

# **Witham** Archaeology

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A Report to Flagship Housing

March 2021



## **LAND SOUTH OF SHOP STREET, WORLINGWORTH, SUFFOLK**

### **Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation**

*G Trimble*

# LAND SOUTH OF SHOP STREET, WORLINGWORTH, SUFFOLK

Parish Code: WGW 045  
Planning Reference.: DC/17/04689/OUT  
NGR: TM 21844 68490  
OASIS ID: withamar1-417374

## *Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation*

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# **LAND SOUTH OF SHOP STREET, WORLINGWORTH, SUFFOLK**

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION**

### ***SUMMARY***

*This report presents the results of an Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation undertaken on land south of Shop Street, Worlingworth, Suffolk. The project was commissioned by Flagship Housing in response to a condition of planning requiring a programme of archaeological trial trenching to assess the potential for significant archaeological deposits and the likely impact of the development upon any surviving remains.*

*The area of the proposed development comprises approximately 1.6ha of open agricultural land at the west periphery of the village and 1.6km west of the medieval church of St Mary.*

*This site lies in an area of archaeological potential as recorded on the County Historic Environment Record. Historical research shows that the site is situated on the fringe of a former green which was probably established in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Cartographic evidence and subsurface archaeological interventions have recorded evidence of medieval and post-medieval occupation elsewhere on the edge of the green*

*Sixteen trenches were excavated as part of the project, randomly distributed to achieve maximum coverage of the proposed development area. Overall, the results of the work indicate that archaeological features are rare on the site. Only one trench (Trench 12) contained features represented by an undated linear ditch and a clay extraction pit of 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> century date. No artefacts definitively earlier than the 19<sup>th</sup> century were recovered from the plough soil. In summary, it would appear that the land was free of occupation or arable agriculture until the early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century when the common was enclosed.*

### ***1.0 INTRODUCTION (Figs 1 & 2)***

This report presents the results of an Archaeological Trial trench Evaluation undertaken on land to the south of Shop Street, Worlingworth, Suffolk (Figs 1 & 2). The project was commissioned by Flagship Housing Ltd to provide archaeological information in support of a planning application submitted to Mid Suffolk District Council for residential development on the site. Fieldwork was carried out between the 12<sup>th</sup> October and 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation produced by Witham Archaeology and approved by the local authority Planning Archaeologist.

The information in this document is presented with the proviso that further data may yet emerge. Witham Archaeology cannot, therefore, be held responsible for any loss, delay or damage, material or otherwise, arising out of this report. The document has been prepared in accordance with the Code of Conduct of the Chartered Institute of Archaeologists.

### ***2.0 SITE LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY & GEOLOGY (Figs. 1 & 2, Plates 1 - 3)***

Worlingworth is a village civil parish in the county of Suffolk, 16km southeast of Diss and 20km northeast of Ipswich in the administrative district of Mid Suffolk. The site of the proposed development comprises 1.6 hectares of open agricultural land located immediately south of Shop Street. Private dwellings border the site on its east side whilst commercial premises bound the west side. Open agricultural land lies to the south. The site is on flat ground and lies at a height of around 63m AOD.

The superficial geological deposits are formed of the Lowestoft Formation - Diamicton whilst the underlying bedrock is represented by sandstones of the Crag Group.

### **3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

At the time of writing this document no desk based assessment of the site was available. Therefore, the following brief summary is based on the information collated from a rapid survey of the records available through Heritage Gateway for an area within 1km radius from the site and information provided in the brief.

The current development site is located on the southeast fringe of a large triangular green (WGW 010) which documentary evidence suggests was established in the mid thirteenth century. The green was formerly known as Great Green and shown on an estate map of circa 1606. It is also shown and named as Worlingworth Green on J Hodskinson's Map of Suffolk, 1783. The green was enclosed by the time of the 1st edition OS map circa 1837.

Evidence that medieval and/or post-medieval settlement was located around the edges of the green comes from the site of four farmsteads shown on a map of 1610 (WGW 008). A trench excavated here in 1975 recorded medieval pottery sherds but failed to identify evidence of any structures. This site is located 550m northwest of the current site. Further to west along mill road and around 650m from the current site, medieval pottery sherds were found during an archaeological watching brief (WGW022) but no evidence for habitation on the edge of the green was recorded.

Two 18<sup>th</sup> century post mills once occupied a location 600m northeast of the current site (WGW 009) on the north side of Shop Street. Both mills have fallen out of use but the foundations of one mill survive in a garden.

### **4.0 AIMS & OBJECTIVES**

The principal objectives of the project, as set out in a Witham Archaeology specification were to:

- *provide information on the presence/absence, nature, date and quality of survival of archaeological deposits and remains which might be contained within the site, at the depth of proposed construction disturbance, and to assess the importance of such remains in terms of their local, regional and national context.*
- *assess the possible scale of development impact on any remains and provide information which might influence development design so that impact on any remains can be avoided or minimised.*
- *provide information that will allow the local planning authority to reconcile development proposals with their policy for preserving archaeological remains and make an informed and reasoned decision on the planning application.*
- *provide site specific archaeological information which (if necessary) would allow for the design and integration of timing and funding of any further archaeological work (or other mitigating strategy) which might be required in advance of or during any subsequent development programme.*
- *produce a project archive for deposition with the appropriate museum and from which the potential for further study and academic research could be assessed.*
- *provide information for accession to the Norfolk Environment Record (HER).*

### **5.0 METHODOLOGY (Fig. 2)**

The project specification provided for the excavation of fifteen trenches forming approximately a 5% sample of the site (Fig. 2). Each trench measured 30m in length and 1.8m in width. The trenches were located around the full area of the site.

All topsoil and overburden removal from trenches was carried out by mechanical excavator fitted with a smooth-bladed ditching bucket. Where required, trench bases and sides were then cleaned by hand to allow characterisation and where possible dating of the stratigraphic sequence.

A record of the site was compiled through plans drawn at scale 1:20 and sections at 1: 10, colour digital and monochrome (35mm) photographs, and individual written context records on *pro forma* recording sheets. Trenches were located by a survey grade Topcon GPS receiver linked to a rugged Topcon datalogger.

