

**Church Farm House, The Street,
Bredfield, Suffolk**

Planning application: C/13/1133

HER Ref: BFD 038

Archaeological Evaluation & Monitoring Report

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

(August 2015)

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Site details for HER

Name: Church Farm House, The Street, Bredfield, Suffolk, IP13 6AX

Clients: Mr D Shuster

Local planning authority: Suffolk Coastal DC

Planning application ref: C/13/1133

Development: Erection of detached dwelling with access

Date of fieldwork: 17 December, 2013 (evaluation), 7 October, 2014 (monitoring of service trench and 17 February, 2015 (monitoring of foundations)

HER ref: BFD 038

OASIS ref: johnnewm1-166692

Grid ref: TM 2682 5307

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Summary: Bredfield, Church Farm House, The Street (BFD 038, TM 2682 5307) evaluation trenching for a single dwelling development close to the parish church, and to the rear of Church Farm House, which is of probable 17th-18th century date, revealed one ditch of medieval date and another of Post medieval date; however the number of finds and the ecofact density in the former feature was low suggesting that this site 70m to the west of The Street was peripheral to areas of past settlement activity. Later monitoring of ground works only revealed a Victorian period soakaway (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr D Shuster).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Mr D Shuster commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological evaluation and later monitoring works for a planned single dwelling development on part of the garden of Church Farm House, The Street, Bredfield (see Fig. 1) which is to be detached. The evaluation requirements were set out in a Brief, following the granting of planning application C/13/1133, set by Mrs R Abraham of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service (SCCAS) with the aim of gaining a representative sample by trial trenching of the footprint and drive area concerned. The Written Scheme of Investigation for the archaeological evaluation (see Appendix II) was subsequently prepared by JNAS in order to gain a conditional discharge and allow the trenching to go ahead before any other ground works are undertaken. During the evaluation two archaeological features were revealed and therefore later ground works for the foundation trenches and a long service trench were monitored.

1.2 The village of Bredfield is located 2.50 miles north of Woodbridge in east Suffolk and it has a linear settlement pattern along the north-south aligned Street with the parish church of St Andrew midway along its western side and, historically, Bredfield Green at the northern end. The proposed development site is located c70m west of the frontage onto The Street and is also directly to the north-west of the churchyard surrounding St Andrew's Church.

1.3 Areas to the west of the A12 road are generally dominated by heavier soils derived from the local glaciofluvial Till deposits with this site being at 35m OD in an area of gently undulating topography with the ground dropping gradually to the east and the Byng Brook which is c500m from Church Farm House.

1.3 As outlined above archaeological interest in this development was generated by its location within the historic settlement area in the village of Bredfield close to the parish church (HER BFD 027) and close to the find spot of an Anglo-Saxon coin (HER BFD 026). In addition while it is not listed Church Farm House is a building of probable 17th to 18th century date and an extensive medieval pottery scatter (HER BFD 019 see Fig. 1) indicative of a settlement site was found c100m to the north-east on the opposite side of The Street emphasising the historic linear settlement pattern in the village.

2. Evaluation methodology

2.1 The planned new dwelling footprint and the central part of the driveway were trenched to a previously agreed plan (see Fig. 2) using a small 360 machine equipped with a 1100mm flat bucket which was under archaeological supervision at all times. At the time of the evaluation both trenched areas were under a grass cover.

2.2 The sides and base of the 2.20m wide trenches and the upcast spoil were examined visually and scanned with a metal detector for any finds as the work progressed and any indistinct areas were investigated by hand. Exposed archaeological features were then sectioned and recorded and a sample for palaeoenvironmental purposes was taken from the older of the two features that were revealed. Site visibility for features and finds is considered to have been good throughout the evaluation which was undertaken under dull though largely dry

conditions. At the end of the evaluation the location of the trenches was plotted from nearby mapped features and as the evaluation progressed a full photographic record in digital format (see Appendix I) was taken of the trenching works.

3. Results

3.1 Details of the two evaluation trenches are summarised in table 1 below (see also Figs. 2 & 3 and Appendix I- Images):

Trench number	Length (m)	Orientation	Topsoil depth (mm)	Subsoil depth (mm)	Drift geology	Archaeological features & finds
T1	10	Northwest-southeast	300	300 of a mid brown clay subsoil	Sandy orange clay with flints and chalk fragments	One shallow ditch (0002) of medieval date
T2	10	Northeast-southwest	300	250 as T1	As T1	One ditch (0004) of Post medieval date
	20 (44m ²)		300	250-300		

Table 1: Trench details

3.2 The glaciofluvial deposit exposed in the base of the trench proved to be sandy orange clay with flints and flints below 300mm of topsoil and 250mm to 300mm of mid brown clay subsoil.

