

**Part of Side Garden, Mill House, Mill Lane,
Alderton, Suffolk**

Planning application: C/09/1701

HER Ref: ADT 072

Archaeological Evaluation & Monitoring Report

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(March 2011)

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Site details for HER

Name: Part side garden, Mill House, Mill Lane, Alderton, Suffolk, IP

Client: Mr J Dyer

Local planning authority: Suffolk Coastal DC

Planning application ref: C/09/1701

Development: Erection of two semi-detached dwellings

Date of fieldwork: 20 September & 4 October 2010

HER Ref: ADT 072

OASIS ref: johnnewm1-92059

Grid ref: TM 3447 4161

Contents

Summary

1. Introduction & background
2. Evaluation methodology
3. Evaluation results
4. Monitoring methodology
5. Monitoring results
6. The Pottery (Stephen Benfield)

Table 1: Roman pottery fabric quantities

Table 2: Roman pottery by context (abbreviated version without notes)

7. Conclusion

Fig. 1 Site location

Fig. 2 Location of new houses & plan of monitored features (Sue Holden)

Fig. 3 Feature sections (Sue Holden)

List of appendices

Appendix I- Images

Appendix II- Brief & Specification

Appendix III- Context list

Appendix IV- The Pottery- Table 2 (full version with notes)

Summary: Alderton, Part garden Mill House, Mill Lane (ADT 072, TM 3447 4161) following a proposal to erect a pair of semi-detached dwelling evaluation trenching revealed an area of modern pitting plus unstratified sherds of Roman period pottery. Subsequent monitoring of ground works confirmed that the site did contain evidence of later Iron Age and earlier Roman settlement type activity with three ditches and one pit containing sherds of pottery including Samian ware (John Newman Archaeological Services for Mr J Dyer).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Mr J Dyer commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological site evaluation works and subsequent monitoring of ground works to meet the requirements of the Brief & Specification (see Appendix II) set by Ms J Plouviez of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service and thereby gain discharge of the relevant condition on planning application C/09/1701. This development concerns the erection of two, semi-detached; dwellings on part of the garden of Mill House, Mill Lane, Alderton, a property that is located on the eastern side of the main road through the village some 200m south east of the parish church (see Fig. 1).

1.2 Alderton parish is located some 10km south east of Woodbridge and close to the coast 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. As indicated 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. Within this settlement pattern separated by large areas of former heath land small village centres grew from the mid-late Saxon period. At Alderton this historic core forms a linear pattern on a north-south alignment along a minor road some 1.5km from the modern coast around and just below 10m OD and overlooking low lying coastal marshes to the east. The parish church and adjacent hall is located at the northern end of Alderton village with nearby, field walked, pottery finds suggesting a mid-late Saxon (8th-10th century AD) origin for the settlement followed by medieval and Post medieval expansion to the south in particular though a period of activity in the Roman period is also indicated (HER ADT 011). The site in question to the north-east of Mill House (see Fig. 2 upper detail) lies some 50m south east of this historic settlement core at 10m OD with a gentle, south facing, aspect on a spur overlooking lower ground to the south and west. Elsewhere in the parish information derived from aerial photographs and finds scatters; in this case most notably a Saxon and medieval scatter c60m to the north of Mill House (HER ADT 065- Stanley House), points to evidence for past human activity with a mixture of probable settlement, and associated funerary and general agricultural use, of pre-historic, Roman and later date. At the time of the evaluation the site had recently been detached from the garden of Mill House with Mill Lane forming its southern boundary, there was no evidence of any recent ground disturbance.

2. Evaluation methodology

2.1 The proposed development footprint was trenched to a previously agreed plan with a 13.7m long and 2.5m wide, south-west/north-east, aligned trench covering the full width of the planned foundations (see Fig. 2) using a mini-digger equipped with a 1.25m wide toothless bucket. The machine was under constant archaeological

supervision with the top and subsoil being removed in 100-150mm spits down to the level of the naturally occurring, glaciofluvially derived, orange shelly, Crag sands at the site with the 32.5m² of trenching representing c30% of the full footprint.

2.2 The exposed Crag sand surface in the base of the trench was closely examined for archaeological features and any indistinct areas were hand cleaned as were the trench sides, with the trench being 1.10m deep at its western end and 1.3m deep at the eastern end. The upcast spoil from the trenches was closely examined for archaeological finds and the spoil and exposed trench surfaces were systematically searched with a metal detector. Site visibility for features and finds is considered to have been good throughout the evaluation on a clear, sunny, day. The trench was recorded in relation to existing mapped details. A full photographic record in digital format was taken of the trenching works (see Appendix I).

3. Evaluation results

3.1 As indicated in section 2.2 above the footprint area of the proposed dwellings proved to have an exceptional depth of overburden with 400mm of a well developed sandy topsoil along the full length of the trench. Below this topsoil cover a mid brown sandy subsoil was revealed which was a further 700mm deep at the western end of the trench and that increased gradually to being 900mm deep at the eastern end (see Appendix I: Images 1 & 2). While the western half of the trench did not reveal any ground disturbance the eastern half contained extensive evidence of mid 20th century pitting (see Fig.2) to the full depth of the trench and containing domestic debris such as glass bottles and light bulbs in an ash rich matrix. While no pre-modern archaeological features were revealed in the evaluation trench 3 sherds of Iron Age and early Roman pottery were recovered from the upcast spoil (0001) and another sherd (0002) from the loose fill of one of the modern pits outlined above and these finds are described in more detail in section 6 below. The metal detector search did not recover any pre-19th century finds though numerous modern items in a variety of metals were noted giving further evidence of recent rubbish disposal at the site.