All trench locations were scanned by metal detector prior to machine excavation. The excavated spoil was also scanned with a metal detector. Artefacts recovered included modern iron implements. Many of these artefacts were obviously corroded tractor and other farm machinery parts and reflect the previous use of this area as farmland. All of these objects were discarded. A total of 14 metal artefacts were retained and included six 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century coins, six buttons all of which date to the 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century date and a musket ball.

## **6.0 RESULTS (Figs. 2-5, Plates 4 – 22)**

The only trench containing archaeological features was Trench 12 where an undated linear ditch and a probable clay extraction pit of 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> century date were recorded. Considering that all other trenches were blank in terms of archaeological features or deposits and that the characteristics of the natural material and overlying topsoil did not differ in any significant way across the development site, only a selection of sample trench baulk sections have been reproduced in this report. A photograph of each trench has been reproduced. Trench locations and orientation, topsoil depths, and heights of the natural material above Ordnance Datum are presented below on a trench by trench basis. Full context descriptions for each trench are provided in Appendix A.

Considerable rainfall preceding and during the fieldwork meant that ground water levels at the site were unusually high. The level of the ground water was actually slightly higher than the level of the natural clay which meant that most trenches contained standing water very soon after, or even during machine removal of the topsoil.

In order to avoid the line of a footpath which traversed the east part of the site on a south southeast-to-north northwest alignment, the location of Trench 10 was slightly realigned from the location as proposed in the Written Scheme of Investigation. The position of Trench 11 as proposed in the Written scheme of Investigation also crossed the line of the footpath. In order to avoid obstructing the footpath, the trench was split into two halves (Trenches 11 & 12) which were positioned either side of the footpath. This means that the trench numbering system now runs from 1 to 16 rather than numbers 1 to 16 as set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation.

### **6.1 Trench 1 (Fig. 2) (Plate 4)**

Trench 1, aligned east southeast-to-west northwest, measured 30m in length and 1.8m in width and was located at the northwest corner of the development area (Fig. 2). The trench was excavated to an average depth of 0.35m below the present ground surface (Plate 4). Natural deposits were encountered at a level of 62.84m OD. The natural (100) was a mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional flecks and fragments of chalk. The overlying topsoil (101) was a mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.35m in thickness

No features of archaeological interest were recorded in Trench 1

### **6.2 Trench 2 (Figs. 2 & 3) (Plate 5)**

Trench 2 measured 30m in length, 1.8m in width and was aligned south southeast-to-north northwest. It lay south of Trench 1 and close to the west boundary of the proposed development area (Fig. 2). It was excavated to a depth of 0.40m below the present ground surface (Fig. 3, Section 1 & Plate 5). Natural deposits were encountered at a level of 62.67m OD. The natural (200) was a mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional flecks and fragments of chalk. The overlying topsoil (201) was a mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.35m in thickness

No features of archaeological interest were recorded in Trench 2

### **6.3 Trench 3 (Fig. 2) (Plate 6)**

Trench 3 was aligned east southeast-to-west northwest, measured 30m in length and 1.8m in width and located at the southwest corner of the development area (Fig. 2). The trench was excavated to an average depth of 0.40m below the present ground surface (Plate 6). Natural deposits were encountered at a level of 62.45m OD. The natural (300) was a mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional flecks and fragments of chalk. The overlying topsoil (301) was a mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.38m in average thickness.

No features of archaeological interest were recorded in Trench 3.

### **6.4 Trench 4 (Fig. 2) (Plate 7)**

Trench 4 was located east of Trench 3 in the southwest part of the site and aligned south southwest-to-north northeast (Fig. 2). The trench was excavated to a depth averaging around 0.40m below the present ground surface revealing the natural (400) of mid-brownish yellow clay encountered at a level of 62.50m OD (Plate 7). It included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones and occasional flecks and fragments of chalk. The overlying topsoil (401) was a mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.38m in average thickness.

No features of archaeological interest were recorded in Trench 4.

### **6.5 Trench 5 (Fig. 2) (Plate 8)**

Trench 5 was located north of Trench 4 in the central-west part of the proposed development area. It was aligned east southeast-to-west northwest and measured 30m in length and 1.8m in width (Fig. 2). The Trench was excavated to a depth of 0.30m below the present ground surface where natural deposits were encountered at a level of 62.70m OD (Plate 11). The natural (500) was a mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional flecks and fragments of chalk. The overlying topsoil (501) was a mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.28m in average thickness.

No features of archaeological interest were recorded in Trench 5.

### **6.6 Trench 6 (Fig. 2) (Plate 9)**

Trench 6 was located north of Trench 5 in the northwest part of the proposed development site area (Fig. 2). It measured 30m in length and had a width of 1.8m. Topsoil deposits were excavated to a depth of 0.40m below the present ground level to the surface of natural deposits, which were encountered at a level of 62.82m OD (Plate 9). The natural (600) was a mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional flecks and fragments of chalk. The overlying topsoil (601) was a mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.37m in average thickness.

No features of archaeological interest were recorded in Trench 6.

### **6.7 Trench 7 (Figs. 2 & 3) (Plate 10)**

Trench 7 was located east of Trench 6 in the central north part of the development area and close to the north site boundary. It was aligned east southeast-to-west northwest and measured 30m in length and 1.8m in width (Fig. 2). Topsoil deposits were removed to a depth of 0.30m below the present ground level to the surface of natural deposits, which were encountered at a height of 62.65m OD (Fig. 3, Section 2 & Plate 10). The natural (700) was a mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional flecks and fragments of chalk. The overlying topsoil (701) was a mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.27m in average thickness.

No features of archaeological interest were recorded in Trench 7.

### **6.8 Trench 8 (Figs. 2 & 3) (Plate 11)**

Trench 8 was located south of Trench 7 in the central part of the development area and aligned south southwest-to-north northeast (Fig. 2). It measured 30m in length and had a width of 1.8m. Natural deposits (800) were encountered at a depth of 0.30m (62.42m OD) below the present ground surface (Fig. 3, Section 3 & Plate 11). The natural was a mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional flecks and fragments of chalk. The overlying topsoil (701) was a mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.27m in average thickness.

No features of archaeological interest were recorded in Trench 8.

