Kings Farm, Cranley, Eye, Suffolk

Planning applications: 0659/10 & 0660/10

HER Ref: EYE 095

Archaeological Evaluation Report

(© John Newman BA MIFA, 2 Pearsons Place, Henley, Ipswich, IP6 0RA)

(June 2010)

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Site details for HER

Name: Kings Farm, Cranley Green, Eye, Suffolk

Client: C A & S J Havers

Local planning authority: Mid Suffolk DC

Planning application ref: 0659/10 (condition 11) & 0660/10 (condition 9)

Development: Construction of free range egg unit and two areas of hard standing

Date of fieldwork: 28 June 2010 (evaluation) and 23 & 26 July 2010 (monitoring)

HER Ref: EYE 095

OASIS ref: johnnewm1_78920

Grid ref: TM 170 718

Contents

Summary: Kings Farm, Cranley Green, Eye (EYE 095, TM 170 718) evaluation trenching, and subsequent monitoring of soil stripping, covering those areas to be developed for a free range egg unit revealed a low level of past activity; one feature apparently of Post medieval date, and another one or two, not dateable, close to the southern edge of Cranley Green. (John Newman Archaeological Services for C A & S J Havers).

1. Introduction & background

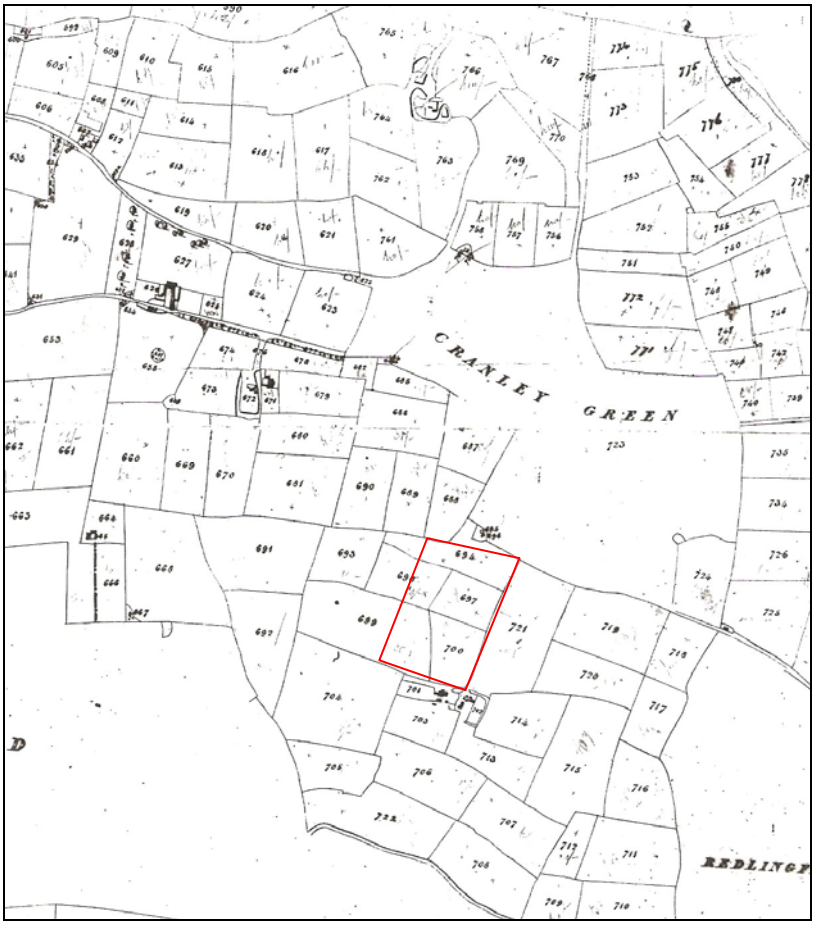
1.1 C A & S J Havers commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological evaluation works on those areas to the north of Kings Farm, Eye, that are to be developed as required under a condition for a programme of archaeological works of the planning decision notice for applications 0659/10 and 0660/10. The evaluation requirements were set out in a Brief and Specification (see Appendix II) set by Ms S Poppy of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service to satisfy these conditions. This development concerns the erection of a single long structure plus two areas of hard standing for a proposed free range egg unit within an overall application area of c9 hectares.

