Low Farm, Ufford Road, Bromeswell, Suffolk

Planning application: DC/14/4248/FUL

HER Ref: BML 057

Archaeological Evaluation & Monitoring Report

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(September 2015)

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Site details for HER

Name: Low Farm, Ufford Road, Bromeswell, Suffolk, IP12 2QB

Clients: James Foskett Farms Ltd

Local planning authority: Suffolk Coastal DC

Planning application ref: DC/14/4248/FUL

Development: Erection of agricultural building and creation of associated hard standing

Date of fieldwork: 27 & 28 April (evaluation) & 29 April & 11 May, 2015 (monitoring)

HER ref: BML 057

Event ref: ESF 23047

OASIS ref: johnnewm1- 209814

Grid ref: TM 3054 5170

Contents

Summary: Bromeswell, Low Farm, Ufford Road (BML 057, TM 3054 5170*) evaluation trenching and later site monitoring for a large agricultural building revealed a complex of land drainage features with the earliest being a ditch of probable medieval date which was followed by a number of Post medieval ditches and finally ceramic field drains of later 19th and 20th century date. The site of this new agricultural building is just below a spring line indicated on Ordnance Survey maps and land drainage has clearly been a problem over the last few hundred years of agricultural use. This conclusion is corroborated by palaeoenvironmental evidence from the probable medieval feature which indicates a damp local area with rough pasture being the main land use (John Newman Archaeological Services for James Foskett Farms Ltd).*

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Thurlow Nunn Standen Ltd on behalf of their client James Foskett Farms Ltd commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological evaluation and later monitoring works for a large agricultural building and associated hard standing at Low Farm, Ufford Road, Bromeswell (see Fig. 1). The evaluation requirements were set out in a Brief, following the granting of planning application DC/14/4248/FUL, set by Dr J Tipper of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service (SCCAS) with the aim of gaining a representative sample by trial trenching of the development area concerned. The Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) 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 various archaeological features were revealed and therefore it was agreed with Mrs R Abraham of the SCCAS that where ground reduction at the southern end of the development would impact on the level where further features might be revealed works could continue under a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording.

1.2 The village of Bromeswell is located on the eastern side of the River Deben some 3 miles north-east of Woodbridge in that part of Suffolk known as The Sandlings; a name derived from the light soils of the area that historically gave rise to extensive areas of heath land. The local drift geology is made up largely of well drained sands and gravels (deep sands of the Newport Series 20 with extensive areas distant from easily accessible water sources) giving rise to a dispersed settlement pattern scattered across various relatively large parishes. Bromeswell also lies just above Wilford Bridge, which is the highest tidal point on the River Deben, with Low Farm being located on the northern parish boundary 1000m north of the parish church and village centre and at 500m east of the River Deben just above the flood plain (see Fig. 1). Low Farm is on the southern side of Ufford Road which links Bromeswell and Eyke on the eastern side of the River Deben with Ufford and Melton on the western side. The site for the new agricultural building is on the eastern side of the farm complex, which includes various recently constructed structures, and is just below the 5m OD contour with recent test pits indicating 400mm to 600mm of top and subsoil over soft yellow sand with clay below, and a thin layer of peat in the north-western corner, and water ingress at a depth of just over 1000mm.

1.3 Archaeological interest in this development was generated by its location close to various recorded archaeological sites as listed in the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER- BML 004, 007, 011 and 019, see Fig. 1). These records indicating the potential of this site just above the floodplain to contain evidence for past activity ranging from the prehistoric to the Post medieval periods as finds of Neolithic/Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman, Anglo-Saxon and medieval date have been recovered close to Low Farm.

2. Evaluation methodology

2.1 In order to inform the evaluation a search was commissioned from the HER for the area within 500m of the planned development site and the results of this search are summarised below.

2.2 The area of the proposed development was trenched to a previously agreed plan (see Fig. 2) using a large 360 machine equipped with a 1800mm 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 1.80m 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 a ditch (0002) of probable medieval that was revealed in Trench 1. 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 The results from the HER search are summarised in the table below (see also Fig. 1):

HER Ref.	Investigation type	Description	Date	Ref. on Fig. 1
BML 004	Casual finds	Pottery scatter	Late Iron Age	S1
BML 007	Field Survey & casual finds	Pottery and metalwork scatter	EAS LS RB Med	S2
BML 011	Casual finds	Metalwork scatter	Med	S3
BML 013	Casual find	Metalwork find	IA	S4
BML 019	Monitoring	Two flint cores and later pottery scatter	Prehist Med	S5
BML 033	Aerial photograph	Cropmarks of small enclosure and trackway	Unknown	S6
BML 039	Survey	Geophysical survey of area for solar panels, one or two indistinct features identified	Unknown	S7
BML 040	Monitoring	No features or finds from area of solar panels		S8
MSF 19542	Monitoring	Three small features	Prehist?	S9
MSF 19543	Monitoring	Pottery scatter	Med	S10
ESF 18739	Monitoring	No finds or features		S11
MSF 19926	Casual finds	Metalwork scatter	Med	S12
MSF 19927	Casual finds	Metalwork scatter	RB	S13
MSF 19928	Casual finds	Metalwork scatter	Med	S14

Table 1: Historic Environment Record search results
(Prehist.- prehistoric, RB- Roman, EAS- Early Anglo-Saxon, LS- Late Saxon, Med.- medieval)

3.2 As outlined in Table 1 above evidence for past activity around Low Farm is largely derived from archaeological finds collected casually or during the monitoring of previous development works. While records listing earlier prehistoric finds are few (HER BML 019/S5, possibly BML 033/S6 & MSF 19542/S9) more can be anticipated in an area of light soils close to a good water source. For the later prehistoric period the evidence is better with a scatter of pottery sherds (HER BML 004/S1) and a single metalwork find (HER BML 013/S4) and Roman period activity is also recorded at two nearby locations (HER BML 007/S2 & MSF 19927/S13). Evidence for Early Anglo-Saxon activity is restricted to a single find (HER BML 007/S2) while some

indication for a Late Saxon presence comes from the same area and can be associated with the ensuing activity of medieval date in this area. Evidence for activity of medieval date is recorded at various points and with a few sherds from close to Low Farm (HER BML 019/S5) and a few metal finds just to the west (HER MSF 19926/S12) it can be suggested that occupation of this site has been continuous since the medieval period though Low Farm is not a listed building the farm shown on this site on the tithe map of 1840 is called 'Low Sink Farm.'