Trench number	Context	Type	Finds (F)/ Sampled (S)	Part of	Description	Date
T1	0001	US	F	0001	Unstratified stray finds from upcast spoil of trench 1	One medieval sherd and one 19 th /20 th C sherd
T1	0002	Ditch		0002	Broad though shallow east-west orientated ditch, 700mm wide and 200mm deep with gently sloping sides	
T1	0003	Fill	F/S	0002	Mid brown clay with occasional charcoal flecks	Medieval
T2	0004	Ditch		0004	East-west orientated ditch, 1000mm wide and 500mm deep	
T2	0005	Fill	F	0004	Mid brown clay with few small brick and tile fragments	Post medieval

Table 2: Context details

3.3 As indicated in the table above single archaeological features (see Fig. 3) were revealed during the evaluation in each of the two trenches. In trench 1 an east-west orientated ditch (0002) was 700mm wide but only 200mm with gently rounded sides. The fill (0003) in this ditch (0002) was mid brown clay with small charcoal fragments and two pottery sherds were recovered from the excavated section. Trench 2

revealed another east-west orientated ditch (0004) which was 1000mm wide and 500mm deep with a similar mid brown clay fill (0005) with small brick and tile fragments and from which one pottery sherd was recovered.

4. Monitoring results

4.1 As two archaeological features were revealed in the evaluation and the planned ground works included a 70m long service trench which would run just outside the western wall of the adjacent churchyard wall from the road frontage to the new build area it was agreed with SCCAS that these works and the excavation of the foundation trenches should be monitored.

4.2 The 50m long service trench (see Fig. 2) was 600mm wide and 900mm deep and the only feature revealed in its side was a 19th century brick soakaway close to Church Farm House and all of the finds seen in the upcast spoil were occasional small pottery sherds and brick and tile fragments of 19th to mid 20th century date.

4.3 The final phase of archaeological works at the site covered the monitoring of the foundation trenches for the new dwelling. These trenches were 500mm to 600mm wide and at 1300mm to 2300mm deep had to be observed from above. All that was revealed was a similar top and subsoil deposit profile as seen in evaluation trench 1; no archaeological features or finds were seen during this monitoring.

5. The Pottery

5.1 In total 5 pottery sherds (57g) were recovered during the evaluation stage of the works and the full report by Sue Anderson on these finds is included as Appendix III below. In summary this small assemblage comprises a medieval and a late Post medieval sherd from the upcast spoil (0001) of trench 1, two medieval sherds (15g) from the fill (0003) of the shallow ditch (0002) in trench 1 and a single sherd of earlier Post medieval date from the fill (0005) of the trench (0004) in trench 2. All of the pottery types represented here are described as being typical for East Anglia.

6. The Palaeoenvironmental evidence

6.1 A bulk sample was taken from the fill (0003) of the medieval ditch (0002) in trench 1 and the full assessment of the plant macrofossil and other remains recovered from this sample by Val Fryer is included as Appendix IV below. In summary the assessment concludes that the small quantity of charred barley and wheat specimens and a single legume fragment plus occasional small fragments of bone and single fish bone represent scattered midden waste. Various other plant remains are described as being de-watered and possibly later contaminants into the feature and in particular this includes a large number of elderberry pips.

7. Conclusion

7.1 With one ditch (0002) of medieval date whose fill (0003) contained midden type evidence and another ditch (0004) of earlier Post medieval date revealed during the evaluation stage of the archaeological programme of works it can be concluded that this site to the rear of Church Farm House, The Street, Bredfield, is located close to an area of past settlement. However the low density of features, small number of finds and sparse nature of the recovered midden waste also suggests that the site of

the new dwelling is peripheral to any nearby medieval/early Post medieval areas of domestic occupation. With regard to this conclusion it should also be noted that the new dwelling site is 70m west of the frontage along The Street and it is further suggested that more intense medieval settlement type evidence might be anticipated under or close to Church Farm House, which as outlined above, is of probable 17th/18th century date, though the narrow service trench that ran to The Street did not reveal any significant archaeological features or finds. Finally it can be noted that the two ditches (0002 & 0004) though of different date were broadly parallel and perpendicular to The Street.

Archive- to be deposited with the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service under the HER ref. BFD 038.

