# Archaeological Monitoring of a bungalow plot on land adjacent to 'High Trees', Mileham, Norfolk.



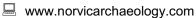
Prepared for Jason Fuller

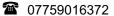
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# Archaeological Monitoring of land adjacent to 'High Trees', The Street, Mileham, Norfolk. PE32 2RB.

Location: Mileham

**Grid Ref:** TF 9198 1948 **NHES Event No:** ENF130131

**Date of fieldwork:** 20<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> November 2012 and 4<sup>th</sup> May 2013

#### 1.0 Introduction

Norvic Archaeology was commissioned by Jason Fuller to undertake archaeological monitoring on groundworks associated with the construction of a bungalow on a plot of land adjacent to 'High Trees', which is located on a lane off The Street, Mileham. The plot was formerly part of the garden of 'Red Roofs' before being purchased by the owners of 'High Trees'. It now forms a private plot c. 850m² designated for this residential development.

The site is located within the area of the medieval settlement of Mileham and specifically in the area between the castle and St John's Church. Medieval pottery fragments were discovered in the immediate vicinity of the plot during building works in the 1980s.

The archaeological monitoring was undertaken in accordance with a brief issued by the Historic Environment Service (HES Ref: CNF43722\_2) on behalf of Breckland Council (planning ref: 3PL/2012/0913/F).

The aim of the monitoring work was to assess the presence/absence, date, nature, and extent of any archaeological remains and features revealed by groundworks associated with the development. This report presents a brief description of the methodology followed, the results and the archaeological interpretation of the work.

On completion of the project, the site archive will be offered for long term deposition with Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service, following the relevant policy on archiving standards.

#### 2.0 Summary of Results

No significant evidence of medieval activity was revealed by the groundworks, although a small number of pits of uncertain date were recorded. This area of land appears to have been a marginal plot subject to historic pitting, possibly for the ad-hoc extraction of clay

A large post-medieval pit which measured c. 5.85m across was encountered at the southern edge of the site, which may have served as a clay extraction pit before receiving dumps of ashy-waste and soil.

Following the early 20<sup>th</sup> century establishment of the '*Red Roofs*' small holding this particular area of land was subject to rubbish pitting. Several rubbish pits of a late 1940s to 1950s date were encountered along the northern edge of the site and several other pits of later 20<sup>th</sup> century date were identified elsewhere.

Minor traces of disturbance to subsoils were noted in the eastern part of the site which may well relate to the former presence of a trackway which served 'Red Roofs', visible on 1940s aerial photographs. A post-medieval horseshoe and a Mesolithic core rejuvenation flake were collected from the disturbed subsoils in this particular area of the site.

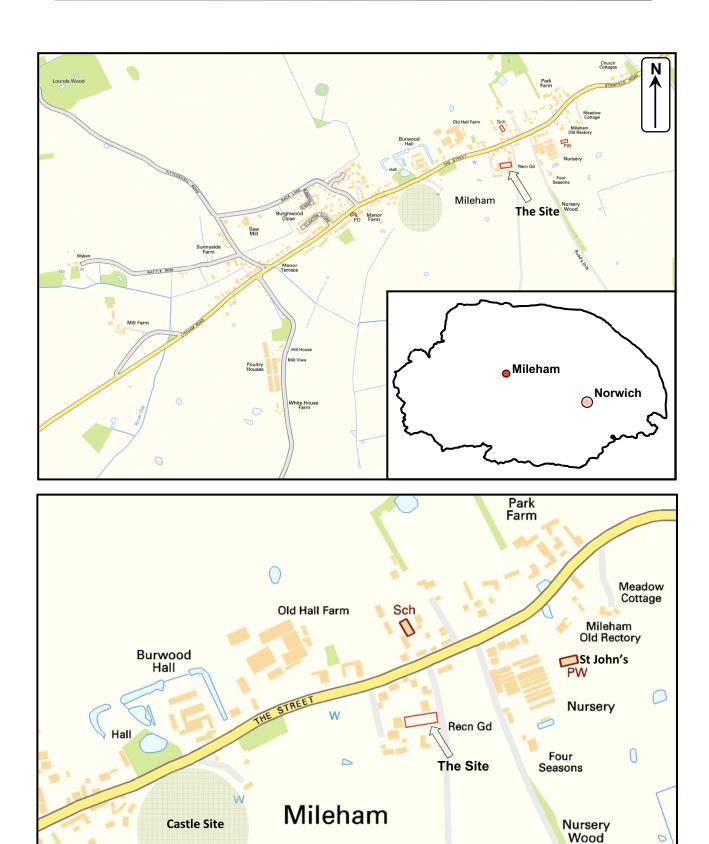


Figure 1: Site Location Plan

D

Manor Farm



#### 3.0 Geology and Topography

Mileham is located in mid Norfolk, c. 30km east of King's Lynn and c. 35km west-north-west of Norwich, in the county of Norfolk, within the administrative district of Breckland. Topographically, the village lies in a slight valley at the head of two streams which fall away to the east and to the west. The source of the River Blackwater lies at the east end of the village, flowing eastwards where it joins the Scarning River beyond Elmham. To the west the River Nar rises just to the north of Mileham but curves close by the village before turning west to flow to the Fens and the River Ouse.

