Phase one Evaluation
Meddler Stud
Kentford
Suffolk

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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Phase 1 evaluation at Meddler Stud, Kentford

Archaeological Evaluation and Topographic Survey

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Summary

Archaeological evaluation trenches and topographic survey were carried out from 17/06/2013 to 21/06/2013 at Meddler Stud Kentford (centred Grid Ref: TL 706 666). The works consisted of seven trenches (three at 20 meters long and four at 30 meters long) and a topographic survey of earthworks present in one paddock. The development was sub-divided into seven areas A-G relating to each paddock with, with one exception (Area B), at least one trench excavated within each area (see Figure 2). The works revealed two post-medieval ditches, a series of undated tree boles and a spread of alluvial material containing prehistoric flint and pottery. There was little evidence for ploughing and most trenches contained struck prehistoric flint from subsoil deposits.

The earthworks consisted of seven or eight parallel banks running northeast to southwest with level areas to the south of the banks. These were of varying heights and widths and were confined to one paddock at the south of the proposed development area (Area C). A topographic survey was carried out over the whole paddock and a digital surface model (DSM) map produced. The earthworks are thought to be terracing, probably of a post medieval date.
1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

1.1.1 An archaeological evaluation was conducted at Meddler Stud, Kentford to the south of Bury Road (Grid ref. centred on TL 706 666).

1.1.2 This archaeological Topographic Survey and Trial Trench Evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Jess Tipper of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS), in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by URS (2013), supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East (Aileen Connor 2013).

1.1.3 The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in National Planning Policy Framework (Department for Communities and Local Government March 2012). The results will enable decisions to be made by SCCAS, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.

1.1.4 The application site has been divided into seven Areas (A-G) for the purposes of the investigations.

1.1.5 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

1.2 Geology and topography

1.2.1 The proposed development area is located at between 27.75m OD and 30.33m OD, to the south of Bury Road and is on a moderately rising slope southwards.

1.2.2 The underlying solid geology is characterised by Cretaceous chalk of the Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation and New Pit Chalk formation which is overlain by a mixture of superficial deposits which in the northwest corner comprise alluvial clay, silt, sands and gravel of the River Kennett; and across the central and eastern side comprise the Quaternary sand and gravel River Terrace Deposits of the 2nd and 4th Terraces respectively. The River Terrace Deposits also contain localised lenses of silt, clay or peat (www.bgs.ac.uk/lexicon/lexicon).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 Much of the following is taken from the Suffolk Historic Environment Records (SHER), Flitcroft (2012) and the heritage desk-based assessment (URS 2012).

Prehistoric

1.3.2 The earliest evidence of prehistoric activity comes from the 19th century sand quarry, where significant numbers of Acheulean hand axes and interglacial mammal remains were found (KTD 006). This is located approximately 1km to the north east. Further palaeolithic material has been reported from other pit workings to the north and north-
west. Wymer (1996, 80) lists 102 handaxes, 2 roughouts, 39 retouched flakes, 17 flakes, 3 misc. and 2 Levallois flakes from this site, dispersed among 11 museums.

1.3.3 Further prehistoric remains are represented by a number of Neolithic and Bronze Age sites. A large polished axe was recorded 570m east of the proposed development (KTD 008). Other flint finds including 11 Neolithic flint axes 'come from Kentford'.

1.3.4 A significant assemblage of struck flint and Neolithic and Bronze Age occupation evidence have been found to the east of Kentford at Moulton paddocks (MUN038) and Moulton gallops (Mun 039, Bush 2011).

1.3.5 Recent excavations 220m to the east at Gazeley Road uncovered Neolithic and Bronze Age finds in colluvial and alluvial deposits (Haskins 2013).

1.3.6 Bronze Age sites are represented by a number of sites around Kentford. A group of bowl barrows are located 870m east of the site (GAZ 002, 003, and 008). Further Bronze Age barrows are recorded to the north-east (KTD 001, 002). Finally two more barrows were located 420m east of the development area (KTD 003, 004) and were archaeologically excavated prior to quarrying (Martin, 1975).

Iron Age and Roman

1.3.7 There is little evidence for later prehistoric activity around Kentford. No sites or monuments of Iron Age date have been found although Iron Age activity was identified at Moulton paddocks further east of the development site. The route of the Icknield Way is known to pass through Kentford but is believed to be the present Bury Road (B1506).

1.3.8 During Roman occupation the Icknield Way remained in use and was straightened and formalised as a Roman road (Keith Briggs 2013; identified as Margary's route 333).

1.3.9 Little is known about the settlement pattern in the local area, although evidence of settlement in the later prehistoric period is forthcoming from other areas in Suffolk. Activity closer to the application site is characterised by scatters of unstratified prehistoric flintwork (URS 2012).

Saxon and Medieval

1.3.10 There is no known Saxon occupation within the immediate area of the development area. However, recent evaluation work to the north side of the village has identified at least one early Saxon sunken featured building (Jess Tipper pers. comm.).

1.3.11 In the medieval period Kentford village developed from a linear settlement along the route between Newmarket and Bury St Edmunds following the line of the Roman Icknield Way. The core of the medieval village contains the 14th century church of St Mary the Virgin, and evidence for the medieval village is recorded approximately 60m to the north of the application site where cropmarks identified on an aerial photograph have been interpreted as representing medieval house plots and gardens (URS 2012).

1.3.12 Three further sites are identified on the Suffolk HER, remains of the former packhorse bridge over the river Kennett (KTD 012), a possible former hollow way (KTD 010) and Earthwork remains of possible house plots and gardens (KTD 007).

1.3.13 Archaeological trenching at Clifton Lodge, to the north of the site, uncovered a single sherd of medieval pottery attributed to manuring practices and recorded no evidence for the medieval settlement (KTD 015, Gill 2007).
Post-medieval and modern

1.3.14 Throughout the post-medieval period, Kentford remained a small farming community with development confined to the core of the historic village with a scatter of houses and farms being located along the Bury Road; and with open fields to the south and Kentford Heath to the north (URS 2012).

1.3.15 The parish was enclosed by Act of Parliament in 1827. At this time the existing field pattern and layout of the application site was established. The enclosure map (Figure 1) shows the application site divided into eight principal land parcels which were divided between two landowners. Archaeological evidence for the post-medieval period is largely confined to surviving buildings and elements of the historic field pattern that survive within the village and its surroundings (URS 2012).

1.3.16 Historic Ordnance Survey mapping shows that the pattern of fields and paddocks across the western side of the application site had been established by 1903. On the eastern side the only addition to the early 20th century layout appears to be a path that is shown crossing the north-east corner of the field. The 1958 Ordnance Survey map shows the same pattern of fields that survives until the current day with only minor subdivision to create paddocks (URS 2012).

Geophysical survey

1.3.17 Geophysical survey of the proposed development site was carried out in January 2013. See Figure 4 for overall geophysics plan, and see Stratascan 2013 for full report with interpretations.

1.4 Acknowledgements

1.4.1 The author would like to thank Andrew Copp and Iain Williamson of URS for commissioning, and Meddler Properties Ltd and Agora Developments Ltd for funding the evaluation work. The author would also like to thank Jess Tipper of Suffolk County Council for monitoring the works and Richard Mortimer of Oxford Archaeology East for managing the project.

1.4.2 Further thanks should go to Stuart Ladd for survey work, undertaking the earthwork survey and producing the illustrations and John Diffey and Lindsey Kemp for their hard work on site.
2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

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

2.1.2 The objective of the topographic survey was, in accordance with the WSI (URS 2013), to record the shape, form and character of a number of linear earthwork features that represent the remains of past cultivation systems or land boundaries, assess the relationship of the linear earthworks to other topographic features and to the general ground form and to the results of the trial trench evaluation work or any future detailed excavation, should that be required; and to preserve by record linear earthworks that would be damaged or destroyed by trial trench evaluation, detailed excavation or by the proposed development at the application site.

2.2 Methodology

Trial Trenching

2.2.1 The application site has been divided into seven Areas (A-G) for the purposes of the investigations. The areas are shown on Figures 1 and 2. Archaeological trial trenching is proposed in each of the seven locations at the application site in order to evaluate the results of the geophysical survey (Stratascan 2013, Figure 4). This is in order to test probable and possible archaeological anomalies that have been detected, areas that appear to be archaeologically sterile (blank), or where geophysical survey has indicated that other anomalies could be masking potential archaeological remains.