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 David Schuster for his close cooperation with regard to this evaluation and monitoring and to Sue Anderson, Val Fryer and Robert Fryer for their specialist work and to Sue Holden for her illustration input)

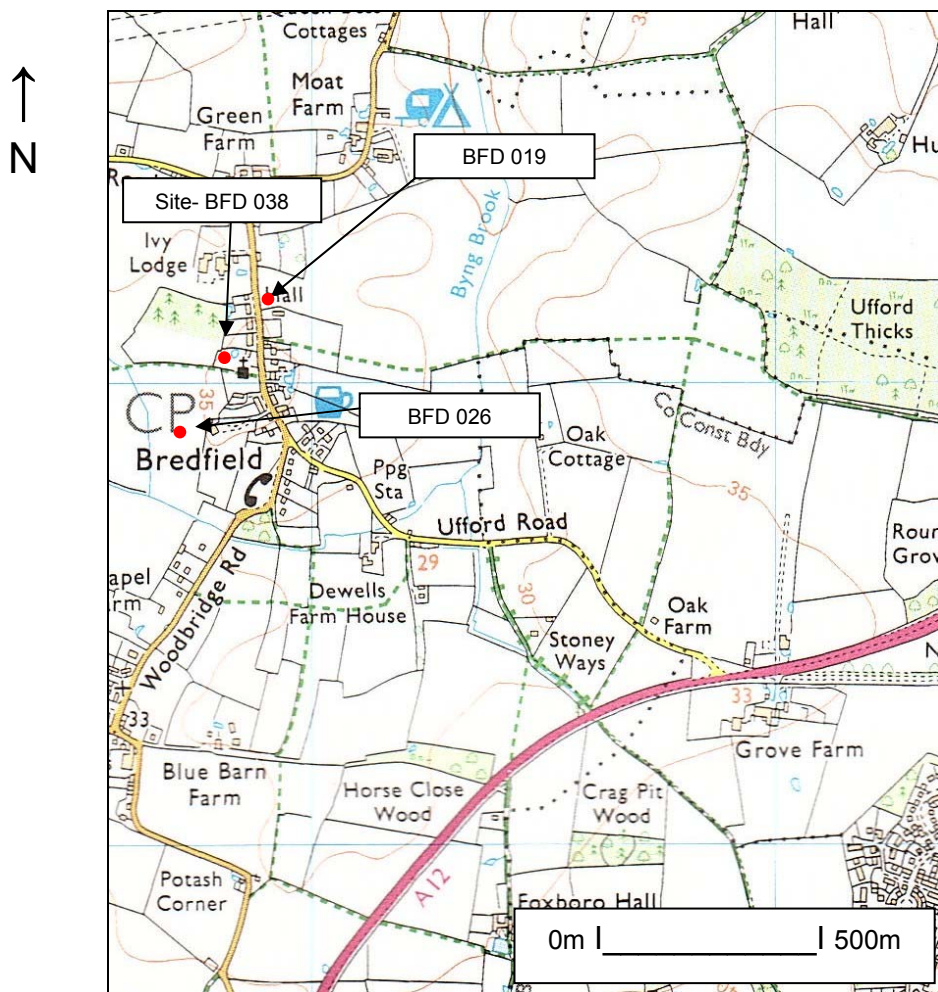