3.3 Details of the five evaluation trenches are summarised in table 2 below (see also Figs. 2 & 3, Appendix I- Images & Appendix III- Context List):

Trench number	Length (m)	Orientation	Topsoil depth (mm)	Subsoil depth (mm)	Drift geology	Archaeological features & finds
T1	25	Northwest-southeast	400	400 of a pale to mid grey sand	Pale yellow sand with pockets of light grey clay at southern end & iron staining	One shallow ditch (0002) of probable medieval date, two stray med sherds from upcast spoil
T2	25	Northeast-southwest	400	400 as T1	Pale to mid grey sand with natural iron staining	One small undated ditch (0004) with a few Pmed tile frags. & two field drains
T3	25	Northwest-southeast	400	400 as T1	As T2	One small ditch (0006) with few Pmed tile frags.
T4	25	Northeast-southwest	400	400 as T1	As T2	One small ditch (0008) & two shallow undated scoops (0010 & 0012)
T5	12.50	Northwest-southeast	400	500 as T1	As T2	No features or finds
	112.50 (202.50m^2)		400	400/500		

Table 2: Trench details

3.4 The glaciofluvial deposit exposed in the base of the trenches proved to be pale yellow to grey sand with widespread natural iron staining, and occasional pockets of sandy clay in trench 1, below 400mm of well developed topsoil and 400mm to 500mm of pale to mid grey sandy subsoil giving a substantial depth of overburden.

3.5 As detailed in the context list isolated ditches were revealed in trenches 1, 2, 3 and 4 with all of these features being relatively shallow though they are likely to have been cut from a point above the natural sand in the subsoil where they could not be defined. In addition two shallow scoops (0010 & 0012) were revealed in trench 4 each being of an elongated shape at 1000mm long and 500mm wide but only 100mm deep and the respective fills (0011 & 0013) did not contain any finds.

3.6 In trench 1 a northeast to southwest orientated ditch (0002) was 600mm wide and 300mm deep with a dark grey/black sand fill (0003) that also contained some desiccated peat but no finds. A bulk sample was taken from this feature. Trench 2

revealed a very narrow northwest to southeast aligned ditch (0004) that was only 300mm wide and 150mm deep with a mid to dark grey sand fill (0005) that contained a few small peg tile fragments. In addition two ceramic field drains of recent date were revealed in this trench. Another small ditch (0006) was revealed in trench 3, this was on northeast to southwest alignment and it's mid to dark grey sand fill (0007) contained a few peg tile fragments. Along the northern edge of the development area in trench 4 another small ditch (0008) on a northeast to southwest alignment was revealed and this feature was 500mm wide and 200mm deep with a clean mid to dark grey sand fill (0009) which did not contain any finds.

3.7 While all of the trenches were relatively deep at 800mm to 900mm leading to a large quantity of upcast spoil very few stray finds were recovered from the site with the only ones of any note being one rim sherd and two body sherds (42g) of unglazed and moderately abraded sandy medieval coarseware of 13th/14th century date (0001) from the spoil of trench 1 in the general area of the ditch (0002). The only other finds from the five evaluation trenches were a few iron nails and indeterminate sheet fragments from the metal detector survey, three clay tobacco pipe stem fragments (6g) and four peg tile fragments (20g) of Post medieval date from the upcast trench spoil and small peg tile fragments from two of the ditches (0004 & 0006) that were revealed.

4. Monitoring results

4.1 As a small number of archaeological features were revealed in the evaluation stage of the programme of works it was agreed in consultation with the relevant SCCAS Officer that the ground reduction that was required across the upslope, southern part of the development area should be monitored. Across the down slope central and northern parts of the site monitoring was not required as apart from a number of stanchion pits ground works would not impact on the level where archaeological features might be present. This monitoring was subsequently carried out as the area concerned was stripped to the level of the naturally occurring sand using a 2m wide flat bucket on a large 360 machine and exposed features were investigated and recorded.

4.2 The area where the ground reduction would impact on the level where archaeological features might be exposed extended from the southern end of trench 1 southwards across the area where a large trench was to be excavated for a ground water drain and associated hard standing for the new building (see Fig. 2).

4.3 In the c1500m^2 area that was reduced to the top of the natural sand a number of southeast to northwest ditches and other drainage features were revealed with four small ditches (0014, 0016, 0018 & 0020- see Fig. 4 & Appendix I) in addition to five ceramic field drains. Of the small ditches one (0016) did not contain any finds and the remaining three (0014, 0018 & 0020) contained small fragments of peg tile in

their respective fills (0015, 0019 & 0021). As with the evaluation stage of works the upcast spoil was very clean with few finds of any date.

5. The Palaeoenvironmental evidence

5.1 A bulk sample was taken from the fill (0003) of the ditch (0002) of probable medieval date 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 provides useful corroborative evidence that the area of this new farm store had poor drainage in the past with wetland plants such as sedge, blinks and possibly water pepper all being represented. In addition other plant remains from the sample suggest that the local area was rough grassland when this ditch was open as remains of thistle, black bindweed, hemp nettle, buttercup, campion and dock were present. Finally there is a possibility that hemp was cultivated nearby.

6. Conclusion

6.1 While there is evidence for later Iron Age and Roman period activity close to Low Farm this archaeological investigation only recorded one feature of probable medieval date in addition to more recent features and all of the features identified are in all probability linked to the high ground water level at the site. In this context it is notable on modern Ordnance Survey maps that a spring line is shown to the south/south-east of the area examined. While archaeological finds of any age were scarce on the site the few medieval pottery sherds recovered were from upcast spoil near the ditch (0002) in trench 1 and the assessment of the preserved plant remains from the sample taken from its fill (0003) confirms a damp environment in the past with an area of rough grassland in the vicinity and possibly hemp cultivation nearby.

6.2 From a combination of past archaeological records for Low Farm where medieval period activity is evidenced (HER BML 019/S5) and from the results of this investigation it can be suggested that a farm type settlement has been present at Low Farm since at least the 13th/14th century period. However the evidence recovered from this investigation also demonstrates that the site of this new farm building was too wet for past activity of any intensity as past generations of farmers have had to excavate a number of ditches and more recently lain field drains in order to productively use this area below the adjacent spring line.

