



**LAND AT BROWN'S FEN,
STOKE FERRY,
NORFOLK**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION





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Registered in England and Wales: 7874460

January 2013

Site Code	ENF 129093	NGR	TF 7159 0085
Planning Ref.	C/2/2011/2003	OASIS	BRITANNI1-127562
Approved By:	Matthew Adams	Date	January 2013



CONTENTS

Abstract		Page 2
1.0 Introduction		Page 3
2.0 Site Description		Page 3
3.0 Planning Policies		Page 3
4.0 Archaeological Background		Page 5
5.0 Project Aims		Page 7
6.0 Project Objectives		Page 7
7.0 Fieldwork Methodology		Page 8
8.0 Description of Results		Page 8
9.0 Deposit Model		Page 13
10.0 Discussion & Conclusion		Page 14
11.0 Project Archive & Deposition		Page 15
12.0 Acknowledgments		Page 16
Bibliography		Page 17
Appendix 1	Deposit Tables and Feature Descriptions	Page 18
Appendix 2	Specialist Reports	Page 35
Appendix 3	Concordance of Finds	Page 47
Appendix 4	1946 RAF Aerial Photograph	Page 48
Appendix 5	OASIS Sheet	Page 49
Figure 1	Trench & Site Location Plan	1:2500
Figure 2	Sample Section & Archaeological Feature Location Plan	1:1250
Figure 3	Trench 1 Archaeological Features , DP, Section & Plans	
Figure 4	Trench 1 Continued, Archaeological Features, DP, Sections & Plans	
Figure 5	Trench 3, Archaeological Features, DP, Sections & Plans	
Figure 6	Trench 9, Archaeological Features, DP, Section & Plan	
Figure 7	Trench 13, Archaeological Feature, DP, Section & Plans	
Figure 8	Trench 14, Archaeological Features, DP, Section & Plans	
Figure 9	Trench 14 Continued, Archaeological Features, DP, Sections & Plan	
Figure 10	Trench 19, Archaeological Features, DP, Sections & Plan	
Figure 11	Trench 19 Continued, Archaeological Sections	
Figure 12	Trench 20, Archaeological Features, DP, Section & Plans	
Figure 13	Trench 23, Archaeological Features, DP's, Sections & Plan	
Figure 14	Sample Sections	



Abstract

During May, August, September and November 2012 Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at Browns Fen, Stoke Ferry, Norfolk (NGR TF 7159 0085) in advance of mineral extraction.

In 2004 Archaeological Project Services carried out a limited programme of archaeological trial trenching where 0.5% of the site was evaluated. This revealed pits of Iron Age and Roman date and undated post/stakeholes.

The current evaluation was able to build on the earlier work and establish a distinct pattern of early Iron Age activity comprising the disposal of domestic waste material along the edge of the former Fen/marsh environment and a small number of pits also used for the same purpose.

This activity would suggest some form of small scale settlement activity in the immediate vicinity of the site, probably to the west and/or south, higher up the slope. The ring-ditch feature present in Trench 1 may have been a domestic structure associated with this settlement, or equally could be associated with funerary activity. A cluster of 33 undated post and stakeholes in Trench 19 may also relate to structural features, however the paucity of finds and lack of discernible pattern may also suggest that they were natural solution hollows.

A very small assemblage of finds dating to the early Bronze Age, Neolithic and possibly the Upper Palaeolithic periods were recovered, but these tended to occur in Iron Age contexts and were thus classed as residual finds. No later Iron Age finds or indeed any finds until the post-medieval period were recovered, suggesting that settlement activity at the edge of the Wissey Embayment in this area largely ceased, however the APS evaluation in 2004 indicates that some activity continued into the Roman period.



1.0 INTRODUCTION

During May, August, September and November 2012 Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at Browns Fen, Stoke Ferry, Norfolk (NGR TF 7159 0085) on behalf of Mr Rupert Brown of John Brown & Sons (Gazeley) Ltd, as a condition of planning application reference C/2/2011/2003 in advance of mineral extraction.

The design brief was issued by Norfolk County Council, Historic Environment Service (NCC HES) (James Albone, dated 13/04/2012). In total twenty three trenches were excavated, comprising ten 50 x 1.8m and thirteen 4 x 40m. These combined with those excavated by APS in 2004 provided a total coverage of 5% of the 10ha site. The trenching was completed in three Phases and the results combined in this report (Figure 1).

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

The 10ha site is located 1.5km north-east of the village of Stoke Ferry and c.20km south of Kings Lynn, on the Fen edge of the northern slopes of the Wissey Valley at around 6m AOD. It is bounded to the north and west by Oxborough Road and to the south and east by tributaries of the River Wissey (Figure 1).

Ploughing has been undertaken on site within the recent past but currently the area is given over to scrubland. The soils are described as coarse loamy and fine loamy brown calcareous earth over chalks of the Swaffham Prior Association, with peaty sands of the Isleham 2 association prevailing near to the river (British Geological Survey – BGS).

3.0 PLANNING POLICIES

The archaeological investigation was carried out on the recommendation of the local planning authority, following guidance laid down by the National Planning and Policy Framework (NPPF, DCLD 2012) which replaces Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (PPS5, DCLG 2010). Relevant local planning policies also include, Norfolk County Council's *Norfolk Minerals Local Plan* (Adopted Jan 2004) and the Norfolk County Council's *Norfolk Structure Plan* (October 1999).

3.1 *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, DCLG March 2012)*

The NPPF recognises that 'heritage assets' are an irreplaceable resource and planning authorities should conserve them in a manner appropriate to their significance when considering development. It requires developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible. The key areas for consideration are:



- The significance of the heritage asset and its setting in relation to the proposed development;
- The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance;
- Significance (of the heritage asset) can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction, or development within its setting. As heritage assets are irreplaceable, any harm or loss should require clear and convincing justification;
- Local planning authorities should not permit loss of the whole or part of a heritage asset without taking all reasonable steps to ensure the new development will proceed after the loss has occurred;
- Non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest that are demonstrably of equivalent significance to scheduled monuments, should be considered subject to the policies for designated heritage assets.

3.2 *Norfolk County Council's Norfolk Minerals Local Plan (Adopted Jan 2004), policies MIN 7-8.*

The Norfolk Minerals Local plan deals with issues surrounding mineral extraction. The key areas for consideration in relation to archaeology are Min 7 and 8:

- Min 7: Applications for mineral extraction and associated development will be permitted only where they would not adversely affect scheduled ancient monuments and other sites of national archaeological and historical significance and their settings;
- Min 8: Applications for mineral extraction and associated developments will only be permitted where they would not affect sites of archaeological interest unless satisfactory arrangements have been made for the prior excavation and the subsequent publication of the results.

3.3 *Norfolk County Council's Norfolk Structure Plan (October 1999)*

The Norfolk Structure Plan is designed to provide the strategic land use planning framework for the County and the key area relating to archaeology is Policy EVN 13 which states the following should be considered prior to development:

- Protection of all listed buildings, historic landscapes, sites of archaeological importance, whether scheduled or not, and their settings against demolition, and inappropriate alteration or development;
- Ensure that agreement is reached for appropriate evaluation, excavation and recording in advance of development on sites of archaeological importance, which do not merit physical preservation, and where it is not feasible to preserve them in situ.



4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 *Archaeological & Historical Sources*

The following archaeological background is summarised from the desk-based assessment carried out by The Landscape Partnership (Scrivner, 2011) over a 1km search radius centred on the site (Figure 2).

The name Stoke Ferry is derived from the Old English for stoc meaning a 'monastery cell' and 'Ferry' refers to craft that were navigated on the River Wissey. Its origins date back to the Anglo-Saxon period and by the time of the 1086 Domesday Survey the parish of Stoke Ferry in the Clackclose hundred was in the possession of a number of different landholders. It has probably not been settled since the this period, the land being marsh or employed for agriculture.

There are 20 entries held in the HER that lie within the search radius. The earliest of which dates from the Neolithic and includes a flint scatter (HER 32829) 400m to the south-east, a Neolithic axe (HER 21099) 1km to the south-west on the By-pass route and a horseshoe scraper recovered during a pit excavation (HER 34481) 900m north-east that was sealed by layers of peat. One prehistoric pot-boiler and four struck flints (HER 32827) were also recorded on the route of the By-Pass 850m to the south-east.

The Bronze Age period is well represented with two probable ring-ditch cropmarks (HER 15132 and HER 36700) present 800 and 900m respectively to the north-east of the site. A third (HER 15133) is located 700m to the south-west where nearby a gold torc/bracelet (HER 2603) and ploughed-out earthworks are recorded. A late Bronze Age spearhead (HER 32828) was located 400m to the south, 800m to the south-east a middle Bronze Age socketed spearhead (HER 33555) and Bronze Age looped palstave (HER 2638) were also recovered. A fragment of rapier (HER 33570) dating to the middle Bronze Age was detected 1.25km to the south-east.

The late Iron Age is represented by one bronze button and a loop fastener (HER 33538) found by metal detector 250m to the south-east. During the preceding 2005 trial trench evaluation at Browns Fen, pits and buried soil layers containing Iron Age pottery were recorded (Evans, 2005).

Romano-British evidence is extremely sparse with only one sherd of pottery excavated from a pit during the Browns Fen Evaluation of 2005 (Evans, 2005).

The Anglo-Saxon record is also relatively sparse, one finger ring (HER 17619) was recovered 810m north-west of the site.

Three medieval records were returned during the search, a finger ring (HER 2633) located 1.05km south-west at Romer Farm, medieval and post-medieval pottery (HER 21098) collected during fieldwalking 300m south-east of the ring and finally a medieval coin (HER 33539) recovered 450m to the south-east. All Saints Church situated 1.5km south of the



evaluation area also dates from the medieval period but was later rebuilt during the 17th and 19th centuries.

A post-medieval watermill (HER 14525) is present 300m east of the evaluation area and a post-medieval Grade II listed timber-framed building (HER 21995) is located 860m east. One late medieval/post-medieval possible horse pendant (HER 21099) was recovered 1km to the south-west. There are a number of surviving 17th and 18th century houses in the village, including 17 Grade II Listed Buildings and also Grade II* Listed Stoke Ferry Hall.

One undated stone rubber/polisher (HER 32826) is recorded 560m south-east of the evaluation area and undated stakeholes were present in the 2005 Browns Fen Evaluation (Evans, 2005).

4.2 *Air Photographic Sources*

The Bronze Age ring ditches (HER 15132 and HER 36700) are present on air photographs taken in 1977 and on Norfolk Landscape Archaeology photographs from 1992. A third ring ditch is recorded on an RAF photograph dated July 1946, on the 1977 Ordnance Survey photographs and also on Norfolk Landscape Archaeology photographs from 1992. Earthworks comprising a bank and mounds appear on pasture to the west of the ring ditch until ploughed out in c.1941.

RAF photographs of 1946 (Appendix 4) show that the field was subdivided by a hedge boundary, to the immediate south is a circular cropmark of unknown origin. Marl pits are present to the east along with a complex arrangement of field enclosures.

The 1977 air photograph indicates an increase in agricultural use with a higher concentration of hedgerows and the removal of others to create larger fields. Near to the circular cropmark seen on the 1946 photograph is another anomaly that may potentially be a modern marl pit.

4.3 *Cartographic Sources*

Faden's Map of Norfolk dating to 1797 shows details of 'new' drainage, Browns Fen is present on an area of land that is unmarked. Bryants Map of Norfolk (1826) records little detail, however Oxborough Lane is labelled Damnable Lane suggesting that this area was difficult to operate in. Oxborough Mill is not present, the area appears to have been cleared to become an extension of Oxborough Hall.

The First Edition OS Map (1846-1869) shows fields under cultivation with straight drainage ditches clearly bounding the site. On the Revised First Edition OS Map (1888) and Second Edition OS Map (1901) Browns Fen is split into four separate fields. The Revised Second Edition OS Map (1915) reveals the removal of hedgerows, the widening of Oxborough Road and that a footpath is now present to the south.

The Dudley Stamp Land Use Survey 1931-1935 records that the site has been improved, probably with drainage systems, because it is classified as 'Meadow and Permanent



Grassland' to the south with the north mapped as 'Yards, Cemeteries, Pits, Quarries, Tip Heaps and New Industrial Works'. Oxborough Fen is also located further to the north and is marked as 'Rough Marsh Pasture' rather than fen land.

4.4 Previous Archaeological Investigations

In 2004 Archaeological Project Services carried out a preliminary desk-based assessment. This was followed by a limited programme of archaeological trial trenching written up in 2005 where 0.5% of the site was evaluated. Pits dating to the Iron Age and Roman periods and undated post/stakeholes were revealed. In 2011 The Landscape Partnership prepared another desk-based assessment considering the potential of the site.

5.0 PROJECT AIMS

The NCC HES brief states that the aim of the investigation is to recover as much information as possible on the extent, date, phasing, character, function, status and significance of the site. Also that the state of preservation of archaeological features and deposits should be determined.

6.0 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The research objectives for the project are in line with those laid out in *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 24 (Medlycott, 2011). Detailed work on the Wissey Embayment has been examined in two publications, *The Fenland Project Number 11: The Wissey Embayment: Evidence for Pre-Iron Age Occupation*; EAA 78, F. Healey, 1996 and *The Fenland Project No.4: The Wissey Embayment and the Fen Causeway, Norfolk*; EAA 52, R.J. Sylvester, 1991.

The evaluation at Browns Fen lies within the Wissey Embayment (Healey, 1996), an area characterised by fen edge deposits, air photographs also indicate that the site lies within a probable Bronze Age funerary landscape. Therefore this evaluation should consider and contribute (but not be limited to) the following research questions:

- Understanding of the wider pattern of Mesolithic occupation and land exploitation in a Fen edge environment (Medlycott, 2011);
- Continued analysis and assessment of the validity surrounding the observed differences in Neolithic activity in Norfolk to other areas (Medlycott, 2011);
- Understanding the variety of settlement types and land usage of Fen edge environments in the Bronze Age (Medlycott, 2011);
- Expanding the typology of preserved worked wood structures and artefacts commonly found in fen environments (Medlycott, 2011);
- Evidence for early or middle Neolithic settlement activity and continuation into the early Bronze Age (Healey, 1996);
- Evidence for a Bronze Age funerary landscape;



- Evidence for settlement and land use in the Iron Age, specifically the nature of economic resources in a Fen edge environment (Medlycott, 2011);
- Environmental evidence, specifically rates of desiccation and/or erosion of peat deposits if applicable (Healey, 1996), contributing to a synthesis of palaeo-environmental evidence from peat and Fen edge deposits (Medlycott, 2011);
- Evidence for Romano-British occupation within a Fen edge.

7.0 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

A Leica Viva Smart Rover GS08 differential global positioning system (DGPS) was used to accurately set-out the trial trenches. Phase 1 and 2 comprised the excavation of 18 trial trenches nine 4 x 40 and nine measuring 1 x 50m. Trenches were excavated employing a 14 tonne 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under the control of a qualified professional archaeologist. Topsoil and subsoil layers were removed carefully down to the first archaeological horizon, thereafter all excavation was undertaken by hand (Figure 1).

Topographic survey, trench edges, section locations and archaeological and natural feature survey points were accurately recorded employing the DGPS to produce a pre and post-excavation plan tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The archaeology was preserved by record employing pro-forma sheets, plan and section drawings and appropriate photographic records were taken. All features, finds and samples were given unique context numbers assigned during the recording phases on site.

8.0 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS

Archaeological features and deposits are described below in trench order. Detailed information on all features and deposits can be found at Appendix 1.

The site topography varied with high ground to the north-west, west and south and lower ground and natural depressions to the east and north-east. The trenching showed that the areas of lower ground contained soil or peat layers relating to a former marshy/wet environment while the higher ground was shown to have been much drier and free draining. Some trenches straddled both areas to establish any distinct patterns of activity on the edge of the two environments, while the remaining trenches were targeted to discern particular activity within each environment.

Evidence of prehistoric activity was recorded in Trenches 1, 3, 9, 13, 14 and 23. Natural features were located in the majority of trenches and were generally tree throws and hollows and root runs.

8.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 (Figures 3 & 4) was located predominantly on higher ground to the north west of the site and contained two ditches (1003 and 1005) and a natural depression associated



with the former marshland environment. Layer (1008) near the base of this depression contained significant deposits of Iron Age pottery and burnt animal bone. Three modern land drains (ceramic circular type) and a modern ditch cut by a further modern land drain were present to the south-east of the trench.

Curvilinear Ditch 1003 (4.00 x 0.82 x 0.14m) was present in the north western end of Trench 1 and extended beyond the limit of excavation. It was possibly the remains of a round barrow ditch, or could be associated with a domestic dwelling, its projected diameter was 7m, however no finds were present within the single fill 1004, and as such the feature remains ambiguous in nature.

Modern Ditch 1005 was located in Trench 1, aligned north-east to south-west. It had two fills, 1006 and 1007, with the latter containing fragments of an undecorated Ironstone china dish dating to 1800-1900 century AD. This feature lines up with a small area of disturbance visible on the 1946 aerial photograph and they are likely to be associated.

The natural depression was one of several areas of lower lying land that were present to the north and east of the site (Figure 4). It was located in the centre of the Trench, aligned approximately north-east to south-west and measured 17m in width. Two fills were present (1008 and 1009) and the depression was sealed by the subsoil 1002. Three test pits recorded early Iron Age pottery and burnt animal bone unevenly distributed throughout fill 1008. Test Pit 3 recorded a dense concentration of finds at the north-western extent of the depression. Test Pit 2 recorded a lower concentration of finds in the centre and none were present in Test Pit 1 at the south-western extent. The pottery assemblage comprises early Iron Age pottery identified as Mature Decorated ware (Percival, see Appendix 2) dating to between 600BC and 300BC.

8.2 Trenches 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21 and 22

These trenches contained no archaeological features or finds, however Trenches 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 17 and 21 contained natural features associated with tree rooting and dynamic natural processes.

Modern features including land drains and recently backfilled boundary ditches were recorded in Trenches 1, 13, 14, 16, 20, 21, 22 and 23. A large modern ditch present in Trenches 14, 16 and 22 is clearly visible on the aerial photograph (Appendix 4) and formed a field boundary when the present field was split into three.

8.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 (Figure 5) was positioned in the low lying former marshy area of the site and contained two pits (1016 and 1018) and six natural features relating to tree rooting.

Pit 1016 was located in the centre of Trench 3 and extended beyond the limit of excavation. It cut a natural feature to the north and a small, later prehistoric flint flake was recovered from its fill, 1015.



Pit 1018 was sub-rectangular in shape, a flint flake dating to the Upper Palaeolithic period was recovered from its fill, 1017 (Biddle, see Appendix 2).

8.4 Trench 9

Trench 9 (Figure 6) was located over both high and low ground in the south-western area of the site. It contained Ditch 1020 and Natural Depression 1026 which extended beyond the limit of excavation to the north-east.

Ditch 1020 was located at the north-eastern end of Trench 9 and cut through the edge of the natural depression obscuring the latter. The finds assemblage from its fill, 1019, comprised a small fragment of blue & white transfer printed ware dating from 1780-1900AD, a very abraded sherd of Pearlware dating from 1770-1850AD and a fragment of late brick with a coarse sandy fabric and mixed bands dating from the 18th-19th century AD.

The natural depression 1026 was also located at the north-eastern end of Trench 9 and was cut by Ditch 1020. It contained six fills consistent with a shallow, still water environment such as a pond. It differed from the other natural depressions and the low ground areas in that none of the fills were particularly humic or peaty. Fills 1025 and 1027 towards the base of the depression also contained early Iron Age pottery identified as Mature Decorated ware, however the quantities were less than in Trench 1 and were more fragmentary with six distinct vessel types represented by 11 sherds (Percival, see Appendix 2).

8.5 Trench 10

Trench 10 (Figure 2) was located to the south on high ground sloping down towards the north. No features were recorded, however a colluvial subsoil 1009 containing highly abraded and fragmentary prehistoric pottery was noted in the northern area of the trench.

8.6 Trench 13

Trench 13 (Figure 7) was located in the centre of the site on high ground and contained a tree hollow, 1038 and a modern land drain. The Tree Hollow was irregular in plan and its fill, 1039, contained a worked flint of probable later prehistoric date.

8.7 Trench 14

Trench 14 (Figures 8 and 9) was located on high ground in the west and crossed a large natural channel, 1029 at its north-western end. It contained four intercutting pits, 1040, 1045, 1047 and 1049 and a modern ditch.

Natural channel 1029 was a narrow inlet relating to the marshy environment with areas of high ground either side. It contained seven fills, 1030, 1031, 1032, 1033, 1034, 1035 and 1036 which varied in composition suggesting alternating periods of wet and dry environments. Fills 1033 and 1035 were dark and humic, indicative of heavy marshland



while fills 1032 and 1034 were much lighter and less organic. The channel was sealed by the modern plough soil 1000 and no finds were recovered.

The four intercutting pits, 1040, 1045, 1047 and 1049, were located on the southern edge of the natural channel 1029 (Figure 8). This was the only complex set of features excavated during the trenching and is indicative of more intensive activity than the rest of the site would suggest.