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2006
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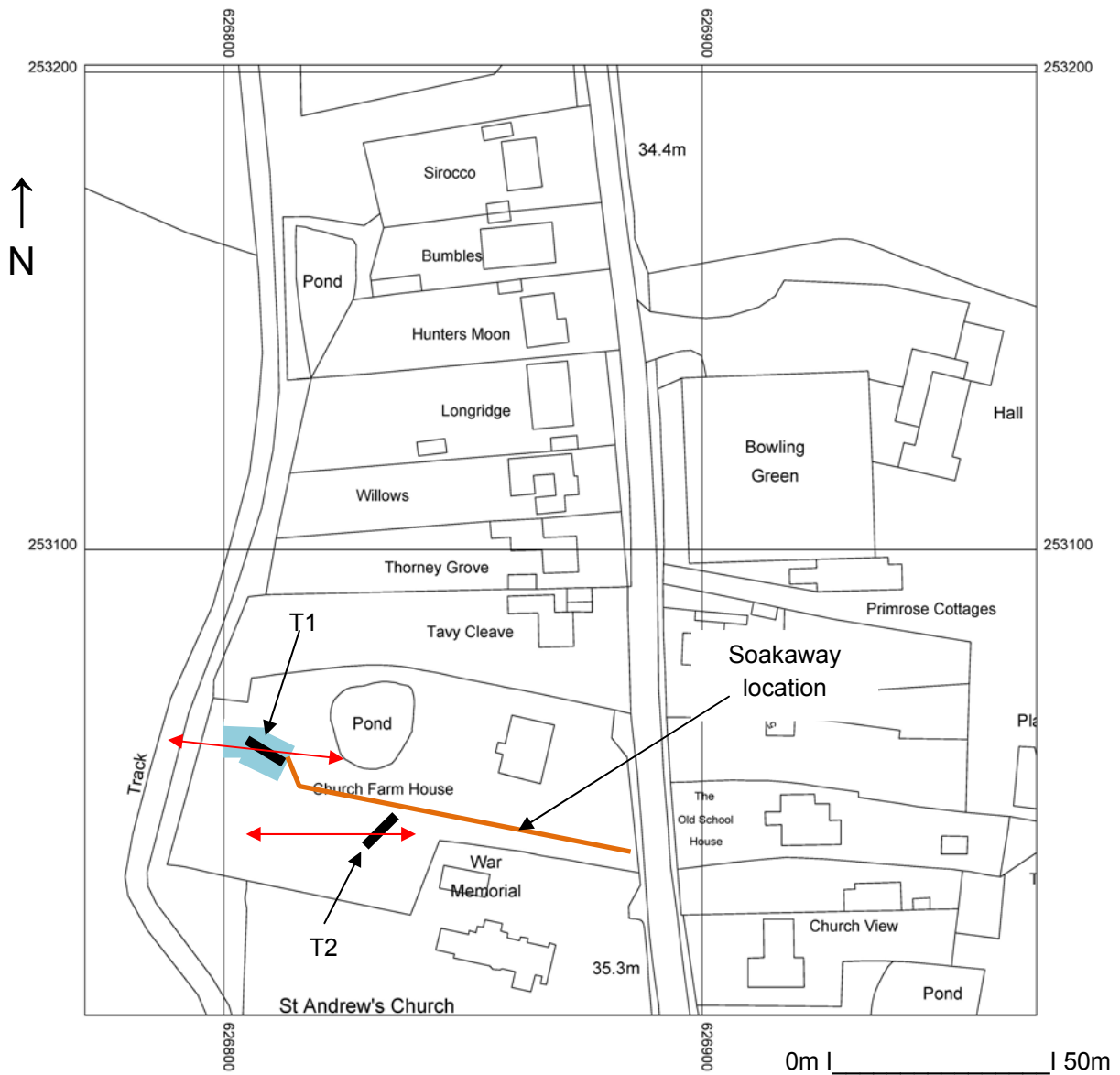


Fig. 2: Location of evaluation trenches (light blue- new build area, red- ditches 0002 & 0004, brown- service trench)