Archive- to be deposited with the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service under the HER ref. BML 057.

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 Gary Palmer for his close cooperation with regard to this evaluation and monitoring and to Val Fryer and Robert Fryer for their specialist work and to Sue Holden for her illustration input)**

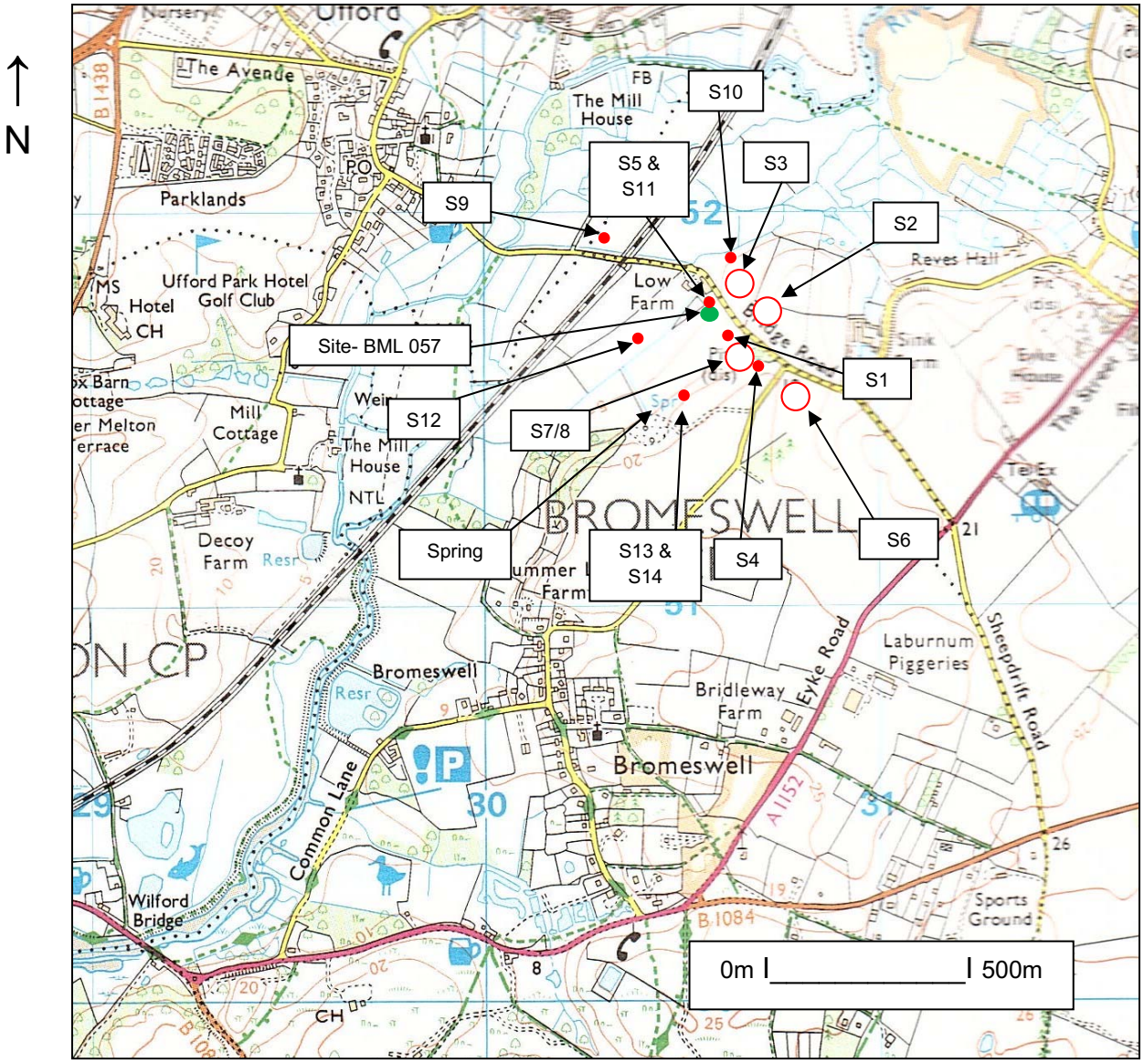


Fig. 1: Site location

(Green- site of new building, S1, S4 & S9 Prehistoric, S2 & S13 Roman period, S2, S3, S5, S10, S12 & S14 Medieval)