The site is located within the historic core of Mileham at c. 64m OD and is reached by an access road c. 80m south off The Street. It is situated in between Mileham Castle (found c. 300m to the south-west) and St John's Church (c. 230m east-north-east).

The underlying geology is Upper Chalk, overlain by gravel and sand outwash deposits with interspersed zones of clay (Geology of Britain Viewer at a scale of 1:50 (http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer google/googleviewer.html).

The sub-surface geology of the site encountered during the fieldwork can be characterised as firm sandy clays with flints with deeper chalky clays below. Local soils are generally characterised as part of the Beccles 1 Association; slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loams over clayey soils developed on chalky till (Hodge et al 1984, 119).

#### 4.0 Brief Archaeological and Historical Background

A parish summary of the large amount of information held for Mileham's Historic Environment can be viewed on the Norfolk Heritage Explorer website. The parish has generated over 80 records which give evidence of human occupation and activity of most periods in the form of find scatters, cropmarks, listed buildings and excavated sites.

Evidence for prehistoric activity in the area of the village is currently limited to small numbers of residual worked flints of Neolithic to Bronze Age date and a small assemblage of metalwork; which includes a Bronze Age spearhead (NHER 7226) and an axe or palstave fragment (NHER 7270). The remains of several possible ring ditches identified as cropmarks from aerial photographs have been recorded, which may represent the remains of ploughed out barrow sites. Iron Age coins have been found in small numbers through metal detection.

The parish is situated on an early medieval route way to Kings' Lynn. The place-name Mileham derives from the old English *Mylenham* meaning ham (village) with a mill (Ekwall 1974). Domesday references to Mileham indicate that the settlement was well established by at least the Late-Saxon period. At the time of the survey, the manor at Mileham was held by the crown and was valued at the sizeable sum of sixty pounds. Prior to the conquest the land was held by Archbishop Stigand (Brown 1984).

Early settlement in the area of the village may be recognised by various fieldwalking and metal detecting activities, which point to a possible concentration of Roman finds to the north of the village. Middle Saxon occupation is evidenced by various scatters of pottery finds focused more intensely around the medieval parish church of St John the Baptist (NHER 7271). This may suggest that the church has earlier, pre-Danish origins and may mark the foundation site of Saxon settlement here (Wade-Martins 1980). Scatters of Late Saxon pottery may indicate that the settlement expanded north, while medieval finds appear to show further expansion to the west and east from the original Late Saxon core.

Medieval settlement to the west appears to be demarcated by the establishment of the Norman motte and bailey castle (NHER 7230), one of the largest motte and bailey castles constructed in Norfolk (now an imposing monument which serves as a nature reserve). The Earl of Arundel, who was granted the manor by King Henry I, built the castle in c. 1100. It



consists of a ringwork with a bank internal to the outer ditch and may have fallen out of use by c. 1300. The positioning of the castle astride the road is thought to have been connected with raising revenue from a possible market place in the northern enclosure and from road tolls. The later Burwood Manor House and farm buildings were constructed in 1793 within its northern enclosure (NHER 51273).

The 1884 1<sup>st</sup> Edition OS Plans of Mileham show the development site as part of a north to south aligned open field, an extension of a larger field to the south. By the early 1900s the field was demarcated as a separate block of land from the larger and the plot saw a change of land use to a small holding, with the establishment of *Red Roofs* at the southern end of the block of land. 1940s Aerial Photographs shows that the site was populated by relatively dense tree growth over much of the area while a former trackway serving *Red Roofs* ran parallel with the surviving farm track (which now also serves as an access road to the properties here). It ran from The Street and crossed the front third of the development site.

Sites in the immediate proximity or of particular relevance or interest which fall in close proximity to the site (within c. 500m) include:

The following information has been sourced from the Norfolk Historic Environment Record (NHER)

**NHER 51387: Negative Monitoring at Linrich.** A watching brief carried out in 2008 for housing at the rear of the site revealed no significant archaeological features or finds [Adjacent to the western boundary of the Site]

**NHER 21555: Medieval Pottery.** Four pieces of unglazed medieval pottery were found in disturbed soil produced during building works for 'High Trees' in 1985. [Adjacent with the northern boundary of the site]

NHER 7258: Late Saxon & Medieval Pottery. Late Saxon and medieval pottery fragments, together with part of a millstone, were found at the surface of the Recreation Ground (immediately east of the site) in 1968. Further medieval fragments were found in 1999. [c. 30m E]

