

Archaeological Evaluation at Land at Ingles Manor, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent



Planning Application Y12/0767/SH
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Contents

| | |
|---|---|
| List of Figures..... | 3 |
| List of Plates..... | 3 |
| Summary..... | 4 |
| Introduction..... | 4 |
| Site Description and Topography..... | 5 |
| Planning Background..... | 5 |
| Archaeological and Historical Background..... | 5 |
| Aims and Objectives..... | 6 |
| Methodology..... | 6 |
| Monitoring..... | 6 |
| Results..... | 6 |
| Finds..... | 7 |
| Discussion..... | 7 |
| Conclusion..... | 7 |
| Acknowledgements..... | 7 |
| References..... | 8 |
| Appendix 1 - KCC HER Summary Form..... | 9 |
| Appendix 2- Lithic Report: Paul Hart | |

List of Figures

Fig. 1 Location of archaeological trenches

List of Plates

Plate 1. Aerial view of the site

Plate 2. View of the site

Plate 3. View of Trench 1

Plate 4. View of Trench 2

Plate 5. View of Trench 3

Plate 6. Trench 3 representative section



Plate 1. Aerial view of the site Google Earth (2008)

Archaeological Evaluation of Land at Ingles Manor, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent

NGR 623727 152003
Site Code: INGL-EV-13

SUMMARY

Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT Archaeology) carried out an archaeological evaluation on land at Ingles Manor, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent (Fig. 1). The site has planning permission for the erection of 13 dwellings with associated parking and landscaping together with 3 two storey office buildings plus outline permission for additional dwellings. The Local Planning Authority planning reference for the scheme is Y12/0767/SH. Plans were submitted to Shepway District Council whereby the Council requested that an Archaeological Programme of Work be undertaken in order to determine the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification (KCC 2013) and in discussion with the Archaeological Heritage Officer, Kent County Council. A Desk-based Assessment prepared on behalf of a previous applicant indicates that the site has archaeological potential, particularly with possible archaeology associated with the 17th century Ingles Farm. The Archaeological Evaluation consisted of three trenches which encountered no archaeological features. However, four worked flint tools were recovered from the subsoil. The flintwork comprises stone tools. A small, neatly worked end-and-side scraper (Trench 1) could be of Beaker period date. A larger, coarser, discoidal scraper might be Beaker period (Trench 2), though an Early Neolithic date is also possible. The raw material for this tool could, but need not, have derived from freshly extracted chalk flint, depending upon the local character of such material. A neatly retouched piercer/awl is only broadly dateable (Trench 3), with a Neolithic to Beaker period date most likely. Less dateable is a simple knife (Trench 3), naturally-backed with weathered buff cortex; the only worked flint to feature any remnant cortex or a striking platform. It is hard hammer-stuck and made of a similarly coloured flint to the end-and-side scraper. A broad Bronze Age date is possible, though earlier expediency cannot be discounted. All of these tools could have been in use during the Beaker period (2500 to 1700 BC) and be broadly associated, though this need not be the case. The Archaeological Evaluation has therefore been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Specification.

INTRODUCTION

SWAT Archaeology was commissioned by Murston Construction Ltd to carry out an archaeological evaluation at the above site. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification (KCC 2013) and in discussion with the Archaeological Heritage Officer, Kent County Council. The evaluation was carried out on 14th to 16th October 2013.

SITE DESCRIPTION AND TOPOGRAPHY

The subject site is located to the east of Ingles Manor and to the rear of 43 Castle Hill Avenue (NGR 622090 135975). The present evaluation only relates to Phase 1 which is located in the southern area of the development site. The Phase 1 development site is bounded by Shepway Civic Centre, and to the north by Ingles Manor. The area of development is currently grass with some mature trees.

PLANNING BACKGROUND

Planning consent (Y12/0767/SH): *“a hybrid application encompassing; 1) Full application for the erection of 13 dwellings with associated parking and landscaping together with 3 two storey office buildings with parking and landscaping forming phases 1 and 3. and 2) Outline application for the erection of 46 dwellings with associated parking and landscaping forming phases 2 and 4 (matters relating to access, landscaping and layout)”* was approved by Shepway District Council (SDC). KCC Heritage in the Site Specific Requirements requested that an archaeological evaluation be undertaken in order to determine the possible impact of the proposed development on any archaeological remains. The Local Planning Authority (SDC) placed the following condition on the planning consent:

‘No development shall take place, on each respective phase, until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of the programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written specification and timetable which has been submitted to and approved by in writing the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded in accordance with policy SD1 of the Shepway District Local Plan Review and the National Planning Policy Framework’.