3.2 As the recent pit digging and other activities on the site had in all likelihood disturbed the original contexts of the Iron Age and Roman period sherds in consultation with the relevant Archaeological Officer at Suffolk CC, Ms J Plouviez, it was agreed that the programme of works should continue with a close monitoring of the planned ground works followed by the compilation of a combined evaluation and monitoring report.

4. Monitoring methodology

4.1 While the initial ground works plan for the site included a substantial overburden strip increasing to a depth of 1m at the rear of the footprint to form a terrace into the south facing, gentle, slope this ground reduction was decreased to a maximum of 450mm when work started (see Appendix I- Image 3). Based on the evaluation

results which demonstrated a depth of 400mm of top soil across the site above at least 700mm of subsoil the initial soil strip was not monitored.

4.2 Site attendance commenced after the start of the mechanical excavation of the trench foundations and continued through the day to the completion of these works. The trench foundations were 600mm wide and 900mm deep to reach the naturally occurring Crag sand at the site and therefore were safe to enter at all points. Identification of archaeological features relied largely on the examination of the trench sides and indistinct areas were trowelled clean and the upcast spoil was closely watched for finds. Where archaeological features were identified in section these were further cleaned to facilitate recording and to recover finds from a secure context with the modern pitting in the south east quarter of the footprint just being recorded as a general area of disturbance as there were clearly numerous pits close to, and intercutting, each other (see Fig. 2) and extending beyond the footprint. The archaeological features revealed in section were recorded in relation to the footprint of the semi-detached houses which in turn was plotted onto the already mapped background for the immediate area (Fig. 2) and the sections were related to levels already taken for the development (see Fig. 3). A series of digital images were also taken during the monitoring (see Appendix I). Finally a close inspection of the revealed soil profiles was maintained to try and gain more information that might help explain how the deep level of subsoil has formed at the site.

5. Monitoring results

5.1 The monitoring of the foundation trenching confirmed the presence of archaeological features on the site as three ditches (0003, 0005 & 0011) and one pit (0009) of pre-modern date were recorded (see Figs. 2 & 3 and Appendix III- Context list) all of which proved to contain pottery sherds of later Iron Age or earlier Roman date, as detailed in section 6 below, when the respective sections were cleaned by hand. In addition 8 sherds of similarly dated pottery (0007 & 0008) were recovered as unstratified finds.

5.2 In the north eastern part of the footprint two apparently parallel and approximately north-south aligned ditches (0003 & 0004) were identified in the foundation trench marking the rear of the development. The eastern ditch (0003) was 580mm wide and 270mm deep and the fill (0004) contained two sherds of Roman period pottery. The nearby and apparently parallel ditch (0005) was slightly smaller at 400mm wide and 200mm deep and one sherd of Roman period pottery was recovered from the fill (0006).

5.3 Close examination of the soil profile in the area around these ditches (0003 & 0005) also proved useful in the overall interpretation of site formation processes for this area as just above the naturally occurring Crag sand a subtle difference could be discerned between an upper component to the subsoil comprising a mid brown sandy subsoil and a thin, lower band which graded to a pale/mid brown silty sand

(see Fig. 3). The silty nature of this thin band just above the Crag sand felt and looked similar to the fine 'loess' type deposits seen across the Felixstowe and Shotley peninsulas to the south. From this evidence it appears likely that a similar 'loess' type deposit may have been laid down in the immediate post-glacial period in the Alderton area. That the two ditches (0003 & 0004) appeared to lie under this silty band need not preclude an earlier date of deposit for the silty material as experience elsewhere has often indicated that archaeological features are difficult to identify within 'loess' type layers though they clearly must cut through such deposits. This silty material was not identified in the other foundation trenches.

5.4 At the south western corner of the footprint a third, south west/north east aligned ditch (0011) was recorded with a width of 500mm and depth of 200mm, the fill (0012) contained one sherd of late Iron Age/early Roman and one sherd of Roman period pottery.

5.5 Mid way along the southern foundation trench a pit (0009) which was 620mm in diameter and 400mm deep was recorded, the fill (0010) of this pit contained 4 sherds of Roman period pottery, one of which was of late 2nd century date.

6. The Pottery (Stephen Benfield)

6.1 Introduction-in total there are twenty-one sherds of pottery, together weighing 305 g and with a total Eve (estimated vessel equivalence) of 0.27 (Table 1). All of the pottery can all be dated to the Iron Age and Roman period. The pottery was recovered from seven contexts and is listed by fabric and quantity for each context in Table 2. The pottery was recorded using the Suffolk pottery fabric series (unpublished). Coarse ware vessel forms refer to the Suffolk Pakenham type series (unpublished) and Camulodunum (Colchester) type series (Hawkes & Hull 1947 & Hull 1963). Samian forms refer to common recognised types as referred to in Webster (1996).