NHER 7230: Mileham Castle is one of the largest motte and bailey castles in Norfolk. It straddles the B1145, a pre-Conquest road that remained the main east-west route through the county until the 17th century. The castle was constructed in about 1100 and its remains form a surprisingly imposing monument consisting of a motte built up around the fragments of a stone keep, two baileys and a further banked rectangular enclosure to the north of the road, which now contains Burwood Hall (built in 1793) and farm buildings. A large wooded deer park was once attached to the south of the castle. The positioning of the castle astride the road is thought to have been connected with raising revenue from a possible market place in the northern enclosure and from tolls on travellers. It is probable that the castle had fallen out of use by about 1300, but before then the tall keep, probably whitewashed, when seen against the green wooded backdrop of the deer park, would have been an impressive sight. [c. 300m SW]

**NHER 17883: Multi-period finds & features.** Observations during building works of a house on The Street on land adjacent to 'Solair' in 1982 noted Saxon, medieval and post medieval pottery fragments. A 1997 evaluation excavation in advance of further building works revealed a Middle Saxon boundary ditch and a medieval ditch and post holes, both with associated pottery fragments. [c. 160m NE]

**NHER 41080: Negative Monitoring.** A watching brief carried out in 2005 of a development plot of land off The Street revealed no archaeological finds or features. [c. 80m WNW]

**NHER 7264: Multi-period finds** Fragments of Roman, Saxon and medieval pottery were found on the surface of a field off The Street in 1968, together with pieces of medieval millstone. [c. 100m NW]

**NHER 19918: Post-medieval foundations & medieval to post-medieval pottery.** The foundations of a brick structure, together with medieval and post medieval pottery fragments were found during building works for a bungalow west of School House in 1983. [c. 100m N]

**NHER 25693: Medieval pottery.** Fragments of medieval pottery were found on the surface of a narrow field north-west of Mileham Primary School in 1989. [c. 230m NNW]

**NHER 21547: Medieval pottery.** Two unglazed sherds of medieval pottery were found on the edge of the school access road in 1985. [c. 130m]

**NHER 39700: Post-medieval features and prehistoric flints.** An evaluation in 2003 of land adjacent to The Lodge off The Street revealed a post-medieval ditch and agricultural linear features and dumped material. Objects recovered included a few prehistoric worked flints and post-medieval pottery and glass fragments along with a small number of prehistoric flints, including a Bronze Age scraper. [c. 130m NNW]



**NHER 7226:** A **Bronze Age copper alloy spearhead** was found in 1938 during the digging of a ditch in First Park Field to the south-east of Mileham Castle. The spear was found c. 1.5m down, it had integral loops, measured c. 20cm long and traces of the wooden haft were noted in the socket. [c. 376m SE]

**NHER 58141: Site of Mileham Hall.** The site and former grounds of Mileham Hall, an 18th century country house of 7 bays with a recessed 3 bay centre. The hall was demolished in the 20th century following a series of auctions. The grounds of the hall are probably the remnants of a much larger park. During monitoring work for development within the former grounds, (see NHER 58140) it was reported that the cellars for the hall are still intact. [c. 390m N]

**NHER 7257: Multi-period pottery.** Roman, Saxon and medieval pottery fragments were found on the surface of a field north-east of Game Farm in 1969. Metal-detecting in 2010-11 did not recover any recordable objects. [c. 300m N]

NHER 58140: Post-medieval finds and drainage ditches. An archaeological watching brief undertaken in advance of development at Earlsmead, The Street, revealed post-medieval drainage ditches and a range of unstratified artefacts, mainly pottery, of post medieval and modern date. [c. 195m NE]

NHER 7227: A Roman coin was found in the garden of Earlsmead in 1933. [c. 190m NE]

**NHER 7231:** An irregular **earthwork**, probably a medieval enclosure, was noted on 1964 aerial photographs, and medieval pottery fragments were recovered from the area some years later. The site was ploughed out in the 1970s but was still visible from the air in 1996. [c. 300m ESE]

**NHER 32613: Multi-period finds.** Metal detecting of fields in 1996 and 2000 recovered a range of objects, including Roman, medieval and post medieval coins, a Roman Brooch and two sherds of unglazed medieval pottery. [c. 260m SE]

**NHER 7268: Multi-period finds.** Roman, Saxon, medieval and post medieval pottery fragments were found from the 1970s to 1992 on what is now partly a garden centre. Also found were pieces of medieval millstone and a possible copper alloy ring. Metal detecting here in January and February 2010 recovered a medieval crucifix. [c. 200m E]

**NHER 7271: St John's Church.** This unusual church consists of an aisled nave, an offset northwest tower and a lofty chancel. It is Norman in origin, though possibly on the site of an earlier church, with 13th to 15th century additions, the 14th century tower probably being offset so as not to obscure the particularly fine early 14th century west window, which retains much of its original stained glass, the largest surviving example in Norfolk. In the churchyard is a probably unique early medieval cross base, set on a 15th century tomb chest. [c. 230m ENE]

**NHER 31768: Medieval Pottery.** A piece of unglazed medieval pottery was found during works for an electricity trench to the north-west of St John's Churchyard in 1996. [c. 200m NE]