Requirements for the archaeological evaluation comprised trial trenching targeting a representative 4% sample of the impact area with three trenches (Fig. 1) designed to establish whether there were any archaeological deposits at the site that may be affected by the proposed development. The results from this evaluation will be used to inform KCC of any further archaeological mitigation measures that may be necessary in connection with the development proposals.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL and HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The proposed site lies within an area of archaeological potential. In 2003 an archaeological evaluation was conducted by Linklater (CAT) in an area towards the south-west of the present site. The results of the evaluation and data from the HER suggest that the earliest that archaeological features or deposits can be expected are from the 17th to 18th centuries. Ingles Manor is a Grade II listed building (HER TR 23 NE 353). One of the associated buildings is a thatched and weather boarded barn (HER TR 23 NW 415). Results from the Linklater 2003 evaluations suggest terraces. A pond and boundary wall were also revealed indicating features associated with a formal garden.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the evaluation, as set out within the Archaeological Specification (2013) was:

- Assessing the extent of any archaeological deposits
- Assessing the depth below ground surface of any archaeological deposits
- Establishing the depth, character, significance and condition of any archaeological deposits

METHODOLOGY

Trial trenching was carried out on 14th October 2013 with the excavation of three trenches. Trench location for the trenches was agreed prior to the excavation between KCC and SWAT. Excavation was carried out using a tracked 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, removing the overburden to the top of the first recognisable archaeological horizon, or natural, under the constant supervision of an experienced archaeologist. All trenches measured about 30m in length and 1.8m wide. The trenches were subsequently hand-cleaned, and a number of modern features were exposed (Plate 3). All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the specification issued by SWAT. A single context recording system was used to record the deposits, and context recording numbers were assigned to all deposits for recording purposes. All archaeological work was carried out in accordance with KCC and IFA standards and guidance.

MONITORING

Due to the lack of extensive archaeological remains, curatorial monitoring was not carried out during the course of the evaluation.

RESULTS

The natural geology of Clay and Silt was revealed in Trench 1, 2 and Trench 3 at depths between 0.32m-0.35m. In all three trenches the remains of modern field drains, ceramic pipes set in a matrix of clean gravel were revealed. In addition in Trench 1 the remains of three runs of 6" modern ceramic pipe runs were also exposed. No archaeological features were exposed in any of the trenches.

Trench 1

(30m x 1.80m x <0.47m)

Trench 1 was placed along the north edge of the site, and was positioned almost north-east/south-west and was machined to a depth of 0.47m where the natural geology of Clay and Silt was encountered. Modern field drains were exposed, and three modern water pipes, but no archaeological features were observed (Plate 3)

Trench 2

(30m x 1.80m x <0.45m)

Trench 2 ran north-east-south-west and was cut across the centre of the site. It was machined to a depth of 0.45m where the natural geology of Clay and Silt was encountered. Modern field drains set in a matrix of clean gravel were encountered. No archaeological features were observed (Plate 4).

Trench 3

(30m x 1.80m x <0.46m)

Trench 3 ran NNW-SSE and was cut across the centre of the site. It was machined to a depth of 0.46m where the natural geology of Clay and Silt was encountered. Modern field drains set in a matrix of clean gravel were encountered. No archaeological features were observed (Plate 5).

FINDS

Four worked flints were recovered from the interface between topsoil and subsoil-see Appendix 2 for details.

DISCUSSION

The evaluation of land at Ingles Manor revealed no archaeology. However, a number of worked flints possibly dating back 1700-2000 BC were retrieved which indicates that there is a Prehistoric presence in the immediate landscape. The archaeological evaluation has been successful in fulfilling the primary aims and objectives of the Specification. A common stratigraphic sequence was recognised across the site of the local geology of a undifferentiated clay and silt Head Deposit overlaid by subsoil/topsoil.

CONCLUSIONS

The evaluation has, therefore, assessed the archaeological potential of land intended for development.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SWAT Archaeology would like to thank Stuart Allan of Murston Construction Ltd for commissioning this project. Thanks are also extended to Ben Found Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council for

his advice and assistance.

Paul Wilkinson supervised the fieldwork, assisted in the field by Dan Quintain. Illustrations were produced by Jonny Madden for *Digitise This*. The project was managed by Paul Wilkinson.

Dr Paul Wilkinson MifA

October 2013

REFERENCES

Bibliography

Institute for Field Archaeologists (IfA), Rev (2008) *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation*.

