

**Archaeological Evaluation on land rear of 349 High Road
Trimley St Martin Felixstowe
Suffolk**

Grid reference: TM 269 377

Planning Application No: DC 16/4080/FUL
HER no: TYN 147

Event No. ESF 25552
Oasis No.: 284862

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Summary

An archaeological evaluation was carried by trial trenching; the work was carried out in response to an archaeological brief written by Rachael Abraham of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services Conservation Team, dated 27th of April 2017.

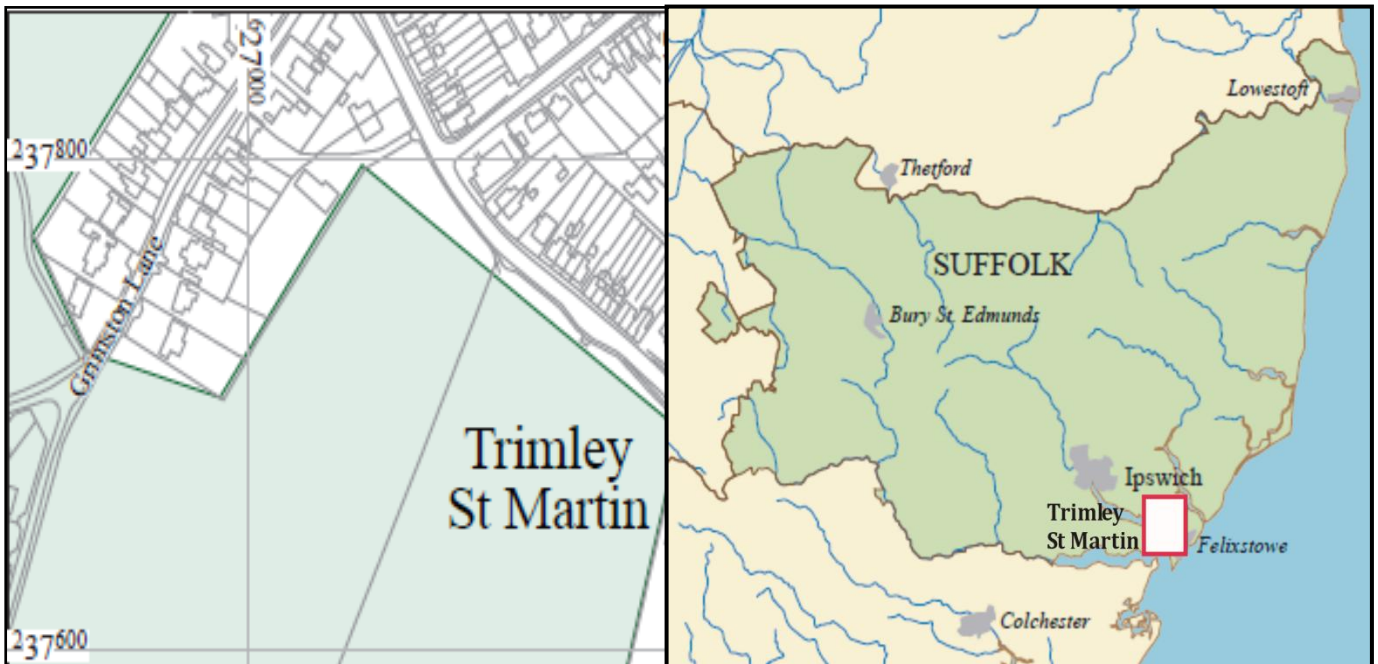
Two trenches, 10m long by 1.80m wide, were excavated to cover the footprints of the two new dwellings.

No other archaeology was noted within either of the two trenches.

1. Site Geology Location and Description

Grid Reference: TM 315 517

1.1 **Geology:** The underlying geology of the site comprises of sand and gravel with occasional windborne sands laid down during the post-glacial period. (BGS 208).



