Land Opposite Moat Farm, High Street, Thorndon, Suffolk

Planning application: 2995/13

HER Ref: THD 033

Evaluation & Excavation Report

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

(July 2014)

(Tel: 01473 832896 Email: johnnewman2@btinternet.com)

Site details for HER

Name: Land opposite Moat Farm, High Street, Thorndon, Suffolk, IP23 7LX

Client: Dam Green Services Ltd

Local planning authority: Mid Suffolk DC

Planning application ref: 2995/13

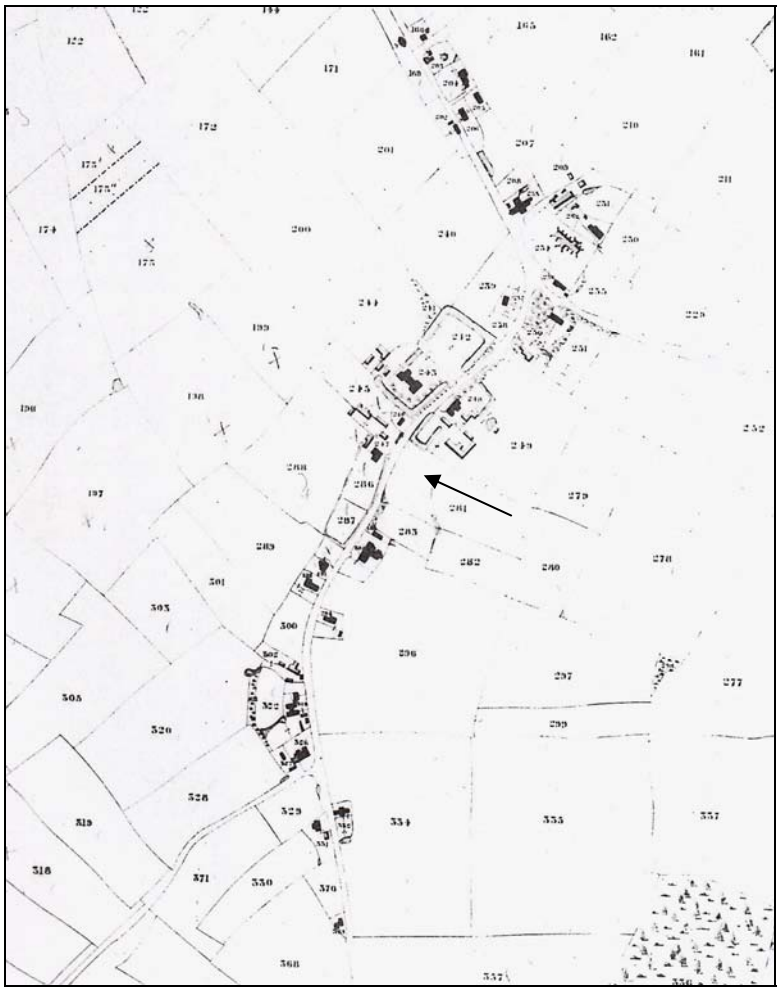
Development: Erection of three detached dwellings with garages

Date of fieldwork: 6 May (evaluation) & 3 & 4 June (excavation), 2014

HER Ref: THD 033

OASIS ref: johnnewm1-177819

Grid ref: TM 1422 6934



Frontispiece (Extract from parish tithe map of 1840, Suffolk RO ref. P461/255)
(North to top, site arrowed)

Contents

Summary: Thorndon, land opposite Moat Farm, High Street (THD 033, TM 1422 6934) evaluation trenching followed by a small scale excavation at the site of a proposed residential development revealed a scatter of small pits of high and late medieval date. The site fronts onto the High Street opposite Moat Farm and the pottery sherds and palaeoenvironmental evidence recovered from the pits suggests domestic activity at the site in the late 12th/13th to 15th/16th century period though no structural features were revealed (John Newman Archaeological Services for Dam Green Services Ltd).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Dam Green Services Ltd commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological site evaluation works, as specified in a brief set by Mrs R Abraham of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service (SCCAS), and subsequent small scale excavation at land opposite Moat Farm, High Street, Thorndon (see Fig 1) where planning permission had been gained under application 2995/13 for three new dwellings with garages. The relevant decision notice for this application making its consent conditional upon a programme of archaeological works being undertaken and completed as the site lies in an area of archaeological interest. Therefore to allow works to commence on site JNAS produced the required Written Scheme of Investigation for evaluation (see Appendix II) in response to the relevant brief and thereby gain conditional discharge.

1.2 The village of Thorndon is some 4 miles north of Debenham in central Suffolk on part of the Till plateau of central Suffolk in an area characterised by a gently rolling landscape on heavy clay with flint soils of the Hanslope series. As a village Thorndon has a linear settlement pattern with two main streets and the parish church located close to their junction. The proposed development site is located at c56m OD some 300m south of the parish church on the eastern side of the High Street and opposite Moat Farm, which does not appear to be within a moat, and c50m south-east of the moat surrounding The Old Rectory (HER THD 009), a listed building of early 19th century date. It is also close to various other listed buildings of early Post medieval date which front onto the High Street including Street Farm to the north and Dowlands to the south. At the time of the tithe map in 1840 the site was arable land with this plot numbered 281 (see frontispiece) and called *'St Johns'* and owned by a Henry Hammond of what is now Moat Farm. It is also of interest to note that a smaller probable moat, though not containing any structures in 1840, associated with Street Farm is shown on the tithe map directly to the north of the site under consideration here. This smaller probable moat has been developed in the relatively recent past. To the south of the site the High Street runs towards Hestley Green and it is shown on Hodkinon's map of Suffolk published in 1783 and is clearly a historic route way crossing the landscape and linking Thorndon with settlements to the south.

1.3 At the time of the evaluation the site was soft ground under a dense grass cover and local information noted that it has been used for keeping chickens and pigs within living memory. The western, roadside, boundary to the site is formed by a large, c2.50m wide and c1.30m deep, ditch which turns at its northern end to run eastwards along the northern edge of the site as a similarly large ditch which, in all likelihood, is the southern arm of the probable moat area north of the planned development area as outlined in section 1.2 above. Finally it can also be noted that the ground level rises sharply by c1.40m from the adjacent road onto the site.

