Report on the archaeological monitoring of EDF cable undergrounding within the Freston causewayed enclosure at Potash Farm, Holbrook, Suffolk

report prepared by
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on behalf of
EDF Energy Networks

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1 Summary

Archaeological monitoring was carried out in April 2010 during cable undergrounding between Potash Farm and Latimer Cottages, to the north of Holbrook in Suffolk. The site is located within the internal area of the Freston Neolithic causewayed enclosure, which consists of two concentric circuits of interrupted ditches with a palisade ditch in between. Very little field investigation has been undertaken in the enclosure since its discovery through aerial photography in 1969.

Although much of the roadside verge through which the cable trench was excavated had already been disturbed (57% of the total length), the archaeological monitoring indicated that deposits associated with the causewayed enclosure survive along the B1080 road. Moreover, the verge does not appear to have been subjected to deep ploughing and, therefore, better-stratified deposits may survive in the verge than elsewhere in the enclosure, most of which is currently under cultivation. Interpretation of the deposits was hindered by the narrow width of the cable trench (0.2 m). However, this has minimised disturbance to the archaeological deposits.

In total, 45 worked flints and four fragments of prehistoric pottery were recovered during the watching brief. Some of the flint artefacts are indicative of flint-working in the early Neolithic period. However, many of the flints recovered are not closely datable and, therefore, a later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date for some of the artefacts cannot be ruled out. Four pottery fragments recovered are small and abraded, and more typical of the Bronze Age and Iron Age than the Neolithic. As such, the pottery fragments are later in date than the blade component of the flint assemblage and either suggests the re-use of the enclosure in the Bronze Age and Iron Age or, more likely, later activity unrelated to the monument itself.

The quantity of finds recovered from such a narrow excavation could suggest a relatively high level of activity in the vicinity. The only cut feature identified was a probable post-medieval/modern post-hole. This may reflect the difficulty in distinguishing changes in soil colour in such a narrow trench, or it may reflect a low level of prehistoric digging in this part of the enclosure. The whole cable trench was located inside the southern part of the enclosure, very near to the inner concentric ditch. No evidence of that ditch or any further internal ditch circuits or palisades was uncovered.

2 Introduction (Figs 1-2)

2.1 This is the archive report on the archaeological monitoring of overhead line dismantlement and cable undergrounding carried out by the Colchester Archaeological Trust (CAT) on land to the north of Potash Farm, just north of the village of Holbrook in Suffolk (site centre at NGR TM 16808 37821; Fig 1). The archaeological work was undertaken between the 20th and 26th of April 2010 and was commissioned and funded by EDF Energy Networks.

2.2 The work was situated within an area of high archaeological importance, ie within the internal area of a Neolithic causewayed enclosure (SHER no FRT 005). This monument is of national importance and is statutorily protected as a Scheduled Monument (SF 183). However, the cable was laid alongside the B1080 road which is not currently scheduled.

2.3 English Heritage advised EDF of the need for a scheme of archaeological investigation during all groundworks associated with the overhead line dismantlement and the cable undergrounding.

2.4 The monitored work consisted of the cut and fill excavation of a cable trench and the excavation of the holes for the replacement telegraph pole and associated stay wire (the wire that supports a telegraph pole). The cable trench was 122 m in length and 0.2 m in width, and it was located between TM 16769 37782 (south-west) and TM 16818 37869 (north-east) (Fig 2). Existing telegraph poles were removed by lifting them with a crane, causing minimal ground disturbance.

2.5 The groundworks were continuously monitored by a CAT archaeologist and the upcast soil was carefully examined during and after excavation. Adequate time was

allowed for archaeological recording during excavation and for the recording of soil sections following excavation.

2.6 The required archaeological work was set out in a document titled *Brief and specification for archaeological recording. EDF overhead line dismantlement and cable undergrounding, Potash Farm, Holbrook, Suffolk* written by Dr Jess Tipper (SCCAS 2009). In response to the SCCAS brief, CAT prepared a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; CAT 2010) which was agreed with SCCAS.

2.7 This report mirrors standards and practices contained in the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (IfA 2008a) and *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (IfA 2008b). Other sources used are English Heritage's *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE 2006), and *Standards for field archaeology in the East of England* (EAA **14**).

3 Archaeological background (Fig 3)

The site, which is located within the internal area of the Freston Neolithic causewayed enclosure (SHER no FRT 005), occupies flat ground overlooking the estuaries of the Rivers Orwell and Stour. The enclosure surrounds the head of a shallow valley which today holds a spring which is barely sufficient to feed an agricultural pond (Oswald *et al* 2001, 97; Fig 3). The B1080 road passes through the centre of monument (Fig 3).

Very little field investigation has occurred inside the enclosure since its discovery through aerial photography in 1969. The following have been recorded in the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (SHER nos FRT 005, FRT 023). A scatter of flints was recovered from the area of the outer circuit by Sylvia Laverton of Freston in the winter of 1979-80. The current whereabouts of this material is unclear, although it is believed to be in Bury St Edmunds Museum or Ipswich Museum. In the mid 1980s, a sparse scatter of possible pot boilers and flints, including cores, blades, scrapers, and two arrowheads, one barbed and the other barbed-and-tanged, are recorded as having been recovered from between the two concentric ditches forming the southern part of the enclosure east of the B1080 road. The approximate area from within which these finds are reported to have been found is marked on Figure 3. The cropmarks identified on aerial photographs taken during 1969 and 1972 were plotted and interpreted by Carolyn Dyer from the Air Photography Unit of the former RCHME in 1995. This was undertaken as part of the 'Industry and enclosure in the Neolithic project' and was subsequently published in *The creation of monuments* (Oswald *et al* 2001). More recently (August 2007), a geophysical survey was conducted over the north-east quadrant in by English Heritage (Martin 2007). A watching brief was undertaken in November 2007 on the excavation of footings for an extension to no 2 Latimer Cottages. Only a single unstratified flint was recovered during the watching brief.

The enclosure is a roughly circular, irregular shape comprising two concentric circuits of interrupted, or segmented, ditch (Hegarty & Newsome 2004, 21). The ditches are generally 10-12 m apart. The maximum internal dimensions of the enclosure are 310 m by 290 m with the inner ditch circuit enclosing around 7 hectares. There are traces in the cropmark evidence of a narrow ditch extending between the two ditch circuits. This can occasionally be seen when conditions are favourable, and it possibly represents a palisade trench or fence line. It has been suggested that this feature appears more continuous than the ditches, suggesting that the ditch lines are not as broken as they appear in the in the cropmark photographs (Oswald *et al* 2001, 47).

