Land at Bury Road, Cross Green, Cockfield, Suffolk

Planning application: DC/18/00474

HER Ref: COK 121

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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

(November 2018)

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

Site details for HER

Name: Land at Bury Road, Cross Green, Cockfield, Suffolk, IP30 0LG

Clients: Mr M Wakemen

Planning authority: Babergh DC

Planning application ref: DC/18/00474

Development: Erection of three dwellings

Date of fieldwork: 5 November, 2018

HER ref: COK 121

OASIS ref: johnnewm1-332366

Grid ref: TL 8964 5540

Site area: 4800m^2

Recent land use: Pasture

Contents

Summary: Cockfield, land at Bury Road, Cross Green (COK 121, TL 89645540) evaluation trenching for a small residential development did not reveal any archaeological features and the few stray finds in the upcast spoil were of recent date (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr M Wakeman).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Mr M Wakeman commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological evaluation works for a planned small scale residential development on land at Bury Road, Cross Green, Cockfield (see Fig. 1) that has been given planning consent under application DC/18/00474. The evaluation requirements were set by Dr H Cutler of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service (SCCAS) with the aim of gaining a representative sample by trial trenching of the planned development area. 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 Cockfield parish lies to the south of Bury St Edmunds in south Suffolk in a landscape historically characterised by a dispersed settlement pattern partly focused within parishes on the respective church but largely scattered round the numerous greens and along roads and lanes. The proposed development site (PDS) on land on the western side of Bury Road, Cross Green, Cockfield is located in an area of gentle topography some 800m north-west of the parish church and to the south of the historic Cross Green (HER COK 054).

1.3 The British Geological Survey describes the superficial drift deposits in this area as being sands and gravels of the Lowestoft Formation with the site being at c80m OD in an area of very gentle topography.

1.4 Archaeological interest in this development was therefore generated by its location some 250m south of Cross Green (HER COK 054), with the nearby Water End and Thatcher's cottages being grade II listed and of 17th-18th century origin; giving it the potential to contain deposits of medieval and earlier Post-medieval date. In addition this site is close to the recorded site of a Post-medieval smock mill (HER COK misc.) and a field that has the historic name of 'Kiln Meadow' (HER COK 091) in the earlier 19th century indicative of Post medieval rural industry; these records further reinforcing the potential of the area to contain archaeological deposits of medieval to Post-medieval date. Finally the site is on the western side of a historic route-way that connects Lavenham to the south with Bury St Edmunds to the north.

2. Evaluation methodology

2.1 The development area was trenched to an agreed plan (see Fig. 2). The trenching was carried out using a wheeled 180 machine equipped with a 1500mm flat bucket which was under archaeological supervision at all times and any indistinct areas were hand cleaned as necessary to improve clarity with the trenches being 1.80m wide.

2.2 The sides and base of trenches and the upcast spoil were examined visually and scanned with a metal detector for any finds as the evaluation progressed and the

area around the trenches was also subject to a detector search. Site visibility for features and finds is considered to have been good throughout the evaluation which was undertaken under dry weather conditions. At the end of the evaluation the location of the trenches were 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 trench is summarised in the table below (see also Fig. 2 & Appendix I):

Trench	Orientation	Length (m)	Topsoil depth (mm)	Subsoil depth (mm)	Drift geology	Archaeological/natural features & finds
1	Northwest-southeast	15	300	300 mid brown sandy subsoil	Silty orange sand with flints	No features and a few small stray Pmed peg tile frags
2	Northwest-southeast & Southwest-northeast (L shaped)	15	300	300 as T1	As T1	As T1 plus two small clay tobacco pipe stem frags (wt. 6g)
3	Northeast-southwest & Southwest-northeast (L shaped)	15	300	200 as T1	Silty orange sand, largely stone-free	As T1 plus one small 18th C earthenware sherd (wt. 5g)
		45 (81m^2)	300	200-300		No features and only later Pmed stray finds

Table 1: Trench details

3.2 As outlined in table 1 above below 300mm of topsoil and 200mm to 300mm of mid brown sandy subsoil the locally occurring natural glaciofluvial deposit proved to be silty orange sand with flints. No archaeological features were revealed in the base of the three trenches.

