

**Archaeological Evaluation  
Pit Barn Pit Lane  
Hoxne  
Suffolk**

**Prepared for:**  
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## Site References

Site Code:	HXN 155
Planning Ref.	No: DC/21/01926
OASIS:	dennispa1-512279
N.G.R.	TM 161 745

## **Summary**

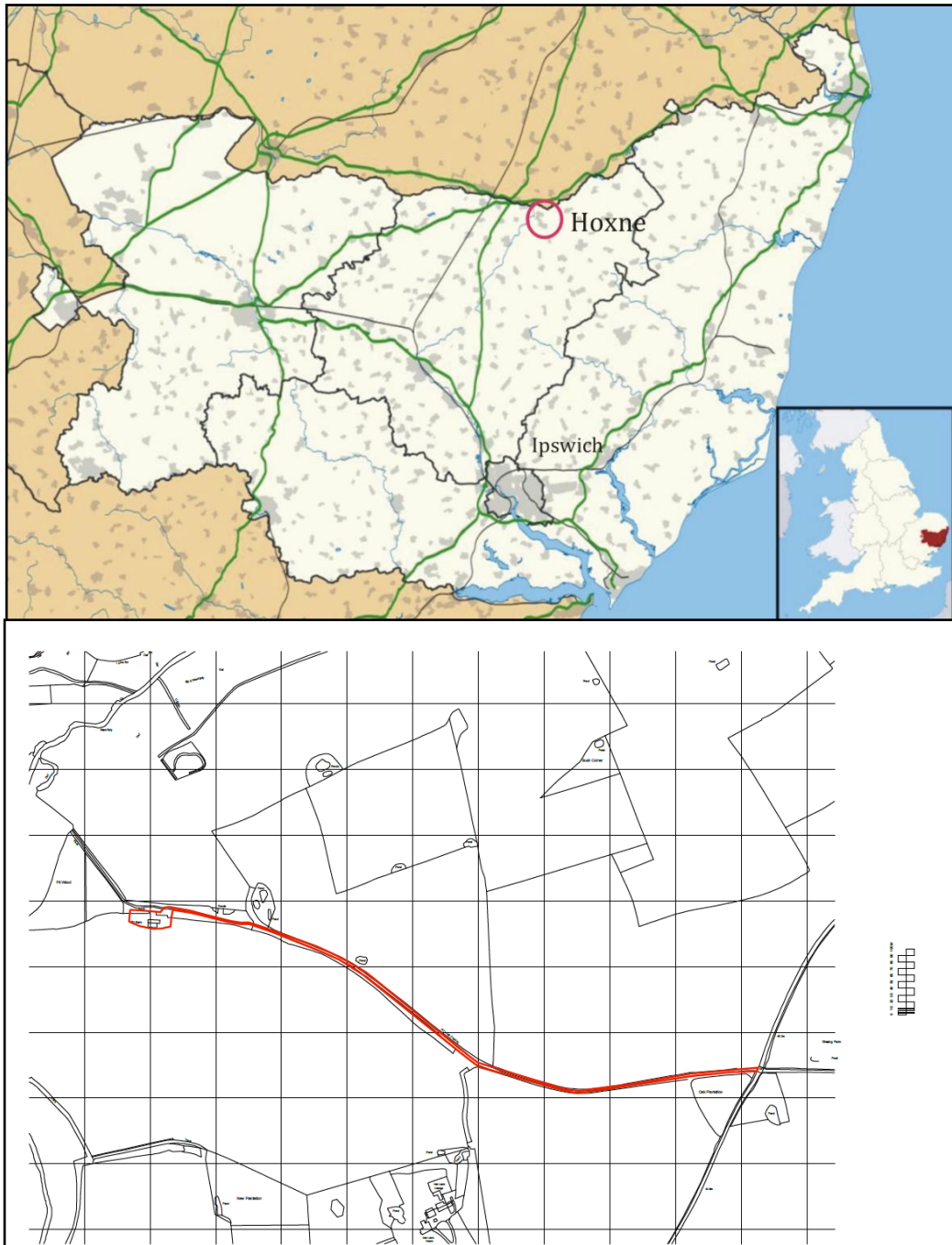
An archaeological evaluation was carried by trial trenching; the work was carried out in response to an archaeological brief written by James Rolfe of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services Conservation Team, dated 16th of April 2021.

Two evaluation trenches, one trench, in front of the barn was 17.50m long by 1.80m wide, and covered the footprint of the proposed new dwelling. A further trench was excavated totalling 11m long by 1.80m wide, was excavated to cover the footprint of the proposed new cartlodge and parking area.

No archaeology was located in either of the two evaluation trenches.

# 1. Site Location Description and Geology

N.G.R. TM 161 745



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**Figure 1. Hoxne and site location**

### **1.1 Site Location and Description**

Hoxne is a village and civil parish in mid-Suffolk, England. It is in the authority of Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council . The village lies in the extreme north of the county, and is situated amidst open arable countryside. The site lies in remote countryside, 2 miles to the south-east of the village of Hoxne.