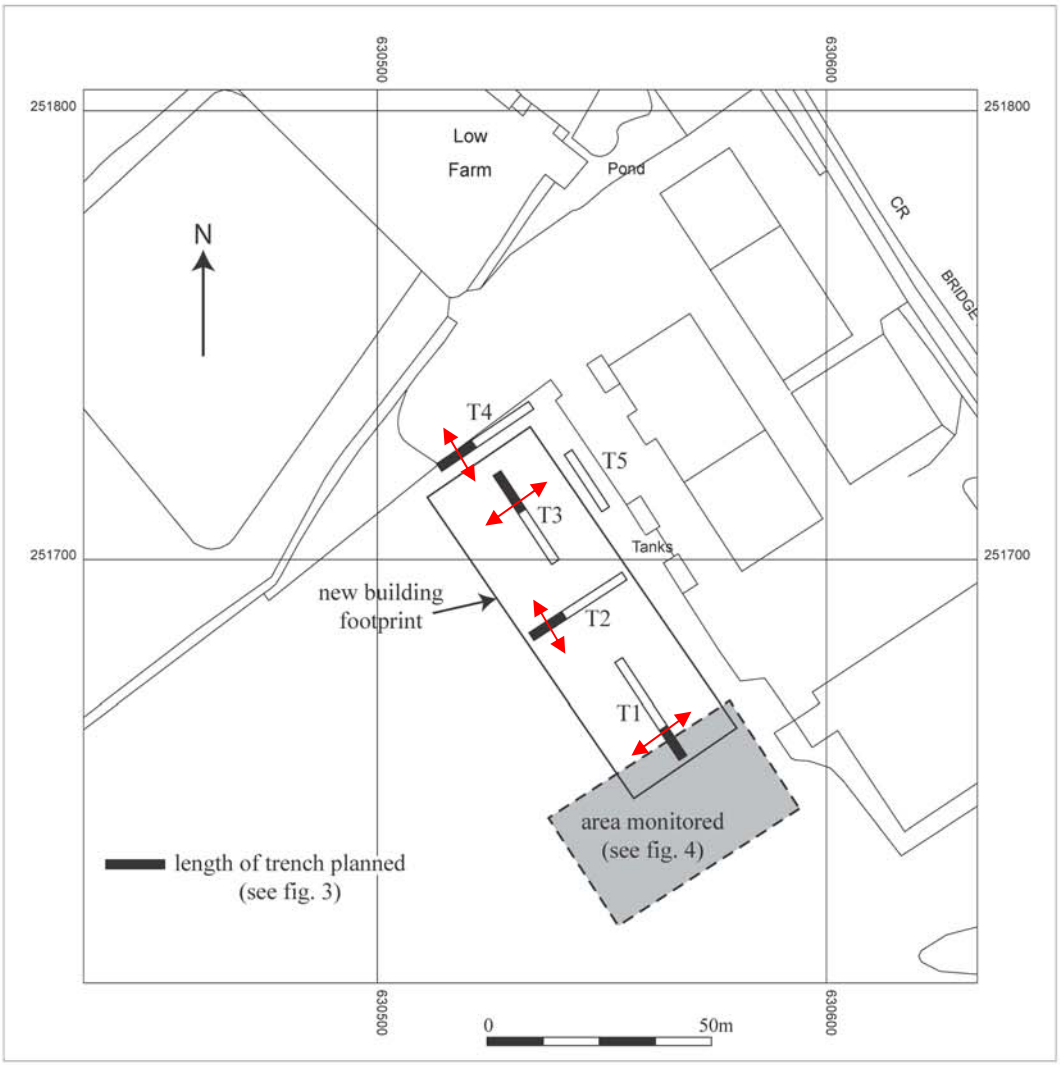


Fig. 2: Location of evaluation trenches and monitored area (red- ditches revealed in the evaluation)

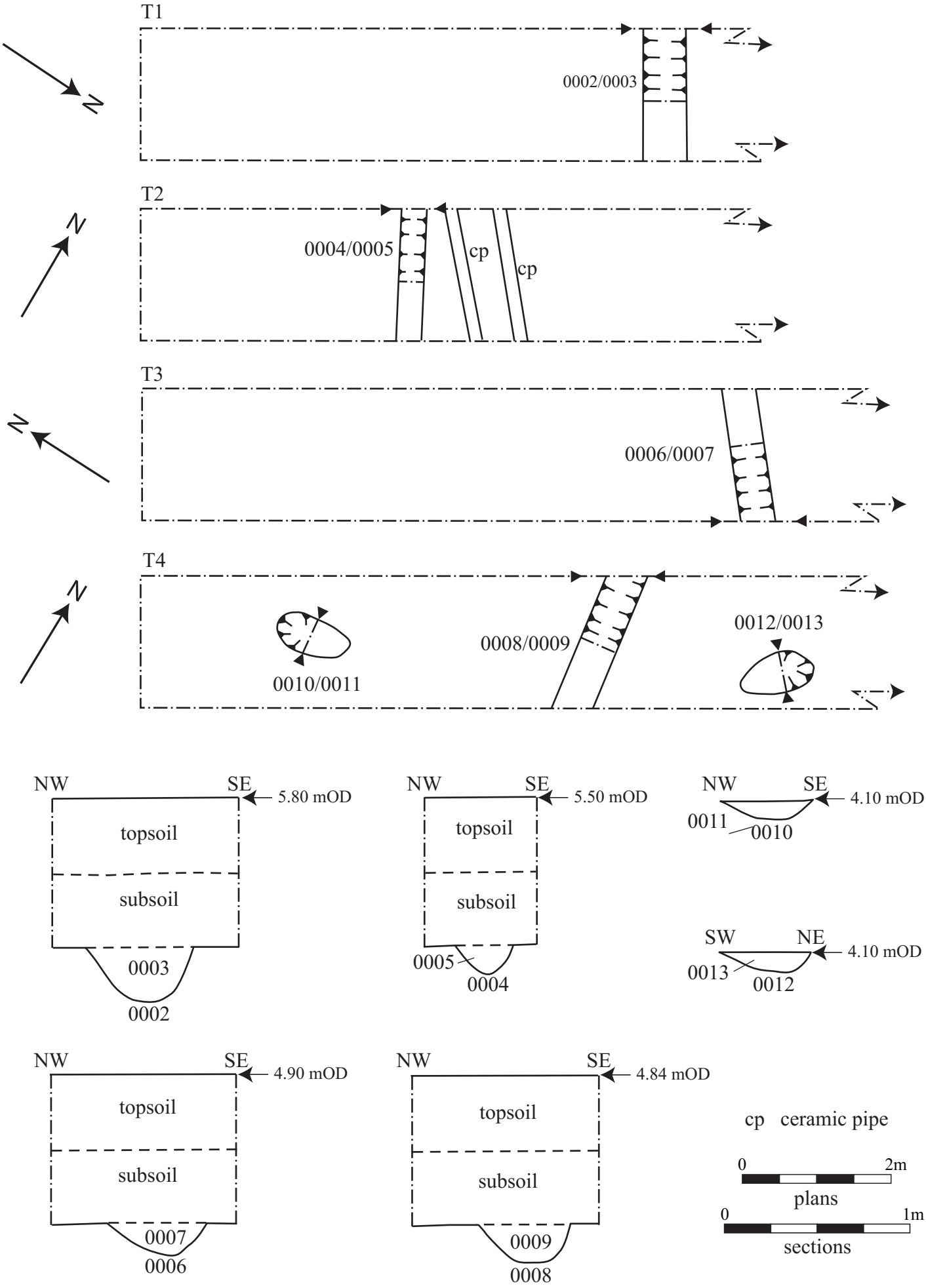
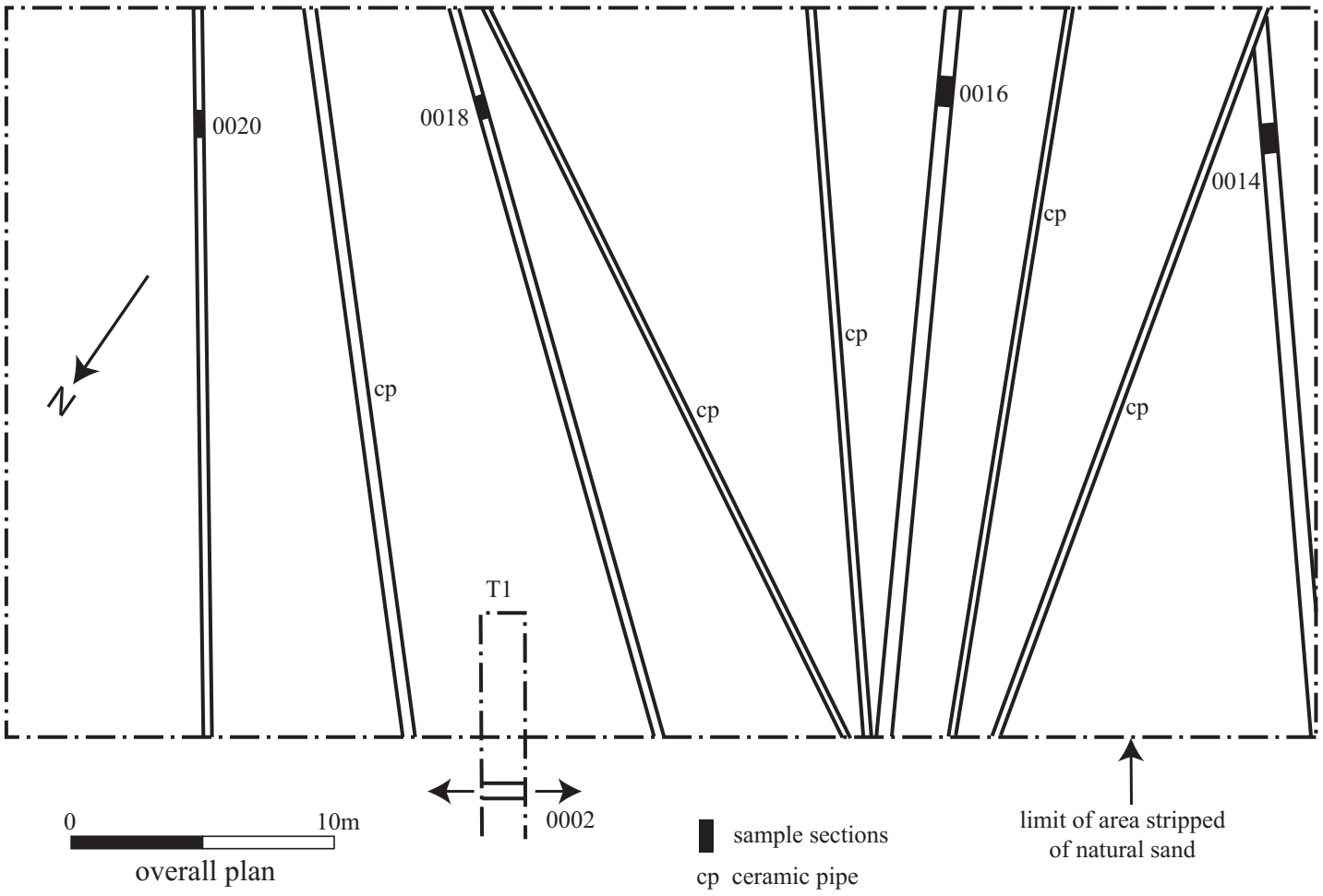