1.2 Eye is a large parish in north central Suffolk with the main settlement being a small town with evidence of having been a local centre and market since the 11th century at least focused on the church and castle site. Across the rest of the parish settlement shows a characteristic East Anglian pattern being dispersed along the historic route ways and around former green areas (medieval areas of common grazing and land use). Kings Farm is located 3km south east of Eye town (see Fig. 1a) and just south of the area shown on Hodkinson's map of 1783 as Cranley Green which still covered an extensive area at that date. The northern boundary of the proposed development area (PDA) runs up to a small, former, dwelling site (Suffolk HER ref. EYE 037- see Fig. 1b) that lies on the southern edge of this green as recorded in 1783. The site is generally flat and is located on the heavier, Till derived, soils of central Suffolk at 55m OD (the second edition OS map of 1904 shows a triangulation point a few metres east of the site marking this as the highest point in the local area).

1.3 To quote the relevant Brief and Specification for the site 'this application is located in an area of archaeological importance recorded on the County Historic Environment Record.' The brief then goes on to outline how the PDA is located on part of the southern edge of Cranley Green (EYE 034) and close to a recorded dwelling site (EYE 037) as outlined also in section 1.2 above. To the south there is also a medieval moat site on the eastern side of Kings Farm which is a Scheduled Monument (ref. 30598). The PDA (see Fig. 1b) while relatively large contains extensive areas which will not be disturbed. The main free range egg unit lies some 100m south of the green edge as recorded in 1783 and 100m north of the moat and will be c100m long on a pad that is c30m wide. However the parking and turning area is on the green edge and close to the recorded dwelling site (EYE 037). To help inform the evaluation works a rapid search of other historic map sources was carried out at the Suffolk Record Office with the following results:

Tithe map of 1839(P461/92- see below for extract)- the PDA is shown as covering all of two fields and parts of three others with uninformative names (two are simply called 'Field') and divided between pasture close to Kings Farm and the dwelling and arable for the remainder.

OS second edition of 1904- the same field pattern as 1839 with the dwelling (EYE 037) named as Anchor Cottage- this area is now woodland with dense undergrowth.



Extract from Eye tithe map of 1839 for Cranley Green- PDA highlighted

2. Evaluation methodology

2.1 The proposed development area at the Kings Farm site was trenched to a plan set in the Brief and Specification designed to sample those areas which will be developed (see Fig. 1b). In all 158m of trench at a width of 1.8m were mechanically excavated under close archaeological supervision to the top of the underlying natural Till surface using a wide, toothless, ditching bucket giving a sample of 284.4m^2, or some 6%, of the two areas that will undergo ground disturbance. The main trench at 118m in length ran along the centre of the proposed free range egg structure with a subsidiary and perpendicular trench of 20m sampling an adjacent proposed hard standing area. The final trench was 20m long and across the area of hard standing planned for the north eastern corner of the PDA and close to the known Post medieval dwelling site (EYE 037). The exposed Till surface was closely examined for archaeological features and any indistinct areas were hand cleaned. Upcast spoil from the trench was examined visually and by an experienced metal detector user for any finds. Site visibility for features and finds is considered to have been good throughout the evaluation. The trenches were recorded in relation to existing mapped details. A full photographic record in digital format was taken of the trenching works (see Appendix I).

3. Results

3.1 The 158m of trench revealed a uniform depth of 300-350mm of mid brown clayey topsoil across the site above an orange clay with flints natural Till surface which also contained a few rather indistinct and irregular light brown silty pockets. By trench the results can be outlined as follows (see also Fig. 1b):

Trench 1- sampling the proposed main structure on the site, comprising a main arm 118m long aligned north-west/south-east along the principal axis and a 20m arm aligned south-west/north-east over the associated hard standing at the east end. This trench revealed two definite and one possible archaeological feature in its main length and some 30-40m west of the junction of the T formed by the two arms.

Archaeological contexts (see Fig. 2)

0001 Topsoil finds from trench 1 spoil- no pre 19th century pottery sherds, the metal detector finds were largely undateable iron nails and other fragments (discarded) with the only non-ferrous finds being the following:

Decorative lead strip- 30mm long x 6mm wide x 3mm thick, chamfered long edges, decoration on one side (see image below) divided into diamond and triangular panels containing pellets, other side similar but also with a raised ridge running longitudinally across the decorative panels, probably cut from a longer strip. Function uncertain; date late medieval/early Post medieval.

Copper alloy probable casting fragment, 45mm long x 8-10mm wide x 6-8mm thick, crude arm stump at one point, rough surface, not dateable.

Small lead droplet 10mm x 5-6mm x 2mm, not dateable.

