



Parkfield Farm,
Dennington Road, Laxfield, Suffolk

Client:
Hillfairs Farming Ltd

Date:
July 2016

LXD 086
Archaeological Evaluation Report
SACIC Report No. 2016/047
Author: Simon Cass
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Parkfield Farm, Dennington Road, Laxfield LXD 086

Archaeological Evaluation Report

SACIC Report No. 2016/047

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Report Date: August 2016

HER Information

Site Code: LXD 086
Site Name: Parkfield Farm, Dennington Road, Laxfield
Report Number 2016/047
Planning Application No: PreApp:2412/15ENQ
Date of Fieldwork: 07-08/06/2016
Grid Reference: TM 2918 7054
Oasis Reference: Suffolka1-253315
Curatorial Officer: Kate Batt
Project Officer: Simon Cass
Client/Funding Body: Hillfairs Farming Ltd
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Prepared By: Simon Cass
Date: 11/08/2016
Approved By: Rhodri Gardner
Position: Managing Director
Date:
Signed:

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

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Summary












An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Parkfield Farm, Laxfield in June 2016 in advance of the proposed construction of two new poultry sheds on an area of arable field. A single large pit was encountered towards the eastern side of the site, found to contain post-medieval artefacts and likely to be a refuse pit. Further monitoring may be required of any intrusive groundworks involved in the construction of the two sheds, though construction details and general design levels are unavailable at this time to determine the effect on the archaeological resource in this area.

Drawing Conventions

Plans

- Limit of Excavation 
- Features 
- Break of Slope 
- Features - Conjectured 
- Natural Features 
- Sondages/Machine Strip 
- Intrusion/Truncation 
- Illustrated Section 
- Cut Number 
- Archaeological Features 

Sections

- Limit of Excavation 
- Cut 
- Modern Cut 
- Cut - Conjectured 
- Deposit Horizon 
- Deposit Horizon - Conjectured 
- Intrusion/Truncation 
- Top of Natural 
- Top Surface 
- Break in Section 
- Cut Number 
- Deposit Number 0007
- Ordnance Datum $\frac{18.45\text{m OD}}{\times}$

1. Introduction

Planning permission is being sought by Hillfairs Farming Ltd for the construction of two new poultry units and associated landscaping on land at Parkfield Farm, Dennington Lane, Laxfield (Planning Application number 2412/15ENQ). The LPA was advised that a programme of archaeological work should take place prior to development, in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (Para 141). The present stage of work has been recommended at the pre-determination stage in this instance, with a Brief produced for this specific application by Kate Batt of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS) (dated 12th May 2016).

2. Geology and topography

The whole site covers c. 0.72ha, and is located at NGR TM 2918 7054, approximately equidistant between the villages of Laxfield to the north and Dennington to the south. The field containing the site is on a gentle slope down from southwest to northeast between the heights of 49.6m OD to 46.2m OD. The underlying geology is listed as Head deposits and Lowestoft Formation diamicton over Crag sand bedrock (BGS Viewer 2016).

3. Archaeology and historical background

The application site lies in an area of archaeological potential, as recorded in the County Historic Environment Record (HER). Principal sites of interest in the vicinity include two areas of cropmarks identified to the southeast and southwest (LXD 032 and LXD 082 respectively) and the site of Laxfield House (c. 430m west), a Grade II listed building with a core dating from the 17th century. Little else is known in the area and Laxfield parish has seen comparatively few modern archaeological interventions.

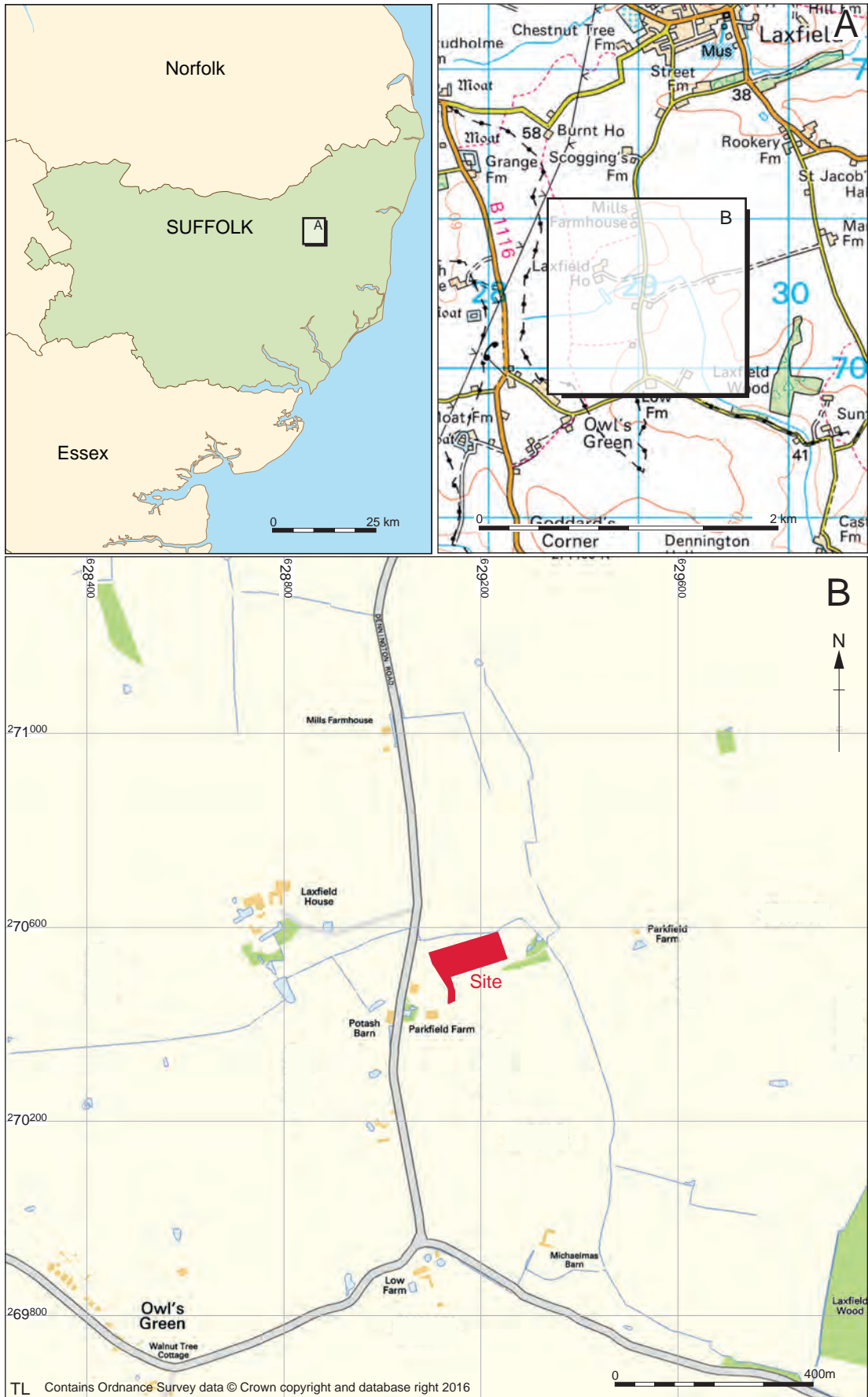


Figure 1. Location of site (red)

