LAND SOUTH OF TAYFEN ROAD, BURY ST EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

Report Number: 1203

October 2018

LAND SOUTH OF TAYFEN ROAD, BURY ST EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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Site Code	BSE 156	**NGR**	TL 852 648
Project No.	P1241		
Planning Ref.	DC/17/2389/FUL	**OASIS**	britanni1-318359
		HER Inv. No.	9214219
Approved By:		**Date**	October 2018

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Abstract

The site had significant potential for features and finds dating to the Anglo-Saxon and Medieval periods and moderate to low potential for all other periods. However, nothing earlier than the gasworks were encountered.

The evaluation identified a series of structures that have undergone various phases of alteration, demolition, rebuilding and subsequent demolition. Map regression and photographs illustrate the structural remains identified in the trench are contemporary with the former gas works.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

On 25th July and 2nd October 2018 Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook a trial trench evaluation at Land adjacent to Land South of Tayfen Road, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk (NGR TL 852 648) on behalf of Mr Tom Stebbing of John Stebbing Architects as part of a pre-planning investigation ahead of the redevelopment of the site.

The work was undertaken in response to a design brief issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS/CT) (Antrobus, A. dated 22nd March 2018). Two trial trenches the first measuring 12.00m x 7.00m, and the second 2.00m x 2.00m were excavated using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket.

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

The site is located in the northern bounds of the historic core of Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk south of Tayfen Road. The site is bound to the south by a high wall which lies on the line of the former town defences.

The bedrock geology is described as Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation, Newhaven Chalk Formation and Culver Chalk Formation and formed during the Cretaceous Period in shallow chalk 'shelf' seas (BGS, 2017).

Superficial deposits at the site are described as Croxton Sand and Gravel Member, formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period during ice age conditions.

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 replaces Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (PPS5, DCLG 2010). The relevant local planning policy is the Joint Development Management Policies Document, adopted by both St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath Borough Councils in 2015.

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND (Fig. 2 & 7)

The following archaeological background draws on the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER) (500m 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).

The assessment site lies in an area on the edge of historic Anglo-Saxon and medieval core of Bury St Edmunds (BSE 241) and consequently had a high potential for remains dating to these periods.

The origins of the modern town date to the early Anglo-Saxon period. The Angle King Sigebert founded a monastery in 633AD. The town's name at this time was Beodericsworth meaning 'enclosure of a man named Beodric'. By the 10th century the town was named St Edmund's Bury after the martyred King Edmund and the name derives from the Old English burgh meaning 'fortified settlement' plus the sanctified Edmund.

Evidence from the HER search supports an increase in settlement activity during the Anglo-Saxon period. The most significant record relates to the historic Anglo-Saxon core of the town (BSE 241) and the site is located on the south-western edge of this.

The monastery dominated the town from the 10th and 11th century onwards when a Benedictine monastery replaced the earlier monastery. The entry in Domesday records the settlement as having 207 households which was very large. The Abbey of St Edmunds is noted as holding the lordship before and after the Conquest suggesting that little changed in way of administration for the town.

The HER search returned numerous medieval records, a significant record is the medieval core of the town (BSE 241) which clearly expanded from the earlier Anglo-Saxon settlement.

The most significant records related to the site relate to the line of the possible Saxon town ditch (BSE 136) as well as the assumed line of the continuation of the ditch (BSE 139). Both these records are located on the site itself. Also significant is BSE 070 which relates to a Circular wall bastion shown on Thomas Warren's 1776 town map which is also located on the assessment site itself. The town ditch can be seen as an extant feature in a drawing dated to 1834 of the original gasworks

The Abbey was stripped off all assets and used as a source of building material by the town's folk following the Dissolution of 1539.

The town continued to flourish in the early post-medieval period and was awarded a Royal Charter in 1606. The cloth industry sustained a healthy economy during the 16th century, however this declined in the 17th century and consequently the town declined in importance until the 19th and 20th century when brewing became a dominant industry.
Given the above, the site had **significant** potential for features and finds dating to the Anglo-Saxon and Medieval periods and moderate to low potential for all other periods.

The following historical background draws on the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER), St Edmundsbury Chronicle (www.stedmundsburychronicle.co.uk/gas/gashistory) and 'A Century of Progress, 1834 – 1934' published by the Bury St Edmunds Gas Company.

The Bury St Edmunds Gasworks

The gas works were built in 1834 on the edge of Tayfen Road. On the site of the former gallows for Bury St Edmunds (BSE 156). The original gasworks consisted of a retort house, two simple gasholders and a workshop. In 1857 the first telescopic gasholder was built, replacing one of the original gasholders. The new gasholder was built closer to the junction of Tayfen Road and Ipswich Street.

By the 1860's the gasworks had expanded considerably, now including land north and east of Tayfen Road. A photograph dated from 1871 shows the gasworks at this time. The first telescopic gasholder can be seen as well as one of the original gasholders (Fig. 7). With the acquisition of land east of Ipswich Street, a second telescopic gasholder was commissioned, and with its completion in 1877, the last of the original 1834 gasholders was demolished.

Following this, the original site expanded further and the extra space allowed for a new retort house. The 1883 edition OS map shows the reorganised gasworks (fig.5) including the location of the last of the original 1834 gasholders. It is possible that elements of the gasholders structure were still present on the site by the time the OS map was being drawn.

In 1907, the original gas works included a showroom, to rise the public profile of the gas company. This building was located west of the retort house, facing Tayfen Road and can be seen on a photograph dated 1934 and again in 1970.

During the First World War development of most industries stopped within the country. It wasn't until 1923 when the gasworks were further reorganised, and enlarged, totalling 3.28 acres over three sites. It was during this period that the original retort house demolished, and a new retort house/manufacturing plant was built in its place.