Fig. 3: Evaluation trench plans and sections.



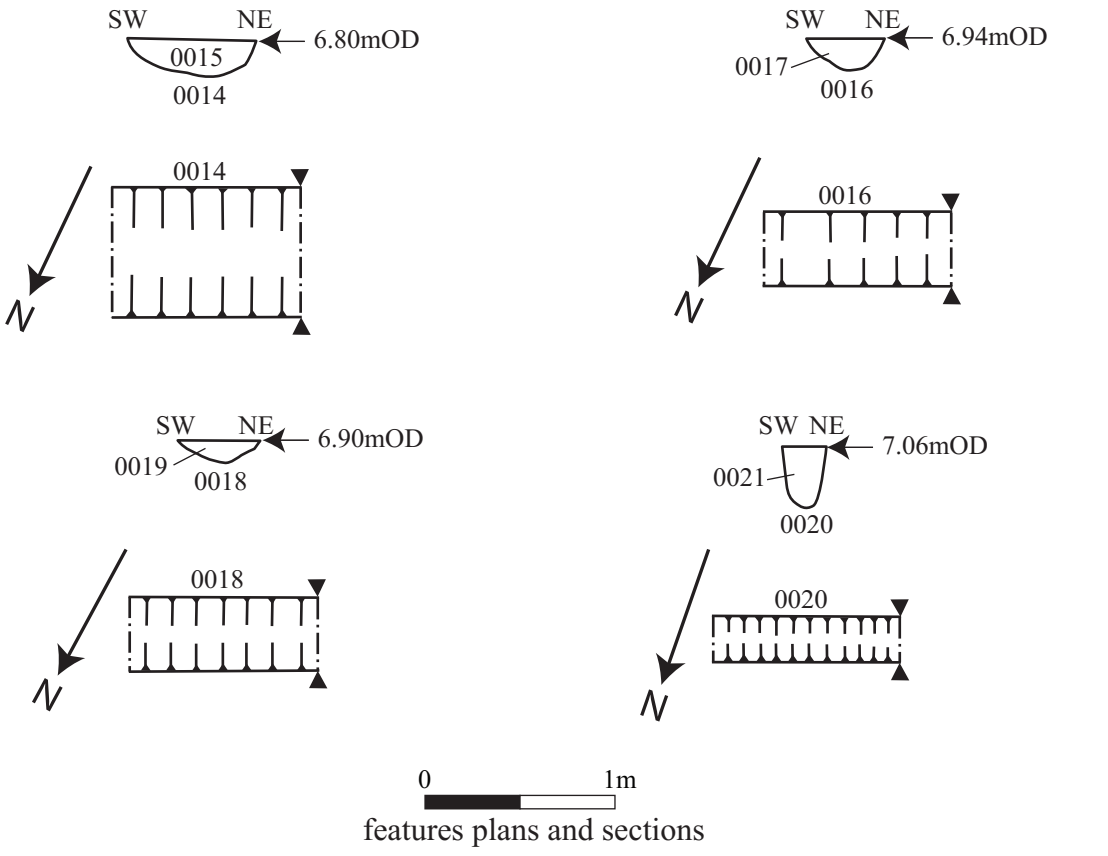


Fig. 4: Plan of area monitored and detail of features revealed.