1.4 Archaeological interest in this planned development was therefore generated by its location opposite a recorded moat of medieval date and on a historic street fronted by listed buildings of later medieval Post medieval date. Therefore the site opposite Moat Farm was seen to have a high potential to contain archaeological deposits from these periods which would be a unique record of past activity and which, if present, would be severely disturbed by the planned development works.

2. Evaluation methodology

2.1 The c1600m^2 area of the proposed development site was trenched to a previously agreed plan (see Fig. 2), though trench 2 was shortened at its southern end to leave an access line on site clear, using a wheeled 180 machine equipped with a 1500mm flat bucket which was under archaeological supervision at all times with any indistinct areas being hand cleaned for better clarity.

2.2 The sides and base of the trenches and the upcast spoil were examined visually and scanned with a metal detector for any finds as the evaluation progressed and any indistinct areas or potential features were sectioned by hand unless a recent origin was clearly apparent. Site visibility for features and finds is considered to have been good throughout the evaluation which was undertaken under generally dry and sunny conditions with occasional showers. At the end of the evaluation the location of the trenches was plotted from nearby mapped features and as the works progressed a full photographic record in digital format (see Appendix I) was taken.

2.3 In addition to inform the evaluation the County Record Office was visited to examine the parish tithe map of 1840.

3. Evaluation results

3.1 To summarise the trenching results are outlined in the table below (see also Figs. 2, 3 & 4 and Appendices I- Images & V- Context list):

Trench (Planned development)	Orientation	Length (m)	Topsoil depth (mm)	Subsoil depth (mm)	Drift geology	Archaeological/ natural features & finds
1 (North Cottage)	North-south	15	350	250 mid brown clay	Stiff very pale brown chalky clay with flints	No features, 1 med sherd
2 (South Cottage)	North-south	12	300	100 (as T1)	As T1	Two small med pits (0002 & 0004) & one modern feature (0006)
3 (East House)	East-west	14	250	50 (as T1)	As T1	One large north-south aligned ditch (0008) with small peg tile frags in fill (0009)
		41 (73.8m^2)				

Table 1: Trench details

3.1 As noted above trench 1 was 15m long and had an overall depth of top and subsoil of 600mm above the locally occurring Till deposit which proved to be a very stiff pale brown chalky clay with flints across the entire site. No archaeological features were revealed in trench 1 and apart from a few small tile or brick fragments of Post medieval date the only stray find was a small pottery sherd (0001) of medieval date.

3.2 Trench 2 was 12m long but only 400mm deep and this revealed two small pits (0002 & 0004- see Fig. 3) which contained a few medieval pottery sherds in their respective mid brown clay fills (0003- 2no/19g & 0005-2no/22g). Both pits (0003 & 0004) were 400mm across with the former being 120mm deep while the latter was

150mm in depth. In addition a linear feature (0006) whose fill (0007) contained a lot of heavily burnt material was revealed on the northern side of the trench but as the fill also contained small fragments of asbestos and iron fragments of recent date it was not sectioned.

3.3 While both trenches 1 and 2 were on a north-south orientation and close to the street frontage of the site trench 3 was on an east-west alignment towards the rear of the planned development area (see Fig. 2). This latter trench was 14m long and the depth of top and subsoil above the underlying Till deposit proved to be only 300mm. The only feature revealed in trench 3 was a large north-south orientated ditch (0008- see Fig. 3) which was 2300mm wide and 900mm deep with a gently rounded profile. While the fill (0009) of this ditch (0008) did not contain any pottery sherds it did contain small fragments of brick and peg tile of Post medieval date.

4. Excavation methodology

4.1 Following consultation with the relevant SCCAS Officer it was agreed that the archaeological programme of works at this site should be continued with a small scale excavation across the area of trench 2 and covering the 120m^2 area of the footprint for the planned South Cottage (see Fig. 2). This area was stripped of top and subsoil by the same 180 machine using a 1500mm wide toothless bucket, which was under close archaeological supervision, to the depth where archaeological features could be seen. The features that were defined were then sectioned by hand, sampled and recorded before any lying totally within the stripped area were fully excavated.

5. Excavation results

(see Figs. 3 & Appendix V- Context list)

5.1 Within the excavation area a further four archaeological features were revealed with two (0010 & 0012) running outside the stripped area to the south and south-east while the other two (0014 & 0016) were wholly within the area. Both of the former features (0010 & 0012) were very shallow with gently rounded profiles where they could be examined though in both cases their respective mid brown clay fills (0011 & 0013) did contain sherds of medieval or late medieval transitional pottery (respectively 6no/149g & 3no/35g). While the true character of these features (0010 & 0012) cannot be fully understood as they could only be partially examined it seems likely they formed the northern part of a pair of shallow pits.

5.2 Towards the south-western corner of the excavation area another shallow pit (0014) was revealed though in this case the fill (0015) was very pale brown clay which did not contain any finds. This feature was 800mm wide but only 100mm deep.

5.3 Close to the centre of the stripped area a more substantial pit (0016) was revealed and this feature was 900mm wide and 500mm deep with a mid to dark brown clay fill (0017) which contained a few (5no/92g) medieval pottery sherds.

5.4 Finally more of the modern feature (0006) with a fill (0007) containing mid 20th century debris and a lot of burnt material was revealed and it can be defined as the southern butt-end of a ditch or part of a linear pit.

6. The Finds

7.1 In total 23 sherds of pottery weighing 357g were recovered from the evaluation and excavation phases of investigation with one coming from the spoil of trench 1 and the remaining 22 (352g) coming from trench 2 and the excavation prompted by the results from this trench. The full finds report by Sue Anderson can be found below as Appendix III and the following summary outlines the salient points of this report.

7.2 The 22 pottery sherds from trench 2 and the subsequent excavation includes two that came from the upcast spoil (0018) of the latter phase of works while the remaining 20 sherds can be securely assigned to five (0002, 0004, 0010, 0012 & 0016) of the features that were investigated. All of the pottery types represented are typical for central Suffolk in the late 12th/13th century to 15th/16th century period from local sources including the Waveney Valley and the assemblage comprises both medieval coarse and late medieval glazed wares. Both bowls and cooking pots/jars are represented and continuous activity at the site for the period noted above may be concluded from an overall assessment of this ceramic assemblage.

