

**Continuous Archaeological Recording on land
Adjacent to Glendale Fen Lane
Botesdale Suffolk**

Grid reference: TM 046 75
Planning Application No: 2282/11
Oasis Ref: 124234
HER No: BOT 020

ARCHAEOSERV
(Dennis Payne Archaeological Services)
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Dennis Payne Archaeological Services
Commissioned by Mr Peter Foster

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Summary

This is a report for archaeological continuous archaeological recording in advance of the erection of a new dwelling. It has been written in response to an archaeological brief written by Sarah Poppy of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services Conservation Team, dated the 5th of October 2011.

Monitoring of the ground-works took place on the 13th of January 2012, and between the 19th-20th of March 2012, during which no archaeology was encountered.

1. Introduction

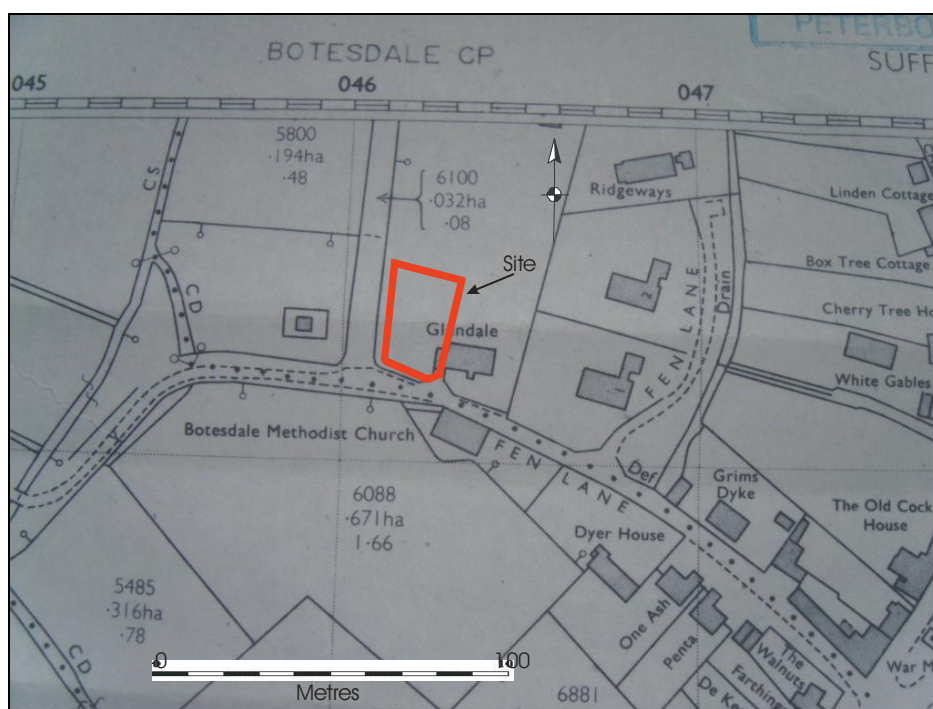
Planning permission (No. 2282/11) was granted by Mid Suffolk District Council for the construction of a new dwelling on land adjacent to Glendale Fen Lane Botesdale Suffolk.

The planning permission was granted, conditional upon an agreed programme of work taking place to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage asset before it is damaged or destroyed. This is in accordance with National Planning Policy Statement 5 (policy 12.3).

The development is located within an area of archaeological potential, recorded in the Suffolk Historic Environment Record. Finds of Bronze Age metalwork (HER ref RKN 035) have been recovered from the vicinity of the proposed development, which on the edge of the floodplain is situated in an area highly favoured for prehistoric activity. There is high potential for encountering archaeological remains at this location, given its topographic location and proximity to known sites. The proposed works would cause significant ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.



Figure 1. Botesdale Location



Ordnance Survey, licence No. 02813000

Figure 2. Site Location

Grid Reference: TM 046 759

Site Location and Geology

Botesdale is a village and civil parish in the Mid Suffolk district of Suffolk. The village is about 6 miles (10 km) south west of Diss. Botesdale is located about 25 miles from Norwich and 16 miles from Bury St Edmunds.

The site is located to the immediate north of Fen Lane, on the west side of the village.

The geology is deep loam to clay derived from the underlying chalky till of the Ashley Series (BGS 1990).