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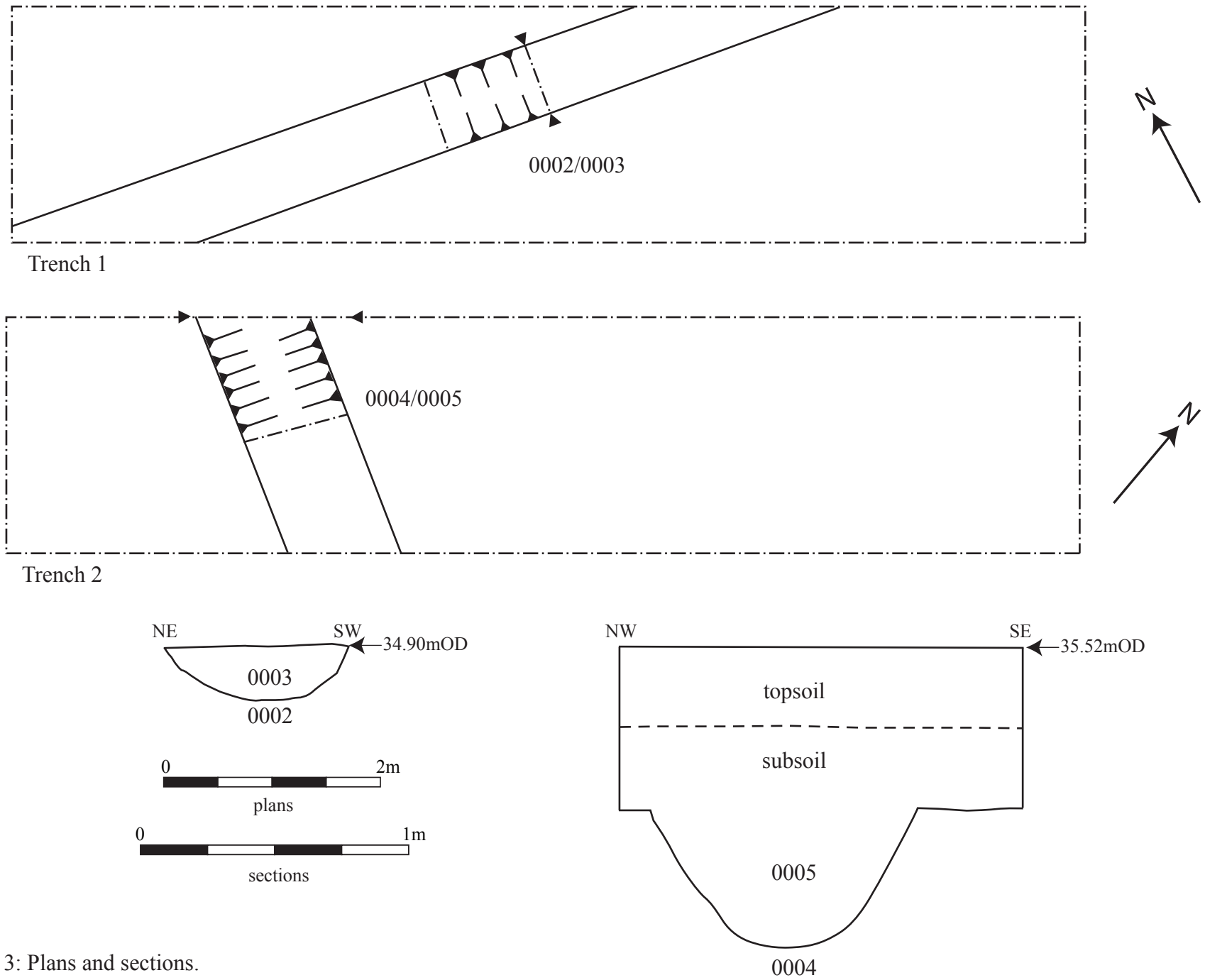


Fig. 3: Plans and sections.

Appendix I- Images



Church Farm House from east



General view from west



Trench 1 from northeast



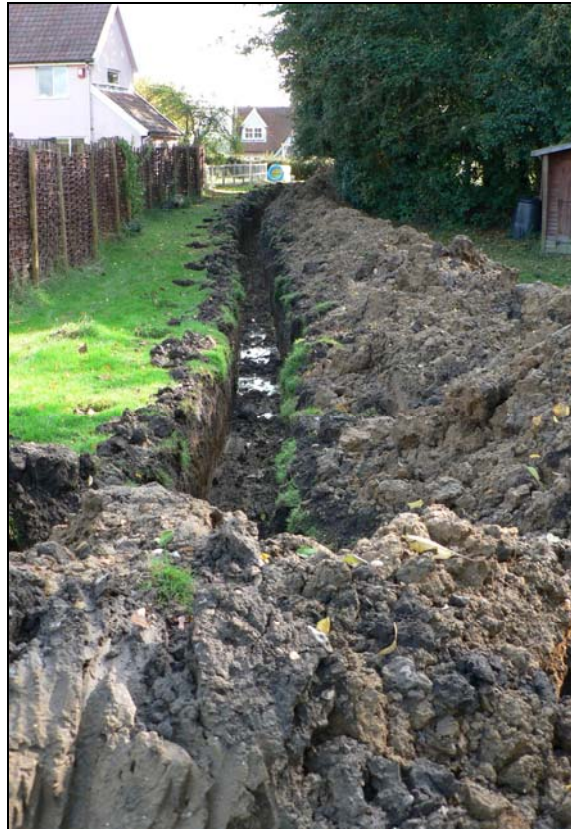
Ditch 0002 in trench 1 from south



Trench 2 from southwest



Ditch 0004 in trench 2



Service trench from west



Brick soakaway in service trench

**Church Farm House, The Street,
Bredfield, Suffolk**

**Written Scheme of Investigation for
Archaeological Evaluation**

Site details

Name: Church Farm House, The Street, Bredfield, Suffolk, IP13 6AX

Client: Mr D Shuster

Local planning authority: Suffolk Coastal DC

Planning application ref: C/13/1133

Proposed development: Erection of detached dwelling with access

Proposed date for evaluation: tbc

Brief ref: SCCAS_RM_Trenched Archaeological Evaluation_Brief_Church Farm House The Street Bredfield

Grid ref: TM 2682 5307

Area: 0.20ha

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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
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Proposed location of trial trench

1. Introduction

1.1 Mr D Shuster has commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological site evaluation for a proposed small scale residential development that has recently received consent to go ahead. This written scheme of investigation (WSI) details the background to the archaeological requirements for planning applications C/13/1133, and how JNAS will implement the requirements of the Brief for Archaeological Evaluation set by Ms R Monk of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service (SCCAS). The WSI will also set out how potential risks will be mitigated. This proposed development concerns the construction of a detached dwelling with access on land behind Church Farm House, The Street, Bredfield that is currently in use as garden.