### **1.2 Geology**

The geology of Hoxne is described as: a complex geology with several interfaces of geological events comprising of sand, sandy clay, riverine deposits, converging along the Waveney valley. (B.G.S. mapping)

Hoxne gives its name to an interglacial event known as the *Hoxnian stage*, an epoch in the *Pleistocene period*

## **2. Planning Background**

2.1 Planning permission has been granted with the following conditions relating to archaeological investigation:

### **8. PART 1 - ACTION REQUIRED PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF CONVERSION OR BUILDING CONSTRUCTION - ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

No works of conversion or building construction shall take place until a scheme of archaeological evaluation of the site has been submitted to and approved in writing by

the Local Planning Authority (including any demolition needing to be carried out as necessary in order to carry out the evaluation). The evaluation shall be carried out in

its entirety as may be agreed to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority

### **9. PART 2 - ACTION REQUIRED PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF WORKS OF CONVERSION OR BUILDING CONSTRUCTION - ARCHAEOLOGICAL WRITTEN INVESTIGATION**

No works of conversion or building construction shall take place until a written report

on the results of the archaeology evaluation of the site has been submitted to the Local

Planning Authority and that confirmation by the Local Planning Authority has been provided that no further investigation work is required in writing.

Should the Local Planning Authority require further investigation and works, no works

of conversion shall take place on site until the implementation of a full programme of

archaeological work has been secured, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

The scheme of investigation shall include an assessment of significance and research questions; and:

- a. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording.
- b. The programme for post investigation assessment.
- c. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording.
- d. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation.
- e. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation.
- f. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.
- g. The site investigation shall be completed prior to development, or in such other phased arrangement, as agreed and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

#### 10. PART 3 - ACTION REQUIRED PRIOR TO THE FIRST OCCUPATION OF DEVELOPMENT - ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS

No building shall be occupied until the archaeology evaluation, and if required the Written Scheme of Investigation, have been completed, submitted to and approved, in writing, by the Local Planning Authority. Furthermore, no building shall be occupied until analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition from the archaeology investigations as agreed under the Written Scheme of Investigation has taken place, unless an alternative agreed timetable or phasing for the provision of results is agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

This condition complies with the National Planning Policy Framework (**NPPF, 2021**).

### **3. Archaeological Background**

The brief for this project states: '**Below Ground Heritage Assets:** *This site lies in an area of archaeological potential recorded on the County Historic Environment Record, in close proximity to an intensive and extensive Roman and Anglo-Saxon artifact scatter (HXN 051). As a result, there is high potential for the discovery of below-ground heritage assets of archaeological importance within this area, and groundworks associated with the development.*' (Brief for this project; James Rolfe, SCCAS 2021).

## **4. Results**

### **4.1 Fieldwork**

The Trenches was drawn to a scale of 1:50; sections of the trenches were drawn to a scale of 1:10.

A metal detector survey was carried out at all stages of the project.

A digital image archive was produced and will form part of the site record to be curated at SCCAS Hollow Road Bury St Edmunds.

Site plans and sections were digitized to archive standard, reduced versions of which are included in this report.

The evaluation was carried out using standard practices in archaeology to ACIfA standards. The work also considered the eastern counties frameworks standards as laid down in: Medlycott, M. 2011 *Research and Archaeology Revised: A Revised Framework for the East of England East Anglian*. Archaeology. Occ. Paper. 24.

### **4.2 The Evaluation Trenches**

Two trenches were excavated to cover the development area. Trench (1.) was 17.50 metres by 1.80m, this trench was excavated over the footprint of the proposed new dwelling on an east-west orientation. No archaeology was found within this trench.

Trench (2) was dissected by a large existing ditch and was therefore in two parts. Trench 2a was excavated to the north of the ditch on a north-south orientation and was 5m long by 1.80m wide; no archaeology was found within this section of the trench. Trench 2b was excavated south of the ditch and was 6m long by 1.80m wide; no archaeology was found within this area of the trench (se fig. 2).