Pit 1049 was small and sub-circular in plan measuring 0.87 x 0.57 x 0.12m and was cut into an earlier pit, 1040. It was stratigraphically the most recent of the four pits and its single fill, 1048, contained no finds.

Pit 1040 was large and oval in plan measuring 1.80+ x 1.55 x 0.68m and extended beyond the limit of excavation. It cut two earlier pits, 1045 and 1047 and was cut by pit 1049. Its upper fill 1041 was dark and humic and the finds assemblage comprised disarticulated cow bones showing evidence of meat consumption rather than on site butchery (Biddle, this report). Context 1042 was assigned to a large mammal skull present in the primary pit fill 1043 which also contained significant quantities of cow bone, early Iron Age pottery identified as Mature Decorated ware and a single sherd from an early Bronze Age domestic pottery vessel (Percival, this report).

Pit 1045 was small and sub-rectangular in plan 0.35+ x 0.30 x 0.43m and extended beyond the limit of excavation. It was truncated by pit 1040 and cut Pit 1047 to the south. No finds were recovered from its fill, 1044.

Pit 1047 was small and sub-rectangular in plan 0.20 x 0.23 x 0.40m and also extended beyond the limit of excavation. It was stratigraphically the oldest of the four pits and was cut by 1040 and 1045. No finds were recovered from its fill, 1046.

8.8 Trench 19

Trench 19 (Figure 11) was located in the southern corner of the site on the higher ground. It contained 33 possible post/stakeholes densely clustered together at its south-eastern end (contexts 1051-1065, 1069-1073 and 1077-1121). They were all circular or sub-circular in plan and ranged in size from 0.10m to 0.40m wide and 0.07 to 0.71m deep. All their fills were red grey or red brown, sandy silts with few inclusions and no finds were recovered. Post pipes were present in Postholes 1081 and 1108. There was no obvious form to the distribution of post/stakeholes and the lack of finds may also suggest that many were solution hollows rather than cut features.

8.9 Trench 20

Trench 20 (Figure 12) was positioned on the edge of the high ground towards the south of the site. It contained one ditch, 1075, two modern curvilinear features and two natural features.



Ditch 1075 was located in the northern half of Trench 20 and was aligned north-east to south-west. Its moderately steep 'v' shaped profile may suggest a later prehistoric or Roman date, however its fill, 1076, contained no finds and precise dating remains impossible.

8.10 Trench 23

Trench 23 (Figure 13) was located in the south-eastern area of the site and covered both high and low lying areas. It contained ditch 1126, gully 1128, pit 1123, a large natural depression, two land drains and 12 natural features relating to tree rooting and dynamic natural processes.

Gully 1128 was located in the western half of Trench 23 aligned west-north-west to east-south-east. It was narrow and irregular in plan and its fill, 1129, was pale and showed evidence of substantial leaching consistent with Neolithic and Bronze Age features, however no finds were recovered.

A large natural depression was encountered in the eastern half of Trench 23. This feature was associated with the edge of the former marshy environment present in the east and north of the site. It contained three fills, 1125, 1131 and 1132 the composition of which showed evidence of wet and dry periods during its gradual infill. The upper fill 1125 and basal fill 1132 were dark and humic while the middle fill 1131 was light and sandy with almost no organic material. Significant quantities of early Iron Age pottery identified as Mature Decorated ware were recovered from the upper fill 1125 along with small fragments of cow bone. The remaining fills contained no finds.

Pit 1123 was located at the eastern end of Trench 23 and cut into the natural depression close to its southern edge. It was roughly circular in plan and measured 0.64 x 0.62 x 0.39m. Its fill, 1124 contained large quantities of early Iron Age pottery also identified as Mature Decorated ware. The bulk of the assemblage was formed by fragments belonging to a large tripartite jar and smaller fragments from a small omphalos based bowl, but unlike other the pottery finds on the site these were in good condition. The large, moderately well preserved sherds from pit 1123 suggest that, although not deposited directly after use, the pit assemblage may represent material selected from a midden or other curated domestic debris, for deposition fairly soon after breakage. The large tripartite jar from pit 1123 has significant burnt food residue on the exterior confirming that it had been used in the preparation of food (Percival, see Appendix 2).

Ditch 1126 was also located in the eastern half of Trench 23 aligned north-east to south-west. It was regular in plan, measuring 5.5+ x 0.64 x 0.47m and its fill, 1127, also contained fragments of early Iron Age pottery identified as Mature Decorated ware. The ditch ran into the natural depression and was likely a contemporary drainage ditch.



9.0 DEPOSIT MODEL

The deposit model varied depending on the trench location and fell into two distinct categories. Sections recorded in the marshy environment differed considerably from sections on the higher ground. To illustrate this point two sample sections from trenches 1 and 4 have been included in the figures (Figure 14).

Plough soil 1000 formed the upper layer in the stratigraphic sequence in all trenches and varied in depth between 0.11m and 0.57m. There was no identifiable pattern to the varying depth of the deposit across the site.

Trenches located on the higher ground generally had a simple stratigraphic sequence. In sections from trenches 1, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 the plough soil 1000 overlay the natural drift geology 1002 which was a light orange yellow, sand with occasional gravel inclusions. Outcrops of chalk were also present in some trenches.

Subsoil, 1001, was recorded below the plough soil 1000 in sections from Trenches 1, 5, 14, 19 and 23 on the high ground, however in many trenches this had been ploughed away. The subsoil was a mid yellow brown, friable silt sand with occasional gravel inclusions and was probably an earlier plough soil or layer of accumulated material.

Trenches located in the low ground areas to the east and north-east had more complex stratigraphic sequences associated with the former marshy environment. These comprised varying layers of peat or organic rich deposits. The deeper trenches to the east and north-east adjacent to Lode Drain (4, 7, 8 and 11) contained the most peat/organic layers and the trenches closer to the high ground contained fewer.

Trench 4 contained the deepest and most complex sequence. Upper peat subsoil 1011 was present below the plough soil 1000 and was composed of a dark red brown, loose silt peat with occasional organic roots. It was also present in Trenches 3, 7, 8 and 22. Below this was an upper-middle peat subsoil 1012 comprising mid red brown, loose silt peat with frequent organic preserved wood (trees) and it was only present in Trenches 4 and 7. Next in the sequence was a lower-middle peat subsoil 1013 which was made up of a dark grey brown, loose humic silt peat with occasional plant roots and preserved trees/branches. This was also present in Trenches 11, 16, 17 and 18. The final layer, which lay above the natural drift geology, was a basal peat subsoil 1014 comprising mid-dark grey brown firm silt peat with occasional flint stones and organic roots. It was present in all the low lying trenches and represents the initial formation process of the Fen environment in this area.

In trenches 1, 2, 4, 5, 9 and 22, all of which covered both high and low ground areas, a colluvial layer 1009 was present below either the subsoil 1001 or the basal peat layer 1014. It was generally found on the downward slope and was the earlier post natural deposition layer present on the site.



10.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

10.1 Discussion

The results show a clear and distinct phase of activity in the early Iron Age with residual finds from the early Bronze Age, Neolithic and Upper Palaeolithic periods. Later post-medieval and modern activity was recorded in many of the trenches and is consistent with the current land use. No finds or features dating to the Roman, Saxon or medieval periods were present.

Peat formation began in the Wissey Embayment during the Mesolithic period and remained static into the early Neolithic period. It was highly localised, with no discernible Fen edge and was likely confined to the edge of water courses (Silvester, 1991). The Wissey Basin was heavily wooded at this time and the numerous natural tree hollows and rooting recorded on site is testament to this. Pit 1016 dated to the later prehistoric and cut an adjacent tree hollow suggesting many of the natural features pre-date the cut features on site.

Substantial peat growth occurred in the later Neolithic burying earlier sites in the basin and a marine transgression in the early Bronze Age was followed by the rapid spread of peat throughout the area which continued into the Iron Age (Silvester, 1991). Much of the earlier Fen edge activity would have been covered in layers of peat masking many sites located further into the basin. One residual sherd of early Bronze Age pottery and a small assemblage of worked flint are indicative of very limited earlier activity on the site. Pits 1016 and 1018 were the only possible cut features in the low lying marshy areas that may have been buried by the rapid spread of peat in the early Bronze Age.

The early Iron Age activity is all located on the boundary between the former marshy area and the upland edge of the higher ground. The overwhelming majority of finds came from Trenches 1, 9, 14 and 23 which all cover the transition from upland edge to marshy fen and the finds assemblages show consistent activity associated with domestic waste disposal. The early Iron Age pottery recovered was all 'Mature Decorated ware' dating between c.600/500 to 350/300 BC (Brudenell, 2012). The large, moderately well preserved sherds from pit 1123 suggest that, although not deposited directly after use, the pit assemblage may represent material selected from a midden or other curated domestic debris, for deposition fairly soon after breakage. The large tripartite jar from pit 1123 has significant burnt food residue on the exterior confirming that it had been used in the preparation of food (Percival, see Appendix 2).

The bone and remaining finds assemblage from these trenches also suggest domestic waste disposal activity. Bovine and sheep bones form the dominant species type - with cow appearing to form the greater part of the meat diet. The high proportion of meat bearing bones in the assemblage represents consumption waste rather than primary butchery debris (Biddle, see Appendix 2). Burnt flint recovered from 1125 and 1127 was commonly used in activities such as heating water and cooking food (Goffin, see Appendix 2).



Environmental analysis of layer 1008 (early Iron Age) showed that Spelt and Barley were cultivated and processed to some extent in the immediate area (West, see Appendix 2). Samples from pit 1125 (also early Iron Age) contained small amounts of wheat, however the cereal grains were very fragmentary and hard to identify. The un-charred seeds recovered from the samples seem to reflect a rough ground or cultivated land environment and may represent segetal or wayside weeds, although many of them could be intrusive within the archaeological deposits (West, see Appendix 2).

10.2 Conclusion

It is clear from the finds distribution and the composition of the assemblages that the edge of the marsh was being used as a dumping ground for domestic waste material in the early Iron Age rather than any other more formal or structured deposition.

This activity would suggest some form of small scale settlement activity in the immediate vicinity of the site, probably to the west and/or south, higher up the slope. The ring ditch present within Trench 1 may be associated with a domestic dwelling or equally funerary activity, three other ring ditches are also present in the local landscape (HER 15132, HER 36700 and HER 15133). A series of possible post/stakeholes in Trench 19 may relate to structural features associated with this settlement activity, however the paucity of finds and lack of discernible pattern may also suggest that they were natural solution hollows.

No later Iron Age finds or indeed any finds until the post-medieval period were recovered, suggesting that settlement activity at the edge of the Wissey Embayment in this area ceased. Marine transgression in the wider Fen area is known to have occurred in the later Iron Age, but this did not have direct repercussions on the embayment except along the course of the Little Ouse (Silvester, 1991). The APS evaluation in 2004 indicates that some activity continued into the Roman period, however no evidence of Roman activity was observed during this evaluation.

Sources suggest that peat formation continued in the Wissey Embayment into the post-medieval period, however historic communities withdrew from the Fen edge during the medieval period in favour of higher ground (Silvester, 1991). This does not explain the apparent abandonment of settlement sites or at least the lack of activity on this site from the middle Iron Age onwards. The marshy peat deposits do not exceed their early Iron Age maximum limit and further analysis with data from this and more recent Fen edge site excavations would be useful in reconciling this anomaly with the established research results presented in the Fenland Project.

11.0 PROJECT ARCHIVE AND DEPOSITION

A full archive will be prepared for all work undertaken in accordance with guidance from the *Selection, Retention and Dispersion of Archaeological Collections*, Archaeological Society for Museum Archaeologists, 1993.



Arrangements will be made for the archive to be deposited with the Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service, subject to agreement with the legal landowner where finds are concerned and in accordance with *Requirements for Deposition of Fieldwork and Excavation Archives with Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service Version 3.2 June 2010*.

The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. The material will be catalogued, labelled and packaged for transfer and storage in accordance with the guidelines set out in the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation's *Conservation Guidelines No.2* and the Archaeological Archives Forum's *Archaeological Archives, A guide to best practice, compilation, transfer and curation* (Brown, 2007).

12.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Britannia Archaeology would like to thank Mr Rupert Brown for commissioning and funding the project and Jo Parmenter and Jessica Fleming at Landscape Partnership for their help and advice.

We would also like to thank Dr Ken Hamilton at Norfolk County Council Historic Environment Service for his advice and assistance throughout the project and the Norfolk HER team.



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The Norfolk Heritage Explorer
<http://www.heritage.norfolk.gov.uk/>



APPENDIX 1 DEPOSIT TABLES AND FEATURE DESCRIPTIONS

TRENCH 1

Deposit Tables

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
1	NW-SE	5.67m	DP2
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
1A	NE Side	SW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.36m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1002	0.36m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
1	NW-SE	4.53m	DP3
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
1B	SE Side	SW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.27m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1002	0.27m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
1	NW-SE	5.14m	DP4
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
1C	NE Side	SW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.52m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silty sand.	
1001	0.52 – 0.72m	Subsoil. Mid yellow brown, friable silt sand with occasional flint gravel.	
1008	0.72 – 0.84m	Organic Layer. Dark black malleable organic basal peat with occasional flint stones.	
1002	0.84m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description	Spot Date	Finds /g (sherds or number)	Other
1003	Ditch (Barrow?) (4.00 x 0.82 x 0.14) curvilinear in plan, moderately steep sides, concave base	1004	mid grey brown, friable silt sand with occasional flint stones	-	-	-
1005	Ditch (1.80+ x 2.66 x 0.63m) moderately steep sides, flat base	Upper Fill 1006	Mid yellow brown, loose silt sand with occasional flint and chalk stones.		Metal bed springs, (not retained)	Aligned NE/SW
		Basal Fill 1007	Mid grey brown, friable silt sand with occasional flint stones.	1800-1900AD	Ironstone china dish	
	Natural Depression (16.37 x 1.80+ x 0.16m) gently sloping sides, concave base	Peat Layer 1008	Dark black, loose peat with occasional flint stones	EIA	Mature Decorate Ware 334 (32), A. Bone 212 (42), B. Flint 1 (1), Daub 9 (5)	-
		Colluvial 1009	Mid grey friable silty sand with occasional small flint stone	-	-	



TRENCH 2

Deposit Tables

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
2	WNW-ESE	3.80m	DP6
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
2A	ENE End	WSW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.30m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silty sand.	
1010	0.30 – 0.66m	Peat Subsoil. Dark red brown, loose silt peat with organic wood material. SF1 (Struck Flint).	
1002	0.66m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
2	WNW-ESE	4.20m	DP7
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
2B	ESE End	ENE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.32m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1009	0.32 – 0.41m	Colluvial Subsoil. Mid yellow grey, friable sandy silt with occasional small flint gravel.	
1002	0.41m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

TRENCH 3

Deposit Tables

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
3	N-S	3.62m	DP9
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
3A	NE End	W Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.11m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1011	0.11 – 0.29m	Upper Peat Subsoil. Dark red brown, loose silt peat with occasional organic roots.	
1014	0.29 – 0.44m	Basal Peat Subsoil. Mid-dark grey brown firm silt peat with occasional flint stones and organic roots.	
1002	0.44m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
3	N-S	3.24m	DP10
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
3B	SE End	W Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.19m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silty sand.	
1011	0.19 – 0.43m	Upper Peat Subsoil. Dark red brown, loose silt peat with occasional organic roots.	
1014	0.43 – 0.50m	Basal Peat Subsoil. Mid-dark grey brown firm silt peat with occasional flint stones and organic roots.	
1002	0.50m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	



Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description	Spot Date	Finds /g (sherds or number)	Other
1016	Pit (1.60+ x 0.53+ x 0.61m) oval in plan, steep sides, flat base	1015	Dark grey brown, friable silty sand with occasional flint stones	Later Prehistoric	W. Flint 6 (2), B. Flint 24 (1)	-
1018	Pit (0.95 x 0.90 x 0.12m) irregular in plan, irregular sides and base	1017	Mid brown grey, friable silty sand with occasional flint stones	Upper Palaeolithic ?	W. Flint 3 (1), B. Flint 5 (1)	-

TRENCH 4

Deposit Tables

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
4	E-W	3.43m	DP12
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
4A	NW End	S Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.43m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1009	0.43 – 0.56m	Colluvial Subsoil. Mid yellow grey, friable sand silt with occasional small flint gravel.	
1002	0.56m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
4	E-W	2.68m	DP13
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
4B	N Side	S Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.31m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1011	0.31 – 0.50m	Upper Peat Subsoil. Dark red brown, loose silt peat with occasional organic roots.	
1012	0.50 – 0.62m	Upper-Middle Peat Subsoil. Mid red brown, loose silt peat with frequent organic preserved wood (trees).	
1013	0.62 – 0.89m	Lower-Middle Peat Subsoil. Dark grey brown, loose humic silt peat with occasional plant roots and preserved trees/branches.	
1014	0.89 – 0.99m	Basal Peat Subsoil. Mid-dark grey brown firm silt peat with occasional flint stones and organic roots.	
1002	0.99m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	



TRENCH 5

Deposit Tables

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
5	NW-SE	5.37m	DP15
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
5A	NE End	SW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.31m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1001	0.31 – 0.39m	Subsoil. Mid yellow brown, friable silt sand with occasional flint gravel.	
1002	0.39m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
5	NW-SE	4.20m	DP16
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
5B	SE End	SW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.23m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silty sand.	
1008	0.23 – 0.54m	Organic Layer. Dark black malleable organic basal peat with occasional flint stones.	
1009	0.54 – 0.72m	Colluvial Subsoil. Mid yellow grey, friable sand silt with occasional small flint gravel.	
1002	0.72m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

TRENCH 6

Deposit Tables

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
6	N-S	3.82m	DP18
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
6A	W Side	E Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.31m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1014	0.31 – 0.35m	Basal Peat Subsoil. Mid-dark grey brown firm silt peat with occasional flint stones and organic roots.	
1002	0.35m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
6	N-S	3.82m	DP19
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
6B	W Side	E Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.31m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1014	0.35 – 0.65m	Basal Peat Subsoil. Mid-dark grey brown firm silt peat with occasional flint stones and organic roots.	
1002	0.65m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	



TRENCH 7

Deposit Tables

Trench No 7		Orientation NW-SE		Height AOD 3.29m		Shot No DP21	
Sample Section No 7A			Location SW End			Facing NE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description					
1000	0.00 – 0.22m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.					
1011	0.22 – 0.44m	Upper Peat Subsoil. Dark red brown, loose silt peat with occasional organic roots.					
1012	0.44 – 0.47m	Upper-Middle Peat Subsoil. Mid red brown, loose silt peat with frequent organic preserved wood (trees).					
1014	0.47 – 0.62m	Basal Peat Subsoil. Mid-dark grey brown firm silt peat with occasional flint stones and organic roots.					
1002	0.62m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.					

Trench No 7		Orientation NW-SE		Height AOD 3.13m		Shot No DP22	
Sample Section No 7B			Location SE End			Facing NE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description					
1000	0.00 – 0.24m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.					
1011	0.24 – 0.51m	Upper Peat Subsoil. Dark red brown, loose silt peat with occasional organic roots.					
1014	0.51 – 0.62m	Basal Peat Subsoil. Mid-dark grey brown firm silt peat with occasional flint stones and organic roots.					
1002	0.62m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.					

TRENCH 8

Deposit Tables

Trench No 8		Orientation E-W		Height AOD 3.34m		Shot No DP24	
Sample Section No 8A			Location NW End			Facing S Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description					
1000	0.00 – 0.21m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.					
1011	0.21 – 0.60m	Upper Peat Subsoil. Dark red brown, loose silt peat with occasional organic roots.					
1014	0.60 – 0.82m	Basal Peat Subsoil. Mid-dark grey brown firm silt peat with occasional flint stones and organic roots.					
1002	0.82m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.					



Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
8	E-W	3.25m	(None Taken, Trench Under Water)
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
8B	S Side	N Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.30m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1011	0.30 – 0.69m	Upper Peat Subsoil. Dark red brown, loose silt peat with occasional organic roots.	
1014	0.69 – 0.81m	Basal Peat Subsoil. Mid-dark grey brown firm silt peat with occasional flint stones and organic roots.	
1002	0.81m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

TRENCH 9

Deposit Tables

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
9	WSW-ENE	6.83m	DP26
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
9A	SW End	SE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.37m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1002	0.37m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
9	WSW-ENE	5.48m	DP27
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
9B	NE End	SE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.48m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1009	0.48 – 0.60m	Colluvial Subsoil. Mid yellow grey, friable sandy silt with occasional small flint gravel. Flecks of prehistoric pottery were present throughout this deposit.	
1021	0.60 – 0.72m	Upper Fen Edge Fill. Light orange yellow, compact sand silt with occasional flint stones.	
1022	0.72 – 1.09m	Fen Edge Fill. Mid red brown, friable silt sand with occasional flint gravel stones.	
1023	1.09 – 1.14m	Fen Edge Fill. Mid brown grey, friable silt sand with occasional flint gravel stones.	
1024	1.14 – 1.24m	Fen Edge Fill. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand with occasional flint gravel stones.	
1025	1.24 – 1.34m	Fen Edge Fill. Light brown grey, friable silt sand with occasional flint gravel stones.	
1027	1.34 – 1.41m	Basal Fen Edge Fill. Mid grey brown, friable silt sand with occasional flint gravel stones.	
1002	1.41m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	



Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description	Spot Date	Finds /g (sherds or number)	Other
1020	Ditch (2.00+ x 1.30 x 0.54m) linear in plan, had steep sides, flat base	1019	mid grey brown, friable silt sand	1780-1900+AD 1770-1850AD	Blue & white transfer printed ware, 1 (1) Pearlware 34 (1)	Aligned NW/SE

TRENCH 10

Deposit Tables

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
10	NNE-SSW	6.36m	DP29
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
10A	SSE End	WNW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.23m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1002	0.23m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
10	NNE-SSW	5.32m	DP30
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
10B	NNE End	WNW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.30m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1009	0.30 – 0.69m	Colluvial Subsoil. Mid yellow grey, friable sand silt with occasional small flint gravel. Small flecks of prehistoric pottery were present throughout this deposit.	
1002	0.69m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

TRENCH 11

Deposit Tables

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
11	NW-SE	3.07m	DP32
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
11A	NE End	NW Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.18m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1013	0.18 – 0.56m	Lower-Middle Peat Subsoil. Dark grey brown, loose humic silt peat with occasional plant roots and preserved trees/branches.	
1014	0.56 – 0.69m	Basal Peat Subsoil. Mid-dark grey brown firm silt peat with occasional flint stones and organic roots.	
1002	0.69m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	



Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
11	NW-SE	3.02m	DP33
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
11B	SW End	SE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.35m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1014	0.35 – 0.76m	Basal Peat Subsoil. Mid-dark grey brown firm silt peat with occasional flint stones and organic roots.	
1002	0.76m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

TRENCH 12

Deposit Tables

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
12	NW-SE	3.49m	DP35
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
12A	SE End	NE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.30m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1014	0.30 – 0.45m	Basal Peat Subsoil. Mid-dark grey brown firm silt peat with occasional flint stones and organic roots.	
1002	0.45m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
12	NW-SE	4.17m	DP36
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
12B	NW End	NE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.42m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1002	0.42m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

TRENCH 13

Deposit Tables

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
13	NE-SW	4.56m	DP38
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
13A	NE End	SE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.35m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1002	0.35m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	



Trench No 13	Orientation NE-SW	Height AOD 4.22m	Shot No DP39
Sample Section No 13B		Location SW End	Facing SE Facing
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.52m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1002	0.52m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description	Spot Date	Finds /g (sherds or number)	Other
1038	Tree Hollow (2.60+ x 0.89+ x 0.16m) irregular sides, edges and base	1039	mid grey brown, friable sandy silt	Later prehistoric	W. Flint 6 (1), B. Flint 7 (2)	-

TRENCH 14

Deposit Tables

Trench No 14	Orientation NW-SE	Height AOD 4.80m	Shot No DP41
Sample Section No 14A		Location NW End	Facing NE Facing
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.36m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1002	0.36m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

Trench No 14	Orientation NW-SE	Height AOD 5.45m	Shot No DP42
Sample Section No 14B		Location SE End	Facing NE Facing
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.35m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1002	0.35m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description	Spot Date	Finds /g (sherds or number)	Other
1040	Pit (1.80+ x 1.55 x 0.68m) elongated oval in plan, moderately steep sides, concave base	Upper Fill 1041	Dark orange brown, malleable silty sand with occasional flint nodules and charcoal flecks	EIA	Mature Decorate Ware 3 (4), A. Bone 305 (4), W. Flint 33 (2)	Cut Pits 1045 & 1047. Cut by Pit 1049
		Basal Fill 1043	Mid orange yellow, sandy gravel with occasional flint gravel stones	EIA	A. Skull 1042 46 (60), A. Bone 881 (12), W. Flint 10 (1)	
1045	Pit (0.35+ x 0.30 x 0.43m) rectangular in plan, vertical sides, flat base	1044	Mid orange brown, compact sandy gravel with chalk fleck inclusions	-	-	Cut by Pit 1040. Cut Pit 1047



1047	Pit (0.20 x 0.23 x 0.40m) rectangular in plan, vertical sides, flat base	1046	Dark grey brown, malleable silty sand with occasional flint gravel stones	EIA	Mature Decorate Ware 31 (1)	Cut by Pits 1040 & 1047
1049	Pit (0.87 x 0.57 x 0.12m) oval in plan, vertical sides, flat base	1048	Mid orange grey, malleable silty gravel with frequent flint gravel stones	-	-	Cut Pit 1040
1029	Natural Channel (17.24 x 1.90+ x 1.55m) linear in plan, gently sloping into steeply sloping sides, concave base	Upper Fill 1030	Mid grey brown, compact sandy silt with occasional flint stones	-	-	-
		1031	Mid brown grey, compact silty sand	-	-	
		1032	Light brown grey, compact silty sand	-	-	
		1033	Mid-Dark grey brown, compact sandy silt	-	-	
		1034	Light yellow grey, compact silty sand	-	-	
		1035	Dark grey brown, compact humic sandy silt	-	-	
		Basal Fill 1036	Mid brown grey, compact sandy silt with occasional flint stones	-	-	

TRENCH 15

Deposit Tables

Trench No 15	Orientation NW-SE	Height AOD 5.19m	Shot No DP52
Sample Section No 15A	Location SE End	Facing NE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.33m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1002	0.33m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

Trench No 14	Orientation NW-SE	Height AOD 5.48m	Shot No DP54
Sample Section No 15B	Location NW End	Facing NE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.42m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1002	0.42m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	



TRENCH 16

Deposit Tables

Trench No 16		Orientation E-W	Height AOD 4.32m	Shot No DP68
Sample Section No 16A		Location E End		Facing N Facing
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description		
1000	0.00 – 0.43m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.		
1013	0.43 – 0.74m	Lower-Middle Peat Subsoil. Dark grey brown, loose humic silt peat with occasional plant roots and preserved trees/branches.		
1014	0.74 – 0.91m	Basal Peat Subsoil. Mid-dark grey brown firm silt peat with occasional flint stones and organic roots.		
1002	0.91m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.		

Trench No 16		Orientation E-W	Height AOD 4.49m	Shot No DP67
Sample Section No 16B		Location W End		Facing N Facing
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description		
1000	0.00 – 0.42m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.		
1002	0.42m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.		

TRENCH 17

Deposit Tables

Trench No 17		Orientation E-W	Height AOD 3.49m	Shot No DP63
Sample Section No 17A		Location E End		Facing S Facing
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description		
1000	0.00 – 0.30m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.		
1013	0.30 – 0.50m	Lower-Middle Peat Subsoil. Dark grey brown, loose humic silt peat with occasional plant roots and preserved trees/branches.		
1014	0.50 – 0.70m	Basal Peat Subsoil. Mid-dark grey brown firm silt peat with occasional flint stones and organic roots.		
1002	0.70m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.		

Trench No 17		Orientation E-W	Height AOD 3.78m	Shot No DP64
Sample Section No 17B		Location W End		Facing S Facing
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description		
1000	0.00 – 0.40m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.		
1013	0.40 – 0.50m	Lower-Middle Peat Subsoil. Dark grey brown, loose humic silt peat with occasional plant roots and preserved trees/branches.		
1002	0.50m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.		



TRENCH 18

Deposit Tables

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
18	NW-SE	3.50m	DP61
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
18A	SE End	NE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.34m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1002	0.34m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
18	NW-SE	3.19m	DP62
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
18B	NW End	NE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.40m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1013	0.40 – 0.70m	Lower-Middle Peat Subsoil. Dark grey brown, loose humic silt peat with occasional plant roots and preserved trees/branches.	
1014	0.70 – 0.99m	Basal Peat Subsoil. Mid-dark grey brown firm silt peat with occasional flint stones and organic roots.	
1002	0.50m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

TRENCH 19

Deposit Tables

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
19	NW-SE	6.15m	DP61
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
19A	SE End	NE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.34m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1002	0.34m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot No
19	NW-SE	6.30m	DP62
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
19B	NW End	NE Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.40m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1002	0.50m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	



Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description	Spot Date	Finds /g (sherds or number)	Other
1051	Stake hole (0.18 x 0.18 x 0.20m) Sub-circular in plan, vertical sides, flattish base	1050	Mid orange brown, friable silty sand	-	-	Cut by Pit 1053
1053	Pit (0.30+ x 1.05 x 0.50m) Irregular oval in plan, irregular sides, irregular base	1052	Mid grey brown, friable sandy silt with occasional flint stones	-	-	Cuts Stake holes 1051 & 1055
1055	Stake hole (0.27 x 0.20 x 0.20m) Sub-circular in plan, vertical sides, flattish base	1054	Mid orange brown, friable silty sand	-	-	Cut by Pit 1055
1057	Posthole (0.20 x 0.27 x 0.65m) Sub-circular in plan, vertical sides, flattish base	1056	Mid orange brown, friable silty sand with occasional small stones	-	-	-
1059	Posthole (0.30 x 0.30 x 0.46m) Sub-circular in plan, vertical sides, flattish base	1058	Mid orange brown, friable silty sand with occasional small stones	-	-	Cuts Stake hole 1065
1061	Posthole (0.25 x 0.25 x 0.25m) Sub-circular in plan, vertical sides, flattish base	1059	Mid orange brown, friable silty sand with occasional small stones	-	-	-
1063	Posthole (0.28 x 0.28 x 0.30m) Sub-circular in plan, vertical sides, flattish base	1062	Mid orange brown, friable silty sand with occasional small stones	-	-	-
1065	Stake hole (0.18 x 0.18 x 0.20m) Sub-circular in plan, vertical sides, flattish base	1064	Mid orange brown, friable silty sand with occasional small stones	-	-	Cut by Posthole 1059
1069	Posthole (0.19 x 0.26 x 0.29m) Sub-circular in plan, vertical sides, concave base	1070	Mid red grey, friable sandy silt	-	-	-
1071	Posthole (0.30 x 0.20 x 0.31m) Oval in plan, vertical sides (stepped on NE side), concave base	1072	Mid red grey, friable sandy silt	-	-	-
1073	Stake hole (0.19 x 0.18 x 0.21m) Circular in plan, steep tapered sides, concave 'V' shaped base	1074	Mid brown grey, friable sandy silt	-	-	-
1077	Posthole (0.30 x 0.18 x 0.21m) Sub-circular in plan, vertical sides, concave base	1078	Mid red grey, friable sandy silt with occasional flint stones	-	-	-
1079	(0.20 x 0.19 x 0.11m) Circular in plan, steep tapered sides, concave 'V' shaped base	1080	Mid brown grey, friable sandy silt	-	-	-
1081	Posthole (0.22 x 0.21 x 0.23m) Sub-circular in plan, vertical sides, concave base	Postpipe 1082	Light yellow brown, friable sandy silt	-	-	-
		Fill 1083	Mid red/grey brown, friable sandy silt	-	-	
1084	Posthole (0.19 x 0.16 x 0.21m) Sub-circular in plan, vertical	1085	Mid red brown, friable sandy silt	-	-	-



	sides, concave base					
1086	Posthole (0.19 x 0.16 x 0.21m) Sub-circular in plan, vertical sides, concave base	1087	Mid red/grey brown, friable sandy silt	-	-	-
1088	Posthole (0.26 x 0.18 x 0.14m) Sub-oval in plan, steep sides, concave base	1089	Mid red grey, friable sandy silt	-	-	-
1090	Posthole (0.15 x 0.15 x 0.11m) Sub-circular in plan, vertical sides, concave base slightly tapered	1091	Mid brown grey, friable sandy silt	-	-	-
1092	Stake hole (0.15 x 0.14 x 0.13m) Sub-circular in plan, vertical sides, concave base slightly tapered	1093	Mid red grey, friable sandy silt	-	-	-
1094	Stake hole (0.12 x 0.10 x 0.09m) Circular in plan, steep tapered sides, flattish base slightly tapered	1095	Mid brown grey, friable sandy silt	-	-	Cut by Stake hole 1096
1096	Stake hole (0.20 x 0.14 x 0.11m) Oval in plan, moderate sides, concave base	1097	Mid red grey, friable sandy silt	-	-	Cuts Stakeholes 1094 & 1098
1098	Stake hole (0.10 x 0.07 x 0.07m) Oval in plan, steep sides, concave base	1099	Mid red grey, friable sandy silt	-	-	Cut by Stake hole 1096
1100	Posthole (0.22 x 0.20 x 0.09m) Circular in plan, moderate sides, concave base	1101	Mid red/grey brown, friable sandy silt	-	-	-
1102	Posthole (0.32 x 0.22 x 0.44m) Sub-circular in plan, vertical sides, concave base	1103	Mid grey brown, friable, sandy silt with occasional flint stones & gravel	-	-	Cuts Posthole 1104
1104	Posthole (0.16 x 0.09m x unknown) Sub-circular in plan, unexcavated sides & base	1105	Mid red grey, friable sandy silt	-	-	Cut by Posthole 1102
1106	Posthole (0.30 x 0.22 x 0.15m) Oval in plan, steep sides, concave base	1107	Mid red grey, friable sandy silt	-	-	-
1108	Posthole (0.38 x 0.25 x 0.70m) Sub-circular in plan, steep vertical sides (undercuts to NW), concave base	Post pipe 1109	Light yellow brown, friable, sandy silt with occasional flint gravel	-	-	-
		Fill 1110	Mid red grey, friable sandy silt with occasional flint stones	-	-	
1111	Posthole (0.24 x 0.24 x 0.23m) Oval in plan, steep sides, concave base	1112	Mid red grey, friable sandy silt	-	-	-
1113	Posthole/Pit (0.37 x 0.28 x 0.32m) Sub oval in plan, steep vertical sides, flattish base	1114	Mid red grey, friable sandy silt	-	-	Cut by modern test pit
1115	Stake hole (0.18 x 0.16 x 0.11m) Circular in plan, steep sides,	1116	Mid red grey, friable sandy silt	-	-	-



	concave tapered base					
1117	Stake hole (0.17 x 0.21 x 0.23m) Circular in plan, steep sides, tapered base	1118	Mid red brown, friable sandy silt	-	-	-
1119	Posthole (0.23 x 0.19 x 0.09m) Sub- oval in plan, steep sides, concave base	1120	Mid red grey, friable sandy silt	-	-	Cuts PH 1121
1121	Posthole (0.26 x 0.13+ x 0.22m) Oval in plan, steep sides, concave base	1122	Mid red brown, friable sandy silt	-	-	Cut by PH 1119

TRENCH 20

Deposit Tables

Trench No 20	Orientation N-S	Height AOD 4.75m	Shot No DP77
Sample Section No 20A	Location N End	Facing W Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.40m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	
1002	0.40m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.	

Trench No 20	Orientation N-S	Height AOD 5.25m	Shot No DP76
Sample Section No 20B	Location S End	Facing W Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00 – 0.40m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.	

Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description	Spot Date	Finds /g (sherds or number)	Other
1075	Ditch (5.00+ x 0.65 x 0.30) Linear in plan, steep sides, concave base	1076	Mid yellow brown, compact sandy silt with occasional flint stones	-	-	Aligned N- S



TRENCH 21

Deposit Tables

Trench No 21		Orientation N-S	Height AOD 4.05m	Shot No DP79
Sample Section No 21A		Location S End		Facing E Facing
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description		
1000	0.00 – 0.42m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.		
1002	0.42m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.		

Trench No 21		Orientation N-S	Height AOD 3.98m	Shot No DP80
Sample Section No 21B		Location N End		Facing E Facing
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description		
1000	0.00 – 0.40m+	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.		

TRENCH 22

Deposit Tables

Trench No 22		Orientation N-S	Height AOD 4.15m	Shot No DP83
Sample Section No 22A		Location E End		Facing S Facing
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description		
1000	0.00 – 0.40m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.		
1002	0.40m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.		

Trench No 22		Orientation E-W	Height AOD 3.98m	Shot No DP84
Sample Section No 22B		Location W End		Facing S Facing
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description		
1000	0.00 – 0.50m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.		
1011	0.50 – 0.69m	Upper Peat Subsoil. Dark red brown, loose silt peat with occasional organic roots.		
1009	0.69 – 0.84m	Colluvial Subsoil. Mid yellow grey, friable sand silt with occasional small flint gravel. Small flecks of prehistoric pottery were present throughout this deposit.		
1002	0.69m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.		



TRENCH 23

Deposit Tables

Trench No 23		Orientation E-W		Height AOD 4.53m		Shot No DP79	
Sample Section No 23A			Location E End			Facing S Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description					
1000	0.00 – 0.42m	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.					
1001	0.32 – 0.72m	Subsoil. Mid yellow brown, friable silt sand with occasional flint gravel.					
1125	0.72 – 0.91m	Upper Marsh/Peat Layer. Dark brown grey, friable sandy silt with occasional flint gravel					
1131	0.91 – 1.05m	Middle Fill Layer. Light brown grey, friable clay silt					
1132	1.05 – 1.30m	Basal Marsh/Peat Layer. Dark black grey, friable organic sandy silt					
1002	1.30m+	Natural Drift Geology. Light orange yellow, compact sand and occasional gravel.					

Trench No 21		Orientation N-S		Height AOD 5.91m		Shot No DP80	
Sample Section No 23B			Location N End			Facing E Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description					
1000	0.00 – 0.40m+	Ploughsoil. Dark grey brown, friable silt sand.					

Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description	Spot Date	Finds /g (sherds or number)	Other
1123	Pit (0.64 x 0.60 x 0.39m) Circular in plan, steep side, concave base	1124	Dark black grey, friable organic sandy silt	EIA	Mature Decorate Ware 418 (31)	Cuts layers 1125, 1131 & 1132
1126	Ditch (4.00+ x 0.65 x 0.48m) Linear in plan, steep sides, flattish base	1127	Mid yellow brown, compact sandy silt with occasional flint gravel	EIA	Mature Decorate Ware <1 (2), A.Bone 3 (2)	Cuts layer 1125
1128	Gully (12.15+ x 0.45 x 0.10m) Linear in plan, moderate to steep sides, concave base	1129	Light yellow brown, compact sandy silt	Prehist?	-	Heavily leached fill probably prehistoric date
	Natural Depression	Upper Marsh/Peat Layer 1125	Dark brown grey, friable sandy silt with occasional flint gravel	EIA	Mature Decorate Ware 123 (9)	-
		Middle Fill Layer 1131	Light brown grey, friable clay silt	-	-	
		Basal Marsh/Peat Layer 1132	Dark black grey, friable organic sandy silt	-	A. Bone 450 (6)	



APPENDIX 2 SPECIALIST REPORTS

POTTERY

Prehistoric Pottery Trenches 1 - 18

By Sarah Percival

A total of 62 sherds weighing 450g were recovered from two pits, a natural hollow and a peat layer within two test pits. The sherds are mostly earlier Iron Age and include rims from two vessels along with several decorated sherds. A single sherd of highly abraded, grog-tempered pottery is perhaps earlier Bronze Age. The assemblage is fragmentary and is moderately well preserved including a mix of abraded and un-abraded sherds.

Earlier Bronze Age

A single earlier Bronze Age sherd weighing 5g was found in the fill of pit [140]. The heavily abraded sherd is made of soft, friable fabric containing moderate, small sub-rounded grog and quartz sand. Earlier Bronze Age pottery has previously been found in Stoke Ferry parish including sherds from various urn forms in similar grog-tempered fabric (Gibson 1982, 247). The area of fen edge around the south-eastern border of the Wissey Embayment also produced extensive spreads of earlier Bronze Age artefacts (Silvester 1991, fig.73) including urn forms derived from in domestic rather than funerary contexts (Healy 1996, 117). It is likely that the sherd found here represents part of a redeposited earlier Bronze Age domestic vessel.

Earlier Iron Age

The earlier Iron Age assemblage comprised 61 sherds weighing 445g. The extensive use of flint-tempered fabrics and the presence of distinctive decoration suggest that the sherds belong within the mature decorated period dating to c. c. 600/500 to 350/300 BC (Brudenell 2012).

Fabric

Six fabrics were identified (Table 1). All contain small pieces of angular, crushed flint sometimes forming the dominant component of the fabric (fabrics F1, F2 and F3) and otherwise as an addition within a predominantly sandy fabric (Q1 and Q2).

Fabric code	Description	Quantity	Weight (g)
F1	Moderate, small angular flint pieces in a sandy clay matrix	17	55
F2	Moderate, small angular flint pieces in a sandy clay matrix with sparse mica shreds	9	24
F3	Common, small angular flint pieces in a sandy clay matrix	1	4
Q1	Common quartz sand with sparse small angular flint	9	22
Q2	Common quartz sand with common small angular flint	25	340
Total		61	445

Table 1: Quantity and weight of earlier Iron Age pottery by fabric



The fabrics are typical of earlier Iron Age pottery of the 'Mature Decorated ware' phase from the region, being generally characterised by vessels tempered with 'sand or a combination of sand-and-flint' (Brudenell 2012, 204). The small, uniform size of the flint inclusions indicates that the flint had been crushed to a uniform size or perhaps sieved prior to inclusion and is well sorted throughout the clay matrix giving a dense even texture and allowing vessel surfaces to be evenly smoothed.

