- C.2.6 Carbonized grains, by the process of burning and burial, become blackened as they are reduced to pure carbon. Once buried, carbonised seeds are relatively resistant to degradation. The poor state of preservation of the grains recovered from this site suggest that they had not been deliberately deposited and are likely to have become abraded prior to accidentally being incorporated in the backfill of the features.
- C.2.7 In summary, the samples are poor in terms of identifiable material and preclude any further interpretation.



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APPENDIX E. OASIS REPORT FORM

Project De	etails									
OASIS Num	nber o	xfordar3-17406	5							
Project Nam	ne v	Vest Farm, Barn	ham, Suffolk							
Project Date	es (fieldw	ork) Start	18-03-2104			Finish	23-03-20	14		
Previous W	ork (by C	A East)	No			Future	Work _{Ur}	ıknown		
Project Refe	erence C	odes								
Site Code	BNH105			Planni	ng App.	No.				
HER No.	BNH105			Relate	ed HER/	OASIS N	o.			
Type of Proj	ect/Tech	niques Use	ed	-						
Prompt	•	Voluntary/sel								
Developmen	t Type	Other								
Please sel	ect all t	echniques	used:							
Aerial Photo	☐ Aerial Photography - interpretation ☐ Grab-Samp ☐ Aerial Photography - new ☐ Gravity-Cor ☐ Annotated Sketch ☐ Laser Scan						Rem	ote Operated Vehicle Survey		
Aerial Photo	ography - n	ew	☐ Gravity-0	Core			☐ Sam	ole Trenches		
Annotated S	Annotated Sketch					Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure				
☐ Augering			☐ Measure	ed Survey		▼ Targeted Trenches				
☐ Dendrochro	nological S	Survey	☐ Metal De	etectors			Test	Pits		
☐ Documenta	ry Search		☐ Phospha	ate Survey	/		ПТоро	graphic Survey		
☐ Environmer	ntal Samplir	ng	☐ Photogra	ammetric	Survey		☐ Vibro	o-core		
☐ Fieldwalking	g		☐ Photogra	aphic Surv	/ey		☐ Visua	al Inspection (Initial Site Visit)		
▼ Geophysica	al Survey		Rectified	Rectified Photography						
List feature typ	es using th	ignificant Fi e NMR Mon ith their respect Period	ument Type	e Thesa	aurus ar	-		ng the MDA Object type "none".		
ditch			nic -4k to -2k		¬ -	nplemen	t	Neolithic -4k to -2k		
ditch			e Age -2.5k t		J [nplemen		Bronze Age -2.5k to -/U		
			period		potte	•		Medieval 1066 to 1540		
Project Lo	ocation				J L'					
County	Suffolk				Site Ad	dress (in	cluding p	ostcode if possible)		
District	St. Edmu	ındsburv			West F	arm				
Parish	Barnham				Barnha Suffolk					
HER	Suffolk									
Study Area	70 hecta	res			Nationa	nal Grid Reference TL 8445 7732				



Project Originators

Organisation		OA EAS	Γ					
Project Brief Orig	inator	Suffolk C	ounty Cour	ncil				
Project Design O	riginator	Aileen Co	onnor and I	Helen Stocks-Morga	n			
Project Manager		Aileen Co	onnor					
Supervisor		Anthony	Haskins					
Project Archiv	ves							
Physical Archive			Digital A	Archive		Paper Archi	ive	
Suffolk County Store	es		Suffolk C	County Stores		Suffolk Count	ty Stores	
BNH105			BNH105			BNH105		
Archive Content	s/Media							
		Digital Contents	Paper Contents		Digital Me	dia	Paper Media	
Animal Bones	×				■ Database		☐ Aerial Photos	
Ceramics	×				⋉ GIS			
Environmental					Geophysic	cs	Correspondence	
Glass							Diary	
Human Bones					▼ Illustration	ıs	☐ Drawing	
Industrial					☐ Moving Im	nage	Manuscript	
Leather					Spreadsh	eets	☐ Map	
Metal					Survey		Matrices	
Stratigraphic					▼ Text		Microfilm	
Survey					☐ Virtual Re	ality	☐ Misc.	
Textiles							☐ Research/Notes	
Wood		Ш	\sqcup				Photos	
Worked Bone							× Plans	
Worked Stone/Lithic	×						⋉ Report	
None							▼ Sections	
Other	Ц	Ш	Ш				Survey	
Notes:								