Fabric name	Code	No	Wt/g	Eve
Handmade sand-tempered	HMS	2	21	
Central Gaulish samian	SACG	1	50	0.04
Black surface wares	BSW	3	63	0.12
Miscellaneous sandy grey wares	GX	12	100	0.11
Miscellaneous red coarse wares	RX	1	23	
Romanising coarse ware	RCW	1	42	
Unspecified shell-tempered ware	SH	1	6	
Total		21	305	

Table 1: Roman pottery fabric quantities

John Newman Archaeological Services

Context	Fabric Code	No	Wt(g)	Eve	form	Notes (see Appendix IV)	spot date
0001	RCW	1	42				E Rom
0001	HMS	1	11				IA
0001	GX	1	5				Rom
0002	BSW	1	32	0.12			LIA?/R Rom
0004	BSW	1	19				Rom
0004	GX	1	7				Rom
0006	SH	1	6				Rom
0007	BSW	1	12				1-E2C
0008	GX	2	35	0.05	5.1		1-E2C
0008	GX	1	6				Rom
0008	GX	1	7				Rom
0008	GX	1	7	0.06			Rom
0008	GX	1	8				Rom
0008	RX	1	23				Rom
0010	SACG	1	50	0.04	Wa 79		L2C
0010	GX	3	15				Rom
0012	HMS	1	10				LIA/?E Rom
0012	GX	1	10				Rom

Table 2: Roman pottery by context (for full version of this table with notes see Appendix IV)

Note: SV = same vessel

6.2 Discussion- there is one unstratified sherd in a handmade sand-tempered fabric (0001) which is of Middle-Late Iron Age type. Another, relatively thick sand-tempered sherd, from context 0012 (?ditch 0011), has a sand-tempered fabric with some dark inclusions. The surface of the sherd is abraded, but is uneven and it has been classified as handmade sand-tempered (Fabric HMS) although from the interior surface it appears possibly to have been made on a slow wheel. These sherds are difficult to closely date as handmade sand-tempered wares continued to be manufactured in the south of the Suffolk in the Late Iron Age along with 'Belgic' grog-tempered wares (Martin 1999, 80-81).

A shell-tempered sherd (Fabric SH) 0006 (from the ditch 0005), which is well fired with a wheel made sandy fabric is probably an early shell-tempered ware (Fabric ESH) rather than of later date. As with grog-tempered wares, this type of shell-tempered ware appears in the Late Iron Age in the Trinovantian tribal area, which is

considered to include the part of the southern half of the modern county of Suffolk, but is most commonly found in south Essex and production continues through the later 1st century AD (Going 1987, 10). Overall, an Early Roman date seems likely for this sherd. Another sherd, from context 0002 (fill of a modern pit) might also possibly be Late Iron Age. This is from a necked bowl which has a wheel made, moderately thick, sand-tempered fabric with a smooth, dark burnished surface. However, a Roman date appears more likely and the sherd has been classified as Black surface ware (Fabric BSW).

The remainder of the pottery (seventeen sherds) is all of certain Roman date. However, close dating for many of the sherds within the Roman period is difficult. One Sherd can be dated to the Early Roman period of the mid 1st-early 2nd century. This is a rim and shoulder (0008) from a cordoned bowl of form Cam 218 (dated mid 1st-early 2nd century). Also probably of this date are a burnished rim from a necked jar or bowl (0007) and part of a jar or bowl base (0001). All of these sherds are essentially unstratified finds. Of mid Roman date is a large sherd from a Central Gaulish samian dish of form Walters 79 which comes from the pit 0009 (0010). This can be dated to the late 2nd century, after c AD 160 (Webster 1996, 64). There are also shoulder and neck sherds from one, or possibly two narrow necked jars or flask-like vessels from the ditch 0003 (0004) and unstratified (0008). It can be noted that two of the sherds join between these two contexts. The shoulder sherds from this vessel have a burnished wavy line pattern in a low profile cordon. This burnish decoration is typical of the early-mid Roman narrow necked jar or flask form Cam 231/232 (dated 1st-late 2nd century) from Roman contexts in Colchester (CAR 10 477-78). However some vessels of similar type with burnished decoration are also dated to the late Roman period (3rd-4th century) at Chelmsford (Going 1987, 27 Type G38 & fig 12).

Overall the pottery recovered can be dated to the Middle or Late Iron Age, Late Iron Age or Early Roman period and to the Roman period, with almost all of the pottery being of Roman date. While much of the Roman pottery cannot be closely dated there are no sherds which need date to the late Roman period of the late 3rd-4th century. The most closely dated Roman sherds are of mid 1st-2nd century date and late 2nd century date and some of the less closely dated pieces are also likely to date to the period of the 1st-2nd century.

7. Conclusion

7.1 While the evaluation trench did not reveal any archaeological features of interest the Iron Age and Roman pottery sherds recovered from later and unstratified contexts prompted a subsequent phase of site monitoring during the main ground works. The results as outlined in sections 5 and 6 above for the features recorded and further finds recovered respectively clearly demonstrates the wisdom of the decision to continue the archaeological attendance on site as while part of the area has been heavily disturbed in recent times, solid evidence for later Iron Age and

earlier Roman period activity has been successfully recorded, a potential for past activity that was suggested in the relevant Brief and Specification. The quantity of pottery recovered indicates that this site lies within an area of rural settlement type activity spanning the period from around the first century BC through to the second century AD with some evidence of relative prosperity able to gain access to local markets and acquire Gaulish samian ware of Continental origin. While no evidence of later Roman period activity was recovered only a small part of rural settlement type site has been examined at Mill Lane and occupation may have used different parts of this settlement with variable intensity through its overall lifetime which could have extended into the third or fourth century AD. That Roman pottery has also been collected to the south of Alderton church (HER ADT 011) during field walking giving an indication of how widespread settlement activity could have been during this period on the spur of land now covered by the village.

7.2 The identification of a possible fine, silty 'loess' type deposit at the site as outlined in section 5.3 above is also of interest as the subsequent re-working of this material by both natural and human activities so it now forms part of the subsoil could help explain the depth of overburden revealed in the trenching. This re-working of the overall soil profile generally masking the subtle differences which were only noted in the north eastern part of the house footprint but which may still exist at other points on the spur of land now covered by the village of Alderton.

