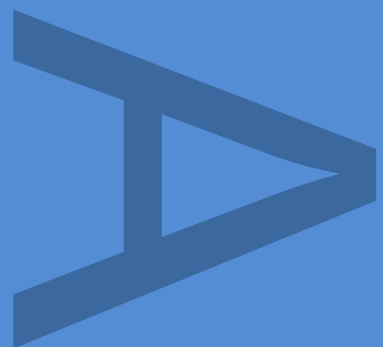


**CROWNFIELD ROAD,
GLEMSFORD, CO10 7UL**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL
TRENCH EVALUATION**

SEPTEMBER 2012



**PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY
R11270**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT CROWNFIELD ROAD, GLEMSFORD, CO10 7UL

Site Code: GFD 047

Central NGR: TL 827/487

Local Planning Authority: Babergh District Council

Planning Reference: B/11/01466/FUL

Written and Researched by Alexander Pullen and Tom Woolhouse

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ABSTRACT

This document details the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation at Crownfield Road, Glemsford, Suffolk. The work was commissioned by CgMs to assess the archaeological implications of development of land at the site. The work was undertaken in two stages due to the presence of protected newts on the site: Trenches 9-17 in the eastern half of the site (Area A) were excavated on the 20th and 21st July 2012 and Trenches 1-8 in the western half of the site (Area B) were excavated on the 19th and 20th September 2012. Two ditches were revealed in Area A. One is a late-19th- or 20th-century drainage ditch containing a ceramic land drain; the second ditch is undated. No archaeological features or finds were encountered in Area B. Based on the results of this evaluation, the archaeological impact of the proposed development would be negligible.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This document details the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation at Crownfield Road, Glemsford. The work was commissioned by CgMs Consulting to assess the archaeological implications of development of land at the site.
- 1.2 A written scheme of investigation (WSI) for archaeological trial trenching within the proposed development area was prepared by Mark Hinman (PCA) in response to a Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation issued on 02/07/2012 by Jess Tipper of the Conservation Team within Suffolk County Council's Archaeological Service (SCCAS/CT). The Brief stated that the site was close to the historic core of the village and therefore had high potential for archaeological evidence of medieval occupation.
- 1.3 The site comprises a 1.83ha greenfield site adjacent to the northern edge of the village, centred on NGR TL 827/487.
- 1.4 The site lies over superficial deposits of Lowestoft clay and silt overlying chalk (British Geological Survey 1979; Soil Survey of England & Wales (SSEW) 1983).
- 1.5 The first stage of archaeological investigation was carried out on the 20th and 21st July 2012 and comprised the excavation and recording of nine trenches in the eastern half of the site (Area A; Trenches 9-17). Nine 2.0m wide archaeological evaluation trenches were excavated. Trenches as set out were 30m in length. Trench 11 was restricted to 22m in order to avoid a protected hedgerow to the north of the site.
- 1.6 The second stage of investigation was carried out on the 19th and 20th September 2012 and comprised the excavation and recording of eight trenches in the western half of the site (Area B; Trenches 1-8). Eight 2.0m wide trenches were excavated. Trenches 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8 were

30m in length. Trenches 1 and 2 were shortened to 25 and 27m, respectively, due to the presence of newt fencing around the site perimeter; Trench 4 was extended to 33m.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 2.1 Seventeen trenches were laid out following the trench location plan in the Written Scheme of Investigation produced by PCA. Minor modifications to the proposed layout were necessary due to the proximity of a protected hedgerow to the north of the site and new fencing around the site perimeter. The site was CAT-scanned prior to excavation.
- 2.2 The ground reduction was carried out under archaeological supervision using a 360 excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Topsoil and subsoil deposits were removed in spits down to the level of the clean natural where potential archaeological features could be observed and recorded.
- 2.3 OD heights and trench locations were recorded using a Leica 1200 GPS rover unit.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