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 The village of Bredfield is located 2.50 miles north of Woodbridge in east Suffolk and it has a linear settlement pattern along the north-south aligned Street with the parish church of St Andrew midway along its western side and, historically, Bredfield Green at the northern end. The proposed development site (PDS) is located c75m west of the frontage onto The Street and is also directly to the north-west of the churchyard surrounding St Andrew's Church.

2.2 Areas to the west of the A12 road are generally dominated by heavier soils derived from the local glaciofluvial Till deposits with the PDS being at 35m OD in an area of gently undulating topography with the ground dropping gradually to the east and the Byng Brook which is c500m from Church Farm House.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 To quote from the relevant Brief 'This application lies within the historic settlement core recorded in the County Historic Environment Record, south-west of the medieval church and churchyard (HER no. BFD 027). In addition, the find spot of an Anglo-Saxon coin is recorded to the south-west of the proposed development (BFD 026). There is high potential for encountering medieval, and possibly earlier, occupation deposits at this location.' A site evaluation by trial trenching will therefore be required to:

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- Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.
- Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost. The further recording of any archaeological deposits may involve excavation prior to ground works commencing or monitoring of the relevant ground works

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 later Saxon, medieval and earlier Post medieval activity may be present. The aim of the evaluation is therefore to examine the specified sample of the proposed development area with two evaluation trenches under controlled conditions so, if archaeological deposits are revealed they can be sampled and characterised. With this information a strategy can then be formulated for their possible preservation in situ or, failing that, the systematic recording of these deposits and the associated working practices, timetables and orders of cost.

5. Methodology

5.1 The proposed development is for a detached dwelling with access on land to the rear of Church Farm House, The Street, Bredfield. The evaluation trenching will be in an area that is currently garden.

5.2 The Brief requires two 10m long and 1.8m wide trenches to sample the footprint area of the planned dwelling and its access and the proposed location of the trenches is shown below. This will be undertaken using a 1.20m or 1.50m 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,

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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 of 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 to medium at this location as they are occasionally found just outside medieval churchyards for a variety of reasons).

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 (examination of the topographic location of the site indicates that the presence of waterlogged deposits is unlikely unless deep features are revealed).

- 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

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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.

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. 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.

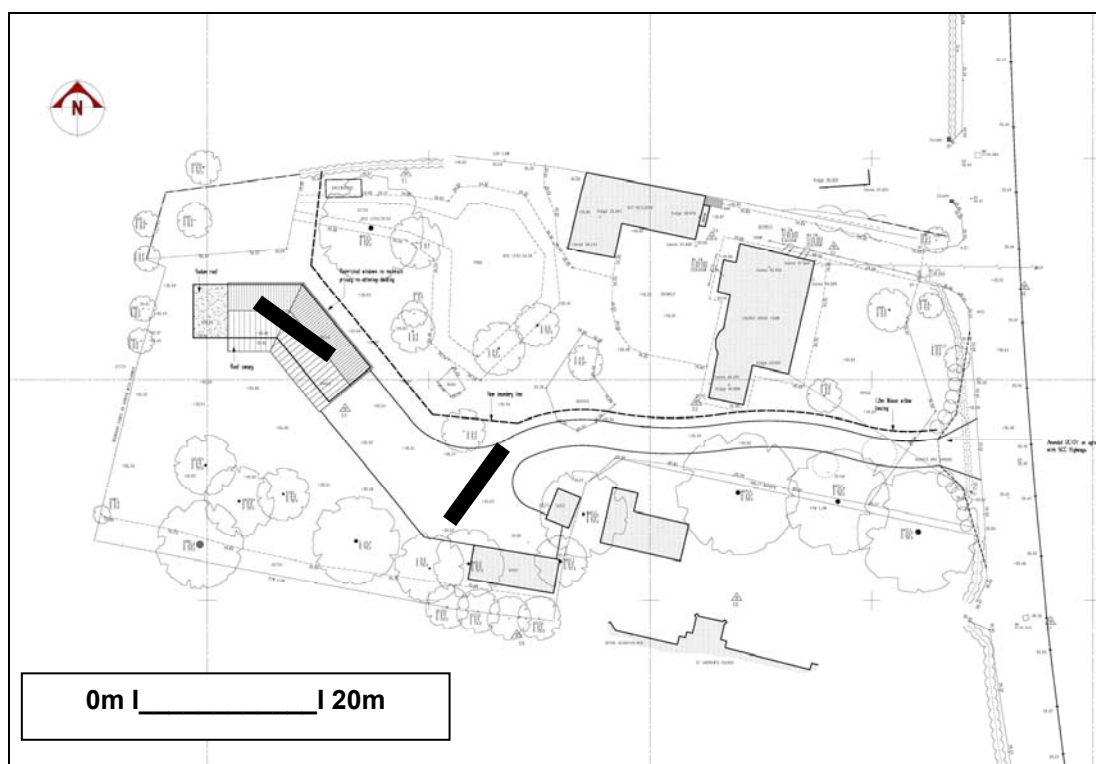
6.6 JNAS holds full insurance cover for archaeological site works from the specialist provider Towergate Risk Solutions covering Public & Products Liability, details can be supplied on request.