Few archaeological features have been identified within the enclosure. The most notable is a large rectangular enclosure, 37 m by 9.5 m long (SHER no FRT 023), located in the north-east corner (Fig 3). The long sides of the structure appear as lines of pits or post-holes and the short sides are each represented by a continuous trench or slot. Possible internal divisions are defined by both slots and pits or post-holes, and the rectangular enclosure is cut across at its western end by a short row of pits or large post-holes. The complex of slots, post-holes and/or pits appears to

represent a long, narrow, rectangular timber building, perhaps the remains of a Neolithic long house. It has also been postulated that the structure could be an Anglo-Saxon 'long hall'. However, no Anglo-Saxon surface finds are recorded in the SMR near to the enclosure (Hegarty & Newsome 2004, 66-7). Excavation would be required to determine the structure's chronological relationship to the enclosure.

A recent dating project has narrowed down the construction dates of a number of causewayed enclosures in Britain to a seventy-five year period some 5,700 years ago, rather than the 500-year time span conventionally given for their existence as a monument type. Using Bayesian statistical modelling, which allows carbon dating spans to be narrowed to precise points in time by drawing on other sources of information, such as stratified finds from a site, it now seems that only three generations separated the first and last causewayed enclosures to be built in Britain, starting with the Thames Estuary and spearheading through Kent and Sussex, and then westwards. The detailed results are to be published shortly in a new book, *Gathering Time: Dating the Early Neolithic Enclosures of Southern Britain and Ireland* (Whittle, Healy & Bayliss, forthcoming).

4 Aim

The aim of the watching brief was to provide a record of any archaeological deposits which were damaged or removed during the groundworks by means of continuous archaeological monitoring and recording.

5 Results (Figs 2, 4-5; Plate 1)

The cable trench started from an existing underground cable at Latimer Cottages and finished at a replacement telegraph pole north of the cottages associated with Potash Farm (Fig 2). The division of the cable trench into ten lengths for monitoring purposes (Stretches 1-10) was done arbitrarily during fieldwork as a response to the number of artefacts found in the upcast soil (Fig 4). As the artefacts were recovered from the soil beside the trench and were, therefore, unstratified, a more accurate record of the findspots was not deemed necessary. (In the identification of archaeological contexts, the context number is prefixed by either 'F' indicating a feature or 'L' indicting a layer.)

The trench for the undergrounding of the overhead cable was excavated under archaeological supervision. It was dug to a depth of 600 mm below modern ground-level using a small tracked mechanical excavator equipped with a 200 mm-wide toothless bucket. Instead of excavating across the road, a thrust-borer was used to make a tunnel beneath the highway into which ducting and the new cable were inserted (Fig 4). Excavation of the trench on the eastern side of the road was restricted by an existing 7'' BT cable duct and a 10'' asbestos water-pipe. The water pipe crossed under the road just north of the thrust-bored section and continued south along the western side of the road. These services were located by excavating holes 400 mm wide and 750 mm deep on each side of the highway (Fig 4; Stretches 2 & 3). The width of these stretches facilitated the use of the thrust-borer and made it possible to enter the trench and examine the trench edges, something which was problematic elsewhere since the trench was only 0.2 m wide.

Stretches 1 & 2 (Fig 4) were located on the eastern side of the road which, as was evidenced by a joint in the tarmac, had been widened sometime in the recent past. The trench was also roughly parallel to the water-pipe and the BT cable duct, crossing the latter obliquely near to Latimer Cottages. As such, Stretch 2 and most of Stretch 1 were excavated through service trench backfill and road construction material (L1-L3). At the north end of Stretch 1, where the trench turned eastwards towards the telegraph pole within the property boundary of Latimer Cottages, the only area of undisturbed ground east of the road was encountered. The dark, loose modern verge soil (L2) overlay a medium grey/brown topsoil (L4), which in turn overlay a light brown (with a slight orange colouration) clayey-silt layer (L5). Five

residual worked flints were recovered from the backfill material along Stretches 1 & 2.

In Stretch 3 (Fig 4), what appeared to be previously unexcavated ground was encountered between the road and the cut for the water pipe (Fig 5b). A flint blade was recovered from the light brown clayey-silt layer L5 (find no 1) and a retouched flake and a sherd of sand-tempered pottery were recovered from the upcast soil. It was not evident whether this artefact was located within the fill of a feature which it was too difficult to see or whether it was simply incorporated in L5. L5 was light in colour and appeared quite mottled in places, becoming more orange in colour as the clay content increased with depth. L5 appeared to merge into an orange/yellow clay (L6) that could have been the natural. A small post-hole (F1), the only discernible cut feature identified during the monitoring, was also identified in this stretch (Fig 5b). The fill of the post-hole was very similar to the overlying topsoil (L4) and no finds were recovered from its fill.

Stretch 4 was located to the east of a roadside drainage ditch on the alignment of the water-pipe. The deposits encountered appeared to be service trench backfill overlain by a thick layer of topsoil likely deposited during the excavation of the ditch. At the southern end of Stretch 4, the trench was diverted westwards around a road-sign (Fig 4). The cable trench crossed the water-pipe, which lay below the base of the trench in the centre of Stretch 5, and continued into an area of wide verge with no drainage ditch or service cuts (Stretches 6-9). Seven worked flints were recovered from stretches 4 & 5 including blades and a retouched flake.

The medium grey clayey-silt topsoil (L4) in Stretches 6-9 and was only 150 mm deep (Fig 5a). Brick fragments and a very small fragment of clay-pipe stem were observed in the upper part of L4, but no datable material could be ascribed with any certainty to the lower part of the layer. It is possible, though not probable, that some of the worked flints from the upcast soil originated from this layer. The topsoil L4 overlay the light brown clayey-silt L5, which was observed in the base of the cable trench throughout most of Stretches 6-9. However, due to the tight angles, poor light, and the limited working space in such a narrow trench, it is not possible to be certain that L6 was not present in the base of the trench at some points. Inclusions in L5 were rare but included small-medium sub-rounded stones and rare charcoal flecks. The flints recovered from sods of upcast soil along these stretches were all from the light brown clayey-silt of L5. Moreover, a second worked flint was found *in situ* in L5 during the cleaning of the trench edge in Stretch 7 (find no 11). In total, twenty-eight worked flints were recovered from the upcast soil from the four stretches. The flints appeared to be evenly distributed along the four stretches. Three sherds of prehistoric pottery (two of which are joining sherds from one pot) were also recovered from Stretch 8.

With the exception of the westernmost three metres, Stretch 10 was excavated through topsoil, probably deposited on the verge when the trackway was constructed. A sample of post-medieval brick and a sherd of post-medieval glazed red earthenware were recovered from the topsoil. The western end of Stretch 10 was further from the track and had less modern topsoil (*c.*350mm thick). As such, what appeared to be L5 was encountered beneath the topsoil. A flint blade and a burnt flint nodule were recovered from the upcast L5 material.