- 3.1 Trenches 1-8 (Area B) contained no archaeological features or finds. The natural silty clay drift geology (34) was encountered at depths ranging from 0.82m below modern ground level (66.16m OD) in the south end of Trench 2 to just 0.23m below modern ground level (69.30m OD) at the south-east end of Trench 7, in the southern corner of the site. The natural geology (34) was generally overlain by 0.30-0.50m of clayey silt subsoil (33), which was in turn sealed by approximately 0.20-0.25m thick topsoil (32).
- 3.2 The depth of the subsoil (33) in Area B decreased markedly towards the south corner of the site and was barely present at all in Trench 8 or the southern half of Trench 7. This reduction in subsoil depth corresponded with the gradual upward slope towards a high point in the southern corner of the site (69.60m OD). Had any archaeological remains ever been present in this area, they would have been afforded little protection by the shallow overlying deposits. The subsoil was deepest (0.60m) at the south end of Trench 2, the lowest-lying part of Area B. Nevertheless, no archaeological remains were found even in those areas where the overlying topsoil and subsoil were deeper.
- 3.3 Trenches 9, 15, 16 and 17, in Area A, contained no archaeological features or finds. The height of the natural silty clay geology was recorded in these trenches at 63.50m, 65.57m, 66.50m and 65.65m OD, respectively. The natural geology was overlain by a 0.30m - 0.40m thick clayey silt subsoil, which in turn was overlain by a 0.30m-0.40m thick topsoil.
- 3.4 A north to south orientated ditch was excavated in Trenches 10 and 14. The ditch was 0.93m wide and 0.30m deep (see Fig. 2). No archaeological finds were present in this feature. The natural silty clay (34) was encountered at 64.91m OD. In Trenches 10 and 14, the silty

clay natural (34) was overlain by a 0.40m thick subsoil (33) and 0.30m of topsoil (32).

- 3.5 A 19th-/20th-century drainage ditch (0.80m wide, 0.30m deep) was encountered running east to west between Trenches 11 [29] and 10 [31]. In Trench 11 this ditch contained a land drain. A ditch in Trench 12 [25] (0.80m wide, 0.30m deep) was assumed to be part of the same drainage feature (though lacking a ceramic drain) curving southwards. This feature was encountered again in Trench 13 [27].
- 3.6 The natural geology (34) sloped downwards to the north in Trenches 10 and 11 and was present at between 64.50m and 63.20m OD. In Trenches 12 and 13, the natural was encountered at 66.10m and 65.50m OD, respectively. In Trenches 10, 11 and 12 the natural geology (34) was overlain by 0.30-0.50m thick subsoil. Overlying the subsoil (33) was 0.25 -0.40m thick topsoil (32).