**NHER 57125: Milestone.** A post-medieval milestone recorded by the Milestone Society and positioned along the King's Lynn to Bawdeswell road. This is a small, gravestone-shaped milestone that is heavily weathered. The remaining inscription is located on the front face and reads: "M", possibly indicating the parish it is located in, Mileham. [c. 230m NE]

**NHER 32081: Late Saxon Pottery.** An evaluation in advance of a new farmhouse (Meadow Cottage) at Church Farmhouse in 1996 recovered two pieces of Late Saxon pottery and recorded an undated pit containing the bones of a piglet. [c. 325m NE]

**NHER 7270: Multi-period finds.** Metal detecting of fields to the east of Church Farmhouse between 1995 and 2007 recovered a range of objects, including Roman, Saxon, medieval and post medieval pottery fragments. Also found were Roman, medieval and post medieval coins, a Bronze Age axe/palstave fragment, a Late Saxon tortoise style brooch, strap-end & linen smoother and a post-medieval coin-weight. [c. 400m NE]

**NHER 7263:** Fragments of medieval pottery were found on the surface of a field at Park Farm in 1968 .[c. 435m NE]

**NHER 40560:** An excavation carried out in 2004 on land at Park Farm at the site of a pumping station for Anglian Water revealed gullies and pits of 12th to 14th century date. The features probably represent part of a farmyard and may have been in close proximity to dwellings. Finds include medieval pottery, a medieval knife and a small number of prehistoric flints - which include a Bronze Age scraper and a retouched flake. [c. 450m NE]

NHER 7259: Late Saxon and medieval pottery fragments were found on the surface of a field north of Church Cottages in about 1968. [c. 520m NE]

**NHER 7256:** Fragments of Roman pottery were found on the surface of a field north of Church Cottages in about 1969. [c. 580m NE]



#### **Methodology** (Figure 2)

The objective of the archaeological monitoring was to record any archaeological evidence revealed during the groundworks associated with the development.

Footing trenches were excavated with a 5-ton 360° tracked machine fitted with a toothed-bucket, with spoil relocated by a 3-ton capacity dumper. Service trenching was excavated with a 2-ton 360° tracked machine with a toothed bucket.

Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector (Minelab XTerra 705). All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection, other than those which were obviously modern.

All archaeologically significant features and deposits were recorded using Norvic Archaeology *pro forma* sheets. The trench location, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and photographic images were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

Monitoring of the footings was carried out in wet weather with heavy showers on the second day during machining for the garage area of the footprint.

#### 6.0 Results (Appendix 1a)

#### 'Natural deposits'

A firm natural sandy-clay (14) was revealed at a depth of between 0.5m and 0.8m. The two soakaway pits revealed that a chalky grey clay lay at slightly deeper depth.

#### Subsoil

Above the natural was an orangey-brown silty-clay (13) which appeared to be fairly sterile of cultural artefacts. The subsoil shared a diffuse boundary distinction with several pits below. Where revealed at the eastern area of the site, the subsoil appeared to be more recently mixed and compacted with a higher incidence of mineralisation – possibly as a result of the former presence of a trackway which once served 'Red Roofs' to the south. A postmedieval horseshoe and a Mesolithic worked flint were collected from the subsoil in this part of the site.



Plate 2: Pit [01] (looking NNW) [1x1m Scale]

#### Pits of uncertain date

Four pits of similar character were identified below the subsoil ([01], [07], [09] & [11]). They all contained a fairly homogenised firm, brownish-grey silty-clay. No cultural artefacts were recovered from these features and their date and function remains uncertain.

#### Large ?extraction pit

Part of a large pit was revealed at the southern edge of the site, which measured c. 5.85m across. A sondage excavated at its eastern edge showed that this feature was greater than 0.9m in depth and contained a sequence of infill deposits. The deepest of these was a soft,

wet deposit of ashy-silt with frequent flecks and small pieces of charcoal (06). This lay below a friable mix of orangey-brown silty clay (05) capped by a thin layer of dirty, redeposited clay (04). The scale of this feature may indicate a sizeable clay extraction pit, while a small assemblage or brick and tile collected from its fills suggests a post-medieval date for its infill.

#### Modern pits (20<sup>th</sup> century)

Six pits were revealed that truncated the subsoil and which contained 20<sup>th</sup> century rubbish. These features ranged from the late 1940s to 50s (dated from bottle glass collected from dumps of ashy-waste) to the later 20<sup>th</sup> century (as evidenced by metal rubbish, plastic and building rubble mixed in with redeposited soils). The pits encountered along the northern edge of the footprint for the bungalow appeared to be contemporary to a 1940s to 50s date while others appeared to be of a later 20<sup>th</sup> century date.



Plate 3: Large Pit [03] (looking West) [2x2m Scale]

#### 7.0 Finds Analysis (Appendix 2)

#### Flint

A single worked flint weighing 5g was collected during the monitoring work, from subsoil (13) disturbed by the south-west to north-east aligned drainage run, serving 'Soakaway 2' for the double garage at the front of the property.

