

Land Adjacent to The Drift & Part Garden of 101 The Street , Capel St Mary, Suffolk

Planning application: B/08/00872

HER Ref: CSM 033

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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

(June 2011)

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Site details for HER

Name: Land adjacent to The Drift & part garden of 101, The Street, Capel St Mary, IP9 2EH

Client: Thorcross Builders Ltd

Local planning authority: Babergh DC

Planning application ref: B/08/00872

Development: Erection of two detached dwellings with garages

Date of fieldwork: 15 June 2011

HER Ref: CSM 033

OASIS ref: johnnewm1-103615

Grid ref: TM 0871 3817

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Summary: Capel St Mary, land adjacent to The Drift and to the rear of 101 The Street (CSM 033, TM 0871 3817) evaluation trenching did not reveal any features or significant finds on a small residential development adjacent to an area (CSM 027) where a low density of mainly Roman period features had previously been recorded (John Newman Archaeological Services for Thorcross Builders Ltd).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Thorcross Builders Ltd commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological evaluation works on a plot of land on the eastern side of The Drift, Capel St Mary (see Fig. 1) which formerly formed the southern half of the garden to 101, The Street that is to be developed as required under a condition for a programme of archaeological works of the planning decision notice for application B/08/00872. The evaluation requirements were set out in a Brief and Specification (see Appendix II) set by Dr J Tipper of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service to satisfy this condition. This development concerns the erection of two detached residential dwelling with garages.

1.2 Capel St Mary lies to the south of Ipswich and is now a large village having seen extensive development since the middle of the 20th century around what was originally a settlement strung out along a main street with other, scattered cottages and farms in the parish. What was the main Roman road from London to the East Anglia cuts across the eastern part of the parish and is now largely under the modern A 12. Evidence for a substantial Roman period site has been recorded around Windmill Hill to the west of the parish church. The site in question is on the eastern side of a small modern development on The Drift and to the rear of 101 The Street and is some 150m south east of the church and 400m east of a stream that runs on a north-south alignment through the western part of the parish with one small tributary rising a little closer to the south of the church and just to the west of The Drift. The main, east-west aligned, road through the village is some 50m to the north of the planned development with the southern part of the garden of 101 The Street which has been detached having a northerly aspect with a gentle slope between c42m and 44m OD. The drift geology of the area has previously been described in the evaluation report (Meredith, 2006) for the recent development at The Drift (HER ref. CSM 027) as being a 'stiff chalky clay with sandy patches' while the subsequent monitoring report (Meredith, 2009) for the same site notes the presence of areas of a deep deposit of an 'orange brown sandy clay silt,' overall indicating a complex series of deposits. At the time of the evaluation the site, which covers an area of c0.10ha, had been cleared of vegetation including various fruit trees.

1.3 To quote from the relevant specification- 'This application, for the erection of two detached dwellings and detached garages is located in an area of archaeological interest, recorded in the County Historic Environment Record. Archaeological evaluation immediately to the west defined ditches dating to the Roman period (HER no. CSM 027). Roman cremation burials have been discovered in the area of the churchyard, to the north-west of the site (CSM 013). There is high potential for encountering heritage assets of archaeological interest in this area.' The majority of the archaeological features recorded on the site to the west of the proposed development area were small, north-south, aligned ditches and the quantity of finds recovered was small so it seems likely that the overall area was peripheral to the main focus of Roman period activity at Capel St Mary (ibid. 2006 & 2009). Some evidence was also recorded for prehistoric activity at this site.

2. Evaluation methodology

2.1 The proposed development area to the rear of 101 The Street was trenched to a previously agreed plan with a T shaped trench within the overall footprint of each planned dwelling (see Fig. 2) with the 180 machine under constant archaeological supervision with the subsoil below the topsoil proving to be very hard. On the northern dwelling footprint the north-south arm to the trench was 8m long and 2.50m wide while the arm to the east was a further 6.30m long and the same width giving a total trenched area of 35.75m² or 22% of the footprint. On the southern dwelling footprint the north-south arm of the trench was 8.40m long and 2.40m wide while the arm to the west was a further 6.40m long and 2.30m wide giving a total trenched area of 34.88m² or 21.8% of the footprint. With regard to the overall development site the area trenched represents c6% of the c0.11ha area. The exposed sandy clay surface with occasional chalk fragments was closely examined for archaeological features in each trench and any indistinct areas were hand cleaned. The upcast spoil from the trench was examined visually and by an experienced metal detector user for any finds, in addition a detector search was carried out over the surface of the application plot. Site visibility for features and finds is considered to have been good throughout the evaluation. The trench was recorded in relation to existing mapped details and in relation to the planned footprint areas as marked out by the developer. A full photographic record in digital format (see Appendix I) and monochrome film was taken of the trenching works.