7. Specialists

Conservation:	Conservation Services
Faunal remains:	J Curl (Sylvanus Archaeology)
Human remains:	S Anderson (Freelance)

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Metal detecting:	J Armes (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 (Freelance)
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

Appendix III- The Pottery

Church Farmhouse, Bredfield (BFD 038): the pottery
Sue Anderson, February 2015.

Five pottery sherds (57g) were recovered from three contexts during the evaluation stage of works at the site. The pottery quantification is shown in Table 1.

Context	Fabric	No.	Wt/g	Description	Spotdate
0001	HOLL	1	10	base fragment, fine sandy greyware	12th-14th c.
	REFW	1	14	base fragment, footring, internal blue transfer print – flower in plantpot	19th/20th c.
0003	EMW	2	15	base and body sherd in medium sandy fabric	12th-13th c.
0005	GSW4	1	18	body sherd of Frechen stoneware bottle, brown tiger ware glaze externally	16th-17th c.
Totals		5	57		

Table 1. Pottery catalogue.

Key: EMW – early medieval ware; HOLL – Hollesley-type medieval coarseware; GSW4 – Cologne/Frechen stoneware; REFW – refined factory-made whiteware.

Two sherds were unstratified (0001- trench 1) and comprised a sherd of reduced medieval coarseware of Hollesley type and a base fragment from a transfer print decorated bowl with a footring base.

Two sherds from ditch fill 0003 (trench 1- ditch 0002) were in medium sandy, partly oxidised, handmade fabrics typical of the early part of the medieval period in rural east Suffolk.

A sherd from ditch fill 0005 (trench 2- ditch 0004) was an imported German stoneware sherd, probably from a 'Bellarmine' type bottle, typically made in Frechen in the early post-medieval period.

This small group includes sherds from a wide date range and suggests activity on the site from the medieval period onwards. The medieval fabrics are all of local origin, whilst the post-medieval and modern sherds came from further afield. The presence of imported stoneware in the 16th/17th centuries is not unusual in East Anglia generally, and does not indicate any particular status for the site.

Appendix IV- The Palaeoenvironmental evidence

AN ASSESSMENT OF THE PLANT MACROFOSSILS AND OTHER REMAINS FROM CHURCH FARM HOUSE, BREDFIELD, SUFFOLK (BFD 038)

Val Fryer, Church Farm, Sisland, Loddon, Norwich, Norfolk, NR14 6EF
February 2014

Introduction and method statement

Excavations at Bredfield, undertaken by John Newman, recorded a ditch of probable medieval date. A sample for the retrieval and assessment of the plant macrofossil assemblage was taken from the ditch fill.

The sample was processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flot was collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. As de-watered macrofossils were noted within the flot, the remains were stored in water prior to sorting. The wet retents were scanned under a binocular microscope at magnifications up to x 16 and the plant macrofossils and other remains noted are listed in Table 1. Nomenclature within the table follows Stace (1997). Both charred and de-watered plant remains were recorded along with a small number of modern roots. The de-watered remains are denoted within the table by a lower case 'w' suffix.

The non-floating residue was collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and sorted when dry. Artefacts/ecofacts were not present.

Results

Charred barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains are present along with a small number of cereals which are too poorly preserved for close identification. Preservation is generally quite poor, with most grains being puffed and distorted, probably as a result of combustion at very high temperatures. A single, large, rounded legume of possible pea (*Pisum sativum*) type is also recorded.