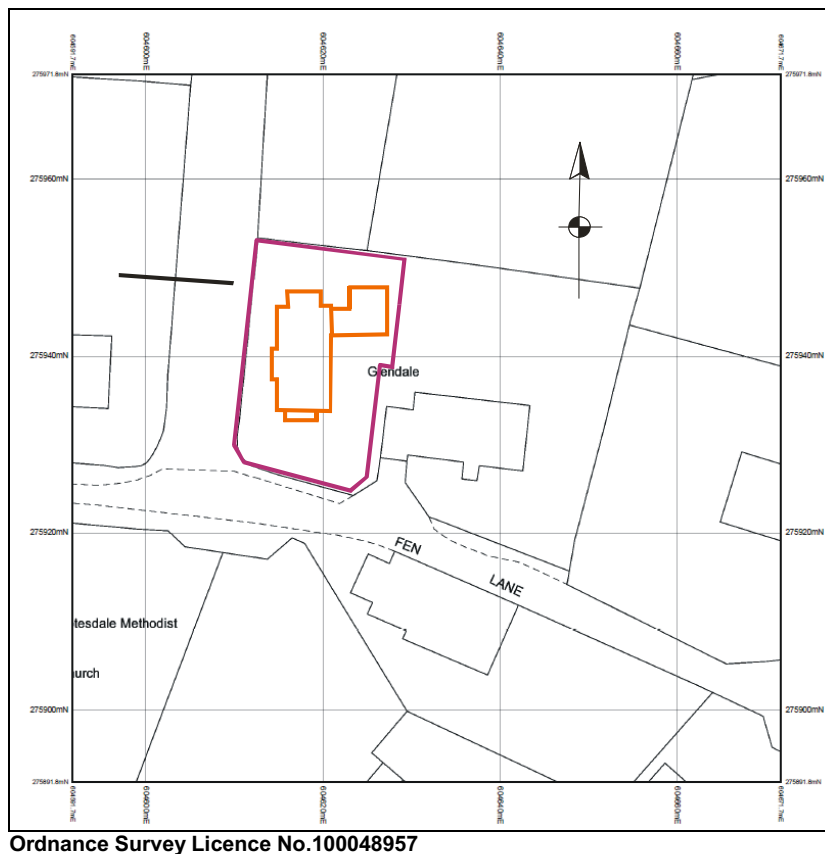


Figure 3. Modern Ordnance Survey map of site showing trench location, highlighted in orange. (Scale 1:1250)

Methodology

Fieldwork

A plan of the trench was drawn to a scale of 1:50; sections were drawn to a scale of 1:20.

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

A full photographic archive was produced consisting of colour slide, monochrome print and digital at 10 million pixels resolution, and will form part of the site record to be curated at Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds.

Relative site levels were taken from a TBM on the road adjacent the site; the section was recorded at 27.49 OD; the base of the trench at 27.24 OD and the top of the trench at 27.80 OD.

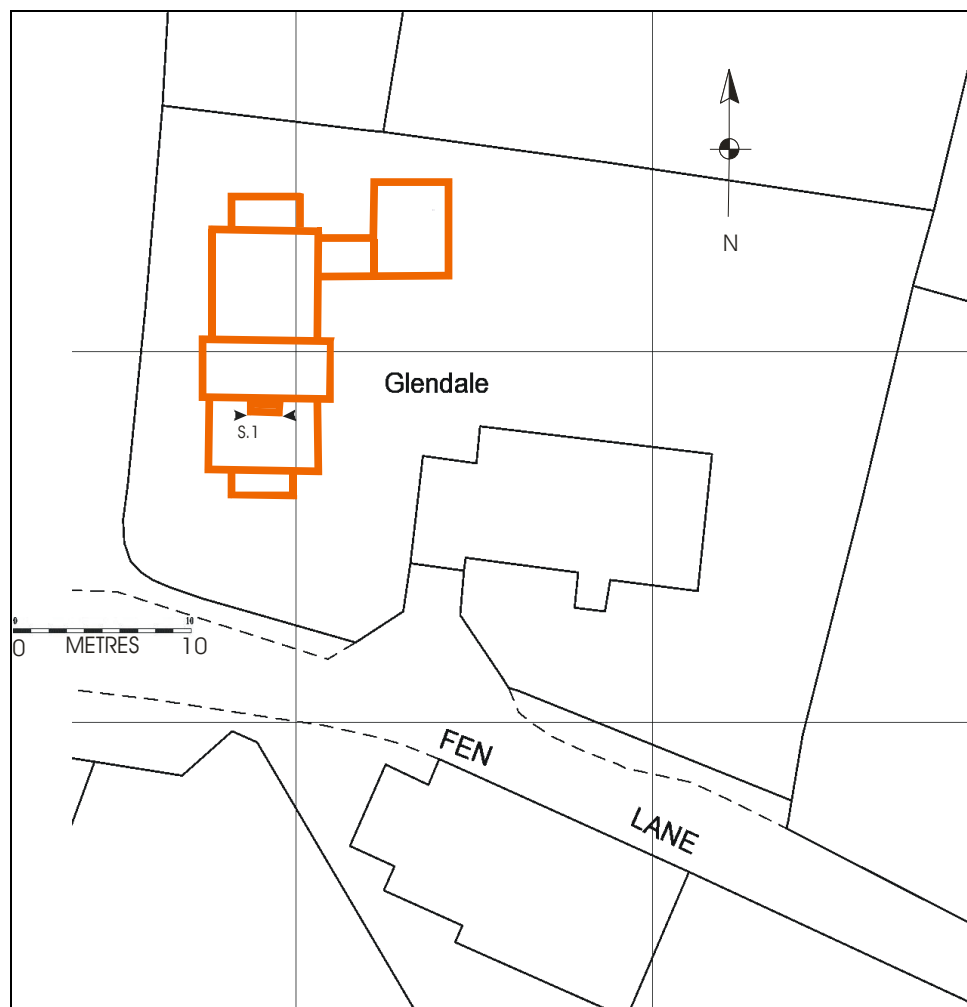


Figure 4. Trench and section locations

Results

A continuous trench was excavated by mechanical digger. All of the sections of the trench were inspected. No archaeology was located within any part of the continuous trench. No finds were found from metal detecting or from inspection of the up-cast soils.

Contexts

Context (01) was the top soil, a dark brown garden soil; (02) was a subsoil consisting of a dark brown silty soil; (03) was a further subsoil of yellowish-brown silt and the natural was (04) a greyish-yellow silty clay.

Discussion

In spite of the location of this site, on the fen edge, no archaeology was encountered. Continuous archaeological recording has shown that no archaeology was compromised during the excavation of the footings. No further work is recommended for this site.

Post Excavation

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

The author would like to thank Mr Peter Foster who commissioned and funded the archaeological work.

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

Bibliography

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ONLINE REFERENCES

PastScapes <http://www.pastscape.org/homepage/index.htm>

APPENDIX I: DIGITAL IMAGES



Plate 1. Pre excavation of site from the west



Plate 2. View of trench from the east



Plate 3. View of the trench from the south



Plate 4. Section 1 of trench from the north



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