



ENDOBEC, ST JOHN'S STREET, BECK ROW

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION





ENDOPEC, ST JOHN'S STREET, BECK ROW

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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Event No	ESF23677	OASIS	britanni1-244775
Planning Ref.	F/2013/0342/FUL	HER Invoice	9183655
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Abstract

On the 6th October 2016, Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook a trial trench evaluation at Endobec, St John's Street, Beck Row, Suffolk in advance of the construction of a dwelling. A design brief issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service/Conservation Team (SCCAS/CT) required a single trial trench measuring 15.00m x 1.80m (Figure 4) to be excavated.

Background research for the project indicated that medieval activity was most likely to be encountered, given the location of the site area near to the medieval core of Beck Row.

The only phase of activity identified is represented by the three pits in the middle of the trench, 1004, 1007 and 1009. All three pits date to the 17th Century and probably had a primary function of chalk extraction, with a secondary function as waste dumping pits used for the disposal of domestic waste. These features may be indicative of early post-medieval backyard activity associated with dwellings on the outskirts of medieval Beck Row.



1.0 INTRODUCTION

On the 6th October 2016, Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook a trial trench evaluation at Endobec, St John's Street, Beck Row (TL 70121 77136) in advance of the construction of a dwelling and associated works. A design brief issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service/Conservation Team (SCCAS/CT) (Monk, R. issued 13th May 2014) required a single trial trench measuring 15.00m x 1.80m (Figure 4) was excavated using a 360° tracked, mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket.

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

The site is located within the south-east portion of the village of Beck Row, Suffolk on St John's Street. To the east and south of the site are agricultural fields, with a residential property to the west and a nature reserve to its north. The bedrock geology is described as Grey Chalk Subgroup. This marley chalk bedrock is comprised of both West Melbury Chalk and Zig Zag Chalk and formed during the Cenomanian Age (BGS, 2016).

Superficial deposits at the site are described as River Terrace Deposits 1 and 2. These superficial gravel (with lenses of slits and clays) deposits formed during the Flandrian Age when the local environment previously dominated by shorelines, (BGS, 2016).

3.0 PLANNING POLICIES

The archaeological investigation is to be carried out on the recommendation of the local planning authority, following guidance laid down by the *National Planning and Policy Framework* (NPPF, DCLD 2012) which replaced *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (PPS5, DCLG 2010) in March 2012. The relevant local development framework is the *Forest Heath Local Plan, (Policy 8.20, 1995)*.

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND (Figures 2 & 3)

The following archaeological background draws on the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER) (1km search centred on the site), English Heritage PastScape (www.pastscape.org.uk), and the Archaeological Data Service (www.ads.ahds.ac.uk) (ADS) (Fig. 2 & 3). There are 29 monument entries, 20 events within and just outside the 1km search radius. 4 listed building entries were also returned within the 1km search area.



The SHER search returned six entries dating to the prehistoric period. One of these entries, (MNL Misc) located on the periphery of the search area to the north west of the site relates to the discovery of a long crude flint knife. Bronze Age activity has been noted 900m to the north west (MNL120) and 980m to the north east (MNL126). MNL120 refers to the discovery of a bronze socketed axe head with loop. The axe was plain with a very worn cutting edge. MNL126 also refers to Beaker pottery, flint tools and flakes ploughed out at Fen Lane, Holywell Row. The closest record of prehistoric date to the site is MNL168, located approximately 200m to the north-east it relates to an Iceni coin found with a metal detector within the area of Roman finds scatter (MNL 168).

The Romano-British period marked a significant change in development for the wider area with Camulodunum (Colchester) becoming the Roman Capital of Britannia. Beck row is located approximately 120km north of Camulodunum. Only one monument record of Roman date was returned by the SHER search. MNL168 is located 200m to the north east of the site where a Roman pottery scatter was reported along with Roman coins. Many archaeological interventions (ESF19433, ESF19659, ESF20277 and ESF23659) in the surrounding area have discovered features believed to possibly relate to Roman activity.

The medieval period is represented by the SHER search with eight records in the search radius. The most significant record returned by the search (MNL675) relates to the indicative area of the medieval historic settlement core of Beck Row, Holywell Row and Wilde Street. The site is located in the southern area of this and other medieval finds encountered nearby (MNL083 and MNL577) show that there is a concentration of medieval activity in this area. MNL083, located 250m north east of the site is the site of Aspal Hall (now demolished). The site contains three sides of a moat which still remain. The manor once belonged to Sir Robert de Aspal (died 1326) and was sub-manor of Mildenhall.

The post-medieval period returned 4 monument records from the SHER search. The 4 listed building records returned all date to the post-medieval period as well. The nearest listed building to the site is Beck House (275890), a grade II listed late 16th or early 17th century building with one storey of rendered, timber-frame construction and a pantiled roof. Beck House is located 100m to the west of the site. The most significant record relating to the site from this period is the remains of Aspal Park, 50m to the north. This piece of demesne pasture was originally attached to the manor of Aspals. The 1812 Enclosure Map shows this area subdivided into smaller landholdings. Some slight earthworks within the park may represent traces of these subdivisions.

The SHER returned six undated records. These mostly refer to undated ditches and gullies found in the area (MNL513, MNL577 and MNL591). Given the form of these features it has been surmised that these could have late prehistoric or Roman origin.

Given the above records the site has a **low to moderate** potential for features and finds relating to the **medieval** historic settlement core of Beck Row.



5.0 PROJECT AIMS

The SCCAS/CT brief stated that the evaluation was required of the development area to enable the archaeological resource, both in quality and extent, to be accurately quantified. (Monk, R., Brief, Section 4.1).

The trial trenching was required to (section 4.2):

- Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.
- Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.

6.0 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Research objectives for the project were in line with those laid out in *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 24 (Medlycott, 2011).

The brief also states that the project will need to consider the following objectives:

- To provide for the absolute dating of critical contacts.
- To make the results of the investigation available through suitable reportage.

7.0 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

The SCCAS/CT brief required the excavation of one trial trench measuring 15.00m x 1.80m in advance of the construction of a dwelling. A 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket was used to machine down to the first archaeological horizon, thereafter all excavation work was undertaken by hand. The archaeology was recorded using pro-forma record sheets, drawn plans and section drawings and appropriate photographs were taken.

8.0 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS (Figures 4 - 7)

The trench was orientated N-S and located in the rear garden of the property known as Endobec, within the footprint of the proposed new dwelling. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.93m.

8.1 Trench 1



Topsoil 1000 was present to a maximum depth of 0.33m in the trench. Subsoil layer 1001 was present to a maximum depth of 0.71m. In the southern third of the trench this layer overlay Colluvial layer 1002, which was up to 0.42m thick to a maximum depth of 0.90m. Colluvial layer 1002 overlay Natural 1003, which in Sample Section 1 had a minimum depth of 0.85m. Colluvial layer 1002 was only present within the southern third of trench 1.

Situated approximately three metres from the southern end of the trench were adjacent pits 1004 and 1009. Pit 1004 appeared to be the larger of the two, and was situated against the eastern baulk of the trench. It was oval in plan, had vertical concave sides and a flat base. The pit was 3.10m long, and 0.77m of the width of the pit was present in the trench. It was up to 0.33m deep and contained two fills of compact, mid orange-brown silty sand; 1005, a primary fill up to 0.23m thick and 1006, a secondary fill up to 0.10m thick. Both contained occasional sub-angular small chalk pebble inclusions. Pit 1004 contained 17th Century pottery and clay pipe.

Situated adjacent to pit 1004 against the western baulk of the trench was pit 1009. 1009 was oval in plan, had 45° concave sides and a round concave base. The pit was 1.86m long, and 0.74m of the width of the feature was present in the trench. It was up to 0.40m deep and contained a single fill, 1010, a compact, mid orange-brown silty sand with occasional sub-angular chalk pebbles. Pit 1009 contained 17th Century pottery.