4 CONCLUSIONS

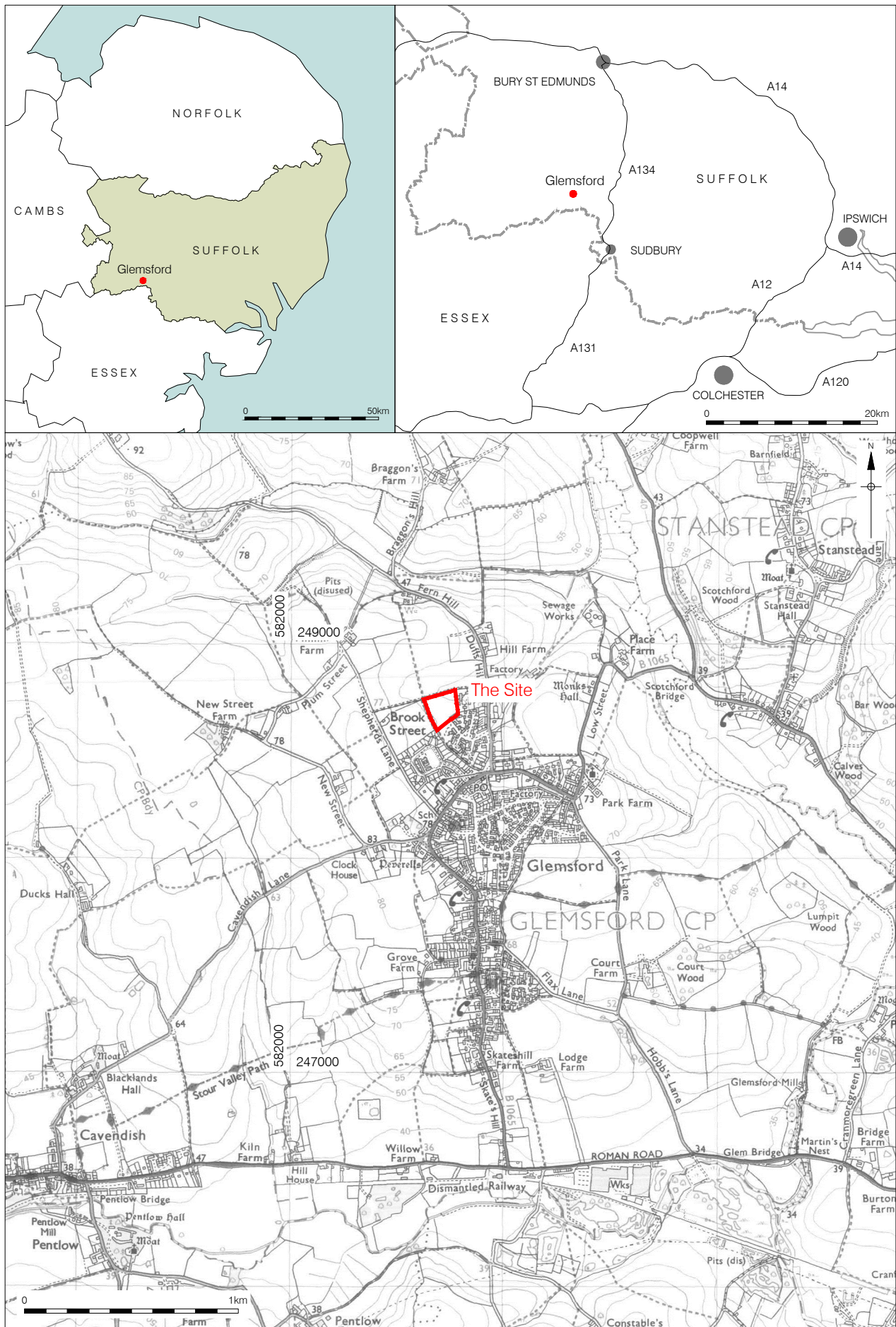
- 4.1 Two ditches were encountered during the evaluation of Area A (Trenches 9 to 17) at Crownfield Road, Glemsford.
- 4.2 The north to south aligned ditch encountered in Trenches 10 and 14 contained no datable material. The ditch was overlain by the subsoil.
- 4.3 A 19th-/20th-century drainage ditch, recorded as [29], [31], [25] and [27], was seen in Trenches 10, 11, 12 and 13. This ditch was cut from beneath the topsoil and clearly truncated the subsoil.
- 4.4 No archaeological features or finds were encountered in Area B (Trenches 1-8) of the site.
- 4.5 On the basis of this evaluation, the proposed development would have negligible archaeological impact.

5 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PCA would like to thank CgMs Consulting for commissioning the project. Thanks to Josephine Brown of the PCA CAD Department for preparing the figures.

6 REFERENCES

Hinman, M. 2012 *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation at Crownfield Road, Glemsford, Suffolk.*