> *'The coal carbonising plant consists of seven beds of horizontal retorts, in section 24 in. x 18 in. x 15ft. long. These are contained in a Steel Frame Stage Floor House, the panels of which are filled with brickwork. The panels on the North elevation of the house, where it abuts on an important street, are faced with red bricks. This, with the special method adopted in treating the gable ends of the building, has resulted in a very imposing structure.'* Extract from *A Century of Progress, 1834 to 1934, the Bury St Edmunds gas Company.*

The western most area of the site included offices, a showroom and workshops. This block was situated at the main entrance to the Tayfen Road site, and contained the weigh office, general office, boardroom, showroom, fitters and works stores, fitters workshops,

blacksmiths shop, and a shed for the companies three motor lorries. Beneath the blacksmiths shop was sunk a 120ft deep artesian well which supplied the copious supply of water for the entire requirements of the works.

After these redevelopments the gas works were squeezed on the original site at Tayfen Road. In 1933 the gas works finished building its third telescopic gasholder. The first telescopic gasholder was decommissioned and scheduled for demolition, the frame of it can be seen standing in photographs dated from 1934.

In 1964 the gas works at Tayfen Road closed down production, but the gasholders surrounding the site were integrated into the national grid. The original site was then demolished in the 1970's.

5.0 PROJECT AIMS

The SCCAS/CT brief stated that the evaluation should aim to address the following points (Antrobus, A. Brief, Section 4.2). Both the WSI, fieldwork and resulting report/archiving was 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 required the excavation of trenching in advance of the construction of dwelling and associated works. The initial trench covered a 12.00m x 7.00m area and was excavated on the 25th of July 2018, and a further 2.00m x 2.00m trench was excavated on the recommendation of SCCAS on the 2nd of October 2018.

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 (Fig. 4).

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

8.0 DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS (Fig. 4, 5, 6 & 7)

8.1 Trench 1

The trial trench revealed a series of structural remains that have undergone various phases of alteration, demolition, and rebuilding. The trench measured 12.00m in length and 7.00m wide and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.78m where no further excavation could be undertaken due to rising groundwater and risk from contamination.

At the very base of the trench was a concrete pad **1007**, on top of the concrete pad were a course of yellow bricks measuring 11.50cm x 23.00cm x 0.60cm, in English bond and had been pointed with a pale yellow white mortar. Around the yellow bricks were a series of courses of red frogged bricks measuring 10.50cm x 22.00cm x 6.50cm, forming structure **1004**. The quantity of bricks present in the southern area of the trench suggests they form the foundation for a substantial structure. The most likely structure to have been in this area is the 1923 retort house chimney, which is visible in photographs from 1934 (Fig.7).

Immediately to the north of the aforementioned structure were a series of yellow bricks measuring 11.50cm x 23.00cm x 0.60cm, set out in horizontal rows of two courses, **1006**. Between each row, with a 0.80cm gap, were set a series of ceramic box flues measuring 0.38cm x 0.38cm x 0.38cm. To the west of these a series of red bricks were cut into the side of one of the yellow brick rows. These rows of yellow bricks and box flues are most likely the belowground remains of the retort house present on the site from 1834, until its demolition in 1923. A black and white photograph from 1871 (Fig.7) shows the original retort house, showing that the lower section of the retort house was constructed from light coloured bricks (possibly yellow).

Joining onto structure **1004**, was a series of reinforced concrete foundations with cut rolled steel joists (RSJ's) protruding from sections of the concrete foundations. These concrete foundations had been cut into the rows of yellow bricks and ceramic flues, showing that structure **1006** is stratigraphically earlier than structures **1004** and **1003**.

Surrounding structures **1003** and **1004** is a layer of demolition material, **1005**, consisting of a large quantity of yellow bricks and concrete rubble with occasional red bricks. This layer is formed of demolition material from the 1834 and 1877 modified structure previously present on the site. This layer has been spread across the site and utilised as a levelling layer that forms the base for parts of the 1923 redesign and rebuild of the site.

In the southernmost area of the trench the demolition material, **1005**, had been capped by a thin concrete pad that was adjoining the 1923 rebuilt retort house and chimney stack, structures **1003** and **1004**. This concrete pad most likely represents a small section of the yard surface which bordered the 1923 structures. Black and white photographs dated from 1934 (Fig.7) showing the rear of the retort house, **1003**, including the chimney stack, **1004**, conclude this to be what the concrete pad was used for.

Structure **1003**, shows that the 1970's demolition of the site only went to ground level, with all of the RSJ's cut to an average of 0.07m. The demolition material from **1003** and **1004** had been spread across the site, covering what remained of the foundations and yard surface, forming layer **1002**. This layer was then covered by a layer of sand and crush **1001** and a layer of asphalt, **1000**, forming the modern surface of the site.

8.2 Trench 2

The trench revealed evidence of disturbed structural elements and a concrete foundation pad. The trench measured 2.00m x 2.00m and was located on the southeast boundary of the site. It was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.92m where natural geology was present.

Above natural geology **1008** was a Levelling Layer, **1009**, for a concrete and brick pad (**1007**) which acted as a foundation pad for a structure. Above this pad were two layers of disturbed brickwork (**1006** and **1004**) which were identified in Trench 1 and represent disturbed structural elements associated with the former Bury St Edmunds gasworks. Due to the small size of the excavated area and the disturbed nature of these layers it was not possible to define which structure the bricks related to.

The purpose of this additional trench was to assess whether any of the medieval town ditch was present in the southeast area along the existing retaining wall on site. No evidence of the ditch could be found and given the depth of the foundations for the gasworks it is likely that the ditch was destroyed by the groundworks for the gasworks structures during their construction.