Situated approximately eight metres from the southern end of the trench against the western baulk of the trench was a third feature, pit 1007. 1.09m of the length of pit 1007 was present in the trench. The pit was 0.80m wide and 0.14m deep. It contained a single fill consisting of compact, dark grey-brown silty sand which produced two sherds of 17th Century pottery.

9.0 DEPOSIT MODEL (Figure 6)

The deposit model in the trench consisted of Topsoil 1000, Subsoil 1001, Colluvial Layer 1002 and Natural 1003.

Topsoil 1000 was a garden soil consisting of dark grey-brown, loose silty sand. This layer was present to a maximum depth of 0.33m in Sample Section 1 and overlay Subsoil 1001. Subsoil 1001 was a mid orange-brown layer present to a thickness of 0.19m and a maximum depth of 0.47m in Sample Section 1. This consisted of compact silty sand, with moderately frequent sub-angular chalk pebbles and flecks.

Below 1001 was Colluvial Layer 1002, consisting of a compact, mid orange-brown silty sand with no significant inclusions. Colluvial Layer 1002 was present from a minimum depth of 0.42m to a maximum of 0.90m in Sample Section 1, and was only present within the southern third of Trench 1. Colluvial Layer 1002 lay above Natural 1003, which consisted of compact light grey-brown/light orange-brown sand with a band of compact light yellow-white chalk in the middle of the trench. Natural 1003 was present from a minimum depth of 0.85m in Sample Section 1.



10.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The archaeological background suggested that the site had a low to moderate potential specifically for medieval activity associated with the historic core of Beck Row. During the excavation of the trench, just one phase of activity was identified, which related instead to the early post-medieval period.

The single phase of activity identified is represented by the three pits in the centre of the trench, 1004, 1007 and 1009. All three pits contained 17th Century pottery with pit 1004 also containing clay pipe consistent with the dating of the pottery. In terms of the geology of the trench, these pits are all located on the band of chalk natural revealed within the trench. Due of this, the primary function of these pits is potentially for the purpose of chalk extraction, with a secondary function as waste dumping pits used for the disposal of domestic waste. These features may be indicative of post-medieval backyard activity associated with dwellings on the outskirts of medieval Beck Row.

11.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Britannia Archaeology would like to thank Mr Stuart A C Harrison of E and P Building Design for commissioning the project.

We would also like to thank Rachael Abraham of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services/Conservation Team for her advice and assistance on the project.

The site was excavated by Dan McConnell, Martin Brook and Adam Leigh of Britannia Archaeology Ltd.



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English Heritage PastScape www.pastscape.org.uk

Archaeological Data Service (ADS) www.ads.ahds.ac.uk

English Heritage National List for England



Endobec, St John's Street, Beck Row
Archaeological Evaluation
Project Number 1148

www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/protection/process/national-heritage-list-for-england

DEFRA Magic <http://magic.defra.gov.uk/website/magic>



APPENDIX 1 – DEPOSIT TABLES

Deposit Tables

TRENCH 1

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
1	N-S	7.81m	Sample Section 1
Sample Section No	Location	Facing	
1	S End	E Facing	
Context No	Depth	Deposit Description	
1000	0.00-0.31m	Topsoil: loose, dark grey-brown silty sand	
1001	0.31-0.47m	Subsoil: compact, mid orange-brown silty sand with moderately frequent sub-angular chalk pebbles	
1002	0.47-0.85m	Colluvial Layer: compact, mid orange-brown silty sand	
1003	0.55m +	Natural: compact, light grey-brown/light orange-brown sand, compact light yellow-white chalk	

Context Descriptions

Feature Context	Feature Type & Description (m)	Layer/Fill Context	Layer/Fill Description	Spot Date	Finds /g (sherds or number)	Other
1004	Pit (3.10m x 0.77m+ x 0.33m) Oval in plan, vertical concave sides with a flat base	1005	Mid orange-brown, compact silty sand, occasional sub-angular chalk pebbles	E16 th – 17 th C	681g (19) Pottery	
		1006	Mid orange-brown, compact silty sand, occasional sub-angular chalk pebbles	E17 th – 18 th C	53g (6) Clay Pipe	
1007	Pit (1.09m+ x 0.80m x 0.14m) Sub-oval in plan, 45° vertical concave sides with a rounded concave base	1008	Dark grey-brown, compact silty sand, occasional chalk flecks	16 th – 18 th C	48g (2) Pottery	
1009	Pit (1.86m x 0.74m+ x 0.40m) Oval in plan, sloping sides with a concave base	1010	Mid orange-brown, compact silty sand, occasional sub-angular chalk pebbles	E16 th – 17 th C	280g (7) Pottery	



APPENDIX 2 – OASIS SHEET

OASIS FORM - Print view

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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Printable version

OASIS ID: **britannia1-244775**

Project details

Project name	Endobec, St Johns Street, Beck Row, Suffolk
Short description of the project	On the 6th October 2016, Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook a trial trench evaluation at Endobec, St John's Street, Beck Row, Suffolk in advance of the construction of a dwelling. A design brief issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service/Conservation Team (SCCAS/CT) required a single trial trench measuring 15.00m x 1.80m (Figure 4) to be excavated. Background research for the project indicated that medieval activity was most likely to be encountered, given the location of the site area near to the medieval core of Beck Row. The only phase of activity identified is represented by the three pits in the middle of the trench, 1004, 1007 and 1009. All three pits date to the 17th Century and probably had a primary function of chalk extraction, with a secondary function as waste dumping pits used for the disposal of domestic waste. These features may be indicative of early post-medieval backyard activity associated with dwellings on the outskirts of medieval Beck Row.
Project dates	Start: 05-03-2016 End: 28-04-2016
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	F/2013/0342/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CERAMICS Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	"Sample Trenches"
Development type	Rural residential
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country: England

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OASIS FORM - Print view

Site location SUFFOLK FOREST HEATH BECK ROW, HOLYWELL ROW AND KENNY HILL Endobec, St Johns Street, Beck Row, Suffolk
Postcode IP28 8AA
Study area 0.1 Hectares
Site coordinates TL 70121 77136 52.365397567298 0.49891065491 52 21 55 N 000 29 56 E Point
Height OD / Depth Min: 0m Max: 0m

Project creators

Name of Organisation Britannia Archaeology Ltd
Project brief originator Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator Dan McConnell
Project director/manager Dan McConnell
Project supervisor Dan McConnell
Type of sponsor/funding body Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body Stuart A C Harrison

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Suffolk HER
Physical Archive ID MNL765
Physical Contents "Ceramics", "other"
Digital Archive recipient Suffolk HER
Digital Archive ID MNL765
Digital Contents "Ceramics", "Stratigraphic", "other"
Digital Media available "Database", "GIS", "Images raster / digital photography", "Spreadsheets", "Text"
Paper Archive recipient Suffolk HER
Paper Archive ID MNL765
Paper Contents "Ceramics", "Stratigraphic", "other"
Paper Media available "Context sheet", "Drawing", "Photograph", "Plan", "Report", "Section", "Unpublished Text"

Project bibliography 1

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APPENDIX 3 – Pottery Report

The post-medieval pottery from Endobec, St Johns Road, Beck Row Suffolk (MNL 765): An assessment report (19/10/16; 1500)

Andy Fawcett

Introduction

A total of 28 sherds with a combined weight of 1009g was recorded from the archaeological investigation at Endobec, St Johns Road, Beck Row.

This report within the introduction, sets out the distribution of the pottery by period and context type, and discusses its general condition and diagnostic element. This will be followed by a methodology of work, and then the pottery from each feature shall be examined individually, succeeded by a general overview and recommendations for further work.

The entire assemblage is dated to the post-medieval period and was recovered from three different pit fills (1005, 1008 and 1010).

As a whole the pottery assemblage has a good average sherd weight of 36g.

The overall condition of the pottery, in terms of abrasion, may be described as being generally slight with one vessel in Pit 1005 being almost complete.

Given that the assemblage in terms of numbers is fairly small, the diagnostic component of the assemblage (rim and base sherds) may be described as being good.