7. The Environmental Evidence

7.1 Samples were taken from the fills (0011, 0013 & 0017) of three of the larger pits (0010, 0012 & 0016) and the full report by Val Fryer is included below as Appendix IV with the following summary outlining the main findings.

7.2 In summary the results from the assessment of the charred plant macrofossil and other remains from the three pits sampled at this site were very similar and indicative of a common source which in all probability was mixed refuse including hearth waste, dietary refuse and possibly sewage or animal ordure. A domestic origin for the recovered remains is also suggested by the presence of egg shell, fish bone, mussel shell, small bone fragments in addition to oat, barley and wheat grains and peas and beans. A high density of cereal grains was recorded from one of the sampled pits (0010), which is of 15th/16th century date, but it is noted that this could be due to a spillage during culinary preparation work perhaps suggested by the poor preservation of this residue. No further work is recommended for this overall assemblage of ecofacts.

8. Conclusion

8.1 From the archaeological evidence recorded for this area fronting the High Street and opposite Moat Farm it can be concluded that settlement type activity was taking place at or very close to this site from the late 12th/earlier 13th century to the 15th/16th century period with domestic waste comprising pottery types typical for the area and mixed kitchen and house waste being deposited in five of the six recorded pits. While no evidence for any medieval period buildings was revealed simple timber framed houses of this date leave little evidence in the ground as the frame is the main structural element with little reliance on substantial post holes or wall trenches and the ceramic evidence recovered would also suggest a modest status for the medieval inhabitants who created the pits and deposited the waste.

8.2 In addition the large ditch (0008) recorded in trench 3 is of interest as while its fill (0009) may have contained fragments of Post medieval brick and tile its north-south alignment parallel to the High Street, which fronts the site to the west, and its dimensions suggests that this may have formed the rear boundary to a medieval plot or tenement whose presence is indicated by the recorded features, pottery sherds and ecofacts.

8.3 Overall the archaeological programme of works at this site has recorded interesting evidence for activity of high and late medieval date on a historic road frontage and close to a moat. This archaeological evidence fits well with the linear settlement pattern still apparent at Thorndon with various historic houses and cottages still fronting the two main streets and comes from a period when the rural population peaked in East Anglia in the medieval period before dropping in more recent centuries and now growing again.

8.4 A recent overview of the state of archaeological understanding within the eastern counties notes the need for further research into medieval rural settlement patterns and development in the region by bringing together information from various strands and sources (Medlycott ed. 2011, 70). The results from this programme of works could form a small part of such a study

8.5 It is finally concluded that the results from the archaeological investigations at this site can be disseminated effectively by the publication of a short summary in the Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute for Archaeology and History coupled with deposit of the report and archive in the County HER and via the uploading of a digital version of the report to the OASIS online report depository (http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/).

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

(Acknowledgements: JNAS is grateful to everyone from Dam Green Services for their cooperation and help, to Esther Newman for processing the finds, Sue Anderson for her specialist finds works, Sue Holden for preparing Figs. 3 & 4, Robert Fryer for processing the samples and Val Fryer for reporting on the subsequent results).

Ref.

Medlycott, M 2011 'Research & Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England,' East Anglian Archaeology Occ. Paper 24