Form

The two vessel rims are simple, rounded and undecorated. The rims appear to be from small to medium vessels but are too small for rim diameter to be accurately measured. A single base sherd with a simple base angle, again undecorated was also found along with several sharply angled sherds suggesting biconical vessels with distinct angular bodies. Decoration is found on four sherds, with motifs being restricted to the shoulder and body of the vessel. One vessel has a row of fingernail-impressions around the girth. This form of decoration is widely found within Decorated Ware assemblages (Brudenell 2012 fig.5:21, 14 and 32). Two sherds have linear decoration formed of narrow incised lines, one in-filled with diagonal slashes, a form of decoration common within the assemblage from West Harling (Clark and Fell 1953), whilst the fourth has stabbed decoration (Plate 3). Vessels with similar all over stabbing are found at Bittering Quarry, Beeston with Bittering (Percival 1999, Fig. 23).

Deposition

The majority of the pottery, c.75% (331g) came from peat layer (1008) revealed within test pits 1 and 2. The assemblage recovered from the peat has an average sherd weight of 10g and includes all but one of the decorated sherds. Sherds from the two pits, (1040) and (1047) are smaller than those from the peat, having an average weight of just 5g. The sherds from natural feature (1026) are even more fragmentary weighing an average of less than 3g each. The generally small size and high fragmentation of the sherds perhaps indicates that they had been subject to a high degree of attrition and that some considerable time had elapsed between discard and eventual deposition in the peat and pit fills.

Feature type	Feature	Quantity	Weight (g)
Natural feature	1026	11	29
Peat Layer	1008	32	331
Pit	1040	17	55
	1047	1	30
Total		61	445

Table 2: Quantity and weight of earlier Iron Age pottery by feature

Discussion

The pottery found within the test pits and other features is of earlier Iron Age date with both fabric and form suggesting that it falls within the 'Mature Decorated ware' phase which was current between c. 600/500 to 350/300 BC (Brudenell 2012). The narrow incised decoration and finger-nail impressions found on the sherds find parallel with decorated vessels from West Harling (Clark and Fell 1953). This pottery was dated by Cunliffe to the earliest Iron Age, the eighth to sixth centuries BC (Cunliffe 2010, fig. A:5), however a recent radiocarbon date obtained from residue on a sherd from West Harling calibrates at 730-260 BC (2350±40 BP; Table 5.1, no. 55), with a 91.1% probability that



it was in use between 550-360 cal. BC. This is much later date than previously proposed, and has led to suggestions that in much of the fens and northern East Anglia the early Decorated Ware tradition continued well into the full Early Iron Age (Brudenell 2012). Within Stoke Ferry parish six find sites are listed as producing flint-gritted sherds of earlier Iron Age date including two vessels found during dredging of the Wissey in 1929 and 1939 (info Norfolk Historic Environment Record). Previous archaeological work within Browns Fen also recovered earlier Iron Age sherds (Evans 2005). The material found at Browns Fen appears to fall within an area of widespread earlier Iron Age occupation of the fen edge adjacent to the Wissey embayment revealed as artefact scatters by the work of the Fen Survey (Silvester 1991, fig.50).

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Prehistoric Pottery Trenches 19-23

Introduction

The assemblage comprised 45 earlier Iron Age sherds weighing 617g belonging to the mature decorated ceramic phase dating to c. 600/500 to 350/300 BC (Brudenell 2012). It is contemporary with previous pottery finds made at the site.

Fabric

Three fabrics were identified (Table 1), both contain small pieces of angular, crushed flint which in one fabric forms the dominant component (fabric F1) and within the other is an addition within a predominantly sandy fabric (Q1).



Fabric code	Description	Quantity	% total quantity	Weight (g)	% total weight (g)
F1	Moderate, small angular flint pieces in a sandy clay matrix	28	62%	446	72%
Q1	Common quartz sand with sparse small angular flint	17	38%	171	28%
Total		45	100%	617	100.00

Table 1: Quantity and weight of earlier Iron Age pottery by fabric

The fabrics are identical to earlier Iron Age fabrics found previously at the site and are typical of pottery of the 'Mature Decorated ware' phase from the region, being generally characterised by vessels tempered with 'sand or a combination of sand-and-flint' (Brudenell 2012, 204).

Form

Two partial vessel profiles were recovered, both from the fill of pit 1123. The rim and upper body from a long necked, tripartite jar with angular shoulder and double incised band on neck, shoulder and belly is similar to examples from Lofts Farms, Essex (Brown 1988, Fig. 15, no. 53; Brudenell 2012, fig 5.15,25). The jar has a diameter at the rim of 230mm. A number of sherds were also found from a second vessel, a small, round-bodied bowl with in-turned rim and omphalos base, a form also found at Exning, Suffolk (Brudenell 2012, fig 5.15,16). This small bowl has a rim diameter of 120mm. A third vessel, found in natural feature 1125, is represented by a single sherd from the upper body of a large jar and has a triple band of incised decoration which finds parallel within the decorated ware assemblage from Little Bealings (Martin 1993, fig.37, 24). The remainder of the assemblage comprises undecorated body sherds with the exception of three joining sherds, also from natural feature 1125, from the base of a large vessel with a diameter at the base of 130mm.

Deposition

The majority of the pottery, c.78% (480g) came from pit 1123, an assemblage which includes large sherds from the partial profiles of the large tripartite jar and smaller fragments from the small omphalos based bowl. These large and mostly unabraded sherds appear to have been deposited fairly soon after use before significant abrasion or attrition had taken place and contrast with pottery from previously excavated pits, (1040 and 1047), which was small and abraded. Pottery was also found in natural feature 1125 and in small quantities including two sherds from sample <5>, from the fill of ditch 1126,

Feature type	Feature	Quantity	Weight (g)
Pit	1123	31	480
Natural feature	1125	10	133
Ditch	1126	4	4
Total		45	617

Table 2: Quantity and weight of earlier Iron Age pottery by feature



Discussion

The pottery is of earlier Iron Age date with both fabric and form suggesting that it falls within the 'Mature Decorated ware' phase which was current between c. 600/500 to 350/300 BC (Brudenell 2012) and compares well with previous pottery found here (Silvester 1991; Evans, 2005; Percival 2012). The large, moderately well preserved sherds from pit 1123 suggest that, although not deposited directly after use, the pit assemblage may represent material selected from a midden or other curated domestic debris, for deposition fairly soon after breakage. The large tripartite jar from pit 1123 has significant burnt food residue on the exterior confirming that it had been used in the preparation of food.

Bibliography

Brudenell, M.J.,	2012	<i>Pots, Practice and Society: An Investigation of Pattern and Variability in the Post-Deverel Rimbury Ceramic Tradition of East Anglia.</i> Unpublished PhD thesis University of York.
Evans, R.,	2005	<i>Archaeological Evaluation on land at Browns Fen, Stoke Ferry, Norfolk.</i> Archaeological Project Services Report No. 60/05.
Martin, E.,	1993	'Iron Age Pottery from Little Bealings' in 'Three Prehistoric Hill-Top Settlements in South East Suffolk' in <i>Settlements on Hill-Tops: Seven Prehistoric Sites in Suffolk.</i> East Anglian Archaeology 65, 52 – 54.
Percival, S.,	2012	<i>Prehistoric Pottery from Browns Fen Stoke Ferry</i> Unpublished report for SCCAS
Silvester, R.,	1991	<i>The Fenland Project No.4: Norfolk Survey, The Wissey Embayment and Fen Causeway.</i> East Anglian Archaeology 52

Post-Roman pottery

By Richenda Goffin

Context 1007

1 undecorated Ironstone china dish 1800-1900, weight 47g

Context 1019

1 small fragment of Blue & white transfer printed ware, 1780-1900+, weight 1g

1 very abraded sherd ?Pearlware @ 4g 1770-1850

1 fragment of late brick @388g, coarse sandy fabric with mixed bands, incomplete height 57mm. 18th-19th C

ANIMAL BONE

Trenches 1 – 18

By Justine Biddle

In total 150 fragments of faunal material were recorded from six contexts, four features. All of the material was hand-collected and it was possible to identify 31% (47 fragments) of the assemblage to species and element.

Table 1 shows the number of fragments and total weight by context.



Context	No. fragments	Weight (g) fragments
1008 (Test Pit 2)	26	37
1008 (Test Pit 3)	16	172
1025	28	152
1041	3	295
1042	63	65
1043	14	818
TOTAL	150	1539

Table 1: *Number of fragments and weight by context*

Table 2 shows the number of fragments by species. The majority of the fragments, 82 (54%), recorded are from meat bearing limb bones. The presence of 62 small fragments of skull in context 1042 biases this slightly and in reality the percentage of limb bones is higher as the skull fragments are almost certainly from the same animal. The proportion of meat bearing bones in the assemblage represents consumption waste rather than primary butchery debris. The butchery mark on the sheep/goat scapula from 1008 (Test pit 3) suggests that some secondary butchery may have taken place as the chop mark on the anterior surface indicates the removal of the spine of the bone to produce two joints of meat.

There are no specific butchery techniques or other details which would suggest a particular period for this assemblage but a later Prehistoric date would be in keeping.

Context	Cow	Sheep/Goat	Large mammal
1008 (Test Pit 2)	24	0	2
1008 (Test Pit 3)	5	4	7
1025	17	0	11
1041	3	0	0
1042	0	0	63
1043	10	2	2
TOTAL	59	6	85

Table 2: *Number of fragments by species*

Table 3 shows a summary of additional information which can be obtained from the assemblage. Unfortunately, due to the small size of the assemblage and lack of additional information which can be obtained from the recovered fragments further work is not recommended.

Modifications	Ageing		Metric	
	Tooth-wear	Epiphyseal fusion	Measureable	Complete
5	0	7	0	0

Table 3: *Summary of further information available*



Trenches 19 - 23

By Richenda Goffin

Introduction

Forty-eight fragments of faunal material were recorded from three contexts, weighing 566g in total. In addition to hand collected material, animal bone remains were recovered from one environmental sample in 1125.

Table 1 shows the number of fragments and total weight by context.

Context	No. frags	Weight (g)
1125 (from Sample 6)	>40	97
1127	2	3
1132	6	466
Total	48	566

Table 1. Quantity and weight by context

The assemblage

The assemblage is small with only some diagnostic material (Table 2).

The largest quantity of animal bone was recovered from 1132, which was a layer of peat. The distal end of the humerus of a cow was identified, together with the remains of a sheep/goat mandible with some of the molars still intact. Other fragments of mammal limb bone were present in this context, some of which had been split longitudinally.

Many small and fragmentary remains of further bone were identified in marsh deposit 1125, Sample 6. The largest piece is from the limb of a large mammal and is probably the proximal part of the distal end of a the radius of a cow.

Context	Cow	Seep/Goat	Large mammal	Small unidentifiable
1125	1			>39
1127				2
1132	1	1	4	
Total	2	1	4	41

Table 2. Number of fragments by species

WORKED FLINT

By Justine Biddle

Seven pieces of struck flint were recovered from six contexts. It was recorded by type and other descriptive comments about appearance, condition and technology were noted and a date has been suggested. Descriptions are included in the table below.



Ctxt	TYPE	No.	Pat	Notes and date
1010	Flake	1	Yes	Large light grey flake, broken at the distal end, lightly patinated. No evidence of use-wear or retouch. Approximately 10% cortex remains. Later prehistoric in date.
1015	Flake	1	No	Small light brown flake with no evidence of use-wear or retouch. Later prehistoric in date.
1017	Flake	1	Yes	Small white flake, broken at the proximal end. Heavily patinated. No evidence of use-wear or retouch. Prehistoric in date, possibly Upper Palaeolithic.
1039	Flake	1	Yes	Small light brown possible flake. Lightly patinated with no distinct signs of having been knapped but with negative flake scars on dorsal surface suggesting working. Later Prehistoric in date.
1041	Flake	1	Yes	Light grey primary flake. Heavily patinated with 50% cortex remaining on the dorsal surface. Broken at the distal end. No evidence of use-wear or retouch. Prehistoric in date.
1041	Flake	1	Yes	Light grey long flake with a hinge fracture. Lightly patinated with approximately 20% cortex remaining. No evidence of use-wear or retouch. Prehistoric in date.
1043	Flake	1	No	Dark grey flake with no evidence of use-wear or retouch. Later prehistoric in date.

The assemblage is made up entirely of flakes, none of which have been utilised. The patinated pieces may be older than the remainder of the group but it is possible that these have just been affected by different taphonomic factors post-deposition.

The assemblage is very small and none of the pieces are definitively diagnostic of any period. The more heavily patinated piece from 1017 and both pieces from 1041 may be Upper Palaeolithic in date but in general a later prehistoric (Neolithic-Iron Age) date has been assigned.

BURNT FLINT

By Richenda Goffin

Small quantities of burnt flint were recovered from Samples 5 and 6 (43g from 1127 and 19g from 1125 respectively).

Both contexts contained fragments of prehistoric pottery. Burnt flint, often accompanied by other types of heated stone, is often recovered from prehistoric contexts as it was commonly used in activities such as heating water and cooking food.



ENVIRONMENTAL

Trenches 1 - 18

By Anna West

Introduction and methods

A total of three samples were taken from an archaeological feature and a peat layer during an evaluation of land at Browns Fen, Stoke Ferry, Norfolk. All three samples were processed in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations.

The samples were processed using manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned using a binocular microscope at x16 magnification and the presence of any plant remains or artefacts are noted on Table x. Identification of plant remains is with reference to New Flora of the British Isles (C. Stace).

The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh and sorted when dry. All artefacts/ecofacts were retained for inclusion in the finds total.

Quantification

For the purpose of this initial assessment, items such as seeds, cereal grains and small animal bones have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories

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

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

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

Results

SS No	Context No	Feature/cut no	Feature type	Approx. date of deposit	Flot Contents
1	1008		Layer	IA	Charred grain #, modern roots +, un-charred seeds #, charcoal ++
2	1041	1040	Pit		Charred seeds #, modern roots ++, un-charred seeds #, charcoal +++
3	1043	1040	Pit	EBA / IA	Modern roots ++, un-charred seeds ##, charcoal +++

Table 1. Results

Modern contaminants in the form of rootlets were common in all of the flots. The preservation of the few cereal grains recovered was through charring. A small number of charred segetal weed seeds were also present along with a small assemblage of weed seeds that were un-charred. Charcoal is present in all the flots and makes up the majority of the material.



Discussion

Cereal grain fragments were only present in very small numbers within Sample 1 (1008), a peat layer. The cereal caryopses were fragmented and/or abraded making identification difficult to impossible. A single grain was identified as hulled Spelt wheat (*Triticium spelta* L.) and another as hulled Barley (*Hordeum vulgare* L.). Two fragments of charred cereal caryopses were too abraded and fragmented to identify and are recorded as cerealia indeterminate. No chaff or processing elements were present that would aid identification. A small number of charred grass (*Bromus sp.*) type caryopses were also present within this sample.

Spelt and Barley are typical of cereal remains recovered from Iron Age deposits, the charring may have occurred accidentally during the final stages of processing when the grains are heated and pounded on order to release them from the spikelet. At this stage the cereal is often hand cleaned of contaminants such as the *Bromus sp.* type grasses, and this is reflected in the charred remains recovered from Sample 1.

All three samples contained infrequent specimens of un-charred segetal weeds such as Cleavers (*Galium aparine* L.), Field Gromwell (*Lithospermum arvense* L.), Common Nettle (*Urtica dioica* L.), Knotweed family (*Persicaria sp.*), Goosefoot family (*Chenopodium sp.*), Cabbage family (*Brassicaceae sp.*) and a couple of indeterminate seeds tentatively identified as possible Yarrow/Sneezewort (*Achillea millefolium/ptarmica*).

The majority of the un-charred seeds present seem to reflect a rough ground or cultivated land environment and may represent segetal or wayside weeds, although many of them were un-abraded and could be intrusive within the archaeological deposits.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In general the samples were fair to poor in terms of identifiable material. The cereal grains and weed seeds recovered were all reasonably well preserved and identifiable to an Archaeobotanist. Charcoal is common in all of the samples in varying quantities. It may be possible in the future to obtain radiocarbon dates from charcoal for those deposits that remain undated.

If further intervention is planned, it is recommended that further sampling should be carried out with a view to investigation the nature of the cereal waste. The accompanying weed assemblage could provide an insight into the utilisation of local plant resources, agricultural activity and economic evidence from this site. It is recommended that any further samples taken are combined with the flots from the samples taken during this evaluation and submitted to an Archaeobotanist for full species identification and interpretation.

Bibliography

Stace, C., 1995, New Flora of the British Isles

R.T.J Cappers, R.M Bekker and J.E.A Jans., 2006, *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands*, Groningen Archaeological Studies 4, Barkhuis Publishing, Eelde, The Netherlands
www.seedatlas.nl



Trenches 19 - 23

By Anna West

Introduction and Methods.

A further three samples were taken from archaeological features during an evaluation of land at Browns Fen, Stoke Ferry, Norfolk. All three samples were processed in order to assess the quality of preservation of plant remains and their potential to provide useful data as part of further archaeological investigations.

The samples were processed using manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots were scanned using a binocular microscope at x16 magnification and the presence of any plant remains or artefacts are noted on Table x. Identification of plant remains is with reference to New Flora of the British Isles (C. Stace).

The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh and sorted when dry. All artefacts/ecofacts were retained for inclusion in the finds total.

Quantification

For the purpose of this initial assessment, items such as seeds, cereal grains and small animal bones have been scanned and recorded qualitatively according to the following categories

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

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

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

Results

SS No	Context No	Feature/cut no	Feature type	Approx. date of deposit	Flot Contents
4	1124		Pit	IA	Modern roots +, un-charred seeds #, snail shells +
5	1127		Ditch	IA	Modern roots ++, un-charred seeds #, animal bone +, snail shells +++
6	1165		Pit	IA	Modern roots ++, charred cereals #, un-charred seeds #

Table 1. Results

Modern contaminants in the form of rootlets were very common in all the flots and make up a large proportion of the flot material. The preservation of the few possible cereal grains recovered was through charring, a small number of un-charred weed seeds were also present.

Discussion

Cereal grain fragments were only present in very small numbers within Sample 6, pit fill 1125. The cereal caryopses were fragmented and/or abraded making identification difficult



to impossible. A single grain had the appearance of wheat (*Triticium sp.*) with a further two fragments of charred cereal caryopses which were too abraded and fragmented to identify and are recorded as cerealia indeterminate. No chaff or processing elements were present that would aid identification.

All three samples contained very infrequent specimens of un-charred weeds such as Goosefoot family (*Chenopodium sp.*) and Cabbage family (*Brassicaceae sp.*) with a small number of indeterminate seeds tentatively identified as possible Yarrow/Sneezewort (*Achillea millefolium/ptarmica*).

The majority of the un-charred weed seeds seem to reflect rough ground or cultivated land. The Yarrow is a common wayside weed and is often found in grassland environments. All of the weed seeds present were un-charred and un-abraded so it is likely that they are intrusive within the archaeological deposits.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In general the samples were very poor in terms of identifiable material. The few cereal type grains recovered were abraded but may still remain identifiable to an Archaeobotanist. The weed seeds were un-abraded and identifiable but may not represent a paleoenvironment. If further intervention is planned, it is recommended that further sampling should be carried out with a view to investigation the nature of the cereal waste. The accompanying weed assemblage could provide an insight into the utilisation of local plant resources, agricultural activity and economic evidence from this site. It is recommended that any further samples taken are combined with the flots from the samples taken during this evaluation and submitted to an Archaeobotanist for full species identification and interpretation.

Bibliography

Stace, C., 1995, *New Flora of the British Isles*

R.T.J Cappers, R.M Bekker and J.E.A Jans., 2006, *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands*, Groningen Archaeological Studies 4, Barkhuis Publishing, Eelde, The Netherlands
www.seedatlas.nl



APPENDIX 3 CONCORDANCE OF FINDS

FEATURE CONTEXT	FEATURE TYPE	LAYER/FILL CONTEXT	LAYER/FILL DESCRIPTION	SPOT DATE	POTTERY /g(sherds)	CBM /g(number)	ANIMAL BONE /g(number)	STRUCK FLINT /g(number)	BURNT FLINT /g(number)	OTHER /g(number)
1006	Ditch	1007	Fill (Basal)	C 20th	48 (1)					Clay Pipe Stem 3(1) Glass 9(1) Slag 3(1)
		1008 Test Pit 2 Test Pit 3	Peat Layer	EIA	58 (15) 276 (17)		38 (26) 174 (16)			Burnt Flint 1(1) Daub 9(5)
		1010	Peat Layer					43 (1)		
1016	Pit	1015	Fill	Pre Hist?				6 (2)	24 (1)	
1018	Pit	1017	Fill	Pre Hist?				3 (1)	5 (1)	
1020	Ditch	1019	Fill	C 20	5 (2)	389 (1)				
1026	Natural Depression	1025 1027	Lower Fill Basal Fill	EIA EIA	13 (4) 13 (6)		155 (29)		17 (1)	
1038	Natural Feature	1039	Fill					6 (1)	7 (2)	
1040	Pit	1041 1042 1043	Upper Fill Skull Basal Fill	EIA EIA	3 (4) 56 (15)		305 (4) 46 (60) 881 (12)	33 (2) 10 (1)		
1047	Pit	1046	Fill	Pre Hist	31 (1)					
1123	Pit	1124	Fill	EIA	418 (31)					
	Natural Feature	1125 1132	Layer/Marsh Deposits Layer/Basal Peat	EIA EIA	123 (9)		450 (6)			
1126	Ditch	1127	Fill	EIA	<1 (2)		3 (2)			



APPENDIX 4

1946 RAF AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH



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APPENDIX 5 OASIS SHEET

OASIS ID: [britannia1-127562](#)

Project details

Project name

Brown's Fen, Stoke Ferry, Norfolk - Evaluation

Short description of the project

From May to November 2012 Britannia archaeology Ltd undertook an archaeological trial trench evaluation on land at Browns Fen, Stoke Ferry, Norfolk in advance of mineral extraction. This evaluation was able to build on the earlier work and establish a distinct pattern of early Iron Age activity comprising the disposal of domestic waste material along the edge of the former Fen/marsh environment and a small number of pits also used for the same purpose. This activity would suggest some form of small scale settlement activity in the immediate vicinity of the site, probably to the west and/or south, higher up the slope. The ring-ditch feature present in Trench 1 may have been a domestic structure associated with this settlement, or equally could be associated with funerary activity. A cluster of 33 undated post and stakeholes in Trench 19 may also relate to structural features, however the paucity of finds and lack of discernible pattern may also suggest that they were natural solution hollows. A very small assemblage of finds dating to the early Bronze Age, Neolithic and possibly the Upper Palaeolithic periods were recovered, but these tended to occur in Iron Age contexts and were thus classed as residual finds. No later Iron Age finds or indeed any finds until the post-medieval period were recovered, suggesting that settlement activity at the edge of the Wissey Embayment in this area largely ceased, however the APS evaluation in 2004 indicates that some activity continued into the Roman period.