Methodology

The pottery has been recorded by sherd count and weight. The principle fabrics in each context have been rapidly scanned (where required, occasional fabric examination at x20 vision has also been undertaken). Fabric codes have been assigned using simple letter combinations based upon the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service reference system. Where present, form types have been allocated plain descriptions such as jar, dish and so on.



A full breakdown of reference codes can be seen in Appendix *1, and the entire recorded pottery assemblage can be viewed in Appendix *2.

The assemblages

The best assemblage was recovered from Pit fill 1005 (19 sherds @ 681g) which is dated from the early 16th to 17th century.

Within the fill, thirteen sherds were all part of the same two handled cup in fabric IGW (early 16th-17th century). The cup has an even black glaze which in some areas displays a slight greenish tinge. It has a plain rim and exhibits rippling at the base of the neck. Both the fabric and form share common traits with examples for instance that were known to have been produced at Norwich (McCarthy and Brooks 1988, 423).

The remaining sherds are all in fabric GRE (16th-18th century). The jar fragments have a splashed green glaze on a purple surface and are decorated with rilling. Also present is the base of either a platter or dish.

Pit fill 1008 contained two body sherds of GRE (48g) which are dated from the 16th to 18th century.

Finally Pit fill 1010 held seven sherds weighing 280g and is dated from the early 16th to 17th century.

These were mostly body sherds in fabric GRE dated from 16th to 18th century, although also present were one dish with a bifid style rim and handle fragment. A single body sherd of IGW was also present which has the same fabric and glaze style as the cup in context 1005. It is dated from early 16th to 17th century.

Conclusion

The pottery from these pits appears to be of a contemporary date (early 16th to 17th century) and represents some form of domestic dining waste; demonstrated by the range of recorded forms. The only structural record within the HER dated to this period is Beck House (275890) which is located 100m to the west of the



site. However, it is a possibility that the domestic waste may somehow be related to the landholding activity at Aspull Park located 50m to the north of the site.

Recommendations

The pottery assemblage has been fully recorded and no further analysis of the material will be required.

Bibliography

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Appendix *1

Fabric and abrasion codes

Post-medieval

IGB	Iron glazed black wares
GRE	Glazed red earthenwares

Abrasion

Sli = slightly abraded, Gd = good



APPENDIX 4 – Clay Pipe Report

By Dan McConnell – Britannia Archaeology Ltd

1. THE FINDS

Introduction

A total of six clay pipe fragments were recovered from a single fill 1005 within Pit 1004.

Methodology

The pipe stem/bowl fragments were analysed using the techniques recommended in Dating Stem Fragments of Seventeenth and Eighteenth Century Clay Tobacco Pipes (Harrington, J.C., 1978) and London Clay Tobacco Pipes (Atkinson, D. & Oswald, A., 1969).

Results

Fill 1005 produced five pipe stem fragments and a complete bowl with broken stem.

All stem fragments are broken medially from the pipe stems, and have no attached flare or fine tapering associated with being adjacent to a bowl or mouthpiece. They are made from typical local non-glaze plain earthenware.

The stem fragments can be summarised in the table below:

Length (cm)	Diameter (cm)	Bore Diameter		Weight (g)
		Centimetres	Inches	
4.1	0.9	0.35	8/64	3
5.6	0.85	0.3	7/64	4
6.2	1.1	0.3	7/64	9
7.8	1.1	0.3	7/64	10
4.3	1	0.35	8/64	7

The pipe bowl with attached broken stem found in fill 1005 is of more interest. It is made from the same fabric as the stem fragments (a typical local non-glaze earthenware). The bowl is complete. The bowl's profile is that of Type 13 variant (Atkinson and Oswald, 1969) with a flat undecorated heel and the remains of milling visible on the nearside rim, becoming faint on the farside rim. No maker's mark is present. The bowl is 3.6cm in height with a 2.1cm diameter. A small amount of stem is still attached to the bowl, measuring 3.1cm in length and 1.1cm in diameter with a 0.3cm, 7/64" bore diameter and weighs 20g.



Discussion

The stem fragments from fill 1005 can be dated tentatively to the early 17th century through to early 18th century (1620-1710), however the modal date is suggestive of a smaller range of 1650 - 1680. The bowl recovered from fill 1005 can be dated with more accuracy to 1660-1680.

Dating pipe stem by hole bore is not exhaustive, ideally pipe bowl fragments should be used to accurately date clay pipes. The bowl fragment is unlikely to be able to be tied to a single local maker due to lack of decoration/makers mark. No further work is recommended.

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APPENDIX 4 – Approved Written Scheme of Investigation

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared by Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) on behalf of E & P Building Design as a condition of planning application reference F/2013/0342/FUL, in advance of the erection of a single storey dwelling with attached double garage and relocation of existing garage.

This WSI presents a programme of archaeological investigation by means of archaeological trial trench evaluation to assess the nature and potential of the site, and to determine the need for any future site investigations Endobec, St Johns Street, Beck Row, Suffolk (NGR TL 70121 77136). A design brief issued by Suffolk County Councils Archaeological Service (SCCAS/CT) (Abraham, R. dated 13th May 2014, later refreshed Jan 2016) requires a programme of linear trial trenching to adequately sample the threatened available area. A single trial trench measuring 15.00m x 1.80m will be excavated using a 360° tracked, mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket.

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION (Fig. 1)

The site is located in the southern bounds of the village of Beck Row, Suffolk south of the east west running St Johns Street. Directly to the sites east are agricultural fields and some 350m further east is the village of Holywell Row.

The bedrock geology is described as Grey Chalk Subgroup. This marley chalk bedrock is comprised of both West Melbury Chalk and Zig Zag Chalk and formed during the Cenomanian Age (BGS, 2016).

Superficial deposits at the site are described as River Terrace Deposits 1 and 2. These superficial gravel (with lenses of slits and clays) deposits formed during the Flandrian Age when the local environment previously dominated by shorelines, (BGS, 2016).

3.0 PLANNING POLICIES

The archaeological investigation is to be carried out on the recommendation of the local planning authority, following guidance laid down by the *National Planning and Policy Framework* (NPPF, DCLD 2012) which replaced *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (PPS5, DCLG 2010) in March 2012. The relevant local development framework is the *Forest Heath Local Plan, (Policy 8.20, 1995)*.

3.1 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, DCLG March 2012)



The NPPF recognises that 'heritage assets' are an irreplaceable resource and planning authorities should conserve them in a manner appropriate to their significance when considering development. It requires developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible. The key areas for consideration are:

- The significance of the heritage asset and its setting in relation to the proposed development;
- The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance;
- Significance (of the heritage asset) can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction, or development within its setting. As heritage assets are irreplaceable, any harm or loss should require clear and convincing justification;
- Local planning authorities should not permit loss of the whole or part of a heritage asset without taking all reasonable steps to ensure the new development will proceed after the loss has occurred;
- Non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest that are demonstrably of equivalent significance to scheduled monuments, should be considered subject to the policies for designated heritage assets.

3.2 Forest Heath Local Plan, (Policy 8.20, 1995)

Forest Heath's local plan development plan was adopted in 1995 and has undergone some revision since. A Core Strategy was released in 2010 and an updated assessment of their Heritage Policy is pending. The Council's position on heritage assets is summarised as follows:

- The District Council will seek provision to be made for the evaluation of archaeological sites of unknown importance and areas of high potential prior to the determination of development proposals. Where nationally or locally important sites, whether scheduled or not, and their settings, are effected by proposed development, there will be a presumption in favour of their preservation. On sites where there is no overriding case for preservation, development will not normally be permitted unless agreement has been reached to provide either for their preservation or for their recording and, where desirable, their excavation prior to development.

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND (Fig. 2 & 3)

The following archaeological background draws on the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER) (1km search centred on the site), English Heritage PastScape (www.pastscape.org.uk), and the Archaeological Data Service (www.ads.ahds.ac.uk)



(ADS) (Fig. 2, 3 & 4). There are 29 monument entries, 20 events within and just outside the 1km search radius. 4 listed building entries were also returned within the 1km search area.