9.0 DEPOSIT MODEL (Fig. 5)

The deposit model was broadly consistent across the site.

At the top of the stratigraphic sequence was asphalt layer **1000**, which was present to a depth 0.14m in sample section 1.

Beneath asphalt layer **1000**, was levelling layer **1001**, which was present to a depth of 0.63m in sample section 2. This layer comprised of a loose, mid orange grey, sandy gravel, with frequent inclusions of crushed small to medium sized brick fragments.

The aforementioned levelling layer overlay a demolition layer in trench 1, **1002**, present to a depth of 0.32m, and was 0.09m thick in sample section 1. This layer comprised of a firm, mid orange-grey brown, sandy silt with large broken concrete pads from the layer below. This demolition layer has been used as a former levelling layer for the site. This layer corresponds to the 1970's demolition of the site.

The final layer encountered in trench 1 was a second demolition layer **1005**, present to a depth of 0.74m, with a maximum thickness of 0.34m in sample section 1. This layer comprised of a mid yellow-grey brown, sandy silt with very frequent inclusions of yellow bricks and degraded mortar and moderate inclusions of red bricks. This layer corresponds to the demolition of the 1877 modified retort house in 1923.

The base of the archaeological sequence was not met in trench 1 due to on site restrictions, rising ground water and risk from contamination. The base of the sequence was reached in trench 2 and was natural geology **1008** which comprised of a mid yellow brown sandy gravel with moderate small stone inclusions and was present from a depth of 1.92m.

10.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The site had significant potential for features and finds dating to the Anglo-Saxon and Medieval periods and moderate to low potential for all other periods. However, nothing earlier than the gasworks were encountered.

The evaluation revealed 5 phases of activity on the site, all associated with the former gas works.

The first phase relates to structure **1006**, comprising of a series of yellow bricks set out in horizontal rows of two courses and between each row were set a series of ceramic box flues. This structure most likely represents the remains of the 1834 retort house

The second phase of activity on the site is the demolition of the 1834 retort house. This is represented in the trench by demolition layer **1005**, which had been spread across the southern part of the trench.

The third phase of activity relates to a series of structural remains, comprising of foundations constructed from red frogged bricks **1004** adjacent a series of reinforced concrete foundations with cut off vertical RSJ's **1003.** Surrounding both of these structural elements was a thin concrete pad, which had been formed on top of the levelled demolition material, **1005**, creating a yard surface which would have serviced the 1923 retort house. These structures were present on the site until their demolition during the 1970's. A photograph from the 1970's (Fig.7) shows the buildings present in the trench were still standing with the yard having some minor changes, with the construction of new structures against the rear wall of the site, the function of these structures is unknown however they are utilitarian in appearance.

The fourth phase is the demolition of the 1923 structures to ground level during the 1970's. This is represented by demolition layer **1002**, which seals the entire structure present within the trench. The demolition of the site had only been taken to ground level, this is known because the RSJ's present in the reinforced concrete have been cut to an average height of 0.07m.

The fifth phase is surface for the car lot currently present on the site. This consisted of a levelling layer of sand and crush, **1001**, placed on top of demolition layer **1002**. This has then had the asphalt surface **1000** placed on top of it.

Conclusion

The evaluation identified a series of structures that have undergone various phases of alteration, demolition, rebuilding and subsequent demolition. Map regression (fig.5) and photographs (Fig.7) illustrate that the structural remains identified in the trenches are contemporary with the former gas works.

11.0 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

Arrangements will be made for the archive to be deposited with Suffolk County Council Archaeological Archives subject to agreement with the legal landowner where finds are concerned. The digital archive with be stored with the Archaeological Data Service (ADS).

12.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Britannia Archaeology would like to thank Mr Glenn Hunt for funding the project and Mr Tom Stebbing of John Stebbing Architects Ltd for commissioning the work.

We would also like to thank Abby Antrobus from SCCAS/CT for her advice and assistance on the project.

The site was excavated by Matthew Adams, Matthew Baker, Louisa Cunningham and Dan McConnnell of Britannia Archaeology Ltd.

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

English Heritage National List for England
www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/protection/process/national-heritage-list-for-england

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

Historic England National List for England

https://www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list

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

St Edmundsbury chronicle

http://www.stedmundsburychronicle.co.uk/gas/gashistory.htm

APPENDIX 1 – DEPOSIT TABLES

Deposit Tables

TRENCH 1

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
1	N-S	12.04	6
Sample Section No	**Location**	**Facing**	
1	West side of trench	E Facing	
Context No	**Depth**	**Deposit Description**	
1000	0.00-0.14m	Asphalt: dark brown-black, asphalt.	
1001	0.14-0.20m	Levelling layer: Mid orange grey, loose, sandy gravel, with frequent small to medium sized red brick fragments.	
1002	0.20-0.24m	Demolition layer: Mid orange brown, firm, sandy silt, with large broken concrete chunks and frequent inclusions of modern rubbish.	
1005	0.46 – 0.74m	Demolition layer: Mid yellow-grey brown, firm, sandy silt with very frequent inclusions of yellow brick fragments and degraded mortar, with moderate inclusions of red brick fragments	

TRENCH 2

Trench No	Orientation	Height AOD	Shot ID
2	-		7
Sample Section No	**Location**	**Facing**	
2	NW side of trench	SE Facing	
Context No	**Depth**	**Deposit Description**	
1000	0.00-0.29m	Asphalt: dark brown-black, asphalt.	
1001	0.29-0.63m	Levelling layer: Mid orange grey, loose, sandy gravel, with frequent small to medium sized red brick fragments.	
1008	1.92m+	Natural Geology: Mid yellow brown, friable sandy gravel, with moderate small stone inclusions	