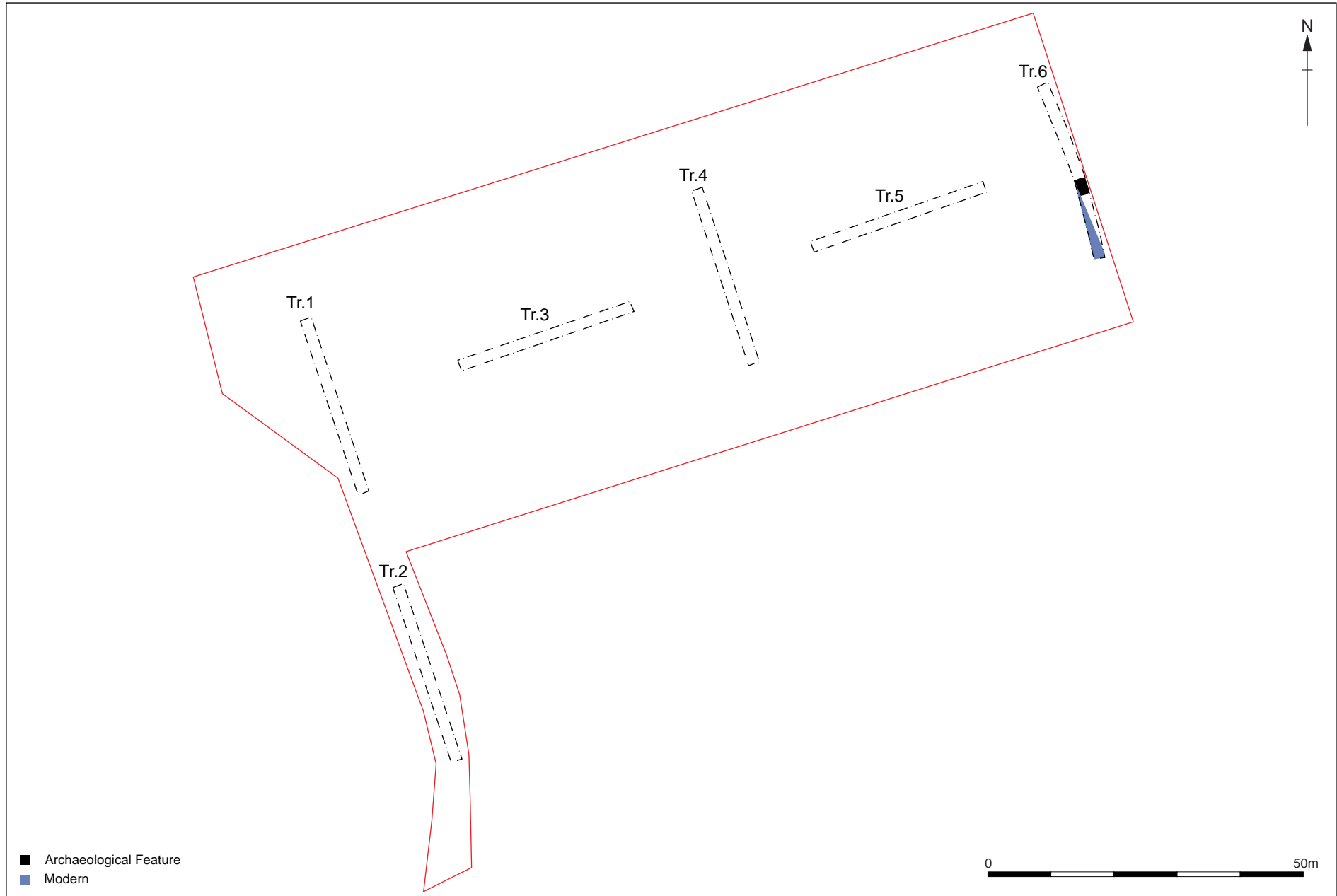


Figure 2. Detailed trench plan within the site.

4. Methodology

The trial trenches were machine excavated down to the level of the natural subsoil or archaeological deposits using a toothless bucket fitted to a 360⁰ tracked mechanical excavator.

The machining of the trench was closely observed throughout in order to identify archaeological features and deposits and to recover any artefacts that might be revealed during machining and spoilheaps were scanned for any upcast finds. A metal detector was also used. Any features identified were then sampled through hand excavation in order to determine their depth and shape and to recover datable artefacts. Scale plans and sections of each recorded feature were drawn in pencil on permatrace sheets and *pro-forma* context sheets were used to record individual features as standard SACIC procedure.

A photographic record of the work undertaken was also compiled using an 18megapixel digital camera and is included in the project archive.

Following excavation of each trench, the nature of the overburden was recorded and the depths noted. The trench location was recorded using a Leica GS08+ GPS system to sub-centimetre accuracy.

5. Results

5.1 Trench results

Trench 1

This trench was 30m long, 1.6m wide and up to 0.36m deep, orientated approximately northwest/southeast and situated at the western edge of the site. The exposed stratigraphy consisted of 0.31m of mid brown plough/topsoil over natural silty clay deposits. No finds or features of archaeological relevance were observed.



Plate 1. Trench 1, facing north (2m and 1m scales)

Trench 2

This trench was 30m long, 1.6m wide and up to 0.36m deep, orientated approximately northwest/southeast and situated at the southwestern edge of the site. The exposed stratigraphy consisted of 0.31m of mid brown plough/topsoil over natural silty clay deposits. No finds or features of archaeological relevance were observed.

Trench 3

This trench was 30m long, 1.6m wide and up to 0.4m deep, orientated approximately northeast/southwest and situated towards the centre of the site. The exposed stratigraphy consisted of mid brown plough/topsoil over natural silty clay deposits. No finds or features of archaeological relevance were observed.

Trench 4

This trench was 30m long, 1.6m wide and up to 0.33m deep, orientated approximately northwest/southeast and situated at the centre of the site. The exposed stratigraphy consisted of 0.31m of mid brown plough/topsoil over natural silty clay deposits. No finds or features of archaeological relevance were observed.

Trench 5

This trench was 30m long, 1.6m wide and up to 0.31m deep, orientated approximately northeast/southwest and situated just east of the centre of the site. The exposed stratigraphy consisted of 0.28m of mid brown plough/topsoil over natural silty clay deposits. No finds or features of archaeological relevance were observed.



Plate 2. Trench 5, facing east (2m and 1m scales)

Trench 6

This trench was 30m long, 1.6m wide and up to 38m deep, orientated approximately northwest/southeast and situated at the eastern edge of the site. The exposed stratigraphy consisted of 0.32m of mid brown plough/topsoil over natural silty clay deposits. A single large pit feature (pit 1014) was recorded and excavated with a modern field drain orientated approximately northwest-southeast crossing the trench.

Pit 1014 was approximately 2.7m in diameter, with steep sloped side; it was not bottomed within this trench due to depth/safe access and water level issues. Several distinct deposits were identified within the feature, including apparent intentional dumped deposits with very frequent CBM/brick lumps and whole bricks. No base was seen for the feature at the point excavation ceased due to groundwater ingress. The finds from this feature are mostly post-medieval, with some later medieval residual artefacts also recovered. A near-complete rowel spur was identified as one of the small finds from this feature.