Project dates

Start: 29-05-2012 **End:** 30-11-2012

Previous/future work

Yes / Yes

Any associated project reference codes

R1004 - Contracting Unit No, P1004 - Contracting Unit No, ENF129093 - Sitecode

Type of project

Field evaluation

Site status

Area of Archaeological Importance (AAI)

Current Land use

Cultivated Land 1 - Minimal cultivation

Monument type

RUBBISH PITS Early Iron Age

RING DITCH Uncertain

RUBBISH PITS Middle Iron Age

Significant Finds

POTTERY Early Iron Age

STRUCK FLINT Late Prehistoric

STRUCK FLINT Upper Palaeolithic

ANIMAL BONE Uncertain

Methods & techniques

"Sample Trenches"

Development type

Mineral extraction (e.g. sand, gravel, stone, coal, ore, etc.)

Prompt

National Planning Policy Framework – NPPF

Position in the planning process

After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country

England

Site location

NORFOLK KINGS LYNN AND WEST NORFOLK STOKE FERRY
Land at Brown's Fen, Stoke Ferry, Norfolk - Archaeological Trail
Trench Evaluation

Study area

10.00 Hectares

Site coordinates

TF 7159 0085 52 0 52 34 40 N 000 31 57 E Point

Height OD / Depth

Min: 3.50m **Max:** 7.00m



Project creators

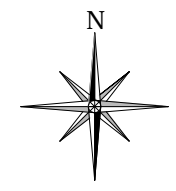
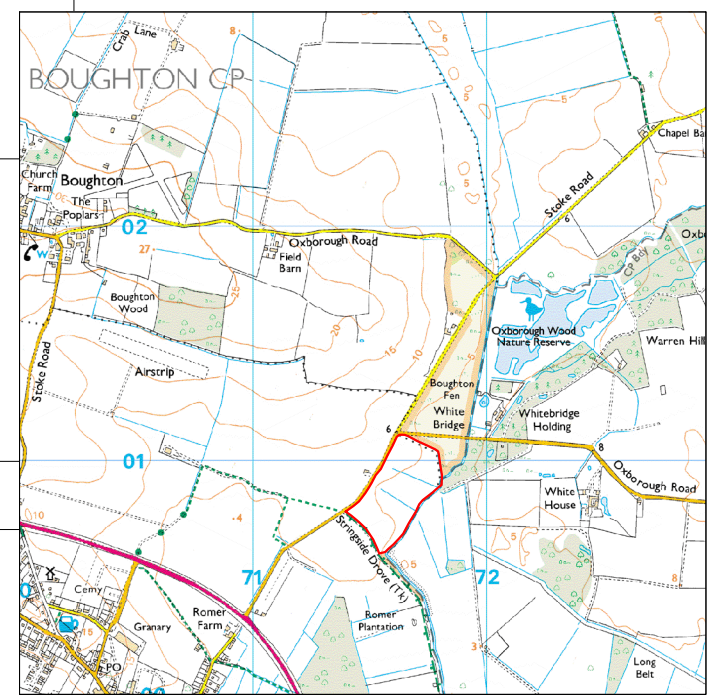
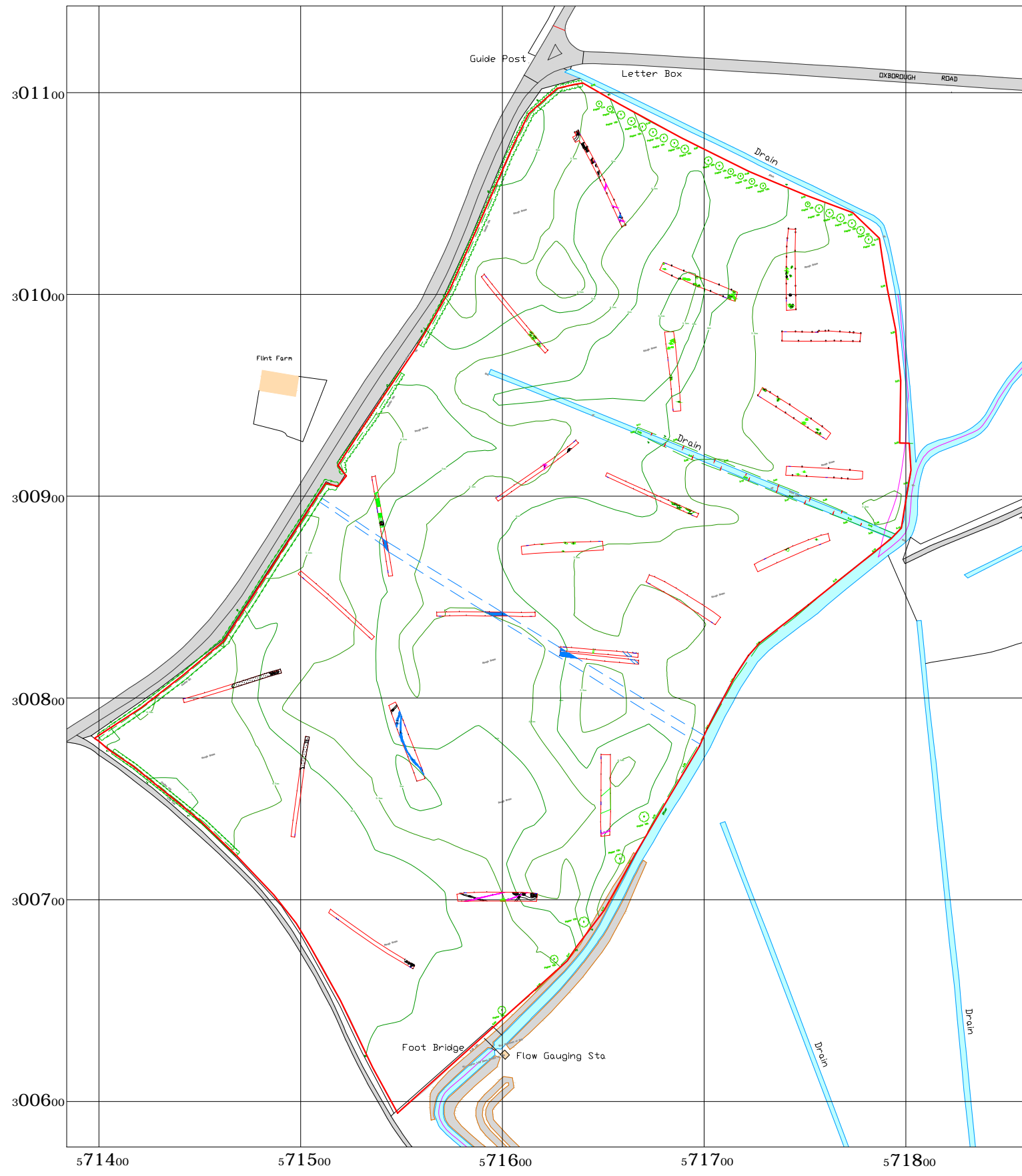
Name of Organisation Britannia Archaeology Ltd
Project brief originator Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator Matthew Adams
Project director/manager Matthew Adams
Project supervisor Timothy Schofield
Type of sponsor/funding body Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body John Brown & Sons (Gazeley) Ltd



Project archives

Physical Archive Recipient Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service
Physical Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Archive recipient Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service
Digital Contents "Animal bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Stratigraphic", "Survey", "Worked stone/lithics"
Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography", "Images vector", "Spreadsheets", "Survey", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service
Paper Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Environmental", "Stratigraphic", "Survey", "Worked stone/lithics"
Paper Media available "Aerial Photograph", "Context sheet", "Drawing", "Manuscript", "Map", "Microfilm", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Survey", "Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title Land at Brown's Fen, Stoke Ferry, Norfolk; Archaeological Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s) Adams, M. Schofield, T.
Other bibliographic details R1004
Date 2013
Issuer or publisher Britannia Archaeology Ltd
Place of issue or publication Stowmarket, Suffolk
Description A4 Bound Report with fold-out A3 Figures.
URL www.britannia-archaeology.com
Entered by Tim Schofield (tim@britannia-archaeology.com)
Entered on 4 December 2013



	Evaluation Trenches
	Site Boundary

NGR: TF 7195 0085	R. NUMBER: 1004
PROJECT: LAND AT BROWNS FEN, STOKE FERRY, NORFOLK	

CLIENT: RUPERT BROWN


DESCRIPTION: TRENCH & SITE LOCATION PLAN
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BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD



4 THE MILL, CLOVERS COURT, SUFFOLK
IP14 1RB

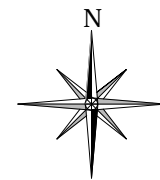
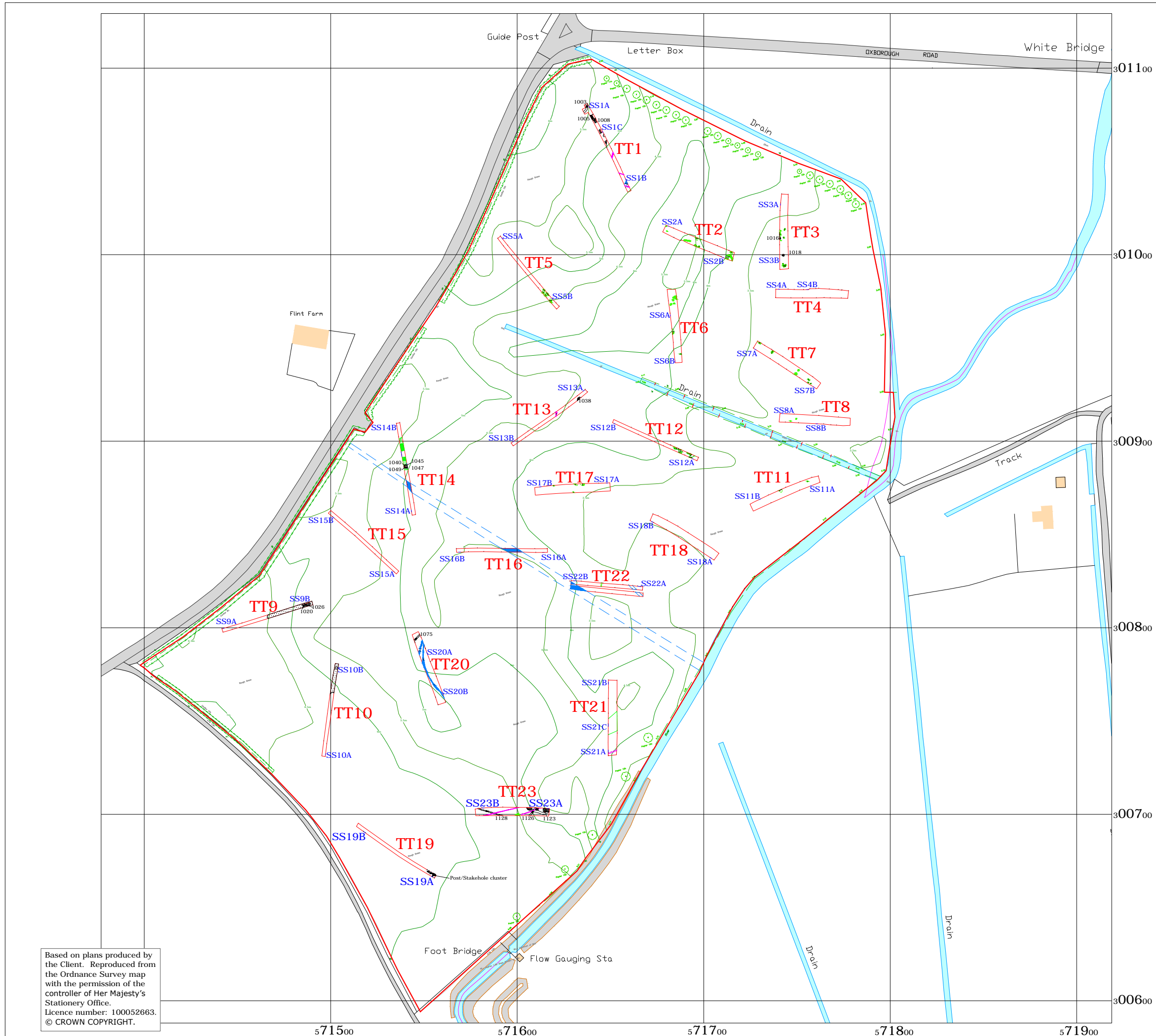
T: 01449 763034
E: info@britannia-archaeology.com
W: www.britannia-archaeology.com

SCALE: 1:2500	
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PLOT: A3	APPROVED: MCA	VERSION: 01
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DATE: JAN 2013	AUTHOR: TPS	FIGURE: 01
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	Archaeological Feature
	Natural Feature
	Modern Feature
	Modern Land Drain
	Evaluation Trenches
	Site Boundary

NGR: TF 7195 0085 R. NUMBER: 1004

PROJECT: LAND AT BROWNS FEN, STOKE FERRY, NORFOLK

CLIENT: RUPERT BROWN

DESCRIPTION: SAMPLE SECTION & ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURE LOCATION PLAN

BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD



4 THE MILL, CLOVERS COURT, SUFFOLK IP14 1RB

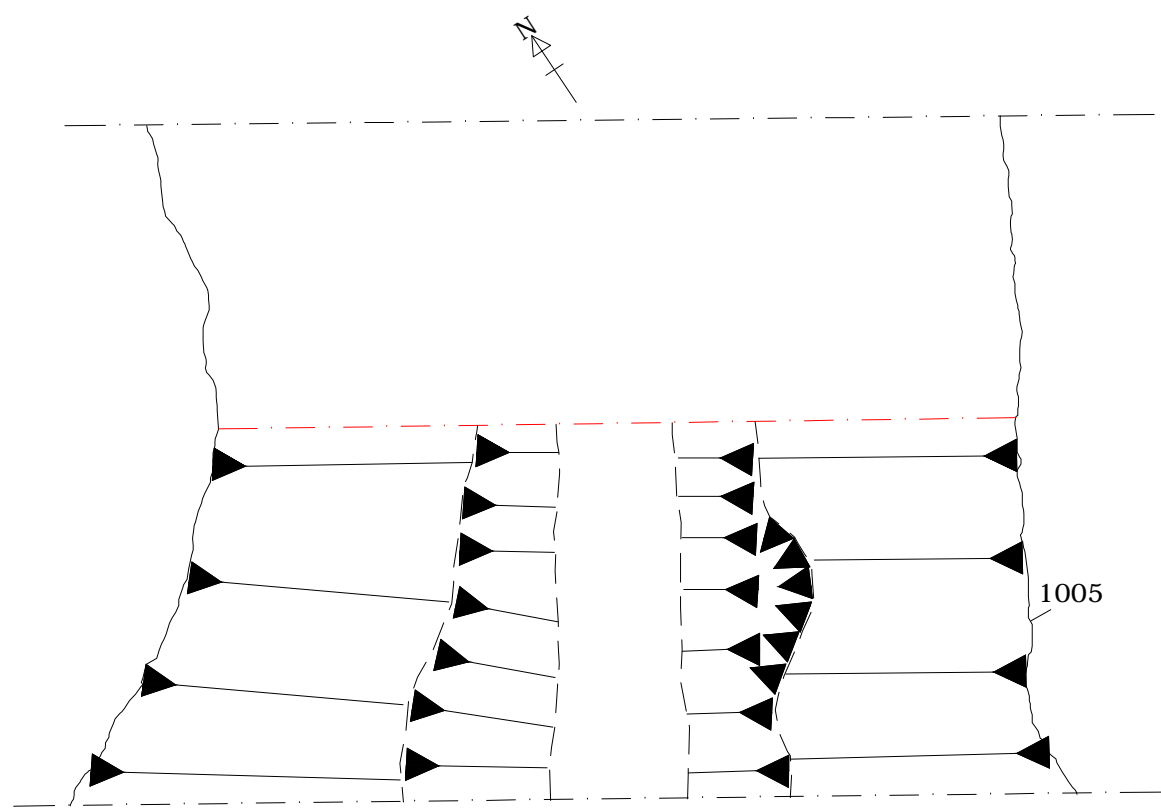
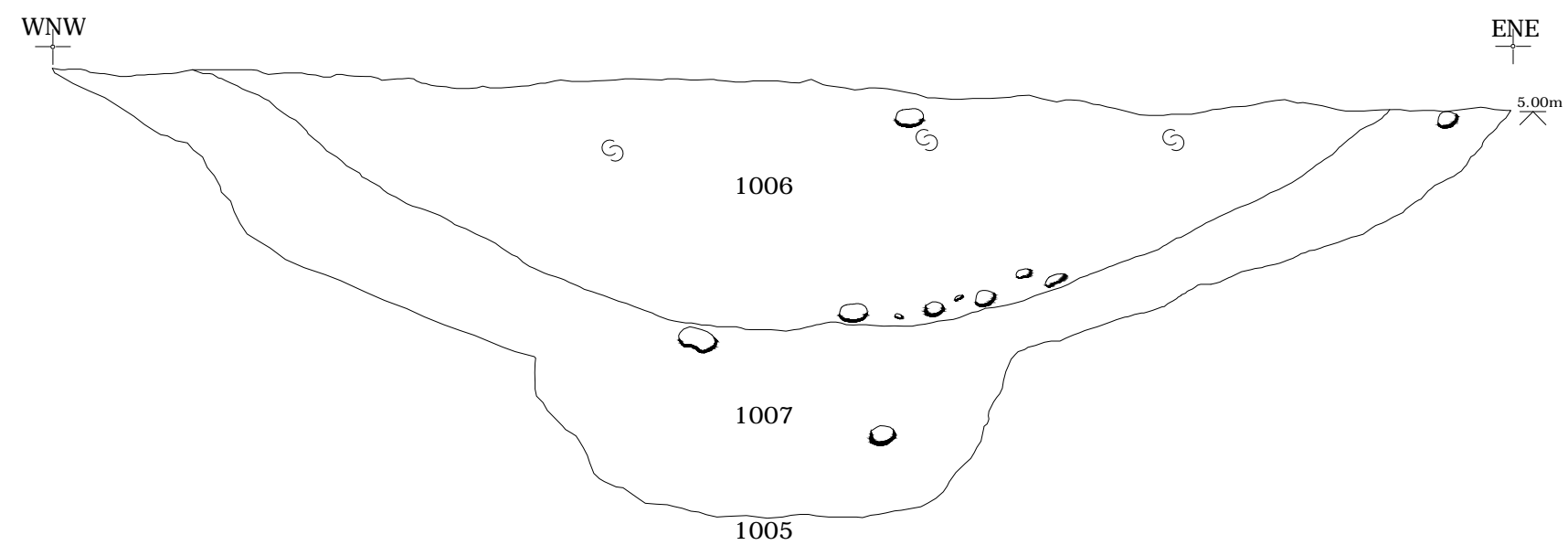
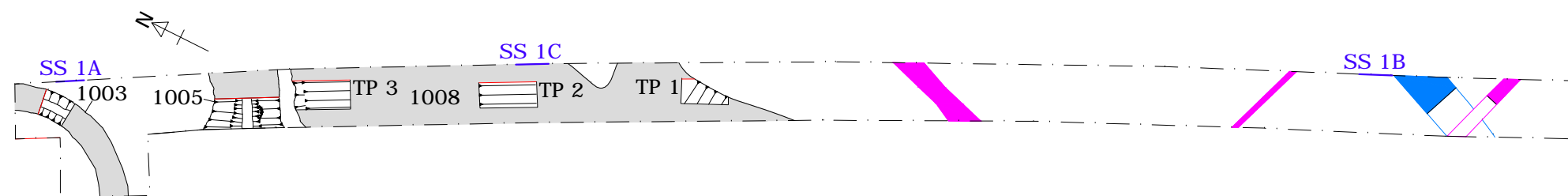
T: 01449 763034
E: info@britannia-archaeology.com
W: www.britannia-archaeology.com

