# Land at Whitegates Farm, Earlsford Road, Mellis, Suffolk

# Planning applications: 0558/13 & 0656/13 HER Ref: MLS 022

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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

(March 2016)

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

## Site details for HER

Name: Land at Whitegates Farm, Earlsford Road, Mellis, Suffolk, IP23 8DY

Clients: Mr & Mrs N Battell

Planning authority: Mid Suffolk DC

Planning application ref: 0558/13/ & 0656/13

Development: Erection of two dwellings

Date of fieldwork: 3 March, 2016

Event ref: ESF 23674

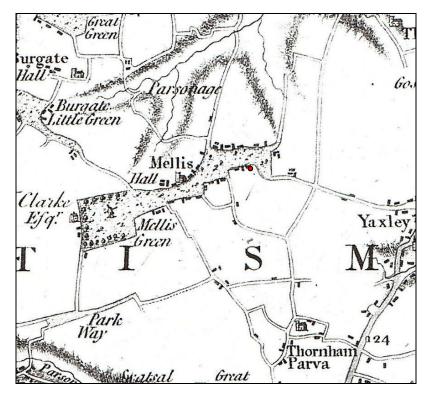
HER ref: MLS 022

OASIS ref: johnnewm1-243822

Grid ref: TM 1014 7450

Site area: 250m<sup>2</sup>

Recent land use: Farmyard with redundant outbuilding



Frontispiece: Extract from Hodkinson's 1783 map of Suffolk (red dot- site location)

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Summary: Mellis, land at Whitegates Farm, Earlsford Road (MLS 022, TM 1014 7448) evaluation trenching for a planned small residential development comprising two dwellings on the south-eastern edge of Mellis Green revealed one small undated ditch 15m to the south and broadly parallel with the nearby green edge ditch. While this ditch did not contain any finds its fill was compact and looked 'old.' However no other archaeological features were revealed and the lack of pre-1900 finds in the upcast spoil indicates a lack of past activity of any intensity in the area examined (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr & Mrs N Battell).

#### 1. Introduction & background

1.1 Peter Codling Architects on behalf of their clients Mr & Mrs N Battell commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological evaluation works for a planned small scale residential development comprising two dwellings on land at Whitegates Farm, Earlsford Road, Mellis (see Fig. 1) that has been given planning consent. The evaluation requirements were set out in a Brief, following the granting of planning applications 0588/13 and 0656/13, set by Mrs R Abraham of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service (SCCAS) with the aim of gaining a representative sample by trial trenching of the development area concerned. The Written Scheme of Investigation for the archaeological evaluation (see Appendix II) was subsequently prepared by JNAS in order to gain a conditional discharge and allow the trenching to go ahead before any other ground works are undertaken.

1.2 Mellis parish is located in north central Suffolk on the western side of the A 140 road, which is on the line of the major Roman road linking East Anglia to Colchester and London, in an area where, historically, villages have clustered partly round the church but also with a more scattered pattern dispersed round various green edges and along the numerous roads and lanes. In this landscape Mellis is exceptional in that the medieval settlement pattern of the village has been preserved with the parish church as well as historic farms and cottages, many of which are listed, and more recent houses scattered around the edge of one of the largest surviving greens in East Anglia which Hodkinson mapped in 1783 (see frontispiece). The proposed development site on the western side of Whitegates Farm fits into this settlement pattern being on the south-eastern edge of the large green towards its northern end and c40m east of Pear Tree Cottage which is a listed building of early 18<sup>th</sup> century date.

1.3 With a productive, though heavy, soils based on the deep clays of the till plateau of central Suffolk over the underlying chalky till of the Beccles series, population densities were high through the medieval period in a prosperous region as evidenced by the numerous historic buildings in the area. Therefore as population figures dropped dramatically after the Black Death period of the mid 14<sup>th</sup> century evidence for past settlement can be anticipated around any green edge of medieval origin. At the time of the evaluation the proposed development site, which is close to the 50m OD contour, was part of a farmyard covered by redundant farm buildings and, in part, a concreted yard which was broken up beforehand.