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08/08/12 HB

Figure 1
Site Location
1:2,000,000; 625,000 & 25,000 at A4



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10/07/12 MR

updated 08/08/12 HB

updated 25/09/12 JB

Figure 2
Trench Locations, Areas A and B
1:1,000 at A4

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT REGISTER

Context	Cut	Type	Trench	Comments
1	-	Trench	1	Trench 1 (Area B)
2	-	Trench	2	Trench 2 (Area B)
3	-	Trench	3	Trench 3 (Area B)
4	-	Trench	4	Trench 4 (Area B)
5	-	Trench	5	Trench 5 (Area B)
6	-	Trench	6	Trench 6 (Area B)
7	-	Trench	7	Trench 7 (Area B)
8	-	Trench	8	Trench 8 (Area B)
9	-	Trench	9	Trench 9 (Area A)
10	-	Trench	10	Trench 10 (Area A)
11	-	Trench	11	Trench 11 (Area A)
12	-	Trench	12	Trench 12 (Area A)
13	-	Trench	13	Trench 13 (Area A)
14	-	Trench	14	Trench 14 (Area A)
15	-	Trench	15	Trench 15 (Area A)
16	-	Trench	16	Trench 16 (Area A)
17	-	Trench	17	Trench 17 (Area A)
20	21	Fill	14	Ditch – undated
21	21	Cut	14	Ditch - undated
22	23	Fill	10	Ditch – undated, same as (20)
23	23	Cut	10	Ditch – undated, same as [21]
24	25	Fill	12	Ditch – 19 th /20 th century. Drainage Ditch
25	25	Cut	12	19 th /20 th century. Drainage Ditch
26	27	Fill	13	19 th /20 th century. Drainage Ditch
27	27	Cut	13	19 th /20 th century. Drainage Ditch
28	29	Fill	11	19 th /20 th century. Drainage Ditch
29	29	Cut	11	19 th /20 th century. Drainage Ditch
30	31	Fill	10	19 th /20 th century. Drainage Ditch
31	31	Cut	10	19 th /20 th century. Drainage Ditch
32	-	Layer	All	Topsoil
33	-	Layer	All	Subsoil
34	-	Layer	All	Natural silty clay drift geology

APPENDIX 2: PLATES

PLATE1: Area B, view north. Ground is being prepared by ecologist.



PLATE 2: Trench 17, view west.



PLATE 3: Trench 15, view north.



PLATE 4: Trench 14, view east.



PLATE 5: Trench 14 - Ditch [21], view south.



PLATE 6: Trench 14 – Ditch [21], north-facing section.



PLATE 7: Trench 11, view north-east. Drainage Ditch [29] runs east to west just beyond far end of ranging pole.



PLATE 8: Trench 11, view north-east. Land drains in Drainage Ditch [29].



PLATE 9: Trench 10, view north-north-west.



PLATE 10: Trench 10. North to south aligned Ditch [23] – the same as Ditch [21] in Trench 14. View north-west.



PLATE 11: Trench 12, view south-east.



PLATE 12: Trench 9, view west.



PLATE 13: Trench 13, View west.



PLATE 14: Trench 13. Ditch [27]. View south.



PLATE 15: Trench 16, view south-east.



AREA B

PLATE 16: Trench 1, view north-east.



PLATE 17: Trench 2, view north-west.



PLATE 18: Trench 3, view north-west.



PLATE 19: Trench 4, view north-east.



PLATE 20: Trench 5, view north-east.



PLATE 21: Trench 6, view north-west



PLATE 22: Trench 7, view north-west



PLATE 23: Trench 8, view north-east



APPENDIX 3: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-131105

Project details

Project name	Evaluation at Crownfield Road, Glemsford
Short description of the project	17 evaluation trenches. Area A (Trenches 9-17) excavated 20 th -21 st July 2012. One undated ditch, one 19 th /20 th century ditch identified. Area B (Trenches 1-8) excavated 19 th -20 th September 2012. No features or finds were present.
Project dates	Start: 20-07-2012. End: 20-09-2012
Previous/future work	Not known / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	GFD047 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Significant Finds	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Test Pits"
Development type	Residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK, BABERGH Crownfield Road, Glemsford
Study area	1.83ha site (5% sample by trial trenching)
Site coordinates	TL 827 487 52 0 52 06 21 N 000 40 05 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 63.95m OD Max: 69.60m OD

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	CgMs Consulting
Project design originator	Mark Hinman
Project director/manager	Mark Hinman

Project supervisor	Alexander Pullen and Tom Woolhouse
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council
Paper Media available	"Drawing", "Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Field Evaluation at Crownfield Road, Glemsford, Suffolk.
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Pullen, A. and Woolhouse, T.
Date	20 th September 2012
Issuer or publisher	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Description	A4 Grey Literature Report

Entered by	T Woolhouse (t woolhouse@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	20 th September 2012

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