2.2.2 Eight initial archaeological trial trenches were agreed at locations indicated on the accompanying Figure 2 (trenches 4, 14, 24, 26, 29, 31, 34 and 36). After a walkover of the site the trench plan was refined and reduced to seven trenches (4, 24, 26, 29, 31, 34 and 36) with trenches 4, 24, 26, and 36 being 30m long and trenches 29, 31 and 34 being 20m long. Area B was excluded from the present evaluation due to livestock issues.

2.2.3 Machine excavation was carried out under constant archaeological supervision with a wheeled JCB-type excavator using a toothless ditching bucket.

2.2.4 The site survey was carried out by Stuart Ladd using a survey grade Leica 1200GPS with “smartnet” technology.

2.2.5 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.

2.2.6 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's pro-forma sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

2.2.7 A monolith sample was taken from alluvial deposits in Trench 34 in order to be able to assess the survivability of environmental remains and investigate the structure of the deposit, should this be required.
2.2.8 Work was carried out in generally good weather, with occasional heavy rain showers. The ground was dry and free draining.

Archaeological topographic survey

2.2.9 Archaeological topographic survey took place within Area C over an area of c.0.9ha in order to record a series of undated linear earthworks (and any other earthworks that were visible in the area) that were noted during an archaeological walkover survey. These were thought to represent the remains of earlier cultivation systems and/or terraces.

2.2.10 The survey and the presentation of the results was undertaken according to the guidelines for topographic survey set out in Metric Survey Specifications for Cultural Heritage (English Heritage 2009).

2.2.11 The topographic survey comprised a contour survey, to allow a digital surface model (DSM), to be constructed for Area C. The topographic data has been utilised as a platform from which to generate a series of hachure plans of all the earthworks. These are supplemented by a series of profiles at selected locations across each feature to record their shape in relation to the adjacent ground form.

2.2.12 The topographical survey was produced using the GPS, set to autolog at specific intervals. Along the earthwork features the distribution of measured points was no greater than 5m and elsewhere where detail was sparse no greater than 10m. The survey is precise to +/- 10mm.

2.2.13 All co-ordinate and level values generated are expressed in the order of easting (X), northing (Y) and height (Z). All levels refer to Ordnance Datum. Additional detail will be represented where appropriate and necessary to meet the objectives of the survey.

2.2.14 A photographic record has been made of the site using a 10 megapixel digital camera.
3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 A total of seven trenches were excavated within the seven Areas (A-G). These compromised of one 30m by 1.8m trench in Area A, two 30m by 1.8m trenches in Area C, one 20m by 1.8m trench in Areas D, E and F and one 30m by 1.8m trench in Area G. The 30m by 1.8m trench in Area B could not be excavated due to livestock issues.

3.1.2 Trenches are presented below by Area

3.2 Area A

Area A is a large rectangular paddock with one trench located within it (Trench 4). It slopes gently upwards from west to east (Fig.3a).

Trench 4

3.2.1 Trench 4 was 30m long and 1.8m wide located on the south of the paddock running north-east to south-west. The trench was excavated through 0.32m of topsoil (19) and 0.2m of subsoil (20) to a mixed natural of degraded chalk, gravel and sand. Geological features were seen running north-west to south-east at the south-west end of the trench and a colluvial layer was present at the north-east end (see Figure 3a).

3.2.2 One 1m by 1m test pit was excavated through the colluvium and two layers were recorded (22) and (42). Layer (22) was light orange sand, 0.32m deep and extended 13.2m from the north-east end of the trench. This layer contained two struck flint blades at the top of the fill. Layer (42) was a pale yellow grey sandy chalk and 0.12m deep and contained no finds.

3.3 Area C

Area C is an elongated paddock at the south of the development area with two excavated trenches (24 and 26) (see Fig.3c). It slopes relatively steeply up from north to south and contained multiple earthwork banks running north-west to south-east. The trenches were excavated through the earthworks to the underlaying natural geology. The earthworks themselves are discussed separately below in 3.3.7.

Trench 24

3.3.1 Trench 24 was 30m long and 1.8m wide located at the north of the paddock running north-west to south-east. The trench was excavated through 0.25m of topsoil (50) variable depths (0.35m maximum) of made ground (49) and variable depths (0.35m maximum) of subsoil (48) to a degraded chalk natural. Multiple geological features could be seen aligned north-east to south-west and two cut features were identified, ditch (44) and possible posthole (46) (see Figure 3c).

3.3.2 Ditch (44) was linear in plan measuring 2.20m in width and 0.46m in depth. It was aligned north-east to south-west with concave sides and base and contained one fill (45). The single fill (45) was light grey-brown silty sand with frequent chalk lumps and flecks, occasional charcoal and ceramic building material (CBM) flecks and fragments. The excavated section of fill 45 contained one piece of yellow brick dating the feature to the Post-Medieval period (see Table 4, B3 Other Finds). This ditch appears to enclose the earthworks seen in area C and can be traced around the eastern and southern edges of the paddock.
3.3.3 Possible posthole (46) measured 0.49m in diameter and was 0.17m deep. The feature was circular in plan with slightly concave sides and a flat base and contained one fill (47). The fill (47) was a mid grey sandy silt with occasional chalk and charcoal flecks and contained no finds. This undated posthole may be related to the division of the earthworks seen in area C.

Trench 26

3.3.4 Trench 26 was 30m long and 1.8m wide located at the south of the paddock running north-west to south-east. The trench was excavated through 0.25m of topsoil (58) variable depths (to 0.4m maximum) of made ground (57) and variable depths (to 0.32m maximum) of subsoil (56) to a degraded chalk natural. Multiple geological features were recorded aligned north-east to south-west and two potential cut features were identified, gully (52) and possible posthole (54) (see Figure 3c).

3.3.5 Gully (52) was linear in plan measuring 1.2m in length, 0.44m in with and was just 0.06m deep, terminating within the Trench to the east. The feature was aligned north-east to south-west with concave sides and a flat base and contained one fill (53). Fill (53) was a light brown-grey silty sand with frequent chalk flecks and occasional charcoal flecks but contained no other finds. It may have been created by animal disturbance or rooting due to the shallow nature of the feature and the colour of the fill.

3.3.6 Possible posthole (54) measured 0.28m in diameter and was 0.09m deep. The feature was circular in plan with concave sides and base and contained one fill (55). The fill (55) was a mid red brown silty sand with frequent small rounded flint and frequent charcoal flecks and contained no finds. This undated posthole may be related to the division of the earthworks seen in Area C.

Earthworks

3.3.7 The principal earthwork features recorded were seven, slight, parallel banks aligned north-east to south-west with flat or gently sloping areas to the south of each bank creating a series of terraces (see Plates 4, 5 & 6). At the western ends of some of the banks slight returns were recorded, running north-west to south-east, which enclosed the flat terraced areas. These returns are visible on the ground and are represented on the hachure survey plan (Fig.6) better than on the topographic or contour survey plans (Fig.5). There are no such returns at the eastern side of the banks, perhaps suggesting that they were only required on the downslope side of the terraces. At this eastern side the banks and terraces can be seen to stop at the field boundary.

3.3.8 The gap between each bank - the width of each terrace - varies considerably, from around 7m up to 33m. They appear to have been set out in relation to the contours of the area with more frequent banks in steeper areas, fewer on more gentle slopes (see Fig.5).

3.3.9 Excavated examples of these terrace/banks were seen in Trenches 24 and 26. In Trench 24 three banks were excavated and in Trench 26 two banks were excavated. The banks are constructed of, or comprise, a mix of topsoil and subsoil creating 'made ground' areas such as contexts (49) in Trench 24 and (57) in Trench 26. A roughly uniform layer of topsoil ((50) in Trench 24 and (58) in Trench 26) overlap both the banks and the terraces suggesting that at least some of the topsoil may have been brought in to help create the terraces. One piece of 19th C clay pipe was recovered from layer (49) in Trench 24 (see Table 4, B3 Other Finds).

3.3.10 The ditch recorded at the northern end of Trench 24 (44) (Fig.7, Section 12) can be traced as a south-west to north-east aligned earthwork along the northern limit of the
terraces, and another ditch, slight terrace, or field boundary runs perpendicular to this to the north-west. The trackway/hollow way that runs along the western edge of the earthworks was in use until recent times and it is possible that it has encroached slightly on the earthworks, particularly at their southern end.

