

**Land To The North of Hubbards Loke,
Gunton, Suffolk**

Planning application: DC/12/0909/COU

HER Ref: LWT 188

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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

(November 2012)

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Site details for HER

Name: Land to the north of Hubbards Loke, Gunton, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR32 4LB

Client: Gunton PCC

Local planning authority: Waveney DC

Planning application ref: DC/12/0909/COU

Development: Creation of woodland burial site (Phase 1 of 3)

Date of fieldwork: 5 & 6 November, 2012

HER Ref: LWT 188

OASIS ref: johnnewm1-138006

Grid ref: TM 5436 9580

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Summary: Gunton, Land north of Hubbards Loke (LWT 188, TM 5436 9580) evaluation trenching of the planned glades within phase 1 of a proposed woodland burial site which, at its closest point, is some 50m north-east of St Peter's Church, Gunton, revealed a small number of archaeological features of either uncertain or Post medieval date. Of the two ditches found during the evaluation one contained a small quantity of Post medieval peg tile while the other one did not yield any finds. Both of these linear features can be interpreted as former field boundaries. A small pit and a number of probable and possible postholes were also recorded in two of the five evaluation trenches. Both the small pit and all of the posthole type features were small and undateable; in addition no patterning could be discerned that might indicate evidence for any type of structure. During the evaluation a thorough metal detector was made of the upcast spoil and areas between the trenches and the field surface was visually scanned for stray finds and the few finds recovered were predominantly of later Post medieval date plus one abraded sherd of possible later prehistoric date, a single medieval buckle and a small number of abraded medieval sherds (John Newman Archaeological Services for Gunton PCC).



Frontispiece- General view across the site from the south

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Gunton Parochial Church Council commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological evaluation works for phase 1 of a proposed woodland burial site on land to the north of Hubbards Loke, Gunton (see Fig. 1). The evaluation requirements were set out in a Brief set by Ms S Poppy of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service with the aim of gaining a representative sample by trial trenching of the five planned burial glades in the initial phase of the overall site with the evaluation being carried out at the pre-determination stage for planning application DC/12/0909/COU. The Written Scheme of Investigation for the archaeological evaluation (see Appendix II) was subsequently prepared by JNAS in order for the trenching to go be undertaken and thereby inform the application process with regard to the archaeological potential of phase 1 which covers the southern third of the full site and is therefore only some 50m north-east of St Peter's Church, Gunton, at its closest point.

1.2 Formerly a small coastal parish Gunton now lies on the northern edge of the urban expansion which has seen Lowestoft grow from a small fishing port to a large town since the mid 19th century. The southern part of what was Gunton parish is now covered by recent residential development and the parish church of St Peter's is on the edge of the built up area. Remnants of the park around Gunton Hall that is shown on Hodkinson's map of Suffolk of 1783 survives to the west and north of the parish church while the area for *the* proposed burial development is currently under arable cultivation with Hubbards Loke to the south being a road of recent creation. To the west of the site a public footpath runs through what is now an area of community woodland and this in all probability is the line of a more historic route linking Gunton with Corton to the north.

1.3 The proposed burial ground development is on ground that drops gently away to the north/north-west with phase 1 at the southern being at c20m OD. Prior to the evaluation trial pitting for this proposal indicated light soils over well drained sands and gravels. However the local drift geology does vary in the area and a large depression in the field c230m to the north was created by the extraction of a large pocket of the locally present white clay for the Lowestoft porcelain industry in the late 18th century (Barry Shimmiell/Harry Hill pers. comm.).

1.4 While the full development covers c12ha divided into three phases these initial evaluation works covered only the 3.4 ha of phase 1 at the southern end nearest to St Peter's Church as noted above. In addition the majority of the site will be planted with trees leaving a more limited part of phase 1 of 0.47ha to be trenched covering the five planned glades where burials will take place and ground disturbance will therefore be more extensive. At the time of the evaluation the site was largely bare earth following the harvesting of the latest crop.

1.5 Archaeological interest in this development has been generated by its location near the historic core of later Saxon and medieval Gunton in close proximity to the parish church (HER LWT 021) with the original site of the hall being a little further to the west (see Fig. 2). In addition evidence for mid to late Saxon and medieval activity has been recovered from this field in the form of non-ferrous metal detected finds (HER LWT 159). In this setting and context the site had the potential to contain evidence of past settlement type activity of mid to late Saxon and medieval date in particular with the planned development due to cause extensive ground disturbance within the planned burial glades with subsequent damage to any archaeological deposits that might be present.

2. Evaluation methodology

2.1 The area of the five proposed burial glades was trenched to a previously agreed plan (see Fig. 2) with trench 1 in glade A being longer than any of the others as it is the nearest one to St Peter's Church. Before the trenching was commenced members of Gunton PCC marked the end points of the trenches to facilitate an efficient start to the works. The trenching was undertaken using a medium sized 360 machine equipped with a 1000m wide flat bucket which was under archaeological supervision at all times with any indistinct areas being hand cleaned for better clarity. In total 130m of 1.80m wide trench was opened to give the required 5% sample by area of 234m² of the 0.47ha covered by the five glades in phase 1.

2.2 The base of the trenches and the upcast spoil were examined visually and scanned with a metal detector for any finds as the work progressed. All potential archaeological features were investigated by hand save a ditch at the northern end of trench 5 which was in part sectioned mechanically as its fill contained fragments of Post medieval peg tile. Once half sectioned definite and probable archaeological features were recorded in plan and section before the remaining fill was removed in a search for dateable finds. Site visibility for features and finds is considered to have been good throughout the evaluation which was undertaken under generally dry and sunny conditions though the final half-day on site saw more persistent rain. As the evaluation progressed a full photographic record in digital format (see Appendix I) was taken of the trenching works and features that were investigated.

