

**Land Rear of Strathcona, Grimston End,
Pakenham, Suffolk**

Planning application: DC/21/2114

HER Ref: PKM 152

Archaeological Evaluation Report

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(December, 2022)

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Site details for HER

Name: Land rear of Strathcona, Grimston End, Pakenham, Suffolk, IP31 2LZ

Client: Mr T Mccullagh

Planning authority: West Suffolk DC

Planning application refs: DC/21/2114

Development: Installation of pipe work to serve ground source heat pump system
(retrospective to application)

Date of fieldwork: 12 October, 2022

HER ref: PKM 152

OASIS ref: johnnewm1-507558

Grid ref: TL 9368 6916

Site area: 1900²

Recent land use: Paddock

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Summary: Pakenham, land to rear of Strathcona, Grimston End (PKM 152, TL 9368 6916) evaluation test pits to one side of a ground source heating system were excavated as a retrospective scheme of works after the system was in place did not reveal any archaeological features and the few stray finds were small fragments of Post medieval brick and tile (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr T Mccullagh).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Mr S Inglis on behalf of his client Mr T Mccullagh commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological evaluation works at a retrospective stage along one edge of a ground source heating system that had already been put in place under application DC/21/2114. The evaluation requirements were set by Mr M Baker of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service (SCCAS) with the aim of gaining a sample by test pitting adjacent to this development. The Written Scheme of Investigation for the archaeological evaluation was subsequently prepared by JNAS in order to allow the test pitting to go ahead and be reported on. As noted above this evaluation was retrospective to a ground source heating system and this was at land to the rear of Strathcona, Grimston End, Pakenham (see Fig. 1).

1.2 Strathcona is located in an area of dispersed settlement at Grimston End north of Pakenham village and directly on the western edge of Mickle Mere with the mere being part of a complex system of drainage that is intimately related to The Black Bourn. Grimston End being a small hamlet within Pakenham parish.

1.3 The site area is described by the British Geological Survey as being on the margin between Lowestoft Formation sands and gravels to the west and alluvium, it is at 30m OD.

1.4 Archaeological interest in this development was generated by its location close and just the east of a recorded archaeological site (HER PKM 028) that exhibits evidence for multi-period past activity indicative of settlement type use of Iron Age, Roman and Anglo-Saxon date that occupies an area of higher ground between the Black Bourn and a tributary of Mickle Mere from Pakenham Fen. While this site is on lower ground towards the flood plain it was also suggested in the relevant brief that wetter deposits might help preserve palaeo-environmental material in this area.

2. Evaluation methodology

2.1 The development area was largely test pitted to a plan agreed with SCCAS (see Fig. 2) though four rather than five pits were opened in the available space 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 with the test pits being 4m x 4m.

2.2 The sides and base of test pits and the upcast spoil were examined visually and scanned with a metal detector. Site visibility for features and finds is considered to have been good throughout the evaluation which was undertaken under dry and sunny weather conditions. At the end of the evaluation the location of the test pits 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 test pits are summarised in the table below (see also Fig. 2 & Appendix I):

Test pit	Size (m)	Topsoil depth (mm)	Subsoil depth (mm)	Drift geology	Archaeological/natural features & finds
1	4 x 4	200	200 mid brown clay	Light brown clay	No features, few stray Pmed brick & tile fragments
2	4 x 4	250	250 mid brown clay	Grey brown clay with light grey sand pocket in NE corner	No features, few later Pmed brick and tile fragments
3	4 x 4	350	450 mid brown clay	Grey brown clay with pale yellow sand pocket in SW corner	No features, 2 small peg tile fragments of Pmed date
4	4 x 4	400	400 mid brown sand	Pale yellowish brown sand	No features, 2 small brick fragments
	64m ²	200-400	200-450		No features, thin scatter of later Pmed brick and tile debris in upcast spoil

Table 1: Test pit details

3.2 The depth of the test pits varied between 400mm at the south-eastern end of the series and 800mm towards the north-western end. Top soil depth varied between 200mm and 400mm with subsoil being between 200mm and 450mm. The underlying natural glaciofluvial deposit was light brown clay with occasional sand pockets in the southerly and central test pits and pale yellowish/brown sand in the north-western pit.

3.3 No archaeological features were revealed in any of the test pits and the only stray finds in the upcast spoil were occasional small fragments of Post medieval brick and tile.

4. Conclusion

4.1 The evaluation test pit results though small in scale suggest that the area of the ground source heat installation has not disturbed any significant archaeological deposits and that the nearby extensive multi-period site (HER PKM 028) does not extend into this land to the rear of Strathcona. Therefore, it was agreed with SCCAS that a full HER search would not add any value to the evaluation results as the archaeological results were negative.