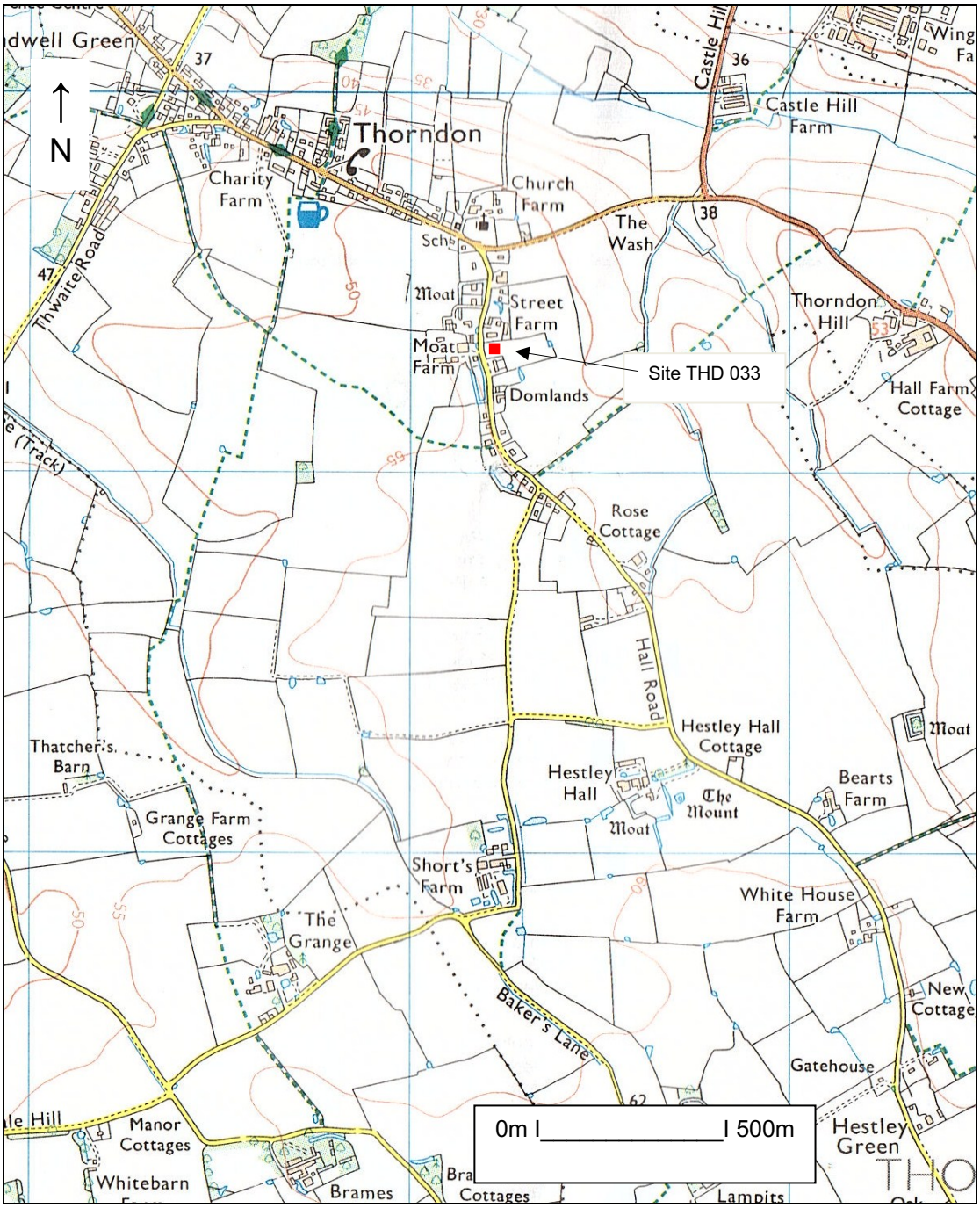


Fig.1: Site location

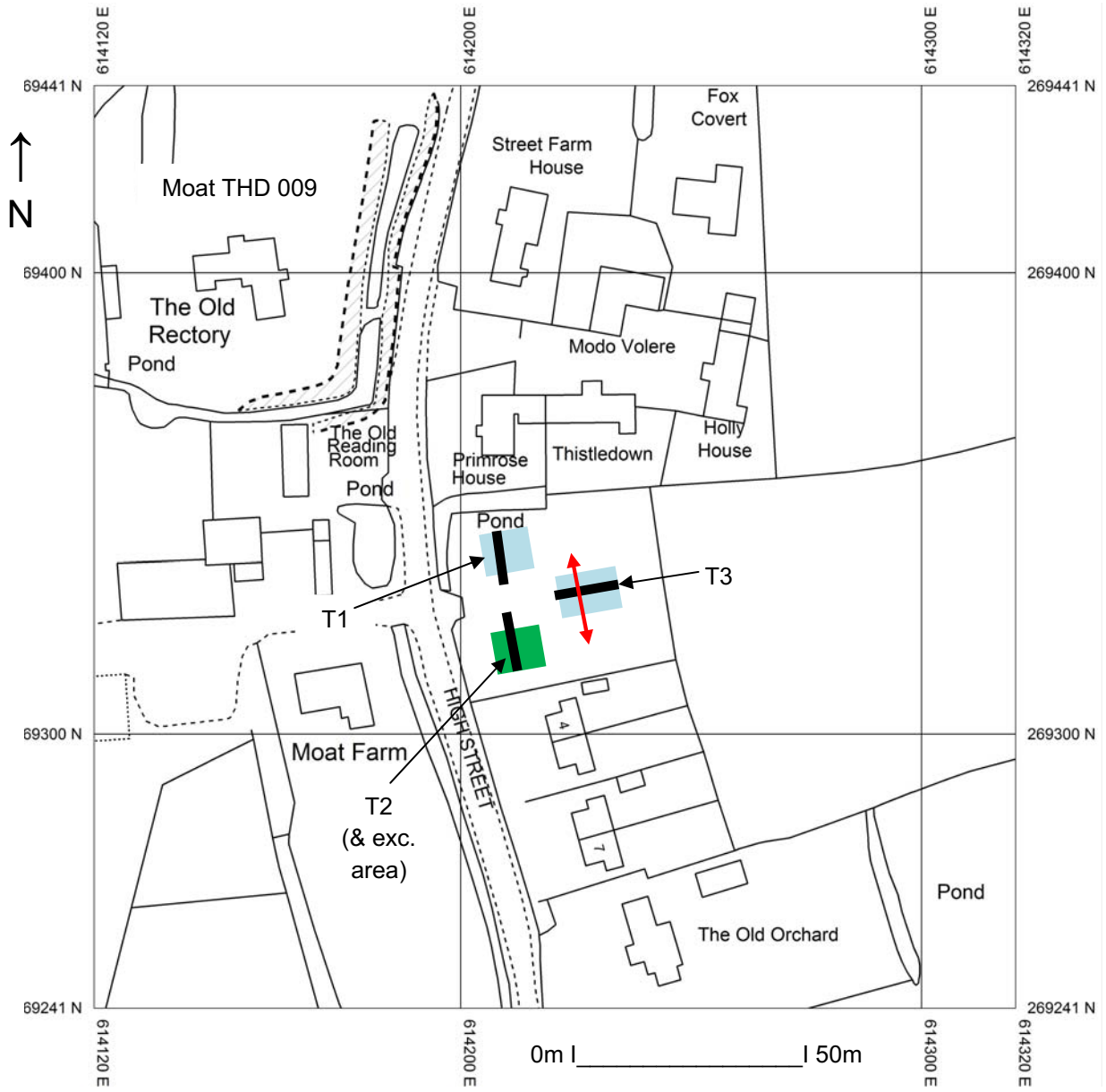


Fig. 2: Location of trenches & excavation area

(North Cottage & East House- light blue, South Cottage/excavation area- green, ditch 0008- red)