3.4 Area D

3.4.1 Area D is a small paddock which has been used as a manure store. This caused significant problems when excavating in wet weather with a wheeled machine due to the compaction of the surface. One trench (Trench 29) was excavated roughly in the centre on the paddock.

Trench 29

3.4.2 Trench 29 was 20m long and 1.8m wide located in the centre on the paddock and aligned north-east to south-west. The trench was excavated through 0.20m of topsoil (1) and 0.2m of subsoil (2) to a mixed natural of degraded chalk, gravel and sand natural. The Trench contained very coarse flint gravel and large flint nodules throughout the subsoil (2) and into the natural gravel terrace. This trench appeared to show undisturbed natural accumulation/growth of soils from the terrace gravels through subsoil (2) and into the topsoil (1). Four features were identified (4), (7) and (9) which were geological and (11) which was a possible posthole (see Figure 3b).

3.4.3 Features (4), (7) and (9) were roughly circular features 0.50-0.80m in diameter with varying depths. These are all though to be of a geological origin and contained sparse struck flint at the subsoil /feature’ interface.

3.4.4 Possible posthole (11) measured 0.4m in diameter and had a depth of 0.12m. The feature was circular in plan with concave sides and base and contained one fill (12). Fill (12) was a dark grey silty sand with occasional small flint inclusions. The fill contained sparse struck flint at the interface between fill and subsoil (2). Due to the depth and fill of this feature it is more likely rooting than a posthole.

3.5 Area E

3.5.1 Area E is a small paddock which has been used as pasture. It is relatively flat ground leading to the river Kennet to the west. One trench (Trench 31) was excavated, roughly in the centre of the paddock.

Trench 31

3.5.2 Trench 31 was 20m long and 1.8m wide located in the centre on the paddock and aligned north-east to south-west. The trench was excavated through 0.33m of topsoil (23) and 0.21m of subsoil (24) to a mixed natural of degraded chalk, gravel and sand. The Trench contained linear geological features (36) and (40) and irregular geological features (26), (28), (30), (32) and (34). Some features contained very sparse struck flint at the interface with the subsoil (24) (see Figure 3b).

3.6 Area F

3.6.1 Area F is a small paddock which has been used as pasture. It is relatively flat ground leading to the river Kennet to the west. One trench (Trench 34) was excavated roughly
at the centre of the paddock.

_Trench 34_

3.6.2 Trench 34 was 20m long and 1.8m wide located in the centre on the paddock and aligned north-east to south-west. The trench was excavated through 0.26m of topsoil (69) and 0.32m of subsoil (60) to a mixed natural of degraded chalk and flint. The western 18m of the trench comprised alluvial layers (61), (62), (63) and (70) which contained frequent struck flint and occasional pottery fragments. Three test pits were excavated within the layers to determine depth and finds densities. An augered borehole was excavated at the base of test pit 3 to determine the depth of the deposits (see Fig.8). One other feature (65) was present which was a possible tree throw (see Fig.3b).

3.6.3 At the bottom of the sequence was layer (70), a white chalky tumble. This is thought to relate to the natural chalk and flint seam to the north-east visible within the trench. No finds were present within this deposit and it occupies a similar location within the sequence as layer (64) in test pit 3 (see Fig.8).

3.6.4 Alluvial layer (63) was a light grey-brown fine silty sand and was a maximum of 0.22m thick and extended for 6.0m within Trench 34. This layer was below layer (62) and above layer (70). It contained sparse struck flint mostly of Mesolithic and early Neolithic date.

3.6.5 Alluvial layer (62) was a light grey-yellow sandy clay and was a maximum of 0.55m in depth. This layer was below (61) and contained sparse struck flint of Mesolithic and early Neolithic dates.

3.6.6 Alluvial layer (61) was a mid brown silty sand with occasional small flint inclusion. It extended 14.5m from the south-west end of the trench and was a maximum of 0.34m thick. It was above layer (62) and below the subsoil (60). The layer contained a substantial amount of struck flint, ranging from the late Mesolithic to the Early Iron Age in date, as well as a single sherd of Iron age pottery. The most notable find within this layer was a late Mesolithic to early Neolithic transverse axe (see Appendix B1). The broad range of dates for the material found within this deposit indicates that this area saw prolonged use throughout prehistory and that the deposit was slowly being built up while the area was in use (See Figure 8).

3.6.7 Tree hole (65) measured 0.50m in length, 0.44m in width and was 0.26m deep. The feature was sub circular in plan, had concave sides and base and contained one fill (66). Fill (66) was mid red brown fine sand and struck flint mostly of Mesolithic and early Neolithic dates was present. This is most likely a tree hole due to size, form and fill of the feature.

3.7 _Area G_

3.7.1 Area G is a small grass area in the centre of the proposed development. It has a raised platform to the East associated with a modern tennis court. One trench (Trench 36) was excavated roughly in the centre of the area.
Trench 36

3.7.2 Trench 36 was 30m long and 1.8m wide, located in the centre on the area and aligned roughly east to west. The trench was excavated through 0.54m of topsoil/made-ground (13) and 0.12m of subsoil (14) to a mixed natural of degraded chalk, gravel and sand natural. The trench was excavated through the made-ground and contained layer (16) associated with the tennis court construction, surfaces (17) and (18) associated with a Post-Medieval track-way or chalk surface and ditch (67). A small area 5.50m from the west end of the trench was not excavated due to the presence of live services (see Figure 3c).

3.7.3 Layer (16) was a mid orange-brown silty sand with occasional small flint inclusion. It extended 8.50m from the east end of the trench and was a relatively even 0.44m thick. The deposit contained late post-medieval pottery fragments. This layer appears to represent part of the make-up for the tennis court still extant, but now abandoned, in this area.

3.7.4 Surface (17) was a white crushed chalk layer with occasional CBM and charcoal flecks. This surface lay above the subsoil (14) and below a pea grit surface (18). This surface may form a track crossing the area or a yard surface. It is interpreted as of modern date due to alignment and and position in the sequence.

3.7.5 Surface (18) was a layer of pea grit in a dark brown silt matrix above surface (17).

3.7.6 Ditch (67) was linear in plan measuring 2.75m in width and 0.42m in depth. It was aligned north-west to south-east with irregular sides and base and contained two fills (68) and (69). The basal fill (68) was dark brown silt with occasional large flint inclusions and occasional CBM flecks. The fill contained Post-Medieval tile and CBM and was 0.42m in depth. The top fill (69) was a pale brown chalky silt with frequent large chalk lumps and was 0.21m in depth. The fill contained no datable finds.

3.8 Finds Summary

3.8.1 The most notable finds were from Trench 34 and the associated alluvial layers (61), (62) and (63). The finds consist of 101 struck flints from a broad prehistoric age range, dating from the late Mesolithic to early Iron Age and included a late Mesolithic transverse axe. A single sherd of Iron Age pottery was also recovered. Struck flint was present in most trenches and can be seen from the interface between the subsoil and natural and on the surface of the ‘softer’ geological features. Other finds were sparse with CBM and other Post-Medieval material from cut features (67) and (44) and one piece of clay pipe form the made-ground (49) associated with the earthworks in Area C.

3.9 Environmental Summary

3.9.1 One monolith sample was taken of layer (61) sample number 1. This was to identify the potential for environmental remains and/or deposit structure within the layer.

3.10 Topographic Survey Summary

3.10.1 The topographic survey was conducted as stated in the methodologies. The results can be seen in Figures 5, 6 and 7 (and see Plates 4, 5 & 6). As well as the principal south-west to north-east banks and accompanying terraces the survey identified evidence for returns at their western ends, a possible hollow-way associated with the trackway that
runs along the west of the terraces, a ditch which defines their northern limit and a ditch or field boundary to the north (see Figs.5&6).
4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Alluvial deposits
4.1.1 Alluvial deposits made up a majority of non geological material seen within Trench 34 and contained the largest finds concentration. The finds from Trench 34 suggest that the area was utilised for both flint collection and working and its proximity to the river Kennet would point to collection of raw materials from river erosion of natural flint deposits within the surrounding chalk.