Decorative lead strip (L30mm x W 6mm)

0002 small pit, dimensions L500mm x W400mm x D150mm

0003 fill of 0002, dark grey/brown clay with charcoal fragments, also 1 small fragment of Post medieval peg tile (weight 10g)

0004 small scoop with irregular base, dimensions L450mm x W450mm x D100mm

0005 fill of 0004, dark grey/brown clay with charcoal & small baked clay fragments

0006 possible north-east/south-west linear feature, width varying between 400mm & 700mm, indistinct edges and irregular base, depth 50mm-100mm

0007 fill of 0006, light green/grey and very compacted silt

Trench 2- 20m long sampling the proposed hard standing in the north-eastern corner of the PDA. This trench revealed a clean orange clay natural Till and no archaeological features.

4. Conclusion

4.1 The evaluation trenching revealed a low level of past activity in the main trench with two definite archaeological features (0002 & 0004) both of which had a distinct fill with evidence of burnt material. One of these features (0002) had a more definite form and did produce one dateable find, a small fragment of Post medieval peg tile. The other definite feature (0004) is undated and also exhibited a rather indistinct form so could have been created by an activity such as digging out and burning a tree stump (see also Appendix I- Images). The final feature recorded (0006) had some features suggestive of being a ditch but was not entirely convincing as the edges and base were irregular and the fill (0007) was of a type more consistent with natural silty pockets visible in the exposed Till surface. The metal detector search of the spoil recovered only one dateable find, a decorative lead strip, which is of earlier Post medieval date and no pottery finds were seen in the spoil. From these evaluation results it can be concluded that the PDA while being close to areas of definite medieval and earlier Post medieval settlement has been largely peripheral and has seen only very intermittent human use of any intensity often referred as 'off-site' activities. From an examination of the historic map evidence it can also be suggested that Cranley Green at an earlier time may have extended as far south as Kings Farm with an early and partial enclosure pushing the green edge to the line recorded by Hodskinson and on the tithe map. If this assumption is correct then the PDA would have been inside the green when the moat at Kings Farm was created.

4.2 Based on the evaluation results it is recommended that the topsoil strip for the main structure within the PDA be archaeologically monitored on an intermittent basis in order to investigate and record any other isolated archaeological features that might be revealed (see Appendix III for summary of largely negative monitoring results). As the two recorded definite features contained a distinctive dark fill any other similar ones should be easily visible and it would be of value to continue the archaeological investigation of this site in case further evidence for what were probably agricultural activities of a peripheral nature are revealed. In addition the true character of the single linear feature (0006) is uncertain and monitoring of soil stripping should establish whether this is a natural feature or a ditch. The area of the proposed hard stand in the north-eastern corner of the PDA produced no evidence for past activity so further observation here is not recommended.

Archive- to be deposited with the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service under the HER ref. EYE 095.

Disclaimer- any opinions regarding the need for further archaeological in relation to this proposed development are those of the author's alone. Formal comment regarding the need for further work must be sought from the official Archaeological Advisors to the relevant Planning Authority.

(Acknowledgements: JNAS is grateful to Colin Pendleton of SCCAS for providing local HER information, James Armes for the metal detector search and everyone from Davidson Plant for their assistance).