The SHER search returned six entries dating to the prehistoric period. One of these entries, (MNL Misc) located on the periphery of the search area to the north west of the site relates to the discovery of a long crude flint knife. Bronze Age activity has been noted 900m to the north west (MNL120) and 980m to the north east (MNL126). MNL120 refers to the discovery of a bronze socketed axe head with loop. The axe was plain with a very worn cutting edge. MNL126 also refers to Beaker pottery, flint tools and flakes ploughed out at Fen Lane, Holywell Row. The closest record of prehistoric date to the site is MNL168, located approximately 200m to the north-east it relates to an Icenic coin found with a metal detector within the area of Roman finds scatter (MNL 168).

The Romano-British period marked a significant change in development for the wider area with Camulodunum (Colchester) becoming the Roman Capital of Britannia. Beck Row is located approximately 120km north of Camulodunum. Only one monument record of Roman date was returned by the SHER search. MNL168 is located 200m to the north east of the site where a Roman pottery scatter was reported along with Roman coins. Many archaeological interventions (ESF19433, ESF19659, ESF20277 and ESF23659) in the surrounding area have discovered features believed to possibly relate to Roman activity.

The medieval period is represented by the SHER search with eight records in the search radius. The most significant record returned by the search (MNL675) relates to the indicative area of the medieval historic settlement core of Beck Row, Holywell Row and Wilde Street. The site is located in the southern area of this and other medieval finds encountered nearby (MNL083 and MNL577) show that there is a concentration of medieval activity in this area. MNL083, located 250m north east of the site is the site of Aspal Hall (now demolished). The site contains three sides of a moat which still remain. The manor once belonged to Sir Robert de Aspal (died 1326) and was sub-manor of Mildenhall.

The post-medieval period returned 4 monument records from the SHER search. The 4 listed building records returned all date to the post-medieval period as well. The nearest listed building to the site is Beck House (275890), a grade II listed late 16th or early 17th century building with one storey of rendered, timber-frame construction and a pantiled roof. Beck House is located 100m to the west of the site. The most significant record relating to the site from this period is the remains of Aspal Park, 50m to the north. This piece of demesne pasture was originally attached to the manor of Aspals. The 1812 Enclosure Map shows this area subdivided into smaller landholdings. Some slight earthworks within the park may represent traces of these subdivisions.



The SHER returned six undated records. These mostly refer to undated ditches and gullies found in the area (MNL513, MNL577 and MNL591). Given the form of these features it has been surmised that these could have late prehistoric or Roman origin.

Given the above records the site has a **low to moderate** potential for features and finds relating to the **medieval** historic settlement core of Beck Row.

5.0 PROJECT AIMS

The SCCAS/CT brief states that the evaluation should aim to (Abraham, R. Brief, Section 4.2). Both the WSI, fieldwork and resulting report/archiving will be undertaken in accordance with the Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation 2011 Ver 1.3 (SCCAS/CT).

- Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.
- Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.
- Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.
- Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.
- determine, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development.

6.0 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Research objectives for the project are in line with those laid out in *Research and Archaeology Revisited: a revised framework for the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper 24 (Medlycott, 2011).

The brief also states that the project will need to consider the following objectives:

- To provide for the absolute dating of critical contacts.
- To make the results of the investigation available through suitable reportage.



7.0 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

The SCCAS/CT brief requires the excavation of 15.00 meters of trial trenching in advance of the construction of the house and associated works. The trenching is to cover 5% of the site area with the trenches arranged in a systematic grid array. This will comprise a single 15.0m x 1.80m trench.

A 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket will be used to machine down to the first archaeological horizon, thereafter all excavation work will be undertaken by hand (Fig. 4).

The archaeology will be recorded using pro-forma record sheets, drawn plans and section drawings and appropriate photographs will also be taken.

In the event that important archaeological remains are identified, a site meeting will be held with the client and the SCCAS/CT planning archaeologist to discuss the significance of the remains and decide on the scope of further excavation and recording. **The client is aware of the need for contingency funding to cover additional works if necessary.**

7.1 Site Plans

A site location plan based on the current Ordnance Survey 1:25000 map and indicating site north will be prepared. This will be supplemented by a site plan showing the area of investigation in relation to the proposed development.

A pre-excavation base plan accurately plotting all features will be produced using a Total Station (TS) or Real Time Kinetic Global Positioning System (RTK). The final post-excavation plan will be based on this. All drawings will be tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

7.2 Mechanical Excavation

The location of electricity, gas, water, sewage and telephone services will be identified from information supplied by the client or relevant authorities prior to machining. Care will be taken when operating machinery in the vicinity of overhead services. All staff are trained in the use of CAT scanners that will be employed before the bucket breaks the ground.

Topsoil and any sterile subsoil layers shall be removed by mechanical excavator using a toothless ditching bucket under the supervision of a professional archaeologist. The exposed archaeological horizon will be cleaned by hand and any archaeological deposits or negative features planned.



No excavators or dumpers will be driven over the excavated surface. Topsoil and subsoil will be stored separately to aid the reinstatement of agricultural land.

The machine operator will have the relevant experience and appropriate documentation; will maintain the appropriate inspection register, Form F91 Part 1, Section C, either on the machine or at the depot. The operator must produce a clean, flat surface at precisely the correct level.

7.3 Hand Excavation

All archaeological features will be excavated by hand, in the appropriate way detailed below, where it is safe to do so.

7.4 Metal Detector

A professional metal detector will be used to scan spoil heaps, exposed surfaces and any features. The finds will be recovered and recorded in the proper way. The machined spoil heaps will also be scanned, however demonstrably modern finds will not be retained. The metal detector will not be set to discriminate against iron.

7.5 Excavation of Stratified Sequences

All archaeological remains will be excavated by phase, from the most recent to the earliest, excluding those of obvious later 20th century origin. The phasing of the features will be distinguished by their stratigraphic relationships, fills and finds.

7.6 Excavation of Buildings

Following assessment of any structural remains encountered, a strategy for recording these will be implemented, and it may be that further mitigation will be required to allow the full recording of these remains. It may also be the case that any remains may best be left *in situ*. Any excavated building structures and associated features (e.g. stakeholes, postholes, sill-beams, gullies, masonry walls and possible floors) will be excavated in stratigraphic sequence.

7.7 Ditches

Ditch segments will be positioned to provide a total coverage of 25% and to ascertain relationship information and will be a minimum of 1.00m in length (dependant on the total length of ditch visible).

7.8 Discrete Features

All discrete features will be half-sectioned or excavated in quadrants providing for a minimum 50% sample.



7.9 Full Excavation

Industrial remains and intrinsically interesting features e.g. hearths, kilns etc. may merit full excavation in agreement with the SCCAS/CT planning archaeologist.

7.10 Burials

Any articulated human remains shall receive minimal excavation to define the extent and quality of their preservation. A decision will then be made on their future treatment in consultation with the client and the SCCAS/CT planning archaeologist. The coroner and the Ministry of Justice will be informed. Any removal of human remains will be carried out under a licence issued by the Ministry of Justice under section 25 of the Burials Act 1857 and in accordance with *Guidance for best practice for treatment of human remains excavated from Christian burial grounds in England* (English Heritage & the Church of England 2005).

7.11 Written Record

All archaeological deposits and artefacts encountered will be fully recorded on *pro forma* context, finds and sample forms, using a single context recording system.

7.12 Photographic Record

All features will be photographed as appropriate. This record will comprise high quality digital photographs (jpg). Where appropriate black and white prints (35mm) and colour slides (35mm) will be utilised. All photographs will be listed, indexed and archived.

7.13 Drawn Record

All drawings will be tied into the Ordnance Survey National Grid, plans will be initially hand drawn at a scale of 1:20 and the sections at 1:10 on drafting film (permatrace). The height AOD of all features and principal strata will be written on the appropriate plans and sections.

7.14 Finds and Environmental Remains

All finds recovered from sealed contexts will be retained. A sample of those found in the topsoil and subsoil will be taken to characterise the assemblage. Finds will be identified, by a unique site code and context number.

All finds will be processed according to BA standards and to the *CifA Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials, 2014*. Important, rare or unusual finds will also be assigned a small finds number and sent away for specialist analysis.