Appendix I- Images

General view from southeast

Trench 1 from south

Trench 1 deposit profile and ditch 0002 from east

Trench 2 from west

Trench 2 deposit profile and ditch 0004 from south

Trench 3 from north

Trench 3 deposit profile and ditch 0006 from east

Trench 4 from west

Trench 4 deposit profile and ditch 0008 from south

Trench 5 from north

Trench 5 deposit profile

General view of monitoring stage from east

Monitoring stage ditch 0016 from south

Monitoring stage ditch 0018 from south

Monitoring stage narrow ditch 0020 from north

Low Farm, Ufford Road, Bromeswell, Suffolk

Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation

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Site details

Name: Low Farm, Ufford Road, Bromeswell, Suffolk, IP12 2QB

Client: James Foskett Farms Ltd

Local planning authority: Suffolk Coastal DC

Planning application ref: DC/14/4248/FUL

Proposed development: Erection of agricultural building

Proposed date for evaluation: w/c 27 April

Brief ref: 2014_10_24_SCCAS_Trenched Archaeological Evaluation_Low Farm, Bromeswell

Grid ref: TM 3054 5178

Site area: 4500m^2

Current land use: edge of farmyard

Contents

1. Introduction

1.1 Thurlow Nunn Standen Ltd on behalf of James Foskett Farms Ltd have commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological site evaluation for a proposed agricultural building development. This written scheme of investigation (WSI) details the background to the archaeological advice given by the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service (SCCAS) and how JNAS will implement the requirements of the Brief for Archaeological Evaluation set by Dr J Tipper then of SCCAS at the pre-application stage (now application DC/14/4248/FUL). The WSI will also set out how potential risks will be mitigated. This proposed development concerns the erection of a large agricultural building with associated parking areas and hard standing at Low Farm, Ufford Road, Bromeswell.

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. 1.2 (Suffolk CC)* and nationally in *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 1994, revised 2001)*.

2. Location, Topography & Geology

2.1 The village of Bromeswell is located on the eastern side of the River Deben some 3 miles north-east of Woodbridge in that part of Suffolk known as The Sandlings; a name derived from the light soils of the area that historically gave rise to extensive areas of heath land. The local drift geology is made up largely of well drained sands and gravels (deep sands of the Newport Series 20 with extensive areas distant from easily accessible water sources) giving rise to a dispersed settlement pattern scattered across various relatively large parishes. Bromeswell also lies just above Wilford Bridge, which is the highest tidal point on the River Deben, with Low Farm being located on the northern parish boundary 1000m north of the parish church and village centre and at 500m east of the River Deben just above the flood plain. Low Farm is on the southern side of Ufford Road which links Bromeswell and Eyke on the eastern side of the River Deben with Ufford and Melton on the western side. The proposed development site (PDS) is on the eastern side of the farm complex and is just below the 5m OD contour with test pits indicating 400mm to 600mm of top and subsoil over soft yellow sand with clay below, and a thin layer of peat in the north-western corner, and water ingress at a depth of just over 1000mm.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 To quote from the relevant Brief 'This site is located in an area of high archaeological interest, recorded in the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER), with multiple records in close proximity (HER nos. BML 004, 007, 011 and 019). In addition, the site is in a topographically favourable location for early occupation, above the floodplain of the River Deben. There is high potential for encountering early occupation deposits at this location. The proposed works would cause significant ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.' A site evaluation by trial trenching is therefore 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.

4. Aims of the Site Evaluation

4.1 As outlined in section 3 above the archaeological potential of the PDS relates to its location close to recorded evidence for multi-period past activity of pre-historic, Roman and medieval period date. In addition the PDS is in a topographically attractive location for past settlement and related activity being just above the flood plain of a major local river. The aim of the evaluation is therefore to examine the specified sample of the planned development area 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 before any other ground works commence.

5. Methodology

5.1 The proposed development is for a large agricultural building and associated parking and hard standing areas and a search of the HER for the area within 500m of the PDS will be undertaken to inform this evaluation.

5.2 The Brief requires seven 125m long and 1.80m wide linear trenches across the development area to sample the PDS and the proposed trenching plan is included below. This will be undertaken using a minimum 1200/1500mm 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 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 event and HER numbers 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 in order to inform any further stages in the archaeological programme of works for the PDS. 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)

- 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 (should RC dating be required in the evaluation on such deposits this incur additional cost and will take time to obtain, examination of the topographic location and the soil test report for the site indicates that the presence of waterlogged deposits is likely if features over 1000mm deep 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. 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. As required the site evaluation will be registered on the OASIS online archaeological record followed by submission of the final draft in .pdf format. Once accepted a bound hard copy will be provided for the County HER, with the relevant OASIS summary detail form and the digital archive on disc. An HER summary sheet will be completed and a summary prepared of any positive results for inclusion in the annual PSIAH round-up. The trench location will be provided for the HER as a .dxf vector plan.

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 agent/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.