The hand-excavations of the pit for the replacement telegraph pole, the associated stay wire and a trench to connect the cable to the replacement telegraph pole were observed in the week following the digging of the cable trench (Fig 4). The stratigraphy in the pit for the replacement telegraph pole was modern topsoil overlying two layers of backfill material from the installation of the existing stay wire (L7, L8). A fragment of glazed red earthenware, a sherd of modern white-glazed ironstone pottery (20th century) and four animal bone fragments were recovered from L7 and L8. Beneath these layers, at a depth of 1.25m below modern ground-level, an orange/yellow glacial sand was observed. In the pit for the associated stay wire and the connecting cable trench what appeared to be L5 was encountered beneath a layer of topsoil *c.*400mm thick. A scraper made on a small core was recovered from the upcast L5 material.

The two redundant telegraph poles were to be lifted out of the ground at a later date, using a crane in a manner which would cause no undue ground disturbance or

excavation. The field in which the telegraph poles were located was under cultivation, so the removal of the poles was postponed until the crop in the field had been lifted. It was agreed with SCCAS that there would be no need to monitor the removal of the poles.

6 Finds

6.1 The prehistoric pottery (Figs 4, 6)

by S Benfield

Introduction

Four sherds of pottery, two of which are joining sherds from one pot, were recovered from the upcast soil. The sherds are described and then discussed below.

Stretch 3

Single sand-tempered sherd (weight 4 g). Sherd about 4 mm thick. Slightly soft, grey-brown fabric; abraded.

Stretch 8 (finds no 9)

Two joining sherds (weight 15 g) preserving part of a cordon, decorated with fingertip impressions, around the body (Fig 6). The sherds indicate a large pot with a vertical, or near-vertical body wall. Fabric tempered with small-medium and occasional large (> 2 mm) crushed, burnt flint fragments. Sherd is about 9 mm-10 mm thick. Oxidised orange-brown exterior, reduced black interior.

Single body sherd (weight 5 g), tempered with sparse small-medium flint. Sherd about 4 mm thick; brownish grey fabric and surfaces.

Discussion

As just a few small sherds were recovered from upcast soil, dating them relies on any diagnostic features of the sherds themselves.

The most closely-datable pottery is the two joining sherds from the large pot with a decorated cordon (Stretch 8). The fingertip-decorated cordon, thick straight wall and flint-tempered fabric are typical of urns of Middle Bronze Age date belonging to the Deverel-Rimbury tradition generally dated to *c* 1,400-1,000 BC (Gibson & Woods 1990, 145).

The other two sherds are not closely datable. While flint is commonly used as a tempering agent in pottery from the Neolithic to the Early-Middle Iron Age, the individual flint-tempered sherd (Stretch 8) is relatively thin and fine and is probably more likely to date from the period of the Bronze Age or the Iron Age than earlier. The sand-tempered sherd (Stretch 3) is abraded but appears to be hand-made and is likely to date to the period of the Middle-Late Iron Age although, given its condition, a possible Roman date should probably not be entirely excluded. This sherd has also been examined by Howard Brooks (CAT) who does not consider a post-Roman date to be likely.

It can be noted that the sherds from Stretch 8 are in a relatively fresh condition and have probably been recently disturbed from a relatively stable context below the topsoil. The sand-tempered sherd from Stretch 3 is abraded and may have been lying within the topsoil for some time.

6.2 The worked flint report (Figs 4, 6)

by Hazel Martingell

In total, 47 worked flints and burnt flints were recovered from the cable trench beside the B1080 ROAD road in the southern area of the Freston causewayed enclosure. There are 10 blades, 3 with retouch (21% of the total). There is no evidence for the manufacture of microliths or any other Mesolithic artefacts so these blades should be considered Early Neolithic in date. They were recovered from Stretches 3-5 and 7-10.

The remaining 37 artefacts are made on flakes, including the 4 scrapers and 7 retouched flakes (the two cores are flake cores). These flake artefacts display a

varying degree of knapping skills, from good to rough, suggesting a Middle to Late Neolithic date. They were recovered from all stretches.

Noticeable are the three flakes made of 'Bullhead' flint (recognised by a band of orange that occurs between the cortex, the outer surface, and the black flint). This type of flint is found in the Thames Basin (Butler 2005). These flakes were recovered from Stretches 5, 7 and 8. The highest concentration of 11 worked flints and 1 burnt block was located in Stretch 9 towards the southern end of the cable trench.

The Freston causewayed enclosure is considered to be an Early Neolithic earthwork in origin (Palmer 1976). These worked flints would add some confirmation for early Neolithic habitation.

Table 1: Worked flints (* = sketch in archive).

Stretch	Finds no	Description
1	2	1 flaked natural block, converging, worn at tip 1 waste flake fragment 1 flake, small, primary 1 chipping
2	3	1* scraper, tertiary, rolled and crushed edges, dorsal surface knapped from one side at right-angles to scraper edge. May be modified previously flaked artefact **(no 4 on Fig 6)**
3 (L5)	15 1	1* retouched flake, tertiary 1 blade, tertiary
4	5	2 waste pieces, secondary 1* retouched flake fragment, tertiary 1 blade fragment, secondary
5	6	1 crested blade, secondary 1 flake, primary (bullhead flint) 1 blade, tertiary
6	7	1 core for flakes, 4 platforms, area of patination 1 core fragment, small 1* retouched flake, secondary 1* retouched flake, retouch across distal end and right edge 1* fabricator fragment? Flaked converging artefact, made on a flint tablet
7 (L5)	8 11	1* microdenticulated blade, tip missing, tertiary **(no 2 on Fig 6)** 1 blade, tertiary 2 flakes from same core (bullhead flint) 2 waste pieces (1 tertiary, 1 secondary) 1 flake, rolled and crushed edges, tertiary
8	9	1 flake, large, secondary 1* notched blade, secondary (bullhead flint) 3 flakes, secondary 1* piercer on a flake, fine retouch, tertiary 1 fragment
9	10	1* side scraper with notched distal end, tertiary 1* retouched flake, secondary 1* retouched primary piece 1* end scraper on a primary flake 1* notched and retouched blade, tertiary 2 flakes, tertiary 1* microdenticulated flake 1 blade, proximal part, diagonal break, tertiary, brown-stained light grey flint 1 chipping 1 burnt block
10	12	1 blade, converging, tertiary 1 burnt flake
Hole for stay wire	13	1* scraper on small core, steep retouch **(no 3 on Fig 6)**

Table 2: Totals of artefact types

7 blades	1 microdenticulated blade
12 flakes	2 notched blades
1 fabricator fragment	5 retouched flakes
1 flaked block	1 microdenticulated flake
2 cores	1 piercer on a flake
4 waste piece	4 scrapers on flakes
2 chippings	1 retouched piece
1 fragment	
2 burnt flints	

6.3 Other finds

A sample of post-medieval brick (337.4g, thickness not determinable) and a sherd of post-medieval glazed red earthenware (17th/18th centuries) were recovered from Stretch 10. Another fragment of glazed red earthenware was recovered from the nearby pit for the replacement telegraph pole, along with a sherd of modern white-glazed ironstone pottery (20th century). Four animal bone fragments were recovered from the pit for the replacement telegraph pole, three large mammal rib fragments and a ?pig humerus which exhibits signs of having been sawn.