De-watered seeds of common segetal and ruderal weeds are also present along with a single charred cotyledon of an indeterminate small legume (Fabaceae). It is currently unknown whether any of the de-watered specimens may be contemporary with the ditch, or whether all are later contaminants. However, it is noted that most seeds are moderately well preserved, possibly suggesting that they may be intrusive. It is also thought most likely that the abundant elderberry (*Sambucus nigra*) 'pips' are intrusive (possibly derived from a modern rodent cache), although it should be noted that such woody seeds can survive for a considerable period within most soils. Larger charcoal/charred wood fragments are also common, and it is possibly of note that many are rounded and abraded, possibly indicating that they were exposed to the elements for some considerable period prior to inclusion within the ditch fill. A single possible fragment of charred heather (Ericaceae) stem is also recorded.

Other remains are scarce, but do include small fragments of bone, a burnt fish bone and small pieces of coal.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In summary, it would appear most likely that the few charred remains within the assemblage are derived from scattered midden waste, some or all of which was accidentally incorporated within the ditch fill. Although the de-watered remains may be contemporary it is, perhaps, most likely that they post-date the ditch and are associated with the abandonment and subsequent infilling of the feature.

As the assemblage does not contain a sufficient density of material for quantification (i.e. 100+ specimens), no further analysis is recommended. However, a summary of this report should be included within any publication of data from the site.

Reference

Stace, C., 1997

New Flora of the British Isles. 2nd edition. Cambridge University Press

Context No.	0003
Feature No.	0002
Feature type	Ditch
Cereals and other food plants	
<i>Hordeum</i> sp. (grains)	xcf
<i>Triticum</i> sp. (grains)	x
Cereal indet. (grains)	x
<i>Pisum sativum</i> L.	xcf
Herbs	
Chenopodiaceae indet.	xw
Fabaceae indet	xcf
<i>Reseda</i> sp.	xw
<i>Rumex</i> sp.	xw
<i>Silene</i> sp.	xw
<i>Urtica dioica</i> L.	xw
Wetland plants	
<i>Carex</i> sp.	xw
Tree/shrub macrofossils	
<i>Rubus idaeus</i> L.	xcfw
<i>R.</i> sect. <i>Glandulosus</i> Wimmer & Grab	xw
<i>Sambucus nigra</i> L.	xxxxw
Other plant macrofossils	
Charcoal <2mm	xxx
Charcoal >2mm	xx
Charcoal >5mm	xx
Charcoal >10mm	x
Charred root/stem	x
De-watered root/stem	x
Ericaceae indet. (stem)	xcf
Indet. leaf frags.	xw
Indet. seeds	xw
Other remains	
Black porous 'cokey' material	x
Bone	x
Burnt/fired clay	x
Fish bone	xb
Mineral concretions	x
Small coal frags.	x
Sample volume (litres)	15
Volume of flot (litres)	<0.1
% flot sorted	100%

Key to Table

x = 1 – 10 specimens xx = 11 – 50 specimens xxx = 51 – 100 specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens
cf = compare w = de-watered b = burnt

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OASIS ID: johnnewm1-166692

Project details

Project name	Church Farm House, The Street, Bredfield, Suffolk- Archaeological Evaluation and Monitoring Report
Short description of the project	Bredfield, Church Farm House, The Street (BFD 038, TM 2682 5307) evaluation trenching for a single dwelling development close to the parish church, and to the rear of Church Farm House which is of probable 17th-18th century date, revealed one ditch of medieval date and another of Post medieval date; however the number of finds and the ecofact density in the former feature was low suggesting that this site 70m to the west of The Street was peripheral to areas of past settlement activity. Later monitoring of ground works only revealed a Victorian period soakaway.
Project dates	Start: 17-12-2013 End: 07-02-2015
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	BFD 038 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	C/13/1133 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Conservation Area
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	ECOFACT Medieval
Methods & techniques	""Sample Trenches""
Development type	Small-scale (e.g. single house, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK SUFFOLK COASTAL BREDFIELD CHURCH FARM HOUSE, THE STREET
Postcode	IP13 6AX
Study area	140 Square metres
Site coordinates	TM 2682 5307 52 1 52 07 43 N 001 18 51 E Point

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	Landowner

Project archives

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

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Church Farm House, The Street, Bredfield, Suffolk- Archaeological Evaluation and Monitoring Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Newman, J
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	John Newman Archaeological Services
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Description	Loose bound client report and pdf
Entered by	John Newman (johnnewman2@btinternet.com)
Entered on	27 August 2015

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