References:

- CAR 10, 1991, Robin Symonds and Sue Wade, *Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-86*
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- Hull, R., 1963, *The Roman potters' kilns of Colchester*, RRCSAL 21
- Martin, E., 1999, 'Suffolk in the Iron Age' in John Davis & Tom Williamson eds, *Land of the Iceni*
- Webster, P., 1996, *Roman samian pottery in Britain*, CBA practical handbook in archaeology 13

Archive- to be deposited with the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service under the HER ref. ADT 072.

(Acknowledgements: JNAS is grateful to John Dyer and Brian for their close cooperation on site, to James Armes for carrying out the metal detector search, to Sue Holden for preparing Figs. 2 & 3 and to Stephen Benfield for his specialist finds work).

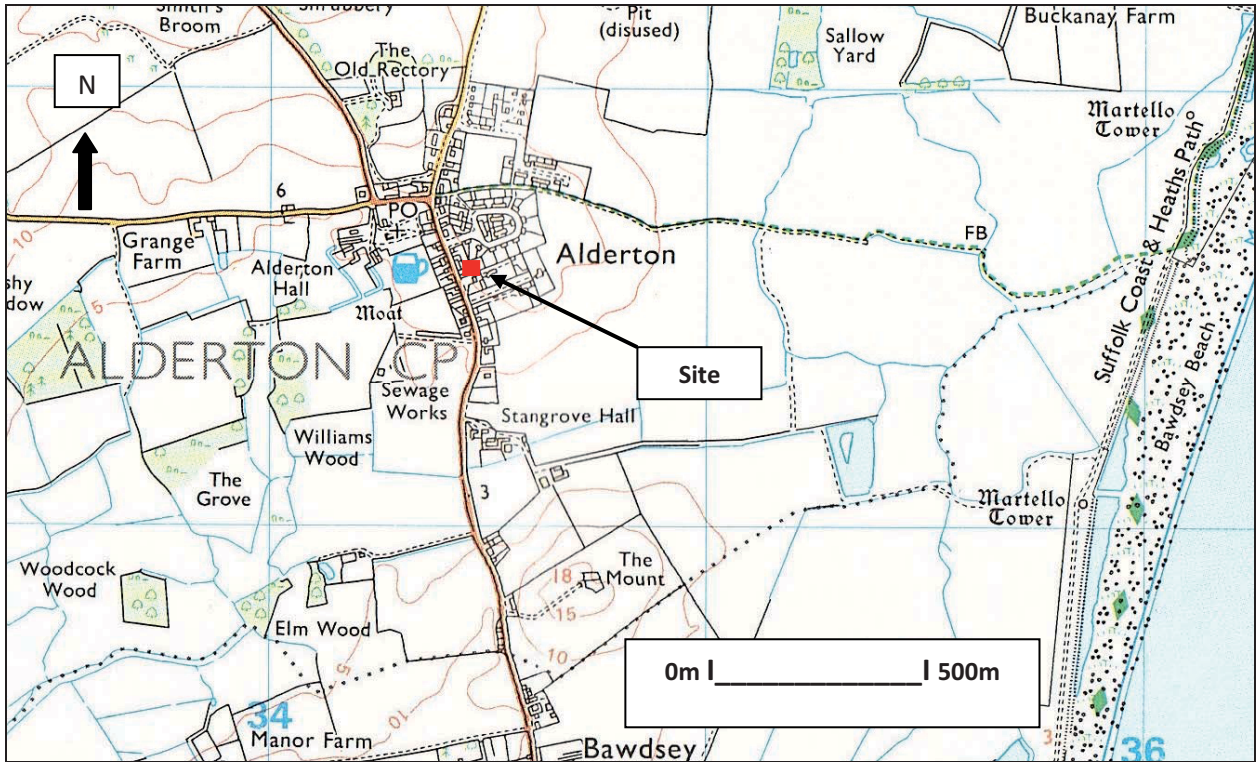


Fig.1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2006
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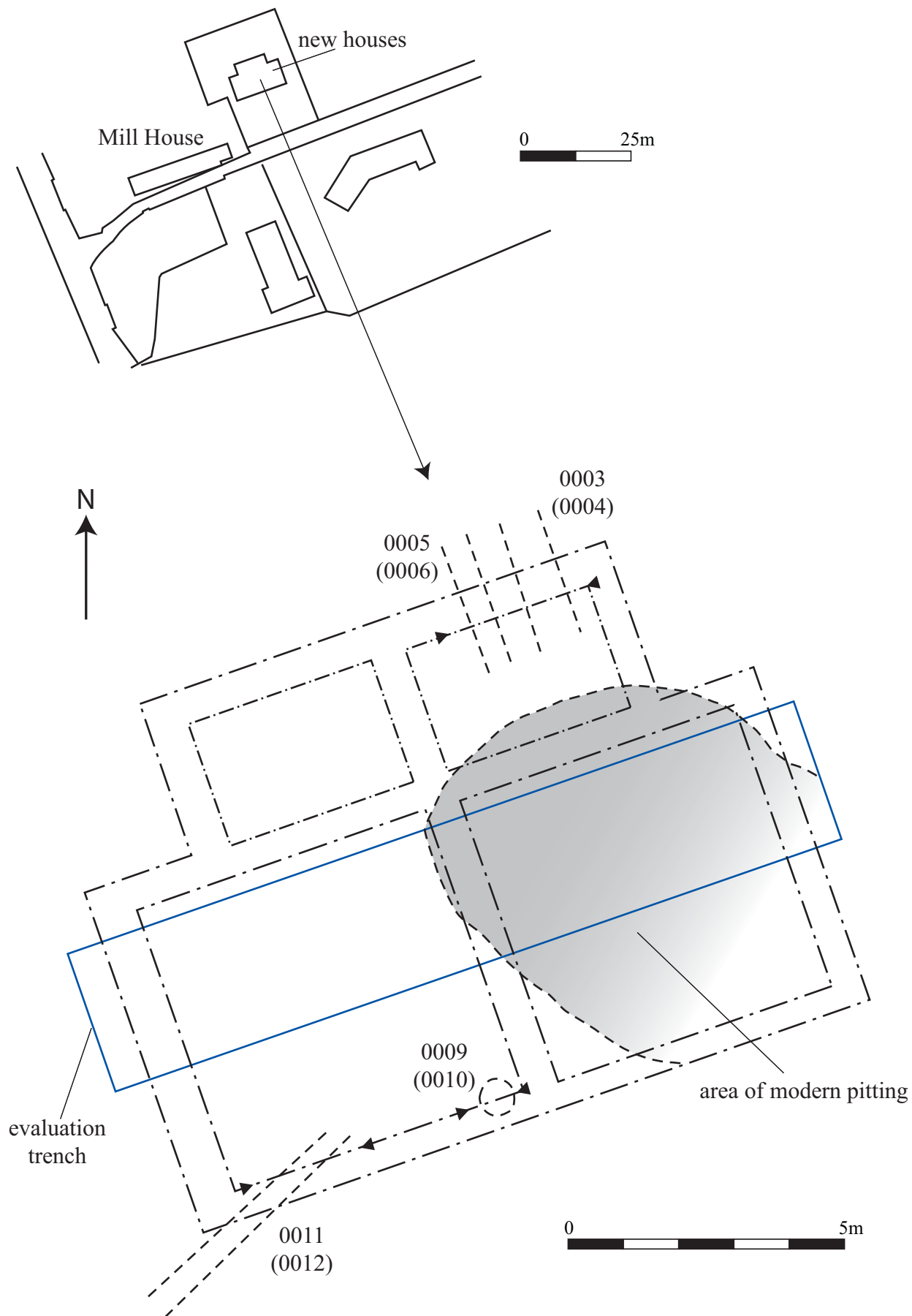


Fig. 2: Location of new houses and plan of monitored foundations
 (map extract after Ordnance Survey©Crown copyright 2010 All rights reserved LN 100049722)