4.2 Prehistoric
4.2.1 The site contained a small assemblage of prehistoric material including pottery and flint. The location of the material within the alluvium and the upper fills of the geological features suggests that the Mesolithic, earlier Neolithic and earlier Bronze Age activity was occurring on site during the formation of the colluvium, subsoil and alluvium.

4.2.2 The prehistoric finds demonstrate that this area witnessed extensive and probably quite intensive activity throughout the prehistoric period. Occupation here was no doubt encouraged by the fertile river gravel terraces located near the junction of the chalk uplands and the lower lying Fenland margins, with the easy availability of good quality lithic materials supporting a seemingly prodigious use of worked flint (Bishop 2013).

4.3 Earthworks
4.3.1 The earthworks in Area C form irregular terraces and the combination of trenching and topographic survey has shown the full extent of these features (see Figs 5 & 6 and Plates 4, 5 & 6). They are confined to a single paddock (Area C), were formed by the banking of material on the downward slope and to have, or to have had, returns along their western sides enclosing the terraced area. They were enclosed or demarcated by a ditch (44) at the north, excavated in Trench 24. A clay pipe bowl recovered from within the made-ground that formed the banks may date these earthworks although this may not be seen as conclusive.

4.4 Medieval and Post-Medieval
4.4.1 There was no evidence for any medieval features or material within the area, with the exception of two greyware pottery sherds. Due to its proximity to the known medieval settlement (only 500m away) the lack of finds may indicate that this area may have been sparsely used or would perhaps have been grazing land throughout the medieval period. Post-Medieval evidence consisted of two ditches (44) and (67) and a modern tennis court in Area G.

4.5 Geophysical anomalies
4.5.1 During the trenching the geophysical anomalies reported by Stratascan (2013) where exposed in all trenches. The majority of these anomalies correspond to areas of sand and gravel within the solid chalk natural and have been confirmed as being of geological, probably periglacial, origin. These aside, the principal features recorded by geophysics were the terrace banks in Area C.
4.6 Significance

4.6.1 The site is of interest in furthering our understanding of the use of the early prehistoric landscape and how the River Kennet may have been utilised as a source of raw materials. The earthworks are known to be rare in the archaeological record for this area, and what dating evidence there is may point to a post-medieval construction date, possibly early in the nineteenth century.

4.7 Recommendations

4.7.1 Recommendations for any future work based upon this report will be made by the County Archaeology Office.
## APPENDIX A. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS AND CONTEXT INVENTORY

### Trench 4

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<th>General description</th>
<th>Orientation</th>
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### Trench 26

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### Trench 29

**General description**

Trench consists of topsoil and subsoil overlying a natural of gravel terrace. Many geological features and one possible Posthole.

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**Orientation**

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**Trench 31**

**General description**

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**Trench 34**

**General description**

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Trench 36

General description
Trench consisted of made-ground/ topsoil and subsoil overlying a mixed chalk and gravel natural. The trench contained one ditch, a made ground layer and a surface all of Post-Medieval date.

Orientation ENE-WSW
Avg. depth (m) 0.7
Width (m) 1.8
Length (m) 30

Contexts

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<tr>
<td>67</td>
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<td>2.75</td>
<td>0.42</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>68</td>
<td>Fill</td>
<td>2.75</td>
<td>0.42</td>
<td>Fill of Ditch</td>
<td>Flint, CBM, Slate</td>
<td>Modern</td>
</tr>
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<td>69</td>
<td>Fill</td>
<td>0.98</td>
<td>0.21</td>
<td>Fill of Ditch</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

APPENDIX B. FINDS REPORTS

B.1 Lithics

By Barry Bishop

Introduction

B.1.1 A Field Evaluation at the above site recovered 135 struck flints and just under 200g of unworked burnt flint fragments, predominantly from the fills of a palaeochannel. The material has been fully catalogued which includes details of raw materials, condition and suggested dating of individual pieces (Appendix L01). Further descriptive and metrical details of all retouched pieces are provided in Appendix L02 and for all complete cores in Appendix L03; these should be referred to in conjunction with reading this text. The report briefly describes the characteristics of each of the industries present and discusses the archaeological significance of the material, including its potential to contribute to the further understanding of the nature and chronology of the activities identified during the project. It also recommends any further work required for
the material to achieve its full research potential. Metrical information follows the methodology established by Saville (1980).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Context</th>
<th>Decortication Flake</th>
<th>Core modification / shaping flake</th>
<th>Chip</th>
<th>Flake</th>
<th>Prismatic Blade</th>
<th>Non-prismatic blade</th>
<th>Flake Fragment</th>
<th>Cor e</th>
<th>Conchoidal Chunk</th>
<th>Retouched Axe/Adze</th>
<th>Context Total</th>
<th>Burnt Flint (no.)</th>
<th>Burnt Flint (wt:gr)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>135</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Struck</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>28.9</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>9.6</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>14.8</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Quantification of Lithic Material by Context

**Burnt Stone**

B.1.2 A small quantity of burnt stone, all consisting of flint, was recovered from four contexts. It had been burnt to variable degrees as would be consistent with having been in close contact with a hearth. No concentrations that could indicate the deliberate production of burnt stone were noted.

**Struck Flint Raw Materials**

B.1.3 The raw materials used to manufacture the struck assemblage consist of translucent black and mottled translucent black/opaque grey fine-grained flint with a few flakes of translucent brown flint also present. Where retained, cortex is often rough but weathered and ancient thermal surfaces are frequently present. A few pieces have a very thick cortex comparable to the floorstone mined at Grime’s Graves. Many of these also retain thermal scars and there is no convincing evidence that mined flint was used. However, the site lies less than 1km north of outcrops of the Brandon Flint Member, a series of prolific and good knapping-quality flint seams that also include the Grime’s Graves’ floorstone. Eroded and mass weathered remnants of these can be found in abundance as surface deposits in the vicinity, and it seems likely that these provided all of the raw materials.
**Condition**

B.1.4 The condition of the assemblage is mostly good with many sharp pieces present. Perhaps not surprisingly, there is an overall tendency for the older pieces to be more likely to have experienced some edge damage and a few pieces also show evidence of heavier chipping and even rolling. The extent of the edge damage means that positively identifying deliberate light edge retouching or use-wear is often difficult.

**Technology and Dating**

B.1.5 Both the typological composition of the struck flint and its technological attributes indicate that it was manufactured over a long period. The overall assemblage cannot be chronologically separated by context and therefore all identifications have to rely on the intrinsic attributes of each piece. This means that in many cases only broad distinctions can be made. Nevertheless, it is possible to propose a chronological framework as discussed below.

**Mesolithic / Early Neolithic**

B.1.6 The earliest activity represented by the struck flint can be dated to the Mesolithic period as confirmed by the presence of a chronologically diagnostic microlith from context [05] and a transverse axe from context [61]. Also a single platform blade core recovered from context [16] is likely to be of Mesolithic date. A further blade core recovered from context [61], along with a number of blades, many of them prismatic, a cortically backed knife from context [66] and an awl-type piercer from context [05], can be dated more broadly to either the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic periods.

**Later Neolithic / Early Bronze Age**

B.1.7 A significant proportion of the assemblage comprises competently produced thin flakes with narrow and carefully edge trimmed striking platforms. They have been skilfully produced but are not the result of systematic reduction strategies. Although not easily defined or closely dateable, they are most characteristic of Later Neolithic or Early Bronze Age flintworking techniques. No cores can be confidently associated with this period but one of the edge retouched flakes, from context [66], has been finely ground on its ventral surface, smoothing and reducing its ripple marks and possibly its bulb of percussion, although its proximal end is missing. The grinding of ventral faces is a very unusual trait of which the only known comparable example is an edge retouched flake from a Later Neolithic assemblage recovered at Clay Farm near Cambridge (Bishop forthcoming). The grinding and polishing of stone tools is almost entirely confined to the large bifacial implements of the Neolithic period. In the Later Neolithic a small number of other implements, mainly knives but occasionally scrapers, were also polished along their working edges (e.g. Manby 1974), and it is probably within this tradition that the implement here should be placed. With both the flake here and the example from Clay Farm, the grinding is unlikely to have have added any functional advantages, but it may have lent the tools other, less tangible, qualities.
**Later Prehistoric**