### **6.9 Trench 9 (Figs. 2 & 3) (Plate 12)**

Trench 9 was located close to the south boundary of the site in the central south part of the development area and measured 30m in length 1.8m in width. It was aligned east southeast-to-west northwest (Fig. 2). Natural deposits (900) were encountered at a depth of 0.35m (62.50m OD) below the present ground surface (Fig. 3, Section 4 & Plate 12). The natural was a mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional flecks and fragments of chalk. The overlying topsoil (901) was a mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.32m in average thickness.

No features of archaeological interest were recorded in Trench 9.

### **6.10 Trench 10 (Fig. 2) (Plate 13)**

Trench 10 was located in the northeast part the proposed development site and aligned north-to-south (Fig. 2). It measured 30m in length and had a width of 1.8m. Topsoil was removed to a depth of 0.35m below the present ground surface revealing undisturbed natural deposits at a height of 105.40m OD (Plate 13). The natural (1000) consisted of mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional flecks and fragments of chalk. The overlying topsoil (1001) was a mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.27m in average thickness.

No features of archaeological interest were recorded in Trench 10.

### **6.11 Trench 11 (Fig. 2) (Plate 14)**

Trench 11 was located southeast of Trench 10 in the east part of the site and aligned south southwest-to-north northeast (Fig. 2). It measured 10m in length and had a width of 1.80m. Topsoil deposits were removed to a depth of 0.35m below the present ground surface, to reveal undisturbed natural deposits at 62.74mOD (Plate 14). The natural (1100) was a mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional flecks and fragments of chalk. The overlying topsoil (1101) was a mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.32m in average thickness.

No features of archaeological interest were recorded in Trench 11.

### **6.12 Trench 12 (Figs. 2, 4 & 5) (Plates 15 - 18)**

Trench 12 was located west of Trench 11 in the east part of the proposed development site (Fig. 2). An initial trench was aligned east southeast-to-west northwest and measured 10m in length and 1.8m in width (Fig. 4 & Plate 15). Following the identification of archaeological features including a linear ditch [1206] and a large pit [1200], an extension to the trench measuring 3.80m in length and 3.20m in width was machine excavated to the north side of the trench (Fig. 4 & Plate 16). The extension was excavated in order to reveal the full extent of the large pit [1200].

Topsoil was removed to a depth of 0.35m below the present ground surface where natural deposits were encountered at 62.67m OD. The natural material (1213) consisted of mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional flecks and fragments of chalk. The overlying topsoil (1212) was a mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.30m in average thickness.



### ***Ditch [1206]***

Linear Ditch [1206] was in the west part of the trench and was aligned north-to-south (Fig. 4). It measured 1.52m in width and 1.01m in depth. The sides of the cut were steep whilst the base was narrow and flat (Fig. 5, Section 7 & Plate 17). Five separate fill deposits were recorded in the ditch. The primary deposit (1207) consisted of mid to dark grey silt which included occasional quantities of small rounded stones and chalk flecks. It measured 1.04m in width and had a depth of 0.92m. It filled the base and lined the west side of the ditch. Sealing (1207) was secondary fill (1208). It comprised mid yellowish grey silty clay lined the east side of the ditch and included occasional small rounded stones. It measured 0.22m in width and had a depth of 0.77m. Immediately above (1208) was secondary fill (1209). It consisted of light to mid yellowish brown silt which included occasional small pebbles. It measured 1.18m in width and had a depth of 0.45m. Tertiary deposit (1210) was light to mid brown silty clay which measured 1.38m in width and had a depth of 0.13m. The uppermost fill (1211) was a light brown silty clay which measured 1.12m in width and had a depth of 0.16m.

No artefacts were recovered from the ditch.

### ***Probable Clay Extraction Pit [1200]***

A probable clay extraction pit [1200] was located 1m east of Ditch [1206] (Fig. 4). It had a rectangular plan shape with rounded corners and measured 5.06m in length north-to-south and 2.70m in width east-to-west. It had a depth of 0.95m. The sides of the pit were generally steep becoming almost vertical in places whilst the base was flat (Fig. 5, Section 6 & Plate 18).

Two fill deposits were recorded in the pit. Much of the lower, primary fill (1201) was removed by the hydraulic excavator under close archaeological supervision whilst the upper fill deposit was excavated by hand. The primary fill consisted of light to mid yellowish brown silty clay which included occasional quantities of small stones. It measured 2.48m in maximum width and had a maximum depth of 0.70m. The upper fill (1202) comprised light grey silty clay which included frequent quantities of chalk flecks and fragments and occasional flint fragments. It measured 2.67m in width and had a depth of 0.30m. Twelve sherds of pottery were recovered from the fill indicating a 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> century date for the pit.

### **6.13 Trench 13 (Figs. 2) (Plate 19)**

Trench 13 was located southwest of Trench 12 in the central south part of the proposed development area and close to the south boundary. It was aligned south southwest-to-north northeast (Fig. 2). Topsoil deposits was removed to a depth of 0.35m below the present ground surface, to reveal undisturbed natural deposits at 62.55m OD (Plate 19). The natural (1300) was a mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional flecks and fragments of chalk. The overlying topsoil (1301) was a mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.30m in average thickness.

No features of archaeological interest were recorded in Trench 13.

### **6.14 Trench 14 (Fig. 2) (Plate 20)**

Trench 14 lay in the northeast part of the site and aligned east southeast-to-west northwest. (Fig. 2). Topsoil was removed to a depth of 0.40m below the present ground surface, to reveal undisturbed natural deposits at 62.60m OD (Plate 20). The natural (1400) was a mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional flecks and fragments of chalk. The overlying topsoil (1401) was a mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.30m in average thickness.

No features of archaeological interest were recorded in Trench 14.

### **6.15 Trench 15 (Figs. 2 & 3) (Plate 21)**

Trench 15 was situated south of Trench 14 and close to the east boundary of the proposed development site (Fig. 2). The trench measured 30m in length, 1.8m in width and aligned south southwest-to-north northeast. Topsoil was removed to a depth of 0.35m below the present ground surface, to reveal undisturbed natural deposits at 62.45m OD (Fig. 3, Section 5 & Plate 21). The natural (1500) was a mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional flecks and fragments of chalk. The overlying topsoil (1501) was a mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.30m in average thickness.