SCALE: 1:1250

PLOT: A3	APPROVED: MCA	VERSION: 01
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DATE: JAN 2013	AUTHOR: TPS	FIGURE: 02
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DP44 Ditch 1005, Post-excavation Looking NE



	Modern Ditch
	Modern Land Drains
	Flint Gravel Stones
	Chalk Flecks

NGR: TF 7195 0085	R. NUMBER: 1004
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PROJECT:
LAND AT BROWNS FEN, STOKE
FERRY, NORFOLK

CLIENT:
RUPERT BROWN

DESCRIPTION:
TRENCH 1
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES, DP,
SECTION & PLANS

BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

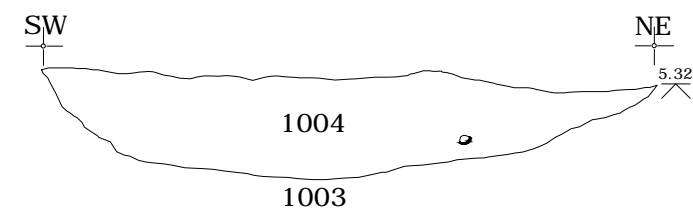
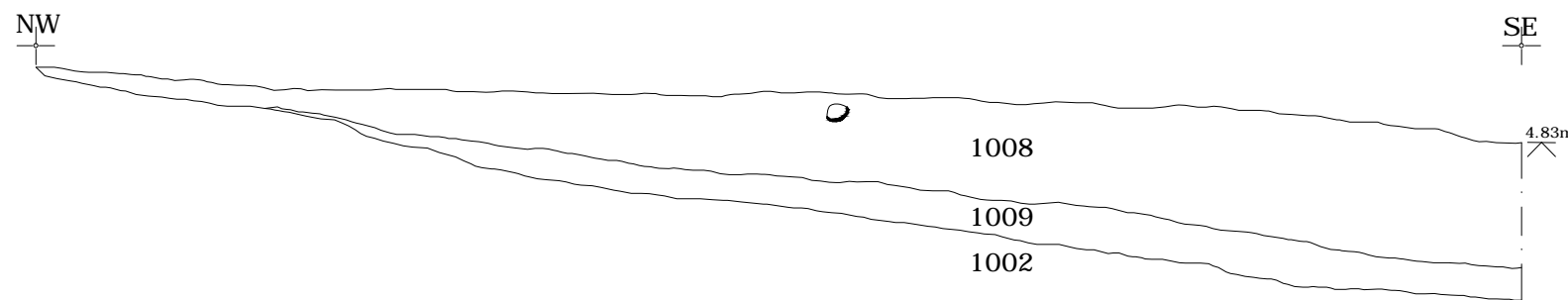
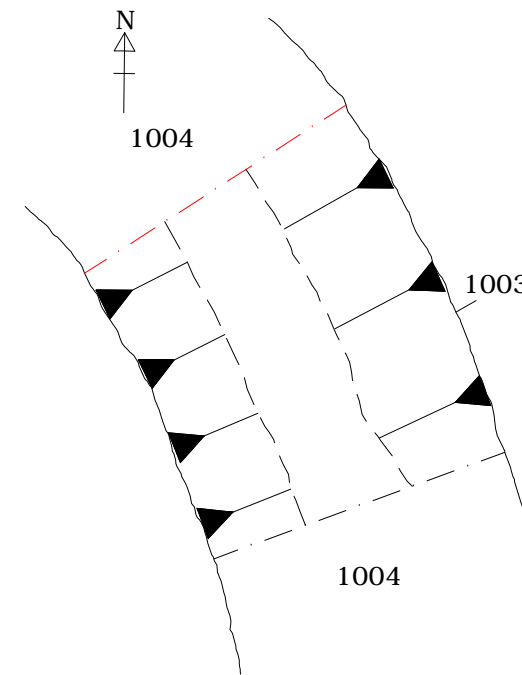
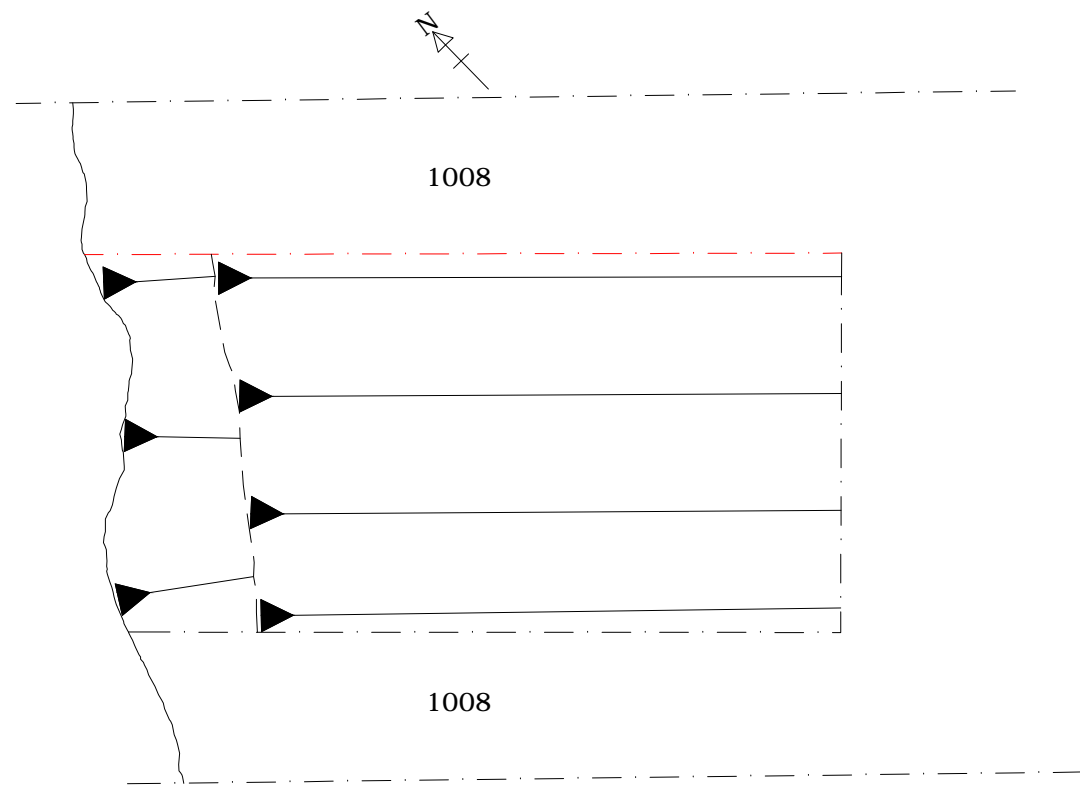


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SCALE:
TRENCH AT 1:100
PLANS AT 1:20, SECTION AT 1:10

PLOT: A3	APPROVED: MCA	VERSION: 01
DATE: JAN 2013	AUTHOR: TPS	FIGURE: 03



DP45 Layer 1008 TP3, Post-excavation Looking NE



DP43 Ditch 1003, Post-excavation Looking N



	Flint Gravel Stones
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NGR: TF 7195 0085	R. NUMBER: 1004
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PROJECT:
LAND AT BROWNS FEN, STOKE
FERRY, NORFOLK

CLIENT:
RUPERT BROWN

DESCRIPTION:
TRENCH 1 CONTINUED,
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES, DP'S,
SECTIONS & PLANS

BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD



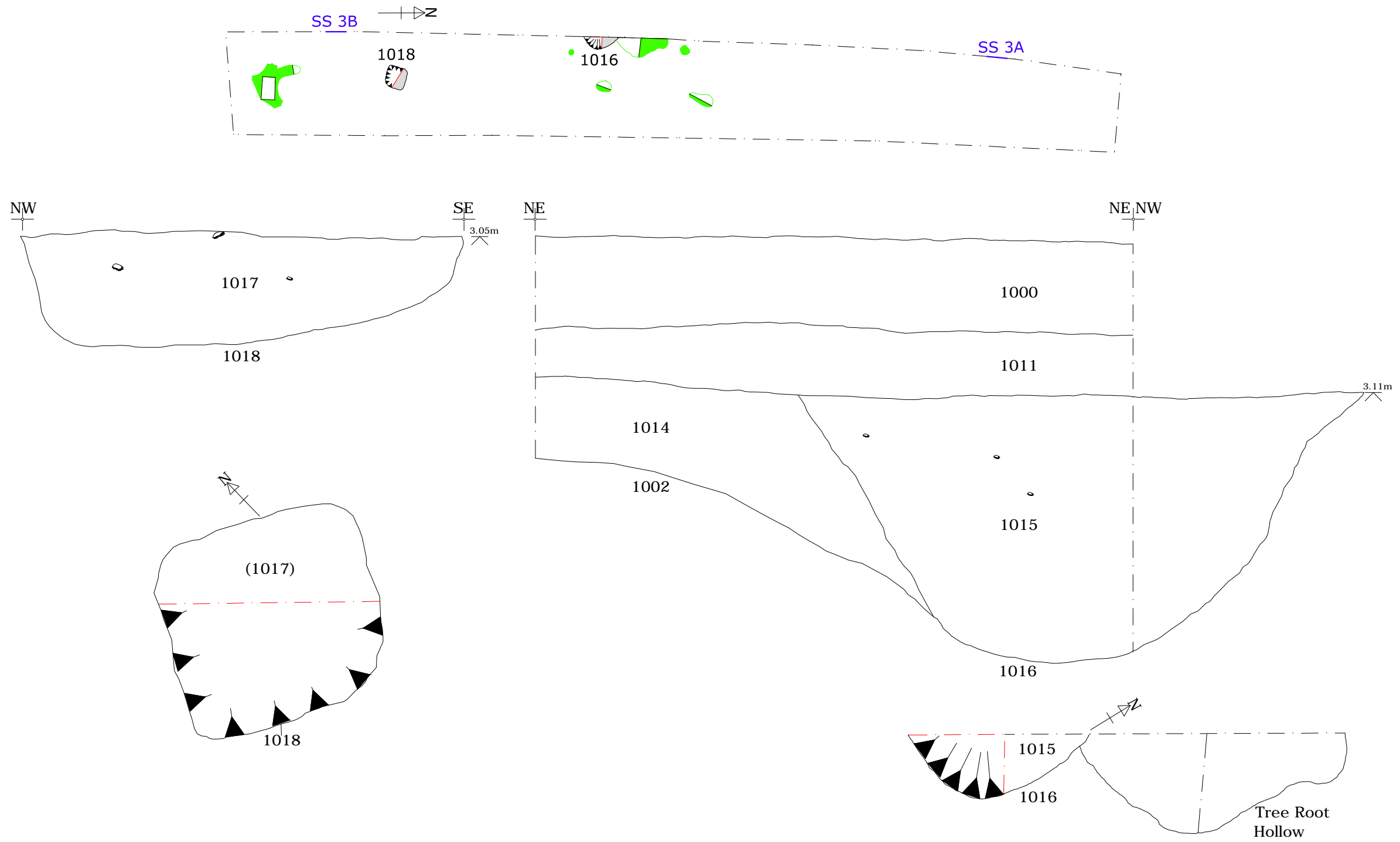
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SCALE:
PLANS AT 1:20, SECTIONS AT 1:10

PLOT: A3	APPROVED: MCA	VERSION: 01
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DATE: JAN 2013	AUTHOR: TPS	FIGURE: 04
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	Natural Features
	Flint Gravel Stones

NGR: TF 7195 0085	R. NUMBER: 1004
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PROJECT:
LAND AT BROWNS FEN, STOKE
FERRY, NORFOLK

CLIENT:
RUPERT BROWN

DESCRIPTION:
TRENCH 3
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES, DP'S,
SECTIONS & PLANS

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SCALE:
TRENCH AT 1:100
PLANS AT 1:20, SECTIONS AT 1:10

PLOT: A3	APPROVED: MCA	VERSION: 01
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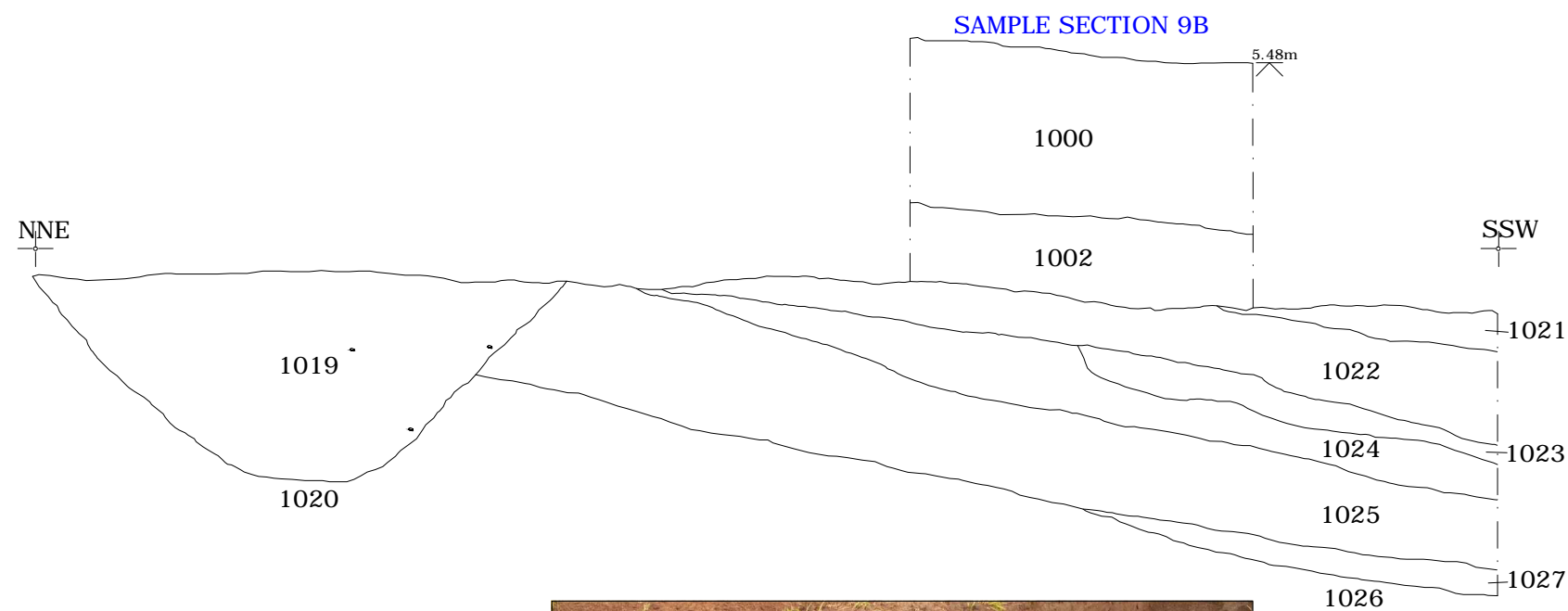
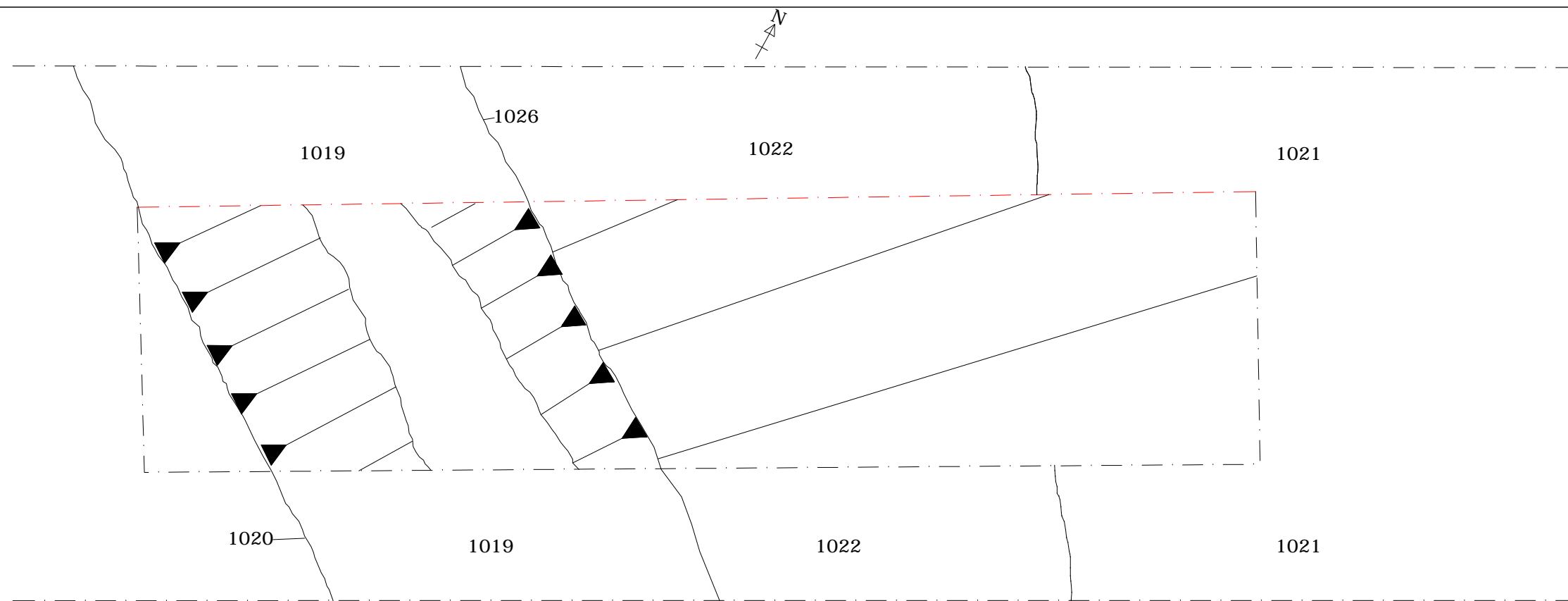
DATE: JAN 2013	AUTHOR: TPS	FIGURE: 05
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DP46 Pit 1018, Post-excitation Looking NE



DP47 Pit 1016, Post-excitation Looking W



DP49 Ditch 1020, Fen Edge 1026, Post-ex Looking NW

	Flint Gravel Stones
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NGR: TF 7195 0085	R. NUMBER: 1004
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PROJECT:
LAND AT BROWNS FEN, STOKE
FERRY, NORFOLK

CLIENT:
RUPERT BROWN

DESCRIPTION:
TRENCH 9
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES, DP,
SECTION & PLAN

BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD



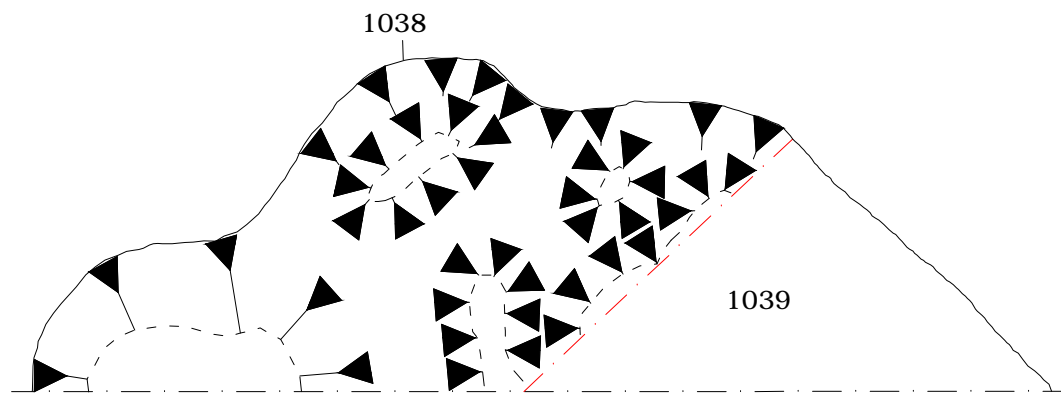
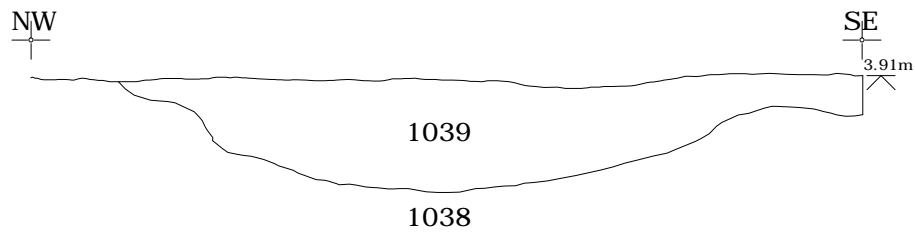
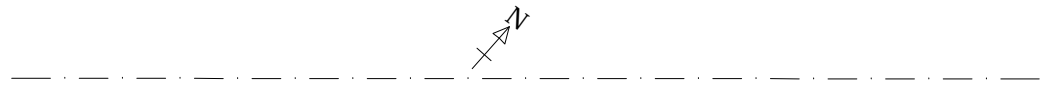
4 THE MILL, CLOVERS COURT, SUFFOLK
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SCALE:
PLAN & SECTION AT 1:20