APPENDIX 2 – OASIS SHEET

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

List of Projects | Manage Projects | Search Projects | New project | Change your details | HER coverage | Change country | Log out

Printable version

OASIS ID: britanni1-290126

Project details

Project name	Land Adjacent to 40 Tayfen Road, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk
Short description of the project	On 25th July 2017 Britannia Archaeology Ltd (BA) undertook a trial trench evaluation at Land adjacent to 40 Tayfen Road, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk (NGR TL 8518 6479) on behalf of Mr Glenn Hunt (c/o Mr Tom Stebbing of John Stebbing Architects) as part of a pre-planning investigation ahead of redevelopment. The work was undertaken in response to a design brief issued by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS/CT) (Antrobus, A. dated 24th May 2017). A single trial trench measuring 2.00m x 2.00m was excavated using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket The evaluation revealed 2 phases of activity on the site. The first phase relates to layer 1002 which represents the demolition waste from the previous structure on the site and possibly the contemporary demolition of surrounding structures. The bricks found in the fill (not retained) are of post-medieval to modern in date and the waste items found were modern. The loose fill around the demolished bricks caused a void to appear which went to a depth of over 0.50m with further voids visible beyond at which point excavation ceased due to unstable ground conditions. The potential depth of the site suggests the presence of a cellared building, the cellar of which was infilled with demolition debris. Map regression has shown that a structure was present on the site from at least 1885 as it is visible in 1st edition OS map 1885 (fig.XX). The structure is still present on revised OS edition from 1953. The second phase relates to layer 1001 which represents the post-demolition phase of the site during which time the site was covered with trees which were removed c.10 years prior to this evaluation causing rooting disturbance (landowner pers comm).
Project dates	Start: 25-07-2017 End: 25-07-2017
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	BSE 519 - HER event no.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 15 - Other
Monument type	DEMOLISHED STRUCTURE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	""Sample Trenches""
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Position in the planning process	Pre-application

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK ST EDMUNDSBURY BURY ST EDMUNDS Land Adjacent to 40 Tayfen Road, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk
Postcode	IP33 1SY
Study area	0 Hectares
Site coordinates	TL 8518 6479 52.249616408631 0.713062253449 52 14 58 N 000 42 47 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 35.2m Max: 35.7m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Britannia Archaeology Ltd
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Martin Brook
Project director/manager	Martin Brook
Project supervisor	Dan McConnell
Type of sponsor/funding body	Landowner
Name of sponsor/funding body	Glenn Hunt c/o Stebbing Architects Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk HER
Digital Archive ID	BSE 519
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"GIS","Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk HER
Paper Archive ID	BSE 519
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Map","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Land adjacent to 40 Tayfen Road, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Louisa Cunningham
Other bibliographic details	R1170
Date	2017
Issuer or publisher	Britannia Archaeology Ltd
Place of issue or publication	Bury St Edmunds
Description	A4 bound report with fold out A3 figures
URL	http://www.britannia-archaeology.com/
Entered by	Louisa Cunningham (louisa@brit-arch.com)
Entered on	27 July 2017

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APPENDIX 3 – 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 John Stebbing Architects Ltd, as a scheme of archaeological works in response to a brief issued by Suffolk County Council (Antrobus, A. 22nd March 2018). The brief requires a programme of linear trial trenching to sample the area under threat from development which will comprise 12.00 x 7.00m of trenching.

This WSI is specific for a trial trench evaluation at Land South of Tayfen Road, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk (NGR TL 852 648). It 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.

This scope of this WSI does not cover any additional work required (excavation, monitoring, etc.) following the results of this evaluation and for which a new brief will be issued if necessary.

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

The site is located in the northern bounds of the historic core of Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk adjacent to Tayfen Road. Directly to the east of the site is a high wall which lies on the line of the former town defences.

The bedrock geology is described as Lewes Nodular Chalk Formation, Seaford Chalk Formation, Newhaven Chalk Formation and Culver Chalk Formation and formed during the Cretaceous Period in shallow chalk 'shelf' seas (BGS, 2017).

Superficial deposits at the site are described as Croxton Sand and Gravel Member, formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period during ice age conditions.

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 replaces Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (PPS5, DCLG 2010). The relevant local planning policy is the Joint Development Management Policies Document, adopted by both St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath Borough Councils in 2015.

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 St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath Joint Development Management Policies Document (2015)

The policies in the *Joint Development Management Policies Document* that relate to archaeology and heritage are DM20 and DM21.

Policy DM20 states that:

"Development will not be acceptable if it would have a material adverse effect on Scheduled Ancient Monuments or other sites of archaeological importance, or their settings. On sites of archaeological interest, or of potential archaeological importance, provided there is no overriding case against development, planning permission will be granted subject to satisfactory prior arrangements being agreed.

This will include one or a combination of the following:

a. an appropriate desk based assessment and/or field evaluation of the archaeological interest or significance prior to determination.
b. the preservation of archaeological remains in situ;

The adequate recording of the heritage asset by archaeological investigation before development commences (preservation by record)."

4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND (Fig. 2 & 3)

The following archaeological background draws on the Suffolk Historic Environment Record (HER) (500m 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).

The assessment site lies in an area on the edge of historic Anglo-Saxon and medieval core of Bury St Edmunds (BSE 241) and consequently has a high potential for remains dating to these periods.

The origins of the modern town date to the early Anglo-Saxon period. The Angle King Sigebert founded a monastery in 633AD. The town's name at this time was Beodericsworth meaning 'enclosure of a man named Beodric'. By the 10th century the town was named St Edmund's Bury after the martyred King Edmund and the name derives from the Old English burgh meaning 'fortified settlement' plus the sanctified Edmund.