7 Discussion (Plate 2)

In total, 57% of the cable trench (70 m) was excavated through the back-fill material from the construction and widening of the road or the installation of services, or through deep topsoil deposited in recent times. The deposition of topsoil on the edge of the road and to the north of the track means that, in some areas, it is probable that archaeologically significant deposits survive beneath the cable trench.

The light brown clayey-silt soil accumulation from which the prehistoric artefacts recovered appeared to derive (L5), was encountered in four locations along the cable trench: at the property boundary of Latimer Cottages (Stretch 1), in Stretch 3, in the area of the replacement telegraph pole at the western end of Stretch 10 and in Stretches 6-9.

Along Stretches 6-9 the topsoil layer overlying L5 was notably thin (150mm), whereas L5 was homogenous and appeared to continue to a depth of over 600mm below modern ground level. This could indicate that this area has not been subjected to deep ploughing. The road has been in existence since at least 1783 (Hodskinson 1783, Plate 2) but is likely to be considerably older in origin. Therefore, unlike most of the rest of the enclosure which is currently under cultivation, the upper part of L5 appears to survive in this area of the verge. It is also worthy of note that roughly two-thirds of the prehistoric artefacts recovered were collected from the upcast soil from Stretches 6-9. Therefore, this area of verge should be considered to be an important archaeological resource for the future targeting of stratified deposits in the enclosure.

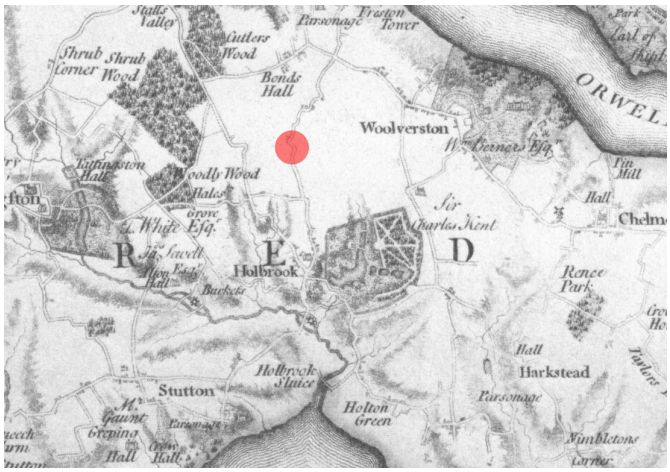

Plate 2: Joseph Hodskinson's 1783 map of Suffolk with the site location marked by a red dot.

In total, 45 worked flints were recovered during the watching brief from all ten stretches of the cable trench as well as from the works associated with the installation/removal of the telegraph poles. The absence of evidence for Mesolithic flint working, the presence of blades exhibiting platform preparation and soft hammer knapping characteristics, and the degree of knapping skill exhibited on some of the flakes and flake tools, are indicative of flint-working in the early Neolithic period. However, most of the flints recovered are not closely datable and, therefore, a later Neolithic/early Bronze Age date for some of the artefacts cannot be ruled out. The flints are too few in number and too varied in type to suggest what kind of activities may have been occurring in this area of the enclosure. However, the presence of a high number of tools and blades in proportion to debitage suggests that tool use or exchange rather than knapping may have been taking place here. Moreover, the quantity of artefacts recovered from such a narrow trench suggests a high level of activity in the area.

Four pottery fragments were recovered of which none were datable to the Neolithic period. The sherds were small and abraded and more typical of the Bronze Age and Iron Age than the Neolithic. As such, the pottery fragments are later in date than the blade component of the flint assemblage and either suggest the re-use of the enclosure in the Bronze Age and Iron Age or, more likely, later activity unrelated to the monument itself.

Despite the dominance of prehistoric finds in the assemblage, the only cut feature identified was a probable post-medieval/modern post-hole. This may reflect the difficulty in distinguishing changes in soil colour in such a narrow trench or it may reflect a low level of prehistoric digging in this part of the enclosure. The artefacts recovered may have been left on the ground surface in this area of the enclosure, becoming slowly buried and incorporated in the soil over time. Thus, L5 could be a soil accumulation in an open area of the enclosure where activities took place and artefacts were discarded. Alternatively, much of L5 could be a fine-grained loess deposit which originated as a wind-blown sediment from glacial sources (SCC 2008), into which features containing artefacts were subsequently cut. An understanding of where in L5 the finds were coming from and whether or not they were stratified would be required to substantiate either possibility.

Based on the cropmark plot, it is clear that the whole of the cable trench was located inside the enclosure (Fig 3). The southern stretch of the cable trench appears to have been very close to the inner concentric ditch. No evidence of that ditch or any further internal ditch circuits or palisades was uncovered. The proximity of the inner concentric ditch could mean that L5 is the remains of a levelled 'bank' which was part of the inner earthwork.

8 Archive deposition

The paper archive and finds are currently held by CAT at 12 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex, but will be permanently deposited with the Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service (project code HBK 044).

9 Acknowledgements

This project was commissioned and funded by EDF Energy Networks, to whom CAT is grateful. Site work was undertaken by Adam Wightman. Illustrations by Chris Lister and Adam Wightman. The project was monitored by Dr Jess Tipper for Suffolk County Council.