Plate 3. Trench 6, pit 1014 facing west (2m and 1m scales)

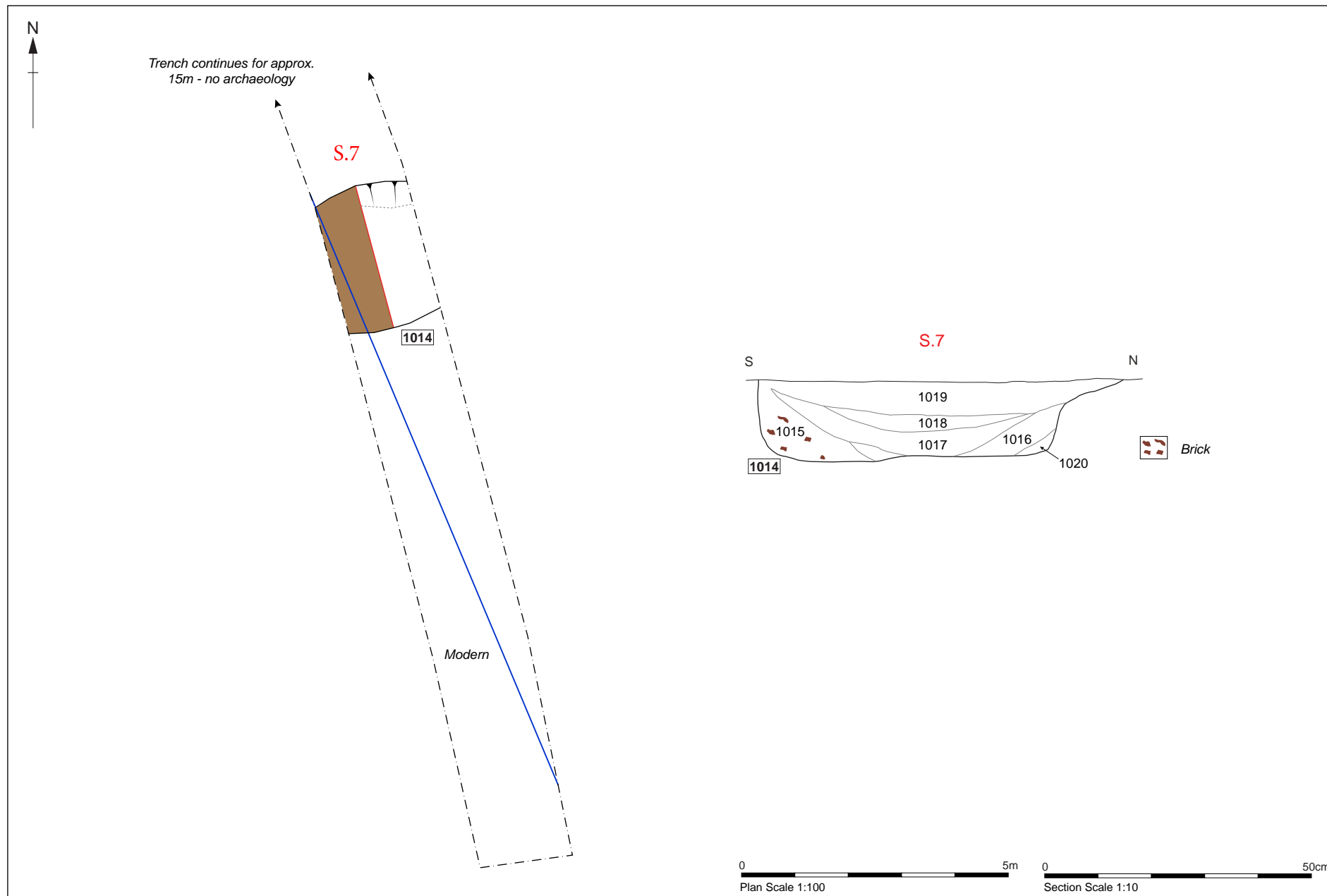


Figure 3. Trench 6, plan and section

6. Finds and environmental evidence

Richenda Goffin

6.1 Introduction

The finds from the evaluation were recovered mainly from the fills of a single pit 1014, and where datable belong to the post-medieval period. Table 1 shows a list of quantities by material type; a full breakdown of finds by context is shown in Appendix 3.

Finds Type	No	Wt (g)
Pottery	13	337
CBM	91	8827
Clay tobacco pipe	18	114
Post-medieval window glass	2	2
Nails	5	40
Worked flint	2	55
Animal bone	128	2076
Shell	26	329
Charcoal	1	15

Table 1. Bulk finds quantities

6.2 The Pottery

Sue Anderson

Pottery

Introduction

Thirteen sherds of pottery weighing 337g were collected from three contexts, all fills of pit 1014. Table 2 shows the quantification by fabric; a summary catalogue by context is included in Appendix 4, Table 1. The full catalogue is available in archive in MS Access database format.

Description	Fabric	Date range	No	Wt/g	Eve	MNV
Late medieval and transitional wares	LMT	L.14th-16th c.	2	5		1
Glazed red earthenwares	GRE	16th-18th c.	5	211	0.09	4
Speckle-glazed ware	SPEC	L.17th-18th c.	1	26		1
Tin-glazed earthenware	TGE	16th-18th c.	3	66		1
Frechen stoneware	GSW4	16th-17th c.	2	29		2
Totals			13	337	0.09	9

Table 2. Pottery quantification by fabric

Methodology

Quantification was carried out using sherd count, weight and estimated vessel equivalent (eve). The minimum number of vessels (MNV) within each context was also recorded. All fabric codes were assigned from the author's post-Roman fabric series, which includes East Anglian and Midlands fabrics, as well as imported wares. Methods follow MPRG recommendations (MPRG 2001) and form terminology follows MPRG classifications (1998). The results were input directly onto an Access database.

The assemblage

All pottery was of post-medieval date, the majority belonging broadly to the 16th to 18th centuries. The earliest was a fragment of a late medieval and transitional green-glazed greyware, possibly a lid, with lime internally. Five sherds of four glazed redwares were present, including two pieces of a tripod pipkin base, the rim of a small bowl, a body sherd from a dish and another body fragment of a hollow ware. A speckle-glazed base fragment from a globular vessel was also present, in 1017, providing an earliest date for this context in the later 17th century. Three base and body sherds of an Anglo-Netherlands tin-glazed earthenware drug jar with blue linear decoration were also found, and there were two body sherds of Frechen stoneware vessels.

Pottery by context

A summary of the pottery by context is provided in Table 3.

Feature	Context	Feature Type	Fabrics	Spot date
1014	1017	Pit fill	LMT GRE TGE GSW4 SPEC	L.17th-18th c.
1014	1018	Pit fill	GRE	16th-18th c.
1014	1019	Pit fill	GRE GSW4	16th-17th c.

Table 3. Pottery distribution by context/feature

Sherds were recovered from three contexts within the pit, with 1017 being stratigraphically the earliest.

Discussion

This is a small assemblage of post-medieval date, much of which probably dates to the 17th and 18th centuries. The range of fabrics and forms is typical of the period, and includes cooking pots, serving and storage vessels, all of which would have been at

home in a moderate to high status household of the period.

6.3 Ceramic building material

Sue Anderson

Four fills of pit 1014 contained a total of 91 fragments (8827g) of CBM. Most fragments were abraded and some were difficult to identify to form as a result, although the majority was red brick and plain roof tile. A full quantification is contained in Appendix 4, Table 2. Table 4 below shows the quantities of CBM by fabric and form.