The piece is a broken core rejuvenation flake of a pale yellowish-grey fairly translucent fabric, fine grained with occasional interclasts and flaws. The fine removal scars on the dorsal surface indicate that the core was used primarily for the production of small blades or microliths from a relatively small core, using pressure flaking. This can be attributed to a Mesolithic technology. A number of bilateral notches may indicate that the flake was utilised an ad-hoc tool before disposal.

A small number of prehistoric flints have been previously recorded in the vicinity of the site, although the majority of diagnostic pieces collected are of Bronze Age date.

#### Oyster Shell

A single large oyster shell weighing 118g was collected during the monitoring work, from the lower fill (06) of a large post-medieval ?extraction pit ([03]). This base shell from a common oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) exhibits no shucking notch, it shows a pattern of steady growth although has been heavily attacked by boring parasites and is probably an example from a densely farmed oyster bed.



#### Nails

Two iron nails (weighing a total of 20g) were collected from the lower fill (06) of a large post-medieval ?extraction pit ([03]). One is broken mid shaft, while the other is complete at 65mm in length. Both are heavily corroded with thick concretions. They appear to have oval heads and fine square shanks, serving as timber/carpentry nails.

#### Animal Bone

Two pieces of butchered animal bone were collected from the lower fill (06) of a large post-medieval ?extraction pit ([03]). Both are from cattle; the smaller fragment (13g) is part of a large rib bone with deep cut marks while the larger piece (78g) is the proximal end of a radius with unfused epiphyses. The radius is from a young animal processed for its meat, it has been roughly chopped/broken mid-shaft for the removal of marrow.

#### Medieval Pottery

A single small abraded fragment of pottery weighing 2g, was collected from the lower fill (06) of a large post-medieval ?extraction pit ([03]). The fabric and traces of glaze on the outer surface indicate that this piece may be Grimston-type ware, with a date range of Late 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century. This find is residual within a later feature, as indicated by the presence of post-medieval ceramic building material.

#### Horseshoe

A large, heavy iron horseshoe was collected from subsoil (13) at the eastern area of the site from the east-west footing of the garage. The shoe is heavily corroded and coated with thick rust concretions. It weighs 579g and its general weight and size indicate a post-medieval date, most likely intended for use by a large workhorse.

#### Ceramic Building Material

Seven fragments of post-medieval brick and tile fragments were collected from fills of the large ?extraction pit [03]. In total the assemblage weighs 615g. They are variations of red-sandy fabrics; *Fabric A* contains inclusions of ferrous pellets and flint grog, *Fabric B* is of a softer fabric with occasional pebbles and *Fabric C* is a relatively hard fired fabric similar to *Fabric A*.

The late brick fragments can only be broadly dated to the 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century while the peg tile fragments fall into a similar date range. Traces of mortar on both sides of the tiles may indicate reuse. Abrasion to the brick fragments in particular may indicate that they had been subject to rolling in plough soils or weathering prior to deposition.

Context	Fabric	Form	no	wt(g)	abr	L	W	Н	Mortar	date
05	Red- sandy A	Late Brick	3	476	High	-	105	40	-	Post-medieval
05	Red- sandy B	Late Brick	1	39	High	-	-	-	-	Post-medieval
06	Red- sandy B	Late Brick	1	21	High	-	-	-	-	Post-medieval
06	Red- sandy C	Peg tile	2	79	Mod	-	16	-	White, sandy	Post-medieval



#### • 20<sup>th</sup> Century domestic rubbish

A row of modern pits encountered by the footing trenches along the northern side of the bungalow footprint contained dumps of ashy waste in the form of burnt rubbish along with larger fragments of waste; which included bath fittings, bottle glass, household ceramics and rusty metalwork. A selection of bottle glass was identified before discard and included examples of the following:

- Various unmarked beer and wine bottles
- 1940s to 50s style 16oz Bovril (beefstock) brown bottle made in England By Forsters Glass Co. (marked on the base)
- A 2oz Marmite brown glass bottle
- Early to mid- 20th century glass beer bottle from the Suffolk based Tolly Cobbold beer brewery with moulded phoenix logo on the body and Tolly patented stopper.
- A 1940s style of amber glass bottle marked as Certo (a liquid pectin made from apples used in the jam making process) embossed with a half measuring aid
- Various clear glass, long necked condiment and sauce bottles (unmarked)
- A post-war glass jar for 'Royal Sunny Spread' produced by Yeatman & Co Ltd
- A screw top clear glass baby food jar from 'Mellin's Food'
- A glass bottle for drinking chocolate marked with the palm trees logo and name of Terry's of York
- A ceramic jar for MacLaren's Imperial Cheese (a cold packed cheese initially imported from Canada)

The material waste indicates a late 1940s to 50s date for deposition, possibly the result of a house clearance event rather than everyday rubbish disposal. This waste is most likely sourced from former occupants of 'Red Roofs'.