1.4 Archaeological interest in this planned development was therefore generated by its location on the edge of the historic Mellis Green (HER MLS 011) where evidence for activity of medieval and early Post medieval might be anticipated with Whitegates farm house 25m to the east being a building of later 18<sup>th</sup>/earlier 19<sup>th</sup> century date.

#### 2. Evaluation methodology

2.1 The 250m<sup>2</sup> area of the planned residential development was trenched to an agreed plan (see Fig. 2). The trenching was carried out using a medium sized 360 machine equipped with a 1200mm flat bucket which was under archaeological supervision at all times and any indistinct areas were hand cleaned as necessary to improve clarity and a 1m long section was hand excavated in the single archaeological feature of any age that was revealed.

2.2 The sides and base of the trenches and the upcast spoil were examined visually and scanned briefly with a metal detector for any finds during the evaluation though the amount of modern debris precluded any detailed detector search. Site visibility for features and finds is considered to have been good and the evaluation was undertaken under dry and sunny conditions. 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.

#### 3. Results

3.1 The relevant details for the evaluation trenches are summarised in the table below (see also Figs. 2 & 3 & Appendix I):

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Topsoil depth (mm)	Subsoil depth (mm)	Drift geology	Archaeological/ natural features & finds
1	Southwest- northeast	10	300 (where present at eastern end	200 mid brown clay	Stiff pale brown chalky clay with flints	The only feature was a post hole of recent date with the post base still in situ, the western half of the trench was formerly under a concrete yard surface, all stray finds were of 1900+ date
2	Northwest- southeast	10	150 (where present at northern end)	200 as T1	As T1	One small ditch (0002) at northern end on NE/SW alignment, no finds in its fill (0003), southern 8m of trench was formerly under a concrete yard surface, all stray finds were of 1900+ date
		20 (36m <sup>2</sup> )	150-300	200		

Table 1: Trench details

3.2 The total 20m length of the 1.80m wide evaluation trenches were between 350mm (trench 2) and 500mm (trench 1) deep to the top of the locally occurring glaciofluvial deposit which was a stiff pale brown chalky clay with flints. The deposit profile in the eastern half of trench 1 comprised 300mm of topsoil over 200mm of mid brown clay subsoil while in the western half the subsoil was below a concrete yard and sub-base that had been removed beforehand. The only feature in the base of trench 1 was a post hole of recent date which still had the base of the post preserved with packing comprising 20<sup>th</sup> century brick fragments.

3.2 The only archaeological feature of interest revealed in the evaluation was a small ditch (0002) at the northern end of trench 2. This ditch (0002) was on a northeast to southwest alignment and it had a rounded base with a width of 600mm and depth of 300mm. As noted above a 1m long section was hand excavated from the ditch with the fill (0003) being clean greenish-brown compact clay which did not contain any finds. Part of a red brick wall of 19<sup>th</sup> or earlier 20<sup>th</sup> century date was also noted along the south-western edge of trench.

3.4 The only stray finds seen in the upcast spoil were brick, tile, metal and concrete fragments of later 19<sup>th</sup> century and 20<sup>th</sup> century date.

#### 4. Conclusion

4.1 While this site is on the edge of Mellis Green the evaluation only revealed one archaeological feature which though undated appeared to be of some age as the fill (0003) of this small ditch (0002) was clean and compact and did not contain any small brick or tile fragments which are a characteristic of more recent features. It can also be noted that this ditch (0002) is on a similar northeast/southwest alignment to the green edge ditch which still exists 15m to the northwest (see Fig. 2). Therefore it is suggested that the small ditch (0002) at the northern end of trench 2 may represent the boundary line of a plot of land that ran along the green edge with the lack of evidence for past activity of any intensity in the evaluation indicating only general agricultural use of the area of this proposed development in the past.

4.2 Based on these low level evaluation results it is recommended that no further archaeological investigations should be required at this small scale residential development on land to the west of Whitegates Farm, Earlsford Road, Mellis.

Archive- to be deposited with the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service under the HER ref: MLS 022.