Fabric	Code	LB	LB?	RTP	FT?
fine sandy	fs	6	1	4	
medium sandy	ms	15		10	
ms with flint	msf	13		3	
fs with ferrous inclusions	fsfe			2	
fsfe with flint	fsffe			3	
ms with flint, grog and ferrous inclusions	msffe/msgfe	26			
fs with clay pellets	fscp				1
fs micaceous	fsm	2			
ms poorly mixed with ferrous inclusions	msxfe	1			
white-firing with purple streaks	wfx		4		

Table 4. CBM by fabric and form (fragment count)

Sixty-eight pieces were red-firing bricks in fine and medium sandy fabrics with typical local inclusions. Six fragments survived with full thicknesses and these measured between 46–58mm. Three were complete in width (110–113mm). This suggests a range of dates for the fragments, perhaps from as early as the 15th century, although most were probably contemporary with the pottery from the pit (16th-18th c.). One brick had a diagonal stacking scar on the stretcher, which generally indicates that it pre-dated the later 18th century.

Of greatest significance in this group was the proportion of bricks which showed signs of very heavy wear, some being only c. 20mm thick, indicating that they had been used as paviments. One larger fragment in particular showed wear on both sides, suggesting that the floor had been re-laid after one side had become so worn that fragments had started to crumble from the surface. A few bricks showed signs of burning on their surfaces, suggesting that they may have formed part of the floor of a fireplace or oven.

Roof tile fragments were generally medium sandy types with few other inclusions. Only two had a surviving peg hole, both circular.

This material has been fully recorded and is in relatively poor condition, so the CBM assemblage could be discarded if required.

6.4 Clay tobacco pipe

Eighteen fragments of clay tobacco pipe were collected from the two contexts of the evaluation, weighing 114g. Most of the small assemblage consists of stem fragments, but a few bowl fragments were present. These have been classified according to Oswald's General Pipe Typology (1975).

Ten pieces of pipe from 1017 consist mainly of stem fragments apart from a single pipe bowl with foot. This has faint rouletting around the rim and a small ovate foot, dating to the second half of the seventeenth century (Oswald Type 6, large bulbous bowl with large base). A small fragment with the remains of a similar foot was also identified. One of the stems in this context appears to have been deliberately knife-trimmed or modified at one end, an indication of possible re-use.

Further fragments from fill 1019 are of a similar date range. An almost complete bowl with foot dating to c. 1640-1660 (Oswald Type typology 5) was present, together with a less well preserved bowl which has a more pronounced differential between the foot and the stem (Oswald Type 6, 1660-1680). Both bowls have faint rouletting but are otherwise undecorated.

6.5 Post-medieval glass

Two pieces of post-medieval glass were found in fill 1017 of pit 1014. One is a fragment of green window glass probably dating to the 17th-19th century, whilst a small fragment of very fine transparent clear glass has a slight curvature suggesting that it came from a post-medieval vessel.

6.6 Iron nails

Five nails or nail fragments were collected from two contexts, weighing 40g. Three corroded but almost complete nails were present in 1017, whilst a fourth one was found in 1018.

6.7 The small finds

Ruth Beveridge

Introduction and recording method

Nine objects were recorded as small finds and are listed by material in Table 5 below. The small finds were fully catalogued on the database, and a complete listing is provided as Appendix 5. Table 5 shows the small finds by major period and by material type.

Period	Copper alloy	Iron	Composite
Post-medieval	2	3	2
Undated		2	
Total	2	5	2

Table 5. Breakdown of small finds by date and material type

Selected metalwork has been chosen for radiography, which will provide further detail and ensure a record for the archive. The x-ray plates will be included in the archive.

Condition

The overall condition of the metalwork is fair, though the iron objects are corroded. The material is primarily post-medieval in date.

The assemblage

Post-medieval and modern

Three copper alloy objects and three iron objects from pit 1014 belong to the post-medieval period with one further objects dating to the 19th-20th century. A further two objects are undated but likely to be post-medieval.

Copper alloy

Length of copper wire, circular in section. Bent and curved. Possibly manufacturing waste (see Egan, 2005, 137).
SF2002, fill 1017 of pit 1014.

Priming wire; length of wire formed into a loop with a twisted wire shank - this may be broken. It is twisted three times and is bent before tapering to a point. A similar object was

found in London, Egan, 2005, 203, no.1132. These objects were used for cleaning the priming holes of firearms.
SF2007, fill 1019 of pit 1014.

Curved elongated object. The outer surface is made from a layer of copper alloy sheet; the inner core is iron. One terminal is square in section; the other is broken. The square terminal has an additional collar wrapped around it. Possibly a handle for furniture or vessel.
SF2008, fill 1019 of pit 1014.

Iron

Near complete rowel spur. The sides are straight and taper in width towards the figure of eight terminals. The sides are D-shaped in section. The neck droops and has the remains of a small rowel attached to the end of it. The sides may be decorated. The rowel is small with only one surviving prong. It is likely to be of 16th -17th century date.
SF2000, fill 1017 of pit 1014.

Incomplete cast whittle tang iron knife with iron bolster and remnants of bone handle. The blade is broken towards tip and corroded. The iron bolster looks cylindrical. The bone handle would also have been cylindrical based on the remains which are semi-circular in cross section. The tang is 48mm in length, narrow and square in section. It has a small plate bolster towards the end. The bone of the handle appears burnt. Probably of 17th (to 18th) century date.
SF2003, fill 1017 of pit 1014.

Heel iron or mule shoe: incomplete curved strip of iron with possible nail holes along the length. Masked by corrosion. It could be part of a heel iron, probably of 19th century date as there is little evidence for the use of heel irons before this period (Margeson, 1993, 63). They were used to protect the heels of wooden clogs. However, as the ceramic material from this fill is firmly dated to the 17th century, it is possible that this object could be the upper section of a mule shoe similar to an example found in Cornwall, Tyacke, 2007, which is of a type dating from the 17th and 18th centuries. As the shoe is incomplete it is not possible to be certain of the identification.
SF2004, fill 1017 of pit 1014.

Incomplete jews harp. It is missing its tongue and one of the tapering arms is broken at the tip. It is lozenge shaped in section. In plan it has a C-shaped terminal extending into two tapering arms; these would have rested in the mouth. Jews harps were in use from the medieval period to the 18th century, however medieval examples are rare. The example from Laxfield is similar to one from Norfolk (Crace 2016), which dates to between 1500 and 1650.
SF2005, fill 1017 of pit 1014.

Uncertain date

Iron

Strip of iron, broken at both ends. In section it is ovoid/rectangular and looks folded. Possibly part of SF2003.
SF2001, fill 1017 of pit 1014.

Shank of iron, rectangular in section. Has a rectangular-shaped terminal where the shank appears to be wrapped around the rectangular terminal - corrosion masks detail. The radiograph revealed this object to be a wire hook.
SF2006, fill 1017 of pit 1014.

Discussion

This small assemblage of metalwork was retrieved from the single large refuse pit 1014, and dates to the post-medieval period. It includes items for personal use such as the spur, jews harp and knife as well as more structural pieces such as the iron fitting. It is relatively typical of the type of debris to be collected from a refuse pit.

The rowel spur is of some interest as complete examples are not common finds. Rowel spurs replaced the prick-spur during the course of the 14th century (Ellis, 1995, 129) and altered in style with changing footwear fashions, often with the sides curving to fit around the wearer's ankle. However, by the end of the 15th century they had become horizontally fairly straight (ibid, 130). The size of the rowel also changed over time; the small size of the rowel of SF2000 suggests a date after the 16th century.