3. Results

3.1 In this case the results are most easily summarised as in the table below as relatively little of archaeological interest was revealed (see also Figs. 3 & 4 & Appendix IV- Context list):

Trench/ glade	Orientation	Length (m)	Topsoil depth (mm)	Subsoil depth (mm)	Drift geology	Archaeological/ natural features & finds
1/A	Northwest/ southeast	46	350/400	400 of a mid brown sandy subsoil with small & medium flints	West end very silty pale brown sand with flints, east end soft orange sand	Ditch 0002 at west end, one small pit 0008 & 4 possible/probable post holes (0004,0006,0010, 0012) in western half of trench- no finds from features or upcast spoil
2/B	Northwest/ southeast	20	300	300 (as T1)	Orange sand with flints	No features or finds
3/C	Northwest/ southeast	22	300	300 (as T1)	Orange sand with flints & small pockets of white clay in part stained black by ?manganese	No features or finds
4/D	Northwest/ southeast	20	300	350 (as T1)	Orange sand with flints	Two small possible post holes (0014 & 0016)- no finds from features or finds
5/E	Northeast/ southwest	22	300	200 (as T1)	Orange sand with flints	Ditch 0018 at northern end, small frags. of Pmed peg tile in fill, no finds from upcast trench spoil except a Pmed garden type ornament base

Table 1: Trench details

3.2 As outlined in the table above the glaciofluvial deposits exposed in the base of the trenches at a depth of 600/800mm was, as anticipated, a generally free draining orange sand with numerous small and medium sized flints. The only slight variation with regard to the local glaciofluvial deposits was in the northern half of trench 3 where small pockets of a fine white clay were revealed.

3.3 Archaeological features were revealed in trenches 1, 4 and 5 while trenches 2 and 3 proved to contain no evidence for past human activity. At the western end of trench 1 a ditch (0002) was partially exposed as only its eastern half lay within the trench. This linear feature had a north-east/south-west alignment and was of a moderate size being at least 900mm wide and 400mm deep (all depth measurements being taken from the level of the naturally occurring sand with flints). The fill (0003) of this did not contain any finds. The only pit (0004), which was 600mm in diameter and 250mm deep, found during the evaluation was also in trench 1 and, again, the fill (0005) did not contain any finds.

3.4 Trench 1 proved to have the greatest number of archaeological features with, in addition to the ditch (0002) and small pit (0004) described above a number of probable and possible postholes. In the former category are two of the larger posthole type features, which might also be interpreted as small pits as the dimensions for these two types of feature overlap, with one (0008) being 500mm in

diameter and 200mm deep while the second (0010) was the same diameter and slightly deeper at 300mm. The remaining two possible postholes (0006 & 0012) in trench 1 were much smaller with both being 300mm in diameter and 250mm and 300mm deep respectively and both of these features also proved to have indistinct edges and might be the result of natural causes such tree root or animal disturbance. As with the ditch (0002) and small pit (0004) in trench 1 none of the probable or possible postholes produced any finds and it was noteworthy that both all of the feature fills and the upcast spoil from the trench was largely devoid of cultural material of any date.

3.5 Within trench 4 two, further, possible posthole type features were revealed and investigated with one (0014) being 300mm in diameter and 250mm deep while the other (0016) was 350mm across and 200mm deep. Again the edges of these small features were indistinct and a natural cause for them cannot be discounted, again no finds were recovered from the respective fills (0015 & 0017) or the upcast spoil.

3.6 The final feature to be revealed during the evaluation was a north-west/south-east aligned ditch (0018) close to the northern end of trench 5. This feature was more substantial being 1700mm wide and 800mm. As noted in section 2.2 above this ditch type feature was in part excavated mechanically as small fragments of Post medieval peg tile were seen in the upper part of the fill (0019) and a larger fragment was retrieved from a depth 500mm. While the upcast spoil from this trench was again devoid of stray finds a large stone base (0020) was recovered from the subsoil layer and is discussed more fully below.

3.7 The stray finds collected from between the trenches were widely scattered across the phase 1 area with all the medieval finds being single recoveries and the possible late prehistoric sherd coming from close to the gas substation on the southern edge of the field.

4. The Finds

4.1 Few finds of any significance were recovered during the evaluation with the full finds report for this mainly unstratified small group of material recovered from the evaluation included as Appendix III below. All of the unstratified pottery sherds were found as stray finds on the surface of the field between the trenches as were a great majority of the non-ferrous metal finds with very little coming from the upcast spoil. The only feature to contain any finds was the ditch (0018) in trench 5 with a few small fragments and one larger one (66g) of Post medieval peg tile from the fill (0019).

4.2 In summary the evidence from the stray finds recovered from the surface of the field and from the metal detector search point to the area of the evaluation having been peripheral to past settlement in this locality. The few medieval/late medieval (6) and Post medieval (2) sherds from the evaluation can be interpreted as evidence for the general distribution of domestic waste as part of a 'manuring' scatter on arable land. Similarly the two medieval copper alloy finds, five low denomination Post medieval coins and more recent copper alloy and lead debris can also be put down to a combination of 'manuring' and the seasonal presence of farm workers over several hundred years. Finally the possible late prehistoric sherd cannot be seen as being of great significance given its small and abraded condition and the lack of

dateable archaeological features. This sherd was also recovered outside of the planned glade areas.

4.3 The conglomerate stone base (0020) to an urn/vessel found in the subsoil close to the northern edge of the Post medieval ditch (0018) is of a type commonly found in the gardens of Post medieval houses of higher status. It is therefore suggested that it came from the garden of the now demolished Gunton Hall.

5. Conclusion

5.1 With the identification of a single dated feature, which can be interpreted as a Post medieval field boundary ditch, and general lack of cultural material across the area examined it appears likely that the phase 1 part of this site has only been in use for agriculture in the past. The few undated features in trenches 1 and 4 do include a small pit (0004) and two probable postholes (0008 & 0010) but the remaining four possible postholes (0006, 0012, 0014 & 0016) may be of natural origin while the remaining ditch (0002) is likely to be another field boundary. The postholes in addition to being undated do not suggest the former presence of a structure and single postholes could be seen as indicating the one time presence of a hay rick or tethering post.

5.2 Based on the evaluation results it is recommended that no further archaeological investigations need to be carried out within the five planned glades in the phase 1 area of the proposed woodland burial site to the north of Hubbards Loke, Gunton.

Archive- to be deposited with the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service under the HER ref. LWT 188.