B.1.8 A significant and probably the largest proportion of the struck flint assemblage can be dated to the later prehistoric period, from the latter parts of the second or the first millennium BC (Herne 1991; Young and Humphrey 1999; Humphrey 2003; McLaren 2009) (Table L02).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Decortication Flake</th>
<th>Core modification / shaping flake</th>
<th>Chip</th>
<th>Flake</th>
<th>Prismatic Blade</th>
<th>Non-prismatic blade</th>
<th>Flake Fragment</th>
<th>Core</th>
<th>Conchoidal Chunk</th>
<th>Retouched</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>32.8</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>15.5</td>
<td>13.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 2: Quantification of Later prehistoric Struck Flint*

This later prehistoric collection is dominated by large but short and usually thick flakes. They characteristically have wide, unmodified and markedly obtuse striking platforms, being comparable to Martingell’s ‘squat flakes’ (Martingell 1990). This assemblage also includes a high proportion of cores and most of the conchoidally fractured chunks are also likely to represent later prehistoric cores that disintegrated due to internal thermal flaws during reduction. The complete cores are irregularly shaped and cursorily worked, with flakes mostly removed from numerous and seemingly random directions, using any surface deemed appropriate including cortical surfaces and unmodified striking platforms. Retouched pieces belonging to this period also form a high proportion of the assemblage and these include an unflaked angular chunk of flint that appears to have been primarily worked for used as a tool. Few ‘formal’ tools types are present amongst this material; most pieces have been simply and usually sporadically retouched along their edges, sometimes inversely, either to produce steep edged implements comparable to scrapers or to strengthen sharp edges for use as cutting tools. A number of other flakes also have edge damage consistent with such use, although their general condition precludes unequivocal identification of such use. Interestingly, several pieces, including flakes, cores and retouched implements, appear to have been made using much earlier, recorticated, struck pieces, despite the abundance of flint raw materials in the vicinity.

**Significance**

B.1.9 The assemblage indicates prehistoric flint-using activities occurring at the site over a long period, from the Mesolithic through to at least the later Bronze Age and perhaps into the Iron Age. The nature of the earlier occupations here is ill-defined but clearly included core reduction and tool use, including the use of microliths and a transverse axe during the Mesolithic period.

During the later prehistoric periods, flintworking tends to be casual and opportunistic, with discarded struck pieces being recovered in small quantities scattered around settlements and field-systems. The high proportion of cores here shows that the use of flint implements remained an important concern and the retouched implements suggest the undertaking of craft or domestic activities. The assemblage complements the similar
material recently recovered close by at Glazeley Road, which also contained Mesolithic / Early Neolithic and Later Neolithic / Early Bronze Age pieces, but which was otherwise dominated by later prehistoric flintwork (Bishop 2013).

Neither this nor the Glazeley Road struck flint assemblages can be considered as particularly large, but given the size of the areas excavated they do demonstrate that this area witnessed extensive and probably quite intensive activity throughout the prehistoric period. Occupation here was no doubt encouraged by the fertile river gravel terraces located near the junction of the chalk uplands and the lower lying Fenland margins, with the easy availability of good quality lithic materials supporting a seemingly prodigious use of worked flint.

Recommendations

B.1.10 The assemblage is of significance in that it demonstrates flintworking occurring at the site during the Mesolithic, the Later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age and, perhaps more significantly, indicates a more sustained phase of flintworking and deposition at the site during the later second or first millennium BC. It is likely that the evidence recovered represents a small part of a much more extensively used landscape. It is therefore recommended that a brief description of the flintwork should be submitted to the local Historic Environment Record and an account summarising this report and incorporating the finding from Glazeley Road should be compiled and included in any published account of the investigations, alongside illustrations of the more diagnostic or unusual pieces.

B.2 Pottery

By Matt Brudenell and Richard Mortimer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Context</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Trench</th>
<th>Fabric etc</th>
<th>Weight (g)</th>
<th>Pottery date</th>
<th>Context date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Subsoil</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Fingertip decorated shoulder sherd, fine hard light grey fabric, sand and very occasional rounded flint temper</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Medieval (12th/13th C)</td>
<td>20th C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Subsoil/Make up</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Two fragments of red earthenware ‘flowerpot’</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Modern</td>
<td>20th C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Earthwork</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Body sherd, coarse sand-tempered greyware</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Medieval (12th/13th C)</td>
<td>19th C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Earthwork</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Body sherd of red earthenware ‘flowerpot’</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Modern</td>
<td>19th C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Topsoil</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Body sherd, hard black fabric, pale brown outer surface, sand and occasional grog temper</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Middle Iron Age</td>
<td>Modern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Topsoil</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Body sherd, fine sand-tempered greyware</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Medieval (12th/13th C)</td>
<td>Modern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>Surface find</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Rim and shoulder sherd, grey-brown fabric with frequent fine flint and occasional grog temper</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>Middle Iron Age</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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</table>

Table 3: Pottery Catalogue
### B.3 Other Finds

*By Richard Mortimer*

<table>
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<th>Weight</th>
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<th>Context Date</th>
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<td>35</td>
<td>Surface find in 34</td>
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<td>Three pieces of daub/ Fired clay</td>
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<td>?</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Ditch 44</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>One fragment of yellow brick</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Post-Medieval (19th C)</td>
<td>19th C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Earthwork construction</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Clay Pipe</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Post-Medieval (19th C)</td>
<td>19th C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>Surface find</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Three pieces of animal bone</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68</td>
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<td>Three pieces of CBM</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>Post-Medieval (19th C)</td>
<td>19th C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68</td>
<td>Ditch 67</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>One piece of concrete</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>Modern</td>
<td>19th C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68</td>
<td>Ditch 67</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>One piece of slate</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Post-Medieval (19th C)</td>
<td>19th C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 4: Ceramic and other finds Catalogue*
APPENDIX C. BIBLIOGRAPHY


Flitcroft, M. (2012) Archaeological Statement: Land East of Gazeley Road, Kentford, Suffolk CgMS Unpublished report MF/14707/1


Martingell, H. 1990 The East Anglian Peculiar? The 'Squat' Flake. Lithics 11, 40-43


URS 2013, Meddler Stud, Kentford, Specification for Geophysical Survey for Meddler Properties Ltd and Agora Developments Ltd


APPENDIX D. WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION
Method Statement for Archaeological Evaluation

Oxford Archaeology Ltd is an Institute of Field Archaeologists Registered Organisation and follows IFA By-Laws, Standards and Policy.

Site Name: Meddler Stud, Kentford
Site Code: KTD020
County (Grid Ref): Suffolk 570618, 266619

Project No.: 15595
Project Type: Evaluation and Topographic Survey
Event No.: KTD020
Planning App. No.: Pre-Planning
Client: URS on behalf of Meddler Properties Ltd and Agora Developments Ltd
Date: 13/06/13
Author: Aileen Connor

1 General Background

1.1 Circumstances of the Project

Oxford Archaeology East (OAE) has been commissioned by URS on behalf of their clients to undertake an archaeological Topographic Survey (Stage 3) and Trial Tench Evaluation (Stage 4) in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by URS (2013) in response to a Brief and consultation with Jess Tipper of SCCAS.

This document sets out the methods that will be used by OAE in order to meet the requirements of the WSI. This method statement conforms to the principles identified in English Heritage's guidance documents (English Heritage 2006, English Heritage 2007, English Heritage 2008, English Heritage 2011b, English Heritage 2011c); standards and guidance issued by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2008a, IfA2008b, IfA 2008c, IfA2008d, IfA 2012) and SCCAS requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation (Ver 1.3, 2011) and regional guidelines (East Anglian Archaeology 2003).
2 Archaeological Background

The archaeological and historical background is detailed in the heritage desk-based assessment (URS 2012). A summary of the results can also be found in the WSI (URS 2013). The main points are given below:

The site is located in an area of gravel terraces of the River Kennett which would have been an attractive area for human occupation from the Palaeolithic period onwards.

Archaeological evidence for the Palaeolithic period largely comprises findspots of flint tools that have been recovered from the terrace gravels. Other than scatters of unstratified prehistoric flintwork there is little evidence for the Mesolithic to Anglo-Saxon periods.

The village of Kentford developed from the medieval period as a linear settlement along the route between Newmarket and Bury St Edmunds. The core of the medieval village contains the 14th century church of St Mary the Virgin, and evidence for the medieval village is recorded approximately 60m to the north of the application site where cropmarks identified on an aerial photograph have been interpreted as representing medieval house plots and gardens.