3.3 The only stray finds in the upcast were small fragments of later Post medieval peg tile plus a small sherd (wt. 5g) of brown glazed earthenware of 18th century date and two small (wt. 6g) stem fragments from Post medieval clay tobacco pipes. The metal detector search similarly only recovered two copper alloy buttons of later Post medieval date plus a few small copper alloy sheet fragments and a few small lead fragments of indeterminate date and unction.

4. Conclusion

4.1 With largely negative results from the evaluation trenching with regard to archaeological deposits of any significance a search from the County Historic Environment Record for local sites and finds was not commissioned.

4.2 While this site is close to an area of past medieval settlement activity around the nearby Cross Green this evaluation trenching did not reveal evidence for any

archaeological features and the few Post medieval stray finds from the upcast spoil indicate a low level of past land use activity at this site.

4.3 From these largely negative evaluation results it is recommended that no further archaeological works need to be carried out for this small scale residential development on land at Bury Road, Cross Green, Cockfield.

Archive- to be deposited with the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service under the HER ref: COK 121.

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 Barry the digger driver for his close cooperation)

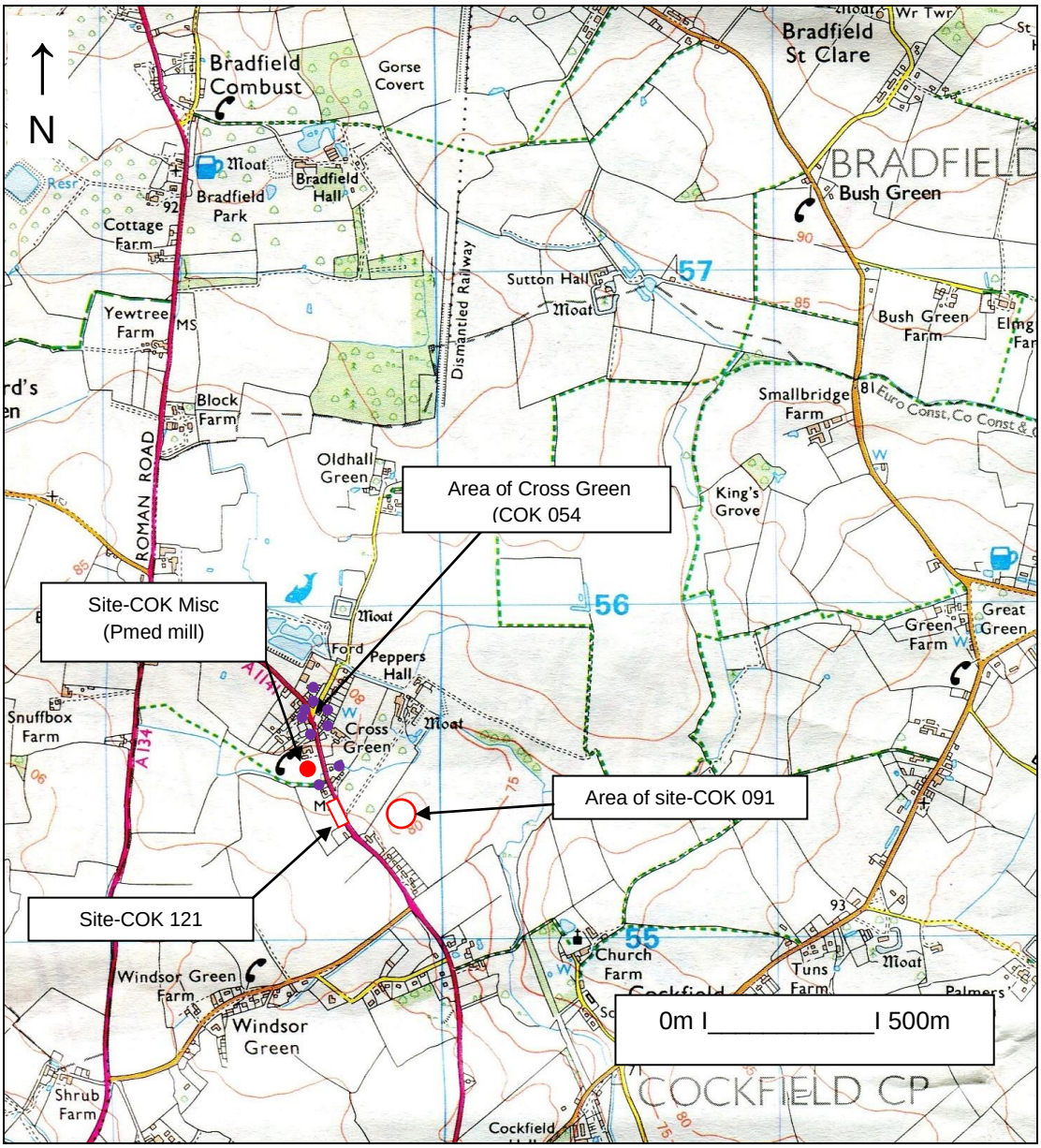

Fig. 1: Site location (Purple dots- Early Post medieval listed buildings)