10 References

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Whittle, A, Healy, F, & Bayliss, A	Forth-coming	Gathering Time: Dating the Early Neolithic Enclosures of Southern Britain and Ireland

11 Glossary

Anglo-Saxon	period from AD 410 to AD 1066
AOD	above ordnance datum
Bronze Age	period from 2,000 BC to 700 BC
CBM	ceramic building material
context	on an excavation site, a specific location (especially of finds)
EAA	East Anglian Archaeology
feature	something excavated, ie a wall, a floor, a pit, a ditch, etc
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
Iron Age	period from 700 BC to AD 43
medieval	period from AD 1066 to *c* AD 1500
Mesolithic	after melting of ice sheets: 10,000 BC to 4,000 BC
modern	period from *c* AD 1800 to the present
natural	geological deposit undisturbed by human activity
Neolithic	period from 4,000 BC to 2,000 BC
NGR	National Grid Reference
post-medieval	after *c* AD 1500 to *c* AD 1800
prehistoric	the years BC
SCCAS	Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
SHER	Suffolk Historic Environment Record
SMR	Sites and Monuments Record

Distribution list:
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date: *18.05.11*

Adams x c:/reports 11/potash farm/report 563 x.doc

12 Appendix 1: contents of archive

One A4 document wallet containing:

1 Introduction
1.1 Copy of the brief and specification issued by SCCAS
1.2 Copy of the WSI produced by CAT
1.3 2 x A3 site plans provided by developer
1.4 Risk assessment
1.5 Correspondence with EDF Energy Networks
1.6 English Heritage NMR request for reproduction permission

2 Site archive
2.1 Digital photo. record
2.2 Attendance register
2.3 Context sheets (F1, L1-L8)
2.4 Finds register
2.5 Site photographic record on CD
2.6 1 x A4 section sheet

3 Research archive
3.1 Monitoring (client) report
3.2 Finds reports

Finds
The finds occupy less than one box.

13 Appendix 2: SCCAS brief (following pages)

Suffolk County Council

The Archaeological Service

Environment and Transport Service Delivery
9-10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk
IP33 2AR

Brief and Specification for Archaeological Recording

EDF OVERHEAD LINE DISMANTLEMENT AND CABLE UNDERGROUNDING, POTASH FARM, HOLBROOK

Although this document is fundamental to the work of the specialist archaeological contractor the developer should be aware that certain of its requirements are likely to impinge upon the working practices of a general building contractor and may have financial implications

1. Background

1.1 Overhead line dismantlement and cable undergrounding is to be undertaken by EDF at Potash Farm, Holbrook, Suffolk (TM 168 378).

1.2 The location of the proposed work is situated within an area of high archaeological importance that is recorded in the County Historic Environment Record, within the internal area of a Neolithic causewayed enclosure (HER no. FRT 005). This monument is of national importance and statutorily protected as a Scheduled Monument (SF 183), although the road itself is not currently scheduled. The proposed works will cause significant ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.

1.3 English Heritage has advised EDF of the need for a scheme of archaeological investigation (in line with a PPG 16, paragraph 30 type condition) during all groundworks.

1.4 The works comprise removal of existing electricity poles and the cut and fill excavation of the cable trench, *c*. 130.00m in length x 0.03m in width, between TM 167 377 (west) and TM 168 378 (east).

1.5 Assessment of the available archaeological evidence indicates that the area affected by development can be adequately recorded by continuous archaeological monitoring (**Please contact the developer for an accurate plan of the development**).

1.6 In accordance with the standards and guidance produced by the Institute of Field Archaeologists this brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the total execution of the project. A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) based upon this brief and the accompanying outline specification of minimum requirements, is an essential requirement. This must be submitted by the developers, or their agent, to the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (9-10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR; telephone/fax: 01284 352443) for approval. The work must not commence until this office has approved both the archaeological contractor as suitable to undertake the work, and the WSI as satisfactory. The WSI will *provide the basis for measurable standards* and will be used to establish whether the requirements of the planning condition will be adequately met.

1.7 Before commencing work the project manager must carry out a risk assessment and liase with the site owner, client and the Conservation Team of SCCAS (SCCAS/CT) in ensuring that all potential risks are minimised.

1.8 All arrangements for the excavation of the site, the timing of the work, access to the site, the definition of the precise area of landholding and area for proposed development are to be defined and negotiated by the archaeological contractor with the commissioning body.

1.9 The responsibility for identifying any constraints on field-work (e.g. Scheduled Monument status, Listed Building status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites &c., ecological considerations rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor. The existence and content of the archaeological brief does not over-ride such constraints or imply that the target area is freely available.

1.10 Detailed standards, information and advice to supplement this brief are to be found in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003.

1.11 The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (revised 2001) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

2. Brief for Archaeological Recording

2.1 To provide a record of archaeological deposits which are damaged or removed by any development [including services and landscaping].

2.2 All groundworks (including removal of existing poles) are to be continuously monitored by the appointed contract archaeologist. These, and the upcast soil, are to be observed during and after they have been excavated by the building contractor. Adequate time is to be allowed for archaeological recording of archaeological deposits during excavation, and of soil sections following excavation.

3. Arrangements for Recording

3.1 To carry out the monitoring work the developer will appoint an archaeologist (the archaeological contractor) who must be approved by SCCAS/CT.

3.2 The developer or his contract archaeologist will give SCCAS/CT five working days notice of the commencement of ground works on the site, in order that the work of the archaeological contractor may be monitored. The method and form of development will also be monitored to ensure that it conforms to previously agreed locations and techniques upon which this specification is based.

3.3 Allowance must be made to cover archaeological costs incurred in recording the development works by the contract archaeologist. The size of the contingency should be estimated by the approved archaeological contractor, based upon the outline works in this Brief and Specification and the building contractor's programme of works and time-table.

3.4 If unexpected remains are encountered SCCAS/CT must be informed immediately. Amendments to this specification may be made to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording.

4. Specification

4.1 The developer shall afford access at all reasonable times to SCCAS/CT and the contracted archaeologist to allow archaeological monitoring of building and engineering operations which disturb the ground.

4.2 Opportunity must be given to the contracted archaeologist to hand excavate any discrete archaeological features which appear during earth moving operations, retrieve finds and make measured records as necessary. Where it is necessary to see archaeological detail one of the soil faces is to be trowelled clean.

4.3 All archaeological features exposed must be planned at a scale of 1:20 of 1:50 on a plan showing the proposed layout of the development, depending on the complexity of the data to be recorded. Sections should be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 again depending on the complexity to be recorded.

4.4 A photographic record of the work is to be made of any archaeological features, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies/high resolution digital images.

4.5 All contexts must be numbered and finds recorded by context. All levels should relate to Ordnance Datum.

4.6 Archaeological contexts should, where possible, be sampled for palaeoenvironmental remains. Best practice should allow for sampling of interpretable and datable archaeological deposits and provision should be made for this. Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from Rachel Ballantyne, English Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy, P.L. and Wiltshire, P.E.J., 1994, *A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis*) is available for viewing from SCCAS.

4.7 All finds will be collected and processed (unless variations in this principle are agreed with SCCAS/CT during the course of the monitoring).

4.8 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Historic Environment Record.

5. Report Requirements

5.1 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared consistent with the principles of *Management of Archaeological Projects* (*MAP2*), particularly Appendix 3.This must be deposited with the County Historic Environment Record within three months of the completion of work. It will then become publicly accessible.

5.2 The project manager must consult the County Historic Environment Record Officer to obtain an event number for the work. This number will be unique for each project or site and must be clearly marked on any documentation relating to the work.