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 Nigel Battell for his skilled machine driving during the evaluation and to Sue Holden for her illustration work)



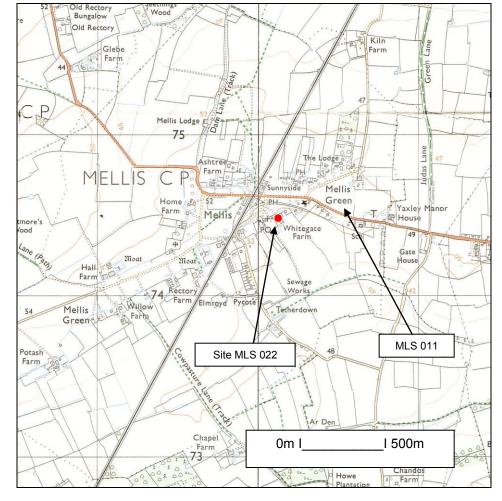


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2006 All rights reserved Licence No 100049722)

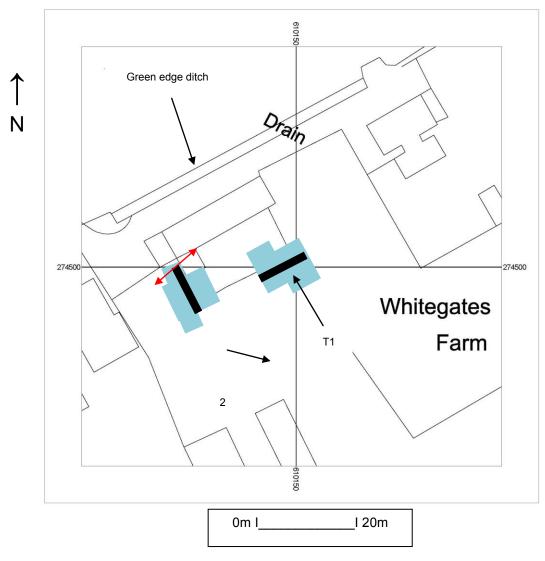


Fig. 2: Location of evaluation trenches (light blue- new dwelling footprints, red line- ditch 0002) (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2016 All rights reserved Licence No 100049722)

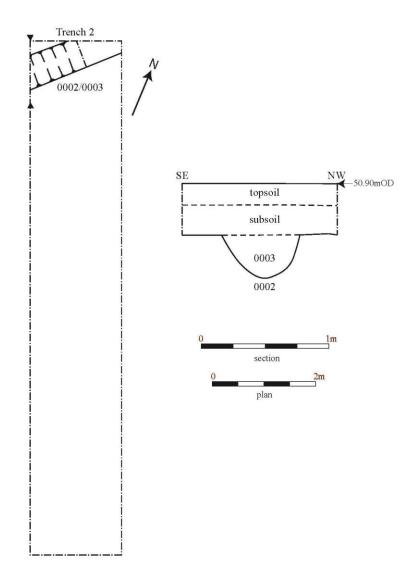


Fig. 3: Plan and section (trench 2)

# Appendix I- Images



General view of from southwest towards Whitegates Farm House



General view of trench 2 area from south



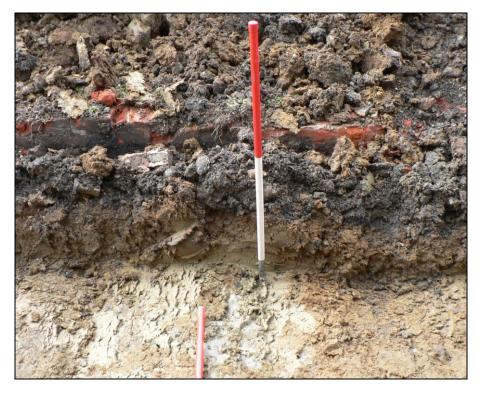
Trench 1 from east



Trench 1 deposit profile (with traces of chalk possibly from animal pen flooring)



Trench 2 from south (red brick foundation to left foreground)



Trench 2 deposit profile



Ditch 0002 at northern end of trench 2 from east

# Land At Whitegates Farm, Earlsford Road, Mellis, Suffolk

Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation

(© John Newman BA MCIFA, 2 Pearsons Place, Henley, Ipswich, IP6 0RA) (Tel: 01473 832896 Email: johnnewman2@btinternet.com)