No features of archaeological interest were recorded in Trench 15.

### **6.16 Trench 16 (Fig. 2) (Plate 22)**

Trench 16 was located in the southeast corner of the site and aligned east southeast-to-west northwest. (Fig. 2). It measured 30m in length and had a width of 1.8m. Topsoil was removed to a depth of 0.40m below the present ground surface, to reveal undisturbed natural deposits at 62.52m OD (Plate 22). The natural (1600) was a mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional flecks and fragments of chalk. The overlying topsoil (1601) was a mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.30m in average thickness.

No features of archaeological interest were recorded in Trench 16.

## **7.0 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION**

The Archaeological Trial trench evaluation on land south of Shop Street, Worlingworth, Suffolk, identified archaeological features in one of the sixteen trenches. The features included a linear ditch [1206] and a large pit [1200] recorded in Trench 12.

The ditch remains undated but is aligned north-to-south respecting the general orientation of extant field boundaries in the locality. This suggests a medieval or post-medieval date for the ditch. The large pit [1206] was probably excavated to extract the underlying natural clay for use in pottery or tile production. An assemblage of twelve sherds of pottery recovered from the upper fill of the pit provide a 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> century for the pit.

The near absence of subsurface cut features and the total absence of artefacts in the plough soil older than the nineteenth century, suggests that the development site is located in an area which was not attractive to settlement or agricultural activity prior to arable farming in the later post-medieval period. Historical and cartographic evidence indicates that the development site falls within but close to the north edge of common land formerly known as Great Green (Wilson et al 2006). The green was enclosed in 1832. The common land, generally utilized for livestock grazing and for resource gathering such as wood, is unlikely to have been settled or divided into parcels of land prior to enclosure. The common first recorded in the mid thirteenth century probably could have Anglo-Saxon origins and may explain the absence of Anglo-Saxon features and rarity of medieval and post-medieval features. The clay geology of the locality may have proved a hindrance to settlement and arable agriculture in earlier times owing to the difficulty in working the clay soils. The susceptibility of the land to flooding, as demonstrated during the current work, may have also served to deter settlement and agricultural activity.

## **8.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The author of this report would like to thank Matthew baker of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service for his assistance in ensuring a successful outcome to the project. Thanks also to Sue Anderson for production of the ceramics report and to Godfrey Pratt for metal detecting on the site.

## **9.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

BGS 1991 East Anglia Sheet 52N 00 Quaternary Natural Environment Research Council

Wilson et al (2006) *Worlingworth Parish Plan*. Worlingworth Parish Council.

## **10.0 PROJECT/ ARCHIVE DETAILS**

### **10.1 Project Information**

SITE CODE: WGW 045

PLANNING APPLICATION No: DC/17/04689/OUT

FIELD OFFICER: Gary Trimble

NGR: TM 21844 68490

CIVIL PARISH: Worlingworth

DATES OF INTERVENTION: 12<sup>th</sup> October to 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020

TYPE OF INTERVENTION: Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

UNDERTAKEN FOR: Flagship Housing Ltd

### **10.2 Archive Details**

PRESENT LOCATION: Witham Archaeology, 2 High Street, Ruskington, Sleaford, Lincolnshire NG349DT

FINAL LOCATION: Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service

MUSEUM ACCESSION No.:

ACCESSION DATE: TBC

#### ***The Site Archive Comprises:***

Context Records	44
Plans at Scale 1:20	0
Section Drawings at Scale 1:20	3 sheets 7 sections
Digital Photographs	61

*It is intended that transfer of the archive in accordance with current published requirements will be undertaken following completion of this project.*

## ***COLOUR PLATES***



*Plate 1: General view of development area facing southwest.*



*Plate 2: General view of development area facing northeast*



*Plate 3: General view of development area facing northwest.*



*Plate 4: General view of Trench 1, scale 1 x 1m*



*Plate 5: General view of Trench 2, scale 1 x 1m*



*Plate 6: General view of Trench 3, scale 1 x 1m*



*Plate 7: General view of Trench 4, scale 1 x 1m*



*Plate 8: General view of Trench 5, scale 1 x 1m*



*Plate 9: General view of Trench 6, scale 1 x 1m*



*Plate 10: General view of Trench 7, scale 1 x 1m*





*Plate 11: General view of Trench 8, scale 1 x 1m*



*Plate 12: General view of Trench 9, scale 1 x 1m*



*Plate 13: General view of Trench 10, scale 1 x 1m*



*Plate 14: General view of Trench 11 facing north, scale 1 x 1m*



*Plate 15: General view of south part Trench 12 facing , scale 1 x 1m*



*Plate 16: General view of Trench 12 north extension south, scale 1 x 1m*



*Plate 17: General view of Ditch [1206] facing north, scale 1 x 1m*



*Plate 18: General view of Clay Extraction Pit [1200] facing north, scale 1 x 1m*