PLOT: A3	APPROVED: MCA	VERSION: 01
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DATE: JAN 2013	AUTHOR: TPS	FIGURE: 06
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DP48 Tree Hollow 1038, Post-excavation Looking W

	Modern Land Drain
	Flint Gravel Stones

NGR: TF 7195 0085	R. NUMBER: 1004
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PROJECT:
LAND AT BROWNS FEN, STOKE
FERRY, NORFOLK

CLIENT:
RUPERT BROWN

DESCRIPTION:
TRENCH 13
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURE, DP,
SECTION & PLANS

BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD



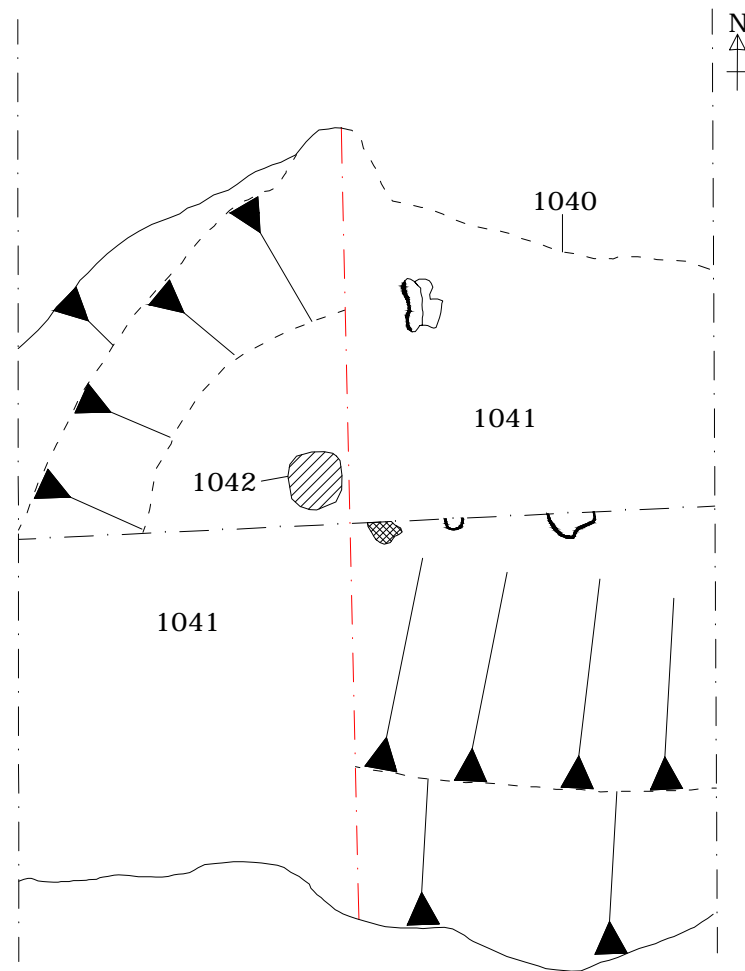
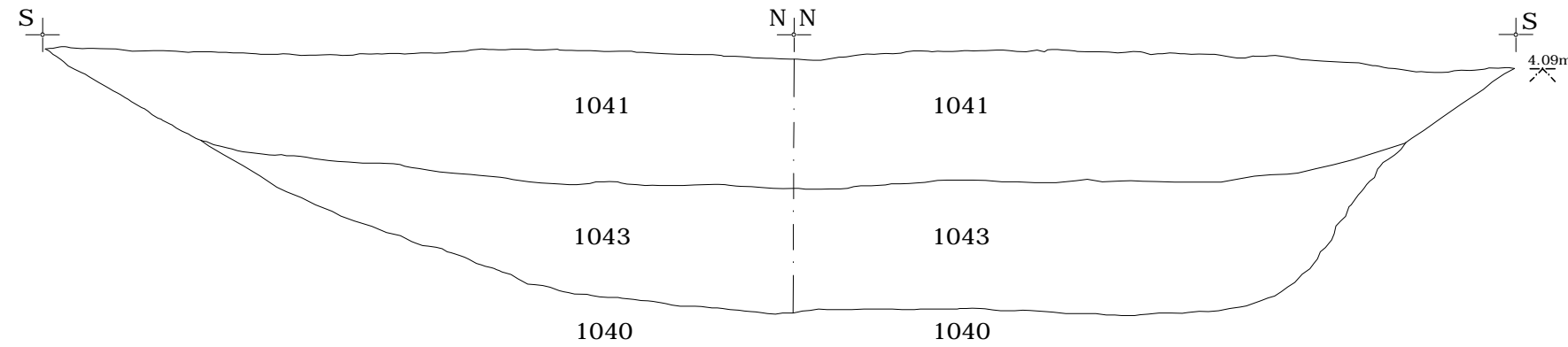
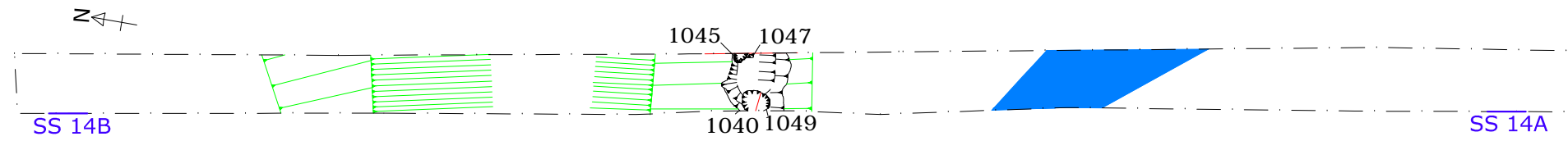
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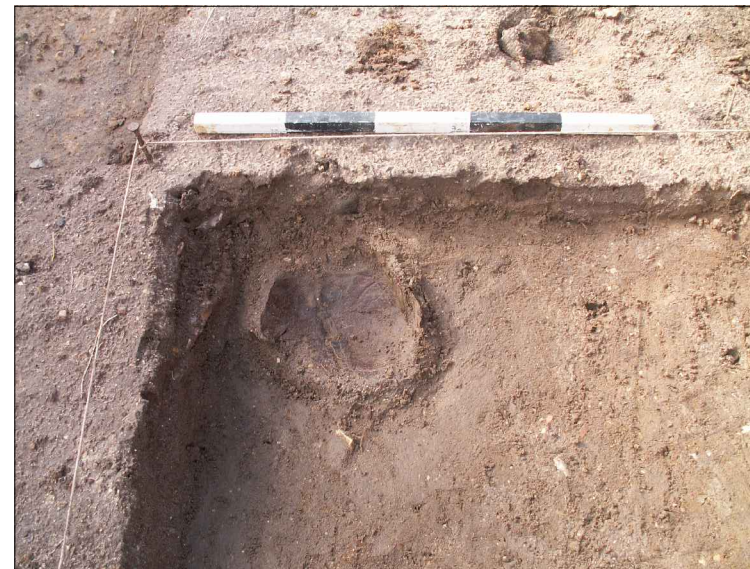
SCALE:
TRENCH AT 1:100
PLAN AT 1:20, SECTION AT 1:10

PLOT: A3	APPROVED: MCA	VERSION: 01
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DATE: JAN 2013	AUTHOR: TPS	FIGURE: 07
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DP50 Pit 1040, Skull 1042, Mid-excavation Looking S



	Natural Depression
	Modern Ditch
	Animal Bone
	Cranium
	Flint Gravel Stones

NGR: TF 7195 0085	R. NUMBER: 1004
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PROJECT:
LAND AT BROWNS FEN, STOKE
FERRY, NORFOLK

CLIENT:
RUPERT BROWN

DESCRIPTION:
TRENCH 14
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES, DP,
SECTION & PLANS

BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD



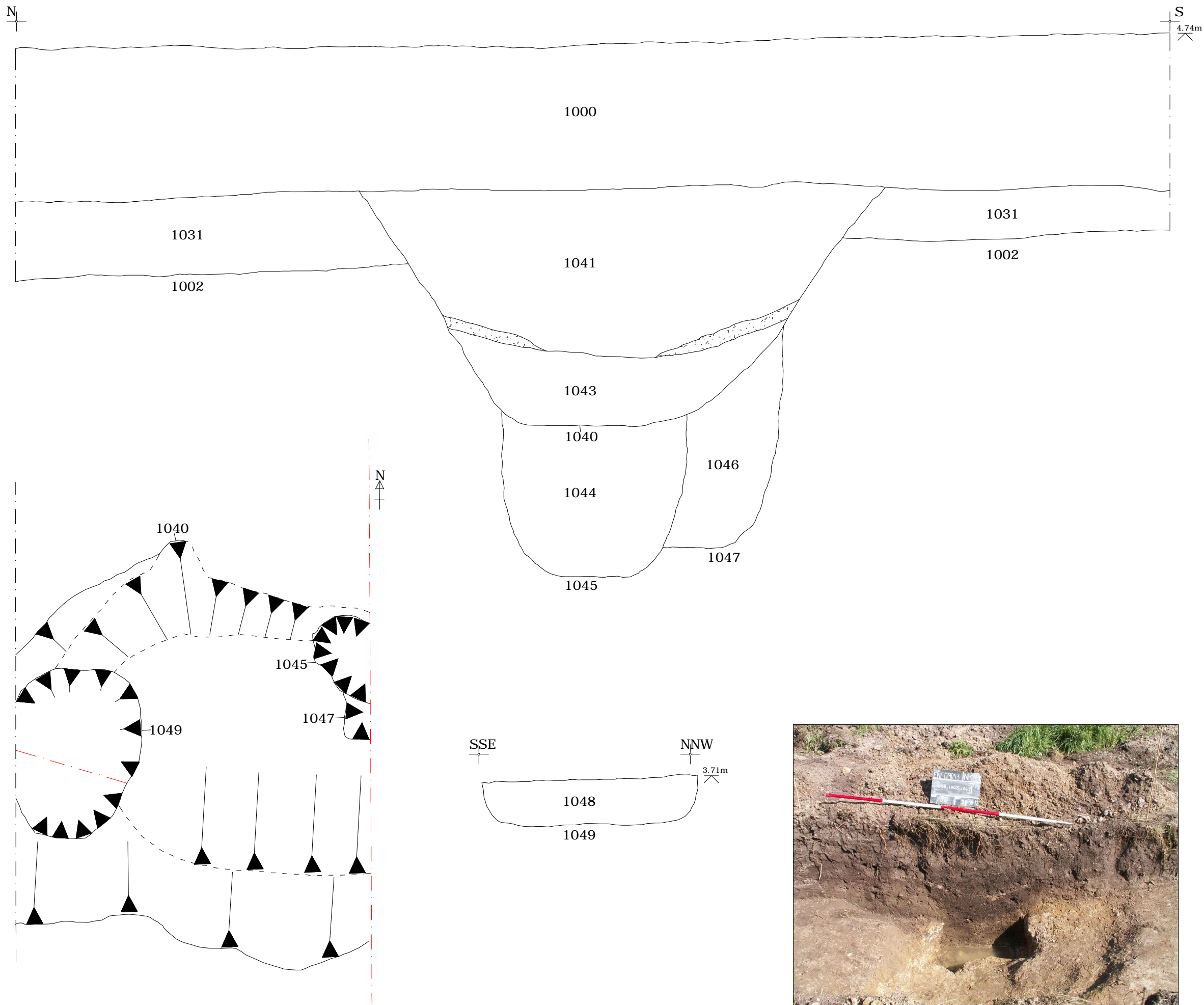
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SCALE:
TRENCH AT 1:100
PLAN AT 1:20, SECTION AT 1:10

PLOT: A3	APPROVED: MCA	VERSION: 01
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DATE: JAN 2013	AUTHOR: TPS	FIGURE: 08
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	Redeposited Natural
	Flint Gravel Stones

NGR: TF 7195 0085	R. NUMBER: 1004
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PROJECT:
LAND AT BROWNS FEN, STOKE FERRY, NORFOLK

CLIENT:
RUPERT BROWN

DESCRIPTION:
TRENCH14 - CONTINUED
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES, DP,
SECTIONS & PLAN

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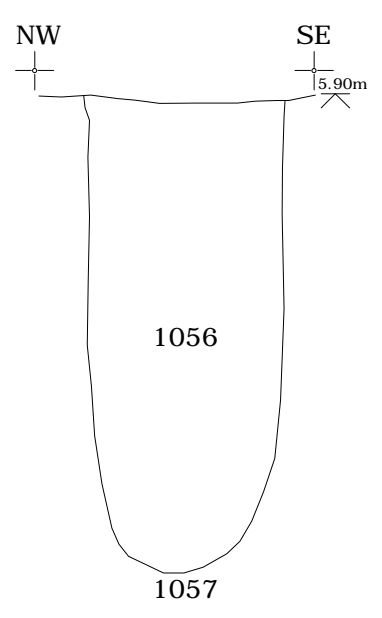
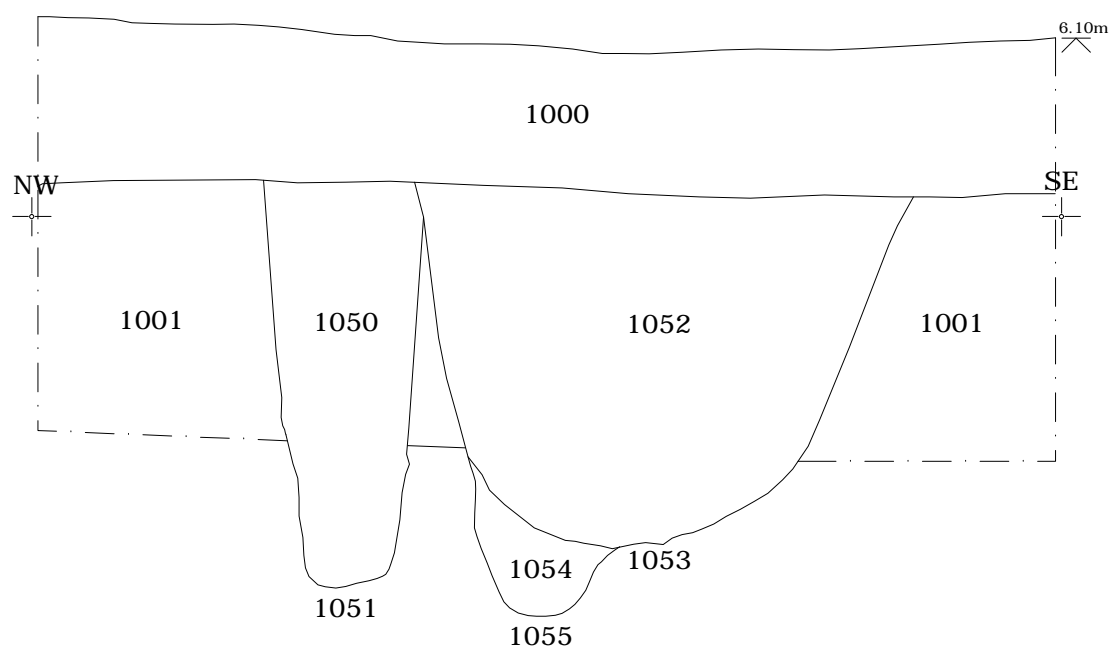
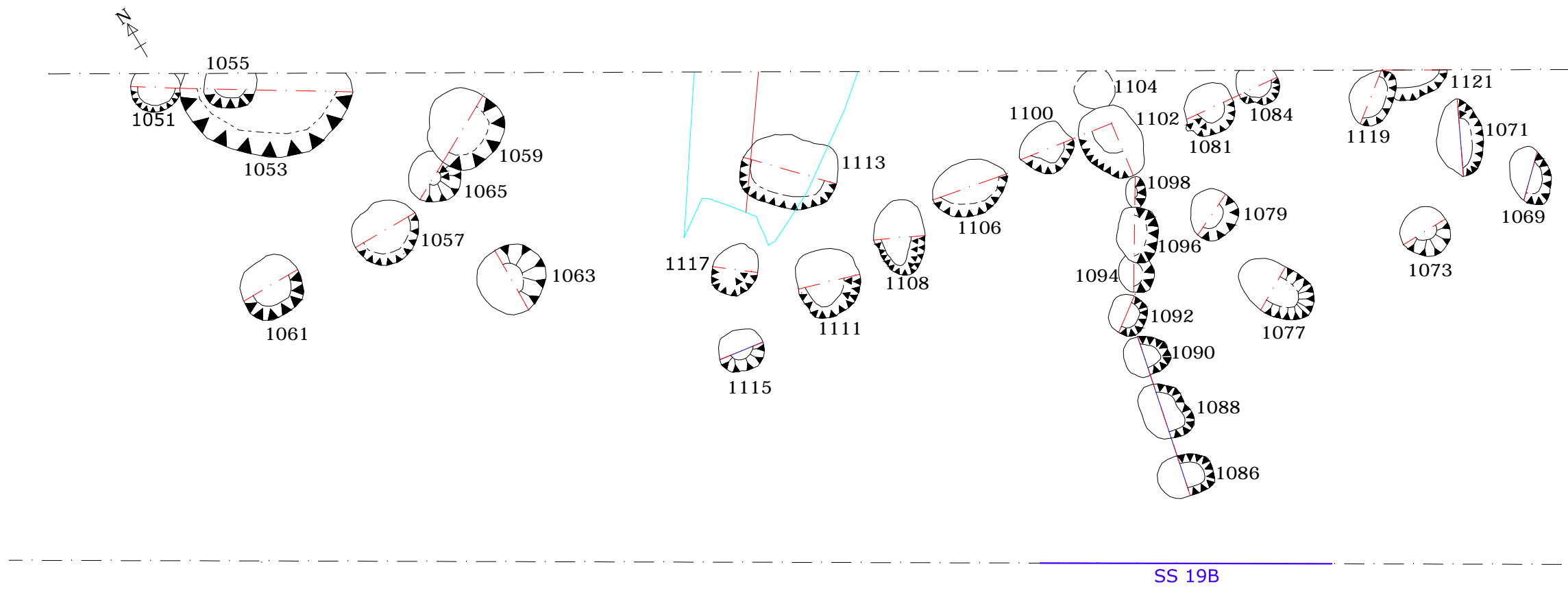
SCALE:
PLAN AT 1:20, SECTIONS AT 1:10

PLOT: A3	APPROVED: MCA	VERSION: 01
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DATE: JAN 2013	AUTHOR: TPS	FIGURE: 09
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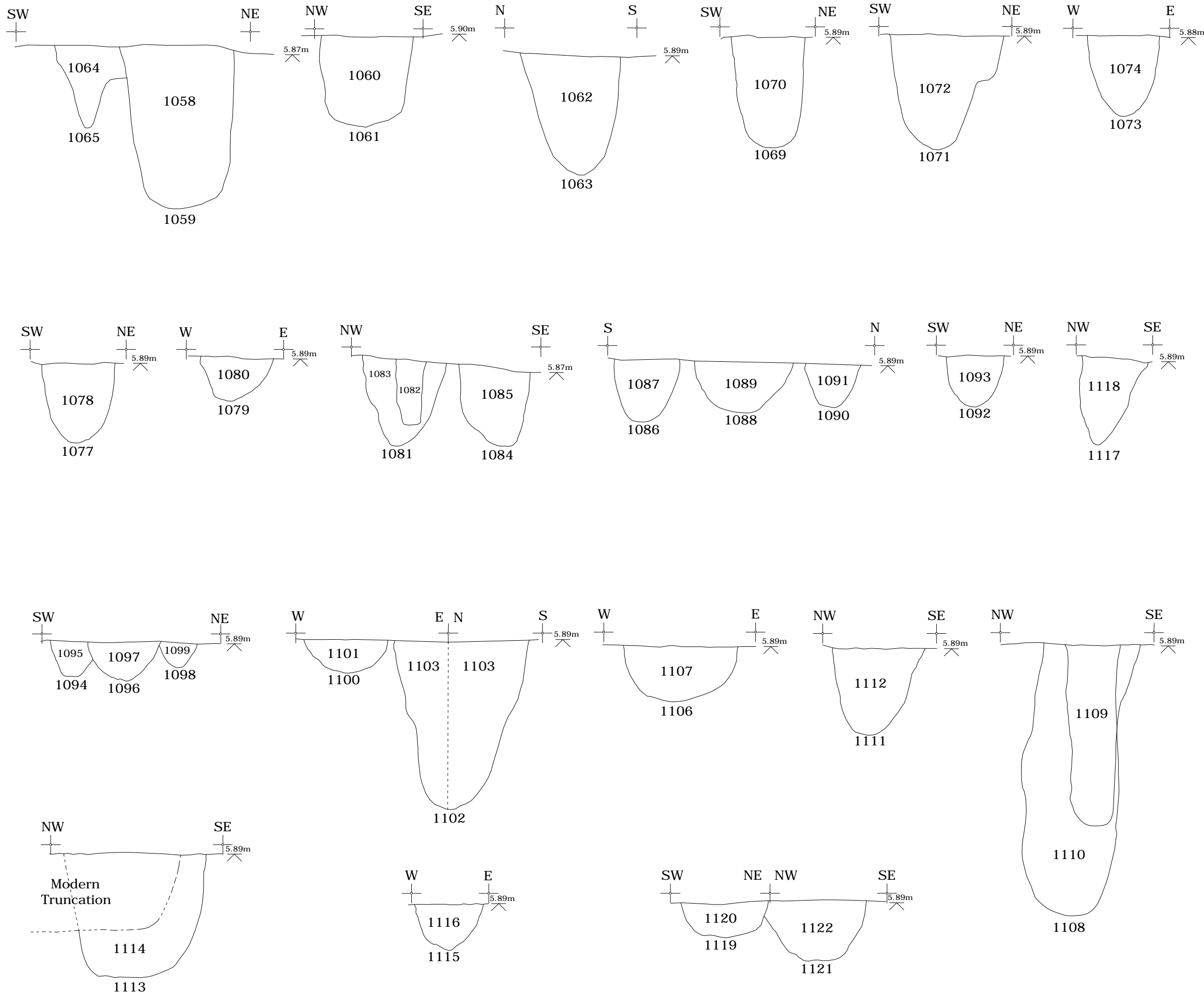
DP51 Pits 1040, 1045, 1047, 1049, Post-ex Looking E