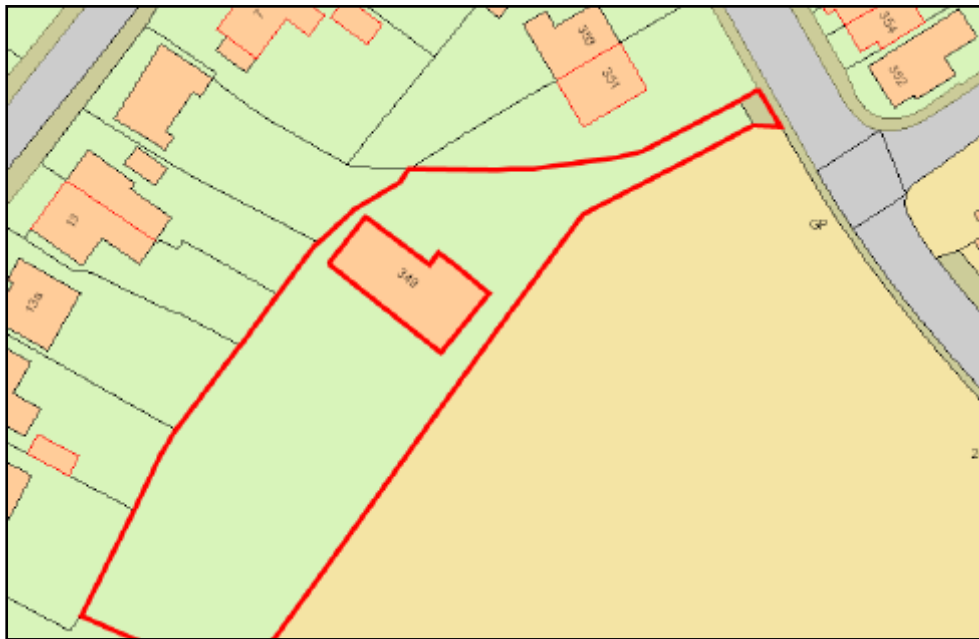
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Figure 1. Location of Trimley St Martin

1.2 The development site is located to the rear of 349 High Road Trimley St Martin within the core of the village.

The site lies on a level plateau at c. 25m OD, which overlooks the Trimley marshes and is adjacent to arable land to the east, to the north-west is housing along Grimston Lane.

2. Planning Background



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Figure 2. Block plan showing site location behind 349 High Road Trimley

2. Planning Background

The SCCA/CT brief states: `3. 1 *The below-ground works will cause ground disturbance that has potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.*

3.2 *The Planning Authority were advised that any consent should be conditional upon an agreed programme of work taking place before development begins in accordance with paragraph 141 of the National Planning Policy Framework, to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets (that might be present at this location) before they are damaged or destroyed.'* (SCCA/CT Brief, 2017).

In order to ensure that satisfactory arrangements are made for the investigation, retrieval and recording of any possible archaeological remains on the site and to comply with Policy of the Council's Local Plan, the condition states "No development shall take place within any part of the application site until the applicant, or developer has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved, in writing, by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To allow proper investigation and recording of the site, which is potentially of archaeological and historical significance. The Planning Authority has been advised that any consent should be conditional upon an agreed programme of archaeological investigation work taking place before development begins in accordance with the National Planning and Policy Framework (NPPF, DCLD 2012).

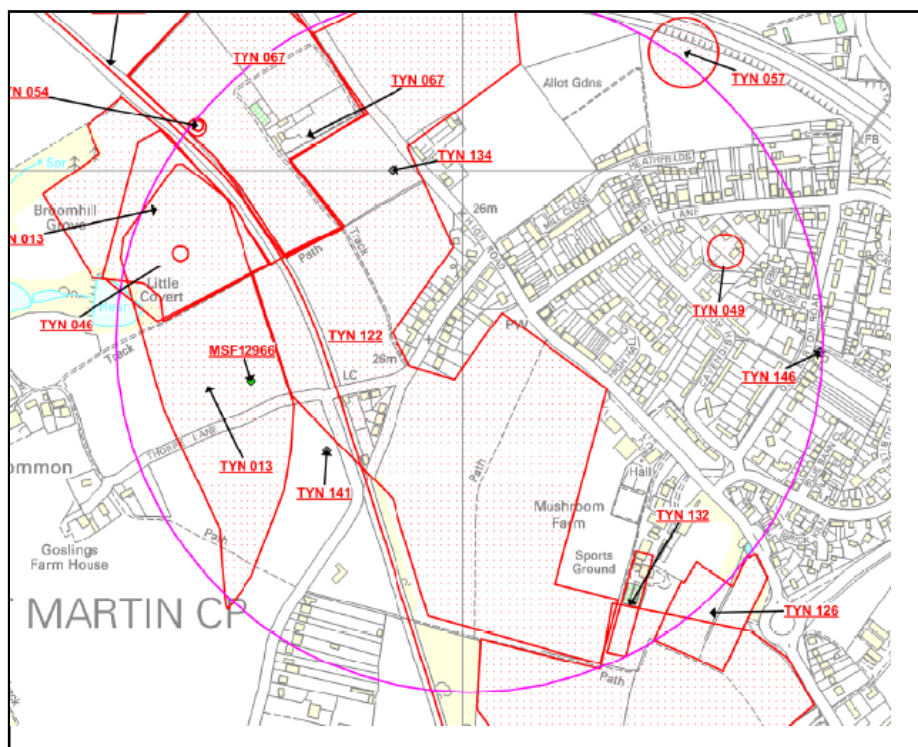
3. Archaeological and Historical Background