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 everyone from Gunton PCC for their close cooperation and skilled machine operation on site, to Jimmy Woodrow for carrying out the metal detector survey, to Esther Newman for processing the finds and to Sue Holden for preparing Figs. 3 & 4)

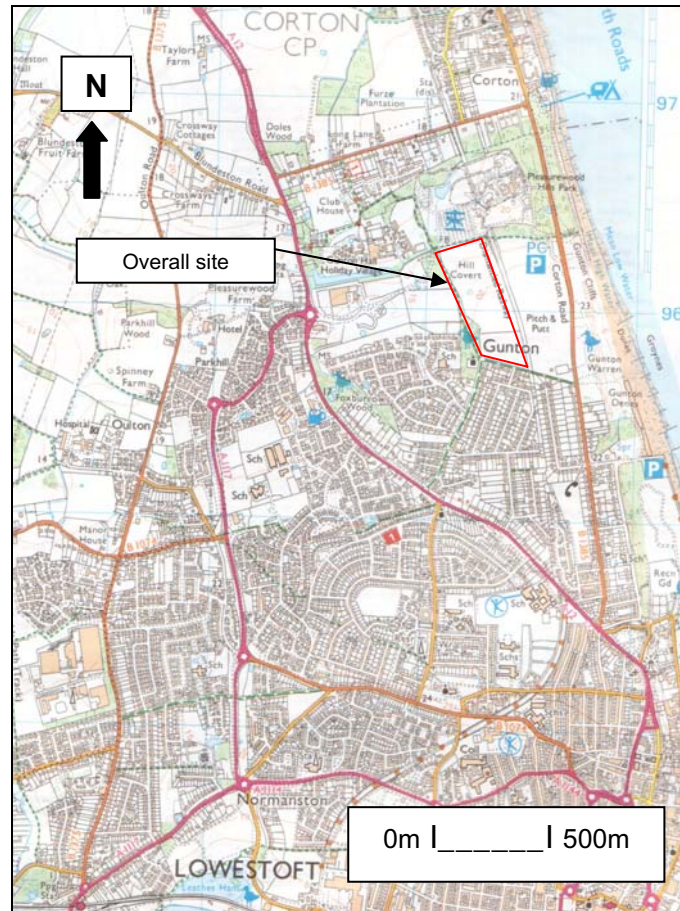


Fig. 1: Site location (Phase 1- southern third)

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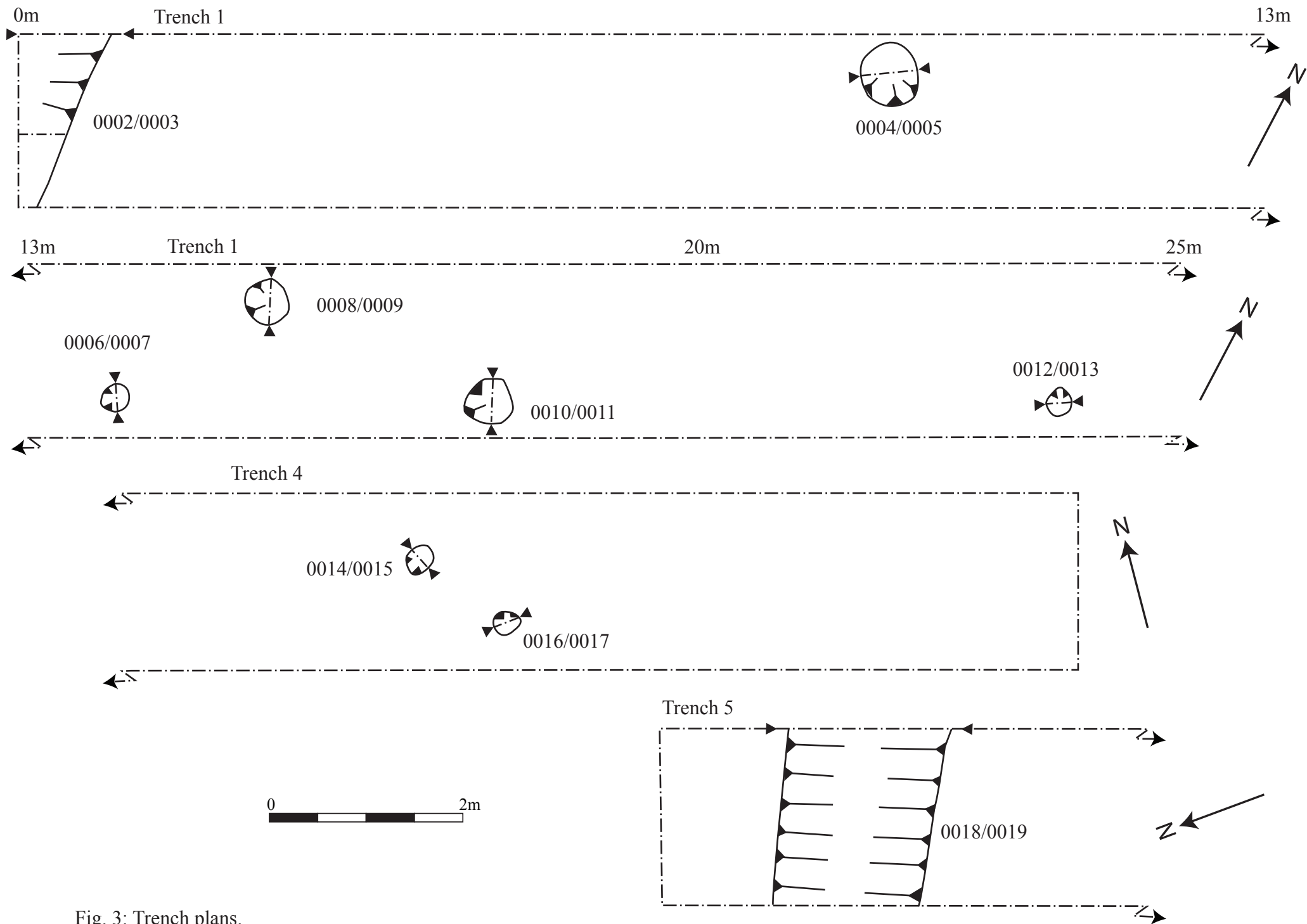


Fig. 3: Trench plans.