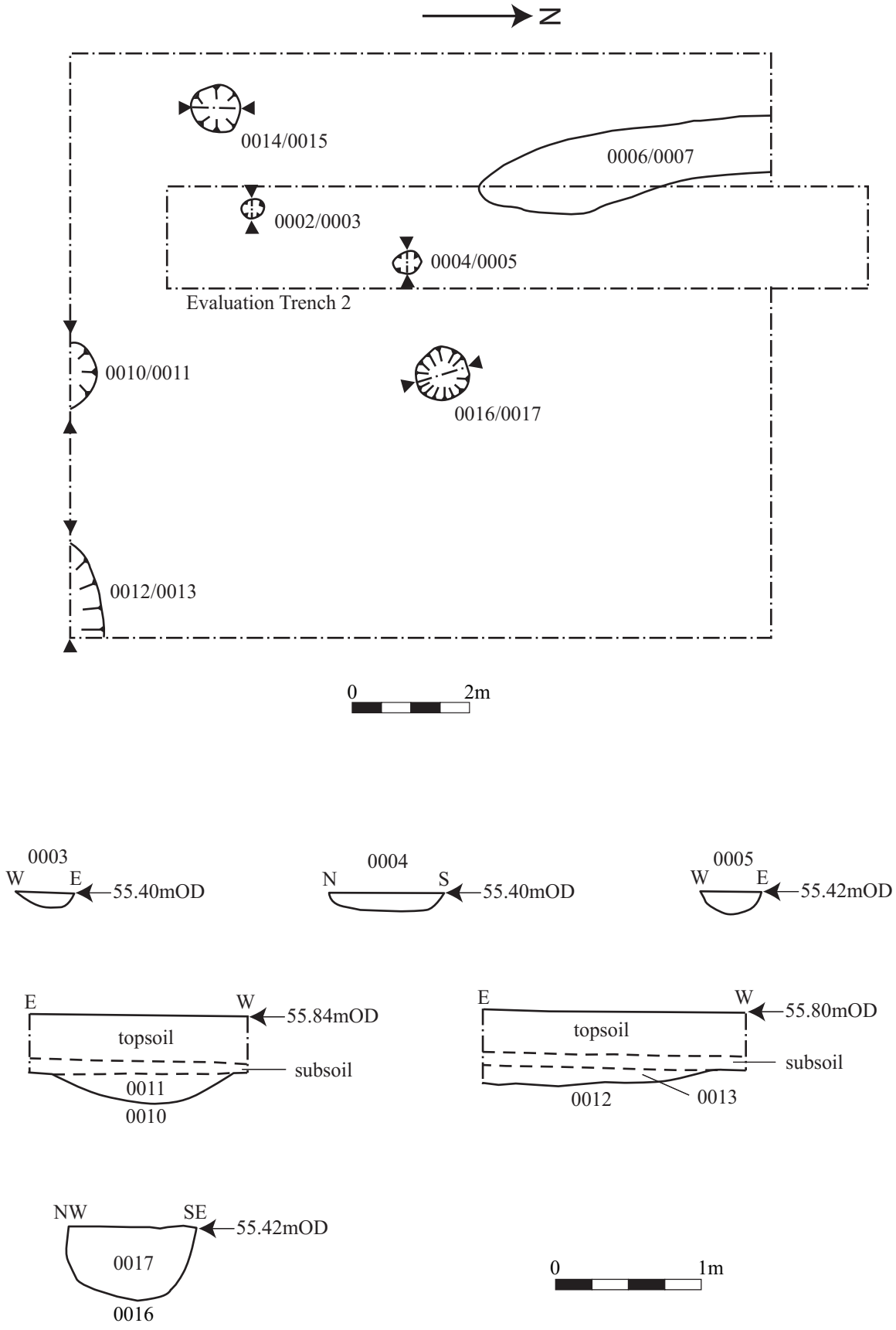


Fig. 3: Plan and section - evaluation trench 2 excavation area.

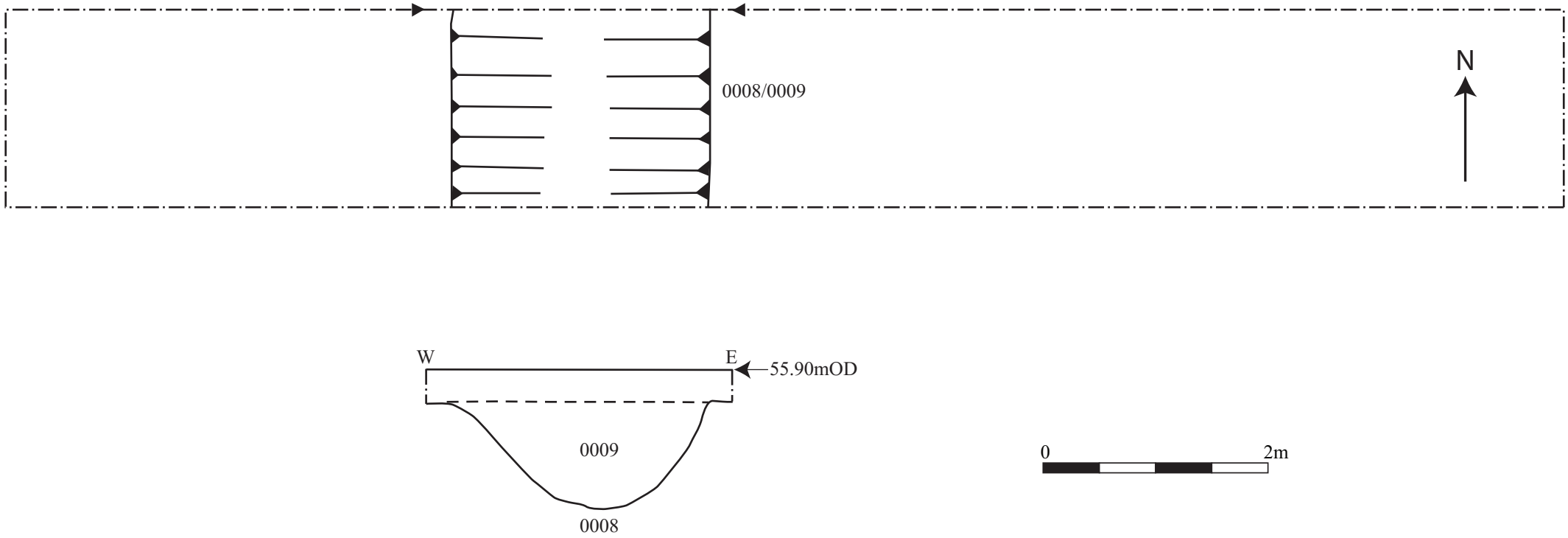


Fig. 4: Plan and section - evaluation trench 3.

Appendix I- Images

General view from east

Trench 1 from south

Trench 2 from south

Trench 2- pit 0002 from south

Trench 2- pit 0004 from south

Trench 3 from east

Trench 3- ditch 0008 from north

General view of excavation area from east

Shallow pit 0010 from north

Shallow pit 0012 from north

Pit 0016 from west

Modern feature 0006 from south

Pit 0014 from west

Moat Farm, High Street, Thorndon, Suffolk

Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation

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

(Tel: 01473 832896 Email: johnnewman2@btinternet.com)

Site details

Name: Land opposite Moat Farm, High Street, Thorndon, Suffolk

Clients: Dam Green Services Ltd

Local planning authority: Mid Suffolk DC

Planning application ref: 2995/13

Proposed development: Erection of 3 no. dwellings with garages

Proposed date for evaluation: tbc

Brief ref: SCCAS_RM_Trenched Archaeological Evaluation_Brief_ Moat Farm, High Street, Thorndon

Grid ref: TM 1422 6934

Site area: 0.16ha

Contents

1. Introduction

1.1 Dam Green Services Ltd has commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological site evaluation for a proposed 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 application 2995/13 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 three dwelling and associated garages at land opposite Moat Farm, High Street, Thorndon.