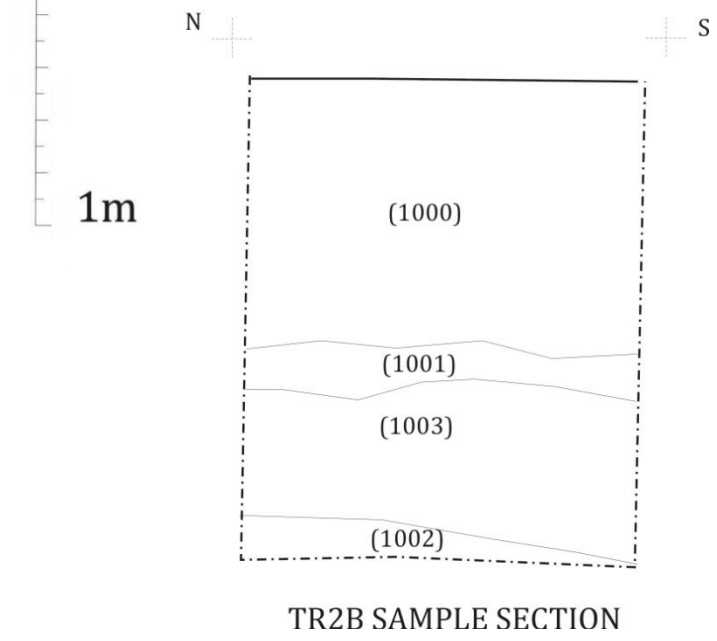
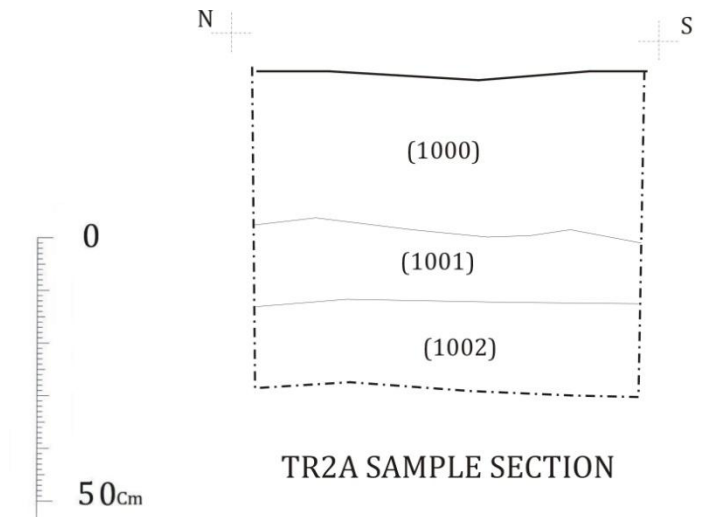
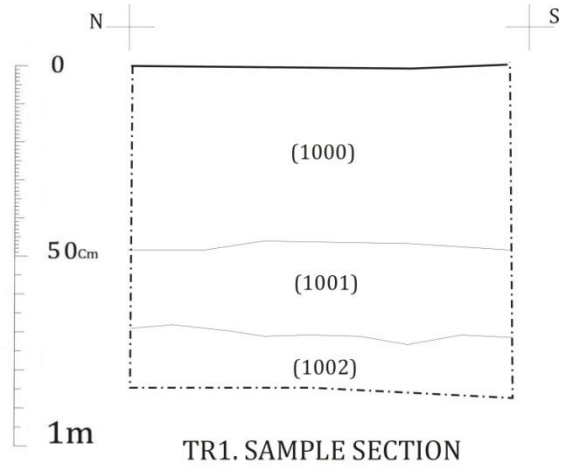
### **4.3 Contexts**

In trench (1) the top soil (1000) was 0.50m deep in trench 1; sub-soil, a light brownish silt (1001) was 0.25m deep; the natural was revealed at 0.80m depth and was a light brown sandy clay.

In trench (2) the top soil (1000) was 0.75m deep,; the sub-soil was 0.10m deep; a redeposited dark earth (1003) was possibly the result of ditch back-fill; the natural was revealed at 1.15m.







## **5. Interpretation and Discussion**

In spite of the artefact scatter, of some sizeable proportions, to the immediate north of the development site, no archaeology was found. This may suggest that the centre of activity remains to the north of the development's location.

## **6. Conclusion**

This evaluation was therefore successful in demonstrating that no archaeology was present within the development area and therefore no archaeology will be compromised by the proposed development

## **7 . Archive Deposition**

*The paper and photographic archive will be held at the County Store, Suffolk County Council Archaeology, Bury Resource Centre, Hollow Road, Bury St Edmunds, IP32 7AY.*

A digital record and copies of the report can be viewed at The Historic Environment Record office, at the *Bury Resource Centre Hollow Road, Bury St Edmunds, IP32 7AY* and online at: <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/policy.html>.

## **8. Acknowledgements**

The author would like to thank George West who funded the project and commissioned this work.

This report for archaeological evaluation was written by Dennis Payne BA (Hons) ACIfA (Archaeoserv), who also managed the project and carried out the field-work.

James Rolfe of the SCCA/CT produced the brief for this project.

## **Bibliography**

**British Geological Society, sheets 208 & 225, 1990 DCLG, 2012.**

**National Planning Policy Framework.**

**DCLG, DCMS and English Heritage, 2010. PPS5 Planning for the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Practice Guide.**

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**Medlycott, M., (ed.) 2011, *Research and Archaeology Revisited: A Revised Framework for The East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 24**

## Appendix I: Digital Images



*Plate 1 Trench 1. looking west*





**Plate 2. Sample section in trench 1**



**Plate 3. Trench (2a) looking south**



**Plate 4. Trench 2a) sample section**



**Plate 5. Trench (2b) looking north**





**Plate 6. Sample section in trench (2b)**



**Plate 7. Overview of Tr1 area**





***Plate 8. Overview of Trench 1. area***



***Plate 9, Overview of Tr (2a, b) area***