5.3 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*.

5.4 The project manager should consult the SCC Archive Guidelines 2008 and also the County HER Officer regarding the requirements for the deposition of the archive (conservation, ordering, organisation, labelling, marking and storage) of excavated material and the archive.

5.5 The WSI should state proposals for the deposition of the digital archive relating to this project with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), and allowance should be made for costs incurred to ensure proper deposition (http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/policy.html).

5.6 The finds, as an indissoluble part of the site archive, should be deposited with the County Historic Environment Record if the landowner can be persuaded to agree to this. If this is not possible for all or any part of the finds archive, then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate.

5.7 A report on the fieldwork and archive, consistent with the principles of *MAP2*, particularly Appendix 4, must be provided. The report must summarise the methodology employed, the stratigraphic sequence, and give a period by period description of the contexts recorded, and an inventory of finds. The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its interpretation. The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence, including palaeoenvironmental remains recovered from palaeosols and cut features. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological value of the results, and their significance in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).

5.8 An unbound copy of the assessment report, clearly marked DRAFT, must be presented to both SCCAS/CT for approval within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated with the project sponsor and SCCAS/CT.

5.9 Following acceptance, two copies of the assessment report should be submitted to SCCAS/CT. A single hard copy should be presented to the County Historic Environment Record as well as a digital copy of the approved report.

5.10 A summary report, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology*, must be prepared and included in the project report.

5.11 Where appropriate, a digital vector trench plan should be included with the report, which must be compatible with MapInfo GIS software, for integration in the County Historic Environment Record. AutoCAD files should be also exported and saved into a format that can be can be imported into MapInfo (for example, as a Drawing Interchange File or .dxf) or already transferred to .TAB files.

5.12 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/ must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.

5.13 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to County Historic Environment Record. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

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This brief and specification remains valid for six months from the above date. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse; the authority should be notified and a revised brief and specification may be issued.

If the work defined by this brief forms a part of a programme of archaeological work required by a Planning Condition, the results must be considered by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council, who have the responsibility for advising the appropriate Planning Authority.

Fig 1 Site location, marked by a red dot.

0 1km

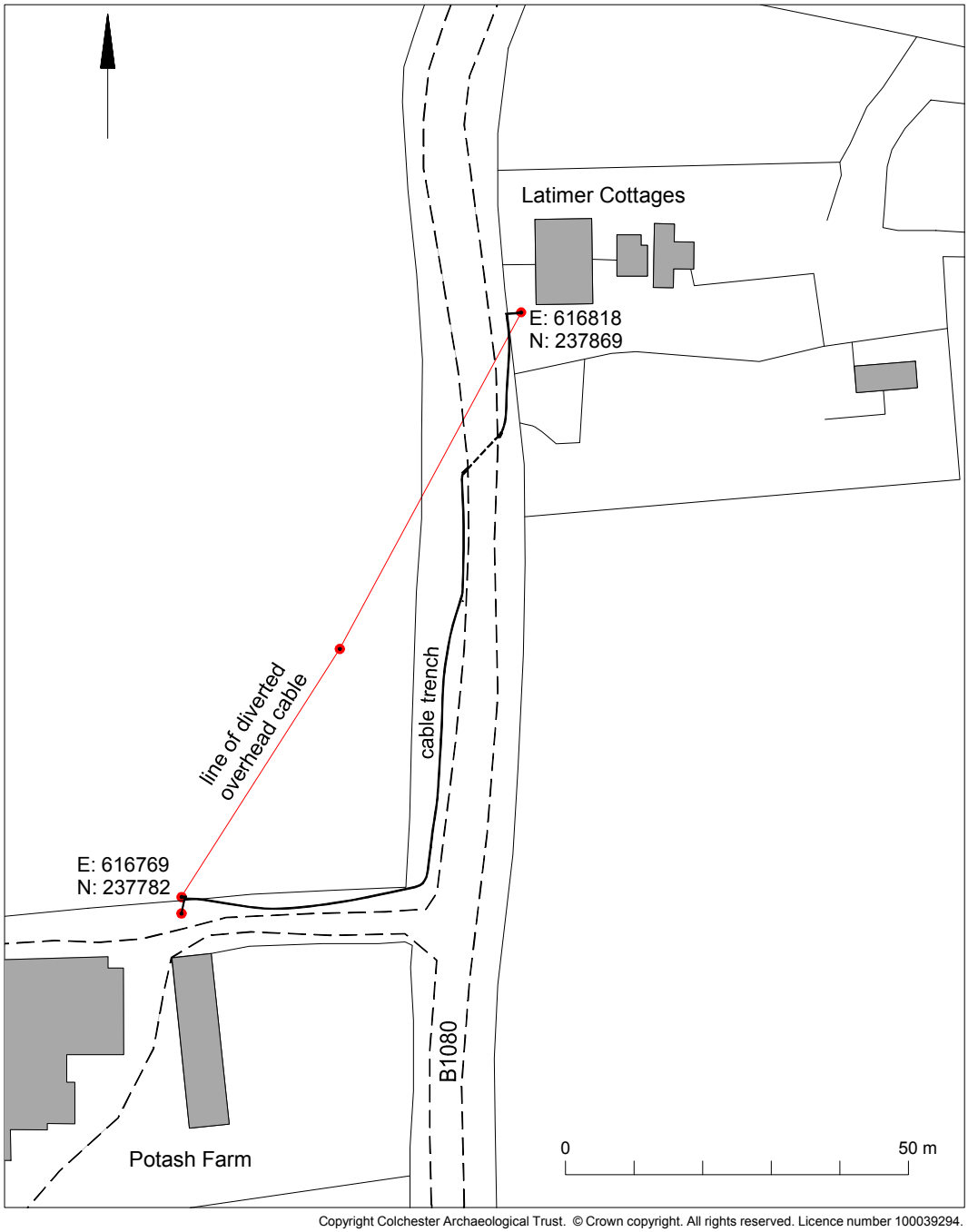

Fig 2 The route of the cable trench.