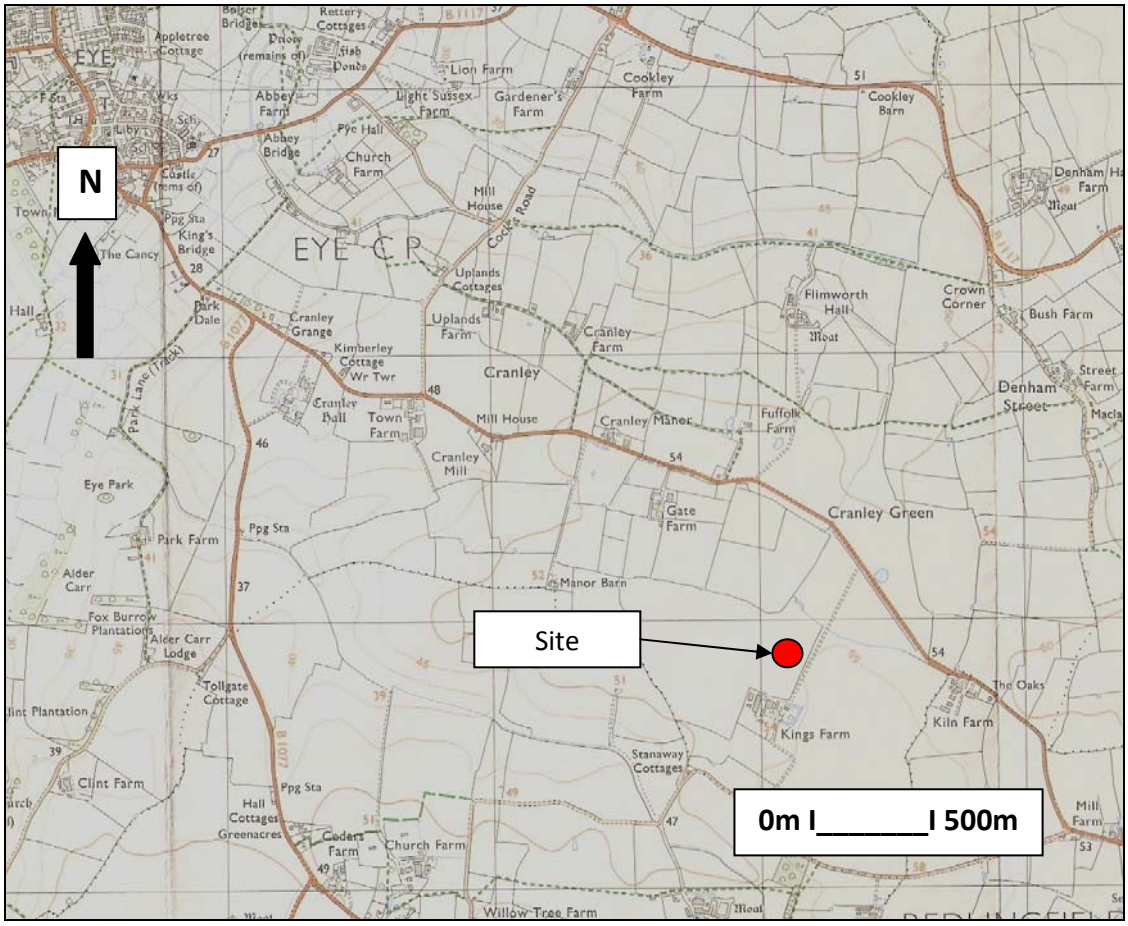


Fig. 1a: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 1988. All rights reserved. Licence number WL1005096)