3. Results

3.1 Northern dwelling plot- the topsoil depth across the footprint area was a uniform 300mm, below this the mid brown sandy subsoil at the southern end of the north-south arm to the trench was a further 100mm deep over the underlying naturally occurring deposits, which was revealed as a very hard orange sandy clay with flints and occasional chalk fragments, with the subsoil layer being 150mm thick at the eastern extremity of the trenching on this plot. However the subsoil proved to be deeper towards the northern end of the north-south arm to the trench with a maximum thickness of 400mm giving an overall trench depth of 700mm at this point. This trench did not reveal any archaeological features and only finds seen in the upcast spoil were small brick or tile fragments of Post medieval date in the subsoil with the metal detector search only recovering finds of recent date including a very worn Victorian halfpenny and a watch frame of earlier 20th century date. From these trenching results it can be concluded that the ground drops away at the site to the north-west as the deepest subsoil deposit was recorded towards the north-western corner of the this plot.

3.2 Southern dwelling plot- again the topsoil proved to be a uniform 300mm deep across the footprint, below this the subsoil varied between 100-150mm deep. As with the northern plot no archaeological features were revealed in this trench and the only finds seen in the upcast spoil were occasional small brick or tile fragments and a few iron scraps of uncertain date.

4. Conclusion

4.1 The lack of any archaeological features or significant finds from what represents a substantial sample of the proposed development footprints indicates that this site,

though adjacent to a site with a low density of features of mainly Roman date, lies outside this area of past activity. From an examination of the archaeological evidence (ibid. 2006 & 2009) recovered from the recent development area at The Drift to the west it can be suggested that this site is peripheral to the nearby main foci of Roman period activity further to the west/north-west. With very few finds from a scatter of mainly linear, small ditch, type features the evidence from The Drift site points to perhaps largely agricultural use of the area in the Roman period with the area recently trenched, which forms the subject of this report, being further to the east/south-east and, therefore, in all likelihood even further from the main areas of Roman period activity at Capel St Mary.

4.3 Based on the evaluation results it is recommended that no further archaeological investigations need to be carried out on the proposed site to the east of The Drift and to the rear of 101 The Street.

Archive- to be deposited with the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service under the HER ref. CSM 033.

Disclaimer- any opinions regarding the need for further archaeological work 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 Andrew Goodwin and his machine operator for their help on site and to James Armes for the metal detector search).

Refs:

Meredith, J 2006 *The Driftway, Capel St Mary CSM 027 OASIS ID: suffolkc1 – 13590
A Report on an Archaeological Evaluation 2006*

Meredith, J 2009 *The Driftway, The Street, Capel St Mary CSM 027 Archaeological Monitoring
Report*