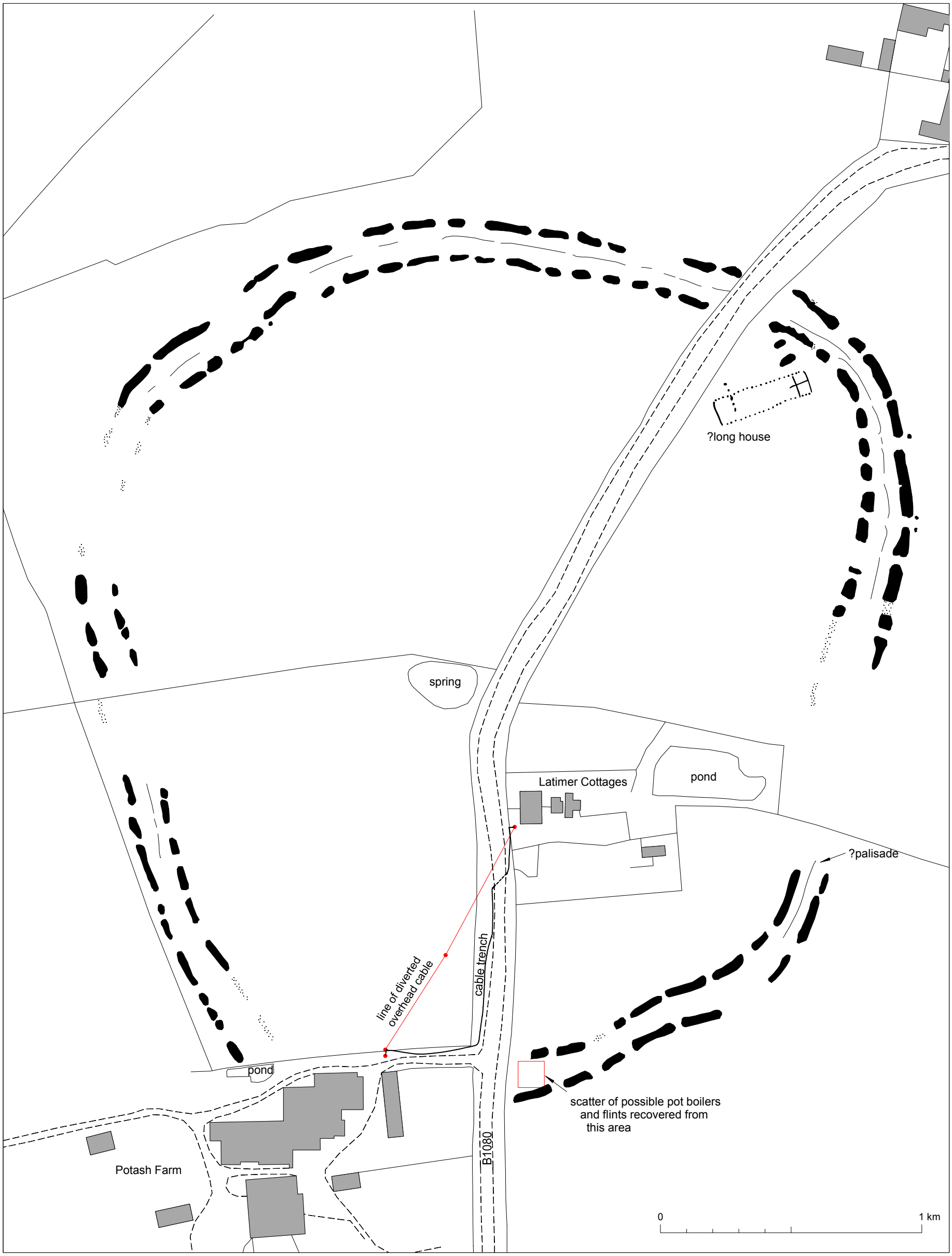

Fig 3 The cable trench in relation to the Freston causewayed enclosure cropmark plot (© English Heritage).

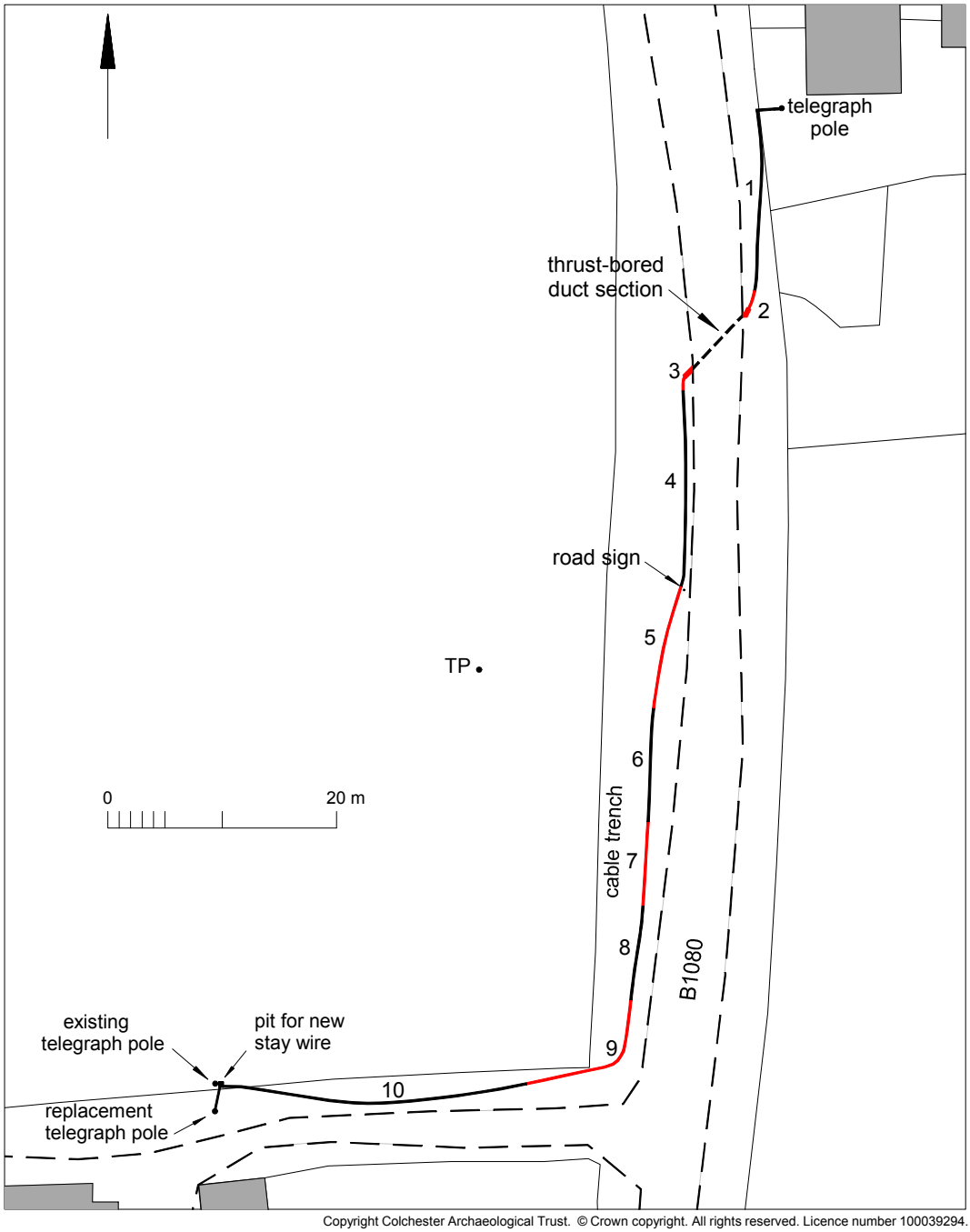

Fig 4 The cable trench divided into ten stretches (Stretches 1-10) and the location of the replacement telegraph pole.