Evidence from the HER search supports an increase in settlement activity during the Anglo-Saxon period. The most significant record relates to the historic Anglo-Saxon core of the town (BSE 241) and the site is located on the south-western edge of this.

The monastery dominated the town from the 10th and 11th century onwards when a Benedictine monastery replaced the earlier monastery. The entry in Domesday records the settlement as having 207 households which was very large. The Abbey of St Edmunds is noted as holding the lordship before and after the Conquest suggesting that little changed in way of administration for the town.

The HER search returned numerous medieval records, a significant record is the medieval core of the town (BSE 241) which clearly expanded from the earlier Anglo-Saxon settlement.

The most significant records related to the site relate to the line of the possible Saxon town ditch (BSE 136) as well as the assumed line of the continuation of the ditch (BSE 139). Both these records are located on the site itself.

The Abbey was stripped off all assets and used as a source of building material by the town's folk following the Dissolution of 1539.

The town continued to flourish in the early post-medieval period and was awarded a Royal Charter in 1606. The cloth industry sustained a healthy economy during the 16th century, however this declined in the 17th century and consequently the town declined in importance until the 19th and 20th century when brewing became a dominant industry.

The site is likely to have been heavily remodelled in later periods, with gasworks on the site from the early 19th century, which are shown on historic OS maps. Borehole data indicates varied depths of made ground on the site up to depths of over 4m, but the character of these is not completely conclusive (e.g. whether they are demolition deposits

and infill of later features, or whether they relate to earthworks associated with the town defences). (Brief, 2.3).

Given the above, the site has **significant** potential for features and finds dating to the Anglo-Saxon and Medieval periods and moderate to low potential for all other periods.

5.0 PROJECT AIMS

The SCCAS/CT brief states that the evaluation should aim to (Antrobus, A. Brief, 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.

Both the WSI, fieldwork and resulting report/archiving will be undertaken in accordance with the Requirements for Trenched Archaeological Evaluation 2017 (SCCAS/CT).

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).

7.0 FIELDWORK METHODOLOGY

The SCCAS/CT brief requires an archaeological evaluation by means of trenching in advance of the construction of housing. The trenching is to cover part of the development area which will consist of a single 12.00 x 7.00m trench..

All work will be carried out in accordance with *Standard And Guidance For Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2014 CIfA) and *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, (Gurney, D. 2003. East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14).

A 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket and breaker will be used to machine down to the first archaeological horizon, thereafter all excavation work will be undertaken by hand (Fig. 4). Trenches will be signed off by SCCAS/CT prior to backfilling. Excavation by hand will only be undertaken where safe to do so.

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.

Due to the expected death of the trench enough room has been allowed via the trench width (7.00m) to allow stepping to occur to a depth of 4.00m. This will only be undertaken in stable ground conditions.

7.3 Hand Excavation

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

7.4 Metal Detector

A professional metal detectorist (Steve Clarkson) will scan each trench prior to excavation, the resulting spoil heaps, exposed surfaces and any features. The finds will be recovered and recorded in the proper way. Demonstrably modern finds will not be retained and 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 exception to this relates to layers and remains associated with World War 1 and World War 2 military installations/structures. These will be distinguished and excavated in phase as per normal procedure. 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 Zoe Outram 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, SCCASCT, 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.

Treasure will be immediately reported to the Suffolk Finds Liaison Officer who will in turn inform the coroner within 14 days.

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 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* (2017).

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 scheduled to start in July 2018 pending approval of this written scheme of investigation by SCCAS/CT. Two members of staff will be on site to undertake the evaluation which is expected to take 3 - 5 days. 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. No trenches will be signed off without approval from SCCAS/CT.

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

English Heritage National List for England www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/protection/process/national-heritage-list-for-england