## Site details

Name: Land at Whitegates Farm, Earlsford Road, Mellis, Suffolk, IP23 8DY

Client: Mr & Mrs N Battell

Local planning authority: Mid Suffolk DC

Planning application ref: 0558/13 & 0656/13

Proposed development: Erection of two new dwellings

Proposed date for evaluation: tbc

Brief ref: SCCAS (RA) Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation\_Land at Whitegates Farm, Earlsford Road, Mellis\_0558 + 0656

Grid ref: TM 1014 7448

## Contents

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

Proposed location of trial trenches

#### 1. Introduction

1.1 Peter Codling Architects, on behalf of their clients Mr & Mrs N Battell, has commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological site evaluation for a proposed small scale residential development that has received consent to go ahead under applications 0588/13 and 0656/13. This written scheme of investigation (WSI) details the background to the archaeological requirements as required in the Brief set by Mrs R Abraham of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service (SCCAS) for these planning applications and how JNAS will implement these requirements. The WSI will also set out how potential risks will be mitigated. This proposed development concerns the construction of two new dwellings at Whitegates Farm, Earlsford Road, Mellis.

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 Archaeological Evaluation 2012 Ver. 1.3 (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 Mellis parish is located in north central Suffolk on the western side of the A 140 road, which is on the line of the major Roman road linking East Anglia to Colchester and London, in an area where, historically, villages have clustered partly round the church but also with a more scattered pattern dispersed round various green edges and along the numerous roads and lanes. In this landscape Mellis is exceptional in that the medieval settlement pattern of the village has been preserved with the parish church as well as historic farms and cottages, many of which are listed, and more recent houses scattered around the edge of one of the largest surviving greens in East Anglia. The proposed development site (PDS) on the western side of Whitegates Farm fits into this settlement pattern being on the eastern edge of the large green towards its northern end and c40m east of Pear Tree Cottage which is a listed building of early 18<sup>th</sup> century date.

2.2 With a productive, though heavy, soils based on the deep clays of the till plateau of central Suffolk over the underlying chalky till of the Beccles series, population densities were high through the medieval period in a prosperous region as evidenced by the numerous historic buildings in the area. Therefore as population figures dropped dramatically after the Black Death period of the mid 14<sup>th</sup> century evidence for past settlement can be anticipated around any green edge of medieval origin. At present the PDS, which is close to the 50m OD contour, is part of a farmyard covered by redundant farm buildings and parts of a concreted yard.

#### 3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 To quote from the relevant brief 'This proposal, for the erection of two new dwellings following the demolition of agricultural buildings, lies in an area of high archaeological potential recorded in the County Historic Environment Record. Whilst the farm buildings are of no archaeological interest as they do not appear on early maps, the proposal is located on the edge of Mellis Green (MLS 011), a large and well preserved medieval village green, which is a known focus for medieval and early Post medieval settlement. As a result there is high potential for encountering heritage assets of archaeological interest in this area. The proposed works will cause significant ground disturbance that has the potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.'

3.2 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.
- Establish whether archaeological works will be required for any areas to the front of the planned grain store which will be disturbed for this development.

#### 4. Aims of the Site Evaluation

4.1 As outlined in section 3 above the archaeological potential of the PDS relates to its location on a green edge where evidence for activity of medieval and earlier Post medieval date can be anticipated. The aim of the evaluation is therefore to examine the specified sample of the proposed development area with evaluation trenches under controlled conditions so, if archaeological deposits are revealed and the application receives consent 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 two new dwellings on land at Whitegates Farm, Earlsford Road, Mellis. Initially an HER search for the area within 500m of the PDS will be commissioned from SCCAS.

5.2 As required by the relevant Brief 20m of 1.80m wide trenches will be excavated using a suitably sized 360 machine equipped with a wide toothless bucket to sample the planned new dwelling footprints and a proposed trenching plan is included below with the trenches being outside the footprint of the farm buildings at present on the site. 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 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 in 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).