#### 8.0 Conclusions

No significant evidence of medieval activity was revealed by the groundworks, although a small number of pits of uncertain date were recorded. A large post-medieval pit which measured c. 5.85m across was encountered at the southern edge of the site which may have served as a clay extraction pit before receiving dumps of ashy-waste and soil mixed with elements of domestic waste. Once infilled, the pit was capped with a layer of clay.

This area of land appears to have been a marginal plot subject to historic pitting, possibly for the extraction of clay. Following the early 20<sup>th</sup> century establishment of the '*Red Roofs*' small holding this particular area of land was subject to rubbish pitting, some of which appears to contain waste generated from former occupants of the house. Several rubbish pits of a late 1940s to 1950s date were encountered along the northern edge of the site and several other pits of later 20<sup>th</sup> century date were identified elsewhere.

Minor traces of disturbance to subsoils were noted in the eastern part of the site which may well relate to the former presence of a trackway, which served Red Roofs visible on 1940s aerial photographs. A post-medieval horseshoe and a Mesolithic core rejuvenation flake were collected from the disturbed subsoils in this particular area of the site

#### 9.0 Acknowledgements

Thanks are due to Jason Fuller who commissioned Norvic Archaeology to carry out this work. All stages of the monitoring and post-excavation analysis work were carried out by the author. NHER data was obtained directly from records held at Gressenhall by the Norfolk Historic Environment Service.



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#### Appendix 1a: Context Summary

Context	Category	Fill of	Brief Physical Description	Interpretation	Period
01	Cut		Sub-sq. pit with steep sided and concave base, c. 0.9m wide, 0.35m deep	Pit	Uncertain
02	Deposit	[01]	Firm, brownish-grey silty-clay, occ. medium to large, sub-ang. stones, rare charcoal flecks	Fill	
03	Cut		Steep sided cut, c. 5.85m across, >0.9m deep	?Extraction Pit	Post-medieval
04	Deposit	[03]	Firm, redeposited dirty clay, 'sticky', c. 0.12m thick	Fill (clay cap)	
05	Deposit	[03]	Friable, orangey-brown, 'sticky' silty-clay, occ. orange sandy-clay lumps, c. 0.35m deep	Fill	
06	Deposit	[03]	Soft, dark brownish-grey, ashy-silt, 'wet', freq. charcoal, >0.45m deep	Fill	
07	Cut		Shallow concave base, steep sides1.3m wide, 0.45m deep	Pit	Uncertain
08	Deposit	[07]	Firm, brownish-grey silty-clay, occ. medium to large, sub-ang. stones, rare charcoal flecks	Fill	
09	Cut		Sub-sq, steep, near vertical sides and slightly concave base, .c. 1.35m wide, 0.5m+ deep,	Pit	Uncertain
10	Deposit	[09]	Firm, brownish-grey silty-clay, freq. sub-ang. stones (up to 150mm), rare charcoal flecks	Fill	
11	Cut		c. 2.10m across, depth unknown.	Pit	Uncertain
12	Deposit	[11]	Firm, brownish-grey silty-clay, occ. medium to large, sub-ang. stones, rare charcoal flecks	Fill	
13	Deposit		Orangey-brown silty-clay, dense, mod. rootlets, occ. stones, c. 0.4m deep	Subsoil	
14	Deposit		Mid orange to pale brownish yellow, very firm, dense sandy-clay, freq. chalk marl patches, mod. stones and chalk (chalky grey clays with depth)	Natural clays	
15	Deposit		Greyish-brown, slightly 'sticky', dense clay-loam, occ. modern cbm and metalwork, c. 0.35m deep	Topsoil	

#### Appendix 1b: OASIS feature summary table

Period	Feature type	Quantity
Unknown	Pit	4
Post-medieval (1540 to 1900AD)	Pit – extraction pit	1
Cold War (1945-1992)	Pit	6



#### Appendix 2a: Finds by Context

Context	Material	Quantity	Weight (g)	Comment
05	Ceramic building material	4	515	Post-medieval
	Animal bone	2	91	
06	Ceramic building material	3	100	Post-medieval
06	Nails – ferrous	2	20	
	Pottery	1	2	Medieval
	Shell – oyster	1	118	
13	Flint – worked	1	5	Core rejuvenation
	Fillit – worked	'	5	flake (Mesolithic)
	Horseshoe	1	579	Post-medieval

#### Appendix 2b: NHER finds summary table

Period	Material	Quantity
Mesolithic (10000 to 4001BC)	Flint	1
Medieval (1066 to 1539AD)	Pottery	1
	Animal bone	1
Post modicyal (1540 to 1000AD)	Shell – oyster	1
Post-medieval (1540 to 1900AD)	Ceramic Building Material	7
	Horseshoe	1