6.8 Shell

Twenty-six pieces of oyster shell weighing 329g were recovered from three fills of the pit 1014. They are all likely to date to the post-medieval period by association with datable finds. None of the shell was retained for the archive.

6.9 Animal bone

128 fragments of animal bone weighing 2076g were recovered from the evaluation from four fills of pit 1014.

The largest quantity of animal bone was recovered from the fourth fill 1017 of the pit which include the remains of several large mammal bones, such as the complete astragalus of a large bovine, as well as the proximal end of a bovine radius and metacarpus. A small number of bird bones were also present. A smaller and more fragmentary group was present in fill 1018, which contained another complete bovine astragalus, some rib fragments and some evidence of butchery. Fill 1019 contained the molar and incisor of a pig, along with the fragmentary remains of a possible equine tibia.

Once again, cut marks are visible on some of the shafts of the bone indicative of butchery.

6.10 Discussion of material evidence

The finds assemblage which was recovered from four fills of the rubbish pit 1014 includes a small group of ceramics and clay tobacco pipe dating to the second half of the seventeenth century, together with an interesting range of iron artefacts, animal bone and shell. The pit may represent discarded waste associated with the farmhouse which is dated to the seventeenth century. A single fragment of pottery dating to the fifteenth to sixteenth century is the only indication of earlier activity.

7. Conclusions and recommendations for further work

The single pit identified appears to be an isolated rubbish dump of post-medieval origin. The presence of ceramic building material consisting of bricks and floor tiles suggests that a building of this date is likely to have been built somewhere in the vicinity, however no evidence of it was found during the evaluation, and there is no indication of such a building on the historic maps of the area.

If intrusive groundworks are considered to be likely, further archaeological work may be necessary, perhaps in the form of monitoring of the groundworks.

8. Archive deposition

The site archive is currently held in the offices of Suffolk Archaeology CIC in Needham Market and will be archived with the Suffolk County Council Historic Environment Record in due course.

9. Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was carried out by Sam Thomas and Simon Cass, with project management undertaken by Rhodri Gardner who also provided advice during the production of the report.

Post-excavation management was provided by Richenda Goffin. Finds processing and analysis was undertaken by Jonathan Van Jennians and Ruth Beveridge respectively. The specialist finds report was produced by Richenda Goffin with additional specialist advice provided by Sue Anderson and Ruth Beveridge.

The report illustrations were created by Simon Cass And Gemma Bowen and the report was edited by Richenda Goffin.

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Appendix 1. Written Scheme of Investigation



Parkfield Farm, Dennington Road, Laxfield, Suffolk

Written Scheme of Investigation for Trenched Evaluation

Date: May 2016

Prepared by: Rhodri Gardner

Issued to: Kate Batt (SCCAS Conservation Team)

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Summary Project Details

Site Name	Parkfield Farm
Site Location/Parish	Laxfield
Grid Reference	TM 2918 7054
Access	Off farm track
Planning Application No	PreApp:2412/15ENQ
HER code	LXD 086
Event No.	ESF 24045
OASIS ref.	Suffolka1-253315
Type:	Trial trench evaluation
Area	Two new poultry units and associated landscaping
Project start date	TBC
Fieldwork duration	Up to 2 days (estimated)
Number of personnel on site	Up to 3

Personnel and contact numbers

SACIC Project Manager	Rhodri Gardner	01449 900120
Project Officer (first point of on-site contact)	TBC	TBC
Curatorial Officer	Kate Batt	01284 741 227
Consultant		

Emergency contacts

Local Police	Suffolk Constabulary	01473 613500 (999 in an emergency)
Location of nearest A&E	Ipswich Hospital, Heath Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP4 5PD	01473 712233

Hire details

Plant:	Client to provide	
Toilet Hire	n/a	
Tool hire:	n/a	

Contents

1. Background
2. Fieldwork
3. Post-excavation
4. Additional Considerations
5. Staffing

Figures

1. Site location
2. Trench layout

Appendices

1. Health and Safety Policy
2. Insurance Documentation

1. Background

- 1.1 Suffolk Archaeology have been asked by asked by Hillfairs Farming Ltd to prepare documentation for a programme of archaeological evaluation by trial trench at the above site (Fig 1). This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) covers this trenched evaluation only. Any further stages of archaeological work that might be required in relation to the proposed development would be subject to new documentation.
- 1.2 The whole site covers c. 0.72ha, and is located at NGR TM 2918 7054 (Figure 1).
- 1.3 The LPA has been advised that a programme of archaeological work should take place prior to development, in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (Para 141). The present stage of work has been recommended at the pre-determination stage in this instance. The purpose of such work is to record and advance the understanding of any heritage assets present at the location before they are damaged or destroyed in the course of the development.
- 1.4 The archaeological investigation will be conducted in order to comply with a Brief produced for this specific application by Kate Batt of the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS) (dated 12th May 2016).
- 1.5 The application site lies in an area of archaeological potential, as recorded in the County Historic Environment Record (HER). Principal sites of interest in the vicinity include an area of cropmarks identified to the SW and the site of Laxfield House. The site is therefore considered by the LPA to have sufficient potential to merit a condition requiring a programme of archaeological work.
- 1.6 The development proposal is for the construction of two new poultry units and associated access. The groundworks involved in the development are liable to damage or destroy heritage assets that may be present within the site. The purpose of the trial trenching is therefore to assess the archaeological potential of the development site prior to the start of construction.
- 1.7 The brief requires that a 5% sample (by area) of the proposed development site be examined by trial trenching. In this instance that amounts to 360m². Six (6) trenches each measuring 30m long by 1.8m wide are proposed. These will be positioned to give as even coverage of the site as possible (shown in Figure 2).
- 1.8 This WSI complies with the SCCAS/CT standard Requirements for a Trenched Archaeological Evaluation (2012, Ver 1.1), as well as the following national and regional guidance 'Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluation' (CifA, 2014) and 'Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (EAA Occasional Papers 14, 2003).
- 1.9 The research aims of this trial trench evaluation are as follows, as described in Section 4.2 of the SCCAS Conservation Team brief:

RA1: Identify the date, approximate form and purpose of any archaeological deposit within the application area, together with its likely extent, localised depth and quality of preservation.

RA2: Evaluate the likely impact of past land uses, and the possible presence of masking colluvial/alluvial deposits.

RA3: Establish the potential for the survival of environmental evidence.

RA4: Provide sufficient information to construct an archaeological conservation strategy, dealing with preservation, the recording of archaeological deposits, working practices, timetables and orders of cost.

In addition to these specific aims the potential of the site to address any relevant themes outlined in the Regional Research Framework for the Eastern Counties (Brown & Glazebrook, 2000; Medleycott, 2011).