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

Historic England National List for England

https://www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list

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

N

Site Boundary

NGR: 585235 264871 | REF: P1241

PROJECT: LAND SOUTH OF TAYFEN ROAD, BURY ST EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK

DESCRIPTION: GENERAL LOCATION PLAN

CLIENT: John Stebbing Architects

BRITANNIA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD
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THE OLD WOOL WAREHOUSE
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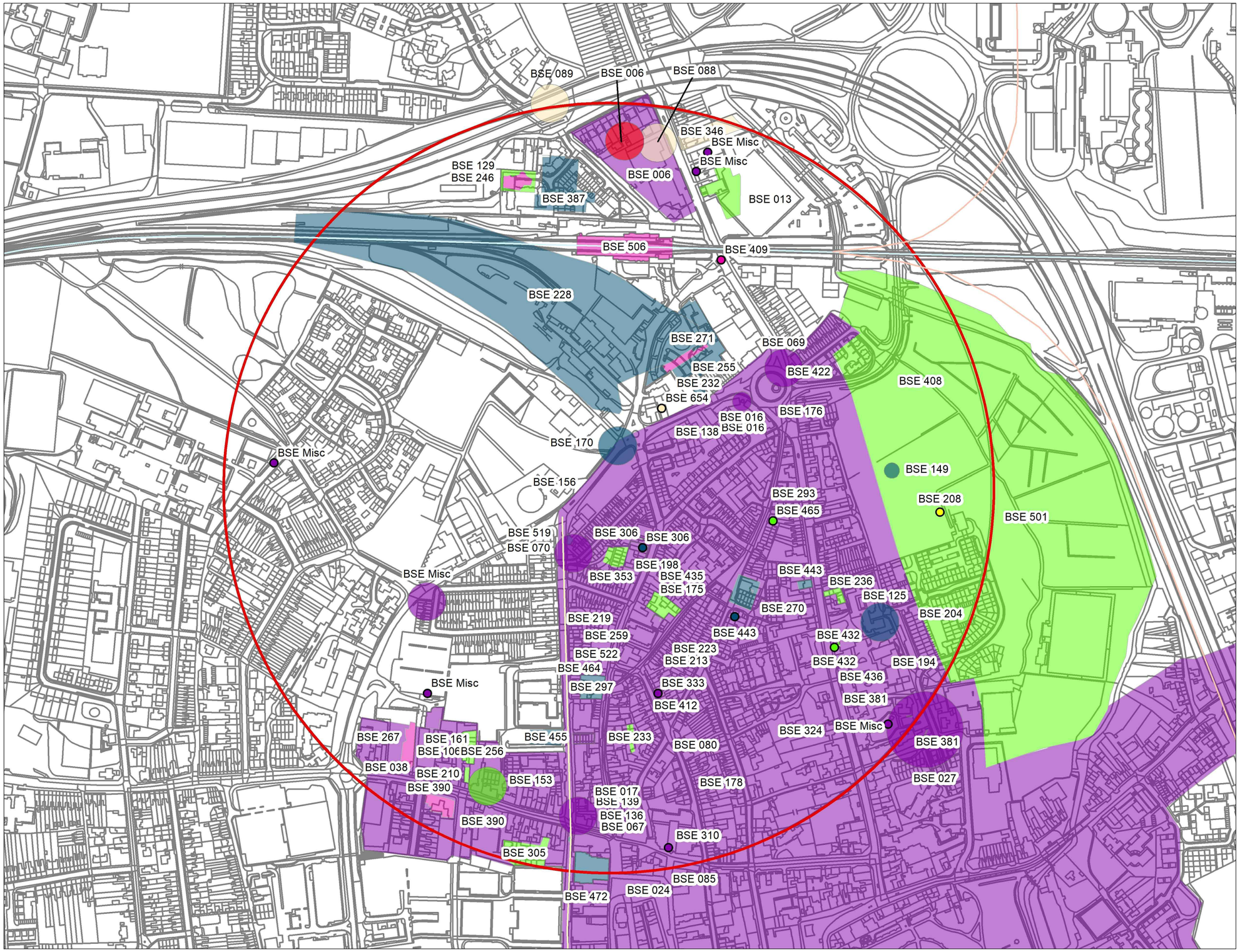
BURY ST EDMUNDS
SUFFOLK
IP33 3PH
T: 01284 630057
E: info@brit-arch.com
W: www.britannia-archaeology.com

DATE: JUNE 2018 | PLOT: A3 | VERSION: 1

AUTHOR: MCA | APPROVED: MB

FIGURE: 1



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N

Site Boundary

NGR: 585235 264871 | REF: P1241

PROJECT: LAND SOUTH OF TAYFEN ROAD, BURY ST EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK

DESCRIPTION: SHER DATA - MONUMENTS

CLIENT: John Stebbing Architects

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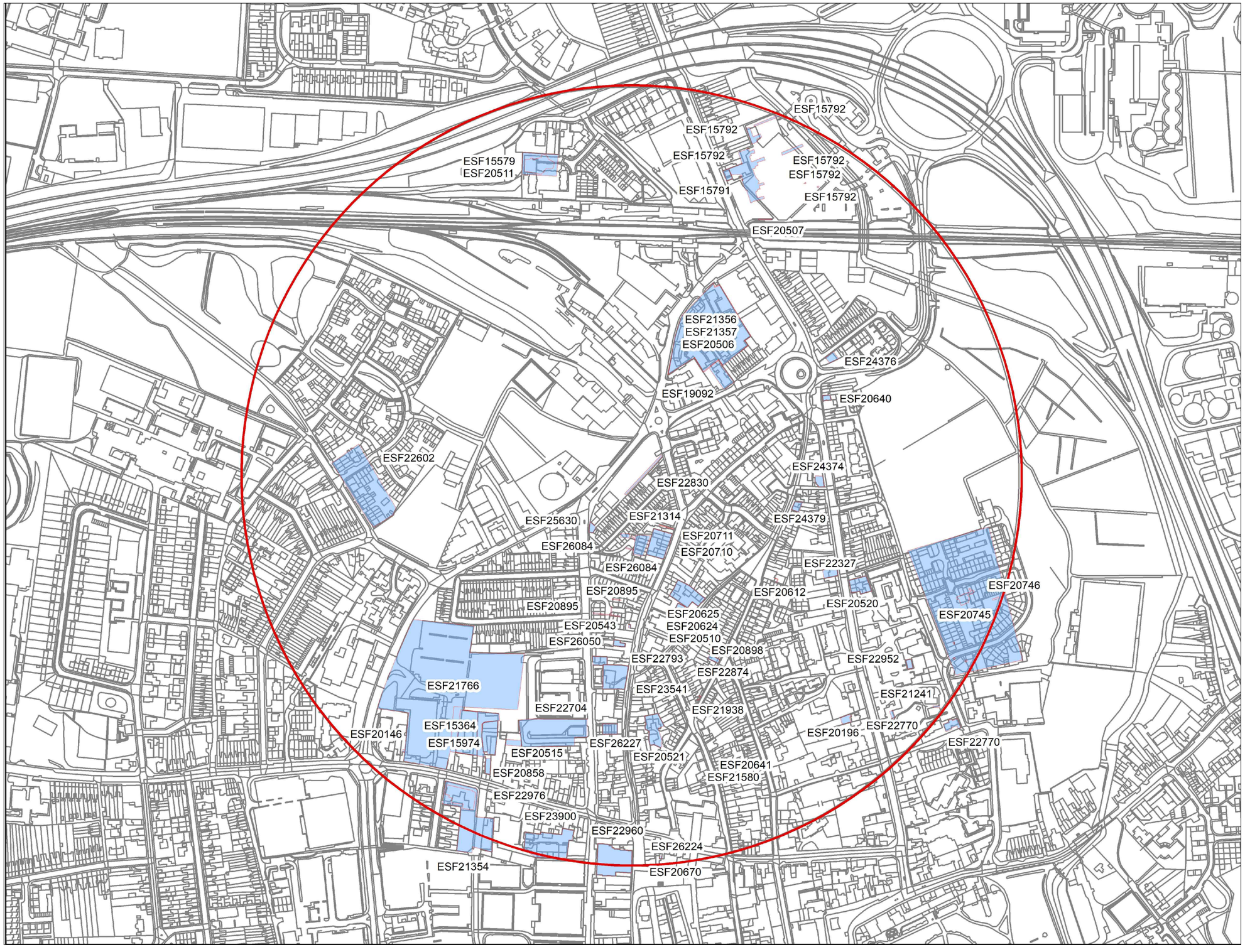
DATE: JUNE 2018 | PLOT: A3 | VERSION: 1