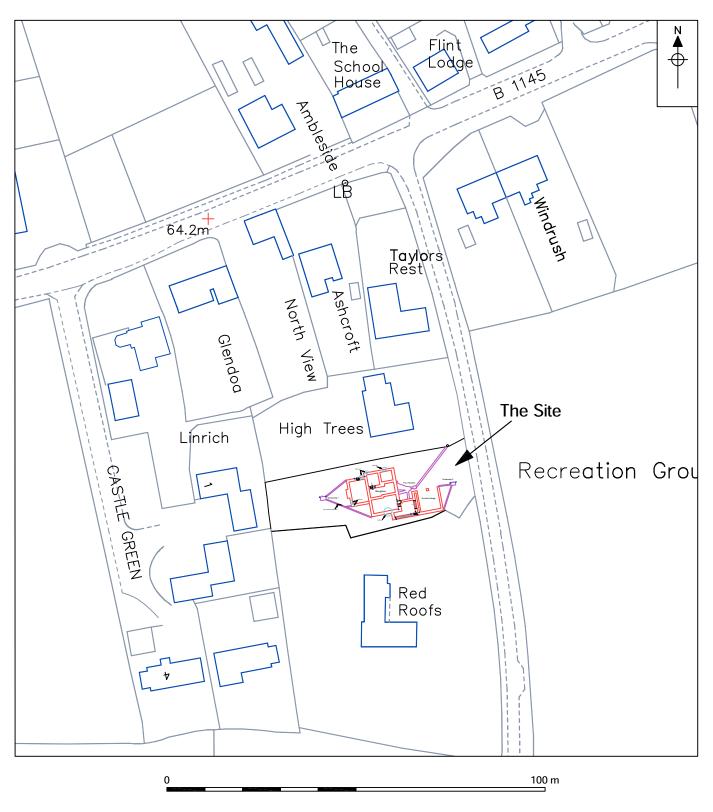


Figure 2. Site location plan. Scale 1:1000

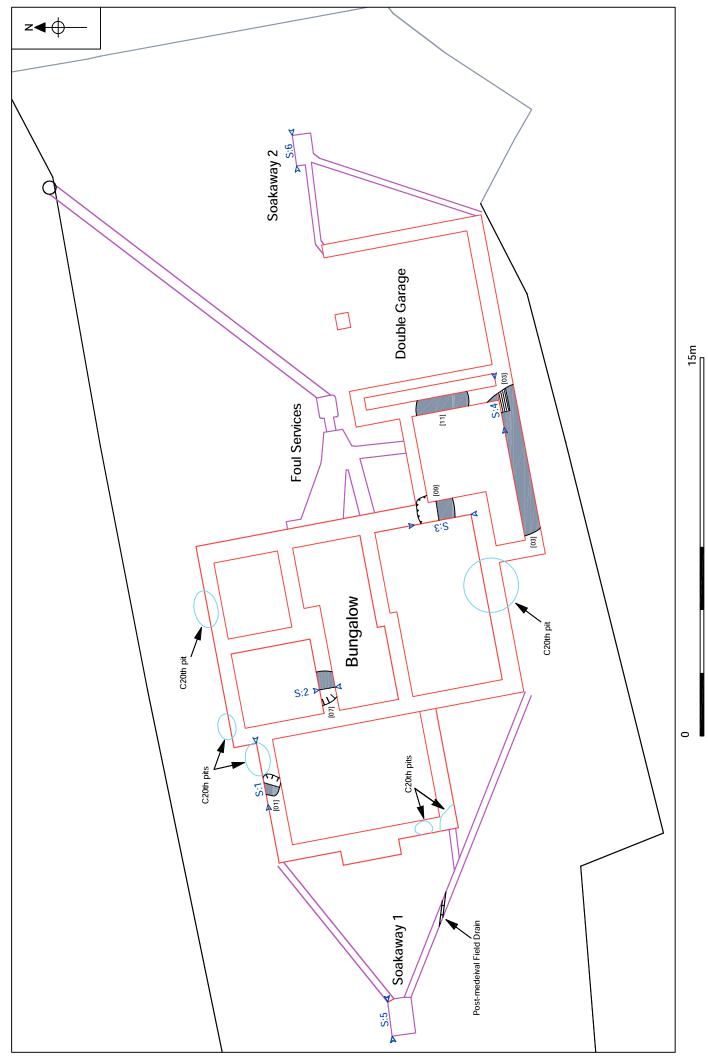
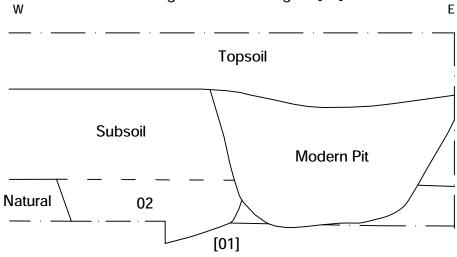
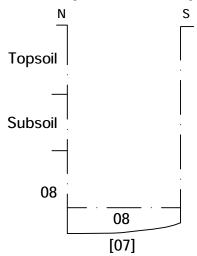