Archive- to be deposited with the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service under the HER ref: PKM 152.

Disclaimer- any opinions regarding the need for further archaeological work in relation to this development are those of the authors 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 Tom McCullagh and to Mervyn the machine operator for their close cooperation)

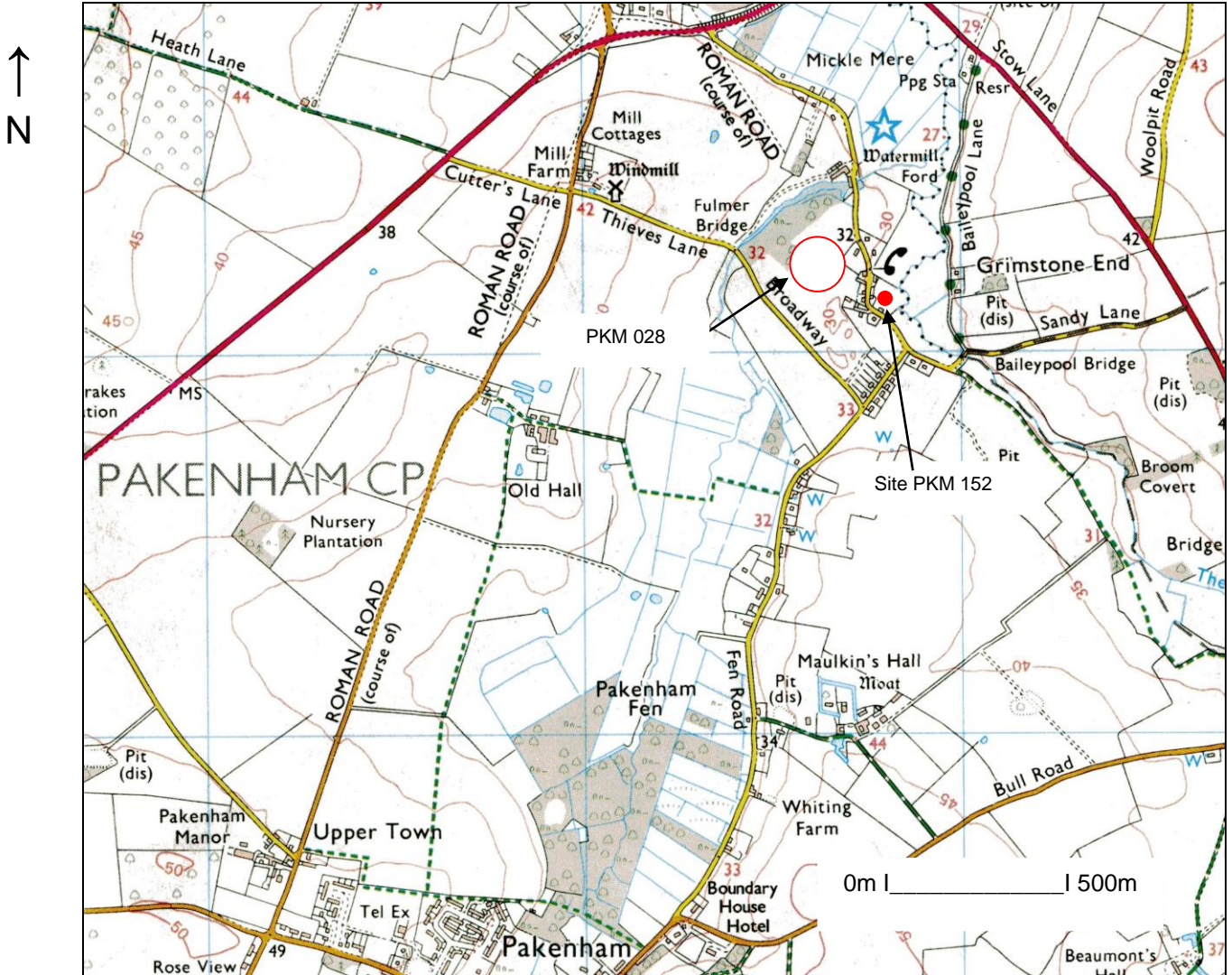
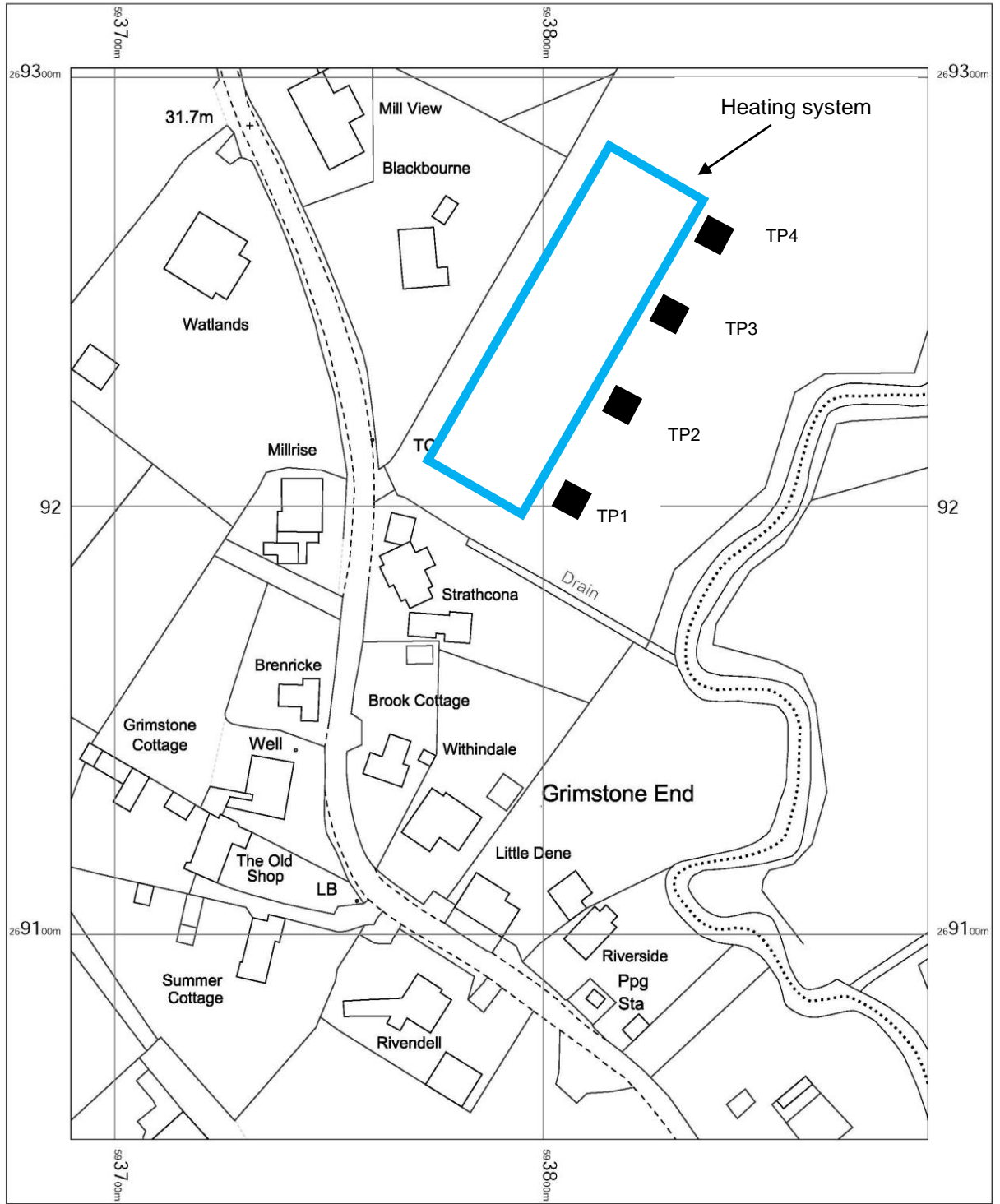