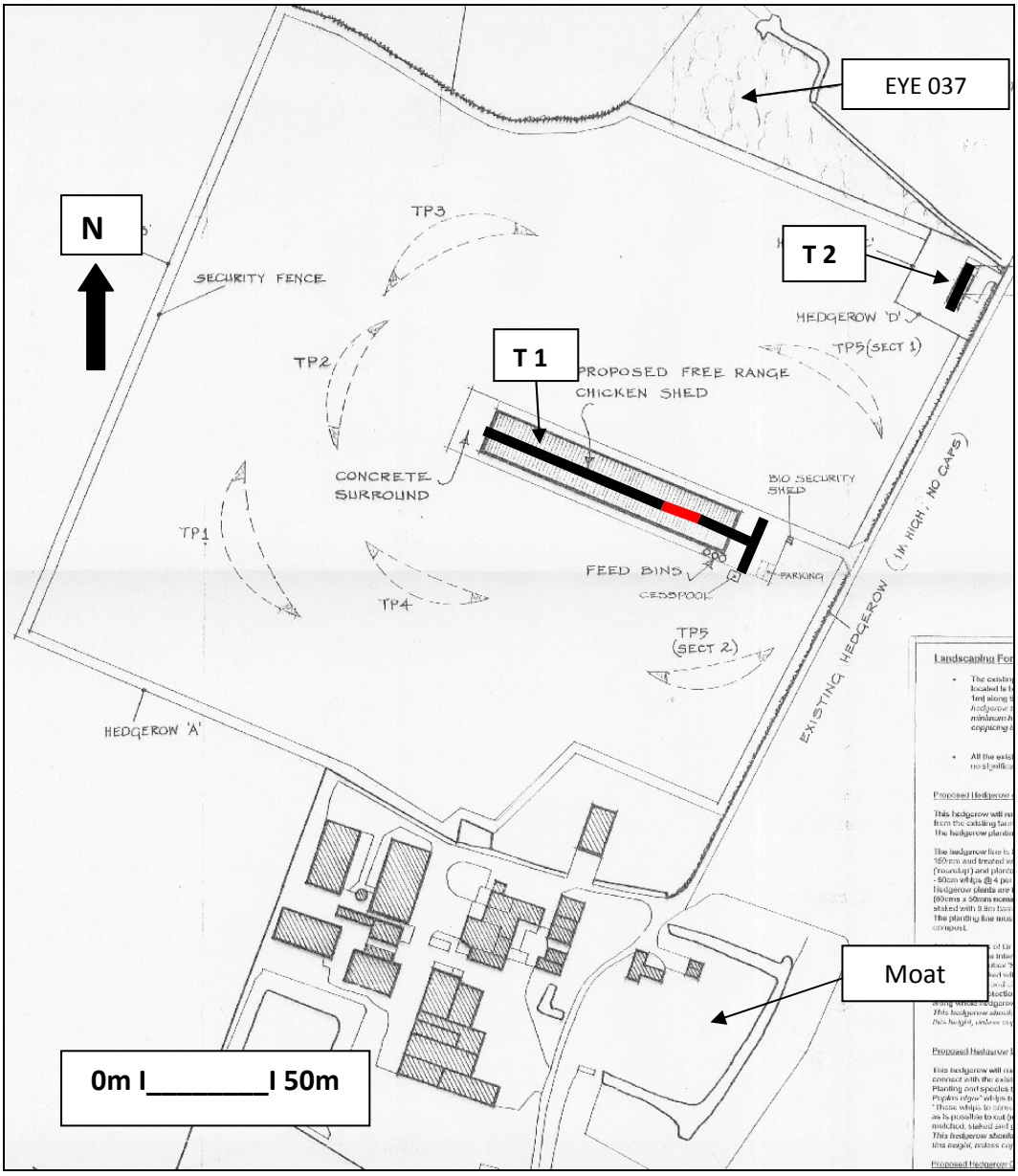


Fig. 1b: Trench location (area of Fig. 2 in T1 in red)