3.1 The Brief for this project, written by the SCCA/CT states: *'This application lies in an area of high archaeological potential recorded in the County Historic Environment Record. The development site is adjacent to an extensive area of cropmarks relating to prehistoric enclosures, field systems and trackways (HER no. TYN 122). As a result there is high potential for encountering heritage assets of archaeological interest in this area.'* (SCCA/CT Brief).

3.2 Table 1. Historic Environment Summary

HER ref.	Summary
TYN 020	St Martin's Church (Rectory), the parish church, a medieval establishment. Nave, chancel and north chapel of brick, with a west tower. Located in the same churchyard (divided) as St Mary's Church, Trimley St Mary. Recorded in Domesday Book, 'Lands of Roger Bigot - Tremlega - a church with 8 acres', mentioned in the Taxatio Ecclesiastica (c. 1291) and the Valor Ecclesiasticus of Henry VIII. Also the Norwich Taxation of 1254.
TYN 076	Neolithic polished flint axehead was discovered while digging several feet underground during building works for a new house behind the post office at Trimley St Mary, 1998. It is complete and in good condition with some damage to the butt and blade. Trapezoidal in shape, 124mm x 60mm x 33mm, 287g in weight.
TYN 122	A coaxial field system and trackways of possible late prehistoric or Roman date. Visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs to the west of Trimley, Trimley St Martin parish. The main axis of the field system is roughly north-east to south-east, very different to, and probably predating the surrounding current boundaries which are probably medieval and post-medieval in origin. A trackway up to 10 metres in width forms the main north-west to south-east axis. A small rectangular field or enclosure, circa 35 by 20 metres in size, can be seen at TM26893756. The field boundary continues to the north of the transcribed boundaries but was not plotted due to poor control on the available photographs. Probably extends up to (& includes?) TYN 067 to the northwest (boundary of site extended accordingly Jan 2007).
TYN 124	Rectangular pillbox based on the 'Suffolk square' design. Dates from the WW2.
TYN 125	Cropmarks visible on aerial photographs show field systems, trackways and numerous pits, some of the ditches are aligned on historical maps.
TYY 017	St Mary's Church (Rectory), a parish church, medieval establishment. Nave, chancel and ruinous west tower of c. 1430-1450. South porch. Located in the same churchyard (divided) as St Martin's Church, Trimley St Martin. Recorded in Domesday Book, 'Lands of Roger Bigot - Tremlega - a church with 20 acres'. Also mentioned in the Norwich Taxation of 1254; the Taxatio Ecclesiastica of c. 1291 and the Valor Ecclesiasticus of Henry VIII.
TYY 060	Indicative area of the historic settlement core of Trimley, defined from historic maps, the locations of listed buildings and artefact scatters. Includes two Domesday churches.

3.3 The data entries for Trimley St martin (c 500m search of development) reveal the existence of considerable field boundaries of probable prehistoric date which may also belong to the Roman period. Extensive field boundaries were noted by aerial photography and are recorded on the HER database as (HER ref: TYN 122). These lie immediately to the east and south east of the current development and may extend into that area. Other entries record finds from fieldwalking around Grimston lane of Roman and Saxon sherd scatters (TYN 013). An archaeological geophysics survey; evaluation and subsequent excavation, carried out at 300m to the east of the current development recorded ditches and pits from the Iron age and pre-historic period and is likely to be an extension of the evidence known from field boundaries immediately to the west as mentioned (Mushroom Farm development at Trimley St Martin - HER: ESF 24993, 24995 events - Land adjacent to The Mushroom Farm High Road Trimley St Martin, HER: TYN 126).