Bulk samples will also be taken for retrieving artefacts and biological remains (for palaeoenvironmental and palaeoeconomic investigations) to be processed and analysed by the University of Leicester Archaeology Service, (ULAS). These samples will be taken from well-stratified datable deposits and specifically targeted areas of interest (e.g. undated sealed primary ditch fills) and will be a minimum of 40 litres where appropriate. The suitability of deposits for analysis will be discussed with CBC, Dr Boreham and Dr Mark Ruddy where appropriate.

Preserved wood will be sampled for potential dating via dendrochronology and Carbon 14 methods and will be assessed by Dr Roderick Bale (University of Wales Trinity St David). Prior to recovering timbers, suitability for dating will be assessed in conjunction with Dr Bale, CBC, Dr Mike Bamforth and Dr Mark Ruddy where appropriate.

Each deposit retained will be identified by context and a unique sample or timber number. For a full list of specialists see Appendix 2.

7.15 Artefact Recovery

A programme of bucket sampling will be conducted, whereby 90 litres of spoil will hand sorted for each soil horizon encountered. Bucket sampling points will occur at each end of trench. Unstratified artefacts will be sought and recovered from trench spoil heaps.

7.16 Finds classed as Treasure

It is the responsibility of the project manager for the site, after consultation with the relevant finds specialist, to submit any items falling under the provisions of the Act to the local coroner via the treasure co-ordinator (currently the Portable Antiquities Officer at the British Museum). See below for details of the act:

The Treasure Act

The Treasure Act of 1996 defines objects that qualify as Treasure and includes any metallic object other than coin that is made up of more than 10% gold or silver and is over 300 years old, any group of two or more metallic objects of prehistoric date that come from the same find, coin hoards that have been deliberately hidden, smaller groups of coins, votive or ritual deposits, any object from the same place as Treasure. Objects that are less than 300 years old made mainly of gold or silver, which have been deliberately hidden with the intention of recovery, and whose owners or heirs are unknown would also be classed as Treasure.

8.0 PRESENTATION OF RESULTS

A report will be prepared on the conclusion of the evaluation and will be completed 4 weeks after the field work ends (no further work required) or a maximum of 6 months



from the end of fieldwork (further fieldwork is required). Resourcing of the post-excavation phase is dependent on findings. Where further publication is required a detailed publication programme will be provided within 4 weeks of completion of fieldwork, and a publication report will be programmed for completion within 6 months. The prepared client/archive report will be commensurate with the results of the fieldwork, and will be consistent with the principles of *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (Historic England 2015)* and contain the following:

- *Summary.* A concise summary of the work undertaken and the results;
- *Introduction.* Introduction to the project including the reasons for work, funding, planning background;
- *Background.* The history, layout and development of the site;
- *Aims and Objectives;*
- *Methodology.* Strategy and technique for site excavation;
- *Results.* Detailed description of findings outlining the nature, location, extent, date of any archaeological material;
- *Deposit Model.* Description of events behind the archaeological stratigraphy and geological deposition;
- *Specialist Reports.* Description of the artefactual and ecofactual remains recovered;
- *Discussion and Conclusions.* A synopsis interpreting the archaeological deposits and artefacts, including details of preservation, impact assessment, wider survival, condition and relative importance of the site and its component parts in local, regional and national context;
- *Bibliography;*
- *Appendices.* Context Descriptions, Finds Concordance, Project Archive Contents and Archive Deposition, HER/OASIS Summary Sheet;
- Illustrative material including maps, plans, drawings and photographs.

Digital and paper report copies will be supplied to the client and SCCAS/CT (one copy and a .pdf copy on CD). An OASIS entry will be completed and a summary included with the report. A .pdf file of the report will be uploaded to the ADS. A digital vector plan will be included with the report, which will be compatible with MapInfo GIS software which will also be made available on request subsequent to the report being issued.



It is understood that, if substantial archaeological remains are recorded during the project, it will be necessary to undertake a full programme of analysis and publication in accordance with the guidelines of *MoRPHE*. The project report will contain recommendations as to whether this will be appropriate. Provision has been made for a summary publication within the annual Proceedings of the Suffolk Archaeology and History should the evaluation prove positive.

9.0 PROJECT ARCHIVE AND DEPOSITION

A full archive will be prepared for all work undertaken in accordance with guidance from the *Selection, Retention and Dispersion of Archaeological Collections*, Archaeological Society for Museum Archaeologists, 1993. Deposition will be with Suffolk County Council Archaeological Archives in accordance with the *Archives in Suffolk: Guidelines for Preparation and Deposition* (2015).

Any items requiring treatment will be conserved. Arrangements will be made for the archive to be deposited with the relevant museum, subject to agreement with the legal landowner where finds are concerned.

The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency. The material will be catalogued, labelled and packaged for transfer and storage in accordance with the guidelines set out in the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation's *Conservation Guidelines No.2* and the Archaeological Archives Forum's *Archaeological Archives, A guide to best practice, compilation, transfer and curation* (Brown, 2007).

10.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY

BA operates a comprehensive Health and Safety Policy in accordance with the Health and Safety Executive. BA bases their H&S procedures on the Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers (FAME) Health and Safety Field Manual, which is regularly updated by supplements.

BA holds employer's liability; public liability and professional indemnity insurance arranged through Towergate Insurance (see Appendix 3).

10.1 Code of Practice, Risk Assessment and Site Induction

BA's Code of Practice covers all aspects of excavation work and ensures all risks are adequately controlled. A site visit has been undertaken and an assessment of the potential risks has been highlighted. A full site risk assessment will be produced using



this information. The assessment of risk is an on-going process and this document can be updated if any change in risk occurs on site. A copy of the Risk Assessment is kept on site, read and countersigned by all staff and visitors during the BA site induction.

11.0 RESOURCES

The archaeological works are undertaken by a team of professional archaeologists, qualified to undertake this type of work (Appendix 1). Full CV's are available on request.

All site work will be undertaken by a Projects Officer (with a field team if required) in close communication with a Project Manager. This project officer will also be responsible for post-excavation and publication in liaison with the relevant specialists (Appendix 2).

Other specialists may be consulted and will be made known to the SCCAS/CT planning archaeologist for approval prior to their engagement. Any changes to the specialists documented in Appendix 2 will be made known to the SCCAS/CT immediately.

12.0 TIMETABLE AND PROGRAMME OF WORK

The evaluation fieldwork is potentially likely to begin in late April 2016 pending approval of this written scheme of investigation by SCCAS/CT. Two members of staff will be on site to undertake the evaluation. Provision has been made for additional contingency days should any unexpected remains be encountered.