Throughout the post-medieval period, Kentford remained a small farming community.

In 1827 the parish was enclosed and the existing field pattern and layout of the application site was established. At this time the application site was divided into eight principal land parcels.

Archaeological evidence for the post-medieval period is largely confined to surviving buildings and elements of the historic field pattern that survive within the village and its surroundings.

3 Objectives

3.1 Stage 3 Topographic Survey

In accordance with the WSI (URS 2013) the topographic survey will aim to achieve the following objectives:

- To record the shape, form and character of a number of linear earthwork features that represent the truncated remains of past cultivation systems or land boundaries;
- To assess the relationship of the linear earthworks to other topographic features and to the general ground form and to the results of the trial trench evaluation;
work or any future
detailed excavation, should that be required; and
• To preserve by record linear earthworks that would be damaged or
destroyed by trial trench
evaluation, detailed excavation or by the proposed development at the
application site.

3.2 Stage 4 Archaeological trial trench evaluation
In accordance with the WSI the trial trench evaluation will aim to
achieve the following objectives:
• To evaluate the results of the geophysical survey
• To evaluate the impact of past land uses and the potential for colluvial
/alluvial deposits masking archaeological remains;
• To determine the location, nature, extent, date, condition, state of
preservation, significance and complexity of archaeological remains at
the application site;
• To determine the likely range, quality and quantity of artefactual and
environmental evidence present;
• To inform the design of detailed archaeological mitigation, if
appropriate.

4 Methods

4.1 Previous Investigations

Documentary research has been undertaken and presented in a report
(URS 2012) in order to determine the expected archaeological
character of the site.
A geophysical Survey has been undertaken and the results presented
in a report ( )

4.2 The application site has been divided into seven areas (A-G) for the
purposes of the investigations. The areas are shown on Figure 2 of
the WSI (URS2013).

4.3 Archaeological topographic survey (Stage 3 works)
Archaeological topographic survey will take place within Area C
(c.0.9ha) in order to record a series of five undated linear earthworks
(and any other earthworks that are visible in the area) that were noted
during an archaeological walkover survey. These may represent the
truncated remains of previous, earlier cultivation systems at the
application site.
The survey and the presentation of the results will be undertaken according to the guidelines for topographic survey set out in Metric Survey Specifications for cultural Heritage (English Heritage 2009).

The topographic survey shall comprise a contour survey, to allow a digital surface model (DSM), to be constructed for Area C. The topographic data will also be utilised in the field as a platform from which to generate a series of hachure plans of all the earthworks. These will be supplemented by a series of profiles at selected locations across each feature to record their shape in relation to the adjacent ground form.

Earthwork Survey

The survey will comply with level 2 outlined in Understanding the Archaeology of Landscapes: A guide to good recording practice (English Heritage 2007) and in Guidance & Specification for Contractors Tendering For Archaeological Survey and Investigation Projects (English Heritage 2008).

The following methodology is proposed:

- The earthwork survey will encompass an area of approximately 0.9ha.
- Using a survey grade GPS1200 with “smartnet” technology hard details such as boundaries, fences, buildings etc. will be recorded. A series of control points will be established in areas of earthwork groups across the site and locations recorded using the GPS.
- A topographical survey will be produced using the GPS, set to autolog at specific intervals. Along the earthwork features the distribution of measured points will be no greater than 5m and elsewhere where detail is sparse no greater than 10m. The survey will be precise to +/- 10mm.
- Height data will be checked against the nearest Ordnance Datum, if this is accessible.
- The topographical survey data will be utilised in the field as a platform from which to undertake a hachure survey. The topographical survey will be plotted as contours at appropriate intervals on a suitable base map and checked in relation to existing ground form. Additional points may then be taken to supplement and augment the survey. Contour intervals will be assigned in order to meet the project objectives.
- All co-ordinate and level values generated shall be expressed in the order of easting (x), northing (Y) and height (Z).
- Spot heights and levels will be represented on the hachure
plan. All levels will refer to Ordnance Datum.

- Additional detail will be represented where appropriate and necessary to meet the objectives of the survey.
- A photographic record will be made of the site using a 10 megapixel digital camera. Photographs will be labelled, registered and their location marked on a plan.

The accompanying written Account will comply with English Heritage Level 3 guidelines (English Heritage 2007) to include:

- A summary of the salient features
- A detailed description of the site, including full analysis and interpretation with supporting evidence presented.
- Consideration of the topographical setting of the monument and its relationship to other sites and landscapes in the immediate vicinity.

Illustrations to accompany the written description will include:

- A diagrammatic plan showing the location and/or extent of the earthworks
- A metrically accurate site plan, at 1:1000 or 1:2500, showing the form of the site. The earthworks will be portrayed as both a hachured plan and using contours separately. The plan will be overlaid onto Ordnance Survey mapping and will be related to topographical features and to modern detail (e.g. field boundaries) in Autocad/QGIS.
- Profiles illustrating salient vertical and horizontal differences in the ground surface. Their position and orientation will be marked on the site plan.
- Photographs will include scale bar and location details.

4.5 Trial Trenching (Stage 4 Works)

4.5.1 Machine excavation

Archaeological trial trenching is proposed in each of the seven locations at the application site (Areas A to G) in order to evaluate the results of the geophysical survey (Stratascan 2013, Figure 07). This is in order to test probable and possible archaeological anomalies that have been detected, areas that appear to be archaeologically sterile (blank), or where geophysical survey has indicated that other anomalies could be masking potential archaeological remains.
Eight archaeological trial trenches will be excavated at the locations indicated on the accompanying Figure (trenches 4, 14, 24, 26, 29, 31, 34 and 36). Trenches 4, 14, 24, 26 and 36 will each be 30m x 2m at the base. Trenches 31 and 34 will be 20m x 2m at the base, Trench 29 will be 20m x 4m at the base.

The trenches will be positioned to an accuracy of ± 100mm of the specified trench location using survey-grade GPS Leica 1200 with “smartnet” technology.

Each trench will be opened under direct archaeological supervision using an appropriate mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket.

The arisings from the archaeological works will be stored adjacent to each trench (within a safe working distance) and will be separated according to material, (i.e. topsoil separated from subsoil and made ground separated from topsoil).

A Metal detector search of the trench arisings will be undertaken by an experienced metal detector user.

The excavation will proceed under direct archaeological supervision, in broadly level spits, until either the top of the first archaeological horizon or undisturbed natural deposits are encountered. If appropriate, particular attention will be paid to achieving a clean and well defined horizon with the machine. It is not anticipated that entire trenches will require hand cleaning. Under no circumstances will the machine be used to cut arbitrary trenches down to natural deposits. The surface achieved through machine excavation will be inspected for archaeological remains. The mechanical excavator will not traverse any stripped areas.

If important concentrations of artefacts, suggestive of significant activity are uncovered during machining, these will be left in-situ in the first instance, and investigated using hand tools only, if appropriate. Where required, the machined surface will be cleaned by hand to allow acceptable definition of the archaeological remains. Following cleaning, all archaeological remains will be planned, to enable the selection of features and deposits for sample excavation by the Contractor.

The trenches will be clearly demarcated with high visibility plastic barrier mesh fencing, to ensure that persons or plant cannot inadvertently traverse across the area of investigation whilst
archaeological works are in progress. The fencing will be regularly inspected and maintained until works in the area have been completed, inspected and approved by the Archaeological Consultant and the trenches backfilled.

The trenches will not be reinstated without the prior approval of the Archaeological Consultant. The trenches will only be backfilled by machine under appropriate conditions and with direct archaeological supervision.

Arisings will be returned strictly in the correct sequence and will not be compacted.

4.5.2 Hand Excavation

All features will be investigated and recorded to provide an accurate evaluation of archaeological potential whilst at the same time minimising disturbance to archaeological structures, features and deposits.

The following sampling strategies will be employed:

• Linear features: A minimum of 10% sample (each length not less than 1m long) where the depositional sequence is consistent along the length. Linear features with complex variations of fill type will be sampled sufficiently in order to understand the sequence of deposition - a minimum of 20% along the length.

Where possible one section will be located and recorded adjacent to a trench edge.