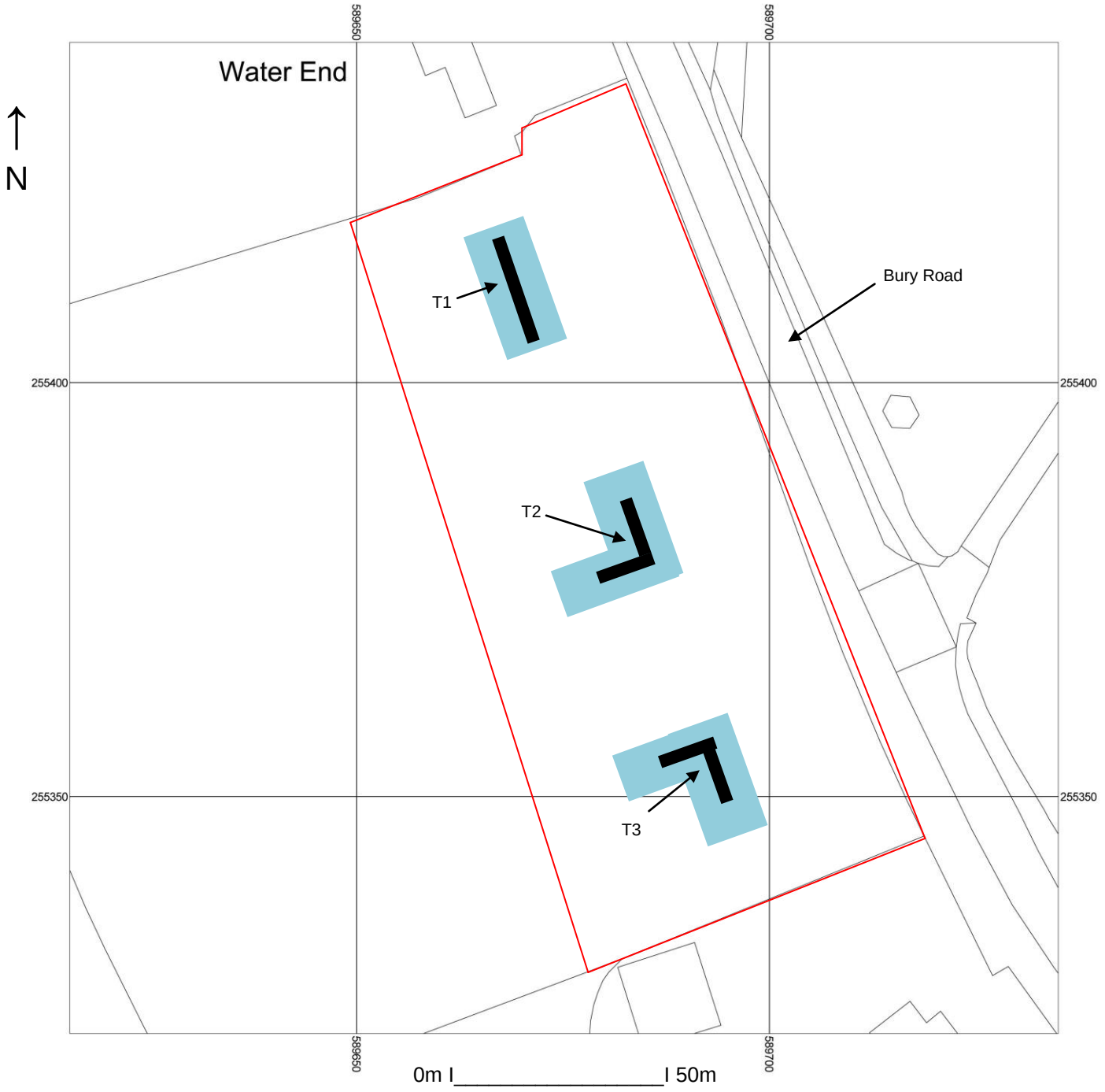

Fig. 2: Location of evaluation trenches (light blue- planned new dwelling footprints)

Appendix I- Images

General view from south

Trench 1 from north

Trench 1 deposit profile

Trench 2 east-west arm from west

Trench 2 north-south arm from south

Trench 2 deposit profile

Trench 3 east-west arm from west

Trench 3 north-south arm from south

Trench 3 deposit profile

Land at Bury Road, Cross Green, Cockfield, Suffolk

Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation

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

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Site details

Name: Land at Bury Road, Cross Green, Cockfield, Suffolk, IP30 0LG

Client: Mr M Wakeman

Local planning authority: Babergh DC

Planning application ref: DC/18/00474

Proposed development: Erection of three dwellings

Proposed date for evaluation: tbc

Brief ref: SCCAS Brief for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation_2018_00474_Bury Road, Cross Green, Cockfield

Grid ref: TL 8964 5540

Area: 4800m^2

Current site use: Grassland

Contents

1. Introduction

1.1 Mr M Wakeman has commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological site evaluation on a residential development that has received consent to go ahead. This written scheme of investigation (WSI) details the background to the archaeological requirements for planning application DC/18/00474 and how JNAS will implement the requirements of the Brief for Archaeological Evaluation to be set by Dr H Cutler of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service (SCCAS). The WSI will also set out how potential risks will be mitigated. This overall proposed development concerns the construction of three dwellings on land adjacent to Bury Road, Cross Green, Cockfield.

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 2017 (Suffolk CC)* and nationally in *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (Institute for Archaeologists 1994, revised 2001 & re-issued 2014)*.

1.3 The evaluation as detailed in this document is the first phase of a programme of archaeological investigation secured by negative condition on planning consent DC/18/00474. Where the results of the evaluation indicate the presence of heritage assets further archaeological works will be required to mitigate the impact of the development on the historic environment. The SCCAS officer will identify the type and extent of works in a new brief necessary to adequately mitigate the impact of the proposed development. All further archaeological works, as recommended by SCCAS, must be undertaken in accordance with an additional WSI, submitted and approved by SCCAS and the LPA. All further archaeological investigations must be undertaken prior to commencement of development, unless specifically referenced as monitoring of groundworks in the approved WSI.

2. Location, Topography & Geology

2.1 Cockfield parish lies to the south of Bury St Edmunds in south Suffolk in a landscape historically characterised by a dispersed settlement pattern partly focused within parishes on the respective church but largely scattered round the numerous greens and along roads and lanes. The proposed development site (PDS) on land on the western side of Bury Road, Cross Green, Cockfield is located in an area of gentle topography some 800m north-west of the parish church and on the southern side of the historic Cross Green (HER COK 054).