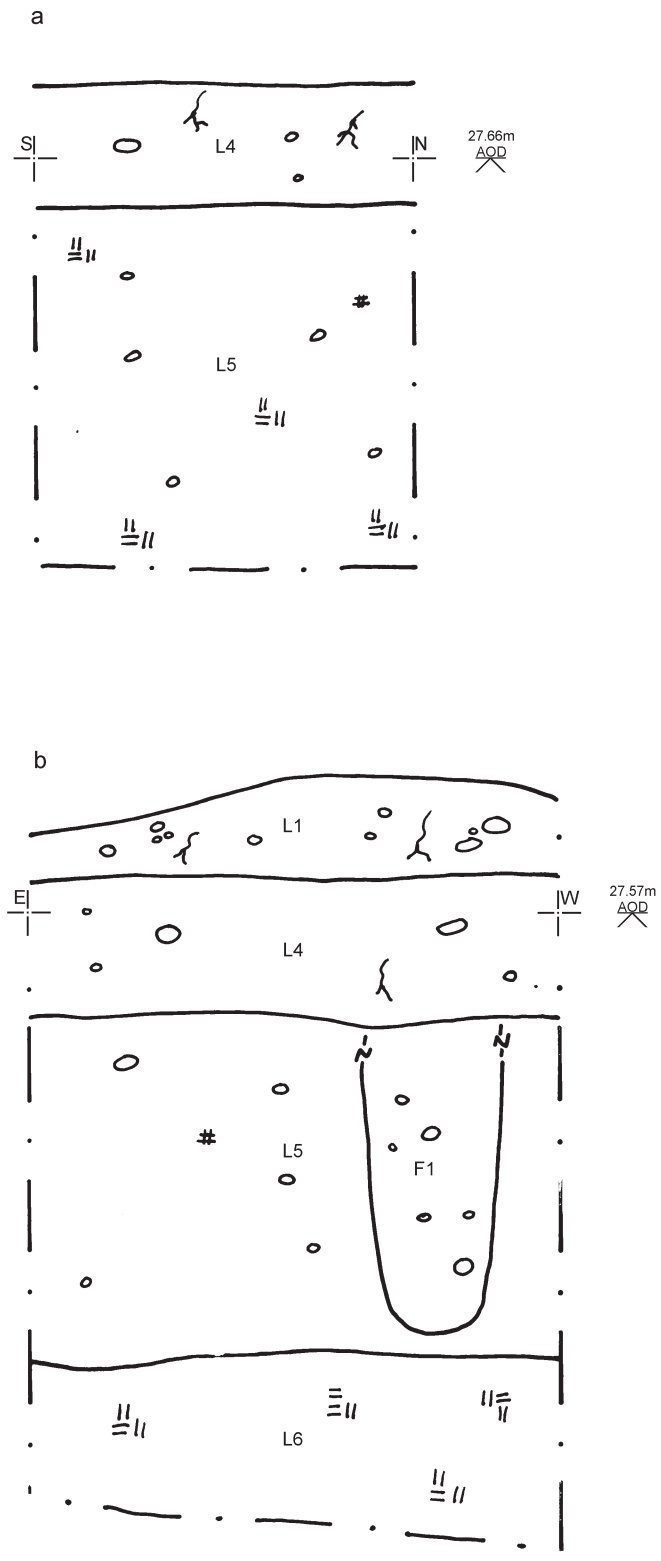

Fig 5 Representative trench sections of Stretches 6-9 (a) and Stretch 3 (b).

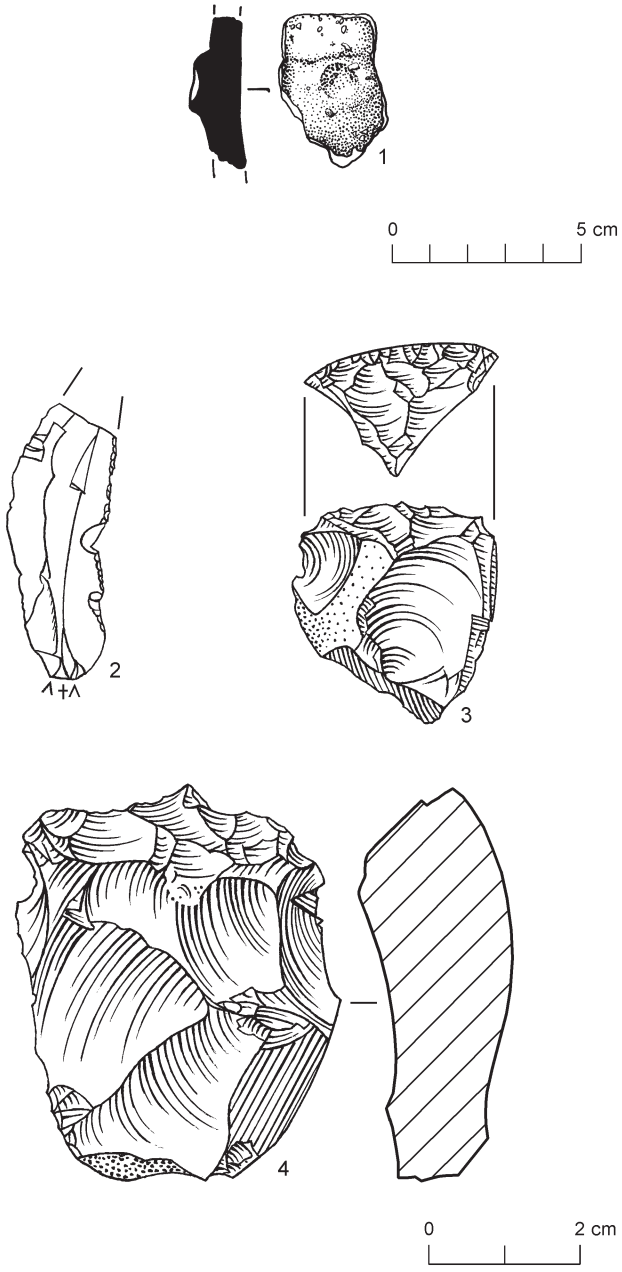

Fig 6 Prehistoric pottery sherd (1), scale 1:2; lithic microdenticulate on a blade (2) and scrapers (3-4), scale 1:1.