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 Thorndon is some 4 miles north of Debenham in central Suffolk on part of the Till plateau of central Suffolk in an area characterised by a gently rolling landscape on heavy clay with flint soils of the Hanslope series. As a village Thorndon has a linear settlement pattern with two main streets and the parish church located close to their junction. The proposed development site (PDS) is located at c56m OD some 300m south of the parish church on the eastern side of the High Street and opposite Moat Farm and c50m south-east of the moat surrounding The Old Rectory, a listed building of early 19th century date. It is also close to various other listed buildings of early Post medieval date which front onto the High Street including Street Farm to the north and Dowlands to the south.

2.2 At the time of the tithe map in 1840 the PDS was arable land with this plot numbered 281 and called *'St Johns'* and owned by a Henry Hammond of what is now Moat Farm.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 To quote from the relevant Brief: 'This application lies in an area of archaeological interest recorded in the County Historic Environment Record, situated opposite a medieval moated site (THD 009) and on a street fronted by listed medieval and post medieval buildings. As a result there is high potential for encountering early occupation deposits at this location.' A site evaluation by trial trenching will therefore be required to:

- 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 of the PDS relates to its location in the historic core of the village close to various listed buildings and fronting onto a historic route way. The PDS therefore has the potential to contain archaeological deposits of medieval and early Post medieval date. The aim of the evaluation is therefore to examine the specified sample of the PDS with 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 three dwellings with associated garages on land opposite Moat Farm, High Street, Thorndon, on a site that is currently soft ground.

5.2 The Brief requires 45m of 1.8m wide trenching to achieve a 5% sample by area of the PDS and the proposed location of the trenches is shown below. This will be undertaken using a 1.00m or 1.20m wide toothless ditching bucket on a suitably sized machine operated by an experienced driver. 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 upcast 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 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 (examination of the topographic location of the site indicates that the presence of waterlogged deposits is only likely if 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

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.

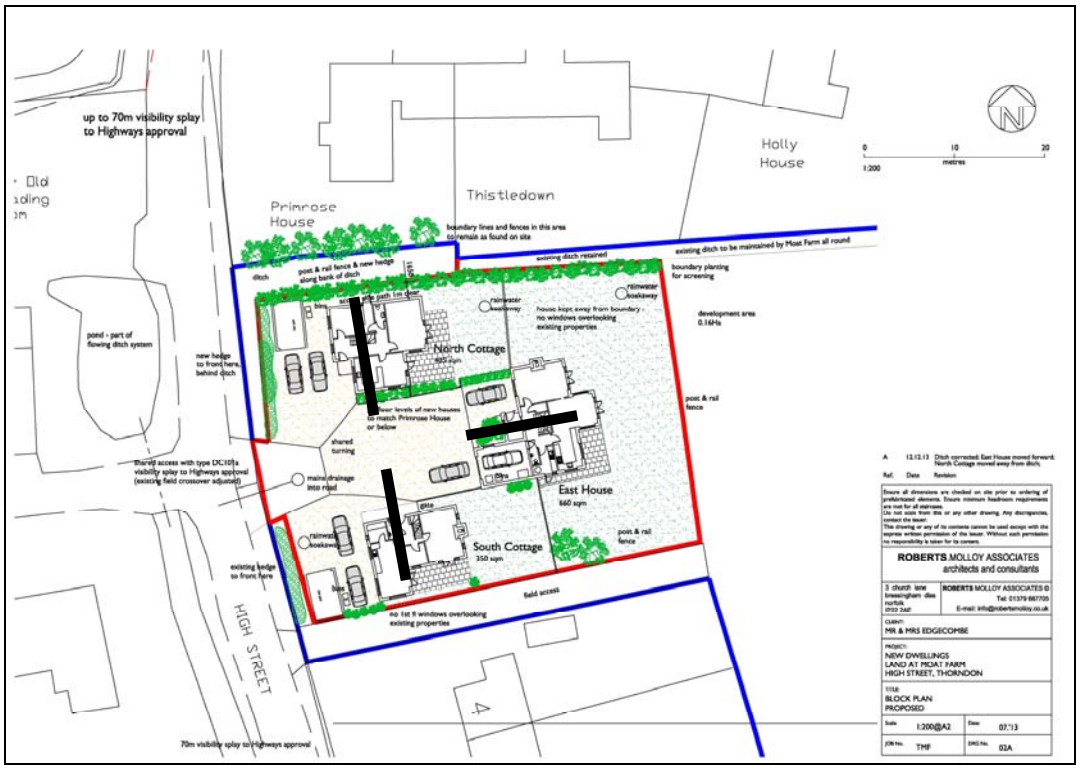
6.5 It is unlikely that any trench plus excavated feature depth will go below c1/1.3m from the present ground level. If any excavations need to go deeper measures such as stepping in the sides will be employed.

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)

Metal detecting:	J Armes (experienced freelance)
Palaeoenvironmental samples:	V Fryer (Freelance)
Soils specialist	R Macphail (UCL)
Pre-historic flint:	C Pendleton (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



0m I_____I 20m

Proposed location of trenches (each 15m long)

Appendix III- The Finds

Land opposite Moat Farm, Thorndon (THD 033): pottery

Sue Anderson, July 2014.

Introduction

Twenty-three sherds of pottery (357g) were collected from seven contexts. A summary catalogue by context is included as Appendix 1 below.

Methodology

Quantification was carried out using sherd count and weight. A full quantification by count, weight, estimated vessel equivalent (eve), minimum number of vessels (MNV), fabric, context and feature is available in the archive. All fabric codes were assigned from the author's fabric series, which includes East Anglian and Midlands fabrics, as well as imported wares. Local wares and common imports were identified from Jennings (1981). Form terminology follows MPRG (1998). Recording uses a system of letters for fabric codes. The results were input directly into an Access database.

The assemblage

Table 1 shows the quantification by fabric.