AUTHOR: MCA | APPROVED: DPM

FIGURE: 2



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Site Boundary

NGR: 585235 264871 | REF: P1241

PROJECT: LAND SOUTH OF TAYFEN ROAD, BURY ST EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK

DESCRIPTION: SHER DATA - EVENTS

CLIENT: John Stebbing Architects

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DATE: JUNE 2018 | PLOT: A3 | VERSION: 1

AUTHOR: MCA

APPROVED: DPM

FIGURE: 3

N

Archaeological Features

Trench

Site Boundary

NGR: 585235 264871

REF: P1241

PROJECT: LAND SOUTH OF TAYFEN ROAD, BURY ST EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK

DESCRIPTION: TRENCH & FEATURE LOCATION PLAN

CLIENT: John Stebbing Architects

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DATE: JULY 2018

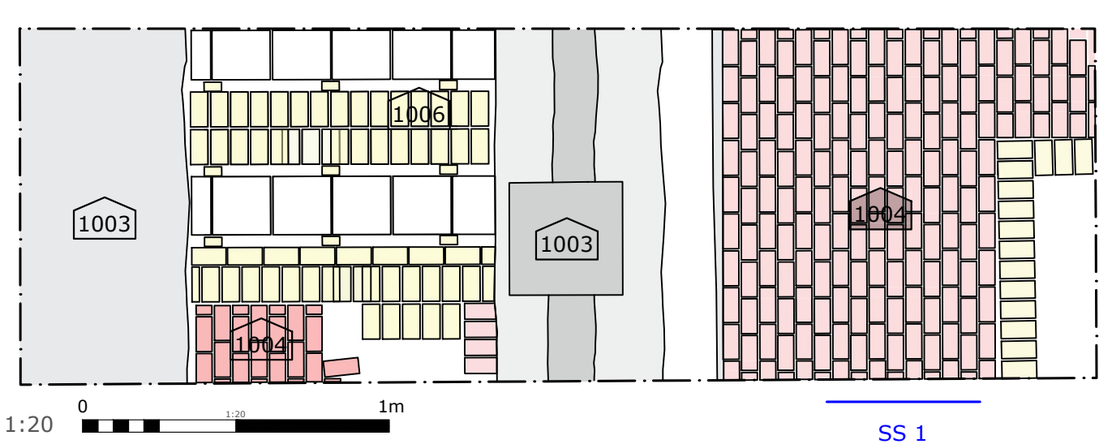
PLOT: A3

VERSION: 2

AUTHOR: MCA

APPROVED: DPM

FIGURE: 4



SS 1

DP6 - Sample Section 1 - View W

DP3 - 19th Century BrickFlues cut by 20th Century Foundations - View S

DP7 - Sample Section 2 - View N

DP8 - Trench 2 Post Exc - View E

N

NGR: 585235 264871
REF: P1241
PROJECT: LAND SOUTH OF TAYFEN ROAD, BURY ST EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK
DESCRIPTION: TRENCH PLAN & SECTIONS
CLIENT: JOHN STEBBING ARCHITECTS LTD

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DATE: JULY 2018
PLOT: A3
VERSION: 2
AUTHOR: MCA
APPROVED: DPM
FIGURE: 5

1:500

0 1:500 30m

N

Trench
Buildings on OS Map 1964
Buildings on OS Map 1926
Buildings on OS Map 1884
Site Boundary