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Figure 1. Site Location



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Figure 2. Proposed trench layout (trenches in red), with overlay of proposed development

2 Fieldwork: trial trench evaluation

- 2.1 All archaeological fieldwork will be carried out by full-time professional employees of Suffolk Archaeology. The project team will be led in the field by an experienced member of staff of Project Officer grade/experience. The excavation team will comprise a Project Officer and up to 2 experienced excavators and surveyors (to include metal detectorist).
- 2.2 Evaluation of the development area in this instance will employ six (6) 30m long trenches. They are being positioned to sample the proposed development area as evenly as possible, as well as the access track. The location of the trenches is shown in Fig 2.
- 2.4 No information has currently been provided about the presence or otherwise of services by the developer. If previously unknown services or similar restrictions are encountered during work on site then the trench layout may have to be amended accordingly.
- 2.5 Trenches will be excavated by a machine equipped with a toothless ditching bucket, under the constant observation of an archaeologist. All overburden (topsoil and subsoil) will be removed stratigraphically until either the first archaeological horizon or natural deposits are encountered. Spoil will be stored adjacent to each trench and topsoil, subsoil and concrete/overburden will be mechanically separated for sequential backfilling if this is required.
- 2.6 Archaeological deposits and features will be sampled by hand excavation and the trench bases and sections cleaned as necessary in order to satisfy the project aims and also comply with the SCCAS Requirements for Archaeological Evaluation, 2012.
- 2.7 If a trench requires access by staff for hand excavation and recording, it will not exceed a depth of 1.2m. If this depth is not sufficient to meet the archaeological requirements of the Brief it will be brought to the attention of the client or their agent and the Archaeological Advisor to the LPA so that further requirements can be established. Deeper excavation can be undertaken provided suitable trench support is used or, where practicable, the trench sides are stepped or battered. However, such a variation will incur further costs to the client and time must be allowed for this to be established and agreed.
- 2.8 All features will be investigated and recorded to provide an accurate evaluation of archaeological potential whilst at the same time minimising disturbance to archaeological structures, features and deposits.
- 2.9 A site plan showing all trench locations, feature positions and levels AOD will be recorded using suitable surveying equipment, depending on the specific requirements of the project. A minimum of one to two sections per trench will be recorded at 1:20. Feature sections and plans will be recorded at 1:20 and trench and feature plans at 1:20 or 1:50 as appropriate. All recording conventions used will be compatible with the County HER.

- 2.10 The site will be recorded under a unique HER number acquired from the Suffolk HER Office and archaeological contexts will be recorded using pro forma Context Recording sheets and entered into an associated database.
- 2.11 A digital photographic record will be made throughout the evaluation.
- 2.12 Metal detector searches will be made at suitable stages of the excavation works.
- 2.13 All pre-modern finds will be kept and no discard policy will be considered until all the finds have been processed and assessed.
- 2.14 All finds will be brought back to the Suffolk Archaeology premises for processing, preliminary assessment, conservation and packing. Most finds analysis work will be done in house, but in some circumstances it may be necessary to send some categories of finds to specialists working in other parts of the country.
- 2.15 Bulk environmental soil samples (40 litres each) will be taken from suitable features and retained until an appropriate specialist has assessed their potential for palaeo-environmental remains. Decisions can then be made on the need for further analysis following this assessment. If necessary advice will be sought from English Heritage's Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science on the need for specialist environmental sampling.
- 2.16 In the event of human remains being encountered on the site, guidelines from the Ministry of Justice will be followed. The evaluation will attempt to establish the extent, depth and date of burials whilst leaving remains in situ. During the evaluation any exposed human remains will be securely covered and hidden from the public view at all times when they are not attended by staff. At the conclusion of the work backfilling will be carried out in a manner sensitive to the preservation of such remains.
- 2.17 If circumstances dictate that the lifting of human remains is unavoidable then a Ministry of Justice Licence for their removal will be obtained prior to their removal from site.

3 Post-excavation

- 3.1 A unique HER number will be acquired from the Suffolk HER. This will be clearly marked on all documentation and material relating to the project. The HER number in this instance is LXD 086, and the event number ESF 24045.
- 3.2 The post-excavation work will be managed by Suffolk Archaeology's Post-excavation and Finds Manager, Richenda Goffin. Specialist finds staff whether in-house personnel or external specialists are experienced in local and regional types of material in their field.
- 3.3 All artefacts and ecofacts will be held by Suffolk Archaeology until analysis of the material is complete.
- 3.4 All site data will be entered on a computerised database compatible with the County HER. All site plans and sections will be copied to form a permanent archive on archivally stable material. Ordnance Datum levels will be on the section sheets. The photographic archive will be fully catalogued.
- 3.5 All finds will be processed, marked and bagged/boxed to County HER requirements. Where appropriate finds will be marked with a site code and a context number.
- 3.6 Bulk finds will be fully quantified on a computerised database compatible with the County HER. Quantification will fully cover weights and numbers of finds by context with a clear statement on the degree of apparent residuality observed.
- 3.7 Metal finds on site will be stored in accordance with ICON guidelines, initially recorded assessed for significance before dispatch to a conservation laboratory within 4 weeks of the end of the excavation. All pre-modern silver, copper alloy and ferrous metal artefacts will be x-rayed and coins will be x-rayed if necessary for identification. Sensitive finds will be conserved if necessary and deposited in bags/boxes suitable for long term storage to ICON standards. All coins will be identified to a standard acceptable to normal numismatic research.
- 3.8 Pottery will be recorded and archived to a standard consistent with the Draft Guidelines of the Medieval Pottery Research Group and Guidelines for the archiving of Roman Pottery, SGRP (ed. M.G. Darling, 1994) and to The Study of Later Prehistoric Pottery: General Policies and Guidelines for analysis and Publications, Occasional Papers No.1 and No. 2, 3rd Edition (Revised 2010, Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group).
- 3.9 Environmental samples will be processed and assessed to standards set by the English Heritage Regional Scientific Advisor with a clear statement of potential for further analysis and significance.
- 3.10 Animal and human bone will be quantified and assessed to a standard acceptable to national and regional English Heritage specialists.
- 3.11 An industrial waste assessment will cover all relevant material (i.e. fired clay finds as well as slag).

- 3.12 A report on the results of the evaluation will be completed within 6 weeks of the completion of the fieldwork. The report will be commensurate with the level of results but will contain sufficient information to stand as an archive report should no further work be required on the site.
- 3.13 A search of the Suffolk HER will be commissioned and the results will be incorporated into the evaluation report. Some elements of the search may be simply tabulated and represented graphically, but results which have a direct bearing on the findings of the evaluation will be discussed in full.
- 3.14 The report will include a summary in the established format for inclusion in the annual "Archaeology of Suffolk" section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History*.
- 3.15 The Suffolk HER is registered with the Online Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) project. Suffolk Archaeology will complete a suitable project-specific OASIS form at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis>. The completed form will be reproduced as an appendix to the final report.
- 3.16 A draft of the report will be submitted to SCCAS for approval upon completion. The SCCAS terms of usage state that they undertake to comment on standard reports and determine whether further work might be required within 30 days of receipt of any report.
- 3.17 On acknowledgement of approval of the report from SCCAS hard and digital copies will be sent to the Suffolk HER.
- 3.18 Upon completion of reporting works ownership of all archaeological finds will be given over to the relevant authority. There is a presumption that this will be SCCAS, who will hold the material in suitable storage to facilitate future study and ensure its proper preservation.
- 3.19 The project archive shall be compiled in accordance with the guidelines issued by the SCCAS (2015). The client is aware of the costs of archiving and provision will be made to cover these costs in our agreement with them. The archive will be deposited with the County Archaeology Store unless another suitable repository is agreed with SCCAS.
- 3.20 If the client does not agree to transfer ownership to SCCAS they will be required to nominate another suitable repository approved by SCCAS or provide funding for additional recording and analysis of the finds archive (such as, but not limited to, additional photography or illustration of objects).
- 3.21 The law dictates that the client can have no claim to the ownership of human remains. Any such remains must be stored by SCCAS, in accordance with the relevant Ministry of Justice licence, acquired on a site specific basis.