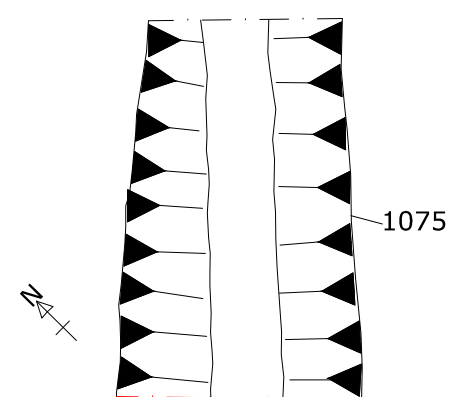
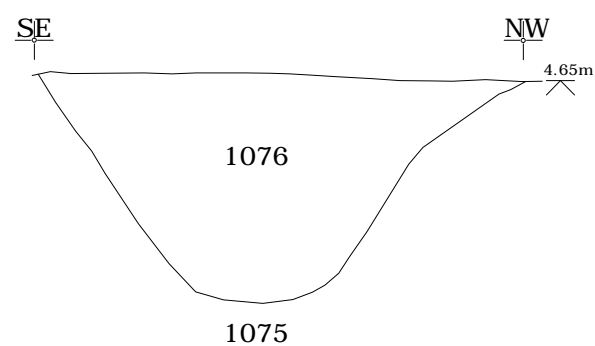
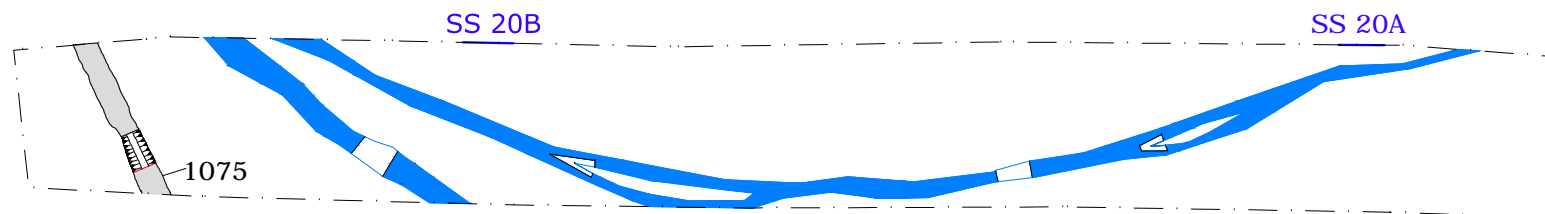
DP74 Post/Stakehole Cluster, Post-ex Looking N



NGR: TF 7195 0085		R. NUMBER: 1004
PROJECT: LAND AT BROWNS FEN, STOKE FERRY, NORFOLK		
CLIENT: RUPERT BROWN		
DESCRIPTION: TRENCH 19 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES, DP, SECTIONS & PLAN		
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SCALE: TRENCH AT 1:20, SECTIONS AT 1:10		
PLOT: A3	APPROVED: MCA	VERSION: 01
DATE: JAN 2013	AUTHOR: TPS	FIGURE: 10



NGR: TF 7195 0085	R. NUMBER: 1004	
PROJECT: LAND AT BROWNS FEN, STOKE FERRY, NORFOLK		
CLIENT: RUPERT BROWN		
DESCRIPTION: TRENCH 19 CONTINUED, ARCHAEOLOGICAL SECTIONS		
BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD  4 THE MILL, CLOVERS COURT, SUFFOLK IP14 1RB T: 01449 763034 E: info@britannia-archaeology.com W: www.britannia-archaeology.com		
SCALE: SECTIONS AT 1:10		
PLOT: A3	APPROVED: MCA	VERSION: 01
DATE: JAN 2013	AUTHOR: TPS	FIGURE: 11



DP82 Ditch 1075, Post-ex, Looking SW



NGR: TF 7195 0085 R. NUMBER: 1004

PROJECT: LAND AT BROWNS FEN, STOKE FERRY, NORFOLK

CLIENT: RUPERT BROWN

DESCRIPTION: TRENCH 20
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES, DP,
SECTION & PLANS

BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD



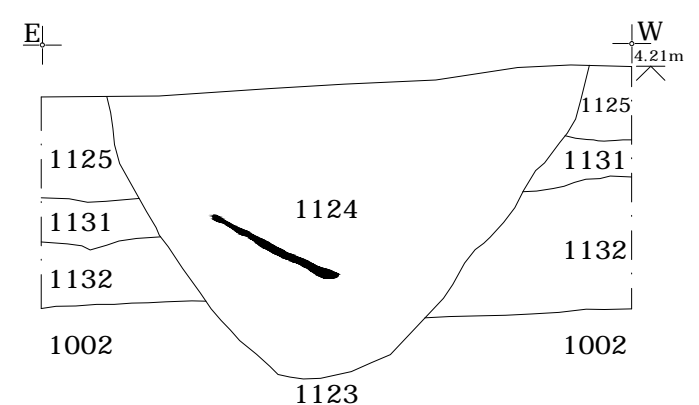
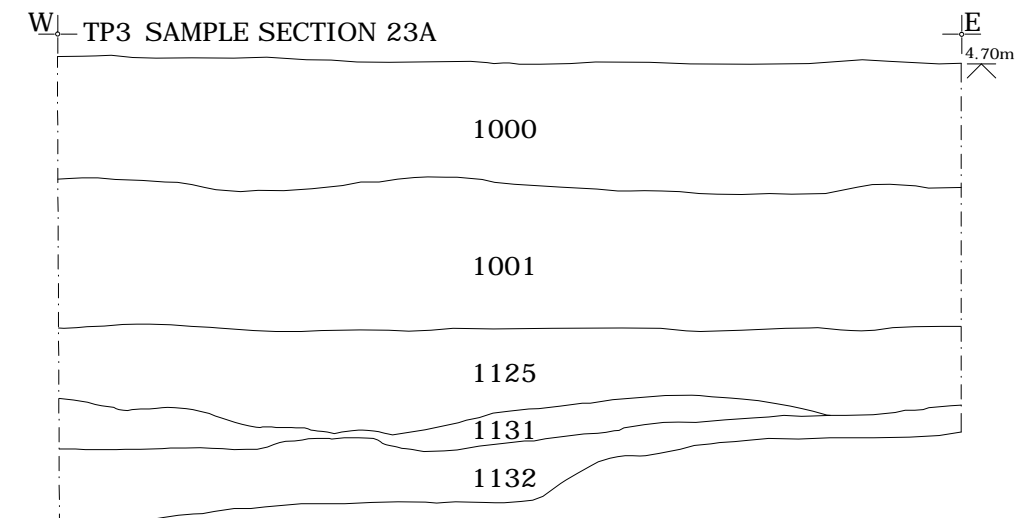
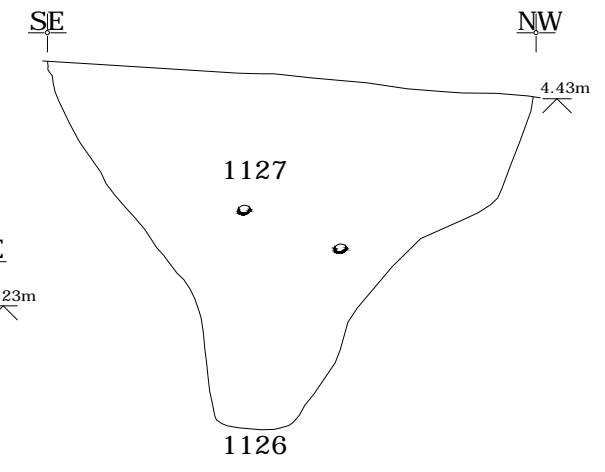
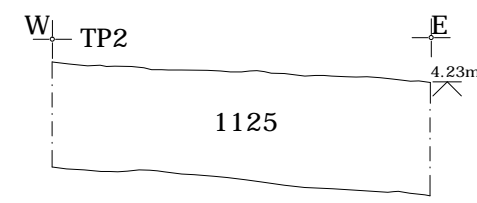
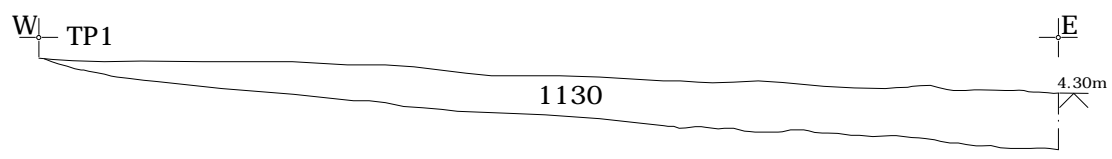
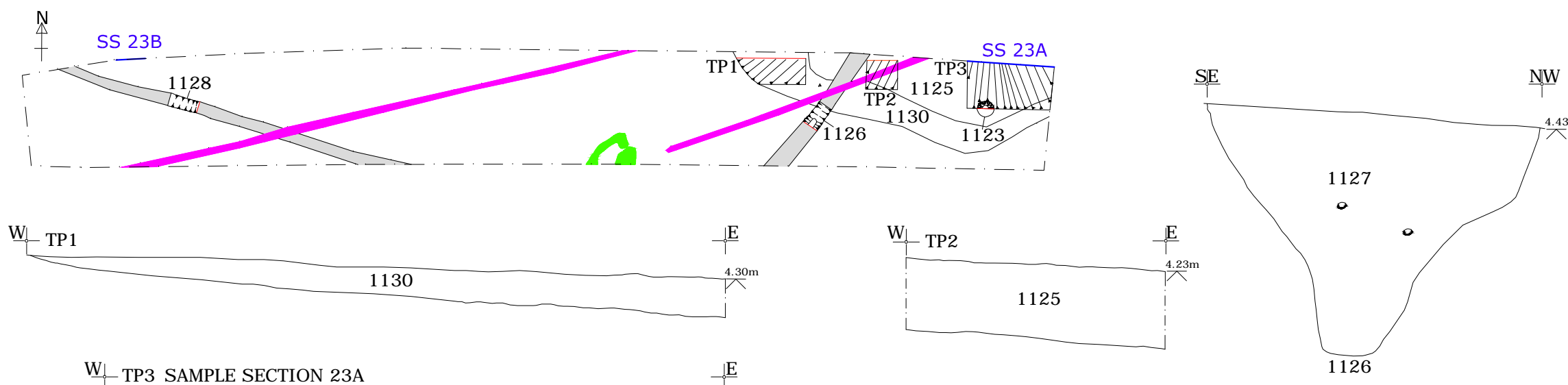
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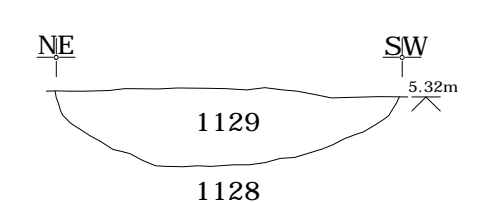
SCALE: TRENCH AT 1:100
PLAN AT 1:20, SECTION AT 1:10

PLOT: A3 APPROVED: MCA VERSION: 01

DATE: JAN 2013 AUTHOR: TPS FIGURE: 12



DP87 Test Pits 1-3 & Ditch 1126, Post-ex, Looking W



DP86 Pit 1123, Post-excavation, Looking S

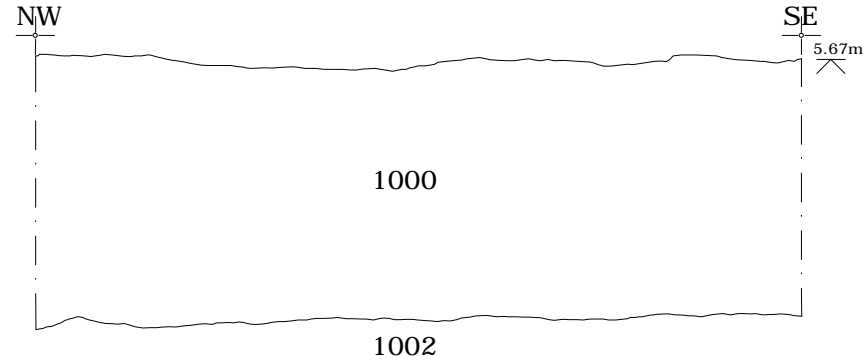


DP90 Gully 1128, Post-excavation, Looking SE

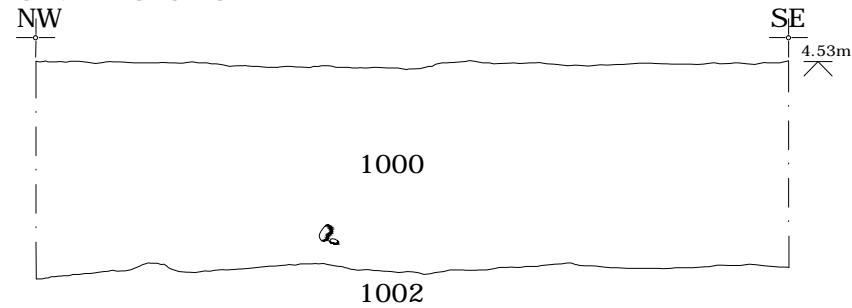
	Pottery
	Natural Features
	Modern Land Drains
	Flint Gravel Stones

NGR: TF 7195 0085	R. NUMBER: 1004
PROJECT: LAND AT BROWNS FEN, STOKE FERRY, NORFOLK	
CLIENT: RUPERT BROWN	
DESCRIPTION: TRENCH 23 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES, DP'S, SECTIONS & PLAN	
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SCALE: TRENCH AT 1:100, TP 1-3 AT 1:20, 1126, 1123 & 1128 AT 1:10	
PLOT: A3	APPROVED: MCA
DATE: JAN 2013	AUTHOR: TPS
VERSION: 01	FIGURE: 13

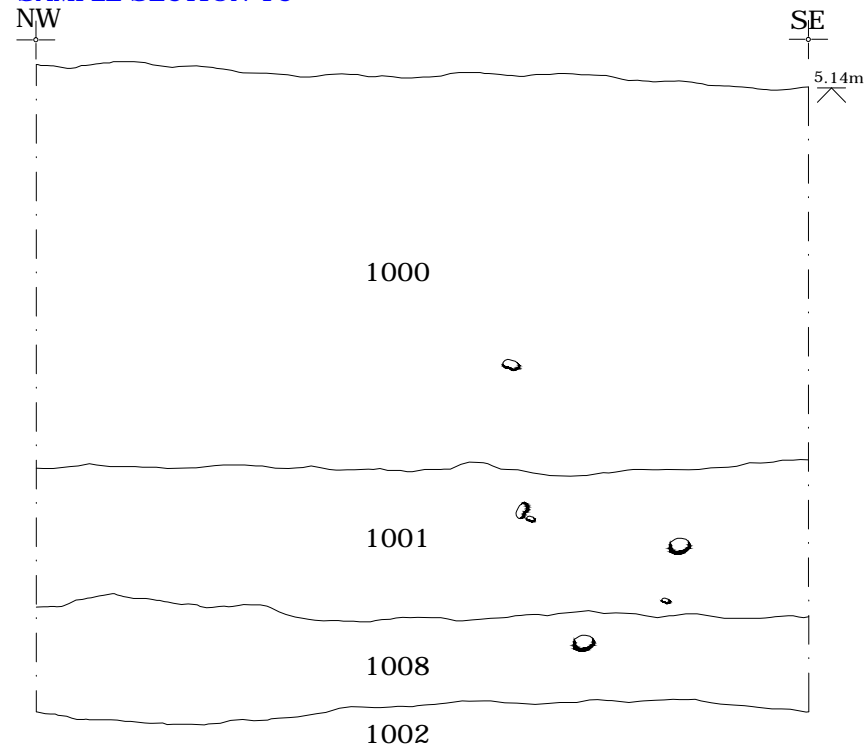
SAMPLE SECTION 1A



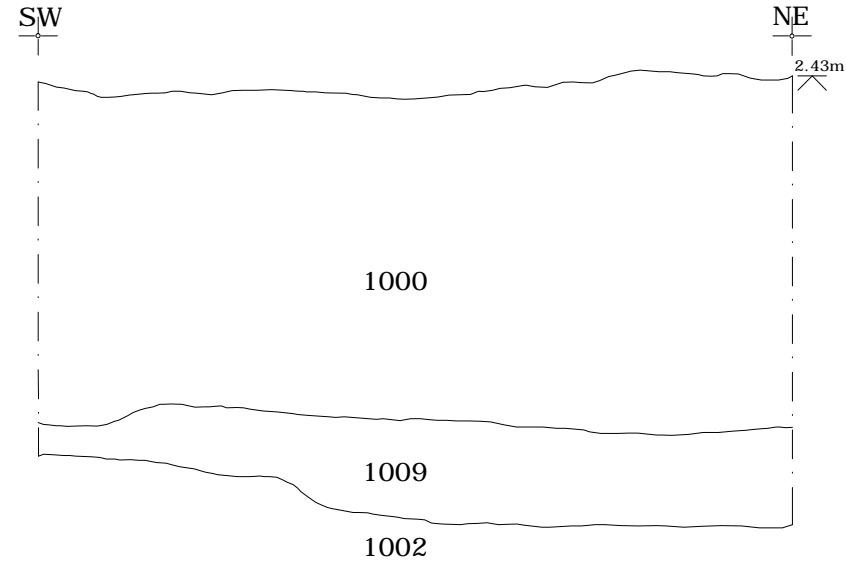
SAMPLE SECTION 1B



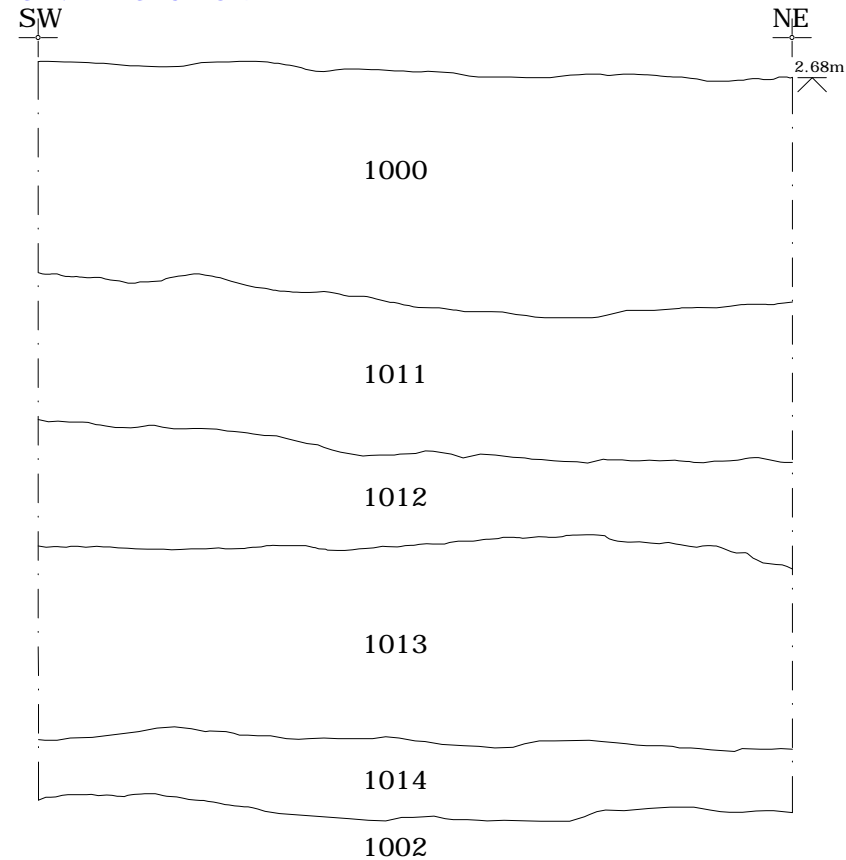
SAMPLE SECTION 1C



SAMPLE SECTION 4A



SAMPLE SECTION 4B



NGR: TF 7195 0085 R. NUMBER: 1004

PROJECT: LAND AT BROWNS FEN, STOKE FERRY, NORFOLK

CLIENT: RUPERT BROWN

DESCRIPTION: SAMPLE SECTIONS

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SCALE: SAMPLE SECTIONS AT 1: 10

PLOT: A3 APPROVED: MCA VERSION: 01

DATE: JAN 2013 AUTHOR: TPS FIGURE: 14