Fig. 1: Site location

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0m | _____ | 50m

Fig. 2: Location of evaluation test pits

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Appendix I- Images



General view from south



Test pit 1 from southeast



Test pit 2 from southeast



Test pit 3 from southeast



Test pit 4 from northwest

Summary for johnnewm1-507558

OASIS ID (UID)	johnnewm1-507558
Project Name	Field Observation (Monitoring) at Strathcona Grimston End Pakenham
Sitename	Strathcona Grimston End Pakenham
Activity type	Evaluation
Project Identifier(s)	
Planning Id	DC/21/2114
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Post determination
Organisation Responsible for work	John Newman Archaeological Services
Project Dates	12-Oct-2022 - 12-Oct-2022
Location	Strathcona Grimston End Pakenham NGR : TL 86940 47020 LL : 52.0899473239797, 0.727295882580166 12 Fig : 586940,247020
Administrative Areas	Country : England County : Suffolk District : Babergh Parish : Long Melford
Project Methodology	Evaluation
Project Results	Pakenham, land to rear of Strathcona, Grimston End (PKM 152, TL 9368 6916) evaluation test pits to one side of a ground source heating system were excavated as a retrospective scheme of works after the system was in place did not reveal any archaeological features and the few stray finds were small fragments of Post medieval brick and tile.
Keywords	
Funder	
HER	Suffolk HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	
HER Identifiers	HER Monument No - PKM 152
Archives	