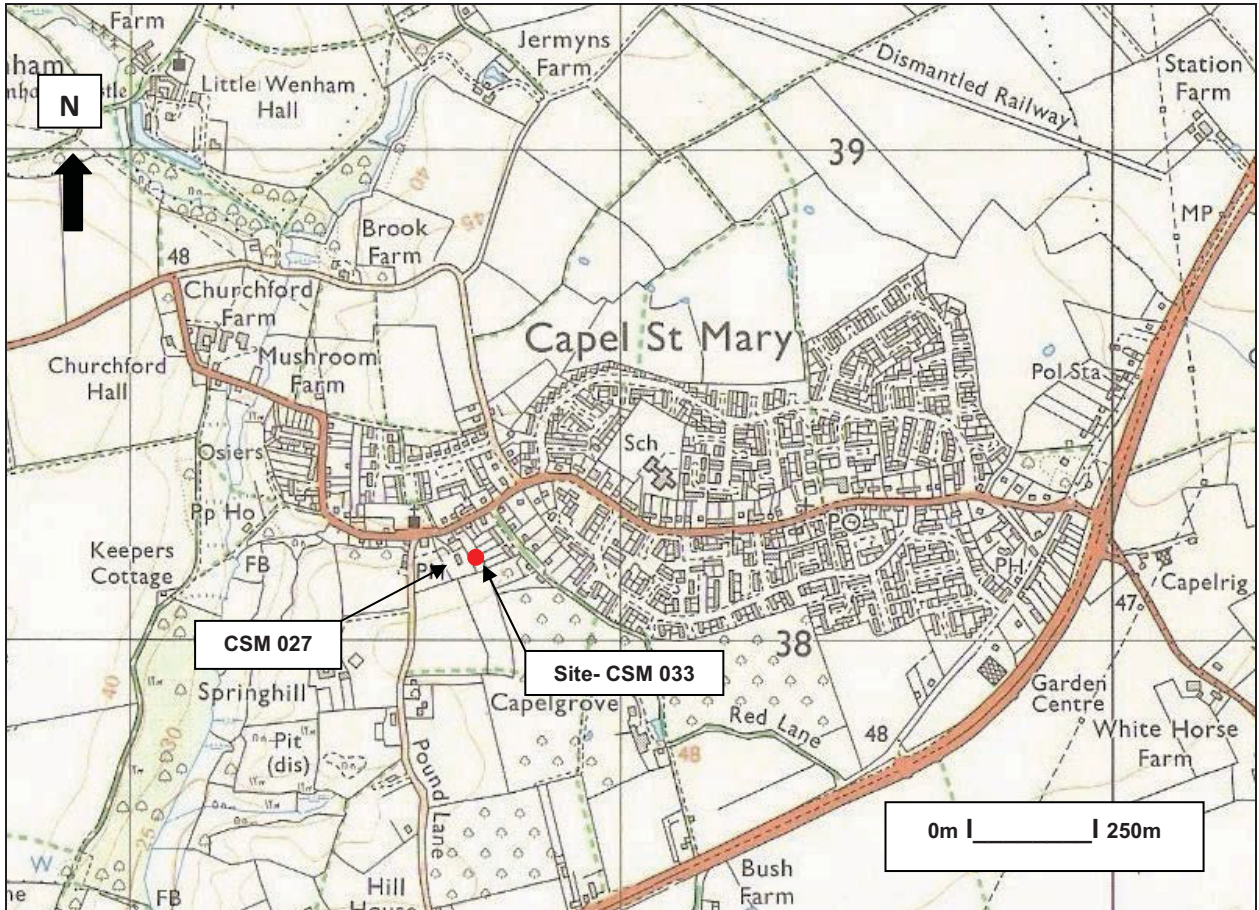


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2006
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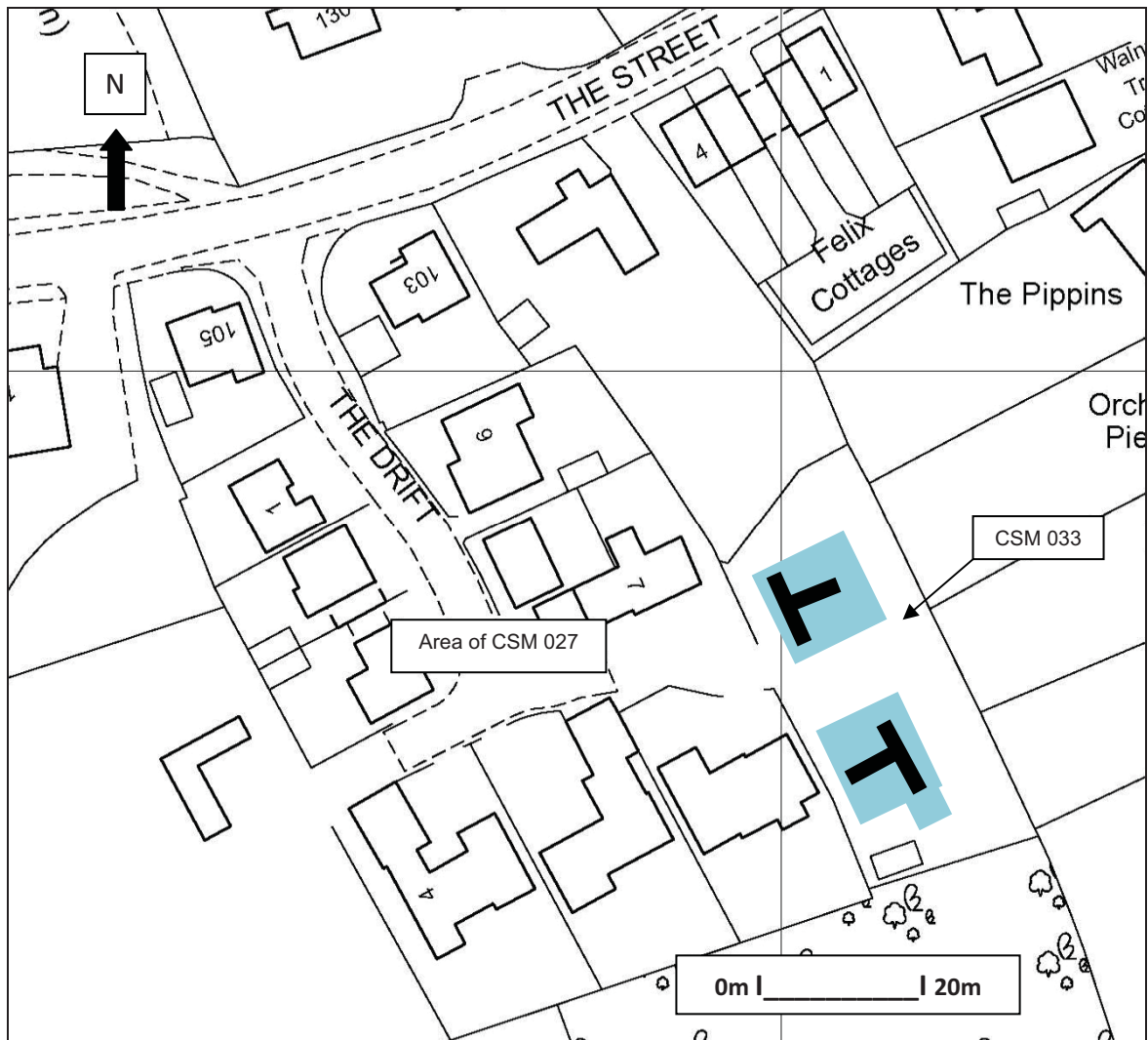