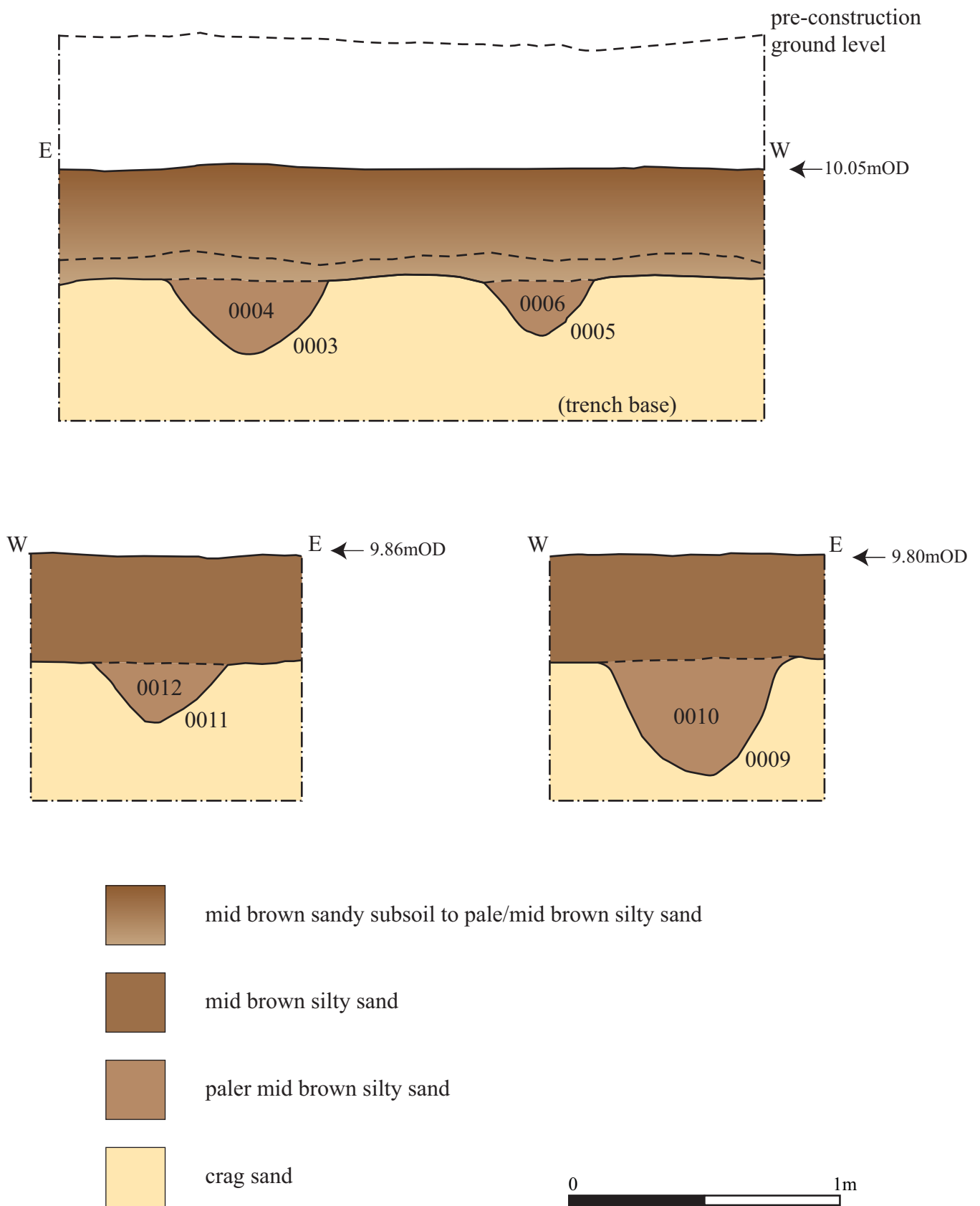


Fig. 3: Feature sections.

Appendix I- Images



Image 1- evaluation trench from west



Image 2- modern pit in section in the evaluation trench



Image 3- site during monitoring from south east



Image 4- trench section, ditches 0003 (left) & 0005 (right) from north

Economy, Skills and Environment
9-10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall
Bury St Edmunds
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IP33 2AR

Brief and Specification for Archaeological Evaluation

Garden, Mill House, Mill Lane, Alderton

The commissioning body should be aware that it may have Health & Safety responsibilities.

1. The nature of the development and archaeological requirements

- 1.1 Planning permission has been granted by Suffolk Coastal District Council (C/09/1701) for the erection of a two new semi-detached dwellings at part of the side garden, Mill House, Mill Lane, Alderton IP12 3DB (TM 344 416). **Please contact the applicant for an accurate plan of the site.**
- 1.2 The Planning Authority has granted consent with an archaeological condition (no. 14) that an agreed programme of work take place before development begins (PPG 16, paragraph 30 condition).
- 1.3 The site, which measures c.500sq m in area, is located on the north side of Mill Lane, on a spur facing south and west at c.10m AOD. The soils are deep sands of the Newport series 2.
- 1.4 This application is situated within the probable historic settlement core, to the east of the medieval church (HER no. ADT 012) and Hall (ADT 002). The settlement is situated on a spur between the head of a tributary of the Deben to the south-west and reclaimed coastal marshland to the east. There is evidence for Roman, Anglo-Saxon and medieval activity on this spur (ADT 011) and pottery including Ipswich ware was recovered from a small development close to the present site (ADT 065). There is high potential for occupation deposits of all periods to be disturbed by development. The proposed works will cause significant ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.
- 1.5 In order to inform the archaeological mitigation strategy, the following work will be required:
 - A linear trenched evaluation is required of the development area.
- 1.6 **The results of this evaluation will enable the archaeological resource, both in quality and extent, to be accurately quantified. Decisions on the need for and scope of any mitigation measures, should there be any archaeological finds of significance, will be based upon the results of the evaluation and will be the subject of an additional specification.**
- 1.7 All arrangements for the field evaluation of the site, the timing of the work, access to the site, the definition of the precise area of landholding and area for proposed development are to be defined and negotiated with the commissioning body.
- 1.8 Detailed standards, information and advice to supplement this brief are to be found in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003.