2.2 The PDS is located in an area described by the British Geological Survey as having superficial sand and gravel deposits of the Lowestoft Formation and is close to the 80m OD contour with a small stream shown on OS maps some 120m to the north.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 To quote from the relevant brief 'This site lies in an area of archaeological potential recorded on the County Historic Environment Record, it is on the road frontage near the medieval Cross Green Settlement (COK 054), the medieval water mill (COK 047) and the site of a post medieval smock mill (COK misc) and kiln meadow (COK 091). As a result, there is high potential for the discovery of below-ground heritage assets of archaeological importance within this area, and groundworks associated with the development have the potential to damage or destroy any archaeological remains which exist.'

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 a recorded green edge settlement of medieval date in addition to being near a medieval water mill and a Post medieval smock mill. Therefore archaeological deposits of medieval and Post medieval can be anticipated in this area.

5. Methodology

5.1 The proposed development is for the construction of three dwellings. To inform the results of the evaluation if archaeological deposits are revealed a search will be commissioned from the County HER for the area within 250m of the PDS and the relevant invoice number will be included in the report.

5.2 The brief requires 45m of 1.80m wide evaluation trenching. This will be undertaken using a wide toothless ditching bucket on a suitably sized machine operated by an experienced driver with a trench plan as set out below. The machine will be closely supervised by an experienced archaeologist as the overburden is removed in shallow spits to the top of any archaeological deposits that are present, where hand investigation will start, or to expose the underlying drift geology which

will be further hand cleaned and examined as required. 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 including before the trenches are opened. 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 HER number obtained from the Suffolk CC HER beforehand in combination with an event number. 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 evidence 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 and any finds that qualify under the Treasure Act will be reported to the local Finds Liaison Officer within 14 days.

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 *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage, 2011). 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 the Historic England Regional Scientific Advisor (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 for 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 (should RC dating be required in the evaluation on such deposits this will incur an additional cost and will take time to obtain, examination of the topographic location of the site indicates that the presence of waterlogged deposits is unlikely unless deep deposits 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 of *MoRPHE* (and the guidelines in the Archaeological Archives Forum: a guide to best practice 2007). 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 '*Archaeological Archives in Suffolk- Guidelines for preparation and deposition'* (SCCAS Conservation Team 2017*)*. As necessary the site digital archive will deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) within the agreed allowance for the evaluation 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 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.

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 Prior to evaluation work starting on site the client will be consulted with regard to any potential contamination at the site. 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