Fig. 2: Location of evaluation trenches within proposed house footprints (light blue)
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Appendix I- Images



Site from south showing land dropping to north and north-west



Trench across northern house plot from south-west



Trench across southern house plot from south

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

Brief and Specification for Archaeological Evaluation

LAND ADJACENT TO THE DRIFT AND PART REAR GARDEN OF 101 THE STREET, CAPEL ST MARY, SUFFOLK (B/08/00872)

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 Babergh District Council (B/08/00872) for the erection of two dwellings and detached garages at Land Adjacent to the Drift and Part Rear Garden of 101 The Street, Capel St Mary (TM 087 381). **Please contact the applicant for an accurate plan of the site.**
- 1.2 The Planning Authority has been advised that any consent should be conditional upon an agreed programme of work taking place before development begins in accordance with PPS 5 *Planning for the Historic Environment* (Policy HE 12.3) (which replaced PPG 16 in 2010) to record and advance understanding of the significance of the heritage asset before it is damaged or destroyed.
- 1.3 The site (0.11ha. in size) is located on the south side of The Street at c.40–45.00m OD. The underlying glaciofluvial drift geology of the site comprises London Clay, overlain by chalky drift deposit.
- 1.4 This application, for the erection of two detached dwellings and detached garages is located in an area of archaeological interest, recorded in the County Historic Environment Record. Archaeological evaluation immediately to the west defined ditches dating to the Roman period (HER no. CSM 027). Roman cremation burials have been discovered in the area of the churchyard, to the north-west of the site (CSM 013). There is high potential for encountering heritage assets of archaeological interest in this area.
- 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 standards and guidance produced by the Institute for Archaeologists this brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the total execution of the project. A

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) based upon this brief and the accompanying outline specification of minimum requirements, is an essential requirement. This must be submitted by the developers, or their agent, to the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (9-10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR) for approval. The work must not commence until this office has approved both the archaeological contractor as suitable to undertake the work, and the WSI as satisfactory. The WSI will provide the basis for measurable standards and will be used to satisfy the requirements of the planning condition.

- 1.10 Neither this specification nor the WSI, however, is a sufficient basis for the discharge of the planning condition relating to archaeological investigation. Only the full implementation of the scheme, both completion of fieldwork and reporting based on the approved WSI, will enable SCCAS/CT to advise Babergh District Council 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 Trial trenches are to be excavated to cover 5% by area of that part of the development area (55.00m²). These shall be positioned to sample all parts of the site, following demolition of existing buildings down to ground level. Linear trenches are thought to be the most appropriate sampling method. Trenches are to be a minimum of 1.80m wide unless special circumstances can be demonstrated; this will result in a minimum of 31.00m of trenching at 1.80m in width.
- 3.2 If excavation is mechanised a toothless 'ditching bucket' 1.50m wide minimum must be used. A scale plan showing the proposed location of the trial trench 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 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. Suitable arrangements should be made with the client to ensure trenches are appropriately backfilled, compacted and consolidated in order to prevent subsequent subsidence.

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 for 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 a 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 depository 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 If the County Store is not the intended depository, the project manager should ensure that a duplicate copy of the written archive is deposited with the County HER.
- 5.13 The project manager should consult the intended archive depository before the archive is prepared regarding the specific requirements for the archive deposition and curation, and regarding any specific cost implications of deposition. The intended depository should be stated in the WSI, for approval. The intended depository must be prepared to accept the entire archive resulting from the project (both finds and written archive) in order to create a complete record of the project.

- 5.14 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.
- 5.15 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>) with ADS or another appropriate archive depository.
- 5.16 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 An unbound hardcopy 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 hard copies of the report should be submitted to SCCAS/CT together with a digital .pdf version.
- 5.18 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 imported into MapInfo (for example, as a Drawing Interchange File or .dxf) or already transferred to .TAB files.
- 5.19 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.
- 5.20 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the County HER, and a copy should be included with the draft report for approval. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

Specification by: Dr Jess Tipper

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9–10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall
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Email: jess.tipper@suffolk.gov.uk

Date: 26 May 2011

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.