Canterbury Archaeological Trust (2011) *Provisional desk-based assessment of land at Ingles Manor, Folkestone, Kent*

Kent County Council (2013) *Specification for an archaeological evaluation of land at Ingles Manor and Land at Folkestone Garden Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent (Phase 1)*

Maps

Ordnance Survey 1st Edition (1871-1890)

Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition (1897-1900)

Ordnance Survey 3rd Edition (1907-1923)

Ordnance Survey 4th Edition (1929-1952)

Websites

Exploring Kent's Past <http://www.extranet7.krnt.gov.uk/ExploringKentsPast/>

Kent Landscape Information System <http://extranet7.kent.gov.uk/klis/home.htm>

Old Maps Online <http://www.oldmapsonline.org/>

APPENDIX 1 – Kent County Council HER Summary Form

| | |
|---|--|
| Site Name: <i>Land at Ingles Manor, Folkestone, Kent</i> | |
| SWAT Site Code: <i>ING-EV-13</i> | |
| Site Address: <i>above</i> | |
| <p>Summary: <i>Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) carried out an archaeological evaluation at land Ingles Manor, Castle Hill, Folkestone, Kent A planning application (Y12/0767/SH) for the erection of dwellings and construction of vehicular access was lodged with Shepway District Council (SDC) whereby Kent County Council Heritage and Conservation (KCCHC), on behalf of SDC requested that an Archaeological Evaluation be undertaken in order to determine the possible impact of development on any archaeological remains. The work was carried out in accordance with the requirements set out within an Archaeological Specification (KCC 2013) and in discussion with the Archaeological Officer, Kent County Council.</i></p> <p><i>The Archaeological Evaluation consisted of three trenches which encountered no archaeological features. However, four worked flints from Neolithic to Beaker were recovered.</i></p> | |
| District/Unitary: <i>Folkestone</i> | Parish: |
| Period(s): Tentative: | |
| NGR (centre of site : 8 figures): (NB if large or linear site give multiple NGRs): <i>NGR 622090 135975</i> | |
| Type of archaeological work (delete) <i>Evaluation</i> | |
| Date of Recording: <i>Oct 2013</i> | |
| Unit undertaking recording: <i>Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT)</i> | |
| Geology: <i>Clay and Silt Head Deposit</i> | |
| Title and author of accompanying report: <i>Wilkinson P. An Archaeological Evaluation of land at Ingles Manor, Castle Hill, Folkestone, Kent</i> | |
| Summary of fieldwork results (begin with earliest period first, add NGRs where appropriate) <i>As above</i> <p style="text-align: right;">(cont. on attached sheet)</p> | |
| Location of archive/finds: <i>SWAT</i> | |
| Contact at Unit: <i>Paul Wilkinson</i> | Date: <i>22nd October 2013</i> |



Plate 2. View of site looking north-east



Plate 3. Trench 1 looking north-east, and showing remains of modern pipe runs and field drains