*Plate 19: General view of Trench 13 facing south, scale 1 x 1m*



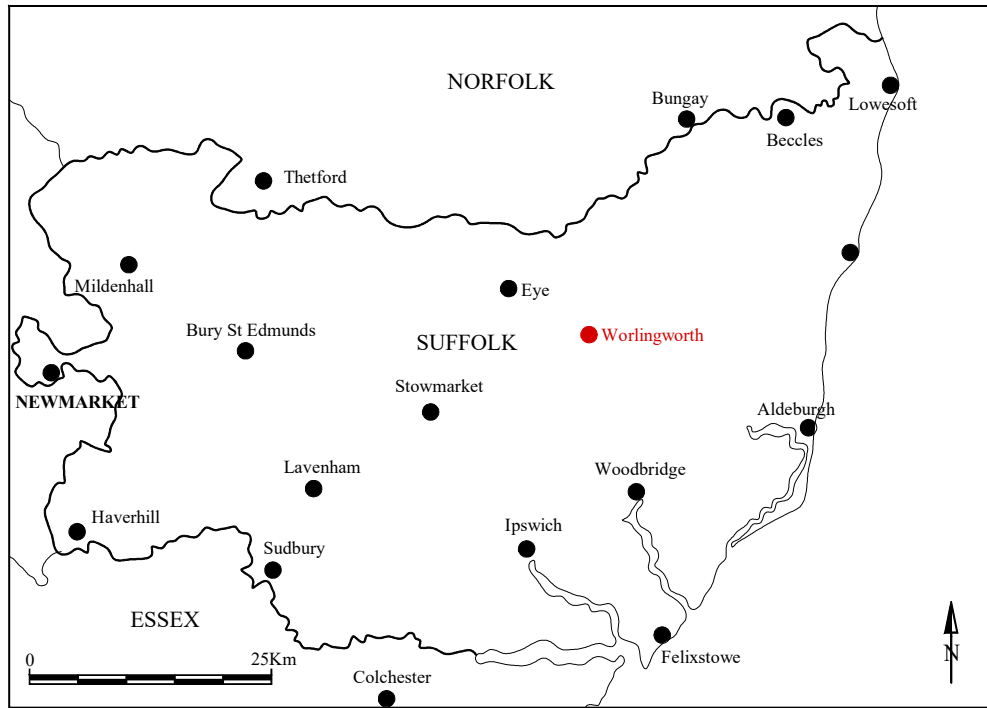
*Plate 20: General view of Trench 14 facing east, scale 1 x 1m*



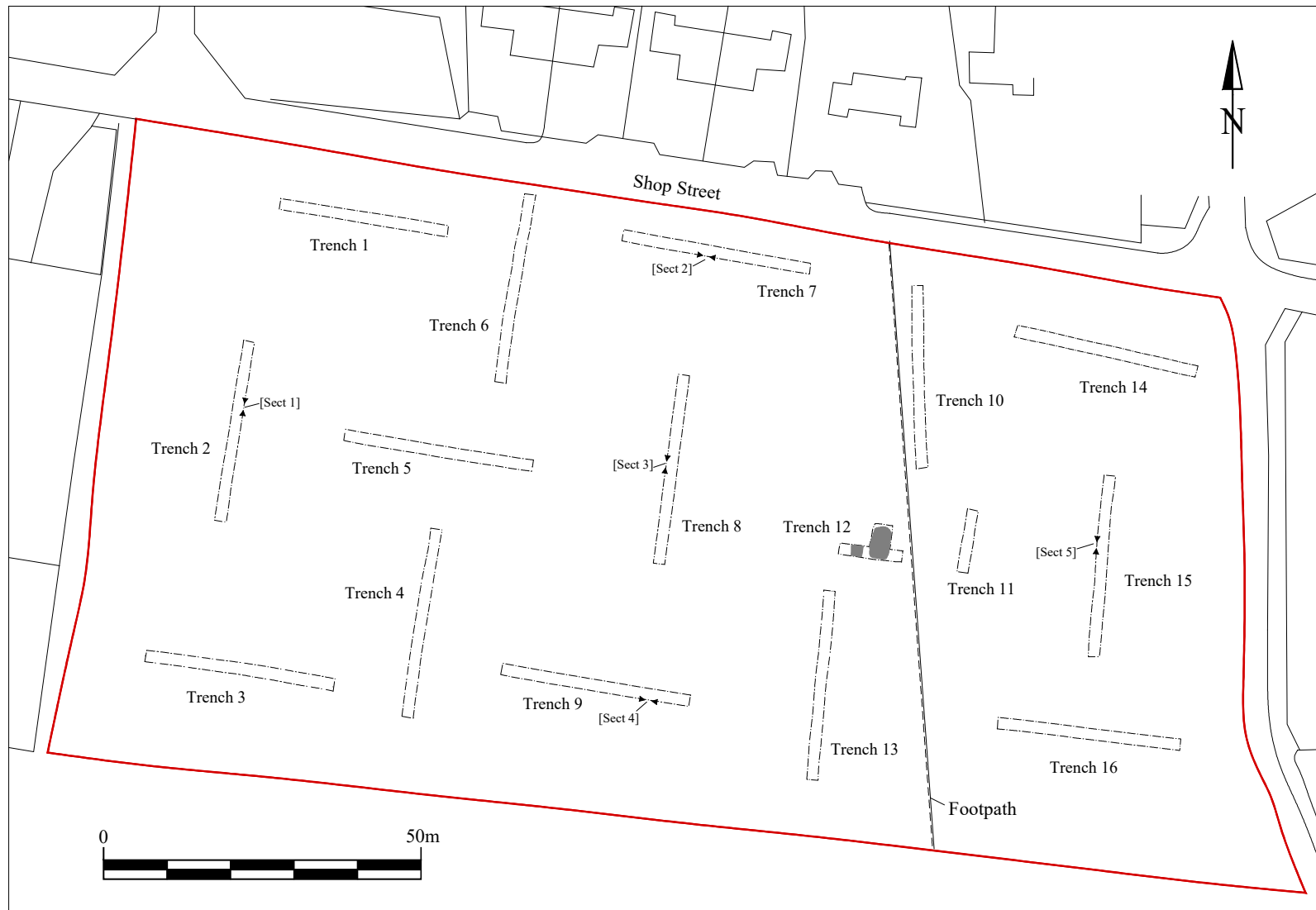
*Plate 21: General view of Trench 15 facing north, scale 1 x 1m*