If appropriate all intersections will be investigated to determine the relationships between features. All termini will be investigated.

• Discrete features: Pits, post-holes and other isolated features will normally be half sectioned. If large pits or deposits (over 1.5m diameter) are encountered then the sample excavated will be at least 25%.

• Structures: Each structure will be sampled sufficiently to define the extent, form, stratigraphic complexity and depth of the component features and its associated deposits to achieve the objectives of the evaluation. All intersections will be investigated to determine the relationship(s) between the component features. The remains of all upstanding walls will be hand cleaned sufficient to understand their dimensions, extent, composition, sequence and relationships.

4.5.3 Recording

Records will comprise survey, drawn, written and photographic data.
The drawn record will comprise an initial plan (scale 1:50 or 1:100) for each trench. Thereafter, single context and/or excavated feature plans will be produced for all exposed and excavated features. Trenches and features will be tied in to the OS grid. Sections will be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 as appropriate. One long section of each trench will be drawn at a scale of 1:50 after all features have been excavated. All plans and sections will include spot heights relative to Ordnance Datum in metres, correct to two decimal places.

The written record will comprise context descriptions on OA East pro-forma context sheets or on pro-forma trench sheets where no archaeological features are present.

The photographic record will comprise monochrome of trenches and excavated features, and colour slides supplemented by colour and digital photographs (10 megapixel and 35mm format). All trenches will be photographed. In addition to records of archaeological features, a number of general site photographs will also be taken to give an overview of the site. Photographs will include shots suitable for displays, exhibitions and other publicity.

The perimeter of each trench and all archaeological remains within the trenches will be recorded in plan using metric survey-grade equipment (or its equivalent).

### 4.5.4 Finds

All artefacts will be collected, stored and processed in accordance with standard methodologies and national guidelines. Except for modern artefacts, all finds will be collected and retained.

'Significant finds’ and artefact scatters will be recorded three dimensionally.

An experienced metal detector user will scan features and spoil to aid the recovery of finds during the excavation.

Bulk finds will be recorded by context. It may be appropriate to consider the storage of bulk items prior to the start of the investigations.

Artefacts will be stored securely using appropriate materials and conditions, and monitored to minimise further deterioration.

The initial processing of finds (and if appropriate other samples) will be
carried out concurrently with the investigations and shall be completed shortly after completion of the investigations. The finds will be retained (according to the Collection Policy), washed, marked, bagged and logged on a MS Access together with their locations according to the National Grid (eastings, northings) and if appropriate Ordnance Datum (height), accurate to 2 decimal places.

Where appropriate each category of find or each material type will be examined by a suitably qualified archaeologist or specialist and the results incorporated into the assessment report.

Any artefacts which are recovered that fall within the scope of the Treasure Act 1996 will be reported to URS and to H. M. Coroner. Any finds in this category will be taken to OAE premises and stored in the safe.

### 4.5.6 Human Remains

If human remains are discovered they will be left in situ and the Consultant will be informed immediately. The Consultant will inform Suffolk County Council and HM Coroner. Human remains will be covered and protected and left in situ in the first instance, in accordance with current best practice. The removal of human remains will only take place in accordance with a licence from the Ministry of Justice and under the appropriate Environmental Health regulations and the Burial Act 1857. Excavation may be required where the remains are under imminent threat or dating/preservation information is required for costing purposes. Due to the wide range of variables costs of excavation, removal and analysis of human remains are not included in any statement of costs accompanying or associated with this specification.

### 4.5.7 Environmental Sampling

The English Heritage Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science will be notified of the commencement of the project. Bulk samples will be taken by the excavator and in consultation with the English Heritage Regional Scientific Advisor (if appropriate) and the projects environmental specialist to test for the presence and potential of micro- and macro-botanical environmental indicators. The result of any analysis will be incorporated in the evaluation report.
Where possible 40 litre samples will be collected in clean labelled sample buckets. Deposits will be targeted for sampling and will include those that on visual inspection have good potential for survival of charred or waterlogged plant remains, small mammal or fish bones, residues form industrial or craftworking processes such as (but not limited to) metalworking and deposits that have the potential to provide good samples for scientific dating.

4.6 Report, Archive and Oasis record

4.6.1 An interim statement on the results of the evaluation will be completed and given to the consultant within 2 weeks of the completion of fieldwork and will include:

• A brief summary of the results;
• A map showing the location of the investigation areas;
• A plan of each location where archaeological trial trenching was carried out, showing the mapped features at an appropriate scale;
• A quantification of the primary site archive including contexts, finds and samples;
• A draft contour plan for the area of topographic survey and associated draft hachure plans of earthwork features.

4.6.2 The report will incorporates both the results of the Stage 3 archaeological topographic survey and the results of the Stage 4 archaeological trial trench evaluation. The evaluation report will be submitted in draft within 6 weeks of the completion of fieldwork.

4.6.3 The preparation of the site archive and preparation of the evaluation report will be undertaken in accordance with the WSI (URS 2013) and with regard to relevant archaeological standards and national guidelines. The report will include the following:

• A QA sheet detailing as a minimum - title, author, version, date, checked by, approved by;
• A non-technical summary;
• A location drawing;
• The archaeological and historical background;
• The methodology employed for the archaeological investigations;
• The aims and objectives of the investigations;
• A description of the results of the investigations (to include full description, assessment of condition, quality and significance of the remains) and the potential for extrapolating the results onto adjacent areas;
• Where human remains are encountered the report will include a
statement that addresses the future retention of the material, including if appropriate, options for reburial;
• An appendix containing specialist reports;
• An appendix of photographs illustrating specific finds or features as appropriate
• A stratigraphic matrix for each location where investigations were undertaken (as appropriate);
• Assessment /conclusion and a statement of potential with recommendations for further work and analysis;
• A statement of the significance of the results in their local, regional and national context cross referenced to the Regional Research Framework;
• The current and proposed arrangements for long term conservation and archive storage (including details of the accredited repository details);
• General and detailed plans showing the location of the investigations accurately positioned on an Ordnance Survey base map and in relation to geophysical and topographical surveys and the proposed development (at an appropriate and recognised scale);
• Detailed contour and hachure plans and profiles, annotated and at an appropriate scale to show the surviving earthwork features in Area C;
• Detailed plans, sections and elevations illustrating archaeological features (at an appropriate and recognised scale);
• Colour photographic plates illustrating work in progress and archaeological discoveries;
• A cross-referenced index of the project archive.

4.6.4 Two bound hard copies and a digital pdf copy (complete with illustrations, appendices and plates) of the evaluation report will be submitted to the Archaeological Consultant for review, comment and approval. The Archaeological Consultant will pass on a draft report to SCCAS for comment. In finalising the report the comments of the Archaeological Consultant and SCCAS will be taken into account.
Six bound copies, one unbound master-copy and a digital version of the finalised evaluation report will be submitted to the Archaeological Consultant within one week of the receipt of comments on the draft report.
A project CD will be submitted containing image files in JPEG or TIFF format, digital text files will be submitted in Microsoft Word format, illustrations in AutoCAD format.
4.6.5 A summary report in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual ‘Archaeology in Suffolk’ section of the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute for Archaeology journal, will be prepared and submitted to the Archaeological Consultant by the end of 2013.

5 Timetable

5.1 The Topographic Survey will take 2 days to complete. Trial trenching will follow the topographic survey and is estimated to take one week. These figures do not allow for delays caused by bad weather. Working days are based on a 5-day working week, Monday to Friday.

5.2 Post-excavation tasks and report writing will take a maximum of 6 weeks following the end of fieldwork, unless there are exceptional discoveries requiring more lengthy analysis. A summary statement of results will be produced within 2 weeks.

5 6 Staffing and Support

6.1 The following staff will form the project team:

- 1 x Project Manager (supervisory only, not based on site)
- 1 x Project Officer/Supervisor (full time)
- 1 x Surveyor
- 2-3 x Assistants (part time, as required)
- 1 x Finds Assistant (part time, as required)
- 1 x Illustrator for post-excavation work (part time)

6.2 The Project Manager will be Richard Mortimer, the Surveyor will be Stuart Ladd and the Site Supervisor will be Michael Green. Other members of the team will be core staff of OA East. The Contractor will not employ volunteer amateur or student staff, whether paid or unpaid, to fulfil any of the above tasks except as an addition to the stated team.