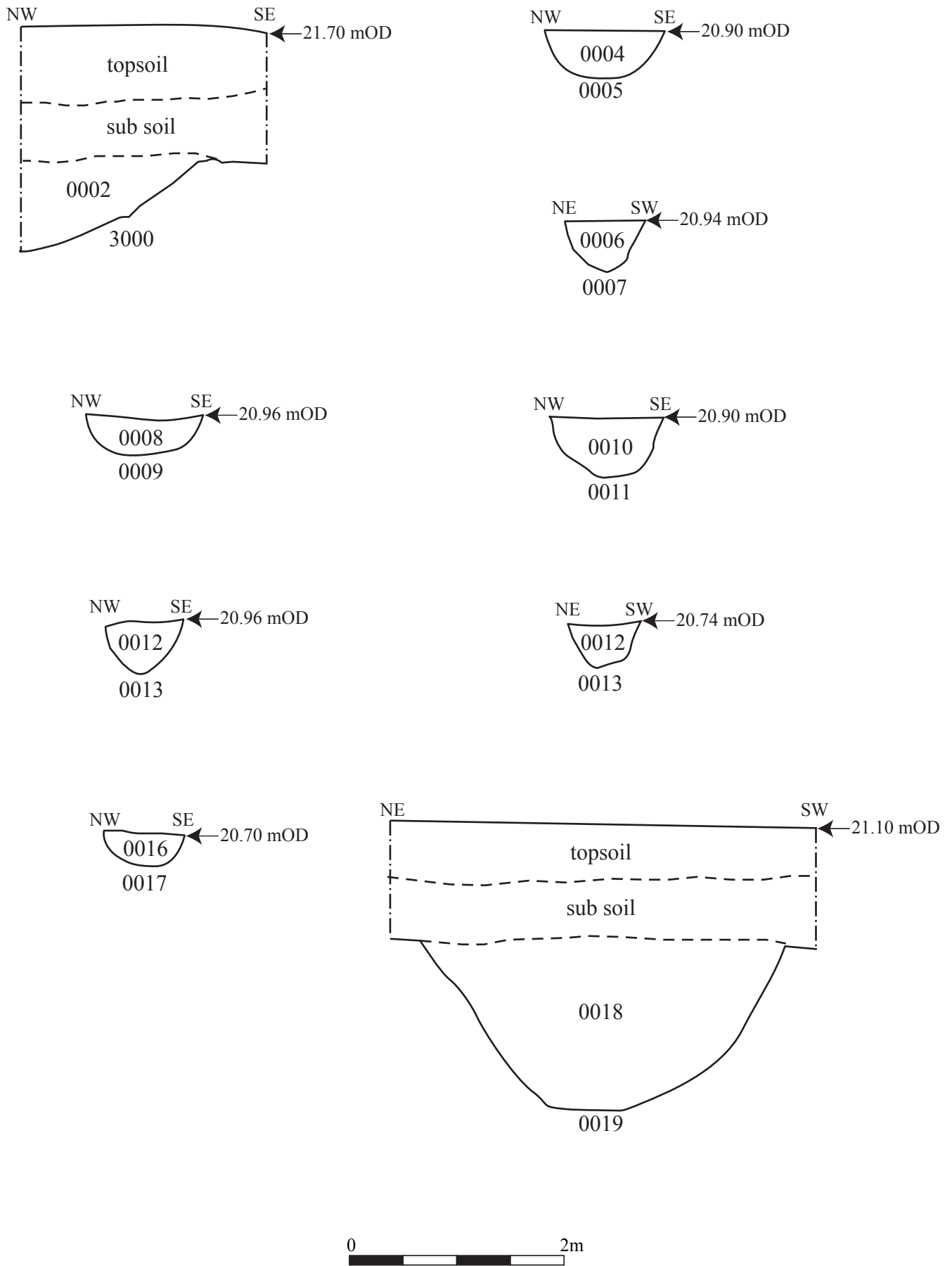


Fig. 4: Feature sections.

Appendix I- Images



Trench 1 from west



Trench 2 from west



Trench 3 from south



Trench 5 from south



Trench 1- feature 0004



Trench 1- feature 0008



Trench 1- feature 0010



Trench 1- feature 0012



Trench 4- feature 0014



Trench 4- feature 0016



Trench 5- feature 0018

**Proposed Burial Development, North of
Hubbards Loke, Gunton, Suffolk**

**Written Scheme of Investigation for
Archaeological Evaluation**

Site details

Name: Land north of Hubbards Loke, Gunton, Suffolk

Client: Gunton PCC

Local planning authority: Waveney DC

Planning application ref: DC/12/0909/COU

Proposed development: Proposed woodland burial site

Proposed date for evaluation: 5 & 6 November, 2012

Brief ref: 2012_09_13_SCCAS_Evaluation_Proposed Woodland Burial Ground

Grid ref: TM 543 958

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1. Introduction
2. Location, Topography & Geology
3. Archaeological & Historical Background
4. Aims of the Site Evaluation
5. Methodology
6. Risk Assessment
7. Specialists

Proposed location of trial trenches

1. Introduction

1.1 Gunton PCC has commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological site evaluation for phase 1 of a proposed woodland burial development. This written scheme of investigation (WSI) details the background to the archaeological requirements for planning application DC/12/0909/COU and how JNAS will implement the requirements of the Brief for Archaeological Evaluation set by Ms S Poppy of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service (SCCAS). The WSI will also set out how potential risks will be mitigated with the evaluation planned to take place during the pre-determination stage for this application. This proposed development concerns the creation of a woodland burial development on land north of Hubbards Loke and north-east of St Peter's Church, Gunton.

1.2 The evaluation will be carried out to the standards set regionally in the *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (EAA Occ. Papers 14, 2003)*, locally in *Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation 2011 Ver. 1.1 (Suffolk CC)* and nationally in *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (Institute for Archaeologists 1994, revised 2001)*.

2. Location, Topography & Geology

2.1 Formerly a small coastal parish Gunton now lies on the northern edge of the urban expansion which has seen Lowestoft grow from a small fishing port to a large town since the mid 19th century. The southern part of what was Gunton parish is now covered by recent residential development and the parish church of St Peter's is on the edge of the built up area. Remnants of the park around Gunton Hall that is shown on Hodkinson's map of Suffolk of 1783 survives to the west and north of the parish church while the area for the proposed burial development is currently under arable cultivation with Hubbards Loke to the south apparently being a road of recent creation.