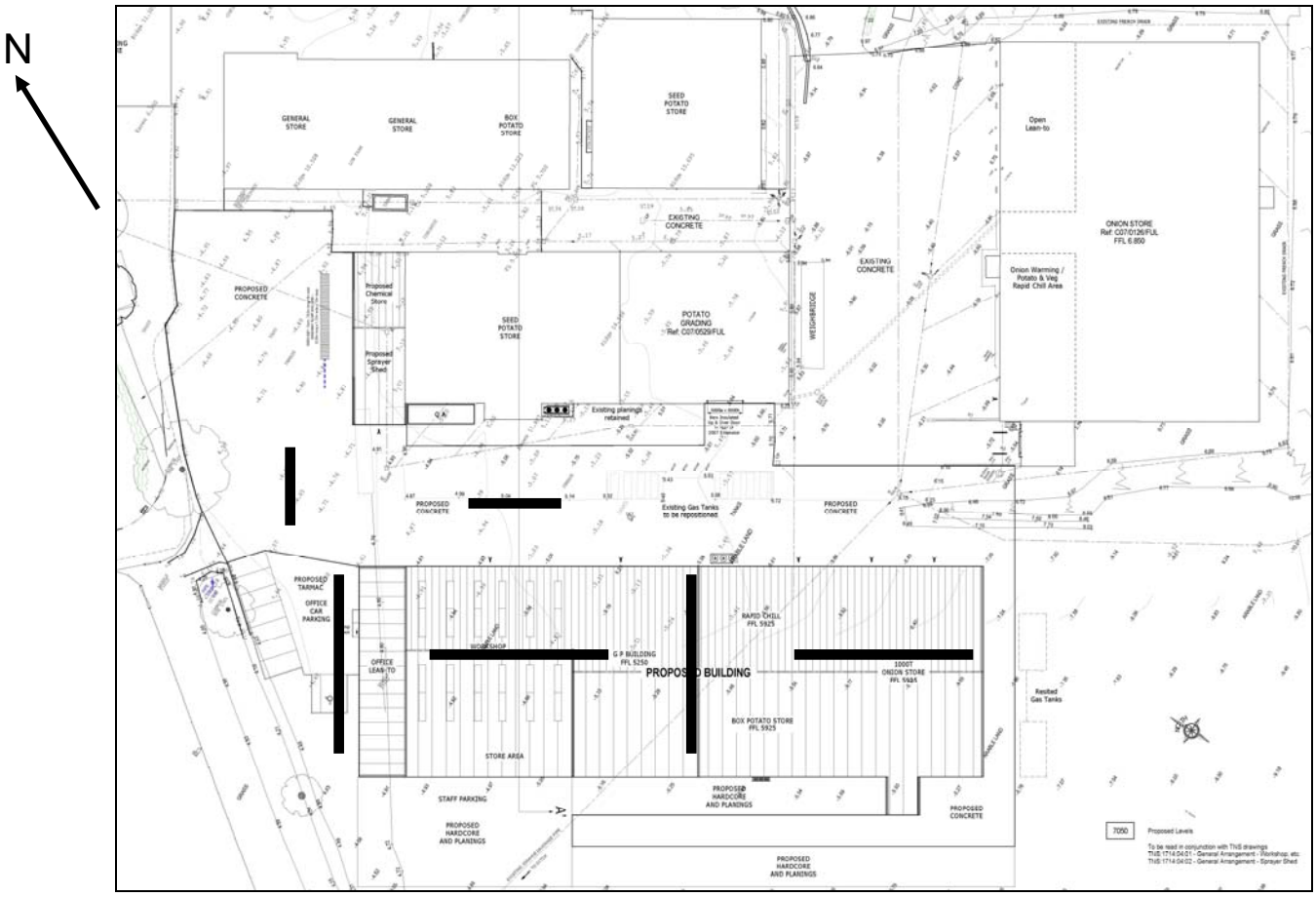
6.4 A fully charged mobile phone will be carried and a first aid kit will be taken to site.

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 (Freelance)
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



0m l_____l 50m

Proposed location of trial trenches (4 x25m & 2 x12.5m)

Appendix- III

Context List

BML 057 Evaluation stage (see Figs. 2 & 3)

Trench	Number	Type	Part of	Description	Date
T1	0001	US	0001	Stray finds from upcast spoil of trench 1 from general area of ditch 0002	Three medieval sherds (10g) , 3 tobacco pipe stem frags, a few Pmed tile frags. a few iron nails & sheet frags.
T1	0002	Ditch	0002	Small northeast-southwest orientated ditch 600mm wide x 300mm deep	
T1	0003	Fill	0003	Black sandy fill of 0002 with traces of dessicated peat	?Medieval
T2	0004	Ditch	0004	Small northwest-southeast orientated ditch 300mm wide x 150mm deep	
T2	0005	Fill	0004	Mid to dark grey sandy fill of 0004	Post medieval (few small tile frags.)
T3	0006	Ditch	0006	Small northeast-southwest orientated ditch 500mm wide x 200mm deep	
T3	0007	Fill	0006	Mid to dark grey sandy fill of 0006	Post medieval (few small tile frags.)
T4	0008	Ditch	0008	Small northeast-southwest orientated ditch 500mm wide x 200mm deep	
T4	0009	Fill	0008	Mid to dark grey sandy fill of 0008	No finds
T4	0010	Scoop	0010	Shallow scoop 1000mm 500mm wide x 100mm deep	
T4	0011	Fill	0010	Dark grey sandy fill of 0010	No finds
T4	0012	Scoop	0011	Shallow scoop 1000mm x 500mm wide x 100mm deep	
T4	0013	Fill	0012	Mid to dark grey sandy fill of 0012	No finds

BML 057 Monitoring stage of southern part of site (see Fig. 2 & 4)

Number	Type	Part of	Description	Date
0014	Ditch	0014	Shallow southeast-northwest orientated ditch 700mm wide x 200mm deep	
0015	Fill	0014	Dark grey sandy fill of 0014	Pmed (few small tile frags.)
0016	Ditch	0016	Shallow southeast-northwest orientated ditch 400mm wide x 200mm deep	
0017	Fill	0016	Dark grey sandy fill of 0016	No finds
0018	Ditch	0018	Shallow southeast-northwest orientated ditch 400mm wide x 100mm deep	
0019	Fill	0018	Mid to dark grey sandy fill of 0018	Pmed (few small tile frags.)
0020	Ditch	0020	Narrow southeast-northwest orientated ditch 240mm wide x 320mm deep	
0021	Fill	0020	Dark grey sandy fill of 0020 also containing small fragments of dessicated peat	Pmed (few small tile frags.)

Appendix IV- The Palaeoenvironmental Evidence

AN EVALUATION OF THE PLANT MACROFOSSILS AND OTHER REMAINS FROM LOW FARM, BROMESWELL, SUFFOLK (BML 057)

Val Fryer, Church Farm, Sisland, Loddon, Norwich, Norfolk, NR14 6EF (September 2015)

Introduction and method statement

Evaluation excavations at Bromeswell, undertaken by John Newman, revealed a series of land drainage ditches and pipes which ranged in date from the medieval to the post-medieval periods. A single sample for the evaluation of the content and preservation of the plant macrofossil assemblage was taken from the fill of ditch 0002 (context 0003), which was thought to belong to the earliest phase of activity on the site.