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 as detailed in Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post Excavation (English Heritage, 2011, second edition). 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 state preservation archaeological content, so the of and full 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- <u>if any RC dates are required on features containing suitable</u> material but no easily dateable finds then this will incur an additional cost though this is a rare occurrence on small scale evaluations).

- 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 will be covered within the resources agreed for the first date but will take time to obtain, examination of the topographic location of the site indicates that the presence of waterlogged deposits is unlikely unless particularly deep features are present).
- 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 Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*. This

archive will be deposited with the Suffolk CC HER within 6 months of working finishing on site under the relevant HER number and following the guidelines outlined in 'Archaeological Archives in Suffolk- Guidelines for preparation and deposition' (SCCAS Conservation Team 2015). 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 *MoRPHE* 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 these 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 pdf 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 before site works commence 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 roundup.

#### 6. Risk Assessment

6.1 Protective clothing will be worn on site (hard hat, high visibility vest/coat, steeltoe 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's agent 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.

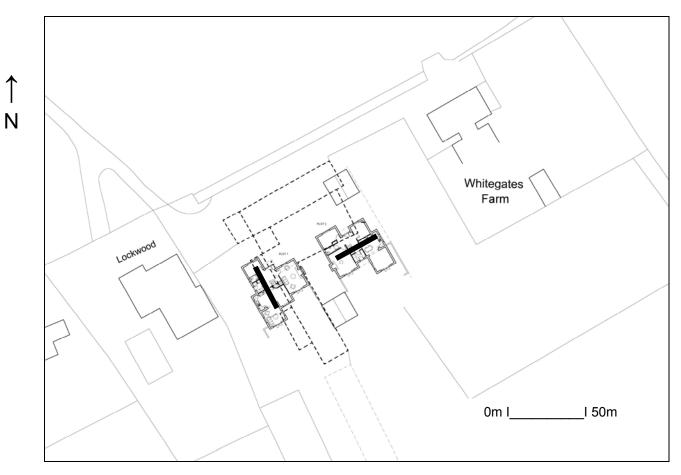
6.5 It is unlikely that any trench plus excavated feature depth will go below c1/1.3m from the present ground level. If any excavations need to go deeper measures such as stepping in the sides will be employed.

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

# John Newman Archaeological Services



Proposed location of trial trenches (2 x 10m x 1.80m)

# OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

List of Projects | Manage Projects | Search Projects | New project | Change your details | HER coverage | Change country | Log out

#### **Printable version**

#### OASIS ID: johnnewm1-243822

#### **Project details**

Project name	Land At Whitegates Farm, Earlsford Road, Mellis, Suffolk- Archaeological Evaluation Report
Short description of the project	Mellis, land at Whitegates Farm, Earlsford Road (MLS 022, TM 1014 7448) evaluation trenching for a planned small residential development comprising two dwellings on the south-eastern edge of Mellis Green revealed one small undated ditch 15m to the south and broadly parallel with the nearby green edge ditch. While this ditch did not contain any finds its fill was compact and looked 'old.' However no other archaeological features were revealed and the lack of pre-1900 finds in the upcast spoil indicates a lack of past activity of any intensity in the area examined.
Project dates	Start: 03-03-2016 End: 03-03-2016
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	ESF 23674 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	MLS 022 - Related HER No.
Any associated project reference codes	0588/13 and 0656/13 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 3 - Built over
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"'Sample Trenches'"
Development type	Small-scale (e.g. single house, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

#### **Project location**

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK MID SUFFOLK MELLIS LAND AT WHITEGATES FARM, EARLSFORD ROAD
Postcode	IP23 8DY
Study area	350 Square metres
Site coordinates	TM 1014 7450 52.327787749312 1.084265500847 52 19 40 N 001 05 03 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 49m Max: 50m

#### **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 Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk CC Archaeological Service
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk CC Archaeological Service
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Plan","Report","Section"

#### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land at Whitegates Farm, Earlsford Road, Mellis, Suffolk- Archaeological Evaluation Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Newman, J
Date	2016
Issuer or publisher	John Newman Archaeological Services
Place of issue or publication	Henley, Suffolk

Description Loose bound client report and pdf

Entered byJohn Newman (johnnewman2@btinternet.com)Entered on18 March 2016

# **OASIS:**

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