2.2 The proposed burial ground development on generally flat ground at c20m OD and trial pitting for this proposal indicate light soils over well drained sands and gravels. While the full development covers c12ha divided into three phases the planned evaluation works will only cover the 3.4 ha of phase 1 at the southern end nearest to the parish church. In addition the majority of the site will be planted with trees leaving a more limited part of phase 1 of 0.47ha to be trenched covering the five planned glades where burials will take place.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 To quote from the relevant Brief 'The proposed development is located in an area of high archaeological potential, identified in the Suffolk Historic Environment Record. A scatter of Mid-Late Saxon and medieval finds have been recovered from this field (HER ref: LWT 159), indicative of early settlement located in the vicinity of the medieval church and hall (HER ref: 021). The area has not been the subject of any previous systematic investigation, but has high potential for the discovery of important unknown archaeological sites and features in view of its proximity to known remains.'

4. Aims of the Site Evaluation

4.1 As outlined in section 3 above the main archaeological potential relates to the site's location close to where evidence for Mid to Late Saxon and medieval settlement and related activities may exist. The aim of the evaluation is therefore to examine the specified sample of the proposed burial areas in the five glades with evaluation trenches under controlled conditions so, if archaeological deposits are revealed, a strategy can be formulated for the possible preservation in situ or, failing that, systematic recording of deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost should this application receive consent.

5. Methodology

5.1 The proposed development is for a woodland burial site with five glade areas on what is currently soft ground.

5.2 The Brief requires a 5% trenched sample of the glade areas of 0.47ha which equates to c235m² or 130m of 1.8m wide trench. This will be undertaken using a 1m wide toothless ditching bucket on a suitably sized machine operated by an experienced driver with a trench plan as set out below. The machine will be closely supervised by an experienced archaeologist as the overburden is removed in shallow spits to the top of any archaeological deposits that are present, where hand investigation will start, or to expose the underlying drift geology which will be further hand cleaned and examined. The spoil will be stored adjacent to the excavated trench with top and sub soil kept separate to allow for subsequent sequential backfilling. No trenches will be backfilled until the relevant officer at SCCAS has been consulted and should any modification to the trench layout be required due to any unforeseen circumstances, such as local services, then SCCAS will be contacted immediately. A metal detector search will be carried out by an experienced operator at all stages of the evaluation. The up cast spoil

will also be closely examined for unstratified artefacts as evidence for past activity in rural areas in particular is often as evident via artefact scatters as by undisturbed archaeological deposits.

5.3 Site records will be made under a continuous and unique numbering system of contexts under an overall site HER number obtained from the Suffolk CC HER beforehand. All contexts will be numbered and finds recorded by context. Conventions compatible with the county HER will be used throughout the monitoring. Site plans will be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50 as appropriate and sections at 1:10 or 1:20 (all on plastic drawing film) and related to OS map cover. Sections will be levelled to a datum OD. A photographic record in monochrome film and high resolution digital images will be made of the site and exposed features.

5.4 As necessary and to define archaeological deposits exposed surfaces will be trowelled clean before appropriate hand investigation and recording. Exposed archaeological features will be sampled at standard levels with care being taken to cause minimum disturbance to the site consistent with evaluation to a level adequate to properly form a subsequent mitigation strategy. Significant features such as solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or post holes (where fills are sampled) will have their integrity maintained (and during backfilling). Otherwise for discrete, contained, features, sampling will be at 50%-possibly rising to 100% if requested, and 1m wide sampling slots across linear features. If human burial evidence is revealed the SCCAS Officer will be informed and the clear presumption must be to preserve such remains in situ with minimum disturbance during this evaluation stage. If this is not possible then a Ministry of Justice licence will be obtained prior to full on site recording (total 100% sampling if a cremation deposit) and removal of the remains followed by examination by the relevant specialist and possibly scientific dating. If human remains do have to be recorded, removed from site and reported on then these works will add an additional cost to the evaluation works which may involve radiocarbon dating (in this case the likelihood of revealing human burial is assessed as being low at this location).

5.5 All finds will be collected and processed unless any variation is agreed with the relevant SCCAS Officer. Finds will be assessed by recognised period specialists and their interpretation will form an integral part of the overall report. Finds will be stored according to ICON guidelines with specialist advice/treatment sought for fragile ones. Every effort will be made to gain the deposit of the site finds to the SCCAS Store under their relevant HER code and site numbering for future reference. If this is not possible then the SCCAS Officer will be

consulted over any requirements for additional recording (which may have an additional cost implication). Any discard policy will be discussed and agreed with the relevant SCCAS Officer.

5.6 Where appropriate palaeoenvironmental samples will be taken for processing and assessment by a specialist conversant with regional archaeological standards and research agendas. The sampling, processing and assessment will follow the guidelines as detailed in *A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis* (Murphy P L & Wiltshire P E J, 1994). In accordance with standard practice bulk samples of 40 litres (or 100% of the deposit where less) will be taken from a representative cross section of archaeological deposits of all periods (respecting defined fills within features), in consultation with the relevant SCCAS Officer (and RSA if the deposits merit more targeted advice) including deposits that cannot be immediately dated by their artefact content, so the state of preservation and full archaeological and palaeoenvironmental potential of the deposits can be assessed and any further sampling, should further field work take place, be systematically planned and fully costed. Archaeological deposits of all types may reveal valuable data through the processing and assessment of samples with high priority features including the primary fills of pits, wells and cesspits, layers of middens, occupation surfaces and structural features as well as other discrete activity areas, contents of hearths, ovens, and other craft related or industrial structures. In addition more generalised settlement and land use features such as ditches may also yield valuable and informative data when sampling is undertaken systematically as the sum of all the assessment results can add considerably to the interpretation of a site and its landscape. Through an integrated study of all the data recovered from the evaluation the results from the assessment of the samples will be reviewed in terms of:

- What is the quality and state of preservation of charred plant remains, mineralised plant and animal related remains, small vertebrates and industrial residues such as evidence for iron working (contributing to the fullest interpretation of the evaluation results and to aid the planning of any further field work- if any RC dates are required on should features containing suitable material but no easily dateable finds then this will incur an additional cost.
- What is the concentration of macro-remains (to inform sampling strategy in any further field work), in particular how might bulk sampling inform the interpretation of burial deposits.