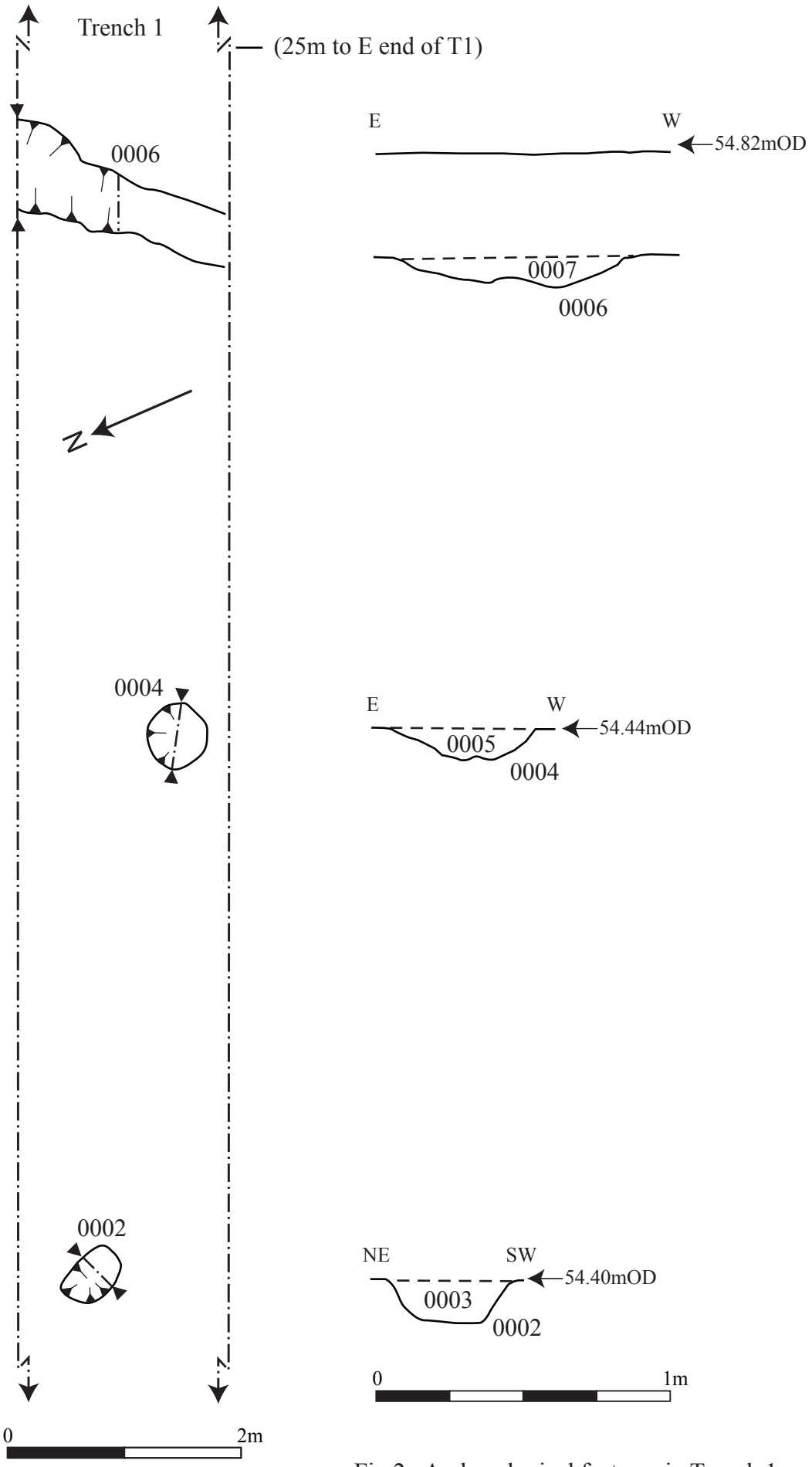


Fig 2: Archaeological features in Trench 1

Appendix I

Main trench from west

Small pit 0002, section from north west

Small pit/scoop 0004 section from north

Suffolk County Council

The Archaeological Service

9-10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk
IP33 2AR

Brief and Specification for Archaeological Evaluation

FREE RANGE EGG UNIT AND HARDSTANDING, KING'S FARM, CRANLEY (0659/10 AND 0660/10)

The commissioning body should be aware that it may have Health & Safety responsibilities.

1. The nature of the development and archaeological requirements

1.1 Planning permission has been granted by Mid Suffolk District Council (0659/10 and 0660/10) for the construction of a free range egg unit, two areas of hard standing and associated turning and parking area at Kings Farm, Cranley, Eye, Suffolk (TM 170 718). **Please contact the applicant for an accurate plan of the site.**

1.2 This consent is conditional upon the implementation of an agreed programme of archaeological work taking place before development begins (0659/10 Condition 11 and 0660/10 Condition 9).

1.3 The site is located on the south side of Cranley Green at *c.*55.00m AOD. The soils are described as seasonally wet deep loam to clay.

1.4 This application is located in an area of archaeological importance recorded on the County Historic Environment Record. The proposed development is located on the edge of the former Cranley Green (HER ref EYE 034), adjacent to the site of a former dwelling (HER ref EYE 037) and in close proximity to a nationally important medieval moated enclosure at King's Farm (Scheduled Monument 30598). There is high potential for medieval occupation deposits to be disturbed by this development. Any groundworks associated with the proposed development has the potential to cause significant damage or destruction to any underlying heritage assets.

1.5 In order to inform the archaeological mitigation strategy, the following work will be required:

- A linear trenched evaluation is required of the development area.

1.6 The results of this evaluation will enable the archaeological resource, both in quality and extent, to be accurately quantified. Decisions on the need for and scope of any mitigation measures, should there be any archaeological finds of significance, will be based upon the results of the evaluation and will be the subject of an additional specification.

1.7 All arrangements for the field evaluation of the site, the timing of the work, access to the site, the definition of the precise area of landholding and area for proposed development are to be defined and negotiated with the commissioning body.

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

1.9 In accordance with the condition on the planning consent, and following the standards and guidance produced by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA), a Written Scheme of Investigation

(WSI) based upon this brief and specification must be produced by the developers, their agents or archaeological contractors. This must be submitted for scrutiny by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (SCCAS/CT) at 9-10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR; telephone/fax: 01284 352443. The WSI will provide the basis for measurable standards and will be used to establish whether the requirements of the planning condition will be adequately met. The WSI should be compiled with a knowledge the Regional Research Framework (East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 3, 1997, 'Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties, 1. resource assessment'; Occasional Paper 8, 2000, 'Research and Archaeology: A Framework for the Eastern Counties, 2. research agenda and strategy'; and Revised Research Framework for the Eastern Region, 2008, available online at http://www.eaareports.org.uk/).

1.10 Following receipt of the WSI, SCCAS/CT will advise the Local Planning Authority (LPA) if it is an acceptable scheme of work. Work must not commence until the LPA has approved the WSI. Neither this specification nor the WSI is, however, a sufficient basis for the discharge of the planning condition relating to the archaeological works. Only the full implementation of the approved scheme – that is the completion of the fieldwork, a post-excavation assessment and final reporting – will enable SCCAS/CT to advise the LPA that the condition has been adequately fulfilled and can be discharged.

1.11 Before any archaeological site work can commence it is the responsibility of the developer to provide the archaeological contractor with either the contaminated land report for the site or a written statement that there is no contamination. The developer should be aware that investigative sampling to test for contamination is likely to have an impact on any archaeological deposit which exists; proposals for sampling should be discussed with the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of SCC (SCCAS/CT) before execution.

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

1.13 Any changes to the specifications that the project archaeologist may wish to make after approval by this office should be communicated directly to SCCAS/CT and the client for approval.

2. Brief for the Archaeological Evaluation

2.1 Establish whether any archaeological deposit exists in the area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation *in situ*.