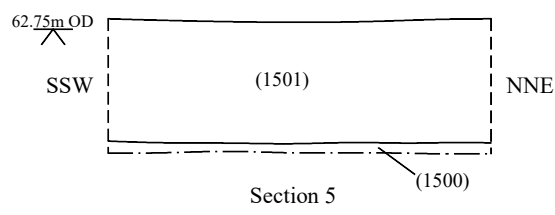
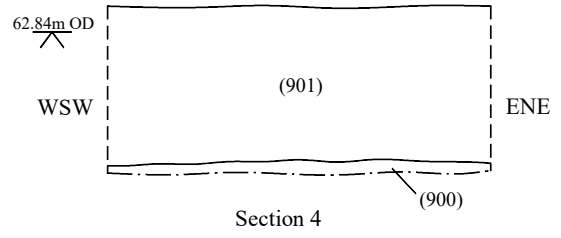
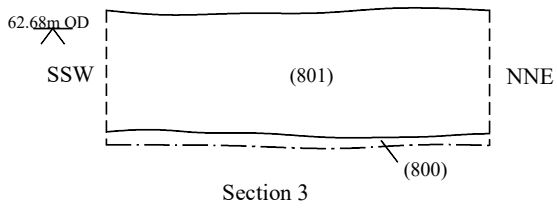
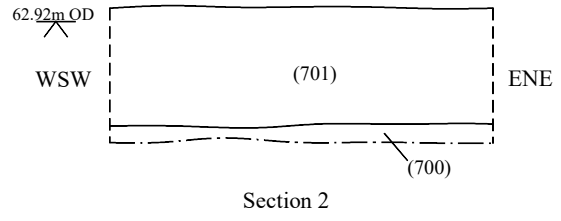
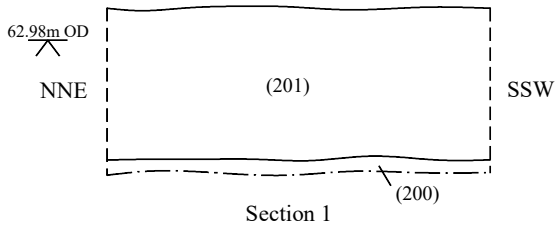
*Plate 22: General view of Trench 16 looking east northwest, scale 1 x 1m*