- 1.9 In accordance with the standards and guidance produced by the Institute of Field Archaeologists this brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the total execution of the project. A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) based upon this brief and the accompanying outline specification of minimum requirements, is an essential requirement. This must be submitted by the developers, or their agent, to the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR; telephone/fax: 01284 352443) for approval. The work must not commence until this office has approved both the archaeological contractor as suitable to undertake the work, and the WSI as satisfactory. The WSI will provide the basis for measurable standards and will be used to satisfy the requirements of the planning condition.
- 1.10 Before any archaeological site work can commence it is the responsibility of the developer to provide the archaeological contractor with either the contaminated land report for the site or a written statement that there is no contamination. The developer should be aware that investigative sampling to test for contamination is likely to have an impact on any archaeological deposit which exists; proposals for sampling should be discussed with the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of SCC (SCCAS/CT) before execution.
- 1.11 The responsibility for identifying any constraints on field-work, e.g. Scheduled Monument status, Listed Building status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites &c., ecological considerations rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor. The existence and content of the archaeological brief does not over-ride such constraints or imply that the target area is freely available.
- 1.12 Any changes to the specifications that the project archaeologist may wish to make after approval by this office should be communicated directly to SCCAS/CT and the client for approval.

2. Brief for the Archaeological Evaluation

- 2.1 Establish whether any archaeological deposit exists in the area, with particular regard to any which are of sufficient importance to merit preservation *in situ*.
- 2.2 Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the application area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- 2.3 Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- 2.4 Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.
- 2.5 Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.
- 2.6 This project will be carried through in a manner broadly consistent with English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (MAP2), all stages will follow a process of assessment and justification before proceeding to the next phase of the project. Field evaluation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential. Any further excavation required as mitigation is to be followed by the preparation of a full archive, and an assessment of potential, analysis and final report preparation may follow. Each stage will be the subject of a further brief and updated project design; this document covers only the evaluation stage.
- 2.7 The developer or his archaeologist will give SCCAS/CT (address as above) five working days notice of the commencement of ground works on the site, in order that the work of the archaeological contractor may be monitored.

- 2.8 If the approved evaluation design is not carried through in its entirety (particularly in the instance of trenching being incomplete) the evaluation report may be rejected. Alternatively the presence of an archaeological deposit may be presumed, and untested areas included on this basis when defining the final mitigation strategy.
- 2.9 An outline specification, which defines certain minimum criteria, is set out below.