The sample was processed by manual water flotation/washover and the flot was collected in a 300 micron mesh sieve. The dried flot was 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 (2010). Most plant remains were preserved in a de-watered state (denoted within the table by a lower case 'w' suffix), although occasional charred macrofossils 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

De-watered seeds of ruderal weeds/grassland herbs, wetland plants and tree/shrub species are present at a low to moderate density along with occasional other plant macrofossils and arthropod remains. The flot is largely composed of black, humic concretions, which are probably derived from a compacted organic mud. Most plant macrofossils are reasonably well-preserved, although some are distorted, probably as a result of the compaction of the deposit.

Seeds of ruderal weeds/grassland herbs occur most frequently, with taxa noted including thistle (*Cirsium* sp.), black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*), hemp nettle (*Galeopsis* sp.), buttercup (*Ranunculus acris/repens/ bulbosus*), campion (*Silene* sp.) and dock (*Rumex* sp.). A small number of hemp (*Cannabis sativa*) fruits are also recorded, but it is thought most likely that these may be relicts of a crop cultivated within the near vicinity. Wetland plant remains include sedge (*Carex* sp.) nutlets and seeds of blinks (*Montia fontana*) and possibly water-pepper (*Persicaria hydropiper*). Bramble (*Rubus* sect. *Glandulosus*) 'pips' and elderberry (*Sambucusnigra*) seeds are also relatively common. Small pieces of charcoal are recorded, although at a very low density. Other plant macrofossils include fragments of de-watered root/stem, indeterminate thorns of probable rose (*Rosa* sp.) type, twigs and pieces of wood.

Conclusions and recommendations for further work

In summary, the composition of the assemblage would appear to indicate that the ditch was situated within an area of rough, damp grassland, although the presence of the hemp fruits may suggest that some agricultural production was occurring nearby. The ditch itself appears to have been at least partly overgrown by colonising shrubs, although this could have occurred as the feature fell out of regular usage. Anthropogenic remains are scarce, and it is assumed that the few which are recorded are derived from scattered refuse which was accidentally incorporated within the ditch fill.

Although the current assemblage is reasonably comprehensive, analysis of such an accumulated deposit would add very little to the data already presented within this evaluation and, therefore, no further work is recommended at this stage. If further interventions are planned within the immediate area, additional plant macrofossils samples can be taken at the discretion of the excavator, with emphasis being placed on any contexts which appear to contain higher concentrations of anthropogenic material.

Ref: Stace, C., 2010 *New Flora of the British Isles*. 3rd edition. Cambridge University Press

Feature No.	**0002**
Context No.	**0003**
Herbs	
Arctium lappa L.	xcfw
Cannabis sativa L.	xw
Carduus sp.	xcfw
Chenopodiaceae indet.	xw
Cirsium sp.	xw
Fallopia convolvulus (L.)A.Love	xw
Galeopsis sp.	xw
Polygonaceae indet.	xw
Ranunculus acris/repens/bulbosus	xw
Rumex sp.	xw
Silene sp.	xw
Wetland plants	
Carex sp.	xw
Lychnis flos-cuculi L.	xcfw
Montia fontana L.	xw
Persicaria hydropiper L.	xcfw
Tree/shrub macrofossils	
Rubus sect *Glandulosus* Wimmer & Grab	xxw
Sambucus nigra L.	xxw
Other plant macrofossils	
Charcoal <2mm	x
Charcoal >2mm	x
Charred root/stem	x
Waterlogged root/stem	xxxx
Indet. seeds	xw
Indet. thorn (*Rosa* type)	xw
Indet. twigs	xw
Wood frags. >2mm	xw
Wood frags. >10mm	xw
Other remains	
Caddis larval cases	xxw
Mineralised soil concretions	xxxx
Waterlogged arthropod remains	xx
Sample volume (litres)	**20ss**
Volume of flot (litres)	**0.4**
% flot sorted	**25%**

Key to Table

x = 1 – 10 specimens xx = 11 – 50 specimens xxxx = 100+ specimens
cf = compare w = de-watered ss = sub-sample

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: johnnewm1-209814

Project details

Project name	Low Farm, Ufford Road, Bromeswell, Suffolk- Archaeological Evaluation and Monitoring Report
Short description of the project	Bromeswell, Low Farm, Ufford Road (BML 057, TM 3054 5170) evaluation trenching and later site monitoring for a large agricultural building revealed a complex of land drainage features with the earliest being a ditch of probable medieval date which was followed by a number of Post medieval ditches and finally ceramic field drains of later 19th and 20th century date. The site of this new agricultural building is just below a spring line indicated on Ordnance Survey maps and land drainage has clearly been a problem over the last few hundred years of agricultural use. This conclusion is corroborated by palaeoenvironmental evidence from the probable medieval feature which indicates a damp local area with rough pasture being the main land use.
Project dates	Start: 27-04-2015 End: 11-05-2015
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	ESF 23047 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	BML 057 - Related HER No.
Any associated project reference codes	DC/14/4248/FUL - Planning Application 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	DITCH Medieval
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	FIELD DRAIN Modern
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Significant Finds	CLAY TOBBACO PIPE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	ECOFACT Medieval
	'"Sample Trenches"'

Methods & techniques	
Development type	Farm infrastructure (e.g. barns, grain stores, equipment stores, 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 BROMESWELL LOW FARM, UFFORD ROAD
Postcode	IP12 2QB
Study area	4500 Square metres
Site coordinates	TM 3054 5170 52.114904701901 1.367608288713 52 06 53 N 001 22 03 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 5m Max: 6m

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

	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Publication type	
Title	Low Farm, Ufford Road, Bromeswell, Suffolk- Archaeological Evaluation and Monitoring Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Newman, J
Date	2015
Issuer or publisher	John Newman Archaeological Services
Place of issue or publication	Henley, Suffolk
Description	Loose bound client report and pdf
Entered by	John Newman (johnnewman2@btinternet.com)
Entered on	2 October 2015

OASIS:

Please e-mail Historic England for OASIS help and advice