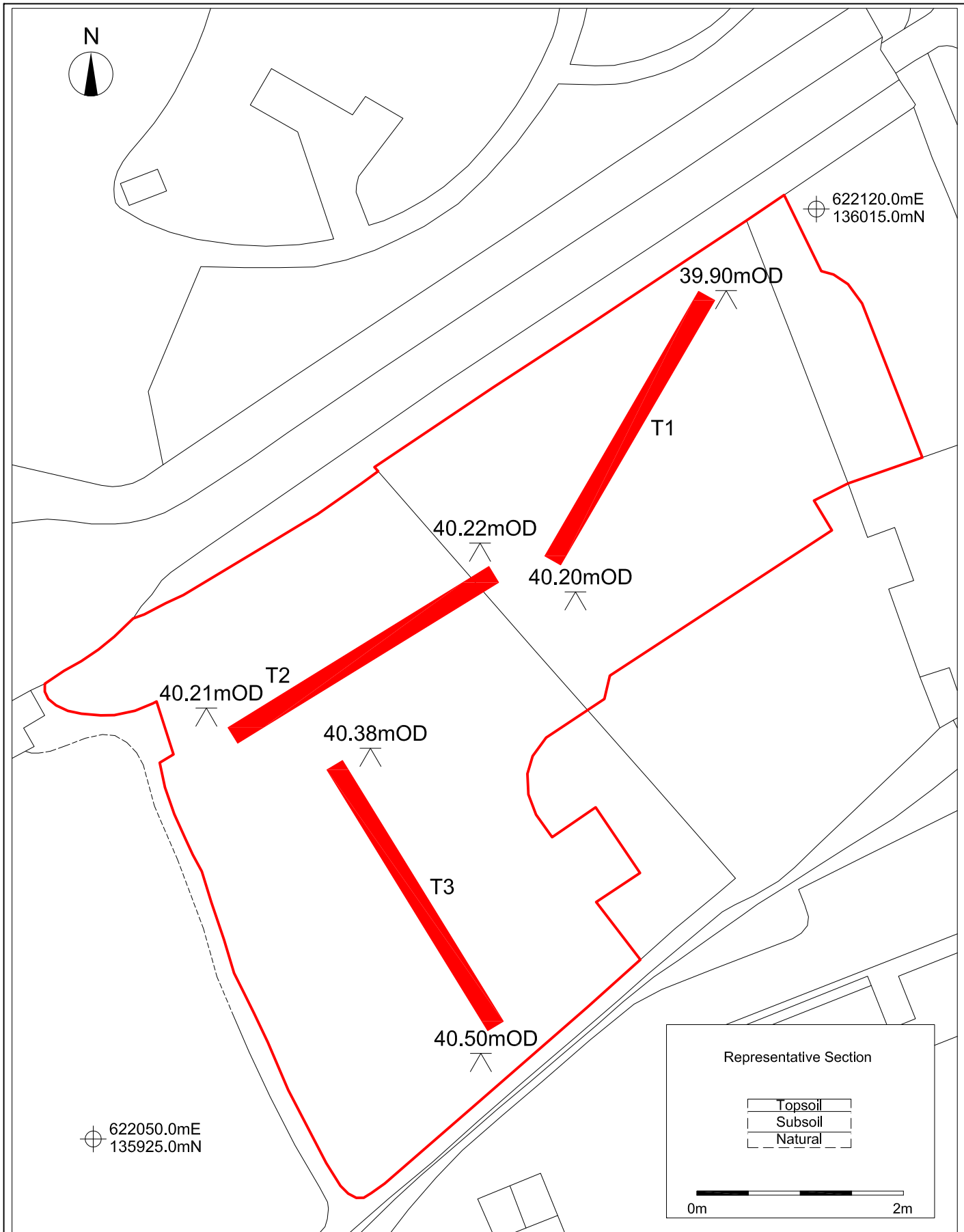
Plate 4. Trench 2 looking north-east (1m scale)



Plate 5. Trench 3 looking NNW-SSE (1m scale)



Plate 6. Representative section – 50cm scale (Trench 3)



1:500@A4

Figure 1: Evaluation trenches at Ingles Manor, Folkstone

0m

50m

An assessment of the worked flint from: Ingles Manor, Folkestone

Site Code: INGL/EV/13

Paul Hart
21.10.2013

Contents

1. Summary
2. Methodology
3. Table 1: Periods recognised
4. Recommendations

Appendix – archive data

5. Quantification and spot-dating of the worked flint assemblage
 - 5.1 Period Codes employed
 - 5.2 Key to Table 2
 - 5.3 Table 2: Quantification and spot-dating of the worked flint assemblage
 - 5.4 Notes on the worked flint
6. Bibliography

1. Summary

A total of four worked flints weighing 43g were presented for examination and comment. The worked flints were retrieved as unstratified items during the machining of four evaluation trenches; the flintwork was considered solely on its merits. Three different types (colours) of raw material were present, all of which would have been obtainable from areas of chalk, 'brickearth' or clay geology in Kent. Most if not all of this raw material could have derived from weathered surface or subsoil deposits. All are in a relatively fresh condition and show little evidence of significant, certain post-discard damage. No patination is present.

The flintwork solely comprises tools. A small, neatly worked end-and-side scraper could be of Beaker period date. A larger, coarser, discoidal scraper might be Beaker period, though an Early Neolithic date is also possible. The raw material for this tool could, but need not, have derived from freshly extracted chalk flint, depending upon the local character of such material. A neatly retouched piercer/awl is only broadly dateable, with a Neolithic to Beaker period date most likely. Less dateable is a simple knife, naturally-backed with weathered buff cortex; the only worked flint to feature any remnant cortex or a striking platform. It is hard hammer-stuck and made of a similarly coloured flint to the end-and-side scraper. A broad Bronze Age date is possible, though earlier expediency cannot be discounted.

All of these tools could have been in use during the Beaker period (2500 to 1700 BC) and be broadly associated, though this need not be the case. A consideration of their context and proximity may allow further conclusions to be drawn.