3. Specification: Trenched Evaluation

- 3.1 A single linear trial trench is to be excavated across the full width of the new dwellings.
- 3.2 If excavation is mechanised a toothless 'ditching bucket' at least 1.80m wide must be used. A scale plan showing the proposed locations of the trial trenches should be included in the WSI and the detailed trench design must be approved by SCCAS/CT before field work begins.
- 3.3 The topsoil may be mechanically removed using an appropriate machine with a back-acting arm and fitted with a toothless bucket, down to the interface layer between topsoil and subsoil or other visible archaeological surface. All machine excavation is to be under the direct control and supervision of an archaeologist. The topsoil should be examined for archaeological material.
- 3.4 The top of the first archaeological deposit may be cleared by machine, but must then be cleaned off by hand. There is a presumption that excavation of all archaeological deposits will be done by hand unless it can be shown there will not be a loss of evidence by using a machine. The decision as to the proper method of excavation will be made by the senior project archaeologist with regard to the nature of the deposit.
- 3.5 In all evaluation excavation there is a presumption of the need to cause the minimum disturbance to the site consistent with adequate evaluation; that significant archaeological features, e.g. solid or bonded structural remains, building slots or post-holes, should be preserved intact even if fills are sampled. For guidance:
- For linear features, 1.00m wide slots (min.) should be excavated across their width;
- For discrete features, such as pits, 50% of their fills should be sampled (in some instances 100% may be requested).
- 3.6 There must be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth and nature of any archaeological deposit. The depth and nature of colluvial or other masking deposits must be established across the site.
- 3.7 Archaeological contexts should, where possible, be sampled for palaeoenvironmental remains. Best practice should allow for sampling of interpretable and datable archaeological deposits and provision should be made for this. The contractor shall show what provision has been made for environmental assessment of the site and must provide details of the sampling strategies for retrieving artefacts, biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations), and samples of sediments and/or soils (for micromorphological and other pedological/sedimentological analyses. Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from Rachel Ballantyne, English Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy, P.L. and Wiltshire, P.E.J., 1994, *A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis*) is available for viewing from SCCAS.
- 3.8 Any natural subsoil surface revealed should be hand cleaned and examined for archaeological deposits and artefacts. Sample excavation of any archaeological features revealed may be necessary in order to gauge their date and character.

- 3.9 Metal detector searches must take place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced metal detector user.
- 3.10 All finds will be collected and processed (unless variations in this principle are agreed SCCAS/CT during the course of the evaluation).
- 3.11 Human remains must be left *in situ* except in those cases where damage or desecration are to be expected, or in the event that analysis of the remains is shown to be a requirement of satisfactory evaluation of the site. However, the excavator should be aware of, and comply with, the provisions of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857.
- 3.12 Plans of any archaeological features on the site are to be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50, depending on the complexity of the data to be recorded. Sections should be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 again depending on the complexity to be recorded. All levels should relate to Ordnance Datum. Any variations from this must be agreed with SCCAS/CT.
- 3.13 A photographic record of the work is to be made, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies and/or high resolution digital images.
- 3.14 Topsoil, subsoil and archaeological deposit to be kept separate during excavation to allow sequential backfilling of excavations.
- 3.15 Trenches should not be backfilled without the approval of SCCAS/CT.

4. General Management

- 4.1 A timetable for all stages of the project must be agreed before the first stage of work commences, including monitoring by SCCAS/CT. The archaeological contractor will give not less than five days written notice of the commencement of the work so that arrangements for monitoring the project can be made.
- 4.2 The composition of the archaeology contractor staff must be detailed and agreed by this office, including any subcontractors/specialists. For the site director and other staff likely to have a major responsibility for the post-excavation processing of this evaluation there must also be a statement of their responsibilities or a CV for post-excavation work on other archaeological sites and publication record. Ceramic specialists, in particular, must have relevant experience from this region, including knowledge of local ceramic sequences.
- 4.3 It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility to ensure that adequate resources are available to fulfill the Brief.
- 4.4 A detailed risk assessment must be provided for this particular site.
- 4.5 No initial survey to detect public utility or other services has taken place. The responsibility for this rests with the archaeological contractor.
- 4.6 The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (revised 2001) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

5. Report Requirements

- 5.1 An archive of all records and finds must be prepared consistent with the principles of English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects*, 1991 (particularly Appendix 3.1 and Appendix 4.1).

- 5.2 The report should reflect the aims of the WSI.
- 5.3 The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its archaeological interpretation.
- 5.4 An opinion as to the necessity for further evaluation and its scope may be given. No further site work should be embarked upon until the primary fieldwork results are assessed and the need for further work is established.
- 5.5 Reports on specific areas of specialist study must include sufficient detail to permit assessment of potential for analysis, including tabulation of data by context, and must include non-technical summaries.
- 5.6 The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence, including an assessment of palaeoenvironmental remains recovered from palaeosols and cut features. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological potential of the site, and the significance of that potential in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).
- 5.7 The results of the surveys should be related to the relevant known archaeological information held in the County Historic Environment Record (HER).
- 5.8 A copy of the Specification should be included as an appendix to the report.
- 5.9 The project manager must consult the County HER Officer (Dr Colin Pendleton) to obtain an HER number for the work. This number will be unique for each project or site and must be clearly marked on any documentation relating to the work.
- 5.10 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*.
- 5.11 The project manager should consult the SCC Archive Guidelines 2008 and also the County HER Officer regarding the requirements for the deposition of the archive (conservation, ordering, organisation, labelling, marking and storage) of excavated material and the archive.
- 5.12 The WSI should state proposals for the deposition of the digital archive relating to this project with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), and allowance should be made for costs incurred to ensure the proper deposition (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/policy.html>).
- 5.13 Every effort must be made to get the agreement of the landowner/developer to the deposition of the finds with the County HER or a museum in Suffolk which satisfies Museum and Galleries Commission requirements, as an indissoluble part of the full site archive. If this is not achievable for all or parts of the finds archive then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate. If the County HER is the repository for finds there will be a charge made for storage, and it is presumed that this will also be true for storage of the archive in a museum.
- 5.14 The site archive is to be deposited with the County HER within three months of the completion of fieldwork. It will then become publicly accessible.
- 5.15 Where positive conclusions are drawn from a project (whether it be evaluation or excavation) a summary report, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute for Archaeology*, must be prepared. It should be included in the project report, or submitted to SCCAS/CT, by the end of the calendar year in which the evaluation work takes place, whichever is the sooner.