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Figure 3. Monuments locations (SCCA/CT Historic Environment Records)

3.4 Historical background

"Trimley St Martin a parish in the hundred of Colneis, county Suffolk is 8 miles S.E. of Ipswich, and 8 miles S. of Woodbridge. The village is situated between the rivers Orwell and Deben. It is one of a pair of villages, the other being Trimley St Mary; there are two churches situated side-by-side, one to serve St Martin and the other St Mary. The parish includes Stratton Hall and Grimston Hall, now a farmhouse. The latter was once the seat of Thomas Cavendish, the first English circumnavigator, who was born here. The living is a rectory in the diocese of Norwich, value £600. The church, dedicated to St. Martin, is situated in the same churchyard with that of Trimley St. Mary. St Mary was built by Thomas de Brotherton, natural son of Edward I., and has the mausoleum of the Barker family

4. Cartographic Information



Figure 3. Hodskinson's map of Trimley St Martin, 1783



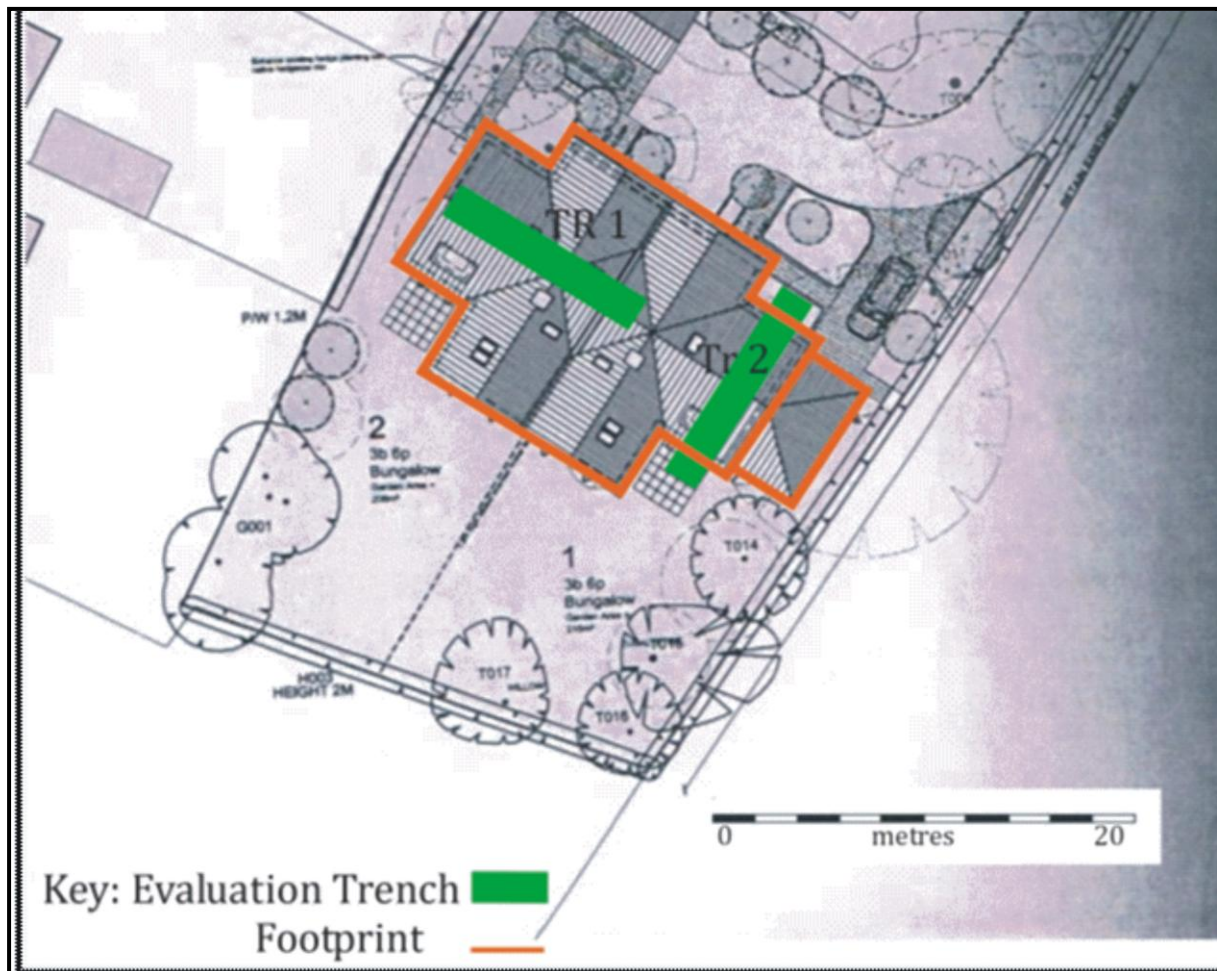
Figure 4. Ordnance Survey of Trimley St Martin, (2nd ed.)1904