Description	Fabric	Code	No	Wt(g)	Eve	MNV
Early medieval gritty with shell	EMWSG	3.191	1	5		1
Medieval coarseware	MCW	3.20	7	88	0.14	6
Waveney Valley coarsewares	WVCW	3.41	5	61	0.08	5
Hollesley Glazed Ware	HOLG	4.32	1	7		1
Waveney Valley glazed wares	WVGW	4.34	3	59		3
Late medieval and transitional	LMT	5.10	6	137	0.06	6
Totals			**23**	**357**	**0.28**	**22**

Table 1. Pottery by fabric.

One body sherd of early medieval gritty/sparse shelly ware was an abraded and unstratified find (0001).

High medieval wheelmade coarsewares were the most frequent find and included sherds in Waveney Valley-type fabrics, ?Stowmarket Hollesley-type ware (Anderson 2004) and other coarsewares of unknown provenance. Four rims were recovered and comprised pieces of a bowl (pit fill 0003) and three jars (pit fills 0005, 0017; unstratified 0018) in 12th/13th and 13th/14th-century forms.

Glazed wares were all in local fabrics similar to the coarsewares. One from pit fill 0013 was similar to Hollesley ware, although it may be a more local type of unknown source. Other fragments were more typical of Waveney Valley and Rickinghall wares. All fragments of glazed ware were body sherds. One sherd was decorated with an incised wavy line (u/s 0001) and another had a white slip line (pit fill 0013).

Late medieval pottery was recovered from pit fill (0011) and as an unstratified find (0018). Most fragments were body sherds in fine micaceous fabrics, although these were not the micaceous wares typically made at Rickinghall and were more like the

medieval Waveney Valley wares. Most sherds were glazed, although one fragment only had a very small spot of glaze on the inner surface. This latter was a fragment of a bowl rim.

Discussion

This small assemblage includes medieval fabrics and forms which are typically found along the Waveney Valley and around Stowmarket, as would be expected given the location of the site. Forms suggest continuation of the site through the centuries and into the late medieval period. Bowls and cooking pots/jars are present in the assemblage, again in forms typical of the area. The late medieval wares were in a fabric comparable with the early Waveney Valley wares and were probably from a production site further north, rather than those around Wattisfield and Rickinghall, despite the micaceous content of the fabric.

References

Anderson, S., 2004, *A Medieval Moated Site at Cedars Field, Stowmarket, Suffolk*. E. Anglian Archaeol. Occ. Pap. 15. Suffolk County Council.

Jennings, S., 1981, *Eighteen Centuries of pottery from Norwich*. E. Anglian Archaeol. 13, Norwich Survey/NMS.

MPRG, 1998, *A Guide to the Classification of Medieval Ceramic Forms*. Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 1.

Appendix 1: Pottery catalogue

Context	Fabric	Form	Rim	No	Wt/g	Spot date	Fabric date range
0001	EMWSG			1	5		11th-13th c.
0001	WVGW			1	5		13th-14th c.?
0003	MCW			1	6		L.12th-14th c.
0003	WVCW	bowl	everted square beaded	1	13	13-14	L.12th-14th c.
0005	WVCW			1	8		L.12th-14th c.
0005	MCW	jar	everted beaded	2	14	12-13	L.12th-14th c.
0011	MCW			1	26		L.12th-14th c.
0011	LMT			2	45		15th-16th c.
0011	LMT			1	20		15th-16th c.
0011	LMT			1	30		15th-16th c.
0011	LMT	bowl?	complex everted	1	28		15th-16th c.
0013	WVCW			1	20		L.12th-14th c.
0013	HOLG			1	7		L.13th-E.14th c.
0013	WVGW			1	8		13th-14th c.?
0017	WVCW			1	7		L.12th-14th c.
0017	MCW			1	13		L.12th-14th c.
0017	MCW			1	20		L.12th-14th c.
0017	WVCW	jar	everted square beaded	1	13	13-14	L.12th-14th c.
0017	WVGW			1	46		13th-14th c.?
0018	LMT			1	14		15th-16th c.
0018	MCW	jar	everted, flat-topped end	1	9	12-13	L.12th-14th c.

Appendix IV- The Environmental Evidence

AN ASSESSMENT OF THE CHARRED PLANT MACROFOSSILS AND OTHER REMAINS FROM LAND OPPOSITE MOAT FARM, THORNDON, SUFFOLK (THD 033)

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

Introduction and method statement

Excavations at Thorndon, undertaken by John Newman, recorded a small number of features including three pits of medieval ($12^{th}/13^{th}$ to $15^{th}/16^{th}$ century) date. Samples for the retrieval of the plant macrofossil assemblages were taken from the pit fills, and three were submitted for assessment.

The samples were processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flots were collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flots 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). All plant remains were charred. Modern roots were abundant within all three assemblages and uncharred seeds were also recorded.

The non-floating residues were collected in a 1mm mesh sieve and will be sorted when dry. Any artefacts/ecofacts will be retained for further specialist analysis.

Results

Cereal grains and seeds are present at varying densities within all three assemblages. Preservation is generally quite poor, with a large number of the grains (particularly from context [0011]) being severely puffed and distorted, probably as a result of combustion at very high temperatures.

Oat (*Avena* sp.), barley (*Hordeum* sp.) and wheat (*Triticum* sp.) grains are recorded, along with a large number of cereals which are too poorly preserved for close identification. Of the identifiable grains, wheat is predominant, and although chaff is exceedingly scarce, bread wheat (*T. aestivum/compactum*) type rachis nodes are present within two assemblages. Other potential food plant remains include possible rounded pea (*Pisumsativum*) seeds and other fragments of indeterminate large pulses (Fabaceae) of pea/bean type.

Weed seeds occur very infrequently, possibly as a result of destruction during high temperature combustion. Those recorded are all of common segetal weeds namely cornflower (*Centaurea* sp.), small legumes (Fabaceae) and dock (*Rumex* sp.). A single sedge (*Carex* sp.) nutlet is noted within the assemblage from context [0017] and hazel (*Corylus avellana*) nutshell fragments are recorded from pits [0012] and [0016]. Charcoal/charred wood fragments are abundant throughout, but other plant macrofossils are generally scarce.