2.2 Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the application area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.

2.3 Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.

2.4 Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.

2.5 Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.

2.6 This project will be carried through in a manner broadly consistent with English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects,* 1991 (*MAP2*), all stages will follow a process of assessment and justification before proceeding to the next phase of the project. Field

evaluation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential. Any further excavation required as mitigation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential, analysis and final report preparation may follow. Each stage will be the subject of a further brief and updated project design; this document covers only the evaluation stage.

2.7 The developer or his archaeologist will give SCCAS/CT (address as above) five working days notice of the commencement of ground works on the site, in order that the work of the archaeological contractor may be monitored.

2.8 If the approved evaluation design is not carried through in its entirety (particularly in the instance of trenching being incomplete) the evaluation report may be rejected. Alternatively the presence of an archaeological deposit may be presumed, and untested areas included on this basis when defining the final mitigation strategy.

2.9 An outline specification, which defines certain minimum criteria, is set out below.

3. Specification: Trenched Evaluation

3.1 The following trenched evaluation is required:

- A single linear trial trench, 100m long x 1.80m wide, is to be excavated along the length of the footprint of the proposed egg unit.
- A single linear trial trench, 20.00m long x 1.80m wide, is to be excavated across the footprint of the proposed hard standing for the siting of the temporary accommodation and associated parking.
- A single linear trial trench, 20.00m long x 1.80m wide, is to be excavated across the footprint of the hardstanding at the front of the proposed egg unit.

3.2 If excavation is mechanised a toothless 'ditching bucket' 1.80m wide must be used. A scale plan showing the proposed locations of the trial trenches should be included in the WSI and the detailed trench design must be approved by SCCAS/CT before field work begins.

3.3 The topsoil may be mechanically removed using an appropriate machine with a back-acting arm and fitted with a toothless bucket, down to the interface layer between topsoil and subsoil or other visible archaeological surface. All machine excavation is to be under the direct control and supervision of an archaeologist. The topsoil should be examined for archaeological material.

3.4 The top of the first archaeological deposit may be cleared by machine, but must then be cleaned off by hand. There is a presumption that excavation of all archaeological deposits will be done by hand unless it can be shown there will not be a loss of evidence by using a machine. The decision as to the proper method of excavation will be made by the senior project archaeologist with regard to the nature of the deposit.

3.5 In all evaluation excavation there is a presumption of the need to cause the minimum disturbance to the site consistent with adequate evaluation; that significant archaeological features, e.g. solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or post-holes, should be preserved intact even if fills are sampled. For guidance:

For linear features, 1.00m wide slots (min.) should be excavated across their width;

For discrete features, such as pits, 50% of their fills should be sampled (in some instances 100% may be requested).

3.6 There must be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit. The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits must be established across the site.

3.7 Archaeological contexts should, where possible, be sampled for palaeoenvironmental remains. Best practice should allow for sampling of interpretable and datable archaeological deposits and provision should be made for this. The contractor shall show what provision has been made for environmental assessment of the site and must provide details of the sampling strategies for retrieving artefacts, biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations), and samples of sediments and/or soils (for micromorphological and other pedological/sedimentological analyses. Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from Dr Helen Chappell, English Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy, P.L. and Wiltshire, P.E.J., 1994, *A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis*) is available for viewing from SCCAS.

3.8 Any natural subsoil surface revealed should be hand cleaned and examined for archaeological deposits and artefacts. Sample excavation of any archaeological features revealed may be necessary in order to gauge their date and character.

3.9 Metal detector searches must take place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced metal detector user.

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

3.11 Human remains must be left *in situ* except in those cases where damage or desecration are to be expected, or in the event that analysis of the remains is shown to be a requirement of satisfactory evaluation of the site. However, the excavator should be aware of, and comply with, the provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857.

3.12 Plans of any archaeological features on the site are to be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50, depending on the complexity of the data to be recorded. Sections should be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 again depending on the complexity to be recorded. All levels should relate to Ordnance Datum. Any variations from this must be agreed with SCCAS/CT.

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

3.14 Topsoil, subsoil and archaeological deposit to be kept separate during excavation to allow sequential backfilling of excavations.

3.15 Trenches should not be backfilled without the approval of SCCAS/CT.

4. General Management

4.1 A timetable for all stages of the project must be agreed before the first stage of work commences, including monitoring by SCCAS/CT. The archaeological contractor will give not less than five days written notice of the commencement of the work so that arrangements for monitoring the project can be made.