2. Methodology

The artefacts have been quantified and spot-dated where possible and this data is presented in Table 2 within the Appendix, followed by some notes on the specific character of the pieces. The flintwork was examined in good light, using hand lenses of 5x and 10x magnification. Weights were calculated to the nearest gram. All dates given are *circa*. Artefacts for potential future illustration, by photography and/or drawing, have been noted in Table 2.

Due to the small size of this assemblage and the lack of context data, it was decided to focus the main body of this assessment upon a summary of the conclusions reached during the analysis. Technical notes have been reserved for the Appendix. The Appendix does not need to be included within any published report, but should be available for review within the site archive.

3. Table 1: Periods recognised

| <i>Periods recognised</i> | <i>Diagnostic flintwork</i> |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Neolithic to Beaker period | 1 |
| Early Neolithic or Beaker period / Beaker period? | 1 |
| Beaker period | 1 |
| Bronze Age? | 1 |
| <i>Total number of diagnostic worked flints</i> | 4 |
| <i>Total number of worked flints in the assemblage</i> | 4 |

4. Recommendations

(i). Illustration by photography of all of the worked flints would be a useful addition in any subsequent report, space and format permitting.

(ii). No further stage of analysis of the worked flint is considered necessary at this time.

Appendix – *archive data*

5. Quantification and spot-dating of the worked flint assemblage

5.1 Period Codes employed

| <i>Period</i> | <i>Code</i> | <i>Date</i> |
|---|----------------|---------------------|
| Mesolithic | M | 9200-4000 BC |
| Neolithic | N | 4000-2100 BC |
| Early Neolithic | EN | 4000-3550 BC |
| Beaker period | BK | 2500-1700 BC |
| Bronze Age | BA | 2200-900 BC |
| Early Bronze Age | EBA | 2200-1550 BC |
| Middle Bronze Age (<i>including MBA-LBA</i>) | MBA | 1550-1150 BC |
| <i>Middle Bronze Age - Late Bronze Age transition</i> | <i>MBA-LBA</i> | <i>1350-1150 BC</i> |
| Earliest Iron Age | EIA | 900-600 BC |

5.2 Key to Table 2

- Type** - Class of artefact, listed individually under its context in bold.
In this assemblage ordered by strength of patina: strongest to weakest.
- (RU) : Denotes tools which have re-used old, patinated struck flakes.
- Italics*: Additional notes of interest in italics; including:
- (PP) : Denotes the presence of platform preparation.
- FS** - Flake shape.
- S : Short or squat: width same as or greater than length.
- L : Long: length greater than width.
- N : Narrow: blade proportions but not a true blade.
- B : Blade: length twice or more width, with parallel sides and dorsal ridge/s.
- BL : Bladelet: blade less than 12mm wide.
- C : Cores: followed by the number of platforms, or 'M' for multiplatform.
- FT** - Flake type.
- P : Primary: complete/nearly complete cover of cortex on the dorsal surface.
- S : Secondary: lesser amount of cortex.
- T : Tertiary: no cortex.
- H** - Hammer type (if possible).
- H : Hard stone (eg. a cobble of rolled flint or quartzite).
- SS : Soft stone (combined hard and soft characteristics; a cortexed flint nodule?).
- S : Soft organic (antler, bone, wood).
- W** - Weight in grams (minimum 1g).
- Patina** - Patina present? If differential: described by ventral/dorsal surface.
- N : None.
- VE : Very Early (the first signs of a speckled discolouration; almost unpatinated).
- E : Early (light dusting, but a more obvious speckled discolouration than VE).
- M : Moderate (well established colours but coverage is patchy).
- S : Strong (near or complete coverage of advanced patinas).
- B : Blue.
- G : Grey.
- W : White (SW patinas are the most advanced form of patina).
- () : Patina codes in brackets describe an earlier patina type truncated by re-use.
- D** - Potential/certain post-discard chipping/breakage damage present?
- Y : Yes.
- ? : Denotes damage present but not certainly post-discard.
: Either generally undamaged or with break surfaces that may be original.
- I** - Worthy of future illustration? Initial estimate of pieces of prime interest.
- Y : Yes.
- ? : Possibly, dependent upon context and associations.
- 1 etc. : Number assigned to an illustration (photograph) provided with this report.
Photography may be a suitable medium for general illustrations when accompanied by descriptions.
- Period** - Potential date range defined by Period Codes.
- > : To.
- / : Or.
- Preference** - Date preferred at this time.