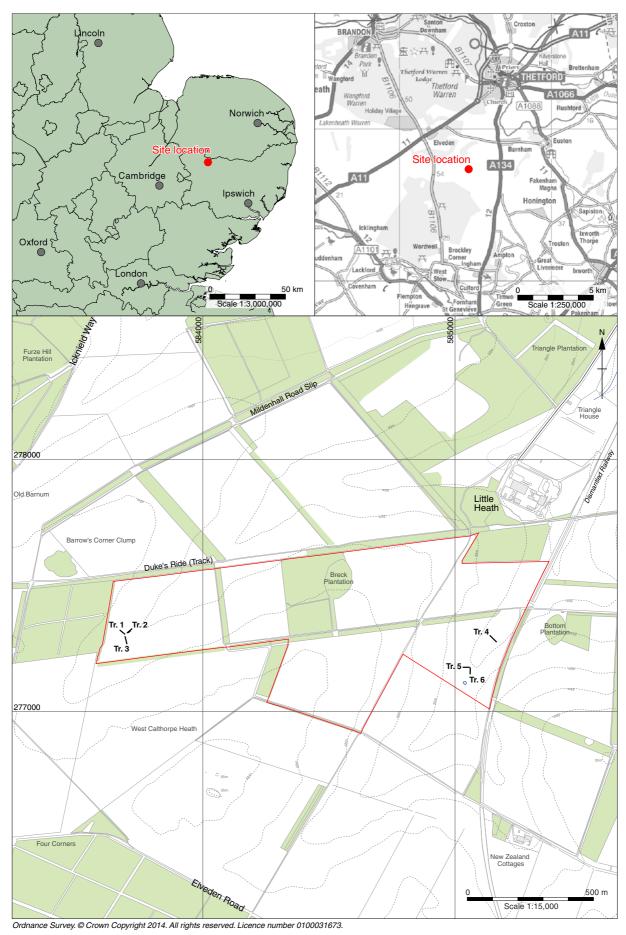


Figure 1: Site location showing archaeological trenches (black) in development area (red)