- Can any patterning or similarities/differences be ascertained between deposits from different periods represented on site, similarly can any useful comparisons be made with undated and unphased deposits (to aid interpretation of the evaluation results and help in the study of undated deposits which may otherwise be overlooked and which may via sampling yield material for RC dating)
- Do waterlogged deposits exist on site, if so is there potential for palaeoenvironmental data from preserved insects or pollen and do such deposits contain organic material suitable for RC dating from samples taken as advised by the relevant soil specialist (who would also coordinate the assessment for pollen and insect remains), the RSA will also be consulted in such cases in conjunction with the relevant SCCAS Officer. Incremental column samples will be taken should waterlogged deposits be revealed in close consultation with the evaluation soils specialist with 10-20 litre sample sizes which will be sub-sampled for preserved pollen, insects, diatoms, preserved parasite eggs etc. If waterlogged wood is encountered it will ideal to leave in situ, if it has to be lifted it will be packed while wet in black polythene and stored at 5C until it can be transferred to a specialist for species identification, assessment and potential for RC dating is undertaken (trial pitting indicates that waterlogged deposits are unlikely to be encountered).
- Deep blanket type deposits resulting from both natural and human derived actions and events can yield valuable land use and palaeoenvironmental information. In particular such deposits can form at the base of a slope, if located in the evaluation the relevant SCCAS Officer and RSA will be consulted over monolith sampling and assessment by the relevant evaluation specialist (the composition of such deposits may give information on past land use in the area through a study of the soil matrix notwithstanding additional data if it is waterlogged)

5.7 An archive of all records and finds will be prepared consistent with the principles in *Management of Archaeological projects* (MAP2, and particularly Appendix 3). This archive will be deposited with the Suffolk CC HER within 3 months of working finishing on site under the relevant HER number and following the guidelines outlined in '*Deposition of Archaeological Archives in Suffolk*' (SCCAS Conservation Team 2008). As necessary the site digital archive will deposited with the Archaeology

Data Service (ADS) within the agreed allowance for the monitoring and reporting works.

5.8 The evaluation report will be consistent with the principles of MAP2 (particularly Appendix 3.1 & Appendix 4.1) and this report will summarise the methodology employed and relate the archaeological record directly to the aims of this WSI and section 4 above in particular. The report will give an objective account of the deposits and stratigraphy recorded and finds recovered with an inventory of the latter. The report will include an assessment of palaeoenvironmental remains recovered from palaeosols and cut features in relation to both dated and undated features and in terms of patterning across the site.

5.9 Any interpretation of the evaluation will be clearly separated from the objective account of the evaluation and its results and the results will be discussed with the relevant SCCAS Officer at an early stage in the reporting process following reporting on the day of the immediately apparent conclusions. The report will give a clear statement regarding the results of the site evaluation in relation to both the more detailed aims in section 4 above and their significance in the context of local HER records and of the Regional Research Framework (EAA Occ. Papers 3 8 & 24, 1997, 2000 & 2011). There will be no further work on site until the evaluation results have been assessed and the SCCAS Officer has considered whether further archaeological works are required if this application receives consent. The report may give an opinion regarding the necessity for further evaluation work as appropriate. A draft copy of the report will be presented to SCCAS following completion of the site works. Once accepted a bound hard copy will be provided for the County HER with a digital version on disc. As required the site evaluation will be registered on the OASIS online archaeological record followed by submission of the final draft in .pdf format. An HER summary sheet will be completed and a summary prepared of any positive results for inclusion in the annual PSIAH round-up. A vector plan of the trench locations will be provided in .dxf format for inclusion in the County HER.

6. Risk Assessment

6.1 Protective clothing will be worn on site (hard hat, high visibility vest/coat, steel-toe cap boots, and ear muffs if required). A safe working method will be agreed with the machine operator for excavation of the trenches and examination of the up cast spoil while at the same time allowing efficient use of plant. Suitable clothing will be available to mitigate against extremes of weather.

John Newman Archaeological Services

6.2 Vehicles will be safely parked away from work areas and lines of access.

6.3 Discussion with the client has already confirmed that there is no known, or likely, ground contamination and the discovery of underground services is unlikely. No overhead services impinge on the trench locations. Gloves and hand wash/wipes be available and any information on possible ground contamination revealed during the evaluation will be passed to finds and environmental specialists.

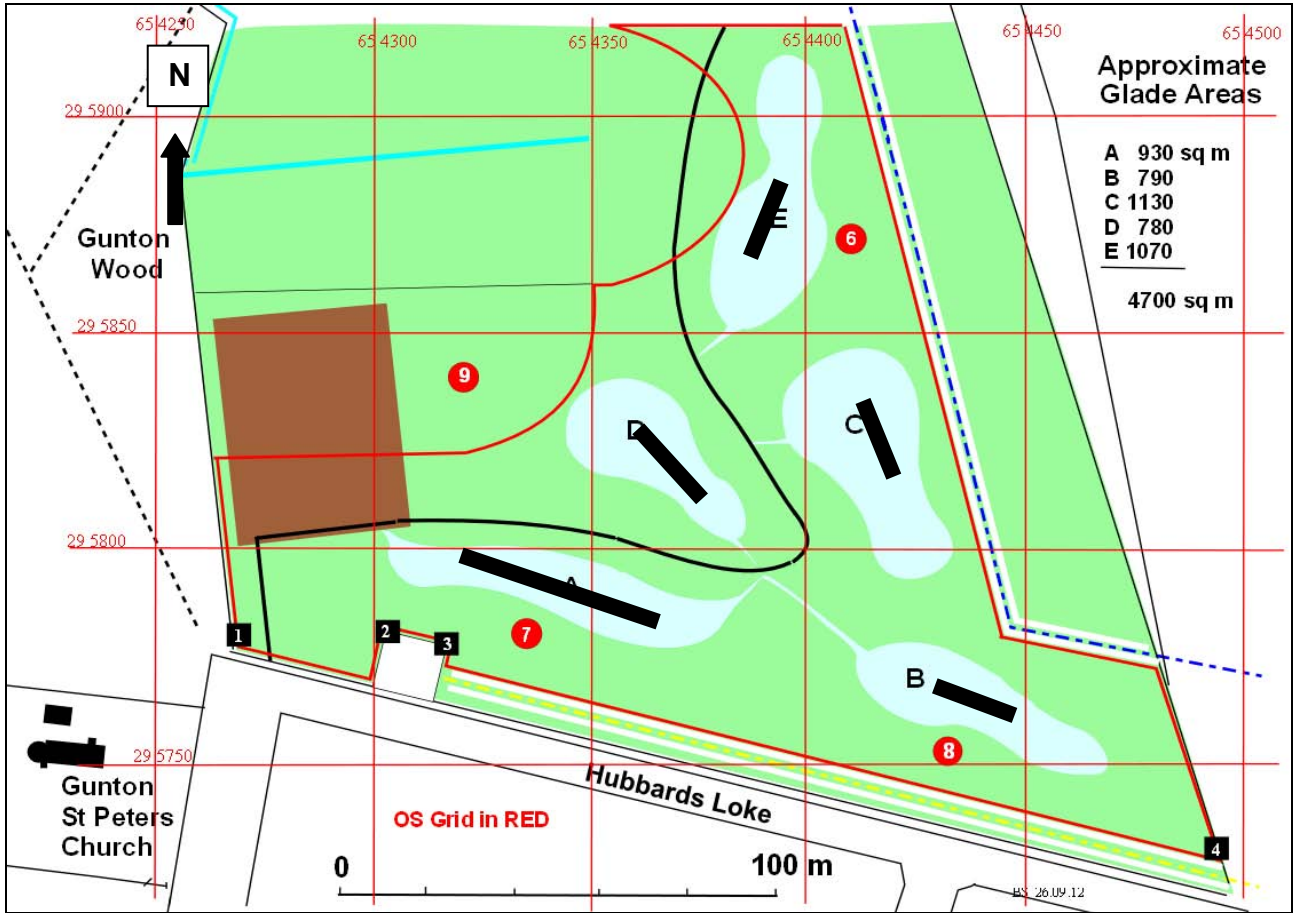
6.4 A fully charged mobile phone will be carried and a first aid kit will be taken to site.