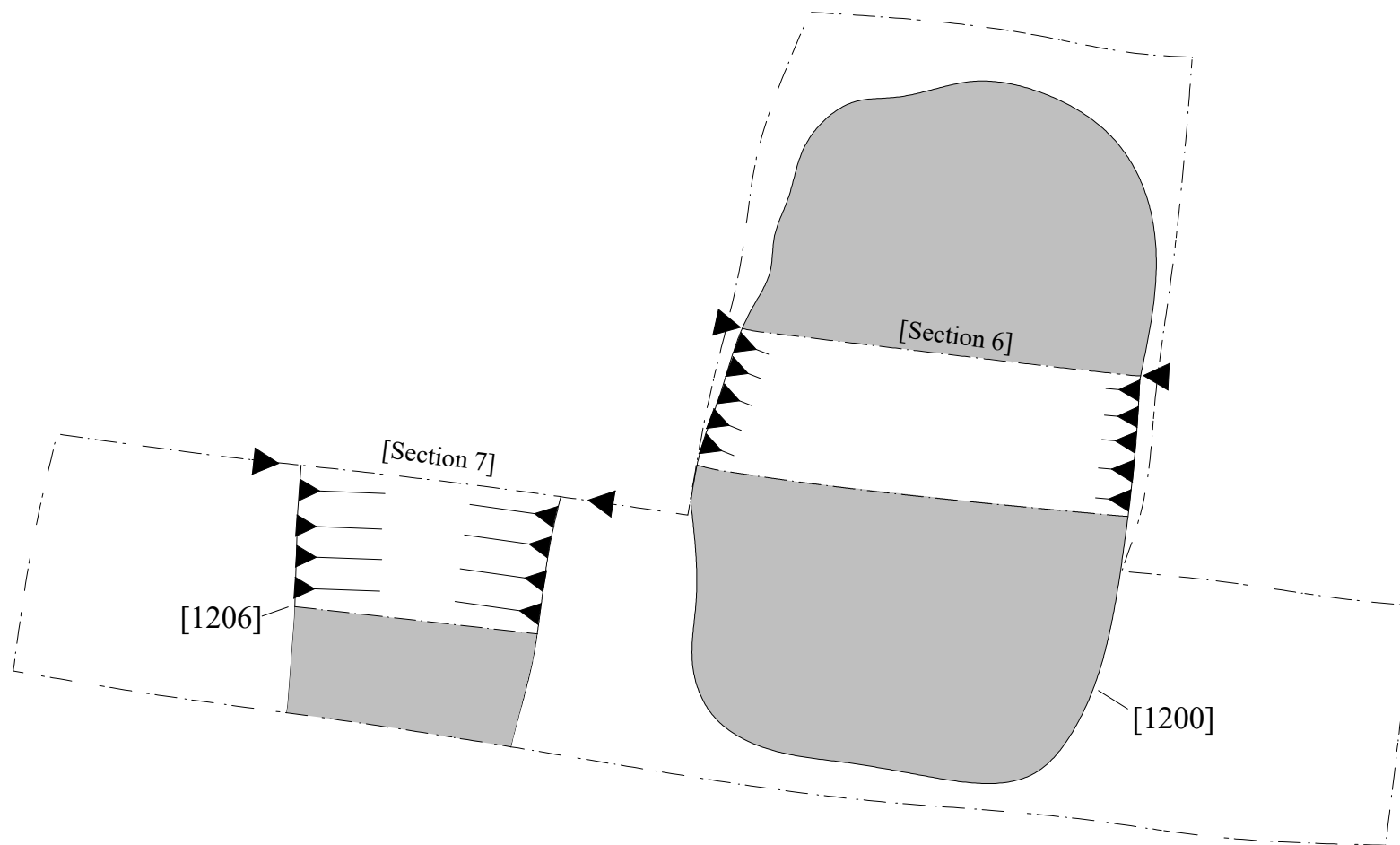


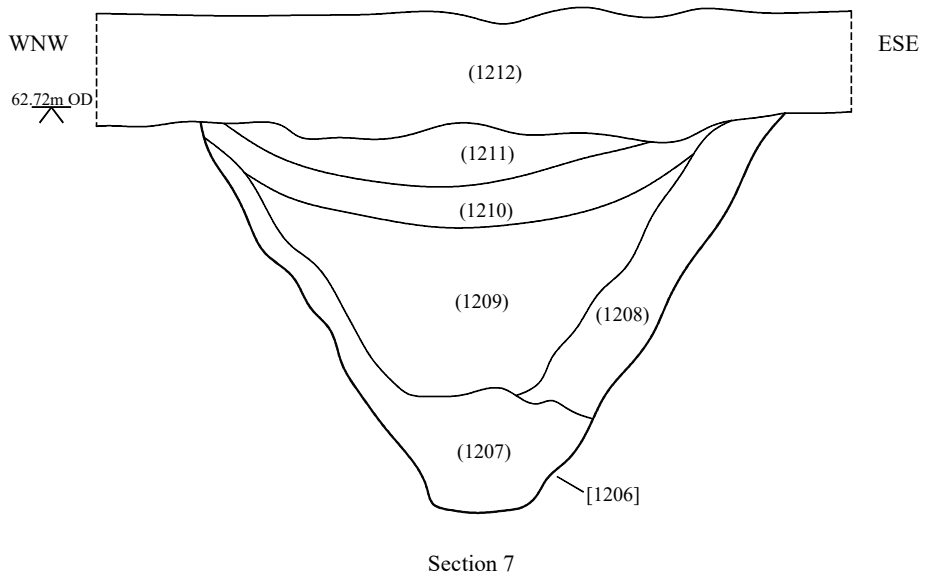
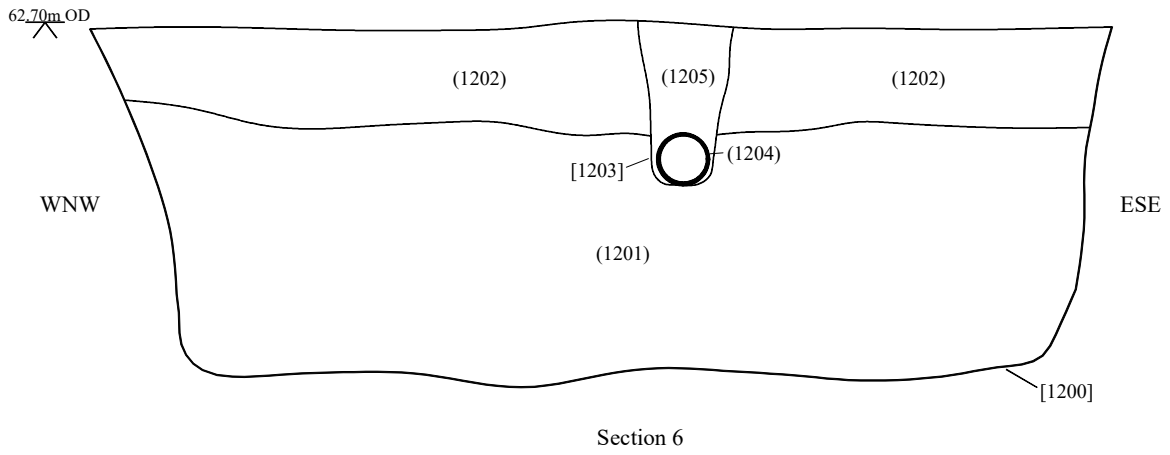
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## Appendix A. Context Descriptions

<i>Context</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Description</i>
100	Trench 1	Natural material in Trench 1	Mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional and flecks and fragments of chalk.
101	Trench 1	Topsoil in Trench 1	Mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.35m in thickness
200	Trench 2	Natural material in Trench 2	Mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional and flecks and fragments of chalk.
201	Trench 2	Topsoil in Trench 2	Mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.40m in thickness
300	Trench 3	Natural material in Trench 3	Mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional and flecks and fragments of chalk.
301	Trench 3	Topsoil in Trench 3	Mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.35m in thickness
400	Trench 4	Natural material in Trench 4	Mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional and flecks and fragments of chalk.
401	Trench 4	Topsoil in Trench 4	Mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.35m in thickness
500	Trench 5	Natural material in Trench 5	Mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional and flecks and fragments of chalk.
501	Trench 5	Topsoil in Trench 5	Mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.30m in thickness
600	Trench 6	Natural material in Trench 6	Mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional and flecks and fragments of chalk.
601	Trench 6	Topsoil in Trench 6	Mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.35m in thickness

700	Trench 7	Natural material in Trench 7	Mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional and flecks and fragments of chalk.
701	Trench 7	Topsoil in Trench 7	Mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.30m in thickness
800	Trench 8	Natural material in Trench 8	Mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional and flecks and fragments of chalk.
801	Trench 8	Topsoil in Trench 8	Mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.30m in thickness
900	Trench 9	Natural material in Trench 9	Mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional and flecks and fragments of chalk.
901	Trench 9	Topsoil in Trench 9	Mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.35m in thickness
1000	Trench 10	Natural material in Trench 10	Mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional and flecks and fragments of chalk.
1001	Trench 10	Topsoil in Trench 10	Mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.40m in thickness
1100	Trench 11	Natural material in Trench 11	Mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional and flecks and fragments of chalk.
1101	Trench 11	Topsoil in Trench 11	Mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.35m in thickness
1200	Trench 12	Cut of clay extraction pit	Large rectangular shaped pit which measured 5.06m in length north-to-south and 2.70m in width east-to-west. It had a depth of 0.95m. The side of the pit were mostly steeply inclined but vertical in places. The base was flat.
1201	Trench 12	Primary fill of Pit [1200]	Light to mid yellowish brown silty clay which included occasional quantities of small stones. It measured 2.48m in maximum width and had a maximum depth of 0.70m.
1202	Trench 12	Upper fill of Pit [1200]	Light grey silty clay which included frequent quantities of chalk flecks and fragments and occasional flint fragments.

1203	Trench 12	Cut of land drain	Linear north-to-south orientated cut. It measured 0.25m in width and had a depth of 0.43m. The sides of the cut were very steep whilst the base was flat.
1204	Trench 12	Ceramic land drain	Clay drain which measured 0.15m in diameter.
1205	Trench 12	Fill of land drain	Rounded shingle to base of cut and mid yellow clay in the upper parts of the cut.
1206	Trench 12	Cut of ditch	Linear north-to-south orientated ditch which measured 1.52m in width and 1.01m in depth. The sides of the cut were steep whilst the base was narrow and flat.
1207	Trench 12	Primary fill of Ditch [1206]	Mid to dark grey silt which included occasional quantities of small rounded stones and chalk flecks. It measured 1.04m in width and had a depth of 0.92m. It filled the base of the ditch and lines the west side.
1208	Trench 12	Secondary fill of Ditch [1206]	Mid yellowish grey silty clay which included occasional small rounded stones. It measured 0.22m in width and had a depth of 0.77m. The deposit lined the east side of the ditch.
1209	Trench 12	Secondary fill of Ditch [1206]	Light to mid yellowish brown silt which included occasional small pebbles. It measured 1.18m in width and had a depth of 0.45m.
1210	Trench 12	Secondary fill of Ditch [1206]	Light to mid brown silty clay which measured 1.38m in width and had a depth of 0.13m.
1211	Trench 12	Upper fill of Ditch [1206]	Light brown silty clay which measured 1.12m in width and had a depth of 0.16m.
1212	Trench 12	Topsoil in Trench 12	Mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.35m in thickness
1213	Trench 12	Natural material in Trench 12	Mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional and flecks and fragments of chalk.
1300	Trench 13	Natural material in Trench 13	Mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional and flecks and fragments of chalk.
1301	Trench 13	Topsoil in Trench 13	Mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.30m in thickness
1400	Trench 14	Natural material in Trench 14	Mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional and flecks and fragments of chalk.
1401	Trench 14	Topsoil in Trench 14	Mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.40m in thickness
1500	Trench 15	Natural material in Trench 15	Mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized

			rounded stones. It also included occasional and flecks and fragments of chalk.
1501	Trench 15	Topsoil in Trench 15	Mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.30m in thickness
1600	Trench 16	Natural material in Trench 16	Mid-brownish yellow clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It also included occasional and flecks and fragments of chalk.
1601	Trench 16	Topsoil in Trench 16	Mid-brownish grey clay which included occasional quantities of small and medium sized rounded stones. It measured 0.35m in thickness

## Appendix B. Finds Report

Sue Anderson

Twelve sherds of pottery weighing 185g were collected from the upper fill of an extraction pit (1202).

Quantification was carried out using sherd count, weight, estimated vessel equivalent (eve) and minimum number of vessels (MNV). A full quantification by fabric, context and feature is available in the archive. All fabric codes were assigned from the Suffolk post-Roman fabric series (Anderson 2020). Form terminology follows MPRG (1998). Recording uses a system of letters for fabric codes together with number codes for ease of sorting in database format. The results were input directly onto an Access database, which forms the archive catalogue.

Table 1 shows the quantification by fabric; a summary catalogue is included as Appendix 1.

Description	Fabric	Date range	No	Wt/g	Eve	MNV
Waveney Valley sandy ware	WVSW	12th-14th c.	2	18		2
Waveney Valley coarseware micaceous	WVCWM	12th-14th c.	3	13		3
South Cove medieval coarseware	SCVMCW	13th-14th c.?	1	7		1
Medieval east Suffolk coarseware chalky	MESCWC	12th-14th c.	3	17		1
Grimston glazed ware	GRIM	L.12th-14th c.	3	130		1
<b>Totals</b>			<b>12</b>	<b>185</b>		<b>8</b>

Table 1. Pottery quantification by fabric.

All sherds were of high medieval date and include common types from the north-east of Suffolk. No rims were recovered but it is likely that most of the coarsewares represented cooking pots (jars) as they were sooted. Three bases were recovered, but there were no rims. The Grimston sherds comprised three joining pieces of a green-glazed jug handle/body. These appeared to be in the typical Grimston fabric, although the vessel had a pale cream surface (which can occur on Grimston ware jugs) and occasional inclusions of rounded chalk – the latter is not a common feature of Grimston and it may be that the jug was made more locally. The group is likely to be of 13th/14th-century date.

### References

Anderson, S., 2020, *Suffolk Medieval Pottery Fabric Series*, available: [suffolkmedpot.co.uk](http://suffolkmedpot.co.uk), accessed 6/1/21

MPRG, 1998, *A Guide to the Classification of Medieval Ceramic Forms*. Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 1.

### Appendix 1: pottery

Context	Fabric	Type	No	Wt/g	MNV	Form	Spot date
1202	GRIM	DH	3	130	1	JG	
1202	MESCWC	U	3	17	1		
1202	SCVMCW	U	1	7	1		
1202	WVCWM	U	1	3	1		
1202	WVCWM	B	2	10	2		
1202	WVSW	B	1	8	1		
1202	WVSW	U	1	10	1		



## Appendix A. OASIS Summary Form

OASIS ID: withamar1-417374

### Project details

Project name	Land South of Shop Street, Worlingworth, Suffolk. Archaeological Trial trench Evaluation
Short description of the project	An Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation was undertaken on land south of Shop Street, Worlingworth, Suffolk. The area of the proposed development comprises approximately 1.6ha of open agricultural land located at the west periphery of the village and 1.6km west of the medieval church of St Mary. Historical research shows that the site lies at the fringe of a former green which was probably established in the 13th century. Cartographic evidence and prior subsurface archaeological interventions have recorded evidence of medieval and post-medieval occupation at other areas situated on the edge of the green. Sixteen trenches were excavated as part of the project, randomly distributed to achieve maximum coverage of the proposed development area. Overall, the results of the work indicates that archaeological features are rare on the site. Only one trench (Trench 12) contained features represented by an undated linear ditch and a clay extraction pit of 13th or 14th century date. No artefacts definitively earlier than the 19th century were recovered from the plough soil. In summary, it would appear that the land was free of occupation or arable agriculture until the mid 19th century when the land was enclosed.
Project dates	Start: 12-10-2020 End: 11-11-2020
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	WGW 045 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 13 - Waste ground
Monument type	DITCH Uncertain
Monument type	CLAY PIT Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Metal Detectors","Sample Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK MID SUFFOLK WORLINGWORTH Land South of Shop Street, Worlingworth, Suffolk

Postcode	IP13 7GX
Study area	1.6 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 21844 68490 52.269205545747 1.251796847521 52 16 09 N 001 15 06 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 62.52m Max: 62.74m

### Project creators

Name of Organisation	Witham Archaeology Ltd
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Gary Trimble
Project director/manager	Gary Trimble
Project supervisor	Gary Trimble
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Flagship Housing

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service
Paper Contents	"Ceramics"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Report", "Survey "

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land South of Shop Street, Worlingworth, Suffolk. Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Trimble, G
Other bibliographic details	433

Date	2021
Issuer or publisher	Witham Archaeology Ltd
Place of issue or publication	Sleaford
Description	A4 loosebound
Entered by	Gary Trimble (gary.trimble@withamarchaeology.co.uk)
Entered on	15 March 2021

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