5.3 Table 2: Quantification and spot-dating of the worked flint assemblage

| <i>Type</i> | <i>FS</i> | <i>FT</i> | <i>H</i> | <i>W</i> | <i>Patina</i> | <i>D</i> | <i>I</i> | <i>Period</i> | <i>Preference</i> |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|---------------|----------|----------|---------------|-------------------|
| Context: unstratified | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Retouched</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| Discoidal scraper | - | T | H? | 14 | N | | Y | N>BK | EN/BK; BK? |
| End+side scraper | - | T | - | 6 | N | ? | Y | BK>EBA | BK |
| Piercer/awl | L | T | H? | 9 | N | ? | Y | M>MBA | N>BK |
| Naturally-backed knife | L | S | H | 14 | N | ? | | M>EIA | BA? |
| Totals: | 4 | | | 43 | | | | | |

5.4 Notes on the worked flint

All appear generally fresh and without certain, significant battering or plough-damage. Most, if not all of the raw material could have been obtained from weathered surface or subsoil deposits, with perhaps the discoidal scraper being the best candidate for the possible use of freshly extracted chalk flint.

Discoidal scraper

Made on a small tertiary flake of generally good quality dense black flint (one area of white sub-cortex present), with direct, semi-abrupt retouch around all margins, up to a vertical facet (a contemporary or later break?) on one lateral margin adjacent to the platform, the latter having been truncated by abrupt retouch. Whether the retouch originally ran around the entire circumference, (which would make this a disc scraper type as opposed to a round scraper), is uncertain. The working edge shows direct fine chipping scars, which could be use-wear or derive from final trimming.

Discoidal scrapers such as this can be found in assemblages of Late Upper Palaeolithic to Final Upper Palaeolithic (very rare), Early, Middle and Late Neolithic and Beaker period date. It seems less likely to significantly post-date the latter. Discoidal scrapers as a whole (both the 'disc' and 'round' types) are thought to occur more commonly in the Late Neolithic, though both the Neolithic and Beaker types were not typically retouched around their entire circumference, leaving the platform intact (Butler 2005, 126, 167). This piece should be of broadly Neolithic to Beaker date. The small size of the flake could suggest an Early Neolithic or Beaker period date and the latter is preferred for now.

End-and-side scraper

Neatly retouched scraper on a small, tertiary flake of black-brown flint (brownish where thinnest). Direct steep semi-abrupt retouch across the distal end, with two-stage direct semi-abrupt retouch overlain by direct abrupt marginal retouch along one lateral margin, the latter retouch truncated by an area of inverse steep semi-abrupt retouch towards the distal end; the complete edge forming a convex profile. Direct abrupt retouch is also present along part of the opposite lateral margin, with the proximal end truncated by breaks.

Such small, neatly worked scrapers are a common component of Beaker period assemblages and they could continue through the remainder of the Early Bronze Age, though the quality of execution and the form suggests that this example should not date too late. The appearance and use of increasingly smaller scrapers is a characteristic of Beaker assemblages (Wainwright 1972, 62-64).

Piercer/awl

This tertiary long flake, struck from a mottled, mostly grey and slightly cherty flint, has direct abrupt retouch focused around the distal termination of the central dorsal ridge, creating a moderately short, flat-ended point. Small areas of direct and inverse retouch are present around the lateral margins and across the broken platform area; a small, sharp notch is also present on one lateral margin. The point is well-formed but not substantially long, which might otherwise have indicated a specific Late Neolithic/Beaker period type and a possible association with the scraper/s from this collection. Whether this was the original length of the point is unknown. A Neolithic to Beaker period date is likely, within a broader Mesolithic to Middle Bronze Age bracket.

Naturally-backed knife

A hard hammer-struck long flake with a broad platform, in a slightly brownish-black flint with some cherty inclusions. One lateral margin is formed of weathered buff cortex, opposite a relatively thin edge of flint showing two small areas of inverse semi-abrupt, slightly denticulate-like retouch (perhaps re-sharpening?), together with some irregular direct chipping scars. The single dorsal ridge shows some abrasion scarring.

This simple, expedient piece cannot be reliably dated. It might be of Bronze Age date, though an earlier date cannot be discounted at this time.

6. Bibliography

Butler C. 2005. *Prehistoric Flintwork*. Tempus.

Wainwright G.J. 1972. The excavation of a Neolithic settlement on Broome Heath, Ditchingham, Norfolk, England. *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society* 38, 1-97.