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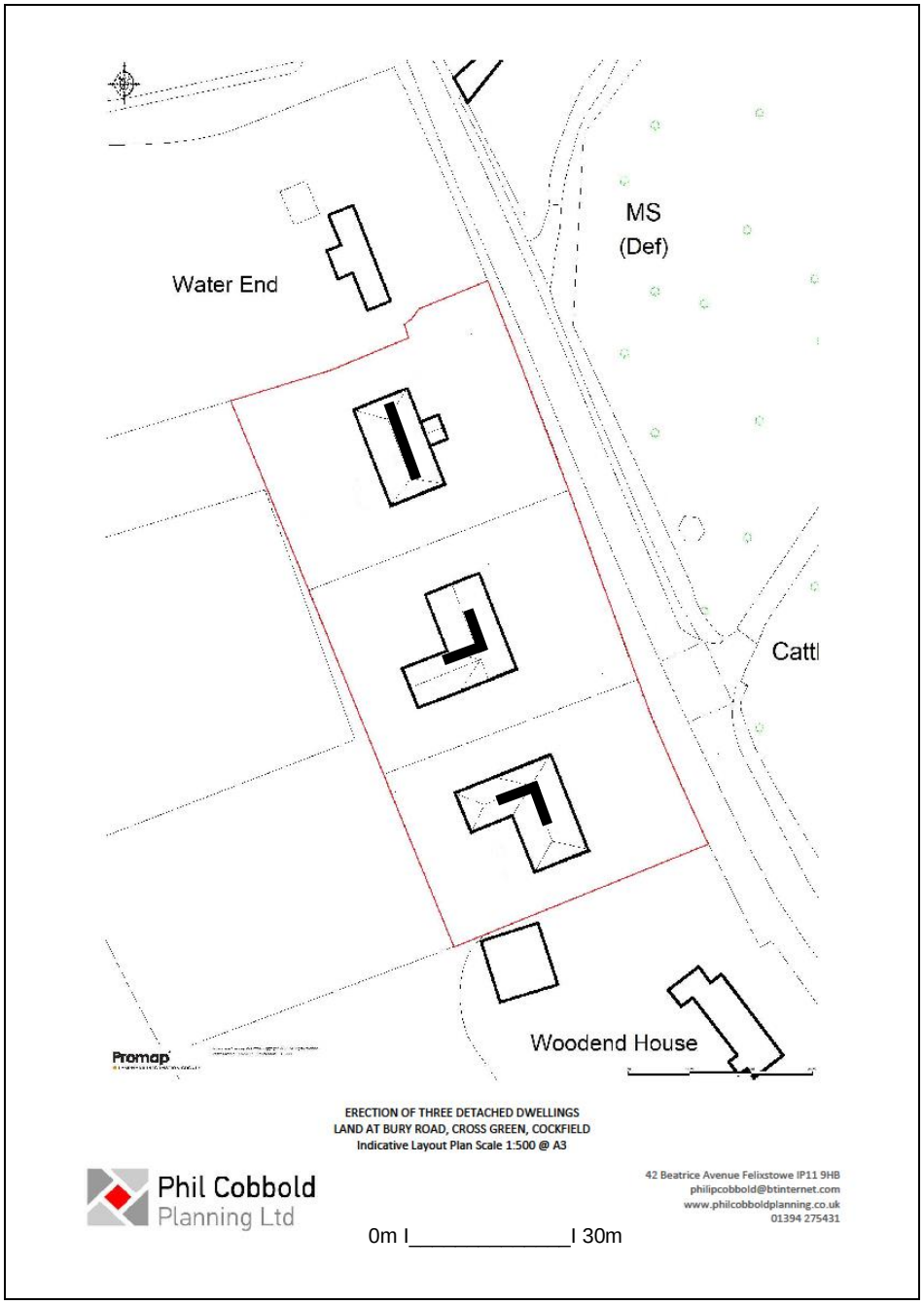

Proposed location of trial trenches (3 x 15m)

OASIS ID: johnnewm1-332366

Project details	
Project name	Land at Bury Road, Cockfield, Suffolk- Archaeological Evaluation Report
Short description of the project	Cockfield, land at Bury Road, Cross Green (COK 121, TL 89645540) evaluation trenching for a small residential development did not reveal any archaeological features and the few stray finds in the upcast spoil were of recent date.
Project dates	Start: 05-11-2018 End: 05-11-2018
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	COK 121 - Related HER No.
Any associated project reference codes	DC/18/00474 - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 3 - Disturbed
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	'"Sample Trenches"'
Development type	Rural residential
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK BABERGH COCKFIELD LAND AT BURY ROAD, CROSS GREEN
Postcode	IP30 0LG
Study area	4800 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 8966 5540 52.163754390524 0.77335648624 52 09 49 N 000 46 24 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 83m Max: 84m
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	John Newman Archaeological Services
Project brief	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning

originator	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 Exists?	No
Physical Archive recipient	Discarded
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Metal"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk CC Archaeological Service
Digital Contents	"Ceramics","Metal"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk CC Archaeological Service
Paper Contents	"Ceramics","Metal"
Paper Media available	"Report"
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land at Bury Road, Cockfield, Suffolk- Archaeological Evaluation Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Newman, J
Date	2018
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	28 November 2018