5. Results

5.1 Fieldwork

Two trenches, 10m in length by 1.80 m width were excavated to cover the footprints of the two new dwellings.

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



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Figure 5. Trench Plan

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 Shire Hall, 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.

5.2 The Evaluation Trenches

Trench 1, 10m long by 1.80 m wide was excavated to cover the most northerly plot of the semi-detached development. No other archaeology was noted within this trench.

Trench 2, 10m long by 1.80 m wide was excavated to cover the most southerly plot of the semi-detached development. No archaeology was noted within this trench.

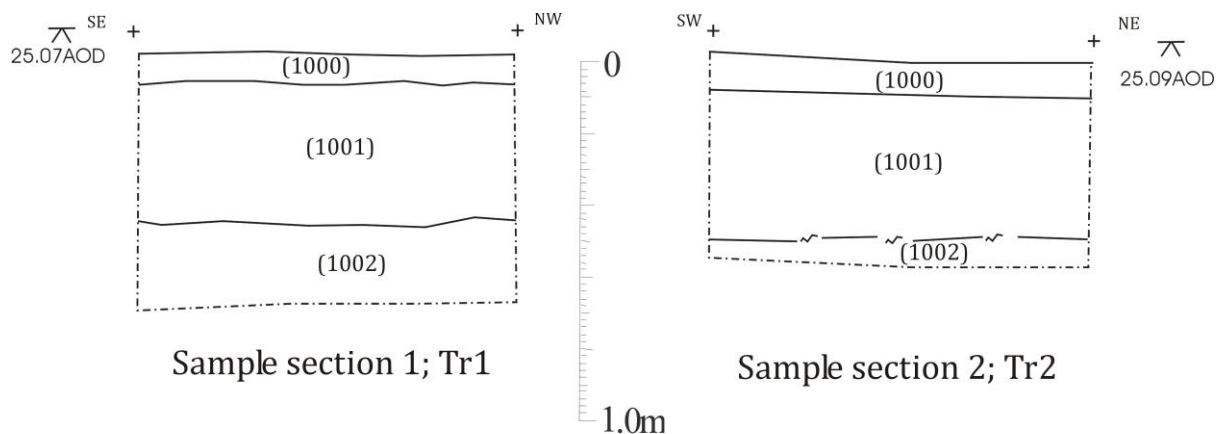
5.3 Contexts

No archaeological contexts were noted, only the deposit model as given in table 1. below.

Table 1.

context	description	comments
1000	Top soil; depth, 0.10m	truncated
1001	Sub soil; depth, 0.35m maximum	Sandy brown silt
1002	Natural sandy gravel, exposed depth, 0.27m	

5.4 Sections



8. Interpretation and Discussion

The site had potential for finding archaeology, being situated adjacent to undated cropmarks within the field to the south-east. The cropmarks, presumably from ditches forming field boundaries, did not continue into the development area and therefore must date to the medieval or post-medieval period. Prehistoric ditches would have presumably continued rather than ceasing at the present day field boundary.



AP data (SCC, HER) showing parallel ditches approaching the development site

No archaeology was noted within the two trenches.

9. 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.

10. 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>.

11. Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Alistair 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. Rachael Abraham of the SCCA/CT produced the brief for this project.

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Appendix I: Digital Images



Plate 1. Pre-excavtion of site



Plate 2. Trench 1 post-excavation



Plate 3. Trench 1, sample section



Plate 4. Trench 2 post-excavation



Plate 5. Trench 2. sample section