6.5 It is unlikely that any trench plus excavated feature depth will go below c1/1.3m from the present ground level. If any excavations need to go deeper measures such as stepping in the sides will be employed.

6.6 JNAS holds full insurance cover for archaeological site works from the specialist provider Towergate Risk Solutions covering Public & Products Liability, details can be supplied on request.

7. Specialists

Conservation:	Conservation Services
Faunal remains:	J Curl (Sylvanus Archaeology)
Human remains:	S Anderson (CFA Archaeology)
Metal detecting:	J Woodrow (experienced freelance)
Palaeoenvironmental samples:	V Fryer (Freelance)
Soils specialist	R Macphail (UCL)
Pre-historic flint:	S Bates (Freelance)
Pre-historic pottery:	S Percival (Freelance)
Post Roman ceramics & CBM:	S Anderson (CFA Archaeology)
Roman period small finds:	N Crummy (Freelance)
Roman period ceramics:	S Benfield (CAT)
Medieval coins:	M Allen (Fitzwilliam Museum)
Post Roman small finds:	JNAS



Proposed location of trial trenches (A- 46m, B- 20m, C-22m, D- 20m, E- 22m)

Appendix III- The Finds

Land to the North of Hubbards Loke, Gunton (LWT 188): The finds

John Newman November 2012.

Introduction

Finds were mainly recovered as stray objects (0001) between the evaluation trenches while walking across the site and by a thorough metal detector search of the southern part of the field which forms phase 1 of this proposal, very few finds came from upcast trench spoil. In total 124g of pottery, 5 copper alloy coins, 28 copper alloy objects or fragments and 15 lead objects or fragments were recovered as stray finds.

The only feature containing finds was a ditch (0018) in trench 5 where a small quantity (66g) of tile was recovered from the fill (0019). Finally a substantial conglomerate type stone vessel base was recovered from the subsoil close to the northern edge of the ditch (0019) in trench 5.

The Pottery

The pottery quantification is shown in Table 1.

Fabric	Code	No	Wt (g)	Date
Flint gritted (small very abraded sherd)	UNHM	1	4	?late prehist
Medieval coarsewares (comprising 1 square rim, 1 base sherd & 3 body sherds, all slightly to moderately abraded)	MCW	5	56	Med 13/14C
Late medieval and Transitional (green glzd)	LMT	1	30	Lmed/16C
Late glazed red earthenware	LGRE	2	34	18C
Total		9	124	

Table 1. Pottery quantification.

The stray sherds recovered from the surface of the field in phase 1 included one small handmade and flint gritted sherd of possible later prehistoric date, this sherd is very abraded. This single sherd indicates some type of activity in the general area though of what intensity is impossible to gauge as the trenching did not reveal any other prehistoric finds or dateable features.

The 5 medieval coarseware sherds are all in a sandy fabric typical for east Suffolk and are at density of discovery that can be interpreted as being material spread in domestic waste as part of a 'manuring scatter.'

Similarly the two Post medieval sherds can be seen as being part of a general background scatter.

The Ceramic Building Material

A few small and one moderate sized (66g) of sandy fabric peg tile of Post medieval date was recovered from the fill (0019) of the ditch (0018) in trench 5. Similar small fragments of peg tile were also noted as a low level background scatter on the surface of the field.

The Non-ferrous Metal Finds

Coins (all copper alloy)

Worn farthing of George II, date 1739

Worn George II halfpenny, date not clear

Penny of George V, date 1917

Halfpenny of George VI, date 1938

Halfpenny of Elizabeth II, date 2003

Copper alloy objects/fragments

Locking key, shank missing, surviving part bifurcates towards middle, 60mm long x 15mm wide at end with bifurcated mid part 12mm x 7mm medieval (cf PAS LANCUM B3B2F7)

Small buckle, 16mm long x 17mm wide, ribbed outer edge, medieval

Half a double buckle, 60mm long x 15mm to bar across midpoint, 17th/18th C

Seven disc shaped buttons- 19th/E20th C date

Knife handle- 19th C date

Sugar tong tip- 18th/19th

Small furniture handle- 19th/20th date

One scrap ?shrapnel

One 32mm long bullet head

One decorative stud cover- 19th C date

One lock mechanism from a small box/case- 19th-20th C date

Two small clothing eye fasteners- L 19th / 20th C

Two small fragments small machinery- L 19th /20th date

Six small unidentifiable sheet scraps- Pmed

Lead objects/fragments

Two musket balls- diameters 10mm & 14mm

Thirteen small sheet fragments- total weight 136g

Stone vessel base

The conglomerate stone urn/vessel base 0020 from the subsoil of trench 5 has a diameter of 290mm, maximum height of 76mm to the highest point of the remnant of side that survives with the base being 50mm thick. The base has opposing lugs with the type of stone and style of it suggesting that it is the bottom of an ornamental garden container of Post medieval date. The site of the now demolished Gunton Hall is nearby and this status of residence would in all probability have had such garden features.