4.2 The composition of the archaeology contractor staff must be detailed and agreed by this office, including any subcontractors/specialists. For the site director and other staff likely to have a major responsibility for the post-excavation processing of this evaluation there must also be a statement of their responsibilities or a CV for post-excavation work on other archaeological sites and publication record. Ceramic specialists, in particular, must have relevant experience from this region, including knowledge of local ceramic sequences.

4.3 It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility to ensure that adequate resources are available to fulfill the Brief.

4.4 A detailed risk assessment must be provided for this particular site.

4.5 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.

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

5. Report Requirements

5.1 An archive of all records and finds must be prepared consistent with the principles of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (particularly Appendix 3.1 and Appendix 4.1).

5.2 The report should reflect the aims of the WSI.

5.3 The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its archaeological interpretation.

5.4 An opinion as to the necessity for further evaluation and its scope may be given. No further site work should be embarked upon until the primary fieldwork results are assessed and the need for further work is established.

5.5 Reports on specific areas of specialist study must include sufficient detail to permit assessment of potential for analysis, including tabulation of data by context, and must include non-technical summaries.

5.6 The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence, including an assessment of palaeoenvironmental remains recovered from palaeosols and cut features. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological potential of the site, and the significance of that potential in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).

5.7 The results of the surveys should be related to the relevant known archaeological information held in the County Historic Environment Record (HER).

5.8 A copy of the Specification should be included as an appendix to the report.

5.9 The project manager must consult the County HER Officer (Dr Colin Pendleton) to obtain an HER number for the work. This number will be unique for each project or site and must be clearly marked on any documentation relating to the work.

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

5.11 Every effort must be made to get the agreement of the landowner/developer to the deposition of the full site archive, and transfer of title, with the intended archive repository before the fieldwork commences. If this is not achievable for all or parts of the finds archive then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, scientific analysis) as appropriate.

5.12 The project manager should consult the intended archive repository before the archive is prepared regarding the specific requirements for the archive deposition and curation, and regarding any specific cost implications of deposition.

5.13 If the County Store is the intended location of the archive, the project manager should consult the SCCAS Archive Guidelines 2010 and also the County Historic Environment Record Officer regarding the requirements for the deposition of the archive (conservation, ordering, organisation, labelling, marking and storage) of excavated material and the archive. A clear statement of the form, intended content, and standards of the archive is to be submitted for approval as an essential requirement of the WSI.

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

5.15 Where positive conclusions are drawn from a project (whether it be evaluation or excavation) 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*, must be prepared. It should be included in the project report, or submitted to SCCAS/CT, by the end of the calendar year in which the evaluation work takes place, whichever is the sooner.

5.17 County HER sheets must be completed, as per the County HER manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.

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

Following acceptance, two copies of the report should be submitted to SCCAS/CT together with a digital .pdf version.

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

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

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

Specification by: Sarah Poppy

Suffolk County Council
Archaeological Service Conservation Team
9–10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk IP33 2AR
Tel: 01284 352199
Email: sarah.poppy@suffolk.gov.uk

Date: 14 June 2010 Reference: / KingsFarmCranley2010

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

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

Appendix III

Monitoring of ground works

Subsequent to the evaluation trenching of the site the topsoil strip for the main structure was monitored during two site visits. Soil stripping was undertaken by using a 360 machine with a wide, toothless, bucket. In general this left moderate to good visibility across the exposed natural yellow clay with flints Till surface though the dry conditions did lead to some portions being partially obscured and in other parts small areas were not down to the natural surface. The stripped area was carefully traversed at c5m intervals and any possible features were scraped using a trowel or spade as appropriate. A careful search was also made for any stray artefacts.

Results- in general the site monitoring confirmed the evaluation results as very little evidence was observed for past human activity. A few small fragments of Post medieval peg tile were noted but no other finds were visible. The only possible archaeological feature that was found was observed as a small and sparse scatter of charcoal fragments c3m west of a small scoop (0004) also containing burnt material. In the case of the possible feature observed in the monitoring the soil stripping had already all but removed it's integrity as it had been such a shallow scoop into the natural clay surface below the topsoil. No evidence could be seen for the possible linear feature (0006) recorded in the evaluation and the initial conclusion that this was a natural silty feature within the clay surface appears to be correct.

Conclusion- the combined results of the site evaluation and monitoring of the soil stripping have confirmed that the area of this development has been peripheral to the nearby main areas of medieval and Post medieval activity and no significant archaeological deposits have been disturbed. The small pits or scoops containing burnt material are of moderate interest though dating is difficult as only one (0002) contained any finds, a small fragment of Post medieval peg tile. In conclusion it seems likely that these small features derive from some form of transient agricultural related activity, probably in the Post medieval period.