NGR: 595950 267500
REF: P1241

PROJECT: LAND SOUTH OF TAYFEN ROAD, BURY ST EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK

DESCRIPTION: FORMER DEVELOPMENT PLANS 1884 - 1964

CLIENT: John Stebbing Architects

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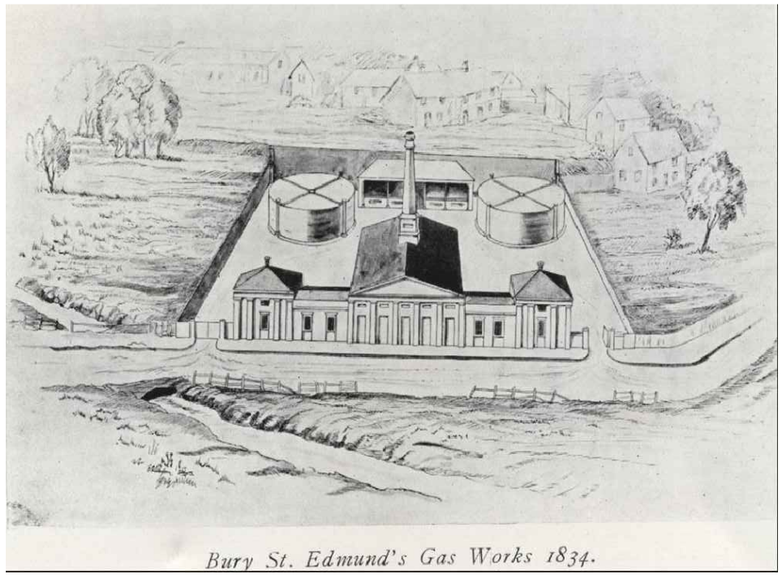
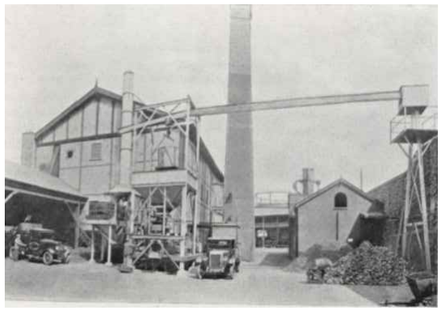
DATE: JULY 2018
PLOT: A3
VERSION: 2

AUTHOR: MCA
APPROVED: MB

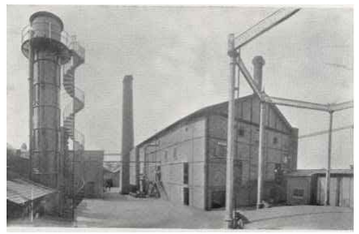
FIGURE: 6



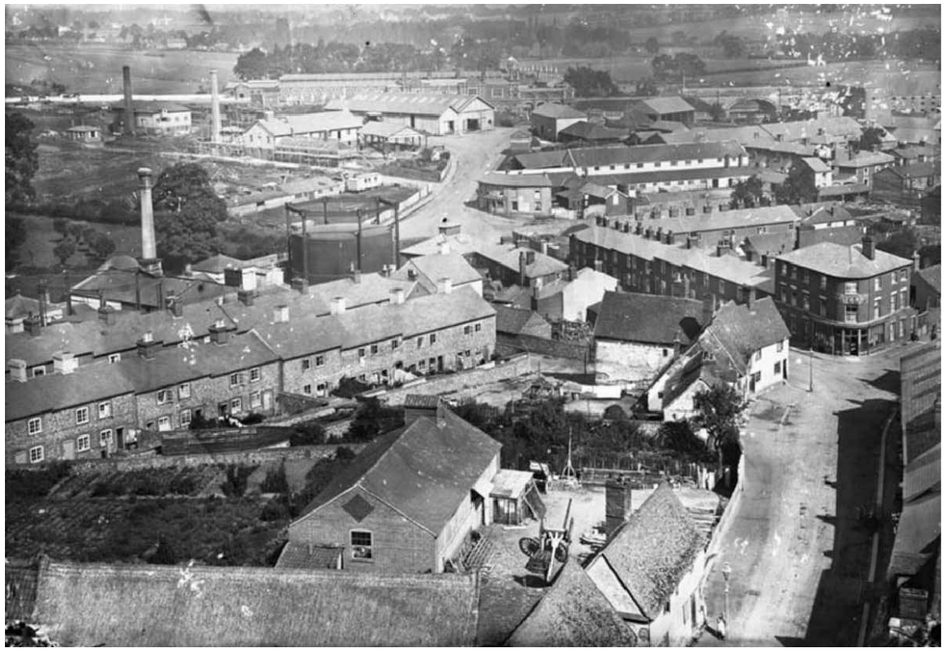
Drawing of gasworks on Tayfen Road dated 1834, showing remains of town ditch on the left



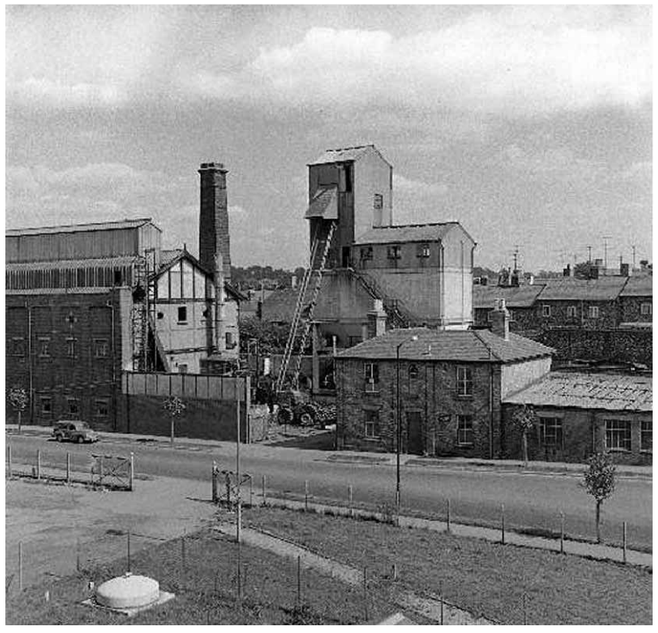
Photograph dated 1934 showing internal view of the structures present on site.
View E



Photograph dated 1934 showing internal view of the structures present on site.
View W



Photograph dated 1871 showing the original retort house from 1834.
View NE



Photograph dated to the 1970's showing gasworks site prior to demolition.
View SE

IMAGES HAVE BEEN TAKEN FROM:

'A CENTURY OF PROGRESS 1834 - 1934: THE CENTENARY OF GAS LIGHTING IN BURY ST EDMUNDS'

NGR: 595950 267500 | REF: P1241

PROJECT: LAND SOUTH OF TAYFEN ROAD, BURY ST EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK

DESCRIPTION: HISTORIC IMAGES OF THE SITE ON TAYFEN ROAD

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FIGURE: 7