Conglomerate stone urn/vessel base 0020 from above & side view

Discussion

The group of stray finds recovered during the evaluation can be interpreted as the product of the spreading of domestic and other waste on the field during medieval and Post medieval phases of manuring arable land as the material is largely abraded or worn with many of the metal finds being fragmentary. The single possible later prehistoric sherd is of interest but is very small and abraded so may also be from an earlier phase of arable land use and manuring. There is very little artefactual evidence for past activity at any intensity. The single feature (0018) containing any finds can be dated to the mid/late Post medieval period with, again, a lack of finds indicative of nearby settlement.

Appendix IV

Context list- LWT 188

F- Finds

Context No	Trench No	Type	Part of	F/S	Description	Spot date
0001		U/S	NA	F	Unstratified Pmed MD finds and stray RB (1), med (?) & Pmed (?) pottery sherds from area around trenches	
0002	1	Ditch	0002		North-east/south-west aligned ditch at western end of trench1, width 900mm+, depth 400mm	
0003	1	Fill	0002		Dark brown sandy ditch fill with occasional small flints, no finds	?
0004	1	Pit	0004		Small pit, width 600mm, depth 250mm	
0005	1	Fill	0004		Dark brown sandy fill, no finds	?
0006	1	Posthole?	0006		Small possible posthole, width 300mm, depth 250mm (edges uncertain, could be a natural feature caused by root disturbance)	
0007	1	Fill	0006		Dark brown sandy fill with occasional charcoal flecks, no finds	?
0008	1	Small pit	0008		Small pit base, width 500mm, depth 200mm	
0009	1	Fill	0009		Dark brown sandy fill with occasional small flints & charcoal flecks, no finds	?
0010	1	Posthole/ small pit	0010		Possible posthole/small pit, width 500mm, depth 300mm	
0011	1	Fill	0010		Very dark brown sandy fill with charcoal staining & occasional small flints, no finds	?
0012	1	Posthole	0012		Possible posthole, width 300mm, depth 300mm (edges uncertain, could be a natural feature caused by root disturbance)	
0013	1	Fill	0013		Mid to dark brown sandy fill, no finds	?
0014	4	Posthole?	0014		Small possible posthole, width 300mm, depth 250mm	
0015	4	Fill	0014		Mid to dark brown sandy fill, no finds	?

0016	4	Posthole?	0016		Small possible posthole/natural disturbance, width 350mm, depth 200mm	
0017	4	Fill	0016		Dark brown sandy fill, no finds	?
0018	5	Ditch	0018		North-west/south-east aligned ditch close to northern end of trench, 1700mm wide, 800mm deep	
0019	5	Fill	0018	F	Mid brown uniform sandy fill with occasional small flints, one fragment (20g) of Post medieval peg tile plus few very small fragments of similar tile, otherwise fill was clean	Pmed
0020	5	U/S find	0001	F	Base of a large urn/vessel made of a conglomerate stone with two opposing lugs, diameter 290mm, max height from bottom to top of remnant of side 76mm, thickness of base 50mm. Found in subsoil just to north of ditch 0018. Probably the base of a garden ornamental container, possibly from now demolished Gunton Hall?	Pmed

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OASIS ID: johnnewm1-138006

Project details

Project name	Land North To The Hubbards Loke, Gunton, Lowestoft, Suffolk- Archaeological Evaluation Report
Short description of the project	<p>Gunton, Land north of Hubbards Loke (LWT 188, TM 5436 9580) evaluation trenching of the planned glades within phase 1 of a proposed woodland burial site which, at its closest point, is some 50m north-east of St Peter's Church, Gunton, revealed a small number of archaeological features of either uncertain or Post medieval date. Of the two ditches found during the evaluation one contained a small quantity of Post medieval peg tile while the other one did not yield any finds. Both of these linear features can be interpreted as former field boundaries. A small pit and a number of probable and possible postholes were also recorded in two of the five evaluation trenches. Both the small pit and all of the posthole type features were small and undateable; in addition no patterning could be discerned that might indicate evidence for any type of structure. During the evaluation a thorough metal detector was made of the upcast spoil and areas between the trenches and the field surface was visually scanned for stray finds and the few finds recovered were predominantly of later Post medieval date plus one abraded sherd of possible later prehistoric date, a single medieval buckle and a small number of abraded medieval sherds.</p>
Project dates	Start: 05-11-2012 End: 06-11-2012
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	LWT 188 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 2 - Operations to a depth less than 0.25m
Monument type	POST HOLE Uncertain
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Significant Finds	TILE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	""Sample Trenches""
	Proposed woodland burial site

Development type
 Prompt Pre-application advice

Project location

Country England
 Site location SUFFOLK WAVENEY LOWESTOFT Land North of Hubbards Loke, Gunton
 Postcode NR32 4LB
 Study area 4300.00 Square metres
 Site coordinates TM 5436 9580 52 1 52 30 00 N 001 44 53 E Point
 Height OD / Depth Min: 21.00m Max: 22.00m

Project creators

Name of Organisation John Newman Archaeological Services
 Project brief originator Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
 Project design originator John Newman
 Project director/manager John Newman
 Project supervisor John Newman
 Type of sponsor/funding body Parochial Church Council

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Landowner
 Physical Contents "Ceramics", "Metal"
 Digital Archive recipient Suffolk CC Archaeological Service
 Digital Contents "Ceramics", "Metal"
 Digital Media available "Images raster / digital photography", "Text"
 Paper Archive recipient Suffolk CC Archaeological Service
 Paper Contents "Ceramics", "Metal"
 Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Plan", "Report", "Section"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
 Title

Land To The North Of Hubbards Loke, Gunton, Suffolk- Archaeological
Evaluation Report

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