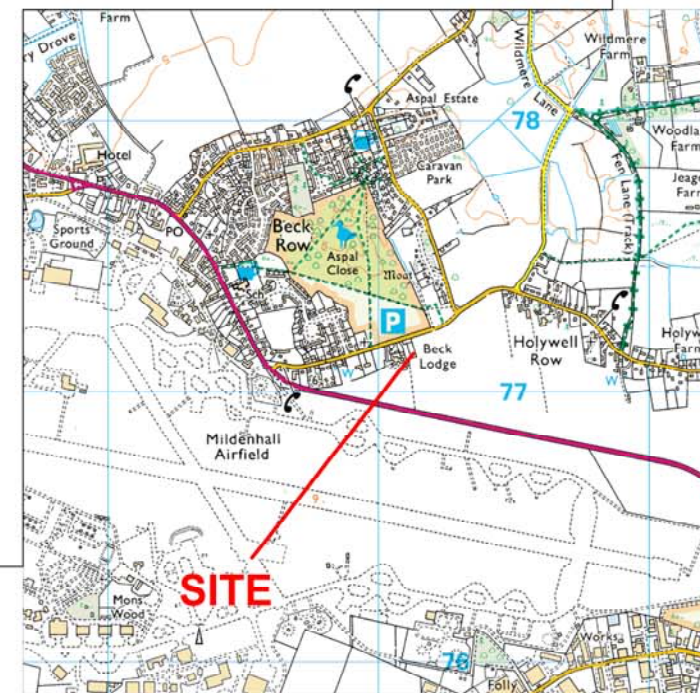
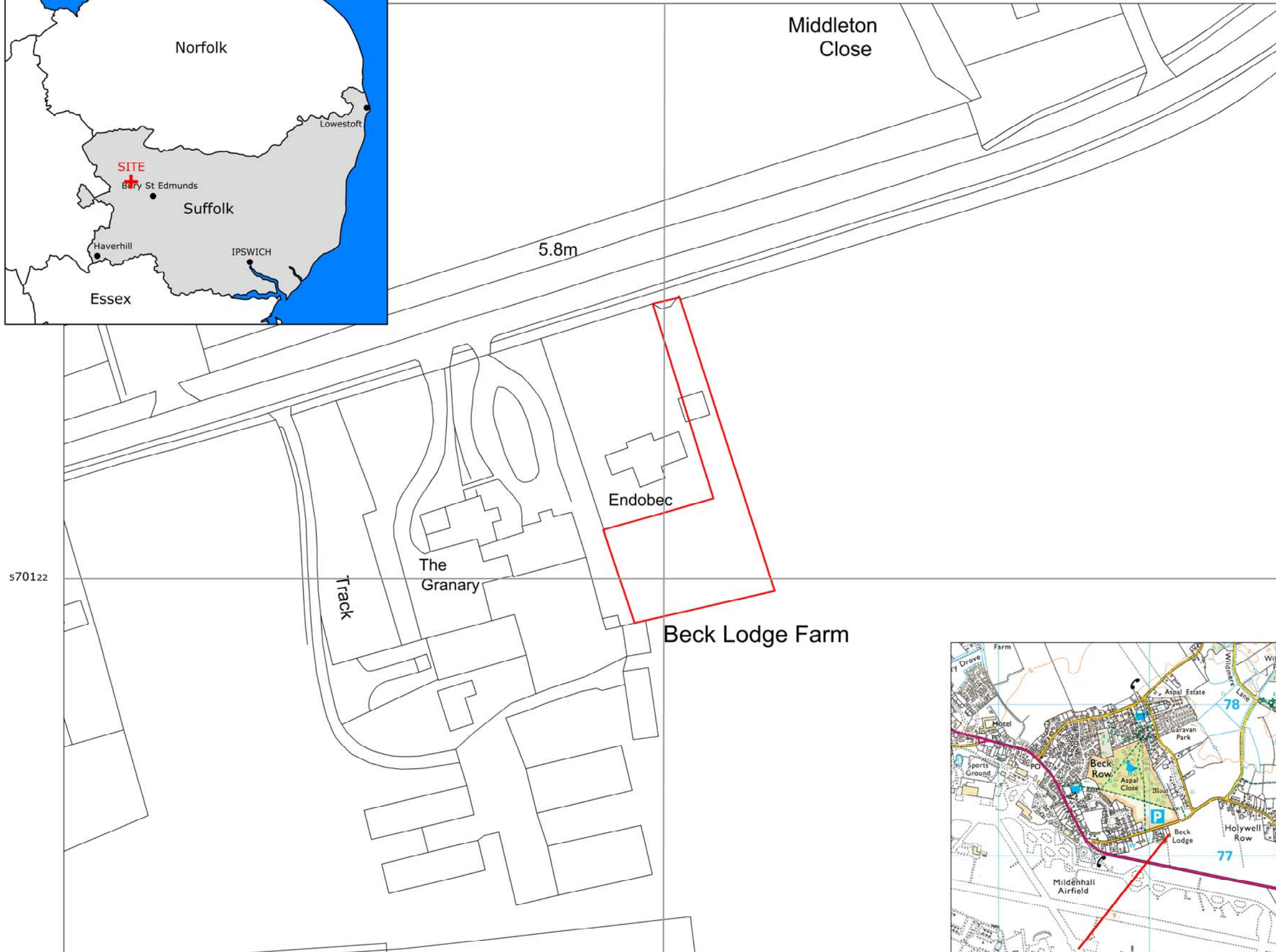
The client is aware of the working methods and provision has been made to allow access to undertake trenching as required by the design brief.

The production of the report will take either a maximum of 4 weeks from the end of fieldwork (no further fieldwork required) or a maximum of 6 months from the end of fieldwork (further fieldwork is required). Resourcing of the post-excavation phase is dependent on findings. Where further publication is required a detailed publication programme will be provided within 4 weeks of completion of fieldwork, and a publication report will be programmed for completion within 6 months.

13.0 MONITORING

SCCAS/CT will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project. Any variations to the specification will be agreed with the SCCAS/CT monitoring officer prior to work being carried out. The monitoring officer will be kept informed of progress throughout the project.





Site Boundary

NGR: 570122 277137 REF: R1143

PROJECT: ENDOBEC, ST JOHNS STREET, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK

DESCRIPTION: GENERAL LOCATION PLAN

CLIENT: E and P Building Design

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AUTHOR: DPM FIGURE: 1

APPROVED: MB



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-  HER Search Area
-  Archaeological Event
-  Conservation Area
-  Scheduled Monuments
-  Registered Parks & Gardens
-  Site Boundary

NGR: 570122 277137 REF: R1143

PROJECT: ENDOBEC, ST JOHNS STREET, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK

DESCRIPTION: SCCHER EVENT DATA PLAN

CLIENT: E and P Building Design

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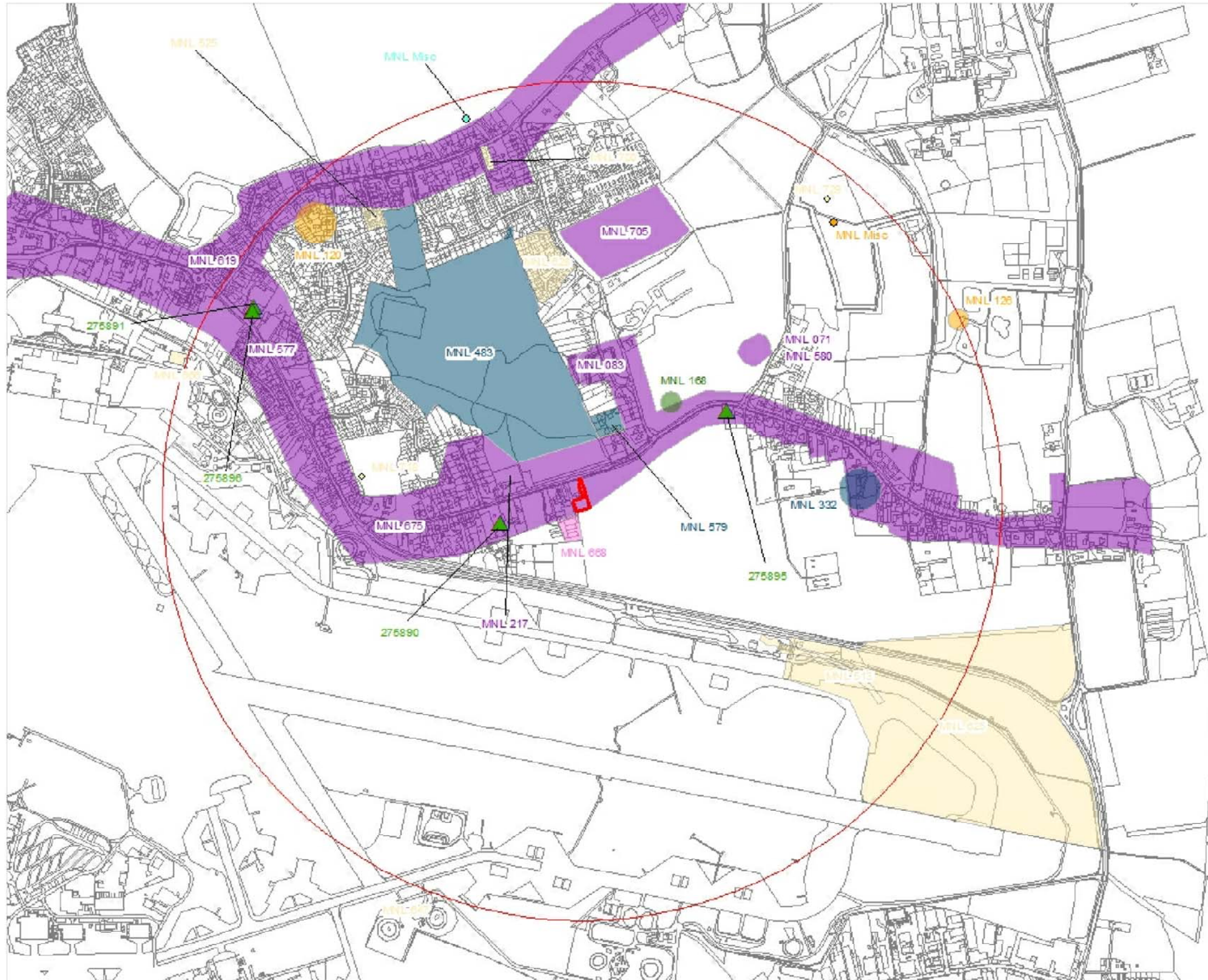
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1:10000 0 500m