5.16 County HER sheets must be completed, as per the County HER manual, for all sites where archaeological finds and/or features are located.

5.17 An unbound copy of the evaluation report, clearly marked DRAFT, must be presented to SCCAS/CT for approval within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated with the project sponsor and SCCAS/CT.

Following acceptance, two copies of the report should be submitted to SCCAS/CT together with a digital .pdf version.

5.18 Where appropriate, a digital vector trench plan should be included with the report, which must be compatible with MapInfo GIS software, for integration in the County HER. AutoCAD files should be also exported and saved into a format that can be imported into MapInfo (for example, as a Drawing Interchange File or .dxf) or already transferred to .TAB files.

5.19 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.

5.20 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to the County HER. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

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Date: 12 August 2010

Reference: / ArchSpecEval_Alderton_Aug2010.doc

This brief and specification remains valid for six months from the above date. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse; the authority should be notified and a revised brief and specification may be issued.

If the work defined by this brief forms a part of a programme of archaeological work required by a Planning Condition, the results must be considered by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council, who have the responsibility for advising the appropriate Planning Authority.

Appendix III- Context List

ADT 072

Context	Finds	Stage	Type	Part of	Description	Spotdate
0001	F	Eval	U/S	0001	Unstratified finds from upcast spoil of evaluation	ERom IA
0002	F	Eval	Find	0002	Roman period sherd recovered from trench section in modern pit fill	LIA?/ERom
0003		Mon	Ditch	0003	North-south aligned ditch seen in foundation trench section	
0004	F	Mon	Fill	0003	Fill of 0003, mid brown silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks	Rom
0005		Mon	Ditch	0005	North-south aligned ditch seen in foundation trench section (close & parallel to 0003)	
0006	F	Mon	Fill	0005	Fill of 0005, mid brown silty sand with occasional charcoal flecks	Rom
0007	F	Mon	Find U/S	0007	Rim sherd recovered from foundation trench towards centre of footprint, no feature visible	1-E2C
0008	F	Mon	U/S	0008	Unstratified finds recovered from upcast spoil during monitoring	1-E2C

0009		Mon	Pit	0009	Pit recorded in section of foundation trench	
0010	F	Mon	Fill	0009	Fill of pit 0009, mid brown silty sand only seen in northern trench side so probably a pit rather than a ditch	L2C Rom
0011		Mon	?Ditch	0011	Possible ditch seen in section in SW corner of foundations (NE-SW aligned)	
0012	F	Mon	Fill	0011	Mid brown silty sand in possible ditch seen in section	LIA/?EROM Rom

Appendix IV- Pottery

Context	Fabric Code	No	Wt(g)	Eve	form	notes	spot date
0001	RCW	1	42			base, interior flaked away	E Rom
0001	HMS	1	11			black fabric with dark brown surface, some vegetable fragment voids in surface	IA
0001	GX	1	5			black, burnished surface	Rom
0002	BSW	1	32	0.12		necked bowl with sandy fabric and black, burnished surface	LIA?/R Rom
0004	BSW	1	19			light grey to brown fabric	Rom
0004	GX	1	7			jar/bowl with burnish line decorated wide, flat cordon around neck above groove (join SV as 0008)	Rom
0006	SH	1	6			surface shell leached out leaving voids	Rom
0007	BSW	1	12			necked bowl, burnished surface, small cordon at base of neck	1-E2C
0008	GX	2	35	0.05	5.1	SV, joining rim and shoulder, bowl with burnish lattice decorated cordon (Cam 218)	1-E2C
0008	GX	1	6			jar/bowl with burnish line decorated cordon (join SV as 0004)	Rom
0008	GX	1	7			neck sherd from narrow mouthed jar with cordon at base of neck	Rom
0008	GX	1	7	0.06		rim from a necked jar /bowl, light grey to brown fabric	Rom
0008	GX	1	8			base sherd	Rom
0008	RX	1	23			base, sandy brownish-red fabric	Rom
0010	SACG	1	50	0.04	Wa 79	Profile to footing, surface slightly abraded, form Walters (Wa) 79 appears c AD 160	L2C
0010	GX	3	15			SV, jar/bowl with burnish lattice decorated wide, flat cordon around neck above groove	Rom

Context	Fabric Code	No	Wt(g)	Eve	form	notes	spot date
0012	HMS	1	10			thick, sand-tempered sherd, oxidised exterior, uneven (abraded) surface	LIA/?E Rom
0012	GX	1	10			small jar base sherd	Rom

Table 2. Roman pottery by context- with notes

Note: SV = same vessel