6.3 Specialists will be employed for consultation and analysis as necessary. It is anticipated that the site at Meddler Stud may produce medieval remains and there will be sampling of environmental remains. Carole Fletcher and Dr Paul Spoerry will be asked to assess any Saxon/medieval pottery. Environmental analysis will be carried out by OA East staff in consultation with Rebecca Nicholson (OA Senior Environmental Officer) and the results will be conveyed to the English Heritage Regional Scientific Adviser. Faunal remains will be examined by Chris Faine. Conservation will be undertaken by Colchester Museums. In the event that these specialists are unable to
undertake the work within the time constraints of the project or if other remains are found specialists from the list at Appendix 1 will be approached to carry out analysis

7 Further Considerations

7.1 Insurance

OA East is covered by Public and Employer’s Liability Insurance. The underwriting company is Allianz Cornhill Insurance plc, policy number SZ/14939479/06. Details of the policy can be seen at the OA East office.

7.2 Services, Public Rights of Way, Tree Preservation Orders etc.

The client will inform the project manager of any live or disused cables, gas pipes, water pipes or other services that may be affected by the proposed excavations before the commencement of fieldwork. Hidden cables/services should be clearly identified and marked where necessary. The client will likewise inform the project manager of any public rights of way or permissive paths on or near the land which might affect or be affected by the work. The client will also inform the project manager of any trees subject to Tree Preservation Orders within the subject site or on its boundaries.

7.3 Site Security

Unless previously agreed with the Project Manager in writing, this specification and any associated statement of costs is based on the assumption that the site will be sufficiently secure for archaeological work to commence. All security requirements, including fencing, padlocks for gates etc. are the responsibility of the client. Individual trenches will be secured using netlon fencing by OAE.

7.4 Access

The client will secure access to the site for archaeological personnel and plant, and obtain the necessary permissions from owners and tenants to place a mobile office and portable toilet on or near to the site. Any costs incurred to secure access, or incurred as a result of withholding of access will not be OA East's responsibility. The costs of any delays as a result of withheld access will be passed on to the...
client in addition to the project costs already specified.

7.5 Site Preparation

The client is responsible for clearing the site and preparing it so as to allow archaeological work to take place without further preparatory works, and any cost statement accompanying or associated with this specification is offered on this basis. Unless previously agreed in writing, the costs of any preparatory work required, including tree felling and removal, scrub or undergrowth clearance, removal of concrete or hard standing, demolition of buildings or sheds, or removal of excessive overburden, refuse or dumped material, will be charged to the client, in addition to any costs for archaeological evaluation already agreed.

7.6 Backfilling/Reinstatement

Trenches will be backfilled with arisings in the correct order.

7.7 Monitoring

Monitoring meetings will be arranged by the consultant.

7.8 Health and Safety, Risk Assessments

7.8.1 A risk assessment covering all activities carried out during the lifetime of the project has been completed. This draws on OA East’s activity-specific risk assessment literature and conforms with CDM requirements.

7.8.2 All aspects of the project, both in the field and in the office will be conducted according to OA East’s Health and Safety Policy, Oxford Archaeology Ltd’s Health and Safety Policy, and Health and Safety in Field Archaeology (J.L. Allen and A. St John-Holt, 1997). A copy of OA East’s Health and Safety Policy can be supplied on request.

7.9 Invoicing

7.9.1 It is expected that payment will be received within 30 days of invoicing. If payment is not made within this time interest will be charged at base rate. After a period of three months Oxford Archaeology Ltd employs a debt collection company to recover unpaid invoices and any costs incurred during this process will be passed on to the client.
References
East Anglian Archaeology, 2000; Occasional Papers 8, Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties 1. research agenda and strategy

East Anglian Archaeology, 2003; Occasional Papers 14, Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England

English Heritage, 2003, Where on Earth are We? The Global Positioning system (GPS) in archaeological field survey. English Heritage (Swindon)


English Heritage, 2007, Geoarchaeology. Using earth sciences to understand the archaeological record. (London)

English Heritage, 2008, Investigative Conservation. Guidelines on how the detailed examination of artefacts from archaeological sites can shed light on their manufacture and use. English Heritage (Swindon)


English Heritage, 2011a, Traversing the Past. The total station theodolite in archaeological landscape survey. English Heritage (Swindon)


English Heritage, 2011c, Traversing the Past. The total station theodolite in archaeological landscape survey (London)

English Heritage, 2011d, Safeguarding Archaeological Information. Procedures for minimising risk to undeposited archaeological archives

IfA, 2008a, Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation. Institute for Archaeologists (Reading)

IfA, 2008b, Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation. Institute for Archaeologists (Reading)

IfA, 2008c, Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials. Institute for Archaeologists (Reading)

IfA, 2010d, Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives. Institute for Archaeologists (Reading)

IfA, 2012, Code of Conduct. Institute for Archaeologists (Reading)

SCCAS, 2010, Archive Guidelines

SCCAS, 2013, Brief for Archaeological Evaluation at Land at Meddler Stud, Kentford

Project 15595


URS 2013, Meddler Stud, Kentford, Specification for Geophysical Survey for Meddler Properties Ltd and Agora Developments Ltd
APPENDIX E. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

**Project Details**

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Project Dates (fieldwork)</th>
<th>Previous Work (by OA East)</th>
<th>Future Work</th>
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**Project Reference Codes**

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**Type of Project/Techniques Used**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Planning condition</td>
<td>Housing Estate</td>
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**Please select all techniques used:**

- Aerial Photography - interpretation
- Aerial Photography - new
- Annotated Sketch
- Augering
- Dendrochronological Survey
- Documentary Search
- Environmental Sampling
- Fieldwalking
- Geophysical Survey
- Grab-Sampling
- Gravity-Core
- Laser Scanning
- Measured Survey
- Metal Detectors
- Photographic Survey
- Photogrammetric Survey
- Phosphate Survey
- Photographed Survey
- Rectified Photography
- Remote Operated Vehicle Survey
- Sample Trenches
- Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure
- Targeted Trenches
- Test Pits
- Topographic Survey
- Vibro-core
- Visual Inspection (Initial Site Visit)

**Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods**

List feature types using the NMR Monument Type Thesaurus and significant finds using the MDA Object type Thesaurus together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state “none”.

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<td>Mesolithic -10k to -4k</td>
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<td>Jess Tipper, SCC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Design Originator</td>
<td>Iain Williamson, URS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Manager</td>
<td>Richard Mortimer, OA East</td>
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<td>Supervisor</td>
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**Digital Media**

- [X] Database
- [X] GIS
- [X] Geophysics
- [X] Images
- [X] Illustrations
- [X] Moving Image
- [X] Survey
- [X] Text
- [X] Virtual Reality
- [X] Survey

**Paper Media**

- [] Aerial Photos
- [] Context Sheet
- [] Correspondence
- [] Diary
- [] Drawing
- [] Manuscript
- [] Map
- [] Matrices
- [] Microfilm
- [] Misc.
- [] Research/Notes
- [] Photos
- [X] Plans
- [X] Report
- [X] Sections
- [X] Survey

Project: 15595
Figure 1: Site location showing proposed development areas (red)
Figure 3a: Plan of trench 4
Figure 3b: Plan of trenches 29, 31 and 34
Figure 3c: Plan of trenches 24, 26 and 36

Key
Archaeological feature
Modern postholes
Trench 24
Trench 26
Area G
Area C
Unexcavated
cut trench

Archaeological feature
Deposit
Excavated slot
Section & number
Cut number
Deposit number

GPS Profile (Figure 7)
Figure 4: Interpretation of geophysical survey (from Stratascan J3279)
Figure 5: Topographic survey (with hillshade overlay) and contour survey.

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Report Number 1491
Figure 6: Hachure survey
Figure 7: GPS profile and selected section drawings
Figure 8: Selected section drawings

Section 17

Section 25

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Report Number 1491
Plate 1: Post-medieval ditch 44 enclosing earthworks, Trench 24, looking east

Plate 2: Profile of test pit 3 showing layer 61, Trench 34, looking north-west
Plate 3: Trench 34 showing test pits 1-3 excavated in alluvial layers, looking south-west

Plate 4: Earthworks in Area C, looking east
Plate 5: Earthworks in Area C, looking south

Plate 6: Earthworks in Area C, looking south-east