Figure 3. Groundworks plan. Scale 1:150

# SECTION 1 'S Facing Section showing Pit [01]'



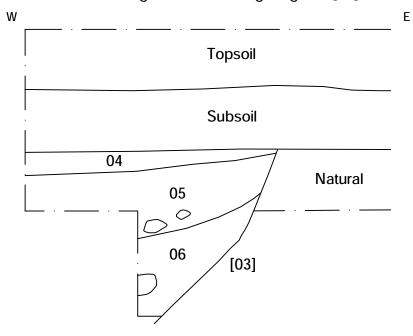
# SECTION 2 'W Facing Section showing Pit [07]'



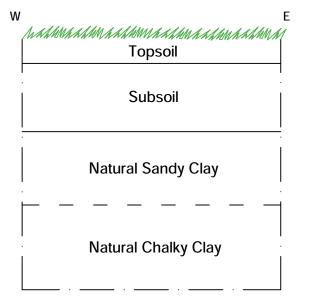
# SECTION 3 S 'E Facing Section showing Pit [07]' N Topsoil Subsoil Natural 10 [09] flint stones within base

Figure 4. Recorded Sections 1 to 3. Scale 1:20

SECTION 4
'S Facing Section showing Large Pit [03]'



SECTION 5
'S Facing Section of Soakaway 1'



SECTION 6
'S Facing Section of Soakaway 2'

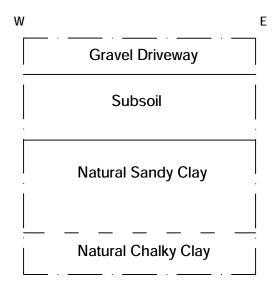




Figure 5. Recorded Sections 4 to 6. Scale 1:20

# **OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England**

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#### Printable version

OASIS ID: norvicar1-152867

#### **Project details**

Project name Archaeological Monitoring of a bungalow plot on land adjacent to 'High Trees',

Mileham, Norfolk,

Short description of the project

Norvic Archaeology was commissioned by Jason Fuller to undertake archaeological monitoring on groundworks associated with the construction of a bungalow on a plot of land adjacent to 'High Trees', which is located on a lane off The Street, Mileham. The plot was formerly part of the garden of 'Red Roofs' before being purchased by the owners of 'High Trees'. It now forms a private plot c. 850m2 designated for this residential development. The site is located within the area of the medieval settlement of Mileham and specifically in the area between the castle and St John's Church. Medieval pottery fragments were discovered in the immediate vicinity of the plot during building works in the 1980s. No significant evidence of medieval activity was revealed by the groundworks, although a small number of pits of uncertain date were recorded. This area of land appears to have been a marginal plot subject to historic pitting, possibly for the ad-hoc extraction of clay A large post-medieval pit which measured c. 5.85m across was encountered at the southern edge of the site, which may have served as a clay extraction pit before receiving dumps of ashy-waste and soil. Following the early 20th century establishment of the Red Roofs small holding this particular area of land was subject to rubbish pitting. Several rubbish pits of a late 1940s to 1950s date were encountered along the northern edge of the site and several other pits of later 20th century date were identified elsewhere.

Project dates Start: 20-11-2012 End: 04-05-2013

Previous/future

work

No / No

Any associated project reference

codes

NVC/2012/GE105 - Contracting Unit No.

Any associated project reference codes

ENF 130131 - HER event no.

Any associated project reference codes

3PL/2012/0913/F - Planning Application No.

Type of project Recording project Site status None

Residential 1 - General Residential Current Land use

Monument type PIT Modern

Monument type PIT Uncertain

Monument type PIT Post Medieval Significant Finds **FLINT Mesolithic** 

Significant Finds POTTERY Medieval

ANIMAL BONE Post Medieval Significant Finds

Significant Finds SHELL Post Medieval

Significant Finds CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL Post Medieval

HORSESHOE Post Medieval Significant Finds

""Watching Brief"" Investigation type

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

#### **Project location**

Country **England** 

Site location NORFOLK BRECKLAND MILEHAM Land adjacent to 'High Trees', The Street,

Mileham

Postcode PE32 2RB

Study area 850.00 Square metres

Site coordinates TF 9198 1948 52 0 52 44 18 N 000 50 38 E Point

#### **Project creators**

Norvic Archaeology Name of

Organisation

Project brief

originator

Local Planning Authority (with/without advice from County/District Archaeologist)

Project design

originator

Norvic Archaeology

**Project** 

Giles Emery

director/manager

Project supervisor Giles Emery

Type of

sponsor/funding

Developer

body

Name of

Jason Fuller

sponsor/funding

body

#### **Project archives**

Physical Archive

NMAS and Norvic Archaeology

recipient

Physical Contents "Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Metal", "Worked stone/lithics", "other"

Digital Archive **NMAS**  recipient

Digital Contents "Survey"

Digital Media

available

"Images raster / digital photography", "Text"

Paper Archive recipient

NMAS

.

Paper Contents "Survey"

Paper Media available

"Context sheet","Map","Plan","Report","Section"

## Project bibliography 1

Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Publication type

Title Archaeological Monitoring of a bungalow plot on land adjacent to 'High Trees',

Mileham, Norfolk

Author(s)/Editor(s) Emery, G.

Other Norvic Archaeology Report No. 29

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