- 3.22 In the rare event that artefacts of significant monetary value are discovered separate ownership arrangements may be negotiated, provided they are not subject to Treasure Act legislation.
- 3.23 If an object qualifies as Treasure, under the Treasure Act 1996. The client will be informed as soon as possible if this is the case and the find(s) will be reported to the Suffolk Finds Liaison Officer (who then reports to the Coroner) within 14 days of the objects discovery and identification. Treasure objects will immediately be removed to secure storage, with appropriate on-site security measures taken if required.
- 3.24 Any material eventually declared as Treasure by a Coroner's Inquest will, if not acquired by a museum, be returned to the client and/or landowner. Employees of Suffolk Archaeology, their subcontractors, or any volunteers under their control will not be eligible for any share of a treasure reward.

Appendix 2 - Context List

Context No	Feature No	Feature Type	Description/Interpretation	Finds	Overall Date	Env. Sample	Trench
1001	1001	Layer	Ploughsoil deposit in trench 1. mid grey/brown sand clay with moderate small/medium subrounded stones and flints. Ploughsoil deposit in Trench 1	No		No	1
1002	1002	Layer	Natural geology in Trench 1. Mid brownly orange sandy clay with occasional small/medium subrounded to subangular pebbles and flint inclusions. Natural geology in Trench 1.	No		No	1
1003	1003	Layer	Ploughsoil deposit in trench 2. mid grey/brown sand clay with moderate small/medium subrounded stones and flints. Ploughsoil deposit in Trench 2	No		No	2
1004	1004	Layer	mid brown sandy clay with occasional small/medium flints and pebbles, occasional charcoal flecks. Quite mixed with deposits 1003 and 1005 - probably an earlier ploughsoil fragment that was not turned recently. Ploughsoil remnant in Trench 2.	No		No	2
1005	1005	Layer	Natural geology in Trench 2. Mid brownly orange sandy clay with occasional small/medium subrounded to subangular pebbles and flint inclusions. Natural deposit in Trench 2.	No		No	2
1006	1006	Layer	Ploughsoil deposit in trench 3. mid grey/brown sand clay with moderate small/medium subrounded stones and flints. Ploughsoil deposit in Trench 3	No		No	3
1007	1007	Layer	Natural geology in Trench 3. Mid brownly orange sandy clay with occasional small/medium subrounded to subangular pebbles and flint inclusions. Natural deposit in Trench 3.	No		No	3
1008	1008	Layer	Ploughsoil deposit in trench 4. mid grey/brown sand clay with moderate small/medium subrounded stones and flints. Ploughsoil deposit in Trench 4	Yes		No	4
1009	1009	Layer	Natural geology in Trench 4. Mid brownly orange sandy clay with occasional small/medium subrounded to subangular pebbles and flint inclusions. Natural deposit in Trench 4.	No		No	4
1010	1010	Layer	Ploughsoil deposit in trench 5. mid grey/brown sand clay with moderate small/medium subrounded stones and flints. Ploughsoil deposit in Trench 5	No		No	5

Context No	Feature No	Feature Type	Description/Interpretation	Finds	Overall Date	Env. Sample	Trench
1011	1011	Layer	Natural geology in Trench 5. Mid brown orange sandy clay with occasional small/medium subrounded to subangular pebbles and flint inclusions. Natural deposit in Trench 5.	No		No	5
1012	1012	Layer	Ploughsoil deposit in trench 6. mid grey/brown sand clay with moderate small/medium subrounded stones and flints. Ploughsoil deposit in Trench 6	No		No	6
1013	1013	Layer	Natural geology in Trench 6. Mid brown orange sandy clay with occasional small/medium subrounded to subangular pebbles and flint inclusions. Natural deposit in Trench 6.	No		No	6
1014	1014	Pit Cut	Cut of post-medieval pit. Steep/near vertical sides, some shelving seen on northern side. Not bottomed. Cut of post-medieval rubbish pit.	No		No	6
1015	1014	Pit Fill	Dark brown/grey sandy clay with occasional pebbles/flints. Very frequent CBM (whole bricks/fragments/floor tile pieces etc). lower fill of pit 1014.	No		No	6
1016	1014	Pit Fill	Greenish blue/grey silty clay layer with frequent small chalk fragments/flecks. fill of pit 1014.	Yes		No	6
1017	1014	Pit Fill	Very dark purple/grey sandy clay with very rare small flints/pebbles. fill of pit 1014.	Yes		No	6
1018	1014	Pit Fill	Mid orangey brown sandy silt deposit. No inclusions. Fill of pit 1014.	Yes		No	6
1019	1014	Pit Fill	Mid greyish brown silty sand with occasional small/medium flints and pebbles. fill of pit 1014.	Yes		No	6
1020	1014	Pit Fill	Dark brown/grey sandy clay with occasional pebbles/flints. Possibly same deposit as 1015, but not visibly linked in the exposed section. Fill of pit 1014.	No		No	6

Appendix 3. Catalogue of bulk finds

Context Number	Pottery		CBM		Clay Pipe		Iron Nails		Post-Medieval Glass		Worked Flint		Animal Bone		Shell		Charcoal		Ceramic Period
	No	Wt/g	No	Wt/g	No	Wt/g	No	Wt/g	No	Wt/g	No	Wt/g	No	Wt/g	No	Wt/g	No	Wt/g	
1008											1	44							
1016			8	1112									2	15					
1017	10	254	35	4950	10	61	4	35	2	2			88	1432	18	271	1	15	Pmed
1018	1	21	16	546			1	5					24	413	3	23			Pmed
1019	2	65	32	2234	8	53					1	11	14	216	5	35			Pmed
Totals	13	340	91	8842	18	114	5	40	2	2	2	55	128	2076	26	329	1	15	

Appendix 4. Table 1 Catalogue of pottery

Context	Fabric	No	Wt/g	MNV	Form	Rim	Decoration	Notes	Spot date
1017	SPEC	1	26	1					L.17-18
1017	GSW4	1	13	1					16-17
1017	TGE	3	66	1	DJ		blue lines		16-18
1017	GRE	1	21	1	BL?	BD	rilled below rim		16-18
1017	GRE	2	121	1	PK			burnt	16-18
1017	LMT	2	5	1	LD?			reduced, poss earlier	L.14-16
1018	GRE	1	21	1	DS				16-18
1019	GSW4	1	16	1					16-17
1019	GRE	1	48	1					16-18

Appendix 4. Table 2 Catalogue of Ceramic Building Material

Context	Fabric	Form	No	Wt/g	Abr	Length	Width	Height	Peg	Comments	Date
1016	fs	LB	1	336				46		reduced upper surface	15-17?
1016	ms	LB	1	80	+			47			15-17?
1016	msffe	LB	1	81						worn surface	pmed
1016	msgfe	LB	1	365			110	>28		worn on both surfaces	pmed
1016	fs	LB	1	15	+					worn	pmed
1016	ms	LB	1	16				>20		worn, dark red	pmed
1016	fs	LB	1	40				>19		worn, dark purple, overfired	pmed
1016	msf	LB	1	174	++						pmed
1017	msgfe	LB	9	659				>25		v worn	pmed
1017	msgfe	LB	1	138	+					v worn	pmed
1017	fs	LB?	1	26				>25		v worn	pmed
1017	msf	LB	1	172	++						pmed
1017	msf	LB	1	306	+			53			16-18
1017	msf	LB	1	1190	+		110	52			16-18
1017	ms	LB	7	58	+						pmed
1017	msxfe	LB	1	1326			113	53		diagonal stacking scar	16-17