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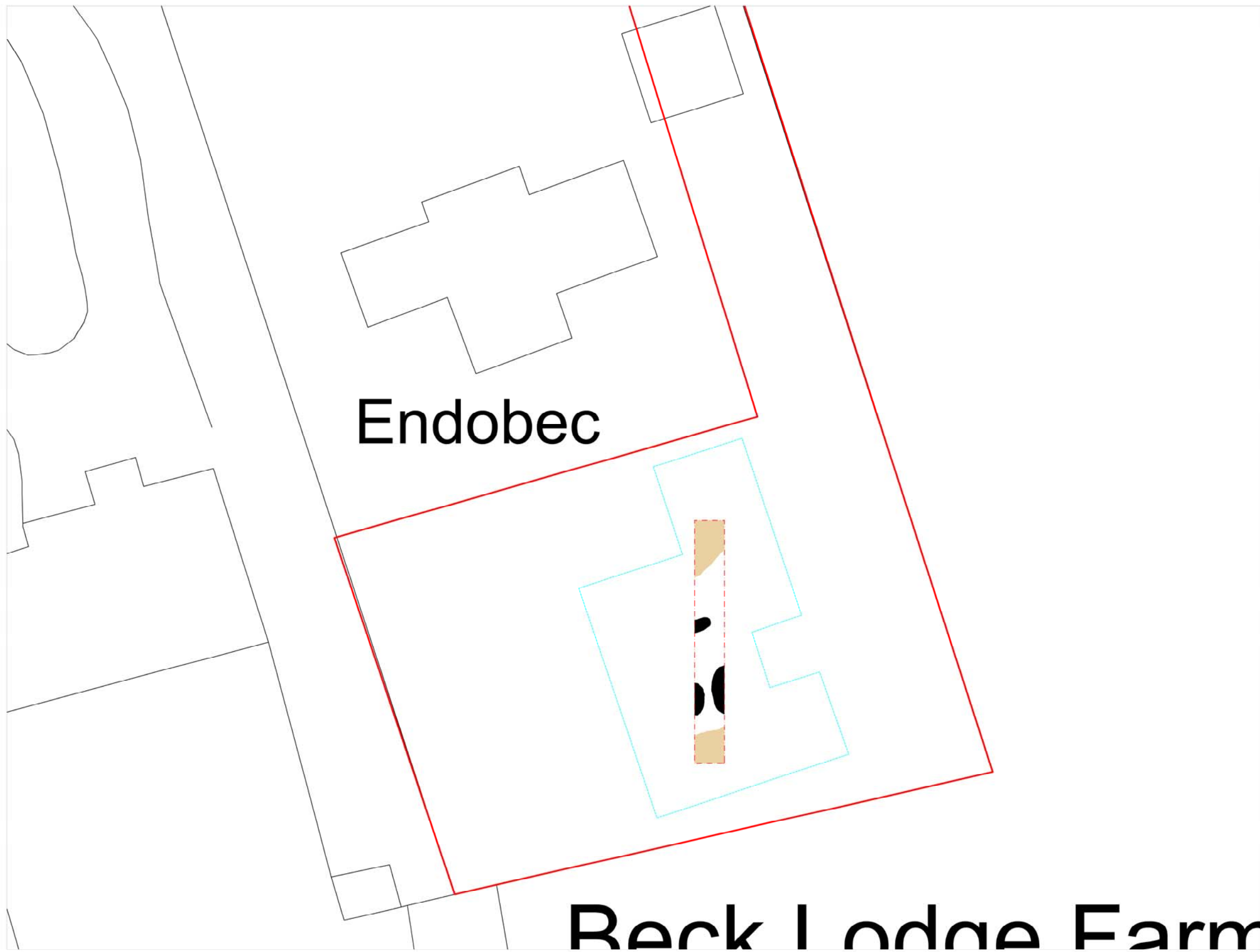


Site Boundary

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NGR:	570122 277137	REF:	R1143
PROJECT:	ENDOBEK, ST JOHNS STREET, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK		
DESCRIPTION:	SCCHER MONUMENTS & LISTED BUILDINGS PLAN		
CLIENT:	E and P Building Design		
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APPROVED:	MB	FIGURE:	3



Endobec

Beck Lodge Farm

1:250 0 10m



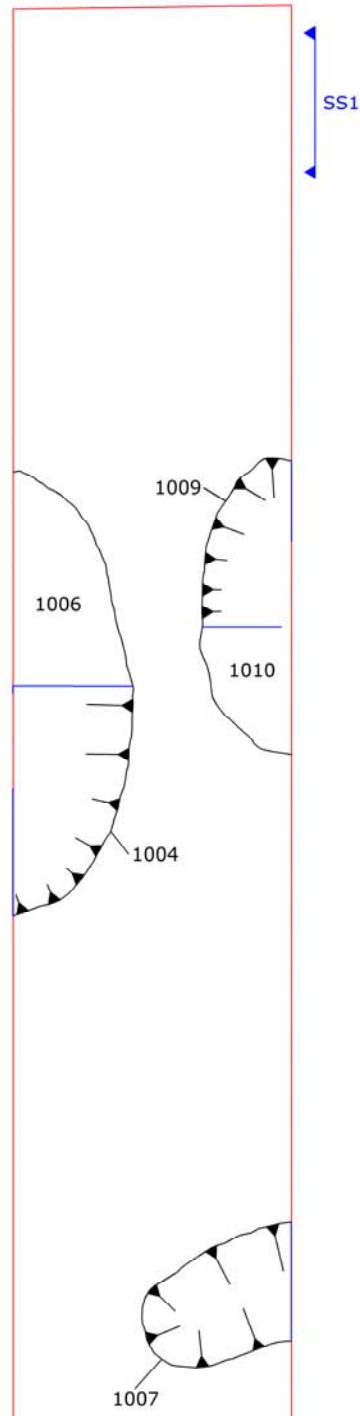
-  Chalk Natural 2003
-  Sand Natural 2003
-  Archaeological Features
-  House Footprint
-  Trench
-  Site Boundary

NGR: 570122 277137	REF: R1143
PROJECT: ENDOBEC, ST JOHNS STREET, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK	
DESCRIPTION: TRENCH & FEATURE LOCATION PLAN	
CLIENT: E and P Building Design	
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0 1:50 3m



DP1 - TRENCH SHOT - VIEW S

-  Feature Section
-  Sample Section
-  Excavated Feature
-  Trench

NGR: 570122 277137 REF: R1143

PROJECT: ENDOBEC, ST JOHNS STREET, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK

DESCRIPTION: TRENCH PLAN & PHOTOGRAPH

CLIENT: E and P Building Design

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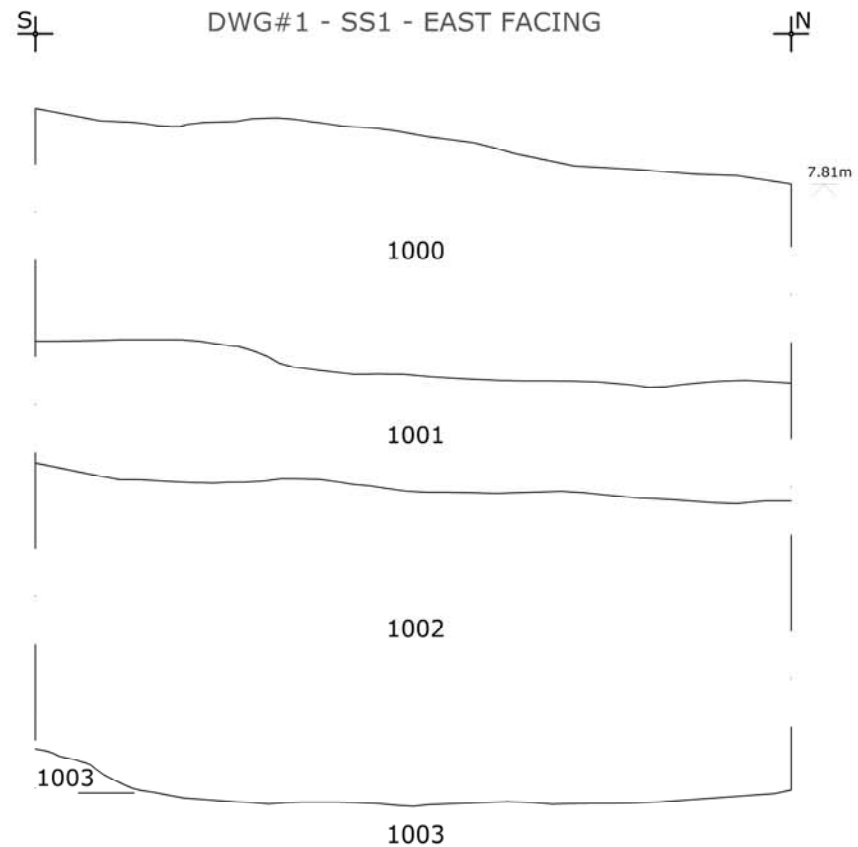
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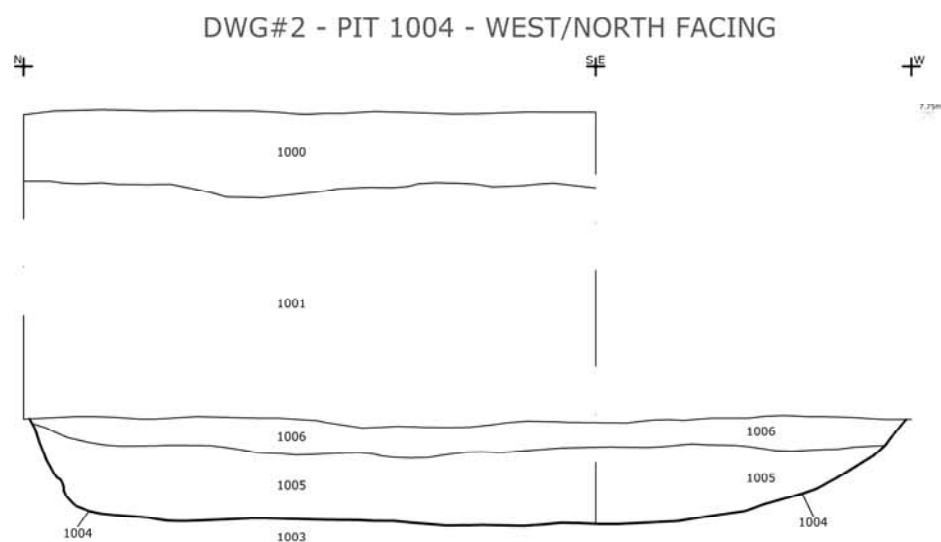
DATE: OCT 2016 PLOT: A3 VERSION: 1

AUTHOR: DPM APPROVED: MB

FIGURE: 5



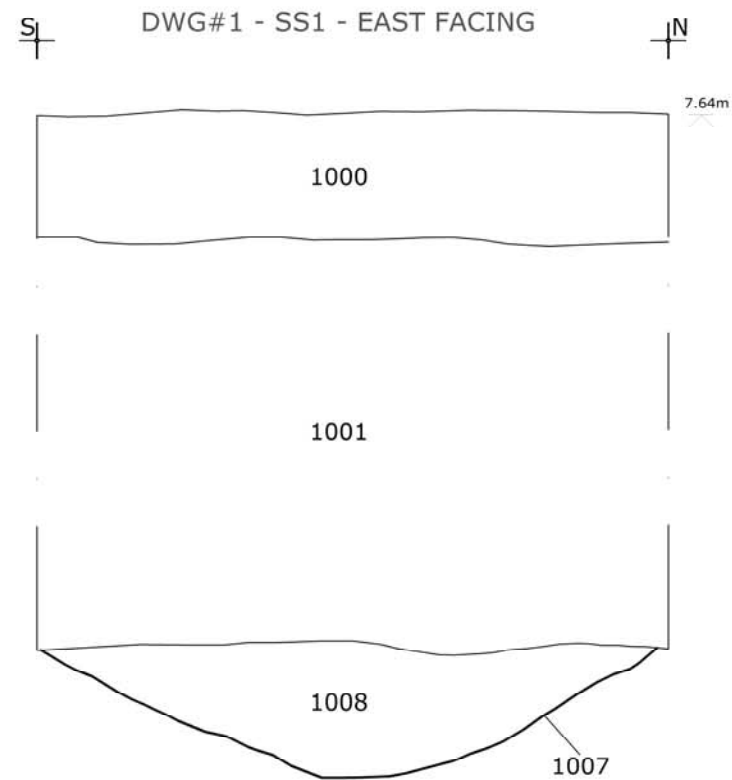
DP2 - SS1 - VIEW W



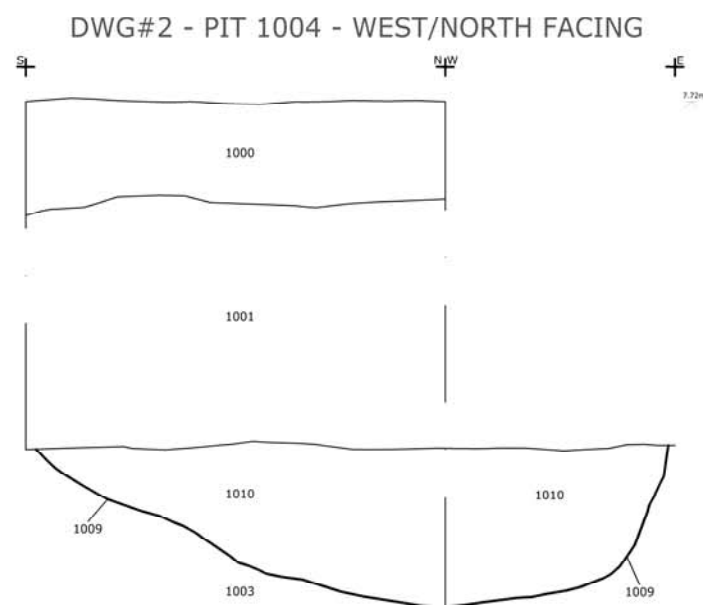
DP3 - PIT 1004 - VIEW E

INSTR:	570122 277137	REF:	R1143
PROJECT:	ENDOBECC, ST JOHNS STREET, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK		
DESCRIPTION:	SECTIONS & PHOTOGRAPHS		
CLIENT:	E and P Building Design		
BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD			
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APPROVED:	MB				



DP4 - PIT 1007 - VIEW W



DP5 - PIT 1009 - VIEW W

INSTRUMENT: 570122 277137 REF: R1143

PROJECT: ENDOBEC, ST JOHNS STREET, BECK ROW, SUFFOLK

DESCRIPTION: SECTIONS & PHOTOGRAPHS

CLIENT: E and P Building Design

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FIGURE: 7