The fragments of black porous material, which are recorded within all three samples, are all probably derived from the high temperature combustion of organic remains

including cereal grains. Possible food remains include fragments of bone and eggshell (some of which are burnt), fish bones/scales and a single piece of mussel *Mytilus* sp.) shell. Small pieces of burnt or fired clay are also recorded along with small mammal or amphibian bones, although a proportion of the latter may be intrusive within the feature fills.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In summary, the composition of the recovered assemblages is very similar, almost certainly indicating that the material within them is derived from a common source. It would appear most likely that all three samples are principally composed of mixed refuse including hearth waste, dietary refuse and possibly sewage or animal ordure, although it is unclear whether this material was deliberately deposited within the pit fills or whether it accidentally accumulated as a result of scattered or wind dispersed midden waste. The high density of cereal grains within pit [0010] is, perhaps, a little unusual, but explanations for their presence may include the spillage of cereals during culinary preparation, the use of cereal processing dross as tinder/kindling or an accidental fire during the drying/processing of a small batch of grain.

Although the assemblage from pit [0010] does include a sufficient density of material for quantification (i.e. 100+ specimens), the analysis of a single sample, which is principally composed of very poorly preserved macrofossils, would add little to the data already contained within this assessment. Therefore, no further work is recommended.

Reference

Stace, C., 1997 *New Flora of the British Isles*. 2nd edition. Cambridge University Press

Context No.	**0011**	**0013**	**0017**
Feature No.	**0010**	**0012**	**0016**
Cereals and other potential food crops			
Avena sp. (grains)	x	x	x
Hordeum sp. (grains)	x	x	xcf
Triticum sp. (grains)	xxx	x	xx
T. aestivum/compactum type (rachis nodes)	x		x
Cereal indet. (grains)	xxxx	xx	xx
Pisum sativum L.	xcf	xcf	
Large Fabaceae indet.	x	x	x
Herbs			
Centaurea sp.		xcf	
Fabaceae indet.	x	x	x
Rumex sp.	x		
Wetland plants			
Carex sp.			x
Tree/shrub macrofossils			
Corylus avellana L.		x	x
Other plant macrofossils			
Charcoal <2mm	xxxx	xxxx	xxx
Charcoal >2mm	xxxx	xxxx	xxx
Charcoal >5mm	xx	xx	x
Charcoal >10mm	x		
Charred root/stem	x	x	x
Indet. culm nodes	x		
Indet. inflorescence frags.			x
Indet. seeds	x	x	
Indet. thorns (*Rosa* type)	x	x	
Other remains			
Black porous 'cokey' material	x	xx	xx
Black tarry material			x
Bone	xb	x xb	x xb
Burnt/fired clay	x	xx	xxxx
Eggshell	x xb	xx xb	x
Fish bone	x	xx	x
Marine mollusc shell frag.		x	
Mineralised faecal material	x		
Small coal frags	x	x	
Small mammal/amphibian bones	x	xx xb	x
Sample volume (litres)	**10**	**10**	**20**
Volume of flot (litres)	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**
% flot sorted	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Key to Table: x = 1 – 10 specimens xx = 11 – 50 specimens xxx = 51 – 100 specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens cf = compare b = burnt

Appendix V- Context List

THD 033

Evaluation phase (trench 1- north cottage, trench 2- south cottage, trench 3- east house)

Context	Trench	Type	Part of	Finds (F) sample (S)	Description	Spot date
0001	1	U/S		F	Unstratified finds from spoil	
0002	2	Pit	0002		Small pit, 400mm wide x 120mm deep	
0003	2	Fill	0002	F	Fill of 0002, mid brown clay	L12-14C
0004	2	Pit	0004		Small pit, 400mm wide x 150mm deep	
0005	2	Fill	0004	F	Fill of 0004, mid brown clay	L12-14C
0006	2	Pit	0006		Pit, 3m long x 900mm wide, not excavated	
0007	2	Fill	0006	F	Dark brown clay fill with numerous charcoal and other burnt frags, also scraps of iron sheet and asbestos (discarded)	20th C
0008	3	Ditch	0008		North-south aligned ditch, 2.30m wide x 900mm deep with rounded base, machine excavated	
0009	3	Fill	0008	F	Mid brown clay fill with few peg tile frags (discarded)	Pmed

Excavation phase (southern cottage plot- trench 2)

0010		Pit	0010		Shallow pit on southern edge of exc area, 1200mm wide x 200mm deep	
0011		Fill	0010	F/S	Mid brown clay	15-16C
0012		Pit	0012		Shallow pit in south-eastern corner of exc area, 1600mm wide x 150mm deep	
0013		Fill	0012	F/S	Mid brown clay	L13-14C
0014		Pit	0014		Shallow pit, 800mm wide x 100mm deep	

0015		Fill	0014		Light brown clay	?
0016		Pit	0016		Pit with rounded base, 900mm wide x 500mm deep	
0017		Fill	0016	F/S	Mid to dark brown clay	L12-14C
0018		U/S		F	Unstratified finds from exc area	

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OASIS ID: johnnewm1-177819

Project details

Project name	Land Opposite Moat Farm, High Street, Thorndon, Suffolk- Archaeological Evaluation and Excavation Report
Short description of the project	Thorndon, land opposite Moat Farm, High Street (THD 033, TM 1422 6934) evaluation trenching followed by a small scale excavation at the site of a proposed residential development revealed a scatter of small pits of high and late medieval date. The site fronts onto the High Street opposite Moat Farm and the pottery sherds and palaeoenvironmental evidence recovered from the pits suggests domestic activity at the site in the late 12th/13th to 15th/16th century period though no structural features were revealed.
Project dates	Start: 06-05-2014 End: 04-06-2014
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	THD 033 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	2995/13 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Conservation Area
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 3 - Disturbed
Monument type	PIT Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Modern
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	ECOFACT Medieval
Methods & techniques	'"Sample Trenches"'
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK MID SUFFOLK THORNDON LAND MOAT FARM, HIGH STREET
Postcode	IP23 7LX
Study area	1600.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TM 1422 6934 52.2798769937 1.14076892103 52 16 47 N 001 08 26 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 55.00m Max: 56.00m

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	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk CC Archaeological Service
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	Land Opposite Moat Farm, High Street, Thorndon, Suffolk- Archaeological Evaluation and Excavation Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Newman, J
Date	2014
Issuer or publisher	John Newman Archaeological Services
Place of issue or publication	Henley, Suffolk

Description	Loose bound client report
Entered by	John Newman (johnnewman2@btinternet.com)
Entered on	1 August 2014

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