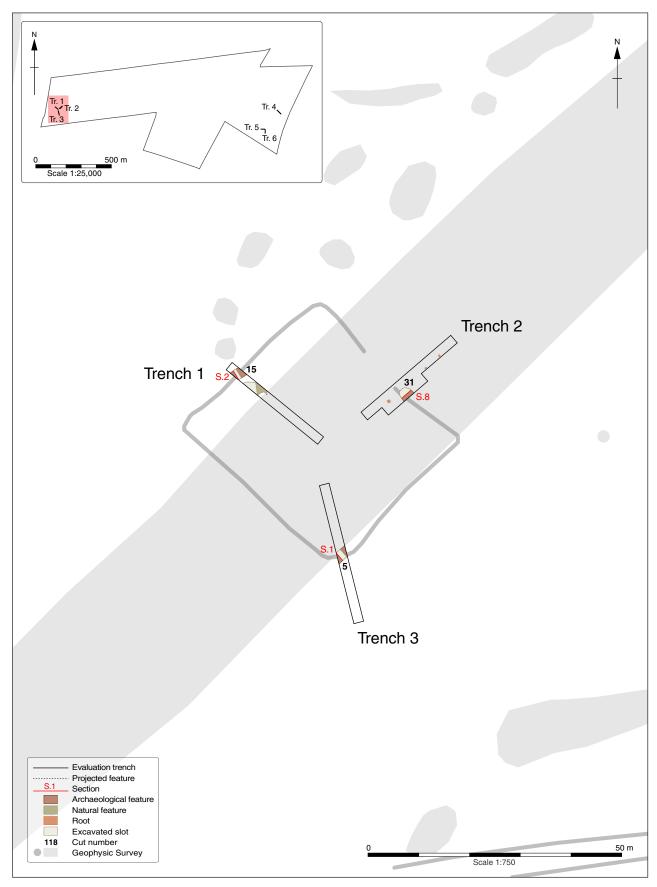


Figure 2: Trenches 1-3 overlaying geophysics results

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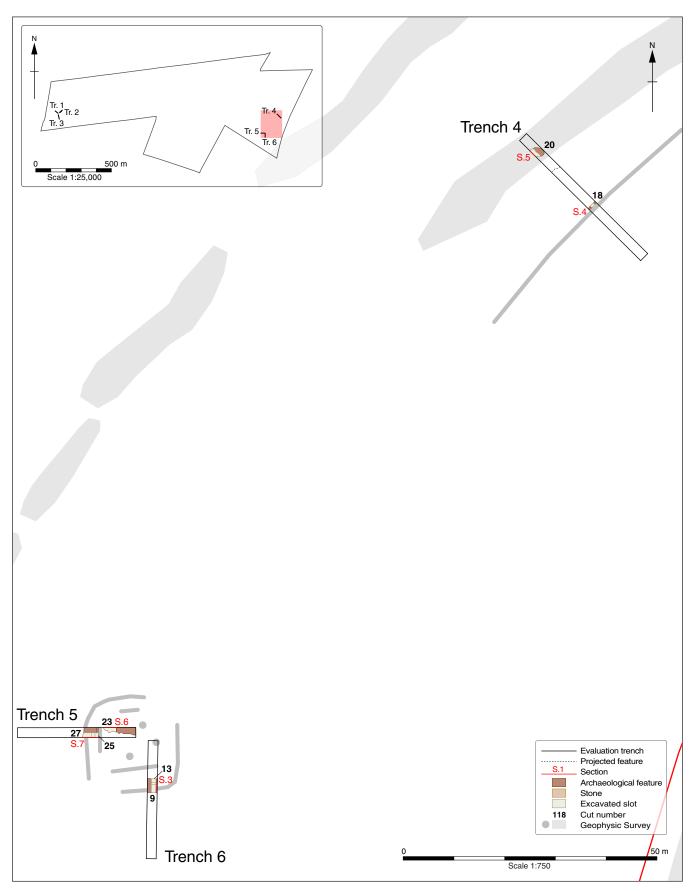


Figure 3: Trenches 4-6 overlaying geophysics results

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Figure 4: Section drawings

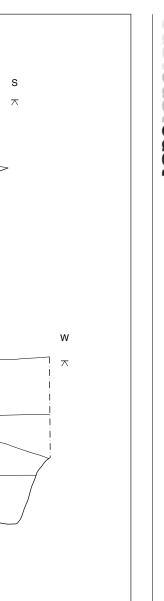


Figure 5: Section drawings





Plate 1: Trench 1 (looking south-east)



Plate 2: Trench 2 (looking south-west)





Plate 3: Trench 3 (looking south-south-east)



Plate 4: Trench 4 (looking south-east)





Plate 5: Trench 5 (looking east)



Plate 6: Trench 6 (looking south)





Plate 7: Ditch terminus (NUM), looking south-east



Plate 8: Ditch section (NUM), looking south-west





Plate 9: Section through Ditches (NUM), looking east



Plate 10: Section through occupation spread (24), looking north



Head Office/Registered Office/ OA South

Janus House Osney Mead Oxford OX2 0ES

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

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

OA North

Mill 3 Moor Lane Lancaster LA11GF

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

OAEast

15 Trafalgar Way Bar Hill Cambridgeshire CB23 8SQ

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



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