Context	Fabric	Form	No	Wt/g	Abr	Length	Width	Height	Peg	Comments	Date
1017	wfx	LB?	1	433	+			>50			pmed?
1017	msgfe	LB	1	97	++					v worn, poss diag hole?	pmed
1017	fscp	FT?	1	9	+			17+		worn	pmed?
1017	fsffe	RTP	3	129						=1 tile	pmed
1017	ms	RTP	3	183	+						pmed
1017	ms	RTP	2	59	++					reduced/burnt black	pmed
1017	fsfe	RTP	2	162						=1 tile	pmed
1018	msffe	LB	2	49	++						pmed
1018	ms	LB	6	67						mostly v worn	pmed
1018	fsm	LB	1	17						dense, grey surfaces	pmed
1018	wfx	LB?	1	75	+						pmed?
1018	ms	RTP	3	145	+					=1 tile?	pmed
1018	ms	RTP	1	47	+						pmed
1018	fs	RTP	1	7	+					not full thickness, poss LB	pmed
1018	ms	RTP	1	136						hard-fired dark red	pmed
1019	msgfe	LB	1	310	+			58			16-18
1019	msgfe	LB	1	353	+			>43		v worn	pmed
1019	msgfe	LB	9	291	+					v worn	pmed
1019	fs	LB	2	301	+					=1 brick, surface burnt	pmed
1019	fsm	LB	1	197	+					surface burnt	pmed
1019	msf	LB	9	485	++						pmed
1019	wfx	LB?	2	81	++						pmed?
1019	fs	LB	1	76	+					worn base, reduced surface	pmed
1019	msf	RTP	3	116	+				1 x R		pmed
1019	fs	RTP	3	20	+				1 x R		pmed

Appendix 5. Catalogue of Small finds

Small Find No.	Context	Object	Material	No of frags	Weight (g)	Description	X-ray No	Depth (mm)	Width (mm)	Length (mm)	Diameter (mm)	Period
2000	1017	Spur	Iron	1	62	Near complete rowel spur. The sides are straight and taper in width towards the figure of eight terminals. The sides are D shaped in section. The neck droops and has the remains of a small rowel attached to the end of it. The sides may be decorated. The rowel is small with only one surviving prong. It is likely to be of 16th -17th century date.	CX1720	23	90	115		Pmed
2001	1017	Strip	Iron	1	3	Strip of iron, broken at both ends. In section it is ovoid/rectangular and looks folded. The x-ray suggests this may have been riveted.	CX1720	3	16	34		
2002	1017	Wire	Copper alloy	1	1	Length of copper wire, circular in section. Bent and curved. Possibly manufacturing waste (see Egan, 2005, London at time of transition, p137).	CX1721		1	105		Pmed
2003	1017	Knife/tool	Composite Iron/Bone	1	18	Incomplete cast whittle tang iron knife with iron bolster and remnants of bone handle. The blade is broken towards tip and corroded. The iron bolster looks cylindrical. The bone handle would also have been cylindrical based on the remains which are semi-circular in cross section. The tang is 48mm in length, narrow and square in section. It has a small plate bolster towards the end. The bone of the handle appears burnt. Probably of 17th (to 18th) century date.	CX1720, CX1721		16	118		Pmed
2004	1017	Heel iron	Iron	1	24	Incomplete curved strip of iron with possible nail holes along the length. Masked by corrosion. It is part of an heel iron, probably of 19th century date as there is little evidence for the use of heel irons before the 19th century (Margeson, 1993, p63). Used to protect the heels of wooden clogs. Could be the upper section of a mule shoe similar to one found in Cornwall, Tyacke 2007. This dates to 17 th – 18 th century.	CX1720		16	65		Pmed
2005	1017	Jews harp	Iron	1	16	Incomplete jews harp. It is missing its tongue and one of the tapering arms is broken at the tip. In plan it has a C-shaped terminal extending into two tapering arms, these would have rested in the mouth.	CX1720	200	7	59	33	Pmed
2006	1017	Curtain hook	Iron	1	9	Shank of iron, rectangular in section. Has a rectangular shaped terminal where the shank appears to be wrapped around the rectangular terminal - corrosion masks detail. Possibly a fitting? X-ray shows it to be a wire curtain hook.	CX1721	12	26	40		Pmed
2007	1019	Priming wire	Copper alloy	1	1	Length of wire formed into a loop with a twisted wire shank - this may be broken. It is twisted three times and is bent before tapering to a point. Cf Egan (2005), p203, No. 1132. Used for cleaning the priming holes of firearms.	CX1721		2	33	19	Pmed
2008	1019	?Handle	Composite Iron & Copper alloy	1	17	Curved elongate object. The outer surface is made from a layer of copper alloy sheet; the inner core is iron. One terminal is square in section; the other is broken. The square terminal has an additional collar wrapped around it. Possibly a handle for furniture or vessel.	CX1720		12	88		Pmed

OASIS ID: suffolka1-253315

Project details

Project name	LXD 086 Parkfield Farm, Laxfield
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on land at Parkfield Farm, Laxfield in June 2016 in advance of the proposed construction of two new poultry sheds on an area of arable field. A single large pit was encountered towards the eastern side of the site, found to contain post-medieval artefacts and likely to be a refuse pit. Further monitoring may be required of any intrusive groundworks involved in the construction of the two sheds, though construction details and general design levels are unavailable at this time to determine the effect on the archaeological resource in this area.
Project dates	Start: 07-06-2016 End: 20-06-2016
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	LXD 086 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	2016/047 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	2413/15ENQ - Planning Application No.
Any associated project reference codes	253315 - OASIS form ID
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Cultivated Land 2 - Operations to a depth less than 0.25m
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Significant Finds	METALWORK Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	""Sample Trenches""
Development type	Farm infrastructure (e.g. barns, grain stores, equipment stores, etc.)
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	Pre-application

Project location

Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK MID SUFFOLK LAXFIELD LXD 086 Parkfield Farm
Postcode	IP13 8HJ
Study area	0.72 Hectares
Site coordinates	TM 2918 7054 52.284578981831 1.360524181587 52 17 04 N 001 21 37 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 46m Max: 49.4m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Suffolk Archaeology CIC
----------------------	-------------------------

Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Kate Batt
Project director/manager	Rhodri Gardner
Project supervisor	Simon Cass
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Hillfairs Farming Ltd

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Suffolk HER
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Industrial","Metal"
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk HER
Digital Contents	"Ceramics","Industrial","Metal"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Survey","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk HER
Paper Contents	"Ceramics","Industrial","Metal","Stratigraphic"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Photograph","Plan","Report","Section","Survey "

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Parkfield Farm, Dennington Road, Laxfield Archaeological Evaluation Report No 2016/047
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Cass, S.
Other bibliographic details	2016/047
Date	2016
Issuer or publisher	SACIC
Place of issue or publication	Needham Market
Description	A short report in house style, comb-bound and card covered A4.
Entered by	Simon Cass (Simon.cass@suffolkarchaeology.co.uk)
Entered on	7 June 2018

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